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Nov/Dec 2016

GIVER Miramichi

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INSIDE!

- Schedule of Local Christmas Events
- Love in the Hallways Hospice Miramichi
- **SHOP LOCAL** this holiday season and support local business!

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Miramichi East Raising Funds for New Playground



We have a new Elementary K-5 school that is slated to open in Miramichi East in September 2017. The dream of having this school for our children has finally been realized after years of challenging our Government to replace our two existing schools, which are more than 50 years old.



Students and members of the 'Building a Future for our Children' Committee at the sod turning ceremony for the new Miramichi East Elementary School.

Both Ian Baillie Primary School and Saint Andrew's Elementary School were plagued with mold issues, lack of proper space and up to date facilities. The Building a Future for our Children Committee has worked tirelessly since 2012 to ensure that a new K-5 school comes to fruition within our community.

Our final challenge is installing a playground on our new school's grounds. When it was determined that the fully accessible and inclusive playground would cost \$250,000 a new committee was formed by parents of both schools—the Miramichi East Playground Committee. Our provincial government has earmarked less than 1% of the new school's budget towards this playground—equalling \$80,000. The remaining \$170,000 is left to our committee and community as a whole. Our needs are great!

So far the Miramichi East Playground Committee has raised \$15,000 for our cause by hosting various fundraisers. Our ongoing fundraisers are with Hebert's Bottle Exchange, who allows the public to donate the proceeds from their

empty bottle returns to our fund and through Mabel's Labels who gives us 10% back in sales of labels purchased through our committee. Sobey's Douglastown presently has their "wishing well" dedicated to our fund as well. At the time of this article's submission, we have entered the Aviva Community Fund

contest with hopes of winning \$100,000 towards our playground. We have a couple of big plans for the spring including a test drive event with a local dealership (TBA) and a fundraising Gala with auction in May of 2017. Over the next couple of months, we will be launching a corporate campaign.

Our committee is constantly working hard to come up with new fundraisers and methods of securing the \$250,000 needed to make our dreams a reality. To stay updated on our progress, please join our Facebook group called "Miramichi East Playground Fundraising Group" or check out our website at www.miramichieastplayground.weebly.com. If you would like to donate or learn more about how to help our cause, please contact Kelly Moore-Dennis at mepc2017@gmail.com. She can also be reached by contacting Ian Baillie Primary School at 506-778-6076. We appreciate the community's support to build this amazing playground for our children.

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.

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Community

Breakfast with Santa

The Kinsmen Club
100 Newcastle Blvd
December 3, 2016
8am to 11am

Adults: \$7
Kids 12 & under: \$4
Picture with Santa: \$2

Bacon, Scrambled Eggs, Hashbrowns,
Toast, Beans and Tea, Coffee or Juice

Proceeds to the Girl Guides 2017 trip to Quebec and
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Merry Christmas

Events



Nov. 23rd, 24th and 25th: Christmas Sale at Greater Blackville Resource Center (GBRC) Thrift Store - We'll have Christmas ornaments, decorations, lights, Christmas sweaters, holiday dresses and new-to-you gift items! Fill a Bag for \$8. In-store specials! 12073 Route 8 Highway, in Upper Blackville. Tel: 506-843-9024. Find us on Facebook or the web at www.blackvilleresource.com

Nov. 24th, 25th, 26th to 27th: Home for the Holidays – Presented By Hospice Miramichi Inc. - Christmas décor home tour at Hospice Miramichi Inc., 14 Howard Street, behind Saint Michael's the Archangel Basilica Roman Catholic Church in Chatham. See page 8 for details.

Nov. 25th: Christmas Cantata Concert at Saint Raphael's Roman Catholic Church - This will be a fundraiser for the Youth Group and Music Program, starts at 7pm. Many artists and music groups from our neighbouring communities will attend. Following the concert, there will be a light lunch at the Father A.A. McKinnon Memorial Hall in Blackville.

Nov. 26th: Friends of the Doaktown Community Park Christmas Bazaar - The Christmas Bazaar is in the Gymnasium of the Doaktown Elementary School from 9am to 2pm. Tables are \$10 each and can be booked by contacting Susan Gaston at 365-7895. We hope to see you again at this popular community event. Find event on faceBook.

Nov. 26th: 28th Annual Christmas Craft and Bake Sale with Tea Room - will be at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church Parish Center, Chatham Head with many local vendors from 10am to 2pm. Tel: Alice Henderson at 506-622-2931.

Nov. 26th: A Handmade Christmas Craft Sale - Come out to the Nordin Recreation Centre, 24 Nordin Lane from 10am -4pm.

Nov 26th: 5th Annual Women of Influence Awards Ceremony Celebrating 8 amazing Miramichi Women. From 6pm – 9pm at the Rodd Miramichi River Hotel, 1809 Water Street. Tickets are \$50. which includes your meal. Tickets can be purchased at Town Hill Jewellery or by sending an email transfer to womenofmiramichi@gmail.com More information to come! Find the event on faceBook.

Nov. 26h: NSER Alumni Fundraising Committee Breakfast The NSER (North and South Esk Regional High School) Alumni

Fundraising Committee will be hosting a Breakfast during the Sunny Corner Market at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch # 90 at 26 Tozer Lane in Sunny Corner rom 8am – 11am. Admission is \$6. each, which includes Sausages, Eggs, Toast, Tea or Coffee.

Nov. 26th: Big Buck Night Bingo

The Grand Prize draw is for a Yamaha 2016 700 Kodiak ATV (Valued at \$10,200) which is open to anyone who buys a ticket. Must be 19 or older to attend. Tickets are \$40 available at the Miramichi Kin Centre, Rae's Trailer and Sports, Miramichi Pronature, Miramichi Electronics and from any member of the Kinsmen. Tel: 506-622-4046 or email mirakin@nbnet.nb.ca.

Nov. 26th: Sunny Corner Market

The Sunny Corner Market will be held on Saturday, Dec 10th, from 8am – 1pm at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch # 90 at 26 Tozer Lane. Visit our page on faceBook for more details or call 622-8975.

Nov. 26th: 18th Annual Christmas To Remember

In memory of Mayor Gerry Cormier who founded this event 18 years ago. Hosted by Susan Butler at Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church and featuring choirs, soloists etc. Donation at the door with proceeds to the Transition House, Youth House and Christmas Hampers. For further information, call Susan Butler at 506-622-



1780 or email susanbutler@xplornet.com.

Nov. 27th: Christmas Concert at Saint François de Salles Roman Catholic Church, Rogersville - A Christmas Concert will be held at 6:30 PM with the Caissie Family.

Nov. 27th: “A Traditonal Christmas Carol Praise Production”

Ludlow Baptist Church, 6812 Route 8 Highway in Ludlow will be hosting this event on Sunday evening at 6:30 pm at the church, with the Community Choral Group under the direction of Mr. Monte Carr. Congregational singing, individual talent, and light refreshments. Non pershable items for the local Self-Help / Food Bank would be most appreciated and Everyone is Welcome!!

Nov. 27th: “Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols” - Together, the combined choirs of the Anglican Parish of Chatham - Saint Mary's Anglican Church and the Saint Paul's Anglican Church will be presenting a Carol Concert beginning at 7pm at Saint Mary's

Merry Christmas

Events

Anglican Church, 207 Wellington Street Chatham. A freewill offering will be taken to support the Community Kitchen and refreshments will follow. Tel: 506-773-7387. www.apocm.org.

Nov. 29th: Christmas Tea and Sale - at the Saint Andrew's Anglican Church Hall, 214 Pleasant Street, Newcastle, from 10am – 1pm. Admission is \$10 per person.

Nov. 30th to Dec. 4th: Miramichi's Best Staff Party – Feast Dinner Theatres Present “Christmas In New York”

Come out to Rodd Miramichi River to check out Miramichi's Best Staff Party – Feast Dinner Theatres Present “Christmas In New York” starting at 5pm. Featuring a traditional Christmas Buffet. To purchase tickets or more information, visit feastdinnertheatres.com.

Nov. 30th to Dec. 4th: 32nd Annual Living Christmas Tree – Home for the Holidays - at The Point Church, Newcastle Site, 582 King George Highway beginning at 7pm. Free Admission and tickets will be available Tuesday, November 1st.

Dec. 2-3rd: Living Out Loud Gifts Annual Christmas Open House in Blackville - Join us for our Annual Christmas Open House at our new location in Blackville at 175 Main Street. "Draw Your Discount" along with other great prizes and hot apple cider. See page 47 for details.



Dec 2nd: 31st Annual Parade of Lights at Historic Chatham Business District - The parade starts at 6:30pm. We encourage everyone to come down early to enjoy hot drinks and treats for the kids from our local shops. Canada Post Letter Carriers will be collecting your letters to Santa. The M.A.T. bus will be collecting non-perishable food

items for families in need. See Downtowns Miramichi Facebook page for details.

Dec. 3rd: NBGS - Miramichi Christmas Social

To close out our 25th Anniversary celebrations, the NB Genealogical Society - Miramichi Branch is holding a Christmas Social from 1pm to 3pm at the Seamen's Hospital in Douglastown. All current and former members are invited to attend. Light refreshments will be served. If you plan to attend, please contact Faye Baisley at 622-7641 or e-mail fayebaisley@hotmail.com.

Dec. 3rd: “Christmas In The Lumber Camp”

The Heritage Players will present "Christmas In The Lumber Camp" at Saint Bridget's Roman Catholic Church, 12 Saint

Bridget's Crescent, Renous at 6 pm. This will be a Dinner Theater with Turkey and Strawberry Shortcake. Tickets are \$25 and are available at Renous Convenience (622-6561)

Dec. 3rd: Acoustic Christmas Show - featuring ECMA 2016 Winner Chelsea Amber. Chelsea was a winner at this year's East Coast Music Awards, taking home the trophy for the Bucky Adams Memorial Award in April. In addition, Chelsea was awarded Artist of the Year at the African Nova Scotian Music Awards in February. This fun-filled evening will take place at 7pm at Saint Andrew's Anglican Parish Hall, 214 Pleasant Street, Newcastle. Please call the Parish Office at 622-7614 to reserve your ticket.

Dec. 3rd: Breakfast with Santa and Christmas Market

The Tabusintac Country Market and Saint Andrew's United Church Women present Breakfast with Santa and Christmas Market at the Tabusintac Community Center, 66 Hierlihy Road from 7:30am – 11:30am. Pictures with Santa will be available. To book a table at the Christmas Market, call Gail Harding at 625-2512.

Dec. 3rd: Holly Jolly Christmas Social - at the Tabusintac Community Centre, 66 Hierlihy Road, at 8pm. An evening of fun, food and dance. Music by Plant Zee DJ Service. Admission is \$30 per couple, \$18 for individual. Dress code: Semi Formal. 19yrs and over.

For tickets contact: Gail Harding 625-2512

Dec. 4th & 11th: Miramichi Valley High School Christmas Market - From 12pm noon to 4pm come out to Miramichi Valley High School Christmas Market. Tables are \$20. each or bring your own table for \$10. each. For further information, contact Sandra or Gregg Bruce at 506-773-0914 or to book your spot. Find the event on faceBook.

Dec. 4th: Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church Christmas Craft Sale and Tea Room - The Annual Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church Christmas Craft Sale and Tea Room will be held from 11am – 2pm at the Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church Parish Centre, 360 Newcastle Boulevard. For further information, call Susan Butler at 506-622-1780 or email susanbutler@xplornet.com.

Dec. 4th: East Coast Art Party 1204 – Birch Sunrise – Miramichi - Make your way to the 1809 Restaurant & Bar at the Rodd Miramichi River Hotel for an Art Party from 3pm – 6pm. Please join us in painting this fabulous painting! We'll have some drinks, share some laughs, and at the end of the event you'll walk away with a great piece of art and some memories to last a lifetime! Original artwork by Jeff Kelly. Find the event on faceBook.

Dec. 4th: 1st Annual Breakfast with Santa at the Renous Rec Center - Breakfast served from 8am-11am with eggs, bacon, hashbrowns and toast. Kids eat FREE and Adults \$5. From 8am-2pm Santa will be visiting and taking pictures with the kids. Join



the rec centre volunteers for a great morning and its our way of saying Thanks to the community for your continued support. Find the event on faceBook.

Dec. 4th: Montréal Canadians Alumni All Stars Vs Mount Saint Joseph Nursing Home All Stars Hockey Game -

Guy Lafleur is coming to coach the Montréal Alumni at the Miramichi Civic Center on Sunday at 2 pm! Tickets at 99.3 The River, Cathy's Alterations and Embroidery, Douglastown Sobey's, Brookdale Flower Shop, Kingston Gas Stations, and Riverside Entertainment Centre. Montréal Players iclude Richard Sevigny, Gaston Gingras, Patrice Brisebois, Oleg Petrov. Find the event on Facebook.

Dec. 9th Sistema NB Miramichi Holiday Concert 2016

Please join us at James M. Hill Memorial High School from 3:30pm – 4:30pm. Our children are excited to perform the pieces they have been working on for the last weeks! Two orchestras, One big Sistema family. Find the event on Facebook.

Dec. 10th A Very Dysfunctional Christmas

Nikki Payne and James Mullinger star in their all new original show entitled, A Very Dysfunctional Christmas, at James M. Hill Memorial High School from 7:30pm – 9:30pm. Produced by HubCap Promotions, this holiday comedy extravaganza is for ages 19 and over. Find the event on Facebook.

Dec. 10th: Sunny Corner Market - The Sunny Corner Market will be held from 8am-1pm at the Legion Branch # 90 at 26 Tozer Lane. Breakfast by the NSER Alumni Fundraising Committee Visit our page on faceBook for more details or call 622-8975.

Dec. 10- 11th: Sounds Of A Miramichi Christmas

Rogers Television, Saint Stephen's United Church, Saint Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church and The Villagers Chrous present "Sounds Of A Miramichi Christmas" with music from "Sounds Like Christmas Music" by Huntsinger, Smith, Knight and Coeller and other Christmas selections in Red Bank at the Saint Thomas the Apostle Roman Catholic Church at 7:30 pm on Dec. 10th and the Saint Stephen's United Church at 7:30pm on Dec 11th. Free will offering to host church. Refreshments to follow.



Dec. 10th: Country Christmas Craft Sale - Join us for our annual sale, 10am to 2pm at Darlene's Vintage Cottage at 186 Barnettville Rd in Blackville. Featuring meat pies,sweets, breads, preserves, handmade quilts, knit socks, hats & mitts and Christmas ornaments

Come sit by the wood stove and have a cup of tea with us! You can pick up your orders for meat pies and fruit cakes at this time Tel:506-843-7878. www.darlenesvintagecottage.com.

Dec. 14th: Christmas Seniors Luncheon at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch # 23 in Doaktown - In honor of the Christmas season, a Seniors Luncheon (this time with a full turkey dinner) will be held at 12 PM noon at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch # 23 in Doaktown. So mark your calendars. For more information, call 506-365-7867.

Dec. 19th: Candlelight Parade in Blackville

There will be a Candlelight Parade beginning at 6:30 PM at Saint Raphael's Roman Catholic Church, 107 Main Street in Blackville. Everyone is Welcome!

Dec. 23rd: Christmas Concert with The Ladies Of The River at Miramichi Folklore Park - The Ladies Of The River will be putting on a Christmas Concert at Miramichi Folklore Park, 46 Memory Lane in Renous, on Friday from 8- 11 pm. Admission \$6.

Dec. 25th: Christmas Day Dinner at Saint Thomas United Church Hall, Doaktown - Refreshments at 12:30 pm followed by a turkey dinner with all the trimmings at 1pm. Anyone in Doaktown or the surrounding area who expects to be alone at Christmas will find a warm welcome awaiting you. To make reservations or for further information, please contact: Mary Robinson 365-1113, Arlene Betts 365-4525 or Marilyn Hovey 365-4520



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Hospice Miramichi's

Home for the Holidays



Hospice Miramichi is hosting their second annual **"Home for the Holidays"** fundraising event from November 24th to the 27th and they wish to invite the public to experience their historically significant building, located at 14

Howard Street in Chatham, as they decorate for the holiday season. The one time ticket purchase (\$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12) gives the purchaser unlimited admissions over the entire weekend. The public is encouraged to visit often, take a tour, enjoy a hot chocolate and place a bid on the fully decorated Pre-Lit trees. This year Hospice have included several apartment sized trees that will be up for auction and have partnered with local craft persons who will be on site to accommodate any shopper who might be looking for that special gift.

As well, Hospice Miramichi will be introducing their new line of luxury hand crafted bath and body products especially designed and manufactured for them off site by a local artisan. These products are all natural and have been manufactured and registered in compliance with Health Canada Cosmetic Regulations. The required professional insurance certificate will be on the premises as well. Following "Home for the Holidays" the bath products will be available for sale exclusively at the Hospice Shoppe or at any Hospice fundraising event.

"Home for Holidays" will be open to the public Thursday and Friday evening 6 to 9 pm, Saturday 10 am to 9 pm and Sunday 12 noon to 4 pm. This year Hospice will hold their Angels Remembered tree lighting on the opening night of "Home for the Holidays". Those individuals who have



donated to Hospice on behalf of a loved one towards the Angels Remembered campaign will be able to attend Thursday night's event to experience the tree lighting at no charge with proof of their donation. If they are planning on returning over the weekend however, they will be required to purchase an admission ticket.

"Home for the Holidays" tickets are available for sale at the Hospice Shoppe, Hospice office or at the door. Donations on behalf of a loved one for the Angels Remembered fundraising campaign can be made at the Hospice office or at the Hospice Shoppe. Donations can also be made in person at Walmart on November 12th between the hours of 9 am and 6 pm and at Kent from November 9th to the 23rd. Donations over \$10 are eligible for a tax receipt.

All money raised through the fundraising efforts of Hospice Miramichi is used to offset the expenses of offering free support services for families in the community living with the effects of life limiting illnesses.

For further information please call 773-7607 or email info@hospicemiramichi.com.





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Changing Lives by Changing Habits

by Brandy Donald

As a registered Nurse Practitioner, I see people every day with various health concerns ranging from general lack of energy, extreme fatigue, digestive issues, insomnia, various aches and pains, mood issues—you name it! People look to me for advice on how to feel better and feel better now! The first thing I want to know is: What does a typical day's food intake look like for that person? I want to know everything consumed from waking until sleeping.

Making changes to daily eating habits is where we are going to get the most bang for our buck! In most cases it won't be from a prescription for medication but rather a prescription to "change your life"! To change your life when it comes to eating we need to change our habits.

Changing our habits is hard. It takes dedication and a desire to change. It takes time and patience, perseverance and self-forgiveness.

Do you choose wisely in what types of food you eat?

Do you eat at the right time to fuel your body?

Do you eat enough? This is a BIG one!

Do you know why you need protein and healthy fats in your diet?

Do you think carbohydrates are the enemy in your diet?

People think they are doing it right with respect to their nutrition but in many cases they are not. They lack the right

information and tools. People need education, support and accountability to make changes last a lifetime. Changes to achieve an endpoint goal such as weight loss only will eventually revert to old habits. However, there are resources to help you. You can discuss your nutritional concerns with your primary health provider, who may refer you to a registered dietitian. Despite the plethora of confusing information online, www.authoritynutrition.com is a great

evidence-based website worth checking out. At Sculpt Health and Wellness, we offer one on one nutritional education, tailored plans, and coaching to help you change daily habits that may be sabotaging your health. We have consultants including registered dietitians and myself that can assist you in your journey to eat and feel better. Initial consultations are approximately one hour and follow up visits are 30 minutes.

For more information regarding Sculpt Health and Wellness you can email us at sculptmiramichi@gmail.com.

There is no secret, no quick fix, but fuelling your body the right way will make a huge and lasting difference in your well-being on every level. It's not easy to change habits but the return on the investment in yourself is priceless.

Brandy Donald is a Registered Nurse Practitioner with 19 years of clinical nursing experience with Horizon Health Network. She is a wife and mother of two active boys, an accomplished athlete, and consultant/ owner of Sculpt Health and Wellness Miramichi with her husband Ian.





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My Weight Loss Success Story

by Janice Roy

Over the years I've tried every diet known to man and woman with the weight returning each time plus a few extra pounds. Finding myself 80 plus pounds overweight and on several medications for blood pressure, diabetes and cholesterol, I decided to do something about it.

My very good friend was taking pounds off and every time I saw her she was smaller and happier than I had seen her before. "What are you doing?" I asked.

The Ideal Protein Plan offered at the Medicine Shoppe in Downtown Newcastle "On The Square". She told me the support and products offered were so satisfying I would have the success I was looking for.

I immediately booked a consultation and became a member. I knew upon leaving with my foods and supplements that I had joined a program that would save my life.

After a couple of weeks my cravings for sweets, yes even Pepsi, fast foods, and fatty starchy high carb foods were gone. My weight was consistent. My brain-fog, indigestion and



depression were all gone. I learned for the first time what to eat, why to eat, and when to eat.

After five months I find myself 13 pounds away from my goal—a weight I have not been able to achieve for 20 some years. The greatest thing I have to say is the fact that I do not miss any of the foods I thought I could not live without.

I am so grateful to my dear friend who turned me on to this program and who continues to inspire and encourage me every step of the way.



Left: Janice Roy before her weight loss.

Above: Janice as she is now, at a healthier weight.

What is Ideal Protein?

It is a medically designed protocol containing two key components: weight loss and a healthier lifestyle education to help maintain your results after dieting. Learning to live off the body's own fat reserves. Simple and complex carbohydrates can prevent weight loss. This program restricts sugar (simple and complex) until 100% of your

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weight loss is achieved.

Using Ideal Protein foods which are made with high quality protein has an impact on effective protein absorption and the supplements replace those normally found in foods restricted on the ideal protein protocol.

What should you expect on this program? Structured weight loss while supporting muscle mass, an understanding of how food affects and is utilized by the body—including what causes fat storage, weekly one on one coaching lifestyle education and guidance, and a personalized approach to setting goals based on your health profile.

I can personally tell you that losing weight will improve blood pressure, lower your cholesterol and improve blood sugar. This all happened to me.

Since following the Ideal Protein Plan I have had tremendous physical changes in my energy and my strength. I am happy to know that I have been and will continue to feel and look better. This has been a great inspiration to my friends and one friend has kicked her two litre a day Coca-

Cola habit and is experiencing a much lower blood sugar level. I feel a tremendous amount of freedom because I am stronger and also more disciplined because I want to be.

The greatest take away from this program is its comprehensiveness. I am feeling over all very balanced and have the blessing of witnessing myself change and transform. I hope I can help others know that transformation is possible and doable and fun.

What advice would I give to others? Just go for it. Feel excited about starting new healthy habits and breaking unhealthy habits. The rewards will follow.

Janice Roy is a barber in downtown Newcastle. She has been at Norm's Hair Care on Jail Street for 40 years and has been a barber – hairstylist for 46 years. In the 70's she was the only female barber on the river. These days she finds a busy day is much easier on the knees and legs because of the weight loss. She enjoys helping people look and feel better about themselves.

My Favourite Time of the Year

By: Eileen Elsie (Bromley) Bransfield
October 23rd, 1928 – December 23rd, 2014

Christmas is my favourite time of the year,
When families get together, for parties and good cheer
For turkey and plum puddings, mince pies and cookies too.
Christmas trees and presents, decorations old and new.

Staying awake and listening for Santa on the roof,
Hearing the sleigh bells jungle and the sound of tiny hooves
Waiting for the dawn to come, to rush down to the tree
To look thru all the presents and find some there for me.

Going to church as a family, to worship the newborn king,
Joining in the carols and hearing the church bells ring,
Visiting friends and relations, sleigh rides and walks in the snow
Christmas has simply got to be, the nicest time I know.





Happy Holidays from the Staff!

ski-doo  **SEA-DOO**  **can-am** 

2436 King George Hwy., Miramichi, NB | (506) 778-8497 | Hours: Mon-Thurs 8:30-5; Fri 8:30-6; Sat 9-12
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CITY CARGO
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Woodturning Artisan - Shane Price



Shane Price stumbled onto woodturning by accident. He was watching fly-tying videos on YouTube and clicked on a bowl-turning video by mistake. He continued to watch it and immediately knew it was something he wanted to try. Shane's neighbour let him use his workshop and lathe to see if he liked it. Soon he

was turning on a regular basis and his wife bought him a lathe for his birthday. For now he sees woodturning as a hobby and something he does for fun, but some of his work, including bowls and serving plates, can be purchased at Crackle & Teal in Miramichi.

Describe the type of artwork you do.

My favourite type of wood to work with is cedar. Although it can be difficult to work with on the lathe because it is a softer wood, with sharp tools it works quite well. It also sands down well and has a great aroma. I also like to work with American Black Cherry for its aroma, and American Black Walnut because of how beautiful it is once finished.

Describe your process of creating a piece, from inspiration to finish.

If I am working on a piece for a client, I usually find a general shape and size they would like, then go look for the piece of wood to suit it. Once I have found the wood, I mount it to the lathe and begin roughing it down to the shape of the bowl. Once I have the rough shape, I take freshly sharpened tools and make the final cuts to achieve a smooth finish. Then I begin the sanding process, which can take anywhere from one to three hours depending on the size of the piece of work, the wood used and how fine the finish needs to be.

If the wood is already dry, I can do a bowl from start to finish without stopping in a day or less, depending on the size.

If the wood is not dried I usually rough turn the bowl and then set it aside to dry for anywhere between one month to a year depending on the size of the bowl and how thick the walls are. If I am making a segmented bowl, it can usually be completed within a week or sooner depending on the size.

I have yet to take any classes or courses in woodturning and woodworking. I learned by watching various woodturners on YouTube and contacting local woodturners in NB to talk to them about the craft.

Do you have any advice for other artisans?

My advice would be to not be afraid to let people see your work. You are always your own worst critic. Where you may see a flaw in your work, others may see beauty.



An assortment of Christmas tree ornaments Shawn made on the lathe.

What is the best advice you've been given?

I guess the best advice comes from my grandfather. It is not so much words as it is the way he takes great pride and time to create his woodworking projects. He pays great attention to detail and I am very grateful that is something he has passed on to me.

My greatest mentor is my grandfather. He has always had a love for woodworking for as long as I can remember and he is always helping me to become a better woodworker.

Sisters Bring New Life to Old Trinity

by Les McLaughlin

How did an old country church from Blackville become known as the oldest chapel in Oklahoma?

Old Trinity Anglican Church was built in 1842 in Blackville. Constructed in the Gothic Revival Style, it was complete with pointed arched windows and doors serving the community continuously for more than a century.

A new church, Holy Trinity, was built in the village in 1970 to meet the needs of the growing population. For the next couple of decades, Old Trinity was still used for memorial services.

In 1991, the Canadian government declared Old Trinity a provincial historic site. However, time and weather took its toll on the little church and the original bell tower began to pull away from the main body. The building was deconsecrated in 1997 and dismantled by Renovator's Resources, a Halifax based company that salvages old buildings.

Tom Lee, photographer and entrepreneur, discovered Old Trinity on the internet and bought it sight unseen. Soon Old Trinity found a new life, arriving in the Paseo Art District in Oklahoma City in November 2000. The two flatbed trucks carried 17 wall sections, two entries, three gables, eight original stained glass windows, and six Gothic doors. These pieces were reassembled to give new life to the old church in seven months. Only the original bell tower did not survive and was replaced to complete the original exterior.

The truck drivers who delivered Old Trinity reported that



their great grandfather had donated the land upon which the church had been originally built. The land where it now resides also had never been built on. Father Dale Petley of All Souls Episcopal Church in Oklahoma City began his ministry at Old Trinity in Blackville in 1982 and was present at the completion of the church at its new American location. Old Trinity faced east-west in Blackville and was rebuilt to face east-west in Oklahoma City. Some things are meant to be.



In October of 2007, Tom Lee had to sell his beloved Old Trinity to pay for his ongoing medical expenses. A friend in the neighbourhood bought Old Trinity. The church is now used as a wedding chapel, Simply Sisters Weddings, operated by Amy and Sara McCord.

For more of Blackville's history and to view archived photos, visit www.memoriesofblackville.com.



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Sarkis Collision & Car Care Centre Celebrating over 40 Years on the River

Sarkis Collision & Car Care Centre is celebrating over 40 years of business in Miramichi. Founded in 1975 by Nazih Sarkis, from the very beginning until today the values Sarkis takes pride in have remained the same — a commitment to excellence, honesty and integrity, and an incredible work ethic. Throughout the years many struggles and personal challenges have been overcome and have helped to shape the Sarkis family and company into the people they are today and the type of business they run. The incredible work ethic has been passed on from one generation to the next.

Through challenges and personal tragedies such as Nazih's passing, Rose May Sarkis found the passion, commitment and will within herself to continue to build the family business so that one day it could be passed on to her children.

"The transition was very difficult," says Rose May. "I was in customer service before but becoming the owner of the business under such difficult circumstances was like starting from day one."

With the help of two of her children, Allain and Adam, Rose May has succeeded in this tough industry. She succeeded not only for her children's future but for her customers, so she could continue the incredible service and work ethic on which her husband founded the business.

Community Involvement

Sarkis Collision is a strong believer in family and community. All staff are treated like family and the company generously supports local sports and charities such as Miramichi Timberwolves and Big Brothers/ Big Sisters, to name a couple. Rose May and her family have learned that helping to build a strong community will in turn build a strong business. Supporting local fundraising efforts is important; it is about re-investing in the community that has helped Sarkis become successful. Also, concern for the environment sparked a change in the type of paint Sarkis uses when repairing vehicles. The company proudly went through the waterborne conversion process in the summer of 2010.

Sarkis – The Next Generation

Of course, the time comes in every family-owned business for the next generation to take over and continue building upon the company's success. That time is here for Sarkis Collision & Car Care Centre.

From the time they were young boys, Allain and Adam spent as much time as possible learning the business from their father. To them it was more than a business; it was a passion. They witnessed this passion in their father to take care of customers by properly taking care of their vehicles. So Allain and Adam learned how to recognize top quality repair work just by watching their father everyday. Most importantly they were taught how to treat customers by

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Season's Greetings

watching their father and learning from him what was needed to successfully carry on their business.

For a family business to succeed and extend to the next generation, the passion for the work has to be passed down, and with the Sarkis family, it has.

Congratulations to Sarkis Collision & Car Care Centre on over 40 years of business and may you enjoy at least another 40 more!

For more information visit their website at www.sarkiscollisioncenter.com.



Local CHAMP Recognized

Recently, Southwest Miramichi-Bay du Vin MLA Jake Stewart, on behalf of War Amps Canada, presented a Certificate of Recognition to Jakob Jardine, in recognition of his volunteer efforts with The War Amps Child Amputee (CHAMP) Program.

Jakob Jardine, 9, of Warwick Settlement, is a member of the CHAMP Program and has gone above and beyond to volunteer his time to spread important messages in his area. Being born a right arm amputee hasn't stopped Jakob from living a full and active life. He enjoys many activities such as skating, swimming and karate. His determination and zest for life is an inspiration to all.

Jakob is a strong advocate of The War Amps PLAYSAFE message. He helps spread the PLAYSAFE message by giving presentations and by riding on The War Amps float in local parades, encouraging kids to "spot the danger" before they play. Jakob is well qualified to do so as he has met children who have lost limbs in accidents that could have been prevented.

Jakob is an excellent example of The War Amps philosophy, "amputees helping amputees," and has made a positive impact in our community.



L to R: Blackville Mayor Chris Hennessy, Jakob Jardine, MLA Jake Stewart.



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Christmas C

Nov. 24: Advent Bible Study

There will be a four week Advent bible study to help us prepare for and celebrate the birth of the Saviour coming into the world, beginning Thursday, November 24 at 7:00 PM, at the church center, 556 King George Hwy.



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Dec. 4th: Upper Blackville Pre-Christmas Presentation

The Sunday School children from Upper Blackville United Baptist Church will be giving a presentation at 6:30pm. Join us for a Christmas devotional, Christmas carols, and more. All are welcome.

Dec. 4th: Christmas Concert - There will be a Christmas Concert at Saint Bridget's Roman Catholic Church, 12 Saint Bridget's Crescent in Renous, beginning at 7 pm.

Dec. 4th: Christmas Cantata - at The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church 7pm -9pm, 306 Water Street, Chatham Head . Featuring the choirs of Saint Michael's Basilica of Chatham, Saint Andrew's Catholic Church of Loggieville, Sainte Anne Catholic Church of Baie Sainte Anne, Saint Samuel's Catholic Church of Douglastown, Friends with Heart, Knights of Columbus and many more!

Dec. 11: United Church Centre, Blackville, 143 Main St
“Light of Christmas” Cantata followed by food & fellowship. The combined choirs from Hillside Church in Blackville, Miramichi Valley Church in New Bandon, and Christ Community Church in Fredericton invite you to join them for a night of worship music and drama. Items can be brought for our local Food Bank.

Dec. 17: St. James & St. John United church,
“Peace on Earth”, an evening of Christmas music and carols, featuring local artists, at 7pm. Free will offering.

Dec. 18th: St. Mary's Anglican Church, Chatham
Christmas Pageant at 9:00am

Dec. 18th: St. Paul's Anglican Church, Bushville
A Christmas Story Family Service at 11am.

Dec. 18th: St. James & St. John United church
Annual Sunday School Christmas concert at the church center, at 4 pm. The children will present individual class and group performances highlighting the importance of celebrating the birth of Christ.

Dec. 18th: Calvary Baptist Church, Newcastle
The church choir presents “One Small Child” at 7 pm.

Dec. 18th : St. Andrew's United Church, Chatham
CGIT Alumni Vesper Service at 7pm entitled “Happy Easter! It's Christmas”. This spirited presentation focuses on new beginnings as it explores the connection between Easter and Christmas.

Church Services

December 24th: Christmas Eve Services

Upper Blackville United Baptist, 6:30pm

Lower Derby Baptist Church, 6 pm

St. Mary's Anglican Church, 6:30pm

St. Paul's Anglican Church, 8:30pm

St. James & St. John United church

4:00 PM – “Live Nativity” Family Service with Sunday School

5:30 PM – Family Service, Maple Glen United Church

7:30 PM – Family Service

Saint François de Salles Catholic Church, Rogersville

Mass at 4 pm, Family Mass at 7pm.

Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church,

Acadieville, 9pm

Miramichi Wesleyan Church,

Candlelight Service at 6:30pm

St. Andrew's United Church

4 pm – Christmas Family Service, 7 pm – Christmas Communion Service

Voice of Hope Ministries, Upper Blackville, 7 pm

December 25th: Christmas Day Services

St. Andrew's United Church, 11am

St. Mary's Anglican Church, 10am

Miramichi Wesleyan Church, 10:30am

Saint François de Salles Catholic Church, 10:30 am.

New Year Celebrations

Dec. 31st and Jan 1st Saint François de Salles Roman Catholic Church, Rogersville

New Year's Eve service at 4 pm and on January 1st at 10:30 am. Also on January 1st at 9 am there will be a New Year's Day Mass Service at Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church, Acadieville

Dec. 31st and Jan 1st: Upper Blackville United Baptist

6:30pm New Year's Eve and 10am New Year's Day

Jan. 1st: St. Andrew's United Church, 11 am



Warm wishes for the holiday season!
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Christmas Events

Nov. 26th Unique Family Center's Annual Christmas Supper and Musical Evening

Come out to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch # 61 in Néguaac at 6:30 pm for the Unique Family Center's Annual Christmas Supper and Musical Evening. Tickets are \$30 per person and for further information, call 506-779-1900.

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Dec. 3rd Neguac's 3rd Annual Christmas Parade

Néguaac's 3rd Annual Christmas Parade will be held at 6pm starting from C.S.C. La Fontaine School to the Sportsplex Arena. Come see the beautiful floats decorated with lights and join in this community celebration. For further information, contact Willie Robichaud at 424-1225.

Dec. 4th Neguac's 28th Annual Lighting of the Christmas Tree

Neguac's 28th Annual Lighting of the Christmas Tree will be held at 6pm at the Richelieu Municipal Park. Afterwards citizens are invited to visit the church basement to enjoy a little cake and a hot drink. Also Santa Claus will be present to give a surprise to the children. This occasion brings to our municipality the merriment and joy of the holiday season. For further information, contact 506-776-3950.

Season greeting to all, from our team,
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Neguac Winter Celebration

Neguac celebrates the seasons and winter is no exception! The Neguac Winter Celebration is held at the end of February each year and brings the community together for a day of fun in the snow. Activities include a giant outdoor slide, a snow sculpture contest, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing and crafts. For more information contact Melissa Near at 506 776-3950.



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Celebrate Christmas with ARM Book Nook

ARM Book Nook is a used book store operated by Autism Resources Miramichi. Their books are received by donations and they only sell good quality merchandise. The book store also serves as a job training center for individuals with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in our community and surrounding area.

24 Books of Christmas Advent Calendar

Wrap up 24 books for the children (or adult book lover on your list) and place them under the Christmas tree. Every night starting December 1st, the children get to open one book to read every night until Christmas! ARM Book Nook can help with this as we have a wide selection of children books and many others. All childrens books are \$2 or under.



Here is a list of book selections at ARM Book Nook: Local Authors, History, Christianity / Self-Help, Health & Wellness, Science-Fiction, Fantasy, Cook Books, Parenting, Biographies, Children's, Young Adults- Novels, DVD'S, CD'S & Puzzles, Classics, French, Sports, Quilting-Crafts, Canadian, Travel, Garden, Best Sellers, Comics, Fiction, AND MUCH MORE!

Toonie Tuesday: Most of the books are priced \$5 and under except for Toonie Tuesdays when they are all \$2.

Dec.11: Santa Claus Photos

Santa Claus is coming to ARM Book Nook Sunday Dec. 11 from 1pm-3pm. Kim Harris will be donating her time and services for this Santa Clause photo fundraiser event for ARM. \$10 per digital photo. Background display sponsored by Country Floral & Wedding Decor. All proceeds go to Autism Resources Miramichi Inc.



December 11th: Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Autism Resources Miramichi will be having their 1st Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Sunday, Dec. 11th from 5:30-6:30pm right outside the book store.

Ian Baillie Primary School children's choir will be singing for us at the Autism Christmas tree lighting ceremony. Come and listen to the beautiful voices of the children!

The lighting of the Autism Christmas Tree will take place at 6 pm and the Tree will stay lit until Christmas night!

There will also be a food bank drop off at the Center during this event!



Buy Bulbs to Light the Tree

Arm Book Nook is also selling Christmas bulbs in honor of and in memory of someone with Autism.

When buying a bulb you will be able to personally write the name of the person you choose to honour directly on the Christmas bulb. These bulbs will be used to light up the Christmas Tree right outside of the center.

Bulbs are for sale at ARM Book Nook or at the following locations.

- November 26th 9am-11am - Chatham Market
- December 3rd 9:00am-2:00pm - Chatham Market
- December 4th 12:00pm-4:00pm - MVHS Market

Last day to purchased bulbs December 4th. You can also E-Transfer to arm@nb.aibn.com and send us your information.

Bulbs in honour of someone with Autism:

- Green Bulb \$5.00
- Red Bulb \$10.00
- Blue Bulb \$15.00

In memory of someone with Autism:

- Gold Bulb (Donation of your choice)



Come join us during this beautiful Holiday event and support Autism Resource Miramichi and our local food bank.

The Autism Resources Centre and ARM Book Nook are located at 1 Allan St, behind the Douglastown Mall. For more information call 622-8137 or find them on Facebook.

Get Hooked on Soffit Clips this Christmas

It's often said that necessity is the mother of invention and when Leo Lapointe had to replace his decorative light clips every Christmas because of their poor design, an idea came to him.

"I sat in the living room and began to build a better light hanger," Leo recalls. "I asked my mother for a bobby pin, then rolled the end and found it was very strong and would hold the weight of the lights." This was the very first Soffit Clip.

"The only drawback was rust from any moisture accumulation. Soon I was thinking it would be much better in a plastic compound, lighter and rust free," Leo says "I began to draw and it would be years from the bobby pin to the new clip but undaunted, I continued toward my goal to create the Soffit Clip."

The mold was built, the patent procured and Leo had his first batch of Soffit Clips. But there was a problem, the clips were brittle and kept breaking at the loop.

"I wanted the best quality Soffit Clip possible," Leo says. "So it was back to the mold maker to add a flat loop engineered for increased strength and flexibility."

Now the Soffit Clip was ready to be manufactured. This time from a UV Resistant White Plastic and flatter loop.

"Success! The New Brunswick firm Bouctouche Bay



Industries (BBI Plastics), who poured the new Soffit Clips had great results with my re-engineered mold."

This plastic allows for year round protection from all weather conditions. Once the Soffit Clips are fastened

under the eave there is no need for removal, the string of lights are protected and the clips are durable. At the end of the season, the string of lights can be slipped off with ease, or remain in place until the next year, making the workload lighter so Christmas can be brighter.

Now, years later Soffit Clips are available for purchase online and Leo has a string of satisfied customers from Alberta to Newfoundland.

Once you install these you too will be hooked! These durable clips are easy to install and strong enough for Christmas lights, wind chimes, bird feeders and more!

Soffit Clips can be purchased at Northumberland Co-op in Miramichi, 254 Lawlor Lane.

Soffit Clip is located at 25 West Point Road in New Mills, NB. For more information telephone (506) 237-5405, email sales@soffitclip.com or visit their website at soffitclip.com.



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Dining & Entertainment

Live Entertainment on the Miramichi

There's lots of live entertainment coming up on the river. A new Miramichi talk show launched last month. Hosted by Kylie Stewart, Ryan Ward and Chad St. Onge **Miramichi Nightline** is a 45-60 minute long program covering hot topics in news and pop culture. The program airs on Facebook @MiramichiNightline Wednesdays at 9 pm. Viewers are encouraged to get in on the discussion by posting comments live.

The Boulevard Pub in downtown Newcastle is celebrating **10 years** on Friday November 25th from 4 pm to close with live music from all the Boulevard favourites, prizes, and happy hour prices from open until close. For more information find them at www.theboulevardpub.com or call 622-8320.

The **32nd Annual Living Christmas Tree** is happening from Wednesday, November 30th to Sunday, December 4th at The Point Church, Newcastle Site, 582 King George Highway. Free Admission and tickets are currently available.

FM93 presents **Country Christmas** with music by **Laurie LeBlanc, Transistor, Steven Kelly, Flo Durelle, Moe Leblanc, Michel Breau, Andre Martel and Michel Savoie** at Carrefour Beausoleil on Friday December 2nd at 8 pm. General admission is \$10. Pre-show cash bar at 7 pm.

The Heritage Players will present "**An Old Fashioned Christmas**" **Dinner Theatre** with turkey and strawberry shortcake at Saint Bridget's Roman Catholic Church, 12 Saint Bridget's Crescent, Renous on Saturday, December 3rd, at 6 pm. Tickets are \$25 and available at Renous Convenience (622-6561).

Acoustic Christmas Show featuring **ECMA 2016 Winner Chelsea Amber** at 7 pm on December 3rd at Saint Andrew's Anglican Parish Hall, 214 Pleasant Street, Newcastle. Call the Parish Office at 622-7614 to reserve your ticket.

A **Christmas Cantata** will be held 7-9 pm at The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Roman Catholic Church, Chatham Head on Sunday December 4th. Featuring **several local choirs, Friends with Heart, Knights of Columbus** and

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more! Admission is a freewill offering. Refreshments will follow in the Parish Centre.

Mike Biggar's Acoustic Christmas rolls into the Goodie Shop Lounge on Friday December 9th at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$15 and available at Mill Cove Coffee and The Goodie Shop Restaurant.

Nikki Payne and James Mullinger's A Very Dysfunctional Christmas happens Saturday December 10th 7:30-9:30 pm at James M. Hill. Produced by HubCap Promotions, this show is recommended for 19+.

This New Year's Eve come out to the Riverside Entertainment Centre in Douglastown and celebrate with **Crossover!** Doors open at 9 pm. Music starts at 10 pm. One complimentary drink per ticket holder. Tickets are \$50 each or a table of 8 for \$350.



Book your Holiday Party with the Boulevard Pub!

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Memories Of A War Bride I Knew

- Remembering Eileen Elsie (Bromley) Bransfield

by Anthony McLean

Mostly, the meaning behind the activity “Show and Tell” in Elementary School was to bring something into the classroom. It could be something from home or a presentation. One day in the third grade, my teacher, Ms. Krista Bransfield, told the class she was going to be bringing her paternal grandmother who was a War Bride. None of us knew what a War Bride was and we learned a lot that day from Eileen Bransfield. Following that first encounter, my own friendship with Eileen grew for close to 15 years. Whether it was just out and about in the community or at a Christmas Cantata, I treasure each of the times spent together.

Eileen was born in Canterbury, Kent, England, on October 23rd, 1928, the daughter of Arthur and Doris Kate (Worthington) Bromley.

A War Bride is a woman who met a soldier, mostly during the Second World War, and came to Canada to become his bride. About 48,000 women came to Canada as War Brides and were of English, Scottish, Irish, Welsh, Dutch, French and Italian descents.

Eileen met her husband Robert “Bob” Allan Bransfield



Eileen and Bob on their wedding day outside Saint Martin's Church, in Canterbury England. At right, the silver horseshoe she was presented after the ceremony for good luck.

of Douglastown on the night of his 21st birthday, December 10th, 1944. He was out celebrating with his buddies and asked to walk her home after the dance.

“We talked outside of my home and he asked me if he could take me to ‘the pictures’ the next night! We went and I still remember the name of the black and white film - The Hairy Ape, not much of a film,” Eileen wrote in a personal memoir for her children.

“It was almost Christmas, and after seeing Bob several more times in the next week or two, he said he was going on leave. I had asked him if he had plans for Christmas. He could stay and spend it with me and my family. But he had made plans to meet with one of his buddies and spend it in Brighton. On Boxing Day, we had mail in those days and the postman left a parcel at my home. I couldn't think who had sent it as there was no name on it. I opened it and it was a big box of ‘Pot of Gold’ chocolates. What a luxury when all we were allowed on our rations was two ounces of ‘sweets’ candy. I shared it with my mother, twin brothers and sister, so they were soon gone.”

Over the course of the next few months, their love for each other grew, and one day in the spring of 1945, Bob asked Eileen to marry him. Eileen began writing to Bob's mother and she sent over from Canada the diamond engagement ring and a wedding band.

“Near the time of our wedding, his mother sent me a wedding dress that a neighbour had got for her in Montréal, plus material for my two bridesmaids dresses to be made. The material came, but the wedding dress didn't come in time for our wedding.”

On August 11th 1945, Eileen married Bob at Saint



Carol Bransfield - Johnston, Eileen's daughter with brick to remember Eileen out on the landing porch where they would have walked at Pier 21 in Halifax, Nova Scotia (July 2016)

Martin's Church, in Canterbury, Kent. Saint Martin's is the oldest Christian church in England.

"The dress didn't come in time for our wedding, we were married on a Saturday, and it came the following Monday. A friend who was to marry a sailor lent me hers."

For their honeymoon, Bob and Eileen left for London and with thousands of troops and other people they celebrated V-J (Victory Over Japan) Day on Monday, August 13th, 1945.

"We nearly lost sight of each other in the crowds many times."

On June 12th 1946, Eileen came to Canada aboard the Queen Mary at Pier 21 in Halifax, and came up to Miramichi by train on June 16th. On arrival at the Newcastle Station, Eileen was welcomed and met by Bob, her mother-in-law Katherine, sister-in-law Marie and Bob's grandfather.

"My luggage was lost for about a week, it had gone up to Montréal on the train. The train was full of War Brides, so it was understandable that things could be lost. My in-laws were wonderful people and couldn't do enough to make me feel at home. They had a welcoming party over at the Orange Lodge Hall that later burned down and presented Bob and I with a lovely pair of woolen blankets. I never got lonesome, only the first Christmas when I heard King George VI speak on the radio."

Although she and Bob made many trips to England to see her mother, twin brothers Eddie and Dick, and sister Ruth, Eileen made Canada her home and never looked back.

Bob and Eileen had three children—Richard, Carol and Robert Jr. (Bobby). They also raised their niece, Kathy and fostered two children, Carolyn Veniot and Wayne DeWolfe. In the end they had nine grandchildren, and many great grandchildren, who they all loved.

Eileen was a stay at home mom. She attended the former Saint Mark's United Church in Douglastown and supported Saint Andrew's United Church in Chatham. A member of the Saint Mark's United Church Choir for over 50 years, Eileen was also an active member of the United Church Women. She volunteered at the



Eileen and Bob through the years.



Miramichi Hospital in Newcastle for over 20

years, delivered for Meals on Wheels, and was an active member of both the Douglastown Senior Citizen's Club and New Brunswick War Bride Association. She dearly loved going to her annual War Bride Conventions.

Eileen was very artistic and loved to paint, draw, write poetry and long letters to family and friends. She enjoyed growing flowers, watching birds and animals, going out for long drives every Sunday, and attending family picnics. She enjoyed babysitting her grandchildren and made them special birthday cakes every year and unique costumes whenever they were needed for something special at school. Eileen and Bob shared many wonderful trips, with their last big one

being to Hawaii in 2001 to see their granddaughter Gaye and her husband Daryl. She and her granddaughter also shared a love of musicals and went to see many when Gaye lived in Toronto.

On March 28th 2008, after nearly 63 years of marriage, Bob passed away at the age of 84.

In the last two and a half years of her own life, Eileen resided at the Miramichi Senior Citizens Home in Chatham. On December 23rd 2014, Eileen Elsie (Bromley) Bransfield passed away at the Miramichi Regional Hospital at the age of 86.

Many thanks to Giv'er Miramichi for giving me this opportunity to share Eileen's story and to her daughter Carol (Bransfield) Johnston for the loan of pictures and sharing her personal memories.

Read one of Eileen's poems on page 11 of this magazine.

BRANSFIELD – BROMLEY

A large congregation assembled at Saint Martin's Church, Canterbury, England recently for the wedding of Cfn. Robert A. Bransfield, R.C.E.M.E., youngest son of Mr. And Mrs. W. Bransfield, Douglastown and Miss Eileen E. Bromley, eldest daughter of Mrs. D. Bromley of 9 Alma Street, Canterbury, England.

The bride, given away by her uncle, F. Worthington, made a charming figure in a gown of figured white cloque, with her veil held by a headdress of miniature lillies and orange blossoms. She carried a bouquet of dark red zinnias.

At the church door, the bride was presented silver horseshoes by Alex Routen, Baby Sandra Dane and Bert West. Following a reception at Saint Radigund's Girls Club, the couple left for a honeymoon in London, the bride travelling in a turquoise frock, brown fur coat and hat and accessories to tone.

(newspaper clipping from England)

Miramichi Naturalists' Club looking forward to Christmas Bird Counts

by Pam Watters

Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) will take place all over North America from December 14th to January 5th. This annual tradition dates back to 1900 when Ornithologist Frank Chapman decided to organize an event to count birds, as an alternative to the Christmas Side Hunt in which teams counted how many birds they could shoot! The goal of the CBC is to find and identify as many birds as possible in 24 hours within a 24 km diameter circle. Some participants choose to watch birds at their backyard feeders from the comfort of their home, while others brave the elements to cover as much ground as possible within the circle. It's fun and a great way to learn about the hardy birds that are able to spend the winter in New Brunswick. Of course, we are always hoping to spot an unusual or rare bird as well! Some of the more rare sightings on the Miramichi CBC included a Red-bellied Woodpecker in 2011 and a Field Sparrow in 2006.

Our Miramichi Christmas Bird Count started in 1972 by Harry Walker. In the Miramichi area, we are lucky to now have three CBCs as counts were started in Red Bank/ Sunny Corner in 2004 and Burnt Church/ New Jersey in 2015. The results of these counts are submitted to a New Brunswick provincial coordinator, and the Miramichi results are entered



Left: Pine Grosbeak
Above: Snow Bunting

Photos by Phil Riebel

into a North American database of Christmas Bird Counts through Bird Studies Canada/ National Audubon Society.

This data allows “researchers, conservation biologists, wildlife agencies and other interested individuals to study the long-term health and status of bird populations across North America.” (National Audubon Society)

The Miramichi area counts will take place on the dates listed below (weather permitting). If you're interested in participating, whether it's monitoring your backyard feeders, or joining members for all or part of the day, please contact Pam Watters (773-7304) or Dave McLeod (776-3426).

Red Bank/ Sunny Corner, December 17th
Miramichi, December 18th
Burnt Church/ New Jersey, December 31st

Happy Holidays

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Tufting is Timeless

By Lauren Walls

In the furniture world, trends are always changing! Sometimes for the better, other times ... not so much. Simply put, trends come and go. When it comes to investing in a piece of furniture that will stand the test of time, I always suggest choosing something classic, something that has weathered through years of ever changing trends. Tufted sofas are exactly the kind of classic I'm referring to.

The word "Chesterfield" is often used as a synonym to "sofa" when in reality a Chesterfield is a very specific style of sofa that dates back hundreds of years and is recognizable by its distinct design! There is tufting on the back and the arms, which are both equal height and the arms have a distinct curve. The Chesterfield sofa is still going strong today. Whether your home is traditional, modern, eclectic, or any style in between a Chesterfield can be the perfect addition to any living space!

Tufted sofas of course don't begin and end with the Chesterfield. Many furniture companies are reinventing this classic by squaring off the edges, adding nailhead detailing, playing with fabrics and modernizing the look to appeal to even more people.

Tufting is even making its way into the bedroom. Tufted headboards have been extremely popular in recent years and

this shows no signs of changing. There are very few elements that can add such a luxurious softness and still remain clean, tailored and "put-together". What more could we want really?

Another tufting style that's been recently starting to make a comeback and is quickly gaining traction is channel tufting. This is a trend we will be seeing more and more of very soon.

A throwback to Mid-Century modern styling, channel tufting is making a big return, particularly in Dining Rooms and smaller upholstered pieces like benches or accent chairs. This makes it even easier to bring this



trend into your home for an affordable price.

For timeless appeal and a sense of luxury, try adding tufting to your home!



Lauren Walls was born in Miramichi and 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 now joined 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.



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Above: Art Core members at a paint-out in Nelson
Right: Members attend a workshop by Barry Cooms



Miramichi Art Core Welcomes New Members

The Miramichi Art Core has been around for almost 15 years. It all started when a group of friends realized they had a common interest in art and painting. This led to informal monthly meetings where artists would offer up their home, meaning that meetings were held in a different place each month.

As the membership grew, the artists realized they needed a way to showcase, promote and sell their work so new venues were explored. Once the group had elected an executive, the executive was tasked to meet with the City of Miramichi to ask if there were any spaces they could lease. These negotiations with the City resulted in the Miramichi Art Core setting up their art gallery in its present location at Ritchie Wharf.

The group was thrilled to now have an exhibition area to display their growing collection of artwork. Since its opening, the gallery has been filled floor to ceiling with a diverse display of landscapes, still life paintings and figurative as

well as abstract drawings. The group also used the new location for their monthly meetings but because Ritchie Wharf is seasonal, a more permanent arrangement was sought. Carrefour Beausoleil came to the rescue and the group now meets there monthly. This made it easier to schedule meetings with a set time and date improving attendance as a result.

The members continue to produce high quality work. They have held exhibitions at the Seaman's Hospital in Douglastown, Loggie House in Chatham and the Gallery ARTcadienne in Carrefour Beausoleil. They have also organized many shared events with the Bathurst Art Association including exhibiting at their Seabreeze Gallery. As well, both groups have sponsored workshops given by professional artists, the latest in water colour production and drawing techniques using oil and chalk pastels.

The Miramichi Art Core also participates in community activities such as paint-outs. The most recent was with the

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A photograph of the Trevors Hyundai dealership. The building is a modern, two-story structure with large glass windows and the 'HYUNDAI' and 'Trevors' logos prominently displayed. Several cars are parked in the lot in front of the building. The background of the advertisement features a dark blue sky with white snowflakes and a large, decorated Christmas tree on the right side.

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Above: Paint-out in Nelson
Right: Art display at the Loggie House

Irish Festival that culminated in an art auction at the Rodd Miramichi River Hotel. It was a very successful venture with more than 70% of the plein-air paintings sold.

The monthly meetings and the art gallery are the backbone of the Miramichi Art Core and yet the artists know that the true value is in the friendships formed and in the skills they have acquired over the years. At meetings work brought in is discussed, new techniques are explained, viewpoints often open up new areas to explore, and there is a good deal of confidence building in the process. Members

give each other tips and encouragement. Each member has come to appreciate and value the advice and knowledge gained by being part of the group. It has been said that an interest that is shared with another gives satisfaction and meaning to daily life. That is what the Miramichi Art Core brings to its members.

For more information visit their website at miramichiartcore.ca. New members are always welcome on the last Saturday of the month at 2:30 pm in Carrefour Beausoleil. Drop in, bring some of your work and join the discussion.

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Employment Program Helps Adults on Autism Spectrum

by Anthony McLean

Recently, nine participants graduated from an Adult Employment Pilot Project offered through Autism Resources Miramichi (ARM) and the Department of Post Secondary Education, Training and Labour (PETL).

The program's goal was to target the deficits and strengths for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and help develop specific employment tools. The program had a classroom component with hands on experience followed by a job placement in the community. This is how I secured my job as a Contributing Reporter with Giv'er Miramichi.

"This program was beneficial and helped a lot of my peers and myself, and is leading towards a goal I want to do, which is to attend college," said participant and graduate Apoline Martin.

Another participant and graduate, Tyler Richard said, "This was the high school experience I never had."

Nichole Donahue was a Job Coach with the program. She taught Workplace Essential Skills combined with Soft Skills through role playing, video modelling, activities that teach, and more. It was done in a real workplace setting at the ARM Book Nook store in Douglstown.

"I accompanied participants to their employment



Front L to R: Shayla Matchett-Simon, Richard Barry, Apoline Martin, Brody Lynch, Anthony McLean and Joey Cook.

Back L to R: Nicholas McIntyre, Tyler Richard, Justin Breau and Kevin Sherrard.

placements and provided the necessary supports on site. These supports could include: visual aids, scheduling, advocacy, and educating the employer on ASD," Nichole said. "The challenges faced by the participants were largely related to the social aspect of the work environment as opposed to the actual work tasks to be performed. What we found is when participants are matched with an employer who best suits their individual skills and talents and provides an ideal environment for them to strive, great successes have been observed."

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Jennifer Daley (Instructor of Employment Program), Debby MacGregor (Executive Director, Autism Resources Miramichi Inc.) Lila Barry (Past Executive Director of Autism Resources Miramichi Inc. and Co-Ordinator of WES Program), Nichole Donahue (Job Coach of Employment Program), Shelley Hare-Brennan (Officer - Adult Learning Section - PETL) and Marie-Josée Arseneault (Bilingual Officer - Adult Learning Section - PETL)

Throughout the classroom component there were a wide variety of topics covered including:

- Soft Skills
- Independent Living Skills
- Healthy Lifestyle
- Numeracy
- Customer Service
- Conflict Resolution
- Personal Banking
- Local Outreach

“There are not enough resources available for adults living with ASD, and this program has been a step in the right direction to providing these services. Currently, we are trying to appropriate funding to continue this program,” Nichole said.

A prominent result of the program is a greater quality of life for participants and their caregivers.

The graduation ceremony held at the Rodd Miramichi River Hotel included employees from both ARM and PETL, participants' family members, as well as some of the graduates new employers.

Hats off to all who made this program possible and congratulations to all participants!



Anthony W.J. McLean is a contributing reporter for Giv'er Miramichi and in his spare time he enjoys digital photography, writing and travelling. He has lived in Miramichi and Saint John, and is proud to call Miramichi home.

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Love in the Hallways

Hospice Day Program Huge Success

by Kellie Underhill

When you enter the home of Hospice Miramichi at 14 Howard Street in Chatham the first thing you might notice is an overwhelming sense of calm. You might release a huge sigh and feel your shoulders loosen as stress leaves your body and you relax into the peace of the hallway. This is a good atmosphere for the kinds of activities that have been happening here recently. This summer Hospice Miramichi launched a groundbreaking new Hospice Day Program that is the first of its kind in Atlantic Canada.

“Although donations are gratefully accepted, our program is completely free of charge for our clients,” says Community Coordinator Joyce Leblanc. “Our clients all have been diagnosed with progressive life-limiting illnesses such as MS, Cancer, Huntington's Disease, Parkinson's Disease, Heart Disease and Stroke, just to name a few.”

Joyce, an LPN of 21 years who also has an advanced palliative certification, assesses potential participants first before they are accepted into the program. The program runs Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 am to 3 pm. Everything is either donated, run by volunteers or paid for by Hospice Miramichi so there is no onus on participants to pay for any services. Donated services have included a professional hair dresser, massage therapist, chair yoga, pottery, knitting, art, music, wood working and more.

“We offer three days a week filled with activities of all kinds,” Joyce says. “We provide a home cooked meal and snacks. We have an artistic consultant, hair salon, as well as a volunteer from the local art community, the Clay Cafe and the Miramichi Senior Sawdustmakers. We have also been quite fortunate to have local musicians volunteer their time



to play and sing for our clients. We have had the Country Tornadoes, Charles Hachey, Bill Mullin and of course our very own Executive Director Connie Doucet along with her very talented singing partner Paul McGraw.”

For participants whose diseases generally isolate them in their homes, this program is a very welcome change to their weekly routines.

“This is a service that is so desperately needed in our community,” Joyce says. “I love seeing participants smile. They can't get enough.”

“Our Day Program is the best kept secret on the Miramichi,” Executive Director Connie Doucet adds.

Death is not a topic that people like to talk about but for those who have been diagnosed with life-limiting illnesses the concept of death becomes very real. These individuals can't control their disease, however they can control how they live with the disease. The earlier in the illness trajectory that Hospice can provide support services either at home through their Outreach Program or on site with Day Hospice the more they are able to give them back autonomy in making decisions on how they want to live their life. This control has the potential to reduce anxiety.

“We focus on the person, not the disease. We focus on





A woodworking project Doug McLenaghan made for his son in the Hospice Day Program.

living,” Connie says. “We all need to be living like we are on a timeline. For our participants their future is not down the road it is in front of them. In the end, all any of us wants is to feel like we mattered, we made a difference, and we won't be forgotten.” The items participants have made with their own hands and gifted to family ensures that this will be the case.

Doug McLenaghan is one participant who has taken the opportunity to make gifts for his son.

“I've made things I never thought I would,” he says. Clay Cafe came and he made a cup and an elephant. There was an art class and he painted flowers. Doug like most of the participants had never artistically painted anything before. “We all put on canvas what was in our minds and it was all amazing,” he says.

Before the Hospice Day Program started Doug admits he didn't have much of a life. Living on his own with his cat and not being able to get out much, his daily routine included a lot of naps. When he first started with the Day Program he didn't know what to expect and wasn't sure he would like it much, but now he comes every day. “It gives me something to look forward to,” Doug says. “There's always something to do, like play cribbage. It's turned my life around.”

Participants get to occupy their minds with fun things, make new friends and enjoy services like having their hair done by a professional stylist. “I'm so happy to be here,” Doug says. “We laugh a lot. I have nothing but high regards

for the program. Connie and Joyce are amazing. All the volunteers do everything they can to make our days good. Everybody loves each other.”

The first day he attended they did chair yoga, which was an activity he and many others had never tried before. During the summer they had some very young volunteers including Travis, a boy around 12 years old, who played checkers with Doug. “They were great kids,” he says. “They did everything from carrying desserts and getting drinks to playing cards and checkers with us.”

One afternoon when they had music everyone started dancing including a new woman participant who was there for the first time. Doug remembers how she suddenly caught herself and turned around with tears in her eyes, “she said she forgot about the cancer.”

Joyce remembers that day very well too. She herself is a cancer survivor and understands the benefit of experiencing moments where you forget you're sick. She was diagnosed and underwent treatments when she was a young single mother of three children. “I've walked a mile in their shoes. I understand how they feel,” she says. “We don't look at the illness, we look at the person. It's not the end, they aren't alone anymore.”

The Day Program is already making a difference in participants lives. They've become a tight knit family. Participants are given hope, a sense of belonging and encouragement. They can accommodate more participants so



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now Joyce is reaching out to spread news of the program to the community.

"It's a bilingual service," she says. "We are equipped for people in wheelchairs. For those individuals who are unable to drive, we will arrange transportation with Miramichi Accessible Transit at no charge to the participants."

Hospice services can be provided to any individual living in the Miramichi or surrounding areas including Baie Ste Anne, Nequac, Rogersville, Blackville, and Sunny Corner.

The Hospice Day Program is Phase Two of a three part plan to bring hospice to the Miramichi. The first phase, the Hospice Outreach Program, was introduced to the community in June 2013. The third phase is to open a 10 bed residential hospice in the next few years, a place staffed with professionals where people in the final three months of their lives can experience death naturally in a home like environment. Bringing hospice to Miramichi is a concept Connie has thought about for a long time. "It's exactly the way I envisioned it to be," she says. "It's a joy to come to work when you don't think you're working. I'm surrounded by people who share this passion."

Joyce too is very passionate about what she does. "I'm very fortunate to work with Connie. It's a good match," she says. For the participants in the Hospice Day Program Joyce provides a bit of security. She is the first person they see when they arrive and the last person to hug them as they leave. About once a week she even puts on an apron and heads into the kitchen to prepare one of her home cooked comfort meals

for them. "Their smiles make all the difference," she says. "It never hurts to give."

There is a great feeling of love among participants, staff and volunteers.

"I hope this program works it will benefit a lot of people.

We miss each other when we don't come one day. We're like family," Doug says. "They make you feel so at home here. There's love in these hallways."

Hospice Miramichi relies on donations and fundraising to cover operating costs. Chase the Ace is their big weekly fundraiser and proceeds from the Hospice Shoppe are ongoing, but they also have a number of other fundraisers like a recent Sip n Paint evening, Angels Remembered,

Home for the Holidays, A Taste of Chocolate coming up in February, and the second annual family day and butterfly release in the spring. Tax receipts are available for monetary donations over \$10. Donations can also be made at funeral homes in memory of loved ones. As well, Connie encourages community groups and service clubs to fundraise on their behalf. "The Kinsmen Club of Miramichi recently held a Daddy Daughter Dance and all proceeds came to us. It was greatly appreciated."

For more information about Hospice Miramichi's programs or if you would like to have a presentation about hospice given to your group please visit their website at www.hospicemiramichi.com, telephone 773-7607 or email info@HospiceMiramichi.com.



Hospice Miramichi in Chatham where the Day Program is a huge success.

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The Ripple Effect of Buying Local

Miramichi is made up of approximately 1500 independent businesses. These businesses are the backbone of Miramichi's economy. When you shop local you help build the local economy through what is known as the multiplier effect - the recirculating of money within the region.

For every dollar spent with small business you will have three times a more positive impact on the local economy than when spending at the big box stores. When you shop at a big box store or online, the money is being taken out of the local market.

Your local spending helps grow small businesses in the region, which in turn secures more local jobs. These business owners and their employees spend their money locally, creating a ripple effect with every dollar you spend locally. These local businesses also pay city taxes which improve city services. By supporting them you are contributing directly to your community.

If you normally shop out of town, online, or at big box stores, consider making a change this holiday season. Revisit your shopping list and see what you can purchase locally, at small independent stores or craft sales and markets.

You can start by visiting the local businesses advertising in this magazine, they too are buying local by supporting our local media business. Also check out www.MightyMiramichi.com and browse the online marketplace and shopping & services to see what is available in your own backyard.



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from the Allied Team*

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Larry Sutherland
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Darcy Gulliver
Sales Representative
506-625-8662



Volunteer with Miramichi Ground Search & Rescue

The Miramichi Ground Search and Rescue team (MGSAR) is a group of approximately 30 volunteers who are on call 24/7/365 to respond to calls for lost or missing persons. They cover a large area from Boiestown to Neguac and Mount Carleton Provincial Park to Richibucto. It is one of the larger search areas in the province.

MGSAR respond to lost or missing person incidents in the Miramichi area and also assist in other searches across the province. Since the end of May 2015 the team has been involved in ten searches: North Renous Lake (drown subject located after 11 days), Pointe Aux Carr where subject was located after a night in the woods, Bear Island where subject was located alive after six days in the woods, Charlo where the drown victim was located, Heath Steel where a missing female was located after 13 hours, Bathurst where the body of a 72 year old male was recovered after 9 days, Bois Blanc where a 2 year old boy was located after 4 hours and activations for searches in Burnt Church, Mill Stream and Blackville where the subjects were located by police/ family before the MGSAR sent search teams into the woods.

MGSAR provides volunteers with free training in orienteering, survival, tracking, first aid, and CPR so they are equipped to deal with emergency medical situations in remote areas, situations often encountered during searches

for lost and missing persons.

From November 4th-6th, 13 members of the MGSAR team participated in the New Brunswick GSAR Workshop held in Oromocto. Some of the topics covered in the training were: Drones, Anthropology, Utilizing SAR Dog Teams at Searches, Lost Person Behaviour, Tracking, GPS Training and Searching from Aircraft.

Member John Glidden says the most exciting and challenging training he received so far with MGSAR was the Wilderness Remote First Aid (WFRA) Program.

“The training put volunteers in every simulated medical emergency imaginable that one might come across in the field. This took place over an entire weekend and included camping outdoors, which was a challenge in February,” John says.

Members spend a great deal of their time raising funds. It is expensive running a team as there are maintenance costs for their Rescue truck/ Mobile Command Post, team training and travel costs, insurance for the vehicles/ team equipment/ members, and the cost of maintaining a base. The only other financial support they receive is \$2500 each year from the provincial association that supports 10 other groups in New Brunswick.

The City of Miramichi has been very supportive of the

local team by making the former Fire Department Training Centre in Morrison Cove available where a lot of training is done in the wooded area and trails. Unable to afford the cost of heating the classroom in winter, they were looking for meeting space when Miramichi Timber Frames stepped forward and provided a 6000 square foot heated space, the former Chatham Base Fire Station. This location meets the needs of the team and has office, classroom, meeting and storage space as well as a large garage for the Team Rescue truck and Mobile Command post. The surrounding parking lot, green space, pond, dam and trails are ideal for GSAR training purposes.

An exciting new project is underway for Miramichi Ground Search and Rescue. They are working on establishing a Ground Search and Rescue Centre to provide training for the 10 teams in the province. They hope to establish this over the next year and a half and have submitted a funding proposal to Ottawa's New Initiative Fund (NIF) with the National Search and Rescue Secretariat (NSS). The request for funding is for a three year training project (2017-2020) which will be province-wide in scope but managed by MGSAR. The requested funding will be for search and rescue equipment for MGSAR, 69 training courses and six training exercises for all 10 Ground Search and Rescue Teams and search partners in the province. Should the funding application be successful it would result in most of the training being completed in the Miramichi area during the three years of the project.

Last week the team provided Searcher One Training (Basic SAR Course) to 30 students in the environmental Technology class at NBCC, and many are interested in joining the team. Students who are not from NB can join any GSAR team in the country since the new training curriculum meets CSA national standards for Search and Rescue.



MGSAR Volunteers displaying their truck and Mobile Command Post at a community event.

Join MGSAR

Members are wanted from all the communities within the search area of responsibility. Applicants must be 18 years of age and also provide a Police Clearance certificate. Members are needed with a wide range of skills and interests: hiking, camping, First Aid, map and compass/ GPS, radio operators, truck drivers, instructors, fundraisers, webmasters, canoe/ kayak, anyone interested in volunteering and assisting people in need. To join visit their website at www.mgsar.ca.

John Glidden is very happy with his decision to become a volunteer with MGSAR.

"Becoming a volunteer was a great decision for me; with each training exercise, course and event, I'm becoming more prepared to help those in need. I'm also getting back outdoors and spending time with others in a great team environment."

If you are interested in learning more about MGSAR, the next **information session will be on Wednesday November 23rd, 6-7 pm** at 71 Thorneycroft (former Chatham Base Fire Station) at the corner of General Manson Way. and Thorneycroft

Sponsorship

Donations are always welcome and the team can really "stretch a dollar". Corporate sponsors will have their logo displayed on a large sign at their Training Centre and also on their Command Post trailer, on the team website and during media releases.

Bronze - \$100 a month or \$1000 a year

Silver - \$200 a month or \$2000 a year

Gold - \$300 a month or \$3000 a year

Platinum – (Major Sponsor) - \$5000 a year

For more information on sponsorship or becoming a volunteer, contact either MGSAR President Flora Ross at 773-7946, email joeandflo@hotmail.ca or Jerry Mckenna at 424-1864, email jerry.g.mckenna@hotmail.com.



Volunteers preparing to stay the night in the woods during the Wilderness Remote First Aid Program.

Family Research Hints from the Miramichi Genealogy Society

by Penny Creamer

Last month you learned of a few places where you can locate information you'll need to make your family tree grow. Now we'll provide a few more places for you to check.

Work/ hobby/ volunteer memorabilia

You may see them sitting on a mantle or mounted on the wall. They may be on a bookshelf or an entertainment centre. They may be packed in a box to be included in a yard sale. They are the plaques, trophies and awards that indicate the interests and accomplishments in people's lives, and with the passing of years other family members, with no interest in genealogy, no longer have a use for them. Gather up as many as you can find.

Census Records

Census information is of prime importance, especially when using the descendant method of developing a family tree. Start with the 1851 Canadian Census (earlier in some places), locate the family you're interested in, and note the type of dwelling, name of spouse, names of children, ages, others living in the household, relationships within the household, origin (race), date of entry to Canada, occupation and health status. By 1861 (the next year of the Canadian census), you may find children living with only one parent (which normally indicates a death) or with no parents, or children no longer living with the family. It could mean the children moved away (possibly to work), got married and moved out, or died. You may find the missing children living next door with a spouse and children of their own. You may find an older daughter working (and living) in the home of a neighbour or an older son training as an apprentice (and living)

with a potential employer. You may find a very young child listed where the "parents" are probably too old to have children, which would indicate that the child is really a grandchild. The census is one of the most important tools for establishing family relationships and



connections. Keep in mind that the census was compiled by census takers (enumerators) who often made mistakes, didn't know how to spell, or just didn't really want to visit each home so just asked the neighbours what was happening. The information in the census, as with all other sources of information, is not necessarily accurate.

Church Records

Church records, where they exist and are accessible, are another very important source of information. Baptism records usually include the child's full name, parents' names, sometimes race and/ or location of

residence, birth date, baptism date, sponsor information (often relatives), and presiding priest or minister. Marriages often include full names of the wedding couple, where they are from, their parents' names, date and place of marriage, witnesses, and name of priest or minister. Deaths, not always recorded in the earlier years, can include parents/ children's names, place of burial, age, and cause of death. Death records can provide information on people who were buried with no tombstone or where a tombstone no longer exists.

Cemetery Records

Cemeteries contain a wealth of information. Recorded on tombstones you often find, besides the name of the deceased, birth dates, death dates, the full name of a spouse (including birth and death dates), wedding date, children's names, origin, occupation, military information, hobby, organization or club involvement, etc.

Newspapers

Both current and old newspapers can provide a lot of detailed information on a person's life. Birth announcements, birthdays, school events, graduations, reunions, engagements, occupations, wedding and anniversary notices, sports articles, club and/ or organization promos, volunteer activities, community events, business or political articles, ads, obituaries (of course), and photos, etc. Someone in every family keeps these clippings. Keep digging until you locate that person.

Obituaries

An obituary can give you just about all the information you need to develop a sketch of the life of a person. It often includes place of birth, where he/ she



was raised, different residences, names of parents, grandparents, spouse(s) and their parents, children and their spouses, grandchildren and their spouses, great-grandchildren, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, companions, friends, education, special training, occupations, military information, hobbies and interests, clubs and organizations, awards, etc. Entering information from just one obituary into a family tree can take well over an hour to complete.

Books by local authors

There are several books by local authors that can aid in

your quest for family information. Some books focus on genealogy, others on people, others on locations, others on the history of certain areas, but all are worthy of your time and effort. Although it is a good idea to verify the information provided in such cases, work that has already been done by others can save you a lot of time by making family connections and showing you where to look for the information you want.

Other sources (government)

- Court records, including land grants and probated wills
- School records
- Ship lists and passenger lists
- Military information
- Occupation (government positions, such as postal offices)
- Provincial and National archive sites and websites

NBGS-Miramichi Branch hopes you find this information helpful. Good luck with your family tree and take time to enjoy getting to “know” your ancestors.

If you would like to join us, we meet the fourth Tuesday of every month (except July, August and December) at the Chatham Library at 6:15 pm. Contact us at: NBGS-Miramichi, PO Box 403, Miramichi NB, Canada E1N 3A8 or visit our Website at: www.nbgsmiramichi.org

Next month you’ll learn about identifying different sources of information.

Meet the Timberwolves

Photo credits: Jeff Doucet



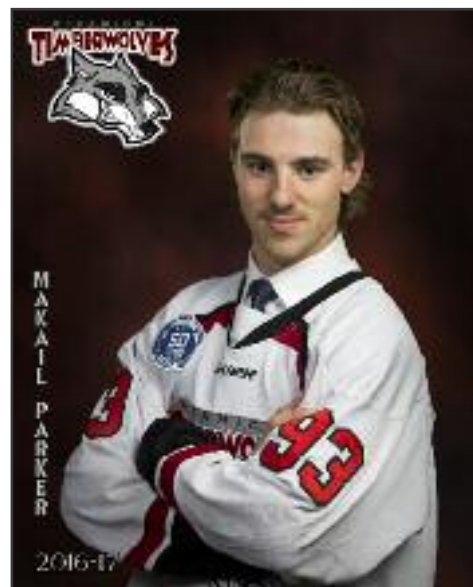
Brayden Uhrich #91

Position: Forward
Weight: 154
Shoots: Right
Hometown: Rosetown, SK
Height: 5'10
Birthdate: Oct. 25, 1997
Last Team: Humboldt Broncos (SJHL)



Tanner Somers #31

Position: Goalie
Weight: 147
Shoots: Left
Hometown: Miramichi
Height: 5'10
Birthdate: May 13, 1998
Last Team: Miramichi Rivermen Major Midget



Makail Parker #93

Position: Forward
Weight: 171
Shoots: Left
Hometown: Brooklyn
Height: 5'9
Birthdate: May 28, 1997
Last Team: South Shore Lumberjacks

Submissions

If you have photos, stories, tips or tidbits to share we always welcome your submissions. Send submissions to submit@mightymiramichi.com. For 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.

Photo of a beautiful pond up the Southwest Miramichi, by Betty Dennis



Sunrise on the Tabusintac Bog, first day of duck hunting by Kelsey McEachern



Above: The full moon reflected in the Miramichi River in Derby, by Laura Lea Comeau.



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au théâtre Gilles Laplante
Admission Général 10 \$
pré-show 19H - Bar payant sur place

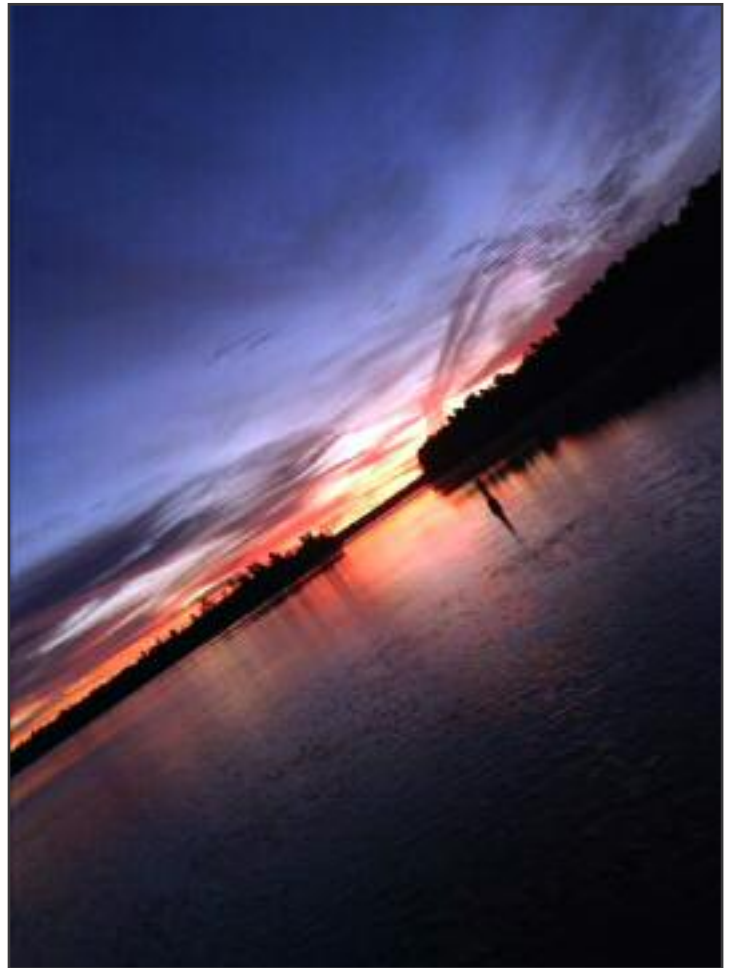
Friday December 2d at 8:00pm
at the Gilles Laplante theater
Tickets \$10.00 each
pre-show at 7:00pm - cash bar will be open





Above: Elaine Gray captured this photo of a black bear in Newcastle on Thanksgiving Sunday. "I think he is on the "Most Wanted" list. When I called the authorities they said they have been looking for him," wrote Elaine.

Right: Tanya Morrison submitted this sunrise photo along with this note, "I just wanted to share these beautiful pictures that my 10 year old daughter Katelynn Landry took one morning on her uncle Raymond McCrays boat. They were headed towards the Chatham dock the morning of October 1st to take the boat out of the water for the season."



Merry Christmas!

from all of us

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This Old Thing

In our last issue Bernie Colepaugh of the Miramichi Folklore Park in Renous shared a photo of an old item and asked if anyone knew what it was.

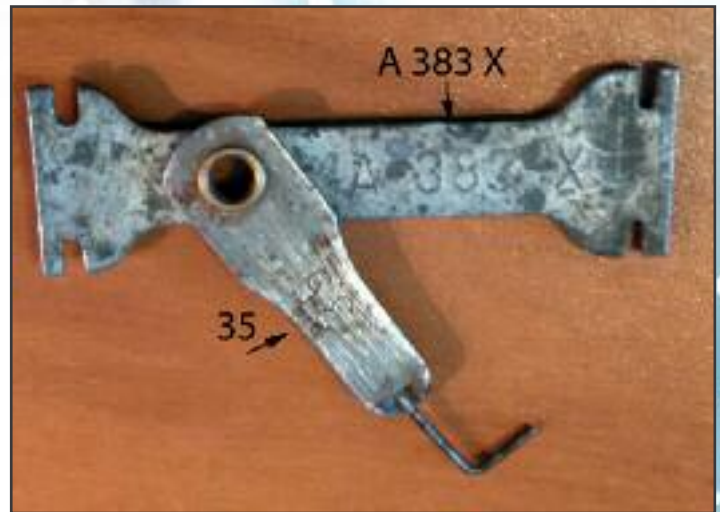
This time everyone who responded shared the same train of thought.

Sheryl Swan Dickens asked if it was for hand stitching leather. Sally Nash was pretty sure it was an awl. Tyler Hamilton noticed there was an eyelet for threading something. And Carol Christopher thought it could be an antique rug hook needle threader, which could slide open.

What does Bernie say?

“This is a tool used for sewing up feed and flour bags.”

Great guesses! Everyone was definitely on the right track.



This month we're doing something a little bit different. One of our readers, Bill Hare sent us a photo of an item he found in an old woodworking tool box. He believes it's some type of gauge used by a carpenter, but he isn't sure for what and he's asked us to help him out.

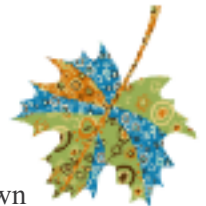
So, do you know what this is? If you think you know we invite you to email your idea to submit@mightymiramichi.com. Include “This Old Thing” in the subject line. Next issue we'll publish your responses and discover whether anyone knew for sure.



October to December

The trees are quickly getting bare as its orange and yellow leaves fall to the ground
A ground that's ridden of its warmth, replaced by a touch of Jack's frost; what was once green is now brown
Suntan oils and sunblock lotions all stored away until next year; they're out of sight
Along with our beach towels, picnic baskets, and flip flops all packed away tight
Mother Nature cannot be bargained with – to her seasons she stays true
Spring and summer are long gone. Here to stay is autumn whose wind is chill and cool
We find more happiness in Thanksgiving; we'll honour those we've lost and we will always remember
The love and warmth from our hearts carries us through from October to December

—L. Joseph



Freemasons Summer Presentation

by Brother Dave Bucklow

During the Summer most of the Freemasons in the province take a break to enjoy the weather with family and friends, but it falls upon a few to attend to the duties, and it just so happened in August that there was just such an occasion right here.

Officers of the Scottish Rite Masons met at the Portage Restaurant to present two of our brethren with their 50 year pins and certificates.

Just a small ceremony, due to it being in the summer months, but no less important as there are very few 50 year Scottish Rite Masons, as not every Mason aspires to travel the long road to the Scottish Rite. So for two of our brothers to to be presented these 50 year awards was a really big achievement.

Congratulations to Ill. Brother Leon Bremner (photo bottom right) and Ill. Brother Sterling Smith (photo top right). The honour of presentation was given to our Brother Ill. Sir Llewellyn Smith.



Cauliflower Soup

This cauliflower soup is a great way to get your servings of vegetables and warm your tummy on a cold winter's day. Georgia Halavrezos submitted this soup recipe that is a favourite with her family.

Ingredients

- 1 medium head of cauliflower [cut into florets, 5 to 6 cups]
- 1 medium carrot [grated, 1 cup]
- 1 onion [diced]
- 2 stalks of celery [diced]
- 1 900 ml container of chicken or vegetable broth
- 3 tablespoons of butter
- 3 tablespoons of flour
- 2 cups of 2 % milk
- 1 cup of grated or shredded cheese [cheddar or marble]
- Salt and Pepper to taste

Directions

In a large pot combine cauliflower, carrot, celery, onion and broth. Bring mixture to a boil and reduce heat. Cover and simmer 25 to 30 minutes.

In a large sauce pan, melt butter, stir in flour, salt and pepper. Whisk in milk slowly. Bring to a boil over medium heat. Cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Reduce heat. Stir in cheese until melted.

Mash cauliflower and vegetables with a potato masher to the consistency you like. Then mix in milk and cheese mixture. Mix well. Serve and enjoy!



Paul Harris Fellows



The Rotary Club of Newcastle is proud to recognize three new Paul Harris Fellows: Manford Wasson, Barbara Stothart, and Scott Knowles, who received a posthumous award. A celebration was held at Chatters Pub & Eatery to recognize the many contributions of these individuals. Thank you to all who came out and thank you to the recipients for all they do and have done for our community!

Left to right: Stan Knowles (accepting on behalf of his son, Scott Knowles), Barbara Stothart, and Manford Wasson

Recycle Plastic Bags



If you're like us, you may be wondering **what to do with your plastic bags**.

The curb-side recycling program doesn't accept plastic bags, but there are a few locations where you can take them to be recycled. This includes all plastic bags, such as shopping bags, bread bags, etc.

These Miramichi locations have bins outside the store where you can drop off your plastic bags to be recycled.

Sobeys – both the Douglastown and Newcastle stores

Atlantic Super Store – both the Newcastle and Chatham stores

Co-op Tradition Markets – Rogersville and Baie Sainte Anne locations

Giant Tiger - they don't recycle bags but if you bring your own reuseable bags to shop with, you get three cents off your purchase.

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Join our Event on Facebook

Season's Greetings from the Greater Miramichi Regional Service Commission – Solid Waste Services

REMINDER - Styrofoam, bows, and ribbons are NOT recyclable in our program.

Thank You Residents of the Greater Miramichi!

Since implementation of the Curbside Recycling program, **1,676.7 mt = 3,676,649 lbs** have been diverted from landfill! That's an increase of 182% from the previous Depot Program. Thank you for your participation!

Did you know...

- By recycling one tonne of paper you save: 17 trees, 6953 gallons of water, 463 gallons of oil and 583 pounds of air pollution.
- One pound of newspaper can be recycled to make six cereal boxes, six egg cartons or 2,000 sheets of writing paper.
- Recycling a tonne of plastic containers such as water bottles saves 7.4 cubic yards of landfill space thus prolonging the life of the landfill cell.
- There is no limit to the number of times aluminum can be recycled.
- Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to illuminate one 100 watt light bulb for 20 hours or run a television for 3 hours.
- Five #1 plastic bottles (PET) yields enough fiber to make an extra-large T-shirt.



Remember to
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BEFORE
you Recycle!

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Toll Free: 1.844.307.CART (2278)

www.greatermiramichirsc.ca



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Solid Waste Services

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