

GIVER

Miramichi

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Spring Issue 2021



O'Brien's Store on the Nelson Waterfront, with Beaubeaus Island in the background.
Photo by Bonnie Coughlan.

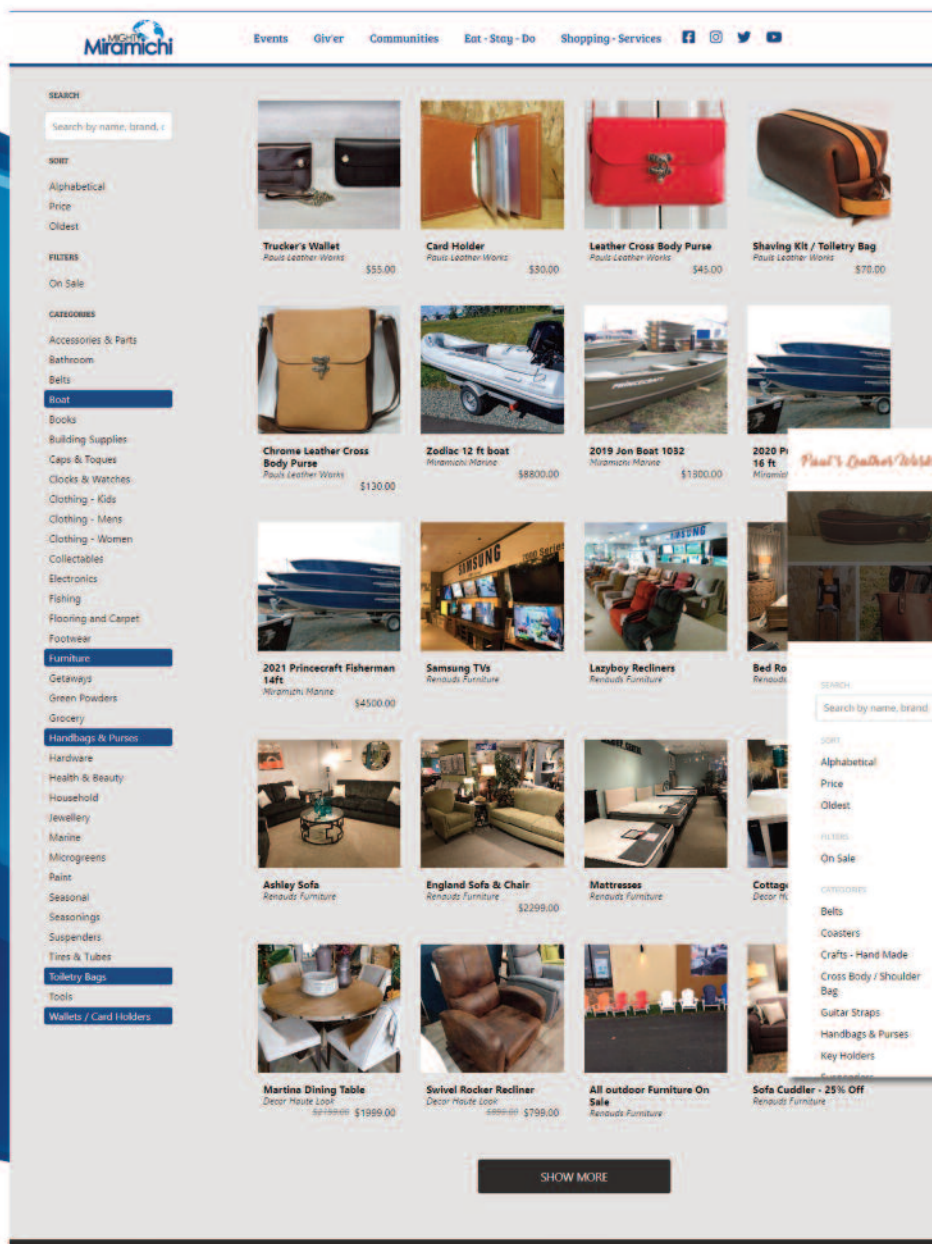
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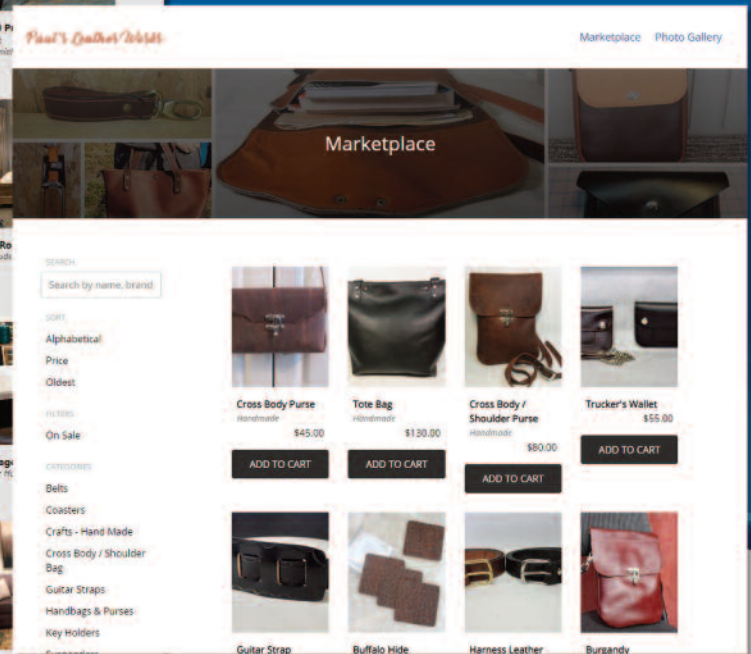
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Beaubears Island Online Speaker Series

Support their creative work by becoming a patron.

Building on the success of increased online outreach, undertaken in 2020, the Friends of Beaubears Island have launched a **new sponsorship program** through Patreon, a membership platform that allows people to support the creation of art, music, and other media content, through monthly subscriptions. In exchange, patrons are given certain benefits such as access to exclusive content, that allow them to experience a deeper connection to the creators.

In the case of the Friends of Beaubears Island, the call for community support arises from their weekly episodic YouTube video offerings - *The Living Island*, hosted by Ken Walker, and *The Days of Yore*, hosted by Dr. Shawn McCarthy. *The Living Island* broadcasts on alternating Fridays and looks at the natural processes at work in the Beaubears Island ecosystem and offers views on our interaction with life around us. *The Days of Yore* presents unique happenings and vibrant characters from the shared history of Beaubears Island and the Nelson community. These are available, free of charge, by searching "BITV Miramichi" on Youtube.

Now, however, viewers can choose to support the creation of this video series, by signing up for a **monthly membership** and becoming a **patron** of Beaubears Island through their



Ken Walker and Dr. Shawn McCarthy in a clip from the Beaubears Island weekly video series, which explores the islands ecosystem and history.

Patreon account. This helps support the continued work of the Friends of Beaubears Island, and patrons can gain access to exclusive content, depending on the level of membership they choose.

With an offering of \$4/month, patrons will receive name recognition in the closing credits of both *The Living Island* and *The Days of Yore*. At \$10/month, one can add the opportunity to suggest topics for future episodes to both Ken and Shawn. Finally, with an offering of \$13.50/month, patrons get access to exclusive videos of the 2021 Speaker Series that are not shared with the public. View the different membership options and **sign-up online** at www.patreon.com/BeaubearsIsland.

The 2021 Speaker Series will not be presented in-person this year, but it

has been recorded and is being released on a weekly basis to top-tier patrons. These exclusive videos have already begun to be posted on Patreon and are available when you sign-up at the link listed above.

In May, a **nine-part theatrical series**, *In Their Own Words*, based on historical testimonies, letters, and speeches, will begin to be released. The summer months will see the exclusive debut of additional episodic presentations dealing with the island, the community, and their place in the wider world.

For more information and assistance with becoming a patron, consult our Facebook page www.facebook.com/beaubearsisland or call the Interpretive Centre at 622-8526.

Cover Photo: O'Brien's Store on the Nelson Waterfront, with Beaubears Island in the distance. Photo by Bonnie Coughlan.

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Events

Find More Events
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April 1: Camp Sheldrake Duck Race Tickets Go On Sale

Tickets for Camp Sheldrake's major fundraiser, the Miramichi Duck Race, go on sale beginning April 1. These will be sold by volunteers within the community and at various physical locations. There will be 15 prize winners with the first prize winner receiving \$3000. For a full list of prizes, check our website (www.campsheldrake.com) or Facebook Page (Camp Sheldrake). The race will be held on Sunday, August 29, if covid guidelines permit. If a race cannot be held, a draw will be held on that date for the various prizes. Proceeds from this event support the activities at the camp, a local non-profit.



April 17: Spring Market

Open 10am to 2pm on Saturday and admission is free. Many crafters, bakers and other vendors will be attending. Drop by and see what's new for spring! Located at the United Church Hall, 145 Main St., Blackville. Find the Spring Market on Facebook for updates.

May 14: Rain Barrel Sale fundraiser.

This fundraiser supports the Royal Canadian Legion Miramichi branch 10 and the products can be viewed at <https://rainbarrel.ca/rcbranch10/> All items must be ordered online by May 10 for pick up on May 14 from 1-5 pm in the Legion parking lot across from the Newcastle Library. Contact Terry McKay, mckayterry36@gmail.com or 506-773-4511.

May 29: Camp Sheldrake Giant Indoor Yard Sale

Camp Sheldrake will hold an in-door yard sale at the camp on Saturday, May 29, from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm. The camp

is located at 89 Church Road, Bartibog (taking Route 11, Church Road is the first road on the right after crossing the Bartibog Bridge). All proceeds from the sale go to Camp Sheldrake to assist in the maintenance and upkeep of the site. Many items available – come out and see what treasures you find!

June 26: Camp Sheldrake Penny Sale

Camp Sheldrake will hold a penny sale with doors opening at 12:30; sale starts at 2:00 pm. All covid regulations will be followed – masks mandatory and social distancing will be maintained. All proceeds from the sale go to Camp Sheldrake to assist in the maintenance and upkeep of the site. Support a local non-profit and win some prizes! A fun afternoon for all!

Month of May: IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's

We are pleased to announce that Canada's largest fundraiser for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, the **IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's**, will be held online again this year!

This year, we are inviting you to Walk Your Way throughout the month of May. Get active and show your support for the 15,000 people in New Brunswick living with dementia.

While we will miss being together in person this year, we have activities and special touch points planned throughout the month of May so we can celebrate and make memories matter. **Registration will be opening soon!** Keep an eye on our website www.walkforalzheimers.ca, follow us on social media or contact us at events@alzheimernb.ca to learn more.





This Spring, I encourage you to safely explore, enjoy and experience all that Miramichi-Grand Lake has to offer while following all Public Health Guidelines.

Je vous encourage ce printemps à explorer, à profiter et à découvrir en toute sécurité ce que Miramichi a à offrir tout en respectant les lignes directrices en matière de santé publique.

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NB Aviation Museum on the Miramichi?

by Johannes Bosma

Whenever I walked through the vestibule of the Golden Hawk Recreation Centre on my way to the pool, I couldn't help but notice the myriad of old photographs displayed on the walls, reminding me of the once vibrant CFB Chatham. I believe the No.421 Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) airbase and my birth date occurred in the same year. The base was eventually closed and a memorial for the Golden Hawks was moved to Halifax. Now all that remains is a CF-101 Voodoo and a few re-purposed buildings.

Perhaps it was the fact that I reside on Golden Hawk Drive or my ongoing fascination with history, including the Golden Hawk aerobatic team based in Chatham, but I used to take time on my way out of the centre to study some of those photographs. I often wondered why there wasn't a museum set up on the Miramichi to honour the rich past of aviation in New Brunswick. Our neighbour Nova Scotia, more connected to Naval history, has three of them but we have nothing like that in NB, aside from the NB Military History Museum on the base in Gagetown.

Enter the former director of the Gagetown museum, Captain (Retired) Kevin Anderson who started his career as an Air Weapons System technician in Chatham. He spent most of his time here at what is now part of Envirem Organics., Inc. but he also worked at the Tracadie Air Range. Anderson realized that the Gagetown museum "could not do

justice to the fascinating aviation history we have in New Brunswick." Consequently, **he founded the New Brunswick Aviation Museum** which became an official registered Canadian charity on July 1, 2013. Currently, Anderson is the Executive Director of the museum.



Legendary aerobatic team, the Golden Hawks, that was formed at RCAF Station Chatham, in 1959.

The NB Aviation Museum has been promoting NB aviation history ever since. They hosted a reunion to mark the 75th anniversary reunion of RCAF Station/Canadian Forces Base Chatham in 2016 where they were honoured to have as a guest speaker, General (Retired) Paul Manson, OC, CMM, CD, a former Chief of Defence staff and one-time Chatham commander. In addition, the museum also successfully nominated the

RCAF Golden Hawks aerobatic team for induction into Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame in 2017.

Later that year they hosted an event in Miramichi to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Golden Hawk Appreciation Day which took place on the base in 1967 as part of its Centennial celebrations. The museum currently manages a website and four Facebook pages dealing with NB aviation history while working to obtain a permanent home.

Now back to the title question. The museum has drafted plans for a new facility to house the NB Aviation Museum at a location in Miramichi. Anderson stated that the museum has a growing collection of artifacts and recently were

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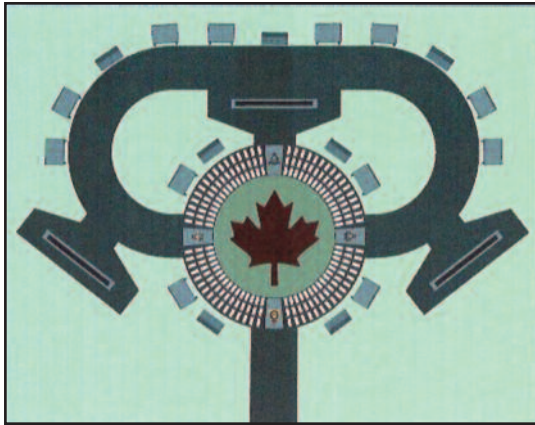


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donated a de Havilland Vampire jet aircraft, serial #17072, which they plan to restore to running condition. The Vampire was the first aircraft we had in Chatham when the base re-opened in 1949.

They will also be taking possession of a **replica Nieuport 11 airplane** that flew over Vimy Ridge in 2017 to mark the 100th anniversary of the battle. "As it is still currently flying, we will be using it for a number of promotional and fundraising events," says Anderson. "We have leads on several other aircraft which will become a part of our collection but our biggest issue right now is securing a home. As the 100th anniversary of the RCAF is coming up in three short years, our goal is to hold our grand opening on 1 April 2024."

Anderson points out that the only aviation museums in Atlantic Canada are currently based in Nova Scotia but as the pandemic has shown, access to those locations can be totally out of bounds for NB children. "We want to become a centre of excellence for the preservation of aviation history and the promotion of aerospace careers to the youth of NB." The museum's plan is to name their training and education centre



One of the features on the grounds of the proposed New Brunswick Aviation Museum will be Air Force Memorial Park, featuring pathways, benches, interpretive panels, memorial stones and monuments.

the Golden Hawk Aerospace Academy in recognition of the tradition of excellence for which the team was well known. "We want to be cutting edge and use technology to offer programs in conjunction with the Canadian Space Agency and the Aviation and Space Museum in Ottawa."

Several New Brunswickers had major impacts on aviation in Canada. Daphne Paterson became the first woman in Canada to obtain a commercial pilot's licence; Wallace Rupert Turnbull designed the variable pitch propeller; and Ken Patrick founded CAE, the largest aviation

simulation company in Canada. "We want to inspire the boys and girls of New Brunswick to follow in their footsteps," he adds.

In the meantime, the NB Aviation Museum is **looking for new members**, volunteers and anyone interested in being part of their efforts to create a permanent home for the museum. You can reach the museum by calling 506-625-4925 or emailing nbamdirector@outlook.com. Also visit the website at www.nbaviationmuseum.com

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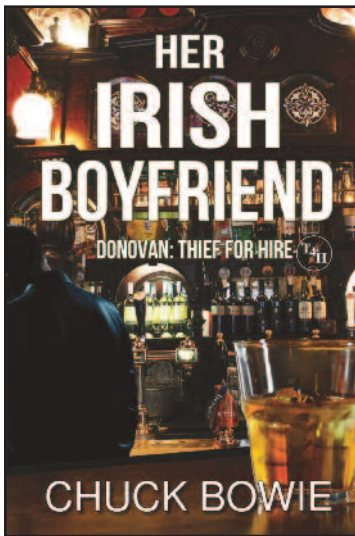
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Book Review

Her Irish Boyfriend by Chuck Bowie

Book Review by James M. Fisher



“Her Irish Boyfriend” marks the fifth installment in Chuck Bowie's popular Sean Donovan: Thief for Hire series. While the series is firmly in the "Crime-Thriller" genre, they cheat toward the cozy side of things, as there is little in the way of profanities or gratuitous sex scenes. Mr. Bowie concentrates on the story with very few diversions, other than describing the food and wine the characters are dining on.

Book #5 puts Sean back in the UK assisting his friend DI Gemma Trask, whom we first met in *Steal It All* (Book #3). Gemma is a tough, yet vulnerable officer of the law and she has some serious doubts about her Irish boyfriend Danny. Sean is only too glad to help and he leaves his wife Beth in charge of their Niagara winery and flies over to England (Beth will soon join him though). The duo soon finds that Danny is up to no good, but what exactly he is up to is a mystery that requires unfolding. Most of the action takes place in York, in and around York Minster Cathedral and The Shambles, a gentrified former meat market.

Mr. Bowie's novels excel in the action sequences, of which there are not as many in *Her Irish Boyfriend* as there are in the other books of the series. Originally, Sean worked alone (aside from some shady contacts) relying on the tools

in his ever-present messenger bag and his clever mind to outwit his adversaries. Now, he has his wife Beth, Gemma, and a York constable (who was assigned by the York police to assist the trio as well as keep an eye on them). It is the moments when Sean goes up against an antagonist with his mind and whatever weapons are to hand that make for the most enjoyable reading.

Sean Donovan is smart, talks tough and always gets what he wants. He shifts into a different mode when ensconced in the criminal world, but is a kind, caring, loyal man with those whom he trusts. It remains to be seen whether the series will move forward or not. Mr. Bowie confided that he thought this was his best book of the series. Recommended for fans of the genre.

About the author:

Chuck Bowie was born in Chatham, NB, lived on the Base for a bit and spent his teens in Oak Point. Inspired as a youth by Doug Underhill, Chuck began by writing and selling essays, short stories and tourism articles. He only began writing novels in his fifties, creating a Canadian character of Irish heritage who becomes an international thief for hire. This series of thrillers culminates (to date) with his fifth suspense-thriller: *Her Irish Boyfriend*, and a recent trip to Ireland and England dropped the plot in his lap as he travelled from Dublin to York, via London. He expects his sixth thriller to be set in Ireland as well.

Chuck Bowie's books can be purchased at Mill Cove Coffee in downtown Newcastle.



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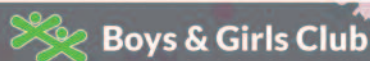
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Crossing the Bridge

By Tammy Savoie

Driving south over the Quarryville bridge in New Brunswick, from my Mom's old homestead to the Stewart Settlement, draws adrenaline and excitement. It brings back memories of crossing the same river, but with a different bridge.

During our annual family summer visits to New Brunswick, there was always a trip to Quarryville to visit our relatives. Back in the 1970s, the bridge was a narrow one-laned metal bridge that mesmerized me each time we crossed it, how my Daddy could drive our camper across that bridge as smoothly as my Mi'kmaq female relatives can thread the eye of a needle with his big truck driving mirrors. My Dad, Wilbert Savoy, is a professional truck driver, so I would imagine this must be how his days are spent, navigating tight spaces with his truck like in his stories he would share at night.

In the summer of 2020, there is a new wide double-laned bridge, so the drive is now one of relaxation, calming and a feeling of driving back in time. The Miramichi River's sound underneath the bridge is like a whisper of life all around. The smell of the semi-salty water brings memories of the delicious fish I have had from the Miramichi River, like salmon or bass, which is my favourite.

Just as you cross the bridge, there is a hidden road called



The Quarryville bridge as it looks today, with Tammy's mother's old homestead in the background.

Stewart Point Road. I know it well, but others often miss it. As a child, I thought only Stewart relatives could enter, and that is why we knew about the secret entrance. This gave way to a feeling of royalty for me.

The Stewart Settlement is where our ancestors landed, and some of my relatives still live today, on the same land given to our ancestors as Crown Land. In fact, Quarryville was once called Indiantown as the land all around the Stewart Settlement was still considered Indian land. Spending my summers here as a child meant exciting visits with my Mom's Irish and Scotch cousins, not native Micmaq relatives, which I found odd as a child since we were in Indiantown. Still, I was too excited about the idea of meeting

Mom's Aunt's, and there was always a new cousin to meet. There was Elaine, Lorraine, Huggy, Marion and Virginia that I remembered. I was amazed how they all lived in their own little village, that they could walk to each other's house with no outside interference. I felt we were free to do as we wished, that nobody knew this place existed, in my mind anyway, hence the sense of royalty.

Today, August 2020, I am here to visit Virginia's daughter, my sweet cousin Karen who I have come to know as an adult after both our Moms died, a year within each other. Today I am crossing the Quarryville bridge also meet my little cousin Marion. Little Marion wanted to meet me, her cousin from the city who is a teacher, as Marion has just graduated kindergarten and is excited to start "big school", as she called grade one.

As I approach Karen's porch, a little girl is sitting with her. There is something so oddly familiar about the whole situation that it takes my breath away! I barely got my car in park and didn't even turn the car off before I opened the door, hands covering my gasping mouth, eyes wide, walking slowly towards Karen and this little girl.



Left: View of Weddall Connor's homestead, Tammy's great grandfather, from the Stewart Settlement.

"Karen who is this angelic little child?" I said as I approached Karen and a little girl sitting beside her on the bench.

A little blonde girl with big blue eyes looked up at me and said, "I'm Marion, I'm your cousin!"

I said, "Hello Marion, I am so glad to meet you although I feel like I've already met you before...". There were few moments, truly moments, as I stood there staring at them while they stared at me, and I said, "Karen, I don't know why but I feel the presence of our mothers."

Marion hopped off the bench to show me her pretty dress, "see my dress?"

"Yes, it is very colourful," I replied.

"Want to see Karen's house?" Marion exclaimed.

"Let me turn off my car and get my colouring, and I would love to see Karen's house," I replied.

There we had fun colouring, singing songs about pumpkins, talking about her school, and Karen so gently yet firmly was teaching Marion the different colours. It was a tender moment to watch. Obviously, these two girls loved each other very much, reminding me of my tender and strong relationship with my mother.

We then ventured outside to swing on the swing set overlooking the river. I could see the house replacing where my mother grew up and the house that now stands where my great Grandfather, Weddall Connors, had his home. He was a wonderful man, well known as a skilled carpenter and he worked at the quarry. He built a beautiful wooden swing that I can remember sitting on as a child facing the same Miramichi River I overlook today. This time I am watching a child, singing and running with the picturesque view behind her. It was effortless for me to go back into time in my mind and feel that I was there with my Mom as I ran, sang, danced, played with Marion.

For some reason, I felt a spiritual connection with this child when our paths crossed and not for her sake as most times with children, as I am a teacher. For some reason, a message was meant to be sent to me. I did not understand why until I went home and called my dear Auntie Lorraine, one of my confidants since my Mom, Christina Alice May Connors-Savoy, died on Mothers Day, 2016.



Tammy and her cousin Marion, the little girl who inspired her to write this personal memoir.

As I explained to my Aunt Lorraine, how there was an almost spiritual aura to this child, an angelic quality - not that she was perfect or an angel, but that angels protected her - she stopped me.

"My dearest Tammy," she said, "have you not been listening to me? That is exactly how all of us see you. When you were Marion's age, oh my, my little Tammy, people would have that same reaction when they would meet you. Exactly what you describe to me right now is how I felt around you as a child. Everyone did."

Aunt Lorraine said to me that day in August 2020: "Everybody wanted to be around Willy's little daughter. He had a perfect little girl, with blonde curls, big blue eyes with an aura around her that made you feel like you needed to protect her and love her. She was honest, loving and caring, but that also made her naive and vulnerable, and that is why you have been hurt over the years, and I have always wanted to protect you. But I want you to remember when your family members see you, like me and Robert, your dad and Aunties and Uncles down here, we see what you saw that day, in Marion," I sat not knowing how to respond. (continued pg. 21)



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Expanding our Good Food Conversation, Action, and Access

By Terri Cormier
Roots to Table Good Food Collective

"You can solve the world's problems
in a garden" ~ Geoff Lawton

And so it is spring! After a long winter, it's garden time again, and Roots to Table Regional Good Food Collective has emerged from a busy winter of planning with a vision for good food access for all and a road map in hand. A new website is on the way, a refreshed Fresh 4 Less produce bulk-buy program and community garden network are all on in 2021. We are excited to expand our region's good food conversation, action, and access for all, through food sovereignty.

Food security is a goal, while food sovereignty describes how to get there. **Food sovereignty** is rooted in grassroots food movements such as ours, and in a sense is about giving "power to the people".

"Food Sovereignty is the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods, and their right to define their own food and agriculture systems."
(source: La Via Campesina, www.viacampesina.org).

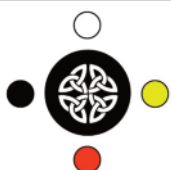
There are seven guiding principles of food sovereignty:

1. Focuses on food for people
2. Builds knowledge and skills
3. Works with nature
4. Values food providers
5. Localizes food systems
6. Puts control locally
7. Food is sacred

Getting to food sovereignty involves many aspects and a big one is urban agriculture - growing food in cities and



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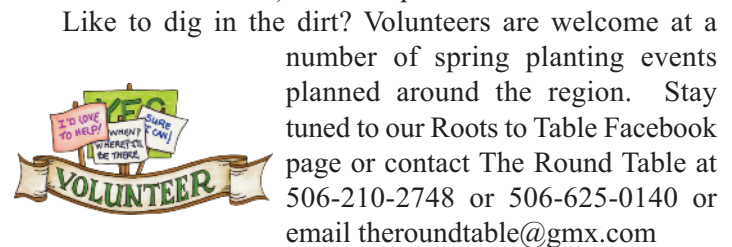
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Awaiting the Return of Those Tiny Birds

By Peter Gadd, Nature Miramichi

One of our first thoughts in spring is “when will the hummingbirds be back?”

The Ruby-throated Hummingbird is the hummingbird species that comes to breed in the Miramichi area every year as it does across most of southern Canada. It is found usually no further north here in the east, than the southern coast of the Gaspé Peninsula, but further north in the prairies, and as far west as the Rocky Mountains. They breed also in eastern half of the lower 48 states.

The Ruby-throated Hummingbird is one of 360 hummingbird species found in the Americas, most living in the tropics. It is unique amongst our birds, size and behaviour-wise, one that we can easily take an interest in. It will come to our nearby feeders which allows us to see it “up close and personal” although most of them will actually spend the summer in the wild.

Our feeders with its artificial nectar solution supplements natural nectars found most often in red or orange tubular flowers, which sometimes are not readily available.

Nectar Solution

Mix 4 parts water with 1 part regular white sugar with NO food colouring (ie. 1 cup of water and ¼ cup sugar for a small feeder).



Above: Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Male

The ruby-coloured throat of the males is not always visible. The colour can only be seen when looking at the hummingbird face-on. It is produced by refracted light that must strike at the right angle relative to the observer, otherwise the throat appears black.

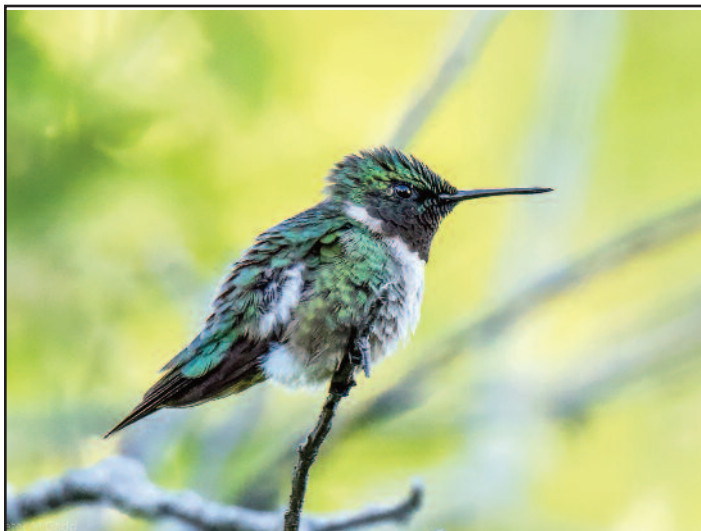
It is important to **clean feeders regularly**, replacing the sugar solution and cleaning the feeder thoroughly. This is more important in spells of very warm weather. It is possible to purchase a moat that can be filled with water to prevent ants also finding the “nectar”.

The hummingbird’s need for energy

is obvious with wings beating up to 80 times a second. They are also carnivorous, catching insects in mid-air or plucking them from spider webs. They can be attracted to sap from Sapsucker sap wells and can even snatch small caterpillars or aphids from leaves.



We can expect them **in the Miramichi area by mid-May**, sometimes a little earlier, having travelled north through late winter and early spring at more than 30 km a day from their wintering grounds at the very southern tip of Florida and central America. They fly low as they migrate and stop to feed along the way. They travel north to breed and when they find a suitable location, can be seen in courtship displays which start with the male flying repeatedly in a large “u” shaped pattern possibly from a height of 50 feet above the female.



Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Male. From the sideview, his throat appears black.

The males are identified by their ruby-coloured throat, not always visible because the colour is produced by refracted light that must strike at the right angle relative to the observer. This happens when the hummingbird is facing the observer directly otherwise the throat appears black and in the second phase of the courtship display the male flies back and forth facing the female thus displaying proudly his ruby throat. There is no ruby pigment.

It is the **white throated female** that builds the nest, incubates the one to three white eggs and feeds the young. The nests are very small, the size of a large thimble and can be 10 to 40 feet off the ground, placed on top of a descending



Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Female

deciduous tree branch, very difficult to spot. Their construction can take 6 to 10 days and are about 2 inches across and one inch deep.

The up-to-date northerly spring migration of The Ruby-throated Hummingbird can be monitored at: <https://maps.journeynorth.org>, select “Hummingbird, Ruby-throated”.

For more information on Nature Miramichi visit www.miramichinaturalistclub.com.



Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Female



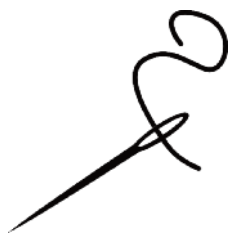
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Donation of Quilts Made by Friends of Seamen's Hospital



The Friends of Seamen's Hospital have been busy quilting, and even though they have not been able to meet in person, that certainly hasn't stopped them from producing some beautiful quilts while at home.

They donated six quilts to the two nursing homes in Miramichi. Three were presented to **Parkland** to Jenna Henderson, Recreational Supervisor for three of their residents. The other three quilts were presented to three residents of **Losier Hall**. The group's efforts has provided some joy to others through their handiwork and generous donation. The quilting group normally meets on Wednesdays at the Seamen's Hospital and anyone is welcome to join them with their quilting or needlework projects.

The Friends of Seamen's Hospital were also pleased to present a quilt to the **Nelson Doyle Dancers** which will be used for fundraising to support the activities of the dancers. The quilt is pictured below.



Above: Jenna Henderson of Parkland receiving the donation of quilts.
Below: One of the quilts that were donated to Losier Hall.





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Dates to Remember

April 21: Queen Elizabeth II will be 95 years old on this day, with the official royal celebration taking place on June 12, 2021. This is her 69th year as Monarch.

April 26: Full Moon - The Pink Moon

The first full moon of spring is called the pink moon, not because of its colour, but its named after creeping phlox or moss pink, which blooms at this time. This will be the first of two supermoons this year, which are about 15% brighter than a typical full moon.

May 9: Mother's Day

June 20: Father's Day

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Hospice Miramichi's She Shed Raffle Returns!

Hospice Miramichi Inc. is pleased to announce that its She Shed Raffle has returned.

The Grand Prize is a 10' x 16' Oasis She Shed. With lots of windows to let the sunshine in, and stunning interior décor, it is exactly what you need to create a peaceful relaxation space, right in your own backyard.

The She Shed comes fully decorated and ready for you to use! Relax and unwind in your own oasis! It is the perfect space to have a coffee or tea, enjoy a glass of wine with friends, setup a crafting or art studio, or snuggle up with a good book. As always the She Shed is well-constructed, insulated and fully wired.

Tickets are \$25 each or 5 for \$100. The Grand Prize Draw will be made Sunday, May 9th, on Mother's Day! There will also be an **Early Bird Draw** on Friday, April 23rd for a Relaxation and Beauty Prize Package.

As always, a huge thank you to the many great sponsors



of the She Shed and Hospice Miramichi. This year's She Shed could not have been done without the expert craftsmanship from Paul Murdoch at Miramichi Marine and the gorgeous design and décor by Angie McColl from Country Floral.

All funds raised will go towards the free programs and services

offered by Hospice Miramichi in our community. **For full details, ticket information, contest rules** and a list of our amazing local sponsors visit www.HospiceMiramichi.com.

Hospice Miramichi seeks to raise the awareness of the unique needs of those living with life limiting illnesses where cure is not an option and medications are no longer controlling the condition. Hospice Miramichi works within the community to provide practical care and support for clients and families in their homes, in nursing homes, hospitals and residential care facilities (special care homes). Our staff & volunteers are trained to provide practical and emotional support during the end stages of life and through the grieving process.

We have natural beauty, valuable resources, and resourceful people. The last 15 years working side by side with you have cemented my belief in the people and potential of this city. I'm ready to continue to dedicate myself to working for you to realize that potential! I ask for your support.

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...continued from page 13.

It made sense to me. Seeing that little girl with Karen reminded me of spending time with my Mom. The time I played with Marion allowed me to get in touch with my inner child. I could go back to my younger child, hug her, and say, do not worry, life will be okay. When I crossed the bridge, I felt I could meet a little girl who has the same impact on me as I have on others. I could look at that little girl and say, do not worry, everything will be okay, always be and love yourself. This gave me the confidence to come back to Ontario, finish my bachelor's degree, and support my daughter, Sarah, who is a brilliant and creative storyteller. She tells stories through art and film, reminding me of my own little Mary Tyler Moore. She is going to make it after all, me and her both!

I left there that day with a feeling that it is all going to be okay. By meeting little Marion, I was able to find the little girl in me to reassure her and myself that I have had some healing from the pain of the past, to be able to move forward with confidence, competence and to complete the education that will lead me to opportunities for a wonderful new life.

To say the least, we had a wonderful time in Quarryville that day.



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Tony Bucket Walsh Re-Offers



As a member of City Council for the past 7 years, it has been an honor to represent all areas of Miramichi. I ask for your vote to allow me to continue to serve on council and contribute to the growth and prosperity of our Great City. Your support would be greatly appreciated on May 10, 2021. Thank You.

Tony "Bucket" Walsh



Miramichi Ground Search and Rescue in Action

By Paulette Arsenault, Daniel Jacques and Philippe Gauthier.

Miramichi Ground Search And Rescue is an organization dedicated to helping lost people find their way home. We search and rescue people who are lost or incapacitated due to physical or psychological injuries. These rescues are performed in remote areas and urban areas alike.

So, how do we do that? As you can imagine, rescues are seldomly performed in friendly environments and often performed in hazardous landscape (i.e.: steep slope, far away wooded areas, bogs, marshes, river shores) and inclement cold weather, heavy rain or snow and mosquito infested places. **MGSAR trains, trains, and trains its members** to be able to make searches in all kinds of circumstances and terrain. We train our members by doing table-top exercises, mock live searches like the one in French Fort Cove last fall (see Winter 2021 Giv'er magazine), specific training with GPS, Maps & Compasses and Low angle extraction, etc.

To perform efficient searches, we have nifty tools; a dedicated trailer for a Command Post where search parameters are defined and analysed by the command members, a logistic trailer to haul all our equipment and way station for our members, radios for communication between teams and Command Post, sophisticated computer software for aiding the mapping of the search and rescue efforts and to monitor search progress, GPS's, and retrieving equipment

for injured people.

To **achieve results in a chaotic situation**, MGSAR has a command and role structure such as Search Managers, Planning and Operations Managers, Field Team Leaders, Logistics support, Mapping and GPS technical support, and many others. All these important roles are performed by members who gradually acquire the expertise and knowledge for these specific tasks. But the real heroes are the Searchers, the majority of members, who go out in wooded, unfamiliar and sometimes uncertain areas to find and rescue people in dire situations.

MGSAR is called upon for **many types of searches**: lost children, autistic people, despondent person, older people,

people with mental health problems, hikers, hunters, campers, are just a few situations where we are asked for help with not a moment to waste.

Consistent training, is what keeps MGSAR members alert, willing and prepared to meet the challenges presented to them. The bond, unity and camaraderie developed between MGSAR members is the key to their success, so that when called upon, they can hit the ground running.

Our membership is composed exclusively of **volunteer** women and men, young and old. MGSAR is always looking for **new recruits**. If you're interested please contact us at: join@mgsar.ca. Help us find lost people.



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Neguac Celebrates Spring!

On **Saturday, May 29th**, the Association des Loisirs St-Bernard Inc. will be hosting a **Neguac Bike Rodeo**. Bring your bikes and your helmets as Neguac celebrates spring!

The event is open to all children 12 years old and under and there will be lots of prizes and bicycles to be won! It takes place at the Village of Neguac Municipal Building parking lot at 1175 rue Principale, Neguac.

For more information visit the Facebook page – Association des Loisirs St-Bernard Inc., or call 506-776-3950.



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Miramichi Senior Sawdustmakers Inc

New Carving Classes, New Logo by Paulette Arsenault

The Miramichi Senior Sawdustmakers Inc. (MSSI) are an active group of retired persons who have a goal: to provide a venue where senior men and women can safely pursue activity that is stimulating mentally, physically, and socially, by working with wood. The non-profit organization provides a workshop with the space and tools to carry a wide variety of woodworking activities such as carving, turning, cabinetry, and carpentry.

The MSSI, always looking to develop new skills and challenges to its members, decided to offer **carving classes** and in the process designed a new logo and welcome sign to be carved up by the students. After they laminated the materials, Philippe Gauthier, a man with a passion and expertise in woodcarving, was chosen for the task of teaching the basic concept of carving. The first step was to create the desired lettering with computer software and apply it to the two 9-foot Miramichi white pine boards that were glued up, planed, sanded, and chamfered for the job. Carving the letters involved more than 64 man-hours of finished work by the members. The finished product is of professional quality, using local sourced wood, that will enhance the MSSI image.

Once carved, the sign and logo had to be weather proofed for our climate since they will be attached to the outside of the building. Philippe decided on using the best oil-based primer available, followed by acrylic paint colors Hunter



Front to back: Rose, Jim and Luce, members of MSSI having fun at their first carving class held in February, 2021.

green, silver and black. Some letters were enhanced with gold leaf, another first at MSSI.

The Sawdustmakers shop is a cheerful place where a retired person can get out of the house, enjoy a woodworking activity, a cup of coffee, and meet others with similar interests. The shop is always being utilized by members, and offers supervision, safety, and training for the equipment on hand. They have some sophisticated tools that many

people cannot afford on their own. The club has one of the best equipped shops in the Miramichi area.

"This is all about having a common interest in woodwork, but you do not have to be a wood-worker to belong to the club" says club president Bob Lesperance. "The whole idea is to teach, learn, and socialize in a safe and well-appointed space, especially over the course of a long winter. We make sure there is a nice balance between personal, club, and community projects."

The club has already been involved in several community projects you may have noticed around Miramichi, including Tiny Libraries, the Hospice, Lord Beaverbrook library, birdhouses, raised-garden boxes, and other items created on behalf of other non-profit organizations in the community.

Our membership is composed of women and men. MSSI is always **looking for new members**, if you're interested email us at: miramichiseniorswoodworking@gmail.com



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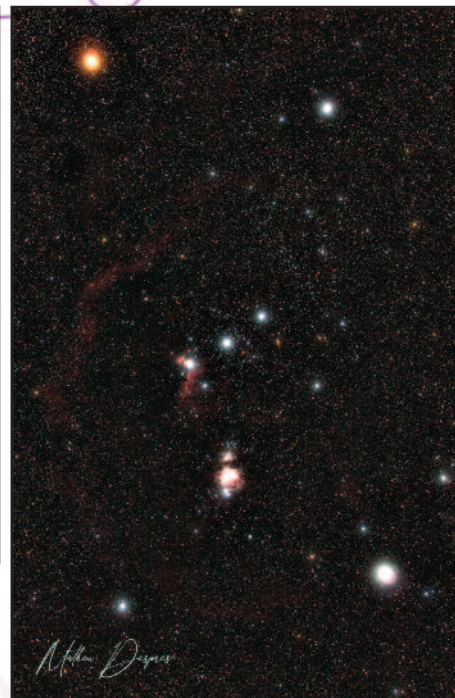

Photo Submissions

If you have photos, stories, tips or tidbits to share we always welcome your submissions. Send submissions to submit@mcgmedia.net. 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. Deadline for summer issue is June 4th.

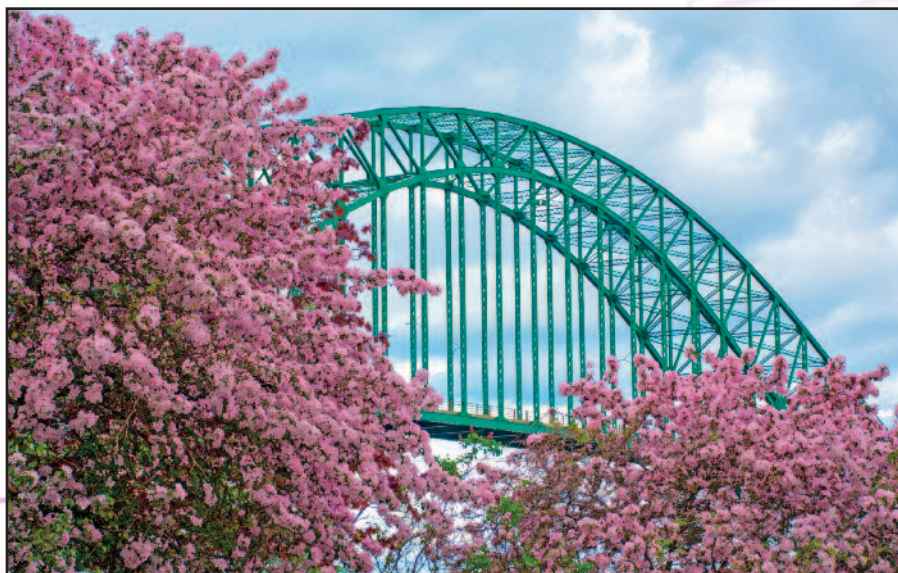


Above: A fiery sun behind the Centennial Bridge. Photo by Natasha Bernard.

Right: Winter Constellation, Orion. Photo by Mathew Despres.



Ritchie Wharf
by Bonnie Coughlan



Left: Two photos of beautiful spring blossoms around Miramichi, Ritchie Wharf, and the Centennial Bridge, both by Bonnie Coughlan. Bonnie also contributed our cover photo this issue.

Above: White Ladies Slipper, dancing in the woods, by Stacy Underhill



Above: Spring crocus, barn shadows and a bee on crocus, by Laura Lea Comeau of Derby.



Above: Two photos by Robbie Stewart, Swallowtail Butterfly on left and daisies on the right.



Left: Tom the Turkey. This handsome wild turkey was visiting bird feeders at Oak Point. Photo by Fernand Maltais.

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Moving Soon! As of May 1st, Solid Waste Services will be located at:
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