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## Robbie Tucker Builds a Time Machine to Meet The Beatles

New Brunswick artist conjures a fantastical world with new album *Blue Candy* - set to release on **July 30th, 2021**.

He's been compared to Paul McCartney before. But now it seems that Robbie Tucker has gone back in time and stolen their sound before it formed.

Don't be fooled - you won't be hearing any Beatles knock-offs on Robbie Tucker's Blue Candy - but you will wonder if Paul and Ringo didn't have a baby, raise him in secret, and teach him to make records.

Still, that wouldn't cover Robbie Tucker - a singer, songwriter and producer from Miramichi, New Brunswick who continues to pump out true art, rife with fantastical imagery, deep storytelling, and an oddball sensibility that has only grown richer in his 31 years of writing. One of the songs, "At the End of my Friend",



Robbie wrote about his cat Tony, pictured here, who passed away in 2019. "He was 14. He had been with me through so much as is the case for many who share a love for animals. This song was written as a revisiting of the final moments we spent together," says Robbie.

Blue Candy will be Mr. Tucker's 7th full-length album, coming right on the heels of his self-described "first and only

Christmas album", *Peppermints*, which sounds like "a cast recording for a non-existent Christmas production just waiting to be created", according to Paul Baker of TheEastMag.com.

All Mr. Tucker's albums are available on Bandcamp at www.robbietuckermusic.bandcamp.com as well as every major streaming platform. *Blue Candy* will release on July 30th, 2021.

Robbie continues to create, grow and evolve as a singer-songwriter. Follow him on social media at: www.instagram.com/robbietuckermusic www.facebook.com/robbietuckermusic www.youtube.com/user/robbietuckermusic



**Cover Photo:** The McNamee/Priceville Footbridge is the longest suspension footbridge in New Brunswick. Photo by Stacy Underhill. See more photos of the footbridge on page 31 of this publication.

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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#### **Find More Events**

www.mightymiramichi.com

June 26- Camp Sheldrake Penny Sale

Camp Sheldrake will hold a penny sale on Saturday, June 26. Doors open at 12:30, sale starts at 2 pm. 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!

June 27: Market at the Nordin Rec

Center Enjoy local vendors, crafts, art, products, and treats at this Sunday market starting at 10am, 24 Nordin Lane, Miramichi. Find event on Facebook.



June 28-July 3: Festival Inspire

Festival Inspire has been creating giant vibrant murals and gathering NB communities through public art and free events. This year they will stop in Miramichi for five days while giant new murals are being created, the 'Inspiremobile' (a rollout venue vintage camper) will activate the town through art, pop-up shows, workshops, art market, and other events. Learn more at www.festivalinspire.com and stay tuned for the full programming on the

Facebook event.

June 30: Fireworks in Blackville at the municipal park at dusk.

July 1- Gitpo Spirit - Annual Fishermen Powwow Stay tuned for at www.facebook.com/Gitpospirit

July 1: Pop-up Market on Sweeney

Find Jewelry, art, crafts and more from 10am to 4pm at 242 Sweeney Lane, hosted bv Seven Threads. www.seventhreads.com

July 3: Annual Picnic at Beaubears **Island** Friends of Beaubears Island will re-create one of the famous picnics held on the island in the years after shipbuilding. For \$15, just bring your appetite, and we'll see to the rest.

Reserve your seat, book your time (12, 1pm, or 2pm), and order your pre-made picnic lunch by Chef Pat Mills. Entertainers will be engaged to provide musical ambience for the diners. www.beaubearsisland.com



July 17: Legion 3 Cornbeef Takeout Dinner Irish with a twist! Corn beef and cabbage takeout meal, Saturday

11am to 6pm. Cost is \$15.00 per meal with payment at the door. Order by calling the Legion at 506-773-7433 between 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm by July 15. There will only be 500 meals sold so be sure to get your name on the list. www.chathamnblegion3.com

Aug. 1-6: 64th Annual Miramichi Folksong Festival. See opposite page for schedule.

#### Aug. 6-8: Rock'n' Roll Festival

The annual festival returns and kicks off on Aug. 6th with fireworks and a river cruise. Highlights include Honeymoon Suite & Big Bad Party Band and the popular Sunday Show & Shine. www.miramichirocknrollfestival.com

August 14: Plein Air at Beaubears -Artists on the Island 10am to 4pm, join local artists as Beaubears Island becomes their open air studio and source of inspiration for the day. Bring a picnic lunch, walk the trails, and witness the creation of their work. Call the Interpretive Centre for ferry schedule. Tel: 622-8526.

August 29: Camp Sheldrake Duck

Race Tickets for Camp Sheldrake's major fundraiser, the Miramichi Duck Race, are on sale! There will be 15 prize winners with the first prize winner receiving \$3000. For a full list of prizes, check our website (www.campsheldrake.ca) or Facebook Page (Camp Sheldrake). If a race cannot be held, a draw will be held on that date for prizes. Proceeds to support the activities at the camp, a local nonprofit.

#### **Promote Your Events!**

Email your event information to submit@mcgmedia.net to be included in the next issue of Giv'er magazine.

Learn more at: www.giverontheriver.com/submissions

Plan your submissions so you don't miss an issue. Here are the submission deadlines.

Harvest Issue Giv'er Magazine: July 26 Fall Issue Giv'er Magazine: September 13 Christmas Issue Giv'er Magazine: October 25 CANADA'S LONGEST STANDING



## 64th Annual Miramichi Folksong Festival AUGUST 1-6, 2021

ALL AFTERNOON SHOWS HELD AT Beaverbrook Kin Centre 100 Newcastle Blvd.

All EVENING SHOWS HELD AT Carrefour Beausoleil 300 Beaverbrook Road

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### Sunday, August 1 · 2 pm

#### GOSPEL CONCERT

featuring Richard &
Tammy Morrison
plus a host of local performers

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COST: Donation at the door



### Monday, August 2 · 7 pm

#### OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONIES & CONCERT

featuring lan & Roy and David Francey CARREFOUR BEAUSOLEIL

COST: \$35 advance or \$40 at door



## Wednesday, August 4 · 2 pm

#### **CHILDREN'S SHOW**

featuring Ella Howe

Hosted by Melanie Ross Breen Inviting children under 16 to perform, register before July12th, call 622-1780 or e- mail susanbutler@xplornet.com

BEAVERBROOK KIN CENTER

COST: \$10 Adults •\$5 Children



## Thursday, August 5 · 7 pm

#### **EVENING CONCERT**

featuring

Ivan & Vivian Hicks

plus a host of local performers

**CARREFOUR BEAUSOLEIL** 

COST: \$15 advance or \$20 at door



### Monday, August 2 · 2 pm

#### NB DAY CONCERT



featuring

Jim Morrison & The Down East Entertainers and special guests

BEAVERBROOK KIN CENTER

COST: \$15 at the door (limited seating)

### Tuesday, August 3 · 7 pm

#### EVENING CONCERT

featuring Mike Bravener and The Miramichi Fiddlers plus a host of local performers

**CARREFOUR BEAUSOLEIL** 

COST: \$15 advance or \$20 at door



#### Wednesday, August 4 · 7 pm EVENING CONCERT

featuring

Before The Mast

and Cat LeBlanc

plus a host of local performers

CARREFOUR BEAUSOLEIL

COST: \$15 advance or \$20 at door



## Friday, August 6 · 7 pm

#### **CLOSING CONCERT**

featuring

Jason & Melissa Barry and Junior Jills

**CARREFOUR**BEAUSOLEIL



COST: \$25 advance or \$30 at door

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WATCH IT FROM HOME: Live Streaming • purchase tickets at miramcihifolksong.eventbrite.ca



















## Come Garden with Us!

submitted by Terri Cormier for Roots to Table

Spring is quickly turning to summer and Roots to Table Good Food Collective is busy getting the gardens going at the Mount St. Joseph Sensory and food gardens and food forest, the Roots to Table Community Food Forest as well as Ellis Park Community Garden. We're thrilled to partner with Chatham Daycare to develop our Earth to Kids community gardening program in the two vegetable gardens and a sensory garden is a great place the start!

Phase 1 of the Community Food Forest is wrapping up as we receive the rest of the plants for this area beyond the north-side parking lot. This year we are adding hazelnut trees, cranberries, white currants to compliment the black and red, asparagus, strawberries and a variety of food and

medicinal herbs.

Everything that grows in a food forest is to eat, and we are looking forward to that part too!

These planting days have been used to train and educate new volunteers and we will be holding two more plants before the end of June.

We also have a load of vegetables to get in the ground at the South Side Garden.



Roots to table community garden coordinator Nora Sturgeon and volunteer Ethan Martin tend to a young apple tree at the Community Food Forest, Mount St Joseph.

#### **Volunteers Wanted!**

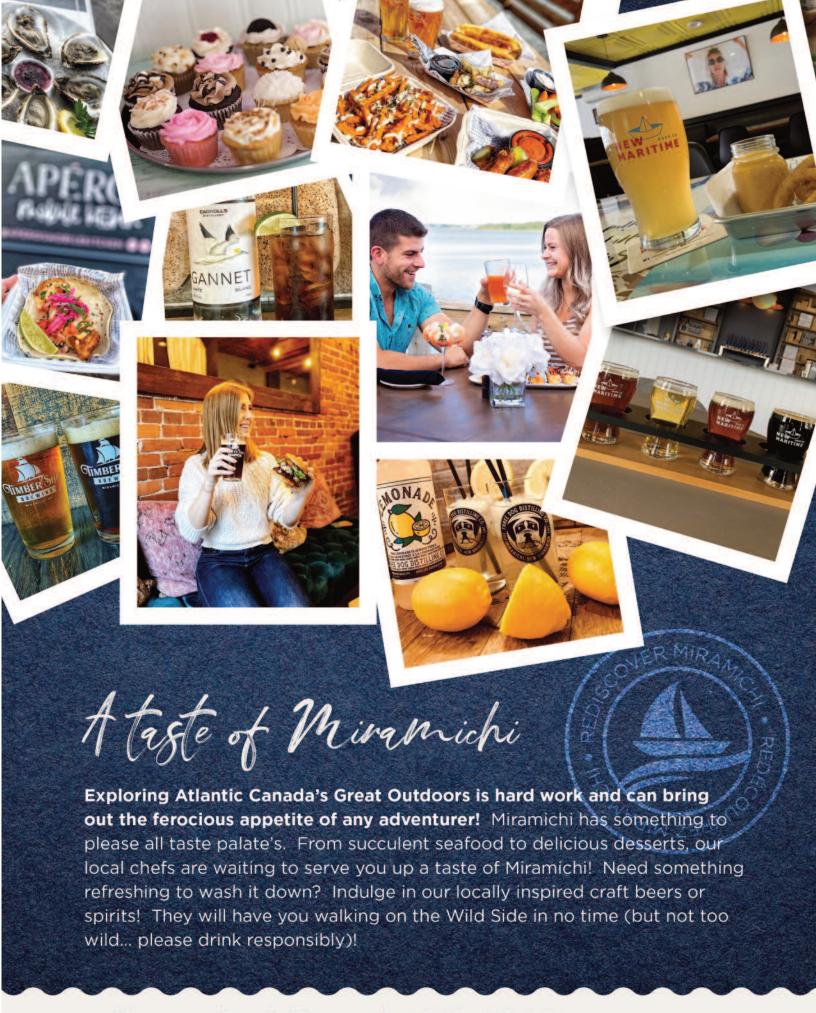
We are looking to add more volunteers to join the regional Food Forest Brigade and we require a variety of different skills such as blog writing, photography, workshop delivery, plant trades etc. to develop our website content and all the good things coming from Roots in the future!



Come see us at the Water Street Farmers Market on Saturdays between 8:30 am and noon. Volunteers of all ages and experience welcome! Contact thegardens@gmx.com or call The Round Table at 506-352-8777.







## Exercise for Couples: The Ying and Yang of Qi Gong and Tai Chi by Mary E. King

Sometimes it is difficult for couples to find exercises to do together.

Many women might look at a hockey equipment bag with dread, and many men might look at a yoga mat with panic. Stereotypes surround all types of activities, and it can be a delicate negotiation to find just the right match between a couple and an activity. Yet the benefits of participating in a shared activity are multifold: the practical benefits of being able to travel together; the experience of meeting the same people, and the common vocabulary one develops.

One pass-time that might suit a married couple is the Qi Gong - Tai Chi combination, a mix of gentle stretches and movement drawn from martial arts. In the oriental tradition, Ying is the feminine energy form and Yang is the masculine, a seemingly natural combination that are components of this form of 'moving meditation'.

Here are what some local couples, have to say about this type of exercise:

(Bill and Dana Gunn) "Tai chi and Qi Gong are low impact exercises that couples can do together. In just one hour, one can exercise every muscle and find inner peace. When peaceful music is played while you exercise, it can add to the overall feeling of wellness. We practice it when we are in Miramichi,



and when we are in California too."

(Mike and Jill Sharp) "Any exercise done together with a spouse or a friend, is always more fun. When practicing Qi Gong and Tai Chi together, you are able to help and encourage each other as you progress. Another benefit of Tai Chi and Qi Gong is the positive energy your body creates, helping to keep both of you happy and healthy. This positive energy can also be used to help those who feel unwell, as it can be harnessed and sent to this individual. Jill has been practicing for 11 years now and feels reenergized after each session, while Mike is new to this gentle form of martial art, but thoroughly enjoys it!"

(Brian & Charlotte Loggie) "My wife and I have been attending Tai Chi classes for the past 4 years. Over this

time, we have met many interesting people, and enjoyed the health benefits from the Oi Gong (warm up exercises) as well as the Tai Chi moves, that focus on flowing poses and stances that enhance balance, breathing, and core strength. In the summer, students of all levels gather at Ritchie Wharf where fresh air enriches the class. Indoor classes in the winter at the Golden Hawk Recreation Centre range from Beginners to Intermediate to Advanced. Whether practicing at home or in class, it is a great way to get energized for the day. We are both very appreciative of Dave Bucklow's contribution to the community.

New members are welcome. Visit www.taichidave.ca or contact Dave Bucklow at 506-622-7124 or dbucklow@msn.com





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## Celebrating 175 Years St. Michael's Museum Building

On August 21, 1860, Bishop James Rogers, newly appointed and recently consecrated first Bishop of Chatham, stood gazing at the one and a half story building destined to become the episcopal residence. He turned to Bishop John Sweeney standing beside him and stated with a smile "This is the house Jack built." This was an obvious reference to the fact that John (Jack) Sweeney had directed the construction of the building in 1846, while he was a Parish Priest of Chatham (1845-1849).

Today the same building stands on the grounds of St. Michael's Basilica Church, but it wasn't always there.

Originally the building was located across the street (University of St. Thomas College which became St. Thomas University. The Religious

Hospitallers of St. Joseph, organized the first hospital in Chatham in 1869 in this building, using the upstairs as sleeping quarters for the nuns. In 1979 St. Michael's Museum Association acquired the old presbytery and episcopal residence and moved it to its present location. With the help of volunteers, donations and grants, the interior was restored and opened to the public in 1981 as St. Michaels's Museum and Genealogical Centre.

The museum is a centre for the preservation and housing of our religious heritage and contains historical documents, photos, books and artefacts from across Northumberland County. Books written by local priests are available to buy and local artwork adorns the hallways.

**Genealogy** Centre stores genealogical information for Northumberland Country which visitors may pay a user fee to access for a day or hire a staff member to do the research. The most complete records are for the Catholic churches in the area, however records for other denominations and cemeteries are available. To conduct your own research the fee to access the records for the day is \$30. Or hire a researcher for \$30 for the first hour and a half, and \$20 for each subsequent hour.

The Lending Library features a sizable body of



The St. Michaels's Museum and Genealogical Centre is located on the grounds of St. Michael's Basilica Church, at 10 Howard St., Miramichi. It was built in 1846 as a rectory for Avenue) and housed the original class Father John Sweeney while he was Parish Priest of Chatham.

literature on various topics such as; theology, popes, prayer, Vatican II documents, religious history and the history of Miramichi, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Canada and Europe – to name a few. Books may be signed out for 3 weeks, at no charge.



One room in the museum is completely dedicated to class photos, books and memorabilia from St. Thomas High School, St. Thomas University, and St. Michael's Academy. The museum also houses an extensive collection of sports photos, featuring teams and athletes from across Northumberland County.



In 1869, four nuns of Montréal, Québec, Mother Davignon, Sister McGurty, Sister St.Louis One of the uniforms, complete with beanie, Beauchamp and Sister Vitaline arrived on the Miramichi (Chatham) on board a passenger worn by students at St. Michael's Academy. steamship. These four women had been sent from the mother house in response to a plea from Bishop James Rogers for a hospital in the Diocese of Chatham, and they opened the first Hôtel Dieu Hospital soon after their arrival, in this building. The museum has a display of photos, documents, artefacts and books on their time here.





#### **CURE FOR A GOITRE**

#### DIRECTIONS:

Cut up bark from a young Oak Tree say from six to eight years old, or not over twelve. Cut up in small pieces about the size of a cent, put into a tin, or better, an enamel dish. Pour on about seven or eight quarts of boiling water then steep for another hour.

Save this cold liquid for future use. Dip three or four plies of cotton (as a sheet) into this liquid. Squeeze out a little so it will not drip. Place about the throat, covering this cotton with a dry woollen cloth just to keep air from reaching the cotton on the throat. Lie down for one hour. Do this about three times daily for two or three weeks.

Keep this oak liquid in a cool place so it will not sour. One could then keep this liquid one week only, use a small portion each time, just enough to soak the cotton in. After one week make fresh liquid.

Also in the building is St. Michael's Catholic Supplies and Book Store. It offers a wide selection of books, pamphlets, prayer cards, medals and statuettes, as well as gifts for all occasions.

The Facebook page is frequently updated with current photos of the gifts and items available in the shop. www.facebook.com/StMichaelsCatholicSuppliesBookStore

#### In the bookstore you'll find:

- Bibles
- Rosaries
- · Crosses and Crucifixes
- · Seasonal items for Lent, Easter and Christmas
- · Gifts for weddings, baptisms,

anniversaries, graduation, birthdays, etc.)

- · Irish gifts and cards
- · Calendars, greeting cards, candles, and statues
- · Children's Books, Self-help books and more!

Above: Father Ryan's cure for goiter. Father Ryan (Rt. Rev. Frederick C. Ryan, DP, PP, MA, LLD, PhD) conducted a medical practice at Red Bank, incorporating his studies of Indigenous medicine and the publications of herbalists. Many patients swore by his cures and they were very much in demand. In 1952 St. Joseph's University gave him an honorary PhD. A booklet of his cures is available for purchase in the bookstore.

#### Summer Hours at the Museum & Bookstore

Monday to Friday: 9:00 am - 5:pm Saturday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

10 Howard St., Miramichi Tel: (506) 778-5152

## Girls on Boards - Miramichi

#### Body Positive Stand-Up Paddle Boarding for Girls Ages 8 to 18.

Girls on Boards was originally founded in Nova Scotia, created to bring the sport of paddle boarding and girls empowerment together. This past year, Micaela Hachey received training from them to run the programming for girls in the Miramichi area. "I'm passionate about supporting our youth, focusing on mental heath and giving them opportunities to reach their full potential, "says Micaela. "Being a part of Girls on Boards gives me the ability to make that happen."

Programs consist of a 2-hour them on the water, and having

unique conversations about society's standards, expectations and views they put on young girls today and the pressures they feel.



lesson on how to paddleboard, Micaela Hachey, paddle boarding by the Centennial Bridge Canadian Tire for funding this connecting with the girls around in Miramichi. She is excited to launch the Girls on Boards -Miramichi program in July.

Not only will this be a free program for girls ages 8-18, but it is also a registered non-profit organization empowering girls to love their bodies, trust their core, and feel their power using immersive experiences vulnerable conversations.

Pay it forward tours and rentals will be available to families, groups or businesses. The cost will support youth to continue accessing this program for free.

Thank you to Canadian Tire Jumpstart and Miramichi program and making it possible.

Registration will be open in July. the Facebook Stay tuned page, www.facebook.com/girlsonboardsmiramichi where schedule for bookings and will be posted when available.



## Road Trip Games

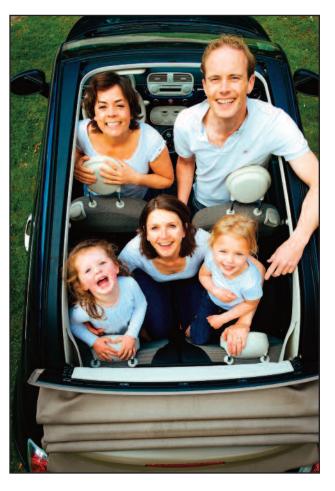
#### Keep the kids and adults entertained!

#### I'm Going on a Picnic.

The first player says "I'm going on a picnic and I'm bringing..." followed by something that begins with A, such as apples. The second player repeats what the first person said, but adds something that begins with B. So they might say "I'm going on a picnic and I'm bringing apples and a blanket." And so on with C, D, and the rest of the alphabet. If someone forgets an item, they are out. See who can last the longest and recite the whole alphabet of picnic items!

#### Tell Me a Story

Get the creative juices flowing amoung your fellow road trippers by composing a group story. One person in the car starts by creating the first line of the story. You can start with a simple "Once upon a time, there lived a salmon in the river" or come up with something different. Next, each person in the car adds a line, and the story builds and builds. To make the game more challenging and fun, make a rule that all the lines have to rhyme. After you've reached your destination, your family could write and illustrate the story as a token of their road trip adventure.





## FRENCH FORT COVE

Connect with nature by experiencing outdoor recreational opportunities at the magnificent and historical French Fort Cove. Enjoy a peaceful walk on the hiking trails, bike the extensive mountain bike trail system, followed by a canoe, kayak or paddle boat rental. Get out with family and friends and explore what nature has to offer!

For more information contact Miramichi Community Wellness and Recreation at 623-2300. www.miramichi.org





## Miramichi Senior Sawdustmakers Inc

#### A Match Made in Heaven

by Paulette Arsenault

Since it's inception, the Miramichi Senior Sawdustmakers Inc. (MSSI) has been an active group in community projects. You may have noticed around Miramichi that the club has already been involved in several community projects, including: the Miramichi Cross Country Ski Club, the Hospice, Lord Beaverbrook Library, birdhouses, raised-garden boxes, and other items created on behalf of other not-for-profit organizations in the community.

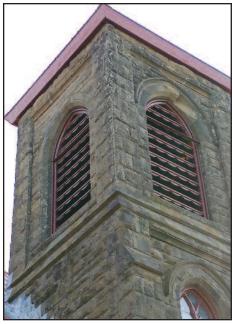
No project has come close to the complexity and involvement by the club members as with the St. Patrick's Catholic Church louvers project.

In early 2021, the Church contacted MSSI with a challenge of epic proportions: replace the four louvers of the church tower that were deteriorating rapidly after more than 127 years of service and seasonal weather beating.

The louvers are more than 50 feet high above ground, 12 feet by 5 feet in width and weigh more than 250 lbs each. How could the members of MSSI not accept such a unique request?

The first step of this project was to assess and evaluate the material involved: lumber, nails, paint, glue, equipment etc., and how it can be built without taking all the available space to members. It was a foregone conclusion that this project would take a lot of time and resources.

The big question was, how do you rebuild a century old structure and keep its design finesse? The executive committee lead by our president Bob Lesperance tackled this by reverse engineering the con-struction process and creating a new set of com-puter aided designs (CAD). "Once we identified the choke points, the project was presented to the Church representative for approval", said Lesperance.



Restoring the louvers on St. Patrick's Catholic Church is the most challenging project the MSSI has accepted.

One of the difficulties was finding white pine 2 inches thick and 16 inches wide in New Brunswick. Unfortunately, it's difficult to find today: plan B was to assemble wide pieces of pine before

con-struction started, hence a lot of glue.

The head of the louver being arched or vault type, added an extra layer of complexity. One hundred and fifty-four hours later, one 5 x 12 ft louver prototype was created and painted to specification. To save expensive crane operation costs and to simplify the installation, the louver was built in three locking pieces for easy assembly in the church tower, just like Lego blocks. There are three more louvers to go.

This work could not have been done without the dedication, patience, workmanship and volunteering by many members of MSSI. This was a match made in heaven between the church and the Miramichi Senior Sawdustmakers Inc enabling both organizations to fulfill, for one their needs and the other their creativity.

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



Members of MSSI assembling a louver which was built in three locking pieces for easy assembly in the church tower. Pictured front to back are: Rose, Jim and Real.

# Congratulations

## ...to all the graduates on being awarded Scholarships



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MIRAMICHI

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www.BBBSMiramichi.com -- www.BGCMiramichi.com 115 Maher St., Miramichi, NB -- 778-2444

## Protecting our Feathered Friends

## Preventing bird deaths against your home's windows.

by Holy Frazer, Nature Miramichi Photos by Peter Gadd

Did you know that over 25 million birds are killed yearly in collisions with Canadian's windows? Did you also know that many people rescue dazed birds and naively think the bird is fine when it flies off after some minutes; in fact, a great number later die of brain injury from the window-inflicted concussion.

My heart was sick in early April when I picked up a dead grackle out of my front garden with its lustrous iridescent feathers still shimmering in the sun's rays. I had admired it earlier that morning from my living room picture window: it made a stop at my bird feeder, the first grackle of the spring season for me and the first ever at my new-to-me house into which I moved in mid-Nov.

The grackle's death spurred me to redo some internet research, talk to some members of my naturalist club, Nature Miramichi and get on the phone to Feather Friendly, a small but well-established Ontario company.



**Above:** Bird impact prevention tape is applied to the outside of windows to form a grid pattern.



As home owners we need to do our part in preventing birds, such as this Ovenbird pictured above, from flying into our windows.

Four club members had done the same research last year, coming to the same conclusion; as bird-lovers, (a) we need to do all we can to prevent bird deaths and/or injury from impacts against our windows and (b) raptor silhouettes or other stickers, however numerous and of whatever size, are NOT an effective deterrent to birds. The birds can still see a flyway through the window due to the reflection of the sky, clouds, trees, etc., be it an urban skyscraper or your own modest home. Be honest now; have you never seen someone try to walk through a closed patio door, thinking it was open? Same basic thing for the bird!

#### **Bird Impact Prevention Grid Tape**

The solution I found was bird-impact prevention window tape, sold by Feather Friendly. I presented my findings at the club's monthly meeting and three of us jumped on the bandwagon to order the tape, receiving a bulk discount and joining our other four members who had already applied it to their windows.

One roll of self-adhesive tape is a series of small pale greyish square dots spaced about 3 mm apart and protects 16 sq. ft. of glass. They stick on the outside of your windows, doors, or clear railing panels. A phone

call to Feather Friendly helped me figure out precisely how many rolls I needed. My south-facing living room window was a "must do" but I had to figure out which others also needed coverage.

#### **Assessing Which Windows Need Tape**

Not every window presents the same reflective problem to birds. Besides the stark reality of a dead avian friend below a window, you can make a fairly accurate assessment of the ''death trap potential" of each window by walking around outside to look critically at every window several days per week in all kinds of weather during all four seasons for a year. Directional orientation, sun angle, presence of trees nearby, plants inside, drapes and blinds, and other factors all have an influence. If you see a reflection of the outside, that is what the bird sees: a fly-through. Keep in mind that the bird is coming straight on at eyelevel with the window sometimes at a height much greater than your own; think second story windows.

After applying the tape, as the photo from inside the home indicates, the dots do not significantly obstruct the view or reduce your bird-viewing pleasure. It is as if your brain just doesn't even see the grid of dots anymore.

When your window needs assessment is done and mailing fees and taxes added, some find the investment quite costly. If I had had doubts, these disappeared in a puff on tiny feathers when a second bird death occurred, that of a beautiful Ovenbird before I had a chance to apply my tape.

Since installing the grid system last year, the Nature Miramichi members who purchased the tape have never had another bird strike. Both families attract a rich array of feathered friends year-round to their numerous feeders.



**Above:** This window has the grid tape on it, but as you can see, it is nearly invisible when looking out from the inside.

Of course there are other bird-strike prevention options out there. The company we chose to purchase from, Feather Friendly, is Canadian and endorsed by FLAP (Flight Light Awareness Program) and several other North American bird conservation organizations, and we knew others who had used their products.

#### Resources

You can find lots of info on this general subject on the internet as well as on the Feather Friendly and FLAP websites. FLAP has a free online building self-assessment tool to help you understand the risk that each of your home's windows presents to birds. There are many additional preventative measures you can take to protect birds flying by your house as well as those you attract with your feeders, fountains and bird-loving plants. Do your part to enhance your enjoyment of these fascinating creatures who add so much to the beauty of our world and our sense of well-being.



## **Dining & Entertainment**

Enjoy all the great dining options that Miramichi has to offer!

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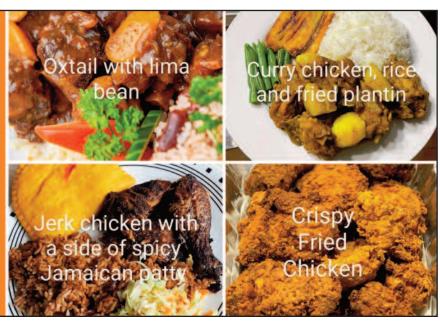
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#### July 4: Woodmen's Museum TAKE-OUT Chicken Barbeque.

Take Out Orders only - Must pre-book and pay in advance. Includes: 1/2 BBQ chicken, new potatoes, corn on the cob, and cheesecake. \$20 per person. Place your order today by calling 506-369-7214 to reserve your plate. Payment Options: E-transfer to: woodmen@nb.aibn.com, VISA, MASTERCARD, or stop by the Museum Wednesday to Sunday (beginning Wednesday, June 23rd), 11 am to 4 pm for Cash/Debit. Choose your pick-up time when you order: 12pm, 12:30pm, 1pm, 1:30pm, 2pm.

Thank you for supporting the Woodmen's Museum!

#### The patio is open!

Bands Friday and Saturday nights starting at 6 pm, no cover.

#### **Restaurant OPEN**

Wed-Fri at 11am, Sat and Sun at 10am

25 seat Coasters Lounge daily from 10am-2am

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# Miramichi Ground Search and Rescue in Action

By Paulette Arsenault and Philippe Gauthier MGSAR Training Officer.

#### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Miramichi Ground Search and Rescue (MGSAR) is in urgent need of space for training and equipment storage (truck, trailers, etc.). A committee was formed to find new space and has been working tirelessly to find a permanent solution but to no avail. Our committee contacted all levels of government and numerous government agencies. In spite of our efforts to solve this problem, we have not yet received support from any



The many faces of Miramichi Ground Search and Rescue (MGSAR)

elected representatives that could lead to a resolution. We need public support.

Ground Search and Rescue is an essential service when needed and often forgotten when not.

MGSAR is an organization dedicated to assisting the Miramichi Police, RCMP and New Brunswick Emergency Management Organization (NBEMO). Our goal is to find

people in dire situations. We search and rescue people who are lost or incapacitated due physical or psychological injuries in both remote and urban areas. In New Brunswick, ground search and rescue teams are divided into 10 regions with Miramichi being region 5. MGSAR has recently been involved in challenging such searches Dungarvon, Nelson and Chatham Head. We also assisted both Bathurst and Fredericton regions and most recently assisted

Acadie Chaleur GSAR in Caraquet.

MGSAR is ready to be deployed 24/7, 12 months a year, on a phone call notice, in hot or cold weather, rain or shine. Members need to develop special search skills to be able to perform safely in often difficult terrain. These skills are only achieved by ongoing training. Training involves expenditures in equipment (see spring issue of Giv'er



magazine, page 22), classroom, and administration requirements (insurance, certifications, phones, etc.). Training is necessary to maintain strict adherence to rules and regulations in-line with national standards set by the government and implemented by ground search and rescue volunteers.

Members must also be certified by the Red Cross or St-John Ambulance every 2 years and undergo a vetting process by the police department. Members attend training seminars week nights and week-ends. On a yearly basis many members freely invest more than 200 hours in hands-on learning in first aid, low-angle extraction, grid searches, autism special requirements, GPS and compass orientation, incident command structure, radio communication, lost person behavior, tracking, and even kayak training.

Nobody gets paid for this investment in class time or onsite searches. Members are often expected to pay their own travel expenses, all personal equipment and regulation clothing. All these costs add up.

Until the summer of 2020, we were funded partially by fundraiser events and a special federal program called SARNIF. All these funds dried up last year when the program ended and all fund-raising events were cancelled due to the pandemic. Some other Ground Search and Rescue regions receive help from their municipal government in the form of space for their administrative needs, training and equipment or in the form of an annual budget to finance these needs.

We are not the only GSAR region facing a difficult situation causing one region to terminate services altogether. If this service ends, who will law enforcement call when a child is lost in the woods? This dilemma has been a huge burden for our executive and is taking essential time away from our core mandate. We want to continue to help lost people return home, but this cannot be done unless our public officials give us support to help MGSAR find a new home.

If you think that MGSAR is an essential service to the

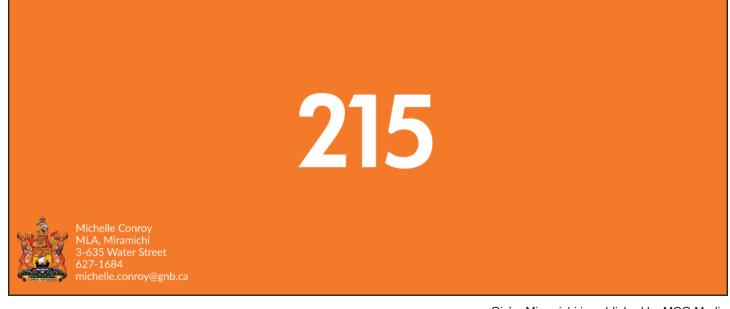
Miramichi community, please voice your opinion by contacting your local elected official or send us your feedback at info@mgsar.ca. If you would like to make a financial donation, please send it to MGSAR, Box 4028 Station, Douglastown, NB, E1V 5R9



Miramichi Ground Search and Rescue (MGSAR) is asking the community for help in securing space for training and equipment storage (truck, trailers, etc.). Pictured above is one such piece of equipment, the MGSAR Logistics Trailer.



Above: MGSAR Command Post



## Literacy Changes Lives

By: Charlotte Loggie, Miramichi Literacy Council Volunteer

The Miramichi Literacy Council was founded in 1978 by Dorothy Creighton, a well-respected teacher of many years here in Miramichi. She saw the need to develop programming to enhance adult learners' literacy skills through a variety of initiatives and programs, offered through a non-profit, volunteer organization. Dorothy's vision lives on through the Council in Miramichi, made up of 20 volunteers who offer many free programs to assist adults of all ages and backgrounds with ongoing literacy improvement.

Our group is a subsidiary of the Laubach Literacy New Brunswick coalition which endeavours to bring innovative Literacy programming to adults all through New Brunswick, and as such, we follow the LLNB's mission and core values.

Through the years, we have grown from offering one-on-one tutoring in Literacy skills to now operating five main programs with a sixth in development. Our programs are offered free of charge and are in partnership with many community agencies such as Cradle to Career Miramichi, the Women's Correctional Centre. Miramichi Adult Learning, the Miramichi Food Bank, and the John Howard Society.

At the Women's Correctional Centre, we have developed the Mommy Reads to Me program and the WCC/MLC Book Club. Mommy Reads to Me is an innovative way for incarcerated women to make a recording of a children's book that is then sent to their child or children, along with a copy of the book for the child/children to enjoy. This creates communication and a stronger bond between the women and their children and is a highly valued program. The Book Club is also enthusiastically received at the WCC. Before Covid-19.

groups of four women were selected to meet biweekly with 2 Literacy volunteers in the library at the WCC having been provided with copies of the selected book through the public library system. Since the inception of the program in 2019, many books of all different genres have been read and discussed. The hour and a half discussion is thoroughly enjoyed by all participants and the program is now functioning again through the magic of Zoom.

Our Cooking to Learn program is very popular. We partner with Miramichi Adult Learning, the Women's Correctional Centre, and the John Howard Society to provide eager participants with a once-weekly cooking workshop. Each workshop ranges from five to eight weeks in length. Participants are of all ages and bring a variety of cooking, budgeting, and life skills to the classes. We have



Each one, teach one,

six active volunteers in this program, all of whom have been trained through MANGO (a community program of Horizon Health Network promoting healthy eating and physical activity in Northumberland County), in Food Safety, and all with a deep interest in imparting cooking and increased literacy skills through these workshops.

The Conversational Circle was started in 2019 to increase the language skills of newcomers with English as a second language. The conversations are informal, and range from community activities to gardening, Canadian food,



Storywalk is a new initiative of the Miramichi Literacy Council that is an outdoor, interactive experience in which pages of a children's book are displayed at intervals along a nature trail. Storywalk supporters and volunteers are pictured above at Middle Island.

and culture. The group has managed to continue under Covid-19 restrictions with the use of a Plexiglas divider, social distancing, and masks.

One on one tutoring has also made a difference in many people's lives. Our volunteer tutors are trained and deliver private, free tutoring through the Learning Upgrade system. Tutoring has resumed with Covid-19 safety protocols in place.

Storywalk is a new initiative we launched at Middle Island in the summer of 2020 with Cradle to Career Miramichi and Frontier College who are both interested in helping children increase and maintain literacy skills. The Literacy Sock Drive Fundraiser Storywalk is an outdoor, interactive

experience in which pages of a children's book are displayed at intervals along a nature trail. Families can stroll along the path, read the story together, and enjoy the benefits of fresh air and exercise. The Storywalk project is partnered this year with the Chatham Public Library and Middle Island Irish Historical Park. It is hoped that with appropriate funding, we will continue this initiative this summer with a variety of books again featured at Middle Island throughout the summer for families to enjoy.



The work of the Miramichi Literacy Council is intertwined with many agencies and community initiatives. Through the tireless work of our Director, Pat Hegan, and our volunteers, we continue to try to make a difference in the lives of those who can benefit from enhanced literacy skills. Our Post Covid-19 Community Engagement Coordinator, Nadine Pesch, has been truly valuable in her role of lifting our profile and enabling us to reach out to more and more people, and form new partnerships with agencies who hold similar values and goals. Our work is satisfying and rewarding.

Anyone interested in becoming a volunteer with the council or who

would like to find out more about our programs and services can contact us at info@miramichiliteracy.org or by calling (506) 836-7882 or by visiting our office (call ahead for hours) located at 1733 Water St. Suite 103. It is our privilege to carry Dorothy Creighton's vision forward and keep her dream alive, showing that lives can be changed through literacy

Article by Charlotte Loggie with Files from Nadine Pesch, Post Covid-19 Community Engagement Coordinator, MLC







The Old Courthouse on King George Highway has just completed a multi-year total designer renovation, and now boasts 8 one and two bedroom luxury apartments and loft as well as 4 offices. A very small number of apartments and offices are still available for immediate or

All apartments feature luxury designer kitchens and high-end appliances, including washers/dryers, and are all fully climate controlled. They vary in size between 600 and 1430 square feet, while the offices are approximately 375 square feet each. Parking is included in the rent as are basement lockers for the apartments. There is an elevator. All the wiring, plumbing, insulation, heating and a/c is new, but many of the original design features such as the turrets, woodwork, floors, high ceilings and large windows remain. Even the corridors, featuring pictures of Old Miramichi, are a pleasure to use, and they reflect the high quality of design that has been incorporated throughout the Old Courthouse.

The views are amazing from many of the apartments in this heritage building.



For information, viewing and rental please contact **Brian Morris at Allied Realty** bmorris2@nb.sympatico.ca or at 506-627-6500.

## MILL COVE COFFEE

## ... and So Much More by Johannes Bosma



As I sit here inside the Mill Cove Coffee shop on the Newcastle side of the Miramichi River, I gradually sip on my favourite java, an Americano. Surrounded by an olfactory aroma of coffee, specialty teas and home-baked treats, I hear Kathleen (Innis) Smith greet an incoming customer who turns out to be a regular.

"Good morning. A breakfast wrap?" He smiles and nods in the affirmative.

It's now 9:30am and the customers are arriving in a steady stream. Kathleen has a word or two with all of them while at the same time training a new employee, carefully explaining the intricacies of preparing and serving coffee and other beverages in a calm demeanor.

During a short break, I look around the little shop which displays two huge menu blackboards, snack counters of sweets and novelties, bags of quality coffee beans and shelves of books for both adults and children.

In a sit-down interview, this young, local businesswoman relates to me how she and her husband came back from Alberta to raise a family on the Miramichi, which now includes a daughter and a son. While James took a course in heavy equipment at NBCC, Kathleen looked for jobs in the restaurant business but her resume' indicated work in management even though she wanted only to serve. "I prefer serving than working behind the scenes," she tells me.

Later, the young couple discussed starting their own business and in 2014 they decided to open a coffee shop in Miramichi. They wanted to serve quality coffee, teas and frappés where customers would know what was in their





Kathleen (Innis) Smith, owner of Mill Cove Coffee, displaying some of the many books she has in stock which includes a wide selection from local authors.

drinks. "Product Knowledge," Kathleen refers to it.

They discovered and rented the former Books Inn location. It would be another six months of renovations and acquisitions of the necessary equipment. "It took us al-most a year to find the right roaster," she adds.

In the meantime, Kathleen trained in a Moncton cafe', learning how to work in a coffee shop; how to use an expresso machine; how to properly roast; and to gain knowledge of the products she would be selling. "If someone wanted to know what was in their beverage or why the coffee was a certain price per pound, you could ex-plain exactly why."

After opening in September 2015, they had a very busy first year. With a sparkle in her eyes Kathleen tells me, "Every year we decide to expand something - a new pro-ject." We started with food and then added books.'

The coffee shop now features copies of popular books, giving priority to local authors. Her husband constructed the shelves, which have gradually increased in number, and Kathleen eagerly stocks them. She points out that she would also like to feature more books in French and Mi'kmag.

The projects for 2021 include renovating the prep area and getting the books or-ganized and displayed. That includes a two-sided shelf, across and down from the serving counter, for local books only. She states that we have tons of local writers that we hear about and have not seen. "We'd like to showcase what the Miramichi really has for local writers," she says.

Kathleen concludes our interview in support of local literature. "A lot of local books have local people in them. It is their

START A SERIES!

PUE

COFFEE

COFFEE

Mill Cove Coffee is a specialty coffee shop open 7 days/week serving locally roasted coffee, and offers breakfast & lunch specials Monday to Friday. Located at 144 Newcastle Blvd (around the square).

memories, and they are keeping these memories alive in our community so we can learn and grow. Books keep the history of our community. We write books to show how we experience and how we live." adding that unlike the books online, "The best books are always found when you pick them up."

In keeping with the local theme, I ask Kathleen why she named her shop "Mill Cove Coffee". She informs me that, in the 1880s, Nordin was called Mill Cove. There was mining there, a Mill Cove hospital, a bakery and Buckley's Mill with an extremely tall smokestack, recently downsized.

Before ordering my smoked meat panini for lunch, I meet up with two good friends of mine. In addition to their usual coffee order, the husband is purchasing some Lego kits for their grandchildren. I

mention how this coffee shop is so diverse, referring to both the business and Kathleen.

He agrees and adds, "She works hard at it."



## **NB Aviation Museum** Fundraising Begins

Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation to Donate \$100,000 this Year.

by Johannes Bosma



To help raise funds, the museum will be selling prints of two paintings by artist Peter J. Robichaud, both pictured in this article. **Above:** *Solo Sabre*, depicting an Mk5 Sabre flying into Miramichi Bay.

In one of his recent weekly updates to the growing list of Museum Honorary Patrons, which now includes former astronaut Dr. Roberta Bondar, Executive Director of the **NB Aviation Museum**, Captain (Retired) Kevin Anderson stated that "the **Beaverbrook Canadian Foundation** is donating \$40,000 to cover our 25% portion of the Museum feasibility study and one year of rent for hangar space at the airport. Once the feasibility study is complete, they will be donating another \$60,000 for a total contribution this year of \$100,000!"

The feedback he received from the Foundation was that the board was very enthusiastic about the project and the president, the great-grandson of Miramichi's own Lord Beaverbrook, said, "Great project, and glad to support it." The Honourable Joseph A. Day, Senator (retired) made the official announcement at the NB Aviation Museum's campaign launch event in Miramichi on June 4th as part of his opening remarks.

According to Anderson, the groundwork for a new museum and education centre on the Miramichi is in place and, with additional financial support, it will become a reality. Plans include the renting of a hangar from the Miramichi Airport Commission as a temporary home until the new facility is built. "It is heated, has offices and a washroom and plenty of space to store our Nieuport 11

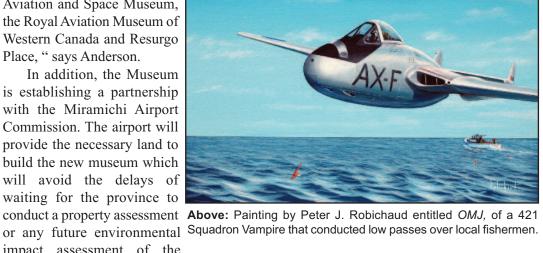
aircraft and begin restoration work on our deHavilland Vampire," said Anderson.

The museum has also received \$10,000 in funding from the provincial Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture to develop an exhibit to honour NB Aviation Heroes - Past, Present and Future which includes new mannequin cases and photos of New Brunswickers who have worked, or are currently working, in aviation, whether RCAF or civilian.

Throughout the month of June, the museum is participating in the Great Canadian Giving Challenge via account their on the CanadaHelps website (www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/new-brunswick-aviationmuseum-inc). Every dollar raised through their account in June gives them a chance to win an additional \$20,000. Miramichiers can show their support for the creation of an aviation museum and aerospace education centre here in Miramichi by donating today, helping the museum to honour our past and inspire our future. Donations this year will ensure the feasibility study and initial design plans for the museum are completed in 2021 and will help "bring home our Vampire, T-33 and maybe even an F-86 Sabre. "

"We are very excited to have established partnerships with the Atlantic Canada Aerospace and Defence Association, the RCAF Association, the Air Cadet League of NB, Mount Allison University, Forest Protection Limited (FPL), the Tourism Industry Association of NB (TIANB), the Atlantic Canada International Show (ACIAS), the Canada Aviation and Space Museum, the Royal Aviation Museum of Western Canada and Resurgo Place, "says Anderson.

is establishing a partnership with the Miramichi Airport Commission. The airport will provide the necessary land to build the new museum which will avoid the delays of waiting for the province to impact assessment of the vacant land they have for sale



adjacent to the airport. The proposed location will give us better visibility and access and an excellent view of the runwav.

Anderson noted: "We will be selling prints of two paintings by artist Peter J. Robichaud for anyone interested in them. The first one is called "OMJ" about a 421 Squadron

Vampire that conducted low passes over local fishermen. The second painting is "Solo Sabre", a Mk 5 Sabre of #1 Fighter Operational Training Unit, returns to Chatham.

He added that if any individual or organization wants to provide a letter of support that we can use to strengthen our fundraising application package, you can address it to Executive Director. NB Aviation Museum, 1753 Rte 118, Doyle's Brook, NB E9E 2H8 or forward it via email to nbamdirector@outlook.com.

The letter should express support for the creation of an

aviation museum for NB, the reason(s) why Miramichi (Chatham) is an ideal location, and support for funding through the NB Community Development Fund and the federal Canada Cultural Spaces Fund.





# The Stars are Aligning It's time to release your inner RASCL!

By Mary E. King (Miramichi) and Curt Nason (Saint John)

Many people are discovering astronomy, and now is a great time to take up the hobby, because it appears the stars are aligning for that very purpose. And our moon and sun are cooperating too. There was a partial solar eclipse in June of this year and there will be a full solar eclipse in April 2024.

Royal Astronomical Society of Canada (RASC) is a great support for people new to the hobby, and New Brunswick has a number of local groups, where members meet and help each other out. Organized get togethers, called Star Parties, are still on hold pending social restrictions. However, in the meantime, the stars await you. Viewing can be done with the naked binoculars with eye, (my preference), or with telescopes. Start small, get informed, and then go big: the universe awaits! To join RASC or learn more about astronomy visit www.rasc.ca.

#### Miramichi – Eclipse Central for New Brunswick

The last total solar eclipse path to pass over New Brunswick occurred in the late afternoon of July 10, 1972, with the southern limit of the moon's shadow running through Campbellton, Miramichi and Bouctouche. If you don't recall seeing this event it may be due to cloud cover that day. Totality lasted

approximately 25 seconds in Chatham, whereas Newcastle was just outside the shadow and had a deep partial eclipse.

Solar eclipses occur when the moon passes partly or completely in front of the sun, which can happen twice or, occasionally, three times a year. The moon's orbit is tilted to the earth's orbit by five degrees, ten times the moon's apparent width in the sky. Monthly, the moon moves above and below earth's orbital plane, and if this occurs at new moon, earthlings somewhere are treated to a partial, annular, or total solar eclipse. An annular eclipse occurs when the moon is near apogee, when it is farthest from earth during the month, and its smaller width does not cover the sun

completely.

On June 10 of this year an annular eclipse occurred in northern parts of Ontario, Quebec, and Nunavut. New Brunswick residents experienced a partial eclipse, around sunrise that ended two hours later. For Miramichi, the eclipse

began at 5:40 am, ending at 7:40 am. Maximum eclipse occurs midway with three quarters of the sun's surface covered by the moon.

If you stare at the sun unprotected, you could suffer permanent eye damage without realizing it until several hours later. Sunglasses are inadequate protection, as are most photographic negatives that you might have in the attic. Eclipse glasses approved by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO 12312-2) are safe for solar viewing a few minutes at a time if they are not used with binoculars or telescopes. You can also build a simple pinhole eclipse viewer following directions on the internet.

This partial eclipse is a prelude to the big event, a total solar eclipse over the middle third of New Brunswick on the afternoon of April 8, 2024. The moon's shadow peaks in Mexico, crosses the USA and southern Ontario and Quebec, and traverses New Brunswick from McAdam to north of Moncton, and

from north of Grand Falls to south of Bathurst. Miramichi lies north of the centre line, but it will still be in the moon's shadow for three minutes and ten seconds, only 12 seconds less than the maximum for the province.

A total solar eclipse is said to be the most spectacular sight in nature, featuring the onrushing shadow of the moon, the creamy wisps of the solar corona, Baily's beads and the diamond ring effect. Brighter stars and planets appear, animals prepare for sleep, and people gape and cheer in awe and fear. Miramichi is the largest population centre in New Brunswick to experience this twice in the past century.

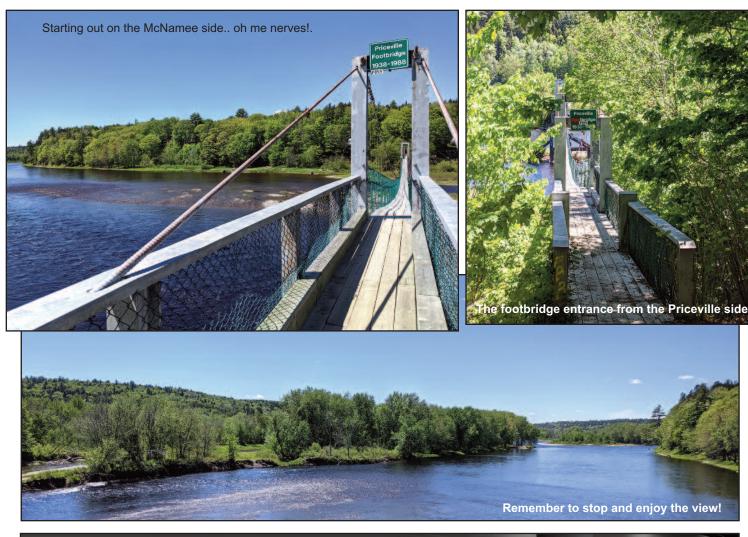


The moon just past 1st quarter where you can see Copernicus just on the terminator and being pointed out by the Apennine Mountain range. Photo was taken in Mar 2021 with a Skywatcher 180mm Mak/Cas telescope and a Canon 6DMKII full frame DSLR. Paul Owen, RASC NB member, Saint John club, provided this photograph and description of the moon. Catch him co-hosting the Sunday Night Astronomy Show on YouTube and Facebook.

### A Visit to the

## McNamee/Priceville Footbridge

The McNamee/Priceville Footbridge is located between Doaktown and Boiestown and as the name implies, spans the Miramichi River to connect the communities of McNamee and Priceville. **How do you find it?** If travelling from Doaktown on Route 8, exit onto the Carrolls Crossing road. After 6km turn right onto the McNamee Footbridge Rd which crosses through a field. You'll see the bridge ahead of you, and there is plenty of parking space available. Coming from Boiestown take the McNamee Rd exit on your left and follow it for 3.8 km until you come to the field and footbridge road on your left.





## Climate Action Plan

#### Friends of Beaubears Island

**Phenology** is the study of periodic plant and animal life cycle events and how these are influenced by seasonal and inter-annual variations in climate, as well as habitat factors.

In 2020, the Friends of Beaubears Island initiated a project to use the island as a laboratory to study the phenology of the island in order to understand the effects of climate change upon it. This was done, in part, as the City of Miramichi was formalizing its Climate Action Plan and it was thought that the Island would make an excellent site for such a study. The first steps were in organizing historical data and to layout a zone system upon the Island to establish sample plots within these zones to study whatever changes may take place. Unfortunately, as the project was just beginning, the pandemic placed restrictions on visitors to the island. The idea of making this project open to 'citizen science', wherein interested people could participate by observing, studying and learning along the way — did not take place.

This summer, 2021, the zones have been established and many sample plots have been noted by GPS, along with critical plants that have been located to record their responses to the effects of climate change. Since 2017, studies had been conducted on the Island that

provided data that served as an inventory of the plant and animal species of the island, as well as the geology underlying the island. Thus, with a baseline in hand, there began a comprehensive re-examination of existing research - through the climate lens - attention paid to climate-caused micro-sites.

Thus, we will be observing which plants are beginning to be stressed, which may become more dominant and how these changes affect the mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects and invertebrates that most people don't ever see or know exist. Depending on how much change occurs, some will survive, some may not, and others may become new residents.

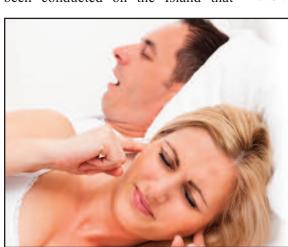
We are now extending an invitation to all Miramichiers to participate with us in this project. You can come to the island and observe what we are doing - or take a further step and start doing it with us! We look at this as an opportunity for the average person to learn about the world we live in and what the future may begin to look like. We will be on the island, at least once a week (weather permitting) so it isn't a long commitment to make. Remember, you are a volunteer! All ages are welcome, but we do ask that "under 18" have written permission from a parent



or guardian. All five members of the team are working with Parks Canada and have federal permits for this work.

Beaubears Island is an old island that has withstood many changes over hundreds of million years and, yet endures out of strength, determination or plain stubbornness — and it will survive under whatever changes may occur in the future — however much changed!

To get involved contact us at 506-622-8526, or info@beaubearsisland.ca



#### PROBLEMS SLEEPING?

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## Corcoran Entertainment Bringing More Theatre To Miramichi

by Franky Corcoran

Theatre is a huge part of my life. I have been doing it as a hobby for nearly a decade now since high school. I am an optimist who takes the good out of the bad, and one of the good things I took out of the pandemic was it helped me discover what I wanted to

Having acted for so many years, I always knew that eventually, I wanted to direct a play. Having worked under so many incredibly talented directors, Frankie Corcoran's love of theatre has inspired plays to life, from understanding a Entertainment. character's motivations, to what each line means.

it has helped me out tremendously in him to take a step beyond acting and start his understanding what goes into bringing own community theatre troupe, Corcoran tuned on our Facebook page and

theatre, whether it's onstage or behind the scenes.

Over the last year, I have been building my own community theatre company in Miramichi called Corcoran Entertainment. We're looking to add more theatre into our community through original plays, comedies, dramedies, and more.

Miramichi has amazing talent. There are so many people here that I want to give a chance to shine through this community theatre troupe. Stay www.corcoranentertainment.com.

When the world shut down last year, I took up playwriting as a hobby to cope with no live theatre. It was a hard time for the industry and the people make a living off

If you want to get involved in this community theatre troupe, find out about casting calls, ticket bookings or anything at email Franky Corcoran all, frankyc01@outlook.com.



## Slammin Salmon Rugby Club

Are you interested in trying rugby? The Slammin Salmon Rugby Club offers oppurtunities for both youth and adults to get involved. Rugby is a full contact team sport that originated in England - it praises competition but demands good sportsmanship.

There is a position for anyone who wants to play, no matter shape, size or height. We have players of all abilities. Cost is \$75 for any Slammin Salmon Rugby within the year.

**U14 coed:** kids born 2007 and 2008 **U17 girls and U17 boys:** born 2004-2006

Senior men's and women's: anyone born 2003 and before.

Open to all genders. No experience necessary for any age group, new members always welcome. Practices are held at the MVHS field: Junior practices Monday & Thursday 6-8pm; Senior practices Tuesday & Thursday 6-8pm.

Contact micaela.hachey@nbed.nb.ca for more info.









## Girl Guides of Canada Coastal Shore Area AGM



On May 20th, 2021 local Girl Guides of Canada from the Coastal Shore Area held their Annual General Meeting. Awards were given for years of service from five to 50 years. Guiders with 25 years or more were Patty Campbell with 25 years, Martina MacCarthy with 30, Colleen Kelly with 35, Maureen LeBlanc with 40 and Aldora Carruthers with 50 years. Carmel Hambrook received the Honorary Life Membership Award. Other awards given include Gold Thanks Pins, Bronze, Silver and Gold Unit Guider Pins and Guider of the Year. Congratulations to everyone!

Girl Guides of Canada is about empowering every girl to be everything she wants to be. If you would like to learn more or are interested in becoming a girl or adult member please visit www.girlguides.ca.



Kelly O'Toole presenting her mother, Aldora Carruthers with her 50 year pin.



(elly O'Toole, Fern Matchett, Samantha Crowder and Nicky Jardine telling tories about their time guiding with Aldora.



Allen Adams, son of the late Margaret Adams, presenting Carmel Hambrook the Honorary Life Membership Award.



Coastal Shore Area Council



Coastal Shore Area Commissioner, Marilyn Briggs presenting Susan Crowder with the Gold Thanks pin. Sue also received the Guider of the Year award.



# The Very Best **Toastmasters Miramichi**75 Years Proud



Toastmasters is a non-profit, non-partisan international communication and leadership program. The first Toastmasters meeting was held in the United States in 1905.

#### What can Toastmasters do for you?

It will help you to overcome the fear of public speaking, a fear that has kept people silent for too long.

Toastmasters will provide a warm and supportive learning environment as you learn the skills necessary to get your ideas across effectively and efficiently.

Through participation in our bi-weekly meetings, you will learn to tell jokes, read aloud, act as Master of Ceremonies, think on your feet, give presentations and address various sized groups in a motivational, inspirational and informative way. You will develop your listening skills and learn to provide constructive feedback and evaluations.

Membership in a Toastmasters club gives you the opportunity to take on executive positions and to develop skills in judging, evaluation and organization.

Toastmasters also offers instruction and support in parliamentary procedures (how to conduct a business meeting).

It will give you confidence not only as a communicator and as a leader but in all aspects of your life.

#### What have others gained from Toastmasters membership?

Many members started out terrified over the prospect of speaking in public, and have gone on to participate and even win large speaking competitions.

Francophone members have joined to improve their



English skills and now present fluently in both languages.

Some have joined to learn to give effective presentations at work and are now executives in their places of employment.

Some have joined to improve their speaking skills in the political arena. Toastmasters has launched many political careers.

Others have joined simply for the camaraderie and warmth the group provides. For most of us, that may not have been the initial reason for joining but it is certainly reason enough to keep coming back.

The Miramichi club meets every second Monday starting on May 3rd at 7 pm in person and/or on zoom.

Please contact Rachele at 773-9847 or Linda at 210-3582 for more information or to become a member.





Miramichi River Boat Tours Inc is beginning its 27th year of introducing visitors from all over the world and locals alike to the beauty and the history of the Miramichi River. Each 90-minute tour aboard the 52-passenger Transport Canada certified Max Aitken includes a historical narration about the people and events that have existed along the banks of the Miramichi for thousands of years, beginning with Indigenous settlements, through French and English developments, to the present day. When combined with the natural beauty of the Miramichi River, it is a tour not to be missed.

Captain Azade Haché always emphasizes the theme "It's all about the River" as he relates stories of the Miramichi in his humorous style about the river's winds and tides, the Great Miramichi Fire, Miramichi's two Fathers of Confederation, local landmarks, and much more. Among many points discussed are the two tributaries of the "Mighty Miramichi" which is second in size, only to the Saint John River.

When the tides are right, the Max Aitken will take you under the famed Morrisey Bridge which has a storied past all in itself. The tour goes past French Fort Cove which is now

a beautiful community walking park but decades ago was the site of a French Battalion that had a fort strategically placed there, where it was able to view and guard both the up and downriver stretches of the Miramichi. As the tour proceeds east, Captain Azade will fill you in, on the remarkable history of the Seamans Hospital, Ballast Island and the Centennial Bridge, being only one of nine of it's type ever built. The Centennial Bridge has an identical "sister" in Cape Breton. At the most eastward portion of the tour, you will hear the remarkable stories from Middle Island which now serves as a community park.

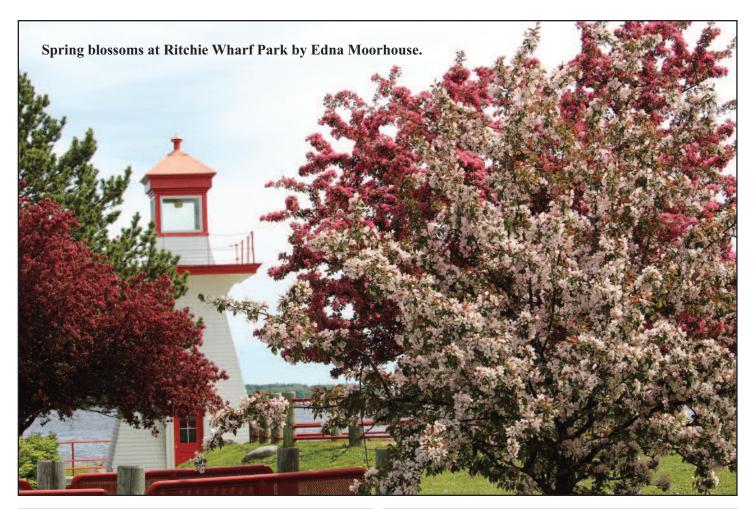
Passengers can board the Max Aitken at Ritchie Wharf for a **daily 2 pm tour, or reserve a special time** for family gatherings, staff outings, wedding groups, etc. Food can be provided for reserved cruises through partnerships with local restaurants, and a sound system is available that can be used by groups supplying their own music. Bilingual service is provided on each tour.

Reservations can be made by contacting Captain Azade Haché at: 506-623-9821 or Jrhache06@hotmail.com

Rates: Adults - \$20. Students - \$15. Children Under 12 - \$10. Tots - No Charge. Group Rates Are Available.









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(Culinary.net) Hardly anything beats a cold, refreshing drink on a hot day. This Fizzy Orange Pineapple Punch provides a chilling moment of relaxation with the sweetness of orange and pineapple combined with the cool flavor of orange sherbet.

Find more drink recipes at Culinary.net.

#### **Fizzy Orange Pineapple Punch**

- 1 can (46 ounces) pineapple juice, chilled
- 1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
- 1 can (6 ounces) frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed
- 1 bottle (2 liters) ginger ale
- 6-8 scoops orange sherbet orange slices, for garnish mint leaves, for garnish

In large punch bowl, combine pineapple juice, condensed milk and orange juice concentrate. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

Before serving, add ginger ale and top with scoops of sherbet, orange slices and mint.





### What is New Brunswick to Me

by Martin Vickers

What Is New Brunswick To Me What is New Brunswick to me A bay, a dune, a river free. A moose, a deer, balsam tree

What is New Brunswick to me Covered bridge I walk on Paved roads that kiss Fundy's bay and Appalachian peaks Shale pathways to the Miramichi Logging trails that guide my skis

What is New Brunswick to me Spring's sprouting fiddleheads Summer's splashing salmon and whales Fall's quiet reds, yellows, and gold Winter's silence shattered by broken pond hockey sticks

Yes, but New Brunswick is more Kayaking by Hopewell Rocks Swimming in Parlee's warm saltwater Traveling the Acadian Valley Enjoying maple sugar coated blueberry pancakes or tourtiere pie

Tapping my feet to Scottish, Irish, French Canadian fiddling

Still, New Brunswick is much more to me
First Nation sharing nature's wealth
Genuine teachers and the preachers
Talented men who built my house
Hard working farmers, woodsmen, ship builders
Dedicated fellow New Brunswickers who keep me on my
feet

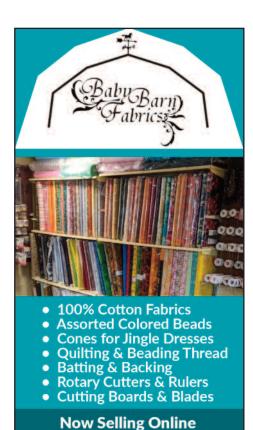
Trustworthy protectors of my family and free speech Causal acquaintances who cook meals for my sick child My neighbor's warm hand, open arms, unlocked door

Yes, New Brunswick's special people, that is New Brunswick to me!











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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 the Harvest Issue of Giv'er, which comes out in August, is July 26.



The View from Esgenoopetitj by Nelton Dedam.



A Swallowtail Butterfly enjoying the spring flowers. Photo by Laura Lea Comeau of Derby.



A Ladies Slipper Orchid dancing in the forest, in her fancy hat by Stacy Underhill.



This young fox spent some time resting under my deck in Oak Point by Fernand Maltais.



A Hummingbird in the Rhodendrum by Fernand Maltais of Oak Point.



A Goldfinch and a Hummingbird enjoying each others company over lunch. Photo by Cindy MacLean.



**Above/Right:** Butterflies enjoying Lilac blossoms. The four photos on the bottom of this page are by Edna Moorhouse, a frequent contributer to our magazine who enjoys capturing the beauty of the wildlife, birds and flowers around her home.







**Left:** Mourning Doves "Sitting Pretty" **Above:** Beautiful spring blossoms. Both by by Edna Moorhouse.

# We Pray For You - **Prayer Initiative** by the Miramichi Seventh-day Adventist Church

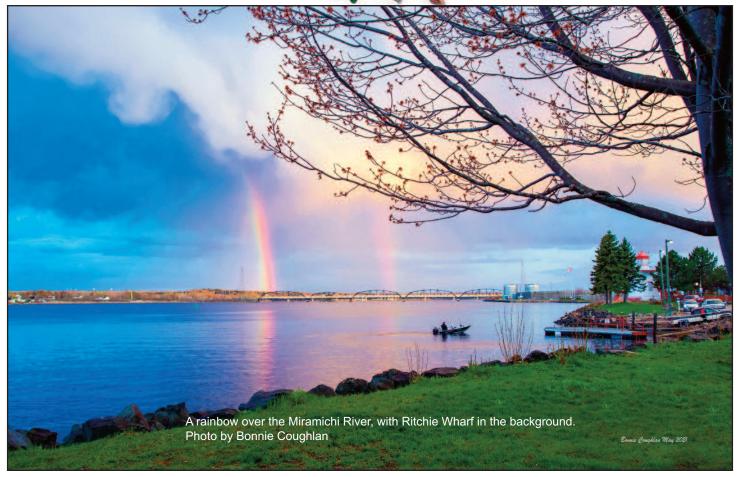
In May of this year a new initiative was launched for the people of Miramichi: they will be able to leave prayer requests on our PrayerWall and people will pray for them. A website was launched that people will be able to use and it will direct them to the PrayerWall: www.miramichiprayer.net

Prayer requests can be left anonymously or people may opt to identify themselves. In any case, they will not be contacted for anything afterwards. Yet, our PrayerWall offers the possibility to receive an email saying that people are praying for them (the email is automatically generated).

Anyone can leave prayer requests and because such requests are moderated before being displayed on the site, we make sure that names of people (especially children) or inappropriate posts from scammers will not be displayed. We prefer to use the initials to identify people for which to pray for, instead of their full names.

This initiative will be ongoing and is offered graciously with no strings attached







# **How Does Your Garden Grow?** Gardeners, send in your photos.

Its time to show off your garden! We know you put a lot of love and attention into your flower gardens and we've seen you out there taking photos! In the August issue of Giv'er magazine we'll have a section called *How Does Your Garden Grow*, and will be accepting photo submissions up until July 26. Photos may be of your entire garden, or a close-up of your favorite bloom. Vegetable gardens are welcome too!

Send your photos to submit@mcgmedia.net with *Garden Photos* in the subject line. In the body of the email type your name, where you live, and a brief description of the photo. Maximum photo submission is three per person. Photos should be high resolution meaning not re-sized or reduced for emailing (check your phone/ipad settings, some will reduce photos automatically when sending). If you're not sure, email us a question! Deadline is July 26.

### Help Monarch Butterflies in Your Community

By growing food sources for monarch butterflies (flower nectar) and caterpillars (milkweed), you can help declining populations of monarchs while enjoying a beautiful and iconic visitor to your garden.

Visit the site www.naturenb.ca/monarchs to download the brochure *Make your Garden Monarch Friendly*, along with other resources on Identifying Milkweed and Monarchs.

Plant milkweed in your community to help provide habitat for Monarch butterflies. Sign-up to receive a fee packet of milkweed seeds at: www.naturenb.ca/milkweed







This colouring page of "Summer Houses" was drawn by local artist Laura Lea Comeau





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# **Battery & Cellphone Recycling Program**

Help divert hazardous waste from the landfill; increase the quantity of batteries and cell phones recycled by following these three steps.



# 2 SAFELY STORE



Store in a non-metal container

## 3 RECYCLE!



Safely and responsibly recycle your batteries and cell phones

### **ACCEPTED FOR RECYCLING:**

- Consumer batteries (less than 5 kg)
- Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd),
- Nickel Metal Hybride (Ni-MH),
- Nickel Zinc (Ni-Zn),
- Lithium Ion (Li-Ion),

- Small Sealed Lead Acid (SSLA/Pb),
- Lithium Primary,
- Alkaline (AA, AAA, 9V, etc),
- Cellphones and their batteries.

Visit our website or contact us for a list of drop off sites located in the region.



