



The River Round Up

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Richmond County Salutes Mike

The Municipality of the County of Richmond recently honored River Bourgeois native Mike McPhee at the opening of the Annual Richmond Academy Hockey Tournament held on December 1, 2000 at the Richmond Arena in Louisdale.



Louis Digout, Chief Administrative Officer for the Co. of Rich. listed highlights of Mike's academic and athletic career. A plaque was presented to Mike and a large picture designed by Colin MacDougall saluting Mike McPhee as the County's most famous NHL star was unveiled by Stanley McPhee and Richmond Deputy Warden James Goyetche.

The official puck dropping by Mike followed the unveiling. A reception followed in Mike's honor.

The picture will remain at Richmond Arena and depicts Mike's commitment to education "as a goal everyone can achieve."

The community of River Bourgeois recognizes Mike McPhee as their goodwill ambassador. Congratulations to his Mom and Dad, Monica and Stan McPhee, for their role in his

success.



Anniversary Celebrations

On December 10, Father Sandy Mac Neil held a special mass at St. John The Baptist Church for all couples that celebrated milestone anniversaries in the year 2000. Following mass a dinner was hosted by the CWL at the Tara Lynne Centre.

Celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary were Victor & Evelyn Burke and Frank & Blanche Andrews; 55th-Alexander and Emilda Burke; 40th: Michael and Joan Owens, Leonard and Mary Cecelia Burke, & Leo and Agnes Fougere; 25th: Michael and Annabel Boudreau, Warren and Deborah Burke, Glen and Annette Sampson, John and Deborah Fougere, Hugh and Doreen Samson, John and Doris Brown & David and Glenda Sampson.

Special recognition was given to Joseph and Margaret Bouchard (57yrs.), Roy and Caroline Truman (58yrs.), and James and Caroline Sampson (67yrs.). Congratulations go out to all these couples on behalf of the community.

On a similar note Russell Fougere sends us the following: In January of 1950- the Parish Chronicle reported five couples celebrating their anniversaries: Mr. & Mrs. Dosithe Landry (60th), Mr. & Mrs. Aimee Landry (58th), Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Digout & Mr. & Mrs. Abram Landry (56th), and Mr. & Mrs. Firmin Burke (50th).

Children's Christmas Party

Donna Landry and her organizing committee with the support of the RBCSS held their annual Christmas Party at the community centre for children up to age 12 with an afternoon of hotdogs, pop, treats and a special visit from Santa Claus.



Pictured above are Santa and his elves and all time kid at heart Ed Pottie asking Santa for some toys even though he has not been such a good boy of late.

Richmond County Seniors Club

Almost all surrounding communities have a seniors club where members gather to hold monthly meetings, Sunday night card games, periodic cribbage game, mini bingos and special events.

Monica Stone and Bob Pettigrew from the RB Senior's Club are representatives on the Richmond County Council for Seniors. Meetings are held in different areas and discussions deal mainly with senior's rights. Information received from the National Federation is forwarded to all members such as help available from the government, etc. The main issue of concern to seniors now focuses on the rights of grandparents. A resolution to the effect that when a divorce occurs, grandparents still have visiting rights to children was sent to the convention in Sydney. Items of interest to seniors presently are the Low Income Fuel Assistance Program from the NS Government. This program offers a one-time \$50.00 rebate to users of propane or heating oil. It is available to seniors on Guaranteed Income

Supplement and/or Spouses Allowance as well as persons receiving Social Assistance, single parents with net income below \$9,500 or a family with a net income below \$16,500. For information and application forms call toll free 1-800-670-4357. Deadline to submit applications is January 31, 2001. There is also a Property Tax Rebate available in the Province of Nova Scotia for qualifying seniors. Toll free number is 1-877-296-9338 for information.

Youth Report

The past few months have been very busy for the youth in River Bourgeois. November 26 saw 11 confirmation candidates visit Talbot House in Sydney. Barry Boudreau, Chris Beaton, Katie Touesnard, Marc Digout, TJ Burke, Krista Dorey, Daphne LeBlanc, Edward MacNamara, Heidi Stone, Steven Filion, and Michelle Sampson were confirmed by Bishop Colin Campbell at St. John the Baptist Church on November 28. The mass was followed by a CWL sponsored reception at the Tara Lynne Community Centre where the youth were presented with plaques and certificates. A very special thank you to the CWL members is in order.

The Richmond Academy students enjoyed a Christmas Ball on December 14 while students from East Richmond Education Centre entertained friends and family with their Christmas Concert. A Christmas Party for youth under 12 was held at the Tara Lynne Centre followed by a Christmas Concert in the evening featuring many of our youth members. MC was Tasha Lynn Burke who did a terrific job. Thanks Kim Landry for a job well done in directing the Christmas pageant.

The 825 Silver Dart Squadron continued their fund raising activities with a Pot Luck Supper and Ticket Draw. Money raised helps to offset travel costs.

The RB 4-H Club elected a new executive in December. Congratulations to President-Cheryl Stone, Vice President-Holly Stone, Secretary-Michelle Sampson, Treasurer-Matthew Landry and Club Reporter-Jennifer Stone. Thanks for a job well done by our outgoing President-Heidi Stone. Any youth who would like to contribute information to this section please phone Michelle at 535-3141 or email nakita_12@hotmail.com.

Christmas Liturgies

The true spirit of Christmas was evident in the community by the large attendance at Church

services. The family mass at St. John the Baptist Church was made extra special with the addition of the children's choir and their dramatization of The Christmas Story. We understand Tasha Lynn Burke, Debbie Landry, and Maria DeWolfe spent many hours preparing the youth. Midnight mass was preceded by half an hour of carolling by the Senior Choir and their voices combined with Father Sandy's Mass made for a meaningful Christmas celebration. Unfortunately we do not have a picture of the choir from this year but due to the efforts of Gerry Fougere we bring you one from 1980. A lot of faces are familiar.



Pictured above are: 4th row: Delore Burke, Josephine Morrison, Joan Viscount, Dorothy Landry, Deirdre Boyd, 3rd Row: Therese Pottie, Rita Sampson, Joan Owens, Mary Touesnard, 2nd Row: Caroline Sampson, Ethel Stone, Lily Smith, 1st Row: Leda Konning, Lucille Boudreau, Mathilda Boudreau, Anne Sampson, Lynn MacNamara, and Vera Landry.

Christmas Bird Count

The CBC for St. Peter's & area was held on December 27. It is the oldest and largest wildlife survey in the world, started by the Audubon Society in 1900. Individual birds and species are counted in a 15-mile diameter circle over a 24-hour period. Results are tabulated by the NS Bird Society for international records. The local count was started by Eva and Murdock Digout of St. Peters with the help of A.O. MacLean, Katherine Robertson and Aloysius Burke in the 1950's. This year, Billy (Murdock's son) organized the count and Murdock served lunch to the field birders. About 60 species were counted including a rare Ivory Gull.

Deaths

Sympathy is extended to family and friends of Theresa (Sampson) Touesnard who passed away December 12, 2000 in Halifax. Theresa was a sister of Florence Sampson of River Bourgeois and Vincent Sampson of St. Peters.

Technology & Training Centre

The Cap site reopened for public access on January 2nd. Many thanks to all our dedicated volunteers who have made it possible for the site to be open on a regular basis. Come and view our new software that we now have-Paint Shop Pro 7 and Mavis Beacon 11 (keyboarding program). The public hours for January are: Mon to Thurs 2-4 & 6-9 and Sat 1-4. The exception to this will be the nights when classes take place: Jan 10, 15, 17, & 22. Computer classes will begin Jan 8th. Courses being offered in Jan & Feb are Intro to Computers, MS Word and MS Excel. For course information and times check the web site at <http://www3.ns.sympatico.ca/rbcap/>

~History Notes~

Excerpts from The Parish Chronicle of 1950:

- May 5 saw the opening of the Parish Hall.
- October 19, our grand old man, Charles Fougere, celebrated his 101st birthday.
- Louis Burke, Gerard & Fraser Boyd have joined the Polar Bear Club and have had their first dip in the ocean on December 23 when their boat capsized on the river. Marie Boyd attempted a rescue but her boat leaked and so did her boots. Fred Robertson affected the rescue and when it was announced that the boys were safe, Marie exclaimed "Maudit! I knew the rosary we said would do it."

Bits & Bites!

- The Christmas Concert held on December 17th raised \$213 for our Christmas baskets. Twenty families received baskets from CWL & RBCSS.
- Regular Meeting of RB Community Services will be held on Wednesday, January 17 at 7 p.m. at Comm. Centre.
- We welcome Michelle Sampson as our new Junior Editor.
- Suggestions for Round Up may be emailed to rbcap@ns.sympatico.ca or call Joe at 535-2677, or Sharon at 535-3516.
- Happy New Year to one and all!

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