



# The River Round Up

---

Volume 2

Number 3

MARCH 2001 \$1.00

---

## Grandma's House

Peter Mac Lean built Grandma's house in 1900 for Charles and Mena Pottie. It was originally built as a country store but it was better known for selling spirits than flour. Charlie [rumor has it] fled to Black River and sold the house to Simon and Laura Burke. They in turn sold it to Helen and William Robinson and then they sold it to Wilfred Pottie. Rose and Tom Scott purchased it in 1993 and started it as a bed and breakfast. It was called Grandma's House because Laura Burke was Rose's grandmother. In 1999 its current owners, Glyn and Sharon Chilvers purchased the house and they continue to operate it as a Bed and Breakfast.



Grandma's House is open year round and breakfast has been served to guests from as far away as Korea, Japan, Russia, Australia and many other parts of the world. The house specialty is blueberry pancakes and over twenty five hundred were made last year. A Franciscan monk holds the record with fourteen and a nine year old from Quebec ate eleven and exclaimed, "I think I am getting full". It is a business where you must enjoy people because everyday you get new ones and they come from all

walks of life. Sitting on the swing and having wonderful conversations are definitely the highlights of summer evenings. Stories of how they survived concentration camps, war torn countries and famine sure makes one appreciate what a great place we live in. Grandma's is an ideal place to stay for friends and relatives visiting the area. *Sharon Chilvers*

---

## Youth Report

It has been a busy month for the youth in River Bourgeois. First and foremost I would like to express my congratulations to the 824 Silver Dart Cadet Squadron, drill team. They won the Regional Competition for the seventh year in a row. Ann McNamara, Edward McNamara, TJ Burke, Randy Touesnard and Matthew Touesnard from River Bourgeois are on the team. They will be competing in Halifax the third week in March for the provincial title. Good luck!

February 18<sup>th</sup> was a fun filled day, as the River Bourgeois 4-H Club held their annual winter carnival. Activities included a water boiling contest and a tug of war in the snow. Obviously the cold weather of -15C didn't cool down the 4-H spirit.

Speaking of Winter Carnival, EREEC, St. Peters Middle School and Richmond Academy all held their winter carnival in the past month. This was the first year in a long time that there were many snow related activities that everyone enjoyed.

At Richmond Academy, our teams are working hard to bring home banners...and it's working! Our hockey team won regionals, and will be hosting provincials at the end of this month! Barry Boudreau, Steven Filion, Chris Filion, Peter Tanner, Drew Fougere and Peter Landry from River Bourgeois are all on the team.

The boy's basketball team is also going to provincials. They will be competing in Amherst the first weekend in March.

The Richmond Academy power cheerleaders are also performing now. They did a performance for the grades 9 & 10 students and for EREEC during winter carnival. Their latest performance was at the first ever Richmond Academy Pep Rally, to wish the basketball players good luck. Katie Touesnard and Michelle Sampson are part of the team.

March break will take place March 12 to 16<sup>th</sup>.  
Hope everyone enjoys the week off. *Michelle Sampson*

## Births

BEAULIEU-Nicolas Patrick born Feb. 6 in Hamilton.  
Son of Alison Boyd and

"JF" Beaulieu. Grandson of Deirdre and Blaise Boyd.

BOUDREAU-Grace Evelyn born Feb. 27 in Halifax.  
Daughter of Brenda and Darren Boudreau.  
Granddaughter of Gloria and Whitney Boudreau.

CLOW-Ailyn Anne born Feb. 26 in Halifax.  
Daughter of Sherry and Charles Clow.  
Granddaughter of Anne and Dave Clow and great granddaughter of May MacPhee.

FORBRIGGER-Michael Jeffrey born Jan. 18 of  
Dartmouth. Son of Carol Digout and Robert  
Forbrigger. Grandson of Sharon and George Digout.

LANDRY-Benjamin Earl born Jan. 24 in Edmonton.  
Son of Ronald and Erin

Landry. Grandson of Vera and the late George  
Landry and great grandson of Rita  
Landry.

---

## Anniversary

Congratulations to AJ (Pap) and Beatrice Landry on  
the occasion of their 25th anniversary.

---

## Deaths

Our sympathy is extended to family and friends of  
John Pentecost who died suddenly on February 1.  
John was born in Sydney Mines but lived in River  
Bourgeois for some years. John was a brother to  
Anne (Joe) Sampson and Edward (Mary) Pentecost .

---

## CWL News

The CWL [2000] annual meeting was held Sunday,  
February 25<sup>th</sup> following 10a.m. mass celebrated by  
Fr. Sandy Mac Neil assisted by CWL members as  
altar servers, lectors and Eucharistic ministers.  
Following mass Peter, Emily and Amanda LeBlanc  
served a delicious meal at the Tara Lynne  
Community Centre. The meeting followed with

opening remarks by President Marlaine Burke. She  
thanked all for their assistance throughout the year.  
Certificates of Merit were presented to Joseph Doary,  
Tasha Lynn Burke, Pete Pederson and Maureen  
Cosman-Burke in recognition and appreciation of  
services rendered both for the community and  
church.

Convenor reports recounted our Council's  
charitable activities affecting people locally,  
nationally as well as globally.

A minute of silence was observed in honor of  
Geline Doary, Cecile Touesnard and Theresa  
Touesnard dedicated members who passed away this  
past year. At the end of the meeting our secret sisters  
were revealed and stories as to how gifts of flowers,  
baked goods, stuffed animals, etc. arrived at various  
homes created lots of laughter.

We welcomed new member Pamela Owens-  
Sampson. Sharon Digout was presented with her 10-  
year pin

The Council work now begins for the year 2001.  
Next meeting is on Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup>

Our bake-less bake sale raised \$711.00, which was  
donated to the earthquake relief fund. A sincere  
thanks to all community members who supported this  
project. *Eleanor Pederson*

---

## History Notes

The River Round Up, March 18, 1959 "What  
might have been a tragic incident was prevented last  
week when young Peter LeBlanc, son of Mr. and Mrs.  
Fred LeBlanc while sliding in the harbor ice fell into  
a hole in the ice. The accident occurred near his  
home, off what was known as the factory wharf  
where the heavy tide undermines the ice. Peter, who  
was alone at the time, was out over his head but  
managed to hold onto a piece of ice.

His screams were heard on the opposite side of the  
River where Jim Boucher and Fraser Boyd were  
working on an engine. Without waiting they both  
made for the place where Peter was but before they  
reached there, Peter's father who had also heard his  
cries had pulled him out."

---

## 1871 Census

Today, genealogy is a common practice consuming  
hours of a person's time as they attempt to unearth  
the past records of their families and relatives. Last  
year several communities in Richmond County were  
exposed to the first Genealogy Summit. Several  
communities have recently witnessed family reunions  
as those who endeavor to cultivate an interest in  
genealogy research gather to explore their roots.

In 1991 a group of interested individuals completed a project to index the 1871 Census of Richmond County. These individuals included Phyllis Wagg, Karen MacKay, Leland Harvey, Jemma MacKay, and Ross MacKay. Their work resulted in a publication entitled "Index 1871 Census Richmond County, Nova Scotia". For those unfamiliar with this 1871 census, it was compiled into 13 sections with four of those sections having two divisions. The community of River Bourgeois is listed as Section I with 964 individuals listed.

The first family from River Bourgeois in this census was the Berange family, which was listed as Family #51 residing in Dwelling #50. The oldest member was John, age 64, who was listed as a widower according to the records. His children were: John, age 28; William, age 26; Alexander F., age 25; Mary, age 22; Elizabeth, age 19; and Peter D., age 17.

Garvey Samson in his book "The River That Isn't" details the educational achievements of John Beranger who was known locally as Bruno and was noted for being the first professional educator to be paid from public funds. He had been a young postulate monk from France attending the trappist monastery in Tracadie. He opened his first school in L'Ardoise on July 25, 1825 and one in River Bourgeois a few years later under the patronage of Rev. Julian Courteau.

## Stella Maris School



Back Row Left to Right: David Boudreau, Eddie Fougere, Alfred Boudreau, and Maynard Boyd  
 Middle Row Left To Right: Gerald Robertson, Louis Bona, Wally Bona, George Boyd, Theophile Bouchie, Garvey Sampson  
 Front Row Left To Right: Veronica Sampson, Germaine Digout, Leona MacDonald, Gladys Landry, Patsy Sampson, Monica Burke, Emily Burke, Mimi Fougere, Yvonne Digout.

Pictured above are the 1954-55 grade's ten and eleven class of the Stella Maris School. These students were the first graduates from the school,

which opened in 1954 to go on to St. Peter's for grade 12. Teacher for that year was Sr. Ann Joseph of the Daughters of Jesus.

### BITS & Bites!

- Congratulations to Stephen Burke, son of Marlaine and Albert of the South Side. Stephen who graduated with his MSC in Environmental Engineering at the University of LUND in Sweden was accepted to their PhD program in Building Physics as of Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. Stephen's proud grandmother is Lucille DeWolfe.
- We also wish to congratulate Constable Esther Bourque, daughter of Ernest and Margaret of Church Point on her graduation from the RCMP training academy in Regina. Esther has been posted to Milestone, Sask.
- Local volunteers to be honored at the next Volunteer Recognition Banquet hosted by the Municipality of Richmond in April are: Tasha Lynn Burke representing the Community Services Society; Mary Cosman, the CWL and Cletus Touesnard, the Parish Council. River Bourgeois is lucky to have so many talented people who give of their time and talents to local organizations. We are aware that there are other nominees and will post them in our April issue.
- Annual meeting of the River Bourgeois Community Services Society will be held on March the 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.
- RB [C@P](http://rbcap@ns.sympatico.ca) site will be open regular hours for the month of March. There will be no further courses offered until April. Anyone wishing to order books from the Eastern Counties Regional library can do so online through the CAP site. We still have for sale note cards picturing the River.
- We appreciate all your great comments and suggestions. If we haven't used them yet, they will be coming. Any new ones contact us at [rbcap@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:rbcap@ns.sympatico.ca) or call Sharon at 535-3516 or Joe at 535-2677.
- The Round Up is available at Howard's Grocery or First Richmond Credit Union for \$1.00 and subscriptions are available for \$12.00 per year.

*Published monthly by: River Bourgeois Technology & Training Centre in cooperation with River Bourgeois Community Services Society. Eds: Sharon Digout, Michelle Sampson, and Joseph MacPhee. Thanks to Sherry Baccardax for all her help.*