



The River Round Up

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River Bourgeois Reigning Queen



Mae MacPhee being chauffeured on her big day by Steven Burke.

Marguerite (Mae) Marie Burns (MacPhee), the oldest of eleven children was born in Louisdale in 1913. Little did her parents think on that day that a future queen was born. As a teenager Mae went to work in Arichat and Mulgrave as a housekeeper. Being a great cook Mae felt her talents were wasted at housekeeping and went to work at the Cozy Corner as their “chef”.

In October 1942 at the wedding of his friends Margaret and Alfred Richard, Mae captured the eye of a local handsome fellow from Hawker named Leo MacPhee. From that day forward Leo became a regular at the Cozy Corner and besides liking the apple and lemon pies, he was quite infatuated with the beautiful red headed “Barraco”. Peter Pottie recalls seeing his Uncle Leo all decked up in a suit and hat boarding the Eddy Gordon Bus at False Bay and always sitting alongside this beautiful lady. He wondered who she was and why his uncle was always heading west. Finally Peter figured it out (he wasn't the smartest nephew) when Leo took Mae as his bride.

When Mae moved to the River she not only cooked for the love of her life but also for her father-in-law Simon, brother in-law Elias who lived in the

household and many others. Davy Touesnard stopped for tea and pie during his break from driving the bus between the 1st and 2nd mass, Joe Kyte on his rounds, Jimmy one cent (Pettipas), Ceretha MacLellan on her mail deliveries and the meat man, Stan Pettipas, from D'Ecousse were among the many visitors. Christmas was a special time for Mae when she baked meat pies and desserts for several bachelors in the area. Compliments got you seconds.

Following 52 years of marriage and two children Ann and Norman, Leo passed away in 1998. Mae has six grandchildren and six great grandchildren all four years of age and under with the latest being Benjamin Alexander born June 6th.

Mae joined the CWL forty-nine years ago and has been a member since its initiation in our parish in 1953 and is also a member of the 50+ club. She loves to socialize and was an avid card player of auction and forty-five and a member of the Knitting club. Mae was also a great sport and in 1989 at the age of 76 was crowned River Bourgeois Festival Queen in the over forty category. She has been the reigning Queen now for thirteen years and hopes that they have another pageant soon while she is still able to go on stage to crown the new queen. She does not wish to reign as long as Elizabeth 11.

In early 1998 Mae was diagnosed with Alzheimers but still functions quite well. She lives with daughter Ann and her husband Dave and at almost 89 years of age insists on climbing the front steps of the church as the side doors are only for “old “people. Best Wishes Mae. *Sharon Chilvers*

Medicine Factory

Edith Mae Burke's long-time wish was fulfilled this past spring when her son Richard built a replica of the original Medicine Factory that was located on the homestead in River Tillard.

Richard's grandfather, John P Burke, built the original medicine factory. The first Hermit

Medications were produced in 1917, the same year the trademark "The Hermit Mfg. Co." was registered. The replica is located on the exact location as the original; on part of the old # 4 highway in River Tillard that was bypassed when the road was upgraded.



John P Burke produced *Hermit Liniments and Salves* from recipes provided to him from the German Trappists Monks when they left Monastery to return to Germany. *The Hermit Eczema Cure* was used for cuts, burns, chapped skin, cold sores, piles and proud flesh. Included in the box with the salve were written testimonials from users of his products, many of whom were from River Bourgeois. *Larkspur Lotion* was made for Pearo's, W.R. Pearo, Chemist & Druggist located in St. Peters. This was used to "effectively destroy nits and parasites in the hair". Many of our older community members remember using these products. The products were sold in other parts of Cape Breton. Gerald Touesnard & Anthony Sampson were commissioned agents for Inverness County.

The replica of the medicine factory was rebuilt using old lumber from Morrison's store and an old shed that John P Burke had built (This was located on Tussie Morrison's property in River Tillard.) Both Morrisons Store and this shed were being torn down and Richard saw this as the way to rebuild the old factory as authentically as possible. The windows were rebuilt using glass from the oldest windows from Morrison's store. The imperfections in the glass clearly date the era of the glass. The old shingles stripped from Morrison's store were put on the medicine factory reversed due to the extreme weathering. The factory measured 12 feet 6 inches x 14 feet 6 inches and was equipped with a pot belly stove, shelves, jars, labels, desk, butter churn, typewriter and stationary. The replica will also contain a pot belly stove (obtained from Morrison's

store), samples of the medications and 200 of the blue liniment bottles found in their original trunks inside the old factory.

During the years when Xavier Burke's (son of John P) children were growing up, they remember many carefree days spent in the old factory. Richard recalls seeing trunks of labels but these were not preserved. When he was tearing down the old factory he found 3 dolls under the floorboards. These belonged to Rosemary (younger sister), Joan and Ann Morrison (Arthur & Tussie) and were testimonials to the conversion of the medicine factory to a playhouse.

River Bourgeois is rich in history and a sincere thank you goes out to Richard for his perseverance, dedication, hard work and commitment to the preservation of our past. *Glenda Sampson*

Note: The Medicine Factory can be viewed in its original location. First left off the River Tillard entrance to the Grand Gully Road. Exterior viewing only as interior is not complete.

Grade 8 graduation awards

The following River Bourgeois students graduated from grade 8 this week and as is usual an award night was held: Joseph Baccardax, Alisha Burke, Sally Burke, Rebecca Landry, Ashley Stone and Randy Touesnard

Joseph Baccardax- (Sherry & Peter) received the following *Certificates*- 2nd place for Tec Ed CO2 drag racer-Effort in achievement/Language Arts; Effort in Tec Ed. and Outstanding achievement in Family Studies.

Sally Burke- (Linda & Basil) received the following: *Trophy* -Highest Achievement Grade 8(English) *Certificates*-2nd highest achievement in French-2nd Highest achievement in Language Arts-1st place Social Studies-*Highest Achievement* Science and a Music award.

Alisha Burke (Maureen & Neil) won the *Trophy* for Perfect Attendance and Highest Achievement Grade 8(French Immersion).

Ashley Stone (Sharon & Ricky) won a trophy for excellent effort in all subjects and certificates for cooperation in all studies as well as for effort and participation in Grade 8 Speller.

All Grade 8 students went to Murray's Beach on Tuesday June 25th. Some hardy souls went into the water for a swim, others enjoyed playing ball and tossing Frisbee on the beach, afterwards everyone enjoyed a BBQ upon returning to the school. *Rebecca Landry*

Graduation Night

June 26 was a special night for the grade 12 class of Richmond Academy. Ten students from River Bourgeois shared this special night with their family

and friends. The night was a huge success; over \$151,000 was awarded to students of Richmond Academy. Out of this sum of money, our students did very well.



Top left: Alison Boudreau, Rhonda Pottie, Jennifer Fougere, Kari Burke & Sharlene Burke. Bottom left: Holly Stone, Ann McNamara, Matthew Landry, Tracy Baker. Missing from picture are Daniela Bardenz & T.J. Burke.

Tracy Baker (Janet & Lawrence) who will be attending NSCC Strait Campus next year to take Industrial Mechanical. She received \$250 from the Branch 47 Legion. Matthew Landry (Debbie & Michael) will also be attending the NSCC Strait Campus to take welding. He received \$800 worth of bursaries. Jennifer Fougere (Valerie & Mike) will be going to St. F.X. in the fall in a BA program, with future plans to go into law. Jennifer received \$500 from the East Richmond Credit Union. Ann McNamara (Yvonne & George) will be heading off to St. FX also. She is taking a BA in science and plans on going into nursing. Ann received \$1000 in scholarships. Holly Stone (Jocelyn & the late Lloyd) plans on going to Dalhousie University next September to take her BA in Science to go on to dental hygiene. Holly received a \$500 entrance scholarship and \$700 in bursaries. Alison Boudreau (Lynn & Wayne) also plans on going to Dalhousie next year, and will be taking kinesiology. Alison received a \$20,000 entrance scholarship, a \$8000 scholarship from the IOF, and another \$1900 in bursaries. Sharlene Burke (Debbie & Warren) plans on attending Holland College next year to take culinary arts. Kari Burke (Josephine and Chuck) will be attending NSCC to study to be a Para legal. Rhonda Pottie (Cynthia & Leonard) plans on joining the work force and Daniela Bardenz (Sigrid & Peter) will be attending St.F.X. University in the fall.

TJ Burke (Theresa & Larry) was also awarded on graduation night. He received the Lieutenant Governors award. This is awarded to one male and one female student in grade 11 every year that shows academic excellence as well as leadership and good standing in the school.

You made it class of 2002! Congratulations to everyone in your achievements, and best of luck in all you do in the future. *Michelle Sampson*

River Bourgeois 4H Club (History)

The 4H was the brainchild of Glenda Sampson, Anne Sampson and Hughie Samson during a Com. School Assoc. meeting in the spring of 1981 when attempting to find things for RB youth to do.

Having been in 4H for ten years in Sampsonville Glenda became the club's first "General Leader". Other first year's leaders were Maureen Cosman-Burke who taught sewing; Doris Brown and Debbie Carter were responsible for teaching crafts; Clifford Touesnard and Peter LeBlanc taught wood working while cooking fell into the expert hands of Delores Roberts; Josephine Burke and Anne Sampson and Hughie Samson taught photography. There were 68 children age nine and over participating in the program the first year. The leaders not only taught the children their own skills but also community involvement, participation, raising funds and self-confidence. In 1988 the Clover Buds (Children under nine-usually those of the leaders) joined forces with the 4H and in 1989 there were eighty-two children from RB that participated in the program. The leaders carpoled the members and took them to competitions around Rich. Co., Cape Breton Island and to the yearly provincial shows in all parts of NS. Over the years a lot more expertise was provided to the youth, including Livestock taught by Edward Touesnard; Cake Decorating by Margaret Burke; Fisheries by Ervin Touesnard; Outdoorsman by Ross Bennett and Gardening by Ricky Stone.

Since 1981 there have been many leaders of our community who were instrumental in guiding our youth in 4H. Anne Sampson lead the way with teaching for 18 yrs; Peter LeBlanc 17 yrs; Glenda Sampson 16 yrs; Lorraine Gates 13 yrs; Doreen Samson 12 yrs; Stella Doutaz 11 yrs; Margaret Burke, Janice Touesnard and Edward Touesnard 9 yrs; Hughie Samson, Donna and Debbie Landry 8 yrs each. Many others have also guided the RB children and all should be thanked for their years of service.

The Richmond County Leaders Council owns and oversees the operation of Camp Rankin where the kids meet for competitions and where the 4H youths from all parts of NS can spend a week in the summer. Edward Touesnard is the current President of this Council, Peter LeBlanc is Treasurer and has been on this council for the past 21 yrs and Glenda Sampson has served as both President and Secretary.

General Leaders also play an intricate part in the process led by Stella Doutaz who served six terms while Lorraine Gates served five. Today there are eleven 4H members under the direction of General

Leader Debbie Landry; however, the same skills are applied today as they were twenty-two years ago. With Debbie's leadership the 4H will continue for many more years and our youth will continue to reap the benefits. Thanks to Lorraine Gates for supplying the stats.

Sharon Chilvers

Weddings

This year June was definitely a good month for weddings. Our congratulations to all of the following couples.

Boudreau/MacLeod: Bruce Gerard Boudreau, son of Lucille and Buddy Boudreau, was married to Judy Sarah MacLeod, daughter of the late John & Sadie MacLeod of Lewis Cove on June 15th in St. Peter's.

Bourque/Landry: Vera Patricia Landry, daughter of the late Augustine & Annie McNamara, and Basil Conrad Bourque, son of Ernie & Margaret Bourque, were married on June 22nd in St. John the Baptist Church.

Burke/Sampson: Kimberley Ann, daughter of Emma & Gary Burke, and Louis Michael Sampson, son of Margaret Sampson and the late Patrick Sampson of Sampsonville were married in St. John the Baptist Church on June 29th.

Landry/Pelly: Janice Marie, daughter of Anne & Danny Landry was married to Michael Joseph, son of Wayne & Carol Pelly of Enfield in St. John the Baptist Church on June 29th.

Births And Adoptions

Boudreau-Benjamin Alexander Boudreau weighing 6lbs11 oz was born in Halifax on June 6th, 2002 to Mary & Perry Boudreau. Congratulations to mom and dad and proud grandparents Anne & David Clow; Gloria & Whitney Boudreau; great grandma Mae MacPhee and his big brother Sam.

Cunningham: In May, Valerie and Tim Cunningham traveled to Jiangxi Province in China to meet their long awaited daughter, Brenna Liguang. Brenna was adopted on May 19th and was welcomed in RB on May the 31st. She celebrated her 1st birthday on June 3rd. Congratulations to Brenna, Valerie and Tim. Very proud grandparents are Theresa and Robert Kyte of RB and Meredith Vickery of Yarmouth.

Deaths

Burke-Hilda Marie, age 84, daughter of the late Joseph D. and Virginia (Landry) Burke passed away June 3rd at the Strait Richmond Hospital. Our condolences to her sister Sarah Digout and all her nieces and nephews. Her sisters Alma, Maria and Nellie predeceased Hilda.

Hilton-Mary Margaret, 66, died in Halifax on June 16th. Our sympathy goes out to her family especially her sister Anne (Alfred Touesnard). Margaret was the daughter of the late George and Catherine (MacDonald) Murphy of Barra Head.

Bits & Bites

- Happy Canada Day to all!! Festivities start at the Tara Lynne Centre at 1:30pm, July 1st.
- We welcome Fr. Zbigniew Siemionow as the new priest of St. John the Baptist Parish.
- The Capsite is going to publish the Bulletin for the summer months. Anyone wishing to place an announcement can drop them off at the Capsite after 11 am before Thurs of the appropriate week, email rbcap@ns.sympatico.ca or phone Jackie at 535-3251.
- Congratulations to the following RB teachers who are retiring in June: George A. Landry Raymond Doary; Marguerite MacDonald; Joe MacPhee and Tina Touesnard.
- Arlene Pelley was the lucky winner of the gardening basket sponsored by the Capsite \$450. was raised and donated to the RBCSS.
- Tennis Lessons at the Community Center will be given every Tues & Thurs at 1-2 pm starting July 9th. Registration on July 4th 11 am-noon.
- Meeting of RBCSS on July 17th at TL Center. Everyone welcome to attend.
- Happy Birthday to Therese Digout, Maurice Landry, Arthur Bouchard & Alice Sampson. Frances Digout called from Calgary and told us that Gerarda Pettipas celebrated her birthday on May 28th (same birthday as Frances). Belated best wishes to Gerarda.
- Anyone wishing to book the TL Centre should call Jocelyn Stone (3257); needing a liquor license for a function call Eddie Pottie (2515) at least a month ahead. For use of the funeral home call Leona or Gerald Campbell at 535-2927.
- The summer hours for the Capsite will be Monday, Thursday & Friday: 9am-12pm & 1pm-4:30pm and Tuesday & Wednesday: 9am-8pm.
- The Round Up is available at Howard's Grocery, First Richmond Credit Union or RB Post Office. Subscriptions are available for \$12.00 locally, \$15.00 within Canada and \$16.50 internationally per year.

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