



The River Round Up

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Madeline and Sandy Libbus



Madeline Dorothy Cook was born in Sydney the oldest of eleven children. She attended school in Sydney until the ninth grade when her parents and siblings moved to Grand River. There she attended the one room Lewis Cove Rd School. It was the only year that the school was open as there were only two students in Lewis Cove prior to the Cook family arrival. Mrs. Latimer taught grades one through nine to eleven children. The following year the elementary children went to the two-room Grand River school and the high school children were bussed to St. Peters. Upon completing her schooling Madeline returned to her roots in Sydney where she held several jobs from cook to working in the fish plant.

In 1957 while attending a friend's wedding Madeline met the man of her dreams, the tall, dark and handsome Charles (Sandy) Libbus of Sydney. On July 1st, 1958 they were wed. Two weeks later Sandy graduated from the Sydney Vocational School as a welder. Work was not always plentiful in Sydney so he traveled to every province across Canada with the exception of Quebec (his French was non-existent) and Manitoba where there was limited construction to work on. During the summer months Madeline packed the camper and the children, which now

numbered four and would go wherever Sandy was working. The children, Calvin and Melissa now living in Alberta and Lavenia and Patsy who both reside in St. Peters, loved camping and Sandy loved the fact that his family was with him (Madeline thinks it was because he hated to cook). Following a stint at the Glace Bay Heavy Water Plant, Sandy was transferred in 1967 to the Heavy Water Plant in Port Hawkesbury. At this time they moved to River Bourgeois and purchased the home on the south side originally owned by Alvina Landry. They later built their own home on the same property. Madeline and Sandy also welcomed another daughter Lorena who now lives in Jacksonville, Florida. They have twelve grandchildren with one more soon to arrive.

When her youngest child was sixteen, Madeline decided to re-enter the workforce. She took business education at the Adult Vocational School in Port Hawkesbury followed by word processing at the Nautical School and business courses through Henson College. In October 1985 she was elected as Councillor for District Seven and three years later as Warden of Richmond County (the first woman in Cape Breton to hold such a position) which she held for nine years. During this time she was also the first woman to serve a full year as President of the Union of NS Municipalities. She served for five years on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Board of Directors and worked along side Jack Layton now Canada's NDP leader. She also served as President of RBCSS for eleven years. As a Justice of the Peace from 1979 she developed an interest in law and in 1988 worked as a volunteer for Island Community Justice Society, the "Young Offenders Program" and upon completing the volunteer program was hired as the Co-Ordinator of the program for Inverness and Richmond County, a position she still holds today as well as being the local Deputy Issuer of Marriage Licenses for the past 22 years.

Sandy retired in 2001 and spent three years renovating his daughter Melissa's house on the south

side (once owned by the Cormier's) and is now in the process of completing his own basement, a project started thirty-two years ago. He enjoys skeet shooting and goes every Sunday to Sydney to shoot and visit his family. Madeline is a master in crafts from quilting to knitting, crocheting, cross stitching, paper toleing to cake decorating. They both spend a great deal of time camping and enjoying life in general. Madeline and Sandy the people of River Bourgeois wish you many more years of good health and happiness. *Sharon Chilvers*

Rich. Academy Achievement Awards



The RB students pictured above were honoured at Rich. Acad. on May 11th. *Far left – Kelsey (Lawrence & Theresa) Burke* (high distinction), **Tara Lynn (Diane Breau) Benoit** (Distinction), **Robyn (Mark & Rose) Merrick** (Distinction), **Sally (Basil & Linda) Burke** (high distinction), **Alisha (Neil & Maureen) Burke** (high distinction), **Ashley (Ricky & Sharon) Stone** (Merit). Missing from photo are: **Molly (Norman & Genevieve) Warner** (distinction), **Nicolas (Glen & Sonia) Touesnard** (distinction), **Kyle (Kelly & Joan) Burke** (Merit), **Patrick (Lloyd and Cynthia) Burke** (Merit).

Seniors getting in shape



Madeline Cook, Flo Sampson, Theresa Kyte, Joan Owens, Joe Boucher and Anne Sampson doing their thing. Photo by Anne Louise Touesnard

The RB Senior's 50+ Club recently expanded their exercise program with the purchase of several pieces of equipment. Thanks to a grant of \$1680 from NS Sports and Recreation the club purchased a Weider

Pro 4900 Gym designed for a full workout. It has two separate weight stacks and three workout stations allowing three people to exercise at the same time. Along with our existing two treadmills, exercise bike, weights, ball and mats with videotapes this new piece makes for a complete program. Any resident (\$5.00 to join) over fifty who wishes to use the club can call Anne Sampson at 2803 for a key. There is no cost however for safety reasons no one is permitted to use the equipment unless they are with at least one other person. Those who do not use exercise equipment on a regular basis please contact your physician for clearance. Stay tuned next month for an update on the Expo and our building repair progress.

Heritage Fair Project



Haley (Gerard and Pamela) Sampson and Shania (Tammy) Boucher did a project on the RB lighthouse for the March 2006 Heritage Fair. The project was done in French because the two children are in French Immersion. They were not prize winners but they had lots of fun. Shania wrote about the old lighthouse and the lighthouse keepers and Haley wrote about the new lighthouse and the opening ceremony. They also made a model as well as the Back Board project which is now on display at the RB Cap Site. *Haley Sampson*

Haley and Shania are in Grade 4 and did not have to do this project but wanted to do it for the fun of it! Thanks from the Cap site committee

Teen in Politics

Jenna LeBlanc is a young lady with big plans. She wants to be the Prime Minister of Canada. "I want to be the first female Prime Minister to serve a full term. The last time there was a female in power was around the time I was born".

LeBlanc is a 14-year old Prince Arthur Junior High School student who knows what she wants and is not afraid to say so. She is a well-spoken teen with a shy smile and tremendous love for all things political. Her dad has always been enthusiastic about politics and it was during the election of 2004 that she became hooked on political commentary. "My father,

would have the radio tuned into the coverage and I have been following it ever since.”

At 13, LeBlanc decided to look for a young Liberal party to join. Although she was disappointed to find out she was too young at that time to join, it did give her the push to make her opinions known. “I got the idea then to call the Rick Howe talk show. I really enjoyed talking on the air knowing that the listeners were paying attention to what I was saying”.

The Rick Howe talk show (a local radio/talk show) loved LeBlanc so much that she was chosen to co-host the show for two hours during March break. They talked about the Canadian troops in Afghanistan and the ultimate fighting competition.

“I held my own for both topics,” she says. LeBlanc also holds her own as a big sister with four younger brothers. She enjoys helping out by providing homework and reading support. “Jenna has been a big supporter of the adoption of her brothers and the foster family responsibilities.” explains her mother Paula. “She has even written a book on adoption for older children that I use to show to prospective foster parents. We are proud of her”.

Although politics are her real passion LeBlanc also volunteers as a student ambassador for the kid’s help phones, does reading at St. Thomas Moore Church and is involved with events associated with the Duke of Edinburgh award. She says she can’t wait to get old enough to really make decisions and have the final say on whatever situation comes up in the political arena. “I wish teens would get involved more in current events. If we could show them how they would be affected then there would be more teen involvement .We are the ones who are going to have the country in our hands so why not find out how we feel about how things should really be run?” *This article appeared in the Dartmouth Weekly news on April 7th We thank Jenna’s grandma Charlotte LeBlanc (her dad is Keith) for the copy.*

First Communion



Bryden, Blake, Michael & Adam

Bryden (Francine and Gary) Fougere, Blake (Jamie & Russell) Morrison, Michael (Colleen & Darren) Stone and Adam (Joyce & John Sampson) received their first communion at a mass celebrated by Fr. Reg

Currie on May 7th .Many thanks to Pamela Sampson who prepared them for this milestone.

University Graduates



Top Left: Alison (Lynn & Wayne) Boudreau graduated on May 24 from Dalhousie University. She received a B.Sc.-Honours in Kinesiology degree graduating with First Class Honours. In the fall she will be going on for a Masters degree in Physiotherapy. *Right Heidi (Sharon & Ricky) Stone* graduated May 19 from Saint Mary's University with a B.A. in French and History. Next year she will be attending St. FX for the B.Ed. program. *Bottom Left - Ann (Yvonne & George) McNamara* graduated May 7 from St. FX with her nursing degree (BScN). She received a \$4000 bursary and will be employed by Capital Health, Halifax beginning June 12. *Holly (Jocelyn and the late Lloyd) Stone* graduated May 19 from Saint Mary's University with a B.A degree in French and History. Next year she will also be attending St. FX in the B.Ed. program.

Congratulations to these students and next month we will have news on more graduates.

RBCSS Annual Meeting

On April 26th the River Bourgeois Community Service Society held their 27th annual meeting. The Board of Directors for the 2006-2007 term are **Chairperson** Sharon Chilvers, **Vice President** Raymond Doary, **Past President** Wayne Bona **Secretary** Ida Poaps, **Treasurer** Monica McPhee , Anne Sampson, Joe MacPhee, Harold Landry, Susan Boudreau, Carl Grimes, Carmen Fougere, Cletus Wedge, Rose Merrick, Irene MacInnis, Allan Touesnard and Linda Richard.

Chairperson's annual report: As we come to the closure of yet another year it is time to reflect on the success of the last few months. Property Service have completed the tiling of the hall basement, replaced all of the heavy tables with new lightweight ones and also purchased one hundred and twenty-five new chairs. A summer student took care of the maintenance of the ball fields, playground and surrounding area. The Youth Development Committee continues to do excellent work for and with our youth. They were busy having the playground land levelled and the placement of new sod. A Gazebo was also installed for the children to play games in. Many more things are in the planning stage for this year. The Economic Development Committee is in the process of installing phase one of RB's new docks. They have also succeeded in some major fund raising. The Bingo committee have experienced a record profit this past year and thanks to the many volunteers who give of their time each week. As a result of extenuating circumstances our festival profits were down but it was not from the lack of effort from the chairpersons. Technology and Training continued with their "Job Re-Entry Program" with an adult trainee and also with a summer student. The River Round Up subscriptions continues to increase each year. In closing I wish to say a special thank you to all of the board members and the community for making River Bourgeois such a pleasant place to live.

Very successful fundraisers.



Harold Davidson (Estwood's son), Rob MacLean & Cyril MacPhee play at Bursary concert. Photo by April Sampson.

In May we had two major fundraisers in River Bourgeois-On the 6th, the "friends of Renee" held a spa day at the seniors bldg. which raised \$2300 for those fighting cancer costs. On the 13th a capacity crowd enjoyed a concert (**ceilidh**) at the TLC to raise funds for the Estwood Davidson bursary fund. Most of the finest artists of Cape Breton performed and of course a cup of tea was served.

Births

Murphy/Touesnard: Mia Jo Ann, 9 lbs. 4oz, was born April 21st to Annette and Darson of Truro.

Congratulations to mom, dad, grandparents Florence and Edward Touesnard and great grand moms Elizabeth Cash and Elizabeth Anne Kennedy

Pottie/Ricalton: Gabrielle Margaret was born on May 24th to Rhonda and Daniel of St. Peters. Congratulations to mom and dad and grandparents Cynthia and Leonard.

Deaths

Fougère: Ronald Joseph "Rene" ,age 72,passed away on May,18th. We express our condolences to his wife, Annette (Pottie) , his daughters; Suzanne and Lisa as well as his sisters Sylvia and Gloria and brothers ; Leo, Conrad, Gordie, Hubert and Roy and all the extended family.

Bits & Bites:

- **Seniors** meeting June 6th 1:30
- **The Walk for life** will be June 4th .Leaving TLC at 1:30.
- At a 7 pm mass on June 12th **twenty of our young people will be confirmed** by Bishop Lahey. Open to all parishioners and it will be followed by lunch at the TLC. If you can donate sandwiches or sweets, call Maureen (2315) or Leona (2927)
- **Capsite** meeting June 14th at 7pm.
- **Seniors** mini bingo Jun 14th 1:30
- **CWL** Meeting (the last one until Sept.) is changed to June 20th (due to election) at 7pm.
- **RBCSS** meeting Jun 28th. 7 pm seniors bldg
- **This years Heritage walk** starts at Boyd's lane and goes to the end of the River on the No. 4.If anyone has any old pictures and are willing to loan them for a day call Heidi at 535-3251.
- If you need someone for housecleaning call Cynthia at 535-2054
- The summer CAP public hours are: Mon, Thurs, Fri-11-4:30, Tues & Wed 12-6 .Phone # is 535-3251, email is rbcap@stpeterscable.com and website is www.stpeterscable.com/~rbcap .
- Anyone wishing to book the Tara Lynne Center call Ann Clow at 535-2726. People requiring use of the Funeral Home call Marie or Conrad at 535-2621 Call Georgie or Harold Landry at 535-2939 to open the church for any special function such as weddings, baptisms or funerals.
- The Round Up is available at Bucky's Garage, RB Post Office or East Coast Credit Union. Subscriptions are available for \$15.00 delivered in RB, \$20.00 within Canada and \$25.00 internationally per year.

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