



# The River Round Up

Volume 9

Number 7

July 2008

\$2.00

## Alcantra and Dorothy Landry



Alcantra Ephrem was born Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, 1932 the twelfth of thirteen children to Jeffrey and Bertha (Bouchard) Landry of Cannes. Alcantra bicycled to the East End School until there was too much snow and then walked, which included a two mile return trip for lunch. At age fifteen he quit school to help his dad build a boat for lobster fishing. Lobsters sold for twenty five cents a pound and with one hundred and ten traps, he had made \$210 the first year while dad, who owned the traps made just over \$1000. Gas was expensive then as a forty-five gallon drum cost \$10.60 and they used two of those per fishing season. Alcantra fished for seven years and eventually had one hundred and seventy-five traps which he hauled up by hand daily.

At age seventeen Alcantra began dating the beautiful sixteen year-old Dorothy Sampson. She was the daughter of Mickey and Bertha (Lawrence) of Church Point. Following the death of her mom when she was four years old Dorothy lived with her grandmother Emma Sampson on Lavallee Lane. Alcantra went to Montreal three years later to work and Dorothy, who was now smitten with the young man followed and they were wed on Dec 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1952. They returned home to live at the Sampson homestead while building a house on the North Side which was replaced with a larger home on Church Point in 1972. They had six children: Peter who lives in Halifax, Buzzie (Alcantra Jr.) in Louisdale and Emma, Michael, Donna and Gerarda who all live in

RB. Three children were born on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November and one on the 12<sup>th</sup> (Michael was late). They also had eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Sadly Dorothy passed away in 2001.

In December 1953 when the now famous airplane landed in Grand Gully, Alcantra and some friends held the repaired airplane down so that the pilot could rev the engine long enough to be able to take off without hitting the power lines. It was the most exiting thing to ever happen in Grand Gully.

Also in 1953, Alcantra along with his dad and Uncle Peter Landry and Peter's son Leo from the South Side were hired to get necessary supplies to L'ile Quetique to build a new lighthouse. They tied two boats together and built a platform across the two boats with a plank to reach from the shore to the platform. Gravel needed for the foundation was sandbagged by Cyril Landry and Stanley McPhee and loaded on the platform. They then blindfolded a horse, which was needed to haul supplies uphill once they arrived on the island, and led him onto the platform. A third boat was used to haul the platform. All of this had to be done at high tide so they could get close to the shoreline at both ends. The horse remained on the island until the job was completed. Alcantra, Jeffrey, Peter and Leo built the lighthouse and they were paid a total of sixty dollars to dismantle the old lighthouse. Alcantra also helped Gerald LeBlanc in the building of our lighthouse in 2003.

Alcantra had many jobs during his career. In 1954 he worked with Davy Touesnard hauling the seventy-five truck loads of gravel needed for the foundation of the Stella Maris School. A pick had to be used to break up the frozen gravel in the pit. Following his fishing days he worked for Latimer Construction for the next ten summers all around the province. He worked eighty one back breaking hours each week; fifteen hours Monday to Friday and six on Saturday under some hot conditions with not so comfortable equipment. As a result of construction work being predominately summer work the off season was spent

elsewhere. He worked hauling wood to the pulp yards for Alfred Touesnard, Danny Shaw of Loch Lomond, Ken Shaw of Sydney and John McLennan of Kempt Rd. He was area foremen for the Dept. of Highways from 1978 to 1981 before going to work for the next sixteen summers with Warren Maritimes, a paving company. Many winters were spent working for Bernard Burke. In 1996 he was employed by Tommy Sampson of Louisdale and ended his career there in 2000. Alcantra also fitted in a twenty month period starting in 1961 working on the icebreaker *Sir John A. MacDonald* testing the ice for new routes in Hudson Bay, Frobisher Bay and Greenland

Alcantra is now taking it easy, spending time doing some woodworking and enjoying his family. In 2002 he purchased a trailer and now lives next door to daughter Gerarda and her husband Eddie. Alcantra, the people of River Bourgeois wish you many more years of good health and happiness. *Sharon Chilvers*

### 2008 Seniors Expo

On May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> RB seniors hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Richmond County Expo. More than a hundred seniors from fifteen communities attended. Winners of the various games were: *Bridge* Theresa Campbell and Isabel Johnson of Red Islands; *Cribbage* Harold Landry of RB and Ida Kelly of St. Peters; *45's* Lucille Landry of RB and Connie Fougere of D'Escousse; *Darts* Anne Sampson of RB high score for woman, Dave Landry of Florida high score for men and his wife Ethel Landry was the overall winner. Those who did not wish to take part in scheduled games found a secluded corner and played auction 45, Tarbish, Scrabble or other games.



*Dave Landry and Linda Bouchard competing in a scrabble game.*

Many enjoyed a game of soft ball under sunny skies and everyone was entertained Saturday evening by Michael Owens, his sister Ethel and hubby Dave Landry. Sunday evening the talented Ciffie Carter played the fiddle and daughter Melissa sang to yet another wonderful array of music. Winner of the quilt donated by Deirdre Boyd was George McNamara. Delores Roberts, Debbie Landry and Peter and Emily LeBlanc catered the meals and once again showed all that we have some very gifted chefs in RB. Many thanks to all of the volunteers especially Raymond

Doary and his cadets, Frances St. Louis, Kelsey Sampson, Susan Boudreau and Michelle Bowie who helped serve and clean up and to all of the organizers who so generously devoted their time.



Thanks also to the East Coast Credit Union, Michel Samson MLA and the New Horizons Program for Seniors. Without their financial assistance this event could not have taken place. *Sharon & Anne*

### First Communion



*Pamela, Cameron, Dylan, Brandon, Darren and Fr. MacDow*

On May 30<sup>th</sup>, four young gentlemen from RB celebrated their First Holy Communion at St. John the Baptist Church during a Mass officiated by Father Everett McDow. The children were: Cameron (Lisette & Kenzie) MacDonald; Dylan (Melanie) Burke; Darren (Elizabeth) MacDonald and Brandon (Lisa & Billy) Boucher. Thanks to their teacher, Pamela Sampson and Education convener Linda Burke for preparing the children for this special day.

### Walk for Life



On June 15<sup>th</sup> young and old community members took part in the Walk for Life organized each year by

the CWL. Those who could, walked from the Tara Lynne Center to the Cenotaph and back. Others stayed behind to serve refreshments, have a chat and check on the pledge sheets. Congratulations to the organizers especially Mary Fougere. \$894.65 was raised for the Strait Area Right for Life Association. Tina Coleman who was still suffering from injuries she received with her three home runs at the Expo raised \$242.00. The organizers wish to thank all who participated and those who gave their support.

*Thanks to Dana MacPhail for sharing this photo.*

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## Heritage Walk 2008



This year's edition of the Heritage Walk will take us back in time to the areas of Grand Gully/Brickery and River Tillard. A sampling of what we have uncovered from the past is pictured above. The presence of this rock wall has been known for some time by the local inhabitants. More information on the wall and some great pictures and stories from long ago await us at Festival time. *Don Pottie*

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## Forty Year Reunion



*Back row: Gregory & Joey Middle row: Shirley, Sharon & Therese Front Row: Emily, Linda & Bernadette. Absent from photo Louis and Louise.*

On June 7<sup>th</sup> the 1968 graduates from St. Peters High School celebrated their forty year reunion with a dinner. The graduates from RB included: Emily

(Bouchard) LeBlanc, Shirley (Bowers) Charron, Gregory Buckley, Louis Digout, Joey Harris, Therese (Landry) Pottie, Sharon (LeBlanc) Chilvers, Linda (LeBlanc) Richard and Louise (Richard) LeBlanc. Many had not seen their fellow students in forty years so there was much catching up to do. A great time was had by all. Plans are underway for 2048.

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## Graduates



**Michelle Sampson** (David & Glenda) graduated May 12<sup>th</sup> from Acadia University with a Bachelor of Science with Honors (Biology). Michelle has been accepted to the Doctor of Dental Surgery Program at Dalhousie University.

**Edward McNamara** (son of George and the late Yvonne) graduated from Cape Breton University on May 10<sup>th</sup> with a Bachelor of Arts Community Studies with a major in Political Science and a minor in Business Administration. Edward also received a Certificate in Public Administration with a concentration in Law & Policy Studies. Edward will be attending NSCC in Halifax in the fall to study Public Relations.

*Patrick Doary also graduated this week but Arthur and Henrietta are gone to Ontario until this weekend so information is not available*

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## Happy 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday Frances



Frances Digout celebrated her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday with many friends on May 28<sup>th</sup> at the Strait Regional Hospital where she is recovering from a broken hip. We all wish you a speedy recovery Frances. Thanks to Glenda Sampson for the photo.

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## Births

**Bourque:** Jack Anthony, 7 lbs 10oz, was born June 3<sup>rd</sup> to Paul and Leanne of Edmonton. Congratulations to the parents, grandparents Rich and Carol Horner and Margaret Bourque.

**Burke:** Madeline, 8 lbs, was born May 29<sup>th</sup> to Jeffery and Chantelle of Oakville. Congratulations to the parents and grandparents John and Jackie Burke of Oakville, and great grand mom Angela Burke.

**LeBlanc:** Avery Samuel, 8 lbs 5 oz, was born May 29<sup>th</sup> to Jessica and David. Congratulations to the parents and grandparents Doreen and Hughie Samson and Chris and Donna LeBlanc of Martinique and to Angela Burke who became a great grand mom twice on the same day.

**LeVesconte:** Kyle Edward, 6 lbs 15 oz, was born on April 28<sup>th</sup> to Amy and Kevin of Mabou. A little brother for Evany and Vaughn. Congratulations to the parents and grandparents Florence and Edward Touesnard, Marlene and Roy LeVesconte and great grand moms Ada LeVesconte and Theresa Cash.

**Trefry:** Krislan David Paul, 6 lbs 5 oz, was born on May 23<sup>rd</sup> to Tricia and Jonah of Alberta. Congratulations to the parents and grandparents Theresa and Paul Owens and great grandpa Fabie Richard.

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## Deaths

**Allen:** Bruce - 61, of Sydney passed away on May 26th. Our condolences to his wife Margaret, his sons, and to his sister-in-law Anne Sampson and brother-in-law Ed Pentecost of River Bourgeois.

**Fultz:** Bill Charles - 63, of Halifax passed away on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Our condolences to his wife Kathy, his sons, and his sister-in-law Margaret Burke and her family.

**MacPhee:** Beulah (Avery) - 68, passed away on June 22<sup>nd</sup> in Antigonish. Our condolences to her husband Peter and their extended family and sisters-in-law Claire and Rachael of RB.

**Murphy:** Teresa Alice - 79, of Barra Head passed away on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Our condolences to her sister Anna Touesnard and her family.

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## Bits & Bites:

- **Canada Day Celebrations**-July 1<sup>st</sup> with children's activities starting at 11am. Barbecue 12-2pm. Live music with *Flashback* starts at 1pm; Chinese auction from 11-1pm. Rain or shine.
- **45 Card game** Seniors Bldg. Sunday 7pm.
- **Cribbage** Seniors Bldg Mondays at 7pm.
- **Bingo every Friday night - 7:45 at Tara Lynne Center** with early bird games. Fourteen \$100.

games with specials & rising jackpot (\$1000) to go.

- **Seniors Summer Luncheon** on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Members will be called.
- **Seniors meetings** will resume in September.
- **CWL meetings** will resume in September.
- **Festival meeting** July 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in Capsite. Please attend if you can help out in any way.
- **Seniors Mini Bingo** on July 9<sup>th</sup>.
- **RBCSS meeting** at 7pm on July 23rd. All meetings are open to public.
- **Merchandise Bingo** -2 pm .Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Tara Lynne Center. Proceeds to RBCSS.
- **Congratulations** to Mary Bona who celebrated her 87<sup>th</sup> birthday on June 21<sup>st</sup> with her family and good friends.
- Thirty nine residents from Richmond Co. participated in the North American Bird migration count. Despite a very cold windy day a total of 3356 birds which included 81 species were counted. This count provides an overview of the distribution and population status of birds on their migration routes throughout the continent. Thank you to all who participated. George Digout
- **CAP site summer hours for the public will be 9:30 to 8pm on Monday and Tuesday and 9-4:30 on Wednesday to Friday. We have wireless and high speed internet services plus a scanner, fax and photocopier. We also have a good selection of used books.** Saturdays you can call Sharon 535-3516 or Sherry @ 535-3782 for appointment. CAP phone # is 535-3251. FAX number is 535-3638. Looking for a souvenir of River Bourgeois-we have t- shirts, note-cards & postcards. Email address is [rbcap@stpeterscable.com](mailto:rbcap@stpeterscable.com). Visit our website at [www.stpeterscable.com/~rbcap](http://www.stpeterscable.com/~rbcap).
- **Anyone wishing to book the TLC** should call Mike Fougere at 535-3308. People requiring use of the Funeral Home - call Marie & Conrad Fougere at 535-2621. Call Georgie or Harold Landry at 535-2939 to open the church for any special functions i.e. weddings, baptisms etc.
- The Round Up is available at Bucky's Garage, RB Post Office or East Coast Credit Union. Subscriptions are available for \$20.00 delivered in RB, \$30.00 within Canada and \$40.00 internationally per year.

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Published monthly by RB Technology & Training Centre in co-operation with RB Community Services Society. Eds: Sharon Digout & Sharon Chilvers. Thanks to Sherry Baccardax for technical help, Lynn Boudreau for putting us online and Therese Pottie for looking after our subscriptions (535-2740).

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