



# The River Round Up

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Elaine Burke



I was born in South River Bourgeois the first of five girls, to Alfred & Margaret (Digout) Richard. It was wartime and Dad and three of his brothers, as well as three of mom's brothers were all overseas, so we lived at Grandma Digout's on the North Side until I was two, when Dad returned home. I have happy memories of my childhood, especially in summertime when so many new kids would spend their vacation in the neighbourhood. I attended school at Cannes and fondly remember walking the two miles or so to and from school with Sr. Helen Burke. The walk home always took longer as we played along the way. After we moved to the North Side there was the lure of Joe's Brook where Jeanette Digout, Veronica and I often stopped to fill our lunch cans with smelts. That ended when we got caught by the Fisheries Officer, Hogan Burke. In 1954 Stella Maris School and les Filles de Jesus became a new attraction. Many of us had never seen toilets that flushed or running water. Those years we also experienced an introduction to Fine Arts. I was able to take piano lessons from Sr. Gustave and experience playing concertos in concerts and music festivals. We also had a drama coach in Sr. Lidvine and acted in three-act plays in the school auditorium. One year, however, some unfortunate teacher had to put up with

the likes of Gerry Fougere, Arthur Doary, Marguerite Sampson & me all in the same class. It was almost the demise of our new school.

After taking grade twelve at St. Peter's High, I was off to Nova Scotia Teachers College in Truro. The following year I was asked to teach Grades 3 & 4 in RB. My baby sister Maxine was in my class and she can attest to my strict discipline and the no favouritism I was taught at Teachers College. Three years later I moved to Brantford, Ontario where I taught for three years before returning to RB as a French Second Language teacher for grades primary to nine. It was there I assumed the name "The Grouch". After fourteen years I taught in L'Ardoise & Walter Fougere Schools, then finished my career teaching grade one French Immersion in St. Peters. Throughout my career, I took courses at St. FX to raise my license then graduated from Universite Sainte-Anne with a BA in French. I retired in 1995 and spent a few years caring for my aging parents who passed on, Dad in 2000 and then Mom in 2004.

On my journey I was blessed with two beautiful daughters, Claudine who lives in Northern Ontario and Lisette, married to Kenzie MacDonald, and who lives in RB. I also had the special privilege of baby-sitting my three grandsons for six years: Cameron, Christian & Carson.

Now I am a substitute teacher for Chapel Island and St. Peters and serve my community in CWL, Church and other organizations. I still try to make my yearly trips to the Valley to visit my friend Margie or my sisters in Halifax, Veronica & Claire. I see Louise and Maxine more often as they live in St. Peters. I am now living in a brand new "little house" in River Tillard with my companion Adolphe. I will be 65 in a few days and when I'm playing tag, hide and seek and hockey with my grandsons, I think I'm six. However Sr. Helen takes me out of my reverie with a birthday card that says it all. "I thought for once I'd get a nice card ...one that doesn't remind you how darn old you are". *Elaine Burke.*

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## University Graduate



**Patrick Doary** (Arthur & Henrietta) graduated from York University in Toronto (Glendon College) which is the bilingual campus of York; on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Patrick received a Bachelor of Arts Degree with honours in Linguistics and Language Studies and will be doing post graduate studies at the Sorbonne in Paris. Congratulations from Mom, Dad, Amy & Joseph and continued success and happiness in all you undertake in the future.



**Tara Lynne Benoit** (Terry Benoit & Diane Breau) received the Helen Sampson Memorial (\$500), Estwood Davidson Memorial (\$500), Myra Filion Memorial (\$500), Tara Lynne Memorial (\$500), 824 Silver Dart Air Cadet (\$500), East Coast Credit Union (\$400), Lions Achievement Award (\$200) and Foodland Village Grocery (\$100). Tara Lynne will be attending Cape Breton University for her Bachelor of Science Degree with plans to continue into a Pharmacy Degree. **Shawn Boucher** (Tammy & Steven) received the Michel Samson Bursary (\$100). Shawn plans to attend NSCC in Port Hawkesbury to study carpentry.

## High School Graduates



**Kelsey Anne Burke** (Larry & Theresa) received a St. FX Entrance Scholarship of (\$4000), St. John the Baptist Parish Council Bursary (\$200), the St. John the Baptist CWL (\$250), 824 Silver Dart Air Cadet Squadron (\$500), the BPC Penco (Nova Scotia) Inc. Bursary, the Janice Landry Memorial Bursary and the St. Peter's (Branch 47) Royal Canadian Legion Bursary (\$200). Kelsey graduated with High Distinction and ranked in the top five students in her class and also completed the French Immersion Program. She received an Honour Cords given out at the graduation ceremony. She will be attending St. FX for a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in French. **Sarah Landry** (Debbie & Michael) received a certificate in French Immersion, is currently working and plans to take a year off before tackling a post secondary education.



**Tina Scott** (Eleanor & John) received Foodland Village Grocery (\$100) bursary. Tina has already started a hair design course at Halifax Hair Design. **Christine Pottie** (Leonard & Cynthia) will be returning to Richmond Academy to take additional courses.



**Molly Warner** (Genevieve & Norman) will be attending NSCC in the fall with their "Strait to Work Program". **Adam Burke** (Wanda & John) will be attending NSCC in New Glasgow to take Heavy Equipment Operator. No photo available of Adam.

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## Heading to High School

Congratulations to the following students from RB who graduated from East Richmond and will be attending Richmond Academy in the fall. They are: **Chelsey Dakai** (Kevin & Jody), **Mallory Fougere** (Francine & Gary), **Nicole Landry** (Janet & Lawrence), **Tori MacNeil** (Gary & Nadine) and **Grant Sampson** (Pam & Gerard). We look forward to the 2012 graduation.

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## Update on Docks

The RB Mariner's Society have the docks in the water and repairs done. Docking fees have been set at \$10. per foot for the season and \$0.75 per foot for overnight. Boat launching is free however donations are welcome as there is a lot more work to be done. To arrange payment of fees contact: Harold Landry @ 535-2939/631-4090; George Digout@535-3516 or Gilbert Bourque @ 535-2518. Come on down and try your luck fishing mackerel-heard a rumor they're nibbling.

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## 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Festival Update

Committee members are almost ready to print the schedule for our festival which will be a very busy but fun filled week. New events added this year include a woman's breakfast on Sunday am (Brian Bona says there may be 30 teams coming for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary) so we will be feeding a lot of hungry people. There will be a video game night & an Amazing Race for the young folks. The D.U.M.B. (**D**istractions **U**ndermining **M**otorist **B**ehaviour) is a driver distraction simulator that is designed to encourage Canadian drivers to think about what they are doing behind the wheel. It has been travelling across the provinces to bring attention to all and will be present all day Saturday so check out your skills. Paul Zinck is searching out hard questions on River Bourgeois for the trivia contest on Sunday pm. Another bit of news that will lighten your week is that the organizers have managed to hire MARY EMMA & MARY BARB as emcees for the Grand Opening. They, along with the young of the community have lots of surprises including a fashion show featuring elite members of our community.

The committee has worked very hard putting all this together so would appreciate all your help and

support. Light House Mugs & RB hats will go on sale at the C@P site on August 15<sup>th</sup> so get yours early!

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## Swimming at Boyd's Wharf



This picture was taken on what was known as Boyd's Wharf below the old Superior Chain Store. It was a favourite place for swimming and skating in early years. Pictured left to right in back row are: Cecelia (Boyd) Fougere, Sarah (Burke) Digout & Marie Boyd. In front is Evelyn (Fougere) Burke.

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## Births

**Landry:** Raya Marie, 6lbs 9oz, was born on June 1<sup>st</sup> to Ann & Blaine of Grand Greve. Congratulations to the parents and grandparents Carmelita & Blair Landry and Mary & Bernard Burke. Raya arrived on Grandma Mary's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Murphy:** Malky Edward, 8lbs 4 oz, was born on July 12<sup>th</sup> to Annette & Darson of Truro. A baby brother for Mia. Congratulations to the parents, grandparents Florence & Edward Touesnard, great grandmothers Elizabeth Cash and Elizabeth Anne Kennedy.

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## Wedding

**Boudreau/Nicholson:** Congratulations to Shelly Ann daughter of George & Barbara Boudreau and Daniel son of Beverley & Roy Nicholson of Glace Bay on their wedding on July 12<sup>th</sup> at St. Peters Church. Shelly & Daniel reside in St. Peters.

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## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries

Congratulations to **Stanley & Monica McPhee** who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Stanley & Monica have six children: Fraser, Michael, Donnie, Germaine, Gerard & Veronica and have nine grandchildren.

Congratulations to **Sandy & Madeline Libbus** who also celebrated their 50 wedding anniversary on July

1<sup>st</sup>. Madeline & Sandy have five children: Calvin, Levenia, Patsy, Melissa & Lorena and have thirteen grandchildren.

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## Deaths

**Cook:** Edith Christina, 57, passed away on June 21<sup>st</sup> in Halifax. Our condolences to her sister Catherine Landry and her family.

**MacPherson:** Rosemary, 60, of Calgary passed away on July 17<sup>th</sup>. Our condolences to her husband Robert, children Cheryl and Jackie, her sister Linda Bouchard and her family.

**Pelrine:** Patricia Arlene, 53, of Halifax passed away on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Our condolences to her husband Earl, sons Brian and Kevin, and to her brother Donnie Pottie and family

**Sampson:** Elnora, 82, of Sampsonville who passed away on June 27<sup>th</sup>. Our condolences to her children Nancy, Rita Fougere, Glen & Dwight and their families.

## Bits & Bites:

- **RBCSS gratefully acknowledges donations** to date to the Cenotaph (\$2995), the funeral home (\$280) and the hall (\$2008.82). Please note that tax receipts will be issued in January 2009 for all donations during this calendar year. Many thanks to all who have contributed. Anyone wishing to make donations can do so to: River Bourgeois Community Services, PO Box 56, River Bourgeois, NS B0E 2X0
- **Old Time Fiddle, Square Dance & Country Music.** Sat. Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup> Tara Lynne Community Center 8-12pm. Cost: \$6/Person. Light lunch will be served, bar open. Featuring on fiddle "Raymond Ellis", on guitar "Richard Pottie", Prompter "Alice Sampson" with Ed Pottie and "Flashback". Government ID required upon request. Sponsored by RBCSS.
- **Merchandise Bingo**—2 pm, Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Tara Lynne Center. Proceeds to RBCSS.
- **Congratulations** to Kelsey Burke who is currently the Wing Warrant Officer (the second ranked cadet position) at the 14 Wing Greenwood Air Cadet Training Center where her brother Colton is also training.
- **Congratulations** also to Rochelle Johnson of Church Point Road who was a double winner in the Shooting Federation of Canada Small Bore Championship in Ontario. Rochelle who is 20, finished first in the 10 meter air rifle class in both the junior female & senior national competition.

- As part of our 30th Annual River Bourgeois Festival, we will be having a 45's Card Play. Prizes \$500, \$300 & \$200. **ADVANCE** tickets may be purchased \$10. per person from Donnie Pottie (Committee Chair) - 535-2740 or may be purchased at RB CAP site. Tickets will also be available at the door.
- Tickets will also be on sale for five \$1000 prizes which will be drawn at the closing concert of the festival on Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>. Tickets are \$20 each and can be purchased from Francine Boudreau at 535-3016 or 535-2493 or at the RB CAP site.
- **45 Card game** Seniors Bldg. Sunday 7:30 pm. (Summer start time).
- **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 meetings** will resume in September.
- **CWL meetings** will resume in September.
- **Festival meeting August 11<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 in CAP site. Please attend if you can help out in any way.
- **CAP site meeting** on August 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.
- **Seniors Mini Bingo** on Aug. 13<sup>th</sup>.
- **RBCSS meetings** resume in September.
- **CAP site summer hours for the public will be 9:30am to 8pm on Monday & Tuesday and 9-4:30 from Wednesday-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 535-3182 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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