



Ribbon Cutting

FEATURE

Even with the rain, many came out to celebrate the opening of the new community park. Over \$80,000 was raised in total.

"I think a few people did double takes when we went from \$5,000 to \$65,000 in a matter of days," said Sheila Swasson, one of the organizers of the project. "This project is very near and dear to my heart.

Right now, it's swelling with thanks and gratitude for all the contributions that made this dream a reality."

A project that developed from the interest a single swing set generated, is now a full, modern playground for the kids to enjoy for years to come.

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“ I knew the drive was there, the passion was there. I just didn't realize it was going to happen this fast.”



WATCH

Scan this QR code to see a video of the event, or go to news.listuguj.ca

COMMUNITY

Remembrance Day Plans 2015

The Remembrance Day Ceremony at AGS school keeps growing. Last year organizers had to set up more tables. It is always held at 11:00 a.m. on November 11th.

"We're growing out of the AGS," said Mary Bradstreet, one of the organizers. "It seems like there's more people that are coming out to support this event marked for the Veterans."

Bradstreet is excited about some of the plans for this year, which includes the local drumming group,

Spirit Bear.

"They sing 'Soldier Boy' and that's so powerful when you hear that," Bradstreet said. "And this year we have a litter girl – she's about 7 years-old – and she's going to be singing O'Canada in Mi'gmaq. Her voice is powerful and she will give you shivers. Her name is Annie Morrison."

The committee is also hosting its major fundraiser on Friday, Nov. 6 – a silent auction at the Elder's Lodge, followed by a Steak and Rice Supper. Plates are \$5. The auction is held from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Bradstreet has been surprised by the many amazing donations this year.

"It's going to help the veterans in so many ways," Bradstreet said.

The money goes toward the many events organized by the committee, namely the Remembrance Day Ceremony, and the Flag Raising Ceremony held on Aboriginal Day, June 21st.

Thanks to the direction of the committee's president, John Mitchell, the Flag Raising Ceremony now includes a Missing In Action (MIA)

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The Veteran's Monument at AGS. Fundraising began in 2009, and it was built in 2010. (PHOTO: Adam Hodnett)

EVENT

Anti-Racism Logo Launch



Maggie Martin, Connie Dedam, Debbie Dedam-Montour, and Gloria Dedam at the Anti-Racism Logo Launch on Oct. 28. (PHOTO: Adam Hodnett)

The Anti-Racism Strategy held its logo launch on October 28.

"We've been working on this for a couple of months," said Debbie Dedam-Montour, the coordinator of the Anti-Racism Strategy.

With food, presentations, and even a film, people were able to hear about the organization's plans. People could also take part in a photo project.

Dedam-Montour mention the points made by my Derek Barnaby in

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VETERANS

and Prisoners of War (POW) Flag, to honour the two POWs from the community, and one man who was missing in action.

The committee also grants a \$500 scholarship to a high school graduate every year, provided they have the funds.

The committee originally began in 2009 to help fundraise for the Veteran's Monument.

Bradstreet only got involved because she was looking for an activity to be involved with. She says it has grown into a passion for her.

There's been a lot to learn, including important ways of showing respect to our Veterans.

Aside from the hard work that the committee puts in to make these events possible, Bradstreet is inspired by the Veterans – like the one retired marine who always salutes until every single name is called out at the ceremony, or the retired marines who retire the flag every year.

"I am very grateful to be involved with a group of people who share the commitment and passion in giving back to the Veterans of our community, who we thank for our freedom," she said.

LOGO

his presentation. Dedam-Montour characterized his story as developing prejudices based on the 1981 raids. But after an interest in sports put him together with people he superficially associated with the raid, he was able to forge a friendship and "demystify some of their stereotypes" as well.

"That experience that he portrayed is actually what we're trying to do in the strategy – strengthening those relationships. Break down those stereotypes. Letting people know that we are people, and those negative stereotypes out there stop people from meeting us," she said. "When you open that door and you build a relationship, it has nothing to do with skin colour."

The strategy is just starting talking circles, equipped with people from Families First.

"It's just a place where we can come get together. We will have a support system, because when people are talking about racism, they can become very emotional."

A symposium is planned for March 21st – the international day to eliminate racial discrimination.

PLAYGROUND

A big part of the fundraising was a donation from Invenergy – a company involved with the Mesgi'g Ugju's'n Wind Farm. It donated \$52,588.38.

Frits de Kiewit, the Director of Development for Quebec and the Maritimes, said the company will contribute to community projects and opportunities for "many years."

"The project for a new playground just gave us an opportunity to jump-start and underscore our intentions," he said.

The community also donated a lot, in many different forms.

Victoria Labillois, the MC of the ribbon cutting, told a story of when Swasson was up on a ladder, coloring in the thermometer.

A man walk up and asked what she was doing. After explaining the plans for a park, he dug in his pocket a found a toonie. He gave it to her.

"You know what," said Labillois, "that's a big part, and that says a lot. Because that's who we are Listuguj. We come together, and we give what we have."



READ MORE

Scan this QR code to read the full story at news.listuguj.ca

Anti-Racism Photos

(By: Mike Isaac)

Go to the LMG Facebook to see more



Community Listings

Remembrance Day

Annual Remembrance Day Ceremony

WHERE: AGS
WHEN: Wed, Nov. 11
11:00 a.m.

Sober Walk

From Subway to Elders Lodge, where Harrison Millia will speak. Supper will follow

WHEN: Sunday, Nov. 15
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
CONTACT: Theresa Martin
PHONE: (418) 788-2155

LMG Closed

LMG will be closed for Remembrance Day.

WHEN: Wed, Nov. 11

Jobs

The Listuguj Mi'gmaq Development Centre has posted a list of 20 jobs open in our area. Find the list on the LMG Facebook page.

CONTACT: (418) 788-1347

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Be sure to check out the video from the community park ribbon cutting ceremony.

The stories about the old park made it obvious that spaces like these play big parts in our childhoods. Having built something like this – which will be around for many years – is certainly an

accomplishment worth celebrating.

We also hope people saw our Facebook notice about the silent auction fundraiser – another worthy initiative.

Be sure to like us on Facebook, to make sure you don't miss any messages like these again in the future.



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October 2015, Issue 9

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