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Your Local Paper

Trinity Bight Enterprise

Issue #155

April 2026

A publication of Trinity Historical Society Inc.

*Happy
Easter!*



JJ Miller, Dunfield, Age 8



SHIPPING OR CURBSIDE PICK-UP
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Happy Easter!



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Hurdle's Welding & Automotive Ltd.

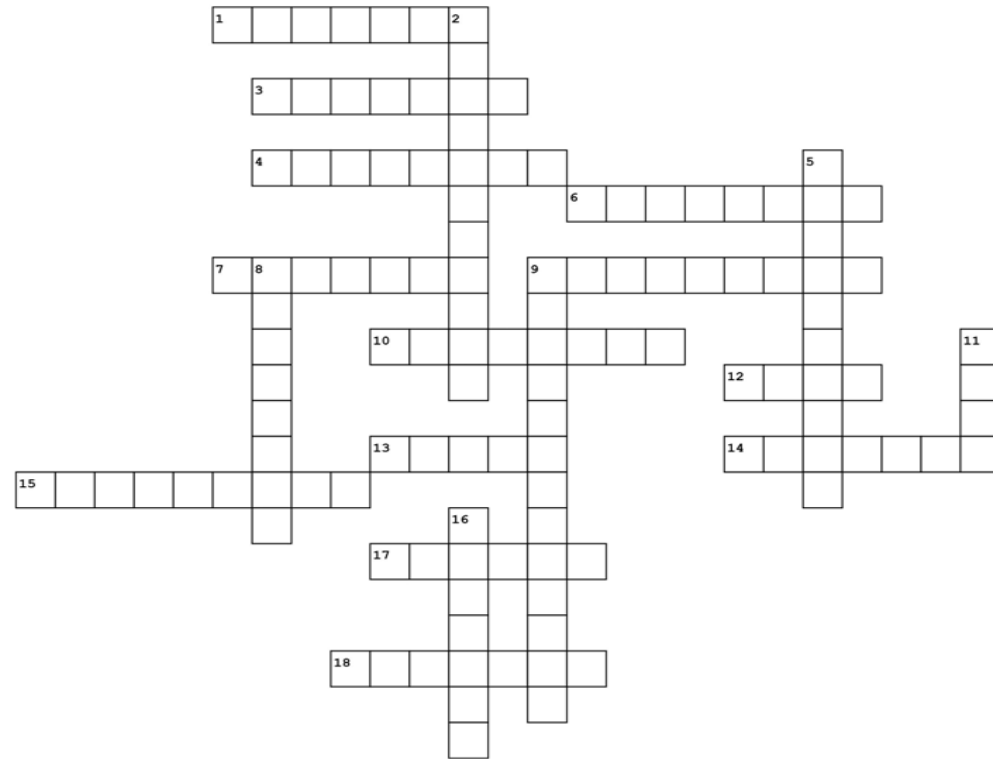
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April 2026

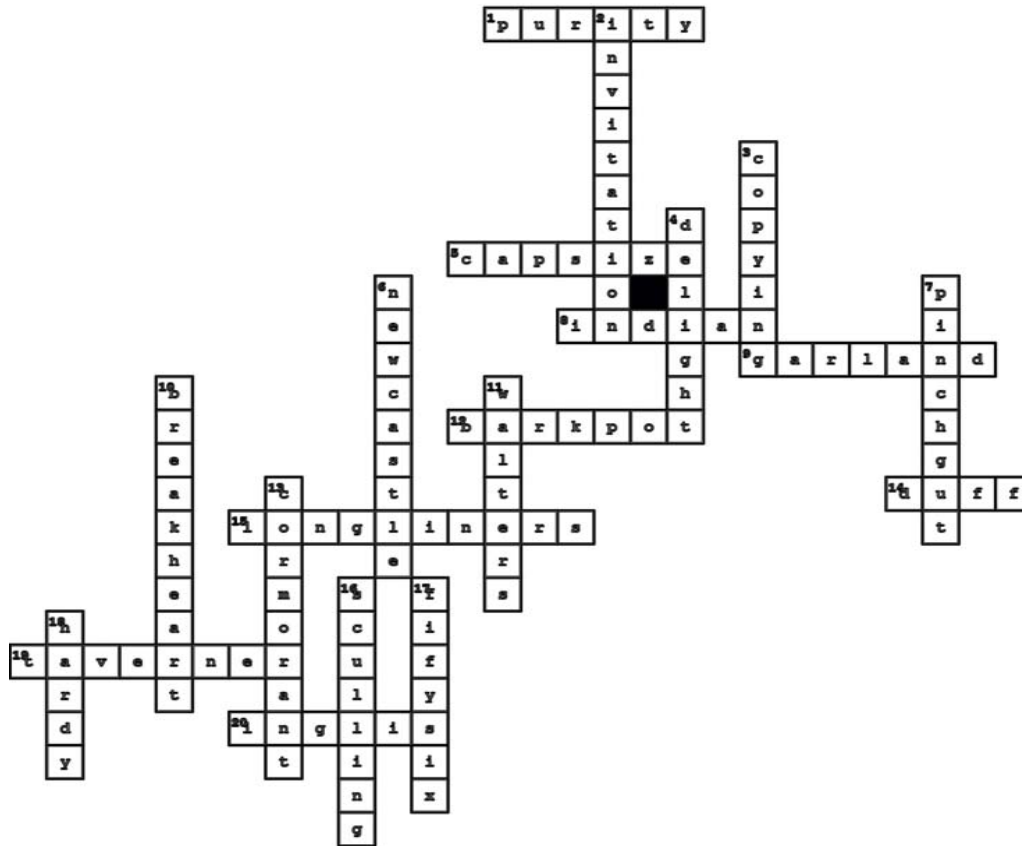


Across

1. A red sky in the morning tells sailors to take _____.
3. The first court was held in Trinity by Richard Whitbourne in sixteen _____.
4. The Trinity sea captain who found the wreck of the plane "Old Glory" in 1927.
6. The doctor who lived in Trinity East in the late 1950s.
7. The highest point of land between Robin Hood Bay and Champney's Arm.
9. _____ Path begins at West Street in Fisher's Cove and ends at Gallivan's Lane.
10. Harry Clark completed a genealogy of the families of _____.
12. Railway structure built near Goose Cove in 1911.
13. A _____ generation salt box is one story, with a peaked roof, and a one story linney.
14. First name of the mail delivery person for Trinity post office.
15. The church taken down in Trinity in 1935.
17. _____ Mills captained the schooner Angela B. Mills which often visited Trinity in the 1950s.
18. In the first verse of the Ode to Newfoundland the land we love is _____.

Down

2. The cove just east of Coleman's Point in Dunfield Bight.
5. The second _____ was built in Trinity in 1903.
8. A sail rigged between the foremast and mainmast of a schooner.
9. Newfoundland's first tourist resort which opened in the late 1940s.
11. Trinity native who recently retired with the rank of major in the Canadian Armed Forces.
16. A popular Portuguese salt cod recipe.



Across

1. The NL company that makes hard bread.
5. Freezing spray and icing up can cause a ship to _____.
8. The _____ Islands are located at the western end of the Thoroughfare.
9. _____ Road is an extension of Church Road to Lester-Garland House.
12. A large metal caldron used to preserve cod traps, nets, and ropes.
14. Owner of the old St. Paul's School in Trinity.
15. In Joe Batt's Arm Longliner what was coming in?
19. The first merchants to occupy the Lester-Garland premises in the late 1600s.
20. The bishop who consecrated the second church in Trinity in 1827.

Down

2. In the NL folk song Trinity Cake, what did the boy bring to the author?
3. A common NL spring activity on small pans of ice in shallow harbour coves.
4. A red sky at night is a sailor's _____.
6. Trouty Brook runs out of _____ Pond.
7. The island at the entrance to Champney's West harbour.
10. _____ Hill starts near Bartlett's Electrical and leads toward Trinity Loop.
11. The Trinity to Bonaventure mailman in the 1970s and 1980s.
13. Large seabird often seen standing on rocks or buoys with wings outstretched?
16. One person could propel a rodney using a _____ oar?
17. The Lockston power plant started operating in nineteen _____.
18. The crew and captains were _____ in Joe Batt's Arm Longliner.

At the top of the stairs to the second floor of the Trinity Museum are the door hinges to the first courthouse in Trinity and the door from the old jail. The first Justices of the Peace, James Taverner and Francis Squibb, were appointed in Trinity in 1728. The first constables were appointed in 1811 and one or more were present until the late 1940s. The clubs and handcuffs displayed at the Museum were the tools of their trade. Prior to 1811 there was no jail, but crime was common in the frontier social conditions of the time and the consequences of being convicted were severe.

Here are a few examples from the Trinity court records.

Oct. 1, 1766: For stealing rum from William Jones, Matthew Moor & Richard Parsons received 2 dozen lashes. Richard Watts, "an old and hardened offender", received 3 dozen lashes.

Oct. 6, 1768: On complaint of the town's merchants Patrick Poor to be deported to Ireland, or to be whipped if he does not leave by the 15th of October. His crime, retailing rum from his fishing premises and not carrying out any fishing.

Oct. 28, 1775: A Mrs. Connors' house to be pulled down and she sent to Ireland due to her lying on her 5-week-old baby son and killing it while drunk.

Oct. 3, 1766: Dominik King & Thomas Walton to receive 2 dozen lashes for disturbing the peace of Thomas Clifford's house and scandalous indecently abusing his wife and other women there.

This is just a sample of the stories you will hear in our new audio tour at the Trinity Museum. Visit the Museum and take a walk through history.

Trinity Historical Society

If you would like to place an ad in the May issue of Trinity Bight Enterprise please send it along to programming@trinityhistoricalsociety.com by Thursday April 23rd. Mailout is scheduled for Thursday April 30th.

SAVE THE DATE!

As we have been told many times...
 "There's nothing like an A.C.W. coldplate!"



Coldplates are \$15 each
PICK UP ONLY
 May 24th, 2026

Fort Point Lions Hall, Goose Cove

To pre-order please call Nancy Miller
 709 464 7242 or message her on Facebook

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 St. Paul's Roof Restoration Fund

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Anglican Diocese of Central Newfoundland
 Parish of Trinity – Port Rexton
 Service Schedule – April 5th -April 26th, 2026

April 5 th Easter Sunday (White)	11:00 A.M. St. Clement's (Champney's West)	Parish Service Of Holy Eucharist
April 12 th Second Sunday Of Easter (White)	11:00 A.M. St. Andrew's (Trinity East) 7:00 P.M. St. John The Evangelist (New Bonaventure)	Holy Eucharist Evening Prayer
April 15 th (White)	2:00 P.M. St. Andrew's (Trinity East)	Holy Eucharist and Deconsecration Of The Church
April 19 th Third Sunday Of Easter (White)	11:00 A.M. St. Paul's (Trinity) 7:00 P.M. Christ Church (Port Rexton)	Holy Eucharist Evening Prayer
April 26 th Fourth Sunday Of Easter (White)	11:00 A.M. St. Matthew's (Trouty) 7:00 P.M. St. Clement's (Champney's West)	Holy Eucharist Evening Prayer

Where Life Exists, Hope Has Possibilities!

Josephine Johnson

I have come to realize that being a caregiver can definitely aid as a life lesson in humility. Although, in this particular instance, I am referring to plants as the recipients. After all they are still living forms.

As I am learning to care for my newly acquired plants and to recognize what is best for each of them I am also learning to recognize what is best for my physical and mental health. I am personally learning patience instead of frustration, stability instead of buzzing around like a blue arse fly and more importantly, how much healthier and beneficial it is to be properly rooted and grounded in the appropriate setting.

Some people refer to growing healthy plants as having a green thumb. I inclined to believe that it's more to do with getting to know each plant and what it requires to flourish. This interest and development of a care-giving routine has become a positive teaching method for me. A method that is consistently reminding me of things which I can do as opposed to the many things I can't or shouldn't do due to a very long succession of eye surgeries and recovery periods. A process that began on August 22, 2025, and as I sit here today March 10th, 2026 and share my thoughts, recovery time has already stretched beyond six months.

My days of spontaneous and independent driving to wherever I wanted or needed to go, whenever I so desired has been and will continue to be suspended until which time my impaired vision is restored.

In the meantime, my plants are helping me better understand the changes and challenges that are often required to adapt and still thrive.

I am thankfully aware of my plants and their needs, and so too, equally aware of the positive impact they are having on me and my husband in our environment.

They are reminders of simplicity in life; they are calming attributes to our surroundings; they are indeed testaments of new life; and my plants are truly a positive focal point when doubt and negativities creep into my thoughts.

Where life exists, hope has possibilities!



Your Help is Needed!

Trinity Historical Society - Fort Point chosen to take part in National Competition - Next Great Save!

Vote for Us Daily Starting April 7 to April 24

Trinity Historical Society is pleased to inform everyone that the Fort Point Interpretation Centre has been chosen to take part in a National Competition offered by National Trust for Canada to potentially win one of three prizes that have a total value of \$65,000.00. First prize \$50,000, Second prize \$10,000 and Third prize \$5,000.

Starting on Tuesday, April 7 until Friday, April 24 every person can vote once a day for our project at Fort Point.

Should we win the funds will be used to complete the below work at the Interpretation Centre:

- replacement of roof shingles;
- replacement of any rotten cladding and painting of entire exterior of the Centre;
- replacement of windows;
- repair or replace any rotten eaves;
- repair trail around Fort Point through weeding , new gravel and board walk replacement where necessary;
- replacement of palisade fences on the property

To learn more about Fort Point, our project and most importantly to vote please go to the below website daily from April 7 - 24.

<https://nextgreatsave.us.launchpad6.com/NextGreatSave2026/fort-point>

Please share this link with family and friends, email and place to your social media.

For any questions please contact us - info@trinityhistoricalsociety.com

Vote for us! Votez pour nous!



Fort Point: Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future
 Fort Point Lighthouse Interpretation Centre – Trinity, NL
 Vote daily from April 7 -24 | Votez tous les jours du 7 au 24 avril
<https://nextgreatsave.us.launchpad6.com/NextGreatSave2026/fort-point>



NEXT GREAT SAVE
 Save. Renew. Inspire!

LE BEAU SAUVETAGE
 Sauvegarder. Renouveler. Inspirer!

NextGreatSave.ca

LeBeauSauvetage.ca

#NextGreatSave
 #LeBeauSauvetage

WE'RE COMPETING!

Vote daily for our project "Fort Point: Preserving the Past, Inspiring the Future"
 at the Fort Point Lighthouse Interpretation Centre
 from April 7 - 24 at [NextGreatSave.ca](https://nextgreatsave.us.launchpad6.com/NextGreatSave2026/fort-point)
<https://nextgreatsave.us.launchpad6.com/NextGreatSave2026/fort-point>



"Ignite Volunteerism" in Newfoundland and Labrador! National Volunteer Week is April 19 to 25, 2026. This week is set aside each year to recognize and thank volunteers for the time and energy they contribute to causes that benefit our communities. It is also an opportunity to promote the benefits of volunteering to individuals and society.

Over 210,000 individuals in Newfoundland and Labrador volunteer an average of 161 hours per year with 3,400 incorporated non-profits and 3000 plus informal community groups.

When we ignite volunteerism, the impact travels far beyond the moment. It strengthens well-being, deepens social ties, and fortifies communities against whatever weather comes next. What begins as a single spark becomes something enduring, a living current of care and resilience carried forward by each new generation.

Be sure to thank a local volunteer(s) and/or group this week.

Congratulations

Trinity Historical Society congratulates the below on some recent wins.

- 1) **Donna Butt** for receiving the 2026 Tourism Achievement Award from the Provincial Government during the Hospitality NL Conference. The award recognizes her leadership, creativity, resilience and contribution to the presentation and preservation of culture to Trinity and the province as a whole.
- 2) **Champney's West Heritage Group** winning the 2026 BDC Tourism Innovator Award of Excellence for their dedication to innovation, community storytelling and immersive visitor experiences.
- 3) **Kris Drodge, Amy Chislett and Mallory Drodge** as winners of a Heritage Restoration Southcott Award from Newfoundland and Labrador Historic Trust for their restoration work on their Trinity home, The Anchorage, the Ash family home on Ash's Lane in Trinity.



PLAY – THE COBRA by Harry Bartlett
[Presented By The Citizen Club Players at Trinity]

The notice appeared in the windows
 Said: “Beware of the Cobra in case
 That he may appear in December,
 So, take a back seat and be safe.”

On the 13th night of December
 I hope you will all understand,
 In the Parish Hall we assembled
 To see the queen looking man.

When all the people were seated
 And anxiously awaiting the Play,
 Mr. Baggs, he read out the program
 And this to the people did say,

On behalf of the C.C. Players
 All you ladies and gentlemen here,
 I extend an enjoyable evening,
 Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Parsons appeared as Ted Bronson
 Mary Tibbs was his good sister Jane
 Margaret McGrath was called Cara
 As housemaid to the Bronsons she came

Mrs. Parsons was called Mrs. Benlow
 Mr. Rowe, they called Mickey did well,
 Then in came Roy Barnes as Tom Randell
 Who escaped from the Wellington Jail

They called Pat McGrath William Wimple,
 Barbara Haytor, they called Betty Kay,
 Albert Pittman called John the caretaker,
 These are all that took part in the Play

It’s impossible to tell all that happened
 There’s not paper enough in Grand Falls,
 But I wish you had seen that old Cobra
 You would laugh till you hurted your jaws.

I’m sure they all deserve credit
 For the way they conducted the Play
 With the patience of Job and a memory
 That a man cannot find everyday.

When the Play was all finished and over
 They decided to start up a dance
 But the worst fault of all they had no lunch
 To give the outsiders a chance

As for myself, I’m no dancer
 But still, I am able to eat
 By the time I got home in the morning
 I could chew up a rooster’s jaw teeth

Now to conclude and finish
 There is just one more thing I will say,
 Let us give them three cheers for their trouble
 And the way they conducted that Play.



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Trinity Historical Society Newsletter, Issue 62

March 2026

R. Coope, J. Morris, Eds.

Trinity Historical Society will present the movies Rare Birds, Blueberry Grunt, and Skeet in Trinity in cooperation with Rising Tide Theatre this summer. Please see our Mail Chimp Newsletter, website, and the Trinity Bight Enterprise for details.

In this edition of our Newsletter, we present the story of Kenneth Vatcher from British Harbour.

As always, the THS welcomes application for membership from anyone interested in the objectives and activities of the Society.



Family Tree



Kenneth Vatcher



Kenneth, the son of Jacob Vatcher and Elizabeth Baker was born in British Harbour in March of 1910. He enlisted in the Royal Navy in WW II as an Able Seaman. He lost his life when the HMS Hermes was sunk by Japanese bombers in the Indian Ocean on April 9th, 1942. He is buried in Trincomalee War Cemetery, Trincomalee, Sri Lanka. He was 32.

HMS Hermes, the world's first purpose-built aircraft carrier to be launched, was in harbour at Trincomalee, Sri Lanka, undergoing repairs. Advance warning of a Japanese air raid allowed her to leave port but as she returned following the raid on April 9th, 1942, she was spotted off Batticaloa by a Japanese reconnaissance plane. She was defenseless when she was attacked by seventy Japanese bombers and was hit forty times. Hermes sank with the loss of three hundred and seven men.



HMS HERMES



HMS HERMES sinking



Position when sunk