



Les Échos de Combiers



December 2020

Opening hours of mairie

Tuesdays 14 h 00 to 17 h 00 and Thursdays
9 h 00 to 12 h 00 and 14 h 00 to 17 h 00

From the mayor

This strange year is at last almost over ! Between the virus and terrorist attacks, this has been a difficult period. Luckily Combiers is fine, but please continue to respect protective measures. I thank our seamstresses, who made masks during the first confinement, one of the first communes to do this. We also made sure that people were not isolated or without contact with the outside world. If you need help or know someone who needs help, please contact the mairie. We are waiting to get back to normal life and our social events, thanks to our associations that make the reputation of Combiers. This year because of restrictions, all gatherings in halls have been forbidden, so we could not have our normal senior meal or children's Christmas party. We are in the process of distributing vouchers to seniors and to children.

I also take this opportunity to tell you that the council is considering updating the age of what constitutes a senior citizen for future years. 60 is usually the designated age in most communes to be a senior, but should we change that, considering a 60-year-old might still be in employment ? We will let you know.

I thank our two municipal employees who came to work during the first confinement when they could have stayed at home, due to school closures and health concerns, because for the first month there were few masks for everyone nationwide. At the end of May, the office was fitted with a plexiglass window by Francis Allary, giving greater security for both the public and the secretary. Our communal employees organised themselves to carry out their public duties, coming to work normally, which meant that we did not fall behind in terms of administration and village maintenance.

Dear citizens of Combiers

Enjoy this newsletter - all good wishes for 2021

I remind you that Angéline, who splits her working time between Combiers and Charras, is in the office for 12 hours each week, with Jordan working 16 hours per week. This is the minimum to manage our commune of 24 km².

The works carried out during this year were mainly routine, except for roadworks. Maintenance work of public buildings and inaugurations (the Nizonne path and the expansion of the village hall) could not be carried out due to restrictions, but were also delayed following a dispute with the owner of a plot on the Nizonne path. I hope that the New Year will be more peaceful and allow us to finalise all of our projects.

I conclude by telling you that we are waiting impatiently for high-speed broadband in our village. There are still some poles to change and after the winter we will see more movement on this project.

There will no doubt be some scams trying to sell you unnecessary things related to broadband. If in doubt, please contact the mairie. I remind you that connection is free to your home, with only the operator you choose charging for its services. I wish you a Happy New Year, although we can still only meet in small groups.

Take care of yourselves and your loved ones.

Patrick Épaul,

Mayor

Welcome to our new Cumborios

Mme Isabelle ROBIN, 1 chemin des Cercliers.

M. Rudy CHALMET and Mme Ingeborg BRABANTS, 3 chemin de la Payre.

M. Augustin and Mme Marie-Bénédictine WAROUX, 1 impasse chez Parrucoud.

Deaths

Mme Marie Rose PHELIPPEAU, widow of M. TRALBOUX, died 8th June 2020 in Magnac-Lavalette-Villars.

Mme Laurence Valérie BATY, died 7th August 2020 in Périgueux.

Mme Ros CHAPMAN, Les Roudiers, died in October 2020 in England.

Mme Simone MARTIN, the village, died 17th November 2020 in Saint-Michel.

Mme Marie-Françoise FAURE, Chez Joubert, died 18th November 2020 in Versailles.

M. Guy THIVAUD, Chez Liziot, former mayor of Combiers between 1983-1989, died 23rd November 2020 in Combiers.

Events

Senior meal 1st December 2019

This year the menu included autumnal soup, Saint Jacques pastries, stuffed and rolled turkey with accompaniments, salad, cheese platter, dessert and sparkling wine. The tables were beautifully decorated.

Provided by the municipal council.



Children's Christmas party 15th December 2019

Father Christmas came to distribute presents, while the commune provided tasty treats, lots of cake and chocolate. Horse and carriage rides were on offer, thanks to Sabots of the Nizonne.



Tartiflette evening 25th January 2020

In our first event of 2020 we had an evening hotly anticipated by lots of young - and not-so-young - residents. As always, there was a great atmosphere, with galette de rois for dessert. Organised by the events committee.

RAUZET

The members of ASEGR offer their deepest condolences to Jean-Pierre FAURE, who has lost his wife, and wish him the courage needed to face his grief and solitude.

2020 was a year that could be called an « *année blanche* » or a lost year, when little happened due to confinement.

Planned activities had to be cancelled as early as possible to avoid inconvenience to exhibitors and performers. Only « Dog dancing » (dogs and their master moving in sequence to music) from some Dutch friends was on display, because it was an open-air activity. This was well-received, and we may repeat it in 2021.

We only had 350 visitors this year compared to 1500 last year, with no events and no renovations. The walls were cleared of vegetation in November 2020. We received a grant for about a third of the cost, which had to be used in 2020. This involves removing grasses between stones before they become too large. We hope that 2021 will allow us to resume our programme of activities and work. The harpist Marion FERME is keen to return in 2021. The Regional Director of Cultural Affairs DRAC asked us find an architect to progress work, and Kate DOUGLAS has asked for a quote, with work hopefully being completed next year. We have also commissioned a model showing explanatory panels for the church.

François Gouriveau, President
(largely assisted by Michèle Rouffanche)

Hunters' meal 16th February 2020

The hunters are always keen to come along to sample soup, salad, stew, venison with beans, dessert and coffee.

Remembrance ceremonies of 8th May and 11th November 2020

This year, because of covid, we were unable to carry out our normal ceremonies but commemorations took place with very limited numbers.



Senior meal 2020

Due to covid, we were unable to offer a meal this year, so we distributed vouchers to residents aged 60 and over.

Children's Christmas party 2020

For the same reason, we distributed vouchers to the families of children to buy toys and games.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
to all



Home helps are at the heart of national solidarity

Even more indispensable at this time of health crisis, home helps are always ready to help the elderly and vulnerable. They work on the front line and are first in the fight against being alone. Without them, maintaining households would be difficult. We have put into place protection protocols and amended organisational goals to deal with the crisis on a daily basis: our teams are there to help, without regard for extra working hours or costs.

Our home helps have adequate protective equipment not only for their benefit, but also for yours

Not only do our employees undertake their professional work, but they have a mission to reassure clients about risks and help to counter loneliness due to relatives being unable to visit during confinement. This only underlines the psychological support offered by home helps, which is largely underestimated. In addition, ADMR Villebois and 3 Forests works in close partnership with professionals involved in home care, such as nurses, gerontologists and physiotherapists.

When talking about this profession, it is unrecognised and undervalued. This must end. This is why ADMR want to publicise two messages :

To our clients :

« Sanitary protocols are in place so that you have nothing to fear from our home helps »

To our home helps :

« Sanitary protocols are in place to ensure that your work is carried out with safety in mind »

Finally, ADMR is recruiting home helps.

This profession offers great value to the vulnerable and needs caring staff. If you are interested and would like to apply, please call the Federation of the Charente on 05 45 37 00 50.

A huge thank you to all the communes that continue to support us, especially the commune of Combiers.

Communal roadworks 2020

We organised three volunteer days in this very difficult year of covid. The first day was organised in February to erect supports for Combiers' new street name signs.

The second day was organised in September. A fantastic team of eight volunteers laid 7 tons of cold tar on a very sunny summer's day. I must mention that two of the team were young men from the commune – thank you, Alexis and Xavier.

A third day was also organised in September to erect the street name signs.

I say this every year, but it is thanks to the participation of our inhabitants and council members that we can carry out this work at little cost. This does not often happen in other communes. Once again, thank you to everyone involved.

Deputy mayor in charge of roads and communal paths

Alain JOSEPH



Le Petit Restaurant at Combiers

Take-away menu

Limousin beef with mushroom or pepper sauce, and fries 17 €

Burger and fries 13 €, vegetarian burger and fries 11€

Chicken curry or orange chicken 15 €
(48 hours notice)

Pizza
Margherita 10 €, chorizo 13 €, chicken 12 €, Hawaii 12 €

Fries 3 €, coleslaw 1 €

Dessert 6 €

**05 45 67 09 05 6pm-8pm every day
(except Xmas Day)**



Take care of yourselves