

The Townships Sun ^{\$1.50}

FEBRUARY 1999
~~December 1998 January 1999~~

Volume 26 No. ⁸~~6 & 7~~

Fire Destroys The Record Building and Presses

In the early morning hours of Saturday, January 2, 1998, flames destroyed the building, presses and equipment at *The Record*.

The Tuesday afternoon after the fire the one hundred and two-year-old Eastern Townships institution was back in full operation, with a first issue coming out on Wednesday. Temporary offices were set up in the old Eastern Townships School Board premises in Lennoxville. With the help of a few computers, a spirited staff and a printing press in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, the paper came back.

The paper will be published in a slightly different format for the next few weeks as the paper's style guides and formatting were

on computers lost in the fire. *The Record* and the dozen or so other publications that were published on the destroyed presses will be printed at a Quebecor-owned press in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu. *The Record* will be laid out by staff from the *Journal de Montreal*, also owned by Quebecor.

Several changes are obvious because of Quebecor's recent purchase of SunMedia Corp. the nation-wide chain of daily newspapers. *The Record* now prints national and provincial news stories from Sun papers across the country, increasing their news coverage. Pierre Francoeur said that many improvements are expected as the paper rises from the



Flames engulf the building housing *The Record*

ashes with the help of the Sun chains expertise, *The Record*, he said, is important to Quebecor due to its status as the only English-language daily in the East-

ern Townships, and one of only two in the province.

The newspaper's management and staff are determined that *The Record* shall continue to be the

Photo Courtesy of the Record

daily voice of the Eastern Townships, and to link people, organizations and communities across the region for a long time to come.

Family Literacy Day

by Bernie Epps

January 27th marked the First Annual Family Literacy Day, an attempt by those of us in the literacy movement to increase public awareness of the vital importance of reading in the home. You can't deliver your kids to Grade One with any assurance they will be taught to read, write and calculate effectively because it is often too late by then, damage has already been done in homes without books or bedtime stories.

BABIES NEED BOOKS The human brain is not a computer to be switched on at birth and fully functional thereafter. Nor is it a blank slate on which experience writes. The brain is still being developed during the crucial first three years of life and may be more likened to a muscle that must be exercised and expanded lest it remain undeveloped and atrophy from lack of use.

TELEVISION AND COMPUTERS ARE BAD BABY SITTERS. Spoken and written

language requires the brain to create meaningful images out of sounds and symbols. Television provides all the images leaving the brain nothing to do but stare.

BABIES NEED BOOKS as they need to be talked to, listened to and loved. But kids are showing up at Grade One not knowing their nursery rhymes. Hickory Dickory Dock, and One, Two, Buckle My Shoe, serve an essential purpose. One Grade Two class in the Stanstead area was recently found in which not one child had ever heard the story of Noah's Ark. All religion aside, that story of the animals two by two will be encountered hundreds, perhaps thousands of times before these kids are adults and they will be mystified every time until not understanding becomes a habit which they will pass on to their children in turn.

Until the late 1970s, all industrialized countries claimed a literacy rate of 98

or 99 per cent and believed illiteracy a problem only in the Third World. But the world was growing ever more complex and educators began worrying their High School graduates could not read or write well enough to function in the adult world. When the Eastern Townships School Board thought of creating the St. Francis Literacy Council in 1980. It first tried to measure the extent of the problem among the English-speaking community of the Eastern Townships. To everyone's surprise, they discovered illiteracy wasn't confined to isolated individuals who may have left school for health reasons or have some learning disability. But illiteracy runs in families — uncles, aunts, cousins, siblings — as many as eighteen in one case could not read and write well enough to function and so have to be supported by the state. That indicated the problem wasn't just educational. It was a social as well as an edu-

cational problem that could not be fixed with the perennial cry of 'Back to Basics' or 'better teachers'. Those who can't read become shy and withdrawn, often turn to alcohol and drugs. Clearly, reading and writing was far more important than had been supposed and involved all manner of specialists from developmental psychologists and neurologists to teachers and volunteer tutors.

People who work with their hands are very often prejudiced against books and 'book learning'. Reading is considered idleness. Some who had a hard time in school themselves carry painful associations with books and are leery of libraries. They are therefore more likely to deprive their children of the essential! bedtime story and so deprive them of the joy and power to be won from books and reading.

Family Literacy Day is an attempt to make a better world for us all.

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Editorial

Our Changeable Weather

The old cliché is "the weather — everyone talks about it, but we can't do anything about it."

Actually, we do.

For millenia, mankind has been adapting to the weather.

Ancient man learned to use fire and to live in caves. The first white men who went to Africa and India made an insulated hat to protect themselves from heat. The Inuit and American Indians learned to wear fur and leather to protect themselves from cold.

Settlers to the West adopted the buffalo robe as

their own and its use spread to Eastern Canada. Late eighteenth and early nineteenth century Canadians used hot bricks and stoneware containers filled with hot water to warm their beds or their feet when travelling by sleigh.

Mountain climbers learned to use "crampons" to cross icy patches and older people adopted them as "creepers" to go with their spiked canes.

Some environmentalists feel we are suffering from global warming; some blame "El Nino" and its reverse, "El Nina." Either way,

winters are changing and so will our habits.

Cars have long been fitted with snow tires, then studs, then all-season tires. More and more we see shrubs, small trees and hedges with some protection from the weather. More and more, our clothing designers are adapting to the particular weather the garment is made to be worn in.

Now if we could just remember to use all these things, or even to have them when needed, wouldn't that be nice?

Patricia Ball

January 18, 1999
Ms. Pat Ball
The Townships Sun

Dear Ms. Ball,

On behalf of the staff at The Record, I extend our thanks for your kind offer of the use of your office and computer, following the fire which ravaged our Sherbrooke premises. Our space requirements meant that we were unable to take advantage of your generosity.

We have been overwhelmed by the support shown to us by the community since the disaster and our temporary move to Lennoxville. The Record's personnel is very committed to keeping our daily newspaper going, putting in long hours to do so. Gestures of kindness are a source of inspiration to us.

Thanks again for your thoughtful gesture.

Sincerely

Randy Kinnear
Publisher
THE RECORD

Citizenship and Heritage Week February 8 to 15, 1999

Citizenship and Heritage Week, an annual celebration of Canadian citizenship, symbols and heritage, is a great week to celebrate.

As we approach the millennium, let's express our love of country, celebrate our rich past, share our common values, and prepare for an even brighter future. Let's also recognize and honour our local, regional and national heroes — those Canadians past and present who have made a difference in bettering our communities and country as a whole.

Citizenship and Heritage Week begins on Monday, February 8, with National Citizenship Week and concludes on Monday, February 15, with Heritage Day and National Flag of Canada Day.

There are symbols of identity that set Canada apart from other nations of the world. They tell the story of a nation, its people, environment and history. They also tell a story of a country made up of many different peoples, from the First Nations and Inuit who lived in Canada long before recorded history, to Europeans who explored and settled in Canada, and still others from every corner of the globe. Ours is a beautiful country with great potential. As Canadians, we can and should be proud of what we have accomplished and look forward to the future.

Across this vast country, people will be participating in many ways. How can you get involved? Take the time leading up to and during this Week to reflect on our legacy, how we have become who we are,



and where we would like to go as a country and as a society. Think about how our environment has shaped us and how it will shape future generations. Consider the many great individuals who have helped build Canada. During the Week, celebrate Canada's many heroes, past and present — discover what made them heroes, reflect on what they have given us, and discuss how we can emulate their spirit and commitment.

In this International Year of Older Persons, let's also connect with a generation who helped to build and define our nation as it is today.

Let's honour them for their past and current contributions, spend some time with them and include them in our activities.

We hope these thoughts will stimulate ideas for activities and events in your school, youth groups and community, and inspire you to join in celebrating Canada's rich past, exploring our present, and looking ahead to a bright future.

Let's join in celebrating Canada's rich past, exploring our present, and looking ahead to a bright future.

News Canada



Dear Editor,

Enclosed you will find payment for a one-year subscription for the "Townships Sun." A very interesting paper; a pleasure to read. I hope your good work will continue for many years.

A grateful reader,
Alice Fraser
Sherbrooke QC

Dear Editor,

The enclosed cheque covers one year renewal and the cost of the book "Indian Ways to Stagecoach Days," which I find interesting as I do "The Townships Sun." Hang in there, it's a great little paper.

Audrey Dougherty
Bury, QC

Dear Editor,

Enjoy the paper very much, look forward to more.

Mrs. Herman Cutler
Dixville, QC

Dear Editor,

I love my "Sun!" Thank you!

Dorothy Lapalme
Sherbrooke, QC

Dear Editor,

Please renew — we enjoy any news of the Townships.

Bertha Shulver
Chatham, ON

The 'Sun' cannot publish unsigned letters.



February

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Objectives:

To publish the Townships Sun, and provide support to the English community of the Eastern Townships through publication of information in the form of feature stories, interviews and in depth articles, etcetera.

The Townships Sun welcomes manuscripts, letters, and anecdotes. Material should be double spaced, have a telephone number included and be addressed to the Editor. Material accepted is subject to editing and revision. While all reasonable care is taken, we accept no responsibility for loss or damage to unsolicited material. Unsolicited manuscripts will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

—from the Townships Sun Charter.

Memory Lane

From Oxen to Oldsmobile

by Margaret Stevenson

As this twentieth century is drawing to a close, let us think back to the days before automobiles and modern machines when work was done at a much slower pace.

Three generations ago in the mid eighteenth hundreds land in the Eastern Townships in Quebec was being

plish the work of building shelters or making hand tools to help with farm work. These necessities helped sustain the lives of both people and animals.

As time passed into my parents' generation horses were introduced into the industry of farming. The ox

the turn of the century, one hundred years ago. Horses were frightened on the road by these unusual means of travel. When meeting one of these mechanical menaces my father often got out of the buggy and held the horse by its bridle thus giving assurance that there was no real

In 1926 my father bought a 1924 Overland sedan which provided for us a step forward into the mechanical age. No longer did we have a frightened horse to contend with on the road but a motorized vehicle which carried us into modern road transportation without fear.

With this standard shift vehicle and my father's instructions, I learned to drive at an early age.

Driving a car became a very convenient, enjoyable and gratifying experience for me over a period of 70 years.

Cars have improved and road regulations have changed to keep pace with modern technology in the closing years of the 20th Century. No longer are horses allowed to travel on main thoroughfares. Automobiles and trucks have taken over on the roads. What a change since horse and buggy days!

After driving eight different cars over a period of seventy years, I feel that the signals and controls on my '87 Oldsmobile are better regulated for the next century than 'gee' and 'haw' for oxen.



cleared for farming. This was not done with modern machinery but with the use of oxen. Strong and slow-moving animals, responding to voice signals of "gee" and "haw," they accomplished the hard work of hauling logs and pulling out stumps to prepare the land for raising crops of hay, grain and vegetables.

Along with this ox-power a lot of human ingenuity and energy was required to accom-

yokes were stored away in the hay-loft where they disappeared and re-appeared annually as the hay was stored in summer and used in winter to feed the cattle and horses. When my father sold the Granby South Ridge farm in 1942 the ox yokes were still there, a collector's item for an antique dealer!

As time progressed so did transportation. The day of the automobile was dawning at

danger. My mother usually begged to be left out of the buggy onto safer ground until the threat had passed. Caring and thoughtful car drivers would usually slow down or stop when they saw a frightened horse. Fortunately there were few automobiles on the road in the early 1900s. Consequently the horses did not have to suffer the frightening experience very often on a 5 mile journey.

A Tribute to The Record

It was with a mixture of shock and sorrow that I heard on the News that the Sherbrooke Record had a two million dollar loss by fire. This disaster, which destroyed most of their presses and work places, occurred on Saturday morning, January 2nd, 1999.

On Monday, January 4th, 1999, I received my first issue of the new Record — pretty fast work I'd say. Not only that, but a promise of a continuation of the same to come.

What a flood of memories, though! It seemed that the Record touched every facet of my entire life, all ninety-four years of it. While I was not present at the celebration that took place on August 15th, 1900 at Elmwood, the Sherbrooke Daily Record was.

Ever since I can remember, until my father's death in 1926, we received the Sherbrooke Record, by courier, that is to say, horse and buggy. At that time, even though we lived in the country, we received it the second day after it was published. I

remember how proud I was at the fine tribute the Record paid to my fathers farming technique in one of their issues. Even after I entered Kings College in Halifax, N.S. in 1927, I received a clipping from the Record stating that I had won the Dalhousie Freshman track event — small world.

While my travels as a high school principal took me to Asbestos, Windsor Mills, Waterloo, Knowlton, Three Rivers, Buckingham and, finally, Ormstown, I was close enough to Sherbrooke so that I could keep up my subscription to the Record.

When I finally moved to The Wales Home in 1993, I was able to receive the Record on a daily basis once again after all these years. It was like a breath of fresh air.

The Record may have received a mortal blow but it will surely never die.

**J.C. Moore
The Wales Home
Richmond, Quebec**

Did you know?

(NC)—The Vikings were the first Europeans to reach Canada, around 1000 A.D. The first was Bjarni Herjolfsson, followed by Leif Ericsson. They established a short-lived colony at L'Anse-aux-Meadows.

Did you know?

(NC)—In 1592, the first European to sail up the west coast of Canada was a Spanish explorer named Juan de Fuca.

Did you know?

(NC)—Lacrosse, one of Canada's two national sports, began as an Algonquian game called tokhonon, which, according to myth, was given to the people by Glooscap, the Creator.

Did you know?

(NC)—In 1871, Canadians of British and French descent together accounted for 92% of the population. By 1911, that number had dropped to 84%. Most of the newcomers came from Europe and settled in western Canada.



GUARANTEED INCOME SUPPLEMENT AND SPOUSE'S ALLOWANCE

Good News for Seniors. Now it's easy to renew your benefits.

The Government of Canada is simplifying the renewal process for seniors who receive the Guaranteed Income Supplement or Spouse's Allowance. Many pensioners will have their benefits automatically renewed by filling out their income tax return.

Watch your mail for information on how to renew.



If you haven't received your letter by February 15, contact Human Resources Development Canada free of charge at **1 800 277-9914**.

☑ If you use a TDD/TTY device, please call **1 800 255-4786**.



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Townships Tidings

Brie Chevalier wins big at Canadian Cheese Grand Prix

Agropur walked away with two first prizes at the Canadian Cheese Grand Prix Awards held in Halifax on September 13 — one for Brie Chevalier with fine herbs in the flavoured cheese category and the other for Brie Triple Creme Chevalier in the consumer packaging category.

Elimination of long distance charges in the Eastern Townships region

As of mid-January, long-distance charges were eliminated in several parts of the Eastern Townships — between the exchanges of: La Patrie / Cookshire, Asbestos / Bromptonville, Asbestos / Windsor, Bury / Scotstown, Chartierville / Cookshire, Chartierville / Sawyerville, Coaticook / Waterville, Danville / Bromptonville, Danville / Richmond, Danville / Windsor, East Hereford / Compton, East Hereford / Waterville, East Angus / Scotstown, Eastman / Deauville, Mansonville / Deauville, Mansonville / Eastman, Mansonville / Magog, Richmond / Bromptonville, Richmond / Windsor, Rock Island / Ayers Cliff, Rock Island / North Hatley, Sherbrooke / Danville, Sherbrooke / Eastman, Sherbrooke / Mansonville, St-Malo / Cookshire, Stratford / Bishopton, Stratford / East Angus, Stratford / St-Adolphe-de-Dudswell, Weedon / Bishopton, Weedon / East Angus, Wotton / Bromptonville, Wotton / Windsor.

Lennoxville research 'udderly' useful

Scientific research can be 'udderly' useful when it comes to combating mastitis, a disease affecting cows' udders that can mean heavy financial losses for dairy farmers. Almost two-thirds of producers' losses are due to a permanent drop in milk production caused by inflammation of the udder. Dr. Pierre Lacasse and his team at Agriculture and AgriFood Canada's Dairy and Swine Research Development Centre in Lennoxville, Que., have 'taken the bull by the horns' in search of a solution to this costly problem. Using innovative techniques, they identified a molecule that seems to play an important role in udder inflammation: nitric oxide. They are developing a technique to reduce nitric oxide production. Positive results could help preserve the cows' productivity and the quality of milk.

Six volunteer income tax clinics in Richmond

Thanks to the generous participation of area volunteers, Richmond's Centre the Benevolat is offering a volunteer income tax return service for low-income families and individuals of the Richmond area.

Six volunteer income tax clinics will be held Monday and Wednesday afternoons, March 1, 3, 8, 10, 15 and 17, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Gouin Street Community Centre in Richmond.

Those who are interested simply have to come to the centre with the necessary documents. Qualified and competent volunteers will be on hand to complete the income tax forms, in a discreet and confidential manner.

Please note that the service is free of charge and that it is meant exclusively for persons whose declaration of income is simple and who cannot afford the cost of having the income tax return done. The service is offered, among others, to low income workers, welfare recipients, the unemployed, single-parent families, the elderly, etc.

In closing, please note that this volunteer service is offered in cooperation with the Carrefour de la sante et des service sociaux du Val Saint-Francois, under the federal and provincial Revenue Departments' "Volunteer Programmes".

Information, Mrs. Marie-Josée Voisine, Richmond Centre de Benevolat, at 826-6166.

Give a Hand to Your Letter Carrier

With its usual share of inclement weather, the Quebec winter is the season which represents the biggest challenge for Canada Post's letter carriers. Aside from the cold, they must cope with snow, heavy winds, snowstorms and, of course, ice. These hazardous conditions, needless to say, can result in mishaps on slippery steps, pathways or sidewalks and, in some cases, cause serious injuries.

This winter, why not give your letter carrier a hand? The number of injuries caused by falls could be greatly reduced with everyone's collaboration. A few minutes is all it takes to clear the way to your mailbox. This may seem a mere gesture but it could contribute to your letter carriers' safety and that of your family and friends.

Brome Lake to Host Townshippers' Day 1999

Townshippers' Association has selected the Town of Brome Lake to host its very special 20th anniversary, Townshippers' Day, 1999. The big event will take place Saturday, September 18, 1999 at the Lion's Park in Knowlton.

Townshippers' Association has been promoting and defending the interests of the English

community in the Townships for nearly twenty years, and every year we've had an annual Townshippers' Day Bash. The Day is a celebration of everything that makes our area special: its history, culture, art and people. The day is celebrated in a different location of the Eastern Townships each year. This provides an opportunity for the host municipality to showcase its unique character, and allows Townshippers to get acquainted with a new corner of the region every year.

As in the past, you can expect lots of entertainment, children's and youth activities, artisans, information booths and other displays, as well as lots and lots of food. Everyone is welcome at Townshippers' Day next September 18 in the Town of Brome Lake. Come out and help them celebrate life in the Townships, and their twentieth birthday!

As Your Lease Winds to a Gentle June Closing ...

The Regie du logement wishes to remind landlords that most leases of twelve months or more expire on June 30, 1999, and landlords have, for these leases, until March 31, 1999 to provide notices of rent increase or modification of other conditions of the lease. That notice must clearly identify the new rent or the asked increase in dollars or in percentage and the other conditions that the landlord wishes to modify.

The landlord must also indicate in the notice that the tenant has a delay of one month after receiving the notice of modification of the lease, to refuse the modification or the increase of the rent and that he will vacate the dwelling at the end of the lease.

Forms for notifying tenants of changes in lease conditions and for tenant's responses are available free of charge at the offices of the Regie du logement. They are also available on Internet: <http://www.rdl.gouv.qc.ca>.

Bombardier Cleans up with Plane Deal

Seattle, Washington-based Horizon Air placed a firm order for twenty-five new-generation, seventy-seat Canadair Regional Jet Series 700 aircraft with Bombardier Aerospace, in December. The \$580 million U.S. (\$896 million Cdn.) transaction calls for deliveries to begin in mid-2002. The Horizon contract raised to ninety-six the number of firm orders for the CRJ Series 700 which is scheduled to enter airline service early in 2001.

Bombardier Aerospace, a unit of Bombardier Inc., is the world's third largest civil aircraft manufacturer. Bombardier Inc. is a Canadian corporation, active in the fields of aerospace, rail transportation equipment, recreational products, financial services and services related to its products and core businesses. It operates plants in eleven countries in North America and Europe.

Canada and U.S. Team up to Slaughter Hogs Faster

Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lyle Vanclief and U.S. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman have discussed the need to work together with other levels of government and the processing industry to address the North America-wide shortage of slaughter capacity for hogs.

Mr. Vanclief said he is urging governments at all levels and industry on both sides of the border to work together on solutions to the shortage of slaughter capacity.

Happy Valentine's Day

The Townships Sun



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Christmas Bird Counts

St. Francis Valley Naturalists Club Lennoxville Circle

37 Field Observers
29 at Feeders
December 19, 1998

Compiled by Gladys Mackey Beattie

Common Loon	4
Red-throated Loon	1
Great Blue Heron	1
Canada Goose	40
Snow Goose	3
American Black Duck	52
Mallard	1146
Mallard hybrid	2
Gadwell	1
American Widgeon	2
Common Goldeneye	48
Barrow's Goldeneye	3
Bufflehead	30
Hooded Merganser	34
Common Merganser	346
Double-crested Cormorant	1
Northern Goshawk	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1
Cooper's Hawk	1
Red-tailed Hawk	1
Broad-winged Hawk	1
Rough-legged Hawk	1
American Kestrel	1
Hawk species	1
Ruffed Grouse	15
Gray Partridge	12
Ring-Necked Pheasant	1
Ring-billed Gull	155
Herring Gull	1648
Iceland Gull	2
Great Black-backed Gull	235
Gull species	72
Rock Dove	470
Mourning Dove	502
Great Horned Owl	1
Barred Owl	1
Belted Kingfisher	2
Downy Woodpecker	36
Hairy Woodpecker	35
Pileated Woodpecker	1
Woodpecker species	1
Blue Jay	220
American Crow	669
Common Raven	6
Black-capped Chickadee	837
Red-breasted Nuthatch	21
White-breasted Nuthatch	45
Brown Creeper	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet	11
American Robin	6
European Starling	1238
Northern Cardinal	23
Am. Tree Sparrow	51
Sparrow species	1
Dark-eyed Junco	18
Snow Bunting	20
Northern Shrike	2
Purple Finch	50
Common Redpoll	2
Pine Siskin	16
American Goldfinch	549
House Sparrow	157
Northern Mockingbird	1

Number of species - 59
Total number of individuals - 8857

Week of Count - Northern Flicker

Exceptional year!

This year's Lennoxville circle Christmas bird count was outstanding from all aspects; not only in the number of individual birds seen, but from the number of different species too.

Perhaps because of our milder winters we are finding more species as time passes. In the 1960s we averaged 28 species and 1493 individual birds per year. In the '70s we jumped up to 32.6 species and 2,413 birds. In the '80s, that average rose to 43.6 species and 4,289.5 birds. Our 9-year average for the 1990s is 46.6 species and 5,297 birds.

The "scrap birds" — gulls, crows, pigeons, and starlings — are increasing their numbers rapidly. Perhaps because of the milder weather, more specials like the N. Mockinbird are being found.

For you chickadee lovers, here are a few statistics for your feeder favourites: starting in 1991, their numbers have been 640, 810, 947, 506, 313, 741, 642, and 837.

Much can be learned from the information gained from the Christmas bird count on a local basis, and on national and international levels.

- Gladys Beattie

Georgeville Bird Club

31 Observers
December 8th 1998

Compiled by Angela Losito

Common Loon	17
Great Blue Heron	2
Canada Goose	1582
American Black Duck	2
Mallard	27
Mallard hybrid	1
Common Goldeneye	142
Hooded Merganser	2
Common Merganser	24
Duck sp.	168
Bald Eagle	2
Red-tailed Hawk	1
Hawk sp.	1
Ruffed Grouse	8
Herring Gull	24
Great Black-backed Gull	3
Gull sp.	21
Rock Dove	249
Mourning Dove	151
Belted Kingfisher	1
Downy Woodpecker	8
Hairy Woodpecker	14
Pileated Woodpecker	6
Blue Jay	109
American Crow	77
Common Raven	13
Black-capped Chickadee	220
Red-breasted Nuthatch	7
White-breasted Nuthatch	21
Brown Creeper	2
Winter Wren	1
American Robin	5
European Starling	84
Northern Cardinal	1
Am. Tree Sparrow	3
Song Sparrow	1
Dark-eyed Junco	6
Snow Bunting	25
Common Grackle	1
Purple Finch	14
House Finch	6
American Goldfinch	137
House Sparrow	123

Number of Species - 41
Total Individuals - 3286

Week of count. - 20 Pine Siskins

Lennoxville and Knowlton Counts submitted by Camille Dufresne, MVNC and SLOE

Knowlton (Lac Brome) Bird Club

13 Field Observers
24 at Feeders
December 19, 1998

Compiled by Ilah Ferrier
1-450-243-6644

Common Loon	1
Canada Goose	1
American Black Duck	19
Mallard	162
Greater Scaup	30
Lesser Scaup	7
Common Goldeneye	140
Hooded Merganser	5
Common Merganser	2
Northern Goshawk	2
Ruffed Grouse	1
Herring Gull	26
Rock Dove	122
Mourning Dove	114
Great-Horned Owl	1
Downy Woodpecker	24
Hairy Woodpecker	20
Pileated Woodpecker	1
Blue Jay	168
American Crow	71
Common Raven	14
Black-capped Chickadee	447
Red-breasted Nuthatch	11
White-breasted Nuthatch	24
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3
European Starling	232
Northern Cardinal	6
Am. Tree Sparrow	66
Dark-eyed Junco	22
Northern Shrike	1
Purple Finch	8
Common Redpoll	3
American Goldfinch	22
Evening Grosbeak	15
House Sparrow	48

Number of species - 35

Week of Count - Snow Bunting

Best Year Yet!

Townships Gourmet



by Drake Welton

Sometime in late December, your humble reviewer and a bevy of culinary comrades forayed forth to try one of Sherbrooke's better Eastern restuaruants.

First among the adventures of the day was finding Panda: St. Francois North is a one-way street the wrong way from King, requiring a bit of fancy manoeuvring to get one into the parking lot. All these hassles were washed away, however, by one brief look at the menu. Panda boasts what one could call "Can-Asian cuisine;" food that one suspects is a little less than one hundred per cent authentic, but good and slightly exotic nonetheless. Lunch specials range from \$6.50 (for chicken, beef and pork dishes) to \$7.50 (plates involving seafood.) The special includes Won-Ton or Hot & Sour soup, a spring roll, steamed or fried rice, coffee or tea, and an optimistically named "dessert" (in fact, an almond cookie).

Yours truly tried the Beef with Black Beans, while his companions tackled the Scallop & Vegetables, Chicken & Lemon, and Sweet & Sour Pork dishes.

The soups met with universal acceptance, one reviewer praising the Won-Ton highly while another finding it bland. The Hot & Sour soup was spiced perfectly, but a little heavy on the salt.

The main courses were all praised for their reasonable portions. The Chicken & Lemon was made with real lemon sauce, a plus, and it was discovered that the lemon sauce was also a delightful addition to the spring roll. The Sweet & Sour Pork, quickly dubbed a "middle ground between 'really Chinese' and 'regular' cooking," was pleasant, and the Scallops and Vegetables boasted both good scallops and a varied selection of vegetables, unlike the pea and carrot mix a lot of restaurants seem to 'cheap out' with. The Beef and Black Bean dish was well-proportioned, with a reasonable amount of both elements worked together, but was more pronounced with the soy sauce than necessary.

The spring rolls that accompanied the meal were met with praise round the table, while opinion was divided on the fried rice, one camp finding it perfect while the other side found it listless.

Coffee rounded out the meal, and the almond cookie "dessert" was, well, good for those who don't want a heavy dessert, while a tad disappointing to a diner expecting extravagance.

Pleasant decor, clean wash-rooms, and very helpful bilingual service rounded this out to be an overall pleasurable experience.

Restaurant Panda
60 Boul. St-Francois N.
Sherbrooke, QC
(819) 566-5818

1999 - International Year of Older Persons

Canada's Senior Population Among Fastest Growing in the World

While seniors currently represent 12% of Canada's total population, they will account for 23% by the year 2041, a trend that will significantly alter the economic, social and cultural profile of our country.

Canada's participation in International Year of Older Persons (IYOP) is designed to help dispel myths about aging, reduce the fear of aging, and promote a more realistic image of aging between the generations. The goal is to increase recognition of Canadian seniors and their contributions to society. Canadian seniors are a diverse group whose culture, language, health status, geographic lo-

cation and income levels vary dramatically. Regardless of their location, background or lifestyle, the vast majority of Canadian seniors play an immensely positive role in the lives of families and communities across the country.

News Canada

Seniors' contribution valued in the billions

Did you know that an estimated 23% of Canadian seniors contribute time each week as unpaid volunteers? The economic value of the volunteer work done by seniors is estimated at between \$764 million and \$2.3 billion annually. As caregivers to spouses, family, friends and neighbours, seniors are also a vital force in reducing health care costs.

According to the 1997 National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating, conducted by Statistics Canada, the average number of hours volunteered annually by individual Canadians aged sixty-five and older is two hundred and two, the highest among all the age cohorts. Eighty per cent of Canadians, aged sixty-five and older, donate to charitable and non-profit organizations. The average annual donation is \$328 compared to \$239 for all age groups.

News Canada

Is Your Community Senior Friendly?

The world's population is aging rapidly - during the next several decades, the proportion of older persons will increase from one in fourteen to one in four.

Canadian communities should take this opportunity to review and improve the physical and social services they offer their constituents. The goal is simple, to create an environment in which older citizens can remain independent, contributing members of society. Simple changes can make a difference in the lives of seniors.

Senior-friendly projects identify facilities and services oriented to older people, and assess how well they meet the needs and characteristics of this growing population. Projects usually start with the formation of a committee, typically made up of seniors and community groups.

Once a committee has been formed, a plan is usually drafted which includes things like:

- Set review criteria used for assessing services;
- Assessment - outline of

which facilities and services will be reviewed;

- Award Program - public appreciation of services and facilities that meet (or exceed) your criteria;

- Advice: tips and ideas on how those who didn't meet criteria can improve;

Examples of questions that companies and communities should ask themselves include:

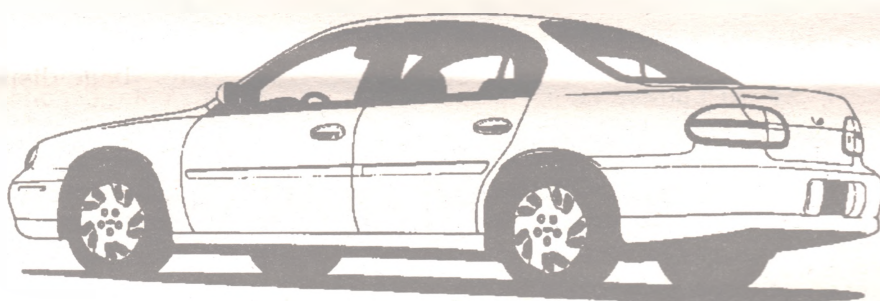
Do taxi drivers help seniors to and from their doors, assist with groceries?

Are ramps and automatic doors clearly marked in public buildings? Are public areas well lit at night? Do police officers receive training in elder abuse?

Are bank employees trained to deal with the special needs of older clients, and to recognize when someone might be taking financial advantage of them?

News Canada

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Fuel Key to Tackling Winter Driving

Canadian winters have long caused havoc for Canadian drivers. However, being prepared and successfully maneuvering through these slippery conditions is as Canadian as pond hockey.

Most Canadian drivers take the time to prepare their car for the winter season by changing to winter tires, topping anti-freeze and windshield washer fluids and preparing "survival kits". However, according to Alan Kinoshita from Petro-Canada, drivers often overlook the important role gasoline plays in ensuring vehicles start and help drivers reach their destination.

Many car owners spend a lot of time and money preparing their vehicles for winter driving, but they often overlook the fact that the type of fuel they use may stop them in their tracks," says Kinoshita, director of fuels at Petro-Canada. "One reason for a car's inability to start during the winter months is accumulation of condensation which can freeze within the fuel line."

Kinoshita recommends the use of a specifically formulated gasoline to deal with harsh conditions. Petro-Canada has introduced SuperClean WinterGas which contains an actual anti-freeze additive within the formulation to help keep fuel lines flowing.

Although consumers are able to purchase fuel line anti-freeze separately, Petro-Canada's WinterGas is the only gasoline product available that includes a specific anti-freeze agent within the formulation at no extra cost.

Aside from helping to keep fuel flowing in cold weather, SuperClean WinterGas also provides the benefits of Petro-Canada's unique Deposit Control Additive (DCA). This special formulation helps to clean an engine by attacking and removing deposits that clog up intake ports, valves and injectors. By further cleaning dirty valves and fuel injectors SuperClean WinterGas helps to reduce tailpipe emissions and may actually improve mileage.

In addition to using appropriate gasoline, Kinoshita also recommends considering the following tips to help survive driving through another Canadian Winter:

- To maximize visibility, clear all snow and ice from all windows, windshield and lights

- Compile and keep a survival kit in the trunk of your vehicle. The kit should consist of lock de-icer, a small shovel, snow removal brush and ice-scraper, booster cables, candles (with tin cans to bum them in), additional clothing and boots, non-perishable snacks, some blankets or sleeping bags, extra bottles of windshield washer fluid, and bags of sand for traction

- Remember to allow for extra time and drive carefully.

Petro-Canada

A Valentine for Edgar

by Felix Bander

Edgar Zimmerman opened the envelope, looked inside, and smiled.

He was standing on his front stoop, a small square of concrete that rose mystically out of his slush-covered lawn; a abutment between the savagery of lawn life and the civilization of home and hearth. For reasons unknown, the original owners of the house had not put a path between the front stoop and the driveway — laziness, carelessness, dementia — and Edgar had actually exited through the garage. All of this made the front stoop a little magical, somehow, except to the mailman. He had to cross fifteen feet of sludge to drop Edgar's mail off in the box on the front door. His resentment towards Edgar's pathless approach had been steadily rising over the past few years, and he had slowly mounted to a pathology. Edgar would find his magazines unduly crumpled, his cards folded, and letters tangled from the mailman's shaking them in fits of rage. He walked across Edgar's lawn to shove them haphazardly into the mail box.

But this envelope was pristine, as if even the blind touch of the mailman couldn't penetrate its innate goodness. Edgar reached inside and pulled out the card. The Valentine. The valentine for him, the thirty-two valentineless years. His. First. Valentine. Ever.

The sun burst out in glorious radiance from behind a cloud as Edgar slowly examined the front of the card. A large red heart with an arrow through it, and a fat, tousled angel peeking over its shoulder. The angel seemed full of mischief and mischief; the heart, out to burst with love and joy. Edgar almost smiled, there on his porch on a sunny February morning. Taking a deep breath, he flipped the card open.

"BECAUSE WE LOVE YOU ..."

"We?" Edgar's left eyebrow arched up. Who sent "we" valentines? Was it a group of people? Did a group of people love him?

"... FIFTY PER CENT OFF ON ALL MUFFLER CHANGES UNTIL MARCH 1!"

There was a picture at the top of the card of the boss-headed angel in coveralls, holding a wrench and still grinning jauntily, dark smudges on his face.

The card fluttered to the top out of Edgar's numb fingers,

hit the stoop on the bottom corner of its spine, and gently fell face-forward into a pile of slush. The back of the card read "BIG AL'S MUFFLER DEPOT." There was an address. Edgar didn't read it. He blinked up

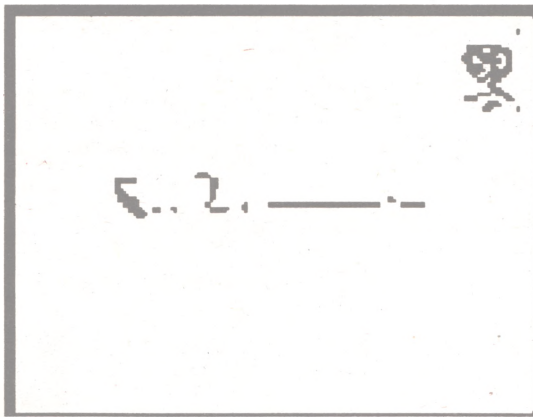
at the sun, muttered an unbelievably foul word under his breath, and walked back into the house.

It was only the thirteenth; there was still tomorrow. But there was no mail on Sundays, which meant his batting average was perfect. Thirty-two for thirty-two. He shouldn't have gotten his hopes up, he chided himself, walking into the kitchen for a cup of coffee. Should have known better. The writing had been on the wall since he was fifteen years old.

Edgar had led a singularly valentineless life, until his fifteenth year. Then, it seemed like the lifelong drought would end: the Student's Council at his high school, in a fit of overwhelming charity, decided to give every student in the school a single carnation for free as well as those that they sold to raise money. You could buy carnations for someone you liked; year after year Edgar had seen carnations being bought, received and oohed and aahed over around him. But this year, everyone was getting one. There was no way he could lose.

Finally, the day arrived. The bundles of carnations were delivered to the home rooms and handed out with the requisite amount of delight and cheer; the clusters of flowers for the popular kids being dealt out first. Then, the mandatory carnation-per-student was passed out. Edgar's heart was pounding. Granted, it was sort of a 'null Valentine,' since everybody got one, but it was something. All acknowledgement that he, Edgar Zimmerman, existed on this most romantic of all days. The senior handing out the carnations passed them out, walking down the aisles. Thomson. Timms. Tyler. Utne. Ulverton. Walker. Whistler. Winder. Xavier. Xavier. Yance. And finally ... Zimmerman. The carnation dispenser looked into his bucket, then looked down at the expectant Edgar.

"Sorry, guy," he said, not seeming very sorry at all. Reaching into the bucket, he



produced a stem and handed it to Edgar with as much ceremony as possible.

"The flower must have fallen off."

Edgar had stared at his stem. It wasn't a bad stem, as stems went. Firm. Green. A couple of robust leaves. And no flower. It was then that his valentineless past and valentineless future seemed to collide, and Edgar saw in that moment, with perfect clarity, his place in a continuity free of Valentines. He was a point on an infinite line of valentinelessness, a line that stretched forever into the past and the future. It was not to be avoided. It could not be denied. He was locked into valentineless destiny.

This is not to say that Edgar was completely hopeless when it came to dating. Not at all. He had had a few girlfriends for odd months here and there, through the years. Nothing ever too serious, nothing that lasted, but enough that he placed himself in a category a few inches above 'utterly pathetic.' It just so happened that he had never had a girlfriend at that time of year, that an annual plague seemed to descend upon him in mid-January that destroyed any relationship he might be in and ruined, once again, any hope for a Valentine. He had considered, from time to time, mailing himself a Valentine just to see what would happen, but never did. That would be cheating.

Edgar pattered around in the kitchen, trying to take his mind off it. It was a stupid holiday anyway, invented by greeting-card companies and chocolate merchants. It didn't mean anything. His toast sproinged out of the toaster, burnt black on one side. Edgar scooped it onto a plate and attacked the charred side, scraping the dark off with a knife. It was pointless to dwell on. There'd be other years. Having scraped the carbon off the toast and pushed it into a neat pile on the side of the plate, Edgar started to carefully apply butter. He was an

agent of destiny, anyway. Then marmalade. If he did get a Valentine, the universe would explode. Or something.

The toast tasted dry in Edgar's mouth. The marmalade was sour. He ate it anyway.

The knock on the door made him jump. It was Saturday, and he wasn't expecting visitors. Nothing needed to be fixed. He walked to the front door and looked through the peephole. It was his mailman.

Edgar opened the door a crack. The mailman glared at him. "This must have fallen outta my bag when I was getting out of tile truck," he said. "It got run over a lot. I think a dog was at it for a while. And I dropped it when I was crossing your lawn. And stepped on it. Twice."

Edgar opened the door a little wider. The mailman was holding between his thumb and forefinger with all the disdain accorded a dead rat, an envelope. Edgar's name was barely legible through the muck, mud, tire marks, boot marks, and bites. Edgar reached out and gingerly took the envelope from the mailman. The mailman looked at Edgar with an expression of pure hate, and slowly, deliberately, looked down at his feet. Edgar followed his gaze. The mailman's feet were soaked, the leather of his boots cracking.

"Uh, Edgar said. "I'll be getting a front walk. Soon."

The mailman shot Edgar another look of sheer malevolence. "Don't hurry on my account," he hissed, and stomped off the porch. His deteriorating boots made a sucking noise as he marched across the slush-covered lawn.

Edgar looked down at the envelope in his hand. It had been pretty much destroyed, but was the right size and shape to hold a card. His name was hand-written on the front, not typed. The return address had been obliterated. Edgar carried the envelope into the kitchen and laid it on the counter. He got a knife out and prepared to make a surgical cut in the side of the envelope to extract the card inside. Then he paused. He looked at the envelope again. He picked it up. Turned it over. There was no way of telling what was inside. If there had been some sort of card-company mark on the back of the envelope, it had been smudged out long ago.

Edgar stood there for a long time, staring at the envelope. Finally, he walked over to the sink, turned the garbage disposal on, and gently fed it through. The shredded remains of the envelope and its contents floated down the drain and into the sewer.

Edgar walked over to the coffee maker and poured himself a cup of coffee.

It tasted good.

Better than usual, even.

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Warm Food for Winter Days

On a cold day, it's hard to top the satisfaction of a hearty soup to warm the body and soul. A rich soup base, made easy with OXO cubes in beef, chicken or vegetable flavour, make home-made meals easier to prepare. This season, serve up a generous bowl of piping hot Vegetable and Rice Soup for a nutritious, no-fuss family meal.

Nothing warms the home like the smell of freshly baked bread still hot from the oven. Whether you're a seasoned bread baker or just a novice, Oatmeal Casserole Bread is well worth the effort. There's no need for kneading this nutritious treat. Casserole Bread stays moist and makes wonderful toast.

You probably know that dietary fibre is important to your health. You may even know that nutritionists recommend thirty grams of fibre a day. Are you reaching this goal? Most fresh fruits and vegetables provide about two grams of fibre per serving. You'd have to eat lots to get your thirty grams. Just 1/2 cup / 125 mL of Nabisco 100% Bran Cereal gives you ten grams of fibre or one third of the recommended daily amount.

Because fibre is important to your health, you should incorporate it into your diet throughout the day. 100% Bran can be used in all kinds of recipes such as the one for Fruit 'n Nut Loaf given here. This loaf combines wheat, oats and fruit to yield a delicious, moist quick bread with 4.6 g of fibre per slice.

Pop these delicious bar cookies into school lunch boxes and you've added a nutritious lunch-time treat that's sure to be eaten, not traded away. With peanuts, rolled oats and Carnation Instant Skim Milk Powder, these chocolaty peanut cookies provide fibre, protein and calcium.

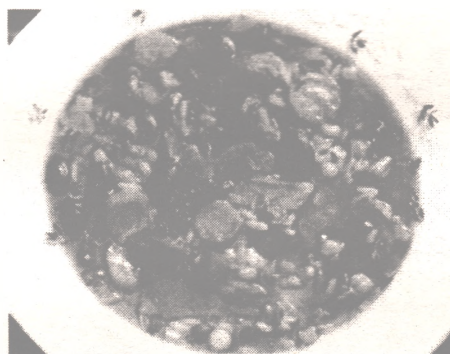


Vegetable and Rice Soup

3 cups	750 mL	sliced cabbage
2	2	celery stalks, chopped
1	1	medium onion, chopped
3	3	carrots, peeled & sliced
1/4 cup	50 mL	chopped fresh parsley
2	2	cloves garlic, minced
3 Tbsp	50 mL	vegetable oil
6 cups	1.5 L	water
4	4	OXO Beef Bouillon Cubes*, crumbled
2 cans/16oz	2 cans/455 mL	stewed tomatoes
1 can/10 oz	1 can/284 mL	kernel corn
1/2 cup	125 mL	long grain rice
1 tsp	5 mL	each of salt and oregano
1/2 tsp	2 mL	each of pepper and thyme
1 can/16 oz	1 can/455 mL	red kidney beans

In large pot, over medium heat, saute cabbage, celery, onion, carrots, parsley and garlic in oil for about 5 minutes. Add water, OXO, tomatoes, corn, rice, salt, pepper, oregano and thyme. Bring to boil and cook, stirring occasionally for 10 minutes. Reduce heat and stir in beans. Simmer 1 hour. Season to taste.

*1 OXO cube = 1 OXO packet = 1 Tbsp [15 mL] OXO powder or OXO liquid.



OXO's flavourful recipe for Vegetable and Rice Soup makes a warming and colorful meal.

Multigrain Fruit 'n Nut Loaf

1 cup	250 mL	boiling water
1 cup	250 mL	Nabisco 100% Bran Cereal
1 cup	250 mL	quick cooking rolled oats
1/2 cup	125 mL	chopped pitted prunes
1/4 cup	50 mL	butter
1	1	egg
1/2 cup	125 mL	milk
1/4 cup	50 mL	molasses
1/4 cup	50 mL	firmly packed brown sugar
1 3/4 cups	425 mL	whole wheat flour
1/2 cup	125 mL	chopped walnuts
1 Tbsp	15 mL	Magic Baking Powder
1/2 tsp	2 mL	salt

Pour boiling water over cereal, rolled oats, prunes and butter in bowl; stir until butter melts. Cool. Stir in egg, milk, molasses and brown sugar, until well combined. Mix remaining ingredients in large bowl. Stir cereal mixture into dry ingredients, stirring just until moistened. Spread evenly in greased 9 x 5-inch (2L 23 x 13 cm) loaf pan. Bake at 350°F (180°C) for 55 to 60 minutes, or until wooden pick inserted in centre comes out clean. Cool in pan 10 minutes, then turn out onto rack to cool completely. Store in airtight container. Makes 1 loaf (14 slices). Per slice: 193 calories, 4.6 g dietary fibre.

Oatmeal Casserole Bread

1 3/4 cups	425 mL	boiling water
3/4 cup	175 mL	ROBIN HOOD or OLD MILL Oats
1/4 cup	50 mL	molasses
1 1/2 tsp	7 mL	salt
3 Tbsp	45 mL	oil
1 tsp	5 mL	sugar
1/2 cup	125 mL	warm water (app. 105°F/40°C)
1	1	package active dry yeast
4 cups	1000 mL	ROBIN HOOD All-Purpose Flour



Oatmeal Casserole Bread is easy to make and tastes terrific.

Pour boiling water over oats in large mixer bowl. Stir in molasses, salt and oil. Cool to lukewarm. Dissolve sugar in warm water. Sprinkle in yeast. Let stand 10 minutes, then stir well. Add dissolved yeast and 1 1/2 cups (375 mL) flour to oat mixture. Beat on low speed of electric mixer 1/2 minute then on high speed for 3 minutes, scraping sides of bowl often. Stir in by hand the remaining 2-1/2 cups [625 mL] flour until thoroughly blended. Cover with greased wax paper and tea towel. Let rise in warm place (75°-85°F/24°-29°C) until doubled — 45-60 minutes.

Beat 25 strokes with wooden spoon. Dough will be sticky. Grease a 2 qt (2L) casserole or 9" x 5" (2L) loaf pan. Sprinkle oats lightly on bottom and sides of pan. Place dough in pan and sprinkle oats lightly on top, pressing down gently. Cover with tea towel and let rise in warm place until dough is 1" (cm) above top of pan — 30 minutes.

Bake on lower oven rack at 375°F (190°C) for 35-45 minutes. If necessary, cover loaf with foil for last 10 minutes to prevent over-browning of crust.

Preparation Time: 15 minutes. Rising Time: 1 1/2 hours. Baking Time: 45 minutes. Servings: 1 loaf. Freezing: Excellent.

Peanut Chocolate Chip Bars

3/4 cup	175 mL	butter, softened
1 cup	250 mL	peanut butter
3/4 cup	175 mL	packed brown sugar
2	2	eggs
1 tsp	5 mL	vanilla
1 1/4 cups	300 mL	all purpose flour
1 cup	250 mL	quick cooking rolled oats
1/2 cup	125 mL	CARNATION Instant Skim Milk Powder
1 tsp	5 mL	baking soda
1/2 tsp	2 mL	salt
1 cup	250 mL	coarsely-chopped peanuts
1 1/2 cups	375 mL	semi-sweet chocolate chips

In a large mixer bowl, cream together butter, peanut butter, brown sugar, eggs and vanilla until light and fluffy. Combine flour, rolled oats, skim milk powder, baking soda and salt. Blend into creamed mixture. Stir in peanuts and chocolate chips. Spread batter evenly into foil-lined 15 10-inch (38 x 25 cm) jelly roll pan. Bake in 375°F (190°C) oven 20 to 25 min. Cool on rack. Holding edges of foil lining, remove baked cookie from pan. Use a sharp knife to cut parallel and diagonal lines to make diamond shape bars. Makes 35 to 40 bars.

Carnation

Who-Dunits for Cozy Nights

Welcome to winter! In the good old days, when I was young winter arrived slowly, allowing one to acclimatize to the cold and snow. Now it comes all at once and leaves us grasping for breath as we try to extricate ourselves from our homes, only to find we cannot go any further because the roads have not been cleared.

There is no better time to sit back, relax and watch a good movie. The key word here is 'good' movie, because after shovelling snow and trudging down to the video store, you really do not want to get back home and find out you have rented a dud. So here are a few suggestions.

"Out of Sight" stars George Clooney and Jennifer Lopez. Jack Foley is a two time loser at robbing banks. The last time he got caught because his car would not start. While in prison he befriends a man doing time for tax evasion who claims to have stashed a couple of million dollars in raw diamonds. This could be the opportunity of a lifetime. So Jack devises a plan to break out of prison. Everything is going smoothly until he reaches the parking lot and runs into a federal marshall who is waiting to pick up her boyfriend. His partner stuffs the federal marshall into the trunk along with Foley and proceeds to the rendez-vous where they will meet another friend.

The federal marshall, Karen Sisco, is calm and cool and they start to talk about movies, etc. When it comes time to switch cars Foley wants to keep the marshall but she manages to get away with the third accomplice, who proceeds to have an accident, and escape.

Now they are on opposite sides of the law, but neither can shake the feeling that something happened while they were locked in the trunk. What if they had met under different circumstances? Foley manages to call Karen at her home and Karen is trying to get assigned to the case to find Foley. Meanwhile a plan is being formed to heist the diamonds, unfortunately another ex-con is now involved and he would not hesitate to kill anyone who gets in his path.

Karen must deal with the chauvinistic attitudes of the man in charge of the case if she wants to be involved and at one point when they are closing in on Foley's hideaway (in an old folks home) she is

The Video Showcase



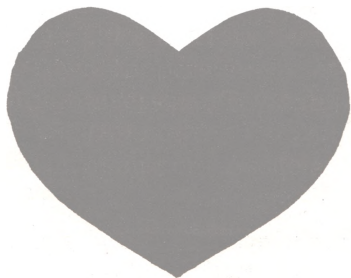
by Kathleen Hanna

told to watch the reception area and not to move. When the elevator door opens up and she sees Foley she does not move, but watches the doors close. Time is running out, though, and someone will get hurt.

If you follow my reviews you will know that writing and plot development are the most important aspects of a movie for me. Well this movie adds another dimension, editing. It is stylish, true to form and very very well edited. I cannot explain what I mean, you will just have to watch for yourself. Enjoy.


"Twilight" stars Paul Newman. Susan Sarandon and Gene Hackman with James Garner. Harry Ross is a very tired private detective who has taken up residence with some old friends: a very famous movie star and director. Many years ago, there was some controversy about the disappearance of her first husband and the case was never solved. Slowly, clues start to appear and people start to disappear. Harry starts out doing a favour and ends up right in the middle of a murder investigation that will perhaps put an end to the speculation about what happened all those years ago.

This is a good mystery except it has the obligatory sexual situations found in most American movies that are directed by the numbers. What pulls this one above the rest is the performances by the three leading actors and James Garner is icing on the cake.



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Biography, Politics and History

Voice of the Vanishing Minority
Robert Sellar and the Huntingdon Gleaner
1663—1919
Robert Hill
McGill University Press 1998
Montreal & Kingston • London • Ithaca

Based on research done for a doctoral thesis, this book is a recounting of the life of Robert Sellar and his work as owner/editor of the *Gleaner*, one of several newspapers that operated in the Chateauguay Valley. It is still operating.

The material is biographical. The story is put together with information from the *Gleaner's* archives, personal diaries and papers of Robert Sellar and others.

The book is also a partial history of the politics of the Chateauguay Valley, and indirectly of Quebec and Canada, during the man's lifetime.

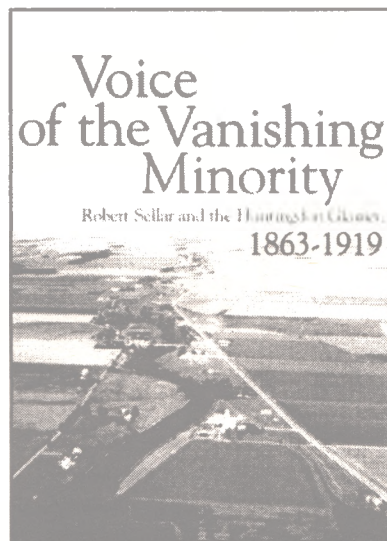
Sellar's opinions on Confederation, the Fenian Rebellion and Canada's first Parliament are his own, often in opposition to those of his fellow citizens and readers. Hill describes Sellar as the most quoted rural newspaperman in Canada. Sellar's opinions on the subject of the increasing French presence in English-speaking districts made him a very quotable man. Sellar believed that the spread of French people to the English-speaking districts of the Chateauguay Valley and the Townships was a deliberate, well-planned and well-financed plot of the Catholic Church to extend their influence.

In the *Gleaner* he expressed those views, and they were widely quoted in other newspapers across Canada. He also expressed his personal views on politics — local, provincial and federal. Because he was an articulate man whose opinions often ran counter to the thought of the general population what he said was newsworthy.

I enjoyed the book. It gives an idea of what life was like for the ordinary small businessman or farmer who operated in the area in the late


nineteenth century; details like how travel across the border was open and subject more to the condition of the roads than any barriers at the line, and the hardships of travelling from Huntingdon to Montreal in winter.

There is a strong sense of



the difference in the time expended to travel, obtain supplies or distribute a newspaper or mail, especially in the early years.

The Bookcase



by Patricia Ball

I must admit that my favourable impression of the book may be a bit prejudiced by my familiarity with the struggles of a small newspaper, and with a sympathy for Sellar's financial problems. I am also familiar with the *Gleaner* as it exists today. Now it is a bilingual paper, with the same content in both official languages. It still brings news of friends and neighbours and other important items to the people of the Chateauguay Valley.

I was also struck by the individualism of newspapers at the time of Mr. Sellar. The paper expressed the opinions of Sellar and the party he backed. Today a newspaper tries to present a balanced picture of all parties' policies.

For anyone interested in life as it was a hundred years or so ago, for anyone interested in the erosion of the English language and English rights in Quebec, for anyone who just plain likes a good biography, this is a good read.

Books Available at The Townships Sun

sun books



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The Life and Times of a High School Principal in Rural Quebec by J. Clifford Moore	\$ 10.00 by mail \$ 12.50
Indian Ways to Stagecoach Days New Hampshire — Vermont — Quebec by Katherine MacKenzie	\$ 14.00 by mail \$ 16.50
Memories of an Outport Son by Arthur Boorne Lovelace	\$ 5.00 by mail \$ 7.50
More Tales of the Townships by Bernard Epps	\$ 5.00 by mail \$ 7.50
The Vine and The Branches by Reg Conner	\$ 39.00 by mail \$ 43.00

By mail—Box 28,
Lennoxville JIM 1Z3
7 Conley Street, Lennoxville

Prices include GST

Mon—Fri 9:00 a.m.
to 12:00 noon

Events ... Events ... Events ...

Third Annual Cross-Country Ski Loppett

A cross country ski loppett will be held on Saturday, February 13 at the Round Barn ski centre in Coaticook by Townshippers' Association, the Societe de developpement de la Gorge de Coaticook and the Club de ski de fond des Cantons. A loppett is a friendly cross-country ski event open to skiers of all levels.

The loppett will be a social, family event for recreational skiers, Colin Jardine, Townshippers' Chair of the Loppett Committee explains. Ribbons will be awarded in several age categories.

Participants can choose to ski either a 10, 25 or 50 km course. Registration costs include refreshment along the course and a buffet-style banquet following the event. All competitions start at 10:00 a.m. at 400 St-Marc Street, Coaticook. Costs are: 10 km - \$20.; 25 km - \$25.; 50 km - \$30. However, there is a \$5. reduction for anyone registering before February 1.

To register, contact Townshippers' Association at [819] 566-5717 or the Coaticook Gorge at [819] 849-2331.

A family ski day not to be missed!

Desmarais & Gordon return to Bandeen Hall

On January 29 at 8:00 p.m., Bishop's Bandeen Hall will welcome Gail Desmarais, soprano and Tom Gordon, piano. The evening will feature a performance of '5 Lieder' by Austrian composer Alma Schindler Mahler.

Tickets are available at the Centennial Theatre box office: [819] 822-9692. Admission prices for adults and seniors are \$10 and \$8 respectively, and \$5 for students.



"Elixir of Love" at Centennial Theatre

January 31 at 4:00 p.m., Centennial Theatre presents the comic opera "The Elixir of Love" by Donizetti, which will be played by the members of L'Atelier lyrique de l'Opera de Montreal.

Created in Milan in 1832, this opera is undoubtedly the comic masterpiece of Donizetti. It narrates the story of a simple peasant, Nemorino, in love with a capricious landowner, Adina. Despite the interference of love potions and an unforeseen inheritance, love conquers everything in this charming opera that has won over many spectators for many decades.

Black History Month events at Bishop's Art Gallery

The Art Gallery of Bishop's University, to complement the exhibition "Serge Jongue: Nomade, Metis, Objets de memoire," presents a number of

cultural events celebrating the spirit of Black history Month.

Lectures in the Art Gallery

- Wednesday, February 10; 4:30 p.m.

Round table by students of Bishop's University who will discuss and share their personal experiences in relations to exile, migration and the experience of life as a refugee and as a new immigrant in Canada.

- Tuesday, February 16; 4:00 p.m. by Diana Nemiroff, Curator, Contemporary Art at the National Gallery of Canada

In her lecture, Ms. Nemiroff will address some of the themes explored in Crossings, an exhibition held at the National Gallery in 1998. Most of the Crossings artists live outside their countries of origin, and their work raises questions about exile, diaspora, migration, globalism, cultural exchange and a new transnational visual language.

Films: at 6:30 pm. in Champlain Regional College Room C345 Admission: Free

- February 1 — James Baldwin: *The Price of the Ticket* — Karen Thorsen, USA, 1989, 87 min. Both a personal portrait and a social critique of what it is to be born Black, impoverished,

gay and immensely talented at a time when human equality is an unfamiliar and unwelcome notion.

- February 8 — *The Road Taken* — Selwyn Jacob, Canada, 1997, 48 mm.

A film which documents the experiences of Blacks who worked as sleeping-car porters on Canada's major railway from the early 1900s through the 1960s. In conjunction with the film U. M. MacGregor, professor at Bishop's University will present a brief lecture on popular black imagery in relations to the Black porters.

- February 15 — *L'Homme sur les quais [The Man by the Shore]* — Raoul Peck, France, 1993, 120 min.

The film tells the story of a young girl's intuitive struggle for survival in the political environment of 1960's Haiti. A discredited army officer and his wife are forced to flee their rural town, leaving behind an eight year old, Sarah, and her two sisters. The children are entrusted to their grandmother who risks her life to protect them.

- February 22 — *Daughters of the Dust* — Julie Dash, USA, 1991, 114 min.

The first feature-length drama directed by an African American woman, this is the beautiful and fascinating turn-of-the-century tale of the Gullah, residents of the Sea Island off South Carolina who prepare to leave for various northern destinations (including Nova Scotia) at the dawn of the 20th century.

Intestinal and Colon Cancer Conference

The CLSC Lennoxville will be hosting a Intestinal and Colon Cancer conference on Friday, February 18. The English conference will be held at 4:00 p.m. with speaker Dr. Gonzal Gonzalez. No admission; door prizes will be given away. Sponsored by the Canadian Cancer Society.

Townships Classified

FOR SALE

St. Peter's A.C.W. Thrift Shop, 200 Montreal, Sherbrooke. We offer new and nearly new clothing for men, women and children, as well as housewares, books, and many other items. Open every Wednesday, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Copies of "The History of Compton County" by the C.S. Channell. Coil-bound, semisoft cover. \$55.00 [819] 889-2284.

WANTED

Copy of "Magnificent Obsession" by Lloyd C. Douglas. Reasonable price will be paid. [819] 569-4565.

SERVICES

Want to lose weight? Canadian Calorie Counters—Tue: 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.; Wed 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. CLSC, 8 Speid Lennoxville. Info: [819] 562 8683,

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EVENTS CALENDAR

February 1999

**See
Events
on Page**

If you would like your organization's upcoming event included in this calendar, drop us a note before the 18th of the previous month.

'til Jan. 30
Exhibition — Christmas Art Show in North Hatley; featuring a variety of works from North Hatley's artistic community. North Hatley Library.

'til Jan 31
Art Exhibition — "Virgini", works by Virgini, Le P'tit Bonheur de Saint-Camille, 162 Miquelon Street, Saint-Camille. Info: [819] 828-2664.

'til Feb 7
Exhibition — Works by Marie-Louise Guillemette and an installation by Laurent Luneau are on display at Galerie Horace, 74 Albert Street, Sherbrooke.

'til Feb 28
Exhibition — The Art Gallery of Bishop's University presents the exhibition *Serge Jongue: Nomade, Metis, Objets de Memoire*, bringing together three series of photographs.

Jan 29
Concert — Gail Desmarais, soprano, Tom Gordon, piano, Music Chez Nous, 8:00 p.m. Bandeen Hall, Bishop's University, College Street, Lennoxville. Info: [819] 822-9692.

Jan 29
Blood Donor Clinic — 1:30 to 7:30 p.m. University Pavillion, Sherbrooke University, 2500 University Blvd., Sherbrooke.

Jan 31
Concert — Donizetti's *Elisir D'Amore*, L'Atelier lyrique de l'Opéra de Montréal, \$22.00 4:00 p.m. Centennial Theatre, Bishop's University, College Street, Lennoxville. Info: [819] 822-9692.

Feb 1
Blood Donor Clinics — in Notre-Dame-du-Bon-Conseil (Community Centre, 541 Ducharme St., 2:30 - 8:00 p.m.) and Waterloo (St. Bernardin Church, 5005 Foster St., 2:00 - 7:30 p.m.). Please give!

Feb 2
Conference — The Geneological Society of the Eastern Townships invites members and the public to their conference. Lecture by Marcel Benoit: "William Ashby, un ancetre a decouvrir." 7:30 p.m., Eva-Senecal library, 420 Marquette St., Sherbrooke. Free admission.

Feb 3
Lecture — Richard Brisson of the College Jean-de-Brebeauf will be delivering a lecture for the Bishop's University Spanish Club. Free admission: 7:30 p.m. at Bishop's Bandeen Hall.

Feb 4
Film — "Pleasantville" Two jaded '90s kids are thrust into a 1950s TV sitcom town. Directed by Gary Ross. Centennial Theatre, Bishop's University, 7 & 9:30 p.m. \$4.00.

Feb 6 to 29
Exhibition: Jean Gaudet, Painter. Arts Sutton, 7 Academy, Sutton, Quebec. Vernissage: Feb. 6, 2 to 5 p.m.

Feb 11
Film — "One True Thing" Starring William Hurt, Meryl Streep & Renee Zellweger. Centennial Theatre, Bishop's University, 7 & 9:30 p.m. \$4.00.

Feb 12
Concert — Mary O'Keefe, harpsichord, Music Chez Nous, 8:00 p.m. Bandeen Hall, Bishop's University, College Street, Lennoxville. Info: [819] 822-9692.

Feb 13
Concert — Rémi Boucher, guitar, \$20.00. 8:00 p.m. Centennial Theatre, Bishop's University, College Street, Lennoxville. Info: [819] 822-9692.



Feb 18
Film — "Living Out Loud." Starring Holly Hunter, with Danny DeVito and Queen Latifah. Jilted wife puts her life back together. Centennial Theatre, Bishop's University, 7 & 9:30 p.m. \$4.00.

Feb 19
Concert — Brigitte Poulin, piano, Music Chez Nous, 8:00 p.m. Bandeen Hall, Bishop's University, College Street, Lennoxville. Info: [819] 822-9692.

Feb 23
Film — "Velvet Goldmine." Todd Haynes' homage to '70s glam rock icons David Bowie, Iggy Pop et al. Centennial Theatre, Bishop's University, 7 & 9:30 p.m. \$4.00.

Feb 27
Concert — Quartango, \$22.00. 8:00 p.m. Centennial Theatre, Bishop's University, College Street, Lennoxville. Info: [819] 822-9692.

For you — about you — but we can't do it without you

Dodging Racism in Montreal

Jackie Robinson and the Montreal Royals

Until 1946 organized baseball was lily-white from the lowest class minor leagues all the way to the majors. Gifted black ball players like Satchel Paige and Josh Gibson toiled in the Negro Leagues, denied their chance to compete against the Dizzy Deans and Babe Ruths.

The war against Nazi racism forced Americans to confront racial injustice in the United States. Finally, it seemed that Americans might be ready to integrate the nation's favourite sport.



Someone had to take the first step. During the war Branch Rickey, the controversial General Manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, had instructed his scouts throughout the United States and the Caribbean to look for talented black players.

Rickey's motives were complex. He explained that: "I couldn't face my God much longer knowing that His black creatures are held separate and distinct from His white creatures in the game that has



given me all I own." However, he also knew that black stars could help his Dodgers win pennants, and that black fans would buy tickets to watch them do it.

Rickey realized that the first black player would have to be more than just a talented athlete. He would need to be self-assured, of impeccable character, and stoic enough to ignore the racist taunts of opponents. His search led him to Jackie Robinson.

Robinson grew up in Los Angeles where his mother fought against white neighbours who didn't want blacks living in the neighbourhood. Confident and intelligent, Robinson was also an outstanding athlete. The first four-letter man at UCLA he played football, basketball, track and baseball. In fact, baseball was one of his lesser sports. Nonetheless, by one report: "Had it not been for the policy prohibiting Negroes in organized baseball, he would have been sought by half a dozen major league scouts."

Branch Rickey admired Robinson's strength and courage. On August 28, 1945, Branch Rickey signed Robinson to play for the Montreal Royals — the Brooklyn Dodgers' top farm club.

Canada was not without racial prejudice. However, as one Montreal sportswriter observed: "The absence here of an anti-Negro sentiment among sports fans ... was what Mr. Rickey doubtless had in mind when he chose Montreal as the locale of his

history-making experiment."

Indeed, unlike the United States, where Robinson faced jeers and insults and the occasional threat of violence, Montreal was delighted with its new player. One Pittsburgh correspondent was amazed: "On the streetcar, on the way home from the stadium, Jackie is surrounded by admirers ... In restaurants, Jackie's food gets cold. He's too busy signing autographs."

Robinson proved his worth in Montreal. He led the

league in hitting and runs. He finished second in stolen bases and recorded the highest fielding percentage of any International League second baseman. That year, Montreal won the Little World Series - Minor League Baseball's most coveted championship.

The following season, Jackie took his place on the Brooklyn Dodgers - integrating the Majors for the first time. In his first season, Jackie finished second in the League in runs scored, and

first in stolen bases. His outstanding performance eased the way for additional black players.

Most importantly, Jackie Robinson's desegregation of baseball helped pave the way to the integration of restaurants, buses and schools. Thus an important step in American civil rights movement was taken in Canada.

Heritage Project



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School Board

ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION 1999-2000 SCHOOL YEAR

Registration of all Kindergarten,
Elementary and Secondary students of the
Eastern Townships School Board will
take place:

February 1st to 19th 1999

The School Board offers:

- Full-day, bilingual Kindergarten
- Community oriented schools with a discipline and caring approach to learning
- Enhanced, effective French Second Language programs
- Programs for children with special needs

Parents of a student NEW to the school system may register their child at the nearest school listed below.

Please bring: - the student's birth certificate (full size)
- the student's Certificate of Eligibility for instruction in English
or the necessary documents to make an application for a Certificate of Eligibility

MUNICIPALITY	SCHOOL	STREET	TEL. NO.
AYER'S CLIFF	Ayer's Cliff Elementary	952, Sanborn St.	819-838-4983
BEDFORD	Butler Elementary	19, Rix Avenue	450-248-2090
BURY	Pope Memorial Elementary	523, Stokes St.	819-872-3771
CLARENCEVILLE	Clarenceville Elementary	70, Principale St.	450-294-2222
COOKSHIRE	Cookshire Elementary	95, du Parc St.	819-875-3785
COWANVILLE	Heroes' Memorial	317, South St.	450-263-1612
	Massey-Vanier High School	429, River St.	450-263-3772
DANVILLE	A.D.S. Elementary	745, Rte 255	819-839-2352
DRUMMONDVILLE	Drummondville Elementary	1050, Chabanel St.	819-474-8563
FARNHAM	Farnham Elementary	425, St-Joseph St.	450-293-6087
GRANBY	Parkview Elementary	50, Lorne Avenue	450-372-6058
KNOWLTON	Knowlton Academy	81, Victoria St.	450-243-6187
LENOXVILLE	Alexander Galt Regional H.S.	2700, Rte 108 East	819-563-0770
	Lennoxville Elementary	1, Academy St.	819-569-5103
	Learning Centre	2700, Rte 108 East	819-822-1385
MAGOG	Princess Elizabeth Elementary	420, Bellevue St. West	819-843-4847
MANSONVILLE	Mansonville Elementary	5, Marion Atwell St.	450-292-5622
NORTH HATLEY	North Hatley Elementary	110, School St.	819-842-2491
RICHMOND	Richmond Regional High School	375, Armstrong St.	819-826-3702
	St. Francis Elementary	355, College St. South	819-826-3737
ROCK ISLAND	Sunnyside Elementary	100, Main St.	819-876-2469
SAWYERVILLE	Sawyerville Elementary	51, Cookshire St.	819-889-2263
SHERBROOKE	Sherbrooke Elementary	242, Ontario St.	819-562-3515
SUTTON	Sutton School	19, Highland Avenue	450-538-2318
WATERLOO	Waterloo Elementary	5, Clark Hill	450-539-0162



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