THE EQUITY

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THE VOICE OF THE PONTIAC SINCE 1883

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NEWS BRIEFS

Pontiac parishes mourn death of John Paul II

PONTIAC — At their Sunday services, Roman Catholic Parishes across Pontiac mourned the death of Pope John Paul II who died in Rome Saturday.

Attendance at Sunday's masses in most parishes was up as parishioners were out to mourn the loss of a man many believe did more in the modern era to bridge the gap between religions than any other pontiff. for example, Pope John Paul II was the first pope ever to step inside a Jewish synagogue and a Muslim mosque. And, though an opponent of communism, he met with Cuba's Fidel Castro.

Shepherd

"For nearly three decades the Catholic church has been guided by this wonderful shepherd who deserves to be counted among the greatest popes in history," said Bishop Richard W. Smith of the Pembroke Diocese.

"He has traveled the globe to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ; he has spoken out tirelessly and forcefully in defense of the dignity of every human life, from conception to natural death; he has reached out in love and respect to people's of all faiths; he has been a clear and consistent voice on the world stage for peace and in defense of the poor; he was instrumental in the fall of communism and has been recognized by the people the world over as the most important moral leader of our time.

"He has led the church across the threshold of the third millennium and by summoning the church to a new evangelisation, has laid the foundations for the church's pastoral activity for generations to come."

Bishop Smith presided over a special memorial mass at St. Columbkille Cathedral in Pembroke yesterday.

Canadian Tire temporarily closes auto service centre

SHAWVILLE — The Canadian Tire in Shawville has closed its auto service centre temporarily, but reassures customers that the store is doing fine.

Owner Bill Kenopic told THE EQUITY that the auto service department of the store will be closed for about a month while the store "restructures" its automotive staff.

"(The reason) was a change of staff in service," said Kenopic, who has since been suggesting that customers take their cars for service at his second store location in Renfrew.

"It won't affect the store."

In 1998 the community rallied behind Kenopic to keep the store from closing. He subsequently moved it from Main Street in Shawville to the old Hydro Québec building on Hwy. 148. Business at the larger location is doing just fine, he said.

"We're actually doing real well," he said, dispelling rumours to the contrary. "Our sales are doing great."

The auto parts department and the rest of the store are open for business as usual.

Supreme Court ruling lets boy go to English school

Cohen Parasiuk, 8, allowed into Wakefield Elementary after parents' two-year battle

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

PONTIAC — The Supreme Court of Canada ruled on Thursday that the Quebec government must adjust some of its school admission rules in order to comply with the federal Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

This ruling may make it easier for anglophones and immigrants to gain access to English schools in Quebec.

Michael Parasiuk, who has been appealing to the courts for over two years to get his son Cohen into an English school in Wakefield, was relieved to hear the news.

"I was happy to have it all over with," he said. "But it's like recovering from an illness — we're relieved but we wish we hadn't been sick in the first place."

Two years ago, Parasiuk's son Cohen was denied English schooling by a Québec Superior Court judge because it believed Michael received more than 50 per cent of his schooling in French when he attended French immersion school in Winnipeg. Cohen's mother was educated in English, but in Australia.

"We could have avoided it all by getting an Ontario address and sending him to school there for a year," he said. "Then after a year he could have qualified for English school in Quebec. It would have saved a lot of time, effort and money, but we wanted to follow the right process for people behind me."

Francophones denied access

In a separate ruling, eight francophone families who also want to send their children to English schools had their appeals rejected.

Judges unanimously ruled that members of the linguistic majority have no constitutional right to education in the minority language. Educating francophone children in English is prohibited by Bill 101.

Bill 101 only allows children to receive English education if their parents received the bulk of their education in English in Canada.

English language rights lawyer Brent Tyler challenged the law on behalf of these families.

In the case of the French families, Quebec Premier Jean Charest would have been able to use the notwithstanding clause. But because the court didn't strike down the legislation in Bill 101, he can't use it.

The next step for the Parasiuks will be to wait for word from the Ministry of Education.

"We can't just head to the school's registration with it in our hands," he said.

"Quebec could still drop the case but until they do that it's not entirely finalized yet — it may still go to appeal."

Tracy Lane Extreme takes victory at Flying Elbows tournament

Fundraiser for PHC's palliative care unit

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

SHAWVILLE — Adding a new attraction to the sixth annual Flying Elbows Men's Hockey Tournament, world renowned NHL trivia expert Liam Maguire appeared at the Bob Findlay charity game Friday night.

The tournament, held at the Shawville arena, ran from Thursday to Sunday to raise money for the Pontiac Health Centre's palliative care unit.

For the opener, Philip Holmes sang the national anthem and Lois Findlay, Bob's widow, dropped the puck.

Liam Maguire

During the first intermission, Maguire stepped out onto the ice to see if anyone could outsmart his hockey knowledge. Prizes were given away to anyone who could stump him and to anyone who answered one of his questions correctly.

A few people from the crowd managed to stump him, including a woman who tested his knowledge on local players.

"Who is the only hockey player from Bryson who played in the NHL?" Maguire hadn't heard of Marc Rodgers who played for Detroit.

The audience got another chance to stump, meet and ask him questions in the Lions Hall after the game.

When asked on how he retains so much information, Maguire admitted he just has a good memory.

"But recently, in the last 15 years, I have relied on association techniques," he said.

By starting with a simple year, he can branch out into different areas and finally remember a specific stat from that year.

"I find it works best by starting from a point," he said. "Then I could go on for four hours."

Maguire, now managing editor of *Centre Ice* magazine and owner of Liam Maguire's restaurant, said he had never heard of the Flying Elbows hockey tournament before he was asked to be part of the intermission show.

"I love other aspects of hockey," he said. "But the NHL is my baby."

Maguire said he makes 60 to 70 appearances a year at events just like this.

"I miss generally only five to seven questions out of 100," he said.

Maguire grew up south of Ottawa and made a name for himself in the hockey community with his knowledge and expertise on the history of hockey — specifically the NHL.

Maguire is a twice published author who has appeared on major radio and television shows, including *Hockey Night in Canada* and TSN's *Off the Record*.

"You meet the greatest people through hockey," he said. "It just doesn't get any better."

While Maguire enjoys playing hockey in a local men's league, he also coaches his eight-year-old son's hockey team.

"Hockey is the strongest symbol Canada has," said Maguire. "There is nothing remotely close as the sport of hockey."

During the second intermission there was a toonie toss sponsored by Royal Bank with prizes like a water cooler, CDs, and ball caps which were given away to whoever had the closest shot.

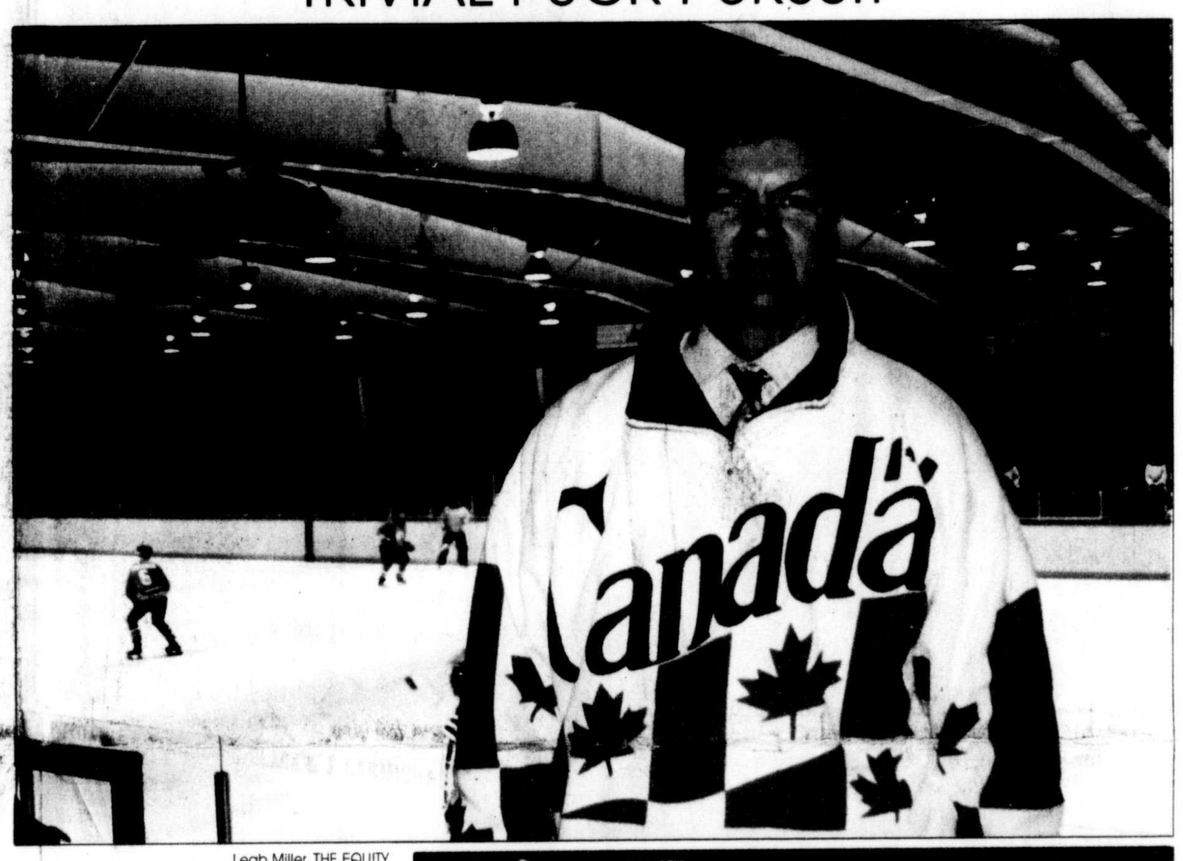
Charity teams

The home team Flying Elbows played against the Mingo-McEwen Fund (MMF) from Montreal in the charity game.

The McEwen of Mingo-McEwen is MMF team organizer Bob McEwen, who went to school in Shawville.

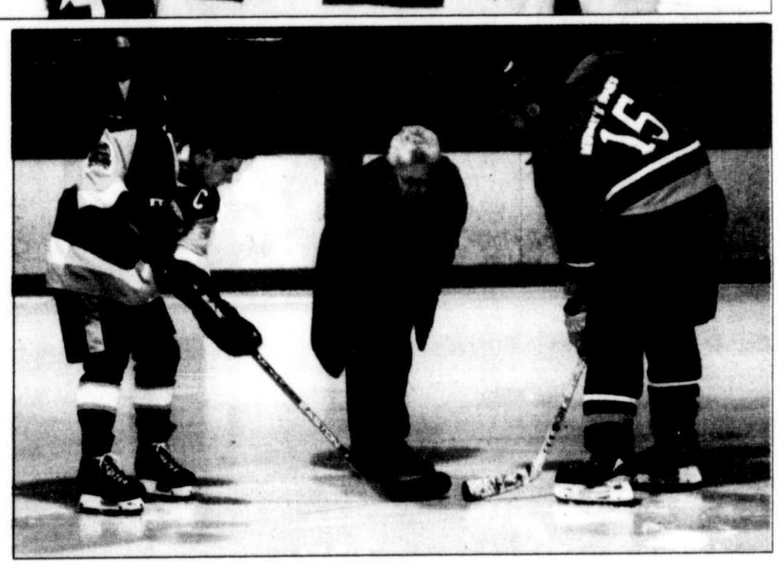
The team is also led by captain Brent Mingo, a 20-year-old infant meningitis survivor. Mingo has had three brain surgeries due to the disease that causes brain seizures, and it has left him partly disabled in the right side of his body.

TRIVIAL PUCK PURSUIT



Leah Miller, THE EQUITY

Liam Maguire, NHL trivia expert, was intermission entertainment at the Bob "Fish" Findlay memorial charity hockey game Friday night at the arena in Shawville. Maguire tested the hockey knowledge of fans and was even stumped a few times himself. Photo, right: Brent Mingo of the Mingo-McEwen Fund (left) and Ed Rusenstrom of the Flying Elbows (right) wait for Lois Findlay to drop the puck at the Bob "Fish" Findlay memorial charity hockey game Friday night. All money raised from the game went to the palliative care unit at the hospital in Shawville.



Mingo was 11 in the Montreal Children's Hospital when he met McEwen and his son Tim who was in the neuroscience ward for a neck injury he received from playing hockey.

Up until this year, the charity hockey game was named after him. Mingo has played in all three years of the charity game, and has played as honourary captain on other charity teams.

MMF won the game 5-4, which officially opened the weekend's tournament.

This year's charity game was renamed the Bob "Fish" Findlay Memorial in memory of Findlay, who suffered a massive heart attack on his way home from his grandson's hockey tournament in Drummondville in February 2004.

Findlay was involved in many Pontiac sports, like curling, broomball, baseball and hockey. For 14 years he was the equipment manager and trainer for the Pontiac Junior B club.

The James Smith Memorial cup was given to the tournament winners in memory of James Smith who was killed in a vehicular accident in 1998. Smith was tournament organizer Matt Sally's minor hockey coach.

Pontiac High School's awesome spike in provincial rankings

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

PONTIAC — Pontiac High School has made its biggest jump in provincial standings than ever before, moving up 151 spots since last year.

The school now sits at 131st place out of 423, based on exams taken in June 2004. Over the years PHS has seen its ranking jump from 282nd place in 2003, 385th in 2002 and 410th place in 1998.

PHS is first in the Western Québec School Board, first in the Pontiac and fourth in the Outaouais.

Dr. Wilbert Keon School in Chapeau placed 268th, École Secondaire Sieur de Coulonge (ESSC) in Fort Coulonge placed 303rd and John Paul II School in Campbell's Bay placed 413.

Last year Dr. Wilbert Keon School placed 113th (placing top in the Outaouais), ESSC 260th and John Paul II 365th.

The results are based on marks from uniform ministry exams like Physical Science 416, Math 436, History of Québec and Canada and French as a Second Language.

Upon receiving the finalized school rankings last week, PHS principal Mike Dubeau proudly announced the results over the school's public announcement system to congratulate students.

"We are 131st out of 423 schools in the province," he said. "Our average is higher than the province's and out of English schools in Québec, we placed 17th out of 90."

Success

He accredits the accomplishment to the school's "Creating a Culture of Success" program that the school has been implementing since 2002.

The school became part of the Thinking and Learning Schools Alliance, a goal-setting program that helps students individually place targets and reach academic goals.

Students who attended PHS before the success program have noticed a big difference in their school life.

"At first I thought it was pretty dumb," said 17-year-old Matt Dagg. "I wasn't too sure about it until it got going."

A group of students — Chris Eades, 15, Megan Tubman, 16, and Phil Jean-Marie, 16 — told THE EQUITY that the past three years since the program started have been a blast.

"It brings different grades together and we get to know each other and blend in with each other," said Jean-Marie. "Before this we didn't do that."

continued on page 2

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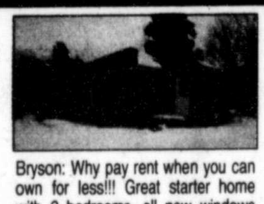

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After 14 years Campbell's Taxi takes final passenger last week

Leah Miller, THE EQUITY

Bob Campbell, owner of Campbell's Taxi, closed his service to passengers after 14 years on Thursday.

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

SHAWVILLE — After 14 years of taxi service in and out of the Pontiac, Campbell's Taxi owner Bob Campbell closed his service to passengers Thursday.

Campbell said the reason was because in the last few years, business has been dropping off.

"There wasn't enough business to pay for the cars and operate it," said Campbell. "There just wasn't enough local business."

He said that the cabs just weren't making enough to cover gas and wages.

"Some days we'd take in $15 to $20," he said. "Some days we'd make nothing."

Although TransporAction has been up and running for over a year now providing subsidized transportation for health-related appointments, Campbell doesn't think it had any affect on his business.

"Truthfully, our older passengers were passing away," he said.

Campbell has been driving taxis in the Pontiac for 14 years, but has only owned the company for 10. His son John owned the service for four years before selling it to him in 1995.

In 2000, Campbell decided to close at 10 p.m. Sunday to Thursday, but still run 24 hours a day on Friday and Saturdays. This was mainly due to a heart operation he had at that time.

There were three cars driven by two full-time drivers and two part-time.

"Weekends from June to August were good from the bars," he said. "But that's only a few nights a year."

The most common trips were from Shawville to Gatineau and Ottawa, but also local trips from Green Lake, Norway Bay and Sand Bay in the summer.

"Some times we'd see 50 to 60 kids on a Saturday night," he said.

They were allowed to pick up passengers in six municipalities — Shawville, Clarendon, Bristol, Thorne, Portage du Fort and Leslie-Clapham-Huddersfield — but spent most of the time driving near their home base in Shawville.

Over the years they competed with Cone's Taxi and Armitage's Taxi in Shawville, as well as other now-extinct cab companies in Bryson, Campbell's Bay and other nearby municipalities. But Campbell, sitting in his 1994 Oldsmobile cab, told THE EQUITY that this isn't quite the end of Campbell's Taxi.

"We will still run with a contract with the Pontiac Health Centre," said Campbell. Two cars and drivers will stay licensed to run blood, packages or patients to Ottawa and Gatineau five days a week for the hospital. "We will continue with it that way."

The taxi company just renewed a three-year contract where a driver has to be on call 24 hours a day.

Campbell himself will be doing odd runs for the hospital.

"I'll miss it, but I'll do enough of the runs myself to keep busy," said Campbell, who turns 69 in June. "I enjoy driving."

The only remaining cab service in the Pontiac runs out of Percy's Hotel in Fort Coulonge.

Campbell's Taxi
retired from the local taxi business March 31, 2005.
We will still be doing the run to Ottawa, Hull and Gatineau leaving Shawville at 8:30 a.m. Monday to Friday morning.
Bob Campbell

Thank You

A sincere and heartfelt thanks is sent to all the entertainers and volunteers who made the Onslow Variety Concert such a resounding success. A special thanks is given to the following:

Eddie McCann & Mitchell Trudeau - the emcees
Denny Welburn & the House Band
Friends in Harmony
The Schwartz Family
Gertie Greenshields
Wendy Desabrais-Proulx
Onslow's "Elvis"
Onslow's "Steve Erkle"
Ellard & Kathryn Perry
Tiffany & Troy Young
Girls of St. Mary's
The Soggy Bottom Boys
Jared Hamilton & Holly Drummond
Gail Gavan
The Dufflettes
Cliff Henderson
Brooke Welburn
The Irish Chicks
Rolly Bernier
Eleanor Foran
Billy & Shania "Shania"
"Onslow Grade 6 Students and Parents"

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SADC turns 20, party April 22

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

PONTIAC — The Pontiac SADC is celebrating its 20th birthday this year with a series of meetings and events designed to familiarize board members with the municipalities, their employees and businesses.

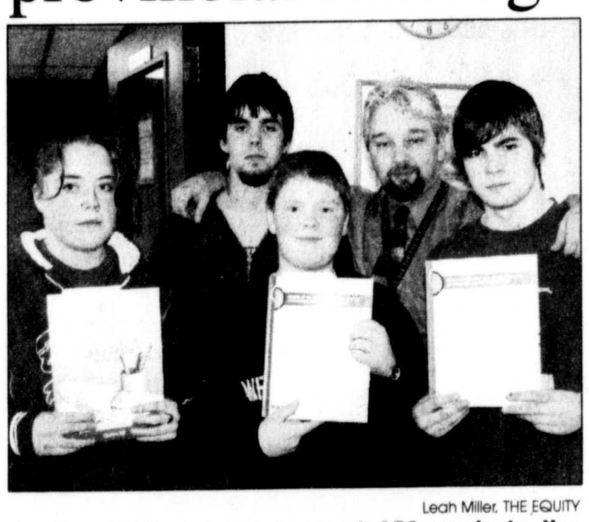
During the year, the SADC board is meeting with all 18 Pontiac MRC municipalities, the Municipality of Pontiac, and the municipalities of Chelsea, Cantley, La Pêche and Val des Monts. Local businesses will be incited to participate in the information sharing sessions.

Several public events are scheduled, including the 20th Anniversary Gala at the Forest Inn in Bryson Friday, April 22, a Pontiac Beef BBQ and Open House Wednesday, June 15, a special event for Small Business Week in October and a Christmas community fundraiser for the Pontiac Foodbank in December.

The 20th Anniversary Gala features Pontiac beef and other food items and a deejay for your dining and dancing pleasure. Tickets are available from André Chretien at the SADC (819-648-2186).

FROM THE FRONT

PHS spikes in provincial rankings



Leah Miller, THE EQUITY

Pontiac High School jumped 151 spots in the provincial school rankings. Holding results in the front row, (from the left): Megan Tubman, Chris Eades and Phil Jean-Marie. Back row: Matt Dagg (left) and Principal Mike Dubeau.

continued from page 1

The mixed advisory classes and achievement ("A" team) mentoring groups have helped students do their personal best in all areas of the school.

"I was very pleased and encouraged with the results," said vice-principal Don Stevens and "A" team leader for students in the welding program.

"It's the result of hard work by students involved and a proactive staff dedicated to excellence. It was a team effort."

He said the students have better access to individual help in tutorials at lunch, after school and in advisory periods held each day.

"Overall our students and teachers are happy and proud of the results," said Dubeau. "But we know the school is much more than just ministry results. It is just one aspect of school success."

The students' reward was a visit from *Canadian Idol* judge Farley Flex yesterday, who Dubeau thought would be a good motivational speaker for the students.

"It's motivating for our staff to share concrete results in academic areas," said Dubeau. "We compare ourselves to ourselves."

CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY **SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DU CANCER**

Cancer Society estimates 145,500 new cases diagnosed last year

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

PONTIAC — In a recent study, the Canadian Cancer Society found that 145,500 people were diagnosed with some form of cancer last year.

Experts project that the number of new cases of cancer diagnosed each year in Canada will increase by 60 per cent over the next two decades. This is mainly due to the aging and growing population.

At a time when cancer is the leading cause of premature deaths in Canada, people across the country are doing their part to help those affected.

The Cancer Society provides many services to those lives touched by cancer.

The Pontiac's regional office is in Gatineau. There, services like reliable information, emotional and financial support, accommodation for those travelling to get treatment and even hair donations can be obtained.

The society, in addition to raising money for the needed research that will someday find a cure for the disease, also heads fundraising groups in every community.

Canvassers will be heading door-to-door in your community in the next few weeks.

"Right now we are selling daffodils to raise money for research," said Outaouais project manager Bara Theom. "In June we will also hold three Relay For Life runs in the Outaouais."

At least 50 per cent of cancers can be prevented through healthy living and policies that protect the public.

There is no single cause for cancer, but there are some factors that increase your risk, like smoking, diet, amount of physical activity, weight, alcohol use, exposure to UV rays and use of hazardous materials.

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in Canada.

Women and cancer

An estimated 70,700 women were diagnosed with cancer in 2004. An estimated 32,100 died from the disease. But with the exclusion of lung cancer, death rates for all cancers combined declined 15 per cent between 1975 and 2000.

Although breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in women. Death rates as well as new cases of lung cancer in women have been increasing over the last 20 years.

Men and cancer

The Cancer Society estimates that 74,800 men were diagnosed with cancer in 2004. An estimated 36,200 died from the disease.

The death rate for all cancers combined declined 12 per cent between 1988 and 2000.

Prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer diagnosed in men. In 2004, an estimated 20,100 men were diagnosed with prostate cancer and 4,200 died of it. While lung cancer is more common in men than in women, the number of new cases and deaths is declining.

The Canadian Cancer Society is a national community-based organization of volunteers whose mission is to eradicate cancer and to enhance the quality of life of people living with cancer. For more information call the bilingual Cancer Information Service at 1-888-939-3333.

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Centre de santé du Pontiac

Vous avez peur d'apprendre que vous avez le cancer.

Vous allez certainement éprouver différentes émotions et ceci est normal.

Crainte : Avoir peur de se qu'il vous arrivera
Dénégation : Ce n'est pas vrai
Colère : Pourquoi moi ?
Culpabilité : Ceci est toute ma faute
Découragé / Impulssant : Être dans l'impossibilité de changer la situation courante.

Ces émotions sont normales mais vous allez devoir apprendre à les gérer. Voici quelques suggestions :
Contrôle : Prendre en charge votre santé, savoir qu'est qu'il se passe avec votre corps, prendre des décisions pour vous-même.
Compassion : Pour vous et les autres, ne pas vous isoler, renforcer vos relations avec votre famille et vos amis, ils souffrent avec vous.
Communication : Parler de ce qu'il se passe avec vous, poser des questions sur votre diagnostique, vos traitements et votre maladie.

Vous allez apprendre à vivre chaque moment au maximum et apprécier chaque jour.

You may fear learning that you have cancer.

You will certainly experience different emotions and this is normal,

Fear: afraid of what will happen to you
Denial: it's not true
Anger: why me?
Guilt: this is all my fault
Discouraged / Powerless: unable to change the current situation

These emotions are normal but you will need ways in dealing with them. Here are a couple of ways:
Control: take charge of your health, knowing what is going on in your body, making decisions for yourself.
Compassion: for yourself and others, do not isolate yourself, reinforce relationships with family and friends, they are suffering for you.
Communication: talk about what is happening to you, ask questions about your diagnosis, your treatment and illness.

You will learn to live each moment to the fullest and to appreciate each day.

Christie Malley, THE EQUITY

Grade 6 students from St. Mary's School in Quyon pose for a picture in the new library which they designed. Their "tropical forest" theme was chosen as the best design idea and with help from teacher Julie Bleau they brought the idea to life.

St. Mary's Elementary School library in Quyon gets facelift

By CHRISTIE MAILEY
Equity Reporter

PONTIAC — The St. Mary's Elementary School library in Quyon has been taken over by a tropical forest. Lions, monkeys and palm trees crowd the room in amongst the books and reading chairs.

Grade 6 students unveiled the new library on Tuesday, March 22 to the rest of the students and to parents. Back in late September the class of 18 students won the privilege of redesigning the school's dreary library.

Julie Bleau came up with the idea and after approaching the school for a budget she ran the contest.

School secretary, Celine Leveille, said the students competed in four design groups.

"There was 'jungle' and also 'under the sea,' but 'tropical forest' won out," she said.

The students picked the colours for the room and even made up rules to ensure the library stayed looking like new.

The endeavour was more than just an art project. It also included a great deal of math.

"They were given $1,000 for the furniture. It was good, they had to buy something and deduct it from the budget," Leveille said. "They also measured to see how much paint they needed for the room."

The school helped out with supplies by providing the book shelves and the computer.

Parents contributed funds to buy the VCR/DVD player to accompany the new entertainment system.

"Everything in here is new," said Leveille.

The Grade 6 students presented the new library class by class and finally to parents in the afternoon. Each unveiling consisted of a skit and a ribbon cutting ceremony. Leveille said the response was very good.

"They were in shock," said Leveille. "They just couldn't believe it."

Coun. Middlemiss stays on safety committee due to lack of information

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

LUSKVILLE — At its March 8 meeting, the Municipality of Pontiac was close to removing Coun. Brian Middlemiss from the public security committee and suspending the committee until further notice, but a vote rejected the proposal until council could get more information.

Coun. Middlemiss has long headed the public security committee that is in charge of the fire department. Recently, Coun. Middlemiss was hired by the municipality as a part-time unionized firefighter. Since the committee is responsible for recommendations that impact the fire department's work conditions and functions, Municipal Affairs told council that councillors should not be able to sit on this committee.

The council minutes state that certain councillors have repeatedly asked Coun. Middlemiss to remove himself from the committee and all discussions and decisions related to the fire department. Municipal Affairs also told council that the possibility of a conflict of interest may exist if a councillor is a firefighter.

In addition to removing Coun. Middlemiss from the committee and suspending the committee until further notice, council resolved that secretary-treasurer Sylvain Bertrand should learn more about the possible conflict of interest from Municipal Affairs and report back to council before legally dealing with the situation.

Council voted 5-3 against the motion. Couns. Roger Larose, Harold McKenny and Jim Coyle voted in favour; Couns. Pierre Lafrance, Garry Dagenais, William Twolan and Mayor Bruce Campbell voted against. Coun. Middlemiss abstained from voting.

Expropriation

Council resolved to acquire, by mutual agreement or expropriation, property on lot 2,889,804 in order to extend Elm Road. Lawyers at Legault Roy will be given the mandate to start the necessary legal procedures in order to acquire the land.

Elm Road is a municipal road and under the management of the municipality. Council, by virtue of powers they were given through article 1,097 of the Québec Municipal Code, can take any property or part of a property which is needed for any municipal purpose.

Council voted 4-3 in favour of the motion. Couns. Lafrance, Middlemiss, Dagenais and Twolan voted in favour; Couns. McKenny, Coyle and Larose voted against.

The minutes state they voted against the resolution because they believe there is no need to request a lawyer's service on this file because the municipality could eventually acquire the property for $1.

Council also wants to expropriate an area on either side of the lot. Council voted 4-3 in favour of the motion. Couns. Lafrance, Middlemiss, Dagenais and Twolan voted in favour; Couns. McKenny, Coyle and Larose voted against.

Couns. McKenny, Coyle and Larose voted against the resolution because they said property owners should be consulted first.

Snowmobile trail

Council resolved to request government assistance to create a permanent snowmobile trail in the Municipality of Pontiac. This decision was based on facts that the municipality was once an agricultural community but current changes in agriculture has limited the number of farms within the municipality's borders. The municipality must find other opportunities besides farming to create jobs for residents, and tourism is one of the most feasible options. Snowmobiling is an asset to the economy and the municipality depends on revenue from this industry. Council voted 6-1 in favour of the motion. Coun. Coyle voted against.

Quyon Ensemble

Council named Coun. McKenny as representative on the Quyon Ensemble's board of directors.

Council resolved to grant the Quyon Ensemble use of the Women's Institute building at no charge for meetings, but the municipality will pay the rental costs. For these two items, Coun. McKenny left the room.

UPA

Council resolved to give the UPA moral support in approaching the provincial government for an agreement in regards to the financial assistance granted for agriculture. Council voted 4-3 in favour of the motion. Couns. Lafrance, Middlemiss, Dagenais and Twolan voted in favour; Couns. McKenny, Coyle and Larose voted against.

Mice eat mascots

Couns. Lafrance and Middlemiss proposed that council pay $500 to the carnival committee to replace mascots that were destroyed by mice in the community centre. It was also proposed that organizations should remove objects stored in any municipal building, as the municipality will not pay for damages occurring under these circumstances after this point. Council voted 7-0 against the motion.

Women's groups

Council resolved to give the Catholic Women's Institute League of Canada some financial assistance. The municipality gave the league $100 that will be put towards a reception in honour of the league's 50th anniversary.

Council resolved to give Paul Desjardins a mandate for the maintenance and cleaning of the Women's Institute building.

Garbage containers

Council resolved to install 360-litre garbage containers in the municipality. Council is doing this in accordance to the MRC's waste management plan that was accepted by the Québec government. They named Coun. Dagenais council representative who will sit on the follow-up committee of these containers.

Municipal inspector

Council resolved to give the municipal inspector a mandate for preparing a document describing the specifications for purchasing a double-axle tandem truck. The specifications will be sent for tender to at least four regional suppliers. Council resolved that the municipality will purchase two blade units for the grader for $8,325.10, as per recommendations by the municipal inspector.

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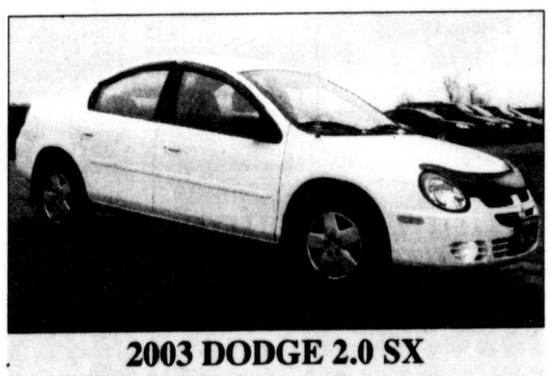

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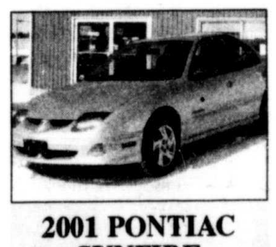

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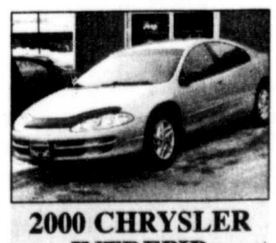

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Sand Bay near Shawville, P.Q.

Yesteryear at the beach

REFLECTIONS: 122 YEARS OF NEWS

The Way We Were

Compiled by Heather Alberti Dickson, Publisher

25 Years Ago

April 9, 1980

QPF seeks help to find hit and run suspect: The Campbell's Bay detachment of the QPF are looking for the owner of a blue pickup truck which was involved in a hit and run accident in Davidson. Two vehicles were damaged in the accident which occurred about one a.m. in the parking lot of the hotel in Davidson. The police request the assistance of anyone with information about this accident.

Proposed boundaries for new Pontiac riding: Pontiac electoral district, under the new proposed plan, will include 30,672 electors in t he municipalites of Rapides des Joachims, Sheen, Esher, Aberdeen and Malakoff, Chichester, Chapeau, Allumette Island and Allumette Island East, Waltham and Bryson, Mansfield and Pontefract, Fort Coulonge, Litchfield, Campbell's Bay, Leslie, Clapham and Huddersfield, Thorne, Shawville, Clarendon, Bryson, Calumet Island, Bristol, Pontiac (Quyon, the Onslows and Eardley), part of LaPeche (Aldfield, St Cecile de Masham and Masham North), Alleyn and Cawood and Aylmer.

• • •

50 Years Ago

April 7, 1955

Portage du Fort man killed instantly by car: Edward Toner, aged about 70, of Portage du fort, was killed instantly Tuesday night when run over by a car driven by Mrs Elizabeth Cuthbertson, also of Portage du Fort. Mrs Cuthbertson and her passenger, Edward Burpee of Ottawa both told police they had just driven over the crest of a hill on a narrow side road on the outskirts of town when they felt a bump, as thought the car had run over something. When they stopped to investigate, they found Toner dead. He had apparently been lying across the road, and being just past the crest of the h8ill had not been picked up in the headlights' beam. No charges have been laid.

George Pirie first "aggie" at Macdonald: Coming first in his project with a score of 80 per cent, George Pirie graduated with a diploma in Agriculture from Macdonald college last week.

Roads closed to heavy traffic: The Quebec Roads Department announced all roads will be closed today to heavy traffic in Pontiac because of the spring thaw.

• • •

75 Years Ago

April 3, 1930

Local news: Local automobile dealers have already on display consignments of this year's models of the respective makes handled by them, and although conditions are not yet ripe for much ado in the way of demonstration, a few sales have been made. To put a new beautifully finished car on the roads in their present condition, looks to us like a rotten shame.

Activities at the Curling Rink came to a close last week with a few games between the men and ladies, and in each instance the gents were elected to buy anything from an ice cream cone to a chicken dinner. Those who retain the silverware for the season were teams skipped by the following: In the mens' club, Mr C J Caldwell's team won the Club Shield for the main schedule, while Mr W E Shaw's team are in possession of the W A Hodgins Challenge Cup. In the ladies' club Miss Ivy Millar's team won the main schedule and hold the Club Cup for the third consecutive year. Miss Edith Caldwell's team retains the G F Hodgins Challenge Cup. Mr A G Proudfoot's team won the consolation series.

Deaths: The death occurred last week of Mr Edward Schwartz, of Ladysmith section who was taken to hospital three weeks previously suffering from appendicitis in an advanced stage. He underwent two operations at the hospital, but doubtless owing to the very serious nature of the case, these surgical efforts to save his life proved fruitless.

There was a large attendance at the funeral of the late Richard Findlay, which took place from his late home, McKee section to St Paul's Church, Shawville, on Sunday afternoon, March 30.

Mr Gregory Atkinson, of Greermount, died at the residence of his son William on Saturday morning, March 22nd in his 81st year. He had been in somewhat poor health for some time and the tragically sudden death of his youngest brother, James, no doubt, affected him greatly, thought it was of an old complaint that he died. His last appearance in public was at his brother's funeral on the previous Sunday. He was one of the oldest residents in the Greermount district and he will be greatly missed there and also by a large circle of friends farther afield.

A prominent citizen of Portage du Fort was removed very suddenly by death on Sunday afternoon when Mr J S Sauve, about to take a walk with his daughter, suddenly collapsed and expired.

• • •

100 Years Ago

April 6, 1905

Issues missing from our files until June 15, 1905.

YOUR OPINION

Kin Club reunion

Dear Editor,

The Shawville Kin Club will be celebrating 25 years as a service club to the local area. The club started May 3, 1980 with 24 members and since that time over 80 members have come and gone. Three original charter members still remain, Jack Lang, Bill Dagg and Ken Finan. They along with the current club members invite you to a celebration and dance June 4, 2005 at the Shawville R. A. hall at 7:30 p.m. Plan to be there.

John Beimers
Shawville Kin Club president

Thanks

Dear Editor,

The organizing committee for the Friendship Gala in support of Lizanne and Willard Kluke wishes to thank everyone involved in helping to make it a resounding success. Your generous donations and commitment to the cause are gratefully appreciated.

There were 517 tickets sold and a standing-room-only crowd in attendance. The organizing committee was responsible for ticket sales. The Campbell's Bay-Litchfield Fire Department managed a very successful bar and the auction sale was professionally conducted by André Chretien. The Campbell's Bay C.W.L. served a delicious lunch.

There were 21 committee members as follows: Bill Stewart (chairman), Lisa Belanger, Alain Dubeau, Theresa Dagenais, Sylvie Gascon, Lorraine Hearty, Carol Kavanagh, Barbara Kluke, Jacqueline Lafleur, Shirley Landry, Sheila Lawn, Suzanne Malette, Melanie Meilleur, Suzanne and Philippe Pilon, Helen Ranger, Kathleen Ranger, Sophie Ringrose, Keith Sauriol, Lynda Sloan and Lois Smith. The net proceeds from the event amounted to $4,060. The Fire Department received $2,500 and the Lions Club, Lionettes and C.W.L. each received $520.

Thank you all.

Bill Stewart,
Committee Chairman

EDITORIAL

Man of peace

Regardless of your religious persuasion, the death Saturday of Pope John Paul II marks the loss of a great man committed to peace around the world and to protecting the dignity of all human beings no matter their lot in life. In this day and age of secular heroism and rampant consumerism trumpeted by hyper-sexed media, his role in people's lives — particularly young people's — was perhaps even more important than they understood it to be.

As a champion and defender of the poor, John Paul II carried the Church's tradition of playing an active role in the community beyond that of a moral compass. When he replaced John Paul as pope in 1978, the young Karol Wojtyla (in his mid-40s, he was the youngest man to become pope) stood out from his predecessors by displaying a verve for an active life, be it on the ski hills or some other activity once considered un-Pope-like. Whereas the Pope was once considered one step removed from God, John Paul II, to a certain degree, brought the papacy down to earth and revealed in all its glory the humanness of the leader of the one-billion-plus member Roman Catholic Church.

As with any other human, he did stand under a critical light and some individuals and groups have taken him to task for his unwavering support, in particular, for the church's doctrine on abortion, homosexuality and euthanasia. (Most of his critics have been, fortunately, above the ranting of singer Sinead O'Connor who years ago thought she was making a profound statement by tearing the Pope's picture in half on television.) But he was a champion of freedom — he played an important role in the demise of communism — and for that people everywhere should be thankful. Criticise if you must, but the man will never be faulted for waffling on important issues, or being non-committal. Besides, exactly when did standing by your convictions become undesirable?

Pope John Paul II was also instrumental in drawing young people back to the church during his papacy via the immensely successful and popular World Youth Days, affectionately understood as the Woodstocks for young Catholics. As the numbers of churchgoers remains at historically low levels throughout the Christian religion, capturing and captivating the young was a coup of sorts for the affable man. (Seminaries in Poland, his birthland, now have waiting lists; before he became Pope, seminaries searched for students.)

Though he was quite capable of expressing his thoughts and beliefs in words, his actions — the first Pope to visit a synagogue and mosque — illustrated the character of a man committed to the cause of achieving world peace by bringing the world's cultures and religions together while celebrating the differences. Such simple actions explicitly reveal just how the divisions among the world's three major religions should not be impediments to finding the common cause. Pope John Paul II even met and shook hands with Cuban dictator Fidel Castro whereas the self-proclaimed champion of peace and democracy, George W. Bush, hasn't. Tells you something, doesn't it?

Paul McGee

LOCAL NEWS

Royal Canadian Legion Pontiac Br. 162 news

By LAURA GODIN
EQUITY Correspondent

Hello everyone. If I'm a little late in reporting our wonderful St. Paddy's Day revelry at our new club in town, blame it on the wee leprechauns!

Now I know why they call it the March break, but our Campbell's Bay Legion was packed to the rafters. Let's just say Pontiac is full of talented singers and musicians with Georges Lamothe (fiddle, accordion and banjo), Paul Émile Ladouceur (Jew's harp and fiddle), Céline Hachey Abbot (accordion) and Maurice Dubeau entertaining us with so many great songs. Ambrose Kluke, Paulette Gauthier, Ella Romain, Carl Trudeau plus many more and, of course, the entertainment of all times and master of ceremonies, who got everyone in an Irish mood, none other than our own comrade Richard Bowie, as well as two old school buddies singing Irish songs: comrade Jules Godin and Chris Kensley.

We saw Pontiac talent at its best when all eight fiddle players, accompanied by our long-time piano player, Loma Poole, gave us a rendition of *Maple Sugar* and *Faded Love*.

A lovely meal was served at 6 p.m. and everyone joined in the singing when karaoke time took over. Cheers to Francis and Cletus Shea and their friends from Renfrew, Gen and Jack Brien. If I forgot anyone, I ask to please be excused. A leprechaun hug to all of you.

CHIROPRACTIC DOCTOR by Isabelle Gagnon

Back Pain: a warning sign

Did you know that pain is a warning sign? Like the piercing sound from a smoke detector, the alarm isn't the problem. The alarm has a cause, just like every ache or pain has a cause. Some people choose to cover up the pain instead of correcting the cause. What do you choose?

While a sedentary lifestyle can make symptoms worse, back pain affects those who are tall, short, thin, heavy, young and old. Overexertion can cause back pain flare-ups, but the underlying problem may have gone undetected for years.

The discs between spinal bones can be a source of back pain. These rings of fibrous tissues act as shock absorbers and spacers. Trauma can cause the soft, pulpy material in the middle to bulge or herniate, putting pressure on delicate nearby nerves. Another common source of back pain comes from the facet joints. These are rich in nerves and can cause painful symptoms when they aren't moving right.

Once you know the cause of your back pain, you have several choices. One approach is bed rest. But resΩearch shows that prolonged bed rest can actually delay recovery and make the problem worse! Another choice is to numb or cover up the pain with drugs. While drugs can offer temporary relief, they can't correct functional problems of affected spinal joints. The most drastic measure is surgery. While there may be times when surgery makes sense, it's expensive, risky and more than half of all back surgeries fail.

More and more people are choosing chiropractic care first. Chiropractic adjustments can help improve spinal function. Better yet, chiropractic is safe and natural. By correcting the underlying cause of the problem, you can say bye-bye to your back pain!

ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM by Katharine Fletcher

Cantley's toxic dump: a burning issue for you and me

Dumps and sanitary landfills are burning issues again. This time, a dump caught fire in Cantley and Cantley resident Bob McClelland contacted me. A long-time EQUITY reader who is now a resident of that municipality, he e-mailed to ask whether I knew about the dump fire and how it has contaminated residents with its fumes.

Cantley dump

Although McClelland used to work at the Shawville Ag office, he now operates a farm in the Municipality of Cantley and lives close to the dump. Since at least late November 2004, noxious fumes have been emanating from the Cantley dump and affecting residents, livestock, and pets. Sixty-nine households were advised to evacuate while the fire was extinguished. McClelland and his family were one of 55 who did evacuate, and they stayed in a hotel.

Like North Onslow, and like many of the dumps throughout the Pontiac region, the Cantley dump owner-operators are supposed to control the type of waste that gets put in the ground. However, residents complain that everything and anything is being allowed in, in what constitutes an uncontrolled situation.

Dry Materials Dump

Cantley's dump is a "DMS," (Depot Materiaux Sec – or dry materials dump.) McClelland says the dump is supposed "to receive only dry construction site waste, as opposed to a 'sanitary landfill site' which receives household garbage etc. Problem arises in that since day one, if you pay the fee you can dump anything you want. We have numerous anecdotes from people in the region who have been told in past years that they could bring tires, etc."

Operation of dump site

The dump has operated since May 1, 1989. According to the information I have gleaned from McClelland, as well as from the Sierra Club of Canada and the CBC, this dump has had many problems.

According to the CBC report, since the dump was opened, Quebec's ministry of the environment has, "mismanaged it for much of that time. The ministry also admits that inspectors have not visited the dump to make sure it was following the rules."

History bleak

According to the CBC report, the Cantley dump continued to operate even after the ministry ordered the owners to close it in 1996. As well, although Quebec's Ministry of the Environment ordered the owners to clean it up in 2001, no clean-up was done.

The Sierra Club's director of health and environment Katie Albright is equally negative. In the Sierra Club's release, she noted, "The Québec government must immediately take action and shut down this repeat offender. If it fails to do so it is setting itself up for another class action similar to the case of the Shipshaw dump, where the Québec's ministère de l'Environnement et de la Faune was held libel."

Today's dump fire

Bob McClelland said there has been an "underground fire (at the dump) since at least November 2004; many believe it probably has been burning for one year or more."

Why hasn't the fire been extinguished? Supposedly it is extinguished, but McClelland explained the original challenge. "There is 600,000 cubic metres of garbage in one pile — I can compare it to a huge haystack, lots of air space —poor management contributed to the problem. The dump is supposed to operate in cells, and garbage (should be) covered with 20 cm. of soil every month. However, it has never been covered, so there are no internal 'fire-walls,' so the fire is free to 'travel'."

He continues, "As of March 24 the fire is supposed to be out. This is the work which included a fire team from Academie des incendies in Valleyfield (they train firemen). Work started on March 22. Work was supposed to take four days — but it took 10 days. A number of mechanical shovels pulled apart part of the pile of garbage and mixed it with sand to put out the fire."

Long-term health issues

I also asked McClelland about the long-term health of residents. He responded:

"Since December 2004 residents have been complaining of strong smells from the dump. Residents are experiencing sore throats, headaches and respiratory problems. A number of residents have made visits to emergency wards and been examined by doctors. Some residents have been told they have significantly reduced lung capacity. There have been a number of unexplained environmental conditions: gardens and trees dying at homes in dump region. (Some) dogs do not want to go outside (and they) rub their noses on (the) carpet when they re-enter the house. Dogs and horses (are) coughing heavily. Holes that could not be explained by wear and tear appeared in clothes hung outside to dry (apparently the (result) of the hydrogen sulfide, which in the presence of UV light, oxygen and water will make sulfuric acid – acid rain).

"Sante Publique and family doctors have told two families who live near the site and have young children that they recommend they remove them from the site, the children have been taken out of the community – a major stress for parents and children."

What next?

I asked McClelland what the long-term plan is for Cantley's dump. He wrote, "Our (the residents') position has always been: put out fire; control levels of gases, particularly H_2S; decontaminate site; and close site."

But residents are frustrated. He said that the "operator obviously wants to keep operating since (the dump cavity is) only 55 per cent filled... MEQ (is) supervising clean-up, under investigation, so supposedly (is) looking at laying charges."

Be aware

Pontiacers ought to stay aware of what our fellow communities' experience. And we need to remember something else, too.

While Cantley's dump owner/operators are apparently unable to control what goes into the site, there are others who are also at fault. Think about this next time you're throwing stuff into your garbage bag: just who is it that is throwing illegal stuff into your own dump, anyhow? Are you?

Now, I by no means wish to say that the MEF or the owners are innocent bystanders. Far, far from it. However, let me say this: every single one of us need to be more responsible about what we throw away – and where we "throw" it.

As Cantley proves, "out of site is not out of mind."

• • •

Katharine Fletcher is a freelance writer based north of Quyon. Contact her at chesley@allstream.net

100 élèves de moins l'an prochain? : Commission scolaire des Hauts-Bois-de-l'Outaouais

PONTIAC — Lors de sa séance ordinaire du mercredi 30 mars dernier, le conseil des commissaires de la Commission scolaire des Hauts-Bois-de-l'Outaouais a pris connaissance des prévisions de clientèle pour la prochaine rentrée.

Suite aux inscriptions qui ont eu lieu il y a quelques semaines, la CSHBO compte présentement 3 440 élèves inscrits pour la prochaine année (préscolaire, primaire et secondaire). Cela représente cent élèves de moins que les effectifs de la présente année scolaire (3 540), selon la directrice du service des ressources éducatives, Manon Lauriault.

Il faut toutefois souligner que, de mars à septembre, habituellement, un certain nombre d'élèves supplémentaires viennent s'inscrire, ce qui pourrait faire gonfler les chiffres. L'an dernier, pour donner un exemple concret, 53 élèves se sont inscrits durant la période allant de mars à septembre 2004, soit 38 à la maternelle et 15 au primaire. En supposant que de nouvelles inscriptions surviennent dans une proportion semblable, les effectifs de la prochaine année scolaire se situeraient alors autour de 3 493 élèves.

Incidemment, cela cadrerait très bien avec les prévisions préparées par le ministère de l'Éducation. Ces prévisions ministérielles estiment la fluctuation des effectifs de la CSHBO au cours des prochaines années et indiquent que le nombre d'élèves passera de 3 495 en 2005-2006 à 3 049 en 2009-2010.

D'une façon plus pointue, établissement par établissement, les données recueillies lors des inscriptions montrent une baisse de 26 élèves à l'établissement Primaire Pontiac (-25 en préscolaire et -1 au primaire), une baisse de 21 élèves à l'établissement du Cœur-de-la-Gatineau (+2 en préscolaire et –23 au primaire) et une baisse de 53 élèves à l'établissement Le Rucher de la Vallée de la Gatineau (-28 en préscolaire et –25 au primaire).

Par ailleurs, toujours lors de la séance du 30 mars dernier, les commissaires ont donné leur approbation à un projet concernant le parc Lions à Maniwaki et visant à le relocaliser sur le terrain de l'école Christ-Roi. Le projet lie trois partenaires : le Club Lions de Maniwaki, la Ville de Maniwaki et la CSHBO. Il permettrait à la Ville de Maniwaki de réaménager le site actuel du parc pour en faire une aire de repos doté d'un stationnement. Le Club Lions assumerait les coûts des nouvelles structures de jeu (43 000 $). Ces jeux seraient installés sur le terrain de l'école, au sud du bâtiment, près du boulevard Desjardins. Le projet prévoit des investissements totaux de 99 400 $, soit 43 000 $ pour le Club Lions, 30 100 $ pour la Ville en 2005, plus 17 300 $ en 2006, et 9 000 $ pour le comité de parents.

Enfin, les commissaires ont approuvé le budget d'investissement 2005-2006 de la CSHBO. Ce budget prévoit des dépenses de 300 000 $ pour des travaux re latifs aux infrastructures de la commission scolaire.

Voici le tableau des travaux projetés :

Pontiac

- École primaire Envolée (toiture): 31 500 $.
- École primaire Envolée (réservoir d'huile): 45 700 $.

Cœur de la Gatineau

- École primaire et secondaire Gracefield (toiture): 100 000 $.
- École Notre-Dame-de-Grâces (toiture): 32 800 $.

Haute-Gatineau

- Cité étudiante (toiture): 12 000 $. (passerelle): 50 000 $.
- École Laval (toiture):
- École St-Boniface 28 000 $.

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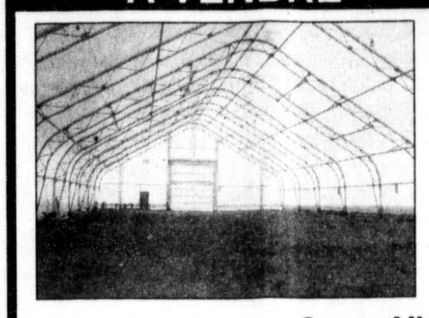

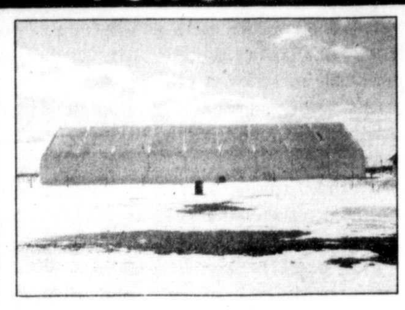

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Québec

Subvention de 28 000 $ à la MRC de Pontiac

PONTIAC — La députée de Pontiac, Mme Charlotte L'Écuyer, est heureuse d'annoncer, au nom du ministre des Transports, M. Michel Després, le versement d'une subvention de 28 000 $ à la MRC de Pontiac dans le cadre du Programme d'aide gouvernementale au transport collectif en milieu rural.

Le transport collectif en milieu rural permet d'offrir à la population de meilleurs services de transport par l'utilisation maximale des ressources déjà en place, qu'il s'agisse de transport scolaire, adapté, par taxi, interurbain, de covoiturage, de bénévolat ou de transport adapté sous la responsabilité du réseau de la santé.

« Pour une deuxième année consécutive, grâce à cette aide financière de 28 000 $, la MRC de Pontiac coordonnera les services de transport collectif déjà offerts à partir d'un centre d'appels. À cette fin, la MRC pourra augmenter les liens intermunicipaux sur son territoire par l'utilisation des places disponibles en transport adapté et en transport scolaire, de même que des services de taxi et des centres d'action bénévole pour les services d'accompagnement », a souligné Mme L'Écuyer.

Dans le cadre de ce programme, le Ministère consacre une enveloppe de 10 millions de dollars sur cinq ans. Ce sont 81 MRC qui profiteront de ces subventions. Ces sommes seront utilisées pour réaliser des études de faisabilité ou absorber les frais d'exploitation de tels services de transport.

Décès de Sa Sainteté le pape Jean-Paul II

En apprenant le décès Jean-Paul II, Monseigneur Richard W. Smith, évêque de Pembroke, a déclaré que, comme tous les prêtres et les fidèles du diocèse de Pembroke, c'est avec une profonde tristesse qu'il a accueilli la nouvelle de la mort du Souverain Pontife. « Pendant presque une trentaine d'années, a-t-il rappelé, l'Église catholique a été guidée par cet admirable pasteur. Il a parcouru le monde entier pour prêcher l'Évangile de Jésus Christ; il est intervenu sans relâche et avec force pour défendre la dignité de toute vie humaine, de la conception à la mort naturelle; il a tendu la main dans l'amour et le respect aux croyants de toutes les religions; il a incarné sur la scène mondiale un message clair et constant pour la paix et en faveur des pauvres; il a contribué à la chute du communisme et les peuples du monde entier ont reconnu en lui le leader moral le plus important de notre époque. Il a fait franchir à l'Église le seuil du troisième millénaire et, en appelant les catholiques à entreprendre une nouvelle évangélisation, il a jeté les bases de l'activité pastorale de l'Église pour d e nombreuses générations.

« Tout l'Église pleure sa mort. Nous sommes tous et toutes unis dans la prière pour demander qu'il reccoive la joie et le repos éternal dans la communion du Dieu Trinité car c'est à Son service qu'il a consacré sa vie. Puisse Marie, la mère de Dieu, sous la protection de qui Jean-Paul II a placé tout son ministère épiscopal et pontifical, veiller maintenant sur l'Église et prier pour elle au moment où s'amorce le processus visant à discerner celui que Dieu a choisi pour succéder à Jean-Paul II sur le trône de saint Pierre. »

Des prières seront offerts aux intentions du Saint Père à toutes les messes de la fin de semaine. Un service commémoratif spécial, présidé par Monseigneur Smith, sera célébré en la cathédrale St. Columbkille le mardi 5 avril, à 12 h 10.

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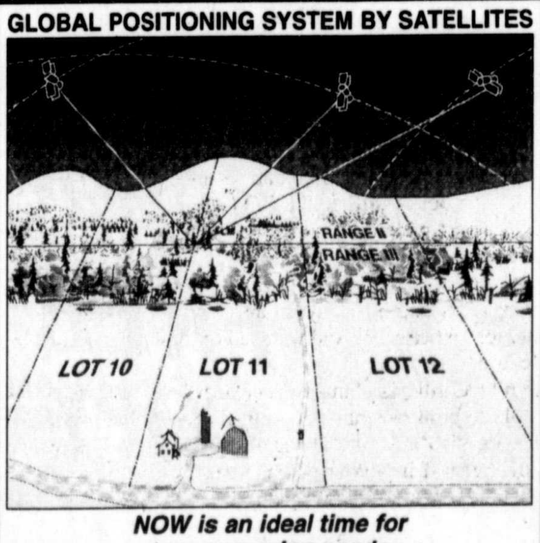

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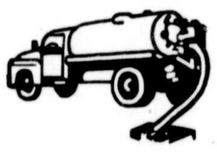

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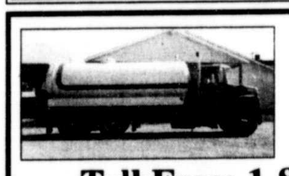

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Local artist part of Ottawa art exhibit

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

CLARENDON — Local artist and high school teacher Carol Bretzloff-Holmes has had her works displayed recently at an exhibit at Arts Court in Ottawa.

The exhibition is called *Vanities*, and portrays the fragility of life.

"It's a contemporary collection that looks at the fragility of existence," said Bretzloff-Holmes.

The exhibition presents a selection of work from the Firestone Collection and Contemporary Art Collection of the Ottawa Art Gallery and the National Gallery of Canada.

Artwork's origins

The works by Bretzloff-Holmes that are in the exhibit were originally made over 20 years ago for an art project called *Portfolio '83*. It was a special art exhibition in Ottawa that Bretzloff-Holmes was selected for.

"The exhibition chose 12 artists in the area and each artist created three portfolios," she said.

Bretzloff-Holmes worked with organic materials and was required to make multiple prints. The prints were made of flower petals that were pressed between two panes of glass.

She made three types of these prints, one with blue delphinium petals, one with yellow gladiola petals and one with pink carnation petals.

Curator Emily Falvey chose two of the three prints Bretzloff-Holmes had made for *Portfolio '83* to be part of this new exhibit depicting the fragility of life.

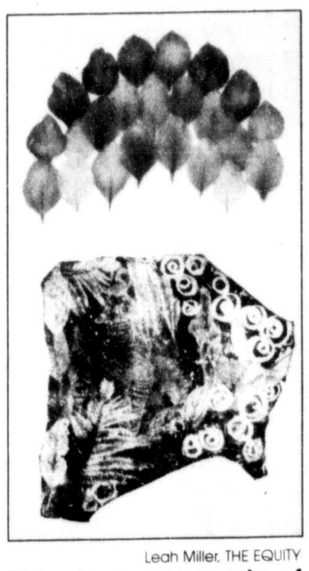
They are titled *Between Earth and Heaven, Light* (made of yellow petals) and *Under Heaven, Wind* (made of pink petals).

"This was my first experience doing something little," said Bretzloff-Holmes, who now normally works on life-sized sculpted projects.

Along with Bretzloff-Holmes, works by artists Ghitta Caiserman-Roth, Paraskeva Clark, Jean-Philippe Dallaire, Evergon, Sherry Grauer, Louis Joncas, Arthur Lismer, Louis Muhlstock, Claude Picher and Jack Shadbolt are portrayed in the collection, which include still-lifes, self-portraits and paintings.

Bretzloff-Holmes said she began working with flowers because her grandmother taught her how to make daisy chains many years ago.

"The pieces are very decorative," she said. "The work celebrates the cycle of birth, life and death."



Leah Miller, THE EQUITY

This piece was made of dried gladiola petals and a lithograph called "After the nightime stillness, the sun rises, like a coronet in the sky".

Over the years, Bretzloff-Holmes incorporated flower petals with Victorian-style hair weaving to create feminine and traditional-looking pieces.

"I've always loved flowers and gardens," she said.

To create the effect, she plucked flowers, mainly from her own garden, painted or dusted the petals with ground-up chalk pastels and dried the petals with silica gel.

From there she arranged a pattern, mostly in a circle or square shape.

"The petals become like brush strokes or feathers," said Bretzloff-Holmes. "It's very therapeutic."

Artist's life

Bretzloff-Holmes studied fine arts at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick and later specialized in education at Concordia and McGill Universities in Montreal.

"My work addresses the duality of nature between beauty and violence," said Bretzloff-Holmes. "It also addresses the life cycle and women's traditions."

Bretzloff-Holmes spent time working with watercolours to create landscape pieces, and worked with sculpting and lithographing.

"Ten or 12 years ago I made large sculptures," said Bretzloff-Holmes.

As the art teacher at Pontiac High School, she believes that art is our identity.

"We've been making art for 33,000 years," she said. "It identifies us a human beings. We have to support our artists or we'll lose our identity."

Bretzloff-Holmes has participated in 45 group exhibitions, 10 solo shows and has been teaching art at PHS for 30 years.

"I get energy from the students I teach," she said.

She helped found the Pontiac Artists' Studio Tour and was on the tour for three years between 1990 and 1993.

A date with heaven

Her next effort will take Bretzloff-Holmes to Barrie May 23 to 27 to work with artist William Tucker at Georgian College and nine other artists in a workshop. Tucker is a 70-year-old American artist that works mainly in sculpting. Her theme will be based on "What is Heaven?", a question Bretzloff-Holmes says most people think about near the end of their lives.

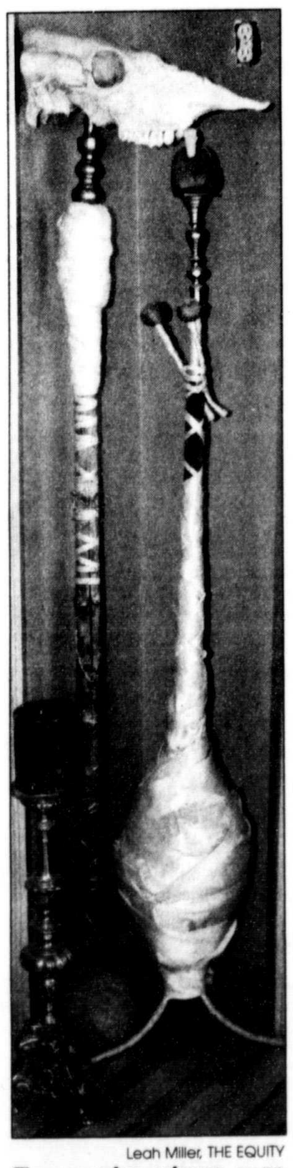
"I see my heaven to be like a blue mountain," she said.

Bretzloff-Holmes's work will be on display in the *Vanities* exhibition in Arts Court, Ottawa until April 17.

"I was pleased to be included in a theme addressing mortality," she said. "As individuals we wonder what our purpose is on earth. Those thought deal with our higher needs, and those higher needs deal with who we are. The more we talk about our purpose as human beings, the more human and less animal we become."

Leah Miller, THE EQUITY

Carol Bretzloff-Holmes holds up artwork made of flower petals called "Drawing with gladiola petals", much like two pieces that are now part of the exhibition "Vanities" at Arts Court in Ottawa. The exhibition will be on display until April 17.



Leah Miller, THE EQUITY

The centre piece was made in 1984 of a cow's skull on a wooden pole standing within a circle of bones and stone. It's called "The Dragon Drives Away the Dark" and stands 72 inches tall.

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HOME WORK by Tom McCann

The debate between licensed versus unlicensed tradesmen

PONTIAC — I believe just because you have a license to do something it doesn't necessarily mean that you should.

For the better part of a decade I had a license that allowed me to drive a tri-axle truck. After considering the safety of the general public I seldom ever drove a vehicle of that size.

A paper saying I could didn't really mean that I should drive. I relate this story because over the years I have seen quality work done by both licensed and unlicensed people as well as questionable work by trades people who had licenses and those that didn't.

Geographically this area is small enough so that every one knows someone who can do the required work or knows someone who can recommend someone.

> "This area is small enough so that every one knows someone who can do the required work."
> —Tom McCann

This recommendation at times can be more important to the quality of work than the license. It is easier to earn a bad reputation than a good one, so asking for references can be as valid as verifying a tradesmen's license.

On larger projects that require building permits there are two main benefits to using licensed trades people. The first is that the provincial body governing the trades can fine the owner of a property for using unlicensed workers and the fines can be very expensive.

The larger projects are more apt to be visited by both building and labor inspectors. The second is that the licensed trades people can be more easily held responsible if their work is not up to par.

The ability to keep their trade permit is closely linked to their ability to keep the work they provide up to necessary standards. Satisfied clients don't raise concerns that would call into question tradesmen's qualifications.

Personally I would consider references first and licenses second but not necessarily secondary.

Tom is the owner of HYM, a home maintenance business, and can be reached at hym@igs.net.

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Shawville RA in need of community support

By CHRISTIE MAILEY
Equity Reporter

SHAWVILLE — The Shawville Recreation Association held its annual meeting Monday night and although the financial figures were the best reported in years the spirit of the RA board of directors was deflated.

"We are one of the only, if *the* only, RA centres still in operation," said Jaime Bruce, past secretary for the RA. "We don't want to end up like the other towns."

The turn out for the meeting was far better than the last year. Four people were there from the community.

"Last year there was only the seven of us," said Bruce. "We have 100 people in ball and 160 people in soccer and it's only ever the seven of us here. Last year there wasn't a single person sitting in those chairs in front of us."

The RA made a net income of almost $10,000 and this figure is mostly due to fundraisers that have not been hosted in previous years. The RA has typically lost money each year so the figure for the 2003-2004 fiscal year is one they are very happy about. The money will be re-circulated back into the RA for improvements.

"This number is extraordinary for us," said Kathy Murray, newly elected RA president.

The RA has made several changes in order to save money: the most effective has been shutting off the heat during the winter months which has saved them nearly $3000.

Aside from reporting the RA's financial statement the meeting also included the election of a new board of directors. While some people merely changed places on the board, some new members were elected.

"The big problem is that it's the same people over and over again," said Murray. "So it is great to see all of you here tonight."

Dave Keon, past president, said it is getting hard to find people to volunteer.

"We're afraid to ask for help, it's a waste of time because we have been turned down so many times," he said.

Several suggestions were made on how to encourage people to volunteer including a hike in membership fees with a discount offered to those who offer to volunteer.

"When the RA was started, the whole point was for the rates to be affordable and available to everyone," said Murray. "We are not here to make money. We need support."

Keon mentioned the $15 membership fee for the Shawville RA is significantly lower than Ottawa or even Renfrew.

"It would cost at least $175 to play soccer in Ottawa," he said.

The RA is looking for coaches and other volunteer staff. There are no specific qualifications needed to coach.

"All you have to have is a pair of running shoes," said Murray. "I want to make sure the RA continues. My concern is that there won't be anyone who wants to take it on."

PHS takes second in last tourney

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

SHAWVILLE — Pontiac High School's benjamin girls volleyball team won second place in a regional tournament held over the weekend.

Based on previous performance (the girls shut-out their last two tournaments), the team was entered into the A-side division of the tournament.

"This meant that we were playing some of the top teams and our girls met all the challenges set forth," said coach Shawn MacDonell.

PHS played four teams and came out with five wins out of eight sets.

Against Hadley, PHS won 25-22, but lost the second set 25-22. Against St. Joseph, PHS won both sets 25-13 and 25-5. Against Le Carrefour, PHS lost 25-23 but won the second set 25-21. Finally, against St. Alexandre PHS lost 25-18 but won the second set 25-20.

MacDonell said that the game the girls played against St. Alexandre was the best game they played all season.

"They played their hearts out and came out as the A-side second-place finishers — only one step away from entering the finals of the AA division," said MacDonell. "We were also the only team to beat the number one-ranked St. Alexandre team all day long."

MacDonell said the girls had a great season and were very dedicated during the tournament.

"They had many chances where they could have given up but they did not," he said.

This is the last tournament of the year for the girls.

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HOME WORK by Tom McCann

Do I need a building permit and why?

Building rules are set provincially but on occasion can be amended by local and regional governments. The interpretation of these rules allows there to be some variation of how the building codes are going to be enforced by a particular building inspector or municipality. One of the main factors used in making a decision on whether or not a permit is required is how much the dollar value of the property is going to improve. Changing one window normally would not require a building permit but changing ten windows and putting on new siding would require a permit. Usually a garden shed would not require a permit but a larger garden shed with electricity most likely would.

Building permits also allow a municipality to collect funds both from the sale of permits and the increased revenue due to the eventual increase in property assessments caused by the improvements. Building permits also protect the owner of the property that work is being done on as well as the neighboring landowners. The rules that the permits are set to enforce help ensure the same minimum standard of for a project. They also can cover health and safety situations such as the proximity of septic systems to drinking water sources.

By checking with your relevant building inspector you can easily find out if a permit is required and if there are any rules that would be good to follow even if a permit is not required. An improperly located structure or expansion can cause problems in the future when a mortgage or a clean certificate of location is required. Checking before hand is easier than fixing it after the fact.

Gurgling toilet

There are two main reasons for a toilet to run and both are easy to fix. Remove the top of the reservoir and take a peek. Inside there are two main components. A ballcock made out either of brass or plastic and is usually on the left. This is the valve unit that controls how much water comes in to the tank. There will be a float attached to this valve that helps maintain water flow. In the center of the toilet there will be a vertical hollow tube. This tube is an overflow tube, which drains any extra water out of the reservoir. If the water level is high enough to be dribbling into the overflow pipe then the problem you have can be fixed by adjusting the float so that the valve shuts when the water is at a lower level.

If the water is at a proper level the cause of the problem is going to be the flapper valve, which is at the bottom of the overflow pipe. There will be a fine chain connecting the flapper valve to the lever that flushes the toilet. This flapper valve is rubber, cheap and very easy to replace. The flapper valve has arms that stick out that hook over pins that come out either side of the bottom of the overflow pipe. Simply unhook the old one and hook on a new one.

If there is a valve underneath the toilet shut it off before proceeding with changes. If there is not a valve then you have to go and shut the water elsewhere. Shutting off your pump or the main inlet valve on your municipal water system may be the simplest thing to do.

Tom is the owner of HYM, a home maintenance business, and can be reached at hym@igs.net.

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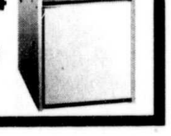

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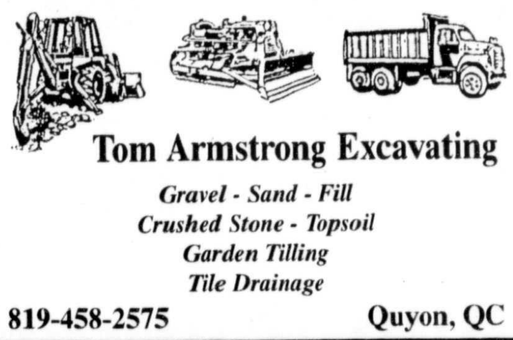

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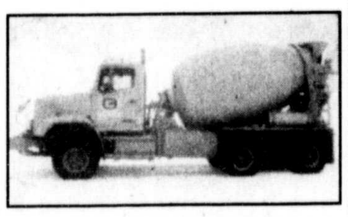

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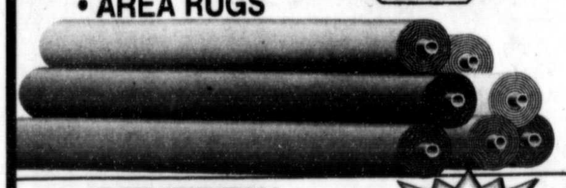

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MAY 2005

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COMING EVENTS

Every Saturday night until May 7th, 2005 included. Bryson Lions Club Old Time Dance, Bryson Lions Hall. Music by The Brysonnaires. 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Hot lunch at midnight. $6 per person. otc.

Sale Liquidation – 6 Gilpin Line, Bristol. New load of tools expected this week. Bedding, towels, small appliances. Nobody beats our price. Garage package 16 x 24 prebuilt limited time offer $3,600. House package 28 x 40 $7,500. Drop in for details. Open Fri. - Sun., 10 - 5. No early birds. xa6

Fri., April 8 –7 p.m., Movie Night at Pontiac High School. "Ladder 49". Cost $3 which includes a drink. Other great refreshments will be sold. Fundraiser for PHS Yearbook. ba6

Fri., April 8 – Calumet Island Idol Contest, 7:30 Town Hall, Calumet Island, QC. ba6

Sun., April 10 – Quyon C.W.L. Share Lent Breakfast, Lions Hall at 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. ba6

April 13 – Poor Man's Lunch, Oddfellows Hall, Alfred St., Shawville. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Price $6. 2xa13

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Sat., April 16 – 6 p.m. Shawville and District Snowmobile Club will be having their Landowners' Appreciation Supper at the T.C.R.A., Ladysmith, Quebec. 2xA13

April 22 – Forest Inn. Bryson. SADC Pontiac Community Futures 20th Anniversary gala. Pontiac Business, Dinner and Dance. For more info. call André Chretien 648-2186. SADC Pontiac Community Futures Gala du 20e anniversaire, Souper et soirée dansante des entrepreneurs du Pontiac. Vendredi, 22 avril à 18 h. Auberge de la forêt, 501 Route 148, Bryson. 3ba20

COMING EVENTS

April 27th – 7:30 p.m. Jr. B Annual General Meeting, Arena lobby. See display ad. ba6

Sat., April 30 – 4-wheeler drivers' course. Must be 14 years old. One day course by certified monitor. Call 648-2928. 2bA13

Tours – May 31 - June 2 Daniel O'Donnell in Lake George (limited seats); June 16 Charley Pride in Ottawa; Mediterranean Cruise May 4 - 16 (limited seats). Call Thomas Cook/Highland Travel 432-5815 or 1-800-865-8738. 3xA6

June 9 – Frankie Vallie and the Four Seasons at the Casino du Lac Leamy. Includes bus, ticket, coins and more. Call Thomas Cook/Highland Travel 432-5815 or 1-800-865-8738. 2xa13

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OBITUARY

Williams – Mabel (née Bretzlaff) passed away March 26, 2005 at the age of 83. Daughter of the late Frederick and Mina, wife of the late John Williams. Predeceased by her brothers, Gilbert, Frederick and Gordon. She will be missed and remembered by her daughters Susan and Nancy, many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews and other special people. There will be no visitations. Family and friends are invited to assemble for service at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 400 Sparks, Ottawa, Saturday, April 9, 11 a.m. Interment Capital Memorial Gardens.

THANKS

Brown – The family of the late Clarence Brown would like to thank all our families, and friends, for everything they had done for Dad, Mom and us during this sad time. We are very grateful for the time we had with grandpa. No words can express how special Janet Brown was to help from the beginning to the end, in our time of need. Not many doctors in the Pontiac do house calls anymore, but Dr. Benfey is one of those doctors. A special thank you for everything. He was there from beginning to the end. Also thanks to Sylvie from the CLSC for her thoughtfulness and her kindness during this time. Thanks to Hayes Funeral Home. A special thank you to Wayne and Sheila, for the meals given during this sad time. Also we would like to thank the friends, who brought food to the house. A heartfelt thank you to Pastor John Foley and Pastor Roger McElwain for the lovely service, to the ladies of the church, for the lunch given afterwards. His pallbearers were his grandson, Bill, Wayne, Jim, his great-grandsons were James and Alex, his nephews. George Brown. Manly, Dorothy and their families.

Mielke – I would like to thank everyone who attended my surprise 60th birthday party. Thanks also for all the gifts, cards and good wishes. Special thanks to Jennifer, Susie and Marlene who did all the planning behind my back. Thanks to Ernie, Cathy and staff for the very delicious meal that was served and to Essie for the special birthday cake. Gerald

Richardson, Joyce (née Brown) – May 11, 1936 - March 17, 2005.
The Richardson family would like to express their sincere gratitude to all for their generous donations of food, cards and expressions of sympathy. A special thank you to all Pontiac's former Midgets and ball players who travelled distances to pay their respects. Thanks to each and every one! Royce, Warnie, Joey, Robyn and families

Personal Prayer to the Holy Spirit – Holy Spirit, Thou make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give the divine gift to forgive, and forget the wrong that is done to me and who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desire may be. I want to be with You and my loved ones in Your perpetual glory. Amen. Person must pray this three consecutive days without stating one's wish. After the third day your wish will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Promise to publish this as soon as your favour has been granted. S.M.

THANKS

Thank you Lord say 9 Hail Mary's each day for 9 days. make 3 wishes; the first concerning business, the others for the impossible. Publish this article on the 9th day, your wishes will come true, even if you don't believe. Thank you Lord, it's unbelievable but true. R.B.

MEMORIAM

Carson, Evelyn – Remembering her on her birthday.
As a neighbour you were the greatest
As a friend you were the best
Even though we all miss you
We realize that God knows best.
The Golden Girls, 423 Shaw

Flood, Albert – In memory of a dear father and grandfather who passed away April 4, 1997.
He suffered much, he earned his rest,
The Lord took him for He knew best.
A greater gain from sacrifice.
Harry, Isabel and family

Murphy, Grace – In memory of a dear wife, mother and mother-in-law who passed away April 4, 2002.
Gone from us, but leaving memories
Death can never take away
Memories that will always linger
While upon this earth we stay.
Earl, Brian, Barbara and Terry

Peck – In loving memory of a dear Godchild, Joseph who passed away April 5, 2004.
The Broken Chain
We little knew that morning,
that God was going to call
your name. In life we loved
you dearly, in death we do the
same. It broke our hearts to
lose you, you did not go alone;
for part of us went with you the
day God called you home. You
left us peaceful memories,
your love is still our guide; and
though we cannot see you,
you are always at our side.
Our family chain is broken,
and nothing seems the same,
but as God calls us one by
one, the Chain will link again.
Your Godparents Uncle Wilfred and Aunt Judy

Peck – In loving memory of a dear grandson, Joseph, who passed away April 5, 2004.
Come to my Heavenly garden,
And see in perfect bloom
The flower you loved so dearly
And thought I plucked too soon.
Then you will know My reason,
Though you know it not today,
Why in his promising manhood.
I took your grandson away.
Love your Grandma and Grandpa

Peck – In loving memory of a dear nephew, Joseph who passed away April 5, 2004.
We'd wish for phones in Heaven
So we could call you every day
To tell you that we love you
And check if you're okay,
And sometimes just to hear your voice
To ease the pain we feel,
Because losing you has broken our hearts
And it's a wound that's slow to heal.
But if Heaven had long distance
Our bills would be so high
Because we'd call your every minute
And never say goodbye.
To some you may be forgotten
To others a part of the past
But to us who loved and lost you
Your memory will always last.
Love from all Miljour Aunts and Uncle and spouse

Smith, Pearley – Remembering with love a wonderful husband, father, father-in-law and grandpa, Pearley, who passed away April 6, 1990.
The precious years we spent with you
Are worth their weight in gold,
The joys and laughter that we shared
Are ours to have and hold.
We miss you more than words can say,
Of this, there is no doubt,
You're lovingly remembered
And hard to live without.
Loving you always, forgetting you never.
Betty, Calvin, Dawn, Ryan and Nicole; Judy, Michael, Courtney, Adam and Caileigh-Anne

MEMORIAM

Rutledge – In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother, Viola, who passed away April 1, 2000.
Always remembered by Alex and family

Trafford – In loving memory of a dear father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, "Albert-Paw" who passed away April 11, 2004.
A year has swiftly passed away since the "breath" of spring that took you away.
As we look around our homes we see the many things that will always remind us of you.
Until we meet again you are in our hearts and our thoughts.
Herman, Brenda and family

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Quyon CWL meets

St. Mary's CWL in Quyon held their monthly meeting on March 8. President Claire Dubois welcomed attending members. Claire has reaffirmed her position as president for another term. She thanked members for their help and support during the past term.

Opening prayers were led by Father Costello and were followed by the correspondence and the treasurer's reports.

On the evening of April 5, St. Mary's parish children will receive the sacrament of confirmation, CWL members are assisting the children in their preparation for the holy event.

Items discussed were the annual CWL Share - Lent Breakfast scheduled for April 10 at the Lions Hall and the Book-a-thon on the evening of April 29.

In 1955 the CWL was officially formed in Quyon making the present year the 50th anniversary of the League, special interest and attention is being given to the scheduled banquet on Sunday, May 15.

Closing prayers ended the meeting. The next meeting will be the evening of April 12.

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VINTON

Dusting off the golf balls

By DIANE BOISVERT
Correspondent
648-5296

Gee whiz, I didn't think it would upset so many people by not having the column in last week. Sorry about that. But, I'm getting a computer and the internet soon. And I won't have to bug other people to bring the news in on time.

We sure had a nice weekend for Easter even if it was a bit early this year. I noticed that there was a lot of company home for the weekend. Shelley,Carl and the grandchildren spent Easter weekend with Theresa and me. Other visitors were Susie Hearty, Frank Mousseau, Kim Alexander and her three children, Jacob, Liam and Eden. Kim told me that her sister, Kerri, is expecting her second child.

On Good Friday, Barry and Min Belanger held their annual fish fry at their garage in Vinton. Over 100 people attended and there was no shortage of talent. Mike Dubeau and his family and Allyson Belanger played for the most part. Barry Belanger took a crack at the drums. I guess we'll have to call him "Animal" from now on. We even had a special skit put on for us by Terry Frost. Debbie Belanger was the director of this performance and Lee Belanger was the manager. Turk pirouetted around the garage on his tippy toes to a cheering and clapping crowd as he performed his rendition of "Madam Butterfly."

On Saturday, March 26 I went to the home of Shelley Normandeau and Jeff Benoit in Bryson for Easter supper. They had 18 for the meal. There were six children under of age of five so we were all well entertained.

On Sunday we spent most of the day enjoying the weather outside and I had a lot of drop-in visitors.

Shirley and Hector Pepin had all their children and grandchildren home for Sunday. So it was quite busy at their home all day.

Belated birthday wishes go out to Laura Moore, Barry Pepin on the first, Cathy McCrank and Eric Belanger on the 5th. Eric turned 14.

Min wanted me to pass on a little tip for people calling her pager. Leaving a voice message doesn't work. You actually have to punch in your own phone number so she'll know who has called.

Deepest sympathy goes out to the family of John Telford, husband to the late Beulah Mayhew.

On Monday, March 21 Bernie Johnston of B.C. passed away in a Vancouver Hospital after suffering a severe heart attack. Bernie was the father of my three nieces, Jennifer Spratt, Emily and Julie Johnston. my condolences to all his family.

You know that spring must be here. On March 26 I saw my first robin and then on the 29th Iheard the geese coming back. Another sure sign is when you see everyone dusting off their golf balls. So this weekend you'll be able to enjoy yourself on the greens at Mickey Creek. As a matter of fact I heard that Doug Sloan was out on the Ridge Rd. last week practicing his putting. He's trying to get an edge on everyone else.

A very special happy birthday to Arthur Mayhew of Shawville who celebrated his 87th on April 3 at the home of Ken and Elaine Burke. Arthur is the oldest of the Mayhew clan. We were having a Mayhew family reunion meeting that day and got a lot accomplished.

We still need any information on the Mayhew family that you might have. We are getting the family tree book together and should be ready for the reunion this July in Quyon. We also need volunteers to be in charge of different events for the weekend. Please contact me.

Timmy Shea will be on the Food Channel on April 6 at 11 a.m., 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. he will be showing how he makes over restaurants.

CAMPBELL'S BAY

A home town girl

By IRIS SMITH
Correspondent
648-5821

Happy birthday to David McTiernan who celebrated his 53rd birthday on April 1. He had a great party in Ottawa. His cousin of North Gower, who is a captain of the fire department, took him on tour of their fire hall.

Deepest sympathy to Theresa Newton (Theriault) on the sudden death of her husband Steven in Ottawa. Theresa is the daughter of Doreen Theriault of Campbell's Bay.

Kervyn and June Burman have just returned from a month's holiday at Myrtle Beach. They enjoyed warmer weather and were joined by Randy and his wife, Jennifer and family of Kanata for the March break. Within sight of home they had the misfortune to meet up with a deer.

Alice and Catherine Lawn visited in Ottawa and Catherine journeyed to Sudbury on the weekend to visit with relatives in the area.

It is nice to see Cletus Frost home again. In a conversation with him he told me he had been in hospital for three months. We all hope he continues to get back to good health.

Birthday wishes to Chris Black, an engineer on CJOH TV, a local boy, Barb Stoppa, Scott Laporte, Cletus Ferrigan, our mayor, Ronnie Kluke, Eric Pilon, Marielle Kluke,Wm. Fenton Jr., Grace Vibert,and Jill Smith. May you enjoy many more healthy happy birthdays.

Happy anniversary to Tim and Joan Frost and Neil and Jennifer Poisson. Hope your day was special.

Visiting with Marion McTiernan was Rejean and Margo Richard of Dorval.

Congratulations to Jennifer Sloan and John Mason who were married in Ottawa recently. Jennifer is the daughter of Isobel (Lawn) and Pat Sloan. Attending from town were Alice and Catherine. The snow storm seemed to go around us, thank goodness but we did get a good bit of rain. I hope everyone had their sump pumps ready for the spring thaw.

Ian and Vicki Belanger of Carleton Place and Chad and Angel of Alymer visited with Elmer Belanger last week.

Carman and Carol Hodgins of Schnectady, NY visited with us and attended the funeral of our brother-in-law, Nellis Stewart at Shawville on Tuesday.

The Golden Age Club held its euchre on Tuesday evening at the club room. Ladies high was won by Georgette Robitaille, second was won by Veronica Perrier and Isabelle Lacroix. They split the prize. Men's high was a three-way tie between Kervyn Burman, George Huckabone and Roger Lacroix. They split the prize, second was won by Tom Hearty. The free game of the month was won by Frank Lacourse. The door prize was won by Georgette Robitaille. Refreshments were by Ella and Roy Romain. The Golden Age club went by bus to North Fork for Brunch on Saturday. Despite the weather everyone enjoyed the meal and the trip. This is the first trip of the season for the group this year . Plans are under way for more trips in the future. If you happen to have the Renfrew Mercury dropped at you door you can see a picture of Carolyn Kluke taken by The roving reporter. Carolyn worked many years in Shawville at Canadian Tire and transferred to Renfrew with the opening of the new store. She is a home town girl. Way to go Carolyn.

Get ready for the Yard Sale season.
Place the unwanted items in the classifieds.
THE EQUITY, 647-2204.

BRYSON

It's a dog's life

By HEATHER STEWART
Correspondent
648-5413

I was very saddened to hear of the passing of Pope John Paul. He was a wonderful person and will be very much missed to all of those whose lives he has touched. May he rest in eternal peace!

Belated birthday greetings going out to Stephanie Piche.

Good luck wishes going out to Stephane Godin of Bryson who has joined the army. He left on April 4 and is stationed in St. Jean.

A few birthday wishes being sent out to Calumet Island. Celebrating is Claire Lemaire on April 5, Doris Lamothe on April 6 and Suzanne Lemaire on April 10. Also happy birthday to Steve Lamothe of Thunder Bay. I hope you all have a wonderful day!

The results of the Golden Age euchre held on Monday, March 28, are as follows: door prize, Anita Stafford, 50/50 Anita Stafford, men's first Theo Schroeder, Napoleon Bleau, Laurier Dumouchel and Mervin Smith, Men's 2nd: Perry Kluke, Clifford Robitaille and Gilbert Letts, ladies first: Bernadette Piche, ladies second Julie Mahreal, Colette McTiernan and Joan Sicard.

Visiting with Georgette Piche and family this past week was Nicole Lemaire of Repentigny.

A little blue bird named Jason told me that his wife Cindy Belland was cursed with two left feet one day last week. She was in such high spirits singing and dancing. She took off down to the basement to fetch a bottle of water and she had quite the two-step going. She missed her step, fell and landed on her knees. So with that being said. Get well wishes going out to Cindy Belland of Bryson, who had the misfortune of falling and hurting her knee. Gotcha Ol' Girl!

Get well wishes going out to Dora Lepine who is a patient in the Pontiac Community Hospital. I hope you are feeling better soon.

For anyone who would like to put news in the social notes please contact me by 9 p.m. Sunday evenings. That is when I usually send out the social notes to THE EQUITY. I would love to hear from you. The more excitement going on in Bryson, the better the column.

Visiting with my mom and dad, Jim and Anna were John and Francis Chenard of White Fish, Uncle Melvin and Aunt Monique Stewart of Matagami and Aunt Diane Stewart and Larry Besserer of Ottawa.

While in the sugar bush, John Chenard decided that he wanted a nice cold drink of water. He went into the sugar shack to fetch himself a drink. After downing the nice cold, refreshing, sparkling water, he came to find out that it was the water that my dad, Jim had been washing his hands in! Don't worry, a little dirt never hurt anybody! Sorry I just had to share this with the public.

Cindy Belland's dog got loose on her one day last week. Thankfully her sister Connie Belland saved the day. Connie was in hot pursuit after the dog. Cindy waited at home when finally Relics and Connie's Jeep pulled in the driveway. In the front sat Relics and the dog beside him, the two children in the back seat. But where was Connie? All of a sudden, the hatch back door in the rear of the Jeep flew open and out jumped Connie. I guess the saying stands true. It really is a dog's life. Oh, by the way, Connie, did Cindy buy you that drink she promised you for all of your hard work? And especially for taking back seat to her dog? I'd hold her to that!

A quick reminder that the tickets for the Lions Super Bingo are now on sale. The Super Bingo will be held in May. Please see the local Lions members for tickets. Limited tickets are being sold so now is the time to purchase them. The cost is $50.

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DANFORD LAKE

A definite sign of spring

By STEPHANIE MILFORD
Correspondent
467-1091

A lot of "Dads" will be home for the next couple of weeks I'm sure. The bush is too muddy and wet right now for anything. Those who have stockpiled some of their wood are shipping it out, but only in half loads.

Be sure not to miss the amateur singing and guitar playing contest to be held at the Little Bar in Otter Lake. There will be first, second and third place prizes so come on out and show off your stuff. Rules and regulations will be posted. So come on adults, I'll see you all there!

On Sunday my parents Myles and Suzanne went to Renfrew and on their way back they stopped and visited with the owners of the Little Bar, Rachel and Yvan.

An auction sale was held in Danford for Alec and Mary Tanner. A lot of people came out despite the terrible cold, wind and rain.

The Roman Catholic Church lost its leader this past Saturday. Pope John Pull II left us after battling the flu since January and then further complications in health arose. The multitudes of people at St. Peter's Basilica was awe-inspiring as I watched it this morning. So many people coming out to pay their final respects to an incredible man.

I heard a very interesting story this past week. Mermaids really do exist! While in Niagara Falls, a mermaid was spotted and Doug Bretzlaff had the chance to date her but only once. So if you need professional advice on how to date a mermaid please call Mr. Bretzlaff of Otter Lake.

Have you seen the pussy willows out yet? They're out! My sister, Robyn, brought some in on Saturday for me. That's a definite sign of spring.

Thanks to Jacques Regimbald Jr. my brother Karl's French is improving. While on our way home from Hull Saturday night Karl turned to me and said "Did you see the "Panache" on them deer in the movie Steph?" I had to laugh. It was so cute!

Happy birthday this week to Trevor Molyneaux and Sandy Peck. Hope you both have a good one!

Karl Milford and Jacques Regimbald Jr. spent Friday night in Gatineau with Carole Lance and Chanel Robertson.

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The Lunneys have retired and the farm is for sale. Everything must sell.
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Sunday, April 17 at 11:00 am
Machinery: Ford 7000 tractor w/ cab; MF 235 diesel tractor w/ 300 Allied loader, material bucket and manure forks – top condition; MH 30 gas tractor w/ Rockwell pulley; JD 450 double disc seed drill, 21 run w/ press wheels, grass seed box and acreage meter – good condition; JD 960 cultivator, 15' w/ 3 bar harrows, C shank; Ford 230 hyd. discs, 10 1/2' w/ 20" blades; Triple OK 3pth 11' cultivator w/ leveling harrows; Kvernelands 16" 3 furrow plow, 3pth, automatic reset; NH 479 haybine – 9'; IH 3pth sickle mower- 7'; NH 256 roller bar side rake; NH 268 baler; Allied ground driven stooker; manual stooker; Malco 30' hay elevator w/ motor; set of stook forks; round bale spear; White 8 ton hay wagon,18' rack; Westfield 16' grain auger, 4" w/ 10' extension w/ motor; Woods oat roller; Butler 3000 bushel steel grain bin w/ aeration floor, fan and unloading auger, 5 rings high x 15' across, like new; Turf-Power 18"/ 5hp rear tine garden rototiller, like new: 2 sets of tractor chains; 8' fibreglass truck cap, good condition; **Antique Horse Drawn Machinery & Farm Related Items**: MH 26, 2 furrow tractor plow(match plow); 2 MH # 51, 1 furrow walking plows (1 never used), both in top condition; wooden framed hay wagon w/ wooden spoked wheels on rubber w/ rack and double standards; road grader on steel wheels w/ 6' blade; Cockshutt 3 furrow disc plow; 2 sets of sloop sleighs – complete; 4 section flat harrows; 2 land rollers; ditcher bucket; dump rake; pair of large steel wheels; 1 horse cultivator; 2 double sets of heavy horse harness – brass trimmed, good condition; horse collars; horse halters; bits; set of brass mounted tippets; neck yolks; spreaders; a good selection of brass sleigh bells including strap bells and shaft bells; 20 ton barn jack; hyd jack; Simmons cross cut saw; 2 sets of cutter shafts; cant hook; 6 milk cans – 8 gal; 3 factory cans – 20 gal; forks, shovels, picks; cow stanchions; water bowls; several wire gates; page wire; quantity of steel and electric fence posts; electric fencers; wire stretchers; logging chains; Pioneer P41 chain saw – 20"; Echo 302 chain saw – 14"; numerous wooden doors; Jager floor joists, several lengths from 10' – 18'; other unlisted items.
Term: Cash or Cheque with Proper ID
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Auctioneer's Note: This is a nice line of machinery and farm related antiques, all in good condition and stored inside. Refreshments available. Owners and auctioneers not responsible for accidents or loss of items.

CHARTERIS

First flock of wild geese

By MONA RUTLEDGE
Correspondent
647-6250

A big happy birthday to Tim Palmer whose birthday is on April 9. He will be 19 years old. The birthday greetings are from his family. Also a happy birthday to Hailey Emma Hodgins who will be eight years old on April 10. The wishes come from mommy, daddy and Jamiey.

Cory Thomas and his wife, Laura Palmer will have the fish farm open on weekends. But, if you want to go on a week day call them to set up a time.

I saw my first flock of wild geese on March 30 on my way home from Shawville. I wastalking to my friend Linda Trudeau Hines from down Quyon way and she told me that she saw the same flock of geese at around 4 in the afternoon as she was coming into Shawville. On Friday, April 1 I was talking to Chris Young and he told me that he saw a Canada goose on the Bristol Town Line.

My cousin, Brenda Massia, and her daughter Ashley came to see me on march 31 and she told me that she saw four robins across the road from her place on the 11th Line. Ashley told me that both Tim Horton's in Renfrew are now hiring.

On Tuesday night past there was a Junior B exhibition game which was real good and there was another Monday night.

I went to the Bob "Fish" Findlay Memorial Charity Hockey game on Friday night, April 1 and it was a very good game. This game was for charity and donations went to the Palliative Care at the Shawville Hospital. When I was there I joined in the toonie toss. The person with the toonie closest to an object wins it. I won the basket of goodies from the House of Flowers plus they gave out small teddy bears and cups.

There is a new chipstand open now in Otter Lake which is called Patate Otter Lake Spuds. The chips stand opened on April 1.

The Junior B's will be going to the Dodge Cup a little later on this month.

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CALDWELL

101st celebrated

By HERMONIE SHARPE
Correspondent
647-3459

Calling on us on Easter Sunday after spending the day with Leo McGee and attending mass for the late Bertha McGee were Natasha and Sean McDonald and daughter Emily of Orleans and Jim McGee of Osgoode. On their way back from daughter's Stephanie in Embrun on Easter Monday we had son Donald and his wife Joanne of Marathon, who left from his home in Caldwell back to Marathon and back to work.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Jean Tubman who passed away on Saturday, March 26 in her 85th year. Funeral service was held on Tuesday at St. Paul's Anglican Church with interment in the spring.

Birthday congratulations go out to Jessie Horner Cameron of Shawville who celebrated her 101st on March 28. On April 2 Mervin Conroy celebrated his birthday, also David Hodgins and on April 3 Ron Spears of Ottawa and Stephen Mako of Holland Landing on the 5th, Gail Sparling of Shawville and Lloyd Spallin of Shawville celebrates his 92nd on April 7. Congratulations everyone I hope you all have a wonderful day.

Visiting with us on Sunday were Neil and Margaret Sharpe of Shawville.

We didn't get all that snow we were promised over this past weekend. We are not going to cry about that but neither should we sit back in our Lazyboy chair and think it is all over as we could still get some surprises. Talking to our friends in New Jersey over this past weekend they told me they were flooded out in the low lying areas and still have rain in their forecast. We are getting rain at present. But it was needed to help get rid of the rest of the snow which disappeared very nicely this year without flooding.

I received very good news this week as I have an appointment in May to get my eyes taken care of. Hopefully it will be successful as my voice system on my computer and I have fallen out.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Hilda Laura Tanner who passed away on April 1 in Ottawa. She was the sister of Grant Woolsey (France) of Ottawa and Norway Bay.

Christie Malley, THE EQUITY

Pontiac High School's welding class created snow machines on skis as their term three class project. Several teams competed on Thursday, March 31 by racing their sleds down a snow covered hill, loading four logs into it and dragging it back up the hill. Team Sno+jet, shown here, prepares to make their run which they completed in 59 seconds.

LADYSMITH

Welcome home

By DEBBIE LANCE THRUN
Correspondent
647-3927

This past week I've received several calls from people telling me they've seen their first robin. So, that's a sure sign of spring. It was interesting to hear what areas they came to first. Some people had as many as six at their place or even at their feeders. We haven't seen one yet but I'm sure they'll be dropping by before long.

Birthday congratulations to Arnold Mahlitz of Edmonton on April 9. He is a brother to Harold Mahlitz and was born and lived in this area before moving to Alberta. He and his wife Yvonne were home last year for Oktoberfest.

Anniversary congratulations to Grace and David Early of Cawood who celebrated April 3.

The Easter Sunday Service in St. John's Lutheran was well attended. Pastor Bonnie Scharfe presided.

Greg Atkinson, who attends the Royal Military College in Kingston, and brother Phillip,who attends Algonquin College in Ottawa, were both home for Easter weekend visiting their parents Monique and Leslie. Monique and Leslie had a lovely Easter dinner at their home for all the Atkinson family.

Visiting with us this past week was our neighbour, Yvette Pasch.

April is birthday month for some of the ladies and children. Celebrating are Elda Wickens, Gerda Bretzlaff, Cathy Pasch, Lillian Pasch, Monique Atkinson, Margaret Fieroben, Ruth Hahn, Tyler Pasch, Adelaide Pasch and Jillian Pasch. Oh! I almost forgot myself but I stopped celebrating and counting at 39. Wishing you all a very happy birthday with many more to come.

Glenn Sparling of Hodgins Post Office reports he saw a chipmunk running across his lawn. He thinks it had rubber boots on. Surely this is a sign of spring.

We received a call from Harold Mahlitz of Kitchner who reports the tulips are up about six inches at his house.

Birthday congratulations to Bernie Sparling who celebrates April 10.

On Easter Saturday eve Margaret Fieroben, Jean Thompson, Dorothy Schwartz and George McCagg all of Shawville attended the pancake supper at Zion Lutheran Church. Margaret tells me that the meal was most delicious and there was a great crowd of people.

This past week I received a lovely call from Patsy Emmerson of Charteris.

Welcome home to Gen and Clifford Fieroben of Ottawa who arrived home safely last week from their winter vacation to the sunny south.

Get well wishes to Sharon Hodgins. All your friends are thinking about you.

The spring migrants are returning.We saw a pair of robins on Easter Monday near Hodgins Post Office and lots of red-winged blackbirds near Shawville.

Our neighbour, Evette Pasch, reports she saw a robin last Tuesday near her house.

Birthday congratulations to Huntley Stark of Starks Corners who celebrates April 6.

Visiting with us Thursday evening were Angie and Steve Venture of Johnstons Lake.

Spending Easter weekend with Freda Krose were her daughter, Darlene and Marc Brouillette of Grand- Mère and their daughters Kim of London, Lysanne of Grand-Mère and her friend John of Toronto. Lysanne and John are engaged to be married. A September wedding is being planned. Mac has recently retired as a detective from the Grand-Mère Police Force after 35 years. All the best of health, luck and success in the years to come. Congratulations Marc.

Darwin and Sandy Krose and Steven of Arnprior spent Easter Sunday with Freda. Everyone had a most enjoyable time.

Welcome home to Angela Krose who has returned from a vacation in Costa Rica with some friends.

Easter Sunday Freda had a lovely phone call from her other daughter, Diane Krose and granddaughters in Key Largo, Florida.

There have been a few good sap days but most days haven't been that good. The weather is just too cold for it to run. There have been reports that it's not going to be a good year.

I received a lovely call on Thursday from a friend, Lila Dale. She reported that she had quite a variety of birds at her place.

Come and join us for an evening of bingo put on by the Thorne Hospital Auxiliary in April .

Carmen Sparling reports that 40 years ago, when he was on the farm at Sparling's Mountain they used to make maple syrup for themselves. There had to be snow on the ground and frost in the ground plus warm days in order to tap. He tells me when the snow was completely gone and the frost, then the run was over. He tells me the same process is done the same way these days.

We've had reports of bird life which are rather unusual. Chantal Guertin of Barne's Lake reports that she saw six wild turkeys on the lake and Raymond Pasch says he saw two bluebirds near the farm which is unusual for this time of year. The turkey sightings are becoming more frequent so they must be on the increase.

OTTER LAKE

Speedy recovery wishes

By ELIZABETH HAHN
Correspondent
453-7326

Easter Saturday dinner guests with Olivette Mason and her mother-in-law Maudie Mason were Florence St. Aubin, son and daughter of Olivette namely John and his wife Jennifer Mason, Johanne and her husband Ivan Huskings all of Ottawa. They had a lovely turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Missing at our table was Mèdor Allard who is still in hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Winners in the Otter Lake Golden Age Club last week were 50/50 Laurier Francoeur, ladies first June Francoeur and second Pierrette Graveline, men's first Vern Schultz and second Ray Dubeau. Delicious refreshments were provided by Helen Quenneville and Dolly Lepack. Continued best wishes to Mèdore Allard who is still a patient at the Pontiac Hospital. Best wishes also to Martin Blaskie who recently underwent a knee replacement.

Easter Sunday supper guests at the home of Julie and Daniel Lance, their children Sophie and Daniel, Jr. in Aylmer were Mr. and Mrs. George St. Pierre. David and Nicole, their children Louis and his daughter Jade of Hull, Terry and Natasha, Fred and Amy, Lisette Beaudoin and Larry Richard of Campbell's Bay, Richard and Crystal and their three children, Carole Lance and her three children of Gatineau. Everyone enjoyed a delicious turkey and ham supper. They all had a wonderful time.

Aunt Presley Ward Hahn of Sealy, Texas passed away on Saturday, April 2 at 11 p.m. She was 99 years old. She was married to the late Arthur Hahn who was born and raised in Thorne German Settleman. After he retired from Kapuskasing Pulp and Paper Mill they moved to her hometown of Sealy, Texas. Arthur died in March 1986 and is buried at the Episcopal Church Cemetery in Sealy, Texas.

QUYON

Sold out comedy evening

By JILL McBANE
Correspondent
458-2366

I would like to welcome Mona Rutledge to THE EQUITY as the new correspondent for Charteris.

Spring is almost here. Mae McCann is now open for business. As I was coming home from work last Friday there seemed to be a lot of commotion on Main Street. Sure enough McCann's Chips were open and the cars were lined up and down the streets. Now if the ferry was open we could say spring is here. Don is hoping to open in the next week or two.

The ice at the bridge at the M & R Feeds is starting to build up. Hopefully it won't get too bad.

Friday evening friends and more friends gathered at the Quyon Lions Hall to help Clarence Leach celebrate his 80th birthday. There was lot of good music and food and of course a few stories were told. Hope you had a great birthday Clarence.

Saturday evening the Quyon Citizens Committee hosted a Yuk Yuks' Comedy evening to a sold-out crowd. As well as being entertained the committee served a delicious meal. Kenny Fleck was the lucky winner of ten free admission to Yuk Yuks in Ottawa. Congratulations Kenny.

Edith and Lorraine Nugent have returned after a fabulous two-week vacation in Jamaica. Lorraine will be celebrating her birthday on Saturday, April 9. Knowing Lorraine she will be celebrating. So if you go by her house on Saturday be sure to blow your horn just to let her know you are wishing her a happy birthday. Have a great one Lorraine.

Saturday evening at the R.A. Hall in Campbell's Bay the U.P.A. sponsored an appreciation night for Chris Judd. Chris was president for 25 years and is now a director. It was made clear that the party was an appreciation night and not a retirement party. The Sheen Fiddlers were the entertainment for the evening and I'm sure Mike Smiley's feet are sore from dancing. A delicious meal was served by Billy T. Congratulations to Chris and his family on a well deserved evening.

Saturday evening a retirement party was held at Gavan's Hotel in honour of Doug Schwartz. Prior to the party Doug was treated to a meal in Renfrew. Family, friends and neighbors filled Gavan's to wish Doug Well. He worked at Smurfit Stone for 36 years. He may be retired from the mill but is still into farming. So, now we know he will really be working. Congratulations Doug and enjoy your retirement. Don't let Isabel boss you around too much.

Hey Ron I hear the play you are in is called Coal Miners Daughter. I was just wondering what part you were playing. If anyone is interested in seeing Ron in this play April 28, 29 and 30 you can get advance tickets at Mother Nature's, The Clarendon Municipality or the Shawville Clarendon Library.

Students from Renfrew Collegiate have returned home from a very exciting trip to Greece. Among them were Ali Bean and her mom, Marsha. They report a great trip. They especially enjoyed the cruise on the Sardonic Gulf. They were kept very busy visiting many historical sites and found the visit to Delphi the most amazing. They took many beautiful pictures and Ali kept a daily log on their activities, some serious and some hilarious. It made you feel you were there with them. It was quite amusing.

Ali and Marsha visited Mildred Bean in Ottawa and Ali shared her experiences with her grandmother. Later they went for lunch at Perkins. Thank you Ali and Marsha for sharing your trip.

The Bell-Gibbons Family Hockey Tournament was played recently in Chelmsford. No winners but as always a great fellowship was enjoyed by everyone. This tournament has been held in March for many years. Some have retired and some should retired. They are always scouting for new players. But, you must be a cousin. This year the newcomers were Calvin Bell and Andy Bean which gave the team a boost.

Stephanie Bean celebrated her 18th birthday during spring break (March 16) in Cuba.

WALTHAM

Yukon visitors

By HELEN PERRY
Correspondent
689-2652

On Thursday morning March 31, Larry and I and Isabella went over to the Kinsmen pool in Pembroke. We enjoyed watching Jacob's class, and all the children of Notre Dame Du Sacre Coeur School. The students swam for an hour. Afterwards we all headed to MacDonald's for lunch. All the children including Isabella had a great time.

Dionia Durocher, of Watson Lake, Yukon is spending a month visiting Gilda and Art Heaney, Wilbert Durocher and other family and friends. Clayton Durocher of Edmonton, Alberta is also visiting Gilda and Art Heaney and family and friends.

Did anyone get fooled on April fool's Day? Glenda Cole our neighbor got Larry and I good! She called us all excited telling us that she saw an eagle on the top of the tarp of our pontoon boat in the yard. Larry and I stared out to see and of course, she laughed and said "April Fool!"

On Saturday evening, April 2, Larry and I, Rhonda, Mark, Jacob, Jodi and Mike went down to Cornwall. We attended a retirement party for my brother-in-law Jim Quenneville. It took place at the Navy Club. The hall was filled to capacity. A tasty roast beef dinner was served. Jim's fellow employees took great pleasure in honoring and roasting him. He was well liked by all and will be missed. He had worked for Delaney Bus Lines in Avonmore for 25 years. Congratulations Jim and all the best. May you and Joyce enjoy many years of health and happiness in your years of retirement.

Catholics and Christians around the world are very saddened and are mourning the death of our beloved Pope John Paul II. He was a great Pope. It is said that he toured more countries than anyone ever has.

On Sunday, April 3, Larry and I had a great visit with Dora Law (Burnie) who resides at the Heritage Manor in Cornwall. Dora is looking very well and asked about everyone here in Waltham and on Allumettes Island.

On Sunday afternoon, family and friends gathered at the Waltham Town Hall for a baby shower in honor of Nicole Gauthier. Nicky received beautiful gifts, and everyone enjoyed a tasty hot and cold buffet. Nicky expressed her deep appreciation for the love and support that was bestowed upon her and for all those who helped make this afternoon so special.

This is Monday, April 4 and we are getting a mix of snow and rain. The weather has been miserable since Saturday! It just poured in Embrun and Cornwall on Saturday. When we were out and about we got soaking wet! The weatherman is saying that it should be nice and warm as of tomorrow.

A very happy birthday is wished to Helen Pilon who is celebrating her birthday on Friday, April 8. Have a nice day Helen!

SHEENBORO

Had a marvelous time

By MYRTLE SULLIVAN
Correspondent
689-2236

Well this weekend was certainly not as nice as last weekend. Snow and rain and sleet it was just miserable. It created quite a bit of mud on the roads and in doing so caused a couple of friends of mine to go in the ditch and miss mass on Sunday. I was glad they were not hurt.

Visiting with John Williams over the Easter weekend was his sister Cathy. I am sure they had a nice visit.

Get well wishes to Terry Morris who had an operation on his shoulder last week. I wish him a speedy recovery.

Visiting with Lloyd McLeod last weekend was his son Kevin and his wife Cecelia. I am sure they enjoyed the beautiful weather.

Teresa Jennings spent Easter with her niece Mary Hunt and her husband Art.

My son-in-law, Marcel Crozon, had his operation last week. He is not home yet but hopefully soon. I hope he is feeling better.

The North American Irish Convention took place in Ottawa last weekend. My daughters Betty, Myra, Arlene and Carmelita attended and gave me some of the details. It actually started on Thursday evening, March 31, with an Irish Concert in the evening entitled "Echoes through the White Pines" which was a drama on the times and turmoil's of Thomas D'Arcy McGee and the Irish/French music and dance of the Ottawa Valley. All convention activities took place at the Marriott Hotel where groups of musicians collected in groups throughout the hotel entertaining conventioneers and hotel patrons. Except for the early morning hours there was non-stop Irish music somewhere in the hotel. Throughout the hotel there were organized workshops featuring Irish instrumentation basic and advanced. Workshops ranged from dancing to singing and the Irish language. Experts from Canada and the U.S. were on hand for all workshops which generally lasted for two to three hours each. My family (the Sullivan clan) took part in the Ceili dancing, singing, bohdran drum, keyboarding and set-dance workshops. During the evenings there were Ceilis (kitchen house parties) in the large hotel ball room. On Sunday morning there was an Irish Mass which included Irish hymns and dance and conducted in the Irish language for the most part. Rosemary O'Brien who many Sheeners know from their travels to Ireland looked after arrangements along with Father Joe Leclair from the Church of the Blessed Sacrament. Rosemary's brother-in-law, who had passed-on a few days before, was remembered at the mass. Our sympathy goes out to Rosemary, her husband Phil and family. Father Joe had met the Pope when he visited Ottawa and praised his work within Canada and throughout the world.

Pat and Chris McGuire from Sudbury and Jim Roy from Detroit (all former Sheeners) also attended the convention and are reported to have had a marvelous time. Jim has a cottage at Fort William and we saw him every summer. We'll have a drop of Baileys for ya Jimmy when we see you later this year. My daughters also renewed friendships with Fran and Tom McSwiggan, Tony Cleary, Maureen Maher and Tony Forthsyth and many others from the Ottawa Irish community who had visited Sheen on a number of occasions and conducted a Ceili at the Sheen Parish Hall.

Louise Trembley Tallon's twin sister Louissette passed away on Sunday, April 3. Louise and her family have many friends throughout the Ottawa Valley. We will remember Louissette in our prayers. Our sympathy goes out to the Cuisineau family.

My husband, Emmett Sullivan, was born on April 2 and would have been 88 if he were with us today. He is especially remembered this time of the year by my family and his many friends in Sheenboro.

My daughter Arlene celebrated her birthday on April 4. The Irish convention provided the venue for the celebration along with an Irish brunch attended by many of her family at the home of her sister Carmelita in Ottawa. Her sister is more Irish than the Irish and they had a wonderful time.

A happy 50th birthday goes out to Marilyn Walker down there in the Maritimes. Marilyn is a former Sheen girl. Happy birthday also to my son Jerry in London and also to my good friend Norma Sullivan from Sheenboro.

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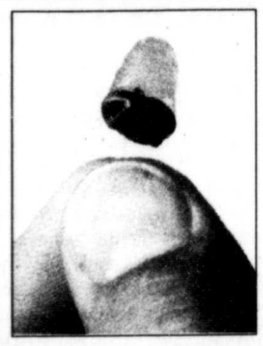

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