



The Voice of the Pontiac for 125 years

Lots to do during March Break | page 5

THE EQUITY

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88 cents

Storm buries Pontiac

WILBUR MCLEAN

PONTIAC • A blast of winter has left Pontiac recovering after Saturday's storm.

Between 48 (19.2 inches) and 52 centimetres (20.4 inches) of snow was dumped on the area between Friday evening and Sunday morning and Pontiacers are still digging themselves out.

Despite the weather producing near zero-visibility conditions, there were no reports of vehicular collisions from either the Ministry of Transport or Sûreté du Québec.

"We didn't have any accidents at all, it was surprising," said a spokesperson from the Sûreté du Québec Campbell's Bay detachment. "Everyone was smart. They took care and didn't go out."

Well, not quite everyone. Both the Ministry of Transport and local tow truck drivers said there were numerous cars stuck in roads and laneways because of the volume of snow and snow drifts.

"It was a lot of snow, but it was mostly the winds that made the storm so bad," said René Heroux, Environment Canada meteorologist.

He said winds in the Outaouais reached 90 km/h.

A moderately windy day typically produces winds between 30 and 50 km/h, according to Heroux.

The storm was so bad that Hwy. 17 in Renfrew County, which runs parallel to the Hwy. 148 in Pontiac, was closed from Renfrew to Deux Rivieres.

The Hwy. 148, however, remained open throughout the ordeal.

Claude DeGrace of the Ministry of Transport, which is responsible for road closures, said only one road in the entire Outaouais had been closed to his knowledge, and that was in Cantley.

"When visibility is zero and the road is really icy, for example, then we would close the road," he said, though adding as long as snowploughs are able to clear the road, the ministry would be unlikely to close it.

He said the last time he could recall the Hwy. 148 being closed due to weather was about eight years ago.

Naturally, snowploughs, flatbeds and tow trucks were incredibly busy throughout Saturday night and Sunday morning.

"We were not able to use any of our equipment because of the density, we were only able to blow the snow," said Sue Hamilton of Mountainview Turf near Quyon, which holds a number of private snowplough contracts in Pontiac.

In Danford Lake, Roger's Garage is responsible for municipal snowploughing and also operates a tow truck business.

"We had a lot of calls," said Gary Johnson, son of the owner. "A lot of people were getting stuck in the back-roads."

Robert Erwin does snow clearing for the Municipality of Pontiac and said most of his 10 trucks were on the roads throughout the night.

"It wasn't the snow that was the problem, it was the visibility," he said.

Erwin said this was one of the worst storms he could recall since he began snowploughing in about 1980.

"I've seen a few bad (ones) but not as much snow and back-to-back like this."

While snowploughs were still steadily clearing roads through Monday, it seemed most people were getting back to normal.

Pontiacers across the county said the snow in their area was cleared by Sunday.

Heroux said specific statistics for Pontiac county are not kept in terms of snowfall, but said the amounts being reported for Ottawa/Gatineau would be accurate.

"If you're that close, then what happened in Ottawa would be pretty representative of your area."

He added Quebec City was the hardest hit in Quebec for high winds, with speeds of up to 110 km/h producing structural damage to buildings in some places.

Someone "stop" the madness



Even local signs are sending a message as this stop sign near Quyon was buried by the snow storm and subsequent ploughing on the weekend.



A Fort Coulonge Draveurs Timbits hockey player (dark jersey) tries to out hustle a pair of Shawville Pontiacs Timbits players to the puck during Friday's Timbits hockey tournament in Shawville.

Timbits hockey players hit the ice... literally

WILBUR MCLEAN

PONTIAC • Prepared to play, each four and five-year-old Shawville Timbits hockey player stood in line at the entrance to the ice surface in the Shawville arena Friday morning.

Suddenly, their coach opened the large steel gate yelling, "Alright, go!", to his hockey stick-armed players.

They began their powerful entrance onto the ice.

Player number one's first footstep immediately resulted in a spill, crashing on all fours.

Player number two tried to brace himself with his stick, but met a similar fate.

Player number three managed a few tentative strides before spinning out.

And on and on it went, player after player hitting the ice, literally, though each one quickly recovered and jauntily proceeded.

Such is the charm of watching Timbits hockey players and, for the first time ever on Friday an area jamboree was held inviting other players

to Shawville for a full-day event.

Teams from Fort Coulonge, La Pêche, Masson-Augers and Aylmer participated.

The Timbits hockey program has grown in Western Québec, where the developmental hockey program, MAHG, used to be the standard.

The emphasis for the four to six-year-olds is on basic skill development with no competitive matches played.

However, Friday's tournament was an opportunity for the players to test their mettle against other nearby Timbit programs.

"This really shows it's important to have a love for the sport," said Kristina Misener, organizer.

Compensating for such young players, no scores were kept, the ice was divided into two half-sized surfaces and the netminders wore no goalie equipment.

Games were played on a continuous clock with line changes indicated by a sounding of the buzzer every few minutes.

Please see TIMBITS on page three

Pontiacs and Kings all square

WILBUR MCLEAN

PONTIAC • In what has proven to be an exemplary display of junior hockey, the Pontiac Junior 'B's and Carleton Place Kings are tied at two games apiece in their best of seven Valley division championship series.

A 3-1 Sunday night home win for the Pontiacs levelled the series and provided a thrilling matchup with the right amount of scoring, hits and tension to entertain the crowd in attendance.

A third period goal by Shane Powell stuffed in off a Derek Foran rebound provided the Pontiacs with a two-goal cushion.

That goal deflated the Kings who had been pressuring heavily but were turned away each time by Pontiacs goalie Michel Racicot, who has been playing arguably his best hockey of the season.

"He knows he's my guy. Sometimes during the season we'd have three or four goalies at practice and he kept asking me, 'Are you going to trade me?'. He knows now," said Head Coach Dan Saumier. "He's also in better shape now too."

After an extremely close first two periods that had each team score once, Otter Lake's Sandy Dubeau took the lead for Pontiac after executing on a penalty shot.

He had been tripped by Carleton Place's lone scorer Devon Montgomery on a breakaway and made no mistake of the goal, pasting it top-shelf on the King goalie's glove side.

Neil Chabot scored the opening goal for the Pontiacs in the first period.

"This series was definitely the two best teams in the division," remarked Saumier, in noting the quality of the

play thus far.

He said it didn't surprise him that both teams were playing at such a high calibre because of the seriousness the players take the playoffs as opposed to the regular season.

"It's different," he said, "some nights during the season some guys will show up 10 minutes before the game. There's more focus now."

The game four win was necessary to keep Pontiac in the series after dropping games two and three competitively.

In game three on the road, the Pontiacs scored early in the first period but conceded four goals in the second and third periods to lose 4-1.

Two of Carleton Place's goals were on the power play. They outshot the Pontiacs 38-30.

In game two, each team scored twice in the first period but a Carleton Place goal in the second period was the winner as they won 3-2.

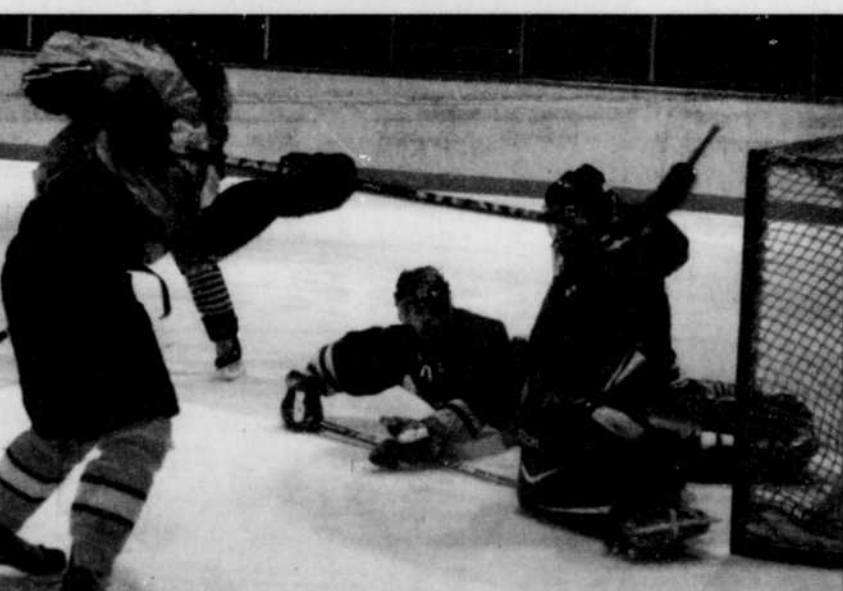
Again in that contest the Kings scored twice with the man advantage. The physical play and confrontations between players have increased as the series has worn on, though Saumier said such a thing is quite unpredictable.

"That's going to happen sometimes but we don't know when. Maybe next game everything will be okay," said Saumier.

In a frank assessment of his team's chances, Saumier pointed out Carleton Place was a difficult matchup for his team's quickness because of the King's size and willingness to use their size.

"They play very physical against us," he said.

Game five was played last night in Carleton Place.



Fred McDougall of the Pontiac Junior 'B's snaps a shot toward Carleton Place goalie Morgan Barr but was turned away in the third period of Sunday's game, which Pontiac won 3-1.

2008 EOJBL Valley Division Playoffs

Division finals
Pontiacs and Carleton Place tied two games apiece
Pontiacs' schedule: best-of-seven
Game one: Pontiacs 4, Carleton Place 3
Game two: Carleton Place 3, Pontiacs 2
Game three: Carleton Place 4, Pontiacs 1
Game four: Pontiacs 3, Carleton Place 1
Game five: Yesterday at Carleton Place
Game six: Friday night in Shawville, 8 p.m.
*Game seven: Sunday at Carleton Place, 6:15 p.m.
if necessary
Second round
Carleton Place receives bye
Shawville (3) defeats Perth (2) four games to one
First round
Carleton Place (1) defeats Arnprior (6) four games to two
Perth (2) defeats Renfrew (5) four games to none
Pontiacs (3) defeat Stittsville (4) four games to two

Valley Mutual forced to weather 2007 financial storm

AMANDA DUPUIS

SHAWVILLE • Promutuel Valley Mutual Insurance in Shawville held its annual general meeting March 6 where close to 70 people were in attendance.

"This is the first year we have a loss in 10 years," said Denis Larivière, director general.

"Last year was our best year, even, and this year is pretty much the opposite."

According to the company's finan-

cial statements, Valley Mutual lost close to \$820,000 in gross income last year in comparison to previous years.

Larivière, who went over the statement at the meeting, said the reason for the deficit was due to the amount of claims the company received last year.

Valley Mutual's claims rose from approximately \$5.7 million in 2006 to \$6.3 million last year.

"As you can have a good year, you can also have a bad year," explained

Larivière.

The damage caused by the major storm last summer was the main factor in the increase in claims during the year, according to Larivière.

"It was July 17. When a day costs you \$1.5 million, you tend to remember it," he said, explaining the company paid an \$85,000 premium on each claim from that day.

With the hard hit the American economy has taken in recent months, Larivière said the result has been a

loss of investments in the stock market.

Valley Mutual is now legally required to illustrate the "true value" of the stock market on its financial statement, explained Larivière.

"We are heavily invested in banks — BMO, Scotiabank, Caisse Populaire — our banks have these investments," said Larivière.

"Our shares have fallen on the stock market." Please see FINANCES on page three

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Canadian agricultural safety campaign kicks off this week

Local chiropractor Dr. Gagnon gives tips for farmers to help keep their backs healthy

AMANDA DUPUIS
Equity Reporter

PONTIAC • The Canadian agricultural safety campaign is a yearlong event that focuses on encouraging farmers to think through their work and find ways to reduce the risk of injury.

The campaign is launched each year during Canadian Agricultural Safety Week, which begins today and runs to March 18.

This year's theme is *Manage more than just your back!* and will focus on sprains, strains and falls.

The campaign unravels in two parts.

First, farmers are encouraged to protect their physical well-being by using proper lifting techniques and practicing good posture or other body mechanics that will preserve good health.

"In agriculture, there are countless activities that producers do every day that put them at risk of back injuries," said Marcel Hacault, the executive director of the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association, in a press release.

"Our message is not about what you do, but rather how you do it. When a hazard is predictable, then it is also

preventable."

Dr. Isabelle Gagnon, a chiropractor in Pontiac, said the majority of her patients are farmers who have back injuries such as sprains or subluxations, which is a very minor dislocation.

"I know farmers are very hard on their body and their job requires that," said Dr. Gagnon.

"As self-employed people, farmers cannot afford to not be in their field."

There are many tips farmers can use to make their work easier.

“ Always keep the nose aligned with the toes. That's a great rule, especially when lifting

—Dr. Isabelle Gagnon
Pontiac chiropractor

”

Before beginning any type of physical work, Dr. Gagnon said it is important to warm up.

She said taking a hot shower or going for a brisk walk before starting work is a good way to warm up muscles.

When performing any type of heavy work it is important to use muscles properly in

order to prevent a strain or sprain.

Dr. Gagnon recommends positioning feet shoulder width apart before lifting heavy items, which reduces twisting.

She also recommends maintaining as straight a posture as possible and keeping items close to the body when lifting.

"Always keep the nose aligned with the toes," said Dr. Gagnon. "That's a great rule, especially when lifting."

Lift with the leg muscles not the back muscles, said Dr. Gagnon.

"Always bend with the knees, keeping the back straight," she said.

Other basic guidelines for lifting include making the load as light as possible, only lifting loads that can be done so safely, restrict lifting and lowering to the range between shoulders and hips, not lifting or lowering items while arms are extended, avoiding repetitive movements and avoid twisting or bending the trunk of the body when moving objects.

"Farming is physically demanding but it doesn't need to be physically damaging," said Greg Stewart, the president and CEO of Farm Credit Canada, in a press

release.

During safety week, farmers are also encouraged to look out for hazards in the workplace — any change that would make the area more comfortable to work in.

Many of the disorders that come as a result of back injuries can be prevented through proper design of the work environment, the redesign of tools and worker training.

"The key points of prevention are to use proper lifting techniques, ensure you have a clutter-free work area and take the time and effort to work safely," said Hacault.

The safety campaign is delivered by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association, Farm Credit Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

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TIMBITS: Future NHLers, perhaps

Continued from page one

Enthusiastic family members screamed encouragement at the top of their lungs to the point that an onlooker may have thought it was the Stanley Cup being played on the ice.

Everyone has to start somewhere, however, and it can be fun to imagine a superstar like Sidney Crosby (the most famous former Timbits player ever) happily plugging along with

frequent falls and bumps like the players on the ice Friday.

"My son's played hockey since he was four and he just loves it and I love the game too," said Misener.

The difference in quality between the younger players and their older six-year-old counterparts was immediately evident as the skating, stickhandling and agility all improved immensely with the different age group.

That in itself shows the effectiveness of the Timbits program.

"Just being active and learning a sport is important," said Misener.

The SDMHA volunteered to hold the first area jamboree and the event went off without a hitch.

Scheduling was fluid, the players were injury-free and a fun — though fall-filled — day was had by all the Timbits.

FINANCES: Valley hopes to recover

Continued from page one

The meeting, which kicked off at 8 p.m. at the Anglican Church hall in Shawville, also consisted of an election for the company's new directors.

Eric Smith was acclaimed to seat 4 and Chris Judd was acclaimed to seat 6. There were no other nominations for these two seats.

Seat 5 was up for grabs by two candidates, Hugh Hammond and Bill Telford.

Hammond, a Quyon resident, said he has been working with Valley Mutual for close to 18 years and helps policy holders with complaint resolution.

After a short election where members voted via secret ballot, Hammond

was announced as the winner.

In addition to the three seats being filled, Valley Mutual gained four new staff members during the last business year: François Chartier, sales director; Benoit Clement, preventionist; Patrice Dumouchel, prevention assistant and Lise Gervais, risk analyst.

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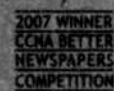
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OUR OPINION | Women's day has value

Easily the most common complaint heard when an event like International Women's Day arrives is that its exclusivity makes it discriminatory.

"There's no men's day," is the concern. Similar lines of reasoning are used to dispute the celebrations of Black History Month.

It's alarming today to think that some of Pontiac's older female generation lived in a time when they could not vote. It's ridiculous to think that the fairer sex's opinion was valued so little that they could not even select their political representatives (they could still be taxed, of course).

Quite frankly, as horrible as the two world wars were in terms of global devastation, they also did wonders for advancing women's standing in society.

With most of the men gone overseas, women picked up the slack by working in traditionally male jobs and doing so successfully showed their male counterparts that, my goodness, they indeed are capable.

Yet there is still so far to go. It's still not uncommon for a woman to receive lower pay for the same job as a man.

Instances of domestic abuse are still regular, though to their credit more women are speaking out about the issue, rather than sitting on their hands.

A recent example was clear in the United States election primaries, currently ongoing.

Republican nominee John McCain fielded a question from a member of his party, directed at

a strategy to topple Hillary Clinton if she was chosen for the democrats.

"How do we beat the bitch?"

Alarming, the question was actually posed by a woman.

In almost all cases, women are just as capable of men at handling a task, role or, for example, a presidency (the only immediate example that comes to mind as an exception is a situation where brute strength is required, though how often does that happen?).

Ariann Bouchard, who manages the five youth centres in Pontiac, likely said it best when she told THE EQUITY, "If the work was done, we wouldn't need to have a day like this".

It's true.

While International Women's Day is a wonderful celebration, perhaps the happiest day will be one where a day for women becomes irrelevant.

As far as we've come, however, that day may still be a long way off.

Correction to last week's congratulations

It turns out THE EQUITY's congratulations to our social correspondent writers for being recognized by Pontiac Member of Parliament Lawrence Cannon was incomplete.

It seems many of our writers received letters of congratulations and, therefore, our congratulations are altered to each of the women who contribute so much to our communities here in Pontiac.

WM

Campbell's Bay sunset

Amanda Dupuis, THE EQUITY



ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM | Snowstorm wallops Pontiac, will record be broken?

Last Saturday morning's wind howled along the Steele Line north of Quyon. Trees and shrubs swayed along the fringe of the Eardley Escarpment... and the snow blew about, sometimes in mini-tornadoes. Fortunately, it was dry and light, a fact I appreciated while negotiating our laneway and driving onto the Steele Line, headed west to Shawville.

Travelling at perhaps 15 km/hour, I realized prudence would serve me well as I negotiated immense drifts sprawled across the road. Obviously, no snowplough had been along and, perhaps for the second or third time in our almost 19 years here, the Ottawa Citizen delivery hadn't arrived. Musing about whether or not Lac des Loups and Hwy. 148 would be clear, I mentally prepared for returning home.

Almost immediately the wind and snow swept over the windshield, turning the wipers on, visibility cleared and I automatically rechecked the mirrors. Confirmed: I was the only one on the Line. The only soul foolish



Katharine Fletcher

enough to attempt it, I thought wryly.

Zero traffic turned out to be a good thing. Suddenly, another whiteout obscured my vision, and then I felt it: the car softly nudged into a crawl while all six windows became covered in white. In a split second I realized I was inside a giant drift, and then, just as suddenly I emerged from it, heading towards another one. Cautiously, I made it through, dropping my speed even further.

Reaching chemin Lac des Loups, I sighed with relief. It was ploughed as was the highway, and I realized I would make it to Shawville.

A 2008 snow record?

Ottawa's snow record was set during the winter of 1970-71 when the capital received 444.1 cm. As of Monday March 10, the count had risen to 357 cm.

According to Environment Canada's senior meteorologist David Phillips, our region may very well set a snow record this year: Ottawa has already been deluged with 70 per cent more snow than normal. Phillips noted, "In March, Ottawa normally receives 20 per cent of its annual snowfall."

As many people are saying, after all this snow angst, let's try to beat this record!

Major storm

The storm started in Texas where it gathered a lot of moisture from the Gulf of Mexico. Then it swept northward through Arkansas, where it dropped 30 cm of snow. Because the storm developed particularly low pressure while tracking the storm's progress to the south, Environment Canada warned Canadians to anticipate high winds.

The prediction came true: tornadoes wrecked havoc in Florida, while other southeastern states received heavy rains. As the storm blew northeast, Environment Canada predicted snowsqualls would dump up to 50 cm of snow along its path. Again they were correct.

Impressive duration

It's not only the volume of snow that has Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec City and Maritime residents overwhelmed: it's the storm's duration.

Phillips said, "It's a huge event. We can't diminish the point or can't emphasize enough that it's a mammoth storm. The other thing that's quite impressive is it's a 36-hour event, and this is not a typical kind of a weather event in Canada which typically can last 10 to 12 hours."

Flights, buses cancelled

During the weekend approximately 75 flights were cancelled at the Ottawa airport, although snowbirds using chartered flights managed to get out. Airport authority vice-president Krista Kealey noted, "What we're faced with right now is the impact of weather elsewhere as well as here."

Last weekend marked the end of Quebec's March school break and the start to Ontario's, so it is one of the busiest of the year.

Watch out for rain: clean roofs of snow

As the storm swept east, the Maritimes not only received snow, but also freezing rain and sleet. So far, so good here in Pontiac...

Which reminds me: keep an ear to Environment Canada's predictions. Temperatures are forecast to reach zero mid-week and although rain is not forecast, if it comes, we Pontiacers will need to clean snow buildup from roofs. Otherwise, the weight may cause serious damage.

Water table, gardens helped

Deep snow today means spring runoffs. As well, the water table will be replenished, and that's a very good thing. Gardeners like me are also delighted because deep snow insulates plants, from bulbs to trees. Mind you, its depth also allows rodents more opportunities to ring tree bark - there's always a down side for us gardeners, it seems!

Mon pays, c'est hiver, n'est-ce pas?

Katharine Fletcher loves this winter's deep blanket of snow at her home, Spiritwood Farm, north of Quyon - although she appreciates others may not be as keen! Contact her at chesley@allstream.net

YOUR OPINION

No real worries

Dear Editor,

Two issues of THE EQUITY have been printed since I inquired about permission to hunt on the property belonging to Ian Huggett. Since I see no reply, I can only assume that, a: he doesn't read THE EQUITY or b: the answer is still no.

While on the subject, it has been my observation that the deer population has decreased by a

large amount over the last ten years (not only in my hunting area but in all areas where I travel throughout the year). Mother Nature will probably reduce the population so I don't think Mr. Huggett has any great worries about damage to his trees.

Bill McCleary
Shawville

AMANDA DUPUIS | Farmers be safe!

PONTIAC • Pontiac farmers have a very important job in the community — providing food and drink to the rest of the world.

Their job can be stressful and dangerous, although we often don't stop to think about it.

Every day on the job farmers are faced with the task of operating oversized machinery that could malfunction, handling close encounters with massive animals that are unpredictable or even lifting and moving awkward, heavy loads.

According to a study performed by the Canadian Agricultural Injury Surveillance Program (CAISP), there were a total of almost 15,000 farm-related injuries that required hospitalization in 1990 to 2000.

Farmers may often feel the need to continue their work even if they become injured, since there are daily tasks such as milking or harvest-



Amanda Dupuis

ing that cannot be postponed, and there are no sick days or injury compensation.

And although strains and sprains are commonly thought of as minor injuries, the CAISP study states the average length of a hospital stay for a strain was four days.

Allowing an injury to go untreated could have negative impacts in the long run.

During the annual Canadian agricultural safety campaign, which kicks off this year with agricultural safety week from March 12 to 18, farmers are encouraged to educate themselves on how to make the workplace safer, clutter-free and as a result more effective.

The theme of this year's campaign is: "Manage more than just your back" which will teach farmers to practice proper and safe lifting techniques as well as read up on tips to keep themselves and their employees safe at work.

It is important for farmers to maintain a safe work environment so they can get their work done in good health.

125 years of news from the Pontiac



25 Years Ago

March 16, 1983

COMMITTEE FORMED TO SAVE THE TRACKS: Last Friday evening 34 people met in the County Building in Litchfield to discuss the future of the 43.5 miles of railroad between Wyman and Waltham. The meeting was called in response to the March 2nd announcement by the Railway Transport Committee that the Wyman to Waltham railway line is uneconomical and is likely to continue to be uneconomical and that the operation thereof should be abandoned.

\$130,000 FOR CHUTE PROJECT: The minister responsible for regional development recently announced that the Planning and Development office, the OPDQ, has provisions for a grant of \$130,000 for the development of the Coulonge Chutes in the Municipality of Mansfield and Pontefract.

Despite the severe atmospheric conditions Braeside Intermediate Hockey Team journeyed here on Friday night to engage the local team in a friendly exhibition match. Owing to the late hour of their arrival only two 15 minute periods were played, the home team winning by a score of 5 to 4. After the match the visiting team and their lady friends were entertained at Wilson's Hall by the local club.

Coulonge defeated Shawville Seniors in the first game of the challenge series at Coulonge on Monday night by a score of 4 to 3. Shawville have now a heavy task ahead of them on Wednesday night of this week at the Shawville Arena, to overtake this one goal lead and retain possession of the Cahill Shield and Canada Life Cup. The final game promises to be a keen battle from start to finish.

100 Years Ago

March 19, 1908

LOCAL NEWS: Temperance sermons were preached last Sunday evening in the Methodist church by Rev. M. L. Wright of Yarm and at the Masonic Hall by Rev. D.J. Craig.

This week we have nothing to report under the heading of hockey of a purely local character. The match expected to come off here on Friday evening between Westmeath and the locals had to be cancelled on account of the ice giving out. Old Probs could not be bribed nor bullied into any kind of arrangement to keep the mercury below the zero point, and so the matter rests for the season.

The case of David T. Hughes against the Cawood Mica Co. was up for hearing at Bryson last week before Judge Champagne, whereat some rather sensational evidence was put in by the plaintiff Hughes who declared that he was threatened with assassination and that an attempt was made upon his life when on one occasion he went to take possession of some of his property at the mines. In other respects his evidence brands the company as being a rather shaky concern. Roland Millar and Wm. Gamble, advocates, appeared for the plaintiff, while D.R. Barry and J.M. MacDougall represented the company.

Mr. Thomas McCord of North Clarendon, who has a long experience in trapping foxes and who generally bags a good many every winter, got one last Tuesday that had been in captivity, as it had a tie and snap on its neck. Thomas says the owner of the animal may have the carcass if calls for it, but he intends keeping the skin. Mr. McCord should try a hand at capturing those 'wolves' who are reported to be slaughtering the deer in his neighborhood. If their hides are tough as their consciences they would make good moccasin leather and should therefore command a high figure.

In the advertising columns of this paper is an advertisement asking for tenders for the erection of a large summer hotel at Norway Bay by W.J. Scobie of Bristol, Que. The popularity of Norway Bay as a summer resort is known best by those who have visited and enjoyed the refreshing breezes of the lake, and health-invigorating influence of the odour of the Norway Pine, after which it is so well named. There has always been a lack of accommodation at that place for those who wish to spend but a short time from home and business. This want will be filled in this building which will contain store, restaurant, waiting room and dining room on the ground floor, with 35 bedrooms on the two upper floors, and wide balconies from which one can enjoy all the beauties which nature has so well bestowed on this natural summer resort. The grounds in connection are large and well shaded, and under the able management of the proprietor the public will receive as full remuneration in health and pleasure as can be found in Canada. The hotel will be connected by long-distance telephone.

75 Years Ago

March 16, 1933

LOCAL NEWS: About 120 persons of the town and surrounding district took advantage of the reduced railway fare to Ottawa on Saturday, many remaining in the city over Sunday. It is reported that over 90 entrained at Campbell's Bay.

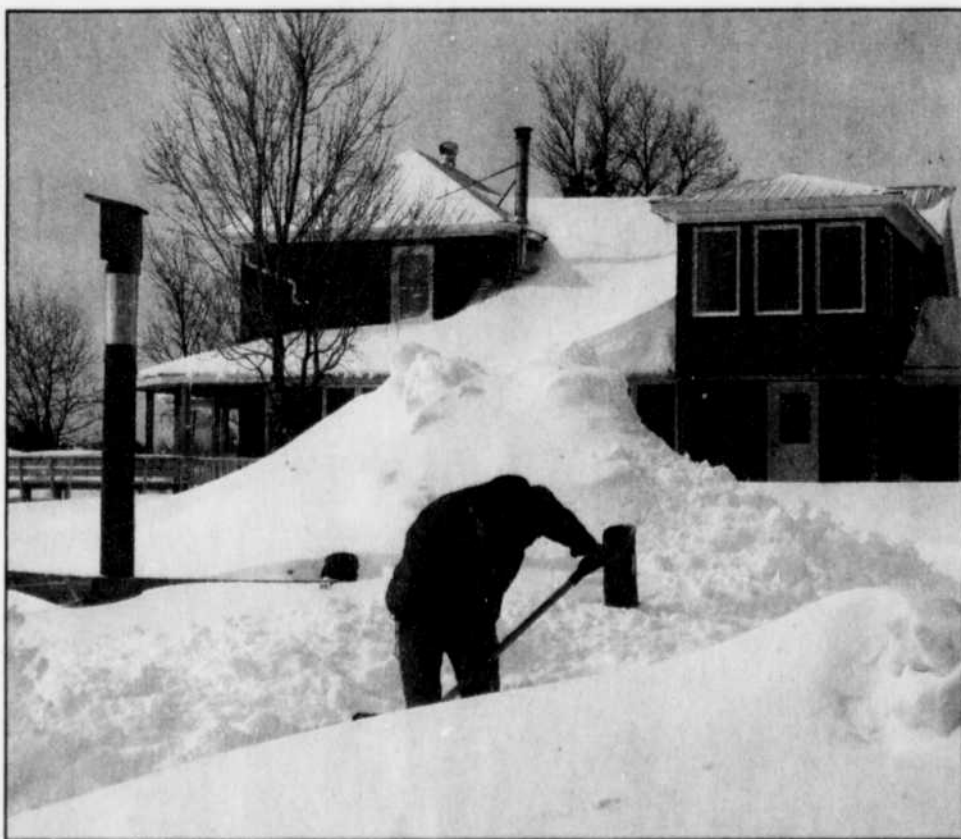
The presentation of All-Talking Pictures at the Shawville Theatre which was postponed from Thursday last to Monday night of this week, attracted a fair sized audience, who appeared to be very well pleased with the program and sound production. This is the first time All-Talking Pictures have been presented in Shawville and with a few more adjustments Manager Gravelle claims the programs will be just as perfect as those of the large city theatres.

Winning the final game in the two game series with Calumet Island, champions Pontiac west, by 3 to 2 and on the round by 5 to 2, Shawville are now the undisputed Intermediate Champions of Pontiac County and the rightful possessors of the Willys Knight trophy for 1933. The teams were: Calumet Island - goals C. Rivet; defense Stanton and Bowie; centre E. McNally; wings St Pierre and Dufault; subs Rivet, St Pierre, Tremblay and Rivet. Shawville: goals L. Howard; defense Proudfoot and Schneider; centre M. Carson; wings Masson and W. Howard; subs K. Elliott, Swartz, Judd and Langford.

Correction

Incorrect information appeared in the article "Motel Voyageur in Bryson re-opened" on page six of the March 5 issue of THE EQUITY.

Brian Stanton, along with many of his employees, was responsible for the renovations to the motel, not Starlene Moffitt and Flo Godin. THE EQUITY regrets the error.



Eric Fletcher works his way through the snow following Sunday's storm near Quyon.

March Break fun in Pontiac

AMANDA DUPUIS
Equity Reporter

PONTIAC • La Patro, a day camp for youth in the Pontiac, organized a variety of activities during March Break this year. The events were aimed at youths aged five to 12. Monday, March 3 saw youths taking part in a downhill skiing activity at

Mont Ste. Marie from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

On the grounds of the organization, which is located in Mansfield, kids had the opportunity to take part in outdoor activities Tuesday, March 4 and Wednesday, March 5. The events, which took place from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. included skating on the

canal, tobogganing, playing games and learning how to ice fish.

The children then had the opportunity to travel to Kanata, Ontario Friday, March 7 where they spent the day at an indoor swimming pool.

Maison des Jeunes
The Maison des Jeunes du Pontiac, which is an organization aimed at youths aged 10 to 17 in the area, organized a variety of activities during the time off.

"All the activities are free," said Ariann Bouchard, director of the Maison des Jeunes.

The youth of Campbell's Bay held their council meeting on Wednesday, March 5 where they planned and organized their collective kitchen event, which is to be held March 15.

Shawville's youth gathered for an afternoon of scrapbooking on healthy eating, which was done in recognition of this month's theme, nutrition.

Thursday, March 6 saw a "Fear Factor" skills night at The Garage in Shawville where youths competed on their survival skills.

In Fort Coulonge, youths participated in a ski trip to Mont Chilly.

"The kids get to vote on what they want to do," said Bouchard. "They do a little bit of everything."

Friday, March 7 was a bit more relaxed for the youths. Campbell's Bay hosted a video game tournament that night and Shawville organized a Hawaiian barbeque. The big event of the week was supposed to take place Saturday, March 8.

The "Day in the City" event was supposed to see the Maison des Jeunes from Fort Coulonge, Campbell's Bay and Shawville travel to downtown Ottawa for bowling and the Haunted Walk.

However, due to the stormy weather, the event was cancelled.

The Maison des Jeunes in Rapides des Joachims will organize events during their March Break this week.

Students there attend school in Ontario.

Activities will include snowshoeing and outdoor games, movie nights, swimming, arts and crafts, ski and snowboarding lessons, story time as well as regular activities like Internet access, pool, ping pong, etc.

Bouchard said anywhere from eight to 20 kids participated in the activities throughout the week.

Groupe Action Jeunesse
According to Diane Daigle, the president of Groupe Action Jeunesse in Luskville, the only activities taking place for them were Tuesday, March 4 and Thursday, March 6.



Garrett Woolsey, 12, worked on a scrapbook page last week during march break at The Garage youth centre in Shawville. The Garage was one of a handful of locations in Pontiac that were open during the break, offering free activities for youth.

St. Mary's Elementary School in Quyon and Notre Dame de la Joie in Luskville hosted the outdoor events, which consisted of tobogganing and ice skating.

These events, said Daigle, were organized in collaboration with Québec en Forme.

Québec en Forme
Québec en Forme, in collaboration with Pontiac in

Motion, also organized a ball hockey league in Campbell's Bay, Shawville and Fort Coulonge.

According to Melanie Pieschkie of Pontiac in Motion, the tournament for the league was taking place at Ecole Poupore in Fort Coulonge Thursday, March 6. "That's the event for the break," said Pieschkie.



Seven-year-old Emily Moquin (left) is deep in thought while considering what she should draw during a cartooning workshop held at the Shawville-Clarendon Library Friday.

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Pontiac strong on college basketball team

WILBUR MCLEAN
Equity Editor

PONTIAC • It was just like old times.

Early in the first quarter of a girls basketball game recently, point guard Katie Dolan dumped a pass in to post player Meg McConnell who nailed a turnaround jumper. Two points.

The uniforms now read Heritage Hurricanes instead of Pontiac High School Panthers, but the game is largely the same.

Dolan, of Quyon, McConnell, of Bristol and Amanda Smith, also of Quyon, have been key contributors to the Heritage College in Hull girls basketball team despite all being first year students.

They were three of the best players on a long-running PHS basketball team who won one championship

and came close on multiple other occasions.

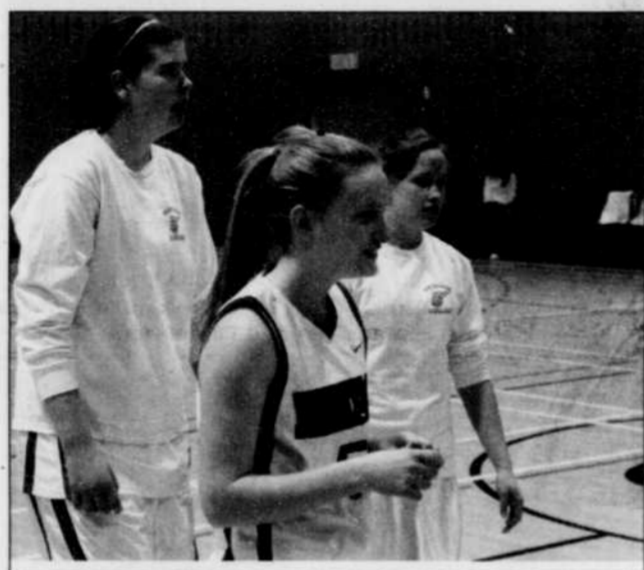
McConnell has been the starting post player for the Hurricanes since the first day of the season while Dolan began starting at point guard midway through the year.

Unsurprisingly to those aware of their basketball skills, the pair are one-two in scoring for the Hurricanes, Dolan averaging 8.2 points per game and McConnell 7.8.

Smith only joined the team after Christmas but according to her coaches she has already been an important contributor.

"It definitely surprised me," said McConnell, on being the starter from the beginning.

"You'd think the older players would get to start first."



This trio of young Pontiac women have been strong contributors to the Heritage College basketball team in Gatineau. They are, from left, Meg McConnell, Katie Dolan and Amanda Smith.

It seems the PHS basketball program prepared the young women well as none seemed blown away by the

transition from high school to college basketball.

"I think it's basically the same," quipped Smith, though Dolan said she did find it, "A lot more competitive" than high school.

There were growing pains for Heritage, who started the season very poorly but since Christmas had improved to a 6-10 record at season's end.

The result is especially strong considering the team started the season 0-5 and has 11 of 15 players in their first year.

Their home game on Sunday, March 2 was the last of the season.

They won 68-55 over Rosemont.

While those in the city may be surprised that Heritage's basketball team is being led by a contingent of Pontiacers, the team's

assistant head coach, Jason Thompson, would count himself among the believers.

Thompson himself is from Bristol and is also a product of the basketball program at PHS.

"It really shows the basketball program at Pontiac is getting bigger and better," said Thompson.

"The players deserve the recognition for their effort." Thompson said he hopes people realize Pontiac athletes are more than just hockey players.

There is Pontiac representation on Heritage soccer and volleyball teams.

Even the fans in the stands for Heritage's March 2 game were Pontiac-strong, with over half of those in attendance recognizable as being from the area, supporting the girls.

OVERTIME | LUKE MURPHY

Talking NHL deadline with NHL Pontiacers



This week, part two of my NHL Trading Deadline series, I've acquired the help of Philadelphia Flyers Assistant Coach Terry Murray and Anaheim Duck Amateur Scout Todd Hearty, who are both Shawville natives.

The Philadelphia Flyers, who currently sit in eighth place in the Eastern Conference, only made one deal at the deadline. They picked up much travelled, solid scoring forward Vaclav Prospal from the Tampa Bay Lightning, in exchange for Alexandre Picard and a draft choice.

Terry was gracious enough to call me at home from his office in Philadelphia and answer a few questions concerning the Flyers.

Terry agrees that the Flyers acquisition, Prospal, will make a major impact with the Flyers — a skilled forward, a former Flyers draft choice who's familiar with the system, he will step in and play on the top two lines.

The Flyers had their sights set on a defenseman, Tampa Bay's Dan Boyle or Buffalo's Brian Campbell, but in the end the price was too high. Terry believes the Pittsburgh Penguins

made the biggest splash, improving the most at the trade deadline with Marian Hossa and Hal Gill while also getting Sydney Crosby back from injury. To Terry, the majority of movement happened in the West because the playoff race in the East is so tight that teams don't want to mess with team chemistry by bringing in a new player.

The Anaheim Ducks, who have been picked by many analysts as the odds on favourite to repeat as Stanley Cup Champions, made only a couple of minor deals at the deadline. They solidified their lineup ahead of time. In the off season, they signed free agent Matthieu Schneider, a solid defenseman to add to their already star-studded blue line, as well as veteran scorer Doug Weight. Then they welcomed the return of Scott Niedermeyer and Teemu Selanne, certain future Hall of Famers. The Ducks look poised to repeat.

I was able to contact Todd via cell phone on his way to a Junior game in Chicoutimi, Qué. Todd admitted that the minor deal the Ducks made, adding blueliner Marc-Andre Bergeron, was to help strengthen the depth of the team, as well as acquire a second power-

play unit player.

If there was one big name the Ducks would have been interested in acquiring it was Leaf captain Mats Sundin, but when Sundin refused to waive his no-trade clause, that lottery ended. But overall, the Ducks are confident with the lineup they have, and with the return of Niedermeyer and Selanne, they feel they can contend once again.

In Todd's opinion, the Dallas Stars are the team most improved from the

deadline. They acquired a solid, two way player and scoring threat in Brad Richards. Another team to watch is Colorado, who got tougher as well as signing free agent Peter Forsberg.

He could, depending on his health, pay dividends immediately. Hearty truly believes the major moves were made in the Western Conference because teams are preparing to play Anaheim.

After watching the Ducks win the Cup last year with toughness and skill, teams

this season are trying to find a way to beat the defending champs.

We can talk about the trades until we're blue in the face but what's on paper, doesn't make it true. The games still have to be played.

We won't know for sure until the Stanley cup has been won just which team came out on top at the trade deadline. That's my two cents. What do you think?

Murphy is a former professional hockey player

who now resides in Shawville. Contact him at news@theequity.ca

4 FOOD GROUPS

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| Grain products Bread: • Whole wheat, • Rye, • Kaiser roll, • Bagel, • Pita bread, • Tortillas... Pasta: • Macaroni, • Fettuccine, • Penne... Grains: • Rice, • Couscous, • Barley... Muffins: • Banana, • Bran, • Carrot... Crackers (unsalted) | Fruits and vegetables Fresh, canned or pureed fruit or fruit salad: • Grapes, • Plums, • Nectarines, • Pears... Salads: • Various types of lettuce (Boston, iceberg, etc.) • Spinach, • Carrots, • Mushroom... Soups: • Vegetable, • Tomato, • Broccoli, • Carrot, • Leek... Raw vegetables | Milk products • Enriched cow's or goat milk, • Enriched soy beverages, • Plain or fruit-flavoured yogurt, • Milk, rice or tapioca pudding... Cheese: • Cottage, • Swiss, cheddar, mozzarella... Milk based soup | Meat and alternatives • Tuna, • Salmon, • Chicken, • Turkey, • Ham, • Hard-boiled eggs, • Veal, turkey or chicken cretons, • Veggie pâté, • Hummus, • Tahini, • Lentils, • Chick peas, • Red beans, • White beans, • Peanuts • Peanut butter • Trail mix... |
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Forages sur chemin Egan au Municipalité de Pontiac

MUNICIPALITÉ DE PONTIAC • Le ministère des Transports du Québec informe la population que des forages seront effectués sur le chemin Egan, dans la municipalité de Pontiac (secteur de Quyon). Ces travaux débuteront le 10 mars et se termineront vers le 15 mars 2008.

L'horaire des travaux sera de 7 h à 18 h. Une voie sera fermée et des feux de circulation seront mis en place, afin de diriger les véhicules. Ces opérations seront réalisées par LVM Technisol inc. de Gatineau. En terminant, le ministère des Transports vous invite à

la prudence sur les routes du Québec, notamment à l'approche des chantiers, et vous suggère de planifier vos déplacements en toute sécurité en communiquant avec l'Inforoutière au 1 888 355-0511, ou # 0511 par cellulaire, ou en visitant le site Internet au www.inforoutiere.qc.ca.

Projet pour la promotion de l'Outaouais Près de cinq millions de dollars investis

QUÉBEC • Le ministre du Développement économique, de l'Innovation et de l'Exportation et ministre du Tourisme, monsieur Raymond Bachand, a dévoilé en conférence de presse au Biodôme de Montréal, les résultats de l'Appel de propositions de partenariat promotionnel (APPP) sur les marchés hors Québec, lancé le 10 octobre dernier. « Je me réjouis que parmi les projets retenus figure en bonne position un projet qui fait la promotion de l'offre touristique de la région de l'Outaouais. Ce projet contribuera de façon importante à la prospérité économique et au rayonnement international de cette région », a souligné le ministre Bachand. « Ce sont près de cinq millions de dollars que l'industrie touristique et le ministère du Tourisme investiront en partenariat pour de la promotion hors Québec, une augmentation de plus de 35 per centum par rapport à l'an 1 de l'APPP. Nous continuerons à projeter une image forte et cohérente de la destination québécoise sur nos marchés prioritaires grâce au déploiement de 28 projets promotionnels conjoints en 2008-2009 dont 13 nouveaux », a ajouté le ministre du Tourisme. Ces diverses activités et campagnes promotionnelles, regroupées sous l'image de marque évocatrice Québec - Fournisseur d'émotions

depuis 1534, rendent en effet la destination plus visible auprès des clientèles touristiques de la Nouvelle-Angleterre, de la région Centre-Atlantique des États-Unis, de l'Ontario et de la France. Cette offensive promotionnelle sur ces marchés permettra de faire connaître les produits touristiques suivants :
 • les grands attraits touristiques urbains de Montréal, Québec et Gatineau;
 • les escapades urbaines à Montréal et à Québec offertes par Via Rail;
 • les muséums nature de Montréal (Jardin botanique, Biodôme et Insectarium) auprès des membres de clubs automobiles;
 • la région de Montréal grâce à une campagne publicitaire dans les grands magazines de mode et d'art de vivre;
 • les nouveaux vols directs en provenance des aéroports de Toronto et Newark à destination de Tremblant;
 • le Chemin des Cantons de la région des Cantons-de-l'Est;
 • les cinq régions de l'est du Québec et les parcs nationaux de la SÉPAQ (Société des établissements de plein air du Québec);
 • les nouveaux circuits touristiques longeant le fleuve Saint-Laurent dans les régions de Québec, de Chaudière-Appalaches, du Bas-Saint-Laurent et de Charlevoix;

deux nouvelles croisières sur le fleuve Saint-Laurent;
 • le tourisme d'aventure au Québec, plus spécialement le kayak et l'observation des baleines;
 • et le réseau d'hébergement québécois Hôtellerie Champêtre. Lancé en octobre 2006, le programme d'Appel de propositions de partenariat promotionnel sur les marchés hors Québec s'inscrit en continuité avec la politique touristique du Québec Vers un tourisme durable - Un nouveau partenariat industrie-gouvernement. Ce programme propose à l'industrie une démarche structurée de partenariat afin de développer des projets promotionnels se traduisant par une présence continue et des investissements mieux répartis dans le temps sur les marchés prioritaires. Ces projets promotionnels s'inscrivent dans le cadre d'une stratégie commune de marketing autour de l'image de marque et de quatre grands regroupements d'expériences : Frénetiquement Villes, Éperdument Villégiature, Passionnement Saint-Laurent et À la folie Grandes Aventures. Depuis avril 2007, ce sont 8,5 millions de dollars qui auront été investis par le ministère du Tourisme et l'industrie touristique afin de mettre en valeur l'offre touristique québécoise sur

les marchés hors Québec dans le cadre de cet appel de propositions. Rappelons que ces initiatives de partenariat promotionnel s'inscrivent dans l'ensemble des efforts de mise en marché de la destination Québec. En plus de l'APPP, le ministère du Tourisme s'est en effet associé à des projets importants de ses partenaires. Cette année, la campagne hivernale représente un investissement de plus de huit millions de dollars. Des initiatives originales ont été mises de l'avant lors de cette campagne, notamment grâce au budget additionnel de 1,5 million de dollars qui sert à financer des projets innovateurs sur le marché américain. Pour en savoir plus sur le programme d'Appel de propositions de partenariat promotionnel sur les marchés hors Québec : http://www.bonjourquebec.com/mto/services/promotion_touristique/appppmhtml

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Salon d'emploi à l'école l'Envolée

CAMPBELL'S BAY • Le 22 février dernier, plusieurs dizaines d'enfants ont participé à un Salon de l'emploi qui se tenait à l'école l'Envolée à Campbell's Bay. L'événement avait déjà été organisé dans le passé, mais il avait quelques années qu'il n'avait plus été présenté. La décision a été prise de reprendre cette initiative qui permet aux jeunes de découvrir les différentes carrières disponibles. Cette activité s'adresse aux jeunes qui terminent leur primaire et vise à faciliter les choix qu'ils auront à faire au cours du secondaire. Dorénavant, l'activité sera probablement organisée à tous les deux ans. Le Salon de l'emploi rassemblait 15 kiosques en tout. On y trouvait des représentants de la Sûreté du Québec, du Centre de santé et de services sociaux

du Pontiac, des garderies et des médias, ainsi qu'un électricien, une pharmacienne, une orthopédoque, etc. Les élèves de 5e et 6e année de l'Envolée ont visité le Salon de l'emploi, ainsi

que les élèves de 6e année de l'école Poupore (Fort-Coulonge) et ceux de 5e et 6e de l'école Ste-Anne (Ile-du-Grand-Calumet). En tout, une centaine de jeunes ont été impliqués, selon les deux

organisatrices de l'événement, Manon Laurin, enseignante, et Lucille Bélair, représentante du Carrefour jeunesse emploi. Félicitations à tous et à toutes!

INFORMATION PUBLIQUE

Les bureaux de la M.R.C. / CLD de PONTIAC et de la SOCIÉTÉ DE L'ASSURANCE AUTOMOBILE DU QUÉBEC (BUREAU D'IMMATRICULATION) de Campbell's Bay seront **FERMÉS**
VENDREDI 21 MARS, 2008
ET
LUNDI 24 MARS, 2008

PUBLIC INFORMATION

The MRC/CLD PONTIAC OFFICE and the SOCIÉTÉ DE L'ASSURANCE AUTOMOBILE DU QUÉBEC (LICENCE OFFICE) in Campbell's Bay will be **CLOSED ON**
FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2008
AND
MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2008

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Le développement socio-économique du Pontiac vous tient à coeur ?

Votre Centre local de développement (CLD) du Pontiac vous invite à prendre connaissance des réalisations 2007 ainsi que du Plan d'action 2008 de la corporation lors de son Assemblée générale annuelle qui se tiendra le mercredi 19 mars 2008 à 19h à l'école Jean-Paul II, Campbell's Bay. Entrepreneurship, développement touristique, culture locale, soutien communautaire et développement du loisir seront à l'ordre du jour. Soyez au rendez-vous!

The Pontiac's socio-economic development is important to you?

Your Local Development Centre (CLD) Pontiac, invites you to a presentation of the Corporation's 2007 accomplishments and 2008 Action Plan at its Annual General Meeting on March 19th, 2008, 7:00 p.m. at John-Paul II school in Campbell's Bay. Entrepreneurship, tourism development, local culture, community support, and recreational development are on the agenda. Join us!

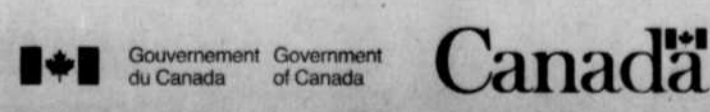
Pour développer notre avenir - Developing Our Future

VOS ENFANTS FONT L'APPRENTISSAGE D'UN NOUVEAU VOCABULAIRE.

Le monde de la drogue vise votre enfant.
 Dans nos communautés, les enfants sont exposés au trafic de drogues toxicomanogènes bon marché. Ces substances portent des surnoms pour camoufler les dommages qu'elles peuvent causer. Des dommages allant de mauvais résultats scolaires aux pertes de mémoire, à la paranoïa et à l'accoutumance.

Que peuvent faire les parents ?
Plein de choses ! Croyez-le ou non, la plupart des jeunes adolescents jugent que leurs parents sont une source fiable d'information sur les drogues. Apprenez le vocabulaire de la drogue, avant que vos enfants ne le fassent.

Pour obtenir gratuitement un livret de conseils sur la façon de parler des dangers de la drogue avec vos enfants, veuillez téléphoner au **1 800 O-Canada** ou consulter le site **preventiondesdrogues.gc.ca** pour plus de renseignements.



Youth job search made festive



Kathy Picknell, seated, explains the services available from Table Jeunesse to student Katrina Cardiff and mom Karen at the Job Fair held March 4 at the CREP offices in Campbell's Bay.

More than 115 jobs posted for area students

HEATHER DICKSON
Equity Publisher
CAMPBELL'S BAY • Sunny skies and 'Caribbean vacation-wear and music' added a festive flare to the a student job fair held last Tuesday, March 4.

CREP (Club de recherche d'emploi du Pontiac) and Carrefour jeunesse-emploi du Pontiac hosted a student summer job fair to help local students find local summer jobs.

More than 115 jobs, which had been posted on the web site of the agency, were available for high school, CEGEP and university students to peruse. As well as the job postings, workshops were held in both official languages, on creating effective résumés and job interview techniques.

The workshops are extremely popular for the students," said CREP director Sylvie Landriault.

"The students pick up many key points to help them get a summer job."

Many local employers and agencies were present at the job fair to provide information to the students. Some of them

included: SADC, Jardin Educatif, Carrefour Jeunesse Emploi du Pontiac, Place aux Jeunes, Chutes Coulonge, Emploi Quebec, Services Canada pour les Jeunes, Avenue International as well as a recruiting booth for the Canadian Forces.

New to the job fair this year is Avenue International. It's an agency which helps students find jobs overseas or in other areas of Canada. "It's a great opportunity for students to get international experience," said kiosk operator Isabelle Richard. "It's a program for young people to gain experiences abroad. Some of the jobs available include fruit picking and international hotel work."

Montreal student Gwendolyn Neelin attended the job fair and hoped to find something local.

"It's a great idea to have this job fair for local jobs. I hope to come back this summer and find a job in Bristol," said Neelin.

To date, 115 jobs have been posted on CREP's web site and more are expected.

Danford Lake

Stephanie Millford
467-1091

Okay enough is enough! If I didn't see one more snow flake this season I wouldn't mind! 410 cm is more than my liking. The skiers on the other hand think all this white stuff is just great. But if we should get another 30 cm or more we will tie with 1970-71 for the most snow fallen. I for one don't need anymore snow but then it would be nice to break the old record.

The city of Ottawa is still trying to plough their way out. Many of the side streets are not ploughed yet and on the news it said that it could be the end of the week before everyone is able to get out. The elderly especially are the ones who are hurt when we have big snow falls like this. Many depend on someone coming in and making them a hot meal.

Then on the other hand many are scared to walk outside because of the fear of falling. If you have the chance to get out and help someone, please do so.

This Saturday will be the day that most pubs and bars celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Are you going out and show off your Irish spirit? May the luck of the Irish be with you all!

Saturday at the Little Bar in Otter Lake will be D.J. Mario. Come out and have some fun. I'm sure bar owner Rachel will love to see you.

Happy birthday wishes to Gisele Sauve of Kazabazua who will celebrate on March 16 along with Elizabeth Kluge and to Hughie "Teddybear" Desmond who will celebrate March 18. Here's hoping that the luck

of the Irish are with you all and that you get all the things that you wish for on your special days!

The men that work in the bush have pretty much shut down for the season.

With so much snow they can't walk and the machines just get stuck. They usually go back in the middle of May. They have very hard jobs so they do deserve a good break.

The birds are coming to the feeders like dive-bombers. The little chickadees can be sitting on the feeders eating away and then comes a bluejay and hits the feeder head on and the little chickadee does circles on the feeder for 30 seconds! They are so pretty though. Mom and I love to sit and watch them. Occasionally a squirrel comes and has a snack too. They were flying here Sunday morning so much that the feeder had to be refilled. They couldn't find anything because of all of the snow.

Happy belated birthday to Raymond Dagenais Periard and Joey Ranger who both celebrated on the March 4.

Fishing season is almost done. I'm sure right now that ice fishing will be quite a challenge. Having to shovel and then drill your hole and so on. I'll just wait for spring when the ice melts and then take the boat out.

The snowbanks have gotten so high with all the snow that has fallen this year that we have had to shovel the snow away from the windows twice already. That's unbelievable!

This week is March break in Ontario. My brother Karl tells me that Ski Vorlage should be quite busy this week with all the skiers and

snowboarders. Have fun on the slopes but be careful!

This year has been a great year for the snowmobilers and for the snowmobiler retailers. Other years we had to pray for snow to go out on the skidooos and now this year we have to pray for the snow to stop.

It should be a good year for maple syrup producers. When there isn't enough snow on the ground when the maple's start to leak it gives the sap the taste it should have but after it is boiled and the syrup is made there can be a very earthy taste to it. It's not a pleasant taste. This year looks to be good though. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

We wish my aunt Alphonsine Beaudoin a speedy recovery after her recent stay in the hospital. Hope your feeling better now ma tante!

Birthday wishes to brother and sister, my aunt and uncle Jean-Paul and Alphonsine Beaudoin who will celebrate on the 10th and the 11th of March. Have a good one you two!

I've seen something as we've been driving. People are leaving their Christmas lights on. Do you possibly think it's because of all the snow we got or that they think that Santa may come again real quick? Ha! Ha!

My sister Robyn has seen a true sign of Spring yesterday. She saw clothes hanging on the line in Venosta. They were frozen, still mind you she said but they were there nonetheless. We started our spring cleaning but when the snowbanks are so high, and you can't open the door to let the fresh air in we said this just has to wait. When the snow is gone we'll try again.

Shawville

Lyse Lacourse
647-5932
lysie_wheezy@hotmail.com

On Saturday evening, during the 56 cm drop of snow, snow, lightning could be seen - you could see daylight. Thunder was heard as well. In the background you could hear snowmobiles on the trail. I hope none of those brave souls on the machines got stuck. Snowstorms do produce thunder and lightning - only less frequently than summertime thunderstorms. Also, snowflakes - with a larger surface than raindrops - scatter sound and light more efficiently. In addition, visibility during snowstorms is often very low, making the f...shes harder to see, but this one made everything bright. The flashes, or lightning, that you see in the sky are giant atmospheric sparks caused by a sudden release of energy between separated electrical charges in the clouds. Local variations of wind speed and direction, or shear, transport charges to different areas within a cloud, until the potential grows strong enough for a discharge. In winter, strong localized shears are uncommon and charge separation is weak. Lightning will still occur at the frontal zones, however, where cold air meets warmer air.

Congratulations to John and Debbie Drouin who became first time grandparents on Saturday, March 8th, 2008 at approximately 10:56 p.m. The new parents, Rachel and Eugene Hamelin have a baby girl named Paige. Both mother and daughter are doing well. Welcome baby from your family, friends and neighbours.

On Saturday, Robert Lacourse was surprised with a party in his honour to mark his 50th birthday. Thirty people braved the snowstorm to celebrate. Thank you to all of you who joined us at our home it made his birthday a memorable one.

A benefit will be held for Krista-Leigh Rivest and Daniel Lemay for their baby girl, Madison Ava Lemay, who was born on Feb. 6 weighing 1 lb. 15 ounces. She now weighs 2 lbs. 9 ounces. Her parents need help financially for travelling to see her in Montreal at the Neo-Natal Unit. A benefit will be held at Atkinson's Bar on Saturday, March 15 in the evening. Donations would be greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to the following couples celebrating their wedding anniversaries: Kevin and Brenda Malette, Rick and Lisa Plouffe, Domoni and Barbara Gauthier.

Happy birthday to the fol-

lowing people: Addison Lacourse, Mackenzie Barr, Jadon LeBrun, Caitlin Seguin, Ragbhir Basi, Andrew Rowat, Neil McCagg, John Reasbeck, Brandi Tubman, Jane Duff-MacDougall, Robert Lacourse, Susan Stanley, Adele Lafleur, Randy Pitt, Margaret Davis, Patrick Latreille, John Maheral, Connie Walsh, Robin Beattie, Benjamin Woodman and Patsy Belsher.

The Shawville Figure Skating Club will be presenting Disney on Ice on Saturday, March 22 at the Shawville Arena.

St. Patrick's Day is next Monday, March 17. Saint Patrick's Day (Irish: Lá Fhéil Pádraig or Lá Phéile Pádraig), colloquially St. Paddy's Day or Paddy's Day, is an annual feast day which celebrates Saint Patrick (circa 385-461), one of the patron saints of Ireland, and is generally celebrated on 17 March.

The day is the national holiday of the Irish people. It is a bank holiday in Northern Ireland and a public holiday in the Republic of Ireland, Montserrat, and the Canadian province of Newfoundland and Labrador. In the rest of Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, the United States and New Zealand, it is widely celebrated but is not an official holiday.

It became a feast day in the Roman Catholic Church due to the influence of the Waterford-born Franciscan scholar Luke Wadding in the early part of the 17th century, and is a holy day of obligation for Roman Catholics in Ireland. The date of the feast is occasionally moved by church authorities when March 17 falls during Holy Week; this last happened in 1940 when Saint Patrick's Day was observed on April 3, in order to avoid it coinciding with Palm Sunday, and will happen again in 2008, when it shall be held on 14 March.

St. Patrick is believed to have driven the snakes from Ireland. Once a pagan himself, St. Patrick is one of Christianity's most widely known figures. The modern secular holiday is based on the original Christian saint's feast day also thought to be the date of the saint's death. Today, the tradition continues with people from all walks and heritages by wearing green, eating Irish food, and attending parades. St. Patrick's Day is bursting with folklore; from the shamrock to the leprechaun and to pinching those that are not wearing green.

A St. Patrick's party will be held at Atkinson's Bar on March 16. Happy St. Paddy's Day.

PHS honoured for improvement

WILBUR MCLEAN
Equity Editor

SHAWVILLE • Pontiac High School has been named one of the top three most improved schools in Québec and for the honour have been named a finalist for a province-wide award.

An awards dinner to be held April 22 in Montreal and attended by a number of PHS staff and teachers will reveal whether Pontiac finished first, second or third in the category of most improved.

The nomination was based on PHS' results on the Fraser Institute ranking of

Québec high schools, which takes place each year.

In those rankings, which use exam scores and passing rates among other criteria, PHS improved from one of the worst schools in all of Québec to one in the top third in the most recent announcement last fall.

"We're obviously very pleased," said Mike Dubeau, PHS principal, whose tenure has directly coincided with the school's ranking rise. "We announced it to the whole school."

The school received a letter from the Garfield Weston Awards for Excellence in

Education in mid-January stating it had been shortlisted as one of 30 schools for the award.

Then, last week, PHS received another letter stating the school qualified as a finalist.

The winning school receives \$3,000 cash among other prizes.

The two runners-up will receive \$1,000 in cash.

The money can be used in any way the school finds fit.

"It's nice that we're being recognized by an outside group like this," said a visibly pleased Dubeau recently.

Otter Lake

Elizabeth Hahn
453-7326

I was honoured to receive a nice letter from our Member of Parliament for Pontiac the Honourable Lawrence Cannon.

Last week I spent a few days in Pembroke, visiting with my family, Pat, Dolores, Kelly, Craig, Travis and Julia. We all attended the hockey game to watch Travis and his team play.

Recent visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Mayhew were Millie and Roland

Proulx, Arthur Gravelle and Garnet Mayhew.

Happy birthday to Tammy Loesche who has a birthday on March 25 also to Johnathan Russell on March 26. He will be two years old. Also birthday wishes go out to Patricia Hahn Russell on March 28.

Results of the Golden Age Club euchre on March 4: Ladies first prize: Rita Blaskie. Ladies second: Rita Beaudoin.

Men's first prize: Vic Bisson. Men's second: Felix Kluge. 50/50 winner: Red

Peck. Door prize winner: Olivette Mason. Dessert was provided by Rosette Fleury and Barbara Lintell.

Happy birthday wishes to Colette Lafleur on March 3 and Marie Filon on March 9.

Dart league results for March 6: Ladies high score: Denise Dubois.

Ladies high average: Olivette Mason. Mens high score: Jerry Chevalier. Mens high average: René Graveline. 50/50 winner: Moe Lajoie.

Door prize winner: Janet Lafleur.

ANNOUNCEMENT

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The Circovirus Inoculation Program (CIP) will provide eligible hog producers with financial assistance to help offset costs related to testing, diagnosis and treatment of hog herds for Porcine Circovirus Associated Diseases (PCVAD2).

Requirements

- Hog owners or herd managers who have tested their herd(s) for PCVAD2 since March 1, 2006 can receive up to \$150 per test, up to \$2,000 per fiscal year, and up to \$4,000 for the duration of the program.
- Certified diagnostic testing or a clinical diagnosis is required by a veterinarian to qualify for assistance.
- For a clinical diagnosis to be eligible, it must have been performed between March 1, 2006 and November 15, 2007.

Vaccination

Hog owners or herd managers whose animals were part of a herd that tested positive for PCVAD2 can receive up to \$1 per piglet and up to \$7 per gilt, sow and/or boar.

Application deadline is December 31, 2008

For more information, or if you have not received an application form by mail, call 1-800-667-8567 or visit www.agr.gc.ca/cdhi

ALGONQUIN COLLEGE IN THE OTTAWA VALLEY

MARCH BREAK OPEN HOUSE AT ALGONQUIN COLLEGE

Attend our March Break Open House to learn more about our full-time programs, and the advantages of studying at your local College. The Open House will feature campus tours and presentations on everything from our well-known cluster of Outdoor Adventure programs to financial assistance and housing.

Saturday, March 15
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
315 Pembroke Street East

Find out about our 16 full-time day programs:

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing (4-year degree)
- Early Childhood Education (2-year diploma)
- Forestry Technician (47-week diploma)
- General Arts & Science (1 year certificate)
- Golf & Ski Operations Management (60-week diploma with 2 paid co-ops)
- Office Administration - Executive (48-week diploma)
- Outdoor Adventure (2-year diploma)
- Personal Support Worker (32-week certificate)
- Police Foundations (2-year diploma)
- Practical Nursing (2-year diploma)
- Radiation Safety (30-week certificate)
- Social Service worker (2-year diploma)
- New for Fall 2008

Our four Co-op Diploma Programs include 45 weeks in-class plus a paid summer co-op:

- Business (laptop program)
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The co-op programs are equivalent to a traditional 2-year diploma

Plus, we have a College Preparation Program: The Ontario Basic Skills program prepares students academically for a college program or apprenticeship training with courses in Math, English, Computers and Science. Classes run during the day Monday to Thursday; books and tuition are free. Students can begin the program at any time of the year after a successful entrance test and interview.

For more information: Call Jamie at 613-735-4700, ext 2756
Apply to: www.ontariocolleges.ca

| March '08 | | | | | | | April '08 | | | | | | |
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COMING EVENTS

Wed., March 12 - Poor Man's Lunch Oddfellows Hall, Shawville 11-1. \$6.00. xm12

Fri., March 14 - Pontiac Masonic Lodge Pancake Supper, 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., 244 Main St., Shawville adults \$8, children \$4. Everyone welcome. xm12

RIVER CLUB CHAPEAU presents BACK SEAT DRIVERS

Sat., March 15th 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.
 Hwy 148, Chapeau

March 16 - Irish Stew Luncheon 12:00 - 2 p.m. The Jack Graham Bristol Community Centre. All proceeds to Pontiac Community Hospital - Dialysis Unit, in memory of Jack Graham. Limited tickets available \$13 each. Can be purchased from the Graham family 819-647-2376, Municipality of Bristol 819-647-5555 or RVI 819-647-3340. xm12

March 21 - 24 - Chutes Coulonge will be open Easter weekend Friday to Monday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Regular admission rates apply. 3bm19

Easter Eve, Sat., March 22 - Zion Pancake Supper at Zion Lutheran Church, Schwartz from 4 to 7 p.m. Regular and potato pancakes, sausages, baked beans, local maple syrup, homemade rolls, desserts, tea, coffee. Adults \$9, children under 12 \$4. Everyone welcome. 2bm19

Sat., March 22 - Jim, Murray and Diane Graham would like to invite you to attend a celebration of Isabel Graham's 90th birthday at St. Andrew's Knox United Church, Bristol from 2 to 4 p.m. Best wishes only. bm12

Sat., March 22 - "Québec en Forme" will be animating activities for the children from 1 to 4 p.m. An Easter egg hunt will follow. You must register to participate. Please call 819-683-2770 leave your name, phone number and number of children and adults attending. Regular admission rates apply. 3bm19

Sat., March 22 - Shawville Figure Skating Club Presents Disney on Ice on Saturday, March 22, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Shawville Arena. Tickets may be purchased by any member of the Shawville Figure Skating Club or \$6.00 at the door. 2bm19

New York, New York: May 1-4. Manhattan hotel in Theatre district by Time Square. Operated and guided by Jamieson Travel & Tours. Also, ask about other short duration tours available! (3 to 6 days in length). Call 613-582-7011 or 1-888-582-7011. www.jamiesontravel.com. 2bm12

Thurs., May 8 - 8 p.m. Shawville Lionettes Fashion Show, at Auberge Mont Blanc, Portage du Fort. Tickets available from any Lionette, Boutique Gwendoline and Shawville Shoe Shop. xm12

COMING EVENTS

Jamieson Travel & Tours. 2008 Tours: Poland/Kaszuby-May, New York City/Manhattan-May, Prince Edward County/ Kingston-June, Alaska Land & Cruise, Tadoussac/ Saguenay, Quebec-July, Newfoundland and East Coast-Aug, Ireland-Sept, Scotland-Sept, Gaspe-Oct., St. Jacob's-Nov, Branson-Nov. Visit www.jamiesontravel.com or call for a free catalogue. 613-582-7011 and toll free 1-888-582-7011. Check out Art's Travel Show each Wed. at 11:30am on 98.7FM, CJHR. 2bm12

July 4, 5 & 6, 2008 - Quyon JamFest - Fairgrounds. Info - Diane - 458-2139 or Mark 458-1691. otc

July 18, 19 & 20 - The 3rd Annual Shawville Country Jamboree at the Armstrong Heritage Farm on Hwy. 148. For more info visit www.armstrongheritagefarm.com. 3bm12

Aug. 1, 2, 3, Fri., Sat., Sun. - Riverside Jam in Carleton Place presents: Mark Chesnut, Lorrie Morgan, Tommy Cash, Jason Blaine, Gord Bamford, Brad Johner, Ambush, Bowes Brothers, Mick Armitage Band and others to be announced. Call NOW at 613-226-9178 for camp sites and earlybird tickets. www.riversidejam.com 3bm19

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Future steel buildings durable, dependable, pre-engineered, all-steel structures. Custom made to suit your needs and requirements. Factory direct affordable prices. Call 1-800-668-8653 ext. 170 for free brochure. qm12

Classified Ads Work! If you have something to sell, want to buy or need to promote - classified ads are the way to go! Call Marne at the Quebec Community Newspapers Association for more information. 514-453-6300. Visit: www.qcna.org. qm12

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Eleanor's Cookbook, Volume 1 and 2 are available at The Pontiac Printshop, 133 Centre St., Shawville, Quebec. Stop in and pick up your copy. They make great gifts!

#1 high speed internet \$18.95/month. Absolutely no ports are blocked. Unlimited downloading. Up to 5Mbps download and 800Kbps upload. Order today at www.acanac.ca or call toll free 1-866-281-3538.

Hot tub (Spa) Covers. Best Price, Best Quality. All Shapes & Colours Available. Call 1-866-652-6837. www.thecover-guy.ca. qm12

MISCELLANEOUS

The Ottawa Senators The best Players and the Greatest Games by J. Alexander Poulton is now available at The Pontiac Printshop, 133 Centre St., Shawville, Quebec. Stop in and get a copy. Only \$9.95 each! xtc

Sawmills from only \$3,495.00- Convert your logs to valuable lumber with your own Norwood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. www.norwood-sawmills.ca/4001 - FREE Information: 1-800-566-6899 Ext. 400 OT. qm12

All steel buildings Sale/Lease. US steel shipment just arrived. Save up to 30%! 25'x40', 30'x50', 32'x50', 40'x60', 50'x100'. Many others. Call now! Pioneer 1-800-504-7749. Canadian made. www.pioneerbuildings.com. qm12

P E T S

Purebred Border Collie pups for sale 819-689-2809. xm12

SNOWMOBILES

1998 Skidoo Mach 1 700 Triple, mint condition, 6500 miles. \$2,900 firm. Call Brent 819-647-2161. xtc

FARM EQUIPMENT

Tractor with logging machinery, John Deere 5105 tractor, 45 h.p., year 2000, 2700 hours, 4 x 4, cab, protection cage and plate \$25,850.00. Logging trailer/loader, gravel 11,500 lbs., logging winch (Boss) \$2,300.00; Snowblower Pronovost P-720 \$1,850.00 819-647-3966. 2xm19

FARM PRODUCE

4 x 5 bales of wrapped second cut trincalle and peas \$10 per bale 613-582-3893 or 613-582-3539. 2xm12

4 x 5 round bales of hay for sale 819-647-5504. 2xm12

LIVESTOCK

Purebred Angus bulls, A.D.A. Cattle Company, contact 613-832-3494. 4xm19

WANTED TO RENT

Looking for small house or 1 bedroom apartment, Quyon area, beginning May. Malinda 613-744-8621, malinda.provost@sympatico.ca xm12

Shawville - Tiny house or 2 bedroom apartment, central, ground floor for senior gentleman and his dog, 647-3245. bm12

FOR RENT

Aylmer - Bachelor apartment available immediately. First month, plus damage deposit required. For more information phone 819-684-4793. 2xm12

Bristol - Apartments for rent, two and three bedroom apartments, heat and hydro included. Also two bedroom house available. Credit check and references required. Call George 819-771-6117. otc

Bryson - 2 bedroom apartment for rent 819-648-2222. otc.

Bryson - 3 bedroom house available March 819-648-5555. otc.

Cottage for rent - June, July, August weekly or special rates per month. Sand Bay, Quebec near Shawville 819-458-2366, 613-729-4312, Jill McBane. xtc

Fort Coulonge - 2 or 3 bedroom apartment heated, 1st of April. David 819-684-9355. 2xm19

Shawville - 2 bedroom apartment for rent 647-3256. otc

Shawville - Spacious one bedroom basement apartment. Shared washer/dryer. Non-smoking. No pets. References required. \$350.00 plus utilities. Available immediately. Call 819-685-2398 evenings or 613-816-4509. 3xm26

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 \$28,995 or \$243 bi-weekly
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2004 Chev Avalanche 4x4
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 \$10,995 or \$119 bi-weekly
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 \$14,995 or \$162 bi-weekly
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Furnace repairs, sales and service, combination furnaces, wood, oil, electric or hot water. Joe Konrad 819-647-2391. otc

Housekeeper available for weekly cleaning. Reliable, reasonable rates, working references. Sue 819-458-3131. xm12

Patricia Reid Seniors Home room to rent. Loving home environment. For more information call Patricia at 819-647-2458. 4xm19

It's here! Wireless Internet Services available now at The Lighthouse Bookstore, 349 Main Street, Shawville. From Tuesday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Just ask for Tracey! Call 819-647-3033. 2xm19

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Experienced workers needed for the following jobs: Crushers and Screeners; Foreman and Labourer for water and sewer; Truck Drivers (tandem, trailer and float); Mechanic. (819) 455-2229 phone; (819) 455-9778 fax. 4bm19

Start a new career in the hospitality industry. Applicant must be energetic and willing to learn. Apply in person River Club Riviere, Portage du Fort. No experience necessary. xm19

Job hunting? The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources is now hiring! Look for over 2,100 jobs for youth and recent graduates at www.ontario.ca/mnryouthprograms or call 1-800-667-1940. qm12

Full-time parts manager prior parts experience and bilingualism an asset. Training available. Apply at Shawville Ford 819-647-2721. 2bm19

Experienced auto mechanic wanted in the Pontiac. Apply to Box Q, THE EQUITY, 133 Centre St., Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0. 2xm19

PUBLIC NOTICES

Avis de Vente Canada Province de Quebec District de Hull Cour Municipale (MRC des Collines) NO: 06-01925-4 CAE060362 Sylvie Rodrigue, le percepteur des amendes pour et au nom de La MRC des Collines de l'Outaouais Partie demanderesse, c.

Mike Belair Partie defenderesse, Le 27 mars 2008, à 10 :00 heures, au 2114 Wilson, en la ville de Pontiac, seront vendus par autorité de justice, les biens et effets de la partie defenderesse, saisis en cette cause, consistant en :

1 Camion Pick Up jaune Ford F-250 4 portes, 1 remorque à chevaux 2 essieux, 1 téléviseur écran plat Panasonic cinéma maison, 1 divan en cuir brun, 1 fauteuil en cuir brun, 2 repose pieds en cuir brun, 1 système satellite star choice motorola, 1 téléviseur écran plat +/- 42 pouces, 1 lecteur DVD, 1 magnéscope Toshiba, le tout avec accessoires.

Argent comptant et/ou cheque visé Gatineau, ce 5 mars 2008 Eric Beauchamp Huissier de Justice District de Hull Paradiis, Montpetit, Beauchamp

Société en nom collectif Huissiers de Justice 15 De Valcourt, Unité 3 Gatineau, QC. J8T 8H1 819-643-1185

PUBLIC NOTICES

Prenez avis que Jude Saumure dont l'adresse du domicile est le 93 avenue de la Ville-Pompe, Luskville (Pontiac), Québec J0X 2G0. Présentera au Directeur de L'Etat Civil une demande pour changer son nom en celui de Jude Saumur.

Avis rempli et signé à Shawville le 7 mars 2008. Jude Saumur xm12

T H A N K S

Thank you to the two men who helped us March 1st at the accident on Highway 148. Special thanks to Megan Scott. From Monique Provost and Monique Donnelly.

Hearty - Thanks Dr. Benfey and his staff, for the good care when I was admitted to the Pontiac Hospital last Thursday. Mary Morin Hearty

B I R T H



Godin - In loving memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, John, who passed away March 23, 1998. The years will go on But your memory will stay As near and dear as yesterday. Until we meet again. Laura and family

Dickson/Barton - Leslie, Jason, and big brother Owen Ross are thrilled to announce the birth of Tessa James "Ladybug" Barton, born February 14th, 2008 at the Maison des Naissances in Gatineau. Our wonderful midwives helped us bring her into the world as the sun was rising on her Oma's birthday. Proud grandparents are Heather Dickson and Greg Hayley (Oma & Opa) of Shawville, Ross Dickson and Diana Bracegirdle of Perth, and Austin and Geraldine Barton of Nepean. Leslie, Jason, Owen and Tessa live in Wakefield.

Poluha and Kearnan - A belated welcome to the world! Roman and Nancy are proud to announce the arrival of baby Angus Roman Ilya. Big sisters Hanyia, Sarah and Millie are happy to finally have a brother. Angus was born November 20th, weighing 9 pounds, 4 ounces and measuring 22 inches. Proud grandparents of their 7th grandchild are Bill Kearnan and Carol Kearnan. Looking down over Angus are the late Roman and Nancy Poluha.

Sparring - In loving memory of my dear mother and best friend Emma Pauline Kroese-Sparring who passed away eleven years ago March 22, 1997. In a quiet country cemetery not far from home Where the gentle breezes blow Lies the mother I loved so dearly. May the words of love blow softly And whisper for you to hear That I miss you and love you And wish that you were still here with me. Sadly missed and never forgotten by Merlin

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Sparring - In loving memory of my dear mother and best friend Emma Pauline

Vinton

Diane Boisvert 648-5296
What a week we have had for storms. Monday started off with an ice and rains storm. Then Wednesday we got dumped eight inches or more of snow and then again on Saturday another blizzard left us paralyzed on the roads.

budget and that includes the private contractors we hire to do our own laneways. Remember this when the season is finally over. Remember how many extra trips they had to do this winter. This week I came home from work and couldn't get my door unlocked to get into my house. I ended up having to crawl through a window to get inside. Then I tried to unlock it from the inside. That didn't work either. Now I was locked inside the house. I opened the window in the door to try and play with the handle so it would let go. I had my hand under the win-

dow when the window fell on my hand smashing my knuckles. Owee. It turned out that the mechanism inside the door handle was broken and I ended up having to rob a door knob off of another door to fix it for the night. The next morning when I got up I reached for my glasses and the lens fell onto the floor. The little screw had worked itself loose and fallen out. Have you ever tried to find one of those little screws? Usually you can't but luck was on my side... sort of. I need my glasses to see obviously so it was hard to find

the precision screwdriver I needed to fix the glasses, but I did. Then I sat at the kitchen table and after many attempts I finally got that incredibly small screw nail into the hole and tightened the glasses. Now I can see again. I look out the window and the wipers on my car were on. Now what? I went outside and tried to start the car. You guessed it, a dead battery. Now I need a boost. That wasn't easy because my car has side posts and aren't really booster friendly if you know what I mean. There is hardly no post to hook up the cables

and they keep sliding off. Finally we got a connection and the car started. Well, that was the three bad things. Hopefully nothing else will happen. Happy belated anniversary wishes go out to Ann and Arthur Grace who celebrated their 22nd on Feb. 14. On Friday I met Jimmy Presley and his sister Sherry Lynn in Campbell's Bay. I hadn't seen them in years it was nice to have a chat with them. Last Wednesday for the first time in 13 years the mail couldn't be delivered. I was talking to Helen Desjardins, who delivers our mail, and

she told me that she got stuck three times and just couldn't finish the route. She was upset that she had to stop because this ruined her perfect record. Well Helen, no one would blame you for not being able to finish your route and we are extremely happy with your services over the last 13 years. Matthew Kelly spent the weekend with his Pappy (Purcell). They had a great weekend playing chess, checkers and darts. They even had more fun building an igloo and then getting the truck stuck in the snowdrift on Sunday. Last week I wrote that

Trevor Beaugard is a new neighbour in Vinton. The house he bought was Frank and Margaret Hearty's. I inadvertently wrote Frank and Margaret Mousseau. Sorry about the mistake folks. Last Thursday Teresa and Isabel came to my house for "girls' night". You know you are getting old when the party ended at 9:30 p.m. Sleep is more

important than fun. Happy birthday wishes to Serge Jolin March 12, Brady McCrank on March 14, Travis Coriveau and Emile Mayhew on March 17 and of course to my darling grandson Tao Davidson on March 18. Remember to recycle and put out your blue boxes on Thursday morning. Have a great St. Patrick's Day.

Campbell's Bay

Iris Smith 648-5821
Our member of Parliament, Lawrence Cannon sent me a letter about news events in Campbell's Bay. I was pleased to receive it and anyone having birthdays, weddings anniversaries or fundraisers in our community who would either phone me or his office in Fort Coulonge. They would send congratulations to you from our MP marking this special occasion.

out for the icy patches. The euchre was held on Tuesday evening following the monthly meeting. Plans are underway for a trip to the sugar bush. Ladies High was a three-way tie between Gwen Black, Rose Gutoskie, and Iris Smith. Second was a two-way tie between Alina Belland and Dorcas Sparling. Men's High was won by Lucien Dumouchel 2nd was a three way tie between Ed Gutoskie, Gordon Porter and Kervyn Burman. It was nice to have Kervyn as it is the first time since his fall. It has been a long winter. The door prize was won by Rose Gutoskie. The 50-50 by Beverly Ebert. A delicious lunch was served following the euchre. Congratulations to Ellen Lance who celebrated her 87th birthday on March 10. We wish her all the best for

health and good times in the year ahead. The Women's World Day of Prayer Service held each year on the first Friday in March was held at St Andrew's United Church in Campbell's Bay. Churches participating were from The Free Methodist Church, St. George's Anglican Church, Church of Faith, Praise and Prayer, St. John the Evangelist and St. Andrew's United. Rev. Angus MacDonald was the speaker. Following the service lunch was served. Visiting with Gladys Walsh were her son, Joe and daughters, Jessica, Audrey, and Ashley and her daughter, Susan and her husband Ron Barnes and daughters, Elizabeth and Laura of Elora. It was nice to have them for the March break. Saturday they had a birthday party for Gladys, Laura Barnes,

Tianna Bertrand and Ashley Walsh as they were all together and have birthdays later in the month. On Thursday the Red Hats celebrated the birthday of Genevieve Cahill who turned 85 with a party at the Auberge Mont Blanc at Portage Du Fort. Many friends and relatives from Calumet Island joined the party as well to wish her all the best on this special occasion. May she have her health to enjoy many more. This past weekend we had about 50 cms of snow fall in our area. Everything was slowed to a standstill. There is just nowhere to put the snow anymore. Most people stayed indoors and off the roads. For some reason when everyone was indoors the cable was off for overnight so no TV unless you had a dish.

I guess we should all have one. To top it all off we had to put our clocks ahead an hour. But the sun was just beautiful on Sunday and we had a long evening of sunshine. I was sorry to miss seeing Sherwood and Anne Cole of Brampton when they were in town when I was away. Catch you next time. Birthdays were celebrated by Joyce Leach, Ashley Frost Beaugard, Noah Belanger, Sarra Murrell, Connie Belland, Wayne Coriveau, Sylvie Herault, Jordan Havekes, Linda Belland Lemaire, Eric Bertrand, Jacob Pare, Alice Lacroix,

Robert Black, Carl Havekes, Manly Brown, Marina Chugg, Harvey Smith, Mark Lance, Pat Kavanagh, Marie Pilon, Gladys Belanger, Serge Mousseau, Ellen Lance, Ashley Black, Christine Kluge, Adreïn Leblanc, Bill Ranger, Natalie Beaudry, Fern Quinn, Krista Sparling, Dorothy Black, Pat Dillon, Gavin McLean, Kenneth Sloan, Lynn Abour, Louise Newberry, Joey Pare, Carolyn Kluge, Jessica Dubeau and Serge Jolin. We hope you enjoyed your special birthday. Anniversary wishes to Bill and Dianne Levers. Enjoy this special occasion in your lives.

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In the Pontiac
John Maheral 819-648-2590

GARAGE & DWELLING AUCTION SALE

SATURDAY MARCH 22, 2008
at 10:30 a.m. for BUCH'S GARAGE
5407 Highway 60, R.R. #1, Douglas, ON
On Hwy. 60 on the west side of the village of Douglas, signs posted. 1994 International tow truck, safetied; 1991 GMC top kick tilt and load tow truck; boat; twin hoist; garage equipment; snap-on tools; testing equipment; assortment of new and used; antiques; misc. garage items.

HOUSE AND GARAGE: 1.9 ACRES
Newly renovated 3 bedroom home, eat-in kitchen, dining room, living room, family room, 2 bathrooms, main floor laundry room, mud room, 2 car garage, PLUS 42' x 36'2" bay commercial sized garage plus storage.
For more information on property contact: Steve and Sonia Buch at 613-649-2736.
PROPERTY SELLING AT 1:00 p.m.
Subject to low reserve bid. \$20,000.00 down on sale day, balance in 60 days

Mr. Buch is retiring after 37 years in the business. This is only a partial listing, everything sells. Everything is well maintained. Viewing week prior to sale.
Contact Florian Buch at 613-649-2402 (garage) or 613-649-2691 (home)
Terms: Cash or Cheque with ID - Lunch Available
Auctioneer: Preston Cull, R.R. #1, Douglas, Ont. 613-649-2378
Owner or Auctioneer not responsible in case of accident or theft.

BULL SALE



OUTAOUAIS TEST STATION ASSOCIATION
SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2008 - 1:00 p.m.
Selling top end of each breed: Angus, Charolais, Simmental, (Fleckvich), Limousin.
Ultrasound carcass data available sale day on all bulls; Ribeye, marbling, backfat, ...
All Bulls eligible to ASRA.
Sale host: Ferme Gagnon Farm, 426 Rte. 315N, Chénéville, QC
Phone (819) 428-3502 Fax: (819) 428-4967

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Bus leaving Shawville on sale day - reserve your seat from the MAPAQ office 819-647-5779 or 1888-206-7575

27th Annual CONSIGNMENT SALE

Friday, March 21 at 9 a.m.
HOBBS BROS. SALE PAVILION
2394 Dwyer Hill Road, Ashton, ON
TOOLS: 9 a.m., MACHINERY 10:30 a.m., CATTLE approx. 2:30 p.m.
HERD #1 - Complete dispersal, 28 crossbred cows bred to Red Angus bull of John Miller of Perth - exposed June 1, 2007.
HERD #2 - 20 crossbred cows bred to Black Limbo bull for April calving plus a number of consigned cows and heifers - all cows will be preg. checked.
MACHINERY: Ford 5610 diesel cab and loader 2400 hrs., White 2-60 2 w.d. diesel w/c loader, M.F. 35 gas w/c hyd. front blade, J.D. 1020 gas w/c 3 pth, Int. 444 diesel p.s. good condition, 2085 Ferguson gas Kuhn rake, Massey Harris Colt gas good condition, Int. Farmall H row-crop gas tractor, Polaris 4 wheeler 350 excellent like new - only burnt 6 tanks of gas, '90 Yamaha 250 cc Motok4, Tandem metal bale wagon 22 ft. rake, MF 160 spreader w/c hyd. gate, Kongsidske 3 pth 4 furrow plough, NH 853 rd. baler, Gehl Hay King 440 9' haybine, JD Forge blower, Int. 710 semi-mounted 3-16' plough, land packer, M.F. 33 seed drill w/c grass seed, N.H. 354 grinder-mixer w/c auger, hyd. wood splitter, Fry cattle chutes and grooming chute, N.H. 328 single axle 125 bu. spreader, Ford 4 row corn planter, Case 13' wheel disc, Forage King hay baske, M.F. 640 4 row corn planter, Kongsidske 16 1/2' cult. w/c levellers, 3 pth fert. spreader on wheels, 16' hay wagon with rack, 20' hay wagon w/c rack, N.H. 256 rake, N.H. snapper head, J.D. manure spreader, Int. sickle mower, 7 Int. cyclo row air com planter, 18.4 x 32 duals, 19.5 x 24 backhoe tires, Bell portable circular saw w/c 52" blade and 24' hyd. table, 6 18x18 culverts, gates 4' & 16', electric fence posts, cedar posts, 3 pth Bush Hog, dome roof for 14' silo, Int. #10 16 disc seed drill w/c grass seed, rubber tire land packer.
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IMPORTANT NOTICE: NEW VENUE AND DATE FOR ALGONQUIN COLLEGE GRADUATION

Graduation takes place on Saturday, May 31, 2008 2 p.m. at the Pembroke Memorial Centre Corner of Lake & Christie Sts. Pembroke, ON
This graduation ceremony is for all students who will have successfully completed their program by May 2008.
A formal Invitation will be mailed to graduates.
For more information, please contact Brenda Chartrand at 613-735-4700, ext. 2702 or email: chartrb@algonquincollege.com



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Résumé énonçant votre expérience et vos qualifications sera accepté au bureau municipal, 775, route 366, Ladysmith, QC, J0X 2A0 jusqu'à 16h00 vendredi le 28 mars 2008.
Seulement les candidats qualifiés seront invités aux entrevues.
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Résumé stating experience and qualifications will be accepted at the Municipal Office, 775 Route 366 Ladysmith, QC, J0X 2A0 until 4:00 P.M. on Friday, March 28, 2008.
Only qualified candidates will be contacted for an interview.
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Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Ruth Walsh Richardson who passed away at Pontiac Community Hospital recently. Ruth was the wife of Ronald Richardson of Shawville.

The big day is coming up March 17. That is when people who were never Irish or some who have some or a whole lot of Irish join in to celebrate the big day. Anyway whoever or whatever

you are Happy St. Patrick's Day!

Get well wishes are sent to our neighbour Dan Tremblay who underwent surgery this past Monday, March 3.

Talking about March 17 there are several birthdays on St. Pat's Day. One is Gleena Hamelin granddaughter of Lena Doherty and niece of Bernie and Mary Doherty, also Donna Young of Shawville and John Kelly of Caldwell. Happy birthday everyone.

This past Wednesday was a real stormy day. It stopped people who drive a distance from going to work as not only were the roads not at

their best but the visibility was poor. The Wednesday night group wisely cancelled their euchre game. Do you remember when a good many years ago on or around March 17 there was a very bad snow storm which blocked roads. It sure had the snowplow men busy. At that time Arnott Horner was on the grader, trying to accommodate everyone as their needs were urgent. There was a bad fire at Radford which was just as severe as the storm. It took the life of Mrs. Tom Walsh and also injured other occupants into the house. So you see March hasn't changed

and is very unpredictable weather wise. If anyone knows the year I would appreciate a call.

There was also another severe storm in March of 1955 which blocked roads not only in our area but also in Montreal. The street cars couldn't run there as my neighbour was in the hospital in Montreal then. So over the years March has left its mark in ways we don't want repeated. 1970 and 1971 were bad years as well.

Get well wishes are sent to Earl Murphy who has been on the sick list.

It seems early but I hope you didn't forget to turn your

clock ahead this past Sunday as you would have been an hour late for church.

Visiting with his grandmother Millie Boyd this past weekend is Christopher Dionne of Ottawa.

Returning home after a two week vacation with her son Corey and his wife, Jess is Linda Dorzek of Caldwell.

I had calls this past weekend from my family, Donald Sharpe in Peterborough, Connie Hunter in Golden Lake, Peter Sharpe in Barriere, BC and Robert Sharpe in Courtenay, B.C. and Susan Sharpe in Kingston.

The weather was really bad in Kingston and Peterborough area with snow and freezing rain and very high winds. As predicted by our weather man. Also visiting with us on Sunday were Neil and Margaret Sharpe of Shawville.

I am so glad that our neighbour, Dan Tremblay was able to be home from Shawville Hospital on Saturday, March 8 after undergoing surgery the Monday before. Welcome home Dan and take care. On vacation for the March

break at Disney Land are my granddaughter, Kim, husband Murray and my great-grandchildren Stephen and Erin.

Congratulations to Kelly Keon on winning the Proxim card draw. It's always nice to see someone we know win.

Waltham

Helen Perry
689-2652
jacobg42@hotmail.com

Here we are, Sunday, March 9 enjoying the calm after the huge snowstorm 2008. Last night it was a good night to just stay cozy in our house.

At times, I would look out and the lyrics in the song *Let It Snow, Let It Snow* would come to mind, "and the weather out side is frightening" and that it was! Mike was telling that down in Embrun, they had thunder and lightning!

That is really strange during a winter storm! I am thankful that there were no emergencies. It would have been quite difficult for a res-

cue. Hats off to all the snow removal crew, who are out there working diligently day and night to remove the snow, from the highways, side roads and driveways and yards. What would we do with out them? God bless you all.

Get well wishes are extended to Jenny Godin-Fleury who underwent surgery this past week in the Shawville Pontiac Community Hospital. We hope that you are out and about soon.

Lucie, Joe, Maria, Gabrielle and Anna Rochon and Marie Campbell have just returned from a wonderful cruise off the coast of Florida.

Lynne and Ray Bechamp, have just returned from a week's stay in Lakeland, Florida, where they visited

Margaret and Andre Pilon and Carolyn and Gerry Pharand.

Special birthday wishes and love are extended to Marie Campbell who is celebrating her birthday on March 14. May you be blessed with many more years of health and happiness Marie!

Birthday wishes are extended to Patrick Morin,

who is celebrating his birthday on St. Patrick's Day March 17. May you have the "Luck of the Irish" on your special day Patrick!

Don't forget to take in the Irish play at Harrington Hall in Chapeau on Sunday afternoon, March 16, entitled "Ms O'Grady's Reunion".

There will also be fiddling, dancing and singing. It will begin at 1:30 pm. The tickets

are \$7 children 12 and under \$3 or \$10 at the door. The tickets are available at Waltham Grocery or contact Cynthia Belaire 819-689-2070.

An Irish Blessing: May your day be touched, by a bit of Irish luck, brightened by a song in your heart, and warmed by the smiles of the people you love. Happy St. Patrick's everyone!

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Wilbur McLean, The Equity

Pontiac High School will be the beneficiary of a new electronically-enhanced SMART board thanks to a \$5,000 donation. Charlie Elliott, centre, a 1969 PHS graduate was a recent Polaris Award winner for his work in engineering by the Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers. The award allowed him to choose a recipient and he selected to give the money to PHS. Left is PHS Principal Mike Dubeau and right is a representative from CommScope, the communications firm that sponsored the award.

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