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## It's Hoedown Time!

### Lennoxville's Stewart Deacon to judge 4-H Club square dancers in Ormstown

By Bruce Patton

In pre-television days and for a number of years thereafter, it was common to see folks following the directions of square dance callers at dance halls throughout the area. Today, except at isolated locations such as the Lennoxville Rifle Club, this form of dancing seems to have fallen out of favour.

Fortunately, there are groups that are working to preserve this once-popular dance style. One such organization is the Ormstown 4-H Club. According to Janice Neal,

one of the organizers of these events, this association has been sponsoring square dance competitions for some 27 years.

Individuals are required to appraise and judge the competitors with regard to aspects such as the difficulty of the chosen dance, timing and synchronization and costuming.

While he was still in school, Lennoxville resident, Stewart Deacon, was taught to call square dances by his uncle. He called the 'changes' on occasion until

Continued on page 3



Eight hands around and away to the left! Weeks of practice coupled with a fair degree of nervousness will result in a fun time for competitors and spectators alike at the upcoming 4-H Club square dance competition in Ormstown.



IT'S AN 8-ENDER!: It doesn't happen very often, but, left to right, Doug Macdonald, Ed Mills, Fred Montague and Garth Smith managed to complete an end in a curling match at the recent 'Pie' Bonspeil in Lennoxville with all their rocks counting and none of their opponent's rocks on the ice.

It's that time of year again and sugar-maker, Wayne Larocque, right, is lending a helping hand to his brother, Graham at the Beaver Meadow sugar shack located in Athelstan, Quebec. On April 3rd, they will sponsor an 'open house' and proceeds from this fund-raiser will be distributed among Huntingdon community groups. Info is available at 450-264-2820.

## Spring has finally sprung!



Photo: Dave Wright

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**Winning Team at  
Watervilles-1982  
Festival du bois de poele**



*Photos by Rodney Robson  
Published in the April edition in 1982*

*If you recognize any of these men, please let the Sun know*

**EDITOR'S CORNER**



David Wright, Publisher/Editor of the Townships

I most certainly look forward to this visitor every month.

The wild life articles, country stories and photos, and the historic reading are especially my favourites. Being a farmers daughter (the 80 yrs old), my thoughts are alerted to outdoor items, and Walter is a 95 year old farmer!

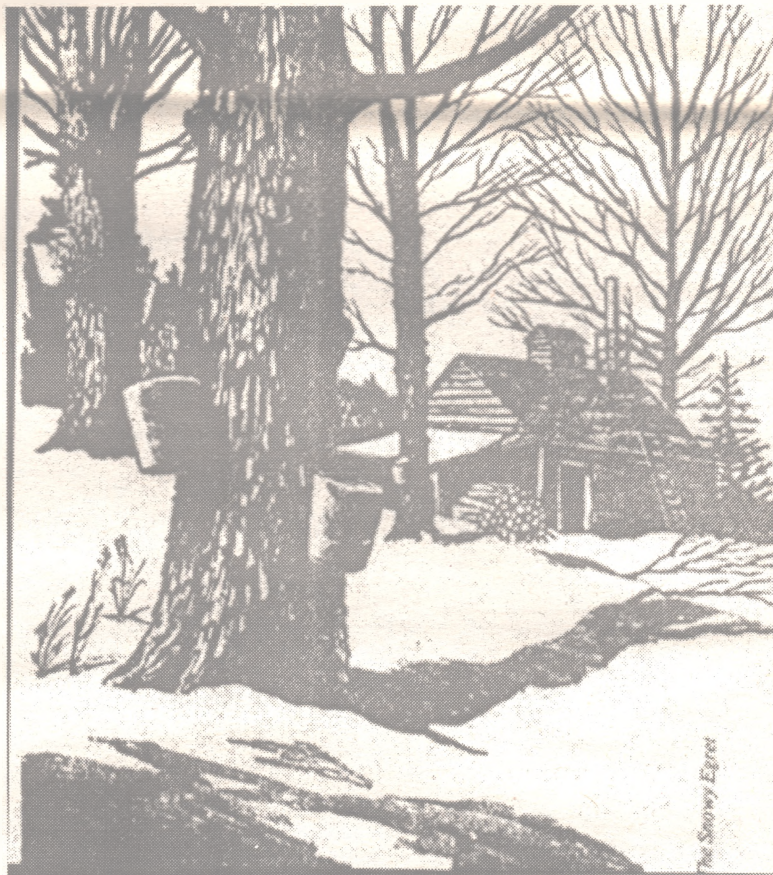
Keep the "Sun" shining

Bertha Nichols - Smithus

*Thank-you Bertha for your encouraging note. Yes, we will try to keep the 'Sun' shining. As you may know, it is getting more difficult each day keeping it going with continued rising costs. But with supporters such as yourself, we are making it. We do need new subscribers and advertisers; to put it bluntly we need more money.*

*We must remember when this 'Sun' goes down, I'm quite sure it will never rise again, Another English institution gone!*

Dave Wright



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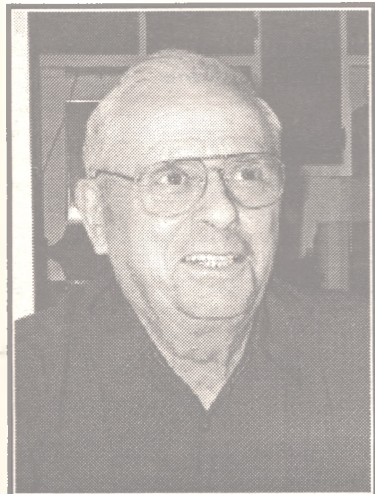
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**Hoedown Time!**

Continued from page 1

1950, at which time he joined Sam Hopper's dance band, the 'Hoedowners' and



Stewart Deacon

became its permanent caller, a position which he held for 13 years. Later, he became the drummer and caller with the Jerry Haseltine orchestra.

During that time, he also taught square dancing to local 4-H groups and entered them into competitions in Howick and Ormstown.

When the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto included square dance competitions, Deacon attended and became acquainted with some of the organizers. At one point, he entered a group from the Townships in the event.

It was through his association with the 'Royal' that he was invited to become a member of the 'Canadian Olde Tyme Square Dance Callers' Association', to which he still belongs. As such, Deacon judged at the 'Royal' over a period of some 10 years. Since then he has judged for a couple of years at competitions held in Vankleek Hill, Ontario.

On April 16th, the Ormstown 4-H group will again sponsor a square dance competition, and Deacon will be one of the judges at the

event.

According to Elizabeth Ellis, the secretary of the group, the Ormstown 4-H Club boasts some 39 members and it is expected that three or four separate sets of eight dancers each will compete from within her club. Other competitors are expected to be present representing clubs from the Gatineau Valley, Lachute, Shawville, Huntingdon, Howick and Vankleek Hill.

Ormstown resident and assistant, Janice Neal, is quick to point out that this event is organized primarily by the members of the local 4-H club.

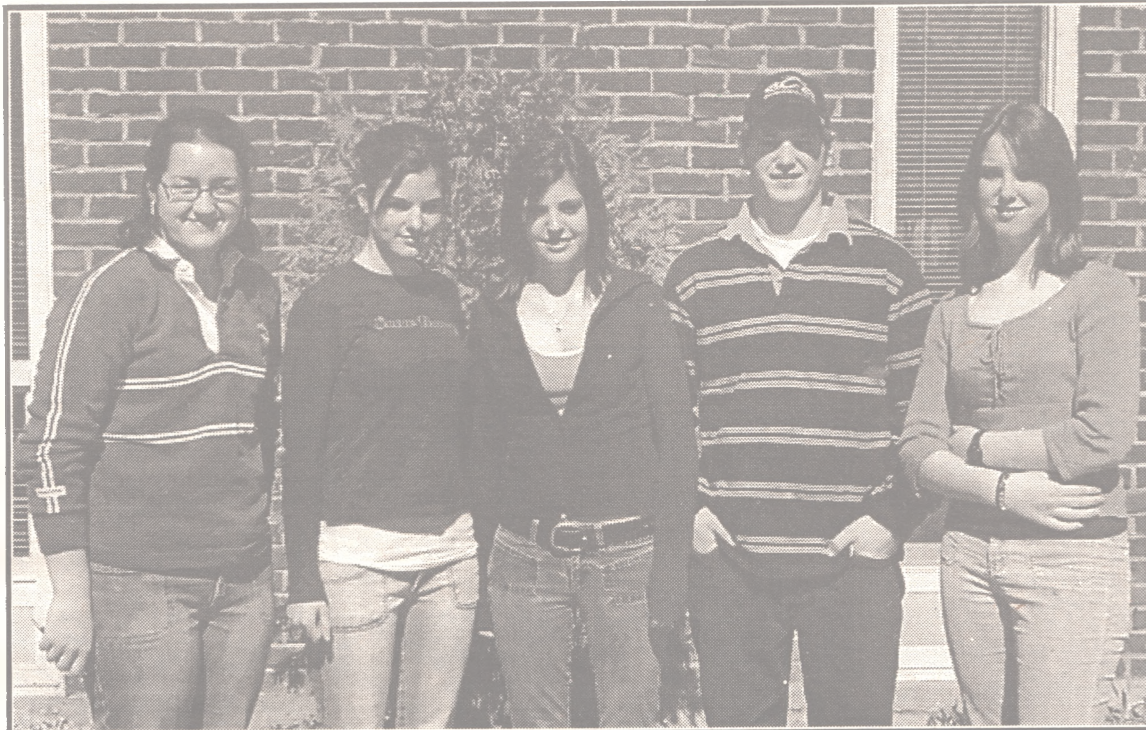
Its current President,



Elizabeth Ellis, left and Marie-Philip Brisson

Photo: Dave Wright

Marie-Philip Brisson, and others within the club have put a great deal of effort into planning the competition. Last year, Marie and her partner, Simon Rember, won a prize as the 'best couple' and the Senior Team from Ormstown won its division. Asked why the Ormstown 4-H Club sponsors this event every year, she replied, "It's a tradition in our Club. You practise hard for about two months before the event and when the drawing is made to determine the order in which the various sets dance, you always hope that your set is



The members of the Ormstown 4-H Executive are, left to right, Gillian MacDougall, Treasurer; Elizabeth Ellis, Secretary; Marie-Philip Brisson, President; Eric Sundborg, Vice-President and Angela Neal, Press Correspondent.

Photo: Dave Wright

the last." Brisson admits that it's easier to get the junior members to dance. "Many of our senior members are very busy and some are away at college and that makes practices difficult to arrange", she added.

The dancers will not dance to recorded music. Fiddler, Neil Mackay and his brother, Malcolm, a guitarist, have provided live music, along with other musicians, for many years and will be in attendance again this year.

Last year, 10 different groups competed and it is hoped that as many will be present again this year.

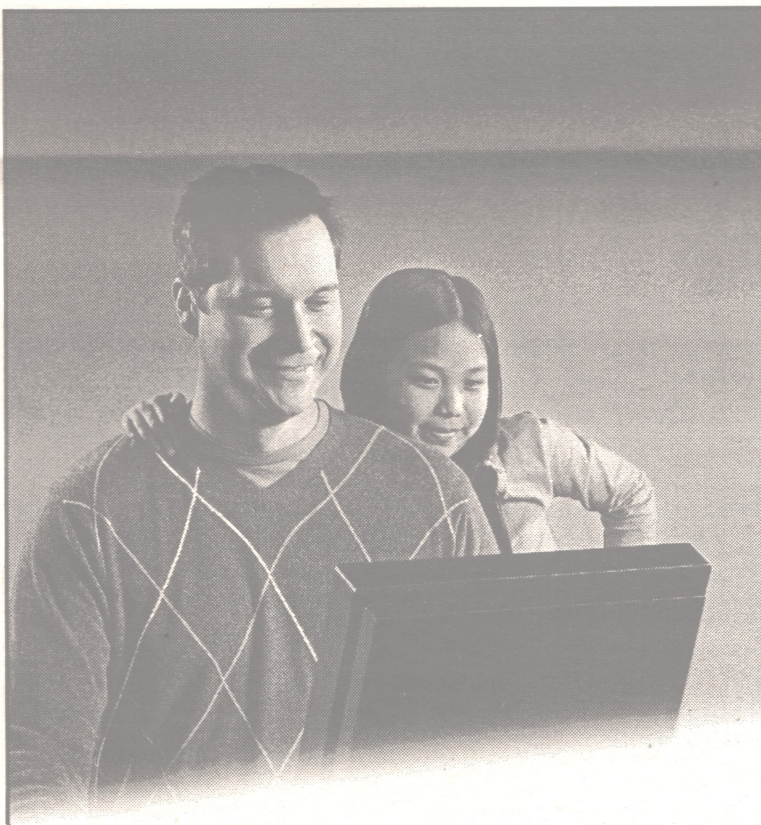
The competition is divided into two age groups. The younger group, aged 13 and under, are required to dance only one call. The older competitors are required to perform in two separate dance calls, one of which is a compulsory call.

At the conclusion of the competition, the dance floor is available for all in attendance, including spectators, to enjoy this 'old tyme' dance style.

The competition will be held at the Ormstown Recreation Center, on Roy Street, on Saturday, April 16th, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$6. (\$3 for children under 9 years of age)

Why not set this evening aside as an opportunity to watch some enthusiastic 4-H members 'strut their stuff' and thereby help to ensure

that this form of dancing will remain a part of our traditional culture and heritage.



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## Death and Taxes' unavoidable drama at the Saidye

By: Mary LeBlanc

Now I'm really in the mood to do my taxes. You think writers are creative? They're nothing compared to politicians and tax lawyers. Take Nathan Carter, the perfect example of a relatively new organism in the overall evolutionary timeline. He is tax-lawyer-without-a-conscience extraordinaire, a quickly spawning, highly resistant species hardier than the ancient cockroach. He is the product of sturdy breeding, the offspring of a corrupt government and a greedy, self-seeking society.

Carter is the fictitious creation of Guy Sprung, writer and director of *Death and Taxes*, produced by Infitheatre and currently playing at the Saidye Bronfman Centre in Montreal until April 10. Sprung says, "The characters are fictional, but I hope they are real." Be careful what you wish for Mr. Sprung, because as a former accountant, I can assure you they are all too real.

From the offshore accounts, to holding

companies in family members' names, to homes in the Bahamas (accompanying mistresses are optional), legal loopholes—or "making the taxpayers foot the bill" for the rich as Carter puts it—are common practices to avoid taxes in the business world. So is the moral self-delusion that escalates along with the deceptive practices.

What keeps the audience from falling into hopeless head-wagging is the intimate drama Sprung provides by getting into Carter's head as his morals decline and by showing what happens to those around him in the process.

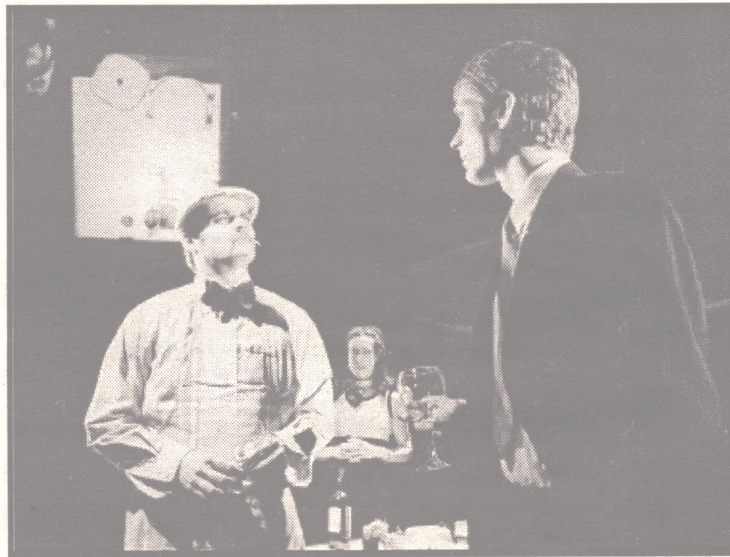
Clever multi-media backdrops don't hurt either. Three screens are hung at the back of the stage, but do not

detract from the actors' stage presence. Two actually enhance it by providing close-ups so viewers in the back can see facial

is certainly not new, Sprung has creatively developed an effective medium here, feeding the public with the image bombardment they are used to from modern television.

Eric Davis starts out very human as Nathan Carter, gradually slipping into the snake's skin and reasoning with his father-conscience as he does so. He does the slime ball very well as he proved in his portrayal of the tortured

and torturing prison guard, Valdez, in *Jesus Hopped the A Train* at the Centaur last fall. Davis is remarkable in subtle moral evolution—or more appropriately, devolution—as he ages about a decade in a few stage seconds. Anne Day-Jones and Andreas Apergis also do an admirable job of bringing



Andreas Apergis and Leni Parker study Eric Davis (right) playing Nathan Carter, a money hungry tax lawyer who takes greed and lust to their ultimate level in Guy Sprung's world premiere "Death and Taxes" now playing at the Saidye Bronfman Centre.

expressions much better. The third flashes snippets of headlines from 1967-1993 that not only help you travel the story's timeline, but remind you of the corruption rampant in Canadian government at the time, especially that of the Progressive Conservative Party. While the technology



Quebec corporate realities to life in their various supporting roles.

The best parts of *Death and Taxes* however are the multiple messages it offers up for discussion: the recognition of different tax laws for rich and poor, the cause & effect relationship between dishonest taxpayers and politicians who mispend the taxpayers' money entrusted to them, and the ultimate moral—what goes around, comes around. Too bad this last one doesn't happen more in real political and corporate life. It would be positively inspirational, especially in the midst of tax season. Unfortunately, unless real leadership comes to power, it doesn't look like we'll be seeing the death or taxes of cheaters for quite awhile. For a complete schedule, call the box office at 514-739-7944 or check their website, [www.saidyebronfman.org](http://www.saidyebronfman.org).

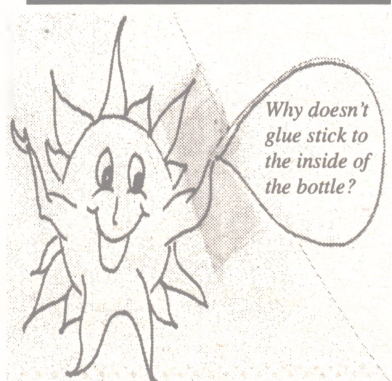
### Trío Trad at Centennial Theatre

Trío Trad, a trio of musicians as delicious as its famous chocolate has caused quite a stir on the musical scene. Centennial Theatre offers you a real treat to end its season of shows on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm!

Trío Trad is composed of Luc Pilartz on the fiddle and bagpipes, Aurélie Dorzée on the fiddle, and Didier Laloy on the diatonic accordion. Moved by their passion for folk music, these three musicians have been working together for nearly 6 years. Trío Trad's unique interpretations and refined arrangements cross the vast landscapes of Europe's musical traditions; deep melodies from

Scandinavia and Ireland, bourrées from Auvergne, haunting dances from Hungary and Bulgaria. However, they leave room for improvisations and their own compositions. Their music is beautiful and wild like those remote places that only have dreams as their frontiers.

For more information, contact the Centennial box office at



### Hatysa or l'Envers d'une étoile

To close this season's dance series, Centennial Theatre invites you to a celestial evening with the *Lucie Grégoire Danse* company and the choreography *Hatysa ou l'Envers d'une étoile*, on Tuesday, April 5th at 8:00 pm. A show filled with light which is a celebration of women promises to transport you to a universe somewhere between heaven and earth.

Renowned for her artistic integrity, the hypnotic beauty of her dances, and her picturesque staging, dancer-choreographer Lucie Grégoire occupies a unique place on today's contemporary dance scene.

Lucie Grégoire's repertoire is composed of more than twenty works that explore the female universe. With *Hatysa ou l'Envers d'une étoile*, she explores feminine energy and exposes its most subtle aspects. Gan, Maria Kéfirova, Sandra Lapierre, Zoë Poluch and Elise Vanderborcht.

On April 5th, a dance as devastating and contagious as a smoldering fire that spreads, explodes, and irradiates will transport you with delicate stellar nuances, sometimes fluid and sensual, other times strong and vibrant. A graceful and delightful way to end our dance season.

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JAMES LAROCHE

## Obituary of 'Common Sense'

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend by the name of Common Sense who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such value lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm and that life isn't always fair.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable parenting strategies (adults,

not kids, are in charge).

His health began to rapidly deteriorate when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student; but, could not

inform the parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Finally, Common Sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband; churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense finally gave up the ghost after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot, she spilled a bit in her lap, and was awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his

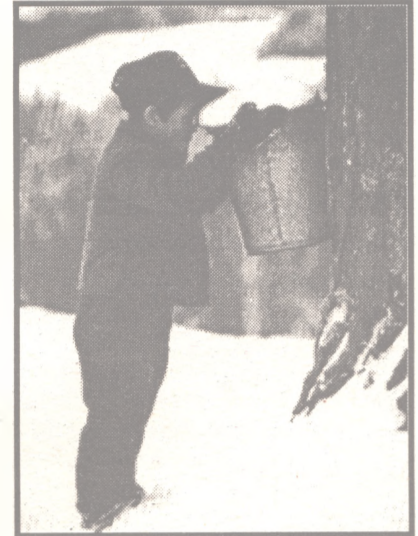
**Ben  
Dover  
says.....**



parents, Truth and Trust, his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason.

He is survived by two stepbrothers; "My Rights" and "Ima Whiner."

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.



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## The Rites of Spring

With spring in the air and a bounce in our walk we can all sigh with relief that we've made it through another frosty Quebec winter. Our homes feel it too, with the huge temperature changes that they experience during the course of a year. Spring is all about renewal, growth and rejuvenation; our houses need a good dose of freshness and more than a lick and a promise. This is the time to bring out the big guns; a good airing and scrub down will chase away that last lingering stuffy feeling of winter heating. Care regarding our indoor air quality is important. This year, why not try a couple of "home brews" rather than your commercial brand and be kind to the earth too? Please find below some low tech cleansers and a shopping list to get you started (many of the products will already be in your pantry).

### Shopping list:

Baking soda – odor absorbing, deodorizing, mild abrasive

Real lemons – an acid type cleaner for mineral buildup, tarnish and grease. Lemon juice is also a remarkable air freshener; add some to your cleaner

Borax – disinfects, deodorizes and inhibits mold growth

Vinegar – cuts grease, dissolves gummy buildups, inhibits mold growth, dissolves mineral accumulation, and freshens the air. The recipes in this article call for white vinegar

Washing soda – Cuts grease, cleans petroleum oils, cleans dirt. Washing soda is slightly caustic, I recommend wearing gloves when using this ingredient

Lavender essential oil –

has bacteria inhibiting properties

Tea tree oil – a broad spectrum fungicide and bactericide

A good practice all year round is to open the windows in your bedrooms and pull the covers down while you are showering and having breakfast. Make-up the beds when you are getting dressed and with the airing you have decreased the humidity and stuffiness in the room we spend 1/3 of our life in. The presence of allergens in our homes is not only related to ventilation. Temperature, humidity and cleanliness all play an important role. Dust mites love temperatures above 70 F with high levels of humidity caused by poor ventilation. Vacuuming, rather than sweeping, is another must; it keeps mites and dust from becoming airborne. Open those windows and keep bedrooms at a lower temperature than the rest of the house to keep your home comfortable and mite free.

### Baking soda scouring powder:

1- cup baking soda.

Place soda in a bowl. Dampen a sponge, scoop the baking soda up with it and rub onto the surface to be cleaned. Let the baking soda "rest" on the surface for a while to absorb odors, then rinse thoroughly. If you've used this before without the results you were looking for you were probably not using enough soda.

### Borax Cleaner and lavender – disinfectant

1- cup borax, 1- cup vinegar, two gallons hot water and a few drops of the essential oil of the antiseptic fragrant herb lavender.

Dissolve borax, along

with vinegar and a few drops of lavender, in very hot water and wash the surface using a mop or sponge, as appropriate. To make a stronger disinfectant solution, add more borax. Rinse thoroughly.

### Drain maintenance:

1- cup baking soda, 1- cup vinegar or lemon juice

The chemical interaction between baking soda and acid (vinegar or lemon juice) will make a lot of noise – just so you know! Pour the baking soda into the drain first and follow with the acid ingredient. Let the mixture "rest" (it will sound like Mt. Vesuvius) for 15 minutes before rinsing with hot tap water. You may want to put a rag over the drain to stop the action from coming back up out of the pipe. I've been called for this rescue remedy by friends in need!!!

### Clean windows:

For super sparkly windows use the vinegar method! Mix one part vinegar to nine parts water in a spray bottle. Spray sparingly on the glass and buff dry with paper towel or, using the traditional method, polish with scrunched up newspaper. The print is cheap and adds to the shine, however the ink can come off onto your hands- feel free to wear gloves. Very dirty windows can be cleaned with the addition of a little dishwashing soap to the vinegar mixture. This mix will need to be rinsed with warm water and polished dry.

## 'Home Matters' with April

April Donnelly-Arthur's writing/editing experience includes creator and editor of "The Frugal Forum", a newsletter devoted to Family, Frugality and Fun. She was also involved in the editing process at Rural Pathways, a newsletter that promoted the arts and culture in Quebec. She has created and taught many workshops, for children and adults primarily on the arts and creativity. April was involved in both the public and private sector in administration. Currently she is attending a 16 month course on Interior Decorating and Display.



### Mold can be prevented or removed by:

1. Exposure to sunlight
2. Eliminating moisture through fresh dry air, heat, a dehumidifier and removing the source of the problem
3. The application of antifungal agents such as borax or tea tree oil.

### Tips:

Label your "home brew" bottles with the content; it's easy to forget what is in that stray bottle

Try out your recipe on an inconspicuous spot, especially when using on clothing and textiles

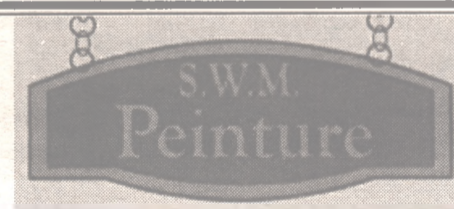
Cut up old cotton clothing for rags; you'll get to enjoy that favorite old t-shirt longer

Use old toothbrushes to get into those tight spots

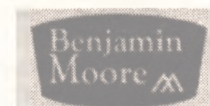
Never mix ammonia with bleach, dangerous fumes will result



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# DARE TO DREAM

From across the Milky Way I have come – each starry body a long lost home. Set in my heart is a reflecting mirror reminding me that I am a traveler of the spirit, centered in a soul's dominion." Watch Your Dreams by Ann Ree Colton

Dreams – your night visions - have a story to tell and a message to share. Are your dreams scary, maybe impossible to understand, or do you wake up in the morning with a memory that disappears into the mists with daylight? Do you wish you could remember your dreams? Perhaps if they made sense to you, you would heed them more closely.

Your dream world speaks a language called "symbology." In order to unravel the mystery of their message you need to be able to decipher what these symbols represent. I know there are a lot of dream dictionaries out there and many of them are quite good; however, dreams are intensely personal. For example, how do you feel about a spider? From the book "Watch Your Dreams" there are 15 different interpretations concerning spiders. Here is an interesting one:

"A spider in a web – the symbol of a danger of being over-gullible."

Now – this could be exactly what your dream of a spider in a web means, or it could also be read as "you are in a sticky situation," and also you are caught in a web of deception. Our dreams talk to us in this strong symbolic language that is utterly meaningless to many, resulting in most people brushing off their dreams as silly, an over active imagination, or just eating pizza before going to bed.

I ask you to look at your

night life in a broader way. We are conscious 24 hours a day; the difference is that when we fall asleep we enter into a different state of consciousness. As we shut down the outer senses – the rich inner world that we inhabit springs to life. Our brilliant brain busily organizes our daytime life into categories of emotions, lessons, insights and revelations. I call this our filing system. Next, all the experiences are fitted to similar situations and the dreams begin. Did you have a fight today with your boss? That night you could experience dreaming of a time when a teacher from your childhood gave you grief in school.

Have you ever dreamed of flying? I know this next statement will be hard to swallow for many but in actuality there is a part of us that separates from our body. I have really had this experience often and it is definitely not a dream. It is known as astral projection and countless people have done it. These experiences are what started me on my spiritual path more than 25 years ago. I kept waking up outside my body, sometimes just floating around my room looking at myself sleeping. Other times I would zoom outside and fly around. I was really freaked out at first and brushed it off as "just a dream" but it was too vivid and real to ignore. I started looking for explanations as to what was happening, and I was curious to see if anyone else went through this. Lo and behold – I discovered that it was a normal event that happened to many others since the dawn of humanities spiritual questing.

We are active at night and I for one like to know where I went and with whom I spent the night. Thus began my quest for dream understanding and my

burning desire and questions of my night visions demanded answers. And the answers came because when you ask a question of the universe – you always get a response. Dreams are fun once you learn to read the language that they are written upon in the realms of your dream world. How do you learn to interpret your dreams?

Always begin with writing down whatever you remember. Invest in some dream books to help you decipher your night visions. The most important role you play is the one of active participant of your adventures in the night. By paying attention to your dreams you invite the help that you need to understand what the language is trying to tell you. Of course you know that drugs and alcohol can interfere with healthy dreaming and can even produce nightmares. Keeping your bedroom clean and airy is also important, and it is definitely not a good idea to go to sleep with the T.V. on, that will pour negative energy into you.

So – please look at your dream word as one that invites you to enter into a realm of unlimited and infinite knowledge. It is here that you can fly, be a King or a Queen, or visit different spaces and ancient times. Your dreams await you – Good Night and sweet dreams.

### MIRACLES & MYSTERIES

The following is an excerpt from "Climb the Highest Mountain" – The Path of The Higher Self By Mark & Elizabeth Clare Prophet.

"Above all, having received retain Whate'er gift God hath given unto thee.

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e-mail: [rattigan@rocler.qc.ca](mailto:rattigan@rocler.qc.ca)

That ere the sun set each day thou shalt have cleansed thy being

Of all perceptions vain and hapless and readied thyself through eventide,

To enter into immortal peace.

In the hours of the night while thy body sleeps – To dream the immortal dream

And to be one who gathers

of the flame of God's spirit in greater measure

And fullness that as the new day breaketh

Thy energies, made holy and pure, rising as the incense of devotion

Shall invoke for all who are thy friends of light

Some new miracle of consciousness."

### DREAM DIARY KIT ORDER FORM

This Dream Diary Kit contains all you need to become a "dreamer." The Dream Diary contains an introductory section on understanding your dream world, and a unique system of writing up your dreams. The Rainbow Night Light Pen lights up with 7 soft colors that allow you to write up the dream without turning on a light and the Dream Pillow Herbal Sachet is filled with gentle and natural herbs that help you sleep and dream. This kit also comes with a lovely ribbon bookmarker.

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## A FRANKLIN COUNTY, NEW YORK FISHERMAN'S DIARY

If you're a trout fisherman looking for new waters in which to wet a line then I have some great news for you.

Franklin County, New York is a trout fisherman's dream come true. With over 227 miles of stream and rivers as well as over 15,000 acres of lakes and ponds the trout fishing has to be experienced to be believed.

Two state of the art fish hatcheries are located within its' boundaries, one in Chateaugay, New York and the other at the Saranac

Inn. These two hatcheries furnish a never endings supply of Rainbow Trout, Splake, Kokanee Salmon, Landlocked Salmon, Brown Trout and Brook Trout.

Licenses and fishing regulations can be acquired from Town and County Clerks, bait and tackle shops, local sporting goods stores, some state campgrounds and The Department of Environmental Conservation Regional Office in Raybrook, New York.

Fishermen and their families will find accommodations to suit

everyone's taste at the more than 100 lodging facilities throughout the area. If you are a camper, there are 16 campgrounds with over 1,500 sites in Franklin County. Many are located directly on some of the best angling waters.

Fishing in Franklin County, New York has

west wind blowing directly into my face. To make things even colder there was so much water coming over the chute of the dam that there was a spray being carried in my direction by the strong west wind.

But no matter, I was in my glory. I had caught and released over 40 beautiful

on to one real behemoth trout. About 5 seconds later a huge Brown Trout catapulted out of the water, shook his head and started off downstream.

I had a good hook set and he was still hooked, so off I went downstream as fast as I could go.

After about a 5

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*Mark Stevenson with a trophy brown trout caught in one of the many trout rivers in Franklin County.*

something to offer for almost everyone.

Whether you're an experienced fly fisherman in pursuit of trophy sized Brown and Rainbow Trout or a simple worm and bobber fisherman or anything in between, you're sure to find what you're looking for in Franklin County, New York. Let me share with you a few entries from my 2004 fishing diary.

**April 1<sup>st</sup> - 2004:** I was fishing below the dam at Brainardsville, New York on the Chateaugay River. The temperature was hovering around 9 or 10 degrees Celsius and there was a stiff

Brook Trout ranging in size from 8 to 14 inches and I was having the time of my life.

After about an hour the wind started to pick up and was really howling. I decided to keep the next 5 Brookies I caught and call it a day. It took about 5 minutes to catch 4 keeper size brookies and all I needed was one more.

I threw my small trout worm baited hook into a large eddy where I had been catching all my Brookies from, when all of a sudden my line went taut and the drag on my reel started to scream. Either I had hooked onto a floating log or I was

minute chase we ended up in a fair sized pool. I now had room to manoeuvre and play the fish and after a see-saw battle that lasted about 20 minutes I managed to bring the big Brown into shore and scooped him into my trout net. What a prize! Five and a half pounds of gleaming Brown Trout, twenty two inches in length. Truly a fish of a lifetime. I was soaked, cold and there wasn't a happier trout fisherman in all of Franklin County.

**May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004:** I was fishing the Salmon River near Westville and it was one of those days when you just couldn't do anything wrong. I was using a tiny 1/16 oz.,

1 1/2 inch long CISCO Lure in a Blue Shiner Hologram Finish and the trout were smashing it like they hadn't eaten in weeks.

I had been fishing since 4:00 p.m. and it was now almost 6:20 p.m. I had 2 Browns in my cooler about 3 pounds each and I had released about 20 medium size Rainbows and Browns. This was the kind of fishing that many people pay thousands of dollars to fly up to some remote fishing camp in Alaska or the Northwest Territories, and I was experiencing this fantastic fishing a 45 minute drive from my home in Ormstown, Quebec and my only cost was the purchase of a \$40.00 U.S. non-resident fishing permit.

About 7:00 p.m. the bugs were starting to get pesky so I decided to keep the next trout I caught and head home. I aimed my lure just at the edge of the fast water and it had no sooner hit the water when there was a huge swirl and it was literally engulfed in a rushing vacuum of water.

This was one big son of a gun of a trout. It took out 50 yards of line in a few seconds and then reversed direction and surged back upstream. I reeled frantically not wanting to give the fish any slack.

He knew every trick in the book, now he was trying to get into the fast water where the presence of the rushing current would make it doubly hard to keep him hooked. I decided to try and snub him up and hope that my 8 lb. test line would stand the strain.

I was extremely

lucky, the line held. I managed to tire him out and after 2 more blistering runs and 2 more spectacular hook throwing leaps I managed to bring him to my waiting net. A six pounds, 23 1/2 inch male Adirondack Rainbow Trout in all its natural glory. What a prize!

*For more information on fishing in Franklin County, New York contact the Franklin County Tourism Office at 1-800-709-4895.*



## Townships Outdoors

by

John Viau



*Peter and Nancy Williams proudly displaying a beautiful trout caught below the dam on Lake Chateaugay.*



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## Masked Marauder

The Northern Shrike is another winter visitor from the extreme northern reaches of the continent but, unlike great gray and snowy owls, is often not welcomed with the oohs and aahs common to owl irruptions when it shows up. It's nickname "butcher bird" reflects the usual perception of the winter feeder watcher when a shrike sets up in the neighborhood. Terrorizing the popular small winter feeder birds is the Shrike's livelihood.

A blue-gray, black and white bird a little smaller than a Blue Jay, the Shrikes I have seen around my feeder seem at first glance to resemble the Blue Jay, both in appearance and flight pattern. Instant flight of all the feeder birds results from the arrival of a Shrike. The Shrike will plunge from a high perch and chase down chickadees like a bat from hell, dispatching the small bird with a killing strike from

its hooked beak. Unlike raptors, the shrike has small weak feet. It must lodge its prey in a crotch of a bush or impale it on a thorn or barbed wire to enable the food to be torn into pieces small enough to be swallowed.

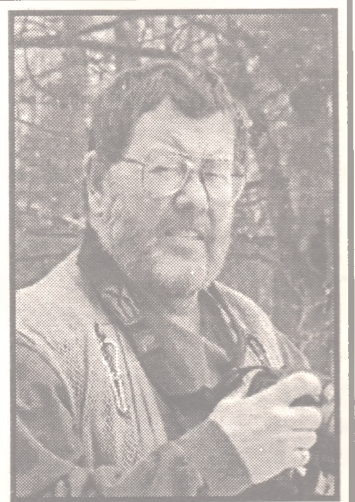


Caches of food (small birds, rodents or insects) impaled on thorns or other sharp protrusions are a sure sign of Shrike habitation. The reason for this behavior is the subject of much conjecture. Some scientists

believe it is simply a means of storing food against future shortage but other studies link the size and scope of a male Shrike's larder with the bird's attractiveness to the opposite sex.

imitating the calls of their small songbird cousins (just like a birdwatcher!). When the curious goldfinch or nuthatch approaches, trying to locate the source of the song, the Shrike jumps it from close range.

Seemingly cruel, the Shrike's behavior is just another piece of "nature's rich pageant" as a friend used to say. The small number of songbirds a Shrike will kill are inconsequential in the greater scheme of things and its uniqueness and scarcity make an interesting winter occurrence.



Tom Moore

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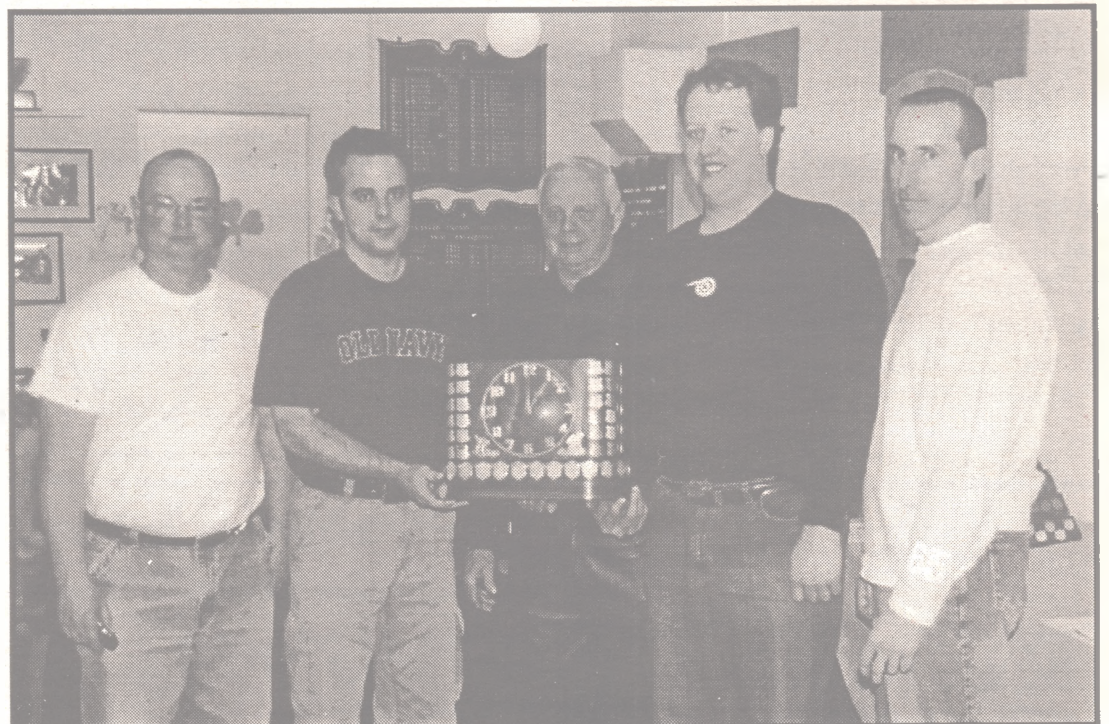
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The Lennoxville Invitational 'Pie' Bonspiel, held between March 13 and 19, saw 20 Senior and 24 Regular teams compete. The Nichol Trophy was won by a team from Asbestos. Left to right are: Bruce Radey, André Larochelle, John Nichol (donor of the trophy), Paul Lodge and Shawn Fowler.

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# English Community News

For our non-profit organizations of Quebec

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## LENNOXVILLE-ASCOT HISTORICAL MUSEUM SOCIETY

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## Bulwer

Annual Brunch for the benefit of the Compton County Historical Museum Society, Sunday, April 17th., 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Bulwer Community Center. Menu to include sausages, pancakes and maple syrup, scalloped potatoes, scrambled eggs, doughnuts, coffee and juice

## Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network

### What is QAHN?

The Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network(QAHN) is a non-profit, non-partisan umbrella organization whose mission is to help advance knowledge of the history and culture of English-speaking society in Quebec.

The Network aims:

- to encourage cooperation and improve communications among members; and
- to assist them in obtaining resources and related services for their activities and facilities.

How to Join...

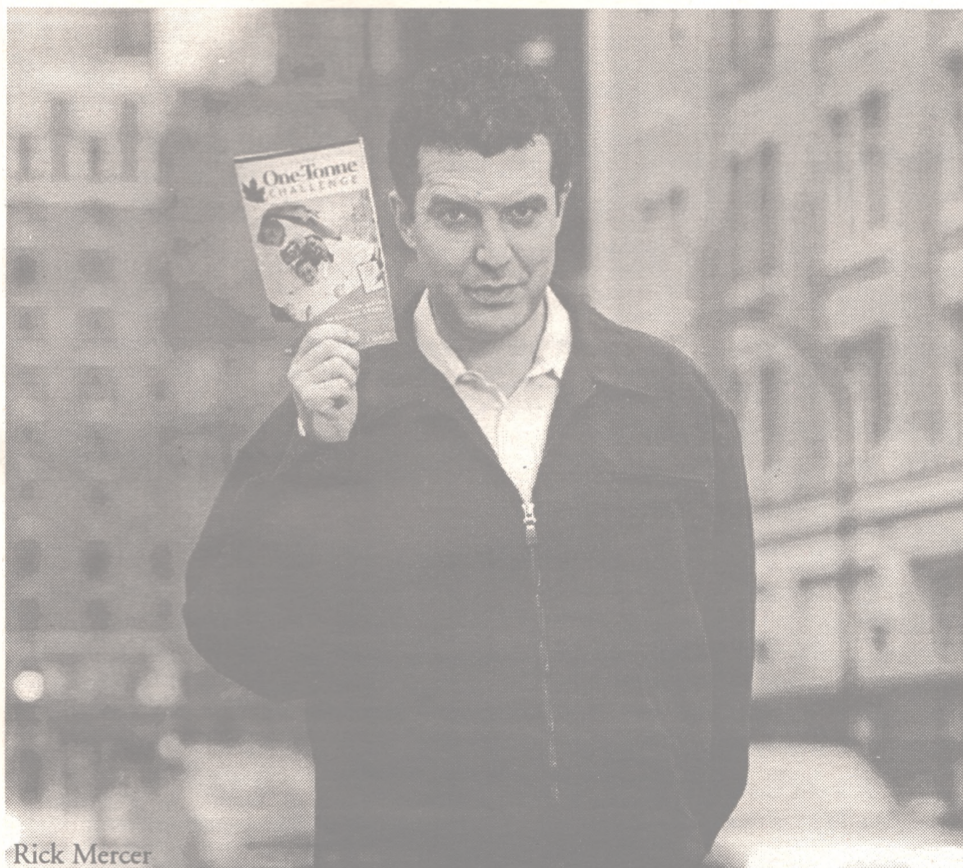
Visit our website at [www.qahn.org](http://www.qahn.org). or contact us at (819) 564-9595, or by mail at 400-257 Queen Street, Lennoxville, Quebec, J1M 1K7

## Taoist Tai Chi

Beginner and Continuing classes held every Wednesday, until Apr. 27

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Rick Mercer

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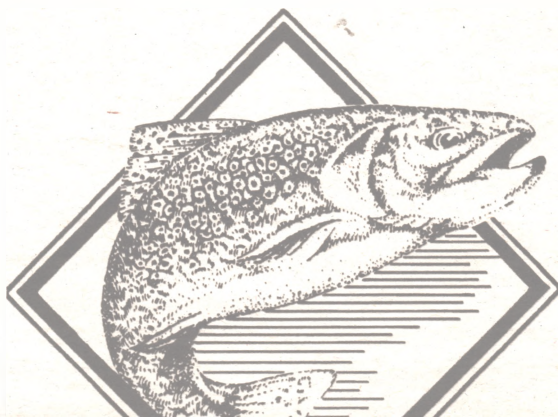
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