



THE EQUITY

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The voice of the Pontiac since 1883

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88 cents

Those were the days

Carole St-Aubin, THE EQUITY
Otter Lake resident Gerry Bimm, left, and Ron Girard of Ladysmith set up a classic line-up of 1960 and 1964 Bombardiers as well as a 1966 Moto ski and a 1971 Arctic Cat at the Vintage Sled Show held at Campbell's Polaris in Shawville on Saturday.



CAROLE ST-AUBIN
 Equity Editor
SHAWVILLE • It may not have been the greatest winter to hit the trails, but for anyone with an interest in snowmobiles the opportunity to stay connected to the sport and the machines presented itself at the Vintage Sled Show hosted at Campbell's Polaris on Saturday.

As participants continually streamed into the yard to display their machines, a wide variety of makes and models were being lined up for the judging. Prizes were being awarded in several categories including Best of Show, Best Restored, People's Choice, Best Race Classes, and Best Original. Though there was no specific class for Jeremy Kluge's custom 1971 Elan 500cc camouflaged sled, he said he had previously entered the machine in an Eganville show.

and 1964 Bombardiers as well as a 1966 Moto ski and 1971 Arctic Cat. "I'm one of the guys who started the show in Eganville, there aren't many shows in the area, but it's now one of the biggest. I told Steve (Gilpin) I'd give him tips and help him get one started in the area, but I've been an organizer of these events for so long I've never really had the chance to show in them until now," Bimm told THE EQUITY. When asked if he was pleased with the turnout, Bimm replied, "So far so good."

expensive sport so now I restore them instead. Plus it's a lot easier to get parts for these older machines than it is for newer ones," said Campbell, who's family gained a certain level of expertise in the field after having owned Campbell's Polaris for more than 25 years. "I didn't think it would be this interesting to learn the history of the machines, on everything like the manufacturing, for instance this was the 180th machine that was manufactured in Pointe Claire according to the serial number. And even the paint has a history, though it was basically whatever tractor paint they had left over," said Campbell, obviously enraptured with his new hobby.

Former Bryson Mayor Al Davis entered his 1980 289-cc Ski-Doo Citation, stating he had no problem starting the machine even though it hadn't been started in five years. "It's still in great shape," said Davis, who said he was enjoying the great variety of machines at the show. One of the rarest sleds entered was a 1968 Diablo Rouge 500 owned by Jeff Campbell of Quyon. "I bought it two weeks ago from the original owner, Nick Matechuk who bought it in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. in 1968, though it was manufactured right here in Quebec (Pointe Claire)," Campbell stated.

entries plus the people who were set up on location to sell parts, I'd say it was a very successful attendance for a first show," said Gilpin, adding that though it has been a learning experience he hopes to continue organizing the event on a yearly basis. Trophy winners in the following classes were as follows:
Best Race Sled winner was Willie Dodds of Bristol.
Best Restored Sled winner was Tim Clouthier.
Best Original Sled was awarded to Gerry Bimm.
Rarest Sled winner was Rob Buelow.
Best of Show was awarded to Willie Dodds.
People's choice winner was Darryl Schneider of Pembroke.

"If everything goes well we'll try to make this an annual event," said Gilpin, adding that some of the entrants were from far away, "a few of them said they had been on the road since 1:30 a.m. to get here."

He explained that the judges remained secret. "Like a secret Santa," he joked, adding that it was the best way to avoid any situation that might arise if they were known to the competitors.

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Countdown to April 1

ANDREA CRANFIELD
 Equity Reporter
PONTIAC • It has been a long time coming trying to figure out what should become of the Pontiac's garbage. Now a plan has been put in place and as of April 1, everything will change.

and with the contract there is a definite place for the garbage to go for five years. The 18 municipalities in Pontiac all had to sign the contract with Lachute. It also worked out that the five-year contract would save Pontiac money in the long run.

The Ministry of Environment ordered that all in-trench dumps in the Pontiac region be shut down meaning that another solution had to be found for what to do with all the waste.

The Quebec municipal government ordered the dumpsites be closed down for sanitary reasons.

All garbage will now be taken to the Lachute Landfill site just outside of Montreal, about 2.5 hours away. Tom Orr, representing Tom Orr Cartage, is in charge of the garbage from the Pontiac region.

"They shut them down to protect our water supply. And dumps aren't supposed to burn but they do," Richardson said. "They're gross."

"The Ministry of Environment's rule has been in effect for a few years. We are the last in the area to still have in-trenched landfill sites," Orr said. "The law was implemented by the government; they've been telling us for ten years it was going to happen. We knew it was coming but we didn't know when. It was inevitable."

Tom Orr explained "We know it's cheaper to burn it (garbage) in a hole in the ground but it's not healthy."

Orr's tender of the collection, transportation and disposal of Pontiac waste was accepted in October. His company is responsible for getting the garbage from Pontiac to the landfill site.

Graham Hawley, mayor of Otter Lake said that people were opposed to the Danford Lake Dump and now it seems ironic that we are shipping garbage to someone else's backyard. The Danford Lake Dump was a proposed landfill site in the Pontiac that was rejected in June.

Orr said Lachute was pretty much his only choice when deciding where to go after the dumps in Pontiac were ordered to be closed. It was either Lachute, Ste. Sophie Landfill located in Ste. Sophie, QC or New York state.

"It's sad. I don't feel we should have to ship garbage to someone else's backyard just like someone else shouldn't be shipping garbage to our backyard," he said.

Lachute was the obvious logical choice, and they gave me the best price I could get so that's who I chose," Orr said.

Hawley would have liked to see a regional solution put in place.

He said using the landfill in New York was cheaper but when added with the transportation costs, it worked out to the same price as Lachute. He'd also heard talk that there could be new laws about the U.S. not accepting waste from across the border.

"How come the people in Lachute aren't saying 'We don't want the Pontiac's garbage?'" he asked.

Mike McCrank, Pontiac Warden and mayor of Litchfield said that Lachute is just too far to be driving garbage to all the time.

Ben Young, was recently hired at Tom Orr's Cartage as a waste consultant, and said that there is a transportation cost to get rid of garbage now that works out to roughly ten cents per pound of garbage.

"What's the difference between burning garbage in a hole and burning diesel in a truck to take garbage all the way to Montreal?" he asked.

He said the new way of doing everything is actually really simple. Orr has a waste transfer station set up on 7th Line in Clarendon. People can bring their garbage there and from there it gets transported to Lachute.

Kari Richardson, environmental coordinator at the Pontiac CLD said that after the government ordered that all dumps be shut down, Lachute was the closest place that would accept all the garbage from Pontiac. It's also in Quebec, it can handle all the garbage coming out of Pontiac and they agreed to sign a five-year contract.

The only difference is now the garbage is weighed at the transfer station and garbage has never had to be weighed before.

The five-year contract is essentially because of space. Other landfill sites wouldn't accept the amount of garbage Pontiac produces

Also some municipalities still have door-to-door pick-up. And some municipalities have a garbage transfer station in that municipality where garbage will be picked up and transferred to the transfer station on 7th Line.

"We're accepting garbage from all 18 municipalities and within 12 hours it will be shipped directly to Lachute. We're taking it from all municipalities and loading it into a bigger truck which is easier to transport," Young said.

The pickup trucks from the municipalities and transfer stations collect the garbage and then drive to the transfer station. There is a state-of-the-art scale there and trucks drive directly onto the scale to be weighed.

Head-on shuts down highway



The aftermath of a head-on collision that occurred on Hwy. 148 west of Braun Road in the Municipality of Pontiac on Feb. 25 in the Breckenridge sector.

CAROLE ST-AUBIN
 Equity Editor
PONTIAC • A head-on collision occurred at approximately 7 a.m. on Hwy. 148 west of Braun Road in the Municipality of Pontiac on Thursday, Feb. 25 causing the closure of the highway in the Breckenridge sector while the area was being cleared.

control of his car during poor weather conditions, causing him to plow head-on into the oncoming pick-up truck. The Municipality of Pontiac Fire Department assisted with the use of the jaws of life to free the victim from his vehicle. The man suffered serious but non-life threatening injuries to the lower part of his body, he was transported by ambulance to the Hull

Hospital. The 43-year-old driver of the pick-up truck from the Municipality of Pontiac was also transported to Hull Hospital where he was treated for minor injuries. In addition to poor driving conditions, police believe the failure to adjust speed during the already difficult circumstances to be the contributing causes of the accident.

Skaters spiral into town

CAROLE ST-AUBIN
 Equity Editor

SHAWVILLE • More than 15 skating clubs from the Outaouais and Eastern Ontario including Deep River, Rockland, Pembroke, Eganville, Maniwaki, Hull and Gatineau took part in the annual Winter Invitational skating competition at the Shawville Arena on Saturday and Sunday. Skaters of all ages and skill levels flocked onto the ice to compete in a host of different categories including elements, team elements, couple introduction, interpretation and dance in debutant, intermediates, and junior ranks. Some of the categories that have seen a newly-sparked interest at this year's competition according to registrar Tara Peck, are the couples and the boys' class with two entries. Former Shawville Figure Skating Club member Kylie Beck who skated for more than 15 years on Shawville ice said she



started judging about five years ago because she enjoys helping with the kids. When asked if she found it rewarding to be there as a judge Beck answered, "I really enjoy seeing the improvement from the previous year and seeing these young skaters develop their skills."

If she had any advice to give them Beck said she'd tell them not to hold back, to practice and work hard in order to achieve their best. She explained how the levels of competition were not defined by age but rather by skill level, and gave a brief overview of the judging criteria for the different categories.

"In the elements category we judge bunny hops, cross cuts, axels, lutz jump and toe loops," said Beck. Whereas in the interpretation category, Beck explained that it is on the quality of the skating, how the skaters follow the music, how they dress, the theme of their program, the originality, composition, structures, the rhythm and variation of skating elements that they used that are being judged.

Please see SKATE page two

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Spaghetti-rific



Antoine Lagarde, two-and-a-half-years-old, enjoys his spaghetti supper at the ESSC high school in Fort Coulonge on Feb. 19. The supper was a fundraiser for 50 graduating students to help them lower their costs for a trip to New York at the end of the year. About 300 people came out to the event and about \$3,000 was raised.

SKATE: Various skatings skills demonstrated

Continued from front page
 "Each club hosting a competition gets to pick the elements from the Skate Canada regulation book, though the solos are up to each individual coach so long as they follow the rules and guidelines," Peck explained.

Beck also judges during testing, which occurs when a group of kids are ready to advance to a higher level, to do so they must successfully perform before a panel of judges.

Beck believes her many years of experience as a skater has lent to her skills as a judge, which she does on a volunteer basis.

"I am more understanding; I went through all of that so I know what it's like."

Added Beck, "I've always liked the sport and wanted to remain involved."



A wide variety of skating skills were displayed at the Winter Invitational held at the Shawville Arena on Saturday, where skaters of all ages and skill levels had the opportunity to compete.

Community donations



The Shawville United Church celebrated its 175th anniversary this past year. Throughout the year the church held special activities to raise money for various charities. On Feb. 19 Brianna Marshall, left, and Samantha Dehaan, second from left, from the youth centre The Garage and Grace Younge, third from left, and Erin Rousseau, fourth from left, who were in a church play accept a cheque for the Garage. John Musgrove, centre, from the Lions Club, Kate Younge, third from right, Tessa Corrigan, second from right, and Alana Desabrais, right, who were also in the church play accept a cheque for the dialysis unit. There was upwards of \$350,000 raised from church activities throughout the year.

First annual Seniors' Fair takes place and breaks the walls of silence

ANDREA CRANFIELD
 Equity Reporter

BRYSON • On Feb. 24 the first annual Seniors Fair 2010: *Breaking the Walls of Silence* took place. And there was absolutely nothing silent about it. About 400 people crammed into the Bryson Forest Inn along Hwy. 148 and there was barely a place to stand.

25 kiosks filled the building offering goods and services for seniors. Kiosks included the Pontiac Day Centre, the Alzheimer's Society, the Health Care Centre, SmartCare, Vie Active, and Shawville Shoe Shop.

There were also special presentations given by Philips Lifeline, Vieactive, the Alzheimer's Society and Service Canada, all useful sources for seniors.

Serena Larivière, the recreation technician for the health centre was one of the organizers of the event and she said she never expected so many people to come out.

"It's a huge success. In fact the plans are for next year to move the event into a bigger hall," she said.

It took about a month and a half to organize the event. There was a federal grant available for \$24,000 that Mont D'Or applied for and ended up getting it. So a committee was born and they had to decide what to do with the money.

Larivière said she had seen seniors' fairs in Hull and she thought it was a good idea to replicate it. So the committee decided to have a fair in Pontiac. They chose Bryson because it was central.

"Our main goal is to inform seniors of the Pontiac what exists out there. We want to keep them informed, we want them to get out and we want to break isolation," Larivière said.

Seniors were given a free lunch, and transportation was provided free from every town in the Pontiac. They were also given a tote bag when they came in with helpful information. There were many volunteers that helped to put on the event.

"The purpose was to get them out, get them informed, give them lunch, make sure they could get here free of charge and we've done that and we've gone through about 400 people," Larivière said.

SmartCare was one of the booths at the event. SmartCare is in a sense a travel store for seniors. The

business was started 19 years ago by Rossie Smart and then a SmartCare store was opened in Shawville five years after that.

SmartCare offers specially clothing, accessories and equipment for seniors. Sandy Smart, the owner's son, said his mother started the business to help make life easier for seniors.

His parents travel to different nursing homes, retirement centers and specialized care centers selling items to seniors. They carry adaptive clothing and equipment for seniors, for example clothes that undo easily for diapers, urinals

for women, curly shoelaces that don't need to be tied up and two-piece clothing that looks like a one piece. "When seniors are at the hospital they have nothing

but a hospital gown on and it takes away their dignity," Doreen Davis, a friend of Rossie's said. "So we give them clothes that adapt. For example a nightgown with an opening in the back. But you'd never know there was an opening. It gives them back their dignity."

Davis said there is a definite need for a store like SmartCare in the Pontiac and she thought the fair was a great idea.

Sandy said Larivière called the store and asked if they would like to be involved with the fair.

"I think it's a really good idea to let people know what's here and what's available," Sandy said. "It's hard for seniors to find out what's out there and where things are located."

One senior who attended

the fair, who wishes to remain anonymous, said there was a lot of information but it was a lot to take in at once.

"If you're a senior and you get this all poured into your head, you'd be in a real muddle," he exclaimed.

There was an awful lot going on and some seniors said it was confusing trying to find out when the presentations were and they also said they were hoping to get information on certain subjects that wasn't available.

Mildred Horner was one of the attendees and she said it was very nice of the organizers to have an event like this. She also liked the idea of the presentations.

"I'm enjoying it and I think it was a really good idea to have something of this sort," she said.

March 3, 2010
HAPPY 70th BIRTHDAY
 Our very special Sister-in-law Marj
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 Bernice and Lora

Onslow Elementary presents
St. Patrick's Variety Concert
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 All proceeds to the Grade 6 Graduating Class

Chloe Elizabeth Trudeau
 Lance Trudeau and Jessica Ballard are proud to announce the arrival of their baby girl, Chloe, born on April 28, 2009, weighing 6 lbs. 10 oz. at the Shawville hospital. A little sister for brother Owen. Proud grandparents are Robert and BettyLou Trudeau, Pat and Barb Racine, of Shawville. Great-grandparents are Don and Bev Stanley, Roland and Dorothy Trudeau, of Quyon, Barb Ballard of Niagara Falls, Jean and Lionel Racine of Otter Lake.

It's time to Party on March 4th
 Happy 18th Birthday "Jodie"
 Love Dad, Mom and family

Foire des Aîné(e)s 2010 'Briser le mur du silence'
 De la part du Mont d'Or, du Centre de Santé et de Services Sociaux Pontiac, TransporAction et de la Maison de la Famille, nous aimerions remercier les présentateurs de kiosques et les groupes de bénévoles qui ont aidés au succès de la journée. Un gros merci aux plus de 300 participants à travers le Pontiac. Sans votre intérêt continu, cette journée ne serait pas possible. Un remerciement spécial à M. Brian Stanton qui a donné l'Auberge de la Forêt gratuitement pour la journée.

Seniors' Fair 2010 'Breaking the Walls of Silence'
 On behalf of the Mont d'Or, the Pontiac Health Centre, TransporAction and la Maison de la Famille Pontiac, we would like to thank all the kiosk presenters as well as the volunteer groups who helped make this day possible. A special thanks to the over 300 participants throughout the Pontiac. Without your continued interest, this day would not have been possible. A very special thank you to Mr. Brian Stanton who donated the Forest Inn for the day free of charge.

A special thank you to the McDowell Retired Teachers and Staff Olympic Revival Committee who have donated their time so that McDowell students could experience and celebrate in the Spirit of the Olympics.
 McDowell Staff and Students

Journée internationale de la femme - 8 mars
 International Women's Day - March 8

En tant que présidente des Femmes parlementaires du Commonwealth pour la section canadienne, j'encourage et j'aide les femmes à bâtir une meilleure société en se présentant aux élections tant au niveau municipal, provincial ou fédéral.

As chair of the Commonwealth Women's Parliamentarians representing the Canada section, I encourage women to help build a better society by running for public office at the municipal, provincial or federal level.

Charlotte L'Écuyer
 Députée de Pontiac
 MNA for Pontiac

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MOIS DE LA NUTRITION
MARS MARCH

Présenté par / Presented by: **QUÉBEC EN FORME** **PONTIAC**

Source: Santé Canada / Health Canada

QUELS TYPES D'ALIMENTS FAUT-IL CHOISIR ?
 Les types d'aliments consommés sont aussi importants que les quantités. Le Guide alimentaire canadien renferme des énoncés d'orientation relatifs aux aliments spécifiques à choisir dans chaque groupe alimentaire. Parmi les recommandations visant à orienter les choix d'aliments, mentionnons:

- Mangez au moins un légume vert foncé et un légume orange chaque jour.
- Consommez des légumes et des fruits de préférence aux jus.
- Consommez au moins la moitié de vos portions de produits céréaliers sous forme de grains entiers.
- Bovez chaque jour du lait écrémé ou du lait 1% ou 2% M.G.
- Consommez souvent des substituts de la viande comme des légumineuses ou du tofu.
- Consommez au moins deux portions du Guide alimentaire de poisson chaque semaine.
- Consommez une petite quantité de lipides insaturés chaque jour.
- Buvez de l'eau pour éliminer votre soif.

De plus, le Guide alimentaire canadien encourage les gens à choisir des aliments plus faibles en lipides, sucre et sel. Parmi les recommandations visant à encourager de tels choix, mentionnons:

- Choisissez des légumes et des fruits préparés avec peu ou pas de matières grasses, sucre ou sel.
- Choisissez des produits céréaliers plus faibles en lipides, sucre ou sel.
- Choisissez des substituts du lait plus faibles en matières grasses.
- Choisissez des viandes maigres et des substituts préparés avec peu ou pas de matières grasses ou sel.
- Limitez votre consommation d'aliments et boissons riches en calories, lipides, sucre ou sel.

WHAT TYPE OF FOOD SHOULD YOU CHOOSE?
 The type of food that you eat is just as important as the amount. Canada's Food Guide provides direction on specific foods to choose within each food group.

Your choices should include:

- Eating at least one dark green and one orange vegetable each day.
- Having vegetables and fruit more often than juice.
- Making at least half of your grain products whole grain each day.
- Drinking skim, 1% or 2% milk each day.
- Having meat alternatives such as beans, lentils and tofu often.
- Eating at least two Food Guide Servings of fish each week.
- Including a small amount of unsaturated fat each day.
- Satisfying your thirst with water.

In addition, Canada's Food Guide encourages you to choose foods lower in fat, sugar and salt. **Guidance to support these choices includes:**

- Choose vegetables and fruit prepared with little or no added fat, sugar or salt.
- Choose grain products that are lower in fat, sugar or salt.
- Select lower fat milk alternatives.
- Select lean meat and alternatives prepared with little or no added fat or salt.
- Limit foods and beverages high in calories, fat, sugar, or salt.

Eat well and be active today and every day!

Correction
 Incorrect information appeared in the February 24 issue of THE EQUITY. It was members of the Bryson Lions Club who participated in the rock-a-thon. THE EQUITY apologizes for the error.

A gathering of strengths — guests providing information

CAROLE ST-AUBIN

Equity Editor
SHAWVILLE • Every year the Pontiac Women's Institute organize an information day. Their invited guests broach a variety of different subjects of interest to the 50 women who gathered to hear them speak at the United Church in Shawville on Feb. 17.

This year's line up of speakers included Tammy Alexander who gave an ion cleansing demonstration.

She explains travel through the body quickly and attach themselves to toxic substances in our bodies. Alexander demonstrated how it may be possible to neutralize pain and symptoms caused by the build-up of toxins in the body.

The detoxification footbath she demonstrated was impressive to members of the audience, including Elizabeth Kelly, a full-time nurse who travelled from Allumette Island for the Women's Institute's annual event.

Kelly liked the idea that Alexander does a complete history sheet on each individual before they try the ionic footbath.

She was especially drawn to the benefits of the footbath which included feeling relaxed, that it was cleansing and that helps to detoxify the body by means of using the feet in the footbath as exit ports.

Alexander recommends only one treatment per week (which lasts approximately 45 minutes) to help detoxify the liver and kidneys.

According to Alexander, the ion cleanse is effective in treating symptoms that include those of fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue, migraine headaches, anxiety, insomnia, muscle and joint pain and general malaise.

When the treatment is finished she cleans the feet with water and towel dries them before applying organic lotions as she massages

the feet.

Kelly enjoyed the natural approach to preventative health care and says she'd attend these informative sessions again in the future.

The next speaker, Eleanor Keon addressed the subject of alopecia.

She began by sharing her personal experience and said she thought she was dying of some horrible disease when her hair started falling out in clumps.

It happened in a short period of time, but the psychological impact it had on her life was longer-lasting. Keon, a Renfrew school teacher says she didn't have time to react; she had to put on a bandana and go to school. It happened on a Friday and she had to go to class on Monday.

Afraid that everyone would know she says she was relieved when no one had noticed.

Keon says she went through a grieving process, "I felt so alone, withdrawn and isolated."

"After all a woman's hair is her trophy," she stated. The first wig she bought she recalled, was atrocious, and it came with a hefty price tag of \$478.

It was through internet support groups and magazines that Keon says she finally found a wig website where beautiful wigs were sold at a fraction of the price.

The wigs she found looked so natural that even hairdressers had difficulty telling she was wearing a wig.

"All the wigs have names, and later I'll introduce you to Vicky," Keon explained to a chuckling crowd. Dealing with this disease hasn't been easy for Keon who says it has been challenging to say the least.

"The toughest part I think was explaining it to my grandchildren for some reason," Keon explained.

But when putting them to

bed that night she said it was when the youngest of the three said, "Grandma, me love you hair no hair," a sentiment that was soon echoed by her other two grandchildren that she began to deal with it a bit better.

In a display Keon showcased the other ways people had of dealing with the disease, including getting their scalps, eyebrows, or eyeliner tattooed. The later two being something she herself had experienced.

Though there are different treatments which can be used to stimulate hair growth not everyone reacts to them positively, Keon explained.

Though the hair loss can be permanent for some, in other instances it may grow back. Keon herself has experienced re-growth, only to have it fall out again rather quickly.

Keon is thankful for the support of family and friends, adding that it's what has helped her to cope with this disease.

She hopes to raise awareness by educating people, and has spoken publicly on a few occasions.

She explained that there are many different variations to the disease and that there are also associations with our auto-immune deficiencies, the disease may be genetic, it may be hormonal, linked to stress, surgeries, anemia or illness.

It has also been linked to rapid weight loss, poor nutrition, diabetes and lupus disease, according to Keon who says it can affect people from one to 80 years of age.

Alopecia she says has touched the lives of more than 72 million North-Americans and is on the rise.

Keon ended her speech with a poem she wrote about her experience with alopecia that was well received by the gathered women whose thunderous applause was

proof.

After a pause for a luncheon served by group members, the ladies gathered to hear the next speakers on the list.

Local development agent from the CLD Amy Taylor gave a presentation on agriculture in Pontiac.

In her slide show she presented statistics on the many different aspects of Pontiac agriculture including the percentages of beef, dairy and organic farms in the area that accounted for the total of 275 farms.

She demonstrated how there was an increase of 31 per cent in revenue for Pontiac farmers and that the average revenue per farm was \$100,000.

According to Taylor, the Pontiac agricultural community benefits from partnerships with organizations such as MAPAQ, CLD, Financière Agricole du Québec, the local MRC, SADC, Farm Credit, Heritage and the UPA.

Taylor explained that there were a total of 53 MRC resource files that have benefited from more than \$1,105,600 of investments to bring total subsidies up to \$1,105,600 so far, stating that the money had to be spent in Pontiac, for example in hardware stores, rental of heavy equipment, etc.

All government projects have to meet environmental criteria, which is a challenge for young people who are starting out.

Taylor also spoke about the food map that was produced last summer as part of the Buy Local campaign in an effort to display where local produce was available for purchase in Pontiac.

Other projects that were discussed included the hops research project and the trial crops that were planted at two local farms in Calumet Island and in Clarendon, adding that the next trial crop in the area could be attempts at growing rice.



Eleanor Keon speaks about alopecia, a hair loss disease, to a group of women during the Pontiac Women's Institute annual Information Day event held at the United Church in Shawville on Feb. 17

The final speaker of the day, Eleanor Hayes, spoke about her experience as an agricultural fair judge. Some of her favourite categories she said were pickles, jams, jellies and baked goods.

Hayes also judges crafts, scrapbooking, photography and the school section, though they are not her preferences. What she enjoys judging most are cookies and squares.

Hayes takes judging seminars every two years and part of an apprenticeship includes qualifying to judge in at least three fairs.

Hayes says she looks at texture, colour, size consistency, and appearance as well as taste when she is judging food.

When judging fancy work, however, she says a meticulous inspection is needed. "I look at the stitching, I look for pencil marks or blood and make sure it is not soiled in any way," she explained.

Hayes says she doesn't judge the agricultural fair in

her own community, "I would probably lose a lot of friends," she joked, but adds that she has been asked to judge in Ontario fairs in Renfrew, Cobden, and Lombardy.

Hayes says what she enjoys most are seeing variety in the crafts and culinary entries as well as seeing the love and the heart in the people's entries.

Women's Institute president Margaret Hodgins says she was pleased with the turnout of the event which is always held at the same time each year to commemorate the first meeting that was held in Quebec in the Eastern Townships at Dunham on Jan. 27, 1911.

The Pontiac chapter of the Women's Institute currently has about 35 active members, according to Hodgins who's been a member for more than 30 years. She says they are always willing to welcome new members to their group.

With files from Julielee Stitt.

Atkinsons Bar
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Sat., March 6th - Nelson Colt
Come listen to the Best Country in the Valley

Sat., Mar. 13th -
Shuffleboard Tournament
\$10/person - 2 man/woman team
Register at noon
1:00 p.m. sharp • 100% payback

Fri. & Sat., March 26 & 27
FLYING ELBOWS' WEEKEND
Music by: 3rd Wave

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

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

Le CLD du Pontiac vous invite à prendre connaissance des réalisations 2009 de la corporation lors de son Assemblée générale annuelle.

Entrepreneurship, développement touristique et culturel, soutien communautaire et développement de loisir seront présentés.

Soyez au rendez-vous ! Join us!

The CLD Pontiac invites you to a presentation of the corporation's 2009 accomplishments at its Annual General Meeting.

Entrepreneurship, tourism and cultural development, community support, and recreational development are on the agenda.

Assemblée générale annuelle
CLD du Pontiac
31 mars / March 2010
19 h - 7:00 p.m.
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Charlotte L'Écuyer Députée de Pontiac, MNA Member for Pontiac, MNA

Bilan d'un an - Pontiac - One year statement

Chers citoyens de Pontiac, il me fait plaisir de vous donner un portrait des réalisations dans notre comté pour l'année qui vient de se terminer. Je vous assure que l'ensemble de ces réalisations est le résultat du partenariat et de la collaboration de vous tous. En tant que votre députée, je vous en remercie.

Dear Pontiac citizens, it is with pleasure to give you a portrait of the accomplishments here in our riding for the year that just ended. I can assure you that these accomplishments are the results of partnerships and collaboration among all of you. As your Member of the National Assembly, I thank you.



Réseau des femmes parlementaires du Commonwealth et l'Association parlementaire du Commonwealth

Missions parlementaires
Mexique (avril 2009)
Toronto (juillet 2009)
Tanzanie, Afrique (septembre 2009)
Régina (juillet 2010)
Kenya, Afrique (septembre 2010)

CWP Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians and CPA Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Parliamentarians' assignments
Mexico (April 2009)
Toronto (July 2009)
Tanzania, Africa (September 2009)
Regina (July 2010)
Kenya, Africa (September 2010)

TRANSPORT - TRANSPORTATION
Plus de 21,3 M \$ pour l'entretien et l'amélioration du réseau routier, ex.: 148, 301 et 366
Plus de 4,6 \$ M pour les chemins municipaux

More than \$ 21.3 M for the maintenance and improvement of our road network, ex.: 148, 301 and 366
More than \$4.6 M for municipal roads

AGRICULTURE
162 245 \$ Programmes pour établissements de la relève
140 000 \$ Retrait des animaux des cours d'eau
82 339 \$ Remboursement taxes municipales scolaires 2009
400 000 \$ Projets d'essai de culture de houblon

\$162,245 Program to promote the continuity of agriculture
\$140,000 Withdrawal of the animals from water streams
\$ 82,339 Municipal and school tax refund
\$ 400,000 Trial projects on the culture of hops

Soutien à l'action bénévole 128 730 \$
Volunteer support program
Jeunes / Youth - 38 407 \$
Aînés / Elderly - 19 797 \$
Famille / Family - 42 068 \$
Patrimoine et culture / Heritage and culture - 28 458 \$

ÉDUCATION
2,6 M \$ pour des écoles dans le cadre du programme « Maintenance des bâtiments »
Sainte-Marie, 69 308 \$
Fatima, 90 000 \$
Poupore, 250 000 \$
Pontiac High, 415 534 \$
Des Trois-Portages, 540 000 \$
Secondaire Grande-Rivière, 615 000 \$
Lord Aylmer Senior Campus, 637 524 \$

85 000 \$ Conseil d'alphabétisation de l'ouest du Québec-PACTE
50 000 \$ Jardin éducatif du Pontiac - PACTE
50 000 \$ Ass. provinciale des directeurs des services de l'éducation permanente, anglophone
480 000 \$ Centre multiservices, formation en ébénisterie
20 500 \$ en bourses d'études

ÉDUCATION
\$2.6 M for schools within the program - Maintenance of buildings -
Sainte-Marie, \$69,308
Fatima, \$90,000
Poupore, \$250,000
Pontiac High, \$415,534
Des Trois-Portages, \$540,000
Grande-Rivière High School, \$615,000
Lord Aylmer Senior Campus, \$637,524

\$85,000 The Western Quebec Literacy Council- PACTE
\$50,000 Jardin éducatif du Pontiac - PACTE
\$50,000 Ass. provinciale des directeurs des services de l'éducation permanente, anglophone
\$480,000 Multiservices Centre, carpentry training
\$20,500 in bursaries

SANTÉ / HEALTH
CSSS Pontiac
111 408 \$ Rénovations fonctionnelles
687 412 \$ Maintien des actifs

\$111,408 Operative renovations
\$687,412 Maintenance of assets

MESURES POUR SOUTENIR LE SECTEUR FORESTIER
Programme d'aide à la mise en valeur des forêts privées : 380 000 \$
Programme d'investissements sylvicoles : Forêt publique 1,6 M \$ - Forêt privée : 500 000 \$
Fonds d'adaptation des collectivités : Forêt publique : 840 000 \$
Programme de mise en valeur des ressources du milieu forestier : Volet II : 244 000 \$
Réalisation de travaux sylvicoles en forêt publique : 1,2 M \$
Programme de maintien de l'accessibilité aux terres du domaine de l'État à vocations fauniques et multi-ressource : 900 000 \$

MEASURES TO SUSTAIN THE FOREST SECTOR
Financial Assistance Program for the Development of Private Woodlots: \$380,000
Silvicultural Investments Program: Public Woodland \$1.6 M - Private Woodland: \$500,000
Adaptation Fund Community: Public Woodland: \$840,000
The forest resources development program (PMVRMF): Volet II: \$244,000
Implementation of forestry work in public forests: \$1.2 M
Maintenance of accessibility to Wildlife and multi-resources public lands' program: \$900,000

MESURES DE SOUTIEN
Fonds de soutien aux territoires en difficulté et municipalités dévitalisées 300 000 \$ + 585 000 \$
Bonification de l'aide fiscale et du crédit d'impôt aux régions ressources
Un crédit d'impôt remboursable pour la rénovation et l'amélioration résidentielles au taux de 20 % et d'un maximum de 2 500 \$
2 568 321 \$, Pacte rural dans le cadre de la Politique nationale de la ruralité 2007-2014

PACTE POUR L'EMPLOI PLUS
Bonification du soutien du revenu
Mesure de formation de la main-d'œuvre pour une durée maximale de 36 mois
Reconstruction des mesures de soutien aux travailleurs du secteur forestier
Bonification de l'initiative ciblée pour les travailleurs âgés
Bonification de la mesure « subventions salariales »
Élargissement et fusion des programmes de soutien pour les travailleurs licenciés collectivement

SUPPORT MEASURES
Support funds to municipalities in difficulty and devitalized municipalities \$300,000 + \$585,000
Improvement of tax assistance and tax credit for the Resource Regions
A refundable tax credit for home renovations and improvements of 20%, to a maximum of \$2,500
\$2,568,321 Rural Pact under the National Policy on Rurality 2007-2014

EMPLOYMENT PACT PLUS
Improvement of the Income support
Training measures of the workforce for a maximum of 36 months
Renewal of the support measures for the workers of the forest sector
Improvement of the targeted measures for the older workers
Improvement of the "Wage Subsidies"
Broadening and merger of the support programs for the workers collectively dismissed

FAMILLE / FAMILY
Politique familiale / Family policies - 75 600 \$
Conciliation travail famille / Conciliation work family - 49 875 \$
Haltes garderies / Mini daycares - 19 000 \$
Services de garde / Daycares - 13 997 111 \$
Assurance parentale / Parental Insurance - 63 608 177 \$

ORGANISMES COMMUNAUTAIRES / COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS
Centre communautaire Entre-Nous 54 736 \$
Équipe Soutien-famille 120 549 \$
Maison de la famille de Quyon 76 551 \$
Maison de la famille du Pontiac 62 376 \$

DÉVELOPPEMENT ET SOUTIEN / DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT
Église Saint-Alphonsus Church - 140 000 \$
Conservation de la nature à Litchfield Nature's Conservation - 24 700 \$
Conservation de la nature à Clarendon Nature's Conservation - 73 227 \$
Le Potager Eardley Inc - 40 000 \$
Outaouais en Fête - 12 500 \$
Radio communautaire CHIP Radio - 52 751 \$
Collecte sélective/ Recycling - 79 732 \$
Isle-aux-Allumettes, eaux usées / Wastewater system - 82 794 \$
Shawville, eaux usées / Wastewater system - 1 530 000 \$
Aréna de Fort-Coulonge Arena - 415 280 \$
Bryson - eau potable / Potable water - 2 848 000 \$
Aylmer - réseaux d'aqueduc / Water system - 3 946 000 \$
Fort-Coulonge - eau potable / Potable water - 694 715 \$



OPINION

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OUR OPINION | A cold dose of reality

We've talked about it for months, we've known it was coming yet the painful jarring we felt upon receiving our municipal tax bills wasn't lessened for having been prepared.

With the added charges for the disposal of our household waste, upgrades to our water system, and in our municipality's case, a new fire truck tacked on to our total, it's been quite a shocker.

Perhaps even more so, however, for seniors who are on a fixed income. I believe when added to the cost of heating, insuring and maintaining their homes, these charges will overwhelm them and inevitably force a lot of seniors from their residences.

Will there be government subsidies available for them when it does? Who will become responsible for them at that point?

We already know that in the next five years the percentage of our population over 65 years of age will have risen to more than 28 per cent, from the current 11 per cent, which means that a large portion of seniors will require extensive or specialized care. So why force them from their homes while they are still able to care for themselves?

We should be lobbying on their behalf so they can remain in their own residences for as long as they are able to.

We have been hearing about a host of different programs focusing on prevention and improving our health and lifestyles to ensure we live longer, happier, healthier lives, but the added burden and stress of the ever-rising cost of living in the midst of a recession recovery is not my idea of contributing to a healthier future for our seniors.

911 dispatch

The most recent of Pontiac's 911 dispatch service's gaffe is the straw on the camel's back.

The majority of Pontiac municipalities are now admitting that they are looking for service alternatives because they simply cannot afford to wait any longer.

During the latest mishap involving a call made to

the 911 dispatch service because a woman's two-year-old daughter was having a seizure; the caller was hung up on and heard a recording asking her to hold the line while music played in the background before she was repeatedly disconnected.

The frustration of not being able to get the required help led to the family driving their young daughter to the hospital themselves at an incredible speed that suddenly had the lives of five people in the balance.

The two-year-old is fine and recovering from a severe ear infection that caused the fever and seizure, but the trauma of the experience will not soon be forgotten by the family.

I believe it has gone way beyond competency, language, or communication issue by now and it's just time to bunker down and do what needs to be done in finding a new company to offer 911 dispatch services to the area because it has become painfully obvious that Groupe CLR, the company currently providing the service, cannot meet the needs of Pontiac residents.

Sadly, however, it seems we are not the only part of the country with a gap in 911 dispatching services.

I was reading a Calgary Herald report about how calls are now being treated as highest priority by police if there are any signs of distress since it was discovered in a homicide investigation, that someone had called 911 from a victim's cell phone and was hung up on Feb. 7, only 15 hours before Calgary's Yanrong Cheng's death.

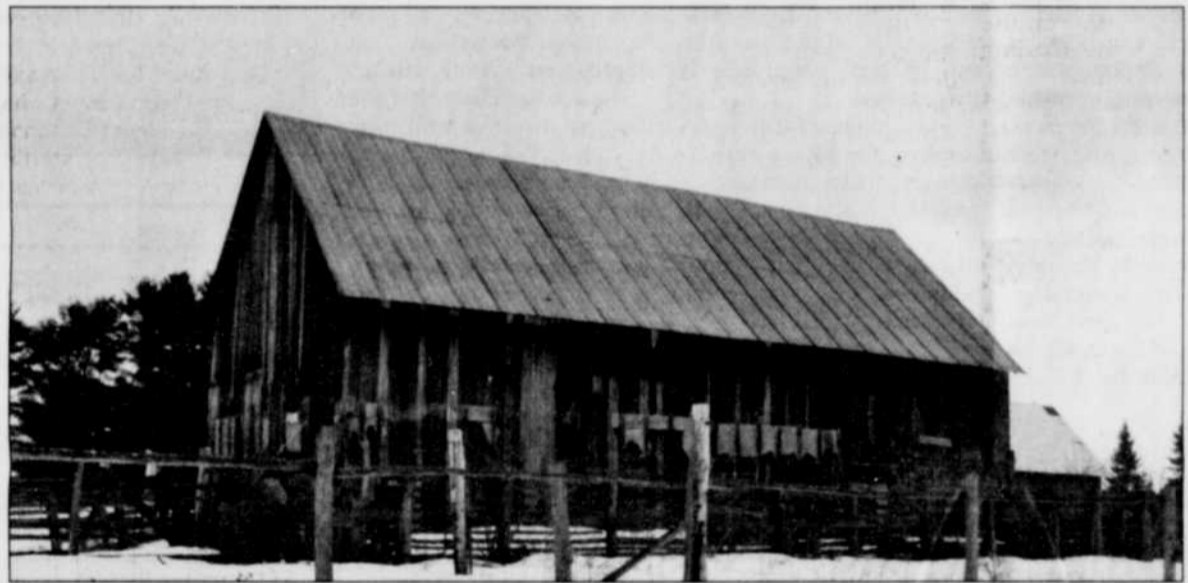
It shouldn't take such tragedy to warrant altering or changing a dispatch service to meet the specific needs of citizens regardless of their geographic location or language.

Our municipalities are already active in looking to find a company that can provide the level of service we need because they have recognized that the time is at hand before we suddenly find ourselves saying "we should have".

Carole St-Aubin

Serene scene

Carole St-Aubin, THE EQUITY



127 years of news from the Pontiac

THE WAY WE WERE

Compiled by Heather Alberti-Dickson Publisher

25 Years Ago

February 27, 1985

BRETZLAFF FAMILY REUNION DONATES TO PCH: Rotel and the Pontiac Community Hospital both received large donations last week from the Bretzloff family reunion of 1983. Representatives of each were presented cheques for \$1,500 by Lorne Bretzloff of Arnprior, chairman of the reunion. The reunion took place in Ladysmith over the Canada Day weekend. Hundreds of people attended from all over North America, and after it was all over, a small profit was realized.

NEW EXECUTIVE FOR TOURIST ASSOCIATION: The new executive committee of the Pontiac Tourist Association, are Bernice Brusenbauch, vice president; Gaetan Boulanger, president and Lise Meilleur, secretary-treasurer. The ATP will have a kiosk at the upcoming trade show in Gatineau, Salon du plein air, the 14 - 17 of March and those who wish to take part in the show are urged to bring their brochures.

50 Years Ago

March 3, 1960

PLANS FOR FORT COULONGE HOSPITAL MOVING AHEAD: Considerable progress is reported from Fort Coulonge in efforts now going forward towards the construction of a 33 bed hospital in the vicinity of that village. A drive for funds, started some months ago, has result-

ed in raising cash and pledges amounting to roughly \$30,000 about one third of the total \$90,000 objective. The drive is under the direction of co-chairman James J. Ward and Dr. Henry Gasman.

OTTER LAKE CHILD ACCIDENT VICTIM: Saturday afternoon, Feb. 27 about 4 o'clock was about the same as any other day, when to little brothers and two playmates went out to slide with a sleigh and a toboggan; the place they unfortunately chose to slide was what changed the picture completely. Little nine-year-old Archie Lance, son of Mrs. Virginia Lance, lost his life as he slid on his sleigh, down the neighbours driveway onto the street into the path of an oncoming truck. His pals managed to steer their toboggan to the snow before reaching the street, thus avoiding sure death. Archie was taken by a neighbour Mr. Jos Lance to Campbell's Bay where Dr. Bradshaw did all humanly possible to save his life.

quent gales which made traffic anything but pleasant for man or beast. During the past week a 40 horse power gasoline motor has been installed at the auxiliary pump plant of the local water system at Shaw's Lake. The installation which was in charge of J.P. Wilson of Wilson's Garage, entitles the municipality to a \$2,500 grant from the provincial government and after inspection by the Underwriters' Association an appreciable reduction in fire insurance rates will be made. The death occurred in Renfrew Hospital on Monday, Feb. 11 of Mark Killoran, son of James Killoran, Onslow Corners, Quebec in his 12th year. Deceased had been in good health until a few days previous to his death. He underwent an operation for ruptured appendix which proved fatal in spite of the greatest care given by a skilful doctor and nurses.

Peter B. Moyle, Campbell's Bay Hotel, was committed by Judge Honore Achim of Hull for trial on a charge of arson arising out of the burning of the Ronocco Hotel at Campbell's Bay on Oct. 30, 1932.

75 Years Ago

February 28, 1935

LOCAL NEWS: The annual sleigh drive of St. Paul's Young People's Society will be held on Friday night of this week. The members will meet at the Theatre where refreshments will be served following the drive. A typical end-of-February snow storm swept this district on Monday. Snow fell continuously all day and was accompanied by fre-

ment to the present month. A few facts associated with the life of the late Hugh McCredie of Bristol, who died on Feb. 18 at the age of 100 years and two months are specially worthy of mention. He came to Bristol from Scotland about 70 years ago, accompanied by his wife and three children. In the year 1847 he was ordained and inducted an elder of the Presbyterian congregation, then newly formed in Bristol. Mr. McCredie was the father of ten children, five of whom survive. He had 40 living grand children, 50 living great grand children and one great-great grand child.

Our churches were almost left in "inner darkness" Sunday night, in consequence of one of the now too frequently recurring freaks of the electric light plant, which seems to be working on the hit and miss principle.

A special meeting of the Calumet Island council was called today to submit a by-law for the purpose of raising \$4,000 for the building of the bridge. A very painful accident happened to Mrs. Thomas Creighton of the Calumet Island by which she had her jawbone broken and her face very badly cut. Her husband was drawing grain and had a young man, a neighbour living near by, engaged to feed and water some colts during his absence. On Thursday last the young man did not come at the usual hour and Mrs. Creighton, thinking that sickness or something else had prevented him from filing an appearance, started to water the colts herself, and while in the act of taking the water into the stable one of the animals kicked her in the face with the results as above stated. Dr. Gagnou was called and did all her could for the relief of the sufferer. Mr. Creighton returned home on Friday night last.

125 Years Ago

February 26, 1885

LOCAL NEWS: A young lady from the Calumet Island, dropped into our office last Monday morning and informed us that she was prepared to produce an unmistakable sign of spring, predicting at the same time that a break up in the weather would come very shortly. On being pressed for the sign she produced from her pocket a bottle containing a Colorado potato bug, as fresh as a bee on the 12th of July, which she said she had caught feasting on the top of one of her gerani-

100 Years Ago

March 3, 1910

LOCAL NEWS: February took its departure in a very becoming manner, the last day being really the most of the balmy variety. Hope we may be able to pay a similar compli-

YOUR OPINION | Culture

Dear Editor,

My name is Christine Douaire and my husband and I moved up here about seven years ago from Cornwall, ON. Both of us originally from Montreal for my husband and Ie Bizard for myself.

I find it so sad up here with the lack of French culture. Cornwall is more French than right here in Quebec. And I'm not even French, my mother tongue is German, then English. I've noticed that even older French people up here don't talk French anymore. There are no festivities for St. Jean Baptiste, and it's very sad to see this.

My husband and I love listening to CHIP radio Saturday mornings, because they play the old French music. I would love to see French traditions come back. People should be proud of their heritage.

I'm all for bilingualism. I feel that it's very impor-

tant, especially when working with the public, and that's for anywhere in Canada. Out of 100 people, you will find 80 per cent of the French people speaking or at least trying to speak English, but only 20 per cent of the English trying to speak French.

Let's bring back St. Jean Baptiste festivities to Campbell's Bay and bring back a beautiful culture. If anyone is interested, they can contact me at 819-648-2016. Maybe we could get together, come up with some plans, get financial help from the government or community and make plans for June 24, and make it happen.

Come on people of the Pontiac, one person can't do it alone but there's power in numbers, we can do it.

Christine Douaire

Canadian patriotism

Dear Editor,

I felt after watching the Olympics that I had to share my views on what it meant to me to be Canadian!

After serving 21 years in the Canadian Armed forces and travelling the world I have heard my share of our National Anthem! And to this day it still sends shivers down my spine every time I hear it. However the pride I felt during the Olympics seeing our country band together as one waving the Red and White of the Maple Leaf

showed what Canadian patriotism was all about.

We showed the world who and what we are: a proud people coming together in a common goal, "the pride of a nation, strong and free" regardless of gender, colour or creed we stood as one for all to see.

All of Canada should be proud!

Mark Lance
Petty Officer 2nd Class ret' CD, SSM
Proud Canadian

YOUR HEALTH | DRE. ISABELLE GAGNON Working while standing



Nurses, hairdressers, cashiers and waitresses know what it means to work standing up. Not being prepared or working with bad ergonomics can take its toll and these workers often pay for it with their health. Do you recognize yourself in these situations?

When working standing becomes risky

Obviously, it's not because you work standing up that you will necessarily develop health problems. However, you must be aware of the importance of working properly and how to recognize the signs of fatigue. Statistics demonstrate that one out of every two female workers suffers from injuries relating to working standing up. This is way too many, especially considering that most of these work-related injuries can be prevented.

Generally speaking, the back and legs are the first to be affected. The injured workers must often consult a health professional, typically for chronic problems such as low-back and sacroiliac pain, as well as osteoarthritis of the low-back, hips and knees.

Standing, your body weight is distributed on your lumbar area and on your lower limbs. If you execute your work without proper ergonomics, your spine and peripheral joints won't be able to provide their support role.

Good working methods for a healthy body!

1. Space organization - It is the basis of work well done. If your tasks require you to be immobile for long periods of time, make sure that you have enough room around you to be able to often change positions. Objects that you frequently use should be within easy reach. Ideally, you shouldn't reach for things behind you or that are above your shoulders. You should always face your material and avoid any twisting of the body. Remember, your nose should be aligned with your toes!

2. Table height - Do you use a table as a work instrument? Check that it's at the proper height for your size and that it's appropriate for your task. With a precision task, your table should be five cm higher than your elbows whereas with a job that requires more physical work (for example if you need to exert pressure on something), your table should be 30 cm below your elbows. Foot rests are great to reduce pressure on your

lower-back. They should be roughly six inches high and only need to fit 2/3 of your foot, since they aren't designed to stand on. If your routine allows it, try to sit as much as possible. You will be able to rest your back and feet for a few minutes.

Make sure that you don't lean forward; your back must be straight as much as possible.

Did you know that by bending forward by 20 degrees will create a 50 per cent increase in loading on your spine?

3. What about shoes? Work with a shoe that supports your feet without being too constrictive. Ideally it shouldn't stop your toes from wiggling around or change the shape of your foot. Laces are great to support the foot and prevent it from moving excessively in the shoe. As for heel height, your shoe shouldn't be completely flat but it shouldn't be higher than five cm. Above all, a good shoe should be comfortable.

4. The importance of breaks - Taking breaks is essential. Do some stretches of the neck and shoulders, as well as flexions and lateral bends of the torso. Stretch your back, buttocks and legs once you're home.

It is crucial to strengthen your abdominals and back muscles to create a natural "support belt" to protect your back. At home, and at work when possible, put your feet up. This will help reduce swelling in your legs.

Another trick is to perform leg pumps when you are standing, which is done by going on your toes and lifting your heels. This helps circulate blood in your legs.

Anti-fatigue floor mats are ideal to help reduce stress on the back, legs and feet. They also help reduce the risk of falls and protect from cold floors.

5. Are you an employer? Be proactive in regards to the specific needs of your employees. Think of offering training sessions, for example: Do they know which injuries they are susceptible to developing? Many injuries that require your staff to take time off can be avoided. By focusing on prevention, you will benefit in regards to productivity, guaranteed!

Dr. Isabelle Gagnon, is a chiropractor who has two practices in the Pontiac, one in Shawville and one in Mansfield, she can give you professional advice on various health-related topics.

MY WORLD | ANDREA CRANFIELD

Walking in slush for hours for no apparent reason



ANDREA CRANFIELD

Equity Reporter

PONTIAC • A few weeks ago I decided to try driving on the ice one more time against all better judgment for the sake of a photo. My boyfriend and I were driving along Hwy. 148 when we saw an ice fishing derby so we decided to stop and take a few shots.

Of course I had originally planned to park close by and walk out on the ice but somehow I found myself with my seatbelt undone in the middle of the frozen lake almost crying hoping I would survive.

My boyfriend thought this was really funny, I guess unaware that if anything happened he was going down with me.

We parked the car and stumbled upon the first group of people we saw to ask if we could take a photo. And I'm glad I did because I ended up having a great time.

As we introduced ourselves to one woman, she all of a sudden began to scream and ran away. I looked at my boyfriend wondering what I had done that was so offensive.

But then I realized that she'd seen her line go down and she'd caught a fish. I got my camera ready. 'Perfect timing' I thought as I snapped the group of people pulling the fish out of the water.

After all the excitement, everyone in their group began talking to us and asking us questions. We ended up talking to one woman and told her that we've never done this kind of thing before and found out that her and her family have been doing this since as far back as they can remember.

The children gathered around and began talking to us as well. They were so welcoming and so interested in what we had to say.

I felt bad imposing on them but they seemed truly happy to be able to speak to us and hear about how different our experiences were.

They laid out a couple fish they were keeping for supper and told us to stand beside them for some photos. After chatting for awhile, my boyfriend and I, frozen, said our goodbyes and started to leave.

When we walked past a 4-wheeler that they had, my boyfriend exclaimed, "That's really nice." Next thing we know we hear a voice behind us that said, "Do you want a ride?" My boyfriend looked at me unsure if this was a good idea or not. "Go for it," I said.

Everyone gathered around to watch my boyfriend attempt to drive this machine around on the ice. We all laughed as he went too fast and cut the corners a little too hard. Once he came back they told me it was my turn.

I was reluctant but hopped on. One woman even gave me her hat to wear for the ride. After I came back, we were truly frozen at this point so we said our goodbyes, hopped back in the car, almost cried

as we drove across the ice hoping we wouldn't fall in and went on our way.

It was such a great experience meeting such a warm, welcoming group of people who accepted us immediately with no questions.

My boyfriend and I talked on the way home about how we had never met such a nice bunch of people who seemed to really enjoy life and wanted to hear what other people had to say. They told us there would be another fishing derby the next weekend and we should drop by again.

The next day I received an email from one of the women in the group expressing her gratitude towards us and saying that she'd had a wonderful time as well.

Well the next weekend my parents were visiting from Peterborough. I was thinking of things we could do that would really capture the essence of winter here. I know! We can go ice fishing (or stand around at look at other people catch fish) with the nice people we had met the weekend before.

It was a warm day out and as we drove down to the lake we noticed that it looked awfully slushy and appeared to be melting at a rapid pace. I was scared but somehow I must have had the idea at this point, but my parents absolutely refused to drive on the ice in weather like that. And I agreed, secretly relieved.

So we parked the car on solid ground and decided to walk out.

The trek started out OK but as we got going, we found ourselves buried to above our knees in water. And the ice underneath the slush was very slippery.

After walking for about 45 minutes or so a man stopped heading in the opposite direction and told us that we couldn't walk any further because there was too much water to go through. Another truck had stopped heading our way and the man told us to hitch a ride with him.

We all hopped in without a second thought. We were too scared to bring the car on the ice, so we walk 45 minutes in slushy water only to jump in a truck that weighed probably twice as much as the car and had an extra person in it.

We got to the derby and looked around for my new friends but they were nowhere to be found. What to do now? I guess start walking back.

We didn't have a ride on the way back so we ended up walking the entire way, which took more than an hour. And the man who had stopped us before was right about there being a big lake that wasn't really possible to walk through. We made it back to the car and drove home soaked and frozen.

A couple days later I get an email from the women who had emailed me before saying DO NOT GO ON THE ICE THIS WEEKEND. She said the weather was too warm and the ice was not safe to drive on and it was way too wet to stay on comfortably. She said she wanted to keep me safe.

Quyon

Jill McBane
458-2366
Are we proud to be Canadian or what? The Olympics have come and gone and what a spectacular array of events.

Congratulations to all our competitors. I must say the final game of the men's hockey certainly kept us on the edge of our seats.

Well, I am a grandma again. Congratulations to my daughter, Jackie McBane and Derek Frobel on the birth of their son Dryden Russell Abby McBane Frobel on Feb. 25 at 1:25 a.m. at Pontiac Community Hospital weighing 7 lbs. 12 oz. 20 inches long. A little brother for Lauryn. Grandparents are Joan and Frank Frobel, Jill McBane, and Abby McBane great-grandparents are Isabel Emmerson, Rolly and Beulah MacDougall, Eleanor McBane, and great-great-grandmother Mona MacDougall. A new cousin for Jaden, Kira, Ethan, and MacKenzie and Ryan.

This year's World Day of Prayer service will be held on Friday, March 5 at St. Mary's Church in Quyon at 2: pm.

The women of the Republic of Cameroon, Africa have prepared this year's service and have chosen the theme "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord." They will tell us about their country, its cultures and its social challenges. As we worship together, we will learn about Cameroon and its unique heritage and we will pray and act in solidarity with its people.

There will be a collection with proceeds sent to the women of Cameroon. Refreshments will be served. Please plan to attend. Everyone welcome.

Quyon enjoyed an afternoon of fiddling Sunday, Feb. 28 as numerous fiddlers gathered at the Little School Hall to play some tunes. Fiddlers included Urbie Daley (Aylmer), Dennis Alexander (Aylmer), Lindsay Daley (Quyon), Carl Trudeau (Quyon), Loreta Fitzpatrick (Ottawa), Bill McQuitty (Carleton Place), Urs Bollinger (North Gower), Ron Bourque (Orleans), and Marg Côté (Ottawa). Accompanists were Eleanor Foran (guitar), Audrey Davis (keyboard), Rolly Bernier (guitar).

Waltham

Helen Perry
689-2652
jacobg42@hotmail.com

Warm birthday wishes are extended to Diane McKnight and Cynthia Belaire who celebrated their birthdays on March 1. A lunch get-together was held at Lorna Turner's on their birthday. They were treated to a tasty lunch, and a beautiful birthday cake. They enjoyed a few games of euchre in the afternoon. We hope you both had a wonderful birthday!

A cheery hello is extended to Lise Gauthier who is in Shawville Community Hospital. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Lise.

Joclen and Jocelyne Joseph of Montreal were weekend visitors at Yvan and Paulette Pelletier's.

Get well wishes are extended to Leo Godin who is also in the hospital. Thoughts and prayers are with you Leo.

The 2010 regular Winter Olympics have concluded on Sunday, Feb. 28. What an amazing ride! To be sure, the events had a shaky start, with a tragic fatal accident, the rainy weather and some unexpected equipment failures.

Also the terrible shock to Canadian figure skater Joannie Rochette and her family, in the sudden death of her dearly loved mother. This did not deter Joannie of picking up the pieces and courageously persevering to win a bronze medal.

At one point the international press was loudly criticizing Olympic organizers and Canada in general.

Kenny Daley (guitar) and Doug McKenna (mandolin). The hall was filled with fiddle fans despite the fact that the Canada-USA gold medal game was being played that afternoon. The event was deemed a success so look for a similar gathering in the spring, Stay tuned!

Campbell's Polaris in Shawville hosted a Vintage Snowmobile Show this past Saturday. There was an excellent turnout, and the weather behaved fairly well even though it was a little cool. Great to see the old sleds being restored and some even drove them around. A great meal of chili was served. So thanks to the cooks at Campbell's, all folks got to eat if they were hungry. A great day was had by all.

I hear most activities are being cancelled due to lack of snow which is sad when its only the first week of March.

I do hope that most people will stay off the ice as you know the weather has not been cold enough. Please ride safely, no need to put your life in jeopardy.

PSDA meeting is still being held at Gavan's Hotel in Quyon. Anyone interested is welcome to come. Call Gavan's for the dates. Next meeting should be March 18 but the odd time there are changes in the dates.

Snowmobiling really depends on the weather. Right now we really need snow for that sport. Stay careful, ride sensible arrive alive!

Get well wishes to Bruce Campbell who is now home from the hospital.

The upcoming St. Patty's Day party at the Quyon Legion is on March 13 and a breakfast at the Legion will be March 14.

Birthday wishes are sent to Sandra Martin (her birthday is March 2) also belated birthday wishes to Kira Paulin Feb. 26 and to Frank Frobel Feb. 23.

Happy belated birthday to Christine Clarke who celebrated Feb. 25 and a gang of girls helped Carmen Marcotte celebrate her Friday night with a surprise birthday party. A great time was had by all.

Happy anniversary to Tootie and John Draper who celebrate March 3. And also Happy anniversary to Kelly and Will Hajdu who celebrate March 5.

Otter Lake

Elizabeth Hahn
453-7326
Happy birthday to my daughter Pamela Hahn Thoms who has a birthday March 3. Also her daughter and my granddaughter Kathryn Emma Thoms in Wolfville, NS attending Acadia University who will be 10 on March 15. Best wishes to you both from your family and friends.
Happy birthday to

Brenda Kluge (Dubeau) March 5, Ken Kluge March 11, Kathy Kluge (Gravelle) March 11, Daniele Gravelle March 2, Chantal Gravelle March 9, Sylvie Brousseau (Montgomery) March 29. Best wishes to all.

Golden Age Club card night results for Feb. 23. First prize: Annie Schroeder and Carl Kappes. Second prize: Rita Blaskie and Vic Bisson. 50/50 winner: Viola Gauthier. Door prize: Sandy Robinson. Dessert was provided by Rita Blaskie and Barb Lintell.

Happy birthday wishes to Denise Dubois who celebrated Feb. 23.

Dart night results for Feb. 25 First prize: Barb Lintell and Arthur Gravelle. Second prize: Alvine St-Aubin and Moe Lajoie. 50/50 winner: Moe Lajoie. Door prize: Phyllis Dubeau.

Daniel Frost, Ken Finan, Elaine Richardson, Shamus Tubman, Michael Schwartz, Wannie Richardson, Keith Harris, Jane Ann Findlay, Christina Cartman, and Sandra Horner-Murray.

Happy anniversary to the following couples: Terry and Linda Murray, Basil and Lorraine Hodgins, John and Mary-Sheila Draper, Ken and Diana Wentworth, and Charlie and Laura Richardson.

The Shawville Winter Invitational 2010 hosted 15 figure skating clubs from as far away as Lanark, Maniwaki and Pembroke just to name a few. Congratulations to the team and volunteers!

Glen and I were neighbours throughout our childhood and school years. I want to send out my deepest sympathy to his wife, Wanda Palmer and his sister Joanne.

Happy birthday to Baker (Jamie) Gravelle March 3, Jodie Frost March 4, Paul Haldeman, Karen Quinn, Genevieve Cahill March 5, Connie Belland and Wayne Corriveau March 6, Shirley Peppin March 7, Jerry Peppin March 8, Eric Bertrand and Marina Chugg March 8, Harvey Smith, Pat Kavanagh and Marie Pilon March 9.

will be wearing more Canadian clothes which have the red and white. We are proud of all the athletes and very happy to be Canadian.

Congratulations to Doug Sloan who won two box seat tickets to the Ottawa Senators vs. Philadelphia Flyers game on March 23. He won the tickets from the Curling Club of Shawville.

On Wednesday, Feb. 24 Glen Zimmerling passed away suddenly at his home in Murrell's Corner.

Shawville

Lyse Lacourse
647-5932
lysie_wheezy@hotmail.com

Canada has won 14 gold medals by our athletes. Everyone in Canada spent Sunday watching the game between Canada and the United States. What a nail biter! The country has come together as one and has become patriotic.

Happy belated birthday to our newest octogenarian Betty Cameron. Betty turned 80 Feb. 27. Family and friends got together to fete Betty at her daughter Jennifer's home on Saturday. All

the best in the upcoming year Betty from all of us. Anna Melloul and Paul Boudreau will be exchanging vows in Mexico on Thursday, March, 11. Sixty-four family and friends will be joining them on their wedding day. Good Luck to both of you from your friends in Shawville.

Some people celebrating their birthdays this week are Dylan Wisotski, Brian Judd, Linda Murray, Kayla McCann, Stephen Hodgins, Pat Ryan, Marjorie Hodgins, Sylvio Richard, Karen Bean, Wayne Campeau, Jeffrey Hannaberry.

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Vinton

Diane Boisvert
648-5296
The Canadian women's and men's hockey teams sure have pulled Canada together.

We sure are proud of both the teams who brought us gold. I guess it did make a difference being on Canadian soil and having the crowds cheering that encouraged our athletes to excel in the Winter Olympics.

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Finding your vocation

CAROLE ST-AUBIN
Equity Editor
AYLMER • Bristol resident Dawn Thompson has been a teacher for almost 30 years. Before she began teaching accounting and secretarial at the Western Quebec Career Centre in Aylmer, Thompson was a teacher at PHS for several years.

Since December 2009 Thompson has been filling in the position of Vice-Principal at the learning centre, and she says her many years as a teacher has definitely lent a hand in preparing her for this role.

Thompson has also kept her role as workplace coordinator for the accounting and secretarial programs and says, "Some of our business partners say we are the best kept secrets. And our students get hired."

"We've opened up several little pockets within the government, with Environment Canada, the Department of National Defense, and Health Canada, and it's been working really, really well," says Thompson.

As soon as the students are ready for their work placement they are bridged in. They go work two days a week and go to school three days a week, according to Thompson who is very happy with the success rates they've achieved.

"What we do is we get our students to register at the Federal Student Work Experience Program (FSWEP), and when the government needs someone that's the first place they go, and we became a resource for any business or department in government who is looking for employees," Thompson explained.

The program works well according to Thompson who says often times the stu-

dents will bring back the knowledge they've acquired in the workplace to the classroom environment.

"Because we are a vocational school and we are under the school board umbrella people don't realize that the credit systems is the equivalent to the one at Algonquin or Heritage College," says Thompson.

As well as offering them a trade.

And people don't always necessarily know if a course is a good fit for them unless they come and see what we offer, or give it a try.

"Vocation means a career, a trade, and we can provide that here," said Thompson, adding that this is a major baby boomer retirement time and tons of people are going to need those trades."

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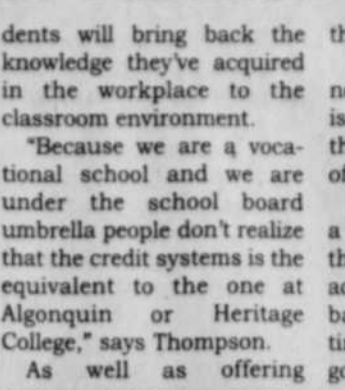
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Campbell's Bay student Dustin Greer works on the brakes of a car in the auto shop at the Western Career Centre. With only six months left to his program, Greer is looking forward to completing the course.



accounting, assistance in health care facilities, cabinet making, carpentry, electronic audio/video equipment, health assistance and nursing, home care assistance, and secretarial, the centre also offers courses that are not otherwise available in the Pontiac area.

Hotel reception, industrial drafting, residential and commercial drafting, starting a business, travel sales, automobile mechanics, welding and fitting are also offered at the Western Quebec Career Centre.

For years Thompson says vocational educational has been given a bad reputation, but now people are starting to realize that we can teach

Dustin Greer of Campbell's Bay, now in his second year in the 1800-hour automobile mechanic program at the Western Quebec Career Centre, believes he made the right choice, "I worked at GM in Renfrew but I realized I didn't know half the stuff I thought I did. I have learned so much here and have a better knowledge on a wider range of vehicle types now."

Greer says he hopes to own his own shop in the Shawville or Campbell's Bay area.

He thinks the

Caldwell

Hermonie Sharpe
647-3459
Spending two weeks vacation in Texas and also visiting with Doug and Susan Smith Smart were Bill and Jennifer Telford of Shawville.

A most delicious supper was held at the Golden Age euchre hall in Quyon on Tuesday, Feb. 23 catered to by Billy T and Jennifer. Billy and Jennifer we have to give you credit as your meals are always well prepared and delicious.

Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Verna Tomlason of Sarnia who passed away at the age of 99 years. She was the loving sister of Kay Smith of Shawville. I was so glad to hear that Rita Garlough is on the mend and able to be home with her daughter Joan.

Can you imagine that this Monday was March 1 and what do they say, "if it comes in like a lion it will go out like a lamb?" And it could be the opposite but whatever we get we'll have to take it with a smile because complaining doesn't change anything.

A pot luck supper was held at the Thursday night Golden Age Club. It was well attended despite the heavy, snowy weather. It sure makes a wonderful supper when everyone brings their favourite recipes. With all these suppers we should be really healthy seniors. After supper we played ten hands of euchre and drew the 50/50 money and as it was the last of the month all the money was returned back as prizes to the members.

Then a few of us played six hand euchre as an end to a very enjoyable evening. When we were going home, there was heavy wet snow falling and the snowploughs weren't out so the driving was slow going.

We think we are getting

it bad after the heavy snow on Thursday night past. Well, first we watched the storm in New York state and into New Jersey and then we called our friends and relations, the Latieres in Sussex, N.J. Brenda, their daughter, answered the phone. She had just arrived home from her daughter Heather and Ritchie Devries' in New York state. Their son had the misfortune of having his finger taken off with a saw and Grandma Brenda had been there helping out. She told me they have had the worst snowstorm in history. She missed her way coming home because of poor visibility. She finally returned home at 10 p.m. and hopes she never experiences a storm like this again. Brenda's mother was Louiza Sharpe and her grandmother was Margaret Haggard, also related to the Eberts of Campbell's Bay.

Deepest sympathy goes out to he family and friends of Glen Zimmerling who passed away this past weekend.

Birthday congratulations to Roy Zimmerling of Shawville who celebrated Feb. 28, also to Corey Dorze of New York March 1, Velma Woods of Oshawa and Margaret Young of Peterborough also March 1. To my cousin Debbie Smith Danson of Ottawa March 3.

Birthday congratulations to Shamus Tubman, son of Kirk and Beth Tubman of Shawville who celebrated this past Saturday, also to this sister Macy who celebrates this week.

I had a very enjoyable visit with Beth Tubman this past Saturday.

It was the end of the month and the last Sunday of the month so there was a pot luck diner after the morning service at the Bristol Ridge Pentecostal parsonage. Some of the congregation came from Pembroke. It's a good way to have a visit with friends and enjoy a really good meal.

Bryson

Anna Stewart
648-2351
The Olympics are all over with Canada

getting 26 medals, 14 of them being gold! We are so proud of you Canada! Wasn't the hockey between Canada and the U.S. exciting? Tom, I should have bet with you, I would have been rich!

Birthday greetings to Paquette Ostrom. I hope you have a great day! Also birthday greetings to Julie Maheral of Calumet Island.

A lovely lunch was served at the United Church in Campbell's Bay on Sunday evening after the service featuring the Ostroms and Darlene Stewart Dubeau and her husband Mike.

The music and singing was great!

There will be a Share Lent euchre held in the basement of the Immaculate Conception Church in Bryson on March 7 at 8 p.m. A lunch will be served after the euchre. Everyone is welcome!

Winners of last week's Golden Age Euchre are: Men's first: Mervin Smith, men's second: Gordon Porter and Lloyd Stewart, Ladies first: Theresa Lance and Bernadette Piche, ladies second: Veronica Perrier, Joan Sicard and Marilyn Lortie, 50/50: Patricia Lamothé, Door: Lloyd Smith.

Next Sunday evening, March 7 at 7 p.m. in the United Church in Campbell's Bay there will be a concert featuring an organist and a soloist arranged by Paula Lundregan of Pembroke. There will be a lunch served after the service. Everyone welcome!

Ladysmith

Debbie Thrun
647-3927
Visitors with us on the weekend were

Bill McLaughlin and Evelyn Campbell McLaughlin of Renfrew.

Dennis attended the antique snowmobile show at Campbell's Polarist last Saturday. He reports many beautifully restored vintage snowmobiles as well as a lot of parts vendors. It was well attended and altogether a great success. The weather also cooperated.

The annual Zion Lutheran Church Easter eve pancake supper is coming up Saturday, April 3 at the Zion Lutheran Church basement. This is always a well attended event and the food is always superb.

Well the Vancouver Olympics have come and gone. They provided great entertainment and did Canada Proud. Hats off to the Canadian athletes.

A sign that spring is just around the corner is the number of crows fly-

ing around lately as well as starlings along the hydro lines.

We were saddened by the sudden passing of Glen Zimmerling. Deepest condolences to Wanda and family.

Get well wishes to a great friend, Claudette Dufault who has been on the sick list.

Deepest sympathy to the family and friend of Billy Foran who recently passed away.

Anniversary congratulations to Brenda and Brian Brownlee of Shawville.

Happy birthday to Lee Brownlee who celebrates March 10.

Belated birthday wishes to Beulah Grife of Rankin who celebrated Feb. 23. She is a sister of Lillian (Pasch) Vancleef of Ladysmith.

Birthday wishes to Ben Fierobin March 15. He is the son of Jane and Steven Fierobin.

Dennis and I visited with Patsy Belsher recently.

Visiting us recently was Marylyn Thoms. Congratulations to Gerry Bimm for organizing the snowmobile show in Shawville, well done.

Quyon jam session a hit

CAROLE ST-AUBIN
Equity Editor

QUYON • Sunshine, the company of friends and good music greeted guests passing through Quyon on Sunday afternoon as music lovers from all over the Ottawa Valley gathered for a jam session.

More than 70 people poured into the Clarendon Street Albert Kennedy Centre, also commonly known in the area as the old Quyon School Hall to participate or just to meet up with friends to listen to some old time fiddling, mandolin, keyboard and guitar pieces performed by local artists.

"We have some artists from Orleans, Carleton Place, Ottawa, Aylmer and Quyon here today," said one of the event's organizers, Marg Côté, who was very pleased with the turnout for the event.

"It's great to see this many people come out in spite of the gold medal hockey game being aired on television this afternoon," said Côté, who believes this was just the



Some of the musicians who participated in the Quyon jam session on Sunday are from left to right, Kenny Daley, Audrey Davis, Denis Alexander, Rollee Bernier and Doug McKenna.

beginning of what she hopes will be a continued tradition.

"I think this is absolutely lovely, I am really enjoying the music and it's a great way to promote local performers. Fiddling is such a rich part of the local cul-

ture," said Aylmer resident, Anne Lacasse.

Lacasse said it had been well publicized so she wasn't surprised that the event had been so prolific.

92-year-old Elaine Bronson originally from Quyon said, "I love this stuff and I hope they will continue to host them."

Her daughter Leona Keon said the outing is a great way to get in touch with friends who all appreciate good music.

A sentiment that was echoed by Ronnie Russet who commented, "I saw some people that I hadn't seen in ages here today."

A light luncheon of sandwiches, tea, coffee and desserts were served by friends, and friends of friends who were more than generous in doing so, according to organizers.

Though no admission fees were charged at the door, guests were invited to leave a donation.

Proceeds from the event were going to the Canadian Grand Masters Fiddling Association (CGMFA), a non-profit organization operated by a group of volunteers working to preserve the heritage of Canadian fiddling and to promote traditional fiddling.



Denis Alexander plays his fiddle for a full house at the Quyon jam session on Sunday. He was joined by musicians from all over the Ottawa Valley.

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OVERTIME | LUKE MURPHY

Olympic after thoughts

The Winter Olympics has come to an end, all the hard work, money, and countless volunteer hours spent in Vancouver gone but not forgotten. Despite the amount of negative publicity during the first week, I'd say this event was a success.

I know in the past I've finger pointed the Olympics and declared that many of these events shouldn't be considered sports — some of them are ridiculous. I'm not a fan, never have been, but this year I watched more than ever.

We need to commend our Canadian athletes. With the hard work these athletes put in to preparing for their respective events, the pressure they faced competing on home turf, they were superior representatives of our great country. We should be proud and acknowledge their accomplishments. They represented us to the best of their abilities, and the results showed — 14 gold, seven silver, and five bronze — more gold medals than in any Winter Games.

There is so much to discuss, the drama, but I only have space to comment on some of the things that made headlines during the Olympics.

A lot has been made about

the Canadian slogan, "Own the Podium", many calling it arrogant, and not Canadian. I say, why not set the bar high? Don't settle for second best. Why can't we be as arrogant as the Americans? Why do we always have to be the polite, shy country, happy coming in second? We should always want to be the best at everything we do!

The Women's Hockey Team was highly criticized for the way they celebrated their gold medal victory — drinking beer and smoking cigars on the ice. Listen, I'm all for celebrating, but you need to understand who you are and the stage you're on. You're at the Olympics, where everything is scrutinized, and you're also role models for millions of girls across the country. It's not just the fact that these women were drinking and smoking in public, but a few of the girls are underage, and that is definitely not acceptable. I don't condone underage drinking.

Joannie Rochette made headlines, and deservedly so. Rochette won the bronze medal after an almost flawless skate, only days after the death of her mother. Rochette showed the heart and courage that makes me proud to say I'm Canadian. She's a true Canadian role model and deserves recognition.

Murphy is a former professional hockey player who now resides in Shawville. Contact him at news@theequity.ca.

There has been a lot of talk of eliminating Women's Hockey as an Olympic event. This is a tough one. I agree that it's pretty unexciting to watch a two-horse race. After the Canadians and Americans, the rest of the field is uncompetitive and unwatchable. I agree something needs to change. But removing it is not the answer. Hockey in Canada and the United States has grown exponentially for women. Young girls now have dreams of someday winning a gold medal. I think other countries need to start spending more money towards women's hockey. I know the changes won't be seen overnight. So what I propose is that we have the U.S. and Canada play a seven game series for the gold medal, and the other countries play a round-robin tournament for the bronze, until teams start to improve. I know this would never happen, but it's what I propose and I think it would be more entertaining for the viewers.

All in all, the Olympics were a great event, and our athletes represented this great nation with absolute courage and enthusiasm, making me proud to say, "I am Canadian!"

Murphy is a former professional hockey player who now resides in Shawville. Contact him at news@theequity.ca.

Murphy is a former professional hockey player who now resides in Shawville. Contact him at news@theequity.ca.

Pontiac hockey players never give up

ANDREA CRANFIELD
Equity Reporter
PONTIAC •

Novice

The Novice B Lions played their last regular game of the season on Feb. 27 against the Maniwaki Mustangs in Maniwaki and won 7-0. Goals were scored by Grayson Lang who got a hat trick, Rayden Besharah, Michael McCann and Charles Romain who scored twice. All goals were made unassisted. Jakob Therrien played net. Playoffs for the Novice B Lions start March 13.

Atom

On Feb. 14 the Atom A Lions traveled to Aylmer to play the Aylmer Extreme and lost 3-1. Chevy Larocque scored the lone goal, assisted by Yan Bechamp.

On Feb. 20 the Atom A Lions hosted the Maniwaki Mustangs in the final game of the regular season and won 7-2. Larocque scored four goals, Jean-Luc Fortin scored twice and Troy Romain scored once. Assists were made by Jordan Boisvert, Troy Romain, Larocque, Connor Walsh and Fortin.

The Atom CC Lions played the Voisins de Papineau on Feb. 27 and tied 1-1. The goal was scored by Connor Romain unassisted with one minute 32 seconds left in the

game. Jeremy Poulin played net.

On Feb. 28 the Atom CC Lions played the Aigles de Gatineau and won 5-0. Austin Duggan and Connor Romain each scored two and Patrick St-Cyr scored one. Assists went to Vance Olmsted with two, and Alexandre Romain, Michael O'Reilly, Ryan Nugent, Connor Romain and Duggan each got one.

Peewee

On Feb. 28 the Peewee A Lions played their final game of the regular season in Shawville against the Gatineau Patriots. The game ended in a 1-1 tie.

The goal for the Lions was scored by Jordan Horner. The Lions regular season record was 7-6-7.

The Peewee CC Lions played against the Voiliers D'Aylmer on Feb. 28 in Fort Coulonge and won 6-2. Danny Pasch, Zach Elliott, Julien Lepine and Matt Curley each scored once and Alexis Gauthier scored twice. Assists were made by Daniel Boivin, Carter Pirie (3), Pasch and Steven Scuiteboer. Joshua Strigl played net.

Bantam

The Bantam CC Lions had their play-offs this past weekend. On Feb. 19 they played the Gatineau Aigles in Gatineau and lost 3-1. Cris Hearty scored the lone

goal assisted by Kevin McKinnon.

On Feb. 20 the Bantam CC Lions played the Gatineau A's and lost 6-3. Jeremy Donnelly, Michell Boisvert and Hearty scored goals. Andrew Cahill, McKinnon (2) and Hearty made assists.

On Feb. 21 the Bantam CC Lions played Aylmer in Shawville and tied 1-1. The goal was scored by Cahill assisted by Josh Horner and Donnelly.

On Feb. 27 the Bantam CC Lions played the Loups des Collines in Fort Coulonge and lost 1-0.

On Feb. 28 the Bantam CC Lions played the Voisins de Papineau and lost 5-2. Goals were scored by Danny Pasch and Boisvert.

Assists were made by Brad Pearson, Pasch, Charles Welch and Ben Horner.

Midget

The Midget A Lions played the Aylmer Extreme on Feb. 27 and won 5-3. Casey Henderson scored three goals and Brandon Nugent and Brett Caron each scored once. Assists were made by Josh Bourgeau, Brandon Alexander and Nicholas Lachapelle.

On Feb. 28 the Midget A Lions played the Les Patriotes and lost 4-3. Bourgeau, Henderson and Stephen Paré scored goals and

Alexander, Bourgeau and Henderson made assists.

The Midget CC Lions played in Val des Monts on Thursday against the Loups Des Collines and won 5-3. Goals went to Brady Trudeau assisted by Jean-Michel Normandeau; Normandeau assisted by Stephan Paré and Maxime Malette; Malette assisted by Normandeau and Paré; Normandeau unassisted and Ross Côté assisted by Jaime Denault.

The Midget CC Lions played the Maniwaki Mustangs in Fort Coulonge on Feb. 27 and lost 4-2. Goals went to Colton Keon and Matthew Alexander. Assists went to Alexander, Ross Côté, Keon and Maxime Malette.

On Feb. 28 the Midget CC Lions played the Gatineau Aigles in Gatineau and won 8-1. Keon scored three times, Alexander scored three times and Jaime Denault scored twice. Assists went to Keon for two, Alexander, Malette for two, Denault and Owen Teevens.

ON THE ICE | MAVIS HANNA

Latest trophy winners

The Shawville Curling Club's evening curling is proceeding well with many of the trophies curled for at this time. The latest trophy winners are for Monday night mens, the Hayes Trophy, went to Brian Harris (skip), Josh Armitage, Joey Hannaberry and Josh Greenshields. While the Monday night, Ladies Sweetheart Trophy was won by Phyllis Wilson (skip), Elva Stark, Ann Bourgeau and Kelsey Stanley.

The next upcoming event at the Shawville Curling Club will be the CHEO Foundation Fundraiser bonspiel March 13 and 14 at \$25 per curler.

The bonspiel will be a fun event, so all are welcome to participate. Live entertainment provided by Dennis Rockburne on Saturday evening. If you require further information or have a team please contact any of the following, Ron Tubman 819-647-3567, Wade Ellison 819-647-3501, Vickie May 819-455-9670 or Stacy Howard 819-647-1934.

The executive has scheduled an open meeting for Thursday, March 11 at 7:30 p.m. with all members welcome.

Submitted by Mavis Hanna

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Programmation des travaux routiers 2010-2011

Québec poursuit le redressement du réseau routier dans la région de l'Outaouais

GATINEAU • Le ministre délégué aux Transports et ministre responsable de la région de l'Outaouais, M. Norman MacMillan, a dévoilé aujourd'hui, en compagnie de Mme Stéphanie Vallée, députée de Gatineau, Mme Charlotte L'Écuyer, députée de Pontiac, Mme Maryse Gaudreault, députée de Hull, et M. Marc Carrière, député de Chapleau, la programmation des travaux routiers pour 2010-2011. Cette annonce s'inscrit dans la poursuite de la mise en oeuvre du vaste plan de redressement de l'état du réseau routier québécois annoncé par le gouvernement du Québec en 2007.

« Nous sommes aujourd'hui en mesure de confirmer que l'état de nos infrastructures routières s'est amélioré de façon significative au cours des trois dernières années.

D'où l'importance de maintenir le cap avec des investissements routiers de 195 millions de dollars pour la région de l'Outaouais en 2010-2011 », a déclaré le ministre MacMillan.

À l'image des dernières années, la saison 2010-2011 des travaux routiers sera particulièrement active dans la région de l'Outaouais. On prévoit poursuivre, entreprendre ou compléter 63 chantiers qui se traduiront par la création ou le maintien de près de 2 530 emplois.

Dans le contexte économique mondial actuel, les investissements routiers demeurent un outil important pour consolider la relance économique au Québec », a souligné le ministre.

À l'échelle provinciale, le gouvernement investira cette année près de 3,5 milliards de dollars dans les infrastructures routières. À ce montant s'ajoute la contribution des partenaires, ce qui porte à près de 4,2 milliards les sommes qui seront consacrées au réseau routier québécois.

Programmation de l'Outaouais

La programmation des travaux routiers 2010-2011 pour la région de l'Outaouais prévoit des investissements de près de 84 millions de dollars pour la conservation des actifs et l'amélioration du réseau. Cela comprend, entre autres, la rénovation de chaussées et des interventions sur 36 structures, dont la moitié sur le réseau municipal. Enfin, 111 millions seront consacrés au développement du réseau.

« Plus précisément, les investissements se répartissent

en fonction des axes d'intervention suivants :

- Conservation des chaussées : 50,2 M\$
- Conservation des structures : 21,8 M\$
- Amélioration du réseau routier : 12 M\$
- Développement du réseau routier : 111 M\$

Parmi les principaux projets, mentionnons la poursuite des travaux de prolongement de l'autoroute 50, plus spécifiquement entre Thurso et Fassett, sur un total de 36 km, au coût de 71 millions de dollars. Également, plus de 37 millions sont prévus pour la poursuite du projet de prolongement de l'autoroute 5. Ainsi, les travaux de construction du 2e tronçon pourront débuter dès le printemps.

Une somme de 6,9 millions sera consacrée à la reconstruction du pont d'étagement du boulevard Saint-Raymond.

Pour sa part, la reconstruction du pont Major enjambant la rivière du Lièvre sur la route 148 coûtera 4,2 millions de dollars. Finalement, le Ministère prévoit la réfection de plusieurs tronçons de chaussée, notamment sur la route 117, dans le secteur de la réserve faunique La Vérendrye (8,7 millions), sur les chemins Blue Sea et Principal à Blue Sea (2,6 millions), sur la route 309, au nord de l'agglomération de Val-des-Bois (2,5 millions) et sur le chemin Waltham-Chapeau, de la route 148 jusqu'à la limite municipale ouest de Waltham (3,2 millions).

« En investissant dans notre patrimoine routier, nous serons en mesure d'offrir à l'ensemble des usagers de la région de l'Outaouais, ainsi qu'aux entreprises qui y sont implantées, des routes efficaces et sécuritaires qui jouent pleinement leur rôle structurant pour l'économie d'ici », a conclu le ministre MacMillan.

Voici quelques uns des projets de construction routière qui auront lieu dans la région :

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De Portage-du-Fort vers le nord, Portage-du-Fort - Asphaltage 1 975 000 \$ (contribution de 787 000 \$ du gouvernement du Canada);

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Portage-du-Fort jusqu'à l'agglomération de Shawville Clarendon, Portage-du-Fort - Asphaltage 3 055 000 \$;

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Chemin Chapeau-Pembroke
Du chemin Desjardinsville jusqu'à l'intersection avec la route 148 L'Isle-Aux-Allumettes - Réfection de la chaussée 1 600 000 \$;

Route 148

À 0,5 km à l'est du rang Murray en direction est Pontiac - Réfection de la chaussée 2 150 000 \$;

Chemin Waltham-Chapeau
À 0,5 km à l'est de l'agglomération de Chichester vers l'ouest Chichester - Réfection de la chaussée 1 000 000 \$

Chemin Waltham-Chapeau
De la route 148 jusqu'à la limite municipale ouest de Waltham Waltham - Réfection de la chaussée 3 150 000 \$.

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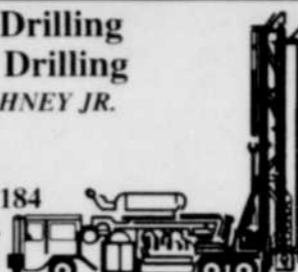
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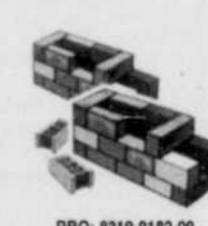
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PASSPORT PHOTOS

\$10.00 including taxes. No appointment necessary.
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Félicitations François-Louis!

Télébec est fière de célébrer le talent prodigieux du patineur de vitesse sur piste courte François-Louis Tremblay. Ses récentes performances aux Jeux olympiques d'hiver de 2010 à Vancouver démontrent sa détermination et sa persévérance. C'est d'ailleurs ce qui lui permet de constamment repousser les limites de l'endurance, de la puissance et de la vitesse.



François-Louis Tremblay
Patinage de vitesse sur piste courte



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Calendar grid for March and April 2010 with days of the week and dates.

CLASSIFIED

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Submissions > DEADLINE

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COMING EVENTS

Sun., March 7 - Marvellous Message in March. New Hope Christian Fellowship Church invites you to a special evening of singing. Both young and old taking part, also a glimpse into the lives of some important Bible Women. bm3

Sun., March 7 - 7:00 p.m. Sacred Concert at St. Andrew's United Church, Campbell's Bay, QC as arranged by Paula Lundrigan organist and choir director of Pembroke. Lunch to follow. Morning service cancelled. bm3

Wed., March 10 - Poor Man's Lunch, Oddfellow Hall, Shawville 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. \$6 each. xm3

Fri., March 12 - At 7 p.m. Onslow Elementary presents St. Patrick's Variety Concert. Local talent. \$5 per person. All proceeds to the Grade 6 Graduating Class. 2xm10

Sat., March 13 - St. Patrick's Irish Kitchen Party starting at 2 p.m. until ??? at the Quyon Legion Branch 231. All your favourite local musicians. Bring an instrument and join the party, everybody welcome. No charge admission. Lunch available. Info Dean at 819-458-1239. 3bm24

Sun., March 14 - Grace Community Bible Church, Highway 148, Shawville - Gospel Bluegrass evening with the Daae Family. 2xm10

JAMIESON TRAVEL & TOURS - Upcoming tours. SYRACUSE Shopping Getaway April 23-25. NY City, Manhattan May 6-9. BRANSON, Missouri May & Nov. CAPE COD incl. Boston & Martha's Vineyard in June. SAGUENAY in July. NEWFOUNDLAND in Aug. IRELAND in Sept. SCOTLAND in Oct. And more. Call for catalogue 613-582-7011 or 1-888-582-7011 or visit website www.jamiesontravel.com for individual tour details. 3xm24

MISCELLANEOUS

Furniture at huge savings as well as TV and appliances. Al Utronki Appliance & TV. Renfrew 613-432-5318. We sell the best for less. otc

Firewood for sale, dry hard maple and beach \$80 a cord pick up, will deliver. Call 819-647-5519. Cell No: 819-921-2615. 21xm31



Salt and sand sander 2 years old, 1.75 yd. Fit 4 x 4, 250 pickup. \$3,800 or o.b.o. Call 1-613-735-4632. 4xm10

New CD just released! Adrienne Taylor just finished her first country CD. You can purchase a copy at The Equity, Shawville, Coronation Hall, Bristol or contact Adrienne at 819-647-2161. otc

New Snap-On tool box. Lock and Roll, 20" deep, 40" wide, 19" high. 4 drawers sitting on handmade oak stand with wheels, ceramic tile on top and inside shelves; 1956 International C tractor with 59" Woods lawn mower \$3,900, 819-647-3509. 3xm17

Purell Hand Sanitizer dispensers now in stock at Pontiac Printshop, 133 Centre St., Shawville, Quebec. 819-647-2204. xtc.

Large black entertainment unit with glass bubble doors and lighting, asking \$200; air-tight wood stove with gold trim asking \$200. Also Evenflo stroller and matching car seat with base (3 in 1) asking \$50. Call 819-647-2665. xm3

THE EQUITY

ADVERTISING DEADLINE: MONDAYS 5:00 P.M.

PAID IN ADVANCE: \$10.00 first 15 words, 15c each additional word, plus tax.

INVOICED: \$15.00 first 15 words, 15c each additional word, plus tax. E-MAIL ADS: news@theequity.ca

S.V.P. inclure votre cheque payable à Pontiac Printshop avec vos commandes. Please include your cheque payable to Pontiac Printshop with your order. 133, rue Centre St., Shawville, Québec J0X 2Y0 Tél.: 819-647-2204 Fax: 819-647-2206

133, rue Centre St., Shawville, Québec J0X 2Y0 Tél.: 819-647-2204 Fax: 819-647-2206

VISA INTERAC Visa, MasterCard, Interac accepted

MISCELLANEOUS

Recession buster: Place two classified ads and get the third one free. This is a limited time special, so dig out those items you don't use and place them for sale... make some cash! Valid on "items for sale" and "coming events". Must be paid in advance. Copy can be the same or different, price charged on higher value, ads must run consecutive weeks for same copy or current week for different copy. Call The Equity today to take advantage of this special: 819-647-2204. xtc

OUR CLASSIFIED ADS WORK!!

Dear Equity...I have sold several items lately and placed ads on several online sites and in a few local newspapers. Every item that I sold was through The Equity's classifieds listings. Thanks again...Mick Armitage

Place your ad now 819-647-2204

The Quebec Community Newspapers Association can place your ad into 25 weekly papers throughout Quebec - just \$160. Book 10 weeks with in a 6 month period and receive the 11th week free! One phone call does it all! Call Marnie at QCNA 514-453-6300. Visit: www.qcna.org. qm3

BEDS, SOFA BEDS, BEDROOM SUITES, DINING ROOM SUITES, SOFAS, RECLINERS, BAR STOOLS, HEADBOARDS, COMFORTERS MATTRESS FACTORY & FURNITURE OUTLET 312 Raglan St. S., Renfrew 432-8826

Lose up to 24lbs by May 24. Results guaranteed. Look great. Feel great. Lose weight. Call Herbal Magic for a free no obligation consultation. 1-800-926-4363.

Norwood Sawmills - LumberMate-Pro handles logs 34" diameter, mills boards 28" wide. Automated quick-cycle-sawing increases efficiency up to 40%. www.NorwoodSawmills.com/400OT - FREE information: 1-800-566-6899 Ext:400OT.



New and used snowblowers. Rolly Small Engine Repair. Call 1-613-735-4632. 4xm10

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

Heilsa pellet stove with chimney, six-months-old, still on warranty, great price, best offer 819-648-2430. 3xm10

Large black entertainment unit with glass bubble doors and lighting, asking \$200; air-tight wood stove with gold trim asking \$200. Also Evenflo stroller and matching car seat with base (3 in 1) asking \$50. Call 819-647-2665. xm3

WANTED

Small country home (farm) for raising biological chickens in Pontiac region. Inquire at 819-648-2430. 4xm3

WANTED TO BUY

Abacadabra turn your hidden treasures into ready cash. International buyer wants to purchase your antiques, paintings, china, crystal, gold, silverware, jewellery, rare books, sports, movies, postcards, coins, stamps, records. 514-501-9072. qm3

LIVESTOCK

Full French Charolais bulls for sale, yearlings and one and half-year-olds. Call Rob 613-433-3204, or Bill 613-432-4762. 3xm17

FARM PRODUCE

Quantity of small square bales and 4 x 5 round, first cut hay stored under cover, no rain. 613-432-6388. 3bm10

Hay 4 x 5 round bales, hay small square bales, straw 4 x 5 round bales. Delivery available 613-646-9557. 15xa14

Bird feed, locally grown! Black oil sunflower and fantastic mixes. Call Barclay Dick & Son Farm Supply near Douglas, 613-649-2620 or 2440. 8xm31

Livestock Feeds! All natural, locally grown. Hi-Protein, Beef Booster, rolled scratch grain and more. Available in bulk, 1/2 te totes or 25 kg bags. Mineral, salt and milk replacers too! Call Barclay Dick & Son Farm Supply near Douglas, 613-649-2620 or 2440. 8xm31

Straw for sale - Large, square bales, stored indoors. Call Barclay Dick & Son Farm Supply near Douglas, 613-649-2620 or 2440. 8xm31

Wildlife feeds - Deer and Wild Turkey survival mixes, whole and rolled corn. Hay, alfalfa cubes, mineral and licks. Summer foodplot seeds available as well. Enjoy the wildlife year round! Call Barclay Dick & Son Farm Supply near Douglas, 613-649-2620 or 2440. 8xm31

Wrapped second cut and standing hay call 819-647-5878. 2bm10

Hay for sale 4 x 5 round bales \$20 each 819-647-5495. xm3

FARM EQUIPMENT

Case S.M. 4 x 4 backhoe 1,900 hours. Case 450C 6 way bulldozer 4,700 hours \$16,900. 4 x 4 tractors, 4 other backhoes, hydraulic clam for loader, other equipment 613-432-2424. xm3

SNOWMOBILES

2 Polaris snowmobiles, one is a 2007 brand new (never used) (600cc) and the other one is a 2003 and it has 7,000 miles (11,670 km) also a 600 cc, plus a closed-in trailer 1997. All in good shape asking \$15,000.00. Please contact 819-648-2555. otc

CARS

Certified Used Cars, Trucks, 4x4's & Vans Over 30 in-stock! We service what we sell. Motors & Transmissions Sold and Installed Auto Glass Replacement Tire Sales - 24 hr. Towing FINANCING AVAILABLE OAC BRISTOL AUTO BODY 11 Front Rd., Bristol, QC 819-647-3313

TRAILERS



1989 - Bonair 5th wheel, 27 ft., excellent condition, 4 new 10 ply tires \$6,800 or o.b.o. Call 1-613-735-4632. 4xm10

WANTED TO RENT

Family from New Brunswick will be arriving in the Pontiac mid-March. Looking for a good house to rent in Shawville area. Must have at least 3 bedrooms, an office space and access to high-speed internet. Will be moving here to work in the Pontiac region. Please contact Savio Morais, Service d'accueil professionnelle, Carrefour jeunesse-emploi du Pontiac/MRC Pontiac @ 819-648-5065, 819-962-5650 or smorais@crep.qc.ca bm3

PERSONALS

Dating Service. Long term / short term relationships, free calls! 1-877-297-9883. Exchange voice messages, voice mailboxes 1-888-534-6984. Live adult casual conversations 1 on 1, 1-866-311-9640, meet on chat lines. Local single ladies 1-877-804-5381 (18+). qm3

WANTED TO RENT

3 bedroom house or apartment in Shawville April or May 1 occupancy 819-647-6113. xm3

RENT

Bristol - 3 bedroom apartment heat and hydro included. References, proofs of income, no pets. Call George 819-771-6117. otc

Bryson - 2 bedroom apartment 819-648-5555. otc

Campbell's Bay - 1 bedroom apartment fridge, stove, heat and hydro included 819-648-5158. otc

Campbell's Bay - 2 bedroom apartment downtown location. Please call Keith 819-648-2406. 4xm24

Shawville - 1 and 2 bedroom apartment for rent 647-3256. otc

Shawville - 1 bedroom apartment for rent, central location 613-582-3488 or cell 613-639-3163. otc

Shawville - 2 bedroom apartment, second floor for quiet person or couple, no pets, heat, parking and storage included \$550 month 819-647-6464. 2bm3

Shawville - 3 one bedroom apartments for seniors, no pets 819-647-6900. 6xa7

Shawville Lions Hall available for all occasions. Air conditioned. Call Jerry Callaghan 819-647-5691. bm3

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Bristol - newly renovated bungalow in Bristol on 2 acres, asking \$130,000 819-647-3119. 2xm3

Shawville - Nice serviced lot, Oak St., \$19,000, 819-458-2368. 3xm10

HELP WANTED

Inso-tech looking for employee for insulation work, fax resume 819-647-3357. otc.

Yukon Hospital Corporation is seeking resumes from Registered Nurses in anticipation of short/long term and permanent assignments for our Watson Lake Hospital - Yukon Territory. Visit www.whitehorsehospital.ca for more information. qm3

Equipment mechanic: Busy Farm and Farm Supply Outlet looking for full time mechanical minded individual to perform repairs and maintenance on a wide range of equipment. Fabrication skills an asset. Call Barclay Dick & Son Farm Supply 613-649-2440 or 613-649-2620. 2bm3

Chipstand work - part-time and possible full-time. Must be available for weekends. Experience in order taking, additions, some cooking. Call 819-647-2585. 2bm10

Experienced DZ driver with a clean abstract. Driver home every night. Boom operation an asset. Renfrew. Send resume to: 613-432-9596. 2xm10

Roll off truck driver wanted. Full-time position. Must have a minimum of 3 years truck driving experience. Must be a team player. Must be dedicated to his/her work. Safety-conscious individual a must. Flexible working hours. Local work. Regular bi-weekly pay. Start April 2010. Send us your resume by mail or e-mail to rhonda@tomorcartage.com P.O. Box 646, Shawville QC, J0X 2Y0 819-647-2670. bm3

SERVICES

Need something moved? Light float service 10 ton trailer, 24 ft. deck. Can move small tractor and equipment, lumber, hay, etc. Reasonable rates 819-647-3636. Ask for Luc.

Room for rent. Opening available at Tubman's Senior Home, home cooked meals, housekeeping care and TLC. Also available day time care for more info call Patricia 819-647-2458. 5xm31

PERSONALS

Dating Service. Long term / short term relationships, free calls! 1-877-297-9883. Exchange voice messages, voice mailboxes 1-888-534-6984. Live adult casual conversations 1 on 1, 1-866-311-9640, meet on chat lines. Local single ladies 1-877-804-5381 (18+). qm3

DEATH THANKS



Bannan-Brzeau, Courtney Ashley Myra - Died suddenly Feb. 23, 2010. She will be missed by Mom and Dad Steven Bannan and Diane Brzeau, sisters Stephanie and Samantha, also Aunt Ashley and Uncle Mark. Grandparents are Lucia and André Brzeau and Roy and Betty Ann (Bannan) Beattie.



MacKechnie, William Ronald - Passed away peacefully in hospital, Shawville, Quebec on February 17, 2010 in his 87th year. Beloved husband for 59 years of Helen (nee Goth). Predeceased by his parents Cora and S. Wyman MacKechnie and two infant sisters. Dearly loved father and grandfather of Heather (Pierre Blais) and Lea; Robert (Heather) and Christine (Trevor Brennan), Curtis (Shelley) and Christopher; Brenda (Bill Russell) and Jeff and Jenn (Robin Judd); Ian and Amanda and Brett; Susan (Richard Greenhields) and Joshua and Nicholas. Proud great-grandfather of Benjamin Ronald Judd. Loyal brother to Douglas (Helen), Laurie (Mona) and Lorna (Elmo Townsend). Fondly remembered by nieces and nephews and many friends from his diversified travels in life. Of his greatest accomplishments was providing love and guidance to his five children, ten grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. He was an accomplished dairy farmer and was so proud of his Bonnieshade Ayrshire dairy farm. Special thanks to Dr Keith MacLellan and the excellent staff at the Pontiac Community Hospital. Friends called at W.J. Hayes & Sons Funeral Home, 1040 Clarendon St., Quyon, Quebec on Sunday, February 21, 2010 Funeral on Monday to Quyon United Church, 1088 Clarendon Street, Quyon, Quebec. Spring Interment in Norway Bay United Cemetery. Donations to Quyon United Church were appreciated.

Foran - Sincere thanks to all of you who made Bill's sudden passing much more bearable. Thank you for all the wonderful food dropped off, cards, flowers, and all your acts of kindness. Thanks to Father Costello for your lovely words at Mass, and to Bill's cousins Eleanor and Margaret Ann along with the Choir for the lovely uplifting music. Food always brings people together, and Barb Desabrais and Millie Daley you did that and more. We thank you for taking care of such an important detail. Warm thanks also to Linda Lipa and Sue Tracey for providing us such a comforting dinner after the wake. Thank you Greg Hayes for going out of your way to accommodate us in every possible way. And to Audrey Fraser, our sincere gratitude for all your compassion and help through such a difficult process. Thanks to Bob Quesnel and friends for the wonderful slideshow and special touches; you did Bill proud. Thank you to our stoic pallbearers, Tom Tracey, Denis Gauthier, Bob Quesnel, Mike Foran, Ray Venasse and Mike Burke along with Len Totoro, Gary Harbach and Russ Bender. We sincerely appreciate all of Bill's friends and family who came from far and wide to pay their respects. Your shared stories reminded us how blessed and lucky we are to have had him. We are so glad Bill had the opportunity to know all of you and we hope to remain a part of your lives. For those that would like to share a memory of Bill, please go the Ottawa Citizen Online Guestbook (www.legacy.com/can-ottawa/Obituaries.asp) "With your chrome heart shining in the sun. Long may you run" (Neil Young) Cynthia, Clement & Joan, Barry, Dan, Sally, Cindy and family

Attfield-Senack - Angela's family wish to express their deep gratitude for the many offerings of food, flowers, phone calls, cards, expressions of sympathy and donations; to Ringrose Brothers Funeral Home for their compassion, to Father Nil for his empathic eulogy and to Father Real for his personal assistance. To the members of the choir, the organist and the guitarist who did such a great job with the music selections. To the Ladies Auxiliary for their dedication and meal preparation. A special thank you to Guildcrest Homes and R. Peck Construction, for making "Angela's Cottage" dream a reality for her. Also to everyone for the tremendous support and assistance given during her illness; With greatest appreciation. The Attfield and Senack families

Mohr - The family of Dorothy Mohr would like to express their gratitude for the support, kind words, cards received and donations made following the passing of "Dot". Thank you to the ladies and friends for all the food and the lovely lunch following the service. Special thanks go to Dr. Vander Stelt (especially for her years of caring for Dot), Palliative Care, and the wonderful nurses of Shawville Hospital; to Rev. Nancy Best for a beautiful service and for her support to Dot; and to Janet Taber for the wonderful music at the church. Thank you to everyone for your visits, cards and prayers sent lovingly to Dot throughout the last few months. Remembering your kindness, Keith, Marjorie, Gordie and Family

MacKechnie - The family of our beloved Ronald wishes to express our sincere appreciation for the many acts of kindness at this difficult time. For the beautiful floral arrangements, the generous donations to the Quyon United Church, the numerous sympathy cards and food donations from neighbours and friends. We especially wish to thank Rev. Dr. Robert Oliphant, the six grandsons who were the pallbearers, for the family members who participated and everyone who shared this special service with our family. Special thanks to W. J. Hayes and Sons Funeral Home and to the Quyon United UCW for the lovely lunch served afterwards. Our heartfelt thanks to Dr. MacLellan and the staff of the Pontiac Community Hospital especially the emergency unit and the palliative care unit. The MacKechnie Family

Brownlee - I would like to express my gratitude to everyone for their cards and letters and especially for their prayers following the recent death in January of my Mum, Mary Ramsay. Special thanks to the Parish of Clarendon for upholding and caring for my family and myself, both emotionally and spiritually. There are times when a community of faith is called upon to pastor their pastor and this was one of those times. Thank you. Yours in Christ. The Reverend Mavis and Graeme Brownlee and their children and extended families, in Canada and Ireland

Villeneuve-Dagenais - A tragedy gone right On the morning of February 20th, 2010 Jeff and Marlene were going to a fishing tournament for the day in Otter Lake. On the way on the lake to find their friends Jeff and Marlene's Ski-doo suddenly went through the ice. Frank Brunet and Jacques Lance were there to pull both of us out of the freezing water. These two guys are angels without wings. Saying thank you is not even enough to express how lucky we were they were there for us at the right time, at the right place. We want to thank Lee St-Aubin, Outfitter for gathering up warm clothing and my brother Guy Villeneuve for being there for both us. Thanks to all the boys for helping me fish out my Ski-doo. God bless you all. You are in our hearts for your bravery. Jeff and Marlene

Kelly, Lorne Patrick The Kelly Family and the staff of the Kelly Funeral Homes would like to express appreciation for the outpouring of kindness following the death of Lorne Patrick Kelly. We are grateful for the memories you shared with us at the visitation, the many floral tributes, Mass Offerings and In Memoriam donations.

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MacKechnie - The family of our beloved Ronald wishes to express our sincere appreciation for the many acts of kindness at this difficult time. For the beautiful floral arrangements, the generous donations to the Quyon United Church, the numerous sympathy cards and food donations from neighbours and friends. We especially wish to thank Rev. Dr. Robert Oliphant, the six grandsons who were the pallbearers, for the family members who participated and everyone who shared this special service with our family. Special thanks to W. J. Hayes and Sons Funeral Home and to the Quyon United UCW for the lovely lunch served afterwards. Our heartfelt thanks to Dr. MacLellan and the staff of the Pontiac Community Hospital especially the emergency unit and the palliative care unit. The MacKechnie Family

Brownlee - I would like to express my gratitude to everyone for their cards and letters and especially for their prayers following the recent death in January of my Mum, Mary Ramsay. Special thanks to the Parish of Clarendon for upholding and caring for my family and myself, both emotionally and spiritually. There are times when a community of faith is called upon to pastor their pastor and this was one of those times. Thank you. Yours in Christ. The Reverend Mavis and Graeme Brownlee and their children and extended families, in Canada and Ireland

Villeneuve-Dagenais - A tragedy gone right On the morning of February 20th, 2010 Jeff and Marlene were going to a fishing tournament for the day in Otter Lake. On the way on the lake to find their friends Jeff and Marlene's Ski-doo suddenly went through the ice. Frank Brunet and Jacques Lance were there to pull both of us out of the freezing water. These two guys are angels without wings. Saying thank you is not even enough to express how lucky we were they were there for us at the right time,

WASTE: Pontiac dumpsites closing April 1 - the preparations come to an end

Continued from page one

The garbage is then transferred to a bigger truck to be driven to Lachute and the pickup truck is weighed once again with nothing in it. This way the weight of the garbage can be figured out, and municipalities will be charged accordingly.

There are some items that are still free of charge such as leaves, grass clippings, natural wood and steel; no matter how much of it there is.

There is a quick deposit area if people just have one bag of garbage and don't want to go through the whole process of driving onto scales to have it weighed. It costs \$3 per bag and the bag has to be well tied, well sealed and under the weight restriction of 22.5 pounds.

There is a price list at the transfer station for larger items to be thrown away. The hours of operation are also posted.

"Five years ago you could drive into the dump any time you wanted to. It was a free-for-all. There was no attendant and no recycling," Hawley said. "Now people are told what they can and can't do."

The way each municipality deals with the disposal of its garbage is not uniform. The choice of how it deals with its waste is up to each individual township but they all must raise enough money to get the garbage from Orr's transfer station to Lachute.

McCrack feels that as mayor of a municipality his right to choose has been taken away from him.

"We're being victimized as municipal politicians. There's other alternatives. The Ministry of environment took our civil rights away, she is prejudiced against us," he said. "It's ridiculous what they're doing and I'm totally against it. We should be able to decide what to do with our own waste."

Some municipalities will add on a garbage tax, other municipalities are putting the extra charge in the mill rate. Some municipalities are charging the same to every person and some are doing it by household. But whatever the situation, the rates are going up.

Orr believes that if municipalities knew ten or 12 years ago that this was going to happen and they increased their taxes by three or four per cent, then Pontiac would not be in this situation right now.

"We underpaid for 50 years and now we have to pay. People aren't paying more than anyone else in the world," Orr said. "It's like if you've been getting free gas for your car for a number of years and then one day you went to the gas station to fill up your gas tank and they said you had to pay."

Each municipality pays \$196.29 per ton of garbage. Municipalities have done an estimate on the tonnage of garbage they have. StatsCan states that there's 0.8 tons of garbage per person per year in Canada. Most municipalities use that formula to figure out how much more money they will have to pay per year.

"We are paying the highest prices in one of the poorest communities. People are less than enthusiastic; we're pawns," McCrack exclaimed. "They came to us and said 'This is what's going on deal with it.' It's not fair for the peo-

ple. We want a cost effective way of doing this."

Hawley said that everybody is angry and people are taking it out on local municipalities.

"It's out of our hands, it's a provincial issue. As far as I can see there's nothing anybody can do. There are rules and regulation we have to follow," he said. "It's a wake-up call for everybody. It's gone from very cheap to very expensive in the stroke of a pen."

Businesses are not included in the new garbage pick-up system; it is only for residential households. Previously, businesses could bring their garbage to the dump but not anymore. Now most businesses are responsible for having it picked up themselves. They are able to make arrangements with Orr or with a private contractor to have something done with their garbage.

"People aren't happy about that," Hawley said. "Especially when you have businesses who produce a small amount of garbage."

Young said he is worried that because people have never been charged for garbage before, they may start to throw their garbage on the side of the road or burn it.

"We're really trying to discourage that. We're working with the police to stop it and we are really going to enforce it in the next couple of months," he said.

Hawley hopes that everybody starts to think about what they can do to reduce their waste.

"We have to reduce at a consumer level," he explained. "We can pick and choose what packaging we buy. People are really going to have to start thinking about their lifestyles and what they need and what they have to throw out."

Right now each municipality has an estimate of how much garbage they produce. It will take about nine months of keeping track of all the garbage to find out how much waste every municipality actually does produce. Costs to residents will then be raised or lowered depending on the amount.

"If they see the tonnage is less the next year they will reduce the tax bill," Richardson said.

Most mayors are encouraging residents to compost, which is a lot better for the environment and will reduce the garbage bill in the long run.

"Composting reduces garbage. If each municipality encourages composting it reduces a lot of garbage, which reduces tonnage, and garbage is charged by the ton," Richardson said.

Lachute is a state-of-the-art facility that is working to convert garbage into energy. All of the water goes to a heavy treatment plant. All of the waste water from the system is cleaned. And there are two hydroelectric plants that work off methane gas creating electricity. It is also lined with a heavy liner so the gases are captured at the site.

McCrack thinks Pontiac should have found a sustainable solution and invested in new technologies to keep the garbage local because of the cost.

"I'm totally against it, we have to modernize ourselves," McCrack said. "We have to attain the new technologies that are available. The government created the problem and they didn't provide any solutions whatsoever. They should

have given us the opportunity to make new technologies work before they imposed these strict rules."

Hawley agrees and said there is no reason building a landfill site couldn't be done in Pontiac.

But Orr said even if there was a landfill site in Hull, in regards to cost it would only be a matter of a few dollars difference per ton.

"The difference of 100 miles to 200 miles is somewhere around \$10 a ton. There is not a lot of savings of getting it (landfill site) any closer."

20 years ago there was an attempt to build a local landfill at Hilton Mines. There was also an attempt to build a local landfill site at Danford Lake. Both projects were rejected. There is a lot of talk from people who want a local landfill site to save money but it has not worked in the past.

"We had the opportunity to have it in our backyard and we didn't want that and now we have to pay," Orr said.

There are a lot of changes taking place and some things will be difficult to get used to. Richardson suggests that residents contact their local municipalities to find out what they should be doing.

"Municipalities are going to have to work hard in the first couple of weeks of change to make sure residents are informed of where they need to take their garbage and recycling," she commented. "People are having a hard time wrapping their heads around it."

Hawley agreed and said it will take time for people to adjust.

"There's going to be problems. It's tough to answer constituents when they ask questions because they really don't know, and they have a right to know," Hawley said. "We're in a bad spot but everybody's in the same boat."

Orr believes that once people get over the bump of the cost then it won't be such a big deal any more.

"Now that we're doing the work I do think it'll help out how we're looked at by rest of country because we'll be doing things according to law. Basically we were burning our garbage. They way other people look at that has quite an impact," he said.

So now what happens to the old dump sites? Well they have to be filled in. In some cases the sites will be closed off so people don't have access to them. In some cases the old sites are being turned into the new reception or transfer sites. And a company actually offered to plant some trees on some of the sites, but nothing has been finalized yet.

The EQUITY spoke to the mayors from most of the municipalities and found out what changes are taking place in each of the municipalities.

Here is a breakdown of the changes that will be taking place as of April 1:

Alleyne-et-Cawood

Mayor Charlene Charf-Lafleur said that there really isn't going to be that much of a change in services or prices for residents of Alleyne-et-Cawood. Door-to-door pickup services will remain the same and the price will stay the same. Curbside recycling services and prices will remain the same as well. Lafleur said they had a surplus in the budget so they incorporated the surplus to cover all the costs of the rise in garbage and recycling fees. People pay an

environmental fee, which covers the cost of the pickup and transportation of garbage and recycling.

Bristol
In Bristol, garbage and recycling can be dropped off at Orr's transfer station on 7th Line or at Clarendon's town hall at 32 Aylmer Road where there will be a couple of garbage and recycling bins. People can't leave garbage at the curb, it has to be dropped off every week; there is only curbside pickup in the summer in Norway Bay.

The environmental fee on taxes is going up. Last year it cost \$110 and this year it will cost \$195. The \$195 includes 100 garbage bags to be used throughout the year. If the bags run out, more bags can be purchased but there is an additional cost.

Mayor Brent Orr said that recycling stays the same and there will be no extra cost for recycling. Bristol is with a recycling company called Centre de Formation en Entreprise et Recuperation de l'Outaouais (CFER).

Bryson
We were unable to contact the mayor of Bryson.

Campbell's Bay
Campbell's Bay is still finalizing all of the details of the new changes taking place and there will be more details available soon. They are still providing door-to-door pickup and then trucking the garbage to Orr's transfer station.

Garbage pickup time stays the same: Wednesday. There are also drop off bins in Campbell's Bay where people can drop off garbage. Everyone is allowed to put out three bags of garbage with each bag weighing no more than 15 pounds.

"We overdid it a little just to give people a chance," mayor Bill Stewart said. "If they have more than three bags they can take it to the dump at \$2 a bag."

Recycling remains the same and there is no extra cost.

Chichester
In Chichester, residents still have to drop off their garbage but now it goes to a different location on the same lot a few hundred feet away. There is an upcoming meeting where all of the details will be finalized.

Mayor Donald Gagnon said there is a private contractor who picks up garbage for some people. It is not connected with the municipality so that they can continue if residents choose to stay on with the contractor.

Household garbage costs are included with taxes. The mill rate won't change but there is another \$15 added to the environmental and health fee. Gagnon said that although some municipalities are charging residents for garbage bags, Chichester will not be turning to the bag system right away.

A notice is being sent out to residents in the near future informing them of the changes taking place.

"If we find it more expensive, we'll have to change our system," Gagnon said. "We have an estimate but everything is still unknown. After a couple of months we'll reassess it."

Recycling is still free and Gagnon encourages more recycling so there is less waste going to the landfill.

Clarendon
In Clarendon the old dumpsite is closing and residents have to take their garbage and

recycling to Orr's transfer station themselves. It now costs \$200 in environmental fees per household for the year.

"The big problem is we've never charged," Mayor Jack Lang said. "It was all included in the tax bill. It was costing money but we put it in the mill rate. Now we can't do that because we'd have to up the mill rate and it's too expensive."

For \$200 people get 100 garbage bags for the year. If they run out of bags they have to purchase more for an additional cost. If someone uses their own garbage bags, they have to pay a fee at Orr's transfer station.

Bags are included for recycling as well. Recycling will be included in the \$200 fee; it was previously covered in the mill rate.

Fort Coulonge
Fort Coulonge will continue door-to-door pickup of garbage and recycling. Mayor Raymond Durocher said the only difference now is that since the garbage is hauled so far away there has to be an extra charge to cover expenses.

Right now residents pay close to \$150 per year and there will now be an additional \$50 charge per household per year. There is no extra charge for recycling. It is being charged as a service so there will be no increase in the mill rate.

Calumet Island
Calumet Island has a new transfer site where there will be containers for people to drop off their garbage.

There are four spots for people to drop off recycling: one at the transfer station, one at the store in town, one at the garage in town and one on a Mountain Road to give people more access. There will still be steel pickup for residents.

"We're not thinking of changing the steel or anything like that. We're trying to keep that what it was," Mayor Paul-Emile Maleau said.

In Calumet Island residents are being charged for garbage services per house. Maleau said it will be about \$215 for garbage alone and \$43 for recycling. In total each household pays \$258.

The dump will cost approximately \$100,000 per year for Calumet Island, which is in the budget. So people are being charged \$258 and receiving \$100 back after the cost of the garbage services are paid. Currently there are no special charges for garbage or recycling.

Otter Lake
In Otter Lake the new transfer station will be right beside where the in-trench dumpsite was. Residents must drop their garbage off at the transfer station. Last year residents were charged \$60 and this year they will be charged \$225. It will show up as a special charge on the tax bill. Household garbage that's in a bag is the only thing that's covered by the \$225. There is no charge for recycling.

Otter Lake is setting up an electronic tracking system to monitor how much garbage each household brings in. Each house gets a barcode card that is mandatory that must be used at the transfer station. Everyone will also be asked what they're bringing in and how much it weighs.

"The long term goal is to have the user (of the transfer stations) pay for the amount of garbage they produce,"

Mayor Graham Hawley said. "Each household brings in different amounts of garbage. Hopefully in a year or two each person will have to pay for their own issue."

Otter Lake is estimated to produce 1,300 tons of garbage per year and with each ton costing about \$197, it comes to about \$260,000 a year.

"We have a pretty big municipality so we'll produce lots of garbage," Hawley said.

Allumettes Island
A transfer site is being opened up on Range 5 for people to drop off their garbage and recycling. Right now in Chapeau there is door-to-door garbage pickup but that will be discontinued as of April. So taxes will actually go down for Chapeau residents.

Chapeau residents will either have to hire a private contractor for door-to-door service or bring their garbage to the transfer site. Mayor Winston Sunstrum said right now he is unsure of what exactly all the extra costs will be and he will have to wait nine months before he has a better picture.

In 2008 there was a \$25 surcharge on tax bills. In 2009 there was a \$50 surcharge to build up some money for reserve funds.

"Those two surcharges means we have \$126,000 in reserve for extra costs for setting up an infrastructure and hauling garbage," Sunstrum said.

The previous garbage fee for residents was \$49 plus the surcharge. Now those two charges will be combined into a \$99 recycling and garbage fee.

For the \$99 every household will get 26 municipally identified garbage bags. If more bags are needed there is a \$3 charge per bag.

Litchfield
In Litchfield residents must take their garbage and recycling to a transfer site that is in the same general area as the in-trench dump. Right now, there is no garbage tax but with the new law in place, each household will have to pay \$205 per year. There is already a charge for recycling and that will remain the same for now.

Mansfield
Mansfield will continue its door-to-door pickup of people's garbage and recycling; there will not be a transfer station put in place. Garbage

is picked up on Wednesdays and recycling is picked up every second Tuesday. It will cost residents \$100 more a year now and the cost will be reevaluated in December 2010 or January 2011.

Right now it costs residents \$158 for garbage pick up and as of April 1 it will cost \$258. It costs \$68 a year for recycling, which is staying the same. The cost appears on the tax bill.

Portage du Fort
Portage du Fort will continue its door-to-door pick up of garbage. There will be a \$100 tax increase per household. Right now it costs around \$145 so it will be going up to \$245 plus the cost of recycling which is about \$50.

The charges for garbage and recycling are separate. There is no door-to-door pick up for recycling, people must take their recycling to the recycling bin in town.

Rapids-des-Joachims
We were unable to get in touch with the mayor of Rapids-des-Joachims.

Shawville
Door-to-door pickup of garbage and recycling will remain the same in Shawville. Mayor Albert Armstrong said he anticipates Shawville will probably use between 12-18 tons of garbage per week and that's what he has budgeted for. It will probably be about \$120 more per year per household for residential pickup. Right now people are paying \$151 per household and as of April 1st, the cost will rise to about \$276. Shawville is not charging people for garbage bags.

"By not charging tax on recycling it would mean less garbage that we have in our municipality. We can cut down on that and cut down on garbage tax," Armstrong said. The tax bills are going out on Friday with the extra costs.

Shenboro
In Shenboro residents have to bring their garbage to the transfer station where it is picked up once a week.

An engineering firm is coming in to determine where the transfer station will be located. The transfer station is not far from the in-trench dumpsite.

As of April 1 it will cost residents about \$200 more a year per household. It shows up in the general tax rate. Recycling stays the same and is also included in the general

tax rate. So Shenboro is not separating the different charges; there will be a flat tax bill for everything. Also, everyone in Shenboro will be charged the same amount unlike some municipalities who charge different prices to different households.

Mayor Dick Edwards said the estimate is about \$70,000 a year for garbage for Shenboro.

Thorne
In Thorne, everyone has to drop off their garbage and recycling at a transfer station. The cost of going from the in-trench dumpsite to Lachute went from \$100,000 to \$200,000. Thorne has budgeted \$164,925 for the year for the closing of the dump. Every household will be billed differently this year, however it may not remain that way next year.

Residents are being taxed in the mill rate. Their fee is dependant on an assessment of their property. Mayor Ross Vowles said this year the tonnage of garbage will be assessed and next year things might change when there is a better idea of how much garbage is being thrown out and what the cost is.

"We don't have any real true numbers to go by right now. We'll budget what the estimated weight is. It will be all shared by evaluation," Vowles said.

Vowles said this is the single biggest increase he has faced in his political career. "It's an unbelievable increase in expenses," he exclaimed.

Waltham
Director General Fern Roy spoke on behalf of Mayor Gary Marchand. Waltham will continue door-to-door pick-up of garbage for about 300 residents. Those without door-to-door pick-up have to take their garbage to the transfer station. It will cost residents with door-to-door pick-up about \$95 more per year for a total of \$145 and will cost residents without door-to-door pick-up about \$45 more per year for a total of \$95.

"Hopefully we'll promote composting and recycling and reduce the maximum tonnage going to Lachute," Roy said.

When the amount of garbage actually being thrown out is determined, the cost to residents for garbage will be adjusted accordingly.

Poorman's lunch



From left to right, Phyllis Wilson, Rhoda Murray, Helen Towell and Mary Lou Draper hold up pies that they made for the Poorman's lunch held on Feb. 10. The Rebekah's put on the Poorman's lunch once a month and the money raised goes towards different charities. Many different kinds of soups and pies are served. It's called a Poorman's lunch because everyone has to serve themselves.

Slowly but surely: Pontiac Slaughterhouse

JULIELEE STIIT

For The Equity
PONTIAC • The ground hasn't been broken and no date has been set for the building of a slaughterhouse by the Outaouais Valley's Fine Meats Co-Operative (OVFMC). But two things remain unchanged: the importance of the project and the hard work going into it.

OVMFC President Bob Griffin says the slaughterhouse will give farmers more control over their product.

"We need added value for our markets and one way we can do that is by having our own processing facility and doing first and second transformation," says Griffin.

Griffin says farmers are sending their cattle to south-western Ontario and lower parts of Quebec.

"We need something of our own as producers in

Pontiac County," he says.

According to Shawville dairy farmer Chris Judd, a slaughterhouse could be a benefit for his industry.

"It could mean that (dairy farmers) could maybe sell a few veal or something. They haven't been doing that because there is no market close to home. So it might be an outlet," says Judd.

The market for selling beef fluctuates and it is currently in a down turn.

"Male dairy calves are being sold for five to ten dollars a piece," he says.

Erwin Mohr, a feedlot owner in Quyon, says a local slaughterhouse would give him a place to take cows to be slaughtered for personal consumption.

"If I want to do that I have to go to Masson or Rankin to get it killed. It would be nice to have [a slaughterhouse] for that aspect of it," he says.

According to OVMFC Secretary Pat Kavanagh, a local slaughterhouse is a viable option because many big time abattoirs are in financial turmoil.

Among the notable slaughterhouses facing financial difficulty is Levinoff-Colex SEC.

The company is the largest slaughterhouse of culled cattle in the province of Quebec.

In a written report released by the company in December 2009, the company estimated their year's operating loss at \$7.5 million.

Griffin says a local abattoir could create as many as 15 jobs for the area, with the first year of operations being used to train employees.

"You can't go training people off the street to cut meat, it takes a while to learn the process, to do it

properly," he says.

While the benefits of the project remain undisputed, questions of when construction could begin has not yet been determined.

Amy Taylor, from the Centre Local de Développement du Pontiac (CLD) says the project is in a stage of planning where the public isn't always conscious of the hard work being done behind the scenes.

"It's a lot of bureaucratic hoops to jump through to bring the file forward, it's not exciting, and it's not glamorous."

Griffin says board members have done their part in advancing the project and now they need support.

"It will take the political will to do it right now," says Griffin.

The idea of a Pontiac based slaughterhouse was

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