

The Townships Sun



"the Sun is rising!"



The Townships Sun

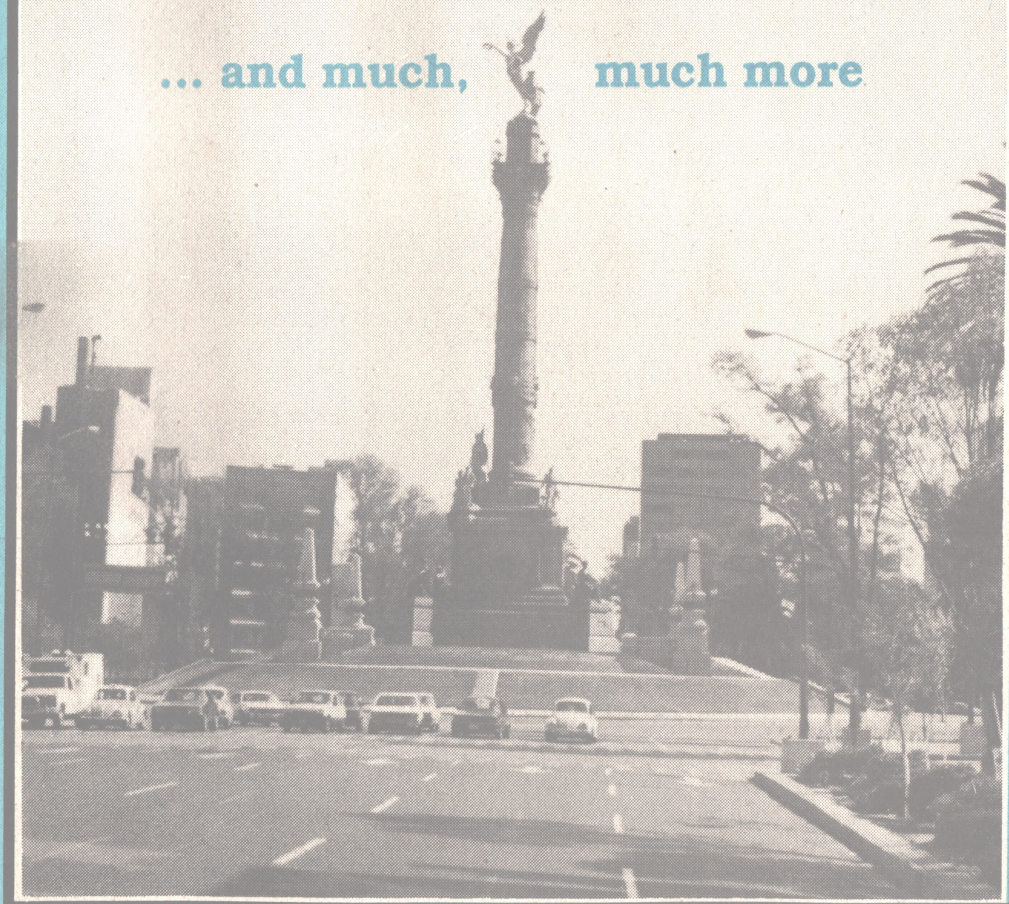


PRICE
\$1.50

Volume 17, No. 8

February 1990

- ★ Update on recycling
- ★ Sun-country vacations
- ★ Exposé on ground-hog day
- ★ Early settlers' courtship
- ... and much, much more



Writer's award winner 1983, 1985, 1987
Feature photography award winner 1988



Who? What? Where?

Volume 17, No. 8

February 1990



The Sun's Historic Photo Contest

Here's an interesting building. If you can tell us where and what it is, you could win a year's subscription to The Townships Sun. Send us your guess by March 15. In the case of two or more correct answers, a draw will be made to select the winners.



Last month's photo...

Sherman Young of Abercorn correctly identified the main street of Frelighsburg. The home at the left was the residence of his grandparents, Homer and Gertrude Holden. Congratulations, Sherman!

The Townships Sun

Established July 1, 1973

Published by

The Townships Sun (1982) Ltd.
7 Conley Street
P.O. Box 28
Lennoxville, QC
J1M 1Z3

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon
(819) 566-7424

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Just for fun! TOWNSHIPS LIMERICK CONTEST

We didn't realize the number of limerick writers that were hiding away in the Eastern Townships. So many of you decided you needed great fame and praise the mailbag has been bulging with entries.

The rules are simple. It must be a five line stanza with lines 1, 2, and 5 having one rhyme and lines 3 and 4 another rhyme. It must of course mention some part of the Townships.

Jim's choice for February comes from Tim Gosley in North Hatley.

There's now a new kind of democracy

Where officials are picked out of a hat, you see.

It's not new Gorbie talk, From out of the Eastern Block,

But rather, the mayoral race in North Hat-a-ley.

Can you top this one? See More Limericks on page 14.



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Front:

Winter vacationers in Mexico City will see the famous Angel of Independence. Photo by Ingeborg Fulford.

Back:

A sugar bush in February waits through the cold for the sugar season to arrive. Photo by Barbara Verity.

RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER



Update on recycling

Reduce garbage in your home

We all discard an average of about 4 pounds of garbage a day! That's 1,500 pounds per person per year or 3 tons for a family of four.

Data shows that about 2-1/2 of that 4 pounds per day is thrown out at home, the rest at work, school or other places. That's energy we're throwing out!

to extract the raw materials, energy to refine them, energy to manufacture them into the final products, energy to ship these products around the country.

Every product and package we buy - even our food - goes through at least one of these steps and therefore carries with it a hidden invest-

are important aspects of this management.

3. Dollar savings

Many of the ideas offered to help you reduce your garbage will also save you money directly and indirectly.

For example, if you pass up products because they're unnecessary or wastefully packaged, you make do with what you have and save money.

Returnable containers for milk and soft drinks save you money. For example, milk in a 3 quart returnable jug is about 10 cents cheaper than in plastic pouches, once you return the jug.

Right now it costs approximately \$70 per ton to collect and dispose of domestic refuse. If each citizen disposes of 1.8 kg. per day (4 lbs.) that means approximately 1460 lbs. per year or \$51.11 worth of garbage disposal. That means that 25 million Canadians will force municipalities to spend more than 12.7 billion dollars, just to dispose of our garbage. These costs are hidden in our tax bills. If we reduce our garbage we reduce these costs as well.

4. Environmental savings

An inefficient incinerator spews pollution into the air; poorly located and designed land disposal sites pollute our rivers, lakes and groundwater. Just because these environmental costs are difficult to measure doesn't mean we can ignore them.

If we produce less garbage we can avoid turning so much of our countryside into dumps and landfill operations.

Reducing our garbage helps the environment in

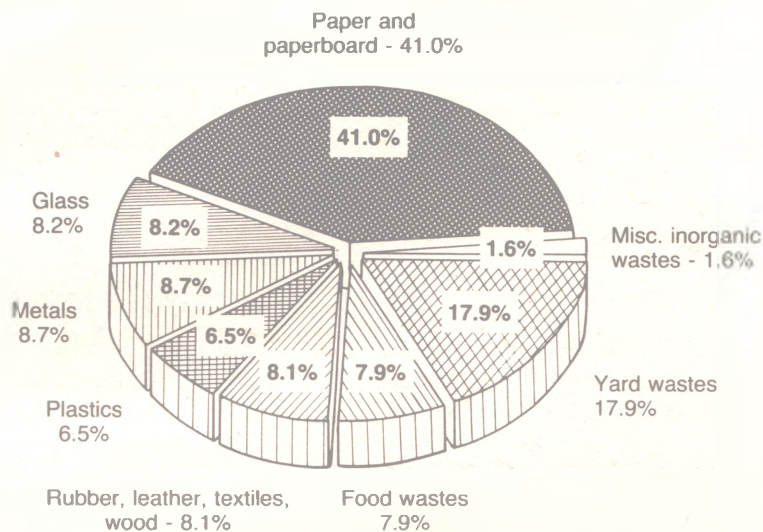
other ways too. If we buy less, production drops - so there's less pollution of land, water and air by the refining, manufacturing and transportation industries involved.

We should realize as well that the escalating demand for natural resources in Canada results in the need for exploiting new mineral deposits of diminishing quality. As

same in major urban areas across the country.

You'll notice that paper and paper products are the largest component of waste. The fact that it has no primary use makes it an ideal target for your waste watching program.

Set a goal for yourself: A U.S. Environmental Protection Agency study estimates



Gross discards, by weight, of municipal solid waste materials, 1986. (Source: Characterization of Municipal Solid Waste in the United States, 1960 to 2000; Franklin Associates, Ltd., 3/30/88).

these ore bodies are developed there is an increased energy requirement and environmental impact per ton of mineral produced.

Targets for your waste watching program

Where should you start? What are the biggest problem areas?

The table above is based on the pattern of solid waste generation in a major Canadian city. It will give you some idea of the make-up of your own waste. Unfortunately these exclude durable goods such as major appliances, furniture, etc., but the pattern is believed to be much the

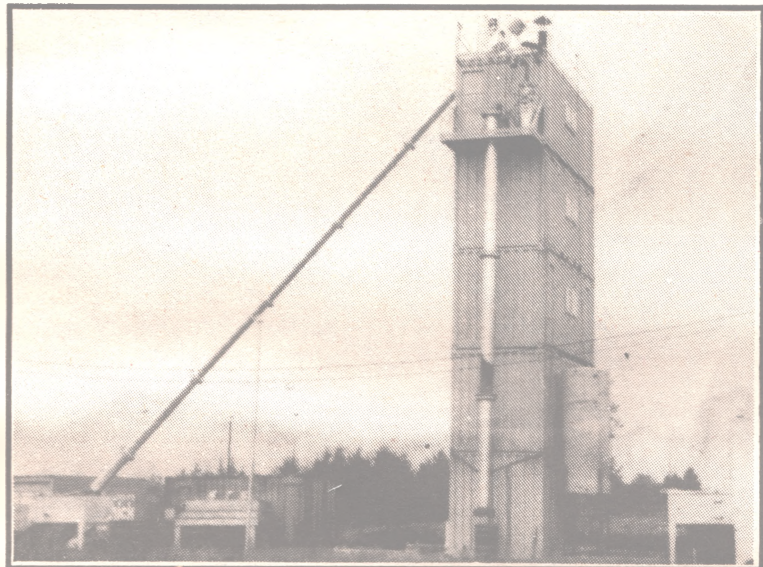
that total post-consumer waste could be reduced by 10-20% through a combination of rejecting and reusing options. Also that another 24% of post-consumer waste could be separated at source and recycled.

That adds up to a total of 34-44% without touching food and yard waste.

If you start your own compost program, a goal of 50% reduction is quite reasonable.

But don't stop there! Watch next month for the "3-R's" of waste management, reject, reuse and recycle. ♪

(Energy, Mines and Resources Canada)



This factory near St-Amable, Quebec is the pilot plant for a new process by which old tires can be reprocessed into oil and other useful materials. The process, a sealed cycle, is almost pollution-free..

Statistics also show that Canadians are throwing out more and more garbage. Add to this the steady increase in population and you can see why some people predict that we may eventually drown in our own garbage.

It's now estimated that total garbage production in Ontario is growing at a rate of up to 7% a year. The Environmental Protection Agency in the United States is a little more conservative; they predict a 3% to 3.5% annual growth rate in post-consumer waste. **An annual 3% increase means twice as much garbage in just 23 years!**

What's the solution?

Almost all of us believe in conservation to some degree. For many people it is a simple matter of saving money. Others see it as a necessary step to preserve our resources so we won't run short sometime in the future. For still others, conservation is an ideal - a way of life to which we should aspire.

Where do you stand?

From any one of these 3 viewpoints, there are good reasons to conserve energy by reducing your garbage.

Here are the four major benefits:

1. Energy savings

It takes a lot of energy to make the products and packages we buy every day - energy

ment of energy.

We save energy when we cut our consumption because we reduce energy consumption in manufacturing.

We save more energy when we reuse and/or recycle products because we are not wasting the original energy needed to extract and refine the materials.

Solid waste reduction - garbage reduction, as most of us call it - is an excellent way to conserve energy.

2. Resource savings.

Such non-renewable resources such as tin, aluminum and even iron are irreplaceable and only available from limited sources. Future sources of supply, even if they are found, are likely to be more expensive in terms of both dollars and energy.

Most of our modern plastic and synthetic products are actually made from oil and gas - resources which are even now becoming scarce and costly.

Even renewable resources such as wood can be gobbled up faster than our forests can produce them in various regions of our country.

To waste either renewable or non-renewable resources is foolhardy. Careful management is the only sensible course open to us. Reduction, reuse, and recycling

Plastic recycled as insulating fibre

Old detergent bottles and other waste plastic could soon be helping Canadian homeowners in their battle against an unseen enemy - the cold.

A Toronto-based firm, Embrace Systems Canada Corp., has developed an insulation material, made from recycled plastic, that is says is as effective as glass fibre.

Called Puffibre, the material is made by heating waste plastic and spinning it into fibres. The company says it is pliable, nontoxic, not irritating to skin and comparable in energy efficiency to glass fibre insulation.

Aided by a grant from the Ontario government, the company has already tested the insulation on building sites that need to be heated in winter while construction workers are inside. It plans to make Puffibre available to homeowners by next spring.

Mark Meade, company founder and president, used to work in construction, where he saw the need for a more effective blanket to wrap

around buildings under construction in winter. He found that glass fibres used in tarpaulins broke down quickly.

The new material is translucent white, allowing natural light through.

Meade said the material has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to insulate factory walls in refrigeration and cold storage installations. ♪

(Canadian Science News)

Replenish The Earth And It's Riches Will Be Ours
PRACTICE CONSERVATION

Editorial

No fun for the whitetail



by Jim Lawrence

About a year ago on a bright winter morning I noticed two couples getting ready to go for a cross-country ski near my home. They were parked on the hard-packed country road and were starting to buckle-up their equipment. Their two, non-descript dogs were following around them.

Because I knew the cedar swamp they were about to ski through contained a major deer yard, and I was an auxiliary game warden, I stopped my car.

Oozing politeness, I asked if he intended taking his dogs into the cedar swamp, if he realized the swamp held a major deer yard, and that his dogs could do a serious amount of damage if they were allowed to run free.

He told me to "—off and no smart yokel" was going to spoil his day.

At this point I was still being polite and I tried to point out the problems his dogs could cause. Realizing I couldn't do anything unless he actually took the dogs into the bush and they disturbed the deer, I drove

worthy domestic dog reverts to his instincts and he takes a solid bite, usually at the exposed stomach. A few bites later the entrails start to fall from the living animal. A few minutes later the deer falls to the ground to die. The dog may take a few mouthfuls of the dead or almost dead animal and then returns home. The game is over.

Even just chasing deer from their packed yards will cause them to panic, flounder in the deep snow to die of exhaustion, or pneumonia brought about by the exertion.

Visitors to the country have to be aware that taking their dog into the woods may be a death sentence for a whitetail deer. Allowing your dog to run free in country frequented by big game is a guarantee that eventually he will chase them.

It is against the Fish & Game regulations to allow your dog to run free. anyone who allows his dog to run free is subject to an ever increasing fine, and runs the risk of having the offending animal shot dead.

Commonly animal lovers will say "I love my dog so much, I just couldn't bear to have him tied up. He's such a free-spirit. He needs his freedom."

The result of this love of animals is often the death of another animal - a cruel,



A young doe bled to death beside the road after being chased and harried by free running dogs.

off.

His pig-headed, one-sided approach to wildlife is a common one, and one that many dog owners reflect. Their pooch is perfect and couldn't possibly endanger any wildlife.

Chasing deer is a natural reaction for a dog. It starts as a game and since the deer tire quickly when floundering through heavy snow, or break their legs on glare ice, the game becomes a deadly past-time. A nip at the flanks of a running deer draws blood and before you know it, the kindly, trust-

painful, slow death often after being partially eaten while still alive. Strange how so-called animal lovers can scream so much about hunters yet allow their dog this cruel freedom.

Keep your dog under control all the time. If you take him for walks, keep him at your side. Never let him run out of sight. Never just open the door and turn him out at night - tie him to a clothes line or a chain. Once you've seen a deer that has been killed by dogs, you could never allow your dog the opportunity. ☼



Dear Editor:

Someone gave me a copy of **The Townships Sun** recently and I enjoyed it immensely. I had allowed my subscription to run out as I had little time to read.

Now I feel I am missing something, so will you kindly supply a years subscription. Thank-you.

Sylvia Weston
Lennoxville



Dear Editor:

I am a **Tempo** Editor so realize the difficulties of a monthly paper. Like events calendar, Gladys Beattie, in fact most of your Christmas issue, letters to the editor, rather boring, but if you print nothing controversial, I suppose that is to be expected!

Marna Tucker
Knowlton



Dear Editor:

In the October 1989 issue of **The Townships Sun**, there was an article about my growing butternut trees from seed, which I appreciated very much, only my phone number was wrong. My correct number is 538-2027.

About 20 years ago I grafted a flowering crab onto a wild apple tree, and it is still living. Last spring I added an old apple variety called Bethel to the same tree. There are some old apple orchards around, and some have old and maybe rare varieties. Some are living antiques. Once one learns the fairly simple technique of grafting, and with the owners permission and help in identifying the trees, you can cut some scions (last years growth) and graft them onto young wild apple trees. If you prefer small trees, you will have to get some dwarf root stock. However, if you have the space for a few large vigorous long living trees, a good healthy wild root stock is okay in my opinion. As I am an amateur, and this is only a hobby I can only identify a few apples.

My main source of information is the Northern Nut Growers Association. If you subscribe to N.N.G.A. The annual membership is \$15 U.S. funds, sent to Northern Nut Growers Association, c/o Kenneth Bauman, Treasurer, 9870 South Palmer Road, New Carlisle, Ohio, U.S.A. 45344.

There is a similar organization called North American Fruit Explorers. They mail out 4 issues of Pomona, plus a

Letters



to
the
Editor



handbook. Send \$11 U.S. funds to N.A.F.E.X., Rt. #1, Box 94, Chapin, Illinois, U.S.A. 62628. The Pomons will be very helpful in learning to graft, and maybe you will save some interesting and flavorful old apple varieties before they become extinct.

Carol O'Brien
Sutton, Quebec



Dear Editor:

I read with interest "What a bunch of garbage". Seems the more humans have, the more they throw away.

You may know that Vermont is doing a pilot project for a six month duration, to gather information on recycling. They have drop off points in several areas, some not far from the Quebec Border. Things they want are glass jars & bottles, lids and caps removed, rinsed out and sorted as to color. Cans, clean, both ends removed, flattened. Some plastic containers, corrugated cardboard, paper, clean rags and other things. As we have a daughter who teaches school in Vermont, I am saving what I have of these.

I received as a gift a copy of "The Canadian Green Consumers Guide" prepared by the Pollution Probe Foundation & prefaced by Margaret Atwood; it is informative in many ways. Obtainable at Sutton Book Nook and no doubt at all book stores.

It also tell us how it is now - on page 26 I found the following:

Throwaway Lines

- The average Canadian house hold throws away one tonne of garbage each year. Canada produces 27 million tonnes of garbage yearly.
- More than 40,000 trees are cut each day to make paper for Canada's daily newspapers.
- We discard 1,5000 tons of steel every day, just in food and drink cans.
- Every week Canadian's take home some 55 million plastic bags, some of these are reused but eventually they all end up in a land fill site.

I called a couple of local government offices to find out more about recycling, they seem to have very little information and it doesn't look as if Quebec is at all equipped for this yet. There is an address in the Green Book where any one wanting to start recycling can get information it is:

Department of Recycling
3900 Marly Street
St. Foy, Qc. G1X 4E4

The telephone number is [418] 644-3376. Mostly such projects have to be government started & funded, maybe we as a people have to become instigators.

Looking forward to reading more on the above, possible you know more about this than I have told you but thought it worth passing on.

Mable Boyce
(Mrs. Harold Boyce)



Letters of praise were received from

Elaine Powell, Cowansville
Daisy Johnston, Brome
Mrs. Ernest Badger, Knowlton
Olive Ingalls, Abercorn
Eda Tarlo, St-Venant-de-Hereford
Mrs. E. Abramski, Albron, B.C.
Graydon True, South Bolton
Mrs. Herman Cutler, Dixville
Stella Horan, Danville
Francis Adams, Coaticook
Ellen Gill, Dixville
Mrs. G. Anderson, Beaconsfield
Mrs. J. Morgan, Melbourne
Fritz Pope, Richmond
P & M Heath, Stanstead
Jane Barry, Montreal
Ruth Nicholson, Milan
Margaret Robinson, Granby
W. Gribben, Drummondville
Harold Beard, Danville

Thanks folks, we love to hear from you - Ed.

The Sun salutes: Reg Connor of Minton

Farmer, historian, author and Townshipper



Reg and Doris Connor childhood sweethearts living in Minton celebrate the publishing of his book.

by Dodie Braley

From the village of North Hatley to Minton Corner is a beautiful drive. There are farms and plantations and an air of tranquillity far removed from the bustling pace of the village.

The Minton church, completed in 1894 is one of the few reminders that at the turn of the century Minton was a flourishing hamlet. Names on mailboxes are of descendants of some of the earliest settlers to this area, Dean, Johnson, and Conner. It is a short drive from here to the home of Reginald and Doris Conner, a warm and comfortable place, most welcome on a very cold day in February.

Reg Conner was born in 1910 in the farmhouse that he and his wife live in today. His parents were farmers and he helped with chores after school. He attended the red schoolhouse (Minton District School No. 4), built in 1882 on the corner across from the church. Mr. Conner walked in the spring and fall to the North Hatley High School.

In late fall and winter he drove a horse and buggy or sleigh to the village. Often he was forced to break the trail after a snowstorm and many times has seen a horse flounder up to its ears in the deep snow drifts.

Reg and other local boys exhibited their heifers at the Ayer's Cliff Fair in 1924. It was Reg's first time and he won no ribbons that year. They floated their cattle up Lake Massawippi on Reed's Barge because the railroad wanted too much money to transport the cattle. The trip on the barge took two hours because of the difficulty of getting the barge moving with its weight of boys and twenty odd head of cattle. Four foot sides that

They moved into a house down the road from the farm.

In 1935, his father bought a small farm closer to North Hatley and Reg and Doris moved into the family home. They still live there!

They raised Holstein-Friesian dairy cattle on their 90 acre farm. Life was full and busy in the following years, made busier still by the addition to their family of two children, Wendall and Gwendolyn. Reg had little time for his hobbies of photography and stamp collecting and no time to delve into his family's past.

In 1975 things changed. He sold his cattle, and his son Wendall and his wife Myrna bought the farm, adding it to the 50 acres they already owned.

Now Reg started in earnest on his research of the history of Minton, its buildings and people, work that would occupy him and keep the dining room table heaped with papers, for the next 15 years.

His uncle Leroy E. Bean had left him much material on the history of the area and he

had access to his great great grandmother's diary. With these as a base he wrote to scores of people and many of them sent their families' genealogies. Reg researched many methods of organizing genealogies before settling on the method he would use. He and his wife visited Registry Offices here and in Vermont, the Provincial Archives in Sherbrooke and wrote to the Public Archives of Canada in Ottawa.

From all this material, and aided by his gift of storytelling, a book was written. "The Vine And The Branches" was published at the end of 1989 by Mr. Connor. It will be reviewed in next month's

Townships Sun.

What is Mr. Connor's next project? Now that the dining room table is cleared? Not another book the couple agrees in unison. Doris chuckles, "If he starts another book I'll leave him". The fond, happy look they exchange contradicts that statement. We will all have to wait and see.

Will it keep
beating?
Be a RED CROSS
Blood Donor

Congratulations



This year his Eminence Cardinal Paul-Émile Léger celebrates his 60th year in the priesthood.

Sixty years of devoting himself to the well being of mankind.

Congratulations and thank you Cardinal Léger.

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Courtship: early settler style



by Lucinda M. Fisher

When young people today hear how our grandparents and great grandparents courted a century or so ago, they scream with laughter and say it can't be so. If we tried to impose the same kinds of restrictions on our young men and women today, they'd pack a bag and be out the front door in no time flat!

In the "good old days", couples did not have the benefits of theatres or video arcades for their courting. They were content with the simple things of life like sleigh rides, walking along riverbanks or taking a buggy ride together.

Courting or "sparking" as it was also called often took place on Sunday. The young man would wait outside the church doors for that special girl to appear. He then asked the girl if he could "see her home."

Work bees were also good places to meet girls. The men toiled from dawn till dusk hammering boards and pulling huge beams and logs into place. At noon, the women arrived with wagons groaning with home-made breads, stews, garden fresh vegetables and all kinds of pies. The reward for the hard work came at night when the men, women and children enjoyed a

wing-ding party and young John got to ask Miss Mary for a dance!

While there were many restrictions and many more things that "you just didn't do" in the old days, there were ways of getting around these barriers.

Eligible young men and women often held "sparking bees" so that they could look each other over and get to know each other better. One



favourite game was to pass around a large button made of bone. The lucky lady chosen to guess who had the button had to sit on a young man's knee as punishment if she guessed wrong! No doubt there were lots of mistakes that happened on purpose in this game.

Chaperones were part of a young girl's love life and were paid to pry, poke and interfere. Some chaperones were understanding and turned a

blind eye, but there were the true school-marm types who were relentless and went everywhere with the two lovebirds. Three was definitely a crowd in these situations.

Dances or "sprees" played a major part in the early settler's life. Babies, mothers, fathers, grandparents, aunts and uncles all joined in the fun. A fiddler with incredible stamina played until dawn as the men and women reeled, jigged and square danced; the latter requiring fancy footwork and a sharp ear as the directions for a square dance came fast and furious.

Often at these dances "conversation lozenges" were passed out to courting couples. These lozenges were actually heart shaped candies with messages printed on them like "I miss you" or "May I see you later?" If a young man passed a conversation lozenge to a girl and she did not throw it back, then the romance was underway.

While country folk enjoyed their simple dances and get togethers, city soirées were slightly more sophisticated. Ladies and gents arrived in their best bib and tucker. The dance was usually held in a proper dance hall or ballroom and an orchestra played while the couples waltzed around the room.

In the days before Hallmark wrote and printed cards for every conceivable occasion, it was up to the individual to create a lovecard or valentine by himself. A young man would design, cut, paste and fold a creation of love, then deliver it by hand to his sweetheart's door, hoping fervently that his efforts might please her the most.

Although commercial

Show me a good loser and
I'll show you an idiot.

- Leo Durocher

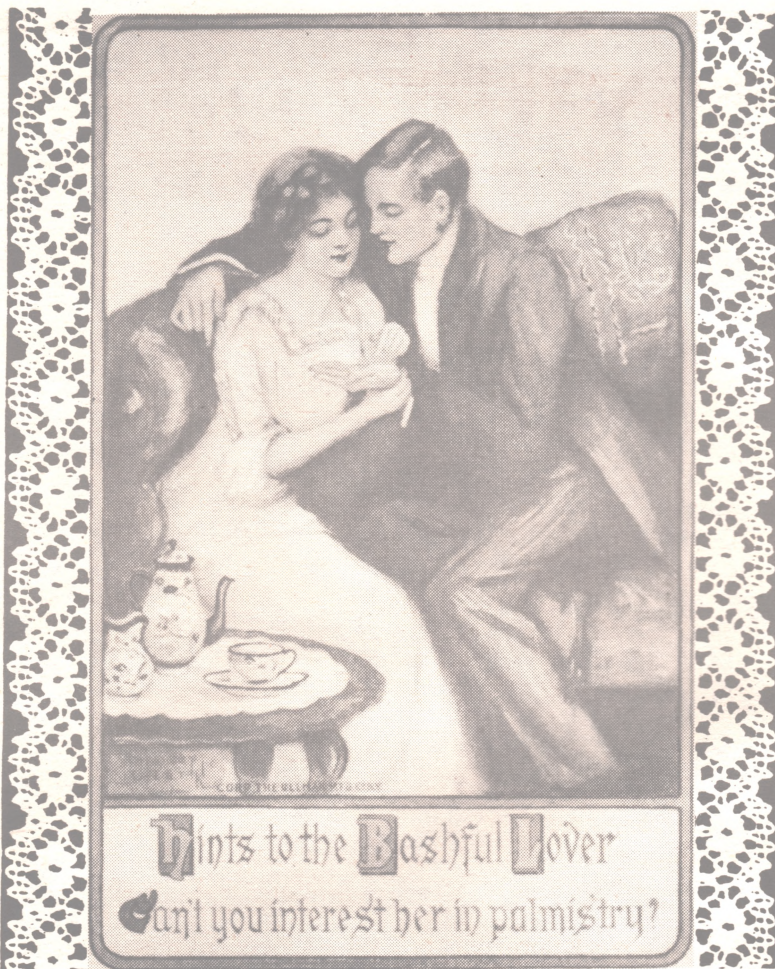
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THE PATTERN
OF POVERTY**

Please contribute to:

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Ottawa
K1P 5B1



cards were not available, it was possible to pay for the right words. A young man with little ability concocting sweet phrases and words of love could buy a "writer" or booklet that contained dozens of valentine poems and sayings. He would pore over this printed prize until he found just the right saying for his girl. No doubt he wouldn't admit that the words were not his own. If the girl, in replying was also at a loss for words, she too simply copied from her "writer" and delivered her valentine to her breathless young man.

While valentines are usually reserved for those in love, in our forefather's day, valentines with funny verses inside were sent to family and friends. However, there were also cards made up and sent to people who were disliked. These were not signed and usually contained less pleasant messages.

Weddings were often held at Christmas time as the harvesting was finished and all the neighbours were sure to be able to attend. If the young couple could not afford a ring, they borrowed one for the occasion and bought one later.

After the wedding, the couple might go for a drive about the countryside with a trail of happy guests behind them. The person who managed to return home before everybody else was given a prize so he who had the fastest horse usually won.

Annoying the newlyweds on their wedding night with a "charivari" was part of the fun in pioneer days. Young boys would serenade the couple

with cow bells, flutes, kettles, pots, pans; in fact anything that made a terrible din. Needless to say nobody got any sleep that night and to add to their mischief, they often blackened their faces, or wore masks and put their clothes on backwards.

Not all "charivaris" were in fun however. If a village or neighbourhood did not approve of a marriage they made trouble for the bride and groom. If certain people were not invited to a wedding, they took out their revenge by holding a nasty "charivari" and made life very unpleasant for the newlyweds. An old man marrying a young girl or a recently widowed woman tying the knot too quickly after her spouse's death were two of the most common excuses for a demonstration.

It goes without saying that our forefathers went about their courting rituals in a vastly different way than the young people of today. However, no doubt the thrill of the chase, the anticipation of that first chaste kiss or the joy of holding hands demurely under a table were events as exciting to them as the whirlwind, passionate love affairs of today are to our youth.

Perhaps in the long run their rituals and dating games, as corny and old fashioned as they seem today, may have actually been the basis for marriages that, unlike many of today's marriages, lasted and endured throughout the decades.

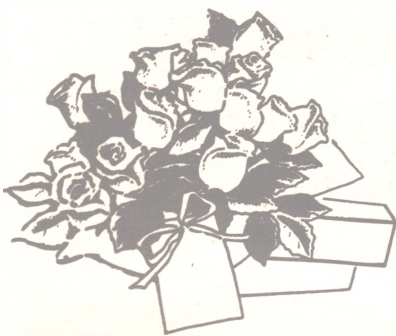
Lucinda M. Fisher is a contributing editor of *The Sun* living in Knowlton.

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Say it with flowers

Let love "bloom" this Valentine's Week

Folklore tells us that St. Valentine was a young Roman cleric unjustly imprisoned by an emperor. To get word to his loved-ones that he was still alive, he managed to pick the petals of a violet growing outside his cell window and pierce them with the words "remember your valentine". The message was then delivered by a dove.

Although the violet has since become the official Valentine's Week flower, today valentines use all types of flowers to express their feelings to relatives, friends and sweethearts. According to Florists' Transworld Delivery Association, the industry's leading flowers-by-wire service, consumers enjoy Valentine's Week floral gifts of any colour or type of flower as long as their overall appearance conveys the feelings of the occasion.



Lots of options

"If you want to say 'be my valentine' with flowers, you have a lot of options to choose from," says FTD President Jim Durio. "You don't have to buy a dozen roses; in fact research shows that the most popular

floral gift is a mixed, cut flower arrangement."

"Even a green or flowering plant decorated with ribbons, lace or other accessories can serve as a Valentine's Week gift," Durio says. "Plants are a wonderful expression that will last long past the holidays as a reminder of your affections."

Flowers for men

For women looking for something to give that special man, there's no reason not to send Valentine's Week flowers as well. A recent survey of floral purchasers indicates that 46 per cent of Valentine's Week buyers are women. An ideal bouquet to give to a man is one that includes bright-coloured blooms arranged in a masculine container.

Whether you're sending Valentine's Week greetings to a friend, family member or

Happy Valentine's Day

sweetheart, FTD stresses the importance of ordering floral gifts as early as possible.

"The demand for flowers during Valentine's Week is great and inclement weather can affect supplies, shipments and local deliveries," Durio says. "Ordering early

will ensure a large variety of flowers from which to choose."

You may also want to consider early delivery. Sending your gift several days before the holiday will surprise the recipient, who will enjoy being one of the first to receive a Valentine's Week gift.



Giggles & groaners



"Fred," protested the Bury farmer to his hired man, "aren't you a bit dirty today? Did you ever think of having a good wash?"

"Hey," said the man "that's not fair. I may not wash very often, but I never let a day go by without giving myself a good dust."

The farm boy from South Stukely wrote home after he joined the Canadian army. "Life is wonderful", he wrote "and they even let us sleep in until 6:30."

The travelling circus visited Knowlton. Highlight of the show was a knife throwing act. Mike went twice to see the show and reported to his buddy Tom.

"Don't bother going,," he said "you'll be wasting your money. The guy has a lousy aim. He keeps missing her!"

DJD Enr.

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More family information

The fascination of Parish Registers



by Marjorie Goodfellow

Family historians must be persistent to uncover all the information they require about family members. Records of baptisms, marriages and burials often turn up in unexpected places. The following are some examples as well as the wealth of detail which a minister sometimes included in his local parish register.



An entry in the Drummondville Anglican register for 1836 reads as follows:

On this First day of August in the year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and Thirty-six, the body of Mary Anne (Daughter of John Harnwell and Mary Anne Fisk his wife, Emigrants proceeding to the United States from the County of Norfolk England) who departed this life on the Thirty-first day of July, was interred in the Parish Burial ground aged Three years and three months.

A great deal of information is given here which may not be available to the Harnwell or Fisk family historian in any other source: information on the route taken by these emigrants, the maiden name of the mother of the deceased child, the county in England in which the couple lived before emigrating, the age of the child at death and her burial place, the probable year in which the couple emigrated. However, it is unlikely that it will be found by any but the most determined or lucky searcher. It is an example of a "fugitive" record.

In the same Drummondville register, there is another unusual record,

made so by the travel of the clergyman to another community to officiate at the marriage of a couple, each of whom appear to have journeyed from even more distant locales:

La Baie St. Antoine du Febvre

On this eighteenth day of Octo-

Genealogically Speaking

ber in the year of Our Lord One thousand eight hundred and thirty six, Anthony Von Iffland Esquire of Quebec, Doctor of Medicine, was married by special Licence to Elizabeth Allen of the Borough of William Henry spinster.

This entry raises many questions, some of which may be answered by an examination of the special licence. It is interesting to note that one of the witnesses was James Allen, an indication that Elizabeth was supported by a member of her family. Perhaps there is a mystery to be uncovered, perhaps not. In any case, the family historian would have to be persistent to discover this record, specially since one would expect it to have been performed by the rector of the Nicolet Anglican Church and entered in that register rather than in Drummondville.

One might give a romantic interpretation to the next entry from the register of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Levis,

Robert Lowe, of Sherbrooke, Bachelor, and Jane Sillis, Spinster of Fifeshire Scotland were, by special licence from His Excellency, Sir Edmund Walker Head, married this twenty first day of August one thousand eight hundred and sixty years by Duncan Anderson, Minister.

Did Robert travel to Quebec to meet his intended as she disembarked from the ship which had brought her to the new world? Had the marriage been arranged before Jane left Scotland? The surname of the two witnesses is Swinton indicating that they may have been acquaintances rather than friends or relations. Again, the entry leaves us with more questions than answers. More research is needed before coming to any factual interpretation. A family researcher might well include the local parish register, when he travels to where his family originated.

A true tale of Lennoxville

Abe McKee and me

by Wesley McCurdy

Mr. Dundin was the official policeman hired by the Town of Lennoxville to keep the peace. He performed his duties with dignity and the citizens were unhappy when he retired in the early 1910's.

His replacement, a retired farmer "big" Abe McKee held the job through the decade that followed Dundin's retirement. Abe McKee was a huge man who took to his new duties with great gusto - perhaps with too much gusto. He took himself very seriously and applied the law as he saw it at the time.

In the early spring my friends and I: Harold Byrne, Jack Sykes and half a dozen other teenagers often sat on the steps of C.C. Chaddoc's Store at and Main and Belvedere. It was our habit, for lack of anything else to do, to sit and watch Abe McKee directing traffic there on a Saturday night.

McKee had a strange distast for Americans and he kept a close look-out for American cars that might be travelling too quickly for his tastes. He'd wave both his arms and charge the car shouting, "Whoa! Whoa! Back-up! Back-up! Take it easy!"

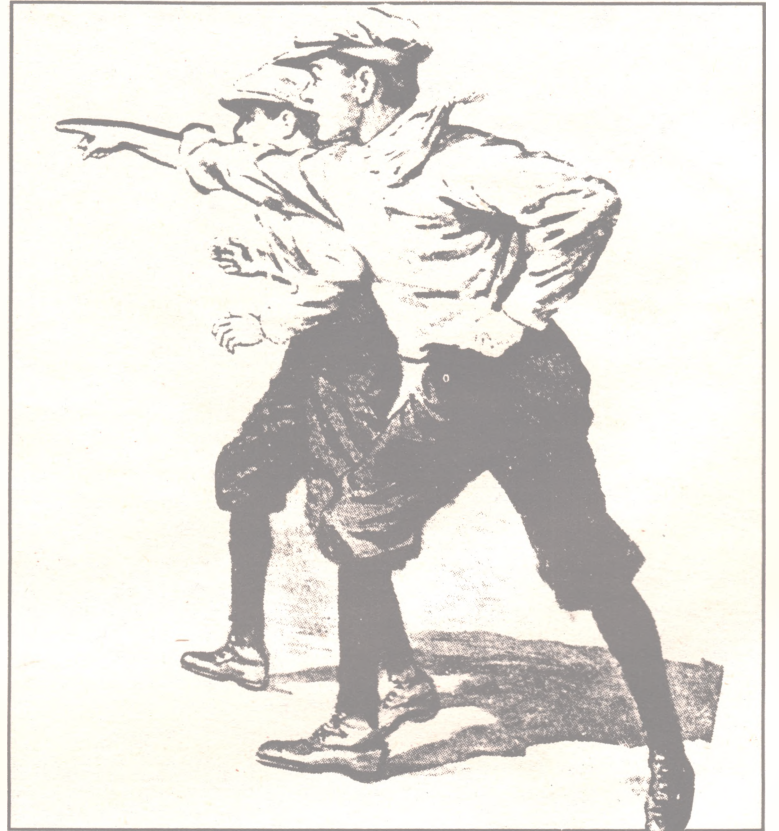
One or two members of our group, of watching teenagers, would leap to their feet and to our delight, imitate the officer's actions. Watching their performance would make Abe McKee wildly angry and would confuse the American motorist. McKee would charge the steps and the boys would scatter leaving the policeman angry and shouting dire threats into the night.

One morning after a particularly exciting night of harassing the law, I was walking by myself to the post office to deliver a letter for my father. A huge hand appeared from an alleyway and lifted me up by the collar. A deep voice shouted, "A-hah! At last I've caught ye. You've been thorn in my side for too long, boy-o!"

Off we went to the jail with the tips of my boots occasionally tapping the ground as the burly policeman kept a firm hold on the shoulder of my coat.

The jail was in the basement of the Town Hall and consisted of two cells with sturdy iron bars complete with a single cot below a high window in each cell.

Soon a crowd gathered outside the hall and I could see people gazing into my cell and hear voices, "That's Mrs.



"To our delight, some of the boys would mimic the policeman's actions."

McCurdy's boy in there!" "See him, Lizzy, on that little cot." "He must have done something really terrible for Abe to put him in there."

Soon Mr. Downs, the mayor, appeared on the scene and demanded to know why I'd been arrested. "That boy's been a thorn in my side for too long," shouted Abe McKee "Tonight I finally got my hands on him!"

"You can't hold him for that, Abe" said Mr. Downe "You'll have to let him go and apologize to him. You have to charge him with a crime or he can sue you for everything you've got!"

After a long discussion they finally agreed to release me. As I left the building Abe applied his boot to my seat and shouted, "There, you young scamp, let that be a lesson to ye!"

When my mother heard the facts of the story, she immediately took a street car to Sherbrooke and hired a lawyer to start legal action against Abe McKee for "All he was worth!"

Walking the streets I felt like an outcast. Most of the town felt that Abe was well justified for his actions and I soon discovered living in a town where nobody would talk to you was something less than pleasant.

So I got on the street car and went to Sherbrooke to see my Mother's lawyer. I told him all I had was \$10 but I'd give it to him if he'd drop the case and forget all about it. "I like Abe McKee" I told him.

"I like him too," said the lawyer "Give me your \$10."

On returning home I borrowed \$15 from my father and went on a "harvester" train to Western Canada where I worked the harvest for three months.

When the harvest was over I returned home, apprehensive of the welcome I'd receive. As the train pulled into Lennoxville I was happy to see Abe McKee at the station and was amazed at the warm welcome home I received from him and his family and friends. They shook my hand and we've been the best of friends ever since. My mother was relieved and neither my father nor I ever told how I came to go out west.

Wesley McCurdy was born on Spring Road and lived on Prospect Street in Lennoxville until he married and left in 1927. His mother M.E. McCurdy was a reporter for *The Sherbrooke Record* for many years. Mr. McCurdy, still active at 89, now lives in Victoria, B.C. ☀

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February 2 is Groundhog Day

Where's Punxsutawney Phil... when you need him?



by Dodie Braley

Have you ever wondered where the idea of watching a groundhog on February 2nd came from? Who cares if he sees his shadow? Who cares if you see your shadow? Hah! Only the Shadow knows ...



"No name"
- the Ontario woodchuck.

The ancient civilizations of the Greeks and Romans came up with interesting and complicated myths to explain the workings of nature. These myths were the forerunners of the modern day soap operas (plots heavy in lust, infidelity and revenge). One subject they addressed was the changing of the seasons. Gods and goddesses were blamed for the whims of nature. There was always hope that by appeasing them, disasters such as earthquakes would not occur.

If the gods were pleased with the people the growing season would be long and bountiful. Modern man has no need for such fanciful tales, understanding nature as he does. Our explanation for when spring will arrive is quite simple. It depends upon whether a groundhog sees his shadow or not.

The tradition of observing the groundhog to determine when spring will arrive came to North America in the late 1800's with the German settlers. In Germany badgers were used to determine weather, but they were in short supply here so groundhogs were drafted. The story goes that if on February 2 when the groundhog comes out of his burrow, he sees his shadow, he will be afraid and dive back into his burrow for

another six weeks. While he is cowering in there we will be subjected to cold winter weather. If the day is overcast, the groundhog will have no shadow, stay out and spring will be with us.

Farmers and gardeners view groundhogs as pests because they eat young crops. They also carry the ticks and fleas that spread spotted fever and plague. As a result many groundhogs are shot, reducing their population and leaving us without weather pre-

dictors. Don't worry. We only need to observe one in Canada and one in the U.S. These are the official ones and **nobody** shoots them. The Americans have Punxsutawney Phil in Pennsylvania and Canadians have an official groundhog without a name who lives somewhere in southern Ontario.

Why Canadians wait for the appearance of the groundhog is intriguing. There is not a chance that our long winter will be over on February 2, or

6 weeks later. Living in our inhospitable climate we are always hoping for an early spring, a warm summer and a late autumn. If a groundhog can help foster that hope, we'll watch them every February 2. We are not very different from our Greek and Roman forefathers.

You should know too, that 10 years of record keeping in Toronto showed that groundhogs were right only 30% of the time.

So much for science. ☀

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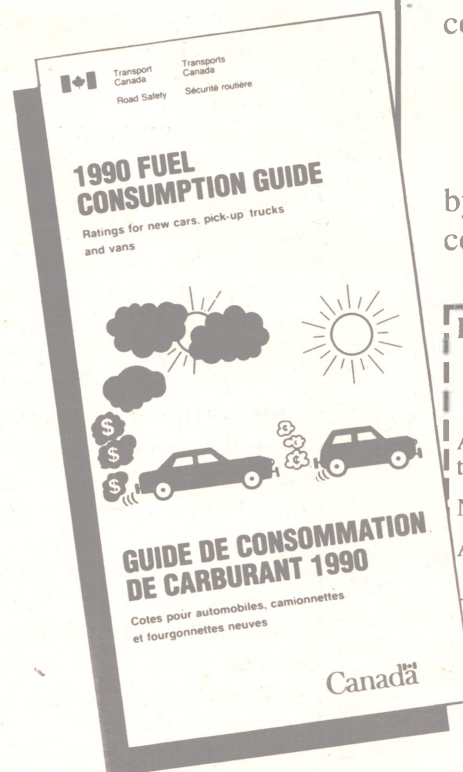
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Over 28 years at a weather station

What's what with the weather

by Gordon Bowker

Recent articles in the *Sun* suggest that decreasing snow fall could result in lowered water tables. My records indicate that, while there has been less rainfall during the winter months, the amount of snow has increased somewhat during recent years and there has been a slight increase in summer precipitation. Therefore, there should be more water available for domestic use.

There have been more and more rural residents reporting serious water supply problems. Household needs for water have been increasing but there are other and more important factors which may result in lowered water tables in the ground.

Changing agricultural practices, rather than a changing climate, are a major contributing factor in the problem of decreasing water supplies. The use of heavier and heavier farm machinery and the hauling of heavier loads to and from fields has resulted in serious soil compaction, which does not allow the land to absorb water as easily as it did.

The agricultural use of more and more chemical fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides has been destroying the humus and life in the soil, making it virtually incapable of absorbing more than a small percentage of summer rainfall.

Soil erosion in fields, and the rapid rise and fall of stream levels provide ample proof of the lessened ability of our soil to absorb rainfall rapidly. Any farming practice which will increase the humus contents of the soil and which will increase life in the soil, will also result in greater water absorption by the soil, and rising water tables.

Freezing of the soil sur-

face before there is a protecting, insulating cover of snow results in the soil surface being incapable of absorbing winter rainfall or melting snow from mid-winter thaws.

It may happen, as indeed it did, in the spring flooding of the Beaulieu meadows near Lennoxville that there may be a very rapid snow melt in

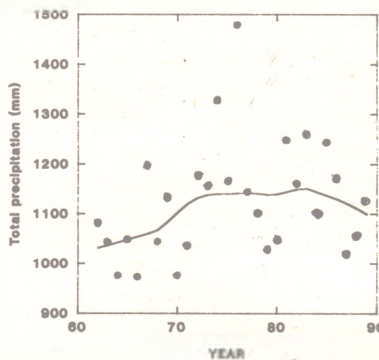


Chart 1:
Total precipitation per year.

conjunction with warm rain before there has been any thawing of the surface of the ground. This will result in a major portion of the water and dissolved nutrients being lost under severe flooding conditions.

Decreasing forest cover robs large areas of our upland headwater regions of their natural ability to absorb water which could otherwise enter the water table and stabilize ground water levels in lower areas.

The raw data which serves as a basis for the accompanying graphs is a summary of 28 years of rainfall and snowfall records from the weather station at Sawyerville, North, located 27 km. east of Sherbrooke at an elevation of 346 meters.

The summer precipitation is calculated for the months of May through September inclusive, and the winter precipitation is calculated for the months of October through April. The years

are 1962 to 1989. Snow is assumed to produce 1 mm. of liquid for each cm. of snow.

The curved lines on the charts depict a five year running mean; this averages the high and low values. The dots represent the total precipitation for each year. These lines cannot be used as a base for prediction of future precipitation but the lines may be used to suggest relatively short term trends. For example, chart #1 shows a peak in snowfall in the early 1970's, followed by decreasing amounts to the early 1980's, followed by a levelling off to the present. Notice the extreme variations between the winters of 1964-65 and 1970-71, with another minimum during the winter of 1979-80.

Now, let us examine the charts, starting with #1 - the total precipitation for the year - rain and melted snow. During the years 1962 to 1970 there were three years with considerably less than normal precipitation, while during the 70's there were a couple of years with much more than normal precipitation. The values for the 80's are now closely grouped.

Chart #2, which shows the part of winter precipitation that comes as snow, has a wide range of values with the mid 60's having much below normal snowfall, while around 1970 there is much above normal snowfall, with another low in the late 70's. Chart #3 - the rain fall during the winter months suggests that those years with lower than normal rainfall were also years with more than normal snow fall and vice versa. While the snowfall totals show a slight upward trend during the late 1980's, there is a more definite decrease in rainfall. Compare these charts with chart #4 which indicates a definite downward trend in total precipitation for the same years.

Chart #5 shows a slight upward trend in summer precipitation. Note the wide range in values between the really

Chart 2:
Amount of snowfall per year.

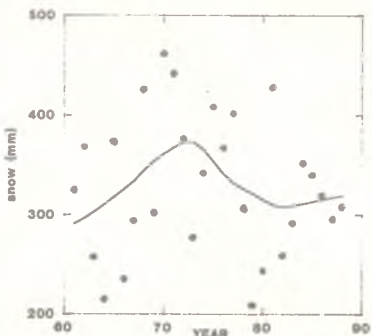


Chart 3:
Winter rain per year.

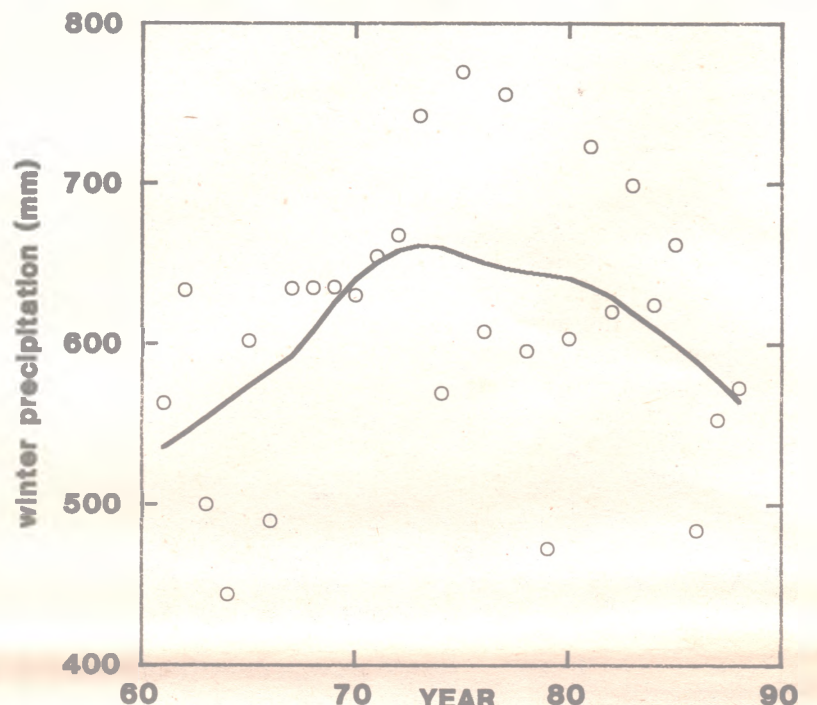
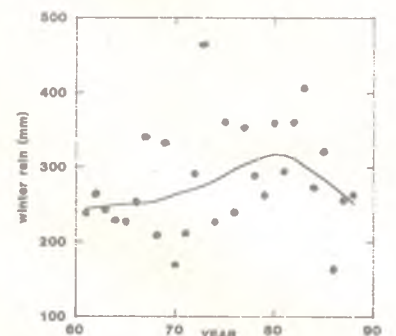


Chart 4:
Total winter precipitation (snowfall and rain) per year.

wet and the really dry summers. About the only valid prediction that can be made from these charts is that there

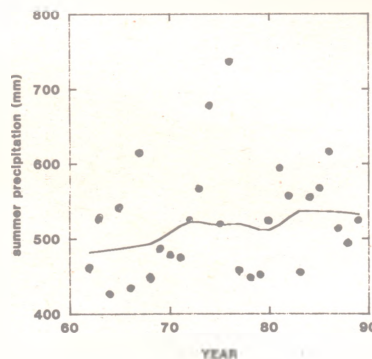


Chart 5:
Total summer precipitation per year.

are going to be wide variations from year to year, in both summer and winter precipitation.

We may well be concerned about lowering water tables, but let's not place the blame entirely on decreasing precipitation. The facts do not support this theory. Climatological records of the past 28 years while showing decreasing snow fall (chart #2) also shows (chart #5) as increase of rainfall during the summer months at least for the Sawyerville area.

We must look to our stewardship of our natural resources of which precipitation is one of the most vital. We must promote the use of agricultural and forestry techniques (increasing soil humus content, increasing life in the soil, for a start) which will enable us to keep more of our precipitation where it falls, instead of following practices which result in our water and topsoil disappearing down our valleys, and being lost to us forever. It is up to the agricultural community to do this. *

Gordon Bowker of Sawyerville has operated a weather reporting station for Environment Canada for the past 30 years.

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The gardener's dream

Fresh vegetables in February

by Dodie Braley

Last month we talked about our plans for a winter garden. "Hold on there!" someone shouted "How can you garden when there's snow drifts over your garden?"



The large 4-by-2-foot galvanized tray we had our local tinsmith make for us is now in place. We lined the bottom with coarse gravel and put our trays of rich black loam on the absorbent surface. Guess what ... everything is growing like crazy!



Tiny lettuce sprouts growing in a winter garden.

The lettuce seeds were planted on Dec. 20. Less than a week later lettuce seedlings were pushing up through the soil. We put a timer on the grow lights so they came on automatically at 7 a.m. and switch off at 9:20 p.m.

We noticed the seedlings seemed a little spindly and decided we had positioned the lights far too high above the

plants. Down came the lights until they were about 5 inches above the plants. The change was almost immediate and the plants bushed-out right away.

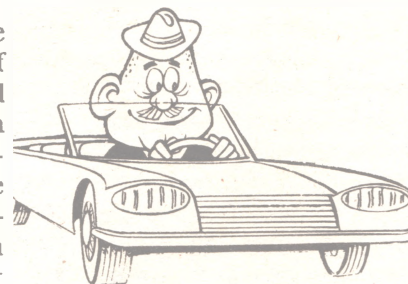
We are now putting our lettuce on sandwiches but we have not yet had a salad. This weekend we will eat our first home grown salad of 1990. I'll have pictures of that next month.

Block heaters

Frigid February cold versus your car

A block heater is a device that reduces the viscosity of the oil in your car's engine and makes it easier to start when the weather's very cold. Although it is very inexpensive to run and uses little electricity (about 60 kwh per month when used four hours daily), it is not recommended to leave it plugged in for hours on end before you start the car. An hour or two is usually enough.

You can save money in the long run by installing a timer to operate the block heater. You can also use a switch connected to an outside outlet. Whatever method you choose, ensure that the cord is in good condition and has a grounded plug (three



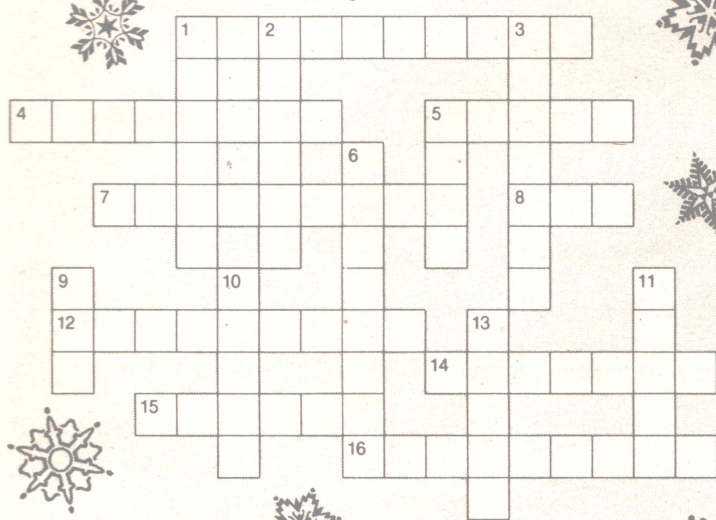
prongs). Also make sure that the outside outlet is protected by a ground fault interrupter.

Although a block heater is certainly a very handy device, it is not a cure-all for your starting problems. There's nothing better than a good car battery (or a battery that's more powerful than the original) and a proper tune-up in the fall.

Cold Weather Crossword

by Jan Bureau

Here's a cold weather crossword puzzle to help warm up a cold wintry night! How many cold weather words do you know?



ANSWERS:

ACROSS

1. snowflakes; 4. cardinal; 5. seeds; 7. evergreen; 8. ice; 12. avalanche; 14. plastic; 15. feeder; 16. sunflower

DOWN

1. shiver; 2. orange; 3. evening; 11. white; 13. fluff; 14. Metal perches should be covered with _____; 15. You can make a bird _____ from a milk carton; 16. Seeds that grow in large yellow flowers.

12. Very large "snowball" that rolls down a mountain.
14. Metal perches should be covered with _____.
15. You can make a bird _____ from a milk carton.
16. Seeds that grow in large yellow flowers.

DOWN

1. On very cold days people and animals will _____ to keep warm.
2. Filled with seeds, birds love this fruit.
3. _____ grosbeak.
5. Birds eat _____ to help grind food in their stomachs.
6. _____ help keep birds warm.
9. A chickadee has a black _____ on its head.
10. Even in cold weather, birds need _____.
11. Snowshoe hares turn _____ in winter.
13. Birds _____ up their feathers to trap a layer of warm air under them.

Reprinted from January 1988 Ranger Rick



EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SCHOOL BOARD 257 QUEEN STREET, LENNOXVILLE, QC REGISTRATION 1990-91

Registration of all Protestant and Non-Catholic Kindergarten, Elementary and Secondary students of the Eastern Townships School Board will begin:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1990
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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1990

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B) New Students

Parents may register their child, Monday through Friday, at the nearest school of the Eastern Townships School Board bringing with them the student's birth certificate and, either producing the student's Certificate of Eligibility for instruction in English or making an application for a Certificate of Eligibility.

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Asbestos-Danville-Shipton	R.R. 3, Danville	839-2352
Ayer's Cliff Elementary	Sanborn St., Ayer's Cliff	838-4983
Cookshire Elementary	Cookshire	875-3785
Lennoxville Elementary	1 Academy, Lennoxville	569-5103
North Hatley Elementary	North Hatley	842-2491
Pope Memorial Elementary	Bury	872-3771
Princess Elizabeth El.	420 Bellevue, Magog	843-4847
Richmond Regional H.S.	Lorne Ave, Richmond	826-3704
St. Francis Elementary	355 College, Richmond	826-3737
Sawyer's Elementary	Sawyer's	889-2263
Sherbrooke Elementary	242 Ontario, Sherbrooke	562-3515
Sunnyside Elementary	1 Main, Rock Island	876-2469

For inquiries concerning exceptions to the entrance requirements (regarding age), please call 821-9560.

Hugh Auger, Director General



Kids, become a junior member of the Canadian Wildlife Federation and receive *Ranger Rick*, a monthly magazine filled with stories and games about wildlife. Write to the Canadian Wildlife Federation at 1673 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 3Z1 for more information.

A report from the Sun's Mexico correspondent

Tenochtitlán ... visiting Mexico City



by Ingeborg Fulford

Let's take off for Acapulco, Ixtapa or Cancun. "Now you are talking", most people say. Let me tell you a bit about Mexico city. We have been, and still are, living in the north west of this large Mexican city.



The cathedral on the Zocalo, a familiar sight for tourists.

One quarter of Mexico's population lives in Mexico city; about 20 million making it the biggest metropolis in the world. It has a very bad pollution problem (there are times when you cannot see the license plate in front of you, due to exhaust). They are trying to correct the problem, but it will take a long time. Most people

don't have the money to fix their cars, of which many are up to 20 years old. Of course it is not only the cars.

It is a lovely city. The big wide tree lined boulevard La Reforma runs through the center, with the Angel of Independence high above keeping a watchful eye on the traffic. The National Museum of Anthropology, celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, is located in Chapultepec park, the city's heart. Across from the museum there is the Zoo;

buildings, and behind it the Templo Mayor, Aztec ruins discovered less than ten years ago. Close by, at the edge of Alameda park, is the theatre of fine arts (Bellas Artes), where twice a week the national folklore ballet perform colourful native dances.

South of the city there is the floating gardens of Xochimilco, where you can see what all of Mexico city looked like at the time Cortes arrived. No wonder he liked what he saw and too bad he stayed.

These are just a few of the things you can enjoy in Mexico city. It is very clean - every storeowner washes the sidewalk in front of his store every morning. Many big cities around the world could learn a few things here.

The people, they are friendly and helpful. They are always wondering if you know where you are going or if they can help you. Mexico city has the advantage that it is rarely too hot, and even when it is, it always cools off at night. High summer temperatures are from 10-30°C because of its 2240 m (7349 feet) above sea level altitude.

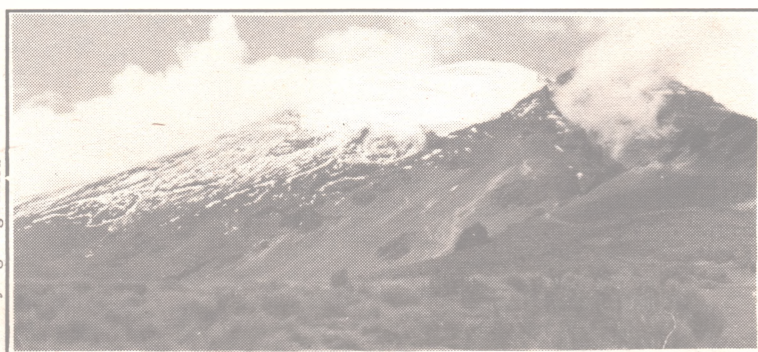
If you would like to venture further away, there are Grey line tours on Londres, in the Zona Rosa. (Which is not a red light district) From here you can take day trips to Teo-

one of the only zoo's in the world, where Pandas will breed. High above the park you'll see Maximilian's castle - open to the public, with a great view over the park and town and overlooking La Reforma.

Downtown there is the Zocalo (town square) with the old cathedral, the parliament



Part of the Aztec legacy. Standing on top of the Pyramid of the Moon, looking down the avenue of Death. The tall pyramid on the left is the Pyramid of the Sun.



Still steaming Popocatepetl combines a snow-covered peak and hot subterranean temperatures.

tihuacan, to see the pyramids of the Sun and the Moon; to Cuernavaca, the city of eternal spring, to Taxco, the silver town with the wonderful church of Santa Prisca, "the church that silver built". There are trips to Puebla, and San Miguel Allende or you can climb the snow covered volcano of Popocatepetl and enjoy the view of Ixtlacihuatl at the same time.

Yes, the coast of Mexico is lovely, but so is Mexico city, it has a lot to offer tourists from the Townships. You'll see why we're happy to call it our home. ☀

Never lend your car to anyone to whom you have given birth.
- Irma Bombeck

Rum in the sun

Barbados ... Fun at the Holetown festival

February in Barbados marks the annual Holetown Festival. Launched in 1977 to commemorate the first settlement on Barbados in 1627 by a band of English sailors, this vibrant festival is laced with history.

Holetown, formerly called Jamestown, after a King of England is located on the west coast of Barbados. It is at this site where the Holetown Festival unfolds.

From February 18-25, 1990 locals and visitors celebrate the seventeenth century landing of those English sailors. "February 20th is the date we understand that they landed", says Alfred Pragnell, actor, dramatist and joint organiser of the festival. In 1977, Mr. Pragnell took the festival idea to Keith Simmons, lawyer, parliamentarian and resident of St. James, the parish where Holetown is

situated. Together, with a local community group, they mobilised support for the festival.

The Methodist and Anglican Churches on the main throughfare in Holetown are used for classical music performance by the best local talent.

At the nearby community centre and St. James Secondary School, calypso singing, popular and "tuk" music are featured. The world renowned Royal Barbados Police Band and the Royal Barbados Mounted Police provide memorable tattoos in the heart of Holetown.

Yet the hub of the continuous activity of the week-long festival is at the monument in Holetown which was erected at the site where, legend says, the exploring English sailors landed. Along the street leading from the monu-



ment and on the surrounding lawns and car parks, festival goers can enjoy crafts, live cultural performances, fashion and food.

The Holetown Festival Committee is working to expand the celebrations. In addition, efforts are underway to further preserve and restore the historic architecture and cultural landmarks of Barbados' first town. For more information on the Holetown Festival, contact:

Barbados Board of Tourism,
20 Queen Street West,
Suite 1508,
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 3R3.
[416] 979-2137.

Use your medicare card

Unique medical service offered to Canadians in South Florida

Dear Editor:

We thought that your readers might be interested to know that a unique medical service is offered to Canadians in South Florida. The **Stat Medical Clinic** of North Miami has been offering medical assistance to the Canadian tourist for the last ten years.

What is particular about the clinic is that the Quebec Medicare card when presented with the travel insurance is accepted. No immediate disbursement is therefore required from the patient. The clinic is owned and staffed by Canadians. Most of the patients are elderly staying in Florida for the long winter months.

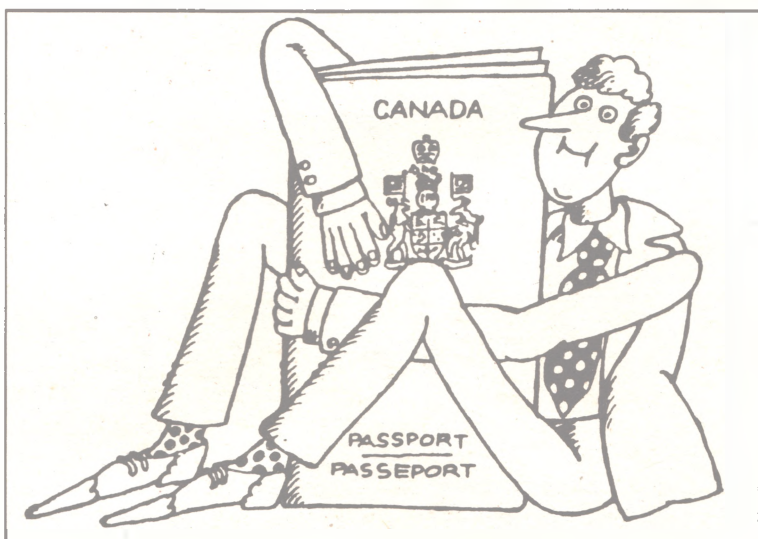
Physicians in general medicine, hematology, pe-

diatrics, cardiology are available. Other specialties are available on a consultation basis. Should hospitalization be required, the clinic makes all arrangements with its affiliated hospitals so that no upfront payment is necessary from the patient.

If you would like more information regarding the services of the clinic or an interview, you may reach me in Montreal.

Yours truly,

Marc Stachewitsch
Director
Wellington Medical Center
2051 Wellington
Montreal [Quebec]
H3K 1W7
[514] 932-5147



Going away for a winter vacation?

Tips for travellers

So you're planning a trip abroad. Lucky you! Here are some tips on what to do before you leave.

Passport

You need a passport to travel to most countries. Your passport is the most widely recognized proof of your citizenship. A Canadian passport costs \$25 and is valid for five years. When your passport expires, you must submit a new application since it is not renewed automatically.

When applying by mail, allow three weeks for delivery. When applying in person at the external Affairs Passport Office in Montreal, allow three to five working days.

Visa

To enter some countries, you need a visa in addition to a passport. Consult your travel agent or the country's embassy or consulate in Canada. For the addresses and telephone numbers of foreign embassies and consulates in Canada, contact **Communication-Quebec**.

Problems abroad

Before your departure, you should obtain the address in the Canadian Embassy or consulate in the country you intend to visit. That is where you will be able to find assistance and advice if you are in distress, must have someone's remains transported back to Canada or simply need information about obtaining medical or legal services.

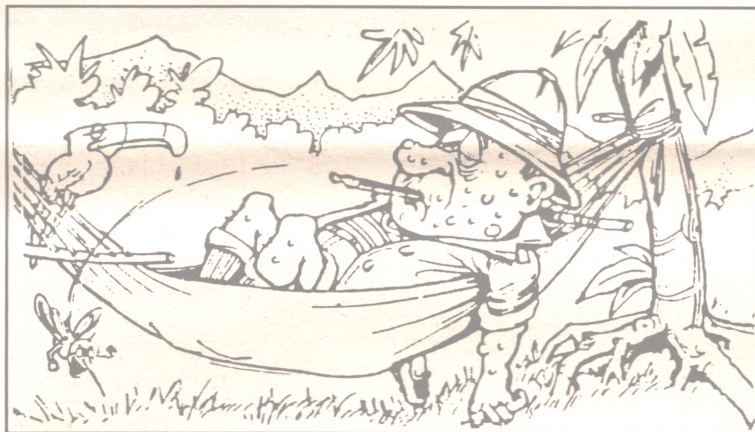
For the addresses and telephone numbers of the Canadian embassies or consulates in the countries you will be visiting, contact **Communication-Quebec**.

Vaccinations

Because of the climate, in more than 200 countries the risk of contracting such diseases as cholera, malaria (which is transmitted through

mosquito bites) and yellow fever is quite high. Vaccination requirements vary from one country to another, but remember that, even though there may be no vaccination requirement, there may still be a risk of disease.

Six to eight weeks before your departure, make an appointment with your doctor or a doctor at the Clinique du voyageur international of the Boutique Santé 2000 in Sherbrooke. Call [819] 564-1010.



Health precautions

Your vacation can be ruined by illness.

Travel and Health, a brochure published by Health and Welfare Canada, contains advice about the precautions to take before your departure, upon your arrival at your destination and upon your return home. The guide is available free of charge at **Communication-Quebec**.

If you fall ill during your trip

Anything from a careless accident to the flu may land you in the hospital while you are abroad.

The Régie de l'assurance-maladie du Québec reimburses you for the costs of health care received outside Québec, but according to the rates in force in Québec. Since health care costs are often higher outside Québec, the difference, is not covered by the Régie. So be sure to take out private insurance.

For example, suppose you have a heart attack out-

side Canada and are immediately hospitalized. The hospital costs amount to \$16,000. The Régie de l'assurance-maladie reimburses you for \$8,350. If you did not take out private insurance, you will have to defray the difference, i.e. \$7,650.

A pamphlet entitled **Insured Health Services Outside Quebec** and the Application for Reimbursement form are available at **Communication-Quebec**.

Automobile accidents outside Quebec

Are you aware that the Régie de l'assurance automobile du Québec will compensate you if you sustain bodily injury in an automobile accident outside Québec, whether or not you were at fault?

However, if you are held responsible for an accident outside Québec, you must compensate the victim for any bodily injury or property damage.

Before your departure, ask your insurance agent about your coverage should you have an automobile accident abroad.

If you are the victim of an

automobile accident outside Québec, be sure to obtain a copy of the accident report prepared by the police or to note the address where you can obtain one.

For more information, call the Régie de l'assurance automobile du Québec at 1-800-361-7629 (no charge).

Bon Voyage, but

Problems, especially those that could have been prevented, can sometimes spoil a trip. External Affairs Canada has published a booklet containing a great deal of information and advice that will help you avoid difficulties.

The booklet is entitled "Bon voyage, but". To obtain your free copy by return mail, contact:

Communication-Quebec
200, rue Belvédère Nord
Bureau RC. 02
Sherbrooke J1H 1R7
[819] 569-9311
or O-Zenith
Communication-Quebec.

Be warned before you buy Travel Club Telemarketing Fraud

Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada warns consumers against giving out any credit card numbers over the telephone, particularly in responding to apparent offers of prizes or unrealistically priced travel packages.

Complaints against Florida-based travel clubs are on the increase at Federal and Provincial consumer ministries and Better Business Bureaus across Canada. These travel clubs mass-mail postcards, usually from the United States or the Republic of Panama, which entice consumers to phone for details. Consumers are then pressured into giving out a credit card number over the telephone.

Canadian consumers who give out their credit card numbers over the phone to U.S.-based travel clubs can only obtain redress under U.S. law. With respect to the Florida-based

companies in question, consumers who give out a card number will risk losing their entire investment of perhaps several hundred dollars. They may also be subject to additional and unauthorized charges against their credit card account.

Who to contact

Consumers with complaints against any of these companies, persons who have suffered financial loss through dealing with these companies, or those who wish further information about their practices, are encouraged to write to:

VTC Complaints,
Federal Trade Commission,
Division of Credit Practices,
Washington, D.C.,
U.S.A., 20580.

The FTC has also opened a Vacation Travel Information Line:

202-326-3184.

(Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada)

*Never put off until tomorrow what you can do
the day after tomorrow.*

- Mark Twain 1835-1910

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[819] 566-5595

Quebec Permit

Fill 'er up Looking for cheaper gas?

(JWL) If you're the sort of person who regularly drives out of his way to save a few cents on a litre of gasoline you'll understand the frustration Canadians feel every time they pull up to their local gas pumps in 1990.

When gas was under 40 cents a gallon (8.8 cents a litre) \$3.00 bought more than seven gallons. I owned a Mercury with a 410 cc. engine that swallowed a gallon of gas every 10 miles. At 40 cents a gallon that only cost me 4 cents a mile. At today's gas prices it would cost me about 30 cents a mile.

Things changed. Now \$3.00 almost buys enough gas to get the car started on a cold morning.

In **Lennoxville** a litre of regular unleaded gasoline can be purchased for 58.9 cents. For you who haven't worked it out that is a mere \$2.67 a gallon - a price that would have left my '57 Mercury in the parking lot.

There has to be a cheaper way, I thought.

In **North Troy, Vermont**, I was able to buy gas for \$1.19 (U.S.) that's \$1.42 (Can.) for 3.78 litres, or 38 cents a litre. A saving of just slightly more than 20 cents a litre.

Gas in **Montreal** was the same as Lennoxville. On a recent journey down the 401 gas was 52.2 cents a litre near **Cornwall**, and 50.7 cents in

Newcastle. Downtown Toronto I paid 52.9 cents.

My spies in lower **New York State** claim to be paying 23 cents (Canadian) per litre.

Don't stop there! If you're planning to cruise south for a little gas keep right on going. Gas in **Caracas, Venezuela** is only 8 cents a litre.

If you're feeling badly used, you might consider the plight of motorists in **Tokyo** who have to pay \$1.16 a litre. However even they have it easy compared to the citizens of **Abidjan** (Where the hell is Abidjan?) who regularly pay \$1.28 per litre of gas.

However even knowing there are people who pay more, doesn't take the sting out of filling your tank in Quebec.

Roller skates?

Come celebrate the fun of winter



More Limericks (continued from page 2)

I told you I'd pick a winner when I got around to it, and I haven't got around to it yet, so all these entries are still alive in the first, annual, **Townships Sun** Limerick Contest. (We may never pick a winner. Who cares?)

There was a young lad to bury,
Who decided to eat a ripe cherry,

The juice stained his coat,
The stone stuck in his throat,
Now the citizens have a young lad to bury.

- R. Norman
Richmond, Quebec

I was born in the Township of Bedford,
I married and then travelled Westward,
But I want you to know,
A long time ago,
I had a dear friend in Estella Primerman.

- Anna Ewing Ranns
Victoria, B.C.

There's a nice little monthly, the **Sun**.
And out of the Townships it comes,
We read it with pleasure,
Taste its gourmet's best treasures,
Its columns and letters, sheer fun!

- J. Stanley Kennedy
St. Bernard, Quebec
(Hats off to Stanley - Ed.)

In Sutton Town they love to ski,
Upon the mount as winds blow free,
This hardy crowd,
Will shout aloud,
"The winter is the time for me!"

- Iva Duboyce
Sutton, Quebec

There once was a family from Sutton
Who dined every day on old Mutton,

One day Dad came home,
With some ducks from Lac Brome,
Now those Brome drakes are doin' some fine struttin'.

- Ruth Edgcombe Bureau
Sherbrooke

It was at Red Mountain,
I first saw the day,
And Madame La Rouge,
By the little Red Brook,
Barefoot she go, most of the day.

- Dorothy Morrison Brown
Napanee, Ontario

I've heard of a girl in Sawyer-ville,
Who lived on a farm up the hill,
She put on a smile,
You could see for a mile,
And thawed all hearts from their chill.

- Lavina French
Sawyer-ville

In the Townships we've all heard of Flora,
Whose limericks we simply adore-a-
Each month for some fun,
We turn to the **Sun**,
Where we hope to see more-a and more-a.

- Audrey Martin McCaw
Abercorn
(And you will Audrey! - Ed.)

There was young man from Brome,
Who thought he would like to roam,
First he went to Knowlton,
And then on to South Bolton,
Cried, "Show me the way to go home."

- Alfred Nell
Granby

I was born in Bishop's Crossing,
Just down the road from Jack's Crossing,
The little settlement formed by John Bishop,
Has always kept part of its name as Bishop,
But now added Toronto Bishop instead of Crossing.

- Dorine Davis
Bishopton

There was a young widow named Mary,
Who's husband committed Hara-kiri,
She said "I don't care,
Now he's out of my hair,
And other parts of my anatomy."

- Justin Auldbugar

To the **Sun** I am saying Adieu,
Other adventures I'm off to pursue
Page design is an art
As are matters of the heart
..... How true!

- Susan C. Mastine.

An editor, who edited the **Sun**,
Said "At 50 my life's just begun,
I was starting to fear,
I'd spend it all here,
But I'm off, goodbye, gotta run!"

- Jim Lawrence

As you can see this limerick thing is getting out of hand - but keep them coming - we've ordered another box of great fame and three bags of praise for Tim, Justin, Dorine, Alfred, Audrey, Iva, Ruth, Dorothy, Lavina, Stanley, Anna and R.

A friend in need is a friend to dodge.

- unknown



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Lac Brome Winter Carnival

February 15th to 18th

Thursday, February 15

6 p.m. Spaghetti Supper
Knowlton Pub
FREE 243-6862

Friday, February 16

5 p.m. Family Supper &
Student Variety Show
St. Edouard School
\$6 adults \$3 kids
\$18 family 243-6770

6 p.m. Broom Ball
Foster Municipal Park
FREE 539-4100

Saturday, February 17

11 a.m. Figure Skating
Coldbrook Park
Free Demonstration
1 p.m. Snow Golf
Douglas Beach
Brome Lake
\$1 243-6505

Softball
Douglas Beach
Brome Lake
FREE

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Family Skating
Canteen
Ice Sculptures
Douglas Beach
Brome Lake

Schedule

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sleigh Rides from
Knowlton Academy to
Douglas Beach, Brome Lake
FREE

6 p.m. Carnival Buffet
Auberge La Malard
\$16 243-5755

8 p.m. Dance & Casino
\$10 243-6619

Sunday, February 18

1 p.m. Auto Ice Racing
Thirsty Boot
FREE 243-0163

12 noon Family Fun Day
Races etc.
Glen Mountain

12 noon Family Fun
Races etc.
Skating
Dog Sled Races
Dog Obedience
Clowns, etc.
Douglas Beach
Brome Lake
FREE

2 to 4 p.m. Youth Hockey
Exhibition
Knowlton Academy
FREE 243-6827



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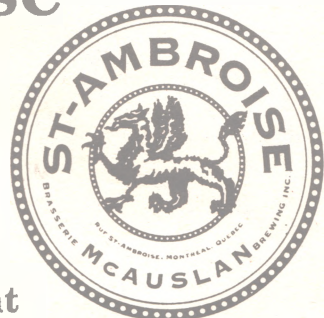
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La Côte Choisie [514] 242-1100

Eastern Township's distribution by Deep Water Distributing, 51 Lakeside Road, Knowlton, QC

Audubon Bird Counts

Important conservation tool



by Gladys Mackey Beattie

Here at last are the long-awaited results of the two local Audubon Christmas Bird Counts. Although the areas are referred to as Georgeville and Lennoxville, they each cover approximately 177 square miles of woods, fields, towns, and whatever waterways lie within their perimeters. The birds seen represent a large variety of terrain.



Horned Lark

The Lennoxville count was taken on December 17th, and the Georgeville one on December 28th. Our very cold, early winter weather resulted in most of the lakes and rivers being frozen, so

fewer water birds were to be found. The Massawippi River in North Hatley was one of the few spots with open water, and even a wood duck was seen with the Black Ducks and Mallards. The flock apparently enjoys handouts of stale bread from visitors and



Wood Duck

would probably be a healthier diet.

No gulls were to be seen in either Georgeville or Lennoxville. They must have moved along to a warmer climate. Snow Buntings were very much in evidence in open fields everywhere. They must have felt very much at home in our cold December weather as record numbers were found. The Horned Larks seen in the Georgeville Area are very noteworthy. I don't believe they have been found on either local bird count before.

This is really the winter for Crossbills. Both White-

winged, and Red Crossbills were found in record numbers. These birds eat the seeds found in cones, and they follow the crop coming from as far away as the Rocky Moun-



tains. Their crossed bills are perfect for extracting the seeds from between the petals of the cones. The coniferous trees have produced very heavy cone crops this year, perfect for crossbills.

Hawks were also well represented with Coopers Hawk, American Kestrel, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Goshawk, Red-tailed Hawks (4), Rough-legged Hawk, and several unidentified species.

Cardinals seem to know what day the bird count is taken, and always give us a hard chase. Even when they are coming to feeders regularly, they stay away on count day, but two were seen in the Lennoxville area and another eight in Georgeville. They are evidently a species on the increase.

Many small song birds were represented, specially the sparrows: song, chipping, white-throated, and even tree sparrows in good numbers. House Finches dropped from 171 in 1988 to only 5 in the Lennoxville area. Don't become too elated, this may be directly related to the fact that the City of Sherbrooke was not as well covered as last year, and this is certainly an urban

Christmas Bird Count Dec. 1989

Lennoxville Circle

- 2 Double Crested Cormorants
- 1 Wood Duck
- 79 Black Ducks
- 49 Mallards
- 1 Lesser Scaup
- 19 Common Goldeneyes
- 67 Common Mergansers
- 1 Sharp Shinned Hawk
- 1 Northern Goshawk
- 4 Red Tailed Hawks
- 1 Rough Legged Hawk
- 1 Sparrow Hawk
- 28 Gray Partridge
- 5 Ruffed Grouse
- 179 Rock Doves
- 183 Mourning Doves
- 51 Downy Woodpeckers
- 30 Hairy Woodpeckers
- 1 Pileated Woodpecker
- 182 Blue Jays
- 373 Crows
- 30 Ravens
- 773 Chickadees
- 28 Red Breasted Nuthatches
- 11 White Breasted Nuthatches
- 4 Brown Creepers
- 1 Carolina Wren
- 1 Bohemian Waxwing
- 22 Cedar Waxwing
- 482 Starlings
- 9 Cardinals
- 72 Tree Sparrows
- 1 Chipping Sparrow
- 1 Song Sparrow
- 2 White Throated Sparrows
- 6 Juncos
- 556 Snow Buntings
- 4 Common Grackles
- 5 Cowbirds
- 32 Pine Grosbeaks
- 5 House Finches
- 55 Red Crossbills
- 244 White Winged Crossbills
- 1 Common Redpoll
- 51 Pine Siskins
- 14 Goldfinches
- 417 Evening Grosbeaks
- 150 House Sparrows

Total species: 47
Total individuals: 4,237
25 observers

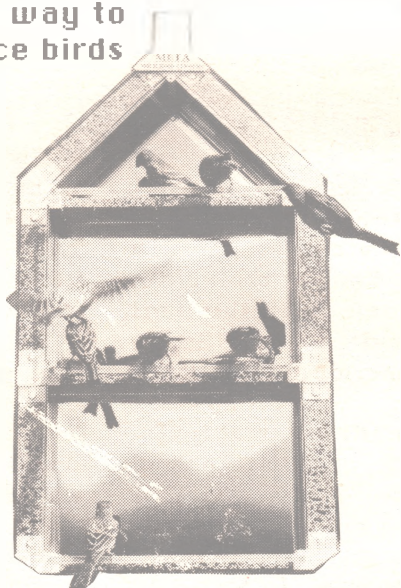
Georgeville Circle

- 21 Ruffed Grouse
- 68 Mourning Doves
- 289 Rock Doves
- 3 Pileated Woodpeckers
- 43 Downy Woodpeckers
- 53 Hairy Woodpeckers
- 30 Ravens
- 142 Crows
- 445 Blue Jays
- 860 Chickadees
- 11 Horned Larks
- 56 White Breasted Nuthatches
- 15 Red Breasted Nuthatches
- 76 Starlings
- 170 House Sparrows
- W.O.C. Chipping Sparrow
- 107 Tree Sparrows
- 34 Juncos
- 382 Snow Buntings
- 8 Cardinals
- 35 Common Redpolls
- 2 White Crowned Sparrows
- 10 Purple Finches
- 46 Pine Grosbeaks
- 537 Evening Grosbeaks
- 48 Goldfinches
- 2 Pine Siskins
- W.O.C. Coopers Hawk
- W.O.C. American Kestrel
- 1 Accipiter Sparrow
- 1 Sparrow Hawk
- 1 Northern Shrike
- 2 Song Sparrows
- 6 White Throated Sparrows
- 2 Red Winged Blackbirds
- 10 Grackles
- 17 Cowbirds
- W.O.C. House Finch
- 4 White Winged Crossbills

Total species: 34
Total individuals: 3,536
Observers: 111

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species. Let's see what next year's count brings. A Carolina Wren seems to be a Lennoxville resident. More on this special bird and long eared owls next month.

All in all the Christmas bird counts were excellent in spite of the lack of open water. Many thanks to all the readers who watched their feeders and phoned in results.



Sparrows

+ TOWNSHIPS +
MATHEMATICIAN
(Solution on page 23)

If it were seven minutes later than half as many minutes after the hour as it would be if the hour were minutes and it were one minute less than three times that number of minutes after the hour, it would be half again as many minutes as the number of the hour later than it would be if it were three minutes earlier than half as many minutes it is after the hour.

Well, that's all very well, but we still need to know how many minutes it is after the hour.



SHERBROOKE
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6 Belvedere

564-1750

SAWYERVILLE
55 Cookshire

COOKSHIRE
50 Craig

RICHMOND
295 Main S.
826-2502

STANSTEAD

876-5213

AYER'S CLIFF

The black side of the Christmas Tree industry

Oh Christmas Tree, Oh Christmas Tree

by Robert Lavigne

In December every local newspaper, television station and radio program featured a well organized campaign to glorify the Christmas Tree and promote the Christmas Tree industry.



I hate to sound like the "Grinch that stole Christmas" but what really disturbed me in this marketing initiative is the fact that they claim by buying a natural Christmas tree, you are helping an environmentally sound industry. They even have the audacity to affirm that by buying a real Christmas tree we can help our environment.

Well, there are always two sides to every story and here is the other side of the Christmas tree industry as I see it.

In Québec, because 75% of the growers are in the Eastern Townships, we should be concerned about this serious problem.

Large companies are now buying vast areas of pasture land to grow their trees. These pastures were cleared by our ancestors with their blood and sweat, using primitive equipment.

This land, according to Mr. Claude Bourguignon, agronomist and Doctor of Science, can be totally ruined by

the monoculture of resinous trees. Resinous trees destroy the soil by a phenomenon called podzolisation which corresponds to a leaching of positive ions and of the humus.

Monocultures always create potential grounds for the development of disease and invasions of insects requiring constant use of pesticides for control.

If you add over-fertilization to accelerate growth, you naturally increase the stress on the trees thus making them more vulnerable.

I have been investigating the Christmas tree industry for several years. I recognize it's important economic contribution to our area but, at the same time, I feel it's more than time to stop playing hide and seek with our environmental problems.

If we continue to ignore the impact chemical cultivation has on our environment, wildlife and human health, we will be creating a grim future for our children.

People who live in the vicinity of plantations should be concerned about the spray drift and vapour drift of pesticides (there are about 40 known pesticides recommended for use by Christmas tree growers).

See the list at the end of this article, of chemicals regularly used).

These toxic poisons contaminate streams and rivers not to mention water tables. The fine mist created by spray canons or planes knows no boundaries and is detrimental to fish, birds, useful insects, etc.

Our federal government has spent billions of dollars attempting to clean up the St. Lawrence yet we are still injecting tons of pesticides in our streams and rivers.

Isn't it time we started being responsible and deal



with the causes of the problem rather than try to alleviate the effects of pollution?

If you are worried about this issue, if you have any questions or would like to communicate your experience in relation to the Christmas tree industry, please communicate with:

The Friends of Earth
C.P. 353

Sherbrooke [Quebec]
J1H 5J1

Tel: [819] 566-0323

We, as a society, have to become ethical consumers, responsible buyers who are aware of the environmental impact of the products we purchase. It is of the utmost importance that we stop abusing nature because we are destroying ourselves in the process.

I sincerely hope this year more people will stand up and demand our government will pass laws to make our environment healthy again and insure our rights for a chemical-free environment.

There is more to life than increasing its speed.

-Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948)

Pesticides for Christmas Trees

The following pesticides are recommended to be used by Christmas tree growers. All pesticides, unless otherwise noted, are taken from the 1987 **Christmas Tree Growers Manual Atlantic Canada**, sent to registered members of the Nova Scotia Christmas Tree Association. Some pesticides are recommended for use in combination. Each pesticide has a chemical and a trade or product name or names. We listed here, in brackets, only one of the trade names.

Herbicides (a total of 13): **asulam** (Asulox), **glyphosate** (Vision), **hexazinone** (Velpar), **Amitrole/simazine** (Amizine), **simazine** (various). Another publication, **Growing balsam fir Christmas trees in field and forest**, 1988, by G.F. Estabrooks (Canadian Forestry Service), introduces two additional herbicides: **pronamide** (Kerb), and **atrazine** (Aatrex). The **Tree Growers Manual** also recommends the following additional herbicides for use in balsam fir seedbeds and transplant beds. Seedbeds: **dazomet** (Mylone), **chlorthal-dimethyl** (Dacthal 75W), **diphenamid** (Dymid 80W), **varsol** (Shell AWK). Transplant beds: **trifluralin** (Irefian 4t).

Insecticides (a total of 19): **diazinon** (Basudin), **dimethoate** (Cygon), **insecticidal soap**, **malathion** (Cythion), **miscible oil**, **carbaryl** (Sevin), **oxydemeton-methyl** (Meta-Systox-R), **chlorpyrifos** (Dursban), **trichlorfon** (Dylox), **fenitrothion** (Sumathion), **bacillus thuringiensis** - b.t., **acephate** (Ortnene), **permethrin** (Ambush),

dicofol (Kelthane), **pyrethrins**, **lindane**, **methoxychlor** (Metnoxol), **petroleum oil** (Pine Sol). The **Manual** recommends one additional insecticide for use in balsam fir nursery beds: **chlordan** (various).

Fungicides (a total of 6): **chlorothalonil** (Bravo), **maneb** (Dithane), **benomyl** (Benlate). The **Manual** recommends the following additional fungicides for use in balsam fir nursery beds: **thiram** (Thiram 80WP), **captan** (Captan 50W), **captfol** (Difolatan 4F).

Growth regulators: No growth regulators are mentioned in the **Manual**. However, the **Annual Report** for the year ending 1986, of the N.S. Department of Lands and Forests, speaks of research on Christmas Tree growth regulators. Also, **The Chronicle Herald** (September 27, 1982), reported that "Eight Lunenburg County Christmas Tree growers found an experimental plant growth regulator improved tree quality". This particular regulator was identified only as **ABG-3034**, made by Abbott Laboratories. (One of the growth regulators used on apple trees (Alar), has been linked to cancer.)

Wildlife pesticides (a total of 2): Two pesticides are recommended for use against animals damaging Christmas trees. **Thiram-based "taste repellents"** are advocated for use against deer and rabbits. **Zinc phosphide**, which the **Manual** notes is "extremely poisonous to humans", is mixed with cracked corn, vegetable oil and "methyl green dye" to repel birds, and placed in "bait stations" to poison mice.

Subscriber Want Ads

For Sale

Oil storage tank, with 80 gallons of furnace oil. Highest bidder. [819] 842-2747.

1,000 - 2 1/2 gallon aluminum sap buckets with spouts. \$2.00 each. [819] 884-5501. 33 Main St., Bishopton.

Vanity dresser and chair, hand-carved chair of birdseye maple, 3 pc. sectional chesterfield, lazyboy chair with vibrator, 2 coffee tables, set 4 wooden chairs, 1

large and 1 small kitchen table, stacking chair, 2 single beds, wing-back easy chair, turntables, small bureau, guitar, clothes cupboard, washer. 821-2256.

Wanted

Seeking all materials in wood for house building: doors, windows, stairs, flooring, etc. [819] 835-9379.

Men's clothing, 16 1/2-17 1/2 shirts, 34-38 pants, 10-12 shoes

and boots; ladies' clothing, slacks 34 "waist, large size clothing, size 44 up, 8-9 shoes. Bedding, dishes, pots and pans, kitchen utensils. 821-2256.

Information re descendants of William Robinson (1821-1893), married to Margaret Barrie (1827-1909) from Danville. I have old postcards from Sweetsburg, Granby in the early 1900s. Would gladly exchange information to complete the family tree. Allan

Gordon Banfill, R.R. 3, Richmond J0B 2H0. [819] 826-3195.

Nearly New

St. Peter's A.C.W. Thrift Shop is open every Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Located in the basement of the church hall at 200 Montreal Street, Sherbrooke. Good used clothing, books, and household articles are offered at bargain prices for men, women, and children. It is worth a look! 564-0279.

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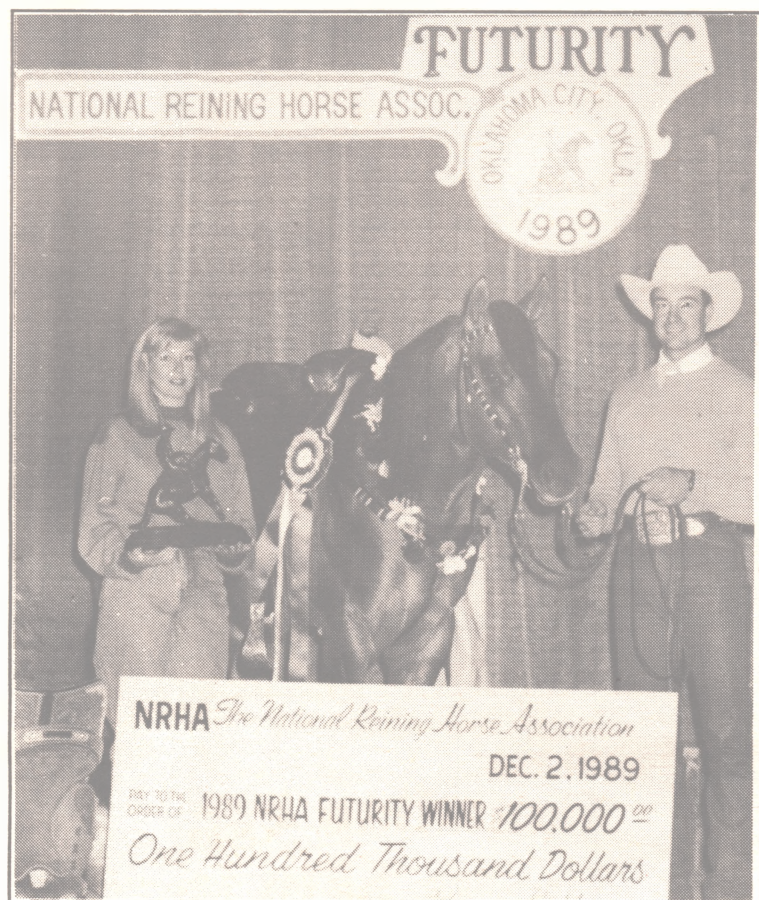


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Townshippers on horseback

St. Hilaire resident grabs major U.S. event



Alain Allard with his \$100,000 cheque for winning the NRHA Futurity.

by Lucinda M. Fisher and Gladys Mackey Beattie

(LMF) St. Hilaire resident Alain Allard and his horse "Brenna's Kid" won the \$100,000 National Reining Horse Association Futurity in Oklahoma City December 2nd, 1989. Allard was picked to be one of the 30 finalists out of an amazing 339 entries!

When asked about his secret of success, Alain answered, "I knew I had a good go, the horse was feeling right, my circles were good, and my lead changes were correct although my spins were only average." He received a standing ovation for his efforts. It was the first time a non-American had won the event in 24 years.

Allard was also a winner at the October Congress in Ohio where he tied for second on both his horses in the Limited Open Futurity.

Allard, 33, and recently

married was given his first pony as a child by his father out of sheer desperation as he insisted on riding the family cow.

This determination on his part has paid off and he studied at La Pocatiere in the equine program, started showing in 1979 and turned pro in 1981. He presently runs a training and boarding centre in St. Hilaire.

His list of wins and achievements is impressive. He feels that Quebecers are beginning to prove themselves for one reason: "We have less to work with when it comes to our horses so we tend to work harder. However, Quebec riders and trainers are now buying horses from the States with better bloodlines. This is very important. A horse with good bloodlines has the right mind and abilities. A horse with the right bloodlines can be sold virtually over the phone."

Congratulations to Alain Allard and "Brenna's Kid." Quebec equestrians, are once again making their mark and making the competition sit up and take notice.

Club Randonnée Hippique de Quebec

(LMF) The Club Randonnée Hippique de Quebec sounds like one of life's better bargains with a load of fun thrown in. It was started about 25 years ago by Waterloo resident Leopold Leclair

and 1989 memberships include an incredible 226 members from the ages of 4 and up.

Club secretary Marilyn Gazaille told me that "We have many different activities. Starting with a party in Rougemont on April 1st. From there, we have rallies, trail rides and an amateur horse show that includes barrel racing, trail classes, harness classes and pole bending."

The rallies usually take place at Bromont, Rougemont, or St. Hyacinthe. They are for a combination of well conditioned, sensible horse and rider teams of two who must find their route through woods, meadow, and country roads, answering trick questions, and mind teasers along the way. Usually a lunch is provided or teams bring their own and the cost is a mere \$6.00.

"For the cost of a \$20 family membership," Gazaille added, "You get good fun almost every weekend for next to nothing. We have a President, Guy Bernard, 2 Vice Presidents, a secretary, treasurer and a board of directors."

Interested in joining? Call Marilyn Gazaille in Granby at 378-5285.

In the spotlight

Littlevally Morgan Farm

(LMF) Karen Brooks of Littlevally Morgan Farm in West Bolton, Quebec is well known throughout the Townships, Ontario and The Eastern United States for her successful competition Morgan horses.

Any horseperson will tell you, a successful competition horse must be fit both physically and mentally. A happy horse will try to achieve and please and this positive attitude depends greatly upon the attitude of a horse's rider, trainer or driver. Karen's feelings about her horses are clear when she says, "I truly enjoy what I do and I would prefer to spend all of my time in the stable working than anywhere else."

Such sentiments are often echoed when people who really enjoy their animals gather. Another key to her success is her love of the Morgan breed. "The Morgan horse is a wonderful animal. They possess intelligence, stamina, courage and an abundance of heart with a supreme gentleness."

Charlie and Pat Brooks, Karen's parents, are her

BOOTS AND SADDLES

strongest supporters and it was Charlie, a commercial airline pilot, who first introduced the family to Morgan horses when he brought home "U.V.M. Figurine" from the University of Vermont Morgan Farm. This 3 year old mare was in foal to a producer of many World Champions, "U.V.M. Watchman", and she gave the Brooks' "Littlevally Kingoin", presently their premier and senior breeding stallion. The Brooks' also bought "Meldon Harbinger" and the two mares have brought home Grand Champion mare rewards, Pleasure Driving Championships and English Pleasure Championships.

"Littlevally Kingpin" won

Classic Championship Show at Markham, Ontario against stallions from Ontario, Quebec and The United States. This achievements ranks high on Karen's list and she admitted that "We were specially thrilled because Premier was trained and bred at home. What a reward."

Karen's show ring successes have more than qualified her for her present venture. She has opened up the farm to other horses as a training centre and she envisions success when she says, "I am confident that I can produce results."

However, while horse ownership give one incredible highs, it is a sport not without



Riders from the Club Randonnée Hippique enjoy a family outing and picnic.

Champion Highpoint Horse in Quebec two years in a row and was reserve horse the third year. "Littlevally Nobility" a 4 year old gelding, was reserve Highpoint Horse in Quebec in 1988 behind his half-brother Kingpin.

"Littlevally Novelty", a 5 year old mare turned out to be a superior performance horse and brought home, from The Ontario Morgan Classic, Grand Champion Mare titles, Brand Champion Pleasure Driving titles, and reserve Grand Champion English Pleasure titles, all in first or second years on the show circuit. She went on to duplicate these achievements at "A" rated shows in the Eastern United States and in Quebec.

Another successful show entrant is their "L.V.M. Premier" who, amongst his countless awards, was Grand Champion Stallion and Grand Champion Canadian Bred in 1989 at The Ontario Morgan

its lows. At time of writing, "L.V.M. Sanatana," the 7 month old and youngest member of the Littlevally team is struggling to recover from a severely fractured upper front leg at The University of Montreal's Veterinary School in St. Hyacinthe.

It is Karen's hope that this horse will recover and follow in the successful hoofprints of his family in the years to come. Safe to say that with Karen's input, dedication and winning attitude, show ring successes will certainly be a part of Littlevally Morgan Farm's future.

Do you have an interesting old photo you'd like to share with our readers? Send to: Cindy Fisher, P.O. Box 217, Knowlton, JOE 1V0 or Gladys Mackey Beattie at R.R. #1 North Hatley, JOB 2C0 Include your name, and a stamped, self addressed envelope for their return.

BOOTS AND SADDLES CLASSIFIEDS

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Horses for sale at **TURTLE HILL FARM** Weanlings and yearlings • 2 year old Q.H. Stallion (very tall) • 6 year old 17.1 hands Hanoverian (Dressage) • 10 year old Q.H. mare - very quiet for children. Please call Chantal [819] 838-5933

Short notes & lengthy graffiti

Looking back at days gone by!



Sam Evans and Son David, age 11, were photographed one summer's day in 1960. The horses were Cindy and Dick.

The "Alpine skiers' code of conduct"

This Code was made under the Act respecting safety in sports. It applies to all Alpine skiers and anyone practising a sport intended to be practised on an alpine ski slope.

Every skier is required to:

1. Obey the signs.
2. Yield the right of way to skiers downhill and choose a course that does not jeopardize their safety.
3. Yield the right of way of skiers uphill when entering a slope and at intersections.
4. Use skies equipped with safety edges and a braking system.
5. Make sure, when stopping on a slope, that he is visible to skiers uphill and that he is not obstructing the slope.

It is prohibited for any skier to:



1. Make a fast downhill run.
2. Make jumps.
3. Ski outside the ski slopes.
4. Ski on a closed slope.
5. Ski wearing a walkman.
6. Cross the track of a surface ski lift in operation.
7. Remove any signs.
8. Leave the site of an accident in which he is involved.

Optometrists agree

Video games bad for eyes

The video games installed in arcades and other locations across the province are having a harmful effect on children's eyesight. These games demand extreme concentration on the part of the user which may result in severe eye fatigue. This may be recognized through the development of double vision, headaches, fuzzy vision, red eyes, burning, itching or watery eyes.

The Association of Optometrists recommend good posture, good lighting facilities and a ten minute rest for each half hour of game playing.

Don't cheat. Even watching over your friend's shoulder can damage your eyes. Be careful, your eyesight is more important than your electronic score!

I am not young enough to know everything.

- Oscar Wilde 1854-1900

QUESTIONS ABOUT CHEMICALS?

For assistance in obtaining non-emergency information about chemicals, call the

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A public service operated by The Canadian Chemical Producers' Association

Macdonald College gets cash



Pfizer Canada presents the Raptor Center with a cheque for \$2800, results of a Quebec-wide program - it's for the birds.

For the 7th year

Canadian egg producers help those less fortunate

Canada's egg producers and consumers have not forgotten those less fortunate in Canada and around the world.

For the seventh year in a row, eggs will be donated to relief agencies in Canada and abroad.

The Canadian Egg Marketing Agency announced today the contribution of 20 tonnes of eggs and egg products.

The ten provincial egg boards will be co-ordinating the distribution on behalf of Canadian egg producers.

Canadians will donate nationally the equivalent of almost 69,000 dozen eggs in

shell form through the Canadian Association of Food Banks.

Canadian egg producers will also donate the same amount internationally through the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

Relief agencies in Africa, Central and South America will benefit from the international donations.

The Canadian Egg Marketing Agency is a non-profit corporation.

A censor is a man who knows more than he thinks you ought to.

- Granville Hicks 1901-1982

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♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥

Cool, then cut into thin strips.

[illegible]

1885, Separation

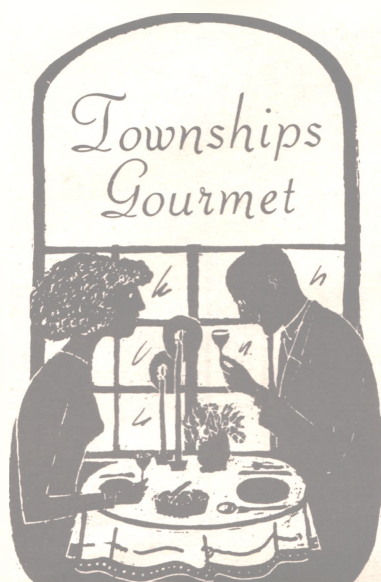
- 1-Weapons
- 2-Spoils
- 3-Large river
- 4-Barrel parts
- 5-Attendants
- 6-Mimic
- 7-Began again
- 8-Endearing term
- 9-Overwhelm
- 10-Golf mound
- 11-Conclusion
- 16-Streetcars (Brit.)
- 20-Label
- 23-American inventor
- 24-Part
- 25-Habitual drunkards
- 26-Mast
- 27-Sacred interdiction (var.)
- 28-Female sheep
- 29-Howl
- 32-Type of road
- 33-Bracing
- 35-Bar offering
- 36-Toils
- 38-Assessments
- 39-More docile
- 42-Percussion instrument
- 43-Comfort
- 44-Simmer
- 45-High card
- 46-Bird
- 47-Salutation
- 49-----Le Gallienne

February 1990

Heavenly hamburgers? Intimate dining in a converted church

by Aquario Francis

The owners of *Le Temps des Cerises* at 79 Du Carmel St. in Danville have rescued a Protestant church in the Townships and turned it into an attractive restaurant, preserving a building that might otherwise have been destroyed.



Much of the original wood interior remains, particularly in the high ceiling, which is wood panelled, and in the beautifully framed stained glass windows. The antique furnishings blend well with this historic building, creating a relaxed atmosphere for diners.

The low noise level because of the building's acoustics adds to the pleasure of the evening. Although my friend and I were seated fairly close to a table of six people, we heard very little of their conversation.

The setting was great - but what of the food? Pleasing too - and at reasonable prices.

I started with a delicious cream of turnip soup, while my friend had snails in a creamy garlic sauce. Just the right amount of garlic to be good but not overpowering, he said.

My main course was a generous serving of big, tender, juicy scallops served in a light cream sauce. The dish was attractively presented with spinach and rice. My friend enjoyed his pork medallions in a spicy, hot pepper sauce, served with green beans and carrots, cooked just right. The scalloped potatoes, however, were a bit dry from overcooking.

The desserts were colorful and delicious. Mine was a white cream mousse soaked

in a strawberry sauce. My friend had rich ice cream served on a cake base.

Service throughout the evening was friendly, courteous and helpful.

The combination of attractive setting, good acoustics, delicious food and courteous service makes this restaurant well worth the extra kilometers that might be needed for you to get there.

Dinner for two came to \$53.81 with tax, excluding drinks or wine.

Call *Le Temps des Cerises* at [819] 839-2818.

Canadian strawberries all year?

Strawberry study increases crops

That's the goal of horticultural scientist Alan Sullivan of the University of Guelph. With the assistance of technician Simon Van Schyndel, Sullivan is harvesting a large, inexpensively produced greenhouse strawberry crop from plants developed through the 'waiting bed' technique.

This technique involves putting strawberry plants into cold storage for the winter, and then bringing them out for planting at staggered times during the normal strawberry season that lasts for only three to four weeks, Sullivan ex-

tended the season over several months.

Until now, conventional growing techniques have failed to produce a Canadian greenhouse industry that can compete with imported California strawberries, which sell for about #3.50 a quart in the winter.

Sullivan and Van Schyndel are now looking at which of 13 varieties of strawberries produce the best yields and fruit quality under the simplest and least expensive greenhouse conditions.

(Canadian Science News)

There are 350 varieties of
shark, not including
loan and pool.
- L.M. Boyd



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Mid-winter tales



by Kathleen Hanna

With the chill winds of February whistling around the house and making outside activities unpleasant, it's a good time to curl up in front of the fireplace with a good book. This month I have just the books for February reading.

Montreal Mon Amour is a new book recently published by Deneau Publishers. It is a collection of short stories that were selected and introduced by **Michael Benazon**, a professor at Champlain College right here in Lennoxville.

The common denominator is Montreal. Benazon has selected stories from a very impressive list of authors, including: **Stephen Leacock**, **Mordecai Richler**, **Irving Layton** and **Erika Ritter**. All the stories are worth mentioning but space limits my choice.

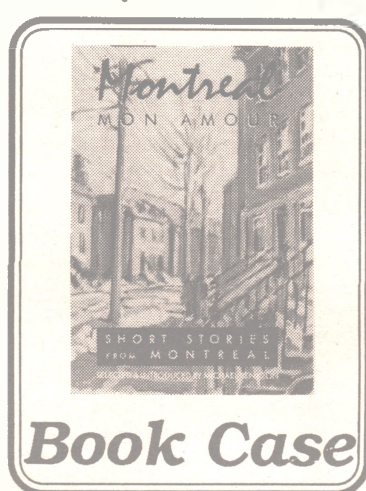
Mordecai Richler's contribution is a story titled **Bambinger**. Set in Montreal in 1942 it centers around a young boy's relationship with a refugee renting a room in his home. It appears the reason for renting out the room was to find a husband for his cousin Bessie. Unfortunately the man is married and awaiting the arrival of his wife and son from Australia.

Through the eyes of the young boy we see how stifling the relationship becomes when Bambinger, the older man, begins to criticize and humiliate him. He receives no support from his parents.

When Bambinger learns

of his family's impending arrival he starts to prepare. He buys furniture and appliances at auctions and second hand stores and repairs them himself. He works overtime and weekends. All this time he has no time to spend bothering the young boy.

Only days before his family's arrival, Bambinger learns that the ship has sunk. After spending three days in his room, Bambinger informs the family of his intention to



move to Toronto. But a few weeks later the young boy sees Bambinger walking down St. Catherine St. with a young lady on his arm and he is wearing a new suit, a fedora with a side brim and glasses with thick shell frames.

John Metcalf's contribution is titled **Robert, standing**. It is a delightful story about a young man, who is confined to a wheelchair. We follow Robert through his morning routine as he bathes himself and dresses for the day.

During the course of the morning he receives a visit from two young women professing to be messengers of the Lord. Robert invites them to come in and sit down. Their conversation consists of the meanings of the Book of Mormon. When they leave and are walking down the street, Robert calls to them and says: "If I was standing up I'd be six foot three."

There is a good mix of authors in this book and it will most certainly please everyone.

For a change of pace you'll enjoy **The Russia House** by **Johh Le Carre**.

A good spy novel is wonderful for those long nights of winter. The book starts slowly. We are introduced to Niki Landau at a book fair in Moscow. Niki is trying to clear up his booth while all around are celebrating the end of the fair. He is interrupted by a woman in a blue dress who is persistent enough to distract Niki from his work. She is desperately trying to find Barley Scott Blair, whose booth was beside Niki's. Barley Scott Blair had not attended this fair and as Niki was explaining this to the young woman, their eyes met.

Niki could see just how terrified this young woman was and how difficult it was to conceal her terror. She had a manuscript that Barley Scott Blair was to publish. It was imperative that he receive this manuscript. Niki knew that here was an opportunity of a lifetime ... or a trap set by the KGB.

Niki successfully delivers the manuscript to British Intelligence after being unable to locate Barley Scott Blair. Now British Intelligence must locate Blair to find out what he knows. He is located in Lisbon. There is a lengthy interrogation and the story begins.

I found the story very difficult to get into. Le Carre introduces too many characters at the beginning and it is difficult keeping track of them all. The interrogations of both Nikki and Blair are too lengthy, but once you get into the book all is forgiven.

A new feature at the Lennoxville Library is books on tape. 📖

Light, happy viewing

When Harry met Sally



by Ron Romanado

This lighthearted, romantic comedy is about the eternal differences men and women have about relationships.

At the very beginning **Billy Crystal's** character, Harry Burns, sets the tone for the movie. "Men and women can't be friends because the sex part always gets in the way," he tells Sally Albright (**Meg Ryan**) as they are sharing a car ride driving from Chicago to New York after completing college. They part, going their separate ways, but only after Sally rejects Harry's clumsy attempts at seduction.

They spend the next number of years in a rather slowly developing relationship. Five years later, they meet by chance only to discover that each is involved in a relationship. Later, they again meet by chance, to discover that both are separated, single and somewhat anxious for a relationship.

But, contrary to Harry's long-held beliefs, they become friends instead of lovers. Indeed, they become the best of friends. They cry on each others' shoulders about the lack of love in their lives. All the while they ignore the obvious attraction they have for each other. Harry treats her as a buddy, not as an object of his lustful desires. This continues until one night, when Sally is feeling particularly distressed, and the emotion overtakes them.

This was a breakthrough role for Billy Crystal. Known

for his standup comedy and his performances on "Saturday Night Live" (Fernando's Hideaway, "It's better to look good than feel good."), Crystal landed easily the best role of his career. He plays the sexist, neurotic, self-centered pessimist who has rebounded from a failed marriage with a seemingly endless series of



meaningless sexual encounters. Yet Harry is still shown to be a loving and caring individual.

As Sally, Meg Ryan complements Crystal with finesse and charm. Although not as good as Crystal, she performs perhaps the funniest moment in the film. When arguing with Harry about a women's ability to fake an orgasm, Ryan demonstrates her obvious experience. This naturally attracts the attention of the other diners, and when a waiter approaches a woman at a nearby table who has been eavesdropping, she nods toward Ryan and says, "I'll have what she's having."

For those who like Woody Allen movies, specially "Annie Hall", this may be the video for you. 📺

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Melodies on Canvas

Stoned - without chemicals!

(JWL) Had we been expecting beautiful recognizable melodies we would have been terribly disappointed with "Melodies on Canvas" the New Age Music concert we attended at Centennial Theater.

However the evening lived far beyond our expectations and without the aid of any chemicals gave us a "mind trip" we'll remember, and since I bought Horrocks and Harrington's cassette, one we'll repeat.

These two young men play a variety of guitars, mandolin and synthesizer. Their music would have had them



burned at the stake a hundred years ago. It is new, radical and as my parents called Rock n' Roll, non-music, I suppose to many it might be categorized the same way.

Approaching their offerings with an open mind leads the listener through fields of

wildflowers, following a medieval lady on a walk, exploring the undersea world and even listening to silence. Both are top notch musicians who play their instruments with deep feeling as well as technical excellence.

As those who have followed this year's concert series at Centennial Theatre have found, the designers of the program, have used great care and good taste to prepare concerts of interest to everyone. Keep an eye on the calendar page for upcoming events, you won't want to miss the few remaining. 🎵

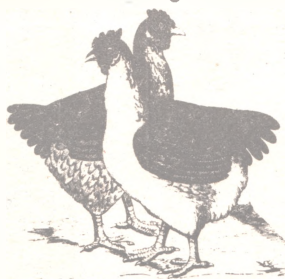
Chickens with cold feet lay better

Lately, some chickens have been getting cold feet, and laying more eggs because of it.

Chickens, like other birds, don't sweat in hot weather. Instead, they release body heat by panting and through the skin of their feet. And if they can't keep cool enough, they don't lay eggs as diligently.

Two University of Guelph professors have built special 'cool roosts' that help take the heat off chickens on a hot day.

The two professors, Doug Morrison and Lambert Otten, devised a roost made of continuous one-inch pipe which they inserted through the wires of their chickens' cages.



Refrigerated water was then circulated through the pipe.

When the chickens were tested in 35 degree C heat - typical of a hot summer day - their egg production was much better.

"For those farmers with breeder birds producing eggs for hatching, the difference could be critical," says Morrison. He says the roost takes the uncomfortable 'edge' off the heat: it allows a 5-to-10 percent body heat release through the chickens' feet.

The research was supported by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

(Canadian Science News)

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Diplomacy is the art of saying "nice doggie" until you can find a rock.
- Will Rogers 1879-1935

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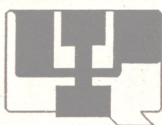
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Events Calendar



February 1990

27 Jan Breast Cancer Workshop 9:30 to 12:30 a.m. CLSC Gaston Lessard 219 Queen Street Lennoxville	27 & 28 Jan Bottle Drive Sher-Lenn-Dixy Venturers to sponsor trip to Helsinki, Finland Lennoxville	27 & 28 Jan Winter Carnival 2 weekends of fun [819] 842-2505 North Hatley	28 Jan Freestyle Ski Show Josee Darche [514] 534-2200 Mont Bromont Bromont	to 28 Jan Art Exhibit Lorraine Dagenais 8:00 p.m. Galerie Horace Sherbrooke
to 28 Jan Art Exhibit Graham Cantieni 8:00 p.m. Galerie Horace Sherbrooke	28 Jan Vestry Meeting 2 p.m. Church Hall St. James Church Hatley	31 Jan Lecture New Rock Discoveries Dr. Gérard Leduc 8 p.m. Faculty Lounge Bishop's University	2 Feb  Groundhog Day	2 to 4 Feb Winter Carnival Torchlight Parade Snowmobile Races [802] 723-4401 Island Pond, Vermont
3 Feb Flea Market Old and new items Legion Hall 176 Rosedale St. Ayer's Cliff	3 Feb Lowest temperature in Canada - 1947 -63 celsius Snag, Yukon	5 Feb Nutrition Course [819] 562-3443 La Cooperative d'Alentour Sherbrooke	7 Feb Conference Maple Syrup Producers [514] 375-3443 Erabliere La Grillade Inc. Granby	7 to 11 Feb Snowmobile Festival Joan Choquette [514] 532-3443 Valcourt
7 & 17 Feb Open Slope Races NCHUS Skiing [802] 988-2611 Jay Peak Resort Jay, Vermont	8 Feb Concert Vancouver Chamber Choir 8:30 p.m. Centennial Theatre Lennoxville	9 to 11 Feb Open House Macdonald College Royal and livestock show Macdonald College Ste. Anne de Bellevue	9 to 11 Feb Winterfest '90 Three full days of excitement [802] 334-7782 Newport, Vermont	to 11 Feb Art Exhibition "Vive en Grande-Bretagne" Hall du Pavillon Central Galerie d'art Sherbrooke
12 Feb Box Lunch Supper Annual Meeting Museum Society 50 Park Avenue Lennoxville	14 Feb 	14 to 25 Feb Faut y Croire pour le voir For children Theatre Sang du Neuf Sherbrooke	15 to 18 Feb Carnival Lac Brome 4 days of fun Events every day Knowlton	until 16 Feb Musical Talent Contest Info: Eric Arson [819] 843-1414 1750 Sherbrooke St. Magog
16 Feb Jazz Concert Le Big Band de Sherbrooke 8:30 p.m. Centennial Theatre Lennoxville	20 Feb Supper Meeting Missisquoi Hist. Society 6:30 p.m. All Saints Church Dunham	21 Feb General Meeting Stanstead Legion 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall Stanstead	24 Feb Concert Chambre Orchestra 8:00 p.m. St. Andrew's Church Sherbrooke	to 25 Feb Special Exhibition Eric Cameron Canadian Artist National Gallery of Canada Ottawa

CUT OUT THIS CALENDAR AND TACK IT UP SO YOU WON'T MISS ANY OF THESE EXCITING EVENTS.

If you would like an upcoming event included in our calendar,
drop us a note before the 15th of the previous month.

