

# Brome County News

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Wednesday, January 10, 1996

They've become conditioned to being fed — Rene Pouliot

## Game wardens blame residents for grounded ducks

By Sharon McCully

KNOWLTON — Just when the 26 volunteer wardens with the Brome-Bolton Fish and Game Club thought they would be able to take a break from one of the busiest hunting seasons ever, they have a new role: Mother Goose.

For the next few months, the club will be responsible for the health and welfare of some 100 ducks who missed their flight south.

Wardens with the club say local cottagers and residents are to blame for the plight of the grounded birds.

Game warden Rene Pouliot, who has become a surrogate mother to the hungry flock, said the ducks have become conditioned to being fed.

"They lost their instinct to fly south to search for food once the ground became snow covered," Pouliot said. "All summer you have people feeding the ducks bread and popcorn, then when they close up the cottage, the ducks are left looking for food."

Pouliot said the ducks are now too weak to fly.

"If we hadn't started feeding them grain last week, they would be dead by now," he said.

The club was notified of the birds' plight by a resident who noticed the flock still paddling in the icy waters that flow into Brome Lake.

Biologists Pierre Roch and Pierre Yelle from the provincial game department visited the site and determined it would be too costly to try to move them.

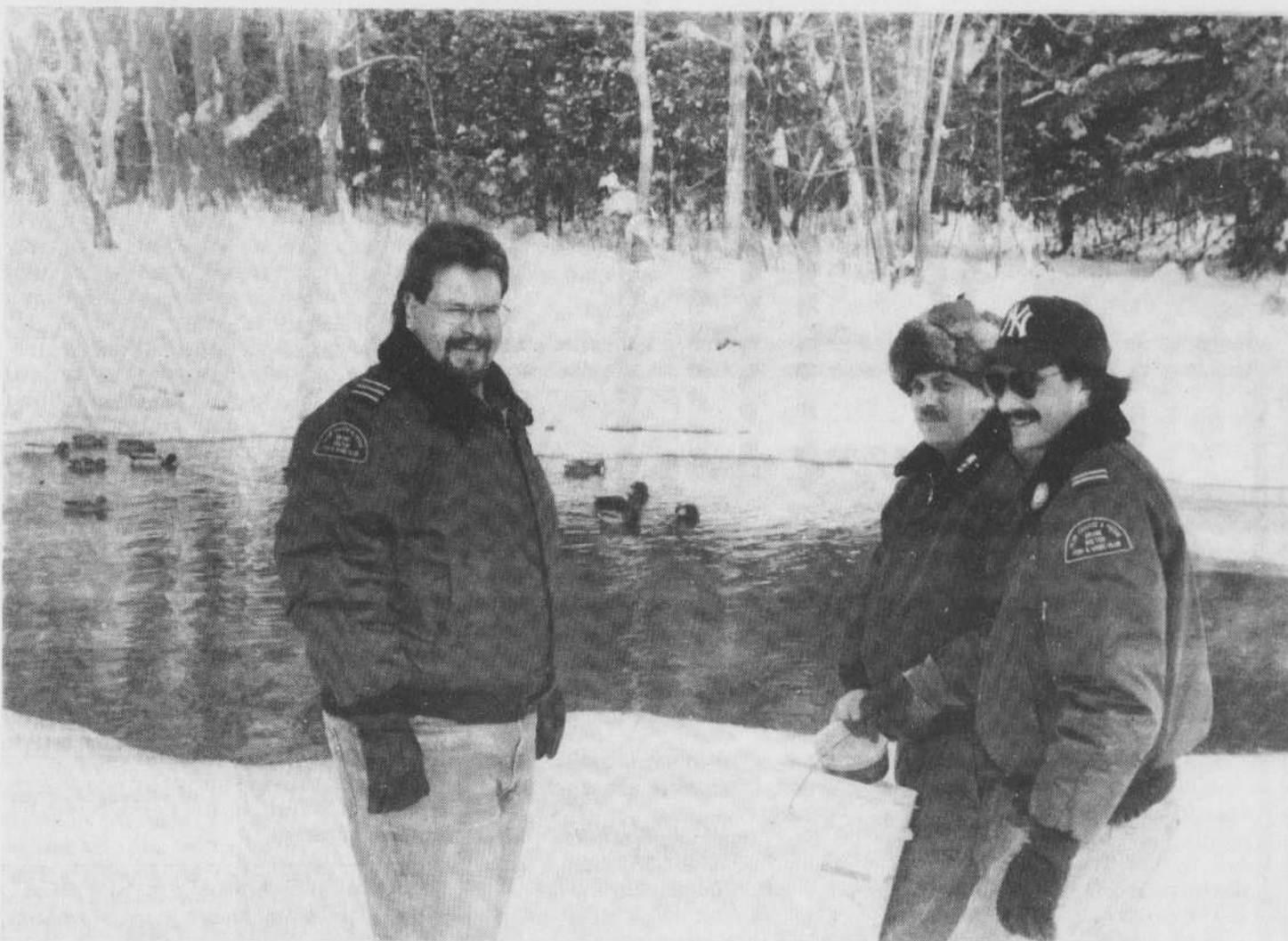
"Can you imagine getting a ticket to fly 103 ducks Air Canada to Florida," Pouliot said with a laugh.

But keeping the ducks in Brome Lake for the winter won't be cheap either.

This week the Brome Bolton Fish and Game Club purchased 10 bags of grain at a cost of \$104.60 for the stranded mallard. That 700 pounds of grain is expected to last a week.

"It takes one cup of grain per day to feed each duck," Pouliot said.

The cost of maintaining them over



Game wardens, including Greg Barr (left) and Rene Pouliot (center) take grain to feed the stranded ducks.

the winter will reach several thousand dollars.

The club is hoping some of the people who fed the ducks all summer will now contribute to the cost of feeding them over the winter.

"The ministry says they are on our territory so they are our responsibility," said Pouliot.

He warns if locals continue to feed the ducks over the summer, it won't be long before the lake is over-populated.

"Females have between eight and 12 babies," he said. "These 44 could become 200-300 before long."

Pouliot said some people think the club's sole role is to nab poachers.

"The protection of wildlife is very much a part of our mandate," he said. "I get called out to capture and release raccoons, injured deer, birds, you name it."

Last week, wardens responded to a call from one lakeside resident concerned about a lone duck stuck in the ice on the partially frozen lake for three days.

Three wardens responded to the call. "We wrapped a rope around one guy and sent him out with a net and when

he got within a few feet of the duck, it flapped its wings and took off," said warden Greg Barr.

But it's unlikely the 44 ducks wintering on Brome Lake will be going far.

"They'll be warm enough with their down coats, but they'll need a lot of grain to get them through to spring," said Pouliot, who makes two trips a day to the lake to feed and check on the quackers.

If you'd like to contribute to the cost of feeding the ducks, contact the Brome-Bolton Fish and Game Club at 243-0541 or Rene Pouliot at 243-0887.

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# Brome County Community Billboard

## Arts Calendar

**Townships Bluegrass and Old-Type Music Society** will gather on January 13 at the Canadian Legion, 77 Lewis, Waterloo. Musicians will jam from 1 to 5 p.m., supper at 5:30 p.m., and more entertainment at 7:00 p.m. Memberships still available. Admission charged. For information, call Tom Kilbride at 243-0645.

**Expression d'Art** presents an exciting concept bringing to you a variety of works by Eastern Townships artisans at 79 Lakeside, Knowlton. (514) 242-2427.

**Painting On Paper**, evening courses given at Prouty Community Hall, 5 Mill Rd. in Bondville on Wednesday evenings from 5-11 p.m. January 17 to April 17. This is an introductory course in visual arts proposing a contemporary approach to painting on paper through the exploration of various media and techniques: gouache, watercolor, chalk and oil pastels, collage and mixed media on paper. Color relationships and color mixing. Studio projects in a range of media. Instructor: Louise Jamet. No prerequisites required. This course is part of a Fine Arts Certificate

program offered by Bishop's University. Cost is \$173.80 for the course, \$30.00 for new Bishop's students only, \$89.40 for seniors (65 and over), and studio rental \$30.00. For more information, call Louise Jamet (514) 243-4137 or Bishop's University at (819) 822-9670.

**Attention Artists and Artisans:** The *Tour des Arts* is looking for new members. Interested parties must have a studio or a work space that can be opened to the public and is located within a designated area that includes the villages and regions surrounding Sutton, Knowlton and Mansonville. Ten slides of the artist's or artisan's work and a curriculum vitae must be sent, along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope, to Tour des Arts, 994 Vallee, Sutton, Quebec, JOE 2K0, before January 31, 1996.

**Arts Sutton:** Sculptures and installations by François Chalifour from St. Bruno and paintings by Muriel Faillie from St. Jean sur Richelieu. Exhibit continues through January 28. Open Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m.

## Community Calendar

**February 3**  
**2nd Annual Coffee House Fundraiser**, Sutton Calvary United Church basement at 7:30 p.m., sponsored by the Calvary United Church Choir. Tickets are \$4 and can be purchased at the door. Refreshments will be served.

## Community Notes

**SNAP FLAP:** *Brome County News* still has a supply of Snap Flap, the Snappy spelling game for children and adults. The game pits players against one another in a race to turn letters into words. Games are \$25 plus postage. A portion of the proceeds will go to the Words for Women literacy program. Tel: (514) 242-1188.

# The gardener's guide: Planning your next garden

By James Walters (AP)

Mother Nature's growth-regulating system helps same-type vegetables ripen about the same time. So if you don't want everything ready together, space the planting time.

Precise dates for planting seeds or setting out transplants will vary with your climate and what you're growing, but the days from planting to harvest will be about the same everywhere for a particular variety.

Now is a good time to make the calculations in planning your next garden.

Beets, for example, take about 60 to 90 days from sowing to first picking.

Thus, if you plant a third of the seed packet at the recommended time, another third 20 days later and the final portion after another 20 days, the harvest will be extended by that time frame.

And once some are ready, others will be every 20 days.

Successive planting is especially effective with crops such as beets, lettuce, green onions, carrots and radishes but it's worth the trouble with just about everything, even flowers.

Divide the seed packet by four or five, or even in half, if this works better for your purposes.

Since taste is probably the best reason, if not the only one, to grow vegetables at home, harvest over a long period is a big plus. It does require some planning based on knowledge of how vegetables ripen. But understanding the process is not difficult.

First, many vegetables have early, middle and late-season varieties. Tomatoes are notable examples, and most catalogs and nurseries list them for sale that way.

The general guidelines will be in reference books. More precise information for a specific variety will be included in the seed catalogs or on the seed packet or transplant labels.

Look for things like "ready to harvest in about 50 days" or "ready to pick about 70 days after setting out transplants."

Be sure to select varieties adapted and recommended for your region and keep within the recommended range for soil moisture and temperature.

One caution: sellers routinely tend to be overly optimistic. So add about a week to the catalogue, packet or label estimates. Then allow for some plants of the same variety to mature later or before others.

The nearest co-operative extension office or university agricultural department will have authoritative information.

In my garden, green onions for eating (scallions) and green peppers or tomatoes provide an example of a simple crop rotation. In season, scallions develop from onion sets in a few weeks (seeds also work well).

## My Eyes

By Dr. Guy Doyon  
M.D., F.R.C.S.(C), M.S.C.  
OPHTHALMOLOGIST  
1-800-346-9389



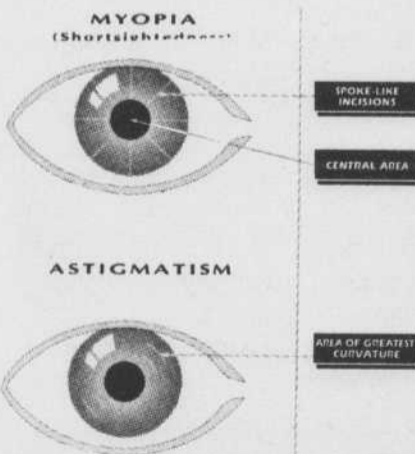
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Published every Wednesday by

**Record**  
a division of

Groupe Quebecor Inc.

Offices and plant located at 2850 Delorme,  
Sherbrooke, Quebec, J1K 1A1

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#### Mail subscriptions

Canada: 1 year .....	\$87.00
6 months .....	\$43.50
3 months .....	\$21.75
U.S. & Foreign: 1 year .....	\$250.00
6 months .....	\$180.00
3 months .....	\$107.00

These prices do not include GST + PST

#### Circulation

Distributed to all *The Record* subscribers every Wednesday as an insert, and to all households and businesses, from the following Post Offices:

Bedford, Brome, Bromont, Cowansville, East Farnham, Foster, Knowlton, Sutton, West Bolton, West Brome,

with drop off points in:  
Glenn Sutton, Mansonville, Stanbridge East, St. Armand, & Waterloo

## Family-oriented firm a low-cost method of destroying documents

# Waterloo business a cut above the rest

By Sharon McCully

WATERLOO — A former part-time industrial commissioner for the town of Waterloo has inaugurated a new business in his home town that has employees cheering every cut.

Papier Depot Inc. is the brainchild of Marc Beaudoin, whose research led him to believe there is a living to be made snipping other people's private documents and correspondence.

"I got the idea in November, 1993, and I've been working on it since that time," said Beaudoin as he cut a ceremonial ribbon at the new paper-cutting operation.

Unlike most industrial inaugurations, this one highlighted the family ties of the new employees, including Beaudoin's wife and six children and the families of all five of his new employees.

Beaudoin said what makes his business unique is that all workers will have an opportunity to obtain shares in the company.

"We are very much a family-oriented operation," he said.

The former industrial commissioner and company director said his experience in business has taught him it takes more than a good idea to be successful.

"It takes cash and commitment and I was fortunate to find 30 investors who believed in my idea," he said.

Among them is his father Maurice, who came out of retirement to help get his son's half-a-million-dollar investment off the ground.

Beaudoin said what he is able to offer clients is the knowledge their confidential documents will be destroyed quickly and efficiently.

Confidential papers are picked up in sealed containers and transported to the Waterloo plant by a truck equipped with a closed circuit camera.

"We provide clients with the guarantee their documents have been picked up, delivered and destroyed in a secure manner," Beaudoin explained. "We even furnish them with the video cassette."

Beaudoin hopes to tap the Montreal market by offering a service that is competitively priced and personalized. To build a client base, he has developed



Marc Beaudoin surrounded by his wife and six children at the inauguration of his new business.

his own telemarketing program with prepared questions and responses.

He said what would normally take an employee three hours to shred can be done by the high-powered machines in his shop in 40 seconds.

"When the client realizes the savings, I'm confident they will be interested," Beaudoin said, adding that lower business taxes, lower overhead and lower salaries will allow the new company to offer clients a lower price for better service.

He also boasted that the machines in his new shop are two to seven times more productive than the competitors.

He hopes that will put Papier Depot a cut above the rest.

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All photos must be received by January 22nd, 1996.

A Valentine's Day Bouquet will be drawn.



# Numb and number: Male bonding under the hood

Alas, if only testosterone could start cars!

I'm convinced more male bonding takes place under the hood of a car when it's 30 below than in the nation's living rooms during New Year's football.

Everywhere you looked last week, men with ice crystals forming on their eyelids were huddled in parking lots and driveways attaching mechanical umbilical cords to dead batteries.

It's not that women don't know how to join a set of booster cables to the positive and negative polls on a battery. But most women will give it three tries max, then call the garage, while men seem to draw a parallel between charging a battery and confirming something more important.

Not that I'm ungrateful for the effort, mind you. I was more than a little relieved when several men in the neighborhood devoted an entire day to helping my husband nurse my chronically ill battery back to life. But it took some doing.

First they had to repair the extension cord that was severed several months ago by the lawnmower. (We had some indication it might be damaged — but we wrote it off as flashing Christmas tree lights along the ground).

## Out of the Brome Closet

By Sharon McCully.

At any rate, minus 30 seemed an appropriate time to haul out the electrical tape. Then they decided to replace the plug dangling from the six-inch cord — a daunting task for numb fingers.

Finally, it was time for the big test. The key was turned and it was hard to tell if the muffled groan came from the men freezing under the hood or the withered battery.

Two hours later, when the cables began to smoke, the men succumbed to defeat and called the garage. Thirty seconds later, the car started.

Granted, nobody wants to hand over \$25 for a job you think you can do yourself.

Lesson learned? Nope. Next day, same problem, same attempt to solve it. Several hours later, the mechanic returned, somewhat disgruntled that his advice from the previous day had been ignored. I now have a new battery.

But there must be some indoor alternative to allow the men in the neighborhood to get together during the winter.

# Bonne Année 1996

## Entre Nous

Par Thérèse Bernard

Je viens de rentrer d'une promenade en raquettes le long de la rivière. La pleine lune brillait sur la neige abondante et malgré le froid intense je me sentais partie du paysage. Je pensais à la nouvelle année qui commence et au fait qu'il ne reste que quatre ans avant l'arrivée du prochain centenaire et du nouveau millénaire. Imaginez l'an 2000!!!

Pour la première fois depuis bien longtemps, je n'ai pas pris de résolution pour l'année qui vient de commencer. Après avoir fait le point, j'ai décidé de tout simplement faire de mon mieux au cours des prochains mois. Je souhaite que mes problèmes actuels trouvent une solution rapide et que je pourrai bientôt ne plus m'en inquiéter. J'en crérai certainement d'autres, mais ceux-ci disparaîtront. Il est donc évident que le souci que l'on se fait est inutile.

Pour ce qui est des problèmes mondiaux, je crois que la meilleure façon de vivre dans un monde meilleur est de faire tout ce que l'on peut autour de soi et dans son milieu.

Je tiens à remercier tous les lecteurs qui m'ont écrit ou téléphoné au cours de la dernière année. J'apprécie beaucoup vos commentaires et je suis heureuse de constater combien de gens sont intéressés par les sujets variés des chroniques Entre Nous.

La prévention et les méthodes alternatives de traitement de la maladie semblent intéresser particulièrement les lecteurs. Cela rejoint la tendance actuelle à chercher ailleurs après des décennies de surmédicalisation de la société. Je vous ferai donc part de temps en temps de mes lectures en ce sens.

La nature intéresse aussi beaucoup de lecteurs qui disent se reconnaître dans les articles sur des activités en plein air.

Il n'est par surprenant de constater aussi que plusieurs soient intéressés par les écrits sur les animaux tant comme compagnons qu'au point de vue thérapeutique. Pas surprenant, parce que j'ai constaté moi-même lors du dernier recensement que la grande majorité des foyers comptaient un ou plusieurs animaux.

Je souhaite que 1996 vous apporte beaucoup de bonheur, de joie, de paix et d'amour. La meilleure résolution à prendre est peut-être de rire un peu à chaque jour. BONNE ANNÉE.

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# West Bolton Neighborhood Watch to announce plans for '96 at next meeting

The next meeting of the West Bolton Neighborhood Watch will be held Saturday, January 20, at 9 a.m. at the Town Hall, 9 Town Hall Road in West Bolton.

The guest speaker will be a representative from Bromont Electronique to speak on alarm systems. A representative from Surété du Québec will be there to give a summary of crime and crime prevention in 1995.

Here's your opportunity to learn more and get answers to your questions!

The new executive committee will be presented: Margot Allen, president; Guy Ouelette, vice-president; and Christina Faludi, secretary-treasurer. They will announce their plans for 1996.

People from all municipalities are welcome. For more information, call 539-1897; 243-6294; or 243-0708.



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# Letters to the Editor

## Thankful to be living in this small town

Dear Editor,

The Christmas Season is over and done with for another year and another 12 months will pass before we once again wish each other Peace on Earth, Good Will Towards Men.

Unfortunately, that sentiment often rings hollow in this high tech, fast-paced and sometimes inhumane society that we live in.

I was lucky this year, I actually saw those principles and others in action. I found myself in a parent's worst nightmare when my son Ben and Michael Barker were lost for five hours in the cold and dark on Glen Mountain the Friday night between Christmas and New Year's.

By the time I arrived at the hill, a full-scale rescue operation was in force and after several very long and tense hours, the boys were finally located and

brought back to safety.

They were forced to abandon their snowboards in the woods because they were too exhausted to carry them any further.

There are many people I would like to thank for their single-minded determination in their efforts to make sure the boys would be found. I have never been more thankful to be living in this small town than I was that night.

Thank you Bernard Cote, André Bouchard, Gary Barker and all the patrollers and staff of Glen Mountain; any parent knows that I can't thank you enough.

I would like, however, to give a special thank you to John Parry. John and Gary (Michael's father) spent over four hours tracking Ben and Michael in dark and frigid conditions through

waist-deep snow. Their own safety was certainly at risk. However, John did more than rescue my son, he rekindled my faith in the human spirit.

John Parry knows most of the kids around Knowlton. He has taught many of them Phys. Ed. at one time or another at Knowlton Academy. Under normal circumstances, Mr. Parry would not take too kindly to any of his students breaking the rules and going off the marked trail. In fact, a few laps around the soccer field would probably

be in order. However, that night in the Ski Patrol room, where Ben and Mike had been taken to be checked over for frostbite, John had just two things to give those boys. No angry words or harsh admonitions, just a giant hug — and their snowboards!

Thank you again to everyone involved. I hope you all have a truly wonderful and Happy New Year.

Yours sincerely,  
Anne Hudson

## Congratulations Peter Reglin

Congratulations to Peter Reglin on his letter *Deer a distinct society*. He said it all.

The hunting season now is a nightmare. A doe was shot by our house from the road at dusk and left. If some could have seen her twin fawns the next morning, wandering around and looking for their mother, maybe they just might

have a little feeling for our wildlife. So if some lose a bit of their gardens, we are in a land of plenty, so let's share and enjoy viewing the little wildlife that is left.

Sincerely  
Phyllis Gaylor  
Waterloo

## Help the animals

Dear Editor,

What a privilege it is to feed the deer. They are wonderful animals. When I look out of my window during the night and see one or more standing on my lawn, I get such a charge. I am glad to have lots of cedar hedges and trees that they are able to eat from.

The cedars always grow back, bus-

hier and lovelier than ever.

With the heavy snow so early, I'm concerned that it might be impossible for them to get to the food they like so well.

Please, help the animals. Happy New Year!

Linda E. Morris  
Sutton

## Ian Bissonnette named to Gould honor roll

Gould Academy Associate Headmaster Dr. Harry Dresser recently announced that Ian Bissonnette has been named to the honor roll for the fall trimester.

A senior at Gould, he is the son of the Honorable Donald Bissonnette of Sutton and Ms. Ione Bissonnette of Lexington, Massachusetts.

Gould Academy is an independent college preparatory school located in Bethel, Maine, adjacent to the White Mountain National Forest, with special programs in the arts, student leadership and skiing.

Scott Jerome  
Gould Academy  
Bethel, Maine

## Lost and Found

KNOWLTON — Eleven-year old Andrew Paersons says there is still no sign of his prized hockey stick bought as a Christmas gift from his grandfather.

The young hockey player chose a new red Easton aluminum hockey stick as his Christmas gift, and on his first time out to the rink, someone stole it — or mistakenly picked it up.

Either way, Andrew just wants it back.

If anyone has information about this stick, call Andrew at 243-4224 or 538-6082, or just bring it back. Please.

Caroline Smart has found a small leather bag with make-up while walking along Glen Road. The owner can call her at 243-6811.

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# Author offers advice on how to salvage lazy kids

By Marlene Orton

OTTAWA (CP) — The report card is lousy, school marks are down again and the homework is never done on time.

Problem is, this is one smart kid. Teachers know it. Parents know it.

If this picture looks familiar, parents should get ready to do some serious homework of their own.

Sometimes smart students get lost and parents don't know how to find them, says psychologist Harvey Mandel, who has spent years teaching teachers and parents how to reclaim lost souls with bright minds.

"We're talking about kids who are stuck and it's a matter of getting them unstuck," says Mandel, a university professor and author.

Some have too little spark to care about flunking. Others use their smarts to sell drugs or work other scams. The most difficult ones know how to rattle everyone's chains.

Parents and teachers have distinct responsibilities in saving these students, Mandel said during an interview about his latest book.

*Could Do Better: Why Children Underachieve and What to Do About It* (Harper Collins) is a definitive guide to recognizing and rescuing students who are squandering their talents.

"Without a sense of vision, a student can be easily distracted and manipulated," Mandel says.

Lost kids are looking for their dreams — "downtown, in the malls, on television."

How to spot them?

- School marks drop significantly.
- The drop hits all or most subjects.
- The drop occurs over more than one year.
- Evidence from teachers and elsewhere show the child can easily do the work.

"If they are barely passing, and they are working, they are not underachieving kids," Mandel adds.

Underachievers can be divided into six groups: Coasters, uptights, identity-seekers, wheeler-dealers, the depressed and the defiant all share a common trait.

"They don't do their work. So from outside looking in, it looks like they're lazy or unmotivated or they all procrastinate. They all do. They don't organize

well, they don't plan well, they don't follow through."

Only the coasters have bad work habits. The others have baggage dragging them down.

Mandel issues cautions throughout. "One of the dangers in the book is the issue of becoming a professional overnight," he warns. "The book does get people to think about things. But be careful."

## How to handle underachievers

Bright teens who lack vision and commitment can easily get lost and distracted. These are underachievers. Some insight from psychologist Harvey Mandel:

— If your child is bright but isn't getting school work or chores done, don't assume laziness.

"The minute you label the kid as lazy or unmotivated, you literally slam the door on what may be really going on."

— Ask questions. When did this start? How long have these habits been going on?

— What have you tried to help or change the situation? If it hasn't worked, take a closer look. For exam-

ple: Is the child anxious, sad or a manipulator? Is the child comfortable with what is happening at home or at school?

— Expect youths to get stuck at certain points along their journey.

"What got them unstuck last time may not work exactly the same way later and therefore reading about all these different types might give you some hints about helping now and even in the future."

— If attitude is a problem, focus strictly on the child's behavior.

"Teenagers are the most incredible group because they all want to be different but they all want to look the same."

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# Cross-country skiing: Higher, faster, and all that

Thank you to the reader who quite rightly took me to task for dismissing the competitive aspect of cross-country skiing so cavalierly. He pointed out, convincingly, that those "ridiculously skinny" things are simply recent refinements in the equipment to accommodate prepared trails and the skating motion involved in serious competition.

To do real cross-country, the old fashioned, trail-blazing, bushwacking type of skiing, he continued, you need the larger dimensions of a telemark ski or a new expensive hybrid that looks like an Ultra Slim Fast version of a recreational downhill ski with special bindings. That, or take the nipples ones down from the mantle and return them to active service.

Otherwise, his advice is to just enjoy the skinny ones, and the amenities of places like Orford and Yamaska parks, or Sutton-en-Haut and The Farmer's Rest. Or wait until someone else in the neighbourhood goes out first to pack down the local trails.

In times of abundant snow, ski-doo trails are eminently skiable, but respect private property and avoid the

## The Country Squire

By Brian Eddington



main club right-of-ways. (Ask me how embarrassing it is to be ordered away from places you might think it's okay to be.)

As for serious competition...well, how much more serious can you get than the Olympic Games, where athletes seem all too ready to risk permanent damage to their body chemistry for a small hunk of metal not nearly as pretty as our new two-dollar coin? The next winter games aren't until 1998, so there's lots of time to get ready.

In the cross-country skiing events, though, the Norwegians are heavy favourites to continue their long domination. However, as someone pointed out, their prowess comes from the fact

that in Norway, cross-country skiing isn't a sport, it's a mode of transportation. (Does that mean they have ski-by shootings in their cities?)

A number of countries have hired Norwegian coaches and trainers for their cross-country teams. This brings to mind the claim of long-ago TV comic Phil Silvers that he learned his skills on the boards from an old Norwegian uncle by the name of Ulfie Norslander. This uncle, it seems, was the Obergalendsfelder at a major ski centre north of Oslo. He had served for years as an Untergalendsfelder until the big promotion, which put him over all the other galendsfelders. (I hope I'm getting all those dots in the right places.) From this uncle, Phil learned such tricks as the Standing Gjelandesprung and the Flying Gjelandesprung, the latter being considered the more difficult of the two.

After much practice, I can do a fair Standing Gjelandesprung. As for the flying version, several of us tried it once, down Wino Hill on the old Lennoxville golf course. The learning stages proved to be hard on both equipment and student. On the second attempt my wooden skis were reduced to fireplace kindling and I ended up walking like Quasimoto or Walter Brennan for a week.

Once more, Super Dave Osborne was right. There are some things that less gifted folk just shouldn't try. So come competition time, if it's anything more than a local carnival fun race or a who'll-get-home-first-challenge, most of us will be cheering from the sidelines. And in the 1998 Winter Games it'll be hard to beat those big blond guys that talk like the Swedish cook on the Muppets and swoop like shadows over the world of snow.

# Veterinarians develop cat personality tests

LONDON (Reuter) — U.S. veterinarians are developing personality tests for kittens to help cat lovers choose the pet that suits them.

"Some people want an animal that will sit and watch them work. Other

people want a cat that will catch mice," Soraya Juarbe-Diaz of New York's Cornell University was quoted as saying in the New Scientist.

The tests will assess how kittens react to being petted. They will also be shown silhouettes of dogs and cats and monitored for their reaction to recordings of barks and meows.

"They would be able to tell people what kind of cat it would grow up to be," Juarbe-Diaz said. The animals could then be categorized into wild and boisterous pets or timid "lap cats."

She has no plans to devise tests for cat owners to tell kittens if they might be suitable.

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# First baby boomer doesn't fit generation's mold

NEW MELLE, Mo. (AP) — James Otis Sickler graduated from high school in 1965 and immediately enlisted in the U.S. navy. He never went to Vietnam. He never protested the war. And he never lived with a woman who wasn't

his wife.

"The closest I ever got to living in a commune was the barracks, and everyone there had the same haircut," Sickler says with a laugh.

Sickler was born a half-second after midnight on Jan. 1, 1946, and according to an Associated Press report at the time he was the year's first baby born in the United States.

Though no one knew it at the time, his arrival at Missouri Baptist Hospital in St. Louis launched what would become known as the Baby Boom — the more than 76 million American babies born between the Second World War and 1964.

They are the generation of the Beatles and Vietnam, raised on television. "Never trust anyone over 30" and "Make love, not war" were their mottos.

But Sickler, who lives in rural New Melle about 65 kilometres west of St. Louis, shares few of the traits attributed to the Baby Boom generation.

"I fit the Baby Boom generation, as far as dates go, but I never really thought of myself as a Baby Boomer," he says. "I am more of a leftover from the previous generation."

His brown hair, now showing traces

of grey, falls just over the back of his collar. He grows it out once a year for his annual appearance as Simon Peter in the community Passion Play.

"This is the longest my hair has ever been," he says, laughing.

Most children where Sickler grew up lived in two-parent households. Academic achievement, church volunteerism and the common good of the community were highly valued.

His parents — Julianna and James — still recall with pride how their son lettered in track all four years of high school.

He married in 1978, but it lasted only four years. He met his second wife in

1987. He's the stepfather of her four children and has five grandchildren.

He operates a hydropress at McDonnell Douglas Corp. and lives in a brick-front, ranch-style home on what once was his father's farm. His parents live next door.

He took it as gospel that if you were willing to work hard and sacrifice, you would be successful. And he shuns the notion of buying more than he can afford.

"I'm 50 years old, and I own my house and everything in it," he says. "And I only have a few more payments on my minivan, and then it will be paid for, too."

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As of **January 1, 1996**, there will be a mandatory minimum sentence of four years in prison upon conviction of certain violent offences with a firearm.

As of **January 1, 1996**, Section 85 of the Criminal Code will be changed to apply a mandatory minimum term of one year for the use of a real or imitation firearm in the commission of a criminal offence.

Please note that the licensing and registration provisions of the **current law** will not change on January 1, 1996.

Notice will be given to the public before the new licensing and registration provisions of Bill C-68 come into effect.

Canadians requiring additional information should address their questions to the Department of Justice, Communications Branch, 1st floor, 239 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0H8, or call (613) 957-9419.



Department of Justice  
Canada

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Canada

## The baby boom years

Historical highlights of the baby boom years:

Jan. 1, 1946 — The Baby Boom begins.

June 27, 1950 — The United States sends military advisers to South Vietnam.

Jan. 20, 1953 — Second World War hero Dwight Eisenhower is inaugurated as U.S. president.

Dec. 1, 1955 — Rosa Parks sparks the Montgomery, Ala., bus boycott by refusing to give up her seat on a segregated bus.

Oct. 4, 1957 — *Leave It to Beaver* debuts.

May 9, 1960 — The Pill is approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

April 17, 1961 — The Bay of Pigs invasion fails to overthrow Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

Aug. 28, 1963 — Rev. Martin Luther King delivers his "I Have a Dream" speech at the Mall in Washington.

Nov. 22, 1963 — President John Kennedy is assassinated in Dallas.

Feb. 11, 1964 — The Beatles land in New York.

July 20, 1969 — Neil Armstrong walks on the moon.

Aug. 15-17, 1969 — Woodstock festival draws 300,000 to 500,000 to Bethel, N.Y.

May 4, 1970 — National Guardsmen open fire on antiwar protesters at Kent State University in Ohio, killing four.

Jan. 22, 1973 — The Supreme Court recognizes the right to abortion in *Roe vs. Wade*.

Aug. 9, 1974 — President Richard Nixon resigns to avoid impeachment.

April 24-30, 1975 — The last Americans in Saigon scramble aboard U.S. helicopters as North Vietnamese troops overrun the city.

Dec. 22, 1989 — The Berlin Wall comes down.

Jan. 20, 1993 — Bill Clinton, at 46, becomes first Baby Boomer president of the United States.

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# What childhood dreams are made of

Christmas has just passed and with it the dreams of children all over the world to have Santa leave a toy under the tree.

Christmas in the 19th century was every bit as exciting for children as it is today, but considerably less hectic and overwhelming for parents.

Under the tree were found push and pull toys, hobby horses, dolls and teddy bears, tea sets made by famous china manufacturers like Wedgewood and Minton, musical instruments made of tin such as violins and trumpets, wooden skates, puzzles, building blocks, sewing machines just like mother's, irons to press doll clothes, magic lanterns, steam engines and, of course, the beloved rocking horse.

These wonderful playthings of yesteryear are now highly sought after by serious collectors. The collecting of toys is a booming business with prices high and going higher.

While very early tin and iron toys occasionally turn up, most now seen

## Seems Like Old Times

By Jean Murray Chute

date from the last hundred years and in fact some of the most desirable for today's collectors are only a few decades old.

The very early manufacturers of toys in the early 1840s produced wonderful, colorful tin and cast iron toys. The tin toys, which was really thinly rolled sheet iron coated with tin to reduce rust, were easily stamped into a variety of forms, which could then be joined together with tiny tabs. These early models were hand painted. After 1860, the toys were lithographed. Some of the very early makers were the Francis family and James Fallows of Philadelphia, Bergmann of New York and George W. Brown of Connecticut.

In 1856, George W. Brown added a clockwork mechanism to a tin vehicle and produced the first wind-up toy.

The first mass-produced toys with clockwork motors were made by Edward R. Ives of Plymouth, Connecticut, in 1868. His toys could operate for an hour on a single winding. No 20th-century firm could compare with his sophisticated and complex wind-up toys.

In the 1860s, cast iron still banks were developed and by the 1870s, cast iron mechanical banks were made. The cast iron fire wagons and pumpers, as well as the cast iron circus wagons, were not made until the 1880s.

An auction this past year in Bishopton brought close attention to toys for locals. In preparing for this auction, a trunk full of toys was found in the home of the late Mr. Downes of Bishopton. Prices realized for toys astonished many and sent others home to sift through their attics for the same. I am sure for most it was for nought, because toys of this caliber rarely surface. These toys appeared to have been more admired than played with as the condition of many was near mint. To add to the excitement, they were almost all in their original boxes, which is phenomenal.

When auctioneer Harry Graham offered the toy, "The Baker and Sweep", by the Lehmann Co., he knew that it should bring a heavy price because he had been left a bid from a dealer in Ontario of \$4110 and Guy Lapointe, a collector from Johnville, topped it with a bid of \$4200 and went home a happy man.

This certainly is the exception and not the rule as to the value of old toys, however many are worth a lot of money. But as in anything, one has to know the difference.

As I always say, buying antiques is your way of preserving your heritage, helping to preserve the environment and recycling.

Jean Murry Chute is owner of *Classique Antiques in Lennoxville, soon to be of Stanstead.*

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January 17, 1996 - **In The Spotlight** - 7 p.m. \$3.00 (Tickets through M.V. students and at the door)

February 17, 1996 - **Kaleidoscope** - 7 p.m. \$5.00 (Tickets through M.V. students, at the door and by calling 263-3772).

May 2 & 3, 1996 - **Shakespeare's Comedy "Twelfth Night"** - 7 p.m. \$6.00 adults \$3.00 students and children under 12. (Tickets through M.V. students, at the door and by calling 263-3772).

May 26, 1996 - Th Massey-Vanier Music Department hosts a **Benefit Concert for the BMP Hospital** - 2 p.m. - \$5.00. Emmanuel United Church, 203 Main St., Cowansville (Tickets through M.V. students or by calling 263-3772).

May 27, 1996 - **In The Spotlight** - 7 p.m. \$3.00 (Tickets through M.V. students and at the door)

\$15.00 subscription to Massey-Vanier Cultural Arts Series available by calling 263-3772. First 25 subscriptions purchased will include a Patron of the Arts T-Shirt. (Also on sale at each performance).

There will be a drawing for a gift certificate courtesy of local restaurateurs at each performance.

## MASSEY-VANIER CULTURAL ARTS

# Business Directory

## Accounting

Sophie A. Giroux, s.n.a.  
Aline Bolduc  
Cynthia Foster  
Luc Harbec, c.a.

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Tel.: (514) 263-2010

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c.c.p.q. F.r.c.s.(c)  
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6 - 356 Principale Fax: (514) 378-6586  
Granby, Que. J2G 2W6 Res.: (514) 266-4292

## Notary

**Lussier & Gagné**  
Notaires - Notaries  
Title Attorneys

35 Victoria St., Knowlton Tel.: 242-1555  
302 Principale St., Mansonville Tel.: 292-3401

## Notary

**Maryse Gallagher**  
Notaire - Notary  
Title Attorney

277 Ch. Knowlton / C.P. 1057  
Ville de Lac Brome, Que.  
JOE 1V0  
Tel.: (514) 242-2422

## Surveyors

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## Internet bubble will burst, institute predicts

TORONTO (CP) — Internet stories will become passe as journalists fixate on the impending end to the millenium in 1996, the University of Toronto's McLuhan Institute predicted Thursday.

The centre has a "Top Ten" list of what will happen in 1996 that combines the serious and the silly.

Its No. 1 prediction is that the Internet will not be the hot business story of the new year, as the media and the public tend to "over-expect" the impact of a new technology by two to four

years. No. 2 is that the media will begin to produce "end of the millenium stories," involving possible world destruction or focusing on the more positive aspects of the age with a "best of" list.

Other predictions:  
—The generation gap will make a comeback as a topic of conversation.  
—Doctors will start beating up on doctors as the health care system deteriorates.  
—Pacifists in many areas will turn violent.  
—More conflicting information about

UFOs will be released.  
—Asian economies will roar ahead.  
—An archeological find will call into question our entire concept of history, and the Internet will break up the conspiracy that has prevented us from knowing the truth.

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# Nez Rouge helped 756 revellers get home safely

COWANSVILLE (SM) — Volunteers with Operation Nez Rouge in Brome-Missisquoi assured the safe passage of 756 holiday revellers between December 7 and 31.

Nez Rouge coordinator Gina Maddocks said the number of people who called Nez Rouge this year is down slightly from last year's 805 calls, but she sees this as a positive sign.

The program coordinator said before the holiday period, visits were made to

both the French and English sections of Massey Vanier High School to discuss the program with teenagers.

"What we've noticed is that many younger people are becoming more sensitized and they're choosing their own designated driver before partying," Maddocks said.

She said as the general population ages, there seems to be less acceptance of driving after drinking.

"This generation has been around since the beginning of Nez Rouge and

it's beginning to show positive effects," she said.

Maddocks said as many women as men took advantage of the service in 1995, marking an increase from past years in the number of women who used the service.

She noted that when Operation Nez Rouge began in Brome-Missisquoi in 1991, volunteers manning the phones received 43 calls.

This year, close to 500 volunteers

from 19 municipalities participated in the program to help drivers who partied too hearty to get home safely.

Maddocks said calls to the headquarters increased after December 24, possibly as the result of an alcohol-related death which occurred in the region.

Donations received from grateful passengers will be used to support the work of Urgence Secours Brome-Missisquoi, Maison des Jeunes, Le Centre Jeunesse and Les Loisirs St. Damien de Bedford.

# BMP has \$1 million goal for financial campaign

COWANSVILLE (SM) — The Brome Missisquoi Hospital Foundation launched its 1995-96 financial campaign amid optimism the community will rise to the challenge of raising \$1 million to help it adapt to changes in health-care delivery.

Campaign co-chairs John Cleghorn, Chairman and CEO of the Royal Bank of Canada, and Jacqueline Boutet, President of Jacqueline Boutet & Assoc., were hopeful locals will give generously to benefit their community hospital and, in turn, themselves.

As the health care system moves towards more home care and day surgeries, hospitals are moving quickly to respond to new needs.

Dr. Bill Barakett, a veteran family physician at BMP Hospital, said in the future, doctors will likely be carrying lap-top computers along with their black bags on house calls.

Already, many terminally ill cancer

patients are being treated at home, surrounded by loved ones, with portable morphine pumps which allow the patients to regulate their own dosage.

"We have six of these pumps, each of them costing about \$1300," Barakett said. "This saves thousands of dollars in hospitalization costs, and is a much more humane and compassionate way

of treating terminally ill patients."

Plans are currently underway for the installation of a computerized network which will allow professionals in sister health care institutions to access and share medical information.

Close cooperation with regional community agencies such as CLSCs and the network of long-term care facilities

will be a key to ensuring continuity of health care services.

In order to make the necessary changes, financial support will be required for specialized training of all hospital personnel, and new equipment.

Donations can be made to the BMP Hospital Foundation, 950 Main St., Cowansville.

# Revenue Canada tests automated system

KNOWLTON — A new automated response system has been put in place by Revenue Canada on a trial basis.

This system is providing information to a minimum of 11,000 clients per hour, 24 hours a day, for a period of nine days (January 5 to 18).

The message will inform GST recipients that their GST credit cheque will be delivered or deposited directly to

their bank accounts between that time.

Clients will be invited to call Revenue Canada after January 18 if:

- they have not received their cheque or direct deposit;
- they have moved; or

— they need more information.

For those living in the Montreal region, the telephone number to call is (514) 283-6715 and for all other regions, the toll-free number is 1-800-465-3772.

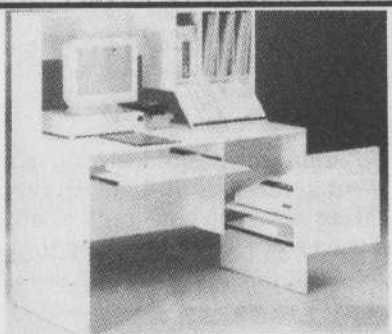
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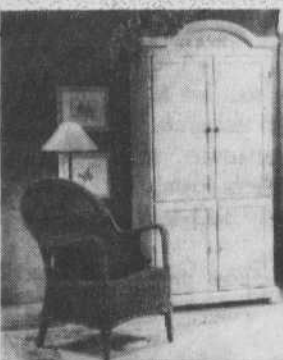
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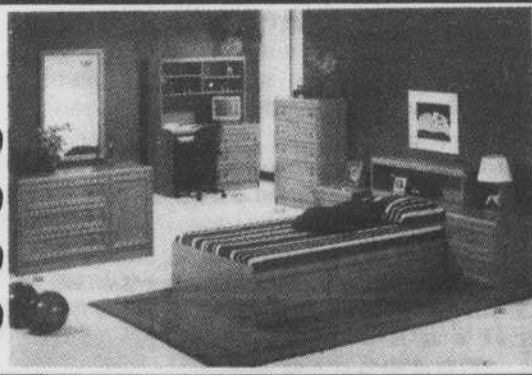


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