

THE  
**RECORD**

THE VOICE OF THE EASTERN TOWNSHIPS SINCE 1897

*Richmond taxpayers get freeze in property tax. . . See Page 3*

70 CENTS

PM#0040007682

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2005

## E-mails from a disaster zone

*Parents in Sutton get detailed e-mails from daughter in Thailand*

By Brion Robinson  
SHERBROOKE

When tidal waves crashed through hotel lobbies and washed out roads on the resort island of Koh Chang on the south west coast of Thailand last week, the Palovs thought the worst for their daughter, until she called them and wrote them e-mails last Tuesday.

John and Phyllis Palov's daughter, Natasha, 24, has been working as an

English teacher in Japan since November and she was spending her Christmas holiday in Thailand with her boyfriend, Darren Burke, at the time of the underwater earthquake.

"Sometimes we imagine the worse can happen," said Phyllis during a phone interview from the family home in Sutton. "We were so relieved when she called."

Natasha called her parents around 3:30 a.m. Tuesday morning from Ranong, a town north of Koh Chang to let her parents know she and her boyfriend were okay.

"I was in a dead sleep," John said.

SEE DREAM, PAGE 11

## Thetford health authorities taking precautions to battle influenza cases

By Stephen McDougall  
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD  
THETFORD MINES

Health authorities in the Thetford Mines area have decided to quarantine two nursing homes in the municipality as a precaution following an outbreak of influenza at a nearby residence in East Broughton last month.

"We have decided that the Denis Marcotte residence, which has 70 residents, and the La Rose d'Or home, with 30 residents, must be quarantined for

now because some influenza cases have been discovered and we do not want them to spread to other institutions," said Normand Baker, manager of the local health board.

"We have heard of four cases in the Arthabaska-Victoriaville area already, so it is obvious these cases can spread fast."

Influenza is an acute, infectious respiratory disease which is caused by a virus and can spread rapidly amongst large groups of people. In the past, it

SEE HOMES, PAGE 11

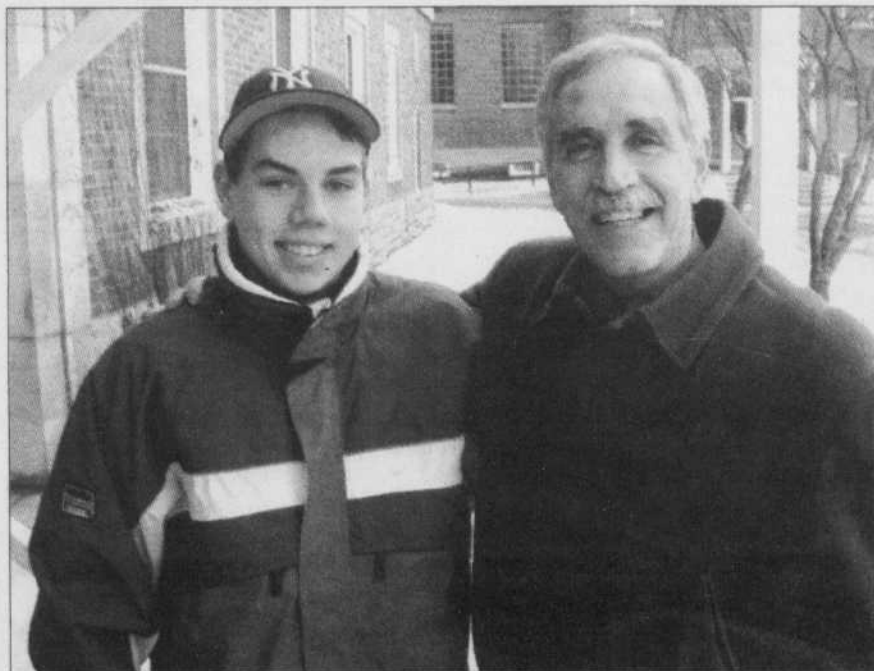
## Knutsons In Awe Of Grandson



COURTESY JIM KNUTSON

Kieran Ward, son of Cameron Ward and Tanja Knutson and grandson of Jim and Shirley Knutson from Waterville, raised almost \$1,200 for victims of the recent tsunami disaster over two days with the help of his sister Elianna by selling off his toys and his father's books and CDs, and hot chocolate. His grandmother said the weather had been unseasonably cold in Hong Kong, so her grandson, who spends his summers here in the Townships, spent the days raising money. "He and his family had been to Phuket, Thailand, so I think it touched him."

## Murphy's Law



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

A former Richmond star athlete, Billy Murphy is fitting in just fine with the Stanstead College Spartan's hockey program. Head coach Mike McNamara says the Grade 10 student-athlete is developing quite nicely. See Page 13 for more details.

# Quebec's full-time teleworking prosecutors

Have you ever wondered how our night duty police gain access to legal advice? If you don't know the answer, you're not alone. Few people realize that a select group of 13 senior provincial prosecutors work full time and exclusively out of their homes, precisely for that purpose.

This relatively new service, the first and only one in North America, is now in its fourth year. Known as the Office of Legal Counseling Service, it is made up of some of the most senior and experienced Quebec prosecutors. As for their tools of the trade, instead of a gown, bib and a courtroom, they depend on high tech computers, telephones, faxes and Internet connections.

Contrary to the type of flexibility that is associated with teleworking (commonly referred as employment at home while communicating with the workplace by phone, fax or modem) this select group of prosecutors follows a pretty strict routine.

One team of three to four prosecutors is always on duty for the entire

province, starting at 4:30 p.m. right through to 8:30 a.m., the following morning. The same is true on weekends and holidays only they are available around the clock. Thanks to constant team rotations, their week output ends up being hardly different than their office counterparts, which is close to 40 hours.

The singularly distinct service was the direct result of the Quebec Commission of Inquiry into the Sûreté du Québec (Poitras Commission) which the Quebec government appointed in the aftermath of the "Matticks case."

Not long after the trial judge ordered a stay of proceedings because of evidence tampering by the investigators, the Commission was mandated to recommend how the SQ could improve the way investigators handled major crime and internal investigations.

The inquiry lasted 199 days and resulted in a 1,734-page report. Among the 154 recommendations, the Commission urged the provincial government to set up a permanent legal counseling service that would be available to assist the SQ investigators around the clock. The service has since been extended to every police force in the province.

The vast majority of inquiries originate from police officers who want to know whether they have reasonable grounds to make an arrest without a warrant.

Of equal concern is whether they should release the individuals they arrested pending a court appearance, and if so, on what conditions. According to government statistics, up to November, 2004, the "night shift" prosecutors were consulted in 3,603 such cases.

Once the government appoints an appropriate number of special judges to work through the night and on holidays, court appearances by telephone outside of normal office hours will become possible throughout the province.

Although the practice, which was first experimented by the Quebec Justice Department in 2002, proved to be successful, it had to be discontinued because the justices of the peace were deemed to lack the required legal independence.

Once the practice resumes, it will be up to the Office of Legal Counseling Service to once again, represent the Crown.

As for why only senior prosecutors are assigned to the special Office, much has to do with the nature of the inquiries and the many laws they involve.

Not only must the night-shift prosecutors be well versed in the Criminal Code and the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, their experience and knowledge has to extend to the applica-

tion of just about every provincial law and by-law that includes penal provisions. The most obvious examples are the laws on motor vehicles, transportation, hunting and the environment.

Contrary to most prosecutors who work out of their courthouse offices and who can always consult their colleagues, the night-shift prosecutors deal with urgent matters that require rapid answers. Their expertise must also extend to search warrants as much of their advice has to do with whether the police have sufficient grounds to instigate the process.

It is not as if the 13 prosecutors are left to themselves in the confines of their homes. Whenever they are consulted by the police, everything must be put into writing with copies sent to the regional prosecutor from where the call originated as well as to their chief prosecutor.

In case you wondering why any group of experienced prosecutors would be willing to trade the excitement of courtroom battles to work full time from the privacy of their homes, judging from the number of candidates this hardly seems to be a matter of concern.

For every position available there are almost three candidates. Quite clearly, these are prosecutors who don't miss the social interaction of their office environment or office politics.

One thing is also certain, they no longer have to worry about morning and evening traffic jams.

Of course, they are not the first and only group of employees who appreciate the benefits of working from home according to one study, over 40 per cent of Canadians work from home on a part-time basis.

The U.S. Department of Labor contends that over 40 million Americans currently work at home.

Whatever their individual explanations, you can bet that some of the prosecutors were simply tired of pleading endless cases and were looking for a drastic change.

Comments: [henryk@endirect.qc.ca](mailto:henryk@endirect.qc.ca)



HENRY R. KEYSERLINGK

## SPA GIVEAWAY

The Record would like to reward one of its readers with a \$50 gift certificate to Palais Détente Spa Orford where you can take advantage of a wide range of feel-good body treatments.

Located at Auberge Estrimont facing Mont Orford, Palais Détente Spa Orford offers several packages from the 30-minute massage to a full weekend of special care.

To qualify for the gift certificate, simply cut this coupon and send it with your name, address and telephone number before Jan. 14, 2005. The coupon is valid for one year.

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## CORRECTION

In the Dec. 29 issue of The Record, Townshippers' Association's Keeping in Touch column was accompanied by a photo of the soon-to-be-published booklet An English Speaker's Guide to Life in the Eastern Townships. The caption described it as a detailed study of the needs of English speakers in the Estrie Region.

In fact, that study was published in March, 2004, and is known as A Time for Change: The English-Speaking Community of the Estrie Region at a Crossroads: Health and Social Services Needs Assessment.

## Weather

**Today:** Clearing in the morning. Winds northwest 20 km/h becoming light in the morning. Temperature steady near minus 13.

**Thursday:** A mix of sun and cloud. Seventy per cent chance of flurries. Low minus 19. High minus 3.

**Friday:** Periods of snow. Low minus 3. High minus 1.

**Saturday:** Cloudy. Low minus 9. High minus 1.

**Normals for the period:** Low minus 17. High minus 6.

## Ben by Daniel Shelton



# Local boy wants to raise \$1,000 for tsunami victims

## Red Cross says money can help up to 16 families

By Brion Robinson  
SHERBROOKE

"I saw some kids on TV raising money and donating their allowances and thought if they can do it so can I," said Nathan Dubeau, 10, from Lennoxville.

Dubeau is planning to raise around \$1,000 for millions of survivors in the 11 countries hit by a massive earthquake and 30-metre high tidal waves last week.

In the last few days, Dubeau and his mother, Melanie Filion, have been making collection cans out of glass pickle jars and plastic peanut butter jars. The cans have paper taped over the top with a slot for cheques, bills and change.

White labels around some cans have RAZ DE MARÉE written with a blue highlighter and a large dollar sign. Dubeau's home number is also written at the bottom with a black marker.

Dressed in his black and red winter jacket and boots, Dubeau has been taking his cans on the road and going door-to-door to collect money.

"People say 'good job,'" Dubeau explained, adding that local residents hope he reaches his goal.

"My biggest donation was a \$100 bill from each of my two grandparents," he said while holding up a can with about \$230 inside. "It makes me feel good."

Some jars are even distributed in local businesses.

"We've made about eight buckets so far," Filion said while standing next to her son. "But we can certainly put some

more together."

When Dubeau first told his parents about his plans, Filion said she wasn't shocked.

"We felt very proud when he mentioned he wanted to help out," Filion said. "He's got a big heart."

Filion said she's only there to help her son — he's responsible for raising the money.

"I stand back," she added.

Nathan is accepting donations until Jan. 15.

This deadline was set so that his classmates and teachers at Lennoxville Elementary School and students in Bishop's University will be able to drop some money in his cans when they come back from their winter break.

After the deadline, the quarters, bills, and loonies will be counted and sent to the Red Cross in Montreal.

The Red Cross is one of the main aid organizations helping victims in the devastated countries. Its members and volunteers have been helping to find victims and care for the sick and starving just hours after the tidal waves destroyed homes and villages. The organization is only accepting cash donations, saying money is the best way to help.

"We need whatever we can get," said Myrian Marotte, a spokesperson for the Red Cross from her office in Montreal, adding that cash donations get help to people in a shorter period of time.

Marotte explained that money is important because it avoids transport costs of materials and helps pour money into the local economy.

Marotte explained that Nathan's goal of \$1,000 is enough money to supply 16



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Nathan Dubeau is planning to raise around \$1,000 for millions of survivors in the 11 countries hit by a massive earthquake and 30-metre high tidal waves last week.

families of six with family kits.

These kits include plastic sheeting for shelter, rope, a cooking set, a mosquito net, two Jerry cans for transporting clean water, sleeping bags, blankets, sheets, candles and a lantern.

Each family kit costs about \$60.

"We can get these materials to people within days," Marotte said.

Marotte explained that the aid organization's biggest concern for the time being is the spread of diseases such as cholera and malaria through mosquitoes and tainted drinking water.

"We're trying to get medicine and water purifications pills to victims," she said, adding that the aid organization is working to distribute these materials as fast as possible.

The CBC reported that Canadians have given more than \$65 million so far, including more than \$43 million to the Canadian Red Cross;

more than \$15 million to World Vision; \$5.5 million to UNICEF, the United Nations children's fund and \$2 million to Care Canada.

brobinson@sherbrookerecord.com

# Richmond taxpayers get freeze in property tax, rise in service taxes

By Stephen McDougall  
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD  
RICHMOND

The residents of Richmond will see their property taxes frozen for another year, while their services taxes will creep upward, according to figures released by the municipality.

For 2005, the mill rate will be \$1.32 per \$100 of property evaluation, which Mayor Marc-André Martel said has been frozen for the last 17 years.

Over in the Melbourne Village sector, residents will have a mill rate of \$1.09 and a special tax of three cents more for those who receive their water from the town. Last year, the rate for Melbourne residents was \$1.07.

But the freeze in property taxes will be offset by some service tax increases.

For most households, the water tax goes from \$154 to \$171.35 this year. Apartment owners will have to pay \$144.53 per unit this year, versus \$129.95 last year. Business owners will see their water tax go from \$246.20 in 2004 to \$273.82 this year. Martel said the increases are needed to finance a new water line the town wants to install later this year.

The tax for garbage, recycling and hazardous material pickup goes from \$102 to \$109.25 in 2005 due to increased costs of managing the MRC dump and the recycling pickup contract.

Owners with water meters will see the rate per 1,000 gallons pass from \$3 to \$3.50, while the water treatment decreases from \$1.93 to \$1.73. The cost of renting the meters remains un-

changed.

Taxpayers will also see a new tax of \$30 per household and \$80 for businesses to pay for the reorganization of the fire service, which will be pooled with the neighbouring towns of Melbourne and Cleveland Townships and Ulverton.

One service tax that will decrease this year is the charge for drainage. Households will pay \$142.46 this year, versus \$149.60 last year.

Apartment owners pay \$120.88 this year, versus \$126.93 last year. Businesses will pay \$169.32 this year, versus \$177.80 last year.

The town's total budget will be \$3,870,848 in 2005, versus last year's figure of \$4,802,502.

The decrease in spending is largely

due to the completion of the truck-to-rail station and warehouse project in the industrial park. The town was also able to reduce its urban planning budget by \$73,000, its administrative costs by more than \$18,000 and its roads budget by more than \$4,000.

But the counterbalance was an increase of more than \$213,000 for culture and leisure activity costs, \$91,198 more for security and provincial police costs and \$28,000 more in sanitation costs.

The town hopes to spend more than \$3.5 million this year on infrastructure. The two largest costing projects will be the rebuilding of Belmont st. and 10th Ave.

Mayor Martel said the projects all depend on matching funds from the provincial and federal governments.

# 2004 YEAR IN REVIEW

## The Record continues its look back at the stories of 2004

### APRIL

A late morning fire gutted a heritage building at the corner of Frontenac and Wellington Streets in Sherbrooke in April. The building, which housed three apartments and an empty commercial space, was directly next to the Esplanade Frontenac. The new platform is part of the City of Sherbrooke's Cité des Rivières network. Firefighters were called in by an eyewitness who noticed smoke at the side of 107 Frontenac. Workers from Cité des Rivières were spreading tar and pitch on the cement. Const. André Lemire of the Sherbrooke police said some of the pitch, which was being heated, might have gotten into a basement window.

Nice guys don't always finish last. Take David Francey, for example, arguably the nicest guy you'll ever meet — a guy who would rather interview fawning journalists about their own lives than talk about himself. In April, the soft-spoken Scottish-born folk singer, who made the Massawippi Valley his home for years, won a second Juno Award for his album *Skating Rink*.

The employees of Cavalier Textiles in Sherbrooke now own their own factory. The workers, under the leadership of their union and the Conseil syndicale démocratique (CSD), formed a co-op which, along with other local investors, bought the factory in April.

Universities with this perk are few and far between in Canada, literally — Victoria, Halifax and Ontario — and

Sherbrooke just joined in. The perk is free mass transit in the city with a valid student ID. Students at the University of Sherbrooke began riding buses in Sherbrooke for free with a valid student ID in 2004. The Société de Transport de Sherbrooke (STS) and the university finalized the \$850,000 per year deal in April. So far, there are about 10 universities with the U-Pass system: University of Victoria, St. Mary's in Halifax, Queen's, Trent, McMaster, Guelph and Western Ontario.

The Asbestos area got another financial shot in the arm in April when it was announced the federal government was putting aside \$3.3 million to help finance new businesses and expand existing ones. The money was destined for companies involved in the biofood sector as well as in environment, specialized textiles and metal components. One immediate beneficiary was Serres du St. Laurent Inc., which grows tomatoes and other vegetables year round in a series of greenhouses.

After 15 years of lobbying, professional theatre and dance companies in Sherbrooke finally got their own performing arts centre — named for beloved Quebec actor Jean Besré who died in car crash in the Townships three years ago. Besré, who was born in Sherbrooke, was brought up in the neighbourhood near the corner of Aberdeen and Wellington where the \$4 million production and performing centre will be built. It is scheduled to be completed by the spring of 2005.

### MAY

It was a little chilly for a swim on May 4, but that didn't stop Sgt. Alexandre Provencher from diving into the  
SEE SWIM, PAGE 5



RECORD FILE PHOTO

A late morning fire in April gutted a heritage building at the corner of Frontenac and Wellington Streets in Sherbrooke.



RECORD FILE PHOTO

The workers at Cavalier Textiles in Sherbrooke, under the leadership of their union and the CSD, formed a co-op which, along with other local investors, bought the factory in April



RECORD FILE PHOTO

Thanks to a deal between the University of Sherbrooke and the City of Sherbrooke, students began riding buses in the city for free with a valid student ID in 2004

## 2004 YEAR IN REVIEW

### SWIM:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 4

St-Francis River to save a man who had just jumped from the Joffre Bridge in Sherbrooke. Around 1:30 p.m., police received a call from a Service de l'Estrée delivery man who had just witnessed a man leaping from the bridge. Arriving quickly at the scene, the officer jumped into the river near the corner of Jean-Maurice Street and St-Francis. He swam over to the man and dragged him out of the river further downstream near the corner of Armstrong.

The municipality of Roxton Pond formally filed suit against Stanley Works in May for the contamination of its water table, requesting \$30 million in damages. The suit, filed May 10, stated that some contaminants are 55 times above accepted norms, contaminating the water table and making residents' private wells unusable. It contended the pollution could only have come from the Stanley tool factory, which operated in the town from 1907 to 1984. The lawsuit calling for \$20 million to cover the construction of a municipal water system, not just for the village where the wells are contaminated, but for all residents around the lake as well.

#### JUNE

The federal election race heated up in early June, with Sherbrooke Tory Rhéal

Leblanc declaring war on his Liberal and Bloc Québécois adversaries, while Brome-Missisquoi Tory Peter Stastny pledged to make his riding family-friendly.

Victoriaville native Lalou Despierres-Roux was arrested, beaten and jailed by Mexican police following an anti-globalization protest in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Outgoing Conservative MP for Richmond-Arthabaska André Bachand throws his support behind Liberal Christine St-Pierre.

After two terms as president of Townshippers' Association, Peter Quilliams announced he will not seek another term.

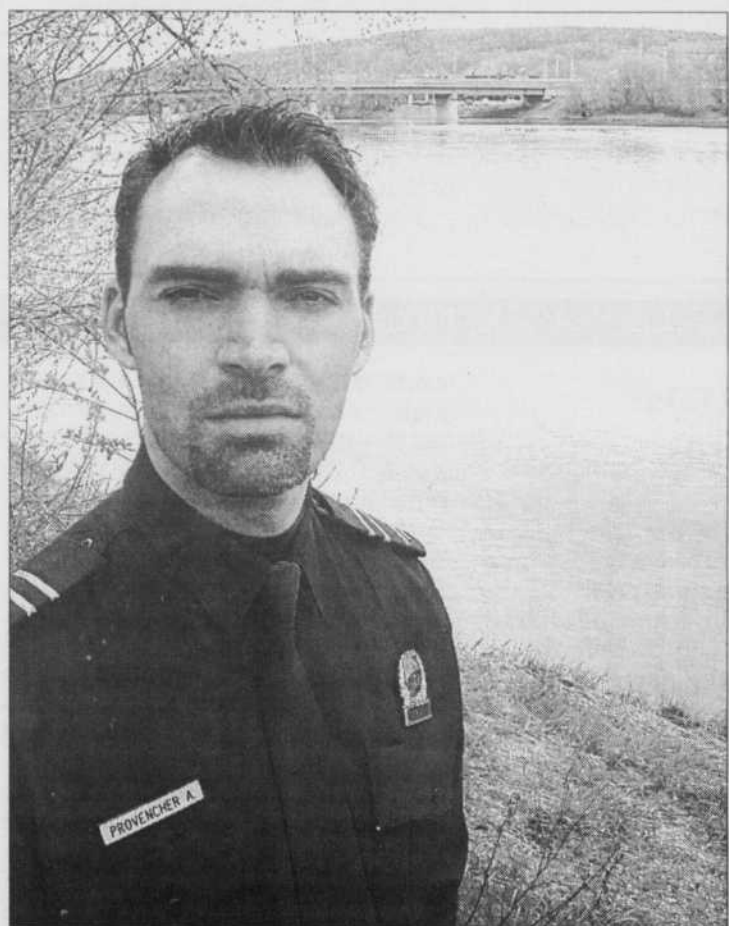
The Centre hospitalier universitaire de Sherbrooke (CHUS) announced that there have been between 13 and 50 cases of C. Difficile bacterium each month over the last year. New precautions were put in place to battle the superbug.

Faced with continual wrangling concerning outside use of its recreational  
SEE MORE, P. 9



RECORD FILE PHOTO

In June, outgoing Conservative MP for Richmond-Arthabaska André Bachand (third from left) throws his support behind Liberal Christine St-Pierre.



RECORD FILE PHOTO

Sherbrooke cop Alexandre Provencher jumped into the St-Francis River to save a man who had just jumped from a bridge.

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# Perspectives

## Take a crack at organizing your closet

“Don't do that!” she exclaimed. “You may live to regret it — like I did.” The more experienced woman was reacting to a young mom's plan, cautioning her to consider revising it.

The younger woman intended to visit her Avon lady to take advantage of the Christmas specials being offered.

She had mentioned that she might arrive on the salesperson's doorstep in her nightclothes, after dropping her child off at school on Monday morning.

“I used to do that often — take my children to school before getting dressed,” the older woman remarked.

“Then one day, there I was in my years back, of a woman being locked out of her house in a state of undress, courtesy of her sister, a certain 80 year old still living on her own wondered if she should be concerned going out to the road for the newspaper clad, in the heat of the summer, only in her flimsy nightgown.



SUSAN MASTINE

Fortunately, the damsel in distress didn't have to get out of her vehicle. Another adult — who happened to be in the parking lot at the same time — arranged for help to boost the hesitant engine.

In reaction to the story, a couple of

cause there was nothing uplifting — or uplifted, for that matter — for her early morning jogging neighbour to see.

### CLOTHING QUOTES

“Do not conceive that fine clothes make fine men, any more than fine feathers make fine birds. A plain, genteel dress is more admired, obtains more credit in the eyes of the judicious and sensible.”

-George Washington

“Dress to flatter your body shape, rather than following the latest fashions. Know which colours suit you best. Polish shoes, bags and belts for that perfect groomed look.”

-Mary Rose Quigg

“Beware of all enterprises that require new clothes.”

-Henry David Thoreau

“They should put expiration dates on clothes so we would know when they go out of style.”

-Garry Shandling

### DEALING WITH OLD CLOTHES

Of course, our out-of-style, no-longer-fitting clothes may find new homes through charities, second hand shops or relatives and friends with younger

children or in need of work clothes for the barn, fields or woods.

And in some areas, volunteers collect well-worn clothing for recycling.

Here are a few tips to encourage you to keep a few old pieces of clothing or scraps of material around.

- Soft sweaters and coats with buttons and zippers removed make cozy bedding for dogs and cats.

- A damp piece of cotton-wool fabric easily picks up tiny pieces of broken glass or china.

- An old pair of panty hose may be used to strain paint that has been around for a while.

- Holey or odd socks may be used to store fragile Christmas ornaments. Wear one on your hand to dust railings and chair rungs. Slip your hand into a clean cotton sock to wash or dry dishes.

This reminds me: Our clothes closet needs attention. It's time to part with certain items that haven't been worn in years and others that sadly no longer fit. But, I've learned of a new trend — archiving clothes that we just can't bear to give away, like that long purple, patterned dress my mom made me in the early 70s and that I last wore on Halloween about a decade ago; and the favourite, flowing, long gown I wore to my husband's first wedding and then three years later to our engagement party. I no longer feel guilty keeping them — they're family heirlooms.

And there's my sewing trunk that could hold blouses and dresses in colours and patterns that I adore — ready for my retirement when I'll design quilts or patchworks, or something of that sort.

Now I can't wait to attack that closet.



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	3 MONTHS	30.00	2.10	2.41	\$34.51

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The Record is published daily Monday to Friday. Back copies of The Record are available.

The Record was founded on February 7, 1897, and acquired the Sherbrooke Examiner (est. 1879) in 1905 and the Sherbrooke Gazette (est. 1837) in 1908. The Record is published by Hollinger Canadian Newspapers L.P.

PM#0040007682

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Hyatt name should stay

DEAR EDITOR,

The members of the Lake Massawippi Area Historical Society wish to respond to the situation regarding the road bearing the name of Gilbert Hyatt in Ascot area of Sherbrooke.

Historically, the name of Gilbert Hyatt has a profound importance in the Eastern Townships. Gilbert and his associates, including several of his brothers, were granted the tract of land which would eventually form Ascot Township in 1803.

The name “Hyatt” is well-known throughout the region, including Sherbrooke and neighbouring municipalities. Naming a segment of the

route (Highway 143) in this region makes a lot of good sense — memorials to pioneers who contributed so much to establishing early sites are something to celebrate.

Many of our Society members use Highway 143 and the name Gilbert Hyatt Highway on the segment aforementioned has never created a problem.

Combined with signs marking Highway 143, the path for travellers is not interfered with and does not lead to confusion on the drivers' part.

This is to lend another voice to those who rightfully wish the name Gilbert Hyatt to remain!

Respectfully yours,

P. SKEATS  
 Corresponding secretary for LMAHS  
 North Hatley

# A winter lineup of workshops and events

If you thought 2004 was busy for Townshippers' Association, 2005 is already shaping up to be just as, if not more, industrious.

The winter months are already chock-full of workshops and events, so take out that new agenda and mark your calendar.

First came the Baby Boomers, then Generation X. Now there's the Sandwich Generation, those caught between the often conflicting demands of caring for children and caring for aging parents, grandparents and other family members. The lives of the Sandwiched can be especially demanding, stressful, and hectic. Help is available.

Townshippers', in conjunction with the Quebec Association of Adult Learning, is hosting two free, interactive hands-on workshops designed to inform, empower and support those currently part of the Sandwich Generation. The first is in Lennoxville, Feb. 4-5, and the other is in Cowansville, March 11-12.

Together, participants will brainstorm, explore and discuss these issues to better understand and deal with being part of the Sandwich Generation.

For more information or to register for a workshop, contact Townshippers'

Association at Lennoxville — 819-566-5717, toll free 1-866-566-5717, Cowansville 450-263-4422, toll free 1-866-263-4422, or e-mail info@townshippers.qc.ca.

Registration is required.

## INCOME TAX CLINIC AND VOLUNTEER WORKSHOP

Strong interest in 2004 led Townshippers' Association to plan another income tax clinic for Spring 2005 offering free income tax return preparation to low-income individuals and families.

The Association will provide a free two-day income tax preparation workshop to train volunteers. These workshops will be conducted by representatives of both Revenue Canada and Revenu Québec.

For more information about the tax clinic or to volunteer, contact Evelina Smith at the new Info Service number 819-566-2182, toll free 1-866-566-2182, or e-mail info@townshippers.qc.ca.

## COWANSVILLE OPEN HOUSE

Townshippers' Association warmly invites you to a special open house at its Cowansville office, 203 Principale, on Feb. 23 from noon to 2 p.m.

Community groups and individuals will have the opportunity to network with people

interested and involved in building the Townships' English-speaking community and meet representatives from Townshippers' Association, including Office Manager and Community and Culture Coordinator Kate Wisdom and George Courville,

Coordinator of the new project, Partners for Health and Social Services — Townships Montérégie. A light lunch will be served. For more information, contact Townshippers' Cowansville office at 450-263-4422, toll free 1-866-263-4422, or e-mail kw@townshippers.qc.ca.

## PALLIATIVE CARE WORKSHOP

On Feb. 25 and 26, Townshippers' will host palliative care workshops in Lennoxville. Jo-ann Jones, a palliative care nurse will lead the workshops where participants will explore topics such as the challenges of care giving, the grieving process, and stress-management. For more information, contact Townshippers' Lennoxville office at 819-566-5717, toll free 1-866-566-5717, or e-mail info@townshippers.qc.ca. Registration is required.

## GUIDE TO LIFE

Another very special initiative is coming up in March — the launch of the brand new An English Speaker's Guide to Life in the Eastern Townships. This

free resource booklet will be distributed widely throughout the Townships, and will be a handy reference tool for newcomers to the Townships as well as those who have been here longer.

## TOWNSHIPS LEADERS OF TOMORROW AWARDS

In the coming weeks, keep your eyes peeled for news about a new award for young people, called Townships Leaders of Tomorrow. Three recipients are to be honoured in a special awards ceremony on March 31.

## COMING? GOING? STAYING?

If you're interested in the future of the Eastern Townships English-speaking community, you'll not want to miss the new community development symposium planned for March 31. In the works is a new study on both the emigration from and the immigration to the Eastern Townships among English-speaking youth and other age groups.

This study will be the key focus of the symposium, which will also include discussion of solutions to the problem of out-migration. More news will follow in the coming weeks.

Information about Townshippers' Association, its activities and its services, are also available on the Web at www.townshippers.qc.ca.

## BRIEF

### Ministry hands out fines

The Quebec ministry of agriculture, fisheries and food released a list of fines for mishandling food products to 95 businesses across the province. Included in those fines were 14 in the Eastern Townships.

In the Estrie region, eight fines were handed down: Restaurant Le Dragon-Doré in Coaticook, Les Services Alimentaire de l'Estrie in Magog, Dépanneur Ham-Sud, and the Subway at 185 Vimy St. in Sherbrooke for storing temperature-sensitive food products at a temperature higher than four degrees Celsius. The fine was \$250 each in those cases.

Ducs de Montrichard in Waterville received a \$250 fine for preparing meat at a temperature above 10 degrees. King Pizza 2 pour 1, 2433 King W in Sherbrooke, received two fines: \$250 for an employee handling preparation or clean-up not wearing a proper hairnet and \$750 for improper storage of cold food. The second fine was not a first offense. As well, Nutri-Globe International in Magog received a \$250 fine for improperly drying hands before preparing food.

In the Montérégie region, the Abercorn Boulangerie et Croissanterie was fined \$250 for not keeping food below four degrees, as well as \$250 for having an employee preparing or cleaning in the food preparation area while wearing jewelry.

Les Fermes G. D. Laliberte in Acton Vale was fined \$250 for not properly tagging cattle in its care. The Resto-Bar Golden Pub was fined \$250 for storing food above four degrees. The Church Street Bar Country in Cowansville was also fined \$250 for the same offence. The Dépanneur Lewis in Waterloo was fined \$350 for selling milk above the fixed Region 1 price.

In all, the ministry laid down fines to the tune of \$71,675 across the province. Of those, 68 per cent were in the restaurant industry, and 48 per cent were because of improperly stored food. Another 19 per cent were because of improper hygiene practices.

# Brigham tax rate stable while garbage, sewage fluctuate

## Staff

Residents of Brigham will see little change in their tax bills for 2005, though an increase in the garbage and recycling taxes is headed their way.

"We had expected an increase in costs for these services, but not to this extent," said mayor Stephen Neil in a press release after the 2005 budget was adopted Monday night.

The new garbage contract was awarded to the lowest bidder after a call for tenders. Nevertheless the garbage tax for 2005 will increase from \$84 to \$94. Recycling is also up to \$47 from \$32 last year.

Starting in 2005 garbage collection will be done every second week between November and April. The aim is to cut costs, and the biweekly pickup is also part of the regional plan to encourage residents to rely more on recycling. Neil said the town

may also look to some form of intermunicipal agreement for garbage collection if costs continue to rise.

The basic residential property rate remains unchanged at 95 cents per \$100 of evaluation. Sewage costs are down to \$366 from \$378 in the village, and from \$375 to \$369 in the Lacroix and Domaine developments.

In all Brigham's 2005 budget is just over \$1.6 million, with \$1,490,134 in expenses. The remaining \$110,000 will be applied to long term debt and special projects.

The municipality will also be taking \$150,000 out of its accumulated surplus to finish paving a section of Des Erables south of the village. In all some \$549,000 will be spent on public works, while \$317,000 will go to pay for the administration.

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# Our School's Page

## RICHMOND REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Arriving late Wednesday night to Stratford, Ont., students were exhausted from their nine-hour voyage, but they were still looking forward to the amazing activities that would fill their next two days.

The most anticipated part of the trip was visiting the costume warehouse, which is overflowing with thousands of costumes, props, accessories, foot-wear, wigs and masks.

Thursday morning, half of the students from Massey-Vanier and Richmond Regional were invited to visit the costume warehouse early, because of an unexpected opening, while the rest of the group enjoyed window-shopping in the beautiful town.

Students were highly impressed by the tour of the warehouse, along with all of the incredible costumes. Ooing and awing over everything they witnessed made the other half of the students even more excited to visit the costume warehouse the next day.

"The costume warehouse was very, very interesting," said Lydia Smith, a student who visited the warehouse with the first group. "There were amazing costumes, and so many to look at that I didn't know where to start. The costumes went from the floor to the ceiling and from wall to wall."

The costumes are rented out to production companies, including schools and even Hollywood agencies. Prices for different groups renting vary. For example, a school with a smaller budget would get a better deal, than if a big Hollywood company were renting. Stratford's costume warehouse does not rent to individuals.

After the 30-minute tour was finished, and students had seen room upon room of beautifully embroidered dresses, foam-food that looked real, shoes of all sizes and shapes, and an incredible chandelier made of scotch-tape, they were brought to a room full of astonishing hats and costumes.

The tour guide told the group to have fun and try things. Surprised, yet content, the students and teachers tried on coats that weighed 20 pounds and feather hats, and they took pictures that captured great moments.

The Stratford costume warehouse holds thousands of props from plays put on at the Festival Theatre itself. They use huge props the size of two medium rooms, to tiny things, such as a fork.

By Amber

### RRHS STUDENT COUNCIL PLANS EXCITING ACTIVITIES

On Nov. 18, former NFL star Alvin Powell spoke to the students of Rich-

mond Regional high school about his personal experience of overcoming drug addiction. His visit, an activity sponsored by the student council, is only one of the many activities the wellness committee has planned for the upcoming year.

The goal of this committee is to promote a healthy lifestyle by increasing student awareness of benefits and risks associated with various activities.

By RRHS Student Council Correspondent, Willow Burns

### THE ARMY HELICOPTER THAT VISITED RRHS

Richmond Regional high school had a pleasant surprise on Oct. 28. The Royal Canadian Army gave a tour of a helicopter at noon hour to any student who was interested. Before leaving, the pilots also answered the teachers questions and gave them a tour.

The helicopter is a non-combat army helicopter that is used strictly for transportation. The helicopter can hold eight soldiers with the crew and 12 if they add another seat. After 20-25 years of service the helicopter will be retired.

"It was as if it came out of my imagination, like a G.I. Joe helicopter," said Kenny, one of the students who saw the helicopter.

The helicopter was made in Mirabel, just north of Montreal. It can go 10,000 feet in the air without any life support and 11,900 with life support. The life support is oxygen and when the helicopter goes high in the sky the air is thinner. There is less oxygen in the air. The helicopter can fly for eight to 10 hours without stopping, and then they have to rest for 12 hours.

The teachers and the students thought that the helicopter was very interesting.

"I was coming out the door when the helicopter came over the gym. It sounded like it was coming right over us. It was really loud," said Amanda, another student at RRHS.

In 1995 the army had 100 helicopters, and in 2004 they have 97 helicopters. Since there was a budget cut there are less helicopters in flight.

The helicopter and its pilots have been all over the world peacekeeping. They went to Bosnia, Kosovo, Montenegro, and all over the former Yugoslavia to keep peace. They have also been to Central America after hurricane Mitch with another smaller helicopter to help the people get back on their feet.

By Jean Mark, Emma, Jeremy

### THE HOCKEY LOCKOUT

The rinks are bare, the dressing rooms are empty and the fans are bored.



Where has hockey gone?

Though most of the world knows about the hockey lockout, many are still unsure as to why the season hasn't begun yet, and may never begin this year. For students here, and anyone who can't understand what Ron MacLean is gabbing on about every Monday night, an explanation is due.

This whole fiasco began with the expiration of the collective bargaining agreement on Sept. 15, 2004. The Collective Bargaining Agreement is an agreement between the team owners and the NHL Player's Association (NHLPA) that lays out the rights and responsibilities of the NHL, the teams and the individual players. When the agreement expired, everything concerning player's salaries had to be rewritten and agreed upon by both sides.

Herein lies the major problem — players' salaries. Unlike the other three major North American sports, baseball, basketball and football, hockey has yet to enforce a salary cap or a luxury tax on its players. This means there is no set maximum for a player's salary, and competitive teams can offer higher and higher pay to keep or acquire star players.

In the last 10 years, players' salaries have increased by 240 per cent, bringing the average players' salary to just under \$2 million. Profits for the league, however, have increased only 160 per cent. Because of this dramatic difference, over 20 of the NHL's 30 franchises have suffered losses, according to the league.

NHL commissioner Gary Bettman, and NHLPA executive director, Bob Goodenow, head negotiations for the new collective bargaining agreement. However, as one can probably tell, negotiations aren't going too well. The players won't accept a salary cap, stating that they are skeptical of the league's financial claims. Bettman's explanation

is the players are too concerned with saving the season rather than saving the league.

As for the NHLPA, they've come up with some of their own ideas of how to fix the league's economy that they say can both help the league and save the season. Some of their ideas include a luxury tax, a player salary rollback, and a revenue sharing program.

Still, there has been no agreement between the two sides. The players won't accept the salary cap, and the league won't accept alternatives. So the lockout goes on, and it's not just the fans that are suffering.

While the lockout stands here in North America, some of the players from the NHL are playing over in Europe. Suddenly there are a lot fewer positions for young European players on the European teams.

They are left on the benches; so hot-shot players from the NHL can win for their teams. Rookies hoping to begin their careers this year are also forced to wait on the sidelines, while the future of the game is being decided.

Many others are feeling the effects of the lockout as well. Restaurants and bars have lost thousands as their regular hockey crowds stay home this winter. Sports bars and sports equipment stores have suffered also. Referees, stadiums and their employees, alcohol producers, even a small real estate firm located near the Tampa Bay arena have felt a slump in business since the lockout.

Who knew our game had such an impact on the North American life? Everyone from our die-hard fans, to our economy has felt the blow. Whatever the outcome of the negotiations, one message among the people is clear: "Bring back hockey!"

By Kelly

## 2004 YEAR IN REVIEW

## MORE:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 5



RECORD FILE PHOTO

Andrew Hutchison is named Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada.

facilities, Waterloo made an about-face, asking neighbouring towns to contribute the equivalent of \$3 per resident each, significantly less than what it had been demanding.

Laid-off Jeffrey Mine workers were informed the open pit asbestos mine will resume operations in August and continue until October. Falling demand and low-priced competition had racked up \$120 million in debts for the mine.

Newport became the only Townships municipality to opt for a municipal demerger. Other communities, including some in Sherbrooke and Sutton, got enough votes for the result to count, but with the vote favouring a unified municipality.

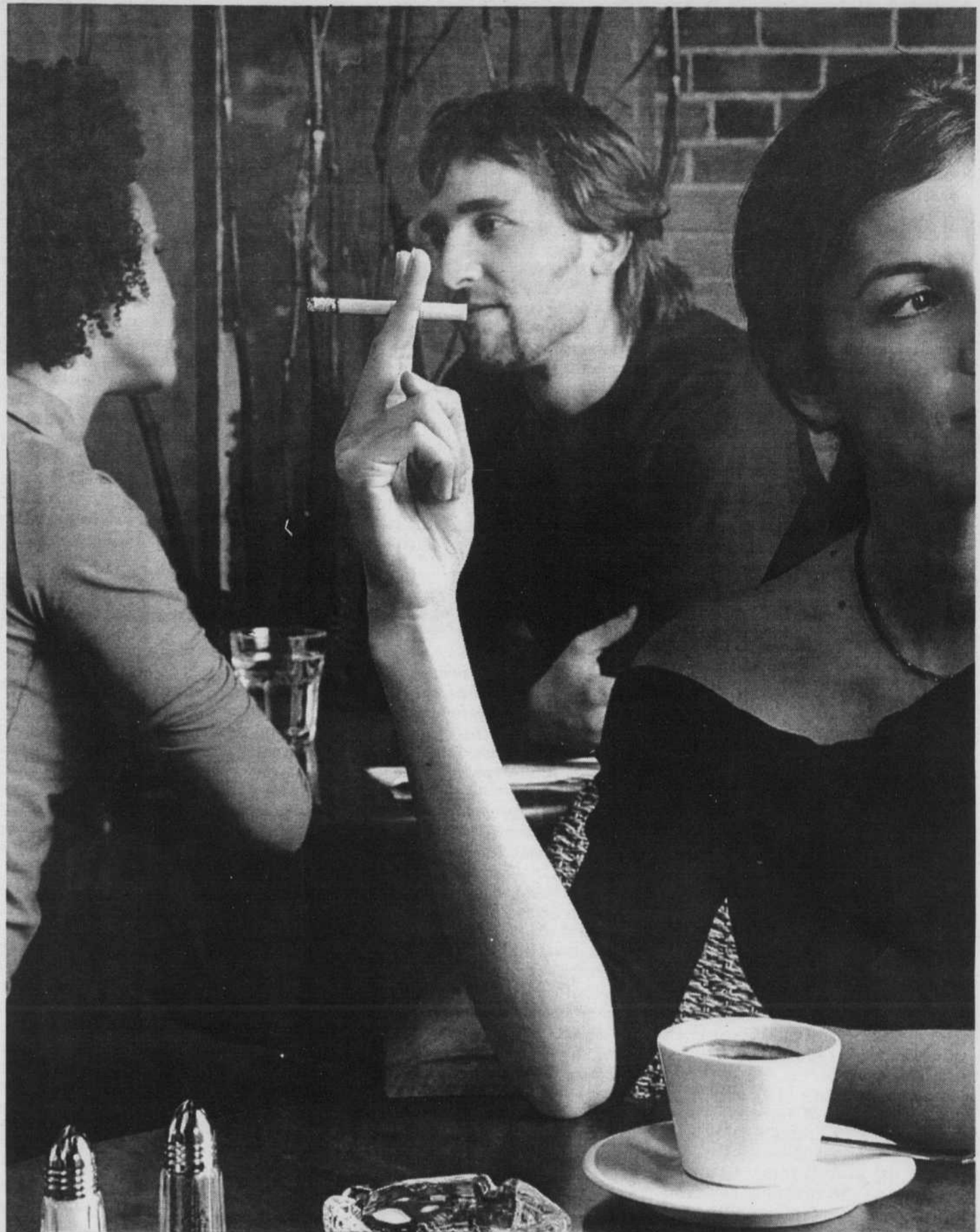
Réal Carbonneau, regional director for Quebec's forest and wildlife service, drowned at a tourism event in Sherbrooke when a raft capsizes on the Magog River. The nine others, including Mayor Jean Perrault, escaped unharmed.

Heather Bowman was named new president of Townshippers' Association. The Sherbrooke native had served the previous three years as vice-president.

Eighteen people were arrested when police dismantled a drug ring in Magog. Police seized cannabis, cocaine and two firearms. Ring leader Jasmin Vallières manages to elude police, but later turns himself in and is sentenced to five years in jail.

Archbishop of Montreal Andrew Hutchison was named Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada.

The federal Liberals returned to power under the leadership of Paul Martin, but only as a minority government. With the exception of Brome-Missisquoi, the Townships votes in the Bloc Québécois.



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Québec 

# \$400-million budget not enough to care for skyrocketing number of aboriginal foster kids

By Bill Curry

The number of status Indians removed from their homes and placed in foster care now make up 30 to 40 per cent of all children in care in Canada, according to Indian Affairs documents.

According to the briefing documents prepared for Indian Affairs Minister Andy Scott, and obtained through Access to Information legislation, the problem is that First Nations Child and Family Services agencies are "woefully underfunded" even with an annual budget of nearly \$400 million.

The paper says the number of child and family service agencies on reserves has increased to 102 in 2004 from 34 in 1989, but it notes it is impossible to provide precise statistics on the number of aboriginal children who have been removed from their homes given that provinces collect data differently.

"The best estimate is that aboriginals compose 30 to 40 per cent of all children in care in Canada. This drastic

over-representation is even more concerning as data for children in care indicates a 71.5 per cent increase in the number of status Indian children on reserve being placed in child welfare between 1995-2001.

This means that by 2004, there were over 8,000 status Indian children on reserve in care, spending an annual total of 2,322,100 days in foster care and 324,920 days in institutional care, states the briefing documents.

"While expenditures have increased, the budgets continue to be woefully inadequate. Funding was particularly inadequate with regards to services intended to ameliorate risk to children and allow them to stay safely in their homes (less disruptive measures)," it states.

"First Nations that advocated for a policy review have seen only a modest response from the government — with no significant investment of new funds to support (child and family) activities."

Some programs have been cut, causing "an increasing level of frustration

for both the First Nations and the provinces, who are ultimately responsible for children residing in their jurisdictions."

Assembly of First Nations national Chief Phil Fontaine offers two possible explanations for the dramatic increase.

"One, there's better service, a more sensitized staff more aware of the situation and hence a more responsive service and it's our professionals that care about children and want to make sure that children are safe and cared for. That's one consideration.

"Another, of course, is poverty and what poverty does to families and communities. We've been arguing that we need to do a better job of eradicating poverty and we haven't managed that, in spite of all the incredible wealth in this country, in spite of the turnaround in the last six years in terms of the financial situation in Canada," he said.

Fontaine notes the rise coincides with a 1996 policy to cap program spending increases at Indian Affairs at

two per cent a year even as the First Nations population increased dramatically.

Fontaine said a host of standard of living problems can be traced to that policy and he is urging Ottawa to scrap the cap in the upcoming federal budget.

"Up until that point (in 1996), the gap was closing, now it's the same or worse," he said.

When asked in an interview about the statistics, Scott hinted he is campaigning to get more money for the program in the upcoming budget but was reluctant to discuss the matter.

"I'm taking action on it, but that's about as much as I can say at this point because I'm pursuing support for actions that would change that," he said.

"I don't want to get into anything because any reference to resources at this time of year will be interpreted by colleagues and others as an effort to try and achieve, theoretically, results through (the media) and that doesn't ever improve your chances."

—CanWest News Service

## McLellan aims for speedy public safety progress

By Sean Gordon

A year after the inception of her mega-department, Public Safety Minister Anne McLellan is a politician in a hurry.

Though the bulking-up of the Canadian intelligence apparatus continues apace — following stinging criticism from the auditor-general last spring — McLellan says she's had to rein in her impatience at the glacial pace of bureaucratic change.

"I am impatient about certain things, but that's my disposition. I don't understand why we can't do X or Y now. Or, why does it take six months, why can't it be done now?" McLellan said in a wide-ranging interview about her department, the months ahead, and the year that was.

"I guess the real question then is, do I think the pace of change is reasonable in terms of our overall objective around national security and public safety, and my answer to that is yes," she said. "I think we are driving the system probably as hard as we can without overextending it to get the results we need."

Critics have lambasted McLellan for not paying enough attention to the gaps in Canada's maritime security, and McLellan says she's been lobbying her cabinet colleagues for more money to fund an initiative aimed at inspecting Canada-bound shipping containers abroad.

Deputy Conservative leader Peter

MacKay and Senate security committee chairman Colin Kenny have both complained the government is not doing enough to inspect cargo shipments and McLellan wants to address the situation by "pushing the borders out."

"What we are going to do is establish our customs agents offshore as the Americans have. We're going to start in Hong Kong, and we will expand the program," she said.

About 300 million tonnes of international cargo is shipped to — and through — Canada annually, and federal officials estimate roughly two per cent of shipping containers are opened to inspectors.

As part of the continuing efforts by both Canada and the United States to tighten ship and port screening, McLellan said the two countries are harmonizing their methods "to trace in the same way the same information."

But the next priority will be persuading cabinet to loosen the purse strings to send Canadian customs officers to major world ports like Rotterdam and others.

"We hope to get new funding for the program in the budget, because we do need additional dollars to expand, and I know the United States sees our participation in that as very important, both to complement their activities where they are, but also perhaps to be in places where they're

not," she said.

Although sources in the new Public Safety department suggest the forced union of its 17 subsidiary departments and agencies have resulted in a bureaucratic morass, McLellan thinks the growing pains have been overcome, and after tabling the country's first national security policy, feels she's now in a position to implement the changes it demands.

And so her focus for the coming year will be on improving Canada's intelligence-gathering capabilities — which will be put to the test in a large Canada-U.S. counter-terrorism exercise this spring — and fighting for more infrastructure for cluttered border crossings.

A good deal of McLellan's time early in the new year will be taken up with the review of Canada's anti-terrorism laws, which she drafted as justice minister in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

McLellan expects the review, which is to be carried out by a parliamentary sub-committee, to be a lively affair given the passion of opponents to the law's stricter provisions including preventive detention and the right to compel testimony from witnesses.

"I know there are an awful lot of people out there, some in the ethnic communities, who want to have their voices heard in relation to how they feel about C-36," said McLellan, who also defends the government use of

security certificates for would-be immigrants and refugees suspected of terrorist links.

McLellan strongly believes that the law works well as it is, and the "the balance is right."

"Terrorists as we know come in every colour, they speak every language, they profess every religion. I think that since 9/11, at least some in the Arab and Muslim communities feel a sense of marginalization, feel as if they're being singled out. Well that was never the intention of bill C-36."

Beyond the review of terror-fighting laws, McLellan also conceives of a broader vision for the RCMP as part of the fight against trans-national crime and as an exporter of training and know-how.

To fulfill that area of its mandate, McLellan says she won't hesitate to make the case for more resources for the RCMP.

"I would always argue for more resources for the national police force, as I do for CSIS (Canadian Security Intelligence Service), CBSA (Canada Border Services Agency) and other things because the demands are growing in terms of what these organizations do. They not only have big domestic responsibilities, but in the world in which we live they have a growing international dimension in terms of what they do," she said.

—CanWest News Service



COURTESY JOHN PALOV

Natasha Palov has been working as an English teacher in Japan since November. She was spending her Christmas holiday in Thailand at the time of the underwater earthquake.

## DREAM:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

"When the phone rang my arm flew up and grabbed the phone. A voice on the other end said, 'Dad this is your daughter.'"

Natasha and Darren had taken a ferry from Koh Chang to Ranong at about 7 a.m. in the morning in Thailand.

John added that he spoke with his daughter for more than an hour before she lost the connection and she had to call them back.

Phyllis said Natasha later sent them a lengthy e-mail from an Internet cafe

about how she and her boyfriend escaped from the tidal wave and how they survived on the island for the next two days with little food and water.

"I chatted with her on MSN Messenger the next morning," Phyllis said. "She just wanted to stay connected."

Natasha told her parents that she was planning to head north to Bangkok.

On Jan. 2 Natasha wrote her parents another detailed e-mail from the Canadian Embassy in Bangkok. It provided more details of people she had met and some of the destruction that was around them.

"We want her to tell her own story," John said.

[brobinson@sherbrookerecord.com](mailto:brobinson@sherbrookerecord.com)

## HOMES:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

has been known to create epidemics if not caught and treated early.

Baker said the disease was contracted by 24 out of 30 residents of the Marc André Jacques retirement residence two weeks ago in East Broughton, 16 kilometres northeast of Thetford.

"We did not quarantine the building, but everyone was advised to restrict their visits to the residents," he said.

"We asked that each resident receive one visitor at a time, and that each visitor wear special gloves and a mask."

During that two week period, Baker said six residents died, but added there was no direct link to the influenza cases.

"In this type of residence, deaths are common," he said. "But we suspect that the influenza virus may have triggered other problems that led to three of the six deaths."

Baker said the first case of influenza at the East Broughton residence was discovered on Dec. 17, but it took a few days before it was properly diagnosed by medical tests at the Thetford hospital.

He said the majority of those who

came down with the disease have recovered. He said only three residents still have symptoms while another one is still in hospital under observation.

"There are a lot of people who get colds and fever this time of year, so the virus spreads rapidly," he said.

"Also, because of the constant change in the weather temperatures and the humidity changes, the virus travels fast."

Baker said older people are more susceptible to influenza because of their more fragile physiques and lower immune systems.

## EXCERPTS OF NATASHA PALOV'S E-MAILS

(Dec. 28, 2004)

There is no electricity there (Koh Chang) and on the other side of the island they had a computer running from a generator but that was down too. We had one cell phone so we tried climbing the rocks to get reception but it was unsuccessful.

We were like a small commune after (the tidal wave hit). Always looking out for each other, cleaning the beach and wreckage. The woman was the only cook so we didn't eat all day. It was really crazy.

(Jan. 2, 2005 - Describing the tidal waves hitting Koh Chang)

My experience was terrifying also. Coming down from our bungalow in the morning, excited to eat a great breakfast on the beach, only to find the water rising almost at eye level, people screaming at us to stay high, seeing the boat pier being swept away in an instant.

The water turned black, heavy rapids developed, then turned into a whirlpool. The water would rush in and then pull out about half a kilometre, repeatedly. Then finally we saw it (the fourth tidal wave) coming from about one kilometre away, a huge wave.

As it approached very quickly we saw that it wasn't so much a wave, but a huge surge of water. There was nothing we could do but run. Luckily our bungalows were on the hill, so people were pulling us up the hill, separating most of us.

Darren went up the other side. Standing up there watching the wave pour in, Darren saw that the woman stayed below in shock, standing there with her four-year-old girl in her arms, crying and helpless. So I watched as Darren ran back down the hill to get the woman.

The wave had started to rip in at that point. It was terrifying as we had no idea how high the water would rise. We were quite high up, so we were OK, but it was scary as it kept rising and we kept climbing.

Afterwards the sea calmed and was almost as if nothing happened. We spent the next two days helping clean the beach, others were repairing some huts along the beach.

Soon afterwards the mother's son came running to tell her that her good friend's six-year-old son was swept away on a beach close to us.

In Ranong, the mainland off the island we were on, 167 people so far died.

We only really heard the whole story when we were brought back to Ranong two days later. Darren and I were dragged out of bed at 7 a.m. as a boat arrived to pick us up.

I think some stuff was left behind as we left in such a hurry. All I can say, is I've never been so glad to be alive, and hearing others stories puts everything into perspective for me.

(At the Canadian Embassy in Thailand)

One girl came in on crutches and her face and legs had deep wounds all over. She said she woke up in the morning with water rushing into her bungalow, but managed to swim out the window.

She got on top of a roof for the first wave, but then the second wave came and swept her out into the sea. A phone pole fell and she was pushed under the water and was being crushed between the pole and the wires.

Miraculously, the wires broke and a huge surge of water and debris pushed her up so she could gasp for air. But just when she thought she would maybe make it, there were people under water grabbing her and pulling her back under. She managed to struggle out of their grip and got to the mainland.

She spent the next 48 hours looking for her boyfriend, who she ended up finding.

Another couple we met also managed to survive. They were in Koh Phi Phi where there are two bays that come together.

The first wave hit coming from one side of the bay, then the second came from the other side.

They managed to crawl out their window, but then a roof of a bungalow flew off and landed over their heads, pushing them under water.

Finally, it broke off and they managed to grab onto a pole and hang on for dear life.

## BRIEF

### Recreation registration in Waterloo

It's almost sign-up time for anyone interested in taking part in Waterloo's winter recreation programs.

For Waterloo residents and residents of municipalities which have an agreement with the town, a number of activities are available: For children there are about a dozen courses available, ranging from spring break day camp to skiing, art, indoor soccer and music. For teens, adults and seniors there's everything from box-

ing to badminton, tai-chi, sculpting, meditation to self-defence.

Registration will take place over three days, with residents of Waterloo signing up on Thursday, Jan. 13 from 1:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. For residents of other municipalities (Shefford, Brome Lake, Warden, etc.) registration takes place on Friday, Jan. 14 from 1:30 to 8 p.m. and on Saturday, Jan. 15 from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration takes place at the Jacques Chagnon arena at the corner of Lewis and Western Streets. For more information call 450-539-2282, ext. 601.

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# The economic impact of the tsunami will be surprisingly modest

By Eric Beauchesne

The economic impact of the tsunami that battered coastlines in South Asia and East Africa is expected to be relatively modest in contrast to the staggering human costs, analysts say.

While international agencies, such as the International Monetary Fund, have just started to tally the economic impact, and said Tuesday they were unable to provide estimates yet, private sector analysts have already made preliminary assessments of the economic damage.

The late-December tsunami, which resulted in the death of almost 150,000 people in more than a dozen countries, and left millions homeless, will require a world-scale relief effort, noted Action Economics, in an online assessment by its Singapore-based analyst David Cohen.

"However, if there is one positive thing to say in the aftermath, it might be this: it appears that disruption to economic output will be far less severe than the scale of the catastrophe," it said. "Even in the several countries most severely impacted, the devastation was largely limited to the immediate coastal area, with relatively limited destruction to productive capacity," it said, noting for example, that in Indonesia, the oil and gas industry largely escaped severe damage.

Investors tended to agree, it added. "Despite the overwhelming destruction to certain coastal villages literally wiped off the map, the limited damage to nonresidential property and hence productive capacity was highlighted by the generally nonchalant reaction in stock markets across the region this past week," it said.

Since the last trading before the tsunami hit on Dec. 26, the Jakarta



CANWEST NEWS SERVICE

The late-December tsunami resulted in the death of almost 150,000 people.

Composite Index on Monday was up 1.4 per cent, which was a better performance than some other stock markets in Asian countries that were untouched by the tsunami, including Japan's Nikkei which was up only 1.1 per cent over the same period.

In fact, it noted that construction-related stocks were among the better performers, likely reflecting expectations about the rebuilding in wave-devastated regions.

Thailand's tourism industry is an exception, it said, observing that beach resorts, most notably Phuket, suffered major damage from the tsunami, and that tourism accounts for about six per cent of Thailand's total economic output or GDP.

The damage could knock about 1.5 percentage points off economic

growth in Thailand in the first quarter, which would be slightly offset by the increase in rebuilding efforts.

The bottom line could trim annual 2005 growth by 0.5 percentage points to 4.5 per cent from what had been a forecast of five per cent.

"Much would depend on the willingness of tourists to return to Phuket, which we do not think will be a serious problem," it said, noting the relatively quick rebound in Bali after the bombing several years ago, where tourists had more to fear about the probability of another disaster.

Ernie Stokes, economist and director at the Centre for Spatial Economics, said the Toronto-based think-tank hasn't done an analysis of the macro-economic impact of tsunami, but expected that compared to the human

cost it would likely be relatively small, limited to tourism, and not global.

He also noted that when his daughter, who is teaching in the region, asked him whether she should still go ahead with a planned visit to Thailand, he said "sure."

"In the interior there are beautiful places to go," he said. "Besides that, if you don't go there you make the country worse off."

Meanwhile, the Action Economics analysis noted that the primary resort areas in Indonesia, such as Bali, largely escaped tsunami damage, along with the key resource-producing regions.

Indonesia's Aceh province was devastated, but it accounts for no more than two per cent of Indonesian GDP, it added.

"After balancing the anticipated boost from rebuilding efforts, the slowdown in GDP growth would be less than in Thailand, it said, adding it anticipated growth in Indonesia would still be close to the five per cent that had been forecast before the tsunami.

"The counter-intuitive result of a disaster actually boosting economic activity in some sectors is similar to what was seen with the Florida hurricanes," it said.

"The upward impact on GDP growth is sometimes termed the 'broken window effect' whereby the destruction of property doesn't impact the production process, while replacement activity does.

"Like the rest of the East Asian economies, including Japan, the 2005 GDP growth prospects for Indonesia and Thailand will likely depend more on the extent to which global export demand can get back on track, after sputtering during the second half of last year, than on the tsunami," it said.

—CanWest News Service

## Ottawa's spending will boost economy in 2005

By Eric Beauchesne

"Healthy" levels of government spending will help support the Canadian economy in the absence of export strength, says the country's largest business group which normally rails against such expenditures.

A year of "tempered growth" is expected, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce said in its 2005 forecast released Tuesday.

The economy will expand 2.8 per cent, up marginally from an estimated 2.7 per cent in 2003, but well below the 3.5 per cent expansion expected south of the border this year, it said.

"Economic growth will be fuelled largely by robust business investment in machinery and equipment, supported by

moderate gains in consumer spending and healthy increases in government spending," said chamber president Nancy Hughes Anthony. "But the boost to economic growth from exports that we saw last year will wind down."

"There is no question that government spending stimulates the economy," said chamber spokesperson Robin Walsh. "But we would never say that it is all good spending.

"It is also just one factor in the equation, and not the most important factor," Walsh said, adding business investment in machinery and equipment is the most important ingredient.

Helping to boost business investment has been the strong dollar which has

made imports of machinery, equipment and technology cheaper while also boosting labour costs, adding to the attractiveness of such labour saving investments.

However, the chamber said the appreciation of the Canadian dollar, from what was a low of 62 cents US two years ago to what is now nearly 82 cents US, will dampen export growth.

Export earnings will also be depressed this year by softer commodity prices, and competition from low-cost countries, it said. However, a high level of employment, rising personal incomes and low interest rates should continue to support moderate gains in consumer spending, it said. Growth in corporate profits is expected to be much more muted as energy

and commodity prices retreat somewhat, but business investment in machinery and equipment will continue to be a key driver for the economy.

The business group expects the Bank of Canada will wait until the second half of the year before raising interest rates a further half a percentage point. The bank raised rates twice last fall by half a point in total but then shelved its plan to raise them further because of the slump in exports and the increase in the dollar to a 12-year high of more than 85 cents US.

The chamber expects the dollar to trade in the 82-to-86 cents US range this year, ending 2005 at about 85 cents US.

—CanWest News Service

# THE RECORD Sports

**INSIDE**  
Wade Boggs and  
Ryne Sandberg  
are headed to  
baseball's  
Hall of Fame  
... see Page 14

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2005 PAGE 13

## Murphy making the grade at Stanstead College

*Young defenceman  
impressive in rookie  
campaign*

By Mike Hickey  
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

When Billy Murphy decided to accept an academic scholarship to Stanstead College and play hockey for the school's highly successful program, he knew it would require a lot of hard work.

As a student at Richmond Regional High School prior to his arrival in Stanstead, Murphy excelled in the classroom and played bantam B hockey for Drummondville.

Hard work is something that has always been a part of Murphy's life.

"It was tough because it was a half-hour drive to and from the arena for practices and games," Murphy said recently. "I was lucky because my dad would drive me."

Murphy would get up before the crack of dawn; deliver *The Record* to 90 customers in the Richmond area and then head off to school. Once again his father helped by driving him on his route.

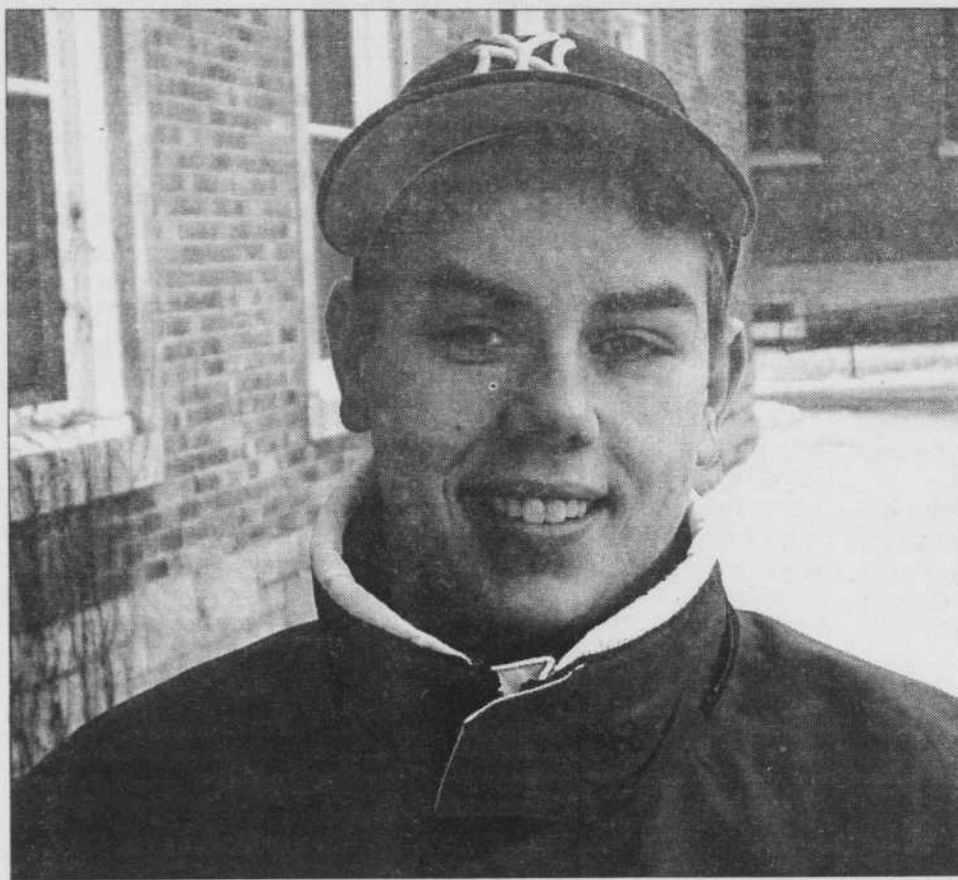
"The route covered a lot of territory so I wouldn't have been able to do it if it wasn't for my dad's help," Murphy continued. "Now that I am away at school, he delivers the papers for me in the winter time and I do in the summer. I also have about 30 lawns to mow so I am busy working every day."

Murphy's work ethic, which he attributes to his father, has proven invaluable at Stanstead where student-athletes have little free time.

On a typical Monday for example, the hockey team does weights after classes, has dinner, practice and then spend a minimum of two hours studying.

It is a tough grind at times but it was a choice Murphy made and he's happy with his decision.

"I was drafted by the Magog Cantonniers and they wanted me to play in the Espoirs system but that would have meant going to a French high school and I am not good enough in French. It would have been very difficult for me,"



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

Billy Murphy's work ethic, which he attributes to his father, has proven invaluable at Stanstead where student-athletes have little free time.

Murphy said. "It was a good decision for me and I am glad I came to Stanstead. We are playing in the (United) States every weekend and the competition is great."

However, the hockey experience at Stanstead College involves more than just playing.

"The guys on the team are great and we have so much fun on the bus going to games," Murphy explained. "We also get plenty of exposure playing down there and that will help me pursue my goal of playing university hockey in the States."

The Spartans' schedule in the second half includes games against Vermont Academy, St. Thomas More School, Kingswood Oxford School, North Yarmouth Academy and Kent's Hill. Stanstead will also be hosting some quality opponents in the New Year.

Vermont Academy, North Yarmouth Academy and the Connecticut Coyotes

will all play at Stanstead but the highlight of the home schedule is once again the Can-Am Invitational tournament.

"This is my first Can-Am and from what I heard it is a great tournament," Murphy said. "The arena is packed with people and there are a lot of scouts and American coaches — so it is a pretty exciting time."

The off-ice education of the Stanstead players will be supplemented with a trip to Switzerland later in the year. Stanstead head coach Mike McNamara spent several seasons playing and coaching in Switzerland before accepting the coaching position at Stanstead.

The Spartans dress five defencemen every game and Murphy is often paired with captain Nick MacIssac.

"It's great playing beside Nick because he is such a good player and a great person off the ice," Murphy said. "I've learned a lot playing beside him

and he has made the transition to Stanstead easier because he is such a friendly guy. He has helped me a lot."

Murphy is one of the youngest players on the Stanstead roster and often finds himself matched up against players three years older.

"Billy is only in Grade 10 and is probably the youngest player on the team," Stanstead head coach Mike McNamara said in an interview. "He needs to get bigger and stronger but he has played some good hockey for us and we are really happy with him and like the way he works to improve himself."

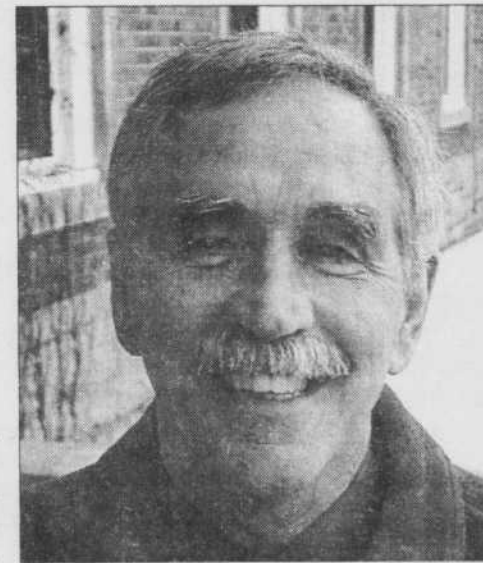
"He is a good student and spends a lot of time working on his skating and getting stronger."

According to McNamara, Murphy is receiving an on-ice education that will pay dividends down the road.

"The bottom line is that he is learning at the next level and while his age and size make it difficult at times, in the long road it will make him a better player and person. He just has to continue to work hard at it."

And hard work has never been a problem for the Murphy clan.

*The Record* will preview the Can-Am tournament in Friday's edition



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

According to coach Mike McNamara, Murphy is learning at a high level and while his age and size make it difficult at times, in the long road it will make him a better player.

## JUNIOR HOCKEY

The greatest junior hockey  
team of all time

By Stephen Snelgrove

They stood as one — 'O Canada' raining down from the rafters at Ralph Engelstad Arena — arms draped over the shoulders of their teammates, a tear or two rolling down their cheeks.

The pride was evident in their young faces, a look of quiet confidence confirming what this group of 22 young men have known for many weeks. Team Canada is the best in the world.

There have been national teams with more talent, better goaltending and even more lopsided wins, if you can believe that to be possible after Canada outscored its opposition (35-6 prior to gold-medal game).

But never before has a Canadian national junior team better exhibited the characteristics that set our country apart in this grand old game.

Coach Brent Sutter's team played with a selflessness that is rarely seen in hockey, regardless of the calibre of play. But when it emerges, it's a very special thing to witness.

You'd be hard pressed to find a coach who has put a bigger stamp on his team in such a short period of time. When you think of the traits of the Sutter family you think of players/coaches who are utterly committed to the concept of playing for your group — never as an individual.

That philosophy allowed the Canadians to play a style of hockey that was simply relentless — a never-give-up attitude that left opposing players hearing footsteps every time they touched the puck.

Sutter's team took a 200-foot approach to winning hockey games, confident that taking care of business in their own end would open up opportunities on the offensive side.

And it worked magnificently.

Heading into Tuesday's gold-medal final, Canada had allowed just six goals against. And they hadn't allowed an even-strength goal since the third period of their first game of the tournament.

That Sutter was able to convince this team of superstars to abandon the swashbuckling style of play that earned them accolades throughout their junior career is nothing short of amazing.

Take London Knights' centre Corey Perry as an example. The Anaheim Mighty Ducks prospect arrived at Team Canada's training camp as the second highest scoring junior in the country, behind only Sidney Crosby.

This is a kid with a future as bright as the Northern Lights. He's got more moves than Edward Scissorhands and seems to be able to score at will. But rarely has he been asked to take a committed approach to defence. It's never been a priority for him or the coaches he's played under.

Perry made Sutter's hockey club by the slimmest of margins. A year ago he was the last forward cut from Team Canada; this year he was the last forward named to the team.

It took an injury to Jeremy Colliton for Perry to move up from the 13th forward to the team's first line with Crosby and Patrice Bergeron.

That wouldn't have happened unless Perry dedicated himself to buying into Sutter's approach. He was willing to adjust his game to fit the coach's expectations. It wasn't an easy transition — but for a guy willing to sacrifice everything he had just to be part of the Team Canada it was a no-brainer.

Mind you, giving up personal glory for the good of the team isn't a problem when you look around and see that a guy like Crosby — considered by some to be the second coming of the Wayne Gretzky himself — is willing to throw himself headfirst in front of the puck to stop it from going into the defensive zone.

That's what winning teams do. And that's what sets this team apart from every team before it. That's what allows them to walk together for the rest of their lives — as the greatest Canadian junior "team" of all time.

—CanWest News Service

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Open Trails: 22/76

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## MONT BELLEVUE

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0  
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 0  
Open Trails: 4/6

Lift Hours: 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

## BAIE DES SABLES

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0  
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 24  
Open Trails: 0/8

Lift Hours: 6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

## MONT ORFORD

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0  
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 7  
Open Trails: 28/56

Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

## MONTJOYE

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0  
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 9  
Open Trails: 9/27

Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 10 p.m.

## OWL'S HEAD

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0  
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 10  
Open Trails: 19/44

Lift Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## SHEFFORD

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0  
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 0  
Open Trails: 0/28

Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

## SKI BROMONT

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 0  
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 0  
Open Trails: 28/56

Lift Hours: 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

## SUTTON

Snow, last 24hrs (Cm): 2  
Snow, last 7 days (Cm): 5  
Open Trails: 12/53

Lift Hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## SPORTS NOTEBOOK

## Boggs, Sandberg elected to Hall of Fame

Wade Boggs was overwhelmingly elected to the Hall of Fame in his first year of eligibility Tuesday and Ryne Sandberg made it with just six votes to spare on his third try.

Boggs, a five-time American League batting champion for the Boston Red Sox, was selected by 474 of the record 516 voters who are 10-year members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

The 91.86 per cent of ballots he received was the 19th-highest percentage in Hall history, and he became the 41st player elected on his first chance.

In total votes, Boggs trailed only Nolan Ryan (491) and George Brett (488).

Sandberg, the 1984 National League MVP for the Chicago Cubs, was picked by 393 voters. He appeared on 76.2 per cent of ballots, just above the 75 per cent cutoff (387).

Sandberg received 49.2 per cent of votes in 2003 and got 61.1 per cent last year, falling 71 votes short.

## Canada to meet Portugal in friendly

The Canadian men's soccer team has landed an exhibition game against Portugal, probably its highest-profile opponent since a 0-0 tie with Brazil at the Confederations Cup in Japan in June 2001.

The friendly will be played March 26 in Barcelos, some 45 minutes northeast of Porto.

The Brazilians, who did not field their best team that day, were ranked second in the world when they met Canada in Ibaraki.

Portugal, runner-up to Greece at Euro 2004, is currently ninth in the FIFA ratings, 81 places above Canada. The Portuguese will be expected to showcase all their stars given they are using Canada as a tune-up for a World Cup qualifier against Slovakia four days later.

Portugal currently leads Group 3 in UEFA World Cup qualifying with a 4-0-1 record. Others in the group are Estonia, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Russia and Slovakia.

Coached by Brazilian Luiz Felipe Scolari, the Portuguese array of stars includes Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo, Barcelona's Deco, Chelsea's Ricardo Carvalho and FC Porto's Maniche.

Canadian head coach Frank Yallop has said he plans to give young talent a look this year as he looks to the future. But he says the side to face Portugal will be up to the challenge.

## Bjorkman helping raise funds for Asia

Swedish tennis star Jonas Bjorkman is enlisting the support of fellow players to help raise funds for the relief of tsunami victims in Asia.

"The tennis family should play a big role in tsunami victims' relief operations, and we've begun the process in Madras where several hundred people have lost their lives," Bjorkman said Tuesday during the ATP Tour's season-launching Chennai Open.

The tournament in Madras has kept its date with the ATP Tour despite the tsunami disaster on Dec. 26 that killed nearly 8,000 in the state. The Asian tsunami's death toll is expected to exceed 150,000.

The other three players joining him are German Rainer Schuettler and the Indian Davis Cup duo of Leander Paes and Mahesh Bhupathi.

## Around Town

To submit your sporting event, fax it to 819-569-3945, e-mail newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com or contact Mike Hickey at 819-569-6345.

Deaths

Death

Deaths

Deaths

**BLACK, George** - January 4, 2005, at La Providence Hospital, Magog, Que., at age 91 years. Son of the late James Black and Kate Alice Harris. Predeceased by his sister Ivy and his brother John. Visitation at Ledoux Funeral Home, 150 Sherbrooke St., Magog, Que., on Thursday, January 6, 2005, 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Funeral service will be held in the Chapel at the Funeral Home on Friday morning at 11 a.m. Rev. Fred Richardson officiating. Mr. Black was employed at Dominion Textile Ltd. for 25 years.



**GROULX, Doris May (nee Shepard) (1918-2005)** - At the Brome Missisquoi Perkins Hospital, on January 2, 2005, at the age of 86 years, Doris May Shepard, wife of the late Conrad Groulx, of Waterloo. She leaves to mourn her children, Lorraine (Pierre Perron), Gérald (Pierrette Gingras), Géraldine (Jean-Claude Arès), Barbara (Garry Clipston), Marlene (Wilbur Darling), Johanne (Bruno Nadeau). She was also the mother of the late Ross (Nicole Morin), the late Roger (Gisèle Duchesne) and the late André (Claudette Leblanc). She is also survived by 20 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, January 6, 2005, at 11 a.m., in the chapel of Les Résidences Funéraires Bessette, 5034 Foster St., Waterloo, tel: (450) 539-1606 or 1-888-730-6666, fax (450) 539-3035, www.famillebessette.com. The family will receive visitation Wednesday from 2 to 5 p.m. and from 7 to 10 p.m. The funeral will be on Thursday from 10 a.m. Interment will be at the Warden Cemetery. In her memory, donations to the Quebec Heart Foundation would be appreciated. Forms will be available at the funeral home.

**McNEILL, Dianne Eleanor (nee Grainger)** - Peacefully, at the Trillium Health Centre, Mississauga with family and friends by her side on Saturday, January 1, 2005 at the age of 58 years. Dianne, beloved wife of Doug McNeill. Loving mother of Lisa Gleva of Keswick, and Donna (Joseph Cabral) of Brampton. Cherished grandma of Bostin, Madison, Taylor, Jacob, and Dawson. Dear sister of Loretta (Gordon Irwin) of Melbourne, Que., Beverley (Ronald Jones) of Upper Melbourne, Que., and Daryl Grainger (Eileen) of Kingsbury, Que. Predeceased by her parents Charles and Bertha Grainger of Kingsbury, Que. Dianne will be greatly missed by many nieces and nephews. Friends will be received at the Scott Funeral Home, 289 Main St., N. "Brampton Chapel" 905-451-1100 on Tuesday, January 4th, 2005, from 2-4 p.m., and 6-9 p.m. Funeral Wednesday, service in the chapel at 2 p.m. Cremation. In memory of Dianne, donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be greatly appreciated. Sign a book of condolences at www.obituariestoday.com

**WIGLE, Betty Jean (Noxel)** - In Windsor, Ontario, on December 30, 2004, in her 71st year, following a courageous battle with cancer. Betty Jean Wigle will be sadly missed by Frank Thomas Wigle and their children: Sheryle-Lin (Calvin), Sharon (Nick), Denise (David), Dennis (Cheryl). Predeceased by son Daniel (Marie). Cherished grandmother of David, Alex, Stephanie, Maxim, and Kendall, and great-grandmother of Jesse. Dear sister of 13; survived by May, Margurite, Louis (Barb), Harold (Edna), Marie (Norm). Also leaves to mourn several foster children, other relatives, and friends. A Memorial Service will be held at Richmond Melbourne United Church, 247 rue Principale S, in Richmond, Que., on Wednesday, January 5, 2005 at 1:00 p.m., with Rev. Reg Jennings officiating. In lieu of flowers, donations to the In Memoriam Fund - Richmond Melbourne United Church would be appreciated.

"This life isn't the end" (1 Peter 1:4)



**DUFOUR, Carolyn** - After a courageous battle with cancer at the CHUS Fleurimont Hospital, Sherbrooke, on January 1st, 2005 in her 63rd year. Carolyn Ann Carr, loving daughter of Doris Cairns and Robert Carr, beloved wife of the late André Paul Dufour and loving mother of Diana (David Zand) and André; cherished grandmother of Andrea and Davis. She is survived by her sister Jackie and her brother Wendell. Resting at the Cass Funeral Home, 6 Belvedere St., Lennoxville, Que., where family and friends may visit on Thursday, January 6th, 2005 from 1 to 2 p.m., followed by the funeral service at 2 p.m. Rev. Barbara Willard officiating. Interment in the Malvern Cemetery. As memorial tributes, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be greatly appreciated by the family. The family would like to extend a special thank you to the nurses and doctors of the 7th Floor of the C.H.U. Fleurimont Hospital for the excellent compassionate care given to their mother.

**ROSSI, Antonia** - January 1st, 2005 after a long battle against cancer, at the age of 54 and 3 month, of Coaticook. She left to mourn her children Annie (Doris Poulin) and Mario (Josianne Ruel); her grandchild Lucas, and a little angel to be born; her sister Thérèse (Alain Dumont) and her brother Michel (Chantal Lachance); her nephews Alexandre (Catherine Routhier), Anthony Dumont and Dave Rossi; the father of her children Henri Carrier; the Drew family and many cousins, relatives and friends. Mrs. Rossi is resting at the Coopérative Funéraire de l'Estrie (East Angus), 56 Laurier St., East Angus, Que JOB 1R0, M. Claude Roy dir. Tel : (819) 565-7646, fax: (819) 832-1030, info@coopfuneraire.com. Visitations will be on Friday, January 7, 2005 from 2 to 4 p.m. and from 7 to 10 p.m. and Saturday, January 8, 2005 from 8:30 to 10:15 a.m., followed by funeral service at 10:30 a.m. in Saint-Louis-de-France Church of East Angus. The family would like to thank Dr Gonzalo Gonzales and all the staff of Hotel Dieu, specially François, as well as all friends who offered presence, support and cheering.

**YARRILL, Eric Herbert** - Professor Emeritus of Bishop's University, in his 91st year, peacefully at his home in Lennoxville, Que, on January 2nd 2005. The son of Herbert G. Yarrill and Amelia Louise Blackford, Mr Yarrill was born in Brentford, Isleworth, England on December 28th, 1914 and became a Canadian citizen on October 2nd 1947. A lieutenant with the Royal Canadian Navy, he served in naval intelligence during the Second World War. On July 24th, 1945, in Newport, Vermont, he married Edith Margaret Oedelshoff who predeceased him on May 9th, 2004. Prof. Yarrill leaves to mourn his passing his two sisters : Stella Anthes of Niagara Falls, Ont, and Mary Foster, of Quispamsis, NB, and their families. In respect of his wishes there will be no visitations. Private interment of ashes at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to Cass Funeral Home, 6, Belvedere Rd. Lennoxville, Que (819) 564-1750, cass@casshomes.ca and www.casshomes.ca. As memorial tributes, donations to the Heart and Stroke Society of Quebec and the Canadian Cancer Society will be gratefully acknowledged.

In Memoriam

**DITCHAM, Donald** - In loving memory of our father,, Donald Ditcham, who is loved and sadly missed since his passing on January 4, 1998.

THE FAMILY

See more on page 16

In Memoriam

**BRAZEL** - In loving memory of my dear wife, Phoebe Rose, who passed away on January 5, 2003.

There among all the angels  
You will always shine,  
Meet me over your rainbow  
Put your hand in mine,  
Walk me out to your ocean  
Tell me all you see,  
When you're looking for someone  
Please let it be me.  
Love lasts forever....

Ever remembered by  
your loving husband  
THE REV. JAMES HAROLD BRAZEL

Sawyerville

Jeanne Lowry

Justin and Jeanne Lowry accompanied by Joyce Lyonaise and Gertie Lloyd were at the Christmas party at the Grapes Home on the 11th of December. Also the seniors party at the United Church.

Justin and Jeanne accompanied by Janice Graham attended the funeral for Allen Bell at the Catholic Church in East Angus.

Miss Marlene Lowry of Kitchener, Ont., who was a guest of her parents for a few days at Christmas has returned to

Kitchener. While here she went along with Justin and Jeanne and syblings to Diane and Rodney Lowry's for Chrstimas in Kingsley Neighbourhood. Then on Sunday, Marlene and our family joined the others at Janice and randy hartwell's. Charla and Johnny Little of Randboro and Anne of Cookshire also were there. This was the big Christmas for this branch of the lowry family.

On Tuesday, we attended the shower for Stephanie Lowry at the United Church here in Sawyerville.

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## Death

**PARSONS, Doris Mildred** - September 15, 1911 - December 23, 2004 - Born in Hillhurst outside of Coaticook, Que., to parents Albert George Parsons and Sarah Elizabeth Schoff, the third of three children. Mildred first attended a one-room schoolhouse near the family farm where she was born, later proceeding through Coaticook High School and on to complete her teaching certificate in 1939 at Macdonald College on Montreal's west island. Mildred's 30+ year teaching career included both elementary and secondary instruction in Richmond, Cowansville, Sutton and McMasterville, Quebec, before her retirement in the mid 1960's. One of Mildred's most heart-felt, lifelong passions was for travel...a passion that took her to Portugal, the Caribbean, the Pacific Northwest, and frequently to Great Britain to visit with friends and distant relatives. Her travels took her far, but Mildred loved the beauty of the countryside and the autumn colours of Quebec's "Township." The panorama of Mounts Sutton, Bromont, Orford and surroundings were a constant source of pride and inspiration. Mildred also had a fond love of music, and played the piano herself. At the Robinson Resident in Cowansville, she could often be found standing and singing around the piano, either alone or with her co-residents. Predeceased by her brother J. Arthur Parsons of Melbourne, Que., in July, 1967 and her sister Bernice McClatchie in October of 1987, Mildred is survived by her sister-in-law Esther Parsons, her nephew Albert Parsons of North Vancouver, BC, niece Roberta Armstrong of Cobourg, Ontario, great-nieces and nephews Leanne, Michael, Kimberley, Christopher, Hamish and Gregor. Beloved friend and member of the congregation of the Emmanuel United Church in Cowansville. In her later years, Mildred was a resident of Cowansville's Foyer Robinson Residence. Special thanks to her special friends Reg and Edie Holliday for their love and friendship. Mildred passed away quickly and peacefully at the Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital on the evening of December 23rd.

*May God Guide You In Your Further Travels, Mildred.*

*We will love and miss you forever!*

Service to be held at 2 p.m., at the Emmanuel United Church, Cowansville on Friday, January 7th, 2005. Interment will be beside her parents in Moe's River Cemetery in Quebec's Eastern Townships in the spring. In lieu of flowers, Mildred would have appreciated donations to the Emmanuel United Church, 203 rue Principale, Cowansville, Quebec, J2K 1J3. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Desourdy Wilson Funeral Home, 104 Buzzell, Cowansville, Que., J2K 2N5, tel.: 450-263-1212, fax: 450-9557 e-mail info@desourdywilson.com

## Make a genuine effort not to be a burden

Dear Annie: My 24-year-old daughter, "Diana," and I are very close. This summer she will be marrying "Dave," a wonderful young man. I am happy for them. Dave has accepted a job 12 hours away from here, so they are planning to move. It is a terrific opportunity for both of them. Diana will be able to continue working toward her doctorate, and Dave can advance in his career.

I am a single parent, and Diana is my only child. I have a disability, and although I can make it on my own, there will be things I will have to get help with. I don't have any other family around. Knowing this, Dave and Diana have asked me to move with them.

I respect that they will be a married couple, and I don't want to be the mother-in-law who is always in the way, so I said "no." I love Diana enough to let her go. Unfortunately, the more this becomes a reality, the harder it is getting for me. I am seriously rethinking making the move, but I want to do what will be best for them. Any words of wisdom for me? — Brenda in California

Dear Brenda: We commend you for putting your daughter's happiness before your own. However, that doesn't mean you can't have your cake and eat it, too.

Look for a place within a short distance of Dave and Diana's new home. As soon as you are settled, check out local social organizations, or support groups for the disabled, so you will have friends of your own and a life independent of your daughter. If you make a genuine effort not to be a burden, Diana and Dave will cherish having you nearby.

Dear Annie: I read your column every

### Annie's Mailbox

day and really enjoy it, including the recent column about a woman who stopped showing an interest in her husband both physically and emotionally. She withdrew from her friends and family and spent all her time running and exercising.

Your response was that she may be depressed. I gotta tell you, when I read this, I nearly jumped off the chair. This woman may be having an affair.

When I was having my affair, I ran at our local high school track every single day and even lost 30 pounds. I was euphoric and wanted to look good for "him." I pulled away from my husband because I wanted to be alone to daydream. I certainly did not want to spoil that romantic feeling by being with my husband. I stopped seeing friends and family and no longer attended social functions. I didn't want to slip up about this affair, and if I didn't see anyone, I wouldn't have to lie.

I could be off base and the poor woman could very well be depressed, but I must tell you, I saw myself in that letter. — New York

Dear New York: You weren't the only reader who mentioned the possibility that the woman was running to another man, and it's true that the "symptoms" are similar. Either way, we hope counseling is in the picture for this couple.

Dear Annie: I have a question for you. Am I expected to give a tip to a tow-truck driver who comes to help me through AAA? I pay quite a bit to have an AAA membership, and when I recently needed it because I got a flat tire, the tow-truck driver

hung around waiting for a tip. I did not have any cash on me and felt uncomfortable. I said "thank you" numerous times and then just left.

If I'd had the money, should I have tipped him? — Bergen County, N.J.

Dear Bergen: According to AAA, members are never expected to tip. It is one of the benefits of membership, although if the person feels that the tow-truck driver has performed service above and beyond, tipping is certainly permitted.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column.

### Surplus?

Our government runs a surplus  
Almost every year.  
It's become their mantra,  
A truth that they hold dear.

So I thought I'd copy them  
How could I go wrong.  
I made up a budget  
To follow all year long.

Of course I had to make some cuts.  
The dentist was the first.  
I didn't get the roof repaired  
So it went from bad to worse.

I cut out extras for the kids  
No more sports or art.  
Sure it caused me problems,  
Nearly tore my home apart.

While my family was unhappy  
I didn't affect me  
For I spent time at work a lot  
And lived in luxury.

When the year was over,  
The columns added up.  
While it's true we had a surplus,  
Our quality of life, just sucked.

So I looked up surplus?  
Was I surprised, you bet.  
It said what's left over  
After obligations met.

This then makes me wonder  
Can Paul Martin read,  
Or is it that he's all wrapped up  
In a rich mans cult of greed.

How can he say surplus  
When he hasn't taken care  
Of things so fundamental  
As housing and health care.

Our infrastructure crumbles,  
Our army runs on fumes.  
Our government is looking like  
The land of Loonie-Toons.

They need to show compassion  
For the people sea to sea,  
But for me it doesn't matter,  
I'm voting NDP.

Wayne Robinson

## Canadian Royal Legion Branch #10 Election held Nov. 29



1st row (front) Huguette Jacques, treasurer; Paul Pelchat, ex-president; Gilles Lussier, president (2005); Jean Luc Préfontaine, 1st vice-president; Laurier Jacques, 2nd vice-president.

2nd row (back) Estelle Gosselin, director; Monique Bélanger, director; Gérard Cloutier, director; Patricia Bilodeau, secretary.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: N equals M

"ZWMJ JDBW, FL NLPF NWY...
M OWZOWFIMJ TLNOZLNDPW
EWFHWWY FGW DRWMJ MYR FGW
OLPPDEJW."
- EWZFFZMYR ZIPPWJJ

PREVIOUS SOLUTION - "The only way to have a friend is to be one."
- Ralph Waldo Emerson
"Loyalty is what we seek in friendship." - Cicero
(c) 2005 by NEA, Inc. 1-5

KIT N' CARLYLE



HERMAN



"He keeps forgetting his name."

ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



GRIZWELLS



SOUP TO NUTS



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Have something to sell? Make your classified stand out. For \$10.00 more per day, run a photo with your classified! Deadline: 2 days before publication. Drop by our office in Sherbrooke or Knowlton. (819) 569-9525.

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(20 words)

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# Your Birthday

Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2005

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Make sure you know exactly what you're getting yourself into before accepting a social invitation today. It could end up costing you far more than it would be worth.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Be exceptionally careful today about what and to whom you reveal the secrets of your trade. There's a good chance your words will get back to your competitors and work against you.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) — As always, humility will be music to everyone's ears today, while tooting your own horn will end up sounding like a loud brassy sour-note band. Play it soft and low-keyed.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) — It usually isn't too wise to mix business and friendships, and today could prove that statement true. If a misunderstanding occurs, it could jeopardize a serious commercial commitment.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) — People under your sign can at times be loners and simply not want to be around anyone, but today teamwork will be called for, so be prepared to work in tandem with others and cut your losses.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) — The most effective way to get cooperation and productivity out of co-workers today is to magnify their virtues and minimize their faults. Re-

verse this adage and they'll become useless.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) — Putting restrictions on your friendships or limitations on your congeniality will yield indifference and/or hostility, not to mention you being labeled as self-serving. To have a friend, you must be a friend.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) — Refuse to listen today when others attempt to tell you something that they believe could be helpful to you and you'll miss out on clues that can bring you happiness and success.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You'll be pleasant and congenial around others today, as long as no one attempts to offer you suggestions for a better way of doing something. Unfortunately, you'll take it as criticism.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Don't misconstrue a favor someone is trying to bestow on you today as being a putdown on your abilities to provide for yourself. Even if it's done with a lack of taste, the intentions are kindly.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Guard against how and what you say to others today and modify your intensity. If you dish something out on a crude platter, you might be the only one left eating the swill.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — If you're not careful, you could get caught up in the crossfire of someone else's war. If you lose your cool over it, you'll end up entering their battle of potshots.

Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2005

North 01-05-05			
♠ K 9 5 3			
♥ A K 10 8			
♦ A K 2			
♣ 10 3			
West		East	
♠ 8 4		♠ A Q J	
♥ J 7 4		♥ Q 9 6 5	
♦ Q 10 8 5 4		♦ 7 6 3	
♣ 9 8 5		♣ K Q J	
South			
♠ 10 7 6 2			
♥ 3 2			
♦ J 9			
♣ A 7 6 4 2			
Dealer: West			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	1 ♦	Pass
	Pass	4 ♠	All pass
Opening lead: ♥ 4			

Prague.

Look at only the North and South hands. You are in four spades. West leads a low heart. What would be your basic plan?

North was Ron Hoffman, from Israel. He decided to call his hand an 18-pointer because of all those aces and kings. Also, opening one diamond rated to make it easier to find a good major-suit fit. Then, when Gilad Ofir responded one spade (modern players don't pass out one of a minor when having a major to show and no fit for the minor), Hoffman overbid slightly by jumping to game (but nowadays everyone who smells a game bids that game).

Ofir started with only five top tricks. And at first glance, he had to concede three spades and a club. But watch how he made one of those losers evaporate.

After winning trick one with dummy's heart king, declarer cashed the heart ace and ruffed a heart in hand. Back to dummy with a diamond. South ruffed the heart 10 with his spade 10. When West couldn't overruff, suddenly there was a chance. Declarer played another diamond to the dummy and ruffed the last diamond before ducking a club to East. Back came a club, but South won with his ace and ruffed a club on the board. Everyone had three cards left. Dummy held the K-9-5 of spades, East his A-Q-J. When Ofir called for a low spade, East was held to two trump tricks.

## The juniors can play, too

By Phillip Alder

The International Bridge Press Association gives an award for the best piece of play by a junior. Here is last year's winning deal, which occurred during the European Youth Team Championship in

## CROSSWORD

### ACROSS

- 1 British bucks
- 5 Cheese choice
- 10 Carrier bag
- 14 A single time
- 15 Phi Beta \_\_
- 16 Of grades 1 to 12
- 17 West and Jemison
- 18 German city
- 19 Alda or Ladd
- 20 Display the height of anger
- 23 Overflow letters
- 25 \_\_-friendly
- 26 Fender flaws
- 27 Display the length of restlessness
- 32 Preferences
- 33 Eye element

- 34 Atlanta-based medical org.
- 37 Words of understanding
- 38 Make laugh
- 40 English title
- 41 Perth's river
- 42 Mosque leader
- 43 Ancient city on the Nile
- 44 Display the peak of partying
- 47 Oregon capital
- 50 " \_\_ the fields..."
- 51 Boom times
- 52 Display the dimensions of cabin fever
- 57 Adventure hero Williams
- 58 Remain suspended
- 59 Favorites
- 62 Module
- 63 Watchful

- 21 Hanoi holidays
- 22 Altar assents
- 23 Divide
- 24 Mrs. Gorbachev
- 28 Shoe width
- 29 Log chute
- 30 Bandleader Brown
- 31 Indefinite pronoun
- 34 Merrymakers
- 35 Wilt
- 36 Staff signs
- 38 French pal
- 39 Pas' mates
- 40 Ending of pamphlet?

- 42 Metrical foot
- 43 Blackbird
- 44 Newscast location
- 45 Looms
- 46 Home, figuratively
- 47 Rugby formation
- 48 Coeur d' \_\_, ID
- 49 Demarcate
- 53 Annual melt
- 54 Perforation
- 55 Mr. Knievel
- 56 Org. of Park and Pak
- 60 Dead heat
- 61 Mineral spring

### Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

A	S	P	S		I	S	M	S		B	R	I	A	N	
S	K	I	P		N	E	A	R		A	E	R	I	E	
H	I	G	H	P	L	A	I	N	G	C	A	R	D		
					E	R	A	T	O		E	G	O		
E	S	C	R	O	W	S		A	V	E	N	G	E	R	
T	U	L	I	P	S		B	R	A	D		U	A	E	
S	P	I	C	E		S	L	E	D		O	T	T	O	
					M	A	L	E	M	O	N	A	R	C	H
Z	E	A	L		X	E	N	A		E	E	R	I	E	
E	N	T		M	O	L	D		S	W	A	I	N	S	
E	V	E	R	E	T	T		H	A	R	N	E	S	S	
					I	D	I		M	A	M	A	S		
C	H	I	E	F	C	H	E	S	S	P	I	E	C	E	
T	B	I	L	L		U	N	T	O		D	O	L	T	
N	O	I	S	Y		E	D	E	N		E	N	I	D	

### DOWN

- 1 Shiite pilgrimage destination
- 2 Actress Merkel
- 3 Skating sport
- 4 Lucy's spouse
- 5 Drawing
- 6 Paiute's neighbor
- 7 \_\_ dixit
- 8 On \_\_ (as a gamble)
- 9 Sensible
- 10 Whaler's cohort
- 11 Exhausted
- 12 Sing-song mode of speaking
- 13 Some rulers

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14					15						16			
17					18						19			
			20		21						22			
23	24				25						26			
27				28				29	30	31				
32								33				34	35	36
37							38	39				40		
41					42						43			
					44				45	46				
47	48	49							50			51		
52						53	54	55			56			
57						58					59	60	61	
62						63					64			
65						66					67			

By Philip J. Anderson

1/5/05

## SSSC blasts into 2005



One of the nicest things about a new year is that on the evening of New Year's Day the President of the Sherbrooke Snow Shoe Club holds 'President's Reception'. On this evening it is his responsibility to organize the event which will set the tone for the year to come. On Jan. 01, 2005 our President Harry Brown took the chair at this year's event. What an Evening! Supper was scheduled for 6:00 sharp. By 5:30 you would have to look hard for a parking space. Ken Porter, the Sgt. at Arms was responsible to get all the cars parked. He did a great job considering he did not wear his skates. The parking lot was an ice rink suitable to sponsor an NHL game, had we an NHL. Inside, the Club was aglow with color. Red coats and pretty ladies in appealing dresses filled the big hall. Janice Graham's nimble fingers were coaxing 'toe tapping' music from the piano while members and friends gathered for this Season's first big event. There was an excited chatter and growing level of excitement as friend met friend, best wishes were exchanged, and we all exuded anticipation and hope for this new year just beginning. Promptly at 6:00 P.M., Pres Harry called us to order, 2nd Vice Alan Cox explained where the fire exits are, Rev. Doreen Moffat asked the Blessing and we sat down to supper. Pres. Harry told his 'Hairy' joke, and the White Knights came rolling in with a delicious and hot soup. We then enjoyed roast beef, mashed potatoes, mixed green and yellow beans and a delicious cream pie. While we still had some fluids the Pres rose to give a toast to the Ladies telling them how much we appreciate their attendance at our Ladies' Nites. Harry's wife Nancy replied to the toast indicating, on the part of the ladies, their appreciation at being invited. Pres Harry introduced his Head table and then thanked: The Bob Davidson family for the great decorations; Ken Porter for his work as Sgt-At-Arms; the White Knights including those drafted; and finally The Lacroix family for the excellent dinner. Guests were then introduced. They were: Marietta Freeland, Martin Sadler, Rev John Barry Forsyth, Cliff and Vi McCormick, Galen and Doreen Morrisette, The Rev. Dean Moffat family, Don and Eileen Drew, Shiela and Elmer Andrews, Jackie Patrick, Joan and Mort Powell, Bob Bishop and Fern McConnell, Ada Hicks, Heather Stewart, Linda and Alan Bell, Alan and Nancy Rowell, Jim and Hazel Ennis, Bonnie, Taylor and Alan Juby. The Jubys said "Chummy says 'hello' to Jean Wilson McNeil". (private message)

Now that every one knows everybody else, Pres. Harry invited Bruce Patton to lead a sing-along. Roger Tetreault's wife Jean is still ailing so Old Cec, a chorister in 1977, had been conscripted to fill in for tonight. Yikes! Wearing his top hat, Cec helped all to settle down their supper by leading with the spiritual "Hallelu". The song praises God for his gifts by interchanging 'Praise Ye the Lord' with the Hebrew equivalent 'Hallelu'. First the women sing 'Hallelu', with the

men answering 'Praise Ye the Lord'. Then the men sing the 'Hallelu' with the ladies singing the interpretation. Then, as all become familiar with the tune, the song repeats with each group standing as they sing their part, and sitting for their silences. By the last 'Praise the Lord' the volume was rattling the rafters, and people felt a little less 'stuffed'. The next song was chosen by the audience, and the third was a "Special". Like many of us, Bruce had been disturbed by the terrible devastation and ruin in South East Asia. He had written a song "I'd like to teach the world to care" to the tune of the similar song. He called for eight choir singers, gave them the words, and, as recruited White Knights 'passed the hat' for donations toward this crisis area of the world, the choir sang "open up your hearts, open up your hands, Contribute to this worthy cause, and help your fellow man". We all voted as to which charity, from those with government approval, we would send any monies donated. At last count more than \$1060 was to be given to the Canadian Red Cross. The Government promises to match with an equivalent amount. We must congratulate Bruce for the idea and Club Members for their empathy with these devastated peoples. The last line of Bruce's song says it all: "The Snow Shoe Club has played a part, to make a brighter day". The sing-song ended by our all standing to join in singing that rousing Hymn "The Battle Hymn of the Republic". You could almost hear the marching of God's troops.

Each year the Club presents a trophy to a Club member who, in the opinion of the last three recipients, 'has given the most of himself to make our Club successful, and a happy place in which to be'. The trophy given is the 'Loomis Trophy', in honour of Dan Loomis, a popular member taken from us at a young age. Last year's winner Ron Smith rose to announce this year's winner: Mr. Wendell Cass. Wendell is a most enthusiastic member. He was quick to recommend, and then to volunteer for the Club's building being refurbished. He recruited men to help him and was a 'hard to please' foreman. He is the guy 'that gets the sun up', and Ron always knew that when the phone rang at 6:30 in the morning, it would be Wendell on the other end of the phone. Not only Ron, but all of us who agreed to assist found that 'Wendell meant NOW not at some future date'. So, when you see the new porch, the brighter downstairs, the new sofas and chairs, the new Lady's wash room, etc, know that Wendell was often responsible. A popular choice and we all rose to applaud as Wendell came forward to accept (did I detect a tear of pride?). After the photos had been taken and the noise died down, Pres Harry rose to announce the winners of the head-table floral displays. Amanda Moffat and Violet McCormack were all smiles as they came to pick up these lovely prizes. Stewart Robinson then came forward to pick up his half n half winnings.

Our guest speaker for the evening was then introduced, Mr Robert Gales. Bob is a new and enthusiastic member at the SSSC. At the Club we are all equal and often do not know what the next guy does for a living. Bob has enjoyed a varied career in fund raising and management of non-profit organi-



Bob Gales

zations. He has specialized in strategic planning and administration of start-up and small companies, and, here in Sherbrooke the joint campaign being established for the University, CHUS, and affiliated institutions. He spoke particularly on: Why is Sherbrooke important? He noted that Sherbrooke has the energy provided by two universities, quality hospitals and health care facilities, considerable research activity, young people, a superior proximity to major markets as well as political/cultural/academic leadership. He continued by describing some of the activity going on here that is making use of these valuable assets. He spoke of a project ready to be funded at U de S, for forest regeneration, particularly at rebuilding the hardwoods depleted in this area over the past century. With scientists in the USA and England addressing this problem, and with the Coulombe Report having drawn attention to the serious problems of forest management here in Quebec, local scientists are working on this problem and have already developed some solutions. He then spoke of the Gamma Knife, to which our own Sherbrooke Hospital Foundation contributed \$1 million, and how this gift is attracting quality research/scientific/clinicians to Sherbrooke. Dr. Brendan Kenny's team at the Neurosurgery Department are gaining world wide recognition for their development of chemical agents in the lab to be used to deliver treatment to assist in radiotherapy. He spoke of Doctors Bui and Benko perfecting a method of treating blood vessels from within rather than open heart

surgery and have developed World Class reputations for this cardiovascular treatment. Dr. Rejean Hebert, Dean of Medicine at the Sherbrooke Geriatric Institute has developed a major role in disseminating research information being done re understanding the affect of aging on our chromosomes, to clinicians and policymakers.

All in all Mr. Gales talk was one to give us a pride and insight into our area. The research being done is to all our benefit, the future of the area, its peoples including our children and, the benefit of the whole world. STICK OUT YOUR CHEST! Wyatt Savage thanked the speaker. We applauded him enthusiastically. Chairs were removed while the musical group "The Late Bloomers" prepared their instruments so that we could dance the night away. My personal opinion? - A great start for the new year.

The bad news is:- We lost long time Life member Fred Barton Slater who passed away Dec 23. Ernie Kimmis member since 1946/47 is in Hotel Dieu Hospital.

Don't forget Wednesday Jan 05 is Snow Walkers Nite. Supper is at 6:30. It is not to late to join the Club. If your thinking of joining do come Wednesday and ask for the writer.

Happy New Year,  
Respectfully submitted

Cec Blenkhorn, Hon. Secretary, SSSC.

# WIN

a pair of tickets!



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