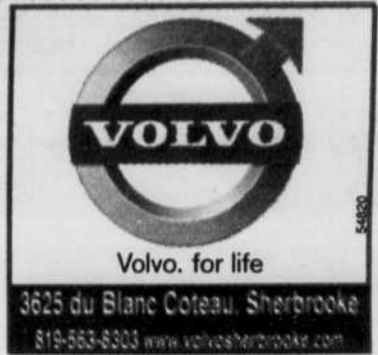


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THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2009

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Borderfest Celebrates 10 Years

5km run through the streets of Stanstead promises to be good time
Page 8



SARAH ROGERS

Last weekend, the Memphremagog police force inaugurated its new Magog headquarters. La Régie de police Memphrémagog is now based in the newly renovated city hall of what was then Magog Township on chemin Southiere. The new building, which cost about \$5 million to renovate, will house about 80 police staff. The regional police force, which covers an area including Magog, Austin, and Sainte-Catherine-de-Hatley, had outgrown its previous headquarters adjacent to Magog city hall.

BRIEF

Sherbrooke - The municipality of Ascot Corner has received a \$425,000 grant to upgrade its water purification and pumping system, it was announced yesterday.

In a release from the Quebec Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Regions and Territorial Occupation, Joanne Gonthier, MLA for Mégantic-Compton, stated "this investment will ensure that Ascot Corner will be able to provide an essential service for its population who will benefit from infrastructure that conforms with the standards of the day."

Specifically, the project, financed under the provincial government's municipal infrastructure program, will see the town's water treatment facility upgraded and its Blouin pumping station completely rebuilt. The new station will include a new concrete well and two submersible pumps. In addition, a new storage pool will be installed to improve sludge management in the system.

The project will cost an estimated half-million dollars, with \$425,000 provided by the government. The municipality will make up the \$75,000 difference.

- MIKE MCDEVITT

HE SAYS, SHE SAYS...

"We called in the professional cleaning crew that night to have everything cleaned and sanitized."

LORRAINE CHEVARIE, ON THE APPEARANCE OF H1N1 AT NOR-DIA (THE RECORD, JUNE 17)



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Local News

BRIEFS

45k for swimming marathon

The ministère du Tourisme has announced \$45,000 in funding for the Traversée internationale du lac Memphrémagog taking place July 24 to August 2. The event, which brings competitors from around the world, consists of a 34-kilometre swimming marathon in the open waters of lake Memphrémagog. It also offers an opportunity for local businesses, artists and musicians to showcase their work to fans, athletes and tourists. The \$45,000 in funding from the ministère du Tourisme, contributed through the Programme de soutien au développement et à la promotion touristiques, will support the organisation de la Traversée internationale du lac Memphrémagog.

Raising money for Haiti

In order to bring aide to the people of Haiti, the Chambre de Commerce de Fleurimont has established a humanitarian project through the newly formed comité Brompton-Haïti (St-Denis-de-Brompton and Bromptonville). The comité will be organising a bottle collection at the église de St-Denis in order to raise money to buy goats for struggling Haitian families to use for food or as a source of income.

FEUS opposing Bill 38

The Fédération étudiante de l'Université de Sherbrooke (FEUS) is voicing its opposition to the proposed Bill 38 aimed at restructuring the governing boards of universities and Cegeps. FEUS claims that the bill would reduce administrative productivity and prevent effect governance, while reducing the representation of students and faculty. The FEUS says the government should seek to maintain an internal member majority, citing the recent difficulties at Université de Québec à Montréal (UQAM) as an example of the importance of the internal member voice in university administrative policy.



COURTESY

Hugh Maynard,, head of Qu'Anglo Communications and Bob Donnelly, QCGN president

Save the CBC campaign gets underway

By Sarah Rogers
SHERBROOKE

A province-wide coalition asking for the massive reinvestment of Canada's public broadcaster has launched an English-language campaign.

Community leaders come together in Montreal Wednesday to promote the I Am We Are for a Quality Public Broadcaster, a movement responding to budget cuts to both the CBC and Radio-Canada across the country.

The effort builds on the French-language Je Suis Nous Sommes campaign that is collecting signatures to approach the federal government for more stable financing of both broadcasters in Quebec.

In late March, Radio-Canada, along with its English-language counterpart CBC, announced that a \$171 million budget shortfall would force the public broadcaster to cut about 800 jobs as well as radio and television programming.

As a result, Radio-Canada in the Estrie will lose its midday television news broadcast as of June 20.

The Quebec Community Network - CBC's radio broadcast off the island of Montreal, will lose its producer while its Sherbrooke reporter has been cut to part-time.

"The Quebec Community Network of CBC is one of the few places our communities can turn to see themselves reflected in the news," said Hugh Maynard, a long-time CBC community correspondent and head of Qu'Anglo Communications. He spoke at Wednesday's event, coordinated by the non-

profit Quebec Community Groups Network (QCGN.)

"The English-speaking population (in Quebec) lives in pockets all over the province," he said. "And there are 30,000 of them in the Townships alone who are going to be hearing less about themselves."

Maynard has served as a community correspondent for 17 years, as a regular guest on CBC Radio-noon's farm panel. That program is expected to be cut from two hours to one later this summer.

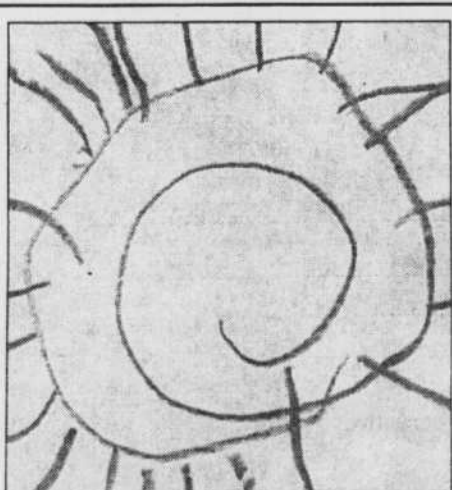
"That is their only program based in Quebec that reaches the entire province, excluding the Outaouais," Maynard said. "The network decision to cut that to one hour will have a huge impact."

There are no private English radio stations outside of Montreal since the shutdown of CKTS in Sherbrooke two decades ago, Maynard added.

Radio-Canada journalist Guy Lapointe, who heads the I Am We Are campaign in the Montreal area, said he was thrilled to see English-speaking and French-speaking Quebecers join hands to fight for quality broadcasting in Quebec.

"We are going through hard times and the support has given me a boost in my efforts to try and convince the powers that be that a strong public broadcasting system is essential to the very fabric of Canada and Quebec," Lapointe said. "But even better, I am enjoying the warm feeling of two communities speaking with one heart."

For more on the I Am We Are For a Quality Public Broadcaster campaign, go to www.iamweare.ca.



Four-year-old Anthony Green has given The Record his masterpieces depicting your weather forecast.

Ben by Daniel Shelton



Magnola buildings to remain standing for several months yet: manager

By Stephen McDougall
ASBESTOS

The site manager of the defunct Magnola magnesium smelter complex says the buildings scheduled for demolition will not see a wrecking ball until the end of the year, despite the granting of a demolition permit earlier this month by the town.

"We don't foresee the main electrolysis building going down before the end of the year," said Bernard Hince.

"It is still being stripped of equipment and decontaminated. The other buildings could take up to 18 months before they go down."

Hince added that the buildings could still be saved if an interested buyer makes a serious offer.

"At the last minute, we can still stop the demolitions if someone wants to buy the complex," he said.

"But if not, then our goal is to clear the land of all buildings and then clean up and sell the land."

Last year, Hince had said the site was ready for demolition this coming summer. But he now says the demolition company needs more time given that not all the salvagable equipment has been removed from the buildings.

"We have to wait for the demolition company to finish clearing the buildings because they now have possession of them and have set up their own schedule."

The demolition company is Euro Dismantling Services (EDS), based in Sheffield, England, which specializes in treating and disposing of toxic industrial sites. When Magnola was operating, it used Hydrogen and Chlorine chemicals, along with electricity, to transform asbestos waste tailings into magnesium ingots. The byproducts of that process were toxic hydrocarbons that had to be stored in a basin on the site.

Hince said EDS now owns the buildings, while European-based Xstrata owns the land. Xstrata acquired the Magnola complex when it bought out Falconbridge Mining in 2006.

The following year, Xstrata stated it was not interested in making magnesium and said it would raze the complex if it could not find serious buyers.

Aside from the main electrolysis smelter building, three other building cores, including the company's offices, are scheduled to come down. Hince said once the demolitions are over, all that will be left standing will be the guard house, a pumping station and a water treatment facility.

"We need the pumping station and the treatment facility to clean the water from the ground and from the basin," he said.

"Once that is done, they will be taken down as well."

The complex was constructed by initial owner Noranda Inc. of Toronto for \$720 million in 2000, helped along by a 20 percent ownership stake by the Quebec government. In 2003, Noranda shut the complex down and laid off 350 employees when it realized it could not compete against cheaper Chinese magnesium producers.

Education and employment all in one

By Corrinna Pole
SHERBROOKE

The staff at the employment and career counselling centre, Job Links, will soon be moving from their current Lennoxville offices to the New Horizons Adult Education Centre on Galt west in Sherbrooke.

"Ultimately we want to offer better services and this way we can offer these services," said New Horizons Centre Director, Camille Faucher. According to Faucher, the move will allow both centres to offer SARCA (Services d'accueil, de référence, de conseil et d'accompagnement), which was adopted by the Ministry of Education and further developed by the Eastern Townships School Board, to assure better reception, referral, counselling, and support services to the Anglophone population.

"SARCA is for anyone looking to develop career objectives or who is thinking about going back to school," Faucher told The Record. "They need service to accompany them through their goal process and to help develop a network of people and organizations."

SARCA services are not new but the way each centre utilizes them is. "It's not something new just a renew-

al," said Faucher. "Job Links is responsible for the SARCA service and by combining the services together we will be able to offer better services."

The rationalization of services is also logical in the current economical situation. Although there is an assumption that Job Links is primarily used by Lennoxville residents, statistical evidence shows this to not be the case.

"Since we offer job links, we have to make monthly reports to the ministry and our statistics showed that only 30 percent of our clients came from Lennoxville, the rest came from seven different (areas) such as Windsor, East Angus, Sherbrooke, Lac Megantic and so on. We don't feel our clients are going to be disadvantaged by the move."

Faucher says the two services used to share a building years ago but, due to needs, the two separated. The collaboration of services once again will prove to be advantageous to clients of both centres.

"All along the process of continuing education or pursuing career training our students can use the services of Job Links," said Faucher. "Services have also been added such as CPME which is counseling preparation to prepare our people for employment. This can be useful for a client who is completing a course so it's

really a more elaborated service."

The Job Links centre and resource area will move to the third floor of the building, above the adult education classrooms and workstations will be available throughout the building.

"The clients who require more assistance at the work station will be able to work near the secretary at the two workstations in the central office," said Faucher. "Those who want to be more independent can work on the third floor. There is one councilor downstairs as well to help and we will always have easy access to consultants."

Faucher says she has been very busy over the last few weeks trying to make the centre a more welcoming place for the current Job Links team as well as the clients.

"Clients like to be in a cozy environment so I've been working to provide that and trying to make the resource area more comfortable," Faucher said. "I'm really looking forward to it. We are excited about this prospect and think it will be a very positive move."

The phone number for Job Links will remain the same but as of July 14th their new address will be at the New Horizons Adult Education Centre located at 2365 Galt Street West in Sherbrooke.

ROADWORK BRIEFS

Epoxy roadwork paint could cause damage to vehicles

The ministère des Transports is informing drivers using autoroutes 10, 55 and 410 of roadwork to repaint sections of the highways, beginning June 22. On autoroutes 10 and 410, work will take place in the Sherbrooke area while on the 55, roadwork will affect the area between Sherbrooke and Ulverton. The work will be conducted between 7am and 6pm, Mondays to Saturdays inclusive.

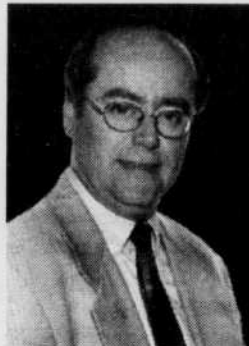
The ministry notes that the epoxy paint being used in this roadwork takes an hour to dry after application and can cause damage to vehicles when wet, hence the security markers in the affected areas. The ministère des Transports is not responsible for any splatter damage to vehicles that do not respect these markers.

Roadwork

The City of Sherbrooke is advising residents of roadwork in front of 297 Dufferin street. Rue Dufferin will be closed to traffic between 7am and 6pm on June 18 to complete the work.

Garbage Collection

The City of Sherbrooke is advising residents that garbage collections scheduled for Wednesday June 24 and Wednesday July 1 will continue as scheduled despite the holidays.



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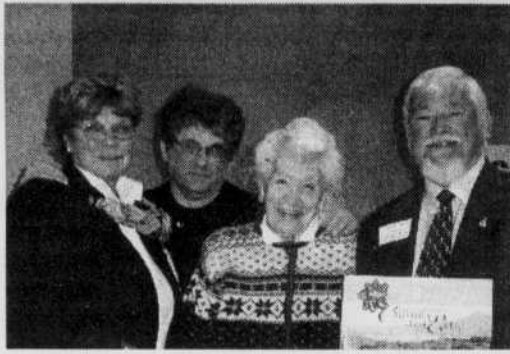


Subscribers, we need your help! Summer is always a busy time at our office, with people moving, stopping their subscriptions during vacations, etc. As our staff also takes vacations during this time, it would be a big help if you could let us know of any changes at least one week in advance. This way, your requests won't get lost in the summer rush. We thank you for your understanding and have a great summer!

THE RECORD

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ACCOLADES



Lennoxville resident Joan Thompson (centre right) was one of several seniors awarded for their contributions to the community by the Table régionale de concertation des aînés de l'Estrie last week.

The regional seniors organization recognized seven outstanding seniors who have contributed to the well-being of their communities through generous voluntary work at their Prix Hommage ceremony June 9.

"We were all very happy to have Mrs. Thomson with us," said Ginette Mercier of La table régionale. "There really is a warmth about her that touches people in a very special way."

Since coming to the Eastern Townships in 1957, Thomson became best-known for welcoming students from the Lower North Shore and elsewhere in Quebec who came to study at Alexander Galt Regional High School.

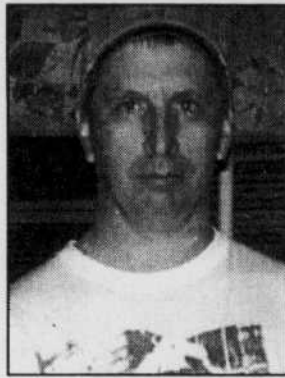
Thomson has also been an active member of the Lennoxville & Ascot Historical Society as well as OPALS (Older Persons with Active Lifestyles.)

Above, Thomson is pictured at the Prix Hommage ceremony with Heather Bowman, far left, Eric Manolson and Claude Quintin, right.

-Sarah Rogers

Columnists

The Good ol' Days



DAVE ELLIS
Dave's Den

I was walking out of the Caisse one day when I ran into an old buddy of mine who comes to Stanstead from time to time.

Russ was in town visiting relatives and was doing a bit of last-minute banking before heading back to Ontario. In our passing, we briefly reflected upon our younger (and wilder) years when we used to hang out at the old Maples Hotel on Dufferin street.

Back during what I consider the Maples' heyday in the mid 1980's, the Stanstead bar was party central for the countless country and western enthusiasts in the community and beyond. The Maples was definitely a household name for the live musical entertainment that occurred there every Friday and Saturday nights. Local bands such as Bigfoot, White-liner and Concordes rocked the establishment to the latest sounds of the era's country music and had many patrons strutting away on the

crowded dance floor on weekends. What Russ and I enjoyed about the Maples wasn't only the great tasting beer or the riveting music. Nor was it the Daisy Duke females who filled the bar every week. Our pleasure was the joyous hours we spent at the pool table. We were more or less the rulers of nine-ball action there. Every weekend, we were there to challenge any willing participant to a friendly game of pool. We even played through distractions such as a booming jukebox, the high-pitched acoustics of the live country music and of course, the smiling divas that sauntered past the pool table on their way to the ladies room.

The pool table was operated when quarters were dropped into a slot that tripped a mechanism that released the balls. They were then sent rattling out into the open from the table's undercarriage. The Maples' roadhouse rule usually said that the same two people couldn't play consecutive games if another player had money heaped on the table waiting to play. If quarters were lined up near the slot, it meant there was an opponent lingering in the wings.

However, Russ and I found out that this rule didn't apply one particular evening at the Maples. It all started when the both of us arrived at the bar around 9pm one Saturday

night. As always, the bar was in full swing with the capacity crowd anxiously awaiting the first musical set of the band. Since Russ and I were never without our own cue sticks, we made straight for the table only to find that a couple had dumped a considerable number of quarters onto the table ahead of us.

"What's this?" I whispered to Russ.

He was just as dumbfounded as I was. The couple, whom we'd never seen before, had obviously taken over the pool table for the night. The ston-clad big guy with the physique of a 300-pound NFL linebacker took aim with a pool stick and sent the cue ball crashing into a defenseless trio of other pool balls. His girlfriend, a stunning petite blonde, applauded with laughter. They then both scowled as I attempted to place a couple of quarters next to theirs.

"Sorry, friend. The table's ours tonight. Didn't you see all my coins stacked there?" he gave me a menacing glare.

Russ began to mildly argue with the guy which sent a few bystanders scurrying away as if a physical altercation was imminent. I then politely pointed out to the selfish couple that everyone in the bar had dibs on the table.

"Listen you two yahoos, Tex told you two in a nice way to get lost. Now scram before you get him mad." the Paris Hilton girlfriend snapped.

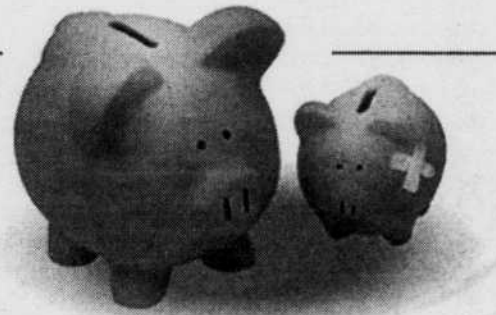
Not wanting to provoke the insubordinate Tex any further, I tried convincing Russ that it wasn't worth disputing with the two strangers over pool. However, Russ was quite visibly annoyed and continued to argue which turned into a shouting match about our rights on the pool table. This only sent a red-faced Tex into a rage that blasted him into orbit. Throttling the life out of the cue stick he was holding, he began marching towards Russ and me.

Suddenly, the bartender stormed out from behind the bar to halt the situation. Two of the bartender's associates also joined the fray to alleviate the tension. The bartender then ordered Russ and me to find a couple of stools at the bar to sit on to cool off and for the two aggressors to pick up their quarters and leave the bar. The overhead light to the pool table was quickly turned off and the table was closed by placing a sheet of plywood over it.

"I'll never forget you two! I'll meet up with you pansies someday!" Tex hollered along with a few curse words at us as he and Paris were being escorted by the associates out of the Maples.

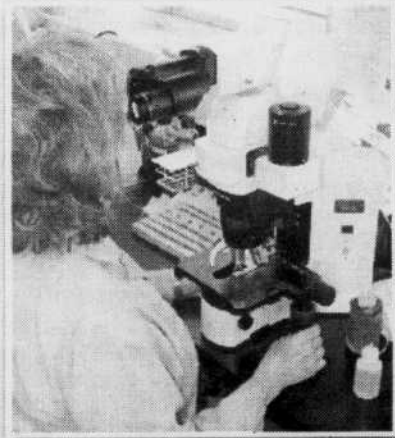
Almost twenty-five years later, I still have a gripping fear of encountering Tex each time I enter a bar, tavern or pool hall anywhere on the planet.

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Columnists

Grads, your future's just a flush away



ROSS MURRAY

Dear high school class of 2009,

I'm sorry I can't be with you in person to deliver this commencement address. Apparently, my invitation to speak at your school's graduation ceremony must have been lost in the mail.

Regardless, I wanted to take an opportunity to offer my words of wisdom to you before you head off to your future and your post-grad party.

When I considered what to say to the graduating class of 2009, I thought about what I would have liked to have known when I was a teenager on the cusp of adulthood. But since I still don't know a surefire system for selecting winning lottery numbers or how to pick up girls, I thought I would tell you what you can expect out of life.

Life is like the weather: unpredictable and filled with the occasional warning and hailstones the size of golf balls.

I wish that I could say with certainty what you will face as adults. I wish that I could tell you that you will all fulfill your dreams and be successful in everything you undertake. But let's be honest; chances are that many of you won't amount to much. I'm sorry, but it's simply a matter of statistical probability.

But I can offer you one certainty, Class of 2009:

You will clean toilets.

You may be saying, "No!" or "Pshaw!" or even "Pish-posh!" (in which case you probably spent a lot of time stuffed in your locker). But I can guarantee that this will be so.

Right now, as you sit there in your cap and gown, pretending to listen but actually playing the opening credits of "The A Team" over and over in your head, the probability of cleaning a toilet seems remote and revolting (coincidentally, also adjectives you'll someday use to describe your future spouse).

But take my word for it. You will clean toilets. And not just a gentle wipe but a full-on hands-in-the-bowl scrub.

Some of you may be saying, "Never. I'll have people on payroll to do that for me. Or roommates. Or roommates on payroll. I'll have it written into my prenuptial agreement that toilet-cleaning is not my job. I'll invent the self-clean-



COURTESY FREEFOTOS.COM

ing toilet. I'm never moving out of my parents' house."

All this may be so, but there will come a time and a place where you will have no one to depend upon to polish the porcelain but yourself. I for one never imagined that one day I'd find myself on my hands and knees complaining bitterly about the staining properties of my municipal water supply.

And here's the other piece of news, dear grads: cleaning toilets won't be the most disgusting thing you'll ever do. You will discover this after you leave these hallowed halls of learning and acquire children, pets and roommates. I won't go into detail here. Suffice to say that you haven't truly lived until you've pointed at the floor and cried, "Oh my God! What is THAT?"

In short, life is vile (rhymes with bile). Once you accept this fact, you become more prepared to deal with all the other inevitable unpleasantness life throws your way, like co-workers who use speaker-phones for no apparent reason, or the impenetrable language of

school report cards, or that totally unjustified restraining order, or roommates.

I could go on and on, graduates (see "inevitable unpleasantness" above). But what I want you to take away is that in life, you need to embrace and accept the repulsive, (which, coincidentally, is what my mother-in-law told my wife on our wedding day). Only then can you appreciate the miracle of a child's smile, or the satisfying "fshhft" of a beer bottle being opened.

So clean those toilets, Class of 2009. Clean them with gusto (although Comet generally does a better job).

Thank you and wake up.

WHAT THE...?

Long decades of fast living and reckless capitalism have left the world bordering on the edge of financial collapse, but the Mayor of Toledo, Ohio has found a fool-proof way to remedy the havoc recession has wreaked on his town.

In accordance with a by-law that prohibits parking on unpaved surfaces, the Mayor and his Division of Streets, Bridges and Harbours have begun handing out citations to citizens parking on these gravel locales, including but not limited to their own driveways.

It's one thing to get a ticket when your triple parked across three handicap spaces, next to two fire hydrants and blocking a Ambulance entrance, but quite another when \$25 dollar tickets start flying for parking in your own driveway.

When asked if these tickets had anything to do with the city's budget crisis, the Toledo Mayor ticketed the reporter for speaking out of turn and breathing.

BRIEFS

15th annual Warwick cheese festival on this weekend

By Stephen McDougall

WARWICK (SM) - Some 23 Quebec cheesemakers will be putting their best on the table for tasting this weekend at the 15th annual Warwick cheese festival.

"Our mission is to promote cheeses from Quebec and our festival gets bigger every year doing just that," said manager Pierre Gratton.

"We expect some 40,000 visitors this time from all over the province."

The heart of the four-day festival (June 18-21) is the sampling of various cheeses by the visitors through the sale of tasting coupons as admission. Gratton said apart from cheeses, the 55 exhibits will also include producers of local beers, wines and crackers. Also on hand will be cheese experts giving conferences and chefs demonstrating the latest cooking techniques.

Entertainment for the children will include clown and magician acts, skating parks and inflatable games. Adults will be offered evening concerts Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. On Thursday night, the bands will be Simple Plan and New Cities; Friday night's line up is Sens, Porn Flakes and Vilain Pingouin; On Saturday, it will be Normand Brathwaite, the Belvederes and the Ecole des Arts de Joliette.

Admission and coupons are \$10. Concert tickets are \$30 for Thursday's concert, \$12 for Friday and \$15 for Saturday.

For more info, call 819-358-4470 or e-mail Info@festivaldesfromages.qc.ca at

Warwick is located on highway 116 halfway between Danville and Victoriaville.

WALES

RÉSIDENCE · HOME

Comfort, Care and Countryside

Notice is hereby given that the 90th Annual Meeting of The Wales Home will be held on Friday, June 26th, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. at The Wales Home, Cleveland, Quebec for the purposes of receiving the financial statements and the Auditor's Report for the year ended March 31, 2009, electing Board of Governors, appointing Auditors, and considering such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Adair Mountain
President - June 2009

WALES

RÉSIDENCE · HOME

Comfort, Care and Countryside

Notice is hereby given that the 18th Annual Meeting of The Wales Home Foundation will be held on Friday, June 26th, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. at The Wales Home, Cleveland, Quebec for the purposes of receiving the financial statements and the Auditor's Report for the year ended March 31, 2009, electing a Board of Directors, appointing Auditors, and considering such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Marc André Martel
President - June 2009

Remember when?



Is this a bridge over troubled water or just a bridge in trouble? Both seem to be fair statements but when and how could this have happened. If you have any information on this photo, please let us know at newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com or by calling 819-569-6345

EDITORIAL

Iggy the Poster Boy

It looks like the big election tease is over and that Canadians can look forward to at least a summer relatively free of political annoyances.

At a meeting yesterday, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Opposition Leader/Coalition Abandoner Michael Ignatieff agreed to form that most useful of political bodies – a committee – to deal with the issue of Employment Insurance accessibility. One can almost hear the huge sigh of relief among the newly-unemployed across the land at the thought of a three-to-a-team bicker-fest finding ways to keep them off welfare. With only the summer to starve through, these people can look forward to the endless enjoyment of waiting – and waiting some more.

It will be recalled that the Ignatieff Liberals were threatening to join the NDP and the Bloc to block the government's latest budget report, thereby springing another election on a weary and wary citizenship. The key concern, it seems, was the failure of the Harper Conservatives to adjust EI eligibility to allow for wider and deeper coverage. It should also be recalled that it was only a few years ago that the Liberal government went to court in order to gain access to what was then a \$4 billion EI surplus to help pay off the deficit. Gee, think we could use that now?

One has to wonder what Iggy and the Harp really giggled about while pretending to be concerned about the country. Avoiding for several months providing the respite that all legally employed Canadians pay for, does not strike one as a particularly effective means of dealing with the problem, although it is indeed a very Canadian way.

Ignatieff, the poster boy for empathetic expression, staked a claim in this farce as the defender of the downtrodden victims of the recession and of a stingy vindictive government. He and his party have joined the other opposition parties in demanding the EI be available on a standardized basis – 360 hours of work – as opposed to the current system which has requirements ranging from 420 hours to 700, depending on where you live and the perceived condition of the job market. The Conservatives, on the other hand, rant about rewarding "only 90 days work" fearing an eruption of system abusers on the assumption, I'm sure, that the only unemployed in this country are lazy schemers.

In any event, it's all turned out merely to be a game, wherein both participants have assured themselves that they, at least, won't have to look for work this summer. Looks like a tie for first, with the unemployed finishing dead last again..

MIKE McDEVITT

LETTERS

This letter is In regards to the column "Dividing God and Ceasar" from pastor Steven Black dealing with the ethics and religious culture courses in Quebec public schools. One comment caught my attention and probably reflects the reason why this issue cannot be reconciled. From the column I quote.

"I dare suggest that this tension will not be resolved unless someone capable of representing state, someone fit to represent God and a person able to represent every individual can get together and work it out".

Now, getting someone to represent the state would be the easy part, someone to represent every individual is nonsensical since that would be the state. Finding someone to represent God is where rational discussion ends and I hope people can see why. Of the multitudes of gods around, which one should be represented? Lucky for all of us in Canada we have freedom of religion and freedom from religion, so narrowing down the Gods by majority rule is not an option because one belief is as valid as another. But let's say for arguments sake that we'll go with the Christian god. Would we go with the United Church or the pentecostal version? Maybe the Pope would be the best spokesman for God, although a southern baptist might have a differing opinion. Since there are as many different definitions of God as there are people who entertain the belief, how can anyone think there could possibly be a consensus on what he really wants? This could mean that every religious person would have to be represented.

In practical terms, every parent is free to indoctrinate their children at home and through a church with whatever belief they want. Schools are about preparing children for the adult working society they will enter. Irregardless of whether we are comfortable with a multicultural society for ourselves, don't we as parents want our children to function and prosper?

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A CONCERNED PARENT

THE RECORD

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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 Alta Newspaper Group Limited Partnership.

PM#0040007682

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Stanstead Review

SERVING STANSTEAD AND
ITS BORDER COMMUNITY



Also See:

The 10th Anniversary of
BorderFest

... see Page 8

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THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2009 page 7

Ye Olde Blacksmith Art Gallery

By Nancy Nourse
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

A press conference was held on June 16 to announce the opening of Ye Olde Blacksmith Art Gallery in Stanstead, located in a long forgotten building that once played a very important role in the early days of Stanstead. This particular building was once the site of the Blacksmith Shop. This first exhibition highlights the photographic talents of Gabriel Safdie and the remarkably original sculptures of Shannon Cooney. It is the goal of this gallery to present both established and up-and-coming artists who are still trying to find their niche in the art world.

Each of these works are as unique as the artists themselves. Gabriel Safdie is not only a scholar, a published writer/poet and philanthropist, but also a very sensitive man who through his photographs seeks out the beauty of the world around us that often go unnoticed. The photographs on exhibit were taken on his recent trip to China. Traveling through rural China, he has succeeded in capturing the lifestyle, the warmth and personality of the people who live there so that he can share them with others.

"China is a country that is very much in the news in terms of being a powerhouse of industry, which serves to keep us from enjoying the rich landscaping and architecture that also exist there, blind to the rich history and really hospitable people who live there, people who really love life for itself. Sadly, there are many areas in this part of the world that most tourists are not free to travel. If you are one of the lucky few who get to travel through these rural areas, you are able to truly enjoy the small towns and the fact that they are unscathed by bulldozers. Shanghai, for one, is an extraordinary place to visit. I feel I am one of the lucky ones to have experienced these treasures first-hand, my far-east travels facilitated by the fact that I am Managing Director of a fair-sized company working mostly with Asian sources," commented Safdie.

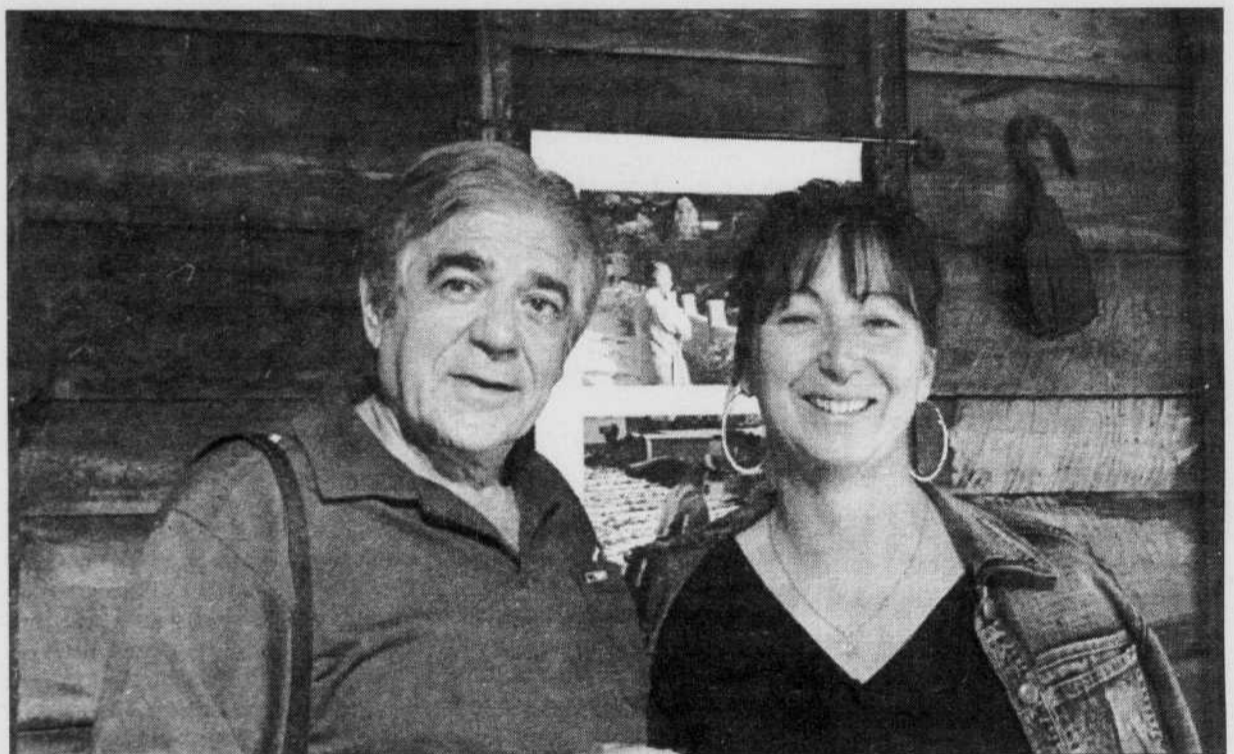
As you look around the gallery, you can't help but be drawn into Safdie's pictures and the stories that they have to tell, whether it is the children playing carefree in the streets, the women going about their daily activities or the gentleman who is sitting peeling

peels with the most amazing grin on his face as if he were accomplishing some great feat, as well as other signs of traditions that may have disappeared in many parts of China today. Safdie seems to have a special talent to capture that split-second sparkle or sadness in someone's eye or the spur of the moment type of thing that may be a normal part of life for these people but for us is something to wonder at.

As you approach this rustic-looking building, you can't help but notice the unusual tin squares that the outside of the structure is covered with. We are told that this is the original finish to the exterior walls, an embossed-looking tin which has been cut into squares, of a type that is rarely seen today. The interior walls have also been left as they once were, but are in amazingly good condition considering the building has remained unused for numerous decades. The sheer width and thickness of the boards in the floor and on the walls tell us that they definitely did not come from a lumber yard of today. Winding your way up to the loft, you find more of Safdie's photographs and examples of Cooney's creativity and artistic vision. The sounds of the rushing water from the nearby Tomifobia River add a revitalizing aspect to the gallery. The gallery is not large or glamorous but it is in its simplicity that this particular gallery so strongly reflects the talents of the artists who are sharing their works.

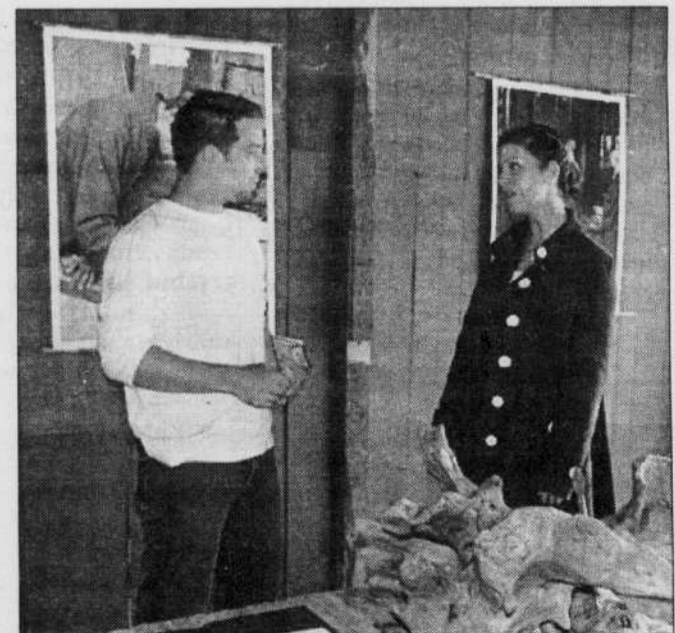
Several of the pieces of art that Shannon Cooney has brought to the exhibit are far from small and also large in artistic appeal. The basis of his artwork is driftwood that has been soaking at the bottom of a large body of water for many, many years, aptly named 'drunkwood.' Cooney spends

many hours working to clean each and every crevice, highlighting the beauty left behind by years and years of water erosion. In recent years, he has branched out into a form of art that combines both these amazing pieces of drunkwood with other natural elements such as stone, brass, bronze and other woods, creating not only sculptures but also pieces of furniture, such as the coffee table that was displayed at the Stanstead Granite-Expo Center. Cooney was also the first winner of the 1st International Sculptors' Symposium of Stanstead, chipping away at a 3 ft x 3 ft piece of Stanstead Grey granite to create what he felt resembled the legendary Lake Memphremagog monster Memphre, and what better place for Memphre to spend its days but to be ceremoniously returned to the depths of Lake Memphremagog, at the artist's



NANCY NOURSE

Gabriel Safdie explains some of the stories behind the pictures that he is exhibiting at the Ye Olde Blacksmith Art Gallery



NANCY NOURSE

Artwork by Shannon Cooney

suggestion.

The Gallery is located at 240 - A Dufferin Street, Stanstead. It will be open to the public as of Saturday, June 20 and will be open daily from June to September, showcasing duos of artists for everyone's enjoyment.

BRIEFS

Stanstead Caisse to Dress down for cancer

By Nancy Nourse
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Once again the Caisse Desjardins de Stanstead has stepped forward to support not only the residents of the Stanstead community but also the Foundation for Breast Cancer Research. They will be teaming up with the Caisse populaire Desjardins Christ-Roy de Chateauguay to create la journee tenue decontracte.

This event is explained as an opportunity for Caisse employees to not only dress in more casual clothes, other than their usual Caisse attire but also contribute to an important and worthwhile organization. Tuesday, June 23, has been designated as the day that this event will take place. Business will go on as usual but each employee wishing to participate must contribute the sum of \$5, to which the Caisse Desjardins de Stanstead administration will match these funds x 2 (\$10 per employee). The total sum will be then forwarded to the Breast Cancer Fondation.

This particular activity was initiated by the Caisse Desjardins de Christ-Roy de Chateauguay, mobilizing almost 8,500 employees of the Caisse Desjardins du Quebec in 2008, resulting in a donation on behalf of the Mouvement Desjardins of \$43,000. Madame Monique F. Leroux, president and chief of the Board of Directors, has confirmed the participation of Desjardins employees for 2009, with an objective of \$100,000.

Any Caisse Desjardins members are welcome to add their personal donation in the small box which will be placed at the reception desk and at the cashier counters. It is their hope that you will all be as generous as possible.

Borderfest celebrates 10 years



Avid runners from the Montreal area have been among the participants of the 5km course for the last several years

By Nancy Nourse
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Plans for the upcoming 10th anniversary celebration of Borderfest/Frontière en fête are hitting high gear as July 11 is rapidly approaching. While many of Saturday's activities will follow the same pattern as in previous years, there will be a few new activities that the organizing committee is sure will prove to be a great addition to the celebration. For the third year in a row, most of the activities will be take place on the Sunnyside Elementary School grounds, on Dufferin Street.

"We are pleased to see Stanstead College taking a more active role in the celebration this year with a BBQ at lunchtime and a kiosk, with a possible special attraction that has not yet been confirmed. As soon as it is, we will be sure to let you in on the big secret! Chris Haskell and his Cruise Night team will also be joining us on July 11. Cruise Night in Stanstead has proven over the last two years to be not only a great showcase for both the oldest and newest cars and trucks created by the automobile industry, but also a time where car buffs of all ages can enjoy these vehicles, which many owners have put a great deal of work into and show with a great sense of

pride. There are usually interesting tales to be told that accompany each vehicle," explained Chris Goodsell, Association des Loisirs de Stanstead President.

Mike Sudlow will once again be sharing his passion for athletics in organizing the 8th annual 5 km road race Le Coureur. This popular event boasts at least 90-100 participants each year, many from distant spots in Quebec and the U.S. and of course there are always a few familiar faces as local amateurs compete to see who is in the best shape (good-natured competition, of course). Watching these participants pour their efforts into reaching that finish line often has two results - it either gives you the incentive to get in better shape yourself or spawns a sense of sheer admiration for anyone who can run the 5km course and still be able to catch their breath afterwards.

Following the 5 km course through the streets and woodland areas around Stanstead will be the parade, which begins at the north end of Stanstead. Stanstead College and the Galt Rugby Team will also be participating in the parade this year. Representatives of both local industry and organizations are being encouraged to put in their own floats - give people an idea of what your group is all about.

The fireman's games are always a big hit with one and all as they cheer on their favourite team through a series of department-related events designed to be real crowd pleasers. There are six teams entered so far this year, many returning for the second and third time. There is traditionally a special sense of camaraderie that exists among firemen but an event such as this truly brings out the best in everyone, whether it is pushing and pulling a rather stocky or tall fireman through a narrow tube or encouraging one another to walk that plank without falling into the portable tank. The latter especially is a real crowd pleaser if the fireman fails to make it across, sometimes it can be great fun even if things do NOT go as planned.

Traditionally, the Colby-Curtis Museum participates in Border Fest activities by opening up the Museum (free of charge to visitors for the day) and sometimes selling popcorn on the front lawn, but this year they have changed the date of their annual Tastings of the Region event (usually held in November) to coincide with this community celebration. Tastings of the Region was established to highlight smaller industries in the area that are not able to spend as much money on publicity as they would like to. This event is usually very well attended and highly appreciated by local merchants.

A trip inside Sunnyside School will find you faced with many tables of collectors' exhibits that have proven over the years to be very fascinating and of interest to many as well as artisan tables of various types.

Also new to the line-up of events is a magic and hypnosis show with Bob Shelley - 'live entertainment at its best.' Shelley is reportedly the most requested full-time variety entertainer serving Greater Montreal and the province of Quebec, New York State, Vermont and Eastern Ontario. Shelley's magic show sparkles with fantasy, humour, lots of great magic and ...he performs in both French and English. His shows are fast-paced, with lots of audience participation and humour, keeping people of all ages captivated from start to finish. He is also an author, speaker and teaching artist.

Musical entertainment for Saturday evening will be Slightly Haggard and Quart of Rye, following another delicious supper sponsored by IGA Roy. There will also be a special performance by River Voices (the new Stanstead Community Choir) who have agreed to make an appearance.

We must not forget to mention the grand finale of the day's efforts and excitement - the fireworks display, which if anything like previous years will be a sight to behold.

Good morning!

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Musical Weekend in Stanstead

By Nancy Nourse
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Musical fans of all preferences were in luck last weekend in Stanstead as world music, the sounds of the saxophone and clarinet filled the air as did the delightful vocal sounds of Sonia Wells and guitarist Ben Kinsley and Big Daddy's deep vocal expertise throughout his amazing repertoire of 50's, 60's, 70's music. Another local favourite, Lise Flanders was also seen providing background music at The Imperial Motel on Saturday evening.

Choromondo performed their annual fundraiser for local charities at Stanstead South United Church which was a delight in itself as the audience was exposed to music and stories from all parts of the world. To add to the excellent energy and harmonies of the evening, this performance also celebrated the 10th anniversary of the all-womens choir. Also part of the program was the appearance of River Voices, the new Stanstead Community Choir which is just another example of the complex talents of Allyna Harris who founded and directs both groups. As a final tribute to an evening well-done, members of Choromondo presented Allyna Harris with a lovely bouquet of flowers in appreciation of her 10 years with Choromondo. Choromondo brings together women with many different experiences, from all walks of life.

Millie's Diner featured the talents of Sonia Wells and Ben Kinsley who have been recent visitors to this well-visited dining establishment. Wells admits that when she first began to perform at Millie's, she was not used to the constant chatter of its patrons as she performed but now she has come to realize that it is one of its most charming aspects. Ironically on Saturday evening, it was the sense of complete silence that she found unnerving until she realized that it was because they had captured everyone's undivided attention. People from all walks of life come here to forget themselves and their hectic schedules and bask in each other's company. Frequently, visitors to Millie's resemble more of a 'who's who' in an entertainment magazine or newspaper feature than a small town diner. Whether it's the wife of the current Premier of Quebec or actor Donald Sutherland or musical director/composer/musician Donald Patriquin or someone from the business or theatrical community at large, the rich atmosphere of Millie's soon overwhelms everyone into enjoying the experience as an individual. Many new friendships and business relationships



NANCY NOURSE

Allyna Harris and Elaine Vachon

have been created in this type of setting.

Alain 'Big Daddy' Pouliot has also become a frequent visitor to this newly energized border town. His natural charisma with his audiences and vast vocal talents have made him a real favorite. Restaurant la vieille douane/The Old Customs seems to be his venue of choice, especially now that it has added an outdoor terrace and grill. An added incentive for people to come in and enjoy the entertainment is the fact that his music is piped outside so that people out for a stroll can also enjoy his talents.

The icing on the cake last weekend was the appearance of Jean-Denis Dubuc, not only an outstanding saxophone and clarinet player but also a rich vocalist. Teamed with Jean-Jacques Beauchamp at the keyboard, it was indeed a winning combination. The

place really started to roll when Sonia Wells joined the duo for a few numbers. The natural charisma between these old friends was very obvious. Dubuc and Beauchamp will be appearing again at Checkpoint Charlie's this Friday evening, June 19 (until 1 am). Checkpoint Charlie is the new dance-bar that has opened up at 240 Dufferin Street in Stanstead, right next to Restaurant la vieille douane/The Old Customs.

It used to be that local residents had to wait months on end for a specific opportunity to experience some quality entertainment but it seems to be more the case these days where a wide choice of music is being offered each and every weekend, somewhere in the community. It should make for an interesting summer!

Flood of Blood

By Nancy Nourse
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

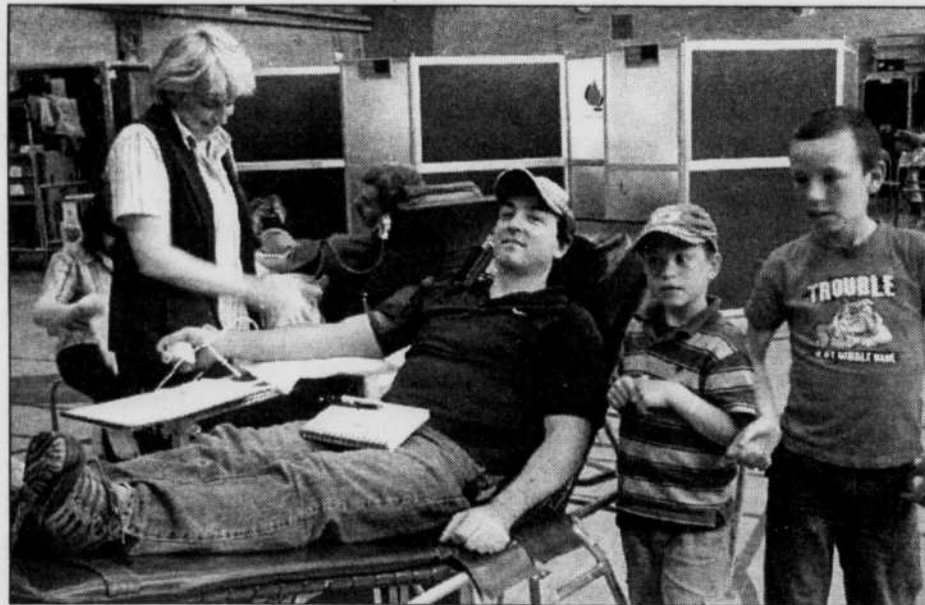
June 10 was the day set for the annual HEMA Blood Donor Drive held in Stanstead. Unfortunately as last year's event was scheduled later in the season, many people had already given blood and could not do so again. This led to the supposition this year by organizers that there would again be a low turnout. Not so as they soon found out that the four stations that they had set up were not sufficient to deal with the flood of people who wanted to do their part to help others. People ended up waiting anywhere from 1-2 hours and when the doors closed at 7:30p.m., even though there were still people lining up to give blood,

People remained calm and seemed to take it in stride but those that appeared with younger children in tow found it a bit more stressful a situation to deal with. One gentleman had brought his two boys

with him and they had to wait 2 hours before it was his turn. There were many newcomers this year as well as many familiar faces.

Members of the Stanstead Fire Department were on hand to help with the Blood Clinic as well as many of them lined up to donate blood themselves. Special care was taken not to spread any kind of bacteria, more rigid precautions than in past years were commented on by many. Many were surprised to find out that they were unable to give blood if they had been to the dentist recently, even if it was just to have their teeth cleaned. If you had had a baby within the last few months or your iron level was measuring lower than regulation.

As they say, all's well that ends well and the end result made organizers very happy as they went well above their projected goal in blood donations when the final tally was in at the end of the day



NANCY NOURSE

Teaching by example

THE RECORD Sports

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No woes for Wozniak

By Zachary-Cy Vanasse

"I really played great," said Blainville native Aleksandra Wozniak via conference call on Tuesday, after defeating French Open champion Svetlana Kuznetsova in first-round action the Eastbourne Championships.

Coming off an impressive run that saw her advance to the fourth-round of the French Open at the beginning of the month, Wozniak's performance at the Eastbourne Championships should help the world's 23-ranked player achieve her most recent goal of jumping into the top-20 on the WTA tour.

It took the 21-year old Wozniak just 22 minutes to win her first set against the second-seeded Kuznetsova, who has two career Grand Slam titles to her name. In the end it took just 51 minutes for Canada's great tennis hope/star to beat the world-ranked number five player.

"I was really playing with fire," said Wozniak, "I played aggressive, and put a lot of pressure on her, and she couldn't find her rhythm. She's a great player and it's a great win for me."

Wozniak has traditionally struggled with her game on grass courts, but in the tournament most well known for being the final tune-up before Wimbledon, the girl they are calling "The Woz" may be figuring that part of her game out.

"It's definitely not easy," she said of

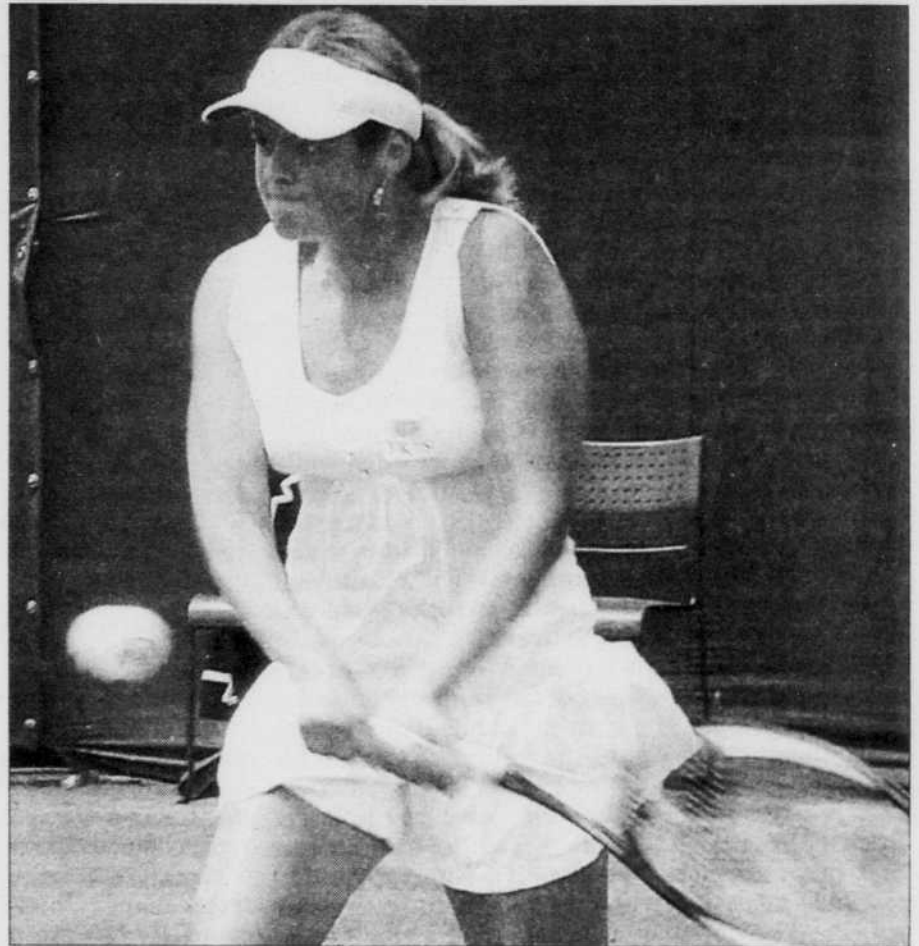
making the transition from the clay at Roland-Garros to the grass. "Everyone's telling me how my game is perfect for grass, "I can't say I hate it, but this win certainly does a lot for my confidence."

Wozniak has been climbing the world-ranking ladder in the WTA for the past couple of years, but the win against Kuznetsova might be the biggest of her career so far.

Born in Montreal in 1987, Wozniak speaks six languages, with Polish being her mother tongue. From the age of 3-years-old on, her father Antoni, a former pro soccer player, has coached the tennis prodigy. She comes from a tennis family, with her sister Dorota being the former number one ranked player in Canada in the 14-and-unders and 16-and-unders and was two-time NCAA champion at San Diego State.

As a 14-year-old, Wozniak won the Canadian Indoors Under-16 and Under-18 championships. From there she rose through the ranks of the junior game, beating her first world top-100 ranked in 2006.

In early June Wozniak became the first Quebecoise to ever be seeded at Roland-Garros and now, after a surprising first-round upset over Kuznetsova, she has knocked-off the 16th seed in the world, China's Jie Zheng in just two sets on Wednesday to move into the quarterfinals.



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Aleksandra Wozniak

SPORTS EDITORIAL

The Not-so-hot Nationals

The Washington Nationals are a bad baseball team. The baseball-team-formerly-known-as-the-Montreal-Expos have become the laughing stock of baseball, and not just because of their major league worst 16-46 record, which puts them on pace to lose 121 games this season. Even during the Expos worst season, the team's first in 1968, the 'Spos still managed to finish with a 52-110 record.

But Washington's on-field performance has only part of the problem. In baseball and in the media the "Nationals," as they have now been dubbed after the team misspelled their own name on the front of several of their players' jerseys during an April loss to the Florida Marlins, are baseball's biggest punch line. Their play has yet to improve since that extra-innings loss to the Fish and their spelling abilities seem still be lacking as well.

Just ask Washington pitcher Jordan

Zimmermann, who was excited to receive his first bats as a major leaguer but ended up a little disappointed when he got them only to find the team had left out the second "n" in his last name.

The "Natinals" spelling woes didn't end there mind you, they still had to make sure they messed-up the spelling of former U.S. president Theodore Roosevelt's name on thousands of Roosevelt bobblehead dolls they were selling at the stadium store. While fans may have wanted to purchase a Roosevelt bobblehead (for some reason?), they ended up taking home Teddy Rossevelt bobbleheads.

If playing baseball and spelling are beyond the grasp of the Nats than it's probably safe to assume the worst-team in baseball should avoid dabbling in pyrotechnics. During a game in early June against the New York Mets, a game they would lose 7-0, the Nats also lost their use of pyrotechnics after D.C. Fire Chief Dennis Rubin put the kibosh on the team's fireworks display following the Star-Spangled Banner because debris fell

on the off-duty chief.

The chief pulled rank on the his own firemen who were working the display and had the whole thing shut down, at one point yelling "Do you know who I am?" at the Nationals' authorities. Even if they did, Rubin, they'd probably spell it wrong.

And the fun doesn't end there when it comes to this organization, which is supposedly better for Major League Baseball than a team in Montreal. Now the Nats have apparently severed their relationship with Kosher Sports, an outfit that provides food for several sports venues and allows the team to serve kosher hot dogs among other eats, to its fans.

The Nationals' front office claimed they closed the kiosk because of "poor performance," though what that officially meant is uncertain. The proprietor of the stand claimed his booth was "tampered with," potentially making the food unusable, since it exists for the sole reason of not having been tampered with. The Nats have promised a new

kosher option will be available for their fans very soon.

But for some Nats' fans it may be too late. In an interview with Washington Jewish Week, Nats' season-ticket holder and executive-director of Adas Israel Congregation, Glenn Easton has this to say: "It completely ruins the experience at the ballpark. It's one thing to watch a last-place team lose just about every game. But when the thrill of eating a kosher hot dog is taken away, that makes it intolerable."

It's not all bad for the Nats though. Ok, it is. Despite the fact that the team is in just their second-season in a brand-new ballpark, the kind of venue that the Expos were hoping to build to save the game in Montreal, the attendance record in D.C. is one of the worst attendance records in baseball, averaging just 21, 206 per game, good for the 27th spot on average this season.

Sure baseball might not have been great in Montreal, but you can't tell me it was this bad.

A Little Visit to the Little Sisters

On May 27, members of The Catholic Women's League visited the convent of The Little Sisters of the Holy Family on Galt Street, Sherbrooke. Sister Anita welcomed us and gave us a very interesting tour of the museum showing the life and work of Mother Leonie Paradis who founded the community in New Brunswick. The community transferred to Sherbrooke in 1895. The Sisters are dedicated mainly to the service of priests. Mother Leonie was beatified in 1984 during Pope John Paul II's visit to Canada.

Three hundred Sisters reside in the main building. There is a beautiful chapel where Mass is celebrated daily and where the Sisters pray at various times throughout the day. The public can attend these services also.



MORISSETTE - Saying thank you does not seem adequate to acknowledge the many people who have supported both Garland and me during his illness and at the time of his death. Thanks to everyone who visited the funeral home, attended the funeral, sent messages, cards, food, flowers and donations to the Dr. W.J. Klinck Foundation. Telephone calls and visits from friends since the funeral have been a great comfort. Thanks to Everett Boynton for his invaluable help, to John Klinck, Dave Heath and Liz Warlund for their part in the service and to the Ladies Auxiliary for the lovely lunch. The support of my colleagues at CLIC has been greatly appreciated and I wish to thank the great staff at the Grace Christian Home, as well as John, for the many acts of kindness to my mother. The unending support of both Marjorie Robinson and my brother Eric Little, as well as their part in the service, is greatly appreciated. Thanks to Dr. Marc Bezeau, Dr. Ayala Paradis and the cardiac team at the CHUS - Fleurimont, as well as the team at the clinic d'insuffisance cardiac at the Hotel Dieu, for their care and compassion. Please consider this as a personal thank you if you are one of the many who gave so generously. Your sentiments are appreciated.

DOREEN

Card of Thanks

Deaths

MASSÉ LABELLE, Eva (née Goyette) - Passed away peacefully in the presence of her loving daughter and son-in-law at the C.S.S.S. Memphremagog, on Wednesday, June 17, 2009, in her 90th year. Beloved wife of the late Wilfred Massé and the late Rolland Labelle. Cherished mother of: Rolland, Émeril (Raymonde), Laurent and Lise (Paul Goudreau). Cherished grandmother of the late Suzanne and the late Daniel Massé, Pierre Massé, Michel, Natalie, Hélène, Martin, Sebastien, Stephane, Éric, and Gilles. Eva will also be sadly missed by many great-grandchildren, her sister-in-law Carolyn Goyette of Vancouver, many nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. There will be visitation in the presence of her ashes at the Cass funeral Home 545Dufferin, Stanstead 819-876-5213 / www.casshomes.ca on Friday, June 19, 2009, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., followed by the service in the funeral home. Interment will take place in the Woodside Cemetery. A special thanks to her niece Leona (Lee) Aulis for the tender and compassionate care and love given to Eva in the absence of her daughter Lise. As a tribute to her memory, donations made to: La Sclérose en Plaques, Branch 2000, 4909 Magloire Bur#1, Sherbrooke, Qc. J1N 1M3 would be extremely appreciated by the family.

Trinity happenings Cowansville



Kiana Johnson and Bishop Barry. Confirmation - May 10, 2009 at All Saints Church, Dunham, QC.

A Confirmation celebration! A party was held on June 7, Trinity Sunday to celebrate the confirmation of Kiana Johnson. This took the form of a barbecue for Kiana and the members of the parish.

Kiana served, then everyone enjoyed hot dogs, hamburgers, some of the many salads, fruit cocktail and to top off the meal, a piece of Kiana's Confirmation cake. Scrumptious!

At the close of the meal Rev. Han asked Kiana to come forward with Joyce Martin who helped prepare Kiana for her Confirmation. She was presented with a copy of a Princess (pink) bible from her church family. Congratulations Kiana!

We were delighted to have Mary Safford of the Residence Melior join our celebration. Mary worked with us in the Friendly Society for many years. Now she is relaxing at the Melior.

The Helping Hands Food Bank will be open on June 17. This is the final one until September.

June 18 is a day scheduled to be spent with Bishop Barry. He will be visiting our parish, and meeting parishioners.

Two whist evenings, June 11 and June 25, will keep us on our toes as will planning and preparing our salad luncheon for June 23.

Rev. Han will be beginning his holidays at the end of the month. We will be looking forward to his return in July.

Mary LeChasseur

McCUTCHEON, Donald G. - Donald McCutcheon, aged 88, passed away in Holly Hill, Florida on May 28, 2009. Born on September 23, 1920 in Leeds, Quebec to Robert and Harriet Effie Whyte McCutcheon. Donald was predeceased by his only sibling Dr. Wilfred Whyte McCutcheon in March of 2008. Don leaves to mourn his loving wife of 61 years Dorothy McCutcheon of Holly Hill, Florida, his beloved daughter Donna Stratton of Stanstead, Quebec and his cherished granddaughter Heather Stratton of Stanstead, Quebec. Donald was a longtime resident of Newport, VT until his retirement from the C.P. Railway in 1982, after which Dot and Don made their home in New Smyrna Beach, Florida. In 2007, the moved to Bishops Glen retirement community in Holly Hill, Florida. A wonderful tribute to Don's life was held in Holly Hill on June 4, 2009. At a later date, a memorial service will be held at the United Church in Newport, VT. Interment of ashes will take place at Malvern Cemetery in Lennoxville, Quebec.

RATES and DEADLINES: ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

BIRTH & DEATH NOTICES, CARDS OF THANKS, IN MEMORIAMS, BRIEFLETS:

Text only: 34¢ per word. Minimum charge \$8.50 (\$9.69 taxes included)

Discounts: 2 insertions or more: 15% off

With photo: additional \$18.50. **DEADLINE:** 11 a.m., day before publication.

BIRTHDAY, ANNIVERSARY & GET-WELL WISHES, ENGAGEMENT NOTICES:

Text only: \$7.00 (includes taxes)

With photo: \$20.00 (\$22.79 taxes included) **DEADLINE:** 3 days before publication.

WEDDING WRITE-UPS, OBITUARIES:

\$19.50 (\$22.22 taxes included) **WITH PHOTO:** \$29.50 (\$33.62 taxes included)

Please Note: All of the aforementioned (except death notices) must be submitted typewritten or neatly printed, and must include the signature and daytime telephone number of the contact person. Can be e-mailed to: classad@sherbrookerecord.com - They will not be taken by phone.

DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:

For Monday's paper, call 819-569-4856 between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m. Sunday.

For Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday's edition, call 819-569-4856 or

fax 819-569-1187 (please call to confirm transmission) or e-mail: production@sherbrookerecord.com between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. the day prior to the day of publication. The Record cannot guarantee publication if another Record number is called.

TOWNSHIPS' CRIER

WATERVILLE, HATLEY, NORTH HATLEY
 June 21: Waterville and North Hatley will worship together at North Hatley United Church at 9:30 a.m. and Hatley United Church service at 11 a.m. Rev. Patricia Lisson, 819-837-1112.

WATERVILLE

Lennoxville and District Community Aid will hold a Blood Pressure clinic on Tuesday, June 23 at the Town Hall, 170 Principale South, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

MELBOURNE

The Farmers' Market, located behind the Town Hall at 1257 Route 243, is opened from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., every Saturday from June 6 to October 10. More than thirty producers to serve you. Visit our website: www.marchechampetre.ca for details.

WATERLOO

A Flea Market will be held at St. Paul's United Church, Waterloo, on Saturday, June 20 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tables for rent. Info: 450-539-3135 or 450-539-2129. Everyone welcome!

RICHMOND

Richmond Hill Women's Institute is doing it again! We're having our first Social afternoon of the season on a new date, Tuesday, June 23, starting at 1:30 pm. Same games, same price, some surprises added and a delicious lunch, too. Come and share with us.

RICHMOND

The Richmond Legion is holding a Brunch on Sunday, June 21 from 9 a.m. to noon at the Legion Hall, 235 College St. North. Come and enjoy a hearty brunch. Everyone is welcome. Please note that the next Legion Brunch will be Sunday, September 20, 2009. Have a pleasant and safe summer.

WATERVILLE

There will be a Father's Day Brunch on June 21 at the Odd Fellows Hall, 4150

Route 147, Waterville from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by Unity Lodge #8. All welcome.

AYER'S CLIFF

MS Branch 2000 Auction on Father's Day, Sunday, June 21, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Ayer's Cliff Legion, Rosedale Street, followed by entertainment with Stanley McKelvey and the Sugarloaf Mountain Country Band at 2 p.m. Hot dogs, fries and soft drink on sale all day (tea and coffee free). Come bid on helping MS'ers here in your district with Direct help. To donate articles, please call the auctioneer, Jerry Smith, at 819-876 2797.

RICHMOND

Don't forget Scott Woods, Canadian Fiddle Champion, at Richmond Regional School, on July 14. Afternoon and evening shows. For information and tickets: Phyllis 819-826-5883, Lynn 819-876-7179, Ernie 819-838-4210. Advance ticket sales only. Limited tickets left.

RICHMOND

Sunday, June 21: Worship in Richmond at 11 a.m. (no service at the Ridge). June 28: Worship at Ridge at 9:30 a.m. and Richmond at 11 a.m. July 5: Joint Worship at the Ridge at 10 a.m. (no service in Richmond). July 12, 19 and 26th: regular worship at both churches. August 2: Joint worship in Richmond at 10 a.m. (no service at the Ridge). No service in Richmond or Ridge on August 9, 16 or 23. Have a Great Summer!

LENNOXVILLE

Annual Strawberry Social at Lennoxville United Church Hall, 6 Church Street, on Wednesday, June 24 from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Hot dogs, strawberries, strawberry shortcake, ice cream, cake, strawberry shortcake, drinks. Fresh Quebec grown berries. Sponsored by the U.C.W. Come and bring a friend!

NORTH HATLEY

The North Hatley Community Centre will hold its annual benefit night at the Piggery Theatre on Friday, June 26. The show is Charme & Champagne, a Musical Crooner Revue with all the greats like Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra. The

North Hatley Community Centre plays a very important role in the Village and the surrounding area. By coming to the play on June 26, you will have a good time, see your friends, and ensure that the Community Centre will continue to serve us all. For tickets, please call Jane Perry-Gore at 819-842-4665 or Gwen McKnight 819-842-1670.

LENNOXVILLE

The Lennoxville & District Women's Centre is offering a Red Cross Guide to Babysitting Course taught in English. In Richmond on June 25 from 8:30-4:00. In Lennoxville on June 29 from 8:30-4:00. There is a cost for the one-day course. Please call us at (819) 564-6626 for details and to register.

BURY

St. Paul's Home, 592 Main St., Bury will hold their annual Pancake and Sausage Breakfast and Flea Market on Saturday, June 27, 8 a.m. to noon. Admission charged. All proceeds for the home.

RICHMOND

Richmond Legion Branch #15 is holding a BBQ and entertainment evening on Thursday, June 18. BBQ begins at 5 p.m. Music with Donna and Eddie beginning at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome and hope to see you there!

SHERBROOKE

Plymouth-Trinity United Church corner of Dufferin and Terrill - Rev. Heather MacDougall 819-346-6373. Sunday, June 21 Worship at 10:30 a.m. with special music by the singers from L'Eglise Methodiste Libre de Quebec.

LENNOXVILLE

The Lennoxville-Ascot Historical & Museum Society invites you to a potluck supper on Monday, June 22 at 5:30 p.m. at Uplands (9 Speid Street, Sherbrooke). Following will be a "Show and Tell" so bring something or a small collection to share with us! Everyone welcome.

LENNOXVILLE

Lennoxville United Church, corner of Queen and Church Street: Worship and Sacrament of Baptism on June 21 at 10:00 a.m. Rev. James Potter, 819-565-8449.

SUTTON

Toe Tapping, sing along music with Le Vent des Canton at the Royal Canadian Legion, 2 Curley St., Sutton on June 20 from 7:30 p.m. till closing, with local musicians that play in both languages, traditional, gigs, reels and more. You'll enjoy your evening listening to the different talent and instruments that the trio can offer. Admission charged. Info: 450-538-2210.

FITCH BAY

St. Matthias Church (Canon Gustin Hall), Sunday, June 21, 11 a.m., "Contemporary Service"; Marion Stevens will be our guest speaker. I know you will want to hear what she has to share. Tanya and Heather will lead us in worship. Pot-luck lunch after service. All welcome.

DANVILLE ASBESTOS

Danville Asbestos, South Durham, Ulverton, Trenholm Shared Ministry Services. Danville Asbestos Service 11 a.m. Bilingual Sunday School at 11, Choir meets at 10:30. Note: Friday night Family movie 7 p.m. Join us after service for the closing of Sunday School with a picnic at Bev and Lloyds, good food and fun. Note: Ulverton United Service 7 p.m. is Cancelled. Thank you to our U.C.W.'s for helping kids go to camp, you are an inspiration. For more Information please call 819-780-3014. Blessings Rev. Reg.

...

This column accepts items announcing events organized by churches, service clubs and recognized charitable institutions for a \$7.00 fee, \$10.00 for 2 insertions of same notice, \$13.00 for 3 publications. Maximum 35 words. If you have more than 35 words the charge will be \$10.00 per insertion. Requests should be mailed, well in advance, to The Record, P.O. Box 1200, Sherbrooke, Quebec, J1H 5L6, be signed and include a telephone number and payment. Telephone requests will not be accepted. Admission charges and trade names will be deleted. No dances.

94th birthday wishes

Happy birthday to **Florence Hunt Bailey** of the London Residence who celebrated her 94th birthday on June 17.

Love and best wishes from the residents and staff.

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St. Philip's A.C.W. Sawyerville

senior residences in town.

Christina King (Diane's granddaughter) won the grocery box for finding the most Easter eggs in St. Peter's Church, Cookshire, Easter Sunday. Each mother received a flower from the plant on Mother's Day and the plant was given to Rev. Harold Brazel, who had just returned home after a lengthy stay in the hospital.

We will be having our "New to You" sale in the church basement in September. The drawing on two grocery boxes and other things will take place then. There will be a large yard sale at St. Peter's Church in Cookshire July 11.

Eleven children from our area will be going to summer camp in Lovering Bay. St. Francis Deanery Grant is sponsoring five and with Rev. Sister Mary Florence's Discretionary Fund, eleven children will be able to go.

Jean passed with the apron, to which we all contributed.

The hostess gift was won by Kay Hurd for choosing the button chosen by the hostess.

Ferne adjourned the meeting. After Sister Mary Florence said the Grace, we

enjoyed a delicious lunch and social time, and many laughs.

*Submitted by
 Sheila Bellam, secretary
 + + +*

One Solitary Life

He was born in an obscure village. He worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty. He then became an itinerant preacher. He never held an office. He never had a family or owned a house. He didn't go to college. He had no credentials but himself. Nineteen centuries have come and gone, and today He is the central figure of the human race.

All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever sailed, all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned have not affected the life of man on this earth as much as that... One Solitary Life

(Nov. 1994)

Run in papers of Thursday, June 18, 2009

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: V equals C

"ES'Y LFBTTD B TWS FBYEFL SW NLESF BKWIS SAERPY SABS BLF OLWKTFGBSEV. NAW NBRYSW AFBLAWN ABOOD DWI BLF?" - TDTF T W X F S S

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "I was the kind nobody thought could make it. I had a funny Boston accent. I couldn't pronounce my R's..." - Barbara Walters

KIT N' CARLYLE



ALLEY OOP



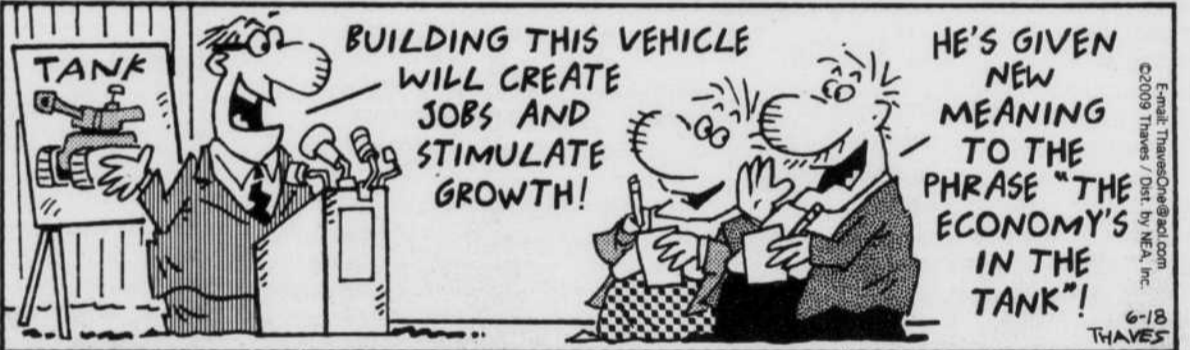
ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



FRANK AND ERNEST



GRIZWELLS



SOUP TO NUTS



HERMAN



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E-MAIL: classad@sherbrookerecord.com
OR KNOWLTON: (450) 242-1188 BETWEEN 9:00 A.M. AND 4:00 P.M.

DEADLINE: 12:30 P.M. ONE DAY PRIOR TO PUBLICATION
OR MAIL YOUR PREPAID CLASSIFIED ADS TO
THE RECORD, P.O. BOX 1200, SHERBROOKE, QUEBEC J1H 5L6

035 For Rent

3 1/2 ROOMS, 75 Winder St., Apt. 6, Lennoxville. Semi basement. Available immediately. \$325. per month, nothing included. Call 819-564-2906.

BEDFORD - ELIZABETH ST. Large 5 1/2, total renovated, ground floor, large yard, not heated. References required. \$595. per month. Available immediately. Call (450) 244-5200 or (450) 248-2635.

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CONDO AT ATWATER MARKET for you! Large 4 1/2, fully furnished, new construction. 2 min. from Atwater Market, canal, Lionel Groulx metro, all highways, parks, cafes and grocery stores. All hardwood floors, central AC, jacuzzi All new appliances included. Natural light, safe, quiet. Parking space available behind building. Available July 1. No animals. No smoking. \$1,250. per month. Call Anna 514-475-9105.

LENNOXVILLE - 3 1/2, 4 1/2, 5 1/2 room apartments. Close to town and buses. Includes hot water. 819-823-5336 or 819-791-2444.

LENNOXVILLE, 3064 COLLEGE. 6 rooms (3 bedrooms), heated, hot water, available July 1. Also 2 1/2, heated, hot water, electricity, fridge & stove included, available immediately. Info: 819-564-3299.

Looking for a job or qualified personnel? Consult our Classified ads!

035 For Rent

SHERBROOKE - MONT-BELLEVUE duplex to sublet from August 2009 to June or July 2010. Ground floor 4 1/2 plus 2 1/2 in basement, rented as one unit. \$850, all utilities included, plus 2 parking spaces, backyard and laundry facilities. Available furnished. Walking distance to Lac des Nations, downtown Sherbrooke and accessible by bus to both universities and colleges. (819) 575-1857.

045 Room Mate Wanted

LOOKING FOR COLEASER for 4 1/2 room apartment in North Ward, Sherbrooke: Man, non-smoker, clean, sober. \$350. per month, all included except meals. Walking distance to all services. Call 819-829-0779.

RATES

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Use of "Record Box" for replies is \$4.00 per week.

We accept Visa & MasterCard
DEADLINE: 12:30 p.m. working day previous to publication.
Classified ads must be prepaid.

Thank You

For Checking

Please look over your ad the first day it appears making sure it reads as you requested, as The Record cannot be responsible for more than one insertion.

100 Job Opportunities

AFI INTERNATIONAL GROUP Inc., Canada's high risk security specialists. We require immediately **Labour Dispute Security Guards** and **experienced Investigators**. Are you part of the elite in the Security Industry? Are you tired of doing the same boring routine every shift? Are you looking for a challenge? Average weekly Security Guard wage \$1,352. Average weekly investigator wage rate: \$1560. Must possess excellent English verbal and written skills; must possess a valid driver's license; must possess at least 1 year of previous security experience or attending / attended College for recognized law enforcement course; must be willing and able to travel as required; must be willing to work shift work including holidays and weekends. Valid Ontario Security or Investigator license. Serious candidates only. Forward resume to fax 1-800-304-3998; email: careers@afi-international.com; 8160 Parkhill Drive, Milton, ON, L9T 5V7. No phone calls please.

AFI INTERNATIONAL GROUP Inc., Canada's high risk security specialists. We immediately require **Labour Dispute Project Coordinators and Supervisors**. North America's largest crisis management company has immediate openings for Labour Dispute Coordinators and Supervisors with previous labour dispute or crisis management experience. If you have the demonstrated leadership abilities we are looking for, we want you on our team. Must possess excellent English verbal and written skills; must possess a valid driver's license; must be willing and able to

100 Job Opportunities

travel as required; must be willing to work shift work including holidays and weekends. Valid Ontario Security or Investigator license. Serious candidates only. Forward resume to fax 1-800-304-3998; email: careers@afi-international.com; 8160 Parkhill Drive, Milton, ON, L9T 5V7. No phone calls please.

TOWNSHIPERS' ASSOCIATION 9-WEEK position, 35 hours/week, beginning Monday, June 22. Duties: Help organize a huge cultural event and work on a dynamic team to create Townshipers' Day 2009 in Ayer's Cliff. **Qualifications:** Are you computer fluent? Can you write well in English? Are you skilled at managing details and organizing events? Do you have a driver's license and access to transportation? Do you have a good knowledge of the Townships English-speaking community? Are you a university student aged 18-30, who plans to return to school full-time in the fall? **Apply!** Send letter of application and CV by June 22, to: Valérie Bridger, Assistant Executive Director, Townshipers' Association, ta@townshippers.qc.ca, or 257 Queen St., S. 100, Sherbrooke, QC J1M 1K7. **Questions?** Please email to: ta@townshippers.qc.ca. **Townshippers' Association is an equal-opportunity employer.**

140 Professional Services

GRAPHIC ARTIST Need help with your advertising? I do brochures, posters, logos, business cards, letterhead, CD/DVD covers. Jade Cimon, Graphic Artist, 819-569-5735, jade.cimon@sympatico.ca

140 Professional Services

ROOFING New Roofs, Reroof and Repairs. Also gutter repairs, cleaning & rerouting down pipes. Call Ian Perkins at 819-578-1910.

UPHOLSTERY 25 years experience. Modern and antique, frame and spring repair, new foam for cushions, fabric repair. Samples available. Pickup and delivery. Call Steve Stickles 819-889-2519.

145 Miscellaneous Services

LENNOXVILLE PLUMBING. Domestic repairs and water refiners. Call Norman Walker at 819-563-1491.

Classifieds
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(450) 242-1188

190 Cars For Sale



2007 LEXUS ES350 ultra premium with navigation, 57,000 km., \$34,000. V6 automatic, super ECT transmission, navigation assisted parking, navigation integrated GPS 14 Mark Levinson speakers, black leather interior, sunroof, panoramic roof, heated seats, all ultra premium specs included. Used for highway driving, looks brand new. Call Erik 514-817-2048.

CLASSIFIEDS NOW ONLINE!
www.sherbrookerecord.com



Selling a car? Make your classified stand out. For \$10. 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.

195 Trucks For Sale

2002 CHEVY S-10, 4 cylinder, automatic, air, 74,000 miles. Call (450) 292-3717 after 4 p.m.

2000 CHEVY SILVERADO 2500, cab and a half, excellent condition, 48,000 km., 4 new winter tires. Optional 5th wheel hitch. 819-821-2967.

275 Antiques

WE BUY from the past for the future, one item or a household, attic or basement, shed or garage. We like it all, give us a call. 819-837-2680.

290 Articles For Sale

PAINTINGS - WATERCOLOURS and Oil, various sizes and themes, all framed, from \$50. to \$300. Local artists, Sherbrooke North Ward. To view, please call 819-829-0779.

USED WASHER & DRYER, \$75. for both. Stove, \$50. Kitchen table and 4 chairs, \$50. Call 819-573-2131.

WOMEN'S CLOTHING, almost new, size 12/13 and 13/14, from \$2. to \$20. Also drapes, long, off white, including hardware, \$25. Call 819-829-0779.

294 Events

CLASSIFIEDS NOW ONLINE!
www.sherbrookerecord.com

300 Machinery

MANURE SPREADER IH, 35 bushels, ground driven, new tires and bed, asking \$875. or best offer. Sutton, (450) 538-3306.

320 Livestock

5 YOUNG CHAROLAIS cross ewes and 6 ewe lambs for sale. Call Gwyneth Grant 819-826-2469.

340 Garage Sales

More than a Garage/Yard Sale



The Coach House Market

Art - Photography - Vintage Linens - Rugs

Wood Cook Stoves - Crafts

Jewelry - Antiques - More

3605 Ch Griffin (247)

Ogden, Qc

Sat/Sun June 20/21

Opens at 9 AM

Part of proceeds go to Sentier Massawippi the Tomifobia Bike Trail

340 Garage Sales

BEEBE Large Garage Sale, Friday, June 19, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 61 North Derby Road, Beebe. Mainly collectibles and antiques.

FOSTER 110 Foster Road. Garage Sale on Saturday and Sunday, June 20 and 21, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Antiques and other interesting items.

FULFORD 192 Papineau. Super garage sale. June 20 & 21, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Barn full of antiques collectibles and good old fashion junk.

STE. CATHERINE DE HATLEY 15 de l'Aiglon, Friday, June 19, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday, June 20, 8 a.m. to noon. Furniture, antique and household items. Many treasures. Something for everyone.

It pays to advertise in the classifieds

425 Bus Opportunities

SEEKING PART-TIME WORKING Partner to build sales team. Call 819-843-6042.

430 Personal

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To sell or buy, consult our Classified ads.

440 Miscellaneous

REMOVE YOUR RECORD: A Criminal Record can follow you for life. Only Pardon Services Canada has 20 years experience guaranteeing record removal. Call: 1-866-972-7366. www.RemoveYourRecord.com.

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NEW AD

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Living well is the best revenge

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: I had been seeing "Clark" for a year, and he told me everything a woman would want to hear. He made promises he never kept, and I continued to believe his lies. Eventually, he drained my savings.

I finally wised up and told him to start paying me back. He said he would, but it never happened. I canceled his cell phone (which I was paying for) and sent messages to all the phone numbers listed on my bill informing them they could no longer contact Clark on my dime. In return, I got responses from dozens of women he had been flirting with. When one of these women told Clark she had spoken to me, I got an angry call from him saying he would make my life miserable. Frankly, there's not much more he can do to me.

My question is, do I have any legal options? If I take him to court for the money, I know he still won't pay it. Is there any way to get him on criminal charges? I need some kind of closure to move on. — Humiliated and Used

Dear Humiliated: As far as we can tell, you gave Clark this money willingly, which means he didn't defraud or trick you and, therefore, didn't do anything criminal. If you sue him in civil court, you might win since he made a verbal promise to repay you. If he doesn't have the money, it won't help, but if he does, the lawyer will take the necessary actions (garnish his wages, attach his assets) to make him responsible for the debt.

We can't guarantee you will win, however, so you also need to find the internal strength to chalk this up to a learning experience. As the saying goes, living well is the best revenge.

Dear Annie: I am a 27-year-old woman who, until recently, was happy and secure. Out of the blue, my husband of two years decided he did not want to be married and is refusing any counseling or reconciliation efforts. I am overwhelmed with grief and frightened about my future.

My family is helpful, but one family member drives me crazy. Almost every time we speak, she mentions something to do with my weight, like, "You used to be so pretty," or "You could be such a beautiful girl," etc. I am not terribly overweight and, in fact, have lost a few pounds recently. Now that I'm going to be single, I realize I should focus on looking better, but my self-esteem is low enough right now, and I don't need to be reminded of the incredible rejection I have just been through. What can I say to this relative to make the torment stop? — Not That Fat

Dear Not Fat: This insensitive relative has no idea she is insulting you, so you must enlighten her. Say calmly and forcefully, "Aunt Betsy, I know you don't mean to be rude, but it is very cruel to constantly focus on my weight. I would appreciate it if you would stop making such hurtful comments." She'll sputter and make excuses, but it should do the trick.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Worried Dad," whose 15-year-old daughter wants to attend sleepovers at friends' homes where alcohol is served by the parents.

If other parents choose to allow their children to be put at risk like this, so be it. As the parent of a 17-year-old daughter, my answer would be a resounding "No!" My husband and I are no longer astounded at the lack of backbone found in many of today's parents, but we have no intention of caving in to this madness. We are raising our kids with high moral standards and teaching them to value themselves. — Vermont Mom

Dear Vermont: Many readers suggested that "Worried Dad" inform the host parents that if alcohol is served, he will call the police. It won't help his popularity, but it could put an end to that particular problem.

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

Stylish, roomy crossover; Road Test: 2009 Mazda CX-9 GT



2009 Mazda CX-9

By Graeme Fletcher

For Canwest News Service

If the need to transport more than five people is something that happens on a regular basis, there really is not a lot of choice, especially if one rules out the ubiquitous minivan. The remaining contenders tend to be SUV-based buggies that are less than sporty. The drawback is that their lumbering posture puts a serious crimp in the handling. The Mazda CX-9 not only delivers the needed space for riders and/or cargo, it does so without feeling like a landlocked barge when it's driven with purpose. Of course, the fact it happens to have more than a little style to its makeup helps enormously - this is the least soccer parent-like multi-seater around.

Dynamically, the CX-9 lives up to its bold exterior look. Riding on front struts and multiple rear links, it tracks a true line whenever the road deviates from the straight-ahead. Body roll is moderate in spite of the elevated seating position, understeer is a distant companion and the response to steering input is both fast and accurate. It is a delightful package that's topped off with a decent electronic stability/traction control system with roll mitigation (it backs out of the gas and applies the appropriate brake to keep the CX-9 shiny side up) and oversized P245/50R20 tires mounted on attractive alloy rims.

The latter makes a big difference. The tire's large footprint provides a ton of lateral grip and shortens the stopping distances because the anti-lock system is less likely to step in. The 40.7-metre stopping distance from 100 kilometres an hour is well below the crossover norm and on par

with some far more sporty offerings.

The CX-9 is powered by a 3.7-litre V6 that pushes 273 horsepower and 270 pound-feet of torque at 4,250 rpm. The twin-cam design, which includes variable valve timing, spreads the power over a broad range. This means there's enough power to put 100 km/h on the clock in a tick over eight seconds and allow the CX-9 to pass a slower vehicle (80-to-120 km/h) in 7.3 seconds. Not bad for a vehicle that tips the scales at a rather portly 2,096 kilograms. It also provides the CX-9 with the mustard to tow a 1,588-kg trailer.

Stallions aside, the credit for the CX-9's enthusiasm goes to the six-speed manual transmission. The lower first gear improves initial launch, second through fifth gears keep the engine at a roaring boil whenever the pedal is matted and, once up to speed, sixth gear brings relaxed cruising.

One of the advantages of opting for the GT model is that it drives all four wheels, and does so without the usual pain. The fuel consumption penalty is just 0.6 L/100 km in the city and 0.5 L/100 km on the highway when compared with the front-drive GS (AWD is a \$2,000 option). Using a variety of sensors, the AWD system automatically sends the torque to the wheels with the best traction. Under normal circumstances, it drives the front wheels.

When slippage is detected, the computer-controlled coupling sends up to 50 per cent of the power rearward. It is a balanced system that remains transparent to the driver, even as it is shuttling the power around.

The CX-9's cabin fares just as

well, especially in GT guise. Everything from a 10-way heated leather driver's seat (with power lumbar adjustment) to a power sunroof is in place. Likewise, the large controls fall readily to hand and they all have a uniform, tactile feel.

The latter is conspicuously absent in many more expensive rides. If there is a gripé, it is that the 10-speaker Bose audio system is bundled up in the luxury package (\$1,895) along with things such as a power tailgate. It should be a stand-alone option.

It's also very rosy in the middle row. There is plenty of head- and legroom and the seat backs recline. The third-row seat is really more about advertising the ability to carry two extra occupants than it is about taking seven along for the drive - all the dimensions are on the tight side and getting back there takes a lithe and limber body.

If hauling stuff is the order of the day, the CX-9, again, works. There's 17.2 cubic feet of space with the third-row seat upright, 48.4 cu. ft. with it flat and, with the middle row folded forward, there's a reasonably flat floor and 100.7 cu. ft. of space. The ability to fold the middle row flat without removing the headrests is a bonus.

The Mazda CX-9 is a crossover - it's loosely based on the Ford Edge - that has plenty of power, a well-conceived interior and more style than many of its immediate competitors. What separates it from the crowd, however, is the manner in which it drives - it carves a corner such that the driver remains unaware of its size and mass.

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