

# THE EQUITY

125th Year, Issue No. 1

Wednesday, January 2, 2008

88 cents



## Fire department controls Shawville blaze

AMANDA DUPUIS

Equity Reporter  
SHAWVILLE • Firefighters were called to the scene of the first fire of the year shortly after 4 p.m. Tuesday.

According to the Deputy Chief of the Shawville-Clarendon Fire Department,

Blake Pirie, the blaze originated underneath a staircase of an apartment located at 146 Clarendon Street.

"The (family) was gone away for about an hour," said Pirie, "and when they came back the whole place was on fire."

Firefighters spent close to two hours putting out the flames, which Pirie said did not cause a lot of damage.

Although, "there was quite a bit of smoke damage," said Pirie.

The cause of the fire remains unknown.

## Clarendon farm wins award

AMANDA DUPUIS

Equity Reporter  
CLARENDON • Les Thompson's dairy farm in Clarendon is the recipient of a bronze award for regional business farming from the National Bank of Canada.

Thompson and his two brothers, Donny and David, found out they were the recipients of the award at the end of August.

They attended an awards ceremony in Montreal in early September where they were presented with a plaque.

"We weren't really aware of the significance of the award (at the time) because the whole meeting was in French," said Les in a telephone interview.

"We didn't realize it was as important of an award as it is... it's a pretty pres-

tigious award."

Marsha Bean, who works at the National Bank of Canada in Shawville, nominated the Thompson's farm for the award, which she said has been won in Pontiac before.

"The award has been going on for a number of years in the province of Québec," said Bean. "In agriculture, it's really nice to see a farm that's successful."

Other Pontiacers to receive the award, according to Bean, are Erwin Mohr and Bob Young.

As an account manager, Bean was responsible for handling the Thompson's farming account.

She said she nominated them for the award because she felt they contributed a lot to the community.

"They work together as brothers. It's

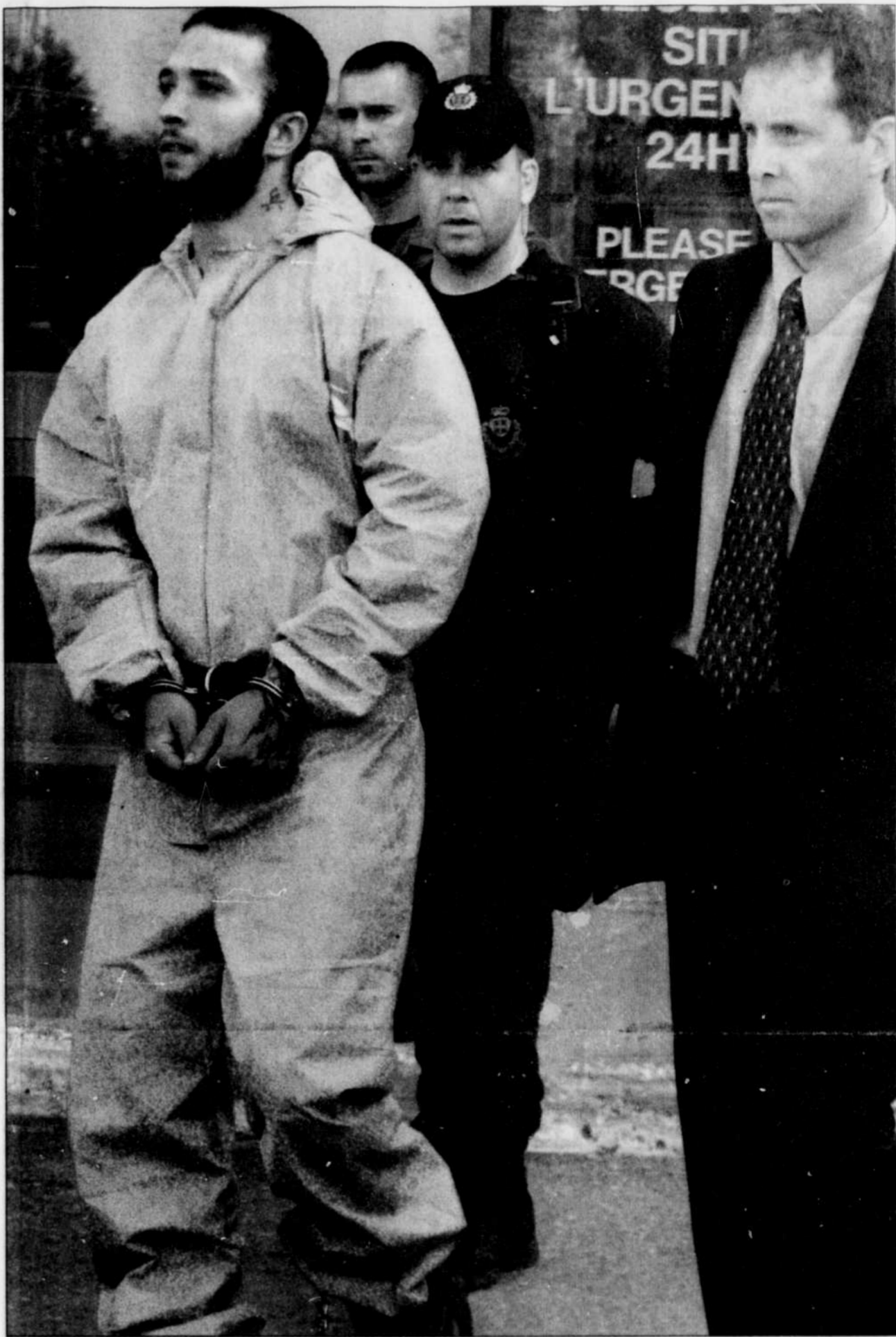
a brand new incorporation," she said. "It was started as a family farm. They work well as a team and they are committed to having the family members involved."

Bean explained the farming industry comes with the responsibility of handling variable factors when it comes to money, such as environmental, retirement planning and income taxes.

"(Farms) have no control over the set marketing skills," said Bean. "You have to be good about the overall management of the farm."

Bean said she nominated the Thompsons for the award because she felt they were good planners when it came to the future of their farm.

"Most days we're pretty busy," said Thompson, who said his farm contains more than 150 cows.



THE EQUITY's staff overwhelmingly selected the search for and ultimate capture of accused triple murderer Jesse Imeson as the number one story of the year in Pontiac. The event made national news of Pontiac last summer when Imeson was found in Portage du Fort.

## Junior 'B's up and down season continues through holidays

WILBUR MCLEAN

Equity Editor  
PONTIAC • Santa was not too kind to the Pontiac Junior 'B's during the holiday season as the team dropped three of four games played over the last two weeks.

The team defeated the Arnprior Packers 5-4 Friday but suffered a 5-2 loss to the Perth Bluewings, a 5-2 defeat to the Carleton Place Kings and a 5-3 loss to their cross-river rivals, Renfrew Timberwolves.

The results leave the Junior 'B's firmly entrenched in fourth place in the six-team Valley division of the Eastern Ontario Junior 'B' Hockey League.

With three-quarters of the regular season completed, the Pontiacs trail

the Stittsville Royals by four points with the Royals having one extra game to be played.

Behind the Pontiacs, Renfrew has seven fewer points and has played one extra game.

The Pontiacs will receive a chance to redeem themselves after the Renfrew loss with Friday night's home game against the Timberwolves.

Game time is 8 p.m. at the Shawville arena.

Sunday brings a road game at Arnprior.

All of the team's remaining games are against Valley division opponents.

The regular season concludes Feb. 1 with playoffs starting immediately after.

**Pontiacs pick up defenseman**

Defenseman Joran Graham of Cobden was picked up by the Shawville Pontiacs in late December from Renfrew.

Strong and physical, the pickup likely fills the void of bruising players on a largely finesse team.

In 29 games this season, Graham has notched six goals, 15 assists and 95 penalty minutes, which leads the team.

In two games so far for the Pontiacs, Graham has scored a goal, added three assists and picked up four penalty minutes.

Graham appears to have achieved a level of honorary Pontiacer status win sports as he is also a top player for the Quyon Flyers fastpitch team.

# Pontiac's Year in Review

# 2007

THE EQUITY's staff takes a look back at the year that was

### January

• Pontiac's first baby was born on Jan. 1 at 5:59 a.m. to Tim and Melissa Souliere of Portage-du-Fort at the Pontiac Hospital Centre. Baby Makeena Lee Souliere weighed a healthy seven-pounds, eleven-ounces.

• A logging truck was found on its side off Hwy. 148 after veering off the road Jan. 8 between Davidson and Waltham. The truck barreled into an unoccupied cottage that lay near the highway. The 60-year-old driver was unharmed.

• A group of about 30 people decided to try something new: play three-pitch in January. The group gathered at Parc Amyotte in Mansfield where the unseasonably warm winter had produced thick mud that made the game particularly messy.

• After a series of business closures in downtown Shawville, municipal council

and local business owners banded together to try to come up with solutions to spur commercial success locally.

• After 12 years as president of the Pontiac Agricultural Society, operators of the Shawville Fair, Mavis Hanna steps down and makes way for new president, Lynn Lang.

• The Ontario ministries of natural resources and environment determined the cause of a catfish kill in the Ottawa River in 2006 was columnaris disease. The disease caused thousands of catfish to wash on shore in Bristol and Arnprior.

• The ceremonial first stone was thrown to open the 32nd annual community bonspiel at the Shawville curling rink. Seventy-two teams participated in this year's event, said to be the largest single rink curling bonspiel in the world.

### February

• The Quyon Flyers were accepted

into the Greater Ottawa Fastball League, the highest level of competitive fastpitch in Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec.

• Winter arrived just in time for the Chapeau winter carnival, held the weekend of Feb. 3 and 4. Activities included sleigh rides, men's and women's hockey games and a magic show.

• The 32nd annual National Midget Hockey tournament was held in Shawville in early February. Eighteen teams from Quebec, Ontario and one from Florida participated with teams from Gatineau, Renfrew and Cumberland winning their respective division crowns. The Pontiac Lions team finished the tournament with a 1-2 record.

• It was announced that parts of the now defunct John Paul II High School in Campbell's Bay would be converted into a community learning centre with class-

es and activities geared towards Pontiacers. Shawville resident Bonnie Richardson was chosen as its coordinator.

• Twenty-four year-old Philip Holmes of Norway Bay was selected as one of six finalists to appear on *Bathroom Diva: So you want to be an opera star?*, a Bravo! network reality show. The show premiered Feb. 10.

• Wayne Venne was acclaimed new Waltham mayor after being the only person to submit the application papers. Venne replaced Paul Ryan, the Waltham mayor who died Nov. 6 of the previous year following a bout with cancer. Venne had spent 10 years on Waltham council.

• Environmental effects of the proposed Danford Lake technical landfill site are deemed limited after a series of studies by the provincial arm charged with gauging the public's reaction to the landfill.

• Shawville decides to enter the CBC Kraft Hockeyville competition for a second time after failing to be named a finalist in 2006. Organizer Dan Duggan said he was, "Very, very confident" of the town's bid.

• It was announced the Pontiac Reception Centre in Shawville would be rebuilt in a location closer to the Pontiac Hospital Centre. The new 50-bed facility would replace the old one, which was built in 1977 and administrators said was having a more difficult time meeting the needs of its users.

• An aboriginal protest in Mansfield demanded changes to forestry provisions in order to protect the land. Dozens of people stationed outside the provincial ministry of natural resources office in Mansfield, erecting two teepees and starting a fire for warmth. The efforts earned protesters a meeting with provincial representatives. The protest


lasted almost a week.

• The Pontiac Junior 'B' season ends disappointingly with a best-of-seven defeat in the first round of the playoffs at the hands of the Carleton Place Kings. The underdog Kings won game seven 4-2 in Shawville, upsetting the Pontiacs who had finished the regular season with a strong 20-16-2-2 record.

• A fire in Mansfield gutted a home at 344 chemin de la Chute. Nobody was injured but 20 firefighters from Fort Coulonge, Mansfield and Campbell's Bay-Litchfield were unable to save the house.

• The provincial election in Québec heats up with candidates from the Parti Québécois, Action Démocratique du Québec, the Green Party, Marxist-Leninist Party and Québec Solidaire all attempting to unseat incumbent Liberal Charlotte L'Écuyer.

**Please see YEAR on page two**



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# YEAR: A review of 2007 in Pontiac

Continued from page one

A group of volunteers in Otter Lake explore creating a co-operative that would open a grocery store in the village. An introductory meeting was held to discuss the possibilities at Poppy's Restaurant on Feb. 25.

**March**

The annual Norway Bay ice races gather speed junkies to the shores of the Ottawa River once more. An estimated 300 people were in attendance.

Shawville is once again rejected as a finalist for the CBC Hockeyville competition. Forty-one entrants from across Canada submitted a three-minute video but Shawville was not one of the 10 communities selected as finalists.

A meeting of the provincial office of public audiences on the environment (BAPE) produced lots of questions from residents about the process in deciding whether a landfill would be placed near Danford Lake. More than 100 residents turned up at the meeting, held at the Otter Lake Recreation Centre.

The annual Shawville Figure Skating Club Winter Invitational dedicated its annual competition to Catherine Lapointe, the former figure skating club president who died in a car accident the previous fall.

Pontiac's Maison des Jeunes celebrates International Women's Day with the unveiling of a "Women of the Pontiac" mosaic at the youth centre in Campbell's Bay.

The Pontiac Health and Social Services Centre was

named the most accessible health provider in the Outaouais by french language magazine, l'Actualité, which rated over 80 hospitals across the province. Pontiac's mark of 87 was rated above Hull (42), Buckingham (55), Maniwaki (72) and Gatineau (32).

Bristol Mayor Jack Graham dies, weeks after being afflicted with cancer. He was mayor of the municipality for 21 years and was well-known for his community involvement.

The population and dwellings count results from the 2006 census reveal Pontiac's population is showing no signs of growth with only a .1 per cent increase in population from 2001.

Despite making it to the finale of the Bravo! network reality show Bathroom Diva: So you want to be an opera star?, Norway Bay's Phil Holmes was eliminated, finishing third.

After three years as police chief in Pontiac, Lieux Jacques Piché left his post as head of the Sûreté du Québec Campbell's Bay detachment to accept a position as the head of investigations for the Outaouais in Gatineau. Sgt. Alain Langevin was named his replacement on an interim basis.

A number of Municipality of Pontiac business owners vehemently spoke against a proposed annual registration fee for businesses. Council counters that the \$50 annual fee would go directly back into promoting the area's businesses.

The Shawville Blackhawks Novice 'B' hockey



The washed out roads of Clarendon during a flood last summer produced some frightening images, though nobody was hurt.

ey team were denied a chance to play in the McDonald Cup Outaouais regional because Hockey Outaouais demands one of their players, Jared Murray, play at a higher level because he is too good. The decision prompted the Shawville Minor District Hockey Association to boycott all regional competitions for the season.

Charlotte L'Écuyer once again claimed Pontiac for the provincial Liberals as she handily wins the riding in the Québec election. L'Écuyer claimed 58.5 per cent of the

vote, well ahead of the second place Action Démocratique du Québec, whose candidate, Victor Bilodeau, garnered 15.6 per cent of the vote.

The Midget 'CC' Pontiac Lions captured the Outaouais league championship with a three-game sweep of the Gatineau Avalanche, advancing them to the Dodge Cup provincial championship.

**April**

Séchoirs Waltham Dry Kiln burned to the ground due to a fire that started in the boiler room and spread

to three kilns filled with lumber. The fire departments in Allumettes Island, Fort Coulonge, Mansfield, Chichester-Sheenboro and Waltham responded to the call and spent roughly 26 hours fighting the blaze, which caused an estimated \$200,000 in damages.

Shawville-based company WePC was the first in the area to offer high-speed wireless Internet access to Shawville and Clarendon. The high-speed wireless Internet access was the last phase of the Pontiac MRC's

initiative to set up broadband Internet through Québec's Villages Branchés program.

A sign on Hwy. 148 in Quyon was the cause of language controversy because it was written solely in English, meaning it didn't meet the requirements. Regulations put in place by the Office Québécois de la langue Française state French words on any sign must be a larger size than English in order to have a greater impact.

Please see 2007 on page 3



**Happy 75th Birthday, Mom**  
Love: Brian, Rosemarie, Judy, John, Terry, Karen, Kerry, Kimberley, Adam, Stephen, Matthew, Sheena, Jason, Scott, Ashley, Sarah, Katelyn, Justice

**Minor and Roberta Chevrier**



**Happy 50th!**  
Love Kevin and Ann

## Pontiac Continuing Education Centre Winter/Spring 2008 Registration Now Open

### Shawville Medical Secretary

Starts January 28 - 18 weeks  
Shawville at Pontiac High School Campus  
8:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

One of the careers most in demand in Canada!

Prerequisites:

- Vocational or college diploma in Secretarial Studies
- OR
- Employment experience as a general or medical secretary

This program leads to an advanced diploma (Attestation of Vocational Specialization) and includes:

- Production of medical documents
- Medical terminology
- Handling patient visits
- Management of medical supplies
- Accounting tasks

Tuition FREE to Quebec residents. Financial aid is available from the Quebec Ministry of Education. For women and men of all ages - 17 to 70!

### Campbell's Bay Adult High School Daytime Courses

Sign up Campbell's Bay Campus  
8:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

- Complete your high school diploma
- Acquire prerequisite courses for vocational training or CEGEP
- Basic reading and arithmetic courses
- Computers and French for adults

All Quebec residents over 16 years of age are eligible. We have students of ALL ages!

Work at your own speed! The Continuing Education Centre has a reputation for providing everyone with a caring and respectful learning environment.

### Shawville Accounting

IF YOU

- Like being organized
- Have good arithmetic skills
- Like to work independently

YOU HAVE THE APTITUDES TO GET A DIPLOMA IN ACCOUNTING

This professional program will teach you the manual and computerized skills that employers are looking for. We have small classes with great teachers and up-to-date technology.

Starts January 8, 2008 - 15 months of class

Shawville at Pontiac High School Campus from 8:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m.

Tuition FREE to Quebec residents. Financial aid is available from the Quebec Ministry of Education. For women and men of all ages - 17 to 70!

### Shawville Secretarial/Computerized Office

Employers are looking for skilled office workers!

There are lots of good jobs in business for employees with the right skills:

- Team players
- Up-to-date computer expertise
- Good communicators

The Secretarial Studies / Computerized Office program is for people like you who want to gain the confidence and ability to be a success in the modern office. Each student has personal computer access in a simulated office environment.

## Pontiac Continuing Education Centre

Admissions office at Pontiac High School in Shawville

Call Joan Zimmerling for information and to book an appointment

819-647-5605 ext. 1



Pte. Moore

Dave and Debbie Moore (O'Donnell) and family are proud to announce the graduation of John William Moore from the CFLRS, St. Jean Garrison, November 29, 2007. Pte. Moore is now stationed at CFB Gagetown, N.B. and is enrolled in Armour School.

### DEADLINE EXTENDED!

### 2007 Birth Announcements

for the January 9, 2008 edition of THE EQUITY

THE EQUITY is planning a special birth announcement spread, featuring photos of babies born in 2007 with announcements, for the issue of Jan. 9, 2008.

Advertisement: Includes a one column (1 1/2" wide) photo and 50 word write-up. Additional words welcome at 15c (plus taxes) per word. Cost: Photo in colour \$39.49 + \$2.37 GST + \$3.14 QST = \$45.00.

Photo in black and white: \$30.72 + \$1.84 GST + \$2.44 QST = \$35.00

Payment: All announcements must be prepaid. cheques payable to Pontiac Printshop Ltd.

Information: Photos may be of any size, reduction or enlargement will be made to adjust the size to 1 1/2". Photos may be picked up after January 9, 2008, or, enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope and it will be returned. Deadline: Jan. 4, 2008.



SAMPLE

Owen Ross Barton Dickson/Barton - A beautiful baby boy, Owen Ross Barton, was born on July 13th, 2005 at the Ottawa Civic Hospital to Leslie Dickson and Jason Barton. Proud grandparents are Heather Dickson and Greg Hayley of Shawville, Ross Dickson and Diana Bracegirdle of Perth and Austin and Geraldine Barton of Nepean. Owen's wonderful smile and contagious laugh make us so happy every day.

Mail or drop-off to THE EQUITY

133 Centre Street, P.O. Box 4300  
Shawville, Quebec J0X 2Y0  
Or e-mail: prepress@theequity.ca  
Attention: Katherine Hynes  
819-647-2204

# 2007: Looking back at Pontiac

• Robert Morissette, 48, of Vanier was stopped in La Pêche for driving a stolen car. At the time, police had two warrants of arrest for the man, including one for sexual assault.

• Christine Hager, Stephanie Smart, Alyssa Tracy, Joey Derouin and Keith Tubman, all students from Pontiac High School, won the once in a lifetime opportunity to attend the 90th anniversary of the Battle of Vimy Ridge in France, along with 3,600 other students across Canada.

• Antonio Thom, owner of Thom Transport, threatened to shut down the daily bus route from Pembroke through Hwy. 148 to Ottawa, saying it was not making enough money. He was told by Transports Quebec to continue the route.

• Cindy Duncan McMillan, a farmer from Farrelton, Que., won the Liberal Party nomination for the Pontiac riding. Duncan McMillan will try to unseat Conservative Transport minister Lawrence Cannon in the next federal election.

• A farmhouse at C55 Hodgins Road in Clarendon burned to the ground after what police suspect was an electrical fire.

• A 70 per cent drop in allotted wood supply in Quebec could cause companies that have permission to cut in Pontiac to either amalgamate or shut down. Quebec's chief forester Pierre Levac announced the new yield determination in 2006, which is done every five years or so.

• It was proposed by the Commission Scolaire des Hauts-Bois de l'Outaouais that l'Envolée and St. John's elementary schools in Campbell's Bay should both be run out of the same building.

• The decision was finalized to move the Pontiac Continuing Education Centre's health and academic programs to the old St. John's Elementary School in Campbell's Bay.

• Municipality of Pontiac Mayor Eddie McCann stated a desire for his municipality to become part of the MRC Pontiac instead of the MRC des Collines.

• Fort Coulonge demanded a recount of the 2006 Census, which stated a loss of 300 people to the area since 2001, a number Mayor Raymond Durocher said was incorrect.

• Danford Lake resident Chad Peck, a former hockey player, was humbled by a cancer fundraiser in his name that raised over \$50,000.

• A 35-year-old man surrendered to police after barricading himself inside a cottage in Bell Lake (north of Fort Coulonge) and refusing to come out. Police negotiated with the man from 11 a.m. until almost 5 p.m.

• Rémi Paré, Raymond Shea and Atholl Smith, three firefighters with the Campbell's Bay-Litchfield Fire Department, commemorated 50 years of volunteering service.

• The Ottawa Senators made it to the Stanley Cup finals for the first time in the team's modern history. In an interview with *The Equity*, the Sens' head coach Bryan Murray credited his hometown of Shawville as the inspiration for his coaching philosophy at the time.

• The commission of the Bureau d'audience publiques sur l'environnement held the first part of public hearings regarding the project to construct a dump in Danford Lake in the Municipality of Allevy and Cawood.

• Scott Wilson was named the new mayor of Bristol after he was the only person to submit nomination papers before the deadline. He replaced former mayor Jack Graham.

• Representatives of Lawrence Cannon, Pontiac's federal MP, denied allegations the minister failed to report air travel in his expenses. Cannon, the transport minister, allegedly made regular use of a government executive jet while keeping the trips off his expense list.

• Stépido Farms in

Luskville was named one of 21 Master Holstein Breeders across Canada. Owners Stéphane and Pamela Alary were one of 14 farms to receive their first-ever shield.

• The Pontiac Archives celebrated its 20th anniversary.

• The Municipality of Litchfield passed a bylaw to modify its agricultural, industrial and forestry zones to allow for the construction of wind turbines.

• Pontiac's first-ever Relay for Life was hosted at Leslie Park in Otter Lake. The Relay for Life was expected to raise around \$60,000 but a grand total of \$71,252.23 was raised.

• The second session of Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (BAPE) hearings regarding the proposed Danford Lake technical landfill site began and meetings took place in Otter Lake.

• Calumet Island man Mike Lamothe began a canoe trip that took him to the northern coast of Newfoundland.

• Grant Boone, 23, was sentenced to 108 days in prison after pleading guilty to seven theft and breach of probation related charges. Boone is a Fort Coulonge resident.

• Elizabeth May, the leader of the Green Party, environmentalist and writer, was in the Davidson area as a guest speaker at Esprit, a white-water rafting company and international hostel. May spoke about what can be done in the way of marketing to draw tourism into the Pontiac area and do so in an environmentally-friendly way.

• Uranium exploration began in various areas of Pontiac. Aldershot Resources and HAWK Uranium approached landowners for permission to access land to complete surveying.

• A Bristol woman was found dead in her home. Pontiac MRC Sûreté du Québec were alerted to visit the home of a woman in her 50s on the 4th Line in Bristol after co-workers noticed her missing and alerted police.

• Roadwork started throughout the Municipality of Pontiac, on Terry Fox Road between Hwy. 148 and Cedarvale Road.

• An old farmhouse was renovated back to its original ambience by David Inglis of Gatineau.

• A benefit concert was held in honour of five-year-old Ian Duval-Graveline of Bryson, who has a severe sight disability. Proceeds



The police standoff involving the Sûreté du Québec and Shawville man Sandy Smart resulted in police shooting him in July.

• Palettes of the Pontiac — Pontiac Artists' Studio Tour 2007 kicked off in its 18th year. This year the tour featured 14 artists showing in 12 studios throughout Pontiac.

• Continuing its climb up the ladder of top schools in Quebec, Pontiac High School in Shawville placed highest in its history of provincial school standings, climbing

were put towards a trust fund that will help cover medical and other costs.

• Two sisters organized a day to celebrate June as breast cancer awareness month. Aileen Sheppard of Shawville and her sister Mertina Blaskie of Beachburg held a fundraiser for the Royal Bank of Canada in Shawville.

• The Pontiac Western Festival was held at Draveurs des Chutes in Mansfield. Wild Time, a team of cowboys and cowgirls who compete in the North American Professional Cowboys Tour, brought the competitions to life.

• Staff at Canadian Tire in Shawville celebrated the arrival of the store's new owner, Dave Guitard.

• Shawville resident Danny Hobbs, 18, was drafted to the National Hockey League's New York Rangers. He is the son of Peggy and the late Kelly Hobbs.

• The Quyon Country Jam Fest entertained a large crowd of music lovers over its three-day stay. The headliner of the event was country music star Tommy Cash, younger brother of Johnny Cash.

• Paul Emmerson, a Bristol resident, travelled to Kampala, Uganda in Africa where he helped to build homes for orphans.

• A 10-hour police standoff ended when the assailant emerged from his house and pointed his rifle at police, who then shot him. Thirty-three-year-old Sandy Smart of Shawville was later charged by the Sûreté du Québec with illegally pointing a weapon and weapon possession.

• The union of 200 workers

at Smurfit-Stone's pulp and paper mill near Portage du Fort agreed to cuts to their salary and benefits of over \$5 million, as well as 41 job losses.

• The kindness of a stranger literally saved a Bristol man's life after strong winds and torrential down-pour resulted in major damage to Hwy. 303 in Portage du Fort. Bristol resident Dave Woermke was on his way to work when his vehicle struck a gaping hole in the highway. Shawville resident Gord Wilson noticed the sinking car and saved Woermke's life.

• After a treacherous storm, a 150-foot section of Front Road in Portage du Fort was destroyed. As well, portions of Sand Bay and Cemetery roads in Portage du Fort were closed due to fallen trees.

• Ottawa Senators general

manager Bryan Murray announced Shawville resident Tim Murray as the team's new assistant general manager.

• Over 300 people attended a horse pull in Luskville. Proceeds supported the dialysis project at the Pontiac Community Hospital.

• The first Garden and Gifts tour was held. It took participants on a self-guided tour of six beautified gardens in the Quyon area and included arts and crafts on display from local creators. Proceeds went to the dialysis project at the Pontiac Community Hospital.

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• Ottawa Senators general

manager Bryan Murray announced Shawville resident Tim Murray as the team's new assistant general manager.

• Over 300 people attended a horse pull in Luskville. Proceeds supported the dialysis project at the Pontiac Community Hospital.

• The first Garden and Gifts tour was held. It took participants on a self-guided tour of six beautified gardens in the Quyon area and included arts and crafts on display from local creators. Proceeds went to the dialysis project at the Pontiac Community Hospital.

• Pontiac man Scott Presley, 37, was sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole for 10 years for the death of his wife, Diane Durocher. He was found guilty of second-degree murder.

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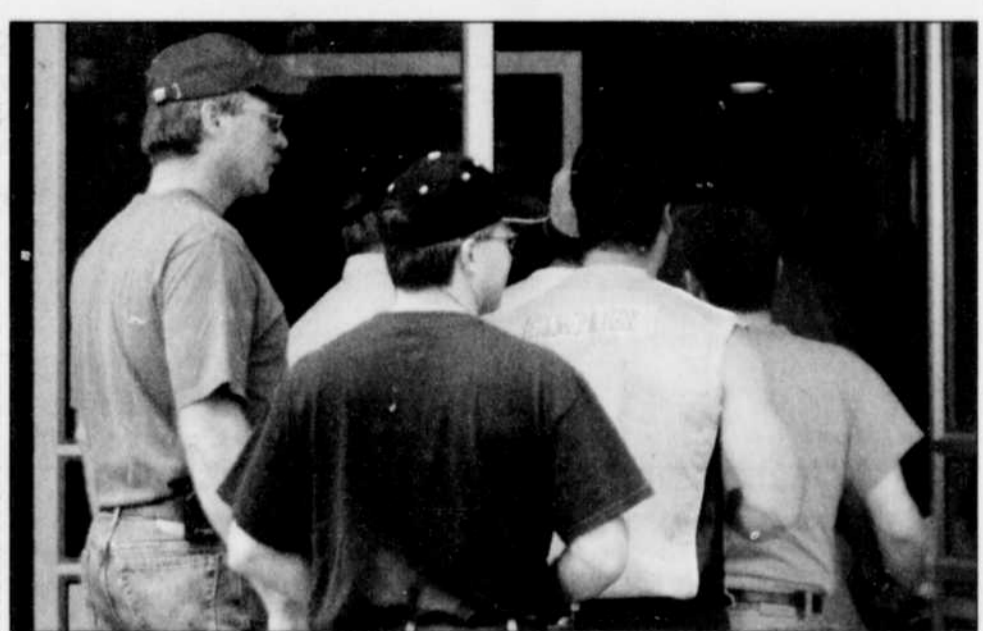
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The employees of Smurfit-Stone in Litchfield ultimately agreed to wage and job cuts to help save their plant from closure last summer.

# OPINION

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 Pontiac since 1883

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## ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM | Garbage challenge: January 1, 2009 target approaches

By the end of 2008 all rural Quebec's open pit dumps must close and all municipalities must reduce their waste stream (amount of garbage) by 60 per cent. As well, municipalities are mandated with the task to find alternative solutions that must include recycling initiatives.

Although Quebec bureaucrats justifiably can win environmental kudos for their admirable goals, we residents are left mulling over the pungent question: where will our garbage go as of Jan. 1, 2009?

In 2007, my first column of the year made the point that garbage represents our most pressing ongoing environmental concern, where new options and technologies are urgently needed.

I am disappointed to note that in my first column of 2008, I remain equally concerned about how we, here in Pontiac, will solve our garbage challenge. Right now, we are stuck with our in-trench dumps and no alternative sites (or technologies) have been accepted.

**Our trash**  
 You and I produce way too much garbage, despite our ongoing flirtation with the four Rs (refuse, reduce, reuse, and recycle). Yet limited options exist regarding where to dump our trash.

Where will our garbage go? Not (yet) to Danford Lake. This, I believe, is a very, very good thing. However, we Pontiacers (as well as Gatineau and other residents) remain without a practical waste management plan.

Let's review the proposed engineered landfill site located eight kilometres west of the village of Danford Lake.

**Danford Lake proposal**  
 The proposal for an engineered landfill site (a mega-dump) was tendered by LDC-Gestion et Services Environnementaux, the company which initially proposed a site at Quyon's North Onslow open pit dump. (Environmental Forum readers will recall that because of strong community opposition from Municipality of Pontiac residents, the same developer opted to cease his plans for an engineered landfill in Quyon. Instead,



Katharine Fletcher

he headed north of Gatineau Park, to propose a similar regional mega-dump near Danford Lake.)

According to information at the Save Danford Lake website ([www.savedanford.com](http://www.savedanford.com)), LDC's proposed landfill would "cover 545 acres (220 hectares), of which 60 per cent would be actual landfill, (with) 22 per cent for infrastructure and 18 per cent for expansion. It is designed to accept up to 250,000 tons of waste per year with a minimum operational life of 30 years, ultimately resulting in a mountain of waste 22 stories high. It is adjacent to some wetlands and about 300 metres from the Picanoc River which flows into the Gatineau River."

What did the BAPE (Bureau des audiences publiques sur l'environnement) think of Danford Lake site after its public hearings conducted during May and June 2007?

On Sept. 27 the BAPE agency announced the Danford Lake engineered landfill should not be approved. (Please note the wording: "should" has never and will never necessarily mean "won't.")

Factored among the reasons why the BAPE made this ruling include concerns related to environmental issues, potential damage to local roads, long-term planning, and concerns over repairing potential leaks in the cells designed to contain the garbage.

However, we who oppose the development of the Danford Lake site for a mega-dump may still be disappointed. BAPE rulings have previously been overruled by Quebec's minister of the environment.

**Related dump issues**  
 Although not located in Pontiac, the Outaouais-area Cantley dump deserves our ongoing attention. As of Oct. 16, 2007 it remains closed to construction-waste dry materials. The Quebec Ministry of the Environment upheld the decision to keep this dump closed, ruling against the landfill operator's request to reopen it for this type of waste.

And let's not forget our sprawling urban neighbour, the City of Gatineau, no leadership there, I'm sad to say. Gatineau's waste is trucked to one of Quebec's largest landfill sites located at Lachute. And in a motion which resembles an insincere apology, the City of Gatineau recently announced it can-

### Federal election

There appears to be a reasonable chance that the current Conservative minority government will be toppled and an election called at some point in 2008.

What role, if any, will issues like agriculture and lumber play in a potential campaign?

Also, after a clear win in 2006 will Pontiac MP Lawrence Cannon still have the support of locals?

### Tourism

The ever-discussed issue of tourism took some small strides forward in 2007: money approved to research the development of the Chutes Coulonge was particularly relevant as was Esprit Rafting's being named the second best adventure firm in the world by National Geographic.

However, it still seems tourism is a largely ignored issue at the political level. Perhaps the small steps taken in 2007 will lead to more substantial gains in 2008 if people keep working creatively to bring visitors into Pontiac.

### The Ottawa Senators

Sure, they're technically Ottawa's team but the influence of Pontiac on one of the NHL's top two teams is evident. The general manager and assistant general manager are from Shawville and bit player Luke Richardson has ties to the area.

Will the Sens be able to parlay their strong showing so far this season into a Stanley Cup championship?

## OUR OPINION | Looking ahead to 2008 in Pontiac

With this issue of THE EQUITY providing our annual year in review, it only makes sense to look ahead as well.

Following is a list of the issues that may be relevant in the next 12 months and perhaps will find themselves prominent in the 2008 year in review.

### The mills

Pontiac's mills are hurting. The combination of a flagging housing market in the United States and a strong Canadian dollar have combined to reduce the need for and value of wood coming from local mills.

The continuing effects could have long term ramifications on job prospects in Pontiac.

### Danford Lake landfill

It's been a couple years now but the issue could finally be put to rest in the coming months.

All that's left is for the provincial government to proclaim either 'yay' or 'nay' to the landfill. The public consultation process produced a negative recommendation but that recommendation can be overturned by the Minister of the Environment, Line Beauchamp.

### Uranium mining

With the number of companies conducting uranium exploration in Pontiac increasing, it's only a matter of time before something significant happens in regards to uranium mining. Perhaps one of the firms will determine more than just exploration will be worthwhile in the area. Or there is a chance they will determine there's nothing here for them and leave the area altogether.

## Sliding in the snow

Heather Dickson, THE EQUITY



## YOUR OPINION

### Is this how the system works ?

Dear Editor,

This is how the system works? I have heard this line many times during my almost 28 years living and working in Canada.

Here is my experience with the current health system, after making an appointment with my doctor, waiting three months to see him, I was told I needed physiotherapy. Okay, oh waiting time for physiotherapy is now one year! Here I was, in pain, how is waiting one year going to do anything for me? I contacted my elected official at the provincial level and pointed this out. I further pointed out that Revenue Canada and Revenue Quebec would not go for it if I told them they had to wait a year for the income tax I owe them. And here we are just talking money not pain. So why should I be satisfied with the medical service I receive ?

I actually received a phone call, promising to be taken good care of and that was it. A few months later I had to go to the emergency because I could not tolerate the pain any longer, the result, a prescription for Celebrex, ah good old Celebrex, keeps you smiling in the worst of times.

Why don't we set up an 800 number, you call there and for pain in the neck, press eight and so on. In the end you have a recording saying "take two aspirin and call back tomorrow if you are not better (or still alive)".

Okay, let's get serious again. I know there are always people defending whatever system. I was born in east Germany and have experienced it. Those are the people that are benefiting or taking advantage of the system. After east Germany I am somewhat suspicious of any system. I just want to live in peace, do my thing, pay my taxes and I think it would be just fair to expect a functional health system in return.

My opinion, the system does not work for the bottom end of the food chain (taxpayers). We have no recourse to force the system to give us medical service, yet owing taxes, the system has all kinds of things in place to take whatever we owe them.

I know if I would have written this in east Germany I would have been blacklisted, somehow I am afraid, here, I will be too.

At this point I felt I have to speak up and I did. I invite responses. If you have an opinion please express it in a letter to the editor.

Alfons Kuhn  
 Bristol

### Loud music?

Dear Editor,

Hmmm... I am somewhat confused by your article published Wednesday, Dec. 19 entitled "Pontiac farmers celebrate Christmas". Amanda Dupuis stated that our music was "the kind that shakes the floors and rattles the window panes, the kind that stays in your ears for days".

I take exception to that statement. To some it may seem that I am being petty about this however I feel quite strongly about our reputation as a band and how the public perceives our music and the presentation of said music. I have been in the business a long time and pride myself on making sure that we are never too loud unless the venue calls for it. I know from speaking to a good number of people who were at this party that we were not loud. Even the reps from Farmers and Friends I spoke to were more than pleased with our evening. You even go on to contradict yourself saying the crowd smiled and danced all night.

There is a big difference between being loud and sounding good versus being so loud that your ears hurt. Amanda, you have obviously not heard the latter. Maybe I have misinterpreted your meaning. If so, I apologize in advance. I am proud of our band and how we present our show. For the record we were asked to turn the system down. We did comply to their request. This happens at any venue and we always adhere to this. What can I say except that if people are dancing, I can feel confident that we are doing our job.

Speak to any band and they will tell you that there is always someone in the room that will think the music is too loud.

And the name of our "window shaking" band is called Streamer - not Streamers... we would have used "Window Shaker or The Bleeding Ears" but those names were already taken... LOL  
 Willy Rivet  
 Bass / Vocals / Sound Tech for Streamer  
 Campbell's Bay

### Food is essential for life, but it is also essential for having a life

Dear Editor,

I would like to send a message to the county in regard to the food we have enjoyed over the Christmas Season.

When you look back over Christmas gatherings throughout your life, where do they take place? Some memories will be of church services, or a snowy walk with family. For others it will be the joy of opening a treasured present, or the annual tradition of trimming the tree. Still others will recall being a part of a community carol sing, or the anticipation of waiting for the jolly old elf to make a visit. But for most people a central part of their memories will be the shared meal. At Christmas time many of us host a family gathering or we travel to another home to be a part of one. Many of us do both.

Food is essential for life, but it is also essential for having a life. We often forget in this hustle and bustle world the importance of sitting down and sharing with one another. Sharing our stories, sharing hopes, sharing our heartbreaks, sharing of ourselves, sharing of a favourite recipe, sharing of the dinner table with time to talk and enjoy each other. These are the moments that define our lives.

The shared meal is still a central tradition in the celebration of events, whether they be religious like Christmas or Chanukah or less so like Thanksgiving and birthdays. Despite the fact that we live in a world where a product as strange as microwave Kraft Dinner exists because apparently, regular KD takes too long, on these days we take the time to prepare a special meal and to share it with others. It says that deep down we understand that food is important. It gives us a life worth living. We still understand that food has value beyond its caloric count, but too often we forget to guard that valuable.

We rush meals. We eat them in front of the TV never speaking with each other. We have allowed our food system to become controlled by values like processed convenience, ease of processing, ability to be transported long distances, maximum yield no matter the cost, quantity and the lowest up front price under any condition, uniformity to some artificial standard and other values at odds with the values we try to carry out in our special meals. Gone are values like nutritional content, quality, long term environmental and social concerns, the impact on our health and so many other important issues. We talk the talk, but so often we don't walk the walk.

A case in point is Canada's farmers. As a nation we hear politicians and ourselves talk about how important farmers are for the food they create, the jobs they support and the contribution they make to Canada. Yet so many family farmers are struggling, they are working off the farm to subsidize the food in your grocery cart. How many of us ask the question, who is really receiving the so-called aid governments announce? How many of us ask about the impact our individual choices as eaters make on our own health, let alone the impact it has on others.

These are big questions not easily answered. However, as we approach the time of New Year's resolutions, perhaps it is time we begin to resolve to change the way we approach food in Canada. To make sure we are approaching it with the kind of values we will honour as we sit down to the shared meal. There is much that needs to change in our current globalized and industrialized food system. If it is to become sustainable it will have to change, now is the best time to start. The NFU have been leaders in this movement of change. We understand the importance of food and community. On behalf of NFU members, Merry Christmas and may peace, prosperity and joy find you in the New Year.

Dave Mackay  
 President Renfrew County NOFU

## Quebec questioned over financial interests in uranium exploration

Dear Editor,

Environmental groups are demanding answers from Quebec's Minister of Natural Resources and Wildlife concerning a potential connection between the province's recent decision to reject a moratorium on uranium exploration in western Quebec and mining claims held in this region by a government-owned corporation.

In a letter submitted to Minister Claude Béchard by Ecojustice (formerly Sierra Legal) and the West Quebec Coalition Against Mining Uranium (WQ-CAMU), the groups raised serious questions about the possible conflict between the exploration activities of Société québécoise d'exploration minière (SOQUEM) and the government's decision to reject the Municipality of La Pêche's request for a moratorium on uranium exploration in the municipality.

"We are asking the Minister to explain how the Quebec government's financial interest in SOQUEM's exploration claims can be reconciled with the government's broader duty to protect the environment and regulate mining," said Ecojustice lawyer Will Amos.

SOQUEM is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Société générale de financement du Québec (SGF), an industrial and financial holding corporation of the Québec government with an investment portfolio of nearly \$2 billion. SOQUEM's mission is to undertake exploration, development and mining activities

throughout the province of Quebec, often in partnership with the private sector. SOQUEM has previously engaged in uranium exploration work in the Otish Basin and Bear Lake (Mont Laurier) regions of Quebec.

Based on data available from the Ministry's GESTIM (mining claim) database, SOQUEM owns 37 claims in the Municipality of La Pêche, covering over 2,000 hectares which include designated wildlife habitat areas.

The claims were registered in October 2007. "Was the Quebec government's decision to reject a moratorium on uranium exploration in western Quebec influenced in any way by its financial interests in SOQUEM's mining claims?", asked Michael Patenaude, local cottager and co-ordinator of the West Quebec Coalition Against Mining Uranium.

Ecojustice had previously written Minister Béchard to emphasize the need for a comprehensive review of the province's Mining Act to ensure: 1) the clear recognition of landowners' and residents' rights and 2) the enhancement of municipalities' powers to make land-use planning decisions based on sustainable development principles.

To date the province has not responded.

Ecojustice,  
 Formerly known as Sierra Legal

## CORRECTIONS

\* Incorrect information appeared in the article, "Pontiac farmers celebrate Christmas" on page one of the Dec. 19 edition of THE EQUITY.

The band that performed is named Streamer, not Streamers.

The cookies for the party were bought from the Pontiac Bakery in Shawville, not donated.

The party's organizing committee consisted of Nancy Dagenais-Elliott, Janey MacDougall, Cindy Smiley, Nancy Pirie-Egan, Doris

Beck and Mavis Hanna.

And to clarify, Tom Orr donated \$450 towards the cost of the band, which was \$900 total.

THE EQUITY regrets the errors.

\* Incorrect information appeared in the article "Pontiac house tours induce 'ooh's, 'ahh's" on page three of the Dec. 19 issue of THE EQUITY. The Quyon pastoral charge includes the Wesley Church in Beechgrove, not the Wesleyan church.

THE EQUITY regrets the error.



### Thumbs up

to a New Year and the renewed hope that comes with it. We get a chance to do the things we didn't do last year... and we swear we'll do them in '08.



### Thumbs down

to the end of another Christmas season that always brings family and friends closer together. We're already looking forward to the next one.

124 years of news from the Pontiac

# THE WAY WE WERE

Compiled by Heather Albert-Dickson Publisher

## 25 Years Ago

**January 5, 1983**  
**THIS IS OUR 100TH YEAR:** THE EQUITY was founded in June of 1883. By the time June rolls around in this present year of 1983 this newspaper will be celebrating its 100th birthday. Our main project for 1983 is to continue to publish THE EQUITY every week through good times and bad times, for richer or poorer you might say, in sickness and in health, until death do us part — and that's not likely to happen considering the way this family proliferates and maintains an interest in this paper.

**MISS TEEN PONTIAC WILL BE CHOSEN ON JAN. 15:** Seven young ladies representing seven municipalities in this county are heading into the final stretch of the Miss Teen Pontiac competition. One of these seven contenders will be representing this region in the Miss Teen Canada Pageant, March 7, 1983. They are Miss Teen Chapeau Lisa Czimeleskie; Miss Teen

Mansfield-Pontefract Nancy Graveline; Miss Teen Campbell's Bay, Linda Laliberte; Miss Teen Bryson Heather Coyne; Miss Teen Portage du Fort Karen McCarrison; Miss Teen Shawville Shelly Hodgins and Miss Teen Bristol Laura Radey.  
**JEAN CLAUDE CADIEUX APPOINTED QPP CHIEF:** Corporal Jean Claude Cadieux has been appointed as Chief of the Campbell's Bay Detachment of the Quebec Police Force. He replaces Corporal Claude Bouchard who has been acting-chief ever since the departure of Serge Barbeau.

## 50 Years Ago

**January 9, 1958**  
**KAREN HOBBS NEW YEAR'S KID:** There was no baby born on New Year's Day at Pontiac Community Hospital but all honor due to the first baby of 1958 goes to Karen Beulah Hobbs who made her presence known on the stroke

of noon on Jan. 2. The baby's mother the former Dorothy Hodgins of Shawville and the baby's father, Cecile Hobbs, who works at the Shawville Creamery were both quite delighted to have produced the first baby of the new year.  
**CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH 162 MOVES INTO NEW BUILDING:** After anticipating the move for many months the Canadian Legion Branch 162 has moved into its new quarters. Building of the beautiful new headquarters was necessitated by the fact that the old Legion Hall over Bolan's in Campbell's Bay burned to the ground and all the Legion's property was lost in the fire.

## 75 Years Ago

**January 5, 1933**  
**LOCAL NEWS:** On New Year's Eve, the young people of Shawville United Church held their annual skating party and Watch-night service as nearly 100 skated at the rink till 10 p.m. after which nearly 150 gathered at

the church for lunch of hot-dogs, doughnuts and coffee. While a dance was in progress at the Town Hall at Quyon, on Monday evening, Dec. 26, several young men's overcoats were taken from the dressing room by some culprits who made their escape without interference. Evidently the coats were handed out the dressing-room window and loaded into a car in waiting. The theft went unnoticed till after the dance giving the robbers ample time to make their get away. The garments are still unrecovered.

**PEMBROKE YOUTHS GET PRISON TERMS WITH LASHES:** Sentenced to two and half years in penitentiary with ten lashes each was passed to Alvin Donohue and Lawrence Gareau, Pembroke youths, and a term of two years with five lashes to Boyd Anderson, also of Pembroke, who pleaded guilty to armed robbery when they held up Chas. Moss, storekeeper at Alice, and took from him a sum of money amounting to over \$200.

**CALUMET ISLAND WOMAN DIES FROM BULLET WOUND:**

Miss Clara Ladouceur, 30, of Calumet Island, died Sunday morning, Dec. 25 at the Ottawa General Hospital from a 22 calibre rifle wound in the abdomen, allegedly self-inflicted at her home the previous Friday. The young woman was said to have been despondent.  
**PHONE CALL FROM VANCOUVER:** Mrs. W.J. Connelly received a pleasant surprise Christmas night when her son, Mr. Kenneth Armstrong of Vancouver, B.C. gave her a long distance phone call. Members of the two families exchanged greetings and heard each other plainly despite the fact of the thousands of miles that separated them.

## 100 Years Ago

**January 2, 1908**  
**LOCAL NEWS:** The Masonic Fraternity of the county, as represented by Pontiac Lodge, held their annual installation function at the lodge room here on Friday evening last, the 27th ult. The event, which is considered the most important of the year was attended by an unusually large number of the Craft, including brethren from several visiting lodges, and the whole proceedings passed off with that degree of harmony and good feeling

which is one of the chief characteristics of the ancient institution. The installing officer for the occasion was R.W. Bro. A. Lyon, a PDDGM of the district and one whom all acknowledge as the chief corner stone of Masonry in the part of the province. The newly installed officers are: T.W. Wilson, Geo. Conley, Andrew Hodgins, J.H. Shaw, J.W. Eades, R.H. Massie, Mark Butcher, F.A. Davis and John Finan.

The blustering weather of Monday night seemed to have no terrors for those who had laid out to attend the tea meeting and lecture in the Methodist Church, as the attendance, was fully up to expectations.

About 25 of the sporting element of Shawville drove over to Renfrew on Monday afternoon to witness the second of the series of hockey matches between the Victorias of Ottawa and Renfrew team. The Vics won at Ottawa on Friday last by a score of 4 to 1 and at Renfrew the tables were turned, yet not sufficiently to place the creamery town lads in the race for the Stanley Cup, the score standing 3 to 1 in their favor. Our boys say the match was well worth the trip to Renfrew, despite the inclement weather.

Christmas passed off very quietly in Shawville, many of the residents going out of town to spend the day, there being an abundance of snow for good sleighing.

## OVERTIME | LUKE MURPHY

# The Shawville Express



PONTIAC • I've deemed the month of January "Biography Month." Each week in the month of January, I'll choose one person from the Pontiac who has become successful through their involvement in sports, and I'll write his/her biography. This week, my first of five installments, is on the late, great, Ottawa Senator hockey legend, Frank Finnigan.

joined the National Hockey League in 1923, and quickly earned the nickname, "the Shawville Express". He went on to play 14 years in the NHL, from 1923 to 1937, with stints in Ottawa, Toronto, and St. Louis. But he was most known for his time in Ottawa.

He was the Ottawa Senators' team captain from 1930-1933, and scored the last goal for the original era of the Senators on March 15, 1934. But the highlight of Finnigan's career was winning the Stanley Cup in 1927 with the Senators. Finnigan was selected to play in the all-star game in

1934, the first all-star game held in benefit for Toronto Player, Ace Bailey.

But when Finnigan retired in 1934 to play amateur hockey in Ottawa, after amassing NHL career totals of 553 games, 115 goals, 88 assists, and 203 points, his connections with the Ottawa Senators' franchise were never severed.

Finnigan was instrumental when the NHL expanded in 1990, and Ottawa made their bid for a franchise. Ottawa signed Finnigan to be part of the presentation team to the NHL expansion committee, and the signing paid off, as Ottawa was

awarded a franchise to start the 1992-1993 season. Although Finnigan died on Dec. 25, 1991, at the age of 87, less than one year before the new version of the Senators took to the ice, his legacy lived on.

On opening night at the Ottawa Civic Center, October 1992, a banner with Frank Finnigan's #8 jersey was hoisted to the rafters, retired by the Senators, as a tribute to the former star. This honor made Finnigan one of only three players in NHL history to have his uniform retired by a team for which he never played. Finnigan's son, Frank Finnigan Jr., had

the honour of dropping the puck for the ceremonial face off that night.

When the Senators' new arena, the Corel Centre, opened its doors on Jan. 15, 1996, the street in front of the main entrance was named Frank Finnigan Way, and a restaurant inside the arena named "Frank Finnigan's", in his honor.

Frank Finnigan was the last surviving member of the Stanley Cup winning team from the 1926-1927 season, the final season of the 1919-1927 Ottawa Senators' dynasty. Finnigan's younger brother, Eddie Finnigan, also played in the NHL.

## Winterfest 2007



Submitted by Lyse Lacourse

The annual popular skating festival, Winterfest, took place at the Shawville arena Friday, Dec. 28. It featured skating performances by members of the Shawville Figure Skating Club, which included this group of eight skaters adorned in Santa hats.

## A talented bunch



Wither McLeon, The Equity

Bria Hearty was one of dozens of performers that took to the stage for the Pontiac High Talent Show recently, which raised money for the snowsuit fund. Other performances included pop and country singers and a variety of dancers.

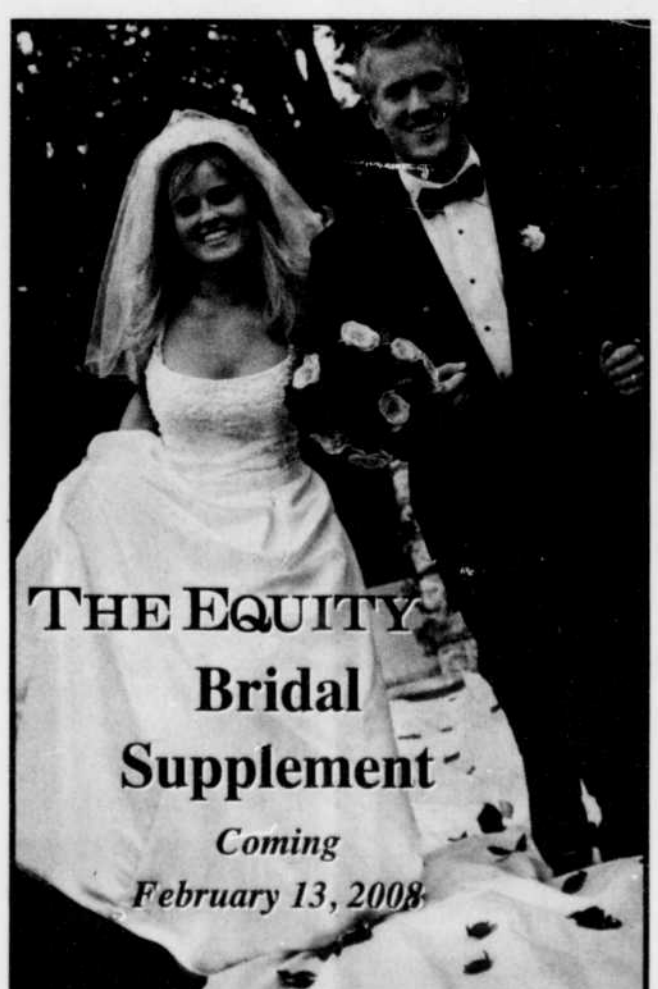
## Waltham

Helen Perry  
 819-689-2652  
 jacobg42@hotmail.com

Happy New Year! Well here we are in a brand new year 2008! May the coming year be filled with blessings of health, happiness and prosperity for everyone.

Christmas is over for another year. We had a wonderful Christmas and we truly enjoyed the many gatherings with family and friends. Mary-Beth, Denis and children Alexander and Cassandra Goyette were home from Yellowknife. They visited Mary Beth's parents Betty and Earl Grieve and other family members and friends. Wendy and Dale Marion

and Shayla and Hayley of Orleans were Christmas visitors at Diane and Earl McKnight's and Lydia Marion's. Audrey, Pierre and Morgan Valieres of Aylmer spent Christmas with Lysanne and Ted Bechamp. Melanie, Michel, Evan and Ryan Pilon, of Aylmer were Christmas visitors at Nicole and Jean Pilon's. Have a safe week!



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**Pontiac Agricultural Society Annual General Meeting**  
 Wednesday, January 16, 2008 at 8:00 p.m.  
 Dr. S.E. McDowell School, Shawville  
 Memberships on sale  
 January 3, January 8 and January 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Fair Board Office.

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 Fashions by:  
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 Live Music by: "Country Reflections"  
 \* Many exhibitors  
 \* Sale of Bridal Fashions  
 \* Grand Prize for a Bride and Groom  
 \* Many other prizes

**Friday's Wine & Dine**  
 Bring your own bottle of wine. Inquire about our 1/2 price wine.  
**Winter Menu**  
 Steak, Seafood, Pasta, Shepherd's Pie, Rotisserie Chicken, Roast Beef, Comfort food like you've never imagined... only 20 minutes away.  
 Escape... (romance or from your spouse) but you don't have to travel far.  
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**RIVER CLUB RIVIERE CHAPEAU**  
 presents  
**"Finished Renovations Party"**  
 Saturday, January 5th  
 Featuring Our Very First Saturday Afternoon Matinee with  
**PETER WHITE BAND**  
 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm  
 - Live Country Matinee every Saturday 3pm-7pm  
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 - Door prizes and giveaways  
 - Karaoke every Thursday  
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 - Retro Saturday nights for 80s music lovers  
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Calendar for January and February 2008 with dates and days of the week.

CLASSIFIEDS

819-647-2206 Fax prepress@theequity.ca E-mail ads news@theequity.ca E-mail news and letters www.theequity.ca Website Submissions > DEADLINE MONDAY 5 p.m.

COMING EVENTS

Sat., Jan 5 - Pontiac Animal Rescue Bottle Drive, Shawville. To help raise money for an animal rescue facility and a spay/neuter program in the Pontiac area. Please drop off your bottles/cans for deposit return to J.J.'s Grocery at C 425, Hwy 148. Call numbers below for home pick-up or for more info 647-5794 or 458-1866. 2b2j

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MEMORIAM

Armstrong - In memory of Iva Armstrong who died January 6, 2007. If I had all the world to give, To hear your voice and see your smile, And greet you at my door, But all I can do, dear mother is go and tend your grave, And leave behind tokens of love, To the best mother God ever made. Missing you. Joan

MEMORIAM

Lapierre - In memory of Jean-Guy Lapierre who passed away Jan. 4, 2004. The moment that you died, Our hearts split in two, The one side filled with memories, The other died with you. We often lay awake at night, When the world is fast asleep, And take a walk down memory lane, With tears upon our cheeks. Remembering you is easy, We do it every day, But missing you is a heartache, That never goes away. We hold you tightly within our hearts, And there you will remain. Life has gone on without you, But it will never be the same. For those of you who still have their sons, Treat him with tender care, You will never know the emptiness As when you turn and he is not there. Lovingly remembered by Dad and Linda

Caldwell

Hermonie Sharpe 647-3459 Cluster flies! Now why am I talking about these pests this time of year? First they put out the cluster busters which we thought would be the real thing to get them. But no such luck. You can be the cleanest person on earth and still have cluster flies. It seems they like older houses. But how are they getting in? We have new windows all over and we think they are air tight as we don't feel a breeze through them but all at once down from the top of the window just like as if they came from nowhere, drops flies. This year is really the worst year and where in Heaven's name did they come from. My neighbour, Millie Boyd, just called to tell me her bird feeders were empty overnight. On Friday, Dec. 21 she looked out to see a deer helping himself to the bird feed. She sent for her camera and took a picture of it. He was just getting an early Christmas treat, Millie. Get well wishes are sent to Lorne Sharpe who is on the sick list. Visitors at Hermonie Sharpe's over the Christmas holidays were Donald and Joanne Sharpe of Peterborough, Neil and Margaret Sharpe, Tom and Sarah Sharpe of Etobicoke, Chad and Chrissie Parsons of Hull, Craig Wilson of Hull and Murray and Kim Mako of Holland Landing. Also visiting and having dinner with us recently were my daughter Connie and her husband Jim of Golden Lake. Connie is having a great time skating on the lake at her home. She has been kept busy cleaning all this snow we have had. We talked to my niece Lorraine Webster in Rochester, N.Y., Roberta Little in Pennfield, N.Y., Joan Russell at Sheridan

Lake, B.C., Marilyn Telford and Joyce Thompson in Ottawa as well as my family in the west, Robert and Linda Sharpe of Courtenay, B.C. and Peter and Jacqueline Sharpe of Barriere, B.C. and Cliff Sharpe of Montreal, my two sisters-in-law Evelyn Sharpe of Pembroke and Mary Sharpe of Belleville. Spending Christmas with Millie Boyd were daughter Beverly, her daughter Katie and son Cole and Christopher Dionne. She also had a visit from her niece Millie and husband Allan Paul of Ottawa. So glad to hear that Dale Alexander is gaining ground as he has been very sick. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Dale. Well folks, we are in 2008. Can you believe that? Time has sure flown since the year 2000. Sure hope everyone has a good year. So sorry to hear about the death of Harry Sinclair of Toronto. He was the uncle of Joyce Hodgins and Barry Telford of Shawville. To his family and friends we send our deepest sympathy. Well, some of the euchre clubs are opening up this week again. This past Sunday night was at the Oddfellows Hall, Wednesday and Thursday night Bristol and then the following Tuesday in Quyon. Thank you Ann Ireland for my beautiful Christmas tree. I will love and cherish it for as long as I am able. If you were wondering why the Bristol dump was closed at noon on both the holidays over Christmas it was because it was passed in council. Also this past Sunday and Monday morning your regular man who works at the dump was off because of a bad back. Hope everything will be back to normal by this Friday. Our deepest sympathy goes out the family and friends of Eileen Dunne, a one time resident of Norway Bay, who passed away recently in Ottawa.

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DEATHS

Asprey, Frank Robert (Bert) (1916-2007) passed away peacefully on Christmas morning in Mississauga, Ontario with his family at his side. Bert leaves behind his loving wife Nora, his son Peter and wife Diane, Granddaughter Susan and husband Tom, Great-grandchildren Tristan and Tegan. The family wishes to express their sincere gratitude for all assistance during his last year of residency in Shawville. Bert will be dearly missed by all family and friends. The family request that any donations be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation (www.heartand-stroke.com).

DEATHS

Spring - In loving memory of a dear mother-in-law and grandmother Ida Sparling who passed away January 4, 1972. Loving memories never die. As years roll on and days pass by. In our hearts a memory is kept. Remembered by Florence and grandchildren.

DEATHS

Taylor, Thomas R. - Retired Revenue Canada, passed away December 26th, 2007 at the Pontiac Reception Centre, Shawville, Quebec in his 77th year. Loving husband of 55 years of Eleanor (née Nesbitt). Dear father of Richard (Dale) and the late Janice (Stuart). Special grandpa of Taylor, Sky, Jeremy, Quinn and the late Joshua. Predeceased by parents Tom and Betty Taylor. Survived by brother Gerald (Audrey) and by many cherished friends. Friends may call at the W.J. Hayes & Sons Funeral Home, 134 Centre Street, Shawville, Quebec on Thursday, January 3, 2008 from 2 p.m. until service time. Funeral service in the Chapel at 3 p.m. Interment of ashes in the Spring in Norway Bay United Cemetery. Donations to the Alzheimer's Society would be gratefully appreciated.

DEATHS

Shawville Lyse Lacourse 647-5932 lysie\_wheezy@hotmail.com The Christmas season this year has been particularly special due to the beautiful lights all around town. The glistening white snow, children playing, making snowmen and angels, sliding and ski-doo's all in the neighbourhood. It was quite a difference from last year's green Christmas when holiday pastimes could not be fulfilled due to the weather. Get well prayers and wishes sent to Ken Armitage who is presently at the Shawville Hospital. Congratulations to Edith Kelly and Gordie Mohr who were married on Saturday, Dec. 29 at St. Edward's Church amongst family and friends. Hillis Connolly had an open house to view his new home on Dec. 15 and it was very well attended by neighbors and friends. Welcome to the neighbourhood. The Shawville Winterfest was a success on Friday, Dec. 28. It has been a fantastic Christmas and holiday season visiting with family and friends from Shawville, Ottawa and Montreal. My family and I have had a great time visiting with our family who are from Montreal and let us not forget Steve - see I did not forget you this time. Birthday greetings this week are Catherine Hodgins, Roberta Sparling, Todd Finnigan, Vivian Stevens, Nancy Tremblay,

DEATHS

Edgar Mayhew on Boxing Day was Lottie Narlock of Ottawa and Mae Guyea of Renfrew. A speedy recovery to Lola Dagenais who had the misfortune of fracturing her right foot and leg on Christmas Eve while going for her mail. Results of the Golden Age Club euchre for Dec 18: Ladies first prize Janet Lafleur, second, Pat Bisson. Men's first Rejean St-Pierre, second, Paul Blaskie. Door prize winner: Roselette Flury. 50/50 draw: Bruce Willis. Dessert was provided by Olivette Mason and Marie Pilon. Happy birthday wishes to Ellard Robinson on Dec. 18 Roger Sincennes on Dec. 23, Gisele Beaudin on Dec. 29, Pat Bisson and Diane Peck on Jan. 1. Next card night is Jan. 8. Dart league results for Dec 20: Ladies high score: Barb Lintell. Ladies high average: Olivette Mason. Men's high score: René Graveline. Mens high average: Geline Lafleur. Door prize winner: Ronald Beaudin. 50/50 draw: Theresa Blaskie. Next dart night is Jan. 10.

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NOTICES

supper was catered by Labelles and was delicious. I had to leave early but I heard that everyone danced all night and had a great time. The following day there was a brunch at Les Cabins du Chutes in Fort Coulonge where they had the gift opening. Happy birthday to Jason Normandeau on Jan. 3, Ann Kelly Jan. 5, Isabell Kluge Jan. 6, Keith and Kenny Morin, Elwin Brown on Jan. 7, Roxanne Kluge on Jan. 8. A special happy anniversary to Ann and Ian Wrinn who celebrated their 37th at Mickey Creek on Dec. 28. I wanted to wish everyone a Merry Christmas up the Picanoc, especially T.K. who forgot to call me this year. We would like to wish Arnold Hearty get well wishes. He is a patient in Shawville Hospital. Shelley, Carl and the boys weren't able to make it here for Christmas but are supposed to come this weekend if the weather is good. Theresa and I sure miss our grandchildren and can hardly wait to see them.

NOTICES

My cousin, Ramona Dunahee, visited with Heather Boyd during Christmas. She stopped in to see me twice but I was at work so she left me a note on the table and snatched a piece of lemon meringue pie that she saw sitting on the counter begging to be eaten. There were so many invitations to go to Christmas Eve and Christmas Day suppers but I couldn't stay long anywhere because I had to work. But I thank you all for inviting me and I hope you all had a great Christmas. A very special first birthday wish is going out to Mackenna Souliere from her granny and grandpa Susan and Butchy Farrell. MacKenna was born January 1, 2007 and was Pontiac's New Year's baby that year. The other night I had Susie, Frank, Isabell and Theresa here for the night. I gave up my bed for Isabell and Theresa and I slept on the couch. About 3 a.m. the smoke detector went off. I sprang off the couch. I'm sure it only took me three

NOTICES

sprints to get to the basement. Smoke had filled the house and when I inspected around the wood stove I saw that the axe handle was leaning against it and slowly smoldering. I quickly grabbed it and ran outside and threw it into the snow. No fire, just smoke. I then ran around the house and opened all the windows and doors. All the while the detector was still screeching and everyone was up trying to figure out what was happening. Everyone grabbed blankets and wrapped themselves in them because it was getting downright cold in the house. We stayed up until the smoke cleared and were able to close the doors and windows again. In all the years I have been burning wood I've never had anything happen. The only thing that I could see was that the cat must have knocked over the axe onto the stove while chasing a mouse. Moral of the story is to keep the axe and everything else away from the stove and to make sure to set the mouse trap before you go to bed.

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Eleanor's Cookbook, Volume 1 and 2 are available at The Pontiac Printshop, 133 Centre St., Shawville, Quebec. Stop in and pick up your copy. They make great Christmas gifts! xtc

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Elizabeth Hahn 453-7326 I want to wish all my readers a very happy, healthy new year. Christmas dinner guests at the home of Elizabeth Hahn were Patricia and Carson Russell of North Gower, Natalie Hahn of Toronto, Pam and Randy Thoms, Kathryn and Graham of Kanata, Pat Hahn, Dolores Bertrand, Kelly Hahn, Craig Proulx, Travis and Julia of Pembroke, Hilda and Blake Keyes of Bells Corner. Edgar and Hilda Mayhew, missing from our family gathering was Jeff and Naomi Russell, their son, Johnathan, and Matt Kiemen who called us from Florida to wish us all a Merry Christmas. Also dropping in for a visit with us was Remi Gravelle of Norway Bay. Santa was very generous again this year. Travis Proulx spent five days with his great-grandma Elizabeth Gravelle Hahn. Visiting with Mr. and Mrs.

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PASSPORT PHOTOS DONE HERE! Pontiac Printshop Home of THE EQUITY 133 Centre St., Shawville 819-647-2204

Vinton Diane Boisvert 648-5296 What a great Christmas we had with all that snow! You must admit it kept us busy either shoveling or playing in it.

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HELP WANTED Nail technician, experienced stylist, junior stylist. Call Kim at Angles Coiffure, Shawville 819-647-5299. xj2

THANKS Robillard, Denise - We would like to thank the nurses at the Shawville Hospital for the excellent care Denise received while she was a patient there. To the volunteers in Palliative Care, you were outstanding in your care and compassion. A special thank you to Edith, Marie and June. To all who supplied food for the lunch, thank you. Special thanks to Gerda for her organizational skills. Thank you to everyone who sent cards, food and the phone calls. Thank you to all who attended the lunch. To everyone, your caring and compassion during this difficult time has helped in the healing process. Atkinson and Robillard Family

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# Centre de Formation Professionnelle du Pontiac: 14 élèves reçoivent un DEP



**Cuisine d'établissement.** Jean-Paul Gélinas (directeur), Vanessa Zhivkov (enseignante), Yannick La Salle (gradué), Roger Fortin (gradué), Sylvie Rivet (graduée), André Macron (enseignant), Daniel Amyotte (gradué). Absent sur la photo : Pierre Francoeur (gradué).

**MANIWAKI** • Quatorze élèves du Centre de formation professionnelle Pontiac ont reçu un diplôme d'études professionnelles (DEP) lors d'une collation des grades tenue le mercredi 28 novembre dernier.

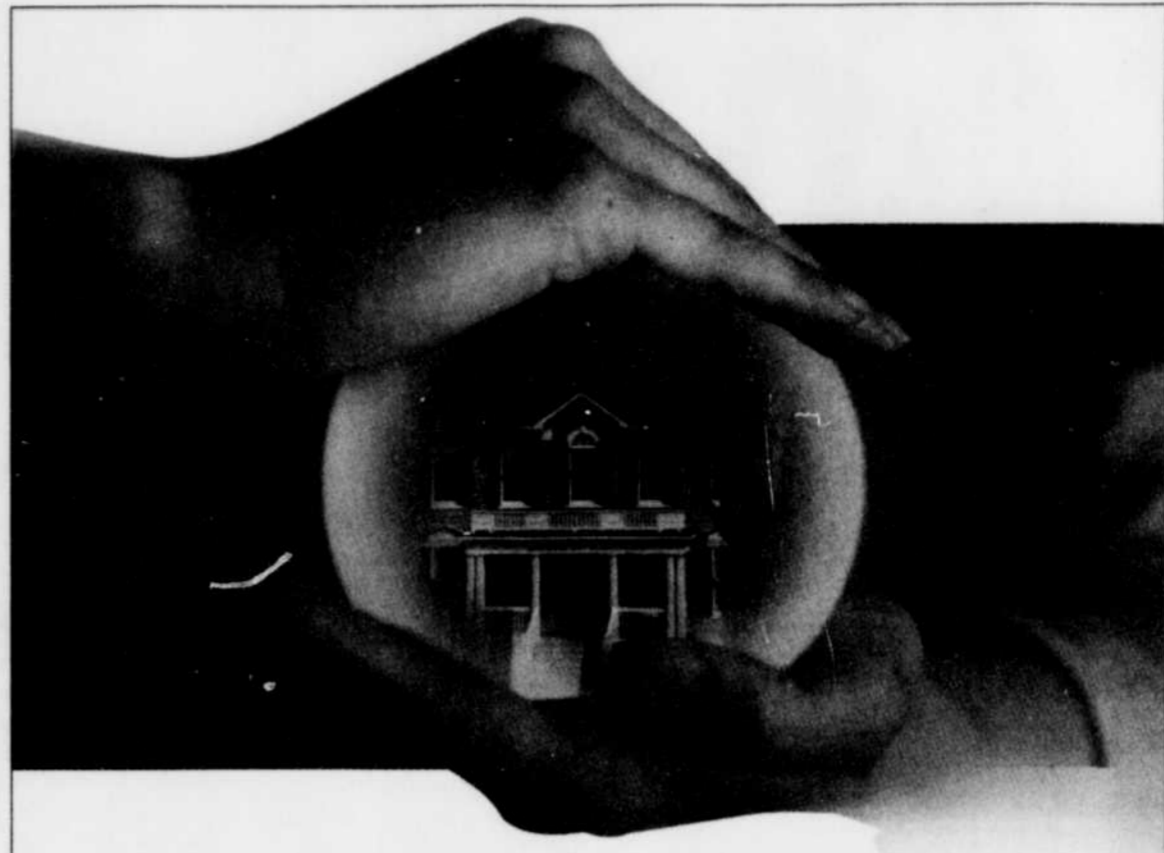
Parmi les quatorze récipiendaires, on comptait cinq gradué(e)s de la formation Cuisine d'établissement, soit Yannick La Salle, Roger Fortin, Sylvie Rivet, Daniel Amyotte et Pierre Francoeur.

Deux élèves ont aussi reçu en secrétariat, soit Edith Soucie et Kim Miron. Enfin, sept élèves ont décroché un DEP en comptabilité, soit Samantha Paquette-

Lachapelle, Laura La Salle, Guylaine Lepage, Stéphanie Lacroix, Kina Rivet, Liane Fortin et Sherry-Ann Denault.

Le député fédéral Lawrence Cannon a aussi fait parvenir des certificats honorifiques aux quatorze diplômés. Ce certificat soulignait l'excellence des élèves et les félicitait de leurs bons résultats.

D'autres prix ont été distribués lors de cette collation des grades qui se tenait à la Terrasse de Vieux-Pont, de Fort-Coulonge. Par exemple, les élèves du cours de Cuisine d'établissement ont tous reçu un couteau de cuisine (demi-chef) portant l'ins-



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## Deputée du Pontiac annonce versement de 19 000 \$ aux organismes communautaires

**CAMPBELL'S BAY** • Charlotte L'Écuyer, députée de Pontiac, est heureuse d'annoncer qu'une somme de 19 000 \$ sera versée aux organismes communautaires offrant des services de halte-garderie dans la région.

Mme L'Écuyer a annoncé aujourd'hui que trois organismes, soit le Centre communautaire Entre-Nous, les maisons de famille du Pontiac et Quyon, se partageront cette somme octroyée afin de les soutenir dans leur rôle auprès des familles.

« Notre priorité est de contribuer au mieux-être des familles, et les organismes communautaires con-

stituent des ressources extrêmement importantes. Ils ont démontré depuis longtemps qu'ils savent répondre avec souplesse aux besoins variés des parents du Québec. C'est pourquoi nous sommes heureux de les aider à maintenir un aussi bel éventail de services aux familles », a affirmé Mme L'Écuyer.

Dans le cadre du budget 2007-2008, le gouvernement du Québec a rendu récurrente la somme de 3 millions de dollars allouée en 2006-2007 aux organismes communautaires qui offrent des services de halte-garderie.

Ces services permettent aux parents d'obtenir un moment de répit ou de participer à des activités de formation et d'intégration sociale et professionnelle, il est donc important de voir à leur maintien », souligne la ministre de la Famille, Mme Michelle Courchesne.

Plus de 250 organismes communautaires offrant des services de halte-garderie recevront de l'aide financière grâce à cette mesure.

« L'organisation de la vie familiale représente un défi constant. »

« Je suis convaincue qu'une telle mesure permettra aux familles de la circonscription de Pontiac de profiter encore longtemps des

ressources locales disponibles et ainsi de faire face aux réalités de la vie d'aujourd'hui », a précisé Mme L'Écuyer.

Rappelons que la reconnaissance et le financement des organismes communautaires Famille et des haltes-garderies communautaires font partie des diverses orientations du gouvernement pour venir en aide aux familles.

Au total, les investissements annuels pour soutenir les familles québécoises représentent 4,7 milliards de dollars, une hausse de 30 per centum depuis 2003.

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Amanda Dupuis, THE EQUITY  
The Pontiac Western Festival came to Draveurs des Chutes Restaurant in Mansfield for the second time in history July 1. Barrel racing, shown here, was one of the events. The aim is to direct the horse around three barrels in a triangle formation and doing so in the least amount of time, without falling off or knocking any barrels over.



Amanda Dupuis, THE EQUITY  
Grade 1 student William Lepack performs the first act of Drama-Cirque, which took place June 15.



Amanda Dupuis, THE EQUITY  
The demolition derby at Shawville fair Sept. 3 was a smashing success.



Wilbur McLean, THE EQUITY  
This tree was struck by lightning Aug. 29, splitting the evergreen from top to bottom and creating an eight-inch gap. The tree is located on property owned by Mike Couillard of Norway Bay.



Leah Miller, for THE EQUITY  
The old Hodgins homestead on Hodgins Road in Clarendon was lost to a fire in April. The Shawville-Clarendon Fire Department worked over seven hours to extinguish the blaze, which is thought to have started from an electrical problem inside the house. Built in the 1880s, the log home was only 40 feet away from the Hodgins family's new home on the same property. The new house and the barn was unharmed and nobody was hurt.

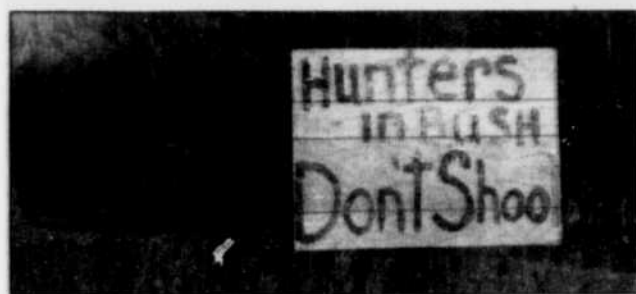


Amanda Dupuis, THE EQUITY  
Three-year-old Shawville resident Alex Mayhew, a future 4-Her, walked his two-week-old bull calf Tiny Tim around the ring Sept. 1 during the Holstein dairy competition.



Wilbur McLean, THE EQUITY  
A night of laughs in Otter Lake included this depiction of a grown man as a baby. The comedy show and dance raised money for the Ste. Marie school Breakfast Club program.

# The best photos of 2007 as seen in THE EQUITY

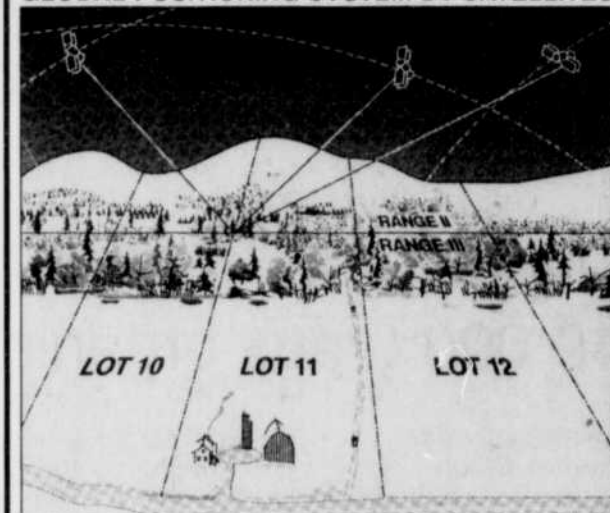


Heather Dickson, THE EQUITY  
'Twas the season.



Leah Miller, for THE EQUITY  
Emily Moquin, 7, waited patiently to wear this slithery friend at the Scensational Ssnakes "Reptile at Risk" presentation made at the Shawville-Clarendon Library July 18.

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