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THE EQUITY

Metro playoffs are done, not in the Valley – page 7

Leaps, twists and all those graceful moves. Ice revue wraps up skaters' season – page 8

The Voice of the Pontiac since 1883 • Box 4300, Shawville, Québec, Canada J0X 2Y0 • www.theequity.ca • equity@achilles.net • 119th Year, No. 12 Wednesday, March 27, 2002 • 87 cents

NEWS BRIEFS

Cheap imports put local mill out of joint

MANSFIELD — The only mill running at Bois Jointé these days is one of rumour and speculation.

Meanwhile, the actual mill which makes custom wooden finger joints, sits idle.

"We had a contract for five years with Tembec and it was up in November (2001)," said general manager Raymond Huckabone, who is the only full-time employee left. "We've been shut down since then. They were our only client."

Demand for domestic finger joints dried up across the country last fall, as consumers had them imported from around the world.

"Now people are buying whatever's cheapest," said Huckabone, who's been with the company for three years.

Since November, Huckabone has been waiting for any word from the head office in Québec City. The only thing he's heard is second-hand speculation.

"I've heard rumours that the mill's been sold, but I don't know, because I haven't heard it from my superiors," he said.

What Huckabone did know was sketchy: "We're in negotiations for a new contract with Tembec right now, but I won't hear anything until a deal is done."

Huckabone still had a positive outlook about the future of the mill.

"There must be some reason they're keeping me here," he joked.

A finger joint is a system of pointed grooves cut into the end of a board. When two grooved boards are pushed together, they link, like a puzzle piece.

They are quite strong when locked in place and eliminate the need for adhesives or nails.

Bois Jointé has been in business for about nine years, operating on Chemin Bois-Franc, north of Fort Coulonge.

Québec gov't hammers softwood knot

QUÉBEC— Provincial government officials denounced the duties on Canadian softwood lumber imposed by the U.S. Department of Commerce Friday.

Lucie Papineau, the minister of Industry and Commerce and François Gendron, the minister of Natural Resources spelled out what this will mean to the province.

"These measures will have a devastating impact on the Québec lumber industry that represents a pillar of the Québec economy," they said.

Negotiations broke down on Friday, and according to the British Columbia Lumber Trade Council (BCLTC), Canada will begin what is expected to be a lengthy appeal to the World Trade Organization.

Québec also had representatives at the negotiations in Washington, including members from Tembec, and minister Gendron who said that the U.S. lumber industry had left Canada no choice but to appeal to NAFTA and the WTO.

"We are confidant about the (future) results of those procedures," he said. "The proposals by the Americans during the last days did not let us settle the conflict once and for all."

"It is now obvious to us that the U.S. lumber industry was never serious about seeking a resolution but rather were using the process and their government to protect their highly inefficient industry," said Jake Kerr, a BCLTC representative and CEO of a B.C. lumber company.

Québec accounts for about 25 per cent of Canada's $10 billion yearly softwood lumber exports to the U.S.

The American duties for countervail and dumping, total about 29 per cent added on to the comparatively cheaper price of Canadian softwood. The payments for the duties are scheduled to begin in May.

Just go to work: ADAT president Dumais

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

PONTIAC — The leader of the Right to Work Association (ADAT) says Québecers working on Ontario job sites should continue doing so — for the time being — without registering at the Ontario Jobs Protection Office.

Since March 9 —the date Ontario re-implemented the Fairness is a Two-Way Street Act (1999) — Quebec workers and contractors are required to register at the Jobs Protection Office (JPO). Registration costs workers $100 and contractors $1,000. As well, workers have to show proof of experience in the trade.

ADAT president Jocelyn Dumais says workers should hold Quebec Labour Minister Jean Rochon to a promise he made that the Quebec government would pay the legal fees incurred by Quebecers fined for working on Ontario job sites. Dumais spoke to a small gathering of supporters at an ADAT meeting at Atkinson's Bar in Shawville Wednesday, March 20.

In a Feb. 26 press release, Rochon said, "Moreover, Québec will provide support to the contractors and workers who would be adversely affected in the event Act 17 is enforced, to help them defend themselves by using the proper legal remedies."

"If you get fined, good," Dumais said. "Let the Québec government pay the legal fees.

"If an inspector tells you to leave the job site, go see your superintendent right away."

Québec has set up a liaison office "to coordinate the action of the government partners and chief actors in the construction industry. The office will also identify the workers and contractors affected by the Ontario measure so that they may receive the support they need," Rochon said.

However, Dumais says workers shouldn't get their hopes up too high that the Liaison Office will help them get a competency card.

"When they say bring proof of your qualifications, they give you hope, but there are no assurances that you will get a card," Dumais said.

The labour dispute centred on access to the Québec construction industry by Ontario workers and companies hasn't had a big impact on Pontiacers, yet. And, it may have no impact at all. Some observers feel Ontario's stance had more to do with Labour Minister Chris Stockwell's run for the leadership of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party than it did with protecting the Ontario worker.

"It's definitely political again," said Kirk Tubman, of Shawville. Tubman was referring to Ontario implementing Bill 17 on the eve of the last Ontario provincial election in 1999.

"Hopefully the new leader will put more pressure on the companies and let the worker work," Dumais said.

"In a couple of weeks now, there may be a new Ontario Labour Minister."

ADAT filed a complaint Feb. 19 against the Québec and Ontario governments demanding that the federal government intervene on behalf of the Quebec worker and contractor.

"Maybe they can force the two governments to sit at the same table and not forget us," Dumais said.

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Paul McGee, THE EQUITY

PONTIAC PLACE FOR YOUTH: MNA Robert Middlemiss speaks to the students and guests at the year-end brunch at the Pine Lodge in Bristol Sunday for the Place for Youth program. The program is designed to encourage Pontiacers attending post-secondary school to return to the area when their studies are completed. Lorraine Parent, of the Place for Youth program stands behind Middlemiss.

Place for Youth grooms students for Pontiac future

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

PONTIAC — The Place for Youth program designed to bring young Pontiacers back to the county after they finish post-secondary education has become more important in the wake of the latest Statistics Canada census results.

The results from the 2001 census show that Pontiac's population decreased by about 1,200 in the past five years. Observers blame the eight per cent drop on the exodus by young people to the city to find work. Area funeral homes say they have noticed no significant increase in the number of deaths per year.

For the past 11 years, the Place for Youth has been bringing young students back to Pontiac for three weekend sessions to introduce them to the area and what it has to offer. The program closed its year at a brunch at Pine Lodge in Bristol Sunday.

"I've learned about problems such as economic and social," said 17-year-old Sebastien Gagnon, of Bristol, who is studying social sciences at Cejep l'Outaouais.

"I've learned about some solutions the mayors and everyone else is looking at."

Gagnon said Place for Youth has made him determined to return when school is finished.

"Since the first day of Place for Youth, I wanted to come back," Gagnon said.

Gagnon said there are "lots of possibilities" in Pontiac.

"I'll probably open a business or just get a job," Gagnon said. "It's a nice place to live."

Gagnon said that like many other youngsters, he couldn't wait to leave Pontiac. However, time helped change the young man's mind.

"As the years passed, I was sure I wanted to live in the country," he said. "When I started with the Place for Youth, I realized Pontiac was not such a bad place to live."

Cejep student Sylvie Brousseau, of Calumet Island, agrees with Gagnon.

Potential

"I had the same reaction," Brousseau said. "I wasn't coming back, there was nothing here. However, when I joined the group, I learned that we do have a lot in Pontiac."

Brousseau said the area has tremendous potential.

"There's so much possible with tourism," she said. "We have hope for the future."

On the first weekend, the students were given an overview of Pontiac's geography and history. On the second, the students toured Pontiac, visiting some of its notable sites.

Bristol Mayor Jack Graham, one of the speakers at the year-end brunch, echoed the concerns raised the Statistics Canada census figures .

"We not only want you to return, we need you back here," Graham said. Youth is our future."

Graham offered a slice of his personal history as an example of the benefits of returning.

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Flying Elbows reaching fans, hockey players

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

SHAWVILLE — After only three years, the Flying Elbows Hockey Tournament is soaring to new heights.

The tournament, organized by Norway Bay's Matt Sally in memory of James Smith who was killed in a vehicular accident in 1998, has grown to a 14-team affair.

The tournament, held at the Shawville arena Saturday and Sunday, awards the James Smith Memorial Trophy to the top team to come out of the Barley and Hops divisions.

Smith coached Sally during his last year in minor hockey. Sally said his time spent with Smith is a lasting experience.

"He put the focus on fun," Sally said. "Hockey was for kids to go out and have fun."

And fun it was, for spectators and players alike.

"It went really well," Sally said. "We had a good crowd out for the final game. I was impressed and quite pleased with the crowd."

In fact, one of the teams had perhaps a little too much fun Saturday night.

"One team couldn't ice a team after going out," Sally said.

Sally said the growing popularity of the tournament is linked with the rise of recreational hockey.

"Men's recreational hockey is one of the fastest growing divisions in hockey," he said.

The final saw two local teams — Dufferin Construction and The Agency — squaring off for the trophy, with Dufferin winning the final game 3-1. The two teams made it to the finals based on a point system for leading after each period and for the win. The 14 teams each played three games on the weekend.

"It was nice to see some of those guys (locals playing)," Sally said.

Fans also enjoyed a new feature this year: beginners' hockey. Teams from Shawville and Fort Coulonge faced off before the final, with the home team coming out on top.

On Saturday, the tournament featured a shoot-out from centre ice, won by Quyon's David Coyle who picked up $115 for his marksmanship with a puck and stick.

Sally said though organizing the tournament is hard work, it's worth it. He said his family is a tremendous help to putting on the annual event.

The big thing is getting teams in from the city," he said.

Any money raised from this year's tournament will be put back into the tournament fund to help with next year's event. In the two previous years, proceeds raised went to the Shawville minor hockey system. Sally said expenses incurred by ice rental, 42 sticks for each game MVP and prize money (return of the $425 entry fee) warrant putting money back into the tournament.

Paul McGee, THE EQUITY

BRINGING IT HOME: Dufferin Construction, comprised of local men, won the James Smith Memorial Trophy at the Flying Elbows Hockey Tournament at the Shawville arena on the weekend. Front row, from the left: Tony Hodgins, Cory Greer, Jamie Armstrong, Randy Plouffe, Kevin Chevrier and Christian Lebel. Back row, from the left: Rod Twolan, Allan Horner, Steven Greer, Dan Duggan, Dave Twolan, Rod Storie and Randy Chabot.

'Accountability Plan' aims to improve schools

By MICHAEL LLOYD
Equity Reporter

AYLMER — In a sweeping effort to improve its students' academic success, the Western Québec School Board has revealed a new "Accountability Plan" for its schools.

Diane Fyfe, director general of the WQSB explained where this idea of accountability came from: "Educators in the Western world have started asking if we're making a difference in the lives of children and the only way we can make a difference is to be accountable."

According to the board's Accountability Plan, the idea is this: the board will now hold itself accountable for managing its schools and each school will hold itself accountable for graduating "well-rounded, successful young adults," by improving on the previous year's results.

Improvement

Kevin Drysdale, Director of Education at the WQSB thinks that the Accountability Plan is an improvement on past efforts by the board.

"There's a shade of difference between setting a target than saying 'I'm responsible for it,'" he said.

He and Fyfe have been busy recently, trying to get the message out that the board knows there are problems with its school system and plans have been made to render them.

"I have not been happy with the results of our schools in the last five years," Fyfe said referring to the poor student success rates measured by the ministry and other education consultants.

The success rate is usually defined by standardized testing done by the ministry, which measures the percentage of students who pass an exam by more than 60 per cent.

Students are now evaluated in cycles, each containing two grades.

This year, at the elementary level, the WQSB has set specific goals for Cycles 1 to 3; or Grades 1 to 6.

In Cycle 1, the focus will be on getting the student to be a competent reader.

Cycle 2 will focus on writing and Cycle 3 will be a reinforcement of the first two.

"We plan to integrate math next year," Fyfe said.

Each school has its own Principal's Accountability Plan, which is a list of improvements, specific to and voted on by each school and its governing board.

A governing board is a group made up of students, parents, teachers and support staff from each school; they are voted onto the board, which gets to decide what board recommendations go into the plans.

"We don't necessarily make the plans," said Pat Hobbs, who sits on the governing board at Pontiac High School in Shawville, "but we do get to approve them."

Pontiac High has mandated itself to improve its students' success rates in two of its courses and lower its dropout rate to 30 per cent this year, from 33 per cent last year.

Dropout rate questioned

Drysdale warned that the student dropout rate could be misleading, explaining that it included students who moved out of province for education and that students who get their diplomas as adults weren't counted in the ratio.

One of the classes that was changed at Pontiac High, was the History of Québec and Canada course.

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Shawville Village Inn opens on Hwy. 148

By LESLIE DICKSON
Equity Reporter

SHAWVILLE — An old business becomes new again.

Ross and Linda Vowles recently purchased the Ed and Ellen Motel on Hwy. 148 near Shawville and renamed it the Shawville Village Inn (Auberge du Village Shawville).

Edgar and Ellen Connelly were the first owners who started the motel in 1968 in a two bedroom bungalow with a Shell service station. Ed and Ellen are Linda's parents, and Linda plans to keep up the family tradition with a good, viable business.

The motel now has a whole new image, hoping to attract a wide variety of customers.

After much renovation, and still plans of more in the works, there is a nice new eating area where customers can enjoy a divers selection of menu items for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

There are currently 15 motel units for rent, some still under renovation, and in the future, Linda and Ross have plans of landscaping to make the front yard more appealing with the addition of grass and shrubs.

Leslie Dickson, THE EQUITY

NEW BUSINESS: Shawville Village Inn owners Ross Vowles and Linda Vowles with chef Roger Guertin at the recently opened business on Hwy. 148 west of Shawville.

Cultural Centre could come to Campbell's Bay

By MICHAEL LLOYD
Equity Reporter

CAMPBELL'S BAY — Campbell's Bay may soon be known as Culture Bay, if the committee for a Cultural Centre in Pontiac has its way.

About 20 people from Luskville, Waltham and most points in between, attended an open forum Saturday, at the Campbell's Bay Public Library, to voice their opinions.

The group was represented by local artists, urban planners and members of the MRC.

The meeting was held to share the results of a survey sent out to the public last month, and to discuss the next steps.

Of the 200 people who responded, 93 per cent thought that a cultural centre was a good idea.

Ideas

People had a wide array of ideas about what a cultural centre should be.

"This is the beginning of a long process," said Dale Shutt who sits on the committee with Ariann Bouchard, Isabelle Bruyn, Lily Ryan and Sebastien Beaudoin.

Accessiblity, location and a view of the river were discussed.

"We have to think of our mental exercise and our history," said Betty Ryan of Waltham.

She wanted to see facilities for the public in Pontiac to use, like computers with Internet and historical document access.

"I go to the Pembroke library right now and I have to pay because I'm out of province.

"It's OK to entertain (at the centre) but we need facilities," Ryan said.

The group agreed that the centre should be centralized in the county and accessible to all.

That is why the committee is considering Campbell's Bay for the future site of the centre.

"There is funding available from all levels of government for culture," Shutt said. "Space is the problem."

The committee will be presenting a report to the MRC on March 25 and will recommend the adoption of a cultural policy.

If the MRC votes in favour of a cultural centre, Shutt said there will be a need for local citizens to participate: "We need bodies and minds and ideas on these committees."

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ALL ARE WELCOME

FROM THE FRONT

'Accountability Plan' aims to improve schools

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Hobbs explained that "now, it will take a student's knowledge and apply it, rather than the student regurgitating what they learned last week and then forgetting it."

This tied in to what Fyfe's idea was of a "constructivist classroom," which she defined as a classroom that "integrates subjects and is based upon competence and skills and not just knowledge."

Hobbs feels that a governing board plays a vital role in the planning process because it gives those affected by school board plans, a voice.

"Sometimes the school board's point of view is different from a student having problems in that class," she said.

Hobbs is also pleased with how the governing boards are being treated by the school board, which "seems very open to being accountable and they want the governing boards to ask them questions.

"Now we just have to learn what questions to ask," she said.

If any of the schools do not meet their mandates, there will be consequences.

"If goals weren't met, I'd have a sit down with the principal, and hope that principal would sit down and talk with the teachers," Fyfe said.

The board, has also set forth its own initiatives.

According to the plan, it will try to keep parents updated and informed; hire, develop and maintain high quality personnel; continue to be fiscally sound and support academic excellence; look for ways to conserve energy and provide 21st century schools.

Fyfe's idea of what a 21st century school should be was "a place where students would constantly improve on their achievements and have a base in math and technology skills."

Just go to work: ADAT president

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As well, ADAT is sending 10 cases to Québec court to continue the fight against forced unionization. One case involves a man with "good references but no education." To get a competency card, a worker needs Grade 11.

"In his case, it might be faster to get back to the Supreme Court," he said.

Last fall, ADAT lost a Supreme Court decision on the constitutionality of forced unionization by one vote. Though the Supreme Court ruled against forced unionization in all the other provinces and territories, it upheld the Quebec construction regulations.

"We lost on the basis of consequences," Dumais said.

"We were one judge away from winning."

The judge who swayed the Supreme Court ruling against ADAT cited violence on Québec construction sites in the 1970s as reason for continuing forced unionization. Dumais scoffs at this reasoning.

"It's a slap in the face to Québec worker," he said. "We have to go forward now."

Place for Youth grooms students for Pontiac return

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"I'm a prime example," he said. "I left in 1958 and came back in 1977. I'm glad I came back. I was able to participate in my home area."

Graham encouraged the students by citing some of Pontiac's major tourist attractions as steps in the right direction.

"We're moving forward," he said, "which is evident by the (Temiskawa) waterway and the PPJ (Cyclopark).

"I think tourism is our big thing up here. I think our direction should be headed that way."

Warden Michael McCrank also encouraged the students to consider returning to Pontiac and becoming involved.

"If you go out, come back," McCrank said. "It's very important that you participate in our future."

MNA Robert Middlemiss added that it is important that young people return with an interest in the area.

"Young people come back with new ideas," he said.

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Nothing fishy about Répit fundraiser

By MICHAEL LLOYD
Equity Reporter

FORT COULONGE — For the second year in a row, the Répit Serge Bélair held a pool and darts tournament, Saturday March 16, at Percy's Hotel.

There was an open pool tournament for men and women, and a darts tournament for teams of four, but something was missing.

The scheduled minnow races never took place, and event organizer Patricia Marion explained why: "We found out that it was illegal to do it.

"Then we bought some goldfish instead of live minnows but that was illegal too; now we have some pets back at the house."

Marion is a full-time careworker with the Répit, which is located in an old farmhouse near St. Elizabeth's parish in Vinton, she also serves on the committee that runs it.

"Money is getting tighter," she said, of the reason for the fundraiser.

New Lease

"We just signed a new lease for the house in January," she said, and explained that they are now responsible for the utilities, "and it has tripled what we paid before."

Originally called the Répit Pontiac, it was renamed for one of its first clients, Serge Bélair, after he passed away in 1992.

It was meant to be a weekend retreat for two or three people with special needs and was started by their parents in 1989.

"The Répit was built to keep its clients out of institutions," Marion said, "to avoid a crisis where the family didn't have a choice."

Early on they found that they needed professionals to help run it and eventually it turned into a non-profit service that houses up to 13 guests every weekend.

"We take our clients swimming and we organize trips in the summer, like to Storyland," Marion said.

It costs about $130 per person, per weekend and the Répit receives funding to help families who can't afford it.

"We even help families from outside the Pontiac," Marion said."We just received an application from Hull."

The Répit is now branching out, doing what it can for its clients during the week as well.

"We have a worker who goes out during the week to help a family with three clients," she said.

"We're looking for a grant so we can do this better," she added.

There's also a day centre at the Répit which is like a school, but used for activities. The tournament winners received plaques and $25 gift certificates, but the real winners were the clients of the Répit Serge Bélair, who will receive a better quality of life.

Michael Lloyd, THE EQUITY

DART CHAMPS: The winners of the charity dart tournament are pictured here, at Percy's Hotel in Fort Coulonge, Saturday. The tournament was a fundraiser for the Répit Serge Bélair, in Vinton. From the left: Arthur Smiley, Cedric and Claudette Schleyer and Jimmy Larue, who placed second and Franky Meilleur,Michel St. Pierre, Shyloh Pasqua and Jason Huckabone, who placed first. Bottom row were an unidentified volunteer with the Répit Serge Belair, and event organizer Patricia Marion.

SHEENBORO

Irish celebrations make for busy day in Sheenboro

By MYRTLE SULLIVAN
Correspondent
689-2236

It has been a very busy week up here in Sheenboro. Their was lots of family and friends home for the weekend.

Trudy and Garth Middlestead and Ron Vellanga were home visiting Jimmy Tallon. Hugh and Pat O'Neil were home visiting her parents, Percy and Carmelita Gleason, Tim Doyle came home to visit Edwin and Cammy, and Clair and Raymond Gleason also had a visit from their son Owen and Ken and Mary Meehan.

Jerry, Colleen and Rick Sullivan were home to visit Granny Sullivan and Granny Spence.

Marilyn and Marcel Crozon brought two of their grandchildren, Molly Smith and Selina Perriera for a quick visit.

Francis Downey spent the past weekend with his parents Leo and Teresa. Rob Schilke also came from London to visit Colleen Morris.

Rod and Janet Morris took their son, Nelson, to the Museum of Civilization in Hull and the Hershey Factory during Nelson's March break.

Raymond and Iona Morris went to visit her brothers in Sudbury. Donald and Donna Gagnon went to a murder mystery dinner in Otter Lake.

Pat Tallon organized a great bus trip to the Irish Parade in Ottawa followed by an afternoon of Irish music and dancing

On Saturday, March 16, Billy Brennan represented Sheen with his homesteaders wagon in Irish style. Charlie McGuires family's Irish wagon, with its pots of gold represented St. Joseph's. Billy and Charlie each received a plaque from the Irish Society of Ottawa for their wagons. Pat would like to thank Dave and Arlene Clyde for all their help with this event.

The Irish celebrations continued throughout the weekend at Fred's and the Sheen hotel with Tyson Venne playing in Sheen along with the Sheen fiddlers and Renagade playing at Fred's with champion fiddler Louis Schryer.

Our local MP Robert Bertrand and his wife attended the local Irish festivities in Sheen. They are very good to support our various functions in the area.

Congratulations to Julie Venasse and Keith Perry on the birth of a new boy, and Dale Brennan and Shelly Montgomery on the birth of a daughter Faith, a sister for Julia.

We were very glad to have Tim McDonald home from the hospital and we wish him a speedy recovery.

At our local card party, first prize Rose Chartrand, second Linus Hearty and third was split between Stan Bresseau, Melvin Gagnon and Laurie Duchene.

Mary-Beth Smith, daughter of Mike and Marcella Smith, was christened in Sheenboro on Saturday, March 23. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Smith attended the Christening along with Pat Smith and his wife and three girls. Jeannie Smith and her husband Roger also attended the christening. There was approximately 25 guests at Mary-Beth's grandparents, Marlyn and Marcel Crozon, for dinner following the christening including Betty Morris and Myra Sullivan.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family of M.J. Poirier and his wife Lois, their sons Robert and Jamie and his mother Rita. M.J. passed away last week after shoveling snow following the bad storm.

Megan and Nathalie Ouellette along with their grandparents Carmelita and Jean-Guy Ouellette, were skidooing at Granny Sullivan,s farm on Sunday, March 24.

Congratulations to Trudy Tallon and Garth Middlestad on the birth of their son, born March 24, weighing 5 lbs 1 oz.

Congratulations to Amy Venasse and Jeremy Miles on the birth of their daughter, Jaya Marie Denise.

The winners of the Tuesday night euchre party were: 1st prize Francoise Sallafranque, 2nd prize Freddie Gagnon, 3rd prize Hector Fleury and Maggie Bechamp and 4th prize Andrew Keon and Lydia Landry.

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Bryson holds mill rate, raises user fees

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

BRYSON — Bryson council managed to avoid hiking its mill rate in the 2002 budget, but they were forced to raise the user fees for water and garbage.

The mill rate stays at $1.18 per $100 of property evaluation, meaning a property assessed at $75,000 will be taxed $885.

Water fees rose $10 to $85 from $75 in 2001, a 13 per cent increase. Garbage user fees also rose $10 to $85 from $75.

Volunteers elected

By MICHAEL LLOYD
Equity Reporter

QUYON — The Quyon Mutual Food Aid Service elected two new members to its board of directors at its monthly meeting, on Thursday, March 7. Ronald Bégin was elected vice-president and Nancy Brunette was elected secretary.

"Too many people resigned from the board and we had to bring it back up to par," said QMFAS president Stephen Hartley.

The QMFAS is a non-profit organization that offers many different nutritional support programs to underprivileged families in Pontiac Municipality.

"We give people with a limited income a chance to eat healthy," Hartley said.

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Happy 40th Eldon
Love, Grace, Sheldon and Kenny

CANADIAN TIRE CORRECTION NOTICE

We wish to draw your attention to the following in our current 'Canadian Tire' flyer.

Page 12 - Item 9 - Quilted Shirt, 87-0627X. Copy reads: Reg. 44.99. Sale 35.99. Save 20%. Should read: Reg. 24.99. Sale 19.99. Save 20%.

Page 12 - Item 10 - Coverall, 87-0661X. Copy reads: Reg. 24.99. Sale 19.99. Save 20%. Should read: Reg. 44.99. Sale 35.99. Save 20%.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience we may have caused you.

Cnote D313-02 - All zones

APPEARING - ONE NIGHT ONLY!
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Sale starts today
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Shawville Village Inn
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'Country Hospitality at its Best'
(RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED)
Mon. - Thurs. - 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. - 7 a.m. - 10 p.m.
Sunday - 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
(Sunday breakfast served until 2 p.m.)
Easter Weekend Special
Fri., Sat., Sun.: 4 p.m. - closing
Prepared by our Chef Roger
Roast Beef Dinner
- Salad or soup - Vichys-soise, cream of brocolli
- Mashed potatoes - Fresh vegetable
- Dinner roll - Tea or coffee
- Peach schnapps parfait liqueur
$10.95

CANADIAN TIRE
Shawville
Easter Hours
Mar. 29, Good Friday - 8:30 - 5:00
Mar. 30, Saturday - 8:30 - 5:00
Mar. 31, Easter Sunday - Closed
April 1, Easter Monday - 8:30 - 5:00
Happy Easter from all of us at CTC

A REMINDER ABOUT SMALL WEEKS

Now a permanent feature of Employment Insurance (EI)

The Government of Canada has taken an approach to small weeks of work that will especially benefit people who work part-time or have temporary work; this may result in increased EI payments to claimants.

Small week of work – earnings of less than $150
Regular week of work – earnings of more than $150

Sometimes the amount you earn can vary from one week to another. For example, one week you may earn $220, the next week $80. This lesser week of work can lower your EI benefit rate.

When you qualify for EI and we calculate your benefit rate, we will, where possible, ignore the small weeks completely **or** take only the best of your small weeks and add them to your regular weeks. This will result in your benefit payment being higher than you would otherwise have received.

IMPORTANT THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- All insurable hours will still be used for eligibility purposes even if they are not used to calculate your benefit rate;
- EI claimants must continue to report all earnings while receiving EI benefits;
- Earnings allowed while on claim are still $50 per week or 25% of your weekly benefit rate (whichever is higher);
- Employers must continue to remit EI premiums on every dollar paid and complete Records of Employment as usual.

For information on Small Weeks
1 800 O-Canada (1 800 622-6232)
TTY/TDD devices: 1 800 465-7735
www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/ei

Human Resources Development Canada / Développement des ressources humaines Canada
Canada

THE EQUITY

The Voice of the Pontiac since 1883

Publishers, Ross Dickson, Heather Dickson
News Editor, Paul McGee
Reporter, Michael Lloyd
Display Ad Manager, Katherine Hynes
Darkroom, Dave Moore
Class. Ad/Circulation, Claire Lunam

ADVERTISING DEADLINE: MONDAY 5:00 p.m.
Published weekly by the Pontiac Printshop Ltd.
133 Centre Street, Shawville, Que. J0X 2Y0
Tel: 819-647-2204 Fax 819-647-2206
http://www.theequity.ca/
email: equity@achilles.net

Subscription rates (tax included):

Pontiac County	$28.76
Quebec	$40.26
Canada	$37.45
outside Canada	$53.50

CCNA 2001 BLUE RIBBON

Publication Mail Reg. No. 08560, Shawville

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"We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada, through the Publications Assistance Program (PAP), toward our mailing costs."

Dave Moore, THE EQUITY

White rabbit

A PERSONAL ACCOUNT

Personal vocation story: A call

by Sr. Loretta Rice

How do I know that I might have a vocation to religious life? Why would God call me to such a lifestyle? This is the question that begs an answer: Is there an answer?

Let me share with you my personal story. As a child my curiosity was engaged by the heroic lives of the Saints. If these were not read to me, I avidly devoured them myself. Their lives quite intrigued me — doing big things for God. As I reflected in my childlike way, maybe I too could give my life to Him.

As I was taught by the Sisters, Sisters of St Joseph, these women were also a source of curiosity and mystery. What made them tick anyway? Here were women without a husband and even worse no children. They certainly were dedicated. Dedicated to teaching and, yes, dedicated to God. They went to Mass every day and seemed to pray often.

It was when I hit high school that I began to wonder what I would do with my life. There was one particular Sister, a teacher of mine, who always seemed to be exceedingly alive and happy. That attracted me. Maybe, just maybe I might try the life of a Sister. But wait a minute, not so fast, I had some living to do. Why not put that thought of becoming a Sister aside, go to teachers' college and do some teaching. I did just that, but doubts began to plague me, by the growing question — should I become a Sister? Oh, it was a miserable time for me! Yes, I will. No, I won't. It was like pulling petals on a daisy. I love him. I love him not.

It was after two years of teaching that I began to get serious about these doubts. In June of that year, I heard that a young Sister of St Joseph was killed in a car accident while visiting her relatives. I wondered who would replace her. Would it be me?

That summer, with a Novena in my hand, (it was to be prayed every hour). I drove the tractor while my father was combining. You can be assured that I never let him in on what I as doing. It was no wonders those rows were so crooked.

Aug. 15 arrived. This was a particular Feast Day in honour of Our Lady, the Feast of Assumption. I remember hearing that this was a big day at St Joseph's Motherhouse, Pembroke. Young women made their vows to God in a special ceremony. Thinking about that, I decided to go to morning Mass. As I entered the vestibule of the church, the Pastor came in and told me that there was no Mass there, but that it was in the convent. He invited me to go over with him. I was alarm struck! In the convent — the very place I wasn't too sure I wanted to be. Very reluctantly I went with him. There were all the Sisters. I slunk into the back pew hoping nobody would eye me.

Something happened to me during that Mass — the grace of God — call it what you want. As I left the convent, I felt free, no more doubts. Yes, I would become a Sister.

When I arrived home and told my mother that I was going to the convent, she looked at me in a very quizzical, strange way and reminded me that I had signed a contract to teach that coming school year. To me it wasn't a big deal. I would go the the chairman of the school board and tell him that I as entering the convent. Mother also reminded me that I had just bought some new clothing — a suit with a matching red purse, red high heel shoes and red earrings. This didn't bother me. I would just dress up in these and go to Pembroke and announce to the General Superior that I was coming in September. She was quite happy about this, but one thing I did notice: she never took her eyes off the red high heels and the red purse.

That was all 44 years ago. Years of teaching, formation work with young women aspiring to be Sisters and pastoral care with our Senior Sisters has followed.

A call to religious life is a mystery, but the grace of God is strong.

When we think of a vocation, so often we think of someone becoming a priest, a sister or brother. These are certainly worthy and wonderful vocations. All of us though have a vocation to be a follower of Christ. We can do that as a husband, wife or a single person. God's call is sometimes mysterious! It may come over a short or longer period of time.

We can lament over the lower number of vocations to the priesthood and religious life these days. I content that God is calling many people today as He has in the past. People simply are not responding.

Perhaps God is calling you to a life of intimate relationship with Him as a religious sister. You may have thought about this and have never shared it with another person. Perhaps now is the time and here is the opportunity. You are invited to contact Sister Margaret Glofcheskie in Pembroke 1-613-732-3694. Learn more about the Srs of St Joseph who have served in the Ottawa Valley during the past 80 years. Come and see!

YOUR OPINION

Cahill Shield

Dear Editor,

I have read with great interest your column of "75 years ago" re: "Coulonge win Cahill Shield." If any of your readers could provide more information regarding this said "Shield" … where would it be now … if indeed it still exists … what was its origin?

Any information would be greatly appreciated and can be sent e-mail to n_cahill@canada.com, or by mail to 164 Winther Ave., Ottawa, ON K1H 6E2.

Elizabeth Cahill

OBITUARIES

Helen Woolsey

Helen Woolsey of Mariatown, Ontario passed away Wednesday, March 20, 2002 at the age of 63 at Winchester Hospital following a brief illness.

Born January 9, 1939 in Clarendon, Helen during her lifetime worked at several jobs including agricultural work, secretarial work, gardening, landscaping and performing various domestic related chores for people in the Mariatown area.

A resident of Mariatown for the past 16 years, Helen was born and raised in the Shawville area. After getting married she lived in both Ottawa and Metcalfe before moving back to Shawville in 1975. She lived in Shawville for the next 11 years before moving to Mariatown in 1986.

Helen is the daughter of the late John Eric Palmer and Edith Palmer (nee Young) of Shawville and has two children, Richard (Tara) of Shawville and Brian (Chantal) of Iroquois.

Mourning her loss are brothers and sisters: Margaret (Clarence) Adams of Russell; Lillian (Jerry) Stevens of Nanaimo, BC; May (Bill) Schwartz of Charteris; Jane (Elmer) Alexander of Quyon; Mary (Rod) Hunter of Arnprior; Mona (Edward) Adams of Ottawa; Roy (Joan) Palmer of Stittsville; Leslie (Shirley) Palmer of Ottawa; Gordon (Myrna) Palmer of Shawville; and Frank (Marlaine) Palmer of Charteris. Helen is predeceased by a brother William.

Helen was the loving grandmother of Jessica, Chelsea, Kristen, Garret, Shane and Matthew. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Helen was an avid gardener and she was a lady who derived great satisfaction from helping others. She will always be remembered by her family and friends for her great sense of humour and her love of practical jokes. Whether she was the one who was playing a joke on someone else or she was the brunt of someone else's practical joke, she always enjoyed that kind of good natured fun.

Donations would be appreciated to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or the Canadian Cancer Society.

Friends called at Marsden and McLaughlin Funeral Home, Williamsburg on Thursday from 2 - 4 and 7 - 9 pm then at W J Hayes and Sons, Shawville on Friday from 2 - 4 and 7 - 9 pm.

Funeral was from W J Hayes and Sons Funeral Home Shawville on Saturday, March 22 at 11 am and was conducted by Rev Paula Mullin. Interment Maple Grove Cemetery, Shawville.

Pallbearers were Gordon Castleman, Ken MacPherson, Brent Orr, Allan Palmer, Donald Alexander and Michael Palmer.

Darlene Gravelle Brown

Darlene Gravelle Brown daughter of the late Melvin J Brown and the late Mabel Romain. Loving wife of Lionel Gravelle, cherished mother of Natalie. Survived by dear twin sister Eileen, Lyle, Evans, Anna, Joan, Norma, Merlyn, George, Marion, Lorna and Dawson. Darlene was born at Campbell's Bay, Quebec, March 1, 1945.

She passed away in the Pontiac Community Hospital, Shawville, Que., February 21, 2002. A service was held Feb. 24 at the Free Methodist Church, Campbell's Bay, Que. Interment St. Andrew's Cemetery, Campbell's Bay, Que.

EDITORIAL

Exodus

As the old saying goes, there are lies, damned lies, and statistics. Now, Pontiacers are hit with damned statistics, damning in the sense that the numbers recently revealed by StatsCan may not bode well for the area's future.

Back in 1996, the StatsCan census pegged Pontiac MRC's population at 15,576. The 2001 census shows Pontiac's population at about 14,200, an eight per cent drop in five years. If the population decline continues at this rate, there will be no more people left in Pontiac in 60 years. However, such a scenario is unlikely to happen: there will always be people living here. The question raised by the StatsCan numbers, however, is, "Where have all the people gone?"

A check with area funeral homes found that the death rate has remained about the same. So, the only other explanation is that people are moving away (or not filling out their census forms). Just when Pontiac appears to be on the verge of cashing in on the promise of the resource region designation and Québec's new rurality program, an exodus from the promised land is happening. And, this is serious stuff.

Though the primary industries are forestry and farming, the support services in education and health employ a great number of people. Therefore, the domino effect caused by fewer residents means fewer children resulting in a decreased need for teachers, nurses and doctors. And, by extension, less need for store clerks and stores, gas station attendants and gas stations, and on and on.

The census also showed that of all the age groups living in the area, the 20 to 49-year-old grouping has the fewest members living in Pontiac MRC. Given that this age group is the core of the country's work force, one is led to believe there is no work here. Partially true.

There is no work here in the high-tech industry, very popular with the aforementioned age group. But, there is work in the forestry sector, but like all other trades in North America, there is a dearth of candidates to fill the positions left vacant as the baby boomers retire. (Rumour has it that one local lumber mill has openings at $15.85 per hour, but can't find enough men to fill the jobs.) Health services, too, has difficulty attracting specialists, many graduates preferring the allure of the big city lights over the quiet of the country.

But, how do we address the exodus? Go forth and multiply has been used in another era and it could apply here, except the products of such multiplication will eventually move to the city, too. Trying to sell the locals on the relatively cheaper living costs here, the quality of life, the beautiful scenery, an abundance of lakes, the world-class PPJ Cyclopark, the Temiskawa Waterway, five accessible golf courses, etc., doesn't seem to work, either.

The Pontiac Place for Youth program, formed 11 years ago to introduce young Pontiacers to Pontiac with the hopes of enticing them to return once they've completed their post-secondary studies, has suddenly taken on more importance than ever. At no other time in Pontiac's history has the selling of Pontiac to the locals been more important. But, it's no easy task convincing young people that they do have a future here.

If anyone out there has answers on how to stop the exodus, let us know. Otherwise, we'd better hurry with the development and promotion of tourism because tourists may be the only ones left here after the locals leave.

Paul McGee

ENVIRONMENT FORUM

Cosmetic use of pesticides "endorsed" through Liberal inaction

By KATHARINE FLETCHER

Last week the Liberal Government missed a golden opportunity to demonstrate environmental and health leadership. Health Minister Anne McLellan failed to include banning the cosmetic use of pesticides in the new Pest Control Products Act.

Why? Inaction is perhaps explained by legal jurisdiction. CBC's Web site www.cbc.ca reports that "the federal government has no jurisdiction to ban the use of pesticides once they've been approved for the market."

The site quotes Health Minister Anne McLellan: "Our jurisdiction is in relation to safety. Once something is deemed to be safe, then it is up to the provinces or municipalities as to how that will be used."

So what about this issue of safety? The safety of pesticides has been on the public's conscience for years.

(Remember: We are not talking about banning agricultural pesticides here. We are talking about banning the use of chemicals on lawns … lawns in our back and front gardens, as well as in front of city hall.)

Rachel Carson published her groundbreaking treatise, *Silent Spring*, in 1962. In this book, she discussed how our North American use of chemicals was upsetting the natural balance, poisoning the food chain, and destroying biodiversity. *Silent Spring* was all the more potent because she herself was a well-respected scientist.

Why the title *Silent Spring*? Because she postulated that if society continued to use chemicals as we were back then – basically in what she postulated was an uncontrolled and unregulated manner – that songbirds would die. Amphibians would die. The result? The "silent spring" whereby the call of the thrush and robin are not heard because they are dead.

Oh phooey! I can just see some of you rolling your eyes heavenwards as you read this … Some of you might guffaw and note that this is nonsense: we're still using chemicals and the robins still return and sing. Some of you might guffaw and note that you're okay, you're healthy, as is your family.

Others among you might note that Rachel Carson was one of the first writers of the last century to make us sit up and look about us to appreciate our place amid our shared, natural world. Former US Vice-President Al Gore credits her with galvanizing his nation's collective conscience-raising which resulted in the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency. (If you have the Internet, check out the Ecology Hall of Fame at www.ecotopia.org/ehof/carson/bio.html)

Carson's cautions remain appropriate today. And personally, I wish that Liberal Health Minister Anne McLellan had given a bit more thought to Rachel Carson and *Silent Spring*.

I bet that two organizations – the Sierra Club of Canada and Canadian Cancer Society – would agree with me. Both associations – one which lobbies for environmental, the other health awareness – worked hard to encourage the Liberals to ban cosmetic use of pesticides.

So, exactly what does that word "cosmetic" really mean? Here's the ITP Nelson Canadian Dictionary definition. "Cosmetic: something superficial used to cover a deficit or defect." It's this word "superficial" that's key: we must ask ourselves this: is a chemically-treated lawn really necessary? The answer, truly, is: no.

What would the ban have meant in the context of pesticide control? That use of pesticides on public and private lawns would be banned. Is this significant? Why, yes! What does the purchase and use of such chemicals cost us taxpayers in terms of direct cost, not to mention long-term personal health costs? The cost is financial. The cost is long-term health – or the lack of it.

Because they did not include a ban on cosmetic use of chemicals, the Liberals have dealt individual municipalities another crippling cost. Two communities in Québec (Chelsea and Hudson) have shown leadership by enshrining such a ban in their bylaws. Now our capital, Ottawa, is considering it. What will the cost be? Potentially hundreds of thousands of dollars as reported by CBC Radio last week.

Such costs are hidden. By refusing to enshrine a federal ban, the Minister passes costs to municipalities. What cost? First (always uncalculated by any economist I've ever heard of) is the cost of volunteers who spend their time lobbying for change. Second is the cost of all the municipal workers' time and effort spent in public hearings, not to mention re-writing by-laws, paying legal fees etc. Who pays? Taxpayers. Us!

No wonder there's an inherent momentum for inaction aka the status quo if you and I have to pay for this along with everything else. Not to mention the lobbying of the chemical companies.

It perplexes me that Minister McLellan wouldn't include this ban. Jurisdiction provides the needed excuse … but what about this issue of health safety? A ban would have sent a clear message to the public that the environment and public health matter to the Liberals. It would encourage us all to act locally, in our most personal space: our very own back yards where our toddlers and pets play, and where wild birds feed.

Oh come on, Katharine, I hear some of you saying. No-one would let their toddler play on a lawn that's been recently sprayed.

If you say so, I happen to know differently. Just last year I visited a retirement residence. Someone from a private company was still out, spraying the front patch of green grass in front of the building. Inside the courtyard, where the garden and inviting lawn stretched before me, a host of little signs peppered the lawn. All informed people not to step on the lawn for "X" number of days because of pesticide residue.

But you know what? It was a balmy summer Sunday. Family groups were dotted about on the lawn. Seniors sat on park benches, bemused at the antics of toddlers, playing on the lawn. Over there was a baby taking its first steps, tumbling to the grassy lawn and, wavering on unsure little legs, stretching up to mommy's arms. What a lovely image of summer and family downtime.

Here and there in the lawn, a touch of nature could be seen: a bold robin cocked its head to the side, listening for a worm, then plunged its beak amid the chemicals to bring out its meal.

What's wrong with this picture? After all, the chemical company did its job: they sprayed, then left a litter of signs. Obligation over: after all, the people have been "educated."

Or have they? The people choose to ignore the signs: physical and otherwise.

Leaders like Health Minister Anne McLellan choose to ignore signs, too – not to mention their crucial role of leadership. This, I believe, is what governments should do: take leadership roles in matters of public health and conscience.

Cosmetic use of pesticides should be banned at the federal level because the costs to our health (not to mention the health of our natural world) are too great. And, the costs are too great for Canada's municipalities to bear, as they enshrine such bans into their by-laws.

Why did Liberal Health Minister McLellan fail us?

Jurisdiction, you say? What about public health?

Should we mail her a copy of *Silent Spring*?

REFLECTIONS: 119 YEARS OF NEWS

The Way We Were

COMPILED BY HEATHER ALBERTI DICKSON, PUBLISHER

25 Years Ago

March 16, 1977

Campbell's Bay church destroyed: Saturday morning, March 12 the Free Methodist Church in Campbell's Bay was destroyed by fire. The present church was 46 years old. it was originally the Holiness Movement Church and merged with the Free Methodist Church in 1959.

Son joins the family firm: Joining his parents as an active partner in Pontiac Printshop Ltd, Ross Dickson has moved to Shawville and will be followed next month by his wife, Heather, who is completing her Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Ottawa. Ross was educated at Shawville High School, Ashbury College, Glebe Collegiate, Carleton University and Cambridge University where he obtained his Ph.D in physical chemistry. The transition back to the stark realities of printing and publishing is less traumatic for Ross than it might have been for someone whose family was not steeped in the tradition of a weekly newspaper and country printing establishment. Getting back to the grass roots of Canada, and especially of Quebec at this crucial time in its history adds to the challenge of the change.

• • •

50 Years Ago

March 20, 1952

Shawville High are Quebec Champs: Shawville High School is stepping high these days since their hockey team, led by james Gordon, went to Granby Saturday and came home with the coveted Quebec High School championship cup. This cup, donated by the Protestant School Board is awarded each year in playoffs between the various high schools outside of the cities of Montreal and Quebec. It has not been won by Shawville since 1933, when a team, headed by principal Rennie, captured it by defeating Lachine and Lachute in the finals in Montreal. The line-up: Glenn Carey, Wayne Wilson, John Saunders, Wallace Sparling, Lowell Smith, Philip Hodgins, Robert Young, Ivan Saunders, Sheldon Manary, Kenneth Yach, Grant Carey, Don Burton, Glenn Morrison, Keith McCleary, Ebert Walsh.

Big development seen at Bristol: Several hundred men are to be employed on the development of iron ore properties at Bristol. One of the principal iron ore companies in Minnesota will carry out the project for Warren S Moore, president and owner of the Minnesota-Huron, Iron Ore Company. An output of 400,000 tons of magnetic concentrate is forecast in the operation which will be an open-pit development. Ore reserves are regarded as plentiful so the project is expected to be large in operation for years.

• • •

75 Years Ago

March 24, 1927

Local news: A new building is under construction on the Pontiac Hotel premises to be used as sample rooms.

The election of Robert Carswell as mayor of Bryson, has been voided by a court judgement owing to non-eligible parties being allowed to vote at the municipal election.

Mary Black, relict of the late John Cole, formerly of the township of Thorne passed peacefully away in the 97th year of her age at the home of her daughter. Mrs Cole was of the sturdy pioneer type and courageously battled with the toils and cares of life until she was near to the age of the centenarian. While she steadily attended to the duties of her household, she was ever ready to lend a helping hand to a neighbour, and indeed, lived peaceably with her neighbours all these years.

Ford car makes sensational gas mileage: Mr R Charron, after placing one gallon of gasoline in the tank of a stand stock Ford coupe, drove this car on the morning of Jan. 14, through heavy snow, after a storm, a distance of 40 1/10 miles before the one gallon of gasoline was totally consumed. This car was equipped with a Holley Hot Plate Vaporizer which is now being supplied as standard equipment on all new Ford cars. The Genereux Motor Co. Ltd, under whose direction this test was conducted, were highly pleased with the result and are very enthusiastic in recommending to all users of Ford cars the Holly Hot Plate Vaporizer, which has demonstrated with effects a saving of 50 per cent in their gas bills.

• • •

100 Years Ago

March 20, 1902

Local news: The mayor of Clarendon is making a pretty clean sweep of it was regards to the enforcement of the compulsory vaccination by-law. During the past week quite a number of delinquents were summoned before our JP's here, in consequent of not having complied with the law within the time specified.

The Crown Land Agent, Mr William Clarke, strongly advises all settlers on government lands to take advantage of the offer of the department to give a reduction of 65 per cent on the arrears of interest and back rent due by settlers who pay the same also the balance due on the purchase of their lots, before the 25th of June. The offer may be the last which the department will make.

A baking business has been opened by Mr James McArthur with his brother, who is a first-class baker, in charge.

Death has claimed another old resident of the village in the person of Mr William Story, who passed away on Thursday last at the patriarchal age of 81 years. The deceased gentleman was attacked by in grippe some time ago and the malady proved too severe a strain upon the system of one so advanced in years.

Paul McGee-EQUITY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Litchfields Laura Moore celebrated her 90th birthday at the Campbell's bay RA Hall Saturday. Moore said, "Just work," is key to longevity.

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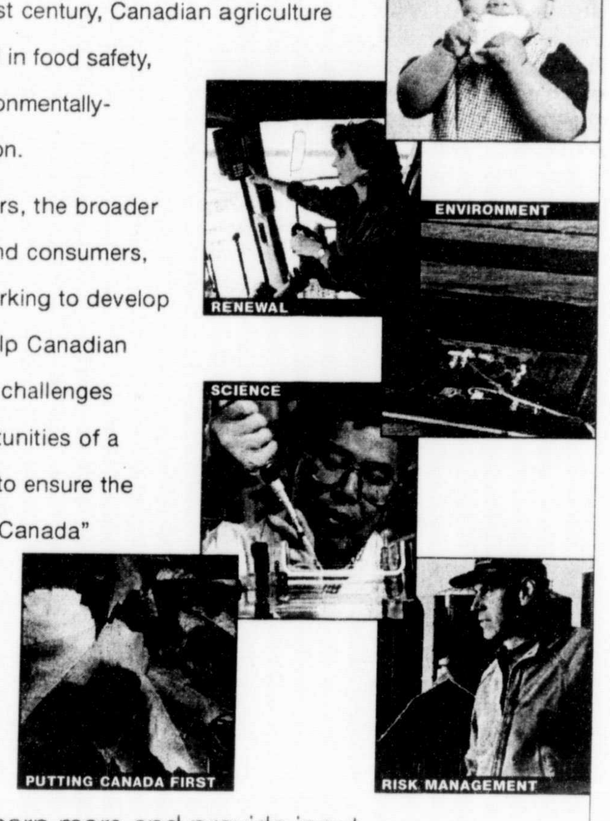

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A federal-provincial-territorial initiative Canada

Forest Symposium

Saturday, April 6, 2002

WHERE: École secondaire Sieur-de-Coulonge, room 135 et 136

WHAT: Workshops on forest animated by various specialists

TRANSFORMATION SECTOR:
Basic grading notions • Local forest evaluation & assessment • Health and security at work • Human resources management
FOREST & WILDLIFE SECTOR:
Forest by-laws • Fiscal aspects and the forestry worker • Health and security at work • Human resources management

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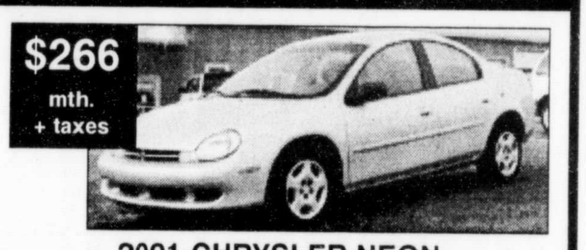

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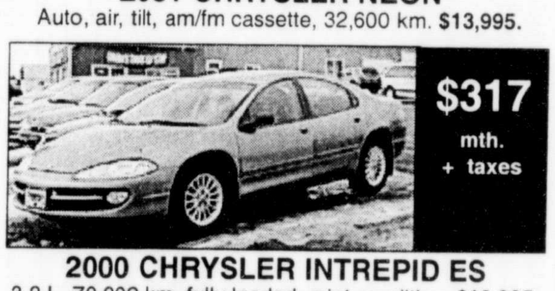

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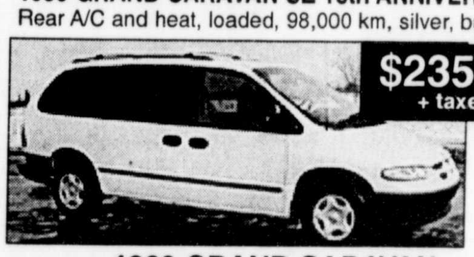

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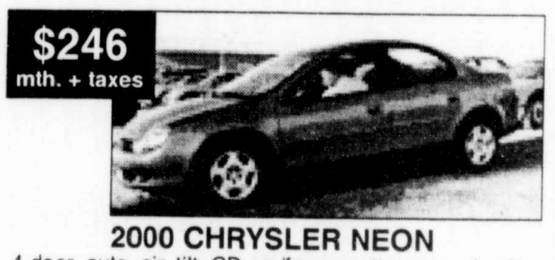

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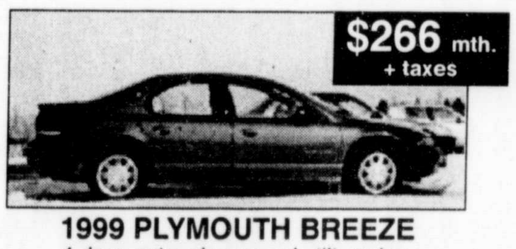

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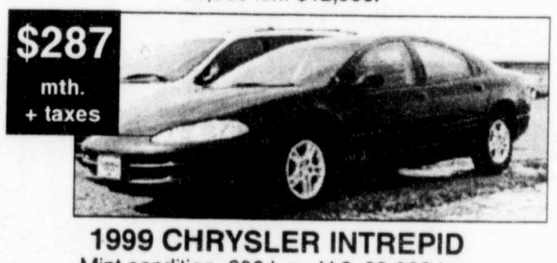

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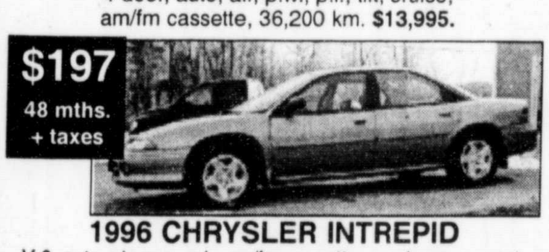

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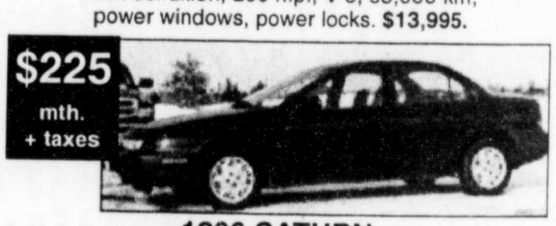

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VIE PERSONNELLE ET SOCIALE — FRANÇOIS BILODEAU, PhD

Peut-on vivre sans violence?

Première partie

Chaque jour, le petit écran, la radio et les journaux nous informent sur des actes de violence commis par des humains sur d'autres. Qu'il s'agisse de voie de fait (violence physique sur autrui), de violence familiale, d'attentat auto-suicidaire, ou de massacre collectif, le résultat voulu est le même: faire du mal aux autres. Et pour les auteurs de ces actes, le prétexte se justifie par une variété de motifs presque inépuisables. La haine, la vengeance, la quête d'un territoire, le besoin d'une plus grande justice, le génocide d'une classe sociale, d'une ethnie, d'une race ou d'un groupe religieux – et j'en passe -, la violence se nourrit d'un esprit amplement similaire d'un bout du monde à l'autre.

Et nous réalisons que même lorsque les auteurs agissent pour des raisons personnelles, comme dans le cas du crime passionnel, ils risquent d'être arrêtés et punis, car chaque société, même les plus civilisées, possèdent elles aussi une expertise destinée à contenir la violence, et si nécessaire, en utilisant une forme de violence supérieure. Il n'est pas surprenant qu'il n'est pas toujours facile de distinguer entre les « bons et les méchants » . Et le public entre facilement dans le jeu. Nous n'avons qu'à visionner les horreurs Hollywoodiennes en matière de violence exagérée avec ses effets éblouissants de «turn-on» pour finir par se rendre compte qu'il est stimulant d'être assis au bout de sa chaise saisi d'une peur imaginaire. Comme l'humain est drôlement fait!

Si l'on pouvait analyser de près les conflits entre pays ayant eu lieu durant tous les siècles qui nous ont précédés ainsi que celui dans lequel nous entrons, il serait logique de conclure qu'il semble impossible de vivre sans violence, et ce, sans même considérer la souffrance humaine qui en découle. Entre les périodes de guerres et de conflits, aucune paix semble durable avant que tôt ou tard le tout recommence dans une autre région. Certains analystes disent que des persécuteurs et leurs victimes seront toujours parmi nous, et que le rôle permanent de sauveteur ou de pacificateur, comme celui exercé par les Nations Unies, confirme cette réalité. En nous adaptant à la violence normalisée, nous concédons que l'esprit guerrier fait partie de la nature humaine et ne peut faire autrement que de s'acharner sur les autres. Qu'avons-nous alors comme solution de rechange? Il est clair, qu'à l'instar des Nations Unies, il faut surtout tenter de prévenir les pires dégâts en passant par le dialogue et une meilleure compréhension des causes profondes. C'est déjà beaucoup mais est-ce suffisant?

Non! Parce que même si acceptons qu'il existe des formes de rivalités et compétitions saines et même nécessaires pour le bon fonctionnement d'une société, il est aussi vrai et légitime d'affirmer que l'existence harmonieuse entre individus et peuples représente un état tout à fait naturel et davantage plus désirée que la violence. Considérons d'abord, notre réaction devant la violence que subissent les autres. Typiquement, c'est une réaction d'identification et même de compassion avec la victime, réaction entre-mêlée d'un soulagement que son supplice ne soit pas le nôtre. À divers degrés, à moins d'être devenu un être insensible, la souffrance des autres nous touche parce qu'elle réveille en nous des situations où nous-même avons déjà subi quelque forme de violence, si minime soit-elle, ou en avons été témoin.Précisons d'abord qu'une définition complète de la violence inclut nécessairement les façons de faire mal aux autres avec des mots même lorsque des gestes agressifs ne suivent pas. Pour bien comprendre le cycle de la violence, imaginons des paroles dures et méprisantes, que l'on nommera «le facteur déclencheur», dirigées vers une personne-cible qui, à son tour, perçoit - oui ou non - un danger à son intégrité, et qui dès lors doit décider de réagir soit en victime ou en personne compréhensive qui tentera d'établir un rapport non-violent auprès de l'autre. Avant même d'ouvrir la bouche, la personne cible doit rapidement évaluer ce qui se passe en elle et si possible chez l'autre. Donc, sa pensée et sa réaction émotive précèdent ses paroles et gestes vers l'autre. Nous pouvons alors conclure que le cycle s'enclenchera ou se désarmorcera selon l'état d'âme ou la disposition mentale de la personne-cible.

Si elle réagit comme victime impuissante et craintive, il est probable qu'elle trouvera des mots et des gestes violents pour se défendre contre l'autre. Il devient évident que son choix est crucial pour la suite des échanges.

continued on page 9

UN MESSAGE DU GOUVERNEMENT DU CANADA

LES PETITES SEMAINES : UN PROJET CONCLUANT

La disposition sur les petites semaines fait désormais partie intégrante de l'assurance-emploi.

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Avis public

Ministère des Ressources naturelles

Circonscription foncière de Pontiac

Avis d'informatisation nº 14

CONCERNANT l'informatisation du bureau de la publicité des droits établi dans la circonscription foncière de Pontiac.

En vertu de l'article 237 de la Loi modifiant le Code civil et d'autres dispositions législatives relativement à la publicité foncière (2000, c. 42), le ministre des Ressources naturelles donne avis qu'à compter du 8 avril 2002 le bureau de la publicité des droits établi dans la circonscription foncière de Pontiac sera pleinement informatisé en ce qui a trait à la publicité foncière.

Le sous-ministre des Ressources naturelles,
Michel Boivin

Québec

On prépare l'avenir

Colloque sur la forêt

Le samedi 6 avril prochain

OÙ: École secondaire Sieur-de-Coulonge, local 135 et 136

QUOI: Ateliers touchant le domaine de la forêt animé par des spécialistes

SECTEUR TRANSFORMATION:
Notions de base en classement • Bilan situationnel du secteur • Santé et sécurité au travail •Gestion des ressources humaines
SECTEUR FORÊT-FAUNE:
Lois sur les forêts • Aspect fiscal pour le travailleur forestier • Santé et sécurité au travail • Gestion des ressources humaines

QUI: Pour les travailleurs forestiers, les entrepreneurs forestiers, les jeunes intéressés au domaine, le public en général.

COÛT: La participation aux ateliers est gratuite
Le dîner est offert gratuitement aux personnes inscrites.

Courez la chance de gagner une scie à chaîne d'une valeur de 1 000,00$ comme prix de participation

INSCRIPTION
et pour obtenir l'horaire de la journée, communiquer au
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Bienvenue à tous!

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OPEN Good Friday, March 28	8:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 30	8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Easter Sunday, March 31	CLOSED
OPEN Easter Monday, April 1	8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

La vie active fait une saine différence! petit train va loin

PARTICIPACTION

Who won what

HULL — The games are all done and the results are finally in after taking up to 201 games just to reach the finals in Hull Sunday.

There were a lot of close games in those finals and not too many lopsided affairs.

From the top, the Juvenile division was won by the number one club, the Citoyen de Hull with a 3-2 win over number three, Masson Sharks.

Continued on page 8

SPORTS

Pontiac teams denied in Metro in finals

By DAVE MOORE
Equity Sports

OUTAOUAIS — Pontiac hockey teams were shut out of finals play in the 2001-02 Metro playoffs.

Of the nine Metro Pontiac teams, five saw action in semi-finals action this past weekend. Only two, the Fort Coulonge Novice "C" Draveurs and the Shawville Atom "A" Pontiacs made it into the finals on Sunday.

Both were close games, but no titles for either club.

The Fort Coulonge Novice "C" Draveurs made it all the way to the division finals on Sunday after beating the Masson Ducks 3-2 the day before.

Joel Boisvert scored twice with Steve Chugg getting the single. No assists were given out.

On Sunday they faced the number one Buckingham Castors in the finals. They gave the Castors a good run but in the end they lost 5-4 in the first minute of overtime.

Joel Boisvert scored the first three goals and Nicola Durocher tied the game up at 4-4 in the third period.

The Castors won the title early in OT, charging the net for the winner, right off the opening face-off.

The Novice "C" Draveurs will be in Aylmer for Regional play-downs Saturday. They face Maniwaki first.

• The Shawville Atom "A" Pontiacs made their way to the finals with a 2-1 win over the Masson Sharks.

David Hobbs opened the scoring and Lance Orr popped in the winner in the third period of the semi-final game Saturday. No assists were given out.

What a game Sunday in the Atom "A" finals in Hull. It pitted Shawville (16-1-3) against the Low Wolves (9-7-4) in a back-and-forth battle to the win.

Low struck first in the opening frame, then Shawville's Dylon Wisotzki scored to tie it up in the second period. David Hobbs netted what could have been the winner early in the third but Low's Nic Belland, an ex-Pontiac player scored his second of the game to tie it up at two-all.

Then with nothing solved in the first overtime, Low's William Dodds finds an open spot in the Shawville net in period two of overtime for a 3-2 win over the Shawville Pontiacs. No assists were given out.

The Atom Pontiacs will be in Aylmer for their first game Saturday. Who'll they'll play is unknown, they have to wait out the results of another game first, for their opponent.

• In semi-final action, the Fort Coulonge Atom "B" Draveurs (21-1-0) were ousted from their hunt for the championship in a 4-3 loss to the Gatineau Cougars, (11-9-2).

Nicola Francoeur, Scott Levesque and Étienne LaSalle (unassisted to tie the game), had scored. Assists went to Levesque and Francoeur.

The Atom Draveurs are in Aylmer Saturday to face Maniwaki in their first Regional game.

• The Shawville Peewee "B" Pontiacs (9-7-4) were one game away from reaching the finals and what a game it was despite a 3-1 loss.

The Pontiacs' Jeff Elliott opened the scoring in the first period with Shawville pressuring the Hull Frontaliers (15-1-4). Dan Burman set up Elliott at the side of the Hull net for an assist.

Then midway in the second period, Hull ties it up and near the end of the same frame, Hull pops two fast goals in for a 3-1 lead.

Shawville just dominated the third period and saw many chances fly by, but Hull's goalie, Erwin Bosum really came up big for his team, making some big stops and some lucky ones as well.

The Frontaliers moved on to face the other Hull team, the Olympiques (12-4-4) and beat them by a 3-2 score for the Peewee "B" championship.

The Shawville Peewees will be in Low Saturday to face Maniwaki in their first Regional match up.

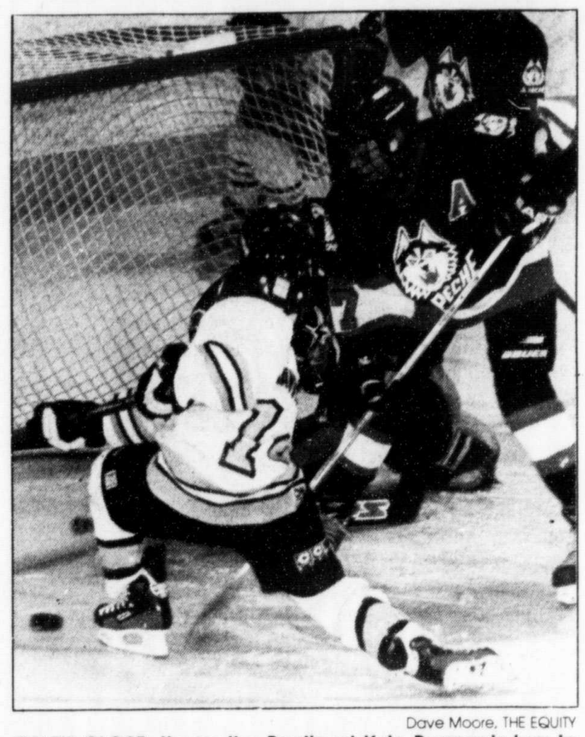
• The Shawville Bantam Pontiacs (11-5-4) faced the Petit Nation Castors (14-4-2) in semi-final action Friday night and came away on the loosing side, 3-2.

Sweet thing for the Castors was that they came from a 2-0 deficit to win it. Tyler Sally and Jean-Marc Thibeault scored for the Pontiacs, both unassisted.

The Castors then went on to beat the number one Masson Sharks (17-1-2), by a 2-1 score for the title.

The Pontiac Bantams will be in Hull Thursday night to face Aylmer in the first Regional game.

• In other Regional contests, the Juvenile Draveurs are in Aylmer for action against Masson Friday, the Shawville Midgets face Hull in Gatineau Saturday. The Bantam Draveurs play the Gatineau Chevalier Friday night, the Peewee Draveurs are in Low Saturday for a game against the Gatineau Cougars. The Novice "A" Pontiacs are in Aylmer, up against Hull in their first game. The Novice "C" take on the Gatineau Remparts Friday night.



Dave Moore, THE EQUITY

THAT'S CLOSE: It was the Pontiacs' Kyle Burman's turn to miss one of the many Shawville chances to put the Atom "A" final out of reach of Low. But then Low tied it and beat Shawville in double overtime.

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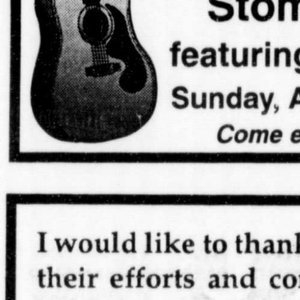

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All the team reps for organizing teams and my loving wife for her help, patience and support.

Matthew Sally

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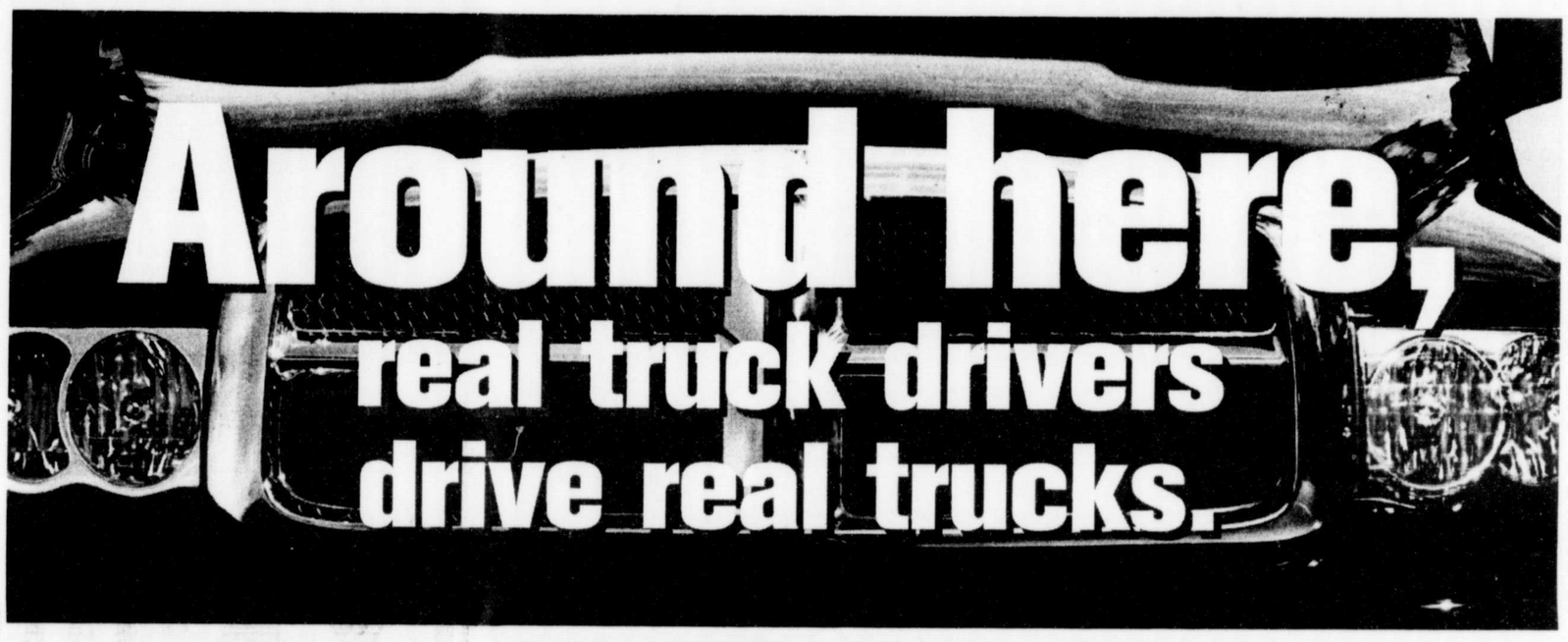

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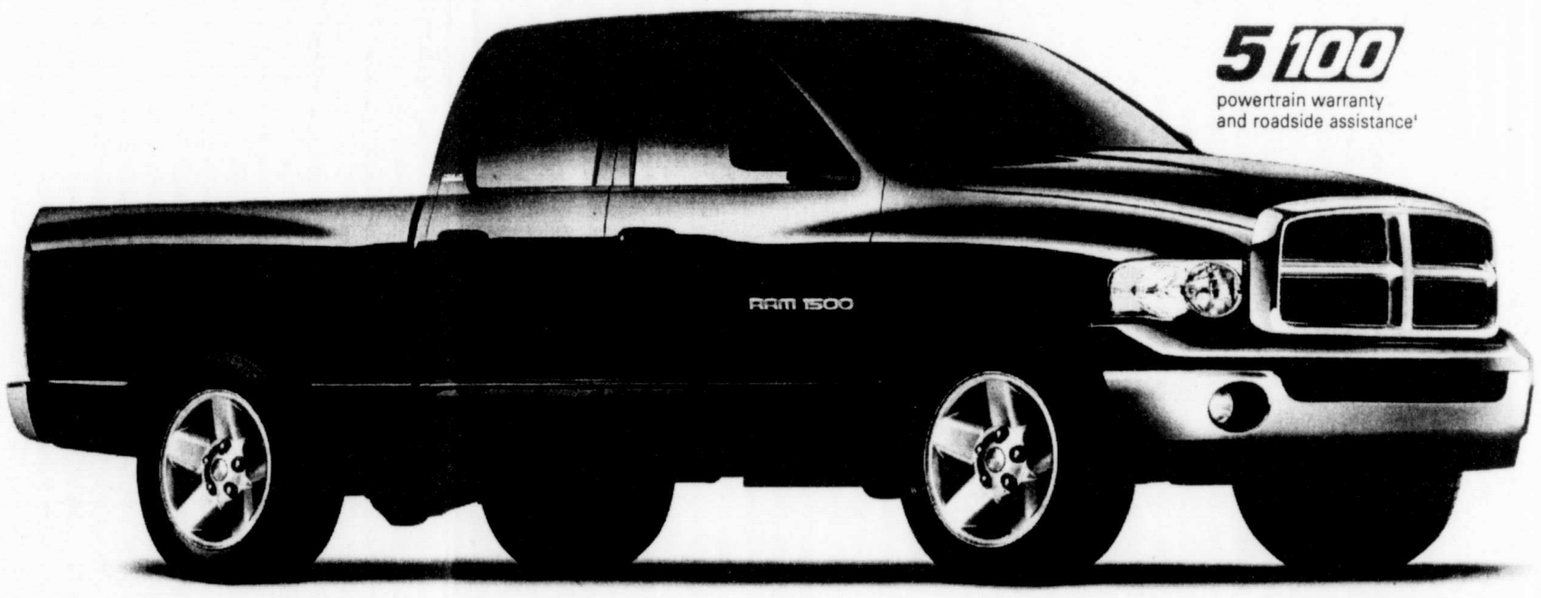

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SKATING SENIORS: The Shawville Figure Skating Club senior girls closed the Jukebox Medley Revue Friday,at the Shawville arena in style. They're seen here (top photo) spinning in unison and (bottom photo) giving their legs a hand.

Michael Lloyd, THE EQUITY

Revue a celebration of success

By MICHAEL LLOYD
Equity Reporter

SHAWVILLE — The Shawville Figure Skating Club mixed the old with the new at its Jukebox Revue on Friday.

Skaters of all ages from toddler to teenager, showcased another season's worth of hard work, dancing to music ranging from 50s rock to the Spice Girls.

The Shawville arena was packed with proud parents and fans of the sport for the three-hour event.

"They wait all year for this," said coach Jill Landriault, of what the revue meant to the club.

Flowers were sold at the event and weren't thrown sparingly on to the ice by the bedazzled crowd.

The skaters bowed and smiled as they picked their prizes up from the ice, sometimes having to skate around the rink collecting enough flowers to make a bouquet.

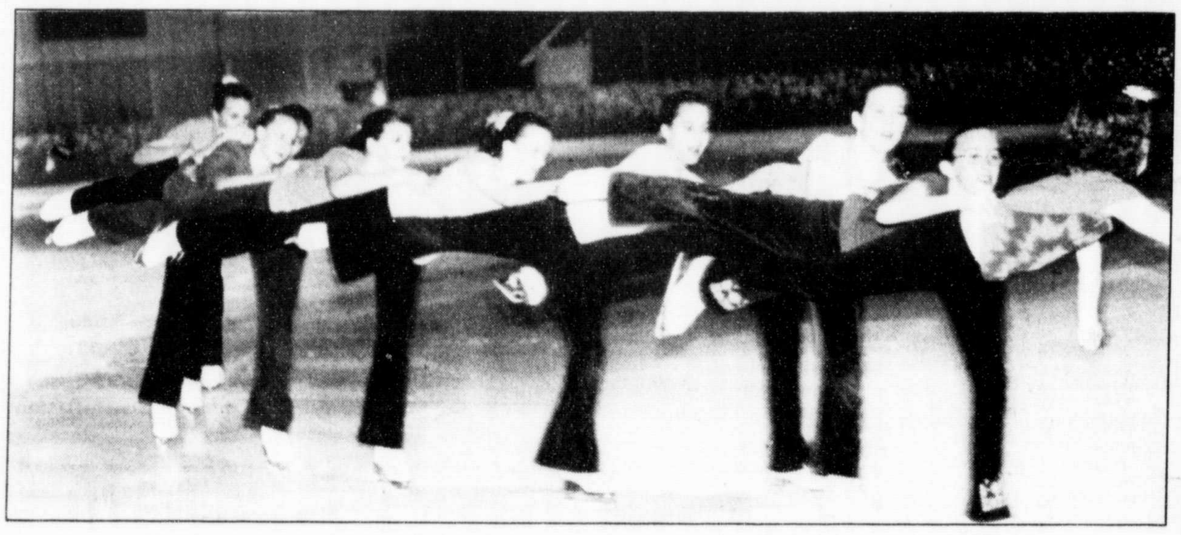
Best Year

"We've had a very successful year," said Mary Hodgins, club president.

"It's been our best year for medals."

The club participated in four tournaments this year in Petawawa, Hull, Masson and here at Shawville's Rotary Winter Invitational.

Hodgins was thankful for everyone who participated in the event, saying "the skaters have a strong relationship with each other and the parents and community are very involved."



One win more for Novice "A" and Atom "B" can wrap up their seasons

By DAVE MOORE
Equity Sports

PETAWAWA — The Shawville Novice "A" Pontiacs scored a decisive victory in Friday night's opening match of the 2001-02 Novice Competitive finals, against top seeded Petawawa Patriots (17-1-2).

With a 5-4 final score over the Pats, the huge win gives Shawville (13-6-1), a chance to wrap up this series, claim the title, all in two games. Shawville can do it with one more win in game two in Shawville as this issue hit the press Tuesday night.

Full results of that game, and more if needed next week.

In the first game, the Pontiacs' got goal scoring from Travis Stewart with three, and then from Matt Alexander and Ross Coté with the winner, each recording singles.

Assists in the back and forth match, went to Kurt Fraser, Spencer Pirie and Colton Keon with two.

Both teams went into the second period tied 1-1. Shawville opened it up a bit to stage the upset win heading into the third period with a 3-2 lead.

Petawawa tied the game 3-3 in the third period only to have Coté net the winner with 3:46 left to play.

After all this is over, the Novice "A" Pontiacs will be in Aylmer for Regional play-down action Saturday against Hull.

• The Novice "C" Pontiacs had the Barry's Bay Kodiaks (16-1-3) in a sweat in game three of their semi-finals series.

The Pontiacs (10-6-4), needed a win to bring the series home to Shawville, and it was in the works until the final minutes of the game.

With 2:42 left to play, the Kodiaks' top scorer, Ryan Leslie, got a lucky break and picked up the loose puck to score for a 2-2 final.

Barry's Bay won the series four points to two, one win, two ties.

Shawville had goals from Derian Plouffe and Hayden Moore with what could have been the winner at the time.

Jamie Carson got the games only assist on Plouffe's goal.

In the other semi-final series, number two Barry's Bay Grizzlies came back for two straight wins over Eganville. So now it's an all Barry's Bay Novice House final.

In regional play, the Novice "C" Pontiacs will be in Gatineau Friday night, facing the Gatineau Remparts.

• The Shawville Atom "B" Pontiacs finally finished with the Eganville Eagles. It took four games after Eganville scored a win in game three. Shawville was up three points to one before that.

This time Shawville's Tyler Alexander scored in overtime for a 1-0 win to rid themselves of the Eagles. There were no assists and Cory Boutin gets the shut-out.

The Atom "B" Pontiacs have their chance to wrap up the Atom House championship as the Pontiacs doubled up on Westmeath 4-2 Monday night. Game two goes as this issue goes to press.

Jeremy Campbell scored three with Derek Hickey getting one. Assists went to Chelsea Carson (2), Tyler Alexander (2), and Ryan Laframboise.

Results next week for game two.

The Atom "B" Pontiacs will be in Hull Saturday for their run at the Regional Championship. They play Petit Nation Castors first.

Who won what in the Metro

Continued from page 7

The Metro Midget title went to number one seeded team, the Buckingham Castors with a 3-2 overtime win over the number two club, the Maniwaki Forestiers.

Bantam "C" went to the second place finishers, the Petit Nation Castors, winners over Shawville in the Friday night semi-final game, with a 2-1 upset win over the league's first place team, the Masson Sharks.

The Bantam "B" title went to the first place Hull Citoyens with a large 5-0 win over third place Buckingham, in the most lopsided game of the day.

In the Peewee "B", the number one squad, Hull Frontaliers, who beat Shawville the day before, ended up beating the number two squad, the Hull Olympiques, with a close 3-2 score.

The Atom "B" finals featured the Gatineau Cougars, the fourth place finishers, who beat Fort Coulonge the day before, as 4-1 victors over the seventh place Gatineau Chevaliers.

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VIE PERSONNELLE ET SOCIALE

FRANÇOIS BILODEAU, PhD

Peut-on vivre sans violence?

continued from page 6

Marshall Rosenberg est un psychologue hors-pair qui a consacré sa vie au développement de la communication non-violente. Dans son livre *Nonviolent communication – A Language of Compassion: 1999*; en français, *Les mots sont des fenêtres: 2001*, il présente les bases pour des échanges qui conduisent à des solutions pacifiques et enrichissantes entre individus malgré différences d'opinions. Ces bases sont d'abord fondées sur une reconnaissance entière des sentiments et besoins légitimes de chacun. Cela peut paraître facile mais les embûches sont nombreuses à cause du fait que notre apprentissage social nous a plutôt appris comment nous défendre et blâmer l'autre au lieu d'utiliser un langage compatissant. Pour les fins de cette chronique, je ne peux prétendre présenter toute la richesse de l'oeuvre de Rosenberg. J'aimerais tout de même présenter les quatres composantes de son modèle: 1) l'observation, 2) les sentiments, 3) les besoins, 4) la requête.

Voici un scénario où je deviens un des participants! En premier lieu, il est nécessaire que j'observe objectivement l'interaction et le comportement ou l'action «troublante» chez l'autre qui déclenche en moi une réaction intérieure; et ensuite trouver une façon de lui décrire dans un langage factuel et neutre sans poser de jugement porté sur sa valeur.

Cette observation me permet d'identifier dans quelle mesure cette situation m'affecte dans le sens d'enrichir ou de nuire à mon bien-être, et si possible, sans exclure le bien-être de l'autre. Exemple, «J'aimerais te parler à propos de … mais tu viens de me dire que tu n'a pas le temps de m'écouter aujourd'hui.» Après avoir partagé cette observation, j'exprime les sentiments qui en découlent, comme exemple, « Lorsque je suis devant ces paroles (ou gestes), je me sens – selon le cas - soit craintif, faché ou frustré, … ainsi de suite». Troisièmement, vient l'expression de mes besoins par rapport à la situation observée. Exemple plus détaillé, «J'ai besoin de me sentir considéré autrement , c'est à dire plus engagé et moins frustré, si je suis pour participer à ton projet». À remarquer que le choix des mots exprime mon état sans viser ou blâmer l'autre. Finalement, j'exprime une requête (demande) en vue d'enrichir ce que nous pourrions vivre ensemble. Et toujours selon le même exemple, «J'aimerais bien participer au projet avec toi et je serais plus apte à vouloir le faire lorsque tu me consultes avant de tout décider.» Devant ces paroles, l'autre participant se sentira plus libre de répondre à ma requête sans se sentir attaqué ou démuni.

Jusqu'à ce jour, Marshall Rosenberg a enseigné son modèle à divers groupes et organisations sur cinq continents. Les témoignages sont sans équivoques: c'est un système qui peut changer le monde dans lequel on vit. Sans être facile, son apprentissage transforme, nous montrant le revers d'un visage craintif et défensif, c'est à dire le visage compatissant de l'humanité. *(À suivre en mars.)*

Deuxième et dernière partie

Depuis toujours, savants et chercheurs de notre monde moderne cherchent à expliquer la violence, sa nature et ses causes. Certains s'appuient sur des causes biologiques ou instinctives, d'autres sur des facteurs socio-économiques, ou encore, certains tiennent à des explications religieuses. Pour ma part, les recherches de René Girard, ce chercheur académique de renom, qui a longtemps enseigné à l'université de Stanford, m'ont offert une interprétation inspirée et réaliste à caractère anthropologique sur l'univers religieux. Ses études s'inspirent d'une compréhension rationnelle de la violence depuis les sociétés archaïques et mythiques jusqu'aux traditions religieuses judéo-chrétiennes et l'impact de ces dernières sur notre monde moderne. Au risque d'une vulgarisation sur-simplifiée de son oeuvre en peu de lignes, je me bornerai à spécifier la « pierre angulaire » de sa thèse, laquelle est fondée sur la présence universelle de l'imitation chez les humains, sans quoi les sociétés ne pourraient se développer, ni fonctionner. Si cela s'apparente à l'influence du « rôle modèle » popularisé par notre psychologie moderne, la thèse de Girard nous transporte sur le terrain plus global du comportement moral.

Chez Girard, le besoin d'imiter les autres se traduit en « comportements mimétiques » créant des rivalités manifestement saines ou hostiles, et c'est ces dernières qui conduisent à la violence ou à la mort, ou même, selon d'anciennes croyances mythiques, à la pratique voilée ou manifeste du sacrifice humain. Ce que l'auteur nomme le désir mimétique risque trop souvent de se transformer en désir d'avoir ce que l'autre possède, que ce soit son argent, son territoire, sa femme, son homme, ses enfants ou tout autre possession symbolique ou réelle. Et lorsqu'on ne peut obtenir ce que l'autre possède, se présente l'option d'agir avec violence pour l'obtenir, tel que raconte l'Ancien Testament dans la mort d'Abel, tué par Caïn, son frère jaloux, ou l'expulsion de Joseph par ses frères en pays lointain, ce fils doué et favori du patriarche Jacob. Dans ses cas, comme dans d'autres, les victimes sont innocentes, et la force du mal, que Girard identifie à Satan, a joué à travers les temps un rôle puissant dans l'évolution de la violence.

Sous une optique davantage sociale, l'auteur démontre comment la contribution déchaînée de la foule contribue au « lynchage » d'une victime, un acte violent précipité par une forte contagion émotive et aveugle d'où l'emballement de la foule en quête d'une justification de ses actes comme un supposé bien salutaire. Le Nouveau Testament décrit l'emballement de la foule dans la mort de Jean Baptiste et celle de Jésus Christ; et au point tel que dans le dernier cas, même les apôtres, à l'exemple de la honte de Pierre en entendant le coq chanter trois fois, se retrouvèrent perdus et emportés par le climat répandu de vengeance. En présentant une interprétation qui me semble plutôt allégorique sur la crucifixion du Sauveur, Girard démontre comment Satan, le Prince des ténèbres, est déjoué par la résurrection de Jésus. Et c'est après ce grand évènement inespéré, tel que prédit par Jésus, que Pierre et les autres apôtres, toujours affligés par leur participation au scandale collectif, retrouvèrent foi et inspiration telles que manifestées par l'écriture des Évangiles durant les décennies qui suivirent. Girard cite plusieurs apôtres tels que Pierre, Paul, Luc et Marc, ainsi que Jésus lui-même, illustrant les suites d'un message prophétique de vérité nécessaire à la création d'un monde meilleur et nouveau.

Conscient du fait que notre monde moderne exerce un libéralisme qui semble affaiblir la portée des Évangiles comme telle, Girard affirme au contraire que le message de paix fait son chemin sous de nouvelles formes universelles associées à des prises de positions humanitaires. À travers le monde, le souci des victimes d'injustices ou de catastrophes quelconques prend racine en même temps que des actes d'oppression et de trahison se dévoilent avec plus de transparence. À tous les jours s'exercent des opérations de sauvetages envers des collectivités sinistrées. Dans notre propre pays, les inondations subies au Manitoba en 1997 et celles au Saguenay en 1996 ont provoqué des gestes d'une générosité remarquable. Et qui ne fut pas touché par les efforts fermes et éloquents envers les familles des victimes du 11 septembre dernier.

Tout de même, il ne faut être dupe et croire que le tour est joué car, selon Girard, Satan n'a pas abandonné la bataille malgré sa chute. Toujours présent s'entretient le besoin chez certaines collectivités de justifier leur existence en ciblant comme « bouc émissaire » d'autres collectivités. Tous les jours, les journaux sont remplis de tels phénomènes tandis que nos pratiquants fervents de fêtes religieuses, telle que la célébration de Pâques, se recueillent dans la prière sans faire de bruit afin de faire basculer la condition humaine vers un univers sans victime. Devant le besoin chez l'humain moderne de persister à mesurer son pouvoir à celui des autres, les Évangiles demeurent un modèle d'inspiration indéfectible, en dépit d'allégeances sociales pluralistes, et parfois même de croyances anti-cléricales. Et même en s'adjoignant aux Évangiles comme une théorie de Dieu, Girard s'inspire de ce grand personnage mystique Simone Weil (1909-1943) pour dire qu'avant tout les Évangiles servent comme une théorie de l'homme. J'y vois là un refuge spirituel salutaire devant la présence du scandale qui nous suit toujours et dont nous cherchons à nous échapper.

À qui s'intéresserait davantage, Girard a publié de nombreuses oeuvres dans les deux langues. Celle qui a le plus retenu mon attention est la suivante: Je vois Satan tomber comme l'éclair, 1999.

François Bilodeau dirige sa pratique de counseling/consultant dans la région d'Ottawa-Hull et jouit du Pontiac durant la saison estivale.

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COMING EVENTS

Every Saturday night - Bryson Lions Old Time Dance until May 11, 2002. Round and square dancing, music by The Brysonnaires. 9 pm - 1 am. $6.00 per person. Hot lunch at midnight. otc

March 28, 29 - Shawville Flea Market, 193 Centre St., family clothes $1.00 each, household items, toys, books and tapes, collectibles, etc. xm27

March, 28, 29, 30 & 31 - Anglican Holy Week and Easter Services - Parish of Clarendon, 647-3819. Maundy Thursday 7:30 pm. Good Friday 10:30 am. Easter Eve (Saturday) Vigil 7:30 pm. Followed by Easter Party at St Paul's Shawville. Easter Day (Sunday) 8:30 am St George's, Portage du Fort; 9:30 am Holy Trinity, Radford; 11:00 am St Paul's, Shawville. All welcome. bm27

Friday, March 29 & Sunday, March 31 - Good Friday Service at St Andrew's Knox United Church 7:30 pm. Holy communion Easter Sunday at 9:30 am and at Starks Corners United Church 11 am. Everyone Welcome. bm27

Friday, March 29 - Good Friday - Ecumenical Good Friday Service at Bethel Pentecostal Tabernacle beginning at 7:30 pm. bm27

Saturday, March 30 - Easter Bunny Hop Activity, 10 am - 1 pm, Shawville R.A. Hall, Ages 0-10, $2.00. Lunch provided. bm27

Saturday, March 30 - Eastern Star Luncheon and Bazaar 11:30 am to 2:00 pm. Masonic Hall, 244 Main St., Shawville. Admission $5.00. Everyone welcome. xm27

Saturday, March 30 - Pancake Supper, Zion Lutheran church, Schwartz. Potato and regular pancakes, sausages, beans, rolls, maple syrup, dessert, tea or coffee. Adults $6.00, Children $3.00. Everyone welcome. 2bm27

Sunday, March 31 - Easter Sunday Breakfast Buffet at Riverview Inn & Restaurant, Norway Bay. 10 am - 1 pm. $8.95 per person, kids 10 and under eat free when accompanied by an adult. For reservations Call 647-3340. 2bm27

Saturday, April 6 - Spring Craft and Bake Sale. Floral wreaths, swags and arrangements, tole painting, baking, Tupperware clearance, ceramics, knitting, sewing and more! Women's Institute hall (little Schoolhouse) 885 Clarendon St., Quyon, 10 am to 3 pm. More info, call Kim at 458-1508. 2ba3

Saturday, April 13 - 9pm - 1:30 am, Shawville/Clarendon Firemen's Ball, music by Joe Teeven's Band accompanied by Joanne Dubeau, round and square dancing at the Shawville Lions Hall. Tickets $5.00 each. Can be obtained from any fireman or at the door. Lunch served. Door prizes. 4bm27

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, April 17 - Shawville R.A. Annual Meeting 7:00 pm at R A Hall. 2bm27

Saturday, April 20 - Shawville Rotary and Arena Sound System Committee present the Nepean Choir. Also featuring Corriveau School of Dance 7:30 pm Dr S E McDowell School. Advance tickets $5.00. At the door $7.00. 10 years and under free. For more info 647-5223. Tickets available Shawville Revitalisation, 115 Victoria Avenue or any Rotary Member. 4ba17

Saturday, April 20 - Pontiac Women's Institute are honouring their provincial president Helen Routliffe at Auberge Mont Blanc in Portage du Fort. Luncheon at 1:00 pm. Tickets $16. Contact Jean 647-3307 before April 6. 2xa3

June 5 - 19, Ireland. Call Thomas Cook/ Highland Travel, specialists in Ireland trips. For information on our 15th anniversary, almost all inclusive escorted holiday tour. Ottawa departure. 1-613-432-5815, 1-800-865-8738. 12bm29

GARAGE SALES

Friday & Saturday, March 29, 30 - Easter Weekend Garage Sale. 43 Beech Rd, Edelweiss Valley, Wakefield, Que. 459-3601. 2bm27

MISCELLANEOUS

20 cord dry mixed hardwood. Call 647-2627. otc

1984 Terra Jet 4-wheel drive. 16 h.p. electric start, spare parts $1,300. 647-3703. 3xa3

Furniture at huge saving as well as TV and appliances. Al Utronki Appliance & TV, Renfrew 613-432-5318. We sell the best for less. otc

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Chip wagon with canopy, all newly rebuilt, including 2 large fryers, 4 summers old, one hamburger grill, propane stove with oven, propane electric fridge, 2 electric fridges, chest freezer, microwave, triple sink, chipper, hot water tank, washroom, furnace, very spacious, ample storage. Asking $17,000 or best offer. Call Jackie at 1-613-732-9680 or Alice 613-735-1747. 2xa3

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L O S T

Black part German Shepherd and Lab. Answers to name 'Bear". German Sheppard head, has red collar. Reuben Markus 647-6151. 2bm27

Missing large cream coloured dog, answers to Laddie or Max, disappeared on Thursday, March 21, near High Falls, Bristol. Offering reward. 647-3294 b1m27

L I V E S T O C K

Two year old Limousin bull with Quebec papers. 648-2292 between 6 pm and 9 pm. bm27

HIDE BUYER
Highest prices paid to farmers for butcher hides
Call (613) 735-6950

FARM EQUIPMENT

New Holland 320 square baler $3,000. Big wheel rig $3,000. Kicker bale wagon 20 ft. 613-224-8063. b2m27

FARM PRODUCE

Straw 4x5 round bales, covered. Call 458-1221. 2xa3

CARS AND TRUCKS

1990 Pontiac Sunbird - complete new muffler system, snow tires and battery. Que Lic., $1,500 obo. 819-647-2308. xm27

WANTED TO RENT

Looking to rent three bedroom house in Shawville. Please phone 648-5784. 2ba3

F O R R E N T

Bristol - Two bedroom apartment, heat and hydro included. 647-6443. b2a3

Calumet Island - one bedroom apartment, fridge and stove, private entrance. Phone 648-2035. otc

Campbell's Bay – apartment 2 large bedrooms newly renovated. Call Dennis 648-2239 evenings. otc

F O R R E N T

Disney, Universal, Orlando Florida. 2 km to Disney. Two new executive four bdrm houses with private pools. 45 minutes to beaches. Canadian owner. 1-800-246-1996 http://webhome.idirect.com/~cratne. qm27

Shawville - One bedroom apartment. 647-3256 or cell 295-2489. otc

Shawville - 2 bedroom duplex apartment, yard, outside plug and parking. Available May 1st. $425.00 per month. Tel 647-5449. otc

Shawville - Richardson Brothers Apts. 3 bedroom town house. $450 per month, plus utilities. 647-2659 or 647-5362 or 647-5512. 2ba3

Shawville - Large one bedroom, central location, quiet neighbourhood, lots of storage, backyard, parking. 647-2403 or 647-5446 after 6:00 pm. otc

Shawville - One bedroom apartment, centrally located, available March 1st. Phone 647-5932. otc

Shawville Lions Hall. Air Conditioned/heated hall available. Contact Nelson Angus, 647-2732 anytime. otc

Shawville - apartment, appliances included, centrally located. Phone 647-3898 or 647-6522. otc

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Shawville - Brick bungalow, newly renovated, 3 plus 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, whirlpool in master, fireplace, new furnace, central air, new windows and doors, finished basement, updated kitchen and bathroom. Phone 647-2481.4bm27

Shawville - 400 Birch St. 3 bedrooms, brick bungalow. 647-3703 evenings. $65,000. 3xa3

Shawville - Split level brick home, 4 bedrooms, central air, central vac, quiet residential area, oil heated, above ground pool, 272 Douglas Street, phone 647-3272 Lisa. 2xa3

Shawville - 188 Victoria Ave Excellent Opportunity - Victorian century three storey home with tower on corner town centre lot. Four balcony's, six bedrooms. Original woodwork, ten ft ceilings. Large bay windows on three floors. Freshly painted. Ideal for bed and breakfast, senior's residence, office rental with private entrance, or large family. Bank value $100,000. Must sell $77,000 extra financing available for qualified buyers. For photos and details send e-mail to Imgreg35@hotmail.com or call 1-514-694-6994 after 7:00 pm. bm27

Timeshare Resales - Worldwide selection, ERA Stroman since 1979. Call now! Buyers call 1-800-613-7987. Sellers call 1-800-201-0864. www.timesharelink.com. qm27

FOR SALE OR RENT

Bryson - Commercial space for any type of business, also store equipment, available for rent now. Also two apartments (now rented) more to be seen. Building for sale @$45,000.00. Phone 648-2833. otc

W A N T E D

Participants for demolition derby for Cobden Fair, Friday August 23. Registration or information, call Dalton Stone 613-735-2734; Richard Stone 613-646-2753; Stewart McBride 613-646-2481. 4xa3

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432-6216

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Man with small skidder looking to cut bush big or small, thin out or cut all. Call Jim 648-5581. xm27

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N O T I C E

Be an interior decorator with our great home-study course. Call for your FREE brochure. 1-800-267-1829. Sheffield School of Interior Design, 1377-38 McArthur Ave, Ottawa, K1L 6R2. qm27

College / University students winning Résumé Workshop April 6 and 27, 2002 9 am - 12 pm. Reserve at Pontiac Youth Employment Marketplace with Laury/Patsy 648-5065. 2ba3

Learn Auctioneering. Classes held April 6 - 12, 2002. For information contact: Southwestern School of Auctioneering, RR 5, Woodstock, Ontario N4S 7V9. 1-888-673-6999. qm27

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T E N D E R S

SOUMISSION:
Des soumissions scellées sont demandées pour le balayage des rues de la municipalité de Portage-du-Fort (à l'exception de la Route 303).
Les soumissions devront être reçu au 22, rue Church, C.P. 130, Portage-du-Fort (Québec) J0X 2T0, avant lundi le 1 avril 2002 à 16 heures.
Pour plus d'information rejoindre la soussignée au 819-648-5663.
La plus basse ni aucune soumission nécessairement acceptée.
La secrétaire-trésorière
Tracey Hérault.

TENDERS
Sealed tenders are called for the sweeping of the streets in the municipality of Portage du Fort (with the exception of Highway 303).
Tenders must be received at 22 Church St., P. O. Box 130, Portage du Fort (Quebec) J0X 2T0, before Monday, April 1, 2002 at 4 p.m.
Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
For more information please call the undersigned at 819-648-5663.
Secretary-treasurer
Tracey Hérault. 2 0 m27

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Inventors - Product ideas wanted! Free information package. Develop and professionally present your new product idea to manufacturers through Davison, an award winning firm. Patent assistance available: 1-800-54 ideas (1-800-544-3327). qm20

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T H A N K S

Most Holy Apostle St Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the Church honors you and invokes you universally as the patron of hopeless cases and things almost despaired of. Pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Make use, I implore you, of that particular privilege given to you to bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the help of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations and sufferings, particularly (here make your request), that I may praise God with you and all the elect forever. I promise, O blessed St Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favour, to always honour you as my special and powerful patron and gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen. Acknowledge in writing. Thanks to St Jude and St Therese for favours received. bm27

Clark - I wish to express my sincere thanks to Drs Lamarche, Wootton and Karabatsos and the devoted nursing staff for the wonderful care they gave me while in the Pontiac Community Hospital. The smiles and TLC in the ICU of the nurses there made the stay all the more pleasant. A big thank you also goes out to my many friends, who were also my family, for their cards, gifts and visits. And as a member of the Wyman WI I say a special "thank you" to my sister members for their kindness and thoughtfulness. God bless you all!
Carol Clark.

Cote Pierre et Gladys, aimeraient remercier leurs enfants, gendres, brus, petits enfants, membres de leur famille, tous leurs amis et voisins qui ont participé à leur 65e Anniversaire de mariage. Un gros merci pour tous les cadeaux, la bourse d'argent et toutes les belles cartes de souhaits qu'ils ont reçus. A ceux et celles qui ont apporté de la nourriture, c'était délicieux.

Cote - Peter and Gladys would like to thank their children, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, all the members of their family, friends and neighbours who helped them celebrate their 65th Wedding Anniversary. A big thank you for the gifts, money and the beautiful anniversary cards that they received. To all that brought food, it was delicious.

Twolan, Phyllis - A sincere thank you to friends and family who have helped us through a few difficult months. The nursing staff and assistant nursing staff at the Pontiac Community Hospital must be commended for their professional manner and equally valuable, their compassion and tender, loving care. Thanks to the CLSC Palliative Care Unit whose visits were always looked forward to. A thank you would not be complete without paying a special tribute to Dr Wootton, a physician who went "beyond the call of duty", who treated his patient with the utmost of respect and allowed his patient to not only make her decisions but retain her dignity, and in so doing, became a treasured friend.
Dalton Twolan and his daughters Connie, Val, Betty Lou and Lisa.

D E A T H

Brown-MacKenzie (Mac) - With our deepest sadness and regret that we say goodbye to our dear friend Mac who passed away on March 19, 2002. We will never forget you and will always remember your kind and gentle ways. Until we meet again. Your friends.

B I R T H S

Beer - Jim and Laurie are pleased to announce the birth of Matthew James Richard on Feb. 27, 2002 weighing 8 lbs 3 oz and 22 inches long. A very little brother for Sara, Katie and Kelly. Another grandchild for Ruth Beer and Raymond Roy. Thanks to the OBS team, the OR staff and nurses for their excellent care. Special thanks to Dr Runi, Dr Potvin, Dr Croteau and Matthew's Aunt Karen for all her help.

M E M O R I A M

Campbell - In memory of a dear mother Marlowe Campbell, who passed away March 28, 2001.
Come to My garden;
See, in perfect bloom
The flowers you loved so dearly,
But thought I plucked too soon;
Then shall you know the reason,
Though you know it not today,
Why in his sweet manhood,
I took your mom away.
Love always Don and Judy.

Lepine, Bill - In loving memory of dad, March 30, 2000.
There is a bridge of memories,
From here to Heaven above,
That keeps you very close,
It's called a bridge of love.
As time goes by, without you,
And the days slip into years,
They hold a host of memories,
A million silent tears.
If lilacs grow in Heaven, Lord
Please pick a bunch for us,
And gently lay them in Dad's hands,
And tell him they're from us.
Forever missing you.
Glenda, Mike, Clayton, Jeff.

Lepine, William (Bill) - Two years have passed and I still miss you more with each passing day. I miss your laugh, your eyes, your smile, your smell and your soul. But I see all of these things in our children and grandchildren and so find some relief from the pain since you have been gone. They see you as their shining star up in heaven and feel comfort knowing you are watching over them each night. As do I. Still your chum, Nora.

Richard, Greeta - In loving memory of a dear daughter and sister who passed away March 26, 1998.
Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us everyday.
Unseen, unheard, but always near
Still loved, still missed and ever dear.
Lovingly remembered, Mum, Dad, Angus, Freeda and families.

Richard - In loving memory of a dear father and husband Joseph Richard who passed away March 28, 1998.
Dad as the days turn into years
They hold a million memories
And a Thousand silent tears.
Today, tomorrow, our whole life through
Wherever we go, whatever we do
We will forever cherish our
Happy years with you.
Sadly missed, forever loved,
Lilianne and families.

Rutledge - In loving memory of a dear wife Viola who passed away April 1, 2000.
In memory you are with us as you always were before.
Your loving husband Alex.

M E M O R I A M

Rutledge, Viola - In loving memory of our dear grandmother Viola Rutledge.
Grandmothers are the best. We know this because our grandmother was the best grandmother a child could ever have, and a best friend to talk to. We lost our grandmother April 1, 2000. When we lost our grandmother we also lost our best friend. Now our grandmother is in a better place, she is no longer suffering. We miss our grandmother more than anything. We know our grandmother is watching all of us from above and guiding all of us through life. All grandmothers deserve a reward, if they are as special as our grandmother was to all of us.
We love you grandma.
Michelle Daly, Barney, Lisa, Heidi Daly and Sylvia Larocque.

Rutledge - In loving memory of a dear mother Viola, who passed away April 1, 2000.
Sleep on, dear mother, take your rest,
They miss you most who loved you best;
Friends may be friends, if they be true,
But I lost my best friend when I lost you.
Sadly missed.
Always remembered Lois Daly, Brent Gauthier.

Sparling - In loving memory of our dear mother Mrs Lawrence Sparling who passed away March 27, 1953.
Life has many hardships
To bear along the way
We bore the saddest one of all
Forty nine years ago today.
We laugh, we smile, we play the part
But beneath it all are broken hearts
We hide the tears when we speak you name
But the ache in our hearts will always remain.
Wherever we go, whatever we do
We'll always love and remember you
None knew her but to love her
None named her but in praise
We love you Mom and miss you always.
The family.

Sparling - In loving memory of our dear brother Elmer who passed away March 26, 2000.
Come to my heavenly garden
And see in perfect bloom
The flower you loved so dearly
And thought I plucked too soon.
Then you will know my reason
Though you know it not today
Why in his promising manhood
I took your brother away.
Sadly missed by his sisters and brothers.

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Le Québec dénouce le protectionnisme des Américains

QUEBEC — Le ministre des Ressources naturelles, M François Gendron, et la ministre déléguée à l'Industrie et au Commerce, Mme Lucie Papineau, dénoncent l'imposition par le Département du commerce des Etats-Unis de droits anti-dumpings et compensatoires.

« Ces mesures, d'élevant respectivement `9,67 % et 19,34 %, auront un impact dévastateur sur l'industrie québécoise du bois d'oeuvre qui constitue un pilier de l'économie du Québec. Nous sommes profondément déçus du résultat des négociations des dernières semaines. Nous tenons à souligner le travail exceptionnel de notre équipe de négociation et à remercier les représentants de l'industrie pour leur appui indéfectible », ont déclaré les ministres.

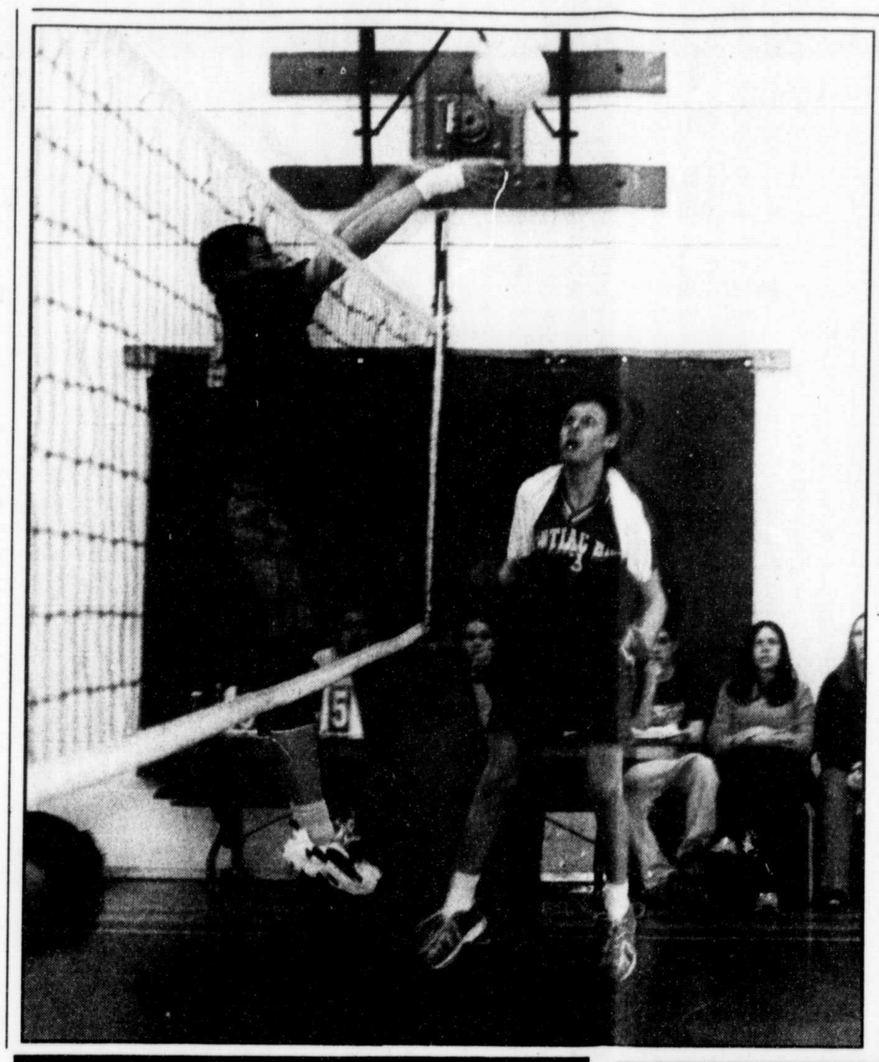
Le Québec réclame depuis toujours le libre-échange avec les Etats-Unis pour le bois d'oeuvre résineux. Il n'endosse pas une solution de court terme, telle qu'un prix minimum, des quotas ou une taxe à l'exportation, qui aurait pour effet de retarder une solution à long terme au contentieux canado-américain.

«Les proposition soumises par la partie américaine au cours des derniers jours ne permettaient pas d'atteindre cet objectif de régler le conflit canado-américain sur le bois d'oeuvre une fois pour toutes !» a déclaré le ministre Gendron à son retour de Washington où il s'était rendu pour appuyer la négociation avec sa collègue Mme Lucie Papineau.

« Devant l'intransigeance de la Coalition américaine du bois d'oeuvre, nous n'avons d'autre choix que de concentrer nos efforts sur les recours entrepris par le gouvernement fédéral auprès de l'Organisation mondiale du commerce et en vertu de l'Accord de libre-échange nord-américain. Nous sommes d'ailleurs très confiants des résultats de ces procédures » d'ajouter Mme Papineau.

Dans l'intervalle, le Québec exige du gouvernement du Canada qu'il formule des propositions concrètes de soutien à l'industrie québécoise du bois-d'oeuvre, qui pourrait devoir acquitter les droits imposés par les Américains à compter du mois de mai prochain.

« En vertu de ses responsabilitiés, le gouvernement fédéral a le mandat de mener à bien les négociations commerciales internationales. Puisque ces négociations ont conduit à une impasse, il revient en toute logique au gouvernement fédéral de soutenir l'industrie du bois d'oeuvre pendant les procédures devant l'OMC et en vertu de l'ALENA, qui pourraient s'avérer longues. Le Québec compte sur M Pettigrew pour amener son gouvernement à s'engager en ce sens » de conclure le ministre Gendron.



Paul McGee, THE EQUITY

COUPE DE PONTIAC — VOLLEYBALL: Cet joueur de l'équipe garçons de l'école Sieur de Coulonge (ESSC) a s'étiré sur le filet dans un competition Coupe de Pontiac contre l'école secondaire Pontiac mercredi le 20 mars à Shawville. Les garçons de l'ESSC a gagné le coupe et les filles de l'école St Alphonsus à Chapeau a gagné le division des filles.

SPECIAL STOCKER & YEARLING SALE
Thursday, April 4, 2002
at 2:30 p.m. at
Leo's Livestock, Greely, Ontario
Info: 613-821-2634

AUCTION SALE
Saturday, March 30, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. for
BERNARD ENGLISH
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RM-CG-40-2 1219

NOTICE OF CLOSURE OF INVENTORY

Notice is hereby given that, following the death of Raymond Fleury, during is lifetime retired, domiciled at 14 Borden Street, Campbell's Bay, Province of Quebec, J0X 1K0, which occurred on November 15, 2001, an inventory of the deceased's property was made by the liquidator of the succession, Patrick Kavanagh, on February 27, 2002 before Guy Lesage, notary, 121 Hughes Road, Otter Lake, Province of Quebec, J0X 2P0, in accordance with the law.

This inventory may be consulted by interested parties at the office of Guy Lesage, notary, located at 121 Hughes Road, Otter Lake, Province of Quebec, J0X 2P0.

Given this March 13, 2002.
Signed Patrick Kavanagh

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Public Notice

Ministère des Ressources naturelles

Registration division of Pontiac

Notice of computerization No. 14

CONCERNING the computerization of the registry office established in the registration division of Pontiac.

Under section 237 of the *Act to amend the Civil Code and other legislative provisions relating to land registration* (2000, c. 42), the Minister of Natural Resources gives notice that as of April 8, 2002, the registry office established in the registration division of Pontiac shall be fully computerized for land registration purposes.

Deputy Minister of Natural Resources
Michel Boivin

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By HERMONIE SHARPE
Correspondent
647-3459

This past Monday, March 18 Esther Dakin of Pine Lodge Bristol watched seven deer out on her lawn. She told me it was a beautiful sight, they stand so gracefully and don't mind you watching them as long as you don't scare them. They seem to be very plentiful this year as my daughter and I saw two beautiful does on the Ragged Chute Road coming in from Highway 148.

Sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Claire Stanley-Smith who passed away in her 94th year on march 15. A memorial service will be held at W J Hayes, on Thursday, March 21. Interment of ashes at Norway Bay Cemetery.

Anniversary congratulations go out to Jill and Keith Corrigan of Ottawa and the Shawville area who celebrated their 62nd on Tuesday, March 19.

Sometimes we dream of trips we would like to take but how fortunate the students who took the trip to Russia, realized their dream. What an experience, and how lucky you were to be able to go and have such chaperones as well. It was well written about in our last EQUITY and gave one the feeling of almost being there. Can you imagine in my school days we thought it was wonderful if we had a trip to Ottawa to see the Parliament Buildings and other points of interest. Sure hope these scholars realize how lucky they are to experience a trip like this.

Well, after disinfecting my bird feeders and giving them a good airing I filled them up and hung them back up. What a flock of birds I've had, chickadees, finches, grosbeaks, mourning doves, woodpeckers and the beautiful grosbeaks are really a sight to behold.A cow bird, blue jays and red winged blackbirds are also around.

This is Wednesday, March 20, it's supposed to be the first day of spring but it's snowing and blowing and we are promised the same for tomorrow. Not very spring like. Easter is just around the corner and I'm afraid if the weather doesn't change, you better leave your Easter finery until later. Happy Easter everyone, north, south, east ,and west. Hope you all have a very happy and safe Eater. If you are travelling, drive with care. It was on Good Friday, April 12, 1949 when my Uncle Sam and Aunt Margaret Smith of Ottawa lost their lives due to a car accident when going to spend Easter with relations in Sudbury. The accident occurred as the car was proceeding west on the highway. Wet snow made driving conditions dangerous.

Did you know what year the family allowance cheques came out? Family allowances were inaugurated by an act of Parliament in 1944 and were first paid in July, 1945.

One of Jack's good boys, Mervin Conroy celebrates his birthday on April 2. Happy birthday Mervin.

Birthday congratulations goes out to my niece Lorraine Webster who celebrated on march 27 in Rochester, N.Y. also to Evelyn Sharpe of Pembroke who celebrated on march 22.

Happy birthday goes out to my great grandson Stephen Mako of Holland Landing who celebrates his 8th on April 3.

Suddenly at his home in Merritt Island, Florida at the age of 77 years Arlington (Roy) Sharpe, dearly loved husband of Lois Sharpe passed away on Wednesday, march 20. Arlie was the son of the late Roy Sharpe and his wife Margaret Hazzard, one time residents of Bristol. To his family and friends we send our deepest sympathy. Lois' address is 200 Birch Ave, Merritt Island, Florida 32953-4214.

Birthday congratulations goes out to Carl Garlough who celebrated his 81st on march 20. This past weekend Carl and Rita visited with friends at Kemptville and Winchester where they celebrated Carl's birthday at the Country Kitchen on the Smith Fall's Road.

This past Thursday, March 21 the Bristol Pontiac Euchre Club cancelled their euchre at the Bristol town Hall because of weather conditions. Euchre will be as usual on March 28.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Helen Woolsey (Palmer) of Mariatown who passed away at the Winchester Hospital in her 64th year on Wednesday, March 20. Funeral service was held at Shawville United Church on Saturday, March 23. Interment Maple Grove Cemetery.

Visiting with us over this past weekend was Chrissie Gordon of Ottawa, Margaret sharpe and Susan Wilson of Shawville.

Visiting with Evelyn Sharpe in Pembroke over this past weekend for Evelyn's birthday was her daughter Winona and husband Keith Fernyhough of Sudbury.

This is Sunday, March 24 what a beautiful day after a real blizzardy night. The driving was almost impossible and if you didn't have an urgent appointment you were very wise to stay at home. Well, we had an urgent appointment but as we drove towards Campbell's Bay we wondered if we were going to make it. Snow, blowing snow, tons of it, visibility almost nil, cars stopped on the side of the road as a rule it doesn't seem far to drive to the Bay but it seemed like hours. What was the urgent appointment? It was Laura Moore's 90th birthday party. There was well over 200 people attending. A video made up of Laura's life from babyhood, through her younger years, married life, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren was shown with clever captions with each picture was really enjoyed by everyone. The music and dancing was enjoyed by everyone and the lunch that was served by the ladies from the Bay will have us dieting for the next month or more. Congratulations Laura and all the very capable ladies and their helpers for a party which we'll all remember for years to come. Ninety, never, you're just at your best with better to come.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Leo Hearty of Vinton, who passed away on Saturday, March 23 at the age of 62.

Sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Dr Walter Ellard McDowell who passed away on march 23 at the Montreal General Hospital.

Visiting with Evelyn Murphy over this past week were Paddy and Susan Bourgeau of Calabogie, Barry and Shirley Findlay and son of Aylmer, John Murphy of Munster Hamlet.

Birthday congratulations goes out to Douglas Tracy of Ottawa who celebrated recently. May you enjoy many more.

What does or should a community paper consist of? The goings on in the community. (Don't we get that?) What the weather is like in this part of the country we live in. What services throughout the Pontiac are available to us. What is on special in our local stores so we can shop locally, what different entertainment is coming up, what the sports in the community are accomplishing. Now whose picture is that, who is having a birthday? A good editorial, comments for the editor, comments on the environment, births, deaths, happenings in our community. Things (personal) for sale or job opportunities. When we think of all this and realize this is covered at a nominal price - we really shouldn't complain. Some say it should be bigger, that bigger is better, yes maybe, but bigger is more expensive, so up goes the price of your paper. Your advertisements, thank yous, deaths, births, don't cost you like it would in a large city paper. The paper is what you and I help the editor to make it and remember it travels far and wide and our friends and relations who aren't close to join in in our activities love to keep in touch by reading about them. We can all complain, but as they say, put your money where your mouth is and you'll decide we are actually getting more than our money's worth.

VINTON

A visit to Fortin's sugar bush

By BERTHA MCGEE
Correspondent
648-2669

Kay Ranger from Campbell's Bay and Stephen Scrak, from Vinton, both local artists, approached the Mansfield Township on behalf of about 15 Pontiac artists to use the small stone house next to the Bryson House in Mansfield as an art gallery for the summer months. The gallery would feature the work of our local artists and this should be good for tourism in this area.

Carl and Carole Romain took his parents Lorney and Laura Romain to the Fortin Sugar Bush in Clarendon. Also attending were Luc and Julie Romain, Celine Romain and Gabi Morin and Mr and Mrs Keith Morin. I was told it was a lovely place and they had a delicious meal.

Visiting Alva Lance March 17 were Ronnie and Stella Lance and Bertha McGee.

We sure had nice weather for St Patrick's weekend activities but it wasn't so nice on Monday, March 18. Any how that snow will do a lot of good for the fields.

Kourtney Morin spent the March break with his grandparents Lionel and Eileen Morin.

Happy wedding anniversary goes out to Pat and Diane Dillon who had an anniversary March 4. We wish them many more years of health, wealth and happiness and March 11 a belated birthday wish goes out to Pat Dillon. We wish you the best Pat.

WALTHAM

How to determine Easter's date

By EILEEN LABELLE
Correspondent
689-2314

Easter is fast approaching. It is one of the most important Church feasts of the year. It is always the first Sunday after the first full moon after the 21st of March — the Spring equinox — when the sun is directly over the equator. This year the full moon falls on March 28 Holy Thursday, so Easter is the following Sunday — March 31. it can be as early as March 22 or as late as April 25. I always though of Easter as a spring holiday but from the amount of snow and cold temperatures we are experiencing at the present, a drastic change will have to occur within the upcoming week to be like spring. Best Easter wishes to one and all.

Several people here are suffering from the flu which has the habit of recurring.

Seniors enjoyed the Golden Peak meal of roast beef and date cake on March 26 at the Town Hall.

Mr Reina Gagnon has returned home after a visit with her brother and his wife Mr and Mrs A Mainville and her brother and his wife Mr and Mrs Ronald Gagnon of Temiscaming.

Mrs Kathleen Spotswood is a resident of Marianhill, Pembroke. Her daughters Irene and Catherine live in Pembroke which makes it nice for her, as they visit her often and take her out. We wish her the best in her new environment. We miss having her here in Waltham.

Birthday wishes to Anthony LeRoy whose birthday is April 3 when he will be seven. A party will take place on April 7 for him.

Muriel LeRoy, Rita Belanger, Lola Boisvert travelled by bus to the CLSC in Chapeau every Thursday to attend the Pontiac Day Centre program from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Birthday greetings to Mrs Eva Lepine who will celebrate her 90th birthday on march 30 at Harrington Hall, Chapeau.

OTTER LAKE

Cliff receives many visitors

By ELIZABETH HAHN
Correspondent
453-7326

Cora Mayhew, Fredda and Jacques Dupuis of Metcalf, On., visited with Cora's son Floyd and his family. They also visited with Mr and Mrs Edgar Mayhew. Happy birthday wishes to Williard Lance who had a birthday March 25.

A group of people from Otter Lake, Campbell's Bay and Calumet Island took a bus trip to St Joseph's Oratory in Montreal for the feast of the Patron Saint on March 19.

Everyone had a very pleasant trip.

Natalie Hahn, Sarah Laverdure of Pembroke, Patricia and Carson Russell of North Gower spent the weekend with Elizabeth Hahn and they all visited Cliff Hahn in hospital who is improving after surgery, as well as the rest of the family, namely, Pat Hahn, Doloras, Pam Thoms, Kathryn and Graham of Kanata, Kelly Hahn and Travis, Theresa and Milton Hahn and many more visitors.

Happy Easter everyone.

BRYSON

Gourmet tea at the sugar bush

By ANNA STEWART
Correspondent
648-2351

Visiting with us this passed week was Melvin and Moniques Stewart of Matagami, Diane Stewart and Larry and Dominiques Besserer of Ottawa, Jamie, Sylvie and Jacob Stewart and Heather and Marcel Bertrand of Fort Coulonge. All were here to go to the sugar bush. But it is not syrup weather yet.

Francis and John Chenard spent a few days with us from White Fish, Ontario. They returned home on Thursday.

visiting with Bill and Melba Wallace was her brother Fred and his wife Brenda Stewart of Naughton. They also visited with Aunt Rita Stewart of Campbell's Bay. They then finished their weekend by attending the Old Time Dance at the Lions Hall before returning home.

Our sympathy to the Sparling family of Campbell's Bay on the death of a husband, father and brother Eldon.

A beautiful baby shower was held in the basement of the Immaculate conception Church on Saturday for Shelly Normandeau and Jeff Benoit. Shelly received many lovely gifts. Cindy, her sister, was the perfect hostess. After a few games and the opening of the gifts a delicious lunch was served. We wish Shelly and Jeff every happiness.

I hear Norman Perrier makes a very special tea in the sugar bush. I believe he makes it out of wiener water. Is this a gourmet tea Norman?

Shawn Stewart and Samantha Skelly spend a few days visiting Samantha's parents in Hamilton.

A very happy birthday to Paulette Rodgers.

Also visiting us over the passed week was my sister Helen and Pat Wallace of Ottawa.

Winners of the Golden Age euchre this passed week were: 50/50 Michael Larocque. Men's first prize went to Napoleon Bleau. Second price went to Frank Lacourse and Bobby Stewart. Ladies first prize went to Yvonne Hamelin. Second prize went to Colette McTiernan, Joan Sicard and Anna Porter.

Birthday greetings to Josée Godin. Also happy holiday to Julie Stewart of Matagami.

Happy birthday to Sylvia Hodgins' husband David.

Have a safe and healthy week.

LADYSMITH

Winter arrives on the first day of Spring

By DEBBIE LANCE THRUN
Correspondent
647-3927

Well, Easter is almost here, falling on Sunday, March 31. It's earlier this year than most years. The old folks used to say that it's a sign of an early spring. It's another occasion when we get together with our family and friends for a special dinner with all the trimmings. Easter is one of my favorite occasions. I think because there is more sunshine and the days are getting longer, plus the lovely bright colours make Easter so cheerful too. Hearing the birds chirping away in the morning make us feel happier and more energetic for the days ahead.

I would like to wish everyone a very happy Easter. Have a safe and enjoyable weekend at whatever you might be doing to celebrate. There will be more traffic on the roads than usual so drive with caution.

Calling me last week was Gertrude Koch of Aylmer. We had a lovely chat.

On Sunday, March 17 visiting with Minerva and Richard Dahms were Elaine and Ron Lewis of Stittsville, Gord and Val Carruthers of Carp and Tracy Lewis. The occasion was to celebrate Richard's 94th birthday which fell on March 20. A great social time was had by all.

Congratulations and best wishes to Elizabeth Fieroben who will be celebrating her birthday March 31. Hope you have a great day and many more of them.

Last Friday Gerda and Walley Bretzlaff and Hulda Erfle left on a three week vacation to Germany. Hope they have a safe and enjoyable trip.

I was terribly saddened to hear of the passing of Ada Daley, one of our correspondents. We sure will miss her great column. Deepest sympathy goes out to her family.

Winter has arrived again on the first day of Spring. As I write this it is snowing like cats and dogs with more to come.

Visiting with Ahart and Margaret Fieroben last Sunday were Lois and Ron Lassenba of Ottawa and Grace Early was with them for lunch one day.

Calling us last week was Harold Mahlitz of Kitchener. He is planning to come up to Ladysmith Easter Monday to visit friends in the area.

Harold is organizing a tour on the Hull to Wakefield steam train on Saturday, June 29, if there is enough interest. It's a beautiful tour, on the train and a two-hour stop in Wakefield.

While at a restaurant last Saturday we met with Warren Russell of Shawville. Warren and I worked together for many years for Mickey and Doris Hodgins. He was quite a joker with a great sense of humour. We had a great chat.

Don't forget the Zion Lutheran church Pancake Supper on Easter Saturday, March 30 from 4 - 7 pm.

CAMPBELL'S BAY

90th birthday celebrations

By IRIS SMITH
Correspondent
648-5821

Many people enjoyed the meal last week put on by the Golden Peak last Thursday at the Lions Hall.

A well known citizen of our town passed away on March 19. Eldon Sparling was a trucker and a horseman over his lifetime. To his wife Jean and family members we extend our deepest sympathy. The funeral was at St George's Anglican Church on Thursday, March 21. Rev Stoppa conducted the service. Burial was at St George's Anglican Cemetery. Ringrose Bros Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Saturday evening, a great lady Laura Moore celebrated her 90th birthday with a huge party at the RA Hall. Family and friends gathered to wish her all the best on this happy occasion. May she live to enjoy many more happy healthy birthdays.

A resident of the Vibert Pavilon, Leo Hearty passed away suddenly on March 23. To his family we express our sincere sympathy. The funeral was on Monday, March 25 at St Elizabeth's Church Vinton. Our Ringrose Bros Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Mrs Jeanne Haley returned home after attending her grandchild's christening in Calgary.

Scott and Krista Smith had their son, Logan christened recently. I am sorry the news I received was that it was a girl.

Lori (Smith) and Luc Vaillancourt have a new daughter, Grace. Proud grandparents are Bob and Lois Smith and great grandmother Bernice Smith.

Visiting with Lois Kensley on the weekend was her daughter Daune of Coburg.

The weekly euchre party was held at the Golden Age Club on Tuesday evening. Ladies high was a tie between Veronica Perrier and Iris Smith. They split the prize. Second place was also a tie between Dora Hearty and Maxine Fenton. They split the prize. Men's high was won by Tom Hearty. Second was a tie between Paul Stafford and Theo Schroeder. The door prize was won by Phyllis Hearty. The 50/50 was won by Dorcas Sparling. Refreshments were by Florence Wadge and Norm Perrier.

It is nice to hear May Wilson is home recovering following her stay in hospital.

It was with great shock we heard of the death of Jean (Murphy) Hodgins on the weekend in Ottawa. She will be at Hulse and Playfair McLeod Street and the funeral service will be on Thursday at 11 am in the chapel. To family we express our deepest sympathy.

Sunday was Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Services will be held this week and people of the congregations will attend these special services.

Shawville Kin Club bringing "Magic Show of Century"

Canada's outstanding illusionist, John Kaplan, is bringing his acclaimed Millennium Magic show to Shawville on Monday, May 6 presented by the Shawville Kin CLub.

You'll time-travel with magician John Kaplan on a magical journey through the past century decade-by-decade from ragtime to rap . . . and beyond!

John Kaplan makes you believe in a world of fantasy through his original blend of magic and comedy with contemporary music, dance and special effects creating a must see theatrical experience.

\It's a magical review show for all ages. Incredible illusions are mixed with side-splitting audience participation in a 90-minute program of spell-binding fun the whole family can enjoy. Kaplan has been making magic across Canada on behalf of community organizations for 20 years.

The performance in Shawville will benefit Shawville Kin Club who are raising funds towards various community needs. The show will be held at Dr S. E. McDowell School gymnasium at 7 pm.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO SENIORS

YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

Canada's Old Age Security pays benefits to most people over 65.

For those who have not already been contacted, please note the following:

IF you are 65 or over, with low or modest income, you may be entitled to the ***Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS)***

IF you are 60 to 64 and are the spouse or common-law partner of a GIS recipient, you may be entitled to the ***Allowance***

IF you are 60 to 64 and widowed, you may be entitled to the ***Allowance for the survivor***

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