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THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2008

*The New Look?*



PERRY BEATON

An artist's rendition of how Lennoxville's downtown might look, post facelift. See page 5.

**Gun scare raises worries**

*'Two of my friends were walking across campus'*

By Jen Young  
SHERBROOKE

**B**ishop's University employees are counting their lucky stars that Tuesday's campus gun scare turned out to be a false alarm, but according to one it was a "wake up call".

"I was on campus at the time this was going on and I found out much after the fact that an evacuation was underway," said Dr. Ginny Stroehrer. The biology professor's office is on the third floor of the Johnson science building.

"I never heard anything. It's a real concern. Two of my friends were walking across campus to the sports complex while this was going on. They could have walked right into the situation.

"Thankfully it was not real, but it really brought it home for many of us. It made you say, 'Wow, we need to do something.' As far as a real evacuation plan or procedure, there isn't one. A lock-down, what does that mean?"

Police made their way to the campus Tuesday morning and were in the process of evacuating a building into which two people with guns had been seen entering.

Within minutes, the two were found — they were students, being photographed with props (fake rifles) as part of an English and films studies course.

According to university spokesman David McBride, the institution has begun to re-assess its emergency protocols, but creating a plan for thousands is not an easy task.

"There is a security plan in place, but for security reasons we can not publish them," he said. "We have a 500-acre campus. At any given time there could be over 3,000 [people on campus]. It's certainly a challenge, but our goal is to make sure that our students and employees are safe."

Stroehrer, who is also the president of the Association of Professors of Bishop's University (APBU), said she is confident the university is working towards a solid plan.

"I spoke to security and then the dean and I was told that the university is working on the procedures. I would imagine how complicated it is to figure out how to do this. I mean how do you contact everyone in an emergency such as this? I was assured a plan was coming. It is reassuring to see that police



**The Border**  
Our reviewer compares life in Stanstead with the TV version  
PAGE 7



**New coach?**  
Rod Gilpin is tipped as the next BU men's cager coach  
PAGE 10

**Marler drops out**

*Hints of Tory tensions*

By Rita Legault  
SHERBROOKE

**D**avid Marler has withdrawn his name for the Conservative Party nomination in Brome-Missisquoi.

In a curt, three sentence letter to local party members dated and sent on Wednesday, Marler writes: "I regret that for personal reasons I cannot continue

as an applicant for the Conservative Party candidacy in Brome-Missisquoi."

The specifics of why will remain a secret until after next month's nomination meeting.

"I have decided that the appropriate thing for me is to make no statement until the nomination race has run its course," Marler told *The Record* Wednesday.

But he hinted broadly that there is tension between the local and national

PLEASE SEE MARLER ON PAGE 4

PLEASE SEE SAFETY ON PAGE 4

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PERRY BEATON

Competition finalists will perform in private homes.

# Chamber music

## Students perform in homes

Leading up to Sherbrooke's 10th annual regional finals of the Canadian Music Competition, to be held March 31, young musicians will be giving a series of Sunday morning concerts in the area.

On March 9 and 30 at 11:30 a.m. the competitors will be playing for the public at the Université de Sherbrooke's Auditorium Serge Garant. On March 16, there will be three private concerts held at homes of people associated with the regional chap-

ter. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, available at the door.

There are 25 musicians registered to compete in the Sherbrooke regional finals this year, including Thierry Bégin-Lamontagne, a guitarist who chapter president Madeleine Tremblay describes as "truly extraordinary." Bégin-Lamontagne will be part of the biannual International Stepping Stone competition this year, for young people starting out in a musical career.

For more information, contact Madeleine Tremblay at madeleine.tremblay@videotron.ca.

- Claire Biddiscombe

# No homework!

## Always wanted a university education?

By Claire Biddiscombe  
SHERBROOKE

For the first time, a university learning experience without the mountains of homework is available to the public at Bishop's University's Lennoxville campus.

While the Université de Sherbrooke has a long history of continuing education, and the Bishop's Knowlton campus has been offering non-credit courses for some time (mostly arts-related), this is the first semester that the main campus has offered this type of programming, said Suzanne Meesen, director of continuing education at Bishop's.

"We realize and recognize that continuing education needed to get back into the community," Meesen said.

"The community doesn't want homework or assignments, they want the types of learning experiences the university can offer."

So, in collaboration with the Townshippers' Association, the university conducted a series of focus groups to find out exactly what the community wanted.

As a result, Bishop's now offers eight non-credit courses during the winter semester, covering topics as varied as wills and powers of attorney, memoir writing, French conversation and Canadian foreign policy.

The subjects of the courses were based on feedback from focus groups and Meesen said that the university is looking to expand its non-credit offerings.

"We just listened to what members of the community were asking us for," Meesen said.

Taught by members of the Bishop's faculty, these courses are offered to the community for a fee to cover the professors' time.

"It's very much how I teach my normal courses, but very condensed," said William Hogg, a professor of political studies who is teaching a five-session course called "Understanding Canada in the

World."

"[The course is designed to] sort of help anyone who wants to understand things that are in the paper," Hogg said.

Once a week, Hogg meets with his class of "nine ladies" to explain current issues in Canadian foreign policy and how the country has evolved to reach this point.

He added that the course can be as interesting for him as for his students.

"These ladies have lived through a lot of the events that I'm talking about and can provide some good context," Hogg said.

Heather Keith, one of Hogg's students, was part of the committee that recommended that the community be more involved in adult education at Bishop's. When she found out that the university was going ahead with the non-credit program, she signed up for a course — and spread the word to her acquaintances.

"I'm very happy to see that they're doing it," Keith said.

"I'm really quite enjoying it."

This interaction between the university and the people who coexist with it in their daily lives is key, according to Meesen.

"This is a trend that we see in continuing education across Canada," Meesen said.

"It's important for the community to know that Bishop's is accessible. That university education is accessible."

But, she added, it can be a challenge to know what people would like to see offered and what would grab their interest.

"We are open to hear about what the community wants," Meesen said, inviting comments from the public.

"I think it's part of the university's responsibility to deliver learning opportunities to the community in a way that meets their needs."

For more information, or to register for a course, contact Continuing Education in the Nicholls Building at Bishop's University at 819-822-9670 or cont-ed@ubishops.ca. The cost ranges from \$100 to \$400.

## Weather

**Today:** Mix of sun and cloud. High plus 2. Low of minus 6.

**Friday:** Cloudy. Low minus 6. High plus 3.

**Saturday:** Snow. Low minus 5. High minus 2.

**Sunday:** Periods of snow. Low minus 12. High minus 7.

## Ben by Daniel Shelton





PERRY BEATON

Wednesday's high winds appeared to have wrenched down this tree on Lennoxville's Willowdale Street.

# The calm before the storm?

## Weather watcher's warning

By Jen Young  
SHERBROOKE

**E**astern Townships residents will wake up to a calm and sunny day today with less wind, but according to local amateur weather forecaster Andrew Retchless this is "the calm before the storm."

"It's gonna be nice," he said Wednesday evening after snow blowing his driveway. "It'll be sunny with temperatures of around minus 2 or minus 3. The winds will die down, but that's nothing. We're not out of it yet."

Retchless is also the principal of Granby's Parkview Elementary School, as well as a trusted meteorological source for the Eastern Townships School Board and he predicts that Friday will bring another problematic weather pattern.

"We're looking at another 10 to 30 centimeters depending on what track the storm takes," he predicted. "If it takes a westerly track we will see much like we got (Wednesday). Snow and freezing rain, but if it takes a Cape Cod track we're looking at a foot of snow."

At least one ski hill shut down early Wednesday because of the weather.

North Hatley's Montjoye closed at 4 p.m., blaming icy conditions and freezing rain.

A release stated work would be completed on the runs overnight and Montjoye would reopen Thursday morning for 8:30.

## Westbury Ethanol plant

Staff  
SHERBROOKE

**E**nerkem is building an industrial plant in Westbury that will be one of the first in the world to produce cellulosic ethanol. The plant, which is targeted to be completed this fall, will produce 1.5 million gallons of cellulosic ethanol from creosoted urban wood — in other words, old power poles.

Unlike traditional ethanol, which is derived from cereals or plants, cellulosic ethanol comes from residues and solid urban wastes.

"Unlike other gasification technologies, which are limited to using the gas for the production of heat and electricity, Enerkem's synthetic gas is conditioned for use as a chemical feedstock in the manufacturing of higher value-added products, such as cellulosic ethanol and other biofuels," said Enerkem president and CEO Vincent Chornet.

Renewable biofuels offer many advantages, Chornet said, including contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by using materials that would otherwise produce methane in a landfill.

The plant is the first in a series of industrial projects that Enerkem plans to announce in future months to process municipal solid waste. This comes almost five years after the start-up of Enerkem's pilot plant in Sherbrooke.

That facility has recycled about 100,000 tonnes of materials per year — by producing a synthetic gas, called syngas, from waste.

Enerkem is headquartered in Montreal.

## No snow blower theft epidemic

### Just average, say police

By Jen Young  
SHERBROOKE

**M**ontreal is experiencing an "epidemic" of snow blower thefts according to Sherbrooke police, but a spokesman said the local theft rate is average this year, despite local media alerts claiming the contrary.

"There were approximately 20 snow blower thefts in the Sherbrooke area around the holidays," said Const. Martin Carrier. "This is the usual number from year to year. In fact, this year was even a little less than in previous years and I think that has a lot to do with prevention."

Carrier said local officers spent much time canvassing the area over the winter, warning residents who had left their equipment outside for all to see.

"When patrollers saw snow blowers sitting outside or in a carport, and they were visible, they would stop and warn the owners. They also kept an eye out for trucks transporting them. They pretty much stopped everything that moved if it had a snow blower."

Provincial police in the Montreal area have issued a warning because of what they see as an astonishingly high number of thefts.

Said Carrier: "While it snows there is always the chance of thieves looking for equipment to steal. Just because we don't have an epidemic like Montreal doesn't mean that people shouldn't be careful. It's better to be safe than sorry."

Police are reminding snow blower owners to keep the equipment out of sight. "Out of sight, out of mind," Carrier said.

He also recommends that residents jot down their machine's serial number, which makes locating stolen equipment much easier.

### BRIEFS

#### Granby police need you

The Granby police are asking for the public's assistance in identifying a man accused of credit card theft and fraud.

According to a release a man stole a credit card in the beginning of February and used it to make purchases of approximately \$300 at a Granby grocery store and two depanneurs.

The suspect (pictured) was reportedly seen leaving one location in a black Dodge Neon on Feb. 2 between 3 and 4 p.m.

The twenty-something white male was wearing dark pants and jacket and sporting an army style baseball cap.

Police ask that anyone with any information contact Det. Yves Pare at 450-776-8333 or Info-crime at 1-800-711-1800. All calls are kept confidential.

#### Magog doctor suspended

A Magog doctor has been suspended from his



practice for three months after having sexual relations with a former patient.

Dr. Michel Barrette has been suspended by the province's college of doctors after pleading guilty to engaging in a relationship with a cancer patient for a one-year period.

According to the complaint filed to the Collège des médecins du Québec, the woman was a patient of Barrette's since 1998. She sought help for anxiety and severe depression and was treated with antidepressant medication and anxiolytic, a mild tranquilizer.

The 65-year-old family practitioner will also pay a fine of \$1,000.

#### Student spaghetti supper

The handful of Alexander Galt Regional High School students who have organized this Saturday's fundraising spaghetti supper ask that anyone interested in pre-purchasing tickets call 819-835-9296.

The 5 p.m. event will be held at the North Hatley Legion in hopes of helping local teens raise funds to go to James Bay with their classmates this April and need to raise around \$600 each.

Tickets cost \$10 for adults and \$4 for anyone under the age of 12. Tickets can also be purchased at the door.

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RECORD

**MARLER:**

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

party organizers. "This edition of the Conservative party is tightly controlled (at the national level)," Marler said. "They determine what goes on. The local association has no power whatsoever."

Marler, who said he has informed local Tory riding president Peter White of his decision to pull out, made it clear he had every intention of running until recently.

Whatever happened to make Marler pull out, he is bitter. "I've sort of been the flag carrier for the party," he said. "I represented the party here for three years. I was the candidate at the last election."

The Knowlton lawyer and longtime Conservative, who came in third with a little more than 20 per cent of the votes in the last federal election, has been busy ever since attending golf tournaments and fundraisers.

"I was the candidate the last time and I haven't stopped running," Marler told *The Record* last summer when Perle Bouchard jumped into the race.

Marler said that he, Bouchard, and the local riding association sought permission from the party to start the nomination process.

It was "all of sudden" launched on Jan. 14 and then abruptly closed on Jan. 16, he said.

"The candidates at the time were Mrs. (Perle) Bouchard and myself," he said. "That's when (Mark) Quinlan expressed an interest."

Marler said the nomination process was finally reopened on Feb. 20. The nomination meeting is scheduled for April 6.

"The management of the situation has

been disastrous," Marler said, refusing to confirm rumours that he was forced out to make room for Quinlan.

Quinlan is a political attaché for Mégantic-l'Érable Conservative MP Christian Paradis, the secretary of state for agriculture in Ottawa. In 2000, Quinlan was the Sherbrooke candidate for the Canadian Alliance, which has since merged with the Progressive Conservatives to form the new Conservative Party of Canada.

In a telephone interview, Quinlan confirmed he is officially in the running for the party's nomination in Brome Missisquoi.

"I have decided to throw my hat in," he said.

Quinlan denied that Marler was forced out so he could run.

"David Marler made the decision, as far as I know, to let me go," he said. "As far as I know, David made the decision for personal reasons."

"What I can tell you is that I have the deepest respect for David Marler," Quinlan said, noting that Marler has increased the membership and visibility of the party in Brome Missisquoi.

Quinlan said that he and Marler share many of the same supporters. Quinlan was campaign manager for Peter Stastny when he ran in 2004. Stastny supported Marler in 2006.

"I know a lot of the same people. I wasn't going to go into the race against David. I said to David and to the riding association that I would not join the race late unless David Marler decided to withdraw," Quinlan said. "I told him if he did withdraw, I would most likely jump in."

"I have till next Wednesday to sell memberships and to convince people to support me," Quinlan said. "I'm late but I'm doing my best to gain support from

members in Brome Missisquoi. I don't mind saying that I'm ambitious and I would like to be their MP."

Quinlan also said the Tories he knows in Brome-Missisquoi are clear: They want a bilingual candidate.

Perle Bouchard has admitted she is a unilingual francophone, but that she was working on improving her English.

In an earlier interview with *The Record* she recognized it's important to be comfortable in English in the riding that has the largest percentage of anglophones in the Eastern Townships.

On Wednesday, Bouchard said she had spoken with Marler and that she was aware he was stepping down. But she was not aware of any attempts to push him out of the race.

"On my side I am actively selling cards," she said, noting she had till March 12 to sell as many memberships as possible.

Bouchard said the earlier nomination meeting was canceled due to a restructuring of the Conservative Party in Quebec.

Bouchard said there has been no pressure on her to step aside. "I have been working for two years," she said, noting that she went to Ottawa for a training session for prospective MPs.

"I'm still in the race," she said.

While his opponents continue seeking the nomination, Marler would not comment on what his plans are for the future and whether he plans to run again for the Tories or as an independent.

"I'm now a free man and the world is open to me. I could go back to gardening. I could go back to signing..."

Brome-Missisquoi riding president Peter White could not be reached for comment.

**PQ shelves referendum?**

The Parti Québécois may be putting its plans for a referendum on hold for now, but it remains committed to the sovereignty dream, PQ Leader Pauline Marois said Wednesday morning.

Releasing a package of proposed resolutions for a meeting next week of the PQ rank-and-file, Marois confirmed that the old party pledge to hold a referendum as soon as possible in the first mandate in the event the PQ forms a government is on hold for now.

In its place, Marois says the party will try and talk up the reasons it feels Quebec should separate. The party's new tag for the debate will be that Quebecers dive into a "national conversation" on sovereignty all over the province.

A PQ government would also start preparing the terrain for sovereignty by drafting a new Quebec constitution, create a Quebec citizenship, reinforce the status of the French language, re-write Quebec's history curriculum to highlight the sovereignty point-of-view in schools and assure a better integration of immigrants.

- Canwest News Service

**SAFETY:**

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

were immediately notified, but this is a concern."

This is the second scare at Bishop's in as many months. A campus cafeteria employee has been charged with uttering threats following reports he said he would shoot work colleagues.

Champlain College shares the university campus. According to Cégep director Paul Kaeser, they were "monitoring the situation while it was happening."

"We do (have an evacuation plan)," said Kaeser Wednesday afternoon. "In light of Dawson College last year we reviewed and refined our security."

That tragic incident left two dead and 19 injured in September 2006 when a gunman walked onto the Montreal campus and opened fire, then committed suicide.

Said Kaeser: "We had an expert come in and we built an entire plan. Not only on how to deal with hostile intruders, but also floods [and] right up to gas leaks."


For reasons of security, he also would not divulge specifics.

Stroehner said the APBU is more than willing to cooperate to put an effective plan into play.

"There is talk of holding a 'what to do in case' workshop in the fall. A good test system needs to be put in place. If someone walks into a classroom (in a hostile manner) we don't know what to do. The union will do what we can to help."

McBride confirmed that campus security has been reviewing security measures since the Dawson College tragedy, and before.


"We've been refining our system since even before Dawson College," he said. "We are looking at making use of email and voice mail as well as looking at text messaging. Again, our biggest concern is keeping everyone safe."



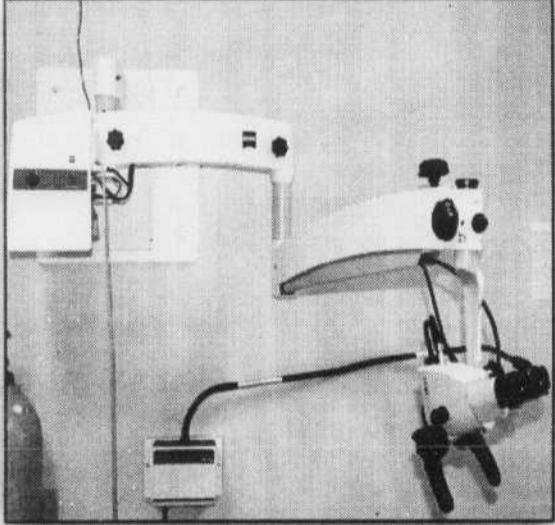
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**PROMUTUEL**

# Upbeat response to Lennoxville facelift

No negatives?

By Sarah Rogers  
SHERBROOKE

The south east entrance to the city of Sherbrooke is about to get a facelift, and local institutions are welcoming the change. Sherbrooke city council adopted a plan Monday night that will see the borough of Lennoxville's Queen and College street area revitalized, from new lamp posts to the restoration of local buildings and pedestrian and cycle paths.

Lennoxville borough chairman Douglas MacAulay, who called the project "a dream come true" for the community, is hoping that Lennoxville emerges from its makeover looking like the quaint college towns that dot parts of New England's landscape.

Bishop's University, which had representation on an advisory committee in the early stages of the planning, believes any positive changes to the school's host community would reflect well on the institution itself.

"When you look at some of the schools we compete against, Sackville and Wolfville are very quaint and picturesque," said campus spokesman David McBride, referring to the Maritime communities that are home to both Mount Allison and Acadia universities. "And that plays a role in recruitment.

"Lennoxville has huge charm, but a lot of its beauty lies off the beaten path," he added. "I don't think Lennoxville is quite there yet, but I think it has that potential.

"We're happy to be a part of that change."

McBride said the university would welcome a more seamless approach between the municipality and the Bishop's campus, starting with new pedestrian and bike paths connecting the two. Trails and signage are also a way to get students to enjoy their off-campus surroundings, he said.

Staff at the Uplands Cultural and Heritage Centre agree. Recent work to connect visitors to the Lennoxville museum by way of new trails and signage have meant a noticeable increase in visitors to the centre over the last few years, said Upland's Nancy Robert.

"We're trying to create as many links as we can," Robert said, pointing to discussion around reviving a tramway link from the old city of Sherbrooke to Lennoxville.

Robert also hopes to see some of Lennoxville's heritage buildings made more visible, an initiative that she feels will be helped with the burying of wires, a source of "visual pollution."

In addition, the proposal outlines plans to restore heritage buildings in the downtown core, replace lamp posts and other street furniture, landscaping, the creation of pedestrian and bike paths to link some of Lennoxville's institutions and possible recreational development along the banks of the Saint-François and Massawippi rivers.

Some changes to the plan are expected if the proposed Highway 410 expansion begins construction towards Lennoxville.

But as it stands, urban planners in Sherbrooke anticipate the project will attract new business to the area to help bolster Lennoxville's assortment of restaurant and services.

The plan, estimated to cost over \$6 million, is the latest Programme particulier d'urbanisme (PPU) tar-



PERRY BEATON

The corner of Queen and College in the heart of Lennoxville.

geting different Sherbrooke neighbourhoods, a future planning tool that dictates the vision and development in a particular area.

In Lennoxville's case, the planning zone encompasses an area bordered by Queen Street between Academy and Downs streets, and along College Street to Bishop's University, a densely occupied urban section of the community.

Lennoxville-Ascot Historical and Museum Society archivist Lu Rider said that, although Lennoxville has gained some by merging with the city of Sherbrooke, it also stands to lose its distinctness if signage does not reflect its heritage. Like some other neighbouring municipalities that have been part of mergers, Rider would like to see the name Lennoxville included beneath that of the city of Sherbrooke in municipal place name signage.

Before moving ahead to secure funding, the revitalization project will go to a public consultation on Tuesday, April 8 at the Amédée-Beaudoin community centre in Lennoxville.



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# Community Forum

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Better things to spend on

DEAR EDITOR

In the paper I read a letter from Compton ("In agreement", Feb. 26 *Record*).

I do not wish to become a nuisance to keep harping about language. But every time I read something about it I get a little angrier about the Quebec government and their baby talk about the issue of language. It sounds almost immature.

English is more of a world language and businesses get to be more global; cannot the government of today understand that they loose businesses and people?

What if the Chinese in this country or any other fraction of the population started to talk about their office for language enforcement or whatever and try to push it down our throats. What would happen?

If only the Quebec people started to learn another language like Spanish or Chinese or even Russian and spent their money on that instead of spending it to comply with the Office de la langue française.

Are the Quebecois taxpayers so insecure to lose their français?

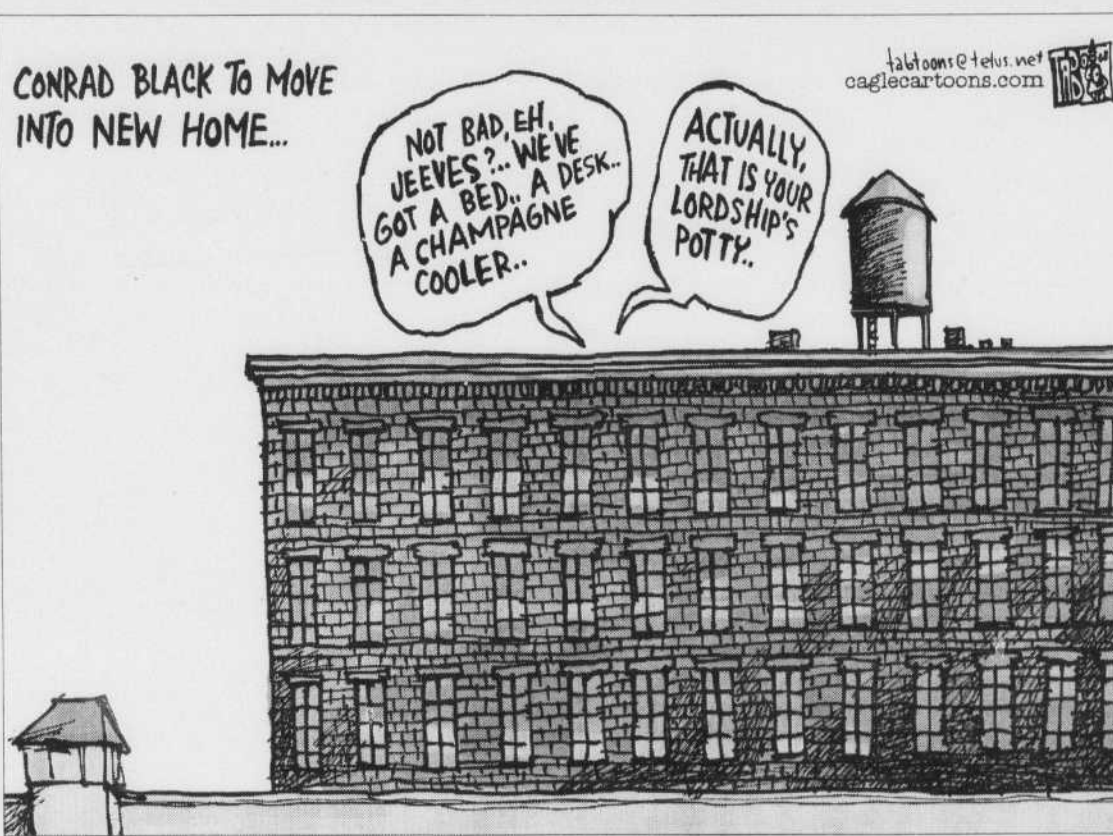
We taxpayers should encourage the new government [after a Quebec election] to abolish the whole language office and save that money for other items like education or health.

CASEY VRIESENDORP  
Ayer's Cliff

### Clinging to ignorance

DEAR EDITOR

This is in regard to the stance you have taken on the controversy created by your Feb. 18 editorial in which you denounced merchants who serve you in English ("I said, en français; enough English, already"). We have not heard from you since your response of Feb. 19 ("English service; Step back"), it is imperative that you understand that such a position will be totally unacceptable to a large number of your readers. Let me attempt to make this clear for you by



creating an analogy drawn from your own frame of reference.

Imagine I got a job as the editor of a gay and lesbian newsletter — a community of which I am not a member. One day I decide to write what I consider a humorous editorial. Instead of the hoped-for amusement, I provoke a torrent of indignation and outrage.

As a responsible journalist, which of the following reactions should I choose?

Reaction #1: Express regret for the unintended offence. Vow to learn more about sensitive issues in the community I am trying to serve.

Reaction #2: Say, "Hey, I was only kidding. You guys need to learn to laugh at yourselves a bit more. Anyway, it's part of my job to rattle your cages from time to time."

I expect the analogy is clear. You, unfortunately, have so far chosen reaction #2 when the only appropriate reaction is #1.

"But," you may be thinking, "the analogy isn't accurate — I am a member of the English-speaking community." On that point, please consider the following.

To truly be a member of a community, it is usually necessary to share some common experience. How much experi-

ence do you have in common with those of us who have lived in Quebec for most of our lives? Have you ever had to apply to the government for permission to send your child to an English school? Have you owned a business and been visited by officials from the Office de la langue française? Have you ever had to help an elderly relative in a situation where they were distressed because they could not communicate? Have you endured many of the waves of English-baiting which occur whenever the Parti Québécois slips in the polls? Have you participated in protests when language laws were applied in absurd and hurtful fashion to such things as an ancient bilingual sign on a tiny flower shop? My intent here is not to give the im-

pression that it's unpleasant to be an English-speaker in the Townships. On the contrary, I find the vast majority of my francophone neighbours to be kind, open minded, and generous of spirit. Neither is it the case that we who have lived here many years have all directly experienced more than one or two of the situations I have outlined. Often, rather, we have merely known or heard of other anglophones who have had such experiences.

The point is that the experiences mentioned above have contributed to shaping our perceptions and sensibilities over the years. In your case, although you technically became a member of Quebec's English-speaking minority as soon as you moved here, in terms of your perceptions and sensibilities you obviously remain as though you are simply a visitor from English Canada. As such, it is not yet appropriate for you to attempt to judge when and how we should laugh at issues relating to language.

I hope I have convinced you on this point. I believe I speak for many when I say that we can forgive you for an act done in ignorance, but it will be very difficult to forgive if you insist on clinging to that ignorance.

ROBERT WHATLEY  
Sherbrooke

*Record editor Eleanor Brown writes. I was born in Sherbrooke. I attended Sherbrooke Elementary School, Alexander Galt Regional High, Champlain College-Lennoxville and (for a short while) Bishop's University. I have lived all but a few years of my life as an anglophone in Quebec.*

## MPs follow suit

### Sue 'em all

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's threatened lawsuit against top Liberals appears to have inspired other parliamentary lawsuits, with MPs suing MPs, ordinary citizens, celebrities and, in one instance, a Pomeranian named Theo.

"It's not only opened the floodgates, it's let the genie out of the bottle," said John "Jon" Tollbrooke, a political analyst with the Redundant Cliché Institute. "When your prime minister is in the vanguard of leading the way on a new and unprecedented issue like suing fellow MPs, other MPs feel they have a free rein to give themselves carte blanche to launch legal actions of their own. They're copycat imitations."

The wave of lawsuits began early Tuesday, a day after Prime Minister

Harper announced he was suing Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion, Deputy Leader Michael Ignatieff, House Leader Ralph Goodale, the Liberal Party and anyone suspiciously wearing too much red.

The libel suit stems from articles on the Liberal website that allege Harper knew of a Conservative attempt to buy the late MP Chuck Cadman's vote with a million-dollar life insurance policy.

Harper has described the allegations as "devastatingly defamatory," although he did later concede that Ignatieff is "devastatingly handsome."

The precedent appears to have unleashed a deep-seated longing for litigation in the House of Commons.

The quickest out of the chute was Vancouver East MP Zwoon Van Hursten (NDP), who issued a notice of slander suit against Prime Minister Harper for



ROSS MURRAY

## THE RECORD

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# Stanstead Review

SERVING STANSTEAD AND  
ITS BORDER COMMUNITY



Also See:  
How to stay  
young  
... see Page 8

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THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2008 page 7

## What's it's like on The Border

A TV review

By Nancy Nourse

RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Considering all the media attention that life on the Quebec/Vermont border has been getting in recent months, we thought it might be fun to look at the new CBC television show, *The Border*.

The show definitely gives one food for thought. Did the writers intend it to be realistic, or was it designed purely for the sake of drama and ratings, or could it be designed to highlight the inner workings of government agencies so that we can better understand the decisions that are being made on our behalf?

As to the actual inner workings of government agencies, we may never know for sure unless we, too, become employed in this field. This television show seems to be trying to give us insight into the inner conflict that those involved in law enforcement, whether it is border security or day-to-day policing of certain regions, are faced with in trying to do the job that they must do.

Adding to the difficulty is that they, too, must answer to their superiors, regardless of whether they agree with the actions they have been ordered to take. This particular dilemma is depicted in one scene where an officer is faced with choosing between upholding a person's civil rights and respecting their religious customs, or doing what must be done to obtain needed information to stop a terrorist attack.

As a life-long resident of the border area, I have witnessed many changes in the routine operations that are carried out in the name of border security. The first time this issue made an impression on me was during the Vietnam War when troops of soldiers came to patrol the actual geographical borderline between the United States and Canada, an imaginary line that holds little value in the daily lives of these two socially and economically intertwined border towns — Stanstead, Quebec and Derby Line, Vt.

Local residents could be heard wondering if the real reason behind this increased security was to protect the northern border of the United States or to keep draft-dodgers from crossing into Canada. One rather scruffy looking young man, whom my husband and I became acquainted with during that period, told how he had made the difficult choice to travel north to Canada, so he could live in freedom instead of going to jail for refusing to fight in a war that he did not believe in.

It was considered as nothing out of the ordinary then, as today, to hear planes passing overhead at all hours of the night patrolling the border for possible smuggling of people or drugs.

According to Stanstead Historical Society files and research done by several local historians, the bridge linking Rock Island, Quebec (now part of Stanstead) with Derby Line, Vt. was actually blown up in the early 1900s to discourage settlers and soldiers from cross-



COURTESY CBC

Major Mike Kessler (James McGowan) chases down criminals on CBC Television's *The Border*.

ing into Canada.

It appears as if there are two main agencies at work each week in the CBC series, one Canadian and one American; both appear to be fictional. Mimicking the media's view of Canadian and American politics, the Canadian agency is portrayed as looking for a middle road in the scheme of things while the American agency is portrayed as doing whatever is necessary to get the results that they are looking for, regardless of the views of others.

Canada has always been commended for its peace-keeping role in times of war, for being a country that openly welcomed immigrants from less fortunate countries. This viewpoint was also portrayed in the series through a storyline about a troubled young lad from the Third World who came to Canada, first on a temporary visa, and then as a permanent resident.

The fact that *The Border* is set in a geographically similar border town makes it resemble the region around Stanstead — but the focus of the television show seems to be in a city much larger than Stanstead.

It is similar in that, as a border town, local law en-

forcement agencies, immigration and customs agencies are faced with the daily task of enforcing the boundary between two countries with various sets of laws and opinions. The fact that *The Border* is set in a generic part of the Canadian border, not a specific city, with all the security problems that this location encompasses, does leave the writers open to scenarios that could very well become a real scenario in what we consider to be the safety of our hometown.

As citizens of Canada, we enjoy a relatively peaceful existence, making it all too easy to forget about the terrible conditions under which many people live every day, preferring to focus on our own daily routines.

It was with this mentality that many Stanstead/Derby Line residents received the information that IBET (the International Border Enforcement Team) and US Homeland Security wanted to see three unguarded streets in the Stanstead area closed off in some permanent way. Several months ago, officials called several meetings in Stanstead to give the public what they believed was a more realistic view of the world that we are living in today.

Many people came away from these meetings feeling that they had been fed a lot of trumped up information so that the government agencies, on both sides of the border, could go ahead with their plans for increased border security.

The idea that people from Colombia were finding their way to three small unmanned streets in Stanstead and making their way across the border from one country to another seemed far-fetched — but months later came the dismantling of two alleged people-smuggling rings.

The people in the Stanstead region have long enjoyed a special relationship with their sister community Derby Line, Vt. and many feel that it will take more than a few misplaced Colombians or a few hardnosed authorities to erode the long history of friendship and family ties that have taken centuries to develop between these two deeply intertwined communities.

Law enforcement officials depend on the eyes and ears of the local citizens, especially in border areas to effectively carry out their work, so does it not make sense to let them in on enough information to get them on board instead of dishing out a few, disjointed facts that only make sense to those who know the whole picture?

The media, at large, is often reprimanded for releasing details and locations too early to the public and interfering with ongoing investigations (this scenario has also been depicted on the television show). Some local residents questioned whether this was the very reason that so much attention was being shown these seemingly insignificant streets in this small corner of the world. Very rarely has Stanstead seen such a barrage of media in the area, except of course when Angelina Jolie came to make a movie here several years ago.

*The Border* can be seen at 9 p.m. on Monday evenings.

I was sitting in the breakroom at work when a colleague entered. James was in a cheerful mood, probably because it was Friday and he was looking forward to the upcoming weekend.

"James, you're rather chipper today," I commented.

"Got that right, Dave. It's February 29th — Leap Day. It's my Uncle Sid's birthday. I called him up this morning and asked him if he felt older today. He just turned 16," James said.

I gave James a puzzled look. I know his Uncle Sid and he definitely wasn't a teenager. In fact, Uncle Sid is a grandfather. I figured James was only testing my intelligence.

"He's 16 today? I think you have his age wrong. He's a bit older than that," I quipped.

"I'm not kidding, Dave. Uncle Sid is really 16 today. Since he was born on Leap Day, he only celebrates his birthday once every four years. All us relatives joke with him about that. He wants us to believe he's still underage,"

# The fountain of youth

*It's the Leap Day*

James explained:

So that cleared up the confusion. Ol' Uncle Sid wants to pull the wool over everyone's eyes by claiming he has a birthday only when every Feb. 29th rolls around. Then again, Uncle Sid cleverly knows the secret of remaining forever young.

I remember reading some time ago about the history of Leap Day. It's been around since 46 BC when Roman astronomers came up with a 365-day solar year, with six hours left each year. These six hours added up roughly one full extra day every four years. Hence, it was placed on the calendar at the end of February to become the infamous Leap Day.

Uncle Sid proved that he is one of the many people who defy the inequality of

DAVE'S  
DEN

DAVID  
ELLIS

being born on February 29th. The universal odds on being brought into life on Leap Day are 1 in 1,461. Another interesting statistic is of the estimated 1.2 million babies born in Canada in a four-year period, only about 1,000 are born on that date. So the stars were aligned when Uncle Sid came into the world.

"So what did you plan on getting your uncle for a gift on his birthday?" I asked.

"Well, since he just turned 16, Uncle Sid isn't old enough to get my potent bottle of Scotch that I have stashed away at home. So perhaps he'll have to settle for an iPod." James grinned, "Then he can listen to the oldies music he's always loved over the years. You know, the Beatles, the Doors, Fifth Di-

mension..."

"If he's only 16, isn't that a little before his time? He should be listening to Justin Timberlake, Maroon 5 and No Doubt," I added.

"I guess you got me there, Dave. Uncle Sid has been around long before Elvis was making movies and Cadillacs came out with power windows," he laughed.

I then asked James if he was aware that his jovial uncle also shared his birthday with the hockey legend Hall Of Famer, Henri (Pocket Rocket) Richard.

"Oh yes, I know that. As a matter of fact, I think they used to play hockey together in the minor leagues years ago," he smiled.

I think James has been sampling his hidden bottle of Scotch. Next, he'll be telling me that Uncle Sid once played for the Montreal Expos at old Jarry Park. But wait... come to think of it, wasn't it a ball player named Sid who hit the first home-run out of that ballpark?

# Another big chance

## Découvertes de la Chanson

By Nancy Nourse  
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Organizers of the Découvertes de la Chanson de Magog held a press conference on Monday to herald the official launch of the 12th annual competition and to introduce the honorary spokesperson for this year's competition, Marc-André Fortin.

"I have participated in many contests of this nature but this is the first one where I have sensed such a strong feeling of caring and genuine support for the contestants," said Fortin.

"This is also the first time that I will be participating as a spokesperson instead of a contestant. This makes for a quite different experience, one which I am looking forward to sharing with these talented young people, especially the week of workshops for the semi-finalists. I will be on hand for any support and advice that I can give," Fortin added.

Fortin's initiation into the world of music began at the piano, at the age of 6. In 2001, he was awarded first prize in the contest Jeunes Espoirs du Téléthon Opération Enfant Soleil, then came in second in a Granby contest and in 2005 he won the top award in Star Academy and last year released his first album.

"Win or lose, one thing is certain, all the participants will come away with a valuable experience that will change their lives forever. Developing a new sense

of confidence and expression, they will most certainly feel that the world is full of great new possibilities. This is what I find so special about la Découvertes de la Chanson de Magog," added Fortin.

There are four categories within this competition: Adults 18 years plus in both Interpretation and Author/Composer/Interpreter, Youth in Interpretation only (10 to 13 years of age and 14 to 17 years of age).

Découvertes de la Chanson de Magog is known for offering that extra something to its semi-finalists — an opportunity to enjoy week-long quality workshops with established professionals in the field of performance enhancement (vocally, artistically and musically).

The finals will take place in October. "I have been involved in many other competitions throughout Quebec but this one stands out because of the quality team and the valuable advice that they have shared with us. It is also rare for young talent to be able to work with live musicians such as we did," said Alexandre Simpson-Tremblay (of Gatineau), the 2007 winner in the category of ACI 18+.

The deadline for applications for this talent contest is April 30. Anyone with a good knowledge of the French language is eligible to enter. For more information, you may contact 819-868-3641 or check out their website at [www.DecouvertesDeLaChanson.com](http://www.DecouvertesDeLaChanson.com).

after which time an intense selection process will take place to find young peo-

## LEGAL:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 6

describing his private member's bill to make Ramen noodles the official noodle of Canada as "a noodly-brained idea from a doodly-brained dude."

"Mr. Harper hurt my reputation and he hurt my feelings," said Van Hursten in a statement on his Facebook page. "He had a devastating effect on my Crusade for the Can-Noodle."

Asked for comment, Mr. Harper rolled his eyes into the back of his head and made a deep gurgling sound. CBC News analysis pointed out that this statement was remarkably similar to Harper's position on Israel and Palestine.

A spokesperson from the prime minister's office later declared that Harper never issued the supposedly slanderous statement against Van Hursten. Shown a transcript of a tape where Harper says those exact words, the spokesperson clarified that the transcript was in fact a recording of Harper in a dinner-theatre performance of Spank Yer Yankee.

Late in the day Tuesday, every Bloc Québécois MP jointly sued the City of Ottawa for not being in Quebec.

"We have to cross that humiliating river every day to get here. It's Hull," said Bloc leader Gilles Duceppe. When complimented on the pun, he replied, "What pun?"

The flurry of suits continued into Wednesday. Kitchener Centre Liberal

MP Constance Pardina sued the Grammys for snubbing singer Feist. She opted not to sue the Oscars for snubbing Juno because she's "not fond of that preggie movie."

MP Rufus Buntt (Liberal, St. John's East) is suing MP Alex Gulpino (Conservative, Durham) for damage to his reputation resulting from a crude limerick about him scrawled in the Centre Block men's room. "I've been teased about my name all my life," said the Newfoundland MP. "But I think it behooves a Member of Parliament to rise above rhyming a colleague's name with 'doofus.'"

Asked for comment, Gulpino giggled, "He said 'behooves!'"

Avalon Liberal MP Julie Brown is suing former prime minister Brian Mulroney for damages, alleging that Mulroney "has been and continues to be willfully and with forethought an arrogant schmuck."

MP for West Nova Gail Pimbelton is suing NDP leader Jack Layton for mental duress and psychological damage caused by his mustache.

"I mean, come on!" she said.

And finally, Liberal leader Stéphane Dion launched a suit against himself, though he refused to say on what grounds.

"I have my reasons and I will reveal them when the time is right," he stated, resulting in a collective sigh from reporters.

Observers are suggesting that the flurry of suits will be short-lived and that Parliament will soon return to normal, with MPs getting things out of their system with simple name-calling in the House.

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THE RECORD

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# Talking tough on past-due taxes

## Council news

By Nancy Nourse  
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Pro-Mayor Michelle Richard, in the absence of Mayor Raymond Yates, chaired Stanstead's town council meeting on Monday. Richard said Yates was ill; there was only one other mention of the mayor, the fact that he is being investigated by the Quebec municipal affairs ministry at the request of council to look into whether he was in a conflict of interest while either running for mayor, or while sitting in office.

A complementary resolution was passed at council, referring to loans received by Mayor Yates at various times during 2005 and 2006.

Parties Yves de Lorimer, Raymond Richard and Jean-Luc Drapeau involved in the purchase of property in Stanstead were members of the board of Andre Morel Inc. which had granted Yates a personal loan.

One resident asked during question period just who would be held responsible for paying the costs of legal representation for Mayor Yates. Director general Pierre Dussault and Richard said the town is responsible for town issues and therefore would be held responsible for any costs.

### PUBLIC WORKS AND SAFETY

Council allocated \$600 for the purchase of damaged second-hand cars, to be used in demonstrations and training with the jaws of life within the fire department. Councillor Philippe Dutil explained that it is no longer possible to obtain these vehicles free of charge, as in the past.

The subject of purchasing a GPS Garmin 76CSx for the use of Municipal Inspector Pascal Yergeau came before the council. Dussault said the purchase would make the job easier and more accurate when locating and recording positions of troublesome issues such as beaver dams, border restrictions and wood lots that have been cut excessively. The motion was passed.

It was decided to go ahead with a plan to purchase 54 black containers on wheels (of 360 litres), to be sold by the town and used by residents for garbage.

A resolution was passed to make it compulsory to put all garbage into closed containers before putting it out for collection (not in plastic bags at the roadside!). According to Councillor Dutil, residents were surveyed and the purchase is warranted. The town will sell the containers for \$90 (including delivery). Dutil added that 50 of these containers have already been spoken for.

When these run out, another order will be placed.

The Memphremagog Conservation Association asked for support in its attempt to renaturalize the shores near Weir Park – "only moral support at this time", added the pro-mayor. The project would see vegetation planted along these shores that would act as a natural filter system for the water.

### CULTURE AND RECREATIONAL ISSUES

A resolution was passed in favour of an arrangement between the Town of Stanstead and the Recreational Association to hire monitors and a coordinator in preparation for the 2008 summer camp.

Pro-Mayor Richard said Camp 2008 has been increased from five to seven weeks. She also hinted at a new and improved program but was not ready to reveal any specific details at this time. The registration deadline is set at May 15.

### RESIDENTS CONCERNED

Several residents again expressed concern that there seemed to be more empty buildings in the downtown area and fewer businesses, something they saw as a definite disadvantage to the community.

Council assured that they had confidence in the fact that, while it seems to be taking a while, the new owners of two of the buildings do have definite plans – and they have credentials showing they are qualified to take on projects.

Pro-Mayor Richard said council's meetings had been limited with this gentleman, who was often out of the country on business, but that she was keeping on top of the issue through other avenues. They also appeared optimistic about the future of the former Ursuline Convent which has also been sitting empty for some time, a situation that continues to sadden many local residents.

At a previous meeting, residents expressed concern about the amount of property tax that had not been paid – totalling up to more than \$155,000.

Council will publish a list of properties that they will be forced to put up for costs. DG Pierre Dussault and Assistant DG/Town Clerk Guillaume Labbé both agreed that this was not an unusual practice. According to Dussault, once the deadline for tax payment has passed, a letter is sent out to the property owner and if no arrangement is made, the town has the right to sell the property (as early as within the next nine months) to regain the money it is owed. A motion to this fact is scheduled to appear on the April agenda.



Councillor Michelle Richard sat in as pro-mayor in the absence of Raymond Yates.



NANCY NOURSE

Kim Prangley, Mark Rumery and producer/director Tim Daley discuss possible suggestions to Saturday's performance, in preparations for the upcoming shows this weekend.

# Mark Twain on stage

## Or at least, his Adam and Eve are

By Nancy Nourse  
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Have you ever taken the time to ponder the basic elements of life itself? Stanstead resident and well-known figure Kim Prangley and Mark Rumery (from Derby Line, Vt.), local actor and familiar face to anyone who is a fan of QNEK Productions, will encourage just such an experience.

They are featured in a Second Summer Production that heralds the works of satirist Mark Twain – Diaries of Adam and Eve. It is the portrait of two very unusual people, those first lovers who met under the most unlikely circumstance, that first garden. The piece looks at the life and love they built together over a lifetime – a love that somehow survives.

"Kim and Mark walk us through the reality of life – back to the bones, if you will – from its innocent beginnings to the more complex world in which we live today," said producer and director Tim Daley.

"I was looking for a play that had only a few character parts. When I stumbled upon this one, I also liked it for the fact that it was not time-oriented but could be easily related to by people of all ages. The play takes place in the Garden of Eden, one day after Eve was created, and focuses on the interaction between these two individuals who are themselves living a learning experience."

With very little background scenery or props, Prangley and Rumery are left to their own sense of timing and stage presence to bring imagery to the words that Twain has written.

These two young actors work through a series of monologues to explain what it might have been like to be the first two people on earth – no small task considering the play lasts a good 90 minutes.

Mark Twain actually wrote the diaries in two parts: The Diary of Adam was written during the 1890s, when Twain was 55 years old, and originally published as The First Authentic Mention of Niagara Falls.

Twain's fortunes later began to fail and the health of his wife Olivia began to decline. The Diary of Eve was written 15 years later, shortly after his wife's death.

Twain was then 70 years old and had outlived three of his four children. The two works were put together and adapted for the stage by David Birney. Second Summer Productions often performs on behalf of non-profits, and this show is no exception.

All proceeds from the Diaries of Adam and Eve will go to the Memorial's Renovation and Restoration Fund, to renovate the theatre.

Prangley and Rumery have both known since high school that the stage is where they want to be. Locally, Prangley has performed with the Townships Theatre, the Lennoxville Players and most recently with QNEK Productions.

"We need to learn to look at this beloved Mother Earth with awe, reverence and mind-fullness if we are to preserve it for future generations. This thoughtful little piece can help put us into that head and heart space and perhaps start the process," said Prangley.

Rumery is a regular member of QNEK Productions.

Just a 20-minute jaunt from the Canadian border, the Diaries of Adam and Eve will be presented at the Barton Memorial Building.

Once you have successfully passed through US Customs, take Interstate 91 to exit 25, turn left into Barton Village and you will find the Barton Memorial Building (brick building at your right) as you are approaching the first intersection at the centre of town. Tickets are \$12. Shows start at 7:30 p.m. both Friday, March 7 and Saturday, March 8.

# THE RECORD Sports

page 10 THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2008

NEWSROOM@SHERBROOKERECORD.COM

## Gilpin likely to replace Pomykala

### On Sunohara and Favre

**R**andom digressions while baseball players play pre-season games in sunny weather and the Townships endure another snow storm....

The biggest question among local sports fans these last two weeks concerned the replacement for departing Bishop's University head coach Eddie Pomykala. Pomykala announced last month that he was stepping down as head coach of the Gaiters men's basketball squad after 24 years at the helm on the Canadian Interuniversity Sport team. Since the surprise announcement much has been said about Pomykala's tenure, and very little about his successor.

The *Record* has learned that the next head coach of the Gaiters will likely be Rod Gilpin, the school's women's basketball coach.

The athletic department wants him

to coach the team; Gilpin has expressed a desire to coach the team; but the process of hiring him is being held up because the position is a unionized job.

As per university regulations, the position must be posted internally with all qualified applicants being given due consideration. A quick survey of present Bishop's employees would point to Gilpin as the only candidate who possesses both the qualifications and experience to coach a CIS basketball team.

Gilpin expects to be interviewed for the job in the near future and then it should be only a matter of time before he is officially named the school's men's basketball coach.

Another question that has arisen is why the veteran coach is willing to leave a women's program that he helped transform into one of the better teams in Canada.

"I have been involved with the women's team at Bishop's for 16 years and I feel that I have another 20 years left in my coaching career and I think it is time for a change," Gilpin said in a phone interview. "My time with the

women's team has been fantastic in every aspect. I have learned so much about life, people and coaching. I will always be indebted to my players and assistant coaches."

Ironically Gilpin first came to Lennoxville in 1992 to serve as Pomykala's assistant coach and was named the head coach of the Bishop's Lady Gaiters in 1994. The going was rough at first but he slowly began to rebuild the program and he developed into one of the most successful and respected coaches in Canada. He captured Conference Coach of the Year honours on five occasions and in 2004, he led the Lady Gaiters to the Quebec conference title and a fifth-place finish at the National Championships in Winnipeg.

#### VETERAN SUNOHARA LEFT OFF NATIONAL TEAM

As mentioned in Tuesday's *Record*, Sherbrooke native Sarah Vaillancourt was among the 22 hockey players named to the Canadian National Team.

Vaillancourt's selection was expected but what was surprising was the exclusion of Vicky Sunohara from the world championship roster.

The 37-year-old veteran forward from Toronto lost her spot on the team to 18-year-old Rebecca Johnston of Sudbury, Ont.

"It was clearly a tough decision to make," head coach Peter Smith said Tuesday from Montreal. "It would be wrong to say Vicky's game has deteriorated. This is about others who have stepped up their game."

The former assistant captain has been one of the team's mainstays since her first appearance in the first-ever International Ice Hockey Federation women's world championship held back in 1990 in Ottawa.

But Sunohara has battled injuries of late, in-



PERRY BEATON/FILE

Rod Gilpin wants the men's team job.

cluding lingering tendonitis in her ankle as well as a mild concussion and elbow injury she suffered early at an evaluation camp in January.

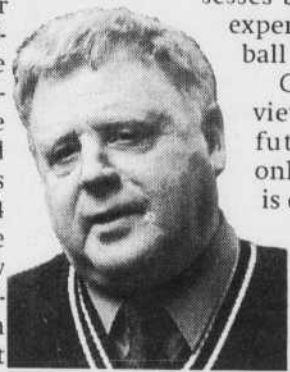
"I need to be 100 per cent to make the team," Sunohara said after learning of the decision to leave her off the World Championship roster. "I really believe I would have regretted it if I didn't try this season. It's not so much a surprise to me, but I guess right now it's a hard time for me. I'm sad I'm not going to be able to be with my friends and represent Canada, but on the other hand, the team is going to be great and I'm going to be cheering for them. I'm OK with it."

Expect the classy veteran to officially announce her retirement later this month, ending the career of not only one of hockey's great players but a pioneer in the development of women's hockey on the world stage.

#### FAVRE LEAVES NFL AT RIGHT TIME

While we are on the subject of retirements, count me among those who were glad to hear the news Tuesday that Green Bay Packers quarterback Brett Favre is hanging up his cleats after 17 brilliant seasons in the National Football League. Favre's agent told a cable TV station the future Hall of Famer informed the Packers of his decision on Monday night.

"I know I can still play, but it's like I told my wife, I'm just tired mentally. I'm just tired," Favre told ESPN. "If I felt like coming back — and Deanna (Favre's



MIKE HICKEY  
From the Bleachers

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JAY PEAK  
VERMONT

#### JAY PEAK (VERMONT)

Snow, last 24 hrs (cm): 8  
Snow, last 7 days (cm): 26  
Open trails: 68/76

#### MONT BELLEVUE

Snow, last 24 hrs (cm): 10  
Snow, last 7 days (cm): 17  
Open trails: 6/6

#### THE BALSAMS (N.H.)

Snow, last 24 hrs (in): 0  
Snow, last 7 days (in): n/a  
Open trails: 16/16

#### MONT ORFORD

Snow, last 24 hrs (cm): 10  
Snow, last 7 days (cm): 45  
Open trails: 53/55

#### MONTJOYE

Snow, last 24 hrs (cm): 0  
Snow, last 7 days (cm): 16  
Open trails: 29/31

#### OWL'S HEAD

Snow, last 24 hrs (cm): 6  
Snow, last 7 days (cm): 41  
Open trails: 44/44

#### BURKE (VERMONT)

Snow, last 24 hrs (cm): 3  
Snow, last 7 days (cm): 30  
Open trails: 19/45

#### SKI BROMONT

Snow, last 24 hrs (cm): 15  
Snow, last 7 days (cm): 15  
Open trails: 74/129

#### SUTTON

Snow, last 24 hrs (cm): 6  
Snow, last 7 days (cm): 48  
Open trails: 53/53

PLEASE SEE SPORTS ON PAGE 11

## Kinnear's Mills Women's Institute

Seven members of the Kinnear's Mills Women's Institute met at the home of Flora MacNaul (one week later due to the death of Flora's aunt - Mabel Davidson).

All enjoyed a delicious noon meal and social time together, in her nicely decorated apt. with the Valentine

### SPORTS:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 10

wife) and I talked about this — the only way for me to be successful would be to win a Super Bowl."

"To go to the Super Bowl and lose, would almost be worse than anything else," Favre added. "Anything less than a Super Bowl win would be unsuccessful."

Favre leaves the game with a resume that ensures his induction into the football Hall of Fame situated in Canton, Ohio. He is a league three-time Most Valuable Player, has a Super Bowl win under his belt and, for now, holds the all-time records for wins, passing yards, touchdowns and consecutive games started.

He considered retirement at the end of the 2006 season and postponed his decision right until the beginning of training camp. Despite his indecision, he had an exceptional season as he threw for 4,155 yards with 28 touchdown passes and 15 interceptions as he went 13-3 during the regular season.

Favre and the Packers became sentimental favourites as they began their improbable run to the Super Bowl, a run that ended prematurely when the club lost to the eventual Super Bowl champion New York Giants in overtime in the National Football Conference championship game. It was in that game that Favre threw an interception in the overtime period that gave the Giants great field possession which in turn led to the game-winning field goal. But Favre would be remembered for more than his records, Super Bowl win and his last pass that led to a final defeat.

He will be remembered for the way he handled himself on and off the field; he played with reckless abandon, boyish enthusiasm and a true love for the game. He will be remembered for how he handled his defeats, for his victories over demons such as alcohol and also for an exceptional Monday Night performance a few years back that he dedicated to his father who had died two days earlier.

Favre is leaving while he can still walk straight, when his head is not dulled from too many concussions, and that is the way it should be.

theme.

At 1:30 p.m. Huguette Blais, president welcomed the members, thanked Flora and opened the meeting by all repeating the Salute to the Flag, Collect and Oath of Citizenship.

Members decided not to hold a March meeting, but combine the February and March meeting.

Motto for February: A man's heart deviseth his way; but the Lord directeth his steps. Proverbs 16:9

Roll Call: Name a song with Heart in the title.

Motto for March: For those who dream, there is no word as impossible. Every dream takes time to grow.

Roll call: Tell about a dream which you would like to see fulfilled.

Birthdays in March are Joy Nugent, March 9 and Huguette Blais, March 16.

Special birthday greetings and a gift will be sent to Joy who is with her daughter in Bathurst, NB.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, a correction in finances was given by the Treasurer. Minutes were approved and signed.

A motion by Flora MacNaul, seconded by Helen MacRae, that the UCW be asked if the Table Runner and Throw could be placed on their Sales Table in July.

Members signed a birthday card for Joy Nugent and a get well card for Edna Gillander.

The treasurer's report was given by Helen Lowry.

A letter of thanks from Robert and Huguette Blais, for the many items they had received, and the large parcel they had sent in February to the Republic of Belarus. Huguette read the long list of the many articles included in the parcel.

Report of Conveners:

Agriculture:

Helen MacRae told us the Minister of Agriculture is thinking of letting chickens run outside. They have been raised inside since 2005 - that was when the danger of the Avion Flu.

Health and Community Living:

Pauline Nutbrown stated their are many concerns raised about kid's cold medication. Cough medications should not be given to kids under three; they show no benefit, won't cure the problem and can cause a fast heart beat, restlessness or insomnia.

She told us about the dangers of the most popular brands of baby bottles,

sold in Canada. The chemical called BPA (Bisphenol A.) is used in most plastic baby bottles, some reusable sports bottles, food cans and plastic food and drink containers. This new study is expected to bring more bad news for bottle manufacturers and parents.

Education and Personal Development - Huguette Blais.

Told the members to go to your Dr. for a yearly check up.

Research tells us those who consume up to three cups of coffee a day, are less likely to develop type 2 diabetes, gallstones, parkinson's disease and colon cancer. She mentioned the death threat at Bishop's and the arrest of a 34-year-old man, who threatened two fellow employees.

Publicity and Awareness:

Dorothy Bolduc told us 60 yrs. ago the Fleur-de-Lys became the Official Quebec Flag.

Flora gave each member a beautiful large calendar "Celebrating the Canadian Spirit."

Members agreed to bring Greeting Cards, Birthday, Get-Well, Sympathy or thinking of you to the next meeting.

Audrey Allan expressed thanks for the honor she had received being chosen as the Volunteer of the year 2007.

The Surprise Gift was won by Helen Lowry. Members will meet at the home of Dorothy Bolduc for the May meeting.

Members thanked Flora for the pleasant time spent at her home.

It was with sadness when friends in the area learned of the death of Mabel Davidson. Sincere sympathy to her husband Allan and all family members.

Get well wishes to Edna Gillander and Bob Wallace. Friends are thinking of you.

I.O.O.F. members and friends enjoyed a social evening at the Community Hall. Taffy on snow was served by Robert Blais and James Allan.

Congratulations to Robert for organizing the support of a young boy and his family in Belarus. Robert was the Volunteer of the Year 2007.

Word has been received from John and Sheila Allan that they have returned from Barbados following a two-week visit with friends.

Special birthday greetings to Joy Nugent who will celebrate her 85th birthday on March 9. Cards may be sent to her at: 1485 King Ave., Bathurst, NB F2A 1S6

A. Allan

### Birth

**MAYNE** - Emma Ruth Mayne, born February 9, 2008 at 4:47 a.m., 5 lbs. 9 oz. Parents are Shona McKinven and Patrick Mayne, grandparents are Derwyn & Ruth McKinven of North Hatley and Thomas & Carole Mayne of Coaticook.

### Death



**CLARK, Morris Everett** (1919-2008) - Peacefully in his 89th year, in Knowlton on Tuesday, March 4. Morris Clark, formally from Farnham, Quebec is predeceased by his beloved wife Sheila Eileen (Wright). Morris is survived by his three children, Susan (Derek) Stowe, Harold Keith (Francine) and Michael, his grandchildren, Jennifer, Ryan, Andrew, Cameron, Stephanie, Jodi, Matthew and his first great-grandchild Jordan. Morris will be sadly missed by family and friends and will be remembered as an honest, hard-working man who cherished and provided for his wife and family. Family and friends will be welcomed at the Knowlton United Church, Knowlton, QC, on Saturday, March 8 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., followed by the funeral service. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory to the Knowlton United Church would be greatly appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to the Desourdy Wilson Funeral Home, 104 Buzzell, Cowansville, QC, J2K 2N5 Tel.: 450-263-1212, Fax: 450-263-9557 info@desourdywilson.com

### Card of Thanks

Our "Green Auction Sale" was another successful event thanks to all you skilled folks and the donations from stores and different establishments. The Barrie clan and helpers do such a fine job, voluntarily! Legion members and friends helped in many ways too. Many thanks

RICHMOND LEGION BR. # 15.

## RATES and DEADLINES: ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

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

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

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

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

Text only: \$7.00 (includes taxes)

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

### WEDDING WRITE-UPS, OBITUARIES:

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

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

### DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:

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

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

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

# TOWNSHIPS' CRIER

## WEST BOLTON

World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Service on Friday, March 7 at 2 p.m. at Creek United Church, West Bolton, near Foster. Theme: "Gods' Wisdom Provider New Understanding". Guest Speaker, Mr. Liebert Sancho On Guyana. All are welcome to attend. Info: 450-243-0280.

## AYER'S CLIFF

St. Patrick's Day Brunch at Beulah United Church in Ayer's Cliff, on Sunday, March 9 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Enjoy a menu of bacon, sausage, ham, scrambled eggs, homemade baked beans, pancakes, pure maple syrup, toast, fruit salad, juice, coffee and tea. All are welcome!

## DANVILLE

A Smoked Meat Supper will be held at

the Royal Canadian Legion, 136 Grove Street, on March 15 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., followed by an evening of entertainment. Only 75 supper tickets available. For reservations please call 819-839-2581. Deadline for ticket reservations is Wednesday, March 12.

**WATERVILLE, HATLEY, NORTH HATLEY**  
March Sunday Services and Sunday School in Hatley United Church will be at 9 a.m. Waterville and North Hatley United Church Services will be in Waterville at 11 a.m. Rev. Patricia Lisson, 819-837-1112.

## SHERBROOKE

The Canadian Club of the Eastern Townships dinner meeting will be held at Hotel Le President on Wednesday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m. Guest speaker: Tim Belford, CBC Host of Quebec A.M. Topic: "The Last Literate Journalist: A Lighthearted Look at Language in the Media". Guests welcome. For reservation and cost, phone 819-347-2328.

## SHERBROOKE

World Day of Prayer 2008, written by the committee from Guyana. Service will be on Friday, March 7, 2 p.m., at St. Joseph's Church, 1265 Belvedere South, Sherbrooke. Theme: "God's Wisdom Provides New Understanding". Bilingual service. All welcome.

## LENOXVILLE

St. George's Church, 84 Queen St., "World Day of Prayer 2008" Service at 2 p.m. on Friday, March 7. Refreshments to follow the Service. Everyone welcome.

## AYER'S CLIFF

Friday, March 7 a World Day of Prayer Service (bilingual) will be held at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church, Clough St., Ayer's Cliff at 2 p.m. The worship service this year is written by the Women of Guyana and is entitled "God's Wisdom Provides New Understanding". Please feel free to join us for the worship and the fellowship time to follow. Everyone is invited to attend.

## NORTH HATLEY

**Fundraiser** Spaghetti Supper, March 8, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., for French History Educational Trip to James Bay, at the Royal Canadian Legion, 95 Jackson Heights, North Hatley. For info or to reserve tickets, call after 4

p.m. to 819-837-3038.

## NORTH HATLEY

Lennoxville and District Community Aid will hold a Blood Pressure clinic on Friday, March 7 at the Library, 165 Main St. N., from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

## LENOXVILLE

Lennoxville and District Community Aid will hold a Blood Pressure clinic on Tuesday, March 11 at the Masonic Hall, 3002 College St., from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

## WATERVILLE

Lennoxville and District Community Aid will hold a Blood Pressure clinic on Tuesday, March 25 at the Town Hall, 170 Principale South, from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

## LENOXVILLE

Family bluegrass band Akajou at the Church Street Café on Friday, March 7, corner of Queen and Church in Lennoxville, at 8 p.m.

## RICHMOND

International Women's Day, March 8, 2008. "Economic independence of women, a force across the generations!" There will be a celebration of International Women's Day for Richmond and the surrounding area on Saturday, March 8, 2008, in the basement of the United Church, Richmond from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Door prizes, music, coffee, Tai-chi and an interesting speaker! Come with your friends to celebrate together. It's free!

## SHERBROOKE

On Thursday, March 13, we'll learn how to "celebrate everyday". First, we'll have some stand-up comedy with Janet Lacroix from Manitoba. Then our Speaker, Candace Herring will share tips on how to celebrate life. So if you want to join in on the fun, meet us at the A.N.A.F. at 9:30 a.m. (located at 300 St. Francis Street). If possible, please RSVP to Mary Harbinson at 819-889-2466. Moms, you can have a break while your preschooler enjoys well supervised nursery on the premises. Please bring a small snack for your child. Toys are provided. It's always lots of fun to meet old and new friends! Hope to see you there!

## SHERBROOKE

Come one! Come all! The annual Lennoxville Girl Guides' St. Patrick's Day Coffee Party is on Saturday, March 15, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at St. George's Anglican Church. Be one of the lucky winners at the Silent Auction or bid with dimes at the Chinese Auction. Buy tasty homemade treats at the bake table. This event is looked forward to every year by members of the community. Come spend a day of family FUN. Admission charged, which includes a light lunch. Pssst... Don't forget your dimes!

## SHERBROOKE

Brunch at the ANAF Unit 318, 300 St. Francis Street, Borough of Lennoxville, on Sunday, March 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

## BURY

A "soup and sandwich" luncheon followed by "500" card party on Tuesday, March 11 at the Bury Town Hall. Lunch at noon and cards at 1:30 p.m. Also door prizes. Admission charged. Benefit for Expo Cookshire. All welcome.

## KNOWLTON

Cribbage Tournament on Saturday, March 8 at Odd Fellows Hall, 476 Knowlton Road. Registration, 12 - 1 p.m. Admission charged. Prizes, door prizes. Homemade soup, sandwiches, desserts. Come for lunch. Info: 450-263-6778.

## NORTH HATLEY

Unitarian Universalist Church of North Hatley, Sunday, March 9 at 10 a.m.: Beethoven Blackwood with "Lessons from Mozambique". Refreshments served.

## SUTTON

Jam Session, Sunday, March 9, 2 - 6 p.m., at the Legion Hall hosted by Salute Quebec Seniors. Bring your voices and instruments. Come join the fun. Please inform us in advance of a Birthday Anniversary so we can prepare and make it a special occasion. Call 450-242-2363.

## RICHMOND

Richmond Soccer Club inscriptions at Ecole Plein Coeur, Pav. 2, 450 Gouin Street, Wednesday, March 12, 7 to 9 p.m. Last chance. Info: 819-826-3506, 819-826-1371, 819-826-5705

## LENOXVILLE

Memorial Dart Tournament, Saturday, March 8 at A.N.A.F. Registration 1-2 starts at 2 p.m. Draw out of the hat. Hosted by the Stingers at the "Hut". All proceeds will be donated to Maison Aube Lumiere. Donations and prizes are appreciated. Everyone welcome.

## AYER'S CLIFF

Bingo to benefit the Ayer's Cliff Home and School Association, on Friday, March 14, from 6:30 - 8:30 at the Ayer's Cliff Elementary School. Full card bingo prize, many cash prizes, half and half

## DANVILLE

Garage sale at the Royal Canadian Legion, 136 Grove Street, Saturday, March 8 from 9 - 4.

## SHERBROOKE

Plymouth-Trinity United Church Women's annual Shamrock Salad Buffet and Sale at 380 Dufferin St., Saturday, March 15, 3-6 p.m. Includes sales tables of home-baking, novelties, etc. Everyone welcome.

## LENOXVILLE

Lennoxville United Church, corner of Queen and Church Street: Worship and Sunday School on March 9 at 10 a.m. Rev. James Potter, 819-565-8449.

## BULWER

Annual Irish evening for the benefit of the Compton County Historical and Museum Society, Friday evening, March 14th at 7:30 p.m., at the Bulwer Community Center. Admission charged. Everyone welcome.

## LENOXVILLE

St. Patrick's day brunch, Sunday March 16th, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. St. Antoine Parish Hall, 104 Queen Street. All are welcome.

## RICHMOND-MELBOURNE

We will be holding our regular Sunday worship services at Melbourne Ridge United Church at 9:30 a.m. and Richmond Melbourne United Church at 11 a.m.

...

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

## 60th Wedding Anniversary

Happy 60th wedding anniversary to my wonderful parents, Arnold and Violet Marcoux of Sutton. I appreciate you both so much and I am very proud to be your daughter. Bless you both. I love you.

BRENDA and FAMILY

## Open House

Happy 100th Birthday to Verna Westgate.

Everyone welcome on March 15, 2008 at Salle Guy Veilleux (Loisirs Cookshire), 819-875-5681, 75 Castonguay St., Cookshire from 2 to 4 p.m. Best wishes only please.

## Danielle Jacobs - Eric Gauthier



Daughter of Chad Jacobs and Marilen Coswell, son of John and Micheline Gauthier are proud to announce the upcoming wedding of their children, Danielle and Eric on July 5, 2008 at the Anglican Church, Sutton.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another. Today's clue: X equals R

" WP MDG ERDU TDHLZYWRB ULKK, MDG JVR VKUVMT AVWRZ WZ, CGZ ALDAKL UDGKS CL CLZZLX DPP CGMWRB JYWJELR." - BXVRS HV HDTLT

PREVIOUS SOLUTION - "Insomnia is my greatest inspiration." - Jon Stewart "I am driven by a wonderful muse called alimony." - Dick Schaap

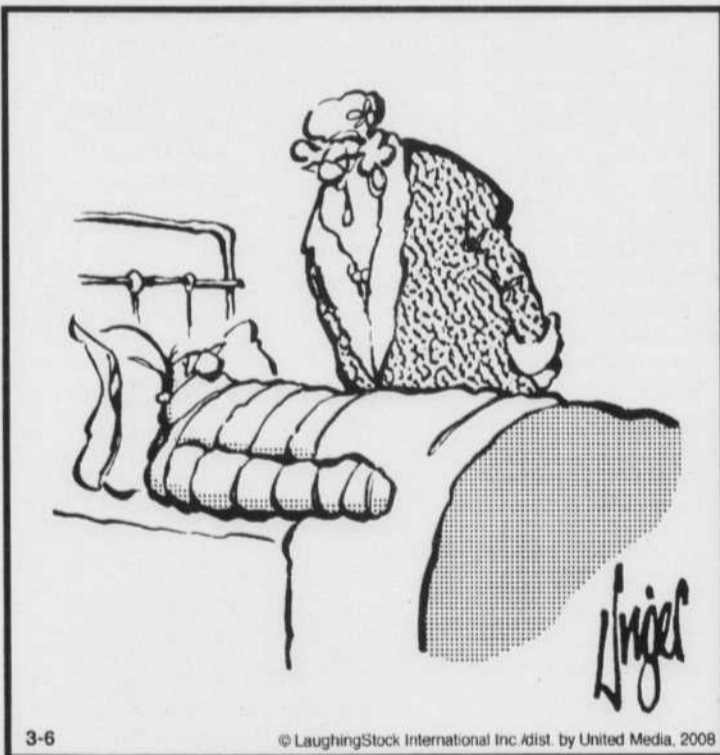
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**KNOWLTON GOLF CLUB** is looking for Ground Maintenance crew for 2008 season. Send resume to Sylvain Fullum. Le Club de Golf de Knowlton est à la recherche de préposés à l'entretien de la terrasse. Faites parvenir votre C.V. à Sylvain Fullum, Knowlton Golf Club, 264 Lakeside St., Knowlton, QC J0E 1V0

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**BABYSITTER NEEDED** in Richmond / Windsor area, before and after school, 2 - 3 days /wk. Call Tammy 819-845-1058

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

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1996 PLYMOUTH VOYAGEUR, 3 litre, new parts, no rear seats. \$800. Call (450) 242-2051.

2001 VW PASSAT Wagon, V6 2.8, GLX, 4 motion, 4 WD, navy blue, grey leather and wood trim, tinted glass, sunroof, roof rails, 16" mags, fully equipped, excellent condition, all major maintenance done, 140,000 km. Asking \$11,500. negotiable. Call 819-572-1218.

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

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**SKIS FOR SALE** - Atomic Beta Ride 10-20, 170 cm, Titanium, with bindings, in good condition, \$250. Call 450-242-1937.

**THOMASVILLE DINING ROOM** set, classic Colonial dark pine, 4 chairs, table with 2 leaves (8 ft.), buffet with brass hardware, good condition, very classy. \$1,100. 819-566-0446.

**THULE ROOF RACK base adaptor** for Wagons/SUVs, with factory roof rails, like new. Half price \$130. Call 819-566-0446.

294 Events

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**AUCTION SALE**  
For the Estate of the late  
**Lilian Brullote Halsey**  
Formerly of North Hatley, furnishings  
from the residence known as  
"York House"  
Sale to be held at the Richmond  
Community Centre, 820 Gouin Street,  
Richmond, Quebec  
Saturday, March 8, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.  
**Antiques to be sold:** cherry chest of drawers w/turnings, dovetailed 8 drawers; cherry 4 poster 3/4 bed; walnut wardrobe; Lowboy dresser w/oval mirror; mahogany chest of drawers w/tear drop pulls; Arts & Craft period dresser w/6 drawers; oak lowboy dresser w/claw foot; cheval mirror; Victorian ladies chair; parlor chairs; carved Victorian chair w/needlepoint; pie crust table; Paw foot mahogany veneered games table; Spool bed (single); Morris chair; 2 large cast iron urns; writing desk w/turned legs; rare oak octagonal hardware display cabinet w/96 drawers, orig. pulls & stencilling; iron plant stand; oil lamps; wicker chairs; selection of chairs to include, pillowback w/stencilling, ladder back, etc.; pine lamp table; brass bucket; cast horse heads; (horn) cribbage board; oak wall telephone; O-Gee clock; Vintage clothing & purses; quantity of linens. Glassware to include: depression, carnival & milk glass; silverplate; Nippon; cut glass; punch bowl; picture frames; oil paintings; prints, carved wooden bowl; partial dinner set; crystal; antique toys; brass spool holder; banjo in original case. **Selection of modern furniture to include:** sofa & matching chair; tables; 1960's dining room set w/table, 6 chairs & china cabinet; lamps; maple corner cabinet; side tables; Vilas coffee table; electric organ, plus much more.  
**Preview:** Friday, March 7, 2008 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. and prior to sale.  
**Terms:** cash or cheque accepted with proper I.D. Canteen on the premises. For further information, please contact the auctioneers.

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# Your Birthday

Thursday, March 6, 2008

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) — Be ready to strike it big, because endeavors or ventures you personally put your hand to will have marvelous opportunities for giant success. Chances are you'll make it big in two separate areas.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) — After a bad start, something unforeseen and unexpected — but extremely fortuitous — could happen to you through a situation over which you have no control. It'll set everything right again.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) — Someone new will become very lucky for you and end up playing a prominent role in establishing a union with an individual who possesses knowledge that you lack but vitally need.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) — Attention may be drawn to you right now because of something in which you're presently engaged. Others realize the potential your involvement has and will be hoping to be included in the endeavor.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) — Trust your judgment concerning a matter where you are looking out for the interests of others, because it will become fortunate for you in the process. You'll be the one who ends up as the big winner.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) — Devote your time to the types of things you enjoy doing, and you will have an extremely productive day — not to mention a very profitable one. Labors of love can be-

come financial generators for you.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — This is a better-than-usual period to cultivate a relationship that you hope could become a significant one. Once the association is strengthened, many good things will happen through this special union.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — A matter that has been of grave concern to you is going to work out in ways that will make you a very happy person. The lesson here is to never give up and don't worry over that which you can't control.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Just when your ego is at its lowest point, it is going to get an unexpected boost from those who find both your personality and physical appearance to be extremely attractive. Simply be yourself and sparkle.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — You have a better chance than usual to add to your financial position in ways that will provide a greater surplus than you've known for some time. Do what needs doing.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — What you can do better than most is inspire others and help them enlarge their vision and scope, especially the type of horizon they should set for themselves. In turn, you'll benefit as much as they do.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Dame Fortune is now taking a special interest in your financial affairs, so be ready to move in unison with her when she sends her signals. This could turn out to be a profitable period.

Thursday, March 6, 2008

# The Rule is useless with two stoppers

By Phillip Alder

We are looking at the Rule of Seven. You are in three no-trump. Your only high card in the led suit is the ace (or the king, if righty wins the first trick with the ace). You subtract the number of cards your side has in this suit from seven, and hold up your ace for that number of rounds.

Sometimes, though, when at first glance you seem to have only one stopper in the suit they have led, you actually have two — as in this deal.

Against your contract of three no-trump, West leads the spade four, and East puts up his queen. What would you do?

The auction is as simple as can be.

You have seven top tricks: one spade, one heart, one diamond and four clubs. The extra tricks can come from the diamond suit, even if the finesse loses.

The Rule of Seven tells you to hold up your spade ace until the second round. But note that if you duck the first trick, East will return his second spade, setting up his partner's suit. And when West gets in with his diamond king, he will cash three more spade tricks to take

North 03-06-08			
♠ 8 7 3			
♥ 9 5 2			
♦ Q J 4			
♣ A Q J 10			
West		East	
♠ K 10 5 4 2		♠ Q 6	
♥ Q 10 7		♥ K J 8	
♦ K 6		♦ 8 7 5 3	
♣ 9 8 4		♣ 6 5 3 2	
South			
♠ A J 9			
♥ A 6 4 3			
♦ A 10 9 2			
♣ K 7			
Dealer: South			
Vulnerable: Both			
South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass
Opening lead: ♠ 4			

you down one.

Since the diamond finesse is into the West hand, win trick one with your spade ace, play your low club to dummy's 10 (or overtake your king with the ace), and run the diamond queen. The finesse loses, but your contract is safe because your spade jack stops West from running the suit. If he cashes his king, your jack is high; if he leads a low spade, you win with your jack.

# CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**

- 1 Choir voice
- 5 Gripes
- 10 Some G.I.s
- 14 Expensive
- 15 Borden bovine
- 16 French kings
- 17 Highway subdivision
- 18 Bite playfully
- 19 God of love
- 20 Start of a quip
- 23 Youth org.
- 24 British medical syst.
- 25 Online loan sources
- 28 Bando of baseball
- 29 Part 2 of quip
- 31 Aid a criminal

- 34 Morales of "Bad Boys"
- 36 Steps over a fence
- 37 Actor O'Shea
- 38 Part 3 of quip
- 40 Picture on a PC
- 41 January in Oaxaca
- 43 Division word
- 44 Mountain in Thessaly
- 45 Part 4 of quip
- 47 Sister
- 49 Long looker
- 50 Artist's rep.
- 51 Bovine reply
- 54 End of quip
- 58 Panache
- 60 Bakery byproduct
- 61 Like the Kalahari

- 13 Draft org.
- 21 Actress Merkel
- 22 Siloed weapons
- 26 Metric weights, briefly
- 27 Extended arias
- 28 Pantries and tool sheds
- 29 Ridicule
- 30 Sword part
- 31 Prayer closers
- 32 Intelligence test pioneer
- 33 Height
- 35 Peau de \_\_ (dull satin fabric)
- 39 One way to write

- 42 Pitcher Hershiser
- 46 Type of monkey?
- 48 Shoshone
- 50 Universal soul
- 51 \_\_ Gras
- 52 Leek cousin
- 53 Peculiarly
- 55 Jack-in-the-pulpit
- 56 Apothecary measure
- 57 Trap enticement
- 58 Wicked
- 59 Suggestion from AAA

**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**

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

- 62 Molecule maker
- 63 Actress Dey
- 64 False god
- 65 Lairs
- 66 Correct
- 67 Diminutive

**DOWN**

- 1 Off-the-cuff remark
- 2 Toronto team, tersely
- 3 Singer Tucker
- 4 Two-tone treat
- 5 "Jaws" writer
- 6 Walt Disney's middle name
- 7 "SportsCenter" stn.
- 8 Decree
- 9 Fixed charge
- 10 Sensible step
- 11 Argumentation
- 12 AFL-\_\_

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
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62						63					64			
65						66					67			

By Alan P. Olschwang  
Huntington Beach, CA

3/6/08

## This constant crying seems unmanly

Dear Annie: My husband's boss is a married woman half

### Annie's Mailbox

his age. (She's 25.) At the last Christmas party, she spent two hours with her hand on my husband's thigh. I said nothing because I didn't want to cause a scene. She also danced very provocatively in front of him. My husband says he didn't notice her touching him and doesn't remember it.

She recently sent an e-mail from her work computer to his home laptop about divorce — kind of encouraging it. He says she told him it was sent by mistake, but she never apologized for it or the argument that ensued as a result. I e-mailed her and said her note was inappropriate at every level.

All of our marital discord stems from his job. I am tired of hearing my husband defend this woman. He says I am silly to be angry, and that she is a good Christian woman who has no interest in him. What do you think? — Upset in Ohio

**Dear Ohio:** The boss should not be putting her hand on an employee's thigh and sending him e-mails about divorce. Your husband may believe he must tolerate these flirtations in order to keep his job, but that is the definition of sexual harassment. If he wants this behavior to stop, he should seek legal advice. If he doesn't want it to stop, you have a different problem.

**Dear Annie:** I have been married to "Larry" for over 30 years. It's very difficult to go to church with my husband or any place that may have some sentimentality attached to it. Whenever I look at him, he's crying, making a sort of whimpering sound.

This man is over 6 feet tall and appears very masculine. I understand grown men cry, but Larry tears up during family dinners and action movies. He is on antidepressants and has seen medical professionals for his depression and anxiety. But this constant crying seems unmanly and very unattractive. It is also irritating and there is little joy left in our marriage. Are we doomed? — Kentucky

**Dear Kentucky:** If the constant tears are a recent phenomenon, it's possible your husband is suffering from a hormonal imbalance, a medication problem or may even have had a small stroke that went undetected. Please urge him to see his doctor for a complete checkup, and specifically mention these possibilities. Regardless, after 30 years, he surely must have other endearing qualities that make up for his overwrought sentimentality. If you can't focus on those, please look into counseling.

**Dear Annie:** This is for "Stressed out in Texas," the 11-year-old being bullied by classmates.

My daughter (now a freshman in college) went through this. She begged to switch schools, but I thought it was better to stay put and deal with the problems. I didn't understand how bad it was.

No matter what she did (and she did many things beautifully), the others would make sure she was a misfit and didn't belong. It was just one negative and mean comment after another. Some days she would get in the car and cry.

I didn't know how bad her life was until I started finding food wrappers under her bed — she was self-medicating with food. Her depression started in sixth grade. We are working through this together, and I will be there for her, but I am so disappointed in myself for letting it go this far.

"Stressed" should go to her mom right now. The longer she keeps the bullying to herself, the worse it will be. She should talk to the school counselor and find a physical activity she enjoys and do it a couple of times a week. She deserves to be treated with respect. — Mom in Kentucky

**Dear Mom:** Thanks to all who wrote offering support and suggesting "Stressed" speak up. There are hundreds of people rooting for her.

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

## Pure driving excitement; Preview: 2009 Mercedes-Benz SLKs



The Mercedes SLK continues to offer the best of both worlds - a convertible, plus the comfort, hushed ride and security of a coupe with the hardtop up.

### By Graeme Fletcher

Canwest News Service

SAINT-CAP-FERRAT, France - Having sold almost half a million SLKs to date, Mercedes is revamping the second-generation convertible to keep it current. In all, there are 650 new parts, the bulk of which - new looks aside - key in on the comfort and dynamics of the car's two sides: convertible and coupe.

As the first among the newest crop of hardtop convertibles (the original SLK launched in 1996), the SLK continues to offer the best of both worlds. With the hardtop up, there's the comfort, hushed ride and security of a coupe.

Hold a button for 22 seconds and the lot folds into the trunk in an intricate mechanical ballet. At times, the different pieces come within a whisker of disaster, but, of course, they never collide.

On a 10 C day in Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat with the top down, the SLK's Air Scarf kept the riders comfortable by wafting a warm breeze from a vent in the headrest over the neck and shoulder area. It is the type of driving experience that, even on the worst days, beats a good day at the office.

When the rear-drive SLK arrives this spring, it will be offered in three flavours - the SLK 300 (formerly the 280), the SLK 350 and the uber-powerful SLK 55 AMG. The first two versions are offered with either six-speed manual or seven-speed automatic transmissions; the AMG comes only with the automatic.

The appearance changes are subtle but meaningful. The front bumper has a more chiselled appearance - especially in the AMG guise - and the rear apron has a quasi-diffuser built into it. Add darkened tail lights and larger exhaust tips and there is a more purposeful look to the car. Those enlarged

tailpipes also sound the part whenever the gas pedal is floored - the 55's throaty V8 positively barks through its quad pipes.

The SLK 300 comes with a 3.0-litre V6 that churns out 226 horsepower and 221 pound-feet of torque at a low 2,500 rpm. This is plenty of power, especially when teamed with the six-speed manual. The nice part is that the box features a clean snick-through-the-gears gate and a light, progressive clutch. As a package, it is no slouch - a 6.3-second run to 100 kilometres an hour speaks volumes about its ability.

The SLK 350 ups the ante to 300 hp and 266 lb-ft of torque. The immediacy it brings to the drive is well worth the extra coin - 100 km/h is reached in 5.4 seconds. It also comes with larger brakes needed to pull it down from speed.

On a drive through the Southern Alps and over into Italy, the car proved to be a blast. First, the suspension is such that rough roads pass by without jostling the occupants. On hairpins, the SLK hunkers down with authority.

More impressive is the car's structural integrity, with not the slightest hint of cowl shake to be found.

The defining factor, however, is the steering's feel and feedback. The new rack-and-pinion system has been tweaked for greater response. It is one of the best setups offered on any car. When speeding along the highway, there is just enough of an on-centre neutral zone (five degrees) that the car does not feel darty. Dial in a little more steering and the rack tightens to bring a progressively faster response and laser-like precision.

Adding the AMG Sport package to the SLK 350 provides a number of good things. First, it adds the SLK 55's more aggressive appearance and better tires - P225/40/R18 front and

P245/35R18 rear versus the stock P225/45R17 and P245/40R17 combo. It also includes steering wheel-mounted paddle shifters for the seven-speed automatic. These things work very nicely.

In the sport setting - there are also comfort and manual modes - the box holds each gear a little longer, which helps performance. The paddles then allow the driver to drop a cog or two to set up for a corner without having to take a hand off the wheel. I prefer stirring my own gears, but this thing is good enough that it represents the best of both the drive and driven worlds.

In terms of pure driving excitement, the AMG version is the most enjoyable - if it's a first-class adrenalin rush being sought. With 355 hp and a tire-shredding 376 lb-ft of torque on tap, the SLK 55 moves whenever the gas is gunned - 100 km/h appears on the clock in a scant 4.9 seconds. The car is also noticeably firmer, has even better road manners and much better brakes than the 350. It is as good as any serious performance car that can be purchased for less than \$100,000.

Of the numerous options that are available, there is one that's a must - the 500-watt harman/kardon LOGIC7 surround-sound audio package that comes with 11 well-placed speakers. Even with the top down in a tunnel, it is proud enough to drown out extraneous noises echoing around the car. Crank it up and you can actually feel the bass resonating through the car's body, doing so without distorting the clarity of the sound. There is something truly rewarding about driving a car that's able to out-bass one of those really annoying vroom-and-boom wrecks.

No prices have been announced yet. However, expect the new SLK range to start around \$58,000 for the 300 and top out at \$85,000 for the 55 AMG.

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