

THE EQUITY

Lady Panthers on the prowl for first win | page 9

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88 cents

Shawville council hopes to entice downtown startups

Retirements mean time for new generation

SCOTT CLOUTHIER

Equity Reporter

SHAWVILLE • Smaller, locally-owned businesses are the key to revitalizing Shawville's downtown core, says the town's mayor.

"I think what he have to be doing is encouraging local stores," says Albert Armstrong.

In order to do so, the town is prepared to offer monetary incentives to anyone willing to open up a storefront in downtown Shawville.

"We can give an incentive in the way of monies," Armstrong says.

One reason he gives for the disintegration of the downtown core is a lack of support for the Shawville and District Chamber of Commerce.

"The Chamber of Commerce hasn't been a real success," he admits.

A revitalization program was started in the late 1990s with the aim of generating more interest in the downtown core. Businesses were given suggestions about how to paint their stores to make them look more old-fashioned and other efforts were made to make downtown Shawville look more attractive.

While he feels it was successful in the years it operated, Armstrong thinks that the momentum created by the revitalization group wasn't carried on by the chamber. He wishes that more of Shawville's larger businesses would get involved.

Armstrong hopes that improved collaboration of council with the Chamber of Commerce can help bring new business to the area.

"We want to work with them," he says. "I think with better co-operation, we can do something."

Armstrong mentioned that he plans to meet with Chamber of Commerce President Betsy Farrell to discuss some new ideas.

Please see DOWNTOWN on page 2

Six in a row



Pontiacs Junior 'B' goalie Matthieu Labelle reaches across unsuccessfully to stop a shot by Fred McDougall (#4) of the Perth Blue Wings on Friday night at the Shawville arena. Despite the goal the Pontiacs played another winning game, extending their streak of victories to six and putting the team just one point out of first place in the Valley division.

Gatineau votes to extend bike trail into Aylmer

WILBUR MCLEAN

Equity Reporter

PONTIAC • Gatineau City Council has voted in favour of extending the PPJ Recreational Trail into Aylmer.

The city will await the completion of the Pontiac's final leg of the trail by the Municipality of Pontiac before beginning work on its section.

The trail into the city will extend along the now unused rail line in Aylmer and councils from both Gatineau and Pontiac hope it will increase bike traffic from both municipalities.

The City of Gatineau purchased the rail line years ago with the intention of building a bike trail to connect with the Pontiac.

"A lot of people may come up to Aylmer for it ... People from the Pontiac can ride to Aylmer too," said Aylmer councillor Frank Thérien, said of the possible benefits to Aylmer of connecting the trail with the Pontiac.

"We're more or less waiting to see what the heck will happen (before starting construction). We're ready to go right now," said Thérien.

The Municipality of Pontiac made

a commitment last fall to extend the PPJ Cycloparc from its current eastern limit of Wyman in Bristol to Aylmer.

At an estimated cost of \$5.7 million, construction is expected to begin in 2008 and be completed by 2010. The trail currently extends from the southern edge of Allumettes Island to Wyman.

The Municipality of Pontiac's portion remains the final stage required to complete the trail to Gatineau, which was always the intention.

Problems with private ownership of the PPJ rail line — on which most of the trail is built — has caused 10 years' worth of delays in completing the trail.

Municipality of Pontiac Mayor Eddie McCann was pleased with Gatineau's council, though the result was expected.

"It verifies their commitment to it. That's always been their intention," said McCann. "I knew historically that the support was there."

Thérien sounded excited at the possibilities presented by the urban-rural bike trail.

Please see TRAIL on page 2

Three municipal dumps broken into, body discovered

LEAH MILLER

Equity Editor

PONTIAC • Three municipal trench landfills in central Pontiac were broken into last week.

Between the hours of 11 p.m. and midnight Thursday, both the Shawville and Bristol dumps were broken into.

In Shawville, no damage was made but diesel and a pump worth \$275 were stolen.

In Bristol, the padlock on the fence was cut to gain entrance, but nothing was stolen.

"We believe it was the same group of people," said Outaouais Sûreté du Québec spokesperson Mélanie Larouche. "They may have been looking for gas there."

The Clarendon dump was broken into Friday night, between 4 and 9 p.m.

About \$200 worth of damage was caused by a vehicle being driven into

the fence to gain access into the dump.

"We are still investigating," said Larouche. "There are no suspects as of yet."

Police are encouraging anyone with information to call the Campbell's Bay detachment at 819-648-2141 or the anonymous InfoCrime Line at 1-800-711-1800.

Body found

A decomposing body was discovered by a Sand Bay resident Jan. 9.

Larouche said a neighbour discovered the body of a 33-year-old man in a Sand Bay cottage and called for help.

The man had been missing since November.

The cause of death has not been declared even after an autopsy, but police have ordered a toxicology report. Results should be ready late spring. Police do not believe foul play caused his death.

WILBUR MCLEAN

Equity Reporter

SHAWVILLE • Making a strong push for first, the Pontiacs Junior 'B' hockey club extended their season-long win streak to six with wins over Perth and Arnprior on the weekend.

A 4-3 win over Perth and 2-1 victory against Arnprior pushed the Shawville-based club to just one point away from first place in the Valley Division with the Pontiacs having one game in hand.

The Pontiacs were also scheduled to play a game last night at Carleton Place.

With eight games remaining in the regular season campaign, the Pontiacs appear in the driver's seat for a first place finish in the division, a goal Head Coach Les Orr has reiterated since before Christmas.

"I said that all the way that 'Guys, you know we'll take a while to get to

know each other and we'll start to really jell after Christmas,'" he said.

On Friday, the Pontiacs appeared headed to an easy victory over the Perth Blue Wings but were forced to fend off a late comeback attempt.

The Pontiacs let up after a dominant first period, where goals by Mark Taylor, Benoit Parent, Shane Powell and David Lazenby were all scored, giving the team a 4-1 lead into the first intermission.

Perth, who have been depleted by injuries all year, chipped away at the lead scoring once in the second and once again midway through the third but ultimately, the Pontiacs managed to hold on for the win.

In goal, Matthieu Labelle did well to turn away the Perth attempts at equalizing. He stopped 32 shots to pick up the win.

The Pontiacs had 24 shots on goal.

Shawville's Jason Campbell had two assists as did Jansen Simpson.

Jorge Ehlers, Ryan Rees and Joel Leblanc had an assist apiece.

Pontiacs 4 Perth 3

On Sunday the Pontiacs rolled into Arnprior for a game against the last place Packers, who were hoping for a second consecutive upset after defeating Renfrew on Friday night.

All the game's scoring took place in the second period as the Pontiacs twice notched goals to grind out the win.

Marc Maurice and Stephen Lewis scored for the Pontiacs.

The assist machine, Lazenby, picked up two more while John Deavey and Alex Tasschereau had one each.

Orr said he was impressed with the Packers' improved play and expected them to be a tough playoff matchup for

any team in the playoffs.

"I think they're definitely a team that could upset somebody," he said. "They picked up a couple of players from (the Central Junior Hockey League) and they're playing really good. Their forwards are very strong up front."

Newly acquired goalie, Michel Racicot, started in net against Arnprior. Orr said he expects to keep alternating goalies for a few more games.

"What I've told them is that we're going to switch back and forth until there are only three or four games left, then we'll see," he said. "I haven't decided yet what I'm going to do after that."

Throughout the winning streak the Pontiacs have been winning very close games. Their average margin of victory during the streak has been 1.6 goals.

Orr said he doesn't mind. Please see PONTIACS on page 2



Members of the Shawville Lions Club and the Shawville-Clarendon Fire Department gather around the new bucket truck recently purchased by the fire department. Donations of \$5,000 by the Pontiac Agricultural Society and the Shawville Lions Club went a long way to purchasing the \$40,000 truck. Front row, from left: Eric Smith, Denzil Yach, Nelson Angus, Grant Rogers, Versil Smith, Lee Laframboise, James Howard, Vaughn Bastien, Kirk Tubman, Wayne Bohart, Sylvain Durocher, Derek O'Malley and Mike Tubman. Back row, from left: John Carmichael, Elwyn Lang, Jerry Callaghan, Terry Campbell, Richard Guillerm, Greg Hayes and Trevor Howard.

New fire truck ready for road

WILBUR MCLEAN

Equity Reporter

PONTIAC • The bucket truck recently purchased by the Shawville-Clarendon Fire Department is ready to fight fires.

The 1994 five-tonne truck was purchased last fall for about \$40,000 from a Honda dealership in Carp and is the department's new first response truck.

"We like it," said Shawville-Clarendon Fire Chief, Lee Laframboise, of the new purchase. "It's easy for every fireman to drive."

The automatic transmission vehicle is now one of a five-truck fleet belonging to the fire department and is the result of four years of fundraising by the department and money being matched by the Shawville and Clarendon municipal councils.

The new five-tonne truck went into service on Dec. 20 and replaces a dated one-tonne truck that was used for similar purposes previously. It contains a bucket at the end of a lifting system at the back of the truck, allowing firefighters to reach tall heights.

The Pontiac Agricultural Society and Shawville Lions Club each played a significant role in the purchase of the truck, donating \$5,000 apiece.

"We knew the fire department was in the process of purchasing a new vehicle and we felt it was a good idea to give to something that would help the whole community," said Mavis Hanna, president.

The Pontiac Agricultural Society, which puts on the Shawville Fair annually, regularly gives money to other community projects, such as the pending slaughterhouse, required repairs to the roof of the Pontiac Museum and sporting initiatives.

The Shawville Lions are also known for their benevolence. "Anytime there's an opportunity to give money we consider it," said Shawville Lions Club President, James Howard. "We take them on as different projects."

Laframboise said he expects the truck to last for a number of decades. "Once we get them we don't put many miles on them so it'll last a long time," he said.

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CHEVROLET ARNPRIOR

Advanced boards make local students SMART

WILBUR MCLEAN
Equity Reporter

PONTIAC • Dr. Wilbert Keon School in Chapeau is on the cutting edge of classroom technology with the introduction of a number of interactive blackboards.

The SMART board technology replaces the traditional blackboard by using a touch-sensitive projector that is connected to a computer.

Teachers can access the internet, move things around on the screen, save notes and allow students to work directly alongside the teacher via connections at the pupils' desks.

"It's fantastic. It changes the way you teach," said Allison McLaughlin, teacher at DWK.

The technology is slowly creeping its way into schools around the world and, perhaps surprisingly, the small Chapeau school of about 100 secondary students is leading the charge.

Other schools in the Western Québec School

Board have also been picking up the technology.

Pontiac High School has obtained two Smart Boards, which are being used by Grade 7 and 8 teachers at the school.

St. John's also has two in their school.

"It's very useful for a kinesthetic learner," said PHS and St. John's Principal Mike Dubeau.

A training session will take place at St. John's Elementary School in Campbell's Bay on Feb. 2 where teachers from five area schools will learn to use the technology.

DWK currently has six SMART boards in the school and principal Neil Fleming hopes to make it 10 before the end of the school year.

"There's just no turning back once you've used one," he said.

Fleming introduced the idea of bringing in the new blackboards three years ago, using the school's budget.

Before making the commitment, a grant allowed

Fleming to travel to an area of London, England where the SMART boards are being used commonly.

"I've always had an interest in technology," he said.

The school purchased the first one in 2003/2004 at a cost of \$2,600.

Increased production has since reduced the cost of one board to about \$1,600 today.

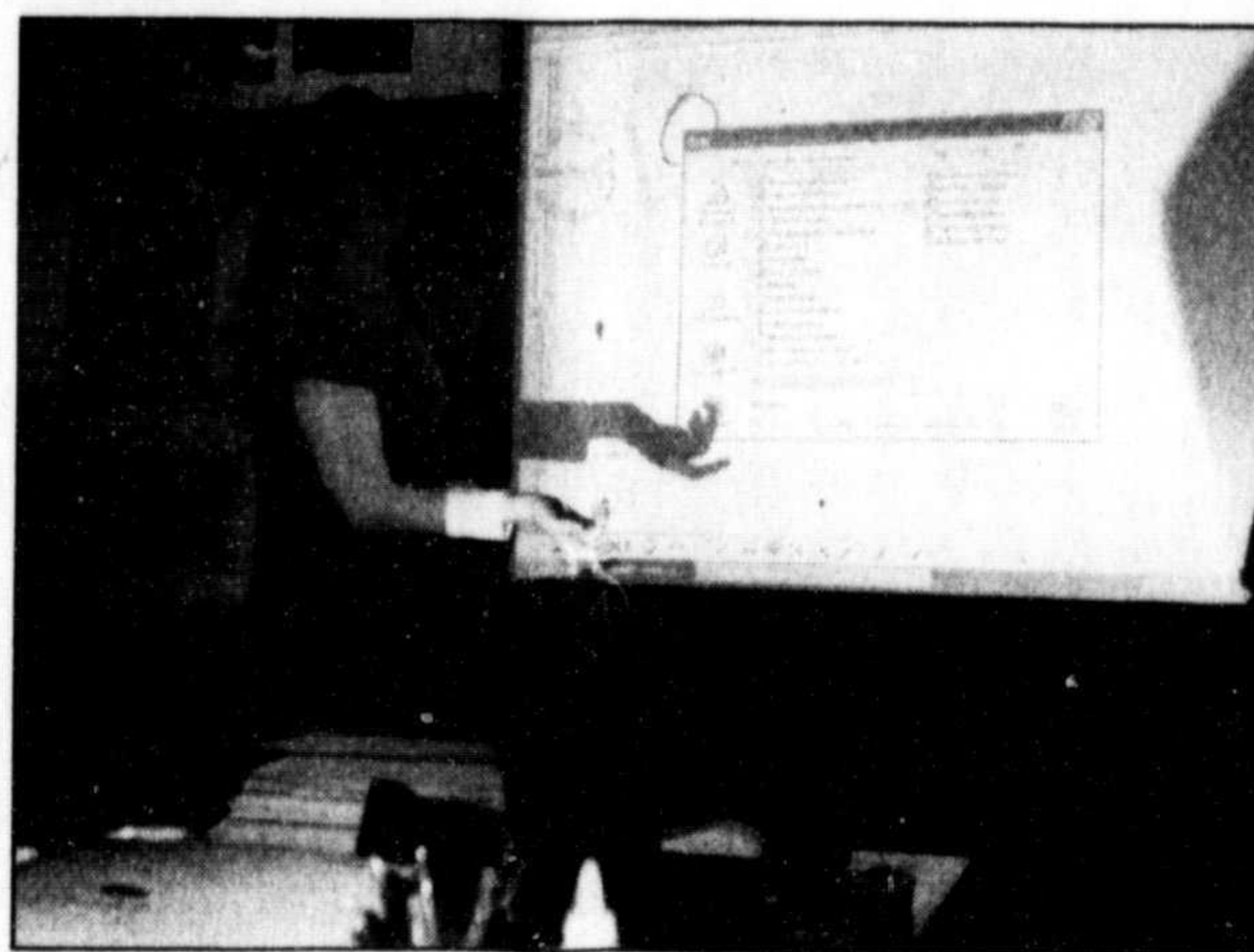
Projectors must also be purchased to work alongside the boards.

"For a small school it's a sizable investment," said Fleming.

The change, according to McLaughlin, has been remarkable.

"It's super exciting. The kids, they love it, they respond to it. It's interactive, it works with the kids."

The opportunities created by the new boards are immense. Fleming notes that it is even possible for students to conduct tests using handheld devices connected up to the teacher's laptop, not dissimilar from



Wilbur McLean, THE EQUITY

Dr. Wilbert Keon Secondary School teacher, Allison McLaughlin, shows off some of the features of one of the school's SMART boards, a technologically advanced, interactive replacement for the traditional black board. The board is hooked up to a laptop that can also be connected with terminals at students' desks.

the sort of technology used to "Ask the Audience" on the once-popular television show *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire*.

An interactive frog dissection can also take place using the system. Students can also use their finger to increase heat on a thermometer that shows the correlation between temperature and molecules.

Teachers can download thousands of programs spe-

cific to the technology and implement the lessons into their day-to-day teaching.

The world leader in interactive blackboards, SMART technologies is a company based in Calgary that produces many of its boards in Kanata.

In 2004, the Ontario Ministry of Education announced a project to introduce 5,000 SMART boards into that province's public schools.

Members met for Christmas party



QUYON • Members of St. Mary's CWL in Quyon met for their Christmas party and potluck luncheon on the afternoon of Dec. 10. President Claire Dubois welcomed the many members in attendance, opening the meeting with prayers followed by the November minutes, correspondence and

the treasurers' report. The report on the CWL Christmas Bazaar and Tea held in late November was excellent. Thank you to all supporting the league in these annual events. Members put much time and effort into its success. The winner of the hand-made quilt was Madeleine Chambert of Quyon.

Congratulations and good luck to our high school graduates receiving their diplomas from Pontiac High in

November. Thank you cards were received from recipients of the CWL Bursary.

The shortened meeting ended, followed by an excellent luncheon and gift exchange, a fun time, as always.

The old year is over and a new one beginning. Health and happiness to all in our community. Happy New Year!

Submitted by Martha Alexander, for the St. Mary's CWL.

New CWL executive for 2007-2009



CHAPEAU • The first meeting of 2007 for St. Alphonsus' CWL was held at Harrington Hall on Jan. 7.

Following the opening prayers led by President Joan Sallafranque the meeting was called to order.

Frances Giroux did the Spiritual Reading which was taken from the Book of Hebrews.

The card party held on Jan. 7 for our Peruvian child was well attended. Saturday, Feb. 17 was the date chosen for the Development and Peace party.

Membership dues are coming in and we hope to have this completed as early as possible. We will sponsor a night of free skating at the arena later this month.

The Monday night card parties from September through December were very profitable and the proceeds have been turned in for: hall expenses. Everyone approached, whether members or not, was very generous with donations of food, prizes or time and for this we thank one and all.

Correspondence was plentiful this month. Several thank you notes for donations, cards, received, visits to funeral home and funeral

luncheons were acknowledged.

Sister Pauline Colterman also sent an interesting note about her trip to Peru with those from the diocese who accompanied Bishop Smith on the pilgrimage in November. Our godchild Erick also sent his Christmas wishes.

The results for the nominations collected in December were also announced. Our 2007-2009

executive is as follows: Spiritual Director, Father Mitchell Beachey; President, Joan Sallafranque; First Vice, Helen Fleming; Second Vice, Jane Carroll; Treasurer, Gail Sullivan; Recording Secretary, Bernie Hendry; Corresponding Secretary, Lorna Roel.

Meeting concluded with prayers. Submitted by Jane Carroll, communications officer for the St. Alphonsus CWL.

Vinton gym promises 'no sweat' workout



SCOTT CLOUTHIER
Equity Reporter

VINTON • Residents of Vinton now have a convenient place to get started on those New Year's resolutions.

A new gym, called Lisa's Exercise Studio, recently opened in the town's old school.

Owner Lisa Lepack says opening the gym is as much for her own benefit as for anyone else's.

"I have a few pounds to lose myself," she admits.

Since opening on Jan. 3, the gym has grown to 18 members.

What makes the gym special is the use of toning beds, which Lepack claims are a sweat-free workout.

They are supposed to be ideal for the elderly, handicapped and those who simply don't like to get sweaty during a workout.

So far it seems to be working for the gym's members, as Lepack reports all of her members have shown the loss of both pounds and inches at weekly weigh-in and inch-counting sessions.

She herself has even lost three pounds since opening the gym and only being able to use the toning beds during off-hours.

"It's not just for women," Lepack adds. "It's for men and women."

Unlike other gyms, members at Lisa's Exercise Studio aren't committed to a strict workout regime.

Instead they are allowed to go at their own pace and exercise what part of their body they want to in a free flowing environment.

Lepack gives the example of one member of her studio, who had been a member at other gyms but decided to join Lisa's Exercise Studio because she desired more freedom.

Three visits a week are recommended, and Lepack also gives suggestions about healthier eating.

Lisa's Exercise Studio is open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. from Monday to Saturday, and from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Sunday.

"I'm constantly here," says Lepack, who lives in the same building.

Pontiacs: Team stretches win streak to six

Continued from page 1

"This time of year I don't mind winning by one or two goals because that's what the games are probably going to be like in the playoffs," he said. "It gives us more experience in those games."

Pontiacs 2, Arnprior 1

The rest of the way

A first place finish could be crucial to the Pontiacs defending their Valley division championship.

The playoff format dictates that the first place team plays the sixth place

team, second versus fifth and third versus fourth.

The highest remaining seed after the first round receives a bye directly to the division final.

By finishing first, the Pontiacs would likely play Arnprior, a team they have won four of five games against so far this season.

Winning that series would guarantee a place in the Valley final.

Despite predicting Arnprior would be trouble for any team, Orr said, "I don't mind playing them. We're set to play anybody." While they are currently

in a favourable position, the Pontiacs play five of their remaining eight games on the road.

All-stars chosen

The all-stars have been selected to represent the Valley division at this Saturday's Eastern Ontario Junior 'B' Hockey League all-star game in Stittsville.

Representing the Pontiacs, goalie Matthieu Labelle has been chosen, as have defenseman David Lazenby and forwards Ryan Rees and Jansen Simpson.

The Pontiacs' coaching staff will be behind the bench for the Valley Division all-stars.

In the rookie game, the

Pontiacs will be represented by their only two rookies, Joel Leblanc and Alex Houle. The all-stars are selected at an executive meeting where representatives from each team vote on their choices.

Generally an equal number of players are chosen from each team.

EOJBHL Valley Division Standings

| G | W | L | T | OTL | PTS |
|-------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Stittsville | 33 | 17 | 13 | 0 | 37 |
| Showville | 31 | 17 | 12 | 0 | 36 |
| Renfrew | 34 | 16 | 15 | 2 | 35 |
| Perth | 36 | 15 | 16 | 2 | 35 |
| C. Place | 33 | 11 | 19 | 3 | 25 |
| Arnprior | 34 | 8 | 24 | 1 | 18 |

Pontiac leading scorers

| Player | Goals | Pts. |
|------------|-------|------|
| R. Rees | 18 | 43 |
| D. Lazenby | 9 | 31 |
| S. Powell | 13 | 25 |
| B. Parent | 11 | 20 |
| J. Simpson | 5 | 17 |
| Y. Thusky | 3 | 17 |

Trail: Gatineau votes to extend bike trail into Aylmer

Continued from page 1

"We're all for it. It will be a beautiful thing and people are all about exercise nowadays," he said.

Don't ring the alarm

Rogue alarms in the Municipality of Pontiac are the target of a new bylaw that will charge home or business owners a maximum fine of \$1,000 every time an alarm is sounded falsely and police are forced to respond more than twice in a year.

"There have not been a lot of (false alarms) but there have been too many of them," said McCann of the

bylaw.

The bylaw is an initiative between the MRC des Collines police and the county's council of mayors.

Each municipality in the MRC is expected to pass the bylaw.

McCann said something needed to be done to promote vigilance in the implementation of alarms amongst residence and business owners so as to avoid tying up police protection resources with false alarms.

"If an older person makes a mistake, that's fine, that's not what we're looking for,"

said McCann. "It's the repeat offenders."

In 2006, MRC des Collines police report receiving 223 calls due to alarms. In 142 of those cases the call was cancelled after police were on their way to the site or already there.

Of the 223 calls, only a handful were legitimate crimes in progress.

"Almost none of them (are real). You can count them all on your fingers," said Const. Martin Fournel.

Collines police handed out 15 tickets for false alarms in 2006.

The bylaw includes

alarms that are set off while being tested, because of faulty equipment or if it is set off by an animal.

While there was previously no bylaw in place, police were given the option of fining a home or business owner for a false alarm, however it was done at their own discretion.

Owner of Jones Marine in Luskville, Jason Jones, thinks the three strikes system is reasonable.

"If it goes off three times in a year, then, yeah, it's fine (to charge the owner)," said Jones.

Jones was fined last sum-

mer for a false security alarm on his business after receiving only one previous warning.

"It was the company's fault, so they paid for it," he said, explaining that the company failed to call Jones before calling the police, as is the company's policy.

The fine for a first time offender is \$200. This bylaw replaces a previous bylaw that was enacted in 2003.

It was far more strict, giving home and business owners only one chance before being fined but, according to Fournel, it was rarely enforced.

Downtown: Shawville council hopes to entice startups

Continued from page 1

What he has in mind for both the chamber and Shawville council is to send letters out to business owners asking them to be part of a town forum on the issues facing the downtown.

If and when this forum takes place, all members of the community will be invited to give their ideas on how to improve the state of the downtown core.

Cottagers are key

A failure to capitalize on the cottagers who visit the Pontiac every summer is what has led to a disintegration of Shawville's downtown core, says a former store manager.

Ann Horner was manager of Fraser's, a clothing store

on Main Street from 1998 until the store's closing in 2005.

Since most Shawville residents work out of town, most tend to shop where they work.

"It's a retirement community," she notes.

"Cottagers are our staple," says Horner, who cites the growth of Renfrew as a shopping district as one reason for the decline.

Another reason she gives is the trend for chain stores such as Giant Tiger and Canadian Tire to move to locations along Hwy. 148.

"It brought the cottagers down here," Horner says.

Richard Meisner, who owns the Stedman's store on Main Street along with

his wife Carolyn, agrees that more stores on the Hwy. 148 is detrimental to the health of the downtown sector.

"Those things on the highway, that's not beneficial for anybody downtown," he says.

The reason that the well-known chains set up shop along the highway is because they refuse to be in the town, explains Armstrong.

"If we had control over that, they wouldn't be on the highway," he says.

Armstrong notes that council could pass bylaws to prohibit large retail chains from locating their stores on the Hwy. 148, but that would just drive them

away altogether.

For example, the Canadian Tire store was originally located on Main Street, but when its original owner retired, it was bought by the owner of Renfrew's Canadian Tire.

Shawville's council was tasked with finding a new location for it, or else it would leave town completely. The only site the owner would agree on was a former Hydro Quebec building on the highway.

End of era for ownership The Meisners are selling their store, but Richard states he simply wants to retire.

"That's the main reason," he says. "It's our intentions to try and sell the busi-

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The Rotary Club would like to thank Susie and Tom Orr for their generous donation of \$6,000 to the Rotary Palliative Care project in memory of his grandmother Mrs. Oma Horner.

Above from left: Susie Orr, Tom Orr, Gayle Ryan, John Ethier, Rotary Club president, presents the cheque to Greg Hayes of the Hospital Foundation.

McDowell students raise money for Kenya



WILBUR MCLEAN

Equity Reporter
SHAWVILLE • Using spare change, Grade 5 and 6 students at Dr. S.E. McDowell Elementary School are helping bring positive change for children in Kenya.

Primarily donating their leftover money from lunches, Maureen Levesque and Dawn West's classes helped raise \$932 that will go towards providing one meal per day to school children in Kenya.

Levesque and West agreed to match the money raised by their classes, and Levesque's mother also agreed to match that total to produce the final figure.

"I wanted to make them feel like they have food and they don't have to eat out of a garbage can," said Andrew Cahill, Grade 6, of why he opted to give the change from his lunch money for the cause.

Levesque travelled to Kenya last summer with her daughter and visited schools in the slums of Nairobi, Kenya.

She brought back photographs of the conditions there and, along with West, decided to raise money to help the students.

"The kids there were just passing out during school because they hadn't had anything to eat," said

Levesque. "It really impacted me."

Grade 5 student, Keri Beck, said seeing the photographs of Kenyan children affected her.

"It made me feel sad. Looking at the stuff they had and then all the stuff we had, it made me want to give more."

The two classes created mock thermometers to monitor their progress in raising the money, and a competition of sorts between the two classes raised the money in about a month before Christmas.

The money will be administered through a mission. "We're trying to get them

to be aware of world issues and world poverty," said Levesque, who sent a letter home with each student asking that money be donated in lieu of giving her a Christmas present.

With a population of about 35 million (compared with Canada's approximately 33 million) Kenya is the commercial centre of eastern Africa.

The country is still recovering from an economic collapse between the 1970s and 1990s that sparked massive poverty throughout the nation.

Kenyan schools have suffered from severe overcrowding since the government implemented free elementary school education in 2003.

Lower income students commonly eat nothing during the school day in some public schools.

Seated in their school's cafeteria, these Dr. S.E. McDowell Elementary Students from Dawn West's Grade 5 class and Maureen Levesque's Grade 6 class helped raise over \$900 that will go towards helping school children in Kenya be provided with one satisfactory meal during each school day.

Graham's heart with local Players

LEAH MILLER

Equity Editor
SHAWVILLE • The heart of Laird Graham, customer service manager at Shawville's National Bank, is obviously with the Pontiac Community Players, and it was made official Thursday when he cut the non-profit amateur acting group a cheque for \$250.

Graham was nominated by an employee to the National Bank employee and retiree volunteer program, where employees who devote their time to volunteering are rewarded.

Graham recently played the lead role of Adam in the Pontiac Community Players' most recent production "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers", which ran mid-November.

The volunteers who made the four-night show a reality took no payment and any

extra funds made after four separate charities were fundraised for was kept to cover any ongoing expenses — such as costumes, janitorial costs, renting rights to a play or makeup.

In order to draw further attention to the social involvement of its employees and retirees, the bank created the 'Our hearts are with you' program.

Every month, except in July and August, one employee or retiree receives the 'Our hearts are with you' award for his or her outstanding contribution to the community through his or her volunteer work. If Graham is selected, he could also receive a \$500 donation for the Pontiac Community Players, and is automatically eligible for the André Bérard Award.

The André Bérard Award was named in honour of a

former National Bank president who is also well-known for his social involvement. The award is based on a prestigious annual contest to pay special tribute to one of the 10 recipients of the 'Our hearts are with you' distinction whose volunteer efforts exceed all expectations and distinguish the recipient from his or her peers.

The winner of this award receives a prize of \$5,000 to donate to the not-for-profit organization he or she supports. One of the finalists may receive an honorary mention and a \$1,000 donation for his or her organization.

The contest runs until March 1 and the bank will announce finalists during National Volunteer Week, which takes place April 15 to 21.

Graham started helping

out with the Pontiac Community Players in 1998.

"This last play was the most challenging one for me because I had more lines and there was music involved," he said.

Graham added that a lot of hours went into making the production a success, and many people were involved to help it run smoothly.

"Thursday night was the most responsive night," said play director Joan Conrod. "People have been saying it was the funniest one we've done yet."

Since the Pontiac Community Players' inception, the group has raised about \$65,000 for a number of the county's community groups in need. The group is completely self-sufficient and does not receive any financial grants to help offset costs.



Joan Conrod (left) receives a \$250 cheque from National Bank Customer Service Manager Laird Graham to help offset costs for the Pontiac Community Players. The money was awarded to Graham through his bank's 'Our hearts are with you' volunteer appreciation program.

'Beatin' the pat' in Newfoundland, Grade 6 students to experience Atlantic life on upcoming exchange voyage

SCOTT CLOUTHIER

Equity Reporter
PONTIAC • A group of students from the Pontiac will have the opportunity to gain a new found appreciation for Canada's diversity this summer.

In June, 18 Grade 6 students from St. John's, Onslow, Dr. S.E. McDowell and St. Mary's elementary schools, along with three adults, will be taking part in a cultural exchange to Durrell, Newfoundland.

The trip is made possible through the Society for Educational Visits and Exchanges in Canada (SEVEC).

"They've been really good to the Pontiac," says trip organizer Barry McGowan. "We apply to SEVEC in the spring and we tell them how many kids (are travelling) and their ages."

A lot of paperwork is involved, but the end result is free airfare to and from

Newfoundland.

Students have to apply to McGowan to go on the trip and are selected based not only on their marks, but also attitude towards school and attendance.

"I told the kids that they had to be good performers in school," he says. Three adults (including McGowan) will also be going to Newfoundland with the students.

"I look for people who are educators," he says about how the trip leaders are selected.

McGowan himself is a former principal of Pontiac High School and Philemon Wright High School. Also travelling out east are Anne McGowan (his wife), a former principal at McDowell and Muriel Davies, a teacher.

Although there is some cost involved with the trip, McGowan maintains "you don't have to be rich. I don't want to be a travel

agent," he adds.

Costs include being able to host and feed at least one kid for a week.

The students will board with families out east, and likewise, students from Durrell will be boarding with families in the Pontiac.

"Pontiac people are, in general, very welcoming," he says. "Never do I have trouble (finding hosts)."

According to McGowan, not only does the exchange give local students the opportunity to see another part of Canada, but it gives young people from other parts of the country the opportunity to experience life in the Pontiac.

"We want to show off the uniqueness of our area," he says.

He notes that most students that come here on the exchange are surprised to learn how much English is spoken in the region. "They (don't) realize there

are any anglophones in Quebec."

This is the seventh such exchange that McGowan, who works with Heritage Canada, has facilitated.

In previous years, students have been able to see places such as Vancouver, Winnipeg and Truro, Nova Scotia.

It is the job of each organizer to arrange activities for students do in his or her own region. It is meant to be primarily a cultural exchange, so forget any notions of travelling 2,000 kilometres to practice long division.

"It's not like we go there and sit in a classroom at another school," McGowan says. For example, during last year's exchange he took students from Vancouver — most of whom had never even laid eyes on a cow — to see a dairy farm in operation. Each year he also plans

trips to the Chutes Coulonge, Parliament Hill and Rideau Hall as well as a number of activities at the Shawville RA Centre.

One of Ottawa's museum's is also visited every year. This year, McGowan

has the newly-renovated Museum of Nature in mind.

The next scheduled meeting for the group of prospective travellers will be Jan. 24 at 7 p.m. at Dr. S.E. McDowell Elementary School.

SQ to add manpower at busy times

LEAH MILLER

Equity Editor
PONTIAC • The Sûreté du Québec's new contract will allow the Pontiac MRC detachment in Campbell's Bay to double its manpower during the busiest hours.

With an aim of increasing overall sense of security, the SQ plans to increase its manpower across the entire Outaouais region. The change comes with the official signing of the SQ's new collective agreement, allowing more flexibility in shift work. "This will result in an increased police presence,"

said Lieut. Jacques Piché.

This change in structure actually began in June when the contract's agreement was made in principle, but it was made official last month.

"It works really well," said Lieut. Piché. "This way we have more officers on at crucial times."

This measure will mostly be utilized during shift changing between 7 p.m. and 4 a.m., when it is busiest.

This additional officer can now overlap the 3 p.m. to midnight and the 11 p.m. to 8 a.m. shifts.

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OPINION

The Voice of the Pontiac since 1883

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OUR OPINION | Shawville's dying Main Street

It could be argued that Shawville, the shopping centre of the Pontiac, is losing strength.

In the past few months, additional local businesses have come forward wanting to sell their stores in order to retire, or have shortened their operating hours. Some business owners have had their stores up for sale for over a year, but no takers have come forward ready to replace them. People who moved to Shawville in the past year or so wouldn't know Main Street used to have a specialty health food store, a clothing retailer or a quirky pet shop.

If this trend of store closures continues, Main Street could be nothing more than a quiet place to take an afternoon stroll.

Though Shawville's commercial district has over the years become more visible along Hwy. 148 (and any new business setting up shop in the municipality is a welcomed thought), careful planning is required to revitalize the downtown core in order to prevent commercial development along the highway from replacing the retail shops that anchor the downtown area.

Although the appeal of shopping in historical buildings and seeing a familiar face in a specialty shop cannot save Main Street on its own, cultural infrastructure plays a role alongside public and private investment in other civic amenities such as transport systems and nearby housing.

In some areas, councils have barred construction of new big box stores and zoned commercial growth into existing developed areas. Others have shifted tax dollars that have long subsidized new roads and other infrastructure for sprawling development into projects that support existing commercial or downtown districts.

Such measures require thoughtful land use planning and strong political will, since bringing growth

and new business to any part of town will impact the community and local economy heavily.

We are not alone. Other nearby downtown shopping districts are disintegrating as well. The town of Renfrew has one of the most noticeable downtown vs. highway commercial sectors, with its downtown shop owners practically screaming for the massive retail development near Hwy. 17 to stop drawing shoppers away from its core. The Pontiac faces its own unique problems of finding ways to stop shoppers from guiltily fleeing to Ontario. It's hard to compete when the job market is in Ontario, and most often shopping is done after work where everything can be purchased in one place.

The Shawville and District Chamber of Commerce, which will soon be morphing into a Pontiac-wide Chamber of Commerce, can be the answer we are looking for.

New ways of thinking and a co-operative effort will help each business prosper, and eventually build stronger bonds with the community. The chamber will need to promoting the benefits of patronizing locally-owned businesses. Shawville's traditional downtown business district has been around for over 100 years and has the ability to last for hundreds more.

Unlike global corporations, local businesses are owned by people who live in the community and are committed to its well being. These businesses are vital to our quality of life and sense of place, but they face powerful threats that requires conscious action to ensure their sustainability.

For now, the answer is to shop locally to support our own. Give the store owners and local entrepreneurs a reason to keep and continue opening their doors so we won't be left with no option but to shop elsewhere for basic amenities.

LM

Scott Clouthier, THE EQUITY

At first sight ...



ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM | Recycling 101: Big blue bins need filling!

Municipality of Pontiac residents now have received their alarmingly large-looking 360-litre, blue recycling bin. And, during the week of Jan. 15, residents will receive a reminder notice. It lists what can be placed into the bin - and also tells Municipality of Pontiac residents when their first recycling pickup will be.

First date

When I telephoned the municipal offices on Jan. 11, I was told Municipality of Pontiac residents' first date with recycling will be during the week of Jan. 29 to Feb. 2.

Note: there will be no regular garbage pickup that week. This means you need to ensure your ordinary refuse is stored safely and securely for an extra week.

Second date with recycling

The second recycling pickup date is the week of Feb. 26 to March 2. Again, no regular garbage will be picked up.

What's key?

Do not throw waste into the bins. Only recyclable materials, please.

Cost of our waste

First: the North Onslow dump will close Dec. 31, 2007. Yes, folks: this year. So, we need to change our garbage ways, now.

Second: hauling garbage costs big bucks. Last week, I quoted Director-General Sylvain Bertrand. Just in case you missed it, regarding current costs (which will only rise), he said, "We have to pay for the machine at the North Onslow dump to dig and to spread sand over the garbage - and we pay for a person at the dump. The municipality pays \$65 per



Katharine Fletcher

tonne of garbage hauled. "If the people recycle more, the cost of managing regular garbage decreases. The province has set a target to reduce regular garbage by 65 per cent. We hope to meet this goal."

Recycling at last?

My municipality's recycling initiative is a good one. However, whether you live in the MRC des Collines de l'Outaouais or Pontiac MRC, no one wants mega dumps in the Pontiac and Outaouais region. We don't want unsightly and environmentally questionable in-trench dumps, either.

So, what to do? Get on the recycling bandwagon! Reduce the amount of garbage to be landfilled. This means you. This means now.

Recycling: what goes in...

In 2006, all Municipality of Pontiac residents received a brochure explaining the use of the bins. Along with it was a long sheet of paper itemizing what can be thrown into them. It lists both acceptable and non-acceptable paper, cardboard, glass, plastic and metal.

If you cannot find the brochure and sheets, and if the material the municipality sends you next week is unclear, contact the Municipal offices at 819-455-2401. Hours: Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Municipality of Pontiac employees: better service please!

If you want to pick up a brochure, my advice is to telephone and ask for it to be mailed to you - don't drive there

to pick them up, like I did before writing last week's column. Why? Unfortunately, not all employees are informed about the recycling initiative. This is disgraceful.

Although Manon Papillon was extremely helpful on the telephone, when I drove to the municipal office to pick up the brochure and list she confirmed were available, she was on lunch. That's fine, but another employee said I was mistaken and that there were no such brochures and information sheets. She said I'd have to wait for Papillon to return from lunch. As a self-employed person, I didn't have time to wait and neither will you.

Solution: skip the aggravation. Do what I did! Call, don't visit. Ask for pertinent information to be mailed to you. That way, you save your time and fuel - not to mention your temper.

Tip to the Municipality of Pontiac: if you want residents to work with recycling, please ensure all of your well-paid employees know what's going on and what information exists to help residents understand the change in garbage pickup and goals. You want our money so give us the support we need. We pay your salaries. We need service and that means good, timely information.

Major problem? Bin placement!

Last week, I spoke to Bertrand about where to place the bins, which are too big to fit in the trunk of a car - even if we could lift them there (or onto a flatbed truck) when they're full. So we cannot keep ours in the garage and drive it to the Steele Line. Bins are awkward and

heavy when empty - and I can only imagine how impossible they'll be to haul down my 100-metre (300-foot) gravel laneway when full.

Bertrand suggested the bins should be left at the end of the driveway and that we should drive our recyclables to the bins. (Note to self: don't do this in a gale as paper will go everywhere... which of course we'll all pick up, correct?). He also suggested that citizens build a platform sheltered by a wall to house the bin next to the road.

Although Eric and I could accomplish this construction, the placement of the actual bin is a problem for us - and for everyone, I anticipate.

Location will be particularly troublesome in winter. Bins cannot be placed at the road's edge as the snowplow will scrape it into the ditch. I can just see it being tossed through my fence as the plow speeds past. Moreover, with the high piles of snow at the intersection of lanes and roads, well: you tell me! Where I should put this huge bin?

Get on board! Let's work out the kinks. Okay, so the bins and plans don't seem perfect. However, count me in with the recycling initiative. I'm supportive. How about you?

And if you're not in the Municipality of Pontiac, don't think this initiative doesn't apply to you. Keep informed of our progress here. Learn from us - and improve and adapt upon how we manage!

Katharine Fletcher is a freelance writer, photographer and author based north of Quyon. Contact her at chesley@allstream.net.

A safer road in Portage

Dear Editor,

With all the nasty accidents which have occurred at Portage du Fort at the first left hand turn while coming from the Ontario side (the location of the fuel truck spill a year or two ago), the only response has been to post a new reduced speed limit.

What is the Department of Highways thinking?

If you head into that turn on a foggy night when it's a little wet the stone wall at that turn becomes a black hole which simply cannot be properly assessed. What is required is several large yellow dangerous turn indicator arrows in both directions which would be recognized by a driver coming from either province.

There are plenty of this type of indicator arrows on Storyland hill within a few kilometres of this dangerous turn and even though the last accident of the fuel truck was a potential environmental disaster, we still have no easy way to see, turn arrows. Would this not make the corner far less dangerous, at very little cost? Please ask the department of highways to look into this, or provide an intelligent response as to why it has not already been done.

Bernard G. More
Shawville

MPP's salary increase doesn't reflect reality

Dear Editor,

Members of the Ontario Legislature who are struggling financially should take a page from the province's farmers who are forced to take off-farm jobs to make ends meet, says Grant Robertson, National Farmers Union Board member for Ontario.

"If politicians can't make enough from their full-time work as elected representatives, perhaps it's time for them to take on off-Queen's Park job to supplement their income," said Robertson. "Farmers have continually demanded that governments implement long-term solutions to the farm income crisis so family farmers are not forced to take two or sometimes three off-farm jobs to keep their operations afloat. But the only 'income deficiency' that politicians seem to care about is their own paycheck."

Robertson, who farms near Paisley, Ont., says the proposed raise to MPP salaries is a "slap in the face" to the province's financially hard-pressed farmers. Farm incomes in Ontario are at near-record lows, and farmers are increasingly relying on debt financing and off-farm income to compensate. Farm debt in Ontario grew from \$4.8 billion in 1981 to \$12.1 billion in 2004 and continues to grow. Calls for a Risk Management Plan (RMP) from a wide range of farm groups have fallen on deaf ears in Queen's Park.

"Politicians have failed to stem the decline of rural Ontario," added Robertson. "Yet they seem to think their efforts should be rewarded with a pay hike. Food is a basic necessity, and farmers are essential to the economy, yet little action has been taken. The NFU challenges all MPPs, particularly the Minister of Agriculture and those representing rural ridings, to forgo any raise until Ontario implements realistic solutions to stop the bleeding in farm incomes."

Robertson concluded that despite all the evidence of the farm income crisis, farmers are often lectured about how support programs may be misused on "non-essential" items. "I think the people of Ontario should be concerned that any MPP pay raise may be misused for luxury items like vacations and new cars," he said. "MPPs should be required to submit receipts for all spending related to this government income program."

Dave Mackay, President
Renfrew County Local
National Farmers Union

Cpl Kenneth H. Young CD (Ret'd.)
Nanaimo, B.C.



25 Years Ago

January 20, 1982

SHAWVILLE LANDMARK DEMOLISHED: In 1888 Mr Chris Caldwell built the first Pontiac House in the middle of Shawville. It had sample rooms for travelling salesmen and a stagecoach to bring them in, and when the railroad came to Shawville the Pontiac House had a private coach to connect with incoming and outgoing trains. The Pontiac House burned down in 1924 and was rebuilt the following year. The date 1925 was cut into the stone high over the elegant front entrance and half the population of Shawville stood along the north side of Main Street last Monday morning watching as smoke and flames engulfed that historic plaque. When the fire was over, nothing remained of the Pontiac House but its triple-brick exterior and memories. The latest owners were Donald Hodgins and Bryan Murray. Don was on hand to witness the tragedy. Bryan was away on his NHL coaching duties with the Washington Capitals.

Starting shortly after 9 a.m. it took about an hour for the fire to spread from the small upstairs room where it seemed to have started to consume the entire contents of the establishment.

Acting Fire Chief Roy Thomas and Fire Chief Bill Pirie demonstrated great calm and leadership as they directed the Shawville Fire Brigade into action. Their training and organized cooperation was obvious as each man performed his particular part of the operation. The main objective was to prevent the out-pourings of flame and black cinders from overtaking the town.

FIRST BABY OF THE YEAR: Mr. and Mrs. Neil Farrell of Portage du Fort are the proud parents of the first baby to be born this year at the Pontiac Community Hospital. Dawn Kathleen, a beautiful daughter was born

Sunday, Jan. 10 at 2: 28 at a weight of 7 lb. 11 oz. to parents Wendy Farrell (nee Fletcher) and Neil Farrell.

50 Years Ago

January 17, 1957

IT'S COLD OUTSIDE: No school today, hurray, hurray! But this is the only good news we can credit to the cold weather and that wouldn't have happened except for a small break-down in the heating system at the Victoria Avenue School in Shawville. Even the best of heating systems can develop a flaw as was discovered at the Printshop at 4 a.m. on the coldest night in Canada's history. Reports of temperatures down as low as 60 below from reliable sources and even lower from known exaggerators.

Tuesday morning Laird Murray walked to work along the south side of King street and reported a temperature reading of 15 below outside Shawville Bakery while his brother Barry walked to work along the north side of King Street and reported a temperature reading of 50 below outside Hobbs' Mill. There's a moral here somewhere about staying on the sunny side of the street.

75 Years Ago

January 21, 1932

LOCAL NEWS: Municipal elections for three councillors in several of the County corporations came off on Monday of this week. In Clarendon, and Shawville the retiring councillors were re-elected by substantial majorities. Mr. J. M. Argue heads the Shawville poll, while in Clarendon, Mr. Ira Hanna tops the list in a field of 12.

Mr. Gordon Richardson, of Radford, while in Montreal last week, presented a petition, signed by a number of farmers

of this district to the Dawes (Black Horse) Brewing Co., to induce them to place one of their high-class black F rcheron stallions in this district next summer. Mr. Richardson reports that the interview was most encouraging.

Mr. Sam Lumsden, agent and automobile dealer was drowned in Chats Lake on Tuesday evening of last week, when he and his companion Mr. Dennis Brennan, apparently lost their bearing on the river when returning from Quyon to Arnprior and drove their car into open water near the mouth of the Quyon River. Brennan succeeded in escaping from the car as it plunged to the bottom but Mr. Lumsden was carried down with the car. Early Wednesday morning the car was dragged to shore, but the body of Mr. Lumsden was not located, till the following Saturday afternoon.

100 Years Ago

January 17, 1907

LOCAL NEWS: A big sleigh-load of Elmside young people visited the rink here Monday evening.

On the 5-cent tale at W.A. Hodgins' Sale Jan. 21 - 26 will be found - bowls, mugs, salt stands, peppers, knives, towels, handkerchiefs, etc., worth double the money.

Amongst those who cast their votes on Monday were four ladies. It was the first time in the history of the town, so far as we are aware, that the ladies exercised the privilege, and the four referred to all voted for waterworks. The ladies evidently know full well what the installation of a water system means to them in the way of saving labor, comfort and convenience.

Mr. Chas. Taber, of Billerica section, who had several ribs fractured as the result of an accident several weeks ago, is on the road to recovery.

Letters to the Editor

THE EQUITY welcomes letters to the editor from our readers. Short letters are more likely to be chosen for publication, but the use of any material is at the discretion of the editor. The editor reserves the right to edit letters to meet space requirements, for clarity, or to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. E-mail letters are accepted at news@theequity.ca and must bear the complete name, address and daytime phone number of the writer. The address and phone number will not be printed. Letters published do not necessarily reflect the editorial policies of THE EQUITY.

Politique nationale de la ruralité 2007-2014

CAMPBELL'S BAY • Suite au lancement de la Politique nationale de la ruralité effectuée par le premier ministre du Québec, M. Jean Charest, et la ministre des Affaires municipales et des Régions, Mme Nathalie Normandeau, la députée de Pontiac, Mme Charlotte L'Écuyer, voit dans cette politique une ère nouvelle de partenariat avec les élus municipaux.

La Politique nationale de la ruralité met à la disposition des communautés rurales des moyens souples et adaptés d'interventions totalisant 280 M\$ dont 238 M\$ entièrement gérés par les MRC. Elle vise à assurer le développement des communautés rurales et l'occupation dynamique du territoire québécois en misant sur leur diversité et leurs particularités. Elle retient la MRC comme territoire d'intervention d'appartenance et de prise de décision. Par cette politique, le gouvernement du Québec marque sa détermination d'assurer l'avenir des municipalités du Québec et l'occupation dynamique du territoire québécois, a déclaré Mme L'Écuyer.

280 M\$ en mesures concrètes
Reposant d'abord et avant tout sur la force innovatrice du Québec rural, la nouvelle politique met à la disposition des communautés rurales des moyens financiers concrets, souples et adaptés dès 2007, dont :

- 213 M\$ pour la deuxième génération des pactes ruraux avec les MRC;
- 25,3 M\$ pour le réseau d'agents de développement rural oeuvrant sur le terri-

toire; • 15,5 M\$ pour 25 projets concrets de laboratoires ruraux dans des champs d'activités porteurs d'avenir (alternatives énergétiques, accueil et intégration des nouveaux arrivants, économies et services de proximité, exploitation des ressources naturelles, santé, éducation, etc.);

• 8,6 M\$ pour la création d'un Fonds d'initiative pour l'avenir rural afin d'explorer des initiatives à fort potentiel de développement. Huit créneaux seront ciblés : le milieu rural comme producteur d'énergie, la multifonctionnalité en milieu rural, la mise en marché des produits de spécialité, le branchement Internet et la téléphonie cellulaire, le maintien et la viabilité des écoles en milieu rural, l'habitation comme outil de développement, la dimension internationale et l'accompagnement de l'administration gouvernementale;

• 12 M\$ pour la création de produits originaux ou produits de spécialité en milieu rural : (agroalimentaire, produits forestiers non ligneux, culture, patrimoine, produits artisanaux);

• 5,6 M\$ sur une période de sept ans pour soutenir l'action de Solidarité rurale du Québec, l'instance conseil en matière de développement rural reconnu par le gouvernement du Québec.

Le gouvernement introduit également dans la politique une clause de modulation des politiques et programmes gouvernementaux afin de tenir compte des spécificités des territoires ruraux lors de la préparation de politiques



CHARLOTTE L'ÉCUYER

ou de programmes. Les efforts de modulation seront surtout concentrés dans les secteurs névralgiques suivants : l'habitation, les infrastructures et services municipaux, la desserte territoriale des services publics notamment en matière de garderie et de formation et la gestion du territoire.

Une politique en vigueur dès le 1er avril 2007

Le gouvernement du Québec et les partenaires de la ruralité ont réitéré leur volonté de voir les mesures de la politique se concrétiser le plus rapidement possible sur le terrain, particulièrement en ce qui concerne la signature des protocoles d'entente avec les pactes ruraux. La ministre des Affaires municipales et des Régions assurera la signature de ces nouveaux protocoles avec chacune des MRC d'ici la fin de mars 2007 afin de les rendre opérationnels dès le début de la prochaine année financière. Nous sommes fiers de reconnaître les collectivités rurales comme partenaires essentiels de notre développement, car il s'agit d'une force pour tout le Québec, a conclu la députée de Pontiac, Mme Charlotte L'Écuyer.

Rapport du Forestier en chef en Outaouais

Des conséquences dramatique

QUÉBEC • Le député de Pointe-aux-Trembles et chef de l'Opposition officielle, André Boisclair, et le député de Verchères et porte-parole en matière d'environnement, de faune et de parcs et responsable politique de la région de l'Outaouais, Stéphane Bergeron, s'inquiètent des conséquences de la baisse de 32 per centum de

la possibilité forestière annoncée par le Forestier en chef pour 2008-2013 dans la région de l'Outaouais et estime qu'un plan d'aide d'urgence est nécessaire pour les travailleurs du secteur feuillu.

« Le gouvernement libéral n'a cessé d'accumuler les erreurs au cours des derniers mois dans la ges-

tion du virage forestier. Après trois plans d'aide ratés, le quatrième s'annonce tout aussi inutile pour contrer la crise qui sévit actuellement, notamment pour les entreprises oeuvrant dans la transformation du feuillu.

Depuis le 1er avril 2005, 600 emplois directs se sont perdus en Outaouais, a

dénoncé le chef de l'opposition officielle, M. Boisclair, a pu constater sur le terrain les impacts dramatiques des fermetures d'usines sur les communautés locales de l'Outaouais. En effet, il a profité de sa tournée dans la région pour rencontrer le directeur et un représentant des travailleurs de l'usine Profolia de Commonwealth Plywood, en arrêt de travail temporaire. La municipalité de Denholm, où se situe l'u-

sine de Commonwealth Plywood, est une ville monoindustrielle de 554 habitants. « La problématique particulière des entreprises oeuvrant dans le secteur feuillu nécessite des mesures particulières. Encore une fois, le ministre des Ressources naturelles a manqué de leadership en ne présentant pas un plan d'aide adapté au secteur feuillu », a conclu le chef de l'opposition officielle.

Pour avoir l'heure juste lors de mauvaises conditions climatiques

PONTIAC • Avec l'arrivée de l'hiver, la direction de la Commission scolaire des Hauts-Bois-de-l'Outaouais désire rappeler aux parents l'importance de s'y tenir les différentes stations de radio locales de chaque secteur et les chaînes nationales de télévision (RDI, TVA et TQS) pour savoir rapidement si ses établissements sont fermés ou demeurent ouverts. L'information sera également accessible sur le site Internet de la commission scolaire.

Mentionnons que deux critères permettent d'orienter la décision de fermer ou de laisser les écoles ouvertes en cas d'intempéries: la condition des routes et une tem-

pérature extrême (-35 degrés Celsius). Un processus rigoureux de vérification et de consultation auprès de tous les partenaires est déclenché. Ce processus vise un seul objectif : assurer la sécurité des élèves sur tout notre territoire. Dès les premières heures du matin, des informations sont prises sur une base régulière afin de vérifier l'évolution des conditions climatiques. On fait également appel à certains intervenants d'autres commissions scolaires de la région afin de connaître leur position.

À compter de 5h du matin, les transporteurs scolaires des secteurs touchés nous informent de la température ou de leurs observations sur l'état des routes dans le cas de verglas.

Un portrait complet et fidèle de la situation peut alors être tracé et les informations sont transmises à la directrice générale de la commission scolaire afin qu'elle soit en mesure de

prendre la décision la plus appropriée.

Lorsque la fermeture d'une ou de plusieurs écoles s'avère nécessaire, le coordonnateur du service de l'information et des communications, ou la directrice générale elle-même, communique avec les médias au

plus tard à 6h du matin. Ces derniers sont donc en mesure de diffuser rapidement la nouvelle.

Si les écoles demeurent ouvertes, aucune information ne sera véhiculée.

Il n'est donc pas nécessaire de communiquer avec les médias.

La SQ invitent les usagers à redoubler de prudence sur la route

QUÉBEC • En prévision des nombreux déplacements de la période des fêtes, le ministère des Transports et la Sûreté du Québec invitent les conducteurs à redoubler de prudence sur la route. Ils leur rappellent qu'au début de l'hiver tous les usagers de la route doivent se familiariser de nouveau avec les techniques de conduite hivernale et réduire leur vitesse.

Ainsi, malgré les températures plutôt douces des dernières semaines, l'hiver est à nos portes même s'il ne se pointe pas forcément le 21 décembre. En fait, il arrive toujours à l'improviste et il risque d'en surprendre plus d'un à l'occasion des nombreux déplacements des vacances de fin d'année.

Personne n'est à l'abri des caprices de l'hiver : la glace noire, la chaussée rendue glissante en raison des précipitations, la pluie verglaçante, les variations subites de la température de même que des conditions pouvant changer en quelques minutes et sur une distance d'à peine quelques kilomètres. Les automobilistes et les conducteurs de véhicules lourds sont également invités à partager la route et à faire preuve de patience à l'égard des équipes d'entretien, qui ont besoin d'espace et de temps pour accomplir leur travail.

Afin de sensibiliser les conducteurs à la prudence, le Ministère diffuse depuis les mois d'octobre des messages radiophoniques sous le thème C'est l'hiver, méfiez-vous... aussi de vous. Les messages radiophoniques mettent en scène deux personnages qui, à la manière des analystes sportifs et par analogie avec les comportements des joueurs de hockey et ceux des conducteurs, évoquent des situations susceptibles de les convaincre de la nécessité d'adapter leur conduite aux conditions routières hivernales.

Le message diffusé durant la période des fêtes invite les conducteurs à s'informer des conditions météorologiques et routières avant de prendre la route, et à redoubler de prudence à l'occasion de leurs déplacements. Ainsi, à l'occasion d'une tempête, il faut éviter de prendre la route à moins que ce ne soit vraiment nécessaire. Habituellement, à cette

période de l'année, la majorité des conducteurs prévoyants ont déjà chaussé leur véhicule de quatre bons pneus d'hiver. Avec la rigueur des hivers québécois, les pneus d'hiver présentent en effet des avantages indéniables sur le plan de la sécurité, comparativement à des pneus quatre saisons.

Les automobilistes prudents s'assurent de plus que leur réservoir à essence est toujours rempli au moins à la moitié et que leur véhicule est muni d'une petite trousse de secours comportant les éléments indispensables pour se réchauffer et pour demeurer bien visibles en cas de panne ou d'accident. De plus, même si ce n'est que pour parcourir une courte distance, toutes les surfaces vitrées du véhicule doivent être nettoyées. Il est également souhaitable de prendre soin de dégager le toit, le capot et les phares du véhicule. La visibilité en sera ainsi améliorée.

Le ministère des Transports et la Sûreté du Québec incitent donc les conducteurs à préparer adéquatement leur véhicule, à planifier leurs déplacements en communiquant notamment avec le service de renseignement, à adapter leur conduite aux conditions routières et, dans certains cas, à prévoir un temps de déplacement plus long et même à reporter ce déplacement. La population est aussi invitée à s'informer en écoutant les bulletins diffusés à Météo Média.

Transports Québec rend disponible de façon continue l'information sur les conditions routières sur son site Internet, à l'adresse suivante : www.inforoutiere.qc.ca et au 1 888 355-0511 ou *0511. Ce service de renseignements, accessible durant toute l'année, sept jours sur sept et 24 heures sur 24 permet également à la population de formuler ses plaintes et commentaires sur l'état du réseau routier.

Ainsi le Ministère invite tout particulièrement la population à lui signaler toute anomalie ou tout incident qui pourrait survenir sur le réseau routier en raison notamment des variations de température qui sont susceptibles d'influencer l'état de la chaussée en cette période de l'année.

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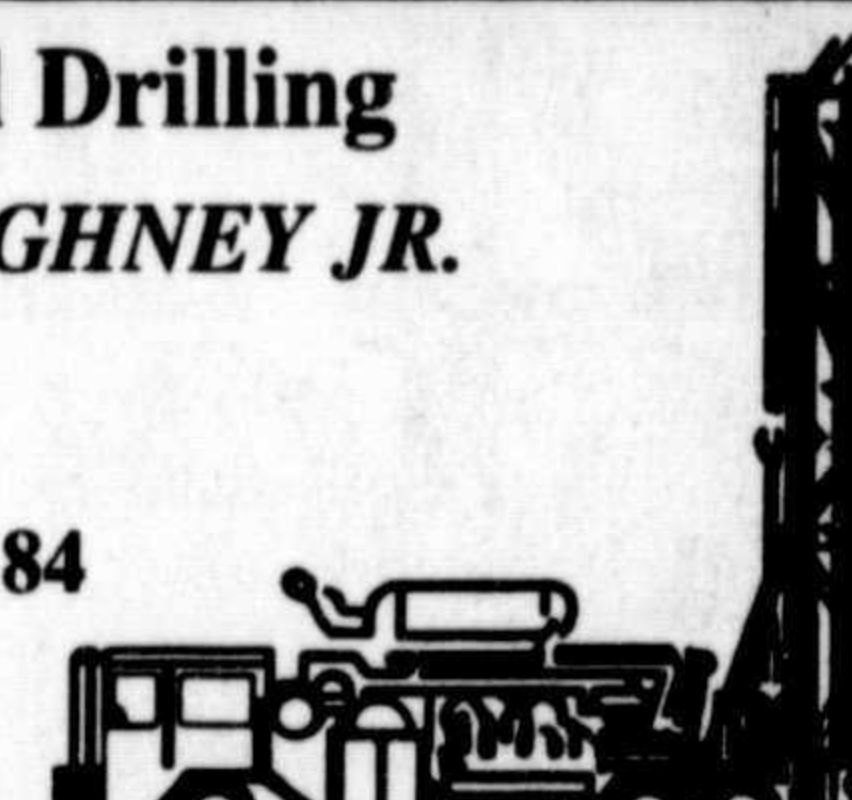
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Shawville curlers team with four-time champ

WILBUR MCLEAN

Equity Reporter
SHAWVILLE • Shawville curlers Steve Allen and Ricky Lee Allen have joined a team with four-time Québec champion Guy Hemmings for this year's provincial play-downs.

Outaouais qualifier which begin today and continues until Sunday at the Buckingham Curling Club. "Last summer Guy called me and asked me if we were interested in trying to curl with him," said Steve Allen. Joined by vice, Rick Westphal and spare, Louis Biron, the quintet have played in a couple of small

bonspiels this season but the regional playdowns will provide their first real test. Seven teams will compete in a triple-knockout format tournament, the winner of which will qualify for the provincials. Last year the Allen brothers along with Gary Harris and Dave Draper, all of Shawville, qualified as the

Outaouais representatives and played well at the provincial championships. The team finished in a tie for third place with six other teams involving them in a convoluted tiebreaker for the final playoff spot. They wound up finishing sixth and, now famously, the team led by Jean-Michel Menard, won the provincial champi-

onships and went on to become the first team from Québec to win the Brier. Hemmings is one of the most recognizable curlers in Canada. He represented Québec for four out of six years between 1998 and 2003 and became known as much for his skilled shot-making as his live personality.

His rinks twice finished as runners-up at the Brier. Since his last appearance at the 2003 Brier, Hemmings all but ceased curling competitively and instead took on roles as a curling commentator and an ambassador to the sport. "He just decided he wanted to give it a go this year," said Steve Allen.

Atom 'A's continue surge

WILBUR MCLEAN

Equity Reporter
PONTIAC • The Atom 'A' Shawville Pontiacs continued their late season surge with two road wins on the weekend.

goals. Nick Greenshields, Pirie and Gauthier all had assists. Gauthier tacked on an insurance marker with an assist by Pasch to finalize the game and the win for Shawville.

Bryce Atkinson's two unassisted third period goals put the game on ice. The Pontiacs took a second period lead on Sunday with a goal by Atkinson, assisted by Huckabone, however, the Fort Coulonge Ducks tied the game up early in the third, finishing the game with a 1-1 draw.

OVERTIME | LUKE MURPHY Shawville attempts to become Hockeyville



PONTIAC • Hockeyville is back - and this time, it's personal. That's right folks. The town of Shawville once again is counting its chips, rounding up its hockey fanatics and making its bid to be the Kraft Hockeyville 2007 victor.

For a second consecutive year, CBC Television and Kraft Canada have united to form the contest Kraft Hockeyville - giving the winning Canadian community a chance to host NHL players in on-ice action, receive arena upgrades, and own the title of Kraft Hockeyville 2007. And for the second consecutive year, the town of Shawville is crafting their proposal for the title.

When I first heard about this contest last year, I thought to myself, "Shawville is the perfect town for this accolade." Of course, being from town, my opinion is a little biased. You see, I was born and raised here, so I know what hockey means to the people of this community.

On Saturday, the Pontiacs travelled to Maniwaki where they defeated the Forestiers 5-3 before visiting Fort Coulonge on Sunday to top-ple the Draveurs, 5-1.

Duggan, Frobel goals lead Novice 'B' charge
 The Novice 'B' Shawville Pontiacs won their sixth game of the season Sunday morning 4-2 over the Gatineau Olympiques.

The defensive stalwarts of the Bantam 'B' Shawville Pontiacs continued to lead the team as they won and tied a game on the weekend. On Saturday the Pontiacs visited Fort Coulonge to take on the Draveurs.

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The team's scoring surge was led with a hat trick by first year novice player, Austin Duggan, and a crowd-igniting goal by Lauryn Frobel, the first of her young hockey career.

The win pushes the Pontiacs' record to 6-4-0 for the year and solidifies the team's position in the top half of the Outaouais Novice 'B' standings.

On Saturday the Pontiacs visited Fort Coulonge to take on the Draveurs. An early goal by Brett Yach gave the lead to Shawville but the Draveurs responded right back.

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The Pontiacs' record now stands at 5-9-2 with all five wins coming since Dec. 23. Against Maniwaki, Ty Wilson and Ben Hornier started the game off on the right foot with first period goals, leading the Pontiacs a 2-1 lead.

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Jonathan Hickey assisted on Hornier's goal. Alexis Gauthier's unassisted second period goal extended the Pontiacs' lead to 3-1 and third frame markers by Hornier and Nathan Graham finished the game well for the Atom 'A's.

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In goal, Jaret Peck played exceptionally in repelling the Maniwaki comeback attempts. The Shawville-based squad carried their momentum well into Sunday.

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Goals by Carter Pirie and Gauthier handed the Pontiacs a 2-1 lead after one. Danny Pasch assisted on both goals.

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Dillon Harrison and Wilson doubled the Pontiacs' scoring with second frame

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Thurs., Jan. 25 - 7 p.m. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Service at St. Andrew's United Church, Campbell's Bay, Speaker, Rev. John Stopa, Everyone welcome. bj17

Thurs. to Sun. Feb. 1st to 4th - Pontiac National Midget Hockey Tournament contact Tim Powell 819-647-2372. 2bj17

Feb. 10 - Valentine's Dinner & Dance, Royal Canadian Legion Br. 231, Quyon. Feb. 10, 2007. Everybody welcome. Roast beef dinner at 6 p.m., Live entertainment with Tryple Play to follow. Advance tickets \$10 each, \$12.50 at the door. Info Dean 819-458-1239. Del 819-458-1644. Remember Bonspiel March 10. 2bj17

Sat, Jan. 27 - PHS Class of 1996 10-year high school reunion. Students, teachers and friends invited in Ottawa. Please call Lana for information. 613-697-6697. xtcj25

Fri., Feb. 9 - 8 p.m., Harmonic Distortion is entered in a battle of the bands at Café Dekup, 221 Rideau, Ottawa. Come show your hand to get them through to the next round. Ages 19+, \$12.00 in advance only. Call evenings Cameron 647-5643 or Adrienne 647-2161. x4j31

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MISCELLANEOUS

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Pool table. Solid maple, 1" slate, with accessories. Never used. Cost \$4,800. Sell \$2,300. Delivery Possible inc.: 514-745-6536. qj17

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Campbell's Bay - 1 bedroom apartment utilities, stove and fridge included \$425 per month 819-647-2967. otc

Campbell's Bay - 2 bedroom apartment \$475 per month utilities not included 819-647-2967. otc

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Quyon - Room for rent, Hwy. 148 apply to Box "F" THE EQUITY, 133 Centre St., Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0. xtc

Quyon - Available April 1st 2007, 3 bedroom apartment \$500 per month, 2 bedroom apartment \$450 per month. References required. Pager 613-274-1548. 2bj24

Shawville - 2 bedroom apartment for rent 647-3256. otc

Shawville - 2 bedroom apartment, Elizabeth Court, Shaw St. 819-648-2222. otc

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DEATH

Lucas, Lynda Mary - Passed away peacefully at Medex Nursing Home in Ottawa on December 30, 2006 in her 97th year. Born in Beechgrove, Quebec and predeceased by her parents Truman and Florence Lynch. Beloved wife of the late Arthur Lucas. Dear mother of Lorna (John) Smart, Shirley (the late Leslie) Palmer and Brenda (Tony) Reshaur. Grandmother of Ronald (Francine), Randy (Vanessa) Smart, Patricia and Michael Palmer, Nigel Page and Nicole (Cam) Burns. Great-grandmother of Tyler, Conor, Matthew and Grace Smart, Andrew, Alex and Anthony Burns. Pre-deceased by infant son Raymond Arthur and brother Flying Officer R.C.A.F. Raymond (Marjorie) Lynch. Funeral was held from W. J. Hayes & Sons Funeral Home to the Shawville United Church on January 3, 2007. Interment Maple Grove Cemetery. Special thanks to Rev. Paula Mullin, Rev. Shaun Yaskiw, Rev. Leslie Grant and the Shawville United Church Ladies of the U.C.W., and to the Pallbearers - Gerald Dagg, Brian Tubman, Robert Lucas, Michael Palmer, Ronald and Randy Smart. Special thoughts were given by Patricia and Ronald of their grandmother.

Proulx, Jacqueline - (née Chartrand) On January 3, 2007 after a courageous battle, Jacqueline Proulx, succumbed to her illness surrounded by her loving family. Predeceased by her beloved husband Richard, and son, Roger. Loving mother to Jeanne (Gerard Aubin), Zenon (Diane Cheney), Nicole (Norman Beaujolin), Allan (Diane Giroux), Denis, Robert (Natalie Lamirande), Terry (Laura Stewart), Tammy and Nancy (James Rean). Loved and respected by 22 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by siblings and friends. In memoriam donations to the Pontiac Community Hospital Foundation would be greatly appreciated.

Strutt, Fern - On December 18th, 2006, Fern Strutt passed away at the Pontiac Reception Centre with family by her side. She was predeceased by her beloved husband Cliffie in 1993 after 55 years of marriage. Loving mother of Betty (late Stu Scullion), Cantley; Beverley (Elwyn Risto), Nepean; Ron (Ruth), Shawville and dear grandmother of Jeffrey Scullion, Hull. Born Nov. 16th, 1914, the third eldest of 14 children of Lila Maitland and John Wickens. Fern is survived by Lillian Laurie, Granby; Peggy (Clifton Thomas) Pembroke; Ted (Roberta), Nelson, BC; and Carmen (Margaret), Shawville. She was predeceased by Lottie Horner, Melvin, Herbert (WW II), Roley, Keith, Helen Smith, Douglas, Dorothy and Ruth Wickens. She is survived by in-laws, Art and Gwenyth Strutt, Revella and Marie Wickens, and Walter Smith. Fern graduated from Macdonald College in 1933 and taught for more than 30 years in elementary schools in Yarm, Radford, Stark's Corners and Shawville Elementary, influencing many young lives. The funeral service was held at the Shawville United Church on Dec. 21, 2006 with interment in Maple Grove Cemetery. Pallbearers were Hawley Wickens, Brent Wickens, Tim Wickens, Roley Thomas, Paul Smith and Jeff Tanner. Honorary Pallbearers were Chris Judd and Bruce Schock. Fern will be truly missed by her family and will be fondly remembered by many who came in contact with her during her long and productive life.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Canada Province of Quebec Superior Court District of Pontiac (Civil Chamber) No: 555-17-000006-061 Larry Smiley, Plaintiff

-vs- Carolyn E. Salva, Defendant Sale by Auction of Immovables (Notice according to Section 900 C.c.p.)

Take Notice that Mr. Patrice Paradis of the firm Paradis, Montpetit, bailiffs, was named by the Court according to a judgment rendered on November 17, 2006 by the Honourable Justice Louis-Philippe Landry, J.C.S., in order to proceed to the sale by auction of the following immovable properties: Immovable 1 Description

"An immovable property situated in the Township of Clarendon; County of Pontiac, known and described as being parts of lots number Twenty-eight A (Pt 28A) and Twenty-eight B (Pt 28B), RANGE-Three (R. III); according to the Official Plan and Book of Reference of the Township of Clarendon, Pontiac Registry Division, Save and except all those portions of the said lots lying to the South of the right of way of the Canadian National Railway, the property hereby sold containing One hundred and fifty acres of land, more or less, and being composed of all those portions of the said lots lying North of the Canadian National Railway and bounded as follows: To the South by the Canadian National Railway; to the West by the lands of the Township of Litchfield; to the North by the lands of the Fourth Range of the said Township of Clarendon; and to the East by lot number twenty-seven B and part of lot number twenty-seven A in said Third Range; With all buildings thereon erected, members and appurtenances, including a barn or stable and shed, the whole being situated on R.R. No. 2, Starks Corner; Shawville, Province of Quebec. Save and except, thereout and therefrom, the following part of said lot number: Twenty-eight B (Pt. 28B), with dwelling house thereon, expressly reserved in full ownership, by Harold E. Hodgins at in virtue of the deed of acquisition of the Vendor hereinafter mentioned and registered at the Pontiac Registry Division under number 88 797; and being more particularly described as follows: Part of said lot number Twenty-eight B (Pt. 28B) in the Third Range (R. III), according to the Official Plan and Book of Reference of the said Township of Clarendon; and particularly described as follows: Commencing at a certain point on the South side of the public road crossing the said lot at a distance of Two hundred and fifty-five feet (255') measured Easterly along the South side of the said public road from the line between the Townships of Clarendon and Litchfield; Thence Easterly along the South side of said public road a distance of Two hundred feet (200'); Thence Southerly a distance of Fifty feet (50'); Thence South-Westerly a distance One hundred and fifteen feet (115'); Thence Westerly a distance of One hundred and eleven feet (111'); Then Northerly a distance of One hundred and sixty-four feet (164') to the point of commencement; distances being in English measure, more or less, and the said reserved part being bounded as follows: on the North by the said public road; on the East, South and West by other parts of said lot number Twenty-eight B (Pt. 28B) hereby sold; together with the dwelling house thereon erected and all members and appurtenances thereunto belonging. (Also combined grainery, shed and garage thereon). The whole with and subject to all servitudes, active and passive, apparent and unapparent, affecting the said immovable property."

Immovable 2 Description "An immovable property situated in the Township of Clarendon, known and described as being Lot Number Twenty-one E (Lot # 21E), Range Three (R. III), according to the Official Plan and Book of Reference of the Township of Clarendon, Pontiac Registry Division, Save and except all those portions of the said lots lying to the South of the right of way of the Canadian National Railway, the property hereby sold containing One hundred and fifty acres of land, more or less, and being composed of all those portions of the said lots lying North of the Canadian National Railway and bounded as follows: To the South by the Canadian National Railway; to the West by the lands of the Township of Litchfield; to the North by the lands of the Fourth Range of the said Township of Clarendon; and to the East by lot number twenty-seven B and part of lot number twenty-seven A in said Third Range; With all buildings thereon erected, members and appurtenances, including a barn or stable and shed, the whole being situated on R.R. No. 2, Starks Corner; Shawville, Province of Quebec. Save and except, thereout and therefrom, the following part of said lot number: Twenty-eight B (Pt. 28B), with dwelling house thereon, expressly reserved in full ownership, by Harold E. Hodgins at in virtue of the deed of acquisition of the Vendor hereinafter mentioned and registered at the Pontiac Registry Division under number 88 797; and being more particularly described as follows: Part of said lot number Twenty-eight B (Pt. 28B) in the Third Range (R. III), according to the Official Plan and Book of Reference of the said Township of Clarendon; and particularly described as follows: Commencing at a certain point on the South side of the public road crossing the said lot at a distance of Two hundred and fifty-five feet (255') measured Easterly along the South side of the said public road from the line between the Townships of Clarendon and Litchfield; Thence Easterly along the South side of said public road a distance of Two hundred feet (200'); Thence Southerly a distance of Fifty feet (50'); Thence South-Westerly a distance One hundred and fifteen feet (115'); Thence Westerly a distance of One hundred and eleven feet (111'); Then Northerly a distance of One hundred and sixty-four feet (164') to the point of commencement; distances being in English measure, more or less, and the said reserved part being bounded as follows: on the North by the said public road; on the East, South and West by other parts of said lot number Twenty-eight B (Pt. 28B) hereby sold; together with the dwelling house thereon erected and all members and appurtenances thereunto belonging. (Also combined grainery, shed and garage thereon). The whole with and subject to all servitudes, active and passive, apparent and unapparent, affecting the said immovable property."

The two (2) different sales will be conducted according to the judgment rendered by the court on November 17, 2006 that has set the modalities of the sales as follows: Orders the sale of the said immovable properties by means of auction; Orders the bailiffs Paradis, Montpetit to proceed to the sale; Sets the starting price of adjudication of the following immovable properties to: Immovable 1: 52 823 \$ Immovable 2: 41 107 \$ Orders that the sale of each immovable be conducted separately and be performed as follows:

- a) the adjudication price must pay by certified cheque or money order; b) any amount above the said price plus all the applicable taxes must be paid in cash or by certified cheque or money order to "Paradis, Montpetit in trust" at the latest five (5) days later than the sale, at which date interest will commence; c) notwithstanding Section 1709 C.c.q., the Plaintiff can be adjudicator, the rules relative to the sale by auction following articles 683 to 697 and 701 to 732 of the Code of Civil Procedure will apply if applicable; if he is the adjudicator, the Plaintiff will not be obliged to pay the adjudication price by certified cheque or money order up to the amount that is owed to him according to the judgment on the present motion; d) the sale as well as the collocation will be done by the designated person, namely Patrice Paradis of the firm Paradis, Montpetit, bailiffs; e) the sale will be done without any warranty in conformity with Section 1731 C.c.q. and the designated person to prepare the sale will act in the name of the Defendant and will not be held personally responsible to any legal obligations of the vendor; f) the adjudicator will verify at his costs the property titles, the municipal bylaws applicable to the immovable to know amongst other things the permitted uses of the immovable; g) the Plaintiff and/or the designated person will not be forced to give other titles than those already in their possession nor will they be held to deposit a location certificate; h) the adjudicator will pay the fees related to the sale, the surveyor's fees, the mutations rights, the fees to have the deed of sale registered, any cancellation of rights as well as an additional copy of the deed of sale for the Plaintiff, all the usual adjustments for property taxes will be done at the date of sale; The reading of the modalities of the sale will be made at the opening of the sale, these modalities being part of the

PUBLIC NOTICE

according to the Official Plan and Book of Reference of the Township of Clarendon, Pontiac Registry Division, Save and except all those portions of the said lot described as follows: The part described as Lot 21E-1, Range 3, Township of Clarendon; The Part containing one half acre, in the Southwest corner of said lot, described in a Deed of Sale by John A. Dean to Lennis O. Dean, executed before Mre Harland C. Rowat. Notary, on April 21st, 1947, under number 7 391 of his minutes, and registered on the 14th of May 1947 under number 52,952, and described as follows:

All that parcel or tract of land lying and situate in the Township of Clarendon known and designated as part of lot number Twenty-One E (Pt. Lot # 21E), in the Third Range (R.3), according to the Official Plan and Book of Reference for the Township of Clarendon, measuring one hundred and five feet in width from East to West by two hundred and ten feet in depth from North to South and bounded as follows: on the South by the Public Road known as "Stony Battery" on the West by the Side Road between Lots number Twenty-One E and Twenty-Two A in said Third Range and on the North and East by other parts of said Lot number Twenty-One E; The whole with members and appurtenances thereunto belonging and with and subject to all servitudes, active and passive, apparent and unapparent, affecting the said immovable property."

The two (2) different sales will be conducted according to the judgment rendered by the court on November 17, 2006 that has set the modalities of the sales as follows: Orders the sale of the said immovable properties by means of auction; Orders the bailiffs Paradis, Montpetit to proceed to the sale; Sets the starting price of adjudication of the following immovable properties to: Immovable 1: 52 823 \$ Immovable 2: 41 107 \$ Orders that the sale of each immovable be conducted separately and be performed as follows:

- a) the adjudication price must pay by certified cheque or money order; b) any amount above the said price plus all the applicable taxes must be paid in cash or by certified cheque or money order to "Paradis, Montpetit in trust" at the latest five (5) days later than the sale, at which date interest will commence; c) notwithstanding Section 1709 C.c.q., the Plaintiff can be adjudicator, the rules relative to the sale by auction following articles 683 to 697 and 701 to 732 of the Code of Civil Procedure will apply if applicable; if he is the adjudicator, the Plaintiff will not be obliged to pay the adjudication price by certified cheque or money order up to the amount that is owed to him according to the judgment on the present motion; d) the sale as well as the collocation will be done by the designated person, namely Patrice Paradis of the firm Paradis, Montpetit, bailiffs; e) the sale will be done without any warranty in conformity with Section 1731 C.c.q. and the designated person to prepare the sale will act in the name of the Defendant and will not be held personally responsible to any legal obligations of the vendor; f) the adjudicator will verify at his costs the property titles, the municipal bylaws applicable to the immovable to know amongst other things the permitted uses of the immovable; g) the Plaintiff and/or the designated person will not be forced to give other titles than those already in their possession nor will they be held to deposit a location certificate; h) the adjudicator will pay the fees related to the sale, the surveyor's fees, the mutations rights, the fees to have the deed of sale registered, any cancellation of rights as well as an additional copy of the deed of sale for the Plaintiff, all the usual adjustments for property taxes will be done at the date of sale; The reading of the modalities of the sale will be made at the opening of the sale, these modalities being part of the

PUBLIC NOTICE

general conditions of the sale. The visit of the immovable properties can be made at any time. The sale of the two (2) immovable properties will take place on February 23rd, 2007, at 10:00 AM, at the Campbell's Bay Courthouse, 30 John Street, 2nd floor. Gatineau, this 8th day of January, 2007 Patrice Paradis, bailiff Paradis, Montpetit, Beauchamp, bailiffs 15, Valcourt Street, suite 3, Gatineau (Quebec) J8T 8H1 (819) 643-1185 0-J-17

WANTED Anyone wanting to carpool from Quyon area to Ottawa (Richmond Rd. and Churchill Ave) 8 a.m. to 4 p.m, call 819-458-2366 or 613-729-4312. xtc Looking for bush to cut on shares 819-647-6975. 2bj17

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MEMORIAM

Beattie - In loving memory of my husband, Sherwood, who passed away January 19, 2003. Sunshine passes, shadows fall Love's remembrance outlasts all. Margaret

Berard - In loving memory of mother and grandmother Imelda, who passed away January 17, 2006. One year has passed, our hearts still sore, As time rolls on we miss you more, Your welcome smile and pleasant face, No one can fill that vacant place. Sadly missed Guy, Patti and the kids

Crawford - In loving memory of a dear father, father-in-law and grandfather, David, who passed away Jan. 18, 1987. Loving and kind in all his ways, Upright and just to the end of his days, Sincere and kind in heart and mind, What a beautiful memory he left behind. Sadly missed, Donna, Donnie, Tina, Dave, Shirley and John

Crawford - In loving memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, David, who died Jan. 18, 1987. Living our lives without you is the hardest part of all You did so many things for us Your heart was kind and true And when we needed someone We could always count on you. Sadly missed by Lynne, Bill, Marion

Dahms, Richard - In loving memory of a wonderful father, grandfather and great-grandfather who passed away on January 23, 2003. Sadly missed along life's way, Quietly remembered everyday, No longer in our life to share. But in our hearts he's always there. Remembered always, Elaine, Ron, Tracy Val, Gord, Blake

Hodgins - In loving memory of Doris, our dear wife, mother and nana who passed away January 19, 2006 We thought of you with love today But that was nothing new, We thought of you yesterday And the day before that too. They say time heals all sorrows And helps us to forget, But time has only shown us How much we miss you yet. With all our love, Mick, Anne, Ronnie, Donna, Jane, Ruth and families

MEMORIAM

Kennedy - In loving memory of a dear husband, father, and grandfather who passed away on January 15, 2006. Nothing can ever take away, The love a heart holds dear, Fond memories linger every day, Remembrance keeps him near. We miss you, Viola. Doug, Danea and Morgan Marion, Mike, Jessica and Christopher

Marykuca, Frances - We remember a special wife, mother and grandma who left us January 14, 2001. Our lives were shattered, six weeks ago, We miss you, Mom, You'll never know, How many tears, We since have shed, Remembering things, You said and did, We miss your smile, We miss your face, We miss your hugs, Your warm embrace, But most of all, We miss your love, You freely spread, Just like a dove, As time advances, Day by day, We cherish these memories, And we pray, For the Lord to guide us, To where you are, Be it very near or very far. Between now and then, Should time stand still, We love you, Mom, And always will. Husband, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren



Murray - In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother, Evelyn, who passed away January 21, 1997. Nothing can be more beautiful Than the memories we have of you To us you were someone special, And God must have thought so too. Always remembered by Lloyd and family

Tubman - In loving memory of Lavina, Jan. 18, 1950; David June 4, 1974. Golden memories will remain Until the day we meet again But as God calls us one by one. The chain will link again. Remembered by Theresa

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PHS cadet girls have reason to celebrate

SCOTT CLOUTHIER

Equity Reporter
SHAWVILLE • There were cheers and high-fives all around from the Pontiac High School cadet girls' basketball team after their game on Thursday — a game they lost.

Despite losing 36-27 to École secondaire Hermidas-Gamelin, there was cause to celebrate the team's closest game of a season in which the team has registered losses of 74-12, 51-37 and 40-11.

"Less than 10!" shouted one PHS Panther exuberantly after the end of the game.

Coach Eric Haanpaa noted his team's continued enthusiasm and optimism despite the number of one-sided games.

"We keep improving game after game," he said before Thursday's game. "There are high hopes to win one."

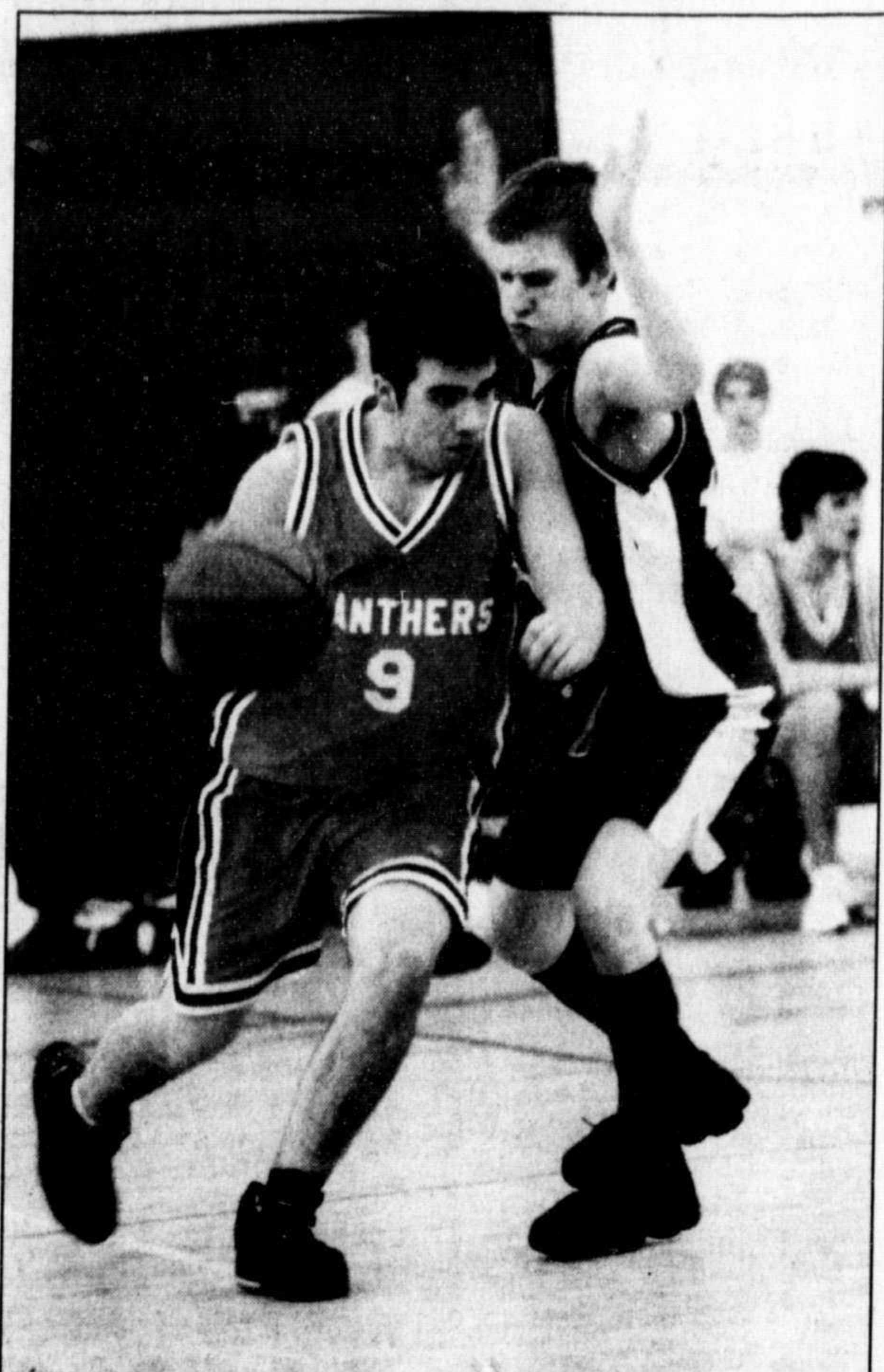
Haanpaa called the 51-37 loss suffered to École secondaire Mont-Bleu on Nov. 29 a moral victory for the team.

"I've never been so excited to lose a game."

The coach describes his team as "young, energetic and willing to learn."

A bit of quick learning helped the Panthers keep Thursday's game close.

After noticing the opposing team using a zone



Photos by Scott Clouthier, THE EQUITY

Pontiac High School's Cody Hodgins charges past an opposing Grande-Rivière player during game action on Thursday.

defence, which he believed to be against the rules in cadet basketball, coach Haanpaa used the break at half-time to give his team a

quick lesson on how to play and beat the zone 'D'.

The result was a number of turnovers caused by PHS as well as an improved offensive attack.

Mandy Favaro is the team's assistant coach and Paul McAveney is the trainer.

McAveney puts the team through conditioning drills at the start of each practice.

Juvenile boys lose

The Pontiac High School juvenile boys' basketball team found themselves out-gunned against École secondaire Grande-Rivière on Thursday.

Despite a very close scoreline through the first half of the game, the Panthers were unable to keep pace with their opponents who broke away in the final two quarters.



Two Pontiac High School Panthers battle for possession of the ball during Thursday's game.

CLD Pontiac gets additional funding for business development

LEAH MILLER

Equity Editor
PONTIAC • Local Development Centres (CLDs) in the region received an early Christmas present this year.

For the Pontiac CLD, that adds up to a \$344,676 government contribution.

An announcement was made jointly by Minister responsible for Canadian Intergovernmental Affairs, Francophonies within Canada, the Agreement on Internal Trade, the Reform of Democratic Institutions and Access to Information, Benoit Pelletier, as well as Galt MNA Roch Cholette, Gatineau MNA Réjean

Lafrènière, Pontiac MNA Charlotte L'Écuyer and Papineau MNA Norman MacMillan on behalf of Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade Raymond Bachand that funding for Outaouais CLDs would increase by \$1,962,227 over the next three years.

For Pontiac, that works out to be a \$114,892 increase each year over the next three years.

"It comes when we've used what we already have," said Nancy York, executive-director of the Pontiac CLD. "We need it to show proof we need it."

The Fonds local d'investissement (FLI Investment Program), managed by the CLDs, aims to support developing companies.

Financial assistance from the CLD comes in the form of loans or guarantees, with exception of subsidies.

The FLI program is designed for for-profit businesses seeking loans to start up companies in the Pontiac.

To apply, companies must provide a business plan that will create jobs for Pontiac, be partially financed by a capital outlay of the entrepreneur, not

displace any current jobs and the principal of activity of the business must be within the Pontiac.

"We fill the gap between the bank and what the promoter puts in," said York. "It's an economic development fund that helps promoters, usually in service industries where they are not eligible for loans from the bank."

The loan can cover up to 50 per cent of the investment project, at a preferential rate plus premium of risk up to three per cent and will last a maximum of 10 years.

"Generally the maximum is \$60,000," said York of

common loans. "Some have gone higher in specific cases."

The Pontiac's basic portfolio, less any loans the CLD has lost — "We have had some bankruptcies," said York — is \$657,493.

Outaouais' four other CLDs will receive \$161,718 (MRC des Collines), \$745,091 (Gatineau), \$332,347 (Papineau) and \$378,395 (Gatineau Valley).

When the budget 2006-2007 speech was made, Minister of Finance Jim Flaherty announced an increase to the FLI program of \$45 million over three years.

Committee to work to preserve Pontiac landmarks

WILBUR MCLEAN

Equity Reporter
CAMPBELL'S BAY • A newly formed committee is hoping to work towards preserving and promoting the Pontiac's historical landmarks.

The first informal meeting of the Pontiac Heritage Committee took place on Monday, Dec. 11 in a meeting room at the MRC building in Campbell's Bay with a number of notable Pontiacers on hand to explore the group's possibilities.

led by the Local Development Centre (CLD) cultural development officer, Ben Kuhn, the group hopes to advise the Municipal Regional County on her-

itage-related issues and, eventually, create a heritage plan for the Pontiac.

They would like to assist municipalities with designating buildings as historical sites, of which Pontiac currently only has two — Bryson House in Mansfield and Fort William in the Municipality of Sheenboro.

Such designations protect the sites from being removed or altered significantly.

At their initial meeting, the group discussed the covering of historic Nichabau log homes with siding and the dilapidation of the grist mill in Clarendon as two examples.

"A lot of these municipalities aren't equipped to deal

with heritage issues or even urbanism issues," Kuhn said.

Utilizing his position within the CLD and the expertise of the various members, Kuhn hopes to be able to tackle heritage issues before they have gone too far to be saved.

"It's usually too late for anything to be done once the public finds out about it," said Kuhn.

Peter Haughton, an Ottawa River historian and Pontiac logging expert who was invited to be part of the group, said such a committee is important.

"There are a lot of people in their own doing things we

need to work together as a group," he said.

"There is so much talent. What we need is a 'Ben' to co-ordinate all these individuals to come up with a comprehensive program."

Other invited members at the first meeting were author and Pontiac church historian,

Jo-Ann Brownlee, Bristol-based historical architect, Michael Neelin, Pontiac

historian and author, Anna Babinska and Barb Haughton, also an Ottawa River and logging aficionado.

Other invited members who were unable to be at the meeting included Gordie Graham, a Pontiac transportation expert and Rev. William McDowell, who was formerly president of the Pontiac Historical Society.

Panthers eye promotion

SCOTT CLOUTHIER

Equity Reporter
PONTIAC • The Pontiac High School juvenile girls' volleyball team hopes that a recent run of improvement will help propel them to the top tier of high school volleyball in the Outaouais.

"They were very close, but we didn't make it to the 'A,'" said coach Lynn Kearns of the team's performance at the most recent tournament held at Nicolas-Gatineau high school on Dec. 16.

In its division in Cégep

Outaouais.

The league is organized in a format in which all teams, from all age levels, play in a tournament each month.

Teams were initially ranked based on their projected strength.

After each tournament the top team from each division is promoted and the bottom team is demoted.

PHS has remained in the 'B' division, where they were seeded before the first tournament held at Du Versant high school in Gatineau on Nov. 25.

At the Nicolas-Gatineau tournament, the Panthers finished with a 5-3 record, which was an improvement over their 3-5 record from the year's first tournament.

However, the Panthers also took part in the Pontiac Cup, which they won, in December.

Kearns thinks this extra experience, as well as the coaching players received from their Pontiac Cup coach John Petty, has contributed to the team's improvement.

CLASSIFIED

NOTICES THANKS

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THANKS

Curley - In appreciation and thanks to my many friends and family who helped to celebrate my 80th birthday. Also for your cards and gifts and phone call. Sincerely, Margaret Curley

Hodgins - I would like to thank the nursing staff, ward aids and physiotherapists who, along with the doctors and my family doctor, Dr. Courchesne, gave me excellent care while I was in hospital recovering from my injury. Thanks also to family and friends for visits, gifts and best wishes. Thank you Lewis Hodgins

Strutt - With respect to the recent passing of Fern Strutt on Dec. 18, 2006, we would like to thank: Dr. Talko, the staff and volunteers at the Pontiac Reception Centre, the CLSC, Rev. Paula Mullin, Hugh and Norma Horner, and the ladies of the church for lunch. Special thanks to Ted Wickens who kept a watchful eye on Mom while she was still living on Rectory Road and to Shirley for her loyal, patient and comforting care during the past 5 years. We would also like to thank Marjory Potter, Jeannie & Chris Judd, Jennifer & Roger Mayhew and Willie Huckabone for their support, as well as neighbours who provided a delicious hot supper for the family on the day of the wake. We appreciate all the donations, flowers, cards, calls and offers to help. The Strutt Family

Proulx - The family of the late Jacqueline Proulx would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the people involved in supporting the family during their recent loss. To Dr. Dailaire, Dr. Croteau, Dr. Courschene and Dr. O'Neill, we thank you for your great care and management. To Nurses Jane, Linda and Claire, we thank you for the special treatment Jacqueline received during her chemos. Your nursing and compassion made her trips to the hospital much more tolerable. She would always have a kind word to say concerning your care during her treatments. The family would like to thank the Hayes organization whose team assisted in preparing the final arrangements. To the Young family: Bob, Mary Ellen, Billy, Sharon and Shirley, we are so grateful for the food sent to the house. It was delicious and greatly appreciated and enjoyed. And to the Proulx family: Bob, Marni, Bob Sr., and all of those involved in arranging the reception at the Lions Hall. The preparation of the food and organizing of the hall was such a loving and compassionate gesture that will never be forgotten. Thank you to all who paid their respects to the family. Your support and strength during this time is held dear to us all. We are all so moved by your kindness and generosity. It is curious that Jacqueline's character has touched many. Her energetic spirit and joy of life will remain with us always. BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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Ladysmith

Debbie Thrun 819-647-3927

The wolves killed a small deer in our field the other night. It is providing a feast for crows, ravens and one bald eagle.

With the mild winter it is reported that some bears are still out. They never hibernate. It seems all of nature is confused.

Get well wishes to Ivan Thrun and Della Palmer who are both patients in Shawville Hospital. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

The Wiggins and McKenny families spent some time at their hunt camp over the holidays.

Lysanne Brouillette of Ottawa left last Wednesday for Denver, Colorado for a week as part of her work project. Her grandma Freida tells me she has a very interesting job. She gets to travel and visit a lot of countries which she enjoys very much.

June Krose and some family members flew to Mexico last Saturday to attend June's son, Barry Krose's wedding which will take place, today, Jan. 17.

This past week I had a lovely phone conversation with Evelyn Campbell and also with other friends. I find in the winter months one doesn't get out as much. So the next best thing is to visit on the phone.

We finally solved the problem of squirrels raiding our bird feeder by hanging it on a long metal pole. Boy are the squirrels mad now.

Louis Hodgins who was injured is doing real well in hospital and will soon be returning home.

The snowmobilers are getting anxious to go. But, we

need a lot more snow for the trails. It certainly has been a poor winter for the snow sports so far.

Last Wednesday, Freida and Velma Krose, Eileen Dubeau and Gail Zacharias attended the Pochmans' lunch at the Oddfellows Hall in Shawville. It was the first one of the season and was very well attended.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Barry Krose who were united in marriage this week in Mexico.

Recent visitors with Margaret Fieroben have been the Early family, Fieroben family and the McCagg family (Margaret's family). She had a lovely visit with everyone and enjoyed having them all.

Sending out special birthday congratulations to Lila Dale who celebrates today, Jan. 17. My thoughts are with you.

For the week of Christmas Freida Krose, Darlene Brouillette, Lysanne Brouillette and John McIntyre, Kim and Karl McIntyre, Dianne Krose and daughter Melissa and some friends all went to Disney World for a vacation. Altogether there were 19 in the group. They enjoyed their Christmas there. They stayed at the Disney World Resort and visited the Epcot Centre. They enjoyed all the entertainment and shows which they had booked ahead. The Christmas lights were just overwhelming. Every country of the world was represented. Freida tells me they sampled food from many different countries. She tells me they went to one place that served German dishes. When she tasted the sauerkraut she said it was just terrible. No comparison to Ladysmith's. She said to the guy "this

sauerkraut doesn't taste as good as what is made in Ladysmith." He asked where this place was. So Freida told him, "Well, he said 'I'm not the cook here.' It's hard to beat the taste of this special dish that the ladies make here I'd say. Everyone had a most enjoyable holiday. Truly one that they will never forget. Freida said her granddaughter, Lysanne, organized the entire trip. She wants to say thank you to her for being such a great

tour guide. The day after they arrived home the family got together at Lysanne's and John's place in Ottawa for a turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Where they got the energy I don't know. Everyone helped making the meal. They had a great time, especially settled back in their own surroundings again. It's great to go away but there's no place like home to relax. Birthday congratulations to Stewart Schwartz on Jan. 24.

Ron Girard, David Stevens, Denver and Dennis Thrun attended the Antique Snowmobile Show in Eganville last Saturday. They report a well organized and attended show. Many beautifully restored snowmobiles were represented.

Get well wishes to our fellow respondent, Stephanie Milford of Danford Lake. She recently underwent major surgery in London. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

There will be a lot more surgeries to come for Stephanie. These days travel expenses are very high. Her sister, Robyn, and one of her friends, Jennifer Chamberlain, are organizing a benefit Seaple Supper at the Catholic Church on

ner: Bill Lentell. Lads first prize: Marguerite St. Aubin. Ladies second: Rita Blaske. Men's first prize: Ray Dubeau. Men's second: Medard Allard. Door prize winner: Mabel Kluge. 50/50 winner: Pat Bisson. Dessert was provided by Laurette St. Aubin, Marguerite St. Aubin and Carl Kappes. Happy birthday wishes to Pat Bisson (Jan. 1) Moe Lajoie (Jan. 7) and Olivette Mason (Jan. 8).

Otter Lake

Elizabeth Hahn 819-453-7326

Otter Lake Golden Age Club dart league results for Jan 4: Ladies high score: Denise Dubois and Pierrette Graveline.

Ladies high average: Rosette Fleury. Men's high score: Denis Lafleur. Men's high average: Moe Lajoie. Door prize win-

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Quyon

Jill McBane 819-458-2366 Congratulations to Mandy Willoughan and Ralph McColgan who were married Jan. 9 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic at the

Grand Palladium Punta Cana Resort and Spa. Mandy is the daughter of Glenn and Lujina Willoughan and Ralph is the son of Don and Ruby McColgan. Friends and relatives joined the couple for their week stay. Congratulations to Ronnie and Robert of R & R farms

on their latest arrival to the farm, a Bouvier des Flander, a baby girl, Gladys. Get well wishes to Laurie MacKechnie who had the misfortune of breaking his wrist due to slipping on the ice at the curling rink. I guess Mona will have to take over your household duties Laurie.

Bryson

Heather Stewart 819-648-5413 butterfly_bee2000@yahoo.ca I would like to start off today by making a correction and sending out a very sincere apology. Before Christmas I had written about the Bryson Lions Senior Supper and that it was the Miller Band Playing for them, when in fact it was Side Kicks that played for them featuring Everett Hodgins, Tony Kluge and Barry Plager. You really did do an outstanding job and I am very sorry for the false information that was given to me at the time. These gentlemen donated their time to play for our seniors which was very much appreciated! So once again I apologize for any inconvenience that this may have caused.

Happy birthday to Roberta Godin of Toronto. The Bryson R.A. opened its Youth Center on Friday evening. There was a good turnout for the evening. The R.A. was packed with the youth all weekend. We offer a warm environment that is cheerful and fun and a place that the younger generation can call their own. We have games set up and we do all kinds of art and crafts. We just have a great old time. There is a canteen available for them and Eric is working extra hard getting that ice ready for them to skate. Our hours are from Monday to Friday from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday we are open from 1 to 9 p.m. The kids decorated the R.A. to make it their own. I have to say they sure did an excellent job! Please feel free to drop in. The more kids we have, the more fun we are going to share! The more the merrier! Parents and guardians are more than welcome to drop in to see what their child is involved in. It sure makes a person warm to see the smiles on their faces and to see how proud they are to call that Youth Center theirs. For more information you can call R.A. President, Bob Leach, at 819-648-5209 or you can call me as well!

Happy birthday Mackayla Kluge! The Bryson Lions Club will be holding their annual Wild Meat Supper on Saturday, Jan. 20. The doors open at 4 p.m. and supper is served at 6 p.m. You will be entertained by the Nelson Towns. It's always a great evening to experience and the Lions Club always do an incredible job making each and everyone feel very much at home! A lot of people look forward to this each year and the money raised goes to a great cause! Without your support we wouldn't have a Lion's Club or a Lionette's

Pontiac Station

Hope Cadieux 819-647-5452 hope.cadieux@le.com

Well, finally. It looks like we may have a winter after all. As I write this, it's snowing steadily and the school bus just went past at a snail's pace. In spite of the record-setting mild temperatures, it sure feels cold. I've already gone through almost 12 cords of wood, about half of what's in the wood shed. It will be nice to have a warm blanket of snow around the house to provide some insulation.

Interesting what a hot-button issue climate change is. Earlier this week I happened to catch a call-in show (Radio Noon, CBC), the topic of which was something like, "What are you willing to give up to help the environment?" If memory serves me well, the words "global warming" and "climate change" weren't even mentioned in the question, let alone the provocative K-word (Kyoto). Not surprisingly, given the wording of the question and the fact that they were CBC listeners, the callers were overwhelmingly among the converted, in favour of doing all they could to protect the environment. The conversation focused on carrots and sticks, smaller cars and smarter cars, car sharing, and replacing old appliances with new energy-efficient ones. They discussed how to legislate emission standards without unfairly targeting the poor.

All was bubbling along nicely until an angry young man called in and demanded that the guest tell him what percentage of greenhouse gases are of human origin. While the guest shuffled papers, he provided the answer himself: some fraction of one percent "... and Canada accounts for 2 per cent of that." In the tirade that followed, he accused the

guest of having a Leftist agenda.

Then it struck me that this was the reason for the general wording of the question. To be sure, it was based on the assumption that burning fossil fuels is damaging to the earth's atmosphere. And, this weather has certainly kept global warming in the forefront of people's minds. But obviously the intention was to avoid having a practical discussion of personal responsibility turned into a fruitless battle of statistics and ideologies: Apocalypse Now versus Leftist conspiracy.

People seem to get their categories mixed up when talking about climate change. First of all, there's climate change itself. Since our knowledge of climate change is based on average temperatures over time, there is no question but that seasonal averages have changed since modern record keeping began. Global warming has to do with the direction of climate change - toward warmer rather than the colder end of the spectrum. Again, this is ascertained by means of averages over time. There is no controversy, scientific or otherwise, on the question of whether climate change and global warming are occurring. Indeed, there's so much evidence all around us that most would believe it even if it weren't backed up by scientific data.

Then there is the question of what causes climate change. This is by no means the first time that climate change has occurred. Indeed, scientist now have all sorts of ways to get an indication of what the climate was like in the days before accurate record-keeping. The look at physical evidence such as growth rings on tree stumps, types of pollen found in earth cores, and seasonal layers in ice cores, and combine this information with carbon dating. They consult written

records on crop harvests and failures, human settlements and migrations, and noteworthy weather events. They even glean information from the paintings of old Masters that show certain winter activities, such as skating, in places where the ice no longer freezes.

Since this is not the first time climate change has occurred, how do we know that this particular change isn't a purely natural phenomenon? The answer is that we don't - except that there is an overwhelming body of scientific evidence to support the view that burning fossil fuels is having a deleterious effect on the ozone layer, along with other offshoots of human activity such as the greenhouse gas (methane) produced by cows. Given the lengthy lag between the time greenhouse gases are produced and the time they start causing trouble in the stratosphere, nobody can be sure to what extent human beings are responsible for this particular change in the climate. In a few generations, after everybody in China over the age of 16 years has acquired a car, the answer may become clearer.

As far as measures to cope with global warming such as the Kyoto Protocol are concerned, there is no end of controversy and always will be, just as there are for measures to deal with anything. Some say it goes too far, some say it doesn't go far enough, some say it is beside the point. But no one doubts that the pressing problem will be to cope with the effects of global warming, which no amount of action now can reverse in the immediate future.

In the meantime, there are still plenty of compelling reasons for pursuing a more energy efficient lifestyle: to reduce air pollution down here on earth, to reduce dependency on foreign fuels, to save money. Let virtue be its own reward.

Pies galore



Scott Clouthier THE EQUITY

Helen Towell lays out an assortment of homemade pies during the Poor Man's Lunch held at the Odd Fellows Hall in Shawville on Wednesday. For \$6, an all-you-can-eat lunch of homemade soups, fresh bread, tea and coffee and — of course — dessert was offered. The Odd Fellows and Rebekahs of Shawville host the lunch once a month from January to April.

Campbell's Bay

Iris Smith 819-648-5821 iriss@persona.com

The Golden Age Club held its first meeting of the new year on Tuesday afternoon, at the club room with a good turnout. The business of the coming year was discussed and plans for the future put in place.

In the evening the euchre was held. Ladies high was a tie between Gwen Black and Rose Gutoskie. They split the prize. Second was a six-way tie between Aline Belland, Georgette Robitaille, Veronica Perrier, Faye Moorehead, Lucy Kelly and Isabelle Lacroix. They split the prize. Men's high was won by Roger Lacroix. Second was won by Louis Johnson. The door prize was won by Veronica Perrier. The 50-50 was won by Tom Hearty. Refreshments were by Isabelle Lacroix who made them for the club.

A longtime resident of Campbell's Bay, Isabelle (Lance) Landry passed away in hospital on Wednesday, Jan. 10 at the age of 89. She was the beloved wife of the late Philbert Landry. To her family and friends we express our sincere sympathy. Friends were able to call at Ringrose Bros. Funeral Home, Campbell's Bay on Sat. from 7 to 9 and Sun. from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. The funeral was on Monday from St John's the Evangelist Church, Campbell's Bay at 10 a.m. Spring interment in Parish cemetery.

Jan. 11 was a day of special birthdays. Our Mayor Jean-Louis Auger celebrated, our neighbour, Betty Laporte. My husband, Bert

Smith, Eric Kluge, others celebrating during the past week were Ella Romain, Kelly Brown, Kim Sloan, Melodie (Min) Belanger, Faith-Anne Ebert, Makayla-Marie Sparling, Jennette Lepack, Brian Sloan, Chad Narlock, Trevor Stewart, Michael Belland, Pat Shea, Julie Haley, Frank Desjardins and Danick Graveline. We hope you had a great day to start this New Year.

Visiting with us on the weekend were Stacey and Wayne Robinson of South Mountain. Stacey brought her three dogs Shelby, Copper and Tara. Other visitors were Beth Dubeau and Joyce Leach. Jill Smith and Les Orr also came to visit. Jill brought Bert a birthday supper on Thursday evening to celebrate his special day. And Stacey and Wayne treated us on Sunday. So it was very nice of them to think of us. Bert had many phone calls from far and near to say happy birthday as well.

Scott Mead passed away. He was a regular Sand Bay summer time resident. He was the son of Noel Mead and Nancy Hall. A memorial service will be held at St John's Evangelist Anglican Church (corner of Somerset and Elgin) on Jan. 16 at 11 a.m.

Rev. Orval White was the guest speaker at the Free Methodist Church on Sunday Morning. For those of us wishing for winter I guess it has finally arrived. It is snowing quite heavily now and has been since early morning. So the skiers and snowboarders should be quite happy. Another snow fall and the ski doos should be able to go for a spin as well. Many have been patiently waiting.

Sheenboro

Myrtle Sullivan 819-689-2236 myrtle_sullivan@sympatico.ca

I had a call from Langford, Ireland from Paddy Kilbride. He asked me to thank everyone for the great hospitality shown to him when he visited Sheen. He is back at work and is enjoying sharing his pictures and stories of Canada.

Welcome back to Myra and Kristin who just returned from Scotland where they were visiting Myra's son Jason and his family.

My daughter, Carmelita, arrives from Australia Monday.

Gabrielle Clambuster who taught at Ottawa University passed away. He taught some of my grandchildren

and may have taught some other people in the area.

Janet Retty enjoyed a trip to Florida with her son Shawn and Mary Ellen and family.

Congratulations to Janet Fleury and her husband Jose Ardanas who have a new baby girl.

Happy birthday to Linda Landers who celebrated Jan. 11 with family and friends in Oakville. Linda is the daughter of Frank Landers from Sheen.

I was sorry to hear Elwood Gaudette passed away. My deepest sympathy to his family.

Get well wishes to Gordon McCrea and Mary Spence at Pinewood. I hope they are soon well.

My sympathy to Claudette Spence and Roger Cyr on the passing of their sister Shirley Green.

My great-granddaughter Molly Smith was on a school trip to Wolf Island and fell and broke her ankle. She had to have an emergency boat to bring her back to shore where she was so happy to see her dad. I hope Molly is soon up and about.

I was sorry to hear Don Howard passed away. I met Don when he and Margaret came up from Eganville on Wednesday night to hear the fiddlers. He always enjoyed the music and visiting with everyone. He will be sadly missed.

Ida and Dennis Czmielowski just got back from visiting with their grandchildren in Barrie, Ont.

BABY 2006



Ryder Scott

Lemay - Scott, Ronda and big sisters Chloe and Julia are excited to announce the much anticipated arrival of Ryder Scott Lemay, born on Nov. 2, weighing 8 lbs 8 oz. Proud grandparents are Nancy Hobbs, Maurice Lemay, Denise Richardson and the late Claude Richardson. We would like to say a big thank-you to all our family and friends for the beautiful cards and gifts to welcome our little boy.

quainted. Adele and her husband Richard Bray now operate the funeral home.

I was talking to Mike last night and he was telling me that Alex is sick with a cold. He said that baby Mikaela is really growing!

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Rene Gagnon of Pembroke in the passing of his beloved wife Susan (nee Cliche). She was the dearly loved mother of Paul, of Pembroke and stepmother to Carl and Marc Andre of Charlemagne. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends at this sad time.

Apparently, we are heading for colder weather this coming week. That will be good. It will chase the flu bugs. Speaking about flu bugs, get well wishes are extended to Gail Perry, who has been under the weather this past week.

Birthday wishes are extended to Marcel Ethier, who is celebrating his birthday on Jan. 22. We hope that you have an awesome day Marcel!

Waltham

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

This coming Saturday evening, Jan. 20 the Penguin Snowmobile Club will be having their Start Up Skidoo Party at the Waltham Town Hall beginning at 8:30 pm. Tickets are \$5 each and there will be several door prizes. A tasty lunch will also be served. So please come out and chase the winter blahs and have a good time.

We made it down to Cornwall to my aunt Marie's wake and funeral. The wake was at Boulterice Funeral Home. Many years ago, I had gone to school with Adele Boulterice. Her parents owned the funeral home then. As we drove down, I mentioned this to (hubby) Larry. When we got there, this woman greeted us and I recognized her as Adele. I introduced myself and she recognized me. She was telling me that she had mentioned to her husband Richard that morning, that she had gone to school with Helen Heagle and wondered if I would be coming to the wake. It was nice to get re-

Ball hockey league changes

WILBUR MCLEAN

Equity Reporter PONTIAC • The ball hockey league that was scheduled to run across a number of Pontiac municipalities this winter will still be happening, but with changes.

The league, which will take place in Shawville, Bryson, Calumet Island, Campbell's Bay, Otter Lake, Mansfield and Fort Coulonge, will no longer be played on outdoor rinks, instead moving to school gyms.

The number of games will also be reduced to four in those gyms. Then, hopes organizer and Pontiac in Motion coordinator, Melanie Pieschke, two weeks would take place in the Pontiac arenas to give participants the feel for real hockey.

"Nothing is set yet, we still have to call the schools and the arenas," she said.

What is known is that the league will begin on Wednesday, Feb. 7, with games running for three subsequent Wednesdays in February.



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