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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2007

By Maurice Crossfield  
 STANBRIDGE EAST

Parents aren't supposed to outlive their children. But Colin and Louise Gage are facing that brutal fact, and using the memory of their daughter's strength and determination to move on.

"I think we just want to tell people how strong she was," said Colin Gage.

Born in 1983 Kasey was a passionate athlete, taking part in triathlons, inline skating and skiing, often with her dad. She wouldn't think twice about doing 90 laps in the family pool, or spending time on an exercise bike.

But in the spring of 2006 Kasey

learned she had a cancerous tumour in her left leg. That led to surgeries and chemotherapy and hospital stays. The Gages even brought in an exercise bike so their daughter could stay fit while in the hospital for treatment.

"She'd be in for six days at a time for chemo treatments, and she always had hand weights or ankle weights with her to keep moving," Colin Gage said in an interview.

In those early months Kasey kept the

news of her illness to herself. This, despite the operations and the post-surgical infections. But she was getting better and in November 2006 her father approached her with an idea: Join the group of local people climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania to raise money for Au Diapason's project to create an end-of-life cancer care centre in Bromes Missisquoi.

"At first she wasn't very interested. She said 'I don't want to put a lot of effort into training only to find out I can't go,'" Colin said. "But by Christmas she said she'd like to do it."

Finishing her chemotherapy in the  
 PLEASE SEE KASEY GAGE ON PAGE 2

# The legacy of Kasey Gage

*She married two days before her death*

## Winter Wonderland



PERRY BEATON

The early morning sun shines down on the Sherbooke borough of Lennoxville.

 <p>Was \$80,000  <b>07 Lincoln Navigator</b>  <b>\$49,995</b></p>	 <p>Was \$27,000  <b>07 Fusion SE</b>                  Demo. Sports package.                  Leather seats.  <b>\$19,269</b></p>	 <p>Was \$60,000  <b>07 Lincoln Town Car</b>  <b>\$29,995</b></p>	 <p>Was \$15,995  <b>07 F150</b>                  starting at  <b>\$15,995</b></p>	<p><b>ValEstrie</b> LINCOLN                  SHERBROOKE                  819-563-4466 office                  819-822-8055 cell</p>	 <p>31689  <b>Michael Page</b>                  Over 12 years experience</p>
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# KASEY GAGE:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

winter months, Kasey was told last May that she had a clean bill of health. The Gages had since bought the Xcalibur gym in Sutton, and Kasey was there regularly, working out or helping others get into shape.

During this same period Colin had been working on getting the outfitter that was to guide the climbers to accept her. Company policy said no one could go up Mt. Kilimanjaro unless they had been finished treatment for a year. A face-to-face meeting with Tusker Trail Outfitters founder Eddie Frank resulted in a green light for Kasey's climb.

By then Kasey and Colin Gage had been climbing locally with other Au Diapason climbers. Day and overnight hikes helped condition them, and at this point Kasey could swim 90 laps of the family pool in 45 minutes. She had also raised over \$40,000 for the cancer care hospice project as part of the climbing trip.

"Although the climb will be an immense struggle, the fact that I am helping those who are less fortunate will inspire me to try my best," Kasey wrote for the Au Diapason-Kilimanjaro Internet site. "My family settled in this region many generations ago. I have gained so much from having been raised in this close-knit community I call home that I think it is time I give something back."

With his daughter in fine shape Colin, who inspects metal structures for a living, took a contract job in northern Labrador for the North Warning System. The trip was a difficult one: The outfitter there underestimated the amount of food needed for the two-week trip, and there was almost no way to call home. Even the group's satellite phone only worked from the top of a nearby mountain.

That was when Kasey found out her cancer had come back. Testing before getting the required vaccinations for the trip spotted the trouble.

Kasey had been complaining of a pain in her rib cage. That turned out to be another cancerous tumour that was growing into her diaphragm. It was inoperable.

On Aug. 7, Colin managed to get a call through. For the next several days he found himself in an isolated



COURTESY

Kasey Gage's story has touched many in the community she grew up in. She is pictured here with her father.

part of the world, with little food and no way to get home. It took nine days to make it to Montreal, and to his daughter's side at the Royal Victoria Hospital.

By the end of the month the news was even worse: "They said she couldn't have any more chemo, because it would kill her," Louise said. "We started palliative care, and she was on a series of painkillers."

By the first week of September the tumour in her rib cage was doubling in size every three or four days.

"The night she found out she wasn't going to Mount Kilimanjaro, everything just went downhill from there," Louise said. "She packed a whole year of living into the next 50 days."

Kasey was brought home to Stanbridge East, with the family living room set up for round-the-clock care. A lot of people visited, including nurses who knew her from the Royal Vic. The community pitched in as well.

"The support we had from the community was just unreal," Louise

said. "The village really took care of us, coming by to visit, keeping us fed."

"If it hadn't been for (Dr.) Al Philips, we couldn't have done this," Colin added. "He went way beyond the call of duty."

While Kasey and Colin didn't make the Kilimanjaro trip in September, a little part of them did. A flag of Stanbridge East, which Colin had helped design years earlier, was taken to the summit. (In the end 32 of the 40 climbers made it, raising an astounding \$835,000 for the cause.)

Kasey held on until Oct. 30, planning both her wedding and her funeral in those remaining days. Two days before her death she married boyfriend Chris Kelly, a man she had kept secret from her parents until not long before the wedding.

"He was known to us as 'mind your own business'," Louise said.

Not long after the wedding celebration Kasey fell asleep, regaining consciousness only briefly before passing away the following Tuesday

afternoon. She was 24.

In the wake of her death Kasey's parents and her sisters Morgan and Meghan have been left to pick up the pieces. Kasey's life insurance policy is being used for, among other things, the purchase of a flat screen TV and DVD player for the seventh floor of the Royal Vic, where she spent many hours. Real Time Cancer, which supports young adults with the disease, was also a beneficiary, as was the Trans Canada Trail.

Kasey will also be remembered at the Gages' Xcalibur gym in Sutton. Though the business name remains, the workout room will be known as Kasey's Gym.

Last week Louise Gage joined the board of directors of Au Diapason, to help make the cancer care hospice a reality while representing the concerns of patients and their families. Colin Gage says he will volunteer there once the centre is complete. Construction is set to begin next spring.

Recently Louise Gage also met with the director of CanSupport for the Montreal General and Royal Victoria hospitals. CanSupport helps patients and families deal with the psychological impact of a cancer diagnosis.

"It was a totally unplanned meeting, and by the end of the morning the idea of a new book had developed," she said. "The book will hopefully be a compilation of short stories written or narrated by members of a young adult/adolescent group and friends and families of recently deceased members."

In typical family fashion, she volunteered to be the book's typist, putting into print the experiences of those with cancer, or affected by it.

To learn more about the Au Diapason palliative care centre project, go to [audiapason-kilimanjaro.org/AuDiapason2.htm](http://audiapason-kilimanjaro.org/AuDiapason2.htm).

## CORRECTION

Due to incorrect information given to *The Record*, the 1,030 people cited who returned to their homes to settle down ("Bringing them back one by one", Dec. 12) in fact is the total for the program's returnees for the entire province.

Locally, each MRC brought in an average of six people back to the Townships.

## Weather

**Today:** Sunny with cloudy periods. Becoming cloudy in the afternoon. High minus 9.

**Friday:** Cloudy with 60 per cent chance of flurries. Low minus 12. High minus 1.

**Saturday:** Sunny. Low minus 16. High minus 11.

**Sunday:** Snow. Low minus 16. High minus 10.

## Ben by Daniel Shelton



# Each doctor must see 1,500 people

For every Estrie resident to have a GP



PERRY BEATON

Dr. Raymonde Vaillancourt takes on all the babies born in her practice and sees 110 new patients a year — all added to her regular workload.

By Rita Legault  
SHERBROOKE

The days of most people getting an annual checkup are long gone. With the ongoing shortage of doctors, patients who are relatively healthy will have to get used to the notion of seeing their family physicians once every few years to make room for those who are in greater need of immediate care.

While Quebec made a recent deal with family doctors to pay them more to take on more patients, there are simply not enough general practitioners to go around, says Sherbrooke physician Dr. Raymonde Vaillancourt.

A reorganization of how front-line medical services are delivered is badly needed to ensure everyone who needs to see a family doctor gets to see one. And, Vaillancourt said, doctors are going to have to work together and get used to sharing territory with other professionals.

"We don't have any choice. We have

to see patients who are sick, Vaillancourt said. "We must work with other professionals who can free up time for doctors to take on new patients."

According to the Estrie regional health agency, almost one quarter (21 per cent) of the people in the Estrie do not have a family doctor. That's 30,000 people without a general practitioner.

And the problem is not exclusive to this region. In Quebec, at least one quarter of the population does not have access to a GP. That's considerably worse than the Canadian average of 19 per cent.

In November, provincial Health Minister Philippe Couillard announced a deal with the Quebec Federation of Gen-

eral Practitioners to spend nearly \$150 million on some two dozen measures to improve access to family doctors.

The long-term objective is for all Quebecers who are looking for a family doctor to have one.

But that won't happen right away, he warned.

Given the number of doctors in Quebec, Couillard said the government must begin by targeting those who have a pressing need for a family doctor.

Under the agreement, the overall salaries of GPs will rise by 19.3 per cent by 2016. The federation estimates the pay raise and extra incentives may increase doctors' salaries by 30 per cent by 2016. That would bring them closer in line with the

salaries of family physicians in other provinces and perhaps stem the exodus of young graduates.

In the meantime various regions of the province must share the small number of doctors coming out of medical schools.

With some 360 doctors in the Townships — including GPs, emergency room physicians and specialists — the government considers the region is well served, said Vaillancourt. She notes Estrie is designated as a zero growth region and the government will only replace doctors who are leaving or retiring.

Of the 215 new graduates of medicine in Quebec this year, Estrie is entitled to only five, she said. Another seven physicians can return to practice here, she added.

Over the past two years the Sherbrooke region has lost 11 doctors, Vaillancourt said. Six more are expected to hang up their stethoscopes this year.

Young doctors who are arriving from medical schools prefer emergency room work and don't take on many new patients, she said. And retiring doctors often had large practices with 1,000 or more patients.

In order for everyone in the Estrie region to have a family doctor with the current pool of physicians, GPs here would have to have a clientele of some 1,500 patients. The average doctor here already sees about 1,000.

Vaillancourt, who was named Quebec physician of the year in 2005 by her

PLEASE SEE HEALTH ON PAGE 4

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RECORD

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### FUTURESHOP..

Inglis ISU5846 Dishwasher 10085757. On Page 39 of the Dec. 7th flyer it states this is a Tall Tub Dishwasher, when in fact it is a Short Tub Dishwasher. We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our valued customers.

# Santa in Richmond

Sunday

By Claudia Villemaire  
RECORD CORRESPONDENT  
RICHMOND

**Y**es Santa is coming to this town this Sunday. No, not in a parade where spectators and participants shiver, stamp their feet and sometimes decide the effort is just too much and stay home, close to central heating and warming beverages.

For the third year, the Town of Richmond and the Main Street Revitalization Committee will host a Christmas party at the St-Famille Center on Craig Street. Kids 12 years old and under are welcome from the Richmond region and there'll be gifts for every youngster and a chance at numerous door prizes.

"We welcomed over 150 youngsters last year in spite of the nasty weather," recalled coordinator Remi Mario Mayette. "We expect between two and three hundred this year however," Mayette said.

Of course, Santa and his Mrs. Claus will be on hand. There's also a working model train display to ease the time spent in line, candies, small gifts "and we've many door prizes to give away too." The fun begins at 1:30 p.m. with 3:30 pm closing time on Sunday, Dec. 16.

Everyone is cordially invited to come down and party with the region's youngest. "I know of no other town doing this type of party for local youngsters. At least, not in this region," Mayette added. "We think it's more fun for the kids than standing in the cold for a very brief glimpse of Santa.

With Santa comfortable in a special throne, youngsters can climb up on his knee and whisper their most secret wishes right in his ear.



# Sherbrooke 12th in Canada

**A** study has placed Sherbrooke as the 12th most attractive city to live in the country. Conducted by the Conference Board of Canada, the study City Magnets: Benchmarking the Attractiveness of Canada's Census Metropolitan Areas compares the performance of 27 Canadian cities in seven different sectors: economy, innovation, environment, education, health, society, and housing. Each city was given a report-card style ranking on each indicator, and an overall grade on attractiveness.

"The paradigm of 'people go where the jobs are' is changing to 'businesses going where the people with skills and talent want to live,'" said Mario Lefebvre, one of the study's directors. "In other words, places attractive to people will also attract business investment."

Calgary took the top spot in the survey, followed by Toronto and Vancouver. Quebec City placed 11th, just above Sherbrooke, and Montreal placed 14th, considerably low for a city its size.

In the health category alone, Sherbrooke outperformed other small cities with a seventh-place ranking. Sherbrooke also scored high as one of the most affordable places to buy a home.

# HEALTH:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 3

peers, herself sees some 1,300 people. That includes some 400 older and sicker patients who would be classified as vulnerable, some palliative home-care patients, plus on duty hours in obstetrics. Over and above that, she takes on all the babies born in her practice and 110 new patients a year.

"Admittedly, some would call me a workaholic," she said.

Vaillancourt is also head of the Département régionale de médecine générale, which works with the regional health agency to oversee general practitioners in the region. The group has been looking to find ways to ensure greater access to family doctors.

"With more and more doctors retiring, and few new ones coming in, we have to perform better," Vaillancourt said. "We have to find ways to organize available resources to make them as efficient as possible."

Family Medicine Groups (FMGs) are an important step in the right direction. The clinics sign up patients and have physicians on call for minor emergencies on evenings and weekends.

The FMG model allows doctors to regroup themselves in clinics and to offer more resources to their patients, she said. It also allows doctors to share the load, ensuring one is on call for minor emergencies on evenings and weekends.

As well as providing nurses and some administrative help to doctors who are part of Family Medicine Groups, Vaillancourt said government should hire more clinical nurses to deal with patients who need vaccinations, blood pressure checks, and teaching about diabetes. She said government should also provide other professionals such as a diabetes nurse,

dietitians, pharmacists, and psychiatrists.

Transferring some patients to other professionals would free up more medical time to allow doctors see more patients, she said.

Vaillancourt said GPs should also have easier access to specialists who could be on call to answer questions about patient care. That would allow GPs to deal with some issues and avoid sending patients to specialists when it is not necessary.

Another advantage of the FMG model is that when doctors retire, their many partners can take on their patient loads.

Currently there are 42 clinics and only 10 FMGs in the region, Vaillancourt said, noting too many family doctors are working solo or in small clinics. She also notes there are no Family Medicine Groups in the Haut St-François and Val St-François. Ideally, Vaillancourt said there should be one in every MRC and a few more in Sherbrooke.

While more Family Medicine Groups will ensure greater access to doctors, Vaillancourt admits it will not be enough to ensure everyone gets a family physician.

Of the 30,000 people in the Estrie region who do not have a family doctor, Vaillancourt said two-thirds are not looking for one. Those are mainly healthy men, between the ages of 19 and 45.

Those looking for family doctors are mainly young couples with children, she said.

Vaillancourt said the ideal model for patients with no access to a family doctor would be walk-in clinics where patients could receive basic services and referred to a doctor if needed. Such clinics would be staffed mainly by nurses who could prescribe the pill, do pap tests, and screen for sexually transmitted diseases.

Not only would such front-line clinics free up medical time for doctors to take on more patients, they would also prevent emergency room overcrowding, she said.

Many patients waiting in ERs should be consulting their family medicine unit or

at a walk-in clinic, said Vaillancourt, adding that 20 cent of patients consulting doctors in walk-in clinics could also be seen elsewhere.

Regrouping of walk-in clinics in the Sherbrooke region could also help direct patients to the right resources and ensure more efficient, complementary services.

"This would not resolve all problems, but it would allow doctors to see more patients," Vaillancourt said, noting it would also provide services to priority No. 1 and priority No. 2 patients, who are most vulnerable.

According to the Département régional de médecine générale, priority No. 1 includes those with cardiac problems and asthma, older patients who are losing autonomy or diabetics — the most vulnerable patients who need to see a family doctor regularly. Priority No. 2 are patients who should have a doctor's appointment within three to six months.

While awaiting changes to the system, Vaillancourt said the 5,000 or so people who want a family doctor but can't find one must be better informed of how to go about snaring one.

## HOW TO FIND A DOCTOR

The Département régionale de médecine générale is currently drafting a letter that will be sent to homes in the region offering advice on how to go about finding a family physician.

Vaillancourt suggests that patients always consult in the same walk-in clinic. That will ensure their medical file is in the same place and that they develop a relationship with a doctor who may be able to take them on.

People who need a general practitioners should also solicit an appointment through a family member or friends who has a family doctor. She said physicians like her are often willing to take on someone's spouse, parents, or children of their patients.

## BRIEFS

### Quebec bill would override religious rights

An amendment to the province's Charter of Rights and Freedoms to include a clause on the equality of women and men would override other rights, such as freedom of religion.

The bill, which was introduced Wednesday by Christine St-Pierre, minister responsible for women's affairs, will be studied when the Quebec National Assembly resumes sitting in March after its winter break.

Premier Jean Charest announced plans for the amendment before the current assembly sitting started in October, inspired by a recommendation of Quebec's status of women council.

The council recommended the Charter amendment and a ban on the wearing of religious symbols, such as the hijab and the kirpan and crucifixes in Quebec's public sector, including schools and hospitals.

The government has not acted on the second recommendation, which is among the issues being considered by the Bouchard-Taylor commission on reasonable accommodation of religious and cultural differences in Quebec.

### No high school certificate, no job

The unemployment rate in 2006 for high school dropouts was triple that of university graduates, according to Education Indicators in Canada.

"If you have a certain level of education, you will have higher incomes and I think people make that connection," said Raymond Therberge, director general of the Council of Ministers of Education Canada, which cosponsored the study.

"The reality is we live and work in a very knowledge-based economy. The kinds of jobs that were available to people with high-school or less education no longer exist."

Furthermore, enrolment in post-secondary education is on the rise and earning potential for graduates is increasing.

Enrolment in graduate studies has increased 32 per cent, compared to a 19-per cent increase in undergraduate enrolment between 1994 and 2005

- all items CanWest News Service

# 'We are not aware of any fences being built'

## Confusion in Stanstead

By Sarah Rogers  
SHERBROOKE

Confusion hit the border in Stanstead yesterday after a letter from Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day convinced the town's mayor that barriers were set to be installed at three unmanned border crossings in early 2008.

Raymond Yates had recently sent a letter to Day expressing concern over security at the local Quebec-Vermont border, a long-time issue of contention for the two communities of Stanstead and Derby Line, Vermont.

Day responded with his own letter that referred to border security in a general sense and suggested that new barriers would soon be built to beef up Canada's security.

The letter "created confusion," said ministry spokeswoman Melissa Leclerc, by saying that new barriers would be built. Day referred to building more barriers across the Canadian border in his letter, Leclerc said, not specifically at

Stanstead's three unmanned entrances to the US at Ball, Lee and Church streets.

"We are not aware of any fences being built (at those crossings)," Leclerc said. "Some new barriers will be installed (across the country) but we don't have information about specific locations."

Initially, that didn't come across clearly to Stanstead's mayor.

"The letter that was sent to me was very confusing," Yates told *The Record*. In a phone call to clarify the matter with Yates on Wednesday afternoon, "(Day) told me it did not apply to Stanstead specifically."

Although much of the local illegal entries into Canada and the United States happen at Stanstead's unmanned entrances, there is a strong present and historical link to Derby Line that would make barriers unwelcome by many Stanstead residents.

The one new fence that Leclerc could confirm is a triangle-shaped barrier to be erected at an already established port of entry on Route 143 or Dufferin Street.

That barrier will be built in March 2008 to ensure border traffic is properly

directed to check in when there is a high volume of vehicles waiting at the border.

On Wednesday morning, Sherbrooke radio station CHLT reported it had received a copy of the correspondence between Yates and Day, spurring the frustration of both Yates and Stanstead-Compton Bloc Québécois MP France Bonsant, the latter speaking publicly against the decision to erect barriers.

Later the same day, Leclerc said, the telephone conversation between Day and Yates dealt with some of the confusion.

"Day also reassured (Yates) that the Canadian Border Services Agency would work in collaboration with Stanstead officials," she said, in deciding how to deal with Stanstead's unmanned border crossings.

Yates said the phone call helped to clarify many things.

"(Day) made it sound like he will get involved a little deeper," said Yates of Stanstead's border security.

When asked if recent illegal border

crossings in the region should warrant a fast resolution, Leclerc said that the federal government is committed to security and has invested half a billion dollars in beefed up security along the Canadian-American border.

In recent months, authorities have picked up dozens of illegal migrants attempting to come into Canada undeclared. More recently, two alleged human smuggling rings — whose work was often focused in the Stanstead area — were broken up by Canadian and American authorities.

Signs posted at the entrances into Canada via Ball, Lee or Church streets now warn that incoming traffic must present themselves at Canadian Customs.

Signage at the unmanned Stanstead roads will soon change to specify that those wanting to enter Canada need to turn around and re-enter at Canadian Customs via American soil. That change will occur before spring 2008.

# Masseys-Vanier students on CTV

## ETSB meeting

By Sarah Rogers  
MAGOG

At its December meeting, the Eastern Townships School Board council of commissioners passed a resolution to go ahead with major renovations at the CFP Cowansville.

More than 2,000 square metres of classroom space are set to be added to the centre — which is managed by two school boards (Val-des-Cerfs and the ETSB) — including facilities for professional cooking, computers, accounting and industrial mechanics.

The board is now hoping to see a ground-breaking ceremony before the holidays.

The contract for the enlargement of the Vocational Education Centre in Cowansville was given to Construction Longer Inc. de Sherbrooke for the amount of \$5,515,564.

In June 2006, just under \$5 million in funding for the centre was announced by both the provincial and federal governments.

Originally, the project was set to be completed in the autumn of 2007. The delay in construction, explained ETSB spokeswoman Sharon Priest, was due to the tendering process, the need for additional funding and then recent school board elections.

The project is now estimated to cost \$5.8 million. The total financial participation of the ETSB is \$160,397.

With upgrades, the centre should be able to accept 60 more students per year, upping its enrollment to 400.

## ROAD TRIP

In the New Year, the board will send commissioners Frank MacGregor and Douglas Sullivan as voting delegates to the Quebec English School Boards Association's annual general meeting Jan. 26.

## s'Cool

On Sunday, Dec. 9, CTV Montreal aired an episode of its education program s'Cool, produced entirely by students at Massey-Vanier High School in Cowansville.

The Leading English Education and Resource Network is funding television production workshops at English schools across the province, allowing students to learn the elements of news-casting from professionals in the field.

Massey-Vanier's segment focused on the ETSB's laptop program, where students from Grade 3 up receive their own portable to work on during the academic year. The episode saw students discussing the benefits of working on laptops, from access to Internet research to easy assignment exchange between teachers and students.

"It's the students who came up with this," said ETSB director general Ron Canuel at the Tuesday night commissioners' meeting, about the episode's content and production. "That sends a powerful message."

Alexander Galt Regional High School will have its episode aired in February.

s'Cool airs on Sunday mornings bi-monthly on CTV Montreal. For more information, visit [www.learnquebec.qc.ca](http://www.learnquebec.qc.ca) and click on s'Cool TV in the left-hand menu.



## la chronique

Government information

### Health insurance services covered outside Québec

Without private insurance, travellers who need healthcare services outside Québec may have to reimburse substantial amounts. Indeed, in most cases, the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec reimburses only part of the cost of such services.

The cost of medical services received outside Québec is reimbursed by the Régie at the rates in effect in Québec. The cost of hospital services received in the other provinces is reimbursed in full thanks to interprovincial agreements. Outside Canada, only emergency hospital services (sudden illness or accident) are covered, and reimbursed up to \$100 a day.

For example: you are hospitalized for eight days in the United States and charged \$27 493 for hospital services and \$10 543 for professional services. The Régie will reimburse \$800 for hospital services and \$1103 for professional services. You will therefore have to pay \$36 133.

For further information on healthcare services covered outside Québec by the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec and reimbursement conditions, consult the Régie's Internet site at [www.ramq.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.ramq.gouv.qc.ca) under Services for the Public — Health Insurance. You can also call the Régie at 1 800 561-9749 to obtain the document *Healthcare Services Covered Outside Québec*.

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# Community Forum

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Giving Galt smokers some options

DEAR EDITOR

I read the piece in the Dec. 11 issue of *The Record* ("Students want Galt to listen").

I want to say bravo to the students. I think it's time for parents to speak up.

If Principal Serge Beliveau is having a problem with the students who smoke, the solution seems quite simple: Allow them to leave the grounds... just outside the gate on foot of course. We have a security guard posted at the gate anyway, why not have him supervise the smokers.

The students who use the fields for their intended purpose should not be punished because of a handful of students who smoke.

I smoke and have at numerous times attempted to quit and can understand the need for a "nicotine fix".

The students who used the fields during breaks to toss a ball around are now forced into the bus parking lot (if they choose to go outside). This is a recipe for disaster. Keep that in mind, Mr. Beliveau.

The school grounds are shared with the Voc. Ed center; smokers in the centre must leave the grounds. During recess and lunch the Voc. Ed students are leaving in their vehicles and are driving (rather fast) right by our children. I have seen this first hand, both as a mom dropping off sporting equipment and as a student at the Voc. Ed center. While the breaks are not exactly at the same time they do overlap.

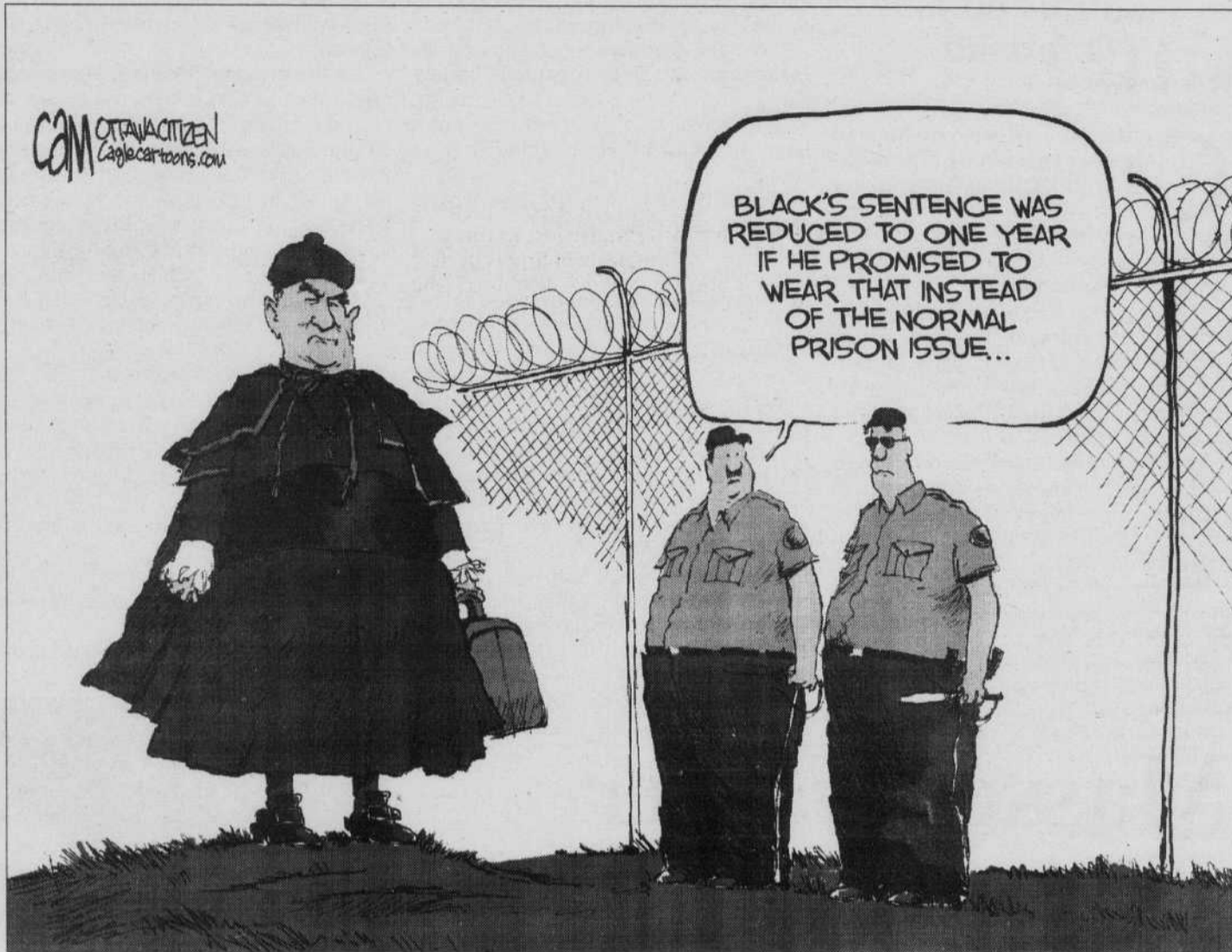
Hopefully the Christmas break will allow Mr. Beliveau and staff time enough to reconsider the out-of-bounds areas.

ANGELA HODGE  
Sawyerville

### Schoolhouse memories

DEAR EDITOR

On behalf of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Sherbrooke & District club, we want to thank everyone who was involved with our recent book launch of *Days to Remember: One-room Schoolhouses in the Eastern Townships of Quebec* ("The old red school house", Dec. 11 *Record*).



Attending the launch were ladies and gentlemen who had shared their experiences in those schoolhouses by contributing information and memorabilia, funding partners, guests from CFUW including national president Ardith Toogood, representatives from local organizations, club members, guests, and members of the press.

This book is the culmination of an oral history project that the club began in the mid 1990s.

We especially thank the many people who have taken the time to write about the project and the book. Some of the comments follow.

"The value of a book like this one increases with time."

"The texts in *Days to Remember* are lively, informative and filled with personal experiences and anecdotes. The photographs, many of them action shots of school children and their teachers, complement the stories beautifully."

"Throughout its 88-year history, two hallmarks of CFUW have been the promotion of education and the commitment of its members to place their education and pro-

fessional training at the service of the community, both locally and nationally. The writing of this book honours both of those proud traditions and presents to the citizens of this community, and to others across Canada who will read the book, a legacy that will strike a chord in all who either attended a one-room schoolhouse or who wonder what it must have been like to do so."

We have been getting requests for books from far and near. Thanks to the wonderful support given by the Eastern Townships community, *Days to Remember* will be a special keepsake to honour those who have shared their experiences.

The book can be purchased at local bookstores, through Townshippers' Association (819-566-5717) and on the club's website [www.cfuwsherbrooke.org/pages/special\\_projects](http://www.cfuwsherbrooke.org/pages/special_projects).

CAROL MCKINLEY  
BEV TABER SMITH  
CFUW

## THE RECORD

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## Christmas traditions

### Share them

How do you celebrate Christmas? Do you have your own special tradition that has been handed down for generations? Did your family try something special for the first time last year and are you now considering it for each Noël?

Do you treat yourself to a special something every year?

The *Record* invites its readers to share with tales of your special Christmas traditions.

Email to newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com, write to 1195 Galt Street East, Sherbrooke, J1G 1Y7, or fax to 819-569-3945 or 450-243-5155.

Your stories will be printed in *The Record* through the month of December.

# 'Dribbling' is not the same as 'drooling'

## No hockey – basketball

There's a reason why I've never signed my kids up for hockey. Besides receiving regular thumpings by hockey players as a child, that is. The reason is the 8 a.m. game.

But last weekend I found myself shotgunning coffee before racing across the border to Newport for an 8 o'clock basketball game. Fortunately, this was a game involving six- and seven-year-olds, so at least the day started with a laugh.

With first-graders, basketball is less a game than a colour-coordinated play date.

But it's still a game, which is why I love basketball. There aren't many other team sports that a six-year-old can play after only three practices. Not play well, of course, but play. And unlike hockey, there's virtually no likelihood of a teammate saying, "Hey, I dare you to touch your tongue to this icy pole."

Plus there are no blades to sharpen, no laces to do up, no body armour to buy. All you need is a pair of running shoes. Which is another reason I like basketball – I'm cheap.

There's also the uniform, which, in Abby's league, is included with registration. Hers is a fluorescent lime T-shirt and black shorts. This may be Abby's favourite element of the game. She proudly lifts her sweater to show anyone interested that she's playing basketball and, see, she has a shirt!

I'm pretty fond of the shirt myself, mainly because the über-vibrant colour makes it easy to spot her and her teammates when they've wandered off to inspect something gross on the underside of a bench.

This is actually a very important aspect of coaching youngsters: keeping track of wayward players.

Besides acting as child-wrangers, the coaches at this level also act as game refs, so there are a lot of on-floor instructions and do-overs. The rules for six-year-olds are also somewhat broader than in your traditional game. I've jotted down some of the more significant:

1) It's important to have proper footwear, preferably shoes that light up when you run.

2) There are three key positions in basketball: mob, melee and daydreaming.

3) Ask yourself, "Do I really need to dribble? Isn't it much simpler just to run with the ball?"

4) Double-dribbling is perfectly fine. Triple-dribbling, quadruple-dribbling, whatever. All good.

5) The best way to run the court is by skipping.

6) To help with man-to-man coverage, players are assigned coloured wristbands to match up with like-coloured player on the opposite teams. Red

wristbands are clearly the coolest.

7) When the ref blows the whistle, feel free to continue play until your coach leaves the bench to physically restrain you.

8) Bathroom breaks are mandatory at least twice per quarter.

9) Ditto visits to the water fountain.

10) Be sure to chat with your opponent during key plays.

11) It's also just good manners to hand the ball over to an opposing team

member. Sharing is important. Hugging is encouraged.

12) Don't get hung up on the whole "our basket/their basket" business. Really, either basket will do.

13) Wow! What a pretty shirt!

14) When you are not on the floor, you may sit on the bench or your mom's lap. Your call.

15) Play stops when one of the following occurs: a) the ball goes out of bounds; b) a player commits a foul; c) a player is sulking in the key.

16) Do not catch the ball with your face. However, a ball off the top of your head is just good comedy.

17) As in any pursuit, you will achieve more power and concentration if you play with your tongue sticking out.

18) There are no sacks in basketball.

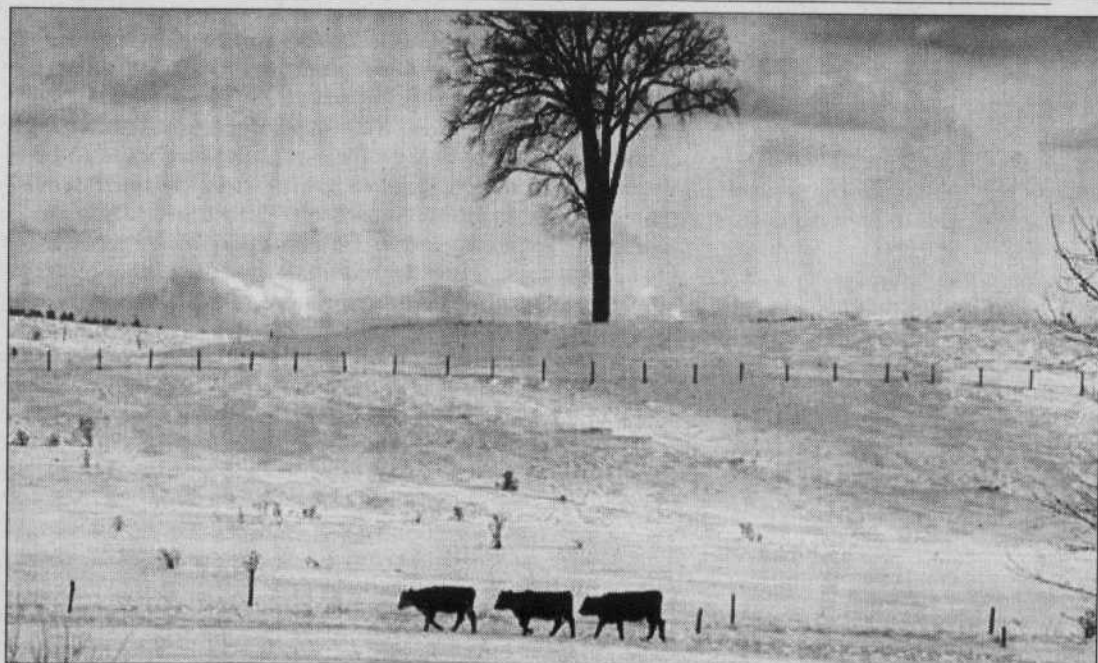
19) When you score a basket, it's important to grin widely at your parents on the sideline. Feel free to clap along. Dancing is acceptable. Victory laps, however, are discouraged.

20) There is no scoring at this level. It is a scientific fact, however, that every game ends in a tie.



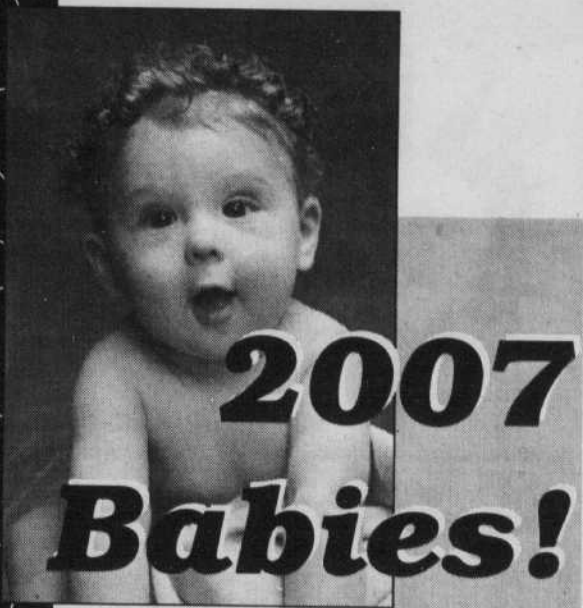
ROSS MURRAY

## By Night



GORDON ALEXANDER

Richmond correspondent Gordon Alexander writes: "...and three wise cows came from the east..."



# 2007 Babies!

Proud parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, show off your pride and joy in our "Babies of 2007" edition of **The Record** to be published on January 11, 2008. Although all babies are welcome and will be featured in our special issue, only those born in 2007 will be considered for a cover photo and story (randomly selected for this honour).

Mail a photograph of the baby with: baby's name, birthday, parents' name, hometown and 10 words describing the little tyke, along with \$20. (taxes included) and a stamped, self-addressed envelope to **The Record** at 1195 Galt St. East, Sherbrooke, QC J1G 1Y7 OR 88A Lakeside, Knowlton, QC JOE 1V0.

**Deadline: December 31, 2007.**

Published on January 11, 2008.

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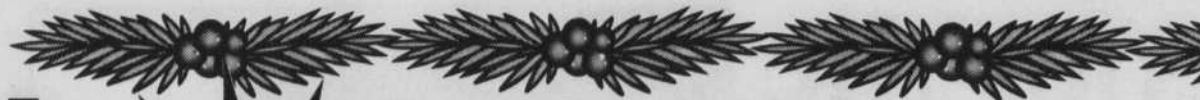
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# Hells Angels are hit

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SHERBROOKE • LAVAL • GRANBY

**E**ighteen alleged Hells Angels members were facing charges Wednesday after authorities swept across central and western Canada and locations across the border in highly orchestrated raids.

The charges against the alleged Angels and others include drug trafficking, conspiracy to commit murder and illegal importation of firearms. One alleged Hells Angel is facing a conspiracy to commit murder charge along with two other people.

Raids were conducted in Manitoba, Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia and the United States.

The Hells in Quebec have a clubhouse on Queen Street in Sherbrooke; it was not touched.

Police said they seized 11 kilograms of cocaine, 2,000 methamphetamine tablets and five kilograms of marijuana, along with five machine pistols and three handguns illegally imported from the U.S. to Canada.

The raids were the result of an investigation started in November 2006 by the Manitoba Integrated Organized Crime Task Force, code named Project Drill. - CanWest News



## CULTURE:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 9

in the culture of my tribe, it means that you started your day on the right foot and that all you will touch will bloom."

"As a native of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and with my own background as head of schools and as an architect (training that his bishop encouraged him to pursue as he often spent spare time helping with the reconstruction of his community), I feel it is my task to prepare a place in my country where I could contribute to the educations of these children. I think the best way to help people is to teach them how they can be responsible for themselves," said Lokonga.

The country is rich in all kinds of natural resources: diamonds, gold, timber. The Congo is rich in all kinds of underground ores, such as the plutonium (uranium) which was used to build the atom bomb that ended World War II with the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It is the newly discovered ore called coltan (more properly known as columbite-tantalite) that is in high demand because of its use in cell phones, VCRs, computers and stereos and is widely sought after by various multinational companies. This has led to even more corruption and death in Congo.

Dating as far back as the 15th century, the people living in this part of Africa have been subjected to many forms of cruel treatment. It wasn't until 1908 that the Belgium government granted colonial status to the Belgian Congo. The Belgium government built schools, hospitals and churches (the majority of which were destroyed during the following years of turmoil). The Belgians also, however, kept the Congolese from sharing in their country's economic fortunes or from having any role in the government. Congo finally gained its independence from Belgium in 1990.

Travel is difficult due to the lack of good roads. The main mode of traffic is by boat or bicycle, and by air whenever possible, but airports are few and far between. Many are still living with no electricity or running water.

It was for these reasons that Father Daniel altered his original thoughts for the location of the school, which was to be constructed in his remote local village of Okidialomami. It would be more practical to build it closer to the capital, Kinshasa (making it easier to get construction materials and skilled workers). Further, in Kinshasa there are seven Rotary clubs which could be of help. The Kinshasa-Kingabwa has been selected the partner club to oversee the project.

The school would teach children how to read, how to cultivate the soil, how to breed domestic animals, how to build their own house and be able to fix things. Lokonga hopes to help children find a job in fields such as housing, farming, fishing, mechanic workings, and brick making. Plus how to breed animals and how to plant a vegetable garden.

The total cost of school construction will be about US\$80,000.

In addition to learning to speak English, Father Daniel Lokonga has also passed his driver's licence, a test which he had to take in English. Lokonga closed by saying that he could only hope that the Rotary would see this project through his eyes and decide to help to give these people a chance to make a life for themselves and "as you know the best way to do that is through education!"

# Stanstead Review

SERVING STANSTEAD AND  
ITS BORDER COMMUNITY



ALSO SEE:  
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2007 PAGE 9

## Father Daniel has a dream

### A school for orphans in Congo

By Nancy Nourse  
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Father Daniel Lokonga has so far visited three area Rotary clubs to publicize his dream of building a school to help children in his home country of Congo — especially for the many orphaned during a 10-year period of war.

"I came to this country on a special four-year program designed to ease the shortage of Catholic priests in the Vermont area... on a program that would see priests from the Congo coming to help out here in the U.S. wherever there was a need," said Lokonga.

"The first community that I served was in Newport, where I met Dick and Elizabeth Fletcher. I have since been assigned to a parish in St. Albans, Vt."

And on Dec. 3, Dick Fletcher introduced Lokonga to members of the Boundary International Rotary Club. Fletcher told how he had met Father Daniel through his local church and had come to know and respect this gentle man for his contributions not only locally but also on behalf of those back in the Congo region. And Fletcher wants to help Lokonga fulfill his dream.

Fletcher and club President Al Marin accompanied Lokonga to the Sherbrooke and Newport Rotary Club last week, hoping to gain their support for the project as well.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) was formerly called Zaire. Lokonga's country is the third largest (Algeria and Sudan are larger but are mostly desert) on the continent of Africa, with a population of more than 66 million people divided among 250 tribes. There are four principal languages spoken with more than 241 dialects.

As French is the administrative and official language of the country (set in place by the Belgians years ago), Lokonga benefited greatly from several months of English lessons with Elizabeth Fletcher (a retired teacher). He said he now feels much more comfortable relating to the people in his parish in

English.

Lokonga's interest in providing an education for the children of his land comes quite naturally. He said his father was head of schools for 50 years. He died during the war trying to help children who had fled from Rwanda in hopes of finding a safer life. Lokonga also lost many other family members at this time. "While many of them, you never really know for sure what happened to them, but as a rule, if you have not heard any news for a long time, it is most possible that they have been killed."

This war was characterized by the United Nations as "the biggest tragedy in the world since WWII — killing more than six million Congolese people.

The abuse that the women and children, especially those from Rwanda and Uganda, suffered at the hands of the soldiers has contributed largely to the magnitude of the AIDS crisis in the country.

"The children during these 10 years were enrolled in their armies and not allowed to attend schools in many areas. As a result, they are ashamed to attempt school with their very young brothers and sisters. Pride stands in their way.

"My dream is to see a school built for the children between the ages of 10 and up. I want to name this training centre Dihele which was my father's middle name and who most influenced me to become a servant of the Lord. His love of teaching children never left him until his death during the war. Dihele is a kind of small crocodile that people do not kill because when you meet it,

### Memory Tree



NANCY NOURSE

It has become an annual event in Stanstead for the Frontier Branch of the Canadian Legion to hold a fundraiser for the CAB Rediker Center Christmas Campaign. This fundraiser is in the form of a Christmas tree on which each light is lit in memory of a loved one who has passed away. This year's campaign raised \$1,010 and the money was presented to Mylène Labonté, directrice of the CAB Rediker Center, by Glenna Dubois and Legion President David Woodard.



NANCY NOURSE

PLEASE SEE CULTURE ON PAGE 8

Rotarian Dick Fletcher (at right) and Father Daniel Lokonga prepare to meet with other members of the Boundary Rotary Club to discuss a dream.



# 12 monthly check-ups, 11 specialists...



Members of the newly formed CAB Rediker Choir also entertained their friends at Tuesday's get-together.

## The 12 Days of Christmas

By Nancy Nourse  
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

It was a festive time at the CAB Rediker Center on Tuesday as English-speaking seniors gathered to share in the spirit of Christmas. Lynn Wood, co-ordinator of the English-speaking seniors' activities, had lots of surprises in store.

There were Christmas carols with Tom Richer at the keyboard, a visit from the newly organized CAB Rediker choir, a holiday meal prepared by Jovette Higgins and her staff, the traditional exchange of gifts and a special visit from gospel chalk artist François Berg-

eron (he draws) and four members of the Chartier family.

Bergeron shared the story of a young girl named Emma who was spending her first Christmas without her father, who had recently passed away. While going through the home where she grew up, she found a gift that she had given him one Christmas when she was very little — a box that appeared empty to the eye but was filled with the special kisses that represented the unique love that a little girl shares with her father. With a blend of artistic talent, musical melody and special lighting effects, Bergeron brought the emotions of this little girl into the hearts of those who listened to his story.

Lynn Wood and Maryse Trépanier (co-ordinator of the French speaking activities at CAB Rediker Center) are firm

believers that laughter is good medicine for everyone, especially seniors. In keeping with this belief — and with the Christmas spirit — Lynn Wood shared a new variation of the 12 Days of Christmas: 12 monthly check-ups, 11 specialists, 10 cures for hemorrhoids, 9 arthritic Aspirins, 8 tests for memory, 7 day pill sorters, 6 weeks of physio, 5 bags of prunes, 4 quadruple bypasses, 3 joint replacements, two hearing aids and a look at med...ical glee!

No one was to be forgotten as 'Happy Birthday' was sung to Hazel Laberee who was celebrating her 85th birthday that very day and Laurie Tilton who would soon be celebrating his special day; this gentleman was not so quick to divulge his age.



NANCY NOURSE

The Chartier sisters are very comfortable with their violins which they have been playing for several years.



NANCY NOURSE

The Chartier brothers join in the fun with banjo and guitar in hand.

### BRIEFS

#### Learning to be an elf

Each time you get a little older, you must acquire the skills needed to help you succeed. Such is the case of the young clown who so wants to become one of Santa's elves... but first he must succeed at all the tasks that an elf must know how to do, including wrapping gifts, finding a costume of his very own and other such necessary skills.

This special event for children ages 3 to 8 will be held at the Haskell Library on Saturday, Dec. 15 at 2:30 p.m.

#### Free Community Dinner

The Community Dinner and annual Santa's visit for the kids, sponsored by community members with the help of the Stanstead Fire Department, will be held Sunday.

This is a free activity open to all, beginning at noon. For the last couple of years, Santa has been combining his visit with this community event.

Organizers are ready for 700 guests. Event to be held at l'École du Jardins des Frontières, 7 Park Street, Stanstead, on Dec. 16.

#### Babies!

The Record has decided to bring back one of its more popular special issues: 2007 Babies! Proud parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles are invited to show off their special little ones.

All babies whose information is received will be featured in the issue, to be published on Jan. 11, however, only the ones actually born in 2007 will be eligible for the cover photo and story (a tot will be randomly selected for this honour). You are asked to include the baby's name, birthday, parent name(s), hometown and 10 words describing your little one, along with the photograph. Taxes have been included in the \$20 fee. A stamped, self-addressed envelope should also be included. The deadline is Monday, Dec. 31.

- Nancy Nourse

# Are farmers really to blame?

## Two countries, two sets of manure rules

By Nancy Nourse  
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

The Three Villages were originally defined as the towns of Rock Island and Stanstead in Quebec, and the Town of Derby Line in Vermont and over the years, many aspects of life have been intertwined, including sewer systems and the water supply. The cause of frustration for Réal Ferland is that farmers on the Quebec side are obliged to comply with very different regulations than are the farmers on the American side of the border.

"As I sit in front of my window or visit the family farm that my two sons now run, it concerns me greatly to see the slopes on the horizon covered with manure which has been spread by Vermont farmers. While I understand that they have every right to do so (until Dec. 15 under Vermont regulations), my frustra-

tion stems from the fact that Quebec farmers are obliged to stop spreading manure on their fields by Oct. 1."

Continues Ferland: "In my opinion, the Quebec law makes more sense environmentally, both at the time of spreading and later in possible benefits to the land. If you spread manure on fields when the ground is frozen, there is no way that the earth can absorb any of the nutrients which is the purpose behind spreading it in the first place, is it not? Another negative point to this late spreading is that as soon as there is the slightest thaw, that manure runs off into nearby streams and brooks, affecting our water supply system — something that we are hearing a lot about these days," says Ferland, who has operated a farm for well over 30 years.

Ferland went on to say that the only way a Quebec farmer will ever see an extension of this law is if he plants certain crops that have a long season — and then he must plow the manure into the soil as soon as he finishes spreading it. The soil

then benefits from the nutrients and there is no damage environmentally.

Even if the ground does not freeze until long after Oct. 1, there are few plants that will prosper or even survive at all in the varied temperatures of pre-winter months. He says it's a waste of good manure to apply it to frozen fields, throwing away valuable nutrients that could be used to enrich the farmland.

Having served as mayor of Stanstead East for 14 years, Ferland is familiar with government regulations and their pros and cons.

"We have to keep a clear eye on the gate — look at both sides of the issue and do what's fair, especially in making plans and decisions that can affect our future and that of our children. We hear a lot about the blue-green algae and the problems that it is causing in our lakes and waterways. Are regulations such as what we have been talking about really helping deal with the problem?" inquires Ferland.

PLEASE SEE FARM ON PAGE 12

## Redesign improves ride in new Nissan Murano.



The 2009 Nissan Murano is much more impressive than the original in virtually all its trim levels and certainly a leader in its segment.

By David Booth

CanWest News Service

PHOENIX, Ariz. - There's no question Nissan has always known how to build good cars. The Maxima has always been one of every autojournalist's top picks, the 510 is probably the most fondly remembered Japanese automobile of the '70s and the Pathfinder has long been a front-runner in the SUV market. On the other hand, Nissan has had a problem with backing up its engineering with attractive styling.

On a list of the ugliest Japanese cars in history, you'll often find the company's B210, F10 and Pulsar battling for top honours.

So, it's understandable, then, that when it has a certifiable hit on its hands, such as the Murano crossover, that Nissan is: a) eager to replicate its success and b) loath to screw up a good thing. Therefore, it's not surprising that, despite Nissan's contention that the new Murano rides on a completely revised D platform, the 2009 looks strikingly similar to the 2007 model it replaces.

Ian Forsyth, director of corporate and product planning for Nissan Canada, takes pains to point out that the front and rear fascias and grilles are radically different. But, in silhouette, the cars are all but identical save for the 2009's more pronounced fender flares. That's not to say that the new Murano isn't attractive, but simply that the 2009 model looks more like a mid-cycle refreshing than a ground-up redesign.

Forsyth's contention that the Murano has been completely redesigned gains credence in the driving. He says the '09 is a whopping 150 per cent stiffer in torsion and, indeed, the first impression of

the new Murano is of a new-found solidity. There is virtually no body shake over even large bumps.

Little of the shock being absorbed by the all-independent suspension is transmitted to the occupants and, on some pretty twisty roads near Jerome, Ariz., the Murano was impressively composed.

Forsyth claims that said composure results, at least in part, from the Murano's advanced all-wheel-drive system (all Canadian Muranos will be AWD) that anticipates the need for traction by measuring throttle position, body yaw and steering angle. And, in an unusual departure for an AWD vehicle developed off a front-wheel-drive platform, the 2009 Murano defaults to a 50/50 front-to-rear torque split when taking off from a stop before later transmitting all of the engine's power to the front wheels.

The Murano also maintains its excellent ride characteristics. Despite the low-profile, 20-inch tires standard on the LE, for instance, the ride is quite compliant and the handling is as precise as any SUV owner will require.

Nissan's 3.5-litre V6 has been a perennial "best" engine for more than a decade. For Murano use, it's been newly fortified to 265 horsepower and 248 pound-feet of torque. Those aren't sports car numbers, nor does the Murano accelerate like a Corvette, but neither is it going to have sand kicked in its face by some bullying V8 Tahoe.

Performance is greatly aided by the Murano's standard Xtronic continuously variable transmission (CVT). Nissan's CVT has suffered a little in the press mainly as a result of the early system offered on the Versa. On that car, the Xtronic sys-

tem makes the little four-banger drone on and on, making the Versa sound like an anemic tramp steamer.

The system has been recalibrated for Murano use and, along with the V6's superior engine note, there are none of those deleterious sound effects inside the cabin. In fact, most users will hardly ever notice any difference between this and a traditional automatic transmission. On the other hand, CVTs are supposed to improve fuel economy (the Murano's engine, for instance, loafs at a fuel-conserving 2,000 rpm at 135 kilometres an hour), but our initial impressions don't back that up.

Our test unit barely made 350 clicks on a tank and returned but 16 miles per U.S. gallon, though the fuel economy might have been affected by the aforementioned cruising speed.

The inside of the Murano is thoroughly revised. The new dashboard is much more elegant and, when combined with the optional seven-inch LCD (with built-in backup camera), the entire plot is very upscale, almost surprisingly so for a mid-sized Nissan SUV.

But don't expect much change from \$55,000 for this fully loaded crossover.

So equipped, however, the top-of-the-line LE model has as many amenities as a top-flight luxury sedan including a DVD-based entertainment system for the rear-seat occupants, a navigation system, a 9.3-gigabyte Music Box hard drive and heated rear seats.

The 2009 Murano is much more impressive than the original in virtually all its trim levels and certainly a leader in its segment.

Its price, on the other hand, may take some getting used to.

## FARM:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 11

He also points out that people are quick to see what is easy (like a farmer's field spread with manure) but rarely take the time to notice other things that may play a part in the overall issue. He cites an example. People will quickly comment on what a bad thing is the spreading of manure on fields that could lead to a runoff into a lake.

They may not take into account the row of cottages built along the waterfront that may be venting their sewage directly into the lake, or the thousands of snow geese that land on the water each fall. "We don't stop to think where our own waste goes when we flush the toilet, what do you think that the snow geese do with their waste products?"

Ferland points to the dump site that was to be built in the Coventry, Vt. area, near the water table, that caused quite a stir but it did get the governments of both countries talking and trying to work out a solution that was fair and environmentally reasonable for residents on both sides of the border.

Dave Gauvin of the United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources & Conservation Service tells us that he is in charge of the design of "closed structures" which also come under a great deal of scrutiny by the agency.

"The term 'in a sealed environment' refers to the restrictions that are applied to the farm concerning the laying of manure products with regard to the ground water table and concerns about the area water supply systems and neighbouring wells. The containment for

manure must be in one of three types: earthen with a solid clay base, earthen cavity lined with strong plastic, or a concrete structure which is obviously the more costly. Whichever system is used, the application is closely monitored by regional offices. There must also be a 35-to 40 ft. buffer zone that applies where no one is allowed to spread their manure. This also helps to keep the streams and natural waterways from becoming contaminated," says Gauvin.

When asked about the difference in the allowed time to spread manure between the two countries, he felt that the balance between environmental issues and the concerns and needs of the farmers was being met in Vermont. Gauvin told how irresponsible it would be to encourage farmers to operate farms and then put barriers in place that would hinder their ability to do so. Gauvin felt that the area's tendency to cooler weather was taken into account when creating the current regulations so that the farmer could have as large a window of opportunity as possible to empty his manure pit before the winter deadline.

Gauvin presented the scenario of a farmer's manure storage pit that was half full in October, being obliged to wait until April to legally empty the waste product. He called this a recipe for disaster in terms of an overflow that was bound to happen over the winter months, one that would run into the ground water and contaminate the water table, creating far more serious problems than allowing farmers to spread manure on their fields a little longer in the fall. This is especially true with the unstable and unpredictable weather that we have been experiencing in recent years.

## SNOW:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 10

are the responsibility of the landlord. Was this guy for real, or what? The poor 80-something lady needed a walker to get around. How in tarnation did he expect her to clear snow? She often hired neighbourhood kids but they were not always available. Larry definitely showed his inconsiderate side.

Then when this winter began a couple of weeks ago, I decided that I wasn't going through a repeat of last season. One day, I casually made it a point to politely tell Larry that I needed his help to have snow-free steps this winter. He grunted a response of "I'll think about it" and trudged off. Don't get me wrong. Larry is otherwise a good neighbour who is quiet and never disturbs me. It's just his lackadaisical attitude towards snow clearing.

After Larry left me to shovel yet again, another Stanstead resident happened to walk by. He noticed the disgusted look on my face.

"Let me guess. The guy upstairs isn't giving you a hand again," he said.

"You got it. Larry conveniently makes himself scarce during every snowstorm."

"Why don't you put a shovel under his Christmas tree this year?" The answer: "Good idea. Then I'll make sure the shovel comes with a manual that shows him how to use it."

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Games  
... see Page 14

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2007 PAGE 13

## Random digressions

Notes and comments from the big wide world

By Mike Hickey  
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

You know Christmas is near when the Canadian Junior National Team begins training camp. What is being hailed by Hockey Canada as "the next step towards the 2008 International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) World Junior Championship" began Monday when 36 of Canada's top junior players arrived in Calgary and took to the ice for their first practice.

The World Championships, which will begin Boxing Day in the Czech Republic, have been a holiday rite for Canadian sports fans and a source of pride as our stars of the future battle against the best young players in the world. Thirty-six players were invited to camp, although one was sent home before the players even hit the ice.

Kitchener Rangers forward Nick Spaling left camp on Monday due to a bout with mononucleosis.

He will not be replaced.

As expected, several NHL players eligible to play for Team Canada will stay with their professional clubs including Sherbrooke native David Perron. The St. Louis Blues officially announced that the teenager would remain with the Blues for the remainder of the season. He has 11 points on six goals and five assists in 17 games and is on pace to score 25 goals, not that bad for a player with only one year of major junior hockey under his belt.

Canada's final roster will include two goalies, seven defencemen and 13 forwards. Head coach Craig Hartsburg, who directed the team to a gold medal last year, will not have an easy task trimming the roster to 22 players. It's filled with quality players, most of whom are destined to play some day in the NHL.

### LEBEAU ICES A WINNER IN MAGOG

Speaking of hockey, it is great to see former Montreal Canadiens Stephane Lebeau doing a masterful job as head coach of the Magog Cantonniers. Heading into action this weekend Magog is in fourth place in the Quebec Midget AAA Hockey League, just six points behind the first-place College Antoine



COURTESY

All hail to the coach of the Magog Cantonniers, Stephane Lebeau.

Girouard.

Lebeau is a class act who always faced adversity with determination and hard work and the qualities that made him an excellent player have also assisted in his coaching endeavours. He is a teacher who stresses fundamentals and dedication to the game. Early in his playing days, he was an offensive centre who dominated in junior and the minors and spent seven productive years in the NHL despite the fact that he was undrafted as a junior.

Born in St. Jerome but raised in Sherbrooke, Lebeau was a scoring star for four years with the QMJHL's Shawinigan Cataracts. He led the league with 94 goals in 1987-'88 and was selected to the league's second all-star team twice. He signed as a free agent with the Montreal Canadiens and proceeded to tear up the American Hockey League. He led the league with 70 goals and 134 points in 1988-'89, was named to the all-star team and presented the Dudley "Red" Garrett Award as the top rookie in the AHL.

During the 1992-'93 season Lebeau scored six post-season points and helped the Canadiens with their final Stanley Cup. He later played for Anaheim before heading to Switzerland. Lebeau will make the Cantonniers better hockey players, he will also make them better players.

The Cantonniers' next local game is Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at the Magog arena.

### NFL COACH TAKES EASY ROAD

The rookie head coach of the Atlanta Falcons, one Bobby Petrino, has decided that perhaps the National Football League is not his thing. News sources announced last night that Petrino will leave the NFL's Atlanta Falcons after just 13 games and return to the coaching ranks, accepting the head coaching job at the University of Arkansas.

Petrino left the University of Louisville to become Falcons coach in January for a five-year, \$24 million contract, largely because Atlanta felt he

could help star quarterback Michael Vick reach his full potential.

A few months later, Vick came under investigation for a grisly dog fighting operation that eventually led him to plead guilty to federal charges. He was sentenced Monday to 23 months in prison without ever taking a snap for Petrino.

Without Vick, the Falcons' season was in disarray as they searched for a capable replacement for their suspended franchise player. To say the season was tough on the players, coaches and owner Arthur Blank would be a gross understatement. After losing Vick, Petrino tried three other starting quarterbacks without success and the Falcons were 3-10 on the season following Monday's night one-sided defeat at the hands of the New Orleans Saints.

The resignation had to be a major surprise to Blank, who lured Petrino with a lucrative contract and who stated on national TV Monday night that he

PLEASE SEE PETRINO ON PAGE 14

# Western backlash to Quebec athlete?

## Olympic chef de mission

In all fairness to the reporter, he was only anticipating a question he was certain his boss would want asked: Could there be some backlash, in a western Canadian host city of the Winter Olympic Games, to a female, short-track speed skating Quebecer being named our 2010 Olympic team's chef de mission?

Mike Chambers, the Canadian Olympic Committee president, didn't laugh out loud, but permit me.

Ha-ha-ha!

If it weren't for women and Quebec athletes in general, and speed skaters as a leading subspecies, we would be down there with Antarctica in the medals standings.

Okay, that's not strictly true. We'd still have medals in hockey and curling. And Antarctica, with a permanent population of, uh, let's see here — zero residents, would be hard-pressed to ice a quorum for either sport.

But Nathalie Lambert? If you've got a problem with her, you've got problems bigger than gender, ethnicity or choice of sport.

The 44-year-old Montrealer isn't merely a pretty good choice for the job of leading Canada's team into Vancouver-Whistler 26 months from now — she's bloody perfect for it.

"Nathalie's got everything the chef needs," said Chambers. "She can provide leadership for the athletes, she has been an athlete herself — that's not an absolute requirement, but it's helpful — she competed in an Olympic Winter Games that took place in Canada, so she knows the particular focus that's going to be on the athletes in Vancouver.

"And she's a tremendously dedicated person to the Olympic movement in Canada. I could go on, but that's enough to bring her over the finish line first."

The Quebec question? Sylvie Bernier. Horrors! A female diver from Quebec is the Canadian chef de mission for Beijing next summer. Can a royal commission be far away?

"It's not surprising that an athlete should be chosen from the province of Quebec," Chambers said. "If our other provinces supported the development of their athletes to the extent that Quebec does, maybe they would be succeeding to the same extent on a per capita basis."

It doesn't hurt that Lambert isn't merely fluent in both languages, but eloquent.

You don't need someone behind the microphone at an Olympics stammering over the words while trying to a) put out the fire when there is controversy; b) stand up for the athletes when they underachieve or c) underline their successes; all tasks over which the chef de mission must preside as the practical head of the athletic delegation.

But what really strikes you about Lambert is her energy, her passion, her fire.

Raised in Montreal, too poor to af-

ford tickets to see the 1976 Summer Olympics, her parents took her to Sherbrooke Street to see the athletes forming up for the march into Olympic Stadium, and she was hooked.

"I was inspired by [Romanian gymnast] Nadia Comaneci, not to become a gymnast but... that was when I started skating, and so 1976 was a key moment for me, and so was 1984, when I didn't make the [long-track speed skating] team, but I saw my teammates march in the opening ceremonies [in Sarajevo] and Gaetan Boucher win gold medals... and I really wanted to live that for myself," she said this week.

When short-track made its Olympic debut as a demonstration sport in 1988, she competed for Canada in Calgary. Then Albertville, where she won a relay gold medal. Then Lillehammer, where she won two more medals. And if she hadn't broken an ankle two months before the Games in 1998, she'd have still been at it in Nagano.

It was in Lillehammer where Lambert made international headlines by getting tangled up with one-woman wrecking crew Cathy Turner of the U.S., who ruined a lot

of skaters' Olympic careers by elbowing and clawing her way past competitors in a sport so new it hadn't quite decided on rules yet.

The Chinese silver medallist whose thigh Turner had grabbed to catapult herself into the lead en route to one of her gold medals refused to stand beside her on the medals podium and threw her flowers on the ground in disgust.

"I'm upset with Cathy Turner but I'm more angry with the judges," Lambert said, after tumbling out of a semifinal heat when she and Turner clicked skates. "They're making our sport look like a Mickey Mouse sport. They're doing such a shitty job here it's incredible." (Told you she was eloquent in English.)

"She never gets disqualified. She must have a lucky star somewhere. She put my last two years of training in the garbage

for nothing."

Reminded of those quotes Monday, Lambert smiled.

"I'm not embarrassed by the way I handled it. Of course, it was under very high emotion, but to this day, I think in 1994, short-track was still a new sport to the Olympic family, and there was no replay, the judging system was not what it is now. It punished a lot of athletes in those Games — not just myself — and I guess what I said was not the proper wording, but I would argue the same way as chef de mission if it happened again in 2010.

"Sale-Pelletier for instance. There was something that happened to these athletes, and with the help of the COC, their result was changed. So in an instance like that, yes, I would be political."

When she turned the page in 1998, retired from skating and went into private business — afflicted during her career by osteoarthritis, she now has her own marketing company, has produced dance/fitness DVDs and written a book on fitness — Lambert thought she was done with Olympic sports.

"You were leaving something that you had mastered and knew you were

good at, something that was black-and-white because the stopwatch, the medal, told you when you were good," she said. "In the real world, it's a lot more grey."

Before the Games pulled her back in, she and her husband adopted two orphan girls, ages 6 and 4, from China, and she wore a Chinese pendant during our interview.

Asked what it symbolizes, she smiled: "It means happiness. Either that or 'Tourist doesn't know what she's buying.' But I think it means happiness."

And Lambert thinks there will be a lot of it in Vancouver-Whistler, funnelled to an eager country by a powerful group of Canadian athletes. It's the COC's mantra, and she's a confident woman.

It puts a lot of pressure on them, and on her, in the 26 months ahead.

But the first official member of the 2010 Olympic team has heart, and plenty of it.

May the rest of the squad follow her lead.

CAM COLE WRITES FOR THE VANCOUVER SUN

## PETRINO:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 13

felt better than ever about his decision to hire Petrino given all the adversity the team faced this season.

"I feel real fortunate we have a terrific guy leading our team, our CEO, in Bobby Petrino," Blank said. "I think he's proven to me he's a better head coach than we thought he was going to be, dealing with a set of cards we didn't see unfold this year, which probably never in the history of the NFL has anything like this happened. Bobby has done a wonderful job dealing with all of these issues. He's kept the players focused."

In reality however, when the going got tough Bobby Petrino would — go. Forget the fact that he still had four years on his contract with the Falcons; Petrino left a sinking ship with little regard for his players or the organization that made him a rich man. He showed no leadership and is now headed to a football program where he will be expected to instil the values of team work and loyalty to his new players, qualities he lacks himself.

Sorry, while Petrino may be a good tactical coach he fails miserably in the areas of responsibility, commitment and perseverance; qualities that should be required when working in an academic institution. Shame on Petrino for running out on his word when the going got tough and shame on the University of Arkansas for providing a bail-out to a man who should have honoured his contract with Atlanta.

### DUNN DOES THE RIGHT THING

It is somewhat ironic that on the same Atlanta Falcon team that once included convicted dog killer Michael Vick and the same team that Petrino left in the lurch, is running back Warrick Dunn. Dunn represents all that is good in the world, a successful athlete who has given back to several communities tenfold.

In 1997, he established Homes for the Holidays, a program of the Warrick Dunn Foundation, in Florida when he was a member of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

The Warrick Dunn Foundation's mission is ded-

icated to providing opportunities for economically-disadvantaged single parents and their children who have demonstrated a commitment to achieve financial independence and stability. Under its auspices the Homes for the Holidays program has made Christmas a very special time for so many.

Through the program, Dunn provides the down payment on a home selected by a single parent associated with an approved, non-profit, affordable home ownership program.

Recipients are qualified through the non-profits and must complete all requirements to be eligible for consideration.

In addition to the down payment the foundation also provides furniture, kitchen appliances, washers, dryers and refrigerators, lawn and garden equipment and other household essentials. To date, Dunn has assisted 69 single mothers and 181 children and dependents in Tampa, Baton Rouge, Louisiana and Atlanta, Georgia.

The program was expanded in 1998 to include families in Baton Rouge, La., where Dunn grew up, and his altruistic behaviour has had a snowball effect.

In 2002, St. Louis Rams quarterback Kurt Warner and his wife Brenda began a partnership with the Warrick Dunn Foundation in St. Louis. Tampa Bay Buccaneers linebacker Shelton Quarles and wife Damaris assisted in Tampa in 2004 and 2005. Quarles expanded the program in 2005 to his hometown of Nashville.

In 2007 the Homes for the Holidays program expanded to include families in Tallahassee, where Dunn attended college at the Florida State University.

The Warrick Dunn Foundation strives to help those who are helping themselves.

"I learned a long time ago that you cannot be all things to all people," Dunn said on his website. "However, each of us can do our part to help in some small way to make our community a better place to live. As a result of growing up in a single-mother household, I have focused my charitable efforts on helping single parent families obtain first-time homeownership." The sporting world needs fewer Michael Vicks and Bobby Petrinos and more Warrick Duns.

## Fordyce Branch Women's Institute

Entering the beautifully decorated Emmanuel United Church hall December 5, 2007 at 11:30 a.m. put the members of Fordyce Branch W.I. completely in a festive mood for the Christmas meeting.

President Norma Sherrer welcomed everyone, especially our guests Valerie Hunter, Hilda Archer and Janet Snider. She then read a poem. Listen to Christmas! - Listen to Christmas it's ringing again. The music that all of us knows. And country church steeples, And city church towers. And sleigh bells, that call through the snow. Listen to Christmas It's singing again. As all of the world rejoices. And the joyous mood of the season. Resounds in uplifted voices. Listen to Christmas. It's bringing again. A message from heaven above. A message of hope and joy and peace. A message of brotherly love. Karen Rayn Regrets were received from Verna Patterson, Mary Rowse, Hilda McEwing and Evelyn Lewis.

A short business meeting followed the Mary Stewart Collect, Salute to the Flag and Birthday Greetings to Mary Riordon, December 24. Motto "Joy to the world and Peace to all mankind." was repeated by all. The Roll Call "Bring \$2.00 for Heroes' Elementary School's special Christmas Dinner was answered by the donation, we were able to send to the school. Also was to "Bring a gift for the Knights of Columbus, Christmas baskets." The heavy laden table of beautifully wrapped gifts showed that many children will be happy with what Santa brings this year.

Soon it was time to approach the most attractive tables with either a red or green table cloth, Various centerpieces adorned each table such as two paper twist ladies, a crochet snowman, gold filigree angel etc., and at each place was a candy cane made to look like a reindeer made by Norma's 11 year old granddaughter, Samantha Davidson. Hope she realizes how happy she made the members. "Grace" was repeated and over thirty people sat down to a turkey dinner, catered by Buffet Cowansville. A Christmas log decorated the buffet table. A drawing took place re one of the decorations and Valerie Hunter won it choosing the log.

Too soon it was time to leave the tables and proceed to the church sanctuary to be entertained by the Heroes' School choir made up of students from Levels 3 to 6 under the leadership of Laura Barr, the school's music teacher, accompanied by her husband John Barr at the grand piano. The children dressed in red shirts, with elf hats in either red or green on their heads presented a musical version of the Christmas Story in costume. Four young students played an instrumental selec-

tion and Christopher, Laura and John's 11 year old son, played "Holy Night" on the trumpet. These young people held the audience "in the palms of their hands" and who were sorry to find out that it was over far too soon as the children had to return to school. President Norma donned an elf hat and after thanking the children and expressing the appreciation of all presented each one with a candy cane reindeer and the Barrs as well as teachers, Louise Smith, Susan Burnham and Brenda Sharples, who were present, with homemade jars of relish.

The members were pleased that they could leave with the true spirit of Christmas in their hearts thanks to the children and the day that they had spent together.

Many thanks to Norma for filling me in as I had to be at another celebration - Sorry I missed it!

"Wishing you always - Walls for the wind. And a roof for the rain. And tea beside the fire. Laughter to cheer you. And those you love near you. And all that your heart might desire." An Irish Wish

Season's Greetings!

Evelyn Beban Lewis (Publicity)

## St. James the Apostle Anglican Church

STANBRIDGE EAST

On Sunday, November 4, 2007, Canon William T. Blizzard conducted a service of Holy Communion in St. James the Apostle Anglican Church during which a new altar frontal, veil and burse were dedicated to the memory of Earl Blinn. Canon Blizzard was assisted by Rev. George Campbell, a friend of the Blinns. A dear friend of Mrs. (Patricia Vokey) Blinn, Mrs. Jo-Anne Candy Petley, sang the 23rd Psalm during communion. The service was well attended by friends and

relatives of Mr. and Mrs. Blinn.

Mr. Blinn was born in Stanbridge East and was a life-long member of St. James the Apostle where he had been baptized and confirmed. He served as a Warden for many years, sang in the choir and read the lessons many times.

Members and guests enjoyed a brief coffee break in the church hall. Guests and relatives then proceeded to the home of Mrs. Patricia Vokey Blinn at Selby Lake for a delicious meal.

Pearle Ingalls Yates

## UCW Kinnear's Mills

On Friday afternoon, December 7, the United Church Women met at the home of Joy Nugent, with an attendance of 6.

The President, Ruth Beattie, opened the meeting and thanked Joy for holding the meeting at her home.

Rev. Carla led the devotions.

The minutes of the last meeting were read, by the Secretary and the financial report given.

Correspondence was a note of thanks from Helen MacRae and Edna Gillander. A letter from Rev. B. Purdon and Angola Scholarship Fund.

Rev. Carla and Ruth Beattie will deliver "Linus Blankets" to Thetford Hospital, as gifts for sick children.

The Annual Candlelight Carol Ser-

vice will be held Sunday, December 16 at 3:30 p.m. at Candlish United Church. Following the service the K.I.T. Pastoral Charge will serve lunch at the Community Hall.

Donations will be given to the Community Hall, Church Treasurer, Mason's Christmas hampers and for a School Improvement Prize.

Following the meeting members busily packed Thinking of You Christmas Cheer Baskets. We would like to thank all who donated to these baskets.

All enjoyed Joy's hot cup of tea and goodie before returning to their homes and to deliver the Christmas Baskets.

Audrey Allan

Death

**CULLEN, Elizabeth Prichard (Beth)** - Suddenly on December 12, 2007 at the Lakeshore General Hospital, Montreal. Beth Cullen, in her 87th year, formerly of Bromptonville and Lennoxville, Quebec, beloved wife of the late Donald Cullen and mother of Douglas, Brian (Eleanor), Nick (Marlene), Nancy (Richard Wilson), Ronald (Wendy) and Ross. Cherished grandmother to 7 granddaughters and 8 grandsons and two great-granddaughters and five great-grandsons. Survived by her sister Dorothy Davis, of Brockville, Ontario and predeceased by her brother Wallace Prichard and sister Martha Hunter of Spencerville, Ontario. Visitation at Cass Funeral Home, 3006 College St., Sherbrooke (Lennoxville), Quebec. 819-564-1750 / www.casshomes.ca on Sunday, December 16 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. A celebration of Beth's life to be held Monday, December 17, at Plymouth Trinity United Church at 2 p.m., Reverend Heather MacDougall officiating, with interment at Elmwood Cemetery. As memorial tributes, contributions to the Plymouth-Trinity United Church would be gratefully acknowledged by the family.



**ST-ONGE, Madeline (nee Santaw)** (1937-2007) - At home in Mansonville, QC, on Saturday, December 8, 2007, at the age of 70, passed away Madeline Santaw, beloved wife of Homer St-Onge. She leaves to mourn her children Gwen, Diane, Reggie and Josy (Allan), her grandchildren Paul Gatley, Virginia, Danny, Jason, Chelsea, late Dwayne, Jenny and Karla, her great-grandchildren Kyle, Bradley, Joshua and late Haley, her brother Eddy, her nieces and nephews, cousins, numerous other relatives and friends. Family and friends will be welcomed at the St-Cajetan Catholic Church in Mansonville on Saturday, December 15, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. followed by the memorial service at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory to Heart and Stroke Foundation of Quebec, 2630 King Ouest, Bureau 100, Sherbrooke, QC J1J 2H1 would be appreciated (forms available at the church). Arrangements entrusted to the Desourdy Wilson Funeral Home, 4 Vale Perkins, Mansonville, QC JOE 1X0 Tel.: 450-292-3204, fax: 450-263-9557 info@desourdywilson.com Dignity Memorial

In Memoriam

**TETREAULT** - In memory of my beloved son Jr. who passed away December 13, 1978.

*The Dear Lord called you home,  
I could not make you stay,  
But in my mind and in my heart  
You are just a prayer away.*

Mother,  
SHIRLEY CATCHPAW LORY

## RATES and DEADLINES: ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

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

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

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

### DEADLINES FOR DEATH NOTICES:

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

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

fax 819-569-1187 (please call to confirm transmission) or e-mail:

production@sherbrookerecord.com between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. the day prior to the day of publication. The Record cannot guarantee publication if another Record number is called.

## TOWNSHIPS' CRIER

**WATERVILLE, HATLEY, NORTH HATLEY**  
In December, Sunday Services and Sunday School in Hatley United Church will be at 11 a.m., Waterville and North Hatley United Church congregations will worship in North Hatley at 7 p.m.

### LENNOXVILLE

Uplands will present its annual Christmas Concert on Friday, December 14 and Saturday, December 15 at 8 pm at the Uplands Cultural and Heritage Centre located at 9 Speid Street in the borough of Lennoxville, Sherbrooke. This year the public will be treated to a festive program of the Canadian Harmonists (Quatuor à Médée), the well known local barbershop quartet. This event is free, but due to the its popularity and limited space we would suggest that you reserve early. For more information or to make a reservation, please call 819-564-0409.

### MOE'S RIVER

The annual Moe's River Christmas Service will be held in the village church on Sunday, December 16th at 7:30 p.m., with Rev. Ron West. All are cordially invited.

### NORTH HATLEY

Children's Christmas Mass at St. Elizabeth Church in North Hatley will be held on December 24 at 5 p.m. (instead of 7:30 p.m.). Also Christmas Mass will be held at midnight. Everyone welcome.

### LENNOXVILLE

Lennoxville Curling Club Casserole Supper on Saturday, December 15 at 5:30 p.m. Turkey Bonspiel Finals in afternoon. Silent Auction held after supper. Clubhouse open Friday and Saturday to accept bids. All members and guests welcome.

### SHERBROOKE

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch #10, 971 Galt St. East, Sherbrooke will be

holding a Turkey Supper, with all the trimmings, on Saturday, December 15 at 6 p.m. Entertainment to follow supper. Come and enjoy yourself with the veterans. Info: 819-563-4944.

### RICHMOND

This is a first! The Richmond Regional High School Library is proud to announce the 2007 Bookfair, in collaboration with the fantastic Brome Lake Books bookstore. The Bookfair be open the public to shop on Parent's Night, December 13, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and on Friday, December 14, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Purchases at the Bookfair are tax free! Come and encourage a local bookstore, and our library! All purchases contribute to points which will be redeemable for books for the library. You may also encourage anyone you know to shop online at [www.bromelakebooks.ca](http://www.bromelakebooks.ca) - please mention RRHS when making online purchases, or at the store itself, at any time all year long, and points will be accumulated for our library. For more information, contact Sheila Quinn weekday mornings at RRHS at 819-826-3702.

### LENNOXVILLE

The members of the Lennoxville-Ascot Historical and Museum Society are invited to a dessert party and soirée of carol singing on Monday, December 17 at 7 p.m. at Uplands (9 Speid St., Borough of Lennoxville). Be treated to a relaxing evening at no charge. For more information, please call 819-564-0409.

### AYER'S CLIFF

The annual meeting of the E.T. County Fairs Association will be held on Thursday, December 13 in the Ayer's Cliff Legion Hall, 176 Rosedale Ave., at 10 a.m. Delegates from each fair, please take note.

### TRENHOLM

A Celebration of Christmas service will be held on December 16 at 8 p.m. at Trenholm United Church. Everyone is warmly welcomed to attend this holiday tradition. Our coffee and cookie hour will follow the service.

### TOWNSHIPS

The recent CFUW Sherbrooke & District

Club publication, "Days to Remember: One-room Schoolhouses in the Eastern Townships of Quebec", can be purchased through Townshippers' Association (819-566-5717) and the club's website [www.cfuwsherbrooke.org/pages/special\\_projects](http://www.cfuwsherbrooke.org/pages/special_projects) Books are also available at the following outlets: Nicholas Hoare, 1366 Green Ave., in Montreal; Bishop's Bookstore, Black Cat, Tri-Us in Lennoxville; Papeterie 2000, Trillium, Wales Home Shop in Richmond; Le Petit Danvillois in Danville; Magasin Général d'Ayer's Cliff in Ayer's Cliff; Brome Lake Books in Knowlton; Librairie Le Livre d'or in Sutton; Colby-Curtis Museum in Stanstead; the Missisquoi Historical Society, and the following libraries: North Hatley, Bury and Lennoxville.

### NORTH HATLEY

Sunday, December 16 at 7 p.m., North Hatley United Church annual Carol Service, followed by a time of fellowship. Come sing carols and hear the Christmas story.

### LENNOXVILLE

Ham and Turkey Bingo at ANAF Unit 318, 300 St. Francis Street, Sherbrooke on Wednesday, December 19, 2007 starting at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome!

### WAY'S MILLS

Saturday, December 15, annual Christmas Carol Service will be held at the Church of the Epiphany, Way's Mills at 4 p.m. followed by a social hour in the Community Centre. Please remember to bring a flashlight with you! Hope to see you there.

### LENNOXVILLE

Lennoxville United Church, corner of Queen and Church Street: Choir Carol Service on December 16 at 10:00 a.m. followed by refreshments. Rev. James Potter, 819-565-8449.

### LENNOXVILLE

2006 Edition of the book "Municipalité D'Irlande/Municipality of Ireland" 1802-2002, covering the Bennett Settlement, Cranberry, Maple Grove, New Ireland and Salaberry is available at both the Townshippers Office and the Black Cat Book Store in Lennoxville. A great Christmas gift! For further info call Bev.

Loomis 819-346-6746.

### RICHMOND-MELBOURNE

Christmas Events in Richmond Melbourne Pastoral Charge: Sunday, December 16: Joint Service and Christmas Pageant at Melbourne Ridge United Church at 1 p.m. Cold Pot Luck, Thursday, December 20, "Blue Christmas" Ecumenical service at Richmond Melbourne United Church at 7:30 p.m. Friday, December 21, Caroling (we will gather outside the church at 6:30 p.m.) followed by a movie at the Manse.

### DUNHAM

All Saints Anglican Church Dunham, Celebration of Holy Eucharist, December 24 at 9:30 p.m. All welcome!

### AUSTIN

Jam Sessions: Christmas Party at Austin Town Hall December 16, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Admission charged. Complete home cooked Christmas meal for an additional fee. Gifts for everyone. Bring your voices and instruments and come join the fun. Celebrate a Funtastic New Year's Eve with the Eastern Township's one and only "Home Grown Country" and Guests, 8:30 p.m. till 1 a.m. New Year's Eve, December 31 at Oddfellows Hall, Knowlton. Lots of games and door prizes and cold buffet after midnight. Admission charged. For advanced tickets call, 450-242-2363, 450-292-3073, 450-263-8044. Hosted by Salute to Quebec Seniors.

...

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

## Being a caregiver is hard work

**Dear Annie:** Four days ago, my husband and I waited 12 hours for the birth of our son's first baby. As soon as we were allowed to see our new grandchild, we rushed into the hospital room, thrilled beyond belief. Our joy was short-lived because soon after, our daughter-in-law's

friends started arriving. My husband and I were speechless that grown people would be so rude and intrusive on OUR time.

Our grandchild was passed from friend to friend, and each one held the baby before my husband. I cannot believe the insensitivity of these people. We waited all day to share the joy with our son and his wife. These friends acted like they had a right to be there. They should have waited until the next day to visit and should have had enough common sense to know this was "family time."

We are saddened and angry that this once-in-a-lifetime moment was taken from us. Everyone

### Annie's Mailbox

watched the baby get his first bath while my husband and I looked over their shoulders. It was the ultimate intrusion, and the more I think about it, the angrier I become. Should I say something or let it go? — No Name, No City

**Dear No Name:** Please, please, please, let it go. Chances are, those friends were specifically invited by your son and his wife, who wanted to share their joy with as many people as possible. You will have plenty of opportunities to get to know your grandson, and this particular time will become insignificant. His birth was not about you, and we urge you not to give the impression that it was.

**Dear Annie:** I am in a dead-end marriage and also am the caregiver for my husband's 85-year-old invalid mother. After my mother-in-law came out of the hospital two years ago, I was the only one who volunteered to take her in. I thought it would bring my husband and me closer, but it has only created more problems.

He won't even help me with her unless I start a fight about it. My husband's siblings — all four of them — said, "We'll help

whenever you need something," and changed their minds shortly after she moved in. They visit her once a week and think it's enough. When I ask someone to come over so I can get out, I hear, "Why me? Ask someone else." She is THEIR mother, not mine, and I am ready to run away.

My mother-in-law is a nice lady who helped me in the past and I am very grateful, which is one reason I took her in. But it's a burden to be tied down 24/7. Any suggestions? — Burned Out

**Dear Burned Out:** Being a caregiver is hard work and you are to be commended for taking on this often thankless job. Have your husband get his siblings together with you and create a schedule so each one is responsible for Mom one afternoon a week (or whatever you can work out). Or, ask them to contribute financially to the cost of a senior day care program or home assistance. We also recommend you contact the Family Caregiver Alliance ([caregiver.org](http://caregiver.org)) at 1-800-445-8106 for help, support, information and resources.

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



Happy  
Birthday  
Maurice!

from all of us at:

Brome County  
NEWS



& THE RECORD

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: P equals J

"CJXUF FBD XBNG TGYTEG, VJL UL FBD'L UD LZG FYCCGMFUBE OBI UL'X VGUDW JXGR. UL'X PJXL LYY CJFZ. UL'X TYEEJLUYD." - VYV RIEBD

PREVIOUS SOLUTION -- "The possession of knowledge does not kill the sense of wonder and mystery. There is always more mystery." - Anaïs Nin

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KIT N' CARLYLE

l.wright2005@detnews.com



HERMAN



ALLEY OOP



ARLO & JANIS



THE BORN LOSER



FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE



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SOUP TO NUTS



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

DEADLINE: 12:30 P.M. ONE DAY PRIOR TO PUBLICATION  
OR MAIL YOUR PREPAID CLASSIFIED ADS TO  
THE RECORD, P.O. BOX 1200, SHERBROOKE, QUEBEC J1H 5L4

001 Property for Sale

BEAUTIFUL REBUILT 26x48 bungalow in Lennoxville. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, wooden floors and ceramic, carport, 2 sheds, 12x12 deck. Everything is new: windows, doors, roof, plumbing, electricity. 3 Elmwood Street. 819-563-3860.

**Classifieds**  
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035 For Rent

BROMONT - 3 1/2 room apt., quiet residential area, close to ski mountain, large bedroom, very clean. \$370. per month. Possibility to buy appliances. Available immediately. Call 450-578-2639, leave message.

CLASSIFIEDS NOW ONLINE!

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

035 For Rent

LENOXVILLE - Small bungalow, 2 bedrooms. Washer and dryer outlet, fridge and stove. Hydro extra. \$575. per month. Call between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.: 819-345-6966.

050 Rest Homes

PRIVATE ROOMS available for seniors in family home, 5 minutes from Lennoxville. Home cooking, doctor on call. For more information call 819-563-1388.

100 Job Opportunities

**JOBS at Townshipers' Association!** Make Way for YOUTH/Desjardins Migration Agent. December 2007 - March 2008. Full-time. Communicate well with youth? Pro-active, innovative, collaborative, bilingual? Want to help English-speaking young graduates discover career possibilities in the Townships? **Administrative Assistant.** Starting January 2008. Full-time (Emploi-Québec subventions salariales pro-

100 Job Opportunities

gram). Excellent written English? Fluent French? Good computer and organizational skills? Assist Executive Director in variety of tasks. Townshippers' Association is a non-profit community organization serving the English-speaking community in the Eastern Townships. Knowledge of this community is a strong asset for the above positions. Send Letter of Application and CV to: Rachel Garber, Executive Director, Townshippers' Association, 100-257 Queen, Sherbrooke, QC, J1M 1K7. Email: dg@townshippers.qc.ca. **Deadline: Noon, December 18, 2007.**

140 Professional Services

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

140 Professional Services

**RENOVATING** Kitchens, bathrooms, basements, tiles, painting, floors. 30 years experience. Low rates. Guaranteed. (450) 405-6000 (Lac Brome area).

ROOF SNOW REMOVAL

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

145 Miscellaneous Services

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

190 Cars For Sale

1999 SUBARU OUTBACK AWD, fully loaded, green, mags + 4 extra winter tires and wheels, excellent condition, 111,000 km. Asking \$7,900. Call 819-570-6030.

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190 Cars For Sale



**2000 VW PASSAT GLX,** 73,000 km., V6 2.8L, 4 motion (all wheel drive), auto. tiptronic, black sedan, grey leather, 16" mags, winter wheels and tires, tinted windows, fully equipped, sunroof, 190 h.p. **Excellent condition.** \$10,900. negotiable. Call 819-566-0446.



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275 Antiques

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

290 Articles For Sale

**BURTON SNOWBOARD,** 156 cm, with Burton boots (10 1/2) and Burton bindings, \$300. Call 819-563-4059.

**DON'T BE CAUGHT** without Hydro. We sell generators at great prices. **Dougherty Equipment,** Lennoxville, 819-821-2590.



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

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

294 Events

**CLASSIFIEDS NOW ONLINE!** www.sherbrookerecord.com

295 Articles Wanted

**BUYING: ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES,** single pieces to entire collections. From postcards to furniture, dishes to tin cans from your household, garage or shed. Please call 819-849-4487 or 819-212-4968.

**WANTED:** A good second hand record player that plays 78's. Call (450) 298-5125.

301 Tractors

**TRACTORS FOR SALE.** Kubota 29 h.p., 4x4, with loader, only 1000 hours. Kubota 24 h.p., 4x4, with cab, snow blower and 60" lawn mower. M.F. 85 h.p., with cab and frontend loader. Zetor 55 h.p., 4x4 with cab. Ingersoll Rand BobCat, 4x4. Set of ring chains 18.4x34. Call 819-563-2020, 819-572-5609.

330 Pets

**DOG TRAINING** with Jean-Guy Lalonde (next course starts January 7), **Maternal Course** for puppies starts January 10. **Dog Day Care and Grooming.** For more information call **Blue Seal,** the animal nutrition centre, 819-348-1888 or 819-821-2152.

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440 Miscellaneous

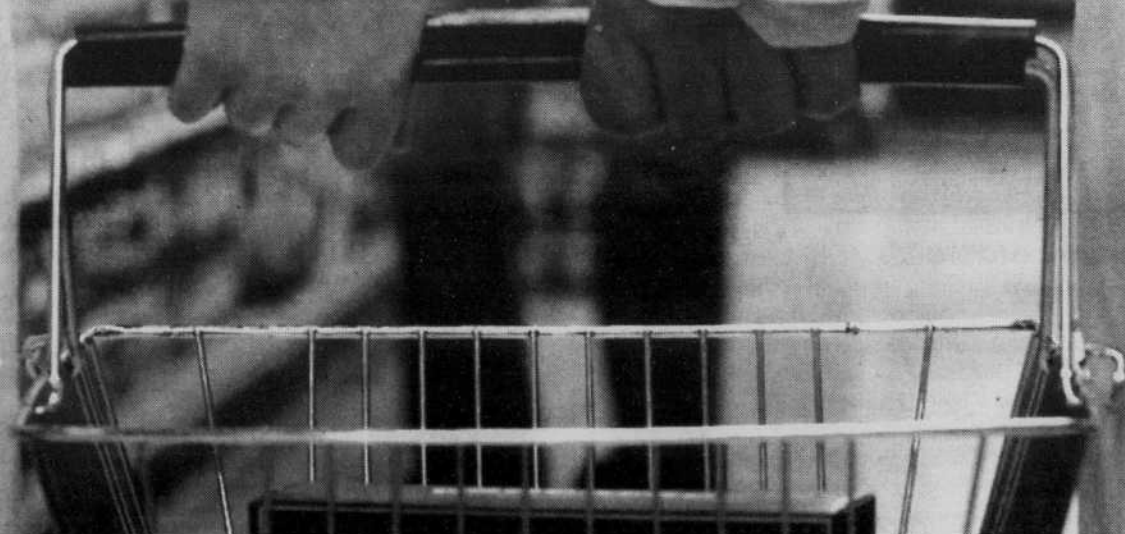
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# Your Birthday

Thursday, Dec. 13, 2007

In the year ahead, you will find yourself providing the inspiration to make life for you and others far more beautiful and rewarding. Your understanding and awareness to the needs of your associates brings this about.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — You possess both a sensitivity and sharpness that others will find especially attractive. You will know how to get your way without stepping on anybody's toes.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — A new pipeline will open up for you that might produce a number of personal gains. The unusual thing about it — it could result in your feeling much more accepted by others.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — If you sense that something good is about to happen to you, it will. You are now on the cusp of an exciting cycle where positive thinking is all that it will take to light the fuse.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20-March 20) — You will have some brilliant ideas, but in order to put them to use, you must execute them with a perception to the needs and hungers of others.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) — Treat happenings philosophically and you will be surprised at how well things go for you. Your positive attitude will turn even mountain-sized problems into minuscule molehills.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) — You are apt to experience far more awareness to-

ward the subtler aspects of life, and all those material things that were so important yesterday will suddenly be far less significant.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) — Occasionally, you can get so introspective about things that you have a difficult time resolving issues. Today, however, you will surprise yourself with a receptiveness to accept things as they are.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) — Take matters in your own hands and make things happen. With a great deal of faith in yourself and knowing that good things can occur, you can bring your deepest wish into being.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) — The key to getting along with others is to think well of everyone in as many positive ways as possible. People will want to justify your good thoughts of them.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Take pride in your work whether you are laboring on a menial task or something of significance. Performing it to the very best of your ability will greatly enhance your self-esteem.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Because you do not take yourself, others or events too seriously, smooth sailing is indicated in all that you do. When you don't have to pamper an ego, it is hard to be wounded.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — The aspects continue to favor you, especially where things of a material nature are concerned. Because you are not overly anxious about financial developments, good things simply will fall in your lap.

Thursday, Dec. 13, 2007

# To declare, take your four-by-four

By Phillip Alder

Most deals feature standard card-play techniques: count winners, count losers, establish tricks, gain trump tricks by ruffing, and so on. But the deals that sort the women out from the girls are those requiring more specialized handling. Englishman David Bird has put a good selection of these into "Off-Road Declarer Play" (Master Point Press).

The book contains 14 chapters covering various topics like surviving a 4-1 trump break and using a side suit as substitute trumps. Each section ends with a two- or four-question quiz so that you can check you have the idea.

Using a side suit as a substitute for your trump suit almost sounds like a paradox. Well, here is one of the deals from that chapter. How would you plan the play in six spades? West leads the diamond king, then plays a second diamond, which you ruff low on the board. You cash the ace and king of spades, but West pitches a club on the second. How would you continue?

After West opens with a modern weak three-bid, North makes a takeout double, then launches Roman Key Card Blackwood. South shows no key card (no ace or the spade king) with his five-club bid, then reveals the trump queen but

North 12-13-07			
♠ A K J 6			
♥ A K Q 9 6 2			
♦ 3			
♣ A K			
West	East		
♠ 7	♠ 10 9 8 3		
♥ J 4	♥ 10 7 3		
♦ K Q 4	♦ A J 10 6		
♣ Q J 7 5 4 3 2	♣ 10 6		
South			
♠ Q 5 4 2			
♥ 8 5			
♦ 9 8 7 5 2			
♣ 9 8			
Dealer: West			
Vulnerable: Neither			
South	West	North	East
3 ♠	3 ♣	Dbl.	Pass
5 ♣	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 NT	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
	Pass	6 ♠	All pass
Opening lead: ♦ K			

no side-suit king with five no-trump.

If you take the spade jack at trick four, you have no way to reach your hand to extract East's last spade.

Instead, start to run dummy's hearts. When East ruffs, overruff with your spade queen, play a trump to dummy's jack, and claim.

# CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 West of Hollywood
- 4 Of the Vatican
- 9 "Common Sense" author
- 14 Container with a tap
- 15 Kind of bird?
- 16 Behaved humanly?
- 17 AARP members
- 18 Start of Evan Esar quip
- 20 Tourney
- 22 Prayer
- 23 Maid in India
- 24 Stage whispers
- 27 Part 2 of quip
- 30 Lanterns
- 34 Meadowlands
- 35 Pump fuel
- 37 Fastidious

- 38 "\_\_\_: Miami"
- 40 Part 3 of quip
- 43 "Bill \_\_, the Science Guy"
- 44 Female relative
- 46 Gridiron meas.
- 47 Thin strip of wood
- 49 Sired
- 51 Part 4 of quip
- 55 Gracious with ease
- 57 Having wings
- 58 Newspaper bigwig
- 61 Mobile home?
- 64 End of quip
- 67 Docs
- 68 Butt heads
- 69 Lying face down
- 70 Shoe size
- 71 Pointers

- 21 greenery
- 25 Friend's address
- 26 Enlists oneself
- 28 Brit's indignant comment
- 29 Post-grad pursuit
- 31 Pale
- 32 Intelligence test figures
- 33 \_\_\_ the piper
- 36 Fr. holy woman
- 38 Mediocre
- 39 Trucker's perch
- 41 Litigate
- 42 Icelandic saga
- 45 Most remote, briefly

- 45 Least slack
- 48 Pequod's captain
- 50 Fidelities
- 52 Kevin of "SNL"
- 53 Improvised musically
- 54 Expunges
- 56 Sister's sib
- 58 Use acid for art
- 59 Portuguese Timor's capital
- 60 Somali supermodel
- 62 Come down to earth
- 63 Chopping tools
- 65 Record time?
- 66 Afore

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

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

- 72 Repairs
- 73 '60s radical group

DOWN

- 1 Oman's capital
- 2 Dry gulch
- 3 Tangling
- 4 Rose or Sampras
- 5 Exclamations of satisfaction
- 6 Sort of earnings
- 7 Clerical vestment
- 8 Caustic substance
- 9 Small seabird
- 10 Craftsperson
- 11 Eye part
- 12 Verne captain
- 13 Idyllic place
- 19 Instant

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16				
17				18						19				
20				21						22				
23						24	25	26						
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44				45		46				47		48		
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				55		56						57		
58	59	60						61	62	63				
64						65	66					67		
68						69						70		
71						72						73		

By Alan P. Olschwang  
Huntington Beach, CA

12/13/07

