



Natural gas prices up 9 per cent

THE RECORD

Baseball back at Big O after nine years

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John Edwards - Page 10

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MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2014

2014 Quebec election campaign

Who's Who in Sherbrooke: Serge Cardin

By Gordon Lambie

Serge Cardin, incumbent MNA for the Sherbrooke electoral district, says that he is a man at the service of his hometown. Born, raised, and schooled in the city, the Parti Québécois representative has led a life of representing the people of Sherbrooke on every level of government, from municipal to federal and finally to provincial, and presents supporting the community and the province as a whole as his primary objective in seeking another term in office.

"Everything that preoccupies Quebec preoccupies about the same proportions of the people of Sherbrooke, both the riding and the city," Cardin said, when asked what he sees as the main issues facing the riding he calls home. He called Sherbrooke a, "barometer riding," that models Quebec as a whole.

The PQ candidate pointed to health and education as the most important sectors to focus on for the province in this election, saying that they are two fundamental building blocks of the identity of a society and a nation. He held the importance of physical and mental health as self-evident, and then pointed out that the domain of education also includes that of culture as a whole. From there he jumped to employment, saying that that was also a factor that was on people's minds.

Asked about how he approaches the needs of Sherbrooke's relatively diverse range of cultural identities and large migrant populations, Cardin said that he stood by the PQ's policy of "sustainable integration." He argued that people who come to the region want to integrate quickly, and that the circumstances are right in Sherbrooke for people to be able to do so, if they implicate themselves in their communities.

"I think that almost the whole territory is francophone," Cardin said, "and

CONT'D ON PAGE 4

Snowy winter drags on



THE RECORD

The winter that wouldn't give up proved too much for this carport near the corner of College and Vaudry in Lennoxville Sunday. The weight of wet, accumulated snow was too heavy for the structure's roof, demonstrating the importance of keeping buildings clear of snow as much as possible. Turn to page 2 in today's Record for the latest Environment Canada forecast.

Missing and murdered women remembered at Bishop's

By Gordon Lambie

The Indigenous Cultural Alliance of Bishop's University held a vigil Thursday night to commemorate the over 800 missing and murdered Indigenous women across Canada. The vigil was one of several held all across the country, inspired by the death of 26 year old Saint Mary's University student Loretta Saunders in February.

Tom Niles, a third year Bishop's

Drama student minoring in indigenous studies, asked the alliance to help put the vigil together. He grew up in Goose Bay, Labrador, and knew Loretta personally.

"(Loretta) represents what is an ongoing problem in Canada," Niles said, opening the vigil. "We've gathered here to honour Loretta and the work that she did."

The evening gathering featured a number of guest speakers, beginning

with a poetry reading by Sociology student Stephanie Gioskos, after which Cree Elder Ena Greyeyes shared a prayer and drummed for Loretta.

"The drum represents the heartbeat and it represents people, and as long as the drum beats there is life," Greyeyes said. "I would like (Loretta) to know that even though she is not with us, we are with her."

Dr. Vicki Chartrand from the Sociology department then read words shared

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

THE RECORD

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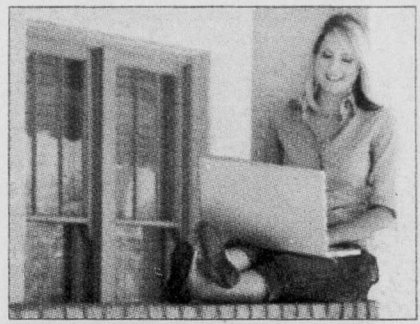
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Candidates debate in Cowansville

COWANSVILLE

A Brome-Missisquoi's candidates debate that will take place at the Brome-Missisquoi Campus, 180, rue Adélaïde-Godbout in Cowansville on Monday March 31.

The Forum jeunesse Montréal Est organized the activity, mainly to give the students a chance to meet all their candidates and get to know the different parties and their election platforms. The interesting thing to note is that the students are going to be the ones asking the questions. The activity is scheduled to start at 1:45 p.m. and will end around 3:15 p.m. As for now, four of the candidates have confirmed their presence (PQ, PLQ, QS and CAQ) and are anxious to meet the students. Other interesting fact, for the first year, students will have the chance to vote in the polling station that will be held inside their own schools.

The event will be held in both languages, as to suit the Campus community, which is bilingual.

Bishop's music 'on the road'

SHERBROOKE

As winter slowly but surely draws to a close, university students are beginning to think about exams, final marks, summer employment and returning home. In the midst of all of this, Bishop's University music students are also busy practicing for their end of year concerts, scheduled to take place during the last week of classes.

Students enrolled in Bishop's Chamber Music program are also taking their end of year concert "on the road" and they are scheduled to perform at North Hatley's St. Elizabeth Church (3115 chemin Capelton) on Sunday April 6 at 2:30 p.m., in addition to their home concert in Bandeen Hall of Bishop's University on Tuesday April 8 at 8 p.m. Both concerts are free

and the community is strongly encouraged to come and support our young and talented musicians in training.

On the program is a wonderful mix of all sorts of musical goodies, including the beautiful and famous Andante con moto movement from Schubert's piano trio in Eb opus 100 (you'll know it when you hear it!), Haydn's "London Trio" no. 1 for flute, violin and cello, Handel's "Allemand," arranged for flute and clarinet, and many other classical treats.

Chamber music formations include the guitar quartet, a variety of trios featuring flutes, violin, cello and trombone, the classic piano trio (violin, cello and piano) and a variety of interesting and unusual duets such as alto saxophone & contrabass, flute & trombone, and flute & clar-

inet. In short, a wide panoply of sights and sounds.

Within the field of music training, learning to perform chamber music presents some difficult and unique problems. For one, there is no conductor, and musicians must rely on each other to stay together and to play as one unit. This requires a very attentive ear and the ability to make quick decisions should problems arise.

Another issue is in dealing with group dynamics when preparing a work of music. Every member has his or her own ideas about how a performance should be prepared and a good chamber group is one that successfully brings together every musician's strongest qualities. As a matter of fact, members of professional chamber music ensembles work together in such close proximity that

they often know each other better than they know their own spouses!

Of course the students are under the guidance of some very experienced professional musicians. Clarinetist Pauline Farrugia is in charge of the chamber music program and she also individually coaches most of the groups that will be performing. In addition, guitarist Michel Caron coaches the guitar quartet and pianist Ross Osmun coaches the piano duo (scheduled to perform in Bandeen Hall).

This event is not to be missed and the students, as well as their teachers, invite you all to come and celebrate the beauty of chamber music with them.

Submitted by Pauline Farrugia.

Need a little help affording a return to school?

Let the Lampe Foundation support you

SHERBROOKE

Recognizing that education can be a huge factor in helping women succeed in building fulfilling careers, the locally-based Lampe Foundation is now accepting applications for the Marlis and Sigrid Wehr Mature Student Scholarship, which will help a local woman in financial need return to post-secondary education after a

break of at least 24 months.

Specifically targeting English-speaking women who have recently been out of the education system, the \$1,000 award looks to support a population with higher unemployment rates than English-speaking men and French-speaking men and women, and a significant percentage of members out of the workforce (50 per cent).

With low income rates per-

vasive among English-speaking women (almost 50 per cent of those employed make less than \$20 000 per year), the Lampe Foundation hopes that supporting students in their educational endeavors will help improve the economic situation of our community.

The scholarship winner will be at least 21 years of age and entering a program of any level at CEGEP, vocational school or university as a full-time student after a pause of at least 24 months. She will have been a resident of the Eastern Townships for the last three years or have graduated from a local high school.

The award honours the late Canadian Federation of University Woman member Marlis Wehr, and her mother Sigrid. A teacher and union President of the Eastern


Townships Association of Teachers, and later the Personnel Director of the Eastern Townships Regional School Board, Marlis Wehr was dedicated to education and the advancement of women in the Townships.

The Lampe Foundation, CFUW Sherbrooke & District is accepting applications for the \$1,000 Marlis and Sigrid Wehr Mature Student Scholarship until April 30, 2014.

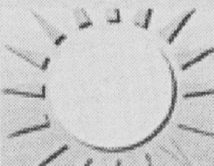
Full eligibility criteria and application form can be found at www.lampefoundation.org.

The Lampe Foundation CFUW Sherbrooke & District was established in 1993 as a registered charitable organization. It aims to support the education of women and men in the Eastern Townships community and to encourage the continuation of studies.


Weather

 **TODAY:**
LIGHT SNOW


HIGH OF -1
LOW OF -2

 **TUESDAY:**
SUNNY

HIGH OF 4
LOW OF -4

 **WEDNESDAY:**
MIX OF SUN AND CLOUDS

HIGH OF 6
LOW OF -5

 **THURSDAY:**
MIX OF SUN AND CLOUDS

HIGH OF 4
LOW OF -5

 **FRIDAY:**
SUNNY

HIGH OF 8
LOW OF -6

LOTTO QUEBEC Draw results: 2014-03-29

649 15 22 25 09 Bonus 49
26 42 43

Next grand prize (approx.): \$11,000,000
+ ONE GUARANTEED \$1,000,000 PRIZE
01096622-03

Extra 0459226

LOTTO MAX Draw results: 2014-03-28

08 15 16 21 31 37 39 Bonus (B) 20
Next grand prize (approx.): \$10,000,000

In the event of discrepancy between this list and the official winning list of Loto-Québec, the latter shall prevail.

Ben by Daniel Shelton

LOCAL NEWS

"The crimes that the accused committed are heinous and revolting."

Sex extortionist gets three years

SHERBROOKE

A Sherbrooke man convicted of various charges in connection with a sordid sexual extortion case has been sentenced to three years in prison in a Sherbrooke courtroom.

Michel Dubuc, 28, in custody since February, was handed the "severe and exemplary" sentence Thursday by Judge Conrad Chapdelaine of the Court of Quebec.

Dubuc engineered a plot to obtain sexual favours from a

woman in her twenties between June 2008 and March 2009.

The scheme began when the woman asked Dubuc, who had advertised his services as a photographer on the internet, to take erotic pictures of her.

Dubuc soon created several fictional characters on social media sites that began to make increasingly pornographic demands through blackmail and threats of physical violence.

Not knowing that Dubuc was behind the threats, the woman asked him for help, which he said he would provide. He said he

would perform in the videos demanded of her and make sure that he was able to get them back.

"The crimes that the accused committed are heinous and revolting," said Chapdelaine. "He called upon all his personal resources and knowledge of the internet and social networks to achieve his ends. These crimes have to be denounced with a severe and exemplary punishment, to dissuade both the accused, and any other person who, like him, may be tempted to commit this crime."

Snow mountains



GORDON LAMBIE

Snow mountains dwarfed cars along the edge of parking lots by mid afternoon in Sherbrooke on Sunday, with plows continuing to clear the leftovers of a winter that just won't leave the townships alone.

Missing and Murdered

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

by native activist Gladys Ragek on her behalf.

"Canada has a dark secret," Ragek, who has walked across the country five times to raise awareness on the issue, wrote, "there's an overwhelming number of missing and murdered women and children in Canada."

Ragek shared that she has collected over 4,000 names of missing or murdered women on her journeys, over 70 per cent of whom are of aboriginal or first nations decent. She said that there are serious flaws with the way that the issue is examined by government, local authorities and the media, largely having to do with a lack of concern or attention.

"Thank you for coming today and not letting these words fall on deaf ears," Chartrand said, explaining that Ragek has issued a national call to action and informing those gathered that she had a petition requesting a national public inquiry into the matter with her at the vigil for

anyone who wanted to sign.

Indigenous Cultural Alliance member Nicole Maracle then shared news of protests and blockades at her reserve near Kingston, before the proceedings turned to a candle lighting ceremony.

The Vigil closed on words from Loretta herself, shared with those hosting vigils across the country by her sister, Delilah. Niles and Maracle split the reading back and forth, sharing the words of the young student who, prior to her disappearance and death, had been focusing her studies on the very issue she has now become the focus of.

"Despite feeling hesitant at times, I refuse to remain quiet," Sauders wrote in the past. "I refuse to allow my past to dictate my future and define who I am."

The University student shared the revelation of discovering that many of the abusive and damaging parts of her life and the lives of thousands of other

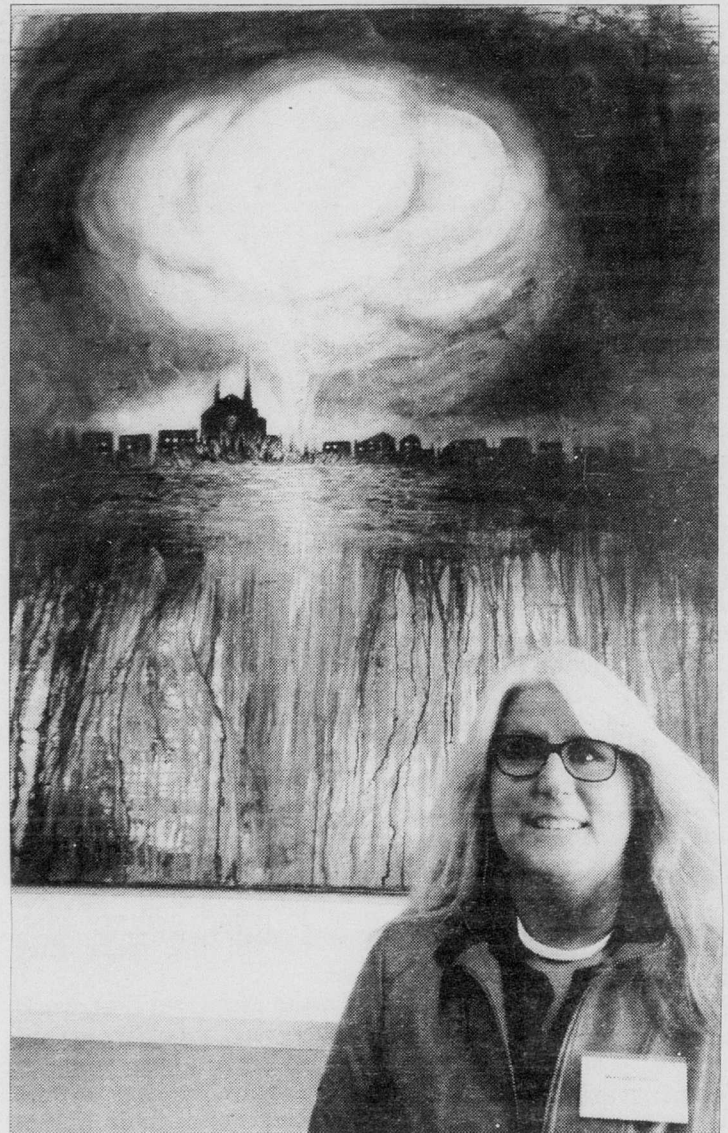
aboriginal women across the country came automatically as a by-product of lingering colonial oppression and a string of bad or poorly enforced policies.

"I hope to inspire other indigenous women and girl to come forth, begin their journey of healing and make strides toward breaking the cycle within their own lives," Sauders continued, "my story isn't unique."

The vigil organizers encouraged those present to leave carrying the work of Loretta onward to further educate and inspire change in the world.

Niles closed by pointing out that St. Mary's University has announced that it will be creating a scholarship specifically for aboriginal women in Saunders' name. Those interested in contributing to the scholarship can contact lorettasaunderslegacy@gmail.com or Cheryl Maloney re: Loretta Saunders, at Nova Scotia Native Women's Association, P.O. Box 805, Truro, NS B2N 5E8

Lac Mégantic healing through art



MATTHEW MCCULLY

Lac-Mégantic artist Wynne Parkin in front of a dramatic piece she painted depicting the explosion in the centre of her town.

By Matthew McCully
Special to The Record


Yesterday Uplands Cultural and Heritage Centre hosted eleven artists from Lac-Mégantic, who were invited to exhibit works in tribute to the disaster that took place last summer.

Over 80 people attended the vernissage, which took place between 2-4 p.m.

In addition to the sculptures, paintings, collages, photos and graphic design works on display, two slam poets from the region performed works inspired by the devastating event.

The show will run until May 25, 2014.

Uplands is open Wednesday through Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission to the exhibition is free.



**12th annual Shoot for a Cure
Dart Tournament**


proceeds for
Breast Cancer Research

Saturday, April 5
at the Stanstead Legion

Registration starting at 1 p.m.
Games start at 2 p.m.
401 double in/double out.
Bring your own partner
(any combination)

All welcome

For information contact
Marilyn McComb 819-838-4770.



Door prizes.
Raffle.

\$5.00
each

Serge Cardin

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

even if people come from elsewhere and have certain difficulties, I am often amazed to see the speed with which they adapt to French."

The long-time politician said he's seen a person become proficient in French inside of six months through dedication and community involvement, and said he's certain that person is not alone.

Asked if this integration approach was true of Sherbrooke's anglophones as well, Cardin said that he assumes that anyone who lives in Sherbrooke is able to speak French, and added that while there was a historical anglophone presence in the city, he does not feel that is the case any longer. He pointed to the fact that Sherbrooke is home to the region's largest English elementary school, he clarified that he is certain that the presence of English children indicates the presence of English parents, and that he would be surprised if there were residents of Sherbrooke who were not able to function in French.

"If I lived in an anglophone city, I would certainly speak English," the PQ candidate said. "I have nothing against bilingualism, on the contrary, our world today runs on at least three languages, English, French and Spanish."

"I would love it if everyone spoke four or five languages," Cardin added, "but when we establish as a statute that the common language for Quebec, as a nation, is French, everyone should participate."

Cardin has come under fire over the course of his mandate for not being present for the people of his community, most recently from his Liberal Party counterpart Luc Fortin, but the



Serge Cardin.

GORDON LAMBIE

veteran politician said that he is proud of what he has done over the last 18 months and called the claim lies put together by people pushing Fortin into office.

"I can't just take out an ad in all the media in the city to say exactly what we've done," Cardin said, "so we say things and the papers report what they want to report and say what they can in the space they have."

Cardin estimated that, working three days out of five in Quebec City and taking summer into account, he was in the provincial capital about half of the time he has been in office. He said that there is a great deal of work to be done both at home and at the National Assembly and that it does not al-

ways have to do directly with Sherbrooke.

"All the districts of Quebec overlap, fundamentally," Cardin explained, "all the issues we have in Québec affect the whole of the population."

Despite this, however, the PQ candidate then said that he has all of Sherbrooke at heart in his work, and pointed out that he gathered three times his discretionary budget from other MNAs in order to support local community organizations and initiatives. Among these he listed Moisson Estrie, the Festival du Lac des Nations, and a city project to increase the visibility of school zones.

"There are many community organizations that render a vital service to the community and society as a whole," Cardin

said. "Fees are raised, and budgets shrinking, so they need help."

The former city councillor and Bloc Québécois MP further pointed to the nature of a minority government as a kind of pre-campaign before an inevitable election. If things are going well, he said, the opposition does not bring it up, because it does them no favours, so an atmosphere of criticism arises without any solid positive discussion.

"That's not just politics," Cardin explained, "it's human nature."

In that vein, he said he was willing to work with MNAs from other parties in the "very hypothetical" scenario where the three Sherbrooke ridings are represented by members of two

or three different parties, but said that it was not his job to, "run after everyone else."

"When I was a city councillor I had one district, a small part," Cardin recalled. "I was responsible for one twelfth of the city, but we all worked together for the benefit of the whole."

The incumbent MNA said that he has full confidence in the PQ team, and felt that they were rebuilding after nine years of Liberal "demolition." He called the policies and plans that the government has put into place since September of 2012 ideas he has been waiting for, "for years," and suggested that the only elements that fell short of the mark during the most recent term of government did so because of the need to compromise that comes from a minority government.

Cardin further stated that he is not fazed by poll results, as the polls in the 2011 federal election gave him a clear lead. He blamed his loss in that election on people feeling like voting for the NDP was like "having a beer with Jack Layton," and said that people crossed the street to apologize to him later for giving away their votes.

"Polls create uncertainty and doubt in the majority of decided voters," Cardin said, "we're optimistic, we think we have a very good team, we're satisfied with what we've done over the last 18 months, and with what we've started to do."

Calling the campaign of Liberal Leader Philippe Couillard brainwashing, Cardin said that he has full confidence that the same people that gave him their votes for 12 and a half years will come through for him again.

"The people will decide," he said.

Job fair packs 'em in

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

The 2014 Salon Priorité-Emploi Estrie has once again been a huge success, organizers say, with nearly 5,000 job seekers passing through the turnstiles at the Exhibition Centre of Sherbrooke to meet employers in the region.

More than 95 exhibitors were on hand, including, many who have chosen to participate for the first time in this encounter between employers and job seekers, who had the opportunity to peruse and apply for more than 2,000 jobs available in all sectors.

Ongoing employment workshops were also presented

throughout the day on topics such as "The Hidden Market" concerning how to find positions that, like 80 per cent of jobs, are not advertised.

The Salon Priorité-Emploi closed off Employment Week in which a score of activities were organized including a very powerful lunch-conference with Stephan Maighan on

the theme of "Inspiring your team!" that generated considerable enthusiasm among the more than 150 participants.

Employment Week and the Salon Priorité-Emploi are the result of the initiative of Emploi - Quebec Estrie and its loyal partners, the regional Carrefours Jeunesse-Emploi, the CDEC de Sherbrooke,

CEDEC, the CRE Estrie, La Tribune, Sherbrooke Innopole, CLD de l'Estrie, Service d'aide aux Neo-Canadiens, the Sherbrooke Chamber of Commerce, the Table de concertation des organismes de développement de la main-d'œuvre de l'Estrie and Organizz creation d'évenements.

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Make your own cleaning products

SHERBROOKE

The Cherry River Marsh Association (LAMRAC) will be holding a workshop on how to make safe, cheap, and environmentally safe household products at home.

The workshop will offer tips on cleaning products and their uses that can be made inexpensively with readily available ingredients. Participants will leave with recipes and samples made during the workshop.

The event will take place at the

Marsh Interpretation Centre at 69 Ch. du Roy this Saturday, April 5 from 10 - 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$15 and reservations can be made by calling 819-843-8118, by email at info@maraisauxcerises.com, or online at www.maraisauxcerises.com.

Regulator extends operating licence of railway at heart of Quebec train disaster

The Canadian Press

The Canada Transportation Agency has extended the operating licence of the insolvent railway involved in last July's deadly explosion in Lac-Mégantic until June 1.

The regulator says it is satisfied Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway has adequate third party liability insurance coverage, including self-insurance, to operate until June.

The railway asked for the ex-

tension earlier this month, saying it was necessary to allow for continued service to the rail customers pending the completion of the sale and transfer to a new owner.

In January, bankruptcy judges in Quebec and Maine approved the sale of the insolvent railway to Railroad Acquisition Holdings LLC, an affiliate of New York-based Fortress Investment Group, for US\$14.25 million.

The company has been granted a couple of extensions since July's

explosion and fire that killed 47 people and destroyed part of the tiny Quebec community's downtown. The explosion was caused when a train hauling tanker cars loaded with oil broke loose and barrelled about 10 kilometres down a hill into the town.

Police and federal transport safety officials are conducting investigations into the crash.

The CTA has said that the rail company has seen a significant drop in total traffic since the disaster.

Cabbie threatened with death, perp busted

Record Staff
SHERBROOKE

A taxi driver was threatened with death by a 38-year old passenger around midnight Saturday in Sherbrooke.

According to police, the driver was able to press the "panic" button inside the car when he was threatened. The police were able to immobilize the cab on King Street West, where the visibly intoxicated individual, who also re-

fused to pay his bill, was quickly subdued.

The suspect, who is well-known to police now faces charges of threatening death and theft of service. He may also be charged with resisting arrest.

Deauville construction moratorium partially lifted

SHERBROOKE

Part of the moratorium on new construction in Deauville has been lifted by the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks (MDDEFP) allowing for the extension of the sewer system to accommodate 57 new housing units.

The City of Sherbrooke sent a formal request to lift the moratorium in July accompanied by a report of significant improvement work at the Dion, Perras, and Marras pumping stations, such as the disconnection of gutters that

have reduced parasitic water in the Deauville network.

The Ministry notes that the overflow that occurred only two years ago are related to the extraordinary rains of September 2013 meaning that the problems that led to the moratorium are considered resolved.

The city will consider applications by developers to build in Deauville that have already been filed to get a picture of the overall situation. It will then try to allocate new construction among these developers, as a matter of fairness. It will also implement additional analysis as requested

by the MDDEFP, according to new criteria in force to demonstrate the additional processing capacity of the Deauville treatment plant. Following this analysis, the MDDEFP could permit the addition of new housing units.

Deauville District Councillor Diane Delisle welcomed this news as the second good news in a few weeks for this sector of the city as a budget of \$1.7 million was reserved in February to redo the roadbed on Bourque Blvd between Jules-Richard and Ch. Saint-Roch.

The moratorium has been in place since 2003.

Cowansville to get indoor skateboard centre

Record Staff

Local entrepreneurs have set the stage for the official opening of a new indoor skate park in Cowansville, on the site of the former Karhu / Burton factory on Dean St.

After dismantling and recuperating the ramps at a skateboard centre that was closing, Merlin MacDonald, owner of Balance BoardShop, came up with the idea of building an interior centre in the building where he'd been storing the equipment. In fact, the former factory seemed perfect with its 25,000 sq. ft. of floor space - a dream come true for skateboarders.

The new centre, the only interior skateboard centre between Victoriaville and Montreal will officially open at the end of May.

MacDonald, 29, Jean-François

Beaulieu, 32, and Gabriel Galipeau, 20 have planned many activities and promotions, including interesting presale offers.

The business is counting on a young clientele from here and also from elsewhere. "Young people will travel to skateboard in interior centres. We're going to organize competitions and we're also planning a Skate Festival over a three day period," MacDonald says.

The management group recruited a team of talented athletes who will give occasional demonstrations, courses, and performances. Day camps will be available throughout the year, and a sport-study program and season passes are also planned, he adds.

The young team members believe that the park is not only a good investment but are also

aware of the significant economic impact it will have for the community and the region. "Being able to practice your preferred sport all year long, without having to worry about weather and having the opportunity to take courses to refine your skills are all opportunities that will encourage a healthy outlook for youth," MacDonald enthuses. "In addition, an interior centre with regular and well-organized activities will attract interest from many outside our region generating economic results for Cowansville."

The promoters, who say they would like to serve as role models for aspiring entrepreneurs, acknowledge the contribution of the Town of Cowansville, and its Sports and Recreation Director Alain Dion, as well as Liberal MNA Pierre Paradis.

Natural gas up 9 per cent due to colder winter

By Stephen McDougall
Special to The Record

The price of heating with natural gas is still competitive with electricity and oil even though the latest bills have gone up nine per cent, an official with Gaz Metropolitan has told The Record.

"The price has gone up this past month even though it is spring because of the colder winter and the higher demand," said Katherine Houde.

"But the price of oil and electricity is also rising because of the weather, so we are still competitive in the market."

On March 1, the utility increased their unit price per gigajoule from \$3.91 to \$4.96 for the average homeowner. Houde said the price could climb again if the spring temperatures remain colder than usual.

"We get our gas supplies from Southern Ontario and the western provinces," she said.

"This is the supply price we pay for the gas, which can vary every month."

Houde pointed out the transportation and distribution charges made by Gaz Metropolitan have not increased since last year.

The price hike applies to the majority of the utility's 190,000 Quebec customers who pay the spot market price each month. For about 48,000 of those clients, the price is fixed on a yearly basis. But Houde said those clients have had to pay more based on weather temperatures in February.

"Most of them have yearly contracts that are renewed in the middle of winter," she said.

"They have had to pay about 25 per cent more this year than last year, again because of the colder weather."

She said the average single-family Quebec house, measuring 160 square metres, cost \$944 to heat for the winter months this year, versus \$867 the same time last year.

"These increases are checked and approved by the provincial energy board before we bill our clients," she said.

"The board is allowed to approve increases that go as high as 36 per cent."

She added that provincial utility Hydro Quebec will be raising its rates by over four per cent in April.

Sub-zero temperatures have dominated the past three winter months, even staying around in March.

The Weather Network even predicts that a spring thaw will not show up until mid to late April. This despite constant warnings from climatologists that world temperatures are getting warmer due to higher levels of greenhouse gases and their effects on the ozone layer of the earth.

But despite a "pause" in the warming trends, as some weather observers have claimed, sources such as Environment Canada argue the average global temperatures will continue to rise.

"Despite the slowed rate of increase in annual global mean temperature during the so-called hiatus period, the frequency of the most extreme warm days has continued to increase across the globe," states a report in the scientific journal Nature Climate Change.

**Lennoxville Elementary School
Benefit Dance**

on Saturday, April 5
at the A.N.A.F. Unit 318
(The Hut) 300 St. Francis, Lennoxville

featuring Slightly Haggard

All proceeds will go towards the
L.E.S. extra-curricular activities.

Admission \$10.

Donations welcome:
(Please drop it off at the school
by April 4).

Everyone welcome. 18+

EDITORIAL

We are welcome to stay, but only if this is what we truly want, only if we commit ourselves.

Going home

By Kevin Richard

DEAR FELLOW QUEBECERS,

We have been through much in the last few decades have we not? We quickly developed and modernized our province. We welcomed and hosted the world on a couple of occasions; and we developed a sense of pride. From that pride, however, has stemmed division. For some, this pride led to a sense of satisfaction of what we accomplished as founding partners in the Canadian union. For others, it developed into a new national identity which has sought to distance itself from the other.

This division is now well entrenched. We remain in a politically polarized state. Every election we are pressured to vote on the basis of our allegiance to Canada as opposed to the proper governance of our province. We either hold divisive referendums, talk about holding them, or we desperately try to not talk about holding them. In spite of the fact that we are in serious economic trouble we continue to talk about identity, referendums, and the regulation of minorities.

There is no question that this provincial election is different in that we are more polarized than ever. Though the PQ is now trying to backpedal, the main issue has quickly become the prospect of holding a referendum on Quebec secession from the Canadian confederation. It is wholly based in the fear of anyone who doesn't neatly fit into the category of 'Québécois de souche' (bill 14, charter of values).

At the head of this movement is our premier Pauline Marois. She has proven to be crafty and ambitious. We have seen enough of her in the last year and half to legitimately fear the possibility of her leading a majority government. Her contempt for liberty is unashamedly flagrant.

Marois believes she is permitted to tax 75 per cent of capital gains revenue. She believes she is entitled to tax retroactively. She is quite comfortable with limiting her people's options for education. Sowing divisiveness is more than acceptable if it can get her ahead. She believes, that as head of the government, she has

the legitimate authority to socially engineer Quebec society by regulating language and religious symbols. Do we really want more of this divisive politics?

Some like to describe Quebec as an infant nation. They say it began with a sense of pride and identity and that it will inevitably lead to a sovereign state. The comparison is to that of a child who slowly grows into adulthood and learns to 'fly' on his own. This is by no means an accurate illustration.

We are not an infant nation growing into adulthood. We are a long-time and mature national partner. Have we forgotten who built this country? We, French-Canadians, are one of its founding peoples and of this we should be proud. Our country, though certainly not perfect, is one of the best in the world. Though every bit as flawed as we, our partner has been pleading with us and lavishing us with gifts for some time. But due to fatigue the pleading has ended; and we should soon expect the same with the gifts.

The rest of Canada is understandably tired of us keeping one foot in and one foot out of the union. At this point, all they want to know is where we stand (if only we could figure that out ourselves!). They are slowly giving up on us. They would like to move on with their lives. We are welcome to stay, but only if this is what we truly want, only if we commit ourselves.

How long do we want to go round in circles? Can we figure this out soon? Can we move on? Do we really want to start over again? Is it truly necessary? Our partner is weary. We are weary. Everyone is weary and we are going nowhere... so let's go home. Let's go home and let's get back to being Canadian.

We have an enormous role to play. We built this country. Our ancestors have left it to us as our inheritance, and in it there is room for all of us. We should not allow ourselves to be divided by the fear of minorities and by ambitious politicians. We are the heart and soul of the French-Canadian nation; and Canada is our country.

Kevin Richard can be reached at opinionkrichard@gmail.com

We can't just geoengineer our way out of climate change

By David Suzuki

Because nature doesn't always behave the same in a lab, test tube or computer program as it does in the real world, scientists and engineers have come up with ideas that didn't turn out as expected.

DDT was considered a panacea for a range of insect pest issues, from controlling disease to helping farmers. But we didn't understand bioaccumulation back then - toxins concentrating up the food chain, risking the health and survival of animals from birds to humans. Chlorofluorocarbons, or CFCs, seemed so terrific we put them in everything from aerosol cans to refrigerators. Then we learned they damage the ozone layer, which protects us from harmful solar radiation.

These unintended consequences come partly from our tendency to view things in isolation, without understanding how all nature is interconnected. We're now facing the most serious unintended consequence ever: climate change from burning fossil fuels. Some proposed solutions may also result in unforeseen outcomes.

Oil, gas and coal are miraculous substances - energy absorbed from the sun by plants and animals hundreds of millions of years ago, retained after they died and concentrated as the decaying life became buried deeper into the earth. Burning them to harness and release this energy opened up possibilities unimaginable to our ancestors. We could create machines and technologies to reduce our toil, heat and light our homes, build modern cities for growing populations and provide accessible transport for greater mobility and freedom. And because the stuff seemed so plentiful and easy to obtain, we could build vehicles and roads for everyone - big cars that used lots of gas - so that enormous profits would fuel prosperous, consumer-driven societies.

We knew fairly early that pollution affected human health, but that didn't seem insurmountable. We just needed to improve fuel efficiency and create better pollution-control standards. That reduced rather than eliminated the problem and only partly addressed an issue that appears to have caught us off-guard: the limited availability of these fuels. But the trade-offs seemed worthwhile.

Then, for the past few decades, a catastrophic consequence of our profligate use of fossil fuels has loomed. Burning them has released excessive amounts of carbon dioxide into the

atmosphere, creating a thick, heat-trapping blanket. Along with our destruction of natural carbon-storing environments, such as forests and wetlands, this has steadily increased global average temperatures, causing climate change.

We're now faced with ever-increasing extreme weather-related events and phenomena such as ocean acidification, which affects myriad marine life, from shellfish to corals to plankton. The latter produce oxygen and are at the very foundation of the food chain.

Had we addressed the problem from the outset, we could have solutions in place. We could have found ways to burn less fossil fuel without massively disrupting our economies and ways of life. But we've become addicted to the lavish benefits that fossil fuels have offered, and the wealth and power they've provided to industrialists and governments. And so there's been a concerted effort to stall or avoid corrective action, with industry paying front groups, "experts" and governments to deny or downplay the problem.

Now that climate change has become undeniable, with consequences getting worse daily, many experts are eyeing solutions. Some are touting massive technological fixes, such as dumping large amounts of iron filings into the seas to facilitate carbon absorption, pumping nutrient-rich cold waters from the ocean depths to the surface, building giant reflectors to bounce sunlight back into space and irrigating vast deserts.

But we're still running up against those pesky unintended consequences. Scientists at the Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research in Kiel, Germany, studied five geoengineering schemes and concluded they're "either relatively ineffective with limited warming reductions, or they have potentially severe side effects and cannot be stopped without causing rapid climate change." That's partly because we don't fully understand climate and weather systems and their interactions.

That doesn't mean we should rule out geoengineering. Climate change is so serious that we'll need to marshal everything we have to confront it, and some methods appear to be more benign than others. But geoengineering isn't the solution. And it's no excuse to go on wastefully burning fossil fuels. We must conserve energy and find ways to quickly shift to cleaner sources.

With contributions from David Suzuki Foundation Senior Editor Ian Hanington. Learn more at www.davidsuzuki.org.

THE RECORD

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RACHEL WRITES

"Haiku is a form that is easily accessible, both in terms of writing, and in terms of reading it."

Poetry Month is the Black Cat's meow Haiku contest and sushi fest



RA GARBER

Janice LaDuke in Black Cat Books is launching a haiku contest for Poetry Month. It starts with a haiku writing workshop, and ends in a haiku reading and sushi demonstration.



RACHEL GARBER

Poetry Month is big at Black Cat Books. It starts tomorrow, April 1. Janice LaDuke owns the little bookstore in Lennoxville, and she's getting ready to pack it full of little poems. Little poems called haiku. (That's right, no "s.")

Haiku is a Japanese form of poetry. It's a short poem, usually three lines, just long enough to say in one breath. Almost always, it's based on observation of nature. LaDuke is launching a Haiku contest that will last for the month of April.

"We thought this is a good time of

year," she said, "being inspired by the natural world, which is in flux this time of year. We're hoping, at least, that the ice is going to melt and spring will come."

"The snow banks are receding, the rivers will soon begin to froth and frolic between their banks, and probably they'll overflow," she wrote in her invitation. "The sap in the trees will rise, sugaring will begin, and as the snow melts away, the green growing plants will start pushing through the mulch of last year's leaves.... All perfect fodder for haiku."

"Haiku is a form that is easily accessible, both in terms of writing, and in terms of reading it," LaDuke said.

Just down the road from Lennoxville lives an expert haiku poet. Her name is Angela Leuck, and she's helping Black Cat Books launch Poetry Month. She'll lead a haiku workshop at the bookstore on Wednesday, April 2, at 7 p.m. It costs just \$7.50. Participants are asked to pre-register. Call 819-346-1786. Email blackcat@netrevolution.com or visit the Black Cat's Facebook page.

Everyone is invited to participate in the workshop, and in the contest too. "You may submit your haiku whether you take the workshop or not," said LaDuke.

The contest has two categories. One for people age 14 or younger, and the other for age 15 and older. Participants are asked to email their entries to blackcat@netrevolution.com, or drop off a copy at Black Cat Books, 168E Queen, Lennoxville, between April 1 and April 29. Include your name and email address or phone number. Entrants aged 14 and younger should put their age on the entry.

Then comes the Haiku Grand Finale on Wednesday, April 30, at 7 p.m. Angela Leuck will give a sushi demonstration. "And we can all eat sushi and read haiku," she said.

Black Cat Books is LaDuke's third bookstore. Between bookstores, she went to Ontario and got a Master's degree in library science, and worked as a reference librarian at Bishop's University.

LaDuke loves books, and cats too. When Black Cat Books opened its doors

in 1998, she had two cats at home.

"It's a browsing sort of bookstore," she said. "There are a lot of treasures here. I try to keep some of the new books, the best-sellers, but I think its real wealth is in the second-hand stock."

In short, it's a slow-food bookstore. Around 18,000 books are squeezed in, from floor to ceiling. In a back corner is a rocking chair. Over by the windows is an easy chair.

"Literature is definitely our biggest section," LaDuke said. "The popular fiction section is not as big, but the turnover is higher. You know, romance and mysteries and thrillers and such. Children's novels - we have a good selection. I wish they'd move more. I wish children were more interested in browsing."

Black Cat Books is giving a 20 per cent discount on poetry books during the month of April. That includes new books, second-hand books and children's poetry too.

"Everybody should indulge in poetry," LaDuke said.

Notes from Rachel writes

Please stand by for Unveiled Like Me article next Monday.

And please note that Robin Cappucino's presentation on Child Haven was delayed by snow, freezing rain and gen-

eral slop in the streets. Instead, it is planned for next Sunday at 10:30 a.m. at UUEstrie, 201 Main St., North Hatley. All

are welcome. His topic is "Reflections on Home and Family." That's both immediate and universal families.

RACHEL WRITES

"We're happy to do it. It brought in a different crowd. We were pleased."

Bulwer Purple Prose Awards Supper

Jackie Hyman wins the Grand Pittance

By Rachel Garber

It was a middling dark and soon-to-be stormy night, last Saturday evening at the Bulwer Community Centre. It was the Bulwer Purple Prose Awards Supper. And emcee Ross Murray set the stage with some Townships-soaked purple prose of his own.

"We are here tonight to put the bull back in Bulwer. Maybe you're not Sherbrooke why you came or maybe you think this contest doesn't have a leg to Stanstead on. Maybe you're grumpy because you got your Ascot in the door coming here tonight. But whether your goose is Coaticooked or you're Compton your chickens before they hatched, or if you don't Knowlton whether you're coming or going, whether you're a poor man or a Richmond, don't come here tonight thinking, "Magog, what have I done," because I promise every child, woman and Mansonville, that while you're Eaton your dinner, we're going to do Asbestos we can tonight to have a wonderful time before the evening is Dunham. And if not? Waterloo going to do about it?"

The crowd roared and clapped.

It was a smaller crowd than last year, just 63. Some storm-sky souls didn't show up, said Peggy Roy, worried about the huge snowstorm slated to begin later that night. But still, the benefit event for the Bulwer Community Centre brought in about \$1,300. "We're happy to do it. It brought in a different crowd. We were pleased," she said. "The people that came enjoyed themselves."

The music wowed them. The five-man Mostly Swing group. And the Bulwerian bass and fiddle duo, Janice LaDuke and Dave Gillis.

The spread was hearty, starring beef, pork, vegetarian "meat" loaf, an array of cheeses, breads, vegetables, salads, and scrumptious desserts. All prepared by Peggy Grapes and her Bulwer Committee.

And then the awards. Jackie Hyman of Sawyerville won the Grand Pittance for overall best first sentence to the worst novel ever. She also took first prize in the Local History category. And here is the winning sentence, semi-colon and all:

"Exhausted and disheartened, his heavy pack sat heavy as a lie on the conscience of an honest man after six days

of rough and tumble slogging o'er sylvan woods and rippling brooks, and thus, Joshua Foss, tired, worn and frustrated, shuffled off the coil of his serpentine journey through the wilds of New England towards the urbane city of Montreal by erupting, like the pit of an overripe chokecherry squeezed out by a child's fat hand, into the centre of the village of Eaton Corner which, he was delighted to discover, was in the thralls of a rather luridly beautiful autumnal season making the unpleasant memory of his arduous journey disappear in a puff of sunlight filtering through the falling leaves; he decided to stay."

In the Adventure category, David Oliver won first pittance, and Carole Martignacco came in second. For Crime/Mystery, David Oliver took First again, and Judy Palmer, Second. Taking the Pittance in the Fantasy section was Jaime Dunton, with Mead Baldwin in second place. For Legends, Susan Mastine won first prize, and David Oliver won second.

Second place in the Local History category went to Judy Palmer. And finally, Beverly Dame and Maurice Crossfield

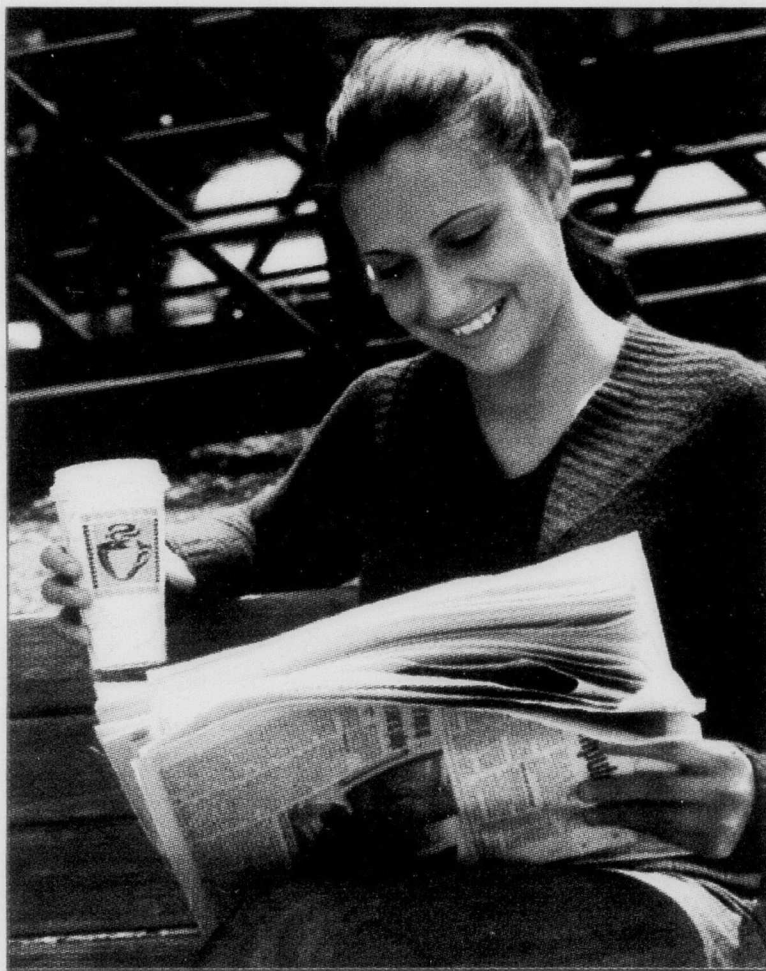


HEATHER LEWIS

Bulwer Purple Prose winner Jackie Hyman seemed bemused when the Grand Pittance was awarded to her last Saturday evening.

enhancing minds all across town.

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got the first and second prize in the Romance category.

Several of the winning sentences were inspired by current events - the elections, the thought of referendum, and the Lac-Mégantic train disaster, for example. Others related to figures from the region's history - Joshua Foss, Donald Morrison the Megantic Outlaw, and William Stone, for example. All were verbose, convoluted, and judging from the applause and laughter, funny.

The whole Bulwer Purple Prose Project - now in its second year - was inspired, of course, by writer and politician Lord Bulwer-Lytton. He visited Williams Corner in the mid-1800s, and then the place was re-named in his honour. Thus Bulwer came into being. Bulwer-Lytton's entire name was "Lord Edward George Earle Lytton Bulwer-Lytton." "His very name needed an editor," Ross Murray joked.

"For 'twas this privileged peer who put pen to paper and produced perhaps, for the period, the most profoundly pompous and perplexingly problematic prologue to the prose that proceeded."

This year's organizing committee was Mead Baldwin, Wanda Dillabough, Rachel Garber, Jerome Krause, Janice LaDuke of Black Cat Books, Michelle Lepitre, Linda Morra, Judy Palmer and Peggy Roy. The Centre d'Action Benevole du Haut St Francois contributed \$100, for printing and door prizes. Dick Tracy made the trophies, wooden pedestals sporting a now-rare Canadian penny.

To read the winning purple prose, visit the purple website, <http://bulwer-purpleprose.wordpress.com/>. For information, contact BulwerPPP@gmail.com.

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Local Sports

The series will pit the potent St. Jerome attack with a league-leading 324 goals against the Cougars who boast the league's best defence allowing just 174 goals in 52 games.

Cougars eliminate Titans, advance to semis against Panthers

By Mike Hickey
Special to the Record

The Champlain College men's hockey team recorded two resounding victories over the Princeville Titans to take their best-of-seven quarter-final Quebec Junior AAA Hockey League series four games to two.

With the series tied at two games apiece the Cougars routed Princeville 9-0 on home ice and then put the final nail in the coffin with a 10-3 road victory Friday in Princeville.

With the series win the Cougars advance to the semi-finals where they will play the St. Jerome Panthers. The Panthers finished first overall during the regular season with a 42-7-1-2 record and the series will pit the potent St. Jerome attack with a league-leading 324 goals against the Cougars who boast the league's best defence allowing just 174 goals in 52 games. St. Jerome reached the semis by virtue of a four-game sweep over the Montreal-Est Royals during which time the Panthers

outscored the Royals 29-6.

In Thursday's shutout Janick Asselin and Michael Rheume set the tone for Champlain as they each scored a pair of first-period goals that enabled the Cougars to jump out to a 4-0 lead and they never looked back. They increased their lead to 7-0 in the second period as Anthony Nellis scored twice and Alex Gagnon once. Nellis's second goal, at the 13:34 mark chased starting goaltender Philippe-Alexandre Vinette from the game and he was re-

placed by Steven Brassard.

All hell broke out in the third minute of the final period as five different players were assessed 94 penalty minutes and a total of 110 minutes of penalties were handed out in the final 20 minutes of play.

Dwayne Bradley-Tessier and Shawn Lanoue completed the Cougar scoring with a goal apiece. Alex Leclerc stopped 19 shots to record his first shutout in the post season.

Champlain broke open a close game with five consecu-

tive goals in the second period in Friday's deciding game. The visitors took a 2-1 first period lead on goals by Lanoue and Anthony Nellis and then put the game out of reach in the first ten minutes of the second frame as Bradley-Tessier, Lanoue, Rheume, and Xavier Perron had a goal apiece.

Asselin added two goals and Christopher Lacroix had a single to round out the Cougar scoring. Leclerc stopped 26 of 29 shots he faced to pick up the victory in nets.

Montreal has its first Opening Day in nine years

By John Edwards
Special to The Record
MONTREAL

Opening Day is meant to be a harbinger of spring, a sign that the hard slog through another difficult winter is over. For baseball fans in Montreal, and throughout the province, Opening Day came both a week early, and nine years late.

Yes, it was technically still spring training, yes, there was a threat of snow, and yes, the "home" team was from Toronto, but for the fans who flocked into Olympic Stadium on Friday and Saturday, Nos Amours were back.

For 24 hours, Montreal was once again a Major League city. The two-game preseason series between the Toronto Blue Jays and the New York Mets drew over 90,000 fans to Olympic Stadium, a figure that would have been a homestand's worth in the dark days of the Jeffrey Loria era.

The weekend was a celebration of the history of the Expos, with pre-game ceremonies dedicated to the late Gary Carter on Friday and the 1994 Expos on Saturday. That squad had the best record in baseball before the players' strike caused the cancellation of the World Series, a development that hastened the demise of the Expos franchise.

The question that remains unanswered is whether this was simply an extended reunion for Quebec baseball fans, left without a major league team when the Expos decamped to Washington in 2004, or a sign that Warren Cromartie's Montreal Baseball Project may yet bear fruit.



Fans wear Montreal Expos uniforms as they watch the Toronto Blue Jays in a pre-season baseball game against the New York Mets Friday, March 28, 2014 in Montreal.

The fans who made the trip, including many from the Eastern Townships, did their part to create an atmosphere that rivaled any playoff game, with frequent chants of "Let's Go Expos." Indeed, if you squinted you could just about see Rick Monday's home run going over the wall in right-centre field in 1981.

It certainly helped that the

fans were treated to a pair of entertaining games, with the Blue Jays winning both times with clutch hits.

On Friday, a walk-off single by Ricardo Nanita, who is likely to start the season in AAA Buffalo, gave the Blue Jays a 5-4 win over the Mets.

The win completed a comeback from two runs down for the Jays, who trailed 4-2 at the

seventh-inning stretch.

On Saturday, an old-fashioned pitching duel between Jays starter Brandon Morrow and the Mets' Daisuke Matsuzaka broke out. Morrow struck out eight in 5 2/3 innings without allowing a run, while Matsuzaka did the same in five innings of work.

The only runs of the game came in the bottom of the

eighth, as Melky Cabrera homered to bring home Moises Sierra.

"Bonsoir, elle est parti," said TV announcer Rodger Brulotte, reprising his role as the French voice of the Expos, after Cabrera's shot soared into the left field bleachers.

Will it be back? This weekend has given the province's baseball fans hope that, one day, it might.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/RYAN REMIORZ

Deaths



**Ruth Constance
BURROUGHS LAVALLEE**

On Friday, March 28, Ruth Constance Burroughs Lavallee passed away peacefully at St. Pat's Home in Ottawa. She was born on April 10, 1921 in Sherbrooke, Quebec. After graduating as a nurse from Sherbrooke Hospital in 1941, Ruth married Earl J. Lavallee in 1945 and had one daughter, Elizabeth, born of this union.

Her nursing career covered a variety of positions including private duty, floor supervisor of nursing, obstetrics, the recovery room and working in a doctor's office. Over the years, she was very active in the Sherbrooke Hospital alumnae and served as president for two terms.

These leadership and organizing qualities continued to be put to good use. Ruth was a staunch, active and valued member of Plymouth-Trinity United Church serving as a member of the session for twenty years, member of the choir for over forty years, and president of the U.C.W. for three terms during her fifty years as a member. Both of her parents were from England, however, it was at Plymouth-Trinity Church where they first met.

Entertaining was a great enjoyment and the more there were around the table, the better she liked it. Hopefully, the meal was to be followed by a lively game of cards.

Ruth was steadfastly generous with her time and advice helping a large circle of friends, family and causes over the years. Manners were always important and proper grammar was a must.

Ruth is survived by her daughter Elizabeth, son-in-law Joel Waldron and two grandsons Jonathan Richard (Sofya) and Jared Earl Waldron (Liisa) of whom she was very proud; also survived by nephews, cousins, as well as two special cousins and wonderful friends, Dorothy Lothrop and Norma Brown.

She is predeceased by her parents Richard and Annie Moss Burroughs, husband Earl J. Lavallee, brother W. Richard Burroughs and wife Margaret (Peg) Drummond, sister Bet and brother-in-law Lloyd Cartwright.

A Service of Celebration will be held at Plymouth-Trinity United Church, 380 Dufferin, Sherbrooke, Quebec, on Thursday, April 3 at 3 p.m. and interment at Elmwood Cemetery. A reception will follow. Visitation will be held at the church from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

If desired, donations may be made to St. Patrick's Home of Ottawa, 2865 Riverside Drive, Ottawa K1V 8N5 or the charity of your choice.

Condolences and memories may be forwarded through:

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Deaths

Deaths

Deaths



Iris PATRICK
1930 - 2014)

Passed away peacefully at the Asbestos Hospital on Tuesday, March 25, 2014, with her loving family by her side, Iris Patrick at the age of 83.

Loving mother of the late Sandra (Irvin Danforth), Donna (late Jean-Noel Pinard), Patricia (David McBurney), the late Marlene, Richard, Michael (Frances Cosgrove) and John Semple. Dear Nanny of the late Shannon Danforth, Kandy Pinard, Nathalie Ouellet (Jeffrey Tanguay), Darlene Perreault, Christopher Semple (Jaime Borduzak), Tiffany Semple (Grant Marquardt) and James Semple III. Iris also leaves to mourn her great-grandchildren Gabrielle, Abigayle, Madisyn, Carson, Keenan, Hudsyn and Acelynn, along with her sisters Dorothy (late Clifford Gunter) and Gail (late Robert Robertson), many nieces, nephews and dear friends.

Iris was predeceased by the father of her children James Ellery Semple, as well as her brothers Leslie (late Mary Pariseau) and Lynn (Carol).

Visitation will be held at the Danville Legion, 136 Grove St., Danville, on Wednesday, April 2 from 2 to 4:30 p.m., followed by a Memorial Service with Rev. Wanda Dillabough officiating. Interment in Holy Trinity Cemetery, Denison's Mills, at a later date.

Donations to the Diabetes Foundation would be greatly appreciated by the family.

Arrangements entrusted to Cass Funeral Homes. www.casshomes.ca

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Datebook

Today is the 90th day of 2014 and the 12th day of spring. Ewan McGregor (1971-), actor; Jessica Szohr (1985-), actress.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1889, the Eiffel Tower was dedicated in a ceremony in Paris.

In 1930, the Motion Pictures Production Code was adopted to regulate mature content in movies.

In 1968, President Lyndon Johnson announced a halt to bombing missions over North Vietnam and closed the televised speech with the announcement that he would not run for re-election.

In 1995, singer-songwriter Selena was murdered by the former president of her fan club.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Rene Descartes (1596-1650), philosopher/mathematician; Joseph Haydn (1732-1809), composer; Jack Johnson (1878-1946), boxer; Cesar Chavez (1927-1993), labor leader; Gordie Howe (1928-), hockey player; Liz Claiborne (1929-2007), fashion designer; Herb Alpert (1935-), musician; Christopher Walken (1943-), actor; Al Gore (1948-), former U.S. vice president/senator; Rhea Perlman (1948-), actress; Angus Young (1955-), guitarist/songwriter;

TODAY'S FACT: Gustave Eiffel built metal structures all over the world, but he also designed railway bridges and the interior structure of New York's Statue of Liberty.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1975, Hall of Fame coach John Wooden announced his retirement during the post-game press conference after leading his UCLA Bruins to a 92-85 win over the Kentucky Wildcats and earning his NCAA-record 10th national title.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "There is no such thing as defeat in non-violence." - Cesar Chavez

TODAY'S NUMBER: 2,212 - Broadway performances in the 15-year run of "Oklahoma!" The Rodgers and Hammerstein hit debuted on this day in 1943.

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (March 30) and first quarter moon (April 7).

In Memoriam



HUDSON, Herbert Joseph - In loving memory of Herbert Joseph Hudson, who died March 31, 2011. Dearly loved and always remembered, **NELLIE AND FAMILY**

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The latest girlfriend likes to brag about sex in front of everyone, including my kids

MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2014

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My husband and I have two children, ages 11 and 8. They enjoy spending time with my mother-in-law. The problem is, my husband's nephew lives with Granny and brings girls home with him for sex. The latest girlfriend likes to brag about it in front of everyone, including my kids.

We tried letting the kids visit when the nephew was at work, but the girlfriend kept showing up. I don't want my children learning about sex at Granny's house. Mom says there's nothing she can do — her house, her business. Now she has shut us out completely. We no longer see her or talk to her.

Our kids are hurt. What can we do? — Looking for Middle Ground

Dear Looking: First, please be sure that the nephew and his girlfriend are not somehow bullying or abusing Granny. It's one thing if she simply thinks you should leave her alone and another if she is intimidated and afraid of antagonizing the nephew. You may need to contact Adult Protective Services in your area for help.

Otherwise, perhaps your husband could speak directly to his nephew, without blame or judgment, and say that the kids miss Granny, and his girlfriend's uninhibited conversation makes it difficult to visit. Enlist his help to remedy the situation for the sake of family harmony. We hope he will ask his girlfriend to put a filter on her mouth when the kids are around and convince his grandmother to open her home.

Dear Annie: My boyfriend's mother can be a nightmare. Boundaries mean nothing to her. Her oldest son and his wife moved out of state to get away from her.

My own mother taught me how to handle her. First, she kept reminding me that this woman created the man I love, so there must be something good about her. Then she and my grandmother began inviting my boyfriend's mother to women's lunches and small outings. They developed a beautiful relationship, and now our families share holidays together. This set a great example for me. I began taking cooking and painting classes with my future mother-in-law at the local library and going on errands with her when my boyfriend was busy. I helped her in the kitchen and asked for her advice.

I understood how much I had to gain by sharing small pieces of my day-to-day life and taking her to places we enjoy. As I developed my own relationship with her, it became easier to carve out special time with my boyfriend. She felt included in our life and was more

likely to respect our time together. Of course, there are times when she still steps on my toes, and my boyfriend lays down the law, but there is no resentment because of the effort I have made.

I have gained a second mother by being patient, tolerant and kind. It took time, but I can truly say that she is my family now. My boyfriend and I plan to marry soon, and I know his mother can't wait. Had I been cold or resentful toward her, I would have missed out. For all the people in a serious relationship: Make the effort now. It's worth it. Family is important, and life is short.

— Thankful for Her

Dear Thankful: Thank you for understanding the long-term gain of having this relationship and being willing to do the work to make it happen. And bless your mother for her wisdom. We hope every soon-to-be bride will clip this out and save it for future reference.

Dear Annie: Grandparents complain that they don't get thank-you notes or phone calls for gifts to grandchildren. I've noticed that grandparents rarely send thank-you notes to grandchildren when they do something special. We MUST teach by example. — Menasha, Wis.

Dear Annie: This is in response to "Bedwetter," who is afraid to move in with his girlfriend for fear she'll find out he still wets the bed.

My oldest son had a problem with bedwetting and was unable to attend sleepovers because he didn't want his friends to know he wore pull-ups at night. My husband and I decided to take him to a urologist, and it was the best decision we ever made. His doctor explained that most people's brains produce a chemical at night that stops or slows urine production. My son's body wasn't producing this chemical on its own. The doctor prescribed a drug that worked immediately, and my son had no accidents as long as he took the medicine before bed. It changed his life.

I strongly urge "Bedwetter" to make an appointment with a urologist as soon as possible. — Happy Mother of an Ex-Bedwetter

Dear Mother: Thank you. We also recommend that readers check the National Kidney Foundation (kidney.org) at 1-888-WAKE-DRY (1-888-925-3379) for additional information. We heard from a great many readers on this subject and appreciate their desire to help. Here are a few of their suggestions:

From New York: My brothers and I were bedwetters

into elementary school. It made life both difficult and shameful. When my children had the same problem, I took them to the homeopathic doctor who had been helping me with my allergies. She said research shows this can be an inherited problem. She said it was handed down by some distant ancestor who had syphilis. I have no idea whether this is true, and it doesn't really matter. Her remedies took care of the problem for my kids. What a blessing. This young man has a real problem. No woman wants to sleep with someone wearing diapers. He needs help.

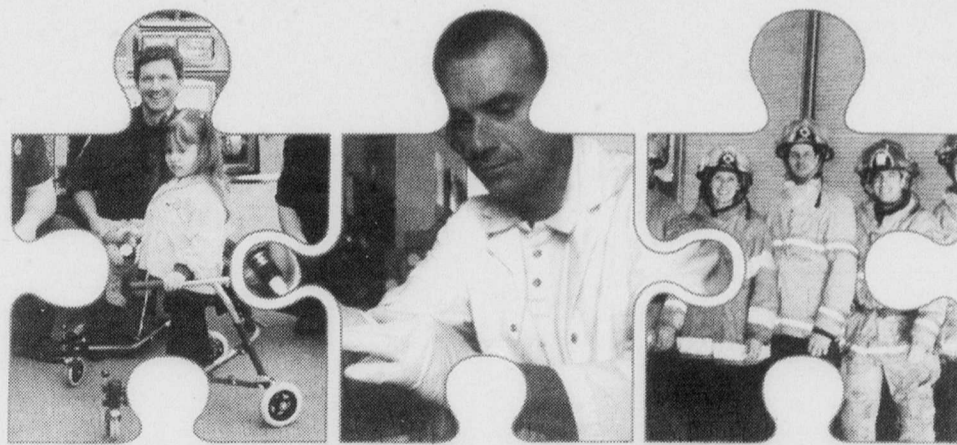
Florida: When I learned I was pregnant, my mother told me, "Congratulations. Now you won't wet the bed anymore." I didn't. When my son was desperate to quit bedwetting, he heard that honey would help. He hated honey, but took a teaspoon every night before bedtime. I don't remember how long he had to suffer, but eventually, he stopped wetting the bed.

Texas: My teenage grandson had the same problem, and nothing his doctor recommended helped. My daughter found a bedwetting alarm online that trains the brain to wake up when there is an urge to urinate. After all the years of bedwetting, it only took three days before my grandson had a wet-free night and about a week before the problem was solved completely.

Ithaca, N.Y.: I wanted to add to your list of suggestions that this fellow seek out a chiropractor who has a proven track record with correcting nocturnal enuresis (night-time bedwetting). The chiropractor would be able to determine whether the enuresis is coming from spinal nerve interference. If so, then the man is in the right place for permanent correction of a problem whose solution will not be found with medications. I have been fortunate enough to have helped a half-dozen people with this problem who suffered needlessly for years because they did not know that a qualified chiropractor could help.

Chicago: We had that same problem in our family for years, and a friend told us that it could be due to a dairy allergy. After removing all dairy from his diet, our son stopped wetting the bed within 24 hours. Dairy hides in lots of foods, so be sure to read the ingredients and look for anything with milk, casein, cheese, sour cream, whey or yogurt. For some reason, butter and goat cheese were not a problem.

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



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by Luis Campos

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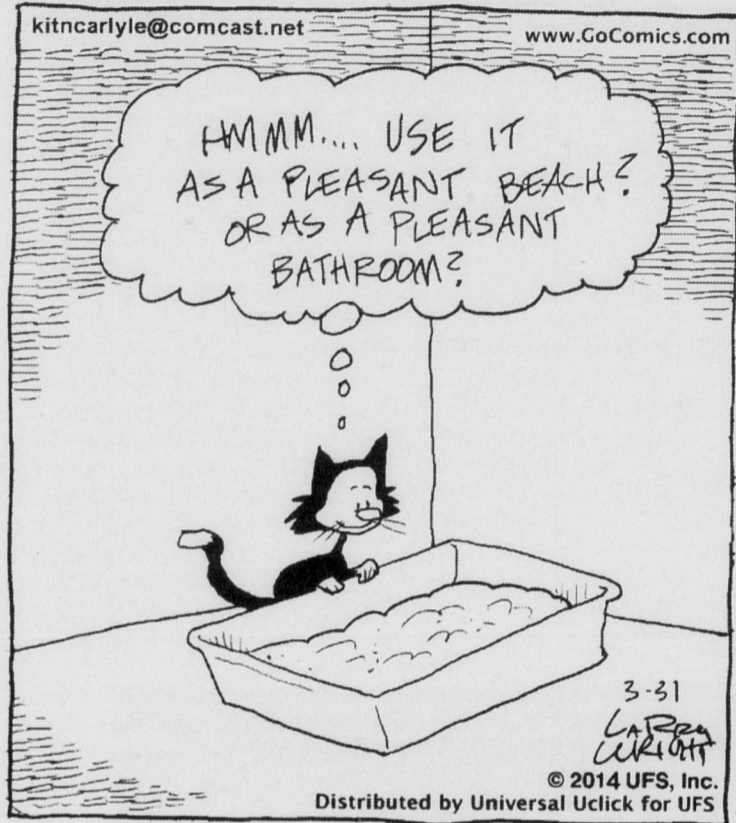
"Z'F SUC TBTS HLPT VGRC Z VRSC,
OLC CGRC'H SUC CGT IUZSC — ZC'H
CGRC Z VRSC ZC SUV." — TXBZH
DUHCTXXU

Previous Solution: "All of the Mets' road wins against the Dodgers this year occurred at Dodger Stadium." — Announcer Ralph Kiner

TODAY'S CLUE: g sjanba o

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HERMAN



"I know I won't be losing a daughter. YOU'LL be gaining a mother-in-law."

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4	6	3	1	5	7	8	9	2
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If, In Life

*If, in life, you have a tendency to frown
Stop to find a nice reason to smile
While some roads can pull you down
Others will help you travel in style*

*Being flexible requires a many-thoughts process
To enjoy a life, to express a degree of gratitude
On the negative parts one must not obsess
Accept being a human with many a mood*

*Off and on, one encounters a person most gruff
Who sees most of the world through dirty specs
He or she will complain about all sorts of stuff
It becomes obvious it is his/her life that he/she wrecks*

*If, in life, you seek to see invariable perfection
You may be seen as a dreamer of virtual needs
Nothing wrong, as long as you do not spread the negative infection*

Because many avoid melancholy in their mental reels.

G.L. Brown
February 2013

Water and Sun

*The sun rises over the crest of the distant mountain
I hear sounds of life from a nest near a fountain
Life, yes, this is life emerging
Soon we will hear little birds sing*

*Life, yes, this is life emerging
Soon we will hear little birds sing*

*If your today lacks essence
Remember, life is made up of patience
Waiting for all those good days ahead
And I don't mean, go back to bed*

*Admire what you see
Enjoy who you be
Improve your morning mood
It won't help to mope or to brood
Let the sun shine from inside
On the dark days, do not deride
The Great Maker of the skies
For I'm sure He truly tries
To keep everyone joyful and merry
But His weather must also carry
Rain and snow for all our seasons
Whether we get grumpy for various reasons*

*In essence, for life to go on well for everyone
There must be water as well as the warm sun.*

G.L. Brown
April 2013

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