

THE EQUITY

THE VOICE OF THE PONTIAC SINCE 1883

Getting MADD at PHS ... page 3

Health centre volunteers honoured ... page 10

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NEWS BRIEFS

Finnigan honoured for 50 years of writing

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

OTTAWA — After 50 years of writing about local history and heritage, author Joan Finnigan celebrated her newest release with over 200 friends, family and fans.

Finnigan, 80, was blown away by "An Evening to Honour Joan Finnigan", a night set aside to celebrate her work April 16 at Christ Church Cathedral Parish Hall in Ottawa.

"I was embarrassed, I was floored, I was flattered," said Finnigan after the event. "There were a lot of people who I didn't know there and all sorts of people who I hadn't seen in a long time who came out of the woodwork."

Finnigan is celebrating her 50th year as a writer with the publication of the 13th volume — *Life Along the Opeongo Line*.

Former CBC radio host John Lacharity emceed the event that included performances by Phil Jenkins, Rare Blend and Iain Phillips.

City of Ottawa Coun. Clive Doucet read the mayor's proclamation and gave her a framed copy of it.

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Firefighters complete training modules

By CHRISTIE MAILEY
Equity Reporter

CAMPBELL'S BAY — Twelve men from the Campbell's Bay-Litchfield Fire Department have completed the nine modules required to be a part-time fire fighter.

Keith Racine, Mike Bertrand, Brian Hewitson, Noel Kelly, Jean-Pierre Landry, James Morin, Remi Paré, Pat Shea, Atholl Smith, Lincoln Smith, Todd Vibert, and Kevin Kluge are the first firefighters in the Pontiac to have completed the modules which they began working on in 1998.

"It was hard to get guys to commit to giving up nights and weekends, being away from their families, but it paid off in the long run," said Chief Kevin Kluge.

There are nine modules required for part-time fire fighters (formerly volunteer) and there are an additional 12 modules required for full-time (employed) firefighters.

The modules, which are offered through the Western Quebec School Board, took a total of 345 hours to complete and each came with a written and physical exam.

"There was fire training, dangerous goods, building construction, hazardous materials," said Kluge. "Each exam would take two to three hours, sometimes half a day."

"The physical exams included following a simulate situation. We were blindfolded and we crawled under vehicles. We had to swing an axe so many times only using so much air."

Of the 25 firefighters on the fire department, the remaining 13 have either started or are getting ready to start the modules in order to be able to keep working on the fire department.

See photo on page 2

Two forestry groups ready to present MRC with their plan to resurrect PFC

Groupement Forestier du Pontiac, Coopérative Forestière Autochtone de l'Outaouais spent \$100,000 on study

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

PONTIAC — The fate of the closed PFC saw mill in Litchfield was revisited at the Pontiac MRC monthly meeting Monday with a report from one of the players making a bid to get the operation up and running.

Martin Boucher, of the Groupement Forestier du Pontiac (GFP), told the council of mayors that his group — a joint effort by the GFP and the Coopérative Forestière Autochtone de l'Outaouais — is ready to present its

project to the mayors if the proposed partnership between Tembec, Smurfit-Stone and Lauzon fails to be realized.

Boucher said his group has spent \$100,000 during the past two years on a feasibility study to determine the best solution for the mill which closed in May 2003 after 43 of 51 employees with the International Woodworkers Association (now merged with the Steelworkers union, the largest private sector union in North America with 850,000 members) voted in favour of strike action.

Partnership preferred

Boucher told the mayors that the optimal solution is a partnership between the Big 3 (Tembec, Smurfit-Stone, Lauzon) and his group. However, Boucher said he is patiently waiting to hear from the Big 3 following a couple of meetings and phone calls.

"In the past few weeks, we haven't heard too much about the project," Boucher said. "We don't know what's going on."

At its March meeting, the council of mayors voted in favour — Calumet Island, Fort Coulonge and Mansfield voted against — of a resolution urging the Big 3 to report back to the MRC before April 26.

"We tried to force the issue," Warden Michael McCrank said about the resolution calling for a report.

However, McCrank said, the fact the Big 3 have failed to respond before the April 26 date says little about the efforts made at the local level to strike a deal.

"The companies are so big, we're just flies on the map," he said of the futility of trying to pressure them to strike a deal.

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Martin Boucher of the Groupement Forestier du Pontiac tells the mayors of Monday's meeting that the Groupement and the Cooperative Forestiere Autochtone de l'Outaouais are ready to present their project to the MRC with the hopes that the PFC saw mill can be back in business soon. Boucher said the Groupement lost 25 per cent of its revenues since the mill closed following strike action in May 2003.

SINGING FOR THE JUDGE



Pontiac High School student Farrah Ferguson belts out *Simply the Best* by Tina Turner for Canadian Idol judge Farley Flex in the school's gymnasium. Flex visited the school April 14, telling the students to 'find within ... what makes you feel good.' See story on page 2.

MoP Coun. Middlemiss still wears 'two hats' despite opposition

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

LUSKVILLE — At its April 12 meeting, the Municipality of Pontiac voted against "disqualifying" Coun. Brian Middlemiss from council for being a part-time unionized firefighter in court.

Council voted 3-2 against the motion. Couns. Roger Larose and Harold McKenny voted in favour; Couns. Pierre Lafrance, Garry Dagenais and William Twolan voted against. Coun. Jim Coyle did not attend the meeting and Mayor Bruce Campbell and Coun. Middlemiss abstained from voting.

The motion was made to get a judgement ruling on this file, as some councillors agree with the Municipal Code that states "it is possible to be ineligible for council, because of being a member of the unionized part-time fire department".

Conflict?

Coun. Middlemiss is currently a part-time unionized firefighter, a councillor and sits on the public security committee. The committee is in charge of all aspects of the fire department, including wages.

"I feel there is no conflict of interest," said Coun. Middlemiss. "There would only be one if I used it to my profit. If the issue of wages came up I would step aside from the table."

He said that when councillors want a wage increase they vote for it themselves, so there could be a conflict of interest there as well.

"I don't know where the problem is," he said. "I feel I can wear both hats."

Coun. Larose, who seconded the motion at the meeting, feels there is a definite problem.

"He is sitting on the public security committee that deals with wages when he shouldn't sit there at all," said Coun. Larose. "It's still not right, as far as I can see."

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Pontiac Animal Control undecided if closing after current contracts end

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

LITCHFIELD — Pontiac Animal Control (PAC) will not confirm whether or not it will be closing at the end of this year.

Operator Dawn Bunce told THE EQUITY that it can only say it will complete its current contracts which end on the Dec. 31.

Recently, the organization stated it would close its operations by the end of the year unless they got six more municipalities to sign onto the service by April 1.

The deadline, now come and gone, moved no municipalities to confirm it would sign a contract.

"The lawyers are in the middle of things," said J.R. Guy, secretary-treasurer of PAC.

Bylaws

Bunce insists that animal control is tougher to enforce when there are no bylaws enforcing PAC's code.

"It's making my job harder," she said recently at an MRC meeting. "Without bylaws or penalties ... what's the sense of selling tags?"

As it stands right now, no municipalities have penalties for pet owners that don't abide by PAC's regulations.

"We get 30 calls a day," Guy said of calls that

come in — mainly complaints or stray sightings.

But Bunce said that a lot of the calls are coming from municipalities that aren't signed onto animal control.

"I don't refuse animals for any reason," she told the council.

Currently, five Pontiac municipalities have contracts signed until Dec. 31 with PAC — Bryson, Campbell's Bay, Mansfield, Portage du Fort and Shawville.

Possible municipalities

Whether or not the shelter will remain open after Dec. 31 will depend on if they sign on any more municipalities.

He says things are in the air until they meet with three municipalities that may be interested in hiring PAC.

"Bristol may re-sign," said Guy. "We're working on signing new contracts."

He hopes that eventually, there will be no choice for a municipality but to sign on.

"One mayor told me that he doesn't want us to leave and that we've been dependable," said Guy. "But we still don't know yet."

"We need the majority of the population to continue running. So we're on stand-by. Thank God we have other means of income."

MP Smith wants Gomery report concluded before an election

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

PONTIAC — Pontiac MP David Smith said the Gomery inquiry into the sponsorship scandal should be completed before Canadians are forced to go to the polls for another federal election.

Speaking to reporters from three Outaouais weekly newspapers via teleconference Tuesday, April 12, Smith said that it is important "to see who is actually telling the truth and who isn't."

"I believe it is important to let Justice Gomery conclude his report," Smith said.

Smith, stepping away from the scandal, said that as far as he is concerned, those found culpable by the inquiry should pay the price for their shady dealings.

"Me, I will never support or defend someone who does something illegal," he said.

Smith said Prime Minister Paul Martin has acted honourably since he took control of the Liberal Party from disgraced former prime minister Jean Chrétien in December, 2003.

"On Dec. 12, the sponsorship program was cancelled," he said, adding several Crown corporation bosses were let go as well.

Because his party is willing to implement recommendations from the Gomery inquiry, Smith

said going to the polls before the report is revealed is not necessary.

"We're waiting for the response from the Gomery inquiry to see what initiatives can be put into place to prevent this from happening again," he said. "Once the report is completed, the Liberal government will implement the recommendations."

Smith said that while the thought of another election before the Gomery inquiry is concluded "saddens" him, the whole scandal has Québec separatists salivating at the increased possibilities for victory unleashed by the inquiry and the perception that the sponsorship program intended to use money and aggressive marketing to quell separatist ambitions by "buying" allegiance to Canada.

"I share your opinion that, yes, people are in a rage out there," he said. "They are hurt about what happened. The separatist movement is very happy to see it happen."

Happy, he said, because the separatists have visions of a sweep in the next federal election and are certain they will topple the Charest Liberals in the next provincial election, setting the stage for yet another — this time winnable — referendum.

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FROM THE FRONT

Finnigan honoured

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The Ottawa Literary Heritage Society presented Finnigan with a lifetime achievement award for her contribution to local literary heritage.
At the end of the ceremony, Penumbra Press publisher John Flood gave her a letter of congratulations. Finnigan has been publishing books through this company for 50 years.
As well, Ontario Lieutenant Governor James Bartleman said a few words of congratulations.
"It was just wonderful," said Finnigan. "I am still too flabbergasted."
Catherine Carroll, part of the organizing team who planned the evening, thought the evening went perfectly.
"This night was long overdue as far as I'm concerned," said Carroll, who wrote her MA thesis on Finnigan's work.
"I think she was really pleased."
Bio
Joan Finnigan was born and raised in Ottawa, the oldest of five children. As she grew up she summered with relatives in Pontiac



JOAN FINNIGAN

County.
She was the daughter of teacher Maye Horner and Frank Finnigan, the "Shawville Express", an NHL all-star of the 1920s and '30s.
She attended Lisgar Collegiate High School, Carleton and Queen's universities.
She has freelanced since 1965, writing books and poetry on the history of the Ottawa Valley. She also spent time as a photographer.
She has won many awards including the Trillium Award in 1992, the Pat Lowther Poetry Award in 1989, the Centennial Award for poetry in 1969 and a Genie (then Etrog) for best screenplay in 1969.
Finnigan is currently working on four new books.

Idol judge reminds PHS to set goals

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter
SHAWVILLE — Giving a gym full of eager students the inspiration to discover their lifelong goals, Canadian Idol judge Farley Flex delivered a motivational speech at Pontiac High School.
Popping by the school a day early on April 14, students and teachers took a break from spirit week activities to hear one of Canada's biggest celebrities dish out the facts on growing up, acknowledging uniqueness and being happy.
"He is recognized as one of the most influential people in the Canadian music scene," said vice-principal Don Stevens before Flex took to the podium. "He is one of the best young speakers this country has seen in a long time."
After introducing himself, Flex described how at a very young age, he discovered he had an uncanny ability to spot and nurture creative talent.
"I started a company up when I was 15," he told PHS. "I was raised by a single parent who was on welfare."
He told them despite growing up disadvantaged,

he felt he lived in a happy Toronto home.
"(My mom) allowed us to explore our minds and environments," he said. "And if you think living in a rural community means you don't have access — it's not true."
He said as he grew up, everyone knew him to act like every day was a Friday afternoon, looking forward to the time in front of him and enjoying the moment.
Flex talked about the importance of a career being the extension of a personality.
"You have to find within yourself what makes you feel good," he said.
He said that true happiness and success comes only from doing what you love.
Idol
Flex was chosen to be part of Canadian Idol, said to be the most watched Canadian television show with about 2.2 million viewers, out of hundreds of candidates. In the show's third season, Flex has the music industry background to lead the contestants in the right direction.
He's been on the scene since the late 80s, managing many hip hop artists including Maestro, Canada's most successful solo rap artist.

He was the music director for FLOW 93.5, Canada's first urban radio station and a major concert promoter over the years.
Flex is a board member of VideoFACT, a company that funds music videos for independent Canadian artists. He also recently received the Bob Marley Community Role Model Award for his commitment to community youth development.
At the end of his speech he invited brave staff and students up to sing a cappella before he gave his valuable critiques.
But none was more important than the motto he stressed: "Find out what makes you feel good, and map out the goals in life that can achieve your happiness."

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MP Smith wants Gomery report before an election

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"I sincerely believe that the opposition, the real competition in this election will be the Bloc Québécois," he said, adding a BQ sweep of the province could cause problems for the anglophone minority already coping with Bill 101 and its restrictive sign language law.
"I'm not sure the Bloc Québécois will represent the English minority," he said.
However, should an election be forced if the government is brought down by a

non-confidence vote, Smith said he and his party are ready to rumble.
"There's money in the riding association to run an election campaign," he said, adding he was going to a fundraiser later that evening.
Smith said the teleconference call was not "damage control" from the Gomery inquiry fallout, but a personal initiative to reach his constituents through the local media.
"The media is close to the community," he said.

Coun. Middlemiss wears 'two hats'

continued from page 1
He said that Municipal Affairs recommended that Coun. Middlemiss step down and that those recommendations should be taken seriously.
"Councillors can't be unionized firefighters," said Coun. Larose. "This motion is to protect Brian as much as anyone."
Campbell firmly believes there is no conflict of interest for Middlemiss to be part of the public security committee and also be a part-time firefighter and councillor.
"We're not doing anything with it now," said Campbell on the motion. "If Mr. Larose wants to raise more shenanigans about this, then he can."
At the March meeting, a motion was brought forward to remove Coun.

Middlemiss from the public security committee and suspending the committee until further notice. But a vote rejected the proposal until council could get more information. Middlemiss claims he resigned from the public security committee over a year ago. But because no other councillors took over his position, he felt obliged to help them out.
"He had no help. I just take notes," said Middlemiss.
"To me, I'm not at a conflict of interest."

Forestry groups aim to resurrect PFC mill

continued from page 1
Boucher said if the Big 3 fail to strike a partnership with his group, they would like the opportunity to present their project to the mayors before a decision is made. (The Ministry of Natural Resources advised the MRC that the onus is on them to make a decision regarding the mill.)
"We don't want to put a stick in the wheel of their project," Boucher said.
"If it happens that we have to go alone, we could go alone, but it's in the best interests of the region to work in a partnership."
Boucher said depleted forest resources combined with the new cutting regulations recommended by the Coulombe Commission has forced the industry to develop new strategies to ensure their operations are viable.
"With all the new regulations, it's hard to work alone in the field of forestry," he said. "We have to develop

partnerships."
Boucher said that the GFP "lost 25 per cent of our revenues because PFC was one of our major clients."
"It's very important to put that back into the economy," he said, citing job losses and the ensuing negative impact on the economy.
Mike McCarter, president of local chapter 1-1000 of the Steelworkers, told the mayors that they should watch closely any deal the Big 3 strike.
McCarter said that Lauzon is interested only in the mill's machinery and CAAF and that Smurfit-Stone would benefit whether or not they were part of a partnership.
"It wouldn't shock me to see Smurfit-Stone out of the project," McCarter said.
"Where else would the chips go?"
"Maybe you people should look a little closer before you vote," Waltham Mayor Paul

CAMPBELL'S BAY-LITCHFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT
RESCUE UNITÉ DE SECOURS

The Campbell's Bay-Litchfield Fire Department successfully completed their fire modules recently. From the left: Atholl Smith, Pat Shea, Lincoln Smith, Assistant Chief Todd Viberf, Chief Kevin Kluge, Keith Racine, James Marin, Noel Kelly, Brian Hewitson and Jean-Pierre Landry. Missing from photo: Michel Bertrand and Remi Pare.

Guess who's 80 years young
The family of Edna Hartman would like to invite you to join them in celebrating Edna's 80th birthday at a surprise party.
April 30th, 2005 at 2:00 p.m.
Zion Lutheran Church basement, Schwartz, QC
Light Lunch Served
Bring a memo or photo to go into an album for a keepsake.

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SADC now 20 years old



In conclusion Coffey quoted Michael Jordan — "Sometimes to gain you just have to take the leap and build your wings on the way down."
"The SADC was our wings," she said.
Congratulatory comments were delivered by Industry Canada representative Marc Boily as well as MNA Charlotte L'Ecuyer and MP David Smith.

Past presidents were honoured at the 20th anniversary dinner and gala for the Pontiac SADC held Friday evening at the Bryson Forest Inn. From the left, warden Mike McCrank presented presidents Heather Alberti Dickson and Sylvie Landriault with a plaque listing all the past presidents. Also on-hand for the presentation were executive director Louise Donaldson and gala organiser Andre Chretien.

By HEATHER DICKSON
Equity Publisher
BRYSON — The Forest Inn was sold out. More than 250 Pontiacers attended the Friday evening dinner gala to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Pontiac SADC.

The dinner featured only Pontiac produce procured from Bryson Farms, Radview Farms and Pontiac Home Bakery.
The crowd represented a cross-section of mainly Pontiac business people with some governmental representatives.

"A room of community leaders, dedicated Pontiac-driven thinkers and doers," described SADC director general Louise Donaldson.
At the conclusion of the meal a variety of guest speakers were invited to say a few words.

Denis Larivière was first to the podium and took dinner guests on a trip down memory lane describing a number of events that had changed significantly during the last 20 years.
"But one thing has not

changed, we still have dedicated men and women, volunteers, who sit on the board of directors of the SADC," said Larivière.

"And you have made a difference!", concluded Larivière.

Erin Coffey of Esprit Rafting, was next and she spoke of their business' experiences with the SADC.

"We first used the SADC in the 1990s after our growth had gone exponential. We needed help and the SADC came through with financial and guidance. We didn't fit the typical business formula that traditional banks follow, and our financials are not typical. But we asked the SADC and the wonderful people there held us by the hand and developed a business plan. They provided that extra bit of guidance that wasn't available anywhere else. We are still here after 14 years because of the SADC," said Coffey.

"Their support was crucial and they allowed us to build our dreams and sustain our company".

Following the speakers a special plaque honouring the SADC's past presidents was unveiled by SADC gala organizer André Chretien. Names listed were Ken Amyotte, 1985 - 1986 and 1990- 1992; Ross Dickson 1986 - 1987 and 1988 - 1990; Roy Herault 1987 - 1988; Claire Benoit 1992 - 1994; Sylvie Landriault 1994 - 1996 and Heather Alberti Dickson 1996 - present.

Pontiac SADC
The SADC Pontiac Community Futures is part of a network of Community Futures Development Corporations established coast-to-coast in rural communities through out Canada. Their mission is to stimulate and support local economic growth with financial, coaching and management tools for entrepreneurs and with facilitation, leadership and organizational tools for community groups and leaders.

At \$4.5 million today, the SADC Pontiac has been working for 20 years with the community to plan and deliver development projects and programs geared to increase employment opportunities and economic growth. The \$4.5 million has been invested in local manufacturing, retail and services sectors in all areas of development such as agriculture, forestry and tourism.

Ottawa Ex seeks unbroken Pontiac horses

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter
PONTIAC — Ottawa Exhibition organizers are searching for unbroken horses from the Pontiac to be trained in a unique horse whispering show with trainer Greg Barrington.
"If anyone wants their horse trained they can contact me," said Bristol Mayor Jack Graham, who is also on the Ottawa Ex's organizing commission.

Horse whispering is a technique used in training horses using motivational response training instead of force.
"Different methods are

used in training horses in this area," said Graham. "But he uses self reassurance and trust."

Each horse will be part of a two-hour show with Barrington. By the end of the two hours, Barrington's goal is to saddle and mount the horse.

"It takes three times for a horse to learn something," said Barrington. "They are very smart."

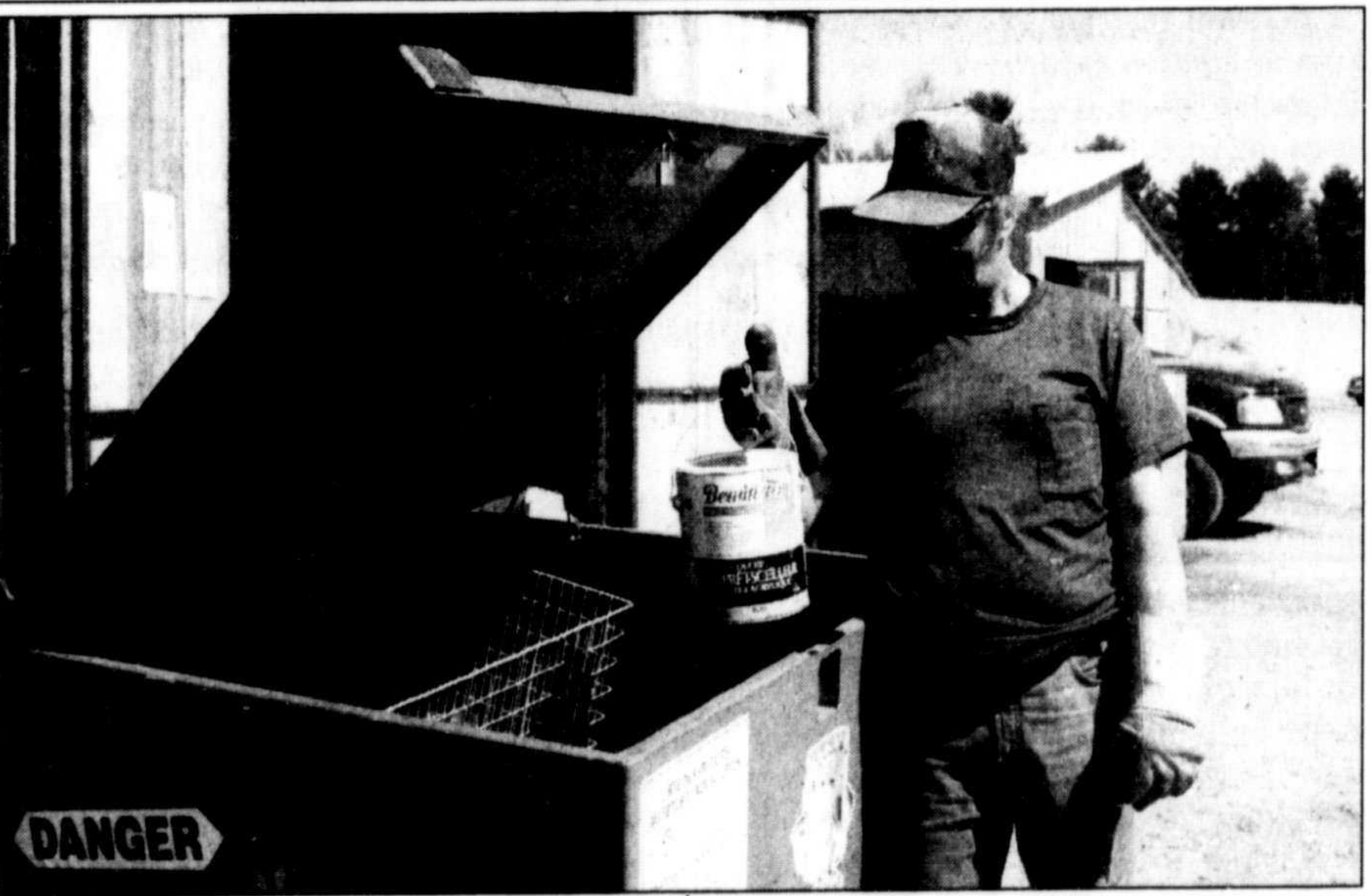
Eleven unbroken but halter trained saddle-horses are needed for the show. Owners are required to transport the horse to and from the Ex. Barrington prefers clean horses that are

not cut up or abused. Free parking and entrance will be provided.

Barrington's method works with horses of all ages and breeds, whether they need to overcome fears and abuse or need simple re-training.

"I can only go as far as the horse will take me," Barrington said.
Barrington, 58, has been featured on television shows, newspapers and writes for horse publications. He resides on a farm in Burnt River, Ontario.

Contact Graham at (819) 647-2376 to register your horse.



Clarendon dump attendant Doug Hodgins places a half-used can of paint into the new disposal container located at the dump. Residents of Shawville, Portage du Fort and Bryson are welcome to recycle spray paint cans, varnishes and motor oil products here.

Clarendon provides safe disposal site

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter
CLARENDON — The Municipality of Clarendon is one step closer to saving the environment now that residents can safely dispose of used paint and paint cans at the local landfill.

Mayor Jack Lang received word recently that residents are now able to drop off paint in paint cans or used spray paint cans in a special container located at the dump.

"Clarendon has passed a resolution that a recycling company will take these cans away for free," said Lang. "It doesn't cost the

municipality."
Later this week, there will also be a container added where used motor oil and oil cans can safely be disposed.

Lang said the municipalities of Shawville, Bryson and Portage du Fort are welcome to use the two new disposal systems.

"When the bin is full we notify them to pick it up and they drop off an empty one," said dump attendant Doug Hodgins.

The company Peintures Récupérées du Québec Inc. will recycle the cans and market recovered paint. Steel containers are recov-

ered, pressed and shipped to a smelting plant.

Hodgins will be on hand to make sure that items fit disposal criteria.

Other accepted products include paint, stains, metal paint, varnishes, epoxy, lacquers, aluminum paint, wood and masonry preservatives and spray paint cans. Solvents, artist paint in tubes, adhesives, granular paints, industrial paint, sign paint and any other kind of paint are not accepted.

The dump, located on 8th Line, is open Tuesday to Friday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Students at Pontiac High School watched a special video presentation on three jumbo screens Thursday on the repercussions of drugs and alcohol.

Students get MADD at PHS

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter
S H A W V I L L E — Students at Pontiac High School didn't just get MADD about driving impaired, but got even by teaching their fellow students what can happen while acting under the influence.

The Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) of Canada organization came to PHS Thursday with a unique video presentation.
A fast-paced video shown on three jumbo television screens geared the facts about illusions of drugs and alcohol to young adults.

Held in the afternoon in the gymnasium, PHS's similar association called Pontiac Students Against Impaired Drivers (PSAID), raised \$725 throughout the year to pay for the presentation.

Part of the money raised was from donations courtesy of Curves and a past president of the Lions Club.
"Mostly they sold candy-grams," said teacher and organizer Wendy Moore. Students could buy special candy messages and have them delivered to friends for a few dollars.

Moore, along with Julie Lemannier, helped students organize the presentation.
MADD declares itself as a non-profit, grassroots organization that is committed to stopping impaired driving and supporting the victims of this violent crime.
Volunteers are not just mothers, but fathers, friends, business professionals, experts in the impaired driving field and concerned citizens who want to make a difference in the fight against impaired driving.

RON FINDLAY
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AND
May 4 - 6:15 pm
(for children 9 years and under)
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EDITORIAL

Needs and wants

Why, oh why, do our governments — provincial and federal — always play a tough negotiations game with public service unions? The key term for us is not "unions" but "public service" and it boggles the mind why our governments — elected to serve us, so one would assume and hope they know what service is — have no problem granting themselves raises that are way beyond the inflation rate, but stall when teachers, health care professionals, and police come calling for more dough?

Are they trying to project themselves as protectors of the public purse by playing Scrooge with the unions? Is it a case of our elected officials being able to say, "See, we are careful with your money. We have managed to keep our nurses among the lowest paid in Canada, saving you, the taxpayer, from being hit with more taxes." They should add, "Besides, with the money we saved, we can order up some more geraniums for that nice flower garden at Rideau Hall (or in Québec City, or wherever)."

Maybe, just maybe, if teachers were given more resources and — if you are bleeding heart lefty, stop reading — were given more authority, i.e. disciplinary powers over the students, the extra money spent at the educational level would be a sound future investment. Just think, if parents regained control of the "I-have-my-rights-I-am-entitled-to" whiny teenage set and teachers were given powers to keep the unruly lot under control, there could very well be a lesser demand for police services in the future because Johnny's and Jenny's criminal aspirations were nipped in the bud when and where they are supposed to be — in school. Instead, we have a liberal society where more emphasis is placed on freedom, self-esteem and rights than on responsibility and respect for others. Not to mention a great number of parents who are blind to the reality that their kid can break the rules and blame the teacher/school system for their child's delinquency.

This is constant harping, but don't our elected officials realize that taxes were first introduced to provide for the things we need? Do we "need" a \$200-million war museum? Do we "need" Heritage Canada to teach us history? Do we need a \$60-million per year governor-general? Do we "need" an \$18-million (and that's just to build the damn thing) clown school? Do we need all the studies that revisit such revelatory hypotheses as, "Does smoking cigarettes pose health problems?" Do we "need" a "Ministry of Culture?" (The latter sounds too much like it came out of the Fascists' Handbook for Societal Control.)

Somewhere along the road to societal development, our governments turned the tax equation upside down and "How much taxes should we collect to provide for essential services?" became "How much taxes should we collect to provide for services we deem essential?"

Photos of teachers on the picket line instead of in the classroom serve as reminders of how out of touch our governments are with the real world, especially in Québec. Whereas other jurisdictions are willing to pay more for nurses and teachers, etc., in Québec they are continually lowballed at the negotiations table. Don't our officials in Québec City understand that to get quality workers, you have to be willing to pay more money? After all, that's the logic used to justify their high salaries.

Paul McGee



It's spring again

YOUR OPINION

Thirty years later, it's time to give bill 101 another look

Dear Editor,

With its unanimous judgment on March 31 regarding the constitutionality of certain provisions of Bill 101, the Supreme Court of Canada has opened the door to increased English-language education in Quebec. The court did not strike down provincial legislation that restricts access to English schools, but it did lay down new legal criteria that will make it easier for native-born Canadians and immigrants to gain access to English schools.

For the families involved, this decision has immediate and significant effects on the quality of their lives. At the same time, there is a larger issue at stake. Bill 101 only allows instruction in English for children whose parents received most of their education in English, and elsewhere in Canada. This court ruling means the Quebec government must now revamp its rules for English schooling to comply with the federal Charter of Rights. Many expect Quebec Premier Jean Charest will invoke the notwithstanding clause to maintain the status quo. However considering it has been almost 30 years since the adoption of Bill 101, it's time to use this as a much needed opportunity to discuss and debate publicly whether or not the French Language Charter, in its present form, corresponds to the reality of Quebec today.

Certainly, from the perspective of the two solitudes, no meaningful dialogue can take place, and, as a result, families that find their access to schooling in English denied have little in the way of options other than taking their grievances to court. In the political realm, the fear of a nationalist backlash has created a situation in which the attitude that "not a single comma can be changed" reins supreme. However, much has changed since the language wars of the '60s and '70s. Indeed, in looking at the vitality of the two linguistic communities 30 years later, two very different portraits appear.

In regard to the vitality of the French-speaking majority, the latest census figures demonstrate that the proportion of French speakers in Quebec has remained stable over

the last 30 years, the usage of French in the home has increased significantly, and there have never been more anglophones and allophones who speak French. In contrast, in the same period, there has been a net loss of 25 per cent of the English-speaking community, and in the last five years, 16 per cent of those anglophones between the ages of 25-34 have left the province. Clearly, the trajectories of the two communities are not heading in the same direction.

However, there is one thing that the two communities do have in common: both communities are facing a demographic crisis. By 2013, the number of people retiring from the workforce in Quebec will surpass those entering, and by 2035, the number of workers versus the number of retirees will decrease from today's ratio of four workers for each retired person to two workers per retired person. Taking into consideration Quebec's staggering debt load, high taxes, low birth rate, and difficulty retaining immigrants, the province will be hard pressed to sustain its generous social programs from which both communities draw benefits.

In years past, the exodus of anglophones from Quebec was not met with cautionary warnings from the francophone population. Today, however, there is reason for concern. Given the imminent demographic plight on the horizon, both communities can ill afford to lose key members of the society, especially since it is within this age group that most people begin having families and begin contributing financially to society by paying taxes. Thirty years ago, losses incurred by the English-speaking community may have been viewed as gains for the francophone community, but viewed from today's perspective of Quebec's aging population, the continued exodus of young anglophones represents significant loss for both communities.

Inevitably, any analysis of the future vitality of the English speaking community in Quebec must take into consideration the declining enrollment in English schools. Over the last 30 years, the enrollment in public English elementary and secondary schools has dropped

by over 50 per cent. Here, in West Quebec, we anticipate a further decline of 20 per cent in elementary school enrollment over the next five years. It is from this social context that a new political dialogue must begin.

It has been 10 years since the last referendum, and for the last 10 years the English speaking community has kept a very low profile, preferring to avoid the political issues in favour of community development programs. The Supreme Court decision, however, once again throws the spotlight on the relationship between the two linguistic communities. In fact, the decision breaks the silence and forces the two communities to look at some fundamental questions that many would have preferred to avoid.

On one hand, members of the English speaking community must take into consideration the means that are necessary to guarantee the continued survival of the French language and culture on the North American continent. On the other, the members of the French speaking community must take into consideration the means that are necessary for the English speaking community to maintain its sustainability. It's only from the perspective of mutual understanding and respect that anything fruitful can emerge from a re-examination of Bill 101. Otherwise, we are simply doomed to repeat the past and we will once again relive the psychodrama of previous episodes of our recent history.

This Supreme Court judgment brings some closure for the families directly affected by the decision. However, other issues about eligibility to English schools must be addressed. How are we going to address them? Are we simply going to leave it to the courts to decide or can we begin a political dialogue that will allow us to address each community's interests? Hopefully, we can build upon the recent good will that has emerged between the two communities and work together to resolve the outstanding issues, which are of mutual concern.

Brian Gibb
 Regional Association of West Quebecers

122 YEARS OF NEWS

The Way We Were

Compiled by Heather Alberti Dickson, Publisher

25 Years Ago

April 30, 1980

Campbell's Bay 'NO' rally huge success: An overflow crowd greeted the NO Committee at the Campbell's Bay community Center Sunday afternoon and when the Committee President lawyer Yves Letelier of Luskville asked them how they intended to vote on Tuesday, May 20, over 600 people shouted a loud 'No'.

Vote for Canada. Vote 'NO': The referendum which is to take place on Tuesday, May 20, in the Province of Quebec is not an election. Even though it will require people to go to the polls and even though it requires the use of electoral lists and is preceded by a campaign, the referendum of May 20 is not an election. It's not a language fight and it's not a party politics fight. It is purely and simply a fight for Canada which will be decided at the polls. It is not a vote for Claude Ryan or for Pierre Trudeau or for any particular person but is for the past, present and future of Canada including future Prime Minister who could easily include Joe Clark, or even conceivably Ed Broadbent. In answer to anyone who tries to tell you otherwise, the reason you are going to vote NO is because you love Canada.

Bryson Lionettes host district rally: The 19th annual district rally was held Sunday, April 20 in the Bryson Lions Hall, Bryson. The Hall was decorated in two parts. Lionettes colours, purple and gold for the meeting side and a Chinese effect with fans and candlelight for supper. One hundred and thirty-one ladies from the clubs of Arnprior, Brockville, Pembroke, Perth, Pontiac, Renfrew, Shawville, Smiths Falls and Stittsville attended. This was one of the biggest rallies in 19 years. Hosting were Lionettes: Eleanor McGuire, Rita Rainville, Madeline Giasson, Yvonne Gravelle, Pat Hamelin, Georgette Robitaille, Margaret Saunders, Marie Grier, Rose Gutoskie, Anna Stewart, Nora Lepine, Katie Ralston, Joan Sicard, Claudette Stanton, Arlene Saunders, Georgette Piche, Carol Mainville, Gisele Evans, Lynn Lance, Joyce Newberry and Genevieve Cahill.

edge of the road. Lawrence and Donald Corrigan heard the crash and investigated and found him lying beside the completely demolished car. The Corrigan took young Hobbs to Dr Cowley's office. On examination, Dr Cowley ordered him removed to the Civic Hospital in Ottawa.

Well-known horseman passes: This district was shocked to learn of the sudden death of Oswald Bertrand Cuthbertson, 58 a leading citizen of Bristol Township and widely known for his fine breed of heavy horses. His death came about because of his effort to save a filly that had been bogged in a deep ravine near his home on No. 8 Highway near Maryland. The exertion brought on a heart attack and he died two hours later in the Pontiac Community Hospital.

Amateur talent at Bay: At the Campbell's Bay Town Hall Monday night the contestants for Friday night's Talent Tour program were lined up. Twenty contestants appeared and Lion Dickie Bowie said that no further entries will be accepted. With dancers, pianists, vocalists of every variety and several guitar players, those who attended on Friday night were assured a really good evening's entertainment.

75 Years Ago

April 24, 1930

Deaths: The funeral of the late Robert MacJanet took place at two o'clock on Wednesday from the Yarm residence to Shawville's United Church. It was under the direction of Pontiac Masonic Lodge of which the deceased was one of the oldest members, he having been initiated in 1881. A large number of Masons were present to pay their last tribute of respect to a departed brother.

There passed away on Sunday, April 13 at the home of her daughter Mrs Arthur Horner, one of this community's oldest and very highly esteemed residents in the person of Mrs John Strutt.

Mary E McLeese, wife of John Proudfoot, of Fort Coulonge died suddenly on Wednesday at her home.

The death of John Thomson at his home in Portage du Fort, on Wednesday last, at the advanced age of 91 years, removes a familiar figure, well known throughout the Ottawa Valley, from the scene of activities which extended over a long period of years.

100 Years Ago

April 27, 1905

Issues missing from our files until June 15, 1905.

CORRECTION

Incorrect information was given in the story "Mobile clinic for Pontiac women to open" on page one of the April 20 EQUITY. You can contact the Pontiac Health Centre to make an appointment at 1-866-647-6060.

ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM by Katharine Fletcher

Habitat 101: preserving diversity

Many of us are deeply concerned about habitat loss.

However, all too many of us still think that the Pontiac region is so "full" of woods and "pristine" wild spaces that wildlife does not require protection. Some people still wonder why songbirds are diminishing in numbers — unaware that they are contributing to this problem when they clear-cut the woods, turn "wasteland" into subdivisions, or drain "worse than useless wetlands" into croplands and grazing lands.

Like it or not, whether we live in villages or on farms, as far as wildlife is concerned, the countryside is a poorly connected and increasing patchwork quilt of habitats.

What is habitat?

Habitat can be interpreted as the unique set of conditions required for a given species to exist. Different species require different natural surroundings. We human beings have little difficulty grasping this concept at its most basic level. For example, fish require water in order to live, while mammals require a land-based environment.

Unfortunately our understanding rapidly becomes confused when we start to think of what types of habitat — not to mention how much of it — is required by species. All species are driven not simply to exist, but also to reproduce their numbers in order to establish viable populations. Otherwise, species dwindle, become threatened, endangered, and may

become extinct.

Does this seem obvious to you? Perhaps it does — and if so, fair enough. But if we all understand this "Habitat 101" so very well indeed, why is it that some of you ask me why you are not hearing the whip-poor-wills call any more? Why is it that some of you say you're not seeing the wood ducks any more that have returned to your farm year after year?

Could it be habitat loss?

Wetland example

Habitats are not created equal. My extremely basic fish and mammal example illustrates this in the most obvious of ways. However, habitats are extremely complex, diverse ecosystems. Let's look at wetlands as an example.

What is a "wetland habitat"?

Is "wetland" a wooded area which is only seasonally flooded, such as along the Ottawa River west of Quyon, or below Ghost Hill, for instance? Is it the always-submerged backwater of the snye of the Coulonge River at Fort Coulonge? Is "wetland" a beaver pond — or does it describe an area such as exists behind my pond, which is always wet because of springs that bubble up amid tufts of reeds and grasses, where spruce, willow, and other moisture-loving plants grow? Is "wetland" non-forested land which is a metre or so underwater year-round, where cat-tail marshes or alder-thickets thrive? Or, does "wetland" refer to the stream running past your farmhouse, the lake beside your cabin — or the Ottawa River which defines our Quebec and Ontario border here in the Pontiac region?

If you answer yes to all the above, you'd be right.

Different wetlands = different species

Continuing this thought, you will understand that each of these wetland habitats provides a home to a variety of sometimes widely differing species. You are unlikely to see a moose in the little stream coursing past your home — yet it might be found eating pickerel weed in the mucky shallows of a more-remote lake. The common loon is unlikely to migrate back to the pond in the pasture in which your cattle graze... Yet you will enjoy hearing its call while you sit on your deck at your cottage, overlooking a lake's wetland habitat.

Vegetation is similarly habitat-dependent. Species like arrowhead, water milfoil, white and yellow waterlily, water knotweed all live in lakes and rivers. Open wetlands plants include the sundew, touch-me-Nnot, and pitcher plant. You won't discover white pine in a forested wetland environment; instead, expect to see trees such as black spruce, tamarack, and Eastern white cedar.

Habitat at risk = species at risk

I chose wetlands as my example of habitat because they are particularly at risk in an agricultural area like ours.

First of all, wetland isn't good agricultural land. We drain it so it can become "useful" to us. We drain it so that we can grow crops for human or livestock consumption — or so our horses and cattle can graze. Secondly, we drain such "waste land" in order to build homes or build roads upon it, or so we can cut forests.

When we alter our landscape in such ways — when we drain our fields, crop them, build upon

them — we reduce habitat. And that means we eliminate homes for species that depend upon wetlands for survival.

Why do you think you don't hear the whip-poor-wills? Why do you think the wood ducks haven't returned for the past few years?

Do you think it might be because we have altered the landscape, all-too-often permanently?

Saving habitat = protecting species

Do you feel as though there is nothing you can do to preserve habitats that are precious homes for dwindling species? Think again.

Workshop tonight = inspiration plus facts

I know it's tonight and that it is short notice. But consider attending a free workshop held at the Canadian Museum of Nature, 240 McLeod Street, Ottawa, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. sponsored by the Wildlife Festival, the OFNC/Fletcher Wildlife Garden, and the Canadian Museum of Nature.

You will hear how people like Pontiac resident Alan Aldred created The Breckenridge Nature Preserve. Thanks to their increasing concern over habitat loss, the Aldred family researched how to protect their farm's varied habitat. Now their property is a sanctuary owned by the Nature Conservancy of Canada and Québec Society for the Protection of Birds. You will also hear speakers such as Norm Ruttan from the Thousand Islands/Frontenac Arch Biosphere Reserve speak on what a biosphere reserve is, and how it is set up and managed. As well, hear Maria MacRae speak about the Canadian Wildlife Federation's Backyard

Habitat Program and learn about this organization's demonstration garden, which she helped create. (For more information on the workshop, contact Christine Hanrahan (613) 728-6953 or vanessa@magma.ca; or Catherine Dumouchel (613) 566-4708 or cdumouchel@mus-nature)

Another event: April 30 river clean-up

I received this press release from the National Capital Commission: "To mark Earth Day, the NCC invites local residents to take part in the seventh annual Ottawa River shoreline clean-up as part of the 'Spring Cleaning the Capital' programs organized by the cities of Ottawa and Gatineau. The clean-up will take place on Saturday, April 30 from 9 am to 12 pm. This popular spring cleaning activity is expected to gather hundreds of volunteers who will undertake the extensive clean-up of NCC lands along the Ottawa River. Throughout the morning, volunteers on the Ontario side will pick up litter from the shoreline between Rockcliffe Park and the Canada Aviation Museum, and the area located between Mud Lake and the new Canadian War Museum. Volunteers on the Quebec side will clean-up the shoreline between Deschênes Rapids and Leamy Lake."

Make a difference

Consider preserving the habitat around your home, farm, cottage, and office. All of us have the ability to act to do something to encourage life's richness, instead of imposing further limits upon the diversity we all seem to love so much — yet so thoughtlessly destroy.

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

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Local entrepreneur Cindy Savoie says she got her business, Paradise Tanning and Spa on Main Street in Shawville, up and running last year thanks to the encouragement she received at the Pontiac Continuing Education Centre.

Local businesswoman says continuing ed turned her life around

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

SHAWVILLE — A local entrepreneur has a message for youngsters who may be headed down the wrong road: get an education!

High school dropout Cindy Savoie, owner of the Paradise Tanning and Spa on Main Street in Shawville, says returning to school in her late 20s rescued her from a life going nowhere, a life loaded with misery which began when she ran away from home at the tender age of 15, getting pregnant at 16, then going through another failed relationship before setting herself on the right track.

Savoie says she grew up on a 900-acre farm near Campbellton, N.B., a poor

life of long, labour-filled days and nights shut off from the outside world. Her life down on the farm would take a dramatic turn for the worse in the late-1980s, though.

"I was secluded," she says. "The first boy that came along — and he was good looking — I ran away with."

Her Knight in Shining Armour turned out to be more of a cad, she says.

Her life with the man, also from Campbellton, took on another dimension when she became pregnant and had a baby boy in 1990.

"I told him I was pregnant but he denied he was the father," she says. "So, I used money I had saved (\$900) to have a DNA test which proved 99.97 per cent that he was the father."

"He still denied it," she says.

Not knowing where to turn, Cindy made an attempt to return home to Campbellton, but was rebuffed by her parents.

"My parents said, 'You made your bed, you lie in it,'" she says.

Still, she returned to Campbellton with her young son, then handed care and custody of the little boy to her aunt.

She wasn't finished with the Knight in Shining Armour, though, and when he returned to Campbellton to win her back, he succeeded.

"In 1992, we went back to Ottawa," she says. "I stayed with him for four years."

After meeting a man from Pontiac, Cindy moved to the

area, got married, bought a house, got divorced, then found herself looking down a dead-end street — again. That's when she decided to take a step she says is the best decision she has so far made in her young life.

For a long time, Cindy had a dream of owning her own hair tanning salon. With less than a high school education, Cindy decided a school upgrade would be a start. She enrolled — with the assistance of the CLE — in the Pontiac Continuing Education Centre's secretarial program, but her dyslexia prevented her from completing the course.

"The teacher said I was always well dressed and groomed and said I should get into interior design, or hairdressing, something cre-

ative," she says. "I took her advice."

"I always wanted a tanning salon, but couldn't accomplish it: I had no money."

She managed to save some money from her job delivering the Ottawa Citizen to more than 200 places in the Shawville area, an early morning route she shares with her brother. (The self-described workaholic continues to deliver the paper each morning despite the success of her year-old business.)

She approached the CLD with her business plan but was told her concept was overworked in Shawville. But, persistence paid off and she found another way to finance her venture.

"I borrowed money from

my brother and friends," she says.

She began renovations at the Main Street location last April and opened Paradise Tanning and Spa in June. Though she says she had a capital loss of close to \$70,000 in her first year of business, Cindy says her clientele list is getting longer and she is ridding herself of the debt.

"I actually achieved my goals," she says. "My dream actually came through."

A dream that may have remained in the place were dreams are made had it not been for the guidance she received at the Pontiac Continuing Education.

"I'd like to thank them because they believed in me and I actually achieved what I wanted to do," she says.

Salute to our secretary
ANITA LAFLEUR
for her years
of invaluable service.
Thank you.
**MUNICIPALITY OF LESLIE,
CLAPHAM and
HUDDERSFIELD**

**TOM ORR CARTAGE
CONSTRUCTION**
would like to thank
**SYLVIE FORGUES
and RHONDA MIESNER**
for their dedication and hard work.
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Thanks to a
great secretary
JOAN ZIMMERLING
from
**PONTIAC CONTINUING
EDUCATION CENTRE**

The staff administration of
PONTIAC HIGH SCHOOL
thanks its Secretarial Staff
for their hard work
and dedication throughout
the year. Sincere thanks to
**BRENDA BARR, NANCY BULLIS,
BARBARA ZIMMERLING
and NANCY HOBBS**

Thanks to our secretaries
**HERMANCE OUELLET
and GINETTE NADEAU**
for a superb job.
**ST. JOHN'S ELEMENTARY
and
JOHN PAUL II HIGH SCHOOL,
Campbell's Bay**

**MUNICIPALITY OF
CAMPBELL'S BAY**
salutes
COLLEEN LARIVIÈRE
for a job well done.

**BRISTOL
150th ANNIVERSARY**
During this year of celebrations, the
MUNICIPALITY OF BRISTOL
would like to acknowledge the
dedication of service rendered by
**KEITH and MONA EMMERSON
and GAIL BERTRAND**

The **MUNICIPALITY OF
ALLEYN AND CAWOOD**
wish to thank
**KIM CARTIER-VILLENEUVE
and DANIELLE**
for their hard work, dedication, caring
and always being team players.

The Chrysler Team
wish to thank
RUTH
for her dedicated work
throughout the year.
SHAWVILLE CHRYSLER
Hwy. 148, Shawville
647-2073

Pontiac Business Centre prepares students for the work force

By CHRISTIE MAILEY
Equity Reporter

PONTIAC — This year marks the 53rd annual Administrative Professionals Week (APW) from April 24 to 30.

The week, which was first observed in 1952, is recognized worldwide as a chance to acknowledge the contributions made by secretarial staff and administrative workers in the work force and to encourage people to explore a career in the profession.

The theme for 2005 is "Innovation Advances Administration Professionals."

This week of recognition is one of the largest workplace observances — next to employee birthdays — according to the International Association of Administrative Professionals.

According to Statistics Canada, there are 475,000 administration professionals in Canada. Here in the Pontiac, there are 34 students training to become a part of that group.

The Pontiac Business

Centre is a continuing education school with a secretarial program, a medical secretary program and an accounting program.

Bonnie McLachlin, administrator and teacher at the centre, said the programs are very successful.

"The program has been running for 14 years in the Pontiac," she said. "This is the first year for the medical secretary program and it has been overwhelmingly successful."

The three-semester program offers classes in Microsoft Office where the students learn Excel, Access, and Power Point. There are also classes in manual accounting and desktop publishing.

The medical secretary program teaches students medical terminology, transcription, and there are even modules on dissection. Both programs include a four-week work placement so that students can gain practical experience in the field.

"I call work places and try to set up internships for the students, but in some cases I have been contacted," McLachlin

said. "The General (Ottawa General Hospital) contacted me and told me to keep them in mind. They have agreed to take on some of our students."

McLachlin wanted to stress that the program is not just for students out of high school. Ages of students range from 16 to 55.

"The older students are learning from the younger students about the computers and the younger students are learning professionalism from the older students," she said.

The centre is not part of, but is located in, Pontiac High School. Classes run from 8:45 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. and there is a bus service for people who do not have their own transportation.

"It's a good time-line for people, especially if they have kids. They can still get their kids off to school or even be on the bus with them," McLachlin said.

Secretarial student Tammy Ladouceur said the reason she began the program was because of her daughter.

"I was working in a restau-

rant and I wanted to do something better with my life to support my daughter," she said.

Janet Wiggins, who is also in the secretarial course said that she needed a refresher for her skills.

"I worked for 15 years and then stayed home for 10 with my kids. I wanted to update my skills and get back into the work force," she said.

As for APW, McLachlin said it is very important to recognize administrative professionals for their efforts.

"The administrative assistant is the hub of any office," she said. "They know what's going on, we need to celebrate them. Joan Zimmerling, our administrator, she's my right arm. She keeps me together."

Medical secretary student, Terri Hynes, said she thinks secretaries are underestimated.

"We're not just learning how to answer a phone and say 'hello'. It is much more than that," she said. "It's an attitude and a behaviour. You have to know what your employer doesn't. People don't realize how deep it goes."

We salute our secretary
LILLAS LADOUCEUR
for her dedicated service.
SHAWVILLE FORD
647-2721 and 647-2722

The **MUNICIPALITY
OF LITCHFIELD**
would like to pay tribute to
their secretary
JACKIE BRISEBOIS
for her dedication and
hard work for our municipality.
Mayor and Councillors

Congratulations to
LORNA YOUNGE
for years of dedicated service
to the mayors and councillors.
Thank you to
RUTH STRUTT
for hard work and dedication.
MUNICIPALITY OF CLARENDON

For her hard work
and dedication,
we salute
KAREN NAYLER
for a job well done.
**MUNICIPALITY OF
THORNE**

**MUNICIPALITY OF
ALLUMETTES ISLAND**
would like to thank
the secretarial team of
**RICHARD, JOCELYNE
and KATHY**
for their dedication also
Board of Directors of the AIC
**Larry, Donna, Sharon,
Megan and Harry**
and graduating students
of Project Choice 3.

Thank you to
**DON MARION,
MARIE-PAULE CHENIER
and DOUG CORRIGAN**
and all those in the past
who have worked for the
**MUNICIPALITY OF
MANSFIELD and PONTEFRACT**

Sincere thanks to
MARIE-PAULE
I appreciate
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TRACEY CAMERON.
**MUNICIPALITY OF
PORTAGE DU FORT.**

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for his dedication and
commitment to our municipality.
La Municipalité canton Grand-Calumet
désire rendre hommage à son
secrétaire-trésorier,
JACQUES MANTHA,
pour son dévouement et son engagement
au bien-être de notre municipalité.

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TRACEY CAMERON
we appreciate
your dedication.
Mayor and Councillors
**MUNICIPALITY
OF BRYSON**

Sincere thanks to
our secretary
GLORIA RICHARDSON
for her invaluable service.
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The **MUNICIPALITY
OF CHICHESTER**
wishes to thank
JOCELYNE and KATHY
for their hard work
and dedication.
From the Mayor and Councillors

Parce
qu'il faut
concilier

aujourd'hui
et demain

Tout en maintenant le cap sur les priorités des Québécois, par un soutien renouvelé à la santé, à l'éducation et à la famille, le Budget 2005-2006 encourage aussi la création de la richesse par une série de nouvelles mesures, notamment pour les régions.

Faire confiance aux régions

- ◆ 240 millions de dollars pour le soutien au développement et à la diversification économique des régions dont 75 millions de dollars pour la gestion de la forêt
- ◆ Réduction d'impôt de 372 millions de dollars (dont une déduction de 500 dollars pour tous les travailleurs) à laquelle s'ajoute l'indexation du régime fiscal de 250 millions de dollars pour tous les contribuables
- ◆ 1,3 milliard de dollars investis annuellement dans la réfection et le renouvellement du réseau routier d'ici 2007-2008
- ◆ Ajout de 78 millions de dollars au programme FIER (Fonds d'investissement économique régional)
- ◆ 5 millions de dollars pour la commercialisation et la distribution des produits du terroir et le développement de l'industrie des alcools artisanaux

Le Budget

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Québec 

Drivers wasting expensive fuel

By CHRISTIE MAILEY
Equity Reporter
PONTIAC — Driving is becoming more expensive by the minute due to the rising costs of gasoline. But drivers may be unknowingly wasting the fuel they pay so much for.

Car Care Canada's Mark Brazeau says waste is happening all the time. "Hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of gasoline is wasted every day by motorists because simple, inexpensive vehicle maintenance is being neglected," said Brazeau in a press release.

Malfunctioning vehicle gas caps waste gas and can even cause a car to fail an emissions test. U.S. studies suggest that approximately 17 per cent of vehicles have gas caps that are not functioning properly.

Under-inflated tires are as inefficient for fuel saving as driving with the parking brake on.

Spark plugs which can fire up to three million times every 1,500 kms, begin to misfire and waste fuel if they are not properly maintained.

Glenn Hardy from Canadian Tire's service department in Shawville said that in new cars spark plugs are lasting up to 100,000 kms but drivers have to have regular tune-ups.

"(Drivers) know to have tune-ups after 100,000 kms but are they following up with it?" he said. "They might think 'The car is running fine, I think I'll leave it for now,' but they can't."

Not only can a dirty air filter waste gas but it can cause the engine to lose power.

Replacing it can improve gas mileage by up to 10 per cent.

The cost of fuel has sparked debate in preceding months and analysts predict the prices will only continue to rise up to a dollar a litre.

Quebec's average fuel prices are almost broaching that mark now. Recently, the average price in Quebec for regular unleaded was 93.5 cents per litre and the average for premium unleaded was 100.1, a price already over the dreaded one dollar mark.

Without taxes, however, the price of fuel is approximately 40 cents lower per litre. In Canada there is 10 cents federal tax on every litre and seven per cent federal goods and service tax on the total price including all other taxes. In Quebec alone there is 15.2 cents

consumption tax on every litre and 7.5 cents sales tax per litre, so 55 cents per litre quickly mounts to over 90.

Garry Davis, a former resident of the Pontiac said it costs him \$15 more to fill his tank this year than it did last year.

"I don't like how much gas is but it hasn't stopped me from going anywhere," he said. "But I don't drive as much as I would if (gas) was lower."

Along with regular maintenance it is important to remember that driving habits can also affect gas mileage.

Aggressive driving can lower gas mileage by as much as 33 per cent. Speeds over 100 kms per hour waste as much gas as three cents per litre for every kilometre driven over 100.

Idling has also been rec-



ognized by Car Care Canada as a waste of gas. When a car idles it gets no kilometres per litre. A vehicle only needs to warm up for one to two minutes before it is ready to go.

Good snowmobiling season: police

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter
PONTIAC — Marking the end of another snowmobiling season, the MRC des Collines police stated they were very satisfied with the 2004-2005 snowmobile report.

"It was a very good year," said MRC des Collines Const. Martin Fournel.

During the season, police stopped 341 snowmobilers, gave out 243 warnings and reported 76 violations.

"We arrested only one driver for impaired driving," Const. Fournel said.

"It was better than normal, although they could have given away more fines than they did."

He said that of snowmobile accidents which happened in the year, six caused injuries. Of these six, three accidents caused minor injuries and three of accidents took place off marked trails.

"We didn't give lots of fines this year, just lots of warnings," he said.

Const. Fournel also said that most commonly snowmobilers were stopped and fined for not carrying proper identification or insurance papers.

"Also, fines for carrying more than one person on a machine are common," he said.

Const. Fournel said that although companies can sell

two-person seats, using them is illegal unless it is noted on the snowmobile that two people are allowed to ride on the machine.

He also said that this year police worked hand in hand with local snowmobile clubs to spread awareness of off road laws.

"We had great support of all (the snowmobile) clubs this year with many volunteers patrolling," said Const. Fournel.

Police are providing an information line for off-road vehicles. Please call the operational support unit at (819)459-2422 extension 259 or 260 with any questions concerning off road vehicle laws.

Six species added to Québec's threatened list

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter
PONTIAC — Six species have recently been added to a list of threatened animals, two of which can be found in the Pontiac.

Pierre Corbeil, Québec's minister of natural resources and wildlife, designated the rainbow smelt, the channel darter, the wood turtle, the common map turtle, the golden eagle and the forest caribou as species vulnerable or threatened.

The wood turtle and the common map turtle can both be found in the Pontiac and across southern Québec.

"A species is determined endangered in terms of trends," said Daniel Banville, provincial coordinator of endangered species. "We count by visual surveys and compare the numbers to where they were in the past."

For example, he said if 10

years ago a species had a population of 10,000 but now dropped to 3,000, they would consider the species threatened.

The same could be said about a species that had a population of 20 but is now down to five.

"One year we survey part of the province and the next year we have good confidence on the number," he said.

To help the species, rehabilitation teams will be organizing action plans to re-establish the species into a healthy population and habitat.

"We'll prepare a recovery plan for each species," said Banville. "When there is no more threat on the species, we stop the plan."

In many cases, animals are brought into captivity at McGill University in Montreal to reproduce safely before being let back out into the wild.

If after five years the action plan has not noticeably increased the population of the species, the plan will be extended for another five years.

"We try to make the threats to the animals as low as possible," he said.

Threats to animals depend on each species, but mainly are caused by pollution, poisons in the food chain or habitat deterioration.

"It's very rare there is a natural threat," Banville said. "And surprisingly, hunters are not a problem either."

The habitat of the pilgrim falcon was also recently designated as a threatened area, which can be found in Lake Mékinac near La Mauricie National Park. A cliff area where nests were found will be protected until the falcon's population can be restored.

The falcon was added to the threatened species list in

2002. Banville said the turtles in Québec live in the Outaouais because the climate is milder and there are more marshes, lakes and rivers suitable for their habitat.

Wood turtle
The average-sized wood turtle is a rare species in Canada due to the destruction of its habitat, poaching, pollution and disturbance by humans.

This turtle can be found along rivers in Southern Québec.

It was added to the vulnerable species list due to loss of habitat, people catching the turtles to keep in captivity and traffic fatalities.

Because this turtle travels up to 200 metres from its river habitat, death on the highways is a big problem for this species.

Common map turtle
The common map turtle

can be found in southwestern Québec and northwestern Vermont in the St. Lawrence area.

They are typically found in large bodies of water and can be spotted between the months of April and October. They eat plant material, crayfish and insects.

They get their name by the colours on their shell, showing level lines like on a topographical chart.

Other species
Banville said that other species that are on the threatened and vulnerable list — like falcon and fish species — can be spotted in the Pontiac, but such sighting are rare.

Information
More information about these and 12 other threatened species can be found at www.mmf.gouv.qc.ca.

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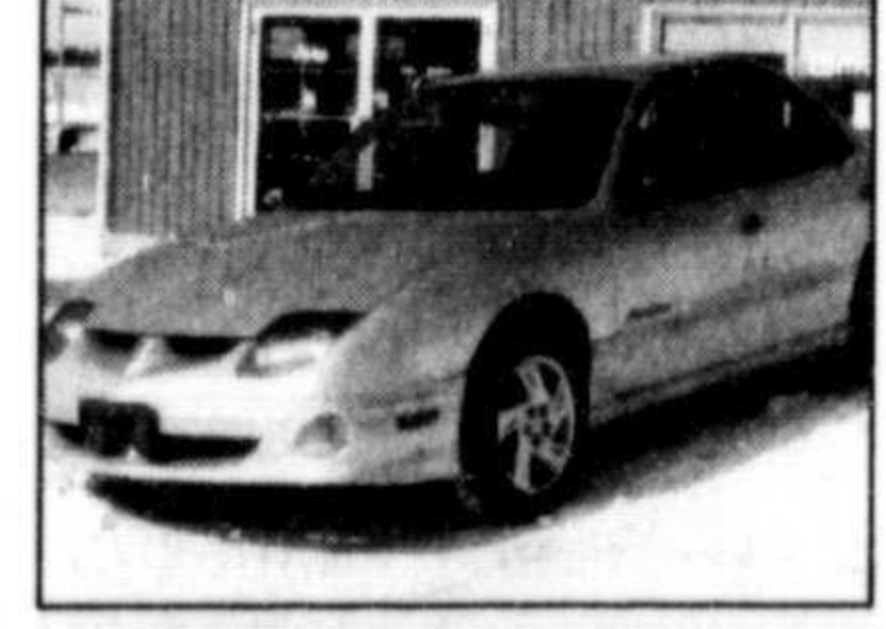
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DANFORD LAKE

An outstanding speech



By **STEPHANIE MILFORD**
Correspondent
467-1091

While in Otter Lake Wednesday night I saw that the lake was almost all open but for a little around the shore, and when we got home, the frogs were croaking! I love the sound of the frogs at night just as you go to bed. It's almost as soothing as the sound of rain-drops on the roof.

Belated congratulations to Shawn and Manon Miljour on the birth of their son, Richard, on February 14.

Happy birthday to Raymond Renaud of Masham April 25.

Our prayers and thoughts are with the Trudeau family of Quyon on the passing of Wilford Trudeau this past Friday.

Saturday night was the Firemen's Ball in Otter Lake. The hall was nicely decorated in black and white and a wonderful hot and cold buffet was served. Fire Chief Rodney Vadneau delivered an outstanding speech. Otter Lake now has one woman fire fighter! Nichole Gravelle. Way to girl!

Otter Lake now has the lifesaving Defibrillating unit. The defibrillator course was given by fireman, Daniel Ladouceur. He gave the course to many of the firemen. The defibrillator in Otter Lake is the first one in the area. Reg Carkner and friends provided entertainment for the evening.

I had the opportunity to speak with Pat and Carol Kavanaugh this past weekend. Mrs. Kavanaugh is enjoying her retirement but still misses the students and goes back to the school from time to time to visit and catch up. "Teaching was a huge part of my life," she said. "I was just out of

school myself when I started teaching and I taught for 34 years after that." Mr. Kavanaugh retired eight years ago and is enjoying himself.

Happy birthday to my little brother Karl who towers over me! I remember the day he was born. He was red, full of wrinkles and weighed only 5 pounds 12 ounces. Now look at him, he stands nearly 6 feet tall and picks me up! Have a great one Boobie!

Also happy belated birthday to Steven Desabrais and Jerry Racine on April 23 and Patsy Beaudoin on the 16th.

Congratulations to Stephanie Kluge of Otter Lake who passed the first round of Canadian Idol.

You'll always be our Idol!

Happy birthday to Anna Dagenais, Grace Early and Vickie Dubeau and happy anniversary to Réne and Penny Miljour on the 24th. Hope you all had a great day and many more happy years in the future.

Thanks to Tara Presley and Jamie-Lyn Durocher for their help this week. See Tara, you made it in black and white!

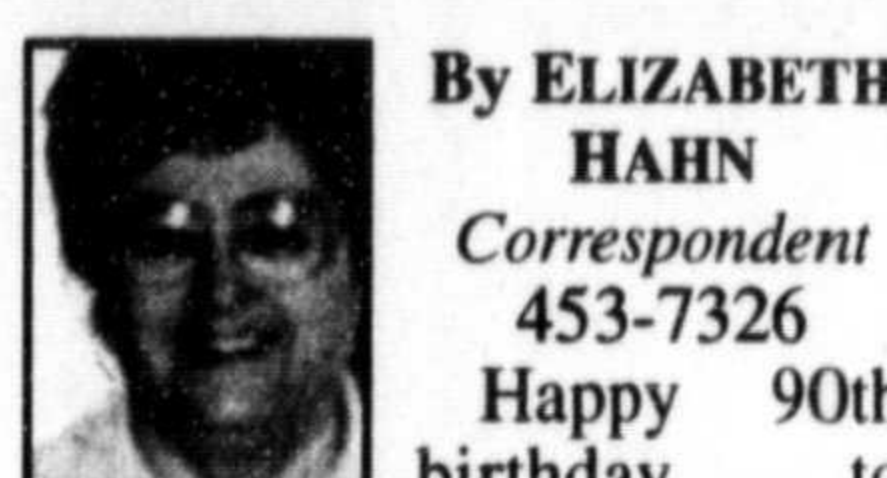
Congratulations to Etienne and Bridgett who succeeded in getting blood from me last week! Most have a very hard time on me but I tip my hat to you both!

Wasn't that a wet weekend that we had? It sure was needed though. It was so dry and the danger of brush fires happening was very real. Between the showers on Saturday, my brother Karl tilled the garden up. Then on Sunday morning the birds had a buffet to choose from all the worms that came to the surface. I saw my first red-winged black bird this morning sitting in the lilac tree. Next will be the hummingbirds.

Have a good week and keep your chin up everyone!

OTTER LAKE

Did an excellent job



By **ELIZABETH HAHN**
Correspondent
453-7326

Happy 90th birthday to Matilda Dubeau on April 28.

The 50/50 draw winner in the Otter Lake Golden Age Club last week was Pierrette Graveline, ladies first prize was won by Maudie Mason and second prize went to Gilberte Bussiere, men's first prize was won by Ray Dubeau and second prize by Médard Allard. A delicious lunch was prepared by Maureen Racine and Carl Kappes. Happy 65th birthday wishes to Robert Wilson! The club's special activity for the month of April was a breakfast prepared and served by

the executive. Happy birthday wishes to Dolores Bertrand who has a birthday on May 10. St. James Anglican Church in Otter Lake has a new lay reader, Priscilla Kluge who will be leading morning prayer every second Sunday service at 9 a.m. April 24 was her first Sunday to lead in prayer and she did an excellent job.

St. James Anglican Church of Otter Lake is having a fund raising concert on June 11 featuring the White Pine Band which is a blue grass gospel country show. Tickets will be available from the church members. This is to support the Anglican Church in Otter Lake. Everyone is welcome.

QUYON

Looking for items



By **JILL MCBANE**
Correspondent
458-2366

Sympathy is expressed to the family of the late Wilfred Trudeau who passed away April 21 from a massive heart attack. To Marion and family our thoughts and prayers are with you.

On Sunday, April 24, the Onslow Home and School Committee hosted a delicious brunch at the Quyon Lions Hall and \$1,400 was raised to purchase play school equipment and a gazebo for the back of the school. On June 7 the committee will be organizing a yard sale and are looking for items. If you have something to donate you could call one of the committee members.

On Sunday, April 17 an appreciation party was held for Bert Kennedy at the Women's Institute Hall. Bert held the keys and looked after the building for many years. Now you can take it easy Bert.

A reminder that Quyon United Church will be returning to Quyon for the month of May. Randy Labadie and Patti Davis have returned home after a week's vacation in the Dominican Republic. A surprise 40th birthday party was held in honor of Stuart Meredith Friday evening. A great time was had by all. Some enjoyed the party longer than others. Happy birthday Stu. Lillian Webber was the lucky winner of the meat draw Friday evening at the Lion. Don't forget every Friday there is a draw for meat.

Birthdays wishes are sent to Eleanor Sutton, Jenn McBane and Liana MacDougall who celebrate on the 29th.

The water is sure creeping up at the Lion's Hall. Hopefully it won't get too high. Hey Ron I have my ticket for the play. Are you getting nervous? I know a lot of hard work has gone into this play Coal Miner's Daughter. Good luck to all the volunteers who have put this together.

CAMPBELL'S BAY

Raccoons are out early



By **IRIS SMITH**
Correspondent
648-5821

Get well wishes to Merrill Hearty who has been ill. We wish him all the best in his recovery.

The raccoons are out early and waiting to destroy your property so keep your eyes on the prize.

The Golden age had their euchre on Tuesday evening at the club room with a good crowd in attendance. Ladies was won by Sadie Letts second was a three-way tie, between Barbara Ostrom, Gwen Black and Doris Telford. They split the prize. Men's high was won by Theo Schroeder and second was won by David Bertrand. The door prize was won by Sadie Letts. 50-50 draw was won by Tom Hearty. Two bottles of maple syrup donated by Roger Lacroix were won by Lewis Johnson and Phyllis Black. Quite a nice surprise. Refreshments were by June Burman and Jean Cuthbertson.

Get your tickets for the Bryson Lions Super Bingo. Local Lions members are still selling tickets. Also, tickets are still being sold for the Evening of Talent being held by Picabou Daycare in Mansfield on Saturday, April 30 at the Parish Hall. Money raised is going towards a Central Air Conditioning system for our children. Hope to see you there!

I would like to welcome Jocelyne Farrell and Paul Jones and family to the neighborhood. Wish you much happiness in your new home!

A big congratulations going out to Louise Newberry and J.P. Landry of Campbell's Bay who were married over the weekend. Wishing you both a lifetime of love, health and happiness!

Visiting me over the weekend was Nat St-Pierre of Ottawa and Danica, and just so she doesn't feel left out, Cindy Belland too!

Congratulations to my cousin Joanne Stewart Evans of Starks Corners who began working at the Pontiac Community Hospital. Wishing you lots of luck on your new adventure!

daughter Kathy, her husband Terry and son Ryan who has been in Alberta for over a year. Nice to see him again.

A devastating fire occurred at the home of Ron Ostrom and his wife Marie-Ange last Wednesday evening after 9 p.m. The basement was completely destroyed and smoke and water damage occurred all over the house. Fire is so destructive and we wish this family all the best as they try to recover after such a tremendous loss. They are indeed thankful that no one was injured.

A landmark for many years as a house along the river (former home of Lawrence Smith), presently owned by Phillip and Suzanne Pilon has been demolished and the lot cleared and filled in. It looks quite different as you drive by.

The United Church Women held their monthly meeting at the hall on Wednesday afternoon. Following the business meeting and discussion of future events they enjoyed a delicious lunch.

Birthdays wishes to our niece, Cathy Hodgins of Ottawa, who celebrated her birthday on Saturday. Her brother Mike treated her to dinner on Friday evening at his home.

Many volunteers were honored for their dedication to the community on Thursday at the Lions hall in Bryson. A delicious brunch was served by the members who head up the committee and they did a splendid job. One of the groups attending was the Campbell's Bay Hospital Auxiliary.

A birthday party was held at the town hall last week to honor Victor Lance who turned 85 on April 19. Sandwiches and birthday cake were enjoyed by the mayor, council and Victor, his wife and friends. May he enjoy many more.

Anniversary wishes to Wayne and Barbara McCoshen, Marilyn and Armand Paquette as well as Denis and Sharon Lariviere all celebrating their day this past week. Birthday wishes to Bradley Frost, Cindy Ebert, Raymond Wall, Sally Morin, Tracey Stewart, Rachelle Ringrose, and Louise Landry.

CALDWELL

Something to talk about



By **HERMONIE SHARPE**
Correspondent
647-3459

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Raymond Tubman who passed away on Saturday, April 16 in his 62nd year. Funeral service was held from W. J. Hayes Funeral Home with interment in the Maple Grove Cemetery.

The main topic in Bristol are the trips for seniors. Mayor Jack Graham and Bristol Council obtained a grant from the government to go towards day trips for Bristol senior citizens. Diane Garsky with some help from friends, is organizing the trips. The grant makes it affordable for those on tight budgets. A big thank you goes to Dianne for taking on the not too easy task as well as filling the bus. This coming Tuesday is the first trip which is to Chateau Montebello and the Lachute Flea Market. There are two more to follow.

Well, Andrew Tubman, of Aylmer, we are having a great time going through your mother's treasurers that she kept. Marion was a great lady and as I go through her papers I realize how proud she was to be a part of Bristol.

Birthdays congratulations go out to Sadie Letts on April 25, Grace Stewart of Ottawa on the 27th, my son Clifford celebrates his 63rd on May 1 and my oldest son Neil celebrates his 64th on May 9. Also in May we have Marjorie Smith and Esther Dakin on May 2 and Bryson Hodgins on May 3.

Anniversary greetings go out to J. and Joan Ritchie of Norway Bay and Ottawa who celebrated May 25.

When they said come and have tea with Bert Kennedy the people really took them up on the offer. The tea was something to talk about, everything was so organized. There were friends, neighbours, relations and card players attending. When we started to count the years he had been president of the Quyon Senior euchre club we came up with around 12 years. Well, happy retirement Bert and Viola and may God willing you have many more years together.

With all this rain we are having we should have lovely May flowers and we never have to plant nor weed them. Nature is wonderful.

CHARTERIS

Another granddaughter



By **MONA RUTLEDGE**
Correspondent
647-6250

Another granddaughter for Goldie and Emmy Rutledge. Their son Matthew Rutledge and his wife had a baby girl on April 18. The baby weighs 7 lbs. 14 ozs.

Belated happy birthday to George Scully on April 22 from your brother Clarence. Also a belated happy birthday to our brother-in-law Richard McLean who was 77 years young on April 25. Way to go Richard.

The mail box at Kavnook Camping got broken up. If anyone knows about this could you please let Evelyn Kavanagh

know about it or call me with any information you may have. To the folks who work at Giant Tiger a big hello. Keep up the good work. Also one very big hello to my boy, Chris, who works on shelves. To all the people who work at Valumart a big hello also. People keep up the very good work that you do. A big happy birthday to JR on April 30 who has a cottage at Richardson lake from Pat and Mona.

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BRYSON

Not just kids play jump-rope



By **HEATHER STEWART**
Correspondent
648-5413

Happy birthday going out to Nicole Lemaire of Montreal, Matthew Lepine of Bryson, my cousin Lynn Boucher of Ottawa, and Nadine Paquette, of Fort Coulonge. Also birthday greetings to my good friend Christina Cameron of Bryson. You're catching up to me Ol' girl!

A very happy third birthday to my little cousin, Morgan Benoit. Morgan is the daughter of Jeff Benoit and Shelley Normandeau.

Happy anniversary to Wendy Ladouceur and Stephane Lacroix.

Deepest sympathy going out to the Nadeau family of Fort Coulonge and to Doris and George Lamothe and family on the death of Dolly Nadeau. Dolly was a sister to Doris and a cousin to my mom Anna. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Get well wishes going out to Marcel Newberry who underwent minor surgery. Hope you are feeling better.

Results for the Golden Age euchre held on April 18 are as follows: door prize Lucy Kelly, 50/50 Veronique Perrier, men's first Ed Gutoskie and Laurent Chevalier, men's second Roger Lacroix, Fern Lepine, Napoleon Bleau, Laurier Dumouchel and Don Evans, ladies first Annette Lepine, Jeannette Romain and Georgette Piche, Ladies 2nd: Veronique Perrier, Gisele Evans, Alphonse Torangeau, Bella LaSalle and Isabelle Lacroix.

Deepest sympathy to Cory Leach and Sandy Cummings and Lacey, and the Leach family on the death of their mother Sharon. You are all in our thoughts and in our prayers.

Mommy Monique Lepine, Shawn, Troy, Kyle and Shianne of Alberta would like to wish Matthew Lepine a very happy 17th birthday. They miss you and they will see you in June.

During the 150th Celebrations on Calumet Island, the Golden Age Club will be holding an Arts and Crafts show on Wednesday, July 20 at the Municipal Hall. Anyone specializing in Arts and Crafts are invited to participate. For more

information please call Paulette Lamothe at 648-2914 or Colette Pigeon at 648-2273.

I thought I was the only one who got caught doing silly things in the public while with the children in my daycare. But, I am happy to report that I am not the only adult child in town. The other day as I was driving along I came across Josee Godin and Steve Bechamp playing jump rope with their children. Steve was doing such a great job while taking his turn skipping. I didn't know you were so light on your feet Steve. Guess we will have to call you Twinkle Toes Bechamp!!

Al Davis stopped by the other day and wanted me to ask my sister Sherry why she wouldn't sing for Al. Well Al, I asked Sherry for you and she said that when you buy \$500 of groceries at John's Valu-Mart, she will sing like a bird for you. In order for us to hear Sherry's Angelic voice, maybe we should start picking up a collection. Oops, sorry sister dear. I just had to do it again. But you know I love you!

Get your tickets for the Bryson Lions Super Bingo. Local Lions members are still selling tickets.

Also, tickets are still being sold for the Evening of Talent being held by Picabou Daycare in Mansfield on Saturday, April 30 at the Parish Hall. Money raised is going towards a Central Air Conditioning system for our children. Hope to see you there!

I would like to welcome Jocelyne Farrell and Paul Jones and family to the neighborhood. Wish you much happiness in your new home!

A big congratulations going out to Louise Newberry and J.P. Landry of Campbell's Bay who were married over the weekend. Wishing you both a lifetime of love, health and happiness!

Visiting me over the weekend was Nat St-Pierre of Ottawa and Danica, and just so she doesn't feel left out, Cindy Belland too!

Congratulations to my cousin Joanne Stewart Evans of Starks Corners who began working at the Pontiac Community Hospital. Wishing you lots of luck on your new adventure!

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St. George's Church in Campbell's Bay marks 100 years

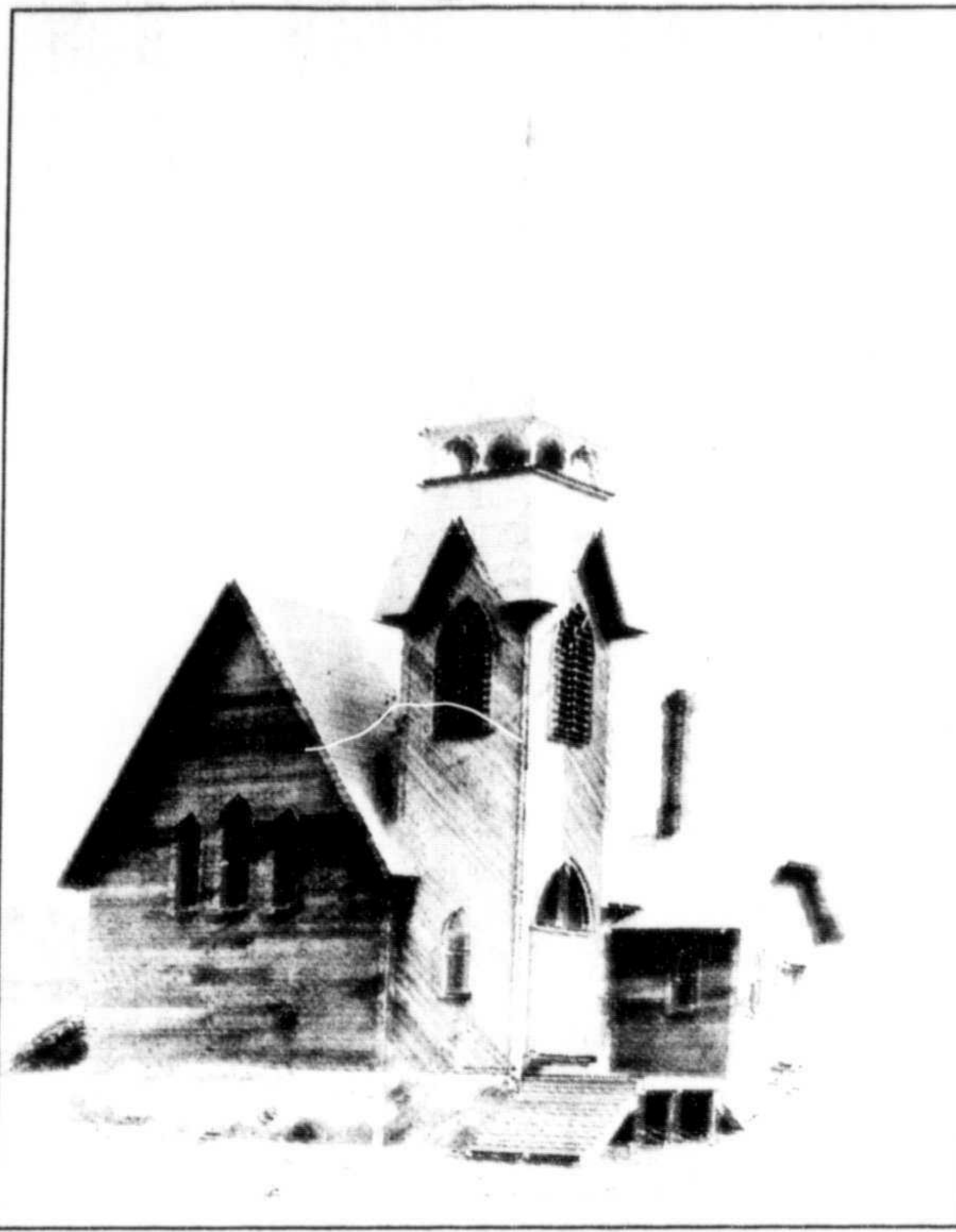


Photo provided by Fr. John Stopa

A snapshot back in time of St. George's Anglican Church, date unknown.

By SAMANTHA EVERTS
CAMPBELL'S BAY — St. George's Anglican Church, Bishop John Baycroft, retired Anglican bishop of Ottawa, and his wife Joan visited the congregation of St. George's Church, Campbell's Bay, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the congregation April 10. To

mark the occasion, three young people also celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation.

Bishop Baycroft's homily centered on the verse from the Acts of the Apostles: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and the prayers."

He spoke of the promise made in our baptismal vows to continue in this tradition, of how it is that God will be faithful to us if we continue in the teaching of the apostles and fellowship, to the breaking of the bread and the prayers.

He said that this was something that served as a good way to mark the anniversary of St. George's Church, as well as to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. Receiving Confirmation were Brooke and Brett Carson of Ladysmith, and Eric Henri of Kazabazua.

In attendance were members of the various congregations of the Parish of



Leah Miller THE EQUITY

St. George's Anglican Church held a holy eucharist for its 100th anniversary celebration April 10.

Northern Pontiac, as well as previous parishioners and friends of St. George's.

The Campbell's Bay Free Methodist Church also came to the Holy Eucharist as part of their own Sunday worship.

Following the service, a light lunch was served in the hall.

"It's such a great joy to be able to celebrate 100 years," said Fr. John Stopa, rector of the Parish of Northern Pontiac.

"Our service today is one of looking back in thanksgiving, and looking forward in faith and hope."

As part of the centenary plans, the congregation is also planning to host a Tea Social later this summer.

St. George's history: at a glance

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter
CAMPBELL'S BAY — St. George's Anglican Church is a part of the Parish of Northern Pontiac.

What is known of the history of the church was largely archived by Joan Jones. From her notes found at the Pontiac Archives, here is her brief history.

On April 4, 1877, Rev. Robert Warrington of Portage du Fort and Bryson urged to place a missionary in Campbell's Bay or Fort Coulonge to minister the Church of England.

At the same time, an offer was made for a lot on Campbell's Bay that would be set aside for a church.

By the summer of 1901, services were conducted regularly in the Orange Hall on Leslie Street by Rev. George E. Brownlee who was a deacon. The average attendance was 41 people.

The civil register for the townships of Litchfield, Mansfield and vicinity was authorized on January 13, 1903. The first burial, made by Rev. Brownlee, was of Frances Eliza Gibson on August 11, 1902. The first marriage was on the same day of Rev. Brownlee and Agnes Reid Macfarlane. The first baptism was on April 27, 1903 of Wallace Reuben Howard.

On May 3, 1903, Rev. Jas. A. Elliott was ordained priest. He supervised the

building of the church's foundation. By July 14, it was ready for the corner stone. On the same day, the first confirmation service was held for Ethel Catherine Gillis.

The building contract for the church was given to Geo. Smith and the doors and windows were made by Peter McLean of Bryson. By the end of June 1904, the tower frame and rafters were placed.

Rev. Guy Bruce became responsible for services beginning July 17, 1904. At that time there were 70 people in the congregation. Building was completed in 1905.

On July 2, 1907, the last payments on the church lots were made.

The church was bricked during the incumbency of Rev. F. W. Gedye (1914 to 1918).

A house was bought from George Sparling to serve as a parsonage.

During the incumbency of Rev. G. W. Phillips (1935 to 1938), land was purchased from David Lunam for a cemetery. A parish hall was built by Lyle Mitchell in 1959 for \$13,000.

In 1961, the congregation agreed to move from the Diocese of Montreal to the diocese of Ottawa. The transfer took place in 1965.

Fr. John Stopa is now the rector of the Parish of Northern Pontiac.

Pontiac Health Centre recognizes volunteers

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter
BRYSON — In the spirit of Volunteer Week, the Pontiac Health Centre decided to give its volunteers a well-deserved break. The health centre's board of directors cooked a brunch for about 100 of its volunteers Thursday morning at the Bryson Lions Hall.

"We gave our volunteers recognition since it is national Volunteer Week," said Jean-Luc Cyr, director of diagnostic services at the Pontiac Health Centre. "It was something to thank our volunteers — we cooked about 225 pancakes."

Close to 200 volunteers help out in different areas of the health centre across the Pontiac, like at the hospital in Shawville and its boutique, the residential and long term care facilities (Manoir Sacré Coeur in Fort Coulonge and the Pontiac Reception Centre in Shawville) the CLSCs and women's auxiliaries.

Health centre foundations raise funds from the community to purchase specialized medical equipment to maintain the quality of care

and services offered to the Pontiac region.

Along with Cyr, Jean-Guy Patenaude of the centre's board spoke to the large group about how grateful the health centre is of their work.

"We thanked them very kindly for their work," said Cyr.

Last year, from July 15 to Dec. 31, 721 hours of volunteering was logged in the Manoir Sacré Coeur, Pontiac Reception Centre and the long term care unit at the hospital. From January to July, 476 hours were accumulated, adding up to 1,197 hours for the year.

In the next few weeks, each volunteer will be receiving a heart-shaped pin with a "V" emblem on it. "The 'V' stands for Volunteer, Vigor and Vivacity," said Cyr.

Some new projects that PHC volunteers will be working towards are a new palliative care centre at the hospital in Shawville and "Clara" the mobile breast screening clinic.

Volunteer Week ran April 17 to 23.

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Le gouvernement finance un projet jeunesse en Outaouais



Heather Dickson, THE EQUITY

Les participants du projet Patro sont devant leur cabin avec David Smith MP vendredi le 15 avril. Patro a reçue 149 488\$ du gouvernement fédéral dans le cadre du programme Connexion avec le but d'aider les jeunes du Outaouais afin de pércer le marché du travail et/ou de retourner aux études.

MANSFIELD — M. David Smith, député de Pontiac, a annoncé aujourd'hui, au nom de l'honorable Lucienne Robillard, présidente du Conseil privé de la Reine pour le Canada, ministre des Affaires intergouvernementales et ministre des Ressources humaines et du Développement des compétences, le versement d'une contribution pour la réalisation d'un projet dans le cadre du programme Connexion compétences, afin d'aider dix jeunes en Outaouais. Cette contribution de 149 488 \$ vise à aider les participants à réussir leur transition vers le marché du travail.

de travail, mais il leur donnera aussi la confiance dont ils ont besoin pour intégrer le marché du travail ou retourner à l'école, a déclaré M. Smith. Voilà pourquoi le gouvernement du Canada est fier d'appuyer de telles initiatives.

Dans le cadre du projet L'avenir et les jeunes, le Patro de Fort-Coulonge/Mansfield permettra à dix jeunes, âgés entre 16 et 30 ans et faisant face à des obstacles à l'emploi, d'acquérir des compétences et des aptitudes positives dans le but de trouver un emploi ou de retourner aux études.

Ce projet vise à améliorer et à valoriser l'estime de soi des participants tout en leur donnant la chance d'apprendre les rudiments de la menuiserie.

Grâce aux compétences pratiques qu'ils acquerront tout au long du projet, ils pourront aménager deux aires de repos, des pistes d'hébertisme et un mini terrain de golf, et construire deux cabanes à pêche amovibles et trois cabanes rustiques.

En plus d'acquérir une expérience de travail concrète, les participants rendront également service à la collectivité en développant des infrastructures de loisirs et de divertissement.

Ressources humaines et Développement des compétences Canada appuie ce projet par l'entremise du programme Connexion

compétences, un volet de la Stratégie emploi jeunesse. Connexion aide les jeunes qui font face à des obstacles à l'emploi en

leur permettant d'acquérir un éventail de connaissances et de compétences, ainsi que l'expérience de travail dont ils ont besoin pour s'in-

tegrer au marché du travail. La Stratégie emploi jeunesse du gouvernement du Canada offre trois programmes : Connexion compétences, Expérience emploi été et Objectif carrière.

Ces programmes présentent une plus grande souplesse en offrant un éventail d'activités qui peuvent être adaptées aux besoins particuliers des jeunes.

L'engagement du gouvernement fédéral à offrir de meilleures possibilités aux jeunes fait partie de ses efforts constants pour bâtir un Canada fort et dynamique pour le XXI^e siècle.

La stratégie du gouvernement est de créer un Canada où il existe des possibilités d'emplois intéressants à long terme pour une main-d'œuvre qualifiée qui répond aux exigences des entreprises modernes.

Les fonds pour ce projet étaient prévus dans le budget fédéral de 2005.

Ce projet a été examiné afin d'en assurer la conformité avec l'administration des programmes de subventions et de contributions du Ministère et est assujéti à une vérification en vertu de la Loi sur la gestion des finances publiques.

Sommaire du projet
• Contribution du gouvernement du Canada : 149 488 \$ dans le cadre du programme Connexion compétences.

• Nombre de participants : 10.

• Objectif : permettre aux participants de développer des compétences et d'acquérir de l'expérience de travail afin d'améliorer leurs perspectives d'emploi ou de les encourager à retourner aux études.

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« Voilà pourquoi le gouvernement du Canada est fier d'appuyer de telles initiatives. »

—MP David Smith

« Ce projet permettra non seulement aux jeunes participants d'acquérir des compétences et de l'expérience

Rappel sur les brûlages du printemps

MANIWAKI — Au printemps, c'est lors des travaux de nettoyage effectués par les résidants que se produisent le plus souvent des incendies près des zones habitées.

La perte de contrôle des brûlages d'herbe, de feuilles mortes et de rebuts occasionne plusieurs interventions de la part de la Société de protection des forêts contre le feu (SOPFEU) et des corps de pompiers municipaux.

Il faut garder à l'esprit qu'au Québec, plus de 80 incendies sur les 150 généralement combattus entre le 1^{er} avril et le 15 mai sont le résultat principalement d'une perte de contrôle de brûlage d'herbe ou de brûlage de nettoyage. La sécheresse des feuilles et branches mortes au sol pendant cette période les rend très vulnérables au développement des incendies. La SOPFEU profite donc de l'occasion pour vous rappeler que le brûlage d'herbe est inutile et dangereux en plus d'être difficile à contrôler sous les

bourrasques du vent. Aussi, il est à noter que plusieurs municipalités possèdent une réglementation sur les brûlages. Alors informez-vous auprès de votre service d'incendie avant de procéder à un brûlage de nettoyage. Pour éviter la perte de contrôle d'un brûlage voici quelques consignes à respecter :

- Choisir un endroit loin des bâtiments et fils électriques.
- Dégager le sol de toute matière inflammable.
- Faire un petit amoncellement.
- S'assurer d'avoir de l'eau et des outils manuels (pelle, râteau) à proximité du site.
- De préférence, attendre en début de soirée avant de procéder à l'allumage.
- S'abstenir si il y a du vent.
- N'allumer qu'un seul amas à la fois.
- Assurer une surveillance constante.
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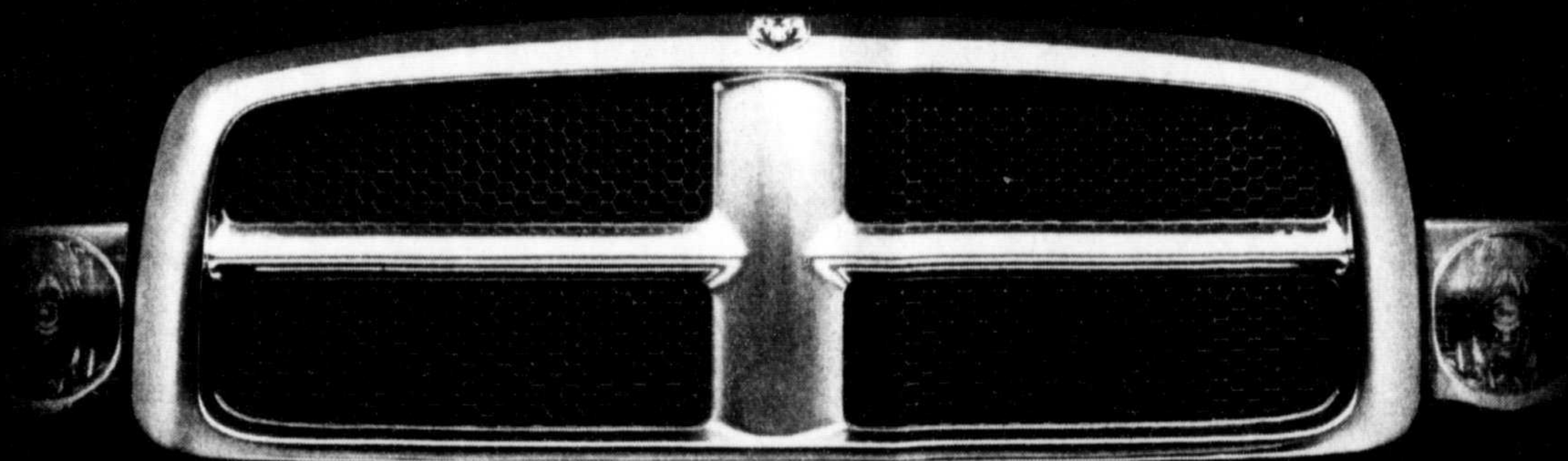
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FINANCING PROVIDED BY

Chrysler Financial

† Based on 36-month leases for the 2005 Dodge Dakota Sport Club Cab™ 4x2 with 26C, CFR, GFA, XME, AHC, DSA, WD1 package and the 2005 Dodge Ram 1500 Quad Cab™ 4x4 with 24A, AHC, DMH, DSA, GPD, TTK, XME package. Security deposit is \$0 for a limited time only, and may change without notice. First monthly payment required upon delivery. Lessee responsible for mileage exceeding 61,200 km at a rate of 15¢ per kilometre. Subject to approval by Chrysler Financial. Chrysler Financial is a member of the DaimlerChrysler Services Canada Group. Freight and tax on air conditioning (when applicable), license, insurance, duties on new tires, costs of publication at the register, dealer administration charges and taxes extra. These limited-time offers are exclusive, and cannot be combined with any other offer except the physically challenged assistance program, and apply to retail deliveries for personal purposes only on selected new in-stock 2005 models. Offers subject to change without notice. Retailer may lease for less. Retailer may have to order or trade a vehicle. Vehicles are for illustration purposes. ‡ Based on U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) scoring systems for front and side crash tests on 2005 Dakota models. See your participating retailer for complete details and conditions. © Jeep is a registered trademark of DaimlerChrysler Corporation, used under license by DaimlerChrysler Canada Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of DaimlerChrysler Corporation.

2005 DODGE DAKOTA CLUB CAB™ 4X2

- Magnum 4.7 L V8 engine, 230 hp
- 5 speed automatic transmission
- Rear 40/40 folding split seat
- Rear window defroster
- Under rail box bedliner
- Trailer tow group
- Anti-spin differential rear axle
- 16" aluminum wheels
- Speed control
- Tilt steering column
- Air Conditioning
- AM/FM radio with CD player
- Sentry Key® Theft Deterrent system

LEASE FOR
\$229[†] PER MONTH. 36-MONTH LEASE.
 \$2,999 DOWN PAYMENT OR EQUIVALENT TRADE.
\$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT.



Other 36 month lease plans offered [†]	
Monthly	Down payment
\$312	\$0
\$269	\$1,559

★★★★★ AWARDED NHTSA FIVE STAR CRASH RATING[†]
 for front and side impact, the U.S. Government's highest rating.

2005 DODGE RAM 1500 QUAD CAB™ 4X4

- Magnum 4.7-L, V8 engine, 235 hp
- 5 speed automatic transmission
- Trailer tow group
- Anti-spin differential rear axle
- Folding trailer tow mirrors
- All terrain tires P265-70R17
- Heavy-duty shock absorbers
- Under rail box bedliner
- Tilt steering column
- Air Conditioning
- Sentry Key® Theft Deterrent system

LEASE FOR
\$249[†] PER MONTH. 36-MONTH LEASE.
 \$2,999 DOWN PAYMENT OR EQUIVALENT TRADE.
\$0 SECURITY DEPOSIT.



Laramie model shown

Other 36 month lease plans offered [†]	
Monthly	Down payment
\$332	\$0
\$289	\$1,559

Only during **DODGE**  **TRUCK DAYS**

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THE EQUITY Classified

CLASSIFIED DEADLINE: MONDAY AT 5:00 P.M. CLASSIFIED DEADLINE: MONDAY AT 5:00 P.M. CLASSIFIED DEADLINE: MONDAY AT 5:00 P.M. CLASSIFIED DEADLINE: MONDAY AT 5:00 P.M.

APRIL 2005						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY 2005						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	-	-	-	-

MISCELLANEOUS

If you saw the picture in THE EQUITY we can make you a full colour 5 x 7 or 8 x 10 prints for \$10 plus tax, at The Pontiac Printshop, 133 Centre St., Shawville, Quebec J0X 2Y0 819-647-2204. xtc

Furniture at huge savings as well as TV and appliances. At Utronki and Appliances. TV Renfrew 613-432-5318. We sell the best for less. otc

Ordinateur Pentium III. Entièrement équipé fait voir valeur 4 500\$ laisse à 3 000\$ prix ferme 613-635-3946. xa27

Signs - Available now! Signs of all kinds! Reflective Metal, Coroplast, Banners, A-Frames; Spinner, Street, Peel and Stick; Full Colour Process Images. Call Steve at 647-2204 for your quote today. Pontiac Printshop Ltd. 133 Centre St., Shawville, Quebec. xa27

Bureau d'ordinateur futuriste en bois. Stubulaire d'acier avec chaise à roulette. Suspension ajustable et dossier inclinable. Valeur 450\$ laisserais à 250\$ ferme. 613-635-3946. xa27

Keep things moving smoothly with an economical, natural treatment for your septic tanks and chemical toilets that you need to use only every (3) three months. BIOWAY only \$9.47 for 946 mL. Available at Pontiac Printshop, 133 Centre, Shawville. 647-2204. xtc

Molds, kilns, shelves, greenware and supplies. 40 to 50% off. Call Eva 613-623-2529. 3xm11

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Sawmills from \$3,495.00-LumberMate-2000 & LumberLite-24. Norwood Industries also manufactures utility ATV Attachments, Log Skidders, Board Edgers and forestry equipment. www.norwoodindustries.com - FREE Information: 1-800-566-6899 Ext. 400 OT. qa27

Stihl chain saw model 028 \$200. 647-5665. xa27

PETS

Cockatiel chantant 10 à 11 mélodie, chantant avec cage tout équipé sur pied, parc à perchoire et accessoire. Valeur de plus 500\$ laisse à 250\$ prix ferme cause démantèlement 613-635-3946. xa27

Clip-on sunglasses, blue frame in black solid case, 647-2962. xa27

Dog - 2 year old, spayed female, black with white marking on neck. May have strayed from farm near Shawville. She is a family dog and missed immensely. Please call if you know her whereabouts, 647-3171 and leave message. ba27

FARM PRODUCE

Hay for sale - 200 large square bales, 8 ft. long, stored inside (613) 432-5188. 2xa27

Hay round bales 4 x 5, \$30 Phone 647-5495. xa27

Hay small square bales 1st and 3rd cut. Wrapped round bales 4 x 4, 2nd and 3rd cut. Call 819-647-5563. 3xm4

AC Francis seed grain. Phone 648-2790. 4bm11

HIDE BUYER

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

LIVESTOCK

Purebred yearling Charolais bulls with blue papers, Cedarview Charolais 819-459-2584. 2ba27

Good beef cows. Phone 819-456-2250. 2xm4

Needed - 11 horses. This is your opportunity to have your unbroken horse trained at one of the one-hour shows at the Central Canada Exhibition, August 18-28 by "Horse Whisper" Greg Barrington. Book your horse in today - call 613-237-7225. 2bm4

Black Angus and Polled Hereford bulls. Home tested, Gold papers, thick, growthy, quiet. Rolling Acres Farms (Hamiltons) 647-3540 or 613-720-7540. 2bm4

FARM EQUIPMENT

McKee round baler, Model 875. 4 x 5 soft core baler. Excellent condition. Used on small acreage. Asking \$3,500. 613-432-6363 after 5 p.m. 2bm4

N.H. 185 manure spreader Hyd. apron like new; 90 cedar fence posts; new future steel building 35' x 90' never erected, still crated. Edgar Elliott 613-432-8258. xa27

Gehl 418 Wheel Rake \$2,700; chain harrows \$600; Turnco Packer 8" \$900; cultivator, Hamiltons 647-3540. 2bm4

WANTED TO BUY

Wanted to buy. Clocks and watches from pocket/wrist. Working or not. Top prices paid. Please call 613-324-0347 or e-mail watchfourme@hotmail.com 4xm4

Abacadabra turn your hidden treasures into ready cash. International buyer wants to purchase your antiques, paintings, china, crystal, silverware, jewellery, rare books, sports, movies, postcards and record collection. 514-501-9072. qa27

CARS AND TRUCKS

2002 Mazda Miata MX5 Special edition. Only 250 in Canada. Yellow with black leather interior, 5 speed, excellent condition, only 11,800 km. \$26,000. Call Greg at 647-1937. xtc

2003 Toyota Echo like new, factory warranty 72,000 kms, economic car, 2 sets tires \$10,500. Phone 648-2215. 2xa27

2003 Safari Van Special Edition, running boards, touring package. Asking \$19,000. Mazda 321, 1991 \$750. 819-827-5774. Pager 613-594-4029 ask for Denis. 2xa27

1986 Pontiac Parisienne; 1992 Oldsmobile Delta 88, both as is 647-5750. 2xm4

1988 Chev half ton 4 x 4, 350 engine, \$2,500 o.b.o. 647-6509. 2xm4

1987 Toyota Corolla hatchback, automatic, driven daily. \$650 or best offer. 647-3703. 2xm4

CARS AND TRUCKS

1990 F-150 2 W.D. 302 auto, air, tilt, cruise, AM FM cassette, fiberglass cab 148,022 km. Asking \$1,000 o.b.o. 647-6402. xa27

1993 Grand-Am V-6, air, tilt, cruise, power mirrors, AM FM cassette, 4 door, auto 234,104 kms, Asking \$700 o.b.o. Call 647-6402. xa27

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Motors & Transmissions Sold and Installed Auto Glass Replacement Tire Sales - 24 hr. Towing We service what we sell. BRISTOL AUTO BODY 11 Front Rd., Bristol. QC 819-647-3313

FOR RENT Aylmer - semi-detached house, 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath central air. Available July 1st \$900 a month. Heat and hydro not included. (819) 648-5507. 2xa27

Bryson - 3 bedroom house for rent. 648-5555. otc

Bryson - 2 bedroom apartment 648-5555. otc

Calumet Island - 3 bedroom house, double garage 648-2407. 2xm4

Campbell's Bay - 2 bedroom apartment, utilities included \$460 a month. 647-5611. otc

Campbell's Bay - 2 bedroom apartment evenings 648-2362, days, 648-5060. otc

Cottage for rent - Calumet Island waterfront. Comfortable and cosy. \$500/week. Information: 613-730-4360 or 819-648-2121. 4ba27

Green Lake - (Shawville) waterfront cottage, 2 bedrooms, - plus cabin sleeps 2, peddle boat. Phone 647-2579. xtc

Ladysmith - 3 bedroom house, no pets. Available May 1st 647-3592 after 5 p.m. ba27

Sand Bay - Cottage for rent from June to September call 458-2366. xtc

Shawville - 1 bedroom, main floor, fridge, stove, parking, yard. Hydro not included. Available immediately \$350 month. (819) 684-5611. xa27

Waltham - 3 bedroom house, wood/oil furnace, available immediately. Phone 647-6706 evenings, weekend, 858-2123 days. Clay or Kathy. 2bm4

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Campbell's Bay - \$135,000. Vacant commercial building, 5,100 sq. ft. located on a 29,000 sq. ft. lot, adjacent storage building also included. Contact Noel Immobilier, real estate broker, Jacques Noel (819) 561-1878. 4ba27

Campbell's Bay - 2 + 2 bedrooms, 1 + 1 bathrooms, bungalow, garage \$80,000 negotiable, Call Denis 819-827-5774, pager 613-594-4029. 4xa27

Country Bar business for sale Hwy. 303 and 12th Concession, Charleris, Que. 10 kms. north of Shawville. Fully licensed, seating capacity 41. Large lot approximately 2 acres. Pine plantation. Access Ski doo trails and ATV trails, Maibec Mill, campground and fishing pond within 2 kms. Ideal location for extra events, yard sales and flea market, food outlet, etc. Between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. 647-3943, Bill Schwartz. otc

Cottage/hunt camp - 24' x 32' building on Bertrand Lake. Excellent fishing and hunting \$12,000 negotiable 458-2162. 2bm4

Timeshare resales - RiiStroman.com - Since 1979. Buy-Sell-Rent-Exchange. World Wide Selection. Call now!! 1-800-201-0864. qa27

SERVICES

Furnace repairs and installation, 40 years experience. Joe Konrad 647-2391. otc

Mario's Services - Ramonage de cheminée; Réparation de couverture (toit); Réparation de moustiquaire; coupe et pose de vitre; découpage de meuble; peinture, menuiserie, plomberie. Res. 648-2087 Cell: 613-635-3946. xa27

HELP WANTED

Work from home on your computer. Full or Part Time. No Experience Required. Start today. Visit our website now. www.MyHomePCJob.com. Code: A1. qa20

Chip stand work. Looking for a dependable and reliable, trustworthy person to work in chip truck. Duties include daily set-up, cooking, taking orders, cleaning (must have good math skills) and possibly interested in leasing for a season. Serious and experience only. Call evenings 647-5684. 2bm4

Chocolates Delux quality chocolate. Often imitated, never equaled. Since 1982. Sell chocolate bars and new products. Make full \$\$\$ Manager wanted. 1-800-383-3589. qa27

Bryson - seeking an individual with flexible schedule to provide child care in my home weekdays. References. Apply to Box "M", THE EQUITY, Box 4300 Shawville, Quebec J0X 2Y0. 2xa27

Roofing/laborer must have valid driver's licence. Salary commensurate with experience. Immediate work 647-6706. 2ba27

Experienced personal server required immediately at the Shawville Village Inn. 647-6464 ask for Linda. 2bm4

Need a home phone? Get your phone connected - monthly service only \$49.95 and connection fee of only \$36.13 (plus tax) Call phone of Ontario Reconnect. 1-877-336-2274; www.phonefactory.ca. qa27

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Olymel, Red Deer, Alberta's largest employer is now hiring Food Processing Workers. Starting salary \$10.55/hr plus premiums and earn as much as \$17.45/hr; extended health & dental after 3 months; free bus service within the city; no experience required. Please send your resume to: OLYMEL Human Resources 7550 - 40th Avenue, Red Deer, Alberta T4N 6R7. Fax: 403-309-7547 apply@oly.com, www.oly.com. qa27

Mechanic - Must have experience with diesel engines and heavy construction equipment. Must have knowledge of doing overall maintenance on dump trucks. Must be willing to work full time. Lusville area. Fax resume to (819) 455-9778. 4bm18

Shenboro - house cleaner required for seniors private home 4 to 5 hours weekly 819-689-5421 evenings. xa27

A career teaching English internationally begins with professional training. A 5-day certificate course will be offered at McGill University June 15-19. Open House May 3 & Ottawa campus May 4-8. Open House April 7. To register for the open house CALL 1-888-246-6512. www.INTLcollegeofflinguistics.com. qa27

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES Small natural food store in Shawville. Owner retired. Good business opportunity with growth potential in herbal products. Apply to Box 388, Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0. xa27

THANKS

Frost - The family of the late William Frost, Sr. who passed away April 20th in his 83rd year wish to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our neighbors, friends and family for the support given to us during our time of sorrow. We wish to thank everyone for their kindness, floral tributes, memorial donations, cards and to all who sent food. We would also like to thank Rev. Sterling Irving, Barry Stitt and the ladies of the Fort Coulonge Presbyterian Church for the lovely lunch served after the funeral. The family would also like to thank Ringrose Brothers for their thoughtfulness during this difficult time. The nurses and staff of the Shawville Hospital for their excellent care they gave our father during his illness. The Frost Family

Grant - My sincere thanks for floral offerings, donations, cards and words of condolence on the death of my sister, Marjorie Grant. Special thanks to Eastern Star. Lois Miller

Hodgins - I wish to thank the Thorne Fire Department for the great work in saving the house and buildings at 220 Thorne Lake Road on Tuesday, April 19, 2005. "A Special Thanks" to Paul Heins, the ladies who helped out preparing food and coffee for the workers and everyone who stopped to help in any way they could. Lewis Hodgins

Leach - The family of the late Sharon (Campbell) Leach, who passed away on April 15, 2005 would like to thank family, friends and neighbors for their support and kindness during our recent loss. The charitable donations, floral tributes, messages of condolence and donations of food were greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Dr. Martin and the nursing staff at the Pontiac Community Hospital, W. J. Hayes and Sons Funeral Home, Rev. Paula Mullin and the pallbearers. Leach and Campbell families

Tubman - At this time we would like to thank the family, friends and co-workers of Raymond, who sadly passed away April 16, 2005 after a long battle with cancer. We would also like to thank two long-time friends for the beautiful music, the staff at PCH and Hull Hospitals for all the TLC during dad's long visits, the UCW for a lovely lunch and Paula for a lovely service in Hayes' Chapel. From all his children

Bertrand, Sister Marie, CSJ (Sr. Mary David) - Sister Marie passed away peacefully on April 24, 2005 in her 51st year of her religious life as a Sister of St. Joseph. Left to mourn her loss and also to celebrate her life among us are her Sisters in the Congregation, many loving nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews and cousins. In the early years of her ministry, Sister was active in the Marian Home operated by the Sisters in Radville, Saskatchewan, as well as in Campbell's Bay, Quebec at St. Joseph's Manor. When illness prevented Sister Marie from continuing, she carried on an outreach ministry from her sick bed in the Congregation's Health Care Centre. Innumerable persons over the years came to Sister for support and guidance and would leave with a feeling of hope as well as little keepsakes and helpful literature. Visiting Sr. Marie was always a positive experience, a time for humour as well as an opportunity to view her collection of memorabilia - she was an avid sports fan. Sr. Marie was born in Campbell Island, Quebec, a daughter of the late Frances Bertrand and Elizabeth Beauchamp. She is survived by her sister Alexina (Joseph Lemay, deceased) of Renfrew, her brother Alex (Lois) of Calumet Island and her sister-in-law Yvonne Bertrand. She is predeceased by her brothers Eugene and Alphonse and her sister Rose Atkinson (Fred). Visitation is at St. Joseph's Motherhouse, Pembroke on Wednesday starting at 3 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:30 p.m. The funeral mass will be celebrated on Thursday, April 28th at 10:30 a.m. at St. Joseph's Motherhouse, Pembroke. Interment at St. Columba's Cemetery, Pembroke. Arrangements by the Neville Funeral Home, Pembroke.

Grant - Peacefully at the Pontiac Reception Centre, Shawville, Quebec on March 24, 2005 Marjorie, age 90 years. Daughter of the late W. J. and Margaret Hayes. Predeceased by husband, Sherwood Grant, siblings Arthur, Dorothy and Mahlon. Survived by Lois, nieces and nephews. Funeral was held March 28, 2005 at Ottawa. Rev. George Clifford presided "Fix your eyes upon Jesus" and the "Lord's Prayer" were sung by the soloist. Refreshments followed. Interment at Maple Grove Cemetery.

Black - In loving memory of a dear son and brother William Hewitt (Bill) Black who died suddenly April 28, 1998. You bade no one farewell, You were gone before we knew it, And only God knows why, Your memories are a keepsake, With which we'll never part, God has you in His keeping, We have you in our hearts. Mom, Dad and Gord

Gibeault - In loving memory of Delores who passed away April 29, 2004. One year has passed, our hearts still sore, As times rolls on we miss you, Your welcome smile and pleasant face, No one can fill that vacant place. Sadly missed by children and grandchildren

Sharpe - In loving memory of a dear brother, brother-in-law, uncle and great uncle "Morley" who passed away April 26th, 2004. God looked around His garden And found an empty space Then He looked down upon the earth And saw your tired face. He put His arms around you And lifted you to rest God's garden must be beautiful.

Lovingly remembered by brother Dugal and his wife Mary, niece Brenda and her husband Garry and family

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OBITUARY

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Yard sale season is here! Call Claire at THE EQUITY at 647-2204 to place your ad today. xtc

WALTHAM

A wonderful surprise



By HELEN PERRY
Correspondent
689-2652

Congratulations and all the best is wished to Anne (nee Romain) and Chris Duff on the birth of their beautiful baby boy Owen. He was born on April 20 at the Pontiac Community Hospital in Shawville. He weighed in at 9lbs. 11 oz.

On Thursday, April 21 Janice and Sid Tedford, of Mallory Town visited Elizabeth Ethier and family.

A very happy birthday is wished to Lydia Marion, who celebrated on April 22.

On Friday evening, April 22 Betty and Earl Grieve attended Cindy Price and Jamie Robertson's wedding. It took place at 7:00 pm at St. Andrews United Church in Beachburg. Cindy is Earl's niece. Congratulations and all the best is extended to Cindy and Jamie. May you both enjoy many years of God's richest blessings.

On Friday evening, April 22 Rhonda and Mark attended the SADC Pontiac's 20th anniversary gala. There was a business dinner and a dance at Auberge de la Foret in Bryson.

Lynette and Shayne Burnie of Cornwall were weekend visitors at Elizabeth Ethier's and family.

On Saturday afternoon, April 23 Anita and Jeannette Gagnon, Georgette Beaubien, Reina and Susan Gagnon, Shirley Beaubien, Chantelle Beaubien-Spence and Mia attended a baby shower in honor of Cindy Gagnon in Aylmer. Family and friends gathered to express lots of love, best wishes and support

to Cindy, as she is having twins! Cindy received some beautiful and practical gifts. A tasty lunch was served. Cindy expressed deep gratitude to everyone who came, for the lovely gifts and to all those who made this afternoon so special.

Gilda Heaney spent Thursday and Friday at Jeannie and Barry Pilon's in Portage Du Fort.

Jodi, Mike and baby Alex were up from Embrun on the weekend.

On Saturday evening, April 23 a surprise 40th birthday supper was held in honor of Lisa Bechamp, of Bryson. Lisa and her family shared a tasty supper at Northfork.

On Sunday afternoon a lovely baby shower was held in honor of Paula Bissonnette-Sloan at the Waltham Town Hall. Family and friends gathered to express their love and best wishes to Paula. Paula received a wonderful surprise! Her husband Dave, who is posted in Afghanistan sent her a DVD video and it was played at the shower. He sent her his love and best wishes and said that he wished that he could have been there to share her joy. It was very touching. She received some beautiful and practical gifts. A scrumptious hot and cold buffet was served. Paula expressed her deep appreciation to all those who came, for the beautiful gifts and to all those, who helped make this afternoon so special.

Birthday wishes are extended to my neighbor Gilda Heaney and Fay Leroy of Bryson, who are celebrating their birthdays today April 27. Enjoy your day girls!



Leah Miller, THE EQUITY

The Campbell's Bay Fedoras Rouge are the first Red Hat Society to be formed in the Pontiac. A club for women over 55 to have fun, one of the only rules is wearing red hats and purple attire. Front row, from the left: Jeanne Haley, Orleta Stevenson, Lizanne Kluge, Genevieve Cahill and Kay Ranger. Back row, from the left: Carol Kavanagh, Lorraine Belanger, Sophie Ringrose, Marielle Kluge, Gwen Black, Lynda Sloan, Sister Cecile Menard, Beverly Ann Stewart, Helen Laliberte, Sheila Lawn and Lorraine Hearty. Missing from photo: Marie Pilon, Madeline Craig, Joan-Marie Hunter, Theresa Dagenais and Odel Hearty.

First Pontiac Red Hat Society established in Campbell's Bay

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

CAMPBELL'S BAY — Proving that there is fun after 50, women from Campbell's Bay have joined to form Pontiac's first Red Hat Society.

A full chapter of 25 women have joined together to rejoice over laugh lines and enjoy a nurturing network — officially registered as the Fedoras Rouge of Campbell's Bay.

There are over 40,000 Red Hat Society chapters across North America, which are clubs that allow women to have tea dressed in red hats and flashing purple outfits. Each member decorates their own hat and the goal is to have fun while doing something for themselves.

"It's to socialize and have fun," said Lizanne Kluge.

The chapter was organized by Kluge, who is called the Queen of the chapter. She said she had no trouble finding members for the society.

Along with the chapter's first official gathering Monday, the group celebrated National Red Hat Day, the sixth anniversary of the Red Hat Society as a whole.

"We've actually had to close our 'hatquarters' so we didn't have too many members to manage," Kluge said. The chapter has women aged 55 to 86 registered as members.

"And no men are allowed," said Kluge at the potluck gathering.

The society was inadvertently started in 2000 by a woman in California who was inspired by a poem called "Warning" by Jenny Joseph. The poem, about becoming an old woman, mentions wearing a red hat and purple attire. So the woman and her friends formed a group that met on a regular basis for tea in their red hats and purple dresses.

The Campbell's Bay chapter's first outing was to Pembroke Mall for a fashion

show held by the society in Pembroke a few weeks earlier.

The chapter plans on golfing every Monday morning at Mickey Creek Golf Club and meeting at least once a month.

Each month they will celebrate a member's birthday, where the birthday girl will wear a birthday suit (the opposite colours of a purple hat and red outfit).

They also plan to have tea at local long-term care centres with seniors regularly.

Chapters are encouraged to participate in charitable events, but the society as a whole doesn't see itself as a fundraising group.

The 'hatquarters' is in a vacant store on Front Street in Campbell's Bay. Lizanne's husband Willard has donated the store to the ladies, as long as the hydro is paid.

Kluge hopes that the chapter will spark other Red Hat Societies to form across the Pontiac.

VINTON

The cow was saved



By DIANE BOISVERT
Correspondent
648-5296

Thursday is blue box day.

Nice to have Darcy Hearty back home for the summer.

Birthday wishes go out to Kelsey Belanger on the 27th, Morgan Benoit on the 28th, Anna Crawford on the 29th, Rod Quinn on May 1, Barry Belanger on May 2, Franky Frost on May 3.

I'm happy to see Ken and Gwen O'Leary back home after an extended stay in Australia. Gwen is now in Shawville Hospital recuperating from her broken hip. We all wish you well.

On Saturday, April 23 there was an anniversary party held for Wayne and Sue Narlock's 34th at Mickey Creek Golf Course. The actual date is April 24. Nelson Colt kept everyone well entertained and up dancing with his fantastic music. Unfortunately at 5 p.m. on Saturday Sue got the bad news that her dad had passed away in Ottawa. His name was Alphone Lapointe and he was 87. So Sue and Wayne were unable to be at their own anniversary party. So, they told everyone to have a good time.

Next Saturday, April 30 there will be a golf tournament held at Mickey Creek to raise money for the PHS welding class.

Friday night was Pictionary night at my place. There were nine of us playing. It was the first time playing the game for half the crew. We all had a bad and there were a lot of weird looking pictures being drawn. Sometimes you'd wonder how anyone could guess the right answer.

On the 23rd I went to Luskville to Anna and Emile Mayhew's and painted Emile's bedroom. I did such a good job he wants me back to do the rest of the house.

That evening I attended the stag for Maurice Beaugard at Rafter's Bar in Bryson. The place was packed full of well wishers.

Sunday morning I got a call from Paul Haldeman. He said he was in trouble because one of the cows had given birth to a large calf and she had thrown her calf bed. He asked me to bring a few pairs of hot water and get some manpower. He had already called the vet and she was on her way. So I put on my gum rubbers and headed over with the water. Of course, I've never seen this procedure before so I was curious to see how they were going to save this cow.

When I got there I noticed that the cow in trouble was right in the middle of the water soaked, blue clay yard. Great, I knew it was going to be fun walking through that. But, that didn't stop me. I headed across the yard, very carefully and slowly. That was my mistake. I got bogged down in the blue clay, lost my balance and fell. Hands first into the well, shall I say mess. Then I had to take my well-greased hands to pull my boot out of the hole. I finally got out. But not before all the guys had a good laugh at me. It was all worth it. The cow was saved.

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By DEBBIE LANCE THRUN
Correspondent
647-3927

Well, I guess the next big special occasion coming up is Mother's Day on Sunday, May 8. So, why not start now to think of something very special you can do or buy for all those mothers.

Birthday congratulations to Armita Hynes who celebrates April 29. Have a great day.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Muriel Horner on her recent passing. She was a sister to Norval Horner.

Sue Miller reports that she saw her first hummingbird at Louis Hodgins' farm Tuesday evening, April 19. The dry conditions along with high wind made for a severe fire. The water bombers from Maniwaki were called in along with the Thorne fire-fighters and the blaze was put out. The fire was of unknown origin.

Birthday congratulations to Lindsay Pasch who celebrates May 1.

Trout season opened on Friday, April 22. But Dennis tells me that he thinks the water is still too cold and too high yet for them to bite. There's an old fisherman's proverb: "When the mosquitoes bite, the fish bite too."

Visiting with Margaret Fieroben last Sunday, April 17 were Gen and Clifford Fieroben of Ottawa. They all took a drive to Margaret's farm in Cawood. They hadn't been there since last fall. So, Margaret says it was nice to go back to visit and look around again. They had a most enjoyable day.

This past week Margaret had a lovely visit with Violet Mielkie and Minnie Krose who are both residents at the Pontiac Reception Centre. They are both doing quite well for their age.

The rain we had on Wednesday last and on the weekend was most welcome. You could almost see the lawn turning green.

The Dunlops report that the loons returned to Johnston's Lake on April 19, just as the ice went off.

Deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Raymond Tubman who passed away recently.

While out and about in the bush the other day Dennis saw three partridges. There seem to be more now than last fall.

Get well wishes to Elsie Bretzlaff who had the misfor-

tune of having a bad fall. All your friends are thinking about you.

Visiting with us on Saturday was Jack Ellacott of Ottawa. He was spending the weekend at his cottage at Johnston's Lake.

Eric Campbell, from the Holy Land, tells me that it's too cold for planting anything yet. So he was going to try and plant frozen strawberries to see how big a crop would come up. Good luck Eric.

My what a big change in the weather compared to last weekend. Those warm temperatures really spoiled us. A friend told me this past week that we won't get warmer weather until all the ice is off all the lakes, and all the frost is out of the ground. But, after all we're only at the end of April. It will come soon enough. Someone one said to me if we didn't have the weather to complain about we'd just be complaining about something else.

Get well wishes to Mrs. Huntley Stark of Stark's Corners who is still a patient in Shawville Hospital.

Well, the spring birds are really here now. Lots of geese, mourning doves, red-winged blackbirds, crackles, kingfishers, killdeer and robins. Spring might be here but the weather sure isn't. The weather must be hard on these little birds. I'm sure they're not used to these kind of temperatures. I really hope they will survive.

Calling us on the weekend was Harold Mahlitz of Kitchener. He reports having quite a bit of snow down there Saturday night.

SHEENBORO

Welcome home from Cancun



By MYRTLE SULLIVAN
Correspondent
689-2236

It was nice to see Dave Rogers on Regional Contact Saturday night. Dave does some very creative carvings and I always enjoy seeing him play at George's Regal Beagle on Wednesday nights. He usually has some original carving on the string instrument he plays.

Happy birthday to Donald Retty who celebrated this week. Donald is still doing a great job calling square dances on Wednesday night also. I heard Angie had a perfect crib hand while playing with Donald.

My granddaughter, Shannon McDonald, and her husband Steven took their children to Ottawa this past weekend. They went to the Travel Lodge and had a great time.

I saw some good old historical photos from Sheen and surrounding area sent in by George Quay. Dave Prentice and Bob Miller. The parish is hoping to have these available for viewing this summer and would appreciate hearing from anyone who may have some they would like to submit. We are looking forward

to the 150th anniversary of the Sheen Council which takes place on July 1st weekend beginning with our great Canada Day celebration on the Friday. It will be a three-day event.

Welcome back to Marlene and Norm Moore who just returned from a trip to Cancun. Marlene is the daughter of Clayton and Rose Morris from Sheen. Marlene said the ground was covered with snow in Sudbury on Sunday.

Happy belated birthday to Mike Vickers who celebrated on April 24. I hope he had a great day.

Iona and Raymond Morris had a dinner party last Saturday night. Pat Donnelly and his wife Lily, Grace and Joyce Bryson, Betty Morris and Myra Sullivan were all there. They had a wonderful supper and enjoyed a nice evening.

I was sorry to hear that Grace Morris is moving to Ottawa to be with her family. We will certainly miss her around here. She was always a great supporter of any function that occurred in Sheen and always worked in the kitchen at all the parties.

Happy birthday to my daughter-in-law, Colleen

Spence Sullivan. I hope she has a great day.

Today I met some nice, new people in church. Norm and Heather Lemke who bought a house in Sheen. I hope they like it here and I welcome them. I am glad to hear they like to play cards too!

Visiting Carmelita Gleason this past weekend was Hugh and Pat O'Neil and their children.

Happy birthday to my daughter, Myra Sullivan, on May 2. I hope she has a great day. Myra is always so good to run errands for me and to come and visit.

Mr. and Mrs. Costello were at their cottage this weekend. It was nice to see them.

Happy birthday to my god child, Jackie Nephin who celebrates on the 13th.

I was very sorry to hear about Mable McGrath passing away. She was the sister of Mary Roy. Mable was 96 years old. She was often in Sheen with her sister Mary and we will certainly miss them.

Happy Birthday to Jen Lepine who celebrates on April 29. I hope she has a nice day.

Brent Hynes was home visiting his mother Myra Hynes this past week.

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