THE EQUITY

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Last stone sinks Hanna rink ... page 5

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NEWS BRIEFS

Shawville mayor exercises veto

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

SHAWVILLE— For the first time as Shawville's mayor, Albert Armstrong exercised his right to veto a passed motion.

"It was the first time in my life," said Armstrong. "The reason I vetoed it was because I knew it would set a precedence."

When a family came to council Jan. 25, they asked to keep their Rottweiler after they received a notice to get rid of it.

Pit bulls and Rottweilers have been banned by the municipality since 2003 and most recently, Dobermans since last year.

"Our dog has never done anything," said owner Judy Campbell. "We even had a petition signed by our neighbours that they had no problem with the dog."

Reported

Campbell said the 10 year-old dog was reported to the municipality by Pontiac Animal Control. The dog's veterinarian told the family that the dog most likely wouldn't live another year, and so the family asked if they could keep it for one year because they owned the dog before the bylaw came into effect.

Armstrong was late arriving to the meeting. Before he arrived, council resolved to allow the family to keep the dog for one year. The owners also had to respect strict guidelines.

Two days later, Armstrong vetoed the motion at 9:13 a.m.

"I felt we needed a legal opinion if we were setting a precedent," said Armstrong. "If we were to allow one dog, we'd have to explain why we didn't allow the others before it."

He said he knew council had OK'd the request because the dog had not been a problem in the past.

After the veto, the issue was put back onto the following meeting's agenda.

In the meantime, council sought out the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to ask what would happen if they let that dog stay in town.

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Otter Lake man faces theft, mischief charges

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

CAMPBELL'S BAY — It seems that not only do our famed Mounties always get their man.

It took almost three years, but the Pontiac MRC Sûreté du Québec, acting on a tip, arrested a 27-year-old Otter Lake man in connection with damages inflicted on a police cruiser on or about Saturday, April 27, 2002.

The SQ cruiser was parked at Shawville Ford awaiting repairs when the rooftop flashers and mirrors were smashed.

"People are still talking about (the damaged police cruiser)," said Const. Denis Lamothe of the Pontiac MRC SQ.

Coincidentally, the 27-year-old man was also being investigated in connection with several stolen vehicles, two in Shawville and one in Ottawa.

SQ investigators picked the man up at his Otter Lake home Thursday morning. He will appear in court at a later date.

Paul McGee, THE EQUITY

A very successful Shawville Figure Skating Club Winter Invitational was capped by victory by the home team. The Shawville Figure Skating Club won the Invitational trophy by amassing the most combined points, 63. Club president Joanne Longpre, left, accepts the trophy from Invitational chairperson Lyse Lacourse after Saturday's event.

Shawville club wins Invitational

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

SHAWVILLE — The Shawville Figure Skating Club took home its second Shawville Figure Skating Club Winter Invitational trophy in five years at the arena Saturday.

The local club won the first Invitational in 2001.

The 30 skaters from the Shawville club scored a combined 63 points, almost double second-place Pembroke's 35 and well ahead of third place Asticou's 32 to bring the trophy back home. Skaters are judged on a combination of artistic and technical merit.

The local skaters, from CanSkate to the junior and senior levels, performed very well on their way to victory.

"We have a lot to be proud of tonight," said Invitational committee president Lyse Lacourse.

"A lot of our kids medaled."

This year's invitational, pared down to one day from two days in previous years, attracted 147 skaters from 15 clubs and more bodies in the stands.

"I found the crowds to be healthy," said Lacourse.

Technical representative Catherine Barr, of Barrhaven, who has been a judge at all of the Invitationals, agreed.

"Today was good, there was a constant crowd," Barr said. "There is increasing community support."

Lacourse said they may go back to a two-day event given this year's success.

"We lost some last year, but now we're back on a more competitive level," Lacourse said.

"Parents realize that this is not a fluff competition, but meatier than expected."

Lacourse said the Invitational projects a professional and hospitable atmosphere in addition to the on-ice competition, making the Invitational a bona fide.

"People feel welcomed when they come in to the arena," Lacourse said.

"The visual effects puts the skaters in the mood."

This year's Invitational, however, had to overcome the sudden resignation of the president of the Federation des Patinages Artistique du Québec about a month before the competition.

"The president stepped down and left me without a rep tech (technical representative) and judges four weeks before the competition," Lacourse said, adding three other competitions were left in the same predicament as the Shawville event.

"The vice-president was kind enough to find Catherine Barr for us."

Barr, who judged at the previous four competitions, agreed to come to this year's event as the technical representative.

"I knew what I was getting into, what kind of events," Barr said.

Barr said the Invitational ran so smooth, it finished earlier than expected.

"It was a good day," Barr said. "We were done early, which for a skate competition, doesn't happen. All the kids seemed to have a good day."

Lacourse said the Invitational's success can be credited — in addition to the skaters — to the teamwork displayed by the organizers and volunteers who prepared the arena for the event.

"I worked for this committee for five year and it was the most symbiotic ever," Lacourse said of the co-operation of everyone involved.

"Everybody worked together."

Lacourse said the feedback from this year's Invitational is positive.

"Other clubs liked coming here," Lacourse said.

"The skaters want to come back."

Lacourse said the importance of local figure skating clubs can't be understated.

"It starts with the clubs," she said.

"Without them, we wouldn't have Olympians."

POND FISHING

Paul McGee, THE EQUITY

This fish pond, sponsored by Edward's Mazda, was a big attraction at the Association Chasse et Peche Mon Chez-Nous ice fishing derby/carnival Saturday at Davidson's Airport Bay.

Small pickerel, big fun at ice derby/carnival

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

DAVIDSON — Though 167 anglers signed up for the ice fishing derby/carnival, organizers of the Association Chasse et Peche Mon Chez-Nous stress the one-day event at Davidson Bay is more than a fishing competition.

"It's a fishing derby, but its main purpose is to provide a fun day for the kids," said Mon Chez-Nous director Gilles Soucie at Saturday's event.

"The other things are centred on activities for younger people."

The more than 100 youngsters who turned out for the carnival-like event could enjoy free dog sled rides by Escapades Esquimault, sliding and a very popular live fish pond, sponsored by Edwards Mazda of Pembroke.

"We put 600 rainbow trout in the pond," Soucie said. "They are quality fish."

The event also featured the crowning of the royalty, whose ascent to the throne was based on the number of club memberships each contestant sold.

Samantha Soucie earned this year's crown by selling 343 memberships, 110 more than first runner-up Tanya Lefebvre's 233. Princesses were Tanya Fortin, who sold 131 memberships and Adele Charrette, who sold 126.

"It's great," Queen Samantha said of winning the crown, adding it was a lot of work selling 343 memberships.

Gilles Soucie said that the 833 memberships sold by the contestants will grow to more than 1,000 by the time the club's membership drive ends.

He said the club, founded in 1976, is instrumental in stocking several area lakes with fish and organizing events such as the annual ice fishing derby/carnival.

The event had plenty of fun moments, including missing fish and underwater cell phone calls.

Slippery fish

William Frost placed one of his catches, a three-pound pike, in the snow for cool safekeeping, but the keeping was not that safe and his fish disappeared.

"I found out all the details, and I'll get it back," Frost said.

"There was a Marion and a Soucy involved ...."

Another angler caught a fish, but lost his cell phone in the process.

"One guy went to catch his fish and his cell phone fell in the hole," Soucie said. "I told him I got a call on my cell phone, but it was muffled, sounded like it was coming from under the water."

You didn't have to catch a fish to sample the catch of the day. Jean Pelletier, of Waltham, cooked up a batch of his pike and passed the tasty samples around.

"It's a secret recipe, just like Granny's (of *The Beverly Hillbillies*)," Pelletier said.

Not biting

Rita Marion, who was busy compiling results, said only 33 fish were caught at the derby.

"They bit early in the morning, but as people started coming on to the ice, they stopped," Marion said. "At least that's what I think."

Mario said 575 fish were caught at the fish pond, and the remaining 25 were snapped up in a one-shot sale at day's end.

"A lady came and said she would buy all 25," Marion said.

Many prizes donated by local businesses were awarded, including those for heaviest fish.

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Fire destroys heritage home

Three adults escape blaze at old Clarendon house

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

CLARENDON — A fire broke out and destroyed one of the oldest houses in the Clarendon area recently, along with countless heirlooms and family treasures inside.

The 150-year-old house, located at C483 7th Concession, was home to Norval, Mildred and their son Clyne Horner. The three were inside the home when the fire began.

Three 911 calls were made warning emergency crews of the fire after 8:30 a.m. on Feb. 20.

Mildred, a nearby neighbour and the Horner's son Henry called. Henry lives up the road from his parent's house.

After Henry made the call, he arrived at the house in about five minutes.

"Then a neighbour and I went to get my parents out," said Henry. "Everyone was home, but out of bed and moving around. That made a big difference."

While he helped his family to safety, smoke had already filled the house.

"I wouldn't say I was scared, but there was a definite sense of urgency," he said. "No one was hurt, which was very fortunate. But the house is a total loss."

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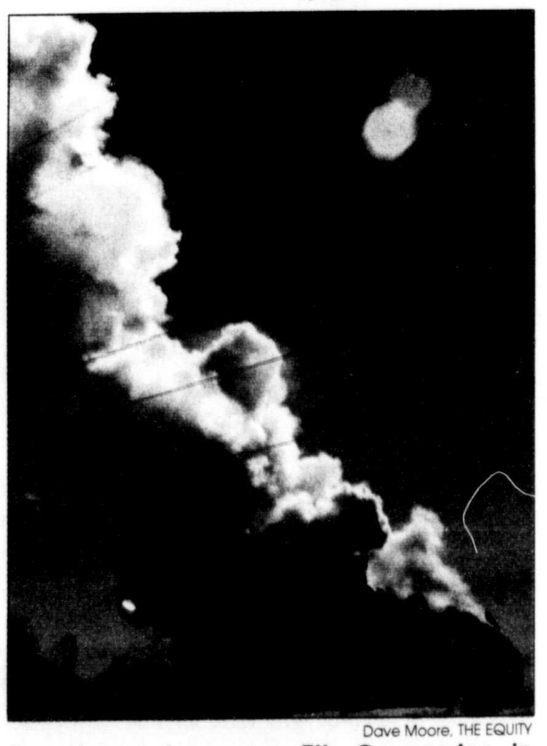

Dave Moore, THE EQUITY

The Horner home on 7th Concession in Clarendon went up in flames Feb. 20. The home, believed to be upwards of 150 years-old, was a total loss after fire crews from Shawville-Clarendon and Thorne battled the blaze for eight hours.

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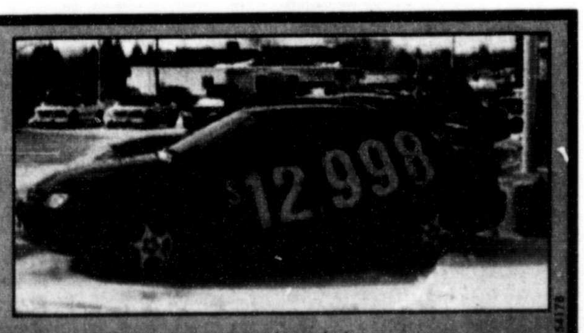

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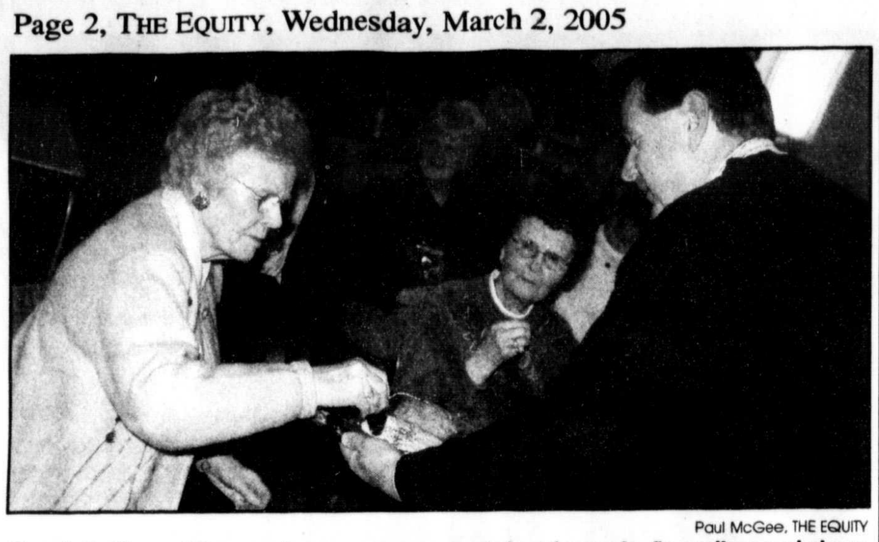

Paul McGee, THE EQUITY

Stuart Collins, of Bryson farms, passes a plate of purple fingerling potatoes from the farm and cooked by Ruth Smiley Hahn at the Pontiac County Women's Institute information day Wednesday, Feb. 16.

Women's Institute hosts info day

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

SHAWVILLE — Did you know that carrots weren't always the familiar orange colour we have gazed at for years?

If you had attended the Pontiac County Women's Institute information day at the Shawville United Church Hall Wednesday, Feb. 16, you would have learned this, and other, interesting tidbit of information. (Until the 16th or 17th century, carrots came in many colours — white, black, red or purple — until the orange hybrid appeared thanks to the work of Dutch horticulturalists.)

Though this year's information day was not as well-attended as other years, a strong line-up of guest speakers made the day a worthwhile learning experience. Audience members also got to partake of the pot-luck lunch.

"I think everybody was well-pleased," says Ina Kilgour, of the Clarendon Institute. The Pontiac County Women's Institute is comprised of branches in Bristol, Clarendon, Fort Coulonge and Starks Corners. Its Wyman branch recently disbanded.

Kilgour said last Wednesday turned out to a be a busy day and as a result, attendance was half of other years.

"There were different things going on that day," Kilgour said.

"We were disappointed with the numbers, but knew there was a lot on that day."

Guests

The women in attendance were treated to guest speakers Nora Shock, who spoke about and gave a demonstration of tole painting, Tammy Davis, of Bambinos day care, who spoke about child care, Joan Brown, who spoke about palliative care and Bryson Farms owners/operators Terry Stewart and Stuart Collins, who finished the day with a presentation on organic farming.

"I could have listened to them for a couple of more hours," Kilgour said of the Bryson Farms' presentation.

Bryson Farms brought samples of their mixed greens and purple fingerling potatoes, prepared by Ruth Smiley Hahn of Café 349, for tasting.

"They were not too bad," Kilgour said of the purple potatoes from Brazil. "I liked them, but I like a little bit of salt on them."

Shock brought an old can for painting as part of her presentation.

"She was exceptional with her talk on tole painting," Kilgour said. "By the end, the can was painted."

Brown told the audience that the hospital is looking for volunteers to provide relief for caregivers at home, the long-term care unit at the hospital or the nursing homes.

"We forget about the people who give care," Brown said.

The volunteers would replace the caregiver so they can take care of other business, such as grocery shopping, or in the case of caregivers at nursing homes or the hospital, go home for a while.

Volunteers, she said, don't need a college degree, they "just have to be a compassionate human being" willing to lend some time.

"You learn how to listen, to just be there, to know when to be silent," Brown said.

The hospital's long-term care unit is undergoing some changes, Brown said, to make it more comfortable for the caregivers.

"When the unit is finished, one room will be available for the family to stay overnight," she said, adding a small kitchen and sitting room also would be available."

Horticulture with beef?

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

BRISTOL — In an effort to show farmers the possibilities of branching out the family business, MAPAQ hosted a day-long seminar called "Horticulture: A new way to boost your income" Feb. 18.

About 30 participants spent a day listening to new ideas on farm management challenges at the Bristol Town Hall.

Morning discussions included topics like starting up a horticultural business with on-farm marketing, assessing your need and the cost of building a greenhouse, greenhousing and plastic agriculture.

The highlight of the day was guest speaker Jim Lorraine who spoke about how he moved his $200,000 beef farming business into a $1.8 million horticultural production farm.

Lorraine owns River Breeze Farm Market & Mega Maze Ltd. in Truro, Nova Scotia.

In only eight years, Lorraine was able to adapt new marketing strategies for his livestock products and vegetable crops to increase his revenues.

He focussed on three key areas that helped him gain profit on his farm: pick your own produce, on-farm retail and agri-tourism.

After doing some research, Lorraine decided that the beef producer's share of a retail dollar was not enough at 43 per cent. So, in 1996, Lorraine planted five acres of strawberries.

After the first strawberry season was a total success, Lorraine began plans to open a farm market that would focus on selling beef, which was his main product.

By 1999 the market was open and by 2002 he built his first greenhouse and corn maze.

"My wife Tricia and I were awarded Atlantic Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers award in 2002, and then we had a flood by March 2003," said Lorraine. "We lost all our strawberry fields after one day. But we were still making money in beef — until mad cow hit in May."

To make the year 2003 worse for his farm, a record-breaking frost wiped out his sweet corn crops and a hurricane shut off electricity for four days in his area in September.

"I found our cattle trailer on its side and our $10,000 greenhouse on the road," said Lorraine.

Not to mention that his corn maze was flattened and any hanging meat he had stored was lost from the power outage.

"I was depressed," he said.

The last straw was when his biggest beef buyer, a meat shop in Truro, burned

Jim Lorraine

to the ground.

"We lost $300,000 in 2003," said Lorraine. "So we remortgaged and tried again."

Lorraine described how he replanted strawberries and decided to focus on marketing his product.

He created interesting advertising campaigns and became familiar with the local media.

"Be creative in your marketing," he said. "With a limited budget, you must stand out."

Lorraine discussed how important customer service is and how a simple thing like selling cold drinks to strawberry pickers could be enough to pay the wages of the teenagers who filled the pre-picked baskets of berries.

Lorraine spoke on what he learned while managing his market, like how to reward and discipline staff members by using mystery shoppers and sporadic bonuses for jobs well done.

Then Lorraine talked about his popular corn maze.

The first year the corn maze was carved out of five acres of corn. Lorraine went through and cut the maze out with his own harvester.

This summer will be the third year and the maze will be designed with a GPS (global positioning system) to create designs in the 12-acre corn field.

"Now we are selling experiences," said Lorraine.

During the summer, Lorraine's farm is open to the public offering pig races, entertainment, wagon rides, cow trains, petting zoos and play rooms.

His farm is open for school tours of all ages and every year he adds a new attraction.

This year's will be a wild west built out of wood for kids to play in and parents to buy concessions from.

"A lot of what we do is low cost but high impact," said Lorraine, referring to the reaction he gets when he installed a sink beside the petting zoo. "The parents will say, wow, they even thought of that."

Lorraine summed up his success to the average person wanting the farm experience.

"I really believe that if farmers want a bigger piece of the pie, we need to take it."

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FROM THE FRONT

Fire destroys heritage home, 3 adults escape blaze at old Clarendon house

continued from page 1

The Shawville-Clarendon Fire Department was called to the scene and was quickly aided by the Thorne Fire Department.

"We called Thorne for four extra men and they also brought a truck," said Shawville-Clarendon Chief Lee Laframboise. "When I got there I knew there was no way of saving anything."

Firefighters found the blaze difficult to douse, taking a total of eight hours to put it out.

"It was quite hard," said Laframboise. The house was built of log and covered with aluminum siding.

The fire started in an attachment to the house, which was added on about 60 years ago.

Structure

The two-storey house had five bedrooms and a basement.

Laframboise said that firefighters had to rip off the siding to get the water where it needed to be.

The fire had burnt through the roof by the end of it.

A back hoe finally had to push down the remains of the house to eliminate any smoldering.

"I went back twice because there were little flare-ups," said Laframboise. "Pushing the remains down eliminates me having to go back."

The house was built by Norval's mother, who was a Hodgins.

"The house is probably 130 to 150 years old," said Henry. "Absolutely everything was lost."

As the old house belonged to only one family, the heirlooms and valuables gone with it are irreplaceable.

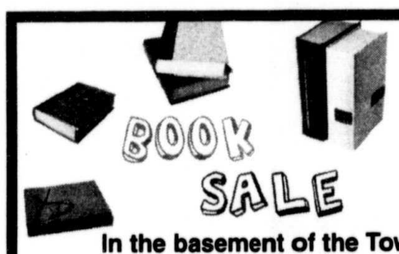
"It was full of treasures," he said. "But we're very thankful no one was hurt."

Shawville mayor exercises veto

continued from page 1

"They told us if we allowed this, we would set ourselves up for repercussions," said Armstrong. "And we had better be prepared for that."

Council discussed what could happen and voted 5-2 to follow the bylaw. As a dog owner, Armstrong understands the family's concern, but the Rottweiler is still required to be removed.



Open dates:
March 5
April 2
May 7

In the basement of the Town Hall (the old library)
1st Saturday of the month - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Want to help? Friends of the Library meet the 1st Thursday of the month, 7 pm at the library

NOTICE TO CLARENDON PROPERTY OWNERS

The Municipality of Clarendon is celebrating its 150th Anniversary this year. We would like to recognize the property owners whose land has continually been in the immediate family (direct line) since being deeded to their ancestors in 1855. This includes both Shawville and Clarendon. If you qualify for this recognition, please contact the Municipal Office for more information. Phone 647-3862 or fax 647-3822 by April 1, 2005.

Clarendon 150 Committee

Notice of meeting
Annual general meeting

Promutuel La Vallée, société mutuelle d'assurance générale invites all its insured members to attend the annual general meeting which will be held on:

Thursday, March 10, 2005 at 8:00 p.m.
Shawville Fellows Association Hall
24 Alfred Street
Shawville

Seats to be filled

Seat No. 4: Eric Smith - elected by acclamation

Seat No. 5: Hugh Hammond
Norman Pilon

Seat No. 6: Chris Judd - elected by acclamation

Coffee and donuts will be served. Door prizes.

Dana Morin
Secretary

Issued
February 9, 2005

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For information contact
Geraldine Schroeder at 648-5313.
We wish Karen all the best with her posting at CAP.

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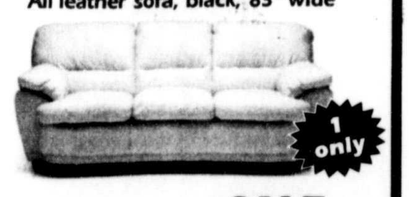

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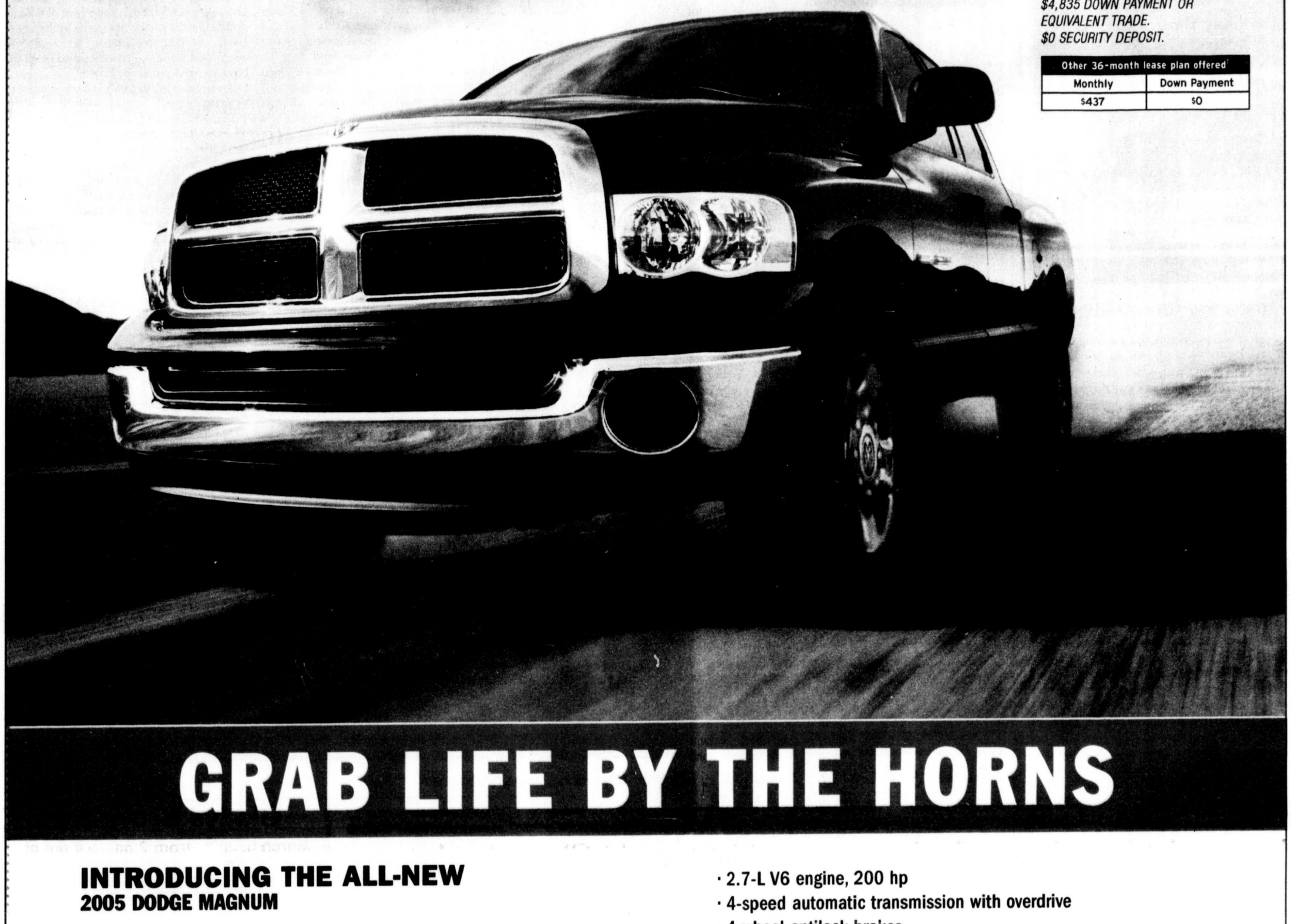

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THE EQUITY

The Voice of the Pontiac since 1883

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EDITORIAL

Crown vs. 'coonskin

One item many of us wanted to see removed from last week's budget was the expense account for that journalist-turned-dignitary Gov.-Gen. Adrienne Clarkson, whose office stands as a symbol not only of the British monarchy — our "official" head of state — but, unintentionally, as a symbol of how our government wastes our money.

It's been 40 years now since Canada adopted its own flag, casting off some of the visual vestiges of our connection to the British Crown. Surely, we have advanced as a nation to the point of standing on our own instead of applying an unnecessary layer of history to our development as a multi-cultural society.

In our democracy, the Queen's role has been reduced to that of figurehead, a mascot in velvet, pearls and diamonds, if you will. It's common knowledge that our governments don't trust Canadians to take care of themselves so they have to prepackage all sorts of social programs to lead, er, guide us on our daily paths to their promised land. The symbol of the monarchy has a similar role, I presume, to not only remind us of part of our origins as a nation, but to provide a living, breathing, human example of loftier ideals. For what purpose? Maybe anthropologists have an answer.

Since the invention of the printing press 550 years ago, the masses have become increasingly more knowledgeable of current affairs, more educated about their place in the world, more enlightened. At no other time in history have the peoples of Western democracies — despite the dumbing down of television — been so widely informed about so many issues, trends, and social and political movements.

The dumbing down effect of television, in fact, has reduced the monarchy to celebrity status, with the royals jostling with J. Lo and Ben and Brad and Jennifer for air space. At least with the Hollywood royalty, we voluntarily support their dysfunctional, unreal lifestyles at the ticket office; for the Queen et al., we involuntarily cough up tax dollars to support the lifestyles of the rich and famous royalty. (The Queen, at one time, or still is, the richest woman in the world. Yet, during her last visit to Canada, a state dinner in Toronto cost millions of dollars of our taxpayer money. A dinner. Maybe they should have dined at Burger *King*, eh?) With cries for more infrastructure, health care and education funding ringing out across the land, can we really afford this pricey bauble of royalty?

Meanwhile back at the castle, the Queen and her consorts sip their tea and eat their crumpets, removed from the daily clamour of the working stiff trying to earn a pound for bread. It's time for the Canadian government to show some hubris and sever our connection to the British monarchy — we are no longer a British colony — and cut off the millions of dollars funnelled to continue this charade of pomposity. We're the sons and daughters of couriers des bois, lumberjacks, farmers and miners — outcasts of the Old World. What tangible connection to the Crown do we have, aside from bankrolling its dysfunctional circus?

Do we, in democratic societies, really "need" the symbolism of royalty to enrich our lives, to shape our destinies as a people and as individuals? Do we need *Madame* Clarkson (even the title *sounds* undemocratic and pompous) prancing around the world with her husband and entourage in tow, extolling the virtues of this great country? Maybe I'm a peasant, but growing up, I had a stronger connection to the fictionalized Dan'l Boone and Davy Crockett — American frontier heroes — than to King George, or Henry (The Beheader) VIII. Never wanted to wear a king's crown, but wanted a 'coonskin cap, I did.

Paul McGee

Dave Moore. THE EQUITY

Overheads

YOUR OPINION

Clarendon's 150th

Dear Editor,

The year 2005 is an important and exciting one for the Municipality of Clarendon. It marks our 150th anniversary of incorporation and we have many events planned to celebrate the occasion. Since the Village of Shawville was part of our municipality in 1855, this will be a celebration of both municipalities and we extend an invitation to everyone in the area, surrounding municipalities, people who grew up/went to school here and the public in general to help us mark this special occasion.

It all begins on March 27 with an Easter Sunrise Service at Starks Corners United Church – one of the two remaining active churches in Clarendon. Then April 28 - 30, our famous Pontiac Players, directed by Joan Conrad, are presenting an old-fashioned melodrama called "The Gold Miner's Daughter or The Triumph of Virtue" at Pontiac High School.

Events continue on June 26 with a church service at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Radford, the second of the two remaining active churches in Clarendon. This is followed on June 27 with contests of babies and "Miss Clarendon 150."

Canada Day Weekend will be enhanced by heritage displays, musical entertainment by Bowes Bros. and many other special events. It will also mark the beginning of a reunion for all those who attended schools in the area. This will continue on July 2 with events held at McDowell School and Pontiac High and will culminate with dances for young and old and our 150th anniversary dance at the agricultural hall featuring Irish music by Mountain Tay & Robin Avril and the Mick Armitage Band at Pontiac High School. Many have attended both schools and will be welcome to attend either or both dances. July 3 features an Ecumenical Service at the Shawville fair grounds.

During the week of July 4 to 8 everyone will be on their own to visit heritage sites and displays in the area. Other planned events are a quilt show and tea, soap box derby and another presentation of the play by the Pontiac Players for those who may have been unable to attend in April.

The grand finale will take place at Starks Corners on July 9 with an old-fashioned "Clarendon Social" featuring entertainment, games, tournaments, box social and a street dance with music by the Valley Ramblers.

Mark these dates on your calendar and plan now to help us celebrate this historic occasion.

Clarendon 150th Committee

MAHG hockey

Dear Editor,

While the majority of sports activities are reported by THE EQUITY, the MAHG programme of hockey isn't as we do not participate in a schedule of games as the rest of the hockey levels do. However, over the last two weekends Shawville's MAHG 1 and MAHG 2 teams particiapted in the Fest-MAHG Tourno Novice Kiwanis de Hull, and as their coach, I believe the accomplishments of this great group of kids should be recognized and congratulated.

The purpose of the MAHG program is to give every participant a solid base of hockey skills required to play the game at the upper levels. At this tournament, we outplayed every team we met. I'm very proud of all the boys for trying their best, working so hard, and remembering to pass the puck in order to work as a team.

The MAHG 1 team was anchored by Thomas Barry, Austin Duggan and Curtis Huckabone, who all demonstrated great skills to the younger players.

The MAHG 2 team will sorely miss Zachary Elliott (nice upstairs shots, Zach!), Jared Murray, Bryce Atkinson and Kyle Misener when they move up to the Novice Division next year.

Way to play boys!

Dan Duggan
Coach, MAHG 1 & 2
Shawville

Informative

Dear Editor,

I have enjoyed Katherine Fletcher's page four articles for so many years. It is the first page I look for! As I am also a bird watcher and conservationist at heart, they are of great interest to me. I wish I were closer to see those great grey owls. I was saddened that some people used your information to go hunting but I still hope your articles are a form of education and care among many others. I'm sure you are winning!

Noreen Walsh
Montreal

CORRECTION

Incorrect information appeared in the story "Electrical problem probable cause of fire" on page one of the Feb. 23 EQUITY. Firefighters found the body of Lennis Stewart on the second floor.

122 YEARS OF NEWS

The Way We Were Compiled by Heather Alberti Dickson, Publisher

25 Years Ago
February 27, 1980

Police news: A freak snowmobile accident near Davidson on Saturday afternoon took the life of Sylvie Desormeaux of Vanier, Ontario. Miss Desormeaux, 20, was riding a 1969 Sno Jet on the Ottawa River when her scarf caught in the clutch, pulling her into the machine.

Liberals begin referendum battle: "Our "No" is Pro-Quebec and our hearts are Canadian". Time and time again this last weekend this theme could be heard as more than 3,000 Liberal Party members packed the major convention rooms at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal to kick off the "No" Campaign, thereby starting the referendum battle.

All Canadian Ayrshire: Star Heather placed first at the 1979 Royal Winter Fair, Toronto, and second at the Ottawa Winter Fair. A fitting climax to a highly successful year in the show ring was the nomination of five animals for all Canadian honours from the herd of W Ronald MacKechnie and Sons, Wyman, Quebec. As well as Star Heather being named All Canadian a MacKechnie heifer calf, Bonnieshade Star Clover who won second prize at the Royal Winter Fair and first at the Central Canada Exhibition, Ottawa, received Honourable Mention.

Younge's Jersey awarded "Star Brood Cow": Willow Hill V Sharon 15S(VG) has recently been awarded a Star Brood Cow certificate by the Canadian Jersey cattle Club. This award is based on the out-standing production and type of her offspring. Bred by Melvin W Younge o fShawville "Sharon" spend most of her productive life in the herd of his son Robert Younge.

• • •

50 Years Ago
March 3, 1955

Plowmen voice grievances: A meeting of the Clarendon and Bristol Winter Roads Committee was held at the Shawville High School on Saturday night. The meeting was of great local interest, judging by the number of people in attendance. Under the chairmanship of Charlie Russell, the meeting heard the point of view of each of the plowmen present. The main complaints of the plowmen were that the roads are too narrow, between the ditches and between the fences; there is an unusually large amount of snow this year; too little snow fencing is in use; $100 a mile in a year such as this is not sufficient to cover the cost of keeping the roads open all winter; people are rarely willing to give the plowmen a hand when the going gets tough; people expect their roads to be kept in first class shape, yet won't take the trouble to put up the snow fences allotted to them.

Shawville's Mrs James Riley Quebec's oldest resident: March 2 is quite the day in Shawville. It all started 105 years ago. Looking backwards through the history book to those days before Confederation we see Canada's first silver coinage in 1859, Ottawa chosen as the capital by Queen Victoria in 1858, ottawa incorporated in 1855. Then five years before that an event occurred which wasn't included in the books. Fifty miles up the Ottawa River from the town which wasn't even called Ottawa yet, in the vicinity of what we now call Shawville, Marry Smith was born, and was the first baby to be baptized in Shawville's Anglican Church.

Large crowd see Shawville Seniors trample Barry's Bay: The best attended hockey game yet this year was played Tuesday evening between Shawville Seniors and Barry's Bay in Shawville Arena. Over 200 people watched the Seniors walk over Barry's Bay 18 to 2. In the game, Red Dale made his comeback scoring three goals for Shawville and exhibiting a fast brand of play dear to the hearts of local fans. Other scorers for Shawville were Ray Young 4, Laird Murray 3, Cecil McTiernan 3, Bill Horner 2, B Pirie 1, B McCredie 1, F Finnigan 1.

• • •

75 Years Ago
February 27, 1930

Local news: February is credited with having been the coldest month of that name for quite a number of years past. This record refers to the first half of the month. But last week's continuous thaw of several days - threatening a break-up of sleighing at an unseasonable time - should reduce the average temperature to pretty nearly if not quite normal.

A well-known resident of Wyman district, in the person of Mr jerry Davis, passed away at his home on Feb. 7 after a lengthy illness. Deceased was born in Bristol township 66 years ago, and was a prominent farmer of that section. he was a man of cheery disposition and high integrity and wa well esteemed by all who knew him.

THE EQUITY regrets to report the death at Bristol, on Feb. 20, of Mr John Stewart, a life-time resident of that township, who passed away after a long period of ill health, in his 74th year.

Quick work with x-cut saw: Mr Thos Wall, of Radford section, who, it may be remarked is an expert hand at saw filing, tells of a little experience he had a few days ago in the company with Mr Hubert Hamilton, of the same locality. Both men were leisurely engaged sawing up a birch tree, when the thought struck them to move a little faster, to see how fast they could take off a cut. Acting on this impulse, they speeded up, with the result that they dropped off a block, 15 inches in diameter, in 47 seconds. Thomas is of the opinion that anyone who can file a saw to do a stunt like this, and pull it through a 15-inch log more quickly, won't need to be tripping over their own toes.

• • •

100 Years Ago
March 2, 1905

Issues missing from our files until June 15, 1905.

ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM by Katharine Fletcher

Information on heritage seeds and organic gardens

As I write, a snowstorm swirls outside. March is coming in like a lion, and with the blanket of snow covering fields and woods, my thoughts turn to gardening.

This year, I am receiving lots of notices about workshops, seminars, events and information on organic gardens and heritage seeds from my network of readers and industry contacts. Here is a sampling of gardening-related topics they have shared with me that I know some of you might want to put on your agenda. If you cannot make the actual event, I've provided some information about the subject matter, with links to websites and telephone numbers so that you can investigate on your own.

Seedy Saturday, March 5

This event in Ottawa is one of several "Seedy Saturdays" that take place across Canada annually. The Ottawa Chapter of the Canadian Organic Growers and Seeds of Diversity Canada have organized this coming Saturday's seed exchange and sale in Ottawa from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Algonquin College T-102, 1385 Woodroffe Avenue. Free admission.

What is Seedy Saturday? It is an event where you can exchange or buy untreated seed either at a "swap table" or from a vendor. Here you will find a marketplace offering organic seeds, house plants, foods, and herbal products. As well, a series of talks will offer information on these related topics: 10:30 Water in the Garden; 11:30 Seed Starting; 12:30 Any Home Gardener can Grow Garlic; 13:30 Healing with Honey; 14:30 Community Gardens.

One of the organizers and attendees, Deirdre Furlong, who operates Deirdre's Organic Plant Care writes, "Once again I will be selling my organic house plants and a selection of ornamental and vegetable seeds. This will be my sixth year attending. It is always a fun, informative event." You can contact Deirdre at (613-722-0853) for information.

The list of participants provides us with a sampling of businesses, individuals and organizations that will be of interest to those of you who are keen on organic gardening – particularly if you are unable to attend Seedy Saturday. Therefore, for your information, here is the list of regional contacts: Terra Edibles, Eternal Seeds, The Cottage Gardener, Greta's Organic Gardens, Seeds of Diversity Canada, Dorothy Stephens, Agro-can, Connaught Acres, Opeongo Mountain Meadow Soap, Kanata Lawn and Garden Show, Stavros Olive Oil, Country Cuisine, Simply Natural, Miva Harris, Deirdre's Organic Plant Care, Honey Pie Hives & Herbals, Homestead Organics, Pat Furlong, Hunt's Wholesome Honey, Isabel Pochadt, The Garlic News, Paradise Waterfalls, The Community Garden Network, USC, The Old Field, Tucker House.

Seeds of Diversity

This organization is one of the two hosts of Seedy Saturdays. The website at www.seeds.ca tells us it is a "Canadian charitable organization dedicated to the conservation, documentation and use of public-domain non-hybrid plants of Canadian significance. Our 1,700 members from coast to coast are gardeners, farmers, teachers, scientists, agricultural historians, researchers and seed vendors. Together we grow, propagate and distribute over 1500 varieties of vegetables, fruit, grains, flowers and herbs. We are a living gene bank."

If you've been reading this column for several years, you may recall me writing about the Heritage Seed Program, one of the Canadian Organic Growers' projects since 1984. Seeds of Diversity actually evolved from that original program. This initiative is crucial, because it ensures that non-hybrid plants are kept in the gene pool, alive and growing throughout Canada, and available to gardeners everywhere.

You need to become a member in order to participate in the seed exchange (though not to attend Seedy Saturdays). The Seeds of Diversity website tells us, "Our seed exchange is a member-to-member programme, coordinated through an annual directory. Each year at harvest time, we ask our members if they have seeds that they would like to offer to other members. These offers are compiled into a directory which is mailed with the January magazine. Then, when a member wants to request seeds, they write directly to the offering member and enclose a small amount of money to cover packaging and return postage. Otherwise, there is no charge for the seeds."

Membership: Seeds of Diversity Canada, PO Box 36, Station Q, Toronto, Ontario M4T 2L7, Canada. Questions? Contact: 1-866-509-SEED or e-mail office@seeds.ca. (If you have the Internet, go to www.seeds.ca and print the membership form.) Price of membership varies, from $25 (for people on fixed income) through to $75 for three years.

What's included in membership? Your membership includes a subscription to the Seeds of Diversity magazine, published three times annually in January, May, and September. You will also get the annual Seed Exchange Directory, mailed with the January magazine, which lists over 1,500 varieties of seeds.

Other related events
March 9.

Is genetically modified food the answer to world hunger and poverty? Listen to an international panel of farmers and scientists share their experiences with genetically modified crops, food security and rural development. This hot topic will be debated on Wednesday, March 9, 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Congress Centre, Salon A/B, 55 Colonel By Drive, (adjacent to the Rideau Centre). For information contact Eric Chaurette, echaurette@interpares.ca 563 4801 www.flora.org/fao. Free admission. Wheelchair accessible.

March 10. Community Gardening.

Laurie Anderson, Coordinator of the Ottawa Community Garden Network gives a demonstration on composting and seed planting and demonstrates how to start a community garden. When and where? 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Canadian Museum of Nature, 240 McLeod Street (at Metcalfe), Ottawa. Cost: $15 per workshop. Information and registration: (613) 566-4791.

Next week: More on organic gardening and how to learn about creating your own organic garden, and practice sustainable organic gardening practices.

• • •

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

Hanna rink loses heartbreaking final at Tournament of Hearts

Leah Miller, THE EQUITY

The last time the Hanna sisters were in the Pontiac was after they won the Ontario Scott Tournament of Heart women's curling championship Jan. 29. From the left: Stephanie and Jenn at the Shawville Curling Rink Feb. 6.

By PAUL MCGEE
Equity Editor

ST JOHN'S — The Hanna rink's remarkable run to the final of the Tournament of Hearts came to a dramatic but heartbreaking end Sunday with one perfect throw by Jennifer Jones of the Manitoba rink.

The Hanna rink representing Ontario — skip Jennifer Hanna, her sister and lead Stephanie Hanna, second Dawn Askin and third Pascale Letendre — overcame some early tournament setbacks to storm to the final on Jenn's near-perfect curling, which led her rink to victory in four consecutive sudden-death draws to make it to the final.

Jenn and Stephanie are the granddaughters of the late William and Doris Hanna and Ruth and Ervin Beattie, all of Shawville.

"We're just proud of them and they're still number one to us," said Ruth Beattie on Monday.

Ruth said she was watching the final on television and thought the 6-4 lead would hold up in the final end.

"I was devastated," Ruth said. "I was expecting they would win.

"We're thrilled to death they got as far as they did."

Hanna's rink, the youngest at the Tournament of Hearts, shows promise for the future.

"They'll be back," said Ervin.

Doris Hanna, who travelled to St. John's with family and friends, said it was disappointing to see the girls lose that way.

"They curled so well and to think they lost it on a heavy shot," Doris said shortly after returning home. "They curled so well."

Doris said they now have to start at the beginning next year to earn a spot at the tournament of Hearts. Ontario went into the final end with a 6-4 lead but Manitoba had the hammer. Jones had three rocks in the outer circles of the house, but Hanna had one sitting on the button. The only shot Jones had was a hit and roll off of an Ontario guard to take out Hanna's stone, and she made no mistake, angling off the guard to take out Hanna's rock and score four for an incredible come-from-behind 8-6 win.

The great shot prompted CBC curling analyst Mike Harris to declare Jones's strike as the best game-winning shot he'd ever seen.

Jenn, 25, was gracious in defeat, complimenting Jones for her "perfect" last shot. She told CBC that placing second in the country is "pretty friggin' cool."

If Hanna had won, it would have been the first rink ever with a 6-5 record in the round robin to do so.

Hanna won three games, including two tiebreakers, on Friday to advance to the semi-final Saturday against B.C.'s Kelly Scott. Hanna erased a 5-3 deficit to beat Scott 9-7 to advance to the final.

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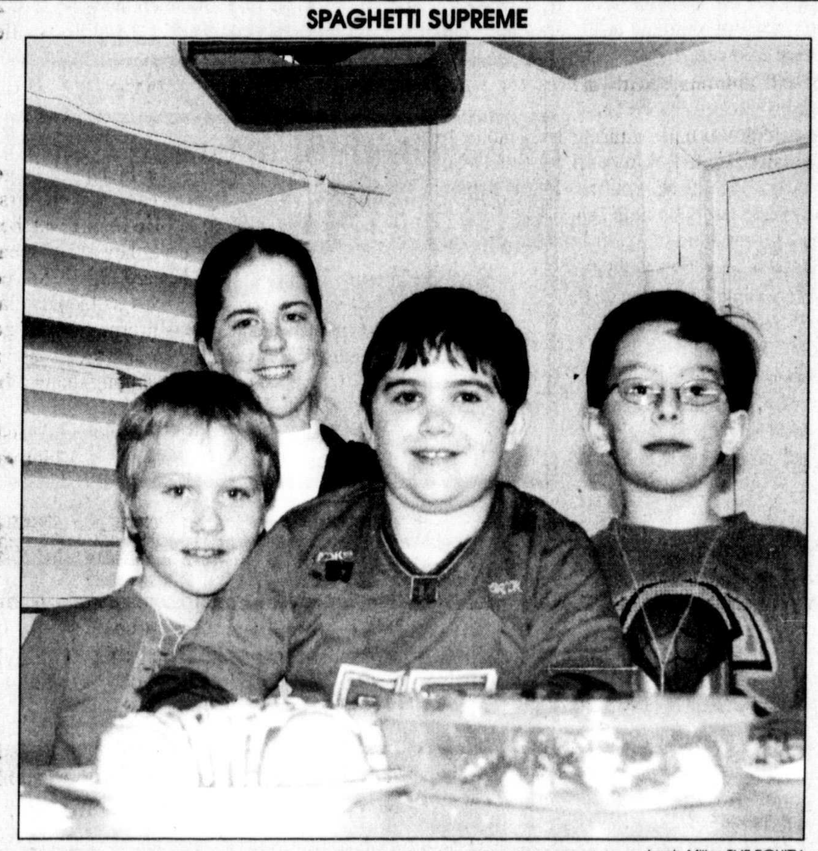

Leah Miller, THE EQUITY

St. Anne's School hosted a spaghetti supper at the municipal hall Feb. 18. The dinner kicked off the Calumet Island Carnival in support of Grades 3 and 4 students fundraising to take a field trip. Serving baked desserts from the left: Jacob Thompson, 9, Emily Thompson, 16, Kaleb Godin, 9, and Simon Tremblay, 9.

FOR THE YOUTH

Leah Miller, THE EQUITY

Allison Corrigan (left) passes off a donation of $1,500 to Margaret McDowell of The Garage youth centre. The donation was made on behalf of the Orange and Protestant Children's Foundation for Quebec. The money will be put towards the centre's new security system after it was robbed Jan. 15.

Double letter teams settle on final standings

By DAVE MOORE
Equity Sports

LOW – The Pontiac Midget Lions scored what could be a huge 1-all tie in their second game of the playoff round-robin against first place Aylmer.

Aylmer lost a fair play point during the match while the Lions didn't.

That single point could have big implications in the end, because of the Lions also tied their first match to another top-seeded club, the Voisin de Papineau.

Guillaume Saumure scored in the third period to tie the game.

Kevin Soucie and Guillaume Shea-Blais got the assists.

The Peewee Low Wolves won 4-1 over the Gatineau Avalanche Saturday and 3-2 Sunday against Papineau.

Of the standings for the double letter teams, the Midgets finished close to the bottom with a 9-11-4 record.

The Bantams rule the roost in their division, having 11 more wins than anyone else with a 22-1-2 record

The Peewees finished in third place with a 13-8-3 record.

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SPORTS

Pontiacs back into semifinal action

By DAVE MOORE
Equity Sports

SHAWVILLE – The Pontiac Junior B's had to dig real deep against the Carleton Place Kings in the semifinal action.

The Junior B's, on the verge of going down four straight with the Kings pounding the net for wins of 7-4, 4-3 in OT and then a 4-2 loss at home Sunday, turned the tables on the Kings with wins in games four and five.

In game two in Carleton Place, the Junior B's tried to shake off a bad game-one outing with the hopes of a big game, only they came away further in a hole after a 4-3 overtime loss.

Rocky White, Erik Barber and Brian Kealey got the goals in regulation time only to have the Kings dangerous Adam O'Brien pop in the winner midway in the extra period.

MacDougall, Kealey, Doug Wooldridge, Ryan Reese and Barber draw assists in the match.

Then at home Sunday for game three, the Carleton Place Kings threw several line changes at the Juniors bench in the first few minutes of the game and got a key line match-up for a quick 1-0 lead before the game was two minutes old. Then at the four minute mark, the Kings scored again, 2-nothing for the visitors.

They made it 3-0 before the Pontiacs would get on the board with Steve Rusenstrom scoring.

Rocky White pulled the team within one goal in the second stanza but it was the Kings adding an empty net goal for a third straight win over the Juniors.

Matt Collins, Maxime Rusentrom and Steve, (no relation), Rusenstrom, got the assists.

The Juniors' triumphant in Carleton Place Friday night with Brian Kealey scoring in the first and Erik Barber netting the winner in the third. Rocky White got the empty cage with seconds to go and the Pontiacs live for another game.

Reese, Wooldridge and Andy Bean got assists in the match.

At home for game five, the Juniors' swarmed the Kings' net as White and Erik Barber rocked the Kings' goaltender, Josh Blank, out of the net in the second period.

A relentless attack led to the Pontiacs severely out shooting the Kings almost 2-to-1 and the end result was another good effort put forward by this team in this series for a 4-3 win.

As said, White and Barber both scored twice while Reese (2), Steven Rusenstrom, (2), Chris Byrne and Shane Powell (2) all grabbed assists. Game seven goes Friday night at 8 p.m. in the Shawville rink, if needed.

Dave Moore, THE EQUITY

Juniors' Captain Chris Byrne gets hauled down during Sunday night's needy win for the Pontiacs.

PHS girls' volleyball team wins weekend tourney

By LEAH MILLER
Equity Reporter

PONTIAC — In a shut-out tournament, the Pontiac High School girls' cadet volleyball team barely broke a sweat as they won all eight sets at a tournament Feb. 20.

The team, playing in the 'H' league, took on four schools in the tournament.

Against Érablière, PHS won both sets 25-17 and 25-23.

Against Symmes, PHS won both sets 25-10 and 25-18.

Against Des Lacs, PHS won both sets 25-19 and 25-20.

And once more, PHS won both sets against Hadley 25-11 and 25-20.

These games gave them the full 16 points to win the tournament and give them full confidence for the next confrontation at the season's final tournament March 13.

Basketball

The girls' benjamin A team have been hard at work learning the game and getting into the heavy competition.

PHS beat Nicolas-Gatineau 52-18 Jan. 23 but lost against Le Carrefour 62-14 later that day.

PHS suffered another two losses Feb. 6 against Séminaire Sacré-Coeur (68-2) and Feb. 9 against Collège St. Alexandre (47-9).

"We've seen a big improvement in the last four games," said co-coach Wendy Moore.

The girls on the benjamin team have never played competitive basketball before, and Moore is seeing a real progression in skills.

"They are playing more as a team," she said.

"They are getting a bit more experience under their belts."

And that can never come too late, as there are only a few more games left in the season.

"They're learning more," said Moore. "But even though it's not showing up on the board, they are doing better."

Moore said they had a close game against Érablière Feb. 19, who are a team higher in the ranks.

"It shows the fact that they're getting into their groove," said Moore. "The players are showing improvement and confidence in themselves."

The girls lost that game by only two points, 36-34.

All games are played in Gatineau and the team may be moving into a Western Québec School Board league next year to minimize away games.

Moore says the team is looking forward to finishing off the season and having fun while learning the game.

Their last two games will be at Le Carrefour March 12 at 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Since Christmas break, other basketball teams have been busy as well.

The boys' juvenile AA team lost 74-37 Jan. 13 against Du Versant and lost 59-49 Jan. 17 against De L'Île.

On the road, PHS lost 60-34 Jan. 26 against Du Versant and lost 75-26 against Le Carrefour Feb. 9.

In their last home game, PHS lost 66-52 against Nicolas-Gatineau Feb. 22.

Their next game is Feb. 9 at De L'Île at 7 p.m.

The boys' cadet A team, lost 33-22 against D'Arcy McGee Jan. 17 and lost 44-30 against Grande-Rivière Jan. 25.

Two more losses hit this team when they played Le Carrefour Jan. 27 to come out with a 54-43 loss and again at D'Arcy McGee Feb. 1 losing 45-26.

Finally Pontiac struck gold on home turf beating Grande-Rivière 48-45 Feb. 15.

Hopefully the boys will be on a streak and beat Érablière March 9. The game is at Érablière at 6 p.m.

The girls' cadet AA team have had a bit more luck after they lost their last game of 2004 against Nicolas-Gatineau 20-0 Dec. 22.

They picked up the pace once back from holidays beating Collège St. Joseph 51-50 Jan. 13, only to lose 63-37 against Nicolas-Gatineau Jan. 19.

The girls entertained one more loss of 54-38 to Collège St. Joseph Feb. 8, but beat Grand-Rivière 38-30 Feb. 15 at a home game.

Their last game was also a victory when they beat Nicolas-Gatineau 48-37 Feb. 22. The girls only have two more games left on March 9, 5:30 p.m. at De L'Île and March 10, 6 p.m. at PHS.

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READY TO ROAR

Leah Miller, THE EQUITY

Stock cars get ready to break from the starting line on the Ottawa River in Norway Bay Feb. 19. First place went to Fred St. Pierre (#12) sponsored by St. Pierre Towing, second place Jean Marc Larose (#3) sponsored by Murdock Glass and L. J. Towing and third place to Randy Dagenais (#16) sponsored by L. J. Towing.

Three Pontiac teams top Metro's final standings

By DAVE MOORE
Equity Sports

PONTIAC – Three teams from the Pontiac top the final standings of the Outaouais' Metro League 2004-05 hockey campaign.

The Atom A Pontiac Draveurs, (16-0-2), the Bantam B Pontiac Draveurs, (15-2-3), closely followed by the Pontiac Warriors by just one point for second spot, (13-3-4) and the Novice B Fort Coulonge Draveurs. They hold a 12-4-0 record.

The majority of teams place behind the top clubs with six squads from the area sitting either last or just hovering above.

Of the other teams battling for tops in the final weeks, the Bantam A Pontiac Draveurs ended up in 3rd, (13-6-1), 5th for the Peewee B Pontiac Draveurs, (12-6-2), and fifth for the Pontiac Draveurs Midget B, (10-6-4).

Also amongst the top teams were the Pontiac Juveniles. They had first place for the last few weeks but relinquished that spot to Aylmer in the final weeks. The Juveniles have an 11-6-3 record.

• Action in the final week include two losses for the Novice B Pontiacs to Maniwaki, 12-1 with Danny Pasch scoring, and Fort Coulonge, 7-3.

• The Atom A Pontiac Draveurs scored a 5-0 win in their final game of the season against the Aylmer Tigers. Jack Kelly, Justin McGuire, Stephane Paré and Brady Pirie with two scored for the win. Assists went to Brady Trudeau, Paré and Joshua Bourgeau.

• A 3-all tie for the Peewee B Pontiac Draveurs. Branden Alexander and Cameron Huckabone with a pair, all scored in the second period, with Brandon Nugent, Hailey Murray and Jesse McCagg setting up the goals.

The Gatineau Barons scored all theirs in the third frame to tie.

• The Bantam B Pontiac Draveurs needed some wins in a bad way to grab first place from their Pontiac counterpart, the Warriors after a 2-2 tie with the Aylmer Extreme.

Jacob Bourgeau and Jonathan Hebert, with 43 seconds left, got the scoring done in that game. Anthony Nugent, Ryan Tracy and Travis Moreau drew assists.

But it was a 5-2 win over the Aylmer Iceberg and a close 3-2 battle against Maniwaki that put them over the top by one point.

Against the Iceberg, Bourgeau, Moreau and Tracy scored singles and it was another hand from the Peewee farm, Colton Keon, scoring the winner. Tracy, Nugent and Moreau (2) drew assists in the match.

Ryan Racine and Nugent scored against Maniwaki but it was Adam Orr's rush to pick up his own rebound and then score, from his knees no-less, that gave the Draveurs the win and first place. Assists went to Ryan Miller and Mick Baker.

Corey Boutin played all three games as Joey Derouin is recovering from a minor injury.

Derouin was also reported to have played shut-out vs. Aylmer last week, in fact the score was 4-1.

• For the Pontiac Midget B Draveurs, a 1-1 tie would come back and haunt them in the next game at the Buckingham tournament.

The Midgets had to run up the score in the their next game, even a 7-4 win wasn't enough points for them to advance.

Kyle Smart scored in the first game assisted by Matt Hobbs. then it was Ben Nyveld, Nick-Marx Thriverge, Matt Hobbs (2), Jeff Drisner (2), and Steven Cahill getting goals against the Verdun Blitzs.

Assists went to Jean-Marc Thibeault (2), he also got the only one in the first game against the Gatineau Cougars, Cody Hodgins, Drisner (2), Nyveld, Travis Corrigan, Hobbs and Kyle Hodgins with three.

• The Peewee A Pontiac Draveurs steal a win over one of the top teams, Hull, in the their final game of the season. No results on who scored.

The playoffs get under way for all Metro teams this weekend.

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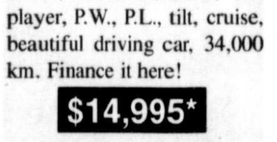

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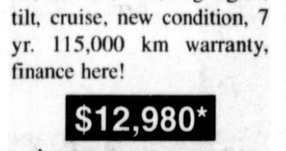

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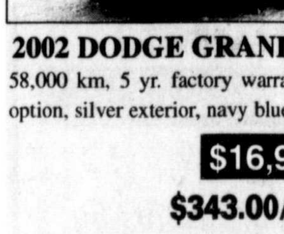

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SHEENBORO

Students had lots of fun

By MYRTLE SULLIVAN
Correspondent
689-2236

Congratulations to my grandson and his wife Don Ouelette and Naomi on the birth of their baby girl last Monday, Feb. 21. Don was working in Australia and Naomi is in Japan so he flew to be with her. They named her Sophia.

Happy birthday to Jack Tallon who celebrated his big day last Saturday. His sister Dot Tallon was down to celebrate with him. I hope you had a great day. Dorothy and her sister Francis both visited with me on Sunday. It was nice to see them.

Congratulations to George and Lucy Sullivan on the birth of their new grandson. Proud parents are Dr. Colleen Sullivan and Andrew Dunlop. William Liam George Dunlop is the first grandchild for George and Lucy.

There is a need for drivers for the senior citizens in Chapeau/Sheen/Chichester area. They must be a non-smoker and have a valid drivers license. If anyone is interested you can call Don Paquette at 689-5754.

Happy birthday to Nathalie Ouelette on Feb. 22. I hope you had a great day.

Billy and Anita Sawyer were visiting Anita's mother Margaret on the weekend.

Congratulations to Norma and Andrew Perrault on the birth of their first grandchild born to Lesha and Jeff Cochrane last Monday, Feb. 21 weighing 8lbs 14oz. They named him Chase Alex Andrew Cochrane.

Jack and Darlene Perrault were down to visit Leona Perrault last week. I hope they had a good visit.

Raymond and Iona Morris had some visitors on the weekend, Sylvester McGuire and Barb and Tim Finski from Sudbury and Chris McGuire came from Ottawa. I am sure they had a nice visit.

Dr. Wilbert Keon School had their carnival days last week. The students had lots of fun with different activities including swimming in Pembroke, tubing in Fort Coulonge, pyjama day and dress-up day. The high school also had their annual "fly on the wall" which is always lots of fun and the students went to Edelweiss for skiing, snowboarding, and tubing on Friday.

The whole Gleason family was home this past week. Liz, Mary, Lorraine, and Pat were all here visiting their family in the area. I am sure Carmelitta enjoyed their visit.

I did not think I would be here today writing this article as I had the scare of my life last Tuesday night. My daughter was driving me home when a log truck came over the hill and put us in the ditch. It was the same exact spot where Roy Downey lost his life 45 years ago. So I wanted to put this in to warn people about the trucks coming around as they seem to have no consideration for other vehicles on the road.

Be safe everyone and I hope all the children have a safe and nice winter break.

VINTON

In the mood to party

By DIANE BOISVERT
Correspondent
648-5296

One of our local Vinton farmers lately lost his entire herd of cattle in one day. I know that this is quite unusual and you wonder how this could happen. No, it wasn't mad cow disease, a fire, lightning nor a flood. Considering his herd consisted of only one cow and that she as about 38 years old. I guess it must have died of old age. But look on the bright side. It won't take much to replace that herd, especially with the beef prices so low.

Don't forget to put out your blue boxes tomorrow.

Get well wishes go out to Pat Hearty who is recovering at home after surgery. He told me that he'll never touch another razor for a long, long time.

Shelley and the grandchildren were here visiting Feb. 19 to 22nd. Tao started walking at ten and a half months and Corben started putting words together. They are so cute at that age. You enjoy every minute with them.

Happy birthday to Paul Halderman and Karen Quinn on Mar. 5, Wayne Corriveau Mar. 6, Marina Chugg on Mar. 8 and Pat Kavanaugh on Mar. 9.

Last Wednesday I saw nine deer on my way home from work. There have been a few reports of people putting their trucks in ditches trying to avoid them. And yet others have problems with trees that jump out in front of them.

On Saturday, Feb. 26, at the Mickey Creek Golf Club, an outstanding performance was put on by Allyson Belanger. She sang to a packed house and had everyone on the dance floor. Allyson opened with the song "I'm here for the Party" which got everyone in the mood to party. Thanks Allyson for the entertainment.

CAMPBELL'S BAY

Friendship gala to be held

By IRIS SMITH
Correspondent
648-5821

Birthday wishes to Ina Poisson who celebrated her special day on Feb. 24. May she enjoy many more happy, healthy birthdays.

The Golden Age Club held its weekly euchre on Tuesday evening at the club room. Ladies high was a tie between Gwen Black and Veronica Perrier. They split the prize, second was a tie as well between Georgette Robitaille and Iris Smith. They split the prize as well. Men's high was won by Richard Hearty, second was a tie between Lewis Johnson and Laurent Chevalier. They split the prize as well. The door prize was won by Georgette Robitaille. The 50/50 was won by Laurier Dumouchel. The refreshments were by Jeanne Haley and Isobel Lacroix.

A friendship gala will be held on March 5 at the R. A. Hall to honour Willard and Liseanne Kluke following their disastrous fire. The proceeds of this event will be awarded to local charities. Events include music, and auction and many other events.

Curling fans turned their anger at the C.B.C. and the coverage of the Scott Tournament of Hearts held at St. John's Newfoundland. Fans are disappointed by coverage of the games and the hit and miss explanations of where you could see the games as well as the non-coverage of the playoff. Apparently it is to be the same at the Brier this week in Edmonton. To Jenn Hanna and her team, we were very proud of their success at the Scott Tournament of Hearts.The team made everyone very proud of the effort they made to become champions. Better luck next time. We were all cheering for you Jenn.

Anniversary wishes to Barbara and Lorenzo Belanger and Phyllis and Arnold Sloan who celebrated anniversaries this past week.

Our daughter, Jo-Anne Smith of Spencerville spent Saturday evening with us and joined Stacey, Wayne and Jonathan of South Mountain at Jill's on Sunday. Andrea joined us as well. A very special day to help remember my birthday.

I am one of the lucky seniors to be taking the computer course for seniors sponsored by the Shawville Rotary Club and the Western Quebec Adult Education Program. The eldest in our classes 88 year old Alice Lawn who is young at heart and who would like the rest of us, like to conquer the computer. Our teacher is very patient and thorough so we are all enjoying it. We are privileged to be able to take this interesting course.

Joe Walsh of Barry visited with his mother Gladys Walsh on the weekend.

Cathy Hodgins of Ottawa and her son, Josh, visited with their grandmother, Elsie Letts, on Saturday at the Respite Centre. Following that they visited with Bert and I. Always nice to see them.

Birthday wishes, Donna Ringrose, Vicky belanger, Grant Ferrigan and Scott Crawford all celebrating during the week.

OTTER LAKE

Great time golfing in Berlin

By ELIZABETH HAHN
Correspondent
453-7326

Otter Lake Golden Age Club winners last week were 50/50 Bob Billings, ladies first Beverly Dubeau and second Mabel Kluke, men's first Denis Gravelle and second Ray Dubeau. A delicious lunch was provided by Lillian O'Malley and Margaret Wilson. Happy birthday wishes to Rachel St. Pierre and Denise Dubois. Happy 30th anniversary wishes to Denis and Diane Gravelle.

Elizabeth Hahn, Pat Hahn, Natalie Hahn and Doloras have returned home after spending their holidays in Rohoboth Beach, Delaware. They had a great time doing some golfing in Berlin, Maryland which is close to Ocean City. They also did lots of shopping and sightseeing. Natalie was home for reading week from Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo.

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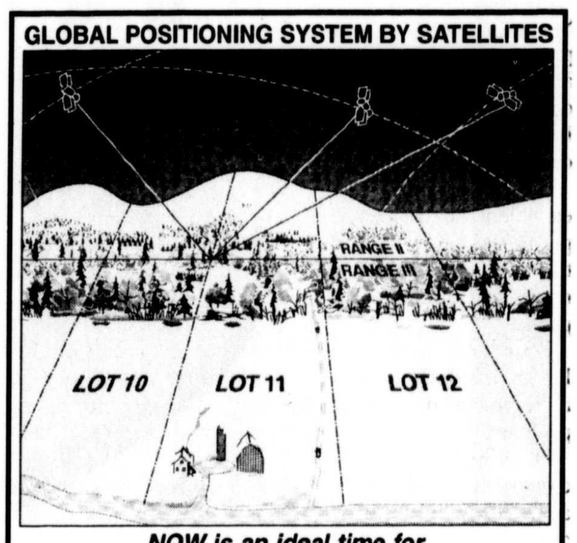

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Ensemencement des lacs et des cours d'eau: le programme Festival de pêche 2004 est lancé

PONTIAC — La Société de la faune et des parcs du Québec est heureuse d'annoncer le début de la période d'inscription au programme Festival de pêche 2004.

La date limite pour soumettre des projets est le 19 mars 2004. Les formulaires de demandes de subvention sont disponibles dans les bureaux de la Société de la faune et des parcs du Québec.

Le programme Festival de pêche offre une aide financière aux projets d'ensemencement de poissons afin de soutenir la pêche dans les milieux urbains, périurbains et ruraux.

Les projets soumis sont conçus par des organismes sans but lucratif qui mettent à contribution les ressources du milieu.

Par ce programme, la Société de la faune et des parcs du Québec continue à appuyer les associations du milieu de la pêche dans l'organisation de festivals de pêche.

Elle permet ainsi la mise en valeur des plans d'eau perturbés ou peu productifs et le recrutement de nouveaux adeptes de la pêche.

Pour être admissibles, les projets doivent viser le recrutement de nouveaux pêcheurs.

De plus, le plan d'eau ensemencé doit être accessible gratuitement aux adeptes et ce, selon la réglementation en vigueur, notamment en ce qui concerne le respect de la limite de prise quotidienne et la saison de pêche en vigueur dans les zones où se réaliseront les projets.

Programme «Pêche en herbe »

Dans le cadre de son volet « Relève », le programme Festival de pêche 2004 permet à certains organismes de bénéficier d'une aide supplémentaire lors d'un ensemencement.

En effet, le programme « Pêche en herbe » créé par la Fondation de la faune du Québec offre aux promoteurs choisis des brochures éducatives et des certificats « Pêche en herbe » faisant office de permis de pêche permanents, valides jusqu'à l'âge de 18 ans.

Trois mille ensembles de pêche sont aussi disponibles pour les jeunes.

Des critères particuliers à respecter

Rappelons que l'évaluation des projets soumis au programme « Festival de pêche » repose sur les critères d'évaluation suivants : le bassin de population qui pourra bénéficier de l'ensemencement, la facilité à s'adonner à la pêche (pêche à gué ou pêche en embarcation) et l'accessibilité au plan d'eau : notamment les services de transport en commun et les installations pour les personnes handicapées.

Un autre critère touche la garantie de survie à long terme du poisson ensemencé.

Une nouveauté au programme « Festival de pêche » cette année, consiste à accorder des points supplémentaires aux projets admissibles, déjà présentés l'année précédente mais non subventionnés en raison d'un manque de ressources financières.

La Fête de la pêche, les 10 et 11 juillet 2004

De plus, tous les projets admissibles au programme « Festival de pêche » qui se tiendront les 10 et 11 juillet 2004, c'est-à-dire lors de la « Fête de la pêche » partout au Québec, bénéficieront de points supplémentaires qui les favoriseront dans l'évaluation de leur demande.

Toute la population québécoise pourra pêcher, sans permis, lors de la « Fête de la pêche » les 10 et 11 juillet 2004.

Cette grande fête collective organisée par la Société de la faune et des parcs du Québec en collaboration avec ses partenaires fauniques, les municipalités et plusieurs autres organismes du milieu, permet à des centaines de Québécois et Québécoises de s'initier à cette activité en nature.

Pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez consulter le site Internet au : www.mrnfp.gouv.qc.ca/faune/presse/programmes-soutien-financier.htm

UN CASSE-CROÛTE DU POISSON

Paul McGee, THE EQUITY

Vivianne Soucie (à la gauche) a goûté un morceau du pike durant le tournoi de pêche de l'association chasse et pêche Mon Chez-Nous samedi. Jean Pelletier, (à la droite) de Waltham, a préparé le poisson avec le recette de sa grandmère.

LES GAGNANTS

Paul McGee, THE EQUITY

Royauté à la tournoi de pêche pour l'Association chasse et pêche Mon Chez-Nous. Les gagnants ont vendu les memberships pour l'association. Samantha (le deuxième à la gauche) a gagné. Elle a vendu 343 memberships. Les autres gagnants sont : Tanya Lefebvre avec 233 (gauche); Tanya Fortin (à la droite) avec 131 et Adele Charrette avec 126.

Le ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune rend publiques les nouvelles modalités de financement des travaux d'aménagement en forêt publique

PONTIAC — Le ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune signale la parution, le 23 février, à la Gazette officielle du Québec, du Règlement modifiant le Règlement sur les redevances forestières.

Ce règlement prévoit que la valeur des traitements sylvicoles admis à titre de paiement des droits correspondra, pour l'année financière débutant le 1er avril 2005 et se terminant le 31 mars 2006, à 90 % du taux prévu à la grille établie par le ministre ou à 90 % du coût d'exécution des travaux si ce coût est inférieur aux montants de la grille des taux.

Un projet de règlement modifiant le Règlement sur les redevances forestières a d'abord été publié à la Gazette officielle du Québec du 24 novembre 2004 et avait fait l'objet d'une période de consultation officielle de 45 jours.

Le projet initial du ministre Pierre Corbeil, visait un meilleur encadrement du marché de la sylviculture et l'introduction de négociations sur les prix.

Lors de cette consultation, plusieurs intervenants ont exprimé certaines appréhensions concernant les délais d'application et les impacts sur la main-d'œuvre.

À la suite de l'analyse de ces commentaires, le ministre des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune, M. Pierre Corbeil, a recommandé au gouvernement de surseoir temporairement à l'application de ces mesures.

Ce délai vise à donner aux différents intervenants le temps nécessaire pour procéder aux ajustements requis et ce, sans remettre en question la mise en place d 'un partage réel des coûts de l'aménagement à compter de 2005-2006.

La Gazette officielle du Québec du même jour a également publié le projet d'arrêté ministériel sur la valeur des traitements sylvicoles fixant la grille des crédits admissibles pour l'année 2005-2006.

Cette grille est ajustée en fonction de l'évolution de l'indice général des prix à la consommation au Québec (IPC), pour la dernière année écoulée.

La grille des valeurs indexées fait donc présentement l'objet d'une période de consultation de 25 jours, pour une mise en vigueur à compter du 1er avril 2005.

Enfin, le ministre Corbeil entend consulter les intervenants concernés dans l'élaboration des mesures à mettre en place au cours de la période transitoire, pour faciliter l'introduction de la négociation sur les prix au 1er avril 2006, et ce, dans le contexte des recommandations de la Commission sur la gestion de la forêt publique (Commission Coulombe) qui touchent de près le secteur de la sylviculture.

Avis de convocation

Assemblée générale annuelle

Promutuel La Vallée, société mutuelle d'assurance générale invite ses membres-assurés à participer à leur assemblée générale annuelle qui se tiendra le :

jeudi 10 mars 2005 à 20 h
Salle Shawville Fellows
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Shawville

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Norman Pilon

Siège n° 6 : Chris Judd - adopté par acclamation

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Dana Morin
Secrétaire

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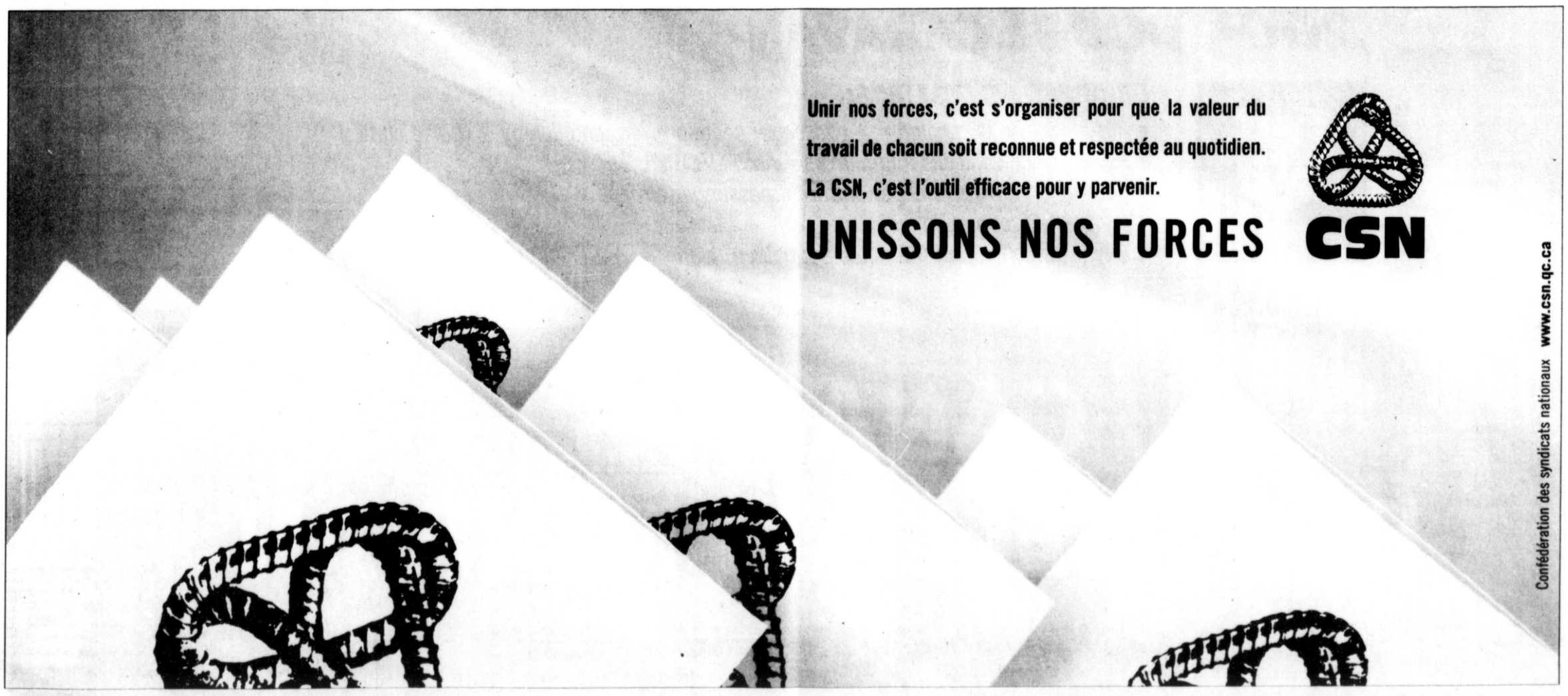

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FEBRUARY 2005

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COMING EVENTS

Every Saturday night until May 7th, 2005 included. Bryson Lions Club Old Time Dance, Bryson Lions Hall. Music by The Brysonnaires. 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. Hot lunch at midnight. $6 per person. otc.

Friday, March 4 - World Day of Prayer Service at Bristol Memorial Presbyterian Church, Bristol at 7:00 p.m. Guest speaker: Rev. Sterling Irvine. Everyone welcome. bm2

Fri., March 4 – From 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Gently Used Clothing Sale at St. George's Church, 66 Leslie Street, Campbell's Bay. 50 cents an item – lots of selection! bm2

Fri., March 4 –2 p.m., World Day of Prayer Service at Shawville Wesleyan Church, 329 James St. Please join us. xm2

Liquidation Sale – 6 Gilpin Rd., Bristol between Quyon and Shawville. This week's special new clothing $3, new shoes $2, furniture at 50% off. Furniture, tools, appliances, bedding nobody beats our price. Open Fri., Sat., Sun., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. No early birds. Thinking of building this year. We now sell ICF insulated concrete foundations. Do it yourself or have us do it for you. Bring your plans or just pop in to see our display. Free estimates. Why pay too much? 2 xm9

March 9 – Poor Man's Lunch, Oddfellows Hall, Alfred St., Shawville 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Price $6. 2xm9

Fri., March 11 – Annual Bristol Stomp, 7 - 10 p.m., Bristol Town Hall, Music by: The Coveralls, Gaetan Poirier and Dr. Karen Chambers, Rachel Côté and company, Cameron Morrison. Admission $3 at the door. Sponsored by 1st Bristol Pathfinders. xm9

Starts Mon., March 14 – 7 - 9 p.m. Computer training - Introduction to Computers - Learn how to use your computer and understand windows and basic internet features. Pontiac Continuing Education Centre. Limited seating. For more information contact Kristina 647-2964. 3bm2

Starts Wed. March 16 – 7 - 9 p.m., Computer Training - Introduction to Microsoft Word - Learn the most used program for creating letters, documents and various other word processing documents. Pontiac Continuing Education Centre. Limited seating. For more information contact Kristina 647-2964. 3bm2

Easter Sat., March 26 – Horse Tack and Equipment Consignment Sale, Galetta Livestock Sales, 1/2 hr. west Ottawa, 10 mins. east Arnprior. Tack - 10 a.m. Equipment - 12 noon, Horses - 2 p.m. (approx.) Info. call Ernie @ 613-623-3439. Sale barn 613-623-9840 day of sale. Horse pre-registration - Tracey 613-623-9455. It's worth the journey to talk to Ernie. 3bm16

COMING EVENTS

Sat., April 9 – 9 to 1:30 a.m. Shawville/Clarendon Firemen's Ball. Music by Hyrd Gunz Band at Shawville Lions Hall. Tickets $5 each. Can be obtained from any fireman, Doug Hodgins or at the door. Lunch served. 5bm30

MISCELLANEOUS

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WANTED

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Wanted Farm land with or without house. Must be at least 50 workable acres in size and prefer the property to be within 5 miles from the town of Quyon. If there is a home on the property, the home must be in good condition. 613-258-2693. 2bm9

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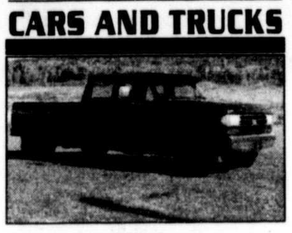

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DEATH

Foran, Patricia – Friday, February 25, 2005 Patricia McKenny age 80, beloved wife of the late Leo Foran. Loving mother of Eleanor Foran. Dear sister of Margaret (Ray McKenna), Mark and Edmund (Ursula Scissons). Predeceased by sisters Mary (late Tom Crowe), Veronica (late Dawson Hart) and brothers Patrick (Jean) and Kenneth (Bertha). Daughter of the late Jane O'Gorman and Charles McKenny. Beloved aunt to many nieces and nephews. "A very special lady." Friends paid their respects at the Kelly Funeral Home, 1077 Clarendon Street, Quyon, Quebec Monday from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Funeral Tuesday to St. Mary's Church for Mass of Christian Funeral at 10:30 a.m. Interment St. Francis Cemetery, Wolfe Lake, Quebec. In memoriam donations to the Pontiac Community Hospital Foundation appreciated. Kelly Funeral Homes 235-6712.

Glenn, David Cuthbertson – June 7, 1923 - February 19, 2005. Funeral arrangements by Sands Funeral Chapel (Duncan)

Peacefully and without pain, David passed away at Cowichan District Hospital on Saturday, February 19, 2005. Predeceased by his parents, James and Lila Glenn, brothers Dan, Tom, Bill and Reid. He is survived by his wife Alice, sister Jean Whelen, brothers Merton (Melva) and Duncan (Joan), daughters Beverly Porter (Brian) and Sharon Powell (Danny), son Jim (Cheryl); granddaughters Kathleen Glenn (Doug) and Jennifer. Born in Campbell's Bay, Quebec, David started moving west in 1944, with a stop at Forget, Saskatchewan to take part in the grain harvest. He arrived on the West Coast to fall "big trees" in 1945. A coastal faller, David worked up and down the coast until his retirement in 1988. He loved the life of a coastal faller, the companionship of his fellow workers and being in the outdoors. David married Alice in 1949 and over the next nine years, they had their three children. Very much a family man, David was able to combine this with his love of farming by being active in 4-H as were his daughters and granddaughters. Another interest of David's was raising feeder steers and in his later years being active in the Duncan and District Antique Machinery Society. David will be sorely missed. A funeral service was held at Sands Funeral Chapel, 187 Trunk Road, Duncan, BC at 2 p.m. on Thursday, February 24, 2005 with a reception which followed in the Arbor Reception Centre.

DEATH

Hobbs, Elizabeth Ellen (née Gilchrist) – Peacefully in hospital Shawville, Quebec on Sunday, January 2nd, 2005 age 79 years. Beloved wife of the late Sidney Hobbs. Dear daughter of the late Mary Obrey and stepdaughter of the late Andrew Gilchrist. Dearest mother of Sylvia (Wilmont Hobbs), Shirley Delaurier and Ramona (Doug Young). Proud grandmother of 7 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Sister of Beatrice Byce and June Bowes (Clifford), Bernard (Sandra), Gerald (Winnifred), Ernie (Verna) Rev. James (Mary), Roy (Noreen), Ivan (Jolene), Ray (Natalie), Mervin (Shirley, and Carl (Jean). Predeceased by brothers John, Russell, Cecil, Duncan, Kenneth, Donald and Bert. Sister-in-law to Vivian and Judy. Visitation was at W. J. Hayes and Sons Funeral Home. Funeral service was held on Wednesday, January 5th at Shawville Bethel Pentecostal Church. Interment Stark's Corners Cemetery in the spring. Community (One of mom's favourite poems!!)

I can only imagine
Surrounded by your glory
What will my heart feel
Will I dance for you, Jesus
Or in awe of you be still
Will I stand in your presence
Or to my knees, will I fall
Will I sing "Hallelujah"
Will I be able to speak at all
I can only imagine
I can only imagine.

Palmer, Edith Beulah (nee Young) – May 6, 1908 - Feb. 16, 2005. Edith died peacefully in her sleep at Pontiac Reception Centre, Shawville, in her 97th year. She was predeceased by her husband, John Eric Palmer, their two sons, William and Leslie and daughter, Helen. Dear mother of Margaret (Clarence Adams), Mona (Edward Adams), Lillian (Gerald Stevens), Roy (Joan), May (Bill Schwartz), Jane (Elmer Alexander), Gordon (Myrna), Mary (Rod Hunter) and Frank (Marlaine). She is survived by daughter-in-law Shirley, 28 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren. Predeceased by sisters Marjorie and Lila. Edith was steadfastly devoted to her large family and many friends and relatives especially enjoying family get-togethers. Christmas was celebrated, in her latter years, with a pot-luck dinner at her home which was filled to capacity and beyond with family and friends. She was a very popular lady in the community because of her pleasant demeanor and her positive outlook on life. She will be sadly missed. Visition was held at W. J. Hayes & Sons Funeral Home on Monday, February 21st. A funeral service celebrating her life was held at Shawville United Church on Tuesday the 22nd. As a tribute of their love, a total of four eulogies were read by daughter-in-law, Joan Palmer, and three of her grandchildren, Patricia Palmer, Susan Comeau and John Alexander. Readers were Kim Hunter and Laura Palmer. Pallbearers were grandsons, Michael Palmer, Allan Palmer, Matthew Palmer, Mark Schwartz, Rick Woolsey and John Alexander. A reception was held afterwards at the church hall with delicious refreshments served by the United Church Women. Interment was at Maple Grove Cemetery. A special thank you goes out from the family to Hayes Funeral Home. Rev. Paula Mullin, doctors, nurses and caregivers at the Reception Centre for their excellent care, the U.C.W. and friends and neighbours of Gordon and Myrna for their contributions of food and caring and to all for the many flowers, donations and cards.

THANKS

Hobbs Elizabeth Ellen (Betty) (née Gilchrist) – We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to our relatives, friends and neighbors for their kindness, love and support that was shown to us at the time of our mother's death. For all the donations, flowers, food, phone calls and cards. We thank you, with heartfelt appreciation. A special thanks to the ladies at Bethel Pentecostal Church for the lovely lunch served following the service. Also special thanks to Anna Bowen and staff at the Pontiac Respite Center. To everyone who took part in the beautiful service. Pastor Dana Visneski, Pastor Orville White, Pastor Gary Hobbs, Rev. Jim Gilchrist, Pastor Richard and Connie Grey, Jill Delaurier, Vivian Stevens and George Towell, the pallbearers, Curtis, Chad and Korbin Young, Brian Delaurier, Tim Hobbs and Ian MacKechnie. We also thank Dr. Keith MacLellan, Dr. Peter Talko, their staff and other doctors and nurses at the Pontiac Community Hospital for their tender loving care. Thank you also to W. J. Hayes and Sons Funeral Home and the ambulance personnel. May God richly bless each and everyone of you good folk. We love you Mom. Ramona, Shirley, Sylvia and families.

Plascott – The family of James Plascott would like to extend sincere thanks to all friends and relatives for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards, donations and on-line condolences and food. A special thank you to Dr. Talko and the nurses of the Pontiac Reception Centre and Ringrose Funeral Home in Campbell's Bay. The Plascott family

Thank you Lord say 9 Hail Mary's each day for 9 days. Make 3 wishes; the first concerning business, the others for the impossible. Publish this article on the 9th day, your wishes, will come true, even if you don't believe. Thank you Lord, it's unbelievable but true. R.B.

Beechgrove R.A. We would like to thank everyone who helped make our ham and bean supper on Feb. 12 a success either by making food, helping to serve or coming out and supporting the community. Also thank you to everyone who participated in our carnival activities. Kim and Bonnie

Wiggins – The family of the late Roy Wiggins sincerely thank friends, neighbors and relatives for the messages of sympathy, charity donations and floral tributes which were testaments to the many friends Roy made throughout his life. Special thanks to Rev. Hobbs, Rev. Hutchison and Dr. Kalen, Beechgrove U.C.W. and friends who provided lunch after the funeral. The many acts of kindness, prayers, love and support have been a great comfort to us during this sad time. Edith Wiggins

Prayer to the Holy Spirit – Holy Spirit, Thou make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give the divine gift to forgive, and forget the wrong that is done to me and who are in all isntances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You no matter how great the material desire may be. I want to be with You and my loved ones in Your perpetual glory.A men. Person must pray this three consecutive days without stating one's wish. After the third day your wish will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Promise to publish this as soon as your favour has been granted. S.D

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MEMORIAM

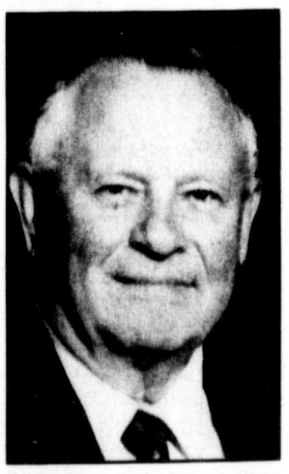
Blaskie – In loving memory of a wonderful dad, grandpa and great-grandpa Peter who was called to eternal rest February 6, 1996 and a most loving and caring mom, grandma and great-grandma Emma who passed away March 27, 1999. Many years have gone by since God took you home, but you know mom and dad you've really not left us. You haven't travelled far. You've just entered God's beautiful garden and left the gate ajar. Our family chain is broken here without you and nothing seems the same. But as God takes us one by one. We'll repair the chain again. We love you mom and dad so very much. You're always in our hearts and on our minds. Sadly missed and lovingly remembered. Your family

Cunningham - Edward John. In loving memory of a dear husband, father and grandfather who passed away on February 28, 2004.
Deep in our thoughts a memory is kept.
Of one we loved and will never forget.
Forever loved Mary, John, Susan, Bill, Sarah and John

Flood, Lois – In loving memory of our wife, mother and grandmother who passed away so suddenly March 6, 2000.
May you rest in peace,
You are sadly missed
And forever remembered.
Love Bob, Sally, Robert, Jeffrey and Stephen

Ireland – In loving memory of our father, Gerald, who passed away on Feb. 24, 1981 and our mother, Dorothy, on March 4, 1996.
We cannot have the old days back
When we were all together
But wonderful memories and loving thoughts
Will be with us forever.
Forever loved,
Your family

Ireland – In loving memory of our brother Blair who died March 8, 2004.
Precious Blair from us is gone
A voice we loved is still
No one knows the sorrow we share
When the family meets
And you are not there.
A place is vacant in our family
That never can be filled.
Loved until eternity.
Your sisters Shirley, Iris, Diane and families



Rebertz – In loving memory of a dear husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather Dalton who left us so suddenly February 27, 1996.
The precious years we spent with you
Are worth their weight in gold.
The joys and laughter that we shared
Are ours to have and hold.
We miss you more than words can say
Of this there is no doubt,
You're lovingly remembered
But so hard to live without.
Sadly missed and always loved by wife Mina and all your family

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CALDWELL

Ready for a change in weather

By HERMONIE SHARPE
Correspondent
647-3459

Congratulations go out to Gwen Peppard Renaud, wife of Denis Renaud who was among the graduating class of 2004. It took a lot of hard work but we knew you could do it. She is working in Ottawa at present.

Returning home from a golf holiday in Arizona is Jim Hunter of Osgoode. His wife Connie and daughter Natasha are leaving in March for a vacation in Cuba.

There was a sleepover at the Bristol Town Hall on Friday night when the Bristol Pathfinders and their leaders had a very enjoyable night. They played cards, sang songs and enjoyed all the fun that goes with these sleepovers. The Pathfinders working on challenges and planning for their annual Bristol Stomp which is planned for the evening of March 11. I had a visit on Saturday morning when I went to retrieve a lost article and was invited to enjoy a very tempting, nutritious breakfast with them. But, as I had already had my breakfast, much to my sorrow I had to turn them down.

I had a call from Ladysmith Saturday morning and they tell me that the deer are so plentiful that they can't even put feed out for the birds as they even clean that up. They counted 28 deer one day and so many small ones as well. I guess too many does.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Kay Russell who passed away in hospital in Shawville on Feb. 24 in her 83rd year after a courageous battle with cancer. Kay was laid to rest from St. Andrew's United Church in Bristol. Interment Norway Bay Untied Cemetery.

A pot luck supper was held at the home of Mona Emmerson on Friday night. They had a beautiful cake nicely decorated to celebrate Ruth Sharpe's 60th birthday.

Well, if you are like most of us you are ready for a change in the weather. So let March come in like a lion and there won't be any complaining. This past winter has been really cold, almost like our winters from years back.

Visiting their uncle Rev. Dougal Sharpe, who is a patient in Belleville Hospital, after undergoing cancer surgery were Garry and Brenda Young of Quyon. Your many friends and relations are praying for you Dougal.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Margaret (Hodgins) Russell who passed away on Feb. 27 on Saturday at the age of 92 years. Funeral services were held from Bristol Presbyterian Church on Tuesday, March 1. Interment was in Norway Bay United Cemetery.

The Eastern Star supper and euchre which was held on Saturday, Feb. 26 was very successful with everyone enjoying a delicious meal and an evening of playing cards.

Shawville was really on this map this past weekend as I received calls from even out in BC inquiring who the Hanna girls were. Great curlers and we are all so proud of them.

BRYSON

Skunks are creeping around

By HEATHER STEWART
Correspondent
648-5413

I hope everyone had a good week.

A very happy birthday going out to Connie Belland of Campbell's Bay. I hope you have a great day Ol' girl!

Get well wishes to Ann Lanoix who underwent surgery last week. I hope you are feeling better soon.

Deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Cletus McGuire who passed away last week. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Ethan, Melanie and Roger would like to wish Nanny a very happy birthday with lots of love.

Results for the Golden Age euchre held Monday, Feb. 21 are as follows: door prize Joan Sicard, 50/50 Roger Lacroix, men's first: Roger Lacroix, second Perry Kluke and Lucien Dumouchel, ladies first: Jeannette Romain, Annette Lepine, Theresa Lance, Barbara Ostrom, Collette McTiernan and Gisele Evans, ladies second: Georgette Piche, Georgette Robitaille, Veronique Perrier, Paulette Lamothe and Loraine Gagne.

On Saturday evening a bunch of friends gathered at my place to celebrate the upcoming birthday of Joey Ranger of Campbell's Bay. We had a great time and did a lot of catching up. A very big thank you to Stephanie's mom, Mrs. Milford for the homemade bread. It was very much appreciated and very delicious. Everyone sure enjoyed it! I would like to take this opportunity to wish Joey a very happy birthday. Wishing you a great year ahead!

On Sunday evening the Bryson Lionettes gathered for our annual Sweetheart Valentine supper. A little late on the timing but better late than never. We went to the golf course in Vinton and as always, the food and the service was excellent.

A little blue bird from Calumet Island filled me in on a little bit of information on my parents Jim and Anna. You see, they went to the euchre tournament on Calumet Island, and I guess poor Anna wasn't getting the cards, because she ended up with not one, but a few skunks! Which she failed to tell me. I guess she was afraid I would put it in here. Sorry mom. I also heard that dad got some good playing pointers from Larry Lamadeline. So maybe you and mom can share these pointers and try to avoid those skunks that seem to be creeping around a lot lately. Thank you very much for the tidbit from Calumet Island. I owe you one!

Greetings to my aunt Rita Stewart of Campbell's Bay. Hope you are doing well.

Have a safe and happy Week. Be charitable. Give a hug!

DANFORD LAKE

Huge benefit dance held

By STEPHANIE MILFORD
Correspondent
467-1091

A huge benefit dance was held this Saturday night in Otter Lake at the R.A. hall for Donald Gauthier whose house burned down recently. There are not enough words to describe how Otter Lake and surrounding areas came out to support this wonderful event and have great time. The Otter Lake Fire Department did an amazing job as usual to a capacity full house. Entertainment came from all around to support this worthwhile cause. Performers included Maurice Dubeau of Campbell's Bay, the mother and son duo of Claudette Gravelle and Daniel Ladouceur of Otter Lake. These two are always a crowd pleaser. Sylvain Simard, famous Elvis Presley impersonator gave an excellent rendition of the "King," and gave everyone a taste of Memphis. These are just a few of the people who came out to help out. Levis and Suzanne Beaudoin kept the dice game going at the Little Bar and all evening at the R.A. All proceeds went to Mr. Gauthier.

Huge thank you to the Otter Lake women who provided a spectacular hot and cold buffet for this event that was much enjoyed by all. Attending from Danford were Myles and Suzanne Milford. Jean Beauregard and Chantal Laflamme.

Happy birthday to Floyd Zacharias who celebrated this past weekend at the R.A. Hall.

Winners of the dart tournament at the Little Bar this past weekend were Walley Leger, Melinda Leger, Mick Meranger and Betty Anne Meranger finishing in first, second place winners were Jane Firobin, Clay Rebertz, Donna Early and Paul Beauchamps and third place went to the team of Yvan Brazeau, Rachel Lapointe, Wayne Lahey and Dulcy Kluke. Women's high finish honors went to Stacy Lafleur and men's high finish went to Martin Vaillancourt. Owner Rachel Lapointe and staff were very pleased with the turn out. The Little Bar in Otter Lake is planning another tournament for the fall. Past owner Garry Filion dropped in and was very happy to see some of the people he had come to know were still visiting the establishment. Myles and Suzanne Milford along with Jean Beauregard and Chantal Laflamme also participated in the tournament. Winner of the 50/50 was Suzanne Milford. Way to go Mom!

A surprise birthday party was held at Heather Stewart's house this Saturday night for Joey Ranger. Heather and I had spoken this week and she had planned a get-together for this weekend at her house. Great! We then thought of having a birthday party cause Joey would have caught on right away if we had done it next weekend when it really is his birthday. The cute part was though Joey wrote me an email and asked me if I was going to the party. "It should be alright," he said. When the lights went out and we started to sing happy birthday, Joey started to sing too! When it came time to sing "Dear Joey!" His jaw dropped. "You's got me!" Friends came from all around to help Joe celebrate. Friends included, Heather Stewart, Lance Cole, Nat and Danicka St-Pierre, Tanya, Leah, and Jason Beaudoin, Kelly and Tyler Stewart, Paul, Brianna, and Jordan Larue, Sheri, Ashley and Trevor Orr, Cindy Belland, Jason Dubeau, Flora and Rowan Kodl, Robyn Milford, Colin Lalumier and myself. Colin surprised everyone when he showed up. We had been told that he could not make it and would try for the next time. The surprise was on us!

Maple syrup season is just around the corner! These milder days are sure helping. Heather who runs a daycare is planning a trip to the maple bush with the children. Hope you all have fun!

March break is once again upon us and I bet each student is saying "It's about time!" My sister Robyn and I are planning a shopping trip one day this week and then we'll take it from there.

I hope everyone has a great week and be careful in what ever you do.

Happy birthday to Raymonde Dagenais Periard who will celebrate on Friday March. Happy birthday Monne and have one for me ok? Many more.

Welcome home to Allanah Villeneuve who arrived in Gatineau this past Friday night. We have to get to get together sometime and catch up.

If you enjoyed last year's welding team projects from Pontiac High students then you'll love what they have come up with this year. Project "Log Drive" will be held on the hill at the baseball park beside the school. Come one, come all, everyone is invited. The students are constructing sleighs which will be interchangeable to wheels if need be if there is not enough snow. Talk about something that has a lot of planning involved.

I have to say a big thank you to my Mom, Suzanne Milford for making the bread for us at Heather's on Saturday night. Everyone enjoyed it and wondered where they could buy some! It was great Mom, from everyone there we say Thank You!

LADYSMITH

A bad winter for fires

By DEBBIE LANCE THRUN
Correspondent
647-3927

Well, here we are into March already. The winter is sure slipping by. We sure received some beautiful days last week with plenty of cheerful sunshine. The snow was actually melting. Now, I wonder what the lamb or lion has in store for us this month.

We were deeply saddened to hear of the loss by fire of Norval and Mildred Horner's home and possession. Dennis worked with Mildred for many years. It must be very heartbreaking to lose everything you worked for, also things that you just can't replace. But look at it this way you can replace a home, but, you can't replace a person or life.

Special birthday congratulations to Minnie Krose who celebrates March 7. She is a resident at the Pontiac Reception Centre.

On Saturday, Feb. 19 about 30 family, friends and colleagues gathered at Margaret Fieroben for a bridal shower for Maggie Early. She received many beautiful and useful gifts. A lovely lunch was served by Amanda (Early) Cameron of Bryson, Hazel (Fieroben) Martin of Eganville and Margaret. A most enjoyable time was had by all. Plans are being made for a March wedding. Congratulations Maggie.

The wolves are very active. We hear them howling at night. One day people saw a large wolf walking down the street in Ladysmith.

Greg Atkinson, who attends the Royal Military College in Kingston, was home the last week of February for spring break visiting with his parents Monique and Leslie and some friends.

On Saturday, Feb. 26 a family dinner was held at Monique and Leslie Atkinson's for Philip's big 18th birthday. A most delicious dinner was served including birthday cake. He received some lovely gifts. A great social time was much enjoyed by everyone. My, time sure flies. I can remember babysitting Philip when he was just four years old and now he's 18 and is all grown up and in college. It sure makes me feel old. Where do the years go I ask myself? Congratulations Philip on your 18th. Philip attends college in Ottawa but is home for the March break visiting his parents.

We found a deer on the road at our driveway that had apparently tried to jump the fence, hit a steel post and broke its neck. This is unusual because they are usually quite adept at this.

The Wiggins family spent last weekend at their hunt camp "The Hunters' Paradise."

Visiting with us this past week were Angie and Steve Venture of Johnston's Lake.

Get well wishes to aunt Violet Mielkie who is still on the sick list. She is a resident at the Pontiac Reception Centre.

Well, our next special occasion coming up is St. Patrick's Day on March 17 which is not that far away. So now is a good time to think about getting your green outfits ready for the upcoming parties.

It sure has been a bad winter for fires. There was recently a bad fire in Wolf Lake where two houses were destroyed. A fire is terrible at any time, but it always seems worse in the winter especially if you are only left with the clothes on your back.

This year Oktoberfest is going to be extra special. It's the 20th anniversary for this annual event. So, I'm sure there will be a variety of special events being planned. When Oktoberfest first started it was just a one day community event. With each passing year it grew bigger and better. People now come from near and far. It's the one time of year that our little village is extra busy and crowded with people cars and trailers. It's a real fun weekend that everyone looks forward to. I hope to see everyone again this year.

Deepest sympathy goes to the family and friends of Kay Russell who passed away in hospital recently.

We have deer coming to the house looking in the window. They have eaten all our cedar shrubs, but I guess it saves pruning them. I tried to shoo them away but they just stand and look at me.

Visiting with us on Friday were Garnet and Jean Martineau of Shawville.

QUYON

Wonderful weekend for snowmobilers

By JILL McBANE
Correspondent
458-2366

Donations were made to Onslow Elementary School Dr. R. S.E. McDowell School, Shawville and Notre Dame de la Joie School, Luskville for their breakfast club snacks by Pontiac Snowmobiliers Association of $100 per school. Thanks to them more little ones get a breakfast snack at school.

Welcome home to Rita Kehoe who spent ten days in Florida with Helen and Paddy McCann. Lovely weather, good shopping but she's glad to be back with her Pontiac curlers and card players. I'm sure they missed her too.

Thanks to the Municipality of Bristol (Jack Graham) for the $100 donation towards the purchase of Pontiac Snowmobile Drivers Association rescue sled. Other donations were made and I will mention them next week. The Rescue sled is at Ron Johnston's in Norway Bay and is always ready for an emergency.

Poker Run for PSDA was a success even though there was very little snow and some had to do the run by cars. Prizes were as follows: first Randy Pitt, second Tom Last, third Roy Zimmerling and fourth Marcel Bruyere. Many other prizes were given out. Sixty-three people registered for the event.

It was a wonderful weekend for snowmobilers. The weather was perfect and trails were in great shape.

Don and Judy, Wayne and Collette O'Malley and Brian and Karen Smith took advantage of the situation and went to Maniwaki to stay overnight at Auberge du Daveurs. They had a great time. Such a nice place to stay.

Congratulations to Tim O'Malley, son of Wayne and Collette and Kim Gilpin, daughter of Cyril and Brenda Gilpin on their engagement last week.

There are so many deer on the snowmobile trails so drive with care. They are everywhere.

Great to see daylight longer in the evenings now. Soon the morning will be daylight earlier too. Spring is on its way.

The school March break is on so teachers and children will get a chance to relax and have some fun. Anyone wishes to volunteer to help out with reading and other things at the school, just call the schools. See how rewarding it is to help just and little and see the smiles on these children's faces.

I received word that John and Ann Gravelle had a great winter stay in Almo, Texas and will be home this week. They kept in touch with friends by e-mails.

Onslow School had their annual winter carnival last Friday. Grades one to four went to the Corelle Centre to skate with Sparta Cat and the Kindergarten had their own carnival day at the school. Grades five and six went skiing at Camp Fortune.

Tracey McColgan, Sherri-Lynn Foran and Lynn Kearns have returned home after a week's vacation.

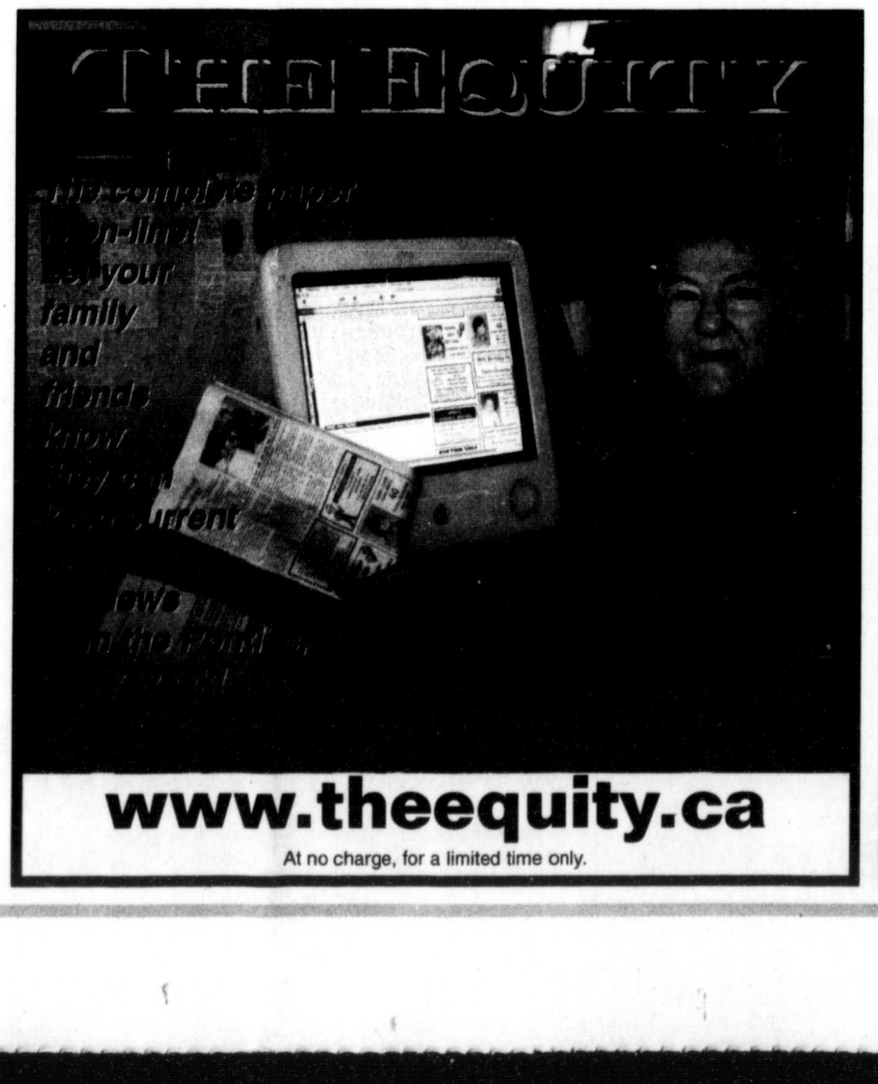
Sympathy goes out to the families of Lois Kearns and Patricia Foran who both passed away Feb. 25 in the Pontiac Community Hospital. Also sympathy to the family of Kay Russell who passed away last week.

Kerri Lynn O'Connell, Tayler Campbell and Glenna Campbell travelled to St. Bruno for the weekend to see Samantha Davis curl in St. Hyacinthe at the Jeu de Quebec. Samantha and her team won four out of four games. The finals will take place on Tuesday.

Get well wishes are sent to Birdie Young who had a little stay in hospital in St. Agathe, Quebec while on a weekend ski trip with Kerry, Sharleen and Bradley. Birdie is now home recovering with her daughter.

Even though the snow has been scarce this winter P.S.D.A. have sold over 500 yearly passes besides the daily and weekly passes. Thanks to you people for riding the trails with a pass. Do it legally. A lot of work goes into these trails and machinery is not cheap.

Hey Ron. Can't wait to go shopping with you for clothes for the play. You will have to let us know what you're shopping for.



WALTHAM

Have a safe and fun filled March break

By HELEN PERRY
Correspondent
689-2652

It is with great sadness that I tell you of the loss of Larry and Roger's mother, Gertrude Perry. She passed away peacefully last Tuesday, Feb. 22 at Miramichi Lodge, Pembroke. Gertrude was a woman of great faith and a devoted mother to her sons Roger and Larry, daughter-in-laws, Gail and myself, her eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. She loved children and always had a special treat for them. Gertrude and her husband, Miley, will be remembered by their many nieces and nephews as welcoming and playful. Many stories will be told and retold about the games and good times that took place at uncle Miley and aunt Gertie's. During her younger years she devoted many hours to her church and worked very hard at the church picnics and other fundraisers. Gertrude was a woman of many talents. She loved to sew, knit and quilt. Grand-ma made each grandchild a quilt and presented it to them as they were married. Grandma was also an amazing cook and loved to bake. She was well known for her breads and jam-jam cookies! She will be missed by her card and knitting friends as they would gather weekly for parties. We will miss her so much and are comforted knowing that she is with her beloved Miley.

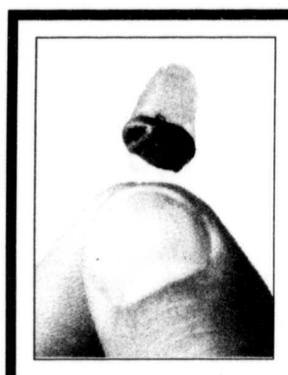
I am also deeply saddened to share the passing of another resident this past week, Armand Morin. He passed away Friday, Feb. 25 at the Pontiac Community Hospital. Armand was a faith-filled man and a member of the Waltham Church Choir. He was a very distinguished man, loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Armand's family would meet each Saturday morning at his home for his special crepes. Our heartfelt sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this sad time. He will be deeply missed in our community.

A very happy birthday is wished to John Murdock, who celebrated his birthday Feb. 28. However, John was a leap year baby! We wonder how old you really are John?

There was a children and teen dance at the Waltham Hall on Friday evening organized by the Youth Committee. The kids really enjoyed themselves. The Youth Committee has also organized several activities for the March break.

Our grandson Jacob is visiting his nana and poppa Gale in New Smyrna, Florida with his dad, Mark, for the past two weeks. He calls home daily as mommy and Isabella are quite lonely. He was happy to report of the fun beach days he and poppa have been enjoying. They are along the ocean and go for their daily walk and swim. They took in many attractions. The highlight for Jacob was being able to pet and kiss the dolphins at Sea World. Jacob and Mark were also able to visit Mark's sister, Jennifer at her home in Sanford, North Carolina. Uncle Roger organized a day pass tour at his work at the Fort Bragg Base. Roger is a helicopter pilot for the U.S. military and has recently returned from Columbia.

I wish all the children and teachers a safe and fun filled March break!



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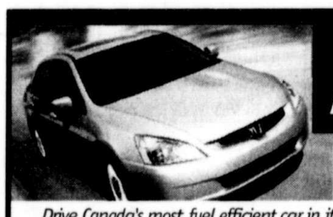

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