

THE EQUITY

Hockey day in Pontiac!



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY

Hockey stars aligned this past week in the Pontiac with alumni games in both Shawville and Fort Coulonge. Saturday afternoon the Fort Coulonge Arena was packed as the Montreal Canadiens Alumni team took on a group of players from the region. From left: Lionel Paré, Fort Coulonge Mayor Gaston Allard, Pavlina Zhivkov, Mansfield et Pontefract Mayor Gilles Dionne and Former Canadiens star Guy Carbonneau. In Shawville, the puck for the ceremonial faceoff was dropped by the two founders of the Flying Elbows tournament for the Saturday evening game between the Ottawa Senators Alumni and the Elbows hockey club. From left: Will Armitage, Matt Sally, Chris Last and Rob Murphy.

The (former) pros play in the Pontiac

CHRIS LOWREY
PONTIAC March 30, 2019

The arenas in the Pontiac were full to the rafters on Saturday as the alumni teams for two different organizations took on a collection of local players.

What could be affectionately called Hockey Day in the Pontiac got started in the afternoon at the Fort Coulonge Arena as the Montreal Canadiens Alumni team took on a selection of over-35 players from the area.

The lineup to get in was out the door as the vintage 1976 Zamboni got the ice surface ready.

The event was organized by the Fort Coulonge Carnival

Committee with the assistance of the Fort Coulonge Arena committee. The proceeds from the game will go to the arena.

The speed and skill of the Canadiens Alumni team was on full display as they jumped out to an early 4-0 lead. The Fort Coulonge team was able to chip away, but the onslaught continued.

During the first intermission, a novice Fort Coulonge team took to the ice and played an impromptu game of shinny with the stars of yesteryear.

As the game went on, former Canadiens player Jocelyn Lemieux snatched a couple of the youngsters off the ice as

they skated by and pulled them onto the Habs bench.

While the game was friendly between the two sides, Lemieux admitted that some opponents can take the chance to play against former NHLers pretty seriously. When that's the case, the players stamp it out pretty quickly.

"We have to... lay down the law," he said with a smile.

The Canadiens Alumni team was made up of Gilles Thibodeau, Pierre Dagenais, Stephane Richer, Gilbert Delorme, Richard Sevigny, Frederic St. Denis, Stephane Quintal, Guy Carbonneau, Oleg Petrov, Jocelyn Lemieux and Marc Andre Bergeron.

While it's unclear if the scoreboard went high enough to record the final score, a good time was had by all.

Just up Hwy. 148 former members of the Ottawa Senators were lacing up their skates to take on an admittedly younger team, the Shawville Flying Elbows.

After a quick introduction and warm up, the two teams kicked off a fast-paced game that saw the locals keep pace with the former pros.

However, by the midway point of the game the Sens Alumni had pulled ahead and came away with the win.

Please see **PLAY** on page eight

Residents warned about waste disposal issues

J.D. POTIÉ
PONTIAC April 3, 2019

The municipalities of Campbell's Bay and Allumettes Island are calling on residents to be more mindful of their waste disposal habits, after reporting issues regarding blockages to their respective sewage waste systems in the last couple months.

After reports of blockages in three separate parts of the municipality's waste system, since January, Campbell's Bay Mayor Maurice Beauregard said it was about time to notify the community to be careful about what they flush.

Last week, the municipality took to Facebook to convey that message to reach as many residents as quickly as possible, in hope that they would listen.

However, the root of the issue is not a matter of ignorance rather than a matter of education,

Beauregard said.

"I don't believe that any of this is done maliciously," said Beauregard. "Just people not understanding what they can flush and what they can't. So we're trying to educate people on what they can do."

Most of the waste responsible for the blockages consists of grease and other materials such as rags and cloths, according to Beauregard. But at least things didn't get out of hand.

"It was a fairly big piece of cloth," said Beauregard. "Stuff like that has been causing our problems. We were lucky that we had no major

consequences in peoples yards. It was caught right away. So, we're lucky for that. Our guys are very vigilant."

For Allumettes Island, the problem wasn't as severe, but still prompted the municipality to call on residents to be more proactive.

According to a press release issued in February, the municipality of Allumettes Island found a large amount of non-compostable objects that should not be found in the sewage system.

Among those included wet wipes and paper towel, which clogs the

pumps, thus increasing maintenance costs that spikes the cost of living as a whole.

According to Mayor Winston Sunstrum, the problem was only a minor one and has been resolved by staff people at the sewage system's filtration site.

However, he wanted to notify residents not to flush anything down the toilet that is a wipe, a cloth or any kind of product that doesn't disintegrate in the pipes.

"There are some sorts of wipes or cloths that are being flushed down the toilets and they're getting caught up in a scrubber at the filtration site," said Sunstrum. "It's a minor problem that occurs occasionally. There's no blockage."

In the press release, the municipality also noted that if one isn't sure about where to dispose of something, it's best to put it in the garbage.

Thursday morning booze cruise

CALEB NICKERSON
VINTON March 28, 2019

A man is facing several charges after an early morning crash in Vinton on March 28.

Just before 8 a.m. on Thursday, Sûreté du Québec officers received a call about a vehicle being driven erratically on Hwy. 148 in Litchfield. Another call at 8:10 a.m. alerted officers that the vehicle had lost control and crashed in the ditch.

A 31-year-old man was arrested at the scene and taken to hospital with minor injuries. His blood alcohol level was more than twice the legal limit.

He had his license suspended for 90 days and was released with a promise to appear at the Campbell's Bay courthouse at a later date, where he could be charged with dangerous driving in addition to impaired driving charges.

Traffic was reduced to one lane for the morning while police conducted an investigation.

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PHS Students and WQSB produce bus safety video



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY
Students assist one another out the back door of the bus on its side, while filming the video.

J.D. POTIÉ
SHAWVILLE March 29, 2019

On March 29, a group of students from Pontiac High School's (PHS) media class, joined representatives of the Western Quebec School Board (WQSB) at Autobus La Salle in Shawville for the shooting of a tutorial video regarding school bus safety.

In the parking lot of Autobus La Salle, students watched eagerly as a tow truck flipped a school bus onto its side, recreating the aftermath of a crash for the filming of the video.

As PHS's media teacher, Jordan Kent manned the camera, student-actors were instructed to grimace, mimicking painful agony as they maneuvered their way out the back door of the decanted bus.

For Deborah-Lynn Beauchamp, in charge of bus safety training in WQSB schools, the filming of the video was organized as a way for the WQSB to more efficiently deliver her tutorials to schools across the board.

According to Beauchamp, the video will be divided into

small sections, enabling viewers to choose specifically what part of bus safety they want to learn about.

"It'll be built in chunks," said Beauchamp. "So, if they want to show them proper evacuation, they're going to show them the evacuation portion. If they want to show how to properly sit and behave in the bus that'll be a separate portion. It'll be a more interactive method of teaching kids bus safety."

Properly teaching bus safety to students is necessary, according to Beauchamp, as in the case of a severe accident students need to have the knowledge required to act proactively instead of reacting to the situation.

"In the circumstance of an emergency they should have in the back of their minds what they have to do," said Beauchamp. "By doing it this way, it comes back when it's required. If they don't have a clue how to do it, then it's always an issue."

After discussing with members of the board for the

past couple of years, Manon Dusablon, administrative services director with the WQSB, said it was about time the school board made its own video featuring its own students.

"It'll be nice to do our own video," said Dusablon. "With our own students and our own bus to produce and show to the elementary kids so they can relate that it's in a Quebec School bus and it's our students."

The purpose behind the

video will be to emphasize safety inside of school buses and how to properly evacuate one in the case of an accident and the initiative is part of a school project that PHS media students are currently working on, Dusablon said.

According to Dusablon, the WQSB's new bus safety campaign will be held in February, when the video will be shown to all elementary schools in the WQSB in 2020.



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On March 29, PHS media students and the WQSB filmed a bus safety tutorial video at the Autobus La Salle in Shawville. Pictured, students socialize while seated in the bus prior to shooting.

Fortin, Western Quebec School Board denounce Bill 21

CALEB NICKERSON
QUEBEC March 28, 2019

The Western Quebec School Board (WQSB) and Pontiac's MNA André Fortin have denounced the Coalition Avenir Quebec (CAQ)'s bill to ban public servants from donning religious garments in the course of their duties, which was tabled in the provincial legislature on

March 28.

Bill 21, "An Act respecting the laicity of the State," was put forth by CAQ Immigration minister Simon Jolin-Barrette on Thursday as part of his party's election promise to enforce the "secularism" of the state. The proposed law would ban public employees with "coercive powers," such as teachers, judges

and police officers, from wearing any religious symbols, from hijabs and turbans to crucifix necklaces.

School boards across the province have voiced their opposition to the bill and the WQSB issued a press release echoing the same on March 29.

"I believe our cultural and religious diversity is a strength in our schools and

centres," said WQSB Director General Mike Dubeau in the press release. "It is our mission as educators to model acceptance and respect of others in order to build collaborative learning communities."

When asked for comment by THE EQUITY on March 31, Pontiac MNA André Fortin said his party will oppose the bill.

"It goes against our core values of our political party and really it goes against the charter of rights and freedoms," he said. "The government has taken the extra step to use the notwithstanding clause because they know their bill goes against individual freedoms, individual liberties and freedom of religion."

"My daughter's school in

Aylmer has a teacher that wears a religious symbol but I don't care what's on her head, I care what's inside her head, I care about the ideas she has and whether my daughter thinks she's a great teacher," he continued. "As a province, I think we can do better than the legislation that was brought forward."

Local Liberals laud Amos nomination

CALEB NICKERSON
CHAPEAU March 31, 2019

L'Ancienne Banque Restaurant in Chapeau was awash with red on Sunday morning as Liberal party supporters came out to support their local candidate and Pontiac's current MP, Will Amos.

The fundraiser event was filled with a wide selection of municipal politicians, local

residents as well as Pontiac MNA André Fortin.

Allumette Island Mayor Winston Sunstrum served as MC for the event, and shared the stage with several local officials, all of whom praised Amos' accomplishments over the course of his first term.

Pontiac Warden Jane Toller emphasized Amos' focus on rural internet and cell phone infrastructure,

which the region is sorely lacking.

Fortin provided the introduction for Amos, citing their strong working relationship over the previous years, as well as Amos' commitment to his constituents, before the MP gave a lengthy speech.

"You know, the Liberal movement that swept across Canada in 2015, it wasn't about Will Amos, that's for sure, and it was not about the leader of our party, it was not about the party itself, it was actually about Canadians that were demanding a different kind of government," Amos began. "I'm excited that we've got a movement that's still alive, and it's a movement that's built on a wave of hope, hope that we can build a better future, a more prosperous, more inclusive Canada."

He pointed to specific investments in infrastruc-

ture and skills development in the region, as well as beefed-up benefits for families and seniors.

He recalled a listening tour with the newly appointed Minister for Seniors, Filomena Tassi, noting that Sunstrum's contributions to that discussion were vital.

"Winston, your comments at that second meeting, they weren't ignored," he said. "They got built right into the National Senior's Strategy. This stuff is important."

He also took a swipe at several high-profile Conservative politicians and their vocal opposition to the federal carbon tax.

"Doug Ford, Jason Kenney and Andrew Scheer, they may believe that pollution ought to be free, that people should be able to emit as they wish," he said. "Well, as far as I'm concerned, that's just dismissing the science. It's cheap politics and we

need to get serious about carbon pricing."

He concluded by acknowledging how important it is for politicians to listen to their constituents during a time when many feel anxious about worldwide economic and political uncertainty.

"Despite the successes that our country has had, economically and in terms of social policy across the board, I think we all can appreciate that there are people that feel concerned," he said. "There is anxiety. There is a sense of uncertainty about the future. People of the Pontiac, I think, feel that in a very real way, in part because the socio-economic status of our riding is more challenged than other places ... These concerns are real and I think it's important for any government to acknowledge those and not ignore them."



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Pontiac MP Will Amos hosted a fundraiser at L'Ancienne Banque Restaurant in Chapeau on March 31.

Tourism Association annual general meeting

J.D. POTIÉ
BRISTOL March 27, 2019

On March 27, around 30 Pontiac business people and residents assembled at Pine Lodge hotel in Bristol for the Pontiac Tourism Association's (ATP) annual general meeting.

During the presentation, Chantal Lair, Tourism Marketing Officer at the ATP, announced the launch of the new Tourism Promotional Map and noted that the ATP will no longer be assigning memberships to Pontiac businesses, as they'll take everyone into account

instead.

"Everybody's going to be on the map," said Lair. "Before everybody was on the map as well. It's just that members of the tourism association were kind of highlighted. So now, everybody's going to have the same listing. It's going to be equal for everybody."

Lair said the official map should be ready in the coming weeks and that there's an ongoing list of specifically who will be displayed on the map, which is available on the ATP website.

The ATP also held elections for the remaining seats to its board of directors. Re-elected were Denis Lebrun, Robin Judd, Vince Accardi, Dennis Blaedow, David Gillespie, Jessica Forgues and Adam Thompson, while the newly elected director was Byron Sheppard from Otter Lake.

The ninth seat remains open for the taking.

Robin Judd, president of the ATP, outlined the association's 2018 financial statements as well as a list of nine activities accomplished by the association in the last year, which included a partnership agreement signed with the MRC Pontiac to help facilitate tourism development in the region.

The objective of the partnership proposal between the MRC Pontiac and the ATP is to combine forces in

the goal of creating consistent high quality tourism promotions for Pontiac businesses.

"It's just four of our directors and three mayors with the MRC along with Chantal Lair," said Judd. "We're trying to team up and bounce ideas off each other to hopefully get things done more productively for tourism in the region."

It outlines that they will hold four meetings per year, that the ATP will join the MRC advisory committee and that the committee will be assembled with an equal number of seats for both parties.

According to the proposal, the MRC is still fully accountable for human resource management as well as budget and project planning, whereas the ATP will be in charge of tourism events and activities.

Members of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS), were also invited to speak about an upcoming wildlife conservation project aiming to help tourism in the Pontiac with its appealing landscapes and recreational activity services.

The goal for CPAWS is to turn the three sisters (Coulonge, Dumoine and Black) rivers and the surrounding forests into a national park, thus eliminating any opportunity for industrial development in

the area.

One resident in attendance alerted the speakers that the initiative may negatively affect certain outfitters that are located in that part of the region. However, Judd believes it won't be a serious issue.

"Most of these changes are only affecting areas close to the watershed," said Judd. "So, I think the only ones who are going to be affected by this in a negative way will be those doing activities in the water."

For the event, the association invited special guest David Bird, founder and owner of Bird's Eye Marketing to teach attendees about the importance of Google Analytics for their businesses and how to use it to their benefit.

A software used to track internet traffic on specific websites, Google Analytics is a tool used by all types of businesses to find out information like what people are doing on their websites, how long they stay on them, how many pages they look at and how profitable they are.

"You build a website to make money," said Bird. "You want to know if it's helping you make money. This is how you find out, by following where they came from, to clicking certain buttons, to getting to the pages for what you want them to do."

During the power-point presentation, attendees listened and asked questions as Bird explained the basic fundamentals of Google Analytics and how to put them to work to bolster tourism revenue.

Bird urged attendees that the software is only useful when used properly and that when it isn't, it's only good for one thing: a ton of interesting but useless information.

When starting out with the software, Bird recommends people set about three goals, and to check-in on their progress every week or two. Users can set a maximum of 20 goals, but Bird reminded them that it could be overwhelming to start things off with so many to keep track of.

"You want to go in looking for something specific," said Bird. "Not just looking at it like 'oh that's interesting'. I call it interesting but useless info. To make it useful you need to tie it to a goal."

Applicable to any business with a functioning website, Google Analytics is a vital tool for rural enterprises. It provides opportunities for more exposure and also indicates where customers are coming from, such as whether they're from outside or within the community, what kind of ad led them to it and what they're buying.

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J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY
The Pontiac Tourism Association invited David Bird to speak to audience members about Google Analytics, at the annual general meeting. Pictured, Bird addressing the crowd during his presentation.

Senators, Elbows and Chainsaws from Hell: Shawville hockey tournament celebrates 20th anniversary



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY
Two forwards with the Chainsaws from Hell celebrate the first goal of the alumni game against the Flying Elbows on Thursday night.



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY
A forward for the Flying Elbows alumni fires a shot through traffic, during the second period.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY
Jordan MacDougall evades a Hursty's defender to score an empty netter for Atko's Army in the A division finals on Sunday afternoon.



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY
The Flying Elbows goaltender scoops the puck with his glove after a whistle during the alumni game against the Chainsaws from Hell on March 28.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY
Atko's Army defended their title in the A division of the Flying Elbows tournament in Shawville on Sunday afternoon, fending off long-time rivals Hursty's with a score of 3-1.

**J.D. POTIÉ
SHAWVILLE**
March 28-31 , 2019

On March 28, around 60 Pontiac residents took the stands at the Shawville Arena for an on-ice battle between the Flying Elbows and the Chainsaws from Hell alumni squads.

As the players took to the ice for pre-game warm-ups, some were visibly trying to kick off some rust while others looked like they hadn't missed a beat, skating fast like the wind, despite some not having played a game in many years.

With the 20th annual Flying Elbows hockey tournament, taking place over the weekend, it was fit to see former players get back on the ice after many years away from the game, according to Will Armitage, the event's main organizer.

"It was great to see a bunch of them come back out," said Armitage. "Some of those guys probably haven't been on skates for quite a few years and to see them all come back out was awesome."

The game started off well for the Chainsaws as they potted the first goal of the game just over two minutes in and added another one less than ten minutes later.

The Elbows responded with one of their own with under-five minutes left in the first period, but the Chainsaws got one right back with under three minutes left, making it 3-1 going into the second frame.

The second period was all Chainsaws from Hell as they scored three unanswered goals, eventually making it a 5-2 game with one period to play.

During the second intermission, perhaps to soften the blow of their three-goal deficit, the Flying Elbows players invited the refs to their bench for a couple shots of rum before dropping the puck.

The third period was a mere image of the second, as the Chainsaws scored another three straight goals, eventually cruising to an 8-2 win over their long-time rivals.

For Conor Pearson, captain of the Flying Elbows alumni, the game was certainly exhausting as he credited the opposing team's speed and youth for what materialized on the scoreboard.

"It was tiring," said Pearson. "They came out a little younger and a little faster than us. But, that's the way it goes sometimes."

Despite the blowout loss, Pearson stated that the best part of the it was reuniting with good old friends and teammates.

"It was fun to go out there and play with some old friends I haven't played with in a long time," he said.

Now after 20 years of existence, Armitage spoke about the tournament's growth since its very first iteration, noting that it's come very far from where it once started.

"It started out as eight teams and it's grown to 24," said Armitage. "We've had people come from Calgary through to Shawville, from

all over the place. We've had guys come flying in for the tournament, so it's a great thing to have everybody come around and just enjoy the weekend in general."

On Saturday, the tournament featured a game between the Ottawa Senators Alumni team and the Shawville Flying Elbows (see page eight for full story).

At the end of the tournament, the A division champs were Atko's Army continuing their reign as top dogs in the tournament. The B Division winners were the YA Kings, while the Brew Crew won the C Division.

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DEADLINE MONDAY NOON

Editorial

A solution in need of a problem

It would appear that Quebec’s government of the day is continuing its quest to solve problems that don’t exist.

On Thursday, Coalition Avenir Quebec (CAQ) Immigration Minister Simon Jolin-Barrette tabled Bill 21, “An Act respecting the laicity of the State,” which would ban certain public servants with “coercive powers” from wearing religious symbols.

Among those affected would be judges, police officers, prison guards and teachers. Once passed, the law would bar them from donning anything from kippahs to hijabs or even rosary necklaces that aren’t tucked in. This law would only apply to new applicants, as current employees would be grandfathered in.

In a pre-recorded video released on Sunday night, Premier Legault defended the bill – *seulement en français* – as a moderate approach to the secularization of the state.

Several previous attempts at similar legislation, put forth by everyone from the Parti Quebecois to the Couillard Liberals, were far less even-handed. In addition to being lambasted by the courts as blatant violations of religious freedom, past secularism laws conspicuously ignored the large golden crucifix that hangs above the provincial legislature.

The CAQ have pulled a complete u-turn from their campaign messaging on that particular logical inconsistency. Once Bill 21 is adopted, the cross will be moved to a different part of the building, but even that concession wasn’t made without much wailing and beating of breasts.

Though the CAQ campaigned, and won a resounding majority, on this particular issue, it is a solution in need of a problem. No complaints have been made about turban-clad teachers imposing their religious views on pupils. It’s actually unclear how many public servants this law would affect, though teachers will be the largest contingent by far.

Quebecers could be forgiven for thinking this bill is truly about separation of church and state if it appeared in a vacuum. But in combination with several other moves by the government - from cutting immigration by 20 per cent (in the midst of a provincial labour shortage), to suggesting a “Quebec values test” for newcomers – the motivation is clear.

This is about using state power to discriminate against minorities.

The trigger-happy usage of the notwithstanding clause, which pre-empts constitutional challenges to the bill, indicates that the CAQ know they are on shaky ground legally and couldn’t care less. In fact, Legault thumbing his nose at the feds is likely one of the reasons this bill is so popular with his French nationalist base.

Unlike previous attempts at enforcing laicity, this bill will likely become the law of the land in the near future. Quebecers can rest easy knowing that our elected officials are busy eliminating the threat of scarves and skull caps while the province’s productivity and labour force continue to stagnate.

Caleb Nickerson

The Parents’ Voice

By Shelley Heaphy

Easter

As I look outside at this mix of snow and freezing rain, I can’t help but hope that by Easter this cold, white snow will be replaced by goey mud and some grass. I absolutely love Easter and the family weekend it brings with it. Nice weather is just a hopeful added bonus.

I have loads of Easter craft ideas and activities to do with the children to share. Whether indoors or outdoors I’m certain you will find the perfect way to fill the weekend with your children.

1. Easter Egg hunts and play Easter Bunny — Easter eggs are super inexpensive and can be used for hundreds of different games. Have an egg hunt either indoors or outdoors if weather permits. I’ve found that the excitement of finding the eggs is enough for my children to continue playing this game over and over. They love taking turns being the Easter Bunny.
2. Make an Easter wreath — Get a wire or faux wreath. Using a glue gun, glue plastic easter eggs all over, include two soft bunnies on the bottom looking at each other. You could add felt letters that say Easter. Hang it on the door or gift it.
3. Make Easter nests as a dessert for Easter dinner — This is my favourite Easter recipe it is so cute, simple and festive. The children will absolutely love pushing the mini eggs into their nests.
Ingredients: 225g/8 oz plain chocolate, broken into pieces; 2 tbsp golden syrup, 50g butter, 1/2 cup corn-flakes, 36 chocolate mini eggs.
Directions: Line a 12 muffin tin with paper linings. Melt the chocolate, golden syrup and butter in a bowl set over a pan of gently simmering water, (do not let the base of the bowl touch the water). Stir the mixture until smooth. Remove the bowl from the heat and gently stir in the corn-flakes until all of the cereal is coated in the chocolate. Divide the mixture between the paper linings and press three chocolate eggs into the centre of each nest. Chill in the fridge for one hour, or until completely set.
4. Make Easter cards — Make cards for family members you may be visiting during the holiday. Use materials you have on hand: stickers, paint, crayons, papers. You can add little chicks to their cards by stamping their finger in paint or ink pads, adding eyes and a mouth, and writing peep, peep beside them!

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE

Dave Moore, THE EQUITY

About eight inches on top

Have we been duped again? by Chris Judd

Outstanding in his field

Early, during World War II, anyone known to be of Jewish descent in Germany was segregated and marked by their own people. Soon, these Jewish people (men women, elderly and young) were rounded up and hauled away in train cars commonly used for transporting cattle. It was suspected that they were taken to concentration camps.

The women, children and elderly were separated from the strong young men and never seen again. Their value was only their belongings and the gold in their teeth. If they were musical, maybe they could entertain the elite army personnel.

The strong young men faced hard, forced labour and received very little rations. With train loads arriving every day, even those who were young and strong were replaceable. Later on, it was suspected that most Jewish people who rode on those cattle trains lived a very short life.

It was later discovered that gas chambers were the preferred method of exterminating people held in those concentration camps. I still wonder if those employees of the chemical company that produced that deadly gas knew what they were producing.

When I started to farm in the late 1960s, the best two weed killers farmers had access to were 24D and MCPA. These two were from the same family as 245T which was commonly known as brush killer and used to kill brush and weeds in ditches along railroads and roadways.

245T was also known as Agent Orange and used as a defoliant in wartime. 24D was used to kill broad leaf weeds in corn fields and MCPA was used to kill broad leaf weeds in grain fields because it was less harsh on grain and new seedlings of clovers and alfalfa growing that had been planted with the grain crop.

Later on, 24DB and MCPB were developed. Because they were a butyric version of 24D and MCPA, they were less

stressful to the crop.

The first super herbicide introduced was named Atrazine. Although Atrazine was invented in 1958, it was not widely used until the early 1970s. When it was first introduced, it killed all broad leaf weeds, perennial grass, like couch grass and many annual grasses. Within a few years of use Atrazine resistant weeds began to be a problem in farm fields.

By 2010, it was discovered that exposure to Atrazine at levels 30 times less concentration than allowed by law, caused male frogs to turn into females and 75 per cent were totally sterile. Atrazine was the most used herbicide at the time and traces of it were found in ground water and eventually in lakes. Very soon after the use of Atrazine was very restricted and in some cases banned completely. Several annual grass herbicides were also introduced in the 1980s but some were taken off the market only a few years later because they were found to cause cancer.

Enter the glyphosate era. Glyphosate was invented by Stauffer Chemical in 1961 as a descaling agent and chelating agent to clean calcium, magnesium and other heavy metals from boilers and pipes in hot water systems without disassembling the system. By 1970, it was noticed that wherever the old boiler water containing this glyphosate was dumped, all the grass and other vegetation died.

By 1974, the Monsanto company had purchased the patent rights to glyphosate and began marketing it as Roundup. Farmers first began using Roundup to kill off all vegetation before plowing up a field. Roundup was soon announced to be the best weed killer to arrive in decades.

Before long, many chemical or pharmaceutical companies that also owned seed companies began to develop genetically modified (GMO) seeds and crops that were resistant to glyphosate. These new GMO crops were instantly adopted by farmers because they could be sprayed with one application of inexpensive Roundup instead of several sprays with other more expensive chemical

sprays.

Both the GMOs and Roundup were approved and deemed safe by both the FDA in the US and by Agriculture Canada.

Farmers gladly paid a premium price for this new GMO seed and didn’t even think twice about signing the form before purchasing the seed by which the farmer promised to only use the resulting crop or grain for animal feed or for sale to an elevator. This meant that the farmer could not keep seeds from the GMO crop for replanting, or do any trials of testing with the GMO crop. This permission granted to the owner of the patented GMO seed or glyphosate itself prevents anyone, any university or even government scientists from doing any trials or tests on the GMOs or glyphosate for performance, health or any other reason without direct involvement or permission from the patent holder. This could explain why after more than 40 years, I have never read a peer-reviewed study about either the health safety or performance of GMOs compared to non-GMO seeds or crops.

Recently, results from two trials by jury have resulted in Monsanto being told to pay multi-million dollar compensation to cancer victims because of prolonged use of Roundup without adequate warning labels on the package, or disclosure of information about dangers associated with Roundup. There are also 9,000 more similar cases waiting to be heard.

Many countries in Asia, Europe and even Russia have restrictions or even bans on GMOs. In North America studies show that 90 per cent of consumers want labeling on packages to state whether the products inside contain GMO material or not. So far there is no such label unless it is placed voluntarily by the seller.

Farmers have an advantage here because they know which crops or products are likely to contain GMOs or have been sprayed with Roundup. It is a challenge to keep these thousands of foods in your head but when it affects your health, your memory becomes sharper.

Chris Judd is a farmer in Clarendon on land that has been in his family for generations. gladcrest@gmail.com

Letters

A really bad idea

Dear Editor,

Every decade or so, someone comes up with the bright idea that what Pontiac needs is a big garbage dump. Twice before, we’ve fended off plans; first in Bristol, then near Danford Lake and now, there’s a scheme for the Pontiac Industrial Park in Litchfield. Stop it now, because you’ll regret it later.

I’m less than delighted with the present system of waste management but the infrastructure already in place is well-controlled and has capacity for the predictable future. I hope that the surrounding population in Lachute has been compensated for the inconveniences such a site will inevitably cause but I just don’t know. The costs of collecting and trucking waste from here to there is an incentive to reduce the amount of waste we produce.

To start a new landfill where no such facility exists is to court a slow growing disaster. Waste management is a process that can be done very badly, as in the case of the Pontiac Sorting Centre’s having already stockpiled a huge mound of construction waste without proper containment or plans to deal with that waste. They laughed off a \$40,000 fine as being inconsequential. Why would they be deemed good stewards, entrusted with the complex responsibilities of safely treating garbage?

The site is near the Ottawa River. That presents its own set of problems when poisonous materials leach into the stream. That’s where the ‘containment’ issue comes into play. To underline a large area, making it leakproof against the random chemical mixtures that drain to the bottom of a landfill, is a monumental feat of engineering. When does that begin, and who will oversee it?

We must assume that Hwy. 148 is intended to become a garbage corridor, for Montreal, Gatineau and other cities to send their trash. You can be sure, it’s not only Pontiac’s waste that will be deposited there.

So, people of Pontiac, please say no to a new dump. Let’s begin to reduce our production of waste. Let’s phase out the notion of buying plastic stuff we use one time, then toss. Let’s sort organic waste and recyclable materials from the ever-decreasing amount of stuff we buy, only to throw away.

Robert Wills, Shawville and Thorne, Que.

Apr. 6, 1994 25 Years Ago

Flood could leave Upper Pontiac cut off: The shrine of Our Lady of the White Water is in danger of being washed away in a deluge. In the process, between 800 and 2,000 people could be cut off, unable to leave their neighbourhoods except by boat.

The problem for the communities of Sheenboro, Chichester and Fort William has been created by beavers.

Waltham Mayor Paul Ryan, who lives alongside Whitewater Creek says that there are 11 large beaver dams within four miles upstream from where the creek goes under old Highway 8 between Waltham and Chapeau. Adding the height of these dams, he has calculated that there is a total of 63 feet of water backed up. If the dams were to let go during spring runoff, the resulting flood would be more than enough to wash out the paved highway.

THE WAY WE WERE

Compiled by Bonnie Chevrier

Shawville phones connected to network of light: Conversations will soon be travelling across Pontiac at astonishing speed, carried by light.

As part of an ongoing upgrade of its telephone lines, Telebec is now installing fibre-optic cables along Highway 148 from Quyon to Campbell’s Bay. They will also be installed on Highway 301, from 148 down to Portage-du-Fort and from the 148 down to Sand Bay.

The improved lines will be put into use in September at the same time as the new digital switching equipment now being installed at the company’s Shawville switching station.

Local dialing to Shawville will also come into effect at that time. Party lines are also being phased out and replaced with private lines.

**Apr. 9, 1969
50 Years Ago**

Canadian government knows more about your farm than you do: Laurie Philpotts could probably tell you some things about your farm that even you don’t know. Another surprise? He can do it with-

out leaving the comfort of his Ottawa office, not by pursuing a pile of statistics but by carefully studying aerial photographs of your farm.

He has photographs of sorts of most farming areas in Canada at his disposal in many cases, he has several photographs of your farm taken over a long period of time.

If you visit Mr. Philpott’s office, he could drag out several aerial photographs of farm areas and amaze you with his interpretive ability. For instance, he might tell you that this farmer is switching from dairy cattle to cash crop production. How does he know? Well, there’s no path left to the milk house, no tracks indicating a bulk milk truck route, weeds are growing into the farm yard where the cows used to exercise, the barn ramp isn’t being used as much as it once was and fields of hay have been replaced by cash crops.

Building experts will be here on April 14: A number of professors from the Agricultural Engineering Dept. of MacDonald College who are specialists on farm structures, will be here in Shawville on Sunday afternoon from 1 to 4 p.m. and in the evening from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. They will be giving advice and answering questions on all types of building problems which confront farmers in this area.

Their presence here will be of special interest to the many area farmers who plan to build new dairy cattle housing units this season.

Ad: With the purchase of a Hoover Washer Spin-Dryer at our store, you receive a ticket and become eligible to win a Westinghouse 12” portable television set. The Hoover Washer Spin-Dryer is the fastest selling washer on the market, portable, has suds saver, washes the average family wash in less than 30 minutes. Don’t put it off, come to Dale’s Furniture and Appliances on King Street in Shawville and buy a Hoover washer now and you could be the lucky winner of a beautiful portable 12” TV set to be drawn in our store.

**Apr. 6, 1944
75 Years Ago**

Local news: Talking pictures at Shawville Theatre on Friday night, featuring Cary Grant and Jean Arthur in “The Talk of the Town.”

Clarendon Red Cross Unit No. 5 will hold a sale of home cooking in Claude Elliott’s store on Saturday.

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE

A life of science

by Caleb Nickerson

Tucked away off of chemin Kawartha in Breckenridge sits the home of Raymond Desjardins and his wife, Anne. If you saw him walking up the street, you could be forgiven for mistaking Desjardins for any other senior citizen on the block, but that presumption would be way off the mark.

Behind the kindly eyes and unassuming tone, is the mind of an internationally recognized academic and one of Canada's foremost research scientists, specializing in the field of micrometeorology and climate change. On March 14, Dr. Desjardins became a Member of the Order of Canada at a ceremony with Governor General Julie Payette, in recognition of his lifetime of research.

"It's the first time I've ever rented a tuxedo," he noted with a laugh. "I wish I bought one when I got married, I could have used the same one."

Desjardins said he was impressed with Payette, herself an accomplished engineer and astronaut, and discovered they even had a mutual colleague, Piers Sellers, who was a member of NASA Group 16.

"We had something in common because one of my good friends was an astronaut and he trained at the same time as our Governor General trained," he said.

At the age of 79, Desjardins is still a working scientist, contributing to our knowledge of greenhouse gas emissions and the carbon footprint of numerous agricultural products. But Desjardins didn't arrive where he is without a few twists and turns along the way.

He grew up in the small Francophone town of Carlsbad Springs, Ont., on a 200 acre farm. His father had only a sixth grade education and one leg but regardless, managed to provide for his family.

"I used to milk 12 cows a day by hand," Desjardins recalled. "Compared to now, it's changed quite a bit, but my father was quite successful. He was probably one of the only farmers around who didn't have to have [a second job]."

The junior Desjardins wasn't without his own challenges either. Though he was a diligent student and got good grades, a government inspector held him back a year before secondary school due to the language barrier.

"I failed grade eight, there were only English high schools and I couldn't speak English," he said.

He couldn't know it at the time, but this setback resulted in Desjardins meeting his wife several years later when they were both attending the University of Ottawa. Raymond was in his fourth year of a bachelor of physics when he met a first year science student named Anne.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Dr. Raymond Desjardins was recently named a Member of the Order of Canada for his lifetime of research on agro-meteorology, air quality and climate change. Above, he shows off his award at his home in Breckenridge. In a submitted photo pictured left, Dr. Desjardins pioneered the regional measurements of crop growth and water loss using the National Research Council Twin Otter aircraft. In the photo, Desjardins and Professor Schuepp from McGill University participate in a large, NASA-funded field experiment over the Konza grasslands in Kansas in 1989.



Photo submitted

"I was giving a lot of talks around to the young kids ... you know, don't get too discouraged if something bad happens to you," he said. "In my case at least, something good happened, we've been married now for almost 54 years."

While completing his undergrad, Desjardins worked for several summers in agro-meteorology for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

"I started at the Experimental Farm in '61 as a student, so I've been at the same place since then," he said. "I lived on a farm so agriculture and meteorology [are]

quite relevant. It's a bit of luck when you pick, but I picked the right one."

He completed a Masters in Meteorology at the University of Toronto in 1965, the same year he got married, and was offered full-time employment back in Ottawa. He had a PhD in mind, but spent two years mulling over which field of study to pursue.

He eventually chose the field of micrometeorology and received his doctorate from Cornell University in 1972. He credits his father-in-law, an accomplished physicist with the National Research Council, as a great mentor

while choosing and completing his PhD.

"To interact with a scientist during my PhD thesis was very helpful," Desjardins said. "He was helping me, proofreading what I was doing. It was not his field, but he was a smart scientist. Having somebody like this was really helpful."

For his thesis, he pioneered a technique for measuring carbon dioxide levels, a technique to measure crop growth. Little did he realize, his techniques would have major applications down the road when climate change went from an obscure topic of academia to a mainstream concept.

"It was developing a technique of measuring the rate of growth of crops," he said. "I modified an instrument to measure carbon dioxide. People have done that for measuring evaporation before but I was the first to use this technique to measure carbon dioxide flux."

"I developed systems that did not exist before. My professor was doing it a completely different way," he continued. "Now, the way that I did it during my thesis is done worldwide, [though] they have better instruments."

He pioneered the use of aircraft to measure carbon dioxide flux over vast swathes of many different ecosystems, from the grasslands of Kansas to the boreal forests of northern Canada. This technique graced the cover of the May 14, 1982 edition of *Science* magazine.

"The aircraft gives us a tool that nobody else has to measure how the ecosystem responds to the environment," he said, noting that regional scale measurements allow for more accurate predictive models.

He has also worked closely with agricultural groups, such as the Dairy Farmers of Canada, the Canadian Pork Council and the Canadian Cattlemen's Association to increase awareness about the impacts of climate change on farming communities. He helped publish a book on the subject, *Better Farming, Better Air - A Scientific Analysis of Farming Practice and Greenhouse Gases in Canada*, which came out in 2008.

"At the same time we built a greenhouse gas calculator that's still in use," he said. "Any farmer can use it, it's all on the internet."

More recently, Desjardins has turned his attention to calculating the carbon footprints of various agricultural products.

"At the end of the month we'll have a paper on greenhouse gas emissions compared to the food guide," he said. "If you're going to calculate the carbon footprint of an agricultural product, you must count [everything] up to the farm gate, up to the processing plant."

He noted that Canadian farms are among the most efficient in the world in terms of emissions per litre of milk or kilogram of beef produced.

In addition to his membership in the Order of Canada, Desjardins is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and was the co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007 for his work with the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

He continues to work with and mentor scientists from across the globe, but he reserved his highest praise for the partner that was with him through it all.

"Having a fantastic wife is probably the most important thing of all because [she's so] supportive," he said.

THE WAY WE WERE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

Hay harvest, from cutting to storing the based product, has become almost an automatic process, with machinery so well doing most of the labour, that women can replace men in haying and baling.

Mowers long have been used to cut hay and leave it in windrows; balers that pick the hay up in the windrows, bale it and dump it in the field have been in use for some time. Now is announced by the agricultural engineering division of the college of Agriculture on the Davis campus of the University of California, a homemade bale loader that will pick the bales up from the ground, carry them up into the truck and dump them there. The loader obviates the necessity of men picking up bales and lifting them into the trucks. In fact, say the agricultural engineers, the work is so light that aside from unloading the bales from the trucks and storing them, women can do all the work in the hay harvest field.

Axis troops pour into Hungary and occupy all strategic points: Out of the welter of confusing and contradictory reports about Hungary, there emerges this one certainty: Hitler has taken over another country. He has converted another ally into a vassal and is rapidly wiping out any distinction between those who hoped to share in his victory and those he has conquered.

The reasons for Hitler's action seems clear enough. The Russian advance across the Dniester into Romania heralds the end of the battle of Russia and the beginning of the battle for the Balkans. Hitler must hold the Balkans because he needs their raw materials and in particular the oil of Romania, without which his war machine would be in danger of breaking down.

Apr. 3, 1919 100 Years Ago

Local news: Mr. Clarendon Ratepayer, are you coming out on Thursday to support the expenditure of \$15,000 on a public memorial hall for the township? It is hoped you will give the matter your careful and favourable consideration and in doing so it is well to remember that the township did not exert itself to make any great sacrifices when appeals were being made for assistance towards the Patriotic and Red Cross funds.

Trains on the Waltham division of the C.P.R. began running one hour in advance of standard time on Monday, in keeping with the rest of the system throughout the country and in order to

conform to the time schedules of the United States railways with which connections are made at many points.

Miss Ryan, a returned missionary from Japan will give an address in the Methodist Church on Friday under the auspices of the local W.M.S.

On Thursday last the House of Commons put down its foot very solidly upon the Daylight saving proposition following a lengthy discussion on a resolution introduced by a British Columbia member, which aimed at bringing the measure into operation again this year. The farmers' representatives who strongly opposed the measure, carried the day by a large majority.

Conditions in Hungary due to Bolshevik propaganda seem likely to give the Allies some trouble. French troops occupying neutral territory between Hungary and Romania have been attacked by Hungarian troops and 350 of the former were taken prisoners. A demand for their release if not acceded to at once will possibly result in an expedition being sent against the Hungarians.

Apr. 12, 1894 125 Years Ago

Local News: The public school at Quyon was closed owing to a case of Diphtheria in the village.

Mr. D. Gillies, M.P.P. was in town on Monday evening on his way up to the Coulonge limits.

The abutments of the new Gatineau bridge near Hull are completed and work is going on at the centre pier.

Rev. Mr. Eason exchanged pulpits on Sunday last with Rev. Mr. Ferguson of Cobden.

The regular term of the Magistrate's Court for this village was held on Friday last, 6th inst. J.T. St. Julien, Esq., District Magistrate presiding.

Laughren versus Hobin: Action for wages. Continued to next term to allow plaintiff to procure witness to prove his case.

Proceedings commenced at one o'clock in the afternoon and the list of cases was got through within about an hour's time.

Mr. Dolan, our new miller, informs THE EQUITY that certain changes which he has made in the machinery at the mill since he has taken possession has made a very perceptible improvement in the flour that is being manufactured.

In the House of Commons Mr. Devlin, M.P. for Ottawa has been enquiring if it is the intention of the government to appoint a judge for the District of Pontiac.

The Parents' Voice

CONTINUED FROM
PAGE FOUR

5. Play bunny, bunny, rabbit — This is a simple variation to duck, duck, goose. Perfect if there are a lot of children to occupy. Great way to burn energy before dinner time.

6. Decorate — In preparation for an Easter celebration, there's a really cheap, simple way to make an Easter garland. Collect some paint sample cards from the local paint shop. Cut them into an egg shape, hole punch holes on both sides of the egg and then string them all together. Super cute and colourful finish.

7. Hold an egg race — Hard boil some eggs, let the kids decorate them with paint, glitter, stickers or whatever else they can think of. Give them all a soup spoon and let them race down a predetermined course. The first one to the finish line without dropping the egg wins.

8. Dye Easter Eggs —Every year we do this and every year we try a new technique. This year we will try the white crayon technique. We only usually have our eggs on display for the weekend so I don't bother hollowing them out, but if you're going to have them on display for a while do that first so they don't go bad. Then use a white wax crayon to draw a design on your egg. It can be swirls, polka dots, a name, stripes, zig zags, basically anything you can draw. Then drop the egg gently into some dye (water and food coloring) after letting it soak for a few minutes take it out and dry it off with a paper towel. Simple. Add them to a basket with some Easter grass and you have an instant centerpiece.

9. Blooming wellies — I've saved my favourite for last, this activity is called "blooming wellies." Gather up some old rubber boots that no longer fit. Let the kids fill them with earth or compost, then plant some flower seeds. Line your walkway with them and let the children take care of them. How cute will these be with little flowers growing from them?

However you choose to spend Easter, enjoy the long weekend with family, friends and neighbours. Hopefully some of these cute activities and crafts will come in handy.

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Info session for caregivers in Coulonge



The Connexions Resource Centre hosted an information session for caregivers on March 27 at the municipal library in Fort Coulonge. Pictured, presenter Arnaud de la Salle holds two pamphlets that were handed out at the start of the session.

J.D. POTIÉ
FORT COULONGE
March 27, 2019

On March 27, a small group of Pontiac residents gathered inside the Fort-Coulonge municipal library for an information session regarding care giving for seniors.

Hosted by the Connexions Resource Centre, in conjunction with l'Appui Outaouais, the goal of the event was to bring awareness to caregivers throughout the Pontiac

about the benefits and challenges of care giving, how to manage the stress that comes with it and what kinds of services are available to them.

Presented by Arnaud de la Salle, project coordinator for the Pontiac Caring Community Initiative, the session consisted of a power point presentation where he outlined what defines one as a caregiver and how the Connexions Resource Centre can benefit them.

With the Pontiac Caring

Community Initiative's two-year mandate ending in 2020, De la Salle says information sessions and seminars are critical in order to inspire more people to volunteer to keep the initiative alive.

"It started in 2018 and will continue until 2020," he said. "Then we will have a big evaluation with the Appui and they will decide if things are working, if they want to expand, if they want to bring more financial support to it."

According to de la Salle, Connexions only has three established groups of caregivers in the Pontiac (Chapeau, Campbell's Bay and Otter Lake) and Bryson is starting a new one with only one person so far.

"At least we have four communities that have a group of beacons," said de la Salle. "And we're looking at expanding."

For people who want to become volunteers or get involved in the initiative, de la Salle says the best option is to reach out to the Connexions Resource Centre by phone or e-mail or to reach out to one of the current volunteers and ask for a referral.

"Go to one of the volunteers that are already trained," said de la Salle. "Ask them to get referred to me and then I can train them. Then, we can make the number of beacons bigger and spread out throughout the Pontiac. That's the idea."

The organization plans on hosting another information session in Otter Lake, in April and hopes to have one around once per month, until July, according to de la Salle.

"The date's not set yet," he said. "So, we'll have maybe before July, like one every month."

Second annual Food and Fund Drive for Bouffe Pontiac

J.D. POTIÉ
SHAWVILLE March 27, 2019

On March 27, a group of volunteers from Bouffe Pontiac collected food and funds inside the entrance of Giant Tiger in Shawville for the second annual Food and Fund Drive.

Hosted by Valley Heritage Radio, the participants invited the community to donate sums of money and food to the charitable organization.

Seated behind a table with donation boxes for money and black bins full of food, volunteers smiled as they greeted customers entering the front doors of the building.

According to Bouffe Pontiac director, Kim Laroche the fundraiser is a great way for the organization to receive donations of non-perishable food that they would normally have to pay for themselves.

"When we do these fundraisers, we don't have to buy as many products and we don't have a lot of money," said Laroche. "So fundraisers like these make it so we'll probably be good for a whole week, with the money and the food because we don't have to buy it."

For John McMaster, a

producer at Valley Heritage Radio, the Food & Fund Drive is a simple way for the station to show its appreciation for volunteers within the community.

"This is what Valley Heritage Radio is all about," said McMaster. "We're a community radio station. We go out and we help our community as best as we

can whenever we can."

Bringing in more than 82 kg of food and \$700 with the initiative, Laroche said the second annual Food & Fund Drive was a blast to be a part of and was thrilled about how many people donated.

"I found it super," said Laroche. "The people were very generous. Barely any-

one passed by without donating something. Everyone gave something, even if it was one dime in their pocket, so everything went really well. Thanks to activities like these, we also get exposed to people who might not know we exist. So, if they ever need our services, this offers us some visibility."



The second annual Food & Fund Drive raised over \$700 and 80 kg of food for Bouffe Pontiac. Pictured, Bouffe Pontiac volunteers from left: Martin Riopel, Natania Dagenais, Samantha Dagenais and Kim Laroche.

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APRIL - Daffodils are on sale in support of cancer research.

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April is daffodil month

CALEB NICKERSON
April 3, 2019

Those with sharp eyes may have noticed a little splash of yellow gracing the lapels of municipal workers and officials over the past few days. That's because April is daffodil month, a campaign put on every year by the Canadian Cancer Society to raise awareness for the estimated two in five Canadians who will be diagnosed with the disease in their lifetime.

MRC Pontiac is continuing to do their part in the campaign, as they have since 2017, and will be selling pins at their reception desk for \$2.

The daffodil is a symbol of rebirth and hope, in addition to being a sure sign of spring, making it the ideal icon for the Canadian Cancer Society. It appears after the harsh weather of winter and is one of the first flowers to bloom.

The campaign was started 62 years ago and serves as both a popular fundraiser and a show of solidarity and support for those affected by the disease.

It's estimated that more than a third of all cancers can be prevented by making healthy lifestyle choices, so increasing awareness about risk factors is just as vital as researching medical therapies and cures. Most of these choices are straightforward, such as avoiding salty, sugary and processed foods, exercising regularly and limiting alcohol and tobacco consumption.

Though it might be difficult to cut out the vodka and Cuban cigars cold turkey, gradual adjustments are more likely to result in long-term habit changes.

Felt pins as well as fresh cut flowers are sold throughout the month to go towards research on over 100 different types of cancers.

The society has even adapted to the Facebook age, as users can create a customizable daffodil pin to share on social media at mydaffodil.ca.

For more information on screening, diagnosis or even how to donate or volunteer, go to the website cancer.ca.

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Let's pull together for the cure!

ESSC grads put on murder mystery

CALEB NICKERSON
FORT COULONGE
March 29, 2019

The cafeteria at École secondaire Sieur de Coulonge (ESSC) was transformed into a dinner theatre on Friday evening, as a group of soon-to-be graduates raised funds for their send-off celebration.

Around 40 Secondary Five students were divided into performers and servers, with actors sporting 50s attire like poodle skirts or t-shirts with rolled up sleeves, and the rest in white shirts and black pants.

Vice-principal Gabie Paré explained that there would be two dinner sittings, one at 5:30 and one at 7 p.m., in order to accommodate all the expected guests.

"Tonight I have minimum 250 and I'm sure I'm going to hit 300 [attendees]," she said.

Paré has been organizing the dinner for the past ten years and said that the theatrical aspect is a more recent addition.

"A few years ago, one of our teachers in drama had the initiative of doing a murder mystery," she said.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Many of the students acted as servers, delivering steaming plates of spaghetti to attendees, while others showed off their acting chops for the evening's entertainment.

Paré estimated that previous years have netted between \$2,000 and \$5,000 and she emphasized the contributions by locals that make the event such a success. The money will go towards renting and decorating a hall for the grad celebration, as well as entertainment expenses like a

DJ.

"The different businesses in the community give generously," she said. "[The] supper is fundraised at about 90 per cent."

In addition to cash donations, much of the food is given at no cost and the monster batch of spaghetti sauce is prepared by the

school's cafeteria worker. Paré said that the only food item she had to buy this year was lettuce.

"Pontiac is just so generous," she added.

Paré said she will make an announcement regarding this year's total in a couple weeks, once all expenses have been calculated.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

The cafeteria at École secondaire Sieur de Coulonge was packed on Friday evening as soon-to-be graduates put on a murder mystery dinner for their friends and family. The event serves as a fundraiser for the graduation celebration later in the year.

Flipping flapjacks with the Chapeau Lions

CALEB NICKERSON
CHAPEAU March 31, 2019

Harrington Hall in Chapeau was filled with the smell of frying flapjacks on Sunday morning as the local Lions Club held what is likely to be their last pancake breakfast of the season.

David Brisard, President of the Chapeau and District Lions Club, explained that the event is held monthly during the winter as both a fundraiser for the club and a way to get the community together during the dreary part of the year. He said that this month's attendance was down, likely due to the dump of snow that

arrived the night before.

"We normally get around 100, 110," he said. "This morning with the weather, if we get 50 or 60 we'll be happy."

Out of the 28 Club members, Brisard said that eight or nine participate each month on a rotating basis. He estimated that the Club has been putting on the breakfasts for at least a decade, if not more.

"We've got a pretty good gang," he said.

Up next on the Lions' schedule is their annual Good Friday Fish Fry, on April 19, which Brisard said is one of their major annual fundraisers.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

The Chapeau and District Lions Club put on their monthly breakfast at Harrington Hall on Sunday morning, serving up pancakes for those that came out in spite of the weather. Pictured, President David Brisard keeps an eye on the griddle.



Vinton

DIANE BOISVERT 819-921-5296

Well, wasn't that an interesting weekend? We ended up with about 18 inches of snow over night on Saturday. It was quite the sight the next morning.

To add insult to injury, the power went out about 5:30 a.m. and didn't come back on until 2 p.m. Now that wouldn't have really bothered me all that much except my daughter Shelley, her husband Carl and my two grandchildren Corben and Tao came up to visit and I had no way of making coffee or breakfast on Sunday. I did have the woodstove downstairs but it's not ideal for trying to cook a breakfast on because it's round. We managed to heat water so we could have coffee and tea but then they went to Theresa's for breakfast because they had power in Campbell's Bay.

I called my cousin Steve. He said that they only got a couple of inches of snow in Luskville. When Carl drove home on Sunday to

Bracebridge, Ont., they only had a couple of inches of snow and they're in the snow belt. So we really got hit hard.

Shelley is spending the week and maybe two with me. We're going to do some crafting and crocheting and try to get some visiting in.

It's my aunt Betty's birthday on April 2 so she asked for a lemon meringue pie and she wanted meat pie for supper so I'm bringing it up to her on Tuesday.

I'd like to wish the following people a very happy birthday: Jean-Pierre Landry on April 4, Debbie Sloan, Ricky Frost, Michael O'Brien, and Eric Belanger, all on April 5, Cletus Ferrigan on April 6, Marthe Drolet, Marielle Kluge on April 9.

I would also like to wish Tim and Joanne Frost a happy anniversary on April 5.

Also belated happy birthday wishes to Barney Holland who celebrated his birthday on March 29.



Waltham

HELEN PERRY 819-689-2652

Our heartfelt sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with Lyne Bechamp in the recent passing of her dear Aunt Emilienne (Audet) Sansom of Rouyan Noranda, Que.

On Saturday, a very successful yard sale fundraiser was held at the Waltham Town Hall. All the proceeds are going to Waltham resident Lynne Belley who is battling cancer.

We were saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Terry Bozack of Pembroke, Ont. He was the beloved husband and best friend of Shirley (nee Wren). Our heartfelt sympathy, thoughts and prayers are family and friends at this sad time.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Michael James "M.J." Denault, of Braeside, Ont. formerly of Waltham. He was the beloved husband of Gail. Our heartfelt sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this sad time.

This past weekend, our

granddaughter Bella's dance studio CDE Dance Academy, of Pembroke competed in the Move To the Beat Dance Competition in Cornwall, Ont. They came in second over all and they brought home several awards of platinum, diamond and gold along with several trophies. Congratulations we are very proud of you.

Warm birthday wishes are extended to Gerry Perry and Carolyn Pharand who are celebrating their birthdays today.

Birthday wishes and lots of love are extended to our with dearest Rhonda who is celebrating her birthday on April 5. Enjoy your special day Rhonda and may the coming year be filled with God's richest blessings of love, peace and joy.

Warm birthday wishes are extended to Brenda-Landry Chaput and Linda Landry-Souliere who are celebrating on April 6 and also to Helen Pilon on April 8. Enjoy your special day girls.



Quyon

JILL YOUNG

819-918-0623 jillianyoung6@gmail.com

Congratulations to Heather (Smith) and Pat Younge on the birth of their baby girl, Ivy Rose. She arrived a month early on March 22 and both mom and baby are doing well. Best wishes to the whole family as they welcome their sweet little girl.

March came in like a lamb, so of course it had to go out like a lion with another blast of winter weather this past weekend. Thankfully many folks braved the snow to come out on Saturday to Quyon United Church for the Spring Craft and Vendor Show hosted by the Quyon UCW. The basement of the church was filled with beautiful displays with everything from children's books to jewelry, from candles to clothing, from cookies to soaps and spices.

There was something for everyone and many shoppers went home pleased with their purchases. We are grateful to all who came out despite the nasty weather and we hope

everyone enjoyed the day.

Kudos to the organizers of the Flying Elbows Hockey Tournament, which was held for the 20th year this past weekend at the arena in Shawville. I hear it was another big success with great hockey games played out all weekend long, including the Ottawa Senators Alumni game that was held Saturday evening. Congratulations to all of the tournament winners.

Belated birthday wishes are going out to Ruby Fraser, as she celebrated her first birthday on March 27. I'd also like to send big birthday wishes out to my buddy Sam Woermke who is turning five today, to my nephew Noah Young, as he turns four on April 4 and to Emma Hobbs, celebrating on April 8. Happy birthday also to Jenna Rainey-Fleck and Tyson Nitshke on April 2 and to Erin Hudson on April 5. Best wishes to everyone celebrating this week.



Shawville

LYSE LACOURSE 819-647-5932

lyse38o@gmail.com

Happy birthday to the following individuals celebrating this week: Darlene Judd, Kristine Argue, Wayne Brown, Elaine Telford, Matthew Greer, Ann Hodgins, Myrna Palmer, Erin Dittburner, Pauline Grant, Betty Walls, Marjorie M. Horner, Fred Eady, Ron Eades, Blair Peck, Timothy Perry, Royce Richardson, Naomi

Lacourse, Steven Allen, Linda Atkinson and Edward Rusenstrom. Couples celebrating their anniversaries this week are: Kevin and Christine Meisner, Ron and Ann Stewart, Jesse and Melissa Welch and Allan and Marilyn Bruce. Our thoughts and prayers for the Brinkworth and Malette families on the loss of Eva Jean on Feb. 17 after a brief illness.

Linda Atkinson and Edward Rusenstrom.

Couples celebrating their anniversaries this week are: Kevin and Christine Meisner, Ron and Ann Stewart, Jesse and Melissa Welch and Allan and Marilyn Bruce.

Our thoughts and prayers for the Brinkworth and Malette families on the loss of Eva Jean on Feb. 17 after a brief illness.

Otter Lake Golden Age dart and card results

Card results for March 19 were: 50/50 was won by Marie Gauthier and the door prize went to Ronald Beaudoin. Ladies first was won by Beverly Dubeau and second by Janet Lafleur. Mens first went to Dave Lalonde and second to Roland Mayer.

Lunch was prepared by Rita Blaskie and Robin Zacharias.

Pétanque about results for March 20 were: 50/50 was won by Oscar Beaudoin and the door prize went to Marcella Miljour. Ladies first was won by Doreen Lafleur and second was a tie between Louise Schwartz and Marie Gauthier. Mens first was won by Richard Lemay and second went to Carl Kappes.

Dart results for March 21 were: 50/50 was won by Barbara Zimmerling and the door prize by Jose Paulo. Ladies first was won by Monique Primeau and second by Denise Dubois.

Mens first was won by Evert Hodgins and second by Jose Paulo.

Card results for March 26 were: 50/50 was won by Ronald Beaudoin and the door prize by Gerry Walsh. Ladies first was won by Doreen Zimmerling and second went to Debbie Lackey. Mens first was won by Robin Zacharias with second going to Laurier Francoeur. Lunch was prepared by Debbie Lackey and Rose Dagenais. Sarah Peck was in attendance as a guest.

Pétanque about results for March 27 were: 50/50 was won by Marie Gauthier and the door prize went to Dennis Schwartz. Ladies first was won by Sylvie Lemay and second by Louise Schwartz. Mens first was won by Richard Lemay with second going to Carl Kappes. Darts scheduled for March 28 were cancelled due to a break in the water line.

Submitted by Velma Lafleur



Sheenboro

DORIS RANGER

819-689-2132 dranger50@hotmail.com

Our condolences and deepest sympathy goes out to Shirley, a co-worker at Metro, on the sudden passing of her husband Terry Bozack of Pembroke, Ont. on March 29.

The Old Timers got together to wind down their hockey season at the UPSC, Chapeau, Que. It was a very sad day for the team.

Birthday greetings and best wishes go out to Lorna Gleason, Patsy Morris, Mary Duquette and Bailey, grandson of Mary McLeese who all celebrated on April 1.

Birthday wishes also go out to Mike Fox on April 2, Tom Hearty and Arlene

Clyde on April 4, Marilyn Walker on April 5 and Emma Rose Silversen, granddaughter of Rosita Walker on April 7.

Get well wishes go out to Dr. Wilbert Keon of Sheenboro. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family.

There is still great snowmobiling in the mountains in Sheenboro. The parking lots provided by the municipality have been filled with trucks and trailers all winter. This weekend past there were still nine vehicles in the Trout Lake parking lot. It is great to see that the trails are being used.

Auction Sale

Saturday, April 6 at 10:30 a.m. for
CENTER POINT FARMS - SUSANNE & THOMAS LAPIERRE
 54 Lapierre Rd., Chapeau, Quebec
Off Hwy. 148, 1st crossroad after St. Joseph onto Ch. du Rang 5, follow to Lapierre Rd., signs posted

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TERMS: CASH OR CHEQUE WITH ID • Lunch by Billy T
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NEW DIRECTOR GENERAL
AT GOLDEN PEAK
Community Organization Welcomes
Retirement of Director General

Ms. Kathleen Belec, Director General of the Golden Peak, leaves after six years of service. The community organization, dedicated to seniors and persons with loss of autonomy in the MRC Pontiac, we thank Ms. Belec for her involvement and professionalism and wish her a happy retirement. The new director begins her functions as of April 1st, 2019.

A new familiar director at Golden Peak

The independent selection committee, in charge of designating the succession to the Golden Peak's Director General, recommended the candidacy of Louise Belec to the organization's board of directors. Beyond her name - the two women are mother and daughter, Louise Belec is a well-known face in the Golden Peak. Since 2015, she has contributed to the implementation of an emergency alarm system aimed at preventing anyone exposed to significant risks because of their health condition.

This knowledge of the issues of home care services is one of the assets that allowed Louise Belec, who has several years of experience in management positions, to stand out among the four candidates selected for the final selection.

Followed by the recommendation of the recruitment committee, the board of directors is pleased to entrust the Director General of the Golden Peak to Ms. Louise Belec. Members believe that her skills meet the organization's requirements. Moreover, the fact that she is known by Golden Peak's employees and partners will facilitate her integration into her new position.

About Golden Peak

Golden Peak is a community organization that provides services to seniors and people in loss of autonomy in the MRC Pontiac and the municipality of Pontiac.

MUNICIPALITÉ DE CLARENDON
 C427, rte. 148, CP 777
 Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0

SOUMISSIONS

La Municipalité de Clarendon demande des soumissions pour l'entretien du gazon le long de la route 148 entre C427 et C445 sur la Route 148 et autour du bureau municipal. L'entretien comprend: **le ratissage et l'enlèvement du sable et du gravier avant le 1er mai, et la coupe et l'enlèvement des débris de coupe.**

Un minimum de 10 coupes pour l'été est requis.

Les parties intéressées peuvent recueillir les documents d'appel d'offres au bureau municipal au C427, route 148, du lundi au vendredi, de 9 h à 16 h. Les offres scellées doivent être clairement identifiées **SOUMISSION D'ENTRETIEN D'HERBE 2019-01** et déposé au bureau municipal situé au C427, route 148, Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0 **avant 16h00, mardi le 9 avril 2019** et sera ouvert le soir même lors de la réunion du conseil à 19h00. Sachez également que toutes les parties intéressées peuvent y assister. Le Conseil se réserve le droit de rejeter tout ou partie des offres soumises.

Patricia Hobbs, Directrice générale

MUNICIPALITY OF CLARENDON
 C427 Rte. 148, PO Box 777
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TENDERS

The Municipality of Clarendon is requesting tenders for the maintenance of the grass along the 148 from C427 to C445 on Route 148 and around the municipal office. The maintenance would include: **raking and removal of sand and gravel before May 1st, and the cutting and removal of the grass cuttings.**

A minimum of 10 cuts for the summer is required.

Interested parties can pick up the tender documents at the municipal office at C427 Route 148 from 9 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday.

Sealed tenders to be deposited clearly identified **2019-01 GRASS MAINTENANCE TENDER** at the municipal office situated at C427 Route 148, Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0 **before 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9th, 2019** and will be opened that same evening during the council meeting at 7:00 p.m. Also be advised that any interested parties may attend. Council reserves the right to reject all or any of the tenders submitted.

Patricia Hobbs, Director General



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY
Former Montreal Canadian Marc-Andre Bergeron looks up ice for a breakout pass during the Canadiens Alumni game at the Fort Coulonge Arena on Saturday.



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY
The arena was full of laughs as one of the Fort Coulonge players heads to the bench for a towel after taking a pie to the face from the Montreal Candiens Alumni team.



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY
Former Senators Goalie Pascal Leclaire is greeted by young fans as AHL Hall of Famer Brad Smyth looks on.

PHS Cadet girls volleyball reach RSEQ finals



Photo submitted
The PHS Cadet girls volleyball team took home the silver medal at the RSEQ regional tournament on March 16. Pictured, the Panthers and coach McClaren pose for a team photo with their silver medals around their necks. Pictured back row, from left, Amy Sheppard, Camryn Gibbons, Monica Tanguay, Julia Lemay, Avery Mohr and coach Luke McLaren. In front, Cadence Beck, Maggie Horner, Jordan Wilson, Emma Gagnon and Maggey Lemay.

J.D. POTIÉ
SHAWVILLE March 16, 2019
On March 16, the PHS Cadet girls volleyball team's season came to an end after falling, in the finals of the RSEQ division 2 playoffs, to the St. Joseph Zenith by a score of two sets to nil.
Despite their loss in their final game of the season, it was still a successful year for the girls, as the team accomplished a lot of things to be proud of, including a huge 2-1 semi-final victory versus the Philemon Wright Falcons.
After winning pool D of Division 2, with a few narrow wins over L'École Secondaire du Versant, des Lacs and L'Érablière, the girls moved onto the semi-finals for a competitive matchup versus the Philemon Wright.
The semi-final game was highly intense and tightly contested, according to Luke McClaren, the Panthers'

head coach.
Having met Philemon Wright several times during the regular season, PHS was confident going into the game against a familiar foe and determined not to back down until the very last point.
"The girls were in it right until the end," said McClaren. "They really put on a good show."
After trading the first two sets with the Falcons, the Panthers beared-down and clawed their way to a 2-1 win, effectively punching their ticket to the championship game.
At the helm of a tight-knit group of players who have trained together for many years, McClaren credited his players' respective desires to grow and evolve at the sport they love for their on-court success.
"They really try to be very good vol-

Play!

Continued from page one

The members of the Sens Alumni team were Chris Neil, Rob Murphy, Bryan Richardson, Dan McGillis, Brendan Bell, Brad Smyth, Pascal Leclair, Shawn Rivers, Shaun Van Allen, Larry Skinner, Aaron Robinson and Laurie Boschman.
The Shawville Flying Elbows were made up of Jordan MacDougall, Darcy Findlay, Rocky White, Tim Thompson, Erik Barber, Todd Hearty, Josh Horner, Steve Beck, Danny Hobbs, Dave Hobbs, Matt Hobbs, Jason Campbell, Mike Rusenstrom, Steve Rusenstrom, David Coles and William Armitage.
The game was part of the larger organizing effort of the Flying Elbows hockey tournament, which has taken over the Shawville Arena for the weekend. Proceeds from the tournament go back to the arena.
More than 35 volunteers have been working long hours to make sure that the players – both former pros and beer leaguers – have everything they need.
"We've had amazing volunteers that we can always count on at event after event," said Tara Taylor, one of the tournament's organizers.



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY
Chris Neil darts in on a breakaway during the Sens Alumni game at the Shawville Arena on Saturday night.



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY
Chris Neil fires off a snap shot during the warmups for the Sens Alumni game at the Shawville Arena on Saturday.



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY
Former Montreal Canadian Jocelyn Lemieux grabs one of the members of the novice Fort Coulonge Comets and drags him onto the bench during the Canadiens Alumni game.

CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE

PONTIAC

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE

GENERAL MEETING

Danielle Newman de la MRC de Pontiac, pour discuter de la vision stratégique de la MRC en développement économique.

Réseautage de 17h30 à 18h00
(Léger goûter sera servi)

Assemblée générale – 18h00

Invitée :
Danielle Newman, directrice au développement économique – 18h30

Jeudi le 18 avril 2019
MRC de Pontiac
602, Route 301, Campbell's Bay

Danielle Newman from the MRC Pontiac, to discuss the MRC's strategic vision in economic development.

Networking – 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
(Light meal will be served)

General Meeting – 6:00 p.m.

Guest:
Danielle Newman, Director of Economic Development – 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 18, 2019
MRC Pontiac
602, Route 301, Campbell's Bay

RSVP d'ici le 15 avril 2019 – by April 15th, 2019
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- Invitation -

from

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In conjunction with our
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 - New Chain Harrows
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- 2019 Moritz 16' Livestock Bumper Pull Trailer (hopefully 2 in stock by April 27)

Auction Time - 12:30 p.m.
Deadline for your farm machinery to be advertised in local papers and the internet is
Friday, April 12, 2019, call us soon.
See theauctionfever.ca closer to sale date for pictures and complete listing.

Demonstrations:

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For further information or to consign farm machinery call
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Classifieds

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Every Friday Join us in the Shawville Anglican Church Hall for an evening of music (Hooley in the Hall) from 7-9:30 p.m. Admission is free. 50/50 held. Everyone welcome. xtc

Thurs., April 4 – The Parents' Voice LEGO Club at The Shawville-Clarendon Library from 6:00-6:45, \$2/child. fa3

Fri., April 5 – Shawville Shenanigans with Erin at 586 Main Street. Erin will be there from 9:30-10:30, playtime and snack will follow after Erin's activities! FREE. fa3

April 6 – Bryson Lions Club Dance 8 p.m.- 12 a.m., light lunch served at 11 p.m. Entertainment by Brysonnaires. Cost \$10.00/person. For more information contact Betty Leach at 819-648-5424. fa3

Mon., April 8 – Creative Movement with Caregivers and Tots at The Shawville Lions Hall. Join us from 10:30-11:15 for dancing, music and so much fun! \$5/drop in fee, babies under 1 are free! fa3

Thurs., April 11 – Pancake Supper with extras: including sausages, beans, salads, cakes, etc. Orange Lodge Hall, 114 Centre St., Shawville, Que. 4:30 to 7 p.m. Admission: Adults \$10, children 12 and under \$5. Everyone welcome. 4xa10

Sat., April 13 – From noon to 2:00 p.m. Easter Tea Fundraising event for Villa James Shaw. Shawville United Church \$8 per person. 2xa10

April 14 – All You Can Eat Old Fashioned Maple/Apple Brunch 10 till 2 at Coronation Hall Cider Mill in Bristol. (Enjoy real Maple syrup). Reservations appreciated but not required. Adults \$17.25; children 5 - 12 \$8.75; kids under 5 free. Call for more info. 819-647-2547. 2ba10

MISCELLANEOUS

QCNA offers a one-order, one-bill service to advertisers. Call us for details on reaching English Quebec, and through classified ads French Quebec and every other Canadian province & territory. 819-893-6330. qa3

Timeless Treasures, 445 Main St., Shawville. Closing out sale this weekend. I'm open Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 819-210-6165. xa3

Books – Stop in and browse some of the titles include several titles from Lowell Green; *Canadian Battles, Dreaming of Horses, I Once Was a Cowboy, Identity Theft Canada, The Last of the Wild Rivers; What Men They Were* and more at the Pontiac Printshop, 133 Centre St., Shawville Quebec. xtc

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Pontiac Lions hoodie jerseys in-stock at Pontiac Printshop Limited. Adult sizes M, L and XL. Taking orders for youth sizes now. Personalized and plain available. 133 Centre Street, Shawville, QC. xtc

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DEATH



Mason, Olivette – Jan. 8, 1947 – March 28, 2019 It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Olivette Mason (nee St-Aubin) at the age of 72, on the 28th of March, 2019, at the Shawville Hospital. Following a short but courageous battle with cancer, her strength, love and faith was unwavering. She passed away peacefully, holding the hands of her family.

Beloved wife of Gary Mason (deceased Oct. 1997), deeply loved mother of John (Jennifer Sloan) and Joanne (Ryan Wood), cherished and proud "Gran" of Keira (13), Garrett (11) and Nolan (3), dearly loved by her brothers, Florian (Madeline), Fidel (Louise), Vital (Donna) and Amable (Karen) St-Aubin and adoring sister Adele (Glen) Bretzlaff, and cousin Alvine (Michel) St-Aubin who she called 'sis'. She will be greatly missed by many nieces, nephews, godchildren, cousins, family and friends, including her uncle Medard Allard. Predeceased by her loving mother Florence (nee Allard) and father Maxime (St-Aubin), mother-in-law (Maudie) and father-in-law (John Mason Sr.). Olivette was always the life of the party and enjoyed dancing, singing, playing cards, darts, going on outings with the Red Hat ladies, but most of all enjoying time with family and friends. A devout Catholic, she contributed much of her time to the church and volunteering whenever she could. Always selfless in her actions, putting others first and looking out for those she loved and adored.

Family was everything to Olivette. She leaves a legacy of love, courage, generosity and kindness. Our angel has been granted her wings, and taken her flight to Heaven to be with her one true love and all of those who have gone before her.

Friends called at Hayes Funeral Home, 134 Centre Street, Shawville, Quebec on Tuesday, April 2, 2019 from 2-4 and 7-9 pm. A funeral service will take place in St. Charles Borromeo Church, Otter Lake, Quebec on Wednesday, April 3 at 11 a.m. Interment in the spring in the Parish Cemetery, Otter Lake. In memory of Olivette, please consider a donation to the Pontiac Community Hospital Foundation - Palliative Care Unit. www.hayesfuneralhome.ca

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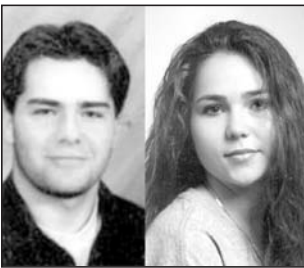


Deering, Myrtle Anne (nee Rueckwald) – April 9, 2018. In loving memory of our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother who left us last year.

Your wonderful memories will live in our hearts forever. Always loved and missed by your Family

Essiembre – In loving memory of our dear daughter and sister Pauline who left us April 9th, 1988.

We seem to see in the soft dim light
A face we love the best;
A voice we are longing to hear
A smile we'll remember forever
While we try to forget every tear,
A sad, but sweet remembrance,
A memory fond and true
And a token of affection, dear,
And a heartache, Pauline for you,
Mom, Dad, Michael, Charles, Greg and Cheryl



Rodney Melissa
April 21, 1977 June 3, 1978
French – In memory of Rodney and Melissa French. April 6, 1997. Twenty-two years have passed. Dear little ones, Our hearts still ache with sadness. And many tears still flow. What it meant to lose you both, Rodney and Melissa, No one will ever know. We hold you close within our hearts, And there you will remain, To walk with us throughout our lives, Until we meet again. Love Mom, Glen, Cynthia and Brett

NOTICES

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

Promotional items are available for your business such as caps, pens, cups, jackets, T-shirts, etc. For more information call Kathy at the Pontiac Printshop, 133, Centre St., Shawville, Quebec, J0X 1G0, 819-647-2204. xtc

Prayer to Blessed Virgin (Never Known to Fail)
O most beautiful Flower of Mt. Carmel, Fruitful Vine, Splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me this my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea. Help me and show me here you are my Mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, to succor me in this necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse. To thee (three times). Holy Mary I place this prayer in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days then you must publish and it will be granted to you. Grateful Thanks.

Une retraite sûre

GOUV. DU CANADA
Communiqué
GATINEAU Le 27 mars 2019

Au cours de leur vie, les aînés ont fait d'énormes contributions à leur communauté partout au Canada, et ils possèdent une mine de connaissances, d'expériences et de compétences qu'ils peuvent continuer de mettre à profit aujourd'hui.

Le ministre de la Famille, des Enfants et du Développement social, l'honorable Jean-Yves Duclos était à Gatineau pour souligner le budget de 2019 : Investir dans la classe moyenne. Le budget décrit comment le gouvernement veille à ce que les Canadiens de la classe moyenne bénéficient de la croissance économique du pays. Il s'agit notamment d'aider un plus grand nombre de Canadiens à trouver un logement abordable, à se préparer à occuper un emploi bien rémunéré, à prendre leur retraite en toute confiance et à obtenir des médicaments sur ordonnance lorsqu'ils en ont besoin.

S'adressant aux participants au Programme Viactive, qui prévoit des cours de tai-chi et un entraînement en circuit pour aînés offert par Campus 3, le ministre Duclos a souligné la façon dont les investissements prévus dans le budget de 2019 aideraient à appuyer la participation active des aînés canadiens à la société et donnent plus d'ampleur aux efforts déjà déployés pour renforcer la sécurité de retraite des Canadiens afin qu'ils puissent profiter d'une retraite sûre et digne après une vie de dur labeur.

Dans le cadre du budget de 2019, le gouvernement propose de :

Rendre la retraite plus sûre financièrement pour les aînés qui souhaitent travailler, en bonifiant l'exemption des gains du Supplément de revenu garanti pour permettre à ces aînés de garder une plus grande part de leur revenu durement gagné.

Veiller à ce que les travailleurs canadiens reçoivent la pleine valeur de leurs prestations en inscrivant de manière proactive les cotisants au Régime de pensions du Canada âgés de 70 ans ou plus qui n'ont pas encore demandé à recevoir leurs prestations de retraite;

Mieux protéger les régimes de retraite offerts par l'employeur grâce à de nouvelles mesures qui protègent mieux les régimes de retraite en cas d'insolvabilité de l'entreprise, offrant ainsi aux Canadiens une plus grande tranquillité d'esprit au moment de leur retraite;

Favoriser l'inclusion et la pleine participation des aînés vulnérables dans la société en augmentant le financement versé au programme

Nouveaux Horizons pour les aînés, en soutenant des projets qui fournissent de nouveaux équipements aux centres pour personnes âgées, en offrant des cours de littératie financière, en créant des possibilités de bénévolat, et plus.

Grâce aux nouvelles mesures annoncées dans le budget de 2019, le gouvernement s'appuie sur les efforts qu'il a déployés par le passé pour mieux protéger la retraite des Canadiens, de sorte qu'ils s'inquiètent moins de leur capacité de joindre les deux bouts et profitent de la retraite sûre et digne qu'ils méritent.

« Les aînés du Canada ont travaillé d'arrache-pied pour soutenir leur famille, bâtir des communautés fortes et faire croître notre économie. Leurs connaissances, leurs compétences et leur expérience sont les pierres angulaires sur lesquelles nos entreprises et notre pays ont été bâtis. Dans le budget de 2019, nous reconnaissons leurs contributions en renforçant les liens qui les unissent à leurs communautés, en offrant un soutien à ceux qui choisissent de demeurer sur le marché du travail et en veillant à ce que les pensions auxquelles ils ont travaillé si fort à préparer au cours de leur vie soient plus sûres. » L'honorable Jean-Yves Duclos, ministre de la Famille, des Enfants et du Développement social.

Depuis 2016, le gouvernement est reconnu pour les efforts qu'il réalise en vue de renforcer la sécurité du revenu de retraite des Canadiens, notamment :

Nommer un ministre des Aînés pour mieux comprendre les besoins des aînés canadiens et s'assurer de concevoir des programmes et des services qui répondent à ces besoins;

Accroître les prestations pour près de 900 000 aînés à faible revenu et sortir environ 57 000 aînés de la pauvreté en augmentant les versements complémentaires du Supplément de revenu garanti pour les aînés canadiens les plus vulnérables;

Rétablir l'âge d'admissibilité aux prestations de la Sécurité de la vieillesse et du Supplément de revenu garanti à 65 ans, remettant ainsi des milliers de dollars dans les poches des aînés canadiens;

Augmenter les prestations du Supplément de revenu garanti et de l'Allocation pour les couples qui doivent vivre séparément pour des raisons indépendantes de leur volonté;

Bonifier le Régime de pensions du Canada en collaboration avec les partenaires provinciaux. Au fil du temps, cette amélioration augmentera la prestation de retraite maximale en vertu du Régime jusqu'à concurrence de 50 %.

Budget du Canada 2019

FQM
Communiqué
QUEBEC Le 19 mars 2019

À titre de porte-parole des régions, la Fédération québécoise des municipalités (FQM) salue les investissements de 5 à 6 milliards de dollars au cours des 10 prochaines années dans le Budget 2019 du ministre fédéral des Finances, M. Bill Morneau, afin de brancher 95 per centage des ménages et entreprises à Internet haute vitesse d'ici 2026, et la totalité d'ici 2030, peu importe où ils se trouvent au pays.

« C'est ahurissant qu'en 2019 la question du branchement des régions à Internet haute vitesse ne soit pas encore réglée. Les investissements importants annoncés par le ministre Morneau pour remédier à la situation sont donc plus que bienvenus. Maintenant, il s'agit de s'assurer que tous les paliers de gouvernement, sous la responsabilité du gouvernement du Québec, travaillent de concert pour brancher rapidement l'ensemble des citoyens, peu importe où leur résidence est située sur le territoire », a déclaré le président de la FQM, M. Jacques Demers.

Pour la Fédération, la recette du succès pour brancher les régions passe par les MRC qui ont une connaissance fine de la réalité sur leur territoire. Tout nouveau projet devrait obtenir la

collaboration et l'approbation des MRC pour obtenir son financement.

« Trop souvent, lorsque la MRC n'a pas été consultée dans les projets, la fibre optique est déployée par les grandes entreprises de télécommunications seulement dans les secteurs les plus rentables. Il faut impliquer les MRC, dès le début, dans l'élaboration et la conception des projets. Elles sont les mieux placées pour définir et répondre aux besoins des régions. », a ajouté le président de la FQM.

La FQM tient également à souligner l'effort supplémentaire de 2,2 milliards de dollars versé au Fonds sur la taxe sur l'essence. Pour les municipalités du Québec, il s'agit d'un gain de 500 M\$.

« C'est une bonne nouvelle, mais il faudra que le gouvernement fédéral accepte de revoir les modalités qu'il impose pour l'attribution de ces sommes afin de respecter les priorités des municipalités québécoises. », a conclu M. Demers.

En terminant, la Fédération salue aussi l'effort du gouvernement pour atténuer les problématiques découlant des ententes commerciales signées par le gouvernement du Canada. Elle souhaite une collaboration efficace avec les producteurs agricoles pour une mise en oeuvre rapide du système de compensation.

AVIS DE LA PREMIÈRE ASSEMBLÉE DES CRÉANCIERS
(Article 102(4) de la Loi sur la faillite et l'insolvabilité)

DANS L'AFFAIRE DE LA FAILLITE DE
Sébastien Labelle
de la Ville de Pontiac, dans la province de Québec

AVIS est par les présentes donné que **Sébastien Labelle** est réputé avoir fait cession de ses biens le 20 mars 2019, et que la première assemblée des créanciers sera tenue le 10 avril 2019 à 13h30, au 102-160 boul. de l'Hôpital, Gatineau, Québec et que Gingsberg, Gingras & Associés Inc. a été nommé syndic de la faillite.

Fait à Gatineau, Québec, ce 27 mars 2019

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MUNICIPALITÉ DE CLARENDON
C427, rte. 148, CP 777
Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0

SOUSSIONS

La Municipalité de Clarendon demande des soumissions pour le **balayage des chemins et des intersections** tel que déterminé par notre surintendant routier. **Vous devez soumettre à un taux horaire.** Veuillez indiquer le type d'équipement qui sera utilisé.


Les parties intéressées peuvent recueillir les documents d'appel d'offres au bureau municipal au C427, route 148, du lundi au vendredi, de 9 h à 16 h. Les offres scellées doivent être clairement identifiées **BALAYAGE DE CHEMIN 2019-02** et déposé au bureau municipal situé au C427, route 148, Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0 **avant 16h00, mardi le 9 avril 2019** et sera ouvert le soir même lors de la réunion du conseil à 19h00. Sachez également que toutes les parties intéressées peuvent y assister. Le Conseil se réserve le droit de rejeter tout ou partie des offres soumises.
Patricia Hobbs, Directrice générale



MUNICIPALITY OF CLARENDON
C427 Rte. 148, PO Box 777
Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0

TENDERS

The Municipality of Clarendon is requesting tenders for the **sweeping of our pavement and intersections** as determined by our Road Superintendent. **Price to be submitted at an hourly rate.** Please state type of equipment to be used. Interested parties can pick up the tender documents at the municipal office at C427 Route 148 from 9 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday. Sealed tenders clearly identified **2019-02 PAVEMENT SWEEPING** are to be deposited at the municipal office situated at C427 Route 148, Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0 **before 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9th, 2019** and will be opened that same evening during the council meeting at 7:00 p.m. Also be advised that any interested parties may attend. Council reserves the right to reject all or any of the tenders submitted.
Patricia Hobbs, Director General



NOUVELLE DIRECTRICE GÉNÉRALE AU MONT D'OR
L'organisme communautaire salue le départ à la retraite de sa directrice générale

Madame Kathleen Belec, directrice générale du Mont d'Or, quitte ses fonctions après six années de service. L'organisme communautaire, dédié aux aînés et aux personnes en perte d'autonomie dans la MRC de Pontiac, remercie Mme Belec pour son implication et son professionnalisme et lui souhaite une heureuse retraite. La nouvelle directrice débute son mandat le 1er avril, 2019.

Une nouvelle directrice familiale au Mont d'Or
Le comité de sélection indépendant, en charge de désigner la succession à la direction générale du Mont d'Or, a recommandé la candidature de madame Louise Belec au conseil d'administration de l'organisme.

Au-delà de son nom – les deux femmes sont mère et fille, madame Louise Belec est un visage connu au Mont d'Or. Depuis 2015, elle contribue à l'implantation d'un système d'alarme d'urgence visant à prévenir automatiquement l'entourage de toute personne exposée à des risques importants en raison de son état santé.

Cette connaissance des enjeux de l'aide à domicile est l'un des atouts qui a permis à madame Louise Belec, qui cumule plusieurs années d'expérience à des postes de direction, de se démarquer parmi les quatre candidatures retenues pour la sélection finale.

Ayant accepté la recommandation du comité de recrutement, le conseil d'administration est heureux de confier la direction générale du Mont d'Or à madame Louise Belec. Ses membres estiment que ses compétences répondent aux exigences de l'organisme. De plus, le fait qu'elle soit connue par les employées et les partenaires du Mont d'Or permettra de faciliter son intégration dans son nouveau mandat.

À propos du Mont d'Or
Le Mont d'Or est un organisme communautaire qui dessert les aînés et les personnes en perte d'autonomie ouvrant dans la MRC de Pontiac et la municipalité du Pontiac.

Shawville District Minor Hockey celebrates local talent

CALEB NICKERSON
SHAWVILLE March 31, 2019

On March 31, proud friends and family gathered at the Dr. S.E. McDowell

Elementary School gymnasium for the Shawville District Minor Hockey Association (SDMHA)'s year-end awards gala. Parents cheered and

snapped pictures as their children were recognized by their coaches for various accomplishments throughout the 2018/19 season.

SDMHA President Diana Desabrais explained that this is the second year that the organization has hosted a gala with all age divisions and skill levels instead of each team having their own separate wrap-up party. Before announcing award winners, Desabrais singled out the Midget A squad for their recent Divisional title win. The boys will be representing the Outaouais at Provincials this weekend in St. Gabriel de Brandon. The awards kicked off with the ESSO Most Dedicated, Most Sportsmanlike and Most Improved, followed by the President's Award. Awards were as follows: Novice B – Most sportsmanlike: Wyatt Hines; Most Dedicated: Brady Kilroy; Most Improved Defence: Bentley Lalonde; Most Improved Forward: Francis Maurier; President's Award: Gavin Roy. Novice C – Most sportsmanlike: Ben Richardson; Most Dedicated: Stefania

George; Most Improved Defence: Sydney Newberry; Most Improved Forward: Nate Richardson; President's Award: Iyla Smith. Atom A – Most sportsmanlike: Will O'Malley; Most Dedicated: Garrett Rusenstrom; Most Improved Defence: Grayson Kilroy; President's Award: Jaxon Armstrong. Atom C – Most sportsmanlike: Yanni Newberry; Most Dedicated: Olivier Maurier; Most Improved Defence: Chloe Gilbert; President's Award: Connor Findlay. Pee wee A – Most sportsmanlike: Brodee Campbell; Most Dedicated: Liam Queale; Most Improved Defence: Peyton Ireland; President's Award: Lucas Barre. Pee wee C – Most sportsmanlike: Ayden Villeneuve; Most Dedicated: Lana Gibbons; Most Improved Defence: Connor McCormick; President's Award: Ryder Lemay. Bantam A – Most sportsmanlike: Charlie Olmstead;

Most Dedicated: Alex Mayhew; Most Improved Defence: Brayden Duval; President's Award: Bryan Tubman. Bantam B – Most sportsmanlike: Patrick Barry; Most Dedicated: Walker Murphy; Most Improved Defence: Hunter Milford; President's Award: Domenic Woermke. Midget A – Most sportsmanlike: Willis Egan; Most Dedicated: Hunter Lukacs-Hitz; Most Improved Defence: Connor Gilpin; President's Award: Evan Atkinson. Midget B – Most sportsmanlike: Hunter Essiambre; Most Dedicated: Dylan Woermke; Most Improved Defence: Justin Mainville; President's Award: Ryan Gilpin. Hayes Memorial Trophy (Goaltender): Kaelan Ireland Allen Memorial (Bantam): Bryan Tubman and Brayden McCormick Shawn Campbell (Midget): Hunter Lukacs-Hitz (Midget A) and Peyton Coté (Midget B)

Fred Desabrais Award (third-year midget): Jaden Stewart (Midget A) and Michael McCann (Midget B)

Referee Award: Charles Romain James Smith Referee Award: Dan Romain Coach of the Year: Wes Tubman



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY
Kaelan Ireland was awarded the Hayes Memorial Trophy for being the goaltender with the lowest goals against average in the Association, as well as the entire Outaouais. Pictured, he poses with the trophy, flanked by Coaches Ray Curley and Jeff Ireland.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY
Wes Tubman was named Coach of the Year at the Shawville District Minor Hockey Association awards Gala on March 31. Pictured, he receives his plaque from Andrew Lang.

A whodunnit for dinner at Jack Graham Community Centre



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY
More than fifty people put on their Sherlock Holmes hats as they took part in the Murder Mystery dinner at the Jack Graham Community Centre on Saturday. The first performance in February was so successful that the Pontiac Lions Club was asked to perform it for the second time.

CHRIS LOWREY
BRISTOL March 30, 2019

The Jack Graham Community Centre in Bristol was full of people doing their best Sherlock Holmes impersonations on Saturday as the Pontiac Lions Club staged its second performance of Winner

Take All, a murder mystery dinner. More than 80 people were in attendance for the show, which saw diners try to solve a murder at a casino in Las Vegas. The director of the show was Lindsay Frost. The performance was

done for the second time around by members of the Pontiac Lion's Club. The first performance in February was so popular, they were asked for a second edition, albeit with a different ending. The group have been performing murder mysteries

for 15 years and this is their eleventh overall. The stars of the show took to the stage after guests finished a delicious lasagne dinner catered by Bob Smith. Proceeds from the event went to the Pontiac Lions Club.



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Spring crafts galore

CHRIS LOWREY
QUYON March 30, 2019

The basement at the Quyon United Church featured as many vendors as the venue could hold for the first annual Quyon United Craft and Vendor Sale.

The event was organized by the Quyon UCW and featured 10 vendors displaying a wide variety of goods from hand-crafted wooden knick knacks to delicious baked goods. This was the first time the UCW has organized an event like this, but organizer Elizabeth Young was hopeful it will be the start of a yearly tradition. "It's our first year," she said. "And with the weather the way it's been, we're very happy." Young and her fellow organizers used every inch of floor space to accommodate as many vendors as they did. "It's small and intimate," Young said with a smile. Each vendor paid to rent a table for the show and the proceeds are going to buy new chairs for events. The current chairs –



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY
Every inch of floor space was used to accomodate all the vendors at the Quyon United Craft and Vendor Sale organized by the Quyon UCW. "Other than the weather man not helping, it's been good," organizer Elizabeth Young said.

while reliably serving the churches needs for years – weigh enough that setting them up and taking them down for upwards of sixty people can be a daunting task. "We could use about 30 more," Young said. While the soggy weather wasn't ideal outside, Young said the vendors were all happy with the turnout.

Christine Chevrier-Lavigne is originally from Quyon, but now lives in Aylmer. She was on hand selling hand-carved wooden art pieces. Her husband does the carving but she and her daughter do the painting. Kim Boucher brought her roving boutique to the event since is presented a great opportunity to sell to

her fellow Quyon residents. Not only that, but Boucher said the event's timing positioned it as one of the first spring craft shows in the area. Overall, Young said that despite less than ideal conditions outside, the event was a success inside. "Other than the weather man not helping, it's been good."

Euchre under the Eucharist

CHRIS LOWREY
BRYSON March 30, 2019

More than a dozen participants took to the card tables in the Immaculate Conception Church Hall in Bryson on Saturday for the Lent Euchre Card Party organized by the CWL.



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY
Sixteen participants took to the card tables in the Immaculate Conception Church Hall in Bryson on Saturday to raise money for Share Lent, an organization that raises money and awareness for developing countries.

Four tables were in action with sixteen people taking part. The event was a fundraiser for the Share Lent campaign, an annual effort to raise awareness and funds about poverty in the global south. The card tournament itself is a long tradition at the parish, with one participant saying his mother played back in the 1940s. Betty Maloney, the CWL treasurer, and Sue St. Pierre, the CWL president, were hard at work behind the refreshment counter to make sure everyone had full bellies. The 50/50 prize was won by Jim Stewart. The event raised over \$100 for the Share Lent campaign.





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