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Evacuees tell their stories



J-D Potié, THE EQUITY

As the region continues to be affected by record setting floods, hundreds of residents have been left stranded after evacuating their homes. Mansfield resident Christian Godin shares his story on May 1 along with his daughter Émilie, at a shelter set up at École secondaire Sieur de Coulonge in Mansfield.

J.D. POTIÉ
PONTIAC May 5, 2019

Within the last few weeks, rising waters have devastated various parts of the region forcing hundreds of residents to leave their homes behind having to find shelter elsewhere.

From the Tim Hortons Camp in Quyon to L'École secondaire Sieur de Coulonge (ESSC) in Mansfield, a number of organizations in various municipalities have opened their doors to help out the hapless victims.

Offering all kinds of amenities, including around 40 beds, a set of showers and countless toothbrushes, the shelter at ESSC was designed to make the evacuees feel safe and comfortable despite being forced out of their homes for an undetermined period.

According to one of the coordinators of ESSC's evacuee shelter in Mansfield, Lucille Bélair, the volunteers have received a generous amount of donations from numerous people in different municipalities since opening their doors to the public.

The generosity of their fellow residents has certainly lightened their work-load and reassured victims that everything they need is at their disposal, Bélair said.

It's incredible to see the amount of people out there just to help others. It tugs your heart...

Christian Godin

"These people are vulnerable," she said. "They arrive here feeling vulnerable, because they're in a situation of crisis. So, they need help. We offer mental health services at the entrance. These people really need help, any way they need it. They need to be reassured that someone is there to help and that they have a place to stay."

Open 24 hours per day with around 10 volunteers, Red Cross nurses on hand around the clock and Sûreté du Québec officers constantly patrolling the area, victims found comfort knowing that their safety and well-being was prioritized, Bélair said.

"You can knock here at midnight or 1:00 a.m., it doesn't matter," she said.

"At any time, they can come in. We also have surveillance, as the Sûreté du Québec is patrolling the municipality at all times. It's great because we know they're close."

For Davidson resident William Smith, the floods have been emotionally challenging after he lost his waterside home to the hands of Mother Nature. His family has owned the property since the mid-sixties and the home meant a whole lot more to him than just a place to sleep at night.

"My house is going to be demolished," said Smith. "It's finished. It's sad. You can't believe it because that was my grandparents' house since 1966-67. I got water up passed my doors on the truck and then some. It's a disaster."

Smith said he visited the shelter at ESSC to seek any kind of support he can get, whether it be emotional or hygienic.

According to Smith, the 2017 floods weren't close to being as destructive as this year's struggles with inundation, as he didn't need to remove anything from inside his home, at the time.

But this year, the water levels rose extremely quickly, eventually finding its way into his home and damaging nearly every property on his street.

"In 2017, it was high, but I didn't have to lift anything," he said. "Now, I took out all my furniture. I got 12 inches of water in my house quickly. It's across the road and everything. The whole area is done, completely from Lafrance street all the way down past the wharf. The damage is extreme."

His plan going forward is to keep his property if the opportunity presents itself. He says he wants to build up a mobile home that he could move once flood season rolls around.

"We're going to see if the government's going to pay out or whatever," he said. "I don't know. But, if I can keep my proper-

ty, I'll build it up again. I'll get a trailer instead – a mobile home. I'll put it there and I'll pull it out in the spring when worse comes to worse."

For Quyon resident Cloe Hunter, the floods have forced her and her kids to take refuge at the Tim Hortons Camp in the municipality, while her boyfriend does what he can to mitigate the damage.

Hunter was one of the several hundred people evacuated from the village last week. But, thankfully, it hasn't found its way inside the home.

"We can't live there," said Hunter. "We can't shower or nothing because our water is infected. And we have water up to our chest outside of our house."

Having helped fill around seven thousand sandbags in the last two weeks to keep the water out of her house, Hunter isn't completely certain that the wall will hold up all the way through.

For Hunter, the most distressing part about the 2019 floods was having to find a new place to live, which has been especially hard on her kids because they aren't able to be with their father.

"It's nice here, but it's not home," she said. "And it's hard for them because they don't see their dad – not that much anymore because he has to stay at the house to keep the water out."

Please see FLOOD page three

Two men punished for soggy joyride

CALEB NICKERSON
FORT COULONGE April 30, 2019

A video shot Tuesday night and shared on social media quickly went viral and landed two young men in a pile of trouble.

The video, taken with the app Snapchat, shows the pair laughing and travelling quickly along the waterlogged chemin de la Passe in Mansfield, which was closed to outside traffic at the time. Water splashes up on the hood of the vehicle and sizable waves are created in its wake.

The video was shared to Facebook by Max Beaulieu and quickly racked up tens of thousands of views and hundreds of comments.

The police were notified of the incident and the driver of the vehicle was given two statements of offence totalling \$2,027 for endangering property and using a cell phone while driving in addition to nine demerit points on his licence. The passenger, who turned himself in to police, was let go with an agreement to volunteer time and equipment to the municipality as compensation for his actions. No criminal charges were filed.

The police did not release the names of the two men and THE EQUITY could not confirm their identity, but in the comments of the video, Beaulieu posted a screenshot of a conversation with the man who allegedly posted the video, Thomas Stanton. The name Thomas appears in the top corner of the original Snapchat video.

In the conversation, which was conducted in French, Stanton identified the driver of the vehicle as Shayne Etheridge.

Mansfield Mayor Gilles Dionne was upset after he watched the video.

"I'm devastated to see that people would do this to other people," he said.

More warnings for Sorting Centre

CHRIS LOWREY
LITCHFIELD May 3, 2019

The Pontiac Sorting Centre has received another warning from the Quebec Ministry of the Environment after being convicted of four environmental violations and being fined more than \$40,000 in October of 2018.

The Sorting Centre was fined because it failed to store wood and metal on an asphalt; the sorting surface was not waterproofed with concrete blocks; and it stored asphalt shingles outside of a building.

The ministry also ordered the Sorting Centre to cease the burial of residual materials in unauthorized spots and "respect the certificate of authorization."

The most recent warning, issued on May 3, gives the Sorting Centre 15 days to come up with a plan to restore the work site.

The Sorting Centre will have to install new platforms for the storage of residual materials, demolish a sorting platform made from asphalt shingles and properly store those shingles within 120 days.

Within 30 days of the site's refurbishment, the Sorting Centre must submit a report demonstrating that the work has been done in accordance with the order.

The ministry has also ordered the Sorting Centre to conduct a "thorough" soil examination within 45 days of the completion of the restoration work. In the event of a contamination, the Sorting Centre will then need to get the ministry's approval for a rehabilitation plan and then remediate the site within 30 days of approval of the plan.

Ministry spokesperson Sophie Gaudreau said in February that the site contains more than 30,000 cubic metres, or 650 tonnes, of residual materials contaminated with asbestos – enough to fill 12 Olympic swimming pools.

Since 2013, the Sorting Centre has been cited with 10 non-compliance notices from the ministry.

The warning comes just over two weeks after Pontiac MRC Jane Toller said the MRC supports their efforts to obtain a certificate of authorization to operate a technical landfill to dispose of asbestos.

The Sorting Centre put out a press release on May 6 in response to the warning, in which they blame the Ministry of the Environment for delaying the permits for the proposed landfill.

The release also alleges that the Ministry promised the Sorting Centre a "rapid delivery" of documentation to deal with residual wastes left over from the former paper mill, at the site where they have proposed their new landfill. The approval never came, but the Sorting Centre was allegedly tasked to deal with leachate from the site.

"One must remember that the biopark was used by the paper mill to landfill its paper milling debris and ultimately, all demolition debris was put in there as well," the release states. "We did not create that site or build that site, we simply wanted to contribute to its definite closing for the well-being of the Pontiac residents and utilise at the same time a portion of that land as a technical landfill site."

"We offer an important service to the Pontiac and its residents," the statement concludes. "It would be regrettable if we came to a point where we cannot accept these types of debris due to a lack of collaboration on the Ministry's part."

With files from Caleb Nickerson.

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Shawville church groups help feed an army

CALEB NICKERSON
SHAWVILLE April 30, 2019

This past week, residents of Shawville have probably noticed the contingent of military vehicles parked outside the local arena. That's because the local barn was host to a company of Canadian Forces personnel who were in the region to help out flood victims.

A hundred and thirty soldiers from the Royal 22nd Regiment, with elements from the Le Régiment de Hull and the 12e Régiment blindé, were invited to camp out in the arena and

upstairs in the Lion's Hall by Shawville Council.

Mayor Sandra Murray said that since Shawville was one of the few communities to be spared by the flooding, this gesture was the least they could do.

On Tuesday evening a meal was prepared for the troops by volunteers from Shawville United Church. The following evening, the dinner was prepared by the Anglican Church and the United Church of Stark's Corners.

Elaine Lang was in the kitchen on Tuesday and esti-



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Canadian Forces troops were camped out in the Shawville arena and Lions Hall over the past week, as they help out neighbouring regions. They had several dinners prepared for them by local church groups.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Elaine Lang and Denzil Yach were just two of the volunteers from Shawville United Church that were preparing dinner for an army of hungry soldiers on Tuesday.

Hundreds evacuated, stranded by flooding

CALEB NICKERSON
PONTIAC May 8, 2019

The flooding over the past few weeks has affected many municipalities in the region in a variety of ways, from damaged infrastructure to evacuated homes.

Up in Thorne, Mayor Karen Kelly said that some cottages had wet basements and some roads were temporarily impassable, but for the most part her municipality was spared. The area contains portions of the Quyon River as well as many lakes, so low-lying areas were cut off at times.

"The road men were working very, very hard to make sure that there was nobody stranded," she said, noting that only one resident was isolated by water temporarily, but had neighbours checking up on them.

There were a few washouts that had to be repaired by municipal crews, and one on Bryson Road was delayed by a brazen act of thievery.

"It was a two piece culvert and one piece was sitting on the edge of the road waiting for our guys to come along and someone stole it," Kelly explained.

She added that the washout on chemin Laughren in nearby Clarendon was affecting some residents, but for the most part, it was business as usual.

"It's pretty wild, we're not used to it here," she said. "But I mean, compared to everyone else, we've been incredibly lucky."

Bristol's waterfront cottage communities were hit hard by the flooding, and several roads were impassable to all but trucks, but Director General Christina Peck estimated that there were around 160 properties affected by the rising water.

"There were some in Pontiac Station, some Pine Lodge and Haughton's Bay, but mostly Norway Bay," she said. "There were some people who chose to leave

their properties but there were no forced evacuations."

She added that there were a few washouts on roads further north, but they were repaired in short order.

In the Municipality of Pontiac, some Quyon residents were allowed to return to their homes on May 4, after being evacuated at the start of the week. The municipality was still under a state of emergency on May 5, and in an update released on their Facebook page, officials urged residents of the village to avoid drinking the water due to a technical problem at the water treatment plant.

Area schools re-opened this week and the Quyon Ferry returned to regular service after halting river crossings last week.

Reached on May 6, Mansfield et Pontefract Mayor Gilles Dionne said that the community of Davidson was one of the hardest hit sectors in his municipality. He added that

the water seemed to be receding along the Coulonge River, but it would be quite some time before things returned to normal.

"It's going down but not fast enough," he said.

Director General Eric Rochon said that though the local high school had been set up to take in evacuees overnight, residents opted to stay elsewhere.

"We were ready for 200," he said. "We set up 40 beds but the rush never came."

"Right now we have four rooms that are rented out for evacuees that didn't have anywhere to go," he continued. "Most of them are staying at friends places, with family, stuff like that."

Rochon said that at the peak, the municipality had 155 houses, 174 cottages and 5 businesses inundated.

On Allumettes Island, the municipality put out a release on May 2 that urged residents to wait until the

water had fully receded before removing their sandbags. The statement added that the municipality is preparing for increased garbage and construction waste in the coming weeks and would soon be releasing information about the availability of the local transfer sites.

Urgence Quebec had a running tally for each municipality in the province, and the following are the results from May 6:

Alleyne et Cawood – Flooded homes: 7

Allumettes Island– Flooded homes: 51, Isolated Homes: 6, People evacuated: 36

Bristol – People evacuated: 3

Campbell's Bay – Flooded homes: 14, Isolated Homes: 13, People evacuated: 23

Chichester – Flooded homes: 12, Isolated Homes: 4, People evacuated: 4

Clarendon – Flooded homes: 12

Port Coulonge – Flooded

homes: 73, People evacuated: 210

Grand Calumet Island – Flooded homes: 15, People evacuated: 27

Litchfield – Isolated Homes: 7

Mansfield et Pontefract – Flooded homes: 328, Isolated Homes: 31, People evacuated: 338

Municipality of Pontiac – Flooded homes: 164, Isolated Homes: 15, People evacuated: 199

Portage du Fort – Flooded homes: 1

Rapides des Joachims– Flooded homes: 3

Sheenboro– Flooded homes: 1, Isolated Homes: 5, People evacuated: 2

Waltham– Flooded homes: 32, Isolated Homes: 2, People evacuated: 33

Total for Pontiac region - Flooded homes: 713, Isolated Homes: 83, People evacuated: 875

Total for Outaouais– Flooded homes: 2,038, Isolated Homes: 274, People evacuated: 3,236

Local businesses lend volunteers a helping hand



J-D Potié, THE EQUITY

With hundreds of residents affected by the record-setting 2019 floods, various local businesses put their best foot forward by chipping in to contribute to the cause by giving out numerous donations to volunteers and victims. Pictured, Billy T's owner Bill Telford poses for photo with his son Brody.

J.D. POTIÉ
PONTIAC May 6, 2019

With hundreds of residents affected by the record-setting 2019 floods, various local businesses put their best foot forward by chipping in to contribute to the cause by giving out numerous donations to volunteers and victims.

From food to tooth brushes and medical kits, volunteers and victims throughout the region were delighted to see that businesses in the Pontiac were thinking about them in their time of need.

Among the local pharmacies and restaurants was Billy T's pizza in Shawville who rolled out their food truck to various locations in the Pontiac to dish out hundreds of delicious pizzas to local volunteers.

According to Billy T's employee Brody Telford the

idea to donate pizza's to volunteers arose after seeing countless posts, pictures and videos on Facebook of people filling sandbags in various municipalities.

"[Bill] just called me up and said 'I think we should go down and try and help,'" said Brody.

Having originally planned to only make a stop at the municipal sandpit in Mansfield, the Telford's decided it was important to keep up the benevolence for as long as the volunteers needed, considering how many of them benefited from their donations.

With stops in three different locations, including Mansfield, Norway Bay and Quyon, Billy T's served around 120 volunteers in each location, according to owner Bill Telford.

The sheer number of food

donations from various Pontiac enterprises was astounding to the point where he had to call each municipality in advance to make sure the volunteers could accommodate his food truck, Bill said.

"We had to phone ahead," said Bill. "They had so much food coming in that you kind of had to book when you were going to be there because they didn't want everything overlapping."

But all in all, the volunteers seemed very happy with the presence of free hot and ready pizzas for them feast on.

"We just went down there set up, fed them and left," he said. "The response from the volunteers was overwhelming."

The initiative, although a generous one, was a no-brainer considering the fact

that the flood victims and volunteers are not only Billy T's customers, but they're friends and neighbours.

"It's not just random people we're helping out," said Brody. "These are out customers, our friends, our family. It wasn't really that big of a deal to us. We were just happy to be able to do something."

According to Bill, residents have approached him with very positive comments ever since lending a helping hand. For example, after returning from Norway Bay, one elderly woman confronted him at his restaurant and gave him \$100 dollars stating that she was physically unable to fill sandbags but wanted to help out in any way she could.

"I've been here for 30 years, he said. "And this community has always been great to me."

Another local business showing its benevolence to the community during this year's flood season was the Pontiac Home Bakery in Shawville who donated the countless loaves of bread, buns and desserts to volunteers all over the region.

From boxes of fresh doughnuts to hot thermoses of coffee for the volunteers, the bakery's owner Dan Duggan said he wanted to ensure his customers, friends and neighbors knew they were important to his businesses and that giving back in their time of suffering is the least he could do.

"These are all customers of ours," he said. "Without them coming through our doors, we don't exist. So, if we can't give back in a time of need there's something wrong. It's not about the money in your pockets. It is about the people."

Ever since making their own donations, countless people from all over the Pontiac have donated sums of money to the bakery, which they used to purchase numerous cases of water for evacuation shelters.

According to Duggan, the bakery teamed up with local pharmacy Uniprix Sante Ahmad Hassan to put together health care packages containing tooth brushes for evacuated residents in Mansfield.

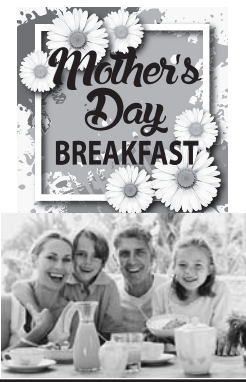
Hoping to help as many victims as possible, the two businesses matched dollar for dollar, effectively doubling the number of hygienic products donated to the Red Cross situated in various locations across the region, including at L'École secondaire Sieur de Coulonge (ESSC) in Mansfield, Duggan says.

"We're just trying to help out whenever we can," said Duggan. "People were removed from their houses without any notice, not able to take stuff with them."

The volunteers at the ESSC were delighted upon receiving the care packages saying it was "like Christmas", according to Duggan who arrived at the school with a car load of food, water bottles and hygienic kits.

"Just go onto our Facebook page and it's self-explanatory," he said. "The comments from people, the thank yous and everything. The Mayor of Fort-Coulonge sent me message yesterday. If you go into the commentary, you'll see it."

Duggan was thankful for Ahmad Hassan and his staff for their help and generosity. He adamantly stated that his donations were purely intended to help out resi-



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FLOOD: evacuees tell their stories



J-D Potié, THE EQUITY
Pictured above, a home in Allumettes Island surrounded by water on May 3.



J-D Potié, THE EQUITY
Pictured above, a riverside shed in Chichester submerged in the water.

Continued from front
According to Hunter, the water levels rose so fast that her family couldn't react in time to do much to stop it.
"It went like that, in the blink of an eye," she said. "One morning there was water up to our knees. We woke up the next morning and it was up to our chests."
Despite how difficult the situation has been on her family and her home, Hunter says she's holding up quite well because her family was well prepared knowing that potentially devastating floods were coming this year.
"We knew it was coming so we're not surprised about it," she said.
With nearly 20 people assisting her family mitigate the damage from her property, Hunter was very appreciative of her fellow residents for taking the time out of their days to be so benevolent and gracious.
"It's hard for people to have to stop their day jobs to come and help," she said. "It's very appreciated. It melted our hearts that people came. But there's a bunch of other people who lost their houses because they didn't have help."
Hunter believes her home

will survive the 2019 floods when it's all said and done, however, she doesn't expect to set foot in there anytime soon.
"We're going to stay here for a while," she said. "It sucks. But, we need to wait until the water comes down."
In the case of Mansfield resident Christian Godin, the floods have been especially distressing.
As an owner of two properties in Mansfield and Fort-Coulonge, the rising waters have been incredibly difficult to manage.
"I have seven pumps working night and day," he said. "We're just trying to see the light at the end of the tunnel and to fight. It's hard because a battle against Mother Nature isn't always something we can win."
Thankful for the aid of countless volunteers helping him fill sandbags to barricade both his homes from the rising tides, Godin was emotional speaking about the generosity of his fellow neighbors in his time of struggle.
"It's very difficult," he said. "We've had tremendous help from volunteers from everywhere. It's truly astonishing to see everyone

helping each other out in both villages. I've filled sandbags to no end, day and night. The assistance from friends and volunteers helps a lot. It's incredible to see the amount of people out there just to help others. It tugs your heart."
However, the saddest part about watching his home town be at the mercy of such a disastrous situation is seeing residents lose nearly everything they own, all while knowing that they're fighting a losing battle in the end.
"All the personal belongings, like pictures," he said. "Some of it's packed up and we don't know where. It could be underwater. That's the hardest part for certain people. I'm sure it happens that things get destroyed by water. It's something you try to fight against. But, at some point you have to give up. It's tough."
For now, Godin's plan is to stay strong and prepare for whatever fate Mother Nature serves us next.
"We're not completely out of it yet," he said. "They're still announcing a lot of rain and snow. I'm not ready to say that we're out of this, as of now."
For Mansfield resident Roxanne Ladouceur, the



J-D Potié, THE EQUITY
Guyon resident Cloe Hunter said water levels on her family's property have risen as high as her chest.



J-D Potié, THE EQUITY
Davidson resident William Smith said his home, which has been in his family for generations, was destroyed by the floods.

2019 floods have been a traumatic experience.
As a caretaker for people with mental disabilities, Ladouceur was tasked with helping evacuate her own home as well as five others.
Despite having started to pump water as soon as she saw the water levels coming up, nothing could be done to stop the water from flowing in.
Having renovated her floors just under a month ago, Ladouceur said the damage was extremely heart-breaking.
"We lost control of the water because we were at the river level," she said. "Now, there's water on our floors and it's a disaster. There's a lot of damage. Our septic tank, electric panel,

furnace, hot water tank, the floors were just renovated. Only two weeks ago, we were done our renovations, so it's pretty devastating."
Despite how destructive the floods have been to property and the people in her hometown, Ladouceur was blown away by the number of residents volunteering to help out their neighbours, during a period of emotional turmoil.
"The community is just mind-blowing," she said. "It's unbelievable to see how everybody gets together to reach out and help because at one point I didn't know. They were asking me what to throw out and I was just not there anymore – disconnected from reality because it was so painful."
Ladouceur said her mentality going forward is to stay strong, because it's not over and a lot more people are still greatly affected.
As part of the municipality's emergency evacuation plan, ESSC was declared as the optimal place for Mansfield to harbour evacuees as it isn't a threat to severe flooding, being on the town's high ground.
According to ESSC Principal Julie Martin, the level of collaboration and togetherness residents have demonstrated throughout the 2019 floods have been a prime example of just what makes Pontiacers as strong and resilient as any community around.
"It's where we see that the people in the community are resilient," said Martin. "Our community is resilient and our people support each other no matter the difficulties. Some people who lost everything are still putting in the effort to fill sandbags. It's amazing to see that."



J-D Potié, THE EQUITY
Pictured, thousands of sandbags surround a riverside home on Chemin de Chapeau Waltham.

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Publishers | Charles Dickson - charles.dickson@theequity.ca
Ross Dickson

Editor | Caleb Nickerson - editor@theequity.ca
Assist. editor | Chris Lowrey - chris@theequity.ca
Reporter | J.D. Potie - jd@theequity.ca

Ad Manager | Katherine Hynes - kathy@theequity.ca
Sales | Bonnie Chevier - bonnie@theequity.ca
Steve Forbes - steve@theequity.ca

Gen. Manager | Ann Taylor - prepress@theequity.ca
Classifieds | Janey Duff MacDougall - news@theequity.ca
Circulation | Dave Moore - dave@theequity.ca



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Editorial

The meaning of community

Though there weren’t too many events left on the calendar, there is no way that you could characterize these past seven days as a slow news week.

It makes choosing the topic for an editorial much more difficult.

Should the column inches be used to lambaste the dolts in Fort Coulonge who recklessly endangered their neighbour’s properties and then had the bright idea to post their imbecilic escapades to social media? Lord knows opinion writers like a good dogpile to join in on, especially when the targets of derision are so obviously in the wrong, but what can be said here that hasn’t already been said in online comment sections or at the counter of the local gas station?

They’re dimwits, let’s move on.

Should this editorial be about haranguing dapper, debutant leaders like Trudeau or Ford for their photo ops with flood victims? Expecting high-level politicians not to have their every public movement recorded in this day and age is like thinking bears in the woods actually use Charmin when they do their business. It also begs the question, would citizens rather that politicians stay in their offices during disasters or be out meeting the affected population?

Next.

This week’s editorial isn’t going to be about the outliers, the people that don’t represent the average Joe and Jane Pontiac. The remaining inches in this column are going to be dedicated to trying to encapsulate what it means to be a part of a community. The real problem is going to be not leaving anyone out, so it’ll be best to paint with a broad brush.

Over the past few weeks, residents, emergency services and local officials have outdone themselves in their work to safeguard people, property and pets from the surging bodies of water throughout the Valley. There have been numerous stories from Chapeau to Breckenridge and everywhere in between about the generosity of the Pontiac. Stories of locals dedicating their time and effort to sandbagging, hauling dirt, lending out watercraft and donating provisions, all because it’s just the way things are done here.

The best advertisement for this area is not a glossy travel brochure or our amenities, though they are helpful, to be sure. It’s when outsiders see that people in small communities pull together when fate conspires to make their lives more difficult. It’s seeing local businesses take a hit to their profit margins in order to ensure their neighbours aren’t manning pumps on an empty belly. It’s local students and seniors sandbagging alongside soldiers who’ve never visited our corner of the province.

The forces threatening to divide modern populations - changes in climate, technology or the economy - don’t have a chance of prevailing as long as citizens remember that they are a part of something bigger than themselves, that they are part of a community.

Caleb Nickerson

Dave Moore, THE EQUITY

Going back to the land

Quantity or quality? by Chris Judd

Throughout my 50 some years as a farmer, I have attended dozens of auction sales. At every auction sale I have attended, I have heard or been asked, “Why did they sell?” Often close friends and neighbours know several reasons why the farming operation stopped and the auction was called.


Most of the auction attendees are just there out of curiosity and because it was a nice day for a sale.

For decades, many farms kept a few turkeys, geese, ducks or chickens to sell at Thanksgiving, Christmas or Easter to bring in a few extra dollars. The farm wives in granny’s time usually kept some hens so they had some egg money stashed away for those little extras.

Many farms sold a few quarters of beef throughout the year to supplement the cash flow.

Our wedding cake was made by a farming neighbour who was known to be the best wedding cake baker in the county. The wedding cake was excellent and yes, we kept the top layer for the christening of our first child. This masterpiece of culinary art was not only delicious and the top tier kept for four years until Scott’s christening but it was much less expensive than the decorated Styrofoam that is used today for a wedding cake.

For years, some of my neighbouring farmers were known for their carpentry skills and helped build some of those landmarks that have withstood snowfalls of the century and winds that flattened buildings



Outstanding in his field

that have been designed by certified engineers and were only a few years old.

In an attempt to idiot-proof our society, our various levels of government have imposed laws and rules on everything from not allowing any baked goods to be sold unless they are made in a certified commercial kitchen, to making it illegal to cut a tree unless the tree cutter is certified.

Many farms today spend more time and money filling out forms, maintaining environment plans, maintaining animal health records, getting approval and permits for everything, taking compulsory training for milk production, use of chemicals and even animal welfare. The mental stress and frustration placed on the farmer is usually caused because the person in control here usually has more authority than common sense.

Once while attending a management seminar, an agricultural economist from Iowa told us about the five m’s of success:

1. Your mate;
2. Money (a banker or lender that understands farming);
3. Your mechanic;
4. A mentor you can talk to;
5. Management.

The best chef that I know once told me that the most important member on his team was the dishwasher. An excellent dishwasher not only could do a spotless job, but could help out with other food related, time sensitive jobs and was priceless!

A successful farmer keeps a close watch on the seven bank accounts of a farmer:

1. Soil;
2. Seed;
3. Education (continuous);
4. The team or family;
5. Neighbours;
6. Politics (local, provincial, federal, general farm, production specific);
7. Money. A farm lender must be able to name and explain all seven.

Back to why. Most young people whether they are farm raised or not, can find a higher paying job with much less stress and investment involved, working off the farm. Some farms are designed and built for tomorrow, some not.

Recent off-farm investors have been buying land instead of other investments. This has driven farm land prices up enough to discourage future and existing farmers.

In many US states land taxes paid by farmers are based on how much money the land can produce. This is not the case in Canada.

Sometimes an untimely death can end the life of a family farm. A farm auction is always a sad day for the community. It usually means one less family to send kids to the local school, one less family to attend the church, one less family to support the local businesses.

A local general store owner once told me every farm that quits, means less rubber boots to order next spring.

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

Letters

Acknowledgments

Dear Editor,

With the recent flooding in different parts of the Pontiac, I want to thank all the people who are volunteering their time to help those affected.

I also want to thank members of the Canadian Armed Forces for their service. Domestic operations are very important to help out our fellow residents and by your presence and your contributions you have once again demonstrated that you are men and women who care about our nation and our people.

Having served in the Canadian Armed Forces, in Canada and abroad, I can say without restraint that you are the best military in the world and we are extremely fortunate to be able to count on you.

Thank you for your service to the Pontiac.

**Dave Blackburn, Ph.D.
Conservative Party of Canada
candidate for Pontiac**

Letters to the Editor

Letters must bear the complete name, address and daytime phone number of the writer. Opinions in the letters published do not necessarily reflect the opinions of THE EQUITY.

May 11, 1994 25 Years Ago

John Langford and friends put on stepping show: It’s a show that never grows old. About 200 people, mostly parents and grandparents, turned out at McDowell School on May 6 for the show that has become an annual event since John established the Langford School of Dance 12 years ago.

As long as new students continue to sign up year after year to study at the feet of John Langford, Shawville will always have a perennial crop of stepdancers and John will always have a guaranteed audience for his spring recital.

In addition to the stepdancers, 37 acts made up the show including the fiddle playing and an audience sing-along led by Dorothy Porteous and MC Don Letts. Likewise, the flying feet of Chris Last, accompanied by the Fiddlers Three Plus One (Virginia Schwartz, Shawn Schwartz, Melanie Walls and Isobel Schwartz), showed the young beginners how the experts do it.

The first of 127,000 flags: Myrna Palmer and Daryl MacPherson of the Shawville and District Kinettes and Kinsmen will be helping to hoist the Canadian flag at McDowell School in Shawville on May 14.

In conjunction with communities across the country, the ceremony will launch a period of national celebration that will culminate with 127,000 flags being flown on

THE WAY WE WERE

Compiled by
Bonnie Chevier

Parliament Hill on Canada Day. Pontiac-Gatineau-Labelle MP Robert Bertrand and Pontiac MNA Robert Middlemiss are expected to take part in the Shawville ceremony on Saturday along with the mayors of Shawville, Clarendon and Bristol and an RCMP colour guard.

May 14, 1969 50 Years Ago

Twenty five American bats migrate to Charteris: Science teacher John Sproviere has 25 bats, found at Charteris which had been banded at Washington, D.C. Numbers on the bands have been recorded to be mailed to the Department of Wild Life, Washington.

The bats are being kept alive in the laboratory at Victoria Avenue School in Shawville.

They were found by Roy Hanson and William Bell, amateur speleologists from Shawville who were exploring caves in the Charteris area. The bats were found sleeping about a mile into the cave.

Cages are being built for the bats who will be well treated while their captors wait to hear from Washington.

Wayne and Schuster with Davis and the L’Ecuyers: Ken Davis of Quyon and Conrad and Jacques L’Ecuyer of Fort Coulonge enjoyed meeting comedians Johnny Wayne and Frank Schuster in Montreal recently. The occasion was a promotion in connection with the conversion of

B-A Oil station to Gulf Canada.

May 11, 1944 75 Years Ago

Local news: The mobile blood donor clinic from Ottawa was here Thursday and Friday of last week and donations of blood were made by 170 persons of Shawville and surrounding community.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Havelin have received word that their son, Spr. Mosie Havelin, R.C.A.S.C. has arrived safely overseas, Sr. Havelin received his training in Hamilton, Brampton, Port Arthur, Petawawa, Sheffield, Alta., Chiliwack, B.C. and Red Deer, Alta.

War of nerves keeps Nazis guessing when, where, how we are coming: speculation in this country as to when the invasion of Europe will begin can be answered truthfully out of information available to any newspaper reader: it has already begun, state the *New York Times*.

The air attacks, rising in fury day by day, are invasion. Every thousand planes is at least the equivalent of an armoured division roaming at will through the enemy’s country.

The invasion has begun in other ways. We are working on the German’s nerves. The closing of the Eire border, the curtailment of diplomatic messages and the suspension of overseas travel were all practical measures to prevent leakage of information but they were also stages in phycological warfare.

A London source having close connections with the European underground said

that Hitler is making a secret inspection of the West Wall defenses.

The Germans announced that Hitler has met Mussolini recently at a “secret” meeting place, perhaps the Branner Pass, the Italian or French Riviera.

May 9, 1919 (Thursday) 100 Years Ago

Local news: The Bank of Ottawa went out of existence with the end of April and on Thursday morning, May 1, concrete evidence of this fact was given at the local branch in town when new signs bearing the legend: “The Bank of Nova Scotia” took the place of the old.

Mr. Duncan Presley, who a number of years ago conducted a store on the corner now occupied by the post office, visited Shawville last week and was struck with the changes that have taken place since he resided here.

Duncan spent the past eight years in Montana and recently came to Wyman, Que.

The farmers are all hoping for clear weather as the season is advancing and as yet little has been done in the line of spring work. On the clay lands nothing whatever has been accomplished in this district.

The householders of Ottawa should be intensely interested these days in the price-slashing contest that began last week between the Ottawa and producers dairy companies.

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Local retires from city police force

Written by Clare Rayment

After 36 years with the Gloucester and Ottawa Police Services, on April 30, Shawville resident Margaret MacDonald said goodbye to the working life and joined the rank of retiree.

Margaret and her mother Harriet moved to Shawville in 1974, joining her older sister Hennie Lucas, who along with her husband Lyons, owned a farm on the 7th Line.

Harriet was a well-known seamstress in the community.

“The whirring sound of the sewing machine was something I heard constantly growing up,” said Margaret, who attended Pontiac High School, where she enjoyed her English classes with Joan Conrod, art classes with Carol Bretzloff-Holmes and was a member of the band, playing the flute, with music instructor George Campbell.

At 18-years-old, MacDonald moved from Shawville to work at the Gloucester Police Service.

“I was in good company, as several of my classmates joined afterwards, like Randy Brown, Rick Keindel and George Horner,” she said.

She was a true “Jane-of-all-trades” in the early days, working in the Records, Firearms, Criminal Investigations, Intelligence and Traffic Court Departments before becoming the Manager of Central Records.

“We were a small but growing organization, there weren’t a lot of civilians and there weren’t a lot of women, but there were lots of opportunities if you wanted them,” MacDonald said.

Her time with the police was an adventure, to say the least. MacDonald recalled being “initiated” by several of the more experienced members during her first few years there.

“I had my share of practical jokes played on me,” she recalled, laughing. “I was locked in the back of a police car several times and had gum spit in my coffee. It was all to see whether you cried or gave it right back.”

And she definitely wasn’t the type to cry. Gloucester, Nepean and Ottawa Police amal-



Photo by Stephane St-Jean

Shawville native Margaret MacDonald retired on April 30 after serving 36 years in various roles with the Gloucester and Ottawa Police Services. Pictured, MacDonald was recognized for her dedication by Ottawa Police Chief Charles Bordeleau on April 25.

gamated in 1995 and MacDonald worked with even more Shawville-ites. Debbie Erfle-Storie, her brother, Ralph Erfle, their sister-in-law, Wendy Erfle, sisters-in-law Kathy Murray and Nancy Wilson, another family duo of Carol Brunet and Anne Hodgins, along with Ruth Armstrong and Tim Hodgins.

“I never had to go far to hear news from home, I was surrounded by people I grew up with,” she said. “It was certainly comforting to have that connection.”

MacDonald switched to the IT world during the amalgamation of police organizations and from there, she became the Manager of Corporate Communications.

As an employee, MacDonald was tough, hardworking, and was never afraid to fight back on issues she was passionate about. It certainly wasn’t easy, having an integral role in communications for major incidents like the G20 Summit or Canada Day (the biggest event managed by Ottawa Police), the Cenotaph shooting in 2014, the on-duty death of Constable Eric Czapnik in 2009 and the OC Transpo/Via Rail collision in 2013.

MacDonald has remained a regular visitor to the Pontiac over the years. Her mother lived in the area until she passed away in 2010 and her sister Hennie was a resident for over 45 years until she died last year.

“Shawville will always feel like home, because that’s where I grew up and where my family is,” she said.

MacDonald plans to take it easy for the first bit of her retirement. She and her husband are currently putting a front porch addition onto their 200-year-old home in Finch and she’s planning to buy a new car – a MINI Countryman - to get her through the winter months when she can’t drive her beloved 1998 Volkswagen Beetle.

As a person who likes to keep busy, Margaret will be continuing her work as the Vice-President of the Stormont-Dundas Library Services Board and as the long-serving President of People Words and Change.

Friends and colleagues have expressed how much she will be missed.

“It’s not the end of those relationships,” said MacDonald. “I’m only a text or call away, and now I’ll have all the time in the world.”

The Parents’ Voice

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

Having these extra hands was so helpful. It is awe inspiring and heartwarming to see a community come together in times of need.

Not only does our community shine in stress-induced times, it shines regularly, thanks to countless volunteers. In small towns we need volunteers for everything. Starting with programs like skating, to clubs, to sports, to organizations like the Lions and Lionettes who provide so much assistance to all those in need in our communities, along with countless others.

In order to make our communities thrive we need volunteers. We need people to help organize the events, we need people to fundraise, we need people to help advertise the event and we need people to come to the events. We owe a huge thank you to all those that have been volunteering for years and years and who continue to do so, graciously, because volunteering can be hard.

There are so many amazing volunteers in our community, some of whom have been volunteering for decades and decades and continue to tirelessly help our community. Without them our community would be lacking so many important programs, events, assistance etc. Thank you to all of you for all that you do.

So, there you have it. This week’s article is a plea to those who think they may enjoy some camaraderie with others who share an interest in helping make our town better. Whether it be someone who might like to read to children, flip burgers at a charity barbecue, put up posters to advertise an upcoming event, help organize an annual event, coach a soccer team or hundreds of other positions that could be filled or shared.

If you’re interested in helping out in your town contact the president or a member of the organization of your choice. I am certain your step towards helping others will be graciously received. Volunteering is no easy feat however, you can be sure to feel rewarded once you’ve helped a group of people who work so hard to better the town we all call home.

For those who just don’t have any room to spare in your busy schedules, you can still help. You can participate in the events that are planned by showing up. You can participate in the take down or set up of an event that is already planned, you can help by getting the word out. These things do not need you weekly/biweekly/monthly, only once in a while and your donation of time will be gratefully accepted.

To all those sitting on the cusp of wanting to help out in some way I urge you to do it. Each and every organization can use new blood in some way, shape or form.

We at the Parents’ Voice Shawville are always looking for new parents to join our committee. Help in any form is always appreciated.

Until next week, think of how you can make a difference in your town.

Spiritual Growth

By Esther Colpitts

The episode

My pup and I went to the park to play ball. Everything was going fine until he decided to get a drink. As he ran closer I started to cry out “don’t!” Too late! He dropped his ball and began to drink. The creek roaring along has a small waterfall. The ball disappeared. We searched and searched, up and down, with him in and out of the water, me on the bank, to no avail. We had to head home without it.

How do you explain to an animal when they look to you to fix the problem? You can’t. Thankfully, I know he’ll get over it. He won’t hold a grudge.

Harder though than that experience, how do you explain to a person when things go wrong and they don’t understand? There is only one key. Forgiveness.

esthercolpitts.com

The Way We Were

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

The result of the rivalry was a reduction in milk from 13 to 10 cents a quart (and at that price, it is still too high)- then came a drop in butter of 5 cents per pound. Both these articles of food have been entirely too high in Ottawa at this season of the year.

Ad: Wanted: A good general maid. No washing. Liberal wages. Apply to Mrs. G.E. Reid, Portage du Fort.

The Second Division of the Canadian Army will start to sail for Canada on Thursday. Eleven hundred Canadian troops from Siberia arrived at Victoria, B.C. on Monday.

During its activities in Belgium and France, the Canadian Expeditionary Force captured an immense quantity of war trophies of all kinds.

These, it is probable, will be housed in a large building at the capital, which it is stated will be erected by Lord Beverbrook at his own expense.

The Peace Treaty, just completed and expected to be handed to the German representatives at Versailles on Thursday, is a ponderous document of fourteen chapters.

May 17, 1894
125 Years Ago

Local News: Mr. C.R. Morrison left here on Monday morning with two teams to work on the O.A. and P.S. Railway west of Eganville.

The annual exhibition of stallions was held and this brought together a considerable number of the farmers of the neighbourhood. The show was considered the poorest that has been held for years. Of the several draft animals that were brought to the exhibition, only one was pronounced eligible to compete.

A commencement was made on Tuesday last towards the erection of the proposed Anglican Church near Clarke’s Station. Next week, Mr. George Findlay will begin the work of laying the foundation.

The water is said to be falling very rapidly in the Ottawa River at present, owing to the cool, dry weather that has prevailed. Along the Calumet chenail, large quantities of logs are sticking daily as the water recedes from the undulated flat lands.

Tuff and Stobie of Gold Mine fame were in Bryson last week examining specimens of quartz which Mr. Ritchie has collected from different sections of the county.

Mr. C. McColgan of Quyon has recently finished the manufacture of 47 dozen pairs of driving boots, contracted for with several of the lumber concerns of the district.

Mr. W.D. Harris, C.B. Dunn and others of the engineering staff of the P.P.J. Co. were up the line inspecting that portion of the road not in operation west of Coulonge with a view to commence the work of repairing at once in order that it may be utilized for traffic as speedily as possible. Once taken up, we hope to see the work of construction continued without intercession until the road is completed to the terminus.

Rev. N.H. Naylor has been made Arch-deacon of the deaneries of Clarendon and St. Andrews.

The change in mail service between here and Otter Lake from tri-weekly to daily is under the consideration of the P.O. Dept. at present.

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Local volunteers recognized with medal

J.D. POTIÉ
PONTIAC April 13, 2019
On April 13, two Pontiac residents were honoured with special pieces of silverware commemorating their volunteering efforts and dedication to their communities.

At a ceremony held at the Université du Québec en Outaouais in Gatineau, Grand Calumet Island resident Tyler La Salle and Charlotte St-Pierre Boucher of Fort-Coulonge were each presented with a medal from the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec Michel Doyon for their contribution as volunteers in the Pontiac.

As part of the Lieutenant Governor of Quebec Award Program, the medal is made to recognize the hard work of dedicated volunteers who have made significant positive impacts in their community.

For La Salle, winning the youth medal is a big deal – an achievement he ranks higher than anything he's ever won or been recognized for.

Considering how commonly volunteers show persistent dedication to their communities without receiving much if any sort of recognition, La Salle felt delighted that all his hard work is finally paying off.

"It was very satisfying knowing that all the work you put in your community doesn't go unnoticed," he said. "And that you finally get recognized for all the volunteer work that you do because it's work that you don't get paid to do it. You do it from your heart and it's very gratifying to know that."

Nominated by his former high school L'École secondaire Sieur de Coulonge's (ESSC) board of governors for his involvement in curricular and extracurricular activi-

ties, La Salle got word that he won the award after receiving a call from the high school's assistant director Gabie Paré.



On April 13, two Pontiac residents were honoured with special pieces of silverware commemorating their volunteering efforts and dedication to their communities. Pictured, La Salle (right) accepts his award from Lieutenant Governor General of Quebec Michel Doyon.

Around three weeks before the gala, Paré asked him to give her his personal information like his phone number, his address and

his email. Confused as to why she wanted those details, La Salle asked what it was for, to which she responded

that he had been selected as a recipient of the medal. Having been involved in volunteering initiatives for nearly 10 years, La Salle has held active roles with numerous organizations in his community, including the Grand CalumetIsland R.A. Committee, helping bring more activities to the town. Most notable was a carnival for kids, which he recalls as one of his proudest accomplishments to date.

"It was an all-day event – full weekend actually, filled with activities for kids," he said. "Growing up around here, there wasn't a lot of activities like this and this was a pretty major one. It meant a lot."

"What was significant for me was knowing that I took a problem that existed when I was a kid," he continued. "There was a need for this type of activity. Putting together an event that doesn't necessarily help me but helps everybody else - that was what made it more rewarding."

Now working part-time as a constituency assistant for Pontiac Liberal MP Will Amos, the 19-year-old said he plans on continuously serving his community in whatever way he can, as he believes it's the right thing to do to make the world better for future generations.

"I do it for the future," he said. "I do it because later on, if I have children, I want them to have the best community possible. That's basically why I do the work. There is the personal accomplishment too. But, I do it for my community to make it the best possible community for future generations to come."

Held up volunteering with flood management in Fort-Coulonge, St-Pierre Boucher declined to be interviewed for this piece.

Fire guts Mansfield home

CALEB NICKERSON
MANSFIELD ET PONTEFRAC April 30, 2019

A chimney fire gutted the upper floor of a home in Mansfield on Friday afternoon.

According to owner Brigitte Sabourin, the sole occupants at the time were friends of hers who were

manning sump pumps in the basement. Just before 2 p.m. on May 3, they called the Mansfield Fire Department to report fire and smoke coming from a second story bedroom wall.

Mansfield Fire Chief Darcy Belair said that the likely culprit of the blaze was the chimney. The local fire

department, supported by their counterparts from Fort Coulonge, numbered 30 and had the situation under control in around two and a half hours.

"It's a loss, it's an old building," he said. "[The] second floor is mostly burnt, but it didn't burn right to the ground."

Don't miss the RCMP Musical Ride

Date: **May 25, 2019 (new date)**

Time: **1:15 pm**

Location: **Shawville Fairgrounds
215 Lang Street, Shawville**

Locally supported by: **Pontiac Agricultural Society**

Free Admission
Donations to community groups will be accepted at the admission gate
Community groups will be onsite selling food

CANAMEX project sees progress

CALEB NICKERSON
PONTIAC May 8, 2019

Significant developments have been made in the creation of an international agri-tourism circuit, according to a local farmer who is coordinating the project.

Allumettes Island resident David Gillespie appeared at the 36th Annual Vermont Tourism Summit in South Burlington, Vermont on April 4 and 5. Gillespie gave a presentation on the two state, two province, agri-tourism route called CANAMEX that he has been

working on for years with partners in the US and Canada. The route snakes from Vermont and New York, through south Quebec and into south eastern Ontario and the Outaouais, and will include a host of different farms and producers.

Gillespie gave a similar presentation on the project at an international tourism conference in Italy this past November, alongside University of Vermont professor and tourism researcher Lisa Chase.

"It was the same presenta-

tion I gave in Italy, but we did there a little less on theory and a little more on applications," he said in an interview with THE EQUITY on Friday.

At the summit, Gillespie also got a meeting with Vermont Governor Phil Scott, which went on far longer than expected. The two were introduced by Tourism Commissioner Wendy Knight, and ended up hitting it off.

"I was lucky to even meet him," he said, noting that he found Scott down to earth.

CANAMEX received a letter of support in early April from Canada's newly appointed Agriculture Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau, who also forwarded a copy of the letter to the office of Tourism Minister Melanie Jolie.

More recently, region four of the route, which includes Papineau, Prescott-Russell, Vallée de la Gatineau, des Collines, Renfrew and Pontiac, met on April 24 in Chelsea for a planning session.

Gillespie said that this region has a lot of work to do, though he was encouraged by what he heard at the table, including a grant of \$300,000 for a CANAMEX link in the Prescott-Russell region of Ontario. He praised agri-tourism as a supplementary or even primary revenue stream for farmers in the Pontiac.

"People in agriculture in general are suffering because of low commodity prices," he said. "This is a value added and we can see in regions south of Montreal that are doing very well. We're not there yet here but it's starting ... There's an existing circuit here but we need to develop it more. If we can get more farmers to join, it's a win-win."

Gillespie said that there are criteria for businesses to be added to the official circuit; basics like parking, washrooms and the product offered. He was eager to see the existing Outaouais Gourmet Way route expand in the region, as well as make links with businesses in Renfrew County.

"We're going to try and secure some funding this year," he said.

The next meeting on the agenda for the CANAMEX leadership will be later this summer in the US.

"We're going to have a meeting on July 10 for all regions: Vermont, New York, Quebec ... and Ontario, specifically on what issues we need to resolve before the inauguration by the governors and the premiers," Gillespie said.



Local farmer David Gillespie, right, has been spearheading an international agri-tourism route called CANAMEX for several years and recently attended the Vermont Tourism Summit at the beginning of April. There, he had a chat with Vermont Governor Phil Scott.

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TRÉPANIÉ & ASSOCIÉS, NOTAIRES INC.
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Me Jean-Pierre Pigeon
jpigeon@notarius.net

Me Nathalie Chrétien
nachretien@notarius.net

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Local children create watercolours

SHAWVILLE April 28, 2019
Katharine Fletcher's Get Art Watercolour Wonder Workshop with Parents' Voice children and parents took place at the community lodge in Shawville on April 28.

"I taught perspective, framing and masking (with tape)," Fletcher said. "Then we created a watercolour wash and sprinkled salt on the wet paint to create 'stars'. Final touch? Sparkle glue to make a moonglow!"

"It's always such a plea-

sure to teach art in my community," she continued. "I enjoy seeing what the children create: Each artwork is unique to their perspective and composition. Fun!"

Get Art is a collective of Pontiac artists (Tanya McCormick, Michael Peterson and Katharine Fletcher) who bring art into Pontiac communities, from Breckenridge to Shawville and beyond. Want art? Contact Get Art: contactgetart@gmail.com.

Submitted to THE EQUITY.



Photo submitted

Emma Thomas admires her work at the Get Art watercolour workshop put on in conjunction with Parent's Voice on April 28.



Photo submitted

Sheridan Moffatt applies her skills to her creation.



Photo submitted

Owen Thomas tries his hand at creating art at the workshop.

ArtPontiac celebrates Print Day in May

J.D. POTIÉ
PORTAGE DU FORT
May 4, 2019

On May 4, ArtPontiac hosted its fourth annual Print Day in May, inviting local art enthusiast to test out their printmaking skills at the Stone School in Portage du Fort.

Organized by local artist Valerie Bridgeman, the event consisted of a session where local art enthusiasts used pencils, markers and carving tools to transfer images from paper surfaces to a black block by pressing them with ink and brayers.

Held every year on the first Saturday of May, the event was founded in California by artist Robynn Smith who decided to dedicate the day to her love for printmaking.

Now celebrated for over 10 years by print makers in art studios all across the globe, the first Saturday of the month has thousands of artists making all sorts of prints.

After seeing how the event's popularity took over social media, Bridgeman felt compelled to bring the event to the Pontiac to show local artists what the beauty of printmaking is all about.

"I saw it on Facebook and I thought, 'We can do that'" she said. "Print maker's all over the world will be printing today, so that's why we're doing it. It's a print-making extravaganza."

Considering the lack of avenues available for artists in rural areas like the Pontiac, Bridgeman says the event is a step towards giving locals an opportunity to learn something new while taking part in something they don't often have the chance to participate in.

"People who live here don't have the same exposure that people in the city to do arts events and opportunities to learn and to show their origin," she said.

According to Bridgeman, the event is a great way for new artists to work with more experienced print makers allowing them to learn and feed off each other's inspiration, thus making their creative experience much more enjoyable and productive.

"It's always great to have a group," she said. "When you're printmaking by yourself, out in the country it's always hard to do any kind of artform or anything in a vacuum by yourself. So, when you have other people that are working on the same thing, you learn and feed off of each other and get inspiration, energy and enthusiasm."

With only a few artists

participating, the turnout was underwhelming. However, Bridgeman was still delighted to see people participate because at the end of the day the Pontiac will have a few more print makers than it did the day before.

"I'm happy that we have two new people who might come back and do more printmaking," she said. "We've got two new print makers now and it's such a good experience and of course all of them are from the rural area and that's what ArtPontiac is all about."

As an avid artist and former board member, Bridgeman hopes the event helps bring more people to get involved with ArtPontiac.



Photo submitted

On May 4, ArtPontiac hosted its fourth annual Print Day in May, inviting local art enthusiasts to test out their printmaking skills at the Stone School in Portage du Fort. Pictured, Renfrew resident Christine Taylor works on a print during the event.



Clubs conseils en agroenvironnement
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PUBLIC NOTICE
TO SHAWVILLE AND CLARENDON RESIDENTS

As of May 1st, 2019, tree brush and branches will no longer be accepted at the transfer station located at C384 7th Concession.

Instead, all household tree brush and branches will be accepted at the new Shawville/Clarendon tree waste disposal site, located at **C295 8th Concession.**

This site will be open to Shawville and Clarendon residents only and will be open on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. starting on Saturday, May 4th, 2019.

The following will be ACCEPTED at the Brush Site:

- Branches (up to a diameter of 3 inches)
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QCNA received funds from the Secrétariat aux relations avec les Québécois d'expression anglaise to conduct a study on the effects of the closures of community newspapers in Quebec.

As such you might receive a request to participate in our upcoming survey about community newspapers from invitation@web.som.ca. We thank you for taking the time to respond.

This project is funded by the Government of Canada.
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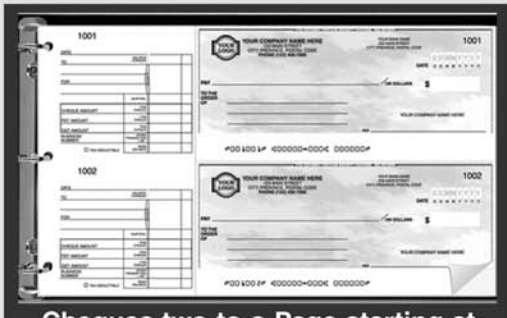
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PHS hosts future students at annual open house

CALEB NICKERSON
SHAWVILLE May 2, 2019

On May 2, excited grade six students got a chance to see where they would be headed next year at Pontiac High School's annual open house. The event allows both prospective students and their parents to tour the building as well as meet with faculty and staff.

The evening began in the auditorium with a keynote address from Principal Debra Stephens, who welcomed the incoming class and went over some ground rules. Faculty lined up along the wall of the room and Stephens introduced them one at a time, noting the subjects they taught and any extracurricular activities they led.

She went over topics such as the school's dress code and cyberbullying policy before releasing the

crowd out into the halls of the school. Each classroom had a different project or display for the guests to pore over, in addition to staff and older students to chat with. Drinks were handed out outside the library and there was a hallway filled with greenery for sale from the school's greenhouse.

Erica Tomkinson, a drug awareness and prevention officer with the school board, had a display outside her office detailing the effects of various narcotics. She said she splits her time between PHS and several other schools in the area, and added that prevention efforts in the early grades are one of the most effective ways of curbing teen substance abuse.

In the school's wood shop, teacher Paul Chevrier had several projects that

had been constructed by students for members of the community. There were Adirondack chairs and even sizable hen house which Chevrier said took several students about a year to construct.

In the welding shop, visitors could watch teacher Megan Tubman and several students at work cutting and binding pieces of metal.

The Maison des Jeunes teen lounge was open, though many of the children opted to make the most of the nice weather and played outside instead. Director Desiree Tremblay-Giroux said that since they opened in October, they've seen many more students coming to their lunch-time and after school programming on a regular basis. She estimated that the after school program averages around 45 kids per week.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

The Pontiac High School open house on May 2 opened with a message in the auditorium from Principal Debra Stephens, who introduced the faculty and went over some basic rules and tips for the new students.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

One hallway at PHS smelled particularly delightful as plants grown in the school's greenhouse were sold to visitors.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Future students could take a look at some of the cool projects in the school's wood shop, like the hen house pictured here. From left: Marissa Lang, Paul Chevrier, Paige Dubeau, Madi Alexander and Cade Kuehl.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Grade seven students Kaleah McLean, Mackenzie Gray and Kalie Laurent pose in front of a table of book covers their English class created.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Welding teacher Meghan Tubman uses a horizontal band saw to cut some material in the shop.

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Cégep Heritage College 30th Anniversary

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Un Cocktail 5 à 7 printanier aura lieu au Cégep Heritage College pour célébrer notre 30e anniversaire.

- Profitez de cette occasion pour renouer des liens avec les anciens du Collège.
- Nous dévoilerons une œuvre du 30e anniversaire créée par nos étudiants de première année en arts visuels.
- Photos anciennes seront en exposition à la bibliothèque.
- Notre association étudiante préparera également une capsule de temps.
- Bar payant et hors d'œuvres seront servis.

Vous pouvez confirmer votre présence auprès de Marc Desjardins à mdesjardins@cegep-heritage.qc.ca ou par téléphone : 819 778-2270, poste 1070.

Merci pour votre participation

Book the date of THURSDAY, MAY 9 on your calendar!

A 5 to 7 Spring Cocktail will be held at Cégep Heritage College to celebrate our 30th anniversary.

- Take this opportunity to reconnect with College alumni.
- We will unveil a 30th anniversary artwork created by our first year visual arts students.
- Old photos will be on display at the library.
- Our student association will also prepare a time capsule.
- Bar service and finger food will be available.

You can confirm your attendance with Marc Desjardins at mdesjardins@cegep-heritage.qc.ca or by phone: 819 778-2270, extension 1070.

Thank you for your participation

Le ministre ordonne au Centre de tri Pontiac de cesser de déposer

GOUV. DU QUÉBEC
Communiqué
GATINEAU Le 3 mai 2019

Le ministre de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, M. Benoit Charette, annonce qu'il a pris une ordonnance à l'égard de l'entreprise 9231-6082 Québec inc., aussi connue sous le nom de « Centre de tri Pontiac », concernant l'exploitation de son centre de tri situé à Litchfield, en Outaouais.

Faisant suite à l'avis préalable transmis à l'entreprise le 18 février dernier, l'ordonnance no 681, prise en vertu de l'article 114 de la Loi sur la qualité de l'environnement (LQE), exige notamment que le Centre de tri Pontiac cesse le dépôt et l'enfouissement de tout type de matières résiduelles dans

un lieu non autorisé situé sur les lots 4 759 924, 4 759 925 et 4 759 926. L'entreprise devra également respecter le certificat d'autorisation qui lui a été délivré par le Ministère le 8 juin 2012 et qui a été modifié le 20 mai 2014.

Le Centre de tri Pontiac devra soumettre au Ministère, dans les quinze jours suivant la notification de l'ordonnance, un plan visant à remettre les lieux dans l'état où ils étaient avant les travaux. Elle devra ainsi retirer les matières résiduelles déposées dans un lieu non autorisé et les acheminer vers un site autorisé. Le Centre de tri Pontiac devra aussi procéder à l'aménagement complet des plateformes conformément au certificat d'autorisation délivré, et ce,

avant de les utiliser pour y déposer des matières résiduelles.

L'ordonnance prévoit aussi la démolition d'une plateforme de tri construite à partir de bardeaux d'asphalte et la disposition de ces bardeaux dans un lieu autorisé, et ce, dans un délai de 120 jours suivant la signification de l'ordonnance.

Au plus tard 30 jours après la fin de la remise en état, l'entreprise devra transmettre un rapport confirmant au Ministère que les travaux ont été effectués conformément au plan préalablement approuvé.

Enfin, le ministre ordonne également au Centre de tri Pontiac de procéder à une caractérisation exhaustive des sols et des eaux susceptibles d'avoir été contaminés

par les matières résiduelles, dans les 45 jours suivant la fin des travaux de remise en état des lieux, et de transmettre les résultats au Ministère. Advenant la présence de contamination, l'entreprise sera dans l'obligation de faire approuver un plan de réhabilitation par le Ministère et de réhabiliter le site dans les 30 jours suivant cette approbation.

Faits saillants

Les nombreuses inspections réalisées depuis mai 2013 par le Ministère ont révélé de nombreux manquements de la part du Centre de tri Pontiac. L'entreprise s'est d'ailleurs vue transmettre, depuis 2013, 10 avis de non-conformité en lien avec les activités non conformes de son centre de tri.

Le 16 octobre 2018, l'entreprise a été déclarée coupable de quatre infractions à la LQE, dont trois concernaient le non-respect des conditions de son certificat d'autorisation, en contravention avec l'article 123.1 de la Loi sur la qualité de l'environnement. Le détail de cette condamnation peut être consulté dans le communiqué de presse disponible à l'adresse suivante : www.environnement.gouv.qc.ca/Infuseur/condamnation.asp no=1294.

Un nouveau directeur général pour le Cégep Heritage College

GOUV. DU QUÉBEC
Communiqué
GATINEAU Le 26 avril 2019

Murielle Laberge, présidente du conseil d'administration du Cégep Heritage College, est très heureuse d'annoncer la nomination de Gordon McIvor au poste de directeur général, à compter du 1er juillet 2019.

M. McIvor remplacera Michael Randall qui prend sa retraite. M. McIvor est doyen du Centre de formation continue au Vancouver Community College depuis février 2016.

Il a débuté sa carrière

comme professeur au secondaire en 1994 et a enseigné l'anglais des affaires et l'économie en anglais et en français au Collège O'Sullivan de Québec pendant cinq ans.

Son implication dans la gestion de l'enseignement supérieur a débuté en 2010 en formation continue à l'Université de Calgary où il a dirigé les programmes de gestion et de développement professionnel, avant de devenir directeur du programme, Apprentissage des adultes, langues et arts libéraux.

M. McIvor est titulaire d'un

baccalauréat ès arts (BA) en économie de l'Université York (Glendon College) à Toronto, d'un certificat en enseignement secondaire de l'Université Laval à Québec, d'une maîtrise en éducation avec spécialisation en milieu de travail et apprentissage des adultes de l'Université de Calgary et d'un MBA en leadership stratégique de l'Université de Dallas à Irving, au Texas.

Pour plus d'informations sur le Cégep Heritage College, veuillez visiter notre site Web à l'adresse www.cegep-heritage.qc.ca.

Risque d'inondation qui continue le long de la Rivière des Outaouais

ORRS
Communiqué
OTTAWA Le 3 mai 2019

Le Comité de régularisation de la rivière des Outaouais met en garde les résidents qu'il s'attend à ce que les débits et les niveaux d'eau le long de la rivière des Outaouais entre Mattawa et le lac Coulonge augmentent à nouveau pour atteindre une autre pointe au cours de la prochaine semaine. Les réservoirs localisés en Abitibi-Témiscamingue se rempliront rapidement en raison de la fonte des neiges et du ruissellement provenant de cette partie du bassin versant. Les débits sortants de ces réservoirs sont à la hausse et feront augmenter les débits et les niveaux d'eau en aval le long de la rivière des Outaouais entre Mattawa et le lac Coulonge.

Les débits et niveaux d'eau entre Mattawa et le lac Coulonge pourraient augmenter rapidement par moment et pourraient même dépasser les niveaux de pointe atteints le mois dernier.

Tendance des conditions en rivière / Risque d'inondation : La neige fond de plus en plus rapidement dans la partie nord du bassin versant à mesure que les températures se réchauffent. Dans les prochains jours, les débits sortants des réservoirs de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue vont augmenter considérablement.

Les niveaux d'eau de la rivière des Outaouais en aval du lac Témiscamingue entre Mattawa et le lac Coulonge devraient monter rapidement, en fonction des conditions à venir, notamment les températures, la rapidité de la fonte des neiges et les quantités de précipitation.

On recommande aux riverains de ces secteurs de suivre l'évolution de la situation et de prendre les mesures de protection nécessaires. Le Comité de régularisation évaluera les prévisions hydrologiques et fera la mise à jour de son site Web quotidiennement à <http://rivieredes-outaouais.ca/previsions.php>.

Si vous croyez que votre propriété pourrait être inondée, communiquez avec votre municipalité.

Le Comité de régularisation de la rivière des Outaouais avise les résidents que tous les secteurs entre Mattawa et le lac Coulonge sont à risque d'inondation supplémentaire au cours des deux prochaines semaines, qui variera en fonction des conditions météorologiques. De plus, le Comité prévient les résidents que pour les secteurs entre le lac Coulonge et l'archipel de Montréal, il y a toujours un risque d'inondation et que les niveaux d'eau demeureront élevés et sujets à des hausses supplémentaires s'il devait y avoir d'autres précipitations abondantes.

Stratégie de régularisation des réservoirs : Cette année en Abitibi-Témiscamingue, le volume du ruissellement printanier est plus grand que la capacité de retenue de la plupart des réservoirs. Au cours des deux dernières semaines, les réservoirs en Abitibi-Témiscamingue ont emmagasiné la plus grande partie du ruissellement provenant de cette région.

L'emmagasinement du ruissellement a été optimisé de façon à réduire les forts débits venant du nord pendant que les débits des affluents locaux de la partie centre-ouest du

bassin versant atteignaient leur pic et se mettaient à redescendre. Maintenant que le ruissellement printanier naturel de ces rivières se résorbe, les débits évacués des réservoirs en Abitibi-Témiscamingue seront augmentés graduellement en raison de la montée rapide des niveaux d'eau de ces derniers. Les autres réservoirs qui sont situés plus au nord continueront à se remplir graduellement au cours des deux à trois semaines prochaines au rythme de la fonte des neiges.

Les ouvrages qui sont situés dans le centre et le sud du bassin sont principalement au fil de l'eau et ont une capacité d'emmagasinement négligeable. Par conséquent, ils ne peuvent réduire la hausse des débits et des niveaux d'eau engendrée par le ruissellement printanier. Durant cette période critique, le Comité de régularisation prendra les mesures pour atténuer les inondations et continuera de surveiller la situation tout le long de la rivière.

Le Comité de régularisation de la rivière des Outaouais travaille de façon constante en étroite collaboration avec les autorités provinciales qui sont responsables de la diffusion des avertissements liés aux inondations. Au Québec, le Centre des opérations gouvernementales du Québec et la Sécurité civile collaborent avec les municipalités afin de protéger les résidents contre les inondations. Vous pouvez accéder au site de surveillance de la crue des eaux à partir du site Web suivant : <https://geoegl.msp.gouv.qc.ca/adnv2>.

En Ontario, les Offices de la protection de la nature et Bureaux de district du Ministère des richesses naturelles et des forêts diffusent les avertissements liés aux inondations et les informations aux municipalités et

à ceux qui doivent réagir aux inondations. Vous pouvez consulter les avertissements actuels à partir des sites Web des Offices de la protection de la nature et du site Web provincial suivant : <https://www.ontario.ca/flooding>.

Pour plus des renseignements

Site Web : Des renseignements sur les conditions actuelles et prévues pour la rivière des Outaouais de même que les débits relâchés des principaux réservoirs du système hydrique sont disponibles sur le site Web. De plus, des prévisions hydrologiques pour une période de quatre jours sont pro-

duites à certains endroits durant la crue printanière. www.rivieredesoutaouais.ca (français) www.ottawariver.ca (anglais)

Téléphone : Un message vous informe des conditions prévues en rivière et précise les niveaux d'eau actuels aux endroits suivants: lac Témiscamingue, Mattawa, Pembroke, lac Coulonge, lac des Chats, Ottawa (Britannia), Gatineau (quai de Hull), Grenville et Maniwaki. Ottawa-Gatineau (613) 995-3455 français (613) 995-3443 anglais. À l'extérieur de la région 1-800-778-1243 français d'Ottawa-Gatineau (sans frais) 1-800-778-1246 anglais.



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Seulement les candidatures retenues seront contactées.



AVIS PUBLIC

POUR TOUS LES
RÉSIDENTS DE
SHAWVILLE ET
CLARENDON

A compter du 1er mai 2019,
les résidus de branches/d'arbres
ne seront plus acceptés au site de
transfert situé au 384, 7ième Concession.

Tous les résidus d'arbres devront dorénavant être apportés au nouveau site de dépôt de Shawville/Clarendon **situé au C295 8ième Concession.**

Ce site sera ouvert pour les résidents de Shawville et Clarendon seulement et sera ouvert les mardi et samedi de 9h00 à 16h00, dès le 4 mai 2019.

Les articles suivants sont ACCEPTÉS :

- Branches (jusqu'à un diamètre de 3" (75mm))
- Aiguilles de pin et feuilles d'arbres (doivent être dans des sacs à compost, aucun sac de plastique ne sera autorisé.)
- Copeaux de bois

Les articles suivants ne sont PAS ACCEPTÉS :

- Résidus d'herbe (gazon);
- Résidus de jardin (fleurs, plants, mauvaises herbes, etc.)

AVIS

MESURES MISES EN PLACE POUR AIDER NOS CLIENTS TOUCHÉS PAR LES INONDATIONS

- Ligne réservée : **1 877 234-6548, code 8715.**
- Aide proposée si vous éprouvez des difficultés de paiement au cours des prochains mois.
- Aucuns frais d'accès au réseau pendant la période où le service d'électricité a été interrompu.
- Aucuns frais pour le rétablissement du service d'électricité par Hydro-Québec, une fois vos installations sécurisées par un maître électricien.
- Aucune facture envoyée et aucuns frais d'administration facturés pour les montants dus pendant 30 jours.

Ces mesures s'appliquent automatiquement si nous avons interrompu le service d'électricité pour des raisons de sécurité.

Si vous êtes touchés par les inondations mais que le service n'a pas été interrompu, vous pouvez bénéficier de ces mesures.





AVIS AUX COLLECTIVITÉS

Programme annuel de contrôle de la végétation

Le CN doit éliminer toute végétation nuisible à la sécurité sur son emprise. La végétation, si elle n'est pas éliminée, peut notamment alimenter les feux le long de la voie ferrée et nuire à la qualité des inspections de l'infrastructure ferroviaire.

À cet égard, et aux fins de sécurité ferroviaire, le CN entreprendra son programme annuel de contrôle de la végétation sur ses lignes ferroviaires dans la province de Québec. Des applicateurs certifiés effectueront l'application d'herbicides sur la voie ferrée (notamment la section graveleuse/le ballast) et aux abords de celle-ci. Toutes les prescriptions relatives aux marges de retrait aux abords des habitations, des milieux aquatiques et des sources d'approvisionnement en eau des municipalités seront respectées.

Pour le moment, nous prévoyons que le programme se déroulera du 13 mai au 29 août 2019. Visitez le site www.cn.ca/vegetationfr pour consulter la liste des villes et le calendrier à jour.

Pour de plus amples informations concernant le programme, vous pouvez communiquer avec la ligne de renseignements généraux du CN au 1-888-888-5909.

Second annual community spring clean-up in Bryson

J.D. POTIÉ
BRYSON May 4, 2019

On May 4, around 40 Bryson residents roamed the streets with garbage bags and trash pickers to partake in some community cleaning.

Organized by the Bryson municipal council, the

town's annual spring clean-up event was held for a second year with the goal of cleaning the town's streets and ditches from any waste that has accumulated over the year.

According to Mayor Alain Gagnon, the municipality supplied volunteers with

garbage and recycling bags, work gloves and trash pickers to make the work easier.

The group of residents was hard at work all morning clearing the grounds of any kind of residue that stood in their ways.

"You always have cups from Tim Hortons and

McDonalds and chocolate bar [wrappers] all over the ground," he said.

At around noon, volunteers served hot dogs, salads and refreshments inviting the hard-working residents for a community luncheon at the town's Golden Age Club. In addition to the good food

available on the spot, numerous residents donated various treats including cake among many other desserts, Gagnon said.

After what has been an especially long and grueling winter season, Gagnon said it felt good to finally get the clean-up underway as it was

a great opportunity for his fellow residents to get outside and socialize.

He believes that the town's annual spring clean-up has been a great way to bring residents together to work towards a common goal uniting them even more.

"It allows us to regroup ourselves a little more," he said. "The people get to know each other and share things with one another."

Around six years ago, Gagnon put in place a revitalization committee dedicated to organizing events to help with the well-being and closeness of residents in

Bryson, something he says is really important to the rural way of life.

"In small towns, historically, people are close and they help each other out," he said. "At some point that kind of lost itself. With this committee I wanted to bring that back."



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Get to know your tires

J.D. POTIÉ
PONTIAC May 6, 2019

If you haven't heard, it's springtime and that means you should've probably changed your tires already.

Since your tires are the only thing separating your vehicle from the ground, they should always be one a top priority for all car owners.

Whether you're installing your old set from last summer or purchasing brand-new ones at your local retailer, here are a few things to consider to make sure you have the right tires for your car, with help from a local expert.

According to Jeremy Williams, owner of Jer's Auto Service in Ladysmith,

the first thing to consider when purchasing a new set of tires is determining what kind of activity you'll be doing with your vehicle.

With many different kinds of tires for different types of performance it's important to know which ones are best suited for your car as they all play factors when it comes to fuel efficiency and overall feel on the road.

Some tires are characterized as aggressive while others are less aggressive, which is all dependent on how tread patterns are formed, Williams said.

An aggressive tire looks blockier and bulkier allowing it to dig into the ground, whereas a less aggressive one sees its tread following along the circumference of the tire.

Aggressive tires are for off-road activities while less aggressive tires are suitable for more standard roadways, such as highways and paved streets, according to Williams.

In order to maximize fuel efficiency, buying the right tire for your car is a priority, he said.

"You're not going to put an aggressive tire on an SUV that's just going to be on the highway," he said. "It all affects fuel mileage and the drive-ability. The more aggressive your tire, the more road noise you're going to get and the harder it is for your vehicle to turn it. So, you're going to burn a little more fuel all for nothing if you're going to go on the highway."

With countless different brands of tires out there, Williams says it's likely better to purchase them from an established brand instead of buying them from cheaper distributors that often don't work as efficiently.

"They just don't perform the same for things like water dispersion and general traction," he says. "People generally don't think about traction in the summer time compared to the winter. A rainy day can be just as dangerous as a snowy day, depending on the rainfall. So, if you don't have a tire that can help you grip the road or disperse the water away from the tire it can be unsafe."

With over 10 years of experience in the car industry, Williams knows all the signs of a worn out tire. But, for all the regular Joes and Janes out there, he advises the first thing to look at is the wear bar located in between the treads of each tire. If you reach the bar, you should definitely purchase new ones because that means they're definitely worn out, Williams says.

*** Light Mechanic Work**

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- **Oil Changes**
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- **Etc.**

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Classifieds

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Fri., May 10 – Mother's Day Tea and Luncheon, Masonic Lodge, 244 Main St., Shawville, 11 a.m.- 2 p.m., serving soups, sandwiches, dessert, tea, coffee. Take out orders available. Also offering bake sale, dress and jewellery sale and Watkins products. Presented by ANIMAL AIDE PONTIAC. Please come out and support this non-profit organization. bms

Fri., May 10 – Shawville Shenanigans at 586 Main Street, 9:30-11:30. fm8

Sat., May 11 – Mill Dam Park Clean Up. Join us to clean up and spruce up our beautiful park. 10:30-12:00, bring a picnic and join us for lunch, Parents' Voice will supply fruit and water! Bring along some gloves or a rake, leave a toy donation for the park or some books for our Croques-Livres! fm8

May 11 – Bryson Lions Club Mother's Day Dance 8 p.m.- 12 a.m., light lunch served at 11 p.m. Entertainment by Dennis Harrington and Heritage Country. Cost \$10.00/person. For more information contact Betty Leach at 819-648-5424. bms

Sat., May 11 – Spring Craft and Bake Sale 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Pontiac Lions Club Hall, 6 Borden Street, Campbell's Bay, Quebec. Homemade chocolates, baked goods, house plants, jewellery, paintings and much more. Many vendors are attending. For further information please contact Diane Boisvert at 819-921-5296. Shop for mom. 2fm8

Sat., May 11 – Horse, Tack, Consignment Auction Sale at Galetta Livestock, 3340 Galetta Road. Tack 10 a.m. Horses sell at 2 p.m. For consignment 613-622-1295. 2xm8

Sun., May 12 – 10:30 a.m. SAWUTI Choir, Sing Together - One Voice Tour at Church of Faith of Faith, Praise and Prayer, 1225 Highway 148, Campbell's Bay, Que. bms

Fri., May 17 – Pontiac Kidney Walk BBQ at Joanne's Valu-mart, from 11 am - 6 pm. Please come and enjoy a bite to eat and support the Walk. 2bm15

Sat., May 18 – Pop Up Artisans' Market and Sale featuring local artists 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Little Red Wagon Winery, C165 Calumet Road West, Clarendon. For more info. contact Louise 819-598-6553. 2xm15

Sun., May 19 – at 7 p.m. Bristol Memorial Presbyterian Church invites you to "Jazz Vespers" featuring David Renaud - Saxes, Clarinets and Flutes with Steve Boudreau - Pianist, Master's Jazz Performance. 2bm15

YARD SALE

Sat., May 11 – Garage Sale from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. St. Paul's Anglican Church Garage Sale in hall. Table rental available call 819-647-2649. xm8

May 17 - 20 – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day. New fishing tackle, rod and reel and more items, electric house furnace, electric chair lift, vintage Coca Cola machine, dryer, refrigerator, 15 ft. boat with 30 h.p. motor, used doors and windows, electric and plumbing hardware. Lots of vintage items, toys and gadgets for everyone. Chez Lucien, 64 Leslie Lake Road, Litchfield. 2xm15

Sat., May 18 – 9 a.m. til 2 p.m. Rain date, Sat., May 25, At 285 Douglas St., Shawville, Que. Household items. 3fm15

MISCELLANEOUS

Above ground pool 25 feet, 4 feet deep. Call 819-648-2362. etc.

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. qm8

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

Four (4) Kinergy GT Hankook 215/55R16 tires, low miles used two summers, just \$200; four (4) General Tire Evertrek 205/55R16, could get a summer out of them, FREE; two (2) 205/55R16 winter tires, could have some life, you judge, they're FREE too! 613-799-3601 Shawville area. xtc

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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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HELP WANTED

Shawville United Church is looking for a part-time office co-ordinator. Send résumés to Richard Hollingsworth, Box 429, Shawville, Que. J0X 2Y0 or phone 819-647-2764. etc.

Wanted – Truck drivers, heavy equipment operators, mechanics and labourers. Must have Class 1 or 3 truck license. CCQ cards not necessary. Please sent resume to: info@nugentconstruction.ca or fax to 819-455-9778. 4bm29

THANKS

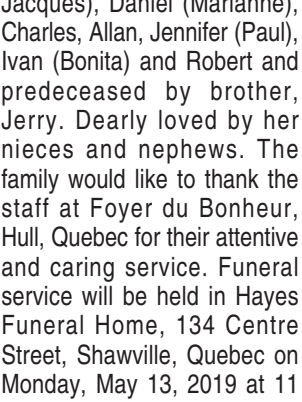


Hodgins – The family of Byron Hodgins would like to thank the Pontiac Community Hospital, Palliative Care unit, volunteers, Dr. Wootton and staff for the great care they gave Byron. Thank you to our United Church Women for the lovely luncheon after the service, also to our wonderful family for dedicating their time to prepare the luncheon at the Masonic Hall, for all our family and friends who donated food. Thank you to Rev. Richard Hollingsworth for the lovely service, our choir and musician for the lovely hymns, Stacey Desabrais for the lovely hymn "How Great Thou Art." Thank you to Hayes Funeral Home for their support and compassion, to our pallbearers, to the ladies of Victoria Quilts for the lovely gift. Thanks to our son Cory and granddaughter Hailey for that wonderful, touching eulogy. A big thank you to all our friends, neighbours, families and community for all the food, donations, flowers, cards, phone calls and prayers and acts of kindness and support. We are truly blessed to have such a wonderful family and friends and we are sincerely grateful for your support and love. Elaine and Family

DEATH



Sicard, Julie – September 21, 1971 – May 5, 2019
In Hull, Quebec on May 5, 2019 at the age of 47 years. Daughter of the late Yvon Sicard and Loretta Lamothe. Beloved sister of Richard (Crystal), Marlene (late Jacques), Daniel (Marianne), Charles, Allan, Jennifer (Paul), Ivan (Bonita) and Robert and predeceased by brother, Jerry. Dearly loved by her nieces and nephews. The family will thank the staff at Foyer du Bonheur, Hull, Quebec for their attentive and caring service. Funeral service will be held in Hayes Funeral Home, 134 Centre Street, Shawville, Quebec on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 11 a.m. The family will receive condolences starting at 10:30 a.m. Interment St. Anne's Cemetery, Calumet Island, Quebec. www.hayesfuneralhome.ca



Westbrook – Vera "Alma" Westbrook, of Quyon, Quebec, born April 3, 1919, passed away peacefully on April 22, 2019 in Shawville, Quebec. Alma is survived by her three sons, Garland (Marion), Gardell (Linda), and Garfield (Denise), brother Clarence and sister Dorothy along with many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins. She is predeceased by husbands Lloyd and Mel, her parents William and Annie Westbrook, brothers Harvey, Lloyd, Herman, Percy and Basil, and sisters Edith and Hazel. Graveside service will be held at Norway Bay United Cemetery on May 18th at 12:30 p.m. with a reception to follow at Pine Lodge.



Pontiac Printshop
Home of THE EQUITY
133 Centre St., Shawville
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DEATH



Walsh, Sandra Theresa – It is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we share the sudden passing of Sandra Walsh on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at the age of 58. Beloved daughter of Veronica Stafford and the late James Walsh. Cherished sister to Genny (Bill Pink), Karen (Louis Chevalier) and Edward (Connie Stephens). Fun-loving aunt who will be sadly missed by many nieces and nephews, as well as being the proud Godmother of Jeff Walsh. Special thank you to the doctors and nurses at the Shawville Hospital Emergency Department. Friends may call at Hayes Funeral Home, 134 Centre Street, Shawville, Quebec for a Celebration of Life on Saturday, May 11, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. A graveside service will be held in St. Brigid's Cemetery, North Onslow, Quebec at a later date. Donations to the Tubman Senior's Home or the Heart & Stroke Foundation would be appreciated. www.hayesfuneralhome.ca



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ASSIGNATION (137 C.p.c.)
Avis est donné aux héritiers, légataires et successibles de Teresa HAYES et Mary Ellen BERRIGAN, personnes intéressées, que la demanderesse a déposée au greffe de la Cour Supérieure du district de Pontiac une demande introductive d'instance en acquisition du droit de propriété par prescription. Une copie de cette demande et de l'avis de présentation ont été laissés à l'intention des personnes intéressées, au greffe du tribunal, au palais de justice de Campbell's Bay, situé au 30, rue John, Campbell's Bay, Québec, J0X 1K0.
À défaut de comparaître dans ce délai, un jugement par défaut pourrait être rendu contre vous sans autre avis dès l'expiration de ce délai. Soyez aussi avisé que la demande introductive d'instance sera présentée pour décision devant le tribunal le 21 juin 2019 à 9 heures en la salle 1,01 du palais de justice de Campbell's Bay.
Campbell's Bay, le 26 avril 2019.

IN MEMORY



Lance, Millie – May 11, 2009
It was 10 years ago today, The Lord took you away. With all your pain and suffering, He knew it was time to make your way. To the Heavens above, He led the way. So we could come, And follow some day. With the love you gave us, Not a day goes by That we are not on a high Will be with us every day. Til we meet again, Randy, Rhonda and family

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.

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Loyal Orange Lodge holds annual jurisdiction meeting



J.D. Potte, THE EQUITY

On May 4, The Royal Eniskillen Loyal Orange Lodge in Shawville held its yearly jurisdiction meeting at the local hall to discuss activities from the past year. Back row, from left: Allison Corrigan, Doug Nixon, Eric Robinson, Rufus Jamieson, Jack Knox, Mark Alexander, Rev. David Lajeunesse, Ross Mitchell, Gerald Mielke, Bev Cluff, Lee Stanley and Cliff Henderson. Front row, from left: Graydon Lowery, Everett Arthurs, George Jackson, James Allan, Jim Pyke, Russell Staye, Ken Hall and Rev. Ross Davidson.



Sheenboro

DORIS RANGER

819-689-2132 dranger50@hotmail.com

Our condolences go out to Laetitia, Sue, Lisa and the Peacock family on the passing of Hugh Peacock. A funeral service will take place later at St. Theresa of the Little Flower Church in Fort William, Que., with the burial at St. Paul the Hermit Church, Sheenboro.

Get well wishes go out to Earl Lepine who fell and broke his hip. He is currently recovering at the Pembroke Regional Hospital. It is very hard for someone as active as he was to just sit and watch his cottage surrounded by three feet of water with neighbours battling to save his home.

Belated birthday greetings go out to Myra Sullivan, Lorna Agnesi, Sally Lapierre and Ellie Sullivan who celebrated last week. A few of us took Myra for supper at the Waltham Station. It was a great meal.

Also a happy belated to our dear friend Grace Morris Bryson who cele-

brated her 95th on May 4. Happy birthday to our granddaughter Brittany on May 8 and to our son Tim who celebrates the big one on May 9.

Birthday greetings and best wishes go out to Terry Duff and his daughter-in-law Sylvianne on May 11 and to Faith Fitzpatrick, Tim McDonald and Rowan Sullivan on May 12.

Friends and family were hard hit with the flooding up and down the Pontiac. One never knows what Mother Nature has in store for us but the number of volunteers who came out to help in the past two weeks was tremendous and heart warming. We were also very thankful for having the Canadian Armed Forces come to our aid. Pontiac Ouest Fire Services and the Emergency Disaster Coordinators for the three municipalities have been basically working around the clock.

In Sheenboro a new res-

ident on Lew Miller Road was flooded out. We have a resident on Tripp Road, although not affected by the river, who is still battling the ground water. It seems that the large pool of water that was on Tripp Road has now found a route to their basement. They have four pumps running day and night and are still having trouble keeping ahead of the water.

On a good note, congratulations go out to Danny Isabelle who won the first of ten 50/50 draws supporting Residence Meilleur. The draw was made at George's Bar in Chichester, Que. on April 26. \$7,200.00 was split - \$3,600.00 for Residence Meilleur and \$3,600.00 for the winner. The next draw will be the end of May.

Just a reminder that it is not wise to start removing your sandbags yet. The river, as of Monday morning in Fort William was still rising.



Quyon

JILL YOUNG

819-918-0623 jillianyoung6@gmail.com

It was another crazy week of flooding in our area. Last Monday, the lower streets of town were evacuated and the Quyon Ferry closed as the dike on Ferry Road became unstable.

For much of the week the military was in town, along with a heightened police presence as they worked to re-enforce the dike and continued to monitor it. I have never seen anything like it.

The waters finally started to recede late in the week and by Saturday residents in the lower part of the village were able to return to their homes. Then on Sunday morning, the ferry reopened.

A big thank you goes out to all involved in keeping our town safe last week as they worked around the clock to secure the dikes both at Ferry Road and near the seniors home. Let's hope that we don't have to re-live this again anytime soon. The sunny, warm weekend was a much needed reprieve.

Deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Sandra Storing Stanley as she passed away on May 3 after a courageous battle with cancer. Our thoughts and prayers are with her loved ones at this sad time.

A little birdie tells me that Betty Hickey retired last Friday. Congratulations Betty. Her husband, Joseph, has also retired, so we wish them both all the best in this new chapter. Relax and enjoy.

Happy birthday to Debbie Hudson, as she celebrates on May 10, to Adam Bernier on May 11 and to Rori Richardson celebrating on May 14. Best wishes to everyone celebrating this week.

After the stressful weeks we've had around here recently it will be great to unwind and have some fun on Friday night at the Quyon Legion. They are hosting a "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" 80s themed ladies night. It sounds like a blast. Hope there is a great turnout. Wishing all the moms out there a fabulous weekend and that they enjoy being spoiled by their families. Happy Mother's Day.

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Shawville

LYSE LACOURSE 819-647-5932 lyse380@gmail.com

Thank you to all the army, volunteers and supporters that have helped the flooding victims in our community.

A birthday gathering was held at Red Lobster for my Mom, Dr. Michelle Lawton-Gregory on May 5. People gathered from as far as Montreal to join the festivities. A good time was had by all.

Happy belated birthday to Jeff Nowlan across the miles. He celebrated his birthday on May 5.

Happy birthday to Ada Dods who celebrates her birthday on May 10.

Happy birthday to the following people celebrating this week: Laura

Richardson, Jane Alexander, Melissa Smith, Emma MacDonnell, Jenna Jean-Marie, Rolly MacDougall, Cory Thomas, Joan Rusenstrom, Patsy Bourgeau, Jee-Eun Murray, Neil Sharpe, Andy Hodgins, Dan Kelly, Cory Hobbs, Roger Younge, Francine Evans Cameron, Anne Laframboise, Holly Richardson, Rod Rooney, Verna T. Kelly, Kimberley Brown, Nora Duncan, Nancy Tracy, Lisa Newberry, Mary Allen, Karen Smith, Richard Guillerm, Amy Hobbs, Andrew Lang and Brian Rogers.

Couples celebrating this week are: Randy and Barb Pitt, Karl and Fran Erfle,

Rev. Graeme and Mavis Brownlee, Keith and Lorraine Harris, Albert and Gwen Armstrong and George and Madeleine Wittig.

Our thoughts and prayers to the Powell family on the loss of Jeff on May 1 at the Heart Institute in Ottawa at the age of 51.

Our deepest sympathies to the Emmerson and Holmes families on the loss of Caroline on May 2. The Animal Aide Pontiac is hosting a Mother's Day Tea and Luncheon at the Masonic Lodge on May 10. St. Paul's Anglican Church will be hosting a Garage Sale on May 11.

Happy Mothers Day on Sunday.



THE EQUITY

Deadline Monday 12 noon: 819-647-2204

Fax 819-647-2206

www.theequity.ca

e-mail: news@theequity.ca

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Waltham

HELEN PERRY 819-689-2652

Sad and soggy, many residents of Waltham and the surrounding areas can relate to this description. The flooding of the Ottawa and Black Rivers have taken a considerable toll on our citizens and in the Pontiac.

Citizens who have had flood water invade their homes and seasonal residences, have stood shoulder to shoulder with their neighbours and filled, delivered and stacked sand bags for eight straight days. The outpouring support of food, drinks and other necessities was unbelievable. Of course, the financial loss to home owners and the fact that most have had to evacuate their homes and abandon their belonging is heart breaking. For most of these residents, its a time of reflection and decision making.

We have long believed that the floods could not reach these levels, but April and May 2019 have proven us wrong. Some of the folks that I have recently spoken with are planning a cleanup followed by major renovations. Others are uncertain about the structural stability of their homes.

There are perhaps, a few bright and encouraging items to this flooding situation. First, there has been no loss of life and no reported injuries if you don't count strained backs and blisters. Secondly, we were witnesses to a small community pulling together to support neighbours in a time of crisis.

As of May 5, the two major rivers are slowly dropping. However, officials are telling us that they may rise again in the next few days. Sad and soggy may be our fate for the next week or so, but I believe that Waltham will recover and we will be stronger and more resilient and perhaps more adapted in the future.

The Birthday Club met at the Waltham Station on the last Thursday of April. Gilda Heaney was the birthday girl of the month. Everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch and birthday cake.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Goldwin (Goldie) Hume of Gloucester Ont. He was the beloved husband of my cousin Mary (nee Culleton). Mary and Goldie are the owners of Travel-Mor-Trailer Sales in Gloucester. Goldie loved to come up to the cottage on L'Isle Aux-Allumettes to fish and in Key Largo, FL in the winter. Our heartfelt sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends at this sad time.

Special anniversary wishes are extended to our dear Rhonda and Mark, who are celebrating their 26th anniversary today. May you share many more years of God's richest blessings.

This coming Sunday is Mother's Day. I would like to wish every Mom a happy Mother's Day. Let us lift up a silent prayer for all mothers who are no longer with us.



Vinton

DIANE BOISVERT 819-921-5296

To help celebrate Mother's Day this weekend there will be three special events. A Mother's Day tea and luncheon put on by Animal Aide Pontiac is being held at the Masonic Lodge in Shawville on May 10. See the ad in the classifieds this week for more information.

Then on Saturday there will be a special Shop for Mom, spring craft and bake sale held at the Pontiac Lions Club in Campbell's Bay from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Finally on Sunday, there will be a Mother's Day breakfast served from 9 a.m. to noon at the Lions Club Hall in Campbell's Bay. Please help support the Lions Club and come out and enjoy a wonderful breakfast.

I want to take this opportunity to wish all the mothers a very happy Mother's Day.

I was in Otter Lake this past weekend to bring a gift up to Gilbert Sparling for his birthday on May 4. While I was there I went to the new restaurant called Rumours. It actually isn't a new restaurant. It just moved over to 354 Martineau (at the motel) from Johnstons Store. They are still getting set up and organized. They want

to have their grand opening in a few weeks. So watch for signs and ads in THE EQUITY.

I would like to send out a belated happy birthday to Gilbert Sparling on May 4, Sharon Crawford on May 5, Amanda Hearty and Sarah Bertrand on May 6.

Happy birthday to Gerry Kluge May 8, to Maurice Morin, Carter Beauregard on May 9, to Falena Kensley, Hunter Beauregard, Jason Gravelle, Mathew Hearty all on May 10, to Denyse Mayhew May 11, to T.J. Vibert on May 13 and to Rachel Beausoleil and Chummer Frost on May 14.

I would like to send out happy anniversary wishes to Vicky and Jimmy Lepack on May 4, Chris and Kim Sauriol on May 5, Linda and Frank Frost on May 8, to Faye and Mike McGuire on May 10 and to Serena and Tim Ferrigan on May 11.

It's so good to hear that the water is finally going down, so people can start doing a major cleanup and try to move back into their homes. There is going to be much need for volunteers now to help all these victims put their lives back together, so please help in any way you can.

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Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is \$39,727. See dealer for details. Credits vary by model. Dealer may sell for less. Factory order may be required. Limited time offer which may not be combined with certain other offers. General Motors of Canada Company may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. Offers may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer offers. Eligible 2019 Next-Generation Sierra 1500 Crew Cab Elevation. Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada for vehicles financed and delivered between May 1 and May 31, 2019. Financing provided on approved credit by TD Auto Finance Services, Scotiabank or RBC Royal Bank. Participating lenders are subject to change. Rates from other lenders may vary. Representative finance example based on a new 2019 Next-Generation Sierra 1500 Crew Cab Elevation. Suggested retail price is \$57,575. \$0 down payment required. \$54,925 financed at 0% finance rate (0% APR) equals a monthly payment of \$763 for 72 months. The financed amount includes \$3,150 credit, which consists of \$2,650 Cash Delivery Allowance (tax exclusive) and \$500 Option Package Discount (tax exclusive). Cost of borrowing is \$0 for a total obligation of \$54,925. Freight (\$1,899) and air conditioning charge (\$100) included. License, insurance, registration, PESA, applicable taxes and dealer fees not included. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Factory order may be required. Limited time financing offer which may not be combined with certain other offers. GM Canada may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. 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Payments cannot be made on a weekly basis. Equivalent weekly payments are for informational purposes only. Annual kilometer limit of 20,000 km/20,000 km. \$0.16/\$0.16 per excess kilometer. \$0 down payment required. Payment may vary depending on down payment trade. Total obligation is \$20,453/\$23,783. Freight (\$1,899) and air conditioning charge (\$100, if applicable) included. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is \$15,159/\$20,330. See dealer for details. Credits vary by model. Dealer may sell for less. Factory order may be required. Limited time offer which may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Before you buy a vehicle or use it for trailing, carefully review the trailing section of the Owner's Manual. 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Credit card is required for purchase. *Comparison based on warpauto.com 2019 Large Light Duty Pickup segment and latest competitive information available at time of printing. Excludes other GM vehicles. *Before you buy a vehicle or use it for trailing, carefully review the trailing section of the Owner's Manual. The weight of passengers, cargo and options or accessories may reduce the amount you can tow. *Full functionality requires compatible Bluetooth and smartphone, and USB connectivity for some devices. Data plan rates may apply. *At time of posting, detailed map coverage is available for most major urban areas of the United States and for certain metropolitan areas of Canada (Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Windsor, London, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec City and Halifax). Coverage is significantly limited outside these areas.