

THE EQUITY

Musicfest scrapped over ties to extremist groups

CALEB NICKERSON
BRISTOL June 28, 2019

A charity music festival planned for later this month had the majority of their acts pull out over the weekend after concerns were raised about one of the promoter's ties to ultra-nationalist groups, as well as where the proceeds would be donated.

The Musicfest4vets was planned for the July 20 weekend in Bristol, and featured mud racing and 21 different local acts, with singer Bif Naked as the headliner.

One of the promoters, Eric Brazeau of Aylmer, said that he hosted a similar festival in Low, Que. last year and approached Lee Marrazzo of Luskville to host the event at Marrazzo's property in Bristol, in conjunction with his mud races. The two said they met several years ago while volunteering to feed the homeless in Ottawa.

Brazeau is a former member of the ultra-nationalist group Soldiers of Odin (SoO) and served briefly as the Quebec vice-president for the Northern Guard (NG), another ultra-nationalist group that was formed after a split with the SoO's Quebec chapter. While NG portrays itself as a "patriot" group, several prominent members, including the former vice-president of the Saskatchewan chapter, are overt white nationalists or neo-Nazis.

On June 28, the Twitter account "Yellow Vests Canada Exposed", made a series of posts that detailed Brazeau's past affiliations, as well as the fact that another far-right "patriot" group, the Canadian Combat Coalition (C3), would be holding a rally on Parliament Hill July 20. Several members, including C3's President Dan Dubois said they would be attending both events and camping at the site in Bristol. Last year's version of the "Canadians for Canada" rally, as it is named, reportedly had a poor turnout, but still prompted a counter-protest.

Later that day, Bif Naked posted a statement that she would no longer be appearing or performing at the event, and urged her fans to donate to organizations that help veterans or their families. Following that announcement, several other bands announced that they would be pulling out as well.

In a phone interview with THE EQUITY on July 1, Brazeau said that only six of the original 21 remain.

Marrazzo, in a phone interview on June 28 prior to these developments, said that he has no affiliations with ultra-nationalist groups, and said they weren't welcome. He said that Brazeau was added solely for his contacts with the bands.

"I want nothing to do with that," he said. "I made it strictly clear that I don't want any of those affiliations at all. To tell you the truth, unless something goes drastically different, this will be the last year that I involve Musicfest4vets at all, just because of all the negative feedback I started hearing once I started to put this on, but at that point it was too late."

"It's come up a few times, it even came up when I had the meeting at the municipality, of his affiliation with these groups," Marrazzo continued. "It's my festival, it was a mud run. I included Eric to bring in the music because he had a lot of contacts from last year when he did it."

Brazeau denied any current affiliation with any groups, and claimed he never invited them to attend.

"I've been out of anything remotely political for the last two years," he said on June 28.

In November 2018, the Musicfest4vets Twitter account posted a picture showing Brazeau posing with People's Party of Canada leader Maxime Bernier and holding a flag bearing the event's name. The caption read, "#MadMax. a leader that cares." The account has since been deactivated.

In the interview on July 1, he also claimed he isn't "social-media savvy", despite actively promoting the event on several Facebook pages, including Yellow Vests Canada, a protest movement that has been criticized for its association with far-right extremists.

"I'm starting to see that [with] social media, you have to be careful," Brazeau said.

On June 30, Brazeau appeared in a Facebook live video with NG member Duke Willis to discuss the situation with the festival. In a stilted, rambling conversation interspersed with conspiracy theories - like that the 2012 massacre of school children at Sandy Hook Elementary School was a hoax, or that the prime minister was on the verge of declaring martial law - the two blamed Anti-Racist Canada, a collective that the Yellow Vests Canada Exposed Twitter account is associated with, for the cancellation of the event.

Another concern raised on social media was where the proceeds of the event would be donated. Marrazzo, on June 28, said that some of the funds would be split between the Quyon Legion, the Quyon Family Centre and the Municipality of Pontiac Fire Department, but that the lion's share would go to Trevor Sanderson, a veteran that is looking to start a Winnipeg drop-in centre for fellow vets.

Please see CANCELLED page two

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Dave Moore, THE EQUITY

After parades, parties, races, ball games and BBQs, hundreds of spectators came out to in Shawville for the annual fireworks display to close out a weekend of festivities. See page three and eight for our round-up of all the events and more photos from THE EQUITY's J.D. Potié, Chris Lowrey and Caleb Nickerson.

Palliative volunteers honoured

CALEB NICKERSON
SHAWVILLE June 27, 2019

On June 27, freinds and staff from the local Palliative Care Unit gathered in Shawville at the Centre D'Accueil Pontiac (CAP)'s Dale Thompson room for a celebration of volunteers, which turned out to be a surprise to the guest of honour.

Rick Valin, who coordinates the volunteers for the palliative care unit with his wife Carole, opened the event by stating that he hopes it will become a longstanding tradition.

"Welcome, to what I hope is the first of many annual events, to celebrate the critical people that do the work behind the scenes and make the Pontiac an incredible place to live, to work, to be," he said. "Today we're here to honour a number of very important people."

He introduced Shirley Green, the founder and former volunteer coordinator of the palliative care unit at the Pontiac Community Hospital (PCH) as the "backbone" of their volunteer effort. Shirley passed the torch to the Valins recently, but has stayed on in an advisory role.

Rick also recognized a separate group of volunteers who, while not stepping foot in the hospital, contribute greatly to patient comfort: the group of ladies that knit shawls, blankets and other woollen items for the unit.

"They make our patients ... so much more comfortable," he said. "Our knitters do an incredible job and we want to honour them today."

Green thanked the knitters for all they've done, and recalled when their stash of warm, knitted items outgrew the palliative ward.

"I do want to particularly remember the time we had so many shawls and blankets that we felt we needed to share it," she said. "The knitters agreed, so we started sharing it with long-term care. It's been so well received."



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Founder and long-time volunteer at the Pontiac Community Hospital (PCH) Palliative Care Unit, Shirley Green (front, centre), was given the Eugène Pigeon Award for her efforts at a ceremony on June 27. From left: Volunteer coordinator Carole Valin, CISSSO Volunteer Coordinator Carolyn Slater, PCH's manager of the general care unit, Natalie Romain, Green and volunteer coordinator Rick Valin.

She singled out Margaret Lang, as her "general in the field" when it came to the knitting group.

"She knew everybody that ever knitted in her life," Green said, to a laugh from the audience. "She called them all and got them on board. Even some of her relatives across the river."

Current coordinator of the knitting program, Em Morrison, read off a list of the volunteers in the group.

Next, Rick recognized the four new volunteers that would be joining their ranks in palliative care, having completed their training course this past spring.

The surprise of the celebration came when Green was blindsided by Carole presenting her with the Eugène Pigeon Award for 2019, recognizing her as an outstanding volunteer. Pigeon was also a long-time volunteer, who passed away in 2011 and the award was started in 2012 in his memory.

"The objective of the team, Shirley states, is to remove the fear of entering palliative care," Carole said. "It's not nice being pushed through those double doors and we need to create a peacefulness that does not exist on the main floor. We have a poster in our department that states, 'We cannot add days to their lives but we can add life to their last days.'"

Please see PALLIATIVE page two

CANCELLED: Organizer cuts ties with promoter

Continued from front

Sanderson's project is still in the planning stages and Marrazzo said that they would wait until it is further along before handing over the cash.

"When he's ready to purchase the building and get it set up, we'll give him the donations," he said. "Until he's properly set up, we're not just going to throw money at a random person."

In the video with Willis, Brazeau responded to allegations about misappropriating the funds from the previous year's Musicfest4vets event, claiming that the festival put him tens of thousands of dollars in debt.

THE EQUITY reached Marrazzo on July 1, and he said he had cut ties with Brazeau and Musicfest4vets.

"In light of the information I heard, I'm going to be total-

ly pulling Eric and the Musicfest4vets from the festival completely," he said.

Marrazzo said that while the two didn't extensively discuss Brazeau's involvement with SoO and NG, Brazeau played down his role in the groups.

"I had no idea the amount of involvement he had in any of this stuff," he said. "I won't stand for it and I want nothing to do with it."

He also added that he didn't intend for the event to be billed as a fundraiser, saying that he preferred to donate a portion of the proceeds discretely once the event was over. Marrazzo noted that this was a point of contention between him and Brazeau.

"In my beliefs, when you help people, you don't take credit for it," he said. "I don't need the credit for it."

Marrazzo, on July 1, reiterated that he has never been associated with extremist movements and wants nothing to do with them.

"I have no involvement in any of that crap," he said. "Frankly, it disgusts me completely and goes against everything I believe in ... This [event] is something I've been planning to do for years to come to this community, to be able to help people in

this community, I can't take the chance of having people like that around me."

He said the mud races were still on and that he might bring in some bands for entertainment, but the event would be much smaller than previously planned.

"I'm going to search out some bands, still have a beer tent or whatever, but it won't be on the scale that it was before," he said.

PALLIATIVE: Volunteers celebrated

Continued from front

Green then went on to present the 2018 Eugène Pigeon Award to the family of Joan Dunn, a long-time volunteer that passed away

suddenly earlier this year.

She noted that Dunn was in the first class of palliative care volunteers to graduate, along with Pigeon, and praised her

honesty an well as her detailed notes.

Dunn's widower, Greg, accepted the award, and gave a heart-wrenching testimony about how Joan had

readied him and his daughter for dealing with her final days.

"True to Joan's core belief, she made sure that Jennifer and I were very well pre-

pared," he said. "The training she had in this institution, the experiences she had in this institution, paid tremendous dividends to ease our pathway in pallia-

tive care. For that I am truly thankful for all that you do. What you do here and in other places, is a godsend and a blessing. Thank you very much."

Goodbye Boutique Gwendoline, you will be missed

J.D. POTIÉ
SHAWVILLE June 24, 2019

For over a decade, women from all over the Pontiac and beyond have depended on a specific clothing boutique on Shawville's Main Street in order to find the best-quality pieces of high-end fashion in the region.

But unfortunately, all that is about to change.

On June 24, Boutique Gwendoline's owner Katharine Summerfield officially announced her retirement, via her store's Facebook page.

For the last 12 years, the high-end fashion retailer provided some of the leading lines of female designer clothes in the Pontiac.

Boasting numerous high-end brands like Montreal-based Joseph Ribkoff, FDJ French Dressing Jeans and Mexican 100 per cent cotton clothing line Abaca among others, Summerfield prided herself on offering the best quality garments for ladies on both sides of the Ottawa River.

Aptly named after her late mother, Gwendoline Hayes, Boutique Gwendoline officially opened its doors on May 17, 2007.

In the Spring of 2007, two years removed from a five-year stint in Houston Texas, Summerfield was back in Shawville looking for some meaningful work.

With her husband working as a musician doing gigs all over Ottawa, Summerfield was determined to find herself a steady source of income.

Despite holding a number of communications and marketing jobs in the town, nothing really panned out at the time.

Unsatisfied with working from home, Summerfield was seeking a more rewarding endeavour.

Not wanting to drive to the city five days per week, she was committed to landing something in town or at least nearby.

One day, while speaking with the Shawville Shoe Shop owner Marjorie Horner, Summerfield learned that what was then known as Palmer's Boutique on Main Street owned by Myrna Palmer, had been up for sale for quite some time.

"Marjorie Horner who owned the shoe shop said



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On June 24, Katharine Summerfield announced her retirement and with it the closure of Boutique Gwendoline on Shawville's Main Street. Pictured, Summerfield stands alongside a set of garment racks on June 28.

"Why don't you go and talk to Myrna Palmer?," she said. "And I said 'What about? She said 'Well, her store has been for sale for over a year.'"

As someone who had no previous experience in the retail industry, who wasn't a big-time fashionista in the first place, Summerfield was quite skeptical about the prospect of owning a high-end clothing boutique.

Nonetheless, she accepted Palmer's invitation to take a tour of the premises.

"I said 'I know nothing about retail,'" she said. "I had never had experience in it, none."

Six weeks later, to her own surprise, Summerfield owned the newest women's clothing boutique on Shawville's Main Street.

Completely foreign to the fashion industry, the premise of operating a clothing store was largely something that fell into her lap, whether she liked it or not.

Inheriting assortments of high-end lines from Palmer's store upon opening her boutique, Summerfield prioritized selling the best lines of clothing from the most notable Canadians designers in the fashion industry, to attract locals to her business.

With only two days of formal training under her belt, Summerfield admittedly flew by the seat of her pants,

when things first started.

Learning the ins and outs of the job while operating the store, it didn't take long for her first set of challenges to present themselves.

Considering her lack of experience in the retail industry, she wasn't exactly confident or sure how to go about conducting business.

So, when a gentleman walked into her boutique requesting assistance picking out an outfit for his wife's birthday, Summerfield admittedly felt handcuffed. Thankfully a woman who was at the Royal Bank across the street at the time noticed her struggle and offered to help Summerfield make the best choice for her customer.

While customers have consistently flocked to her store year after year, one of the most stressful elements of the job was purchasing new line of clothes for her inventory every season – a feeling that persisted throughout her tenure.

For someone who wasn't exactly a shopaholic, five trips per year to visit fashion vendors in Montreal, Toronto and Ottawa to restock her boutique on a seasonal basis, never failed to cause her plenty of anxiety and stress.

"You have to try and figure out what people will want and it's a tough learn-

ing curve," she said. "I felt it was a struggle but a lot of people said I was quick. It was very scary. Right up until the end, every season I was frightened that what I picked people wouldn't like. For 12 years, it never, ever stopped."

From the minutia of budgeting her inventory, to purchasing the clothes and strategically placing them in the boutique among a plethora of other things, operating a popular clothing store was never an easy endeavor.

But, being located in a small town like Shawville certainly helped.

Named after her mother who was well-known throughout the community for her countless contributions as a volunteer, the hometown familiarity was beneficial to the store's instant success, Summerfield said.

"As a marketing thing, it turned out to be very favourable," she said. "From then on, everybody was calling me Gwendoline."

One of the most delightful aspects of owning the store was seeing ladies wearing her outfits whenever she was out and about on the town, Summerfield said.

"I would go to a function for instance at the Lions Hall or something and they'd all come walking by

with their new outfit on," she said. "It was like I was represented, so it was really quite funny."

Known for her honesty, Summerfield always prioritized making her customers feel good while looking great in what they purchased. Even if it meant being too blunt, disagreeing with them, or not making a sale, she always prided herself on being truthful with the people she served.

"I would rather not make the sale," she said. "So, I got known for my honesty. Sometimes, I got in trouble, especially if they liked it. Like, 'No we can do better'. We'd rather not make a sale than have somebody leave looking terrible."

While the store was certainly successful, a number of factors have forced Summerfield to call it a career.

After her husband Brad Summerfield passed away suddenly five years ago, her work load increased significantly.

And following a hip surgery with another one coming up in the near future the labour of the trade has become even harder to handle physically.

Plus, with all the free time in the world, she's looking forward to ticking a few boxes on her travelling checklist. Most of all, she

can't wait to hit the links with hopes of improving her golf game.

"I love golf and last year I could only golf three times," she said. "It was busy and it was hot. The year before, it rained every weekend."

While she won't miss the countless hours of hard work the job demanded, Summerfield will always remember the people she met and the great conversations they shared.

"They loved to tell stories about my dad and my grandfather and my mom and my brothers," she said. "They'd come in with wild stories."

Over the last several days, she's received an overwhelming outpouring of support and farewells from the community.

"I've been bombarded all week," she said. "I didn't expect that. They're sad that this store is closing."

After more than a decade of operating the highly-regarded local retailer, Summerfield looks back on her journey as nothing more than a blur.

"A lightning flash," she said. "It went so fast. Unbelievably fast."

Despite leaving the work force for good, she doesn't want to leave the space without a tenant.

A hotspot for women's clothing in the Pontiac long before she owned it, drawing in people from all over the region and beyond, Summerfield believes it's vital for Shawville to have a business operating in the same building after she leaves.

"I'm going to try and sell the store," she said. "We need something on Main Street and it's a prime location being across from the bank and it's a known location for women's clothing and I would say that 80 per cent of my customer-base is from outside of Shawville."

"It brings a lot of business to the town," she added. "We need somebody younger who's got energy and wants to get into it."

Despite the store's foreclosure, operations will continue with liquidated prices for the next couple of months, starting on July 2, as Summerfield sells off the remaining items in her inventory.

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MRC Youth Council cooks food for community

J.D. POTIÉ
CAMPBELL'S BAY
June 26, 2019

On June 26, around 100

Pontiac residents gathered at the Campbell's Bay R.A. for a barbecue get together in support of those who



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On June 26, the MRC Youth Council held its first ever barbecue supper to raise funds for flood victims. Pictured, Youth Council representatives from Fort Coulonge and Sheenboro Zachary Dubé and Maggie McDonald plate a delicious burger during the supper.

need it the most.

Organized by the MRC Pontiac Youth Council, the event served as an opportunity for residents to raise funds for flood victims while giving back to the community with an evening of good old barbecuing.

According to Zachary Dubé representing Fort Coulonge for the youth council, finding a way to support flood victims has been a very important cause for members of the council in the last couple of months.

"A lot of people don't have food or a place to stay," he said. "We're just trying to help them any way we can and we thought nobody's done this before and it'd be a good cause."

All the food was donated by a number of local businesses, including Joanne's

Valu-Mart, Giant Tiger in Shawville and the Metro in Mansfield among others.

"They were all very happy to help," he said. "Big thanks to those people."

Throughout the event, youth council reps doled out hot dogs, hamburgers and refreshments while MRC Pontiac Warden Jane Toller cooked up the food in the kitchen.

For Dubé, the event is very beneficial for locals as it provides them with another fun activity in a town where leisurely events are few and far between.

"Not many people come here," he said. "And people that stay here, we want them to stay here. We want to make activities to see that we care about people in the community. We want them to stay here and you have to do stuff if you want

people to stay."

According to Toller, the youth council's inaugural event was a prime example of their continued dedication to the betterment of the community, which has left quite the impression on her over the last several months.

"They have learned how important it is to work together," she said. "They've all become really good friends. They're a cohesive group. They are learning to dream and imagine what the Pontiac can become and they have the tenacity to make sure that happens."

Since starting in December, the group has accomplished quite a few things to be proud of despite working on a shortened term, Toller said.

From learning to conduct a proper meeting under parliamentary procedure to

organizing communal events like a mental health forum to be held at three Pontiac high schools this coming September, the group has certainly come a long way in such a short period of time.

"I think that they are all leaders," she said. "That's why they volunteered. They each represent a significant number of kids and their goal next year is to really be the voice of the youth and their motto is 'Better Together Pontiac.' That's a good example for people in the Pontiac. We should all work together. That's how we're going to move forward."

The event raised \$389, which will be dedicated to helping out flood victims while \$80 worth of leftovers will be donated to Bouffe Pontiac, Dubé said.

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Pontiac celebrates Canada Day 2019

J.D. POTIÉ
PONTIAC June 29-31, 2019
Over the weekend, municipalities all over the region celebrated Canada Day bringing tons of traffic to the Pontiac.

Quyon
On June 29, hundreds of people from the Pontiac and beyond gathered outside Onslow Elementary in Quyon for the town's annual Canada Day Celebration.

With countless Canadian flags hung up along rue Clarendon, it was apparent that the nation's festive spirit was alive and well.

Organized by the Quyon Canada Day Committee, the event served as an opportunity to raise funds for the community while celebrating the country's anniversary.

According to the organization's President Mitchel Trudeau, the event means a whole lot to the community.

While the small town doesn't boast as many big-time events as one would see in the city, Quyon residents certainly know how to celebrate July 1 in style, Trudeau said.

"There's not much to do here in the community," he said. "This is a very prideful town on Canada Day. It's always been a big thing."

A highly anticipated party for over 30 years, Trudeau is proud to be able to contribute to putting it on every year. With so many people volunteering to organize the party, it's always a great reminder that people in the Pontiac are always willing to help.

"It's about community effort," he said. "When those fireworks go off and I can finally have a beer, we know that we made this happen."

Typically held inside the town's Lions Hall, this year's event was brought to the school due to the flood, and because it was the only facility in town large enough to accommodate the number of



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On June 29, hundreds of people packed the streets of Quyon during the town's annual Canada Day party. Pictured, Adam Valois and Garry Trudeau cook up the burgers on the barbecue on Sunday afternoon.

people expected to show up, Trudeau said.

With a variety of fun games set up for kids, including outdoor bowling, face painting and a huge bouncy castle among other things, the event offered plenty of joy to the young ones who attended.

As vendors sold alcoholic beverages inside the school's cafeteria, around a dozen volunteers worked the barbecue station doling out hundreds of delicious hot dogs and hamburgers.

Following the barbecue and youth activities, the event proceeded with a parade going through Clarendon Street all the way down Ferry Road followed by a hoisting of a large Canadian flag on a 100-foot pole on the riverside - offering everything one would expect from your typical Canada Day party.

Before raising the flag, Trudeau issued a brief speech thanking all the participants, sponsors and volunteers for contributing to such a successful event.

Finishing the celebration in the most festive way possible, herds of party animals convened along-side the

Ottawa River for a dynamic fireworks show.

Keeping the crowds hyped up with a vibrant atmosphere of classic rock and modern electronic music, DJ Maestro Joe manned the turntables all night long spinning up until the wee hours of the morning.

Sheenboro
On July 1, thousands of people decked out in red and white crowded the streets of Sheenboro during the town's annual Canada Day festivities.

With hundreds of vehicles lining both sides of Hwy. 148 in downtown Sheenboro, the town's biggest celebration of the year certainly did not disappoint.

Organized by members of the Sheenboro R.A. and the town's Parish Council, the event served as a fundraiser for both organizations while giving locals a chance to soak in the Canada Day festivities in their hometown.

Following morning Mass in St. Paul the Hermit Church, the event consisted of various activities scattered throughout the park for the youth, including face painting, a fishing pond and plenty of toys in the sand pit,

along with a mouth-watering lumberjack breakfast serving around 200 people.

While live musicians performed on the main stage in the park, including local folk band Bush Chord, the annual parade rolled down the highway.

This year's float included a number of notable floats, including vintage cars, a group of fiddlers and not to mention the newest addition with plants all over it mimicking a cannabis garden called SheenGreen, which brought plenty of humour to the crowds, said one of the event organizer's Joann



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

Sheenboro residents Claudia Gleason and Nadine Demers pose for a photo during the town's festivities on July 1.

14th annual Fred Meilleur golf tournament



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On June 29, over 100 golfers from the Pontiac and beyond gathered at two golf courses in the Pontiac for some four-man best ball to support a couple of local charities. From left: Alouettes Island Mayor Winston Sunstrum, Mike Ryan, Carey Kelly, Earl Carroll, Roger Lavoie, Pat Hahn, Jim Sunstrum and Josh Dufour pose for a photo before teeing off on the second hole at Pontefract Golf Club in Mansfield et Pontefract.

J.D. POTIÉ
CHAPEAU June 29, 2019

On June 29, nearly 150 people hit the links at two golf courses in the region to raise money for charity at the 14th annual Fred Meilleur Memorial Tournament.

Organized by members of the Upper Pontiac Sports Complex Committee, the event consisted of a four-man best-ball tournament where teams competed in a joyful, recreational atmosphere despite the grey skies and rainy weather.

Held on two courses in the Pontiac, including Pontefract Golf Club in Mansfield et

Pontefract and Island Brae Golf Club in Chapeau the tournament had 140 golfers divided on both courses.

After the tournament, a collection of 175 participants and residents gathered inside the town's arena for an award banquet accompanied with a delicious roast beef dinner.

According to Alouettes Island Mayor Winston Sunstrum, this year's tournament served as a fundraiser for the town's arena and its retirement home Residence Meilleur.

Drawing plenty of old friends from far beyond the Pontiac to participate,

Sunstrum always looks forward to the yearly tournament knowing that it's a good excuse to kick it with old pals.

"We have people come from Ottawa and Sudbury and different places and it's sort of a reunion at the same time," he said. "A friend of mine is up from Brockville. And of course, we get together with our buddies as well, the ladies are here and everybody's having a good time."

Among the group that played at Pontefract Golf Club, the winners of the closest shot to the hole on a par three were Pauline



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

Participants Al Trottier and Victor Branco pose for a photo in their golf cart at the event.



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

Pontiac resident Mona Durocher celebrates a successful stroke in the rain at the Island Brae Golf Club in Chapeau.

Gagnon and Dave Cornwall, while the longest drive of the day went to Marybeth Adam and Serge Duval respectively.

Over at the Brae, winners of the closest shot were Sue Collin and Shawn Menard

McCann said.

"People used to joke about people growing marijuana in the hills," she said. "We have awesome floats."

Inside the Parish Hall, vendors sold a variety of goods including houseware and kitchen products, while volunteers accepted donations for a silent auction.

With a number of food vendors doling out fries, barbecued hot dogs and hamburgers and refreshments, the event offered all kinds of delicacies to those who attended. Plus, a water-bottle filling station was on site with several huge jugs of water to ensure everyone was sufficiently hydrated.

According to McCann, the event is always enjoyable for the community as it brings in plenty of good friends and family from all over the region to celebrate the special occasion.

"It's basically people visiting," she said. "You have lots of cottagers. You have Sheen-people coming home for the weekend. It's always a really feel good day."

Capping off the celebration in style, the event ended with a classic fireworks show, courtesy of Hotel Pontiac and the Old Fort William Cottagers Association.

For more Canada Day celebrations across Pontiac see page eight.

Thank you!

On behalf of the Norway Bay Municipal Association we would like to offer a heart felt thank you to anyone who helped during the recent flooding of the Ottawa River. It was heartening to watch the overwhelming response from across the Pontiac, bringing people from near and far together to help those in need. We're all grateful for all those who stepped up, whether you bagged sand, or delivered sandwiches to the volunteers. We would like to also thank Mayor Brent Orr, Councillor Phillip Holmes and the Bristol Council.

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Fourth annual Villa James Shaw fundraiser



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY

Attendees danced the night away at the fourth annual Villa James Shaw fundraiser at the Shawville RA on Saturday night. Pontiac Liberal MP Will Amos served as auctioneer, soliciting bids for a dinner with him at a restaurant of the winner's choice.

CHRIS LOWREY
SHAWVILLE June 29, 2019

The fourth annual Villa James Shaw fundraiser, hosted by the Shawville Rotary Club, saw more than 100 people fill the Shawville RA on Saturday night.

The event is one of the biggest on the fundraising schedule for the organizing committee.

The dance floor was full as patrons perused the auction table which included a trip for two courtesy of the Rotary Club and Jamieson Travel.

While Villa James Shaw organizing committee

President Albert Armstrong is hopeful that shovels can get into the ground within the next year, the committee is still awaiting a few reports - which are expected to be completed over the coming months.

The committee has already secured funding from many community groups and several municipalities.

"It's a real community project," Armstrong said. The fundraising event brings people out for a social event and gives them an opportunity to contribute to a project that is vitally important

to a community with an aging population.

In its first three years, the dance has raised more than \$30,000.

One of the mystery items available in the auction was a dinner with Pontiac Liberal MP Will Amos at a restaurant of the winning bidder's choice.

Amos was on hand to serve as the auctioneer as the price steadily climbed until the wining bid came in at \$300.

While the event is a huge financial boon for the committee, Armstrong hinted that more good news could be

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Editorial

Media censorship on the rise

In the last couple of years, the refrain “Enemy of the People” has become a common one from those who wear their distrust of the media like a badge of honour. Even here in the Pontiac, THE EQUITY has been accused of publishing “fake news,” even though the claim couldn’t be backed up with proof. With the abundance of news circulating on the internet, it seems there is a news source with a “slant” or editorial stance that caters to just about every set of political beliefs.

And with so much news out there, it’s inevitable that there will be some accounts that are less than true – to be generous. Since social media companies like Facebook and YouTube control such a huge amount of information, they’ve had to take steps to vet the news items that appear on their website.

In some cases, these companies have banned controversial content creators from their platforms, which generates accusations of censorship.

Recently, that trend has shifted towards more traditional forms of journalism. One of the most prominent newspapers in the world – *The New York Times* – recently declared it will not be running any more editorial cartoons after getting flak for a cartoon that depicted Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as a guide dog for a yarmulke-wearing President Trump.

The cartoon was criticized as anti-semetic and *The Times* quickly made the nuclear decision of axing all editorial cartoons.

Just this week in Canada, editorial cartoonist Michael de Adder had his contract terminated by Brunswick News, the owner of several newspapers in New Brunswick – de Adder’s home province.

The cartoon that got de Adder fired dealt with the recent image of Oscar Alberto Martinez Ramirez and his daughter Valeria lying face down in the water after drowning while trying to cross the Rio Grande from Mexico into the U.S.

In de Adder’s cartoon, President Trump is shown in his golf attire, nine iron in hand, stepping over the lifeless bodies while asking “Do you mind if I play through?”

The image is visceral – as good political cartoons usually are.

But it seems this was the last straw. The cartoonist was unceremoniously dumped by the newspaper owned by the Irving family of companies.

This is the same Irving behind Irving Shipbuilding – a company that recently made the news for how it deals with unfriendly media scrutiny.

In April of this year, a *National Post* journalist, David Pugliese was writing a story about a contract being completed by Irving Shipbuilding.

Pugliese asked Public Services and Procurement Canada for information on the contract. Not only did the federal department not respond to the request, but bureaucrats went a step further and directly informed Irving of the journalist’s name and what information he was after.

Irving responded by threatening the *National Post* with a lawsuit if there were any allegations of improper conduct.

This kind of chilling effect on the media is the last thing citizens need when they’re constantly inundated with news from a variety of sources.

It’s one thing for a company like Irving to be defensive about its image and economic interests, but for a department in the federal government to cater to a company like this should make citizens question whose side the government is on?

Now, journalists doing their jobs and protecting the public interest are threatened with lawsuits or – in extreme cases – fired.

It’s bad enough that reporters who are trying to hold power to account are being threatened with lawsuits – even if it’s a common occurrence. But now, editorial cartoons are apparently punching above their weight.

The job of the media is to talk about uncomfortable topics and contextualize them for their audience.

Since the job of the media involves such difficult discussions, editors and publishers should be ready to deal with the backlash when it inevitably comes.

If an editorial cartoon generates more consequences than the actual incident it’s depicting, it’s time to re-evaluate our priorities.

Now more than ever we need those brave voices that are willing to speak truth to power.

Chris Lowrey

The Parents’ Voice

By Shelley Heaphy

Bug safety

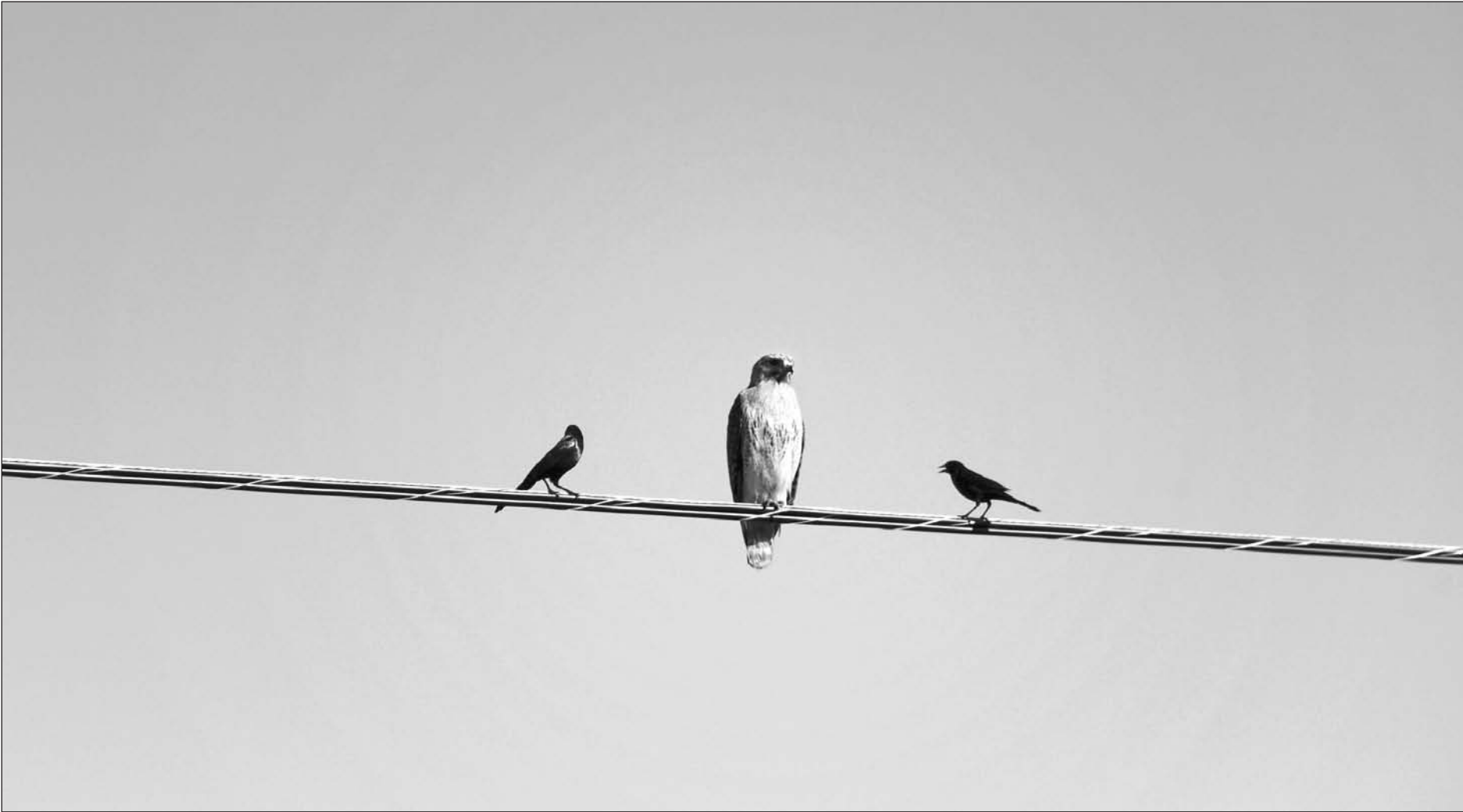
The bugs this summer and spring have been absolutely horrific. With floods and a late summer I guess it’s to be expected. We’ve had to carry our bug spray with us like armour, everywhere we go. Not only do we have the threat of mosquito and black flies but this year, more than ever, we have the fear of ticks.

The effects some bug bites may have on us and our children can make outdoor activities and events very hard to navigate with small children. I’ve been looking up some tips and tricks with hopes that it’ll help us avoid the bugs for the rest of the summer.

Avoiding bug bites

1. Most importantly get rid of all stagnant water in your yard or near your back yard. This means wheel barrows, pails, sand-boxes, gutters, flower pots, pools, water tables and patio tables. A great tip is to drill holes in the bottom of things that do collect water, like a garbage can.
2. Wear light coloured, loose fitting clothing, long sleeved – stay away from bright colours. Use nets for strollers and car seats to keep babies away from the bugs.
3. Avoid perfumes, and other strong smelling soaps and shampoos, insects are attracted to these scents.

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE



Dave Moore, THE EQUITY

Bookends

The Ferguson wrench

by Chris Judd



Outstanding in his field

When the new Ferguson TEA-20 tractor arrived in the spring of 1950 it was an eventful day for a two-year-old farm kid. It came from the Ferguson dealer in Renfrew, Ont. on a one ton Dodge truck. They also sold Dodge cars.

The little gray Fergie was quite an improvement from the 2N Ford-Ferguson that dad traded in.

The Ferguson had a 27 horsepower over head valve standard engine like the Vanguard car and even the Triumph TR4, instead of 23 HP flathead that the 2N had.

Dad was just going to buy a loader for the 2N but traded for a new tractor with a loader and also traded the two furrow Dearborn plow with the 2N and a three furrow Ferguson plow also came in time for fall plowing.

The Fergie also had four gears ahead instead of three in the 2N. Second gear

made it possible to pull the three furrow plow and third was great for raking hay.

The Ferguson came with the footboard option which made it much safer for a three-year-old who had to stand on the clutch with both feet and push up on the steering wheel to change gears.

My most memorable part of the Ferguson tractor was the Ferguson wrench that came in the tool box. The wrench was made from material that did not rust. It was 10 and a half inches long so you could check the depth of plowing even if you only plowed six inches deep.

It was an open ended spanner that was one and one sixteenth inch on one end and eleven sixteenth inch on the other. Fuel gauges on tractors were still not an option

but the Ferguson wrench was long enough to dip the tank for gas. If the small end of the wrench didn’t get wet you

had to fill the tank before leaving the yard. The big end of the wrench was too big to let the wrench fall into the tank and you always made sure that the wrench was clean before dipping the tank.

The Ferguson wrench fit the nuts holding the wheels on the tractor, loosened the oil cartridge holder, removed the oil plug to drain the oil, loosened the plug when you had to add oil to the transmission and it fit every nut and adjustment on plow.

The wrench was heavy enough to use as a hammer in an emergency and when I got too tired to sit on my dad’s knee on the tractor, dad threw his coat on the ground and the dog would sit beside me as I played with that Ferguson wrench until I fell asleep.

We didn’t have many tools on the farm in 1950. I remember a 10 pound sledge to break cement and pound in steel fence posts. There was always a good set of fencing pliers to pull steeples, cut wire, pull fence wire tight and pound in steeples. A pipe wrench was a must to make emergency repairs to water pipes and water bowels. There was always a knuckle buster often called a monkey

wrench. When vice-grip pliers were invented, they were just as important to a farmer as sliced bread was to his wife.

When our neighbour’s uncle, who was a mechanic in Detroit, died and willed a set of three quarter inch socket wrenches to him, our neighbour gave them to dad because he didn’t have anything that they fit. Dad and most every farmer always carried a jackknife in his pocket. Dad always bought a knife made of good quality steel and just after buying it would grind the tip off the blade so he would have a screwdriver to adjust carburetors, work on electrical connections, set the points on gas engines, and anything else that required a screwdriver in an emergency.

To this day farmers always carry a jack-knife, just because. My knife must be flat enough to carry in my pocket, have a sharp blade, a flat screwdriver, a bottle opener in case I get dry and a corkscrew in case the wife gets dry.

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

July 6, 1994 25 Years Ago

Linemen rescue swimmers: Three local Hydro Quebec workers took part in a daring rescue of two people struggling in water July 4, but don’t call them heroes.

“Don’t blow this out of proportion,” foreman Gillies Soucie warns an EQUITY reporter.

“We just did our job,” declares lineman Glen Romain.

It was nothing special, they say, but perhaps the two people they helped save would disagree.

When the incident occurred, they along with four other crews were tackling a section of line near the fast moving Black River.

About 25 children were playing by the water when cries for help pierced the air. Immediately, the hydro workers ran to the river’s edge carrying an assortment of ropes.

Working quickly as a team, Glen Romain and two co-workers from Hull grabbed a log and using it as a paddle board, swam across the fast current towards the stranded swimmers.

Meanwhile, on shore, Don Smart and others were holding fast to an anchor rope attached to the Hydro rescuers while Gillies Soucie called for an ambulance.

None of the victims required immediate first aid and after seeing the rescued swimmers loaded safely onto an ambulance for a hospital checkup, the local hydro workers took a half-hour break and went straight back to the job.

Local cop jizzes to new beat in Musical Ride: In her old job, the last thing Mary-Lynn Pirie wanted to do was look like a cop. As a narcotics agent who occasionally went undercover in Hamilton, Ont., the six-year RCMP veteran tended to shy away from the police look. However, now sporting reddish brown riding boots, navy jodhpurs with those big stripes, scarlet tunic and the obligatory Stetson hat, the Bristol native looks every inch the Mountie.

In January, Pirie and the rest of the new batch of riders joined the main troop in their Ottawa area stables. From there the rookies learned how to function with the veterans and got better acquainted with their mounts.

In 1997, Ms. Pirie returns to normal police duties but until then, she’ll likely

THE WAY WE WERE

Compiled by Bonnie Chevier

spend less time pondering rules of evidence to reflect more upon the particular dynamics between horse and rider. “I just love what I’m doing,” says Pirie.

July 9, 1969 50 Years Ago

Lions Club President reviews year’s activities: Shawville Lions Club held an installation of officers and ladies night banquet and a dance at the Lions Community Centre on Thursday evening with 125 attending.

The evening began with organ music supplied by Ray Sheppard followed by a smorgasbord supper catered by the Rebekah Lodge.

Activities during the year included sponsoring a blood donor clinic, figure skating and swimming classes, donation of an air conditioner to the therapy room at the Pontiac Community Hospital, donation of radio, tables and repairs to tv and installation of emergency lighting at Ade Memorial Hospital, Bristol.

A gift from the young: The young ladies of the Starks Corners CGIT took a long walk to Renfrew on May 31 and many of their good friends offered them money per mile of the trek.

Barbara Elliott and Janet Elliott walked all the way there and back for a total of 40 miles each and all the others walked the 20 miles to Renfrew, including the leaders.

They made \$402 for their efforts and on July 3 they handed over a cheque for that amount to Dale Thomson, Chairman of the Pontiac Protestant Home for the Aged in Shawville.

July 13, 1944 75 Years Ago

Local news: Mr. and Mrs. Manson McDowell received word on Monday that their son, W.O. Donald McDowell was reported missing after air operations over enemy territory.

Donald enlisted in the army in July 1940 and remustered to the R.C.A.F. a year later. He has been overseas three years.

G.A. Howard of Shawville, prominent in provincial and federal political circles of Pontiac for many years, was chosen official Union Nationale candidate for the Quebec Provincial election at the

Shawville Theatre on Monday afternoon.

The convention was sharply contested with Mr. Howard being chosen by a margin of a single vote over Hector Belec, son of Charles Belec, former M.P. for Pontiac.

How long will final phase of war against Germany last? We may be sure that Allied plans for the invasion included ample preparations for repairs to Cherbourg’s harbour facilities, then the liberation of Europe will proceed at accelerated pace. That the British, American and Russian generals have planned a blitz seems evidenced by the lateness in the season of their attack.

Some day the utter hopelessness and futility of the German position will dawn upon the thoughts of the German populace.

July 3, 1919 100 Years Ago

Local news: The children of the several Sunday schools with teachers and parents celebrated Dominion Day by holding a union picnic at Green Lake.

The weather was ideal and there was a large attendance. Citizen car owners facilitated the transportation problem and everything passed off pleasantly and satisfactorily.

Hon. Arthur Meighen, acting Minister of Justice, has introduced two bills in he House to deal with the cost of living problem, which just now is giving more concern to he people of Canada than any other question.

The Peace Treaty with Germany was signed at Versailles on Saturday afternoon first by the German delegates headed by President Wilson, then by the plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan.

Borden remains leader: At the Unionist caucus today it was decided to consolidate the Unionist party into a permanent political organization. Sir Robert, who spoke at some length, said that he was not concerned with political power or personal ambition, and offered to make way for a successor, but the caucus was unanimous in full possession of the leadership.

Poor man’s court: Judge McDonald of Brockville represented Leeds and Grenville in the Ontario Legislature and one of his members was George McManus of Cardwell. Judge McDonal was recently telling a friend of an occasion when one of the members in a speech spoke of the Court of Chancery as “the poor man’s court.” “Yes,” said Mr. McManus, when he spoke in reply, “the honourable member

may well call it the poor man’s court, for it leaves any man poor who gets into it.”

This notice appeared in a daily newspaper: “Dear Joe- come home. Forgive and forget. I have destroyed the book of war recipes - Milly.”

July 5, 1894 125 Years Ago

Local News: The school teachers examinations were concluded here on Friday last.

Mr. J.R. Booth, it is stated, will not rebuild his large mill recently destroyed by fire. The burning of the mill has thrown out of employment five or six hundred people, among whom much distress will prevail unless they can speedily procure work elsewhere.

The recent heavy rains have damaged the crops to a certain extent where the lands are low but in the high sand sections, the prospects never appeared better.

On Friday last while Mr. Richard Hodgins of North Clarendon was working at a shingle machine, his right foot got entangled in some way in the belting and had it almost wrenched off. Drs. Lyon and Knox who were summoned to attend the injured man, found the accident to be of a very severe and painful nature, the foot being completely turned around and the bones protruding through the skin. Besides this, the sinews of the leg were very much strained and the knee cap displaced.

After putting the patient under the influence of anesthetics, the physicians succeeded with some difficulty in getting the foot back to its proper position and maintaining it there with the aid of splints. since the accident, Mr. Hodgins is suffering very much and his condition is reported to be critical.

An interesting concert was held at Thorne Centre on the evening of the 27th. Many readings and songs were presented. Mr. Toohie’s representations of an Irishman in this were well acted and brought down the house. Singing by the choir of *Clementine* and *It’s a Way We Have By The Corner*, as well as other dialogues were in the programme. Fifteen minutes of intermission was then given.

Mr. McNally who occupied the chair in an able manner made a speech on the patron’s organization which was followed by a short address by Rev. Coffin. *God Save the Queen* was then sung and the audience went home well please with their evening’s entertainment.

Building tools for a virtual world

by CALEB NICKERSON

Photo by Michael Bell, courtesy of the University of Regina

Megan Smith is an associate professor of creative technologies at the University of Regina who is currently working with the RCMP to design and build hardware for their virtual reality training program. Smith grew up in Shawville.



Our is the first period in human civilization where virtual entertainment has eclipsed the real world.

There are so many different platforms and services offering an immersive online experience, to take people out of the real world and create an illusion that is indistinguishable from the real thing.

But not all of the stimuli of the online world are generated by 1s and 0s zipping around in a microprocessor. After all, you need a controller or a set of special goggles to interact with these electronic worlds in the first place. And not all of VR's applications are trivial entertainment, private and public organizations are looking at the technology as a safe and efficient way to enhance their training regimens.

That niche is the realm of Megan Smith, a Shawville native and associate professor of creative technologies at the University of Regina, who is currently working with the RCMP to develop the hardware for their virtual reality training program.

She has been teaching at the university for several years, but her path to the Prairies has been a circuitous one.

After graduating from York University in Toronto, Smith jetted across the Atlantic to obtain her MA and PhD in the UK, at Southampton and Leeds Metropolitan Universities respectively.

She returned to Shawville for a short time

before finding the position in Regina. She said that her early days in the area were a critical influence on her career choice.

"I was definitely inspired growing up in the Pontiac by all the artists in the community," she said. "Definitely the Pontiac Artists Association helped me. As I went through high school and university they were a great help to me and a help in making me understand what professional artists do."

She said that technology has always been a part of her creative process.

"Somewhere along the line, I guess in university, that was when digital cameras started to come out and I became inspired by the digital world as well as the internet and combining creative practice or being an artist with digital tools and the internet," she explained. "I've been working for a number of years in an area

called physical computing, which is using micro controllers to activate and build projects and sculptures and installations."

One of her previous projects at the University of Regina involved her pedalling a stationary bike across a virtual Canada, using Google Street View. She noted that she actually passed through Shawville on her route.

"That had a bit of media attention," she said. "One meeting I was at, at the university, I met the director of innovation and training at the RCMP and ... we got into a really good conversation about different methods for learning at the RCMP. The training depot is based here in Regina so all the cadets come to Regina to train here."

From there she began a series of contract jobs with Mounties, working through the Collaborative Centre for Justice and Safety, a

research institution at the university.

"They have incredible simulators here at the RCMP depot," she said. "I went and looked at all of these and eventually over time the RCMP came back to me and said, 'We're curious about looking into virtual reality research, we need a creative individual on our team to help us understand the technology and see what we can do with it in terms of innovating our training.' That led to two and a half years working together, collaborating on designing new tools for the RCMP training centre."

Smith said that a part of her job is keeping up with the latest trends in the industry. She said her goal is to create a cheap, effective system solely for law enforcement, not your average consumer product.

"The commercial industry is leading the whole industry in terms of both hardware and

software and content," she said. "That's great for the commercial industry and the entertainment industry. It's not so good if ... very serious training centres, like paramilitary and military, need to rely on the commercial industry for our tools. The commercial industry, they have a different purpose."

"The technology moves so swiftly I just need to keep researching and seeing the route that VR is going to take before I go full out to build these [prototypes] into a product," she added.

Smith works designing and building the hardware used in the VR simulator, and is currently refining a prototype service pistol and Conducted Energy Weapon (CEW), commonly known as a Taser. She said they take great pains to make sure the weapons are as close to the real thing as possible, like adding real grips and the same trigger as their standard issue Smith and Wesson.

"VR is very immersive but putting a plastic object in their hand that just kind of feels like a pistol, like a toy pistol, that can break presence," she said. "Those small details keep people immersed in the situation."

She said that the CEW was presenting her and her partners with some challenges, since the coils and barbs it shoots act differently than bullets from a firearm.

"Emulating the physics of that is something we're working on to solve," she said. "There's lots of interesting challenges."

Next up will be transferring her electronics to the C8 Carbine, as well as developing a baton and OC spray controllers, Smith said. She added that they would also be looking at improving the immersiveness of the simulator by adding in environmental factors such as smell and wind.

"It's not just the hardware that needs to be added to the VR environment, it's the sensory immersion experience as a whole, so when you're in VR what kind of physical cues help our cadets learn better," she said.

She said that she takes pride in the public service aspect of her job, putting her skills to use for the greater good.

"I like that I'm able to be creative in my job and I love that I'm able to effect positive change," she said. "Everything I've acquired along the way is actually going towards something that has benefit to Canadian society. That's probably one of the most rewarding things about my job."

Photo by Michael Bell, courtesy of the University of Regina

Three different iterations of Smith's prototype VR handgun, which is based closely on the RCMP Smith and Wesson service weapon. In the most recent version, on the right, the grips and trigger are the same as the real handgun.



The Parents' Voice

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

4. There are products you can install or have close by to help deter the bugs; zappers, citronella candles, sticky traps, etc.

5. Protect their skin. There are different opinions on what to use as bug spray; some people preach that products with DEET are the only products that work, while others prefer staying away from chemical ingredients. After reading an interesting article at canadianliving.com, I understand what both types of repellents do. Repellents with DEET mask your scent so that biting insects can't locate you, while natural repellents use odours (from natural essential oils) to mask the lactic acid scent on our bodies so that biting bugs can't locate you. Whichever kind you're going to use, use it. Protect your children's skin before they head outside, especially at dusk when the sun is setting.

Ticks

Anywhere you look, the internet, TV, newspapers, friends and magazines everyone is worried about tick bites. It is so important to check your child's body when they come in from outdoors.

Checking their body is key. Train them in coming to you when they come inside for a check. Search their body (check all the folds, behind their knees, in their elbows, behind their ears, their hair), this is key! Ticks can be as small as a tiny speck. They embed in your skin leaving a small part of their body sticking up. If you do find a tick on your child and are

not sure if you can remove it entirely, head to the emergency or clinic or at least call 811 for advice. If you do remove the tick bring it in to the hospital for it to be sent away and tested for Lyme disease. If your child has a bug bite that looks like a bull's eye on their body have them checked by a doctor at the Emergency (or your family doctor if you can be seen quickly). They should be able to tell if it is a tick bite by the way it looks. It is important to see a doctor in case your child needs medication. We cannot hide from bugs and bug bites but we do have to be proactive in keeping ourselves and little ones safe, so make sure to check their bodies daily.

There are reports of people all around our community finding them on their body and not only after having been in wooded areas or long grass so be vigilant.

After the bites

If all your efforts prove unsuccessful, treat the bites. My kids were eaten alive this past weekend. When we came in from outside we took a warm bath, washed all their skin and hair then lathered them with an after bite gel meant to take away the itch. It didn't burn, it cooled the bites. It was a success here. There are a lot of products out there for you to try. Whatever you choose have it on hand throughout the summer.

Remind them to not scratch. Their bites may be itchy in the following days so keep an eye on them. Some children have a tendency to scratch them until the bleed and scab. Use some antibacterial cream to avoid infections.

For the birds



Cecile Amyotte of Calumet Island poses with a bird's nest perched on a shovel that she discovered in her shed. Have a tale as strange as Cecile's? Feel free to submit a picture to editor@theequity.ca or drop us a line at 819 647 2204.

Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Oops!

On the front page of last week's edition, the article "Coulouge landmark featured on new stamp" contained an error: the Felix-Gabriel Marchand Bridge resides in the Municipality of Mansfield et Pontefract, not Fort Coulouge. THE EQUITY apologizes for any confusion.

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Cutting-edge, creative technology for Heritage College in Campbell's Bay

J.D. POTIÉ
CAMPBELL'S BAY
June 26, 2019

On June 26, crowds of people from all over the Pontiac gathered at Heritage College's campus in Campbell's Bay to take a up-close and personal look at a collection of very innovative modern technology.

Hosted by the Fabrique mobile de l'Outaouais and the Jardin Educatif du Pontiac, the event served as an opportunity for locals to get access to innovative machines that they otherwise wouldn't get the change to use or witness.

Officially named the Fab Lab du Jardin, the showcase boasted four futuristic gadgets that made the space feel like a journey into the future.

With plenty of locals attending to test out the machines, creating all sorts of designs and prototypes, the event was evidently an

instant hit.

With 3D printers, a vinyl-cutter and a colossal laser-cutter on site, the showcase left attendees in of awe, especially children who seemed absolutely mesmerized by the machines outstanding capabilities.

While the prototype-making 3D printers were certainly popular, the main attraction of the event was the large laser-cutter set-up in the tool shed outside the building.

"It's like the piece de resistance," he said. "It's the mother of all machines."

During the showcase last Wednesday, Fab Lab du Jardin's project manager Gregory Beard provided demonstrations and showed kids how to make their own personalized ruler with the laser-cutter.

Too big to fit through the front doors of the main building, the 90-Watt apparatus, worth north of

\$12,000, is used to carve through various materials using a fiery-hot laser.

From engraving names on

glass jars, to carving artistic designs through a sheet of plywood, the laser-cutter's potential for creativity is vir-

tually limitless, Beard said.

After getting in touch with Martin Riopel of the Jardin Educatif du Pontiac, the two organizations felt like it would be great idea to implement a Fab Lab in a rural region like the Pontiac – something that hadn't happened in the past.

While Fab Labs are quite common in post-secondary institutions and high schools across the country, the one held in Campbell's Bay holds a unique place in the province.

"It's the first of its kind, as far as we know, in Quebec, which is awesome," he said.

With advanced technology becoming more and more prevalent in all industries and learning how to use these machines is a very unique skill to acquire that will likely be very practical in the future, Beard said.

"By being able to use these machines, it opens up

a really wide variety of job opportunities in the future where you might be that one person that knows how to use this machine that will be available to use it," he said.

Relatively user-friendly and easy to learn, the machines can be great tools when it comes to creating something very unique at a reasonable price.

"As an individual that's just trying to learn how to use this machine, you can learn by making really unique pieces and gifts like that" he said.

With potential to be a significant attraction for tourists and locals alike, the Fab Lab du Jardin has the possibility of being very beneficial to the region's economy, Beard said.

"It's a great way to share this knowledge with the community out here because it is harder to attract people out of the

city," he said. "Usually, it's a reversed-flow that we have here. By enabling people in the Pontiac area to gain this knowledge and these resources, you might be attracting a different kind of business."

With a wide variety of materials provided on site, residents are invited to test out the machines or work on personal creative projects at no cost whatsoever, Beard said.

Open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays,

until August 14, the lab will be open to anyone wanting to accomplish their projects or those simply wanting to find out what all the fuss is about.

While the Fab Lab's summer stay in Campbell's Bay is only a showcase, Beard hopes that it one day becomes a mainstay in the region.

"The long-term goal is to eventually have a permanent installation of FabLab [in the Pontiac] where people can come," he said.



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On June 26, the Fab Lab du Jardin officially opened its summer showcase at the Heritage College Campus in Campbell's Bay. Pictured, Fab Lab project manager Gregory Beard teaches a youngster how to operate the laser-cutter.

Locals sought for Shawville junior hockey team

CALEB NICKERSON
SHAWVILLE
June 13, 2019

On June 13, a group looking to start a junior hockey team in Shawville held a public meeting at the Community Lodge on Main St.

The meeting had a much smaller turnout of locals than Head Coach François

Dugas had hoped for, with only Shawville councillor Bill McCleary, arena manager Wes Tubman and resident Barrie Murray in attendance, along with The Equiry.

Dugas was joined by Maniwaki Mustangs President Eric Gauthier and several other Mustangs staff. Gauthier has been

looking to add more teams from the region to Canadian Premier Junior Hockey League (CPJHL), as many of the teams in the league – which was created in 2016 – are from southern Ontario. They planned on calling the local team Shawville Express, a reference to famed local NHL player, Frank “The

Express” Finnigan.

The Mustangs played several exhibition games at the Shawville Arena this past winter as a promo for the league, but the local turnout was minimal.

McCleary pointed out that without any local players to cheer on, it would be difficult for any team to

attract spectators.

Dugas said that they were having difficulty attracting talent from the area and also had only one offer for billeting. The group agreed that in order for the team to survive and attract local audiences, there had to be at least some local players willing to commit.

Much of the meeting was spent brainstorming a list of eligible players who might have an interest and Dugas vowed to invite them all to the final tryout, which will be held at 6 p.m. on July 14 at the Masham Arena. He also floated the idea of promoting the team at the Shawville Fair.

“We have work to do,” he concluded.

NBMA hosts annual open house



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

Coronation Hall owners Norma and Garry Graham stand in front of their kiosk pervaded with apple-based products.



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On June 29, the Norway Bay Municipal Association held its annual open house, inviting the public to register for their summer memberships. Pictured, organization member Eileen Barry and President Liam McGahern pose for a photo during the event.

J.D. POTIÉ
NORWAY BAY
June 30, 2019

On June 30, hundreds of Pontiac residents gathered at Centennial Hall in Norway Bay as the community's municipal association held its annual open house.

Hosted by the Norway Bay Municipal Association (NBMA), the event served as an opportunity for locals and seasonal cottagers to sign up

for their memberships to the association's activities for the summer of 2019.

With numerous volunteers representing various communal activities and businesses set-up behind kiosks inside the hall, the event provided people with all the information they need about leisure activities and events the town has to offer this summer.

From swimming lessons,

to tennis courses or music lessons among a plethora of other fun stuff, the town's municipal association offers a wide variety of recreational avenues for kids and adults to participate in during the sunny season.

Among the local enterprises on site were Coronation Hall sampling mouth-watering apple-based delicacies, the Pine Lodge and the Bristol Fire Department

accepting monetary donations outside the building, among others.

According to the NBMA's President Liam McGahern, the annual open house is always a good reminder that summer in Norway Bay is right around the corner.

"It's sort of a kick off to the summer for us," he said. "Despite the weather, summer's here and let's get going and have some fun."

Shawville
LYSE LACOURSE 819-647-5932
lyse38o@gmail.com

We had the pleasure of having a beautiful Monday for the Canada Day festivities what a treat!

Happy birthday to the following people celebrating this week: Cindy Stafford, Justin Angus, Diane Richard, Cheslyn Graham, Brenda Presley, Hattie Joyce Wisotzki, Murray Wilson, Jennifer Bretzlaff, Diane Carmichael, Shawn Laframboise, Thomas Beck, Morgan Hobbs, Sharon Gilmore, Leah Barber, Tim Powell, Carole Valin, Linda Horner, Janey Orr MacDougall, Christine Davis, Jim Stevenson, Brenda Rooney, Elaine Findlay, Maureen Moore, Benny Allen, Helen Thrun, Marilyn Elliott, Michelle Hamel, Julien Lamarche, Louise Lavalée and Denis Poisson.

Couples celebrating this week are: Roy and Jenn Childs, Neil and Margaret Sharpe, Lynette Harris and Denis Bouche, Scott and Ronda Lemay, Victor and


Lois Dumouchel, Patrick and Heather Younge, Joseph and Kathleen Ranger, Trevor and Leanne Tanguay, Tammy and Richard Alexander, Rene and Louise Lance, Doug and Liz Corrigan, Davey and Kellie Keon, Scott and Sarah Young, Corey and Kim Greer, Luke and Melanie Murphy and Lana and Andrew McDonald.

Our thoughts and prayers to the Zimmerling family on the loss of Wilfred on June 28 at the age of 84 years.

Our deepest condolences to the Burnett family on the loss of Ronald Bryan Burnett on June 28 at the age of 59.

There is an Open House at the Pontiac Archives from July 2 – July 4. Everyone is welcome!

There will be a Seniors Drop In on July 4 at 1 p.m. at the former Shawville Masonic Hall. Come in and have a spot of tea or coffee and enjoy the wonderful company.

 **Vinton**
DIANE BOISVERT 819-921-5296 news@theequity.ca

Our community was shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Michel Pepin, who passed away suddenly at home on June 27 at the age of 54. Mass will be held July 8 at Saint Elizabeth of Hungary Church in Vinton at 11 a.m. Interment at the parish cemetery.

I was busy all week with my aunt Betty Mayhew. She had to have a cataract removed in Ottawa on Wednesday but we had to go down the day before for a pre-op. So, we spent Tuesday and Wednesday night at my cousin Freda Dupuis'. But as luck would have it, aunt Betty ended up with pressure behind her eye and she had to get special drops. We had to stay an extra day in Metcalfe and see the doctor again Friday morning. The extra drops worked and her pressure was back down and she got a clean bill of health to come home. She was very happy that everything turned out okay.

My cousin Earl Mayhew's wife, Betty Findlay, had to have a hip replacement a few weeks ago. Unfortunately she has had nothing but trouble and had to have

three operations since. She is still not out of the woods and the doctors are keeping a close eye on her. We wish her a complete and speedy recovery.

My next door neighbour Shirley Pepin who underwent a knee replacement is doing remarkably well. It has been four weeks since her surgery and she's just rearing to get outside into her flowerbeds and get some weeding done. She has great determination and a great spirit. Glad to see you doing so well Shirley.

I had a wonderful Canada day weekend. On Saturday I went to Sharon Crawford's and had supper with her and spent the night. We had a great time playing cards with Stinger and Jen. The next day Bruce Hodgins dug out a couple of hostas and put them in my truck so I could take them home and find a good spot for them. They were so large they took up the whole back end of my truck.

The next day, Cheryl Mayhew and her boyfriend Denis from Manotick, Ont. spent the day with me. I made them a nice lasagna supper with upside down pineapple cake for dessert.

We spent the whole afternoon talking and sharing recipes.

My garden is looking promising. Most everything came up except I have to replant my beets and arugula. It makes me so happy to see everything growing.

The hummingbirds have been feeding up very heavy in the last few weeks because it's so cold at night. They have been emptying the feeders every second day. You wouldn't think a little bird like that could drink so much. I just love watching them defend their territory.

I hope you've all had a wonderful Canada day weekend.

I would like to wish the following people a very happy birthday: Howard Hodgins and Odell Hearty on July 4, Alisha Corriveau and Muriel Graveline on July 5, Lucy Bertrand on July 6, Zelda Holland and Lynn Pepin, both on the July 7, Junior Amyotte on July 9.

Happy anniversary wishes to Joe and Kay Ranger on July 6, Allyson and Trevor Beauregard on July 7, and to Suzanne and Philippe Pilon and Roxanne and Pat Shea on July 9.

 **Quyon**
JILL YOUNG
819-918-0623 jillianyoung6@gmail.com

I hope everyone enjoyed the Canada Day long weekend. The celebrations in Quyon on Sunday were wonderful. Hats off to the Quyon Canada Day Committee for all their hard work in planning and preparing for this much loved event in our community. The barbecue was delicious and the children had a great time playing on the bouncy castle, getting their faces painted, and having fun at Onslow School.

The parade was terrific with many local business and organizations represented as well as classic cars, horses, and kids on decorated bicycles. Well done to all who entered in the parade. The Canada Day Committee carried the giant flag at the end of the parade and it was raised at the flag pole down by the ferry dock in the traditional flag raising ceremony.

The fireworks at dusk down by the river were spectacular with a finale that gave me goose bumps.

Back at the school, DJ Maestro Joe had everyone up dancing as the party went on well into the night. It was an amazing way to celebrate our beautiful country's birthday.

I was so pleased to have a great gang of family and

friends over to celebrate at my place on Sunday. My yard was full of fun and everyone was decked out in red and white. We had a fantastic time visiting, eating and watching the parade. It was great to watch all of the little cousins and friends playing together. I'm so glad they enjoy coming to celebrate Canada Day in Quyon with me.

Congratulations to Shannon Johnston and Casey McCann on the safe arrival of their new baby girl on June 26. They named her Everlea Joan and her proud big sister Rylie is very excited. Everlea's auntie Stacy brought her up for a little visit on Canada Day and I was happy to get to meet her and cuddle her. She is a doll.

Happy Birthday to Daniel Dowe as he celebrates on July 3. Happy first birthday to Wesley O'Malley on July 4 and to his mommy Jennifer Bronson who celebrates today. We also have birthday wishes going out to Ian Hudson on July 5, to Alvin and Calvin Johnston on July 6, to Paul Lang on July 8 and to Everett Hamilton on July 9. Big first birthday wishes are going out to Axl Orr also on July 9. Best wishes to everyone celebrating this week.

Waltham
 HELEN PERRY
819-689-2652

I hope everyone enjoyed some Canada Day festivities.

Larry and I attended a surprise 70th birthday party for his cousin, Sheila Duff at Sheila and Mike's cottage. Family and friends gathered to help Sheila celebrate this special milestone birthday. It was a wonderful afternoon and evening of socializing, good food, drinks and a lovely birthday cake.

Warm birthday wishes are extended to Lorna Perry-Turner and Tanya Bertrand who are celebrating their birthdays on July 4. Have a wonderful birthday girls.

Little Lennon McGuire son of Asheley Godin and Tim McGuire is celebrating his birthday on July 5. We hope that you have a fun-filled day Lennon.

Our granddaughter Isabella is celebrating her 15th birthday on July 6. Lots of love and hugs are wished from Mom, Dad, Jacob, Nana and Poppa.

Our nephew Jesse Pilon, of Casselman, Ont. is celebrating his birthday on July 9. We hope that you enjoy your special day Jess.

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Wed., July 3 – Parents' Voice Shawville Park Day at Mill Dam Shawville. Join us for fun in the sun, the splash pad and enjoy our beautiful park! We will be there from 9:30-11:30, bring a snack, water, sunscreen and hats! fty3

Thurs., July 4 – Parents' Voice Shawville LEGO Club at Shawville-Clarendon Library, 6:00-6:45, \$2/child. fty3

July 6 & 7 – The Café along with Artistes de la Rivière, Strawberry Shortcake/luncheon (by donation), 11-3 for Kenyan orphanage, 29 Mill St., Portage du Fort. Final weekend, Silent Art Auction at St James Parish Hall ends Sunday at 4 p.m. Self-guided historic tour and book (artistesdelariviere.blogspot.ca) bty3

Sun., July 7 – Cushman Memorial Church, Bristol welcomes 2019 guest music Thursday Morning Group. Please join us at 7:30 p.m. for service. bty3

Sun., July 7 – Vinton Cemetery Mass, 2:00 p.m. Mass outside weather permitting (rain/heat). bty3

Sat., July 13 – Parents' Voice Shawville 3rd Bi-Annual PARK PARTY! Join us at Mill Dam Park from 10-2. There will be a bouncy castle, face painting, Lions barbecue with cotton candy and popcorn, a special performance by Monkey Rock Music from 1-2 and other surprises! Don't miss it! fty3

July 13 & 14 – 29th Annual Echoes of a Proud Nation Pow Wow. 9 a.m. onward. Just south of Montreal, Kahnawake Mohawk Territory, Routes 132 & 138 (off the Mercier Bridge). Adults: \$8; 60+: \$4; 5 & under: FREE. Tel. 450-632-8667, www.kahnawakepowwow.com. qty3

Sun., July 14 – At 2 p.m. Norway Bay United Cemetery Service. Bring lawn chairs. In case of rain service will be held at St. Andrew's Knox United Church, 71 Aylmer Road, Bristol, Que. 2bty10

Sun., July 14 – Norman Cemetery Service, 11th Concession at 2 p.m. Everyone welcome. 2xty10

Sun., July 21 – Stark's Corners Cemetery Service, 2:00 p.m. Bring a lawn chair. Rev. Cory Ferguson will be the speaker. 5xty17

SAT., SEPT. 14 – At CORONATION HALL in downtown BRISTOL, QUEBEC. MICK ARMITAGE & JOANNE DUBEAU. \$25.00 for Dinner & Show. Doors open at 5:00, Dinner at 5:45 and Show at 7:00 until 8:00. Limited seating so buy tickets now from Norma at 819-647-2547 or Mick at 613-859-7740 or mickarmitage@sympatico.ca 2bty3

YARD SALE

July 5, 6 & 7 – Fri., July 5, 12 to 8; Sat., July 6, 9 to 8; Sun., July 7, 9 to 3. Multi-family yard sale, 202 River Road, Bristol. xty3

Saturday 9 a.m. TCRA Ladysmith. Huge indoor Flea Market! Many vendors. Every Saturday from June 29 until last sale August 17. Information 647-3380. 8xau14

Sat., July 6 – Multi-family garage sale 261 Willow Street, Shawville. Children and household items. 8:00-4:00 weather permitting. bty3

Sat., July 6 – 9 a.m. 5th Annual NORWAY BAY COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE! Something for everyone! See you there! 2xty3

MISCELLANEOUS

Odyssey scooter (4 wheel) good batteries. Asking \$400. George Lamothe 819-648-2623. 2xty10

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

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Free – Standing hay for free, Campbell's Bay area 613-732-5147, 819-648-2362. otc

DEATH

Zimmerling, Wilfred – Passed away peacefully in hospital, Shawville, Quebec on Friday, June 28, 2019 at the age of 84 years. Son of the late Alfred Zimmerling and the late Annie Schroeder. Wilfrid is survived by his sister Beulah (late Maurice Grife) and his brother Ronnie (Rosemary). Loving uncle of Debbie (Sandy Hanson), Tania (James Cull) and Shelley (Emile Tavares). Great-uncle of Jonathan, Amanda, Harrison, Emily and Morrison. Friends may call at Hayes Funeral Home, 134 Centre Street, Shawville, Quebec on Wednesday, July 3, 2019 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Funeral Service will be conducted on Wednesday, July 3 in Zion Lutheran Church, Schwartz, Quebec at 11 a.m. Interment to follow. Donations to Zion Lutheran Church or Friends of St. Joseph's Manor would be appreciated. www.hayesfuneralhome.ca



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

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Les mégots mal éteints demeurent une cause importante de feu de forêt

SOPFEU Communiqué
QUEBEC Le 27 juin 2019
En cette période propice aux incendies de forêt, la SOPFEU rappelle qu'en moyenne plus de 83 incendies de forêt sont déclenchés en province chaque année par des personnes qui jettent leurs mégots de cigarette par terre sans se soucier du risque que cela comporte. Par temps chaud et sec, un mégot qui atterrit dans la

broussaille peut facilement allumer un incendie. Avec un peu de vent, toutes les conditions sont réunies pour embraser la forêt.
Pour réduire les risques, la SOPFEU recommande aux fumeurs qui travaillent en forêt ou qui s'y rendent pour des activités récréatives d'adopter les comportements suivants :
Éviter de se débarrasser d'un mégot de cigarette par la fenêtre d'un véhicule;
Pour fumer, demeurer

immobile sur une surface dégagée (terre battue ou gravier);
Ne pas fumer en marchant ou en se déplaçant en VTT;
Éteindre le mégot en le mouillant ou en l'écrasant sur une roche;
Ne pas jeter le mégot par terre;
Disposer du mégot dans un endroit prévu à cet effet.
Bien qu'elle mise d'abord sur des activités de sensibilisation et d'éducation, la SOPFEU souligne qu'en vertu

de l'article 6 du Règlement sur la protection des forêts, « du 1er avril au 15 novembre, nul ne peut fumer en forêt ou à proximité de celle-ci dans l'exécution d'un travail ou au cours d'un déplacement, à moins que ce ne soit dans un bâtiment ou un véhicule fermé ». La loi sur l'aménagement durable du territoire forestier stipule que toute personne qui contrevient à cette réglementation commet une infraction et est passible d'une amende de 1 000 à 5

000\$.
Depuis le début de la saison de protection au Québec, 101 incendies combattus en zone de protection intensive ont affecté 5 641 hectares de forêt. En moyenne, 460 incendies sont allumés chaque année affectant plus de 36 000 hectares de forêt au Québec. La SOPFEU tient à rappeler qu'environ 76 per centage de ces incendies sont imputables à l'activité humaine. La collaboration de tous demeure essentielle

Réglementation municipale sur le bruit

MRC DES COLLINS Communiqué
LA PÊCHE Le 26 juin 2019
Saison estivale rime aussi avec plaintes de bruit. C'est pourquoi le service de police tient à rappeler aux citoyens qu'il existe une réglementation municipale qui vient encadrer la paix et le bon ordre, mais

plus particulièrement le bruit.
À titre d'exemple, 50 per centage des plaintes de bruit reçues au service de police le sont entre les mois de juin et août.
Il est donc essentiel de savoir que nos policiers ne peuvent pas être des témoins d'une plainte de

bruit. Ce qui veut dire que si une personne désire porter plainte et qu'un constat d'infraction soit émis à la personne ou entreprise fautive, le plaignant doit obligatoirement nous fournir une déclaration écrite nous décrivant la problématique.
Une fois cette étape effec-

tuée, un constat d'infraction pourra alors être émis à la personne fautive. Le montant de l'infraction est de 350 \$ pour une personne physique et de 600 \$ pour une personne morale (entreprise) plus les frais. Il est à noter que la réglementation complète est disponible à votre munici-

palité.
Sachez que, la meilleure solution n'est pas nécessairement de communiquer avec les policiers pour résoudre le problème, mais bien de prendre quelques minutes de votre temps pour aller discuter avec vos voisins. Croyez-nous, cela fonctionne !

Le Canada finance la surveillance communautaire pour protéger la santé du bassin versant de la rivière des Outaouais

GOUV. DU CANADA Communiqué
OTTAWA Le 29 mai 2019
Le gouvernement du Canada s'est engagé à protéger les ressources en eau douce de notre pays pour les générations à venir, notamment le bassin versant de la rivière des Outaouais.
La ministre de l'Environnement et du Changement climatique, Catherine McKenna, a annoncé que le gouvernement fédéral versera jusqu'à 275 000 \$ sur deux ans à Garde-rivière des Outaouais, un organisme de bienfaisance, pour aider à protéger la santé et la vitalité à long terme du bassin versant de la rivière des Outaouais, en particulier des animaux, des poissons et des espèces en péril qui y vivent.
Des rapports scientifiques récents ont montré les conséquences d'un impact humain non atténué sur notre environnement; il n'y a qu'à penser à la perte sans précédent de biodiversité ou encore aux changements climatiques. Une fois de plus, la région a subi les effets dévastateurs des changements climatiques, avec les inondations historiques de la rivière des Outaouais. Nous devons continuer de surveiller les répercussions

sur notre nature et nos ressources en eau douce pour nous assurer qu'elles demeurent saines à mesure que le monde change.
Le financement appuiera la surveillance communautaire, en partenariat avec les communautés autochtones et les collectivités du bassin hydrographique. Les connaissances recueillies orienteront les discussions sur la façon de soutenir la durabilité à long terme du bassin hydrographique et enrichiront le discours sur la gestion des bassins hydrographiques et la collaboration à l'échelle du Canada. Grâce à ce travail, les partenaires seront en mesure de mieux connaître la rivière qui rapproche les collectivités riveraines et de communier avec elle. Cet appui financier s'ajoute aux 75 000 \$ qu'Environnement et Changement climatique Canada (ECCC) a versés l'an dernier à Garde-rivière des Outaouais pour élaborer des indicateurs de santé pour la rivière des Outaouais.
La rivière des Outaouais, reconnue pour ses valeurs culturelles exceptionnelles, traverse le coeur du territoire algonquin et a joué un rôle inestimable dans la croissance économique et politique de la région à

l'époque de la fourrure et du bois; elle est toujours un moteur économique essentiel.
« Comme bien d'autres habitants de la région de la capitale nationale, j'ai des liens personnels de longue date avec la rivière des Outaouais. Ma famille vit près de la rivière, nous y nageons, nous y payavons, nous faisons du vélo et nous jouons sur ses berges. L'appui accordé par le gouvernement fédéral à Garde-rivière des Outaouais, avec l'investissement de notre gouvernement dans de meilleures infrastructures de traitement des eaux usées et des eaux pluviales, la désignation patrimoniale de la rivière des Outaouais et les nouveaux points d'accès au canal, aidera à protéger la santé et la vitalité à long terme du bassin versant de la rivière des Outaouais afin que les futures générations de Canadiens puissent y nager, boire son eau et y pêcher. » Catherine McKenna, ministre de l'Environnement et du Changement climatique.
« Cet investissement du gouvernement fédéral pour Garde-Rivière des Outaouais démontre notre soutien pour les efforts de protection de la rivière des Outaouais. J'ai

travaillé avec Garde-Rivière des Outaouais tant comme député pour Pontiac que comme avocat en droit de l'environnement et je suis content que notre gouvernement reconnaisse l'excellence et l'importance de son travail. » Will Amos, député, Pontiac.
« Le bassin versant de la rivière des Outaouais est essentiel à notre bien-être économique, écologique et culturel général. Une forte tradition coule dans les veines de nombreux Canadiens de cette région et d'ailleurs, qui ont été touchés par la beauté et la puissance extraordinaire de la rivière des Outaouais, le joyau de la couronne de la région de la capitale nationale. » L'honorable David McGuinty, député d'Ottawa-Sud.
« Grâce à la surveillance communautaire, Garde-rivière des Outaouais a déjà formé le plus grand réseau de citoyens scientifiques au monde, qui surveillent la pollution par les microplastiques en eau douce. Cet investissement nous permettra de reproduire ce succès avec d'autres indicateurs de la santé des bassins hydrographiques, notamment plusieurs indicateurs liés aux changements clima-

tiques comme l'état des glaces, la propagation des espèces envahissantes et la prolifération d'algues toxiques. » Patrick Nadeau, directeur général de Garde-rivière des Outaouais.
Le bassin hydrographique de la rivière des Outaouais est renommé dans le monde entier pour ses activités récréatives de canotage. En 2015-2016, le parc de la Gatineau a fourni plus de 4 700 emplois à temps plein et attiré des dépenses directes de 184 millions de dollars.
De plus, la pêche à des fins touristiques et récréatives est lucrative dans le bassin versant. La valeur économique totale de la pêche sur la rivière des Outaouais, y compris les dépenses et les investissements, était estimée à 32,1 millions de dollars en 2010.
Le bassin versant de la rivière des Outaouais :
Est l'un des plus grands bassins hydrographiques du Canada, couvrant plus de 140 000 kilomètres carrés;
Englobe plus de 200 municipalités et compte plus de deux millions d'habitants;
Est le plus grand affluent du fleuve Saint-Laurent;
Fournit un habitat à de nombreuses espèces, dont un certain nombre d'espèces en péril.

Douze nouveaux projets de gestion intégrée des ressources en milieu forestier

GOUV. DU QUÉBEC Communiqué
QUEBEC Le 16 mai 2019
La Fondation de la faune du Québec a approuvé la réalisation de douze nouveaux projets dans le cadre du programme de Gestion intégrée des ressources pour l'aménagement durable de la faune en milieu forestier, pour une enveloppe totale de 325 939 \$. Les projets à portée régionale sont répartis dans cinq régions administratives, tandis que d'autres projets ont des impacts dans plusieurs régions à la fois. Tous ces projets sont rendus possibles grâce à une aide finan-

cière du ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (MFFP).
Les demandes acceptées permettront notamment d'améliorer les connaissances des cours d'eau forestiers sur le territoire de différentes zecs afin de mieux identifier ceux utilisés par l'omble de fontaine et de proposer des mesures de protection adéquates dans le cadre de travaux forestiers. Dans un autre cas, on documentera la réponse de la martre d'Amérique aux stratégies d'aménagement appliquées en sapsinière. Ailleurs, on élaborera un outil de planification

forestière pour le petit gibier.
Ce ne sont là que quelques exemples des initiatives soutenues dans le cadre du programme pour 2019. Cliquer pour consulter la liste des projets approuvés.
Pour le président directeur général de la Fondation, monsieur André Martin, « Il est important de s'assurer que les habitats des espèces chassées, piégées ou pêchées soient bien protégés lors des activités de récolte et d'aménagement forestier. Une meilleure intégration des enjeux fauniques à la planification forestière permet de s'assurer du maintien de ces

espèces ».
« Harmoniser les enjeux d'aménagement forestier à ceux de la gestion de la faune : voilà ce qui nous tient à cœur! Et c'est précisément dans cet esprit que s'inscrit le programme de Gestion intégrée des ressources pour l'aménagement durable de la faune en milieu forestier. La participation active des organismes fauniques et la grande qualité des projets présentés me rendent fier et démontrent que nous sommes plusieurs à avoir des objectifs communs. Les demandes acceptées sont très prometteuses afin d'optimiser l'utilisation

du territoire et des ressources et ainsi accroître les bénéfices et les retombées pour les régions du Québec », mentionne Pierre Dufour, ministre des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs.
Rappelons que le programme de Gestion intégrée des ressources pour l'aménagement durable de la faune en milieu forestier est rendu possible grâce aux revenus générés par la révision tarifaire des permis de chasse, de pêche et de piégeage entrée en vigueur au printemps 2009. Il s'agit d'un programme co-financé par le MFFP et la Fondation de la faune du Québec.

Nomination de monsieur Serge Lacourcière au poste de direction du Service de l'éducation des adultes

CSHBO Communiqué
QUEBEC Le 30 mai 2019
La direction générale a le plaisir de vous informer que le Conseil des commissaires a accepté à l'unanimité, à sa séance ordinaire du 22 mai dernier, la recommandation de nommer monsieur Serge Lacourcière au poste de direction de Service de l'éducation des adultes et de la formation profession-

nelle, et ce, à compter du 1er juillet 2019.
Monsieur Lacourcière est dans le milieu de l'éducation depuis près de 20 ans et a été gestionnaire des centres de formation professionnelle du secteur Vallée-de-la-Gatineau et du Pontiac au sein de la Commission scolaire des Hauts-Bois-de-l'Outaouais pendant 8 ans. Depuis aout 2018, il cumule le poste de

directeur de l'éducation des adultes et de la formation professionnelle.
Il détient un diplôme d'études supérieures spécialisées en administration scolaire ainsi que son brevet en enseignement professionnel.
Nous lui souhaitons la bienvenue dans l'équipe de direction de service et nous lui offrons tous nos vœux de succès dans ses nouvelles fonctions.

Quel beau geste!

Communiqué
FORT-COULONGE
Le 13 juin 2019
Mercredi dernier, lors de la réunion du conseil municipal du village de Fort-Coulonge, le conseil a témoigné d'un grand geste de générosité et de compassion. Deux jeunes étudiantes de l'école Secondaire Catholique Bishop Smith à Pembroke sont venues présenter un don de 535,80 \$ à la municipalité.
Voyant l'impact des inondations sur les communautés qui les entourent, Reese Lythgoe et Meghan Maynard, ont pris l'initiative d'organiser

un spectacle-bénéfice pour les gens affectés. Elles ont consacré plusieurs heures à l'organisation de l'événement et plusieurs personnes ont voulu s'impliquer. L'événement fut un énorme succès!
Les deux étudiantes ont choisi de partager les profits de l'événement entre la municipalité du village de Fort-Coulonge et la municipalité de Whitewater Region, en Ontario. Au nom de la municipalité, les membres du conseil ont exprimé leur gratitude et ont félicité les deux jeunes dames pour leur initiative et leur merveilleux geste.



THE EQUITY

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Shawville and Thorne Canada Day celebrations



Yves Martineau, caped crime-fighter and vice-president of the Pontiac Quad Club, was a hit at Shawville's Canada Day parade, driving the Batmobile in full costume.



The Shawville Lions put on a breakfast for the community on July 1, bringing out hundreds to the hall. From left: Evelyn Caldwell and Scott McNab enjoy their meal.



Wesley and Derek O'Malley piloted the Municipality of Bristol's dump truck in the Shawville Canada Day parade.



Two racers in the Shawville Soapbox Derby rip down Victoria Street on Friday evening. The event is a hit with local children every year and brings out dozens of youngsters to try their hand at racing.



Members of the Thorne Council as well as the local fire department, turned out to celebrate the official opening of their new garage on July 1. The new building is named in memory of Lewis Hodgins.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

CALEB NICKERSON
July 1, 2019

Shawville
The Canada Day festivities in Shawville kicked off on Friday night with the annual Soapbox Derby, put on by Shawville-Clarendon Fire Department. Dozens of would-be Jeff Gordon's packed the hill at the top of Victoria Street for their chance to race to the bottom in head-to-head competition.
The rest of the party came at the end of the weekend, with the local Lions Club hosting their annual pancake breakfast at the Hall. There was action for most of the afternoon at the fairgrounds, with a horse-pull competition in the outdoor ring and plenty of food on site. At

one p.m. the parade made its way down Main Street between a sizable crowd that lined both sidewalks, all the way to the Fairgrounds.
In the arena, Chris and Melanie Beimers held their 11th annual flea market, packing the rink with everything from books to kitchen utensils. Chris thanked all the volunteer help they had and noted that in years past they have raised more than \$24,000 for the Hospital foundation. This year they will be donating to Dr. S.E. McDowell Elementary School.
"Our son just started school this year in kindergarten and we realized that they could use the money," Chris said. "The budgets

keep going down and the costs keep going up so we thought we would spread the wealth to somebody else for a while, help them out."
Results for the horse pull:
Light
1st – Johnathan Robert
2nd – Brent Gabie
3rd – Yves Robert
Heavy
1st – Kevin Gabie
2nd – Vincent Perrier
3rd – Shawn Gabie
Thorne
Thorne celebrated Canada Day in its own special way, with the official opening of their brand new municipal garage and fire hall. The building will serve double duty, housing three fire trucks on one side and the municipal vehicles and equipment on the other.
Mayor Karen Kelly said the old building was an adapted school bus garage that was getting a little worse for wear. The new structure, which cost roughly \$800,000 was dedicated in the memory of Lewis Hodgins, who was a tireless salesman for the local fireman
"He was the best ticket seller that we've ever had," Kelly said. "Everybody here has fantastic memories of Lewis. He was made an honorary fireman. He was a great gentleman, he really was and that's why we're dedicating this building to him."
Over in the TCRA Hall, volunteers had plenty of food and drink for sale, including festive cupcakes with beavers on them.

Having a ball on Canada Day in Mansfield



Hayley, Skyla and Roselyn keep cool during the Canada en fete celebrations in Mansfield on Saturday.

CHRIS LOWREY
MANSFIELD ET PONTEFRAC
June 29, 2019
Amyotte Park in Mansfield was full of activity as hundreds of people filtered through the park to take in the many activities on offer.
The main stage cranked out music for those milling about. The grand stands next to the ball diamond served as a refuge from the beating sun as a steady stream of softball games kept them entertained.
The ball tournament started on Friday night and went until Sunday afternoon.
The park was full of families in the afternoon as children got their faces painted,

climbed on inflatable obstacle courses and kept cool on the splash pad.
There was even a mechanical bull on site for those willing to test their mettle.
The bar just inside the entrance was well-stocked with cold refreshments and it seemed like some of the spectators and participants in the tournament were keeping their hydration levels.
While most of the day was full of sunshine, dark clouds began to emerge over the horizon. Before long, strong wind gusts send dust clouds through the celebrations.
Before long, a large group of about 25 people banded together and held down the main audio tent so that it

wasn't sent flying through the air with the strong bursts of wind.
The event was organized by members of the Comité Canada en fête, made up of members from the local fire department.
More than 100 volunteers donated their time to make sure the event went off without a hitch, and organizer Sylvain Bégin couldn't have been happier.
"Last year we got 900 people," he said of the crowds the event attracts. "If the weather holds out, we're hoping for 1,000 to 1,200."
The event is staged every year as a fundraiser for the Mansfield et Pontefract fire department. This year Bégin said they hope to raise enough for new air packs.
In the last two years, the \$35,000 for the fire department has raised nearly ment.



Miguel Pleau connects with a ball and sends it over the fence during the Canada en fête celebrations at Amyotte Park in Mansfield on Saturday.

Otter Lake Canada Day festivities



On June 30, the Municipality of Otter Lake celebrated Canada Day, bringing out hundreds of locals to the RA grounds. At the opening ceremonies, local politicians at all levels performed "O, Canada" for the crowd, accompanied by local legends Reg Carkner and Shane Presley, who provided entertainment for the afternoon. From left: MNA André Fortin, Mayor Kim Cartier-Villeneuve, councillor Desiree Tremblay-Giroux, Presley, MP Will Amos and Carkner.



The Canada Day celebrations in Otter Lake also marked the official dedication of the RA Hall in memory of Raymond Johnston, who represented the Pontiac in the provincial legislature from 1948-1972. Pictured, is the ribbon cutting to mark the opening of the newly-minted building. From left: Councillors Robin Zacharias, Evelyn Gauthier, Carlen Lafleur, MNA André Fortin, Kim Johnston, councillor Vicky Dubeau, Ann Beriau, Mary Lafleur, Carol Kavenaugh (behind Mary), councillor Ivan Leblanc, MP Will Amos and Mayor Kim Cartier-Villeneuve.



The Municipality of Otter Lake inaugurated a new trail at their RA grounds on Canada Day. The track comes complete with informative plaques to teach visitors about the history of the region. From left: Councillors Desiree Tremblay-Giroux, Robin Zacharias, Mayor Kim Cartier-Villeneuve and MRC Land planner Alexandre Savoie-Perron.

Author Luke Murphy launches fourth title



Local author Luke Murphy held a book launch for his fourth novel, Rock-a-Bye Baby, on June 28 at the Little Red Wagon winery in Clarendon. Fans can download the e-book online or get a physical copy at Valu-mart, Jolie Folie or the Pontiac Printshop.

CALEB NICKERSON
June 30, 2019

Otter Lake
On June 30, the Otter Lake RA grounds were filled with red- and white-clad locals for the annual Canada Day festivities. The parade snaked its way down the 301 to the grounds, where a host of activities awaited for all ages. There was a giant inflatable slide, a maze,

face painting and a horse-shoe tournament.
Musical entertainment was provided throughout the day by local talent Reg Carkner and Shane Presley, who managed to convince the local dignitaries to join them for the singing of "O, Canada."
Mayor Kim Cartier-Villeneuve thanked a host of people for their attendance, and announced the

opening of the new paved trail that loops around the circumference of the RA grounds. She noted that the scenic 1/2 km path features benches and a series of informational signs that detail the history of the region.
She also announced that the RA Hall would be renamed the Centre Communautaire Raymond Johnston Community

Centre, in honour of a man who dedicated his life to improving the region. Johnston represented the Pontiac at the provincial legislature for 22 years, and helped extend electricity to many parts of the region, as well as establishing schools such as the Otter Lake's Ste-Marie Primary School.
"He will be remembered for his kindness and his

constant dedication to the people of the Pontiac and Otter Lake," Cartier-Villeneuve said.
She thanked Beverly Dubeau, Johnston's former secretary, with bringing his accomplishments to the attention of the municipal council. Four of Johnston's daughters were in attendance, and were pleased to see their father honoured by the community he was

so fond of.
"We know how much he loved this area, especially the RA," said Kim Johnston.
Prizes for the parade were as follows:
Horse – Kendra Vadneau
Walking – Sara and Damien Dubeau
ATV – Chad Klake and Veronique Gauthier
Pedal bike – Reilley Durocher