

# THE EQUITY



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

**Hundreds of people gathered at the park in Fort Coulonge on Wednesday evening for a vigil in memory of local teenager Véronique Bourque, who tragically died in a single-vehicle accident. Pictured, a flock of red balloons was released into the dark sky as mourners paid their respects through ceremony, prayer and song.**

## A community in mourning

CALEB NICKERSON

**FORT COULONGE** Oct. 2, 2019

The community of Fort Coulonge and Mansfield was struck by tragedy last week, as a local teenager died in a single-vehicle accident.

Véronique Bourque, 17, was reported missing on Tuesday morning and a description of her and her vehicle travelled quickly on social media. She had been last seen in the

Pembroke area on Monday evening and was headed towards Fort Coulonge.

Around 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, her car was discovered in a ditch next to Hwy. 148 on Allumettes Island. She was taken to hospital where she was pronounced dead.

Speaking on Wednesday morning, Sûreté du Quebec spokesperson Marc Tessier said that Bourque's vehicle was found about 20 metres from the road, which made it hard to

see. He added that an investigation is being conducted to determine the exact cause of the collision.

On Wednesday evening hundreds of people sporting red, Bourque's favourite colour, and holding candles gathered at the park in Fort Coulonge for a vigil in her memory. There were very few dry eyes in the audience as Fr. Justin Bertrand officiated the ceremony and led the crowd in prayer.

Local singer Michaela Cahill lent her voice to the solemn

occasion with several heart-wrenching songs of mourning.

A flock of red balloons, as well as a sky lantern, were released into the evening gloom, and there was a cross and photo of Bourque, where members of the community could pay their respects.

Bourque was also honoured at the home opener of the Pontiac Senior Comets on Saturday evening (see page five for the story).



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

**Over the weekend, the T.C.R.A. in Thorne was home to its 35th annual Oktoberfest celebration, drawing thousands of people from all parts of the region to enjoy the festivities. Pictured above are the Schuhplatter Bavarian Dancers, decked out in their lederhosen, entertaining the crowd on Sunday afternoon.**

J.D. POTIÉ

**LADYSMITH** Oct. 4-6, 2019

Thousands of people from the region and beyond gathered at the T.C.R.A. in Ladysmith last weekend to participate in the town's 35th annual Oktoberfest.

Celebrating the area's German heritage, the event was also a fundraiser for a number of community organizations, according to the festival's President Lorraine Bretzlaff.

"We donate to a lot of causes," she said. "Pretty much everything goes back. We just have to keep enough to make an Oktoberfest the following year."

With German flags lined up along the streets of Ladysmith and hundreds of campers stationed across the street from the T.C.R.A., it was evident that the town was gearing up for its biggest party of the year.

Festivities kicked off, on Friday afternoon, inside the Clarence Bretzlaff Hall, which was decorated from wall to wall with

regalia.

Inside the building, hundreds of attendees drank, danced and sang along to classic cover tunes by local musician Reg Carkner who kept the crowd fired up from one song to the next.

Next to the canteen, three volunteers managed a few tables topped with piles of official Oktoberfest merchandise.

At 8 p.m., Valley Heritage Radio's Gerry Bimm stepped on stage to initiate the opening ceremony. The event's longtime President Lorraine Bretzlaff followed up with a speech of her own where she thanked all the volunteers and sponsors for their contributions to the event.

A number of community leaders also addressed the crowd, including Pontiac MNA André Fortin, MP Will Amos and Thorne Mayor Karen Kelly.

Event coordinator Karl Erfle, then delivered a brief address of his own before officially opening the festival by chanting: "Ziga zaga, ziga zaga, oi, oi, oi. Eins, zwei,

drei g'suffa."

The rest of the evening was capped off by a raucous performance from country cover band Rainwater Whiskey.

For Bimm, Oktoberfest in Ladysmith has always been a good time and a celebration he's looked forward to every year. While he admitted that he isn't much of a beer drinker, he enjoys how the party has brought the community together in a way that few other events have.

"It's a huge community event where you only see these people once per year," he said. "It's kind of like a homecoming for everybody really. You hear the locals talk about how this is the time of year when everybody comes home, comes to Oktoberfest. It's like bigger than Christmas."

On Saturday, the celebration began with a good old-fashioned breakfast inside the T.C.R.A. hall before heading outside for the horseshoe tournament.

Boasting 20 teams of two players apiece,

the tournament featured participants competing in three division with cash prizes on the line.

For lunch, attendees were invited to feast on authentic German cuisine being dished out in the T.C.R.A. hall while Simon Clarke graced them with a collection of classic compositions.

Both inside and outside the hall, a large number of artisanal vendors sold a wide variety of home-made products from their booths.

Back outside, crowds by the hundreds gathered around the 300-foot dirt track to take in the sights and sounds of the truck and tractor pull.

Organized by Mel and Lynne Langton from M&L Enterprises in Beachburg, Ont., the event featured around 30 participants competing in nine divisions ranging from single engine modified tractors to four-wheel drive trucks.

**Please see OKTOBERFEST page three**

## Clarendon man dead after dirt bike accident

CALEB NICKERSON

**CLARENDON** Oct. 7, 2019

A local man in his sixties was killed in a motocross accident in Clarendon Monday afternoon.

Sûreté du Quebec spokesperson Sgt. Marc Tessier said that around 3:30 on Oct. 7, they received a call that a 69-year-old Clarendon man had crashed while riding his dirt bike on a private course.

"From what I understand he was on his property and he did a jump and when he landed, lost control of the dirt bike," he said.

A witness to the accident called 911 and the victim was taken to hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Tessier said the investigation is ongoing.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

**Emergency crews were called to an address on Sand Bay Road on Monday afternoon for a motocross accident that claimed the life of a 69-year-old Clarendon man. Police say the victim was riding on a private track on his property when he hit a jump and lost control of his bike.**



# 2019 political candidates thoughts on immigration

CALEB NICKERSON  
PONTIAC Oct. 9, 2019

In the runup to the federal election on Oct. 21, The Equiry has been putting questions out to the candidates vying for a seat in Pontiac.

This week's question: *What are your views on the current levels of immigration to Canada, and what, if anything, would you change about the system?*

**Denise Giroux – NDP**

Our immigration system should be rooted in fairness, respect, and dignity. The shortage of skilled labour in Quebec calls for increasing our immigration targets to meet the needs of our workforce and improving foreign credentials recognition, not reducing the numbers as the CAQ proposes to do. We can create 300,000 new decent paying jobs—not in the deadly and polluting oil or arms industries, but by producing the goods and services real people need to improve their quality of life: retrofitting our homes, expanding our use of renewable energies, improving health care and home care, supporting organic farms and sustainable, fair trade. We also need to expand federal training programs for underemployed youth within our Indigenous communities and facilitate lifelong learning in every workplace by requiring employers to use one per cent of their payroll for this purpose.

Family reunification is another critical part to ensuring the successful settlement and integration of new immigrants; the unfair cap on applications to sponsor parents and children and tackle the backlog denying reunification must be lifted.

Canada also has a vital role in resettling people forced out of their homes by conflict, persecution and disasters but under the Liberal government the backlog of asylum seekers is set to more than double in the next few years.

Canadians are proud of the 25,000 refugees welcomed in the last few years but we can and should do more. An NDP government will fix the system to get rid of the backlog, and work with humanitarian agencies within and outside the country to resettle refugees in our communities and ensure they are given the support they need to build successful lives and new homes here in Canada.

**Jonathan Carreiro-Benoit – Bloc Quebecois**

We should take less immigrants and take more care of them. Quebec wants the integration of the new arrivals in our culture and language, mainly in the rural regions. We have an issue with labour in our small and medium enterprises (SMEs). We propose to lower the level of immigration for the time that we are restructuring the way that we integrate them in the labour market. I'm pretty sure we can get them a job to make things easier for our producers and our contractors. The Bloc will propose the same things of Quebec on those points: more decision power on who come in Quebec and less federal bureaucracy. We need to put immigrants where we need them. Not in metropolises like Montreal. Regions need them. I think Ottawa needs to understand all the territories and the provinces in the respect of each government. That's not a division or anything in report with some quibbles. It's just about respect in the Quebec nation and the National Assembly.

**Mario Belec – People's Party**

The primary aim of Canada's immigration policy should be to economically benefit Canadians and Canada as a whole. It should not be used to forcibly change the cultural character and social fabric of our country. And it should not put excessive financial burdens on the

shoulders of Canadians in the pursuit of humanitarian goals.

Despite Canada already accepting more immigrants than almost any other country, both the Liberals and Conservatives support an unsustainable increase in the annual immigration intake, and are using mass immigration as a political tool to buy votes among immigrant communities.

Demographic studies have shown that newcomers are a bit younger on average than Canadians, but not enough to have a noticeable impact on the rate of aging. The Liberal government has made matters worse by increasing the number of parents and grandparents accepted under the family reunification program.

Our plan is:  
- Substantially lower the total number of immigrants and refugees Canada accepts every year, from 350,000 to between 100,000 and 150,000, depending on economic and other circumstances.

- Reform the immigration point system and the related programs to accept a larger proportion of economic immigrants with the right skills.

- Accept fewer resettled refugees and limit the number of immigrants accepted under the family reunification program, including abolishing the program for parents and grandparents.

- Limit the number of temporary foreign workers and make sure that they fulfil temporary positions and do not compete unfairly with Canadian workers.

- Ensure that every candidate for immigration undergoes a face-to-face interview and answers a series of specific questions to assess the extent to which they align with Canadian values and societal norms.

- Increase resources for CSIS, the RCMP and Canadian Immigration and Citizenship to do interviews and thorough background

checks on all classes of immigrants.

**Will Amos – Liberal Party**

Immigration plays an important role in Canada's success. In communities across the country, new Canadians work hard teaching our children, caring for us when we're sick, starting new businesses and creating good jobs. These contributions are needed now more than ever before. As our population grows older and family sizes grow smaller, businesses and communities are struggling to find enough workers, putting services and our economy at risk. Our agricultural and food processing sectors in particular are facing important labour shortages. That's why our Liberal government launched the Agri-Food Immigration Pilot Project to meet labour needs on farms and the Rural and Northern Immigration Pilots to attract skilled newcomers to communities who need them.

Liberals recognize the importance of immigration to Canada's prosperity, however, we also understand that immigration must be properly managed and undertaken in an orderly fashion. The Auditor General's report clearly demonstrates the effects of the inefficient and poorly resourced asylum system left by the Harper Government. In Budget 2019, the Liberal government invested an additional \$1.18 billion to better enforce our borders. We also introduced a triage project which helped facilitate the movement of asylum seekers when the influx was highest.

To keep our economy strong and growing, a re-elected Liberal government will move forward with modest and responsible increases to immigration, with a focus on welcoming highly skilled people who can help build a stronger Canada. We will continue to work with the United States to mod-

ernize the Safe Third Country Agreement. Furthermore, to ensure communities are able to attract and support new Canadians, we will establish a new Municipal Nominee Program to allow municipalities, chambers of commerce and local labour councils to directly sponsor permanent immigrants. This means that Pontiac's farmers and entrepreneurs would be able to more easily access the workers they need.

**Claude Bertrand – Green Party**

The numbers from Statistics Canada show that the baby boomers (that portion of the Canadian population so-called because they were born during a sudden increase in birth rates during the post war era; specifically designating those born from 1946 to 1964) have now come to retire. There are now just about as many Canadians over 65 years of age (6 million of them) then there are Canadians younger than 14 years old (5.8 million). The problem is that in just over ten years, there will be a shortfall of 2.2 million Canadians in the 20 to 50 years of age bracket. Those are the very people on whom the baby boomers are counting on to take care of them as they grow old. If nothing is done, a smaller generation of younger Canadians will be required to bear the burden of supporting our large aging population.

The solution is to gradually compensate the 2.2 million population shortfall through immigration. Green Party MP's will push for measures which will ease the integration of immigrants into the Canadian society. We will ensure that professionals being considered for immigration have the licensing requirements for their professions clearly explained before entry.

Green Party MP's will work with professional associations to create a robust system for evaluating the edu-

cation and training credentials of immigrants against Canadian standards, with the goal of expediting accreditation and expanding professional opportunities for immigrants.

Green Party MP's will lead a national discussion to define the term "environmental refugee" and advocate for its inclusion as a refugee category in Canada and accept an appropriate share of the world's environmental refugees into Canada.

**Dave Blackburn – Conservative Party**

A Conservative government will work immediately to restore the fairness, order and compassion of our immigration system. We will safeguard and emphasize economic immigration, stand up for families and ensure that spouses and children can be reunited. We will work to improve language training to ensure greater proficiency in English and French and newcomers' ability to succeed economically and socially.

We will improve credential recognition and make it easier for new Canadians who have existing skills that meet our standards to work here. We all lose out when doctors and engineers and technicians are not able to practice their profession. This issue is very important for Quebec.

We will ensure that our system prioritizes people facing true persecution – focus government sponsorship on the victims of atrocities – and restore integrity to our system by supporting the consistent application of fair rules. We will work to reunite survivors of genocide with family members who have already resettled in Canada.

We will put an end to illegal border crossings crisis by closing the loophole in the Safe-Third Country Agreement that allows some people to skip the line and avoid the queue.

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# Committee restructured over perceived conflict of interest

CALEB NICKERSON  
CAMPBELL'S BAY Oct. 2, 2019

On Wednesday afternoon, the MRC council of mayors held an extraordinary session in Campbell's Bay to dissolve the current National Park committee and reprimand a mayor over a perceived conflict of interest.

The meeting was prompted by a report from CHIP 101.9 FM in late September that Calumet Island Mayor Serge Newberry owned two small islands in the vicinity of the proposed park on the Lafontaine Islands, and didn't disclose this information to the committee or to the council of mayors. The islands were purchased in May 2017, prior to his election as mayor.

There have been several attempts in the past to further develop the island group, going back to the 1980s when the land was owned and managed by the Native Alliance.

The most recent iteration of the Lafontaine project was spearheaded by Ontario

businessman Joe Kowalski, who owns Wilderness Tours in Forester's Falls, and also owns a significant amount of property on both sides of the river. Kowalski and Newberry have put forth their own ideas for development to local officials in the recent and distant past, but to no avail.

The committee was formed in November of 2018 after a town hall meeting in Campbell's Bay, and was made up of Kowalski, Newberry, Campbell's Bay Mayor Maurice Beauregard, MRC engineer Kim Lesage, Alastair Baird of the Renfrew County and the Ottawa Valley Tourism Associations and Calumet councillor Alice Meilleur Pieschke.

After a lengthy in-camera session, MRC council opened the meeting with two resolutions in response to the controversy. The first ordered the restructuring of the current committee, including membership, the specific islands in consideration for inclusion in the park, and also to define a

clear mandate going forward.

The second resolution was to request that the Warden Jane Toller disclose the perceived conflict to the Commission Municipale du Quebec (CMQ), which oversees municipal ethics violations.

Speaking in a media scrum after the meeting, Newberry responded solely in French and said that Kowalski and members of his municipal council were aware that he owned the property. He added that three members of Calumet council own land in the park's vicinity. He said he wasn't obligated to, but should have disclosed the specific properties he owned to the MRC.

He said he was glad the MRC would still be pursuing the project, but questioned why the MRC was partnering with a private business to develop public land.

Speaking after the meeting, Toller said all the elected officials are aware that they need to declare even

potential conflicts of interest to the rest of council and the public.

"Everyone around the table knows that if there is ownership or any possibility of personal gain, it needs to be declared," she said.

She noted that the new committee would be an MRC committee rather than a public committee, but wouldn't say if membership would be limited to only MRC staff and elected officials.

"Now we're going to have an MRC committee, knowing that the magnificent Lafontaine islands are entirely in Quebec, and in the Pontiac, we want to be in the driver's seat for plans for better access," she said.

Council closed the meeting with a discussion of priorities for their upcoming meeting with CAQ minister for Families and for the Outaouais, Mathieu Lacombe, on October 11. Flood compensation, communications, economic development and health care all topped the list.

# Septic system above board

CHRIS LOWREY  
CLARENDON Oct. 7, 2019

Residents of Clarendon have been grilling municipal staff about a property owner installing a septic system on the beach in Sand Bay.

The issue came to light when images of the work being done were posted on social media.

But according to Clarendon Director General, Patricia Hobbs, there is nothing to worry about because the homeowner has gone through the proper channels and received approval.

"The request for authorization was sent to the Ministry of Natural Resources who had to authorize the system to be put in," Hobbs said. "So all that authorization was put in place and the permit was

given." She says the property owner's options were limited because of the small size of the property.

"Because of the size of their property, there are certain restrictions that they're held to," Hobbs said. "So this was a system that their septic designer recommended."

The specific type of septic system that's being installed is called a Bionest and it's designed for tight spaces.

According to the company's website, the system uses a combination of bacteria and non-biodegradable media to filter effluent in a self-contained reactor. Additionally, the system does not require an external clarifier or a sludge storage bin.

The Bionest uses two

tanks that are separated by a partition. The first tank has a filtration system that stops any solids. The second tank has a non-biodegradable media that promotes the growth of bacteria, which helps with the decomposition process.

A pump sends air into the tank to create turbulent conditions in order to enhance the water's treatment.

The Quebec government's standard for wastewater is a maximum of 15mg/L of both organic pollution and suspended solids. The Bionest website claims its system achieves 4 mg/L of organic pollution and 3mg/L of suspended solids – coming in well below the provincial regulations.

Hobbs also said the municipality followed up with the Quebec Ministry of

the Environment.

"The Ministry of the Environment has contacted us and assured us that there is no reason for them to be involved," Hobbs added.

The pipes for the system are buried two-and-a-half feet under the ground, which is technically municipal property.

"The part down by the shore obviously belongs to the government," Hobbs said. "But the upper part is in the name of the Municipality of Clarendon."

But with all of the attention suddenly heaped on this parcel of land, Hobbs said the municipality is going over the documentation to confirm who owns what part of the land.

"We're double checking all of those ownerships to make sure," she said.



## THE EQUITY

The voice of the Pontiac since 1883

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# Ladysmith hosts 35th annual Oktoberfest



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

Rainwater Whiskey front man Thomas Watson rocks the crowd with a cover of the Zac Brown Band's "Chicken Fried".



Photo submitted

Oktoberfest President Lorraine Bretzlaff and Wayne Murdoch roll through the parade in a convertible on Sunday afternoon at the 35th annual Oktoberfest celebration.

## Continued from page one

Inside the Clarence Bretzlaff Hall, the celebration continued with musicians livening the atmosphere until the late hours of the night. The sheer size of the crowd dwarfed those from the previous evening.

Saturday's music lineup featured Quyon's Gail Gavan and friends, Orleans folk singer Yvan Petit, capped off by Ottawa Valley's own Riley New Band as the headliner.

On Sunday, the party kept going with all sorts of food and drink to consume and all the same vendor stands to visit. Folks put their best and biggest pumpkins and vegetables to the test during the pumpkin show.

But the main event of the day was the afternoon parade, which took place on the street near the T.C.R.A., stretching from Rte. 366, to Rte. 306 and chemin Maynard. Open to anyone willing to participate, it fea-

tured hundreds of people rolling in their cars and ATV's as well as pedestrians decked out in Bavarian regalia walking down the street on Rte. 366.

The festival closed with an afternoon of live music and socializing inside the Clarence Bretzlaff Hall, with entertainment provided by the Ottawa Rube Band and the Schuhplatter Bavarian Dancers.

According to Bretzlaff, who has been the festival's President since 1998, the event is the biggest one in the town every year and has consistently grown from one edition to the next, especially in the last decade.

"This was the most well attended Oktoberfest we've had in a while," she said.

With 12 board members and around 100 volunteers

helping organize the event, Bretzlaff noted that it takes a tremendous amount of work to put on.

However, having helped organize the event for so many years, she said contributing to the community in such a significant way makes her blessed and amazed when she reflects on how much she's helped the town achieve with the festival.

"It's a personal sense of satisfaction to be able to bring together all of these people, all of the volunteers, year after year," she said. "And the people come and it brings enjoyment to you to think look what we have done in a small rural community. We really have accomplished something and we keep accomplish-



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

Mayor of Chichester Donald Gagnon, Connie Mercier and Oliver Saunders get together for a group photo on Friday evening.



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

Jeff Hannaberry picks up some steam on his tractor called "Bad Neighbour" during the truck and tractor pull.

## Complaint filed against Calumet councillor

CALEB NICKERSON  
CALUMET ISLAND  
Sept. 23, 2019

A complaint was filed earlier this year against a municipal councillor on Grand Calumet Island, alleging that he breached the council's code of ethics by threatening and insulting multiple members of municipal staff.

The complaint against Réjean Meilleur, councillor for seat five, was filed with the Commission municipale du Québec (CMQ) on May 29, 2019, but the alleged incidents date back to the summer and fall of 2018.

The four incidents listed in the official citation on the CMQ's website are as follows:

On or around the council meeting on July 9, 2018, he's accused of transmitting third-party information to the public about an investigation by Quebec's anti-corruption taskforce, UPAC, which was obtained during the commission of his duties and is not typically released to the public.

On or around November 28, 2018, during a working meeting he is accused of describing Director General Sabrina Larivière and deputy Director General, Philippe Côté, as "pousseurs de crayon" (pencil pushers), as well as disrespecting Larivière by saying "toi ma petite je pourrais t'enterrer" (you, my underling, I can bury you).

At a council meeting on or around March 11, 2019, Meilleur allegedly disrespected former Director General Paul Langlois by stating "monsieur Langlois est un beau bullshitter" (Mr. Langlois is a good bullshitter).

A ruling on the complaint is expected in November. Meilleur and Larivière declined to comment to THE EQUITY and Côté did not respond to a request for comment.

The municipal office on the Island has seen quite a bit of staff turnover, having had five mayors (Paul-Émile Maleau, Irène Nadeau, Pierre Fréchette, Jean-Louis Corriveau (interim) and Serge Newberry) as well as five director generals (Jacques Mantha, Lisa Dagenais, Lisa Boisvert, Langlois (interim) and Larivière) over the past five years.

Langlois and Côté were originally brought in on an interim basis, through a request to the Federation of Quebec Municipalities (FQM) in spring of 2018. Corriveau, the former mayor, was nominated by council to fill the role after Fréchette's sudden departure in June of 2017, up until the municipal elections that fall.

Both Nadeau and Fréchette cited infighting and impropriety at the municipal office as the reasons for their departure.

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**35th Anniversary Oktoberfest Ladysmith**


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**See you next year!**

Photos of the event are available at  
www.facebook.com/ladysmithoktoberfest





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# Editorial

## Government-approved language

With many residents of Quebec still dealing with the impacts of flooding and others protesting for the right to express their religious beliefs, the Quebec government is turning its attention to one of the most pressing issues of the day – how people choose to greet one another.

On Oct. 4, Quebec’s Minister of Immigration, Francization and Integration, Simon Jolin-Barrette, floated the idea of banning the popular greeting “Bonjour-hi” used by many Quebec business owners.

While Premier François Legault’s office quickly poured cold water on the idea, it shows that the push to openly discriminate against non-Francophones is alive and well in the CAQ government.

“I didn’t change my mind,” the archbishop of bigotry, Jolin-Barrette said on Oct. 7.

Don’t forget that Jolin-Barrette is the same brilliant mind that spearheaded Bill 21 – the law that bans public servants from wearing religious garb – as well as Bill 9, which arbitrarily cut immigration numbers.

Back then, he was known as the Minister of Immigration, Diversity and Inclusiveness, but the ministry itself underwent a name change to reflect the fact that the government isn’t so much interested in “Inclusion” as it is the opposite.

Jolin-Barrette said that “all measures” will be on the table when it comes to brainstorming ideas for promoting the French language.

While it’s disappointing that the new minister is someone who already has a proven track record of discriminating against minorities, he’s not alone.

Two years ago, the National Assembly voted 111-0 in favour of a motion that encouraged store owners to use “Bonjour” instead of “Bonjour-hi.”

The idea that the government can regulate the greetings used by its citizens is beyond absurd, but just for fun, let’s examine what that might look like.

Would the government hire secret shoppers who spend the day going from store to store waiting for a shopkeeper to slip up and utter those two horrible letters – h and i?

Hopefully the Quebec government isn’t seriously considering cementing it’s place as the laughing stock of provincial governments (although Ontario is giving them a run for their money) by spending time and public funds policing greetings.

This is a province that can barely maintain it’s road network but we can spend money on this kind of thing?

What if an Anglophone walks into a depanneur and is greeted with “bonjour” and responds with “hi”?

Even with this government, which has shown a propensity for heavy-handedness, fining someone who responds in English would be beyond the pale.

This example shows just how useless this whole endeavour would be.

If the stated goal of banning “Bonjour-hi” is to promote the French language and people still respond and converse in English, then it’s clearly not doing its job.

But that’s not really the true intention of this harebrained idea.

It’s to find any possible way to stick it to those pesky Anglo that are degrading Quebec culture.

Chris Lowrey

## The Parents’ Voice

By Shelley Heaphy

### Integrating reading and writing into our childrens’ everyday lives

Early exposure to reading and writing is very beneficial to children. As parents we can provide various activities in everyday life to help support our children’s language and literacy skills and build the foundation for great reading and writing.

**Toddlers**

Early in development, children’s drawings are their writing, children make no distinction between the two when asked to write. Children soon begin to make separate marks representing writing apart from their drawings. These scribbles then begin to take on features of written text children see in their environment. Therefore, it’s important to give your children access to writing tools around the house. Here are some examples: blank paper, crayons, pens and pencils for pincer grasp and fine motor practice, chalk and mini chalkboards and homemade clipboards with dry erase markers. Practice and access are the best keys to success later on.

Children who are drawing and scribbling usually do not yet understand that writing is related to speech. Similarly, when listening to a storybook being read aloud, children at this level may not understand that the text carries its own meaning. Their alphabet knowledge and phonological awareness (letter sounds) skills are at the beginning points in development. They may know a few letter names, such as the first letter in their name. They may also be working on phonological awareness skills that attend to larger units of spoken language such as rhymes. Exposing them to books, reading, early writing, rhyming and alphabet games are ways to lay a great foundation to later reading skills that will help them to succeed in kindergarten.

**Preschoolers and early school agers**

Parents need to expose preschoolers and early school agers to reading and writing as much as possible, here are some simple ways to do this in everyday life.

Continued on page five



Dave Moore, THE EQUITY

## Gather around


Mom died many years ago but I’ll never forget her saying, “If you don’t set it down in the wrong place, you never have to waste time picking it up.” Imagine the implications of that? For example, the kids would never have to be asked “clean up your room.”

I surely never thought about the time management of a dairy cow. Several years ago at a dairy symposium in Michigan, U.S.A. the subject of a lecture one morning was exactly that. Before it started most of the people in the audience were wondering, “Why didn’t I sleep in for this one?” When the dairy specialist made the statement that the most productive time in a milk cow’s life is when she is resting, lying down because that is when more blood is pumped through her udder and the more blood pumped through her udder, the more milk is produced in her udder.

When a dairy farmer can see dollar signs and milk shipped is dollars, from that point on we were all wide awake. Then we were reminded that there are only 24 hours in a day. A cow is milked two or three times per day and today’s milking machines take about eight minutes to milk a cow. The cow’s udder must be pre-dipped with a disinfectant, washed, dried and stimulated before each milking. That can take another two or three minutes. After the milking machine is removed, the cow’s teats are dipped again, this time with a post-dip which disinfects and seals the teat end from germs. This only takes a few seconds, but is very important. Once the teats are dipped

### Time management on the farm

by Chris Judd



#### Outstanding in his field

the cow can lay down.

In a tie stall barn, the cow can lay down right then. In a free stall barn, the cow is released from the milking stall and walks back to her stall to rest. She may stop for a drink of water, stop and eat at the feed bunk or just go and lie down. She may even stop by the cow brush and get groomed before lying down.

Before milking in a tie stall barn, cows are gotten up and the stalls cleaned a bit and bedding fluffed up before milking. In a free stall barn, milk cows are moved from their resting barn to a large holding area from which they can make a short move to the milking stalls when one is empty. A milk cow may spend as much as an hour standing in the holding area before she gets milked. The more aggressive and most productive cows are always first to be milked and hence the first to return to drink, eat, groom or just lie down.

If the feed bunk is too small, some cows will have to spend time looking or even fighting for a place to eat. Did you ever have to wait to eat your meal while someone passed the butter, salt or pepper? The cows’ feed in the bunk must be pushed up regularly so cows don’t have to reach for their meal either. Cows must be provided with fresh, clean, water in several areas close to where they want them.

Cows need to have water, fresh well-balanced feed, be milked correctly and have a little time to socialize and groom. Just like people some cows spend more time socializing than others. When milk cows spend time standing around they are not making as much milk as when they are laying down. The dairy farmer is responsible for providing the most efficient time management for the cows as possible.

Every time the farmer goes to work, time management should be on his mind. When working a field a farmer figures out the most efficient way to work the field and with the least turns possible. Turns use more fuel, take extra time and provide more opportunity for missing a spot while turning.

When harvesting a field farmers try to change wagons or trucks, or dump grain tanks close to the road or near the gate so others will not have to waste time traveling farther to bring crops to the barn, silos or grain bins. Before a farmer is near finished a field be it tilling, haying or harvesting he is figuring out how to move himself and the rest of the crew to the next field by finishing as close as possible to the next field and not wasting time and fuel driving empty to the other end of the field and then back up the road.

Farmers never leave the yard without filling the fuel tank, greasing and oiling the machine and packing drinks and lunch and now the cell phone too. A big tool box with wrenches, grease and easy to change parts and a fire extinguisher are just commonplace on the machine, all to reduce down time.

Parts runs are usually planned for a rainy day with several part stops along the way. The last stop is planned to be the farthest one away so it can just be finished before closing time. Then after five, there is plenty of time to drive home and maybe even stop for supper before bedtime.

Most farmers that I know carry a jackknife with a screwdriver, bottle opener, sharp blade and even a corkscrew to help the ladies get into the wine.

Time management is a good habit to get into.

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

Oct. 12, 1994  
25 Years Ago

**Rising fur prices will eliminate beaver problem, experts predict:** It may be a Canadian symbol but in the Pontiac, the beaver is a nuisance, a costly nuisance. Thousands of dollars worth of damage has been caused by the fast-reproducing animal and confusion over who has a right to trap the beaver and who should pay for it has compounded the problem.

Doug Gauthier, vice-president of the Pontiac Forest Producer’s Board says he has seen too many cases of land flooded, trees destroyed and water contaminated thanks to our national animal. Some landowners don’t realize the cost that is involved in setting up traps, says Mr. Lacroix, especially in the off season when pelt prices are usually low.

Rising fur prices should attract hunters back to the trap lines. A high Asian demand for the fur pushed the prices to as high as \$33 per pelt in the summer up considerably from the average \$16 paid in ‘91.

**Pontiacs power past Perth:** The Shawville Junior B Pontiacs got quick revenge and brought the Perth Blue Wings down to earth with a sound 8-4 victory at home on Friday night.

The Pontiacs flew out for a 4-2 lead in the first period and didn’t let up til the final buzzer in a very entertaining hockey game.

Shawville’s Paul Lang opened the scoring off with Marty Brownlee and Lewes McGuire setting it up early. About five minutes later, Andrew Warren netted one unassisted for a 2-0 game.

Shawville kept right at the Wings netminder and made him give up another on the powerplay from Chris MacIntyre with Ralph McColgan drawing the assist to end the period.

## THE WAY WE WERE

Compiled by  
Bonnie Chevrier

Derek Frobel had a hand in both Shawville goals in the second period and Steven Alexander chipped in on Routliffe’s late-period marker.

Third period was the Pontiacs’ Paul Lang nail one at the net and McGuire and Gordon McGillvray set it up from behind the net, feeding it to Lang as he cruised in from the blueline.

McGillvray scored the Pontiacs’ eighth of the night with McGuire and Ian Barber assisting.

**Oct. 15, 1969  
50 Years Ago**

**Plowmatch ‘69:** There were a dozen horses plowing at the big match last Saturday on Calumet Island, among which were a great matched black pair belonging to Ross Stewart. Horsedrawn plowing is still done by a great number of farmers in the area but they have not recently come in very good numbers to the matches.

However, the trend is back to the displaying of the talents of these great animals and this year’s entry set a new record. All the usual classes were held with one addition, a class for tractor with four score hydraulic plow and there were five contestants in this class.

The biggest groups of spectators gathered around the horsedrawn plows and they made the most interesting objects to view against the panorama of beauty which surrounded the site of the match.

**Crawford, Dumouchels, Wrinn and Stewart win plowing trophies:** It was no surprise to anyone that Robert Crawford received the Top Plowman award and the Royal Bank trophy at the prize giving ceremonies in Calumet Island Town Hall last Wednesday.

Coming second to Bob in Class 1 was Henry Derouin , Richer Dumouchel won the Bank of Montreal Trophy and Phillip Dumouchel and Marcel Dubeau received money and prizes as did every contestant in the match.

**Oct. 19, 1944  
75 Years Ago**

**Local news:** Word has been received that Pte. Benjamin H. Judd, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Judd of Shawville has been wounded in action. He was sent overseas in July 1944 where he was transferred to the Princess Louise Dragoon Guards.

The R.C.A.F. Silver Band of Rockcliffe Air Station paraded the main section of town on Monday at noon in connection with the presentation of the pledge flag ceremony which took place in front of the large V at the post office corner.

The familiar “V” sign and a hearty “God bless you all!” were Prime Minister Churchill’s greetings to the thousands of excited Canadians who gathered around his train at stops along the way between Halifax and Quebec.

As the Canadian National Railway special passed through Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Quebec, the three provinces put on a show of weather worthy of themselves and their distinguished visitor and at Truro, Moncton and other stops, the people thronged to cheer.

In the early month of 1917, the Kaiser came within a hairline of victory with his submarine warfare. In this war, Hitler has made far greater use of the U-boat. The full part it played in the Nazi’s near victory in 1940-41 won’t of course be known until after the war but it will doubtless be found to have been tremendous. Suffice it for now that the joint Roosevelt-Churchill figure of 500 German submarines destroyed since Sept. 1939 compared with only 203 sunk from 1914 to 1918.

**Oct. 16, 1919  
100 Years Ago**

**Missing from our files**

**Oct. 11, 1894  
125 Years Ago**

**Local News:** Ad: Apprentice wanted - A

## Letters

### Open letter to Will Amos, Member of Parliament

Dear Editor,

I am about to have my first visit with my surgeon this morning. I have spent the last seven days recovering at home from an emergency modified radical mastectomy. I live alone and my life is in a tailspin. If ever there was a time to ask for help from my Liberal MP in an attempt to further his platform by placing more importance on bringing in adequate telephone service to rural communities it is today. Not 2021. I may not be here.

I ended up no less than eight times in the past seven days having to get into my car to drive down my driveway to the 301 in my pajamas and slippers to attempt to get cell service in a time in my life when cell service is a matter of life or death. I have lived here for 14 years. Right on a major Quebec highway between Otter Lake and Danford Lake that has no telephone lines. I have had to spend thousands of dollars on various versions of telephone services including a satellite phone. This can’t be happening in 2019. In an emergency how the hell are we expected to call for help? What am I going to do for the next six to 12 months without it?

Approximately, two months ago, my neighbours, Sylvain Drapeau of Escapade Eskimos and his family lost their home and business of 16 years in a fire at 5 a.m. The people taking care of the property and dogs could not get cell service to call 911. They came over to my house to see if I could but could not wake me up and ended up at another neighbour’s before they were able to call 911. Needless to say it was all over but the crying by then.

You may phone me if you wish at 819-334-0903 but you may not be able to hear me. Who knows — it might be a good service day.

Please keep in mind that this essential basic human right is far more important than faster internet.

**Rachel Lapointe  
Otter Lake, Que.**

## Letters to the Editor

We like your letters so keep them coming.  
Email them to [news@theequity.ca](mailto:news@theequity.ca).  
Mail to 133 Centre Street, Shawville, QC J0X 2Y0 or fax them to 819-647-2206.  
Opinions in the letters published do not necessarily reflect the opinions of **THE EQUITY**.

good steady boy to learn Blacksmithing. Apply to Mr. Donald McRae, Shawville.

Electric light poles are being placed between Aylmer and Ottawa.

Miss M. Caldwell has opened a dress-making shop at Portage du Fort over McNab’s store.

A young man named Stephen Moorhead, son of Mr. John Moorhead of Sand Point was crushed to death in one of Gillies Bros’ shanties last week while laying up logs.

His remains passed through here by train on Friday evening on their way to the home of the unfortunate young man’s parents.

Mrs. McKenzie’s millinery display was the admiration of the visitors to the fair here last week.

A free social was held at the Cascades, Que. on the evening of 27th inst. for the purpose of presenting a small token of esteem to Mr. T.J. Wilson, a talented young man from Shawville who has been preaching here and at Kerk’s Ferry during the summer months every Sunday while he attended other duties during the rest of the week and is well deserving the well wishes of the people.

On Friday night some miscreant stole three or four hundred bricks from Mr. Dan Kennedy’s kiln at North Clarendon.

Ad: Hats, ribbon, feathers, laces; in fact everything comprised in the millinery line which for beauty texture and enduring quality cannot be equalled. A hat from my shop retains its style and beauty.

Notice: Royal Mail Line of stages running between Shawville and Otter Lake every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. R. Hobbs, Stage Proprietor.

Ross Point Ferry:

The Tariff: for a 2 horse cart or conveyance and driver each way, including horses, 50 cents, for ditto returning same day, 75 cents.

For each head of horned cattle each way, 25 cents.

Ad: HOME AGAIN AND BROKE so must - have - money. Everything goes at cost until Richard is himself again. Leeder of Quyon.



# Emotions and a loss in front of the home crowd

by J.D. Potié



**Wearing red arm bands at their home opener in memory of 17-year-old Véronique Bourque, the Pontiac Senior Comets fell behind and could not recover against the Mont-Laurier Montagnards in what was an emotional night for the community. Above, right, Pontiac MNA André Fortin and MP Will Amos initiate the ceremonial puck drop on the red carpet.**

The Pontiac Senior Comets opened their second season in the Outaouais Senior AA Hockey League (OSAAHL) with a 6-3 loss at home on Saturday night at the hands of the Mont-Laurier Montagnards in front of a grieving crowd.

Taking place in the days following the sudden death of 17-year-old Véronique Bourque that shocked the community, the game opened with a red-carpet ceremony in her honour.

The day before the game, the Comets organization invited its fans, via their Facebook page, to wear the colour red in Bourque's honour since it was her favourite colour.

Upon entering the rink, folks were handed little red scarves and bows to tie around their arm or pin to their chest in memoriam. A couple of Bourque's framed photographs were displayed on the ticket tables.

Scheduled for an 8 p.m. puck drop, fans started packing the lobby around 30 minutes before and by the time warmups began, most of the seats in the rink were already filled.

Bourque's family sat together in the VIP section of the stands behind the home team's bench.

Following player introductions, a number of community leaders delivered heartfelt speeches, including Pontiac MNA André Fortin, Liberal MP Will Amos and Fort Coulonge Mayor Gaston Allard who gave their condolences to the Bourque family and reflected on the notion of sport as a unifier.

"I know it hasn't been an easy week for a lot of you," Fortin said. "It's been a difficult week, where you have thought about someone who had a lot of compassion, someone who you loved a lot, someone who lived life to the fullest,

who made the most of the short time she had alongside us."

"It has been very difficult. But we've seen through the floods, through tragedies like the one from this week, we will get together and we will find ways to forgive," Amos said. "This evening is a special night. The start of a great season, I'd like to thank all the volunteers and those who got together to put on this league."

"I find it incredible how people can get together," Allard said. "I'd like to thank Danick and the Comets organization for the gesture our guys put forth for that young girl tonight. It's extraordinary. Thank you Fort-Coulonge."

After a brief moment of silence, local singer Michaela Cahill got the crowd warmed up with a flawless rendition of the national anthem before finally getting the game underway.

In the first period, the Comets started out slow. Mostly chasing the game in the opening minutes, they struggled to get their legs underneath them and Mont-Laurier capitalized by opening the score with a goal on a partial breakaway just over two minutes in.

Shortly before the halfway point of the period, they bounced back with a breakaway snipe of their own coming off the stick of Matthew Warren assisted by David Croteau.

The rest of the period was tightly contested, with the Montagnards still winning much of the puck possession battle. The Comets looked relieved going into the break tied up at 1, until Mont-Laurier stunned them with a marker just 11 seconds before the buzzer.

In the second period, it was all Mont-Laurier, who scored three unanswered goals making it a 5-1 game going into

the third. At this point, the Comets couldn't seem to manage the puck very well nor were they able to keep up with the Montagnards high-flying first line.

By the third period, with a portion of the crowd having already left the building, the Comets came out with one last ditch effort but ultimately didn't get the result they wanted.

They nightmare continued as the Montagnards made it 6-1 just over four minutes into the frame. But after that, the Comets showed some life as Warren notched his first career hat trick after scoring back to back goals both assisted by Croteau.

When the final buzzer went, it was 6-3 in favour of the Montagnards.

Statistically speaking, new line mates Warren and Croteau shined for the Comets with three goals and three assists respectively, while Oliver Donovan and Darcy Findlay were the only other Comets to record a point.

After the game, Comets head coach Jean-Francois Lavergne was quite positive about his team's performance despite the result.

While he admits his team got outplayed in the first two periods, he's proud of how his guys responded in the third, blaming their shoddy start on rust more than anything else.

"I think we saw in the third what our team will be during the season," he said. "We're looking at it like that. It's a cliché, but we won the third period. For me it's just some positive stuff to build on for next week."

For the team's new captain Findlay, it was important not to dwell on the result and remain positive after the loss.

"We played well in the third and now it's just about making sure that we can carry that," he said. "We weren't focusing in the first two periods. We were just focusing in the third and it went well so we're just going to build and get better."

Despite what the score line indicated, especially before the Comets got back in the game late, Lavergne wasn't panicking by any means. He believes his team's downfall came with unforced errors and a lack of execution.

"When we weren't making mistakes and we were doing our jobs well, I didn't see a lot of offense on their part, I didn't find them that dominant facing us," he said. "It was really just mistakes that we made that we need to correct."

Lavergne admitted that it was a difficult game for his team to play in.

While the loss left a sour taste in his mouth, Findlay felt grateful for finally playing competitively again. But he knows that he and his teammates have a lot of work to do.

"It feels good to be back on the ice," he said. "To say that I thought I played contact again after being out for seven years is an understatement but I think

there's a lot of guys in the same boat."

For Findlay, the key to success for the Comets lies in simplifying their game and sticking to their plan until they get to a point where they're fully comfortable together on the ice, pointing to what happened in the third period as evidence of that.

"We started to put pucks on net in the third period, we probably doubled our shots in the last 20 [minutes], scored some goals and made it interesting," he said. "So, especially early on in the season, less is more."

Going forward, Findlay said the team's mindset is about starting fast and improving upon every shift, which could lead them to accomplish great things this season.

"I think once we gel as a team, we come together and we build week after week, I think we're going to be an elite team in the league," he said.

For their next tilt, the Comets will hit the road with a meeting with the Forrestiers at the Gino-Odjick Centre in Maniwaki Oct. 12 and don't return home until they play them again on Oct. 26 in Fort Coulonge.



**Comets goalie Danick Boisvert bats a puck in the air in front of him in the first period.**



**J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY**  
**Michaela Cahill sings the national anthem before puck drop.**

## The Parents' Voice

### Integrating reading and writing into our childrens' everyday lives

**Continued from page four**

You can support your child's budding literacy skills in everyday routines like pointing out words while driving in the car, going to the doctor's office and pointing out letters and words on the wall or in magazines, grocery shopping or perusing the sale flyer, encouraging them to orally finish the words on pages in story books are just a few examples. If your child is interested in writing, roll with it. Help them spell out words they are interested in spelling or help them sound out words they are familiar with so they know what letter it starts with. There is so much we can do with them

to help them get a head start on reading.

We think it's important to note that all children develop at different stages. Some kids are interested in reading at the age of three while others may become interested at the age of seven. It's important not to push your young children to enjoy reading and writing as this can deter them. Instead, having opportunities available to them to practice and encourage reading and writing at their own will is recommended.

Until next week, read and write lots with your little ones and enjoy a nice Thanksgiving weekend as a family.

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## CHIP FM hosts political debate in Mansfield

Around 60 people convened inside the auditorium at l'École secondaire Sieur de Coulonge in Mansfield et Pontefract to get a first person look at four of the 2019 federal candidates for the Pontiac riding. Hosted by CHIP FM 101.9, the event was also broadcast on its airwaves to give the folks in remote areas like Rapides des Joachims a chance to hear from each of the candidates, according to CHIP FM's director François Carrier.

Photo submitted

## Luskille CPE celebrates 20 years



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On Oct. 4, the Centre de la Petite Enfance (CPE) l'Univers des Bambinos in Luskville achieved 20 years of service in the community and they invited all their kids and parents to celebrate. Pictured, Jungle Kim and Dr. Safari entertain the little ones with interactive, playful tunes and large stuffed animals.

J.D. POTIÉ  
LUSKVILLE Oct. 4, 2019

Around 50 parents and children from the region gathered at the Centre de la Petite Enfance (CPE) l'Univers des Bambinos in Luskville last Friday for a fun filled party celebrating the daycare's 20-year anniversary.

With all the kids dressed in their Sunday best for the celebration, the little ones enjoyed a plethora of fun activities throughout the afternoon including a photo

booth with personalized polaroid pictures and an interactive, animated musical performance from Dr. Safari and Jungle Kim, courtesy of MJ Anim'Action.

Plus, they indulged on some delicious food and drink as the group held an informal juice and cheese luncheon to cap off the event.

According to the daycare's President Diane Daigle, the CPE in Luskville has played a crucial role in providing local families with

access to child care services. However, she's conscious that a lot more work needs to be done.

"We're answering just a portion of the need because we still have a long waiting list and it's a very small part of the need," she said. "But it's better than nothing."

Having worked at the daycare for 20 years, Daigle feels like she's developed a sense of membership in the community at large.

Daigle explained that the daycare was established at a time when the need for such a business in the region was severe and immediate. So, when she was presented with an opportunity to be part of it and promote it to the community, she jumped on board right away.

"Parents were scratching their heads to find a daycare in their communities," she said. "I was very interested and when it took off, I got the job to work here."

With nearly 25 years of experience as a child caregiver, Daigle has met too many people from her time at the daycare to remember them individually. But seeing generation after genera-

tion of locals come through the daycare, knowing the impact she's had on countless families, never ceases to bring her joy.

"I see the kids that I took care of in a family environment and now I'm starting to see their little kids," she said. "The parents who I saw their kids grow, now I see them come here as grandparents coming to pick up their grandkids. So, I really see the wheel turning and it's very enriching, it's a beautiful gift for me to see that."

As for what the future brings, Daigle is hopeful for another 20 years just as rewarding as the previous two decades.

Having seen countless people walk through the daycare's doors over the course of her career, from kids, to parents to employees, Daigle believes those faces all play a part in the history of the daycare – a history that keeps on going.

"Everyone who passed through here, this is the result that it gives," she said. "It hasn't finished growing and evolving and becoming better. It can only get better still."

## Pontiac chiro 15-year anniversary

J.D. POTIÉ  
SHAWVILLE Sept. 30, 2019

"If you love what you do, you'll never work a day in your life" – Mark Anthony.

After seeing her business reach the 15-year milestone last week, that's exactly how Dr. Isabelle Gagnon, owner of the Pontiac Chiropractic Clinic in Shawville, feels about her career.

To celebrate the achievement, groups of her patients and employees gathered inside the clinic on Hwy. 148 for an afternoon of snacking and socializing while celebrating the milestone.

In the office building decorated with shiny balloons, folks indulged on trays of diced fruits, chopped veggies and sliced cheeses while also sipping on little cups of wine and craft beer from Brauwerk Hoffman.

According to Gagnon, the party was a way of thanking the community for its constant support and to let them know that she won't be going anywhere any time soon.

Officially opened in 2004, the 15-year anniversary of the business was a reminder that her decision of pursuing a career as a chiropractor in the Pontiac was the right one, Gagnon said.

Originally from Bristol, she opened her business in Shawville to pursue her career in the region she called home, while providing a much-needed service for the local population.

"I saw that there was a

need for the people and as a result 15 years later, we see that it's still going," she said.

While completing her five-year doctorate in chiropractic's at l'Université du Québec a Trois Rivières, Gagnon had a tough time deciding where she wanted

touch with contractors, picked her location and opened on Oct. 1.

"I love what I do," she said. "I feel very fulfilled and very happy to have made the decision to return to the Pontiac."

Operating one of the few



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On Sept. 30, the Pontiac Chiropractic Clinic in Shawville celebrated 15 years of service in the community. Pictured, office manager Ginger Finan, owner Dr. Isabelle Gagnon and assistant Jenn Rusenstrom stand together in the clinic.

to take her career next. Although, most chiropractors become autonomous workers fresh out of school, Gagnon didn't see herself as the entrepreneurial type.

But when her boyfriend decided to move to the Pontiac to work, she felt like opening a business there would perhaps be the right decision for her as well. Right away she put together her business plan and shortly after completing her exams in May, she got in

clinics of her kind in the region, Gagnon feels like she's found a very special niche that's allowed her to ingrain herself in the community.

"We're raising our family here and we're making our lives in the Pontiac, it's fun because I feel like the family chiropractor of the Pontiac."

Despite having found an unexpected level of sustained success, Gagnon admits that starting her business was a scary

prospect at first. Opened shortly before the closing of Smurfit-Stone mill in Litchfield, she was worried that her business would soon suffer the same fate.

But fortunately, everything worked out fine.

Gagnon believes one of the main reasons for her clinic's success was the fact that her services were so highly in demand in a region where a lot of the population worked in physically taxing job markets, while residing in low-income areas.

"I think people realize that it's not a luxury," she said. "It's a necessity and the people here, there are a lot of workers who are very physical, our loggers, our farmers. They're people who work very hard who are tight on their bank accounts, who don't have insurance and they need their back to function well."

Understanding the perspective of her patients, Gagnon prides herself on providing the best service possible in order to help them heal well and quickly so they can get back to their jobs and earn their incomes.

Surprised by how fast her business grew, Gagnon feels thankful for being part of such a tight-knit community and doesn't plan on seeking greener pastures any time soon.

"I'm here," she said. "I will retire here, but we don't know in how long. It's going to be more than 15 years, that's for sure."

## Cadet squadron seeks recruits

CALEB NICKERSON  
RENFREW Oct. 2, 2019

Parents looking for exciting extracurricular activities for their children should look no further than the 653 Champlain Air Cadet Squadron, according to commanding officer Cpt. Brian Graham.

He said that though their programming runs concurrent with the school year, they will be accepting new recruits for most of the year. The squadron, which

is based in Renfrew, currently has just over 30 cadets and Graham said that every year nearly a third come from the Quebec side of the river.

Registration is free and open to youth 12 and up, and takes place at 164 Argyle Street South on Tuesday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Graham said to bring a birth certificate and a health card.

He added that the group had recently been gifted an

Ultralight aircraft by a generous donation from the family of the late Gerald Fawcett, a former commanding officer with 653 and a pillar of the local flying community. The cadets will get some hands-on experience restoring and maintaining the aircraft, which is in need of a rebuild.

He also spoke about the cadet training program during the summer, which offers participants the

chance to log some hours in gliders and other aircraft, which is a huge asset for those pursuing a career in the skies.

"One of the biggest things you can get out of the air cadet program is your glider pilot's license and your powered pilot's license, and that's done through summer training," Graham said, adding that they also offer courses on outdoor survival, leadership and other topics outside of flying.

ÉLECTION FÉDÉRALE / FEDERAL ELECTION  
LE LUNDI 21 OCTOBRE / MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

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### Vous ne pouvez pas voter le jour de l'élection?

Si vous pensez être absent ou trop occupé le 21 octobre, vous pouvez voter d'avance :

- à votre bureau de vote par anticipation du 11 au 14 octobre;
- à n'importe quel bureau d'Élections Canada avant le 15 octobre, 18 h;
- par la poste – faites votre demande avant le 15 octobre, 18 h.

Consultez votre carte d'information de l'électeur pour connaître toutes les façons de voter.

### Can't vote on election day?

If you think you'll be away or too busy on October 21, you can vote early:

- At your assigned advance polling station from October 11 to 14
- At any Elections Canada office before October 15, 6:00 p.m.
- By mail – apply by October 15, 6:00 p.m.

Check your voter information card for all the ways you can vote.

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Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

A group of students from Carrefour jeunesse-emploi took part in a project to renovate the thrift shop at Bouffe Pontiac's headquarters in Campbell's Bay over the last five months. Their hard work was unveiled on Sept. 23. From left: Amelie Marenger, youth project coordinator Karim El Kerch, Carrefour Director General Sylvie Landriault, Mathew Miron, program director Émilie Demers, Kevin Gareau, youth councillor Milly Beaulieu, Jake Dunn and Joey Boisvert.

## New thrift shop at Bouffe Pontiac

**CALEB NICKERSON  
CAMPBELL'S BAY**  
Sept. 23, 2019

Two weeks ago the new and improved thrift shop at Bouffe Pontiac's headquarters in Campbell's Bay was unveiled, with the students from Carrefour jeunesse - emploi du Pontiac who completed the work in attendance.

The snazzy new premises was put together as a project

for the students at Carrefour over the course of about five months, explained youth specialized services councillor Émilie Demers, who oversaw the work. She said that previously the shop had been in need of a little elbow grease, and the students took part in every aspect of the restoration.

"It's a six month program to help kids develop the skills they need to enter the

labour market," she said. "Our kids really took on the entire project, they did the budget, they did the design, took the measures, painted the walls and organized the clothing."

The labels on the walls were sharp looking wood cut etchings created through collaboration with the Fablab du Jardin. They also had a wardrobe full of formal clothing for students from

the program to borrow when they have job interviews.

"A lot of our kids at the Carrefour don't have interview clothing," Demers said. "Whenever they need it they can come by and pick it out."

Each of the students had a chance talk briefly about their favourite experiences from the project, before the group settled in for some refreshments.

## Poll workers wanted

**CALEB NICKERSON  
PONTIAC**  
Oct. 9, 2019

Elections Canada is still seeking between 10 and 15 workers for a variety of roles at the polls in the Pontiac region in the coming days.

Elections Canada representative Pierre Cadieux said that the positions, which vary from clerks, to returning officers to central poll supervisors, are paid for their time

and are given training. They are needed in many areas in the region, from Luskville to Allumettes Island.

He added that they typically have around 950 workers throughout the entire riding, of which roughly 250 are stationed in the Pontiac region.

Those interested can contact recruitment officer Ghislaine Lacroix at 819 920-6997.

## Eardley-Masham Road now open

**CHRIS LOWREY  
MUN. OF PONTIAC**  
Oct. 4, 2019

After nearly six months, the Eardley-Masham Road is finally open after several sections of the roadway were washed out in the Spring floods.

The road was washed out on April 19 and has been

closed until work completed on Oct. 4.

A total of five culverts were replaced along the stretch – two were damaged in the floods while the other three had reached the end of their life cycle.

Additionally, several sections of the road were reconstructed and re-paved.

## Robber busted

**J.D. POTIÉ  
CAMPBELL'S BAY**  
Oct. 2, 2019

Police have arrested a man in relation to a robbery that took place in a business located on rue Front in Campbell's Bay around a month ago.

According to MRC Pontiac Sureté du Québec spokesperson Marc Tessier, police apprehended the suspect in Campbell's Bay and detained him for interrogation before he presented himself in court the next day.

Marc Vilon, 34, appeared

at the courthouse in Gatineau to face accusations of qualified theft and possession of narcotics. Vilon was eventually released with certain conditions.

On Sept. 6, at around 1:30 p.m., police reported that Vilon had entered the establishment and threatened one of its female staff members with pepper spray before fleeing with a sum of cash.

The case is ongoing and Vilon will appear in court in Gatineau at an undetermined date, Tessier said.

## Pontiac Quad Club left with mound of garbage in Bristol

**CHRIS LOWREY  
BRISTOL** Oct. 2, 2019

The Pontiac Quad Club could be on the hook for some expensive garbage removal after one of its members stumbled on a massive pile of garbage at the corner of Twelfth Line and Ragged Chute Roads in Bristol.

The quad club posted pictures of the heap on its Facebook page asking anyone with information to call club president René Barrette.

The section of land where the garbage was found is actually private property, and Barrette is skeptical that the club will get any assistance from local government.

"Maybe the municipality

will go and clean it but I don't think so," Barrette said. "The municipality doesn't have the money. We'll probably have to step up and clean up the mess."

And the cleanup wouldn't be cheap. Barrette estimated that with the cost of hauling the garbage with a truck and getting a backhoe to load it into the truck, the quad club could be on the hook for up to \$1,000.

"It's not our fault," Barrette said. "But we have to be nice to the property owner."

The quad club depends on maintaining good relationships with property owners so its member can use the trails that zigzag through several private properties.

"If the owner's got to clean it by himself I'm sure he's going to say 'Get out,' and put up a gate," Barrette cautioned. "I wouldn't blame him, if someone was doing that on my property I'd do the same thing."

It's an ongoing issue that the quad club has been dealing with for quite some time.

"It's not the first time," Barrette said. "It happened this winter."

This latest pile just shows someone was too cheap to pay the dump fee for their own garbage.

"Someone's cleaned out their garage because there's shingles and all kinds of stuff in there," he said.

Since it would be next to impossible for someone on an ATV to haul that much

garbage into the bush – not to mention the fact that ATV riders are the ones using the trails – Barrette doesn't think it was a member of the



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY

A mound of garbage was discovered by a member of the Pontiac Quad Club on the weekend at the corner of Ragged Chute and Twelfth Line Roads in Bristol. The club may be on the hook for cleanup costs.

## Learning about tax issues from the CRA



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

SADC Pontiac organized a seminar with two liaison officers with the Canada Revenue Agency on Oct. 3.

**CALEB NICKERSON  
CAMPBELL'S BAY**  
Oct. 3, 2019

A handful of people gathered at the SADC office in Campbell's Bay on October 3 for a presentation about the new liaison officer service offered by the Canada Revenue Agency. The two officers, Janet Avery and Steve Kos, discussed tax issues facing small businesses and self-employed individuals, such as claiming

expenses for use of your home or vehicle.

SADC business advisor Amy Taylor explained that any entrepreneur can book consultation with a liaison officer to have their books examined, and added that they wouldn't be searching for any impropriety.

"They won't go back and audit, they don't have access to your file," she said. "They just help you to be better prepared going forward."

The seminar was one of many offered throughout the year, and Taylor said that the officers would be returning in the winter. On October 23 the SADC will be organizing a bus trip to Quinn Farm near Montreal to learn about agri-tourism, as well as seminars on various subjects like Google advertising, managing online stores and insurance issues in the coming months.



### Quyon

JILL YOUNG

819-918-0623 jillianyoung6@gmail.com

Congratulations to Meghan (Foran) and Blake Howarth on the arrival of their first child. They welcomed a baby boy named Mason Thomas on Sept. 28. He arrived just in time to share his birthday with Grandpa Danny Foran. Best wishes to Meghan and Blake on their new little bundle.

Warm wishes are going out to Kara (Hawkins) and William Armitage as they also welcomed their first child. Their baby boy, Briar Robert Erwin, arrived safely on Sept. 29. Enjoy your sweet little boy Will and Kara.

Congratulations to Virginia (Lavigne) and Ben Wolfe as they too welcomed a baby boy last week. Vincent Loyal arrived very quickly on Oct. 2. He is a baby brother for Louis. I was glad to hear both mom and baby are doing well. We are wishing the family all the best with

their new addition.

We were saddened to hear the news that Rev. Isabel Black passed away in Ottawa on Oct. 1 at age 76. Isabel was the minister for the Quyon Pastoral Charge from 1995-2000.

I saw her only a handful of times after she left Quyon but it was always so nice to catch up with her. She was a feisty, fabulous woman, a mentor to me during very important years of my life and I am ever so grateful our paths crossed. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband Maurice and her family at this sad time.

This week, we have birthday wishes going out to Lindsay Hamilton and Beverley Stanley on Oct. 12, to Sandra McCann on Oct. 13 and to my nephew Caden Provost who turns 14 on Oct. 14. Happy birthday to Dale MacKechnie, Ben Duquette, and Mitchel

Trudeau also all on Oct. 14. Best wishes to everyone celebrating this week.

The sports fields in Quyon have gone quiet again for another year. Kids' soccer ran this fall after being delayed so long due to the spring floods and they wrapped up their season last week.

The Quyon 3-pitch league has wrapped up as well with Townline Cattle being the big winners of the season. The Quyon Flyers fastpitch team have also seen their season come to an end, being swept two games to none in their best-of-3 semi-final against the Micksburg Twins. Micksburg is now playing Kars in the GOFL finals.

I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend spending time with family and being grateful for all of the blessings in our lives. Happy Thanksgiving to all.



### Sheenboro

DORIS RANGER

819-650-2413 dranger50@hotmail.com

Our condolences to the Ranger and Tallon families on the passing on Sept. 22 of their sister/step-sister Elaine Ranger Richardson of New Brunswick. She is survived by her husband George of 51 years, her two children Dale and Lynne and her precious grandchildren. She was the daughter of the late Hilaire and Clara and stepmother Mary Helen.

Also our deepest sympathies go out to Maggie and the Béchamp family on the passing of Alphire (Anchie) on Oct. 3. His funeral was held at St. Alphonsus Church in Chapeau, Que. on Oct. 7.

Birthday greetings and best wishes go out to Brent Hynes on Oct. 8, Kelsey McDonald Vaillancourt and Judy Darcy on Oct. 10 and Nancy Vellenga on Oct. 12.

Our friend and bus driver, Paddy Kilbride of Ireland, arrived in Toronto last

Thursday to spend a few weeks in Sheenboro. This was a retirement gift from his family. His buddy Don O'Neil was there to pick him up but Ron and Nancy Vellenga, who connected with Paddy in Ireland, were also at the airport to greet him. He was quite surprised to see Nancy there waving a welcome to Sheen sign.

After our 2002 trip to Ireland, Paddy and the late Lornie Sullivan kept in touch. Paddy made his first trip to Sheen in 2006 and returned to celebrate Lornie's birthday in 2007. Most of the original gang have made repeat visits back to Ireland not only to explore the beautiful country but to visit with our famous bus driver. A dinner at Northfork in Nichabau, Que. and a luncheon at St. Brigid's in Ottawa, Ont. have been planned to celebrate his retirement Canadian style.

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### Employment Opportunity

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- promotional items such as T-shirts, hoodies, baseball caps, pens and mugs, among many others.

Contributing to the success of local businesses, service clubs, sports teams and other organizations is good for the whole community and part of what makes this a rewarding job.

A cheerful, positive attitude, capability with popular computer programs and a driver's license are requirements for this position. Bilingualism would be a major asset.

If you're this person, please get in touch right away with Charles Dickson at charles.dickson@theequity.ca.

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# Late local community builder honoured with memorial bench



Photo submitted  
Sunday, Sept. 29 saw friends and family of Ruth Racine gather at Leo Piché Park in Bryson for the dedication of a park bench in her memory. Local Parish priest Father Michael Goring offered prayers of blessing and dedication that the bench would be a place of relaxation and remembrance of the tireless work that Ruth, who passed away in February of 2017, did as a volunteer in the community. Ruth was instrumental as a volunteer with Bryson Revitalization, in beginning the drive to raise funds for the recently installed new town of Bryson sign. From left: Adam Racine, Fr. Michael Goring, Tania Racine, Alanna Racine and Foster Lemaire. Submitted by Cliff Welsh.



# There's a new pastor in town

Photo submitted  
Rev. Stuart Marples has taken on role behind the pulpit at New Hope Christian Fellowship, taking over from Rev. Tim Perry at the start of September. Marples previously served at what was the Wesleyan Church in Shawville during the 1980s and early 90s. Pictured, Marples and his wife Kellie pose in front of the church.

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NEW SECOND LOCATION

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On Oct. 5, Bristol Auto Performance 148 officially opened its new location on Hwy. 148 in Shawville. Pictured, owners and operators Gordon MacGregor, Cecil Hodgins and Riley MacGregor stand in front of their new garage during its grand opening on Saturday afternoon.

J.D. POTIÉ  
SHAWVILLE Oct. 5, 2019  
After opening a second location, on Hwy. 148 in Shawville, the people at Bristol Auto Performance are very excited to expand their services to even more people in the Pontiac.  
On Saturday, the public was invited to the newly opened location to join the company staff for a modest celebration. With MyFM broadcasting on location, folks were able to eat some sweet cupcakes and check out the vast selection of tires, rims and used cars on hand.  
Owned and operated by Riley MacGregor, his father Gordon and his grandfather Cecil Hodgins, the new garage named Bristol Auto Performance 148 is the product of their customer base exceeding their capability of serving them.

According to Riley, the business's new location will have a much wider inventory of tires, wheels and rims than its location in Bristol, providing accessories for all types of vehicles from cars, to trucks to agricultural tractors.  
"We're stocking like 1000-plus tires all the time and not anybody locally can keep that kind of inventory," he said.  
Plus, the garage will also offer a selection of certified used cars, Riley said.  
Located in a low-income area, the company prides itself on providing more high-quality products at affordable prices than anyone else.  
"We have more on-hand inventory, where nobody else stocks it," he said. "They might keep the odd set; here we keep everything. Be a car tire, trailer tire, truck, we have it. So, there's no waiting on stuff. You order it, you get it."

owners felt like the one they selected fit their criteria because it was a large building, located in a traffic-heavy zone in their hometown of Shawville, Riley said.  
"I'm from Shawville, so it's very easy for me to maintain and keep an eye on things," he said. "You have the show room, we have the storage room. It's a good traffic area."  
Each boasting over 30 years of experience in the field of mechanics and tire sales, Riley is certain that their vast knowledge of the subject makes them greatly qualified to serve the region's car, truck and tractor related needs.  
"I've been doing this my entire life," he said. "I know nothing else but what we do ... we're the one-stop shop for installations, to wheel repairs, to breaks, rotors, engines, swaps, tires, wheels, tire parts, accessories, all that stuff," he said.

we're sort of stuck with each other."

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**No Hooley Oct. 11** (Election pre-poll) back on schedule Oct. 18.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

**Oct. 15 - Nov. 12** – We at the Parents' Voice have hired a wonderful yoga teacher to come to Shawville once a week to provide two yoga classes. Yoga for caregivers and walkers will be on Tuesday mornings October 15-November 12 from 10:00-10:45 and yoga for caregivers and babies will be on the same dates from 11:00-11:45 at The Shawville Lions. For more information check our facebook event or email parentsvoiceshawville@hotmail.com, (must email to register). We are only able to run the program if we have 6 registrants per age category! fo9

**Sun., Oct. 20** – 7:00 p.m. Hymn sing at New Hope Church, 586 Main Street. There will be opportunity for you to select a favourite. All Welcome! 2bo16

**Oct. 24 - 26** – MAN OF LA MANCHA - The Broadway Musical, will be presented at the new & improved, Pontiac High School Auditorium on October 24th - 26th, 2019 at 7 p.m., with a Matinée Performance at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 26th. Sponsored by The Shawville United Church, The Pontiac Community Players and the Pontiac High School, Tickets are \$10, and are available at the Pontiac High School Office at (819) 647-2244, or by calling Greg MacIntosh at (613) 204-4852 or emailing him at amelioracion@yahoo.ca 7bo23

**Oct. 24** – Harvest Supper at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Shawville from 4:30 - 7:00. Adults \$15, children \$6. Everyone welcome. 3xo23

**Nov. 30** – Tea and Bazaar at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Shawville. xo9

**Sat., June 27, 2020** – JOANNE DUBEAU and MICK ARMITAGE return to CORONATION HALL in downtown Bristol, Quebec. Doors open at 5:00 and dinner is served at 5:45. Live musical show from 7:00 to 8:15. Please get \$25.00 tickets now as last two shows sold out. For tickets please call Norma at 819-647-2547 or call Mick at 613-859-7740 or mickarmitage@sympatico.ca Tickets will make an excellent Christmas present! bo9

## YARD SALE

**Fri., Sat., Sun. & Mon., Oct. 11, 12, 13 & 14** – 9-4 all 4 days. The Great 4 Day Thanksgiving Antique and Collectible Yard and Barn Sale not to be missed. We are jammed to the rafters with cast iron cooler, signs, benches, antique windows, 1920s Clear Vision gas pump, furniture, glassware, bean pots, tools, rocking chairs, sports collectibles, books, comics, over 500 frames, the list goes on and on. We are motivated sellers. No reasonable offers refused. So bring your trucks, trailers, vans and let's make a deal. We would rather sell it than store it. We also have tons of apples (LOBO) and tomatoes for sale. 1144 route 148, Campbell's Bay, Que. André Chretien, 819-648-2512. We are buying so call us. xo9

**Sat., Oct. 12** – Yard sale 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 26 Main St., Portage du Fort. Antique lights and shades, Household effects and much more. xo9

**Sat. & Sun., Oct. 12 & 13** – Something for everyone. Antique windows, 2 cargo boxes for truck. Good used windows and doors, gardening ornaments and decorative stones, furniture. Rain or shine, no calls. Open at 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. Murdock Glass, 1019 Clarendon St., Quyon, Que. bo9

**Sat., Sun. & Mon., Oct. 12, 13, 14** – 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Many new arrivals, lots of collectibles and antiques, 56 Hayes Rd., Campbell's Bay, Ron's Antiques. xo9

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Shaker** style cabinet doors for sale, Free estimate. Web www.kandsenterprise.ca or 613-620-8106. 2xo9

**Pontiac** Lions patches that can be sewn over the existing Lions hockey logo on jackets, etc. \$19.00 plus taxes. Available at the Pontiac Printshop, 133 Centre St., Shawville. 819-647-2204. xtc

**New vinyl** windows, excess inventory, big discounts Kevin 613-620-8106. 2xo9

**Deal** on roofing steel. In stock. Levi Weber 2126 Stone Rd. RR 2, Renfrew, Ont. x13030

**Pies**, pies, pies. I have apple and pumpkin pies ready this week in time for Thanksgiving. Call Di's Pies at 819-921-5296. fo9

**Canadian** flags and Quebec flags 54" x 27" and 72" x 36" at The Equity, 133 Centre Street, Shawville, Que. 819-647-2204. xtc

**QCNA** offers a one-order, one-bill service to advertisers. Call us for details on reaching English Quebec, and through classified ads French Quebec and every other Canadian province & territory. 819-893-6330. qo9

## DEATH



**Wilson, Elizabeth** “Betty” (nee Thompson) – “We do not grieve as those who have no hope” (1 Thess. 4:13) for we know that “to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord” (2 Cor. 5:8). Therefore, it is with saddened, yet hope-filled hearts, that we announce the passing of a dear lady who will forever hold a special place in our hearts. Elizabeth Wilson entered the presence of her Lord on the morning of Saturday, October 5, 2019. Betty was a devoted and loving wife to her husband, Earl Wilson for 52 years. She will always be “Mom” to Kerry Anne Green (David), Pauline Black (Joel), Julaine Artimisi (Tony), Phillip Wilson (Jennifer) and Charlene Currie (Eric). She holds a special place in the hearts of her 16 grandchildren, Jesse, Dana, Kamryn, Isaiah, Avril, James, Lucas, Levi, Olivia, Alyssa, MacKenzie, Brayden, Riley, Adeb, Jerusalem, Jacob. The only daughter of Dwight and Ola Thompson, Betty was born and raised in Shawville. At 18 years of age, she attended business college in Ottawa, followed by her years of study at Miller Memorial Bible Institute in Saskatchewan. After returning to Shawville in 2005, Betty was employed for ten years as a sitter/caretaker at Pontiac Community Hospital where she brought smiles and comfort to countless patients and their families. A member of New Hope Christian Fellowship, Betty was involved in many different areas of service over the years and was always grateful for the opportunity to volunteer alongside her many friends. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Friends may call at Hayes Funeral Home, 134 Centre Street, Shawville, Quebec, on Thursday, October 10, 2019 from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. as well as Friday, October 11, 2019 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Funeral Service will be held on Friday, October 11, 2019 in New Hope Christian Fellowship, Shawville, Quebec at 11 a.m. Interment Radford United cemetery. The family would like to express their thanks to the wonderful staff at Pontiac Community Hospital for their kindness and care during Betty's final hours, as well as to the countless folks who have gone out of their way to show love and express comfort during these days. www.hayesfuneralhome.ca

## DEATH



**Brisebois, Edith** (nee Richard) 1934-2019 Passed away suddenly in hospital, Shawville, Quebec on Friday, October 4th, 2019 surrounded by her loving family. Predeceased by her husbands Claude Brisebois and Paul Dorzek. Mother of Annie (Thomas), Nancy (Marcel), Jack (Kim), Brenda (Harry), Sheila, Bonnie (Marc), Kevin (Brenda), David (Lyssa). Loved by many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Predeceased by 2 children, 5 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. She will be sadly missed by many. A celebration of Edith's life and her interment will take place in the spring. www.hayesfuneralhome.ca



## IN MEMORY

**Barber, Doris** – In loving memory of a dear mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother who passed away October 10, 2015. Two dear loving bright eyes, a tender smile A loving heart that knew no guile, Deep trust in God that all was right, Her joy to make some other bright. If sick or suffering one she knew, Some gentle act of love she'd do. No thought of self but of the other. I know He said “Well done,” mother. Always in our hearts until we meet again. Love always Your family

**Beattie** – In loving memory of a dear dad and grandfather, Vernon, who passed away October 10, 2011. Dear Dad, we shall never forget you, Sweet memories cling around your name, True hearts that in life always loved you Will love you in death just the same. Love always John, Barb and Tristen

**Gibson, Norman** – In loving memory of a dear husband, father and papa who passed away October 8, 2018. One year has gone by, we miss you so much. Aline Gibson and family

**Thomas** – In loving memory of my dear husband, Earl Arthur who passed away Oct. 11, 1996. There is no parting from my true love. No distance that can divide. For in my precious memories, You are always by my side. Remembering you can cause a smile Bring laughter or a tear. How treasured are these memories Of the husband I loved so dear. Loving you forever, Colleen (née Bréton)

**Thomas** – In loving memory of our dear brother-in-law and uncle Earl Arthur who passed away October 11, 1996. Your presence is ever near us, Your love remains with us yet. For you were the kind of brother-in-law and uncle, That we never could forget. With love always, Cheryle and Kaylie

# Marche pour la cause environnementale au Pavillon Notre-Dame du Sacré-Coeur de Chapeau



Photo soumis

**Les élèves du Pavillon Notre-Dame du Sacré-Coeur de Chapeau ainsi que leurs enseignants ont organisé une marche pour le climat.**

**CSHBO Communiqué CHAPEAU** Le 1 oct. 2019 Sensibles à la cause environnementale et s'inspirant des actions de Greta Thunberg, jeune fille de 16 ans militante sué-

doise pour la lutte contre le réchauffement climatique, les élèves du Pavillon Notre-Dame du Sacré-Coeur de Chapeau ainsi que leurs enseignants ont organisé une marche pour le climat vendredi le 27

septembre en après-midi, afin d'unir leurs voix à celles des autres militants sur la planète.

Lors de cette marche, les élèves ont ramassé des déchets et des canettes sur plus d'un kilomètre. Ils ont

été estomacés par le nombre effarant de déchets ramassés sur la route.

Espérons que cela les incitera à faire attention à l'environnement!

Un gros merci à tous les participants.

# La Financière agricole du Québec en action pour les producteurs de la région de l'Outaouais

**FADQ Communiqué GATINEAU** Le 2 oct. 2019

La Financière agricole du Québec (FASDQ) dévoile le bilan 2018 - 2019 de ses activités en matière de financement, d'assurance et de protection du revenu auprès des entreprises agricoles de la région de l'Outaouais.

Ces informations découlent du rapport annuel pour l'exercice financier s'étant terminé le 31 mars 2019.

**Des programmes de financement au service des entreprises agricoles et forestières**

Près de 16 millions de dollars en garanties de prêts; 14,2 millions de dollars aux producteurs agricoles, dont 8 millions à des entreprises laitières et bovines; 1,5 million de dollars aux producteurs forestiers

11 projets admissibles à une subvention à l'investissement.

**Une aide financière directe et adaptée à la réalité des jeunes de la relève pour des projets structurants**

12 subventions à des jeunes de la relève pour une somme de 205 000 dollars; Tarifications avantageuses en financement et en assurances.

**Des programmes d'assurance et de protection du revenu diversifiés et avantageux**

Près de 12 millions de dollars versés aux producteurs dans le cadre des programmes d'assurance et de protection du revenu couvrant la plupart des risques auxquels font face les entreprises agricoles.

**Assurance récolte (ASREC) (saison 2018)** 291 clients assurés;

Indemnités de 2,3 millions de dollars, dont 2,1 millions aux entreprises de fourrages, notamment en raison de la sécheresse.

**Assurance stabilisation des revenus agricoles (ASRA)**

308 clients assurés; Compensations de 7,4 millions de dollars, principalement aux entreprises de veaux d'emboûche.

**Agri-stabilité**

376 participants

Paiements de 766 000 dollars.

**Agri-Québec Plus**

169 participants;

Paiements de 163 000 dollars.

**Agri-investissement**

448 participants

Contributions gouvernemen-

tales de 402 000 dollars.

**Agri-Québec**

242 participants

Contributions gouvernemen-

tales de 756 000 dol-

lars.

« Nous avons pour mission de soutenir et de promouvoir le développement du secteur agricole et agroalimentaire. Nos interventions diversifiées font de nous un partenaire de la réussite des entreprises agricoles québécoises et nous sommes fiers d'y contribuer. » M. Ernest Desrosiers, président-directeur général de La Financière agricole du Québec.

« La Financière agricole entretient une relation d'affaires avec près de 24 000 entreprises agricoles et forestières réparties dans toutes les régions du Québec. Les conseillers régionaux ont à cœur le succès des producteurs agricoles et s'estiment privilégiés de pouvoir collaborer au développement de leur entreprise. » M. Benoit Rioux, directeur régional.

# Un coup de pouce pour l'achat de lunettes

**GOUV. DU QUÉBEC**

**Communiqué**

**RIVIÈRE-DU-LOUP**

Le 12 sept. 2019

Le premier ministre, M. François Legault, accompagné du ministre délégué à la Santé et aux Services sociaux, M. Lionel Carmant, de la ministre de la Santé et des Services sociaux, Mme Danielle McCann, ainsi que du ministre de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur, M. Jean-François Roberge, a présenté, jeudi, les détails du tout premier programme de remboursement de lunettes et de lentilles cornéennes pour les jeunes de moins de 18 ans, afin de donner un coup de pouce financier aux familles.

Ainsi, tous les enfants qui ont besoin de lunettes ou de lentilles cornéennes pour corriger leur vision, avec la prescription d'un optométriste ou d'un ophtalmologiste autorisé, seront admissibles à un remboursement de 250 \$, et ce, tous les deux ans. La mise en place du programme Mieux voir pour réussir fait suite à un engagement du gouvernement afin de favoriser le développement du plein potentiel des jeunes et de lutter contre le décrochage scolaire.

« En garantissant une bonne vision pour tous nos jeunes, nous agissons pour leur motivation, pour leur réussite, et donc contre le décrochage scolaire. Avoir une bonne vision, c'est fondamental pour réussir et pour persévérer à l'école. Cela ne devrait jamais devenir une question d'argent. Les parents ne devraient jamais avoir à choisir entre la santé financière de leur famille et la réussite de leurs enfants. L'achat de lunettes et de lentilles cornéennes est une dépense importante pour beaucoup de familles qui ont déjà de la difficulté à joindre les deux bouts. Donc avec ce nouveau coup de pouce, nous leur enlevons un poids et leur redonnons plus de liberté financièrement. » François Legault, premier ministre du Québec.

« Notre gouvernement s'est donné comme priorité d'influencer positivement la tra-

jectoire de vie de l'ensemble des jeunes du Québec, et la mise en place de ce programme en est un autre bel exemple. Une bonne santé visuelle contribue à offrir un meilleur départ aux enfants et est essentielle à leur réussite. » Lionel Carmant, ministre délégué à la Santé et aux Services sociaux.

« Avec ce nouveau programme, nous voulons nous assurer que chaque enfant pourra obtenir les lunettes ou les lentilles cornéennes dont il a besoin. Nous alléons ainsi le fardeau des parents : les coûts liés aux soins de la vue ne doivent plus être un obstacle à la réussite des jeunes. » Danielle McCann, ministre de la Santé et des Services sociaux.

« La vision joue un rôle indéniable dans le développement scolaire des enfants. Toujours dans l'objectif d'identifier les difficultés qui peuvent nuire à leur apprentissage, la mise en place de ce programme de remboursement vient s'ajouter aux autres mesures annoncées afin de favoriser leur réussite éducative. » Jean-François Roberge, ministre de l'Éducation et de l'Enseignement supérieur.

**Faits saillants**

Le programme est entré en vigueur le 1er septembre 2019, et seuls les achats effectués à partir de cette date, auprès d'un marchand au Québec, sont admissibles. Toutefois, l'examen de la vue peut avoir été réalisé avant le 1er septembre.

Le programme offre un remboursement de 250 \$ à la suite de l'achat de lunettes ou de verres de contact pour tout jeune de moins de 18 ans. Le remboursement sera accordé uniquement pour l'achat de lunettes ou de verres de contact visant à corriger la vision et cette correction devra être prescrite par un optométriste ou un ophtalmologiste autorisé.

Les coûts anticipés sont de 36 millions de dollars par année. Les évaluations préliminaires prédisent qu'environ 145 000 enfants auront besoin de lunettes ou de verres de contact annuellement.

Grâce à un service en

ligne, rendu accessible par la Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec, la démarche pour obtenir un rembourse-

ment sera simple et permettra de recevoir un chèque au plus tard trois semaines après l'envoi de la demande.



**MUNICIPALITÉ DE PONTIAC**

**2024, route 148  
Pontiac, Québec J0X 2G0**

**OFFRE D'EMPLOI**

**Affichage à l'externe**

Date de l'affichage : 7 octobre 2019

**POSTE TEMPORAIRE COMMIS DE BUREAU**

**(En remplacement d'un congé)**

**Type de poste :** Temporaire, syndiqué

**Résumé des fonctions :**

Le commis de bureau est la porte d'entrée des citoyens pour le service d'urbanisme. Il assume la réception des appels téléphoniques et des courriels citoyens et professionnels du milieu, y répond ou le transmet à la personne compétente. Il fournit les renseignements généraux aux citoyens sur la réglementation et les procédures dans la limite de ces compétences.

Le commis de bureau prend en note les plaintes et requêtes adressées au service. Il peut être appelé à assister aux rencontres du service de l'urbanisme.

Il photocopie, numérise, tri, et classe les documents selon le système de classement établi. Il trouve et récupère les documents qui lui sont demandés.

Le commis de bureau pourrait être attiré à la réception ainsi qu'au département des travaux publics ou le service d'incendie selon les besoins durant la période de vacances ainsi que les périodes sans achalandage.

Il accomplit toutes tâches connexes à la demande de ses supérieurs.

**Qualifications et exigences minimales**

• Détenir un diplôme d'études collégiales en bureautique ou un diplôme professionnel en secrétariat. Toutes autres combinaisons d'études et d'expériences jugées équivalentes seront étudiées.

• Minimum de 2 ans d'expérience dans des fonctions similaires.

• Familier avec les termes utilisés dans le domaine de l'urbanisme et de la construction.

• Bonnes connaissances des outils informatiques, bureautiques et logiciels couramment utilisés dans le milieu municipal (Accès Cité Territoire, Suite Office, Outlook, etc.).

• Démontrer des habiletés à communiquer efficacement.

• Très bonne connaissance du français et de l'anglais parlé et écrit.

• Posséder les aptitudes nécessaires pour le service à la clientèle.

**Un examen écrit sera exigé.**

**Horaire de travail et salaire :**

Selon la convention collective des employés syndiqués soit de 8h00 à 16h00 lundi au vendredi et salaire débute à 19.29\$ de l'heure.

Les personnes intéressées devront faire parvenir une lettre de motivation ainsi que votre curriculum vitae en indiquant la mention POSTE DE COMMIS DE BUREAU, avant le 25 octobre 2019 à l'attention de Louis Montgrain, directeur du service de l'urbanisme, Municipalité de Pontiac, 2024 Route 148, Pontiac, Québec J0X 2G0 ou par courriel à montgrain.louis@municipalitepontiac.ca

*Votre candidature sera traitée confidentiellement. Nous vous remercions de votre intérêt et communiquons seulement qu'avec les personnes sélectionnées pour une entrevue.*



# THE EQUITY

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Vinton

DIANE BOISVERT 819-921-5296

October is always the month to make pumpkin pies and apple pies which I have for sale. So if any of you want some pies for Thanksgiving come and get them. Please give me a call first.

We also have to get ready for that white stuff. I've been busy this week putting the wood in the basement and cleaning out the garden. I still have turnips, beets, carrots and potatoes in the garden but that can wait for a few more weeks.

I would like to wish the following people a very happy birthday Beverly Stewart on Oct. 9, Kyle Wicks and Sheila Brown on Oct. 10, Mildred Desjardins on Oct. 11, Joanne Collin Hearty, Anne Sammon and Philip Pilon on Oct. 12 and to Ben Duquette on Oct. 14.

I would also like to send anniversary wishes out to Debbie and Kevin Sloan who celebrate on Oct. 10.

Oktoberfest was on this past weekend and I heard it was a very good turn out but I wasn't able to go because I had so much to do here. I was gone the whole month of

September so now I have to do all the catch up work that I should have done in September. Thank God for friends and neighbours who help out whenever I'm in need.

My daughter, Shelley and her husband Carl and my grandchildren Tao and Corben will be coming home this weekend to celebrate Thanksgiving. I can hardly wait to see the boys they're getting so big and tall. Every time I see them they've grown another couple of inches. It's amazing to watch them grow. I find that the kids are getting so much taller and their feet are getting so much longer then ever before. Sometimes we mistake a two-year-old for a four-year-old because they're so tall.

Congratulations to Karen Frost and Mario Ladouceur on the birth of their second child Jacob.

Our sympathies go out to the family of Veronique Bourque who passed away at the age of 17 on Oct.1. She was the daughter of Martin Bourque and Lucille Belair.

Shawville

LYSE LACOURSE 819-647-5932

lysc38@gmail.com

Congratulations to the Oktoberfest Ladysmith organizing committee, volunteers and participants for again making this another unqualified success.

Happy birthday to the following people celebrating this week: Allison Corrigan, Linda Rooney, Brent Sheppard, Kim Murray, Brock Plouffe, Erin Barber, Jennifer Hannaberry, Scotty McCagg, Suzanne Howard, Keri Beck, John Marykuca, Jennifer Butler, Grant Hodgins, Jeff Barber, Deborah Bretzlaff, Jaycie Hodgins, Clancey Keon, Norm Durocher, Lesley Mayhew, Lorraine Proulx, Sherri Potvin, Erika Ellison, Dustin Brunet, Cletus Newberry, Jennifer Hines, Kara Rowat, Carey Richard, Donna Stafford, Kara Rowat, Olivia Rowat, Diego Black, Dustin Brunet, Bentley Hobbs, Lindsey

Murray, Samantha Twolan, Grant Russell, Kelly Kilgour and Joy Michalek.

Happy birthday across the miles to my sister Louise Gregory and my sister-in-law Gina Gregory who both celebrate their birthdays on Oct. 10.

Couples celebrating their anniversaries this upcoming week are: Shawn and Kimberlee Arsenaault, Ricky and September Hamilton, Jim and Sharon Gilmore, John and Marguerite Carmichael, Bob and Laurel Smith, Ron and Ruth Strutt, Greg and Kristine Hayes, Jim and Diane Carmichael, Norman and Carol Beck, Roger and Jennifer Mayhew, Barry and Patty Moffatt, Matthew and Leigh Greer, Lindsay and Kim Hines and Larry and Stacy Howard.

Happy Thanksgiving to all our readers.

Waltham

HELEN PERRY 819-689-2652

This past week, Fort Coulonge was shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden, tragic passing of Véronique Bourque. She was so young and had so much life that lay ahead of her. Our heartfelt sympathy thoughts and prayers are with her parents Lucille Bélair and Martin Bourque, siblings, family and friends at this sad time.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Philippe Emile Horth of Fort Coulonge. Our heartfelt sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with his parents, Denise Morissette and Pierre Horth, his sibling, family and friends at this sad time.

Our heartfelt sympathy

thoughts and prayers are with Maggie Béchamp (nee Boivin) family and friends of Chapeau, Que. in the recent passing of her beloved husband Alphire (Anchie) Béchamp.

Paulette and Yvan Pelletier are celebrating their 32nd wedding anniversary today. May you have a wonderful day and may you be blessed with many more years of God's richest blessings.

This coming weekend is Thanksgiving. We have so much to be thankful for. On Oct. 10, Larry and I will be celebrating our 49th wedding anniversary.

I hope everyone has a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving with their family and friends.

Otter Lake Golden Age  
dart and card results

Card results for Oct. 1 were: 50/50 was won by Gerry Walsh and the door prize was won by Michel St. Aubin. Ladies first was won by Gisele Beaudin and second by Marie Pilon. Mens first went to Denis Lafleur and second to Ron Woodstock. Lunch was prepared by Marie Pilon and Rose Dagenais.

Pétanque atout results for Oct. 2 were: 50/50 was won by Velma Lafleur and the door prize went to Gisele Laprise. Ladies first was won by Gisele Laprise and second went to Jean Racine. Mens first went

to Dennis Schwartz and second to Lloyd Kluge.

Darts results for Oct. 3 were: 50/50 was won by Justin Patry and the door prize by Georges St. Pierre and Dennis Schwartz. Ladies first was a tie between Sylvie Lemay and Doreen Zimmerling. Mens first was a tie between Carl Kappes and Rick Légaré. New members are Micheal Hearty and Luc Garnier.

Happy belated birthday wishes to Louise Schwartz who celebrated Oct. 7.

Submitted by Velma Lafleur

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