

THE EQUITY



Santa stops by for breakfast

CHRIS LOWREY
LUSKVILLE Dec. 7, 2019
More than 200 people crammed the Luskville Community Centre on Saturday morning for a pancake breakfast with Santa.
While members of the Municipality of Pontiac Fire Department flipped the flapjacks, youngsters were busy getting their faces painted, making

crafts and having a quick word with jolly old St. Nick.
The event was organized by Comité 0-5 ans Pontiac.
Now in its fourth year, the event is a far cry from the first iteration when 70 people turned up, according to Comité 0-5 ans Pontiac volunteer, Camille Beaufort.

"I don't think we can fit any more people," she said.
Not only were kids making their own crafts, but they were also creating their very own Christmas tree ornaments they could hang on the branches.
While Beaufort said it's rewarding seeing the look on the faces of the children who participate, she said the event could use a few more hands on

deck from volunteers in the community.
"It's a lot of fun and a lot of work," Beaufort said.
In the end, the Santa Claus breakfast serves as a great opportunity for residents to get together during the holiday season, share some laughs and bask in the joy of youngsters gearing up for Christmas Day.
"It really is a community event," Beaufort said.

Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY
Jolly old St. Nick was in attendance at the Santa Claus Breakfast at the Luskville Community Centre on Saturday morning. The event featured the fire department flipping pancakes for those in attendance along with a plethora of activities for the youngsters. See page six for more Santa related sightings across the Pontiac.

Bouffe drive brings in more than \$10,000

CALEB NICKERSON
PONTIAC Dec. 5, 2019
A large group of volunteers took to the streets across Pontiac on Thursday morning for the annual Bouffe Pontiac food drive. Donning high-visibility jackets and waving signs, they staked out intersections in Shawville, Campbell's Bay and Allumettes Island to solicit donations for the local food bank from morning commuters.
According to a press release put out by Bouffe Director Kim Laroche, 56 volunteers put in 119 hours of work, and came from several fire departments, the Sûreté du Québec, media organizations, schools and other community groups.
In total, the drive brought in \$10,116.65 and 406.9 kg of food, a haul that Laroche called "amazing". This total is slightly up from last year's, which brought in \$8,850 and 335 kg. of food.
"These donations will allow Bouffe Pontiac to prepare approximately 160-200 Christmas baskets that will be distributed to Pontiac families in need," she wrote in the release.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY
Volunteers were out in force on Thursday morning for the annual Bouffe Pontiac food drive that brought in more than \$10,000 and over 400 kg of food items. From left: PHS students Rowan Hill, Grace Sally, Brodee Campbell and Mitchell Beland pose for a picture on the intersection of Centre and Main Streets in Shawville.

Artists Association looks back on successful year

J.D. POTIÉ
PORTAGE DU FORT Dec. 4, 2019
A group of local artists gathered at the Stone School Gallery in Portage du Fort last week, as the Pontiac Artists Association (PAA) held its annual general meeting (AGM).
ArtPontiac President Louise Guay opened the event with a word of welcome.
After a review of the minutes from last year's AGM, Guay presented the association's annual report in French and English, which she explained was a great success.
Among other things, the report highlighted the hard work the association's members had put in over the past year, their achievements and their contributions to the Pontiac's artistic identity.
Highlights included a fundraising event titled *Works on Paper Exhibition and Exchange 2019*, an exhibition called *Reclaimed* and an art presentation put on by Pontiac High School students inside the Stone School Gallery.
Guay also announced that after another successful tour last summer, the PAA has postponed next year's Pontiac Artist's Tour, after running for 30 years straight.
"It's because the participants are exhausted and there aren't any new participants or people that want to join," she said. "So, we decided that it's time to stop. It's always good to stop and rethink what you want to do."
She continued by speaking about the PAA's upcoming projects, which include an eight-artist printmaking exhibition in Shawville's streets called *Interconnexion*, as well as another exhibition from PHS students.
"I'm proud of the exhibit *Reclaimed* because there was public involvement," Guay said. "I liked working with the Pontiac High School because we like to have more younger people involved in art and, for them, it was the first time that they showed something in a gallery."
After thanking each member on the PAA's board of directors, Guay presented a special gift to two of the association's members – Treasurer Chris Seifreid and Gabrielle Dupuis – for their long tenures of taking care of the association's administrative and financial duties.
France Lamarche followed up with a report on the Pontiac School of the Arts. Valerie Bridgeman continued with an overview of the 30th annual Pontiac Artists' Studio Tour and Dale Shutt gave a summary of 2019, which marked the 12th year of exhibitions at the Stone School Gallery.



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY
Long-time PAA member Gabrielle Dupuis receives a plaque from fellow member Élane Gaudet, after winning the volunteer of the year award for her contributions as one of the association's trusted accountants.

Shawville-Clarendon firefighters feted at banquet

CALEB NICKERSON
SHAWVILLE Dec. 7, 2019
On Saturday night, members of the Shawville Clarendon Fire

Department gathered at Hurst's Restaurant in Shawville for their Christmas banquet. The evening was attended by

members of the department and their families, as well as several members of council. Following supper, the depart-

ment honoured several firefighters for their hard work over the past year. First up was the Bill Black

Memorial Firefighter of the Year award. This year's recipients were Tim O'Malley and Brad Peck.

In addition, Lieutenant Vaughan Bastien was honoured with a plaque for his 15 years of service.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Two members of the Shawville Clarendon Fire Department were honoured with the Bill Black Memorial Firefighter of the Year award on Saturday night. From left: recipient Tim O'Malley, Chief Lee Laframboise, last year's recipient Paul Emmerson and recipient Brad Peck.



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Lieutenant Vaughan Bastien (left) was honoured for his 15 years of service at the Shawville Clarendon Fire Department's Christmas banquet on Saturday night.

Lionettes host annual Christmas Cheer dinner



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall in Shawville was filled to capacity on Wednesday night for the highly anticipated Christmas Cheer dinner, put on by the Shawville Lionettes. In addition to the traditional Christmas fare of turkey and fixings, the evening featured live music and a visit from Santa.

CALEB NICKERSON
SHAWVILLE Dec. 4, 2019
St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall in Shawville was packed with more than 100 people on Wednesday night for the annual Lionettes Christmas Cheer dinner.

The evening was a way to spread some holiday joy with people that might not have people to celebrate Christmas with, explained Lionettes Charter

member Jane Hayes. "The whole idea is that people that don't have a lot of family, they were single, widowed or ... just alone in life and didn't have that many people around at Christmas, we thought it would be nice to cheer them up, so hence the Christmas Cheer dinner," she said. Hayes said that the event was maxed out at the hall's capacity of 125, and there is a waiting

list for next year. She added that in addition to all the turkey and sides, they always have live music, as well as a visit from Santa to cap off the evening. The event started a few years after the Lionettes were chartered in 1972, and has become a holiday staple in the region. "It has grown over the years," she said. "It's a well received evening and they look forward to it."

Campbell's Bay brewery celebrates first anniversary

CALEB NICKERSON
CAMPBELL'S BAY Dec. 8, 2019

On Sunday afternoon, the restaurant at Brauwerk Hoffman brewery in Campbell's Bay celebrated their first anniversary. Over the past 12 months, their location just outside of town on Hwy. 148 has seen some considerable upgrades and changes. Owner Todd Hoffman explained that customers had been asking for an area where they could sit and enjoy one of the many traditional brews on tap, along with some food. He said they began construction on the restaurant located just across the parking lot from the brewery building in April and were ready to open by October, with indoor seating for 52 and patio space for close to 200. The interior is a classic *bierhalle*, with long wooden benches and a plain concrete interior. "We originally started exactly a year ago with just the brewery, but a lot of people that were coming to the brewery ... expressed interest that they wanted to have a consume on premise, that they could actually sit down and drink a pint of beer here," he said. Hoffman added that the

restaurant will be closed for the winter months after Dec. 21, but will be fully operational in the spring. In celebration of the first anniversary, he had samples of his newest creation, which is a step outside his focus on German beers. The new brew is called Royal Hunting Party, a delicious, copper-hued English pale ale. "The new beer, it's sort of a breakaway," he said. "We've always been doing German-style ales and lagers, but this one we decided to do a traditional English-style pale ale. We called it Royal Hunting Party, it has some historical notions to it, about in 1872 when Prince Arthur came up, he's one of Queen Victoria's sons, and he went up the Picanoc River, he did some moose hunting up there." "There's still lots of German style beers that we can make, but we wanted to bring a Pontiac theme into it," he continued, adding that over the winter he will be working on a beer that pays homage to the Francophone heritage of the Pontiac region as well. "This winter when we shut the restaurant down for a few months, we'll be doing some experimenting."



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Campbell's Bay brewery Brauwerk Hoffman celebrated their first anniversary on Sunday. Pictured, owner Todd Hoffman stands with his newest offering, an English-style pale ale named Royal Hunting Party, a nod to Prince Arthur's trek up the Picanoc River in 1872.

Lions spread the wealth



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

The Shawville Lions continued in their mission to serve the community by handing out cheques to two local initiatives on Tuesday afternoon. The Blessed Cupboard Food Bank received \$750 while the Snowsuit fund got \$500. From left: Lions 1st Vice Jerry Callaghan, Blessed Cupboard representatives Mike and Jenn Rusenstrom, Snowsuit fund representative Carole Valin, Lions President James Howard and Treasurer Kerry Sharpe.

ARTISTS: Annual meeting in Portage du Fort

Continued from page one
After thanking each member on the PAA's board of directors, Guay presented a special gift to two of the association's members – Treasurer Chris Seifreid and Gabrielle Dupuis - for their long tenures of taking care of the association's administrative and financial duties. France Lamarche followed up with a report on the Pontiac School of the Arts. Valerie Bridgeman continued with an

overview of the 30th annual Pontiac Artists' Studio Tour. Dale Shutt gave a summary of 2019, which marked the 12th year of exhibitions at the Stone School Gallery. After the report, Seifreid continued proceedings by reading the financial statements from the 2019 fiscal year – compiled by Peter Smith. Seifreid said that the association's financial health was sound. Then, Seifreid presented the PAA's budget for 2020, which he cited was possibly the largest budget the association has ever had. Thanks to grants from Emploi Québec and the Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec (CALQ), the report states that the PAA's 2019-20 budget stands \$67,785 – compared to \$42,230 in 2018-19. Guay explained that the budget will allow the PAA to pay some of its artists for their work – something they've all been working so hard for. "It's fantastic to be able to pay for when they create, when they show," she said. "This is what we aim for, for everything. But we don't have the money to do that for every-

thing. We're considered more professional than before, which is important for the association." Proceedings continued with the election of five members for the PAA's 2019-20 board of directors, which were taken by Nicole Lavigne, Linda Girard, Claire Taillefer, Guay and Genevieve Has. The meeting proceeded with a contentious question period, which involved Dale Shutt suggesting that the PAA should put together a sponsorship committee and a discussion on how the PAA uses donated funds, before Guay drew the meeting to a close. To finish the event in good fashion, the PAA presented Dupuis with the volunteer of the year award. Now in her final year with the association, the association's members wanted to thank Dupuis for her long-time contributions to the association, Guay said. "She worked in accounting for years and years and she was leaving this year," she said. "I think it's more like 13 years." Afterwards, attendees stuck around and socialized, while snacking on a tasty spread of wine and cheese.

Another break in OBS service

CALEB NICKERSON
SHAWVILLE Dec. 6-11, 2019
The obstetrics unit at the Pontiac Community Hospital had another breach in service over the weekend, the tenth such interruption since September. According to a press release put out by the Centre intégré de santé et services sociaux de l'Outaouais (CISSSO), the interruption was initially supposed to last from 4 p.m. on Friday Dec. 6 to 4 p.m. on Monday Dec. 9. On Monday, CISSSO put out another press release announcing that the interruption would be extended to 8 a.m. on Wednesday Dec. 11. There are only 5 nurses currently working in the unit, which normally has a staff of 12. CISSSO has been struggling to fill positions in obstetrics and other departments at PCH for quite some time, and was forced to bring in a team of midwives at the 11th hour in August to prevent a month-long break in services.

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Comets down Forestiers for seventh straight win



On Dec. 7, the Pontiac Senior Comets won their seventh straight game, after defeating the Maniwaki Forestiers 6-3 on the road. Pictured, both teams line up for first period face-off in the Comets' defensive zone.

J.D. POTIÉ
MANIWAKI
Dec. 7, 2019

The Pontiac Senior Comets have won their seventh straight game after knocking off the second-place Maniwaki Forestiers 6-3 in their own barn on Saturday night.

Now at 8-4-0, the Pontiac Senior Comets sit comfortably atop of the Outaouais Senior AA Hockey League (OSAAHL) standings, having won more games in their latest stretch than any other team has all season. Heading into the matchup against a strong Maniwaki squad with a high-octane offense, the boys from Coulonge knew that they had to put up a fast and strong performance on both sides of the puck to bring their winning streak to eight games.

In the first period, the Comets started off well and were rewarded for it in the early stages, as Justin Charbonneau potted his league-leading 12th tally of the season just under three minutes in, assisted by

captain Darcy Findlay.

A couple of minutes later, blue-liner Maxime Belley made it 2-0 Comets, with his third goal of the season on the powerplay, fed by Stephen Blunden.

The Comets looked to head into the dressing room up two after 20 minutes of play, until Maniwaki got one back with two minutes left in the frame to cut the deficit to one.

Less than two minutes into the second period, Pontiac's Mitchell Gibson notched his third of the year on a solo-snipe, making it 3-1.

Shortly before the mid-way portion of the frame, the Forestiers cut the Comets' lead in half with a goal on the powerplay.

However, with under five minutes left in the period, Matthew Warren made it 4-2 with his 10th goal of the season, assisted by Gibson and newcomer Connor Romain.

Heading into the third period with a two-goal lead, the Comets knew that they couldn't

get too comfortable and had to keep applying pressure on both sides of the puck if they wanted to come home with their seventh straight win.

But just over three minutes into the frame, Maniwaki got one back on the powerplay to make things interesting.

The Forestiers kept the Comets on their heels with a dominant third period performance, seeing them outshoot their opponent 22 to 11. However, goaltender Danick Boisvert held down the fort, making a number of game saving stops.

With under three minutes left in the game, Gibson brought the Comets' lead to 5-3 with his second goal of the night, assisted by Romain and Ryan Peck.

In the dying seconds, Findlay made it 6-3 with an empty-netter, set up by Blunden, giving the Comets another convincing victory.

The three stars, included Boisvert who stopped 44 of 47 of the Forestiers shots, as well

as Gibson who took home third star honours with two goals and an assist.

After the game, Comets' head coach Jean-Francois Lavergne said his team was feeling very confident and joyful, in the midst of its win streak. However, he stressed that his group isn't focusing on results, rather than trusting the process and playing with good habits.

"We're playing our games one at a time," he said. "Same goes for the wins. It's one at a time. Every game we reset and every time we get to win a game, it's positive. That's our team identity."

Going into the game, having already beaten the Forestiers three times this year, Lavergne said it was important for his team to avoid complacency by coming out strong and setting the tone as far as intensity.

"We're a team with a lot of speed, so we want to skate and get our legs in the beginning of the game," he said. "Against every team, we approach it like this. For sure, Maniwaki is a good team and if we give them too much space and too many scoring chances, they'll hurt us."

Playing with a short bench of only four defenseman and nine forwards – due to injuries – Lavergne said he was very proud of his players for showing character and overcoming the tall task that stood in front of them.

"That was our biggest challenge," he said. "Some players had to play outside of their comfort zones and perform, sometimes being used in different roles than they're used to. I give my hat off to our players."

Satisfied with his team's performance over three periods, despite taking a little bit too many trips to the penalty box, Lavergne said he was impressed by his team's ability to weather the storm and close things off in the late stages of the game.

"We killed a full two-minutes five-on-three in the third," he said. "It gave us momentum and then we were able to get the fifth and sixth goals."

Moving forward, the Comets have an opportunity to extend their winning streak to eight games. However, Lavergne said the only statistic he's focused on is getting the next win.

"I know it's a cliché, but that's what it is," he said. "We're not looking at the streak. We know we're playing Tremblant who have gotten a lot better. We're preparing for that. We're putting the emphasis on playing the right way from one game to the next."

For their next game, the Comets will hit the road to take on the last-place Mont-Tremblant Diablos (3-7-1) on Dec. 14.

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Festival of Lights at the Chutes Coulonge



On Dec. 7, the Chutes de Coulonge Park in Mansfield et Pontefract was a colourful, winter wonderland, as the park kicked off its annual festival of lights. Throughout the park, Christmas lights attached to archways in the forest, making the scene even more beautiful to the eye.

J.D. POTIÉ
MANSFIELD ET PONTFRACT
Dec. 7, 2019

On Saturday, hundreds gathered at the Chutes Coulonge Park in Mansfield et Pontefract, to soak in some Christmas spirit during the first part of the park's annual Festival of Lights.

According to the park's Director General Cyndy Phillips, the event, which features the park illuminated with thousands of colourful Christmas lights, is one of its proudest traditions.

She explained that the festival is an opportunity for locals to witness the park's natural beauty and experience everything it has to offer in a different kind of light.

"By allowing people to visit the site in the winter, they can see the lights all throughout the park and all the waterfalls and have a hot chocolate by the bonfire," she said.

With colourful lights illuminating the park's pathways and many structures, attendees enjoyed themselves strolling through the park, catching a few of the marvelous light displays

on hand.

Folks also had the chance to see the park's waterfall in its most glowing fashion, as its water emanated in a vibrant, multi-colour scheme like a rainbow.

By the bonfire, a group of attendees listened closely, as local historian Ronald Henri regaled them with stories about driving large logs down the Coulonge River.

Featuring a different theme every week, next Saturday's event will feature live music by the bonfire.

The following week, the park will host a VIP visitor from the North Pole. During its fourth and final edition of the year on Dec. 28, Brauwerk Hoffman will invite the community to try out its latest samples of craft beer and pretzels, all while enjoying the beautiful views at the Chutes.

As one of the park's most popular activities of the year, especially during the winter, the festival of lights is an important fundraiser for the park, which uses the event's proceeds to pay maintenance costs, Phillips said. "It's a chance for us to wel-

come visitors in a season where we don't have other activities going on," she said.

For Phillips, the event brings a lot of joy to the community because it gives people another reason to share the holiday cheer with their friends and family, while getting a view of a truly majestic display of Christmas decorating.

"It gives people a chance to get out during the holiday season, see some festive lights, enjoy the nature around us, see the waterfalls in a different way than they see them in the summer," she said.

With favourable temperatures, a festive atmosphere and lots of families enjoying themselves at the park, Phillips was quite happy with the community's response to the festival so far.

"We've had a really great turnout," she said. "We've lucked out with the weather. We even got a little bit of snow on the ground but not too much to hamper our entire operations. It's great and we're hoping that the whole month is a beautiful month for us."

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Editorial Off the mark

In the first throne speech following the federal election, the government laid out their plans for the upcoming parliamentary session, putting a focus on the environment, tax cuts for parents and disappointingly, a ban on “military-style” firearms.

The call for a ban, delivered Thursday by Governor General Julie Payette, came the day before the 30th anniversary of the École Polytechnique massacre, a vicious shooting spree that claimed the lives of 14 young women. The victims and their family members have been some of the most vocal advocates for stricter gun laws in Canada, and have called on the current government to crack down on the vague collection of firearms they call “assault weapons.”

While it's laudable to try and create positive change in the wake of such a horrific tragedy, the measures that the current government is proposing are an inefficient use of resources and will do very little to curb gun violence. Public Safety Minister Bill Blair is in the process of creating a list of models that will become prohibited, and during the election campaign, he estimated that there are 250,000 such firearms in the country with an average value of around \$1,500. The government buyback program to reimburse current owners of these weapons is estimated to cost between \$400-600 million.

This poorly thought out policy is akin to banning “sports cars” to try and cut down on motor vehicle accidents. It's a proposal that will appear effective to people unfamiliar with firearms, while doing little to address gun violence or its root causes.

Canada is not like the United States. This country isn't awash with mass shootings brought about by decades of militant arms industry lobbying and an idiotic interpretation of the constitution. Owning a firearm in Canada isn't a right; it's a privilege that comes with many restrictions.

Semi-automatic rifle magazines in Canada are already capped at five rounds (with some exceptions), and semi-automatic shotguns have similar limitations. Classifying guns based on their looks rather than their capabilities is a ridiculous strategy that won't bring about any significant change.

Many of these so-called “military-style” rifles that are set to be banned are already classified as restricted weapons, meaning that their owners have to jump through many more hoops and face more scrutiny than the owners of hunting rifles. They are essentially status symbols for collectors and gun nuts, as they can only be used legally on a target range. They aren't an existential threat to our society in th e same way that gear heads with fast cars aren't an existential threat to our highways.

The van attack in Toronto proves that deranged, murderous individuals don't need military-grade weapons or training to kill large amounts of people. Our public safety dollars would be better spent cracking down on firearms illegally imported from the US and increasing funding for robust, proactive social and mental health care services. As the saying goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

This ban is ineffectual posturing that will cost an exorbitant amount of money and should be reconsidered.

Caleb Nickerson

The Parents’ Voice

By Shelley Heaphy

Making time for Saving money at Christmas

There's nothing better to break your budget than Christmas. The parties, events, presents and on and on, the list never ends. There are some great tips I've found online and through talking to others that are designed to help us handle the holidays on a budget – that doesn't get stretched.

1. Handmade gifts — These are the best. Pinterest or Google handmade gift ideas for grandparents, teachers, neighbours and siblings. Things homemade come straight from the heart and are often so much more valuable and cherished than something you pick up in a store. Often the materials you need are simple arts and crafts materials you might already have. There are so many ideas out there for all levels of artistry. Just take a look I'm sure you can find something.

You can also make homemade wrapping paper to save money – plus it can be really cute. Some ways to be creative with this task is to re-use newspaper or brown paper that you can stamp and decorate before using it to wrap presents.

2. Make any kind of meals you host a potluck. Most people are happy to contribute when they're invited to a meal, so when they ask what they can bring sign them up with something you actually need. This not only helps cut down on expenses but also helps reduce the work load, win-win.

3. Stock up on supplies when they're on sale. This goes for food, baking ingredients (which can get very pricey), wrapping supplies, presents, chocolate and all the rest. Check the flyers, watch for last minute sales and buy when it's on sale.

4. Check yard sale sites and used websites for gifts that you need. There's no law or rule that says there needs to be a tag on something to call it a present. Try to find your child's big gift second hand to save.

5. Participate in gift exchanges instead of buying for everybody, instead of multiple gifts you could only have to buy one. For those that you feel sad about not gifting something to, make them a card or baked goods.

6. Gifts of service – I love this idea so much. You can create a coupon type booklet with all the services you will provide them with over the year. The possibilities are endless. Here are some ideas: free delivered meals, baked goods, shoveling yards, house cleaning, lawn raking or grass cutting, babysitting services etc. The sky is the limit and one of the best parts is that you don't have to fork out any cash up front for these gifts, yet the person still knows you are thinking of them.

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE



Dave Moore, THE EQUITY

Finally up

Herd psychology

by Chris Judd

Every president of the Quebec Farmers Association is offered the opportunity to speak to a class at McGill. Many years ago, I was honoured to speak to an agricultural class there. They were prepared for a lecture on animal production, new cropping methods, marketing, soil management, chemistry used on the farm or some other subject closely related to agriculture. When I stepped up in front of the class, (a position that I had never been in before), they were a bit surprised when I announced that I would be talking about the most important subject they will take in university.

They were even more surprised when I explained that psychology is the most important subject. Then I started to list a few opportunities they would have to use it on the farm or other places too.

The first chance to use psychology is at a very young age when in a family situation with mom, dad or other family members. When playing sports it takes more than one super star to win the cup. The entire team must work together. An arrogant coach may make you do things right but the team will play much harder for a coach who makes the team feel like each member is special, necessary and a friend.

In a farm situation, everyone who works on the farm, sells feed, seed, fertilizer, animals, equipment, buys what the farm produces and everyone else you meet will have to be greeted and dealt with in a manner that makes them want to meet or deal with you again. You will quickly learn that life will be a lot more fun if you deal with the neighbours, your partners, your family and especially, your spouse in a very amicable way.



Outstanding in his field

It was on the farm with my grandfather, bringing the cows in from pasture to be milked that I first noticed that there was always the same cow who led the herd in single file down the cow path to the barn. I soon noticed that it was not the biggest, toughest bully but an animal that knew when milking time was and when to lead. It was also a cow that knew that the first cow to walk past the old apple tree got the freshest, juiciest windfalls. This was usually a very friendly cow, that would even let a farm boy of five or six pet her. This would be my first lesson in how a group chose a leader.

It was many years later, that I observed that the first few cows to walk into the milking parlour every day were the cows with the largest milk production records. Because they were the first cows to get milked they were also the first cows to return to the feed bunk and have a pick of the best feed. Because they were the first to eat their fill at the bunk, they were also the first to get to rest in their stalls. Cows produce many more times the milk when resting than when standing or walking. Again these leaders were not the biggest, toughest bullies in the herd, just the smartest.

On dairy farms, the milk production must be almost the same every day of the year. Milk cows produce the most milk the months just after having their calf. This is normal in nature. Babies need milk when young but as they get older, they need less milk and their diet gradually switches to more solid food. That's why dairy farmers try to have different cows calving all year long. Cows at different stages in milk production require different rations that sup-

ply different needs. As cows enter different stages in production they are moved to pens where the ration fed in that pen more closely matches their requirements. This also helps keep cows from getting too fat or too thin.

When a different animal is moved into a new pen sometimes she is bullied by a tougher boss cow. When a cow delivers her first calf she is usually smaller than the older cows and hence often the younger cows are kept in a separate pen where they are all the same size.

If a cow is bullied by more aggressive cows she is usually moved into a pen with smaller less aggressive animals. If an animal becomes a bully cow, she is moved to a pen of bigger more aggressive animals.

Many successful dairy farms today employ ladies to work on the farm, or the farm may be managed or owned by ladies. Ladies seem to have more compassion and understanding of the feeling and needs of domestic animals. Animals that are raised in a less aggressive environment grow up to be more gentle and easier to work with.

When women are present on farms, animals are selected and culled because of their attitude. An animal that consistently shows aggression is quickly culled from the herd and usually end up as Big Macs. These aggressive animals are seldom sold to another dairy farmer because they could injure or kill someone there too. The gene for aggression will be passed on to the offspring and hence if she lives more aggressive animals can be produced.

Education in psychology is never mastered, it goes in the herd forever!

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

This group was also instrumental in negotiations for the rebate on school taxes for farmers. Chris Judd who has been the president of organization in this district brought all this to the attention of about twenty five farmers assembled at the annual meeting of the association on Thursday evening in the Pontiac High School auditorium.

Beginners played too: The Pontiac High School's two band groups demonstrated great progress in their talents and the big band concert held last week in the McDowell Elementary School auditorium. Also on the program was a fresh young group of singers led by Mr. Force, also of the high school, which was absolutely delightful in harmony and round singing accompanied by three guitars. The group that stole the show was the beginners instrumental group which meets Wednesdays: Allan Christie, Bonnie Sue Cruickshank, Georgie Stones, Andrew Dickson, Charles Main, John Rowat, Doug Hodgins, John Major, Bill Rowat

Dec. 18, 1919

100 Years Ago

Local News: As Christmas falls on our regular day of publication, next week THE EQUITY is issued a day earlier than usual. We take this opportunity to extend to all our readers and patrons the compliments of the Season.

A report has reached town on Thursday that the Coulonge Chute, a fine water power about four miles distant from Fort Coulonge, has been acquired by an American concern with a view to its utilization for a pulp or paper mill industry in the near future.

The consolidation of schools, it was urged would make it possible to secure better teachers, schools, equipment and a more complete grading of pupils and the community.

St. Paul's Guild sale of needlework and food held on Saturday was quite a success and everything offered for sale was disposed of. The ladies served tea in connection with the sale and are most thankful to the public for the liberal patronage received.

The speech from the throne at the opening of the Quebec Legislature on Thursday foreshadows several important projects which the government has in contemplation. The chief of these is the construction of a railway through the Temiscaming district which is rich in agricultural possibilities and no doubt would become an important section of the province if its transportation facilities were improved.

Further large expenditures are planned for the development of agriculture and the improvement of highways.

CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE

Letter

Incinerator questions

Dear Editor,

I'm glad that a dialogue has begun on this issue. It's all too common, that such discussions are left to the last minute, just as some big project is already planned, initialized and down payments have been made. Then the governing bodies hold public consultations to present foregone conclusions.

I can see potential benefits from incinerating residual waste rather than trucking it to a landfill site. But I also see potential problems and those were not addressed by Warden Toller's letter.

1. How would the garbage be brought up to demolition temperatures? You've heard the term 'dumpester fire'? Garbage burning at low temperatures creates terrible pollution. Apparently, Covanta's operation employs high temperatures but how is that achieved? Now, I'm not plotting to start up my own waste-management plant, so I'm not trying to steal secret technologies but in order to endorse this plan, I have to know that there is a way to achieve the hyper-hot temperatures required to make incineration safe. There simply has to be an investment of energy and not just a little bit.

2. What will such a plant require in terms of steadily delivered quantities of appropriate waste material? Previous plans for incineration fell flat in part, by the inability to deliver the feedstock at just the right time. Stockpiling garbage is not good but some such incinerators require a certain amount and Pontiac may not produce the right balance at the right time. So, other jurisdictions will be sending their garbage here - do we have room for that? Do we want a garbage highway leading to Pontiac?

3. How will the excess energy be utilized? There was mention of steam heating for so many homes. Steam is not easily transportable, so where in Pontiac will you find enough houses close enough to the plant to utilize the heat?

4. Generating electricity with the excess heat is a great idea — but is Hydro Québec down with that idea? In the past, HQ has been intractable in its opposition to alternative electrical sources and Ontario is de-funding renewable electrical projects already in place and producing, daydreaming instead of small nuclear plants. As if we need more nuclear waste.

5. How many jobs? If there are any long term, decent paying jobs for people who actually live in the Valley, that's a good thing. But please, please, do not promise jobs that do not and will not exist. We're still smarting from the LiveWell scam with its 500, no make that 300, no, make that 20, no make that 0 jobs.

If good answers to these questions are found, I would be in favour of, and will support the project with whatever persuasive leverage I have. The present system of trucking and dumping cannot stand for long and incineration could be far less-worse.

Finally, no system of waste management will work properly, if people just toss trash instead of sending it through proper channels. I still find cups, cans, plastic trash and bags of dog poop along the streets and the PPJ trail. That's just poor citizenship, people.

Robert Wills
Shawville and Thorne, Que.

Spiritual Growth

By Esther Colpitts

Chistmas is coming

It's that time of year. I can tell. Something is changing ... yes the weather, but that's not what I mean. Strangers start to talk to you in the shops. It happened this past week. A woman, whom I had never met before, smiled at me and said, “Christmas is expensive.” I smiled back. She's right. But I wasn't thinking about the presents we look for in the store. Rather my mind went back to the manger in Bethlehem when God broke into history some 2,000 years ago.

Jesus chose to leave His glory behind. He took on humanity, and as a baby was placed in a humble manger. He grew, lived about 33 years among us, then after going about healing and forgiving, He gave His life to redeem us. It was expensive alright. It cost Him everything.

I don't know how to turn all the busyness around that we experience at this time of year, but somehow, when all is still, when our head hits the pillow, letting the reason for the season change our perspective can bring real peace and joy to our world.

Local student takes home youth ambassador prize

J.D. POTIÉ
OTTAWA Nov. 24, 2019

A couple of weeks ago, a Pontiac High School (PHS) student was recognized for her efforts in the school's outdoor education program during the final event of the Ottawa Adventure Film Festival at the Mayfair Theatre in Ottawa.

After submitting an essay about her experiences in outdoor education, Grade 11 student Joelene Cormier-Laxdal won the Youth Ambassador Award, presented by paddling gear company Level 6.

Earlier this year Cormier-Laxdal learned from her English and outdoor education teacher Jordan Kent, about an opportunity to write an essay describing what being in the outdoors meant to her.

The content of her essay revolved around her experiences in the outdoors and why being outdoors is important to her, namely how it helps her escape from the world and clear her mind.

"It helps me restore my energy that I've lost throughout the day or throughout the week," she said.

To her own surprise, while she was sitting in class one day, she received an e-mail informing her that she was invited to the Ottawa Adventure Film Festival after winning the Youth Community Ambassador Award.

"I wrote that, among a bunch of other students and youth around Ottawa and I was chosen," she said.

According to Kent, Cormier-Laxdal has been an instrumental leader in PHS' outdoor education program and other extracurricular clubs ever since arriving at the school five years ago.

"She's just a good role model for the other students," he said. "She takes the time to teach others around her. She shares her passion for the outdoors. She gets other people to come out and to try it and that sort of passion and enthusiasm is contagious."

For Kent, seeing Cormier-Laxdal win the



Photo submitted

On Nov. 24, Pontiac High School (PHS) grade 11 student, Joelene Cormier-Laxdal, won the Youth Community Ambassador Award during the Ottawa Adventure Film Festival at the Mayfair Theatre. Pictured, Cormier-Laxdal accepts her award from Level 6 owner Stig Larsson.

award came as a surprise that brought a great sense of joy.

"It was quite an honour to see her receive that award," he said.

During the festival's award show, Level 6 owner Stig Larsson presented her with a triangular wooden trophy made of recycled skateboards, an ambassador account with the company as well as a scholarship.

"I can get a lot of their clothes and stuff," she said.

While she wasn't too familiar with the company before – having only seen some of their stuff here and there – Cormier-Laxdal looks forward to taking advantage of great deals on high-quality canoeing gear going forward.

"Now that I have that, I can get gear and do more canoeing and feel like I have the proper equipment

for it," she said.

For Cormier-Laxdal, winning the award proved to her that being passionate about the outdoors can have a positive impact on other people whether its inspiring them to do the same as her or by taking on different kinds of activities.

"Just by being a person that loves the outdoors, you can help other youth realize that they can start doing more things and that they can be recognized for doing outdoor activities as well," she said.

Coming from a small town, the 17-year-old admitted that winning the award, among a lot of candidates from all over the national capital region, felt extra special.

"It really meant a lot because I never thought I'd win an award like that," she said. "For the outdoors, in front of like a whole Ottawa Adventure Film Festival's community ... for me to win an award by them was really amazing."

Cormier-Laxdal said she has been an avid enthusiast of the outdoors ever since being introduced to PHS' canoe club program, back in grade seven.

"Ever since then, I've been doing more outdoor stuff," she said.

She explained that PHS' outdoor education program has been very beneficial for her, as it provides her with all sorts of opportunities to experience the outdoors while fostering connections with great people.

"I was able to learn how to canoe," she said. "That was definitely something that was most enjoyable. But it's also the atmosphere of people that are with you. When you're all together doing stuff, like canoeing or going hiking, you kind of have a community of people that you all respect."

While she plans on studying mechanics once finished high school, Cormier-Laxdal hopes to continue experiencing the outdoors for years to come.

"I do wish to keep the outdoors a huge part of my life, in the future," she said.

Trees and Champagne Yoga opens in Otter Lake



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On Dec. 7, Ottawa-native yoga instructor Nathalie Gagnon opened her own studio in Otter Lake called Trees and Champagne where she will specialize in teaching Yin Yoga and Aromatherapy. Pictured, Gagnon sits inside the studio in front of a large mural painted by an artist named Karen Zarcos.

J.D. POTIÉ
OTTER LAKE Dec. 7, 2019

For those looking for a peaceful place to open up their third eye, Otter Lake has the perfect destination for you.

Opened on Dec. 7, Trees and Champagne Yoga – located on Rte. 301 in Otter Lake – hopes to be a haven for yogis from across the region to come out and experience the healing nature of Yin Yoga and the countless benefits the practice offers.

Owner Nathalie Gagnon explained that the studio specializes in Yin Yoga - a form of yoga that requires slower movement for poses that are held for longer periods of time (three to five minutes) - and aromatherapy.

"It's a very calm, relaxing yoga for all levels," she said. "It's not as much about how flexible you are, as much as how present you can be."

Located inside the basement of her picturesque lakeside residence, she said that the studio is an extension of her brand called Trees and Champagne.

"I guess it's become my baby," she said.

When she purchased her home, back in August, Gagnon felt like the place – notably its architecture – was the ideal setting for a yoga studio. She explained that the many triangular patterns in the home's design make it symbolic to elements she enjoys about her practice.

"One of the symbols that I love is the triangle," she said. "The three points - three is a very special number in yoga – Om is a three, three stands for mind, body, breath; past, present, future. It's a very powerful number."

"All through the home, there are many, many triangles," she added. "I feel like this home was designed for me."

Allowing people to do their practice on comfortable mats, with a wonderful view of the natural beauty in the surrounding area - while natural light beams through the window - Gagnon feels like her studio is pretty much the perfect place for someone to relax one's mind, body and soul.

"There's a tranquility, having a studio on the lake and being around trees," she said. "There's something really special, when you spend time close to trees... it makes us more mindful and calmer."

On one of the walls, the studio dons a gigantic mural, which depicts the four seasons, along with a number of aspects of yoga and life that give Gagnon a great sense of joy and meaning.

She explained that she originally planned on having an artist named Karen Zarcos install a wallpaper on the wall. However, the dimensions didn't fit. So instead, Zarcos offered to paint the wall.

"I wanted to have something

really special," she said. "The tree stands for the root and solid foundation. Champagne refers to celebrating everyday magic. It's not about partying. It's really about celebrating each moment as they come."

For the time being, Gagnon will be hosting lessons on Sundays at 10 a.m., noting that her class is already highly in demand.

Splitting time between Otter Lake and Ottawa, Gagnon also teaches yoga in the city on Mondays at Manor Park at 4:30 p.m. and on Friday's at DOWNDOG Studio at 9:30 a.m.

Those interested can follow Gagnon on her Facebook page called Trees and Champagne Yoga or by going to her website https://treesandchampagne.com/.

After a long session of Yin Yoga, students will be able to relax in a soothing sauna made of authentic cedar wood, just outside on the property.

In the summer, she intends on putting on more classes and workshops as well.

"They come into the space and it's already set up," she said. "It's just about coming in, allowing them to feel supported. That's one of my main things."

For Gagnon, opening a yoga studio in the Pontiac will bring something that people in the region could benefit from.

"I think it's going to give people in the Pontiac access to yoga,"

THE WAY WE WERE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

A.J. McDonald, Barrister of Campbell's Bay, will be at Shawville every Saturday afternoon and may be found at the Pontiac House.

Home for the holidays: Lloyd Thomson from Sask., Miss Beth Armstrong, Montreal; Miss Marguerite Barnett, Macdonald College; Lionel Thomson, Sask.; Miss Hilda Thomson, Ottawa; Miss Maye Horner, Macdonald College.

A gang of men engaged in constructing a water tank at the C.N.R. Station near Portage-du-Fort went into the village on Friday night and after imbibing a quantity of bug-juice which they got hold of somewhere, started to mix things up in a way that so alarmed citizens that they sent to Shawville in the middle of the night for the aid of constables. It is said the marauders entered Coyne's store and proceeded to smash up things generally when they could not get what they were looking for.

Dec. 20, 1894
125 Years Ago

Local News: A conference of the late Sir John Thompson's colleagues was held on Thursday last at which it was decided that in view of the comparatively poor circumstances in which Lady Thompson and family have been left by the awfully sudden death of Sir John, the people of Canada be asked to contribute to a national subscription for their support.

About 10 o'clock on Wednesday night Hon. Mackenzie Bowell was summoned by

His Excellency the Governor General to meet him in his office in the Eastern Block of the parliament buildings which he at once proceeded and remained in consultation with His Excellency till 11.

The result was that His Excellency informed him, after carefully considering all the aspects of the situation, he had decided to ask Mr. Bowell if he was prepared to undertake and assume the responsibility of the formation of a new cabinet.

Hon. Mr. Bowell replied in effect that while fully realizing the difficulties and responsibility of assuming so important a duty, he could not, appreciating the mark of confidence reposed in him by his request, decline the responsibility of acceding to it and he would at the first possible opportunity consult with his colleagues.

Court Shawville I.O.F. no. 236 meets every second and fourth Wednesday of each month in Hobb's hall.

Mr. W.G. Leroy is still confined to his room from the injuries he received a short time ago in falling from a ladder. His duties as secretary at the county council last Wednesday were discharged by J.A. Cowan of this paper.

Ad: Listen boys. H. Hobbs has just received a large consignment of single and double driving harness in nickel and rubber finish, also cork-faced collars from the well known firm of E.N. Heney and Co. They are dandies. When in town, step in and have a look.

Ad: Do you wish to spend a merry Christmas? If so, drop into my shaving parlour and get a good clean shave and have your hair dressed in the latest style. Silas Young.

The Parents' Voice

Making time for saving money at Christmas

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

7. This may sound simple but, make a list when you're going shopping. So often we get into the stores at Christmas time and see all kinds of nice, pretty things that we don't actually need. Make a list and stick to it.

8. Focus on the celebration instead of the gifts. Have the conversation with people around you that this year, instead of gifts, you'd like to just spend time together. Plan a date to go sliding, have a meal, watch a movie or just be together without swapping gifts.

9. Take advantage of early sales throughout the year but stay organized. Don't lose those early purchased presents and have to rebuy them. If you're organized it can save money not having to buy everything at the same time.

10. The four present rule can help you keep the number of presents you buy at bay. This rule includes: something you wear, something you need, something you want and something to read.

11. This Christmas try making memories instead of buying presents. There are tons of free or really inexpensive things you can do during and leading up to the holidays to create new memories or traditions.

Here are a few ideas: driving around to look at all the Christmas lights in town (you can print off scavenger hunts), singing Christmas carols, making crafts to decorate the house with, baking, having hot chocolate and watching a great Christmas movie, participating in the free or inexpensive activities organized in your town.

Next week, I will write about my favourite Christmas activity – Christmas baking with the kiddos. Hope these tips help take some pressure off the budget for this Christmas season.

**Check us out on Facebook for our upcoming session of Creative Movement for Caregivers and kids.*

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Expérience

PONTIAC

GUIDE TOURISTIQUE DU PONTIAC
SUMMER 2019
PONTIAC TRAVEL GUIDE

Christmas parades cruise through Pontiac

J.D. POTIÉ,
CHRIS LOWREY
PONTIAC Dec. 7, 2019
Mansfield et Pontefract/
Fort Coulonge

On Saturday evening, hundreds of Pontiac residents set to the streets of Mansfield et Pontefract and Fort Coulonge to celebrate the holiday cheer during the annual Santa Claus Parade.

According to one of the event's organizers Patrick Bertrand, the event is a collaboration by the volunteer firefighters of both villages' departments and an annual tradition that dates back to as early as the late 1980s.

He explained that the event used to take place during the day-time, before organizers slotted it to the evening, 15 years ago.

Scheduled for 5 p.m., participants gathered at the Mansfield et Pontefract town hall parking lot to prepare for the event. Once everyone was registered and ready to go, a large fire truck led the participants down rue Dagenais, in front of Parc Amyotte.

The participants, included around a half-dozen excessively decorated semi-trucks, a number of flashy pickup trucks pulling trailers with people in them and even a lineup of equestrians trotting the streets on horses from RS Ranch. To cap it all off, Santa Claus rolled into town on his red sleigh.

The parade kept rolling from the Amyotte project, down rue Lorrain before going onto Hwy. 148 where hundreds of spectators anxiously awaited their arrival.

As the float made its way onto the White Bridge, attendees cheered in excitement, as the float's participants proudly waved at the crowds while honking their horns and flashing their lights.

During the parade, a number of good Samaritans, including Mayor Gilles Dionne, handed out candy to children in attendance.

The float continued towards the Metro, before heading to rue Principale, then on rue Baume en route for the Centre de loisirs des Draveurs.

"In the first few years, the circuit changed a number of times," he said. "We kept what was the safest for the people and we wanted to reach as many people as possible because they're all spread out onto the streets."

Inside the arena, a large number of children rushed towards the big man in red for a meet and greet, along with pictures.

To finish off the evening in style, those who participated in the parade were invited to the Mansfield et Pontefract fire department to listen to Christmas jingles, socialize with friends and snack on some cheesy pizza.

As one of the most well-participated events' in recent memory, Bertrand noted that this year's parade included over 100 participants in around 30 different floats.

While the event is always quite popular, Bertrand said he noticed that local residents were even more appreciative for this year's event.

After record breaking floods hit the region, last spring, Bertrand believes that the high level of enthusiasm from locals came as a sense of gratitude for what the town still has to offer, just months after going through a rough period.

"A smile is worth a thousand words," he said. "We saw people raise lanterns when we passed by them ... some did fires on the side of the road, it brought out families from their homes to get fresh air outside. Everyone was happy. There was music, people were dancing."

Seeing hundreds of people watching on both sides of the streets and hundreds more participating in the floats themselves, Bertrand said he was thrilled with the community's support and participation in the event from one year to the next.

"It was cold and people were still outside," he said. "I really surprised me. I feel like the community appreciates it. If we didn't do it, I don't think we'd be criticized. But it's something that's important for the community when it comes to turning the page on another year in the books."

Campbell's Bay

With cars lined up and down Front Street in Campbell's Bay on Saturday afternoon, hundreds of local residents crowded almost every inch of sidewalk as the annual Christmas parade



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On Dec. 7, a number of municipalities in the region held their annual Santa Claus parades, drawing hundreds of residents to come out and enjoy the occasion. Pictured, Santa Claus finally makes his way into town on his sleigh during the parade in Fort Coulonge.

rolled its way through town.

The parade was organized by the municipality and has been a holiday staple in the town for a number of decades, according to one of the organizers Tim Ferrigan.

"It's something that's always been around and we're certainly going to keep it going," he said. "The councillors all get involved and we take on some tasks to get it organized," he added. "We reach out to local organizations and they all help us out and, as usual in Campbell's Bay, the people come out and support it."

Scheduled for 1 p.m., families started crowding the sidewalks of rue Principale around 15 minutes ahead of time, to get the best possible view of the show.

To keep everyone warmed up for the event, a couple of volunteers doled out cups of hot chocolate to the attendees standing in the cold.

Lions Club Treasurer Anne Ireland sold tickets for a 50/50 draw, asking participants to guess the number of lights on the town's large Christmas tree in front of the Ringrose house.

With half of the funds going to the lucky winner, the other half will be dedicated to Bouffe Pontiac. The winner will be announced on Dec. 20, Ireland said.

After a long period of wait, folks got what they came for. As a long file of over 20 different floats, from festive firetrucks, to well-decorated side-by-sides and flag-waving pedestrians, made its way down Front Street, participants honked their horns and flashed their lights while waving at the large crowd of spectators.

Several members of the Canadian Armed Forces handed out candy canes to the kids in attendance.

Ferrigan explained that, by being one of the few daytime parades in the Pontiac, the event brings out people from all over region from one year to the next.

"It seems to bring people from all their local towns because they get an opportunity to see Santa in the afternoon," he said.

Judging by the high turnout of spectators and the large number of floats at this year's event, Ferrigan estimated that it was likely the town's most popular parade in recent memory.

"To me, it's the biggest turnout in a long time," he said. "This is personally one of the biggest ones for sure."

As a Campbell's Bay-native and now a member of municipal council, Ferrigan said he takes a lot of pride in putting on event's like the parade for his fellow residents.

He believes that getting everyone together to celebrate an occasion as a community, whether it's the holidays or a summer event, is the best way of keeping a small town going strong.

"It's a small town but we're strong on community spirit," he said. "I think we set the tone in the Pontiac, as far as community spirit and volunteering. Campbell's Bay, we're a proud town as far as coming together and making things happen."

After the parade, a large portion of folks packed the Campbell's Bay RA where several volunteers from the Lions Club served up snacks and hot beverages for the attendees.

Plus, kids got an up close and personal opportunity to let the big man in red know what they had on this year's wish-list, while receiving a special gift.

Bryson

Last Friday, a crowd of around 50 people gathered in

front of the war memorial in Bryson to spread the holiday spirit during for town's annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony and Christmas Parade.

A collaboration of the municipality and the local fire brigade, the event's main organizer Joanne Ralston explained that local businesses, organizations and residents played a big role in the event as well.

Before lighting the tree, Mayor Alain Gagnon stood on the memorial and gave a word of welcome, thanking everyone for attending and stating that this year's event was truly about bringing the community together.

According to the local Fire Department's former Chief and current First Captain Gerald Stewart, the event has been taking place in the town for 10 years and was organized as an effort to replicate ceremonies that other municipalities had going on in their towns.

"Shawville had theirs going," he said. "I thought, 'We should try that and see how it's going to go.' So far, it's gone pretty good."

After finally lighting up the large pine tree, the crowd rallied together to sing "O Christmas Tree" in unison.

Then, it was time for the parade, which many of the attendees had all been waiting for.

With a dozen or so flashy floats parked at the Forest Inn, the crowd migrated closer to Bryson's downtown area to watch them make their way down rue Principale for the town's annual Christmas parade.

When it was all wrapped up, attendees convened at the town's Lions Hall for hot chocolate, snacks and draws for a few special gifts on behalf of the fire brigade.

Not to mention, kids got the opportunity to meet the one and only Santa Claus.

For Ralston, the event is of great benefit to the town because of how it brings locals together

"More community spirit for the people, especially downtown," she said. "It's all ages, from kids and there are a lot of senior citizens participating tonight... everybody's involved."

Quyon

The sidewalks along Rue Clarendon in Quyon were filled with Christmas revellers as hundreds braved the cold for the annual Santa Claus Parade.

The procession started at Onslow Elementary and headed



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On Dec. 7, the streets of Campbell's Bay were bursting with holiday cheer, as hundreds of residents took over the sidewalks on Front Street to take in the town's annual Christmas Parade. Pontiac Senior Comets mascot Slash makes an appearance, to the delight of kids and hockey fans at the parade.

Eastward until it wrapped up near the ferry.

Those who braved the frigid temperatures were able to keep warm as they scrambled to get their hands on some of the free candy being tossed out by folks rolling by on the floats.

Several local businesses and community organizations entered floats in the parade.



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY

Crowds lined Rue Clarendon in Quyon on Saturday as Santa himself paid a visit to the village. Along with St. Nick, several local businesses and community organizations entered floats in the parade.



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On Dec. 6, the municipality of Bryson held its annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony as well as it's parade, drawing plenty of people to participate. Pictured, a crowd of attendees stand in front of the town's Christmas tree after igniting it.

L'EntourElle raise awareness in Shawville



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

Volunteers from L'EntourElle women's shelter took to the streets on Wednesday to hand out white ribbons as part 12 days of action against domestic violence. From left: Daniel St Cyr, Vanessa Chabot, Ashley Nadeau and Jean-François Taillon.

CALEB NICKERSON

PONTIAC Dec. 4, 2019

On Wednesday, volunteers from L'EntourElle women's shelter took to the streets to raise awareness about the blight of domestic violence. Volunteers posted up on intersections in Shawville, Mansfield and Allumettes Island over the course of the day to hand out

white ribbons, as part of a 12 days of action against domestic violence campaign which ran from Nov. 25 to Dec. 6.

Participant Ashley Nadeau explained that L'EntourElle provides emergency shelter for approximately 50 women and 30-45 children affected each year.

They also do follow up

checks and provide a host of other services to battered women.

She said that the campaign wasn't a fundraiser, rather a way of raising awareness through the spread of the white ribbons.

"Donations are always welcome, but that's not why we're here," she said.

**MUNICIPALITÉ
OTTER LAKE
MUNICIPALITY**

AVIS PUBLIC
**AVIS PUBLIC EST PAR LES PRÉSENTES DONNÉ
PAR LA SOUSSIGNÉE, QUE:**
Il y aura une séance extra-ordinaire du conseil municipal au cours de laquelle le BUDGET pour la prochaine année financière sera adopté.
Lors de cette séance qui sera tenue jeudi, le 19 décembre 2019 à 19h00 au bureau municipal, situé au 15, ave. Palmer, Otter Lake, Québec.
Les délibérations du conseil et la période de questions porteront exclusivement sur le budget.
DONNE à Otter Lake, Québec ce 9ème jour du mois de décembre 2019.
Andrea Lafleur, Directrice générale

PUBLIC NOTICE
**PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE
UNDERSIGNED, THAT:**
There will be a special meeting of the municipal council, at which the BUDGET for the next financial year will be adopted.
This session will be held on Thursday, December 19th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the municipal hall situated at 15 Palmer Avenue, Otter Lake, Quebec.
The proceeding of council and the question period will deal exclusively on the budget.
GIVEN at Otter Lake, Quebec this 9th of December 2019.
Andrea Lafleur, Director General

AVIS/NOTICE
**MUNICIPALITÉ DE SHAWVILLE
MUNICIPALITY OF SHAWVILLE**

HORAIRE DES FÊTES / HOLIDAY HOURS
HÔTEL-DE-VILLE/TOWN HALL

MARDI/TUESDAY	24-12-2019	CLOSING 12h00
MERCREDI/WEDNESDAY	25-12-2019	FERMÉ/CLOSED
JEUDI/THURSDAY	26-12-2019	FERMÉ/CLOSED
MERCREDI/WEDNESDAY	01-01-2020	FERMÉ/CLOSED

VIDANGES/GARBAGE:
LUNDI/MONDAY: 23-12-2019
VENDREDI/FRIDAY: 03-01-2020

RECYCLAGE/RECYCLING:
JEUDI/THURSDAY : 02-01-2020

BIBLIOTHÈQUE /LIBRARY

MERCREDI/WEDNESDAY	25-12-2019	FERMÉ/CLOSED
JEUDI/THURSDAY	26-12-2019	FERMÉ/CLOSED
MERCREDI/WEDNESDAY	01-01-2020	FERMÉ/CLOSED

ARÈNA /ARENA

MARDI/TUESDAY	24-12-2019	FERMÉ/CLOSED
MERCREDI/WEDNESDAY	25-12-2019	FERMÉ/CLOSED
MARDI/TUESDAY	31-12-2019	FERMÉ/CLOSED
MERCREDI/WEDNESDAY	01-01-2020	FERMÉ/CLOSED

Joyeux Noël et Bonne Année
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

**CLARENDON HORAIRE
DU TEMPS DES FÊTES**
BUREAU
FERMÉ À 16h : 19 décembre 2019
OUVERT À 9h : 6 janvier 2020
On vous souhaite un joyeux Noël
CLARENDON CHRISTMAS HOURS
OFFICE
CLOSED AT 4 p.m.: December 19, 2019
OPEN AT 9 a.m.: January 6, 2020
Wishing you all a very merry Christmas season

THE EQUITY

HOLIDAY HOURS

OPEN
Monday, December 23 - 9 am - 4 pm
Tuesday, December 24 - 9 am - noon
CLOSED
Wednesday, December 25 - Christmas Day
Thursday, December 26 - Boxing Day
OPEN
Friday, December 27 - 9 am - 4 pm
CLOSED
Saturday, December 28
OPEN
Monday, December 30 - 9 am - 2 pm
Tuesday, December 31 - 9 am - noon

(There will be no EQUITY on December 25, 2019)

Baby issue will be January 1, 2020
submit your announcements on or before
December 13, at 4:00 p.m.
Bonnie Chevrier: bonnie@theequity.ca
or Breanna Adams: breanna@theequity.ca
Tel: 819-647-2204 Fax: 819-647-2206
133 Centre Street, Shawville, QC

Turkey dinner for seniors in Waltham



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On Dec. 7, the Waltham RA, hosted its annual Golden Age Christmas dinner at the town hall, drawing around 100 people to attend. Pictured, a group of volunteers form an assembly line inside the kitchen.

J.D. POTIÉ
WALTHAM
Dec. 7, 2019

Around 100 seniors gathered at the town hall in Waltham for a delicious turkey feast at the local RA's annual Golden Age Christmas Dinner.

According to one of the event's organizers, Megan Kelly, the event has been taking place in the town every year since being first started in the 1970s.

The event was open to all residents and business owners over the age of 50 and served as an opportunity to bring local seniors together to celebrate Christmas as a community, Kelly said.

For the delicious turkey feast, a group of volunteers formed an assembly line in the kitchen, where they prepared tons of tasty-looking plates topped with all sorts of goodies including cooked veggies, mashed potatoes and gravy.

Four additional volunteers roamed the hall serving the attendees their food.

All the food was provided and cooked by members of the RA, Kelly said.

While the event doesn't raise all that much money for the association - as plates cost only \$10 per person - Kelly said it's all about giving back to the community for their continued support.

With a large pile of gifts underneath a Christmas tree at the back of the hall, each of the attendees earned door prizes as well.

For Kelly, the event is very positive for local seniors because it's another opportunity for them to socialize and has become an event that many look forward to every year.

"It gets them out and it gives us a chance to give back," she said.

With the hall nearly packed to capacity for this year's event, Kelly said she was quite satisfied with the turnout.

"Our capacity is about 120 and I think we had 100," she said.

Local seniors enjoy social feast in Chapeau



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On Dec. 4, the Chapeau Young at Heart Club held its annual Christmas Dinner at Harrington Hall, drawing plenty of people to come out and celebrate. Pictured, local musician Larry Turner entertains attendees with an acoustic set of Christmas tunes on his acoustic guitar.

J.D. POTIÉ
CHAPEAU
Dec. 4, 2019

Over 100 seniors from the area gathered at Harrington Hall in Chapeau last week, to celebrate the holidays with the community during the Young at Heart Club's (YHC) annual Christmas dinner.

According to the organization's President Jerome Sallafranque, the event has been taking place in the town for over 30 years, noting he attended the very first one back in 1972.

"Since the beginning, I've been here" he said.

He explained that it's an opportunity for local citizens to get together to enjoy a delicious meal with friends and family, along with all sorts of Christmas

tunes and festive decorations. "For the community at large, it's a time to get together and socialize with the seniors of the area," he said.

Along with a roast beef dinner catered by Cheryl Smith, attendees socialized at their respective tables, as local musician Larry Turner entertained them with a set of holiday jingles.

In addition to a 50-50 draw, the YHC raffled off a wide array of gifts that several lucky attendees got to go home with.

Judging by the large crowd on hand, Sallafranque estimated that the dinner was one of the YHC's most successful ones so far.

"We've had a larger turnout this year than last year," he said. "The numbers have kept going up the last number of years."

Spaghetti supper in Coulonge

J.D. POTIÉ
FORT COULONGE
Dec. 6, 2019

On Friday evening, hundreds of local parents and their children packed the Knights of Columbus Hall in Fort Coulonge for the town's annual spaghetti supper with Santa Claus.

According to one of the event's organizers, Suzanne Dazé, the event was a collaboration of the Knights of Columbus, Le Patro and the Maison de la Famille du Pontiac. She said that the event has been a tradition in the village for nearly 30 years.

With the holidays around the corner, the event was an opportunity for parents to get together and socialize and for kids to meet Santa Claus, while enjoying a delicious meal at an affordable price.

The event kicked off at around 5 p.m. with a word of welcome from Dazé who thanked everyone for attending while wishing the community a joyful holiday season.

Then, attendees formed a long line into the kitchen, where several volunteers served plates of spaghetti and home-made buns. A number of other volunteers worked hard in the back of the kitchen, preparing even more food as pots of noodles



J.D. Potié, THE EQUITY

On Dec. 6, the Knights of Columbus Hall in Fort Coulonge was packed, as families from the area gathered for the town's annual spaghetti supper with Santa Claus. Pictured, volunteers Suzanne Caron and Carole Bilodeau serve plates of hot noodles and buns.

dles were emptying fast.

At around 5:30 p.m., Santa Claus rolled in for an appearance, to the delight of the many kids in the building. Kids had the chance to meet the man in person, pose for pictures and let him know what they wanted

under the tree this year.

A short while later, a group of local dancers, disguised as gypsy witches, called the Moon Broomers, entertained a large crowd of attendees with a set of choreographed dance routines.

Thanks to the local Daughters

of Isabella and the Knights of Columbus, every child under the age of 12 who attended was able to go home with a toy as a Christmas present, Dazé said.

Plus, parents who were interested were graced with a special workshop on winter car safety, which included tips and tricks on how to properly install child car seats.

For Dazé, the event is very positive for residents because it gives them a chance to enjoy a delicious, holiday meal while not having to break the bank for a night out with their family.

"It's a great get-together," she said. "It gives a chance to families who don't have the means of going out ... certainly, we're doing this, all for the children."

At just \$6 per ticket, for people 12 years and up, attendees got to indulge in spaghetti, topped with delicious tomato sauce, along with a wide array of home-made pastries and sweets for dessert.

While the event usually doesn't raise a fortune, Daze said that the most important part about putting it on is to give back to the people who support them.

"It's all for the community," she said.

Busy day at St. Joseph's Manor

CHRIS LOWREY
CAMPBELL'S BAY
Dec. 7, 2019

With several events going on Saturday at St. Joseph's Manor, a steady stream of visitors revolved through the front doors throughout the day.

The annual bake sale kicked things off with a crowd lined up at the door waiting to get in and get their hands on some home-made baked goods.

In fact, demand was so high that the bake sale was sold out just 40 minutes after the doors opened.

The 8th annual bake sale is a fundraiser for the manor with many of the baked goods donated by members of the community.

At the same time, the white elephant sale was humming along with more than \$300 worth of dollar items flying off the shelves by midday.

There was also a raffle for a basket and sled filled with Christmas-themed goodies.

"Whoever wins it won't have to do any Christmas baking or



Chris Lowrey, THE EQUITY

Gail Vachon and Anne Sammon take a moment to commemorate their first ever craft sale. The pair are long time friends and after the urging of friends, decided to try their hand selling the wares made by Vachon.

shopping," said Collen Lariviere, the manor's Director General.

She praised the Manor's volunteer committee for all the hard work they put into the day's events.

"I don't know how we'd do any of this without them," she

said.

Across the manor in the activity room, several vendors were setting up their wares for the afternoon craft sale.

Among the vendors were Gail Vachon and Anne Sammon, who had all kinds of Christmas

themed knick knacks spread across the table.

The event was Vachon's first craft sale and she had clearly put some elbow grease into her display. She had several wooden ornaments that she'd cut her self - sometimes braving the cold to head out to the garage to use the scroll and jig saws to fashion her crafts.

To top it off - literally - Vachon also featured centrepieces that were made out of old coffee tins that looked like top hats.

The teamwork on display, and camaraderie between Vachon and Sammon was evident as the two joked around with each other.

"I can't get her to buy anything," Vachon quipped when asked whether Sammon was her first customer.

"I get it for free, why would I buy it," Sammon quipped back with a smile.

After the craft show, the manor's busy day kept up as it was set to host more than 100 people for a wine and cheese event.

Residence Meilleur holiday meal

J.D. POTIÉ
CHAPEAU Dec. 7, 2019

Around 40 people gathered at Residence Meilleur in Chapeau on Saturday afternoon, to celebrate Christmas over holiday jingles, games and a delicious turkey dinner.

According to one of the event's organizers Doris Ranger, the event served as an opportunity to celebrate the holidays at the manor after opening its doors earlier this year.

Throughout the event, attendees enjoyed themselves by either socializing with friends or swaying to sweet melodies played

by a number of musical talents, including Quyon's own Gail Gavan as well as the Sheen Fiddlers.

For Gavan, the opportunity to perform at Residence Meilleur - a place near and dear to her heart - brought back a lot of positive memories as well as strong emotional sentiments.

"My mom was from Desjardinsville and my dad was from Nichabau, so this is like home to me," she said.

"The Residence is [named] after my uncle Fred, my mom's brother and it's more than special to be here today because I just want to

honour his spirit and honour the people that are from here."

"If I can bring any joy to this place, the residence and people from this area, I feel blessed and happy to do it," she added.

After a solid hour and a half of good entertainment, attendees treated themselves to a festive turkey supper featuring all sorts of delicious delicacies, like mashed potatoes, home-made stuffing and gravy.

The food was provided by members of the residence's organizational committee, Ranger said.

Ranger explained that the

event is very positive for the manor because it gives its residents a chance to get together and have a great time during the holiday season.

"It's good socially for the residents, we just want to make sure that things run smoothly," she said. "And of course, live entertainment is always good."

After a successful party in its first edition, Ranger said the committee has already brought up the idea of bringing it back next year.

"We probably will, we're already talking about putting on another one," he said.

Santa Claus comes to Bristol



Caleb Nickerson, THE EQUITY

On Friday night, the Jack Graham Community Centre in Bristol was host to a Christmas party for all the local youngsters. There was a book reading in the library and snacks provided by the Bristol Community Association. Pictured, Hannah Dowe was one of the first in line to meet with Santa and Mrs. Claus when they arrived.



MUNICIPALITY OF BRISTOL PUBLIC NOTICE

To the ratepayers interested in the Council Meetings schedule for 2020

Public notice is hereby given by the undersigned Director General of the Municipality of Bristol that: The 2020 regular meetings of the Municipal Council will be held at 8:00 p.m. on the following dates:

Monday, January 6th	Monday, July 6th
Monday, February 3rd	Tuesday, August 4th
Monday, March 2nd	Tuesday, September 8th
Monday, April 6th	Monday, October 5th
Monday, May 4th	Monday, November 2nd
Monday, June 1st	Monday, December 7th

Given this 11th day of December 2019, at Bristol, Quebec
Christina Peck, Director General



MUNICIPALITÉ DE BRISTOL AVIS PUBLIC

Aux personnes intéressées par l'horaire des réunions du Conseil pour 2020

Avis public est par la présente donnée par la soussignée la directrice générale de la Municipalité de Bristol que : Les réunions régulières pour l'année 2020 du Conseil municipal seront tenues à 20h00 aux dates ci-dessous :

Le lundi 6 janvier	Le lundi 6 juillet
Le lundi 3 février	Le mardi 4 août
Le lundi 2 mars	Le mardi 8 septembre
Le lundi 6 avril	Le lundi 5 octobre
Le lundi 4 mai	Le lundi 2 novembre
Le lundi 1 juin	Le lundi 7 décembre

Donné à Bristol, Québec ce 11 décembre 2019.
Christina Peck, Directrice générale



AVIS PUBLIC AUX CONTRIBUABLES DE LA MUNICIPALITÉ DE SHAWVILLE

Avis public est par les présentes donné par Crystal Webb, secrétaire-trésorier/directrice générale de la municipalité de Shawville, qu'il y aura une session public pour au cours de laquelle le budget pour l'année 2020 sera adopté. Cette session sera tenue lundi le 16 décembre 2019 à 19h00 au bureau municipal. Les délibérations du conseil porteront exclusivement sur le budget.

Le séance régulière aura lieu à 19h30.
Donné ce 9ième jour du mois de décembre, 2019.
Crystal Webb



PUBLIC NOTICE TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SHAWVILLE

Public Notice is hereby given by Crystal Webb, Secretary-Treasurer/Director General of the Municipality of Shawville that there will be a Public Meeting to adopt the 2020 Budget on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. at the Shawville Municipal Hall. This meeting will deal exclusively with the budget.

The regular meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m.
Given this 9th day of the month of December, 2019.
Crystal Webb

DON'T DELAY

2019 Birth Announcements

for the January 1, 2020 edition of
THE EQUITY

Deadline Dec. 13 at 4 p.m.

THE EQUITY is planning a special birth announcement spread, featuring photos of babies born in 2019 with announcements, for the issue of January 1, 2020.

Advertisement: Includes a one column (1 1/2" wide) photo and 50 word write-up. Additional words welcome at 15¢ (plus taxes) per word.

Cost: Photo in colour \$39.14 + \$1.96 GST + \$3.90 QST = \$45.00.

Photo in black and white: \$30.44 + \$1.52 GST + \$3.04 QST = \$35.00.

Payment: All announcements **must be prepaid.** Cheques payable to Pontiac Printshop Ltd.

Information: Photos may be of any size, reduction or enlargement will be made to adjust the size to 1 1/2". Photos may be picked up after January 1, 2020, or, enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope and it will be returned.

Deadline: Dec. 13, 2019.

Mail or drop-off to

THE EQUITY

133 Centre St., Shawville, Quebec J0X 2Y0

Or e-mail: bonnie@theequity.ca

Attention: Bonnie Chevrier

819-647-2204



Receive a **FREE**
year **ONLINE**
subscription
to **THE EQUITY**

with your colour announcement
(Valid until Dec. 6/19. Non-transferable. \$23 value.)

SAMPLE



Clay Owen Hobbs

We are so happy to introduce our son Clay Owen Hobbs, born on September 2, 2018 at 7:38 p.m. weighing 8 pounds, 2 ounces and 21 inches long. Clay is adored by his parents Meagan Derouin and Anthony Hobbs, and grandparents Lorna and Barry Derouin and Pat and Laurie Hobbs, but no one dotes on him more than his big brother Oliver.

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*From December 3, 2019 to January 31, 2020, \$4,000 / \$5,500 / \$6,000 in "Manufacturer Rebates" (Delivery Allowances) with the purchase or lease of a new Escape S / Escape SE / SEL and Escape Titanium. Delivery allowances are not combinable with any fleet consumer incentives.
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Classifieds

Advertise your items in the Classifieds
Deadline noon Monday
819 647 2204, email at news@theequity.ca

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

Fri., Dec. 13 – Shawville Shenanigans at 586 Main Street, Shawville. Join us from 9:30-11:30 for crafts, activities, snacks and socializing. fd11

Dec. 14 – Bryson Lions Club Christmas Dance 8 p.m.-12 a.m., light lunch served at 11 p.m. Entertainment by Dennis Harrington and Heritage Country. Cost \$10.00/person. bd11

Sat., Dec. 14 – The Parents' Voice Shawville Story Time at Shawville-Clarendon Library, 10:30-11:15. Join us for a Christmas Story Time with Dale. fd11

Tues., Dec. 24 – 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Service at New Hope, 586 Main Street, Shawville. A family friendly service of readings and carols. All welcome! 2bd18

Tues., Dec. 24 – At 7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist at St. James, Otter Lake. Everyone welcome. 2bd18

Sat., June 27 – 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 ! bd11

MISCELLANEOUS

PIES PIES PIES crust that melts in your mouth, order now for the holidays, turkey pot, meat or apple. Call Diane at 819-921-5296. 3jf1

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. qd11

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

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

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

Keep things moving smoothly with an economical, natural treatment for your septic tanks and chemical toilets that you need to use only every (3) three months. BIOWAY available at Pontiac Printshop, 133 Centre, Shawville. 647-2204. xtc

FOR RENT

Campbell's Bay – Rooming house, newly renovated. Fully furnished rooms for rent. Wifi included \$375 per month. Call or text 613-867-4780. 8xd11

Campbell's Bay – 2 bedroom apartment phone 819-648-2362. otc

Shawville – 2 - 1 bedroom apartments for rent, 329 James St. 1 available now for \$850 per month; 1 available Dec. 1st at \$750. Call 819-213-1545. otc

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Business for sale – Goulds Pump Franchise. For more information call Barry at 819-647-3247. xtc

SERVICES

Passport photos done at The Pontiac Printshop, 133 Centre St., Shawville, Quebec. 819-647-2204. xtc

THANKS

Dear Heart of Jesus in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask for this favour, special one "name the favour." Take it, dear Jesus and place it within Your own broken heart where Your Father sees it. Then in Your merciful eyes it will become Your favour, not mine. Amen. Say this prayer for 3 days and promise publication and your favour will be granted. Never known to fail. D.L.

DEATH



Brown, Connie Mae – Born in Shawville, Quebec July 15, 1962, 2nd daughter to Janet and George Brown. Passed peacefully Nov. 30, 2019 in Surrey, BC at the age of 57. The family moved permanently to Whitehorse, Yukon in 1981. Determined to follow her passion for ice hockey she played with men's teams there and was instrumental in getting the ladies' program started. Perseverance, drive and true grit brought many successes as a player. She also gave back through coaching and officiating at youth levels. Her skills earned her an invitation to tryouts for Canada's first ever women's national ice hockey team in 1990. Moving to BC shortly. after she continued to thrive as a player and coach. She proudly represented the Yukon at many Western and National championships in both capacities. Motorcycling also brought great joy and she formed many close bonds with fellow riders . She equally enjoyed day tris as well as the 2 week ones on her Harley Davidson Dynaglide. She listened to all kinds of music but ELVIS was the ultimate choice since she was young. Connie always had a project on the go, whether it be with mechanics, wood working or home improvements. With her energy and imagination, all was possible. Connie attended Kwantlen University College specializing in architectural/mechanical drafting. She spent 20 years in the field becoming the department head. 2013 saw a career change to pursue a job as a correctional officer at Whitehorse Correctional Centre. She loved the work and took great pride in being on the honour guard. As a concious employee she gathered lifelong friends along the way. She will be remembered for not only her work ethics and professionalism but her compassion for others and ability to make people laugh. Connie was fiercely devoted to family and friends and with her spark, enthusiasm and infectious laugh she will be sadly missed. She left a lasting impression everywhere she went and impacted all in a significant way. She was one of a kind, the best kind. Connie is survived by her spouse Christine, mother Janet, sisters Bonnie Neumann (Rick), and Jenny Hachey (Dean) as well as many nieces, nephews and extended family. As there are many wonderful memories to recall and stories to tell, Celebrations of life will be held in the New Year, both in Surrey, BC as well as Whitehorse, Yukon.

DEATH



Hahn, Ben – 1988-2019 With heavy hearts, the family of Ben, announce his peaceful passing, surrounded by loved ones, in hospital, Gatineau, Quebec on December 4, 2019 at the age of 31 years. Beloved fiancé of Amanda Stewart (from Hagersville, Ontario). Dearly loved son of Brian and Ruth Hahn and cherished brother of Brandi (Graham). Dear Grandson of Theresa Murdock Hahn and predeceased by grandparents Milton Hahn and Madelon and Bill Smiley. He will be missed by many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Ben was a fine wood worker and cabinet maker who attended Rosewood Studio in Almonte, Ontario. A Celebration of Ben took place on Sunday, December 8, 2019 from 2-5 p.m. in the Ladysmith Hotel. To honour Ben's memory, your donations of blood to Héma Québec are greatly needed. www.hayesfuneralhome.ca

IN MEMORY



Evans, Orval – December 13th, 2009. We can't believe it's been ten years Since the day you left us here To live with God in Heaven Where the skies are always clear. With God the days are endless, Fiddles must play everywhere With your friends and family with you There's always 8 to dance a square. We miss you so since you've been gone And feel you watching from above Like you taught us we believe We'll be reunited in His love. Missing you always Love Dorothy, Ken, Gwen and all your grandkids and great-grandkids



Maloney – In loving memory of a dear wife, mother and grandmother, Brenda, who passed away Dec. 11, 2011. Love has no boundaries But it creates great memories You have been responsible For many great memories. Love forever, Don, Gavin Maloney and family, Kelly Niedre and family, Tara Robert and family and Alana Bastien and family



Sheppard, Dennis Ronald – In memory of my loving husband who passed away Dec. 13, 2018. We made our vows together Until death do us part And the day God took you from me My whole world fell apart. It's hard to go on living When you're no longer by my side, The happy years we had together Will stay with me forever. And each time I see your picture When I'm sad and lonely You seem to smile and say "Cheer up and carry on We'll meet again some day." Miss you my chum, Love you forever, Cheslyn xo

Sheppard – In loving memory of Dennis Sheppard, brother, brother-in-law, uncle who passed away December 13, 2018. You are missed dearly. We keep you with us through stories, smiles and the memory of your kind and thoughtful nature. Brian, Bev, Susan and Ron

Quyon

JILL YOUNG

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Congratulations to Sue Chabot and Adam Johnston on the birth of their first child, a boy on Dec. 5. They named him Owen Douglas. He is the first grandchild for MerryJill Chabot and a fifth grandchild for Debbie and Alvin Johnston. Wishing the family all the best with their new little bundle of blue.

Best wishes are also going out to Brittany McKenny and Kris Belsher on the safe arrival of their baby girl Hannah on Dec. 9. She is a little sister for Emeric, and a grandchild for Janet and Leo McKenny and Joan and Robert Belsher. Congratulations to the whole family.

Mountainview Turf celebrated another great season at their annual Christmas Party on Nov. 29 with a luncheon in the shop. Billy T catered a delicious turkey dinner and there was plenty of fun throughout the day. This year, plaques were presented to Roger Trudeau for 20 years of service, to Terry Provost for 30 years of service and to Ray Johnston for 40 years of service. It was a wonderful festive celebration.

The Christmas House Tour was held on Dec. 2. It was a beautiful crisp evening to be out to tour the amazing décor at the homes of Anik and Stephane Monast, Laura and Rob Hobbs, Isabel and Doug Schwartz and Heather and Adam Sally. Each home was so unique and well done. Door prizes were won by Myrna Palmer, Marilyn Desabrais, Marise Gauthier and Susan McCleary. A light snack was served in the Quyon United Church basement throughout the evening. The support for this fundraiser is greatly appreciated.

Santa Claus was in town on Saturday and it was a gorgeous afternoon for the annual parade hosted by the Quyon Lions Club. Kudos to all of the local businesses, organizations and individuals who participated by entering floats in the parade. They all looked fantastic. I was fortunate to have many excited little ones in my front yard who were thrilled to see Santa go by. They also got to meet him at the new community centre where they got to sit on his lap and put

in their wishes for Christmas. Treats and refreshments were also served. It was such a fun, festive day for our community.

Birthday wishes are going out to Amelia Dowe, turning two on Dec. 14. I'd like to wish my niece Danica Provost a happy birthday, as she turns 11 on Dec. 15. Happy birthday to Jenna Laframboise, also on Dec. 15 and to Quin Young and Brett Stanley on Dec. 17. Best wishes to everyone celebrating this week.

There is more festive fun coming in the days leading up to Christmas. This Friday evening, a community caroling event is being organized by Mitchel Trudeau starting at 6 p.m. I am so looking forward to it.

On Dec. 15, the Quyon Legion will be hosting their annual Christmas Bingo.

Folks should also mark their calendars for Dec. 20, as the Pontiac Community Players are bringing their Little Women Radio Play to Quyon United Church that evening. It really is the most wonderful time of the year!

Sheenboro

DORIS RANGER

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Our condolences and deepest sympathies go out to the Fleury family of Chapeau, Que. on the passing of Lorenzo Fleury (Rozo). His funeral will take place at St. Alphonsus Church on Dec. 14 at 11 a.m. Back in the 1980s, Roso volunteered many hours of his time grooming trails for the Pingouin Snowmobile Club. He groomed from Waltham to Black River toward Lake St. Patrick and would circle back into Sheenboro and then home. This was a giant step for the club.

Our condolences also go out to the Wilson family on the passing of Brian Wilson of Cobden, Ont. For many years he was the life of the fiddle group at the Wednesday night jams at George's Bar.

Get well wishes go out to Mary McLeese of Ottawa, Ont. who is currently at the Queensway Carleton Hospital. Birthday greetings and best wishes go out to Ivon Nephtin Kohlsmith who celebrated her 97th on Dec. 5. Her family celebrated her birthday with a nice dinner at Anthony's Restaurant

in Pembroke. Her youngest sister Claire and her husband Jim VanderEnde from Bowmanville, Ont. were also there for the celebration.

Belated birthday greetings go out to Jean Kargus, sister of Mary McLeese, to Tom Donlan of Montreal and my little great-nephew Dillon Jack VanNuland who celebrated his first birthday.

Birthday celebrations this coming week are Betty Morris on Dec. 9, Jerry Muldoon on Dec. 11, Jim Sullivan on Dec. 12, Ryan Vellenga and Courtney Jennings Bertrand on Dec. 14 and Lois Lapierre and Art McGuire on Dec. 16. Enjoy your day.

The Residence Meilleur Committee served a turkey dinner to the residents and their guests this past Saturday. Entertainment was provided by Gail Gaven who was accompanied by the Upper Pontiac fiddlers with Jewel Rogers on piano. The entertainment room is now fully furnished, mostly by generous donors. The final piece, a lovely piano donated by Ann Meilleur, arrived just in time for

the party.

On Wednesday, the Young at Heart of Chapeau and area also celebrated the season with a delicious roast beef dinner served by Cheryl and her helpers. The music was provided by Larry Turner who is always willing to volunteer his time. We are very fortunate to have these wonderful musicians. The 50/50 draw was won by Lucy Chartrand.

Just a reminder that a euchre tournament is being held in Sheenboro Municipal Hall on Tuesday evenings. Sign-up starts at 6:45 p.m. and games at 7 p.m. sharp. The cost is \$5 per player, 50 percent of proceeds go to the winner. The other 50 per cent is being raised for charity, either third world or local, yet to be determined.

Please note that on Dec. 24 and 31 there will be no cards. On Jan. 7, the euchre tournament resumes. A few ladies from Sheenboro thought this may be a nice outing through the winter. Everyone welcome.

My new phone number is 819-650-2413.

Waltham

HELEN PERRY 819-689-2652 jacobg42@hotmail.com



On Saturday evening, the annual Christmas supper was held at the Waltham Town Hall. This traditional Waltham event was very well attended, as neighbors and friends chatted, reminisced and renewed the bonds of friendship.

Mayor David Rochon welcomed everyone. The mayor also addressed the issues that arose from the devastating flooding that occurred in Waltham this past spring and throughout the entire region. He acknowledged that many of the hardest hit residents are still reeling from the destruction and their attempts to recover from their losses have been painfully slow and difficult. He also referred

to the generous outpouring of neighbours, friends and families, the support from the Waltham fire department, the municipal public works staff and many kindly neighbouring municipalities, individuals and local companies who offered great support to help with the protracted battle against the flood waters. In closing, the mayor offered his thanks to everyone who offered their efforts and support through this difficult time in our municipality.

On behalf of the RA, Megan Rochon and Ashley McGuire spoke and thanked all those who helped prepare for this wonderful annual dinner. Thanks to the efforts of these volunteers, everyone enjoyed a tasty turkey supper with all the trimmings.

Our heartfelt sympathy, thoughts and prayers are with the Fleury family of Chapeau in the recent passing of Lorenzo "Rozo" Fleury.

On Sunday afternoon, Rhonda, Isabella and I attended the Nutcracker at the National Art Center in Ottawa. It was an amazing performance.

Melanie Malette of Gatineau, Que. is celebrating a birthday on Dec. 12. Enjoy your special day Melanie.

Stephanie Ryan is celebrating a birthday on Dec. 16. Have a wonderful birthday Steph.

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Stephanie Ryan is celebrating a birthday on Dec. 16. Have a wonderful birthday Steph.

Shawville

LYSE LACOURSE

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IN MEMORY

Sheppard, Dennie – In memory of Dennie who passed away December 13, 2018 Those special memories of you Will always bring a smile. If only I could have you back, For just a little while. Then we could sit and talk again, Just like we used to do. You always meant so very much And always will too. The fact that you're no longer here Will always cause me pain But you're forever in my heart Until we meet again. Miss you, Charleen, Stephane and Lucia



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