

Births and Deaths

Cards of Thanks, In Memoriams, Marriage Notices, Engagements, Announcements.

ENGAGED

NEELY-SIMPSON - Mr. and Mrs. Allister Neely of Huntingdon, Que., are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Allis Carrie, to Brent Owen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Simpson of Rockburn, Que.

BORN

DIONNE-PRESENT - Pierre and Joanne are pleased to announce the birth of their first child Zoë Diane, born December 31st, 1991, weighing 7 lbs. 3 oz. at the Anna Laberge Hospital. Proud grandparents are Claude and Anne Present of St-Louis-de-Gonzague and Paul and Gemma Dionne of Ste-Martine.

FERGUSON - Gordon and Linda (née Carrigan) are pleased to announce the birth of their second child Derek Gordon weighing 9 lbs. 8 oz. on January 30, 1992 at St-Mary's Hospital. A new brother for Drew John Kenneth. Proud grandparents are Norma and Phil Gough and Mary and Norman Humphires.

TESSIER - Danny and Judy (née Templeton) are proud to announce the birth of their son Ryan Daniel, weighing 8 lbs. 13 oz., on January 30th, 1992, at the Barrie Memorial Hospital. Proud grandparents are Francis Tessier and Wilma Marshall, William Templeton and Iris Woods and Roberta Todd.

DIED

LANE, Tex - Suddenly on February 8, 1992 at the Lasalle General Hospital, aged 65 years. Country music entertainer Tex Lane beloved of Sherry, loving father of Tex Jr. (Rosanna Ehler) James and Brian. Resting at the J.F. Wilson & sons Funeral Home, 5784 Verdun Ave., Verdun. Service in the Chapel Wednesday, February 12th at 10 a.m. Thence to Près Du Fleuve Cemetery, 2750 Marie-Victorin Blvd., Longueuil.

PATTERSON, Merrill - In Lacolle on Feb. 3rd, 1992, Mr. Merrill Patterson aged 78. Husband to Victoria Kuzulak. Predeceased by two brothers and a sister. Also survived by many relatives and friends. Funeral arrangements were by Les Résidences funéraires Réal Laplante Inc. Interment at 2 p.m. on February 6, 1992 at Notre Dame du Mont-Carmel, Cemetery in Lacolle.

RAFTER, Arthur - At his residence Ste. Agnes de Dundee on February 6th age 27 years. Son of Laurette Rafter and late Charles Rafter. Survived by 14 brothers and sisters. Funeral service was from Kelly Funeral Home, Huntingdon, Que. on Monday, February 10th at 1 p.m. Interment Zion Church Cemetery in the spring.

SOMERVILLE, H. Alister D. - At the Barrie Memorial Hospital, Ormstown, Quebec on Sunday, February 9, 1992 in his eighty-third year. Beloved husband of Ollie Brock. Dear father of Andrew (Erna Merlin) and Alice Baker. Also survived by six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Funeral Service was held on Tuesday at 2 p.m. from St. Andrew's United Church, Hemmingford, Quebec. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the charity of your choice.

DIED

CRAWFORD, Marvin A. - Suddenly at Barrie Memorial Hospital, Ormstown, Que. on Feb. 3rd, 1992 age 81 years. Husband of late Ellen Evans. Dear father of Lauraine (Mrs. Harold Collier) and Laureen Haines. Survived by 5 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Brother of Robert and his wife Norma. Also 1 nephew and 2 nieces, and their families. Funeral service was from Kelly Funeral Home, Huntingdon on Thursday, February 6th at 1 p.m. Interment Field of Honor, Huntingdon Protestant Cemetery in the spring.

CARD OF THANKS

Many thanks to all my aunts, uncles, cousins and friends for all my lovely gifts.

Sincerely
Derek Ferguson

The family of the late Wilfrid Paul Lefebvre extend sincere thanks to neighbours, friends, and relatives for their many acts of kindness, words of sympathy, flowers, mass offerings and memorial donations. All was greatly appreciated.

Irene, Marion, Michael, George, Alice & Gertrude

The family of the late Joseph (Joe) Hébert wish to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for their sympathy, mass, cards, flowers and food. Thanks to all attending at the funeral.

His mother
Agnes Hébert
Mae, Linda, Mark

IN MEMORIAM

McCARTNEY-TILLOTSON - In memory of family

"Those we love don't go away, They walk beside us everyday. Unseen, unheard, but ever near, Still loved, still missed and very dear." Always remembered Jimmy and Ruth.

CARD OF THANKS

Harold Dineen, Austin Dineen (wife Sarah) Patrick, Danny, Sabrina, his sister Helen, wish to express their sincere thanks to their relatives, neighbors, and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy by way of visitations, flowers, masses, cards, donations, to organization assistance at the funeral and food sent to their homes at the time of the loss of our loved one, Martin.

Please accept this as a personal thank-you.

Shock of murder touches community

A Valleyfield woman was shot to death outside her apartment last Friday evening by her recently estranged boyfriend who then killed himself as Valleyfield police were about to apprehend him.

The woman was Christine Deslauriers, 35, mother of two daughters and secretary to the director general Guy Rho of the Barrie Memorial Hospital.

The dead man was identified as Robert Tremblay of St. Lazare.

"Hardly can believe this has happened to Christine," Mr. Rho remarked the staff who worked closely with her are having a difficult time to walk past her vacant desk. It has shocked the office and the hospital community which number about 200 part-time and full time employees.

The course of her job brought her into contact with most of the staff and she was also a key figure in Foundation and Corporation board projects. In her professional capacity she often acted as a liaison between the hospital and the public. She did much more than only a secretarial job, he commented. In 1989 she worked closely on the hospital's 50th Anniversary celebration. It would have been four years this Friday that she would have been working at the hospital. "Really a tragic loss, and it will take time to fill her role and to recover from all of this."

While she worked closely with her fellow employees, she did not disclose her personal life. No one at the hospital foresaw this possibility. The turn of events in her private life occurred very suddenly. She left work that Friday evening at 4:30 p.m. The only observation made by an associate is that she seemed a "bit upset."

The newspapers have been full over the weekend with the grim details of her tragic end. The stories are having a real affect on the hospital community. But it is likely her young daughters who will feel the most pain from all of this, he remarked. (V.F.)

Alister Somerville devoted a lifetime to Huntingdon County

Phillip Norton
THE GLEANER

Whether it be for his political influence, for his historical research and publishing, for his service to the Hemmingford Community and Huntingdon County, or for his basic enthusiasm for life, Alister Somerville will be remembered by many. He

at the municipal level of government and eventually was elected as a member of the provincial parliament. Each winter since the 1960's he and his wife travelled to Florida for the winter.

In addition to his official involvement in the political arena and community organizations, Alister loved to garden and he loved to golf. His granddaughter, Sharon

world at the center of Hemmingford Village, in the Scriver Block. In Somerville's first book, "Hemmingford Then and Now," a 12-page chapter recounts the author's own life. Editor Leigh Boyle Coffin introduces the chapter: "It is somehow appropriate that he was born at this location, for he has spent a lifetime at the centre of things in native village, occupying such varied offices as Mayor of the Village of the Township, Chairman of the School Board..." Coffin refers to him as "Mr. Hemmingford."

Alister Somerville's own recollections of his upbringing in this small village make up the bulk of the chapter and are a pleasure to read. As a youngster he once dug a snow well into a huge snowdrift (typical of that era) and found that he had almost dug his own grave when he tried to climb out. His father, the banker, eventually heard his panic cries and came to pull him out.

"That was the last snow well that I ever dug," he wrote.

The life that was saved that day came to wield great influence for this county in Quebec City and beyond.

Growing up in those early days carried many risks and Alister Somerville suffered Scarlet Fever at age 5. He also had polio which created post polio syndrome in his later years.

He survived another encounter with his father at a farmhouse door in Havelock. Their car quit on them around 10 p.m. so they knocked repeatedly on the door until a voice from upstairs replied "Who are you? What do you want?"

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File photo: Phillip Norton

Alister Somerville on the road during the historical research project for his book "Huntingdon County & Town."

passed away at The Barrie Memorial Hospital in Ormstown on Sunday, February 9.

His presence during his 82 years of life was locally and widely known. He served his home village and township

Mark of Hemmingford, recalls that he was out golfing last summer and he was a past president of the Hemmingford Golf Club.

Born on May 25, 1909, Henry Alister Darby Somerville came into the

"Father explained that his name was Somerville, that he was from Hemmingford, and that he was having car trouble. 'I must get home, and it's much too far to walk. I have the combination to the vault of the bank of which I am manager, and they won't be able to open up till I get there,'" he wrote in his book.

"Well, said the man, 'I'm not taking you home. Those damn cars, they frighten my horses all the time. You can damn well walk home.' ... As he said this, I could detect the shotgun that he was waving menacingly. I'm sure my eyes must have been as big as soup-plates."

He married Ollie Brock in 1932 and built a house the following year. He also built a huge poultry barn and went into the business, expand the building and installing incubators in the basement of the house. He wrote that one hard-working member of his flock must have heard that "an egg a day keeps Colonel Saunders away."

Alister Somerville's first political experience came in 1945 when he was elected Mayor of Hemmingford Township. His compassion for a local, destitute family led him to win support from his council to allow the family of six or seven to use the town hall for shelter during the winter.

In 1967 he was elected Mayor of the Village of Hemmingford, a position which he held until 1973.

It was in 1952 that Somerville was chosen by Maurice Duplessis to be the Union Nationale candidate for Huntingdon County. He was elected with a majority of 252 votes over Liberal Miles Tillotson. In 1956, he was re-elected with a majority of 256 votes over James Smythe, Sr. and in 1960 he won over Kenneth Fraser with a majority of 1,000 votes. He was defeated by 45 votes in 1966.

Alister Somerville remained active at his home office. In 1985 he published "Hemmingford Then and Now" and two years later he produced "Huntingdon County & Town."

He was the father of Andrew (Erna Merlin) and Alice Baker. He is also survived by his wife, six grandchildren and six great grandchildren.



Photo: Brenda Castonguay
Alister Somerville as Huntingdon's MNA.