

# Record Columnists



Tim Belford

Tim was born in St.Catharines, Ontario, in 1947 and raised in Port Dalhousie and Niagara Falls.

He came to the Eastern Townships in 1968 as a student at Bishop's University.

After graduating with an Honours B.A. in History and Philosophy, he worked as a university administrator, an officer in the Canadian Navy, a Parks Canada personnel officer, the manager of the Golden Lion Pub, the manager of the Piggery Theatre, and a CEGEP lecturer.

Tim's journalism career has included jobs with the Montreal Daily News and the CBC where he was the host of the morning show, Quebec AM.

He has been writing for The Record for 48 years working as a reporter, copy editor and columnist. Since his retirement from Quebec AM in 2011, he has been a weekly columnist with The Record.

He now lives in Lennoxville with his companion of 43 years, She Who Must Be Obeyed.



Mable Hastings

Mable Hastings has been writing the Record's Scoop column each week for many years. She views the column as a chance to celebrate her municipality and highlight the amazing, talented, and creative people who call it home, while also sharing news and information about the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN), where she serves as Executive Director.

Mable has been married to her husband, Jason Ball, for 28 years and is the proud mom of three grown sons. A devoted pet mom to Harpo, Skeeter, Fez, and Bob, she enjoys curling up with a good Louise Penny novel, listening to music, and spending time swimming in the pool.

## Good Reads

Two of the Good Reads book reviewers



Juliette Welch

Juliette Welch works as a communications specialist and events coordinator in Lennoxville. She spends her time watching the same movie a thousand times over, reading any book she can get her hands on, and writing short stories. She enjoys science fiction, thrillers, and strange horror.

Spencer Nadeau

Spencer Nadeau serves as the administrative assistant to the Bishop's office of the Anglican Diocese of Quebec. Spencer holds a Liberal Arts degree from Champlain College Lennoxville (2016), a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from Bishop's University (2020), and a Master of Arts degree from Acadia University (2022). In graduate school, he specialized in J.R.R. Tolkien studies and wrote a thesis titled, "The Sound of Middle-earth: Music and Song among the Races in J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*." His thesis won the Acadia Outstanding Masters Research Award in Arts. In his spare time, he reads a wide range of genres including 20th century British literature, travel literature and history.

# BCN contributors



Darren Murphy

Born and raised in Montreal, after Cegep I began working for Andritz Fiber Drying in various positions finally settling in as an installation supervisor. This job afforded me the opportunity to travel to Europe, Central America, the US and Western Canada where I oversaw the installation our companies pulp and tissue machines. When our sons started university, my wife and I decided to sell our home and move full time to the Eastern Townships. My family had owned a cottage in Austin and I grew up spending my summers there. I loved the area and knew this was where we wanted to spend our last working years and retirement. Wildlife photography is my passion, I've been doing it now for over two decades. When not at work, you can usually find me out in the woods, by a swamp or out in a kayak looking for that perfect picture. I have been writing my article "Behind the Lens" for the Brome County News for three years now and have enjoyed sharing my photography insight and photographs with you twice a month.



Louise Smith

I am a semi-retired teacher who finished full-time teaching while at Heroes' Memorial School in Cowansville. While I was still teaching full-time, I started to write for the BCN. I wanted to cover events at school and other positive events which were happening in the community. With so much negative news in the world, I wanted to focus on the positive wherever possible. I have been writing for the paper for about fifteen years. I consider it a privilege to be part of such a wonderful newspaper which continues to connect people across the region.



Joan Barnes

Joan Barnes spent twelve years teaching in Quebec schools at the elementary and high school levels. She graduated from Ottawa Teachers' College and Sir George Willaims University with a BA and special interest in history. She sold real estate for ten years on the West Island, managed offices for Royal LePage for ten years and was transferred to BC to build offices. She spent 20 years in the wine industry in the Okanagan before finally returning to Quebec during COVID. She paints, cooks, writes and likes to entertain. She's back to her roots, in Knowlton to stay.



Ruby Pratka

Ruby Pratka (they/them) is a freelance writer and editor working out of Montreal and Quebec City. Their work has appeared in English and French in various publications including the Quebec Chronicle-Telegraph, Le Devoir, Les Affaires and Fugues. They are particularly interested in issues around housing, homelessness, poverty and class in North America, as well as immigration and LGBTQ+ communities. They have been contributing to the Record and Brome County News since 2021.



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Happy 129<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to The Record!

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We thank The Record team for its continued support!

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Congratulations to  
The Record for your  
129<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

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