

## Community News 1991 – 1992

St. Bernard's Church – Fournier is marking its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1992. A church celebration opened the year on New Years Eve. This milestone is being marked with the publication of a book of over 800 pages telling the history of the surrounding area and its families. February marked another celebration, honouring the wedding anniversaries of marriage years ending in 0 and 5. Rolland and Marguerite Picard were honoured for their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary — Theresa and Gregory Ryan for their 30<sup>th</sup>. St. Bernardin Parish also took part in this celebration.

The Masonic Lodge located in Riceville marked its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 1992. The Masonic Hall was raised onto a new foundation along with other renovations in 1989 (?).

In June 1991, the Riceville United Church put on a Strawberry Social with lunch and entertainment. It was a successful fund raiser and brought back fond memories of former years. The Riceville and Pendleton United Churches joined together serving a turkey supper in South Plantagenet Municipal Hall.

About 100 residents and businesses in Fournier are still looking for a suitable sewage system to solve the village's sewage problem. Water pollution has been a problem since about 1980 . This has been caused by old private septic systems which began to pollute water wells. The issue still remains in the study stage. A proposed system was turned down by the ratepayers because of cost. A less expensive alternative proposed by the ratepayers was turned down by the Ministry.

Dairy farmers in this area joined 40,000 others and marched on Parliament Hill in Ottawa on February 21<sup>st</sup> , 1992. They were protesting the possible exclusion of Article XI of the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trades ). The demonstration was well organized and orderly. The message that the district farmers gave to the government was that they would not give up but continue fighting to preserve their marketing system and the family dairy farm. It is hoped that the government will try harder to obtain support for Article XI.