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Press Release

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## Meet the 2014 Outstanding Townshippers

**SHERBROOKE, September 10, 2014** – Townshippers' Association is pleased and honoured to announce the recipients of this year's Outstanding Township award. These individuals have greatly impacted their communities through their volunteer work, outstanding leadership skills, and being all around positive role models.

This year's well-deserved honours go to **Kathryn Idell Pettes Crandall** (Knowlton), **Mary Lachasseur** (Cowansville), **Adelaide Lanktree** (Farnham), and **Louise Penny** (Sutton). These four Outstanding Townshippers will be honoured at the Opening Ceremonies for the 35th annual Townshippers' Day, on Saturday, September 13, in Coaticook.

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**Kathryn Idell Pettes Crandall** who turns 100 years young next March, has been nominated for her personal contributions and those on behalf of the Pettes family -- one of the founding families of the Village of Knowlton -- to the development and growth of a vibrant social and economic life in the Eastern Townships. The Pettes Memorial Library was the first free-lending rural English library in Quebec; it is still in operation and remains a cultural and architectural landmark.



A life member -- past board member and Honorary Trustee -- of the Brome County Historical Society since 1977, Kathryn has always taken an active interest in preserving both family and local history. Her remarkable memory makes her the “go to” person for historical details, often called upon to identify people and landmarks in old photographs, which she accompanies with rich anecdotal information.

Kathryn's community involvement includes decades of activity with the St. Paul's Anglican Church Ladies Evening Guild, I.O. D.E. and the Anglican Church women as well as extensive volunteering at church teas, bake sales, rummage sales, and church luncheons and dinners where her lemon bread is legendary.



A former teacher at Heroes Elementary School in Cowansville, **Mary Lachasseur** is a familiar face in the volunteer circle and is "known for showing love and devotion in all that she does." She has been a member of the Stephen Lewis “Township Grandmothers”, Optimist Club, and Canadian Club.

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...serving as the Rector's warden and helped start up the Trinity Church Helping Hands Food Bank, which provides non-perishable food items for upwards of 60 – 70 people each month. She took on the task of Family Type Resource for intellectually and physically handicapped individuals and continues to provide constant care for one client.

Despite her extremely busy schedule, Mary finds time for family and friends, and visits her immediate family in Ottawa throughout the year.

With her evident love of community **Adelaide Lanktree** and her sister Louise (herself an Outstanding Townshipper) are known for their contributions towards the preservation and promotion of Anglophone heritage and have been among the finest examples of true voluntarism.

Adelaide is a member of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, Sir John Johnson Centennial Branch [branch president, 2003 – 2007], the *La Société de restauration du patrimoine Johnson*, whose mission is to restore the Sir John Johnson Family Burial Vault in Mont-Saint-Grégoire and she is involved with Farnham's *Comité du patrimoine*.



For years Adelaide has been volunteering with the Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital Auxiliary in the gift shop and has been “very” active in the Order of the Eastern Star, Cowansville Chapter No. 17 for more than 60 years!

In 2000, Adelaide and Louise attended the Quebec Anglophone Heritage Network's founding conference in Lennoxville and at their first Annual General Meeting in 2001. In recognition of their tireless volunteerism, Adelaide and her Louise were

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A prolific writer, **Louise Penny** has incorporated her '*Three Pines*' home into the 10 books she has written so far, which have been published in 25 languages, raising the profile of the Townships internationally. Louise has "found the soul of the Townships" in the hearts of the people that live here and has captured their passion and pride, stubbornness and resolve, the joy and determination.

Fittingly, Louise is very involved in the Yamaska Literacy Council serving as Honorary Patron since 2006, and participated in the Literacy Council's 25th anniversary celebration. In 2011 Louise was guest speaker at the Quebec Peter Gzowski Literacy Gala in Knowlton. Louise's website contains links to local, national, and international literacy resources. She is also a major supporter of her local SPCA.

In recognition for her contributions to Canadian culture, Louise Penny was made a Member of the Order of Canada in 2013.

### ***About Townshippers' Association***

Townshippers' Association is a non-profit, non-partisan community organization that has been serving the English-speaking community of the historical Eastern Townships, since 1979. For more on the Association and its activities, connect online at [Townshippers.org](http://Townshippers.org) or contact Townshippers' in Sherbrooke at 100 – 257 Queen St. 819-566-5717, toll free: 1-866-566-5717 or in Lac-Brome at 3-584 Knowlton Rd. 450-242-4421, toll free: 1-877-242-4421.

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