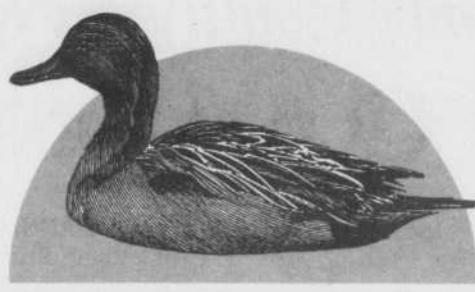


Brome County NEWS



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2005

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Firefighters Put On Show For Kids



COURTESY BARBARA TAYLOR

To anyone who recently saw a Mansonville fire truck and a rescue unit parked at Le Baluchon and Mansonville Elementary schools it was clearly no ordinary emergency. A couple of weeks ago the two elementary schools were treated to a visit by firefighters Christian Rodrigue and Ronnie Korman, who not only delivered safety messages to each class, but also treated all the students to a tour of the First Responders rescue unit as well as Mansonville's newest fire truck. The children were fascinated by the jaws of life and the small compressed air jack that could easily lift a truck weighing up to 32 tons. Also discussed were the dangers of giving out personal information over the telephone to strangers, and over the Internet on chat lines.

TBL decides to go after Sturtevant, insurance to get money back

By Maurice Crossfield

The Town of Brome Lake has decided to go after Foster businessman Lloyd Sturtevant to recover some legal costs, and is also facing the prospect of suing its insurance company.

"The expenses are mostly the lawyer's fees," explained town clerk Alain Roy. Though he did not have the amount readily available, he did say the amount was "... very important, that's for sure."

Between 1999 and 2004 Sturtevant, who is preparing to open the Auberge du Lac Brome in Foster, was involved in a number of legal actions with the municipality, including contesting the zoning of his property and the results of the referendum held to contest the zoning. Brome Lake was also involved in the libel suits between Sturtevant and former mayor Stanley Neil.

Last year Brome Lake reached an out-of-court settlement with Sturtevant, the details of which have not been made public.

Court costs, such as fees for stamps, stenographic notes and so on related to the out-of-court settlement are not part of this latest action.

But over the years the town was prompted to lawyer up on a number of issues, each time incurring a new cost. Town council has now decided to go after Sturtevant for those costs.

Brome Lake is also taking aim at its insurance company Lombard Insurance of Canada. That's because the insurance company is refusing to cover costs arising from Neil's legal actions against Sturtevant, and vice versa.

Though a judge has ruled Neil was acting as mayor when he reacted to the vandalism of his car in 2002, the insurance company thinks otherwise. The town will now use the judgment to try

to force Lombard to pay up.

During the question period Neil asked Mayor Richard Wisdom if he was going to release the total court costs related to the cases with Sturtevant. Wisdom said he would release those figures this week.

In other council news:

- A number of those in attendance were from Cedar Bay. Presently the private road leading to the lake is owned by a real estate developer, who wants to build a marina and parking area there. Residents, who have a legal right of way to use the road to get to their homes, are outraged at the changes taking place and the prospect of having a marina next to their homes.

Monday night the Brome Lake council gave an overview of the issue, and what actions it has taken. Though Inverness Inc. pleaded guilty to illegal tree cutting in May, 2004, and paid the fine, there has been little else the town can do, due mainly to its existing by-laws on the installation of wharves and boat launches on Brome Lake.

Last October the Ministère de l'Environnement re-examined the issue and decided its initial decision to allow the wharf would stand.

Cedar Bay residents however, disagree. The group has retained a lawyer and has a different interpretation of the zoning, saying the parking area is not allowed along Cedar Bay Road. Several residents accused the council of being pro-development, and some of the exchanges became quite heated.

Council has decided to take another look at its bylaws concerning boat docks on the lake. Though that may prevent future situations like the one in Cedar Bay, it will not prevent Inverness, Inc. from continuing its marina project.

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 5

Pousse Vert celebrates first anniversary

By Wendy Denman
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

It has been a busy inaugural year for Cowansville's Pousse Vert, a private gardening company run by Christine Van-Tilborgh.

"The community has been very supportive. We continue to grow, we're adding to our stock, fixing things up and we've got lots of plans for the future," Van-Tilborgh told Brome County News on Tuesday.

In 2004, Pousse Vert moved from the Van-Tilborgh home on Goyer Street to its present location on rue Principale. The property, with lots of land for ex-

pansion, currently contains the store with plans to add a permanent greenhouse this fall.

"We want to continue to improve and landscape the property. The greenhouse is our first priority. We are doing the work ourselves," said Van-Tilborgh, adding that she doubts they will be able to begin before the fall. "My husband is a gardening contractor and just getting into his busy season. At the moment we do some growing at home in an annuals greenhouse and we still have gardens at home in the summer. But basically at the moment its buying and selling."

SEE ONE, PAGE 3

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BROME COUNTY COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

April 9

Townships Bluegrass & Old-Tyme Music Society – **ANNUAL MEETING** during the afternoon, 1:30 p.m. Acoustic jamming, 1 to 5:30 p.m., supper, 6 p.m. Live Bluegrass and Old-Tyme music bands, 7 to 10:30 p.m. at Royal Canadian Legion, 77 Lewis St., **Waterloo**. Jam Captain: Bill McMurray, 450-539-0365, directors, Terry Howell, 819-875-5133, Tom Kilbride, 450-243-0645, Bob Tetreault, 819-346-2435.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SUGARING OFF PARTY AT THE RHICARD'S OWL HOOT MAPLE FARM, 85 Ross Rd., **Stanbridge East**. A fundraising event for the BMP Hospital Foundation, 1 to 4 p.m. Donation at door: Adults, \$6.50, children 4-10, \$3.50. Includes taffy on snow, blacksmith demonstrations, wagon rides, listen and/or dance to down home music of Canadian fiddlers. Also, bake table, maple products, snack-bar. Homemade maple syrup pies – fresh doughnuts made on the spot. Info: John and Dianne Rhicard at 450-248-3616 or e-mail: theowlhooters@sympatico.com (bring your instruments and have a HOOT with the gang!)

April 9

Royal Canadian Legion, **CRIB TOURNAMENT** at 120 Davignon St., **Cowansville**, 1 p.m. Registration: \$5 per person.

April 15

Foyer Sutton – **BINGO** in the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, 2 Curley St., **Sutton**, 7 p.m. Cash prizes and drawings, Jackpot: \$200. Come and pay to help the residents. Thank-you.

SOUP AND DESSERT LUNCHEON at **Cowansville Area United Church** Pastoral Charge, 203 Principale, Cowansville, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost: \$7.

April 16

DANCE at Royal Canadian Legion, Br.

77, 77 Lewis St., **Waterloo**, 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Music by Gary Darling. Admission, \$5 (18 and over). No smoking. Canteen on site!

Creek United Church **PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE SUPPER** at Creek United Church, Brill Road, West Bolton from 5 to 6:30 p.m. followed by Personal Glimpses of Northern India and Nepal, a talk with slides by Gaston Lafontaine. Adults \$5, children 10 and under free.

April 17

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #158 **WESTERN BREAKFAST, ALL YOU CAN EAT**, at 2 Curley St., **Sutton**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

April 18, 20 & 25

THRIFT SALE at Brome Hall on Monday, April 18, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday, April 20, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Rummage sale, Monday, April 25, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Special Day. Hall door open for donations, April 12 to 25, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For information call, 450-243-6063 or 243-5742.

April 27-29

ADVANCED NOTICE: Rummage sale at St. Paul's Anglican Church, **Knowlton** Thursday, Friday & Saturday. Watch for more details.

April 29 & 30

Creek United Church, Brill Road, West Bolton: **RUMMAGE SALE**, Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to noon. Drop off clean rummage on April 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. only, please.

May 5 & 19

ADVANCED NOTICE: Church of the Ascension, **West Brome**, luncheon card parties May 5 and 19 at noon. Reservations please. Call Evelyn at 450-263-1938.

CHURCH SERVICES

KNOWLTON/CREEK PASTORAL CHARGE: Worship and song by members assisted by The Reverend Dale Skinner. Creek United, **Foster**, 9:30 a.m. Sunday school at Creek, **Knowlton** United, **Knowlton**, 11 a.m. (Handicap access).

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH: 24 St. Paul's Road, **Knowlton**. Traditional Sunday service at 8 a.m. and at the 10 a.m. service, music, a nursery and Sunday school. The Rev. Tim Wiebe and the congregation welcomes everyone!

BROME PARISH SERVICE: Come and join us Sunday, April 10, 9 a.m. St. Aidan **Sutton**, morning prayer; 11 a.m. Holy Trinity, **Iron Hill**, Holy Communion. Junction Rev. R. Garipey.

SAINT-EDOUARD CATHOLIC CHURCH: **Knowlton** – Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m. (Bilingual).

COWANSVILLE AREA PASTORAL CHARGE UNITED CHURCH: Worship at Emmanuel United Church, 203 rue Principale, **Cowansville**. Worship and Sunday school at 10:30 a.m., choir practice, 9:30 a.m. Rev. Wendy MacLean officiating.

TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH, COWANSVILLE: Come and join us for Sunday worship. We have a service at 9 a.m. (traditional) and a family service with music and Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. Info: 450-263-2662.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF BEDFORD/PHILIPSBURG & FARNHAM:

Sunday services: **Philipsburg & Farnham**, 9:30 a.m.; **Bedford**, 11 a.m. Fr. Brian A. Evans, Rector. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. (Matt. 25:35).

BEDFORD UNITED CHURCH PASTORAL CHARGE: ALL REGULAR MORNING SERVICES WILL BE REPLACED ON APRIL 10 with The Covenanting Service (induction) between the Rev. K. Carl Triskle, Bedford Pastoral Charge and Montreal Presbytery at Wesley United Church, 51 Rue Riviere, **Bedford** at 7 p.m. Reception to follow in the Church Hall.

GRACE ANGLICAN CHURCH IN SUTTON: 52 Principale sud, welcomes everyone for Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. The Rev. Canon Tim Smart, Rector. Info: 450-538-8108.

BAPTIST CHURCHES: Sunday services: **Mansonville Baptist**, 9:30 a.m.; **Olivet Baptist, Sutton**, 11 a.m.

COMMUNITY NOTES

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: If you wish to drink and can... that's your business. If you wish to stop and can't... that's our business. Info: 450-242-2611.

Easter Fun At BMP



COURTESY LOUISE HALL

Dr. Rémi Chéhadé and staff welcomed patients to the Brome-Missisquoi-Perkins Hospital's Easter party recently. Dr. Jean-Charles Godreau's presence added greatly to the care and comfort of the patients. Volunteers provided the children with knitted items. Easter bunny Pearl Yates, representing the Dunham Women's Institute, donated Easter napkins, cards, magnets, clocks and other gifts. Louise Hall from Cowansville OES Chapter 17 distributed chocolate chickens to staff and patients. Visitors purchased fresh flowers, gifts and other articles from the boutique. A delightful atmosphere! Many grateful hearts!

BCN RATES & DEADLINES COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Brome County News Community Calendar is reserved for non-profit organizations only. Deadline is **noon** on **Mondays**. A pre-paid fee of \$7 is required per publication, or **SPECIAL RATE of \$11 for 2 insertions:** 1 BCN & 1 in Friday Record "What's On" section. Please forward notices to Box 488, Knowlton, JOE 1V0, email: bcnews@qc.aibn.com, or fax: (450) 243-5155. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

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Brome County NEWS

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Brome Fair looking for memorabilia

By Wendy Denman
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

The Big Brome Fair will be celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2006 and already the Brome County Historical Society is looking ahead and asking the public for help.

"We are looking for memorabilia to put on display in 2006," Society member Diana Frizzle explained. "We want to commemorate the theme 'then and now all roads lead to Brome Fair.'"

The first Brome Fair was held in 1856, a year after Brome county was formed from parts of the Stanstead, Shefford and Missisquoi counties.

In July, 1856, with over 70 members, the first organizing meeting of the Brome County Agricultural Society was held with the Honorable P.H. Knowlton in the chair and Nathaniel Pettes appointed as secretary.

During those first years, the society organized two cattle shows a year in Knowlton, one in the fall and one in the

winter. The first Brome Fair was held on the first Wednesday of October in 1856.

In 1861 it was decided to hold only one exhibition in the fall and in 1890, the Society bought land and moved the Fair to its present location in Brome.

"We are asking people to bring us Fair memorabilia either as a loan or as a donation. We are really looking for stuff from the early days of the Fair — papers, trophies, photographs. We already have some material including a trophy for best sow and litter from 1932," continued Frizzle, a past president of the Fair.

"If anyone has a unique memory we would like to interview them for some oral history. Depending on the response there might be a book published or perhaps a permanent historical display."

Anyone with anything they would like to contribute can contact Irene Miller, chairman of the Historical Memorabilia sub-committee, at the Fair Office at 450-242-3976.



COURTESY DIANA FRIZZLE

Brome Fair has attracted crowds for almost 150 years. The board is looking for old photos like this one to commemorate the upcoming anniversary.

You can leave a message or talk to the secretary at the office on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ONE:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1



COURTESY CHRISTINE VAN-TILBORGH

Pousse Vert owner Christine Van-Tilborgh has big plans for her store.

Which is enough to keep Van-Tilborgh busy and the store open seven days a week. To thank her customers for a successful first year, Pousse Vert is holding a party April 8 to mark the first anniversary.

"We will be serving donuts and coffee as a thank you and every visitor will be given a rose in appreciation," she continued.

"We have become somewhat of an authority on roses, offering three for \$5. We've developed a base of customers that keep coming back for roses. So last month, I decided to hold a contest giving away a dozen roses. Our first winner was from Sutton. The contest will be ongoing with drawings on the first of every month by the first customer who walks into the store that day.

According to the owner, a big part of selling flowers is advising people on how to take care of them.

"Roses can last a long time if you cut the stem right under warm water, you don't want any air bubbles to get in. If you do that and change the water every day or so, your roses can last up to two weeks," Van-Tilborgh explained.

Van-Tilborgh has recently increased the stock of cut flowers, plants, herbs and organic vegetables to include dried

flowers, helium balloons and a variety of gifts. Additional garden centre products such as soil, fertilizers and bulbs are being added for this upcoming

growing season. "We will also carry a larger range of flats and a many more hanging baskets because we ran out of them last year."

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Canadian oil industry is comfy, not colluding

Buck a litre is almost here

Though you might find it hard to believe, the Competition Bureau says there's no evidence the Canadian oil industry has been fixing fuel prices.

Last week the Competition Bureau, which investigates unfair market practices, released the report on its fifth major investigation in 15 years on pricing practices in the oil industry.

Though prices at various points in the process from the oil well to your gas tank may seem similar no matter where you look, the investigation said that's just tight competition. It wasn't really planned that way, and it's not like there was a secret meeting amongst oil executives to set the price.

The report showed that before taxes (which make up a large chunk of prices at the pump) Canada still boasts some of the lowest fuel costs of any industrialized nation, lower even than the U.S.

That's true, especially if you look at European countries, where prices are about three times what we pay here.

Still, it doesn't feel that way, does it?

Liberal MP Dan McTeague has been a longtime adversary of oil pricing practices in Canada. After the report was released last week he was quoted in the Canadian Press as saying there's a lack of wholesale competition in Canada.

The oil companies don't have to collude on their prices, they are comfortable enough with each other to keep similar prices and share in the major profits that inevitably come their way.

The investigation went on to credit last year's spike in gas and oil prices to a few factors: Record high crude oil prices; political problems in major oil-producing countries; soaring demand from industrializing countries like China and India.

From that perspective it's easy to see we aren't out of the woods yet, and in fact we may never be. Political unrest in the Middle East isn't going to go away anytime soon, at least periodically putting supply levels into question.

Demand for fossil fuels in countries like China and India will continue to increase as they continue to become the world's manufacturing centres.

Meanwhile, there were more drivers on the road in Canada and the U.S. but no new refineries. Supply was short while demand increased.

One thing I find a little suspicious is how the price of a barrel of crude oil increases and the effect is felt at your local filling station almost immediately.

Meanwhile, the barrel of crude that actually sold for that price is in a tanker somewhere, days or weeks from making it to the refinery, and weeks more away from the stuff that's going into your tank. It doesn't break any rules, but it feels like opportunism.

Call it what you want, the system isn't going to change soon. Crude oil prices hit \$57 a barrel Tuesday, which isn't far from double what it was just a few years ago.

It won't be long before we're paying

\$1 a litre, and we're almost there now.

Don't forget, the extra you're paying at the pump is also being paid by the transport companies that drop off your groceries at the supermarket, that deliver the construction materials to the local lumber yard, that ship clothes and electronics to your favorite big box store.

That can really put the brakes on the economy, and before long we could be staring at a recession.

As consumers the only thing we can do is try to wean ourselves off fossil fuels as much as possible: More efficient cars and making smarter use of the vehicles we have.

If you're considering a new home heating system, take this into account as well.

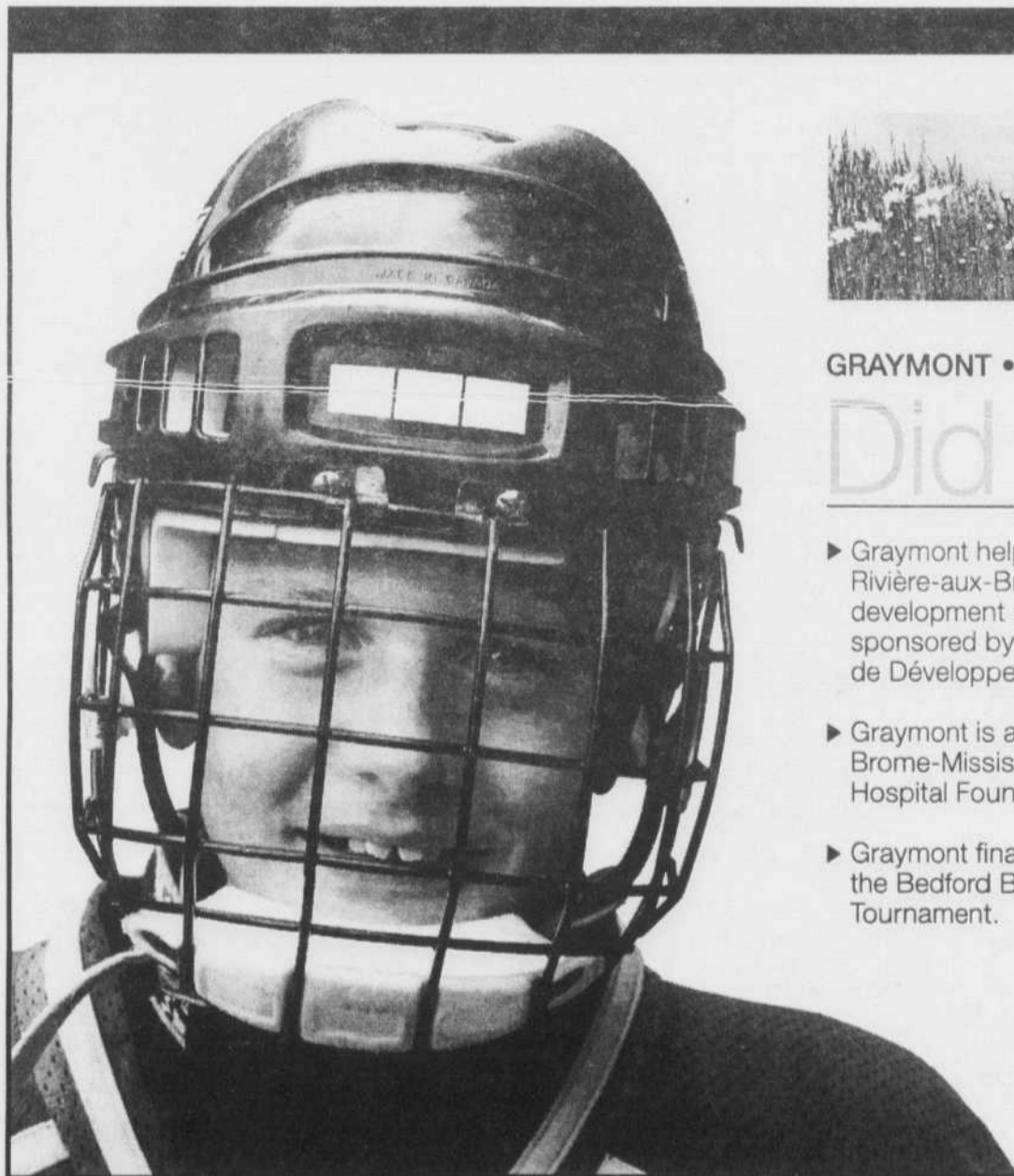
And when it comes to using fossil fuels, either in your car or your oil furnace, make sure they are getting every bit of energy possible out of every drop of fuel.

There's only a limited amount of the stuff left, and prices will only continue to climb as the sources dry up. Then what? We'll have to wait and see.

UNDER THE HOOD

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- ▶ Graymont is a partner of the Brome-Missisquoi-Perkins Hospital Foundation.
- ▶ Graymont financially supports the Bedford Bantam Hockey Tournament.
- ▶ Graymont supports several social and community organization projects as well as various charities in the Bedford region.
- ▶ Graymont publicly supported the Municipality of Bedford's resolution to pressure the Canadian and Quebec governments to budget funds to complete Highway 35.



GRAYMONT

True to our word

Local artists, artisans getting ready for Tour des Arts

By Wendy Denman
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

This year 40 local artists and artisans will open their studios daily July 16-24 as part of the 2005 edition of the Tour des Arts.

Organizers recently released a comprehensive guide for the event, which is available online at www.tourdesarts.com.

Working with local tourist offices, restaurants, hotels and businesses, organizers of the Tour have made sure activities coincide with a variety of local cultural events. The Tour des Enfants is also back — offering children daily cultural and artistic workshops under a circus tent on Ruiters Brook Road near Mansonville.

"The 2005 tour is set down and we are ready to start telling people about it," explained David James, a glass sculptor and a member of the Tour's board. "The map is now available on the Internet, at tourist offices, at Montreal's Bell Centre and at Westmount's Visual Arts Centre.

"We're very pleased with the way things have fallen into place, there's going to be a lot of activity during those nine days. We are paying special attention to publicity this year, and to getting the word out as far as we can."

The Tour des Arts attracts thousands of tourists every year, some on one-day trips from Montreal and the outer reaches of the Townships. However,

many tourists plan longer stays in the region taking the Tour des Arts leisurely, enjoying sports and cultural events along with the studio visits.

Events this year will include performances by the Homebrew Dixieland Band; Micheal Hynes; John Samborsky's jazz experience; an evening with storyteller Gissa Isreal; Contes de pays de France; prose and poetry readings by local English writers; a gypsy dance and a pastoral concert. Theatre Lac Brome's repertory season, with its four alternating performances, has also been made an integral part of the Tour for several years.

The number of open studios has always hovered near 40 — some artists have been part of this annual event from the beginning, many taking a year or so off here and there and other artists leave the area, so every year there is turnover.

"Four new artists will be part of the Tour this year and we're very happy to have them," James explained. "We always add some new studios every year — it rejuvenates us. We always have more aspiring artists than we do slots, so new members are selected by a jury."

Opening their studios for the first time with the Tour des Arts are Sutton sculptor, mask maker and puppeteer Almut Ellinghaus; Mansonville artist Maxime Hoffer; mixed-media artist Eve Provost-Chartrand and Knowlton's John Naccarato, a rural landscape and still life artist.

Pet Of The Week... Root



COURTESY SPCA MONTEREGIE

Hi, I'm a calm, gentle four-year-old guy and I weigh about 50 pounds. I was found roaming around lost. At the shelter they say I'm a great dog, so maybe you could come to visit and give your opinion. There are lots and lots of us dogs and cats here hoping for new homes. Visiting hours are 2 to 4 p.m. on Thursdays and Saturdays. SPCA Montere'gie, 178, ch. du Vide, Ste-Angele-de-Monnoir (exit 37 on Autoroute 10). Info: 450-460-3075.

COUNCIL:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

- An infrastructure deal with Quebec and Ottawa for the construction of a new community centre is almost at hand. Mayor Wisdom said the federal government is on board, and the Quebec government is almost ready to sign. Meanwhile, local fundraising efforts have almost garnered the \$1.5 million needed for Brome Lake's share.

Mayor Wisdom said the ground breaking ceremony is expected to be held on Sept. 1.

"We would have liked to have done it in early spring, but if we break ground before we get the funding, we'll be on our own," Wisdom said.

- A total of 25 construction permits

were issued in march, for a total of \$3.7 million in new construction.

- There will be a composting course held at the Brome Lake Community Centre on May 3 at 7 p.m. The course is free, but the composters available there sell for \$55.

- Monday night marked the first of the year's sectorial council meetings, taking place at Prouty Hall in Bondville. The next meeting will take place on May 2 at the Church of the Ascension in West Brome.

In June, the meeting will be held in Foster, and will then go to Iron Hill in July. The August meeting will be back in West Brome, followed by the September meeting in Foster.

The final traveling council meeting will be in Fulford in October before heading back to Knowlton for the winter months.

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PHOTOS: KATE WISDOM

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in association with
Townshippers'
Foundation

www.sunnymead.org/sunshine

Sheila McManus and Andrew Cuk

Celebration of the garden set for June 4

Alpines Mont Echo is hosting its second annual celebration of the garden – an eclectic gathering of specialty growers and artisans offering a rare and unusual collection of alpines, woodlanders, shrubs, conifers, hardy antique roses, perennials, annuals, ferns, succulents, organic and heirloom vegetable and herb plants.

On June 4 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., enthusiastic gardeners, expert and novice alike, will stroll the country garden located in the foothills of Mont Sutton and Mont Echo in search of that new and exciting plant, that special treasure, that perfect accessory or work of art to adorn their own garden.

Organizers Maria Galletti of Alpines Mont Echo in Sutton and Jeanne Saint-Gelais of Le Jardin du Fin Gourmet in Mansonville held their first event in 2004.

Being small specialty growers themselves, they wanted to find a way to support and promote other small growers as well as artisans and artists. From 10 participants last year, the number has more than doubled this year.

Other garden related enterprises are also invited to bring literature and business cards for display on a resource table set up on the grounds. Similar events in Quebec and Ontario are gaining in popularity as people become more and more interested in gardening.

For further information, contact Maria Galletti at 450-243-5354 or Jeanne Saint-Gelais at 450-292-0191.

Miller Receives Widow's Pin



COURTESY BROME LAKE LODGE

Darlene Miller was recently presented with a Masonic Widow's Pin by Wor. Brother Jean-Claude Marchand, Worshipful Master of Brome Lake Lodge 35. Miller's late husband was Right Worshipful Brother Ken Miller, who served the community for over 50 years as a member of Brome Lake Lodge. The lady who wears a Masonic Widow's pin, wherever she may be, is recognized by Masonic Brethren worldwide, and accorded every courtesy.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nobody's business?

DEAR EDITOR,

Re: March Tempo Editorial – Cedar Bay Calamity

Is this some kind of joke? This is a very damning editorial and is a bad reflection on TLB administration which is doing a fantastic job in running this town.

We do not live in an egalitarian society. Point in fact is the adjoining property owners were given first option to purchase the Lamothe property but were either too cheap or believed they had

squatters' rights to someone else's lakefront property that sells for \$1,500/ft. Furthermore, it is nobody's business what one does with private property as long as it meets environmental and municipal bylaws and code which in this case does. As a non-profit corporation, Tempo should spend more time on researching and stating the facts and less on political axe-grinding. The editors of Tempo have done a terrible disservice to the Town of Brome Lake and they should make a retraction.

L. FAUTEUX
Fulford

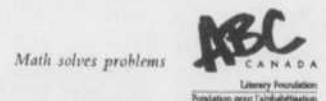


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World March of Women to reach us May 7

The month of March was a very busy one here at Avante Women's Centre.

On March 8, we celebrated International Women's Day with a large group who joined us for lunch and an information session on the milestones women have made over the years.

This year the second World March of Women also began on the same day in Sao Paulo, Brazil, so we traced the proposed march through 53 countries ending in Ouagadougou on Oct. 17.

The march will reach Quebec on Saturday, May 7. It will be an exciting event to welcome the women who have made huge commitments to defend the rights and equality of women.

Cowansville Women's Centre has organized a bus to Quebec City; members from Avante will be joining them, and anyone else wishing to participate can contact the office for more info.

WOMEN AND HEART DISEASE

Heart disease is the number one killer for women, higher than the next seven diseases combined, yet only 8 per cent of women see it as a health threat. Consulting nurse Jo-Anne Jones spoke last month at our evening workshop and warned us of the signs, explaining the reasons why we are at such a risk.

"Too often, we minimize the pains as an inconvenience, and don't take the time to inform ourselves," she said.

Jones encouraged us to take responsibility for our own well being. So many conditions can be reversed by simple changes, but attitude plays a major role and knowing what to ask the doctor about can make a big difference.

"If we're not aware, we can't change," Jones emphasized. Avante has several copies of fact sheets and guidelines for more on the topic.

WOMEN WHO BULLY

Gossiping about people, giggling at someone else's expense and talking badly about someone are forms of bullying, even though it's not physical, and it's not direct. Are you a bully? Are you intimidated by certain people?

Our April evening workshop will explore these questions with Marianne Braganza, a psychotherapist and founding Avante member, who will share her expertise with us on Thursday evening, April 21 from 7 to 9 p.m. Come discover the whos, whys, whens and hows.

ing, even though it's not physical, and it's not direct. Are you a bully? Are you intimidated by certain people?

WORLD BOOK DAY

Marking the births and deaths of many famous writers (including Shakespeare) April 23 has been selected as World Book Day. We honoured the occasion a little early by inviting writer and publisher Tanya Tkach to join us for breakfast at our monthly coffee break on April 5.

Tanya explained how she came to writing the book and offered advice on becoming self-published. Those in attendance all had something to associate themselves to Tanya's experience and was very enlightening.

TREATING MENOPAUSE NATURALLY

Our March coffee break was supposed to include natural remedies for several women's ailments, but the interest seemed to focus specifically on menopause so we all became very well informed on the options available from the field of naturopathy from our guest, Isabelle Lambert.

Sponsored by Bedford pharmacist Maryse Lorrain, Lambert clearly explained the principles of natural therapy and reviewed the many, many combinations of herbs, vitamins and minerals used to relieve not only symptoms of menopause but general feelings of imbalance.

"The body has the power of healing itself, if we

give it the right tools," Lambert said.

Lambert pointed out however, that naturopaths treat the whole person, and not just a symptom, so she recommends seeing a naturopath for a private consultation.

Her services will be free of charge at the pharmacy Maryse Lorrain on April 19 and May 24. Call 450-248-2892 for an appointment.

IN THE COMMUNITY

AVANTE WOMEN'S CENTRE

PARENTING TEENS PROGRAM

Since the program we held last spring on parenting 6-12 year olds was so well received, Avante has followed up with a new program on parenting teens.

A multi-media format allows us to forgo the role playing and watch the professionals on video help us figure out ways to successfully communicate with and discipline our teenagers.

Using the Parent's Guide and Leader's manual, we will discover effective ways to deal with developing courage, self-esteem and responsibility, as well as confront the ever present issues of sex, drugs and alcohol. Meetings will be every Tuesday morning from April 19 until May 24 from 9:30 a.m. to noon.

There is a cost of \$20 and a maximum of 10 mothers. Please contact the Avante offices to pre-register.

LOUISA

Sunshine Theatre will be performing Louisa, a musical based on a pioneer family building their

lives in 19th century Quebec. Tickets are available at the Avante office with the possibility of arranging a car pool, depending on the response.

WEIGH IN WITH DR. PHIL

By popular demand, Avante has organized a weekly support group that will follow Dr. Phil's successful The Ultimate Weight Solution program.

Each week there will be a weigh-in and a nurse familiar with the guidelines to help us through it. We want to start with a maximum of 12 participants so call to hold your spot. Our first meeting will be May 2 at noon and will run eight weeks.

And as always, we offer our weekly stitching group, who meet every Wednesday for creative crafting and the audio, video and reference library is available during office hours.

Avante Women's Centre is dedicated to providing support and services to English speaking women in the Brome-Missisquoi area. Our services are free of charge, and we are open daily from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. We are located at 2 Adhemar-Cusson in Bedford. For information, call us at 450-248-0530.

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Home Renovations

Heritage on a roll: Vintage wallpaper gets a new life through Victoria design house.

By Grania Litwin
CanWest News Service

VICTORIA – Stuart Stark will go to almost any lengths to preserve heritage wallpaper.

While visiting an old wallpaper mill in England recently, the Victoria heritage expert spied a big dumpster brimming with tantalizing-looking materials about to be carted off.

He casually asked what was inside and was told: just old stuff brought from Canada years and years ago.

"I was apoplectic, but managed to ask if I could see some of it," said Stark.

It was a late Friday afternoon and the workers were longing to go home, but they handed him a couple of giant scrapbooks to flip through.

"There were a lot of wallpapers with wide-eyed giraffes from the mid '70s," he said.

But the paper chase was on, and he quickly spotted some patterns he wanted. Someone gamely jumped into the dumpster and retrieved the print rollers in question – one from 1890 and another from 1908.

"We rescued them from oblivion," said Stark, and they were soon put back in use, creating 'new' wallpapers that are today exclusively stocked at his Charles Rupert Designs Ltd. store in Victoria.

Stark describes his store as a Canadian design house, offering six recently created heritage patterns in 17 different colours.



Photo by Darren Stone/Victoria Times-Colonist

Stuart Stark of Charles Rupert Designs Ltd. with Victoria heritage tiles.

Two patterns are from the rollers mentioned above, three are derived from William Morris non-copyright patterns and another was found on the walls of a 1780s home in New Hampshire and copied.

The wallpapers cost \$114 a double roll and are unique. Stark knows of no other Canadian firm producing a historic line, despite the fact Canada used to have a 'fabulous' wallpaper industry in the early 1900s. It folded years ago and moved to the U.S.

The new Morris wallpapers are being produced on vintage surface print machines in England that date back to 1880. One wallpaper, called Bird and Vine, was inspired by a Morris tapestry fabric that sells for \$495 a metre. Stark copied the pattern in terra cotta and olive shades, on a bronze background.

He created the others – Marigold, and Pink and Rose – from drawings in an old folio that he bought at auction.

"I discovered this incredible folio of Morris's drawings – photo lithographs in colour, made the year after he died, in 1897," he said.

In general, wallpaper has been in a slump for about 10 years, but Stark is on a roll when it comes to historical papers and business is booming, especially online, where sales now account for 65 per cent of his business. He sells 446 wallpapers

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Home Renovations

Heritage on a roll: Vintage wallpaper gets a new life through Victoria design house.

Continued from previous page

and fabrics online, and is the largest purveyor of Morris prints and fabric in the world.

"When the CEO of Sanderson Wallpapers visited here recently, he called me Mr. Morris," said Stark with glee.

The replica wallpapers look handmade and have a lovely surface texture that appears, and almost feels, embossed.

"That results from the amount of ink laid on," he said. "You can even see tiny colour bleeds here and there, whereas other wallpapers are like pages from magazines."

Stark's wallpapers now hang everywhere, from a lighthouse in Newfoundland owned by the National Historic Sites, to a historic Ramsey house in Minneapolis. They're in a mission house in the Lyman Museum in Hawaii and on walls of the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

"We had a call from Big Primate Pictures in New Zealand, who are doing a remake of King Kong, and wanted our papers for the interiors," said Stark.

The Yale Centre for British Art has ordered paper for its William Morris Exhibit in eastern New Haven, and home buyers from all over the world are placing orders, too.

"That's the core of our business," said Stark. "We are sending paper to Russia, Australia, New Zealand,



This design is called "Fairfield Tulip" and is a Canadian design circa 1908.

France, all through the States, even the U.K."

And the trend is catching on. Cole & Sons, one of the largest wallpaper firms in the world, is resurrecting David Hicks's designs from the 1950s and 1960s, and a quick glance at the Internet shows 1950s florals and 1970s salvaged papers are hot commodities.

"You wouldn't give houseroom to many wallpapers from the 1880s, but Morris is ever popular because his designs are based on nature," said Stark. "They are flattened and stylized . . . dense but not demanding."

"They haven't been out of production for over a century."

William Morris: a renaissance man of the 1800s

VICTORIA - William Morris was born in 1834 into a wealthy family. But he didn't sit around its own extensive grounds.

Financial freedom allowed him to focus instead on all the things he loved to do, and he did them with such vigour and creativity that he became the best-known, most-versatile designer in England.

His first interest was theology and architecture, but the young man soon discovered design and became a passionate socialist about the same time.

In short order, Morris became an author and poet of note, but it was as an artist he really made his mark. He designed stained glass windows for churches, set up his own tapestry loom to make hangings, learned to tuft carpets and paint tiles, took up carpentry so he could design furniture and created some of the world's most sought-after wallpapers.

Morris's passion for craftsmanship led him to set up the Morris and Co. Art Workers Guild and The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. When he died at age 62, he had achieved the life work of several men.

The William Morris Gallery in London is housed in what was once his home, a large Georgian mansion set in

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The Denise-Larocque-Duhamel Library in Stanbridge East hosted a Wine & Cheese Party March 28 for those who have volunteered their services over the past years. In attendance were Judy Antle (Counsel Representative for 2004), Barbara Gage, Lise Racine, Lise Patenaude, Robert and Ginette Deschamps and their grand-daughter Anya, Jeannette Numann, Nathalie Thibodeau, Micheline Couture, Nicole Buron, Beverly Hébert, and Irène Bernier.

Those who were unable to attend were Annie Rhicard, Marielle Langlois, Alice Gunhouse and Michael Laduke (Counsel Representative for 2005). Library director Nathalie Thibodeau gave a report on the many changes and the growth of the library including the activities over the past year. Each volunteer was presented with a Biblio au Quebec lapel pin. The volunteers were pleased and happy to be honored and thanked for their services in such a way. It was a very enjoyable evening.

—Submitted by Bev Hebert

Mount Sutton chapter 12 holds card party

The Oddfellows Hall in Knowlton was full of eager card players last week for the Military Whist game which was hosted by Mount Sutton Chapter 12 of the Masons. There were 18 tables. The first prize went to Capt. Anne Foster, Randall Foster, Virginia Clifford and Maureen Ashton at table 18 (41 points). Prize 2 went to table 1 with Capt. Catherine Lawrence, Russell Lawrence, Doris Wilson and Helen Ramsey (40 points).

There were two Booby prizes given to table 15 thanks to a score of 16 points — Capt. Louise Lowry, Pat Cote, Ruth Lefebvre and Lucille Aiken. Table 9 also had 16 points — Capt. Lawrence Marsh, Helen Campbell, Nancy Dixon and Rita Hamilton. Eugene and Annie were in charge as usual. Door prizes went to Doreen McPherson, Muriel Whitehead, Stella Mizener, Norman Cook, Audrey Rhicard, Earl Whitehouse, Nancy Dixon, Karl Steinbeck, Helen W., Bruce Greig, Eva Page, Andie

Mullarkey, Helen Ramsay, Peggy Battley, Alan Badger, Russell Lawrence and Gilles Nadeau. The draw for the grocery box went to Alice Mullarkey, Rita Hamilton and Shirley Lord. Lunch was served and a good time was had by all. See you all next week.

—Submitted by Edna Badger

Knowlton Golden Agers

Knowlton Golden Agers met twice in March. On March 3, 33 members met to play bingo and to enjoy a pizza lunch courtesy of Mr. Mike Pille of Windmill Plastics. Thank you Mike. The 1/2 + 1/2 draw was won by Sid de Solla and Louise Lowry. A very pleasant afternoon was enjoyed by all.

On March 17 the Golden Agers met again to play 500. There was one games table playing rummy. Winners at the 500 game were: First prize — Cleta Gagne, second — Bev. Battley, third — Doreen Gibbs, fourth — Helen Mailoux. Monica Bowen and Doreen Gibbs won the 10 diamond bid. Three members were celebrating birthdays, they

were Pam Gloud, Rita Hamilton and Mabel Williamson and they enjoyed their birthday cake at lunch time. On April 7 the club will be going to the Sugar Shack for their outing.

—Submitted by Edna Badger



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THE RECORD

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Golden opportunity: A place called Kicking Horse

To get from Calgary into the mountains on a recent western ski trip, we weighed the options and went the rent-a-car route.

While bus service is good, there's always the matter of traveling locally between towns and resorts; having our own vehicle would be the simplest solution, though not necessarily the cheapest as we quickly discovered.

After completing the paperwork, the cheerful girl behind the counter handed over the keys with the proviso that "You're not going into British Columbia, are you?" Well, in fact we were so intending, which necessitated a few quick alterations to the contract, but luckily no additional charges.

Driving through the foothills, we puzzled over the B.C. question. Had there been a rash of recent sasquatch encounters, imperiling the motoring public? Were B.C. drivers a wild and crazy bunch? (Being from Quebec we'd feel right at home)

Or maybe those two most infamous mountain Indians that motorists are always warned to look out for, Winding Curves and Falling Rocks, had been acting up again.

Whatever awaited us, after our

fourth night in Banff we packed up and headed westward past Lake Louise, over Kicking Horse pass and down into the town of Golden, B.C.

We'd done a brief lunchtime tour of Golden driving west in 1999 and little had changed in the interim.

Unlike the popular resort towns in the big parks, Golden is a real community with a stable population that lives, works, goes to school and sometimes church in the area, like normal folk anywhere else. Except for servicing through-travellers on the Trans-Canada Highway, tourism has played a minor role in the local economy.

But that part is changing. Courtesy of major investment in the once-obscure ski centre on Kicking Horse Mountain towering above the town's southern flank, Golden's winter streets are increasingly busy with skiers, ski tour buses, and ski industry workers.

Integrating the latter, mostly athletic young folk from far away (including the familiar contingent of Aussies and Kiwis), is generally proceeding well, though not without some reluctance.

Recently the ski centre doubled its available vertical rise from 2,000 to 4,000 feet, courtesy of a spanking new gondola that carries skiers into territory once accessible only by helicopter.

THE COUNTRY SQUIRE

BRIAN EDDINGTON

These new heights put it in the same league as Lake Louise and Whistler-Blackcomb with the longest runs and best expert terrain in the country.

Part of the phenomenon is a boom in local real estate. On a good day, Golden is three hours from Calgary... and all that oil money is just begging for somewhere more fun than the prairies to go.

While waiting for ex-Townships friends to finish their workday at the ski centre, we did a little window shopping.

We hiked about a new development on the west flank of the mountain. A few homes likely bought on speculation were up for re-sale. Our guesses at the asking price of a modest Scandinavian-style log structure on a quarter-acre lot ranged from \$250,000 to \$450,000.

A Scotsman out walking his dog overheard and suggested we try again. The owner was asking a cool million,

and would soon get it. (Not from the Scot, though, he assured us)

On top of the mountain, at roughly 9,000 feet altitude on another clear-blue-sky morning, the many appeals of Kicking Horse became evident. Huge open bowls flanked by precipitous drops beckoned skiers of all abilities. On the summit, a large bar-restaurant called the Eagle's Eye gleamed in the late-winter sun.

By its own admission, it's the highest eatery in Canada. (Likely it's also the highest indoor flush toilet facility, but that's not part of the advertising)

After a pub-style lunch and drinks on the deck of the Eagle's Eye, looking across the spiky spine of the Purcell Mountains and down into valleys that, as the poet said, 'the moon could be rolled in' there seemed no hurry to get back skiing. But, that being the last afternoon on the last of our mountains, ski we did.

I told the others that, should somehow we get separated, they needn't bother trying to contact me via radio. They could find me on the deck of the Eagle's Eye, from anytime late afternoon until the good folks at Kicking Horse kicked me out.

Remembering Allister Angus Kerr

Dad, the eldest son of Donnel and Florence, grew up in Glace Bay, Cape Breton Island, where he basked in the full glow of his mother's love.

Dad was a handsome gregarious youth who excelled in rugby, music, theatre and school. The depression hit hard and his last duty before heading off to World War II was to pay for his popular mom's funeral leaving his sister Jean to help his widowed father in caring for the younger children.

Not one to give in to adversity, dad used his own talents to entertain his shipmates both at sea and while on leave and kept close ties with his family throughout his life. Upon his return from the war, Dad attended Mount Allison University where he de-

veloped a life long love of poetry.

He married Minnie Reid of New Horton, N.B., on Christmas Eve 1954. Together they raised seven children while fostering dad's active career as a school administrator and teacher.

He trained in math and French and eventually became the head of the math department at Massey-Vanier High School in Cowansville. Anyone passing by his classroom might wonder if he was teaching math, or music, as he would often set his equations to verse encouraging his class to sing along.

Dad played the keyboards and directed choirs in schools and churches both in the Maritimes and Quebec. He was an enthusiastic supporter of his children and grandchildren regard-

less of activity or venue. He was an avid sports fan and a constant presence at the local hockey arena.

He diligently proofread my stories for regional newspapers and gladly accompanied the community choir, under the direction of my sister Laura. Dad also served as a recognized lay minister with the United Church of Canada, nurturing friendships with area seniors, recovering alcoholics and chemical addicts as well as young inmates at the Cowansville Penitentiary.

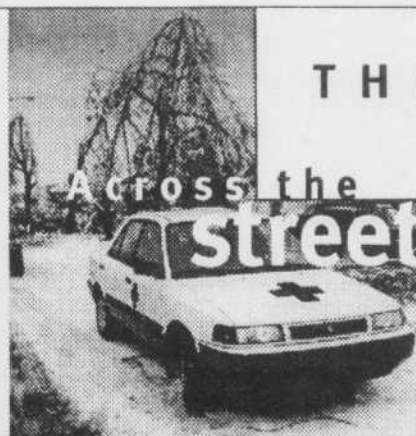
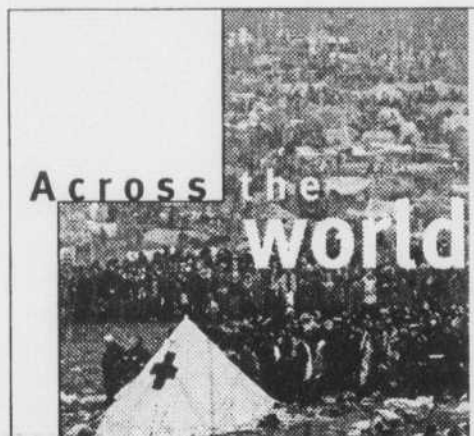
For Dad's 83rd birthday, mom gave him an electric piano which he played from his hospital bed with great gusto for a steady parade of doting family members, friends and acquaintances. He held court for eight months at the

BMP Hospital in Cowansville where he joyfully celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary.

On Feb. 24, embraced by my mother and surrounded by loved ones, his body finally succumbed to the complications of pneumonia and cancer. Dad will be remembered as a past principal of Riverside Consolidated as they celebrate their centennial this summer in New Brunswick and, as "Monsieur Hi!" by his neighbours on Wellington Street in Cowansville, but his proudest legacy is his large ram-bunctious family.

Together, we proudly embody the many talents and enthusiasm for life that he and mom imparted. We will be forever grateful. Shine on, Dad.

-Valerie Jean Kerr



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Le professeur de piano

Je veux partager avec vous l'histoire vécue qui suit. Elle a été racontée par une Américaine qui a enseigné le piano pendant longtemps dans des écoles élémentaires et des cours privés à la maison, pour augmenter ses revenus.

Parmi ses élèves se trouvaient des enfants talentueux et aussi des enfants avec des problèmes d'apprentissage de la musique. Robby était un tel élève.

"Il avait 11 ans, lorsque sa mère (monoparentale) l'amena pour sa première leçon de piano. J'aimais mieux que les enfants commencent plus jeunes (surtout les garçons) ce que j'ai expliqué à Robby.

"Il m'a répondu que sa mère rêvait de l'entendre jouer du piano. Je l'ai donc accepté et il a commencé ses leçons, mais, dès le début, je pensais que c'était peine perdue. Malgré ses efforts, Robby manquait le ton et le rythme musical requis pour exceller. Mais, il pratiquait religieusement entre ses leçons hebdo-

madaires. À la fin de chaque leçon, il disait 'Un jour, ma mère m'entendra jouer du piano.'

"Mais cela semblait impossible. Il n'avait pas de talent. Je ne connaissais pas sa mère. Je la voyais dans sa vieille voiture lorsqu'elle amenait Robby et attendait jusqu'à la fin de la leçon. Elle m'envoyait la main et souriait, mais elle n'est jamais venue dans la maison. Puis, un jour Robby cessa de venir. J'ai pensé lui téléphoner mais, connaissant son manque d'habileté, j'étais contente qu'il ait abandonné. Il n'était pas une bonne annonce pour mes cours.

"Quelques semaines plus tard, j'ai fait parvenir des dépliants à tous mes étudiants au sujet du prochain récital. À ma grande surprise, Robby demanda de participer. Je lui ai dit que ce récital était pour les élèves actuels et que puisqu'il avait abandonné ses cours, il ne se qualifiait pas.

"Il m'a dit que sa mère avait été malade et elle n'avait pas pu l'amener. Il me supplia - 'je dois absolument jouer,' insista-t-il.

"Je ne sais pas ce qui m'a poussée à le laisser jouer lors du récital. Le gymnase de l'école était bondé de parents et d'amis. J'ai placé Robby le dernier au programme. Je devais ensuite me présenter, remercier les étudiants et jouer une pièce finale et je pourrais ainsi compenser pour la piètre performance de Robby.

"Le récital se déroula sans accrochage. Les étudiants avaient bien pratiqué et cela se voyait. Puis, Robby arriva sur l'estrade. Ses vêtements étaient froissés et ses cheveux avaient l'air d'avoir été coiffés au moyen d'un batteur à oeufs. Pourquoi ne s'est-il pas habillé comme les autres? Pourquoi sa mère l'a-t-elle laissé partir sans se peigner les cheveux? Robby tira le banc et pris place devant le piano.

"J'étais surprise quand il a annoncé qu'il jouerait le concerto #21 de Mozart. Rien ne m'avait préparée à ce qui suivit. Ses doigts étaient légers sur les notes, ils dansaient même. Il alla de pianissimo à fortissimo, d'al-

legro à virtuoso. Jamais je n'avais entendu du Mozart joué de cette manière par quelqu'un d'aussi jeune. Il termina dans un grand crescendo et toute la foule se leva dans un tonnerre d'applaudissements.

"Je ne pouvais pas retenir mes larmes en m'avançant vers l'estrade. En plaçant mon bras autour des épaules de Robby, je lui dis 'Je ne t'ai jamais entendu jouer comme cela, comment l'as-tu fait?' Devant le micro, Robby m'expliqua: 'Vous vous souvenez que je vous ai dit que ma mère était malade? Elle souffrait du cancer et elle est décédée ce matin. Et elle était sourde. Ce soir, elle m'entendait jouer pour la première fois. Je voulais que ce soit spécial.'

"Tout le monde avait la larme à l'oeil. Même les gens des services sociaux venus pour placer Robby dans un foyer d'accueil avaient les yeux rouges et je me suis dit que ma vie avait été plus riche pour avoir accepté d'enseigner le piano à Robby.

"Il m'a enseigné la tolérance et la persévérance ainsi que l'amour et l'estime de soi et de peut-être donner une chance à quelqu'un sans trop savoir pourquoi."

Cette histoire vécue a pris une autre tournure, plusieurs années plus tard lorsque après avoir servi son pays à la guerre du Golfe, Robby a été tué par une bombe qui a détruit un immeuble fédéral à Oklahoma City en 1995. Il semble qu'il jouait du piano lorsqu'il a été frappé.



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Classes will begin on April 26

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FIN 102	Survey of Western Art II	Wednesday, 13:00-16:00
FIN 160	Drawing I	Wednesday, 9:30-12:30
FIN 170	Sculpture I	Tuesday, 17:00-21:00
FIN 175	Introduction to Fibre art	Friday, 9:30-13:30
FIN 185	Landscape drawing and painting	
	Spring: May 10-June 16	Tuesday-Thursday, 9:30-12:30
	Summer: June 21-July 19	Tuesday-Thursday, 9:30-13:30

Humanities

SPA 102	Introduction to Spanish II	Tuesday, 9:30-12:30
SPA 206	Spanish Conversation	Tuesday, 13:30-16:30

Workshops (8 sessions of 2.5 hours)

Round table on the Contemporary Novel	Wednesday, 9:30-12:00
French conversation (Beginner)	Thursday 10:00-12:30
French conversation (Intermediate)	Thursday, 14:00-16:30

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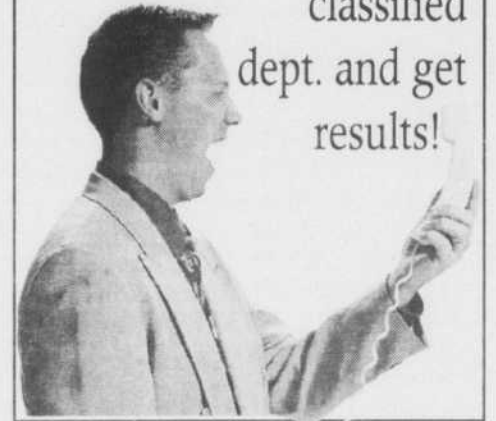
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Card of Thanks

JACOBS, Mary Brown - The family of the late Mary Brown Jacobs wishes to extend thanks to all family and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards and generous donations made in our Mom's memory. Special thanks to Dr. Boudreau and the nursing team at B.M.P. Hospital. Our heartfelt gratitude to Reverend Sinpoh Han and members of Trinity Anglican Church for a beautiful service and reception. We would also like to thank Mr. Kenneth Bell for his caring and compassion at a very difficult time.

MADELINE, GARY,
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JONES McBRIDE EATON, Phoebe - Sincere thanks to all those who sent cards, condolences and phone calls. Special thanks to Doctors Barakett and Giannangelo, also all staff at Knowlton House.

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