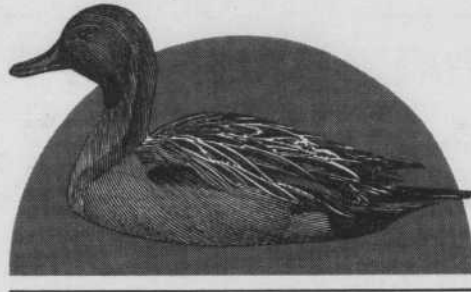


Brome County NEWS



THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1999

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THE LARGEST CIRCULATION WEEKLY IN BROME-MISSISQUOI

St. Armand author making his dreams come true

Yves Langlois creates a community-inspired tale of a mischievous raccoon

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
PHILIPSBURG/ST-ARMAND

Yves Langlois is a storyteller who has traveled a non-traditional path.

His tale, "L'Aventure de Rakou, le petit raton laveur," tells the story of a baby raccoon who disobeys his mother and finds himself lost in the forests of Mount Royal.

Rather than a simple cautionary tale, Langlois's story of the raccoon's search for the fabled forests of Lake Champlain is enriched with themes of friendship, the search for acceptance and the perils of judging character too quickly.

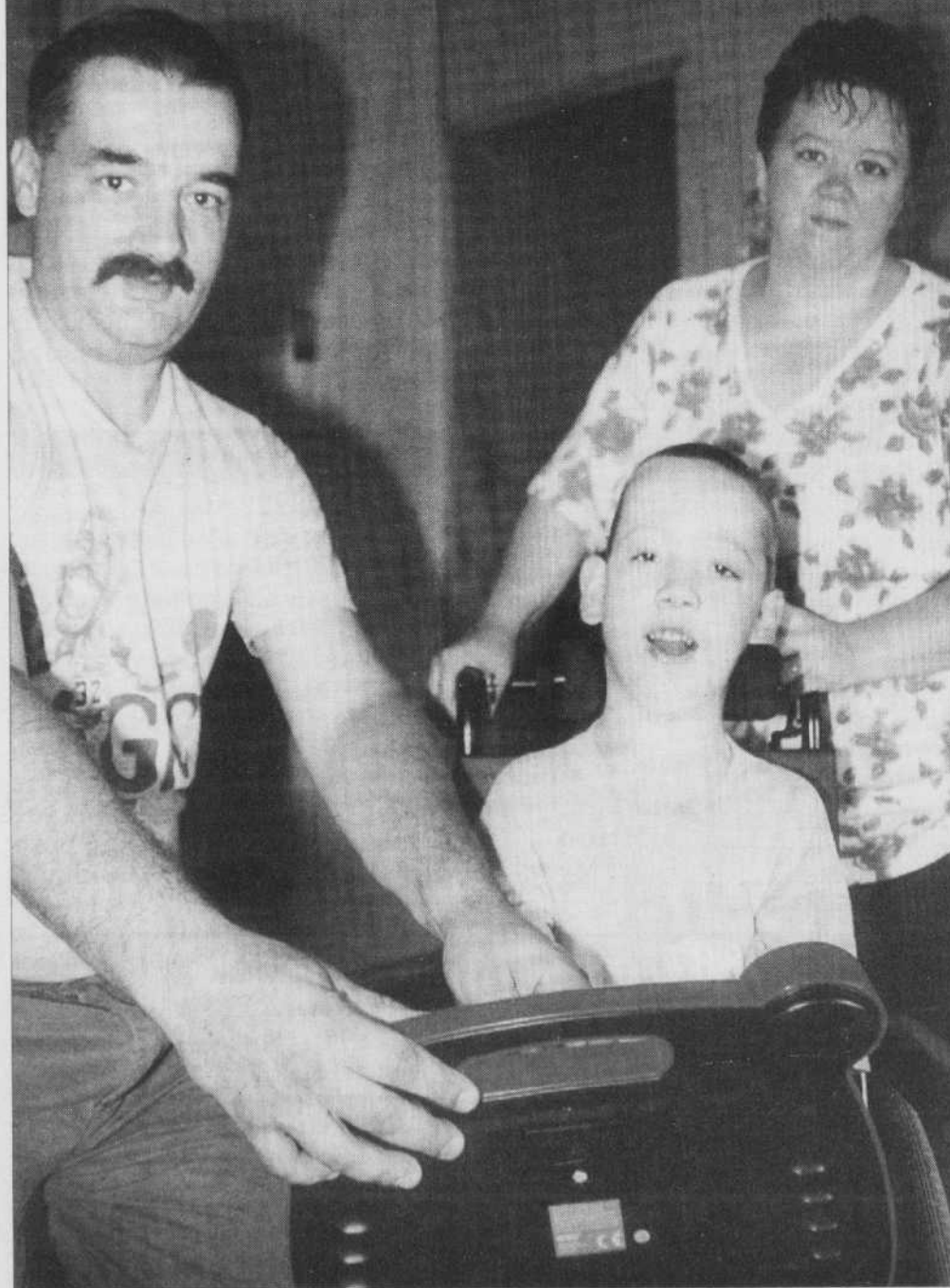
The story's creation, said the author, was the result of a process that could only have happened in a small town.

Langlois is a former urbanite and self-described world traveler who finally found happiness in the tiny village of St-Armand.

"As a traveler you meet fantastic people, but you have no roots," said

SEE AUTHOR, PAGE 12

Uncle wants to help nephew with cerebral palsy



Hazen and Linda Woodard with their son Adam.

Matthew Powers willing to give what he has to improve quality of life

By Tanya Tkach
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
KNOWLTON

Matthew Powers is volunteering his talents and labour as a landscaper and handyman to raise funds for his nephew Adam Woodard, 6, afflicted with cerebral palsy.

"My specialty is landscaping, but I'm also a handyman. I'll do painting, sanding or whatever is needed. Adam is stumbling through life and he doesn't even have the right apparatus' for his simplest needs such as a proper car seat," said Powers, determined to work voluntarily for one month as long as clients donate payment to Woodard.

"Hopefully, people will call me because they want to help Adam," he added.

The Power family is no stranger to physical handicaps. Their eldest daughter born with a hearing impairment receives weekly treatment at the Readaptation Centre in Sherbrooke. Father Matthew suffered a stroke a few years ago leaving the left side of his body paralyzed.

"I know the feeling of being inside a body that doesn't function," said Powers.

The sight of his nephew always wheelchair-bound in a corner, during family celebrations spurred Powers to do something.

TANYA TKACH/CORRESPONDENT

SEE POWER, PAGE 8

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See Drive-In - page 2.

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BROME COUNTY COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

July 8

Salad & Dessert Luncheon at All Saints Anglican Church, Dunham, at noon. Donation, \$7. Cards to follow after lunch. Reservations: (450) 295-3341 or 295-2349. Take a break and join us for delicious salads and fresh strawberry shortcake!

July 9

Strawberry Shortcake Social and Pastry Sale sponsored by the residents of Courville Geriatric Center, 5305 Courville Ave., Waterloo. Reserve your tickets, \$4. Proceeds to benefit Activity Fund. Contact Angele Ledoux at 539-1821, Ex. 28.

July 11

Annual Beef & Pork B.B.Q. sponsored by Mount Sutton Chapter #12 at Grace Church Hall, Sutton at 11:45 a.m. Admission, \$8.50. Children pay at door. Baked potatoes, salads, rolls, strawberry Sunday, cookies, all homemade. Tel. 243-5742 or 538-0697.

July 14

The Knowlton House and Garden Tour will be on Wednesday, July 14.

Proceeds to benefit Theatre Lac Brome, Knowlton. Call the Box Office for further information and reservations, (450) 242-2270.

July 14 - 17

'**La Fete Des Mascottes**' to be held on the Main St. in Granby. Animation and characters of Caillou, Baby Spice, Arthur Coureur Des Bois, Ronald McDonald and more. For information tel. (450) 375-4322.

July 16, 30, Aug. 13, 27

Military Whist (card party) sponsored by Rebekah Lodge #20 at 9a Depot, Sutton, Friday's at 7:30 p.m. Admission charge \$3. Refreshments. All welcome!

July 17

Sutton Library will hold a Giant Sale of new and used books and jigsaw puzzles at the John Sleeth Community Centre, Academy St., Sutton, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. All profits will be used to buy new books for our Library.

July 17, 18

Big Book Sale at The Pettes Library, Knowlton, Saturday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Two big tents of books from \$3 to .50. Bring the family!

Library. Artist Blanche M. Gauvin of Knowlton presents her developed skills in Chinese techniques: Sumiye is a rapid wash drying technique in black and white on rice paper and calligraphy. Open Monday's through Friday's, 12 noon to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday's, 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Saturday's 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information call (450) 243-6128.

Through Aug. 14

Now playing, **Always....Patsy Cline**, presented by Theatre Lac Brome, a professional repertory company. Opening July 9, **Loot**, by Joe Orton, then **The Impromptu of Outremont** by Michel Tremblay, opens July 23. All three plays will be running until Aug. 14. Wednesday to Saturday at 8 p.m., Thursday matinee 2 p.m. The Knowlton House and Garden Tour is on Wednesday, July 14. Call the box office for further information and reservations, (450) 242-2270.

Line Dancing; Tuesday's, Tai Chi; 1st Wednesday, Bingo, Thursday's, Bowling. Summer activities include: Wednesday's, Rummy Poker, 1:30 p.m., M. Blais, 243-5164; Chess, 1:30 p.m., P. Ravarie, 243-6357; Friday's, Bridge, M. Petit, 242-1028.

Do you wish you could read better? Need help with basic math? Call the Yamaska Literacy Council. Work one-on-one with a tutor and learn at your own pace. Lessons are FREE, private and confidential. Learning can be fun so why not do something for yourself today? Call Donna at 263-7503.

CHURCH SERVICES

Parish of Brome

During the month of July there will only be one worship service each Sunday.

Each service will be at 9:30 a.m.: 4th July St. Aidan, Sutton Junction; 11th July Church of the Ascension, West Brome; 18th July Church of St. John Evangelist, Brome Village; 25th July Church of the Holy Trinity, Iron Hill.

Knowlton Pastoral Charge

Creek United, Foster - Worship & Song, 9:30 a.m.

Knowlton United, Knowlton - Worship & Song, 11 a.m.

Services led by Dr. Burn Purdon.

St. Paul's Anglican Church

24 St. Paul's Road, Knowlton. We wish to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known. Sunday Services, 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday School and Nursery, 10 a.m. The Rev. Ralph T. Leavitt - Pastor. Allow us to welcome you!

Cowansville Area Pastoral Charge (United Church)

Sunday morning Worship during the month of July will be held at 9:30 a.m. at East Farnham United Church.

In August Sunday morning worship will be at 9:30 a.m. at Emmanuel United Church, Cowansville (including Labour Day Sunday) All welcome!

COMMUNITY NOTES

July 13-Aug. 20

Drawing and Multi-media for teens and children at Bishops Knowlton Centre in July and August. Call Cathy Ratcliffe, 539-4338. Workshop in collage for adults, July 26 - 30, 235 Knowlton Rd. Information, Louise Jamet at 242-1518.

Club de la Bonne Humeur Lac Brome, 5 Mill Rd., Bondville. The following activities will be postponed to September: Monday's,

ARTS CALENDAR

July 2 - 31

Dry Pastel and Sumiye Exhibition at Pettes Memorial

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<p>Brome County NEWS 88 LAKESIDE, KNOWLTON, QUEBEC, J0E 1V0 TEL: (450) 242-1188 / 242-6892 FAX: (450) 243-5155</p> <p>Published weekly by</p> <p>THE RECORD 257 QUEEN ST., LENNOXVILLE, QUEBEC, J1M 1K7 FAX: (819) 569-3945 E-MAIL: record@interlinx.qc.ca website: www.sherbrooke-record.com</p>	<p>RANDY KINNEAR PUBLISHER 800 463-9525 SHARON McCULLY EDITOR/OFF. MGR. (450) 242-1188 ALISON STEEL SECRETARY (450) 242-1188 LYNDA BELLAVANCE ADVERTISING (450) 242-6892 PAULINE LAROCHELLE ADVERTISING (450) 242-6892 SUNIL MAHTANI CORRESP. EDITOR . 800 463-9525 SUSAN MASTINE COMMUNITY RELAT. 800 463-9525 RICHARD LESSARD PROD. MGR. . . . 800 463-9525 MARK GUILLETTE PRESS. SUPERV. . . 800 463-9525 FRANCINE THIBAUT PROD. SUPERV. 800 463-9525</p>	<p>CIRCULATION Distributed to all Record subscribers every Wednesday as an insert, and to all households and businesses in Abercorn, Bedford, Brigham, Brome, Bromont, Cowansville, East Farnham, Foster, Fulford, Knowlton (Brome Lake), Sutton, Bolton Centre, West Brome.</p>	<p>The Record is published daily Monday to Friday. Back copies of The Record ordered one week after publication are available at \$3.00 per copy prepaid.</p> <p>The Record was founded on February 7, 1897, and acquired the Sherbrooke Examiner (est. 1879) in 1905 and the Sherbrooke Gazette (est. 1837) in 1908. The Record is published by Sun Media Corporation, a Quebecor company, having its head office at 333 King Street, Toronto (Ontario), M5A 3K5.</p>																	
	<p>SUBSCRIPTIONS</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td>GST</td> <td>PST</td> <td>TOTAL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CANADA: 1 YEAR</td> <td>104.00</td> <td>7.28</td> <td>8.35</td> <td>\$119.63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 MONTHS</td> <td>53.50</td> <td>3.75</td> <td>4.29</td> <td>\$61.54</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 MONTHS</td> <td>27.00</td> <td>1.89</td> <td>2.17</td> <td>\$31.06</td> </tr> </table> <p>Out of Quebec residents do not include PST. Rates for other services available on request.</p>		GST	PST	TOTAL	CANADA: 1 YEAR	104.00	7.28	8.35	\$119.63	6 MONTHS	53.50	3.75	4.29	\$61.54	3 MONTHS	27.00	1.89	2.17	\$31.06
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Duck Festival to provide 'regional showcase'

Ouimette opts to avoid confrontation

By Maurice Crossfield

The president of the Eastern Townships International Duck Festival stopped by Knowlton last week to discuss this year's event - and his relationship with town merchants.

Last year, Jacques Ouimette moved the Duck Festival to a closed site in Bromont, away from Knowlton's downtown core. Several weeks ago, the Brome Lake Chamber of Commerce announced its intention to hold its own duck festival, just before Ouimette's Bromont festival in October.

"We decided to turn the festival into a regional showcase for the region," said Ouimette at a news conference at Knowlton's Au Trois Canards restaurant. Ouimette said after some thought he decided it was better to agree to co-exist rather than fight with the Brome Lake Chamber of Commerce and the downtown merchants association, the SDC.

"We have solid friends all along the street here," Ouimette said. "We didn't leave because of a fight with Knowlton. We left because of security. If there had been a fire or whatever it would have been a catastrophe."

Ouimette said one of his goals with the festival was to promote the entire region. He said festival-goers will see Knowlton and other areas as a different attraction, pointing out his festival has a budget of \$700,000, while Knowlton's has a budget of \$4,000.

"We are not going into competition with them," he said. "We maintain very cordial relations with the people here."

Accompanying Ouimette was Alex Hanseler, who came from the Eastern



MAURICE CROSSFIELD

Swiss chef Alex Hanseler and International Duck Festival president Jacques Ouimette were touring the region last week, meeting chefs and preparing the menus for this fall's edition of the event.

Townships of Switzerland to meet with the chefs at the 15 restaurants and hotels in the region taking part in the festival this year. In all, five Swiss chefs, including Hanseler, will each be assigned to oversee the duck menus of three restaurants.

Three new restaurants taking part this year include Les Temps des Cerises in Danville, La Falaise St. Michel in Sherbrooke and the Fourquet Fourchette in Chambly.

Ouimette said he has approached some of the best restaurants in Granby, but had his offer to include them in the

festival turned down.

Included in the fourth edition of the festival will be a duck race at the Bromont water park. Some 3,000 plastic ducks will be launched on Oct. 2, each with its own identity tag, to see which one finishes the course first. The ultimate winner will be the Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital Foundation, which aims to get \$20,000 from the event.

Ouimette said a second race may also be held using larger and more expensive ducks for corporations to sponsor. Sales of the ducks will begin on Labor

Day weekend.

Hanseler said in Switzerland duck is usually only served at the better restaurants. Duck dishes benefit from both French and Italian influences, he said.

Last week's visit was the first for Hanseler, who said he came here expecting cold weather, and not the 31 C that met him. He said he had never heard of poutine, but seemed less than impressed when he heard what it was.

The Bromont edition of the International Duck Festival gets underway Oct. 1 and continues to Oct. 31. The main site is at the Bromont Ski Hill, with an entry fee of \$8.

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Getting ready to bike for BMP

Staff

The sixth edition of the Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital's Bike For BMP event will be held on Sunday, Sept. 12.

This year's bike-a-thon will feature two circuits to accommodate different skill levels. For the whole family, the 20-km circuit will traverse the streets of Cowansville, while the 60-km circuit will venture into the countryside.

The objective this year is to raise

\$25,000 towards the purchase of cardiology equipment, in particular a portable electrocardiogram. The machine can detect irregular heart rhythms, the presence of obstructed arteries and help control treatment of these problems.

This particular machine is worn by the patient for a 24-hour period. As the person goes through their daily routine, the ECG registers their heart activity. That information is later transferred to a computer for analysis.

Those who collect the most pledge money will be eligible to win one of three new bicycles, while all participants will be eligible for a variety of door prizes.

Over the last five years, the Bike For BMP event has raised nearly \$100,000 for the hospital foundation. All of that money has gone towards the purchase of new equipment.

Pledge forms can be picked up at the BMP or at various businesses throughout the region this summer.



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More Kids Who Rock

Sensational Students from Knowlton Academy

Michelle's A Mover



Knowlton Academy's Athletes of the Year

When Knowlton Academy held its graduation ceremonies last week, no one knew it would turn out to be a historical event for the elementary school. All seemed normal when physical education teacher John Parry stepped up to hand out the male and female athletes of the year awards. This year, there was clearly one student who excelled as male athlete of the year - a Grade 6 boy named Ryan Foster (inset, with John Parry). However, it was not as clear who should be chosen as the female athlete of the year. "As I went through all the files, there were eight girls who were tied," said Parry after the ceremonies. "There are 20 points I reserve for overall fair play, attitude, etc., and here they were tied too. I made a decision that had to be ratified by the student body and the parent group when it was announced. I awarded the female athlete of the year to all eight girls." The exceptional eight are Lisa Dwyer, Tessa Parry, Lacey-Lynne Lemaire, Dale Robertson, Lisa Jewett, Holly Anderson, Karen Moore and Jodi Kay. Parry said never in the 28 years that this award has been given at Knowlton Academy has anything like this ever happened. Proving their talents extend beyond athletics, Parry said three of the girls - Lisa Jewett, Lacey-Lynne Lemaire and Karen Moore - also share the highest academic average at the school. These trailblazing students are the ones to watch as they carry their determination and high standards of excellence to the next stage of their lives. - Sunil Mahtani.



Michelle Flynn

Champlain College's St. Lambert campus officially recognized the achievements of 30 young athletes during its annual Athletic Awards Banquet held at Vichy Buffet & Bar in St. Hubert. Among the winners is Michelle Flynn of Knowlton who won the Most Improved Player for women's basketball. Way to go, Michelle!

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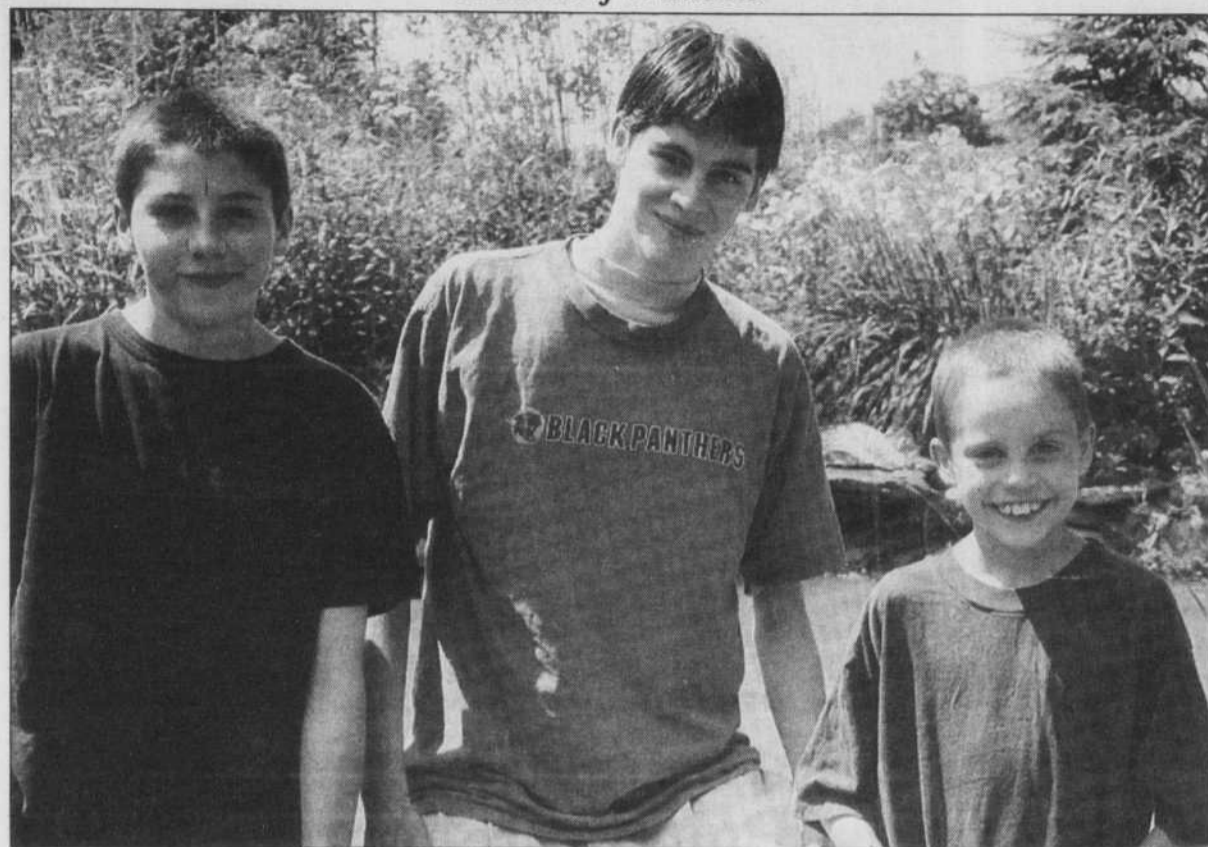
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More Kids Who Rock

A Fount of Wisdoms



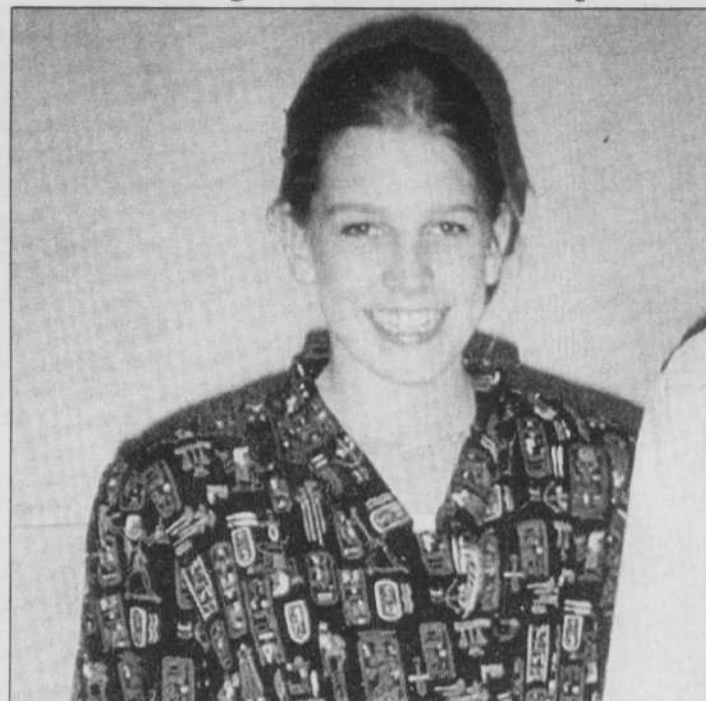
Alex, Tim and James Wisdom

Tim, James and Alex Wisdom are three brothers who are active in acting, sports and their studies. Tim, the eldest at 17, has accumulated acting experience on the TV series My Hometown and in an advertisement for Country Music Television's Big Ticket show. After some time spent auditioning for various roles, Tim is moving away from acting. "I liked the money, and the traveling and it was fun going to different places, meeting different people. I didn't like the auditions. They were stressful, I was worried a lot of the time, worried about trying to remember lines and wondering if you can do what they want." The Massey-Vanier High School graduating student hopes to enter Montreal's Dawson College in the fall to study social sciences. His advice to others who are thinking about acting is not to hurry into it. "It's harder than it looks. You don't know how much time goes into it."

Unlike his big brother, Alex prefers to work behind-the-scenes. He was a techie on Knowlton community theatre productions How The Grinch Stole Christmas and Jesus Christ Superstar, but moved to centre stage in Oliver Twist recently. "I had too many lines and it was hard to learn a lot of them," Alex said. He, too, said he disliked the audition process and dreams of a life outside of entertainment. The 14-year-old said he would like to be a doctor.

James, at only 8, is nonetheless a veteran thespian, having starred as Tiny Tim in A Christmas Carol, Max the Dog in How The Grinch Stole Christmas and in a TV commercial for the Foster Parents Plan. James enjoys being part of a cast. "It's fun. But I don't like it when there's a whole bunch of kids yelling and screaming at rehearsals and stuff. I like it when grown-ups are there." The mature youngster said he prefers the stage to TV work and is looking forward to acting again. The Knowlton Academy student recently won two awards for academic achievement. He said his favourite subject is math and he would like to work with animals one day. He has some down-to-earth advice to kids wanting to get into acting: "Don't be disappointed if you don't get the part." - Sunil Mahtani.

Making Movies Is Child's Play



Jamie Moar

Like most kids, Jamie Moar likes to pretend she's someone else. Unlike most kids, she sometimes gets paid for it. The Knowlton resident won a speaking role in the TV series Lassie and she was an extra in the movie Kayla, shot in Brome Lake. "I like the experience. It was neat," she said effusively. "I just think it's fun, playing somebody else." Moar was also part of the large cast of Annie, the recent Knowlton Players production at the Knowlton Pub Playhouse. Moar said she would like to continue acting, although she'll focus on two jobs during the summer - working at her dad's marina and babysitting. She also finds time to play on the Knowlton Thrashers team, swim and take care of her pet rabbit Nala. - Sunil Mahtani.

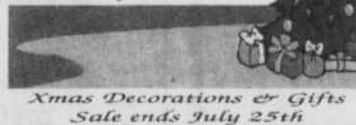
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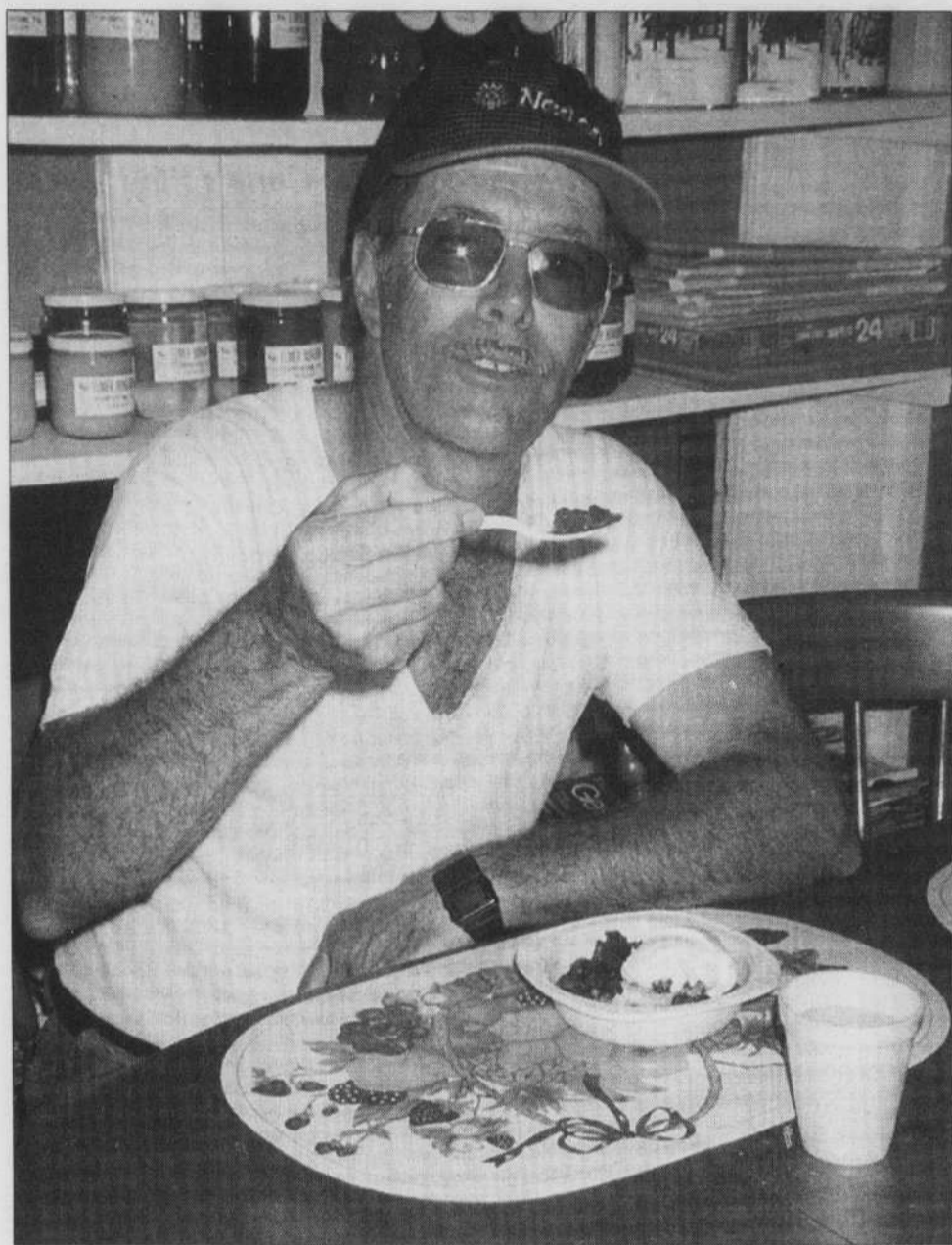
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MURIELLE PARKES/RECORD CORRESPONDENT



MURIELLE PARKES/RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Patricia Tyson, Lorraine Côté and José Ledoux from The East Bolton Embellishment Association enticed lots of visitors with their home-made candies and yummy chocolates.

5th Annual Bazaar nets East Bolton firefighters \$1,100

By Murielle Parkes
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
BOLTON CENTRE

East Bolton firefighters are \$1,100 closer to their goal today, thanks to vendors and volunteers, the weatherman and a steady stream of buyers who dropped by the Bolton Centre Town Hall on Saturday, June 26 to support the department's 5th annual bazaar.

For firefighters, it means that they now have over \$9,000 saved to put towards the purchase of a heavy, multi-purpose vehicle, said Fire Chief Doug McGregor. McGregor, a firefighter with the department since 1978, added that

"the municipality has agreed to go 50-50 with us."

Vying for customer dollars were artisans in search of appreciative homes for their crafts and volunteer groups in search of much-needed funds to carry out their projects. There was the usual variety of white elephants and raffle tickets as well as such popular items as baked goods, greeting cards and home-made confectionery.

At one table, a visitor proffered a spontaneous recommendation for the chocolates on sale by the East Bolton Embellishment Association. "They're very good," she said. "Take my word for it. They go straight to your hips and stay there for three more years."

East Bolton firefighters are hoping to bring their multi-purpose vehicle dream to reality. "The guys would like to do something this year," said McGregor.

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Brome County NEWS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Development would attract wrong crowd

DEAR EDITOR,
Subject: "There's A Stirring in Them Thar Hills"

For decades the venerable council of West Bolton (a.k.a., Bolton Quest, a.k.a. The Hills are Not Alive with The Sound of Music) has kept a tight lid on contemporizing the infrastructure which consists of gravel, and sometimes washed out roads, and a latter day town hall that exudes redundancy, but then, this is how the good old boys and girls of this jewel of the Townships want it.

Now money has washed an ambivalent wave over the venerable council. Money wants to rip the heart out of the Glen by digging a lake, camping grounds and all manner of trails in what is presently the most pristine area in the region. This is a proposed undertaking that council, had they the intestinal fortitude, would have rejected out of hand; if only for the sake of the environment.

Were a small lake, and hiking trails established for day bathers and hikers it would attract the kind of people who enhance. Camping attracts the type of people who will play loud music, litter, foul up the place, pose a fire hazard, import crime and lower the value of real estate which is already grossly undervalued by virtue of Quebec's notion of sovereignty.

If the heady pressure of money finally allows this monstrosity to be foisted upon us, professional services such as extra policing, fire control, first aid, garbage control and noise control must be brought to bear (a considerable effort for West Bolton, not to be paid for by West Bolton tax payers.)

The residents of Bolton Glen must insist that a professional environmental impact study be undertaken and that they and not council alone, in this respect, have the final say as to what happens to their neighborhood!

GRAHAM L. SMITH
 Knowlton

Community supported amateur theatre

DEAR EDITOR,
 The directors and members of Knowlton Players would like to thank everyone in the community who supported us this year. Our three plays were extremely well-attended and the many compliments and kind words were most encouraging.

We look forward to presenting more entertaining fare in the next year. Thank goodness amateur theatre is alive and well in Lac Brome.

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'The more donations that come in, the more will be done for Adam'

Power:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I saw a collapsible wheelchair (in the magazine Exceptional Parents in the waiting room of the Readaptation Center) and I thought, wouldn't that be nice for Adam. I saw other equipment such as a three-wheel apparatus that could be used all year round to take Adam for walks," he said.

After discussing it with his wife Debbie, he decided to offer his services as landscaper in the community. Powers said that he is not expecting a hand out.

"I'm hoping that people will give me a chance to work for them, as long as they guarantee to give money towards Adam," said Powers, convinced that specialized equipment would not only bring more joy to Adam's life, but also relieve some of the stress for Adam's parents, Linda and Hazen Woodard who

have limited financial means.

The Woodards live in a second floor flat, above Linda's parents. The daily task of pulling and pushing the 50-pound wheelchair and carrying Adam who weighs 75 pounds has had its toll on Linda who suffers from back pain.

"Wouldn't it be nice if enough money came in so we could change the stairs or build some type of ramp for Adam," he added.

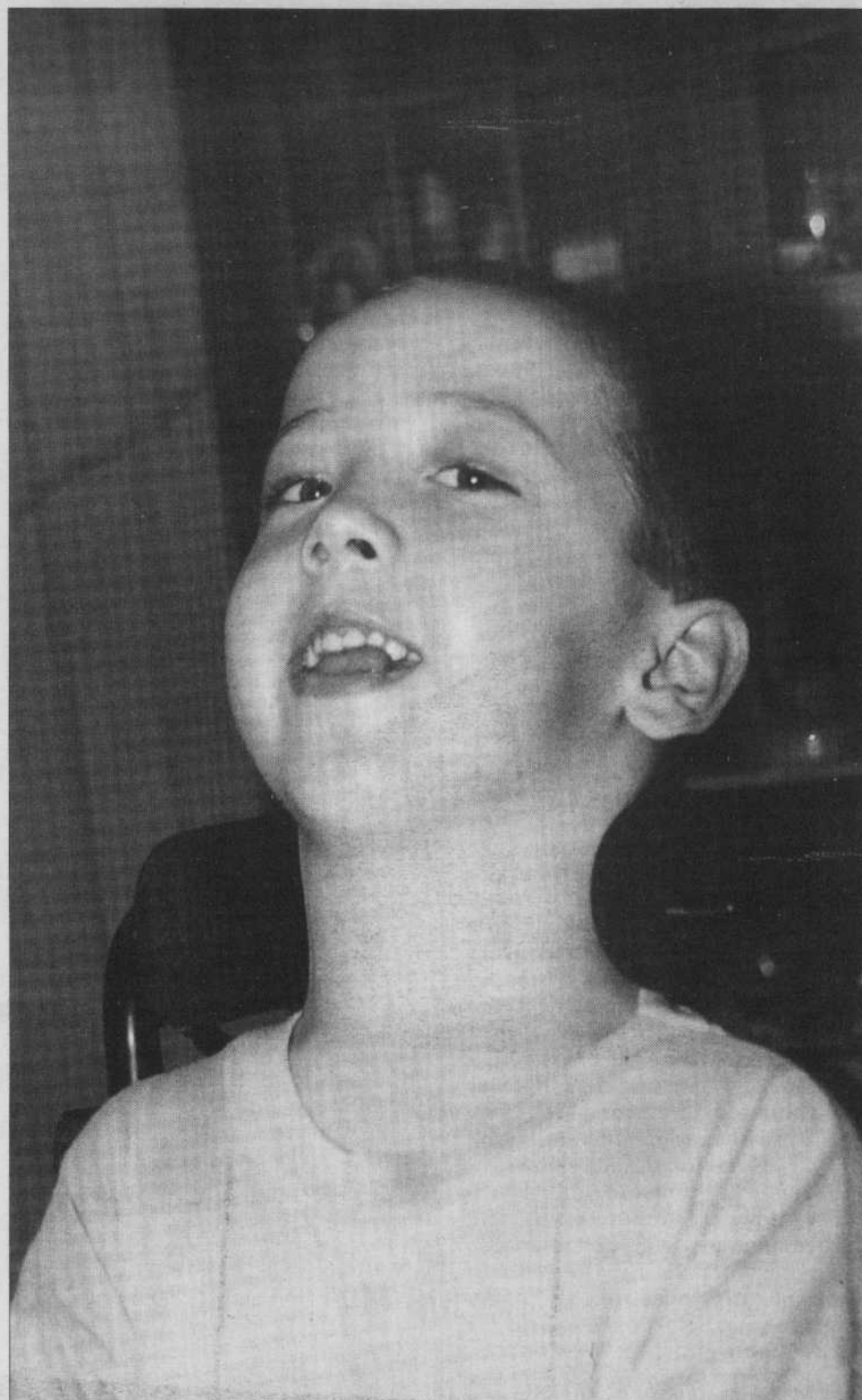
Powers would like to work for at least two hours per household charging a minimum of \$15 an hour, with payment in check issued to Adam Woodard.

The checks will be deposited into Adam's account at the Caisse Populaire in Eastman.

Even though Adam needs several different types of equipment, Powers said the most important item is a car seat which would allow Adam to attend church every Sunday morning with his family. He realizes that the reconstruction of the stairs and ramp will also have to be done, but he's taking it one step at a time.

"I'm hoping this article will open people's hearts and minds to look at Adam a little differently. The more donations that come in, the more will be done for Adam," said Powers.

Those interested in helping Adam have a better life can reach his uncle at (450) 776-5008.



TANYA TKACH/CORRESPONDENT

Even though Adam needs several different types of equipment, his uncle said the most important item is a car seat which would allow Adam to attend church every Sunday morning with his family.

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Train show stationed in Mansonville

By Murielle Parkes
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
MANSONVILLE

Railway enthusiasts and others with fond memories of iron horses steaming through town might want to catch the exhibit set up by the Potton Heritage Association, now stationed at the Mansonville Town Hall until Labour Day.

It's a reminder of an era gone by, but definitely not forgotten, as indicated by the stream of visitors - a mix of serious train buffs and curious kids - who helped launch the exhibit June 18.

"Railways were so profoundly integrated into the lives of people that we developed an attachment for these superb roaring machines belching smoke as they passed through the countryside," said Gérard Leduc, president of the association.

"The railway initiated interest from a lot of people," he said, "and that's why we are here today."

Included in the display is a collection of photos, maps, time-tables and artifacts that chronicle the history and ultimate takeovers of some of the

small local railways that passed through the Missisquoi Valley at North Troy, Mansonville, Bolton and Eastman.

"It's an opportunity for visitors to relive the history of our railway while seeing pictures of construction, of old stations and locomotives," said Leduc.

The exhibit also includes a hand-crafted model of the Potton Springs Hotel faithfully reproduced by Nicole Raymond, as well as "a previously unseen collection of old pictures of this tourist resort famous for its purported therapeutic sulphur springs."

This was the beginning of tourism in Potton, noted Leduc. "People came from everywhere, Europe, USA, Montreal and Western Canada."

One visitor to the exhibit, an evening lecturer on the development of Eastern Townships railways, was Bishops' University professor Derek Booth.

He noted that the Eastern Townships had, at one time, "just about the densest railway network of any in Southern Canada" because they were necessary for export and for import between Montreal and the American

East coast and "here was the Eastern Townships right in the way... There was money to be made in building railways," he explained.

The mid-1800s was also characterized by "railway fever" - a "virulent epidemic" which swept over the Eastern Townships, New England and Eastern Canada. "In 1850 Eastern Townshippers were concerned with getting railways."

Along with the train exhibit, the association plans to distribute 20,000 place mats - a historical map depicting the railway line between North Troy and Eastman, and another coming from Montreal and Farnham that passed through Highwater and Newport on its way to Boston - in B&Bs, restaurants and the tourist bureau throughout Potton, said Leduc.

The exhibit is located on the second floor at the Town Hall, 2 Chemin Vale Perkins. Visiting hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Admission is \$2 for adults and youth over 16.

For more information, contact the Mansonville Tourist Office at (450) 292-3109.



MURIELLE PARKES/CORRESPONDENT

Xavier Nadeau checks out one of the artifacts.

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Belgian boys and men's choir visits Waterloo

By Tanya Tkach
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
WATERLOO

Les Pastoureaux, a Belgium choir comprised of 55 boys and men aged nine to 24 which originated in 1974 in Louvain-la-Neuve and Waterloo, Belgium delighted 400 children and adults with a repertoire of spiritual and internationally known songs at St. Bernadine's Church in Waterloo Sunday, July 4.

"The choir is well-known and it has a good reputation in Belgium. They raise money through their concerts regularly in order to go on trips like this one," said Denise Hébert, travel agent and former Waterloo councillor who was responsible for the choir's publicity, lodging and travel arrangements during its three day stop-over in Waterloo.

Hébert said the group had to raise more than \$20,000 for the North American tour which included visits to six places named Waterloo including a trip to Niagara Falls, and 12 performances throughout their tour.

"The boys had lots of fun here. They went to the Aqua Parc in Bromont on Monday and had a campfire where they roasted marshmallows at night. While in Quebec, they'll go to Drummondville, St. Marc-des-Carrières and St. Jerome," said Hébert who rented a van and minivan for members of the choir.

She found 24 host families from 100 responses from ads placed in local media.

Hébert said six of the host families lost their power during the recent wind and rain storm in Brome-Missisquoi

causing the relocation of four people.

Hébert has developed a kinship with Belgians following a visit to Waterloo's twin city of Waterloo, Belgium while serving as councillor from '94 to '98. The two cities established a twinning relationship in 1958.

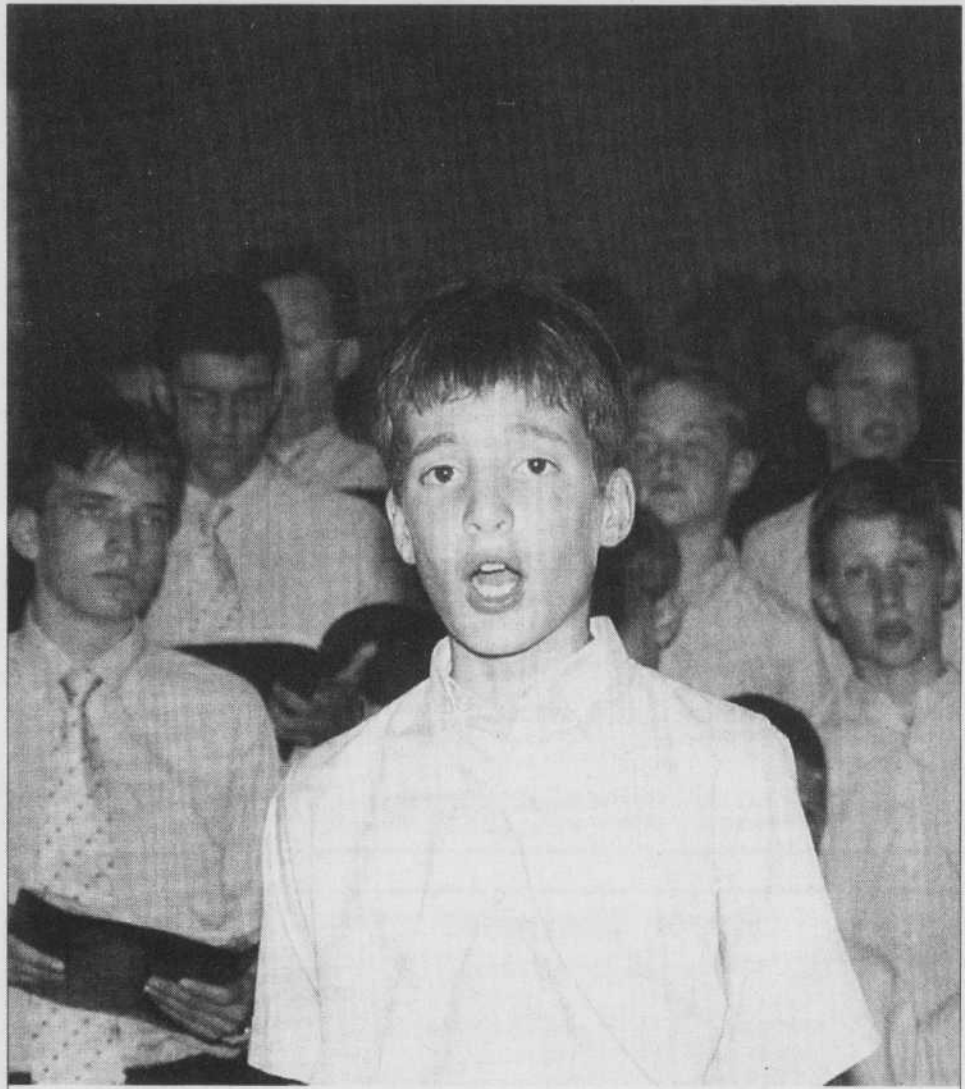
"In '95, the town council in Waterloo, Belgium started to search for other cities and towns named Waterloo throughout the world. And in '96 during Belgium's 200th year anniversary, there was a meeting of representatives from 10 Waterloos around the world. We were 21 from here. They called it the 'Waterloo Connection'," said Hébert who is anxious to return to Brussels in the year 2001 for another annual meeting where they will celebrate with a simulation of the Battle of Napoleon.

Three choir members aged 11 stayed with Hébert whose son is of similar age.

"They also have a separation problem as we do, between the north and the south." Hébert enjoyed helping the choir and said that they had a good time together. "It's a wonderful idea and it shows that there are no boundaries between countries," she said.

For the young choir members, Canada is grandiose, especially for 12-year-old, bilingual choir member François Denuit.

"I like this country, especially the sky, and I like the weather here. Back home it's cold and rainy and sometimes we do not see the sun all week long," said Denuit who will be learning Flemish next year as a student of the International School.



TANYA TKACH/RECORD CORRESPONDENT

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Author:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the author at a recent reading at the Missisquoi Public Library.

His professional past has also included work as a filmmaker, singer, songwriter, psychologist and international journalist.

Through Les Productions Lany of St-Armand, he now makes his living primarily as a filmmaker and video consultant but relishes his role as part-time storyteller.

How did the author of two books in psychology find an identity as a storyteller? "I have always been a communicator," he explained. "I once took a Zen

group class entitled 'Who Am I?' The Zen Master told me that I am a storyteller: journalism, songwriting and filmmaking are all about telling a story, about explaining the world to others."

His background in psychology and youth counseling was useful in his first foray into children's fiction. Rakou, the story's main character, shares with his creator the itch to travel. When Rakou becomes lost, he is forced to depend upon strangers in a hostile and alien world. The raccoon's first home is a library where children secretly care for him, visiting him every day, reading stories and bringing him snacks. When he is discovered and chased out of his haven by an irascible janitor, he falls into the compa-

ny of an assortment of animal guides: a squirrel, who has boundless energy but never quite thinks things through, a cat who is clever but doesn't care a smidgen what happens to the young raccoon and finally sewer rats who, in spite of their unkempt appearance and hideous smell, prove to be his best allies in the search for a way to the forests of Lake Champlain.

When the brave raccoon finally arrives at his destination, he encounters a fairy who grants his wish to once again live in a library surrounded by children who will read to him and bring him snacks, but only on the condition that he be transformed into a stuffed animal.

To illustrate his tale, Langlois sought out the help of the surrounding community. Volunteer illustrators, each contributing one or more drawings, came from St-Armand, Philipsburg, Bedford, Pike River, Frelighsburg and Granby. The illustrators were split evenly between children and adults, from all walks of life and skill levels, each lending his own interpretation. The result is a crazy quilt that changes, as in a oral storytelling tradition, with each telling.

Capturing community co-operation, he insists, would have been difficult in an urban environment.

"This is what I like about a small village: In a city, you socialize with a narrow group, mostly your own age and your own professional group. In a village, you have cross-communication: any age, any sex, any dress." With the help of graphic artists Frédéric Mahieu, his sister Nathalie and Chantal Fournier, the text and illustrations were fused and the book took its current form using desktop publishing tools.

Rakou's adventures were formally unveiled at a reading at Philipsburg's Missisquoi Public Library where the raccoon is now in permanent residence. Speaking to the crowded room of children who had brought their own favourite "toutous" for the occasion, Langlois dedicated his book to library founder and director, Normand Paquin who, he said, "has given life to his own dreams" through his work with the Corporation d'initiatives communautaires as well as his role in founding both the Missisquoi Public Library and what is now the municipal public library in Pike River.

The library was filled with youngsters each clutching a stuffed animal brought from home or supplied by volunteers for the occasion. During a short break, the



The Rat King, flanked by his wife and children, gives permission to his fellow rats to take Rakou to the outskirts of the city.

kids snacked on a feast of Rakou's favorite foods of potato chips, ham sandwiches and chocolate cakes.

The author intends to make copies of the book and the video available on loan from the library.


"Instead of renting a video, kids will be able to check out a tape and the book from the library. I think they will appreciate seeing a storyteller." Langlois said children will also be able to check out the stuffed animal of their choice with a book, making the library the world's first "Toutouthèque". Eventually, he hopes to make copies of his book available for sale with proceeds going to the library.

The next step, now that a paper copy of Rakou's adventures exists, will be to search for a publisher, but not before tying up a few loose ends. Langlois said he still needs a few more illustrations to round out the text and is in search of volunteer illustrators of any age or skill level to help bring the adventures to life.

.....
 "L'Aventure de Rakou, le petit raton laveur" will soon be available on loan from the Missisquoi Public Library located at 187 Champlain in Philipsburg. Although Rakou prefers the comfort of the library, his fellow stuffed animals are happy to go home with youngsters who promise to read to them. Library hours are Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call the library at (450) 248-4402. Anyone seeking information on contributing an illustration may contact Yves Langlois at Les Productions Lany at (450) 248-3209.

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Canada Day festivities in Waterloo

Norm Lloyd, A Royal Canadian Legion member since '65 and Sergeant at Arms, led members of Branch 77 in Waterloo in a ceremony celebrating Canada Day in front of the Waterloo Town Hall. "I was also appointed as District Sergeant at Arms, so I go to other areas such as Phillipsburg, Iberville,

Granby, Cowansville and Knowlton to help with their parades as well," said Lloyd who along with his wife Val also play at various breakfasts and functions at the Waterloo Legion.

TANYA TRACH/RECORD CORRESPONDENT

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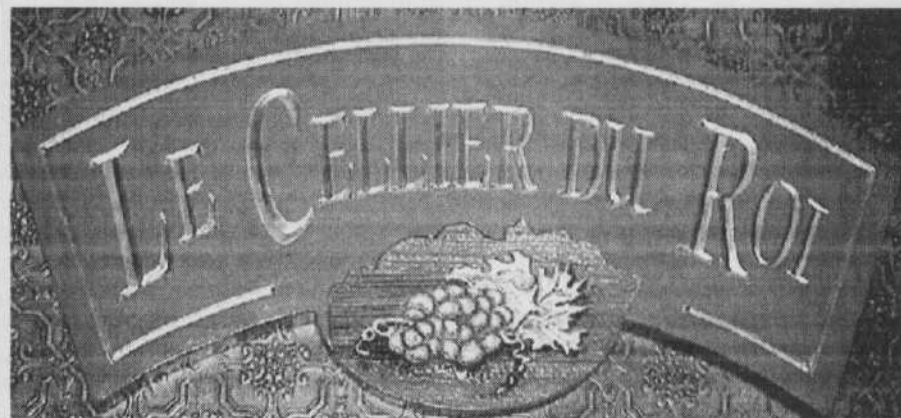
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Liquor not the only cause of cirrhosis

Thursday, July 8, 1999
 By Peter H. Gott, M.D.



DEAR DR. GOTT: My father-in-law was recently hospitalized for cirrhosis. I know that alcoholism usually causes this, but he is a moderate drinker (no more than four beers a night). Could this still cause cirrhosis?

DEAR READER: People respond in strikingly different ways to alcohol. We have all heard of old curmudgeons who drank a fifth a day and lived long, full lives. They are definitely the exception; alcohol is toxic to almost every organ in the body. Some "moderate" drinkers develop serious liver problems after having drunk only sporadically for a few years. Also, some drinkers downplay the amount they consume; they may actually drink far more than they admit.

This is not to suggest that your father-in-law has alcohol cirrhosis. There are many other causes for liver scarring (cirrhosis), including malnutrition, hereditary diseases and congestive heart failure. A particularly virulent form of cirrhosis can complicate viral hepatitis. In rare cases, no cause can be determined.

In the United States, alcohol is the most common problem causing cirrhosis. While I'm in favor of giving your

father-in-law the benefit of the doubt, he should certainly abstain from alcohol, because — regardless of the nature of his cirrhosis — booze will adversely affect his health and liver efficiency.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My father and grandfather died of colon cancer. How can I lessen my chances of a similar fate?

DEAR READER: You are, in a sense, fortunate to be aware of your hereditary patterns, although yours is hardly cause for celebration. Certain diseases, such as colon cancer, do tend to run in families, so I sympathize with your concerns.

To begin with, accustom yourself to the reality of periodic examinations. In my opinion, if you are over 30, you should have a colonoscopy, a test during which the doctor examines your large intestine with a fiberoptic tube. Check with a gastroenterologist to confirm my recommendations.

Of course, my suggestion is only that. The gastroenterologist may offer another strategy.

I can think of only one way for you to minimize your chances of developing colorectal cancer: Many experts have convincingly demonstrated that high-fiber diets exert a protective effect against the problem that affected your forebears. Therefore, on your way to the gastroenterologist, stop at the grocery store and stock up on bran cereals. While the doctor can offer you more specific advice, roughage should become a part of your daily life.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Viruses and Cancer." Other readers who would like a copy should send \$2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

Card of Thanks

DOMINQUE - Betty Sornberger and Shawn Pow wish to thank everyone for cards, flowers and gifts for the 80th birthday of Glenna Dominique on June 19, 1999. Special thanks to the band. The music was enjoyed by all. Special thanks to all helpers, and guests from near and far.

50th Wedding Anniversary

Friends and relatives are invited to an Open House to help celebrate the Golden Anniversary of Joan & Robert Tawse on Sunday, July 11, 2 - 4 p.m., at the Brome Hall. Everyone welcome. Best wishes only. Light refreshments will be served. For more information call Carol at (450) 248-0755.

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Young musicians recognized across Canada

In May, the Massey-Vanier Wind Ensemble, under the direction of John Barr, played at an official reception of the South African Embassy in Ottawa which was attended by 500 guests, members of the international diplomatic corps.

The following day, the Wind Ensemble received an invitation to perform in front of 10,000 guests at the Governor General's Garden Party at Rideau Hall on June 26.

Upon arrival at Rideau Hall, these 15 young students, dressed in their usual red and white outfits, were led to their venue.

As the musicians warmed to the occasion, so the crowds warmed to them. Voices joined in on "O Canada." The vibrant rhythms of Tuxedo Junction had spectators bopping and hand clapping, and the strains of The Sound of Music across the vast front lawn drew people to the shaded areas under the tree canopy to sit, listen and enjoy the glorious day.

From its inception as an extracurricular activity four years ago to the successes of this year, the Massey-Vanier



COURTESY M-V WIND ENSEMBLE

Massey-Vanier High School's Wind Ensemble played in front of 10,000 guests at the Governor General's Garden Party at Rideau Hall on June 26.

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schools here and in Ontario, played on Parliament Hill and at Niagara Falls for

the Niagara Parks Commission, have

performed in elementary schools and for the Guatemala Relief Fund.

This year, more than half the members of the Massey-Vanier Wind Ensemble are graduating. A core group is in place to carry forward the tradition of excellence established by the Massey Vanier Wind Ensemble. High standards have been attained. The recruiting of new musicians and planning for future concerts is already underway.

Submitted by Pauline Lavigne
Cowansville

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