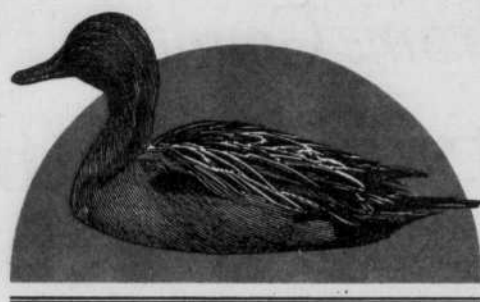


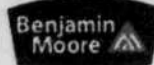
Brome County NEWS



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A Basket Full of Success

By Jessica Brown
Brome County News
Correspondent

Don't tell Patti Mason and Annette Blanco that business is tough in Knowlton. They won't buy that line anyway. In five years, this dynamic duo has gone from running their gift basket company out of Annette's house in Foster, to their present location on Mont Echo Road of 3400 square feet. Not only has their business grown exponentially over the past five years but since their move this spring and expansion into the locale beside them, business is up 30 percent, and they don't even have a sign up yet.

"There are lots of little reasons why our business works," says Mason. "We've tried to adapt to change. You have to. When we see a demand, we try to meet it. If we see there is a market for something, we try to fill it."

But that's not the only reason for their success. They just don't even imagine anything else.

"I wasn't here in the 90s. A lot of businesses compare now to then. But we didn't know that. I say, don't waste your time complaining, do something. There's enough sunshine for everyone," says Mason.

It's an attitude that has paid off for them. What also pays off is their business hours.

"We're open 7 days a week plus in summer we stay open until 8pm on Friday and Saturday night. If it's raining, we don't just pack it in and leave. If you're not open, people won't come. You can't wait for the people to come to decide when to open," she says. "It's the consistency that clients count on."

Their new place is light and airy. The space makes it easy to walk around and look at the thousands of items ranging from country decor to jars of exotic spices, teas and jams. About 30 per cent of their business is still in the gift baskets, the rest is from local and tourist



JESSICA BROWN

Patti Mason and Annette Blanco expecting a busy summer

traffic through their store, picking up gift items and little splurges for themselves.

"Christmas is a big season for us," says Mason, "but we also do a lot of baskets for corporate conventions and events."

Their reputation has grown through word of mouth. People are happy with what they get and they pass it on.

The partners' cooperation works well for their business. Annette has a flare for decorating while Patti likes the mar-

keting aspect. They both like working with the public.

"You have to have a passion for what you do," says Mason. "I love coming to work. I really do."

How they ended up together is serendipitous. Both women were working at home-based businesses. Their paths had crossed on numerous occasions, but in the end what brought them together was a coupon that Mason had filled out for a facial by the Mary-Kay rep, Blanco. The rest, as they

say is history.

When they first began, they tried to apply for a CLD grant for new businesses, but they were told they were too old.

"We said, we'll show them what two old ladies can do," laughs Mason. These "two old ladies" have gone on to expand a successful business and have no plans to slow down.

"We're expecting it to be a busy summer."



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Brome County Community Billboard

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

July 10

Royal Canadian Legion Summer BBQs. Come BBQ with us every Friday night from June 5 until August 28. 77 Lewis Street East, Waterloo. Burgers, Dogs, Fries and Poutines

July 11

Bedford Wesley United Church is holding a Flea Market, garage sale and food sale on the church lawn, 53 River Street, Bedford, Quebec on Saturday July 11 starting at 10 a.m. To reserve a table please contact Fred Gilman: 450-248-3341.

MECA Fundraiser Lawn Sale. Saturday, July 11, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., 2950 Mount Echo Rd., Sutton. (Corner Mount Echo Rd. and Turkey Hill Rd.) All proceeds are going to the conservation of Mount Echo and its watershed.

A "Strawberry Social" will be held at Granby United Church, 101 rue Principale, Granby, on Saturday, July 11 from 12 - 3 p.m. Adults: \$6. Children under 12: \$4.00

July 12

St. James Anglican Church in Foster will hold a concert of spiritual music presented by St. Luke's Choir of Waterloo at 7 p.m. on Sunday, July 12. Refreshment following.

Knowlton Harmony Band will hold a concert this Sunday afternoon, July 12th at 2 p.m. at the Coldbrook Condos just off Pine Street in Knowlton. The 'rain location' will be Knowlton United

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 \$13 for 2 insertions**: 1 BCN & 1 in Friday Record "What's On" section. Please forward notices to 5 Victoria St., Knowlton, QC JOE 1V0, email: bcnnews@qc.aibn.com, or fax: (450) 243-5155. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

Brome County
NEWS



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CIRCULATION

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Church on Knowlton Road. At 6:30 p.m. there will be another concert at Edward's Park or the Anglican Church in West Brome, if it is raining. We hope that you will join us for at least one of these concerts. Bring your lawn chairs and relax for an hour listening to a variety of music.

July 18

Big Book Sale at the Library in Knowlton on Saturday, July 18, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, July 19, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Please note that the tents will not open before 8 a.m. Reduction of 10% for bulk purchases. Information: Jean McGee: 450-242-0246 or Suzanne Ricard: 450-242-2923

Aug. 8 & 9

The Royal Canadian Legion will be holding a Flea Market on Saturday and Sunday August 8 & 9th, 120 Davignon Blvd, Cowansville. We are looking for articles to sell at this event. If you have items you would like to get rid of, we will gladly take them after July 25th. For more information please contact Debbie Williams (450) 522-6674 or Denise Bedard (450) 263-0561

ARTS CALENDAR

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This year the Knowlton House and Garden Tour is on Wednesday July 15.

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CHURCH SERVICES

CREEK/WATERLOO PASTORAL CHARGE. Sunday worship and music. Creek United, West Bolton: 9:00 a.m. St. Paul's, 4929 Foster, Waterloo: 10:30 a.m. Reverend David Lambie, Minister. For information or to leave messages call: 450-539-2129

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH KNOWLTON, 24 St. Paul's Road. A group of ordinary people seeking to follow

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KNOWLTON UNITED, 234 Knowlton Road - 11 a.m. - every Sunday (handicap access)

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

For the month of July, worship services will be held at Calvary United Church in Sutton (July 5 & 12 at 11:15 a.m.) and at Dunham United Church (July 19 & 26 at 9:15 a.m.). Worship services will resume at Emmanuel United Church on August 2 at 10:30 a.m.

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH - DUNHAM. Sunday Services and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. - all welcome! The Rev. Sinpoh Han. Information: 450-266-0392

ANGLICAN PARISH OF BROME: Sunday, July 12 - 10 a.m. Service will be at St. John the Evangelist, Brome. Holy communion - The Rev. Paul Tidman.

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SUTTON - DUNHAM UNITED CHURCH PASTORAL CHARGE AND EM-

MANUEL UNITED CHURCH: A warm welcome awaits you at our Sunday worship service in Calvary United Church in Sutton at 11:15 a.m. Dunham and Emmanuel United are closed. Information: 450-538-0530 or 450-295-3251.

BEDFORD UNITED CHURCH PASTORAL CHARGE

1st Sunday Service in Bedford, 2nd Sunday Service in Stanbridge East, 3rd Sunday Service in Bedford, 4th Sunday service in Mystic, 5th Sunday Service is in Philipsburg. All services are at 10 A.M.

GRANBY UNITED CHURCH will be closed for the month of July. Answering machine will be checked for messages weekly.

GRACE ANGLICAN CHURCH, 52 Principale sud, Sutton, welcomes everyone for Sunday Services at 10:30 a.m. Canon Tim Smart, Rector. Info: 450-538-8108.

OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH, Sutton. Pastor Alex Lobach and the congregation welcome all to worship with us each Sunday at 11 a.m. Mid-week youth group and Bible Study. Tel: 450-538-5225.

CORNERSTONE CHURCH OF BEDFORD. We warmly welcome everyone to come and worship with us every Sunday at 10 a.m. and Friday at 7 p.m. We are located at 6 Massicotte, Bedford. Information: Pastor Paul Gibson: 1-514-667-2292 or 450-296-4135

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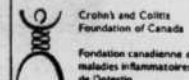
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Vandalism costs everyone

By Jessica Brown
BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

A dumped out flower box along the Mill Pond Bridge. A patch of grass on the soccer field that's been torn up by 4 X 4 wheels. A pile of ashes where the Douglass Beach lifeguard chair used to stand. Vulgar words spray painted on a community centre in the Town.

Vandalism in the Town of Brome Lake takes numerous forms. This year has started out with thousands of dollars of damage to town property.

"The first major incident this year," says Johanne Morin of Community Services, "Was the spray-painting of the Loisirs Foster building. We had to spend over a thousand dollars to hire a company to clean up the building. We couldn't leave it there. The F word was painted on the windows in red and black and all over the wall."

About a week after the clean-up, the vandals came back and re-did the job. This time the town re-painted the wall.

"What people don't understand is that the money that goes into cleaning up vandalism is money that isn't being spent elsewhere."

Following the incidents in Foster, young vandals broke into some of the homes on Eagle Island destroying private property. That same night, the

lifeguard chair at the beach was burned to the sand. Police are still investigating the two events to see if they are linked. The problem, once again, is without a suspect or suspects, the town is on the hook to pay for the damage.

"When they burned down the lifeguard chair, we weren't left with enough time to order a new one." Says Morin. "Leaving the beach without the chair was impossible so town employees built a new one."

A new one from the catalogue would have cost the town about three thousand dollars. Town employees managed to build a new one for less than half the cost. However it took two days of manpower out of other business that needed to be attended to.

"Aside from the money for the wood for the chair, it's the time of the employees. It's money that's not going elsewhere, its work not being done elsewhere where we need it," laments Morin.

Aside from those incidents, the old horse judging platform, sometimes referred to as the gazebo at Lion's Park is vandalized almost every weekend. Most recently someone tried to burn the floor. Plus town employees have to pick up broken beer bottles on the grass every week.



JESSICA BROWN

CONT'D ON PAGE 6 Everything from storefronts to beach chairs are being vandalized

Frustration Over Knowlton Park Delays

By Alex Roslin

Bill Watson's daughters spent so much time at the old playground in the Knowlton Lion's Park, it was almost a second backyard. The Watsons went there regularly for family outings and to walk their dog Winston. They celebrated birthdays there.

When Bill or his older daughter came to play soccer in the park, his wife could tag along with their younger girl and hang out by the swings and jungle gym.

The Watsons were heartbroken last year when the playground was dismantled as part of a plan to create a new play area behind the Centre Lac Brome community centre half a kilometre away.

"We were really sad when they dismantled it. I told the kids, 'Don't worry, they're going to put it back,'" Watson said.

They're still waiting.

A year later, the new playground behind the community centre still features only a lone jungle gym in a large open field dotted with several short saplings and a few scattered picnic tables.

Knowlton's only public playground for preschoolers has no swings, teeter-totter, climbing

apparatus, sitting benches or drinking fountain.

And that has parents like Watson frustrated. "It's ironic that the town has this family policy, but there's nowhere for kids to go now," he said.

Some parents are talking about forming a group to seek better park facilities, raise funds for equipment and ask questions during this fall's municipal election.

"When my daughter and I go to the new playground, there are hardly ever other children there," said one of the parents, Shannon Brown.

"Having more games would bring more kids. I would love to see swings, trees that give some shade, a wading pool. Every park has swings."

Back in March, the Lac Brome Recreation and Community Services department got approval from the town council to spend a \$45,000 surplus on playground equipment at the new site. But those plans have been delayed by preparations for summer camp and the opening of Douglass Beach, said Johanne Morin, the department's executive director.

The facilities are also on hold while the department works out a long-term plan for the entire park.

CONT'D ON PAGE 5

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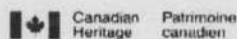


MABLE HASTINGS

Mackenzie Hammer (6 years old) decorated her bike for the Canada Day Bike Parade. She decorated it to look like a duck that was flying to Vancouver for the 2010 Olympics. She won a bike donated by Raleigh in Waterloo. Bravo Mackenzie!

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| Time | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 06:00 | Music | | | | | Music | |
| 07:00 | Music | | | | | Children's Corner | |
| 08:00 | Community Bulletin Board (BB) / Music | | | | | BB/ Network Europe | BB/ Sunday Classics |
| 09:00 | Music | Marie & Lucie ® | Around Town ® | Music | Music | Around Town | Classiques de Dimanche |
| 10:00 | Music | | | | | Music | |
| 11:00 | Community Bulletin Board (BB) / Music | | | | | BB/Music | BB/Music |
| 12:00 | Music | | | | | Marie & Lucie ® | Marie & Lucie |
| 13:00 | Around Town ® | Music | | | Music | Music | Ask the Pastor ® |
| 14:00 | Music | Music | | | Music | Music | The Outsider ® |
| 15:00 | Teen Life® | Music | | | Teen Life | Music | |
| 16:00 | BB/Music | BB/ Music/ The Penalty Box (18:30) | BB/ Music | BB/ Music/ The Penalty Box (18:30)® | BB/ Music | BB/ Music/ The Penalty Box (18:30)® | BB/ Music |
| 17:00 | Dufur Mountain Bluegrass | Let's Talk Jazz ® | Mostly Canadian Un-played ® | The Outsider ® | The Burning Bush from the Hall of Flame ® | The Outsider | Ask the Pastor |
| 18:00 | Mostly Canadian Un-played ® | The Burning Bush from the Hall of Flame ® | Dufur Mountain Bluegrass ® | Ask the Pastor ® | Planet Daddio | Lat's Talk Jazz | It's on the Record |
| 19:00 | The Ivan Hour ® | Planet Daddio® | Live at the Concertgebouw | It's on the Record® | European Jazz Stage | The Ivan Hour | Planet Daddio® |
| 20:00 | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music |
| 21:00 | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music |
| 22:00 | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music |
| 23:00 | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music |
| Overnight | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music | Music |

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FRUSTRATION OVER KNOWLTON PARKS

CONT'D FROM PAGE 3

The department has a "very rough" plan for the park for the next five years or so, but specific details need to be worked out, Morin said. "We realize it's a priority for families."

Morin would like to use the \$45,000 for swings, a climbing apparatus or extra equipment for preschoolers, but she said the amount isn't enough for all three elements.

And it's still not clear when any of it would go up. "I'm hoping by the end of the year," Morin said. She said the old playground was dismantled because most of the equipment was out-of-date.

But with another summer well under way, the slow progress is provoking frustration. "By the time they finish

the park, our kids will be too old to use it," Watson says. "If they weren't going to do something at the new site, why didn't they just leave the old equipment there?"

Knowlton dad Chris Pagé hopes to be able to contribute in a small way. This weekend, he and another father, Matt Willey, are organizing a ball hockey tournament at the skating rink, with proceeds going to the community centre for the park.

"There is a lot of potential for the park," Pagé said. "But my daughter is getting to be the age where she is enjoying the park, and it would be nice to see more facilities there for her."

Parents interested in working on park issues and family events can email BromeCountyFamilies@hotmail.com.

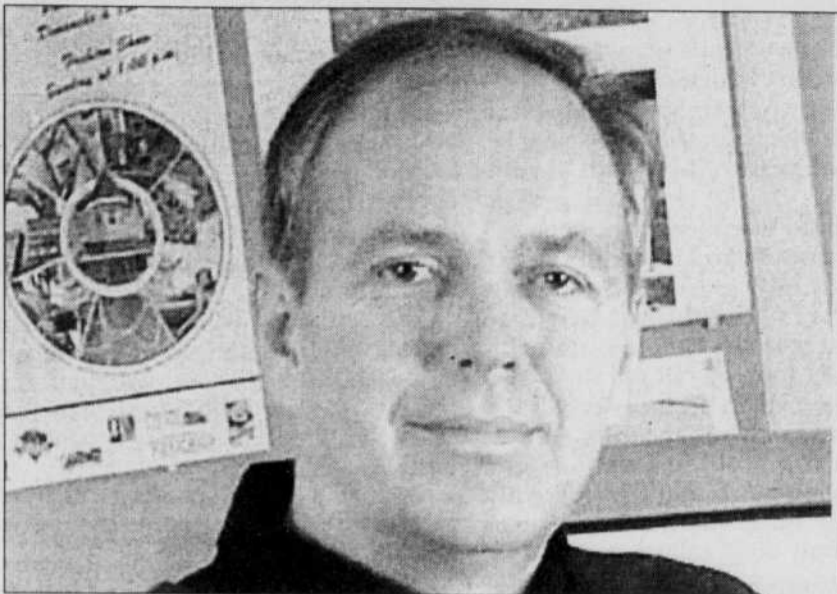
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The Forging of a Forum



Eden Muir

COURTESY

By Wendy Denman
BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

For a village with just over 500 households, there's a lot going on around Frelighsburg - the building of water purification and sewage treatment facilities, the demolition and rebuilding of the sole bridge in town, the erection of a Videotron 100 m. cell tower, the expectation that taxes will rise steeply to pay for the various projects with a municipal election imminent in the fall.

"There are very few ways for urgent news to circulate in Frelighsburg, besides the occasional bulletin from town hall. It is shocking that many citizens are not aware of some of the important developments that were discussed at recent town meetings," said Eden Muir.

"After many conversations with locals bemoaning the lack of an immediate local newspaper for airing our problems with the town hall etc., I decided it was time to create a newspaper for the people by the people."

His mission statement is simple: to provide a timely and convenient source of information for local residents and to give them a public forum where ideas

can be discussed in a polite and constructive fashion.

An architect by profession, working from his Atelier Muir architectural studio in Frelighsburg, and well versed in computer technology, Muir decided his paper, the Frelighsburg Forum, would begin online and created a website late this spring. "The concept is a cross between Craigslist and Google News. It had to be a paper that took care of itself, we have no budget - so no layout team, no graphic designer, just a editor, me, to check content and prevent lawsuits!"

Muir, also a published author and journalist, invited the town to take up writing and asked for news, opinions and announcements, as well as articles on local culture, lifestyle and the arts. "There's been a good response. When a piece comes in it goes at the top of

the paper, as editor I pick three or four paragraphs to pull in the reader, then they click for the full article. That way we can post lots of information.

"When we reach a certain number of articles on the website, we push the automatic print button and distribute the paper to all the households. We've done that twice now, in mid-June and this week. The printer produces a 11 x 17 inch sheet which we fold and take to the post office, which has been marvellous, for distrib-

ution," said Muir.

"The concept is to use the post office to drive traffic to the website, where everyone can access the full articles.

"At the moment I am priming the pump myself, paying for postage, paper. The idea right now is to get people interested. I am just beginning to charge for classified ads, and that's hardly anything at \$5 for twenty words, more for a photo and such, eventually I can see us taking larger ads, but for now I am content to let the Forum generate interest."

Muir printed an extra two hundred sheets for the current distribution and is mailing them to households in Abercorn. "It's an experiment, another small town close by with many of the same concerns. If we get some good feedback from Abercorn, we'll open a section for them on the web site. I think our model will work for other towns, so I'm planning for that too. All the little villages along the border from Saint Armand east have many connections, and I can see the Forum informing them all."

Muir web paper can be accessed at www.forumfrelighsburg.com

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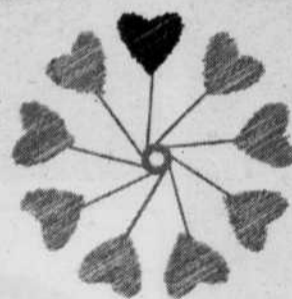


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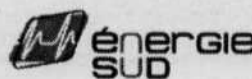
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Lyne Bessette
Spokesperson



Communication Marketing



Vandalism Costs Everyone

CONT'D FROM PAGE 3

Last year, vandals took about 20 picnic tables that had been scattered around the park and made a massive five-story high pyramid with them. This happened not once, but twice.

"Some people might say, wow, that's really interesting." Says Morin. "But it's vandalism. With CSST regulations, we can't just ask two town employees to climb to the top of the pile and start carrying them down. We have to get special equipment, hire a crane to take them down. It takes 4 employees a full half

day to do the job. It's a real nuisance. Plus we've caught younger kids playing inside the structure. It is so dangerous."

The Lion's Park is constantly under attack from vandals. The bathrooms get broken into, stalls kicked down, the score-keepers boxes have been ripped apart and burned. The soccer grounds get ripped up by vehicles ranging from cars, scooters and four wheelers that illegally promenade through the grounds. No motor vehicles are permitted in the park at any time. However, they manage to kick out pylons and go around rocks.

"It's a park where people are invited to come with their children. They should feel safe they aren't going to get run down by a vehicle." Says Morin. "We've caught scooters on the tennis courts, we've had to replace rocks they spray up with

their tires. We want a park, like our paths, where we don't have to worry about speeding vehicles."

The idea of a neighborhood watch program is being floated in Brome Lake, after many years of being out of commission.

"We would love to see that happen." Says Sergeant Hugo Lizotte of the SQ. "We would help get it up and operational. What's helpful about Neighborhood watch is that the community starts really looking out for their own community. We can't be everywhere. They become our eyes and ears."

One of the problems with Brome Lake is not so much that the police are not present, but in many circumstances people simply don't call the police.

"The community has to realize that we are all part of a whole." Says Morin. "People always say they see one little incident and don't call it in. The problem is, all these little incidents add up. The more we call the police and tell them, the more they will come and check on problem areas."

It doesn't always mean they will catch the perpetrators right away, but if they are more present in problem areas,

eventually they will be caught and be forced to pay for their actions.

In many instances all it takes is to walk up to people who are committing an act and to let them know what they are doing is wrong. More and more parents are starting to do this at the Lion's Park, especially with teenagers, who may not be putting much thought into their actions.

The police say all acts of vandalism, no matter how small, should be reported to 911, 310-4141, on your cellular phone; *4141 or Info-Crime. The Info Crime hotline is anonymous. 1-800-877-1800

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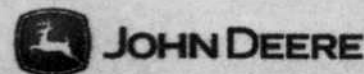
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Letters From Knowlton

Alanna Fahey

BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Dear Knowlton,

Here, in Nova Scotia, many of my friends have been asking me about the event, Letters From Knowlton that will be taking place in your village August 1st and 2nd. As they look over the literature that you sent to me, their curiosity has been piqued enough for some of them to talk of venturing your way on their Autumn Vacations. Maritimers hardly ever leave home in the summertime. Our weather, the eggshell blue skies dappled with strokes of purple and warm rainy winds hold us steadfast to our shorelines.

I was speaking with Josef Singerman, one of the organizers of Letters From Knowlton, the other day and he said, "Everyone loves to get a letter. Sometimes letters bring uncertain news, but mostly they bring good news, and often photos or other little mementoes are tucked inside the envelope. It's a thrill to get a letter. The experience fills the senses."

I feel he is quite correct in his observations, as one only has to look at recent history with the success of books based on letters to see how people grave the arrival of a letter in their lives. How many of us, when the Griffin and Sabine books first appeared in book stores, wished we were the ones writing those postcards, and how many of us, sat for hours and poured over the contents of the letters of The Jolly Postman books with our children, and when they were tucked in bed, lingered with a cup of tea over the pages of those letters?

With more of us 'tweeting, facebooking, youtubing and textmessaging, our communication skills have become more refined in a sense, with letters often conveying entire thoughts. And as in the days of our ancient ancestors, symbols are widely understood and the meaning is often felt in the heart, as it should be. Given that we are perhaps even honing ourselves for almost certain telepathic forms of communication, it is nice to once in awhile, take pen in hand and sit, with the paper in front of us and think of

what we are going to write, what we want to say and exactly, how we want to say it.

Mark Twain wrote the following in a letter to Olivia Langdon, his future wife: "Out of the depths of my happy heart wells a great tide of love and prayer for this priceless treasure that is confided to my life-long keeping. You cannot see its intangible waves as they flow towards you, darling, but in these lines you will hear, as it were, the distant bearing of the surf..." If you are like me, to receive a letter saying this, instead of I u, would be nice, but then again to get a letter from a loved one saying I u, would be felt in my heart just the same. That's the beauty of a getting a letter or sending a letter. It is an attachment to the object, a tangible piece of paper, a piece of paper that has words on it, meant only for you, to tuck under your pillow, or to read to your best friend. It belongs to you.

As I am sure you well aware, but just in case you are not, Letters from Knowlton has a FaceBook site and Singerman said, "To all members and followers of Letters from Knowlton: Before and during our event in August, I will be posting new writings by our distinguished guests and organizers. Philip Lanthier's biographical piece on John Glassco, the man who delivered the mail in Brome County during the war years, is on our Facebook site. There's also, Don Davison's piece on the real Letters From Knowlton, the stage coach express, based on true historical events. Enjoy and stay tuned from time to time for new and interesting writing & postings."

I was most happy to hear that the organizers of this event will be providing locations throughout your lovely village in which to sit and write your letters. Canada Post will be sending them for free and they will be postmarked with your very own distinct stamp. The stamp itself sets the imagination on fire as one looks at the speed of the horse and wonders about the many who were involved with the pony express, their lives, the journeys, the news relayed in those letters of days gone by.

Special events will be held throughout the week-end with special guests Heather O'Neill, author of Lullabies for Little Criminals, Neil Smith, of Bang Crunch fame and Noah Richler, journalist and author hosting a round table discussion of This is My Country, What's Yours.

It really does sounds like a week-end to be in Knowlton, as not only are these writers going to grace round table discussions, a night of music is planned for Saturday with

Ian Ferrier, Amos Joannides and Sarah Biggs. Don Davison, Laura Teasdale and Harry Yates, local celebrities will be hosting a discussion event on Sunday. All of these events will be held as Galerie-Bistro Carpe Diem. Tickets are for sale in many venues. Josef Singerman will be reading aloud letters written by the participants on Sunday afternoon at ColdBrook Park. **Cont'd on Page 8**



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LETTERS FROM KNOWLTON CONT'D

With storm clouds promising great sheets of Bluenoser rain, I have to go button up the chicken coop, but before I leave you, I must tell you that while I lived amongst you, I was truly alive and your generosity and the friendships that I made in the Knowlton area have sustained me through some very interesting tests. I wish you great success and in my heart, I will be there writing Thank-yous to all of you for allowing me to be a part of it by allowing me to write about Letters From Knowlton.

Tickets / Info: Place des lettres (billetterie officielle) : 338, rue Principale, Eastman. Tel. : 450-297-2265

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Cemetery Going Green

One day a young family came to pay tribute to their mother by installing a saddle of very expensive, beautifully arranged artificial flowers on her grave. Shortly after they left, someone stole it. Hard to believe, but it happens.

Tributes to loved ones seem to be taking the form of a debate between plastic and natural flowers. Plastic flowers, fences, figurines, wreaths, ceramic vases, bottles and now solar lights are taking the place of real flowers.

These artificial objects get in the way of the mowers and whipper snippers which are used to maintain the beauty of our cemetery. When broken, they leave bits of plastic, metal and glass strewn around. These objects are both dangerous and unattractive to see, as well as damaging to the equipment.

At a directors' meeting held in the cemetery in early June, the feeling was that the cemetery was not following the trend to "go green".

We encourage natural tributes, such as small shrubs and flower beds, which must be maintained by the donor. You can contact the caretaker or a member of the committee, whose names and telephone numbers are listed at the gate, as to suitable plantings and tributes.

We would like to start a fund to plant memorial trees and bushes throughout the cemetery. Donations to this fund would be acknowledged, receipted and posted at the entrance to the cemetery.

We sincerely hope that we can count on your support to 'go green' at the Knowlton Cemetery.

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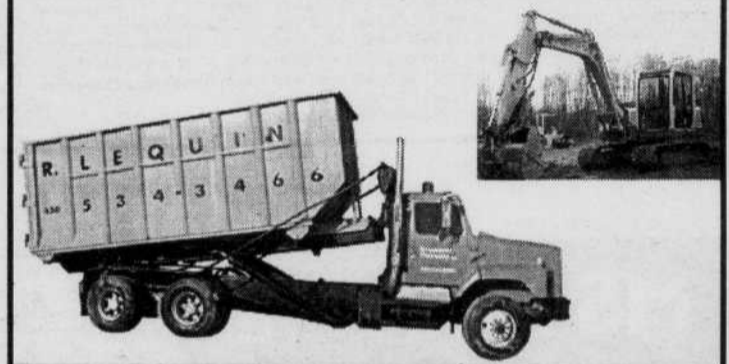
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St. John the Evangelist celebrates 150th Anniversary

The weekend of June 19-21 saw lots of activity in the tiny village of Brome as St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church celebrated the 150th anniversary of its consecration. The festivities began with a Wine and Cheese party which drew guests from the local area as well as visitors from other regions of Quebec and Ontario. It was a time of fellowship and fun, renewing old friendships and memories as guests poured over the many photos and documents which were on display. The event was also the kickoff to the fundraising campaign to renovate St. John the Evangelist to its former glory. It was revealed that a sum of over \$20,000 had already been collected for the Renovation Fund, a fine start on the way to a goal of \$100,000 to repair this historic building.

On Saturday, a Family Fun day was held at Heritage Park in Brome. It was a time for families to gather together and enjoy a day in the fresh air complete with a picnic lunch. A wall mural was created by the children (with a little help from some of the adult helpers!) to commemorate the event. Colourful handprints decorated the mural which was hung up in the church for all to see on Sunday morning. Later in the day, people gathered at the church for an evening concert. The first group was the Siamsa School of Irish Music, a talented group of musicians who combined their creative talents to bring us a lovely mix of Irish, Celtic, French Canadian and Acadian numbers. Toes were tapping and hands were clapping to the lively beat of the tunes. The second act was Home Grown Country, a local band who played tradi-



tional country music as well as several gospel songs. Brian Allen performed several selections on the steel guitar, the most moving rendition being Amazing Grace.

Sunday morning began with showers, threatening the cancellation of some of the scheduled activities. However, prayers were answered as the sky cleared just in time. Wishing to reenact the mode of travel in 1859, the organizing committee had arranged for the clergy, wardens and members of the Ladies Guild to arrive by horse drawn carriages, buggies and wagons. Bishop Barry Clarke of the Diocese of Montreal, accompanied by his Chaplain, Lay Reader Sharon Jolley, led the procession in a distinguished looking carriage. Rev. Paul Tidman accompanied by his wife, Cathy Hamilton, followed in a horse drawn buggy befitting a clergyman. Next in the procession were Warden Eugene Jones, his wife Annie and granddaughter Anodoea and Warden Valerie Cook riding in a farm wagon. At the rear of the procession was Ladies Guild President Jennifer Williams Frizzle. One could only imagine a similar procession winding its way up the street in Brome Village on hundred and fifty years before.

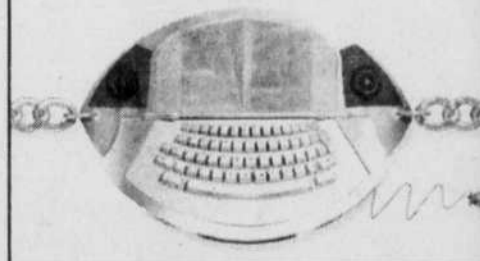
Submitted by Valerie Cook

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ST. ONGE - In memory of a loving daughter and son, Jenny St. Onge (July 6, 1999) and Dwayne St. Onge (June 12, 2007).

Gone with the angles,
But forever in my heart

From,

DAD AND FAMILY

Card of Thanks

DYMOND, Helen (Sherrer) - We would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their sympathy and support following Mom's passing. We appreciate the many phone calls, visits and food, visitation at the funeral home, flowers and charitable donations. Special thanks to Dr. A. Phillips for his care and personal attention; to the staff at Residence Dunham for their care and kindness over the past four months; to the Dunham UCW for the luncheon following the service and their friendship over many years; to neighbour Gilles Choquette for his help and many acts of kindness; to Brome Missisquoi Funeral Complex for getting us through a difficult process; and to Mom's sisters for always being there. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated.

THE DYMOND FAMILY

Open House

Come and celebrate 62 years of love, Floyd and Helen Mailloux, on Sunday, July 12 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at 421 J. Andre Deragon Blvd., Cowansville. Best wishes only

Open House for

George Bailey's
95th Birthday
on Saturday, July 11
from 1:30 p.m. to 4:40 p.m.
at St. James Anglican church Hall,
Foster.
Please come by and wish George a
happy 95th birthday
and stay for a visit.

Wedding Reception



Wedding Reception for
Richard and Melissa Holmes
will be held on July 11, 2009
at the Sutton Legion,
2 Curley Street, Sutton
8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Adults: \$6., kids free.
Music by Gary Darling.

Cards of Thanks

TAYLOR - For the day I will never forget. It is with sincere thanks to all my friends and family for the way they helped me celebrate my 85th birthday. Also for the many wonderful cards, phone calls and gifts I received. I would also like to thank Steve, Stan and Jason for their donation of lovely music. Also the two ladies for the wonderful lunch. Last but not least, my wonderful wife Gloria.

Sincerely,

GORDIE TAYLOR

WILLISON - I would like to thank the Robinson Residence staff for their support in our time of sorrow. Also to Dorothy Royea for the food she supplied at the time of the funeral and to the Iron Hill Trinity Church group for the lunch. Thank you to all the people who phoned and sent cards. This was all very much appreciated.

PAT WILLISON
AND FAMILY

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Brome County
News weekly

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Art of the Garden

By Wendy Denman
BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Taking her inspiration from her Sutton garden, artist Daphne Boyer creates elegant three-dimensional art sculptures that marry digital images of plant material with hand-made craftsmanship, her experience in art and textile design and her knowledge of plant science and entomology. Her unusual pieces caught the eye of the Gallery on Chase Hill in Kennebunkport, Maine, where her paper mobile sculptures of insect pollinators, Flying Flowers, are part of the Gallery's annual *From the Garden Show*, on display until July 16.

"As an organic gardener for the last thirty years, I have vast experience collaborating with the bug world. The insect population is just one of the environmental issues I address in my work," said Boyer. "The pieces in Maine are my tribute to the fragile nature of pollinators. My garden is home to beautiful plants, but they wouldn't be there without the insects. We can thank pollinators for one of every three mouthfuls we eat. I see my art as social commentary; and hope it offers others the opportunity to see the beauty of these insects and are thus encouraged to maintain the habitats necessary for their survival."

A decade ago, Boyer and her husband bought the Sutton property and garden originally owned by Canadian film animator Evelyn Lambart. "It's a most extraordinary garden, considered one of the most beautiful in Canada. It's been our mission to continue the garden as Lambart envisioned it."

A student of textile design, Boyer had to abandon all art making in the 1990's when she became ill from the chemicals used in fabric dyeing, painting and sculpture. "I retreated to my garden, with my earlier studies in plant science and years of organic gardening behind me, it was an easy second choice to my art," said Boyer.

"I was drawn to the pow-

erful life force that is unleashed when seeds germinate - what I call the heartbeat of the garden. Ironically it was this same heartbeat that propelled me back into my studio and enabled me to develop a new way of creating, this time using low-chem and inert materials.

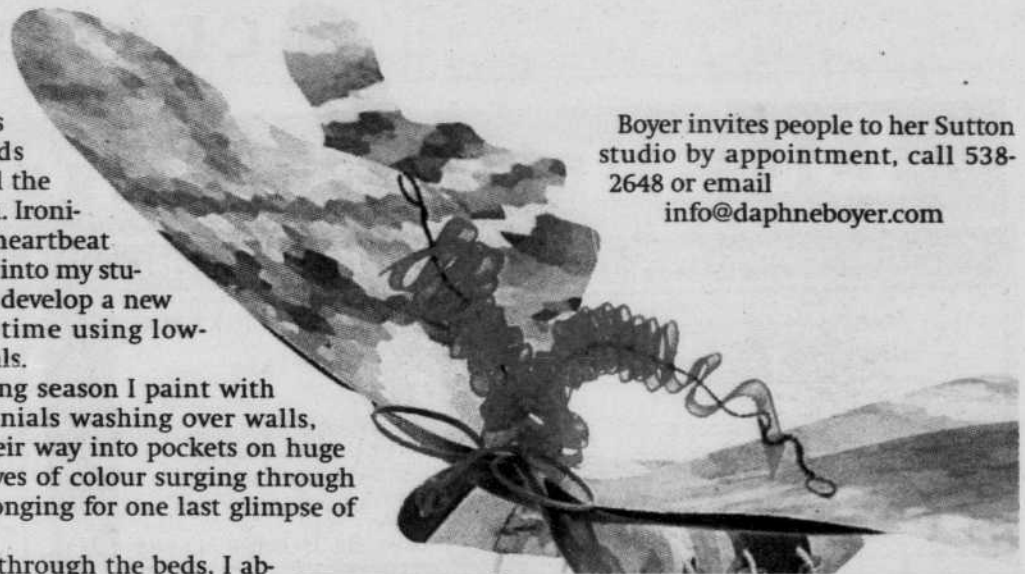
"During the growing season I paint with plants, rivers of perennials washing over walls, tiny alpine forcing their way into pockets on huge rock outcroppings, waves of colour surging through the beds, leaving me longing for one last glimpse of their beauty.

"As I inch my way through the beds, I absorb form, texture, colour, scent - even the songs of the birds and the sound of their wings beating overhead. This becomes the language of my art."

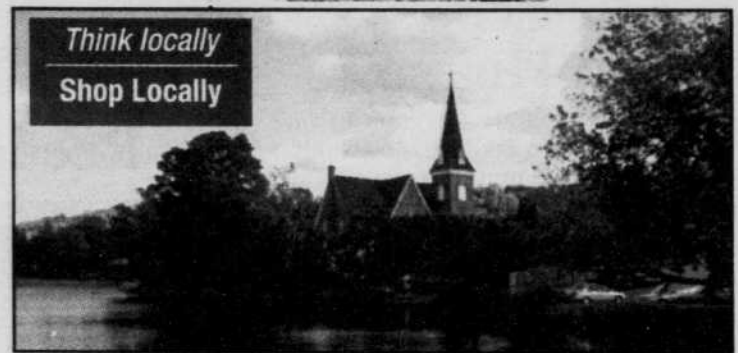
Boyer collects plant material from the gardens, taking photographs during the height of the season. She then transfers the "entire joyous mess" with digital imaging onto sheets of Japanese paper. "I then sculpt the paper into articulated or three-dimensional forms, which can be illuminated with LED's or designed to fly or to float."

A member of Arts Sutton, Boyer has exhibited locally and is currently planning for a future show in Montreal. "The show in Maine, came strangely enough through a gallery in Palm Beach, whose owner saw my work when we were in Florida last winter.

"I went to the Gallery in Kennebunkport to hang my work and to be there for the vernissage on June 27. I hope the clients there will love my work and wonder about what I am commenting on."



Boyer invites people to her Sutton studio by appointment, call 538-2648 or email info@daphneboyer.com




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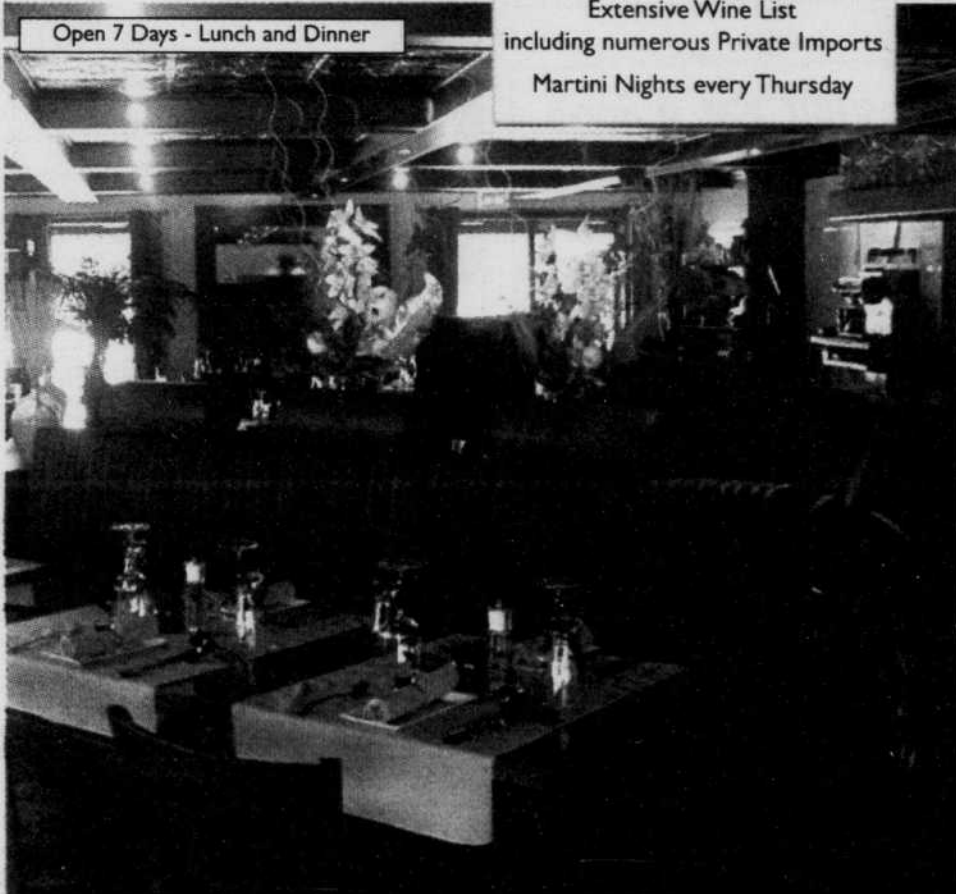
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