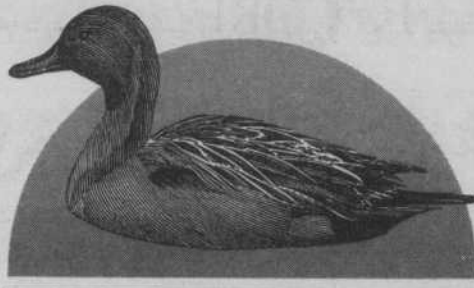


Brome County NEWS



WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2000

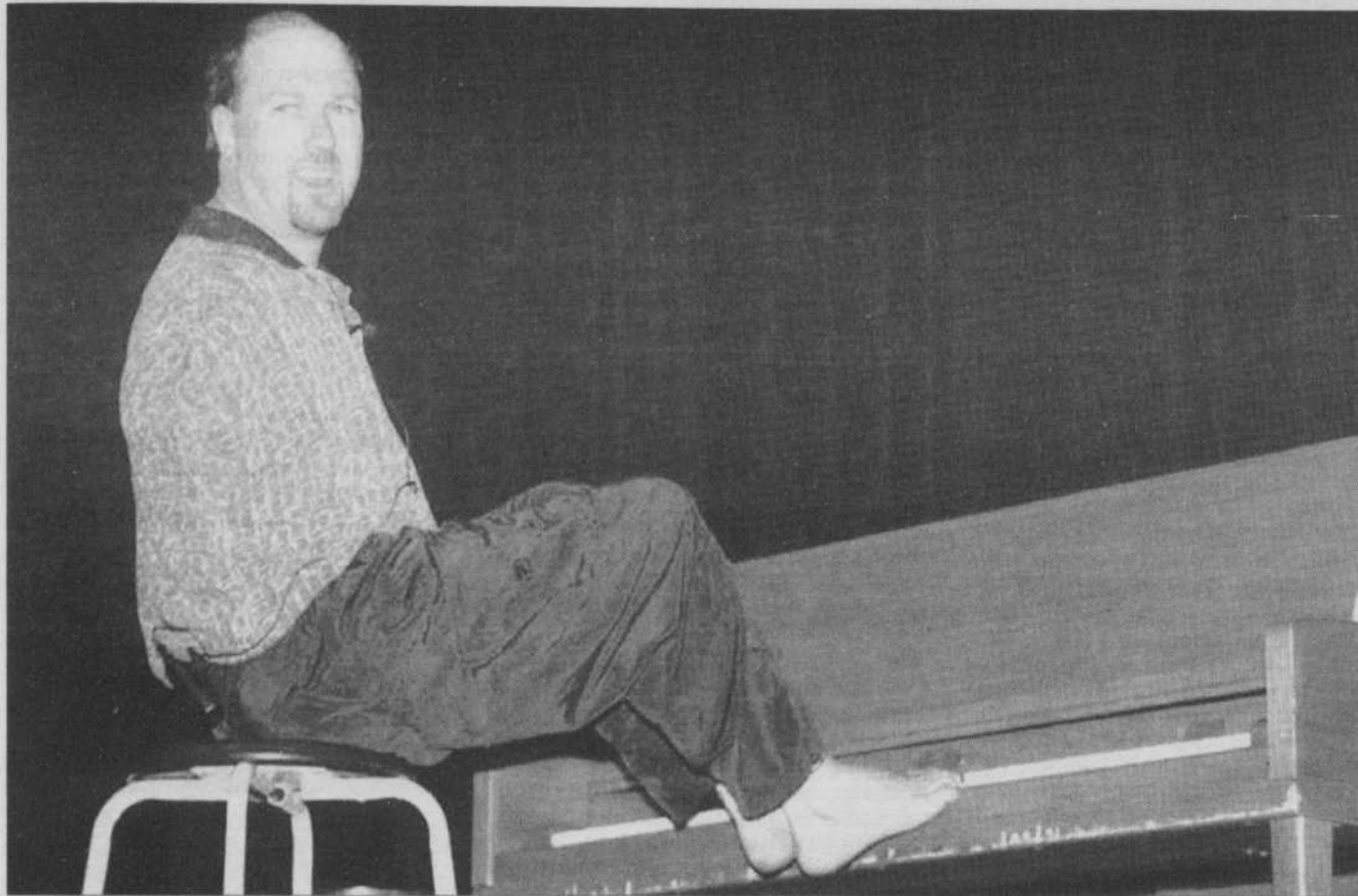
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THE LARGEST CIRCULATION WEEKLY IN BROME—MISSISQUOI

Alvin Law delivers message of hope to Massey-Vanier teens



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Saskatchewan native Alvin Law addressed an assembly of Massey-Vanier students about the importance of attitude. His message, delivered in a rapid-fire monologue of anecdotes, personal observations and energetic demonstrations, riveted the teenage audience.

'Imagine bringing home a baby like me...'

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
COWANSVILLE

Alvin Law is one of Canada's most popular speakers, delivering over 175 talks per year to audiences in the U.S., Canada and

abroad.

Financial planner Richard McCaw heard Law speak and consequently teamed up with local businessmen Douglas Johnston, Pierre Foisy and Hardy Craft to bring him to Cowansville for two speaking engagements.

Last Friday, the Saskatchewan native addressed an assembly of Massey-Vanier students about the importance of attitude. His message, delivered in a rapid-fire monologue of anecdotes, personal observations and energetic

demonstrations, riveted the teenage audience.

Physical disabilities, says Law, are not so debilitating as the psychological ones that others impose upon us and that we impose upon ourselves.

No one is more qualified to make that point. A victim of the thalidomide disaster of the 1960s, Alvin Law was born with no arms. At birth, he was given last rights and his doctor secretly hoped that he would die.

SEE LAW, PAGE 5

Annual antique, crafts and bake sale this Saturday

By Philip A. Godin
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
KNOWLTON

The Brome County Historical Society will be inaugurating its 103rd season this weekend, with its annual fund-raising bake sale on the Museum grounds on Saturday May 20, followed by the antique and craft sale on Sunday.

The Society has been tracking and recording the history of Brome County since 1904, and displays a wide variety of artifacts in its museum situated on the corner of Lakeside and Victoria in Knowlton. This year, visitors will be treated to an exceptional exhibit of some 20 antique teapots, some dating back to the 18th century.

Of interest to many will be the a unique display which focuses on the 5,000 or so "Home Children", often waifs or orphans, who were sent from impoverished England to Canada between 1872 and 1915 through the "Knowlton distributing Home". A few of these children were actually adopted, most being taken into homes under work contracts. Living conditions for the working children varied considerably; some were treated like family members while others suffered abuse. The building still stands on Lakeside road, its vocation having changed drastically.

Reached at the Society's office, curator Shirley Williams explained: "We also have fascinating permanent displays such as the General Store, the Fessenden exhibit and an actual WW1 Fokker D VII aircraft among other military artifacts. There is always a lot of interest in the original Knowlton Academy High School which was initially housed from 1854 to 1897 in what is now one of the Society's buildings."

For more information on the Museum and archives, call 243-6782.

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SEE PAGE 3 FOR DRIVE-IN

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BROME COUNTY COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May 19

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 77, 77 Lewis St., Waterloo will star serving their **Friday Night B.B.Q.'s** on Friday May 19th and every Friday after for the rest of the summer from 5 - 7 p.m. Come and join us! Everyone is welcome!

May 20

Living with Mental Illness: Informative presentations and question sessions co-sponsored by St. Paul's Church and AMI-Quebec (Alliance for the Mentally Ill) at St. Paul's Church, Knowlton. Registration 9:30 a.m. Morning Session: 10 a.m. to 12. Light lunch provided, 12 - 1 p.m. Afternoon sessions, 1 - 3:30 p.m. Registration, \$5 (includes lunch). Info. 243-0928.

Canada Day Committee will hold a **Car Wash** on the grounds of the Charlie Bockus Garage, 1582 du Sud, Cowansville, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. The public is invited to this fund raising activity in aid of this year's Canada Day celebrations. Tickets: \$5 and include a coupon worth \$1 that can be used, at the KFC outlet, to reduce the cost of a meal taken there, valid from May 30 until June 6. Tickets may be obtained from any committee member or on the site at the car wash.

May 20 & 22

Flea Market at the Knowlton United Church, 234 Knowlton Rd., Knowlton, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Tables, \$15. Donations gratefully accepted.

May 21

Royal Canadian Legion, branch #82, Philipsburg will hold a **Chicken & Biscuits and dessert Supper** from 5 - 7 p.m. Admission: \$7 taxes included. All welcome.

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #158, 'Western Breakfast, All You Can Eat at 2 Curley St., Sutton, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Admission: \$5 per person, children under 10, \$2.50.

May 23

Brome Lake Aquatic Program. Red Cross and Lifesaving Society water safety and swimming courses for all ages: parent-tot, children, adults. Includes swim team. Bronze Medaillon, Bronze Cross, Leader and Instructor. Courses begin end of June at Douglas Beach. Registration, 4 - 6:30 p.m. Call Brome Lake Community Centre for more information at 243-6912.

General Meeting Of The Ladies Auxilliary of The Royal Canadian Legion at The Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Davignon St., Cowansville at 7:30 p.m. All Members are asked to attend. Gloria Poll-Stott, President.

May 24

The Royal Canadian Legion, 77 Lewis St., Waterloo will serve an Old-time

Country Breakfast, 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$4.50 adults, \$2 children under 10 yrs. Live entertainment with Norm and Vel. Come and join in the fun! Everyone Welcome!

May 26 & 27

Rummage Sale at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Knowlton. Friday, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Saturday, 8:30 - 11 a.m. Please bring donations on Thursday, May 25.

May 27

P.R.R.P. Abercorn Annual Flea Market and Mini Auction at 11 Church St., W., Abercorn, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Auction starts at 10 a.m. Many local ventors. Bag sale of used clothing, large raffle, jams, jellies, foods and crafts. Come for the day and enjoy our hospitality.

ADVANCED NOTICE

Grace Anglican Church, Sutton is now accepting **good resaleable items for Annual Rummage/Garage Sale.** Items can be dropped off at Church Hall, 52 South Main St., Sutton, on the following Mondays, May 22, 29 between 9 a.m. and noon. Actual sale dates, June 2nd, noon to 7 p.m.; June 3rd, 8:30 a.m. - noon. Thank you, your help is always needed and much appreciated. Call 538-6623.

May 27

Chanterelles, an all-women's choral group directed by Renee Larouche presents a joint concert with Choeur Leger an 8 mix voice group from St. Constant at St. Simon's Church, 9 rue des Eglises, Abercorn at 8 p.m. Admission: \$10, adults, \$5, children, 5 - 11 yrs. Tel. 538-5636 or 538-0678 for more information.

May 28

Town of Brome Lake Benefit BBQ for Youth Activities to be held at Knowlton Pub, Knowlton sponsored by TBL Community Services from 5 - 9 p.m. Live music provided by local talent. All proceeds from BBQ and bar sales go directly toward youth programs. Tickets available at Brome Lake Town Hall, the Legion Community Centre or through your town councillor and the members of the board of directors of Community Services. Cost: \$10, adults, \$6 children 12 and under. Info. 242-2020.

June 10

Rock n' Roll Revue 2000 A real blast from the past featuring student singers and instrumentalists from Heroes, Knowlton, Farnham and Massey Vanier Schools accompanied by the Cowansville Community Choir. Bee-Bop your way over to the Massey Vanier Auditorium, Cowansville at 7 p.m. Put your glad rags on and your blue suede shoes. Bring your bucks to the door and loose your blues. Adults, \$5, students, \$3. Tickets sold at the door or in advance. All proceeds to local Music Departments of Knowlton Academy, Heroes Memorial, Farnham Elementary and Masser-Vanier. Please support your

local school. Tel. 263-3772 for more information.

ARTS CALENDAR

Through May 21 Knowlton Players Tenth Anniversary Year. Think **"Androcles and the Lion"** is just for children? Well, think again. A family play with music in the style of Commedia dell Arte, adapted by Aurand Harris, directed by Christopher Freeman at the Knowlton Pub Playhouse. May 11, 12, 13, 18, 19 & 20 at 8 p.m., May 14, 21 at 2 p.m. Tickets, \$7, adults, \$5, children under 13. Reservations 263-1061.

May 20

Annual Bake Sale sponsored by Brome County Historical Society at 130 Lakeside St., Knowlton. We are open until 5 p.m. on Friday afternoon should you want to bring things in then or Sat. morning from 9 a.m. If you don't bake perhaps you'd like to come buy. Tel. 243-6782. We welcome your contribution.

Parminou in collaboration with la Maison de la Culture Courvill Gerontology Foundation and local sponsors presents **'Dare to Act'** at La Maison de la Culture, Waterloo to celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the Courville Geriatric Center Theatre. Tickets, \$5. Reservations: Angele Ares-Ledoux (Centre Geriatrique Courville): 539-1821 Ext. 228.

May 20 & 21

Penguin Productions will hold **Auditions** for the musical 'The Nightmare Before Christmas' at Mandragore Theatre, 12a Main St., Sutton at 2 p.m. For more information call Richard Therriault at 538-8484 or 538-8194.

May 21

Antique and Craft Market sponsored by Brome County Historical society on Museum Grounds, 130 Lakeside, Knowlton, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tel. 243-6782.

Variety Show: Sunshine Theatre Productions is putting together a Variety Show of Townships talent for June 3 and 4 at Theatre Lac Brome in Knowlton. If you can sing, dance, act or tell jokes, this may be just the right venue for you. This show will be a fund-raiser for Theatre Lac Brome and for Sunshine Theatre's next production. If you'd like to share your talent and support local theatre at the same time, please call 539-3604.

CHURCH SERVICES

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 & 10 a.m. Sunday School and Nursery, 10 a.m. The Rev. Ralph T. Leavitt - Pastor. Allow us to welcome you!

KNOWLTON/CREEK PASTORAL CHARGE Worship & Song by members & Rev. Burn Purdon Creek United, Foster, 9:30 a.m. Knowlton United, Knowlton, 11 a.m. Everyone welcome.

PARISH OF BROME

St. Aidan, Sutton Junction 1st service 2:30 p.m. & 3rd Sunday at 2 p.m.; Ascension, West Brome, all services at 9:30 a.m.; Holy Trinity, Iron Hill services on 1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays at 11 a.m., and 2nd at 7:30 p.m.; St. John Evangelist, Brome Village, services on 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays at 11 a.m. and 4th at 7:30 p.m.

COWANSVILLE AREA PASTORAL CHARGE: Morning Worship and Sunday School at Emmanuel United Church, Cowansville, every Sunday at 10 a.m. All are welcome.

TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH, COWANSVILLE invites you to worship and fellowship Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., 409 South St. This active little church has a nursery and Sunday School at 10:30 a.m. and the youth meet once a month at The Connection. Drop in or call 263-2662. May God Bless You. The Rev. Richard Randall.

GRACE ANGLICAN CHURCH SUTTON

Warmly welcomes you to join us in Worship of the Lord. Service, Sundays, 10:30 a.m. at 52 Principale Sud. The Rev. Tim Smart, Rector.

BEDFORD PASTORAL CHARGE invites you to come and worship with us. Stanbridge East United, Academy St. 9:30 a.m. (Sunday School). Wesley United, Bedford, 51 River St., 11 a.m. (Sunday School). Mystic United, Mystic Rd., 12:30 p.m. Services are led by Rev. Brett Annington.

BAPTIST CHURCHES - Sunday Services: Mansonville Baptist, 9:30 a.m.; Olivet Baptist, Sutton, 11 a.m. All welcome.

COMMUNITY NOTES

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 Wendy at 263-7503.

CORRECTION

Please note: Mr. Pierre Beaucage of the University of Montreal, will give a presentation on Human Rights in Chiapas, Mexico on Saturday, May 27th instead of May 13th. The presentation will take place at 7:30 p.m. at Arts Sutton. As well, Julie Galipeau will talk about her upcoming trip to Guatemala with Projet Accompagnement Quebec-Guatemala.

Brome County NEWS



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CIRCULATION

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BCHS repairs tomb of one of E.T.'s founding fathers

Gale monument restored

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
COWANSVILLE

Quebecers have been less than diligent in embracing an inclusive cultural past. In spite of this, a small but dedicated group of amateur and professional historians have gone far in the mission to keep the Eastern Townships' loyalist heritage alive.

The preservation of the Gale Monument is an example of a significant corner of Eastern Townships history that could easily have fallen by the wayside, were it not for the efforts of conscientious volunteers.

Half-way between Bromont and Cowansville, on the forested slope of Gale Mountain stands a monument erected to Samuel Gale. An inconspicuous sign at 418 Pierre Laporte marks the meadow right-of-way secured by the Brome County Historical Society that leads up to plot. There, in a lonely but peaceful wooded spot is the final resting place of Gale, his wife, Rebecca Wells and daughter Hannah W.T. Gale. Flanked on either side by modern homes, the shady mountainside graveyard is the sole reminder of a thousand acre farm that Gale carved out of the virgin Missisquoi wilderness. In addition to managing his own homestead, Gale played a pivotal role, aiding incoming loyalist refugees seeking to rebuild their shattered lives and fortunes.

Dick Eldridge, a long-time volunteer and past president of the Brome County Historical Society as well as a member of the Sir John Johnson Branch of the United Empire Loyalists, has been overseeing the restoration of the Gale monument. He noted that over the years, the historical society has acquired and maintained several significant monuments, including the Brome monument (at the corner of Valley Road and Stagecoach Road in Brome village), the Austin monument (in Austin, Quebec) and the Collins monument (in West Brome, off Miltimore Road).

"The Gale Monuments was one of the few monuments that we owned that we hadn't done any work on," said Eldridge, speaking at the B.C.H.S. Annual General Meeting. Eldridge, who has researched the history of Gale, wrote in his historical brief that as early as 1899, B.C.H.S. secretary Ernest Taylor used Gale as proof that United Empire Loy-



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Dick Eldridge beside the monument.

alists settled in Brome, Missisquoi and Shefford Counties.

According to the Dictionary of Canadian Biography, Samuel Gale was born 14 October 1747 in Kimpton, Hampshire, England and served as paymaster in the British Army. In or around 1770, he was appointed paymaster for the King's armed forces in the New World. In 1791, Gale, also a trained surveyor, accepted the invitation of the chief justice of Lower Canada to become principal assistant to Surveyor General Samuel Johannes Holland. Gale's organization of Quebec's land records made possible the publication of the 1795 map showing land grants issued during and after the French régime and the boundaries of surveyed townships. He resigned his post in a salary dispute with Lord Dor-

ester and took up the task of defending the claims of early settlers. In 1796, Gale was appointed private secretary to Lord Dorchester's successor, Robert Prescott.

In 1796, Gale returned to England where he continued to petition on behalf of the original land claimants, pointing out that of the hundreds of loyalists who had been promised land, only a handful had received land titles. Largely through his efforts, the Crown adopted a more lenient policy toward the early land claimants.

Gale returned to Canada in 1804 and lived the life of a country squire on his farm until his death on June 27, 1826. Over time, the Gale farmhouse disappeared and in 1901 the B.C.H.S., then under the Honourable Warren Lynch,

CONTINUED ON
NEXT PAGE



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Gale cemetery sign.

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HIGH FIDELITY (English) 13 Y
Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 9:00 p.m.

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The monument gradually fell into ruin – Eldridge



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Dick Eldridge in the cemetery.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

acquired title to the family cemetery. Three decades later, Margaret E. Stevens, writing for the Family Herald and Weekly Star, described her visit to the site:

"At length, we stood by the gate of an iron paling enclosing a tiny graveyard. Rusted through years of weathering and disuse, the gate is reluctant now to admit visitors. Weeds have twined themselves in its meshes and it is with a grating protest that the gate finally swings open to allow the intruders to enter. On a base about 5-ft square are arranged in box fashion four slabs of white marble. Above these, in pyramidal shape rise four triangular slabs of gray slate stone, surmounted by a piece of gray granite, like an obelisk."

A white inscription stone read: "Here Rest Samuel Gale, Esquire, former deputy paymaster-general of His Majesty's forces in the Southern Provinces, now the United States of America, subsequently secretary to his Excellency, the governor in council of His Majesty's Dominion in North America, author of essays on Public Credit and other works, born

at Kimpton, Hants, England Oct. 11, 1747 O.S., died at Farnham, June 27, 1826."

Eldridge said that the monument gradually fell into ruin, collapsing onto itself. The inscription stone, in a manner reminiscent of the fate of the vault of Sir John Johnson, was removed to the B.C.H.S. for safekeeping.

Official renovation of the site began in 1999. Brian Bidwell of Sutton's Jenne Monuments, carried out the repairs, including the installation of new reinforcing straps to prevent the weight of the two tons of stone from collapsing inward. Bidwell has also reinstalled the inscription tablet.

This summer, the final work on the site, including repair of its ancient iron fence and clean-up of the surrounding area, will be completed.

Eldridge added a trip to the site is planned for sometime in October. That visit is intended to enable U.E.L. members, BCHS directors and trustees and interested members of the public to view the completed restoration.

For more information on the visit, contact the B.C.H.S. or Arlene Royea (450) 243-6782.

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Cat didn't come back

A female tabby cat with long white and grey hair with a touch of brown was last seen in Sutton Junction in December of 1999. The cat also has white markings on the tips of her front paws. Missed by owner very much. Please call (450) 538-2753 if anyone knows of her whereabouts.

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'Perceptions can be all messed up'

Law:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Within an hour of his birth, his distraught biological parents placed him up for adoption. Eventually, Jack and Hilda Law took the infant into their home, in spite of the fact that they were told that Alvin would probably die.

"Could you imagine what it was to bring home a baby like me," he asked the audience?

When the baby did not die, the couple were told that the child would never be able to sit up.

"My mother loves to tell the story of how, one day, she was canning tomatoes and put me in a little box with my back propped against the side. I seemed to like it and she continued doing that. Two weeks later, I was sitting up myself. Can you imagine how her attitude changed from expecting nothing out of me to knowing that I could accomplish something?"

Hilda's experimentation expanded, first positioning his baby bottle on a pillow so that he could drink in his crib. Before long, Alvin had learned to pick the bottle up with his feet and feed himself. From that point on, he would be expected to participate fully in family life, be it going to a restaurant, taking out the garbage or shovelling snow.

"Perceptions can be all messed up," Law told the student body.

"The moment I started using toes for fingers I ceased to have a disability."

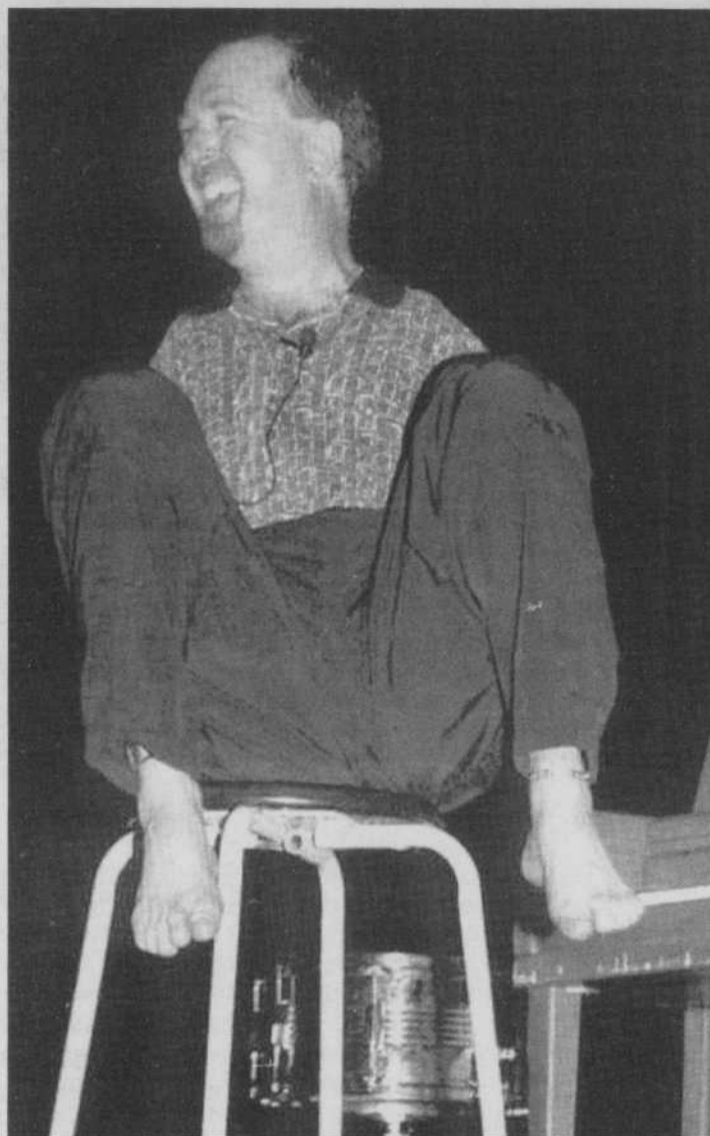
In fact, his feet served double duty for locomotion and as a substitute for arms and hands.

"Mom would give me a needle and thread and tell me to sew. Dad would bring home nuts and bolts and expect me to screw them together."

In his parents' eyes, he was capable of doing almost anything.

Yet the biggest challenge was "to compete with people who saw me as second rate," from the principal who told his parents that there was no place for Alvin in the school for 'normal' kids, to the kids who refused to play with him because it was 'uncool to play with the freak'. In spite of the fact that there was no place for a kid like Alvin on school sports teams, he dreamed of being a CFL quarterback, learning to toss a football by balancing it on his toes. He also learned to tap dance and, at his dad's suggestion, learned to drive a car using his foot to steer and the other foot to accelerate and brake.

Alvin's most extraordinary talents, in the end, were musical but those too, got off to a rocky start when his mother brought a piano teacher home. Seeing Alvin's disability, the teacher quickly found an excuse for why he



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Alvin Law jokes with his young audience... 'The moment I started using toes for fingers I ceased to have a disability.'

would never be able to play. "When the piano teacher told me my toes were too short, the mistake that I made was that I listened," he said before performing on the piano a two-foot number named in that teacher's hon-

our.

As an 11-year old, he learned to play the drums from a supportive 16-year old (Unlike Ringo Starr, Law can do rolls). However, his tour de force was with the trombone: using a special prop to hold the trombone, he positioned the slide with his foot. Eventually, he became the lead chair in the Canadian All-Star Jazz Band and has won numerous competitions throughout Canada.

our.

Now married with a teenage son, Alvin Law has to contend with the competing demands of a speaking career and parenting. He has crossed all the barriers, quashed all the stereotypes. If the adult Alvin Law is wise, articulate and authentic, it is probably because the teenage Law survived the steady onslaught of prejudices beyond the imagination of the average human being.

Yet he points to the tragic observation that many outwardly normal kids see themselves as without talent. Their insecurities are further reinforced by parents who have no time to foster their children's own unique skills, by school systems too harried to address exceptions and to a consumer culture that values conformity and beauty.

There is a certain amount of justice in the fact that Alvin Law, the kid who once sat alone during athletics because he was so 'uncool' is now a hot item on the corporate lecture circuit, the subject of a CBC documentary and a happy family man. If he has a message to the world at large it is that it is not the big events that shape a life, but the amalgam of small ones.

Caring parents with positive expectations, a 16-year old who took the time to teach an 11-year old to play the drums and the clever tinkerer who built the child's first trombone all saw Alvin Law for who he was, not for who he was not.

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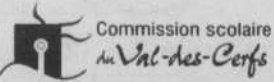
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Adult Ed grads to face new challenges

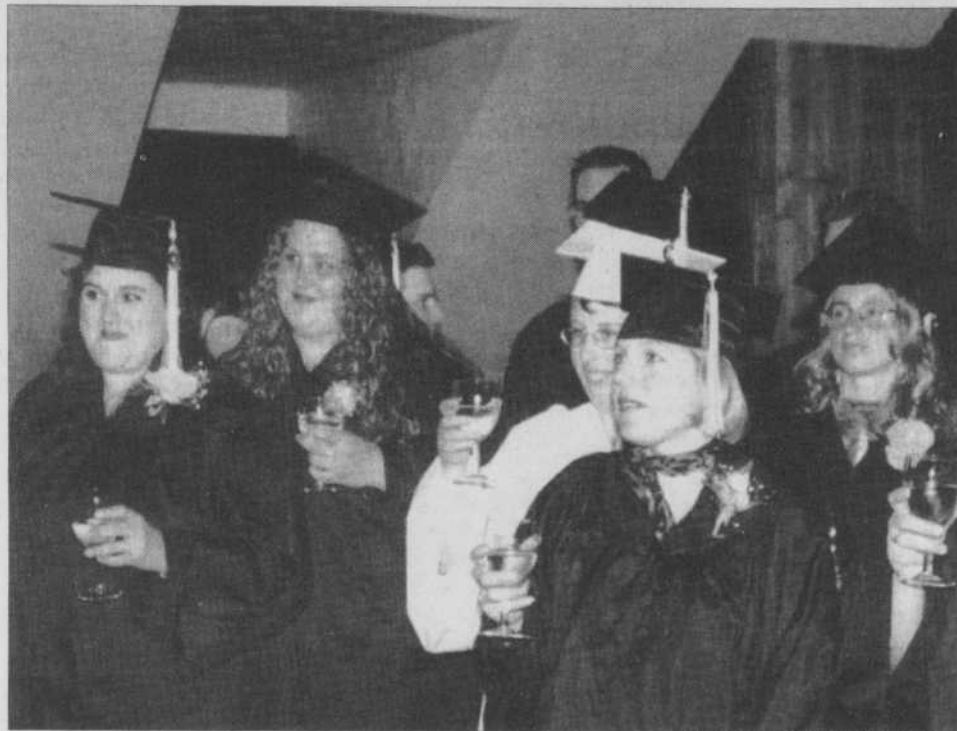
By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
COWANSVILLE

Nearly 40 Adult Ed graduates had cause to celebrate Friday night. The new graduates, their families, teachers and staff of the Cowansville Adult Ed Centre packed into a banquet room of the Days Inn for the two and a half hour ceremony to recognize their accomplishments.

"Some of you have completed the requirements for your Secondary School Diploma," Centre director Walter Duszara told the audience.

"Some have completed prerequisites for Vocational Education and some CEGEP. Some of you soon will be entering university. Some will be entering the workforce."

"Each of you has had to overcome numerous obstacles with courage, hard work, self-discipline and a persistent dedication to your dreams. Each of you has succeeded in completing a very significant and important phase of your education. But your journeys are far from over. In



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Adult Ed grads raise a toast.

fact, in a very real sense, they have only just begun."

Guest speaker Sally Meyer described to the audience her experience of juggling the pressures of a new marriage, blended family and return to school to the departing graduates.

Teachers Kathy Childs, Barbara Cahill and Sheila

Smith made presentations to each of the attending graduates, recognizing their personal contributions and strengths. Class Valedictorian Amy Woodard also gave a brief address on behalf of classmates.

The next step for these grads is as varied as their makeup. Some will continue on with their current jobs and some will move on to better jobs.

Others will be heading to further training, either in vocational programs, at CEGEP or to university. For others, it was fulfillment of a personal goal.

For Noreen Almond, who graduated from Massey-Vanier last year and is studying biology at John Abbott in the fall, the Adult Ed program provided a chance to get the prerequisites for CEGEP entry and to raise a few key grades.

"Actually, it was a pretty good experience," concluded Almond.

Congrats, 2000 graduates!

Secondary V Diploma recipients:

Shane Brett
Darren Chute
Carolyn Cormier
Alan Heckley
Michel Michaud
Todd Mullarkey
Mary Rosevear
Jennifer Royea
Priscilla Schafer
Sonia Swett
Keri Lee Ten Eyck
Jesse Wilson
Ryan Chomiuk
Jennifer Cook
Samantha Duclos
Maria Larivée
Jason Miller
Renata Pepin
Jason Roy
Melanie Salisbury
Samantha Susée-Holmes
Grant Symington
Andrea Verville
Amy Woodard

Prerequisites for Dep:

Nathalie Leavitte
Jeffrey Perkins
Wayne Mullarkey

Prerequisites for CEGEP:

Noreen Almond
Sarah Campbell
Ian Knowlton
Wendy Sherrer
Sarah Bockus
Antje Czernohorsky
Ben Ostiguy

Prerequisites for university:

Christopher Bennett
Claire Heusdens

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Don't Miss Androcles!



DAVID ANDERSON/CORRESPONDENT

The Knowlton Players are wowing audiences with their production of the fable, *Androcles and the Lion*, by Aurand Harris. Director Chris Freeman describes the adaptation of Aesop's fable of the slave and the lion as a play in the style of "commedia dell arte," a form with its roots in the mid-16th-century that satirizes politics and religion in everyday life. This form gave rise to the slapstick *Punch and Judy* shows that continue to amuse audiences today. "Actors often spent their entire career perfecting one of the 'stock characters' in the play," said Freeman. The cast includes Roger de la Mare as Pantalone, Darleen Bell as Androcles, Laura Boisvert Marsh as the Captain, Marty Carbonneau as Isebella, Julie Collins as Lelio and Jason Westover as the Lion. The community theatre troupe has been bringing family productions to Townships audiences since 1990. Tickets for *Androcles and the Lion* are available in advance or at the door at the Knowlton Pub Playhouse. Final evening performances will be held May 18, 19 and 20 at 8 p.m. An afternoon matinee will be held on May 21 at 2 p.m. For ticket prices and advance reservations, call (450) 263-1061.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Councillor demands apology

DEAR EDITOR,

In reply to the letter by Mrs. M. Picard regarding, Mr. G. Swift and councillors not being fair:

My decision to vote 'No' was based on phone calls and personal visits asking me to help put a stop to the procedure.

The reference in respect to 'retired people' who moved here as weekenders and being 'accepted' is distasteful to say the least.

My youth was spent in Call's Mill area, West Brome, with my grand-parents. In 1960 with my wife and children we bought and rebuilt our home in West Brome. To give something back, I became a councillor. I have won my seat three times by acclamation. I am considered honest, available and hard-working.

My volunteer work is with assisting BMP Hospital, O.M.H. low cost housing etc. Now, have I reached your estimation of a Township resident?

Your accusation that money talks implies what! This I will not accept under any circum-

stances and demand a written public apology in Brome County News.

You, Mrs. Picard, will not tarnish my name or my honesty.

Sincerely,

GEORGE BRISTOL
COUNCILLOR
West Brome

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Interior decorator makes house calls

By David Anderson
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
Donna Sylvain of Waterloo takes house painting very seriously and brings her own special techniques and attention to detail.

Sylvain will come to your home with her assortment of acrylic paints and fine brushes in hand and turn a drab, boring wall into a work of art.

After moving into her present home with her two daughters in Waterloo several years ago, she started painting floral designs along the stairwells as well as kitchen cabinets.

"I started painting about eight years ago as a hobby. I took a few basic courses and painted around the house because it was so plain," said Sylvain. "Some friends liked what I was doing and mentioned that they too had things that they would like to improve upon but didn't know what to do? I made a few suggestions, they accepted and I have not stopped since. I'm a hands-on, visual person."

Sylvain and her sister Laura also of Waterloo will transform ugly items such as a stand up vacuum cleaners and create a cloth doll covering or animal creation that looks as though they stepped out of Beatrix Potter's tale of Peter Rabbit.

"Laura and I will often look through books and magazines and try to get ideas which we can then apply to household objects," said Sylvain.

Sylvain has now improved the interiors of four local homes and is painting on and decorating furniture; she will take an ordinary cabinet door and paint a panoramic pastoral scene or even copy a favorite image onto it depending on the proprietors' desire.

Sylvain's plans include opening a craft boutique where local artists can sell their creations throughout the year; she presently uses her St. Joseph Street home as a presentation place for her artistic abili-



DAVID ANDERSON/CORRESPONDENT

Donna Sylvain and her rabbit vacuum cleaner.

ties." I would like to have a craft store to help the little people like me", says Sylvain. Sylvain also works full time at Waterloo Elementary school as an educational technician with special needs

students so please call first if you would like to visit her home.

If you would like to contact Sylvain for a few enduring personalized displays for your home telephone 450-539-2308.



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DAVID ANDERSON/CORRESPONDENT



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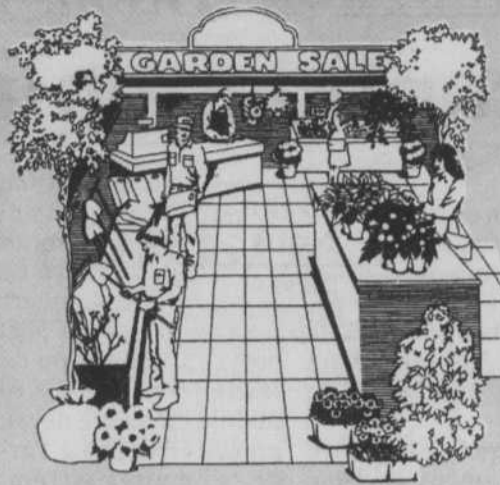
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Joëlle Beaulieu

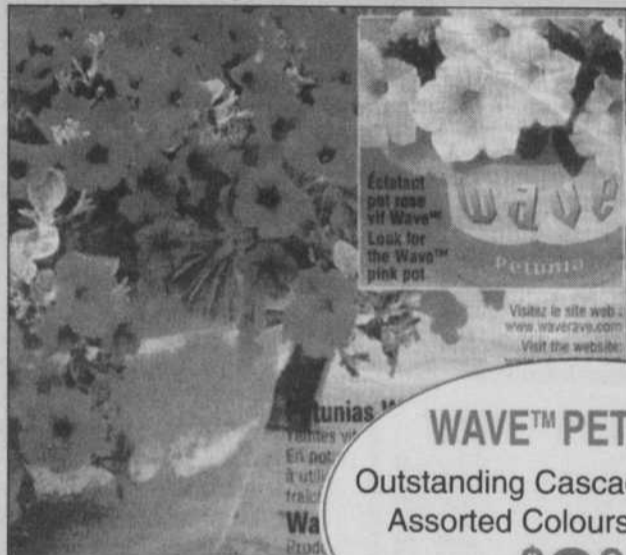
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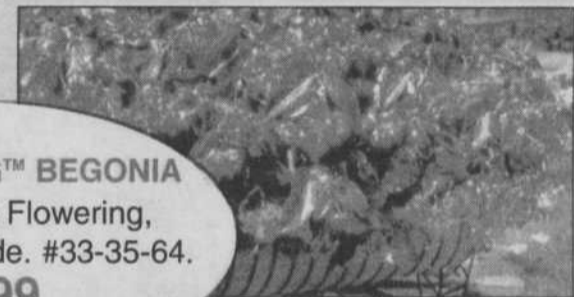
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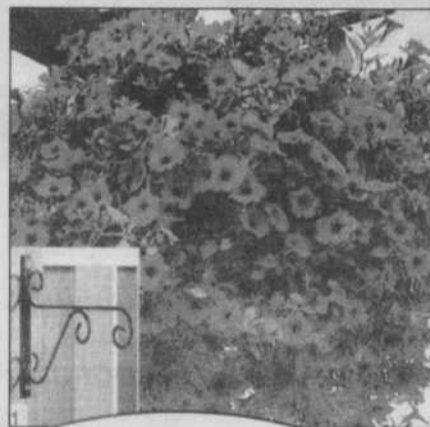


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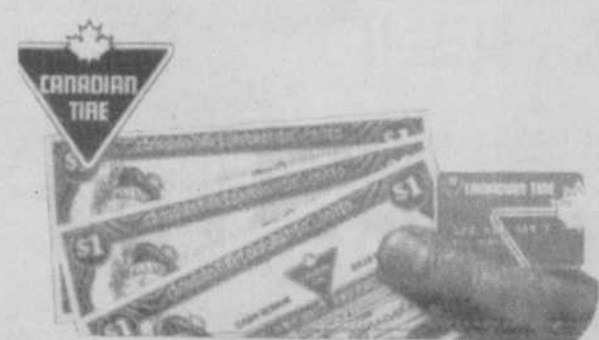


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La confidentialité

Mis au grand jour suite à la déclassification de documents secrets par l'Agence américaine pour la sécurité nationale (NSA), le projet Echelon visant à intercepter les communications privées a fait la manchette de journaux, de nombreux programmes de télévisions ainsi que sur internet.

L'Union européenne a mis sur pied un comité spécial d'investigation sur Echelon et le parlement européen a tenu des audiences sur le même sujet.

L'Europe sombre dans la paranoïa et les internautes européens sont in-

quiets.

Il est difficile de ne pas l'être, car Echelon, auquel participent les Etats-Unis, le Canada (via son centre de la sécurité des télécommunications) l'Angleterre, l'Australie et la Nouvelle Zélande, a soi-disant, "de grandes oreilles".

Mis en place à l'époque de la guerre froide, ce réseau hautement développé de surveillance permet d'épier les communications téléphoniques, les télécopies ou les courriels et de les intercepter automatiquement en fonc-

ENTRE
NOUS

THÉRÈSE
BERNARD

tion de plusieurs mots clés.

Inquiets de voir des missives personnelles envoyées à leur mère ou à leur petite amie tomber dans les mains d'agents secrets, les membres de l'association de défense des internautes français ont déposé une plainte officielle devant le tribunal de grande instance à Paris. L'objectif est de "s'opposer systématiquement au contrôle des réseaux quant il y a atteinte grave aux libertés individuelles" précisent les responsables du regroupement, et aussi de dénoncer

"l'ensemble d'un système qui se met en place".

On peut lire beaucoup au sujet d'Echelon sur Internet - à partir des audiences par le "U.S. House permanent select committee on Intelligence" au sujet de l'autorité légale de l'Agence nationale de sécurité (NSA) de faire de la surveillance électronique. Le Gouvernement américain a aussi publié un rapport intitulé "Legal Standards for the Intelligence Community in Conducting Electronic surveillance".

Le magazine télévisé "60 minutes" a présenté un reportage sur Echelon, il y a quelques semaines. On peut aussi lire ce compte-rendu sur Internet.

L'Union américaine pour les droits et libertés civils a émis une lettre au Congrès pour demander des audiences sur le système mondial de surveillance.

Un long article de Philippe Rivière décrit en détail les discussions sur les aspects juridiques des ministres de la justice et des affaires intérieures d'Europe pour la révision de la "résolution relative à l'interception légale des télécommunications" destinée à prendre en compte les nouvelles technologies, en particulier les communications par satellite, Internet, la cryptographie, les cartes prépayées, etc.

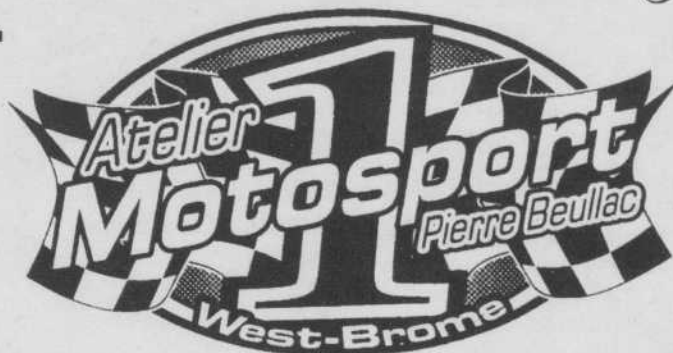
Cette résolution consiste essentiellement en une liste de "spécifications" techniques à imposer aux opérateurs de télécommunications. Cette liste dont l'ampleur est imposante, est reprise, semble-t-il, par le FBI.

Selon Philippe Rivière, tout indique que les dispositions de la résolution discutée conviennent aux services de renseignement, qui pourront pratiquer des interceptions en cas de risques pour la "sécurité nationale".

Il y a quelques temps le Premier Ministre français Lionel Jospin, a annoncé qu'il avait l'intention d'"offrir une liberté complète dans l'utilisation de la cryptologie" - seule technique permettant aux entreprises et aux citoyens d'échapper aux "grandes oreilles". Cette annonce du souci de l'espionnage électronique a été reçue favorablement par l'ensemble des associations.

Et la question qui se pose dans toute cette affaire de surveillance jusque dans le cyberspace est: "Quelle protection y aura-t-il pour les libertés civiles de tous?"

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Dr. Robert Pincott, chairman of the organizing committee for the Townships' Invitational Hockey Tournament, has announced that the profits from this year's tournament have been donated to the following organizations: BMP Hospital, Camp Garagona, Hockey Mineur de Waterloo, Knowlton Academy Lunch Program, Knowlton Community Services, Mansonville First Responders, Massey-Vanier Hockey Program, National Pee-Wee Tournament and USBM Cowansville. The tournament's organizing committee would like to thank the many volunteers and sponsors who make this tournament a success. Pictured are Ann Page, Norm Labrecque, Paula Rozanski (BMP Hospital), Phil Lacroix and Dr. Robert Pincott.

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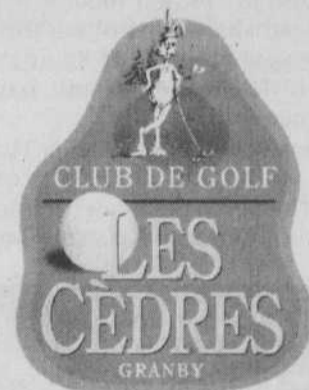
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Transplantation: Modifications to nature's way

Trader Jack at Pickerell Narrows recommended we wait for Leaf Rapids to do the bulk of our resupplying. We were in the third week of a long canoe trip on the Churchill River in Northern Manitoba, looking to stock up before a 150 mile plus stretch along which our maps indicated there were no settlements. He apologized for his own high prices and modest inventory of non-perishables, extolling the virtues of this new place, Leaf Rapids: a road south to Thompson, a bank, bar, and a real grocery store.

He was a better story teller than merchant. We listened to his tales of a long life in the north before departing with a few small items and putting back into

the Churchill. Two days later, following Trader Jack's directions, we were unable to find anything but a cow moose for life at this point in the river. Logically, this allegedly new mining town would be right by the water, somewhere near the actual cataract known as Leaf Rapids. Finally, at the end of a long bay in the south side of the river, we found a track that led up to a wide slash through the bush, then to a new gravel road. A mile or so further south, there it was, a huge open gravel crater in the landscape, Leaf Rapids with all its modern amenities.

It occurred to me then that modern mechanized man need no longer pay any attention to the natural lie of the land when establishing new settlements.

Our distant ancestors would seek out a bay or corner in a lake or river, or better still, a spot

COUNTRY SQUIRE

BRIAN EDDINGTON

at the junction of two rivers. Such a choice was dictated by simple, obvious needs: shelter, fresh water, additional food supplies, transportation, perhaps trade and communications. Now, with

bulldozers and dynamite, steel and cement, we can rearrange the landscape at will to suit our requirements, or simply to act out our shims and fantasies.

On a lighter note there's this old story: An Italian landscaper, a devoutly religious man working on a huge estate back in the country, was acknowledging compliments on his handiwork. Graciously accepting the praise, he rolled his eyes and responded softly, as if fearing to offend the greater power, "You should have seen it when God had it."

So it is that, whenever we feel the urge and have the money, presto, we remake the outdoors in our own image or vision. One fellow down the road a chap with considerable resources at his disposal, dug a great trench across his otherwise flat lawn and driveway...for the ex-

pressed purpose of having something to build a bridge over. (A fine and fancy bridge it is, too.) Another lakeside dweller, towards the north end, had a small island out in front, connected to his property by a little wooden footbridge. He decided he wanted a peninsula instead and, one bulldozer and two hours later, there it was. Apparently you're not supposed to do that sort of thing any more.

On a still smaller scale, the neighbour to the immediate north has been planting trees along the unfenced property line. I'd moved a number of small white pines over that way a while back, and they'd taken well. No doubt we both believed in a sort of corollary to the old idea that good fences made good neighbours; a good line of trees, better yet a double line, can serve the same function.

Having found the task quite tedious, though, I'd given up before getting anywhere near the full row done. This year, however, it was time to give it another try. An added motivation was the idea of making some effort, even a modest, symbolic one, at replacing those lost in last summer's wind storm. A visitor wondered if it was a good idea to start another generation of the same kind of tree that toppled like dominoes on that wild night. My first reaction was that; by the time the transplants got anywhere near a threatening size, they'd be someone else's problem.

Digging isn't fun. Within a few minutes, despite a cool breeze, sweat ran down my face and elsewhere. The turf was tough and the roots snarly. Sometimes, lifting out a full shovel, the edge of the spade would catch on a broken root, dumping all the dirt back into the hole. Or, you'd pull on a root and when it broke, the sudden snap would fling dirt in your eyes and mouth.

A common mistake is trying to get too large a clump of earth out with the roots. With our ground pretty well all sand and gravel, it isn't difficult digging deep down and around the base. Any tugging or jerking, though, will result in the roots emerging mostly naked. It's discouraging, struggling for more than an hour, to be left with scarcely a kiddie's beach bucket of dirt clinging sadly to the bottom of a seven-foot tree. A moment like that makes a person envy rich folk even more. How pleasant it would be to lean back in the patio furniture and watch a fifty-foot maple, its base encased in what looks like a giant metal acorn, arrive on the back of a big truck.

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Workshop offered to help groups network

The Eastern Townships Community Economic Development Working Group in conjunction with the Townshippers' Association will sponsor a community development workshop for the residents of newly amalgamated municipality of St-Armand/Philipsburg.

The free workshop will be held on Saturday May 27 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Missisquoi Public Library, located at 187 Champlain in Philipsburg.

The workshop is open to all persons with an interest in the area regardless of residency status, as well as members of the general public interested in helping to strengthen their own communities through grassroots initiatives. "This is an excellent opportunity for concerned citizens to take play a role in the future of their

community," said organizer Grant Myers. Myers is a Regional Development Officer with the National Human Resources Development Committee for the English Linguistic Minority. This is the second workshop sponsored in the Eastern Townships, the first of which took place in Ayer's Cliff in March. "It is hoped that the workshop will form the nucleus of a working group that will work with other regional groups throughout the Townships to improve quality of life at the local level," said Myers, who works out of office space provided by the Townshippers' Association in Lennoxville.

Groups or individuals interested in organizing a free workshop in their community may contact Myers during business hours at (819) 566-5717.

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Brome County WI Annual Spring Convention

The annual spring meeting of the Brome County Women's Institute (WI), was held on Wednesday April 26, 2000 at the Town Hall in Austin.

Beatrice Juby, President of Austin WI, welcomed us all to the meeting and spoke about a film being made about the people and history of the area. Country President Jean Lee opened the meeting with the Mary Stewart Collect, followed by the Salute to the Flag. Then followed a moment of silence to remember Hazel Coates, a long time and well loved member of Austin WI.

Beatrice gave a tribute to Hazel. Roll Call followed and members were present from Abercorn, Austin, SouthBolton and Sutton as well as guests from Fordyce, Dunham and Stanbridge East in Missisquoi County. The minutes were read by Doris Wallet and approved.

Business arose concerning the proposal of Brome County WI offering a Bursary. This Bursary offer will appear in the Record soon, so watch for details. The Treasurer's Report and the Auditor's was given by Reda Lewis. A question was asked about the Willow's Project. Sheila Needham clarified this by explaining that in 1997 when WI turned 100 years old, it was agreed at the National Convention that each member across the country would contribute \$1 per year towards the upkeep of the Hoodless Homestead, which is now a museum and popular tourist attraction in Stoney Creek, Ontario, and was the home of the WI founder, Adelaide Hunter Hoodless.

Jean Lee gave her President's Report. She had attended the PEI Conference for ACWW in October as well as the QWI Boar meeting in Lennoxville. She intends to go to the Provincial convention at Macdonald College in May and to the National Convention in Brandon, Manitoba. The following convenors gave their reports: Agriculture by Liz Davidson, Canadian Industries by Sylvia Hopps, Publicity by Doris Wallet, International Affairs by Pat Lahue.

New business; Sheila made the motion that the Brome County Executive stay on for another 3 year term, seconded by Pat Lahue and all were unanimously in favour of President Jean Lee, Secretary, Doris Wallet and Treasurer Reda Lewis. However some of the convenors have changed and they are as follows: Liz Davidson, Agriculture; Canadian Industries, Debi Bonn; Citizenship and Legislation, Sheila Needham; Education and Cultural Activities, Elizabeth Goyette; Home Economics and Health, Betty Needham; International Affairs, Pat Lahue and Publicity, Doris Wallet.

It was brought up at this meeting and deemed to be a very good suggestion that

branches plan time at their November meeting to put together the branch convenor reports, so that everybody has help putting them together, nobody forgets to do it and the County convenors receive them on time and well prepared. Two of our guests volunteered to be judges, Dianne Rhicard and Irene Williams.

After our lunch break, which was a delicious salad buffet and a wonderful selection of desserts all provided by the Austin WI, the judges gave us the results of the contest. The doilies were beautifully made and the first prize went to Sylvia

Hopps and second prize to Tina Linde.

Many of the members were pleased to take home one of the many door prizes given out very generously by the Austin WI members. Our final treat of the day came in the energetic form of Janice Voggenreiter, owner of the Holland Gardens in Ayers Cliff, and along with her a wonderful assortment of flowering plants and greenery.

She explained that she tries to keep an interesting mix of old favorites and also many of the new varieties that are hard to find elsewhere. We enjoyed her sense

of humour and staggering knowledge of plants that she regaled us with and the fresh flower table decoration that she whipped up in a few minutes. It was such a joy to see the beautiful flowers after the hard winter just past. The next meeting will be held on September 27th at 10 a.m. in the Town Hall in Austin. Lunch will be Pot Luck Finger Food and an auction of plants, jams, pickles and other stuff will be held. We welcome anyone who is interested to come and join us for the day. Submitted by Doris Wallet, Brome County Publicity Convenor.

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The Cordes-à-vent string ensemble will be presenting a spring concert on Sunday June 4 from 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Saint-François Xavier Church in Bromont.

Under the musical direction of Françoise Turcotte, the repertoire will include favorites from Merle Isaac, Pachelbel, Peter Wilson, John Lennon, Felix Leclerc and Gilles Vigneault.

Comprised mostly of young local musicians and their teachers, this 30 piece orchestra has delighted Townshippers for over 15 years. "The calibre of music produced by these children is amazing; this concert is designed for all music lovers, not only for proud parents" said Turcotte. Featured artists are David McAdam, Iona Corber, Isabelle Kaprolat, Hélène Dion and Serge Lavertue.

Tickets available at the Book Nook (Sutton) or at the door. Adults \$8, chil-

dren \$2, families \$15.

Philip Godin, Correspondent

Daffodil sales help advance cancer research

Over 40 volunteers devoted their time and talents to the Canadian Cancer Society's Daffodil Days, which raised \$3,141.70. The profit from the sale of 4,500 daffodils will be put to excellent use. The Canadian Cancer Society funds 60 percent of all cancer research conducted in Canada and offers services to those living with cancer as well as preventative and early detection programs to the general public.

The members of the Ville de Lac Brome team are Lynn Staples, Effie Coté, Shirley Connor, Elizabeth Biff Blackwood, Marc Decelles and Pierrette B. Lessard, chairperson this year.

The volunteers from Ville de Lac Brome would like to thank all those who contributed to the success of Daffodil Days.

Family BBQ to raise funds for youth activities

By Philip A. Godin
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
KNOWLTON

On Sunday evening May 28, the Town of Brome Lake Community Services will be holding its annual benefit BBQ from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., hosted by the Knowlton Pub.

For the fourth consecutive year, the event will raise money for several youth activities which are not completely funded by user fees, including the popular "Été des salamandres" day camp, and transportation to bowling, Labyrinthe Granby and the Yamaska Centre d'interprétation de la nature.

"The BBQ is really a great time for the whole family. There is our local talent that show, music and songs, and of course a unique chance to watch our town councillors, Centre di-

rectors, firefighters and police officers flipping hamburgers and serving hot dogs," said Lorraine Labrecque, centre co-ordinator.

The BBQ is the only fund-raiser planned for the program, although youths contribute their time in preparing for and running the activities themselves, thus reducing costs. Labrecque is confident to raise the needed \$3,000, both from food sales and from bar proceeds which will also be donated.

"The Pub really helps us out a lot, and the staff work for free preparing the food and serving all evening."

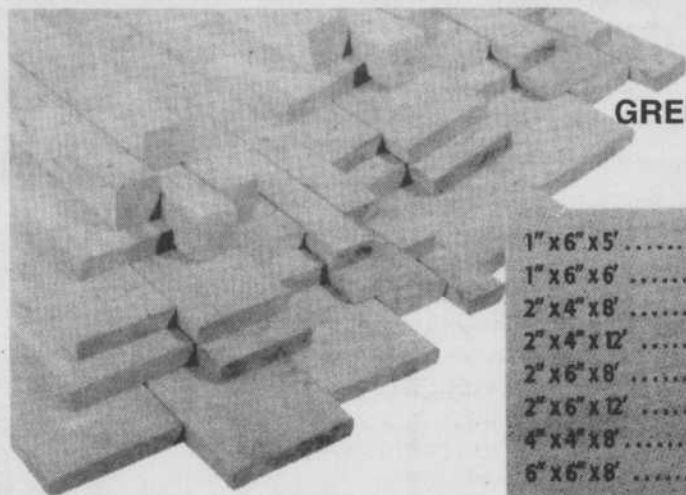
Tickets for the evening's meal and entertainment are available at the door, Town Hall, the Community Centre, from town councillors at \$12 per adult and \$6 for children 12 and under.

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#1 Treated Wood



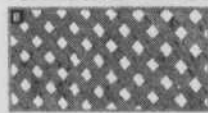
GREEN TREATED WOOD

1" x 6" x 5'	2.18
1" x 6" x 6'	2.67
2" x 4" x 8'	3.67
2" x 4" x 12'	5.97
2" x 6" x 8'	6.37
2" x 6" x 12'	9.97
4" x 4" x 8'	7.97
6" x 6" x 8'	22.39



Treated wood lattice
2-1/2" space.

3/16" x 4' x 8'
6²⁵



Treated wood intimacy lattice
1-1/4" space.

3/16" x 4' x 8'
9⁰⁰



Treated wood super-intimacy lattice
3/8" space.

3/16" x 4' x 8'
15⁷⁰

8' Treated wood handrail

A. Colonial
2"x4" 7.93

B. Modern
2"x6" 11.52

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