

Brome County NEWS



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2000

THE LARGEST CIRCULATION WEEKLY IN BROME—MISSISQUOI



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Abercorn's Recycling Project

celebrates 10 years



MURIELLE PARKES/CORRESPONDENT

Bravo! Jocelyne Meunier brings out the PR-RP 10th anniversary cake.

By Murielle Parkes
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
SUTTON

Thirty-seven women with a talent for transforming castaways into trendy merchandise came together to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Projet Récupération-Recycling Project (PR-RP) Abercorn.

The event held last week was an elegant sit-down luncheon replete with birthday cake and kudos, held at Sutton's 'À la Fontaine,' and it marked the first occasion the volunteer group had met without a craft or two in tow.

"In 10 years, it's the first time we ladies have accepted to be served," said Jocelyne Meunier with a laugh. "We've always been serving people."

PR-RP owes its existence to Meunier - whose dream it was to bring women together to do crafts - and Pat Lahue - whose support and encouragement helped bring the dream to fruition.

"It just took one woman (Pat) to tell another, 'Jocelyne, I believe in your dream,' in order for the PR-RP Abercorn to be born," said Meunier. It was Sept. 6, 1990.

"We thought there would only be the two of us at the first meeting," said Meunier. "We were six, and everything fit into three suitcases."

Since then, 55 women have come aboard, including 32 regulars who meet on Thursdays to sew, knit and make crafts, as well as help and support each other in times of crisis. Members also clean and prepare for sale clothing, furniture and other articles that come their way, kindness of a generous and attentive population.

As for the three suitcases, "they've turned into three storeys," said Meunier with a laugh.

On Nov. 1, 1993, the group moved into the old Abercorn rectory, happily retiring their faithful valises.

SEE RECYCLING, PAGE 5

Literacy council offers reading, math and computer tutoring

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
COWANSVILLE

International Literacy Day, a day set aside to recognize the need for literacy programs, passed with little fanfare, eclipsed perhaps by the beginning of the school year.

Yet it is a matter of no small significance to Canadians. According to the findings of the Adult Literacy Survey, literacy is a strong predictor of economic success in life. Furthermore, access to high-paying careers in business or technology requires firm grounding in fundamental skills, as well as a predisposition toward acquiring new ones.

According to the survey, just 20 per cent of Canadians are currently prepared for the reading or writing challenges associated with today's knowledge-based economy.

Yamaska Literacy Council, a member of Laubach Literacy Canada, is a private, non-profit organization whose goal is to try to plug the shortfall between public school education and market demands.

SEE READING, PAGE 6

Pierre Marziali Pharmacist

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THE CELL
9:20 Mat.: Sat./Sun.: 2

Keanu Reeves in
THE REPLACEMENTS
7 Mat.: Sat./Sun.: 2

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SEE PAGE 2 FOR DRIVE-IN



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BROME COUNTY COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

September 11

Knowlton Nursery School: Classes for our 2000-2001 school year will begin on Monday, September 11th. Knowlton Nursery School is a non-profit bilingual preschool program for children aged 3 to 5 years old. We are located in Knowlton Academy. Our classes take place Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. For more information or to register your child, call Jocelyn MacLeod @ 243-1220.

September 13

Massey-Vanier Parent General Assembly at MV School auditorium, 7:30 p.m. The purpose of this meeting is to elect 4 parent representatives to the Governing Board as well as a representative to the ETSB Parent's Committee and the members of the Massey-Vanier Parent Participation Organization. Please come out to support your school as well as those parents who wish to be on the committees. Info. (450) 263-3772.

September 16

Come one, come all! Townshippers' Day to be held in Saint-Felix-de-Kingsey from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. On the program: entertainment, artisans, historic tours, children's activities, improv & disco for teens, farm exhibits antique vehicles, celebrity volleyball, petting zoo & much more. A bus will be available for travel from the area to Saint-Felix-de-Kingsey for Townshippers' Day. The bus will leave Bedford at 7 a.m. with stops in Cowansville and Knowlton. Departure from Saint-Felix-de-Kingsey will be at 4 p.m. Round-trip ticket cost, \$16, each passenger. Call Townshippers' at (450) 263-4422. Fun for everyone. Free admission. Rain or shine. Sponsored by Townshippers' Association. Info. (819) 566-5717 or (819) 848-2321.

Townships Bluegrass & Old-Tyme Music Society 2000-2001 Season Opener at

the Royal Canadian Legion, 77 Lewis St., Waterloo. Acoustic jamming, 1 - 5:30 p.m. Supper, 6 p.m. Live Bluegrass and Old-Tyme music bands, 7 - 10:30 p.m. Jam Captain: Carlyle McBurney, (819) 889-2629. Directors, G. Cameron (450) 539-0333, T. Howell (819) 875-5133, C. McBurney, (819) 889-2629, J. Petronko (514) 488-8160, R. Tetreault (819) 346-2435.

September 16 & 17

The Mount'n Valley Quilters will have their Annual Quilt Exhibition (including a 150-year-old quilt) at 130 Lakeside (Museum), Knowlton from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. Free admission, quilt raffle. All welcome!

September 17

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

The Royal Canadian Legion will serve an 'Old-time Country Breakfast' at 77 Lewis St., Waterloo from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Admission: \$4.50, adults, \$2, children under 10 yrs. Live entertainment with Norm and Vel. Come and join in the fun! Everyone welcome!

Apple Pie Festival sponsored by the Missisquoi Historical Society on the grounds of the Missisquoi Museum, Stanbridge East, from 2-4 p.m. Rain or shine. Admission fee: \$5 adults, \$2 children 10 yrs. and under, includes apple pie, ice-cream, coffee, tea or cider, and a visit to the museum. Also free popcorn, live entertainment and face painting. The museum is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. All welcome!

September 18

Annual Meeting for the Brome Missisquoi Anglophone Youth Services (B.M.A.Y.S.) at Maison Yvonne G. Contat Group Home, 442 Bell St., Cowansville (in the conference room) at 7 p.m. Call (450) 263-1505 or more information. Please use the back entrance.

September 19

Coffee Party sponsored by the Friendly Society at Trinity Anglican Church, 409 South St., Cowansville, 10 - 11:30 a.m. Muffins, breads, sweets will be served along with conversations among friends. Donations only.

September 30

'Thirsty Boot' Barry Ellson Memorial Car Rally. Rally & Supper, \$15. All proceeds go to Knowlton Academy and St. Edouard School. Registration 9 - 11 a.m. "Be your own theme." Gain 50 bonus points for your crew, come in a costume. Gain 20 bonus points, bring in canned food items. (450) 243-0163 for more information.

ARTS CALENDAR

Call for application 2001: The Tour des Arts is looking for professional artists and artisans residing and creating in the area of Sutton, Knowlton, Mansonville or their vicinity. Send your C.V. containing 10 to 15 photos of artwork, a brief text on working techniques, a picture of artist's studio and a S.A.S.E. for return of documents. Send by September 30th, 2000 at this address: Tour des Arts 2001, Sutton, Qc. JOE 2K0.

September 14 - 18

Late Registration for Fall Courses at Bishop's Knowlton Centre: Spanish I and North American Natives. Registration by appointment. Please call Louise Jamet, 242-1518.

September 16

By popular demand Theatre Lac Brome presents Gissa Israel's acclaimed comedy, "Girl! that's what I call myself these days" at 7:30 p.m. 'Girl', is about sex, food, death and the whole damn thing. Its about body image and aging, about perception and addiction. The main character is Malka, a charming young woman of 99 years. Through her stories we see how insidious, and comical these obsessions can be an

how they manifest in an ordinary life. Reservations, 538-1113. Tickets, \$10.

September 19

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #99 will hold a General Meeting at 120 Davignon St., Cowansville at 7:30 p.m. All members are asked to attend. George Poll, President.

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: September - St. Aidan, Sutton Junction: 1st Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and 3rd (Harvest Thanksgiving) at 2:30 p.m.; Ascension, West Brome: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Sundays at 9:30 a.m. (2nd Harvest Thanksgiving); Holy Trinity, Iron Hill: 1st & 3rd Sundays at 11:00 a.m. and 2nd at 7:30 p.m.; St. John Evangelist, Brome Village, every Sunday at 11 a.m. (3rd Harvest Thanksgiving & 4th Sister of St. John the Divine, Parish of Brome Service). You are welcome.

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.

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. Drop in or call 263-2662. May God Bless You. The Rev. Richard Randall.

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.

Missing cats: A black-and-white male cat has been missing since Aug. 17 and a ginger tabby male has been missing since Aug. 24 in the Glen Mountain area. If you have any information, please call (450) 243-5341.

ENGLISH	SPACE COWBOYS (English) Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 6:45 p.m. G	Théâtre PRINCIPALE COWANSVILLE MATINEES FRI., MON., TUES., WED. \$5.00
	MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 2 (French) Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon.: 9:00 p.m. G	
	THE PATRIOT (English) Tues., Wed., Thurs.: 9:00 p.m. 13 Y	
	CHICKEN RUN (English) Fri., Thurs.: 5:00 p.m. G Sat.-Sun.: 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. G	
	From Sept. 15 th to Sept. 21 st For info: 263-5900	

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Brome County
NEWS



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CIRCULATION

Distributed to all Record subscribers every Wednesday as an insert, and to all households and businesses in Abercorn, Bedford, Brigham, Brome, Bromont, Cowansville, East Farnham, Foster, Fulford, Knowlton (Brome Lake), Sutton, Bolton Centre, West Brome.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

	GST	PST	TOTAL
CANADA: 1 YEAR	114.40	8.01	\$122.41
6 MONTHS	59.00	4.13	\$63.13
3 MONTHS	30.00	2.10	\$32.10

Out of Quebec residents do not include PST. Rates for other services available on request.
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New directory to aid the self-employed

Let your fingers do the walking

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
SOUTH BOLTON

Looking for someone to wash your windows, train your dog or teach your child to play the violin? Chances are that you won't be looking in the Yellow Pages, because in many cases, the people who perform these tasks in rural communities cannot afford the high cost of advertisement.

That was the insight of entrepreneur Toni Bos that led her and a group of volunteers to come up with the idea of compiling a self-employment directory. If all goes according to plan, local shoppers will soon have the ability to find out what kinds of skills are available within their neighbourhood.

"A lot of times you've been going to Granby or Sherbrooke to get something and later find out that your neighbour supplies it," said Bos, a former career counsellor who is now owner of a picture framing business.

She joined forces with fellow entrepreneurs Joanne McBride, Jeri McGovern, Gwen Simpson, Carolyn Smart and Gail Watt to put together a bilingual directory dedicated to the area's small businesses.

"We want the directory to be inclusive rather than an exclusive list,"

said Bos.

She welcomes traditional listees such as notaries or home-repair specialists, as well as non-traditional advertisers, such as babysitters, psychics and poets. Local businesses, whether working out of an office or home, regardless of size, part-time or full-time, are encouraged to take part in the directory.

Bos said the group's goal is to recruit

300 entrepreneurs for the first edition. For \$39 per category listing (\$45 after Oct. 1), a business owner receives one line including their name, address, telephone number and brief description. Listees will be categorized by occupation. In addition to the one-line listing, business card-sized, quarter-page and half-page ads are available.

Bos said the directory will go to press

as soon as the goal of 300 listings has been reached and encourages interested advertisers to move quickly. The group plans to publish annual updates. About 9,000 copies will be distributed free of charge to residents of Brome Lake, Sutton, Mansonville, South Bolton and Bromont. Additional copies will be available at selected distribution sites.

Bos adds the cost of the directory will be covered entirely by its advertisers and the primary goal of this non-profit endeavour is to encourage consumers to shop locally.

She is currently looking for individual or corporate sponsors whose donations would go toward lowering advertising fees.

For further information about the directory, contact Toni Bos by phone at (450) 243-5222 or e-mail at tetu@sympatico.ca.



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

The faces behind the Self-Employment Directory... (back) Suzanne Demers, David Demers, Tony Bos, Gwen Simpson, (front) Jeri McGovern, Gail Watt (and Wellington), Carolyn Smart and Joanne McBride. All are owners of small businesses. Suzanne and David Demers are the directory's first advertisers; all the others are on the committee making the guide a reality.



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Fall a deadly time for deer on our region's roads

Fall is just around the corner and, when it comes, a hunter's fancy turns to deer hunting. And for motorists, fall marks the peak season for deer-car crashes.

Deer have this annoying habit of popping up out of nowhere and into the path of your car. An instant later you hear that sickening sound of muscle and bone meeting steel and plastic.

That sound has become all too familiar in this region in recent years. Mainly because the Townships is an ideal spot for deer, with the right combination of farmlands and forests to let them reproduce like rabbits. The lack of wolves and other natural predators means the living is easy, except during the hunting seasons, when life becomes a lot more difficult.

In order to make it through a hunting season without becoming a selection of deer chops, hamburger and roasts, white-tailed deer have to alter their usual patterns to throw hunters off track. They have to be on the move, and that often means crossing roads.

Fall is also the rutting season, when the bucks are feeling particularly frisky and ready to travel. A little thing like a car isn't about to stop them from heeding the call of the wild, so look out.

Along with this booming deer population, this region also boasts a wide assortment of busy rural roads, completing the

deadly combination.

Actually, when you think about it, the coming weeks will mark the busiest time of year for our secondary roads. With the leaf peepers coming out, deer hunters scanning the back roads in preparation for the hunting seasons and then the dope growers bringing their crops out of the woods and trying to duck patrolling cops, it's surprising we don't see more traffic jams out there. The worst times for accidents will be when hunters are driving the deer, a popular tactic during rifle season (Nov. 4 to 17 or 19, depending on where you live). Still, anytime between now and the serious onset of winter there will be more deer on the roads, particularly at dawn, dusk and during the night.

So, in preparation for fall, here are a few tips to help you avoid getting up close and personal with your neighborhood white-tailed deer:

- Keep an eye on the sides of the road, where deer often hang out before darting in front of your car. If you see a deer, slow down immediately and watch for others. They often travel in small groups, and while you're watching one, another one can pop out in front of you. A good rule to remember: if you see one, expect more.

- Respect the speed limit. Slow down on winding roads and places where the

UNDER THE HOOD

MAURICE CROSSFIELD

vegetation grows close to the shoulders of the road. Deer move mostly at dusk and dawn, and will roam through the night. If visibility is poor at all, ease off on the gas pedal.

- At night, make sure your headlights are clean and working properly. The better you can see, the better your chances are of avoiding an accident. Use your high beams whenever possible.

- Headlights can temporarily blind a deer, and it will often freeze where it is. Slow down, stop if necessary, and shut off your lights (providing there's no other traffic around). The deer will then be able

to get its bearings and mosey on its way.

- Don't attempt sudden maneuvers to avoid an animal. This can end up causing a more serious accident, particularly if there are other vehicles around. In Michigan last year, 2,200 people were injured and eight died in deer-related accidents.

- The final bit of advice applies to the way all drivers should be all of the time: drive defensively, anticipating situations before they occur. Always wear a seat belt, stay alert and stay sober.

Of course, even the best drivers may end up hitting a deer. If you injure an animal, don't let it suffer. Call your local police or Transports Quebec so they can dispose of it as humanely as possible.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

War zone

DEAR EDITOR,

Further to your article of Aug. 23 re: the Black Powder Society getting a lease from Domtar, to conduct their target shooting on their property, I would like to present the other side of the story.

This past weekend, Sept. 9 and 10, we lived in what amounted to a war zone. The noise of the firing started at approximately 8:30 a.m. and continued, without stopping till 4-4:30 p.m., respectively. The shooting was constant, sometimes closer, sometimes further away.

The Black Powder Society has obviously elected to place their targets on or near our property lines. Considering the extent of the Domtar holdings their choice of location is strange. I am afraid to walk in our woods since I

have no idea in which direction they are shooting. I am also scared of having large men with guns on my back property line. They frankly frighten me as they did the three-year-old child of friends of ours, who came to visit on Sunday. The child was terrified of the shooting.

We are, at present, getting in touch with Domtar to see if they can help in resolving this unpleasant situation. We have also contacted our MLA, Pierre Paradis, with regard to this matter.

If the Black Powder Society intends to stay, free of hassle, on the Domtar property, they should move their targets, at least a quarter of a mile up hill and make sure the targets face away from any privately owned property.

Yours truly,

MAYA LIGHTBODY
Knowlton

We were there!

**Les Galeries
de Granby**
"NEW STYLE"



Westcliff Group was proud to show their renovated premises after investing more than \$2,000,000 in "Les Galeries de Granby" Shopping Center. Pictured are Mr. Gilles Bérubé, First General Director of Westcliff Group; Mr. William Pencer, Executive Vice-President of Westcliff Group; Mrs. Louise Lemay, Granby's Pro-Mayor; Mr. François DesJeans, Galeries de Granby General Director and Mr. Michael Feil Senior, Vice-President of Westcliff Group.

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'Some of us need it almost as a therapy' – St-André

Recycling:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Created to stimulate community co-operation, PR-RP is a place where women of different ages, cultures and religions pool their collective talents to create unique crafts from recycled ma-

terials, explained Meunier.

The bilingual, non-profit project is also self-sufficient.

All resources come from factory outlets, recyclable trash and giveaways including furniture, recreational items and household articles.

Today, the non-profit organization's steady success is squeezing out avail-

able space. Two floors, including the porch, are crammed with crafts and merchandise. The third-floor workshop - where volunteer workers combine cutting, pinning and sewing with laughter and even spontaneous singing - is equipped to capacity with sewing machines, work tables, fabrics, notions and other supplies.

"I'm always being asked the average age of our members," remarked Meunier during the luncheon.

A quick, secret-ballot tally revealed the answer.

"Collectively, we're 2,249 years old," she announced to the delighted group.

Ruth Shannon, a regular for many years, considers the weekly work sessions to be "a great way to spend a day."

That's especially true, she says, for those who don't have husbands, or who are alone.

"I know of two, in particular, who look forward to Thursdays, because that's their day to be around other women. Some women really need it," added Shannon, whose remarks were echoed by Ginette St-André, a musician, church organist, singer and volunteer who joined the group last winter and is affectionately known as its "Treasure 2000."

"Some of us need it almost as a therapy," said St-André. "Some are very hurt... very tired. Life can be difficult."

In some cases, "women can meet with other women who sometimes share the same type of difficulties, but in a different atmosphere, and with someone of a different culture, religion or language. And all these people share the same love of beautiful things, creating something and making it worthwhile because it's sold for charity. It is very satisfying. And we do it all with the same heart."

Indeed, the group can well be proud.

During the past 10 years, PR-RP Abercorn has distributed \$39,546.74 to various organizations and charities in the

area, as well as raising \$30,850 for the rental of its premises.

"Already the quarters are too small," said Meunier. "We need to expand. But where? And how? And when?"

PR-RP is located at 11 des Églises Ouest, Abercorn, and is open to the public Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. New workers are always welcome. For more information, call Pat at 538-1529 and Anna at 538-5010.



MURIELLE PARKES/CORRESPONDENT

Pat Lahue and Jocelyne Meunier... During the past 10 years, PR-RP Abercorn has distributed \$39,546.74 to various organizations and charities.



Fondation B.M.P. Foundation

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

You are invited to attend the annual general meeting of the BROME-MISSISQUOI-PERKINS HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

to be held

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27th, 2000 at 6:45 p.m.

at the Brome-Missisquoi-Perkins Hospital 950 Principale Street, Cowansville in the Boardroom, on the main floor

The Board of Directors will report on its activities
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JOB OFFER

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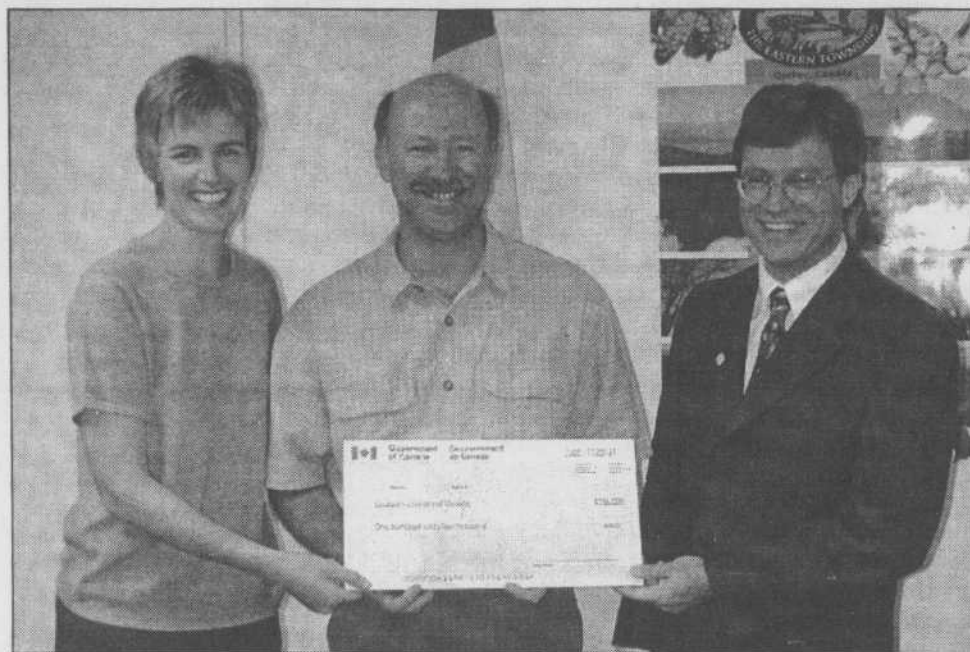


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Literacy training remains government priority



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Liberal MP Denis Paradis (centre) delivered cheques to both Laubach Literacy of Canada and its affiliate the Yamaska Literacy Council. Wendy Seys, animator of the Yamaska Literacy Council, and Claude Lauzon, National Programs Manager of Laubach Literacy of Canada, received the cheques.

Literacy remains a high funding priority for government. On International Literacy Day, Liberal MP Denis Paradis delivered cheques to both Laubach Literacy of Canada and its affiliate, the Yamaska Literacy Council.

Claude Lauzon, National Programs Manager who operates out of Laubach's national office in Bedford, accepted a cheque for \$135,000 from Paradis on behalf of Jane Stewart, Minister of Human Resources Development Canada.

The funding will go toward two ongoing literacy projects supported by HRDC's National Literacy Secretariat - the Born to Read series and the Literacy and Leadership program.

Wendy Seys, animator of Laubach's local affiliate, the Yamaska Literacy Council, accepted a cheque for \$10,000.

"We are committed to ensuring that all Canadians have appropriate literacy skills to prepare for the jobs of the 21st-century," said Paradis. "This initiative by Laubach Literacy of Canada will provide vital tools for people wanting to

improve their literacy skills."

The Born to Read series was created to reinforce the importance of parents reading to their children. The "Born to Read and Share Online" is a guide that will be produced and distributed to more than 3,400 libraries and 12,000 schools. It was created in partnership with Sears Canada, the Canadian Library Association, CIBC World Markets, CADETS, Industry Canada, Mediacom, St. Joseph Printing, Tembec Inc. and Spruce Falls.

The second project, Literacy and Leadership, will develop tutoring programs to train young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 to teach literacy and mathematical skills.

The second cheque for \$10,000 goes to Laubach Literacy's local affiliate, the Yamaska Literacy Council. Council animator Wendy Seys says that the funding will finance strategic planning with focus on improving community participation.

Caroline Kehne
Record Correspondent

Reading:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Serving a predominantly anglophone clientele, its private tutors assist those who want to improve their reading, writing, math and basic computer skills.

Laubach is the world's oldest literacy organization with more than 9,000 tutors across Canada. It provides free literacy tutoring to adults, trains private tutors and holds family literacy programs aimed at preventing illiteracy.

The council moved into new office space at 239 Principale last spring and welcomed a new animator, Wendy Seys, who takes over for outgoing animator Donna Ross.

"The main thrust of our efforts will be getting out in the community and getting students," said Seys, who has spent the summer preparing for the increased activity that comes with the new school year.

The Adult Literacy Survey reported that 48 per cent of Canadians had some level of difficulty with literacy or mathematical skills. Despite the magnitude of this societal problem, solutions remain problematic. Seys points

to the stigma associated with being unable to read or write adequately. Adults sometimes hide the problem throughout their lives, even from fellow family members.

A new burgeoning electronic media also means that those with few computer skills need to update their own skills or be left behind.

Fortunate ones have spouses or family members who can compensate for the skills they lack. Statistics demonstrate that the long-term consequences may be economic underperformance. This, she says, takes an inevitable toll on individual self-esteem. Getting an individual to

not only recognize but to seek help is the biggest challenge faced by literacy organizations who often have a surplus of trained tutors relative to client demands.

The council offers one-on-one tutoring, free of charge, for both adults and children. Its preventative programs address family literacy by encouraging parents to read to their children.

The Yamaska Literacy Council will offer training for prospective tutors at the end of September.

The Yamaska Literacy Council is located at 239 Principale in Cowansville. To find out more about its literacy programs, call 263-7503.

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Il est six heures du matin, il fait beau et chaud même si l'été tire rapidement à sa fin et que les jours raccourcissent à vue d'œil. Je sors sur la terrasse, café en main et il me semble voir un mouvement derrière les arbres. Je regarde attentivement, mais plus rien. Soudain, je vois une mère chevreuil traverser le terrain, un petit à ses trousses. Ils s'arrêtent à la rivière pour boire longuement, puis ils traversent l'eau et remontent de l'autre côté vers un boisé.

Quelle beauté que cette scène de vie paisible. Je suis heureuse d'avoir pu observer sans déranger.

Et, je pense à combien un tableau semblable est différent de ce que je voyais au centre-ville de Montréal avant de venir vivre à la campagne. C'est un heureux changement.

Environ trois heures plus tard, j'entends un grand bruit, je me précipite à l'extérieur de la maison et je cours vers la rivière. Là, une bande de canards - probablement des adolescents, nagent en formation à tout allure. Ils parcourent ainsi une bonne distance but s'arrêtent brusquement et rebroussement chemin pour aller en sens inverse. Ils

me font penser à un hydravion sur la surface de l'eau.

Puis, ils lèvent et volent à basse altitude pour ensuite revenir.

J'ai déjà observé ce phénomène, particulièrement il y a deux ou trois ans alors qu'ils venaient "pratiquer" tous les jours à peu près à la même heure chaque jour, durant environ dix à quinze jours, il me semble.

Je suis contente de revoir ce spectacle. Il s'agit certainement de jeunes canards pratiquant pour leur grand départ de l'automne. Mon chat Oscar observe lui aussi; il est tranquille près de moi et notre présence ne semble pas déranger les canards qui, à la fin, jouent et s'amuse dans l'eau.

Plus tard, le même jour, j'entends un grand bruit dans une des grandes vitres de la maison et je sais qu'il s'agit d'un oiseau qui a frappé le verre qu'il n'a pas vu.

Oscar aussi sait qu'il s'agit d'un oiseau. Je le devance pour rejoindre l'oiseau qui crie de douleur, étendu sur la terrasse. Il s'évanouit. Je le prends dans mes mains et je le flatte doucement du doigt pour voir s'il va revenir à

ENTRE NOUS

THÉRÈSE BERNARD

lui ou s'il est trop blessé - comme le cou brisé - et qu'il va mourir. Oscar n'est pas content. Il pense que ce devrait être son oiseau, sa proie, son repas.

Je cajole ainsi doucement l'oiseau tout en le tournant de tous côtés pour bien l'observer. Il est assez gros, sa crête est échevelée, son dos est gris bleuté et sa poitrine blanche est garnie d'une bande grise et d'une bande rousse plus ou moins égale.

Il ouvre les yeux et observe le mouvement doux de mon doigt et ne s'affole pas. Il regarde autour. Il semble confortable. J'essaie de l'installer sur le dessus de la haie de cèdres mais il semble préférer rester dans mes mains.

Peut-être, ne peut-il plus voler.

Je continue donc de le tenir tout en marchant de long en large sur le terrain. Il tourne la tête pour

mieux me voir ou pour voir autour mais ne fais aucun mouvement du corps ou des ailes pour s'envoler. Que faire? Je ne peux pas marcher ainsi indéfiniment.

Après de longues minutes, j'ouvre un peu les mains et j'essaie de lui donner un petit élan pour son envol. Il reste. Je recommence en insistant un peu plus. Finalement, il s'envole de manière incertaine et j'espère qu'il ne tombera pas. Mais bientôt, il ouvre grandes ses ailes et monte en s'éloignant.

Il s'agissait d'une femelle Martin-pêcheur. Quel bonheur de la voir ainsi libre dans son élément comme si rien ne lui était arrivé.

Philipsburg plays host to annual bird walk

The Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds will once more host its fall bird walk in Philipsburg on Saturday, Sept. 16, starting at 8:30 a.m.

Island City Singers reunion in Knowlton

The Island City Singers performed the Festival Folkmass, by Donald Patriquin of Eastman, Ross Paul and Don Cartlidge, 52 times in the early 70s in churches in and outside of Montreal. Many of these performances were in churches in the Eastern Townships, including the United Churches in Waterville and Ayer's Cliff, among others.

As well, the group presented the Festival Folkmass outside Quebec, at the Timothy Eaton

Memorial Chapel and Grace Church on the Hill in Toronto, and at St. Martin's in the Fields and Southwark Cathedral in London, England.

Now, 30 years later, as part of a 40th anniversary reunion, a reconstituted Island City Singers will raise the roof of the Knowlton United Church, 230 Knowlton Rd. in Knowlton, in joyful celebration. This event will take place on Sunday, Sept. 24, at 11 a.m. and is open to the general public.

This all-day event offers the opportunity to see migrating passerines, water birds and hawks on a choice of easy to challenging guided walks.

The walks take place in and around the George Montgomery Bird Sanctuary.

Participants should arrive for registration at 8:30 a.m. at Motel de la Frontière on Route 133 (located on the left-hand side of the highway beyond the yellow flashing light at the Philipsburg turnoff and before the U.S. border).

Birders should come prepared with good walking shoes, a lunch, binoculars and a bird guide.

For more information, contact Sandy Montgomery at (514) 482-0565.

Caroline Kehne
Record Correspondent

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Soccer-a-Thon nets \$1,200 for local teams

By Philip A. Godin
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
KNOWLTON

Forty-five Pee-Wee, Bantam and Triple-A soccer players participated in the first annual 12-hour Brome Lake Soccer-a-Thon in Knowlton this Saturday and managed to raise \$1,000.

The money will cover the costs of provincial soccer registrations and tournament fees.

The event organized by Lisa Jewett and Lacey Lemaire was as much an all-out soccer marathon as a chance for the players to unwind and socialize in

a non-competitive setting.

The teams, known as the Thrashers (girls) and Thunder (boys) are part of the Brome Lake Community Services sports program. The municipality provides and maintains the playing fields and facilities, as well as some of the basic equipment.

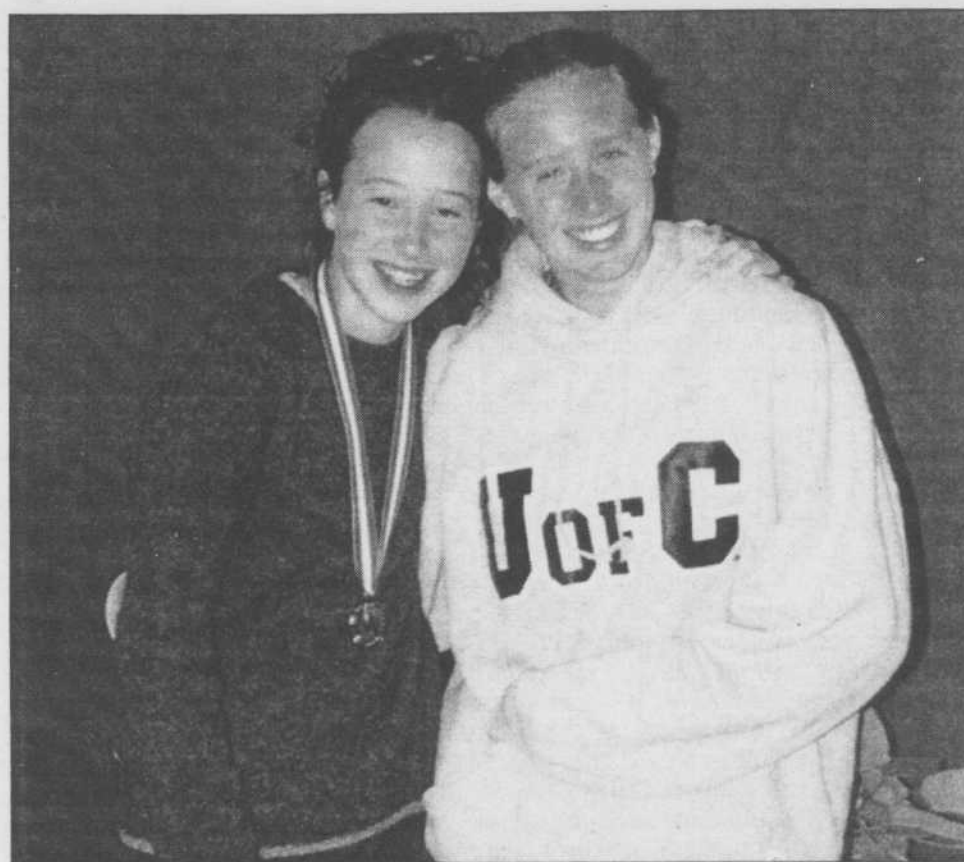
The teams play against teams from as far away as Brossard, Iberville and Richelieu.

The day's activities included a well-attended soccer clinic where league players initiated children aged six-to-10 to the game; skills competitions, which included dribbling passing,

throw-ins and shooting; games of "Soccer-Golf" and "Soccer-Baseball"; and an in-house round-robin.

.....

For registration information for the 2001 season, contact the Brome Lake Community Centre at 242-2200.



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COURTESY BROME LAKE SOCCER PROGRAM

The six-to-10-year-olds taking to the field with the "Big Kids" at the soccer clinic.

Knowlton Thrashers take Regional Cup

By Philip A. Godin
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
KNOWLTON

The Knowlton Thrashers girls' soccer team won the 2000 Richelieu Soccer League Tournament, with a riveting final game that ended in a 2-1 victory against the Iberville Rafales on Sunday, Aug. 27.

The Knowlton squad, made up of 12- and 13-year-old girls, finished third out of five teams in the regular season. However, they rallied in the finals and stormed through the tournament without losing a single game.

The players were further encouraged to find out they would play Iberville in the final, a team they had overpowered in both previous confrontations. But Iberville, playing with home turf advantage, would have no part in letting their chance at winning the cup slip away easily and played strongly.

The season-closer saw new coach Doug Harvey's small troupe of 13 players face their opponent's full complement of 23 in a tightly fought battle in which Iberville took the lead with a well set up goal early in the first half.

In spite of the goal and the visible fatigue that was setting in because of the small number of Knowlton spare players, the Thrashers never gave up.

In a defiant show of determination and disarming teamwork, the Thrashers managed to not only defend their net against several close-range attacks and one penalty shot, but also set up teammates Gabereau to tie and Harvey to score the tournament winning point.

Last Saturday, the team joined the older Thrashers girls soccer team - of 14- and 15-year-olds - at Lion's Park for a 12-hour Soccer-a-thon fund-raiser to finance the 2000-2001 season.



PHILIP A. GODIN/CORRESPONDENT

Coach Doug Harvey, Fanie Larose-Genier, Lisa Harvey, Kristin Gauthier, Melissa Gauthier, Alyssa Campbell, Alexandra McDougall, Elizabeth Allen, Aileen Gabereau, Heather Ahlgren, Chelsea Harding, Amanda Lynch, Caroline Laperriere, Leanne Bailey-Godin, assistant coach trainer Scott Lenz. Players absent from photo: Brittany Albers, Lauren Baillie, Emily Dwyer, Sarah Holmes, Sacha Laurent, Amanda Laviolette, Tanya St-Francois, Katie Severs and Ashley Smith.

Brome Lake Cannon wins softball tournament

By Philip A. Godin
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
KNOWLTON

Some big guns on the Brome Lake youth softball team the Cannon led the way to victory in the 2000

Rive-Mont tournament last month in the team's opening season.

The 12-game, undefeated season champions took on teams from St-Paul-d'Abbotsford, St-Césaire, Farnham, Ste-Pie, St-Damasse, Richelieu

and Rougemont to win the championship.

Head coach Ross Coté said this remarkable achievement was made possible by a concentrated effort of all the players on the team, as well as to ex-

ceptional pinch-hitting and solid defensive play.

The Cannon team, made up of boys aged 14 and 15, is part of the Brome Lake Soccer-Softball program and is sponsored by Le groupe Tanner.



COURTESY BROME LAKE SOCCER PROGRAM

The Cannon... (front row) John Coté, Tim Coté, Shawn Proulx, Steve Dudley, Justin Gauthier, Ryan Foster, Jason Devlin, (rear) assistant coaches Reg and Alan Gauthier, Jason Cote, Ryan Gauthier, manager Michael Caluori, Steve Charby, Dale Caluori and head coach Ross Coté.

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340 Garage Sales

KNOWLTON

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Girl! makes its Knowlton debut

One-woman show offers personal insights on topics from cellulite to sex

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Sutton actor Gissa Israel will resurrect her aging matriarch Malka for a repeat performance of *Girl! That's What I Call Myself These Days* at the Knowlton Pub Playhouse on Saturday, Sept. 16, at 7:30 p.m.

The performance, presented by Theatre Lac Brome and directed by Felix Mirbt and Almut Ellinghaus, highlights Malka, the 99-year-old who shares a few moments of her long life while waiting for her middle-aged son, Artie, to arrive.

Malka's monologue opens with a "once-upon-a-time" beginning. Is this an autobiographical confession, complete with the usual embellishments of age or simply a composite life gleaned from experiences of family and friends?

The monologue is deliberately vague allowing the audience to comfortably skim over decades of fads, changing mores and kilos of adipose, shed and regained.

The central theme of Malka's life is an obsession with weight. Born small and frail, she is fattened on chocolate cake by her well-intentioned Bubby

Bella and indulgent father, whose love and acceptance move with barometric precision with her weight. Soon an obese child, Malka faces another form of family disapproval, setting in motion the ongoing association of love with weight, a battle that she is doomed to lose.

Malka's tales take the audience

through another time. Her hilarious retelling of being taken by her mother to a specialty shop on Queen Mary Road for her first bra and rubber girdle will seem alien to audiences under forty, but the description of forcing herself into the tight, rubber tube with only baby powder as lubricant strikes a familiar chord with older female audiences.

One can only feel for the full-figured Malka, being fitted with a girdle at age nine and trying to tame her rebellious belly rolls while a stiff female attendant dressed in a white uniform and orthopedic shoes gazes on.

With the help of amphetamines and bulimia, Malka eventually sheds her baby fat, trading one addiction for another.

From there, she parades through a succession of marriages, extramarital affairs and experimentation with drugs in search of her own sexual liberation. At last

she finds it, not in the arms of a lover but driving solo cross-country with no companion but a blown-up rubber dummy in the passenger's seat. Israel's original one-woman show, first performed at Sutton's Mandragore Theatre earlier this year, offers comic insight into the catch-22 that has plagued women since the dawn of time. When beauty becomes the primary measure of a woman's worth, it is easy for even the dullest man amongst us to become a brilliant judge of character.

Girl! That's What I Call Myself These Days will be performed Saturday, Sept. 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the Knowlton Pub Playhouse. For tickets, call (450) 538-1113.



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Gissa Israel, actor and writer of the one-woman show, *Girl! That's What I Call Myself These Days*, that will be performed Sept. 16 at the Knowlton Pub Playhouse.

Fall activities at Missisquoi Library

PHILIPSBURG

The Missisquoi Public Library formally inaugurates its fall season with a slate of activities designed to offer patrons and friends a wide variety of educational programs. Admission to all activities is free.

During the month of September, St-Armand artist Gerard Schwartz will exhibit a selection of his paintings at the library from Sept. 10 to 24.

October's featured artist will be St-Jean artist-painter Céline Brouillette, whose works will be exhibited from Oct. 8 to 29.

This fall, St-Armand astronomer Bernhard Schirdewahn will host an evening of stargazing (date and time to be announced). For poetry enthusiasts, on Sunday, Oct. 22 at 2 p.m., Townshippers Judith Avinger will give a poetry reading from her recently published work, *The Empty Bowl*. On Tuesday, Oct. 31 between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m., volunteers and patrons will be on hand at the library to distribute sweets to Trick-or-Treating children accompanied by parents.

In month of November, the library will hold its Fall Bake Sale, one of its major fund-raisers of the

year. Each year, patrons don their aprons and cook some of their most delectable delights to benefit the library. Donors of baked goods are asked to bring them before 1 p.m. The sale will last from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

On Nov. 12, Missisquoi Museum curator Heather Darch Gasser and archivist Judy Antle will give a presentation about the Museum in a Box. The exhibition of Museum in a Box will take place from Nov. 12 to 26 during the hours of 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

On Sunday, Nov. 19 at 2 p.m. NFB Filmmaker and Montreal resident Martin Duckworth will present the Philipsburg debut of his new film on the founder of Austin, Quebec. Duckworth presents an engaging portrait of his ancestor, a Quaker who sought to create a peaceful sanctuary in the untamed wilderness.

The Missisquoi Public Library is located at 187 Champlain in Philipsburg.

Regular hours are from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Friday through Sunday. Membership and lending is free to all. For information, call Normand Paquin at (450) 248-4402.

Journée des Townshippers Day



Saint-Félix-de-Kingsey

September 16

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



"Always in Harmony - Toujours en harmonie"

Arts & Crafts

Townshippers at Work

Entertainment, Collections

Antique cars, tractors & engines

Farm visit, Agricultural displays

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