

# Brome County NEWS



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2007

## IGR Gazaille

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## Percussionists ensure big booms

*Original musical comedy  
is set to open*

By Wendy Denman

BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

It is historical fact that an incident during the American Civil War resulted in a political dilemma for the Canadian courts. Local author Donald Davidson wrote a book about this piece of history, titled *Raid From Hell*.

Roger de la Mare and composer Donald Patriquin read the manuscript and wrote a musical comedy based on it — *Chickasaw*. And now the book is about to be launched and the musical, in the final days of rehearsal, opens at Arts Knowlton this month.

"When I was approached to write the script for a musical about a civil war raid on the banks in St. Albans, Vermont, I found the proposal far too exciting to turn down," says de la Mare. "My original draft of the script has undergone dramatic changes, based on readings with local actors as well as dramaturgy by specialists at the Playwrights Workshop in Montreal."

A jack-of-all-trades with Knowlton Players from its inception, de la Mare's first attempt at stage writing was in 2001 when he scripted the acclaimed production of *Julia*. Two years later, he wrote the libretto for the musical *The Bikers of Penzance*, a take-off on several Gilbert and Sullivan operettas.

"As things progressed the original focus of the show has evolved from featuring the Civil War raid into a love story between a bankrupt solicitor and the widow of a Union soldier," de la Mare says. "During the process we reclassified the show from a musical to a musical comedy as we discovered opportunities to add humour and frivolity. It's been a labour of love."

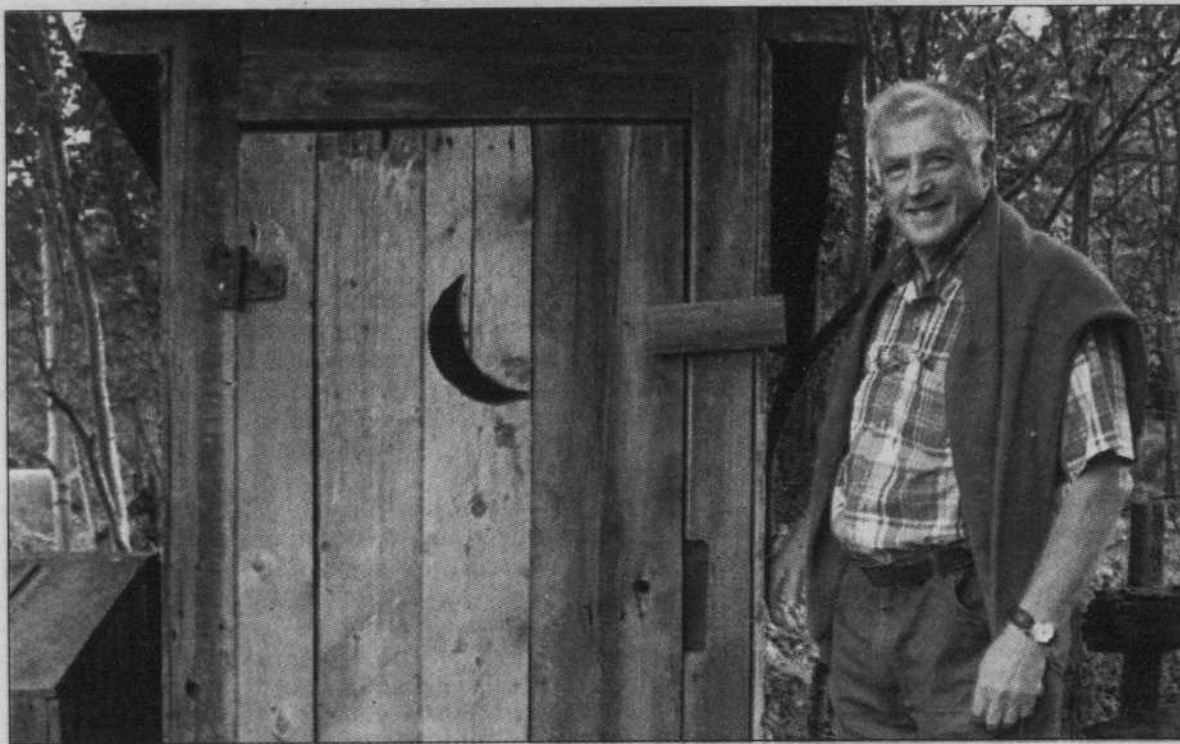
Patriquin, who has composed numerous original scores over the years, has also written for the stage (collaborating on the original musical *Louisa* with Sunil Mahtani, staged in Knowlton in spring 2005).

"We've had a wonderful time with *Chickasaw*, it's very exciting; a group of us have been working on it from the beginning," says Patriquin.

"The music is a very well-balanced mix of a lot of different styles," he continues. "We've got a tango, a soft shoe, ballads, a march, even some gospel. We've incorporated four or five familiar pieces from the Civil War period including 'Dixie' and 'My Old Kentucky Home'. And of course we have a couple of original songs to open and as a finale to the show."

Patriquin will play keyboards, leading a four-piece band

PLEASE SEE CHICKASAW ON PAGE 6



JESSICA BROWN

Alan Webster has a thing for outhouses....

## Trash to treasure

*Guess what it hides*

By Jessica Brown

BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

At first glance, one might think it strange that Sally and Alan Webster would have an outhouse situated at the end of their driveway. It bears the tell-tale moon-shaped cut-out on the door and one wonders if the driveway is simply too long for the pair to hold it from their entrance on Sugar Hill to the home up the hill.

All jokes aside, the outhouse design is just a clever hiding spot for one of the green era's eyesores: the big blue recycling box.

"Have you ever driven through town on recycling day?" asks Alan Webster. "These recycling bins are everywhere!"

That is what prompted him to put his carpentry skills to good use. Using some recuperated barn wood and some rusty old barn tin, he put together

the charming little hiding spot in just a day. "Anyone who has some extra building materials around can do it. You can use clapboard, old barn wood, whatever."

For the Websters, having their recycling bin beside their house was challenging, given their long and winding driveway. Bringing it curb-side on a weekly basis would have been difficult, but the idea of leaving the big blue plastic monster at their home's entrance was not an appealing thought either. Now, every day, on their way into town, they simply drop off their recycling in their hidden blue box.

The hiding spot doesn't have to look like an outhouse, though. "I chose to use the outhouse theme because I have a thing for outhouses," says Webster with a chuckle. "I have 15 outhouse seats in my house on display."

The old barn wood recycling bin now sits next to their recuperated barn wood garbage bin, which blends in nicely with their woody, country surroundings.

  
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# Brome County Community Billboard

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Oct. 10

Musical Entertainments Series Events with Henry Schreiber for Brome County Historical Society. **A Fistful of Faust at Theatre Lac Brome**, 7:30 p.m. Next to Wm., Shakespeare, it is Herr Goethe who has inspired a fistful of composers to make hay with his Faust. The list includes notables Schubert, Liszt, Berlioz and Gounod, all of whom will be heard from in the most agreeable way. (And wait till you get an eyeful of a youthful Sophie van Otter.)

Oct. 12, 13 & 15

**Nearly New and Rummage Sale** at Dunham United Church, **Dunham**. Friday, Oct. 12, 7-9 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 13, 9 a.m. 'til noon and Monday, Oct. 15, 10 a.m. 'til noon, bag day.

Oct. 13

**Chicken Pie Supper** for the benefit of the Edith Kathan Home in West Brome, will be held at the Odd Fellows Hall, **Knowlton** from 5-7 p.m. Cost: \$10 Adults, \$5 for 6- to 10-year-olds. Under 6 free. Tickets at the door.

**Mental Health and Well-Being Support Group** - Meetings held at United Church, 234 Knowlton Rd., **Knowlton**, 2 p.m. Having difficulty coping? Not sure how to support someone suffering from mental illness? Or maybe you just want to be more informed? Info: 450-243-0928 or pleasantvalley@sympatico.ca.

Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Davignon, **Cowansville** will hold a **Bake Sale** from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Table Rental \$10. Info: 450-263-3543.

**Oktoberfest, Owl's Head Chalet**, Saturday, Oct. 13. Starts 4 p.m. Traditional German meal, 5-7 p.m. Music by die Musikmeisters. Fundraiser for Potton Her-

itage Association & Missisquoi North CAB's Ken Jones Centre. Tickets: \$20 (\$25 at the door) or \$10 without meal. 450-292-3020; 450-292-3710; 450-292-3114.

**Brome-Lake Youth Centre** is pleased to invite you to its **Open House** for the Journée des Maisons de jeunes du Québec. On Oct. 13 from 2 to 5 pm, 270 Victoria St. (in the back). Come and take a look at our new place, check out what we do, meet the animation team and youth. Find out what opportunities we offer the youth! Light snacks will be available, draw for prizes. More info at mdjlabrome.blogspot.com/ or call 450-538-7494.

The **Stanbridge East Embellishment Committee** will be holding their **Annual Fund-Raising Pork & Beef Braisé** (with limited lamb supply) on Oct. 13, 5-8 p.m. at the S.E. Memorial Hall. B.Y.O.B. Info. & tickets phone Norman, 450 248-3091 or Lynne 450 248-0308.

**Oktoberfest** sponsored by Potton Heritage Association and The Ken Jones Center of Mansonville, 4-8 p.m. Tickets, \$25 at door, \$20 in advance. Traditional German meal and music at **Owl's Head Ski Center**. Rain or shine. Edith Smeesters, 450 292-0547, Carol Bishop, 450 292-4844 or 450-292-3020 or 450-292-3710.

**CAPC Chicken 'n Biscuits Supper**. The Cowansville Area Pastoral Charge's famous Chicken 'n Biscuits Supper fundraiser will be held on Saturday, Oct. 13 from 5-7 p.m. in the church hall (203, rue Principale, **Cowansville**). Adults \$10; children 10 years of age and younger \$5. Everyone welcome. Info: 450-263-0204.

Oct. 14

On Oct. 14, at 7:30 p.m. there will be a **Memorial Hymn Sing** to celebrate the 140th Anniversary of St. Paul's United Church, **Waterloo**. Hymns will be dedicated in memory of and in honour of past and present members and friends. Former choir members will join the choir for some special music. Refreshments following the service. All welcome.

**Sutton Curling Club Open House**, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. 26 Pleasant St. (corner of Academy), **Sutton**. Come try curling and have lunch or refreshments with us afterwards. Practice games, 11-12 a.m. and 2-3 p.m. Instruction for beginners. Please bring a pair of running shoes with clean

soft soles. Info: 1-888-838-6475 tomchaplin@sympatico.ca.

October 15

Avante Women's Center **'Now's The Time' - New Horizons for Seniors** program is sponsoring through Townshippers Association a series of free info sessions aimed at the aged 50+ English-speaking population. "Planning an Estate" with Jennifer Lajoie, Rosalind Menard notaries. Make sure things are settled the way you would expect them to be, and make the process so much easier for those you leave behind. Info: 450-248-0530.

Oct. 16

**Early Bird Holiday Boutiques** presented by The Auxiliary of The Montreal General Hospital, 5-8 p.m. Price \$20. Wine and hors d'oeuvres, parking included. Sale continues, Wednesday, Oct. 17 and Thursday, Oct. 18, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Baked goods, jams and jellies, jewelry, collectibles, Holiday gifts and stationery, home decor, folk art, pottery, and antiques. Proceeds to purchase beds for the Trauma unit. 1650 Cedar Avenue, 6th floor, Livingston Hall Lounge, **Montreal**.

Avante Women's Center, **'Say No without Guilt'**, 6-8 p.m. at 2 Adhémar-Cusson, **Bedford**. Info: 450-248-0530. Free daycare and/or transportation available.

Oct. 18

Avante comes to Knowlton, Monthly Coffee Break - **"Get It Straight"** - How to look 10 years younger & 10 pounds thinner in 10 minutes. Lac Brome Community Centre, 270 Victoria St., **Knowlton**, 9:30 a.m.

Oct. 20

Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Davignon, **Cowansville**, **BBQ Pork Chops**, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. \$10/person. Orchestra with 'Smokin' Country' to profit Chelsea Tringle.

**Fulford Social Club Harvest Soup Luncheon** at **Fulford Hall**, 12-2 p.m. Crafts, homemade greeting cards, bake table and much more. Something for everyone. Information, Carla 450-539-2982.

**Fall Harvest BBQ**, Warm yourself with a delicious pork and beef Fall Harvest BBQ on Oct. 20. Come and enjoy a good old fashion roast. Proceeds from this event will be to benefit the Brome Church and Heritage Park. Come one come all and enjoy a night with friends and family. Tickets are available: call Robert Derby

450-243-1999. Time: 5 p.m. first seating, 6:30 p.m. second seating. Location: **Brome Village Community Hall**. Tickets: \$12 adults and \$6 children under 12.

**Hot-Dish Supper** at Bishop Stewart Memorial Anglican Church, Garagona Rd., **Frelighsburg**. Info: 450-248-3581 or 248-1145. Door Prizes. Advance Notice: Chicken-n-Biscuits on Nov. 10 at 6 p.m. Ham & Scalloped potatoes, Dec. 15 at noon.

Oct. 21

**130th Anniversary Service and Luncheon** at Calvary United Church, Maple Street, **Sutton**. Service at 10:30 a.m. followed by a lunch in the church hall catered by the Café International. Cost, \$10 for adults, \$5 for children aged 10 and under. Reservations are necessary. Call Gail at 450-538-0530 or Nancy at 450-538-3080 by no later than Oct. 15.

Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Davignon, **Cowansville Breakfast**, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Everyone welcome. Info: 450-263-3543.

Oct. 26, 27

Creek Church, Brill Road, **West Bolton**: **Rummage Sale** on Friday, Oct. 26, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Drop off clean rummage on Wednesday, Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. only.

**Bargain Day Sale** - St. Paul's Anglican Church, 24 St. Paul's Road, **Knowlton**. Friday, Oct. 26 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 27 from 9 to 11 a.m. Articles for the sale may be left at the church the week of the sale between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Oct. 27

**Annual Harvest Ham Supper** at 5:30 p.m. hosted by Calvary United Church and held at the Royal Canadian Legion on Curley Street in **Sutton**. Tickets bought in advance: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 10 and under. Tickets purchased at the door. \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 10 and under. For information and to obtain tickets call Gail at 450-538-0530, Nancy at 450-538-3080 or Linda at 450-538-3789.

Oct. 31

The Wellness Volunteer Centre invites all TBL seniors to a special **Autumn Luncheon** at **Le Relais Restaurant**, 286 Knowlton Rd., on Wednesday, Oct. 31 at noon. Fish & chips will be served. Limited seating. Reservations needed by Monday, Oct. 29 at 242-2020. Transportation available. Theme Black and Orange. Donation \$3.

## ARTS CALENDAR

Oct. 13 & 14

**Quoi de Neuf? Artisan Show and Sale**, Oct. 13 & 14, Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Regional artists offer a fine selection of quality crafts in a beautiful country setting. Club de Golf, 264 Lakeside Rd., **Knowlton**.

PLEASE SEE BULLETINS ON PAGE 12

## BCN RATES & DEADLINES COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Brome County News Community Calendar is reserved for non-profit organizations only. Deadline is **noon on Mondays**. A pre-paid fee of \$7 is required per publication, or **SPECIAL RATE of \$13 for 2 insertions**: 1 BCN & 1 in Friday Record "What's On" section. Please forward notices to 88-A Lakeside St., Knowlton, QC JOE 1V0, email: bcnews@qc.aibn.com, or fax: (450) 243-5155. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

Brome County NEWS



88-A LAKESIDE, KNOWLTON, QUEBEC, JOE 1V0  
Tel: (450) 242-1188/242-6892 Fax: (450) 243-5155  
Established May 1991

Published weekly by  
THE RECORD

1195 Galt E., Sherbrooke,  
QUEBEC, J1G 1Y7  
Fax: (819) 569-3945 E-MAIL:  
newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com  
website: www.sherbrookerecord.com

KENNETH WELLS PUBLISHER ..... 800 463-9525  
ELEANOR BROWN EDITOR ..... (819) 569-6345  
ALISON STEEL SECRETARY ..... (450) 242-1188  
LYNDA BELLAVANCE ADVERTISING ..... (450) 242-6892  
MICHEL DUVAL ADVERTISING ..... 800 463-9525

### CIRCULATION

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

The Record was founded on February 7, 1897, and acquired the Sherbrooke Examiner (est. 1879) in 1905 and the

Sherbrooke Gazette (est. 1837) in 1908. The Record is published by Alta Newspaper Group Limited Partnership.

Canadian Publications Mail Service Product Agreement No. 0479675.

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KNOWLEDGE AND KNOW-HOW.

# Putting the brakes on book prices

## Shop starts a petition

By Alanna Fahey

BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The owners of a Knowlton shop have started a petition that they will send to book publishers and the Canadian Booksellers Association in the hopes of raising awareness about the huge differences in the pricing of books between Canada and the United States.

"Consumers are very upset and rightly so," says Danny McAuley, a co-owner of Brome Lake Books. "The Canadian dollar and the U.S. dollar are flirting around par but that is not reflected in the price that we are paying in Canada. This is especially evident in bookstores where Canadian and U.S. prices are both printed on the books."

McAuley said that while cars and iPods are also out of whack price-wise, none are quite as transparent as the book industry.

"Therefore book sellers are receiving the majority of complaints."

McAuley said the reasons for price discrepancies are many.

"First of all, the publishers set the price based on anticipated costs, including the profit margin given to bookstores. Prices are set about a year in advance of the release date. Bookstores generally order in February for the summer season and June for the fall season.

"There is also duty charged on books imported from other countries including the U.S. In some cases the price is set by

publishers who may or may not be aware of the strength of the Canadian dollar."

McAuley says that books published in England are often cheaper in Canada. Some books published in Canada are never sold on the U.S. market at all — so there isn't any U.S. price listed on the tome.

"We actually have one book in our store that is a children's board book that comes from the U.S. and it is priced at \$9.95 for both the U.S. and Canada. Can you imagine that? It is called Good Night Montreal and is published by Our World of Books, a very small, but responsible publisher that donates part of its proceeds to children in need."

The owners (the shop is co-owned with Lucy McAuley) say they are thanking customers for their patience by

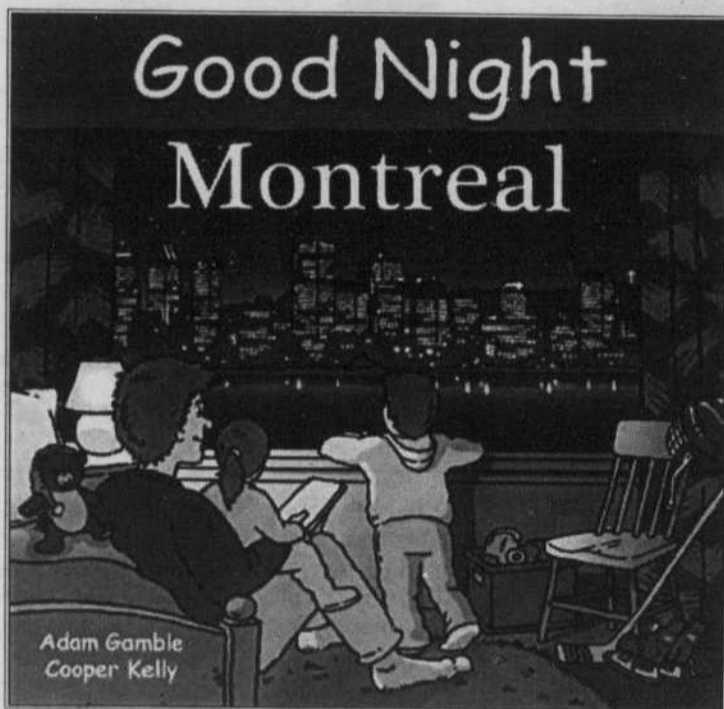
doubling the points offered in their customer appreciation program (collected through purchases and which eventually lead to a discount).

"The book industry is certainly feeling the pressure. Prices are beginning to change, slowly, but they are changing. So the pressure must be kept up. That is why we started a petition in our store. We want our customers to be heard. We will be sending the copies to various publishers and we are taking every opportunity to complain to our distributors and we are calling the publishers about specific books when the prices are particularly outrageous.

"Some companies are doing better than others. Random House of Canada in particular has lowered

prices more than any other publisher. But while some prices are dropping others have not budged. Our wonderful customers have been patient long enough. Our society seems to be driven by commerce therefore the consumer must take the wheel and put the brakes on Canadian prices," Danny McAuley says.

If you are interested in adding your signature, drop by Brome Lake Books at 264 Knowlton Road in Knowlton.



One of the few books that's the same price in the US and in Canada.

## Diabetes The New EPIDEMIC



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### IN THIS ISSUE!

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# Car rallies are the perfect time for leaf lovers

*Not a race,  
but a challenge*

**W**e're getting into prime leaf-peeping season, a chance to head out on the road and explore. For some people that has been turned into a sport.

This coming Saturday Resources pour hommes de la Haute-Yamaska, a group that helps men deal with divorce, family break-ups and other tough times, will host its second annual car rally. At just over three hours it's a chance for families or friends to get together, test their skills and enjoy a day of riding around in the country.

I'm not positive, but it seems to me that car rallies used to be more popular. Too bad, because they're a fun way to explore the region while testing your ability to follow the rules and enjoy a little friendly competition.

For those of you not as familiar with car rallies, let's start off by specifying that they are not a race. In fact most rallies require a stopwatch, with teams trying to get from point A to point B as close to a given time as possible. Getting there faster is not better. So unless your rally master (the person who organized the event) has a high-speed frame of mind, you won't be speeding.

You will however be put to the test as you make your way through the course, following some pretty specific, if not cryptic directions. Steps along the way might include clues like "turn left at

the mailbox with the Stars and Stripes on it." The clues might take all of the brain power in the car to figure out. Or you might have to collect specific items in a kind of automotive scavenger hunt. Or you might be asked test your map skills

**UNDER  
THE  
HOOD**

MAURICE  
CROSSFIELD

and figure the shortest way to get from one place to another.

The variations on the car rally are limited only by the imaginations of the

people who are organizing them. That makes every one a new challenge, and it also means that you don't necessarily have people who are "good" or "bad" at car rallies. You don't have to be a top-notch driver or have a great car either.

If you take part in the Resources pour hommes car rally, you get the added benefit of doing it at the peak of the fall colours. With a little luck the sun will be out and every bend in the road will reveal a new and wonderful set of colours.

To learn more about the sport of car rallies, just do an Internet search. To register for the Resources pour hommes de la Haute-Yamaska rally, call 450-777-6680. It's cheap — \$10 a car plus your gas — and is followed up by prizes and a hot dog lunch. And you'll be supporting a good cause.

**SUNDAY DRIVERS**

The leaves and the prospect of impending winter means it's the peak of the Sunday

driver season. If you don't have the time or the inclination to take part in a car rally you might still want to go out and do a little exploring. It's fun and a chance to check out the thousands of nearby places you may have never seen.

Do you know where Abbott's Corner is? How about Freeport? Brookport? Lost Na-

tion? Yep, they're all within a 30-minute drive of Knowlton, and a lot of folks around here don't even know they exist.

But not everyone is going to have the time or the inclination to oooh and aaaah at the leaves. For them those leaf peepers may be an annoyance as they try to get around. For those people I say slow down, be courteous and remember that just because you may be in a rush doesn't mean everyone else has to be. In fact, maybe it's a sign you're rushing too much. Take a few minutes to appreciate the fact that we live in one of the most beautiful parts of the world. Slow down and smell the leaves. You'll feel better and live longer.

*Classic Act*



MAURICE CROSSFIELD

After raising \$23,800 at its annual golf tournament, the Friends of Massey Vanier High School presented its donations last Thursday evening at the Cowansville Golf Club. The monies raised went to support a number of needs on both the anglophone and francophone sides of the regional school, from a \$2,200 donation to purchase new sports uniforms to financial help for media, visual arts, music, scholarships, adult education and the Stratford Festival trip. While one of the longtime organizers, Richard Staples, was quick to pass the credit along to other numerous volunteers and donors, several noted his near-fanatical dedication to the event. "There's no denying this is the result of this man's dedication," said Sue MacLean. The third edition of the Massey-Vanier Classic will take place on June 25, 2008.

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Tel.: 450-242-1188 / Fax: 450-243-5155

Published weekly by  
1195 Galt Street East,  
Sherbrooke J1G 1Y7  
FAX: 819-821-3179  
E-MAIL:  
newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com

THE RECORD

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**SOCIAL NOTES**

**Fulford**

The "old" Fessenden school house is on the market. The "new" Fessenden school house, across the road, is metamorphosing into a house.

Raymond Ardouin's good deed: He rescued a neighbour's Burmese sheep dog which had wandered into a pool.

— Margaret Fordham  
450-539-0713

# Joan Matthews celebrates The Center at 20

Once  
nick-  
named  
Javex

By Alanna Fahey  
BROME COUNTY  
NEWS  
CORRESPONDENT

This month The Center in Sutton, built thanks to the vision of Joan Matthews, celebrates 20 years as a place that has been a haven, if you will, for those seeking joy, healing and a sense of community.



ALANNA FAHEY

Her home, Joan Matthews ended up in Sutton, often referred to

as "the little blue house on the hill" by the locals, was a gift from her father. Matthews' dad came to the Townships where he fell in love with Glenna Curley, a local gal from The Pinnacle. Her family had a farm and Joan's dad would fish in the streams of that farm. After he caught his catch, he whisked Curley off to Montreal, only to return in 1957 to build the little blue house on the hill.

That was the same year that Joan Matthews found herself working in a locked ward at Montreal's Douglas Hospital. Her father asked what she would do with the house when it was left to her and she recalls answering, "I will build a centre for the handicapped." She remembers how peculiar that sounded to her as it came out of her mouth, and how it took her totally by surprise.

The next 30 years would see Matthews sojourn around the world, gathering knowledge that would bide her well in her chosen field of therapy. Alongside Robert Shepard, the well known and controversial psychiatrist, Matthews would start Mansonville's The Ruitter Valley Center, a place for people in crisis.

It was while was working with Shepard that Matthews began the study of yoga and in 1980 she left for India

where she studied with Swammi Shyam at Kulu in The Valley of the Gods in the Himalayas.

When she returned to Montreal, her three young adult children were off pursuing their own lives so Joan took a job at a little book store where she began her study in healing through colour and sound. When one woman asked where to find out more on the subject, Joan answered, "At the centre I am building in Sutton." No sooner had it come out of her mouth than Joan, to herself, said, "what?"

That was 1985 and Matthews soon received news that her father had died. He left her the house in Sutton.

At the time Joan was involved with a psychic healing group and she was unable to break a commitment; the task saw her spend the next two years in Misstassimmi, in the far north, working with Native Americans. The children gave her the nickname Javex because of her white skin and thick white hair.

Upon her return to Sutton, Matthews enlisted the help of two friends, Paul McGowen and Trevor Conniff, who proceeded to build The Center adjacent to the home she'd inherited.

The Center is built on esoteric principals, with windows facing east for the rising sun, windows facing south and a small window to frame the setting sun. Matthews was adamant that the roof resemble the roof of a human mouth and it was because of this cavernous endeavor that the builders, concerned the walls would collapse, installed tension wires that give The Center the feeling of a place where all things can be held together when one faces the truth.

Within a few years following its 1987

opening, Matthews saw The Center prosper. With the gifts and talents of Doug Hooper, Steve Tabah, Bob Blackwood and Gary Matthews The Center received a much needed vestibule. The area houses a lending library and a place where people may source out the various workshops offered.

Joan Matthews said, "Without all these people (and many more), The Center would not have been able to carry on."

Yet, all of this would not have survived, if it was

not overseen by Matthews.

"From working on a locked ward, to the Cowansville prison, speaking with troubled teens and people in crisis, I see every day that people just want to feel good, and often the only real way to feeling good is to confront some truth that is blocking the way. I am always seeking truth with the recognition of mystery, that there are not always answers, reasons, yes, yet, there is great power in the acceptance of mystery."

The Center's 20th anniversary open house celebration will be held Saturday, Oct. 20 at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome. For information on yoga classes, workshops, and counselling sessions, call 450-538-2829.

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# Musical artistry won't be given away

## Paid in food

By Wendy Denman  
BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Today and tomorrow more than 4,600 Townships youngsters will have a chance to hear the McGill Chamber Orchestra in a program aimed at introducing students to well-known classical composers and the intricacies of music.

"This year we are focusing on Handel the composer," said orchestra executive director Susan McKinnon Bell. "The concerts will be very interactive. We have three shows in Cowansville and four shows in Lennoxville. I expect all the halls will be filled to the rafters with elementary and high school students, parents, teachers and chaperones.

"Students in the audience will be performing Handel's Hallelujah chorus from their seats and we have a number of Massey-Vanier [high school] students actually on stage and playing with the orchestra," said Bell.



COURTESY SUSAN MCKINNON BELL

Boris Brott congratulates last year's student conductor on stage at Massey-Vanier.

Other pieces on the program include the first movement of Beethoven's fifth symphony, Tchaikovsky's Rococo Variations and Haydn's Toy Symphony with student soloists.

Conductor Boris Brott has a knack for making light work of seemingly complex ideas by using demonstrations, a

large screen that focuses on individual instruments, special orchestrations and kid-friendly music such as the theme from The Simpsons TV show and tunes from Harry Potter flicks. Also on the schedule is a demonstration of counterpoint with the orchestra playing She'll Be Comin' - When The Saints.

This is the third series of concerts here in the Townships under Brott (today at Massey-Vanier and tomorrow

at Alexander Galt high school).

This time around instead of the usual \$5 levy, students are asked to bring \$1 and two non-perishable food items that will be distributed throughout the communities. Some of the schools will collect the food directly for their areas. "We appreciate that the cost of busing the kids to the concerts can be a strain on the school budgets," said Bell.

"But we did not want to give the concerts away. This new strategy works for everyone, while teaching the students about giving back to their community and to those less fortunate than themselves.

"The funding to pay for these concerts comes from private corporations and foundations - for which we are very grateful. We hope some day to find support from businesses in the communities we are going in to - but so far nothing has materialized.

"But we will persevere," Bell said. "We want to maintain the honour of being the first and only orchestra from Montreal to take their show into the Townships in this way."

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## CHICKASAW:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

with flute, cello and percussion as well as directing the music. "The percussion is important in this, this is during the war after all - we need a lot of booms!"

Graham Hardman has written the lyrics, Diane Cahill Yarmush is doing the choreography, Linda Carey is on period costumes and Vesta Jorgensen directs.

Most of the cast of 24 have speaking

parts and all sing, if not solos at least as part of the chorus. "I don't think I have ever directed a better chorus in a stage production," says Patriquin. "The voices are marvelous, professional quality, it's really an extraordinary sound."

The talent behind Chickasaw, named after the snake oil that figures largely in the plot, see this month's premiere as just the beginning. "We've written this with the view of getting it out there to the greater Canadian and American audience. After all it is a cross-borders story," says Patriquin. "After the run at Arts Knowlton we will continue to refine

all aspects of the script and music.

"It's the kind of show that's ideal for amateur companies, for drama clubs, for college and university theatre companies," Patriquin concludes. "I think it's a show that will generate a lot of attention, one that others will want to pick up and produce."

Chickasaw begins at Arts Knowlton on Oct. 25, playing Thursday to Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. to Nov. 11. For reservations call 450-263-1061.



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By Wendy Denman

BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The strains of the blues – those low pitched notes off major scale – will dominate the atmosphere in Sutton for the next seven Saturdays. “For the sixth edition of Sutton en Blues we’ve programmed some classics, some surprises and some groups that we fell head over heels for,” said Jean Sicotte, the founder and organizer of the annual festival.

“We’re very fortunate this year with our line-up. There’s a lot of variety. Some people think all blues are the same but they aren’t, there can be a wide range in presentation and sound that’s reflected in this year’s program,” said Sicotte. “What we have will not only please the true blues fan, but also those people for whom the sound is an unknown quality but who are fans of good music.”

Sicotte said the fest has been very popular from the beginning, bringing in fans from Montreal, the South Shore and the rest of the Townships, “many who I know by name. There’s a dearth of

# Sutton sings the blues

... and it's making people very happy

real blues venues out there, which adds to our success,” added Sicotte.

“It’s interesting though, in the last couple of years I’ve begun to notice more and more unfamiliar faces at the shows, which is a good sign, it means more and more people are becoming aware of and interested in this music.”

Sicotte worked for 35 years as a video producer in Montreal and bought a home in Sutton 11 years ago. Last year he went into semi-retirement and moved here full time. “I’ve always had a foot in show business through my cinema work, but more and more I am enjoying being involved. We started, in a very small way, a one-day Blues Festival in Farnham in the summer; it was successful and I think I will put more and more time into organizing these events.”

Sicotte finds his line-up by word of

mouth through industry friends and attends shows to preview the acts: “I love blues but also the performers – they are simple, straight people, without over-inflated egos. All the musicians that have performed... are delighted with the venue and with the audiences – with the attention they give to the music, with their dedication and enthusiasm.”

The line-up features artists come from the Maritimes, Quebec and Ontario: John Campbelljohn Band from Halifax (winner of the best Blues Recording of 2007 at the East Coast Music Awards); Jean Milliare and vocalist Andrée Dupré (with a beat that demands movement and dancing – Milliare has played with Blues Legends Muddy Water, Buddy Guy and John Lee Hooker); Ottawa’s Trevor Finlay Band (named Best Canadian Blues/Rock Artist and Best Canadian Blues Band by Real

Blues Magazine); Malted Milk Band (a young group on the Blues highway since 2003 and named Newcomer of the Year at Festiblues International de Montreal in 2005); Rick L. Blues (winner of two Lys Blues at Montreal’s last Lys Blues Gala); Toronto’s Treasa Levasseur (who takes a vocal journey of blues, jazz, funk and rock and a nominee at the Maple Blues Awards, this is her first performance in Quebec); and ending the Sutton en Blues on Nov. 24, Garrett Mason, son of blues great Dutch Mason, who won Best Blues Album at the Juno Awards in 2005.

“The auberge holds about 150 comfortably, our average audience is about 120, though we do always have a couple of sell-outs, so it’s a good idea to reserve.”

Sutton en Blues begins Oct. 13 and continues every Saturday at 8:30 p.m. until Nov. 24 at Auberge des Appalaches (234 Maple Street in Sutton). Tickets are available at the inn and from the Sutton Tourist Office. Admission is \$20 through to Nov. 17; the performance on Nov. 24 is \$25. A passport for all shows is on sale for \$120.

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# The hinge between summer and fall

## Quoi de Neuf

By Philip A. Godin

BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

People in the greater Brome Lake area have been able to mark the changes of seasons by the occurrence of a variety of natural, commercial and social events that occur with such regularity, they have become expected if not anticipated.

There's the September duck fest that draws tourists into Knowlton's village centre, the bright autumn displays of hill-topped fall foliage that sees county crossroads bustle, and the slow but steady chores that residents undertake in preparation for the eventual cooler weather.

Nestled among these comings and goings, acting almost as a hinge between summer and fall, is the unique Quoi de Neuf Arts and Crafts show that takes place every mid October at the Knowlton Golf Club.

This quaint, yet exclusively upscale gathering of local and regional artists and artisans has been de rigueur for aficionados of remarkable home décor, personal apparel and terroir products since 1994.

In recent years, people in this corner of the Townships have developed an expertise in organizing a number of formal art shows, vernissages and gallery openings, all charming visitors and making a visit to the area all the more enticing.

As a spin-off of this renewal in classical visual arts, a revival of old-time traditional handicrafts has come about, breathing new life into quality crafts-

manship which for decades made up the core of Quebec's commercial markets.

The Quoi de Neuf exhibition represents the bridging of these two worlds, to the point where the fine line that once divided art from craft becomes nearly indistinguishable.

This year, while focusing the show on local talents, organizing committee chair Debbie Horning wanted the show to recognize the importance of the one global issue that humanity itself is facing.

"Visitors will notice a wider selection of more environmentally conscious crafts on display, sort of a reflection of what has been happening elsewhere on the market."

And this show has become a hotspot for unique pieces that are virtually impossible to find elsewhere.

Take for instance the works of West Bolton resident Michael Dooley. A long time summer resident who made the Townships his home in 1995, Dooley has been carving wood as a hobby since he was a child, and this year is coming back. "The last time I exhibited my work was at the Quoi de Neuf show that was held in those years at Lakeview Inn in Knowlton. It must have been one of the first shows held."

As a prelude to the show Dooley opened his mountainside atelier as part of the Glen Art show last month.

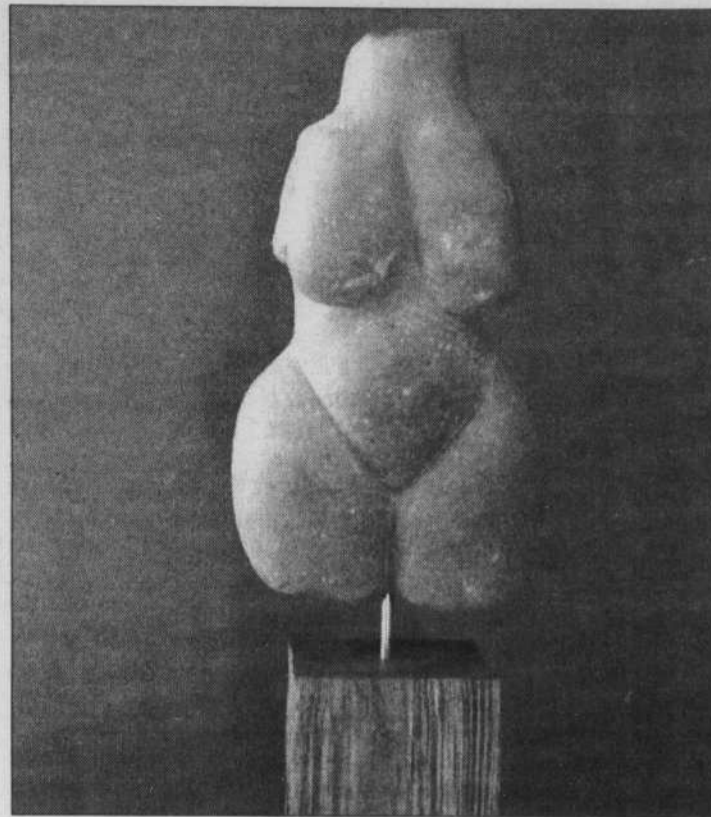
Oversized and over-coloured vegetables, fire trucks, monopoly

boards and barnyard settings galore, it is all visual and enticing.

"I still do it because I enjoy doing it," Dooley explains. "I never want to get into the situation where carving becomes a chore."

Another West Bolton resident artist, Sylvie Therrien, brings a new concept to this year's show. Armed with basic wood carving courses from the West Dean College in South West England, Therrien recently set up shop in the Townships and began creating framed mirrors.

Using both local and exotic species, Therrien plays with varying wood textures and colours as she either carves relief into or adds small sculpted features onto existing frame panels.



PHILIP GODIN

Sylvie Therrien's sculptured figurine.

Other pieces have intricate inset mosaic patterns that bring out the natural colour and beauty of the grain. Worth seeing is her first sculptured figurine. Expect the unexpected as this stone's natural colouring adds a surprising dimension.

The third in the seemingly West Bolton triad is Pamela Quinn, whose newsprint and glue papier maché song birds are as enchanting as her technique is naïve. Sparingly coated in acrylic colours, these delicate paper jays, cardinals, chirping sparrows, chickadees, nuthatches and goldfinches will enchant any home.

A new character on the crafting scene, Quinn came upon the idea of layering these feathered creatures into existence while helping her son fashion a toucan for a school project a year and a half ago.

Insisting on recycling used newsprint, Quinn melds a dash of planetary responsibility into the Concordia fine

arts degree that has provided a career in the commercial sector.

The Quoi de Neuf show again marks the crossroads of taste, ingenuity, creativity and flair. It would be a real challenge to find a more enjoyable way to spend a leisurely afternoon in the country. On hand will be adult and children's apparel, toys, personal care products, jewellery, a huge array of exclusive home décor items as well as outdoor and garden accent pieces.

In time for Christmas are striking crèches and Santas, among a selection of wood carvings, blown glass, homemade soaps, candles, honey, cider, quilts, braided rugs, folk art dolls and furniture.

A selection of pieces donated by the artisans will be given away as door prizes in a draw that serves as a fundraiser for the Brome Lake Food Bank.

The show runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13 and from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 14 at 264 Lakeside in Knowlton. Admission is free. For more information call Debbie Horning at 450-243-0890.

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**AUCTION**  
**FOR: J.F. LIPPÉ**  
 at: 1038 Jordan Rd., Sutton, QC  
**Saturday, Oct. 13th, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.**  
**WILL BE SOLD:** Antiques including living & dining room sets, wood stove, tools, rocking chairs, etc. Large quantity of household furniture & accessories; large quantity of horse equipment including stall mats, feed tubs, tack, saddle, etc. **Shed Stock:** Karcher industrial pressure washer, chainsaws, heaters, tools, etc. **Machinery:** chain harrows, bush hog, plough.  
**Terms:** cash.  
**Note:** This is definitely an auction with something for everyone.  
 Canteen on site. Sale held inside.  
 For information and all types of sales or a complete listing:  
**KEITH ROBINSON**  
 Auctioneer  
 450-538-2936



**VILLE DE LAC-BROME**  
 TOWN OF BROME LAKE

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**MANAGEMENT OF THE LAKE LEVEL**

Please take note that the Town of Brome Lake will proceed to a lowering of the level of the lake commencing the week of October 1st, 2007. This will be maintained until May 1, 2008.

The purpose of this policy is to control the water retention capacity in the event of heavy rains this fall and also to protect the shoreline during the thaw period.

For information with respect to lake levels, you may consult the following government internet site:

**Douglass Beach:**  
<http://www.cehq.gouv.qc.ca/suivihydro/graphique.asp?NoStation=030350>

**Foster Dam:**  
<http://www.cehq.gouv.qc.ca/suivihydro/graphique.asp?NoStation=030351>

Given at the Town of Brome Lake this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2007.

Me Alain R. Roy, town clerk

**425 Bus. Opportunities**

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**440 Miscellaneous**

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**Looking for a companion? Place an ad in the classifieds.**  
 (819) 569-9525  
 (450) 242-1188



**VILLE DE LAC-BROME**  
 TOWN OF BROME LAKE

**NOTICE TO ALL CITIZENS PICK-UP OF LEAVES**

To all citizens in urban sectors (Knowlton, Bondville, Foster, Fulford, Iron Hill & West-Brome) of Town of Brome-Lake, please take note of the following:

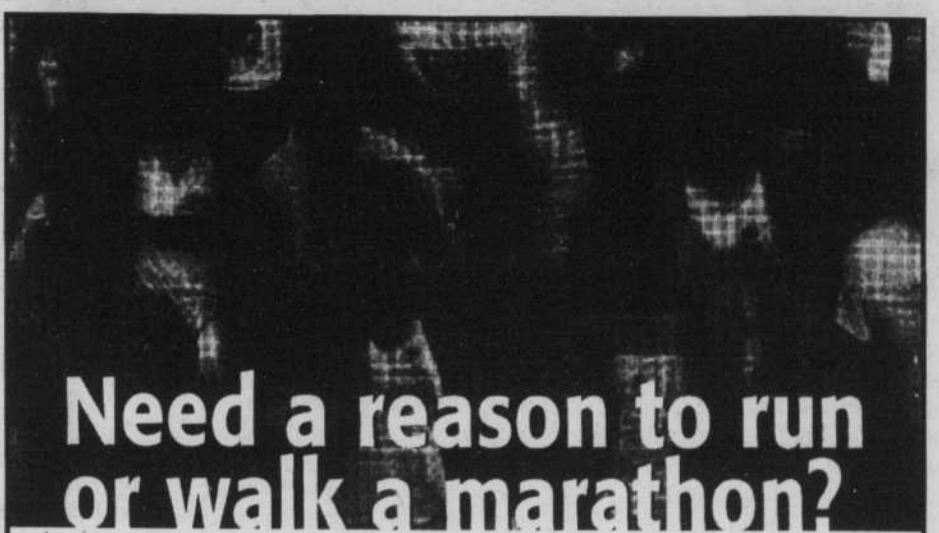
Please note that the Town will proceed with the collect of leaves & brush on the following dates:

- Week of Oct. 22 to Oct. 26, 2007;
- Week of Nov. 12 to Nov. 16, 2007.

Also, **ONLY** biodegradable bags will be accepted. Any other bags **WILL NOT** be accepted.

Given at Brome Lake  
 This 5th day of October, 2007.


Mtre Alain R. Roy, M.A., LL.B.  
 Town Clerk



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**QCNA Blanket Classified Ads**

<p><b>Antiques</b>                  ABRACADABRA turn your hidden treasures into ready cash. International buyer wants to purchase your antiques, paintings, china, crystal, silverware, jewellery, rare books, sports, movies, postcards, coins, stamps and records. 514-501-9072.</p>	<p>1-800-566-6899 Ext. 400 OT. 963-5060.</p>	<p>Member: Better Business Bureau.</p>
<p><b>For Sale</b>                  Classified Ads Work! If you have something to sell, want to buy or need to promote - classified ads are the way to go! Call Marnie at the Quebec Community Newspapers Association for more information. 514-453-6300. Visit: <a href="http://www.qcna.org">www.qcna.org</a>.</p>	<p><b>HOT TUB (SPA) Covers.</b> Best Price, Best Quality. All Shapes &amp; Colours Available. Call 1-866-652-6837. <a href="http://www.thecoverguy.ca">www.thecoverguy.ca</a>.</p>	<p><b>Services</b>                  CLEAR YOUR CRIMINAL RECORD. Free pardon and U.S. entry waiver assessment. A record affects employment, traveling and other necessities. Apply online <a href="http://www.canadianpardons.ca">www.canadianpardons.ca</a> or call 1-800-298-5520.</p>
<p><b>SAWMILLS</b> from only \$3,495.00- Convert your logs to valuable lumber with your own Norwood portable band sawmill. Log skidders also available. <a href="http://www.norwoodindustries.com">www.norwoodindustries.com</a> - FREE information:</p>	<p><b>HOT TUB 2007,</b> loaded, all options, cover, warranty, new, still in wrap. Cost \$9,000, sell \$4,900. Delivery Possible inc.: 514-745-6536.</p>	<p><b>Vacation/Travel</b>                  ALL INCLUSIVE PACKAGES - Book online at <a href="http://www.canadatravels.com">www.canadatravels.com</a> and save more on your vacations. Use code VIP72347 for discount or call us toll free at 1-800-563-5722.</p>
<p><b>Legal Services</b>                  CLEAR CRIMINAL RECORDS with the National Pardon Centre. Your peace of mind guaranteed. Remove barriers to employment, travel, more. Free consultations. 1-866-242-2411. Apply online: <a href="http://www.nationalpardon.org">www.nationalpardon.org</a>.</p>	<p><b>FUTURE STEEL BUILDINGS</b> durable, dependable, pre-engineered, all-steel structures. Custom made to suit your needs and requirements. Factory direct affordable prices. Call 1-800-668-8653 ext. 170 for free brochure.</p>	<p><b>TIMESHARE RESALES</b> - Sell-buy-rent. World's largest timeshare resale broker, Stroman Realty - since 1979. World wide selection of resort properties. Call today toll free 1-800-201-0864.</p>

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**WATERLOO**  
Judy Dalton

Diana Cook and sons Dominic and Gabriel Clark of Ontario spent the weekend here with Gladys Cook.

Friends and relatives of Durward Darling are sorry to hear that he is a patient at the B.M.P. Hospital in intensive care. We all hope that he will overcome this illness and get back to everyday living soon. His family asked me to put this in my news and hoped it would be printed real soon as from what I gather there are still many friends who haven't heard of his illness. Durward in his younger years was very active on the music scene having his own country band and was also a very busy electrician.

Our guests on Thanksgiving Monday were Frank Bec who was leaving the next morning for a visit with his daughter Julie and family in Missouri. Other callers were Fred Stechl, Joanne Arnott, Shaun Elston, Amy Bec, little Caleb Elston, six months old who arrived in his little fall pumpkin suit, Ralph and Sheila Bernard of Granby and Everett Arnott, who called on us the morning of Thanksgiving Monday.

**80th birthday celebrated**



**François & Françoise St. Pierre** celebrated their 80th Birthday, October 4, 2007.

Many thanks for a great party at Auberge Days Inn.

**WAYNE PICKEN AND HOLLY TALBOT WEDDING**



Best wishes to Holly and Wayne on their Wedding, July 28, 2007.

It was a beautiful outdoor wedding held at the property of David and Mary Picken. The 205 guest gathered for the ceremony in the lovely decorated backyard where the wedding party of 9 made their entrance followed by the beautiful bride on the arm of her dad as the groom emotionally waited her descent. A lovely ceremony was performed by Rev. Dale Skinner.

The reception was held in an elegantly decorated tent with chairs and tables covered in white, beautiful white lanterns with pink and green accents.

The evening held unique personal touches of the bride and groom, from the entering of the reception, to Hockey Night in Canada music, to the Guest Quilt (Guest Book). It was a fun filled night hosted by 2 D.J.'s who entertained everyone with music and games.

A lovely meal was served with a night of flowing wine with friends and family. It was a dream wedding for the happy couple with photos, video and tons of memories.

A sincere than you to all the guests and a huge thank you to everyone who helped to make this a special day. A special thank you to Rev. Dal Skinner, Veronique (Fleuriste Magog), Elite Sound Wave (D.J.'s, Mtl.), Randy Berwick (Tent Stukely), Alden Ticehurst (Cabinet Stukely), Lori Goyette / Gary Burcombe (Photos/Video Knowlton), Traiteurs Cowansville (Meal and Bar).

Wishing you a lifetime of happiness together.

Love always from your proud parents  
Dave and Mary Picken and  
Nancy and Wilbur Talbot.

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INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

**BULLETINS:**

CONT'D FROM PAGE 2

**Oct. 25 & 27**

The presentation of **Knowlton Players'** production of **Chickasaw** held on Thursday, Oct. 25, will be in benefit of the Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital Foundation, that will receive 60 per cent of the proceeds. On Saturday, Oct. 27, there will be a wine and munchies reception and an opportunity to meet the cast following the show. Reservations: 450-263-1061.

**Oct. 25 through Nov. 11**

**Knowlton Players** presents the world premiere of **Chickasaw**, a new Canadian musical comedy, directed by Vesta Jorgensen, at Arts Knowlton, 9 Mont Echo Road, Knowlton, Oct. 25 through Nov. 11. Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances at 8 p.m., and Sunday Matinees at 2 p.m. Adults \$15, Townshippers' Association members \$13, students \$12, children \$8. Groups of 20+ 12\$. Reservations: 450-263-1061.

**CHURCH SERVICES**

**KNOWLTON/CREEK PASTORAL CHARGE** Worship & Song. Creek United, Foster, 9:30 a.m., Knowlton United, Knowlton, (handicap access), 11 a.m. Sunday School at both services. Visit us on the web at [www.knowltoncreek.com](http://www.knowltoncreek.com).

**ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**, 24 St. Paul's Road, Knowlton. Sunday Services - Traditional 8 a.m. service and 10 a.m. with music, Sunday School and Nursery. For more info: 450-242-2885. The Rev. Tim Wiebe and the congregation welcomes everyone.

• **ANGLICAN PARISH OF BROME SERVICE** - Sunday, Oct. 14, 10 a.m. - ST. AIDAN, SUTTON JUNCTION, Holy Communion. The Rev. P. Tidman.

• **SAINT-EDOUARD CATHOLIC CHURCH**, 366 Knowlton Rd., Knowlton - Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m. (Bilingual.)

**COWANSVILLE AREA PASTORAL CHARGE UNITED CHURCH** Worship at Emmanuel United Church, 203 rue Principale, Cowansville. Worship 10:30 a.m., Choir practice, 10 a.m. Rev. Wendy McLean officiating. 450-263-0204.

• **TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH, COWANSVILLE**. Join us for Sunday Worship one Service only at 11 a.m. every Sunday. Info: 450-263-2662.

• **WATERLOO ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH**, 4929 rue Foster - 140th Anniversary Memorial Hymn Sing at 7:30 p.m. NO MORNING SERVICE. For information or message call 450-539-2129.

• **ANGLICAN PARISH OF BEDFORD/PHILIPSBURG & FARNHAM** - Parish of Bedford/Philipsburg/Farnham and Members of the Borders Regional Ministry - Services will be held at St. James Church, Farnham at 9:30 a.m., St. Paul's Church, Philipsburg at 9:30 a.m. and St. James Church, Bedford at 11 a.m. each Sunday, and also in

Clarenceville and Noyan services are held 9 a.m. The Ven. Dr. Brian A. Evans, Archdeacon of Bedford officiating. For more information and times, please call, 450-248-3923.

• **BEDFORD UNITED CHURCH PASTORAL CHARGE** - Sunday Service October 14 in Stansbridge East, 10 a.m. All are most welcome to attend. Rev. Michel Nahas leading. Everyone welcome. 450-248-3044 for information.

• **GRACE ANGLICAN CHURCH** in SUTTON, 52 Principale sud, welcomes everyone for Sunday Services at 10:30 a.m. All are welcome. The Rev. Canon Tim Smart, Rector. 450-538-8108.

• **OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH, SUTTON**, Pastor Alex Lobach and the congregation welcome all to worship with us each Sunday at 11 a.m. Mid-week youth group and

Bible Study. Tel. 450-538-5225.

• **ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH - DUNHAM**. Sunday Services at 9:30 a.m. The Rev. Sinpoh Han. Information 450-266-0392.

• **SUTTON - DUNHAM PASTORAL CHARGE**: Welcome to Sunday Worship Services at Dunham United Church at 9:15 a.m. and at Calvary United Church, Sutton at 11:15 a.m. with Rev. Susan Tilleman.

**COMMUNITY NOTES**

**Brome Lake - 50-plussers**, welcome to six weekly presentations, Thursdays 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.: Sleep, my aching joints, digestive system, stress, and taking care of myself using local resources. At the Centre Lac Brome Community Center, 270 Victoria. Free, in English. Register: 450-242-2020. Info 450-263-4422 (1-866-263-4422) or [gc@townshippers.qc.ca](mailto:gc@townshippers.qc.ca).

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on Business

My name is Marie-Claude Champagne and after studying for four years in that field, I am establishing my practice as a naturopathic practitioner in the Eastern Townships.

I always loved this area and its people and I feel I can do much to improve the well-being of people around me from naturopathy.

Naturopathy is a way of healing and helping the body to improve its well-being, starting from any situation. You may already be healthy and still benefit from its application in your life.

Naturopathy looks into one's life's habits, the environment, your family health story and the functioning of your body to find the first or deepest possible cause of illness. Depending on the cause it can take more or less time.

That is the first step you'll go through, meeting my qualified approach.

That is what I do.

Then to address the cause, you most often need to change things in your life. I treat all mental and physical habits, everything in your life has an impact on your health. In order to know where to start and the order, it is necessary to find help.

That is what I do.

My practice is mostly based on physical health problems. I have good listening, analyzing, and teaching competence.

Looking forward to meeting with you on your health and well-being.

A votre santé!  
Marie-Claude Champagne MD  
Naturopathe Diplômée

I'm located in Sutton, and I work around that area.  
For appointments 514-599-6776 pager

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Viens voir notre site Internet [www.crif.csvdc.qc.ca](http://www.crif.csvdc.qc.ca).

Fais vite, une formation débute le 29 octobre.

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