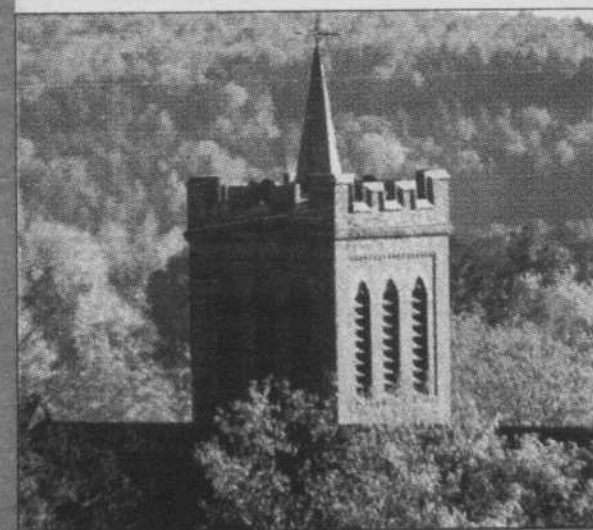
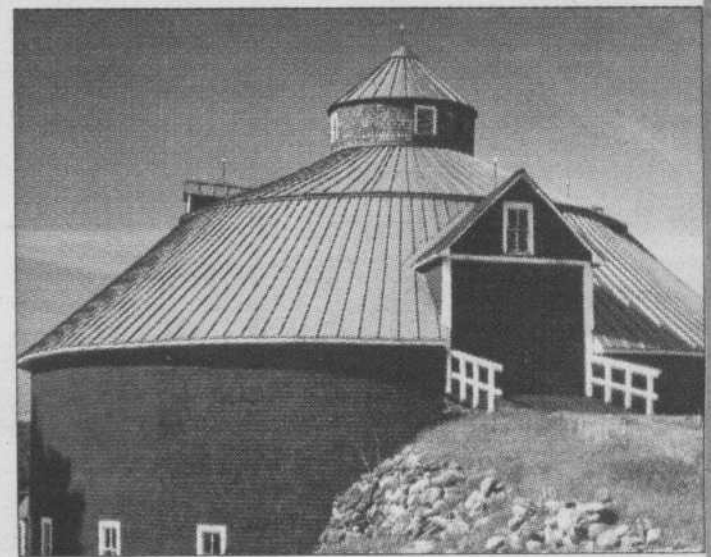
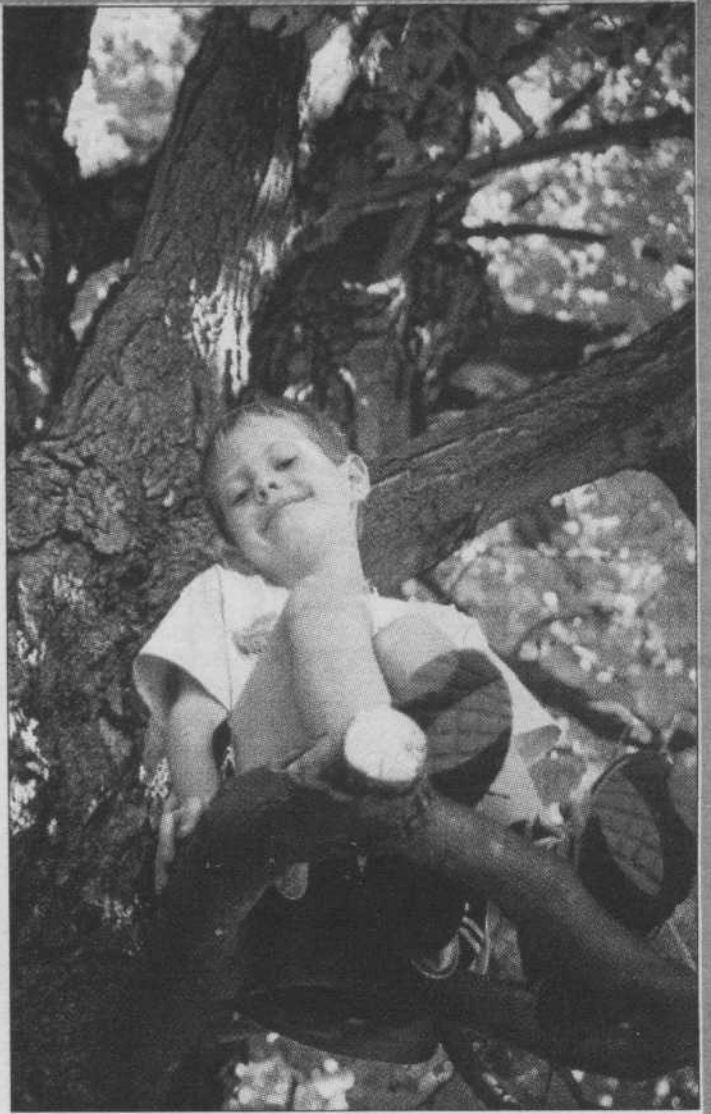
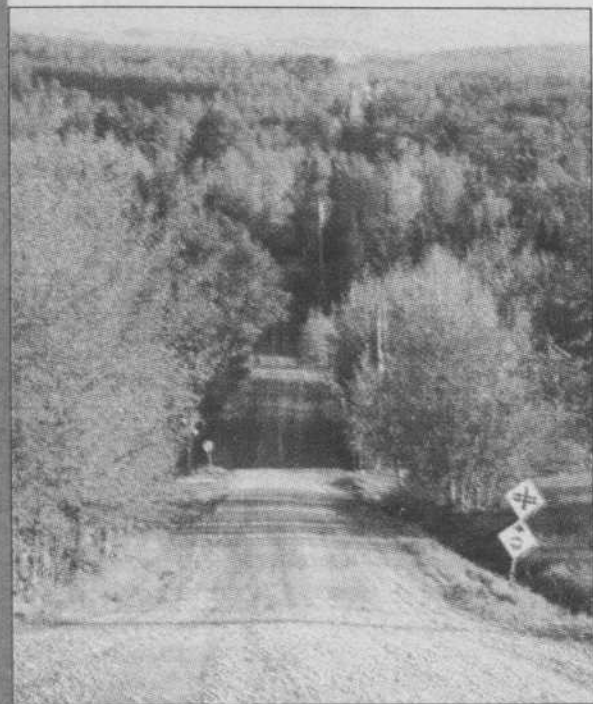




Travel & Vacation



THE
RECORD
Brome County
NEWS 
Supplement
June 2002

Welcome to the Eastern Townships

WHERE ARE WE?

Less than an hour from Montreal (80 km) and close to Quebec City (120 km), the Eastern Townships enjoy a privileged location, straddling the U.S. border at Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine for more than 300 kilometres. The Townships are easily accessible by autoroute, and enjoy the densest network of secondary roads in Quebec.

WITNESS THE MAJESTY

Visitors are invariably impressed by our mountains – the most majestic in

Quebec, over a thousand metres high and matched only by an amazing array of glacier-formed lakes.

The entire region is a tempting game of hide-and-go-seek, concealing tiny British- and Victorian-influenced villages flavoured by Irish and Scottish tradition. A Catholic church will dominate one horizon and be surrounded by Protestant chapels; at the entrance to a French-origin village, a roadside cross maintains its age-old vigil over the citizenry.

The roads, especially in the countryside, are scattered with unusual buildings – round barns in ox-blood red and some of the oldest covered bridges in Quebec. A river winds and empties into a lake with an Amerindian name. Expecting a field of grain around the next corner, one finds a vineyard, or a wine route that rolls across vine and orchard slopes. Further on, a town has come alive, teeming with people dancing and celebrating to live music. On the tables of country restaurants, you sample local produce prepared masterfully by our chefs; the fruits of our land are fit for gourmets, from ice wine to blue cheese and everything in between.

IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

A visit to the region wouldn't be complete without exploring the institutional buildings of the Townships' two founding cultures: the Granada Theatre and the Catholic cathedral of Sherbrooke with the works of Ozias Leduc; the Haskell Free Library and Opera



DAVID ANDERSON/PHOTO CORRESPONDENT

House (1901) in Stanstead, a scale replica of the Boston Opera House; Bishop's University (1843), modeled after the architectural style of Oxford University in England; the Abbey of Saint-Benoit du Lac; the Université de Sherbrooke campus; and even the Russian Orthodox monastery in Mansonville.

The religious heritage of the Eastern Townships is incomparably rich and diverse – hundreds of churches cover-

ing the gamut of North American religion, with neighbouring Catholic and Protestant cemeteries lying side by side in the hearts of towns and throughout the countryside.

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New touring company explores region's vastness

By Morri Mostow and Doug Long
RECORD CORRESPONDENTS
EAST BOLTON

In keeping with their love of the region and desire to preserve it, two local women have created a new bike and van touring company in the Eastern Townships.

Based out of East Bolton, Wood & Westland is run by Knowlton native Trish Wood and Joan Westland, who is currently serving her fifth term as mayor in the small hamlet. Although the company has just got off the ground, the two owners say they limit each tour to 10 people, but not because of the organization's modest beginnings.

"Small groups allow us to provide a very personal, customized tour," says 29-year-old Wood. "We don't stand around with a clipboard, herding guests on and off a bus to a tight schedule. If a group wants to change the agenda or take a different route, we are happy to oblige. We always in-

'Our tours are an ideal introduction to the Eastern Townships'

TRISH WOOD, CO-OWNER OF
WOOD & WESTLAND

clude some free time for exploration and optional activities."

Although already familiar with the area, Wood and Westland conducted thorough research of the best places to stay, eat, and visit in the Townships before creating the touring company.

"Our tours are an ideal introduction to the Eastern Townships for people who want to enjoy an active, outdoor experience coupled with top-quality comfort and convenience," says Wood. "We handle all of the logistics and equipment, meals and accommodations, and connecting

transportation from Burlington or Montreal."

A week-long vacation package runs at \$1,500 per person, double occupancy (add \$120 per week for a comfortable hybrid road bike, helmet and trunk bag — or bring your own bike).

To make their trips even more interesting, Wood and Westland also talk about local history, geography and ecology as their scenic-tour van rolls through the picturesque vineyards of Dunham, the mountains of Sutton, the Victorian village of Knowlton and the towns of North Hatley, Orford and Magog. Activities include a lecture by a local historian, a stop at a local artisan's workshop, a visit with a producer of maple products (syrup, wine, candy), Gregorian chants at the St. Benoît-du-Lac Abbey, visits to a Loyalist museum

and an antiques-reproduction workshop.

Along the way, guests can savour some of the Townships' best produce and cuisine. One tour highlight is a refreshing half-day soak in the tubs of the new Bolton Falls Spa, a very low-key, relaxing spot that capitalizes on the beauty of its natural setting.

Wood, a sports enthusiast who recently returned to her hometown of Knowlton after several years leading adventure tours in the Rockies, adds that the company also offers a six-day Bike & Hike tour, which averages 35 to 65 km of cycling per day.

SEE TOURING, PAGE 4

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TOURING:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 3

A van accompanies the riders so that no one has to pedal beyond his or her endurance.

In the fall, Wood & Westland offers a unique four-day Gourmet Wine & Dine tour in the fall. This epicurean's delight combines a stay at the renowned Hatley Inn, a full-day gourmet cooking class using local produce and fresh herbs from the inn's greenhouse, a wine-tasting vineyard tour and a visit to local antique shops.

The grand finale is the table de chef,

where guests watch chefs prepare dinner, then sit down to a seven-course feast at a 10-foot-long table in the inn's kitchen.

To take advantage of the fall foliage and the famous Brome Lake Duckfest, the scenic van tours also extend into November.

For skiers in pursuit of the perfect run, Wood & Westland has a "Five Peaks in Five Days" tour in the winter, which includes a gourmet dinner at a different restaurant every night. At each ski resort, an "ambassador" introduces the hill and its trails to help everyone get the most out of the day's skiing. The tour ends at Vermont's Jay Peak, adopted as a Townships hill because of its excellent trails and proximity to the border.

For Wood and Westland, their new business venture is the culmination of years of planning. Westland, 52, brings years of administrative experience to the partnership. A former United Nations delegate, Westland currently works as a labour-policy consultant when she's not busy serving office.

"My consulting work involves a great deal of world travel," she says. "Frankly, I prefer to stay home."

WOOD & WESTLAND ALSO ORGANIZES BUSINESS MEETINGS, EVENTS AND INCENTIVE TRAVEL TOUR. FOR MORE INFORMATION OF ANY OF THE TOURS, CALL 450-292-3030, 1-866-858-3030 OR VISIT WWW.WOODANDWESTLAND.COM.



DAVID ANDERSON/PHOTO CORRESPONDENT

Trish Wood (left) and Joan Westland have just launched first-class bike and van tours of the Townships with their company Wood & Westland.



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- La Maison Hatley offers a French country style dining package, which includes two nights lodging, two copious breakfasts, a French country style dining (four-course meal, bring your own wine) The cost is \$98.50.

- La Maison Hatley also offers a "Cruise on the Lake" package, which includes two nights lodging, two copious breakfasts and a one hour and 45 minutes cruise on the Lake Memphremagog. Cost is \$85. La Maison Hatley is located at 558, rue Hatley Ouest, Magog. For more information, call 819-868-6606, or 1-888-995-6606.

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BOWSER & BLUE

Wine trail offers a tasteful afternoon outing

Dunham area is a rich place to start in search of the fruits of the vine

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
DUNHAM

The Quebec Wine Trail (Route des Vins), a promotional network of the wineries throughout the Montérégie and Eastern Townships, provides a pleasant way to spend an afternoon.

The Eastern Townships region alone is home to at least 15 wineries, more than half of which are clustered in its southwest corner, an area that includes Saint-Armand, Frelighsburg, Stanbridge East, Bedford and Dunham.

Dunham's Vignoble de L'Orpailleur, located on Route 202 between Stanbridge East and Dunham village, is one of the most successful of these, and a pioneer responsible — in no small part — for the growth of the domestic wine industry.

L'Orpailleur is jointly owned by Charles-Henri de Coussergues, Hervé Durand, Frank Furtado and Pierre Rodrigue. De Coussergues and Durand are both natives of the south of France, and are specialists in viticulture and wine production. They jointly develop techniques for protecting vines from winter damage.

De Coussergues is co-owner and general manager of L'Orpailleur, as well as a founding member and treasurer of l'Association des Vignerons du Québec. De Coussergues is also a founding member of Grand Maître de la Noble Confrérie du Québec, an organization that promotes Quebec wines and vineyards.

Meanwhile, Durand taught the science of wine production in Argentina before returning to France to run an important family-owned winery, le Château des Tourelles.

SEE VINEYARDS, PAGE 6



PHOTO COURTESY ANDRÉ GERMAIN

Dunham's Vignoble de L'Orpailleur offers tours in French or English (by reservation). The Eastern Townships region alone is home to at least 15 wineries, more than half of which are clustered in its southwest corner.

Dunham's Vignoble de L'Orpailleur is a pioneer responsible for the growth of the domestic wine industry



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Alain Bayon, Charles-Henri de Coussergues et Marc Grau inspect grapes at Dunham's Vignoble de L'Orpailleur

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VINEYARDS:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 5

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L'Orpailleur wines to the forefront of Quebec wine production.

Daily wine tasting at L'Orpailleur allows visitors to sample its red and white wines, ice wines and aperitifs. Its products have been praised by Quebec wine critic Michel Phaneuf, and are perennial winners of gold, silver and bronze medals at the Intervin International wine competition. Wine tastings are offered seven-days a week year round.

L'Orpailleur also boasts a restaurant and is part of the Economusée network, a network of businesses in Quebec and the Maritimes that practice traditional crafts. Its visitor's centre houses a display on the history of vitaculture and wine-making from Roman days to modern production in Quebec. Vineyard tours are available on demand in French and in English by reservation.


Within a 10 minute drive of L'Orpailleur are a variety of smaller producers, including Vignoble Domaine de l'Ardennais, located on Stanbridge East's Ridge Road. This small-production winery was started in 1994 by François Samray and offers a selection of competitively-priced wines and aperitifs made from locally grown grapes, raspberries and strawberries.



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

François Samray and Carmen Coudu of Domaine de l'Ardennais, one of the Eastern Townships wineries listed on la Route des Vins.

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Proving that bigger is not necessarily better, Samray's Le Partois recently took home a silver medal from Intervin International Wine Competition.

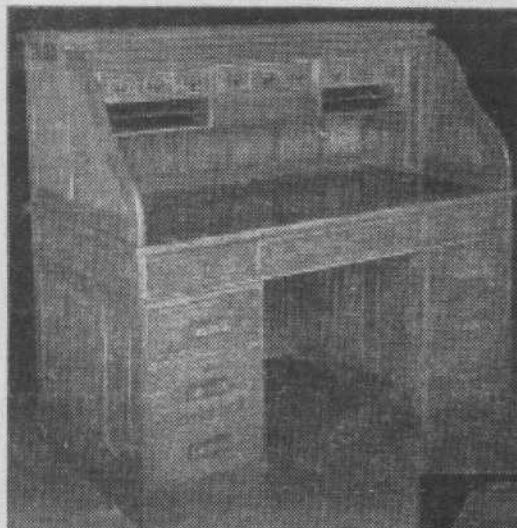
A colour brochure and map for the Route des Vins is available from local tourism bureaus and participating wineries. For more information, visit the www.vignerons-quebec.com.



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Art festivals and studio tours get underway

Tour des Arts, Circuit des Arts and Festiv'Art return this summer

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

The summer festival season is underway in the Eastern Townships and from mid-summer through late fall there are ample opportunities to sample works by some of the region's outstanding artists and artisans.

The season starts with what is arguably the best of the season's tours, the 14th Annual Tour des Arts, from July 13 to 21. The original workshop tour — founded by artists Maya Light-

body, Liz Davidson and Stanley Lake — has played a major role in establishing the artistic sector as an economic force in the local economy. Its recipe has been simple and consistent: keep the circuit small (up to a maximum of 40 participating workshops per season), with the focus on the artists' working in their own studio environment.

The 39 participating artists, representing both fine and decorative arts, are concentrated around the geographic triangle delimited by Lac Brome, Mansonville and Sutton. Those turned off by gallery exhibitions may feel more at ease on the Tour, where visitors meet the artist in his or her natural work environment. The result can be a pleasant and authentic experience for both visitor and artist.

Tour organizers have shown great savvy in expanding the art circuit beyond fine arts and crafts by partnering with local writers and performance

artists. A host of complementary evening activities help curtail "workshop burnout."

SEE FESTIVALS, PAGE 8



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

The summer festival season is upon us, and returning this year is the seventh edition of Frelighsburg's Festiv'Art. During the three-day event, 130 artists will display more than 3,000 works.

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FESTIVALS:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 7

It will include the avant-garde puppet theatre of Almut Ellinghaus and Felix Mirbt, readings by local writers and poets and improvisational jazz by the DAS trio to name a few.

Tour organizers have not forgotten children either. The

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In addition to Festiv'Art, the Townships will be host to several other popular summer art festivals, including the 14th edition of the Tour des Art, Memphrémagog's Circuit des Arts and Tournée des 20.

"Tour des enfants" consists of a series of workshops designed for children of various age groups. Art, dance, storytelling, percussion and mask-making workshops (some in French, some in English) are available during the 10-day tour. A nominal fee is charged, and in some cases a reservation is required.

The Tour's comprehensive brochure lists times, dates, locations and information numbers for all events, a clear map for locating artists' workshops as well as a list of lodgings and restaurants.

Also returning this summer is Memphrémagog's Circuit des Arts, which runs from July 20 to 28. Now in its ninth year, the Circuit includes 54 participating artists from the area including Mansonville, South Stukely, Magog and Hatley.

Like its Western counterpart, the Circuit features a broad variety of fine arts and crafts, including paintings (oil, watercolour, acrylic and mixed-media), furniture making, floral arrangement, photography, stained glass. Visitors who are pressed for time may want to check out the group exhibition at the Centre communautaire Azur, located at 81 Desjardins St. in Magog.

The brochure for the Circuit des Arts contains a comprehensive map for locating each exhibitor.

For those who like to crunch their artistic cruising into a one or two days, Frelighsburg will host the seventh edition of Festiv'Art from Aug. 31 to Sept. 2. During this three-day outdoor event, more than 3,000 works by 125 Quebec artists will line the streets of this picturesque town.

The downside of hosting an outdoor event is that it is vulnerable to weather. Despite that, however, last year's festival drew an astonishing 20,000 visitors during its two-day run.

Frelighsburg's rolling streets, bustling with throngs of tourists is a far-cry from the Tour des Arts' intimate workshop setting; however, for those who are so inclined, it provides the opportunity to peruse the works of a wide variety of artists, many of whom come from outside of the region.

Frelighsburg will also host an exhibition by Pierre Gauvreau and Janine Carreau entitled "cadavers exquis" (exquisite corpse), from Aug. 1 to Sept. 15. Gavreau, discovered by Paul-Émile Borduas in 1941, will celebrate his 60 years as an artist with an exhibition of a selection from 40 works he and Carreau created for the festival.

The summer season closes comes to a close with the 2002 edition of the Tournée des 20, during which 20 of the greater Bedford area artists and artisans open their workshops on four consecutive weekends: Sept. 21 and 22; Sept. 28 and 29; Oct. 5 and 6; Oct. 12 to 14, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The tour criss-crosses some of western Brome-Missisquoi's most scenic villages, including Mystic, Bedford, Stanbridge East, Dunham, Frelighsburg, Pigeon Hill and St-Armand.

SEE ART, PAGE 9

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CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Mystic artist Sylvie Bouchard, creator of elegant painted silk kimonos, is one of 20 artists and artisans who will be featured in the 2002 Tournée des 20.

Tournée des 20 focuses on region's craftmakers

ART:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 8

The Tournée has historically focused on crafts, reflecting the local population of artisans who produce decorative items like pottery, furniture, stained glass, ceramics and paintings on silks.

The Tournée's colour brochure contains one unique and useful feature: a colour photo of a selected work from each of the 20 artists, a tool that helps those with limited time to better assess workshops of interest.

The brochure also contains a clear map showing the location of all workshops as well as listing of local vineyards, museums and restaurants.

For first time visitors to the Eastern Townships' art festival circuits, it is important to note that with the exception of Festiv'Art, travel time between workshops may be significant, so come prepared to enjoy the scenic drives with an ample supply of snacks to fill the travel time.

ART TOURS AT A GLANCE

14th Annual Tour des Arts Studio Tours
When: July 13 to 21 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Web site: www.acbm.qc.ca/tour-des-arts.

Size: 39 artists' workshops plus assorted evening events.

Geographic focus: Knowlton, Sutton, Mansonville, Bolton.

Brochures and maps are available at local tourist offices, from participating artists. For more information, contact Brome-Missisquoi Information 1-888-811-4926; Sutton Tourist Bureau at 1-800-565-8455; or a tour representative at 1-450-538-0605.

Ninth edition of the Circuit des Arts

When: July 20 to 28 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Web site: www.circuitdesarts.com,

Size: 54 artists

Focus: More than 50 workshops throughout the Memphremagog area.

Brochures available at local tourist offices or participating artists. For more information, call 819-847-3698, or e-mail info@circuitdesarts.com.

Seventh edition of Festiv'Art

When: Aug. 31 to Sept. 2

Web site: www.village.frelighsburg.qc.ca.

Focus: More than 3,000 works by 125 Quebec artists. For more information, call 450-298-5630.

2002 Edition of the La Tournée des 20.

When: Sept. 21 to 22; Sept. 28 to 29; Oct. 5 to 6; Oct. 12 to 14, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Web site: www.art-t20.qc.ca

Geographic focus: Philipsburg, St-Ar-

mand, Bedford area.

For more information, call 450-298-5630,

450-295-2621 or Brome-Missisquoi Information at 1-888-811-4926.

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Exploring the paths of Potton Township

By Murielle Parkes
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
POTTON

From the meandering Missisquoi River to surrounding mountains and valleys, Potton Township has plenty of scenic reasons to attract tourists.

But now, thanks to the Ruitter Valley Land Trust, the small municipality also has one of the most extensive wilderness trail networks in the Townships. That is in addition to guided excursions, exhibits and other activities already organized by the Potton Heritage Association.



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"People come here because they look for tranquility and for the difference from other tourist places," remarked Gérard Leduc, president of the heritage group.

RIVER VALLEY LAND TRUST

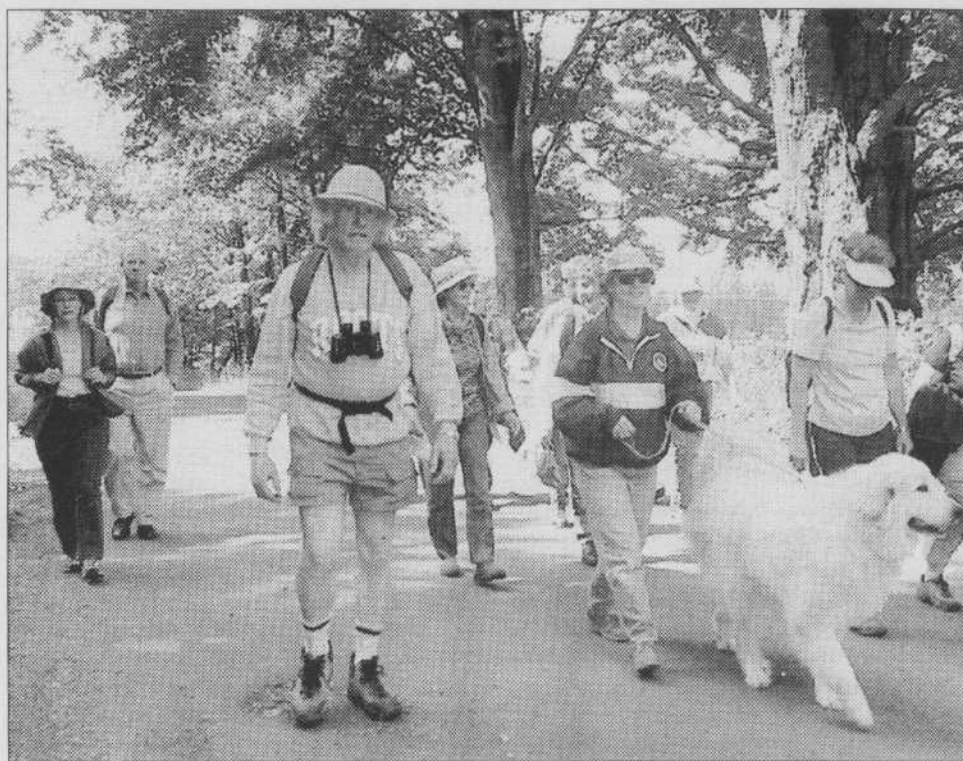
Stansje Shepherd, a founding member of the RVLTL, also regards the landscape as exceptional. She believes that part of the work of the trust has been to get "this extraordinary area we live in acknowledged as having ecological significance worth protecting."

Founded in 1987 to promote environmental values and protect the Sutton Mountain Chain, the RVLTL has made significant strides, not the least of which is its work on a vast trans-border conservation project, which extends from Quebec's Sutton Mountains to Vermont's Green Mountains.

FIELD TRIPS

As part of its mission, the RVLTL regularly participates in events which foster environmental education and promote conservation. Recent excursions have included, "Discovering Salamanders" and "Bird Observation on the Sutton Mountains."

Two other outings are scheduled for Sunday, July 7, entitled "Medicinal Plants: Well-hidden Treasures of our Mountains." The excursion is sponsored by the Mount Pinnacle Land Trust. Herbalist Anny Schneider, will help par-



MURIELLE PARKES/CORRESPONDENT

One of the many walks offered in the Potton Townships area is the "Let's Walk Potton" group walk, where guide Carl Bishop takes participants on a 10-km round trip.

Participants forage for medicinal plants such as Wild Ginger, Water Avens and Indian Tobacco. Schneider will then describe the procedures involved in making tisanes, decoctions and tinctures.

Departure from the Mount Pinnacle trail entrance in Frelighsburg is 10 a.m.

For more information, call 450-375-0970

Also scheduled for July 7 is a guided walk in the Domtar woods with Louise Gratton, a scientific advisor. The walk is orga-

nized by Les Sentiers de l'Estrie. On the tour, Gratton will tell participants about the exceptional character of this site, its fragility, and the specific efforts needed to protect it. For more information, call 450-297-0654.

TRAIL NETWORK

Probably, the land trust's most notable legacy to the community, however, has been the development of a 28-km marked trail through one of the last wilderness areas in southern Quebec.

Open year round, it also includes two nature interpretation trails. To access it, take West Hill Road from Route 243 to the entrance at Fullerton Pond Road.

SEE POTTON, PAGE 11

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Heritage group hosts summer activities

POTTON:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 11

The Ruiter Brook Road entrance is three kilometres from Dunkin (one kilometre north from West Hill Road). Maps are available at the Reilly House Tourist Bureau, 302 Principale, Mansonville.

POTTON HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

Founded in 1990, the Potton Heritage Association promotes the heritage of Potton Township, its buildings, history, natural and archaeological sites. Its main activities include excursions to heritage sites, exhibitions and publications. It also pursues archaeological research in selected Potton sites.

This summer's program includes an exhibition and dinner-lecture as well as a full roster of excursions and weekly walks on backwood roads.

'UNCLE JOHN' EXHIBIT

"The Heritage of Uncle John," a whimsical exhibit by painter-artist Madeleine Audette, runs through until July 7 at the Reilly House, Mansonville.

The life of Audette's (great) Uncle John is followed through a collection of the family's restored antiques, displayed alone or within a painting. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 450-292-3109.

LECTURE

On Friday, June 21, Dr. Gérard Leduc presents a slide show and lecture on "The Vikings in America". Leduc will provide a new perspective on these famous seafarers in America, including those who came to the Eastern Townships. The lecture begins at 7 p.m. For more information, call 450-292-3522.

EXCURSIONS

All excursions are free to members of the Potton Heritage Association (except where marked). There is a small charge for non-members. Unless otherwise indicated, departures are from Baptist Church parking lot (Route #243 and West Hill Road) at 10 a.m.

- Saturday, June 22: Nine Holes – a mountain hike into an exceptional ("almost-magical") environment. The first part in the woods is easy, the second part is moderately difficult.

- Saturday, July 6: Excursion from Little River State Park, Waterbury, Vt – walk on a road in the woods and come across abandoned homesteads of the 19th century including stone walls, old house foundations and forgotten cemeteries. An easy walk. Park admission, \$5 US. Departure at 9:30 a.m.

- Saturday, Sept 7: Capelton Mine Excursion (\$7.95).

- Saturday, Oct. 5: Owl's Head Excursion – meet at Owl's Head parking lot.

- September: Excursion to the top of

Mount Pevee, to be announced.

For more information, call Gérard Leduc, 450-292-3522.

'LET'S WALK POTTON'

Learn about nature, heritage and archaeological sites while walking up to 10km return to interesting places in the Township.

Carol Bishop is your guide. Walking shoes and hat, plus a small back pack for drinks and lunch are recommended. Reservations suggested.

SEE WALKING, PAGE 13



MURIELLE PARKES/CORRESPONDENT
A hiker stops at marker on RVLIT's nature interpretation trail.

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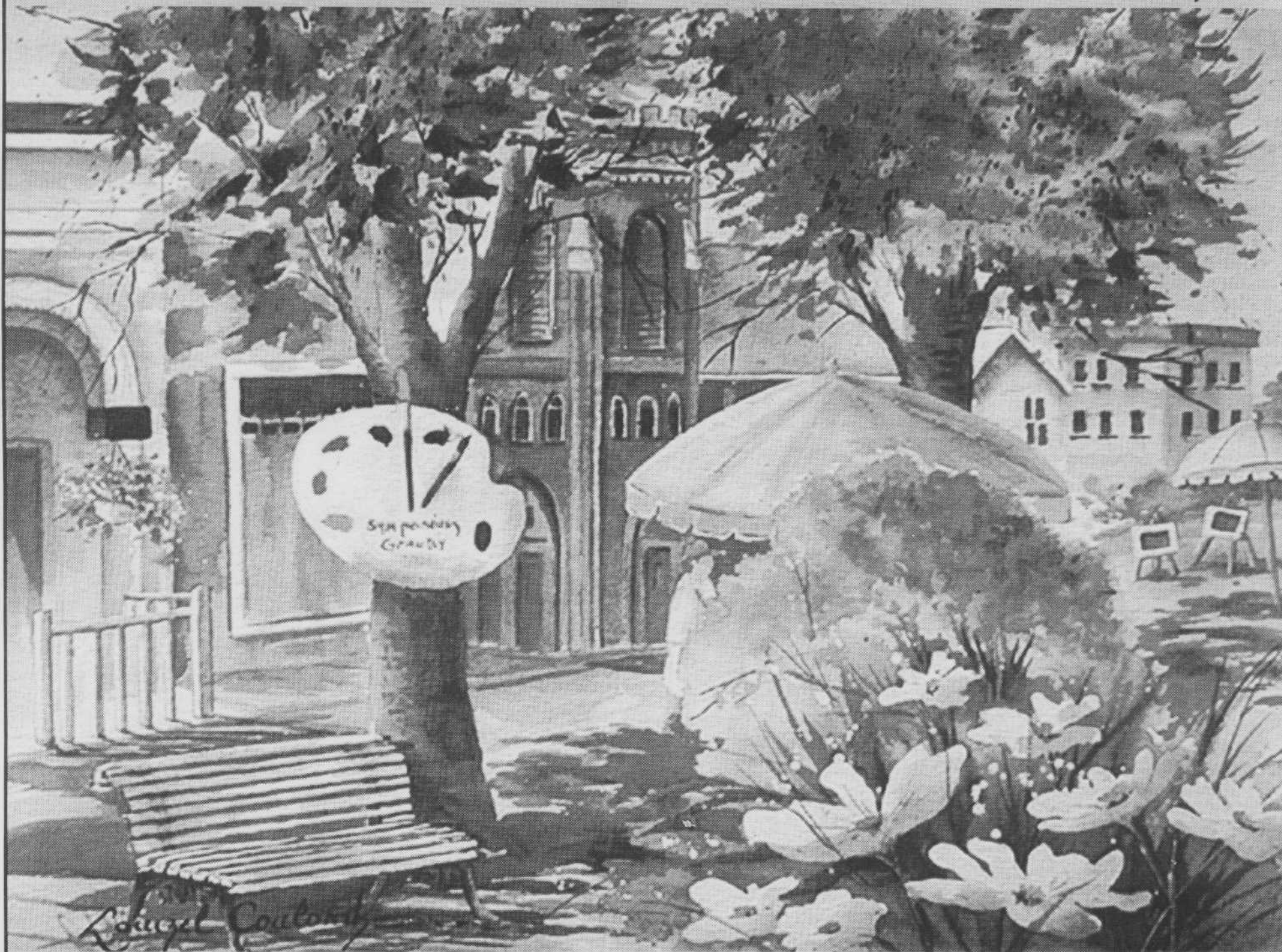
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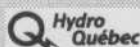
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September and October walks to be added

WALKING:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 11

'Discover a unique religious treasure at the Ukrainian chapel in Vale Perkins'

Small charge for non-members 16 years and older. Meet at Reilly House, 9:30 a.m. Walks start at 10 a.m., and are canceled if raining.

- Thursday, June 27: Chemin Peabody Walk on the road by the woods coming out on a vast open space. See beautiful pastures, the old railway bed and the Missisquoi River. An easy walk. Begins at Sugar Loaf Pond Road and Peabody.

- Saturday, July 13: Chemin des Ostryers up to the Enchanted Forest at the base of Mount Pevee. Begins at Chemin des Ostryers and Sugar Loaf Pond Road.

- Thursday, July 18: Ukrainian chapel in Vale Perkins. Discover a unique religious treasure and the magnificent Bodnar flower garden. Lunch with music. Begins at Chemin des Faucons-Pèlerins and Chemin du Lac. Easy

- Saturday, July 27: Owl's Head Road. Scenic tour and Owl's Head Cemetery. Begins at Chemin Owl's Head and Laliberté. Easy.

- Thursday, Aug. 1: Covered bridge scenic tour of Province Hill Cemetery and covered bridge. Begins at Leadville and Province Hill roads. Easy

- Saturday, Aug. 17: Girl's Camp Road. Scenic tour of Lake Memphremagog and the Vale Perkins Wharf. Begins at entrance to the Golf Course on Owl's Head Road. Easy



MURIELLE PARKES/CORRESPONDENT

"Let's Walk Potton" walkers listen to heritage stories. The Potton Heritage Association also hosts other walks including a covered bridge scenic tour and walks along Lake Memphremagog.

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Theatre Lac Brome returns for 17th season; Piggery welcomes new director

By Diahann Nadeau
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Shakespeare, Shaw, musical, mystery, comedy, satire – professional theatre in the Townships has it all this summer as Theatre Lac Brome and the Piggery prepare for the 2002 season.

As opposed to past years, both theatre companies in Knowlton and North Hatley are offering a repertory season, which is an ideal format for the tourist – once the season is well underway it is easy to see several different plays in one week.

Nicholas Pynes brings repertory back for its fourth summer at Theatre Lac Brome in Knowlton – now in its 17th season. Attendance has improved every summer since choosing this format, which requires more effort on the part of the artistic director, but includes a great payoff for the audience as they can see more productions in a shorter time.

The season opens on June 22 with a party and the premiere of *Old King Cole*, written by Ken Campbell and directed by Susan Cox. Described

by Pynes as a 'madcap comedy' the play tells the tale of King and Queen Cole attempting to marry off a recalcitrant Princess Daphne, resulting in an open contest for the princess's hand.

The play is suitable to audiences of all ages (children should enjoy it, but keep in mind it is a two-act play, approximately two hours long including intermission). Pynes points out, however, that it is not a children's play, but it is very accessible to all ages. There is a lot of audience participation,



RECORD FILE PHOTO

Hank Williams: *The Show He Never Gave*, returns to Knowlton this summer, starring Ralph Steiner.

which is always more interesting and entertaining when kids are involved.

The second offering – last year's sold-out success, *Hank Williams, The Show He Never Gave* – opens June 28. Written by Canadian Maynard Collins, it stars Knowlton actor Ralph Steiner and features a three-piece band with Pynes, Marc Desormeaux and Trish Barclay, who is an amazing fiddle player.

It is an evening of incredible country music, mixed with the painful narrative of William's life. Sorrow seemed to be William's middle name.

SEE THEATRE, PAGE 15



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MUSIC - NEW & USED - JAZZ - FUNK - R&B - POP/ROCK - DOWNTempo - WORLD - LATIN

Piggery introduces repertory season structure



RECORD FILE PHOTO

For the 2002 summer season, the Piggery will introduce a repertory format.

THEATRE:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 14

George Bernard Shaw's *The Village Wooing* opens on July 13. Directed by Greg Tuck, the play is "an erudite interplay between a man and a woman, the inherent conflicts and resolutions that occur," according to Pynes. Set on an ocean liner, the play offers Shaw's usual wit and wisdom.

Premiering July 20 is *Evelyn Strange*, a mystery about a woman who has amnesia. Who is Evelyn Strange and what, if anything, has she done? Set as a radio drama, featuring an introduction a la Alfred Hitchcock, *Evelyn Strange* takes place in 1955 and is a tribute to film noir by Canadian playwright Stewart Lemoine.

The season is rounded out by the annual appearance of *Bowser and Blue*, for four days over the Labour Day weekend. A yearly sell-out, anxious fans should reserve early for this show.

Meanwhile, *The Piggery* in North Hatley has also introduced repertory to the season, which, under new artistic director Douglas Campbell (yes, *The Stratford, Ontario Douglas Campbell*), promises to be one of the more interesting seasons in recent years.

The summer starts with the venerable musical, *The Fantasticks* by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt. Premiering June 28, *The*

Fantasticks is a romance about fathers and their adult kids in love — against the dads' wishes. Directed by Campbell, this promises to be a wonderful evening of theatre.

Opening night also includes a silent auction, a reception with the cast, and a 'variety of entertainments.'

Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* follows on July 11, directed by associate artistic director Moira Wylie. On July 19, *Slawomir Mrozek's Tango* opens, directed by Douglas Campbell. It is a satire about Poland under the Russians — a society open to satire if ever there was one! The play was first produced in New York in 1969.

Like Theatre Lac Brome, the Piggery offers a special treat at the end of the summer — the Labour Day return of *Walt Wingfield* in *Wingfield on Ice*, by Dan Needles. The production will star the unbelievable Rod Beattie as Walt, his wife, his brother-in-law and everyone else in the play.

Also new this year is a French production of *Cher menteur* (*Dear Liar* by Jerome Kilty), which stars Albert Millaire and runs from Sept. 6 to 15.

For more information of the Theatre Lac Brome season, call the box office at 450-242-2270. For more information of the Piggery's season, call 819-842-2432.



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Frank Leahy

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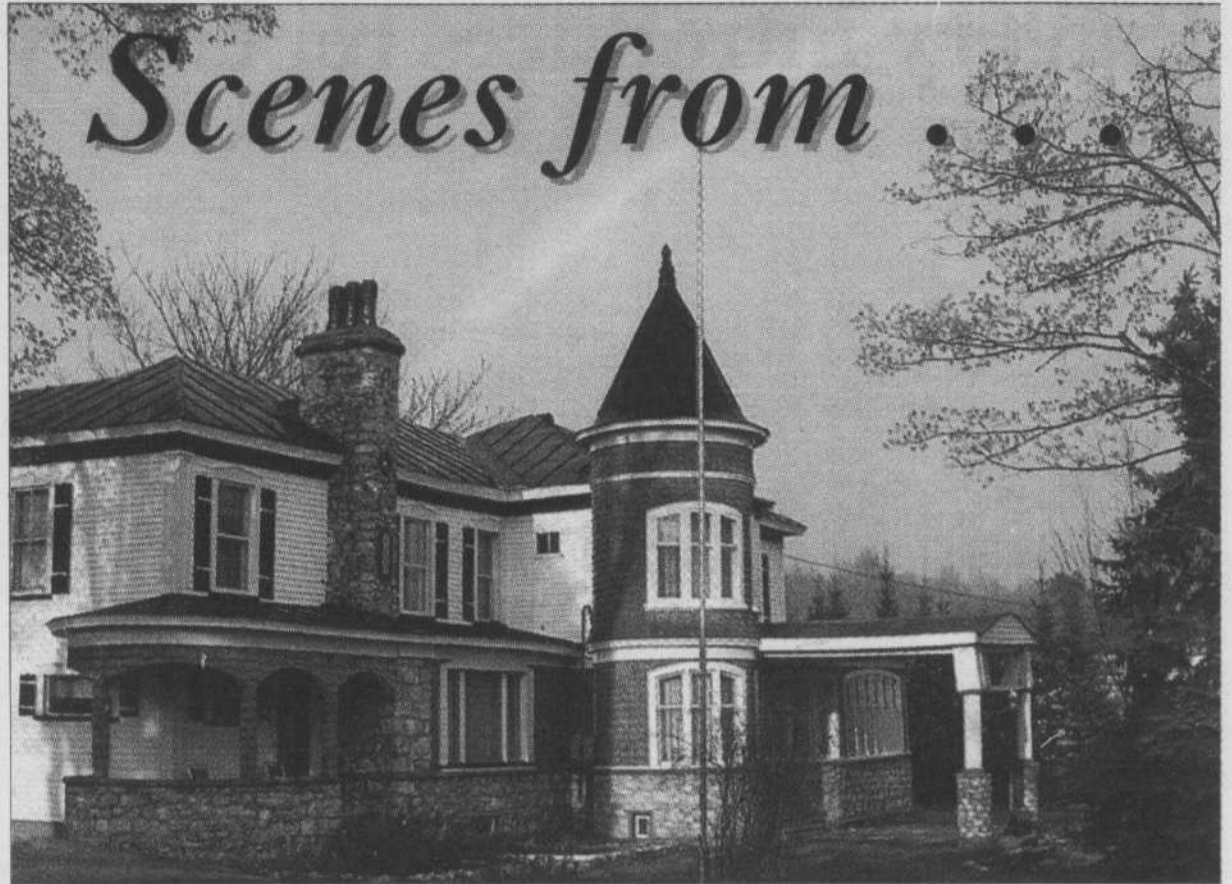
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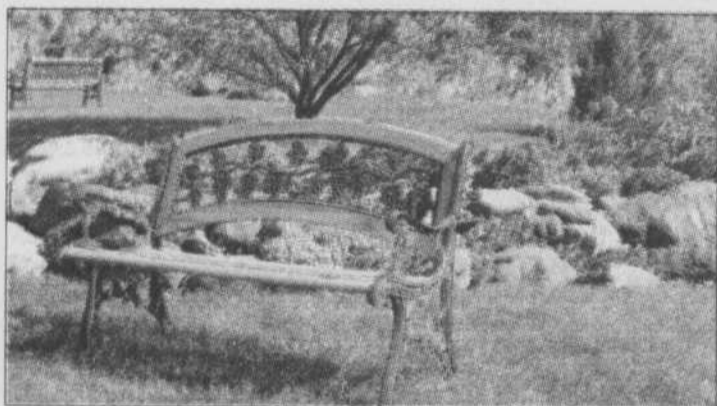
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- E-mail: tourismecoaticook@qc.aira.com

The Moulins Trail offers a 3.6-km hike which starts at the fish farm and ends at the peak of Pinnacle Mountain. The trail gives access to Baldwin Mills, and turns along the Niger River. At the mountain's summit, you'll admire magnificent scenery including a view of the Appalachian mountain chain. Leashed dogs are permitted on the trails.

PARC DE LA GORGE DE COATICOOK

- 135, rue Michaud / 400, rue Saint-Marc, Coaticook
- Tel: (819) 849-2331; 1-888-LAGORGE
- Web site: www.gorgedecoaticook.qc.ca
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The 10 km of groomed and wooded trails in plain sight of the Coaticook River gorge invite you to cross the longest suspension bridge in the world, walk a path along the cliff or take advantage of the tranquility of these charming and endlessly fascinating trails. An outing here will reveal intriguing bits of history and amazing natural phenomena. Leashed dogs are permitted on the trails.

Other activities on site: mountain biking, horse-back riding, campground.

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- Tel: (819) 844-0169 / (819) 849-6669
- The Mount Hereford region, renowned for the beauty of its countryside, offers many kilometres of walking trails. One of its groomed trails runs along the Hall River, which defines the Canadian-American border. Different difficulty levels guide you to the summit of the ridges, where a spectacular view awaits you. More than a million balsam fir trees and an unbeatable view of American mountains and valleys will make you marvel. Six kilometres of exclusive hiking trails will allow you to climb to the summit of Mount Hereford, and admire the superb Donat waterfall. Leashed dogs are permitted on the trails, except during hunting season.

PARC DU MONT-MÉGANTIC

- 189, route du Parc, Notre-Dame-des-Bois
- Tel: (819) 888-2941; 1-866-888-2941
- Web site: www.sepaq.com/montmegantic
- E-mail: parc.mont-megantic@sepaq.com

Nestled in a crook of the Appalachians, a stone's throw from the New Hampshire border, Mount Megantic Park is unbeatable for fans of short and long hiking expeditions: 50 km of trails with differing difficulty levels wind around this imposing, yet alluring, massif. These patrolled trails offer superb views on each of their three summits: Saint-Joseph (and its chapel), Victoria and Megantic. Linked to the international border mountain corridor, this sub-alpine (high-altitude) area has some fascinating features (120 species of birds, rare animal species, three distinct forest stands, etc.). A protected area with ecological and astronomical interpretation activities, lodging in shelters or prospectors' tents, rustic camping, welcome and restaurant services — we're offering you the Earth and the stars! Dogs are not allowed on the trails.

able for fans of short and long hiking expeditions: 50 km of trails with differing difficulty levels wind around this imposing, yet alluring, massif. These patrolled trails offer superb views on each of their three summits: Saint-Joseph (and its chapel), Victoria and Megantic. Linked to the international border mountain corridor, this sub-alpine (high-altitude) area has some fascinating features (120 species of birds, rare animal species, three distinct forest stands, etc.). A protected area with ecological and astronomical interpretation activities, lodging in shelters or prospectors' tents, rustic camping, welcome and restaurant services — we're offering you the Earth and the stars! Dogs are not allowed on the trails.

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- Notre-Dame-des-Bois
- Tel: (819) 549-2037; 1-800-363-5515
- Web site: www.sentiersfrontaliers.qc.ca
- E-mail: sent.front@globetrotter.net

This 96-km walking corridor allows access to Mounts Saddle, Marbre and Gosford along the border. Gosford, at 1189 metres elevation, is the highest summit in the Townships. A well-groomed trail gives easy access, and an observation tower (360 degrees) allows visitors to admire the scenery, while a relief map helps identify what you're viewing. Dogs are permitted on the trails.

PARC DU MONT-ORFORD

- Orford
- Tel: (819) 843-9855; 1-877-843-9855
- Web site: www.sepaq.com
- E-mail: parc.mont-orford@sepaq.com

With 80 km of hiking trails, Mount Orford Park invites you to discover the Townships' loveliest countryside. Even during a simple stroll in the woods to cross the park on the Crêtes trail (part of the Sentiers de l'Estrie), this network of groomed trails ensures to all sorts of hikers some unforgettable moments. An access fee is applicable in the Stukely and Fraser sector. Dogs are not allowed on the trails.

PARC DE LA YAMASKA

- 1780, boul. David-Bouchard, Roxton
- Tel: (450) 776-7182 / (450) 777-5557
- Web site: www.sepaq.com
- E-mail: parc.yamaska@sepaq.com

Yamaska Park invites hikers to travel its 30 km of groomed trails at the foot of the Appalachians. The park's slopes are gentle, but the proximity to the Appalachian chain results in some remarkable countryside. The park hosts riverside plants, cultivated fields, orchards, maples, and softwoods — some that are impressive in size. There are also many species of mammals, fish and birds. Dogs are not allowed on the trails.



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COURTESY SAFARI AVENTURE LOOWAK

One place that has really taken adventure to the next level is Safari Adventure Loowak, located near Waterloo. Owner Serge Forest has devised 45 different games in his 15 years of operation, ranging from tame outings to intense missions.

Adventure schools across Townships gets adrenaline pumping

By Jake Brennan
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

For many, simply looking at the renowned beauty of the Eastern Townships region is not enough. They want to be out in it – strolling, biking, or boating through it, taking its fresh air right down to the bottom of their lungs. Not to do

so, they would say, is to miss an opportunity to fully commune with the nature we are all part of.

Thankfully, there are many options for the adventuresome to get their summer fix in the region, whether it's aerobic sports or more organized group challenges.

One place that has really taken adventure to the next level is Safari Adventure Loowak, located near Waterloo. Owner Serge Forest has devised 45 different games in his 15 years of operation, ranging from tame outings to much more involved and intense missions.

SEE EXCURSIONS, PAGE 20



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'It's like Indiana Jones for families'

EXCURSIONS:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 19

For families or groups of at least four, treasure hunts involving the deciphering of scripts on totem poles and pyramids lead participants to jewels or other valuable artifacts. Archaeological and navigational sleuthing with maps, compasses and walkie-talkies are also part of the very popular mock search and rescue missions of one of the three downed planes on the forested premises.

"It's like Indiana Jones for families," said Forest, adding that rates are a very reasonable at \$10 to \$19 per person for a mission that takes about one-and-a-half hours.

Forest said Safari Loowak receives families as well as school groups to its muse-

um of insects and geology, which includes diverse specimens from the various countries he has been to around the world. But of the many schools that venture to the site, few are from the Townships because, as Forest explained, "when they rent the bus, they want to travel."

The company was actually started with children in mind, admitted Forest. He would send them out in search of the butterflies and rock formations they see in the museum's display.

But rather than spontaneously devising this idea himself, Forest says it was his bank manager who provided the motivational push he needed.

"I was so afraid about my loans that I needed an idea," he said. "When it's too easy, you don't create anything, but when it's tough you have to try new things."

SEE ADVENTURE, PAGE 22



COURTESY SAFARI AVENTURE LOOWAK

Archaeological and navigational sleuthing are also part of the very popular mock search and rescue missions for one of the three downed planes on the forested premises.



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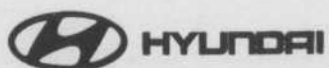
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ADVENTURE:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 20

With three or four new games added to the menu per year, Forest's operation has also become very attractive to corporate trainers.

"Corporations are interested in something different," he said, adding employees learn important leadership, communication, and teamwork skills through complex and extreme situations that have become part of our world.

Last Friday, for instance, Forest rented two helicopters, several army boats and jeeps to simulate a terrorist takeovers for a Fortune 500 company. Rather than using any violence or guns, though, all participants wear numbered helmets; if an opponent gets close enough to read your number and calls it out, you're dead.

Forest had to hire 35 extras beyond his 15 full-time employees to make up the necessary number of terrorists for the large two-hour simulation. In the end, when the terrorist headquarters is 'blown up' with fireworks, appropriate music such as Queen's 'We are the Champions' is blared across the compound to give participants that victorious Hollywood sensation.

"It's like you're in a war movie for two-and-a-half hours, and when you get back, you're always alive," said Forest. "You're in the middle of the action. You're a star."

To be a star with your family, friends or coworkers any time of year, check out www.safari-loowak.qc.ca or call 450-539-0501.

Another company that organizes missions of various types is Adrenaline Adventure School. Based in Magog, Adrenaline custom designs car or boat rallies for corporate marketing departments, or leads adventure expeditions to emphasize teamwork within the client company.

Without its own grounds, all situations take place on nearby scenic sites such as Orford or Bromont, said agent Natalie Hallé. For more information, visit www.adrenaline-adventure.com, or call 1-888-475-3462.

For those looking for a less psychologically intense experience in the out of doors, Station O'Kataventures specializes in water excursions.

A two to three hour kayak trip down the Missisquoi River is only \$25 per person. Water-skiing

'It's like you're in a war movie for two-and-a-half hours, and when you get back, you're always alive. You're in the middle of the action'

SERGE FOREST, OWNER OF SAFARI AVENTURE LOOWAK

and speedboat tours are also available, as are bike excursions, and various outings by moonlight. For more information, call 450-297-3058.

Mont Glen in Knowlton is not just for downhill skiing anymore. Summer activities began three years ago, and include hiking and mountain biking on maintained trails (30 km of each type), at a reasonable cost of \$5 per person or \$10 per vehicle. Trails are open during daylight hours, but visitors should check in at the office between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The 1,600-acre park includes two peaks aside from Glen: Foster, surmounted by a lookout tower, and Gauvin, which affords beautiful views of the heart-shaped Lake Brome below. Visitors will have to earn those views by their own strength, as the lifts do not run in summer.

Camping is \$25 per site per night, but they also cater to larger groups, preparing meals in the ski chalet from a large menu.

Like Safari Loowak, special events for groups are Mont Glen's bread and butter for the summer. They recently hosted a 24-hour team bike challenge, and a Jeep jamboree — where owners learn off-road driving skills — is another of the many events slated for this season. Check out www.glen.qc.ca, or call 450-243-6142.






Finally, Au Diable Vert Mountain Station offers a wide variety of summer activities on its 200-acre site near Glen Sutton. Whether or not you're staying in the 100-year-old chalet, you can be led on hiking, biking, fishing, hunting, and day or night kayak excursions.

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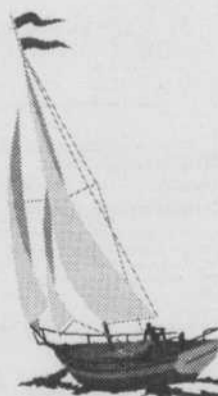
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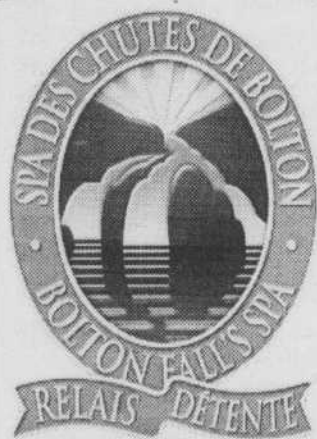
- Route 141, Ayer's Cliff
- Tel: (819) 838-4873/(819) 838-5561
- Body of water: Lac Massawippi
- Number of places available to visiting craft: 4
- Services: Electricity, drinking water, toilets. Activities: kayak, canoe, rowboat, motorboat, pedal boat, gondola.

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- 15, rue Martin, Katevale
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music by Harvey Schmidt
directed by Douglas Campbell
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by William Shakespeare
directed by Moira Wylie
July 11 - August 25, 2002

Tango
by Slawomir Mrozek
directed by Douglas Campbell
July 19 - August 24, 2002

Plus:

Wingfield on Ice
by Dan Needles
directed by Douglas Beattie
featuring Rod Beattie
August 29 -
September 1, 2002

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du 5 au 15 septembre 2002

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Hovey Manor, a country house hotel, is located on the shores of Lake Massawippi just outside the village of North Hatley. The turn-of-the-century estate with a large verandah, white pillars and tastefully appointed Colonial-style rooms has been photographed and written about in newspapers and magazines worldwide. It is open seven days a week for lunch and dinner. Reservations are required. Call 819-842-2421 or 1-800-661-2421. Also, visit Hovey Manor's Web site at www.hoveymanor.com.



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Teeing off isn't a problem in the Townships

Recently opened Prince de Galles is just one of many courses

Arash Madani

Despite being less than a year old, the Prince de Galles Golf and Tennis Club is a just one of many ex-

amples of the sporting and recreational availabilities throughout the Eastern Townships.

It was last fall, Sept. 21, 2001 to be exact, that a two-year construction project along Sherbrooke's northern limits finally concluded. When all was said and done, a picturesque 18-hole golf course was unveiled, as was a pair of

tennis courts, a practice green, driving range, golf academy and club house.

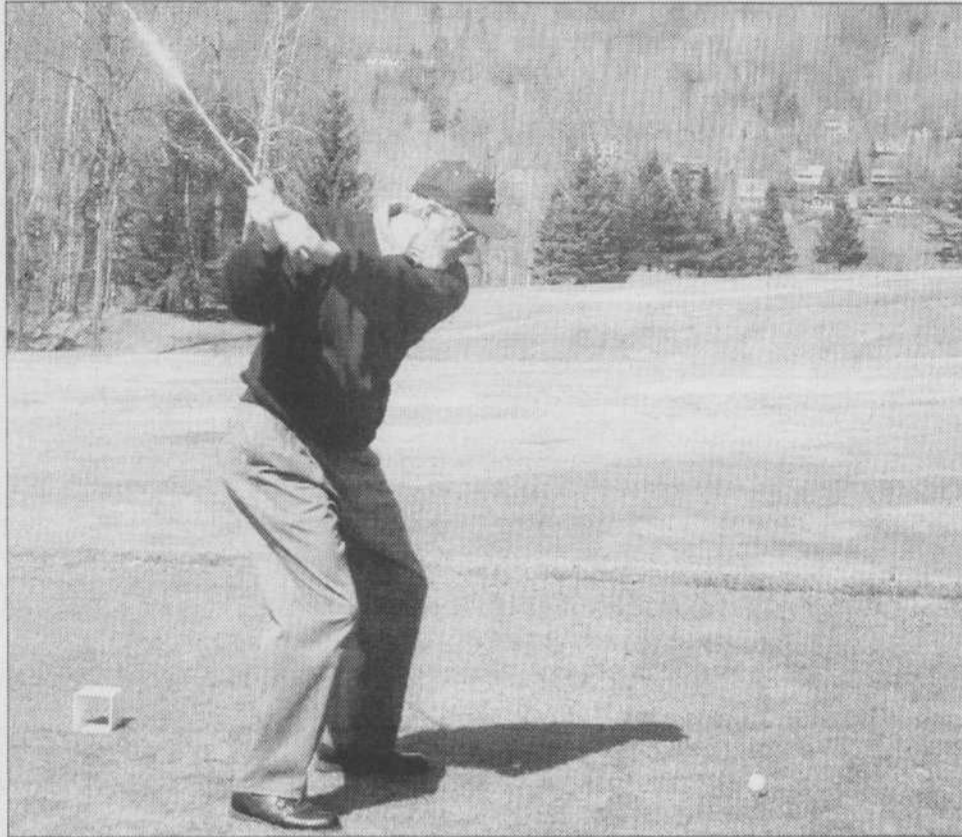
The Prince de Galles is one of the more than 30 golf courses nestled throughout the Townships. From the border side of Stanstead, through to the heart of Lac Brome and all over the megacity of Sherbrooke, opportunities to hit the links exists all over the Estrie region.

What makes the Prince de Galles club so inviting, however, is its par 68, 4,300-yard course. Five lakes surrounding it, also gives Prince de Galles beauty and difficulty. Greens are designed to

favour the use of 'bent grass', which offers a putting surface of high quality. The especially controlled mixture and, thanks to an adequate percolation and proper irrigation system installed, any golfer will be pleased.

Like most of the clubs in the area, the Prince de Galles also has a golf pro on hand to provide personalized lessons at every level. Jacques Pilon, a 26-year veteran of the CPGA, is the head of a teaching staff that offers clinics for the beginner and the advanced player.

SEE GOLF, PAGE 26



PERRY BEATON/SPECIAL

The Prince de Galles is one of the more than 30 golf courses nestled throughout the Townships, from the border side of Stanstead, through to the heart of Lac Brome.

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Finally, the Prince de Galles offers a double-deck driving range, complete with 49 locations, as well as two regulation clay tennis courts.

The following is a list of other public courses throughout the area.

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18 holes, \$53 (weekdays), \$58 (weekends), 450-534-4653

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OWL'S HEAD
18 holes, \$30.43 (weekdays), \$39.12 (weekends), 1-514-878-1453.

MONT ORFORD
18 holes, \$27 (weekdays), \$35 (weekends), 1-800-567-2722.

LES ROCHERS BLEUS
18 holes, \$24.35 (weekdays), \$32.60 (weekends), 450-538-2324.

LES CEDRES
18 holes, \$19 (weekdays), \$22.25 (weekends), 450-372-0167.

INVERNESS
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(weekends), 1-800-468-1595.
GRANBY ST-PAUL

45 holes, \$24 (weekdays), \$35 (weekends), 1-450-378-9848.

ASBESTOS
18 holes, \$25 (weekdays), \$30 (weekends), 1-888-377-5266.

VENISE
36 holes, \$24 (weekdays), \$32 (weekends), 819-864-9891.

SHERBROOKE
18 holes, \$30 (weekdays), \$35 (weekends), 819-563-4987.

WATERLOO
36 holes, \$28 (weekdays), \$34 (weekends), 450-539-1055.

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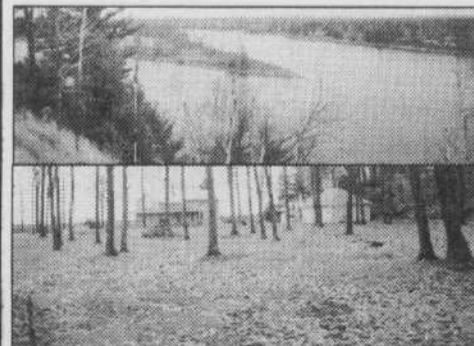
Lac Memphrémagog, condo 2 c.c., aires ouvertes, foyer, meublé, directement bord de l'eau, vue sur les montagnes, quai disponible.



North Hatley. Bungalow chaleureux, 4 c.c., grande sfm, terrain privé + de 25,000 p.c. avec ruisseau, arbres matures. Site enchanteur.



Lac Magog. Magnifique condo, 2 c.c., décoration soignée, piscine creusée, chauffée, quai disponible.



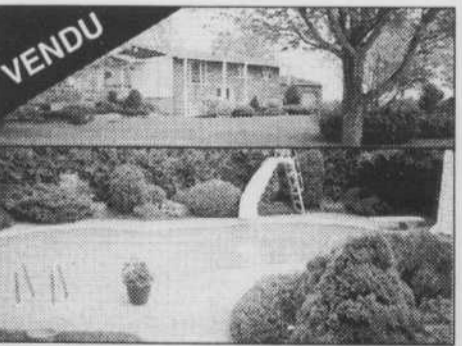
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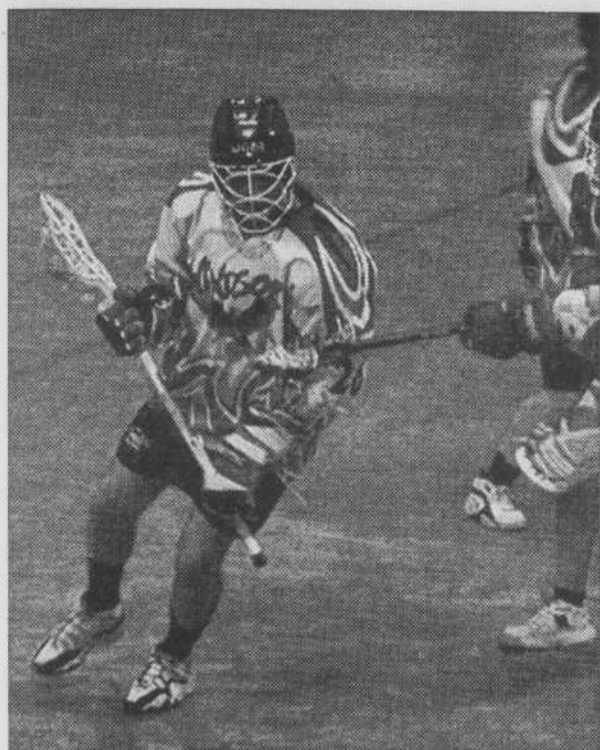


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Looking to catch some local sports action in June?



RECORD FILES

The Windsor Eagles are in lacrosse action all summer.

Plenty of activities on tap for enthusiasts looking to catch sporting events

June 1: Quebec senior men's lacrosse league: Montreal vs Windsor Eagles, Lemay arena in Windsor, 7:30 p.m.

June 6 to 9: Concours complets de Bromont, Bromont, Tel.: (450) 534-3255, Website: www.internationalbromont.org: Equestrian contests for dressage, obstacle jumping, and cross-country at the Olympic equestrian site.

June 9: Quebec senior men's lacrosse league: Windsor Eagles vs Shawinigan, 7 p.m.

June 13: CFL pre-season, Montreal Alouettes vs Hamilton Tiger Cats from Ivor Wyne Stadium, 7 p.m.

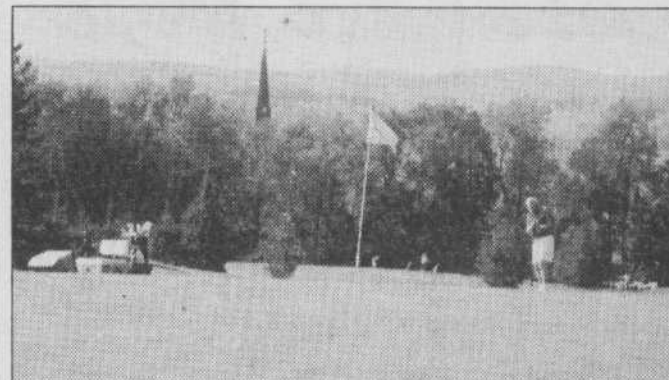
June 14: Défi-vision, Granby, Tel.: (450) 379-9318, Website: www.autodrome-granby.qc.ca: A unique car race where sight-impaired drivers have celebrity co-pilots. Rain date: June 16.

June 16: Quebec senior men's lacrosse league: Windsor Eagles vs Longueuil Bulldogs, 2 p.m.



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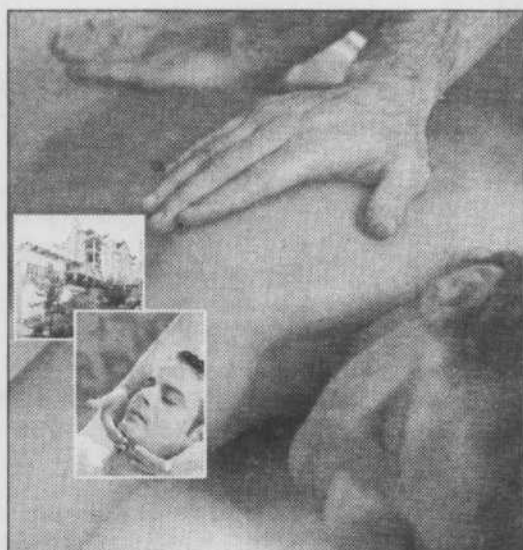
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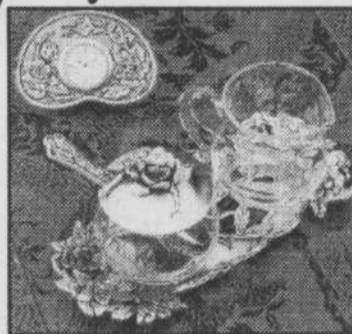
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Melissa Brown took first place at the Bromont Invitational World Cup Equestrian Qualifier in 2001.

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June 19 to 23: International Bromont, Bromont, Tel.: (450) 534-3255, Website: www.internationalbromont.org; International-calibre equestrian competitions: obstacles, World Cup heats, dog agility races, hound hunting demonstrations. Bromont Olympic site.

About the site

Staff

Bromont's Olympic site was Quebec's first permanent venue specifically built and laid out for English and classical equestrian competitions.

The site welcomed the world's top riders for the first time in 1975, inaugurating the first edition of the International Bromont. The tradition has endured, and for the past 25 years, athletes competing in Bromont have "struck gold" by having the opportunity to shine and surpass themselves on grounds designed by masters.

Throughout the years, the world's elite have graced the grounds with their presence. From the early years, one remembers Michel Vaillancourt, the first Canadian to gain a medal in the individual Grand Prix show jumping; England's Princess Anne; Hilda Guernsey; Lorraine Stubbs; and Dr. Reiner Klimke, to name but a few. In the interim, one adds the likes of Ian Millar, Rodney Jenkins, Bill Steinkrauss, Henri Prudent, Georges Morris, and Nancy Southern.



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many local events highlighting calendar



Knowlton's Lyne Bessette is hoping 2002 will be as kind to her as 2001. The local cyclist stormed through the biking scene a year ago and was no stranger to the top of the podium, such as the scene on the left from the 2001 HP Classic.

June 20: CFL pre-season, Ottawa Renegades vs Montreal Alouettes, Percival Molson Stadium on the McGill University campus in Montreal, 7:30 p.m.

June 22: Quebec senior men's lacrosse league: Montreal vs Windsor Eagles, Lemay arena in Windsor, 7:30 p.m.

June 23: Tour du Lac Brome, Lac-Brome, Tel.: (450) 242-2870, Website: www.cclacbrome.qc.ca: Running competition - 1.6, 10 and 20 km.

June 25: Season opener for the Montreal Alouettes, CFL Football. At Percival Molson Stadium the Als host the B.C. Lions at 7:30 p.m.

June 27: Quebec senior men's lacrosse league: Windsor Eagles vs Longueuil Bulldogs, 7:30 p.m.

June 28 to 30: Coupe des Amériques, Sutton, Tel.: 1-888-331-8356, Website: www.sunnymead.org/coupe: Seniors' bike race, Cycle-sport trials.

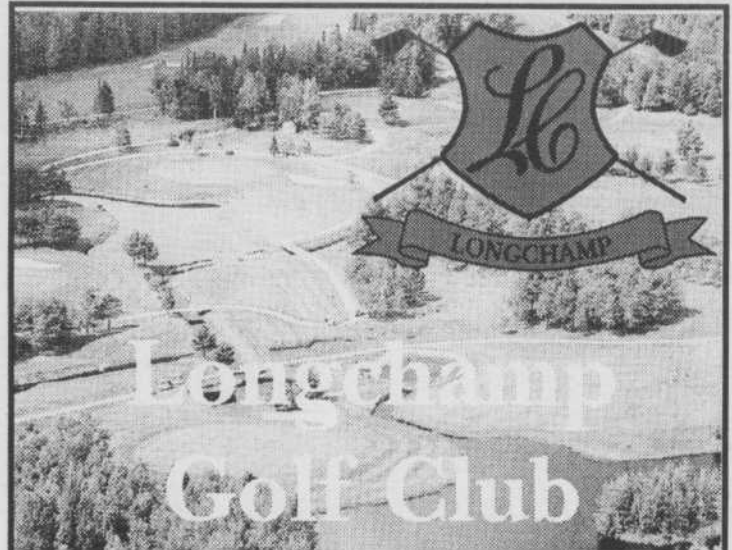
June 29: Quebec senior men's lacrosse league: Shawinigan vs Windsor Eagles, Lemay arena in Windsor, 7:30 p.m.



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RELIEFS APPALACHIENS ET GÉOGRAPHIE: DESSINE-MOI UNE MONTAGNE...

hauts sommets de cette immense chaîne de montagnes. Sur les sommets les plus élevés des mont Gosford (1 183 m) et Mégantic (1 105 m), on voit poindre à l'horizon le mont Washington, le plus haut sommet de l'Est américain.

Nommées par la nation des Apalachee, qui occupait le nord de la Floride, les Appalaches parcourent l'est de l'Amérique du Nord sur plus de 3 000 km, depuis l'état de l'Alabama jusqu'aux confins de Terre-Neuve. Les Cantons-de-l'Est occupent la partie centrale nord, celle comprise entre les mon-

tagnes Vertes du Vermont et les montagnes Blanches du New Hampshire.

Modelé par les glaciations, le vieux socle Apalachen est apparu il y a plus de 400 millions d'années. Les montagnes déchirées, polies et taillées par les glaciers, sont parsemées de grands lacs allongés, qui s'étirent parfois du Canada jusqu'aux États-Unis, tel le lac Memphrémagog. Comme la région se trouve en territoire montagneux, elle jouit de plusieurs microclimats qui fournissent une diversité écologique étonnante. Le sous-sol est riche en minéraux comme le cuivre, le zinc et l'amiante. Par ailleurs, l'ardoise à toiture et le granit sont d'une qualité exceptionnelle.

... DES LACS... ET DES RIVIÈRES... .

Plusieurs bassins hydrographiques traversent et bordent la région : les rivières Richelieu, Saint-François et Chaudière. Les plus grands lacs des régions habitées du Québec s'y rattachent, autour desquels se concentrent des activités récréatives et touristiques: Massawippi, Memphrémagog, Mégantic, Brome, Magog, Brompton, Aylmer et Saint-François. Les gorges profondes sont spectaculaires, au point d'ériger, au-dessus de celle de Coaticook, le plus long pont piétonnier suspendu au monde!

... ET UNE FORÊT GÉNÉREUSE!

Comparativement aux essences résineuses (sapin, pin, épinette, pruche) qu'on recense un peu partout au Québec, notre forêt comprend 70 % de feuillus: érable, noyer, tilleul, hêtre, chêne et bouleau. Ce qui fait sa richesse et sa beauté. Chaque automne, quel spectacle magnifique avec ces arbres aux couleurs incendiaires. On prétend même qu'il y a moins de moustiques dans les Cantons-de-l'Est, en raison de cette particularité.

LE PEUPEMENT DES CANTONS?

Entre le lac Champlain et la Chaudière, les Cantons-de-l'Est forment le débouché des routes empruntées par les Abénaquis à partir de la Nouvelle-Angleterre entre les côtes du Maine et celles du Saint-Laurent.

En plein cœur des Appalaches, la région a servi de zone de passage, de chasse et de trappe pour les Abénaquis, appartenant à la grande famille des Algonquins. Il y avait donc de nombreux villages amérindiens avant l'arrivée des blancs, aux 17^e et 18^e siècles.

Malheureusement, peu de vestiges de ces peuplements ont été découverts à ce jour. Les Abénaquis, nom tiré du vocable wôbanaki qui signifie terre de l'aurore ou pays qui est à l'est, naviguaient sur un réseau de rivières particulièrement élaboré, dont la Chaudière, la Kennebec, la Saint-François, la Yamaska et la Connecticut. Ils ont d'ailleurs pris parti pour la Nouvelle-France pendant les rivalités coloniales entre la France et l'Angleterre.

SEE TOURISM, PAGE 31



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Les Loyalistes et les Eastern Townships

TOURISM:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 30

Les descendants des premiers Abénaquis vivent aujourd'hui à Odanak, en bordure du fleuve Saint-Laurent.

L'héritage tangible qu'ils nous ont légué, c'est justement la poésie des noms amérindiens de nos lacs et rivières, lesquels ont été apposés, plus tard, à des villages fondés par des européens: Coaticook (rivière de la terre du pin), Massawippi (grand lac profond), Memphrémagog (grande étendue d'eau), Mégantic (lieu où il y a de la truite de lac) et Missisquoi (beaucoup d'oiseaux aquatiques).

LES LOYALISTES ET LES EASTERN TOWNSHIPS:

Ce sont les Loyalistes de la Nouvelle-Angleterre qui ont d'abord marqué notre patrimoine bâti et façonné le visage des Cantons-de-l'Est.

De 1775 à 1810, pendant et après la guerre d'indépendance américaine, arrive

la première vague d'immigrants, composée de néo-américains. Voulant rester fidèles à la Couronne britannique et refusant de devenir citoyens américains, ces Loyalistes quittèrent les ex-colonies anglaises, pour venir se réfugier au Canada. Des milliers de fermiers, mais aussi des commerçants et des industriels choisissent alors les terres du Bas-Canada, les Eastern Townships, par opposition aux Western Townships, du Haut-Canada.

En 1792, le gouvernement canadien, membre du Dominion britannique, fonde par décret la nouvelle région des Eastern Townships. Soucieux de récompenser ses fidèles sujets, il octroie des terres qu'il divise en townships ou cantons, espace d'environ 10 milles de côté (259 km carrés). La colonisation s'est alors organisée selon le mode britannique traditionnel des cantons, et non sur celui de la classique seigneurie française telle qu'elle s'appliquait depuis 1534, dans la Vallée du Saint-Laurent.

Alors, les Loyalistes ont commencé à parer les villages qu'ils fondaient, de noms

britanniques: Sherbrooke, Dunham, Granby et Hatley.

... DES IRLANDAIS, DES ÉCOSSAIS ...

Les Loyalistes furent suivis, vers 1820, d'une première vague d'Irlandais catholiques quittant leur pays, suite à son union avec l'Angleterre protestante. La fin des guerres napoléoniennes dans les îles britanniques, ainsi que les premiers bouleversements de la révolution industrielle

donneront l'impulsion à des dizaines de milliers de colons venus immigrer vers l'Amérique, terre de liberté.

Avant 1840, fuyant la guerre et la famine, un autre contingent d'immigrants européens sera formé d'Anglais, d'Irlandais et d'Écossais, auxquels s'ajouteront quelques Hollandais, des Suisses, des Belges, des Polonais et des Allemands. On leur doit les Gould, Scotstown et Frelighsburg.

-- Tourisme Estrie



DAVID ANDERSON/PHOTO CORRESPONDENT

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EASTMAN: Cottage with large rooms. Warm interior with 3 bdrms, 2 baths, large lot with view on Mt. Orford. MLS 036362. \$69,900.

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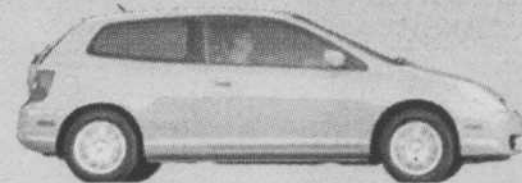


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