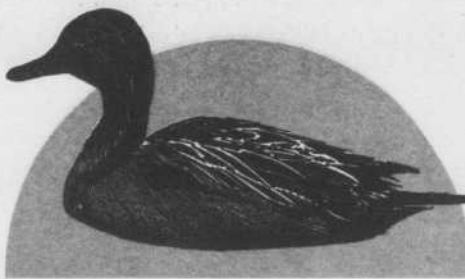


Brome County NEWS



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2002

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THE LARGEST CIRCULATION WEEKLY IN BROME-MISSISQUOI

Speaking English while recycling toys

By David Anderson
PHOTO CORRESPONDENT
WATERLOO

Toys made from recycled materials by Christine Cantin's Secondary 1 English classes were on display and voted upon by visiting parents at École Polyvalent Wilfrid Leger in Waterloo late last week.

Three winning toy designs by the creative students will be officially display at the Biodome in Montreal until the end of March.

The toy-making project is part of a worldwide program to help recycle materials by raising awareness and harmony with children between the ages of 12 and 17 from Quebec and children from southern hemispheres.

So far, 65,000 children across the world, including more than 250 schools from Quebec, have participated in the competition. With the environment and better human relations in mind, students had to make sure none of their toys depicted weapons of war or used harmful paints or varnishes.

Tying the environmental project in with her English class was something

teacher Cantin said she wanted to do. She said the project was a lot of fun, and it helped the students with their oral presentations in English. Each student had to describe their toy in detail, how it was put together, the materials used, where the materials came from and what they learned about recycling.

"They have gained a better awareness for the importance of recycling materials, and designing new and useful items that they have fun with as well," Cantin added.

To read more about the project, visit www.2tiers.org.

Other area schools are also getting involved in programs aimed to get students involved.

Thanks to computers donated by IBM, preschoolers at Les Champignoies de Farnham recently joined children at Centraide-funded daycares across the country who are using computers to make books, create weather stations, play sorting games and other projects.

IBM has also created a new Web site designed specifically for parents and teachers, www.kidsmartearlylearning.org.



DAVID ANDERSON/PHOTO CORRESPONDENT

Pictured (left to right): Michael Casavant, Joel Favreau, Alexandre Cantin, Louis Michel, teacher Christine Cantin and Nicolas Paré (foreground).

Gift brings hope to parents of missing children

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
BRIGHAM

The parish of Dunham and Frelighsburg received an early Christmas present when a 14K gold diamond ring arrived under mysterious circumstances.

The donor has chosen to remain anonymous, but stipulated the ring be used to support the Missing Children's Network (MCN), a non-profit organization that helps find kidnapped or missing children.

But that is not the only good news for MCN: Volunteer Sharon Page will once again hold her annual Lost Angels Craft and Attic Treasure Sale at the Cowans-

ville's Emmanuel United Church Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All proceeds from table sales will benefit the Missing Children's Network.

Page, a Brigham resident and volunteer for the Network, says she learned of the ring from Peggy Godsoe, wife of parish priest, Rev. Arnold Godsoe. The ring is to be held for safekeeping until a decision is made on how best to dispose of it.

Page is an active volunteer for the Network, working for the last four years on behalf of those she calls her "lost angels." Her involvement began after seeing John Walsh, the anti-crime activist who turned a personal

tragedy, the kidnapping and murder of his son Adam, into a national anti-crime crusade.

Page, who organizes craft fairs at venues around the region, responded to Walsh's appeal by organizing a benefit show. For the past four years, she has donated the proceeds from table rentals at the Lost Angels Craft and Attic Treasure Sale to MCN.

Page also organizes similar craft sales at the Heroes' Memorial School, Sutton Royal Canadian Legion and Knowlton's Manoir Lac Brome. At those shows, or at other events such as Brome Fair or the Brome Home Show, she sets up her Lost Angels table where

she distributes information and collects donations.

Page will have a Lost Angels table once again at the Heroes' Memorial Pre-Christmas Craft Sale, to be held at the School Nov. 23 from 9 a.m., and Nov. 24 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The 12-year old sale will feature new and used toys, homemade baked and canned goods, crafts and jewellery.

Page will also be present at craft sales at the Manoir Lac Brome (Nov. 30, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) and at the Lost Angels Craft and Attic Treasure Sale at the Emmanuel United Church in Cowansville (Dec. 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

For more information, contact her at 450-263-4962.

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BROME COUNTY COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Nov. 20

Royal Canadian Legion, Br. 77, **GENERAL MEETING**, 77 Lewis, **Waterloo**, 7:30 p.m. 2003 Election of Officers and Executive Committee.

Nov. 21

Holiday Soup & Dessert **LUNCHEON** at All Saints Anglican Church, **Dunham**, noon. Donation: \$7. Bake/craft sale. Cards immediately following lunch. Reservations: 450-295-3341/295-2349.

Nov. 23

CANINE SEMINAR on Dog Care and First Aid at Pur Animal, 1108 Knowlton Rd., Rte. 139, **West Brome**, 10:30 a.m. with Christine Brooks and veterinarian assistance.

Pickles, Jam & Homebaking **AUCTION** at Courville Geriatric Centre, 5305 Courville, **Waterloo**, 2 p.m. Info: 450-539-1821 ext. 228.

Brome County Historical Society presents Series of **LECTURES** On Eastern Townships History at Old Court House Archives, 15 St. Paul, **Knowlton**, 1 to 3 p.m. Topic: 'The Samuel Willard Correspondence - Part Two - The Eastern Townships' Loyalist As A Businessman'. Guest Speaker, Jimmy Manson. Admission: \$5.

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE in support of Knowlton Lion's Club Christmas Baskets at Thirsty Boot. Steak Dinner, 6 to 8 p.m. Classic rock/dance music presented by 4 Eyed Jerry. Admission for band: Can foods or donation. Please make all cheques payable to Knowlton Lion's Club. Info: 450-243-0163.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TEA, sponsored by Fulford Social Club at **Fulford Hall**, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Handicrafts, bake table, almost new articles

Royal Canadian Legion **BEAUTY PAGEANT** (Male Models) at 120 Davignon, **Cowansville**, 8 p.m. Lunch served after show.

Admission: \$8. Info: 450-263-3543.

Nov. 24

CRIB TOURNAMENT at the Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Davignon, **Cowansville**. Registration, 1 p.m. Cost: \$5

TOWNSHIPS EXPRESSIONS offers an afternoon of Townships music, books and art at the **Orford Arts Centre** (Mt. Orford Park, Exit 118 off Highway 10) in Salle de Sejours, J. A. Seve Building from 2 to 4 p.m. Meet writers, musicians, artists and publishers, including Dr. Gil Ross, Phyllis Hamilton, Pamela Dillon and Donald Patriquin. Admission is free. Refreshments served. Info: 450-263-4422/1-866-263-4422.

Nov. 23 & 24

12th Heroes Pre-Christmas **CRAFT SALE** at Heroes Memorial School, 317 South, **Cowansville**. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Crafts, book fair, new & used toys, bake table. Tables/Info: Sharon 450-263-4962. Lunch available.

Nov. 30

FLEA MARKET at Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Davignon, **Cowansville**, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$10 tables, Info: 450-263-3543.

FOYER-SUTTON CHRISTMAS tea, arts, crafts and Bake Sale 10 a.m. Sandwiches, desserts, tea or coffee 12:30 to 3 p.m. Admission: \$4.

MAKING ROOM FOR CHRISTMAS at Emmanuel United Church, 203 rue Principale, **Cowansville**. Santa Lucia Pageant, 5 p.m., followed by short worship service in Sanctuary, followed by pot luck supper and activities in the church hall. Advent calendars will be made (one per household) for \$4 per family. To reserve your materials, call 450-263-0204.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR at St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall, **Mansonville**, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sponsored by Ladies Guild of St. Paul's Anglican Church.

CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALE at Manoir Lac Brome, 28 Mt. Echo Rd., **Knowlton**. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tables available for \$15. Info: Kim or Pat, 450-242-4663.

SUTTON CHURCH DAY CAMP REUNION 'Looking Forward to Jesus' at Grace Anglican Church, 52 Principale S., 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Advent preparations, the Christmas

story, the play, games and arts and crafts for children four to 12 years. Admission is free. Children should bring their lunch. Information or registration: Bev, 450-538-1415; Mary, 538-6653. Sponsored by Anglican, Baptist, Roman Catholic and United Churches of Sutton.

ADVANCED NOTICE: Christmas Bazaar at St. Paul's United Church, Waterloo, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Luncheon, \$5. Wreaths, decorations, homebaking, nearly new, candy, children and ladies articles and don't forget our giant silent auction.

Dec. 4

BENEFIT MEXICAN SUPPER sponsored by Massey-Vanier's Spanish students at **Knowlton Pub**, 5 p.m. Supper consists of make your own taco station and vegetarian chili, music and slide show. Admission: \$20. Proceeds towards upcoming trip to Mexico. Reservations: 450-538-1055.

Dec. 7

Fourth Annual **LOST ANGELS** Christmas Sale and Attic Treasures at **Cowansville** United Church, 203 Main St., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Proceeds from table rentals to Missing Children's Network of Canada. Tables/Info: Sharon 450-263-4962. Lunch available.

Nov. 30

Knowlton Harmony Band **CHRISTMAS CONCERT** at Knowlton United Church, 7:30 p.m. \$10. Proceeds to Landmark Fund. Tickets: 450-243-5302/243-6348.

ARTS CALENDAR

Dec. 2

Massey-Vanier Band **CONCERT** at Massey-Vanier Auditorium, **Cowansville**, 6:30 p.m. Admission: \$6 adults, \$4 students. Support these oung musicians.

KNOWLTON/CREEK PASTORAL CHARGE: Worship and song by members & Rev. Burn Purdon. Creek United, Foster, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School at Creek. Knowlton United, Knowlton, 11 a.m.

CHURCH SERVICES

PARISH OF BROME: Anglican worship service on the fourth Sunday of every month: 9 a.m. Holy Communion, Church of

the Ascension, West Brome; 11 a.m. Holy Communion, Holy Trinity, Iron Hill; and 7:30 p.m. Holy Communion, St. John the Evangelist, Brome Village. Rev. Rick Garipey, 450-243-6096.

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH: 24 St. Paul's Rd., Knowlton. We wish to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known. Sunday services: 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday School and nursery, 10 a.m. Rev. Ralph T. Leavitt - Pastor.

COWANSVILLE AREA PASTORAL CHARGE UNITED CHURCH: Worship service at Emmanuel United Church, 203 rue Principale, Cowansville 10:30 a.m., Rev. Mary MacPherson officiating. Babysitting provided. Choir rehearsal, 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Sunday School, 263-0204.

WATERLOO ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH, WATERLOO: Sunday services at 11 a.m.

GRACE ANGLICAN CHURCH SUTTON: Come, let Jesus know you love Him. Sunday Service, 10:30 a.m. at 52 Principale S. The Rev. Canon Tim Smart, Rector.

SUTTON-DUNHAM UNITED: Services at 10:30 a.m. in Sutton on the first and second, Sundays, Dunham on the third and fourth Sundays of month.


BEDFORD UNITED CHURCH PASTORAL CHARGE: Services at Stanbridge East, 9:30 a.m. Wesley Church, Bedford, 11 a.m., Mystic 12:30 p.m. Sunday School at Stanbridge East and Bedford. Minister, Rev. Malcolm Cogswell.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF BEDFORD/PHILIPSBURG/FARNHAM: St. Paul's Philipsburg: 9:30 a.m., first and third Sunday, Holy Eucharist; 9:30 a.m., second and fourth Sunday, Morning Prayer; St. James the Apostle & Martyr, Farnham: 11 a.m., first Sunday, Combined Service in Bedford; 9:30 a.m., second and fourth Sunday, Holy Eucharist; 11 a.m., third Sunday, Morning Prayer; St. James, Bedford: 11 a.m., Holy Eucharist, Wednesday 7 p.m., Holy Eucharist. Fr. Brian Evans, Rector.

BAPTIST CHURCHES Sunday Services: Mansonville Baptist, 9:30 a.m.; Olivet Baptist, Sutton, 10:30 a.m.

COMMUNITY NOTES

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Brome County NEWS 

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Brome County News Community Calendar is reserved for non-profit organizations only. Deadline is noon on Mondays. A pre-paid fee of \$6 is required per publication, or **SPECIAL RATE of \$10 for 2 insertions:** 1 BCN & 1 in Friday Record "What's On" section. Please forward notices to Box 488, Knowlton, JOE 1V0, email: bcnews@qc.aibn.com, or fax: (450) 243-5155. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

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Mystic residents protect historical legacy

Trust fund created to preserve legacy of Alexander Walbridge

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
MYSTIC

Sisters Frances Walbridge, Dorothy Walbridge Near and Edith Walbridge have a lot in common: four local couples in the tiny village of Mystic. All are trustees of the Walbridge Conservation Area Limited, a trust created to preserve the legacy of Alexander Walbridge.

Alexander Walbridge, grandfather of the three Walbridge sisters, was the self-taught engineer and inventor whose genius is explored in *Alexander Walbridge: The Visionary of Mystic*, a 2002 documentary co-production of the Missisquoi Historical Society and Tomifobia filmmaker Louise Abbott.

Walbridge, the holder of many industrial patents and a skilled mechanical engineer, started a foundry that was the village's major employer until its demise as the result of growing competition and the cost of failed lawsuit against Canadian National railways. He also helped shape the architectural character of the town as builder of a spectacular mansion, Lakelet Hall (torn down in the 1940s because of neglect), the Mystic United Church and the second floor of the Mystic Schoolhouse.

In addition to the three Walbridge sisters, their brother Stephen and various Walbridge relatives, the Walbridge Conservation Area's 18 trustees include: Hardy and Karen Craft, Stanley and Carol Soule, Shelly and Danny Patenaude and Eric and Martha Tompkinson.

Hardy Craft recently took over from Stephen as head of the trust, whose goal is the preservation of the Walbridge property, its buildings (including Alexander Walbridge's spectacular 12-sided barn, a design believed to have been adapted from a railroad round house) and the natural surroundings.

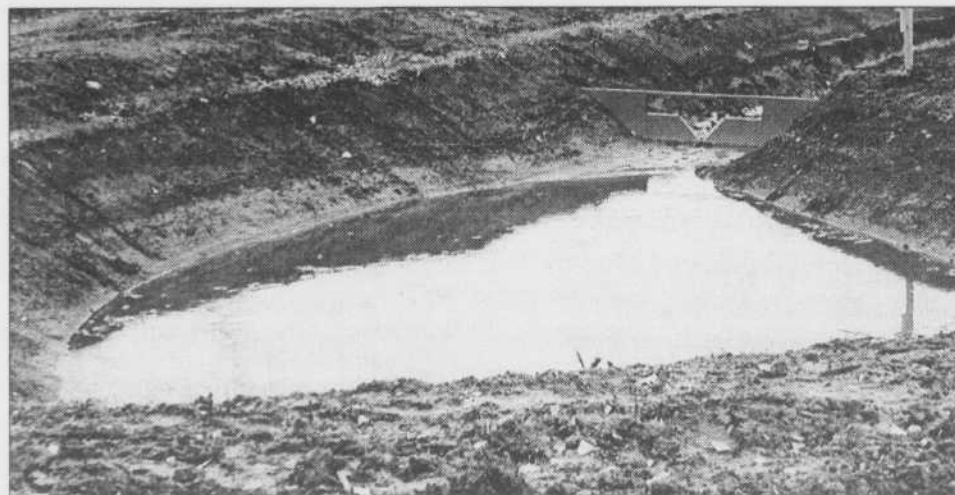
In keeping with Alexander's spirit of scientific inquest, a half-hectare plot formerly occupied by his artificial lake is now the site of a unique pilot project to determine if artificial wetlands can be used for treating non-point source pollution from upstream agricultural activities.

The project is a partnership between the Walbridge Conservation Area Limited, agricultural and environmental groups, local businesses and the government, including Corporation Bassin Versant Baie Missisquoi, BMI Consultants, A Fleur d'Eau, the municipality of St-Ignace-de-Stanbridge, l'Institut de recherche et de développement en agroenviron-



PHOTOS BY CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Pictured (left to right): Hardy Craft, Frances Walbridge, Dorothy Walbridge Near and Edith Walbridge at the door of Alexander Walbridge's spectacular 12-sided barn. They are some of the 18 trustees of the Walbridge Conservation Area Limited.



In keeping with Alexander's spirit of scientific inquest, the site formerly occupied by his artificial lake is now the site of a unique pilot project to determine if artificial wetlands can be used for treating non-point source pollution.

nement (IRDA), McGill University, MAPAQ, Minister of the Environment of Quebec (MENV), La Fondation des Lacs et Rivières du Canada, Ducks Unlimited and Dura Club de Bedford. Funding for the project is provided by Les Fonds d'action québécois pour le développement durable (FAQDD), which is administered by the Quebec Minister of the Environment.

The pilot project will divert a small volume of water from the Pike River during periods of high flow. The water will pass through a series of three basins (a sedimentation basin, a submerged flow wetland and a pond system), designed to simulate that action of a natural wetland. As water moves through the successive basins, suspended soil is removed, and phosphorus absorbed by aquatic plants before the flow is discharged back into the Pike River.

Peter Enright of McGill University's Brace Centre for Water Resources Management said similar technology has been used for point-source pollution from industrial and residential areas. However, its applicability to non-point source pollution from farmland and drainage ditch runoff in northern climates is unknown.

Enright added that installation of automatic sensors is underway, and monitoring of pollutant and sediment levels will begin when the project is officially launched next spring, just in time for the resumption of agricultural activities.

The first of its kind in Quebec, the project will be used to assess the applicability of such technology for agricultural drainage ditches and small water courses.

ERRATUM

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 77, 77 Lewis Street, Waterloo, will hold their General Meeting on Wednesday, November 20th at 7:30 P.M. This meeting is for the election of Officers and Executive Committee for 2003. Please try to be there, so that you have a say in who will run your branch next year.

Knowlton Harmony Band Christmas Concert

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Test driving the 2003 Suzuki Aerio AWD

I don't get to test drive cars very often, so when the folks at Suzuki asked if I wanted to test drive their new Aerio, I didn't have a problem saying yes.

For the last week I've driven a 2003 Aerio through a variety of conditions, from pleasant fall drives to some of the worst winter has to offer. If you'd like to drive a Subaru but can't handle the sticker price, you might want to put this one on your list of candidates.

On the outside I didn't find the Aerio to be among the most visually appealing cars. It's kind of slab-sided, and doesn't match the good looks of other Suzuki models. Though it's an AWD, the ground clearance hasn't changed, and the front has been given a spoiler that promises to get smashed off the first time you run over a curb or hit a hard piece of winter slush.

The model I was given was a fastback, but most of us would call it a small station wagon. Like a good station wagon this car

offers 103.6 cubic feet of cargo space, more than enough room for groceries, luggage and the family dog. Split folding rear seats and a number of smaller compartments give a many storage options.

UNDER THE HOOD

MAURICE CROSSFIELD

Though it looks small on the outside, there's plenty of room on the inside. I'm six feet tall, and there was a good five inches between my head and the ceiling. Leg room was also adequate, and you sit up nice and high.

Once you pull out of the yard you start to appreciate this car. Power is supplied by a 2.0 litre, 16-valve four cylinder, producing 145 horsepower. Dropped into a smaller car like the Aerio, it has no trouble getting up to the speed limit in a hurry, and little trouble putting the four-wheel independent suspension to the test on twisty roads. The ABS brakes worked well, easily bringing it to a halt on demand.

Last Friday I made the unfortunate remark that it was too bad I didn't get to try it out in some winter driving conditions.



MAURICE CROSSFIELD

The 2003 Suzuki Aerio really distinguishes itself when winter rears its ugly head.

Voilà, the first major storm of the season followed. Sorry folks.

But it's in that bad weather that the Aerio really distinguishes itself from other cars. The all-mechanical AWD system senses when the front wheels begin to slip and immediately transfers power to all four wheels. It's a simple system that works wonderfully well. Even on glare ice you can come to a halt, nail the gas and away you go. When it's time to stop, the four-wheel ABS keeps you in a straight line.

Here's a comparison: Monday morning I spent about 10 minutes coaxing my wife's car (front-wheel drive equipped with good winter tires) out of the driveway, using snow grips and testing the limits of my vocabulary. Later I got into the Aerio (equipped by the dealer with Yokohama all-seasons) and backed out with ease. If we owned two Aerios with good winter tires I wouldn't have spent Monday night coaxing my snowblower back to life.

Out on the road the AWD keeps the car remarkably stable, with deep slush having very little affect on handling. In fact it's actually a little too easy to go faster than you should when the roads are bad.

This little car has a lot going for it, starting with the all-wheel drive. While most of the time you wouldn't notice the difference, it shows up when the roads get bad. The ABS keeps you on track and out of the ditches. The seats, like the ride, are firm

yet comfortable. And with the wagon you can haul a lot of odd-sized stuff.

Judging by previous Suzuki's I've come across, I'd say that mechanically this car will hold up well. It's covered by a five-year or 100,000 km powertrain warranty and a five-year anti-perforation warranty.

One of the best things going for the Suzuki Aerio is the price. The test car I was given was fully loaded, with air conditioning, CD player, electric windows, electric locks, four-speed automatic transmission, 15-inch alloy wheels and of course the AWD and ABS. That sets you back about \$23,000, while the base model is about \$21,000. By comparison, a base model Subaru Forester is about \$31,000, and the basic Honda CRV is in the \$28,000 range.

But the devil seems to be in the details. My car had 4,000 km on it, and the centre seat belt in the back was broken. The child seat anchors are back near the hatch, interfering with storage and making them hard to tighten. There was also a minor exhaust noise when you put it in reverse.

Likely because of the AWD, this car can be a bit thirsty. Suzuki claims 28 mpg highway and 24 mpg in the city, but my combined driving came in a little lower.

While the 2003 Aerio may have a few glitches, it is definitely a car worth reflecting upon, especially considering what you get for the price. It's fun to drive, practical and the AWD really makes a difference.

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Knowlton offers something to sing about

'A Christmas Carol' reading and carol sing on Dec. 21

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
KNOWLTON

The Knowlton downtown merchants' association (SDC), CBC Radio, Arts Knowlton and Townshippers' Association have partnered to bring a reading from Charles Dick-

ens' Christmas classic 'A Christmas Carol' to life.

The two-hour performance, which includes five readers and a carol sing-a-long led by a local chorus, will take place Saturday, Dec. 21, 7:30 p.m. at the Knowlton United Church, located at 234 Knowlton Rd.

Proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Knowlton United Church's Landmark Fund and Lions' Clubs' Christmas Food Basket campaign.

The readings are "tradition-in-de-

velopment" started by Judy Maddren, host of CBC Radio's World Report. In 1990, Maddren organized a single reading as a community benefit for a women's shelter. Over the years, this effort has been repeated across Canada. Last year, more than 80 communities in Canada (and some in the U.S.) held readings to raise money for local projects such as food banks or shelters.

David McAdam, Aldyne Kerrigan, Danny McAuley, Mary Harvey will perform Dicken's own adaptation. Read-

ings will be intermixed with choral music and an audience Christmas Carol sing-a-long.

The reading is part of Knowlton's annual Festival of Lights, sponsored by the SDC. Other Festival of Lights events include the annual Lions' Club Christmas Parade and Christmas Tree Decoration (Dec. 7) and a festive light display in Knowlton's downtown core.

Tickets for the benefit reading are \$10 and available at the door, or for pick-up at L.L. Brome. For reservations, call 450-243-0123.

Why 'A Christmas Carol'?

A small tradition that began at home

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

This year, 80 communities across Canada (including a few in the United States) will take part in a benefit evening of selected readings from Charles Dickens' classic, A Christmas Carol. The burgeoning tradition has humble roots, as CBC Radio host Judy Maddren explains on the CBC radio Web site:

"In December of 1989, my husband, our four children and I were staying at a cottage for a few days. He and I cooked up a deal: If I kept the children occupied after supper, he would clean up the dishes. So for three evenings, I read the complete Christmas Carol to my four young ones."

Maddren soon noticed a fifth listener, her husband, who would sneak out of the kitchen, tea-towel in hand, to listen.

"I realized that once we grow up, we usually leave behind the pleasure of being read to, and with that thought, this one... wouldn't it be wonderful to read 'A Christmas Carol' to adults?"

In December, 1990, Maddren went public with her project: Using a shortened text written by Dickens himself, the broadcaster mounted a public reading interspersed with music supplied by a community chorus with ticket proceeds to benefit a local charity.

Soon, Maddren and the CBC were providing helpful material at no charge to guide community groups anxious to organize a benefit concert and reading

in their community.

CBC Radio also provides both on-air and Web site promotion of these events at no charge to the groups, who must use the proceeds to benefit a local project or charity. CBC also offers a reader from its ranks of broadcasters.


Not surprisingly, Eastern Townships audiences have taken the project to heart, with two of the three Quebec performances taking place within the region.

On Friday, Dec. 13 at 7:30 p.m., a benefit will take place at the Plymouth Trinity United Church in Sherbrooke. Donations of non-perishable food or cash will benefit the local food bank, Moisson Estrie.

On Saturday, Dec. 21 at 7:30 p.m., a reading will take place at the Knowlton United Church, located at 234 Knowlton Rd. Proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the Knowlton United Church's Landmark Fund (to provide handicapped

accessibility to the church) and the Lions' Club's annual Christmas Food Basket Drive. Tickets for the Knowlton performance are available at the door, or in advance by calling 450-243-0123.

Instructions about mounting your own charity reading of 'A Christmas Carol' are posted on CBC's Web site (<http://cbc.ca/christmascarol>). The site also contains a listing of all venues and dates of 2002 performances across Canada.



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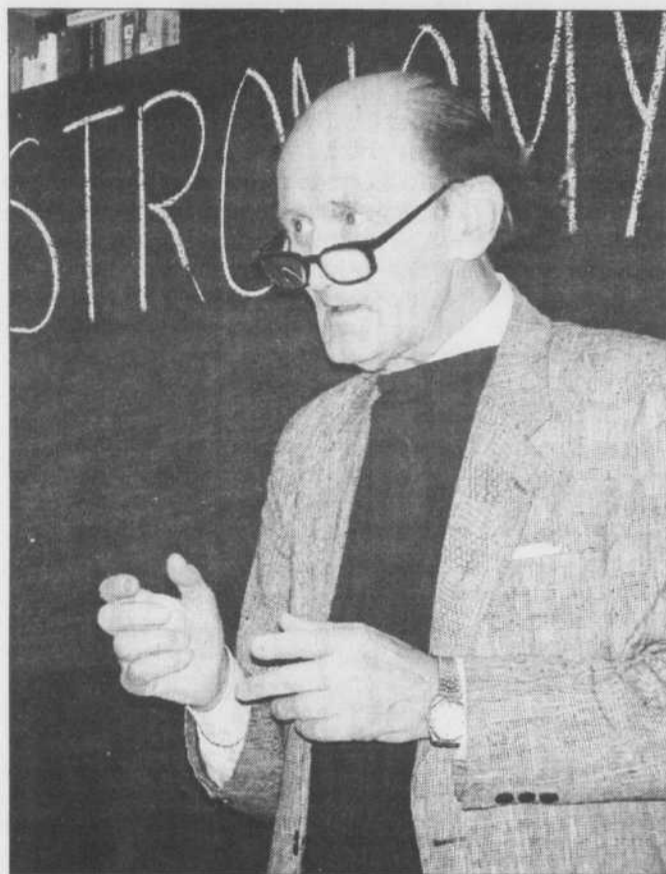
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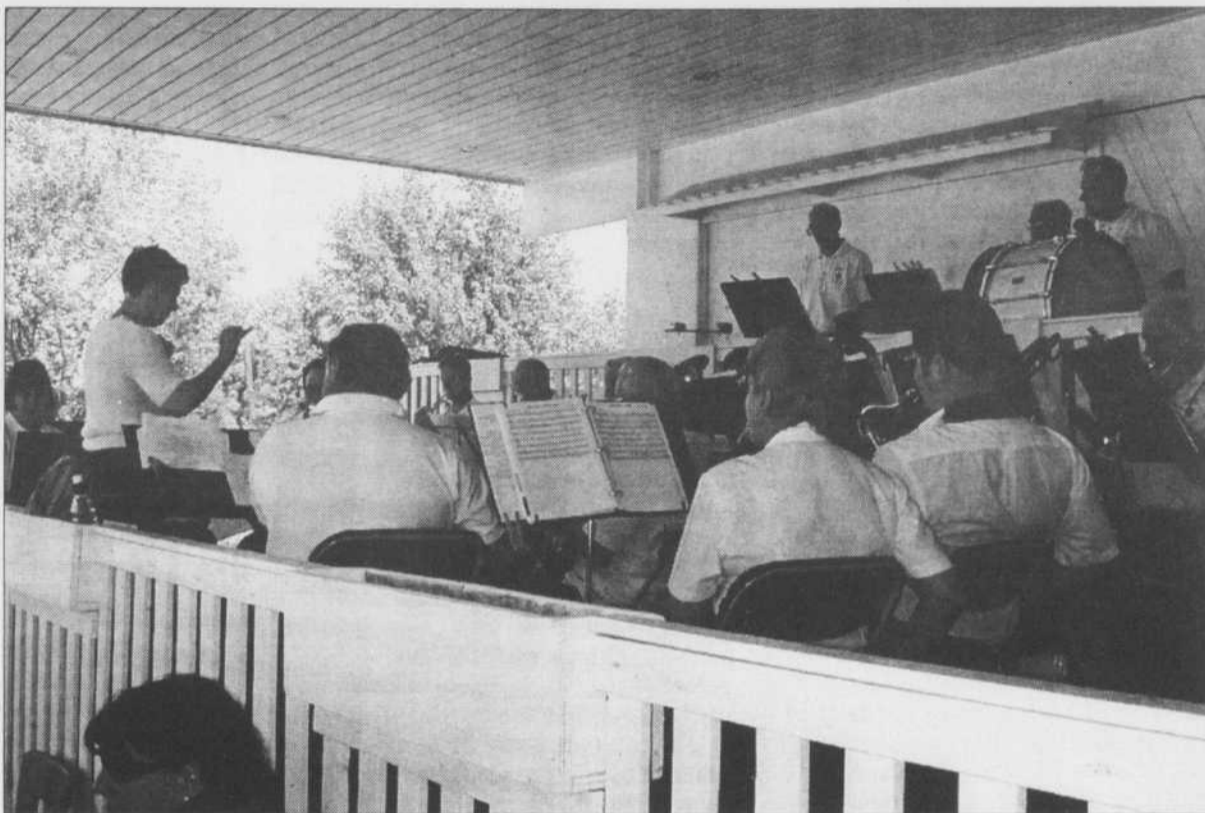
Star Gazing



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Lecturer Bernard Schirdewahn returned to Philipsburg's Missisquoi Public Library last Saturday for another edition of his popular Astronomy Night. The retired teacher and astronomy enthusiast often leads summer stargazing expeditions; heavy cloud cover and plummeting temperatures meant all the action was indoors. Schirdewahn brings to his audience an encyclopedic interest in all things celestial mixed with his own observations on the history and philosophy of science.

Harmony Band performs benefit for Landmark Fund



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

The Knowlton Harmony Band, shown performing last summer at the Foster Horse Show, will give a benefit Christmas Concert Nov. 30.

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
KNOWLTON

The Knowlton United Church will host a benefit Christmas Concert by the Knowlton Harmony Band Saturday, Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the church's Landmark Fund.

Christmas concerts are a tradition for the brass band, comprised of amateur musicians from throughout the area. Although admission is typically free, this concert will be a fundraiser for the ongoing Knowlton United Church renovations.

"The fund was established to make the church handicapped-accessible," says organizer and United Church member Diana Frizzle, who believes the Knowlton United Church is the only public building totally accessible to the handicapped.

Frelighsburg architect Eden Muir designed the modifications, which have been partially completed. The church recently unveiled its new basement

entrance and an elevator to the sanctuary.

Frizzle says proceeds from each \$10 ticket sold at the Nov. 30 concert will be used to make the church washroom handicapped-accessible.

"Support from the community has been amazing," adds Frizzle, whose church, like other religious congregations, has experienced a slow decline in membership over the years. "We've had a lot of support from individuals as well as the business community."

She adds that as membership declines, church elders have had to look beyond the building's use for services only in order to keep it alive. The church, rebuilt in 1895 on the site once occupied by a much smaller stone church, is acoustically suited for concerts and musical events and has hosted performance by groups as diverse as the Harmony Band and Island City Singers.

Tickets for the Christmas concert are \$10 at the door, or may be purchased in advance from Diana Frizzle at 450-243-6348.

Library hosts Canadian-American pot luck supper

Staff

Townshippers and North Country residents are invited to a Pot Luck Supper Thursday, Nov. 28, from 5 and 8 p.m. at the Missisquoi Library, located at 187 Champlain, Philipsburg.

Coinciding with the U.S. Thanksgiving, the event is meant to mark the contribution of Americans to Canadian society, particularly in the East-

ern Townships. It is also an opportunity to celebrate the traditional friendship and family ties of residents from both sides of the border.

The Missisquoi Library offers free book lending and cultural programs to Canadian and American patrons and friends. The Library is a small NGO established in Philipsburg six years ago. For more information, call 450-248-4402.

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Cowansville to host Townshippers' Day

Cowansville will host the next Townshippers' Day, announced Townshippers' Association president Peter Quilliams Tuesday.

The one-day festival showcasing the Eastern Townships English-speaking community is scheduled for Sept. 13, 2003.

Cowansville's proposal to host the event was reviewed by a selection committee under the umbrella of Townshippers' Community & Culture Committee, explained its chair, Heather Bowman. The committee's recommendation was unanimous, as was the approval of the Association's board of directors.

"This event will permit the citizens of Cowansville to highlight and celebrate the cultural riches contributed by the past and present English-speaking community of the Eastern Townships," Mayor Arthur Fauteux wrote in Cowansville's proposal to host the Day.

"The history and the architecture of the town make it an ideal site for such an event."

The T-Day site will be in the downtown area and Davignon Park. The organizing committee will be headed by Yvan Monast, with two vice-chairs, David Wright (logistics) and Brigitte Messier (administration).

Two municipal councillors, Wayne Yates and Denis Bourcier, have been named to the committee as spokespersons and representatives of the town council.

"Townshippers' Day is hosted by a different community each year," said Quilliams. "Normally, the Day alternates among the eastern, western, northern and southern parts of the Townships. It's been a few years since it was in a western area, so we're especially glad it will be in Cowansville in 2003."

— Submitted by Townshippers' Association

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First Responders kick off medical training



DAVID ANDERSON/PHOTO CORRESPONDENT

Brome Lake's First Responders started medical training Saturday. The group will receive a total of 45 hours training to enable them to provide life-saving help until an ambulance arrives.

Fundraising for equipment ongoing

Staff

Brome Lake's First Responders spent last Saturday learning the finer points of first aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

In all, the First Responders will receive a total of 45 hours of medical

training, enabling them to provide life-saving help until an ambulance arrives.

While training is well underway, fundraising efforts continue. Money is needed to cover the cost of equipment, medical supplies, radios, insurance and a vehicle. Tax receipts are available for donations.

For more information about Brome Lake's First Responders, contact councillor Tom McGovern at 450-243-0495.

Celebrating Salon des Arts



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

St-Armand resident and soapmaker Mary McNamara was one of the artists and artisans featured in the 2002 Salon des Arts, a pre-Christmas craft fair held last weekend at Bedford's Centre Georges Perron. McNamara, who works full-time at Caisse Populaire in Bedford, started making soaps with a friend because they both had children with sensitive skin. McNamara now works alone in making her soaps with vegetable fat oils rather than animal fat. The soaps come in a range of unusual flavours derived from natural spices or scents, such as anis, coffee, camomile-citron, geranium, lavender, almond-nutmeg and honey/oatmeal.

BRIEF

Conference to focus on fish

Staff

There will be a conference on the study of fish presented by the Alderbrooke Marsh Land Trust on Sunday, Nov. 24.

The conference is free and open to

everyone and will feature the expertise of Harm Sloterdijk. The conference goes from 10 to 11 a.m. and will be followed by a general assembly of the Alderbrooke Marsh Land Trust at 11:30 a.m.

The conference will be held at the Sutton town hall, on the second floor (by the side door). Admission is free.

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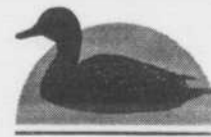
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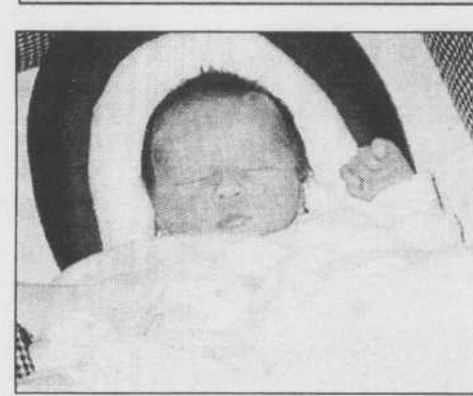
Thousands of Canadians are fighting every day against the progressive effects of muscular dystrophy. They count on the support of Fire Fighters in their battle against muscular dystrophy and more than 40 other neuromuscular disorders. When your Fire Fighters ask for a donation, remember the many Canadians affected by a neuromuscular disorder. And please give generously.

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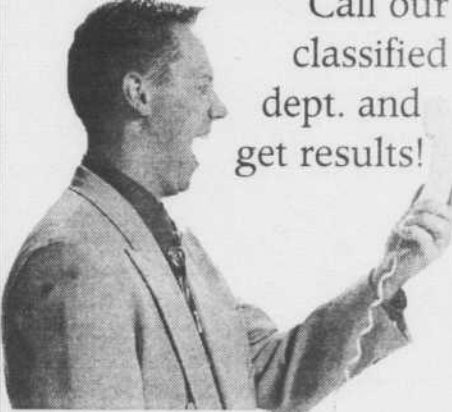


Birth



McGOVERN/WOODARD - Jack Timothy Woodard has arrived! J.T. was born on November 11, at 10:15 p.m. to proud parents Shannon McGovern and Timothy Woodard. Happy grandparents are Doris and Glenn McGovern and Sandra and George Woodard.

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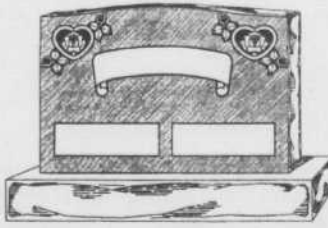
Classifieds
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Happy Birthday

Nifty nifty guess who's fifty?
Happy Birthday
Nanny Woodard
Love, Ambert & J.T.

Read the Brome County News weekly to stay informed

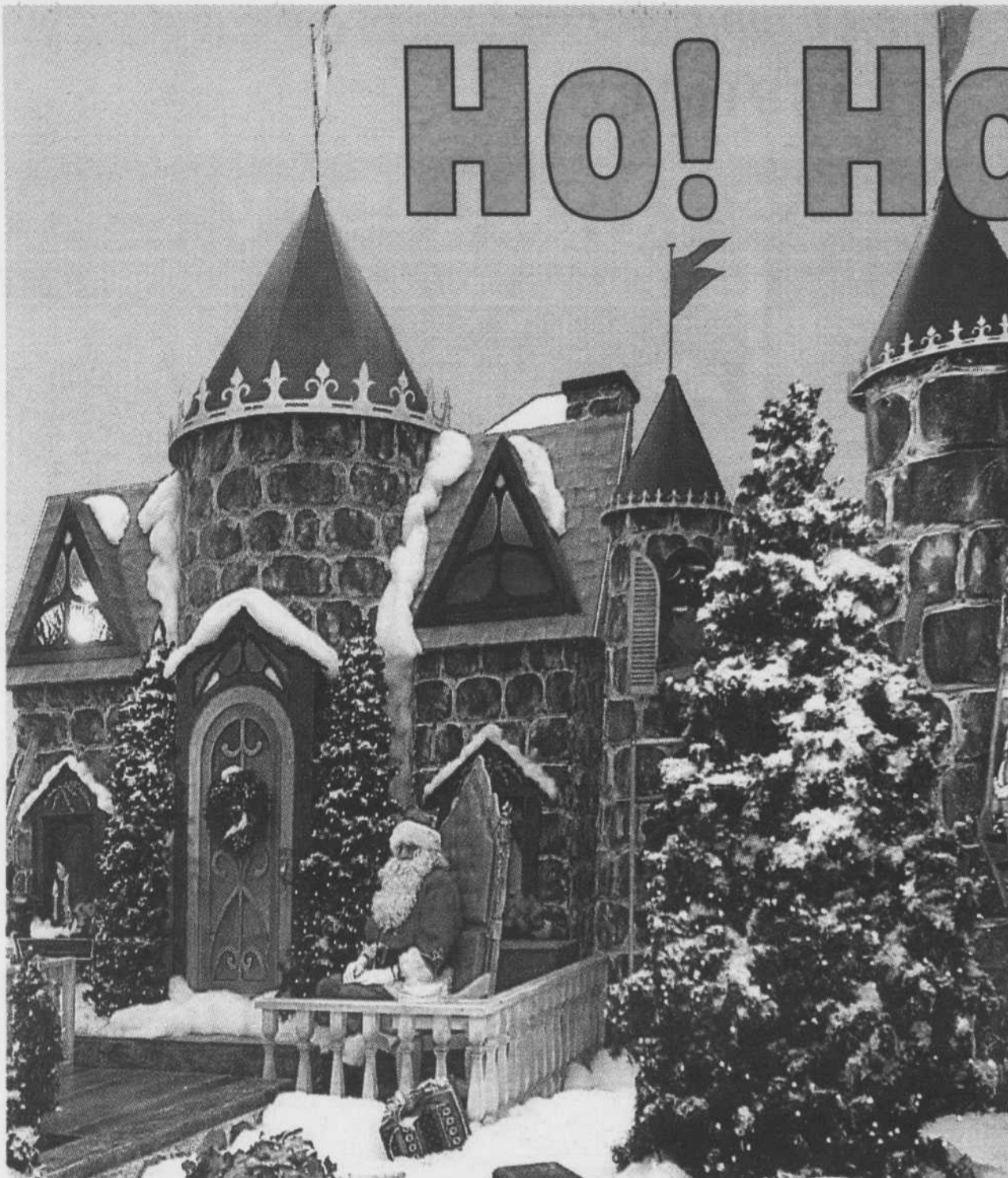
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HO! HO! HO!



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**Sunday, November 24th
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Entertainer, clown and children's make-up artist on site

A Gift to the first 400 kids



Santa's Schedule at the Carrefour de l'Estrie

Saturday, November 23rd

&

Sunday, November 24th

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.



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