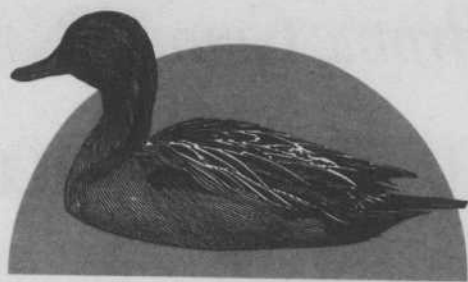


# Brome County NEWS



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2007

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## First in line to greet royalty

*'I found the Princess Royal simply lovely'*

By Wendy Denman

BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

**L**ate last fall Okill Stuart and his wife Sylvia led a reception line at Buckingham Palace greeting Her Royal Highness Princess Anne.

The Princess was attending an evening event that launched the Kurt Hahn Foundation of Stuart's old school, Gordonstoun, in Scotland.

"I was heading the line because of my age, rather than pocketbook," quipped the 85-year-old Stuart. "HRH, whose two children went to the school, is the patron thereof.

"Her father, then known as Prince Philip of Greece, was a classmate of mine there, just before World War Two. The school felt it befitted my seniority to be part of the reception line, and then asked me to be first because the Princess would enjoy meeting someone of her father's era. I was delighted, but said what about my wife? And they said, 'She can stand beside you.'"

Now living in Saint Lambert, Stuart, the founder of Stuart Realities, has a long association with the Townships. For many years he owned a cottage near Stanbridge East, and he is still a branch member of the local Sir John Johnson Loyalists Association and honorary director of Lennoxville's Bishop's College School, where he studied for six years before going to Gordonstoun to prepare for matriculation at Oxford.

"I found the Princess Royal simply lovely. She talked with us for about five minutes and about five seconds with everyone else. It was a grand experience. She was most attractive and charming and extremely well in-

formed," said Stuart. "I came away feeling the press could give her better coverage.

"The punch line was when she asked how I pictured her father in those days and I replied that I'd seen him in the shower. She thought that was amusing."

As enjoyable as the evening was, Stuart wondered if they would be allowed through the entrance gate to the Palace. "The security was very tight and you needed to show two pieces of identification. The invitation was for Mr. and Mrs. Okill Stuart, but all the identification Sylvia had was under different names. It took more than a little explaining to convince security that Sylvia was indeed my wife and that in Quebec wives go by their maiden names!"

The Kurt Hahn Foundation is a legacy foundation. "All these schools need legacies and endowments to keep them going. It's the same thing with Bishop's here. It's important for us 'old boys' to support them. Since I've retired and sold the business, I spend my time doing odd ball things — researching history, attending meetings of the Royal Heraldry Society. Every year I arrange for a cadet inspection at Bishop's College School. It keeps me busy. The visit to Buckingham Palace was definitely a highlight."



COURTESY OKILL STUART

The official Buckingham Palace photo of Okill and Sylvia Stuart with Princess Anne. "Ours was the only photo taken," said Stuart.

## LEK merger spells stability

*Best for the long term, says VP*

By Maurice Crossfield  
KNOWLTON

**K**nowlton's LEK has merged with an American packaging firm, a move which spells stability for the workforce, says the company vice president.

"In the short term it's not going to change anything, but in the mid and long term we are going to have new customers and new markets we didn't previously have access to," said Mario Allaire, vice president of sales and marketing at LEK, also known as Knowlton

Packaging. "We are now probably the number two or number three player in North America for our type of business. Our customers view that very favourably."

The deal, announced last week, sees the amalgamation of LEK with Tri Tech Industries, Inc. of Lynchburg, Virginia. Both companies package over-the-counter health and beauty products, from deodorants to skin care products and shampoos.

Funding was made possible through help from the Solidarity Fund of the Quebec Federation of Labour, the Capital Régional et Co-operatif Desjardins and Fondation. But the

PLEASE SEE LEK ON PAGE 4



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# Brome County Community Billboard

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Feb. 1

Eastern Townships School Board **PARENTS' NIGHT** at **Massey-Vanier High School**, 4 - 6 p.m. and 7 - 9 p.m. Parents are asked to pick up your child's Term 2 report card at Massey-Vanier on Parents Night.

Feb. 3

Series of 6 **Card Parties** hosted by **Craft Guild of St. James the Apostle**, Saturday, February 3, 10, 17, 7:30 p.m., Parochial Hall, 17 Maple, **Stanbridge East**. 500 & Cribbage, lunch and prizes. Please bring your own board. \$5 per person. All welcome. Info: Audrey Blinn, 450-248-2407, Barbara Boomhower, 450-248-2671.

**MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING SUPPORT GROUP** - Meetings held at United Church, 234 Knowlton Rd., **Knowlton**, 2 p.m. Having difficulty coping? Not sure how to support someone suffering from mental illness? Or maybe you just want to be more informed? Info: 450-243-0928 or pleasantvalley@sympatico.ca.

Every Saturday in February **BROME LAKE BOOKS** will hold their popular series of **STORYTELLING** beginning at 11 a.m. for children of all ages! Lots of surprises Special guest storyteller will be local author Karen Rooney this Saturday, February 3rd.

Feb. 4

**SUPERBOWL 2007** at **Royal Canadian Legion**, Br. 99, 120 Davignon St., **Cowansville**, 1 p.m. Games, drawings. Lasagna super, 4:30 to 6 p.m. to Benefit 'Helping Hand' banque de mangere (Eglise Anglican).

**Country Music Dances and Jam Sessions** every Sunday, starting January 28th "Salute to Quebec Seniors" to be held at **South Bolton**, Catholic Church Hall from 2 - 6 p.m. Door prizes and 50/50 draw. \$5 admission for hall. Refreshments available. Everyone welcome.

Feb. 9

The Wellness Volunteer Centre invites all **Town of Brome Lake** seniors to a **St. Valentine's Day Luncheon** at the new TBL Community Centre, 270 Victoria, on Friday, February 9 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Transportation available if necessary. Limited seating. Reserve by Monday, February 5 at 450-242-2020. Donation \$3.

Feb. 10

**HISTORICAL LECTURE SERIES**, with Jimmy Manson in The Old Court House, 15 St. Paul, **Knowlton**, 1 p.m. Topic: "EVER VIGILANT: Freemasonry in the Eastern Townships, Circa 1900". Information: 450 243-6782.

## ARTS CALENDAR

Feb. 11

**KNOWLTON PLAYERS** will hold a reading of **CHICKASAW**, a new Canadian Musical Comedy, on Sun. Feb. 11, 1:30 p.m. at Arts Knowlton, 9 Mt. Echo Rd., **Knowlton**. Free admission. Every-

one welcome. Guest soloist will be Laura Teasdale. If you are interested in reading for this presentation, please contact Vesta Jorgensen, 450 243-6746.

## CHURCH SERVICES

Feb. 14

Trinity Anglican Church **'VALENTINE'S BRUNCH'**, 409 Church St., **Cowansville**, 11:30 a.m. One sitting, \$10. Reservations, 450 263-3329.

Feb. 20

**SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**, **Dunham United Church**, 5 - 7 p.m. Adults, \$6; 10 yrs. & under, \$3. Menu - Rev. Dave's "famous pancakes", pure maple syrup, sausages, applesauce & cheese. Proceeds for "Outreach Project".

Feb. 24

**THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION**, 77 Lewis Street, **Waterloo** will hold a **Flea Market** on Saturday February 24th from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. Tables will be \$10.00 each. A cantine will be open on the premises. Please call early to reserve. Information: 450-539-0005, 450-539-0847 or 450-539-3436.

Feb. 4

**Arts Knowlton's** Sunday Cinema present **Leonard Cohen, I'm Your Man**, a musical documentary, on Sunday February 4th at 5 pm. Tickets are available at the door. \$7.00 or \$5.00 for members. [www.theatrelacbrome.ca](http://www.theatrelacbrome.ca)

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

**ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**, 24 St. Paul's Road, **Knowlton**. Sunday Services: Traditional 8:00 a.m. service and 10 a.m. with music, Sunday School and Nursery. For more info: 450-242-2885. The Rev. Tim Wiebe and the congregation welcomes everyone.

**ANGLICAN PARISH OF BROME SERVICE** - Sunday, February 4th, Holy Trinity, **Iron Hill**, 10 a.m. - Morning Prayer. M.

& S. Jolley. Rev. Paul Tidman.

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

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

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

**ANGLICAN PARISH OF BEDFORD/PHILIPSBURG & FARNHAM** - Sunday Services: **Philipsburg**, 9:30 a.m.; **Farnham**, 1st Sunday in **Bedford** at 11 a.m., 2 & 4th Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in **Farnham** & 3rd Sunday at 11 a.m. in **Farnham**; **Bedford**, 11 a.m. For information call 450-248-3923. The Ven. Dr. Brian A. Evans, Rector & Archdeacon of Bedford.

**BEDFORD UNITED CHURCH PASTORAL CHARGE** - Sunday Services: 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month, Service in **Bedford**, 2nd Sunday, **Stanbridge East**, 4th Sunday, **Mystic**, 5th Sunday, **Philipsburg**. All services are at 10 o'clock. Rev. Michel Nahas leading. Everyone welcome. 450-248-3044 for information.

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

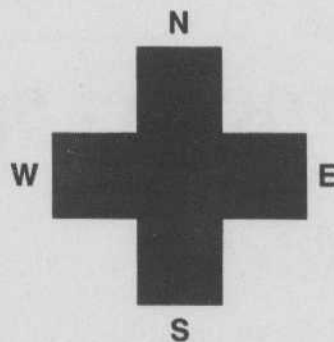
**OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH, Sutton**, Pastor Alex Lobach and the congregation welcome all to worship with us each Sunday at 11 a.m. Mid-week youth group and Bible Study. Tel. 450-538-5225.

**NEW VISION PASTORAL ZONE UNITED CHURCHES**: Join us for Sunday worship in the following churches at the indicated times and dates: **DUNHAM UNITED** at 9:15 a.m., **ST. PAUL'S UNITED, Waterloo** at 9:30 a.m., **GRANBY UNITED** at 11:30 a.m. and **CALVARY UNITED, Sutton** at 11:15 a.m. \*Reverend Susan Tille-

man will be in **Sutton** and **Dunham** and **David Lambie** will be in **Granby** and **Waterloo** in January through February 21. For information call Gail Booth at 450-538-0530.

## BCN RATES & DEADLINES COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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



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KNOWLEDGE AND KNOW-HOW.

# She commutes an hour and considers herself lucky

## For the children

By Jessica Brown  
BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT  
It hasn't been an easy month for Lise Champagne. Her house on Lakeside in Knowlton burned down in early January, and they lost everything. And yet, every morning, she still drives into Montreal because she loves her job and because she knows she is lucky.

All of her family got out safely and are healthy.

And when Champagne gets to work, she will be dealing with children who are not healthy, who are not alright.

But still she doesn't mind. Her labour of love is The Lighthouse, a special project that provides palliative care to children around the province.

"This was an opportunity for me to fulfill a dream," she said. "I used to be a nurse at Ste. Justine's hospital and there was no palliative care for children. They would die in their hospital beds. I just felt I needed to do more."

And she has. Champagne started at The Lighthouse last fall. A new building, located in Montreal's east-end borough of Rosemont, is a magnificent home for children and the first of its kind in Quebec.

It was a project that came to be thanks to major fundraising efforts and dedicated volunteers. Although still under construction, the home should be ready to receive its first guests in the spring. Says director-general Michelle Viau-Champagne: "We don't want children to feel like they are in a hospital. We've gone to great measures to make it feel like a real home."

Walking through the newly plastered hallways, one is struck with the harsh reality of what the Lighthouse really means, but as the people involved say, "We cannot change a reality, we cannot save everyone. But we can change how it happens, we can make it go as well as possible."

The Lighthouse also provides at-home care for children but they are in desperate need of volunteers, especially

from the Townships.

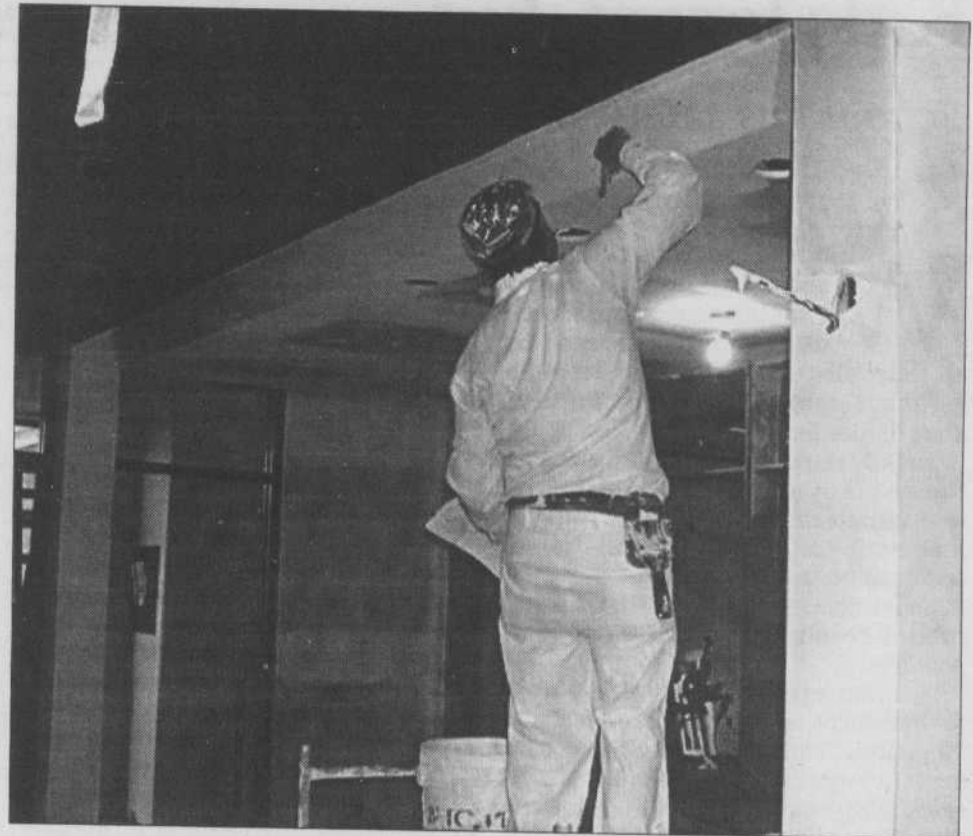
Last year a Waterloo family whose daughter has leukemia had to be turned away because there was no one in the area to help.

Champagne says this happens frequently. However, things are slowly changing. Last week, Champagne recruited two volunteers from the Knowlton area.

The Lighthouse offers training sessions for volunteers as often as they are needed. The group is run in association with both the Montreal Children's and Ste. Justine's hospitals in Montreal. However, if anyone would like to be referred to their services, they should go through their family doctor. Interested volunteers can contact The Lighthouse at 514-954-4848, or people can go on line to [www.phare-lighthouse.com](http://www.phare-lighthouse.com).



Lise Champagne and Michelle Viau-Champagne.



Finishing up The Lighthouse building.

JESSICA BROWN

THE RECORD Brome County NEWS

# Oliver Klaus

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# Kids forget, but grownups can't hold on to that excuse

## School bus safety and more on child car seats

When I got into writing about children and safety seats last week, I ran smack into the problem faced by all journalists: The fine line between getting it right and screwing it up. An alert reader let me know.

Luckily the errors weren't major, just the result of using some outdated research material. It's also an example of how complicated life with child safety seats can be.

So let me clarify a few things, for the sake of keeping as many kids alive as possible:

- Infant car seats are typically used for newborns up to one year, or to about 20 pounds. From there they can graduate to a larger seat, but it must still be rear-facing until they can stand on their own. Then they can move to a forward-

facing seat.

- Transport Canada also advises parents not to rush things. If the seat still fits, the child will be safer than they would moving to the next level (say from a child seat to a booster seat).

- The federal transport authority has done away with some of its size and weight recommendations, deciding instead to tell parents to follow the instructions that come with the seat. The instruction booklets tend to be long and complicated, but they will give you the best advice for keeping your child safe.

- Booster seats are now advised for children between 40 and 80 pounds, not 40 and 60 as I wrote last week. By Quebec law a child doesn't need a booster seat when they measure 63 centimetres or 25 inches from their bum to the top of their head.

- There are also installation issues concerning newer cars, such as the LATCH (Lower Anchors and Tethers for Children) system, and what to do if your vehicle has side curtain airbags. Please read carefully.

In short, measure and weigh your child and follow the installation instructions. Take some time as well to read up on the subject. Que-

### UNDER THE HOOD

MAURICE CROSSFIELD

bec's automobile insurance board, the SAAQ, has a pamphlet called Secure Them For Life, available at licence bureaus or on the Internet at [www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca](http://www.saaq.gouv.qc.ca). Transport Canada also has a lot of sound advice at [www.tc.gc.ca](http://www.tc.gc.ca).

### SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Many of your kids, or grandkids, are old enough to go to school. And like most rural kids, the school bus plays an important role in getting to and from school.

Statistically it's the safest way to travel, mainly because for the 10,000 men and women who drive school busses every day, safety is a big issue. They are after all responsible for getting 600,000 Quebec kids to and from school in one piece, driving nearly one million kilometres a day.

Still, accidents happen. Between 1999 and 2004 some 61 children were involved in accidents while crossing the road, getting on or getting off a school bus. Of those, five did not survive. Several others were left with life-altering injuries.

This is the 19th edition of School Bus Safety Week. And a good time for parents and teachers alike to sit down with their children and talk about bus behaviour. The aim is to make sure they don't make the driver's life more difficult than it already is.

Once we have the kids and the drivers on their best behaviour, it's up to the motoring public to do their share:

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### on Business



Those familiar with the culinary artistry of chef Patrick Roy are excited to discover that he has joined the team at the restaurant of Auberge le St-Amour in Sutton. The combination of chef Roy's delicious and exquisitely presented cuisine and the St-Amour's cozy dining room make for an exceptional evening.

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Advertorial

Where there are school buses there are kids. Because they're kids, they can sometimes forget the rules. You're a grownup, so you don't have the same excuse.

When the school bus comes to a stop and the warning lights come on, you must stop at least five metres from the bus. The only exception is on a divided road separated by a median. Screw up on that and if you don't hit someone's kid you'll still be faced with a \$200 to \$300 fine and nine demerit points. That's one of the harshest penalties for breaking the rules of the road. If there is an accident, life gets proportionally more complicated from there.

You may be in a rush, but the few seconds you save aren't worth the consequences. The costs can be too high to calculate.

[mcrossfield@sherbrookerecord.com](mailto:mcrossfield@sherbrookerecord.com)

## LEK:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

specific financial details of the deal were not released.

In an interview with the *Brome County News*, Allaire said the merger, combined with the purchase of beauty care research and development firm Body Blue in Toronto last summer, gives the company the ability to provide multiple services from multiple sites. That in turn translates into stability for the 650 to 700 people who earn their living at LEK, the largest employer in Brome Lake.

Allaire said there are no plans to expand the Knowlton operation. He said the site has reached its limits in a number of ways, saying it's a better business move to expand elsewhere.

"But it will certainly mean that over the long term they will be more secure in their jobs," he said. "I think it is very positive news that a small company from Knowlton is taking over North American corporations."

LEK and Tri Tech plan to grow through sharing their respective strengths in technologies, engineering, supply chain management and product innovation. Together the two companies will service more than 75 customers, including industry leaders like Johnson and Johnson.

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# Not on the FM dial yet, but buy a ticket and...

## Oliver Klaus hits the stage with opera and hip-hopsters

By Alanna Fahey

BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Come heck or high water, the volunteers at CIDI, the little radio station that will, are determined to build a broadcasting tower and buy a transmitter, to allow us to tune in and listen to our own voices.

And they're planning a mid-February fundraiser with band Oliver Klaus and a collection of special guests to entice residents.

"Community radio is necessary in this area of the Townships, because not only will it provide our population with local weather, news and road conditions, it will be used as a tool to make the populace of this area aware of what is happening politically and culturally in this very unique area of Quebec," said Dewy Durrell, president of CIDI's board of directors.

Oliver Klaus may well be a part of that uniqueness — and the musicians certainly have impressive fans.

Some credit Klaus as the first band in Canada to produce an "indie" record. Famed Canadian tour promoter Donald K. Donald said of the band: "They had a commune/co-op in Waterloo and 30 years ago Oliver Klaus was my favorite little band."

Over the last 35 years the group has remained an enigma to many fans, yet has reached near cult status in Quebec. When they come out to perform, they pack the venue.

Maurice Singfield, himself involved with the creation of CIDI, helped found



DAVID ANDERSON

Tenor Pascal Gauthier will lend his voice to a CIDI fundraiser.

Oliver Klaus. He said members have changed over time, and it was created at a time of marked cultural shift in the late 1960s. As such, it marked an era and is particularly popular with boomers and the next, so-called "echo" generation.

The CIDI fundraiser will be an evening of music with opera tenor Pascal Gauthier, hip-hop artists Porto 'n The ETBs (the Eastern Townships Boys), Sherbrooke's Jeff Coley, and Sarah

Biggs, all accompanied by Oliver Klaus. Biggs said she sees CIDI as a creative venue. "I have been away from the area for 10 years and upon returning a year and a half ago I saw how this area has become an area rich with artists and musicians.

"I see the radio station as a means to create some sort of cohesion in the area amongst all of the listeners, French and English."

CIDI began its journey in 1998 with a

marketing study that showed the area was in need of its own station. Within 18 months, the study was given to the federal regulatory agency the CRTC, which eventually granted CIDI the rights to the 99.1 FM frequency.

CIDI has the land on which to build the tower and house the transmitter, and has been raising money through sales of CDs that feature the kind of music and interviews the station would broadcast over the airwaves.

Durrell says his board is strong and he is certain that they will be able to raise the money needed to build the tower and buy the transmitter before their November 2008 deadline.

"The cost of the tower and the transmitter is approximately \$86,000," said Durrell. "The transmitter needs to be in a climate-controlled hut, and then there are little things that happen in the run of a project, so, say, one-hundred-grand and the station is broadcasting."

The CRTC has ruled that 60 percent of future programming must be music, and volunteers promise that 40 percent of that will be local. The station will also act as a link between town governments and citizens, plus provide the public with a forum with which to voice concerns, debate public policy, and yup, maybe there is a place on that station for a cub reporter gal, taking calls from listeners. Who knows?

The fundraising concert will be held at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 17 at La Maison de la Culture de Waterloo.

The cost of a ticket is \$35. The money raised will go directly to CIDI and the price includes a membership in the group, dubbed Radio Communautaire Missisquoi.

## A bank heist, the US civil war and love

### Mixing fact with fiction

By Alanna Fahey

BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

It was while Donald Patriquin and Donald Davison were shopping for Christmas lights for the Foster's Creek Church two years ago that all this craziness got started. Craziness about a love story, a patent medicine, and Confederate soldiers concocting a raid on the bank in St. Albans, Vermont, then fleeing to Canada.

Seems Patriquin had just wrapped up his musical Louisa and was eager for another project. Davison was writing a book about the oft told and wonderful tale of the St. Albans bank fiasco during the U.S. Civil War. It became apparent that the pair had indeed found Patriquin's next project.

The two decided the book would make a great musical.

Patriquin, who wrote the music, enlisted Roger de la Mare, writer of "Julie" and "Bikers of Penzance" to be the script writer and Graham Hardman of Ottawa, who has worked extensively with the theatre group The Fossils, was asked to be the lyricist.

They've taken the book to another level, writing into the script a fictitious love story between Vermont widow Minnie Green — who never existed — and the very real John Rumsey, a barrister banished from Britain to Canada.

The play was originally called The Raid. But as the script was re-worked the name was changed

PLEASE SEE CHICKASAW ON PAGE 6

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## SOCIAL NOTES

## Knowlton

## Golden Age Club

The first meeting of 2007 was held Jan. 18th at 1:30 p.m. at the new Community Centre.

Due to the absence of the president the meeting was opened by Beverley Battley. There were four tables of '500' and one games table. The '500' winners were: 1st Florence Burnham, 2nd Elvia Johnson, 3rd Peggy Battley.

The 10 hearts bid was won by Peggy Battley and Monica Bowen.

The winner at the games table was Shirley Persons.

The half and half winners were Marsha Emmet and Joyce Lacroix.

Our sincere sympathies go to the Wilms' family on the death of Hans Wilms.

Get well wishes to Stella Mizener

who is presently a patient at the Brome-Missisquoi-Perkins Hospital.

A list was passed around to be signed by those who would be attending the luncheon to be put on by the Wellness Centre on Friday, Feb. 9th at noon at the Community Centre.

After the refreshments all went on their way.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, Feb. 1st at which time bingo will be played.

-Jean Riti  
Secretary

## Dreaming Artist

I would brush a path of flowers  
Towards a peaceful world,  
A sheltered spot of love and bliss,  
For every boy and girl.

A rainbow of variegated colours  
Would arc a sky of blue  
And I'd leave it there to wish upon  
So dreams could all come true.

Soft white clouds would bounce  
along

On a land I'd paint deep green  
For every boy and girl to catch —  
And lay their heads in dream.

I would paint a beautiful garden of  
Perfumed flowers and trees  
Where little ones could play all day  
Among butterflies and bees.

I'd create starlit borders  
Spanning towards foreign shores  
Where little hands would touch in  
love  
Bringing peace forever more.

- Marina Melanson  
Knowlton

## CHICKASAW:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 5

to Chickasaw, the patent medicine that plays such a significant role in the theme.

Vesta Jorgenson overheard a discussion of the piece one day at Creek Church, and said "I would love to direct that."

The answer was yes.

All five of these folks have formed a

## Cheers to the architects

DEAR EDITOR,

Following your excellent article on the opening of Centre Lac-Brome ("Cutting the Ribbon", Jan. 24 *Brome County News*), I would like to add a large thank you to the design and construction team.

The architects, Favreau-Blais/Cimaise were responsible, in conjunction with the engineers, Teknica, for the design.

The result is a building which is delightful both in the way it fits so well into the landscape and an interior which, apart from being extremely user friendly, has that elusive "wow" factor which takes it way beyond the ordinary.

The construction was undertaken by Drumco of Drummondville who have produced a quality building on time and within budget.

As head of the construction committee I know that without the design flair of the architects and engineers, plus the professional goodwill that existed within the design and construction team, the project would not have been the great success that it undoubtedly is.

DAVID KININMONTH,  
President of the Construction Committee  
Centre Lac-Brome

## The smell of...

DEAR EDITOR,

Has anyone ever smelled something burning in their house and didn't

group that not only will work together for this production, but together they own the play.

I asked Jorgenson what it is like — being the director — to have the writers so hands-on with the production. "It is fun to work with a script as organic as this one and because the writers and myself share the same vision for the play, the evolution of it has been exciting," she said.

And getting the community involved has also turned out to be a good thing. Said de la Mare: "After one particular public reading for this play, in Knowlton, we re-wrote the entire second act. In the first draft we had children in the scene and the viewers felt the presence of the children was contrived, so out they went."

Knowlton Players is the producer of this show (which will be mounted on stage in

know exactly what it was?

It's pretty scary, and this was exactly the case for me on Saturday afternoon while at home with my three-year-old daughter.

I've never had to think about the house burning down, at least I never thought I did, but this is what could have happened had we not been there.

Turns out we had too much electricity going through "the box." A big thank you goes out to Peter Reglin, who came over within a short time to assess the situation and reassure us that we were safe.

While driving through Knowlton later that evening, I noticed that all of the Christmas lights were still on all over the town.

After what happened earlier that day, I wondered how much energy it must take to have all of those lights on?

More importantly, why are they on? It's almost February!

With all the talk about global warming and what effects it is having in our world, our children's and grandchildren's world, why are those lights on?

Everyone has to start somewhere, I think Knowlton could start here. "Beauty comes from within": the town is beautiful without them and will be even more beautiful in 50 or so years, as long as we are all still here.

Let's be beautiful and smart... turn the lights off! And then go and rent "An Inconvenient Truth," a movie by (former US vice-president) Al Gore about global warming that everyone should see.

SARA CHAPMAN  
Bondville

October). "The play is a perfect vehicle for community theatre," Jorgenson said. "This type of play lends itself to a huge cast for the chorus and extras, which is just one of the important things about community theatre. It provides a closeness for the audience, a familiarity with the cast as they come to see friends, family and neighbours perform for them, the community."

Patriquin, De la Mare, Jorgenson, Hardman and Davison envision this play being performed not only in Knowlton, but hopefully in Enosburg Falls, Burlington and perhaps even St. Albans and Montreal.

Anyone interested in sitting in on the final public reading — a last tune up — on Sunday, Feb. 11th at 1:30 p.m. may call Vesta Jorgenson at 450-243-6746.



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# Reverend to protest Iraq war

*And she's looking for similarly-minded folks*



COURTESY MICHEL GADOURY

Rev. Wendy MacLean wants to organize a protest.

By Wendy Denman

BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Rev. Wendy MacLean, incumbent at Emmanuel United Church in Cowansville, was in Tel Aviv on March 16, 2003, when the U.S. invaded Iraq. "There was a real sense of danger, there were instructions everywhere on how to get to a sealed room. There was no happiness about it, just fear that Israel would be the first place that Iraq would attack," said MacLean. "I still find it remarkable that they even went to war in the first place and they are still there."

With the fourth anniversary of the invasion looming, MacLean is asking concerned individuals and groups to get together with her to plan a protest. "This is the first time I have tried to organize an Iraq war protest and it is not something I would do alone. It needs to be a concerted effort and I am just now feeling the waters, but time is short. I know there is energy out there, I know people are very upset by this war and I am hoping we can come together and focus that energy."

"A big march is planned for Washington on March 16 and I am hoping we can make

some noise in our own context."

Some of the ideas MacLean is tossing out for discussion include a silent vigil in the church; a musical evening of song and prayer from different faith traditions; a media campaign with letters and photos; posters and buttons to protest the war; a possible celebrity visit and a walk from Cowansville's Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital to the office of the local MNA.

"There are other goals than just protesting the war on the anniversary of the invasion. We need to protest the Canadian government's policy of war in Afghanistan as a way of bringing peace. We need to join together our voices as a multi-faith community to seek peace and to share our convictions that there are other ways of bringing resolution to conflict," MacLean continued. "To be a presence of love together, to enjoy sharing in many ways is powerful."

MacLean has asked anyone who wants to become involved to meet her at Emmanuel United on Wednesday, Jan. 31 at 2 p.m. "This is all very open to discussion. Right now I need to hear what other people are thinking. We need to toss ideas around. What is happening in Iraq is wrong; we need to say so."

MacLean can be reached at 450-263-0204.

# Were they slaves?

## Black History Month

Staff

Ledgers kept in an attic for more than a century that may give some insight into the early black presence in the Townships will be displayed for the first time in February.

That's "may" give some insight because the museum folk appear to be trying to leave a bit of mystery in order to attract visitors.

"The never-before-seen Philip Ruitter Ledgers (1799-1811) will be exhibited for the first time at the Missisquoi Museum," states a communiqué.

"The ledgers shed new light on the debate about the presence of Black people living in the shadow of 'Nigger Rock' in the St. Armand region of Missisquoi County.

"Visitors will discover shopping trends of the community at Missisquoi Bay, identify early families and have the opportunity to study the ledgers to determine if they provide an answer to the ongoing debate about the lives of the

black community that lived in the region at the turn of the 19th century."

The ledgers are on loan from Robert Galbraith and Phyllis Montgomery, and are intended "to honour the individuals whose names have not been recognized in conventional local history."

A vernissage will be held on Thursday, Feb. 1 from 7 to 9 p.m.

The Black History Month Exhibit at the Missisquoi Museum (2 River Street, Stanbridge East) is open Thursday to Sunday, from Feb. 1 to Feb. 25 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Call 450-248-3153.

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# 'Magic' Grant survived the crash

*'I remember screaming for my daughter'*

By Frank Nixon

BROME COUNTY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

Otis "Magic" Grant knows that to win in boxing, your opponent has to be faced, fought, and defeated. There is no other way.

You either beat them or they beat you. It's that simple.

For the fighter, this holds true for life's challenges outside the boxing ring, as well.

On a warm June night in 1999, Grant had seconds to react as he saw a car heading directly towards him as he was southbound on Highway 15, near St. Jerome.

With his daughter Alexandria, then six, and fellow fighter Hercules Kyvelos as passengers, Grant put his own life on the line by trying absorb the impact of the oncoming vehicle.

"The car was coming right towards us, going north in the south lane, so I swerved my car so it wouldn't hit the passenger side, where Herc and my daughter Alexandria were," recalls Grant.

"When I awoke, we were on the shoulder of the highway and I told Herc to get my daughter out of the car. Then he got me out of the car, called 911, and we were put in three different ambulances.

"I kept asking, 'Where's my daughter?' I remember screaming for my daughter in the [hospital] emergency room. When a nurse told me my daughter was all right and safe, I let myself go. I woke up seven days later from a coma."

Grant fractured five ribs, punctured a lung, and shattered his shoulder blade. His doctors said that he was lucky to be alive and that his career as a professional boxer was over.

The Jamaican-born fighter, who grew up in Montreal, and who holds a degree in leisure studies from Concordia University, would prove them wrong.

At 35, he formally began his comeback by beating three-time world middleweight champ Dingaana Thobela over eight one-sided rounds in 2003.

Grant officially retired in December 2006, after 42 professional fights, a world title, and a stellar 38-3-1 record.

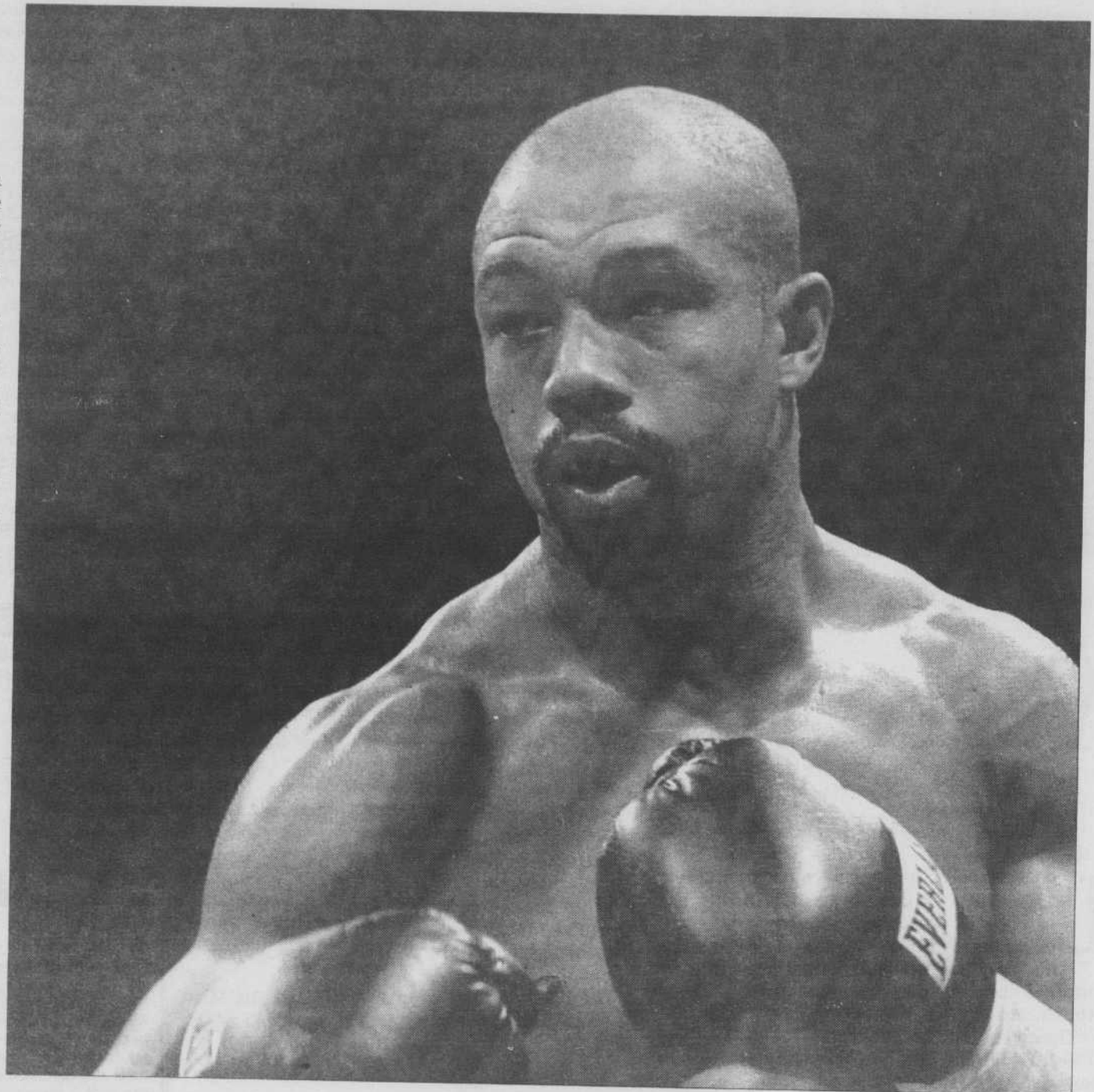
The boxer agreed to be interviewed by *Brome County News* prior to a workshop he'll be giving in Sutton.

**BCN:** What can participants expect when you give your workshop? Could you take us through the workshop?

**Grant:** Participants can expect to have fun, become more knowledgeable about the sport of boxing, and walk away knowing a bit more of what it takes to prepare for competition.

I'll start them with a warm up, and after the warm up, we will do some boxing training that will consist of different drills, depending on the equipment that the gym is furnished with.

"I'll also leave some time at the end to answer different questions and to work on specific situations, if



COURTESY OTIS GRANT

Where did Otis Grant's nickname come from? It depends on who you ask!

requested.

**BCN:** Could you tell us the latest news regarding the Otis Grant Foundation, its mission, and why you started it?

**Grant:** The Otis Grant & Friends Foundation has been in operation since 1999. I started it after the car accident, when a community based organization was having problems fulfilling the need list for needy families.

They asked me to loan my name to help them with a food drive. I also had some friends and knew some people in the food business and in less than a month we brought in over 10 tons of food. I have been doing this every year since then.

Our mission is to help any and all groups or community-based organizations that help people in need.

We help primarily with food donations, but in recent years we've expanded towards helping community based youth groups, as well as helping families with terminally sick children.

Now that I retired from competitive boxing, I plan on spending more time working with the foundation and to bring it to the next level.

**BCN:** Your nickname is "Magic". How did this come about?

**Grant:** The nickname is a long story and it depends on who you ask.

If you ask my old trainer, Russ, he'll tell you that when I was younger I played a lot of basketball, and my favorite player was Magic Johnson. One summer, I was teaching him to play and he started calling me Magic because I used to try and play like him.

If you ask my brother, Howard, he'll tell you that one summer afternoon we were playing football in the schoolyard. The quarterback handed me the ball. I tucked it under my shirt and ran backwards all the way to the end zone. I scored the touchdown and no one

PLEASE SEE 'MAGIC' ON PAGE 12

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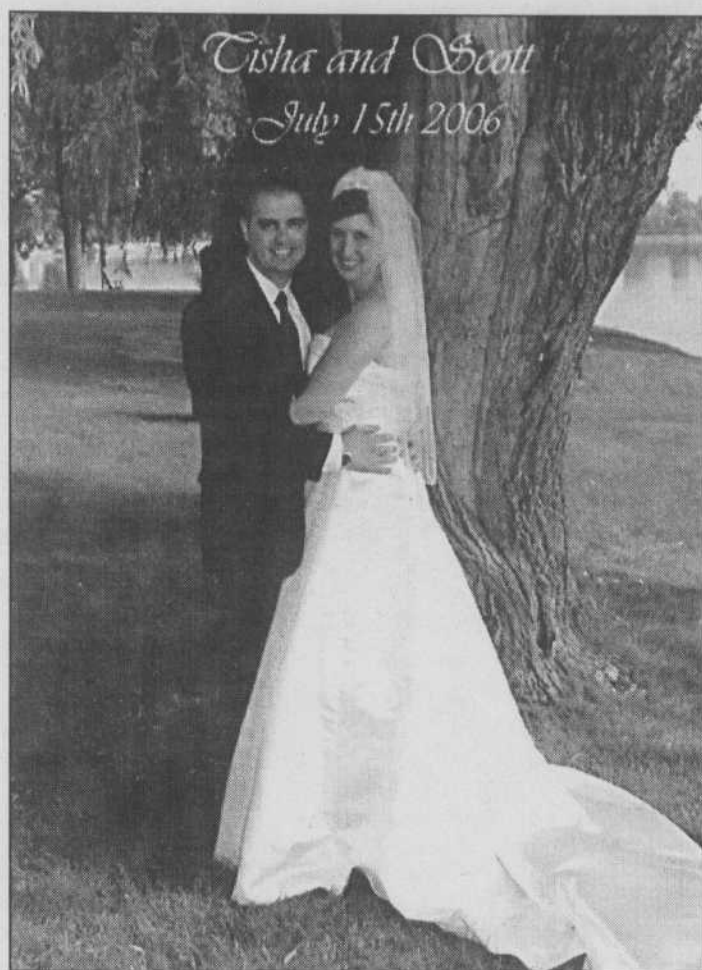


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Fig.16

Bailey - Onesi



Mr. and Mrs. Scott Bailey are shown following their wedding. Scott is the son of Lou and the late Gordon Bailey of Foster, and Tisha is the daughter of Sandi and Leo Onesi of Chateaugay. They reside and work in Montreal.

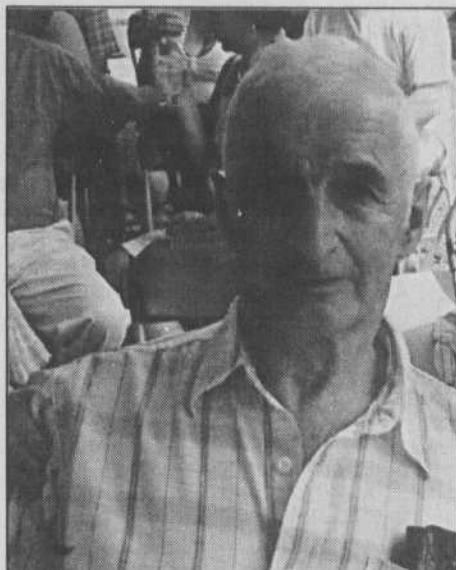
|                   |         |
|-------------------|---------|
| ◦ Bistro 495 ◦    |         |
| Guest bill        |         |
| Salad (2).....    | \$14.50 |
| Wine (2).....     | \$11.50 |
| Dessert.....      | \$ 4.75 |
| Food tax.....     | \$ 2.90 |
| Liquor tax.....   | \$ 1.15 |
| Subtotal.....     | \$34.90 |
| Gratuity.....     | \$      |
| Total.....        | \$      |
| Thank you ◦ Merci |         |

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Math solves problems

An Open House for Junior Harvey's 80th birthday!!



His family warmly invites you to help them celebrate this very special occasion. To be held on Saturday, February 3, 2007 at the Dunham United Church Hall from 1 - 4 p.m. Best wishes only ... or shower him with cards at 483 Childerhouse Rd., Dunham, QC JOE 1M0.

Deaths

**BUTTON HAYES, Jennie** - Jennie Button Hayes of Richford, Vermont passed away in her 79th year at the Saint Albans Hospital. Predeceased by her parents Perley Button and Edith Payne. Beloved wife of the late Donald Hayes. Mother of Timmy (Marguerite) and Tammy Adamczak (Greg). She leaves her sister Dorothy Mitson (late Graydon), Priscilla Young (Jim), Verna Gatley. Predeceased by her siblings Clair Button, Ardis Fuller (Walter), Morris Gatley (Marie). She also leaves six grandchildren and one great grandchild. Funeral at Spears Funeral Home in Richford on Jan 31 at 12:00. There will be a spring burial.

**MANDIGO, Bruce Patten** (1921-2007) - Peacefully at the Brome Missisquoi Perkins Hospital, Cowansville, Qc. on Monday, January 29, 2007, Bruce Patten Mandigo in his 87th year. Survived by one Sister Gloria Davis of Sutton, QC. Cherished Uncle of Susan, Holly, Barry and Michael. Survived by many nieces, nephews and one great-niece Rita and three great-nephews, Brad, Mark and Cardin. Predeceased by one brother Keith and one sister Merle. He leaves to mourn numerous relatives and many friends. At Mr. Mandigo's request Cremation followed by a Memorial service at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations to the The Arthritis Society in his memory would be greatly appreciated and acknowledged by the family. Forms available from the Funeral Home. Funeral Arrangements entrusted to the Denis Meunier Funeral Home & Chapel, 402 River St., Cowansville, QC. Tel. (450) 266-6061; Fax.: (450) 266-6057; E-Mail: [funerariumdm@qc.aira.com](mailto:funerariumdm@qc.aira.com) - Robert Farnam, Director-Counsellor.

The Pens of E.T. Writers

Dick Tracy

Back in the day we were thoroughly amazed,  
By detective Dick Tracy and his dangerous ways.  
Riddled with bullets or cuts from a knife,  
You couldn't kill him, he had many a life.

But if you're like me, you remember the most,  
The thing that we ordered, just so we could boast.  
It came from Kellogg's or maybe from Post,  
We sent in two box tops, and it came by post.

I've had days on the job when I've watched the clock,  
I've been to some parties, with their endless talk,  
I've had to thin turnips, and trim Christmas trees,  
But I'm certain no five weeks were as long as these.

I stopped at the post office every day without fail,  
Nothing would stop me, not rain, sleet or hail.  
I asked all my buddies if they'd received theirs,  
By now, from my parents, I got only blank stares.

On day twenty-five I heard the worst,  
Someone had got one; I wouldn't be first,  
But my clever mother soon changed my tune,  
She said, "What this means is, yours is coming soon."

Now I was frantic, couldn't sleep, couldn't eat!  
Another one came to a guy down the street.  
And then came the news that made my hair curl,  
It's not fair at all, who got one? A girl!

Finally it did come, this treasure of mine,  
But all that it did was tell me the time.  
It didn't show pictures, it wasn't a phone,  
My fancy wristwatch did not have a tone.

Why am I writing of something like this,  
Back to a time when I got truly pissed?  
Because things have got even, as things usually do,  
And now Dick Tracy's watch is obsolete too!

Wayne Robinson

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up to \$8.00 off 2 Dinners - From Dining Room Menu  
with the purchase of a Carafe or Bottle of Wine or Appetizers  
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Cut me out

# Grrrrr. Why is everything so screwed up?

## Parents can learn to be calm

By Wendy Denman

BROME COUNTY NEW CORRESPONDENT

Family life is full of day-to-day annoyances. Your seven-year-old forgot his lunch — again. Nobody took out the garbage — again. The milk carton in the fridge was put back empty.

Then there are larger problems — like your 14-year-old daughter walks in at 1 a.m. — three hours late.

The inclination of many of us in any of these instances is to get angry, yell, maybe even swat or hit. Certainly it's easy to lose your temper.

"We are here to help parents. There are ways, methods, to deal with all the pressures of family life, to communicate, to get your point across in a pro-

ductive, non-violent way," says Anne Vastel, family resource counsellor in Brome-Missisquoi, attached to the Maison des Jeunes in Sutton.

"A year ago we held a weekend workshop for parents on Non-Violent Communication, a method started by an American, Marshall Rosenberg, and now in use all over the world. I've continued to meet with this group. It has made all the difference in their lives. It teaches people how to connect compassionately with themselves and others."

A second weekend workshop for parents is planned for Saturday, Feb. 17 and 18 at the John Sleeth Centre in Sutton. "This is a method that can be used by everyone, in any situation.

"Although it is being used worldwide in dysfunctional and crisis situations, it's something we can all benefit from."

Very simply, Non-Violent Communication involves focussing consciousness

on four steps that lead to reframing how we express ourselves. The first step is observation: a gathering of facts only.

Why was the 14-year-old three hours late? The first stage must be unemotional.

The second stage is about feelings: now that I know the facts, how do I feel?

"The third stage involves needs," continues Vastel. "We learn that needs are universal, that as humans we all have the same needs. Parents need to feel their child is secure and safe.

"The final stage is the request. We are taught how to request in a way that can be heard and that will be acted upon without aggression and without causing pain.

"There is a very specific language and intention in all this. We must want to engage in honest feeling, we have to really want to know."

Although Vastel is involved in every

stage of the workshops and follow-up, certified trainer Gina Cencoise, who has been working with parents for over four years now, teaches the method. She holds workshops all over Quebec in both French and English. The mother of two teenagers, she also enjoys music and dance and is a member of the world beat Choromondo Choir.

On Thursday, Feb. 1, Cencoise will lead an evening of music with an introduction to Non-Violent Communication at the Salle Alec and Gerard Pelletier in Sutton. "We've planned this as a fun evening, just an introduction. I'll have registration forms for anyone interested in the workshops."

To find out more about the Non-Violent Communication workshops, and the many other resources for families in Brome-Missisquoi, call Anne Vastel at 450-538-7494.

## MAGIC:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 8

knew where the ball was. He said that it was "magic" and that's how the name stuck.

Both stories are true. The name has stuck with me ever since I was a young teen. All my old friends, even my dad at times, call me Magic.

**BCN:** What were your initial goals when you started boxing?

**Grant:** There were no goals in the beginning. We just discovered a neighbourhood gym one summer and started going to it. I didn't set out to be a fighter. It just sort of happened almost by accident.

My brother was also boxing, and the gym was near our house. It was a safe place to be after school, instead of hanging out on the streets.

**BCN:** What one moment made you think this was really a sport you could pursue?

**Grant:** I lost two of my first three fights as an amateur and I guess when you start winning your attitude changes.

I won a novice tournament called the Montreal games, then provincial championships, and national championships. It was then that I knew for sure that I was among the best young fighters in the country.

After competing for Canada at the international level and being very successful at it, I also knew that I would make a good professional.

**BCN:** Did your parents have much of an influence on you as a boxer?

**Grant:** No, my parents didn't have much to do with us being boxers. My mother never liked it, but she never discouraged us from it either. My father was always supportive of us doing what-

ever we did.

Before my brother and I, there were no boxers in our family. We're not from a boxing family, but we had good support in the activities in which we took part.

**BCN:** Was your comeback in 2003, after the car crash, the defining moment in your boxing career, or was there another defining moment you would like to share?

**Grant:** The comeback ranks up there, just because of the whole story of being in a coma for a week, being read your last rights by the priest, and being told by the doctors that I would have a hard time being a recreational athlete; much less a professional boxer.

Winning the world title in England, in my opponent's hometown, is the other highlight of my career.

We went to England to train for that fight. We set up a training camp there and I was with a great bunch of guys. It was a very memorable trip. [Grant defeated England's Ryan Rhodes for the WBO title in 1997.]

**BCN:** Do you remember the most important advice you received in your career that helped you win a fight?

**Grant:** "The advice that I carry with me into all fights is just to remember that your opponent is human. He has two arms, two legs, and he bleeds red blood just like everyone else.

No one is superhuman; so don't put unnecessary pressure on yourself worrying about your opponent. Worry about the things you have control over, and the things you need to do to be successful.

**BCN:** Speaking as a professional fighter and world champion, what are some attributes that every great boxer needs to have in their repertoire?

**Grant:** To be successful, first off you must have the right attitude and you must be willing to put in the work. You

will never make it on talent alone. You have to have good work ethic.

If you have good support from family, friends, your promoter and management, then you are on your way.

If you are open to learning, and you are a student of the game, you will learn things along the way that you can add to your repertoire to make you a more complete fighter.

**BCN:** You officially retired from professional boxing in December. What are you doing now to keep busy, and what are your goals in the medium to long term?

**Grant:** I own and operate a boxing gym with my brother on the West Island of Montreal. I am going to spend more time in the gym developing our young fighters.

We have some really good young professionals. As a matter of fact, I'm on my way to Las Vegas to one of their fights on Saturday night.

Along with working with the fighters in the gym, I will also be taking more of an active role with G.Y.M. (Group Yvon Michel), a boxing promotion company. I'll be working with them as a consultant and representing them in other capacities.

"Finally, I'll be spending a lot more time working with my foundation and trying to take it to its full potential."

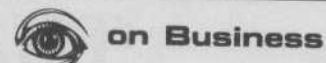
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When he returned to the ring in 2003, Grant posted seven straight wins and rose to the No. 1 ranking in the WBC. He lost to American Lirado Andrade in April 2006, which effectively ended his career.

Grant's workshop will be held on Sunday, Feb. 25 at the Xcalibur Gym in Sutton. For information, call Brian Robinson at 450-538-0313.



Véronique Montagne  
Director General



### Change of Director General

Carolyn Marsh, our Director General since 2004, has taken up a new opportunity to develop her career with another organization. The Chamber of Commerce of Brome Lake thanks Carolyn for the professional and efficient work she has always so well performed for all our members. Carolyn has been very instrumental in assuring a healthy and sustainable growth of the Chamber and

the board of directors wants to thank her for her devotion. We are proud to inform you that Véronique Montagne has started as the new Director General. She was already on the board of director since the beginning of 2006 so she knows the stake that the Chamber will be facing in 2007 to keep the growth. We are welcoming her in our team and wishing her all the best.

Marco Genoni  
Président

### A new opening schedule is presently effective:

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Monday              | 12:00 to 16:00 |
| *Tuesday            | 9:30 to 16:00  |
| Wednesday           | 12:00 to 16:00 |
| *Thursday           | 9:30 to 16:00  |
| Friday              | 12:00 to 16:00 |
| Saturday and Sunday | Closed         |

\*Closed from 12 to 1 on Tuesdays and Thursdays



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