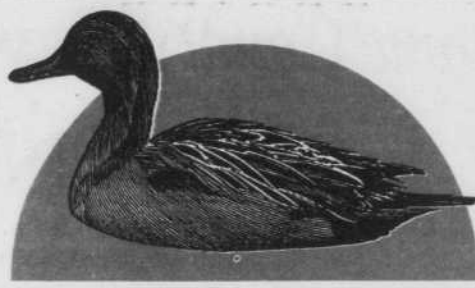


Brome County NEWS



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2005

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Massey-Vanier Elite Grads Awarded \$80,000

By Philip A. Godin
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
COWANSVILLE

A record \$80,000 was dolled out to ninety-nine distinguished high school graduates at last Wednesday night's Massey Vanier Academic Awards gala in Cowansville.

The event that saw the Massey-Vanier elite students rewarded for their outstanding academic, social and personal achievements was the culmination of years of effort and determination.

Parents, teachers and scores of invited dignitaries witnessed the well-deserved recognition of this group of high achievers, each of whom is now better skilled to face the future challenges.

The entire school seemed to teem with the kind of excitement that only wrought anticipation could possibly

have squeezed into the cheerless, concrete block of a building.

A tangible level of surprise was apparent among the scholarship, prize and bursary recipients, since the identities of the winners were only disclosed when the students were introduced to the donors, just minutes before they were paraded under the spot-lit auditorium.

SEE GRADS PAGE 3



DAVID ANDERSON/SPECIAL

Tomorrow's leaders receiving recognition for their achievements

Police work starts in the community

By Murielle Parkes
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
MANSONVILLE

Louis-Philippe Gadbois is studying to be a police officer, but not all of his training comes from the classroom. Last Saturday, he was in Mansonville helping Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) get their message out at Dépanneur 13.

Three years ago, when he was living in Dunkin, he joined SADD. He remembers feeling "really welcome" at the time. "I enjoyed my experience. I liked how they treated me, how they were with me," he said. When he moved away, he knew there was more to learn about the program.

"I wanted to know all they do," he added. "I wanted to see how implicated they were in the community, how they were involved."

Gadbois, who is 22 and mid-way through a three-year D.E.C. in police technology at the Collège de Sherbrooke, likes the idea of helping people feel safe. The police do more than arrest people and hand out tickets, he said. They protect people and property, prevent crime and enforce the law.

The SQ helps future officers build community ties by appointing "parrains" ("godparents"), to a particular municipality. Good communication skills are required.

Gadbois's current field work is as a customs officer in Stanstead. Another component of his training is a 20-hour stint with the Mansonville youth centre.

Following graduation from Police Tech., and before being hired as a police officer, Gadbois must complete a 15-week practical training program at the Quebec police school in Nicolet. The school is known for its "cutting-edge" approach to learning, with experiential teaching having replaced traditional lecture classes.

Gadbois expects to enter ENPQ after he graduates from CEGEP next June.

Bailey-Godin Earns Corry Music Award

By Philip A. Godin
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
COWANSVILLE

Seventeen-year-old Alexander Bailey-Godin's seven years of daily dedication to playing classical violin have already paid off in many ways, but none as markedly as being named this year's recipient of the prestigious Corry Family Award for Music.

This marks the second year that the Corry family has bestowed the award to the Massey-Vanier student with the most demonstrably advanced skills in music. The award's objective is to encourage the development of musical talents in young adults.

The presentation was held on June 1, during the 30th Massey-Vanier Scholarships and Bursaries Fund ceremony, along with several other awards totalling over \$80,000.

Donor Margaret Corry was represented at the event by daughter-in-law Frances Corry, who handed Bailey-Godin one of the evening's more sub-

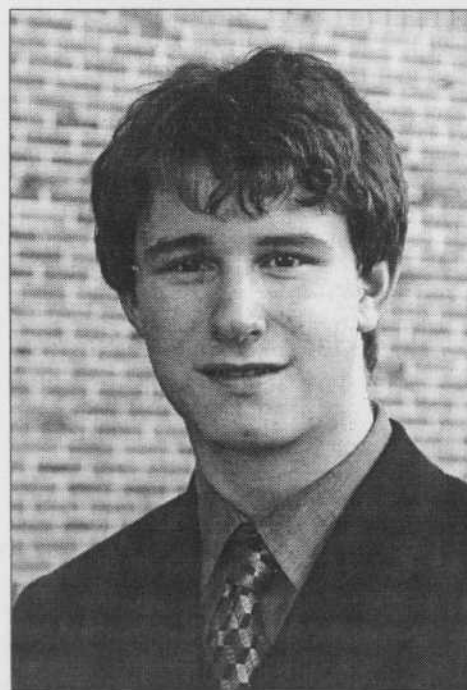
stantial awards. "Mrs. Corry has always been fond of music and singing. She feels that it is important to support music, especially because so many grants go to other areas such as the sciences".

The 91-year-old Corry currently residing at the Robinson Residence in Cowansville, is a native of St-John New-Brunswick who lived most of her life in Montreal. Her attachment to the Townships began when she and husband Thomas C. Corry purchased a hobby farm in Dunham, which remains in the family.

Bailey-Godin met Mrs. Corry at the residence on June 3 and played a medley of classical pieces for the assembled guests. "It makes me feel so good to make this contribution. There just isn't enough support for the arts" said Mrs Corry.

The idea to donate to the MVSF Fund came to Corry because of her love of music. "I studied with Bernard Diamand

SEE CORRY PAGE 3



DAVID ANDERSON/SPECIAL

Violinist Alexander Bailey-Godin, winner of the 2005 Corry Family Award for Music

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BROME COUNTY COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

June 8

500 CARD PARTY, sponsored by Waterloo Lodge, #27, 7:30 p.m. at I.O.O.F. Hall, 209 Principal St., **Warden**. Prizes and refreshments.

June 9

INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASES Update, sponsored by the Estrie Chapter of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada with Dr. Bitton, Dr. Gottke, Dr. D. Macek, and Dr. Rakovich at Auberge des Carrefours Days Inn (Salle Bertrand), 111 J.J. Bertrand, **Cowansville** at 6:30 p.m. Bilingual. Free. INFO: 1-800-461-4683 or Amanda at 450-292-3276.

June 9 and 23

MILITARY WHIST to be held at Trinity Anglican Church in **Cowansville** at 7:30 p.m. Admission \$3. Refreshments and prizes included.

June 9

Sutton/Lac-Brome Youth Center 'The Spot' will hold **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**. Light buffet between 5 - 7 p.m. at Youth Centre, in basement of John Sleeth Centre, 7 Academy, **Sutton**. All parents, teachers, grand-parents, young and old and members of the community of Sutton or Lac-Brome interested in young people from 12 - 17 years old are welcome. Info: (450) 538-7494 mdj-sutton@bellnet.ca

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 \$11 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.

Program playing from June 10th to June 16th

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June 10, 11, 12

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June 10 & 11

A FLEA MARKET AND RUMMAGE SALE at **Iron Hill Church Hall** on June 10, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., June 11 9:00 to 1 p.m. Drop off items between June 5 to 8. To pick items up call: 450-243-6291

June 11

COMMUNITY BRUNCH BUFFET, St. Luke's Anglican Church, 420 de la cour, **Waterloo**. Every second Saturday of the month, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Adults, \$6, children, \$3.

Royal Canadian Legion, 2 Curley St., **Sutton 'COUNTRY DANCE'**. Music with 'Silver Spurs'. Admission: \$5. 18 and over. No smoking. Everyone welcome!

MENTAL HEALTH & WELL-BEING SUPPORT GROUP Meeting, St. Paul's Church, **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

Please come help us **CLEAN OUR BROME HERITAGE PARK** on Saturday, at 10:30 a.m. Bring along any useful tools (e.g.: rakes, paint brushes, plastic bags, etc.) and please dress appropriately. Free food will only be a few steps away (e.g.: hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, etc.). Help us make a difference. The Brome Village Community Corporation.

"LIVING WELL, GLUTEN FREE MEET AND GREET" at Loblaw's, 1122 de Sud, **Cowansville**, 1 - 5 p.m. A presentation on "Healthy living, Gluten free" given by chapter President Margaret Duthie. To pre-register, 450-248-4281 (Nathalie) or 450-248-7927 (Julie)

June 11 & 12

11TH ANNUAL TROUT FISHING DERBY sponsored by The Yamaska Conservation Association at **Waterloo Lake**. Door prizes and participation prizes worth over \$2,000. \$1,000 of tagged trout of which two are worth \$250 each for the duration of the event. Prizes awarded, June 12th, 2 p.m. Registration \$10.00 for all. Info: 450-539-0952

June 13

Muriel Duckworth a 96 year old **PEACE ACTIVIST & FEMINIST** will be speaking at Calvary United Church in **Sutton** at 7:30

p.m. Admission, \$5. Info: 450-538-8108 or 450-538-2834.

June 14

COFFEE PARTY sponsored by Ladies of Trinity Anglican Church, (in Hall), 409 South St., **Cowansville**, 10-11:30 a.m. Good food and coffee served. Info: (-450-263-2662.

June 15

BENEFIT BRIDGE LUNCHEON on behalf of TBL Wellness volunteer Centre. Enjoy a fun afternoon of lunch followed by bridge at the lovely Auberge Quilliams, 12 noon. Make up your own table and please reserve as soon as possible. Call 243-0404. Limited seating, \$16 per person all inclusive. Info: Margot Smith, 243-6978.

SUMMER SALAD LUNCH BREAK. Share your favourite salad by joining us at our last summer Coffee Break, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring the recipe with your salad. Call to confirm: 450-248-0530. Avante Women's Centre, 2 Adhemar-Cusson, suite 2, **Bedford**.

June 18

FLEA MARKET, St. Paul's United Church, **Waterloo**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tables \$10. each. Info: 450-539-3135 or 450-539-2129.

Knowlton's Lion Club Annual **CAR WASH** to be held at Desgens Esso Service Station, 515 Knowlton Rd., **Knowlton**, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. 100 per cent of profits donated to Community. We appreciate and thank you for your support. Drop by and have your vehicle washed by a Lion. Info: Errol Frechette, 450-243-6935.

June 19

FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST at the Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Davignon, **Cowansville**, 9:30 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. Cost: \$5.00 per person. Members and non-members welcome. Information: 450-263-3543

July 1

Town of Brome Lake **CANADA DAY COMMITTEE** - Crafters! We have a spot for you at the Canada Day festivities at Lions' Park, **Knowlton**. For information call Lynn & Roger, 450-243-6778.

August 20 & 21

The Royal Canadian Legion **FLEA MARKET**, 120 Davignon Blvd., **Cowansville**. At this time we are looking for articles to sell at this event. If you have items you would like to get rid of, we will gladly take them on or before Aug. 12, 2005. For more Details please contact Denise Bedard at 450-263-0561 or

ARTS CALENDAR

Autry Tracey at 450-266-6120

THEATRE LAC BROME-Arts Knowlton Box Office and ART WALK are now open Monday to Saturday, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. For further information and reservations call: 450-242-2270 or 450-242-1395.

June 11

PIGGERY THEATRE North Hatley presents **A Night at the Oscars** by Les 3 Divines. Join us for an evening of musical theatre performed in a witty and colorful manner with wonderful costumes, a touch of humour and dynamic voices. Show starts at 8 pm. cost \$15 Dinner available by reservation at 6 pm. \$15. Reservations: 819-842-2431.

June 18 & 19

"Meaningful Art for Meaningful People"....**WOMEN AND WHEELS**, a series of figurative paintings by Vita. Wine & canapes. 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Galerie Charmante, 1182 Macey Road, **Sutton**. 450-538-0989 or www.penkathy.com

CHURCH SERVICES

KNOWLTON/CREEK PASTORAL CHARGE Worship & Song by members assisted by The Reverend Dale Skinner. Creek United, Foster, 9:30 a.m. Sunday School at Creek. Knowlton United, Knowlton, 11 a.m. (Handicap access).

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, 24 St. Paul's Road, Knowlton. Traditional Sunday service at 8 a.m. and at the 10 a.m. service, music, a nursery and Sunday School. Rev. Tim Wiebe officiating.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF BROME, Sunday Service, June 12th. One Service only at Church of the Ascension, West Brome, 9 a.m. Rev. Canon Tim Smart.

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

ST. LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, 420 de la cour, Waterloo, invites you to come and join us. 1st and 3rd Sundays, Morning Prayer, 9 a.m.; 2nd and 4th Sundays, Holy Communion, 9 a.m. Rev. W. Davidson. Info: 450-539-2078.

COWANSVILLE AREA PASTORAL CHARGE UNITED CHURCH Worship at Emmanuel United Church, 203 rue Principale, Cowansville. Worship and Sunday School at 10:30 a.m., Choir practice, 9:30 a.m. Rev. Wendy MacLean officiating.

SEE BILLBOARD, PAGE 4

Brome County NEWS



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GRADS:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

One after the other they came forth when called, for all in attendance to see. The visibly uncomfortable grads made their way onto the podium leaving the attendance to marvel at how standing onstage could become such a seemingly huge challenge to one's identity.

Boys, young men perhaps, often clumsily fitted into maladjusted, not-quite-tailored suits shyly accepting awards and felicitations.

Girls, young women all quite assuredly, definitely seized the stage as they captivated everyone's attention and taunted imaginations, elegantly, time and again just as anyone in attendance seemed to expect of them.

Children no longer, every recipient of scholarships, grants and bursaries performed one feat with striking mastery. They exemplified without the slightest hint of hesitation the strength of self-determination and the poise granted them by their success.

Armed with skills gleaned from soccer fields, chemistry labs, principal's offices, dance stages, math manuals, student council meetings, class trips, music performances, swimming pools, public speaking challenges, endless confrontations with self and others, this group of graduates is visibly ready to move on.

Standing tall as a model, beacon and a warning to their secondary one through four colleagues, this collection of high achievers, academically and otherwise, has set the bar just that much higher for the passage of life.

The audience was witnessing the sudden coming of age of these ninety-nine graduates of Massey-Vanier High School, ninety-nine young adults, whose scholastic emancipation has reached a turning point, pivoting on advanced education and afferent career choices.

These young adults, whose defiant manifestation of independence before parents and teachers was not only strikingly brave, but fully appropriate.

Even Governor General Adrienne Clarkson's representative Federal Member of Parliament for Brome-Missisquoi, Denis Paradis, was taken by the high calibre of these laureates.

In his opening address, Paradis explained that he would be unable to award this year's top prize because of a virtual tie in academic perfection between the school's top students Alexandra Côté and Jeffrey Munzar.

"The awarding committee decided to wait until the publication of the results of the upcoming provincial exams before determining the school's top academic achiever" said Paradis.

The evening then turned to the bestowing of 121 awards: scholarships for those forty three who had maintained an average above eighty per cent during the previous two years, and several

bursaries for specific achievements, talents and contributions to the school's mandate.

The soirée's top awardees included: science whiz Jeffrey Munzar, who took 12; Liberal Arts students Alexandra Côté and Hallie Seline, who took home seven and six awards, respectively; and science major Simon Brisson, with five.

Among the most substantial awards granted were the following eight:

The Lily Butter Foundation's generous scholarships awarded to the school's two top academic achievers went to Alexandra Côté and Jeff Munzar. Côté will study in Neufchatel, Switzerland, for a year in August while Munzar has accepted Champlain College's invitation for the fall of 2005.

This year's three recipients of the Doris Welch Memorial Bursary are Echo Parent-Racine, Kathy Comeau and Amanda Laviolette.

Two generous Harold Wood Memorial Special Scholarships were awarded to Parview elementary alumni Samantha Swett and Tanner Brandrick.

The Quebec Lieutenant Governor's Certificate for social engagement in the overall quality of school life went to class valedictorian Alexandra Côté.

The Butterfly Award, which recognises students for their perseverance and success in making significant changes in their lives was bestowed upon Kristina Green whose moving acceptance speech stirred the entire audience.

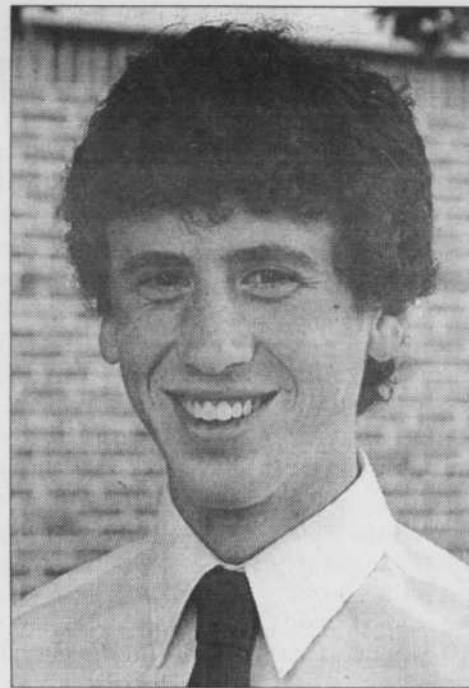
The Power, Strength and Energy Dance Scholarship was awarded to Sarah Holmes who plans to put the money to use as she heads off to higher education in Ontario.

The TAG Team's financial support was placed firmly behind chemist hopeful Terry Smeltzer, a hard working student whose considerable potential will be put to use in Champlain's Pure and Applied Science programme.

And the Perry Family Music Award which went to violinist Alexander Bailey-Godin.

The entire three hour recognition exercise was conducted with mastery by chairs Roxanne Charrette and Susan McLean.

Relying of a core group of stalwart volunteers, mostly from within the ranks of the high school itself, the pair ensured the evening's decorum was as exacting as was the determination of winners.



DAVID ANDERSON/SPECIAL

Jeffery Munzar will graduate with fond memories — and an armful of awards



DAVID ANDERSON/SPECIAL

Valedictorian Alexandra Côté will be packing up her awards — she begins her studies in Neufchatel, Switzerland in the fall.

CORRY:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

in Montreal years ago as a contralto vocalist. I thought there was something I could do to help in a small way," she said. Mrs. Corry added that she knew of and liked the activities offered at the school.

Massey Vanier Music Teacher John Barr played a role in the selection process. "I can see Alexander having a great career in music. I have often seen him play at benefit concerts in the area and for seniors at Christmas."

Barr took the school's orchestra to play in the Governor General's garden at her official residence in Ottawa in early May. "Alexander had to play a violin solo in ten degree weather—not an easy task — but he did very well," added Barr. "I'm pleased that he received this bursary. I'm certain he'll do very well".

Bailey-Godin has been playing with the Townships Cordes à vent orchestra since 2000, earning first chair for the 2004 concert series. He currently teaches violin at l'École de musique EMF in Granby and enjoys playing weddings and private venues.

After graduating from Massey-Vanier this spring, Bailey-Godin will attend both l'École de Musique Vincent d'Indy and Vanier College in Montreal in September. He has recently been accepted for tutoring by violinist Vladimir Landsman, professor at l'Université de Montréal's Music Department.

Bailey-Godin, accompanied by John Barr and other music students of the anglophone and francophone sectors of the Massey-Vanier campus, will perform at this year's Royal Lepage Action Golf Tournament on June 27.

The tournament played every year at the Cowansville Golf Club is a twenty five thousand dollar fundraiser for the Massey-Vanier Scholarships and Bursaries Fund and the Fonds d'excellence. A few \$125 slots remain open and include supper and a blind auction. For more information call Peter Riendler 266-7711.

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Book rekindles fond memories of first car

Remember your first? It changed your life. It made you popular, maybe even cool. It wasn't pretty, had a few rough spots and it probably drained your bank account.

Bill Sherk remembers his first, and he remembers what a profound effect it had on his life. And now Sherk — a.k.a. "The Old Car Detective" — has collected a series of people's recollections of their first cars, entitled I'll Never Forget My First Car: Stories From Behind the Wheel. The must-have for car enthusiasts will be out in bookstores on June 18, barely in time for Father's Day.

My First Car is a collection of nearly 60 stories about those first cars and the special places they held in people's lives. You never forget your first, though sometimes you might want to try. Chances are some of your favorite early-adulthood memories have something to do with that first car, whether it was cruising with friends to the school dance or seeing paradise by the dashboard lights.

Sherk starts off with his

own first car, a 1940 Mercury convertible that he bought for \$150 in 1959. It was lacking two parts, namely a motor and a transmission. He brought it to life, and it changed his.

For most of us, our first vehicles were far from new, far from practical and far from safe. The stars in our eyes kept us from making the best deal, with the only thing in our line of vision being the prospect of the open road. It could eat gas, leak oil and drain your bank account faster than a vampire bat on a wino, but you didn't care. You had wheels.

My own first car was a case in point: After selling off a variety of livestock and with a little help from my mom (who didn't want me driving her car all the time), my quest ended with the purchase of a 1978 Austin Mini for \$650. I loved that car. I still visit it in the scrap yard sometimes and remember the days...

From the looks of it the Mini had already lived a storied life by the time it came into my possession. The ceiling

UNDER THE HOOD

MAURICE CROSSFIELD

ing was adorned with brown shag carpet which was glued in place with contact cement. When I pulled the shag out I was left with a glue-residue ceiling that looked a lot like an old Kleenex in hay fever season. The eight-speaker sound system had been yanked out, leaving me with two speakers and an 8-track tape deck that sat on the floor. You had to pull a bit on the tape a bit to keep it running at the right speed. I owned two tapes, Supertramp and KISS. It didn't matter much, because at highway speed the engine drowned out all other sounds.

After a few repairs, and a few more, and some minor rectifications, I finally got my Mini on the road. Three days later I ditched it (a combination of bad brakes, an inexperienced driver and a dumb rabbit). A tow truck happened by and hauled it home. I didn't realize it at the time, but that was my first introduction to the business end of car repair. For the next 15 years or so I would work off and on at Foisy's garage, learning the ins and outs of fixing other people's cars, as well as my own.

The brown shag wasn't the only custom feature: There was the pair of vice-grips that served as a door handle; the front bumper was taken from a Jeep, cut down to size and painted

gold; it had two mag wheels and a tiny sport steering wheel; the horn was located in the glove box and sounded like a moose in heat.

It also had personality on the road. Hit a bump and the trunk might fly open. Hit a bump and all of the lights might suddenly go out. Hit a puddle and your passenger might suddenly be wearing a wet suit. Then there was the time I hit the big bump on the way to the Foreigner concert in 1985. The fuel line fell to the ground, dragging all the way in to Montreal. If the gas gauge had worked I would have realized I was trailing a fine spray of fuel behind me. Why my little brown Mini didn't turn into a bright orange ball of flame is for me a sound reason to believe in a higher power.

But for all its personality, bad smells (sometimes emanating from the passenger seat) and a total lack of sex appeal, I feel more affection for that car than anything I've owned since. It was a first taste of freedom, the wind whistling beneath my feet through the holes in the floor, the aluminum baseball bat keeping my seat firmly in place. My mind filled with the possibilities of life to come. It was, quite simply, golden.

Sherk's book will no doubt stir up your own memories of your first car. It's a fun summer road trip down memory lane, remembering your first. Watch for it in book stores.

BILLBOARD:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH, COWANSVILLE. Come and join us for Sunday Worship. We have a service at 9 a.m. (traditional) and a Family Service with music and Sunday school at 10:30 a.m. Info. (450) 263-2662.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF BEDFORD/PHILIPSBURG & FARNHAM - Sunday Service Sunday, June 12th at St. Paul's Church, Philipsburg 'Eucharist', 10 .m. with Canon Irving.

BEDFORD UNITED CHURCH PASTORAL CHARGE invites you to come and worship with us. Combined Sunday Service, June 12th. Covenanting Service at WChurch Hall before the service, and with refreshments afterwards in the hall. Rev. Carl Triskle.

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

BAPTIST CHURCHES Sunday Services: Mansonville Baptist, 9:30 a.m.; Olivet Baptist, Sutton, 11 a.m.

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Rare Anne of Green Gables book up for sale

By Randy Boswell

An "exceptionally rare" first edition of Anne of Green Gables, a classic piece of Canadiana that comes up for sale only about once a decade, is expected to fetch \$15,000 Canadian next week at an auction in New York.

But the original copy of Lucy Maud Montgomery's 1908 bestseller — a literary hit that spawned seven sequels, two Hollywood films, a blockbuster TV series, and a P.E.I. tourism empire — is described by Sotheby's as, ahem, "one of the most sought-after of American children's books."

Anne, surely, would have something to say about that. The garrulous red-headed heroine is as much an icon of Canadian identity as the Mounties and the Maple Leaf.

A Sotheby's spokeswoman was apologetic Tuesday for the "obnoxious" error.

Lauren Gioia said she would "brush up" on her Canadian literature, but noted that the sale catalogue was prepared by Sotheby's offices in London.

"Well, that's a mistake," chuckled David Mason, a Toronto book dealer who has pursued first editions of Anne over the years. He says any original is a "truly rare" find.

"In 38 years, I've seen maybe three or four copies," he added. "It's like any good book. When it first came out, it got read to pieces. So there aren't many left."

Montgomery's famous first novel was, in fact, published by a Boston firm, L.C. Page Co. And it would be 35 years before a Canadian edition appeared.

But the author, the story and the whole cultural phenomenon that is Anne couldn't be more Canadian.

Yet her popularity is unquestion-

ably universal. The book has been translated into 17 languages since the first print run rolled off the presses 97 years ago. And the arrival of thousands of Japanese tourists each year at Green Gables House in Cavendish is a rite of summer on Prince Edward Island.

Previous first editions of Anne have fetched as much as \$20,000, and Mason says the Sotheby's pre-sale estimate "could be conservative." Readers' enduring affection for Montgomery's books, he notes, has kept the rarest editions of her works in hot demand among collectors.

"There's nothing like big money to bring them out of the woodwork," he said.

The book being sold next Friday at Sotheby's was part of the collection of the late George Cosmatos, an Italian-Greek film director and bibliophile who died in April in Victoria,

his home for the past 25 years.

Anne, perhaps, never attracted a more unusual kindred spirit than the maker of the 1985 action hit Rambo II: First Blood and the 1993 western Tombstone.

The book, which has gold lettering and a pale green cover with a profile portrait of protagonist Anne Shirley, is said to be in "superb condition."

Library and Archives Canada has several 1908 copies of the book. In 1999, Ottawa-area book collector Ronald Cohen donated 300 Montgomery titles to the national library, including an autographed first edition of Anne of Green Gables.

"There is," he said at the time, "no more exportable, no more familiar Canadian author probably in the entire world — even with the great authors of today — than Lucy Maud Montgomery."

—CanWest News Service

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Bouvier breeder hopes 'Lightning' will be a hit at dog show

By Philip A. Godin
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
KNOWLTON

Bouvier des Flandres — those big, greyish-black balls of fur that have been seen roaming the streets of Knowlton these past years — will be competing for the dog equivalent of the Miss Universe pageant this weekend in Brome Lake.

The person seen leashed to these four-legged drive Sports Utility Animals is Brian Gunther, vice-president of the 30-year-old St-Francis Kennel Club, which is hosting the event at the Brome Fairgrounds from June 10 to 12.

Gunther, a recently retired restoration architect, obviously quite taken by his breed of choice, has been an aficionado of Bouviers — and the entire dog show scene — since childhood, when he was taught to show his mother's two Bouviers and his dad's Weimeraner at age eight.

After a several year hiatus, he has returned to his passion. "I have been showing my Bouviers since 1996 and breeding them since 2001," said Gunther, who uses his home in Knowlton for the operations of his kennel named Vlaanveren, or Flanders in Dutch.

He is particularly proud of his six-month-old male, Storm, that took Best Puppy, and his two-and-a-half-year-old female Bliksem (lightning) that took Best of

Show's Winners, both at the Canadian Nationals last September in Halifax.

Showing dogs is synonymous with constant travel, a gruelling schedule and mounting expenses. Gunther, like many of his colleagues at this weekend's event will spend as much as five months on the road, grooming, training and showing their wards.

"I do it because it's a passion!" exclaimed Gunther. "I do it to improve the breed, but mostly because it's a real passion."

Bouviers, initially bred for driving cattle, hence the French term associated to their name, were occasionally used to pull milk carts due to their size, stamina and strength. Their strikingly impressive facial characteristics which include concealed eyes, combined with their alert disposition lend the breed a reputation



DAVID ANDERSON/SPECIAL

"I do it because it's a passion!" Bouvier Breeder Brian Gunther and look-alike female champion, Bliksem (Dutch for lightning), will be competing at this weekend's three day long dog show at the Brome Fairgrounds. A family outing par excellence.

as guard dogs.

"Nothing could be further from the truth" says Gunther. "They are gentle, protective and motherly by nature. Even the males have the maternal instinct. When something upsets them, they tend to look for shelter for their young and even their owners".

Admittedly, any dog can be trained for

tasks it has not been bred for. Thus some European police forces, tired of lawsuits launched against them by victims of police dog attacks are considering training Bouviers because of their gentler nature.

"Unlike Dobermans, Rottweilers and German Shepherds, Bouviers will instinctively only take hold of an aggressor, without pulling and tearing at them needlessly.

"In some quarters, it is the unbridled and unchecked breeding of some lineages by ruthless individuals that is blamed for turning the otherwise reserved canine into something else.

This is something that Kennel Clubs and reputable breeders won't allow to happen, for the good of all those involved" added Gunther.

Recognised breeders and Kennel Clubs offer an excellent opportunity to learn more about the specific characteristics of a breed before buying it. This weekend's show will demonstrate why dogs from registered breeders are preferable to those for sale in pet stores, sales that often only serve to subsidise ruthless puppy mills.

Organisers expect as many as seven hundred dogs representing over eighty different breeds from across Canada and the US to compete at the Canadian Kennel Club sanctioned. Admission: \$5, no dogs allowed.

SOCIAL NOTES

BEDFORD: A HERITAGE CIRCUIT OF CHURCHES, HOUSES AND BUSINESSES
This first itinerary in Bedford's Heritage Circuit is made up of churches, residences and commercial properties. It takes you along streets with the sites of some of the earliest buildings in Bedford.

Some history to start

The American Loyalist and British who settled here around 1812 were Methodists and Anglicans. They called the village Bedford, which was a popular name in the colonies because of John, Fourth Duke of Bedford (1710-1771). The village of Bedford, in Stanbridge township, was the seat of Missisquoi county by 1829 and became a city in 1890.

In the second half of the 19th century, industrialists set up factories along Rivière aux Brochets. During that time, French Canadians and Irish formed a Catholic parish. A substantial commercial core flourished on Principale (Main) and Du Pont streets, while prosperous homes were constructed on Philipsburg and Dutch streets. The period of growth Bedford experienced between 1864 and 1894 is illustrated through its heritage architecture. This period also coincides with the appearance of the Gothic Revival or "gable dormer" style, characteristic of the Victorian era.

Last C.A.L.L. for Margaret Badger

Cowansville Academy for Lifelong Learning Staff
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD

After almost eight years with the Cowansville Academy for Lifelong Learning, Margaret Badger retired at the end of this academic year, after the school's graduation ceremony on May 26, 2005.

Margaret started with C.A.L.L. in September 1997 doing supply teaching and we were lucky enough to engage her on a steadier basis as a regular staff member. She brought with her a dedication to learning and excellence, a lot of practical teaching experience, a sense of fun and a caring attitude.

We will remember Margaret, as a lifelong learner, as she worked on her Spanish verbs and idioms, her crusade against poor nutrition with its consequences for learning. In fact, she was the founder of C.A.L.L.'s healthy breakfast program, which carries on in her absence. She has also been an active and insightful member of our school's governing board.

At the Graduation ceremonies, graduates Sarah Petit-Lawrence and



SPECIAL TO BROME COUNTY NEWS

C.A.L.L. graduates Sarah Petit-Lawrence (left) and Stephanie Gatien gave Margaret Badger a warm farewell at last month's grad ceremony.

Stephanie Gatien presented a surprised Margaret with flowers, as a very small token of our appreciation.

In September, Margaret is embarking on new territory when she climbs the peaks of Machu Picchu. Farewell,

and enjoy the next chapter of your adventurous life. Her autobiography will sure to be a best seller — one that we look forward to reading.

Staff, teachers and students will miss her greatly!

Lifetime of painting blooms into book

By Wendy Denman

Debbie Rotherham, a longtime resident of Knowlton now living in B.C., has released a book — the result of thirty years of painstaking work and research. Titled 'Wildflowers of Quebec', the book contains watercolors of 130 local wildflowers with descriptions and locations. "You could say it's my life's work," Rotherham told BCN in a recent interview from Saltspring Island in B.C. "Publishing this book has been a project of mine for a long time.

"We lived on Lansdowne in Knowlton for many years, down back was a marshy area, I would walk down there and see some very interesting wildflowers, so I began to take my watercolors and sketch." Rotherham soon moved farther afield into the ditches, marshy and wooded spots around the Townships. "I realized that it might be important to record these flowers.

"When I found a flower, I wanted to know all about it, so I would look it up. My library gradually grew and my knowledge grew. The joy was finding the flowers. I always painted in the field or woods, never brought them home and I painted lifesize.

"It [eventually] dawned on me that a lot of our wildflowers were at great risk. I would find certain species in little clumps in one location and if that location was removed, changed, developed, then the

flowers were gone."

Her perchance for detail and careful description began as a school girl in Montreal at The Study. "They would take us for walks on Mount Royal and our art teacher told us to keep a pictorial and descriptive record of what we found. We did and the practice stayed with me."

Her trip into publishing was long and arduous. "I tried publisher after publisher, some were very willing, but the problem was color. I wanted all the paintings to be in color, that's how I painted the flowers and that's what I wanted. But the publishers said that was impossible."

When she moved to B.C. eleven years ago, Rotherham became friendly with artist Robert Bateman. "I showed him my collection and he was very encouraging, so I continued looking and finally self-published the book through Trafford Publishing — all in color."

Bateman's enthusiasm for her work prompted him to write an introduction to the book, calling it "charming" and "remarkable."

"I feel my lifework is now complete. I am almost 89, I can't tramp around the woods anymore, although even if I could the woods here are not as interesting to me as those back home. It is sad to think of those lovely patches of wildflowers disappearing. I am very happy I was able to record what was there."

Salamanders set for summer fun

By Wendy Denman

For well over a decade, local youngsters have enjoyed Salamander Summers, an annual bilingual day camp run by Town of Brome Lake Community Services.

The camp runs from July 4 to August 12 at the Legion Community Centre. It's divided into three sections: mini salamanders for three- to five-year-olds on Tuesday and Thursday mornings; and two age groups — five to nine years and 10 to 15 years — Monday to Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays are reserved for field trips.

"Everyone's favorite clownfish Nemo will accompany the mini-salamanders through outdoor games, crafts and music," explains Lorraine Labrecque, programming agent.

The program for children aged five to nine combines recreational, cultural and sports activities, as well as afternoons at the beach and special outings.

Ten- to fifteen-year-olds have a Hollywood-themed program, with games, sports, bicycle trips and outings every week.

Friday trips commencing on July 8 include the Waterslides in Bromont, Zoo and Amazoo in Granby, horseback riding in St-Hyacinthe, Safari Loowak in Waterloo, and a trip for the older group to CineRobotheque in Montreal. The camp ends with a big party on August 12.

Registration is due now. Late fees may be applied. Out of town children may join the camp, but fees are more than double. Friday excursions are \$20 for local children. To help make life easier for families, the camp offers free transportation with a stop in each sector of Lac Brome. Parents can also take advantage of a reasonably priced out-of-hours daycare service between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m., and 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For information call (450) 242-2020.

Galerie Knowlton spotlights local artists

by Wendy Denman

For the last year, the lovely old building at the corner of Knowlton Road and Mt. Echo Road has been an art gallery dedicated to showing the works of artists from the region.

When proprietor Francoise Desjardins opened Galerie Knowlton a year ago, she did so with enthusiasm and a dedication to turning the space into a showcase for regional artists. The permanent exhibit includes the works of Paul Lecor, Stuart Main, Sharon Mark, Pierre Desjardins, Richard Savoie and Louis Tremblay.

"We also invite artists of renown in the region to come and exhibit for a week or so. We have these shows often," Desjardins said. "We display all forms of art, not one particular type. We concentrate on local artists, who are into many medium and styles. We have sculptures in different material — polymere, bronze, wood, alabaster. We have folk type art, ceramics, paintings, photographs, cards and many beautiful creations and objects.

"I want to make art accessible. The gallery is charming and open and welcoming. Sometimes people are intimidated by art galleries. They don't have to be at all. And you don't need to know anything about art to appreciate it — all you have to do is follow your feeling, your heart," he said.

The work of artist Michele Kramer is on exhibit at Galerie Knowlton this week until Sunday, June 5. Kramer has lived and worked in Granby for the last ten years, settling there after having lived in Montreal, France and Florida. She has exhibited extensively, organized art symposiums and travelled with a group of Quebec artists to Spain in 2002. She was also president of Granby's Boreart exhibition centre from 1998 to 2001.

"I am so delighted to have Michele here," Desjardins said.

The gallery will continue to present spe-



FILE

The Galérie emphasizes making local art accessible

cial exhibits and events throughout the summer. Desjardins said he is proud that the gallery is involved with so many talented artists, including Pauline Boudreau, Helene Brunet, Suzanne Leblanc, John Fowles, Gerald Potterton, Desmond Senior, Gerald and Marie Swann, Jeanne Marler and Renald Gauthier.

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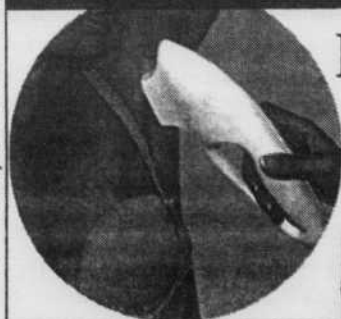
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DR. STANOJLOVIC

Composting courses promote the green cause

Staff

Last month nearly 100 people in Brome-Missisquoi learned how to compost, and as a result are now putting less waste into the regional landfill.

Those people took part in one of two sessions hosted by the Brome-Missisquoi MRC and the Intermunicipal Board for the Management of Solid Waste (RIEDSBM) on May 3 and 4, part of International Compost Week. After the training, each participant took home an Earth Machine composter. To date about 1,800 households in Brome-Missisquoi have the large black plastic composters.

The initiative is part of the Brome-

Missisquoi MRC's Waste Management Plan, which aims to cut the amount of material going into the regional dump site by half. By composting items like vegetable scraps household garbage output can be cut by as much as 30 per cent. Those items are turned into a mulch which can be used to feed lawns, gardens and trees.

Earth Machine composters are still available at a cost of \$56 through the Brome-Missisquoi MRC. To order yours, call (450) 266-4900, extension 242.

More composting training sessions are expected to be held in the coming months to further raise awareness of the importance of composting.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A dog-day afternoon

DEAR EDITOR

This is a report from me, Pooch-in-Boots (Rain boots, that is!) Due to damp and inclement weather (and forecasts of!) our Dog Pageant/Parade was a wash-out this year. However, the results were anything but. We raised \$1,500 for the SPCA and the Frontier Animal Society. A big thank you to all who voted and donated to our cause.

To avert complete disappointment in our first cancelled pageant, I will give you a virtual tour of what would have been.

We would have gathered in our usual chaotic canine fashion at Ambiance de Garage atop England Hill. Then Wade Johnston (Danny McCaulay, our perennial Pied Piper was on stork duty) enthusiastically agreed to "flute" us down to Coldbrook Park and had planned quite a repertoire. No "Who let the dogs Out" crass tunes, oh no! the "Rondo" followed by "Hail to the chief (chiens?)", Pomp and Circumstance, Onward Christian Soldiers, down by the River and Dixie".

Upon entering the park, we (store dogs) would play our annual game of musical chairs and then the presentation of third prize for "best-in-store: dog goes to Mickey of Woolrich. Second prize, very humbly to your truly, moi, P.J. of

England Hill. First prize, for the second year in a row to Jake of Edwards General Store. Felicitations to the Edwards family, Cecile and Jake. "King Henry" of Paddie's Boutique, of course, would preside over the proceeding. (Henry, once again contributed very handsomely to the cause) Visiting dogs would now participate in a variety of events judged by Christine Brooks, dog trainer and "behavioralist", who would award wonderful gifts to all participants. Our super sponsors for these treats are Purina and Edwards General Store, West Brome, Wellness, Mother Hubbard and Ziggy's (Knowlton) and Marco Beliveau, Pur Animal, (West Brome)

Since we were unable to give these cadeaux to our registered dogs, if their owners come to England Hill at 104 Lakeside we will give you your doggie bags. A special thank you to all those Knowlton merchants, restaurants and services who donated \$700 worth of gift certificates for the donor drawings.

For now, that was a synopsis of the "pageant-that-wasn't". Until next year, I remain,

Pawfully yours,,

P.J. LE POOCH,
England Hill

P.S. Hope to see you on the trails this summer - in the sunshine!

La course en taxi

Un ex chauffeur de taxi a raconté cette histoire qu'il a vécue il y a plusieurs années

Lorsque je suis arrivé à 2h30, l'immeuble était sombre, sauf pour une lumière à une fenêtre du rez-de-chaussée. Dans ces conditions, en pleine nuit, plusieurs chauffeurs auraient utilisé le klaxon une ou deux fois et seraient partis. Mais, j'avais vu beaucoup de gens non fortunés qui se fiaient aux taxis comme seul moyen de transport en cas d'urgence.

À moins que la situation semble dangereuse, je me rendais toujours à la porte. Ce passager aurait peut-être besoin de mon aide, me suis-je dit.

Je me suis donc rendu à la porte et j'ai frappé. "Une minute," répondit une voix frêle et âgée. J'entendais le bruit d'un objet glissé sur le plancher. Après une longue pause, la porte s'ouvrit et je vis une petite femme de plus de 80 ans. Elle portait une robe imprimée et un petit chapeau avec une voilette comme dans un film des années 1940.

Près d'elle se trouvait une petite valise en nylon. L'appartement avait l'air de n'avoir pas servi depuis des années. Les meubles étaient couverts de draps. Il n'y avait rien sur les murs. Dans un coin se trouvait une boîte en carton remplie de photos et de verrie.

"Apporteriez-vous ma valise à l'auto?" dit-elle. J'ai donc apporté la petite valise au taxi et je suis revenu pour aider la dame. Elle me prit le bras et nous marchions lentement vers le trottoir tandis qu'elle ne cessait de me remercier de ma gentillesse.

"Ce n'est rien," dis-je. J'essaye seulement de traiter tout le monde comme je le ferais si c'était ma mère."

"Oh, vous êtes si gentil," dit-elle.

Dans le taxi, elle me donna une adresse et me demanda de passer par le centre-ville. "Ce n'est pas le chemin le plus court," lui dis-je.

"Oh, cela ne fait rien, dit-elle. Je ne suis pas pressée. Je m'en vais dans un hospice."

Je vis dans le rétroviseur qu'elle avait les yeux mouillés. "Je n'ai plus de famille," continua-t-elle. Le médecin dit que je n'en ai pas pour longtemps."

Doucement, j'ai arrêté le compteur et lui ai demandé: "par où voulez-vous passer?"

Durant les deux heures suivantes, nous nous sommes promenés dans la ville. Elle m'a montré l'immeuble où elle avait jadis travaillé comme pré-

posée à l'ascenseur. Nous sommes passés devant la maison où elle et son mari avaient habité lorsqu'ils étaient nouveaux mariés. Elle m'a demandé d'arrêter devant un immeuble qui servait d'entrepôt pour meubles où se trouvait jadis une salle de bal où elle avait dansé lorsqu'elle était jeune fille. Parfois, elle me demandait d'arrêter à un coin de rue ou devant un immeuble particulier et elle regardait tout simplement dans le

ENTRE
NOUS

THÉRÈSE
BERNARD

noir, sans faire de commentaire.

Dès que le jour se pointa à l'horizon, elle dit soudainement "je suis fatiguée. Allons-y."

Nous étions silencieux alors que je conduisais la voiture vers l'adresse qu'elle m'avait donnée. C'était un petit immeuble qui semblait être une maison pour convalescents.

À la porte, deux aides se rendirent à la voiture, munis d'un fauteuil roulant. J'ouvris le coffre de l'auto et j'apportai la petite valise à la porte. La dame était déjà installée dans le fauteuil roulant.

"Combien vous dois-je?" dit-elle en prenant son sac à main. "Rien," dis-je.

"Vous travaillez pour vivre," dit-elle. "Il y a d'autres passagers" dis-je sans vraiment réfléchir. Je me suis penché pour l'embrasser. Elle me tenait très fort. "Vous avez donné de bons moments de joie à une vieille femme," dit-elle. "Merci."

Je lui serrai la main avant de partir dans la faible lumière du jour levant. Derrière moi, une porte se ferma. C'était le bruit de la fin d'une vie.

Je n'ai pris aucun passager durant le reste de mon quart de travail. Je me suis promené sans but, perdu dans mes pensées. Je n'ai pas pu parlé durant le reste de cette journée. Que serait-il arrivé si cette femme avait eu un chauffeur de taxi coléreux, ou un qui était impatient de terminer son travail? Et, si j'avais refusé d'attendre après avoir utilisé le klaxon une seule fois devant sa porte et que j'étais reparti?

Après réflexion, je ne crois pas avoir fait rien de plus important de toute ma vie.

Nous sommes conditionnés à penser que nos vies se passent autour de grands moments. Mais, les moments extraordinaires, nous tombent parfois dessus sans nous prévenir.

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page 7

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035 For Rent

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position available for general maintenance, taking care of the grounds and being present on the property if owners are absent; immediately or for a date to be agreed. Long term position, ideal for a quiet **retired or semi-retired couple** who likes country living and wants to remain active. It is not a full time position. Non-smokers. Terms to be discussed. In return, 2 bedroom apartment attached to the main house and garage provided, including heat and electricity. Reply with references to P.O. Box 188, Knowlton, QC, JOE 1V0.

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125 Work Wanted

HOMEWORKERS NEEDED! Assembling products, mailing/processing circulars, copy / mailing / PC / clerical work available. Free information. www.homeworkersnetwork.com or send S.A.S.E.: QSEI, 111-336 Yonge Street, Reference 7-701, Barrie, Ontario L4N 4C8. 1-705-726-9070.

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125 Work Wanted

TRANSLATION from French into English and from English into French. Call (450) 266-0550. Fax (450) 263-8483.

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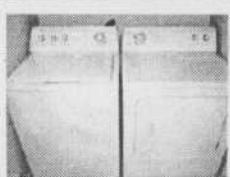
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WATERLOO
 Yard Sale, June 11 and 12, at 283-284 Allen St., Waterloo.

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 40 Town Hall Road (corner Argyll), inside. Saturday, June 11, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Rain or shine. Multi-family sale. A variety of many interesting items old and new.

301 Tractors

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KNOWLTON
 Huge Antique Garage Sale, June 11 and 12, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 22 Bolton Pass (take Route 243 South), 4 km. from Knowlton. Furniture, trunks, tools, etc.

MANSONVILLE
 17 Vale Perkins Road (watch for signs on Mill Street) on Saturday, June 11 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Lots of items!

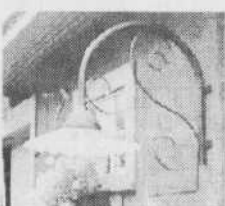
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In Memoriam

LEAVITT, Donald - Passed away June 11, 2004.



We cannot hear your laughter
We cannot see your smile.
We wish that we could talk again
If only for awhile.
We know you're

watching over us
Seeing everything we do.
And though you'll always be with us
We will always be missing you.
You taught us that life is much too short

And at anytime could end.
But know that no matter where you are
You will always be our friend.
And when it's time for us to go
You'll be there to show us the way.
We wish that you could still be here
But we will see you again someday.
Love forever and always,

**DIANE, DONNIE, TAMMY
CHELSEY, WYATT, BRADLEY**

Death

CALL, McKechnie Russell - After a short



battle with cancer, McKechnie (Keck) Call passed away on May 25, 2005 in Powell River, BC. He was 61 years old. Beloved son of the late Russell B.

Call, he is survived and forever loved by his daughter Melissa (Mark Long) of Powell River, BC, his son Monty of Knowlton, their mother Lise Leduc of Mirabel, QC, and his grandchildren Jarek and Esmé. Brothers Mitchell, Malcolm, Michael and sister Georgiana (Ginny) Street, his step-mother Jocelyn Call of Knowlton, and his long time loving companion Heather Heath of Knowlton will also miss him dearly as will all those who have known him. Please join family and friends to honor his life at Frosty's Pub at 51 Lakeside Road in Knowlton, QC on June 11th at 5 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society and would be greatly appreciated.

REID, E.A. Stewart - At Knowlton House



on June 5, 2005. E.A. Stewart Reid, M.D., C.M., F.R.C.P.C., F.A.C.P.; in his 88th year. Loving husband of Barbara Pibus, father of the late

Jane Reid, Dr. Stewart Reid (Cheri Brooks) and Dugald Reid (Andrea Almasi). Former Director of Cardiology, Montreal General Hospital, Consultant in Cardiology Brome Missisquoi Perkins Hospital. Served with the 14th Canadian General Hospital Unit in Italy and Holland. Funeral to be held on Saturday, June 11 at 11 a.m. at Knowlton United Church, 234 Knowlton Rd., Knowlton. Donations to the Brome Missisquoi Perkins Hospital, 950 rue Principale, Cowansville, QC, J2K 1K3, in care of the Cardiology Department, gratefully accepted.

90th Birthday Open House

Open House 90th Birthday Party, Saturday, June 11th, 2005 for George Rogerson. Everyone welcome! Chat with friends and family. Enjoy refreshments. Best wishes only. At Oddfellows Hall, 476 Knowlton Rd., Knowlton from 2-5 p.m.

Your donation could make all the difference!



Who is included in the statistics

This year, **21 700** Canadians will develop lung cancer and only **2 800** will survive!

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REVITALIZING HEALTH CARE IN BROME MISSISQUOI

New goals

Brome Missisquoi is building a new way to deliver health-care. Prompted by the recent reforms to our public institutions, the new approach targets two important community goals...

- first, paying as much attention to wellness promotion and disease prevention as to the traditional curing of the sick
- second, creating a logical, integrated and user-friendly network of everyone with any role to play in any of these functions of promotion, prevention and cure.

This approach validates the many efforts made in Brome Missisquoi during the past decade to create such a "one team" healthcare delivery system. It also serves to reinforce our region's long-standing dedication to meeting all the health needs of every group in our uniquely bi-lingual and multi-cultural community.

Brome Missisquoi has prided itself for more than a century on the excellence, caring and innovation of its health-care institutions and professionals. In keeping with these long-standing traditions, the community has identified three essential first-step investments to upgrade our regional facilities. These are...

- an increase in the capacity of Emergency Room of our acute-care hospital, Brome Missisquoi Perkins
- the construction of an entirely new Out-patient Center to serve ambulatory patients needing specialized consultations or tests in disciplines such as pediatrics, women's health, minor surgery, physiotherapy, internal medicine, etc.: this will be built next to the ER, and
- the addition of a new wing with 60 long-term beds to the Centre d'accueil in Cowansville: this will include specialized convalescent, observation and rehabilitation beds, as well as substantial improvements to communal facilities.

Almost everyone in our region is likely to be served, directly or indirectly, by one or all of these investments during their lifetime. Together they are conceived to provide the most care for the most people for every dollar invested.

The total cost will be about \$25 million, of which \$20 million will be provided by the Quebec Government from general tax revenues, and a further \$5 million will come from donations to be raised locally in Brome Missisquoi.

Both the Government and our community are firmly behind these projects. The Provincial Health Department and the Agence regionale at Longueuil both support these investments, and Health Minister Philippe Couillard has promised confirmation of the Government's financial contribution in the very near future, before the end of the parliamentary session in June. The community, under the leadership of the BMP Foundation, is standing-by to raise its share of the funds.

More to follow

This is just the beginning. Now under active review are the needs for further investment in our healthcare facilities across the region, and particularly in Bedford, Farnham, Sutton, Knowlton and Cowansville where installations already exist. The objective is for La Pommeraie to work with local partners to upgrade our ability to meet the needs of each location and each population group, for example to enable the elderly to remain in their own homes for longer, or to better serve the needs of young mothers and children. These possibilities will all be pursued as the integrated health promotion, prevention and care plans for our community move forward.

One community, one approach

At this early stage the community lead-role is being played by the CSSS La Pommeraie, with extensive community input and consultation. In the words of Me Marie-Claude Landry, Présidente du Conseil: "We have an incredible opportunity here to improve our health-care delivery system. If we work together as a community, and with the Provincial Government as a partner, we can take

New circumstances

A number of key influences are at work to make these changes to health-care both necessary and possible, including...

- the rising costs of our traditional cure-focused approach
- the widely recognized need for us to be leading healthier lives, and so head-off many preventable problems such as diabetes or cardiovascular disease
- the creation of the new CSSS La Pommeraie that pools all our acute-care hospital, long-term care and CLSC's organizations into a single engine for change: La Pommeraie now has the legal obligation to ensure that a local plan for healthcare is created
- the ongoing community health-care planning process itself, initiated by the CSSS La Pommeraie, that is developing a roadmap for the future for Brome Missisquoi with all the different groups involved in health-care and social services delivery.

New investment for the future



charge of our own destiny: we can create locally the health-care system that will meet our needs and those of future generations."

Formed to support the change is a new community group, Santé Brome Missisquoi. In the words of Mr. Richard Wisdom, Mayor of Lac Brome and a founding member: "We want to be sure that all our community's resources get behind this new approach to how we in Brome Missisquoi promote wellness and take care of those who fall sick. In the months to come we will be doing all we can to help mobilize our community to bring this about."

Finally, the impact of these new initiatives goes well beyond the narrow definition of health-care. "A healthy population and first-rate health-care facilities are an essential part of the attraction of our region and the strength of our community," says Mr. Arthur Fauteux, Préfet, Brome Missisquoi. "We have some unique factors to deal with when it comes to health-care, for example our ski-hill visitors and our high numbers of retired people, and these put extra stresses on our capacity to provide quality care. So we're particularly delighted that the Provincial Government is behind us in this, and I am confident that the people of Brome Missisquoi will do the rest."