

# Brome County NEWS



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2002

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THE LARGEST CIRCULATION WEEKLY IN BROME-MISSISQUOI

## Curious minds prevail at Waterloo Science Fair



DAVID ANDERSON/PHOTO CORRESPONDENT

Students at Waterloo Elementary School held their science fair last Friday, with projects ranging from rocket propulsion and reverse osmosis to water quality analysis and the elements and manufacturing of glass being explained. Students also explained to visiting parents how the solar system works, as well as building fully-functional electric cranes and model irrigation systems. The day ended with a Battle Bot competition where participants created armored battery powered vehicles to knock each other out of a limited space.

## Centre home to religious texts exhibit

By Caroline Kehne  
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

The Gathering for the Development of Religious Heritage will launch its 2002 season with an exhibition entitled The World's Sacred Scriptures, as well as an exhibition of the works by artist Manon Marchand.

The exhibition will feature texts from some of the world's major religions, in-

cluding Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and various branches of the Christian faith.

The centre is located in the St. James Rectory Centre of St. James Anglican Church in Farnham. Built in 1893, it, along with the church and parish hall, is part of a heritage site.

The Gathering is a non-profit organization with members from French and Eng-

lish speaking churches throughout Brome-Missisquoi. Its mission is to promote religious heritage by exploring values from each of the religious traditions.

The exhibition is open Tuesday to Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. from March 25 to Oct. 5.

The vernissage is scheduled for March 25 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the centre, located at 430 rue Principale E., Farnham. For more information, call 450-293-0066.

## Flower show highlights Legacy Gardens

### VAPH explores botany as cultural landscape

By Caroline Kehne  
RECORD CORRESPONDENT  
BURLINGTON, VT

Vita Sackville-West's garden at Sissinghurst is an example of how a garden may transcend its original purpose and become part of the cultural landscape. It is also an example of the many examples that the 2002 edition of the Vermont Flower Show will explore at the Sheraton Conference Centre in Burlington, Vt from March 1 to 3.

The annual flower show, sponsored by the Vermont Association of Professional Horticulturists, is one of the best regional shows accessible to residents of the Eastern Townships.

A single entry price to the weekend show enables inveterate gardeners to experience spring a few weeks early with spectacular indoor display of forced tulips, hyacinths and daffodils.

For discriminating vegetable and ornamental growers, there is also an impressive selection of seeds, including open-pollinated, organic and heritage varieties from suppliers like The Cook's Garden, Seed Savers Exchange and Botanical Interest Seeds. Cut flower displays round out the annual show, that includes a professional competition featuring VAPH members.

SEEFLOWERS, PAGE 5

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# BROME COUNTY COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### March 2

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 77 **FLEA MARKET** at 77 Lewis St., **Waterloo**, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tables, \$10. Cantine on premises for lunch. Info: 450-539-0005 or 539-1198.

Royal Canadian Legion **CRIB TOURNAMENT** at 120 Davignon St., **Cowansville**. Registration: 1 p.m. Beginning 1:30 p.m. Admission: \$10 per person. Point system, \$500 purse, cantine. Info: 450-263-3543.

### March 3

Royal Canadian Legion **BREAKFAST** at 120 Davignon St., **Cowansville**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Everyone welcome.

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #158 **ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT WESTERN BREAKFAST** at 2 Curley St., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission: \$5.50, children under 10, \$2.50. All welcome.

**BRING-A-FRIEND SUNDAY** at Creek United Church, Brill Road, **West Bolton** at 9:30 a.m. Join us after the service for pancake breakfast. All welcome.

### March 4

Canadian Club of the Yamaska Valley **MEETING** at Auberge **West Brome**, 2 p.m. Topic: Exploitation of Child Labour with guest speaker Sandra Morgan, Deputy Minister of Labour and Canadian spokesperson at 1998 & 99 International Labour Organization conferences on worst forms of child labour. Morgan will discuss what Canada has committed towards protection of children's rights. Refreshments and social time following meeting. New members welcome!

Non members, \$5 entrance fee.

### March 5

Brome County Carriage Club first **GENERAL MEETING** at Depanneur Rouge Inc., 483 Knowlton Rd., **Lac Brome**, 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested in joining our new club for horse people are more than welcome! Info: 450-243-6828.

### March 6, 13 & 20

**ECUMENICAL LENTEN LUNCHEONS** sponsored by the Churches of Sutton at Grace Anglican Church, 54 Principale Sud, **Sutton** at 12 noon. Also, **ADVANCED NOTICE:** March 29, Good Friday Walk beginning at St. Andre's Church at 10 a.m. followed by lunch. All money raised goes to World Development.

### March 8

Royal Canadian Legion **SOUP AND DESSERT LUNCHEON** at 120 Davignon St., **Cowansville**, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.. Admission: \$5. Organized by the Ladies Auxiliary. For reservations or more information, call Gloria, 450-295-2114 or the Legion, 263-3543. Members and non-members are welcome.

### March 9

Royal Canadian Legion **'SOUVLAKI (PORK & BEEF) SUPPER'** with rice, ceasar salad, etc. at 120 Davignon St., **Cowansville**. Supper and dance, \$8 per person, supper, 5 to 7 p.m. Dance, 8 p.m. Admission: \$3. Orchestra 'South Street Band'. Info: 450-263-3543.

**BENEFIT SPAGHETTI SUPPER** - 'All You Can Eat' at the Sutton Legion, 2 Curley St., **Sutton**, 5 to 7 p.m. Cost: \$10, children under seven, free. All benefits go to Fire Victims, Murry and Mae Demers. Info: 450-538-5165.

### March 10

Royal Canadian Legion, Branch #82

**Philipsburg ANNUAL CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER** from 4 to 8 p.m. Admission: \$10. Entertainment: Irish Dancing. Everyone welcome. Come bring friends and start celebrating St. Patrick's Day early.

### March 15

The Wellness Volunteer Centre invites seniors to a **ST. PATRICK'S DAY LUNCHEON** at TBL Community Centre, **Knowlton**, at 11:30 a.m. Information session on the new Info Medic Program with speaker Rene Claude Gagnon of Uniprix following luncheon. No charge. Reservations by March 12. Call 450-242-2020. Transportation available if needed.

## ARTS CALENDAR

### March 1 to 22

A **CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP** will be offered weekly on Friday afternoons, 1 to 3 p.m., March 1 to 22. Instructor: Judith Avinger, author of *The Empty Bowl* and *Lifting the Veil*. Info: Bishop's **Knowlton** Centre, 450-242-1518.

### March 14 to 24

Knowlton Players presents **ARSENIC AND OLD LACE**, by Joseph Kesselring. Directed by Christopher Freeman at Theatre Lac Brome, **Knowlton**. Evening performances, 8 p.m., Sunday matinees, 2 p.m. Admission: \$10 adults, \$5 children. Reservations: 450-263-1061. Opening night benefits BMP Hospital Foundation.

## CHURCH SERVICES

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

**St. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH:** 24 St. Paul's Rd., Knowlton. We wish to know Jesus Christ and to make Him

known. Sunday services: 8 and 10 a.m. Sunday school and nursery, 10 a.m. The Rev. Ralph T. Leavitt - Pastor. Allow us to welcome you.

**PARISH OF BROME:** Anglican worship service on the first Sunday of every month: 9 a.m., morning prayer, Church of the Ascension, West Brome; 11 a.m., morning prayer, St. John the Evangelist, Brome Village (Lay Readers); and 11 a.m. Holy Trinity, Iron Hill; and 2:30 p.m., Holy Communion, St. Aidan's, Sutton Junction. All are welcome. Call The Rev. Rick Garipey at 450-243-6096.

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH, WATERLOO:** Sunday services, 11 a.m. Everyone welcome.

**COWANSVILLE AREA PASTORAL CHARGE UNITED CHURCH:** Worship and Sunday school at Emmanuel United Church, 203 rue Principale, at 10:30 a.m. Choir practice at 9 a.m. Rev. Mary MacPherson officiating. All welcome.

**GRACE ANGLICAN CHURCH SUTTON:** We warmly welcome you to join us in worship of the Lord. Sunday service, 10:30 a.m. at 52 Principale Sud. The Rev. Canon Tim Smart, Rector.

**SUTTON-DUNHAM UNITED:** Everyone is cordially invited to attend services at 10:30 a.m. in Sutton on the first and second, Sundays and in Dunham on the third and fourth Sundays of each month. Come, let us worship together.

**BAPTIST CHURCHES:** Sunday services: Mansonville Baptist, 9:30 a.m.; Olivet Baptist, Sutton, 11 a.m. All welcome.

**BEDFORD PASTORAL CHARGE:** We invite you to come and worship with us. Minister, Rev. Malcolm Cogswell. Services: Stanbridge East, 9:30 a.m., Wesley Church, Bedford, 11 a.m., Mystic, 12:30 p.m. Sunday school at Stanbridge East and Bedford. All welcome.

## Brome County NEWS



88 Lakeside, Knowlton, Quebec JOE 1V0  
Tel.: (450) 242-1188 / Fax: (450) 243-5155

### 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 \$6 is required weekly. Please forward notices to Box 488, Knowlton, JOE 1V0, email: bcnews@qc.aibn.com, or fax: (450) 243-5155. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

**A BEAUTIFUL MIND** (English) 13 Y  
Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon., Tue., Wed., Thur.: 6 p.m.

**LE SEIGNEUR DES ANNEAUX** (French) G  
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KNOWLEDGE AND KNOW-HOW.

## Brome County NEWS



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### THE RECORD

RANDY KINNEAR PUBLISHER ..... 800 463-9525  
SHARON McCULLY EDITOR/OFF. MGR. (450) 242-1188  
ALISON STEEL SECRETARY ..... (450) 242-1188  
LYNDA BELLAVANCE ADVERTISING ..... (450) 242-6892  
MICHEL DUVAL ADVERTISING ..... 800 463-9525  
JAMIE ZACHARY CORRESP. EDITOR ... 800 463-9525  
RICHARD LESSARD PROD. MGR. .... 800 463-9525  
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CANADA: 1 YEAR	114.40	8.01	9.18	\$131.59
6 MONTHS	59.00	4.13	4.73	\$67.86
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# Searching for the perfect fit

## Stechl-Côté leaves homeland for 'something different'

By Karen Rooney  
SPECIAL TO THE RECORD  
KNOWLTON

Irma Stechl-Côté knew she didn't quite fit in, saying she never felt comfortable living in a traditional, old town in Bavaria, Germany. So, at the tender age of 18 she packed her bags, left her two parents, younger sister and baby brother behind, and boarded a boat to Canada in search of something different.

Almost 50 years later, Stechl-Côté, who now resides in Knowlton, says that with five decades of marriage, raising children and painting now behind her, she has finally found her place in this world.

Stechl-Côté sailed in on the freighter Beaverbrae in February 1953. On the way, the ship hit a storm so bad that it flooded Holland was flooded. Young Stechl-Côté became quite seasick, but thought all the while it was an ordinary voyage because she had nothing to compare it to.

Upon arriving in Canada, she took on a brief stint as a maid in Montreal so she could learn to cook and run a household. Later, she became a photographer, also working for Bell.

Stechl-Côté met her husband, Roger, by chance when he was working in the bus company office. After dating for a short time, the two married and have been together for almost 50 years since.

Stechl-Côté first came to the Eastern Townships when a friend, Mrs. Gutgesell, who lived on Conference, invited her to visit in Knowlton. After a short stay in the picturesque village, Côté and her husband became enamored with the area as it reminded her of her European home. They soon purchased a property with an old house on Moun-

tain Road in South Bolton, visiting during summers and holidays for many years. They built a new log home in 1972, the same year they finally got electricity to the property. Three years later, the couple moved to the Townships permanently — and they've never looked back.

Before the AutoRoute was built, Stechl-Côté remembers taking the old road through St. Gregoire, Ste. Marie and Farnham to get home — a trip that often took more than four hours to complete. But as she looks back, she says it still felt longer, with three small children, two still in diapers on board.

After settling down in her South Bolton home, Stechl-Côté started breeding chickens — the Araucana, which lay colored eggs — around 1980, building a barn and even trying to raise sheep soon afterwards. But after several failed attempts, and a whole lot of invested time, Stechl-Côté abandoned the project, turning back to her first love — art.

After starting a stained glass studio, Stechl-Côté became a member of the Tour des Arts, a group she is still active with today. She has had her work featured in homes across Canada and the U.S.

Stechl-Côté is also a talented quilter who makes wall quilts, some of which have won awards and been showcased in a book about Canadian quilters.

In addition to her love for art, Stechl-Côté is a devoted gardener, saying she loves just walking around in her garden and admiring what is happening. This has become all the more important for her since she broke her leg badly 15 years ago.

Stechl-Côté says she still enjoys eating wild mushrooms and hunting in the woods for edible specimens. She gathers leaves for her "tea de maison".



COURTESY IRMA STECHL-CÔTÉ

Irma Stechl-Côté, who left Bavaria, Germany almost 50 years ago in search of something different, found it in the Townships, doing everything from breeding chickens to painting and quilting.

Two and a half years ago, Stechl-Côté and her husband Roger moved to Knowlton for the comforts of living in town. Leaving behind her beloved mountain in South Bolton for the flat land of Knowlton was difficult for Stechl-Côté, but it gave her the opportunity to build a beautiful, specially designed studio.

Almost 50 years since boarding a Canada-bound freighter, leaving

her small hometown in Germany, and consequently, everything that she knew behind, Stechl-Côté says she still wouldn't change anything.

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# Accident a grim reminder of forestry dangers

It can get a little tough finding things to write about cars every week, so this week I'm going to stray a bit, taking a look at chainsaw safety. Actually chainsaws have two things in common with cars: They've got motors, and they're very dangerous.

As we were grimly reminded this week, it's not just operating a chainsaw that is dangerous. The entire environment of cutting trees is tricky, where forces of gravity, location and weather can all contribute to disaster. On Monday, Frelighsburg's Vincent Leduc was being careful, only to have an unexpected gust of wind bring a 60-foot pine tree down on him. He was pronounced dead on arrival at the BMP.

In our region, there are a lot of folks who make their living swinging a chainsaw. Then there are others who cut their own firewood, either in their own woodlot or by buying loads of logs and cutting them up. Then there are those who only use a saw to remove the occasional branch or problem tree.

No matter which category you fall into, your saw and the tree you're attacking don't care. If a mistake is made they'll go after an amateur or a professional, and they usually aren't very forgiving.

Before firing up the saw you'll want to be equipped with safety glasses, hearing protection, gloves, good footwear and a hard hat. They sell safety pants as well, which are a great idea of you can afford them. A slip with a saw often gets your feet and legs in trouble.

The first step in chainsaw safety is following the manufacturer's operating instructions. These usually include some safety tips as well. Also, be sure you're using the right saw for the job. You shouldn't be cutting big trees with a small saw, or small trees with a big saw.

## NEVER GO ALONE

Even the most careful saw operators can run into trouble. So never go into the woods alone. When things go wrong you'll want help, and fast.

When you're getting ready to cut, make sure your work area is clear, with good footing. You want to have good balance while keeping both hands on the saw. Make sure that other person is out of your way and well out of the path of anything being cut down. Never cut above chest level, because you won't be properly balanced.

If you're cutting down a tree, try to plan where you want it to fall. With that in mind plan for an escape route or two, so you can get out of harm's way. Plan also for what you'll do if it doesn't fall where it was supposed to.

## KICKBACK

One of the chief dangers of chainsaws is kickback. That's when the teeth on the end or upper part of the bar catch, catapulting the saw towards your face. Chain brakes, sprocket tip bars and low-kickback chains have helped make it a less deadly problem, but it is still a very real and ever-present danger.

The chain on a saw is designed to bite into the wood, so it isn't necessary to bear down on it. Chainsaws are designed to be run at full speed, so use them that way.

The chain should be kept sharp, otherwise you'll be wasting your time. On some models running a dull chain can even burn out the motor. Chains must also be kept at the proper tension, allowing them to cut effectively and not jump out of place, flying who knows where.

As I mentioned earlier, even the weath-

er can play a role. Watch for the wind, planning for its effect on your work. Dress

## UNDER THE HOOD

MAURICE CROSSFIELD

for the occasion: Cold hands can reduce your control, making kickbacks and other problems harder to handle.

You'll also want to take regular breaks. Not because you're lazy, but because fatigue can be a killer. A moment of inattention, hands numbed by vibration, a sudden distraction can all complicate things in a heartbeat. If you aren't used to long days in the woods, plan to cut for only a few hours at a stretch.

I could go on about the types of cuts to make to ensure how the tree falls, or where and where not to cut a tree safely. But the fact of the matter is if you've never cut down a tree before, I don't want you reading this and then running out and trying it on your own. You're better off finding someone with experience and learning from their example. Hopefully, a combination of knowing the safety practices and learning from an experienced and reliable wood cutter will help to make your life a little safer.

## Miss. Hist Society holds AGM

By Caroline Kehne  
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

The Missisquoi Historical Society held its annual general meeting and supper on Wednesday, Feb. 20 at the United Church Hall in Stanbridge East, officially welcoming its new president as well as a slate of new board members.

J. Hardy Craft, chairman of the nominating committee, announced the replacements for president Jeanine Gagné, who resigned after nine years of service, vice-president Carl Proctor, secretary Reg Patterson, treasurer Jean-Yves Paquet and board directors Jennifer Kidd Monette, Judy McAleer and Joe La Starza.

Craft also welcomed incoming president Madeleine Lemieux and treasurer Francois Reid, both of Stanbridge East. Board members for the 2002-2003 season include Anna Maria Marziali (Stanbridge East), Anne Lipowski (Dunham), Karen In-

galls (Brigham), Micheline Côté (Frelighsburg), Jill Heyligen (Notre Dame de Stanbridge), Marc Bérubé (Mystic), Monique Baker (Bedford) and Elizabeth Forsyth (St. Armand).

Lemieux announced that funding will be an important focus of the upcoming year.

"Most of the museum's funding in the past has come from the Ministère de la Culture", said Lemieux, speaking at the general meeting. "Our goal is to get into serious fundraising from foundations and businesses."

Lemieux also recognized the contributions of the museum's extensive network of volunteers, including 2001 Volunteer of the Year Margaret Brown.

"Society lives because of the volunteers who give their time," she said. "That is what has made the society so unique. It is truly a community project."

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# Do-it-yourself gardeners' paradise at annual show

## FLOWERS:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

The real value for do-it-yourself gardeners, however, lies in the 30-plus seminars included in the price of admission. Subjects include controlling invasive exotic plants, growing and using herbs, legacy trees, designing beautiful landscapes, attracting native butterflies and biological lawn care to name a few.

For those who prefer to look at other people's gardens, lectures are also available on Gardens of Italy, The American Garden Legacy and European Gardens. All lectures are given by professional horticulturists and naturalists from the University of Vermont, Nature Conservancy, Vermont Fish and the Wildlife Department and many local commercial organizations.

The Sheraton Conference Centre is located off I89 (Exit 14W). Show hours are Friday, March 1 and Saturday, March 2, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, March 3, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Admission is \$10 US for adults, \$7 US for seniors, \$2 US for children two to 12 years old, children under two are free. Group rates are available on request. The show is also handicap-accessible. For more information, call 802-865-5979.

### GARDENING SEMINARS HIGHLIGHTS

#### Friday, March 1

• **11 a.m.:** Vermont's Invasive Exotic Plant Legacy (Rose Paul, Nature Conservancy): why non-native plants may be a problem and what people are doing about them. Also, Growing Herbs for Home (Evie Pepin, Ladybug Herbs): A herbal practitioner gives advice on how to grow and use herbs.

• **1 p.m.:** Legacy Trees: What It Takes to Grow Them Big (Steve Sinclair, VT Dept Forests): Tree selection and maintenance to sustain trees over the long-haul.

• **2 p.m.:** Part 1: Designing Beautiful Landscapes and Great Gardens (Judith Irven, VCH Designs): Step-by-step techniques for creating beautiful gardens.

• **3 p.m.:** Part 2: Designing Beautiful Landscapes and Great Gardens (Judith Irven, VCH Designs): Learn how to use flowers, shrubs and small trees to provide colour, shape and texture. Also,

Building a Legacy with Bulbs (Sue Sullivan, Trapp Family Lodge): Learn to use bulbs that will withstand the test of time.

#### Saturday, March 2

• **11 a.m.:** Starting the American Garden Legacy: Early Colonial Plantsmen and Their Discoveries (Don Wickman, Woodstock Historical Society): Learn who is responsible for some of our present-day garden plants. Also, Butterflies to Blooms (Carol Ann Margolis, Albany, NY): A former UVM lecturer shares her expertise on raising, breeding and tagging native butterflies.

• **1 p.m.:** Designing for a Legacy (Charles Siegchrist, Barber Farm Landscape Design): Creating successful and lasting garden design.

• **2 p.m.:** Landscape Shrubs in Vermont (Norman Pellett, former UVM lecturer): Examining the features of shrubs, their hardiness and seasonal interest from his recently revised book.

• **3 p.m.:** Growing Great Cut Flowers in Vermont (Judith Hall, Stratton Meadow Greenhouse): A commercial grower and florist gives tips on proven flowers.

• **4 p.m.:** Starting the American Garden Legacy: Early Colonial Plantsmen and Their Discoveries (Don Wickman, Woodstock Historical Society): Learn who is responsible for some of our present-day garden plants.

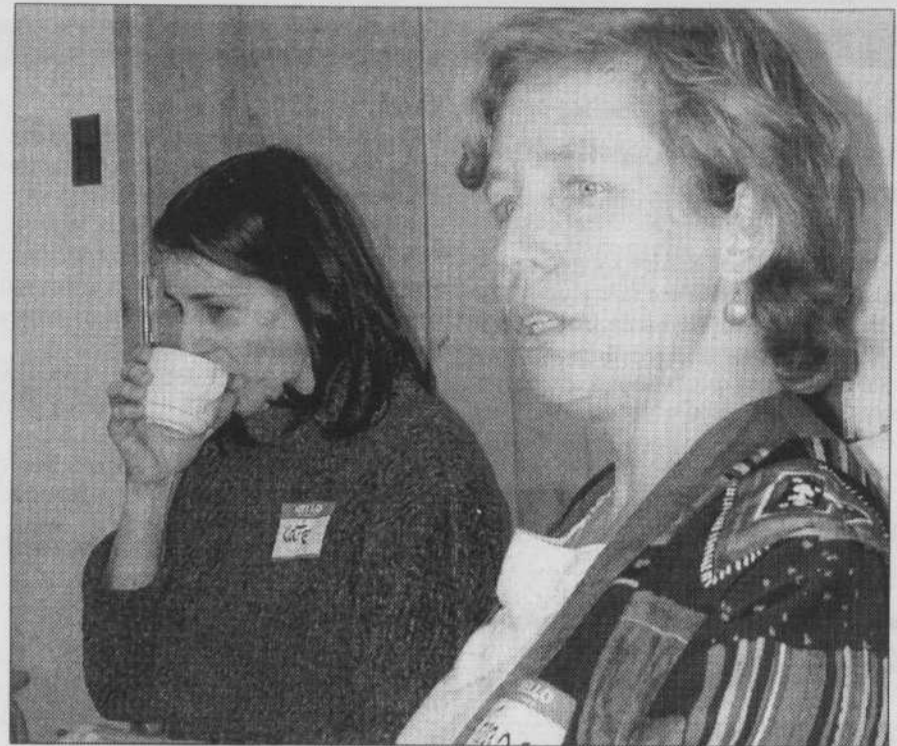
#### Sunday, March 3

• **11 a.m.:** Bonsai (Sandy Anderson, Green Mountain Bonsai): Secrets for success in our oldest horticultural legacies.

• **1 p.m.:** Water Gardens to Last (Dave Hamlen, Hamlen's Garden Centre): Secrets of lasting water gardens. Also, Perennials for All Gardens (Layne Sharp, VCH, Gregg Hill Gardens): Perennials and their garden uses.

• **2 p.m.:** Extending the Day: A guide to Gaining Time by Lighting the Landscape (Greg Yandow, Silvery Moon Lighting): Tips on outdoor lighting.

## COCo to hold All-A-Board Workshop



STAFF

Frances Ravensbergen (foreground), founder of the Centre for Community Organizations (COCo) who helped co-facilitate workshops held in Cowansville on Jan. 30, is also helping organize the next 'All-A-Board' session on March 27, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in either Cowansville or Knowlton. Representatives of six local non-profit organizations, including Townshippers' Association, Yamaska Literacy Council, Town of Brome Lake Community Services, Theatre Lac Brome, the Missisquoi Historical Society and Sunshine Theatre took part in January's All-A-Board sessions on Board Development and Volunteer Management. The program is designed to provide training to non-profit organizations throughout Quebec free of charge thanks to a grant from Canadian Heritage. Interested organizations may nominate up to three senior volunteers, staff or board members to take part in the workshops. Space is limited. For more information, or to reserve a place for your non-profit organization, call 450-294-3377.

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## Community Forum

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## New Rotary Club to form in the Knowlton/Cowansville area

DEAR EDITOR

District 7850 of Rotary International is interested in starting a new club in the Knowlton/Cowansville area. The club is looking for men and women who are leaders in their professions and businesses and who wish to serve their communities both locally and internationally.

Former Rotarians who would like to rekindle their association in this organi-

zation would be welcome.

Rotary is an international organization that promotes service to local and international communities. Its motto is "Service above self." The goal of Rotary is "the achievement of world understanding and peace through local, national, and international humanitarian, educational, and cultural programs."

For more information, contact Al Smith (819) 876 5103 or email allan-smith@videotron.ca

ALLAN SMITH  
via e-mail

## Enron the Titanic of the 21st Century

Dear Editor,  
The most advanced technology and the pride of an era went to the bottom of the Atlantic in April, 1912.

It was a ship to serve the cream of society with unprecedented luxury and comfort, and a playground for the elite on an unsinkable ship. Comfort was beyond compare, and money was God until reality stepped in!

Fifteen hundred of the ruling elite

perished in the ice cold water at the bottom of the Atlantic where money provided very little comfort.

However, one thing surfaced: there must be some other value in this world to live by.

Enron opened the back door to the world on how business is conducted on the world stage as well as how fortunes are acquired, some honestly and some less so.

Money does not fall from heaven: few get in excess and many get less.

Corruption, gouging and profiteering is covered up with an enormous tarp called business. Unlike the titanic, the ruling class seems to survive and the supporting staff goes under. A dark cloud is opened on us and an urgent solution is needed.

Society found it necessary to invent the Geneva convention to provide guidance and protection so that prisoners of war are treated with respect and dignity. A similar body is urgently needed to protect us from the likes, such as the World Bank, World Trade corporations and the International business community.

It hurts me to learn that the Canadian people are being sued by international businesses for not jumping at their command. The Canadian people need to reclaim our government out of the hands of international business corporations. Enron showed us the dangerous road we are taking, and the bottom of the ocean is not far away.

FRED ECHENBERGER,  
Brome Lake

## Counting cars at community centre

DEAR EDITOR:

TBL community services has some serious questions that need answering. Where did they get their figures to justify such an elaborate expansion? I sent a registered letter to community services in Knowlton on Jan.15 asking for the monthly

reports for the last three years hoping to have the figures for the February municipal meeting. I have still not received any response. There is growing concern over the need for a \$1.5 million community centre to be run and maintained at the taxpayers expense. With a 36 per cent tax increase this year and an announcement by the mayor at the budget presentation that we can expect a significant increase in the following year due to equipment replacement and long overdue maintenance on municipal buildings, many residents think it is time to take a serious look at whether or not we should be expanding or cutting back. I would like to have a look at the figures and see how they came to their 40,000 people a year using the centre. In the meeting held at the Lakeview by residents opposed to the Victoria Street location, Mr. Kininmonth stated that 40,000 visitors a year only represent 4.4 cars an hour. This means that in an eight-hour-day at the present location the centre only receives 35.2 cars. Hardly a legitimate excuse for a \$1.5 million expansion. The Foster member of TBLCS just stepped down for personal reasons and the Loisier Foster is waiting for community services to ask for a replacement.

Foster is the largest sector in the TBL district and should be represented by someone that has the interests of Foster at heart. Is it time for new blood at community services? It is due time to take an overall look at how things are done in the Town of Brome Lake.

Recreation and culture in TBL takes over \$480,000 a year from our towns operating budget. The present need for expansion is based on figures that have never been disclosed to the public. For three years now I have been observing the occupancy of the community services in Knowlton. The only time I have witnessed the parking being inadequate was in the event of a town meeting or municipal gathering. The CLSC was included in the TBLCS statistics. In my opinion this is misleading because the majority of use is for blood tests that take place before 9 a.m. If the CLSC moves, this will eliminate these figures. It is time we get together as a community and take a serious look at our town's state of affairs.

LLOYD STURTEVANT  
Brome Lake

## Saluting our Friends



## Coloring Knowlton Brightly!

Knowlton artist, Joanne Wallace Vachon has opened an Art Material and Design Studio at 316 Knowlton Road. **Bright Colors** carries painting and drawing supplies and accessories, as well as a wide range of color and paper products. "I saw a need," says Joanne who studies Fine Art at Bishop's University. "The Eastern Townships is home to many artists, as you see each summer with our annual Tours Des Arts. We all had to drive to Montreal or Sherbrooke for art supplies. Now **Bright Colors** is right here in town and if we don't have an item in stock, we can order it right away." Artists appreciate talking with Joanne about the art products. "I experiment with all the techniques and pass on what I've learned." Joanne also sees a demand for creative art products aimed at the younger crowd. "The educational Arts and Crafts Kits make great gifts for kids and encourage them to learn while discovering their creative side." Because Joanne Wallace Vachon is a working artist, she encourages customers to call before dropping in. "I might be out in a field painting and I would hate to miss another artist and share a laugh about this crazy thing we do call Art!"

Advertorial

## THEATRE LAC BROME

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The Annual General Meeting of Theatre Lac Brome will be held on April 14, 2002 at 3:00 p.m. at the Theatre building in Knowlton.

According to TLB by-laws, any additional nominations to the Board must be received in writing, signed by 5 members, 30 days prior to the AGM.

Theatre Lac Brome  
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# A well contrasted duo at Arts Sutton Gallery

**Staff**  
Beginning March, Arts Sutton hosts an exhibition of contrasts where Elke Abrell's black and white photographs meets Barry Allikas' colourful mazes.

Inspired by mythology and the wilderness of the Sutton area, Abrell, an Abercorn resident, will exhibit a series of black and white photos on becoming one with nature, in an exploration of the spiritual aspect of people's relationship with the natural world.

"With our hectic modern lives, inundated by external stimulation, we easily forget and feel separate from our environment," she says.

"I hope this series of images will remind the viewer of the beauty and power of nature and our intricate connection with it."

Abrell was the recipient of the 2000 Danny Taran Creative Photography Award from the School of Fine Arts of the Saidye Bronfman Centre for the Arts.

Meanwhile, Allikas' paintings plunge into the heart of complex and coded systems. The Montreal painter synthesizes various concepts derived from science, bio-genetics and artificial intelligence.

"We are swimming in an ever-expanding sea of information. More and more of this washes over us in digitized form," explains Allikas, who represent-

ed Canada at the last Baie-Saint-Paul International Symposium of New Painting.

"Our consciousness cannot avoid being profoundly affected by this ongoing proliferation of atomized and accelerated data. My art deals with issues raised by these pursuits, at the same time constructing alternate assemblages

for some possible new becomings."

The Abrell/Allikas exhibit will be on display from Feb. 28 to March 24. The Gallery is open Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m., Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon, and 1 to 5 p.m. A vernissage is scheduled for Saturday, March 2, 2 p.m. For more information, call 450-538-2563

## BRIEF

### Partnership brings adult literacy tutoring

Record Correspondent

A partnership between the Yamaska Literacy Council and the Eastern Townships School Board hopes to bring adult literacy tutoring to Bedford.

Field worker Terri Coulson is looking for interested students and tutors for the project to sharpen reading, writing and math skills. The program is open to all adults in the greater Bedford area and Missisquoi Bay communities. Tutoring and all materials are provided without charge to students. For more information call 450-263-9337.



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- On location humorist Denis Gagnon "Le Bleu biodegradable"



## BROME COUNTY NEWS SOCIAL NOTES

### Waterloo Golden Age Club

The regular meeting of the Waterloo Golden Age Club took place at the Legion Hall on Monday, Feb. 25, 1:30 p.m.

The president welcomed everyone to the meeting, including a visitor, Joyce Ossington. The Lord's Prayer was said in unison. Minutes of the last meeting were read by Rita McKerrell and the treasurer's report was given by Helen Ramsay.

The president mentioned the annual sugaring-off party and asked the group if they were content to go to the same place as last year. The group was in agreement with this so the president said he would try to book the place for Monday, April 1.

Winners of the half-and-half drawing were Dot de Solla and Laurence Marsh. Winners at '500' were as follows: Elvia Johnson, first; Ormonde Brown, second; and Wilmur Davidson, third. The winners of the special 10 diamonds bid were Bernard Lefebvre and Stella Mizener. The winner at the games table was Barbara Bresee.

The meeting closed with a fine lunch being enjoyed by all. The next meeting will take place on March 11, 1:30 p.m.

— Submitted by Wilmur Davidson

### St. Luke's Church Women

On Monday, Feb. 18 the St. Luke's Church Women met in the church hall at 2 p.m. with an attendance of seven. The president, Nellie Darling, opened the meeting with the Lord's prayer said in unison.

The secretary read the minutes of the January meeting, which were approved and signed. She then passed on thanks from Lucy Wright for a birthday card from the group. Doris Wilson, the treasurer, read the monthly financial report.

Catherine Lawrence reported that

she would carefully check out if, and when, there might be a suitable evening to hold a card party in St. Luke's Church hall.

Nellie mentioned that the World Day of Prayer service this year would be held in St. Bernadin's Catholic Church on Friday, March 1 at 2 p.m. Readers from St. Luke's Church will take part in the service.

There was some correspondence from the Women's Unit of the Diocese of Montreal. The next meeting will be held on March 18, 2 p.m. in the church hall.

Doris Wilson adjourned the meeting and the benediction was repeated. Then followed refreshments and a social time.

— Submitted by Jean Davidson

### The Canadian Club of the Yamaska Valley

The Canadian Club of The Yamaska Valley's first meeting of 2002 will be held on March 4, 2 p.m. at the Auberge West Brome.

Sandra Morgan will be the guest speaker. Morgan served as the Canadian

spokesperson at the 1998 and '99 International Labour Organization conferences on the worst forms of child labour. On March 4, she will discuss the exploitation of children and what Canada (one of the "ILO" founding members) has committed towards the protection of the rights of children.

Refreshments and a social time will follow the meeting. Let's get together again. New members are welcome to join us and the CCYV. Admission for non-members is \$5.

— Submitted by Thelma Rhicard

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### Creek United Church hosts Bring-a-Friend-Sunday

The Creek United Church in West Bolton hosts its first ever Bring-a-Friend Sunday Service Sunday, March 3 at 9:30 a.m.

The congregation is encouraging members to bring a friend or two out to this event, but is also extending the invitation to everyone, whether they know someone at Creek Church or not.

The Sunday school will be under the direction of Joy Banks, with the worship service led by the Rev. Dr. R. Burn Purdon.

— Submitted by Don Seaman, Bondville

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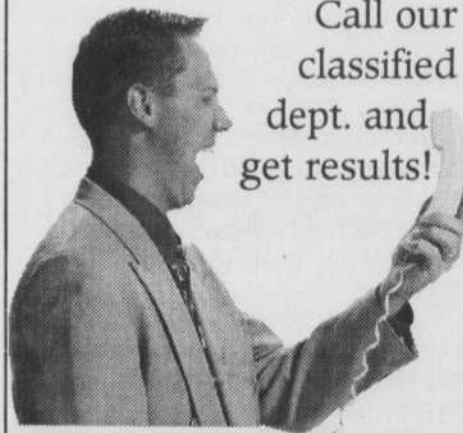
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**Deaths**

**HUNTER, Janet (Nee Hutchens)** - Peacefully on February 15, 2002 in Wainwright, Alberta in her 101st year. Born June 20, 1901 in East Farnham, Que. Leaves to mourn, her children; Clive (Claire), Enid (Arnold Bouchard), Robert (Fay) and Dwight; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Burial at Brigham United Cemetery, Brigham, Que. Graveside service only in mid-April.

**McCUTCHEON, Jeanie (Nee Kennedy)** - With courage and dignity at the B.M.P. Hospital, Cowansville, Que., on February 20, 2002 in her 86th year. Beloved wife of the late Arnold McCutcheon. Dear mother of Gordon (Georgina) and Robert (Lynn). Survived by her sister, Irene Killam. Loving Nanna to Lisa (Jeff) and Colleen. Great-grandmother of twins, Emily and Jayden. As per Jeanie's wishes, a private service will take place. Donations to the B.M.P. Hospital Foundation, 950 rue Principale, Cowansville, J2K 1K3, would be appreciated by the family.

**Card of Thanks**

**MATTHEWS, Ashton** - We wish to express our sincere thanks to family and friends for your love, support and prayers in our time of sorrow. Thank you for the many cards, flowers, donations, calls and food sent to the house. A special thanks to Rev. Barbara Willard. The Rev. Sister Mary Florence Liew, organist Doris Pope, bearers and the St. Peter's Guild for the delicious lunch. Dear Amy, who on behalf of the grandchildren, shared some fond memories of Grandpa, many thanks. Please accept this as our personal thank you.

HELEN MATTHEWS  
 CONNIE and FAMILY  
 BOB and FAMILY

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This is a list of our senior citizens whom are in residences with services (it might be useful for visitors). Chase Home-Bedford: Agnes Wightman Callaghan, Lila Brown Corey, Pauline Larose Crandall, Guy Martindale. Knowlton House - Bruce Kidd. Manoir Lac Brome - Knowlton: Stewart Bird. Manoir Oasis - Henryville: Alphonse Quintin. Residence Beaulac Bedford Inc. - Bedford: Elizabeth Sager Baker, Violet Realffe Bedard, Ann Cibula Kemp, Isabelle McCulloch Pillozzi. Residence Dunham Enr. - Bessie Russell Cockerline, Hazel Stone Witts. Residence Manoir Beaumont - Cowansville: Bernard Enright, Grace Smith Yates. Residences Principale - Cowansville: Morley Cockerline, Shirley Surette Langlois. Residence Verger Fleuri - Eccles Hill: Lou Rowland Gage.

**Stanbridge East - Thelma Rhicard**

Kay Smith Ames. Stella Maurice Home - Bedford: Lillian Wilson Boomhower, Dale Spicer.

Alphonse Quintin is now a patient at the hospital in St. Jean as he has the dreaded flue that is going around!

Steve Rhicard cleared our pond for a New Year's Eve Skating Party which he and his wife Caroline, organized, for many adults and children of friends and family. It was -19c, the ice was well lit by the moon, a flood light and a

huge bon-fire. The evening ended with a social time at their home.

Neil and I saw the New Year in at a great gathering of friends and family at Bill Davidson and Tesa Boomhower's place. Folks wine, dined, visited and were entertained with music and song by Michael Corey, Dave Hébert and Betty Piette. The celebration ended after a steak and shrimp feast, I believe that a good time was had by all!

**Obituary**

**ASHTON MATTHEWS of Cookshire**

The death of Ashton Matthews, husband of Helen Maskell, occurred suddenly at his home in Cookshire on January 23, 2002 in his 87th year.

Ashton was born in Bury, on November 1, 1915, the son of Thomas Matthews and Sarah Laird Matthews. He spent his lifetime in Cookshire working for Roy Lake & Son and then the Town of Cookshire, retiring in 1980 after many years of service.

On June 29, 1946, he was united in marriage to Helen Maskell.

Those left to mourn his passing are his wife, Helen, and their children, Connie (Gilbert Rhicard), Foster, Que., and Bob (Faye Willard), Burlington, Ont. The joy of his life was spending time with his precious grandchildren, Jonathan, Amy, Pam and Chris. Also left to mourn are his brother, Osborne (Candy) Matthews of Cookshire and a dear friend, Willy Christen of Arnprior,

Ont. He will be sadly missed by many nieces, nephews, sister-in-laws, and brother-in-laws.

Following prayers at the Cass Funeral Home in Cookshire a funeral service was held at St. Peter's Anglican Church in Cookshire on January 26, 2002 with Rev. Sister Mary Florence Liew officiating. A touching tribute to Ashton was given by Rev. Barbara Willard and his granddaughters. The choir sang two favorite hymns, "Softly and Tenderly" and "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" with Doris Pope (sister-in-law), organist.

The bearers were grandson: Jonathan Rhicard, nephews; Almon Pope, Dallas Winslow, Michael Matthews, friends; Malcolm Fraser and Bob Little.

Following cremation, interment of ashes will take place at the Cookshire Cemetery.

**Happy 86th birthday**



**Mom (Josie Christie)**

Love and best wishes from your children,

Claire, Chuck, Cindy  
 and their families

and good friend Shirley Langlois

XXOO

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