

Brome County NEWS



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2006



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Brome-Missisquoi Youth Foundation planning gala benefit



JOSHUA BLESER

Cowansville Mayor Arthur Fauteux with BMFY board members (left to right) Sylvie Desautels, Gerald Bleser, William Campbell, Ilze Epnors, Francis Soucy, Sonia Smith, Robert Marcheterre, and Bill Nunnolley.

By Joshua Bleser
COWANSVILLE

In its eighth year of operation, the Brome-Missisquoi Youth Foundation (BMFY) has decided to kick it up a notch.

The Foundation owns and maintains two "Houses of Hope" in Cowansville, one English and one French. With services provided by the Directorate of Youth Protection, the homes welcome at-risk youth between the ages of 12 and 18 in a safe and constructive environment, allowing them to continue their studies and avoid ending up in youth detention centres. The English home is the only such haven in Montérégie.

"The main objective is to house our

youth in a healthy and secure environment," says BMFY President Ilze Epnors. "By supporting their constructive endeavours, these Houses of Hope bring faith of a better world to our youth."

In order to be able to continue to fulfill this mission, the Foundation is launching its capital campaign with its first annual Gala Benefit Dinner, at the Petite Auberge Santé in Bromont on May 13, under the honorary presidency of Cowansville Mayor and Brome-Missisquoi prefect Arthur Fauteux.

"We hope to raise between \$6,000 and \$7,000," Epnors notes cautiously, adding that she is "optimistic by nature (and) \$10,000 would be great."

The gala, sponsored by CIBC Wood

Gundy, and silent auction — which will feature works by artists from the Townships and across the country, as well as golf lessons and a weekend getaway to Las Vegas — will be followed by mail and telephone blitzes in the fall.

The money raised through these efforts will go toward implementing BMFY's long-term plans, which include a scholarship program for trade and academic courses; a bank of teachers to assist students with difficulties; a program to assist teenager and parent communication; the provision of supervised apartments for youth aged 18-21; and assistance to teenage parents.

"All these projects are very relevant," declares Fauteux. "All youth need some help. When they're doing

well, they need help, when they're doing so-so, they need help, and when they're having trouble, they especially need all the help we can offer them."

The English home opened in 1999, while the French one opened in October 2004. Together they have welcomed over 200 youth struggling with behavioural and psychological problems.

Tickets to the gala are \$100 per person. The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. and will feature a seven-course meal, dancing, entertainment, "and lots of surprises", according to Epnors. The Petite Auberge is located at 360 Pierre-Laporte. For tickets or for more information on how to donate to the Foundation, call (450) 243-0720.

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BROME COUNTY COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

April 5

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, 24 St. Paul's Road, **Knowlton**. Wednesday evenings during Lent, there will be A Walk Through the Gospel of John and Holy Communion starting at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. The Rev. Tim Wiebe and the congregation welcomes everyone.

April 7

BINGO at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, 2 Curley St., **Sutton** organized by the Volunteers from Foyer Sutton at 7 p.m. Cash prizes and drawings. Jackpot, \$200. Come and play to help the residents. Info: Gail, 450-538-0530 or Irene, 450-538-3408.

April 7, 8 & 10

Dunham United Church NEARLY NEW & RUMMAGE SALE, Friday, April 7, 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday, April 8, 9 a.m. to noon. and Monday, April 10, 10 a.m. to noon.

April 8

14TH ANNUAL SUGARING OFF PARTY at The Rhicard's 'Owl Hoot Maple Farm' at 85 Ross Road, **Stanbridge East**. A **Fund Raising Event for the Brome Missequoi Perkins Hospital Foundation**, 1 to 4 p.m. **DONATION**: at the gate. Adults, \$7, children, 4 - 10 yrs., \$4. Donation includes: Taffy on snow, see a blacksmith demonstration, wagon rides, log hewing, antique car/tractor show, listen or dance to the music of Canadian fiddlers. Items for sale from: Bake table, maple products and snack bar. A wonderful afternoon for the whole family. For information 450-248-3616.

TOWNSHIPS BLUEGRASS & OLD-TYME MUSIC SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING, 4 to 4:30 p.m. Acoustic Jamming, 1 to 5:30 p.m. Supper, 6 p.m. Live Bluegrass and Old-Tyme music bands, 7 to 10:30 p.m. Royal Canadian Legion, 77

Lewis St., **Waterloo**. Jam Captain: Tom Kilbride, 450-243-0645; Directors: Marie Gunn, 514-697-8073, Terry Howell, 819-875-5133, Tom Kilbride, 450-243-0645, Bill McMurray, 450-539-0365, Bob Tetreault, 819-346-2435.

April 8 & 9

30TH ANNUAL FIGURE SKATING SHOW at the Jacques-Chagnon Arena, **Waterloo**. Saturday, 7 p.m. & Sunday, 1:30 p.m. Tickets at door or from members.

April 9

Royal Canadian Legion **'OMELETTE BREAKFAST'** at 120 Davignon St., **Cowansville**, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Everyone welcome! Information, 450-263-3543.

April 10 & 12

THRIFT SALE at **Brome Hall** on Monday, April 10th, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., **RUMMAGE SALE** at Brome Hall Wednesday, April 12, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hall porch open for donations until April 8, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. For information, call 450-243-0350 or 450-243-5742.

April 12

La Maison de la Famille des Frontières invite parents with children 0-12 yrs. old for **WORKSHOP ON PREVENTIVE DENTAL HEALTH**, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at room 304 Salle de Rencontres, 52 DuPont St., **Bedford**. Daycare service available for children between 18 mths. to 5 yrs. old. Free. For information and/or reservation: 450-248-0595.

April 14

ECUMENICAL WALK WITH THE CROSS, in **Cowansville** beginning at Ste. Rose de Lima Church, rue Principale, at 9 a.m. Everyone welcome. Information 450-263-0204.

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, 7 p.m. with the participation of Emmanuel Gospel Choir, directed by Susan Reininger, 203 rue Principale, **Cowansville**. Everyone welcome.

April 15

St. Francis Kennel Club **OPEN HOUSE** at Domaine du Parc, **Cowansville**. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come and meet us, ask questions, sign up for activities with your dog. Call Joyce, 450-263-6510.

April 16

Yamaska Valley United churches' **EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE** at **Cowansville Municipal Beach** beginning, 6 a.m. Information, 450-263-0204.

April 27, 28

Massey-Vanier **KALEIDOSCOPE**

FUNDRAISER in the M.V. Auditorium, **Cowansville**, 6:30 p.m. Tickets, \$10, on sale now! Proceeds to benefit the M.V. Dance Program. Call, 450-263-3772.

April 29

EMMANUEL GOSPEL CHOIR BENEFIT CONCERT, 7:30 p.m. directed by Susan Reininger. Emmanuel United Church, 203 rue Principale, **Cowansville**. Free will offering to benefit Emmanuel United Church and Connections for Mental Health. Come and enjoy a wonderful evening of gospel music!

May 4 & 18

ADVANCED NOTICE - Church of the Ascension, **West Brome**, **LUNCHEON CARD PARTIES** at noon. **ANNUAL FLEA MARKET**, June 24. Reservations please for the Card Parties. Call, Evelyn, 450-263-1938 before, April 20.

ARTS CALENDAR

April 8

SCHÜTZ CONCERT - For Easter, experience the musical majesty of Venice's St. Mark's Basilica. Le Choeur Classique de l'Estrie, with Le Quatuor de Trombones de Montréal, and Les Petits Chanteurs de Granby under the direction of François Panneton, present Les Sept Paroles du Christ and other biblical works by Heinrich Schütz. at 8 p.m., at Eglise Saint-Joseph, boul. Leclerc, **Granby**. Tickets \$20. Info: 450-266-7827.

April 15 & 16

ART EXHIBITION at **Bishop's Knowlton Campus**: Drawing, painting, collage, sculpture, assemblage and photography. From 1 to 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Info: 450-242-1518.

CHURCH SERVICES

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

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH, 24 St. Paul's Road, **Knowlton**. Traditional Sunday Services, 8:30 and 10 a.m. Music, a nursery and Sunday School. Wednesday evenings in Lent, there will be "A Walk Through the Gospel of John" and Holy Communion starting at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Service, April 9, Palm Sunday, 8:30 and 10 a.m. Blessing of the Palms and Holy Communion; Everyone is welcome. The Rev. Tim Wiebe and the

congregation welcomes everyone.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF BROME, Sunday, April 9, St. John the Evangelist, **Brome**, 10 a.m. - Holy Communion. Rev. Paul Tidman.

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.; 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 10:30 a.m., Choir practice, 9:30 a.m. Friday, April 14, 7 p.m. Good Friday Service with the participation of Emmanuel Gospel Choir, directed by Susan Reininger. Easter Sunday Communion and Baptism at 10:30 a.m. April 23, 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with the participation of Emmanuel Gospel Choir. Rev. Wendy MacLean officiating. Info: 450-263-0204.

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. Info: 450-263-2662.

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

BEDFORD UNITED CHURCH PASTORAL CHARGE - Sunday Service, April 9nd, **Stanbridge East**, 10 a.m., Holy Communion - John Matheson, Guest Minister. Info: 450-248-3044 for information.

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

COMMUNITY NOTES

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - If you wish to drink and can... that's your business. If you wish to stop and can't... that's our business. Info: 450-242-2611 or 1-877-272-2611.

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 88-A Lakeside St., Knowlton, QC J0E 1V0, email: bcnews@qc.aibn.com, or fax: (450) 243-5155. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

Brome County
NEWS

88-A LAKESIDE, KNOWLTON, QUEBEC, J0E 1V0
TEL: (450) 242-1188/242-6892 FAX: (450) 243-5155
Established May 1991

Published weekly by

RECORD

1195 Galt E., Sherbrooke,
Quebec, J1G 1Y7
FAX: (819) 569-3945 E-MAIL:
newsroom@sherbrookerecord.com
website: www.sherbrookerecord.com

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LYNDA BELLAVANCE ADVERTISING (450) 242-6892
MICHELE DUPAL ADVERTISING 800 463-9525
NELSON APODIO CORRESP. EDITOR (819) 569-6345

CIRCULATION

Distributed to all Record subscribers every Wednesday as an insert, and to all households and businesses in Abercorn, Bedford, Brigham, Brome, Bromont, Cowansville, East Farnham, Foster, Fulford, Knowlton (Brome Lake), Sutton, Bolton Centre, West Brome.

The Record was founded on February 7, 1897, and acquired the Sherbrooke

Examiner (est. 1879) in 1905 and the Sherbrooke Gazette (est. 1837) in 1908. The Record is published by Glacier Ventures International Corp.

Canadian Publications Mail Service Product Agreement No. 0479675.

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Tour des arts looking for a few good writers

By Philip A. Godin
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Organizers of the 2006 edition of the Tour des Arts are in the planning stages of this year's reading event that will be held at Sutton's Mont Café on the evening of July 19.

The readings are an opportunity for local writers to present their original works to an assembled audience comprised of other writers and the public.

"Writers will be given about five minutes to read any piece of their choice," explained Alana Fahey, event co-ordinator for the anglophone segment, who added that if time permitted, a reader may be able to read more than one piece.

"This is a chance for writers in the immediate area to get to know each other, to connect, to listen to each other's styles and ideas. It is an event not so much based on how good a writer is, but what a writer is expressing."

Fahey, a writer herself, knows firsthand what it means to both read and be heard by an audience. "The story is what makes you want to listen, no matter if a person stumbles through it without style or as a performance, if the content is there the story is there, already present."

Prose, poetry, short stories, there are virtually no limitations on the type of text that will qualify for a spot. Both professional and amateur writers are welcome; the key ingredient is that they be local their work original.

Stanley Lake chairs both the French and English reading events.

"The intent is to promote local talent, artists and artisans from the area covered by Le Tour des arts. That means Sutton, Knowlton, Mansonville for example.

"The atmosphere is convivial and generally very supportive," added Lake, noting that aside from audience praise, there were no prizes, awards or certificates handed out.

"We have had storytellers and poets, published writers and first time writers, each bringing something personal to the reading." One reader returning for the fifth year will be Cheryl Long who will present a chapter of her yet-to-be published novel.

"It's a story about Mount Echo," she explained in a recent interview. "It is about an Abenakis man in his 20s and a local adolescent girl who both go to the mountain looking for relief from their past and end up healing in each other."

The story line contains elements of abandonment, sexual abuse and murder all nestled amid descriptions of the pristine waterfalls that can be found in the woods covering the mountain.

Long described the experience of standing and reading her works in front of an audience.

"When you read from something that's yours, you get lost in the text; it's like you're telling the truth," she said. "When you read things that are close to your heart, it brings the storey out the text, it becomes more alive, more real."

The evening readings have been part of the programme for fifteen of the eighteen years that Tour des arts had been held. Readings fit into the "Éléments de la soirée" segment of the tour, once the pottery ateliers and painter's studios have closed for the day.

Among other events to be enjoyed in various evening venues are local musicians, dancers, pottery shows and theatrical presentations. The 50-seat Mont café venue has gleaned a well-deserved reputation for serving an array of exotic



PHILIP GODIN/CORRESPONDENT

Tour des Arts Anglophone reading co-ordinator Alana Fahey says there are a few places still open for the July event.

and classic coffees as well as light meals.

Readings begin at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday July 19, at 3 rue Principale, Sutton. For more information on the evening or to register as a reader, contact Alana Fahey at 450-538-0149.

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BRIEF

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A meeting and discussion about Community Earth, what we do and how we play! The meeting will be held on Saturday, April 8 at 1:30 p.m. in the Waterloo City Hall and will last approximately two hours. Refreshments will be provided. We look forward to meeting you. Please visit www.communityearth.org for more information.

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For the money, Infiniti M35x has leg up on Lexus GS 300

By David Booth

A few years ago, any comparison between a Lexus and an Infiniti would have been laughable and, in the mid-sized luxury sedan segment, impossible.

For one thing, Infiniti didn't have an appropriate entry.

While Lexus's GS had established itself as a premium sedan — albeit a somewhat somnolent one — Nissan's luxury arm was stuck with the full-zoot Q45 as its only offering above the entry-level I30 and odd-looking J30.

Besides, Nissan didn't seem all that serious about playing with the big boys. Its only significant player was the QX4 sport-utility, which was based on the more pedestrian Pathfinder. Its sedans were largely afterthoughts.

Things began to change with the debut of the entry-level G35 sedan, the first certified hit for the fledgling luxury marque. Then came the equally well received coupe of the same moniker and, finally, the co-competitor in this test, the M35x (this after a short, best-forgotten gestation period when the first-generation M made an appearance).

Viewed side by side, there's little doubt which is the prettier of the two. Lexus, after years of trying to bore us into buying its cars, is actually designing some interesting shapes. Though the silhouette remains largely the same as that of its predecessors, the shape is now sensuous instead of senile, boisterous rather than banal.

Now that European mid-sized sedans have gone all quirky or boring in their styling (the beautiful Mercedes CLS is only available as a V8 so it can't be fairly compared here), the GS 300 is the loveliest thing in this segment.

The M35, by comparison, is a little too traditional. It's certainly not stodgy, but it breaks no new ground.

It looks like a traditional, conservative Asian sedan — and boldness is what sells cars today.

Inside, it's a different story. Where its exterior seems a trifle bland, the Infiniti's cabin is decidedly opulent with satin-finished Brazilian rosewood, a boldly curving dashboard and, in the tester's case, some exquisite tan leather seats to match.

The GS, by comparison, reverts back to type with a very competent but traditional interior. The wood trim is excellent and the leather trim perfect, but the dashboard is hardly inspiring, save for the gauge set, which is a cut above average. As well, like most Lexuses, the standard 10-speaker audio system is above the norm.

Matting the throttle, of course, brought the expected results.

The Lexus, giving away a half-litre in displacement and 35 horsepower, was a tad slower off the line and throughout the rev range. In no way can its forward progress be deemed lethargic, but, in these heady days of ultra-high performance, the GS 300 could use a few more ponies.

Not so the M35x. Its 3.5L V6 may be ubiquitous, finding a home in the majority of Nissan and Infiniti product from the Altima to the FX35, but it does produce 280 hp. More to the point, it's also very responsive, revs quickly and just generally announces its intention to get the job done quickly — perhaps a tad too much for some.

I like a little snarl from my motors, but the M35x may be a little too soniferous for some. The Lexus, true to form, is the model of quiet civility.

The same applies to comportment. The Lexus, while sportier than previous models, is definitely tailored to the boulevardier set. Compliance trumps grip and minimizing roll isn't nearly as important as cod-



CANWEST NEWS

The 2006 Lexus GS 300 is a premium Japanese sedan with excellent reliability, but starts at \$66,700 and can exceed the \$70,000 with the add-ons.

dling passengers.

The M35x, on the other hand, is simply the best all-wheel-drive sedan there is. And, no, I don't just mean Japanese all-wheel-drive sedans; the M35x's road holding is better than any AWD four-door from Germany as well. Perhaps it's because it operates in rear-wheel drive until the AWD system senses wheel slip. Or maybe it's because it's built on the same FM platform as the sporty G35. Whatever the case, the M35x hares around corners like a rear-drive BMW. Very impressive!

Normally, this comparison would come down to personal preferences. On one side is a good-looking luxury sedan with decent performance and accommodations and Lexus's reputation for reliability, which is second to none. On the other side is the Infiniti, outwardly more banal but with the heart of a hooligan. Type As and Bs could simply choose their appropriate car.

However, there's a curve ball. The Lexus, reflecting the company's position that it is the Asian premium seg-

ment leader, starts at \$66,700 and can exceed the \$70,000 mark by adding the Touring package (heated rear seats, rear-seat side air bags, heated front seats with ventilation fan and a backup sensor as well as a few other doodads) and optional 18-inch wheels. The M35x, meanwhile, retails for \$59,600 and is remarkably well equipped even in base form. Fully loaded with features such as a navigation system, optional 14-speaker Bose audio system and even heated and reclining rear seats, rear audio/HVAC controls and power rear sunshade, it tops out at a comparatively modest \$67,100.

I loved the camera that allowed a rearward view when backing up. The only option not worthwhile is the annoying Lane Departure Warning. Thankfully, it can be switched off.

I'm a sucker for sporty sedans with snarly engines. Throw in a better price tag and I'm sold. Others may prefer the Lexus's refinement, but they will have to pay a heftier price for less performance.

—CanWest News Service

Brome County
NEWS



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Published weekly by
1195 Gall Street East,
Sherbrooke J1G 1Y7
Fax: (819) 821-3179

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Pre-schoolers' art on display in Sutton



COURTESY MELISSA FLANDERS

Some of the young artists whose work goes on exhibit in Sutton Sunday.

By Wendy Denman
RECORD CORRESPONDENT

Believing that the natural creative impulses of young children need to be encouraged and nurtured, Melissa Flanders, owner of Image Photography and Framing in Sutton, has put together an art exhibit featuring the work of 17 preschoolers from Jardins d'enfants.

"The idea came to me when my son Nico brought home a whole lot of artwork from preschool, his teacher told me he was quite the little painter and I thought these should really be framed and exhibited. Then I thought why not exhibit paintings from the whole preschool and do something for all the kids," Flanders explained.

"The educators really liked the idea and we developed a theme – Countries Around The World."

The exhibit opens on Sunday, April 9, at the boutique at 20 Principal North in Sutton.

"I have a permanent exhibit space in the store that I usually rent on a monthly basis to various photographers," said Flanders. "We're using that for the artwork and the chil-

dren's show will continue throughout April. The opening on Sunday will be a real vernissage for the young artists, their parents, friends and the public.

"We'll have juice for the kids and little sandwiches, this is their show and we want to make it real and exciting for them."

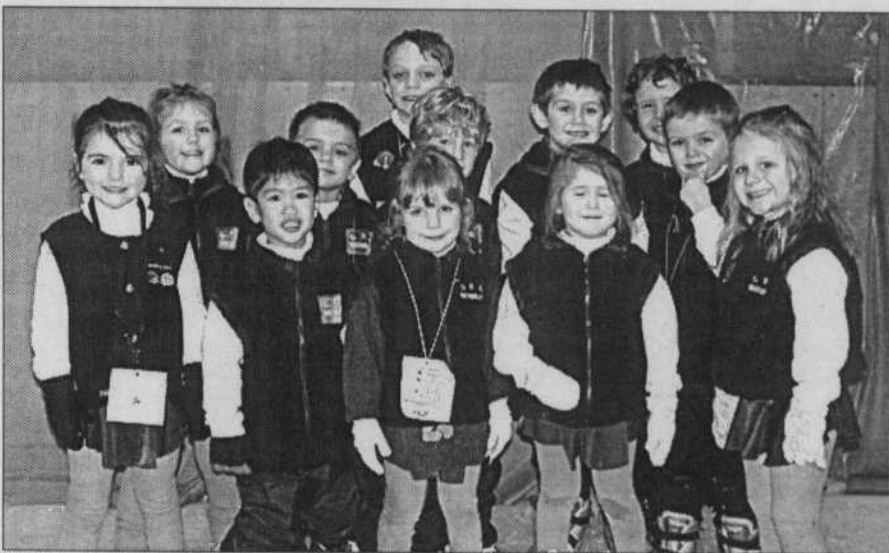
Each child created three images – a lucky handprint from African lore, a Japanese origami butterfly and string art.

"I chose three different types of frame to suit the three images and then framed them all the same. I've put the butterflies in shadow boxes, they were the most difficult to frame."

Parents and friends can buy the art. "Everything above the cost of the frame goes to the preschool, so the exhibit is really a benefit for the school. Jardins d'enfants is a non-profit organization overseen by a council of parents," Flanders said.

"We're encouraging parents of young children who might be interested in the preschool to come to the opening, we'll have information on enrolling children for 2006-2007 available on Sunday."

Thirty Years of Skating in Waterloo



WATERLOO FIGURE SKATING CLUB

Over 90 skaters will be taking part in the Waterloo Figure Skating Club's 30th anniversary show. Under the theme "Family Album," former and current skaters will take to the ice to perform lutzes and axles. The show will be on for two days, Saturday, April 8 at 7 p.m. and Sunday April 9 at 1:30 p.m. at the Jacques Chagnon Arena in Waterloo. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 3 to 12.

BRIEF

Hunting Club events coming up

The Club de Chasse Pêche et tir de Farnham is inviting the public to its brunch on Sunday, April 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Note that there will be a seminar on the subject of wild turkey hunt-

ing on the same day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is 60\$. For any information call 450-293-6427.

On April 21, there is a boating safety course at 6:30 p.m. Call M. Daudelin (450-293-7636) for more information. A reminder to all members that clay pigeon shooting starts on April 30.

FUR STORAGE

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Going, going: A swift end to a strange season

It may have been their plan all along to stay for but a short while. A group of five people ventured out onto the Brome Lake ice about 8 a.m. on a balmy Saturday, April 1, on three ATV four-wheelers. The last one hauled a long low trailer with folding chairs and fishing gear behind it.

They putted well out towards the centre, where in theory the ice should be safest. It appeared they were the only ones fishing that morning; the lake was otherwise deserted, at least as far as the eye could see from about the mid-point of the east shore.

A little more than an hour later the ATV engines fired up again, and there seemed to be some haste or commotion in the ensuing activity. What they finally did was move a hundred yards or so southward and proceed to set up shop in the new spot, so to speak.

This is a tad unusual for ice fishermen. Or better make that ice 'fishers', according to the official silly CBC political correctness code.

I always thought 'fishers' were furry little water rodents related to mink and martens. Next you know my ex-neighbours will have to call their dog a

"doberperson pinscher."

Ice fishing persons — now there's a compromise — like to settle in one spot for a long stay, often from daylight to darkness and beyond. A week or so ago, while out at the woodpile around midnight, I heard a distant motor start up and turned to see a faint light bobbing about a mile across the ice.

Where they go to the bathroom after eating and drinking for hours, it's best not to know.

Back when the ice was thick and strong enough to support the heavy vehicle traffic, one chap purportedly changed his oil while bidding time watching his tip-ups, leaving the black stuff right where it landed, splat on the snow. (That spring some fish needed no butter or margarine for frying; a coincidence, perhaps.)

Were the April 1 folks there for a good time, not a long time? More likely they became nervous as to the stability of the shifting substance under foot. About 11 a.m., hardly three hours out, the engines started and the nomads were once again on the move.

THE COUNTRY SQUIRE

BRIAN EDDINGTON

This time they tried to retrace their path, a hesitant and zig-zagging course towards the beach indicating, perhaps, that a safe route was hard to find.

A somewhat shorter ice-fishing season isn't a big deal.

A more telling item is that at no time over the entire winter was the lake surface completely solid and safe. Also, for the first time in my personal almost thirty-year residency, virtually the entire ice mass shifted in mid-winter.

Back in the second half of January, on a windy night following the extended period of mild, rainy weather, a narrow margin of open water along the east shore closed, with the leading edge of ice curled up like a puckering lip against the bank.

With the low level of the lake, though, no damage resulted.

With the warmest-ever Canadian winter now officially in the record books, the global warming debate has shifted into a higher gear.

On a matter close to heart and home, a climate expert in a recent radio interview claimed that at the

present rate of change, within forty years the only skiing in the Eastern Townships would be on artificial snow, probably a combination of the stuff made with current snow-gun technology on a synthetic base of something like coarse white indoor-outdoor carpet.

At the end of the program, I thought it best to get out quickly for a couple of extra late-season runs, just in case. The hill was pleasantly uncrowded on another summer-like day.

Along with the masses, their ad about 'the Everest of the Townships' has mercifully disappeared, as well as the Canadian Tire guy and the annoying Scotsman of Alexander Keith's and Internet renown. Things weren't all bad.

I was surprised at what a change forty-eight additional hours of warmth could bring. Runs fully covered two days earlier looked like poorly-iced chocolate cake.

Later on the deck, speculation made the rounds as to whether we'd be skiing there at Easter. The common thinking, even among employees, was no way.

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GIVE A HOUSE The Touch of Home



Architect Robert Mackenzie has won numerous gold awards for his residential work in the Okanagan from the Okanagan Housing Competition, including one for his own home seen here.

Well-designed house beats the heat

By Kim Pemberton
CanWest News Service

The Naramata home of architect Robert Mackenzie and his wife, artist Wendy Hamlin, may have been built 10 years ago but thanks to its well-conceived design it continues to be a good study of how homes should be built in such a hot climate.

The home, a gold winner in the Okanagan Housing Competition in 2000, is architecture that blends seamlessly with its environment - a

place where the primary concern is beating the heat.

While other homes in the Okanagan are at the mercy of air conditioning units this home is not. The house is kept at a comfortable temperature primarily because of its stucco sides, resembling a pair of chimneys, that absorbs the day's heat then disperses it at night.

"We wanted the home to fit into the landscape as much as possible. It was based on a lot of climate conditions. For instance orienting the windows in response to the sun and wind," says Mackenzie, whose Penticton-based architectural firm not only specializes in residential design for the Okanagan's extreme climate conditions but has designed many of the area's wineries.

The Monk Bluff house, painted in complementary colours to the landscape, was built directly on the bedrock resulting in minimal impact to its environment. The architect also used recycled timber from the century-old Marshal Wells Hardware warehouse from Vancouver's Chinatown.

Like his father before him, who used recycled materials from Vancouver's original Granville Street Bridge in a house renovation, Mackenzie junior was ahead of his time when it came to today's goal of sustainability.

Another interesting feature of the house is the use of hand-forged nails on the heavy timber.

"It was just in keeping with the timber from 100 years ago and the old methods of construction from that time," says Mackenzie.

The couple, who lived for three years in Spain, also brought a Spanish influence to their space by creating a small series of outbuildings.



Architect Robert MacKenzie has won a number of awards for his innovative designs, evident in his own house.

These buildings, in a cluster, form a courtyard that looks out onto a spectacular view of natural flora and fauna. It's a view that won't be disturbed by the Okanagan's building boom. Besides owning 15 acres themselves their property is situated besides 75 acres of Nature Trust land - 10 acres of which was originally owned by the couple.

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Some tips to avoid a soggy spring mess.

By Jac MacDonald
CanWest News Service

EDMONTON - The change in season can lead to many avoidable water problems in your home. Cities and towns across Canada can get up to 100 millimetres of rain and/or 40 centimetres of snow in the month of March alone.

Take precautions early to keep from getting waterlogged. Here are a few tips from Home Depot Canada:

- Ensure rain gutters are clear to protect siding, windows, doors and foundation from water damage and help prevent flooding in the basement. Scoop out loose debris, such as leaves. Then blast out with a hose. Repair leaks. Realign sagging gutters;

- Get out the shovel again. Water from melting snow may result in a wet basement if allowed to

run down along the basement wall. Moving the snow just one metre to 1.5 metres from the house will reduce water problems;

- Sump pump prep. If you have a sump pump in your home, examine and clean both the pump and pit, then test your pump by pouring water into the pit. Like the gutters, make sure the discharge hose carries the water several feet away from the house to a well drained area;

- Avoid a muddy yard. To keep the ground surrounding your home from retaining too much moisture, remove snow from around the yard, minimizing soft, wet soil conditions. A three-metre-high pile of snow contains about 11,800 litres of water and can easily flood a yard on a warm day. Flooding can be avoided by moving the snow to well drained areas.

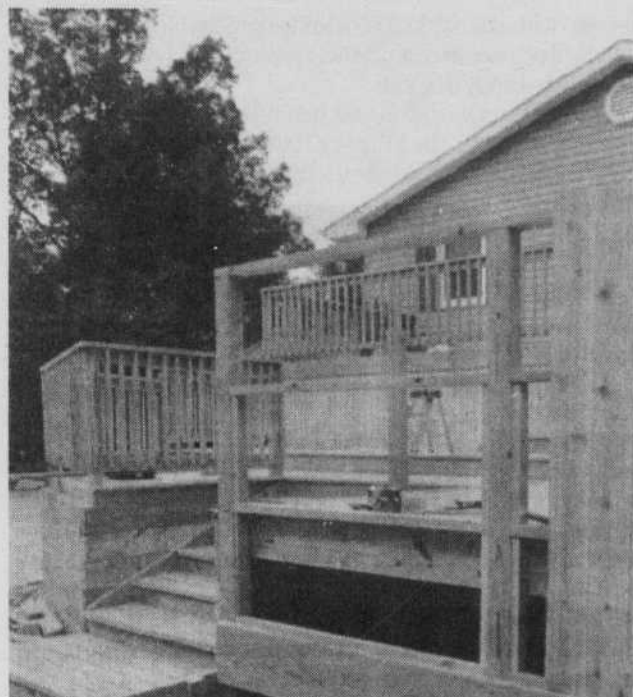
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Knit knacks:

Knitting has stitched its way into pop culture (think iPod cozies and guitar straps). Now hip craftsters are turning their talents to funky home decor.

By Karen Rudolph Durrie
For CanWest News Service

CALGARY - A 2,000-year-old art is one of the hottest trends in home decor?

You bet your box stitch.

The knitting craze has probably hit you or somebody you know, and chances are that along with trendy clothing fashions, knitters are also knocking out some pretty funky home decor items, some of which you'd see in high-end boutiques and interior decorating mags.

And there's probably not a zigzag afghan or Knit-Wit flower among them. This isn't your grandma's knitting.

From teenaged boys to groups of college girls and gaggles of soccer moms, knitting has gone big, and crocheting is on the rise, too - and the popularity of how-to classes at knitting shops can attest to the trend.

The Internet - with the explosion of knitting sites, blogs and online patterns - has helped people cast off their preconceived notions about knitting as a fuddy-duddy domain.

Uber-cool feminist magazine Bust is behind one of today's top knitting bibles, *Stitch 'n' Bi?ch: The Knitter's Handbook*.

Written by the magazine's editor-in-chief Debbie Stoller, the manual is touted as "a

must for the hip craftster" and has instructions for 40 patterns along with tips for starting knitting groups. Patterns include teapot cozies with saucy words knit into them, "techno cozies" for electronic items, cat beds and throws as well as wearable knits.



(Photo by Lorraine Hjalte/Calgary Herald)
Chainstitch from Kashmir, India, can be used as a rug or tapestry.

Throws are the obvious, but what about knitted picture frames, curtains, rugs, bowls, lampshades, place mats, and chair covers?

Knitter Amy Swenson, part owner of Make One Yarn Studio with partner Sandra Tiano, has opened the new knitter's paradise in Calgary and says the possibilities are endless if you think outside the box.

Swenson and Tiano's decor runs to the sleek, modern and funky, with Italian-style leather furniture and super-organized modern bookcases. They've incorporated their knit items throughout their home, giving it an artistic, whimsical air.

Unusual throws, knit pillow covers and soft-form knitted "monsters," accessorize their home and bring colour and warmth that takes the hard edge off the contemporary furnishings.

Items vary widely in stitch styles and include looser, organic nubby yarns, delicate silky concoctions and things that have been felted, such as mats and pillows. Felting is the process of purposely shrinking a knitted item so that it becomes a dense fabric.

You can knit items out of almost anything, Swenson says.

She opens a book on home decor and points to a stunning red rug knitted from strips of T-shirt cotton. It looks like something you'd drop a few hundred clams on in a high-end European shop.

"Somebody who's taken knitting 101 would be able to make this. It's very straightforward," she says.

Swenson says you can use strips of old shirts or towels to make amazing rugs or wall hangings, paper yarn to create striking, sturdy lampshades, or use traditional style yarns to make chair covers or delicate skeins to concoct decorative near-transparent screens for doors or screen dividers.

Foged learned to knit at age eight in her native Denmark, and is thrilled at how the image of knitting has turned into something hip and popular.

"You don't have to be a good knitter to make something that looks good anymore," says Foged.

"There's something new coming on almost every week - yarns with new textures and colours. They are knitting with hemp and bamboo yarns now, and crocheting is really coming back, too, which seems to be a good one for home decor."

United churches gather for Easter sunrise service

“Everyone is welcome, even those who know nothing about the church,” minister insists

By Joshua Bleser
KNOWLTON

Early risers who want to celebrate Easter by doing something other than painting eggs and gorging themselves on chocolate are invited to the Yamaska region United Churches' sunrise service, to be held Sunday, April 16 at the Cowansville municipal beach, at 6 a.m. sharp.

“The tradition of going to share in Easter at sunrise comes from the Bible story where the women went... to (Jesus') tomb...and it was empty. They went bearing spices, and they were prepared to fulfill the ritual, and there was nothing there. So it was just like shock and joy and surprise,” explains Cowansville Area Pastoral Charge Minister Wendy MacLean, who will be leading the service along with fellow United Church ministers Dale Skinner, Susan Tillman, and Dave Lambie.

Easter sunrise services are common throughout all Christian denominations, but their rich symbolism make them popular with non-religious people and those with different religious convictions, too.

“Every single day, the sun comes up;

it's not an event,” MacLean notes. “But it is that Sunday. It's sort of this promise of new life and joy, so that's why people gather at sunrise.”

Although the regional service is not always near water, this year's happy coincidence dovetails nicely with another bit of Easter lore, which MacLean just recently learned.



FILE PHOTO

SEE EASTER, PAGE 12 For some Easter is about chocolate and eggs, for others it is still a spiritual event.

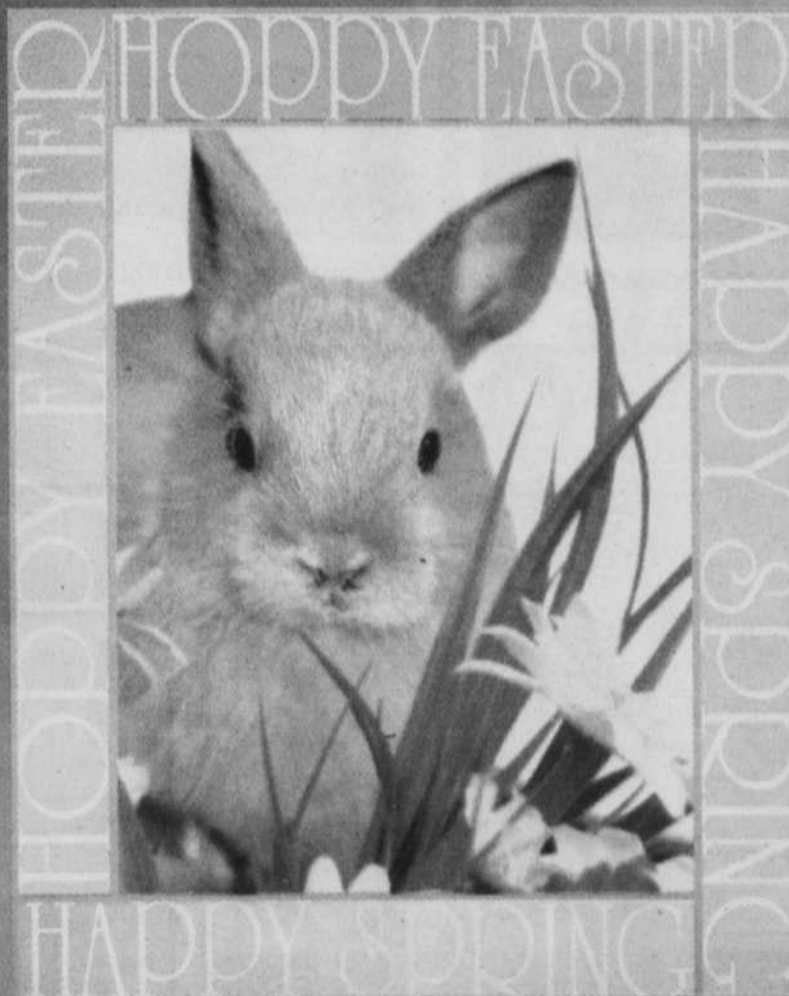


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EASTER:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 11

Apparently, water tapped from a flowing stream before sunrise on Easter morning has special healing properties.

"It's not biblical, but the water of life is biblical," MacLean explains. "There's something about being at the water

that's special."

Water or no water, Cowansville resident and United Church parishioner Ingeborg Fulford has welcomed Easter with the sunrise service for most of the past twelve years.

"If it's a nice sunny morning, there is something very nice about being there," she says. "It's hard to explain, but it just feels right."

The service itself is very simple, MacLean explains. Those who wish to may partake in an

informal communion, and the prayers used will be from the Iona community off the coast of Scotland—a Christian group renowned for its social justice work, which traces its roots to St. Columba's ministry in the sixth century A.D. and which was revitalized by a minister during the Great Depression.

"I really connect to that Celtic spirituality of God everywhere in all creation," MacLean affirms.

While she acknowledges that the more contemporary manifestations of Easter celebrations, eggs and chocolate

bunnies, have important symbolic value, MacLean says, "...if you lose the meaning, it's lonely to be disconnected."

"I feel quite sad that Easter has lost that power to restore life and to bring new life. It's just a nice day off with chocolate."

Despite this sadness, MacLean looks forward to greeting the sun on Easter morning.

"Easter is the most joyous day of the Christian year. The world thinks it's Christmas, but it's not; it's Easter."

Dominique Houle
Fleuriste



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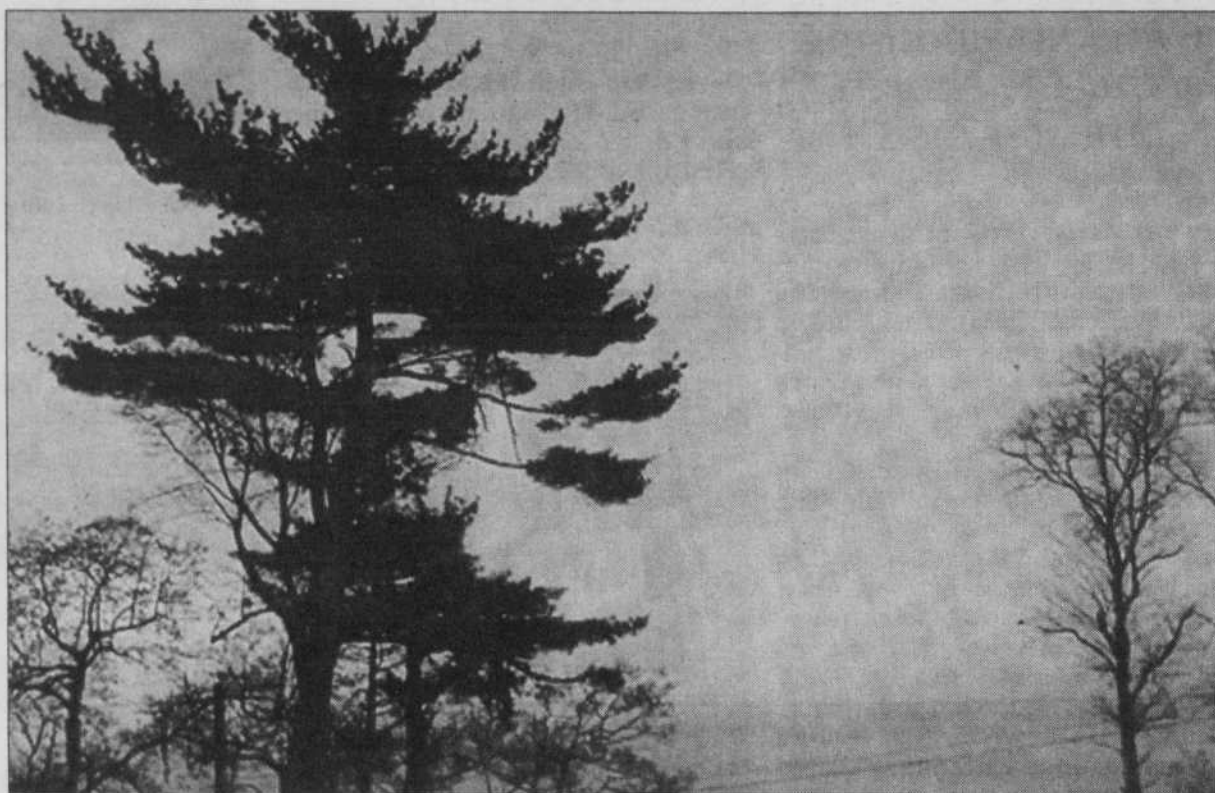
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FILE PHOTO

The Yamaska region United Churches' sunrise service will be held April 16 at the Cowansville municipal beach, at 6 a.m. sharp.

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A bit of magic

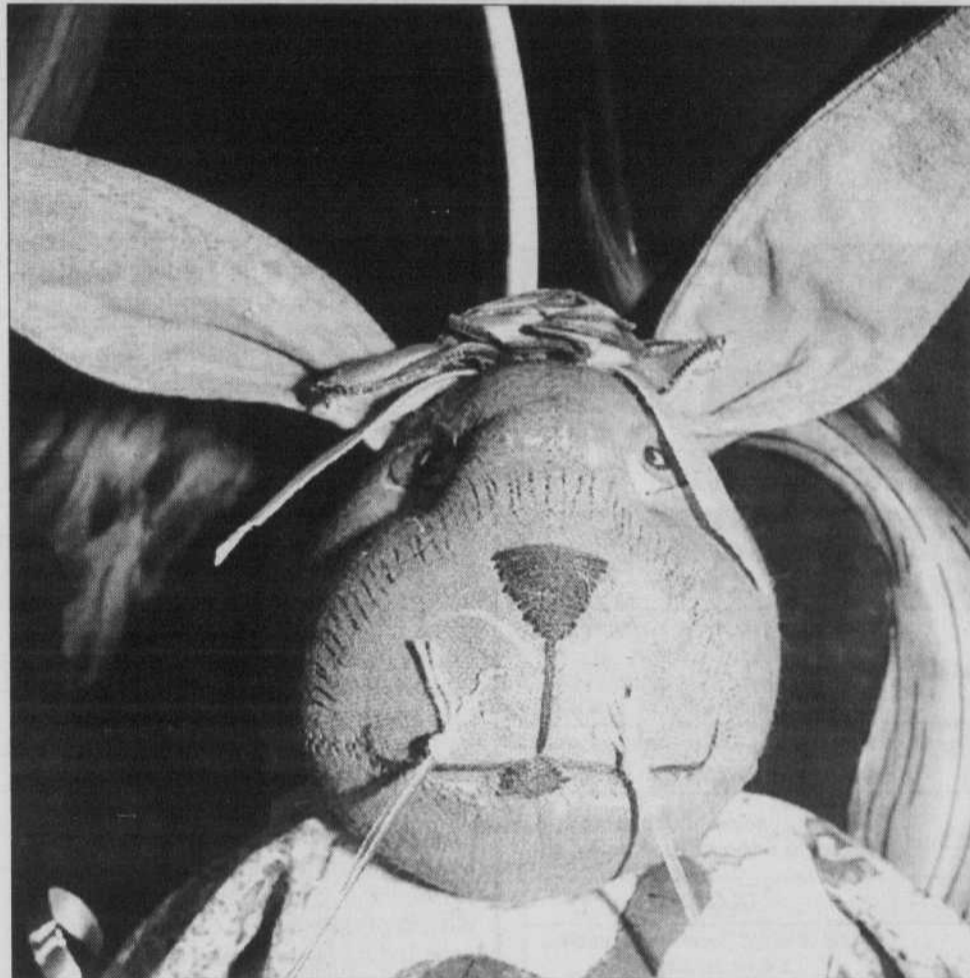
I was five years old, the year the Easter Bunny broke his leg. The sun was beaming through the window above the kitchen sink, casting a magical, yellow glow around my aproned mother as she stood bent over the dishpan.

"Did the Easter Bunny come yet?" I asked, wondering why the other kids were not up yet. Mum turned her head and glanced my way. "Nope. He won't be coming this year."

Assuming she was joking, I marched right up beside her and leaned forward on my tippy toes to see if she was grinning. Mum never could tell a joke with a straight face. She pointed to the grassy knoll across the road.

"I saw him on the hill," she said, "and he won't be making his rounds this year."

This was not possible! The Easter Bunny was
SEE BUNNY, PAGE 14



FILE PHOTO

The Easter Bunny visits every year. Doesn't he?

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BUNNY:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 13

more reliable than the mailman, the Tooth Fairy or even Santa Claus. Like the Pony Express, he would al-

ways come through.

"How do you know?" I asked. "He broke his leg. I saw him hobbling over the hill on crutches."

Instantly I wanted to run to the Easter Bunny and comfort him but he was nowhere to be seen. And then my selfish side kicked in.

"Was he carrying Easter eggs for us?"

Mum seemed annoyed.

"Of course not. How could a rabbit carry a basket of eggs when he needs both hands for his crutches?"

Suddenly I got

the picture and ran to tell my brothers and sisters the bad news. There would be no marshmallow bunnies for Carol, no chocolate chickens for Donnie and no melt-in-your-mouth Laura Secords for me, but we mustn't complain.

The poor Easter Bunny felt badly enough. That night I included him in my prayers:

"I am so sorry about your little accident," I said, in my most grown up way, "and I will be looking forward to your visit next year."

I never did ask my mother why we had an egg-less Easter that year. I guess I don't want to know. But on days when the sun shines really brightly through that kitchen window, I can still picture the Easter Bunny on that hill.

He reappears, as big as life, with one

leg in a fat, white cast, his rabbit toes sticking out the end and a wooden crutch under each arm — a six foot tall, pink-eared bunnyman with the sweetest face in the whole wide world and sad eyes that stare longingly down at our little house.

But that's not all. In the middle of winter, when the snow on the front lawn gets really sticky, I can sometimes see Frosty the Snowman, dressed in my old hat and scarf, running away before the sun has a chance to melt him.

Then at Christmas time, I get flashbacks of Santa's legs dangling down our chimney, the night Mum said he got stuck.

In these days of too many reality shows and ominous reports of crime and war, I still marvel at the fancy pictures Jack Frost has etched in my winter window.

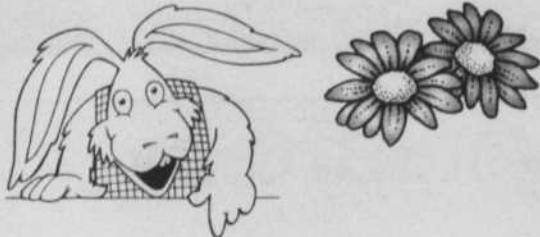
I still look for the pot of gold at the end of every rainbow and yes, I still wish on the first star I see tonight.

I know I'm not a little kid anymore but I'll be darned if I'm throwing away the best part of my youth — the magic.

And by the way, did you know that if you squint your eyes, you can see your lover's face in the full moon? How cool is that?

—Submitted by Sandra Stretch Reed

Why not flowers for Easter my little rabbit?



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CLSC in Bedford	April 14 and 16	CLOSED
	April 15 and 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Walk-in clinic (minor emergencies) 9 a.m. to noon ▪ Nursing care by appointment only 8 a.m. to noon ■ 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
CLSC in Cowansville	April 14 to 17 incl.	Nursing care by appointment only 8 a.m. to noon ■ 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
	April 14 and 17	Psychosocial intake service 8 a.m. to noon ■ 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
CLSC in Farnham	April 14, 16, 17	CLOSED
	April 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Walk-in clinic (minor emergencies) 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. ▪ Nursing care by appointment only 8 a.m. to noon ■ 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
CLSC in Sutton and Ville de Lac-Brome	April 14 to 17 incl.	CLOSED
BMP Hospital	April 14 to 17 incl.	<p>Only emergency cases will be admitted.</p> <p>Departments such as laboratory, radiology, physiotherapy, inhalation therapy and others will provide emergency services only.</p>

All CLSC's and BMP Hospital will return to their normal schedule on Tuesday, April 18, 2006

HAPPY EASTER!
From the administration and employees of the CSSS La Pommeraiè

Friday, April 14th: Ecumenical Walk With the Cross, in Cowansville beginning at Ste Rose de Lima Church, rue Principale, at 9 a.m. Everyone welcome. Information 263-0204

Friday, April 14th: Emmanuel United Church Good Friday Service at 7 p.m., with the participation of Emmanuel Gospel Choir, directed by Susan Reininger. 203 rue Principale, Cowansville. Everyone welcome.

Sunday, April 16th: Yamaska Valley United Churches' Easter Sunrise Service at Cowansville Municipal Beach beginning at 6 a.m. Information 450-263-0204.

Saturday, April 29th: 7:30 p.m. Emmanuel Gospel Choir Benefit Concert, directed by Susan Reininger. Emmanuel United Church, 203 rue Principale, Cowansville. Free will offering to benefit Emmanuel United Church and Connections for Mental Health. Come and enjoy a wonderful evening of gospel music!

Art ~ Artisanat ~ Antiquités ~ Cadeaux

Pleins feux sur les artistes québécois de renom. Promotion des meilleurs artistes de la région.

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Verre ~ Poterie ~ Céramique ~ Bijoux
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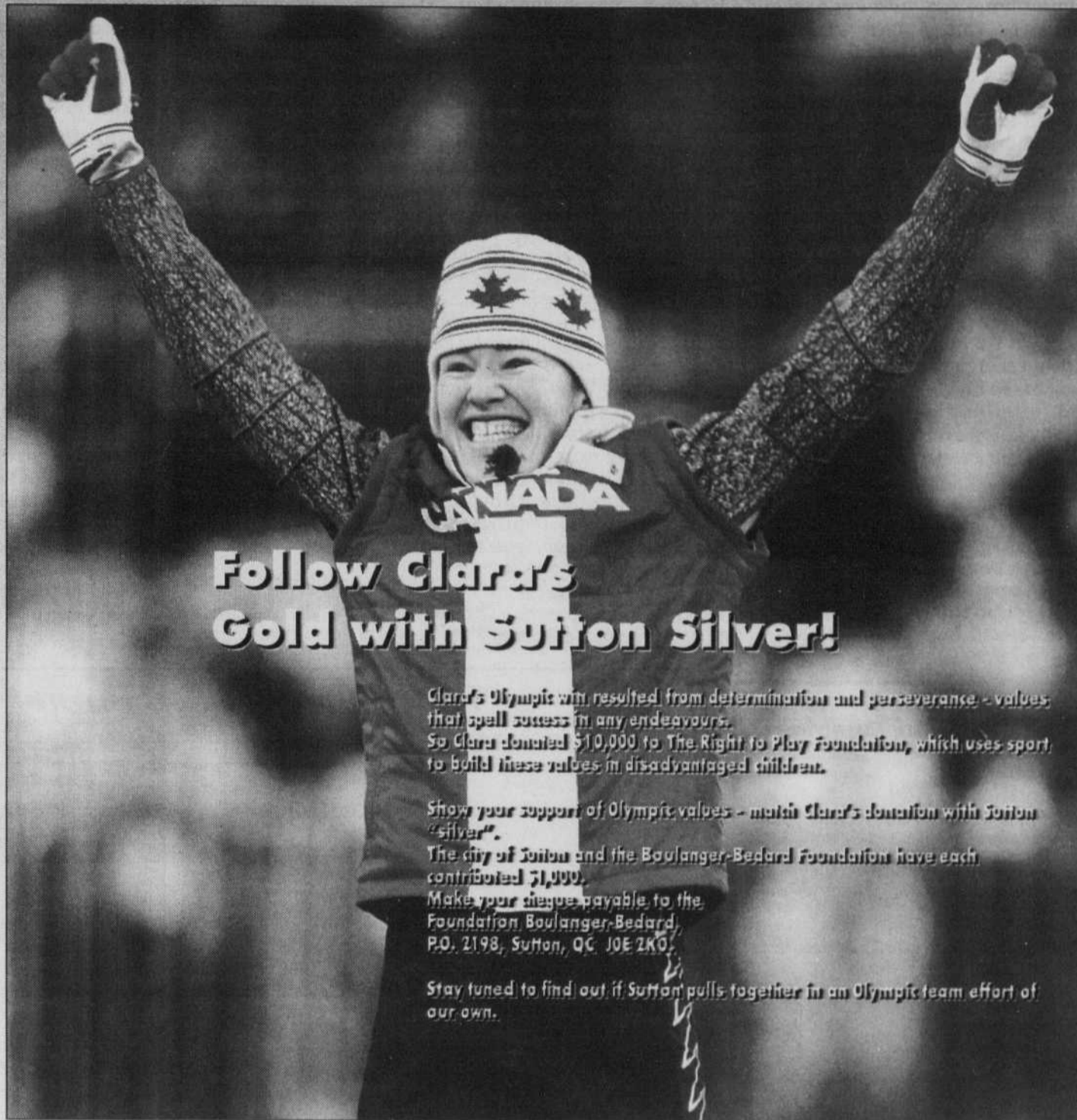
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285 chemin Knowlton, Knowlton, Quebec 450-242-1666

*Come celebrate with us in honouring our own
Clara Hughes, April 8th, 2 p.m. at Mt. Sutton*



**Follow Clara's
Gold with Sutton Silver!**

Clara's Olympic win resulted from determination and perseverance - values that spell success in any endeavours. So Clara donated \$10,000 to The Right to Play Foundation, which uses sport to build these values in disadvantaged children.

Show your support of Olympic values - match Clara's donation with Sutton "silver".

The City of Sutton and the Boulanger-Bédard Foundation have each contributed \$1,000.

Make your cheque payable to the Foundation Boulanger-Bédard, P.O. 2198, Sutton, QC J0E 2K0.

Stay tuned to find out if Sutton pulls together in an Olympic team effort of our own.



IGA PENSE À TOI
IS THINKING OF YOU
Sutton



Scalibur Thank you for showing us the value of play.



Sutton

Les Immeubles Coldbrook congratulate Clara Hughes, Olympic medalist, a source of inspiration for the young people of our region.

THE RECORD

Brome County NEWS

Congrats to Clara in her Olympic success.

Busy April on tap at Avante

April marks the first month of our final group of activities before our summer vacation. Watch for our seasonal newsletter outlining the next three months. This is also an important time of year for feedback, as we're starting to make plans for the fall and winter programs according to requests from our members. We welcome any ideas or suggestions you may have for future programs so don't hesitate to give us a call.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Due to a very popular demand, Avante offered computer classes throughout the months of February and March as a pilot project. We hope to formulate a proposal and search for more long term funding based on the response, but we need to refine the structure. If you have any comments on how we can meet your needs in computer training, let us know.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

To celebrate the day that internationally recognizes how far a woman's role has developed over the past century, Avante held an always popular luncheon. Before we could eat

though, everyone was challenged with a "famous Canadian Women" crossword puzzle to do in teams. The winning team was awarded with passes generously donated by the Princess Theatre. Always a fun and successful event.

WOMEN IN THE MEDIA

Sixteen women gathered together for our March coffee break to discuss women in the media. Social worker Cindy Rhicard raised some very interesting issues about how women are portrayed in magazine advertising and TV commercials, and how the media is dictating who we are as citizens more than consumers. "Ask yourself this: if looks didn't matter, what would you spend your money on?"

The images insinuate that if we buy these products, we will look better, feel better and therefore have much better lives. In actual fact, the women we strive to look like (so we can have happier lives) often don't even exist because the pictures have been digitally altered to remove any flaws at all.

Unfortunately, many women, particularly young adults, develop feel-

ings of inadequacy that lead to eating disorders, depression, and low self esteem as they try to obtain the ideal, but impossible image of female beauty. In a video by awarding winning lecturer and author of "Killing Us Softly", Jean Kilbourne concludes, "Images in advertising tell us more that just the product. Advertising sells values; who we are and who we should be."

APRIL COFFEE BREAKS

What's Your Talent? To encourage women who are thinking about changing the direction of their working lives, we have scheduled two coffee breaks this month that focus on potential and possibility. On Tuesday, April 18 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., guest speaker, June Harris will lead us through a series of fun exercises that reveal our "hidden talents". This light hearted activity may shed some new thoughts on what you can do to improve the quality of life by doing what you're good at!

EMPLOI-QUEBEC

The following week on Tuesday April 25, Paulette Poulin from Emploi

Québec will explain the programs and services the government has to offer in helping us improve our employment situation. Join us for breakfast from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. as Paulette reveals the often little known assistance available and how to find it on the internet.

THE TROUBLE WITH SUMMER PEOPLE

Our third field trip sponsored by Township's Foundation, was a trip to Knowlton theatre to see a performance of "The Trouble with Summer People" by the Knowlton Players. Many of the 29 participants were seeing a live performance for the first time and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Their names are already on the signup sheet for our last trip this year, again to the Knowlton theatre to see "Lend me a Tenor", by Sunshine Theatre Productions.

Our bus will leave Avante parking lot in Bedford at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 20. We will pickup at the Rec. Centre in Stanbridge East and at the Super C parking lot in Cowansville if requested. Tickets are \$10 including transport and admission. As a special bonus to the evening, the cast has offered to return

SEE AVANTE, PAGE 20



on Business

Knowlton IN ACTION

The five programs proposed by the Knowlton Business Development Group have three objectives. Increase the number of visitors to the Village, both locals and outsiders, encourage the establishment of new businesses and promote the active participation of both residents as well as businesses towards these goals. The names given to these programs are for reference purposes.

DESTINATION Knowlton

- To collectively develop short-term and long-term plans to increase our visibility and bring people back into Knowlton.

Knowlton IN BUSINESS

- The need to do something about empty storefronts and bring specialized, quality merchants back into the Village.

Knowlton ON ICE

- Create recreational and competitive Winter activities using the natural resources that we have at our disposal. Other towns have mountains; we have a lake, let's use it to our benefit.

AVANT / APRES-SKI Knowlton

- Use the proximity that Knowlton has to the four major Eastern Township ski centers to entice people to use the Inns, the B & B's, and the restaurants when combined with special rates, etc, as their base to the various ski locations. And, at the end of the day, to come back to relax at a spa, or enjoy a good meal, then browse the boutiques, the antique shops, etc.

Knowlton IN BLOOM

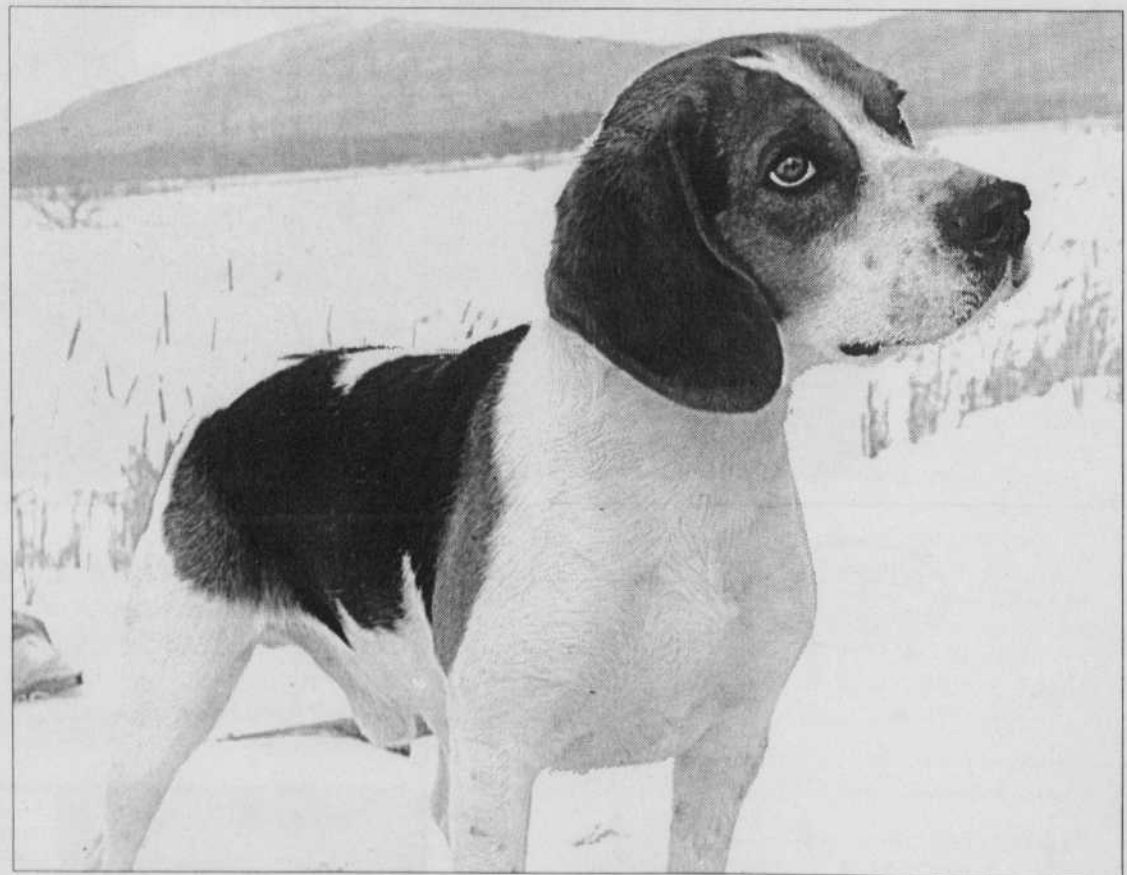
- This program targets spring. To be the first Village in full bloom. To recreate the magic of the Winter Lights of Knowlton, but with flowers. Beginning with a vast display of daffodils and tulips poking their heads through the last traces of snow, followed in May by every type of flower imaginable. It should be impressive by its imagination and magnitude. A collective effort by residents, interest groups, merchants and the town. A single, continuous spring-to-fall visual event. A virtual festival of colours.

The response of business owners, their ideas and the desire to participate following our first meeting has been impressive. The next step in this process is to create the committees necessary to bring the proposed programs into being. In order to complete this stage, we are asking you to evaluate our mandate and the various programs proposed and to get involved. Call Gillian Tenneson at 242-2264

Douglas Alexander
Knowlton Business Development Group

ADVERTORIAL

Pet of the Week.... Puppy



Hi, I'm a two-year-old male but they still call me Puppy! I'm a beagle, friendly, playful, and cheery. Our natural tendency is to chase things, like foxes or other things that run fast. So, I need people who will understand and come up with solutions to make me a great pet. Lots of us here at the SPCA Montérégie, 178, ch. du Vide, Ste-Angèle-de Monnoir (exit 37 on Autoroute 10). Info: 450-460-3075 or www.spcamonteregie.ca.

SPCA MONTEREGIE

CALL SHERBROOKE: (819) 569-9525 BETWEEN 8:30 A.M. AND 4:30 P.M.
 E-MAIL: classad@sherbrooke-record.com
 OR KNOWLTON: (450) 242-1188 BETWEEN 9:00 A.M. AND 4:00 P.M.

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001 Property for Sale

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TOWN OF BROME LAKE - 3 bedroom house, mountain views, pool, decks, screened-in porch, 36,000 sq.ft. lot. \$139,500. Call (450) 243-6753.

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IRON HILL LAND - This 44 acre lot is far from the road with fabulous mountain views. Mixed woods, wildflower meadows. Beauty, tranquility and absolute privacy await. \$259,000. **Sharyl Thompson**, Royal LePage Action Bkr, (450) 266-6888. Please visit my website for details and photos: www.sharyl.com

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035 For Rent



ATWATER MARKET CONDO, Montreal. J u l y 1/06 occupancy. Brand new, 2 bedroom, never lived in. Air conditioning. Minutes from market, canal, metro, bus, highways. \$950. per month. Call **Anna (519) 873-3947** after 6 p.m.

035 For Rent

LARGE SUNNY 4 1/2, near Brome Lake. Available May 1st, ideal for quiet, non-smoking couple. References. \$495 monthly. Call (416) 533-1440.

095 Career Training

BECOME A HOME STAGER with our distance education course. You get full staging and business training, with personal instruction from professionals. Free brochure. 1-800-559-7632. www.qcdesignschool.com.

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130 Courses

SPRING COURSES at Bishop's Knowlton Campus begin May 1st. Drawing, landscape drawing, sculpture I, fibre art, Canadian art history, painting III, Spanish II, French conversation, English literature, etc. Info: (450) 242-1518.

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RESPs

USC Education Savings Plan Inc. Scholarship Plan representative Rosita Lovell. Web page www.usc.ca/Rosita. Lovell or call (514) 2 9 2 - 3430.

SALON OOH LA LA ESTHETIQUES. Make-up, waxing, facials, body treatments, 512 Knowlton Road, Suite 3, Knowlton (opposite Esso). Call Meghan Redmile (450) 242-9838.

It pays to advertise in the classifieds

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140 Professional Services

TREE CUTTER
 Tree cutting and trimming, chipping service. Also log skidder for building lots and forest roads, etc. Insured. Call Steven, Forest Tech, (450) 243-6277.

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150 Computers

A NEW PC ONLY \$0.99/day! & Everyone approved*. Get a fully loaded MDG computer with an Intel P4 Ghz from \$0.99/ day. Includes everything you need: 512 MB RAM, 17" LCD flat panel, Windows XP and a Free *printer/scanner/copier for the first 500 callers (call for conditions) 1-800-791-1174.

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SARAH BIGGS' debut CD "Ruled by Emotion" is now available at the following locations: The Knowlton offices of the Brome County News, the Emporium in Knowlton, Attractions Music in Cowansville, the Livre d'Or in Sutton and the Table d'Hote in West Brome. Support local talent and have a good time doing it.

To reach our Classified dept. call:
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 or
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100 Job Opportunities

100 Job Opportunities

100 Job Opportunities

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<p>THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF BROME LAKE IS LOOKING FOR STUDENTS TO WORK AT ITS TOURIST OFFICE IN FOSTER AND KNOWLTON FOR THE SUMMER 2006.</p> <p>If you are 16 or older, bilingual, dynamic and enjoy working with the public, this could be the summer job for you.</p> <p>You will be required to work an average of 30 hours per week from June through August, and weekends outside of the core period.</p> <p>Must have a good knowledge of the Town of Brome Lake and Brome-Missisquoi.</p>		<p>LA CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DE LAC BROME EST À LA RECHERCHE D'ÉTUDIANTS POUR TRAVAILLER AU BUREAU TOURISTIQUE DE FOSTER & KNOWLTON DURANT L'ÉTÉ 2006.</p> <p>Vous êtes âgé de 16 ans et plus, bilingue, dynamique, et aimez travailler avec le public, alors ceci est le travail d'été pour vous.</p> <p>Vous devrez travailler en moyenne 30 heures par semaine entre juin et août les week-ends en dehors de cette période.</p> <p>Une bonne connaissance de la Ville de Lac-Brome et des environs de Brome-Missisquoi est essentielle.</p>
<p>Send your resumé to</p>		<p>Faites parvenir votre c.v. à</p>
<p>Janie C. Wing, Directrice administrative E-mail/courriel: janie@cclacbrome.com C.P. 3654 Knowlton, QC JOE 1V0 242-2870</p>		

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165 Senior Services

165 Senior Services

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290 Articles For Sale

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290 Articles For Sale

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290 Articles For Sale

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330 Pets

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485 Public Notices

485 Public Notices

NOTICE OF CLOSURE OF INVENTORY
(C.c.Q., Art. 795)

Notice is hereby given that, following the death of Dorothy Badger Sweet on October 5th, 2005, in her lifetime domiciled at 317 Victoria, Knowlton, Quebec, an inventory of property of the deceased was prepared by the liquidators of the estate, Darlene Badger and Michael Badger, on January 19th, 2006 in accordance with the law. This inventory may be examined by any interested party at 41 Ball, Knowlton, Quebec. Given on March 30th, 2006. At Town of Brome Lake, Quebec

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Country Reflections

Country reflections bring back reminiscent memories of the past
How friends and neighbours were so kind and loving too, these will last
It's hard to forget the friendliness and kindness shown by all how
Everyone worked together spring, summer, winter and even in the fall.

We picked berries together in our small little pails and being
Stung by bees and chasing butterflies along the sandy trails
How we were all so fond of our horses and cows and country pets
Sharing our homes and gardens - those were the days farmers really cared.

How we loved picking flowers in the meadows and lanes yes "country reflections" to me will always remain 'till I'm old and grey I believe.
Boating and rafting down the old river back in my town.
It was so much pleasure just having fun and clowning around.

Fishing and swimming were hobbies we all loved to do it's true
But baiting our hooks was left for our best friends to do...
The early morning sunshine on our old country home yes and
The love for friends and family was clearly shown, let it be known.

Attending the Sunday School Christmas tree - in our church hall
How a big bag of candy and fruit and popcorn was sufficient for all
The tobogganning rides and sleigh rides that we took I think
Sometimes it would be a great pleasure to put these memories all in a book.

Eloise Hodge

Obituary

WILFRID LYDNEY HAMELIN (FRED)
1962 - 2006

Son of (the late) Philius Hamelin and Mary Kirby. Born on June 22, 1962 in Cowansville, Quebec. His childhood was spent on the farm, situated between South Bolton and Mansonville. He attended Ecole la Beluchm in Mansonville. Then finished Massey-Vanier High School on the French side at the age of 15 years old.

After he finished school, he turned bobbins at his father's Mill for 10 years. At 16, he bought a wood truck and delivered the leftover wood from the Mill to his customers.

He married Kim Bedham and they had a son named Christopher in 1986.

He built a house on his property and in 1987 the Bobbin Mill closed. He and Kim bought a depanneur in 1990 in South Bolton; a short time later they were divorced.

He worked in the woods after that, making shingles. He bought a portable sawmill and worked that until his health failed him after building another house on the mill lot where he lived until death. He married Nikki Masse and in 1999 they had a daughter they named Liza.

He always had health problems since he was 2 years old; he entered the world with Diabetes.

Always worked and never complained, always with wood. He died in February 2006, leaving behind wife Nicole Masse, son Christopher Hamelin, daughter Liza Hamelin, his mother Mary Hamelin, brother Philip Hamelin (Bonnie Williamson). He also leaves behind nieces and nephew and many friends.

His ashes are buried with his father, who passed away 15 years ago.

Fred, you are blessed in God's eyes
You are blessed in all your doings
You are blessed in all your endings
You are blessed & purified

Death

SIXT, George - March 6, 2006. Peacefully at Courville Residence in Waterloo in his 93rd year. Predeceased by his wife Bernadette (Blacky). Born in Humbolt, Sask. to Frank Xavier and Mary Berger. Eldest of six. Left to mourn, only Frank of Knowlton. Served in Canadian Army during W.W.II. Many thanks to Courville Staff for all their loving care.

IRENE & FRANK

If you wish to drink and can...
that's your business.
If you wish to stop and can't...
that's our business.

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Brome council notes

Staff

The urban planning committee advised council to reject a plan submitted by Chris Severs to renovate and enlarge the former L. L. Brome building on Lakeside in Knowlton and turn it into a Japanese-themed spa; council did so unanimously. Mayor Wisdom said the town "wholeheartedly support(s) (Mr. Severs') business venture", but that certain architectural changes must be made.

Starting in June, mandatory blue recycling bins will be phased in, beginning in the Knowlton sector. The cost of the bins will be added to municipal tax bills. Posters promoting recycling will be affixed to municipal trucks in an effort to raise awareness among residents of the importance of meeting provincial recycling targets and thus avoiding fines that would come out of taxpayers' pockets.

The town gave the official go-ahead to the University of Sherbrooke to proceed with a study of Brome Lake's water quality this summer.

Town funding was confirmed for Tour des Arts, Canada Day in Knowlton, St-Jean-Baptiste Day in Foster, the Lion's Club garage sale June 3, the Canadian Cancer Society's Relay for

Life at Cowansville's Centre de la Nature (walking trails at the beach) on June 3, and the second annual Shriners' Rodeo, to be held at the Brome fairgrounds August 11-13 and organized by Larry Smith of the Brome Lake Chamber of Commerce, who is unrelated to the president of the Montreal Alouettes and former publisher of The Montreal Gazette.

Council agreed to write to the ministry of transport and Brome-Missisquoi MNA Pierre Paradis in support of Brome's efforts to secure provincial funding for the digging up and repaving of the derelict and pockmarked section of Route 215. "The road's basically unsafe," Wisdom said.

Following the accident last month on the corner of McCurdy Road and Route 139 in West Brome, the town will once again request that the ministry of transport implement stricter safety measures and more police surveillance.

"We are pushing to have a flashing light installed...and also to get the passing lane in front of (Auberge and SPA West Brome) removed," councillor George Bristol explained, adding that he hopes the ministry will also consider lowering the speed limit (from 70 km/h to 50 km/h).

AVANTE:

CONT'D FROM PAGE 16

to the stage after the performance for a 15-minute "meet the cast" question period. Call Avante or email us to reserve a spot.

WOMEN WITH HEART DISEASE: WHAT TO EXPECT

Women are often surprised by a diagnosis of heart disease. To everyone around them, they seemed fine until they collapsed. Often symptoms are much different that we expect. What are the signs we can bring to a doctor's attention beforehand? And after treatment, women feel pressure to get life "back to normal", as if nothing happened.

What kind of help can we expect from the health system to get our lives back on track in a reasonable manner?

Dr. Allen Phillips will be our invited guest speaker to cover specifically the signs and symptoms of heart disease, what the treatment options are, and what to expect during the recovery period. A question period will follow the break. Wednesday, April 26 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Please, please join us for a valuable information session.

SPECIAL CRAFT DAY

On the last Wednesday of each month, our "stitch & bitch" group chooses a different and unique craft to work on together. Have you ever wondered how some people have such beautiful flower boxes in the summertime?

They start early. And so will we. On Wednesday, April 26 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., we plan to help you get those picture worthy flowers set up, but first we need to build the boxes. For a minimal charge, you can assemble your own flower box to take home. Then in May, we'll invite you back to learn which flowers will fair the best in your particular box. No green thumb necessary!

Avante Women's Centre has been operating in English since 1997 with the mandate to reach out to women in the Brome-Missisquoi area.


Our services include monthly workshops and breakfasts, popular education programs and special activities aimed at encouraging women to expand their limits of experience.

Our centre is located at 2 Ademar-Cusson, Bedford and we are open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please drop in or call at 450-248-0530 to keep in touch with our services available.

Pâques chez Easter at

IGA aah! - Gazaille

Décore ton coco, mon coco et GAGNE un choco! Decorate your egg, my egg and win!



Prends soin de bien vider ton oeuf, **décore-le à ta façon** en faisant attention de ne pas craquer et viens le déposer minutieusement dans notre présentoir de verre. Tu pourrais peut-être gagner un énorme lapin en chocolat! Le tirage aura lieu le 15 avril à 16 h... Alors décore ton coco mon coco!

Make sure you empty your egg, **decorate it however you wish** while being careful not to crack it then carefully place it in our glass display case. You could win an enormous chocolate bunny! The drawing will be held on April 15th at 4 p.m... So start decorating!

472 Ch. Knowlton, Knowlton - 243-6692