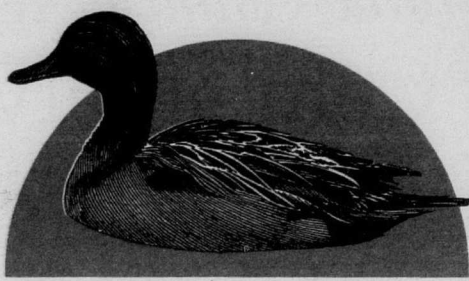


Brome County NEWS



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2014

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Outdoor hockey program a success in Foster

Kids learn to skate and to help each other

By Kathryn Lexow

Last Sunday, the local outdoor hockey program at the rink in Foster wrapped up its final weekend with a last game for each age group of children and a medal award presentation for all participants.

Every child received a medal celebrating the skills they acquired and the effort they made during the five hockey sessions, held once a week. There were some 28 children registered in the program, which is directed by Foster resident Heather Croghan with help from Mike Moreland. The coaching is conducted by Chris Pagé, a physical education teacher in Waterloo. He is assisted by volunteer Zachary Bourbeau-Binnings who has

been with the program for the past five years and has been active in playing organized hockey.

The program is only open to children from four to 13 years old, who are not involved in any indoor organized hockey programs. This gives these kids the opportunity to learn the game of hockey and the benefits they gain from a team sport. In fact, some later move on to organized hockey in other communities.

Children love to learn to skate and are first taught standing and skating, followed by handling the hockey stick, passing drills, playing games and working together as a team. They are grouped together by age, four- to seven- and eight- to 13-year-olds. They come from several communities including Foster, Knowlton, Waterloo and Bolton-Ouest.

"The program is in its fifth year and we have a philosophy of team and community while teaching skating and



KATHRYN LEXOW

Hockey students age four to seven pose for their medal presentations, with assistant Zachary Bourbeau-Binnings (left) and coach Chris Pagé (right), at Foster skating rink.

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

Spirit of community thrives on Brome Lake

Bondville ice bowling event

By Kathryn Lexow

The winter sunshine brought out some 50 residents and friends for an annual community gathering on Lac-Brome, in Bondville, last Sunday. This year's attraction was the opportunity to play ten pin bowling on the ice, an amateur sport by all accounts.

Two ice bowling lanes were cleared on the lake and bumpers of snow allowed the ball to ricochet its way down the lane. A human lane attendant scrambled to reset the pins and sent the ball back to the hurlers in a half-pipe set up for the return.

The only necessity for enthusiasts was to dress in layers of winter outerwear, gloves, scarves, and warm boots, while engaging in the sport. For those who wanted to warm up from the chill air, BMR Building Supplies of West Brome set up a



KATHRYN LEXOW

On Brome Lake at Bondville, a bowler hurls the ball to the pins - a strike was no easy achievement.

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

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Brome County Community Bulletin Board

February 10 - April 17

The Cowansville Volunteer Center is ready to do your taxes. The Cowansville CABC offers assistance to people who need help to complete their income tax returns. Our volunteers receive training by the Canada Revenue Agency and Revenu Québec. Certain criteria must be met to qualify and a contribution of \$5 per person is required to cover administrative costs. The CABC invites residents from Abercorn, Adamsville, Brigham, Brome, Cowansville, Dunham, East-Farnham, Frelighsburg, Knowlton (Lac Brome) and Sutton who qualify for the program to call our office at 450-263-3758 and make an appointment - starting from February 10 to April 17, 2014.

February 19, 26

Bingo every Wednesday at the Sutton Legion 2 Curley St., Sutton. Jackpot of \$200 or more. Start at 6.30 p.m. Bring your friends and lucky charms. Info: 450-538-2864 also social night every Friday at the Sutton Legion. Come and play cribbage, darts, and 500. Donation of \$2. Come and have fun.

February 21

Put your paperwork in order! The CBH (clubdelabonnehumeur.ca) invites you to learn about what instructions and information to store safely now in case of sudden serious illness, fire, accident or death. Come to the 1:30 to 3:30 event at Prouty Hall (5 Mill Rd) to learn from others' experiences, a great opportunity. The event is in French, at no charge and no reservations required. This is but one of a dozen regular activities held by the club. More on the web site or calling Marc at 450-243-6677.

February 22

The Mental Health & Well-Being Support Group. Please note: The next meeting will be February 22. Please phone Linda: 450-243-0928 or pleasantvalley@sympatico.ca for the location of the meeting. Join us for an opportunity to share experiences in a safe environment and receive support, information, encouragement and acceptance. Having support makes all the difference!

February 22 and March 1

2014 Marion L. Phelps Memorial Lectures with lecturer Jimmy Manson. Part Two: The Changing Face of the Eastern Townships, 1848 to 1920. Female Imperialists: The IODE in the Eastern Town-

ships during the Imperial Age. A comparison of the 19th century French-Canadian Migration/Immigration to the Eastern Townships and Vermont. James Reid - A mid-19th century Missisquoi Clergyman's Experiences on the Townships' Frontier. Lectures start at 1 p.m. at the Old Court House, Brome County Historical Society, 15 St. Paul, Knowlton. Information: 450-243-6782.

February 23

All you can eat brunch will be hosted at the Sutton Legion. Eggs your way (omelettes are our specialty). Donation of \$8. For adults, children 6 to 8 yrs \$4, little ones are always free. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., everyone welcome. 2 Curly St Sutton Qc. Info: 450 538-2210.

February 24

Procure Brome-Missisquoi has its next meeting Monday, February 24 with a video titled Caregivers talking to Caregivers About Prostate Cancer. Join us at 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Knowlton for refreshments, information and support Everyone is welcome.

"How to become a better listener":

9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. on Monday, February 24. Registration required. Suggested donation: \$5. Cowansville, CLSC, 397 rue Rivière, everyone welcome! avantebarb@bellnet.ca.

February 25

Open til 8: "Money, money, money!": A review of the provincial and federal pension programs. 6 p.m. Free. Avante Women's Centre, 15 rue du Pont, Bedford 450-248-0530, avantebarb@bellnet.ca.

March 1

The Brome County Historical Society will hold its annual general meeting on Saturday, March 1 at 11a.m. at the Community Centre (Centre Lac Brome) at 270 Victoria Street, Knowlton. The meeting is open to members for 2014 of the B.C.H.S.

March 3

Canadian Club of the Yamaska Valley meets Monday, March 3, at 2 pm in Auberge West Brome on Rte 139. Speaker: Laurent Busseau, historian and journalist. Topic: History of the Abenakis around Lake Memphremagog. Refreshments and social following. Meeting only \$10. Lunch reservations: 450-266-

7552. Information guycote@yahoo.fr

March 4

Pancake supper - Souper aux Crêpes at Grace Anglican Church, 52 Principale sud, in Sutton on Tuesday, March 4, from 5:30 pm to 7 p.m. \$7 adults and \$4 for children. We look forward to seeing you there.

CHURCH SERVICES

CREEK/WATERLOO PASTORAL CHARGE

Sunday, February 23 - worship and music: Creek United, 278 Brill Rd., West Bolton service and Sunday school at 9 a.m.; St. Paul's United, 4929 Foster, Waterloo, service at 10:30 a.m. Reverend Dave Lambie, minister. For information or to leave a message call: 450-539-2129.

ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

24 St. Paul's Road, Knowlton. www.stpaulsbog.wordpress.com. St. Paul's - a dynamic, diverse community pursuing and serving Jesus in the Eastern Townships. 8 a. m. Said Book of Common Prayer worship 10 a. m. User-friendly "blended" service with traditional, contemporary and modern music and format. Sunday school. For information call: Rev. Tim Wiebe. 450-242-2885.

KNOWLTON-MOUNTAIN VALLEY PASTORAL CHARGE

Serving the regions of Knowlton, Bolton Centre, Mansonville and Vale service: Knowlton United Church, 234 Knowlton Road (450-243-6078) at 11 a. m. The Rev. Ryk Allen, officiating. A warm welcome is extended to all. Handicapped access available.

EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

A thinking faith, a joyful sense of justice, and a God who loves every living thing! Our worship service is at 203 rue Principale, Cowansville at 10:30 a.m. Everyone is welcome. For pastoral emergencies only, please contact Rev. Ryk Allen at 450-242-1971. All other messages may be left with the church office phone answering service, 450-263-0204. Our annual meeting is on Feb. 23 at 12:30 p.m. with a potluck luncheon prior to it at 11:30 a.m. Worship leader: Tessa A. Griffin. Website: emmanuelcowansville.ca.

ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH - DUNHAM

Sunday services and Sunday school at 10 a. m. - all welcome! The Rev. Sinpoh Han. Information: 450-295-2045.

ANGLICAN PARISH OF BROME

First Sunday of the month service will be at Holy Trinity, Iron Hill, second Sunday of the month will be at St. John the Evangelist in Brome, third Sunday of the month will be in West Brome at Church of the Ascension, fourth Sunday of the month: St. Aidan's, Sutton Junction. All

services are at 10 a. m. Monthly healing service fourth Sunday of each month at St. Aidan's at 7 p.m. All welcome. Rev. Allan Gault. 450-538-4178.

ÉGLISE CATHOLIQUE ST. ÉDOUARD CATHOLIC CHURCH

366 Knowlton Road, Knowlton. You are invited to participate in a bilingual Mass Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Christian meditation is now on Wednesday afternoons 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (side door) except in July and August. The group is now bilingual and has been formed to introduce meditation to newcomers. We welcome beginners and experienced meditators. Regular attendance not required. Information call Clare at 450-243-5590.

TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Church with a "Heart" 409 South St., Cowansville. All Sunday services are at 10:30 a. m. Come and join us as we endeavor to learn and practice God's loving will. We'd love to welcome you. Reverend George Campbell and the Reverend. John Serjeantson. Info: 450-955-3325 (leave message).

SUTTON - DUNHAM UNITED CHURCH PASTORAL CHARGE

A warm welcome awaits you at our Sunday worship services led by Rev. Gayle Chouinard in Dunham at the Martins' home at 9:15 a.m. and in Sutton at the Booths' home, 100 Chemin Vallee, at 11:15 a.m. The Sutton service will be followed by a light lunch and the annual congregational meeting. Please try to be with us.

BEDFORD PASTORAL CHARGE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Gathered round Christ, we are a community that searches out God's story in daily life. We worship together as follows: First Sunday service in Bedford, second Sunday service in Stanbridge East, third Sunday service in Bedford, fourth Sunday service in Mystic, fifth Sunday service is in Philipsburg. All services are at 10 a. m. For information call 450-248-3044.

GRANBY UNITED CHURCH

Where God Unites all Children. Be a part of the family. Down-to-earth spirituality. Spiritual development for all ages at 101 rue Principale, Granby. Please call 450-372-1417 for information and to confirm time of our services.

GRACE ANGLICAN CHURCH, 52 Principale sud, Sutton, welcomes everyone for Sunday services at 10 a.m. All welcome. Canon Tim Smart, rector. Info: 450-538-8108 or visit our website at www.gracechurchsutton.org

CORNERSTONE CHURCH OF BEDFORD

We warmly welcome everyone to

CONT'D ON PAGE 3

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Looking forward to snowless days

Motorcycle group hosts first 'swap meet' in Cowansville

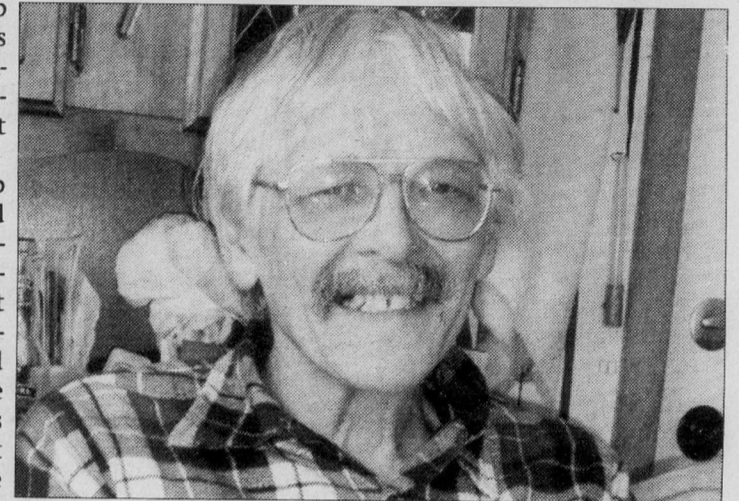
By Claudia Villemaire

Even though snowbanks line the streets, snowmobiles zip through woods along well-groomed trails, it's not surprising vintage motorcycle buffs are already looking ahead to warmer, snowless days when they can emerge from a garage or workshop with chrome shining and motor purring, prepared to show off their vintage motorcycle or quad. The Canadian Vintage Motorcycle Townships Group will cater to anyone cooking up plans to upgrade, repair or restore their favourite vintage machine by organizing the first ever "swap meet," scheduled in Cowansville this Saturday, February 22.

With all proceeds going to the Brome Missisquoi-Perking Hospital, CVMGR president Luc Menard and organizer Billy Johnston have had no trouble spreading invitations to every corner of the Townships, the province, and even across the border. Organizer Billy Johnston, has been travelling far and wide, a stack of posters in hand and endlessly ready to talk up this

event, which offers an opportunity to sell, swap or show just about anything, whole or in parts and pieces that qualifies as "vintage." The list includes whatever parts and pieces for snowmobiles, three and four-wheelers as well. They just have to be "vintage."

"The president, Luc Menard, and I came up with the notion of a swap meet for the collectors and restorers who might have parts and pieces hidden in corners after our annual Expo Renaissance show at the Richmond Fairgrounds last year. Folks bitten by the collection of vintage machines bug are always looking for parts and pieces to even the whole, operational machine of their dreams. Having a swap meet now gives future exhibitors a chance to complete their pet project, provides a convivial atmosphere where old friends meet and new friends and contacts are made and stirs up an interest in our weekend show slated for June 21 and 22 once again this year."



CLAUDIA VILLEMAIRE

Organizer Billy Johnston.

The meet opens in the former Tupperware factory on 135 Dean St. in Cowansville. Visitors should watch for signs and directions as they approach Cowansville. Parking is free, a canteen will be cooking up a storm inside and more info is always available at 819-826-2964 or 819-846-0983, on the web also at cymg.ca/cymgestrie.

Outdoor hockey program

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

hockey skills," said director Heather Croghan. "Children help each other on the ice, learn to play safe, share lunch and playtime and participate with cleanup in the community building." Parents stay for the sessions, thus en-



KATHRYN LEXOW

Children watch the students age eight to 13 in hockey action on the rink.

suring the kids are properly dressed to skate, watching their progress on the ice and supervising children in the play area when off the ice.

The program is made possible because of the generosity of local sponsors including: Virgo Catering for refreshments, Loisirs of Foster for the use of the Ovide-Dagenais Hall, Town of Brome Lake (TBL) for the ice rink and Redibase. The ice is maintained at a very safe level for skating by Reid Gaylor of Foster.

The program cost was \$15 per child this year. Free coffee and hot chocolate was served and a canteen was open for lunch. It is the only program of its kind available in TBL. Next year's session should be announced in November 2014.

Bulletin Board

CONT'D FROM PAGE 2

come and worship with us every Sunday at 10 a. m. and Friday at 7 p. m. We are located at 6 Massicotte, Bedford. Information: Pastor Paul Gibson: 1-514-667-2292 or 450-296-4135.

ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
130 Principale, Granby, welcomes everyone for Sunday service at 11 a. m. All welcome. Bienvenue a tous. Canon Wm. Terry Blizard, rector. Information, 450-372-2197.

COWANSVILLE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
Cowansville Community Baptist Church meets Sundays at 11:30 a. m., 112 John Street, Cowansville. Everyone is welcome.

Spirit of community

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

tent for shelter. Under the name "Bowling des Alizés," Michel Addy of Matériaux de construction BMR, Donald O'Hara, Michel Beaudoin, and Brian Larivière spearheaded the day's event and worked to prepare the ice. Wives, families and volunteers contributed to the rest of the preparations.

There was a draw for prizes from local

businesses, including Woolrich, Le Panier Champetre and Le Relais Bistro in Knowlton, lots of food and refreshments, good times with friends plus a strong sense of community. Joining in the fun, were people of all ages. Out with the crowd were Mayor Richard Burcombe and councillors Ron Myles and Robert Laflamme.

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LETTERS

The stars are shining in Knowlton!

DEAR EDITOR:

What a great show we had the privilege of seeing on Saturday night, February 8 at Star Café. Last fall, a group of local musicians came up with a wonderful idea. They created "The Acoustic Village" / "Le Village Acoustique". Every second Saturday of the month during 2014, a group of musicians will entertain the clients of Star Café from 7 to 10 p.m. with exceptionally great popular songs and their own creations.

Before the concert, we enjoyed a good, simple and affordable meal with lots of beer and wine. It was just a great Saturday evening.

All the musicians were amateurs of professional caliber. The organizers of the event were well prepared. The audience showed their appreciation by participating in a few songs and leaving donations for this non-profitable organization.

The only problem I can see for all the next shows will be to accommodate their numerous fans. At the opening evening, all the seats were occupied on the mezzanine of Star Café with some

people standing in the stairs and others were listening from the ground floor. The spectators were from Lac Brome, Sutton and probably other areas of our region. Believe me, if you want to see the next show which will be held on Saturday, March 8, you will have to go to Star Café early, grab a chair and hold on to it because the word is spreading around rapidly.

I have the feeling this is the beginning of something that we have been waiting for a long time in Knowlton. It is refreshing to see that even during the slowest period of the year in our town, it is possible to revive and bring together a community that is ready to participate.

The motivation and talent of these musicians make them real stars.

Congratulations to all involved and thank you again for making us proud of who we are.

LOUISE AND GAETAN GELINAS,
HELEN BROWN, KARIN SEGUIN,
MICHEL AND MURIEL GREEN,
JUDY AND BILL BUSTEED,
CATHARINE AND STEWART BACON,
ANN SHIRLEY AND SONNY MASS
Knowlton

Yes to a TBL strategic plan!

DEAR EDITOR:

The new TBL Council announced their intent to develop a strategic plan. Such plan, with very different purpose than the recently tabled urban plan, is intended to be completed by the fall. Great initiative!

Previous findings and reports related to this process have been regrouped in a blog: <http://futurvlb.blogspot.com>. The goal is to:

1) Centralize known facts for those involved in the strategic planning process so they may build on work already done.

2) Make available to all citizens previously identified problems and

proposed solutions. While individually we might think we know what needs to be done to improve our municipality, it may be useful to compare one's own solutions with those proposed by others. The challenge of formulating compromise solutions which will satisfy a majority therefore becomes more apparent.

3) Stimulate living room and coffee shop discussions to generate more awareness about the challenges. When better solutions emerge from such discussions, these can be shared in letters to the editor and added as comments in the blog.

MARC PELLETIER
Lac-Brome

The soul of Quebec has shifted from patriotism to nationalism

DEAR EDITOR:

There was a time in my early years in Quebec when the majority here was recognized throughout Canada as generous, and welcoming to all comers. French Canada from Cartier to Levesque was noted for its hospitality; *bienvenue* was more than an advertising slogan, it was an iconic part of a brilliant French culture.

But now it appears the soul of Quebec has shifted from patriotism to nationalism. Today, bigoted Quebec politicians, called separatists, seek power by turning the majority against its minorities and trying to limit services and even rights of anyone who doesn't agree with them.

Ironically, the separatist mantra is about freedom, the movement is based on wanting to be in control so they can be free to speak their mother tongue, to practice their own cultural activities, to laugh and live and prosper as they like. That's just patriotism, but when they decide not to allow minorities to enjoy these same freedoms, it's no longer patriotism, but a very ugly nationalism. Unfortunately, nationalism is sickness with no cure. It must be openly opposed.

Several months ago, I was diagnosed with cancer at the Brome Missisquoi

Hospital in Cowansville. Weeks after surgery, I was abruptly told that I had cancer and the BMH was too small to be of further help: I would have to find another larger hospital. Fortunately I have friends in the city and was quickly admitted to the world famous Segal Cancer Centre at the Jewish General Hospital (JGH) in Montreal. After several procedures in this huge but polite and caring hospital the government decided to bar me (and anyone who lives in the Townships) from being a patient at the Segal Centre. If the JGH does not comply with this state directive it will suffer serious financial penalties.

So what? Well according to Ms. Marois I am just another Englishman bashing Quebec without cause; the majority agrees with her. So the real question is, has Quebec changed that much? Or is there a silent majority of French citizens that we don't hear from? It's time they did, because if I can be barred from medical services today, it might be them tomorrow. It's time for nice people to speak up even if it costs them because it may cost them a lot less today than tomorrow.

BRIAN TIMMINS
Knowlton

OPINION

Retired cop Burcombe wants to bring dignity and collaboration back to TBL town hall


By Lise Champagne

After being a police officer in both the Town of Brome Lake and the SQ, one would think that Richard Burcombe was ready for retirement, and he was. It lasted one day. As a longtime citizen of the town, Burcombe was fed up with the bickering and dysfunction between former Mayor Gilles Decelles and the councillors of his administration. Major files were going unattended or lagging, citizen frustrations were going unheeded, files that should have been handled with discretion were being used as public fodder. Sometime around the second week of the Duck Festival he made up his mind to continue his public service and

stand for mayor.

Decision made and campaign launched, Burcombe needed a platform and the simpler the better in the troubled environment of the town's politics. A good starting point was collaboration and the proper execution of basic services. One major campaign stop was a meet-and-greet cocktail held at the home of Knowlton Village residents Hope and Jerry Boland on

October 25, 2013. This event, organized to support his candidacy, had up to a hundred interested citizens eager to ask questions and get to know him. He was asked questions about his objective to bring a "calmer" mood to council and build collaboration, and he cited his experience as a police officer as a perfect training ground to deal with difficult situations, people and issues for a better outcome. There were many questions about key files that did not seem to advance and mistakes that went by without consequences. The future mayor was clear about his commitment to accountability for himself and councillors. He came across as an honest and dedicated candidate devoid of hype and big promises that would not be kept. Participants found him down to earth and

Brome County NEWS 

5-b VICTORIA ST., KNOWLTON, QUEBEC, JOE 1V0
TEL: (450) 242-1188 FAX: (450) 243-5155
Established May 1991

Published weekly by
THE 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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STEPHEN BLAKE EDITOR (819) 569-6345
DIANA SIMPSON SECRETARY (450) 242-1188
JESSE BRYANT ADVERTISING (450) 242-1188


Gazette (est. 1837) in 1908. The Record is published by Alta Newspaper Group Limited Partnership.

Canadian Publications Mail Service Product Agreement No. 0479675.

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

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The Record was founded on February 7, 1897, and acquired the Sherbrooke Examiner (est. 1879) in 1905 and the Sherbrooke



BCN RATES & DEADLINES COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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BCN Lifestyle: ELEGANT LIVING EDITION

LA DOLCE VITAE

A unique experience



TAYNA BARDATI

In this column, I normally give you my advice on decorating subjects or my opinion on certain aspects of décor and style. This one will be just a little bit different. I want to share with you a very exciting and unique experience that I had recently.

Last month, I had the pleasure of being part of the film crew on a locally produced film, directed by a recent acquaintance who has since become a dear friend: Ruge Thomson. This independently funded film, titled *Lustre*, assembles a motley crew of local experts in everything from wardrobe, hairstyle, makeup, lighting and sound people as well as local residents making up most of the cast. I contributed to this film in

my own unique way as the set dresser but became more as the days progressed.

I have to admit that this was a totally unknown environment for me, this being the first time ever that I was on a film set, let alone the one responsible for the set decoration. However, at the first production meeting, I was assured by Ruge that my role would be to be his second pair of eyes on everything related to the decor, relying on my vast experience in interior design and home staging to "set the stage." After googling everything related to my said role, I felt that I still had a lot to learn and hoped to serve a small purpose on the set.

On the first shooting day, I was literally thrown into the whole world of imagination that surrounds a film set. Quickly learning the terminology related to a film production, words such as C-47s, grip, gaffer, sugaring and slating were liberally thrown around and I began to slowly understand what everyone around me was talking about. Due to the lack of crew members, since it was a small production, I also took on several other roles: second assistant camera, props manager and buyer, and continuity supervisor. I was even called upon for my sewing talents in fixing costumes on set, allotting me perhaps the title of costume standby. Several crew members

took on many roles and over the week of shooting, amidst the long waiting periods between setups, we all began to experience something that happens when a bunch of strangers get together for long periods of time; we made friends among cast and crew members alike. I even had the surprise of my life when I found out that I had babysat, as a young teenager, one of the cast members. The crew members all witnessed my squeal of excitement at this discovery and my utter dismay at the realization that I was in fact, getting old.

I also experience sheer pleasure in witnessing raw talent on the set, and having a unique point of view of seeing several transformations as soon as "Action!" was called. The world of film making is a very unusual one and I thank Ruge for letting me be part of this great group of talented people. Even throughout many setbacks, cast and crew members quitting the film, catering issues, the film maker and his assistants were the anchors to keep it all in check and let us, the inexperienced, know that we were still doing a good job. I am now looking forward to the wrap up and film screening parties to take up the conversation with my new friends where it was left off on that late Sunday night, well past midnight when everyone was tired

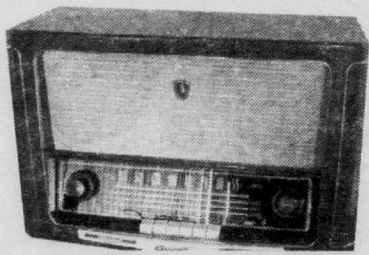
and all thinking about their soft pillows.

Although I am now quite far away, in age, from that little girl that you used to play dress up and make up stories for my family, I have found something that I thought I had forgotten: at heart, I am still that little girl that loves to play and live in the world of imagination. *Lustre* had allowed me to escape to a world of make-believe and bring out the talent that I didn't know I had.

If you wish to know more about the film production of *Lustre* and the man behind it, Ruge Thomson, visit the fundraising website: www.kickstarter.com/projects/1652357362/lustre-the-film. The Kickstarter campaign was generously funded but all the costs have not been covered yet. All the further contributions will help to finish the film and cover post-production costs. Since this is an independent film, the budget relies on the generosity of the public to make this happen. Because we all know: The show must go on!

- Tayna Bardati is an Interior Designer and Home Staging Expert in Bromont (www.creationstayna.com), follow her on Facebook @ Tayna Bardati Home Staging, or on twitter #deco21girl.

Higher learning with Professor Tickle



LATEST FROM CIDI

BRIAN EDDINGTON

He's been with CIDI from Day 1, back in November 2008 when the station first went on the air. The idea behind Professor Tickle's Brome County Word of the Day, however, goes back some 35 years. It was a time in Quebec of political uncertainty and language angst (sound familiar?) and the good Professor (a.k.a. Richard Price of Foster), with the encouragement and collaboration of the late and greatly missed Charles Bury, determined that there was a need to put out a dictionary of Brome County English. This would remind the world and ourselves that, hey, we're here

too, and quite distinct as well, thank you.

To appreciate the mindset of the dictionary's creator, think of Jon Stewart of TV's *The Daily Show* and his sidekick Stephen Colbert. It's tongue-in-cheek, looking to elicit a chuckle or guffaw... usually with a nugget of inconvenient truth just under the surface. The accent and reflections reveal their Appalachian roots, particularly a kinship to those of nearby New England. The entry for the word "Brum" (that's local for "Brome") provides the reader with the examples of Big Brum Fair, Brum Village, which was smart enough not to join Knowlton, and

West Brum... which wasn't smart enough not to join Knowlton. (The double negative works well here.)

Recently the good Professor has branched out to opinion and commentary; his observations on our former energy self-sufficiency, the spectacularly high-priced new beach house, and the vagaries of aging are gems that go to the heart of each matter. And well he knows the area, still residing on the multi-generation family farm, graduating from Knowlton High School, and, an alumnus of MacDonald College, pursuing a career in agricultural engineering.

A man for all seasons, he was a charter member of the now-long-gone but fondly remembered Foster Flyers hockey team, and still enjoys playing music in the classic rock genre. You can hear Professor Tickle's offerings (the "tickle" part comes from a life-long sense of often mischievous humour) thrice daily on CIDI, just after the community bulletin board at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. and 6 p.m.

Meanwhile back at the station, our Radio Village Hall entertainment

CONT'D ON PAGE 8

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Proud gymnasts from Town of Brome Lake

Gold winners in CR3 regional competition



COURTESY

Winning gold medals in gymnastics, sisters Kathryn, age eight, and Elizabeth Moreland, age 10, from Foster.

By Kathryn Lexow

Students from the Club de gymnastique les Hirondelles de Granby competed in the second invitational CR3, competitive regional challenge in artistic gymnastics, held in Sorel-Tracy. This forms part of the Finale régionale de gymnastique des Jeux du Québec.

On February 8, sisters Elizabeth and Kathryn Moreland, of Foster in Lac-Brome, each brought home gold medals.

Out of 27 gymnasts competing in her CR3 division, Elizabeth Moreland, 10 years old, won the gold medal on the bars, a bronze medal on the vault, a bronze medal on the beam, and a seventh place ribbon on the trampoline. She finished with the gold medal for the all around championship.

In her CR3 division of 25 competitors,

eight-year-old Kathryn Moreland brought home the gold medal on the vault and a seventh place finish on the trampoline.

Also competing from the area, Jasmine St. Denis, nine years old, from Bolton-Ouest won an eighth-place ribbon for her floor routine, out of a group of 25 gymnasts.

The young girls practice many hours a week to achieve the physical and psychological benefits the sport offers them. Strength, flexibility, gymnastic skills are developed along with teamwork and competence to perform in competition.

Dedicated parents provide the much needed support to encourage their children in athletic development. The Moreland sisters' mother, Heather Croghan, says it simply, "Children and sports, wonderful."

Town of Brome Lake advertises for new treasurer

Advertised for February 12 to 28

By Kathryn Lexow

The Town of Brome Lake (TBL) is seeking a highly competent and dynamic treasurer for the full time permanent position previously held by Gilbert Arel, who was appointed to the position of director general on January 13, 2014.

Arel is now responsible for the recruitment process for the position of treasurer. An advertisement was posted on the Québec Municipal website on February 12, under job postings for administration/finance positions in Montérégie and on the TBL website.

"The desired candidate will be a chartered professional accountant (CPA) with

a bachelor's degree in business administration (accounting) and three years' experience in municipal accounting or in a related field," reads the TBL website, in part.

Other requirements stated are: "Excellent computer skills and fluency in both spoken and written French and English are required. Essential qualities include strong organizational and analytic skills as well as the ability to maintain positive interpersonal relationships and to work as part of a team."

The announcement goes on to read, in part: "The incumbent will be responsible to plan, coordinate and supervise all financial and accounting operations related to the activities of the town. As such, the incumbent ensures compliance with regulations and administrative policies of the city, as well as generally accepted municipal accounting standards in constant collaboration with other department heads. He or she prepares various official documents such as the budget, the three-year capital program and the annual financial report."

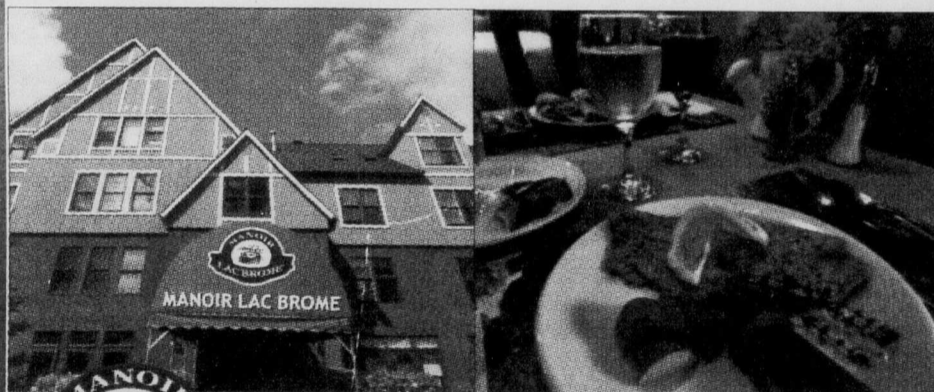
Finally, the working conditions include: "Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and the town offers a competitive package of social benefits."

There is just over a two-week response time and the deadline for applications is stated as February 28, to the attention of Director General Gilbert Arel.

Please see the ad on page 10 of Brome County News.

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Olympian splendor

By Pam Shemilt

Does anyone wonder, as I did in watching the coverage of the various events at the Winter Olympics in Sochi night after night this week, what makes someone want to be an Olympian? Obviously some very special physical, psychological and emotional attributes need to be present in order to even make it on an Olympic team? I need look no further than my twin sisters-in-law Anna and Lisa Johanson, who are well-known locals, to bring some insights into what constitutes becoming an elite athlete. Lisa is still a great equestrian and professional rider and Anna is kennel master for a dog sledging company up in Inuvik, N.W.T where she spends the coldest time of the year with her husband, who is the only remaining professional reindeer herder in Canada.

I was interested in finding out why the two of them decided to participate in the Canadian Ski Marathon back in 2005 at age 40. The CSM is a well established event held the second weekend in February for the past 46 years between Lachute and Gatineau in the Laurentians, and is the oldest Nordic Ski Tour and longest ski marathon in the world. Anna and Lisa decided they needed something exciting to shoot for during the long winter months and had to get off the couch in order to stay fit and motivated. Whereas I would have jumped on an indoor treadmill, they instead chose to ski the required 160 kilometres in 10 sections over the two-day weekend. Here's what happened that first year. They showed up and slept on a hard gym floor the Friday night, got up at 4 a.m., hopped on a bus to get to the starting point in order to be ready and positioned for the 6 a.m. start time to ski 80 kilometres in five stages before 3:15 p.m., the cut-off time. Failing to do this on the first day would disqualify them, not from the event, but from earning the bronze bar, the first level in this most challenging category of "Coureur des Bois."

Encouraged after this first day despite confusion about rules, logistics and painful foot blisters, they returned the next day to complete the challenge skiing another 80 kilometres, but failed to arrive at the finish line and cut-off time by only 10 minutes. No bronze for them that year.

Not to be deterred, the following year they returned with better equipment, better strategies and better prepared overall. They both earned their bronze bars that year and were already planning how they would go for the "silver" the following year, which would require they carry five kilos on their backs as an added challenge. This they accomplished as well for two years in a row. Not satisfied with this, the following year they primed themselves for the ultimate challenge; going for the "gold" level, which

required that they sleep out of doors and carry on their backs all they would need for the two-day excursion, such as their bedding, food, etc. Last week they just completed their fifth year in a row of earning the "gold" arriving an hour and a quarter before the cut-off time due in part due to excellent snow conditions. This has earned them their own permanent "bib" status, which means they get assigned a number they keep for life and is exclusive to them. These special numbers are mounted against a gold backdrop instead of white. In the beginning they used to see other skiers with these special gold numbers ski by them and this became a prime motivator to keep going.

Anna and Lisa are the only true athletes I know in my limited circle. They attribute much of their success to working as a team motivating each other and sticking to their designated roles of Anna being the timekeeper and Lisa setting the pace. They have exhibited for the last nine years in a row all the stuff that it takes not just to compete, but to set a goal and reach it, demonstrating determination, stamina and passionate dedication just so they can propel themselves with 30 other women and 200 men through a winter landscape. By consistently setting ambitious goals, being

CONT'D ON PAGE 9



Anna and Lisa last week at the marathon.

COURTESY

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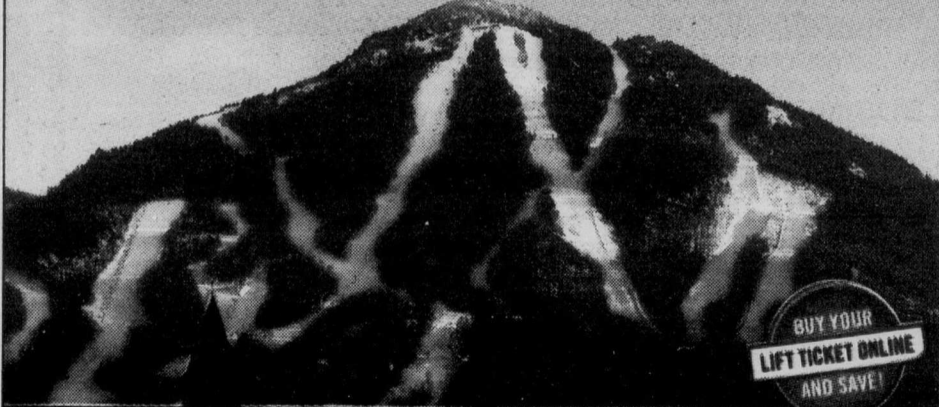
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Retired cop Burcombe

CONT'D FROM PAGE 4

approachable. Apparently they were not alone. Burcombe won the mayor's seat by a landslide.

It is early in his tenure but it is clear that the game has changed. Town hall meetings are now efficient and civil with an obvious spirit of collaboration between mayor and councillors. Key files like water, sidewalks, the budget, and the appointment of a new town director general are moving along at a reasonable pace. Unfortunately the mayor and the new team were confronted by a new water crisis very early in their mandate when the Jolibourg well was contaminated by E. coli causing a lengthy "boil water" advisory starting on December 6 and ongoing to this day. Mayor Burcombe's handling of the communications and action related to this crisis were good and well-regarded and areas of improvement have been identified from the weaknesses apparent in the town's communications plan in times of crisis. He came across as being in charge, humble, and at the service of the citizenry.

Burcombe acknowledges that the new council has been left with a lot of important files but he is very optimistic about progress given the new spirit of collaboration. His top priority is clearly to solve

the water problem so that we can attract new citizens, businesses, and expand our tax base. To this end, he is testing the water and making sure that the provincial Ministry of the Environment will accept the tests by ensuring alignment. The Jolibourg well will have a chlorination system installed when the weather permits and the overall system will be tested to ensure environmental compliance. He believes that "wells are the way to go" and feels that we will be able to meet our needs with this approach.

Another major priority is sidewalks and the current budget includes \$732,000.00 to complete work planned by the previous administration.

Crosswalks and stop lines will be painted in May as opposed to the end of the summer, as in past years, that seemed to him to be an "incomprehensible" approach. He has an overriding priority to focus on the quality of basic town services like snow removal. These are all elements of his basic platform of proper execution of services. The dam and Coldbrook Park are priorities for 2015. When asked about the Linear Path and Trestle Cove Bridge he commented that "these are touchy subjects" and that if "it were anywhere else it would be built by now." He feels that walking and



LISE CHAMPAGNE

Mayor Richard Burcombe at work.

biking are "big things" and although not an immediate priority they are a focus of three-year capital expenditure planning.

Many citizens are contacting the mayor with questions about the "vision" for the town and he plans to tap into their collective expertise to build a strategic plan that will look at a new way

of doing things and focus on housing, tourism and business.

The mayor has had a good start by most accounts and so has his council.

The town and its citizens expect and deserve nothing less, and for the time being he has their full support.

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Professor Tickle

CONT'D FROM PAGE 5

schedule continues. Next up is the musical group Le Vent des Cantons in concert on Saturday February 22 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$12. They'll be recording the performance before the live audience as part of their next CD. Come on out and be part of the album as well as the fun. Also, the next show in Pepita Ferrari's Cine-Village film series takes place on Tuesday March 11. Watch for details.

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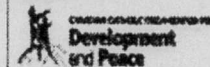
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In God we trust?

Spoof pokes fun at locals and beyond

By Kathryn Lexow

Better the devil you know than the one you don't is a common theme during an evening of laughter and music at the Knowlton Players' latest dinner theatre show, "The Revival" at the Knowlton Pub.

Writer Stephen Paglia schemed up a devilish tale of intrigue, deception, and yes, even love, which will keep you hopping, or at least singing in harmony to your favorite (or not) songs of the past.

The evangelist Fakers warm up to the Temperance family, drawing in Tom, Dick and Harry, the Yes men to work their spiritual magic on the unsuspecting townfolk around Town of Brome Lake.

Will the town's illustrious Mayor Bentcock meet the challenge and coerce his friends to give up everything? Or will he follow the lead of Mansonville? "O sinners, let's go down, down in the river to pray" or so go the lyrics.

Banker Thistlebottom and real estate guru Lois Wise-Acre are ready to help, but the chief of police Dunkin Judithson is a skeptic, not to mention the Reverend Lucy Maudlin.

"The performance was fantastic," said one attendee. "Very entertaining," said another. But pay attention to the storyline. The shampoo smelling town could be in trouble at the taxpayers' expense.

If you see the spoof, don't leave without a smile on your face and the words in your head to the old song "Keep on the sunny side of life."

Director Laura Teasdale brings the words of the play to life with a dedicated cast of capable actors and singers, all convincingly moving the audience to believe the "road to heaven is arduous" and that the combined IQ of some is less than the outside temperature.

Choreography by Juli Peasley, costumes by Linda Carey and stage management and narration by Jim Ferrier give the required substance to the performance.

According to the organizers, everyone puts in a ton of work to create a labour of love. Special thanks are extended to Roger and Jean de la Mare, Brome Lake Books, Waterloo Elementary School and Scott Edmonston at CIDI radio.

The Knowlton Players have been entertaining the community for years and the dinner show is in its seventh year, mostly playing to packed houses. It is a widely anticipated annual event and it was no different on opening weekend, last Friday and Saturday.

Tips collected at the end of the evening are generously donated by the cast to various community organizations for the benefit of all. In the past these have included, in part: The First Responders, Lions Club, the Living Room, Hori-



The Fakers are sure "We haven't done anything wrong."

zons Pour Elles, S.P.C.A., S.A.D.D., Yamaska Literacy Council, the Lac-Brome Food Bank, drama in the schools programs and breakfast programs.

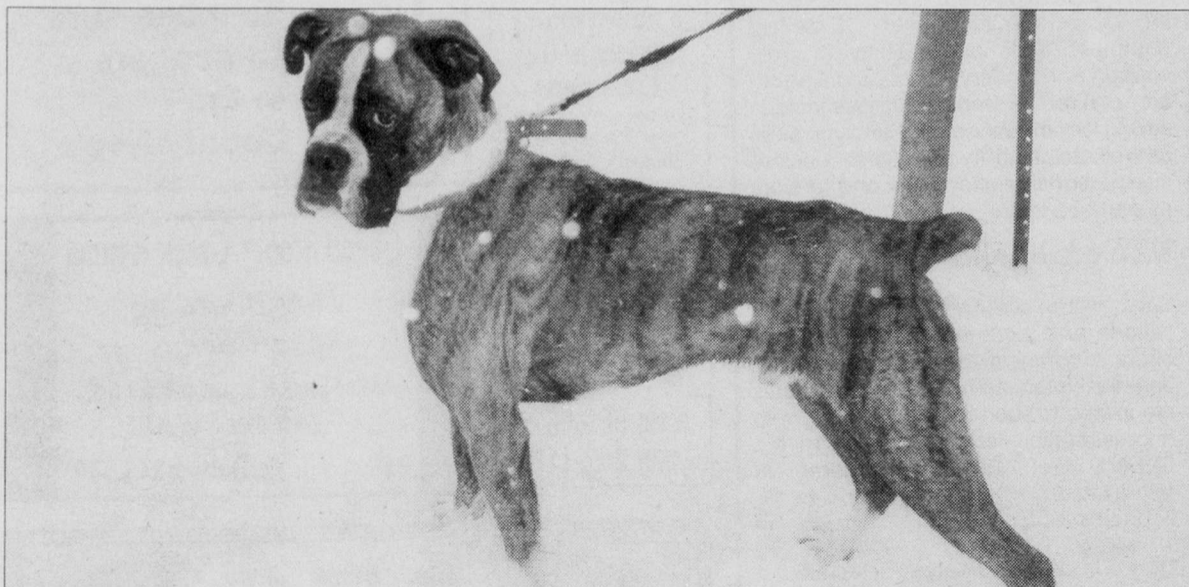
"The charitable shall reap their rewards," as theatre goers were told by the cast.

"The Revival" show continues for two more weekends at the Knowlton Pub on

February 20, 21, and 22; February 27, 28 and March 1. All shows are at 7 p.m. at the Knowlton Pub, at 267 Knowlton Road.

Tickets include a three-course meal, all served up by your favourite actors. For reservations call 450-242-6862. Messages can be left for a call-back.

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Olympian splendor

CONT'D FROM PAGE 7

self-disciplined, willing to endure sometimes high levels of physical pain, sacrificing personal pleasures during training, they possess what it takes to be champions and this is what I see

demonstrated during these very exciting Winter Olympics.

Am I inspired? You bet! Does this make me wish I could be an Olympian too? No way! But I might get on my treadmill while

I watch the games.

Ian Aikin has a posting on UTube which is fun to watch and has some footage of Anna and Lisa at the CSM last week - enjoy!



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**TREASURER
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Town of Brome Lake is seeking a highly competent and dynamic treasurer. Located in *Montréal*, Town of Brome Lake is characterized by an exceptional quality of life, country living at its best and a bilingual environment. Town of Brome Lake provides a diversified array of services to its 5000 more citizens and therefore has very high level expectations for its management.

Responsibilities

Acting under the authority of the Director General and in compliance with the *Cities and Town act*, you will be required to plan, coordinate and oversee the Town's financial operations and accounting practices. Working closely with other Heads of Department, you will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the rules and administrative policies of the Town, as well as with recognized municipal accounting standards. You will also prepare various official documents including the budget, the three-year capital expenditures program and the annual financial report.

Profile

The successful candidate will be a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA) with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration (Accounting) and three years' experience in municipal accounting or in a related field. Excellent computer skills and fluency in both spoken and written French and English are required. Essential qualities include strong organizational and analytic skills as well as the ability to maintain positive interpersonal relationships and to work as part of a team.

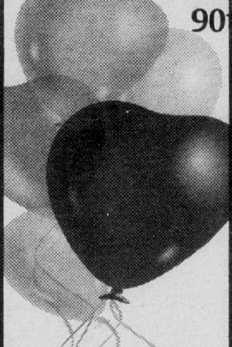
Working Conditions

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and the Town offers a competitive package of social benefits. Interested, suitable candidates are invited to submit their CV, along with a presentation letter, by email to **Mr. Gilbert Arel, Director General**, at gilbert.arel@ville.lac-brome.qc.ca by February 28, 2014.

Only those candidates selected for interview will be contacted.

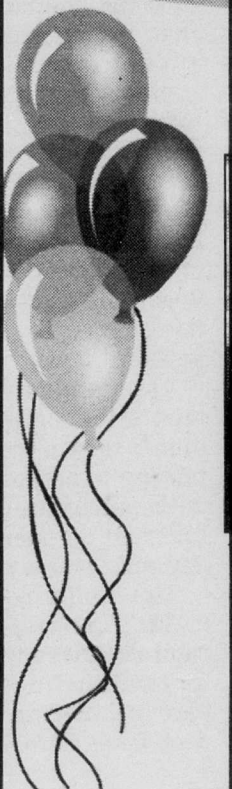

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Lois Tyler-Jones

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Good wishes only.

Muriel Cook's 90th birthday

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Cards of Thanks

BERNARD, Gary - Thank you to all our wonderful friends, relatives, brothers and sisters of the IOOF and co-workers in the past years for their expression of sympathy. He passed away January 25, 2014 at the age of 47. Your compassion helped us bear a great burden. A thousand thank you's. God bless all of you.

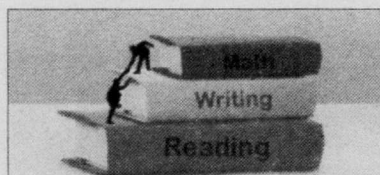
RALPH & SHEILA BERNARD
AND FAMILY

GOYETTE - Special thanks to all my family for the special arrangement of flowers and gifts. Also to all who sent cards, phone calls and personal wishes. They made my 90th so special.

ELIZABETH ROYEA GOYETTE

PAGÉ - The family of the late Arthur Pagé would like to thank everyone who sent flowers, cards and donations in his memory; Rev. Rick Allen for the funeral service; Wendy & Peter for playing some of Art's favorite music at the service; and a special thank you to Gerry Moar, Art's good friend and fishing buddy. Also thanks to the doctors and nurses of B.M.P. Hospital for the kind, compassionate care and attention given to Art.

VANESSA (daughter)
MAUREEN (wife) & FAMILY
PEGGY (Mom)
JEFF, NANCY, SHIRLEY
(brother & sisters)
AND FAMILIES



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Fulford Post Office marked its 150th/Sesquicentennial year with a display of old photos and historical information, thanks to postmistress, Carla Loewen Wright.

Lois (nee Banks) and Donald "Cork" Badger welcomed family and friends to a casual gathering on their 60th/Diamond wedding anniversary, hosted by their family. Therese (nee Desilets) and Ronald Giguere marked their 50th/Golden wedding anniversary with a formal dinner at La Grillade, St. Alphonse de Granby, attended by many family members and friends.

The annual Strawberry Social was the joint effort of the Social and Recreation Clubs. At the latter club's "Meet your Neighbour" event, a display of old photos revealed to newcomers the previous appearance of their homes; donations were accepted for the TBL foodbank. A community flea market was held in July. The Social Club held its annual Harvest Soup Luncheon in October and made a number of donations including one to Lac Megantic. At Remembrance Day services, wreaths were laid at both Knowlton and Waterloo cenotaphs.

Former resident, Wanda Scott, now of Chesterville, Ontario, married Sam Hummel. Wendy Brunton and Patrick Suwalski were wed in Ottawa, where they reside.

Fulford United Church opened on Mother's Day and, again, each woman received a long-stemmed rose—a lovely touch. At the following service, Skylar Alice, daughter of Amanda Jean Rocheleau and Harold Wayne Hellish, was baptized (four generations were present). Following the train derailment, the congregation made a donation to Lac Megantic. During the summer, the interior of the church was refreshed with a new coat of paint. The end-of-season service was followed by a potluck luncheon at Fulford Hall. The annual Christmas Eve service included

Fulford 2013 review

a performance of "Christmoose." The congregation and visitors appreciate very much Rev. Tom Edmonds and pianist/organist Susan Reininger.

Sadly, the following deaths occurred: Marion Phelps, well-known historian/curator/archivist at BCHS, just before her 105th birthday; Francine Colas' mother; Graham Neil, brother of Stanley Neil and Bev Quilliams; Ann (nee Michell) Perry, aunt of Marie Lefebvre; Velma Pope, wife of Norman Lloyd; Eleanor (nee Soule) Irwin, mother of Sharron Giddings and Sandra Parry; Roger Roux, father of Tony Roux; Harriet Argyrakis, wife of Lawrence Moquette; Oliver Whitehead, brother of Debbie St. Pierre; Zofja Jastrzemska, widow of Abdul (Aziz) Rumjahn; Blanche Thompson, wife of Richard Gibson; Anne McMahan; Edward "Eddy" Buck; Bruce Bockus, widower of Judy Jordan; Diane Neeley Larose, grandmother of Alyssa Neeley-Belcher.

A barn, which was dismantled last year, has been reconstructed and has a new life in Dunham, thanks to Peter MeAusian and his wife, Ellen Bounsall. Despite an appeal, a house was demolished and replaced by a larger one. Fire caused damage to one residence, and the ice storm to another. Other repairs and renovations have taken place. There was some tree-logging; new trees have been planted. A bull and six cows were killed by lightning, but six calves nearby were unharmed. Police discovered a "grow" operation.

Residents travelled near and afar; former residents, family members and friends came to visit in Fulford. Peter Wiazowski ran the Boston Marathon, safely.

The 34th Neil Family Reunion was hosted by Bev (nee Neil) and Peter Quilliams. Betty and Hugh Wright held their annual Father's Day barbecue for the Wright/Banks/Badger family. Sylvie Krasker and Danny Finn gath-

ered items for the TBL foodbank at their annual events. Bill Baldwin retired.

Debbie Watson became a grandmother on the birth of a son to her daughter, Lindsay, and son-in-law, Tim, in Calgary. Jacques and Sylvie Duguet also have a grandson, born to daughter, Genevieve, and Frederick Viens.

The St. Patrick's celebration in Bromont was attended by Fulford residents. Pepita Ferrari and her team presented an interesting variety of movies at the Eastern Townships Film Festival. At Brome Fair, Betty Wright and Crystal Badger won prizes in Handicrafts; Crystal received a ribbon in an Equestrian event. The "Annual Classic Hockey Tournament" 2013 was won by Wright's General Store over the Warriors.

It is hoped that the mishaps, illnesses, etc., which have occurred will all have a favourable outcome.

Chantal Lafond, Tehya Lemaire and Emily Mason graduated from Massey-Vanier with awards and are now at Champlain College, Lennoxville, as is Michael Abbott. Thomas Abbott is attending Stanstead College. Evan Wright graduated from Concordia University. Our other young adults are continuing their studies at college or university.

Cassandra Pegg and Riley Lavoie (winner) competed in the public speaking event held by the Brome Lake Optimists Club. At Massey-Vanier, Tehya Lemaire tied for first place at the Science Fair and came first in public speaking.

In Massey-Vanier Athletics, awards were won by Chantal Lafond and Mahalia Robinson. Mahalia and brother, Nathaniel, both play on local soccer teams which won gold and their dad, Dan, coaches.

An eventful year, all in all. Margaret Fordham

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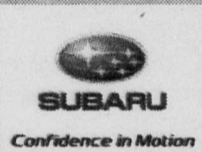


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