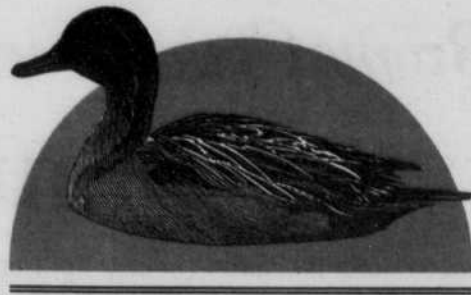


# Brome County NEWS



TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2010

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## Knowlton Kids get \$1K from Metro



VIRGINIA WILSON

Knowlton Academy's Secondary I class received a \$1,000 grant from Metro for an environmental play project

By Virginia Wilson

This year the head offices of Metro Inc. decided to continue its "Green Apple School Program," which began last September, to encourage and assist schools with their environmental awareness projects and in which they invested \$1 M. Last Monday, the Secondary

one students from Knowlton Academy received a \$1000 grant for a play project sent in by their homeroom teacher, Josie Gibbs, based on the book, "The Sea Saw Tree," by David Wood. Gibbs had heard about the program from a teacher at Parkview Elementary in Granby and decided to take the initiative to apply.

The 29 Secondary I students, Home

Room teacher, Josie Gibbs, Resource Teacher, Anne Stairs, and Art teacher, Lynne Hamilton, will create a play geared to raising awareness about environmental conservation. The one thousand dollars was donated to help for set costs, scripts and other costs involved in getting the play off the ground.

CONT'D ON PAGE 5

### BRIEFS

#### Knowlton Players support Family Group

By Virginia Wilson

The Knowlton Players have decided to lend a helping hand to the "Brome County Families" group by donating all of the sales from the opening night of their new play, "Babes in the Woods", by Bob Heather and Roger Lamb. You will see members of the Brome County Families group selling tickets to the play around town, which is sold out every year, in hopes to raise money for future family projects in Brome Lake. The group has a few projects intended to improve local parks and create activities for adolescents in Brome Lake who do not have a lot of activities to do in Town.

The play is a tale of Robin Hood with an evil Sheriff, his niece and nephew he wants to be rid of to get their inheritance and a band of merry men, played by women, that comes to their rescue. The cast of twenty five, with many parents and their children on stage together, performs a show filled with song and humor. The play is directed by Lucy Hoblyn, of Brome Lake Books. The choreography and music will be handled by Laura Teasedale, Patricia St. Onge and Meghan Allen. Costumes will be created by Linda Carey.

The play will be performed from May 6 to the 16 on the Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 8 p.m. and on Sunday at 2 p.m. at Theatre Lac Brome, located at 9 Mont Echo in Knowlton. Tickets are \$15, \$12 and \$10. For reservations please call (450) 242-2510.

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# Brome County Community Billboard

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

April 10

**Covered Dish Supper at Richford United Methodist Church** on Saturday, April 10 at 5:30 p.m. Adults: \$7. Children 6 - 12 yrs: \$3.50. Children under 6 yrs: Free. Canadian money accepted at par. Reservations appreciated but not required. Call: 802-848-3477

**The Mental Health & Well-Being Support Group Meeting is cancelled** for Saturday, April 10. However, everyone is welcome to join me at the Rhicard's Owl Hoot Maple Farm, 85 Ross Road in Stanbridge East for a fund raising Sugaring-off party for the Brome Missisquoi Perkins Hospital Foundation from 1 to 4 p.m. Adults: \$8., Children 4 to 10 years: \$5. A wonderful way to help our local hospital. For info. or a ride. Contact: Linda - 450-243-0928 or pleasantvalley@sympatico.ca

**TOWNSHIPS BLUEGRASS AND OLD TYME MUSIC SOCIETY** invites you to an afternoon and evening of wholesome entertainment on Saturday, April 10, at the Royal Canadian Legion, 77 Lewis St., Waterloo. Guitars, banjos, fiddles, mandolins will be played with enthusiasm and skill by our members and invited guests. Come and hear the old songs and join the fun. The afternoon jam runs from 1 p.m. to 5:30 pm. Supper for a modest fee between 5:30 and 7 p.m. Stage performances run from 7 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 at the door for members and \$10. for non-members. We look forward to seeing you.

**Sugaring Off Party at the Rhicard's Owl Hoot Maple Farm**, 85 Ross Road in Stanbridge East, Quebec. A Fund Raising Event for the Brome Missisquoi Perkins

## BCN RATES & DEADLINES COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Brome County News Community Calendar is reserved for non-profit organizations only. Deadline is noon on Mondays. A pre-paid fee of \$7 is required per publication, or **SPECIAL RATE of \$13 for 2 insertions**: 1 BCN & 1 in Friday Record "What's On" section. Please forward notices to 5 Victoria St., Knowlton, QC JOE 1V0, email: bcnnews@qc.aibn.com, or fax: (450) 243-5155. Visa and Mastercard accepted.

Hospital Foundation on Saturday, April 10, from 1 to 4 p.m. Donation at the gate, Adults: \$8., Children 4 to 10 years: \$5. 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. Fresh homemade doughnuts Johnnie-on-the-spot. A wonderful afternoon for the whole family. www.bmpfoundation.ca Information: 4 5 0 - 2 4 8 - 3 6 1 6 www://2009sugarparty.homestead.com/.

April 10 & 17

**Rummage Sale**, Brome Hall, Saturday, April 10, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bag Day: Saturday, April 17, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Hall door open for donations April 5 to April 10. Lots of good used clothing and things. Information please call 450-242-2241 or 450-243-5742.

April 11

**Every Sunday Music with Smokin' Country** from 3 - 7 p.m. at Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Davignon, Cowansville. (450) 263-3543. Come and have fun with us.

April 12

**Canadian Club of the Yamaska Valley meeting**, 2pm, Auberge West Brome, Rte.139. David Lank - academic. Order of Canada recipient, "sometime thespian" presents "The America that Vanished: Impact of Environmental Degradation". \$10 fee for non-members. Lunch reservations at 450-266-7552.

**Knowlton Coffee Break:** Understanding the Antique market with Brian Davies. An object's worth is basically dictated by what the market demands. Ask local expert Brian Davies about what's hot and what's not and why on Monday, April 12 from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Avantebarb@bellnet.ca Centre Community Lac Brome, 279 Rue Victoria.

**General meeting for all members of the Sutton Royal Canadian Legion** will be held at on Monday, April 12 at 7pm. Please come and participate. 2 Curley St. Info: 450-538-2210.

April 13

**Missisquoi Historical Society.** Turkey and Biscuit Supper & Annual Meeting on

Tuesday, April 13 at 6 p.m. at the Anglican Church Hall, Stanbridge East, Qc. \$13. Tickets: 450-248-3153.

**Open 'til 8 " What is a women's centre ?" Avante** offers services and workshops. What else do we do? Come learn about our involvements in other areas on Tuesday, April 13 from 6 - 8 p.m. Avante Women's Centre, 2 Adhémar-Cusson, Bedford, 450-248-0530. Avante.kath@bellnet.ca

April 14

**Clever Creations:** "Mosaic flower pots" on Wednesday, April 14. Cost \$2. Avante Women's Centre, 2 Adhémar-Cusson, Bedford, 450-248-0530. avante-barb@bellnet.ca

April 15

**Heath Matters:** "Diabetes". These information sessions are in collaboration with several community organizations interested in reaching the English speaking population of Brome Missisquoi. Along with a televised presentation by an expert in the field, a specialist will be on hand to lead the discussion and answer questions. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Cowansville CLSC, 397 rue Rivière, Cowansville, avantebarb@bellnet.ca

April 17

**Hatley 4-H Dance** at Mont Joye Ski Lodge in North Hatley on Saturday, April 17 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Music by Slightly Haggard. Door prizes. Admission: \$5. All welcome.

**Country Dance with music by Gary Darling** at the Royal Canadian Legion, Br. 77, 77 Lewis St., Waterloo, Saturday, April 17, 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. \$6 per person. Come on out, have a dance and socialize with us! Info: 450-539-3436

**Ham Dinner with scalloped potatoes, coleslaw, etc.** at Trinity Anglican Church, 409 South St., Cowansville. Saturday, April 17, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Adults: \$10. Children 6 - 10 yrs.: \$5. Reservations: 450-378-8692 or 450-263-0105.

April 17

**Jamboree, open mic:** everyone welcomed, bring your friends, Hosted by Stressy (Barbara). Saturday, April 17 at 7 p.m. . Donation \$3. Sutton Legion, 2 Curley St. Info: 450-242-2525 or 450-538-

2 Sutton Legion would like to thank Jim and Matthew for taking care of the dart games on Thursday evenings and to all the players that participated this season. Hope to see everyone back in the fall.

## CHURCH SERVICES

### CREEK/WATERLOO PASTORAL CHARGE

Sunday worship and music. Creek United, West Bolton: 9:00 a.m. St. Paul's, 4929 Foster, Waterloo: 10:30 a.m. Reverend David Lambie, Minister. For information or to leave messages call: 450-539-2129

### ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

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### KNOWLTON-MOUNTAIN VALLEY PASTORAL CHARGE

Worship and song with Rev. Ryk Allen officiating. Mansonville United - Please check local bulletin board. Bolton Centre United - Easter Service will be held on April 11 at 9 a.m. Knowlton United, 234 Knowlton Road - 11 a.m. - every Sunday (handicap access)

### EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

"Soul food for open hearts and minds." 203, rue Principale, Cowansville. Faith community in action. Worship service and Sunday School both start at 10:30 a.m. All children are welcome! April 11: Deborah Beattie, Worship leader. Susan Reininger, Music Director. Info: 450-263-0204.

### ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH - DUNHAM.

Sunday Services and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. - all welcome! The Rev. Sinpoh Han. Information: 450-263-0431

### ANGLICAN PARISH OF BROME:

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Brome County  
NEWS



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SHARON MCCULLY PUBLISHER ..... (819) 569-6345  
SHARON MCCULLY MANAGING EDITOR ..... (819) 569-6345  
MICHAEL McDEVITT ASSISTANT EDITOR ..... (819) 569-6345  
FRASER LOCKERBIE CORRESP. EDITOR ..... (819) 569-6345  
DIANA SIMPSON SECRETARY ..... (450) 242-1188  
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CONT'D ON  
PAGE 9

# Rugby for Health



COURTESY

The boys of summer playing a little rough

By Virginia Wilson

You may have already seen the Facebook page or the advertisements around Knowlton and Foster, but if you haven't you probably heard about it. The Brome Lake Ducks Rugby team is working extremely hard to promote local rugby and bring back the women's rugby team this year. With the sport making it back onto the Olympic Agenda and the Canada Games coming to Sherbrooke, the team wants to make sure to preserve and promote a team sport that is recognized around the world, but receives less visibility in Quebec and locally.

Joelle Chartrand, Director of the Chamber of Commerce, Neal Partington, team captain of the Brome Lake Ducks for over 10 years, and Chris Servers, local health and fitness promoter, have been collecting players and funding from sponsors to promote the sport and encourage men and women from all age groups to work out and exercise. With the amount of teen activities dropping in Brome Lake, the group felt it was necessary to step up and encourage young people to stay out of trouble and feel the support and health benefits of a team sport. "Rugby is great for getting young people to push harder and stay fit," says Servers.

The team, which has done a lot of self funding in the past, is calling out to the general public to get involved and learn the sport. There is no experience needed to play and a lot of the captains have offered their time to assist with coaching and teaching newcomers. The teams will

start May 1 and practices will be twice a week in the evening. For more information about the Duck's Womens' Team contact Joelle Chartrand at: daraghjoelle@yahoo.com and for the Duck's Men's Team contact: chris@avivaspasante.ca before April 10.

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## LOCAL SHOPPING LOGO

The new logos are out for the citizens of Lac Brome to promote local shopping. If you go to the Chamber of Commerce website, you can copy one of the, "I live here, I buy here" logos, which were created to raise awareness on the importance of shopping locally, and paste them to your e-mails to promote Lac Brome.

The idea was originally discussed during the public meeting held at the Community Centre by the Chamber at the beginning of the year. Simply go to: [www.cclacbrome.com](http://www.cclacbrome.com) and you can choose your favorite photograph to add to your e-mail or website.

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35 Sherbrooke, Magog  
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# Whither Lac Brome: Part IV

By Marc Clerk

Previous articles have dwelt on difficulties that have seriously hobbled the development and economic progress of Ville de Lac Brome in recent years. Residents have stood by quiescent, not intervening, not commenting, not acting, as awful things were perpetrated. The point of these articles, disagreeable as they may at times seem, is to point up weaknesses, suggest correctives and urge participation in their application.

The Chambre de Commerce de Lac

Brome has failed to disassociate itself from the grande illusion of the previous Ville de Lac Brome Council; it sets up "bread and circuses" rather than propelling the town's economy toward a solid goal. The charade continues:

The minutes of the VLB Council meetings of February and March contain some puzzling (and troubling) items concerning the Chamber of Commerce: "Council authorized the Mayor and the Town Clerk to sign a protocol with the Chamber of Commerce covering the financial support that was provided for in

the budget".

"Under resolution 2010-01-040, Council had undertaken to support the Chamber of Commerce's request to the Pacte Rural for financial assistance in the amount of \$14,666.00. The subsidy was refused. Council therefore resolved to maintain the Town's participation in the project and contribute the amount requested".

At the March 1 meeting, Council member Jacques Lecours is recorded as saying "that the Town still intends to provide: "full funding to the amount of \$42,500.00 to the Chamber of Commerce"..... "as soon as an agreement has been signed with the Chamber it will be made public".

"(A merchant in the audience) asked for details with respect to the financial assistance which will be given to the Chamber of Commerce and was advised that these figures would be available once the protocol is signed. (The merchant) stated that it was imperative that this figure be known before the protocol is signed".

An intelligent intervention and observation, it would appear. But wait.

A copy of the Protocol dated March 10, 2010 is now circulating (in French only) in Ville de Lac Brome in which the Mayor and Councillor Lecours are to sign or have signed the agreement with the Chamber. The amount of this protocol is \$42,500.00

The question must be asked: Why does the present Council persist in supporting the Chamber of Commerce when merchants and residents (taxpayers all) have serious reservations about its raison d'être? Their doubts are based on the Chamber's performance of the last six years. Street opinions range from "unrealistic" to "non-existent" to "make-believe".

The Chamber's recently "elected" and loudly-touted executive is resigning in droves and being replaced by standers-by (and Councillors) having no direct connection with the economy, tourism or otherwise.

Three weeks before this Protocol, at the appointment of members in the Chamber of Commerce's Economic Committee on February 19, Councillors Lecours and Ouvrard are listed as members of this new Chamber committee. The question must be asked: What are members of Council doing as members of an "arms-length" body to which substantial municipal funding was being

contemplated?

In VLB Council's minutes of March 1st, in answer to a comment from a resident from the Fulford sector, to the effect that the Chamber had little presence outside of Knowlton, Councillor Lecours is quoted as stating that he would: "do all he could to ensure that the Chamber be better known". Are public relations for the Chamber also in Council's mandate?

Today's Town Council's tenuous relations with the Chamber of Commerce continue to be difficult to dissect, interpret or fathom. Rarely have things been so economically difficult in Knowlton. There is unease with the Chamber because the lavish financing it has been receiving over the last while has not "trickled down", as one observer has said, to helping merchants survive. This unease does not appear to be reaching Council's ears.

Ville de Lac Brome Council should resist, as did Councillor Gomes at the March 1 meeting, from financing poppycock. And, evidently, what is left of the executive of the Lac Brome Chamber of Commerce should close the organization down and revert to their knitting.

An article by Debbie Hornig in a recent issue of this paper has done something impressive and useful to buck up the troops and stress shop and service centers' efforts to cope. It has identified them as a body. This was not done by a grandiose Chamber declaration but by a true-blue, in-the-field, merchant. Taking that lead, our merchants should join together to establish a new, lighter and tighter Knowlton Merchants Association, dedicated to survival.

(Marc Clerk has been a resident of the Eastern Townships since 1968. He operated a large sheep operation for twenty years in Sutton, where he also owned and operated La Cheviotte, a British woollens store; was Councillor in the Township of Sutton, initiator/President of the Sutton Merchants Association, President of Héritage Sutton Historical Society and Editor of Héritage Sutton Sketchbooks. In Lac Brome he was a founding member of the Knowlton Merchant's Association, Co-chairman of the IMAGINATION POLICY PLAN, Director of Theatre Lac Brome, President of the Lac Brome Chamber of Commerce, Member of the Lac Brome Environment Committee and is Life Member of the Brome County Historical Society.)

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# \$1000 for Knowlton kids

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

"If more students and teachers become involved in our recycling projects and Green Club, than we have succeeded in spreading awareness. In addition, we have looked into the Brudtland green schools. We hope that the success of this play will help encourage support from fellow staff members and our community," said Gibbs. The Brudtland Green Establishment Network was created by partners like RECYC-Quebec in 1992 to support and encourage schools and organizations which think, teach and educate members of the community and society the values of ecology and solidarity. To keep this status, a school must receive BGE certification annually.

Metro uses the 5 cents that customers pay for their bags to reinvest into projects which will help the environment and encourage local schools in Quebec and Ontario at the same time. "There is a million dollars that has been invested in the program this year and each school is allowed two \$1000 grants as long as they have two separate projects," says Lussier. She had travelled around to multiple schools during the year to try and raise awareness about the funds being offered by the grocery giant, which could benefit some of the smaller schools in financial difficulties. Both elementary and secondary level schools are eligible to receive the grant.

The students were full of smiles when they received the news from their Home Room teacher. They were able to meet Isabelle Lussier when she entered the classroom to congratulate them on their efforts.

To be eligible for a grant the school has to propose a project of their choice which will raise awareness on environmental conservation, for example, composting, recycling and not littering. The project must be approved and endorsed by the school's Principal. Schools can apply for a grant on-line at: [www.fonds-eco-ecole.ca](http://www.fonds-eco-ecole.ca).

## The Annual One day at a Time Fundraiser

The third annual "One day at a time" fundraiser, organized by Megan Redmile and her spouse Jesse Moseley, will be taking place at the Fairview Hall on the Brome Fair grounds this year and will have a cocktail reception hosted by the Vignoble Domaine Bresee, to once again raise money for the oncology department at the BMP.

Last year the event, which was held at the Auberge West Brome, raised over \$6500 which was used to enable weekly flower deliveries, coffee, a Christmas concert and lunch, and other items which had been requested by patients that receive treatments regularly in the oncology department at the Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital.

The cocktail will be followed by a live auction, as well as a new silent auction for the Mother's Day Cakes. There will be musical performances by the Hellbound Cats for guests to dance the night away.

Tickets are available this year for \$20.00 at the Shack in Knowlton and the Bank of Montreal in Cowansville.

## Knowlton Cemetery to improve grass

As you may have noticed over the past few years the grass in the knowlton cemetery has become thin, brown and patchy.

This is all due to an infestation of large white slugs which thrive on the grass and its roots.

The knowlton cemetery company has hired "groupe verdure" to remedy this problem.

In the very near future you will see the soil being treated, scraped and seeded. all of the above is being carried out in an environmentally safe manner and will in no way harm the surrounding area.

# Around Town

This treatment will start in mid june and continue until late summer.

If you have any questions, please call a member of the cemetery committee.

This procedure, along with our previous request to eliminate the artificial flower arrangements, should help in our aim to 'green' the knowlton cemetery.

situation. You can go to the IGA, Uniprix and the Bank of Montreal to make donations to this cause. The Bank of Montreal will provide a tax receipt. You can also visit their website at: <http://www.thehumanitariancoalition.ca/> or call: 1-800-464-9154.

## Fire Update

After the tragic fire on January 14th at the Joie de Lavande on Mont Echo rd, where a local neighbor suffered a severe heart attack and passed away, the Joie de Lavande confirmed damages to be estimated at \$350,000 and confirmed that the house will be rebuilt very quickly for the 2010 lavender season.

## Give to Haiti

The (FCCQ) Federation of Chambers of Commerce of Quebec want to encourage companies and businesses to do what they can to reach out to the people of Haiti who are living through a severe and horrifying

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# HOME RENOVATIONS

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## Beginning home restoration tips

By Sam Erickson

Maybe you got the deal of the century or you just had to have that old house. Now you've got the gargantuan task of restoring it to perfection so you can have a great place to live. Whether you are a novice or an expert, there are a few things you will have to do beforehand.

The first step is to decide what your vision really is. Do you want all period pieces that are precisely faithful to your home or the most modern conveniences? Once you've determined your grand vision, you can determine exactly what you need to do. There will definitely be places along the way where you will have to make changes, but a plan is essential. This will allow you to budget your money, time and materials. You might have to shut off a room or two for some time, like the kitchen or the bathroom, so you will want to plan ahead and be prepared.

To get started with individual projects, make your list and check it twice before heading to the local hardware or home supply store. If you have several projects in mind, think about what you will need for all of those. If you can afford it, you can actually save money by buying in bulk. A notebook with products, prices and availability will serve you well as you move through your project. You can also use this notebook to take down advice you get from experts or sketch out what you are looking for at the store.



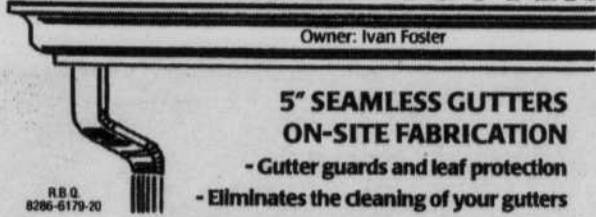
but you may have to hire a general contractor for larger jobs. Doing the job yourself can save you money in the long run, but it might lead you to more hassles. Contractors are more able to deal with problems that might be unforeseen. A good contractor can be hard to come by, so be sure to get good references. Here's where your planning, vision and notebook will really come in handy. You'll need these to convey your true vision to someone else. Take notes and write down everything you and the contractor agree to.

Knowledge is key to doing a great job of your home restoration. Whether you hire a contractor or do it yourself, you want to maintain your vision and do your research so you know exactly what you are getting. Make plans beforehand and keep careful notes so you can really enact your vision.

You may be able to do a series of smaller jobs yourself.

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# HOME RENOVATIONS

## Make those floors glow

By Sam Erickson

Wood floors are beautiful and lustrous and bring an old world charm to a home. They also hold light and really shine in the sunlight-unless they are stained, molded or mildewed. An important element in many home restorations, getting your wood floors to shine is often a matter of cleaning rather than refinishing. Different kinds of stains require different procedures; here is a guide for some of the most common problems.

In order to keep your floors in order, you need some materials. Steel wool pads of the finest grade will let you scour the floor. You will also need a supply of mineral spirits and a petroleum distillate, along with a floor sealer, solvent-based floor wax and simple household vinegar.

If you have dark spots on the floor, rub the area with your steel wool pad and mineral spirits. Take a wet rag, dip it into household vinegar, apply it to the stain and allow it to sit for a few minutes. This will lighten the stain. If the stain persists, you can apply a mix of half water and half bleach. This will take care of most household stains. Bleach will do to your floors exactly what it does to your clothes, so be careful not to let it run onto other parts of your floor and clean it off quickly when you are done. You can use a lower concentration if you are worried about creating other stains.

Watermarks are a whole different story. These are usually a stain in the finish that doesn't carry all the way down to the wood. Start the application again with steel wool and apply a paste wax. This will get the finish imperfections out without hurting the wood.

A much tougher problem is grease and oil stains. First, get as much of the material up as possible with clean towels. Use dry cleaning fluid to draw the stains out. You will need to check for progress in the area every few minutes.

Mold and mildew on your floors can be taken care of with a bleach-soaked rag. You can use ice cubes in a plastic

bag to get sticky wax or chewing gum off the floor. Simply scrape it off when it has frozen.

Wood floors get dirty. There are some simple steps you can take using general household cleaners to brighten up your wood floors and really make them shine. If you have nice, new wood floors, it is important to keep them clean. That way, you won't ever have need of any of this knowledge.

## Maintaining and preserving your slate roof

By Sam Erickson

Slate roofs are impressive. Their sleek gray lines mix well with many house colors and present a very attractive view. Although they can be expensive, slate roofs last for a very long time with little maintenance. Rarely do slate roofs need to be entirely replaced, but regular maintenance will prevent trouble.

Probably the most common problem with slate roofs isn't with the materials themselves. It is with the repairs. Many people make repairs to slate roofs without having any experience with the materials. It is never a good idea to cover up a problem. This could lead to much larger problems down the road.

For slate roofs, the flashings are often the first area to have a problem. Many different materials like lead-coated copper, lead sheet metal and galvanized steel are often used in conjunction with historic slate roofs. Because their lifespan is so long, slate roofs often outlast the flashings that are applied at the same time. The flashings should be inspected regularly. If any leak, they will need to be replaced. It is not a good idea to use tar to block up holes as is often done on other roofing materials.

Another important element to look for is broken or flaking slate tiles. If there is major flaking or delaminating, you might need to replace the roof. If you have access to the underside of your slates, you should look for powdering on the bottom sides. Often, defects in the slates are not visible to the naked eye. You can check for interior rotting by rapping on the slates. If you hear a clear sound, the slate is in good shape. If you get a dull thud, there is some interior damage. You may have to replace slates annually if you live in a region that has bad weather throughout the year. Freezing and thawing is a particular challenge for many. Annual slate replacement may be necessary, but if much of your roof is in disrepair, it is probably worth the expense to redo the entire roof instead of making small changes each year.

If you decide you need an entirely new roof, make sure you get a reputable roofer with experience in dealing with slate. After all, you are investing in a roof that might last for the next 100 years. Any contractor should be able to provide references and credentials to demonstrate their quality service.

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# Humming Along..

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MABLE HASTINGS

I am not a music critic by trade. In fact, I do not have a degree or any type of diploma that states my right to critique music in any way. This being said, I do have an opinion and that along with my love for music is what brings me to write this article.

I believe that the value, popularity and marketing potential of a song should be measured by how many times after hearing it, you find yourself humming or singing it in the course of a day. I purchased the 2008 release of the Amos Joannides CD, "My Name is Amos," in 2009, after it was recommended by a family member. I listened to the entire cd three times the first day and many times since. By the third listen however, many of the lyrics were embedded in my brain and fly out of my mouth on many of occasion while I put on makeup each morning or while doing my hair. Sung with such conviction that one listening might be convinced that, "my name is Amos.....well almost."

This week I received an email announcing the release of the first official music video of Amos Joannides, directed by Grammy nominated Sach Baylin-Stern. "Far Away," the music video perfectly captures the essence of the music.

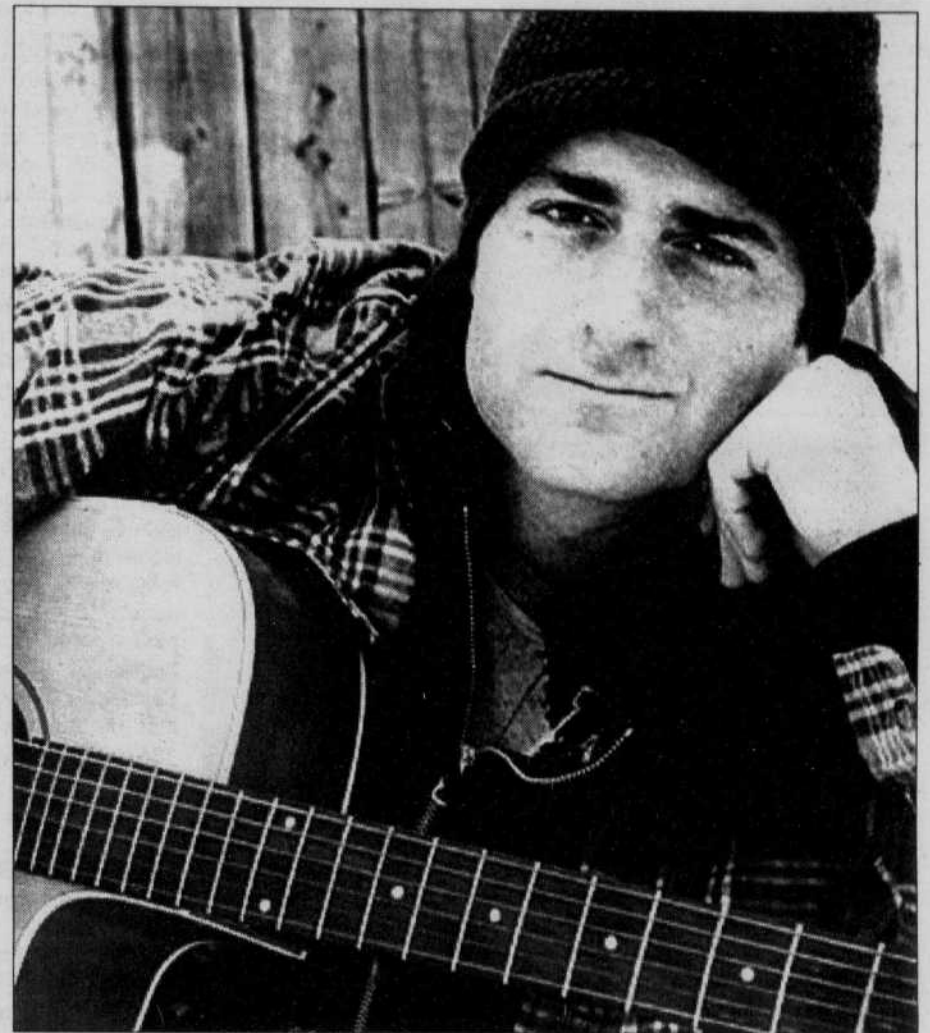
"Sach, and cinematographer Van Royko spent countless hours in the production of this video and to have this work of art, inspired by one of my songs, is a real achievement," says singer/songwriter, Amos Joannides.

Amos started playing guitar at the age of six, was writing songs by the age of 13 and performing at 14. After many years of travelling and writing, Amos decided to buckle down and give it his all. He has since recorded his first full-length album, "My Name Is Amos" which receives national radio play. At the Musique en Vue in Cowansville, he opened for Loverboy. Amos is currently hard at work on a second album which he hopes to release with the help of West Brome records in 2010.

On April 23rd, Amos will join friends Matthew McCully, Robyn Hughes and Sarah Biggs for a show at the Lakeview Inn in Lac Brome. I am embarrassed to say that I was not familiar with these artists but I quickly googled, searched and YouTube'd and in all honesty, it was like finding a treasure with each click of a button.

The Bios of these artists clearly make one aware that the Townships is rich with talent.

"Born and raised in Quebec, music always featured prominently in Matthew McCully's life, both as an elixir and a form of expression.



COURTESY

Amos Joannides

Matthew graduated from Bishop's University with a Music Major, he then headed west, settling in Vancouver, B.C., where he discovered he had more to say than could be put into a simple conversation. So he put it into a simple song instead. And he shared that song with a few people, all of whom agreed he should keep "talking." And so he did. And, from all that rambling, came a collection of songs that would identify Matthew as a truly eloquent and unmistakably Canadian voice."

"Sarah Biggs; singer, songwriter, artist, has been writing and performing music for close to 20 years. She has spent many of those years living in various Canadian cities from coast to coast and those experiences have shaped her music. She has recorded 2 cd's of original music and is currently working on her third. Sarah has returned to the Eastern Townships where she was born and raised and where she now lives with her husband and their two children. She has now decided to let her roots grow deep, cherish her Eastern Townships home, strive to keep her life in balance and love the goat that comes to her backdoor every morning for a little nibble

of breakfast. Life is Grand!"

Robyn Hughes, a regular performer at the Mocador in Sutton is moving audiences with her captivating voice; adding another talented and impressive performer to the roster for the show at the end of April.

If you would like to find out more about these artists or to listen to their music, a simple "google" search using their names, will lead you to their respective sites. YouTube is also a great way to find live performances that are sure to give you a sampling of the music.

To view "Far Away" written by Amos Joannides, the video directed, produced and edited by Sach Baylin-Stern with cinematography and colour grading by Van Royko visit YouTube.

"We got lucky, shooting this video the first day it snowed at Mount Sutton, just outside of Montreal. The leaves were falling so much that day, we had colour all around us. It was a magical day and it was perfect for the concept of what "Far Away" is all about," shares Amos.

To see Amos and these other amazing artists, all together in one venue, look for posters announcing details for the show on April 23rd at the Lakeview Inn, Lac Brome.

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**I.O.O.F. Whist Party at the Hall in Knowlton**

Despite the fact that it was too nice a night to play cards there were 15 tables all ready to play on Tuesday night. Annie and Eugene were on hand as usual to keep things going. Table #10 was the winning table for Captain Doreen Kirby and her crew, Stanley Kirby, Rita Hamilton and Eva Page for a score of 45 points. Table #2 with 41 points came next with Captain George Wilson, Barry Heatherington, June Call, and Gerald Coupland and Doug Talbot. And then there was that last prize of consolation, that was won for table #1, Captain Margaret Royea, Mary Taylor, Estalene Charby and Doug. And the score was 15 points.

Door prizes went to Doug Talbot, Doreen McPherson, Doreen Gibbs, Martha Dudley, M. Toussignant, Gaetane Nadeau, Alex Poissant, Estalene Charby, Norm Allain, Gerald Coupland, Simone Cusson, Ethan Perkins, Betty Coupland, Simone Cusson, Ethan Perkins, Betty Ann Page, Larry Page, Doreen Kirby, Marsha Emmett, Norman Allain.

I apologize if this report seems slightly out of kilter. I'll try to do better next time.

See you all next week.

Edna Badger

**Radio Communautaire Missisquoi**  
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Canadian Heritage Patrimoine canadien

Weekly Schedule  
Now live on the Internet at [www.rcmmmedia.org](http://www.rcmmmedia.org)

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
6:00	Musical Selection						
7:00							Children's Corner
8:00							Children's Corner*
9:00	Community Bulletin Board/Musical Selection						Mes Albums Classiques
10:00	Musical Selection						Around Town Marie & Lucie
11:00							Bobcat Sessions
12:00							A Classical Time
13:00	Community Bulletin Board/Musical Selection						
14:00	Musical Selection						Henry's Music and Musings
15:00							Ask the Pastor
16:00							The Outsider*
17:00	Around Town*	Marie & Lucie*	Around Town*	Marie & Lucie*	Young Blood	Showtime	Veronica's Picks*
18:00	Community Bulletin Board/Musical Selection						
19:00	Dufur Mtn Bluegrass	Penalty Box Let's Talk Jazz*	Mostly Canadian Un-played*	Penalty Box* Bobcat Sessions*	Burning Bush from the Hall of Flame	The Outsider	Young Blood*
20:00	Mostly Canadian Un-played			Ask the Pastor*		Let's Talk Jazz	It's on the Record
21:00		Burning Bush from the Hall of Flame*	Dufur Mtn Bluegrass*	It's on the Record*	Veronica's Picks*		
22:00	The Ivan Hour*		A Classical Time*		Mes Albums Classiques*	The Ivan Hour	DJ Blues
23:00		DJ Blues*		Poetry Un air de rien			Showtime*
Overnight	Musical Selection						

\*Denotes repeat program in the same week

**FULFORD**

**Margaret Fordham**

March 26, 2010 - It was the early green of spring, as the Irish community and friends (a number of them from Fulford) held their St. Patrick's celebration in the brightly decorated hall of St. Francois-Xavier Church in Bromont.

Everyone arrived laden with food for the delicious hot and cold buffet and high-calorie dessert table. Father Real prepared his home-made baked beans, always enjoyed.

Theresa Maguire and her hard-working volunteers are to be congratulated. Theresa was also mistress of ceremonies for the entertainment which included Serge Laverdure on flute Irlandaise and guitar, Ray Conrath on banjo and young members of the Bachand family - grandchildren of the late Clair and Mary Enright.



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