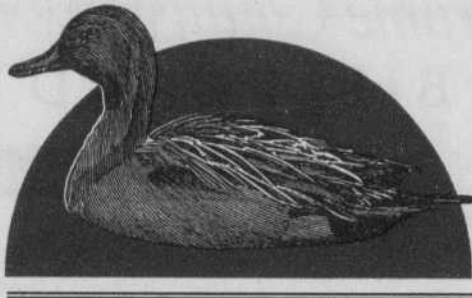


Brome County NEWS



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1998

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THE LARGEST CIRCULATION WEEKLY IN BROME-MISSISQUOI

Theatre Lac Brome's lease expires Dec. 31 Community discusses new arts centre location

By René Bruemmer
KNOWLTON

After more than a decade of paying rent, the board of directors of Theatre Lac Brome have decided it's time to buy a building of their own.

"We've been renting for 12 years, ever since we were created, from Gerry Wood (owner of the Knowlton Pub and the building housing Theatre Lac Brome, which sits directly behind the bar)," said the theatre's president Tom Wood.

"In that time we've spent a quarter of a million dollars, and we have nothing to show for it. We decided we needed equity in a building."

Theatre Lac Brome's lease expires on Dec. 31 and the board has decided not to renew. One of only three professional English summer theatres in Quebec - along with The Piggery in Ste-Catherine-de-Hatley and the Village Theatre in Hudson - Theatre Lac Brome has thrived since its inception and proven a popular draw for Townshippers and tourists.

While the decision to purchase a home for the theatre was relatively easy, the choice of location is proving more contentious.

At a spirited meeting attended by around 50 people Saturday morning at the Brome Lake Community Centre, the choice seemed divided between some who want the

SEE ARTS CENTRE, PAGE 9

NO SNOW BUT HERE'S SANTA



TANYATKACH/CORRESPONDENT

The children of Foster were ecstatic to see Santa on the weekend. The jolly red one was invited by members and parents of Le Loisirs in Foster to visit their community centre where he presented each child with a gift. "We've received donations from the Creek Church and the St. James Evening Guild plus our own fund-raisers in order to provide fun for the children and their families," said Ken Giles, president of the association. The parents brought homemade food for the pot-luck celebration and a fun time was had by all! - Tanya Tkach, Record Correspondent.

Hold the sleigh: Santa comes by ATV No snow doesn't spoil Santa's visit to Glen Sutton

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
GLEN SUTTON

Warm weather didn't stop Santa from arriving in the Townships for some pre-Christmas cheer.

The man in the red suit dropped by the Chapelle de Glen Sutton on Sunday for the Glen Sutton Loisirs annual Children's Christmas Party. Arriving in a four-wheel drive ATV, Santa distributed gifts to 53 children of both permanent and weekend residents. In addition, a volunteer provided a memento photo of each child on Santa's lap.

Two weeks before the party, Loisirs president Marlene Bayne said, each child receives a personal invitation from Santa. Loisirs volunteers provided refreshments for family members who attended the big event.

The Glen Sutton Loisirs's next event is a sleigh or wagon ride and carol singing on Sunday, Dec. 20. The Loisirs are also preparing baked goods which they deliver to the elderly and the sick.

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Brome County News

BILLBOARD

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

December 20

The Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Davignon St., Cowansville **Doubles Crib Tournament**. Registration 1 p.m., \$5 per person. Details: 263-3545.

La Chorale Pot Pourri Choir presents Carols and readings to celebrate the birth of light, directed by Susan Reininger. In the still of the woods the angels sang and the sun rose again, at Church of the Good Shepherd, Glen Sutton at 4 p.m. Suggested donation, \$3. All proceeds to Sutton Food Bank. Details: Louise 292-3430 or Susan, 263-5068.

Dec. 20

You are invited to attend & experience an **ECK Worship Service** to celebrate the **Light and Sound of God, and Divine Love in our life** at 44 Victoria St., Knowlton at 11 a.m. The theme is Recognizing your Divine Birth/Reconnaitre la Divinite en Soi (bilingual). For further info. call Vivien at (450) 242-2288 evenings. Free. Everyone welcome!

Dec. 31

New Year's Eve Dance at the Royal Canadian Legion, 120 Davignon, Cowansville, 9 p.m. with orchestra Silverado. Admission: \$12 per person. A cold buffet will be served during the

evening. Reserve your tickets now 263-3543. Everyone welcome!

The Royal Canadian Legion, 77 Lewis St., Waterloo New Year's Eve Dance, 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. Music provided by Gary Darling, noisemakers, hats, and a great lunch after midnight. come and join us to bring in the New Year on a really high note! Tickets, \$10 each in advance only. Please reserve early! Details 539-0005 or 539-1198.

Knowlton Lodge I.O.O.F. #28 will hold a **New Years Eve Party** at Odd Fellows Hall, 476 Knowlton Rd., Knowlton from 8:30 p.m. to closing. Music with Steve Miller. Price: \$10 per person. Buffet and party favors. All welcome!

ARTS CALENDAR

The Tour des Arts is looking for new members. Interested parties must have a studio or workspace that can be opened to the public and located within a designated area that includes villages and regions surrounding Sutton, Knowlton and Mansonville. Ten slides or photos of artists or artisans work and a curriculum vitae must be sent along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Tour des Arts, 175, chemin West Brome, Rte., 139, West Brome. JOE 2P0.

Dec.19 & 20

Myriads of Angels: An exhibition of angels will be open to the public Saturday and Sunday during the Advent Season at Knowlton United Church, noon - 4 p.m. Admission, \$3.

Dec. 20

'Angels Among Us' A Service of Lessons and Carols at Knowlton United Church, 3 p.m. Freewill offering. Everyone welcome!

COMMUNITY NOTES

Do you wish you could read better? Need help with basic math? Call the **Yamaska Literacy Council**. Work one-on-one with a tutor and learn at your own pace. Lessons are free, private and confidential. Learning can be fun so why not do something for yourself today? Call Donna at 263-7503.

Eastern Townships Food Drive to benefit local food banks, Dec. 2 to 24, organized by the Record. Donations of non-perishable food items may be dropped off at The Record/Brome County News, 88 Lakeside Knowlton, the CLSC office in Knowlton, or any Couche-Tard or Provi-Soir store. Please help make Christmas brighter for Township-pers in need.

Festival of Lights and Music Calander to Events

- Saturday, Dec. 19; **How The Grinch Stole Christmas** for children with musicprne Theatre Productions at the Tannery, 61 Lakeside Rd., directed by Ralph Steiner with a cast of children. 2 & 4 p.m. Dec. 19 through Christmas week. Adults, \$3, children, \$2. Details 539-3604.

- **Carol Concerts:** Dec. 19 Cowansville Community Choir will hold a Christmas Sing-a-long and also Lighting Contest price giving at 7 p.m. at the United Church. Knowlton Nursery School Fund-raiser raffle and bake sale draw at 3 p.m.

- Dec. 20, **Knowlton Harmony Wind Ensemble** presents a free carol concert in the Tannery, 61 Lakeside, 3 p.m., refreshments available. For any more information call Kate Wisdom, SIDAC co-ordinator at 243-6824.

dleight Service at Ascension, West Brome, 7:30 p.m. only service.

- Christmas Eve, Holy Trinity, Iron Hill 7 p.m.; St. Aidan, Sutton Junction 8:30 p.m.; Ascension, West Brome 10 p.m.; St. John Evangelist, Brome Village 11:30 p.m.

- Christmas Day, Dec. 25, St. John Evangelist, Brome Village, 11 a.m.

- Christmas Eve Service at All Saints Anglican Church, Abercorn at 9 p.m. Service led by Rev. Tim Smart. We extend a warm welcome to join us.

St. Paul's Anglican Church, 24 St. Paul's Road, Knowlton. We wish to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known. The Rev. Ralph T. Leavitt - Pastor. Allow us to welcome you! Advent 4, Sunday Dec. 20, 8 a.m., Holy Communion, 10 a.m., Morning Prayer, Baptism, Christmas Pageant, Carols & Lessons to culminate the end of Angels Among Us at 3 p.m.

- Christmas Eve, Dec., 24, 4 p.m., Family Christmas Communion, 11 p.m., Christmas Holy Communion, Christmas Day, Dec. 25, 10 a.m. Holy Communion.

ENGLISH	RUG RATS Fri. 6:00 p.m. Sat., Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed. 1:00 p.m. - 4:20 p.m. Thursday 1:00 p.m.	Théâtre
	I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS Fri. 7:20 p.m. Sat., Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed. 2:40 p.m. - 7:10 p.m. Thursday 2:40 p.m.	
	THE SIEGE Fri., Sat., Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed. 9:00 p.m. From December 18 to December 24	
For info: 263-5900		141 PRINCIPALE COWANSVILLE MATINEES FRI., MON., TUES., WED. \$4.50

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'Old Betsy' returns home Fire truck celebrates Volunteer Appreciation Day

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
KNOWLTON

Knowlton's 1954 fire truck known as "Old Betsy" officially retired after 45 years in service.

The truck was handed over to the Brome Historical Society on Sunday, Nov. 29 as part of the society's Volunteer Appreciation Day ceremony. Fire Chief Pierre Laplante, firefighters, Historical Society staff and community members were on hand for event. Historical society co-ordinator Arlene Royea said the truck had been in use until recently when Knowlton purchased a new truck.

Society president David Dawes said the transfer was particularly significant because the society owns the building that once served as the Knowlton Fire Department. Dawes said the historical society will have a spring fund-raiser to raise the \$8,000 needed



COURTESY ALLEN & O'COLLIN ASSOC.

Fire Chief Pierre Laplante presents the 1954 Chevrolet fire truck to Brome County Historical Society president David Dawes at Volunteer Appreciation Day, Nov. 29.

to build a shelter for the truck.

The ceremony also honored out-

standing historical society employees

or volunteers. This year's recipients

were trustee Janie Trew, who raised over \$25,000 for the society and co-ordinator Arlene Royea, who was recognized for her more than 20 years of service. The society presented Royea with a watch and Trew with a water colour painting of the Knowlton court house.

Pick of the accounting crop

Mansonville native finishes first in Canada on CA exam

Jethro Bushenbaum, son of Ralph Bushenbaum of Mansonville and Debra Collyer of Ayer's Cliff, finished first in Canada on the 1998 Chartered Accountants Uniform Final Examination.

Bushenbaum, a native of Mansonville, graduated from Massey-Vanier High School and the University of New Brunswick with a degree in Business Administration.

He is currently working for the accounting firm of Caron, Bélanger, Ernest & Young in Montreal while completing the C.A. program at Concordia.

In Quebec, 323 students passed the exam which is the requisite for obtaining certification as a chartered accountant.

The top five scorers in Quebec attended the Concordia University

C.A. program.

- Caroline Kehne, Correspondent



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Candles, shovels come in handy when you're stranded Better safe than sorry

Believe it or not it's almost officially winter, and with it comes a larger number of breakdowns, fender benders and other incidents to keep our lives interesting. A few items stored in your trunk for the next few months can make life a little easier. There's no order to this list, so don't try to figure out what my priorities are.

- The first thing on my list is windshield washer fluid. You go through a lot of the stuff in the winter, particularly if you do a lot of city driving. Unfortunately when you run out is usually when you need it. If you do get caught short and have to fill your windshield washer on the road, try not to get run over. In fact, apply that rule to any road-side manoeuvres you may have to carry out.

- Snow treads and a shovel can save you from having to trudge to the nearest phone to call for a tow truck. With a little hard work and creativity you can get out of some tricky spots, clearing away as much snow as possible and remembering to tread lightly on the gas. Watch for flying snow grips when someone steps a little too harshly on the gas pedal.

- Speaking of tow trucks, write down the number of your local towing service, and keep it in your wallet or pocket. By the way, lock deicer should also be kept in your pocket, and not in the glove compartment of your frozen shut car.

- An ice scraper and broom are pretty much essential in the winter. When your car is covered in snow and ice be sure to clean it off carefully, especially windows and lights. Snow blowing off of your car can blind others while making you pretty much invisible. The police can also give you a hard time for not clearing your windows and lights properly.

UNDER THE HOOD

MAURICE CROSSFIELD

- One handy little device to have is a mini compressor that plugs into a cigarette lighter. These are fairly cheap and can come in handy when you have a flat. Providing it's not a serious blowout they can put enough air back into your tire to get to a garage. It sure saves the hassle of

jacking up your car and installing a spare on the side of the road in the middle of the night.

- For your immediate physical concerns you should pack a blanket, candle and matches to keep warm. You may also want to include a hat and gloves, while some extremists I know even bring along skidoo boots. Open a window just a tad if you use the candle, to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Same goes for using the car heater when parked for a long period.

- Jumper cables are always handy to avoid having to call for help. Connect the positive cable to the dead battery and then to the good one. The negative cable should be connected to the good battery and then to the engine block of the car needing a boost. Then start the healthy car before attempting to boost the sick one, to avoid the prospect of draining its battery and ending up with two dead cars.

- If you end up in the ditch flares are a good way to warn other motorists to slow down and be careful. There's quite a selection out there, ranging from the standard flares to battery operated flashers and reflective Call Police signs.

This may sound like enough stuff to pack your trunk to the brim, but it actually doesn't take up that much space. There are also automotive survival kits available with a lot of this stuff in one neat package. Chances are you will still have enough space to fit a body, some Christmas presents or whatever

it is you need to haul. Speaking of Christmas, some of these things can make handy stocking stuffers.

GRASS DOLLS FOR GREEN X-MAS



TANYATKACH/CORRESPONDENT

Carol Kagerer was pleased to be one of 15 exhibitors during the first Crafts Show at the Tannery during the Festival of Lights and Music in Knowlton over the weekend. Here she's pictured with her grass and abaca dolls. Kate Wisdom, co-ordinator of the festival, said there was a festive atmosphere with a constant stream of shoppers. "This is a good spot, and since the parade people have stayed and shopped," said Wisdom. Next weekend at the Tannery, Sunshine Theatre Productions begins theatre in the round for kids with *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. "We figured it would be a nice place to do children's theatre in a smaller venue that we can decorate. It's very intimate," she said. There will be a carol concert between shows featuring the Knowlton Harmony Wind Ensemble. The Grinch plays the Tannery Nov. 19, 20, 22 and 23 at 2 and 4 p.m. Reservations only required for groups of 10 or more. Tel: (450) 539-3604. - Tanya Tkach, Record Correspondent.

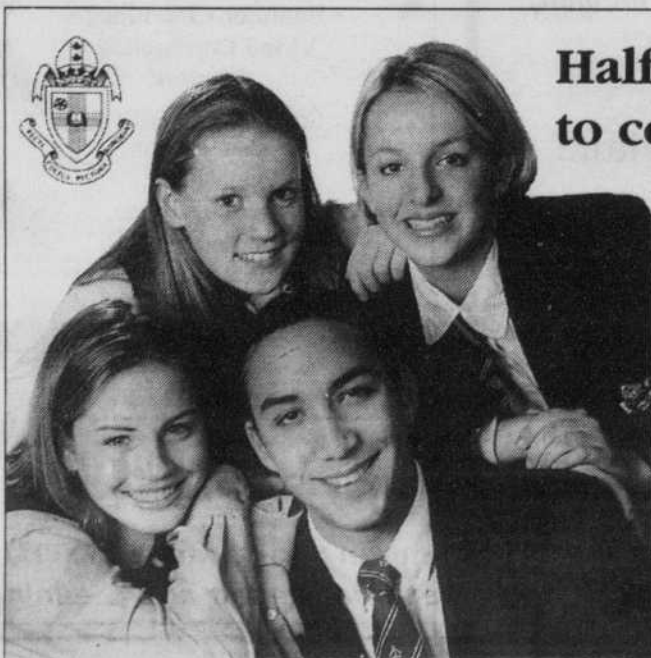
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Knowlton residents turned out on a mild Saturday afternoon for the town's annual Santa Claus Parade. Sponsored by the Lion's Club, the parade has been a Knowlton tradition for more than 40 years, said club president Laura Banks. This year, 32 groups participated in the parade. All participants received a plaque courtesy of the Lion's Club. The winners in the parade judging competition are as follows: In the commercial competition - Hadds Forestry (first place), Innovadent Technologies (second place) and Yves Desgens Inc. (third place); in the group competition - École St-Edouard, Grade 6 English group (first place), Eastern Townships Handicapped Skiers Foundation (second place) and, in a third-place tie, the Beavers and the Knowlton Scouting Unit; in the individual competition - Alexandria Côté and Nathalie Albers (first place) and Jeffrey Royea and Luc Potvin (second place).
- Caroline Kehne, Record Correspondent.



CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Knowlton Lion's Club holds annual Santa parade

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CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT

Santa and 30 groups take part in local tradition

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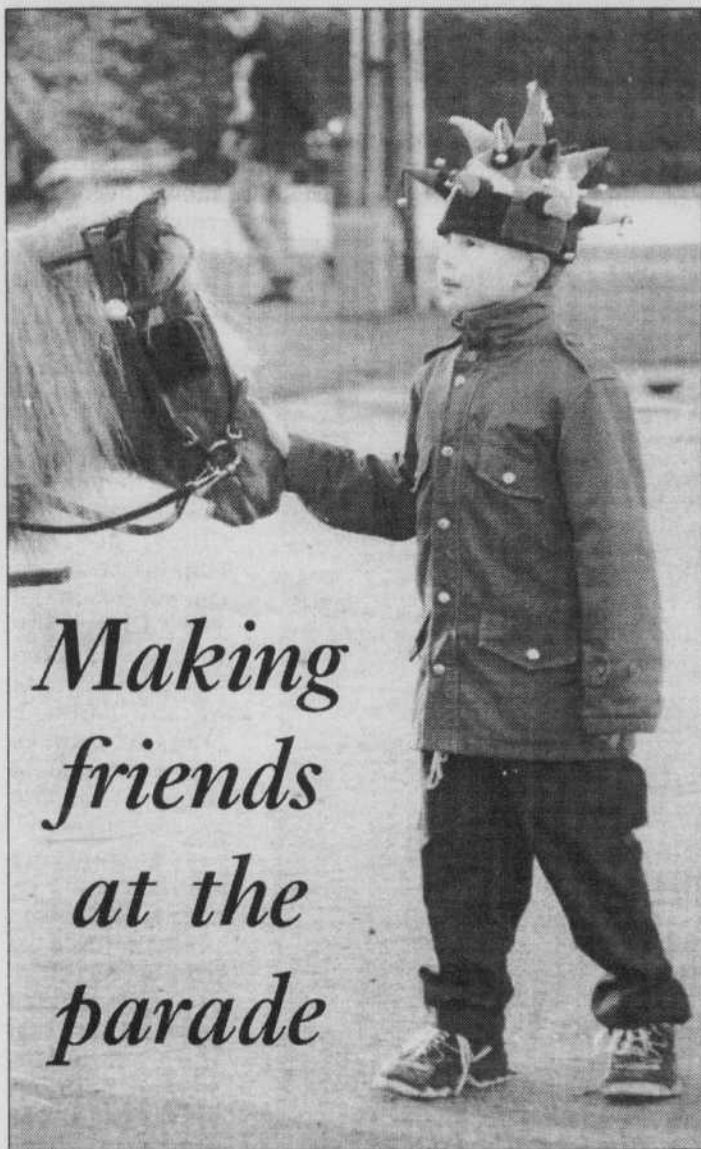
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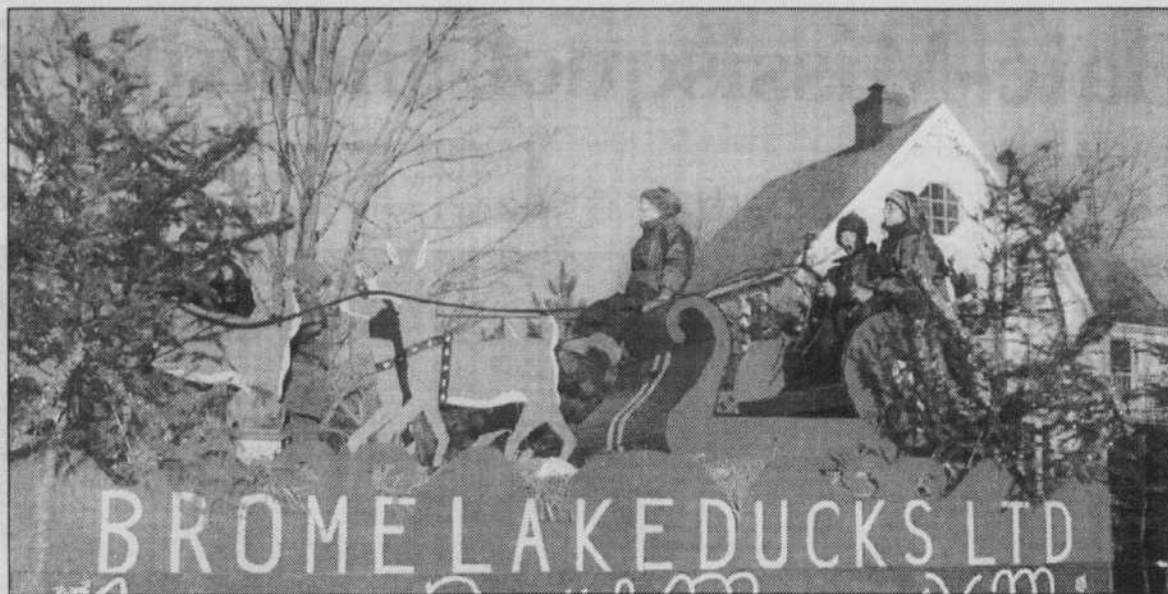
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Making friends at the parade

CAROLINE KEHNE/CORRESPONDENT



TANYA TKACH/CORRESPONDENT

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Baie-Missisquoi snowmobile club brunch

By Caroline Kehne
RECORD CORRESPONDENT
STE-ANNE-DE-SABREVOIS

Lack of snow didn't stop members of the Club Motoneige de Baie-Missisquoi from holding their annual fall brunch fund-raiser at Restaurant Le Belgo in Ste-Anne-de-Sabrevois on Nov. 22. Club director Cynthia Rhicard said the fall brunch and spring sugaring off party raise money needed to

groom and maintain trails throughout the area.

Rhicard said trail users are required to be a member of a local club which is, in turn, a member of the Fédération des Clubs de Motoneigistes du Québec (F.C.M.Q.). The Club Motoneige de Baie-Missisquoi is one of 251 F.C.M.Q. clubs in Quebec representing more than 115,000 snowmobilers.

Four thousand volunteers are responsible for the maintenance of over 33,551 kilometers of marked trails. Rhicard said the Baie-Missisquoi club has more than 185 members from Dunham, Stanbridge East, Bedford, St-Armand, Noyan, Venice and Clarenceville. Each member pays an annual fee of \$170. Membership fees and fund-raising pay for the club's operating costs as well as trail maintenance, signage and liability insurance coverage, which is now set at a mandatory minimum level of \$500,000.

Rhicard said last year's major project was the purchase of a trail groomer. This year's project, a new trail map, was unveiled at the brunch.



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'It would be a nice thing to do for the town' – Blackwood

Arts Centre:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

theatre to stay in the town centre and others tempted by a large tract of land on the outskirts of town.

The root of the dilemma lies in a generous offer by Brome Lake mayor Homer Blackwood and his wife Evelyn. Hearing that the board was thinking of buying a new theatre space, the Blackwoods offered to donate an approximately 10-acre piece of land located in a quiet area on Knowlton Road near the Knowlbanks seniors residence, about one kilometre west of the town centre at the intersection of Lakeside and Knowlton Roads.

"We thought it would be a nice thing to do for the town," Evelyn Blackwood said. The property used to be part of her husband's father's farm.

Due to the large amount of acreage, proponents of the plan suggest the community could build not only a theatre but an arts centre, complete with a 150-seat auditorium for plays and musical performances, a classroom for courses and space to present art exhibitions. The rooms could be rented to different groups in town, including Bishop's University which recently began offering art and drama courses in Knowlton.

The land would also offer ample space for landscaped surroundings and parking.

The total cost of constructing a new arts centre on the Blackwoods land is estimated at between \$500,000 and



RENE BRUEMMER

The site offered as a donation by Evelyn and Homer Blackwood... generous.

\$750,000.

"When you start to envision what this place could be, what you can do with the space, it's really, really exciting," said one supporter.

But others worry that taking the theatre a kilometre out of the town centre will rob Knowlton of an important cultural drawing card they say supports local business and community cohesion.

SIDAC president Chris Severs spoke at Saturday's meeting on behalf of the local business community.

"Twelve years ago, business leaders in the community decided that the burgeoning business success need-

ed to be balanced, tempered," he said. "We didn't want to be just stores. We didn't want to turn into a St. Sauveur."

The business community supported the creation of the theatre in downtown Knowlton, and continued to aid it for years, Severs said.


"The impact has been outstanding, fabulous ... It has brought life into the village ... People that make their living here feel it is an integral part of what we present to the world outside our doors, much more than any other institution in town."

"To take it out of the centre would destroy the synergy (between businesses and the arts) that makes the village work."

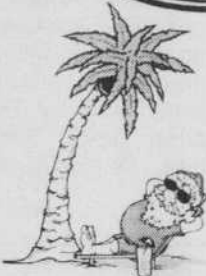
Saying he was speaking from his

heart and not his pocketbook, Severs suggested the board could buy his property, known as the Tannery located near the city centre, for \$269,000. He offered to donate \$25,000 of the cost personally, bringing the price down to \$244,000.

SEE ARTS CENTRE, PAGE 12



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RENE BRUEMMER

Tom Wood speaks to members of the community at a public information meeting Saturday morning.



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December 2-24, 1998





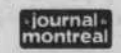
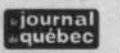

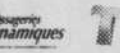



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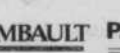
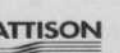
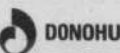

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Golden Age Club news

MANSONVILLE

The annual Christmas party was held at the town hall on Tuesday, Nov. 24th. 61 people attended and we sent out nine dinners.

Several familiar faces were absent due to colds or sickness. All are wished a speedy recovery.

Today's dinner was prepared by Judy and Gerry Gabori-ault, doing the main course of turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, carrots, veggies and dips, pies, cake, etc.

Huguette Levoy made coleslaw, veggies and dip, beet and tongue pickles, pies and zucchini bread, Dot Woodard made pies, Verlie Aiken made cranberry sauce, Rita Mossa made lemon bread and Rita Marcoux made a cake as did Estelle Landry and Bertha Smithers made cookies. The club supplied wine and Reginald Landry also furnished a bottle of wine.

Mr. Charles Doyon gave the blessing at the beginning of the festivities.

November and December birthdays were celebrated today, these were Rita Lessard, Gaston Schinks, Jacques Hebert, Rita Marcoux and Alfred Vintinner, also present was Judy Gabori-ault, who had celebrated in November.

Guests today were Curé Charles Doyon, Arlene Dalpe, Phyliss Marcoux, Claudette La Plume, Jacques Hebert, Marie Massé, Ann Rouleau, Ronnie Hamelin, André Gagnon and Claude Marcoux.

President Rita Mossa welcomed all and thanked them for coming and for their support during the year. George Hamelin, our vice president repeated our sentiments in French. We also thanked those workers who created our great meal, helped to serve it and a special thanks to Margaret Lessard and those who helped with the clean up. Also we were happy to have Gerry and Judy Gabori-ault there with us to enjoy our day.

Door prizes were Loto 6/49 tickets and the winners were Huguette Levoy, Rita Marcoux, Verlie Aiken, Bertha Smithers, Briget Aiken, Huguette Carrier, Margaret Lessard, Rita Caron, Toni Lamothe, Jacques Hebert, Rita Mossa, Louise Oliver, Judy Rypinski, Gerry Gabori-ault, Gaetan Landry, Claude Marcoux, Rita Lessard, Mavis Aiken, Madeline Côté, Oliva Privé and Edmond Ducharme. Vice President George Hamelin called out the names as they came forward to pick up their gift from the beautifully decorated Christmas tree.

We met at our usual meeting place, the town hall, on Tuesday, Dec.ember 1st. Hot turkey sandwiches, mashed potatoes, pickles etc., made up the main course today. Dessert was pies, made by Judy Gabori-ault. Dorothy Woodard and Huguette Levoy, Alfred Vintinner gave the afternoon drink.

CARDS OF THANKS

JONES, Ronald - Ronald passed away suddenly on September 9, 1998. We wish to thank everyone who sent flowers, cards, donations, food and Dr. Goderau, the funeral home, Russell Royea, the bearers, the Royea family and Larry Jones, Geoff and Chris Mather, the Ladies Guild, Rev. Sergentson and Rev. Davidson, Brian and Kathy Irwin. He will always be in our hearts.

LILLIAN (wife)
WENDY, JENNIFER, JOHN
(children)
GRANDCHILDREN
MOTHER, SISTERS

KUKENIS - I wish to thank my friends and neighbours who attended my 80th birthday party and made it such a wonderful day for me. The most thanks for Sheila Wilson and Gayle Evans for making this possible, and once more from the bottom of my heart, thank you everyone for giving me such a special day.

NELLIE KUKENIS

Cecile Hamelin won today's half and half.

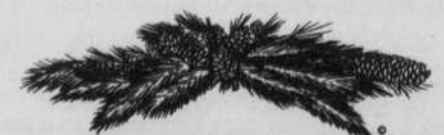
Door prizes were won by Julienne McDuff, Alfred Vintinner, Mr. Kolba, Huguette Levoy, Cecile Hamelin, Flora Jersey and Dot Woodard.

500 winners were George Hamelin and Toni Lamothe.

Game winners were Rose Alma Pouliot, Huguette Levoy, Reginald Landry, Bertha Smithers, Alfred Vintinner, Dorothy Woodard, Rita Mossa, Flora Jersey, Irene Carrier and Jackie Jersey.

Get well wishes go to Deneiges Privé who has just returned home from the B.M.P. Hospital

Rita Mossa



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Open House
 Birthday Party

80th birthday wishes for Ida Mason at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Knowlton on Monday, December 28, 1998 from 2-4 p.m. Everyone welcome! Best Wishes Only.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Through the medium of the Record I wish to take this opportunity to wish all my dear friends, relatives and neighbours of the Townships (and anywhere else) a very happy, healthy and blessed Christmas. As each year goes by, I find it a little more difficult to write to each one and send holiday greetings personally. However, I often think of all of you, and appreciate all that you have done for me by remembering me in many ways.

I trust that you will have years of health and happiness in the years to come.

Sincere best wishes and God bless you all.

Myrtle Pope
 Wales Home
 Richmond, Que.

Craft Sale at All Saints Church

On Nov.28, was a craft sale at All Saints Church in Dunham. There were vendors from Stanbridge East, Cowansville, Bedford, Farnham's Corner, East Dunham and the Ladies Guild in Dunham and Frelighsburg. The hall was decorated for Christmas with a beautiful lit Christmas tree.

The Guild sold soup, sandwiches and squares which many took advantage of. Tickets were sold on a basket filled with goodies from the Guild, won by Terese Larivee. Each vendor also donated an article from their table. We thank all the vendors and buyers, it was a very successful day.

A Little Snow

How fickle we are
 What, for Christmas
 No snow, How sad
 We will be without
 Billowing snow
 Why outside it's
 Not even yet even cold
 But suppose we had
 Wished for a
 Christmas green, maybe
 On a beachfront in Orlando
 When to our dismay
 On Christmas morn
 Down comes billowing snow
 Why it's even cold
 To what
 Do we owe this blight

Surely this isn't right
 Tell me
 Which among us
 Are most pampered
 And spoiled
 Yet I still can't
 Yet but hope
 That for Christmas
 There'll be even
 A little fresh snow
 And when such details
 In our minds run deep
 It doesn't take God to see
 Who's Christmas we'd
 Planned this to be

Steve Lamb

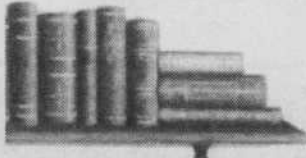
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15. don't need extension cords

...to be continued

Possibilities include the Tannery and the current site

Arts Centre:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

The Town of Brome Lake evaluation of the two buildings and the property they reside on is \$147,700.

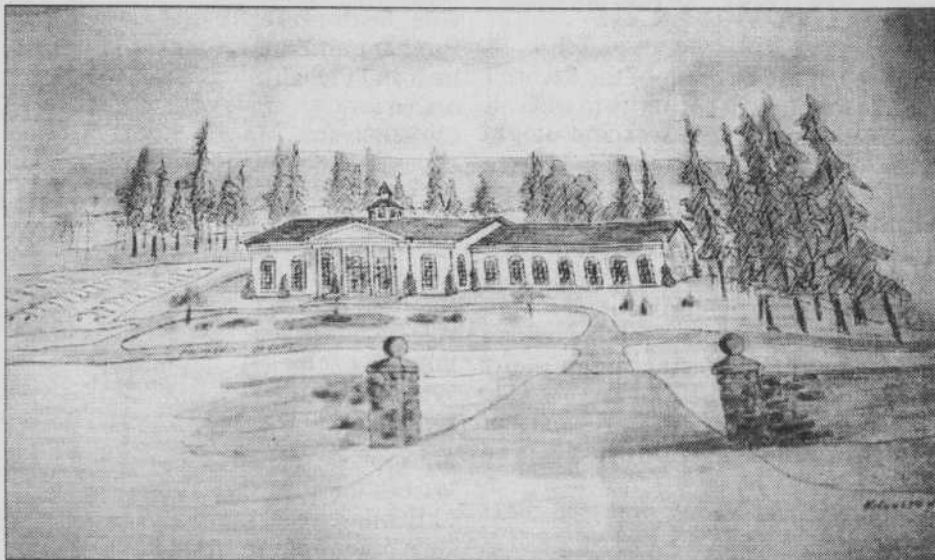
A Knowlton real estate agent said the asking price of downtown properties could fluctuate widely from municipal evaluations depending on demand.

Severs said choosing his property would keep the theatre in the heart of town, close to parking and eight restaurants and protect the town's historical character by preserving the two buildings on the property that dates back to the 1830s.

Unfortunately the buildings would also require a lot of renovations before they were suitable to be used as a theatre, especially due to their eight-foot high ceilings and restricted size.

Severs also mentioned his mother owns four acres in the centre that she would be willing to sell.

Renovations to these and other existing locations may cost more than building upon untouched land.



RENE BRUEMMER

Evelyn Blackwood's sketch gives an impression of what can be done with the land she and her husband are offering to donate. An arts centre building may be surrounded by landscaped grounds and trees.

Another possibility, offered by Gerry Wood, was buying the theatre's current location behind the Knowlton Pub for \$300,000.

But again, the theatre would require extensive renovations before it com-

plied with professional theatre union standards, including building proper dressing rooms, bathrooms and any other extensions if the arts centre proposal is followed up.

Wood noted it might have to be

physically separated from the Knowlton Pub due to fire regulations.

A committee of around 20 board members and citizens was formed last July to look into location possibilities and funding. The plan is to build at least the start of the new theatre or arts centre by next summer, and have all construction and payment completed in two years. Money would come through the efforts of a fund-raising committee aided by some of Knowlton's more influential residents.

No resolutions were adopted by the end of the meeting Saturday morning. Wood said it was mostly intended as an information session to gather ideas and opinions and the committee would be meeting again to study possibilities.

No matter how long the decision takes, he promised Theatre Lac Brome will have shows next summer, "even if we have to set up a tent."

And Severs noted that although the decision-making process was difficult, the town was "in a very fortunate position" to have to argue over where they wanted to build a legacy for the future in the form of a new theatre or arts centre.

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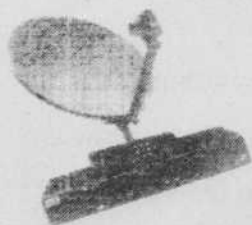
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