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1st Annual World's Smallest Festival Plays to a Crowd

Huntingdon Filmmaker Alain Boisvert organizes a successful short film festival.

EMILY SOUTHWOOD
emilysouthwood@gmail.com

CULTURE. On Saturday evening, January 21, a full house gathered to watch the first edition of the World's Smallest Festival at Huntingdon's Little Green Library.

The night was part of the Ciné Cinema series, which gives Haut Saint-Laurent

residents the opportunity to see a diverse selection of films without hoofing it to a city center. The event was made up of twenty-three 2-D, 3-D, and stop-animation films of one-to-eight minutes in length, hailing from eleven counties worldwide.

The films featured political, dramatic and comedic subject matter and drew both

laughs and gasps from the crowd. Twenty-three captivating stories, many of which tackled challenging and timely global themes, entertained filmgoers. Huntingdon filmmaker Alain Boisvert organized the evening with the intent to introduce people to animation and its possibilities for expression. "There are certain things you can do or say in animation that you aren't able to say in film," he says. Alain's own 2-D film *La Boite/The Box*, screened as part of the night's program, tackled the subject of the prevailing use of human torture in an original, approachable way.

The festival was first advertised last September on a website called FilmFreeway.com and received over a thousand submissions. With the help of his library co-organizers, Alain eventually whittled them down to the final selection of twenty-three. "It was pretty time consuming!" he smiles and explains that he makes animation for the love of it, and that organizing a festival like this gives him the chance to see what others are up to in filmmaking. His personal artistic philosophy, he explains, is to not waste time talking about projects, when you can just go ahead and do them.

His 'can-do' attitude certainly keeps him busy. As well as making animated and documentary films, he has a long history in puppetry and theatre arts, and is currently completing a project on the heritage of the Haut-Saint-Laurent region for the MRC. He also finds time to work on animation and theatre projects for underprivileged elementary schools in the Montreal area.

The World's Smallest Festival's big success should bode well for another round of competition next year. For all other information on the Little Green Library's Ciné Cinema upcoming programming see: <http://www.pbv-lgl.org/index.php/en/new-books>



A full house for World's Smallest Festival. (Robert Vroom)

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Vacations are Great, but Sleeping is Better

Maintaining sleep schedules while on vacation isn't an easy feat.



STÉPHANIE MCBRIDE
info@stephmcbride.com

OPINION. I set out to write this article last night, but in truth, I fell asleep. This is because I have flown the coop and am lucky enough to be enjoying a wee vacay with my wonderful family.

It's an exciting event, really, considering that we are travelling with four children. I think that it's important to note that we survived the plane trip (as did the other passengers), although I was a sight when I stepped off the plane. Then there was the next obstacle—getting the babies off to bed in a strange place. This was a special event that involved some (a lot) of crying and a

tantrum or two, but finally, everyone fell asleep.

Here's the best part—while it's lovely to be on vacation as a family, I've noticed that parents spend most of the day trying to tire their children out so that the little ones can sleep properly in an unfamiliar place. Days are spent either a) outside, b) swimming, c) doing interactive activities and d) visiting (insert coffee place here)

and Target, trying to buy all the things that you forgot to pack, because you definitely didn't have some crucial article (such as a nightlight), which means that sleep will be IMPOSSIBLE until you find one.

By the time all of this is said and done, parents get a couple of hours post-bedtime to relax and well, vacation. That is, of course, if they don't pass out first.

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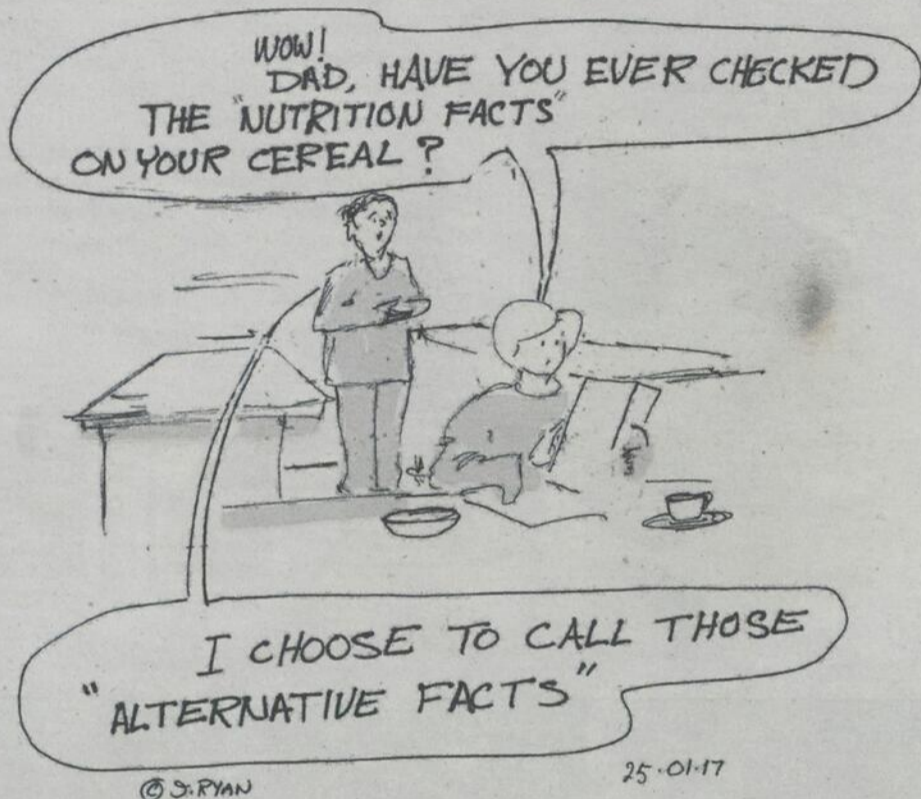
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THIS AND THAT

CVR MOVIE NIGHT

On Friday, January 27th, CVR's Parent Action Group will host movie night at the school. The movie, Jason Bourne, will begin at 7:00 P.M. Admission is \$5.

ANDREA SOESBERGEN CD LAUNCH

Local Andrea Soesbergen's official CD launch Fallen Leaves will take place on January 28th, at 8:00 P.M. at the Grove Hall. Admission is \$12. Jeremy Robidoux will perform as the opening act.

CHICKEN BBQ

Hemmingford Legion is having a chicken BBQ on Saturday, January 28th, at 5:00 P.M. at the Legion Hall (486 rue Champlain). The meal includes half a BBQ chicken, baked potato and dessert. \$13 donation requested. All are

welcome. Take-out available. Reservation encouraged, call 450 247-2962.

ANNUAL ORMSTOWN LIONS CLUB BRUNCH

The Ormstown Lions Club Brunch will take place on Sunday, February 5th at 10 A.M.-1:30 P.M. at the Ormstown Community Centre (87 Roy Street). Adults \$12, children (8 and under) \$6. For more information, please contact Chantal Côté 450 826-0381.

NOTE:

If you or someone you know has an event that they would like to see promoted in the paper or in the This and That section, please send an email to info@stephmcbride.com. Please note that all advertising inquiries must be directed to The Gleaner's head office. Due to space constraints, not all requests can be featured in the This and That.

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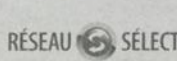
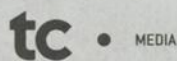
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Valley Resident Launches First Official Album

Raised on a farm in Dundee, Soesbergen has always had a natural inclination towards music.

STEPHANIE MCBRIDE
info@stephmcbride.com

MUSIC. Penning her first song at age nine, Dundee native Andrea Soesbergen began her musical career learning classical music, switching to the guitar in high school. At 22, the youth is beginning her last semester at McGill's Macdonald Campus in Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, completing her degree in Agronomy. On Saturday, the 28th of January, Soesbergen will officially launch her CD, *Fallen Leaves*, at Grove Hall in Huntingdon (165 rue Chateauguay).



Andrea Soesbergen on the guitar.

Photo supplied by Andrea Soesbergen

Saint-Louis de Gonzague's Jeremy Robidoux, better known as Jerbare, will open the show. Locals may recognize Robidoux from the band Run Snowball Run.

"[Writing music] has become my primary emotional release, it's how I process my feelings and understand myself better," says Soesbergen. Part of the band known as Free Ride, the Valley local only began her solo career in college. "The idea for this EP came a few years ago, after countless people urged me to get my music recorded." Things really started rolling for Soesbergen after she was encour-

aged to sign up for a youth competition at the Hudson Music Festival. She ended up winning free recording hours with a studio in Pointe-Claire, Studio RPM. "Since then, it has been a slow and steady process getting the album done, trying to find the right balance between recording and being a full-time student," explains Soesbergen.

As for the venue, Soesbergen explains that Grove Hall feels like home to her. "After all of the shows I've done there, plays I've been in and events I've helped with, the hall has found a special place in my heart, and the people who frequent it regularly feel like family. Mark and Tina have always been so supportive of my creative endeavors, even before Grove Hall existed, so it's really wonderful to be able to share this experience with them and the rest of this community that has been so supportive from the very beginning."

Show begins at 8:00 P.M. Tickets are \$12 in advance, or \$15 at the door.

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Local Rugby Players Hold Their Own in Oversea Matches

STEPHANIE MCBRIDE
info@stephmcbride.com

SPORTS. Just after Christmas, 23 players of the Beaconsfield Rugby Football Club (BRFC) headed overseas to participate in the second U18 England Tour (the first, planned in 2015, was such a success that it inspired a 2016 trip).

While in England, the team played Darlington RFC (Darlington 20-17 BRFC), Ryton RFC (BRFC 25-5 Ryton) and Middlesborough RFC (Middlesborough 19-12 BRFC). The Chateauguay Valley was well represented in this endeavour—Ormsdown native D'Arcy O'Reilly attended, taking up the position of fly half and Ormsdown Saracen Greg Recher played the position of scrum half, while Joe Baillie took up the role of Tour Assistant Coach. The trip was organized with the help of Keith Matthews, head of the Junior program at BRFC.



BRFC represents across the pond. Joe Baillie

The players who attended included Adreano Alacchi, Alessandro Aquino, Andrea Aquino, Kobe Archer, Julien Constant Mofford, Andreas Dionisopoulos, Neos Dionisopoulos, Jacob Ennis-Ingerman, Peter Gunnip, Mitchell Khury, Jules Lamarre, Marshall Mather, William Matthews, Calvin Mazloum, Josh Norby, Julian Noriega-Rivas, D'Arcy O'Reilly, Liam Pantis, Ryan Perkins, Dante Raso, Greg Recher, Evan Tennant and

Matthew Trudel. They were accompanied by coaches Andrew 'The Legend' Cowell (Tour Head Coach), Keith Matthews (Tour Assistant Coach) and Joe Baillie. Tour managers John Gunnip and Gary Tennant were also in attendance. The tour's funding was raised entirely through the efforts of the players and their families, with the help of many encouraging sponsors.

It is worth noting that many of the players are part of the Rugby Quebec U16 or U18 teams, in addition to playing for their high school or CEGEP teams. The players prepared for the tour by practicing intensively once a week as a team for three months, as well as training individually—they also bonded off the field via fundraising. Their efforts paid off, each position working together as a team. "Tackles were made, line outs won, kicks were accurate and the ball movement was fast across the pitch," explained Baillie.

In between practices and matches, the young team found time to tour the town of York, spending a full day in both Edinburgh, Scotland and Amsterdam. The team also enjoyed the privilege of acting as the honour guard for the Newcastle Falcon game on December 30th.

One of the coaches, Ormsdown's Baillie, is a proud alumni/Old Boy of BRFC. It is the love of rugby that has Baillie and his sons heading back to Beaconsfield season after season, sometimes several times a week for practices, matches and club socials.

Obituary

Christina van Sundert née Elsten

Passed away in Godmanchester on Saturday, January 21, 2017, Christina Elsten aged 91 years. Beloved wife of the late Adrianus van Sundert. She leaves to mourn her children Adrien (Elizabeth), Antoinette (Robert), Catharina (Carlo) and Maria (Serge), her grandchildren Cynthia, Stéphane, Marie-Josée, Véronique, Alessandra, great-grandchildren Alicia, Vincent, Elisanne, Florence and Emma, her sisters Cornelia, Louise and Jeanne, her sisters-in-law Marie, Anneke and Clarentia also many relatives and friends.

Visitations will be held at Rodrigue Montpetit & Fils Funeral Home 170 rue Chateauguay Huntingdon on Saturday, January 28, 2017, at 9 a.m. The funeral service will take place at St-Joseph Catholic Church on Saturday, January 28, 2017 at 11 a.m. Private burial.

Donations may be made to The Fondation québécoise du cancer or to the Fondation de l'Hôpital Charles-Lemoyne would be appreciated.

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BROWN, Edwin

1927 - 2016

Passed away peacefully in Ormsdown, QC on Saturday Jan. 21, 2017 at the age of 92 years, beloved husband of Lenora Kerr; father of John (Brenda) and Mary (late Len Hone) and grandfather of Cathy (Israel), Dan (Mallory), Russell (Suzan) and Carolyn (Chad). Also survived by 6 great-grandchildren, his brother and sisters, numerous nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends. A celebration of his life will be held at the Parish Town Hall, 1180 Rte 203, Howick, QC. JOS 1G0 on Saturday Jan. 28, 2017 at 1:30pm. In lieu of flowers donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to McGerrigle Funeral Home Inc.

Mc GERRIGLE
FUNERAL HOME INC.
mcgerrigle@aei.ca

Obituary

IRVING, Jean E.R.
Mount Thom

IRVING, Jean Elizabeth Ruth (White), of Mount Thom, Pictou County, Nova Scotia, and formerly of Howick, Quebec, died January 13, 2017 at home. Born in Saint John, New Brunswick, she was a daughter of the late Andrew Stuart Wallace White and Margaret Elizabeth (Page) White. She farmed in Quebec and Nova Scotia, and pursued her artistic talents in drawing, photography and art restoration. She was predeceased by her husband, Thomas Caverhill Irving and her sister, Anne (White) Adam. Surviving are daughter, Catherine; cousin, Fred Page; niece, Joanna Adam and nephew, Stephen Adam.

There will be no visitation by request. Funeral Service will be held 11AM Thursday Jan. 19 in St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, Salt Springs with Rev. Mary Anne Grant officiating. Burial will follow in Stillman Cemetery. Donations in Jean's memory may be made to the SPCA or the VON. Arrangements are under the direction of McLaren Funeral Home, Pictou.

COOKMAN
Doris (Holbrook)
1913 - 2017

At the Barrie Memorial Hospital January 16, 2017. Doris Cookman aged 103 years born Holbrook widowed of Lynwood Cookman. She leaves to mourned her sons Raymond (Gloria), William (Alice), her grand children Cara, Sharon and Sarah. One great grand daughter Mila.

Visitation will be at the J.M. Sharpe Funeral Home 461 Champlain Ave. Hemmingford. Saturday January the 21st from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. and funeral following in the chapel of the funeral home burial in the spring.

J.M. Sharpe Funeral Home
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Dan & Mom, your Brothers & Sisters

Thank You



ARMAND TAILLEFER

The Taillefer family wishes to thank all the relatives and friends who expressed their sympathy on the passing of Armand Taillefer on January 10, 2017.

We thank you for the mass offerings, donations, flowers received as well as for your presence and your testimonies of sympathy during these difficult moments. We greatly appreciated your support and please consider this thank you note to be addressed to you personally.

Taillefer Family