

Summer nights youth talent show in Potton



THE SCOOP
MABLE HASTINGS

On Saturday, June 20, youth ranging in ages from 5 to 20+ took part in a "Summer Nights" Talent Show organized by the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre's Youth Department at the Mansonville Elementary School. The 200 in attendance were treated to dancing, singing, comedy, music, magic and a big *Grease* finale.

The show opened with two members of the Girls Group, Kate Eldridge and Brianna Woodard, who sported Charleston dresses while shimmying to the song, *Shimmy Like My Sister Kate*.

This number was followed by a variety of dances starring the SADD group members (Yanni Barnett, Alexandria and Natasha Charby, Kira Nichols and Jacob Woodard as well as Dea Lepage) which included: *All About That Bass*, *Single Ladies*, *The Waltz*, *Girls Chase Boys*, and performing *Riptide* using sign language, ukulele and voice.

The Girls Group numbers included *I Don't Care if the Sun Don't Shine*, *Price Tag*, *Na Na Hey Hey Kiss Him Goodbye*, *Happy*, *Lips Are Movin* and *Fireball*. Members of the Girls Group who performed included Peyton and Hunter Bouchard, Vicky Gaulin, Meredith Brown, Alexa Graham, Ally and Kimmy Charby, Sahara Jacob, Cassidy Chapman, Danika Robinson, Emilie-Anne Sherrer, Jasmine Mierzwinski, Eve Delves, Savannah Jersey, Kate and Brianna.

The *Grease* finale featured youth from the Former Youth Involvement, Students Against Destructive Decisions, and the Girls Group.

The Boys group took a different approach to the evening. Under the direction of Sarah Jersey and Stephanie Gardner, the boys performed a clown



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At the far right, two grandmothers long involved in the Missisquoi North Youth Programs (Mary Lachance and Brenda Clark) with their children and grandchildren following the talent show. From left to right are Shannon Derby, Julia Eldridge, Kate Eldridge (Girls Group), Jeremy Eldridge, Alexis Eldridge, Patricia Lachance, Mary Lachance and Brenda Clark.

routine complete with "Knock, Knock" jokes and later followed up with card tricks that would leave the best of magicians impressed! The performers were Kenny Clifford Jr., Jacob Daigle, Will Delves, Omark John, Dawson Lassemba-Chase, Tylor Thompson and Owen Bryant.

There were also musical performances by Christian Rodrigue who did a Bob Marley tune, *Redemption Song* and a Francis Cabrel favorite which he dedicated to his mom, *Je l'aime à Mourir*. Jason Forget, Ethan Ball and Jacob Woodard, three cousins then performed under their unofficial "band name," "It's All Relative," the hit song, *Budapest*. Later in the evening, Jason and Ethan accompanied Jessie Lee Johnson on guitar as she sang, *Wagon Wheel*.

Following the performances and the presentations, those in attendance were treated to a '50s dessert bar organized by 25-year volunteer, Norma Clifford and FYI members Judy Ball, Amanda Barnett and Julia Eldridge. Treats were prepared and donated by an abundance of parents and the dessert bar was a

highlight for many; especially the hungry youth following the show.

From the decorations on the stage that were prepared by Linda Jersey with help from the Jersey family, to the special touches created by the Youth Centre staff and volunteers, the scene was perfect for the Summer Nights theme. The '50s greeters at the door, Starr Dostie and Julia Eldridge added to the excitement as people entered. A photo booth with a '50s theme was set up for parents to take photos of their little stars after the show.

The youth performed with joy, smiles and community spirit. It was an evening to remember and one that the young performers are likely to be talking about for some time. The Youth Centre staff sends out a big thank you to Mansonville Elementary School (Tara and Shawn Jersey) as well as all of the volunteers who helped to make the event possible.

To find out more about the Missisquoi North Youth Programs and its many other programs in the community, visit www.cabmn.org.



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Long time SADD and Youth Drop-in member (now mother) Tara Graves and her daughters Savannah and Amelia Jersey. Savannah was in the Girls Group.



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Alexa Graham, 5, of the Girls Group in her first Missisquoi North Youth Centre Talent Show

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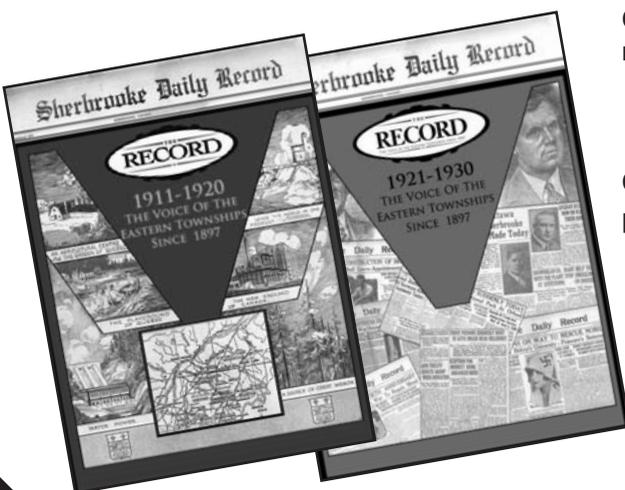
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