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Weather



TODAY:
MIX OF SUN
AND CLOUDS

HIGH OF 27
LOW OF 17



TUESDAY:
60% CHANCE
OF SHOWERS

HIGH OF 25
LOW OF 17



WEDNESDAY:
SHOWERS

HIGH OF 23
LOW OF 11



THURSDAY:
MIX OF SUN
AND CLOUDS

HIGH OF 24
LOW OF 12



FRIDAY:
MIX OF SUN
AND CLOUDS

HIGH OF 25
LOW OF 13

Big weekend in Potton!



THE SCOOP

MABLE HASTINGS

It was a big weekend in Potton with the Spirit of Potton Festival taking place from Friday, August 10 to Saturday night August 11. Activities throughout the weekend included: bingo, karaoke, a dance party with DJ Jerk, a pancake breakfast fundraiser for Partage/Share food bank, the annual parade, birds of prey, musical acts, artisan booths, information kiosks, children's activities, beer and wine tasting, a Saturday night mechoui supper, fireworks, dancing, sales, public market, flea market, delicious food at local eateries and much, much more....

"I could not be happier with the turnout," said Municipal Councillor Jason Ball who was mandated to head the festival this year. Along with the festival organizing team and Municipal employees, Ball experienced his first year in helping to organize the event. "It was a lot of work," he shared. "When the event finally happens, there is a sense of pride, gratification and relief," he stated.

While Ball admits that there were glitches and recognizes that there is al-

ways room for improvement, he was appreciative of the team around him that helped to make it all happen and for the many volunteers who gave of their time and talents for the event.

"You could never hold an event like this without people power and volunteer support and that is one thing that Potton has," Ball said. "The volunteers are extraordinary and extremely implicated," he added.

One of the most amazing observations for me as I toured the event taking photos is the generosity of businesses who donated to wonderful things like the bingo in furnishing the prizes... The bingo tent was full and many commented on the great prizes they won.

Extra time and effort went in to the Firemen/First Responder activity for the children as those attending got to become a fire fighter and put out a make believe fire while having their photo taken dressed in fire fighter gear. The photos were then available to families, that day! This is a memory that the children will not soon forget. The activities organized by Super Hiro Productions and Allez Up Circus for the children were also a highlight. The always enjoyed inflatable bouncy activities remained a hit with the kiddies as well with many impressed by the quick hands of the balloon animal creators.

The parade was packed with antique cars and trucks as well as wonderful floats, majestic horses, amazing walkers and family businesses as well as trucks, fire trucks, First Responders, Potton Bagpiper, Michael Darney, organizations, Municipal reps, flag bearers, children and smiling faces that greeted the



PHOTOS BY MABLE HASTINGS

crowds gathered as they passed. Parade announcers did an outstanding job of keeping the crowd informed of each entry in the parade.

The musical acts offered something for all tastes: The Country Cousins, Shirley and Arnie, blues artist Rob Lutes, rock/pop artist, Amos J, and Gaetan Bergevin and the Vintage rocked the event to its closure at midnight.

Vincent Giroux outdid himself with his fireworks display that was even bigger than last year. The crowd loved it and this certainly brought the Festival to a fitting end and put all in the mood for dancing as the Spirit of Potton Festival wrapped up for this year.

"It's over," said Ball. "All that work and just like that, in two days, it is over for another year with only the clean up left to do."

When asked what his final message would be to end this article, Ball responded...

"My initial comment is "THANK YOU" to the people of Potton who volunteered, donated, participated and attended as; the spirit of Potton is alive and well because of the energy displayed by its people. I would then add that, anyone feeling that they could contribute positively to improving the festival next year is encouraged to contact the committee with their ideas."

"It's time to start planning for next year," Ball stated. "The Arts and Cultural committee and the Festival sub committee are an outstanding group to work with, I truly feel that the efforts of these remarkable volunteers must be noted."



Ben by Daniel Shelton

