

Coffee House revival in Potton



THE SCOOP
MABLE HASTINGS

For Missiquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) Youth Animator, Ethan Ball, the revival of the Coffee House Open Mic Musical evenings of the past has been a dream. With the help of co-worker Sarah Jersey and the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) youth, as well as the support of co-host Jason Forget, sound man Jeremy "DJ Jerk" Eldridge and volunteer June Peacock and those who came to perform and attend the event, on Friday evening, April 12 from 7:00 to 9:00pm, Ethan was able to see his wish come true.

Over 60 people attended the evening of music and fun that featured homemade desserts and beverages, a chance to exchange with friends and neighbours and to enjoy local talent; some performing in front of people for the first time while other performers were seasoned almost to perfection it seemed. For young performer Emma Audet, it was a family affair as she, her Mom (Pa-

tricia St-Onge), her Dad (Bruno Audet) all performed throughout the evening. Other performers included: Fabienne, Hiro Gagnon, Dave Sturton and his son Julian, Trevor Brunton from Leadville Union and Desert Heat fame, Jessie Lee Johnson, SADD (Ally and Kimmy Charby, Kate Eldridge, Rebecca Maltere) and hosts Jason Forget and Ethan Ball. The homemade pies in abundance were donated by parents and friends of the youth centre.

"I really wanted to see if anybody would show up," shared Ball. "I figured if we got some performers and if people came out to listen then it would be a good indication that more of these open mic evenings might work," he added.

While the evening was not without a few glitches, it was a great audience made up of family, friends and neighbours giving those performing a feeling of support and encouragement. Ball hopes that as future coffee house evenings are planned, others will come out to play and share their talents; bringing music to as many public spaces as possible.

"While some of our performers have played public events often, many of us are just beginning to shake away our fear and inhibition," Ball confessed. "I never thought I would sing in front of a crowd and I did; if I can do it, others can too."

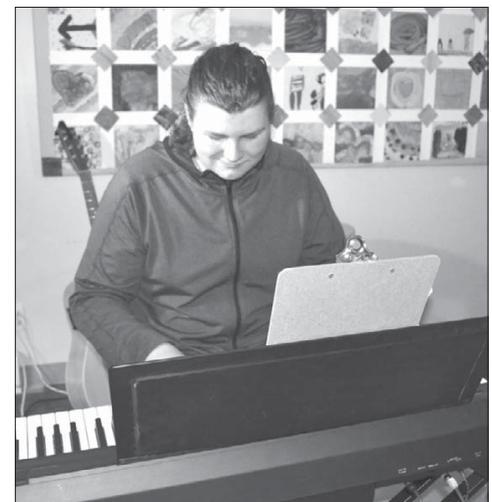
While a date has not been determined for the next Coffee House Open Mic at the Youth Centre in Mansonville, you

can bet that the CABMN Youth Centre staff is already talking about future plans to hold the next. For more information about the next Coffee House or

any of the Youth Centre programs, visit: www.cabmn.org or call the Youth Centre at 450-292-4886.



PHOTOS: MABLE HASTINGS



Lennoxville borough

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owned by the city.

Although that number is significant, Borough President Claude Charron said that people need not worry about the building being torn down. Although listed in the report as being in "very poor condition," a category defined as being in an advanced state of deterioration, at the end of its useful life, or unsafe, the president said that the rating has to do primarily with the building's foundation.

"Every time a train goes by the whole building shakes, and it's been shaking for quite a few years now," Charron said, pointing out that the structure rests on foundations of stone and mortar that are known to become unstable with age.

Other buildings on the report's list of structures rated to be in bad or very bad shape include the Granada Theatre, Fleurimont's Julien Ducharme Centre,

the Centre Récréatif de Rock Forest, the Antonio Pinard chalet at Mont-Bellevue, and the Hydro-Sherbrooke building on Roy Street. The Granada is the structure requiring the most work, with more than \$3.2 million in repairs needed. Out of the list, five service buildings across the territory have been judged as not worth saving and slated for demolition.

The total accumulated maintenance deficit on the buildings in this inspection is \$25,371,566 over the next five years. 65 per cent of buildings inspected in the report were in good or very good condition, with an additional 13 per cent considered "acceptable."

Asked about how the city plans to address the needs of these buildings, Charron said that the report will serve as a tool in preparations for next year's budget, and that the city will certainly be seeking infrastructure grants over the coming months.



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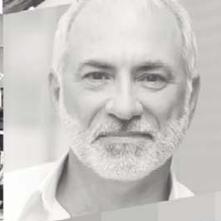
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