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Weather



TODAY:
MAINLY
SUNNY

HIGH OF 17
LOW OF 6



TUESDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 19
LOW OF 10



WEDNESDAY:
60 PER CENT
CHANCE OF
SHOWERS

HIGH OF 18
LOW OF 8



THURSDAY:
SUNNY

HIGH OF 11
LOW OF -2



FRIDAY:
MIX OF SUN
AND CLOUDS

HIGH OF 5
LOW OF -2

“Born To Rock” Themed Rock-A-Thon puts “The Boss” in fundraising for Mansonville SADD Chapter



THE SCOOP MABLE HASTINGS

On Saturday, November 7, the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD Chapter) held their annual Rock-a-thon fundraiser to raise money for SADD and youth programs. This year a themed event was held, celebrating Bruce Springsteen’s “Born to Run” album and his partnership with the late saxophone genius, Clarence Clemons. Organized by youth program animator, Ethan Ball assisted by animator Eleanor Cote, the event was a huge success, bringing in a record \$4,133 for six hours of non-stop rocking in a rocking chair while participating in activities. Danika Robinson raised \$350 of the total, making her the highest fundraiser for the event, with Alexis Eldridge (a younger member) in close second! It must be noted however that most of the youths exceeded expectations.

Fundraising members of the Mansonville SADD Chapter included: Hunter and Payton Bouchard, Ken Clifford Jr., Alexis and Kate Eldridge, Amelya and Savannah Jersey, Jasmine Mierzwinski, Dakota Paige, Danika Robinson, Nora Webster, Brianna Woodard with support from the Former Youth Involvement (FYI) members and CAB staff.

“We never would have reached our goal without the support, contributions and encouragement from all who donated to this event,” said Eleanor Cote, who tallied the donations. “The youth gave it their all, supported by their parents and the community.”

For Ethan Ball, who animated the



COURTESY

activity, the organizing was a balance between activities that would teach the youth something while incorporating fun and games. The theme of the event was “Born to Rock,” playing on Springsteen’s 1975 “Born to Run” album and its poignant message.

“I talked to the youth about “Scooter” and the Big Man and how their love for one another was so special, I talked about being equal, being worthy and about being righteous,” said Ball. “This message is so clear in the Born to Run album,” he added.

Ethan went on to explain that being so close to Remembrance Day, he felt it important while he had a captive group of rocking listeners to speak about that as well.

“The truth is that kids often get bored, hearing about history. But I amplified the importance of them knowing certain things regarding wars fought in the past emphasizing the importance of learning from them so they wouldn’t happen again,” said Ball. “I told them freedom wasn’t free and that is why we remember.”

He continued, “I read J.F.K.’s inauguration speech from 1961. In his speech he welcomes any newcomers to the ranks of the free. He pledges to defend liberty.

Then declares war on the common enemies of man: war, poverty and hunger.

He finishes by telling us that God’s work is truly our own. It made me think of our own cause.”

There were also many games organized to help pass the afternoon, where winners were given tickets each time they won for a variety of prizes drawn at the end of the event. Games included: mystery plate food challenge, Pictionary, balance the marshmallow and more.

Animator Eleanor Cote had found volunteers to help her in preparing a meal with finger foods for the rockers to enjoy as they kept on rocking in their chairs as they ate. Contributions to the meal were much appreciated.

After rocking from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. the event came to a close, with Ball sharing one last song to wrap it all up; “Tenth Avenue Freeze out.”

“I told the group that I hope they find their own “Scooter” or “Big Man” within our group and develop a friendship of such an amazing magnitude that it carries them through life,” said Ball. “I wanted them to know that “they” are MY E. Street Band and that they had really done an amazing job. I couldn’t be more proud of them!”

Ben by Daniel Shelton

