

The sun is shining a little brighter in Potton these days



THE SCOOP
MABLE HASTINGS

MANSONVILLE

Tomorrow, the Sunshine House in Mansonville (a supervised residence for four mentally challenged adults), will open its doors and welcome the public at an open house being held from 10 a.m. to noon.

The project has spanned over eight long years and the house is now finished and the four clients have moved into their new space along with their house parents, Julie-Anne Boivin and her partner Dylan, a couple who hail from the West Bolton area. Allison Leonard, Michelle Field, Roland Jersey and Mikala Riker-Lake each have their own room and the four share a communal living space that includes a

kitchen and a dining and living room. There is a separate apartment for the caregivers upstairs.

"Architect Michel Bastien has created a welcoming environment that emphasizes a family atmosphere rather than an institutional setting," explains Stanley Lake who is the father of Mikala Riker-Lake and a driving force behind the project.

Sunshine House is located at 15 Neil Armstrong, a beautiful and picturesque street running parallel to Main Street in a residential neighbourhood in the heart of Mansonville. Not far from the recently constructed senior's residences, the house is within walking distance of most services and events held within the village.

Sunshine House was made possible through contributions from many partners and local donors. Funding came from the Quebec housing corporation, the Municipality of Potton, the le Support foundation, the Memphremagog local development committee, the Caisse Desjardins du Lac Memphremagog and with partners supporting development and ongoing services offered through the Memphremagog regional health agency and CRDITED Estrie, as well as the donations from people far and wide. Those giving individuals who worked tirelessly on fundraising pro-



COURTESY

Caregivers Julie-Anne Boivin and her partner, Dylan as well as the clients. In the back row with Dylan are Roland Jersey and Allison Leonard and in front row with Julie-Anne is Michelle Field and Mikala Riker-Lake.

jects were at the heart of making the Sunshine House a reality.

"We fear in mentioning a few key people that we will miss someone," said

Lake. "We must however recognize the efforts of the group who got the fundraising ball rolling at an event held at Owl's Head in 2013: Fiona Campbell, David Stirling, Jean Turner and David Sutherland."

The group also recognizes the efforts of CSSS community organizer Christine Meunier as well as the project managers, Philippe Grenier and Gédéon Verreault from the regional federation of housing co-ops.

"Without their persistence and their guidance, this project would never have been possible," said Lake.

Sunshine House and its new occupants look forward to welcoming you into their home. There will be speeches, ribbon cutting, plaque unveiling and refreshments to aid in the celebrating. Rain or snow, the sun will be shining a little brighter in Potton on Saturday as Sunshine House opens its doors and heart to the people who made it all possible.

Good Reads

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

BOOK ENDS

Pop in to your Lennoxville Library!

Every Saturday, children aged 5 to 11 are invited to a reading and crafts workshop. It's bilingual, and scheduled from 10:30 a.m. to noon.

For adults, Books And Brown Bags is Wednesday, Nov. 5 and 19, from noon to 1 p.m. Bring your lunch and a book to talk about. All are welcome.

The works of Muriel Fitzsimmons and Carolyn Jones are on display on our walls until Tuesday, Nov. 11.

If you're housebound, we can bring books and audio books to you through

Books on Wheels.

We have large-print books too, plus an Easy Reads section. There are sections for Young Adult novels and graphic novels, plus children's non-fiction and fiction. Inter-library loans and ebook rentals are now available.

The Lennoxville Library is at 101 Queen Street, corner of College. E-mail bibliolen@gmail.com or phone 819-562-4949. The website is at www.bibliolennoxvillelibrary.ca. Older book reviews and reading suggestions are on our blog at bibliolennlibrary.wordpress.com. Membership is free for residents of Sherbrooke.

And...apologies to clowns everywhere for the liberties taken in this column.

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