

# Works in Progress the 8th: Valentine's Coffee House in North Hatley



RACHEL GARBER

His guitar is an original, like his music. And he'll bring both of them to the eighth edition of the Works in Progress coffee house music fest in North Hatley this Saturday, Feb. 14.

That's singer/songwriter Matthew McCully, also known for his articles in the pages of *The Record*, and such original ideas as organizing a music competition in more than a few sugar shanties in the Townships one sugaring season.

Marc Saumier in Kingsbury made McCully's guitar for him two years ago. It's made of maple wood with an unusual design. The frets are fanned, extending from the neck of the guitar at an angle. "It feels really good and plays really nicely," he said. "He made it for me when I was going on a cross-country tour of organic farms. He adjusted things according to my playing. I love it."

McCully said he is planning to play his own music, mostly. But he also proposes to play *If These Walls Could Speak*. "It's a song that really speaks about this particular event, about an old building," he said.

Works in Progress is in the centenarian Universalist



R.A. GARBER

Works in Progress VIII is coming on Valentine's evening to UUEstrie in North Hatley. Here's organizer Debra Fougere with singer/songwriter Matthew McCully. He's bringing his guitar and original music to the Works, along with five other music groups.

Church building at 201 Main Street, now home of UUEstrie, a Unitarian Universalist fellowship.

McCully is just one of a six-fingered handful of musicians or groups that are teaming up with organizers Debra Fougere and Kevin Jensen for an evening of sharing new and sundry music to celebrate St. Valentine's Day.

"It's homegrown entertainment to warm your heart," said

Fougere. "Everybody is welcome."

A lot of the music is new, and some of the performers are new, too. "The idea is to try out something new in an informal atmosphere," she said. "In the beginning, we used to require the musicians to flub up at least once, and have to start over."

One of the new groups is a family affair. Parents Clemence Dumas-Côté and Samuel Dalpé,

and their daughters Zola and Cléo of North Hatley are planning a medly of songs on the theme of love-hate. Clemence will be singing, Samuel playing the ukulele, and Zola and Cléo playing percussion and singing, too.

Eric Akbar Manolson of North Hatley is bringing a group, too, dubbed Most of the Mostly Swing. They'll play a mixture of Cuban music and jazz. Manolson will be on key-

board, Dimitri Vouliouris of Lennoxville on trumpet and guitar, Jean Michel Valiquette of Waterville on saxophone, and Benoit Héguy of South Stukely on guitar.

Dharma Road's Virgini Beardard and Yannick Longpre from Sherbrooke are bringing "roady folk" to the Works. She sings, and he plays ukulele and guitar, and also sings.

Michael Bradly of Hatley offers flamenco-style instrumentals on guitar.

The inimitable Jason Krpan is also in the Works – story teller, poet, musician, and inventor of instruments. He'll be performing blues and original "je ne sais quoi."

Works in Progress takes place in the lower level of the UUEstrie building. The music begins at 7:30 p.m., but the doors open at 6 p.m. Fougere will be there to welcome early comers with an offering of homemade food at reasonable prices – samosas, split pea soup with curry, rice crispy squares, and more. She promises a "cozy café atmosphere."

A free-will offering is requested at the door. Those who give \$10 or more will have two chances to win a gift certificate for a free buffet meal at the Shalimar Restaurant in Lennoxville. The proceeds at the door go to help support UUEstrie, and Fougere's food sales will help support her "spiritual pilgrimage" to India. She leaves next week.

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## Potton's Winterfest - another fun-filled success



THE SCOOP  
MABLE HASTINGS

POTTON

Last Saturday was Potton's Winterfest Outdoor Family Fun Day, organized and conducted by the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre youth from Former Youth Involvement and Students Against Destructive Decisions.

The collaborative event is funded by the Municipality of Potton.

More than 195 people took part in the activities that ran

from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and included a horse-drawn sleigh ride with Roger Cote's horses from the Cote Meadows farm and first responder truck rides with Fire Chief Francis Marcoux at the wheel and Rejean Neron assisting those who took a tour in the truck.

One of the most popular activities was the tubing slide that ran all day. The slide was made by Excavation Steve Johnson and Excavation Stanley Mierzwinski.

Inflatable games included horse racing where participants rode on inflated horses to reach the finish line! Snowmobile rides are always a hit with some outstanding volunteers who donate their time and gas and who make each kid feel special. There was sugar on snow with syrup donated by Paul Hebert and Paul Boivin, boiled up by Linda Jersey and poured on fresh troughs of snow prepared by Ken Jersey and Chris Fortin.

An efficient and enthusiastic group of volunteers provided the refreshments which included Derby grilled hot dogs, a delicious soup and free fruit donated by NexKemia Inc.

At the end of the day, more than 34 door prizes donated by Hatley, Marche Richelieu, Jewett's store, Owl's Head Ski, Lana Lane, Rona (Giroux and Giroux), Reilly House, Restaurant Misissquoi, SADD, and Snap-on, were awarded.

It was a day of constant activity and movement with a variety of activities and fun. There were many positive comments made, especially by the parents who attended with their children.

This was a true community event with the businesses and organizations who supported in various ways, to the youth and adult volunteers who gave of their time that made the day the success that it was.

At the end of the day, the vol-



JULIA ELDRIDGE

The inflatable horses weren't the only things wearing big grins at Potton's Winterfest on Saturday.

unteers packed, cleaned and then returned to the Youth Centre for a pizza party with Jacques Hebert assisted by Judy Ball, Norma Clifford and Alexandra Dalglish preparing a variety of pizzas for the volunteers to enjoy.

Prize draws were made throughout the evening for the volunteers and were provided

by Jay Peak, Memphre en Mouvement (*Plaisirs d'hiver*) and the volunteer centre.

By nightfall, wind burned faces and excessive giggles were clear indications that everyone involved were exhausted. Another successful and fun Winterfest behind them, all returned home feeling proud and productive.