## Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre celebrates its volunteers



THE SCOOP MABLE HASTINGS

he Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) held a Volunteer Recognition Party on December 5 as part of the International Day of the Volunteer initiative. With 75 in attendance including Potton Mayor, Jacques Marcoux and council members, Jason Ball and Michael Laplume, the event held at the office of the CABMN was jam packed with a joyful buzz as attendees enjoyed cheeses donated by the Fromagerie St.Benoit du Lac, wine donated by the CAB Board and volunteers as well as meat platters prepared by the Marche Richelieu (Jacques Ducharme).

We are proud to announce that the CABMN now has 166 registered volunteers that contribute immensely to the community and beyond in so many ways," shared CAB President, Charles

Muzerall Memorial Award for outstand- he continued. ing volunteer contribution was awarded to three of the long-time CAB volunteers: Brenda Clark, Laurette Rouleau and Kenneth Wraight, all of whom have been giving of their time and talents for over twenty years as part of the CAB family of volunteers. The awards were presented by members of the CAB staff who spoke from the heart while addressing the recipients with emotion and pride.

'Volunteering is one of community's most valuable resources," said Potton Mayor, Jacques Marcoux (husband of Karen Muzerall). "Karen contributed as a volunteer to this community and she would be so proud if she were here to have this award given in her memory,'

Musician, David Sturton was present at the event where he performed a song in memory of Karen entitled, "These are a few of my favorite things." Sturton was a lovely addition to the celebration and performed with ease bringing the crowd along with him as he gently strummed the guitar and sang.

The CABMN staff, Board of Directors, and Committee Members wish to extend their appreciation to volunteers everywhere for the tremendous contribution made and the time given. Without volunteers, community life would definitely suffer and Potton is proud to boast in regards to its people power.

For more information about the

CABMN, visit www.cabmn.org where you can sign up to receive their newsletter with weekly updates in regards to programs, events and special announcements. You can reach their office and Youth Centre by calling: (Main Office) 450-292-3114 or the (YC) at 450-292-4886



CAB Coordinator of Volunteers, Sarah Jersey presents one of the three Karen Muzerall Memorial Volunteer Awards to Brenda Clark who has been volunteering for close to 30 years with the CAB.



Madeleine Soucy, Janine Sourdif and Danelle Cousineau (member of the CAB Board of As part of the evening, The Karen Directors) enjoying the party in recognition of CABMN volunteers

## Richmond Christmas choir

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that although people in the community refer to the group and its annual performance as "the cantata," that term actually refers to a specific kind of musical composition. "We will call this a Christmas Concert, and we will sing the International Carol Suites written and orchestrated by Mark Hayes.'

Once again under the direction of Duguay, the choir of 31 voices will be joined by Beaubien on piano and Julie Miller on flute and percussion in performing traditional carols of Europe and of the Americas, with narration being provided by Nick Fonda. Griffith said that the work has proven to be much more of a challenge for the singers than usual.

"This year's work has indeed been more challenging but it has inspired singers to work harder," Beaubien said. "The International Carol Suites is a collection of five suites of approximately 10 minutes each in duration, sung in roughly ten languages and providing an opportunity for ten soloists to sing a music with the community.

short passage."

The accompanist pointed out that some of the soloists are called upon to sing in Polish or Russian, stretching their own linguistic comfort zones.

'The suites cover music from Western and Eastern Europe, from the British Isles and from South, Central and North America" she continued. "There is a medley of about five to seven carols in each suite, bringing the total number of carols to over 30."

As a part of the choir's annual outreach to the community, this year's work was already performed last weekend for residents of the Wales Home, but the full concert is set to take place again this coming Saturday night at and Sunday afternoon at the Richmond-Melbourne United Church. The Saturday night performance starts at 8 p.m. while the Sunday matinee will begin at 1:30 p.m. As always, the entrance fee is a free-will offering to help offset the cost of putting on the concert

"Everyone is welcome," Griffith said. "We look forward to sharing this gift of



JACQUES BEAUBIEN

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