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## Weather



TODAY: SUNNY

HIGH OF 21 LOW OF 3



TUESDAY: **CLOUDY** 

HIGH OF 18 LOW OF 9



WEDNESDAY: **RAIN** 

HIGH OF 13 LOW OF 7



THURSDAY: CLOUDY

HIGH OF 13 LOW OF 8



FRIDAY: **CLOUDY** 

HIGH OF 18 LOW OF 9

## The sweet sound of two successful fundraisers benefitting the Ken Jones Respite Program



THE SCOOP MABLE HASTINGS

n Saturday evening, May 27 the Missisquoi North Volunteer Centre (CABMN) Ken Jones Respite Program for persons with intellectual and physical challenges held a benefit dance fundraiser with profits going toward keeping the program running on Thursdays in Potton.

With music performed by the Random Chance Band and with an onsite bar organized by Laurette Rouleau (committee member) with the help of volunteers who bartended for the event, some 75 people came out to enjoy the evening with friends. The dance floor was rarely empty as many enthusiastic dancers swayed to the music of the sixties, seventies and the occasional eighties tune. The band members were happy to perform and seemed to have a following of joyous individuals who showed up to cheer them on.

The half and half draw totaled \$284 with the winner, Debra Harding



PHOTOS IULIA ELDRIDGE

donating the half she won back to the cause. After expenses the event took in over \$1,600 in profit!

"We really appreciate the support of everyone who turned out for the event," said June Peacock, a member of the Ken Jones Respite Committee. "I had seen the band perform at the Big Brome Fair and felt that they would be a great choice for a fundraiser and I was right," she shared.

The Ken Jones Respite Program is held at the Youth Centre at 282 Principale in Mansonville and gives individuals with intellectual and physical challenges a day to spend with friends playing games, doing crafts, listening to music, exercising and sharing a meal together. The day also benefits the caregivers of these clients as it gives them time to rest, go shopping, take a walk or visit family and friends in the knowledge that the clients are well taken care of.

The program funding is partially based on attendance and with numbers declining in recent years and especially during and following the pandemic, fundraising is a very necessary part of keeping the program alive.

A recent on-line auction made possible through the kindness of folk in the artistic community brought in over \$2,500 dollars to benefit the cause as well.

"This was our first attempt at doing an on-line auction," explained Madeleine Langlois a member of the Ken Jones Respite Committee and CABMN Board Member. "I learned a lot and was truly touched by the generosity of the artists near and far who donated items to benefit the cause. We certainly appreciate their help in raising funds for this wonderful group."

The Ken Jones Respite committee is headed by Chairperson, Sharon Fewtrell and the CABMN is looking for new members to join this committee. If there is anyone out there who enjoys supporting a great cause, likes community involvement and doesn't mind a bit of fundraising, you are encouraged to call the CABMN to offer your name, 450-292-3114.



## Ben by Daniel Shelton







