

Women's institute celebrates Champlain history to raise funds



Matthew Blenkarn, THE EQUITY

Stephan Ouimette (centre) takes a bow at the Champlain on the River social at Houghton's Bay. According to Barbara Haughton, Ouimette paddled into the social on a birch bark canoe and planted a flag in the sand to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's arrival in the region.

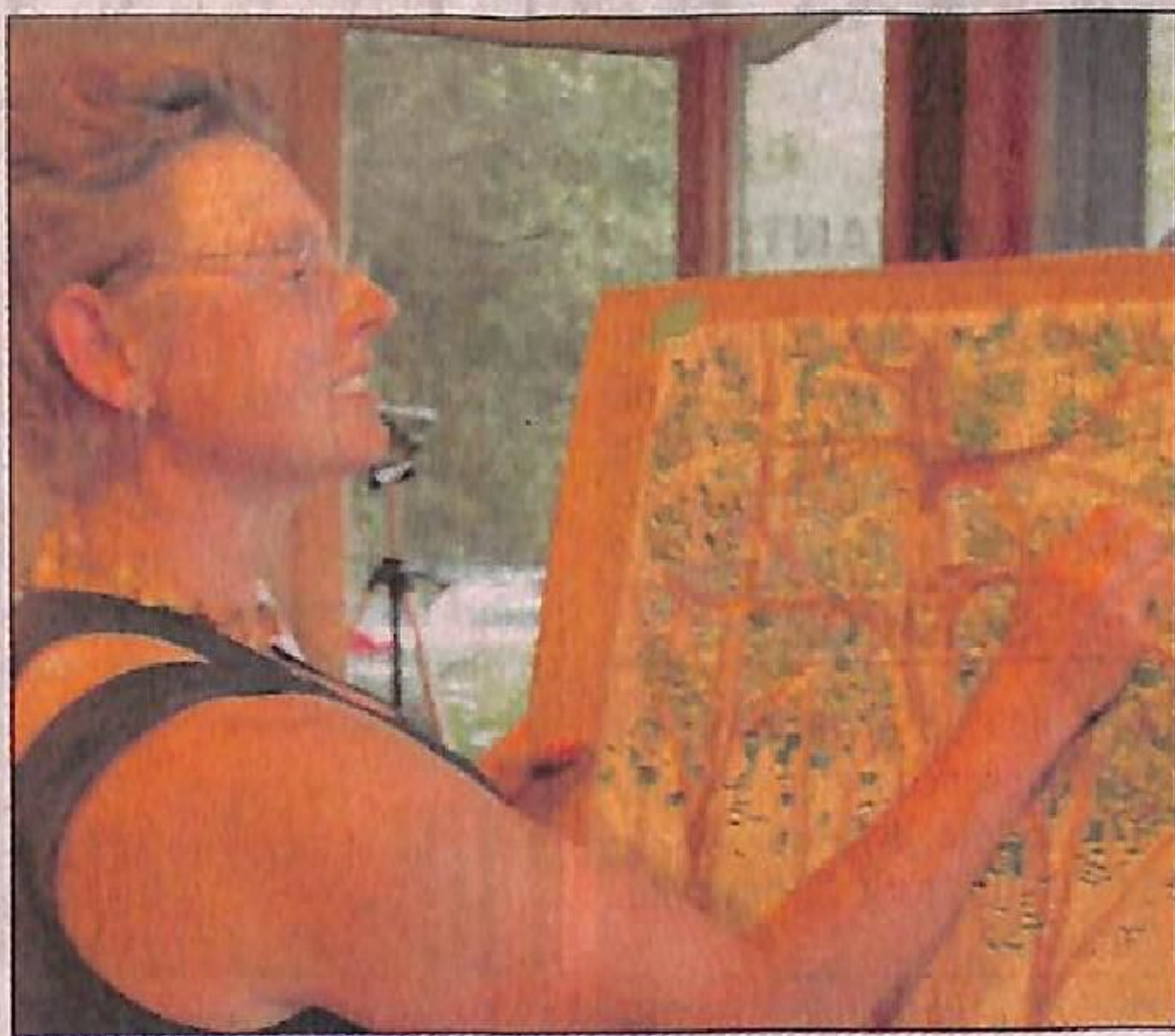
MATTHEW BLENKARN
Equity Reporter
BRISTOL July 17, 2013

History came to life in Bristol July 17, as the Clarendon Women's Institute hosted the Champlain on the River social at Houghton's Bay.

The social celebrated the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's arrival in the area, and featured food, music, and a speech by retired English teacher Joan Conrod. Stéphan Ouimette portrayed Champlain, arriving in a birch bark canoe and planting a flag in the sand at Houghton Bay, said event organizer and member of the Bristol Champlain committee Barbara Haughton.

Haughton asked Conrod to speak at the event after she prepared an educational skit about Champlain for

schools. While Conrod's goal at the social was to entertain, she said that it was important for children to know about the anniversary and Champlain's role



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Kate Aley, a member of the Pontiac Artists' Association, sketches a forest scene at the Champlain on the River social.

in their history.

"This is their background, their history, their heritage," she said. "And while it is on the curriculum at the grade 6 level in both Quebec and Ontario, the curriculum is very crowded. And just having them do this skit made them much more aware of Champlain and the (400th) anniversary."

She added that, even though schools taught Champlain's history, the information sometimes gets

lost in the shuffle.

"I had an excellent teacher, but all I remembered was that he was governor of New France, and when he was 48, he married a 12-year-old," said Conrod. "Now I know a great deal more."

About 70 tickets were sold, Haughton said, raising \$720 for the women's institute. The institute got involved after Haughton asked them to provide food, said president Elaine MacPhee.

They agreed, MacPhee said, because the institute was running low on funds. Fundraising is important, she added, because members often donate to community organizations.

"When the institute was first established, back in 1917, that was their idea," she said. "Their motto was for home and country, and they centred in on agriculture, and health, and education and community living. So we try to stay with that."

Obituaries

DEVINE, William Glenn - Peacefully, October 26th, 2014, at Westpark Longterm Care in St. Catharines, in his 92nd year. Beloved husband of Luella, father to sons, Colin (Caroline) and Trevor. Grandfather to George Alan (Margaret) and Monica (Mark). Great grandfather to Glenn (name sake) and Owen. Visitation at **MACCOURBRY FUNERAL HOME**, 30 King St. E., Cobourg, Wed Oct. 29, noon to one. A Celebration of Glenn's life will follow with reception. Interment at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations to Heart and Stroke would be much appreciated. Condolences received at www.MacCoubrey.com.

Oct. 29/14

In Memoriams

In Memoriams

In memory of
Catherine Hoskin,
a dear wonderful mother
who left us on October 29, 2009

Mom, it's hard to believe
It was 5 years ago today
That I held your hand
And watched you slip away
We both miss you every day
And keep you in our hearts

Love always, Jim and Marie

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