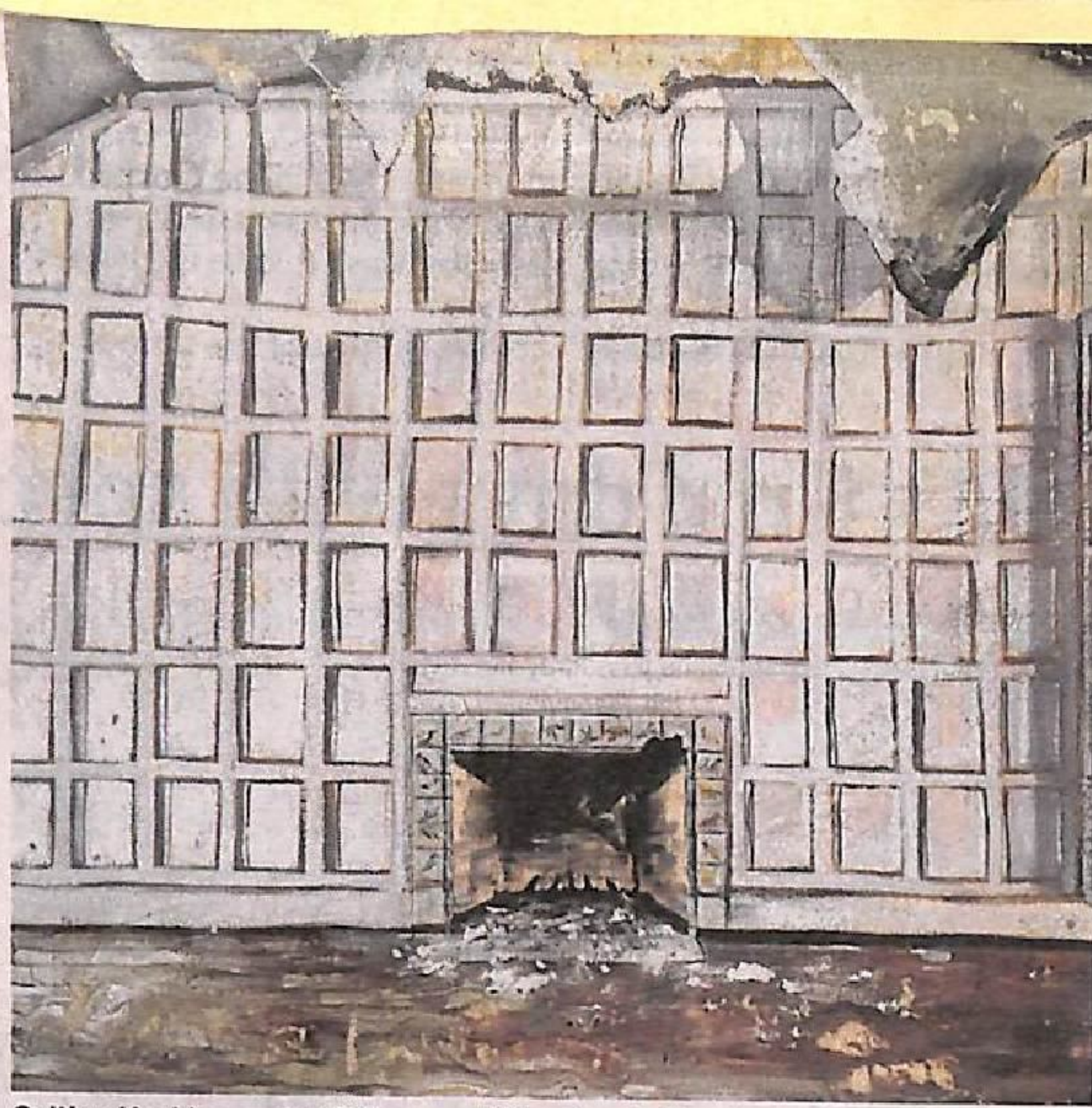


Ronald Peter created *The Locke Up* — Ramea Fishing Stage for the current Colborne Art Gallery show, a pen-and-ink piece on Arches paper.



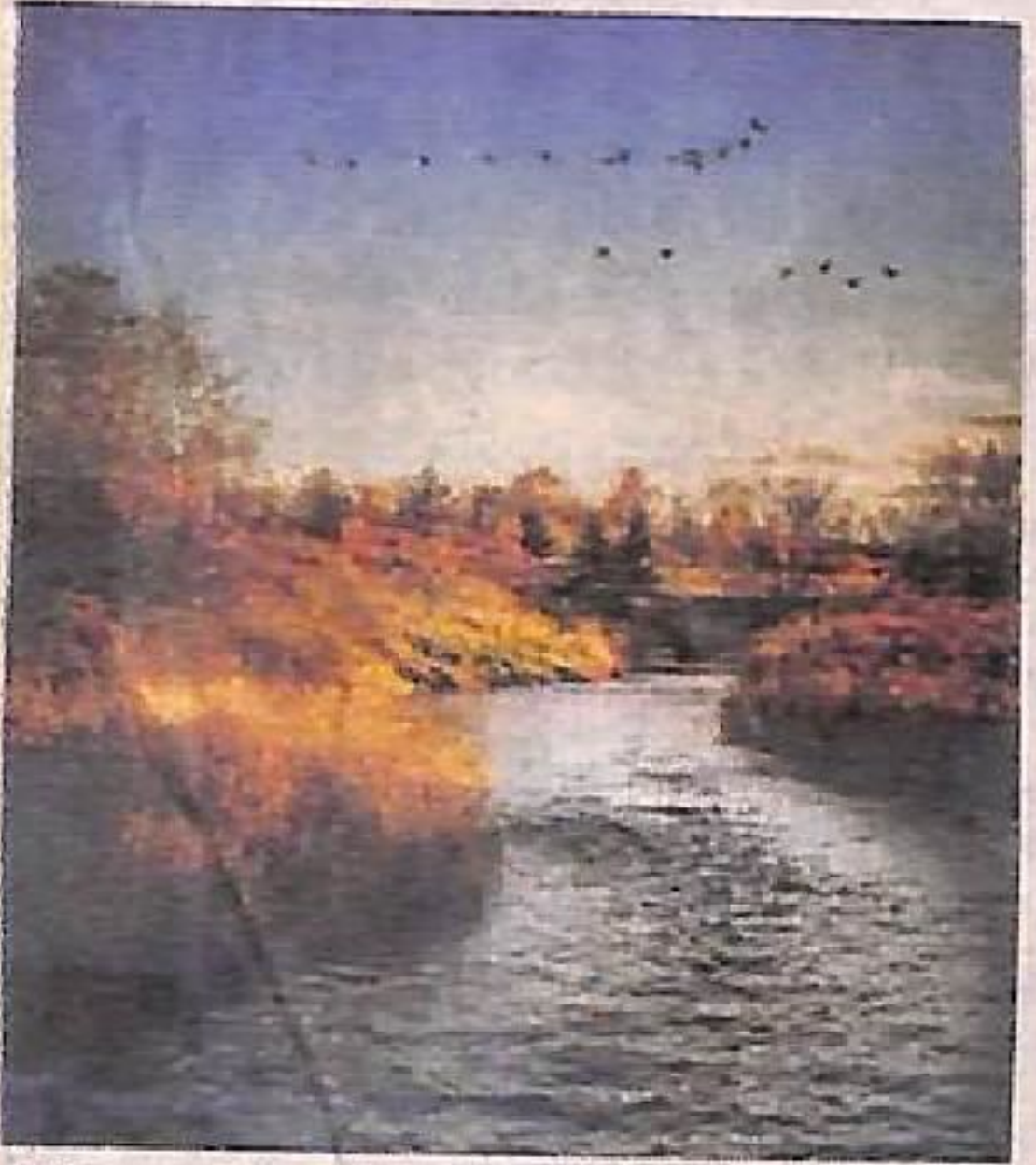
The slice-of-life *Afternoon at the Musee D'Orsay 2* is the acrylic painting by Susan Dain that makes up part of the 2016 Colborne Art Gallery juried exhibition.



Caitlyn Hoskin created *Pillage and Plunder* of oil and encaustic on altered panel, and it can be seen as part of the current Colborne Art Gallery exhibition.



The Meadow is Steven Murray's monotype-and-ink piece (on Japanese paper) that is on display as part of the Colborne Art Gallery 2016 juried exhibition.



After reviewing the Colborne Art Gallery 2016 juried exhibition, Cramahe Township Mayor Marc Coombs singled out Laura Berman's photograph *Mill Creek* for the Mayor's Choice Award.



Metropolitan is Michael Burke's oil-on-canvas piece in the 2016 juried show at the Colborne Art Gallery.



Juror Susan Holland, curator of Belleville's John M. Parrott Art Gallery, settled upon Quan Steele's *Merging* (a work in acrylic on canvas) for the Juror's Choice Award at the Colborne Art Gallery 2016 juried exhibition.

Colborne Chronicle

Brooks named CAO for Cramahe Township

BOB OWEN
FOR NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY

CRAMAHE — The announcement of the hiring of Craig Brooks as the new chief administrative officer (CAO) in Cramahe Township has created plenty of interest in the municipality.

Brooks is currently manager of water services for Lakefront Utility Services Inc., based in Cobourg. During a phone interview Monday, Cramahe Mayor Marc Coombs detailed some of the background information regarding the hire.

When his contract is rati-

fied by Cramahe council on Aug. 23, Brooks will have a five-year deal with a buyout clause in the event that the township wishes to release him at any time during the term. His salary range cannot be revealed, but it will be in the \$107-\$135,000 range, as per township guidelines.

More than 20 people applied, and three candidates were interviewed for the position which has been available since the incumbent, Dan O'Brien, announced he was leaving for personal reasons back in January. Council agreed that all three were highly qualified

and council held extensive interviews before deciding in June that Brooks was their choice.

All five members of council were notified of an in-camera meeting on July 19 to establish the final terms of the contract. The three who attended agreed to unanimously in open council before Brooks was asked to accept.

In his press release Monday, Coombs stated "council wanted someone with a strong operational background with emphasis on infrastructure projects. Moving forward, this is critical to Cramahe's future growth. As well, he is highly

regarded by the Cramahe employees that he has dealt with in the past for his experience and knowledge as well as being professional, passionate and dedicated. I have no doubt that Craig will provide the leadership we need moving forward."

Brooks is the fourth senior management staffer to be hired by Cramahe in recent months. Clerk Julie Oram replaced Candice Doiron following her departure for another position. Also new to the municipality are treasurer Nicole Leach-Bihun, chief building official Gerald Sproule and planner Himanshu Katyal.

Coombs stated in the interview that, unlike the others, Brooks will not have a probationary period in his contract. That is typical in CAO contracts. He went on to say that 52% of municipal employees will be eligible for retirement in the next five years, creating a high demand for quality staff. The problem is exacerbated for small municipalities like Cramahe with limited budgets.

In his press release announcing the hiring, Coombs thanked O'Brien for his work and for remaining in the position until a replacement could be found.