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**FESTIVAL OF MUSIC**  
Benefit for Library  
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**LIBRARY BENEFIT RAISES  
FUNDS FOR BOOK BUDGET.**

A group of Portland residents planned, organized and presented a "Festival of Music" as a benefit for the Rideau Lakes Union Library. Held in July in the Portland Community Hall, local performers were teamed with several professional musicians and singers from Toronto.

Tom Sled, along with children Pat & Michelle, opened the show with the song "If I had a Book" being a variation of the old song "If I had a hammer". Tom acted as M.C. introducing each of the performers and giving information about the library and its operation.. Jean Polk was accompaniest on the piano to the Sleds. Marina Kelly performed two beautiful numbers, "Tenderness" accompanied by Kevin Knelman on guitar, and "The Way we were" with Kevin Guthrie at piano. Tom and Marina also sang a duet "Born Again" with Kevin at piano.

A dance, by Jennifer Sled and Meredith Campbell added to the program.

An upbeat song selection was rendered by Terry, Elaina, Lisa and Stephanie Sled which started many toes atapping. Prior to the all-cast finale to the first half of the show, Elaina Sled and Steve Weir presented the now well-know SADD song, "If Only I Had Taken the Time".

Following a brief intermission, the packed audience was treated to a newly written two man show based on the "Blues". Written and performed by Kevin Knelman and Gerry Mendicino, with additional back-up by harmonica player Willie P. Bennet, the show took the audience through the "blues" we all face as we grow up.

Ranging through the emotions, from humour to pathos, the audience was completely absorbed in the musical tale.

Kevin, a guitarist and singer, has written music for many T.V. and radio shows, including "Cagney & Lacey" and the full length Christmas musical for CBC "The Snow Queen". He is also the musician for the T.V. program "The Polka Dot Door". Prior to the beginning of the two man show, he performed several of his own compositions, both classical and modern.

Gerry Mendicino is an actor and a song and dance man with many credits in theatrical productions, including "The Owl and the Pussycat" & "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown." His T.V. credits include performances in "King of Kensington" and "Seeing Things". He is host for both roadshow and the T.V. production of the "Polka Dot Door".

Along with this talent, the Portland audience had an unexpected treat with the presence of Willie P. Bennet. A singer-songwriter with several albums to his credit, Willie's harmonica added to the atmosphere and general excellence of the show.

While the local library gained over \$200.00 from the event, the audience also benefitted with the enjoyment of the local performers and the top-notch "first-run" of what will probably be a successful Toronto show. Those present will be able to say "We saw it first in Portland!"

The library Board extends its thanks to all those involved: the organizers-Tom Sled, Pamela Fry, Diane Haskins, Joanne Sled; and to all the performers who gave of their time and talent. Final comment-MORE! MORE!MORE!

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