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Giving back

Peterborough comes together for the Gainey family

Online Video
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By NICOLE RIVA
Examiner Staff Writer

Peterborough showed up in full force last night to support the worthy cause of one of its most famous exports, Bob Gainey.

Six hundred and fifty people packed Showplace Theatre for the first major fundraising event for the Gainey Foundation, A Night with Gainey Family and Friends, which raised \$120,000.

"The genesis (of the foundation) was out of the accident that took my daughter Laura's life," Bob Gainey said before the event.

The foundation will support mostly young people and causes involving the environment and the arts.

"They are the two places that were very important to Laura," Gainey said.

The Gainey Foundation was formally started in May after Laura, 25, was swept off the tall ship the Picton Castle in late 2006, off the coast of Cape Cod.

"Once you have a foundation then you have to generate some funds if you're going to disperse them back out," Gainey said.

Last night's fundraiser was largely a project of Ed Arnold, managing editor of The Examiner.

"We thought something could be done here to help the foundation so the community had it sold out before an act was announced," Arnold said.

The \$100 tickets got people a seat to watch the show alongside the Gainey — general manager of the Montreal Canadiens and an NHL hall of famer — and his family.

(See: Sold-out...Page A3)



Campbellford jazz singer Chelsey Bennett performs during last night's Gainey family fundraiser at Showplace Peterborough. A Night With Gainey Family and Friends raised \$120,000 for the Gainey Foundation.

Clifford Skarstedt, Examiner

City will run camp sites

Beavermead campground wins reprieve, but this may be its last year

By BRENDAN WEDLEY
Examiner Municipal Writer

City council is willing to keep Beavermead Park campground open this year, but several councillors are leaning towards pulling the municipality out of the camping business following the season.

It's a valuable and beautiful property, Coun. Ann Farquharson said shortly before council endorsed the city taking over management of the campground for a one-year trial period.



Ann Farquharson

Have Your Say
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"I don't think the city should be in the camping business," she said at last night's committee of the whole meeting. "I don't think that's the best utilization of that property for the benefit of the whole community."

Council will get a chance to reconsider how to use the property on Ashburnham Drive after the camping season.

City staff will collect information on the use of the campground over the summer then report back to council.

The campground will also be looked at as part of the Little Lake master plan study this year.

Council will get another chance to consider the issue at its regular meeting on March 25.

The city has operated Beavermead campground through third-party contractors since 1994. It went through three contractors in the last two years.

(See: Park...Page A3)

Senators hears seniors' concerns

Marjory LeBreton visits Activity Haven

By FIONA ISAACSON
Examiner Staff Writer

Local senior groups listed transportation, low-income seniors and accessibility as just some of their concerns at a face-to-face meeting yesterday with the federal secretary of state for seniors.

Sen. Marjory LeBreton, the senate government leader and secretary of state for seniors, said the meeting was organized to generate ideas to improve the well-being of seniors.

The National Seniors Council was created last year to advise the federal government on seniors matters.

A roundtable discussion was held with the council and groups such as the Alzheimer's Society of Peterborough, Canadian Association for 50 Plus at the Activity Haven Seniors Centre.

Peterborough MP Dean Del Mastro also participated.

LeBreton told The Examiner that some of the concerns raised includ-

ed seniors' anxiety about services not being available in the health care system and seniors living in poverty, especially women.

Roundtables are being held in nine cities including Quebec City, St. John's and Woodstock, N.B.

LeBreton credited demographics, the number of seniors organizations in the community and Del Mastro's persistence in having her visit the area as reasons Peterborough was chosen for a roundtable.

The National Seniors Council is focusing on struggling seniors, she said, and wants to "empower" seniors and "give them as many facilities as possible to make their lives as comfortable."

"I think the messages today were a lot of people are doing a lot of good things," but there needs to be a way to partner and make the connection stronger, LeBreton said.

Del Mastro said senior services exist but better collaboration is needed.

"This was the right community to visit," Del Mastro told a press conference after the roundtable discussion.

"Demographically we're the second oldest community in Canada.

Peterborough, right now, is where the rest of the county will be in 2020."

LeBreton said a report will be finalized in time for the fall federal budget.

Art Field, president of the National Pensioners and Seniors Citizens Federation based in Lindsay, said the discussion was informal and good ideas were generated, such as a guaranteed income supplement for widows.

"There's lots of things that we need. This area and the Lindsay area, there's a high density of seniors and we're not all rich," Field said.

Shirley Shaw, executive director of the Activity Haven Senior Centre, also praised the roundtable discussion.

Transportation, keeping seniors in the home and low-income seniors were some of the highlights for her, she said.

"The feds have really been pushing for a lot of new funding for seniors so I think they really listened," Shaw said.

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Fiona Isaacson, Examiner
Sen. Marjory LeBreton, government leader in the senate and secretary of state for seniors, addresses seniors and members of seniors' organizations yesterday at the Activity Haven Seniors Centre.

Online Poll

In our online poll yesterday, we asked readers if they celebrated St. Patrick's Day. 23 per cent said yes, 77 per cent said no. Today, we ask: Should the city keep the Beavermead campground operating, or use the land for another purpose?

Go to our website to vote or view up-to-date results.
www.peterboroughexaminer.com

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L: -3
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TV Listings.....B6
World.....A2



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Park might break even in '08

(Continued from Page A1)

Before the beginning of the camping season last year, the city rushed to find an operator when the company that managed the property for about six years pulled out of its agreement one year before the contract was set to expire.

Then the city, citing payment problems and complaints from campers, replaced the newly hired operator near the end of July.

Staff project it will cost the city \$121,500 to run the campground this year. Revenues from camping sales could range from \$93,000 to \$123,000, which could result in anything from a \$28,500 deficit to a \$1,500 surplus, staff state.

In addition, the city would use \$50,000 to upgrade the campground washrooms and help fund the operation of the facility.

The campground has 97 sites — 50 serviced with electricity and water and 47 unserviced sites.

Maybe it's time to be bold and see what other opportunities there are for the use of the riverfront property, Coun. Bob Hall said.

"I question us being in the business of campground management and operations," he said.

Coun. Doug Peacock told council he doesn't think the city should operate a campground, but he will wait to review the study of the campground following this season.

"I'm not really sold that we should be in the camping business," he said. "We need a lot more information before we make any kind of commitment to being in the camping business."

Coun. Patti Peeters praised the proposal to upgrade the washrooms at the campground and urged further improvements such as a fence between the camping area and the soccer fields.

"I was at the park a lot last year," she said. "The security issue does bother people."

"We have to show some responsibility for our campers."

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News Live

Examiner website readers got these stories yesterday. Today we give you details and much more. Get information when we do. Sign up for e-mail alerts at www.peterboroughexaminer.com

- City to keep Beavermead campground open this summer, but future in limbo/A1
- City welcomes \$849,399 in new provincial funding for public housing repairs/B3
- City officially pulls out of proposed Clarington incineration project over high fees/B3
- Star-studded concert raises \$120,000 for Gainey Foundation/A1
- Program can help businesses become more successful/B4
- Federal seniors minister hears out concerns from area seniors groups/A1
- Committee of the whole endorses renaming Sherbrooke Street stub as part of Montague Court/B1
- Girl gets probation after pleading guilty to seven charges/B3
- Teen gets community service after shooting girl with BB gun/B3
- Travel guide fresh off the presses/B1
- Trent to honour two for teaching excellence/B3

For more of today's photos, visit www.peterboroughexaminer.com
To share your photos, stories, community events and more, visit www.URPeterborough.com

Sold-out show a big hit

(Continued from Page A1)

Gainey's daughter Anna, her husband, Tom Pitfield, daughter, Colleen, his mother, Ann as well as his brothers and sisters attended.

Gainey said he was happy to be back in his hometown and to see many familiar faces in the audience.

The sense of support has been present since the show was announced in November, he said.

"There was a real sense of participation by the community by the city of Peterborough and a real will to do it," Gainey said.

The show, which sold out before the entertainment was announced, had a fundraising goal of \$60,000.

"The response is born out of people's knowledge of our family, our participation in the area. The accidental, tragic loss of Laura is something most people can really empathize with the difficulty of that."

The first act of the show included some of Peterborough's best talent including Barry Haggarty, Bobby Watson, Rick Fines, Rob Phillips, Sarah Loucks and James McKenty of the Spades.

The musical showcase was interspersed with video greetings from many well-known names in hockey including Hockey Night in Canada hosts Don Cherry and Ron MacLean both sharing off the ice memories of Gainey and his soft-spoken nature.

"What you do is so loud, you don't have to be," Cherry said.

Laura's aunt Pam Sinacori gave a touching tribute to her niece and goddaughter. She spoke of Laura's love of the arts, children and her always unique sense of style.

"She was generous thoughtful and kind," Sinacori said. "She gave us all so many reasons to smile."

The first act closed up with local artists hitting the stage for a version of one of Laura's favourite songs, Neil Young's "Keep on Rockin' in the Free World."

Gainey's nephew Kris Newby and Examiner contest winner Natalie Hughes also took the stage. Newby's song focused on his favourite Montreal Canadian — Guy Carbonneau and Hughes played her winning song "Cover Me."

Arnold gave a humorous and touching tribute to Gainey's late wife Cathy Collins — who died of cancer more than a decade ago — he described her as someone who loved to dance, laugh and smile and would have loved the show.

"I just know they're cheering us on," Arnold said.

When Gainey took the stage he said this event shows how Peterborough has decided to feel the family's pain.

"You decided to grieve with us and move on with us. And that's what we're doing tonight," he said. "We're so appreciative because we know how sincere it is."

Anna described the goals of the foundation and other fundraising events, including an online auction of Gainey's No. 23 jerseys, worn during NHL players during the retirement ceremony last month, which were sold as far away as Hong Kong as South Africa.

When Arnold later announced the \$120,000 total the typically quiet Gainey said a simple "merci beaucoup," while Anna and Colleen showed their thanks with smiles and wide eyes.

The event was hosted by Hockey Night in Canada commentator and former NHL goaltender Greg Millen and performances were donated with expenses covered by community leaders. Millen helped carry on the evening's unofficial theme of mocking the Toronto Maple Leafs.

The second act included Junonominated acts the Sadies and Jimmy Bowskill, Montreal comedian Steve Patterson and former NHL goalie Glenn Healey with a full bagpipe band.

There was also a surprise performance by 11-time Juno winner Murray McLauchlan while John McDermott appropriately shared his trademark Irish sound on St. Patrick's Day.

McDermott was joined by McLauchlan to close the show with "Oh Danny Boy," which he said Gainey requests every time he sees McDermott.

"We could be in the supermarket," he said.

Jim Cuddy and Greg Keelor from Blue Rodeo also joined in on the Leafs versus Canadiens theme in their video tribute. Cuddy said to Gainey there would be an opening for a general manager in Toronto soon.

Other video tributes throughout the night came from Gainey's NHL and Petes history with greetings from Canadiens assistant coach Doug Jarvis, co-general manager of the Dallas Stars Doug Armstrong and Paul MacIntosh, a Petes teammate.

Following the performance, Gainey said the entire evening was "spectacular," especially in the variety of people.

"I don't think what was here



Bob Gainey, left, gathers his thoughts as he addresses the crowd next to his daughters Colleen, Anna and Anna's husband, Tom Pitfield, during A Night With Gainey Family and Friends at Showplace Peterborough last night. The Gainey Foundation was established in memory of Cathy and Laura Gainey and is committed to supporting charitable organizations that offer environmental education and arts education programs for youth.

tonight could be duplicated," he said. "It was serendipity. It just happened this way."

The moving tributes to his wife and daughter get easier to watch with time, he said, but also touch anyone who has had tragedies or loss in their own life.

Anna particularly enjoyed the tributes.

"I love hearing people talk about my mom and sister," she said. "You hear stories you just don't know."

She also said the whole show just felt right.

"It's something my sister would have liked," Anna said. "To give the spotlight to young up and coming artists."

The show was also a hit with audience members.

"It was unbelievable, all that talent," said Eleanor White.

Paul and Carlie Evans, long-time friends of Gainey also described the show as unbelievable.

"Everything was really good. It was perfect to the whole theme of the foundation," Carlie said. "It was great to see all the Peterborough talent."

The audience was also filled with high-profile Peterborough residents including Trent president Bonnie Patterson, Peterborough MPP Jeff Leal, Coun. Ann Farquharson, Ronnie Hawkins, Chris Cuthbert from TSN as well as Toronto Sun editor in chief Lou Clancy and former NHL player Steve Larmer.

General Electric was the event's key sponsor; the company had previously made a \$25,000 donation to the foundation.

General manager Ross Garland spoke of the Gainey's ongoing commitment to the community and wished the best for the foundation.

"May the many lives you touch go on to touch many many more," Garland said.

Other major sponsors included Pepsi QTG, OLG Kawartha Slots, Remax with John Bowes, John Sinacori, Shirley McDowell and Team Schofield, the Peterborough Examiner, Desjardins Securities and the Peterborough Pro Hockey Alumni Association.

Desjardins Securities also contributed about \$6,400 to the foundation, \$5,000 of which was raised on Jan. 23 when clients of the local branch donated their commissions to the foundation. Another \$1,400 was raised from auctioning off tickets to last night's show.

"We're happy to be able to make a little difference," said Steve Bevan, from Desjardins Securities.

A show had been in the works in Montreal last summer to coincide with a memorial service for Laura, but never materialized.

Gainey said the foundation plans

to use last night's event as a blueprint for other fundraisers in the future.

Peterborough was a perfect place for the inaugural event because of the amount of personal connection the family has to the area, he said, adding future events will also take place in Montreal and possibly Dallas, where the family also spent a lot of time.

The foundation has an initial fundraising goal of \$2 million, which is just less than half raised, Gainey said.

"Tonight is really a template of a way that we could raise some money, have people enjoy a nice evening and create that pool of money that we can then partner up with groups that represent these areas we're focusing," he said.

A similar event is shaping up for June in Montreal, Gainey said. He acknowledged the many charities looking to raise money so the foundation wanted to find a way to stand out.

"A golf tournament didn't seem to fit, for us," he said. "My idea would be to raise the money we hope for and then get out of that stage."

Gainey wants to see the foundation focus on using the funds toward its selected causes.

"Then we just operate and try to enrich people who are working in these areas with financial support."

Coming back to Peterborough also represents the years Laura spent in Peterborough, becoming a familiar face on the arts scene, including a stint as a photographer at The Examiner and in the fine arts program at Fleming College's Haliburton Campus.



Clifford Skarstedt, Examiner

Crooner John McDermott performs last night at Showplace Peterborough.

Young people to benefit from funds raised

By NICOLE RIVA
Examiner Staff Writer

A night filled with young local talent was a perfect fit for the first fundraising concert for the Gainey Foundation.

Bob Gainey's daughter Anna runs the day-to-day operations of the foundation and thought last night's event at Showplace Peterborough was a huge success.

"We couldn't have the foundation and not have an event in Peterborough," Anna said following the show.

The sold-out show raised \$120,000 for the foundation, including a \$25,000 cheque from General Electric and \$6,400 from Desjardins Securities.

"It's amazing," Anna said. "Ed (Arnold) is going to have to top it next year."

The focus of the foundation will be assisting programs that offer education in the arts or environment, Anna explained, because these were of such importance to Laura.

"It's programs my sister would have participated in," she said. "She taught art classes in Peterborough."

Just less than a year since the foundation officially formed, it is accepting applications for funding up until June.

With another \$120,000 under their belt, Anna said they're start providing help.

"We're really excited to write some cheques," she said.

Anna also expects the foundation to evolve as it becomes apparent where the money is most needed.

"As we see the applications we'll get an idea of what is out there," she said. "It will help us divide the funds and we're looking forward to doing that."

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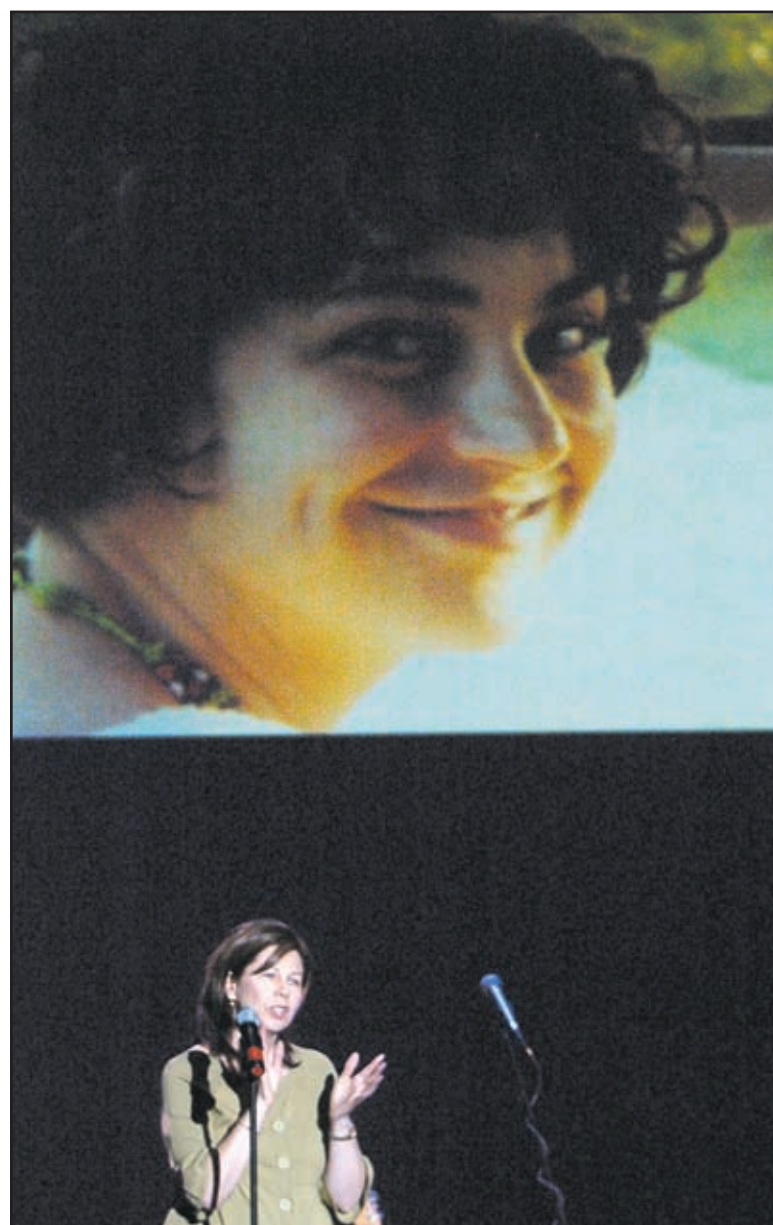
Blues musician Bobby Watson, left, entertains the crowd

'There was a real sense of participation by the community by the city of Peterborough and a real will to do it.'

— Bob Gainey

Photos by Clifford Skarstedt

More photos online at www.peterboroughexaminer.com



Laura Gainey's aunt Pam Sinacori gives a touching tribute to her niece and goddaughter

GALA

evening
with the

Gainneys



Examiner managing editor Ed Arnold gives a humorous and touching tribute to Gainey's late wife Cathy Collins



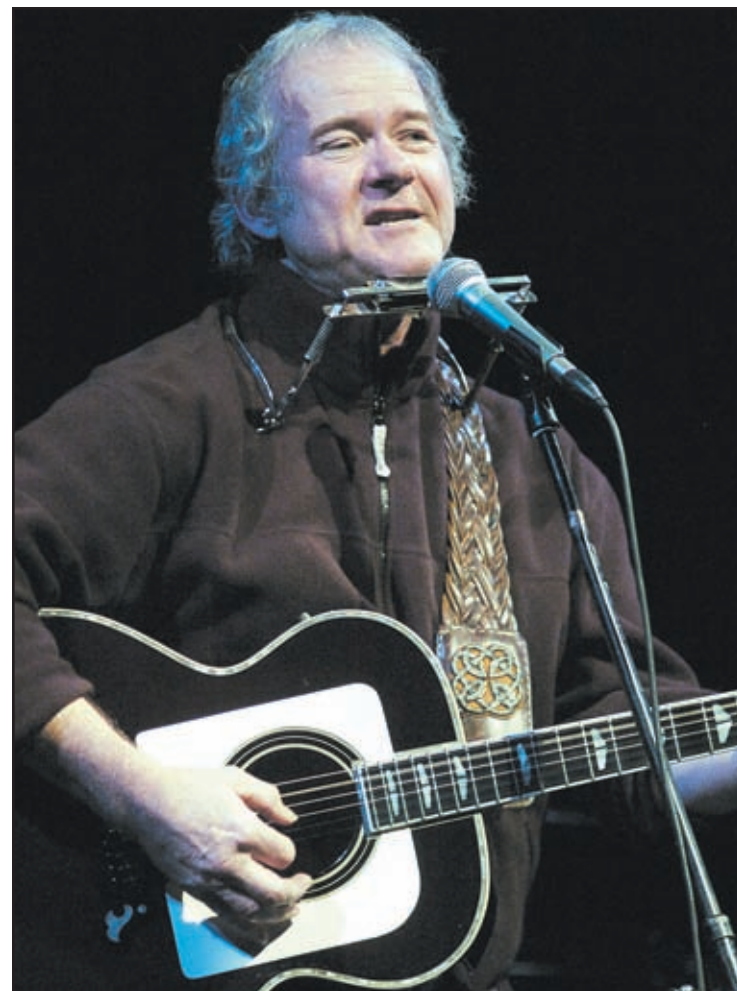
Examiner song contest winner Natalie Hughes performs



Conductor Michael Newnham and members of the Peterborough Symphony and Kawartha Youth Orchestras in performance



Piper Glenn Healey, a former NHL goalie, marches into Showplace, leading a full bagpipe band



Singer Murray McLauchlan performs