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DOG AND PONY PRODUCTIONS

Bringing your message to life

For the Times-Journal

Dog and Pony Productions Inc. of St. Thomas helps businesses communicate their message to their target audience.

This month, they took that quest to the Elgin-St. Thomas 2010 International Plowing Match. Dog and Pony are a bronze sponsor for the match, which requires a contribution between \$10,000 and \$20,000, and Bob and Gail are contributing that much, and more, to make the plowing match that much better.

Dog and Pony Productions produced an animated version of Elly, the match mascot, for the IPM website — www.ipm2010.com. This includes five gestures — one involves a horse while another involves a tractor — as well as a welcoming audio message for visitors from Elly.

"It's something different and it's to add some interest and awareness to the website," Bob explained.

They're also producing a commemorative DVD for



Gail and Bob McNaughton

the IPM using video and they shot at the match every day.

And, Gail produced more than 3,000 postcards as a gift for the volunteers and for sale at the match.

It's the third in a series of fantasy postcards involving Jumbo the elephant.

"Jumbo was painted pink in 2001 and he became magical and can travel around ... in the postcard, Jumbo is visiting the IPM," she explained.

All three projects are being undertaken out-of-pocket by the McNaughtons — they're donating the fruits of their labours to the plowing match.

"It's worth well over

\$10,000," Bob said. "For us it's a once-in-a-lifetime thing."

It's all part of the Dog and Pony Productions philosophy which helps businesses to advertise and promote their products and services.

"Our goal is helping others communicate with their customers and improving their profitability. Doing it through unique ways like videos and animation."

Locally they've done work for Employment Services Elgin, the Talbot Teen Centre, Tru-die and others.

For more information visit www.dogandpony.ca, www.gailmcaughton.com or call 519-637-6410.

The Creative World of Gail McNaughton

Noted St. Thomas author, poet and artist Gail McNaughton has launched a book that draws upon her spirituality, and furthers her quest to bring healing to the world.

Called Angel Witness, McNaughton had the book published earlier this year through Xlibris, a U.S. based publishing company.

She explained it's a book filled with her inspirational poetry, prose, doodle art and photographs, all inspired by angels or connected in some way to those divine beings.

The book will appeal to people who are involved with angels, already enjoy spirituality and people in the community who have enjoyed what Gail has written in the past.

"I believe when I'm living my passion and doing this work, I'm healing the world, I'm in that frame of mind where I'm peaceful," she said. "That's why I feel I'm in St. Thomas. It's a place that needs a lot of healing."

McNaughton noted the community has yet to recover from the May, 2008 fire that destroyed Alma College. She hopes Angel Witness and her other creative efforts go a long way toward bringing that healing power to the community.

"This is a book of encouragement for people, that anybody can write a book. You find your favourite subject matter and just plug away at it every day. If I can do it, other people can too and all of a sudden it becomes a part of you."

Gail explained she became interested in angels, and drawn to spirituality in 1994 when her cat, RW, died. She says she had an angelic experience and since then, has written with spiritual themes in mind — particularly her doodle art, which features a lot of angels.

A key reason why angels are a source of healing, she



St. Thomas author, poet and artist Gail McNaughton spent more than a year writing *Angel Witness*, a book filled with angel stories, poems and photos that she hopes will heal and inspire those in need of help. (TJ photo by Kyle Rea)

noted, is because when you draw a doodle character and then draw a heart behind it, it looks like a pair of wings.

Writing *Angel Witness* was a year-long labour of love which included writing, drawing, collecting, collating and editing.

Angel Witness is to be available at the Elgin-St. Thomas 2010 International Plowing Match and should be available shortly in book stores like Barnes and Nobles.

Gail is a member of the St. Thomas and District Chamber of Commerce and she is on the Admin. Committee for the EBWN, the Welcome Wagon's Business Professional program Rep, founder of a new network group, The Healing Heart Network, and co-owner of Dog & Pony Productions Inc.

To view Gail's work visit her website at www.gailmcaughton.com or angelwitnessbook.com.

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