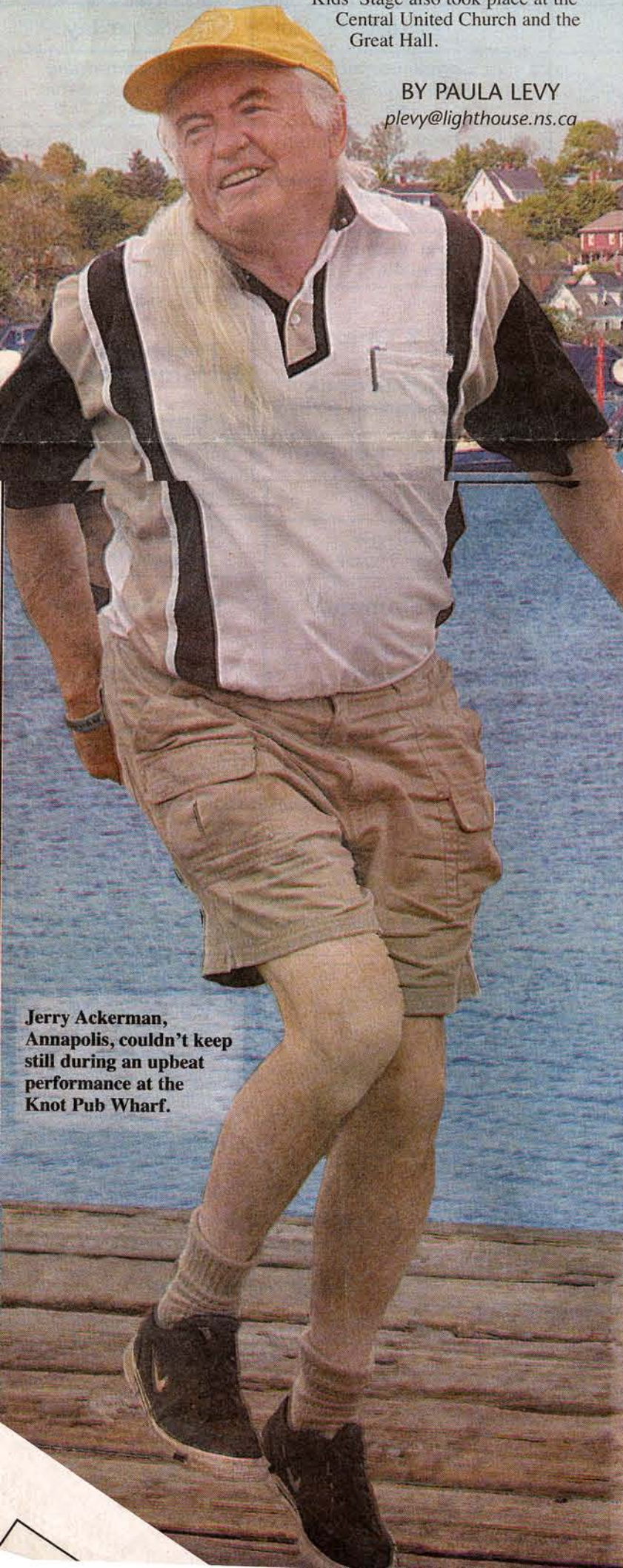


Festival by the sea

The 18th annual Lunenburg Folk Harbour Festival got off to a wet start on August 7. The festival opened with a Mainstage event at the tourist bureau with a tribute to Lunenburg's 250th anniversary.

But the rainy start didn't keep people home. Festival co-ordinator Julie Lohnes says she expects that once the tally is complete, it will show that more than 5,000 people attended the four-day festival including sold-out performances each night at the Mainstage. Crowds also gathered to see the more than 30 groups and individual performers at the Investors Group Opera House, the Knot Pub Wharf and the Bandstand. Workshops and a Kids' Stage also took place at the Central United Church and the Great Hall.

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Jerry Ackerman, Annapolis, couldn't keep still during an upbeat performance at the Knot Pub Wharf.



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1. When singer Clea Errington vocalized during a blues performance at the Investors Group Opera House, everyone sat up and took notice. The Ontario performer has roots in Nova Scotia and PEI and attended the festival for the first time.

2. In front of the scenic Lunenburg Harbour, Scott Parsons concluded the Knot Pub Wharf performances. The PEI native and winner of an ECMA for best African-Canadian recording entertained with his brand of folk music which is clearly influenced by blues, reggae and East Coast traditional.

3. Tanya MacRae, Lunenburg, hosted Girls Just Wanna Have Fiddles at the Investors Group Opera House on Sunday. The group of fiddle-playing women kept the audience clapping during their performance.

4. Bluesman Rick Fines, Ontario, hosted a recorded session for CBC television and radio at the Investors Group Opera House on Saturday.

5. Tanglefoot's Al Parish belts out a traditional tune during a toe-tapping performance at the Knot Pub Wharf on Saturday.