

APRIL 2011

the Humm

free

Arts,
Entertainment
& Ideas



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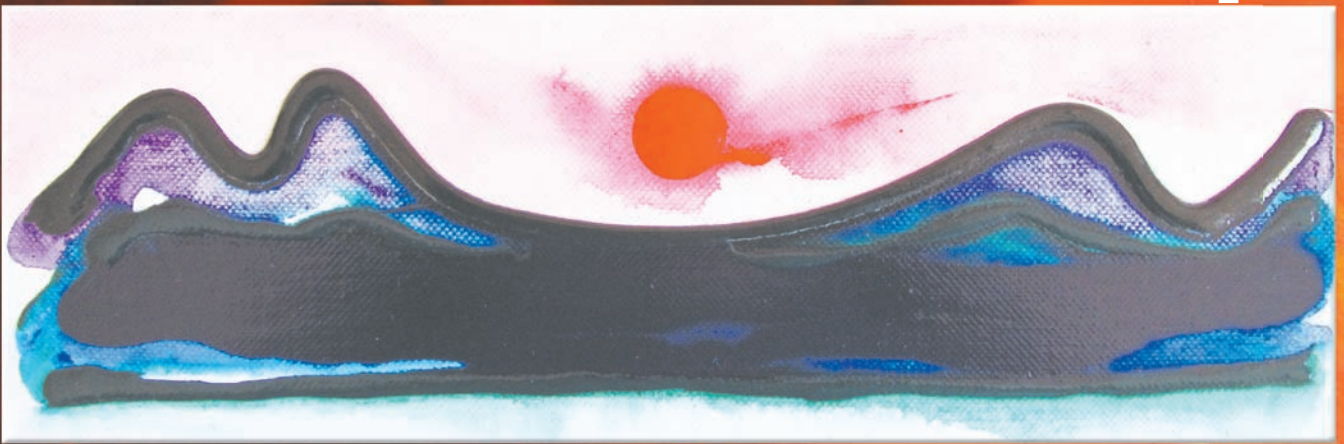


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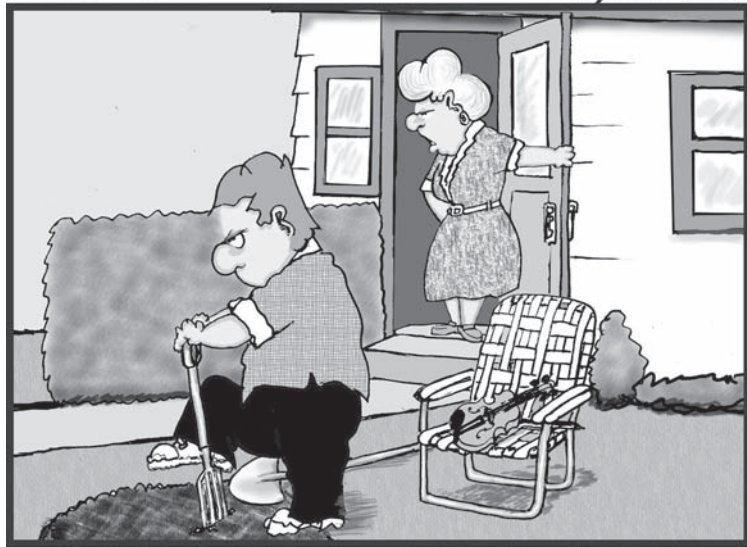
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ARTBEAT

by Bill Buttle



"I'm presuming you have my violin out there hoping for a small concert when you're through digging..."

Readers Write

Editor,

Shocking events in Japan have preoccupied the news reporting for all of us. It's as if the most frightening movie special effects have come to life. Coming weeks and months will only deepen this huge disaster.

We are the first Buddhist group to make a home in rural Eastern Ontario, with members in Lanark, Renfrew and Ottawa. These events have struck our small congregation particularly hard. Our tradition, known as Tendai, has strong and deep roots in the richest Buddhist teachings of Japan. For us it represents what the destruction of the Vatican would have for area Catholics. We have yet to learn the fate of some of our spiritual family in the affected regions, although many small village temples have likely disappeared with the tsunami.

This is no war zone, there are no insurgents and there will never be a winner. This is nothing but a massive humanitarian disaster with deaths in the thousands. It will not discriminate Buddhists from Christians, children from seniors.

We would like to encourage our friends and neighbours in Lanark to join us in contributing to the relief efforts already underway. We ask our fellow citizens to once again demonstrate their generosity and compassion by donating freely to the Japan Relief Funds of the Canadian Red Cross or an organization called NGO-JEN, which is actively on the ground already.

Donations can be made at: Japanese Red Cross <www.jrc.or.jp> or NGO-JEN <www.jen-npo.org/en/index.html>.

Yours in friendship,
Rev. Imen Parchelo, doshu
Red Maple Buddhist Congregation, Renfrew

Dear Editor,

In your March issue I read with interest the article regarding gardening and community gardens. I noted the omission of the community gardens in Lanark and in Carleton Place.

The youth in Lanark have established a beautiful garden behind the municipal offices in Lanark. In Carleton Place, the churches' Social Concerns Committee has taken the lead, with much community support, in establishing six raised beds at the Victoria School Museum and twenty-two raised beds at St. Gregory's Next Door on Townline Road. These beds are available at no cost. Interested persons can contact Gwen Wiebe at 253-2597 or Ray Elgersma at 257-5127.

Yours truly,
Ray Elgersma, Carleton Place



Who's Reading theHumm

Here's an interesting coincidence: back in 2009, within two months of each other, we received these two photos of different people reading theHumm at the same location in Havana, Cuba. Here's what our readers had to say.

(above) **Wendy Whitaker** writes: I was off with my family and two other area families for a week in Cuba and so we took a copy to read in front of Hemingway's favourite pub. I thought you would like to see it. In the shot are Chris, Elizabeth, Isabella and Kathryn Whitaker; Tonio, Vickie, Carmen, Sebastian, and Leo Powell-Sadick; and Agnes, Taylor, Sky, and Aaron Spriggs Jackle.

(below) **Ron Ayling** writes: Here is another one of "those photos" illustrating the very wide reach of theHumm! It is of me waiting for a table outside La Bodeguita del Medio in Old Havana, February 2009.



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theHumm is a monthly arts, entertainment and ideas newspaper delivered free to businesses and visitor attractions in Almonte, Perth, Carleton Place, Westport, Pakenham, Carp, Arnprior, Lanark, Smiths Falls, Burnstown, White Lake, Balderson, and Ottawa. Our mandate is to connect and promote people and events in the small towns and rural communities of the Ottawa Valley — where the arts flourish and entertaining characters run amok!

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Anna Funnekotter — Painting My Passion

Bold, brilliant arches of colour, cascading swirls of shapes and textures... Anna Funnekotter paints in acrylics, the emotions unleashed by the music she chooses. Anna's exuberance lights up her canvases. Her passion for life finds its expression in the powerful hues of red, orange and yellow she favours. People tell her, "Your art makes me feel good."

by Sally Hansen

Way back in 1810, Goethe developed a theory of colour that categorized these hues as "positive". He further claimed that "When component colours are all selected from the positive side of the hue circle, the colour combination generates 'powerful' feelings, such as quick, lively and aspiring" <colour-emotion.co.uk/harmony.html#ref>. Those adjectives describe Anna perfectly.

"I've had the most wonderful life. I even loved high school," she laughs. A huge component of her wonderful life was realizing early on that she wanted to carry on in the artistic tradition of her forefathers. Her father is a commercial artist who immigrated to Canada in the late '50s from Holland. He worked out of their home, and "starving artist" was a phrase the family did not relate to. His father and grandfather had a business in Holland designing and fabricating vestments and textiles for use in churches. Anna's uncle, Jan Funnekotter, is a Canadian artist whose works have appeared in galleries in Quebec City and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

Open to Life

Artist Anna Funnekotter is also known as Graphic Designer Anna Tyers, Principal and Managing Partner at Earthlore Communications. She is quick to credit former employers at Van Leeuwen Boomkamp Furniture Store in Ottawa with fostering her love for interior and graphic design. The family-owned business hired Anna out of high school as a salesperson. "They taught me everything!" Anna recalls gratefully. She cultivated her growing interest by pursuing a diploma as a Graphic Arts Technician at Algonquin College, and eventually took a job with a graphics design firm. After a few years, she and three partners took the plunge and started their own business. After seventeen years, Earthlore Communications has become a full-service marketing communication firm respected for its Aboriginal expertise <www.earthlore.ca>.

Anna's business acumen and growing expertise in Aboriginal communications and language issues eventually drew her away from "on the board" designing work to focus on consulting and business

development. The migration left her with an unfulfilled creative need however, and resulted in her emergence as an abstract painter, about seven years ago.

"I was inspired to paint by a piece of music. I was driving, and I had to pull over to listen to this song by Greg Wyard. Then I drove straight to an art store and bought a large canvas, and I painted steadily to his music every chance I got for several years. Painting is a meditative process for me, and I always paint to music." She chose acrylics because the fast-drying medium is perfectly suited to her quick artistic spontaneity.

"Communicating on a visceral, emotional level" — that is the phrase that Earthlore uses to describe its approach to "topics that require heightened sensitivity and strong, visually expressive solutions that transcend language." Anna Funnekotter's abstract paintings communicate on a visceral, emotional level. She paints in the moment, the paint flowing in patterns that emerge almost unconsciously through her fingertips. She eschews sketches or planning or designing. Her abstracts reveal her inner emotions first and foremost to herself; when others like her paintings it is an added bonus.



I Have an Old Church Too

Anna doesn't constrain her spontaneity to her art. She recently bought a church. She didn't tell anyone at first, because she couldn't explain why she had bought it. Now that she is in the throes of renovating the former (1884-1925) Congregational Church in Middleville, she understands why she "had to have it." She is transforming it into a sublime art studio. "The music is beautiful inside the building. I can feel it channelling something special," she confides.

Last summer Funnekotter dropped in at a yard sale at the old Methodist church in Almonte, now known as Huddleston Hall. Here she encountered a fellow old-church owner named Chris Loosemore. When she told him, "I have an old church too," he asked her how she was proceeding with renovations. She confessed she didn't know where to begin, so he gave her a terse lecture on stewardship and offered his services. After replacing the roof and making other needed structural repairs, together they are creating an extraordinary new interior. The former church was used as the United Church Hall from 1925 to 1998, and the community is delighted to have someone taking care of the marvellous old stone building.

Anna paints in her glorious new studio most weekends and evenings throughout the summer, and has recently installed a large painting on the large front doors that resembles the sun shining during the daytime, and the moon shining at night. Like her art, the church renovations are proceeding organically, and each step leads to further exploration and delight. She now has a bathroom, kitchen and dining room, but there is no heat source yet, so you are invited to drop by and see her art and her renovations as soon as the temperature gets above 15°C. She suggests you phone first at 831-0715 to confirm that the doors will be open. You can reach her by email at <anna_tyers@hotmail.com>.

Until then, you can warm up your emotional responses by basking in the glow of Anna Funnekotter's intense, vivid acrylic abstracts on May 7, from 10AM to 5PM, during the Handmade Harvest Craft Show at the Almonte Agricultural Hall, 195 Water Street <www.handmadeharvest.blogspot.com>. She will also be hosting a show entitled "InSights" at her Middleville location on May 29 from noon to 5PM. Anna's art adorns the walls of Petit Bill's Bistro in Ottawa at 1293 Wellington Street West (729-2500, www.petitbillsbistro.com). Cindy's Candle Accessories at 124 George Street in Lanark (259-2462, www.beeglo.com) and Urban Tags at 1 Hobin Street in Stittsville (831-8247, www.urbantags.ca) also carry her works. A sizzling sample of her creations is available online at <www.artifolio.com/StudioAnna>.

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WHO Anna Funnekotter

WHAT Painter and Graphic Designer

WHERE Stittsville, <anna_tyers@hotmail.com>, <www.artifolio.com/StudioAnna>; Summer – Stone Church in Middleville, 831-0715; Cindy's Candle Accessories, 124 George St., Lanark, 259-2462, <www.beeglo.com>

WHEN May 7 (10 – 5), Handmade Harvest Craft Show, Almonte, <www.handmadeharvest.blogspot.com> May 29 (12-5) "InSights" show in Middleville

WHY "The world needs more colour."

ARTIST TRADING CARD

THE HUMM

MVFN Bluebird Houses Ready for Spring 2011 Occupancy!

Shades of Santa's workshop or maybe the Easter Bunny! Over a dozen Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists (MVFN) members and friends gathered at a recent workshop to assemble well over two hundred Peterson oval bluebird boxes. This is the third year in a row that the group has manufactured these specialized habitats for the Eastern bluebird population. This project, led by MVFN past president Mike McPhail, is part of MVFN's Habitat Creation Program.

The workshop was very busy for most of the day, with each person taking on one part of the assembly line of eight steps needed in the process. The assembly teams included Craig Athrens, Susan Athrens, Carol Walsworth, Rob Walsworth, John Willis, Joel Byrne, Pip Winters, Al Potvin, Sue McPhail, Mike McPhail, Mike Macpherson, Parthy Chandrasekaran, Peggy McPhail, Betty Parent, Howard Robinson, Mary Robinson, Sylvie Frenette, and Dave Hurd. All parts were pre-cut and drilled by MVFN

members Al Potvin and Pip Winters over the winter months. Lumber for the boxes was donated by Jesse Lance and Gord Pike. Refreshments were supplied by Peggy McPhail.

Studies show that the Peterson oval design is more user-friendly to the Eastern bluebird because of its sloped form, easy cleanability and the fact that it provides a protective structure to shelter the bird during severe weather. The import from Europe of the starling and the English house sparrow in the latter part of the nineteenth century saw these cavity dwellers take over many of the available nesting holes that the bluebirds needed. Human intervention with manufactured bluebird nesting homes helped greatly to re-establish these beautiful songbirds into this area.



Now that the pallets full of boxes are completed, the next step is the sales process. Hopefully many will be sold to property owners who have space to establish a bluebird trail. Other rural applications are possible, including establishing them within and around a series of apple trees, the birds' favourite habitat. Bluebird boxes should be mounted in pairs, about ten to twelve feet apart. Aggressive tree swallows often take over one box but won't tolerate another family of swallows nearby. However, they have no issues with bluebirds as neighbours.

MVFN now has these bluebird boxes for sale at \$18 each. The box includes a packet of mounting screws and an instruction sheet. You can buy these at any MVFN function such as the lecture series (details at mvfn.ca) or by contacting Mike McPhail at 256-7211, <mcphail@hotmail.com>. Proceeds will go to MVFN's Habitat Creation Program and the MVFN Cliff Bennett Nature Bursary Award.



May the bluebird of happiness move right in to these bird houses recently constructed by members of the MVFN! Some of the many volunteers who took part in the building bee are shown above: (l-r) Pip Winters, Betty Parent, Howard Robinson and Al Potvin (photo by Mike McPhail).

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Festival of the Maples in Perth

Do you like maple syrup? I like maple syrup. My parents like maple syrup. My nephews adore maple syrup (I suspect they swill it straight from the bottle). I am fairly confident everyone who lives within a 200km radius of Perth likes maple syrup. A lot.

Why else would over one hundred vendors get together, close off most of Gore Street, and throw a gargantuan festival by the Tay Basin celebrating all things maple, if a whole bunch of people didn't love the stuff?

Is it any wonder? Lanark County is, after all, the Maple Syrup Capital of Ontario.

This year marks Perth's Festival of the Maples' 35th anniversary. I think that's fairly convincing evidence that, in this area, maple is a popular, tasty and joyous reason to celebrate. And what better time to do it than spring? Lovely, fragrant spring.

Word on the street is that this year's festival will be the best to date.

The grand finale to the month-long maple celebration is on Saturday, April 30. The day kicks off at 7AM with the Jaycees' Pancake Breakfast (yum!), which continues until 10AM, and one would think that would be an ideal start to the festivities. Live musical entertainment on the main stage at Herriott and Gore Street (near the Tay Basin) runs from 10AM to 4PM, where there will also be pony rides (for kids of all ages), a petting zoo, and children's entertainment (including bouncy castles!). The Crystal Palace is being turned into a hub for art and theatre workshops as well as a Maple Themed puppet show, educational

activities and cooperative games for children, run by various children's program providers from Perth & District. It will be a great opportunity to try out some programs before signing up for summer activities.

The festival also features maple products and taffy sales, displays of maple syrup awards, over one hundred craft and artisan vendors, food vendors, a classic antique car display, and emergency services safety demonstrations. This year, local new car dealers are setting up Maple Auto Lane to meet their customers and remind us all what small town service is like!

What's that? You need a testimonial? Well, okay. One past visitor, Jack Davis, had this to say about Perth's wonderful festival:

"My wife and I have been attending the Festival of the Maples for several years. We attend many festivals in various towns across Ontario each year, but we always make sure to make time to come to Perth each year for the Festival of the Maples. It is, in our experience, the best small town festival in Ontario." How's that for high praise?

The festival attracts thousands of visitors annually, and is always held on the last Saturday in April. According to those in the know, the start of spring typically marks the end of the maple sap run. Perth's annual festival was initially developed to



Come join the maple-loving crowds in Perth on April 30. The 35th annual Festival of the Maples is a wonderful way to welcome spring!

To truly celebrate this milestone year, the Festival is also featuring a promotion called "The Sweet and Sticky Weekend". It offers one and two night specials at participating B&Bs. Each reservation receives a delectable welcome package featuring gift certificates for local businesses and spas, luscious maple body products, all packaged in a vintage metal sap bucket. To cap off the day, The Stone Cellar Restaurant has created a spectacular five course Maple Meal complete with wine pairings.

Perth's Festival of the Maples is all about community, family, fun, and of course, celebrating spring and maple syrup. So clean out the car and bring the whole family out for a wondrous day of delicious food and wonderful entertainment.

Want to help out? You're in luck. Volunteers are needed for the day between the hours of 6AM (yes, in the morning) and 6PM. Festival organizers need people for the following: set up, take down, assisting with parking, monitoring barricades, delivering items to vendors, and helping with children's activities. Pick your time or volunteer all day if you want. If you are interested in helping out, or would like more information, please contact the Perth & District Chamber of Commerce at 267-3200.

— John Pigeau



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Cellist Brings Passionate Close to Almonte in Concert Season

Does the rich, “living” quality of the cello resonate with so many because its sound resembles the human voice?

For anyone who loves the cello, the closing concert of Almonte in Concert’s 2010-11 series is a must. Winona Zelenka, celebrated as one of Canada’s finest cellists, will present three of Johann Sebastian Bach’s monumental *Suites for Solo Cello* (Nos. 1, 2 and 6) and a *Suite for Solo Cello* by the Spanish cellist-composer Gaspar Cassadó (1897-1966), himself a legendary interpreter of Bach’s masterwork. Ms Zelenka’s recording of the complete *Suites for Solo Cello* by Bach, released on the Marquis Classics label in June 2010, has not only gained her international acclaim, but has also earned her a nomination at the 2011 Juno Awards.

Bach’s *Suites for Solo Cello* is one of Western art music’s success stories. Of baroque origin, it has over time been interpreted, re-interpreted, adapted, and updated by countless musicians for contemporary audiences, to become one of history’s most recognizable, enduring, and beloved “classical” works. Composed about 1720, the *Suites* existed in only a few manuscripts during Bach’s lifetime and for some seventy years after his death; but gradually gained a high reputation across Europe among cellists who in many cases had never seen a printed copy. The first printed edition was issued in Paris in 1824, yet throughout the following decades the work was still regarded merely as a “set of exercises” — wonderful teaching material, but not quite appropriate somehow for consumption by concert audiences. Not until about 1900 did the *Suites* emerge in a true concert setting, justified as “real” music, and it was the great Pablo Casals (1876-1973) who chiefly brought this about. One remarkably serendipitous result was that a number of composers, including Cassadó, became interested in the solo cello as a new medium — a trend continuing unabated to the present — so that the solo cello repertoire is now being added to almost daily. Thus has Bach’s masterwork passed the most stringent of time-tests — virtually every cellist over the last 160 years has played one or more portions. Especially for 20th century composers, the *Suites for Solo Cello* has been truly a catalyst, eliciting new and varied interpretations, adaptations and reactions, without any loss of integrity in the original.

Both as soloist and as principal cellist, Winona Zelenka has performed with numerous orchestras and ensembles such as the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Hallé Orchestra in Manchester, Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Santa Fe Opera Orchestra, National Ballet of Canada, and the Zuckerman Chamber Players. Having studied with world-renowned cellist Janos Starker, Ms Zelenka has been honoured by noted composers who have created various works specifically for her. Indeed, collaborating regularly with many of Canada’s most distinguished musicians, Ms Zelenka has also been the cello soloist for such notable film scores as Atom Egoyan’s *Adoration*, István Szabó’s *Being Julia*, and the IMAX film *Under the Sea*.

The concert takes place on April 16 at 8PM in the auditorium of Almonte Old Town Hall. Tickets are \$27 for adults, \$14 for students, and may be purchased by telephone (253-3353), online <www.almonteinconcert.ca> or at Mill Street Books, 52 Mill St., Almonte (256-9090).

— Maureen Nevins



Photo by Elaine Ling

Cellist Winona Zelenka plays the final Almonte in Concert show on April 16

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First Edition Reading Series

I get big ideas.

They keep me up at night and wake me before sunrise. They make me fidgety with excitement. I scribble pages and pages of notes. Phone friends at odd hours. Feverishly check email. Research. Pace. Drum my fingers. Scratch my whiskery chin. Talk to myself. Forget to eat. Sleep in my jeans. Mistake the A5-35 for toothpaste.

You get the idea. I get wired in.

This happened to me recently: I got a big idea. Perth is a vibrant, thriving hub for the arts, I know. We have wonderful theatre

by John Pigeau

companies, talented musicians, exceptional artists and artisans, and fantastic festivals throughout the year. But something is missing, I told myself. Then it came to me... a reading series. Perth needs a reading series!

This was last December, by the way. I haven't slept much since.

But the good news is, through the magic of social networking, with the help of some generous local sponsors, and the kindness of many, Perth will soon be playing host to some of the most talented writers in the country.

It feels really cool to say that. And I'm stoked about it. Because, as it turns out, a lot of Canada's finest authors really, really want to come to Perth.

The First Edition Reading Series kicks off Friday, April 8 at 5:30PM, at The Factory Grind, with readings by national bestselling author Tish Cohen (*Town House; Inside Out Girl; The Truth About Delilah Blue*) and acclaimed Torontonian writer Rebecca Rosenblum, whose first collection of short stories, *Once*, won the Metcalf-Rooke Award and was one of *Quill and Quire's* "15 Books That Mattered in 2008". Her second collection, *The Big Dream*, is forthcoming from Biblioasis this fall.

Suggested cover is \$5, as it will be each month, with the proceeds-after-costs going to a local charity. (Our first "trial run" reading in January raised \$105 for the Perth & District Food Bank.)

Coming to town May 6 — same venue, same time — are Governor General's Award-winner Diane Schoemperlen, Mike Blouin (author of *Chase & Haven*, which earned him a Relit Award in 2009 for Best Novel in Canada, and the highly-anticipated, daring new novel *Wore Down Trust*), and Jason Heroux, one of Canada's finest, most innovative young poets and the author of the quirky 2009 novella *Good Evening, Central Laundromat*.

In the fair month of June, the world-renowned Steven Heighon will be reading from his latest novel *Every Lost Country*, and possibly from *Patient Frame*, his most recent book of poetry. Steven's fiction and poetry have been translated into ten languages, and he has received the Gerald Lampert Award, the 2010 K.M. Hunter Award (literature), The Petra Kenney Prize, the Air Canada Award, and gold medals for fiction and for poetry in the National Magazine Awards. Sharing the stage on this not-to-be-missed evening are award-winning poet and children's author Sarah Tsiang, Leigh Nash (*Goodbye, Ukulele*), and prolific Vancouver

December. Visiting authors for the months that follow include Governor General's Award winners, Scotiabank Giller Prize winners and nominees, Griffin Poetry Prize recipients, *New York Times* and *Globe and Mail* bestselling authors, and some of Canada's most promising new writers.

For all you book lovers, here is a list of a few more of the authors (and some of their book titles) who will be reading at the series between July and December. Reading poetry are: Phil Hall (*An Oak Hunch; The Little Seamstress*), Carolyn Smart (*Hooked, The Way To Come Home*), Alexandra Leggat (*Animal*), Myna Wallin (*A Thousand Profane Pieces; Confessions of a Reluctant Cougar*), Catherine Graham (*Winterkill; The Red Element*), Jenny Sampirisi (*is/was; Croak*), Meaghan Strimas (*A Good Time Had by All; Junkman's Daughter*), and Paul Veermersch (*The Reinvention of the Human Hand; The Fat Kid*).

Reading fiction are: Ibi Kaslik (*Skinny; The Angel Riots*), Sarah Selecky (*This Cake Is For The Party*), Zoe Whittall (*Bottle Rocket Hearts; Holding Still For As Long As Possible*), Lauren Kirshner (*Where We Have To Go*), Jeanette Lynes (*The Factory Voice*), Joan Thomas (*Reading By Lightning; Curiosity*), Holly Luhnning (*Quiver; Sway*), John Lavery (*Sandra Beck; Very Good Butter*), Kathleen Winter (*Annabel; boYs*), and Johanna Skibsrud, winner of the 2010 Scotiabank Giller Prize for *The Sentimentalists*, her first novel.

Phew. Breath pause.

I would name more but I do have a word count.

Also kindly sponsoring the First Edition Reading Series are *theHummm*, The Book Nook and the Perth & District Union Public Library. If you happen to own a bed and breakfast or a motel in the area, we would love to talk to you about putting up some of our prestigious visiting authors for a night. And if you would like to volunteer to help out on reading nights, please contact me at <jpigeau@hotmail.com>. Me and my big idea — now I can use all the help I can get.

A full list of authors and when they will be reading is available at <www.firsteditionreadingseries.blogspot.com>.

— John Pigeau is the founder of the First Edition Reading Series in Perth, and the author of acclaimed novel, *The Nothing Waltz*. His second novel, *The Journals of Templeton Speck*, will hit bookstores this June.



Toronto writer Rebecca Rosenblum, whose first collection of short stories, *Once*, won the Metcalf-Rooke Award, joins bestselling author Tish Cohen at The Factory Grind on April 8

poet Catherine Owen, author of over fifteen books and winner of the 2009 Earle Birney Prize.

The series, which is on the first Friday of every month (unless it's a holiday weekend, in which case we move it to the following Friday), takes place at 5:30PM at The Factory Grind — one of our generous sponsors. We've booked straight through 'til

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Classical Music Comes to MERA!

International classical pianist Katherine Chi will be at the MERA Schoolhouse in McDonald's Corners on Monday, April 4, at 7PM, to perform a Haydn *Sonata in B Minor* and five other works, including *Put On Your Running Shoes* a "virtuosic avant-garde boogie woogie" written by Alexina Louie for Ms Chi. The concert is being presented by McDonald's Corners/Elphin Recreation and Arts (MERA) and is sponsored by the Piano Plus Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing Canada's finest classical musicians to small communities. Ms Chi will play a grand piano, on loan from Piano Plus partner Yamaha, and will also discuss the music with the audience. Tickets cost \$10, free for students. The following morning, Ms Chi will give a concert at Sacred Heart School in Lanark for both Sacred Heart and Maple Grove students.

Sought after as a concerto soloist of distinction, Ms Chi is noted for the breadth of her repertoire, which she demonstrates in her choice of works for the MERA concert. She will begin with 16th century Swedish composer Jan Pieterszoon



Internationally renowned classical pianist Katherine Chi will play a concert at MERA on Monday, April 4

Sweelinck's spectacular *Fantasia Chromatica*, followed by Franz Joseph Haydn's *Sonata in B Minor*, Hob. XVI:32 — one of the sixty sonatas that he composed over the forty years of his creative life. Next will be *Symphonic Metamorphosis on Themes from Die Fledermaus* by Leopold Godowsky, which has been described as "Johann Straus waltzing with Johann Bach". After the intermission comes Nicolai Medtner's best-known work, *Fairy Tales, Op. 34*, followed by *Put on your Running Shoes*. The concert concludes with *Variations on Là ci darem la mano* by Mozart, composed by Frederic Chopin and first performed in Vienna in August 1829. The music is a virtuosic balance of grace and force, poetic declamation and bravura, full of festive imagination or, as the young Schumann put it in his review in 1831, "Hats off, gentlemen — a genius!"

Katherine Chi was born in Calgary and gave her first recital at the age of nine. After studying at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, and graduating from the New England Conservatory in Boston, she has had a distinguished career. She won the 1998 Busoni International Piano Competition and was the first Canadian and first woman to win Canada's Honens International Piano Competition. Today she lives in Boston where she teaches and pursues her doctorate at the New England Conservatory.

The forerunner of the Piano Plus Foundation, Piano Six, was founded by musician Janina Fialkowska, who realized she had not been given an opportunity to share her music with a variety of Canadian audiences. She convinced five of Canada's top concert pianists — Marc-André Hamelin, Angela Hewitt, Jon Kimura Parker, Angela Cheng, and André Laplante — to join her in taking time off from their busy international careers to tour for Piano Six. Each artist toured for ten days each year for ten years, performing and teaching in schools, churches, and concert halls throughout Canada. Piano Plus continues this tradition by offering affordable classical music across Canada. In addition to pianists, the artist roster now includes string musicians and classical singers.

Don't miss this opportunity to see a world-class performer at MERA. To reserve tickets, contact <meraschoolhouse@bell.net> or 278-0388. They may also be available at the door.

— Hilary Barrett

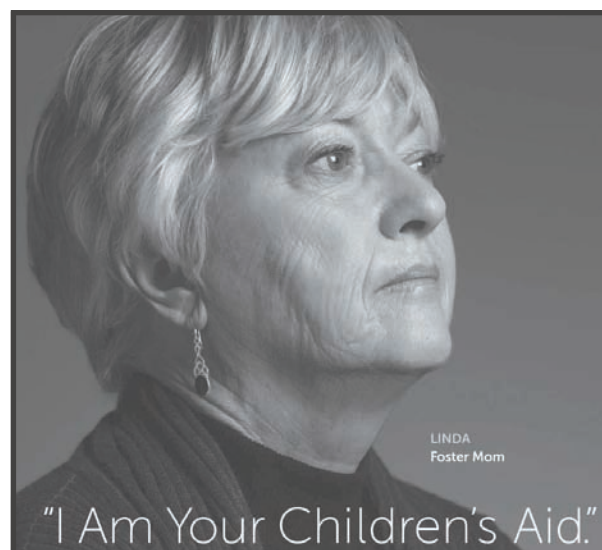
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Carp Memorial Hall
in the centre of the Village of Carp
Register: www.WestCarletonArtsSociety.ca

Back on the Smiths Falls Scene

First off this month, I need to extend my gratitude to Kris and Rob for their much appreciated support while I went to the Kingston General Hospital for a defrag and a reboot, as I like to refer to my bypass surgery. Thanks to the marvels of modern medicine, I am well on the mend and happy to be back in business with the "Smiths Falls Scene" after skipping a beat (pardon the pun) last month. I also want to acknowledge the amaz-

by Joffre Ducharme

ingly professional and caring staff at both the Smiths Falls Hospital, where my medical journey began, and the KGH. In both cases, I witnessed individuals at every level of care going beyond the call of duty to ensure that patients' needs, including mine, were met with a warm and sympathetic attitude. Kudos to all and a heartfelt (couldn't help it) THANK YOU.

Now what's happening in Smiths Falls these days? Lots and lots and lots. Check out *theHumm's* calendar for details. However, I would like to concentrate on our beloved Station Theatre this time around. You may know it as a gem of a venue for the presentation of plays by our Smiths Falls Community Theatre troupe, such as Norm Foster's *Melville Boys*, which enthralled audiences in March. And that it is. However, the last few months has seen an evolution in programming with the presentation of a variety of shows and

performances which point to a maturing venue poised to offer something for everyone in terms of on-stage performances. For example, on February 5, they welcomed local country hall of famer Freddy Dixon and his Rockabilly Show, featuring guitarist extraordinaire, Steve Pitocco.

On a totally different note, on February 19, the Station Theatre was proud to present a performance by celebrated Canadian tenor Michael Burgess, who made his name as Jean Valjean in the hit national production of *Les Miserables*, and has since gone on to success in a variety of musical media such as television, film, recording and performance.

Looking ahead to April 16, and again on May 13, you are invited to an intimate evening of enchanted storytelling. Area storytellers Jennifer Cayley and Jan Andrews <www.ottawastorytellers.ca> make up the dynamic duo known as *2 women productions*, <www.2wp.ca>.

Jennifer has been a storyteller for nearly two decades, working in community venues and at festivals locally, across the country, in the USA, and most recently in Wales. Her repertoire includes epic material, traditional folk and fairy tales, literary material, and autobiographical material.

Jan is widely recognized as a storyteller who touches her audiences with the depth and power of her work. She has travelled extensively, telling stories at festivals and in concerts across Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States in her twenty years of performing.

On April 16, *2 women productions* presents storyteller Marta Singh with her performance *Landscapes of Silence — A Daughter's Story*. It's about family secrets: first a secret from growing up under the Junta in Argentina and then the secret of an unwanted pregnancy, and then the secret... A performance described by some as spellbinding.

On May 13, *2wp* are proud to introduce you to storyteller Dan Yashinsky and musician Brian Katz who will be performing *Talking You In — A Life Watch*. One of Canada's most revered storytellers, Dan tells the tale of his first steps into storytelling (a desperate effort to control unruly campers), interweaves a folk tale, and then moves to the birth of a second son. For weeks, this child lay unconscious in a neo-natal intensive care unit. Not knowing what else to do, his father used stories to "talk him home". Famed guitarist Brian Katz interweaves original music, making this a "canta storia".

Tickets for both shows are \$18 in advance at Spotlight on the Rideau, 39 Chambers Street, 284-4141, or at Tickets Please, 485-6434 or <www.ticketsplease.ca>, or \$20 at the door of The Station Theatre, 63 Victoria Avenue, <www.smithsfallstheatre.com>. All shows start at 7:30PM.

Plays resume again with an offering in May. And, again with a twist. The troupe is already hard at work preparing for its first "musical theatre" production as they



Storyteller Dan Yashinsky and musician Brian Katz will perform on May 13 in Smiths Falls' beautiful Station Theatre

will be staging *High School Musical*, presently planned for the 3rd week in May.

I can't wait to take in one of those spoken word presentations and I can't wait to see what else the Station Theatre has planned for us in the coming months. To help us all keep up with developments, the theatre has a new blog page which includes an events calendar: <thestationtheatre.blogspot.com>.

Take care and see you at the Falls.

— Joffre Ducharme is a local photographer and writer. Reach him at <cjoffrecare@yahoo.ca>.

2010 Tax Tip

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Earth Day Celebration on Blueberry Mountain — Nature Walk on April 16

Did you ever wonder about the origin of the Earth Day celebration? Those of us from the older generation will remember that there was no such celebration when we were young. Who invented it then?

Earth Day used to be called Arbour Day, which had its origins in the late 1800s. Young Sterling Morton and his new bride had moved from the east to Nebraska and deeply missed the east's trees and shrubs while on the barren plains. Morton understood the importance of trees for shade and windbreaks, for building houses and for fuel and so, being a journalist, he decided to write an article encouraging other pioneers to plant trees on their farms. He made a promise to donate \$100 to the farmer who planted the most trees. On the first

Arbour Day in 1872, over one million trees were planted in one day. It soon became an annual event and was eventually celebrated on Morton's birthday, April 22.

Almost one hundred years later, in 1970, American senator Gaylord Nelson decided to change the focus of the Arbour Day event to help draw attention to the deterioration of the earth's natural resources. The celebration was named Earth Day, with twenty million Americans celebrating the event. Twenty years later one of the original event coordinators, Harvard University student Denis Hayes, decided to take it to the international level. In 1990, Hayes helped organize Earth Day events in 141 nations including Canada. Today, Earth Day is celebrated in more than 175 different countries. In Canada, Earth Day has expanded into Earth Week and even Earth Month to accommodate the numerous celebrations.

Many people in eastern Ontario celebrate Earth Day by climbing **Blueberry Mountain**, one of the highest peaks around. Blueberry Mountain lies in the heart of Cliffland, 1250 acres of protected wilderness near Flower Station. The Clifford family has a Conservation Agreement with the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust Conservancy to protect the land for 999 years and allow its forest to return to its natural old growth state. If you've never had the joy of seeing the first tiny shoots of spring green appear along the path to the mountaintop and listening to the cascading waterfall, then you won't



What better way to celebrate Earth Day than with a hike up beautiful Blueberry Mountain — one of the Seven Wonders of Lanark County!

want to miss it. The view from the top of Blueberry Mountain is exceptionally beautiful in the springtime, and it's no mystery why it was named one of the Seven Wonders of Lanark County.

This year's Earth Day guided nature walk will be held on Saturday, April 16, departing at 10AM sharp. The cost is \$10 and all proceeds will be donated to the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust Conservancy. We suggest you bring a picnic lunch to enjoy at the top. We will be accepting bids on an interesting assortment of silent auction items to help raise funds for ongoing stewardship of the properties entrusted to the land conservancy. Winners will be announced after the hike while refreshments are served.

For more information, please contact Howard or Jean Clifford at 259-3412. Directions are available at <www.mmltc.ca>.

Local Greens Unanimous in Choice of Candidate

On Saturday, March 26 John Hogg was unanimously selected to represent the Green Party in the riding of Carleton-Mississippi Mills. He is a long-time Kanata resident with a background including management and executive positions in high-tech companies ranging from start-ups to multinationals.

The Hogg family has 21 years experience of living in the riding, which provides the new Green Party Candidate with an excellent understanding of the prevailing issues. John told his audience in his acceptance speech that: "The voters of Carleton-Mississippi Mills say they are looking for something different. Here is the opportunity to make a lasting, fundamental change."

A critical issue largely ignored by other parties is the radically changed global economy of the 21st Century. "The days of cheap energy are gone. There's an urgent need for us to become more environmentally responsible. This has major implications for the future of Carleton-Mississippi Mills. We have to evolve our community to reduce and adapt to climate change. At the same time, our riding has the resources, the people and the entrepreneurial spirit to prosper in a low-carbon society — if we enable it at all levels of government," John explained.

Other points of emphasis included the need to reduce reliance on landfills, preserve natural resources, get farmland back to producing food for local markets, move to mass transit, and "to come to grips with a health care system that lets so many down when they need it most."

John has served and chaired on neighbourhood, community and school associations. He is currently the CEO of the federal Green Party riding association. In his personal time he is an avid long-distance cross-country skier, with Canadian Ski Marathon permanent bib #228. He also contributes to the community in a more public way as a piper in the Highland Mist Pipe Band.

Yet for all the threats we face today, John is positive. "The problems aren't technical," he says. "If we, as a society, focus on the real issues, we can solve them. That's why I joined the Green Party. The party knows what matters and believes that success comes from working together."

The official kick-off of John's campaign takes place on Saturday, April 2 at 7PM at O'Connor's Pub in the Kanata Centrum. He wants to hear what's on voters' minds and give them a chance to meet the candidate.

For more information, go to John's campaign site at <www.johnhogg.ca>.

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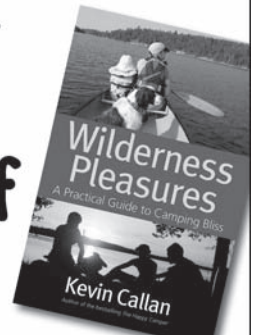
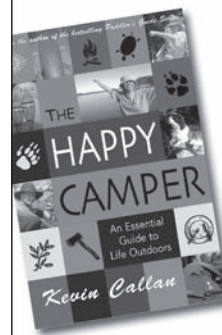
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Flavour of the Month

Gray Palmer — A Life on the Lake

At 89 years of age, Gray Palmer can pull more than a few good stories out of a hat about his life growing up on a farm next to Christie Lake, and about some of the characters, events and changes he's witnessed over the years. Recently we visited together at his home with a view of the lake that probably hasn't changed that much since the time of his childhood.

Gray Palmer's grandparents lived in and ran the Christie Lake Inn, bought in 1890 — essentially a boarding house that offered food, lodging and drink to guests (and their horses I imagine, in those days). Gray's parents bought the stone house on 200 acres next door to the Inn and raised their two boys

by Susie Osler

there, at the east end of the lake, ten miles west of Perth. Even back in the '20s and '30s, it sounds like it was a "happening" place. With the Christie Lake Train Station located at the north end of aptly named "Station Bay", town and city folk could (and did) visit and holiday on the lake — either in guest cottages or in private cottages that were being built. People from Perth, Ottawa and even as far away as Toronto spent their summer months here.

Much like today, the summer population around the lake swelled with cottagers. This influx of people presented the locals with specific economic opportunities. At some point, Gray's father realized that money could be made using his carpentry skills to build private cottages around the lake. Pointing to a cottage on one of the islands we could see from his window, Gray remarked "My father hauled local materials over there and built that whole thing for a couple thousand dollars!" In order to free up time for this work, Gray's father gradually handed over the bulk of his farm work to a fellow called Norman Morris, who'd arrived one summer looking for work. It was not uncommon for men to try to find work helping with chores and the harvest in exchange for room and board, and Morris eventually became a permanent boarder, living with with the Palmers for more than seventy years.

Gray remembers his family delivering all kinds of things to cottagers. Their proximity to the lake turned the winter task of cutting and storing ice into an opportunity to earn additional summer income. Large blocks were cut and stored in their icehouse in winter to provide refrigeration to cottagers (and themselves) in summertime. Ice cutting was not a simple task, and a wet ice saw could easily freeze up if not maneuvered properly. After cutting, two men would haul the blocks out of the lake with ice tongs and slide them up a ramp and onto a sleigh. At home the process was reversed — blocks were slid down off the sleigh and stacked in the ice house with sawdust packed between them for insulation and to prevent their freezing together. As the stack of ice got taller, the work got harder — they were heavy! In summertime, the blocks were cut up into smaller pieces and delivered. I am amazed that ice would keep well into the summer. In fact, Gray doesn't ever remember running out of it.

Other deliveries made to people around the lake included fruits and vegetables from their large garden, as well as butter, cream and milk. It sounds a bit like the (Community Supported Agriculture) bins of produce that people today can have delivered by farmers through the growing season!

Wherever possible, excess from the farm was sold elsewhere. Livestock (lamb, chickens, turkeys, geese, calves) went to town to be sold in addition to wool, syrup, and firewood. Despite raising sheep, Gray never remembers the family ever eating lamb — it was all sold. A bush cord of wood (a stack 8'x4'x4') that took two men with cross cut saws the better part of two days to cut, split with wedges, and deliver with horse and wagon (or sleigh), ten miles into Perth, fetched a whopping \$5.

Understandably, Gray grew up learning the value of a dollar from an early age. As a kid he would shoot groundhogs and deliver them four or five miles away by bike, for ten cents apiece, to a local farmer to feed foxes raised for fur coats. He also remembers working for Toronto cottagers and the onerous task of rolling their tennis court with a heavy steel roller. He chuckled, saying that his grandchildren tell him he's losing his marbles when he tells them that as a teenager he made nine dollars for working six days a week at the hardware store in Perth. Pensions, employment insurance and health benefits were no incentive — they weren't even heard of at that time! Each week, after paying \$5 plus a box of vegetables from his mother's garden to the "two old maids" he boarded with in Perth, and purchasing the "weekend gas special" — 5 gallons for \$1 — to drive home for Sunday, he would be left with only \$3 a week. People knew how to save money. Then again, he says "there wasn't the things to splurge on you have today."

However, Gray was pretty keen on cars and selling them. His first car cost him \$10 — an old Chevy Touring. Returning to Perth in 1946 after six years with the Air Force, he worked first for the new Perth Canadian Tire — imagine this... "a store so small you walked in and had to back out of!" Tires were put on cars sitting at the curb, manually, using



a tire iron and a hand pump! He moved on from there to work for Perth Motors, selling farm machinery and every kind of used car. He loved the camaraderie with the two guys he worked with and the social nature of a career in sales. I can imagine that the twinkle in his eye, his sense of humour, and his sociable good nature must have lent themselves well to this job, just as much as his solid work ethic and entrepreneurial spirit.

Naturally, as we looked out over the lake our conversation also touched on fishing — an activity that seems to go hand in hand with a life lived largely on a lake. "There were all kinds of fish... It used to be you dropped a line in the lake and pulled out a fish... Now you're lucky to catch any at all!" The fish population and many other things have dramatically changed in the last eighty years to be sure, yet some things still seem very much the same.

Bicycle Month Writing Competition

Get your pens ready — it's time for the Bicycle Month Writing Competition to begin! Mill Street Books in Almonte is looking for true stories that will inspire, encourage and entertain bicycle enthusiasts during the month of June.

Mary and Terry Lumsden, owners of Mill Street Books, are excited about sponsoring the competition. In the past two years, stories were submitted from writers across Canada — one of the winners was from British Columbia! "We look forward to reading the entries and are pleased to participate in this celebration of the third annual Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month," enthused Mary.

This year there will be three age categories: up to 13 years, 14 to 18, and 19 and up. Prizes of Mill Street Books gift certificates will range from \$20

to \$100. Winners will be announced on June 10, and their stories will be featured on the Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month website.

Entries must be typed and cannot exceed 1500 words. Only unpublished stories are eligible. To allow unbiased judging, the author's name, contact details and age category are to be included on a separate sheet. The entry fee is \$5 for youth and \$10 for adults per submission. Entries must be received by May 30. Please submit to: Writing Contest, Mill Street Books, Box 436, Almonte, ON K0A 1A0. If the total entry fees collected exceed the prize amounts, the extra money will be donated to other Bicycle Month activities.

For details, please visit <mmbicyclemonth.ca> and <millstreetbooks.com>.

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 Gaspar Cassadó
Suite for Solo Cello

Saturday, April 16, 2011 8PM
Almonte Old Town Hall, 14 Bridge Street, Almonte
 Tickets Adult \$27 Student \$14
 Available by phone at 613 253 3353, online at www.almonteinconcert.ca
 or at Mill Street Books, 52 Mill Street, Almonte, 613 256 9090

ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL
 CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

Mississippi Mills

Youth Art Competition

Expressions of Carleton Place

Are you a youth between the ages of 6 and 18? Do you enjoy drawing, taking photos or writing poetry? If you answered yes to these questions, then Arts Carleton Place has an event for you! This year, Arts Carleton Place is hosting the first *Expressions of Carleton Place* youth art competition, which will run alongside the BIA's third annual Lamb's Down Festival on June 11. Arts CP's mandate is to "empower artists and area residents through the arts," and they believe that this starts with engaging youth in the arts. Arts CP currently runs the Express Yourself program, and this youth art competition falls under its umbrella. For more information on this program, please see the Arts CP website.

All area youth are invited to submit a piece that expresses their vision of Carleton Place. Participants may be inspired by a building, a person, or the natural beauty of Carleton Place. What makes the town special? The competition is split into three age groups: 6 to 10, 11 to 14, and 15 to 18 year olds. There are four categories: Visual Arts, Digital Photography, Poetry, and Slam Poetry. Prizes, pro-

vided by sponsors, will be awarded to the top three entries in each age group and category.

Arts CP would like to thank the following local businesses and organizations for their sponsorship and support: Brush Strokes (Visual Arts), Picture It Studio (Digital Photography), Read's Book Shop (Poetry), CP Cinemas (Slam Poetry) and the BIA. The competition officially opens on April 1, and Arts CP will be accepting entry forms until May 1. All artwork must be submitted to Arts Carleton Place at the Train Station, 132 Coleman Street, by May 20, to facilitate judging.

Entry forms and the rules of the competition are available at several locations in town: Arts Carleton Place, the library, Brush Strokes and Read's Book Shop. Forms are also available at www.artscarletonplace.com; find them on the Youth Art Competition page, found under "Our Programs". For further information, please contact them at 257-2031 or artscpoffice@gmail.com.

Start creating... they can't wait to see what it is about Carleton Place that inspires you!

Bead Bop Around Ottawa and the Valley

In 2009, five enterprising women who owned bead shops launched the first Bead Bop event, and the public's response was very enthusiastic! This year, The Glass Shoppe Studio joins Ottawa's Canada Beading Supply, McBead Creations and Dragon's Lair Beads, as well as Rideau Art and Beads in Kemptville and Odie's Beads in Renfrew, for the event.

Bead Bop Passports go on sale April 1 at all participating stores and the Bead Bop lasts from April 29 to May 7. For \$12, tax included, participants receive a loot bag which, during the Bead Bop period, entitles you to a 15% discount on most merchandise at all stores. Participants can elect to be part of a draw at each store to win a \$50 gift certificate. If you have your passport stamped at all six locations (no purchase is necessary), you can enter the grand prize draw valued at \$300. During the week, there is a range of special events: "make and take" classes, trunk shows, demonstrations, and talks on various aspects of beading. A great value for \$12!

Check out the Bead Bop website www.beadbop.ca to plan your visits to these diverse bead stores. An excursion to Odie's in Renfrew and to Rideau Art & Beads in Kemptville is a good opportunity to bring together a few friends for a ladies' day out. Perhaps a trip to Ottawa's Tulip Festival can be combined with a little bead shopping. There is little overlap in the merchandise carried by the six stores: each owner has a unique approach and you will receive a warm welcome at each stop. Each is bound to have something new or unusual to inspire your creativity! Visit the following websites to see what each participating merchant is offering during the Bead Bop: Canada Beading Supply www.canbead.com, Dragon's Lair Beads www.dragonslairbeads.com, McBead Creations www.mcbeadcreations.com, Odie's Beads www.odiesbeads.ca, Rideau Art & Beads www.rideauartbeads.blogspot.com, The Glass Shoppe Studio www.theglassshoppesstudio.com.

Make a day of it all! Come "Bop" with us!

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www.alliancecoin.com

Art in the Attic, Art on the Walls

Art in the Attic

You are sure to find something special and unique among the exciting and quality artwork being presented by the members of the Almonte & Area Artists' Association at the Art In The Attic sale. Original works in a great variety of media on many subjects all at fantastic prices, will be showcased at the Old Town Hall at 14 Bridge Street, Almonte. Opening night is Friday, May 6, from 7PM to 9PM. The show then runs Saturday, May 7, from 10AM to 7PM, and Sunday, May 8, from 10AM to 4PM.

Back by popular demand, the senior art students from Almonte & District High School will also be putting on an exhibit.

by Miss Cellaneous

Breeze on by and inhale some local creativity and inspiration... For further details phone Laurel at 256-5863 or visit <www.4a-artists.ca>.

The members of the Almonte & Area Artists' Association reside in Almonte and the surrounding community. The mandate of the AAAA is to encourage artists of all ages to continue to grow and expand their knowledge and enjoyment of visual art and give them a venue in which to display their creativity to the public. Members of AAAA receive monthly newsletters, monthly talks by guest speakers and the opportunity to participate in Art In The Attic. New members are always welcome and have an opportunity to join at the art show.



See works by Claire Flowers (above) and many others



The Friends of Gallery Perth invite you to the *Legacy Art* show, beginning April 22

Legacy Art at Gallery Perth

From April 22 to May 30, Gallery Perth at Code's Mill presents *Legacy Art*. This show is a retrospective of significant paintings by Canadian watercolour artist Garnet Hazard, and also features new works by contemporary artists Bryce Bell, Larry Bracegirdle, Marc Brzustowski and Gordon Harrison. Masterly paintings from the past are juxtaposed with impressive new creations in a show inspired by the awareness of artistic merit.

In small towns such as Perth, changing economic values have awakened creative resources, a trend that is being recognized and championed. Supporting artists and investing in art reaps rewards for us now and creates a legacy for the future. The Gallery at Code's Mill has been received with open arms by the "Friends of Gallery Perth" who have become an integral and essential part of the enterprise, endowing it with enthusiasm and hands-on support.

Gallery Perth welcomes everyone to a vernissage on Sunday, May 1 from 2-5PM at Code's Mill, 53 Herriott Street in Perth.

Call for Artists and Fine Craftspeople

Organizers are inviting applications for participation in the 15th annual Crown and Pumpkin Studio Tour, set for October 8, 9 and 10. The tour is based in Mississippi Mills, but guests from outside the area are welcome. For information and application details, please send an email to Barbara at <b.mullally@sympatico.ca> or call at 256-3647.

Art Workshops with Marcia Lea

Over the next several months, Arts Carleton Place member Marcia Lea will be offering one-day workshops at the Carleton Place Public Library. Each one is designed for both drawing and painting (water-colour or acrylic), and begins with a presentation on the day's topic followed by a demonstration and discussion period. After a coffee break, the rest of the day will be spent creating many works of art based on the day's theme.

Workshops will feature live models doing both short and long poses. The day will conclude with a constructive critique of the work produced.

Spaces are very limited, so please book early. Each workshop runs from noon to 6PM and costs \$88.50, which includes instruction, live model, coffee and sweets. There is a 15% discount if you register for three or more workshops. The topics include Portraits (April 17), The Figure (May 1), Lighting Effects (May 15) and Drapery (June 12).

For more information or to register, please call 878-9310 or email <leamarcia71@gmail.com>.


West Carleton Family Health Team Hosts New Artist

The West Carleton Family Health Team's art curator, Catherine Gutsche, has changed the art on the walls once again. Until the end of May, the featured artist is Jean Anne Murray. Jean Anne is a local artist and student of Margaret Ferarro's studio in Kinburn. Jean Anne works in pastel and paints images from her travels to France, the Netherlands and the east coast of Canada. To get to know Jean Anne and her work visit <artondisplay-carp.blogspot.com>.

The art is on display at the West Carleton Family Health Team, 119 Langstaff Drive in Carp. If you have seen a painting that you'd like to purchase, please contact the artist at <jamur@rogers.com> or Catherine Gutsche at <cgutsche@xplornet.com>.

Westport Studio Tour

The annual Westport and Area Dandelion Gardens Studio Tour is being held again on the May long weekend (21-23) from 10AM to 5PM daily. The unique fine art found on the tour includes magical photographic art, elegant flowing sculptures, unique carvings, traditional rug hooking, gorgeous comfortable clothing, rustic birdhouses, stained and fused glass, recycled metal sculptures, lampwork glass and fine jewellery, recycled farm equipment, original prints, rustic mosaic glass art, unique pottery, architectural sculptures, wire art, heritage paintings, oils and acrylics, weaving and much more. For more information, contact Loretta Moore at 273-8347 or <hookedonthelake@kingston.net>, or see <www.artatwork.ca/westport_studiotours>.




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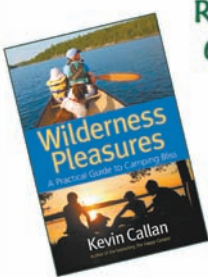
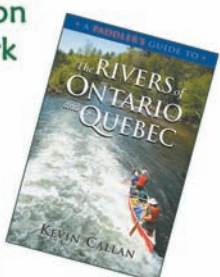
Wilderness Pleasures, Paddling Joys & Camping Bliss

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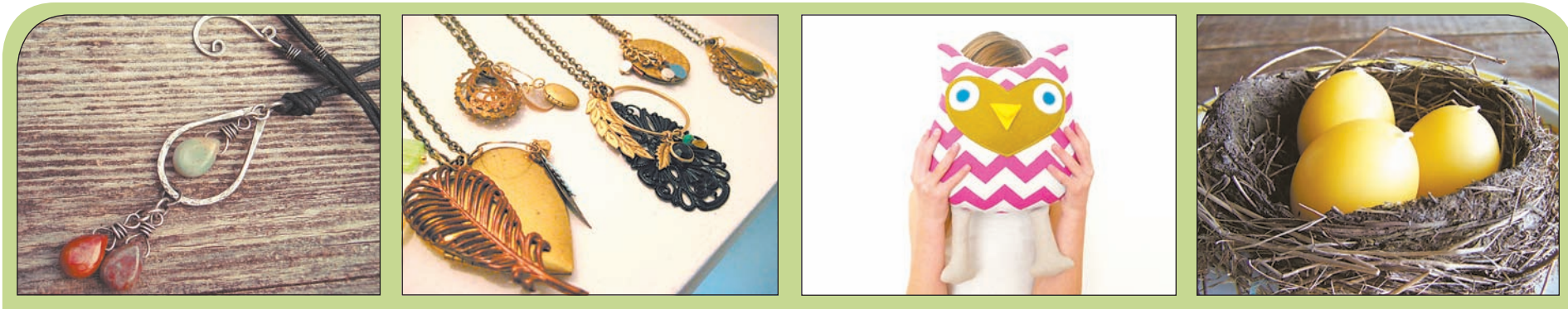
May 1, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.
Royal Canadian Legion
69 George St., Lanark

Entrance: \$10

All proceeds will
be donated to
land preservation

Book signing and refreshments at Nature Lover's
Bookshop following the presentation.
For information call **613-259-5654**.



Handmade Harvest – Spring Edition!

After an incredible response to their call for crafters and a larger than anticipated shopper turnout at their first craft show in November (when more than 2500 people squeezed in to join the fun), Handmade Harvest organizers Emily Arbour and Colleen Hewitt decided they might just be on to something. After catching their collective breath, they quickly sought out a larger venue and booked a date for a spring show.

Brought to you by Handmade Nest and sponsored by Dutch Girl Textiles, the spring edition of the Handmade Harvest Craft Show finds a new home at the Almonte Agricultural Hall for one day only: Saturday, May 7. Doors open at 10AM sharp and close at 5PM, and the first fifty shoppers will be treated to nifty swag bags!

This highly anticipated event is set to host more than fifty talented vendors from Toronto to Ottawa (and everywhere in between), selling one-of-a-kind wares

of all sorts. Like the inaugural show in late 2010, this Handmade Harvest promises to have something for everyone with a well-rounded selection of just about everything. From jewellery and accessories to body care and paper goods, not to mention toys, art, home fashions, clothing and even edibles, you'll find it here — only this time, there's going to be more of it!

Admission is \$2 (which also enters shoppers into a draw) and parking is ample and free, so come to Almonte on Saturday, May 7 and join in the handmade fun. Since the show is the day before Mother's Day, why not bring mom along (or daughter and her wallet!). Food and refreshments will be available, and beautiful downtown Almonte is just a block away (visit www.downtownalmonte.ca for details). For more information about the show, please visit www.handmadeharvest.com. Crafters interested in applying for upcoming shows are encouraged to visit the website and jump on the handmade bandwagon.

What's Their Secret?

So how did two newbie craft show organizers pull off such a successful first event and have crafters beating down the door to participate in their follow-up show? Emily describes a few of the techniques that she and Colleen feel had the biggest impact for them: "For the fall show, we had a competition in which we asked crafters and shoppers to write in and tell us how they were helping to spread the word (e.g. putting up a poster at their work place, sending an email to their mailing list, blogging, entering us on craft websites, tweeting, facebook-ing, etc.), in return for being entered into a draw for three gift cards to Blackbird (Emily's funky shop in Almonte). We got a TON of email from people. It ended up being one of the best ideas we had for advertising the event."

The inventive use of social media definitely helped them attract a very hip and connected audience, Emily adds. And the

same techniques have helped spread the word about the success of the first show, which has resulted in many more crafters applying to participate in the spring edition. "Last time we had just over thirty applications, and this time it was almost a hundred," Emily explains. "It had everything to do with past vendors blogging about the November show and talking about it on Facebook. Also, this year we hooked up with a website called Craft Co-op <www.craftco-op.com>. The girl who runs it found us somehow and wrote to ask if she could post our event on her website (she's basically a source for Ottawa crafters who are looking for events). She's a crafter herself and will be a vendor at our show as well."

Don't miss the fun — check out <www.handmadeharvest.com> for more details, and plan a trip to Almonte on May 7.

— Kris Riendeau

You might think of Blackbird as just a Gift Shop. But we're not in to labels. Not figuratively speaking anyway. Literally speaking, we love labels. Especially clothing labels. Accessory labels. And labels on pretty little things at pretty little prices.

Join us Friday April 15th from 5pm to 10pm at Heritage Court 14 Mill Street, Almonte as we open the doors to our 2nd ever (bigger and better) **Clothing & Accessories Pop Up Shop.**

For one night only we'll be selling Spring coats, clothing, jewelry, handbags, hats and more at "snooze you lose" prices.

Since we're taking the shop off-site we are only able to accept cash or cheque at this event. We'll pay the tax.

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WWW.BLACKBIRDSHOP.CA . 613-256-9669

pop
up
shop

Handmade Harvest spring edition
craft show

The springtime edition of Handmade Harvest will host more than 50 talented DIY vendors from Ottawa to Toronto and everywhere in between.

This round we've relocated to a larger venue to accommodate even more clothing & accessories, bath & body care, home decor, art, kids & baby and even edibles. Not to mention shoppers!

Saturday May 7th, 2011
10am to 5pm
Almonte Agricultural Hall

Admission: \$2 Parking: Free

Free swag bags to first 50 shoppers

www.handmadeharvest.com






Mississippi Mills — Outside The Lines

An exciting new community project is currently underway thanks to the interest of Mississippi Mills resident Gabriel Fowler.

Mississippi Mills — Outside the Lines is an activity storybook that will promote local festivals, annual events, historic figures, and iconic places in Mississippi Mills. Popular events such as agricultural fairs, Puppets Up!, Bicycle Month, Light up the Night, as well as famous sons McKenzie and Naismith, will all be featured. *Outside the Lines* includes engaging, creative and exciting activities that will connect readers to the community and offer visitors reasons to return.

The book will certainly become a cherished souvenir of the community, providing information to visitors and residents alike on special events, activities, locations of interest, and local businesses. It is hoped that this book will serve to spark children's creative natures, and encourage

them to explore and learn about the community.

Each book will cost \$5, with all of the proceeds from the sale going to two local community charities: the TYPs Youth Centre and the Mills Community Support Corporation, to help with a community garden project. The anticipated launch date for the book is November 2011, allowing the books to be purchased as a unique and memorable Christmas gift for someone close to you.

Mississippi Mills — Outside The Lines will be available for purchase at local businesses and other convenient locations, so keep checking *theHumm* for updates about where you will be able to find this exciting book!

For more information, to make suggestions regarding the book's content, or for businesses, events, or museums interested in sponsorship opportunities, please contact Jeff Mills at <jmills@themills.on.ca>.



Pierrot Langevin's delightfully whimsical painting of downtown Almonte will become the front page of *Mississippi Mills — Outside the Lines*

Jory Nash at Shakey Acres

The long-awaited house concert by Jory Nash at Shakey Acres is set for Saturday, April 9. The Toronto singer-songwriter was originally scheduled to perform in the Incident At Shakey Acres house concert series last November, but the concert had to be rescheduled at the last minute.

Many music lovers in the area will remember Nash for his soul workshop at last summer's Blue Skies festival, where he wowed audiences with his renditions of well-loved hits by Smokey Robinson, Sam Cooke and Marvin Gaye. But cover songs are only a small portion of Nash's extensive repertoire, which is chiefly made up of his own outstanding compositions that blend elements of his widely varied influences into an original stew of sound. His

six critically acclaimed CDs each have a distinct personality and a high standard of quality, but all of them reflect Nash's recognizable style. His 2009 album, *New Blue Day* was awarded Album of the Year honours by Penguin Eggs (Canada's folk and roots music magazine).

Jory Nash's performance at Shakey Acres (in Bennett Lake Estates, between Fallbrook and Maberly) will begin at 8PM on Saturday, April 9. Tickets are \$20 and are available at Shadowfax in Perth, the Nature Lover's Bookstore in Lanark, Fall River Espresso in Maberly and at Sharbot Lake Pharmacy. For more information, or to reserve tickets, phone 268-2376 or email <shakeyacres@hotmail.com>.

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It's a Show
and you're invited.
April 21st 6-9pm.

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Fancy & Funky,
Footware**

Original Paintings
by Rosemary Leach

thevillageidiotgallery

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in the new Heritage Court (613) 461-2211

Miss Mills Pitches In and Branches Out!

TheHumm welcomes Miss Mills — the newest representative of her Town — who will be our intrepid puppet reporter covering the arts and community events scene in Mississippi Mills (comprising Almonte, Pakenham, and Ramsay Township). At the same time, we bid a fond farewell to Euphemia Lark and her cousin Eulalie Lark-Spur who, for the past several years, have contributed the “Arts Council A La Carte” column from the same area. Thanks for many great years, gals!

by Miss Mills

Miss Mills — The Back Story

Whenever Mississippi Mills and puppets come together, there's a fair chance that the talented Noreen Young is standing at the intersection directing traffic. This dynamic lady is well known for her illustrious career as a puppet builder and puppeteer in Canadian children's television, as well as for her more recent role developing the Puppets Up! International Puppet Festival in Almonte.

Noreen explains the genesis of her newest puppet creation: “In the fall of 2010, I was commissioned to build a puppet to be named ‘Miss Mills’. What she would look like was up to me. After my design drawing was approved, I started the puppet build and Miss Mills was completed at the beginning of 2011. This colourful little puppet was really fun to make! I have to admit though that she was a bit of a challenge because I wanted her to appeal to children and adults alike, and for her costume to incorporate the colours and design of the Town logo.”

“I was delighted and honoured to be asked to build a puppet character that would be a spokesperson for the Town of Mississippi Mills. On March 29, she will be formally presented at a meeting of the Community and Economic Development Committee of Town Council, along with a brand new puppet stage which has been custom built for her by Bruce Kingsley. I know that Miss Mills is looking forward to attending the many special events around town this summer!”

In Miss Mills' Own Words

I certainly am looking forward to a summer full of fantastic events. But apparently there's no need to wait for the hot weather to start getting active in this neck of the woods — there are plenty of ways for me to start connecting to the community in April! In fact, I've found the perfect way to “pitch in”. On April 16, I'm going to grab a garbage bag and help with the giant community spring cleaning that is **Pitch-In Day**. Bags will be available soon at Nicholson's Sundries in Pakenham, at the Clayton General Store, the community mailboxes in Appleton, and in Almonte at Baker Bob's and the Recreation and Culture office in the Old Town Hall. I'm going to grab plenty and make a day of it, because there's nothing like a good clean-up job of our town streets and rural roads to spruce things up after the snow melts. And everyone is encouraged to participate, so I'm sure to meet lots of new friends. To make things even easier,

the bags will be picked up by regular garbage collection and don't even need a tag.

Here's a nifty idea: what if we set aside five minutes every Friday to go for a quick walk, pick up litter, and toss it in our own garbage cans or the public municipal ones? This way our communities will look spiffy for weekend visitors, and also help us residents take pride in the way the place looks. We could call it... **Five-Minute Fridays** — what a great way to keep our communities beautiful!

And speaking of beautiful communities, it won't be long before all of our lovely trees are in full bloom. To help celebrate the season, **Arbour Week** is back for its second year in Mississippi Mills! This is a great opportunity to learn about the various types of trees, celebrate their benefits, and plant more of them. Many events have been planned by the Mississippi Mills Beautification Committee, and they were kind enough to tell me all about them in time for my first column in *theHumm*.

The week kicks off with **two excellent films** being shown at the Pakenham Arena hall on Wednesday, April 27, at 7PM. *The Man Who Planted Trees* is an animated film about a young man who meets a shepherd in Provence, France. The shepherd gives him water, and as they walk, the young man notices the shepherd planting acorns. This 25-minute video has been the inspiration for many who envision a world that recognizes and treasures the value of trees.

Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathi is a compelling documentary about the first environmentalist and first African woman to win the Nobel Peace prize. The film explores the courageous journey of Maathi and the Green Belt Movement, which has resulted in the planting of over forty million trees in Kenya and the expansion of their work and influence worldwide.

Thanks to members of the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists and Brian Anderson of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, six **Tree Walks and Talks** will

take place during the week: on April 28 at 2PM, led by Brian Anderson at the Mill of Kintail; on April 29 at 7PM at “Al Potvin's Arboretum” (38 Carss St., Almonte); on May 1 at 2PM, led by Cliff Bennett at 1772 Clayton Rd.; on May 2 at 7PM, led by Ray Holland at the Pakenham Arena; on May 3 at 2PM, led by Brian Anderson at Blakeney park; and on May 3 at 7PM, led by Mike O'Malley from the Appleton mail boxes (wear rubber boots).

New this year is a **Tree Bike Ride** of approximately 20km. I plan to scoot right over to the new Almonte Bicycle Works on Bridge Street and see if they have a tree bike that I can ride... Jeff Mills will lead the procession on Sunday, May 1, meeting at Palms coffee shop in Almonte at 9AM.

Also new this year is a **guest speaker!** Diana Beresford-Kroeger, the renowned and sometimes controversial author of *The Global Forest*, will give a presentation entitled “Global Forest: Its Impact

on the Health and Wealth of the Planet” on Wednesday, May 4, at 7:30PM at Almonte's Old Town Hall.

Also watch for the moveable display of tree photos at the various events during Arbour Week. Organizers wish to thank all the local photographers who have shared their talents.

Plant Your Own!

Being a newcomer to town, I'm quite keen on “sprucing up” my puppet stage with its very own greenery. In honour of Arbour Week, you are invited to do the same where you live! The Beautification Committee invites residents to buy unlimited quantities of tree seedlings of Fraser Fir (beautiful but deer find it tasty), Norway Spruce (perfect for wind breaks) or Colorado Blue Spruce for only \$1 each. To order, please call Bonnie Hawkins at 256-1077. The seedlings are from Kings Creek Trees near Ashton and will be delivered to the Almonte's Old Town Hall on Friday, April 29. And if you'd prefer to start with larger trees, the Mississippi Mills Chamber of Commerce has an excellent selection of shade, flowering and fruit trees for sale. Visit <www.mississippimills.com> for details and order forms (orders must be received by April 21).

I do hope I haven't forgotten any important information — there certainly is a lot going on and I can see that I'll have my work cut out for me as things heat up over the next few months. In the meantime, if you'd like more information about any of the Pitch-In or Arbour Week activities, please call Nicole Guthrie at 256-1077 x22 or Fern Martin at 624-5104.

— For now, this is Miss Mills — your intrepid puppet reporter — signing off until next month!



Welcome Miss Mills! This newest addition to the Town of Mississippi Mills will also be serving as theHumm's correspondent, covering events in Almonte, Pakenham and Ramsay Township.

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Groups Welcome
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Celebrate Arbour Week in Mississippi Mills April 27 to May 4

Tree Walks and Talks

Tree Bike Ride
Sunday, May 1, 9AM

Guest Speaker
Diana Beresford-Kroeger

Wednesday, May 4, 7:30PM,
Almonte Old Town Hall.

*The Global Forest:
Its Impact on the Health and Wealth of the Planet.*

Tree Seedling Sales

Contact Bonnie Hawkins 256-1077 before **April 15** to order seedlings of Norway Spruce, Colorado Blue Spruce or Fraser Fir. \$1 each. Unlimited quantities.

Pitch-In

Saturday, April 16, 9AM-NOON

Pitch-In bags available at Nicholson's Sundries, Pakenham; Clayton General Store; community mailboxes in Appleton; Baker Bob's; and the Recreation and Culture office in Almonte's Old Town Hall.

Sponsored by the Mississippi Mills Beautification Committee.
For more information please call Nicole Guthrie, 256-1077, ext. 22

Film Night

Wednesday, April 27, 7PM,
Pakenham Arena Hall:

The Man Who Planted Trees
and *Taking Root:*

The Vision of Wangari Maathi



Take a Trip Down Memory Lane

If you like music from the '20s, '30s and '40s, join the Tay Valley Community Choir (pictured above) for a trip down "Memory Lane". This spring concert will feel like a party — a time to gather 'round the piano to sing familiar and favourite standards. The choir, directed by Ann McMahon and accompanied by Grace Armstrong, will be joined by bass player Jim Bailey. The grand finale will feature *Hymn to Freedom*, written by Oscar Peterson. It is a powerful anthem of peace, hope and inspiration.

On arrival, the audience will be greeted by pianist Aiden Shenkman, playing period songs. Other special guests will be the Glen Tay School Girls Vocal Group directed by Grace Armstrong, Musica

Frontenac who play an unusual combination of instruments — piano, clarinet and flute, and the Ompah Community Choir, a small group with a unique sound who will perform and then join the Tay Valley Choir for two songs. The audience will be invited to join in the fun as they sing along with several familiar pieces.

The Tay Valley Community Choir has the reputation for shows that are warm, friendly community events. The Memory Lane concert will be held Saturday, April 30, at 7PM in Maberly Hall. Admission is by donation. Refreshments will follow the concert and provide an opportunity to mingle with neighbours, friends and performers.

Fiddler's Friends Concert in Almonte

Interested in good old-time Ottawa Valley traditional fiddle and dance? Come on out to the Fiddler's Friends benefit concert at Almonte's Old Town Hall on Sunday, May 1.

Proceeds from this event support the Community Foundation of Ottawa's Danny O'Connell Memorial Fund, established in 2004, and will feature recent recipients of the cash award as well as friends, colleagues and supporters of Ottawa Valley traditional music.

The fund was initiated in Danny's name to provide encouragement and financial help to traditional Ottawa Valley under-25 year-old fiddlers. Recipients are nominated by three respected organizations with long-term records of interest in the musical tradition: The Renfrew County Fiddlers, The Irish Society of the National Capital Region, and the Ottawa Traditional Fiddling and Folk Art Society. Each society presents a representative from its current crop of upcoming young talent annually. In this way the fund helps to shine the spotlight on many more young musicians than the deserving winners of the annual award.

The award is produced from capital generated by donations from the O'Connell family and friends of traditional music. It is owned by the Community Founda-

tion of Ottawa and administered by them to ensure that the award will continue in perpetuity.

A partial list of performers at this musical treat includes Kyle Felhaber, Terri-Lynn Mahusky, Matt Pepin, the Barley Shakers, Monday Night Fiddlers, and Celtic guitar guest performer Ernie Fraser.

Highlighting the afternoon are performances by award recipients Joe Gervais, Amy Felhaber, Elly Wedge, Ellen Daly, and Tessa Bangs.

All performers are donating their talent to support Valley traditional music. If you are a fan, you are sure to enjoy this concert. If the genre is new to you, come out for your spirited introduction to a lively and energetic presentation by highly talented youngsters and accomplished vintage performers.

Musical friends, enthusiastic and talented performers, a festive family atmosphere, great libation and gastronomic offerings by Foodies Fine Foods — a perfect combination!

Tickets are \$15 and available at Mississippi Mills Musicworks, Couples Corner and at the door. Advance sales are available by phone from Mill Street Books in Almonte at 256-9090. For further information, please call 256-3786.

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Mississippi Mills Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1244, Almonte, ON K0A 1A0

Deadline
Tree orders must be received by April 21st. Trees are to be picked up April 30th at 3131 Old Perth Road (back of municipal building) between 9am - noon.



Giant Pillow Fight for Lupus



unposed

At Unposed Photography they believe everyone should play and have fun. So, to brighten up the spring, Unposed is hosting a giant pillow fight and family movie night on April 30. Proceeds from the event will be donated to Lupus Ontario.

The event will be held at the Old Town Hall, 14 Bridge Street in Almonte, at 7PM. Doors open at 6:30PM. The movies shown will be *Despicable Me* and *Tangled*.

To participate in the event, purchase an event pillowcase for only \$8 (cash only please), stuff it with your favourite pillow, and come out to the event on April 30 for some fun! All proceeds from sales of event pillow cases will go to Lupus Ontario.

Event pillowcases are now available for purchase at: Blackbird in Almonte, Arts Carleton Place in the Train Station Gallery at 132 Coleman Street, and Tag Along Toys, 499 Terry Fox Drive in Kanata.

Wearing your pyjamas is encouraged! There will be door prizes, a 50/50 draw, and Jack FM will be broadcasting live. Popcorn and drinks will be available for purchase.

Lupus is a chronic disease that affects more than 50,000 Canadians. It is a complex and baffling condition that can target any tissue or organ of the body, including skin, muscles, joints, blood and blood vessels, lungs, heart, kidneys, and the brain. It occurs most often in women of childbearing age. There is currently no cure. For more information on Lupus, please visit <www.lupusontario.com>.

Unposed Photography was recently recognized by readers of *Ottawa Metro* as one of the top five photographers in the Ottawa region. The idea behind Unposed Photography is simple. Rather than traditional posing, people of all ages just play and have fun. The result is very different — images with a lot of life and positive energy. For more information, please visit <www.unposed.com>.

For more information about this event, please visit the Unposed website or contact Robin Andrew at 799-6524 or <Robin@unposed.com>.

First Annual FaeryFest

This festival is for both children and the young at heart and will help you recapture that child-like feeling again. Come dressed in your finest faery garb or as a mystical creature. Faery wings are most welcome. We all need to play and have fun in our daily lives.

What a way to do it — stepping into the Realm of Faeries for the day on Saturday, April 30, from 9AM to 4PM. FaeryFest will be held at Lotus Wings, a healing centre in Perth, located on 30 North Street, just off Gore. In the faery tradition of healing the planet and helping the animals, there will be free admission to the festival, but a donation to L.A.W.S. would be greatly appreciated. Throughout the day there will be faery healing circles for the planet and the animals too.

Local artists, authors and vendors will be there to tempt you with their wares. This list includes Doug MacDonald of Rue Royale, who will have a wide array of cast cement sculptures of mushrooms. If you need a faery door or house, Cheryl Sinfield's art will meet that need. Cheryl's one-of-a-kind creations would be lovely homes for any fun-loving faery!

Artist Christine Joyce uses a number of different media and styles. The faeries in her pieces have been inspired mostly by the landscape of the Lanark Highlands and informed by her private yoga practice. Her unique style is worth having a look at. Christine is also showcasing her talent for storytelling in the afternoon.

Cindy Keary is an artist who works with animals and nature. She knits shawls and more, as well as weaving wall hangings with the wool from her very own sheep. She also raises geese and in return they provide her with the feathers that she makes into artistic objects.

A self-taught artist, Connie Burke will be showcasing her whimsical paintings of faeries, horses, unicorns, and more. Connie's art displays both magical and faery energies.

FaeryFest is honoured to have three authors to promote and sell their books. Denise Carpenter from Reiki Associates presents her new book *Reiki Wings*. Mary-Ellen Dick, author of *A Tribute To Some Special Whitetails*, a book that reveals the hidden world of whitetail deer through short stories and eye-catching photos, will be there as well. Along with her book, Mary-Ellen will be showcasing wildlife images and artwork.

Come join local children's author Nancy Lee Amos in celebrating the unveiling of the third and final book in her three-part series of *Isabella and the Healing Faeries*, *Isabella: Rules Like the Wind*. Nancy's interest in children and the "healing aspect of life" has lead her to create this Scottish faerytale to give hope to children and adults alike and, in turn, the faery faith they need in order to make their dreams come true. Nancy has discovered that it's the simple things in life that heal us, and they are the universal bond that joins us together to find peace and happiness in our lives.

Angela Gayle Readings will be at FaeryFest offering Oracle Card readings all day. If you would like an alternative kind of reading, such as aura, palm, and/or Tarot, psychic John Thomson will be there to make this happen.

Jenni Dumoulin of J27 Creations will also be on hand, tempting you with her custom jewellery designs. Along with faery

music playing throughout the day, Adya Ishaya will have faery food creations to satisfy any mystical creatures' stomachs. She will be offering treats, snacks, drinks and lunch.



Find one-of-a-kind faery houses by Cheryl Sinfield, and lots more fun stuff for faery folk in Perth on April 30!

From 12:30PM to 4PM at Yoga Connections, across the street from Lotus Wings, children and the young-at-heart can make a craft at the Faeryland Craft Zone. The cost per craft is \$2 for materials.

Organizer Cheryl Sinfield says "There will be something for everyone who believes in the faery realm and faery energy. It will certainly be a magical, whimsical day!"

The first annual FaeryFest will run from 9AM to 4PM on Saturday, April 30 at Lotus Wings, 30 North Street in Perth. For more information or to rent a space, please contact Cheryl Sinfield at 283-9877, 812-2025, or <faeriecece@hotmail.com>.

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 Apr. 15 • Blues on the Rideau presents Paul Reddick Band, \$55, 7-11PM
 Apr. 9, 16, 23 & 30 • Singer/songwriter Kevin Head, 6-9PM

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Ascending the stairway (to heaven?) at the Carleton Place Town Hall is the talented cast of the spring Mudds show — a new genre-defying musical written and directed by Mark Piper. Don't miss your chance to hear these folks in action — the show opens on April 29, so get your tickets now!

Let the Music Take You Halfway to Heaven

An apprentice angel who has lost his memory, his wisecracking mentor, a lonely woman, a confused burglar that breaks into her house, a sublime chorus of singing spirits — what else could it be but *Halfway to Heaven*, the forthcoming spring musical production by the Mississippi Mudds?

Following the success of *NunSense* and *Into the Woods Junior*, the Mudds return to their strong tradition of choral music and theatrical drama with a tale of magic and mystery, of love and family. It's a fantasy, set in a mysterious place far beyond the world — halfway to heaven, in fact — where our guardian angels live, watching over us. Of course, since this is the Mudds, all these angels love to sing! And sing they do — choral versions of such classics as *I'll Be There* and *All You Need is Love*, as well as more challenging pieces like *Bohemian Rhapsody* and a new choral version of *Stairway to Heaven* created especially for the Mudds.

This original musical — written just for the Mudds — takes us to the realms beyond the ordinary world, as we follow a new soul who has just crossed into a strange and unfamiliar world. He is welcomed into the afterlife by his guardian angel, who is less than impressed with his new recruit. Our hero enters into training to become a guardian angel himself, singing to the souls of the lost and the lonely, trying to give them hope. But all is not what it seems. When he comes upon a young woman in the act of sneaking into someone's house to get out of the rain, the mystery deepens — could he have known this burglar during his life? Why does she seem so familiar?

In *As You Like It*, Shakespeare wrote: "All the world's a stage." In *Halfway to Heaven*, the char-

acters discover that they have all been players in a larger drama, and learn a bit more about the meaning of their small parts in the world. As you unravel the mystery, the play will take you through an exploration of the many things that make us human: love, courage, memory and family. It may even give you a refreshing perspective on the benevolence of the world around us and what it means to care for others.

Naturally, the Mudds will be building on their long tradition of amazing choral music, using music to provide the proper atmosphere for the story. The chorus has been hard at work since January honing its skills to provide the lush harmonies and complex counterpoint to support the various moods of the players — whether courage or fear, joy or sorrow, anger or romance, the chorus is out to prove that they can sing a feeling, and get their audience to feel it too!

The Mudds backstage team has also been working hard on the set, lights, costumes, makeup and sound to provide a theatrical experience that transforms the theatre in the Carleton Place Town Hall into a small corner of the world of dreams and imagination.

A fantasy that uplifts and transports the audience to the ethereal realms, where love is supreme and music is heard eternally: *Halfway to Heaven* by the Mississippi Mudds will be presented on April 29 and 30, May 1, 6, and 7.

Come and be swept away by the music into a night of fantasy and wonder. It's magical!

For tickets, visit or call Arts Carleton Place at 257-2031. Go to mississippimudds.ca for more information about this and other shows.

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Halfway to Heaven

An original, genre-defying Mudds musical show written and directed for the Mudds by Mark Piper
April 29 & 30 & May 6 & 7 at 8pm
Matinee Sunday, May 1 at 2pm
 Tickets \$20 • Available through Arts Carleton Place on Coleman Street
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 mississippimudds.ca



Texas Blues Legends Blaze Into Perth

Like the blues, do ya? Oh boy, are you in for a treat!

Texas blues legends Smokin' Joe Kubek and B'Nois King will bring their prodigious talents to the Perth Studio Theatre on May 12 for a rousing night of "smokin' Texas roadhouse blues."

Over the years, these stellar musicians have gigged regularly with Freddie King, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Albert King and B.B. King, among others. "Be prepared to dance in the aisles!" says James Jones, owner of Zapp Productions, the company responsible for bringing these acts to town.

Billboard magazine boasts that Kubek: "is one of the finest electric guitarists currently plugged-in... hard-hitting, original Texas roadhouse Blues!" Kubek is one of those people who were born to play the guitar. He has the technique and the chops to burn up any stage and has been doing so for the past twenty-seven years. A guitar prodigy at the age of fourteen, the Texas-born guitar slinger frequented the Dallas bar scene during the 1970s and early eighties, playing with Stevie Ray Vaughan and people like the three Kings (B. B., Albert and Freddie). In 1989, Kubek met guitarist/vocalist B'Nois King at a Monday night Dallas jam session. The two became fast friends, and melded their seemingly divergent styles — Kubek a rocking and fierce picker and slider, King a jazz-inflected chorder (who could also solo with flaming electricity) — into one of the most potent guitar combinations the Southwest had ever produced.

Kubek explains the relationship succinctly: "I pull the blues out of him, and he pulls the jazz out of me. B'Nois knows so much about jazz it's amazing."

Coming from the blazing Texas blues/rock background, Kubek found in B'Nois King's smooth jazz guitar stylings a finesse and fat chord sound that was a perfect complement to his technique. The combination just clicked with a seamless mesh of styles. King lays down a bed of smooth supporting jazz chords on his hollow-bodied Gibson that allows Kubek



The very dynamic duo of Smokin' Joe Kubek and B'Nois King take to the Studio Theatre stage in Perth on May 12. This will be a blues extravaganza not to be missed!

to take center stage and play with almost reckless abandon. Together this dynamic duo has recorded seven albums for Bulls-eye Blues & Jazz Records.

According to James Jones, "More than anything else, Smokin' Joe Kubek and B'Nois King exist to perform live. With a massive tour planned, the band will gig from coast to coast, bringing their no-holds-barred brand of soul-charged, Texas rockin' blues to old fans and newcomers night after night. From the smallest Texas roadhouse to clubs and concert stages all over the country and around the world, Kubek and King — bandmates and blood brothers — are ready to welcome everyone into their Texas blues family."

Sounds like a blues lover's delight!

Tickets for the May 12 show, which starts at 8PM, are \$29.50 and available from Tickets Please (485-6434, www.ticketsplease.ca), The Bookworm or The Book Nook. For more details about the show, please visit www.zapp-productions.com.

Kelly News!

We spend lots of time working with buyers and sellers all across Ottawa and the small towns surrounding the west and south of the city. We have offices in Ottawa and work out of our cars and client homes for rural transactions. The time has come to have an office in Almonte, close to home. Downtown Almonte is an alluring place with a vibrant and enthusiastic business community. We will be meeting our local clients in our super cool second floor office located in the Old



Post Office (right above the delicious new Italian restaurant, Café Postino). We would love to meet you in person. If you happen to be walking by please drop in and say "hi". If you haven't already checked out the downtown Almonte web site please do so at www.downtownalmonte.ca where you will find all kinds of information on the local shops, restaurants, and attractions.



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CPHS Presents Bye-Bye Birdie

The talented students of Carleton Place High School present a dazzling interpretation of the musical *Bye-Bye Birdie*, based upon Michael Stewart's book. Conrad Birdie, an Elvis-Presley-esque superstar, is drafted into the army in 1958. For his farewell performance, he will sing "One Last Kiss" on the Ed Sullivan Show. At the end of the song, he will give away a kiss to one lucky girl from his fan club. Grade 11 student Jordan MacIntosh stars as Birdie, accompanied by Warner McQueen as Albert, Birdie's agent, and Kelly Martins as Rosie, Albert's secretary and love interest.

This promises to be a delightful production filled with a variety of comical characters and likeable tunes. It is sure to lift anyone's spirits! Tickets will be available at the door on the nights of the show — April 28, 29, and 30 at 7PM at the CPHS Cafetorium. Adult tickets will be \$15 and students and seniors are \$10. Be sure to keep an eye out for ticket sales in the community leading up to the production!

Sunken Boats, Kitchen Parties and Trees!

Now I'm not bragging, but I would venture to say that our own little village of Westport (population 700.5 — taking into account the pregnant women) has the highest number of published authors per capita than anywhere else in the country. As a former bookstore owner I have had the pleasure of meeting a number of them. One of the most prolific and recog-

by Steve Scanlon

nized of these authors is **Robert Sutherland**. Robert has a slew of titles written for the young adult audience (but read by all ages) and a number of awards distinguishing him as one of the best in his genre.

He has written: *Mystery at Black Rock Island* (1983), *The Loon Lake Murders* (1987), *Son of the Hounds* (1988), *The Ghost of Ramshaw Castle* (1990), *Suddenly a Spy* (1992), *Death Island* (1994), *If Two Are Dead* (1997), *The Secret of Devil Lake* (1998), *A River Apart* (2000), *The Adventures of Tommy Smit* (2003), and *Greysteel's Ghost* (2005).

Whew.

When you write as well as Robert does, the community of writers and publishers tend to recognize you with awards such as: the 2003 Silver Birch Award, the 2001 Manitoba Young Readers Award, the 2001 Red Cedar Award, the 1999 Silver Birch Award, the 1999 Crime Writers Arthur El-

lis Award, and the 1990 Canadian Library Association Book of the Year Award.

Not to be outdone, his latest book, *Survivor's Leave*, published in 2010, has won its own critical acclaim. This young adult novel centres on two men who, in 1944, were Able Seamen on a ship sunk by a German U-Boat. The plot takes them out of harm's way, only to place them in a new adventure in England. The entire crew of the ship survives and is due "survivors' leave". Their leave takes the two friends to Cornwall where mysteries and danger abound. Sorry folks, can't tell you more than that...

With the writing of *Survivor's Leave*, Robert has himself a brand spanking new award to add to his collection. The 2010 Moonbeam Children's Book Awards presented Robert with the Bronze award for Young Adult Fiction for his latest effort. The Moonbeam Children's Book Awards are meant to "celebrate youthful curiosity, discovery and learning through books and reading" and *Survivor's Leave* fits that bill. It is meant to honour the year's best children's books and authors throughout North America. No small feat!

Where's the Party?

I've spent a number of years in the Maritimes. Some of my favorite memories are from this area, memories like friends getting together to play music, dance and chat (usually with great emotion on all three counts). Inevitably these gatherings would end up in the kitchen with guitars and fid-

dles being tuned, food being consumed, and beer coolers emptied. Westport has its own version of the kitchen party... appropriately named, wait for it... "Kitchen Party". Yes, the third annual Kitchen Party is happening on Saturday, April 2 at the Westport Legion on Highway 10. We are promised some lively, toe tapping music, great food and the inevitable beer cooler (it is the Legion after all). Musicians in attendance include **Brock Zeman, Shawn McCullough, Stringtease, Tom Savage, Brad Milner, Mike Cochrane, Gerald Van Halteren** and the **Cowan brothers** Jeff and Seamus. Come out, tap a toe, eat, drink and be merry. Tickets are \$10, cash bar and a fine Irish meal for \$7. The fun begins at 2PM. Proceeds to support MUSICwestport.

Psst... Wanna Buy a Tree?

Trees, though they grow high, falling leaves return to the root. Deep, yes? I have no idea what it means but I'll fake it if you'd like... give it some profound meaning, draw it out... The real point is that **Westport in Bloom**, the very same people who keep our town in flowers and banners and beauty throughout the year, are holding their annual Tree Sale. Order your trees through WiB and keep the organization thriving. Trees ordered by April 21 will be ready for pick-up on April 30. For information or to order your very own tree please contact Gail

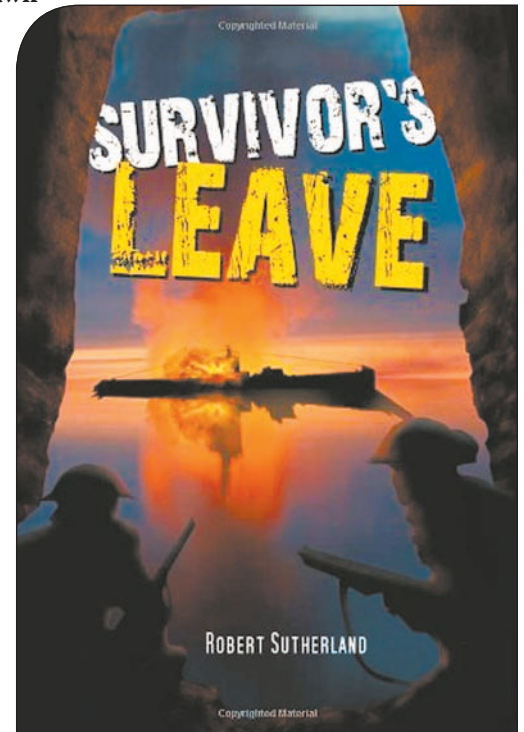
at 273-8578 or Betty Jo at 273-6079. Plant them, water them — they do the rest.

Or, as Ogden Nash once said:

"I think that I shall never see,
A billboard lovely as a tree.

Perhaps, unless the billboards fall,
I'll never see a tree at all."

See, I can still remember stuff from grade three, although stuff from yesterday... not so much.



Westport author Robert Sutherland recently won the 2010 Moonbeam Children's Book Award for his latest book, *Survivor's Leave*

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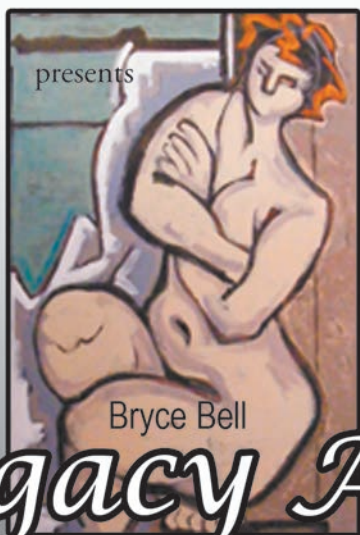
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Switch Off the Chicken!

OK friends, first things first. I just launched my own website: <wordthirst.com> — think of it as a gateway to laughter and relaxation. It features short stories I've written and zany takes on stuff from this wacky world of ours. Plus, for an extra laugh you can write your own stories with others while on the site and read them when they're published. If you sign up for my free email updates you'll get the new stuff as soon as it's published. You must reply to the confirmation email to activate

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your subscription so check your inbox and/or junk folder. Don't delay, surf over today!

And now to food. Hal-A-Jewel-Ya! Thinking about this month's culinary column, I was reminded of my panic-stricken mother running into the house one day when I was seven or eight years old shouting "Switch off the chicken! Switch off the chicken!" Indeed, there was a hot chicken roasting hard in the oven. My father, sisters and I were laughing hard at room temperature, unable to find the chicken switch. As you might expect, the skin was crispy. Very much so, really it was. So yes, this month's mouth-watering adventure is a twist on roast chicken. How appropriate for the season of Easter eggs. They're yummers too, but I digress.

Q: What do chicken, bread, butter, oil, cayenne, a hot oven, not a fryer, parchment paper, salt and pepper have in common?

A: Panko. Pank-who? Panko breadcrumbs. They will be familiar to anyone who has eaten Japanese fried food. They're breadcrumbs yes, but they're bigger and a lot 'airier' than the regular microscopic breadcrumbs haunting these parts. The slow-dried, shredded bread they're made from is baked crust-less and the airy fluffiness helps them to retain less oil during cooking, not to mention increases their crunchiness factor from 1 to 10 bazillion.

And now for a charming Panko-related understatement taken straight from the interweb: "Are they breadcrumbs from the Pan Corporation of America? No, they are not. Remember, spelling often counts on the Internet." Hah! Right then, let's get Panko'ing for two or four or more. *Warning!* What follows is so easy and so fast to prepare that you may be left with extra time on your hands, or thumbs, if you carry the dominant Smartphone gene. Don't say I didn't tell ya.

Grab several **breasts from an ex-chicken** (featherless, skinless and speechless works best) and cut each one into 2 or 3 pieces. Melt some **butter** in a pan and sprinkle in about ¼– ½ **teaspoon cayenne pepper**, some **salt** and ground **black pepper** in case the cayenne didn't get your attention. Dunk your chicken pieces in the liquid, then coat them with **Panko breadcrumbs**. You'll need to heap and press the Panko onto the chicken a little bit. Heap on lots for extra crunch. Place the chicken pieces on parchment paper on a baking tray. Open your preheated oven (350°F), salute the bird and shoven the chicken to roast for about 25–30 minutes. You read right: no frying. The Panko should come out golden. Oh, and the chicken cooked. Let it all stand for 4–5 minutes and then enjoy with a green salad or other sundry legumes depending on your veggie proclivities. The chicken remains tender and, dare I say it (I do) almost sinfully juicy and, and... oh heck, I've gotta go and make some right now.

This dish pairs nicely with a bottle of Seaview Brut sparkling white wine. Imagine that. Great chicken can be purchased from Don's Meat Market if you're in Almonte, or not at Don's Meat Market if you're not in Almonte. Our star, His Excellency Panko & The Fluffy Breadcrumbs, can be found at your local health food store or supermarket. The butter, cayenne, oven, willpower and all the other stuff can be fetched from... well you, know where!

I've posted an even more mouth-watering version of this zippy meal on <wordthirst.com>... yeah, that thar' webby site... remember? Course you do! Anyway Bon App!

— Love or hate my stuff? Mail me here: <parched@wordthirst.com> or via <wordthirst.com>



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Claire and Steve Falsetto, owners of Almonte's new Café Postino, are looking forward to tempting your tastebuds at this year's fundraiser for the Therapeutic Riding Association

Food, Wine, Friends, Fun! Come on out "For a Taste of the Valley" on May 9

The Lanark County Therapeutic Riding Program is celebrating their 25th anniversary and hosting their fourth annual For a Taste of the Valley: Food and Wine Gala on Monday, May 9. You will be treated to your choice of fine food from many of the area's best restaurants and caterers, as well as local and imported beers and fine wine.

The Gala will be held from 6–9:30PM at Almonte's Civitan Hall (500 Almonte Street). Last year was a huge success with over two hundred people sampling the culinary delights of the Ottawa Valley's best chefs. The food is complemented by wine and beer, served to you by experts who can help you choose and explain the different selections. Gala goers purchase \$1 coupons and each vendor will price their offerings between \$1 and \$4 so that you have the opportunity to sample many different appetizers, main courses and desserts. Among the many restaurants and caterers that will be attending is the newest restaurant in Almonte — Café Postino — as well as Foodies Fine Foods, Savoury Pursuits, The Good Food Co., Tilly's Smokehouse, Beau's Brewery and many more!

Between the main courses and dessert, you can bid in the silent auction. All of the items

are donated by local artists, artisans, businesses, and individuals, with the proceeds going to the riding program. The auction includes original paintings and photographs, gift certificates for hotels and B&Bs, pottery, stained glass, and many other items. If your business would like to participate, organizers are always looking for donations!

The Riding Program is in its 25th year of providing this beneficial therapy, rehabilitation and recreation, where horses are the helping partners. There are over 135 riders in the program with physical and/or developmental disabilities and they range in age from two to seventy years of age. Riding offers a holistic approach to therapy and rehabilitation where cognitive, social and psychological development is combined with physical therapy, recreation and most of all, a lot of fun!

For a Taste of the Valley tickets are \$10 each or \$50 for a table of six and are available at Mill Street Books in Almonte, Shadowfax in Perth, or at 103 Judson Street, in Carleton Place. Come out with your friends to celebrate spring and treat yourself to a delicious evening. For more information call 257-7121 x236 or see <www.therapeuticriding.ca>.

Race for Bev at the Mill of Kintail

The **Burn Your Bra for Bev** fundraising committee will be hosting another run at the Mill of Kintail Conservation Area on April 30: The Race for Bev. This run always has something for everyone, with a 2km family run as well as 5km, 10km and 15km routes. All routes are on the beautiful, scenic nature trails throughout the site. A variety of terrain, forest and water features make the run an interesting and slightly challenging experience. "Last year's route was all on trails and the feedback was very encouraging. It seems that whether you are a regular runner, walker, or just out for a good cause, the natural scenery is a key attraction," explains race coordinator Kristy Giles.

The registration fee is purely by donation. You can download a registration form from <burnyourbra.ca>. Registration is the day of the race between 8:30 and 10AM, when the race starts. Every finisher gets a medal and door prizes will be announced at 11:30 because everyone is a winner. Proceeds from the run will fund a special cancer research tool at

CHEO that provides a new non-toxic treatment for children dealing with cancer. The Race for Bev at the Mill of Kintail is the perfect way to get this running season off to a great start.

There will also be free training sessions at the Mill, on Saturday mornings in April, at 8:30AM. Not sure if you are up for a race? Or maybe you'd like to increase from a 5km to a 10km (or even 15km) run? Or perhaps you would simply like to make running easier and more enjoyable for you? Then come out on Saturdays to find out more. Spending an hour a week in the fresh air, in a beautiful, natural setting, working toward your goal, can be one of the most beneficial things you do for yourself.

Participate in the event on April 30 and you will not only help yourself and your family, but you will also be helping millions of children that could benefit from the money raised for CHEO. Organizers can't wait to see you on the trails!

For more information, contact Kristy Giles at <kristygiles@me.com> or 256-0888.

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Musical Food Bank Fundraiser

If music be the food of love, sing on! Music may be the food of love, but at this concert money will be raised to feed the body. Two Perth area choirs will be singing for the supper of hundreds of people who rely on the food bank every year.

Come and hear Oddities with the PDCI Vocal Ensemble on May-day — Sunday, May 1 at 7PM — and voices will ring out! Nicola Oddy and Jack Hurd will lead the groups in a repertoire of jazz, classical, original and pop music in the Mason Theatre at PDCI. This year they will be featuring McGill music student and flautist Cody Martin, who is returning to Perth for this concert. They are also very fortunate to be joined by guitarists Andy Cockburn and Tony LeDuc and pianist Aidan Shenkman.

All profits from the concert will be donated to the Food Bank. In addition, if you bring an extra donation of cash or food for the food bank, you could win a Maple Gift Basket donated by Paul's Maple Farm!

Oddities, led jointly by Nicola Oddy and Jack Hurd, came by its name after some jostling with the name of original leader, Nicola Oddy, and the unusual format of the group. It may be familiar to many of you as a folk choir which started at St. Paul's United Church in Perth in 1993, and has since expanded to become a community group with a life of its own. They've done warm-up sets for Garnet Rogers and the Nylons, and have commissioned an arrangement of a song by Ian Tamblyn, with whom they also performed. They've recorded some tracks for Jack Hurd's album currently in process, raised funds for their local food bank, and delight in collaborating with other local groups. This non-auditioned choir sings together every Saturday morning at the First Baptist Church on D'Arcy Street and welcomes new members.

Tickets are \$6.50 per person and are available in advance from Tickets Please <www.ticketplease.ca> or at the door. For more information about the concert, or about becoming a member of the choir, please call Nicola Oddy 264-0242.

Theatre News in our Area

Theatre Offerings to Swing into Spring

This month Perth's **Studio Theatre Productions** gets things going with the funny but poignant comedy *You Say Tomatoes*, which takes a humorous look at the differences between American and British attitudes. Sounds like sure-fire fun! It's at the Studio Theatre at 8PM on March 31, and April 2, 8 and 9, and at 2PM on the

by Ian Doig

3rd and 10th. Tickets are \$18 from Tickets Please (a small convenience fee applies) or directly from the theatre. Visit <www.studiotheatreperth.com> for details.

The **Kemptville Players Inc.** proudly presents *Jenny's House of Joy* by Norm Foster — a two-act comedy that is every bit as risqué as the name promises. It's set in a house of ill-repute in Baxter Springs, Kansas, circa 1870 — a frontier town where vigilante justice is the norm. Five women with five different personalities make for a very funny play, but with a serious undertone. "The audience can expect to laugh," says director George Anderson, "but they might even get teary-eyed, too." Leslie Hall is the venue, and show dates are April 7 to 11. Sounds like real fun! Details and ticket information can be found at <www.kemptvilleplayers.ca>.

On April 29 and 30, May 6 and 7 at 8PM (with a matinee on Sunday, May 1 at 2PM), you'll get your chance to go *Halfway to Heaven* with the **Mississippi Mudds**. This new musical, written and directed for the Mudds by Mark Piper, tells the story

of Edward, who wakes up in heaven without his memory. His guardian angel, Sabio, makes him an apprentice angel and brings him along to help with one of his charges. With Sabio's help, Edward becomes human again for a short time, learns something about his past, and rediscovers lost love. Look for old standards like *All You Need is Love*, as well as challenging pieces including *Stairway to Heaven, I'll Be There*, and *Bohemian Rhapsody*. Tickets are \$20 from Arts Carleton Place at 132 Coleman Street, 257-2031.

The **Prior Players'** first curtain call back in 1991 introduced amateur theatre to Arnprior with Neil Simon's comedy *The Odd Couple*. Twenty years later, Oscar and Felix et al will stir up some laughter in the Christian Education Centre once again. The Prior Players have involved many community members over the past two decades, and the current executive and members are hoping that many alumni come out to this spring's performance. Instead of dinner theatre, the Prior Players are inviting the audience to celebrate with them at each intermission with a "New York" themed party. Patrons will get a chance to watch a slide show of past performances while enjoying music and Manhattan-style snacks.

Performances are on May 6, 7, 13 and 14 at the Christian Education Centre. For more information, call the Prior Players at 623-5585 or email them at <priorplayers@gmail.com>. With a cast of eight consisting of both seasoned performers and new talent, this play is sure to please.

See you at the show!

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Hyde Park Canada

Landscapes of Silence — A Daughter's Story

We all have them — the family secrets that cannot be spoken. Some may not matter much but others shape our lives. And what if we come from somewhere where the whole country is engaged in the process of forgetting; where the landscape of silence covers all?

That's what happened for Marta, who grew up in Argentina during the violence perpetrated by the ruling Junta.

Atrocities were occurring, but her family was "good people". They could not "know". Or could they? Asking was so difficult, and then there was "the other matter" — the fact that at sixteen and unmarried she had become pregnant. Her pregnancy could not be spoken of either. The well of secrets deepened; the silence between mother and daughter grew.

Marta Singh has been telling stories for almost ten years now. She has appeared at festivals across the country and made regular appearances in the Ottawa StoryTellers annual series at the NAC Fourth Stage. She is renowned for the skill of her crafting, her exquisite use of language, her passion of presence.

Only now, however, has she come to a point where her *Landscapes of Silence* can be made known.

Created with assistance from an arts grant from the City of Ottawa, the story makes for powerful telling. It carries echoes from other times and places — echoes that are utterly contemporary; that force us to ask ourselves "What if this had been me?"

Importantly, *Landscapes of Silence* is coming to your community as part of 2 women productions' first full season of programming. Based in Lanark, 2 women productions is committed to making the compelling delights of storytelling for adults more widely known. Many will remember their show *The Book of Spells — A Love Story*. Be assured *Landscapes of Silence* will touch audiences with equal force.

Look too for *Talking You In — A Life Watch* by storyteller Dan Yashinsky and jazz guitarist Brian Katz. Here Dan tells of the birth of a child — at a time when only stories seemed to offer any hope that the child might grow up knowing more than the beep of medical machines.



Marta Singh will perform *Landscapes of Silence* as part of the first season of a new storytelling series for adults. Presented by 2 women productions, the shows will take place in Smiths Falls, Carleton Place and Perth

Landscapes of Silence will be performed on April 16 at The Station Theatre in Smiths Falls <www.smithsfallstheatre.com>, April 23 at Carleton Place Cinemas <www.cpcinemas.com>, and April 29 at the Studio Theatre in Perth <www.studiotheatreperth.com>. All shows start at 7:30PM. Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door, and can be purchased at Tickets Please at 39 Foster Street in Perth, 485-6434, <www.ticketsplease.ca>. Tickets for the Smiths Falls performance may also be purchased at Spotlight on the Rideau.

Contact Jennifer Cayley at 256-0353 or <2.women.productions@gmail.com> for further information.


Frontenac Arch Area Inspires Creativity

All too often we overlook the natural beauty and economic potential that is right under our noses. At least that is the thinking of a group of people known as FAB-Arts, who are determined to help grow their region as a significant arts destination.

On April 16, at the Brockville Country Club, FAB-Arts is offering a very special opportunity to learn about one of America's most successful stories of economic revitalization. Hand Made in America is an organization in western North Carolina that has successfully used traditional crafts, a unique biodiversity, and a rich cultural history to add over \$200 million annually to the economy of a once-depressed region. Today, Hand Made in America offers everything from customized regional tours to high quality web links for artisans, as well as initiatives to stimulate small town and rural development.

Two guests from the North Carolina initiative will be present on Saturday, April 16, to share the story of their organization's genesis and development, and to help to stimulate a discussion about how the natural and creative assets of the Frontenac Arch Biosphere region can become a driver of economic renewal. The workshop is aimed at creative individuals (musicians, writers, painters, crafts people, etc.) from across the Frontenac Arch area (Leeds and Grenville, Lanark, Frontenac, etc.), as well as at other people interested in developing the economic potential of this region.

The event, titled *FABulous Art, FABulous Future*, will start at 9AM and wind up by 2:30PM. The \$10 fee will include a local flavours lunch. Registration is limited to 150 people. Sign up by emailing <info@fabr.ca>, or by calling 659-4824.



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Claiming Column

Art in the Attic, Almonte, May 6-8
Red Trillium Studio Tour, West Carleton, May 7 & 8
Handmade Harvest, Almonte, May 7
Foodies Music Series, Almonte, May 7
Taste of the Valley, Almonte, May 9
Melwood Cutlery, McDonald's Corners, May 12
Kubek & King, Perth, May 12
Ottawa Valley Youth Talent Show, CP, May 13
Songs from the Valley, Perth, May 20
Blues on the Rideau, Westport, May 20
Dandelion Gardens Studio Tour, May 21-23
Brooke Valley Spring Tour, May 21-23
Rabbit Hole, Perth, May 26-29, Jun 3-5
Medieval Feast, Smiths Falls, May 27
Bicycle Month, Mississippi Mills, June
Blues on the Rideau, Westport, Jun 10
Lamb's Down Festival, CP, Jun 11
Farmers' Mkt Opens, CP, Jun 25

Visual Arts

Vernissage, Apr 8, 7-9PM, Brenda Milne. Brush Strokes, 129 Bridge St., CP.253-8088, www.brushstrokesart.ca.
Kanata Art Club, Apr 13, 7PM Laurie Sponagle. 1030 Riddell Dr. 599-4959.
Pints 'n Purls, Apr 13, 6-9PM, Knitting group. Old Mill Pub, Ashton. 257-2296.
Almonte Quilters' Guild, Apr 18, 7-9PM, Almonte Civitan Hall, 500 Almonte St.
Rosemary Leach Show, Apr 21, 6-9PM, The Village Idiot, 14 Mill St., Almonte.
Lanark County Knitting Guild, Apr 26, 7-9PM. Almonte United Church, 106 Elgin St. Guests \$3.
Lanark County Quilters Guild, Apr 26, 7PM. \$3. BC quilter/teacher Daphne Greig. Lions Hall, Perth Fairgrounds. 283-9944.
Arnprior & District Quilters' Guild, Apr 27, 7-9PM, Christian Education Centre, 257 John St. N., Arnprior. \$5 entry.
Kanata Artists Studio Tour, Apr 29(5-9PM), Apr 30 & May 1(10AM-5PM). 592-6959, www.kanataartists.com.
Vernissage, May 1, 2-5PM, Legacy Art. Gallery Perth at Code's Mill, 82 Peter St., Perth.

Festivals

FaeryFest, Apr 30, 9AM-4PM, Local artists, authors & vendors. Craft Zone after 12:30. Lotus Wings, 30 North St., Perth. 283-9877, faeriecece@hotmail.com.
Festival of the Maples, Apr 30, 7AM-4PM, Pancake breakfast, maple syrup, vendors, kids' stuff. 63 Gore St. E., Perth. 267-3200, www.perthchamber.com.

Theatre

Laughter for the Loo, Apr 1, 7:30-9:30PM, Sage Age. St. Paul's Anglican, 70 Clyde St., Almonte. 256-1771. \$15
The Farm Show, Mar 21-Apr 2 (8PM), Apr 3 (2PM). Theatre Night in Merrickville. Kym, 269-3424, Merrickville Community Centre, Read & Main St. W.
You Say Tomatoes, Mar 31, Apr 1, 2, 8, 9 at 8PM; Apr 3, 10 at 2PM. \$18 in adv (Tickets Please), \$20; \$10 students. Studio Theatre, 63 Gore St. E., Perth.
Film Night International: The Concert, Apr 14, **Another Year**, Apr 28, 7-9PM, Premier Cinemas, 11 Main St. W., Smiths Falls. 267-1224, filmnightinternational.blogspot.com. \$10
Films & Discussion: Transition, Apr 14, 6:30-9PM, Algonquin College, 7 Craig St., Perth. 267-9949, www.transitionperth.ca.

WHAT'S ON IN

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

Brush Strokes presents *Brenda Milne* <www.brushstrokesart.ca>
 fieldwork presents land art exploration <fieldwork.blogsome.com>
 Gallery Perth at Code's Mill presents Legacy Art from Apr. 22 <www.galleryperth.com>
 MVTM presents *Gifts of the North* by Janet Irene MacDonald Hannam & *Sheltering* by Deborah Arnold and Uta Riccius <www.mvtm.ca>
 Philip K. Wood Gallery (Almonte) presents original works by local & regional artists
 The Almonte Library presents William Hodge, textiles
 The Chamber Gallery presents Dawn Burnham, pottery

<p>4</p> <p>Classical Pianist Katherine Chi, McDonalds Corners. Poetry Slam, Carleton Place</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Open Mic, The Barley Mow</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Smiths Falls Toastmasters Club, Smiths Falls</p>	<p>7</p> <p>An Evening with David Sale, Pakenham Mississippi School of the Arts Open House, Carleton Place Open Celtic Jam, Almonte Open Mic, Tilly's Smokehouse Terry Tufts, The Barley Mow,</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Almonte Coin Club, Almonte Mayan Code Study Group, Almonte</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Chic Gamine, Neat Coffee Shop Open Mic, The Barley Mow, West Carleton Garden Club Meeting, Carp</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Kanata Art Club, Kanata Pints 'n Purls, Ashton Smiths Falls Toastmasters Club, Smiths Falls</p>	<p>14</p> <p>The Concert, Smiths Falls Films & Discussion: Transition, Perth Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub Open Mic, Tilly's Smokehouse Steve Dawson, McDonalds Corners Terry Tufts, The Barley Mow</p>
<p>18</p> <p>Almonte Quilters' Guild, Almonte Green Liquid Refreshments, Smiths Falls</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Open Mic, The Barley Mow</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Reiki Share, Almonte Smiths Falls Toastmasters Club, Smiths Falls</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub Open Mic w/Brock Zeman, Tilly's Smokehouse, Peter Brown & Don Paterson, St. James Gate Rosemary Leach Show, Almonte Terry Tufts, The Barley Mow</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Almonte & District Horticultural Society Meeting, Almonte</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Lanark County Knitting Guild, Almonte Lanark County Quilters Guild, Perth Open Mic, The Barley Mow,</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Arnprior & District Quilters' Guild, Arnprior Smiths Falls Toastmasters Club, Smiths Falls The Man Who Planted Trees, Pakenham</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Bye Bye Birdie, Carleton Place Another Year, Smiths Falls German New Medicine Talk, Carp Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub Open Mic, Tilly's Smokehouse Terry Tufts, The Barley Mow The Diary of Anne Frank, Almonte</p>

Landscapes in Silence, Apr 16, 7:30PM. The Station Theatre, 63 Victoria Ave, SF; Apr 23, 7:30PM, CP Cinemas; Apr 29, 7:30PM, Studio Theatre, Perth. \$20; \$18 from Tickets Please 485-6434.
Spiritual Cinema Circle, Apr 24, 2-4PM, Myriad Centre for the Arts, 1 Sherbrooke St., Perth. 267-4819.
The Man Who Planted Trees, Apr 27, 7PM Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathi. Arbour week. Pakenham Arena.
Bye-Bye Birdie, Apr 28-30, 7PM. Presented by CP High School. CPHS Cafetorium. Adults \$15; students/seniors \$10
The Diary of Anne Frank, Apr 28-30 (7:30PM), May 1(2PM). Almonte & District High School, 126 Martin St., \$12.
Halfway to Heaven, Apr 29, 30, May 6, 7 (8PM), May 1 (2PM). Mudds musical. Tickets at Arts CP, 257-2031. CPTown Hall, 175 Bridge St., mississippimudds.ca. \$20.

A Movie with Mary, Apr 30, 7PM. *Daddy-Long-Legs* (1919) starring Mary Pickford, MVTM, 3 Rosamond St. E, Almonte. www.mvtm.ca. \$5; under 12s free.
Laugh At Yourself, May 1, 2PM. Sage Age Theatre. Tickets: 272-2067. Newboro Community Hall, 15 Drummond St., \$10.
Literature
Poetry Slam, Apr 4, 7-9PM, LiPS. Featured: Rick Kwissa. Watch & maybe perform. On Stage at Ernie's, 17 Albert St., Carleton Place. \$5; free for performers.
1st Edition Reading Series, Apr 8, 5:30PM Tish Cohen, Rebecca Rosenblum. Factory Grind, Perth. www.firsteditionreading-series.blogspot.com. \$5
Vine Rhymes, Apr 9, 2-4PM, Smiths Falls & area songwriters & poets perform. Spotlight on the Rideau, 21 Chambers St. Shopping Plaza.

Kids
Easter Bunny & Forest Egg Hunts, Apr 23-24, 10AM-2PM, Fultons, 6th Conc Rd, Pakenham. 256-3867, www.fultons.ca.
Music
Kitchen Party, Apr 2, 2PM Local music. Legion, 10099 Perth Rd., Westport. \$10; cash bar; meal \$7
Arden Chamber Players, Apr 3, 1PM. St Paul's United Church, 25 Gore St. W., Perth. Free. Freewill offering welcome.
Classical Pianist Katherine Chi, Apr 3, 3PM. Grace Lutheran Church, Eganville. 754-5217. \$20; \$10; under 12s free. Apr 4, 7PM. MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners. 278-0388, \$10; students free.
An Evening with David Sale, Apr 7, 7PM Oboe, Bach, Mozart & more. St. Andrew's United, Pakenham. \$10; \$5 students.

Spring Fling Coffee House & Silent Auction, Apr 8, 6:30-9:30PM, Naismith School, 260 King St., Almonte. 256-7914. \$15; \$12 in adv at school, Mill St. Books.
Dance-A-Thon, Apr 9, 1-10PM, Kid/adult 7-9PM. Prize \$250. Classes 1PM, Flash Mob. Lanark Civitan Club, 2144 South St.
Jory Nash House Concert, Apr 9, 8PM Tickets: Shadowfax, Nature Lover's. Shakey Acres, Maberly. 268-2376. \$20.
Justin Rutledge, Apr 9, 8-10:30PM, Folkus Concert Series. \$27; \$23 in adv. (Mill St. Books, 256-9090). Students \$12. Almonte Old Town Hall, www.folkusalmonte.ca.
Steve Dawson, Apr 14, 8PM, \$20; \$18 Shad-owfax. 278-0689. MERA Schoolhouse.
Paul Reddick Band, Apr 15, 7-10PM, Blues on the Rideau. The Cove, Westport. www.choosetheblues.ca. \$55 buffet & show.
Steve Dawson, Apr 15, 8PM House concert. RSVP to findlayhouseconcerts@gmail.com. 207 High Street, CP. \$20.

APRIL 2011

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Astronomy Course, Almonte Caravan of Fools, Almonte Laughter for the Loo, Almonte Open Stage, The Downstairs Pub at JR's Pakenham Home Show, Pakenham The Farm Show, Merrickville You Say Tomatoes, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DJ, The Downstairs Pub at JR's Kitchen Party, Westport Mardi Gras Jazz Night, The Cove New Energy Group, Almonte Normann, Tilly's Smokehouse Pakenham Home Show, Pakenham Sun Bleached Skulls, Harry McLean's Pub The Farm Show, Merrickville You Say Tomatoes, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak Arden Chamber Players, Perth Classical Pianist Katherine Chi, Eganville Kiwi T.E.A. Fundraiser, Almonte Land-For-Life Concert, Westport Pakenham Home Show, Pakenham The Farm Show, Merrickville The Lure of the Loon, Lanark Valley Singles Lunch, Carleton Place You Say Tomatoes, Perth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st Edition Reading Series, Perth Open Stage, The Downstairs Pub at JR's Spring Fling Coffee House & Silent Auction, Almonte Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp Steve Dawson, Neat Coffee Shop Vernissage, Carleton Place You Say Tomatoes, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brea Lawrenson, Tilly's Smokehouse Dance-A-Thon, Lanark Empty Bowls, Perth Jory Nash House Concert, Maberly Justin Rutledge, Almonte Kevin Head, The Cove Posse, The Downstairs Pub Ray Lavois, Harry McLean's Pub Vine Rhymes, Smiths Falls You Say Tomatoes, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blakeney: Then and Now, Appleton Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak Through the Hill, Heirloom Café/Bistro You Say Tomatoes, Perth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Help Us Build a Bridge' Bash, Perth Open Stage, The Downstairs Pub Paul Reddick Band, The Cove Steve Dawson, Carleton Place Sultans of String, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Farmers Market, Smiths Falls Guided Nature Walk, Lanark Kevin Head, The Cove Landscapes in Silence, Smiths Falls Lynn Hanson & Jennica Rayne, Harry McLean's Pub Mississippi Jug Stompers, Tilly's Smokehouse Open House/Free Talk, Carp Pitch-In Day, Almonte Smiths Falls Spring Fling, Smiths Falls Starfire, The Downstairs Pub Winona Zelenka - Cello, Almonte 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almonte Traditional Sing, The Barley Mow Amanda & Claire Guitar Duo, Palms APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almonte Lecture Series, Almonte Open Stage, The Downstairs Pub Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doherty Bros., Harry McLean's Pub Easter Bunny & Forest Egg Hunts, Pakenham Kevin Head, The Cove Landscapes in Silence, Carleton Place Maplelicious Pancake Breakfast, Middleville Reiki Share, Almonte Ric Denis 3, Tilly's Smokehouse The Stool Pigeons, The Downstairs Pub 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easter Bunny & Forest Egg Hunts, Pakenham Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak Spiritual Cinema Circle, Perth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andrea Caswell & Gavin Slate, Foodies Fine Foods Breakfast with Soul, Almonte Bye Bye Birdie, Carleton Place Halfway to Heaven, Carleton Place Kanata Artists Studio Tour, Kanata Landscapes in Silence, Perth Open Stage, The Downstairs Pub The Diary of Anne Frank, Almonte Towards an Age-Friendly Lanark, Almonte 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Movie with Mary, Almonte Empty Bowls, Perth Giant Yard Sale, Almonte Bye Bye Birdie, Carleton Place Halfway to Heaven, Carleton Place Festival of the Maples, Perth Johnny Spinks & Kool Water, The Downstairs Pub Chicken & Rib Dinner by Russ & Gill, Westport Kanata Artists Studio Tour, Kanata Pillow Fight/Movie Night, Almonte Robert Larecey, Tilly's Smokehouse Tay Valley Community Choir, Maberly Terry Tufts, Harry McLean's Pub The Diary of Anne Frank, Almonte 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Salute to Broadway, Perth APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak Carleton Place Baby Shower, Carleton Place Fiddler's Friends Concert, Almonte Halfway to Heaven, Carleton Place Kanata Artists Studio Tour, Kanata Kingston Chamber Choir, Westport Laugh At Yourself, Newboro Oddities/PDCI Vocal Ensemble, Perth The Diary of Anne Frank, Almonte Tree Bike Ride, Almonte Vernissage, Perth Wilderness/Camping Talk, Lanark

Sultans of String, Apr 15, 8-10PM, PDCI, Perth. 755-1111, www.perthpac.org.

Smiths Falls Spring Fling, Apr 16, 9:30AM-3:30PM, Pipe, drum & band contest. \$5. SFDCl, www.gordonpipeband.com.

Winona Zelenka - Cello, Apr 16, 8-10PM, Almonte Old Town Hall, www.almonteinconcert.ca. \$27 adults, \$14 students.

Almonte Traditional Sing, Apr 17, 2-4PM, 482-1437, david@shantyman.ca. Upstairs at Barley Mow, Almonte.

Amanda & Claire Guitar Duo, Apr 17, 1-3PM, Palms, 78 Mill St., Almonte.

Tay Valley Community Choir, Apr 30, 7PM, Memory Lane, Maberly Hall.

A Salute to Broadway, May 1, 2PM Perth Citizens' Band, Perth Legion, \$5; \$10 for a family. www.perthband.ca.

Fiddler's Friends Concert, May 1, 1-4PM, Ottawa Valley traditional fiddle & dance. Tickets MMMusicworks, Mill St. Books. Almonte Old Town Hall, 256-3786. \$15

Kingston Chamber Choir, May 1, 2:30PM Freewill offering. Light refreshments. Westport United Church, Church Street.

Oddities/PDCI Vocal Ensemble, May 1, 7PM PDCI, 13 Victoria St., Perth. 264-0242. \$6.50 from Tickets Please.

The Swan at Carp (839-7926) 7-10PM, Apr 8, 22 Steve Barrette Trio

Naismith's Pub (411 Ottawa St., Almonte, 256-6336): Open Celtic Jam Thurs, no charge (7:30-10PM).

Foodies Fine Foods (34 Mill St., Almonte, 256-6500): Dinner & live music, \$40, 6PM, Apr 29 Andrea Caswell & Gavin Slate

The Cove (2 Bedford St., Westport, 273-3636) Apr 2 Mardi Gras Jazz Night w/Spencer Evans Trio (fundraiser for Japan), 9-11PM Apr 9, 16, 23, 30 Kevin Head 6-9PM

The Royal Oak (329 March Rd. Kanata, 591-3895): jazz on Sun, no cover. Apr 3, 17, May 1 APEX Jazz Band, 2-5PM Apr 10, 24 Magnolia Rhythm Kings, 3-6PM

The Downstairs Pub at JR's (385 Ottawa St., Almonte, 256-2031) Karaoke Thurs, 9PM; Fri Open Stage, 9PM; Sat 9PM, \$4 Apr 1, 15, 29 Billy Armstrong

Apr 2 DJ, 9PM, no cover

Apr 8, 22 Whiskey Mike

Apr 9 Posse

Apr 16 Starfire

Apr 23 The Stool Pigeons

Apr 30 Johnny Spinks & Kool Water

The Barley Mow (79 Little Bridge St., Almonte, 256-5669): Open Mike Tues (7PM); Terry Tufts Thurs (8-11PM).

St. James Gate (111 Bridge St., CP, 257-7530) Apr 21 Peter Brown/Don Paterson 8:30PM

Neat Coffee Shop (1715 Calabogie Rd., Burnstown, 433-3205) Apr 8 Steve Dawson, \$20, 8PM Apr 12 Chic Gamine, \$20, 8PM

Heirloom Café/Bistro (7 Mill St., Almonte, 256-9653) Apr 10 Through the Hill, 7:30PM, \$3

Harry McLean's Pub at the Baldachin Inn (111 St. Lawrence St., Merrickville, 269-4223) Apr 2 Sun Bleached Skulls

Apr 9 Ray Lavois

Apr 16 Lynn Hanson & Jennica Rayne

Apr 23 Doherty Bros.

Apr 30 Terry Tufts

Tilly's Smokehouse (10470 Hwy 7, CP, 257-1700): Live music Sat (8PM), Open Stage w/Brock Zeman Thurs (9PM)

Apr 2 Normann (rock)

Apr 7 Brea Lawrenson

Apr 16 Mississippi Jug Stompers

Apr 23 Ric Denis 3

Apr 30 Robert Larecey

Community Astronomy Course, Apr 1, 7-10PM. Mill of Kintail, Almonte. 256-3610 x1, sogrady@mvc.on.ca. Suggested: \$20/session.

Caravan of Fools, Apr 1, 7-10PM, Live music etc. White Swan Healing Space, Almonte. Free.

Pakenham Home Show, Apr 1 (6-9PM), 2(9-6), 3(10-4). Stewart Community Ctr, 256-1077, www.mississippimills.ca. \$3.

New Energy Group, Apr 2, 10AM-3PM, Mill of Kintail, Almonte. 256-9373. \$30.

Kiwi T.E.A. Fundraiser, Apr 3, 2-5PM, New For earthquake victims. 256-2116. St. Paul's Anglican, Almonte. \$10 (The Hub).

Land-For-Life Concert, Apr 3, 7PM Local talent groups. Westport United Church.

The Lure of the Loon, Apr 3, 2-4PM, Cliff Bennett. Lanark Legion, 259-5654.

Valley Singles Lunch, Apr 3, 12:30-2:30PM, Singles lunch, all welcome. 256-8117, 432-7622. Buster's Bar & Grill, CP.

Smiths Falls Toastmasters Club, Apr 6, 13, 20, 27, 7PM. Courtyard Cafe, Davidson's Courtyard, SF. robrodine@hotmail.com.

Mississippi School of the Arts Open House, Apr 7, 2-7PM, 150 Mill St., CP 261-6249, www.mississippischool.ca.

Empty Bowls, Apr 9, 11AM-2PM, Foodsmiths; Apr 30, 10AM-4PM, Riverguild Fine Crafts, Perth. Pottery bowl for \$20 donation.

Blakeney: Then and Now, Apr 10, 2PM Marilyn Snedden. North Lanark Reg'l Museum, 647 River Rd, Appleton. 256-2866.

Almonte Coin Club, Apr 11, 7PM. Alliance Coin & Banknote, 88 Mill St., Almonte.

Mayan Code Study Group, Apr 11, 6:30PM Almonte. lillywhiteangels@sympatico.ca. Free.

West Carleton Garden Club Meeting, Apr 12, 7:30PM. Double Trillium. Carp Hall, 3739 Carp Rd. \$5 for non-members.

'Help Us Build a Bridge' Bash, Apr 15, 6PM. Dinner, dance. Perth Civitan, 267-5340, www.friendsofmurphyspoint.ca. \$30.

Easter Farmers Market, Apr 16, 9AM-2PM, RCAF, 44 Abbott St. N, Smiths Falls. 283-9404, www.smithsfallfarmersmarket.com.

Guided Nature Walk, Apr 16, 10AM. Blueberry Mountain, Clifford Property, Lanark. 259-3412, www.mmltc.ca. \$10.

Open House/Free Talk, Apr 16, 1-3PM, Cleanse. Carp Ridge EcoWellness, 2386 Thomas Dolan Pkwy, 839-1198, Free.

Pitch-In Day, Apr 16, Spring cleaning throughout Mississippi Mills. Bags at Nicholson's, Clayton Store, Baker Bob's, OTH.

Green Liquid Refreshments, Apr 18, 7PM. Green conversation. Sponsor: REAL Coffee Culture Cafe, 2 Russell St. E., Smiths Falls.

Reiki Share, Apr 20(7-9PM), Apr 23(2-4PM), whiteswanhealingsspace.ca. Reserve at 452-0734. Almonte. \$10 min. donation.

Almonte Lecture Series, Apr 22, 7:30-9PM, Soil. Almonte United Church, 106 Elgin St., almontelectures.ncf.ca. By donation.

Maplelicious Pancake Breakfast, Apr 23, 7-11AM, Middleville Community Centre, 4203 Wolf Grove, 256-5474. \$8.

Almonte Horticultural Society, Apr 25, 7:30PM \$2. Cornerstone Community Church, Almonte. 256-5155.

German New Medicine Talk, Apr 28, 7-8:30PM, Carp Ridge EcoWellness, 2386 Thomas Dolan Pkwy. 839-1198, \$20.

Breakfast with Soul, Apr 29, 8-10AM, Open to all. The White Lilly, 14 Mill St., Almonte. www.lillywhite.ca. Free.

Towards an Age-Friendly Lanark, Apr 29, 9AM-4PM, Hoarding Awareness & Elder Abuse. Almonte Civitan, 256-4700. \$25.

Chicken & Rib Dinner, Apr 30, 5:30-7:30PM, \$15, 273-3223. Westport Legion.

Giant Yard Sale, Apr 30, 10AM-4PM, The Herb Garden, Almonte. 256-0228.


Pillow Fight/Movie Night, Apr 30, 7PM Event pillowcase \$8. Despicable Me & Tangled. Almonte Old Town Hall, www.unposed.com.

Race for Bev, Apr 30, 10AM, 2.5, 10, 15km. Register 8:30-10AM. Mill of Kintail, burryourbra.ca.



Carleton Place Baby Shower, May 1, 1-4PM, CP Arena, 1-866-283-7583.

Tree Bike Ride, May 1, 9AM. 20km bike ride. Meet at Palms, 78 Mill St., Almonte.

Wilderness/Camping Talk, May 1, 2PM. Lanark Legion. 259-5654, www.mmltc.ca. \$10.



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A Salute to Broadway

Perth Citizen's Band Spring Concert

Canada's Oldest continuously operating town band, the Perth Citizens' Band will present *A Salute to Broadway* as the theme for their annual spring concert. The concert will feature many well known tunes covering the musical history of Broadway. In the late 1800s, Broadway was known as the Great White Way, and was famous for its theatres and Vaudeville Music Halls.

By the early 1900s, Broadway musicals were in full swing, and the great songs were written by top composers of the day such as George Cohen, George Gershwin and Irving Berlin. The Ziegfeld Follies and Busby Berkeley musicals were often adapted for movies after a successful run on Broadway, which gave the songs a universal audience. The musical reached its highest popularity in the 1950s with the works of partners Rogers and Hammerstein.



The Perth Citizens' Band recently performed at the Brockville Music Festival (above). On Sunday, May 1 they present their *Salute To Broadway* spring concert in Perth.

The Perth Citizen's Band spring concert will include selections from *42nd Street*, *Rose Marie*, *The Music Man*, *Oklahoma*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, as well as more contemporary songs from *Chicago*, and by composer Andrew Lloyd Webber. The concert will be held

at the Perth Legion Hall, 26 Beckwith Street, on Sunday, May 1, starting at 2PM. Tickets are \$5 per person and \$10 for a family, available at the door, and include light refreshments. For further information visit the band's website at <www.perthband.ca>.

The Reever Report

If The Queen Comes

My mom used to say, "What if the Queen arrived for tea and found"... add the appropriate ending: you girls still in your pyjamas, the dirty dishes in the sink, the cat sleeping on the table in the sunshine. It was an admonition that sent us all scurrying as if the royal lady were on the doorstep.

With one paw over a little nose, they eye us defiantly, daring us to move them.

We aren't helping the state of the house either as we trek in and out with kindling for our maple fire, wet boots, blackened gloves, pails that need washing, and finally the pot of syrup. Buckets of sap thaw in the back hall, and if we forget to put the lid on, the dogs think it's water, and try to drink it.

improvement. Believe me, after several days of boiling sticky syrup in the kitchen, every surface needs cleaning. I know it will sparkle — next week when we're done with this. By then, the sun will be around to its spring arc when it comes in the kitchen window, and I'll be happy to tackle the cleaning. First though, I line up all the syrup jars on the windowsill and enjoy them like a stained glass painting, letting

by Glenda Jones

Well right now I sure hope she's not, because we are in the throes of spring mess like you wouldn't believe. As much as we love tapping our twenty-seven trees and making maple syrup, it has to be the dirtiest time of the year. Our "operation" is close to the house, so we don't have to go too far to fuel the fire. That is a good thing, and a bad thing. Here we are with three dogs underfoot who have to go out every time we do — through the wet in the garage, over the sand on the driveway, through the dirty snow, into the leaves under the spruce tree, and of course right back into the house, totally ignoring the mat that clearly states, "Wipe your dirty paws". They play and roll in the snow until they are thoroughly wet, and then race back into the house, dragging some stick they've found in the forest, and flop exhausted on the softest spot, usually the chair on which we were hoping to drop our tired

Believe me, after several days of boiling sticky syrup in the kitchen, every surface needs cleaning. I know it will sparkle — next week when we're done with this.

We start our fire early in the morning — it's 8AM and it's already boiling away out there enough that I can smell the sweet goodness as I write. Every twenty minutes one of us runs out with our entourage and stirs, skims, and refuels. More boots, dirty paws, mud on the floor.

This is the time of year to rely on low lighting and a blind eye to the winter's accumulated detritus. Yes, there are a few cobwebs in the corners. Yes, there is a corner where the mop failed to remove the cat hair. Yes, the boot closet is looking positively disgusting. But just get us past this syrup season, and all will be righted in one full day of desperate housewifing.

I don't mind doing the job, especially when I can really see the

the sun shine through the golden goodness that we're going to savour for the next year.

The Queen will be welcome to come when all this is finished. I'll take the dogs to the groomer, polish the silver, clean the windows, scrub the floor, and entertain her in royal style. But in the meantime, I won't worry about the house when we can sit outside beside the little maple stove with our feet on the hot bricks, faces turned towards the sun, and breathe in the sweet smell of spring while robins sing and geese fly overhead. On second thought, the Queen really ought to come right now. It would be a lot more fun for her, and I wouldn't have to let her in the house with all her Corgis, would I?

Humm Bits

For the Love of the Oboe

St. Andrews United Church in Pakenham will be hosting *An Evening with David Sale* on Thursday, April 7, at 7PM.

The program will feature many of David's favourite pieces as he talks about his love for the oboe, its history and its music. Works by Bach, Telemann, Mozart, Purcell, Schumann and Britten will be performed, as well as pieces by some lesser known composers including Pasculli and Labate.

David fell in love with the instrument by the age of twelve and has pursued his passion for it and its music for more than fifty-four years as an amateur and professional musician, as well as a teacher.

He has played in many symphony and chamber orchestras, as well as pit orchestras for Broadway musicals. He also enjoys playing with and writing for his woodwind quintet, "the five". David presently lives in Pakenham and can often be heard performing throughout the Ottawa region.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students, available at the door, with all proceeds going to St. Andrews' special projects.

Volunteer Opportunities in Carleton Place

Last November, Arts Carleton Place received a Job Creation Partnership grant from the Province of Ontario. Pauline Fitchett was hired as their Program/Project Coordinator. Her major focus is the creation and implementation of a volunteer database for Carleton Place.

Volunteers are a vital part of every town. Arts CP wants to connect dedicated volunteers with local organizations in need of support. A few hours a week or every month can make a positive difference in the community. Volunteering is a wonderful way to feel connected to the growing town of Carleton Place and surrounding area.

If you are an organization that requires volunteers, please contact Arts Carleton Place. Pauline is available to meet with you and assist you as to what your requirements are in recruiting volunteers.

Please contact Pauline at 257-2031, <artscpoffice@gmail.com>, or at the Train Station, 132 Coleman Street, where the Arts Carleton Place Office, Gallery and Gift Shop are located.

Visit <www.artscarletonplace.com> for more information on the various organizations involved and positions required.

Bach's Mass in B Minor to be Performed in Perth

Rehearsals have been underway since January 4 for an upcoming presentation in Perth of the *Mass in B Minor* by J.S. Bach. The choirs of St. Paul's United Church, St. James Anglican Church and friends will perform this major work on Sunday, May 29, at 7:30PM at St. Paul's.

Considered to be one of the supreme achievements of Baroque choral music, the *Mass* consists of twenty-seven pieces, seventeen of which are for choir and the remainder for soloists. The choirs have been meeting every Tuesday evening at St. Paul's, dividing their rehearsal time between Latin pronunciation, sectional rehearsals, and full choir sessions. The two church choirs then review the music introduced at the Tuesday rehearsal at their regular Thursday evening practices. Six professional soloists and a 20-member orchestra have been engaged to perform with the choirs. The choirs are under the direction of Peter Woodward at St. James, and Brad Mills at St. Paul's. Ticket information and further details will appear in the May *Humm*.

North Lanark Historical Society Talk

The North Lanark Historical Society will be hosting a presentation by local historian Marilyn Snedden entitled "**Blakeney: Then and Now**" on Sunday, April 10, 2PM at the North Lanark Regional Museum in Appleton. In the 1970s the Ramsay Women's Institute prepared a series of photos and stories as part of a Blakeney History kit, available for schools and groups. In the past, it was a thriving community and a well known area in Ramsay Township. In 2010, the history was updated and they launched a DVD entitled *Blakeney Then and Now* which will be part of Marilyn's presentation. All are welcome. For further information on the presentation, contact <appletonmuseum@hotmail.com> or phone Doreen Wilson at 256-2866.

Sultans of String Close PPAC Season

The 2010/11 Perth Performing Arts Committee season winds up on Friday, April 15, with a high-energy show by the Sultans of String. The Sultans are Canada's ambassadors of musical diversity, presenting a global sonic tapestry of Spanish flamenco, Arabic folk, Cuban rhythms, and French Manouche Gypsy-jazz. Their music celebrates human creativity with fiery violin, rumba-flamenco guitar and funk bass laying down unstoppable grooves. These acoustic strings meet with electronic wizardry to create layers and depth of sound, while world rhythms bring audiences to their feet with the irresistible need to dance. Their debut CD *Luna* soared to number one across Canada on Top Ten national radio charts.

The show starts at 8PM in the Mason Theatre at Perth & District Collegiate Institute at 13 Victoria



Street in Perth. Tickets are available from Tickets Please in Perth (www.ticketsplease.ca, 485-6434) or TicketMaster (www.ticket-

master.ca, 755-1111). For more information, and to find out about the 2011/12 season, please visit <www.PerthPAC.org>.

Youth Centre Dance-A-Thon!

The Lanark Highlands Youth Centre is thrilled to invite you to their first community-wide dance-a-thon! This highly anticipated event will take place Saturday, April 9, from 1 to 10PM at the Lanark and District Civitan Club, with a grand prize giveaway of \$250.

This all-ages event will kick off at 1PM with free classes provided by different dance instructors and enthusiasts. Come out and try a core strengthening Belly Fit class by instructor Kelly Lee or polish up your current dance moves with a high energy Hip Hop class. Not interested in Hip Hop or Belly Fit? No problem...

come and check out the dance steps to the *Virginia Reel* or participate in a surprise Flash Mob sequence!

Registration for the dance-athon will begin at 5PM, with refreshments provided. Call ahead for pre-registration or register at the door upon arrival. The cost is as follows: 10 years old and under are free, youth aged 11 to 18 are \$3, and adults are \$5. Dance-athon participants may register individually, in pairs, or in groups with as many as four members. In order for the dance-a-thon participants to qualify for the grand prize, all individuals must remain on the floor from 7 to 9PM. If

there are multiple participants on the floor at 9PM, a winner will be drawn from a hat.

This exciting event will also include a youth dance group/air band competition, a bake sale put on by the Lanark Highlands youth centre 4-H group, a 50/50 draw, as well as random prize giveaways throughout the day. Come and get your groove on and help the Lanark Highlands Youth Centre meet their goal of raising \$1200. Call 259-2012 if you would like to volunteer or make a cash or in-kind donation. All proceeds will benefit Lanark Highland Youth Centre Inc.



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ADHS Presents *The Diary of Anne Frank*

It's November of 1945, and Otto Frank has taken his family into hiding during the Nazi occupation of Holland. They are joined in the rooms of the "Secret Annex", the attic of Mr. Frank's office building and their place of hiding, by the Van Daan family as well as Mr. Dussel. All members of the group are fearful for their lives, as they are aware of the extreme anti-Semitism of the time. All communication and interaction with life outside the attic is cut off, creating a disheartening and oppressive atmosphere.

One girl's eternal optimism, however, shines through the persistent darkness. Despite being subject to significant life changes caused by the Nazis, Anne's positive outlook on life remains consistent throughout the storyline. Anne, the daughter of Otto Frank, is the narrator and original storyteller of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. The play was adapted from the writings found in Anne Frank's diary, depicting the harsh realities of the Nazi Holocaust.

Making its theatre debut in 1956, *The Diary of Anne Frank* was an immediate success. Critics and audience members alike were drawn to Anne's inspiring story. The play continues to be produced in theatres around the world, captivating audiences and spreading Anne's message of hope.

While the beauty of Anne's character and the intriguing side plots are effective and engaging, the overall subject of the play mustn't be overlooked. With the harshly significant effects of the Holocaust being the main subject matter, it can be a challenge to depict such an important historical event with

the accuracy and respect it requires. The Almonte and District High School drama department has decided to take on this challenge by presenting *The Diary of Anne Frank* as this year's spring production. The cast and crew consist of students from grades nine through twelve at ADHS, and are directed by Jenny Sheffield. They are an enthusiastic group that has invested many hours of hard work into ensuring that this production is one to remember. Everyone involved, from the actors to the set builders to the stage crew, is committed to depicting the story with the accuracy and emotional value the piece deserves. Audience members are sure to be emotionally touched by the story and the legacy of Anne Frank. Her spirit will continue to inspire optimism in even the most persistent of pessimists, long after the curtain closes.

"*The Diary of Anne Frank* is an important story to be told," says Claire Hunter, who plays the role of Anne. "I feel honoured to play a character in this production." The Almonte and District High School drama department encourages theatre fans of all ages to join them in experiencing this powerful play.

Performances will take place on April 28, 29 and 30 at 7:30PM, and on May 1 at 2PM, in the ADHS auditorium. Tickets cost \$12 and will be available at the Main Office of ADHS, by calling 256-1470, and at the door.

— *Kylie Kendall is a grade twelve student at Almonte & District High School*

Music Matters

Here Comes Music Monday!

Can you hear it? Music Monday is coming! If you haven't heard, **Music Monday** is a Canada-wide celebration of music education and its positive effects on our young people. It was started five years ago by a group of concerned musicians, educators, and citizens who wanted to raise awareness about the power of music to bring about change both in individuals, and in our society.

by Tony Stuart

I am fortunate to be able to work with teenagers every day, and I see first-hand the benefits of a solid musical education. Among other things, music helps develop self-confidence, self-discipline, and a sense of teamwork. It's no coincidence that these three skills are considered to be very important in today's workplace, and the workplace of the future.

So, what exactly is Music Monday? On Monday, May 2, students from coast to coast will be participating in special events designed to showcase their music programs. Last year, more than two thousand schools participated, so there's a good chance that your neighbourhood school will have something going on. Bands, choirs, and other ensembles will be polishing their skills over the next month in order to put on a great show!

I mentioned above that Music Monday was started by a group of concerned musicians, educators, and citizens. Over the past twenty-five years, there has been a disturbing trend in Canada that has seen music programs cut back, despite a

wealth of evidence linking the study of music to higher achievement in many other areas, including language and mathematics. Most of us can probably name at least one school where we've seen this happen.

Chances are that if you are reading this issue of *theHumm*, you understand everything that I'm discussing in this article. As parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and concerned citizens, you can make a difference. Ask your schools what they are doing to foster music education. Is music an important part of your child's school?

I can't tell you how many times I've taught students who struggled at school, but who showed up every week for band rehearsal, and experienced a sense of accomplishment and belonging. They have come back to see me as young adults and told me that those experiences will stay with them for life. There's nothing more rewarding than that as a band director!

On May 2, head over to your local school, or tune in to your favourite media outlet, and help celebrate Music Monday. I can't help but think that if these types of celebrations occurred on a more frequent basis, the world would be a much better place.

In my next article, I'll be dealing with some pretty amazing scientific discoveries that have been made concerning music and its effects on the brain. See you next time!

— *Tony Stuart is the Music Director at Notre Dame Catholic High School in Carleton Place.*

Wilderness Pleasures, Paddling Joys and Camping Bliss

The Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust Conservancy works with landowners who want to protect their treasured bit of wilderness. Kevin Callan celebrates Ontario wilderness as a prolific author, an entertaining and informative speaker, and an outdoor enthusiast who has been labelled the “Red Green” of the paddling and camping world. You can enjoy this dynamic speaker in Lanark Village on Sunday, May 1, when the MMLTC and Nature Lover’s Bookshop host Kevin for an afternoon of laughter and enlightenment.

Kevin Callan is a well-travelled canoe guide — averaging over a dozen wilderness trips a year — as well as a popular speaker and a leader in nature, canoeing, and photography workshops. He is the author of thirteen books, including the hugely popular *Paddler’s Guide* series and the best-selling *The Happy Camper*. His writing and photography appears in *Canadian Geographic* and *Ontario Nature* and he is Field Editor for several magazines including *Explore*,

Seasons, and *Outdoor Canada*. Callan hosts his own CBC Radio show coast to coast and is also a frequent guest on radio and television. He is a winner of four National Magazine Awards and four film awards including “best of” in the prestigious Waterwalker Film Festival. For the last twenty-one years he has taught Environmental Issues, Wilderness Ethics, and Wildlife Photography at Sir Sandford Fleming College and currently works with at-risk high school students in a program designed to introduce youth to college level courses in wilderness values and environmental leadership. He lives with his family in Peterborough, the birthplace of the modern-day canoe.

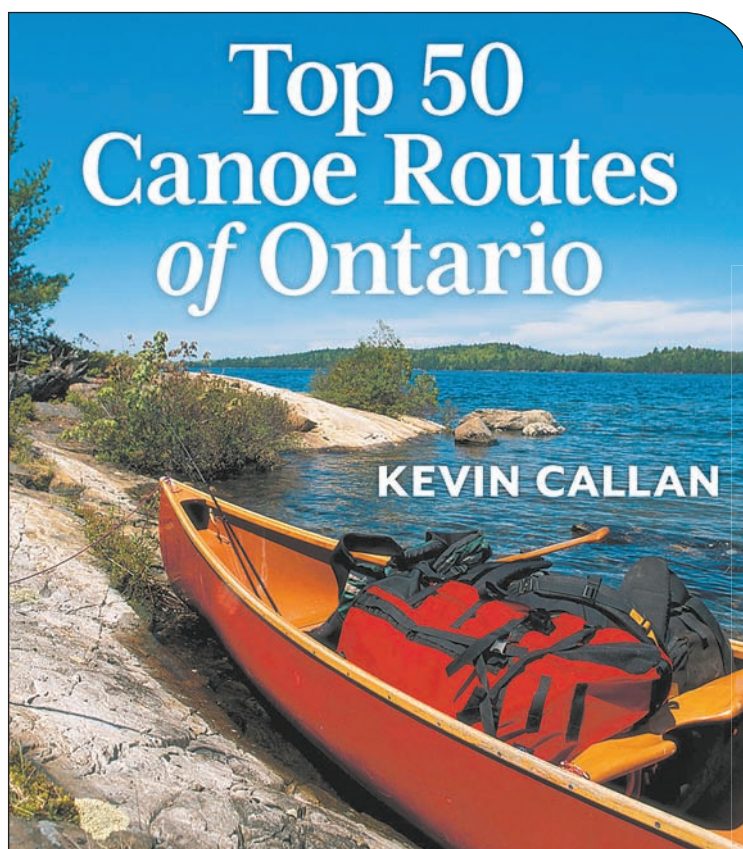
Kevin’s presentation will also celebrate the release in April of his latest paddling book, *Top Fifty Canoe Routes of Ontario*. From cool camp gadgets to skinny-dipping etiquette, Kevin will share his philosophical views on why we like to go outdoors

and how to make it even more enjoyable. This is an event you won’t want to miss.

The MMLTC currently has an ambitious property acquisition program under which the organization, on behalf of the community, will ensure long-term protection of ecologically significant local lands, the very wilderness that Callan celebrates.

Come to the Royal Canadian Legion in Lanark Village on Sunday, May 1 for a 2PM presentation by this fun, informative and intrepid outdoorsman as he looks at why we love wilderness and how to get more enjoyment from this gift of nature. The \$10 entrance fee will support the MMLTC 2011 Property Acquisition Program. The presentation will be followed by a book signing and conversation over coffee and cake at Nature Lover’s Bookshop across the street.

More information on this event can be found at <www.natureloversbookshop.ca>, by calling 259-5654. or at <www.mmltc.ca>.



Experience *The MOMologues...*

The Original Comedy about Motherhood by Sheila Eppolito, Stefanie Cloutier and Lisa Rafferty will hit the Neat stage in Burnstown on Mother’s Day weekend. Presented by Echo echo Productions, this hilarious play can truly be appreciated by all mothers, but should be seen by all.

This show takes you through “the good, the bad, and the ugly” sides of motherhood like no other. With four women sharing their different experiences through monologues and short dialogues, the play covers a wide range of topics. It starts with how easy or difficult it was for each of them to get pregnant, and proceeds to the trials of being a mother to multiple children. “Having children is 80% frustration and 20% joy, and even though mathematically and logically it makes no sense, somehow the 20% make up for the 80%.”

The talented cast, including Chris Kyte, Emily Waterston, April Cappel and Heather Sagmeister, plans to bring their audience to tears with laughter, as they have not stopped laughing since they picked up the script.

So if you are tired of buying your mother flowers every Mother’s Day, take her to see *The MOMologues*, and enjoy all that Neat and Burnstown have to offer while you’re there. Shows are May 5, 7 and 8 at 8PM, and May 7 and 8 at 2PM. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased at Neat, by calling 433-3205, or at <www.neatfood.com>. And make sure you check out Echo echo Productions’ new website at <www.echoechotheatre.com>.

Wellness in Just 10 Minutes!



Graham Turnbull

Whole Body Vibration (WBV) is an extremely effective workout program for everyday people. There is no sweating, no changing of clothes — just come as you are and get on a machine for 10 minutes of your day. You may not have heard of it, but it has been around since the 1960s. Russian scientists working in the space program started to experiment with vibration exercise technology to help with bone/muscle loss caused by being in space. They found that by using this equipment they not only stopped the loss, but amazingly they saw an increase in bone density, strength of muscle tissue, and much more.

The success of vibration therapy in space programs caught the attention of the medical community, and scientists began investigating the effects of safe, low-speed vibration on various medical conditions. To date, there have been hundreds of clinical trials performed in North America and Europe using WBV, and scientists are documenting positive changes in conditions like bone density loss, cerebral palsy, Parkinson’s disease, arthritis, multiple sclerosis, emphysema, stroke recovery, varicose veins, circulation and joint problems.

Sound too good to be true? Well, you’ll just have to see for yourself. WBV machines cause a rapid, involuntary contraction and then expansion of the muscle cells. This rapid repetitive movement occurs at the cellular level and is proven to build muscle cells. It also burns fat, and it a great method of detoxification and lymphatic drainage. The motion generated by WBV therapy enhances the body’s natural regenerative processes. When you focus on a muscle, tighten it and then release it over and over again, you are mimicking the involuntary muscle movement induced by Whole Body Vibration machines. Vibration Therapy works by pulling and tensing the muscle the same as regular exercise, but in very small amounts and very quickly. This is how you can do a full body workout in 10 minutes. It doesn’t get better than that!



Leila Turnbull

Special Offer — Three Free Sessions

At Spice Wellness Systems, our WBV machines use low-speed, low-amplitude vibrations to generate health benefits. We offer our clients the chance to come in and try three sessions on the machine for free. This gives you a chance to actually see what the machines can do for you, and I can tell you that most people feel a difference after just one session. We have been open for nine months, and clients have experienced wellness benefits such as inch loss, reduction in joint, knee, hip and back pain, increased bladder control, improved circulation, better sleep, increased energy... the list goes on!

— Heather McDougall, Owner



110 Bridge Street, Carleton Place
613-257-7739
www.spicewellness.net

Happy Poetry Month!

Sadly, I will be away for most of April, which is Poetry Month and a great time for spoken word in the Ottawa Valley. Already this year there has been a cavalcade of talented artists in Perth, Almonte, Carleton Place and Smiths Falls. The organizers of the Perth slam poetry series even added an extra, non-competitive show to keep up with the demand for places to perform and listen to spoken word poetry.

April has two great shows in store for you. I'd like to mention at this point that I am not using the passive voice that my professors oh so disliked, but rather personifying April

by Danielle Grégoire

as the bearer of poetry for all. Just to be clear. Language is such an important part of our daily lives, it can be so affecting, and often we don't even realize how much power words have. For example, in 2007, at the very first Lanark County slam, our featured performer Rusty Priske did a poem called "Just Start". In it he describes how he went to a forum for youth at which the presenters told the participants to "start young". Rusty wrote his first slam poem at 38, and then he penned these lines (this is incredibly abridged):

"Wayson Choy released his first novel at 57.
Alex Haley's first book came at 44. Maya Anjelou was 41.
You don't have to be a child prodigy to need to create.
There is no window of opportunity,
or rather there is, but it lasts a lifetime.
If you have something to say, say it.
If you don't have anything to say... dig a little deeper.
Opinions and feelings shouldn't be
assigned to us like Driver's Licenses.
They bubble from within
even if they have been tamped down and sealed away.
Ease off on the valve and let your steam of creativity
join our stream of consciousness and change the world
just by being part of it.
Experience matters, but we all have the same amount:
One lifetime, in progress.
So start writing at 15 or 50. Start drawing at 9 or 90.
It is never too late and it is never too early.
What is the right age? No such thing.
Don't wait for the big idea that will make you famous.
Don't give up your dreams because your time for
dreaming has passed.
Don't start young
Don't start old
Don't start fast
Don't start slow
Just start."

When Rick Kwissa heard those lines, I'm not sure he knew right away that his life was about to change. Rick is a wonderful man, a retired Nortel employee and now working again due to all the pension mess, but at the time he had just stopped working and was unsure of what to do next. Hearing those words sparked something in Rick — the need to write, and write he did. Now, four years later, Rick Kwissa is the featured poet at the April Carleton Place slam, with stories from his collection *Love Stories from the Hunt Camp*. Stories inspired by happenings in Lanark County. Our stories.

Catch Rick Kwissa and the April Poetry Slam at Ernie's On-Stage on Monday April 4. Doors open at 6:30PM, show starts 7PM and it's only \$5; if you perform, it's free.

Later in April, in Perth, another great artist will be performing at the slam. PrufRock was compelled to write rhymes from a young age, and his keen ability to write lyrics of import was inspired over the years by many legendary hip hop artists such as Common, Mos Def and Slum Village. It wasn't until twelfth grade, when PrufRock became enchanted by the work of T.S. Elliot (*The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock*), that he found the poet in himself and his stage name. The date is yet to be confirmed for the Perth slam, so keep your eye on the LiPS Facebook page for more information.

Maybe April is the month when you "just start" to slam or you can come out to listen to the words that keep coming. Any poetry tips in the valley? Send me an email <danielle.gregoire@hotmail.com>.

This Fact Sheet was created to provide our patients, staff, and members of the Almonte community with information on Family Health Teams.

Ottawa Valley

Family Health Team

FACT SHEET

WHAT IS A FAMILY HEALTH TEAM (FHT)?

A FHT is an approach to primary health care that brings together different health care providers to coordinate the highest possible quality of care for our patients.

The objectives of a FHT are to:

- Provide patients with better access to care.
- Work as a team to keep patients healthy.
- Help patients navigate their way through the health care system.
- Provide patients with primary health care, health promotion, chronic disease management and self-help tools to improve their health.
- Use "state-of-the-art" information technology.

WHAT TYPES OF PROVIDERS MAKE UP A FHT?

The providers granted to each FHT vary based on the specific health needs identified in the surrounding community. They can include nurses, nurse practitioners, dietitians, midwives, mental health workers, and other Interdisciplinary Health Providers (IHPs) that work collaboratively to ensure that patients receive the most comprehensive care possible.

WHAT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES CAN I EXPECT FROM OUR FHT?

Besides offering primary health care services to patients, FHTs – both independently and through partnerships with other health care organizations in the community – create and expand patient resources and programs that address chronic and preventable diseases and promote overall health. It is important to note that FHT programs and services are available free of charge to all rostered patients on a referral basis.

Some of the priority areas that were identified for our FHT include:

- Diabetes
- Geriatrics
- Respiratory diseases/smoking cessation
- Mental health
- Women's health/maternal and postpartum care

Additional services are available and can be communicated to you by your family physician.

WHERE IS OUR FHT LOCATED?

The temporary location of the OVFHT will be the second floor of the Old Fairview Manor (95 Spring Street), which is attached to the Almonte General Hospital. Over the course of a year, the first floor of this building will be renovated to accommodate our group of family physicians and all OVFHT IHPs and staff.

WHAT IF SOMEONE HAS QUESTIONS ABOUT OUR FHT?

We encourage anyone with questions to call Meagan Morin, FHT Assistant, 613-256-2514 ext. 2213.

Antoinette Strazza, Executive Director, is also available to speak to groups or individuals seeking a better understanding of FHTs.

HOW DID WE BECOME A FHT?

A group of physicians from the Almonte Family Health Network submitted an application to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) in the summer of 2010. They were approved as a Wave 4 FHT and started the Ottawa Valley Family Health Team in November 2010.

Since 2005, there have been five waves of FHT implementation and a total of 200 FHTs approved across the province of Ontario. They differ in size, location, number of sites, number of IHPs, programs and services offered, etc.

HOW IS OUR FHT FUNDED?

The funding that the OVFHT receives from the MOHLTC is largely based on the number of patients that are rostered to our group of family physicians. This number determines how many IHPs are approved as well as funding available to the FHT to set up and maintain ongoing operations associated with the IHPs, programs, and services.

WHICH PROVIDERS WILL PATIENTS HAVE ACCESS TO?

Our team will consist of:

Family Physicians	Psychiatrist	Nurse Practitioner	Registered Nurse
Social Worker	Dietician	Pharmacist	Chiroprapist

HOW IS THE OVFHT GOVERNED?

The OVFHT is a not-for-profit corporation that is provider-led. The Executive Director of the OVFHT reports to a Board of Directors, which is made up of five family physicians and four Directors from the Almonte General Hospital Board.

HOW WILL PATIENTS KNOW ABOUT OUR FHT?

A communication campaign will be launched to ensure that all staff and patients are aware of and understand the OVFHT.

Staff will learn about FHTs through regularly scheduled meetings, information sessions, and letters/fact sheets like this one. For patients, posters and pamphlets will be available in all physician offices. Physicians will also begin talking to their patients about the FHT model and what it means for them.

WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF THE OVFHT?

The renovation and redesign of the first floor of the Old Fairview Manor will enhance the way in which OVFHT providers practice. Since all family physicians and IHPs will be operating in one location, services will be centralized for patients, and provider collaboration and consultation will be maximized.

OUR MISSION

"To increase the level and access to primary care services in the Almonte community by building an integrated team of health care professionals so that all residents will have access to timely, high-quality primary care medical services, emphasizing health promotion, disease prevention, and improved management of chronic disease."

75 Spring Street Almonte, Ontario K0A 1A0 | 613-256-2514 ext. 2213

Sheltering at the Textile Museum

The Mississippi Valley Textile Museum (MVTM), located in Almonte, features artists who work within a very broad understanding of textiles. This unique museum and gallery is curated by Michael Rikley-Lancaster, who has continually facilitated some intriguing shows that push the boundaries of the museum's historical intentions. The newest show, *Sheltering*, features artists **Deborah Arnold** and **Uta Riccius**. The exhibition is centered on sophisticated ideas of home as a place of shelter and uses a wide array of materials dramatically displayed through a collection of sculptures and installations.

It may be a surprise to hear Deborah Arnold's name attached to the MVTM. Her work is typically produced in stone. More recently, Arnold has focused her art on the understanding of and connection between life cycles and domesticity. She began by creating stone egg sculptures to represent

different personalities or characteristics at momentary points in a person's life. She then started building homes for these identities which subsequently lead to nests of all shapes and sizes pouring out of her Thoburn Mill studio.

Her work in *Sheltering* demonstrates the fragility of modern day homes. It also comments on society's overcrowding, speaks of nourishment and comfort, and contrasts transience and permanence. Arnold's most powerful work in the exhibition is entitled "*The Harvest*" which situates twelve stone eggs onto a single harvest table. The dramatic display solidifies Arnold's ability as a stone carver, while launching her work into a new and exciting direction which combines modern romanticism with conceptual installation.

Uta Riccius's work in *Sheltering* is also based on concepts of home. In contrast to the work mentioned, her nests are created as artificial habitats for urban animals that have lost their natural spaces. Riccius's work has continued to develop since the series was first displayed during the *Paysages Ephemeres* exhibition in Montreal. She has adapted her micro-habitats for urban fauna in natural park settings to the walls, ceilings, and floors of the MVTM. Her body of work entitled "*Package Deals*" uses standard housing construction materials woven into elaborate, organic pod-like shelters. The result is playful while maintaining a very sincere concern for the over-population of urban landscapes. Riccius has installed several of her pieces around the town of Almonte as a way to demonstrate their original intentions. Her installations carry with them a sad realization of human impact on the natural world while creating mesmerizing and alien appearances.

The Textile Museum is located at 3 Rosamond Street in Almonte, and is open Wednesday to Sunday from 10AM to 4PM. Please call 256-3754 or visit <www.mvtm.ca> for more information.

— Amanda Sears



While strolling along in downtown Almonte, you might notice some rather unique nests in the trees about town. These were from one of the children's workshops where artist Uta Riccius showed how to construct foam nests as a tie-in to her 'Sheltering' exhibition with Deborah Arnold, whose work is pictured at left.



"There is a dynamic energy here that I have found nowhere else. It really is a "Friendly Town"."

Providing alternative health care in a homey, small town atmosphere with big city professionalism is the goal for Dr. Michaela Cadeau and her team at **Hands On Healing**.

They approach each client as a whole person — examining their health history, their diet, and their lifestyle choices. Then, in consultation with the patient, they offer a wide range of services to meet each individual's goals for optimum health in a natural, holistic manner.

Dr. Cadeau has been a licensed Doctor of Chiropractic for 29 years, ever since graduating from Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College in Toronto. Since 1997, she has been practicing acupuncture as an adjunct to chiropractic.

As well as chiropractic and acupuncture, Hands On Healing Centre offers registered massage therapy, nutritional counseling, custom foot orthotics, and facial rejuvenation acupuncture.

In addition to caring for the health of her patients, Dr. Cadeau is committed to caring for the health of her community. By actively engaging in sponsorship for the Folkus concert series and the SchoolBox initiative, as well as supporting numerous silent auctions and sports teams, she contributes to the area's vitality. She also keeps her fingers on the pulse of the business community. "The Chamber Mixers provide me with an opportunity to meet other entrepreneurs and keep me informed of upcoming events in the area."

Hands On Healing — Mississippi Mills Chamber member since 2008



Visit us: www.mississippimills.com

MISSISSIPPI MILLS
CHAMBER of
COMMERCE

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April 20 Mixer

With Mississippi Mills Mayor,
John Levi
6PM at the Barley Mow

Go Green: Plant a Tree!

The Chamber's annual tree sale offers shade, flowering fruit, and large trees at great prices.

Order by April 21 at:
www.mississippimills.com.

Join us:

To become a member of the Mississippi Mills Chamber of Commerce please email your request to manager@mississippimills.com. Members who attend our monthly MIXERS are eligible to win a business profile like this one!

Classic Theatre Festival's Audience Accessibility Campaign

Perth's Classic Theatre Festival (CTF), the only professional summer theatre company in the Ottawa Valley, has launched a new program to provide accessibility to the economically disadvantaged.

While the Festival's move to a new venue, the Mason Theatre (located at

13 Victoria Street in Perth), was made in large part due to the location's wheelchair accessibility, the CTF's new initiative is designed to provide another kind of accessibility: free seats for those who could otherwise not afford to attend.

Artistic producer Laurel Smith explains that the Save-a-Seat campaign "is designed to make accessible the thrilling experience of top-notch professional theatre to those people in Perth and Lanark County who, marginalized economically, are simply unable to attend. Study after study shows how the arts are part of a healthy childhood and enliven the otherwise difficult lives many adults struggle with when living below the poverty line."

"We think it's great that there are students in this area who will travel to the Stratford Festival each fall for that wonderful experience, but we recognize there are many in the area who are simply unable to afford that expense. What we propose is to make accessible to those children, and to their parents, the experience of theatre artists who normally work at such prestigious stages as Stratford and Shaw, right here in Perth."

A recent grant from the Perth & District Community Foundation has helped lay the cornerstone of the Save-a-Seat campaign, and the CTF is now soliciting tax-deductible donations from those who would like to contribute a series of subsidized seats to the campaign.

"If anyone deserves an evening at the theatre, a chance to get swept away in a story if only for a few hours, it is those hard working people in our community who are struggling to make ends meet," says CTF board member Joan Frommer. "I am so pleased to have been asked to chair this initiative — it makes our festival truly accessible to all."

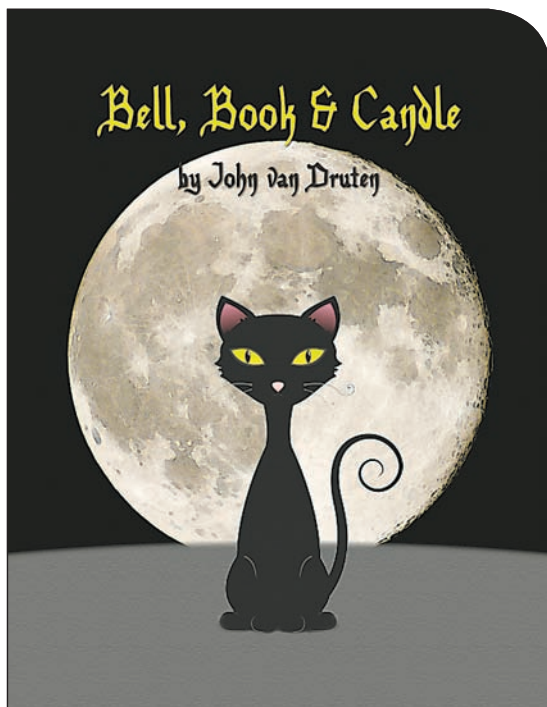
The Save-a-Seat program, while grounded in the CTF's goal of giving back to its home community — over \$7000 was donated to local organizations during their inaugural season — was in part inspired by a letter to the Perth Courier in November 2009, written by Sue Cavanagh on behalf of Lanark County Child and Youth Poverty Action Network. The letter discussed in poignant detail the opportunities missed by 12% of children in Lanark County who cannot go to birthday parties, attend afterschool activities, have a pet, nor enjoy the arts, and, on a more direct level, miss out on one or more meals in a day. The expansion of Perth's Food Bank, as well as reports on

poverty in the region, indicate that this remains a persistent problem for the near future.

The CTF's parent organization, Burning Passions Theatre, has long worked with marginalized youth and has attempted, through new work development, workshops, and other media, to create spaces for the often neglected voices of women, children, and those at the edge of our society. CTF's artistic producer, Laurel Smith, is also a founder of the award-winning St. Clare's Multi-faith Housing Society, an innovative project that provides hundreds of units of affordable housing while working on new construction as well.

Their 2011 summer season will feature the bewitching romantic comedy *Bell, Book and Candle*, July 8 to 31, and *The Fourposter*, a comedic chronicle of a marriage, August 5 to 28. Early-bird tickets offering a 10% discount are currently on sale.

Individuals who would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the Save-a-Seat Campaign can contact the Classic Theatre Festival at <info@classictheatre.ca> or at 1-877-283-1283 x 3. The CTF welcomes inquiries from any Lanark County social service agencies that have clients who would like to benefit from the Save-a-Seat Campaign.



This season's Classic Theatre Festival line-up includes *Bell, Book and Candle* and *The Fourposter*. For more details, visit <www.classictheatre.ca>.

SEDUCING THE VOTE

JOHN FENIK

PRAISE FOR SEDUCING THE VOTE:

"Real-life stories that illustrate with humour, sadness and simple clarity what standing for an elected office really is all about." *Steve Fournier, Former CAO, Town of Perth*

"I laughed so hard as the pages turned over...I did not want to put it down!" *Linda Van Alstine, Acting Clerk/Treasurer, Drummond/North Elmsley*

"*Seducing the Vote* is honest, daring, convincing in its narrative and detail, necessary for all who wish to pursue the life of a politician." *Susan Norwood, Perth*

"It is an excellent read, especially for someone who is in the political arena. Everything you say feels so real." *Aubrey Churchill, Reeve, Drummond/North Elmsley*

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OR GO TO fenikpublishing.wordpress.com

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Eggscapade in Almonte – Follow that Bunny!

The Easter bunny has gone all mysterious this year, and has hidden clues to a secret message in the windows of downtown Almonte businesses. For the fourth annual Eggscapade contest on Mill Street, egg hunters will need to find both bunnies and eggs in business windows to figure out a secret message. Thirteen bunnies will provide both a number and an alphabet letter to unlock the hidden message. And just to make things interesting, a bunch of other bunnies will be busy distracting the hunters at the same time.

“Once again, local kids and their families can have fun on Mill Street figuring out the secret,” says Mainstreet Almonte Attraction and Promotion (MAAP) volunteer Jack Elgood. “The winners will be rewarded with sensational spring Easter gift baskets, courtesy of downtown businesses.”

Eggscapade runs from April 7 to 20 this year, and egg hunters can pick up a hunt sheet at Blackbird, Mill Street Books, Foodies Fine Foods, Curiosities or Nordic Star. Completed sheets will be entered into a draw for the gift baskets until April 20, and winners will be notified on April 21. The secret will be out and prizes will be presented Easter weekend on Saturday April 23 at noon at the Heritage Court (14 Mill Street) in Almonte.

Almonte schools have also received entry sheets for the annual egg colouring contest (for students in kindergarten to Grade 5), which also leads to prizes. These sheets can also be returned to the aforementioned businesses.

Almonte’s fourth annual egg hunt is just another of the many egg-citing ideas dreamed up by the MAAP downtown Almonte promotion team. Hop to it and get to downtown Almonte as fast as you can! For more information visit <www.downtownalmonte.ca>, contact Jack Elgood (Curiosities) at 256-7943, or drop in to the stores mentioned above.



Sultans of String
Friday, April 15, 8PM

www.PerthPAC.org

Mason Theatre at Perth & District Collegiate Institute
13 Victoria St., Perth

Tickets available from
ticketmaster (613) 755-1111 www.ticketmaster.ca
and Jo's Clothes, 39 Foster St. 613-264-2898 (cash only)

Sponsors: Lake 88.1, CIBC Wood Gundy – Moe Johnson, Coutts & Company, The Factory Grind, Foodsmiths, North Lanark Veterinary Services, Maximilian Dining Lounge, Kelly's Flowers and Fine Things, Lionel Pauze Piano Tuning, Camp Otterdale, Jo's Clothes, Heide Gibbs, Fiddleheads Bar & Grill, Paul's Maple Products

Sheep Thrills

Celebrate Fibre Arts on St. Distaff's Day

St. Distaff's Day. A new religious holiday? Nope. An old English tradition revitalized and revamped for modern consumption.

In bygone times, when the celebration of Christmas lasted a full twelve days (hence the song), by day thirteen — January 7, St. Distaff's Day — it was time to get back to work. And women's work meant spinning.

For those readers who may not make the connection, the spindle was the apparatus used to spin fibre into yarn, and the distaff was a stick (staff) which held the as-yet-unspun fibre (“dis” being Low German for “flax”, which would have been spun into linen). Starting to make a little more sense?

But why write an article about an obsolete British winter tradition just as the Canadian cherry blossoms are about to bloom? Well, back in 2002, the West Carleton Fibre Guild and the Kintail Spinners and Weavers got together and decided to resurrect St. Distaff's Day with a few twists. Since we all tend to be busier than ever around Christmas (without the twelve-day break for recuperation), January 7 no longer signals a return to work — when did we ever stop working? Besides, for those of us no longer burdened by the necessity of spinning and needlework as a means of survival, these activities have become sheer pleasure! Some changes were clearly needed.

Around here, St. Distaff's Day is celebrated in the summer, and it's for fun. What a notion!

This year marks the tenth anniversary of our local St. Distaff's Day celebrations which will be

Participants are encouraged to bring projects they have completed at previous St. Distaff's Days for display, as well as yarn for the Stash Swap Table. You might want to tuck a wee bit of pin money into your pocket — during the breaks there will be vendors present to help satisfy your craving for all things fibre.

Did I mention the “Sheep Thrills” competition? Bring your interpretation of what this phrase means to you and you may take home a prize!

Lunch will be provided by the Almonte Fair Home Craft Group. Workshops, snacks, tea and coffee, lunch, shopping, a tea party, swaps, contests, and kindred spirits... how much does all this cost, you ask? Would you believe a mere \$20 per person for the entire day? Talk about sheep thrills!

To receive the course list or a registration package, please call Sandy at 256-2892 or email <stdistaffsday@gmail.com>.

Registration cut-off is May 9. Don't be sheepish; come on out and give it a whorl!

— Lynda Forgues



hosted by the West Carleton Fibre Guild at the Agricultural Hall in the Almonte Fairgrounds, from 9AM to 4PM, on June 4.

There will be ten workshops to choose from — either one four-hour basket-making workshop or two two-hour classes on various themes including spinning with a drop spindle, button making, weaving on a triaxial loom (yes, that does mean weaving in three directions), learning to crochet, making a knitted bead necklace, and many, many more.



On Saturday April 23rd between 10am-3pm bring a child to decorate an Easter cupcake. Everyone will leave with a boxed cupcake that is ready to give... or eat!

Cost is only \$5 per child and in return you will receive a \$5 shopping voucher for Kenfield Kids and/or Appleton that can only be used on Saturday April 23rd.

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Empty Bowls in Perth and Beyond

2011 is a special year for Empty Bowls in Perth. For one thing it is our 10th anniversary year, and to mark the event Scotiabank in Perth has offered to match donations at the Festival of the Maples event on April 30. The Empty Bowls event will take place at Riverguild Fine Crafts in Perth from 10AM to 4PM that day.

This is a tremendous financial bonus for the local food programs we support: The Perth Food Bank, Food For Thought Breakfasts, and the YAK Youth Centre Supper Program.

In a broader sense, it indicates a recognition of the fact that Empty Bowls does make a valuable and sustaining contribution to the food security landscape in this community and beyond.

Last year Empty Bowls raised approximately \$20,000. This year, you can purchase a handmade bowl for a suggested donation of \$20 at Foodsmiths on April 9 from 11AM to 2PM (to be filled with delicious quinoa grain salad), or at Riverguild during the Festival of the Maples on April 30 (for details visit www.emptybowls.ca). While 80% of the funds collected stay in eastern Ontario, the balance goes to two programs, one national and the other in Guatemala. Both have strong links to Perth.

In 2005 James Bartleman, the former Lieutenant Governor of Ontario and now a Perth resident, created a number of literacy camps for aboriginal kids in five isolated Ontario communities. This has grown to more than forty camps across northern Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and

BC. The Aboriginal Summer Literacy Camps (administered by Frontier College) include a lunch program which is a recipient of funds generated in Perth.

The Guatemala Stove Project (GSP) is a small NGO that began in 1999 in Perth under the guidance of an inspired and committed couple, Tom Clarke and Rita Redner. The project they continue to nurture builds masonry stoves to replace indoor, unvented, open fires. These "three-stone" fires, common in underdeveloped regions across the globe, are both a health and an environmental scourge.

The partnership between Empty Bowls and GSP began with a personal tragedy. Two years ago, Tom and Rita's son Sam was killed in a bicycle accident. In his memory they found a Guatemalan village which had no school and set about building one. Today, the village of Panimaquim has not only a school but also a comedor or dining hall, a kitchen (with a masonry stove, of course) and a brand new shed with a diesel operated corn grinder. This simple piece of equipment alone saves the women of Panimaquim hours of hand-grinding every day. All of this came from special funds raised by the GSP in the last two years.

Currently, students from elementary schools in and around Perth are fundraising to finance a self-sustaining chicken farm in Panimaquim. At last count they had raised most of the \$5000 needed to begin the project. In addition to committing \$2000 annually to the nutrition

program at La Escuela de Sam, Empty Bowls will be able to contribute enough money this year to ensure that the poultry farm project becomes a reality in Panimaquim.

Perth is a community that has become extremely proactive on the issue of food and food security. This month it was named as one of the two communities in Ontario, the other being Stratford, to become pilot sites under the direction of Toronto's The Stop Community Food Centre. According to *The Globe & Mail* (March 22, 2011), the strategy is to create "a grassroots movement that, combined with other efforts, will aim to influence changes in the policies and subsidies that shape what and how Canadians eat... The plan is to open two facilities similar to the Toronto hub, in Stratford and Perth, by early next year."

As the food security scene evolves and changes, Empty Bowls in Perth will have a continuing role to play. Together with the other contributors — the potters and pottery students who produce the bowls, the chefs who make the food to fill them, the graphic and website designers, the legions of volunteers who engage personally with children and their families — we all have

a message that goes along with each of the more than 6000 bowls we have sent out into the community since the project began.

That message speaks of hardship, hunger and poverty, even in our comparatively affluent community. That these things are acknowledged, spoken of, addressed by us as members of a craft fraternity or more broadly as members of civil society, sends a truly sustaining message to the children and families for whom food security remains a daily threat: "You are not alone. Have courage."

— Jackie Seaton



In addition to supporting the Perth Food Bank, Food For Thought Breakfasts, and the YAK Youth Centre Supper Program, Empty Bowls also funds international efforts like the Guatemala Stove Project. Pictured above is La Escuela de Sam, and on the right is the lunch room provided by GSP funds.

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