

APRIL 2017

# the Hummer

free

Arts,  
Entertainment  
& Ideas

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April's Events



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Creative Summer Camps



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The Good Food Tour



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Axes to Ashes: Lumber & Nature



## April Ales (and Brewery Tales)

Art is awesome and maple is marvelous, but I'm happy to report that the Ottawa Valley is also home to a growing number of very fine local breweries. If such av-ale-ability entices you to the area, just give me a call!

**Pat's Picks** Ashton Brewing Company's Amber Ale <ashtonbrewingcompany.com>  
**for April:** Cartwright Springs Brewery's I'd Tap That: Blonde <csbeer.ca>  
Crooked Mile's Highland Hillwalker Scottish Export <crookedmile.ca>  
Perth Brewery's Bonfire Black Lager <perthbrewery.ca>  
Stalwart Brewing Co.'s Thriller Chocolate Porter <stalwartbrewing.ca>



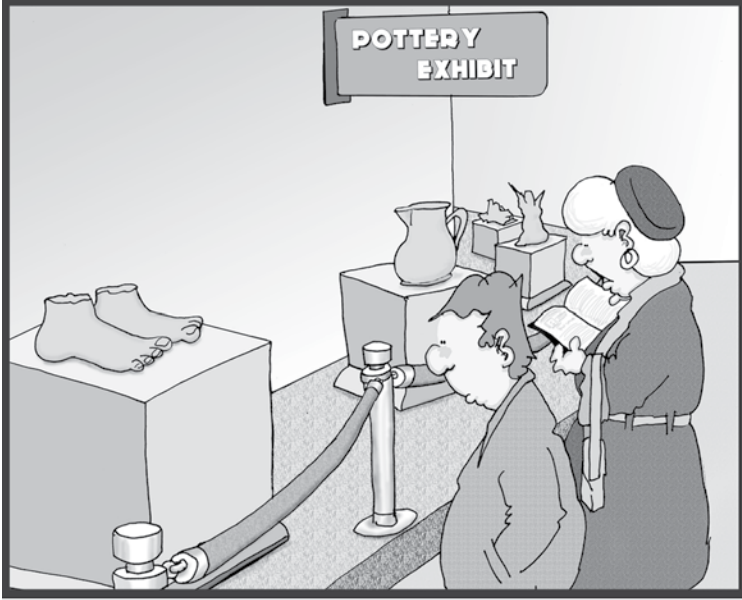
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"The next one's simply entitled 'Feet of Clay'!"

Humble Thought

When we create or appreciate  
*Arts*  
 we set free the spirit trapped within.  
 That is why

*Art*  
 arouses such joy.

*Art* —  
 whether skillfully executed or not —  
 is the emotion,  
 the pleasure of expressing life as it is.  
 Those who see

*Arts*  
 are moved by its passion and strength,  
 its intensity and beauty.  
 That is why it is impossible to separate  
 life from

*Arts*  
 Political and economic developments  
 may seem to dominate the news,  
 but culture and education are the forces  
 that actually shape an age,  
 since they transform the human

*Heart.*

— Daisaku Ikeda

Readers Write

**Tree Kindergarten**

Tiny friends, time to wake up  
 For the green season to set up  
 We will help you growing up  
 I know you enjoy showing up

I'd like to see your maturity  
 And personality's peculiarity  
 Though it'll take many years  
 Not seeing it I've some fears

Our life course is not so long  
 You will hear my swan song  
 But I'm happy you can grow  
 Beauty to other beings show

— Kamila Lastovka



At a recent visit to Mississippi Mills, the **Honourable Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Elizabeth Dowdeswell**, graciously posed with a copy of theHummm!

Who's Reading theHummm



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theHummm is a monthly arts, entertainment and ideas newspaper delivered free to businesses and visitor attractions in Almonte, Perth, Carleton Place, Westport, Pakenham, Carp, Arnprior, 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!

**Submissions**

By email or on disk.

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**Thanks this month to:**

Everyone who contributed to twelve amazing years of the Puppets Up! International Puppet Festival. If the "bottom line" was the number of hearts touched and connections made, we'd be good for a dozen more years at least!



**Jane Stott** from Rideau Ferry sent in the photo above, and wrote: "After my friend **Marlene Gordon** and I posed with theHummm, the staff at Fjord Safari Excursions in Norway asked to keep it. The high-speed boat tour was spectacular, travelling to a World Heritage Site fjord, where Disney got their inspiration for the popular family movie "Frozen."



Back in 2015, **Fran Bryerton** from Almonte wrote: "Just a note to let you know theHummm recently enjoyed a warm vacation in Barbados. It was at Bert's Bar, Rockley Beach, Skyport Apts., and pretty much all over this paradise of an island. The Hummm travelled there in January 2015, and had a great time."



# Jen Drysdale — In The Moment

Maybe it's obvious, but potters love to get together to talk about pots. So I was excited to meet with Jen Drysdale at her home/studio in Carp. Both potters, we share a love of the most malleable of materials: clay. We love the forms, functions and glazes of ceramics. We love how something as subtle as a dimple in the side of a bowl can be so beautifully expressive of its maker's thoughtful intention.

by Richard Skrobecki

A good potter understands clay and is able to let it "speak" in the studio. Jen Drysdale is one such potter. She has developed an innate sensitivity for clay through years of making pots and through watching masters at work. This foundation has helped her pottery to blossom with confidence.

You may recognize Jen from the Almonte Potters Guild (where she teaches evening classes), the Glebe Community Centre (where she's the Ceramics technician), 260 Fingers (an annual ceramic exhibition in Ottawa) or from seeing her work displayed at General Fine Craft in Almonte. She's one of those understated but essential members of our local craft community.

Jen's first exposure to clay was at her high school in Toronto, leading to a pottery course with Thorncliffe Park's Peta Hall. This was a time of discovery that solidified her love of making pots.

Over the ensuing years she was uprooted many times, but didn't seem to mind the frequent moves. She says, "I never saw moving as a negative thing... because friends can be made everywhere." Along the way she raised two children, became an accomplished scuba diver, and continued to learn about pottery by making and selling her work.

Importantly, she also attended a lot of workshops by iconic Canadian potters. Among them

were Harlan House, Robert Tetu, Bruce Cochrane, Carol Anne Michaelson, Wayne Cardinelli and Cathi Jefferson. In 1992 she settled in the Ottawa area and studied with Carolynne Pynn-Trudeau and Chandler Swain. She joined the Ottawa Guild of Potters and started showing locally.

In her studio practice, Jen begins by throwing well-defined shapes on the potter's wheel. She may cut and alter, carve facets, squish the form from round to oval or create a pattern with tool marks. She may add spouts, handles or a long neck to give a specific function. Because she understands the strengths and limits of clay, she can sensitively manipulate it with a special combination of looseness and control; this is the great duality of pottery-making that takes years of trial and error to achieve.

Until 2013 Jen was producing oxidation-fired stoneware meant for everyday use. Beautifully sensitive forms, luscious handles and spouts, subtle glaze colours and textures were her signature. It was about this time that she became curious about the unique process of wood-firing. Revered in Japan, Korea and China for thousands of years, it incorporates the extreme heat of a specifically-designed kiln that is carefully stoked with wood over several days. It requires hard work and determination, so one has to be made of sturdy stuff to pursue it. The random effects of wood ash deposits and the path of flames throughout the kiln play a pivotal role in the look of the fired work.

As it goes, happy accidents can sometimes lead to greater things. Jen signed up for a wood-fire workshop with the accomplished potters Tony Clennell and Bruce Dehnert. The workshop was to happen in Aylmer (Quebec, she assumed). Turns out it was actually at Tony's familial pottery Pincroft Studios near Aylmer, Ontario... an eight-hour drive from Carp! Despite the distance, this was an opportunity she could not miss.

At Pincroft she worked with a small group of energized potters to load the outdoor kiln with prepared pots, brick it closed, and stoke it continuously in shifts over 36 hours. The hot fire and intense camaraderie was exhilarating. Jen was thrilled with the whole experience, particularly when the kiln's smoke stack spewed huge flames into the night sky. "Now, that was dramatic!" she recalls with a grin.

It was such a success that she was selected for a year-long mentorship program with Clennell, sponsored by the Hamilton Potters Guild. The group met seven times to fire, allow the kiln to cool, unload and critique the result-

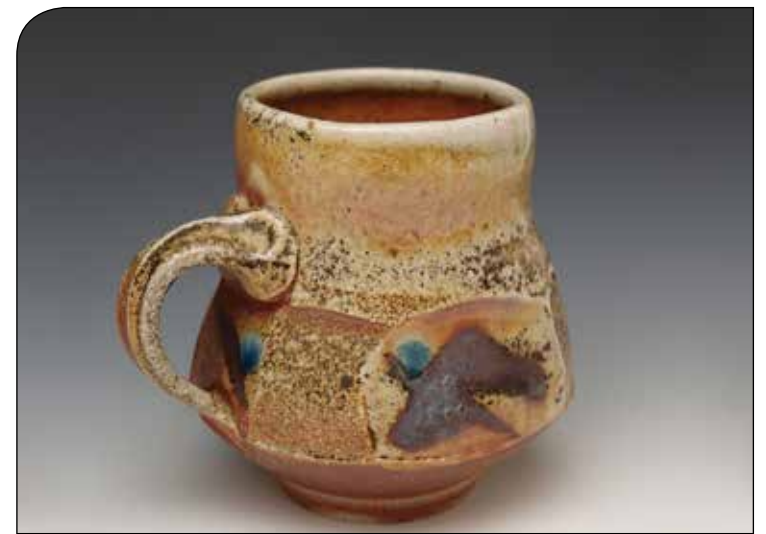


ing work. Unlike Jen, most of the participants were graduates of the Sheridan School of Craft ceramics program, known as one of the best of its kind in Canada. Despite feeling intimidated by the "artspeak" used during initial crits, Jen was able to find her own voice and her own wisdom. She feels that: "you are in your work, even if you are not always conscious of it."

The unpredictable nature of the wood-fire process suits her pots well; flames, ash and soda randomly highlight the textures and curves in beautiful ways. Most of the colour of her pots is a direct result of the wood-fire process. This gives them a scorched, melty and dramatic look that really can't be achieved by any other means.

Back at Jen's home, I'm unabashedly looking through her shelves of pottery — the collected work of dozens of potters. Jen cites a poignant quote from Tony Clennell: "Having only your own work around you is like talking to yourself all the time." This underscores how important it is as a potter to surround yourself with the work of others — that which inspires you. Every piece of pottery has its own character and feel in the hand; each appeals to the senses in a different way.

Jen is not one to sit still. She continues to evolve her techniques and glaze palette within the parameters of wood-firing, and wants to learn more. This spring she'll be travelling to Peter's Valley School of Craft in New Jersey to participate in a noborigama kiln workshop with potters Takuro and Hitomi Shibata. "Workshops are so energizing!" she says. "They make me realize this is why I'm here, in this moment."



**Happy Easter**

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EASTER CREAM EGGS

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f i p t You Tube

foodsmiths.com

Who: Jen Drysdale

What: Studio Potter

Where: <lotsopots@gmail.com>;  
General Fine Craft, 63 Mill St., Almonte  
<generalfinecraft.com>;  
Almonte Potters Guild, 95 Bridge St., Almonte  
<almontepottersguild.com>

When: 260 Fingers, Nov. 10-12, Glebe Community  
Centre, Ottawa <260fingers.ca>

Why: "I love working with clay because it provides  
me with the joy of endless possibilities. There is  
something new to explore around every corner."

ARTIST TRADING CARD

# Spring Dance with Eddy and the Stingrays

On Saturday, April 22, turn back time and spend an evening bopping to the classic tunes of the '50s, '60s and '70s with Eddy and the Stingrays. From the menu (straight from the diner!) to competitions for best outfit and spotlight dances, you and your favourite dance partner are sure to have an unforgettable evening, all in

support of the Almonte General Hospital and Fairview Manor.

Eddy and the Stingrays love visiting Almonte each year for the Hospital's annual Spring Dance, because when it comes to knowing how to have a great time, the folks of Mississippi Mills are at the front of the class.



Dance the night away on April 22 to the upbeat tunes of Eddy and the Stingrays, and help raise funds for new diagnostic imaging equipment at Almonte General Hospital

The event, beginning at 6:30PM at the Almonte Civitan Club, also boasts a photo booth with Unposed, must-have silent auction items, a 50/50 draw, great food and a cash bar. Hosted by the Almonte General Hospital-Fairview Manor Foundation, all proceeds support the purchase of new diagnostic imaging equipment.

Tickets are available for \$35 in Almonte at the RBC, Blackbird Gift Shop, the Daily Scoop and the Almonte General Hospital-Fairview Manor Foundation.

Organizers are grateful to their sponsors: C.R. Gamble Funeral Home, Bean Cars, Unposed, Coady's Car Care, Ryno Motors, The Daily Scoop and Sis 'n Bro Smart Buys. They invite you to discover more about this and other Foundation events, including how to become a sponsor or make a donation to support the hospital, by contacting <almontehospitalfoundation.com> or calling Carolyn Piché at 256-2514 x2296.

Need 'em... need 'em... got 'em...  
Clip and save the Artist Trading Card  
All the cool kids do it!



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## LiPS Spoken Word Finals Winners to Compete at Canadian Festival

Each spring, the Live Poets Society (LiPS) conducts a Season Finals competition to declare a champion and to select a five-person team to compete in the Canadian Festival of Spoken Word.

This year the LiPS Season Finals will take place on May 5 at McMartin House in Perth; doors open at 7PM, with the show beginning at 7:30PM.

In order to participate in the Finals, you need to have participated in at least one LiPS Open Mic or Competitive Slam in the 2016-17 season, reside locally (Lanark, Leeds, Grenville, North Frontenac

Counties), and get your contact information to the organizers in advance to they can officially invite you to participate.

Competitors will perform original pieces of work that are three minutes or less in length, with no musical instruments, props or costumes. See the LiPS Facebook page for full details.

The top five performers of the Finals will be offered a place on the 2017 LiPS Slam team and prepare for the National Team Slam in Peterborough in October. Raise it!



Deborah Arnold, "Seven Drops of Light", Italian alabaster/steel, 60 x 40 x 17.5 inches



Mirana Zuger, "Seed", oil on canvas, 72 x 84 inches



Russell Baron, "Dreams of Flight", bronze, 12 x 12 x 3 inches

TRIO  
APRIL 21 - MAY 28, 2017

Vernissage/Meet the Artists: Sat April 29, 3pm-6pm

DEBORAH ARNOLD  
RUSSELL BARON  
MIRANA ZUGER



34 Mill St, Almonte  
www.sivarulrasa.com  
613.256.8033

# Great Coffee & Art, No Pressure!

A good coffee shop is so much more than merely a place to ingest caffeine. In the case of Carleton Place's **Under Pressure Coffee House**, it's a spot to connect with friends, partake in some delicious food (and of course the aforementioned caffeinated beverages), and a multi-disciplinary arts incubator to boot!

Owner Cara Lewis is relatively new to the Ottawa Valley, but not to the world of coffee and tea. For years she worked in sales and distribution of coffee and tea in England, where she eventually also opened a retail shop and a coffee shop. After a brief stop in Vermont, she decided that Canada was calling her, and — luckily for us — wound up hanging out her shingle in Carleton Place.

One of the first things you notice upon entering Under Pressure is, ironically, the laid-back atmosphere. Seating is casual and plentiful, and the walls are adorned with striking art — a combination of painting and photography by a variety of local artists. Towards the back of the shop you'll even find some three-dimensional art like knitting and ceramics, as well as books by local authors.

And if you patronize the establishment on a fairly regular basis (or just happen to be lucky), you may get to drink your latté while being serenaded by a very talented local musician! The last time I was in (enjoying a most delicious London Fog, I might add), I got to hear two sets by the young singer/songwriter and guitar-player extraordinaire Brad Scott. Brad's rich vocals and exceptional finger-style guitar playing were just perfect for the venue, and it was a terrific way to pass a Sunday afternoon. While I was there, I noticed that representatives from both Almonte's Folkus Concert Series and Perth's Stewart Park Festival popped in for a listen (probably not a coincidence!).

So why is a coffee shop working so hard to promote local artists? In Cara's own words: "the support I've had from local people has been amazing, so supporting local artists feels like a great way to pay it back." She is particularly passionate about helping younger artists get "a break", and encourages them to tell the story of their art so that people will connect with them on a more personal basis. So far she has found that her patrons seem to appreciate that approach, as she



Where can you find live music (in this case, by singer-songwriter Brad Scott), a terrific display of local art *and* a great cup of coffee? At Under Pressure Coffee House in Carleton Place!

has sold numerous pieces and had great turn-outs for live music. She extends that same support to her young staff, involving them in menu selection and encouraging them to come up with creative drink concepts for the shop.

Brad Scott will be playing at Under Pressure again on April 2 from about 1–3PM, but great visual art and delicious food and drinks can be found there during business hours (Monday through Thursday from 8AM to 6PM, Friday from 9–5 and Sunday from 10–4). They are located at 37 Lansdowne Avenue (in the Carleton Place Mews), and you can find them on Facebook or give them a call at 207–1117.

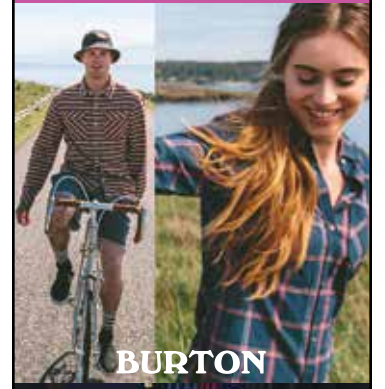
— Kris Riendeau



## Brad Scott's CD Release

We've been raving about Brad's music for several months in theHumm, and now there's a chance to hear him (band and all) release his first solo album! The album is called *New Frontier* and the CD release will take place at the Stewart Community Centre in Pakenham on April 29 (doors open at 1PM and the show starts at 2PM). The show includes performances by Vicki Brittle and Chris McNally, the Jimmy Tri-Tone Band and the Bowes Brothers, followed by a set by Brad and his band. Tickets are \$15, and will be available at Nicholson's Sundries in Pakenham, Mill Music in Renfrew, and of course Under Pressure in Carleton Place. They will also be available from <bradscott.ca> or by calling 623–3245. Don't miss this one, folks!

Spring  
has  
Sprung!



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sandwich\_



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## Tired of Winter?

We can't fix the weather, but we can improve your mood!

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SPRING  
ART  
CLASSES



CALLIGRAPHY - Tuesday morning - begins April 18  
WATERCOLOUR - Thursday afternoon - begins April 20  
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Saturday, May 6, 2017, 7:30 PM  
Sunday, May 7, 2017, 2:00 PM

Trinity Presbyterian Church  
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Tickets: Adults \$15, Seniors and Youths \$10  
Available from choir members or call Bonny 613-832-4423

*"This initiative is made possible by the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, collaboration between The Goulbourn Jubilee Singers, The Command Performance Choir, the Government of Canada, and extraordinary leaders from coast to coast!"*







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**2017**  
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# Empty Bowls are Here Again!

Spring is coming but Empty Bowls Perth is already here. Thanks to wonderful community support, the program has raised over \$200,000 since 2002 for local food security programs. Empty Bowls is an international grassroots effort to fight hunger in our communities. For those new to Empty Bowls, the basic premise is simple: potters create handcrafted bowls. The community is invited to enjoy a meal of soup and bread in exchange for a cash donation. Donors keep their bowl as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world, and that food is not just a commodity but a basic right.

Some of the beautiful handmade bowls created by local potters are available now at **Foodsmiths** in Perth. On Thursday, Friday and Saturday (March 30 to April 1), you can purchase and fill your Empty Bowls bowl with freshly made Foodsmiths Kale Bean soup. If you buy your bowl before the soup days at Foodsmiths, keep the receipt and drop by on the Thursday, Friday or Saturday to have your bowl filled with soup.

Come to the **Festival of the Maples** in Perth on Saturday, April 29, from 10AM to 4PM. The Empty Bowls booth will be set up outside Riverguild Fine Crafts (51 Gore Street East). Purchase a bowl and fill



Annual Empty Bowls throwing session at Anne Chambers' studio: 700 bowls in 2 days! From left, standing: Susie Osler, Molly Forsythe, Rosie Kotze, Jan Griffiths. Kneeling: Anne Chambers, Rita Redner, Ali Ross, Linda Hynes, Mike Doxey

it with delicious soup or chili donated by eight Perth restaurants, along with artisanal bread donated by Barnabe's and complimentary coffee from Coutts & Company.

If you want a bowl but will not be in Perth on April 29, bowls are available at Foodsmiths until late April, and are usually available year-round at the Riverguild Fine Crafts.

Bowls are available for a \$25 donation. Donations support The Table Community Food Centre, YAK Youth Services, Food for Thought: Lanark County school nutrition program, and the Lanark Highlands Food Pantry, as well as Frontier College's Summer Aboriginal Literacy Program and the Guatemala Stove Project. Empty Bowls Perth thanks Perth TD Canada Trust for their third year of sponsorship.

For more information about Empty Bowls Perth, visit [emptybowls.ca](http://emptybowls.ca) or find them on Facebook.



# Green Party of Ontario Town Hall Meeting

## GPO Leader Mike Schreiner comes to Almonte!

Spring has sprung and it's time for greening up. On Saturday, April 29 from 2-4PM, the constituency association for our Lanark, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington riding is hosting a town hall meeting at the United Church hall in Almonte (106 Elgin Street). Take advantage of this not-to-be missed opportunity to meet Mike Schreiner and learn about the hot political issues of the day.

As leader of the Green Party of Ontario, Mike has led successful policy campaigns to push the provincial governments to fund the Experimental Lakes Area, ban neonicotinoid pesticides, and price carbon pollution. A leading advocate for independent businesses, local food and sustainable communities, Mike is well known for his leadership in co-founding the award-winning Local Food Plus organization and for his successful Guelph-based small businesses, WOW Foods and Earthdance Organics.

His business was awarded the Citizen's Bank of Canada Ethics in Action Award for socially responsible business, as well as the Toronto Food Policy Council's Local Food Hero Award. While Mike was at Local Food Plus, the organization won the Canadian Environment Award for Sustainable Living, two Green Toronto Awards of Excellence, and NOW Magazine's Best of Toronto Award for best new environmental initiative.

Mike has been an active volunteer on a range of boards and committees. Family and community are important to him. His wife Sandy and their two daughters are engaged citizens, spending their free time gardening, hiking, fishing, cycling and volunteering in community activities.

Mike is passionate about creating a better Ontario. Come hear what he has to say, and enjoy refreshments and sweet treats as an added bonus! For more information, contact Ormond Lee at 267-7584 or [ojfoxlee@gmail.com](mailto:ojfoxlee@gmail.com).

# Celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> by Planting a Tree

Canada is a country known around the world for its stunning landscapes and rich history. Trees are a part of Canada's natural heritage, and our majestic forests continue to play an integral role in our country's growth and trade.

Trees are wonderful for both the rural and urban landscape. They help decrease air pollution, prevent soil erosion, provide ecosystem habitats for feathered friends and wildlife, offer shade in the summer, and act as wind barriers in the winter. Trees are a living legacy of our commitment to beautifying and preserving our community, our country, and the planet.

This year, the **Hub Hospice Tree Sale** (formerly run by the Mississippi Mills Chamber of Commerce) has ordered trees that showcase our Canadian heritage. The varied selection of maple and birch trees will allow landowners to continue a practice gifted to us by the First Peoples — the tapping of trees to turn sap into "liquid gold".

Here are few selections you may wish to consider:

The Paper "Jacquemontii" Birch is a multi-stemmed species, well-suited to small lots. The Paper Birch is known for providing stunning contrast in both urban and rural landscapes, thanks to its whitest of white bark and dark green foliage.

The Autumn Radiance Maple is a very hardy, native species. It is an excellent choice for homeowners who are seeking a fast growing maple tree. The Autumn Radiance is a favourite with land-



What better way to celebrate our sesquicentennial than by planting a Royal Red Maple tree (other varieties are nice too!) and raising funds for Hub Hospice at the same time!

scapers, as it produces red samaras in the spring and an outstanding fiery orange to red foliage colour in the fall.

The Royal Red Maple is regarded as the finest of the red maples. It adapts to various soil conditions and is suitable for urban planting as it tolerates air pollution. The glossy foliage remains a spectacular maroon all season long, with hints of yellow-brown during the fall.

Why not commemorate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday by making a statement in your neighbourhood? Plant a tree, or two, or three! Shop online at the Hub Hospice Palliative Care fundraising tree sale website <hubhospicetrees.com>.

Hub Hospice Palliative Care is a not-for-profit registered Canadian charity funded through donations and targeted fundraising initiatives. We are a "hospice without walls". We provide in-home palliative care support for adult clients and their families

(personal residences, long-term care homes, retirement homes or hospitals). Visiting services are available in North Lanark, which includes the towns of Mississippi Mills (Almonte, Pakenham, Blakeney, Appleton, Clayton) and Carleton Place. All services are provided free of charge. No special referrals are required for patients with life-threatening diagnoses. Please visit our website for additional information on our services or volunteer visiting program at <hubhospice.com>.

— Andrea Bird

## Hike for Hub Hospice at the Mill of Kintail

### Sunday, May 7 is Hike for Hospice Day

The Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association initiative "Hike For Hospice" will be held across Canada on Sunday, May 7. This is the largest fundraising event for hospices across the country. A Hike for Hospice will occur once again at the Mill of Kintail, in support of North Lanark's own Hub Hospice Palliative Care (HHPC) program.

HHPC is a not-for-profit registered Canadian Charity funded through donations and targeted fundraising initiatives such as the Hike for Hospice. HHPC is a "hospice without walls", providing in-home palliative care support for adult clients and their families. Their services are offered in North Lanark, which includes the towns of Mississippi Mills (Almonte, Pakenham, Blakeney, Appleton, Clayton) and Carleton Place. For more information about HHPC services, please visit <hubhospice.com> or contact the volunteer coordinator, Allison Griffith, RN, at <info@hubhospice.com> or by calling 406-7020.

The Hike for Hospice will be a fun-filled afternoon with activities that include a petting zoo, Jessica's Syrian food and BBQ, and a chance to chat with a veterinarian and other locals. Event registration will begin at 11:30AM and the hike will commence at 1PM and continue through to 3PM. At the end of the hike there will be prizes for the person who collects the most pledges; the person dressed in the most outrageous outfit; and for the dog who collects the most pledges.

Come and enjoy an afternoon with your family and friends on the beautiful trails at the Mill of Kintail. Bring your dog for some exercise. Enjoy the company of fellow supporters of the Hike for Hospice, knowing that every dollar raised goes towards palliative care support in our own community.

Pledge forms can be picked up from the Hub in Almonte or downloaded from the Hub Hospice website <hubhospice.com>.

We hope to see you there, rain or shine!  
— Linda Berg

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# Carving a Niche in the Cultural Landscape

Sivarulrasa Gallery is breaking new ground in its new location in Almonte. The Valley now boasts a stunning venue for sculpture. We dropped in recently with friends visiting from Montreal and were blown away by the current exhibit featuring the surreal works of Almonte's **Sue Adams**. *Metaphor*, a solo exhibition of her sculptures and drawings, is featured until April 16.

It is impossible to describe the emotive impact of Adams' work exhibited in Sanjeev Sivarulrasa's new gallery. The austere simplicity of the white and black interior is the perfect showcase for her profoundly thought-provoking depictions of the sacred and profane aspects of human nature. Ethereal yet earthly, mythical yet hyperrealistic, they elucidate the intrinsic struggles that threaten human existence. If you haven't seen it yet, go.

The Gallerist describes her twenty drawings and sculptures thus: "Working primarily with the human form, Sue Adams' work explores themes of passion, pain, frailty and grace. Her figures exhibit strength, vulnerability and primal energy, giving voice to humanity's inherent contradictions." Back in January of 2002, I quoted Adams as saying: "Sometimes I pray for fearlessness to go into the human psyche and reach into the soul." She believes that art should offer something that is not visible to the human eye; it should cause an instinctive reaction. She succeeds. Her exploration of the condition of being human is provocative, evocative and utterly compelling.

## A Sculptor's Dream

Have you ever considered how much work goes into an exhibit of large, precarious sculptures? Sivarulrasa Gallery is a sculptor's dream. Sanjeev has designed the dynamics of the space at 34 Mill St. specifically to facilitate the display of three-dimensional sculpture as well as hung works. The lighting is engineered to cast single and double shadows that do justice to each piece on display. Wide open spaces permit the careful handling and safe viewing of sometimes fragile and always irreplaceable treasures. As a result, his roster of sculptors already includes esteemed local artists Sue Adams, Deborah Arnold, Russell Baron and

Dale Dunning, soon to be joined by Toronto-based Susan Low-Beer.

Each of these artists brings world-class quality and professionalism to their works. Several signature pieces by Arnold and Dunning share space with Adams' sculptures in the current collection. The Gallery's next exhibition is entitled "Trio" and will feature works by sculptors **Deborah Arnold** and **Russell Baron**, complemented by paintings by **Mirana Zuger**. It runs April 21 to May 28, with a Vernissage/Meet the Artists Reception on Saturday, April 29 from 3-6PM. Brief biographies and samples of works by all the Gallery's artists are online at <sivarulrasa.com> as is up-to-date information on exhibits and events.

## A Renaissance Man

The new Sivarulrasa Gallery reflects its owner's artistic growth. Since opening his first gallery in Almonte in November of 2014, Sanjeev Sivarulrasa has expanded his horizons astro-

nomically. His impressive telescope is still on display, but today Sanjeev fully embraces the modern concept of gallerist — a new occupation combining the elements of an art dealer, museum curator, and artists' manager.

There is no question that this gallerist has found his calling. His former career as a tax lawyer was "intellectually stimulating", but Sanjeev "wanted more — something for the soul and not just the brain." He turned to astrophotography, exploring and capturing images of glorious night skies and remote galaxies. Encouraged by a solo exhibition of his art hosted by the City of Ottawa, he took the major plunge of opening his first gallery in the Thoburn Mill in Almonte. As fate would have it, Deborah Arnold was carving her magnificent stone sculptures in the studio around the corner.



*Eros*, by Sue Adams



Gallerist Sanjeev Sivarulrasa with sculptor Sue Adams at Sivarulrasa Gallery in Almonte

## A Critical Mass of Culture

Arnold had previously worked with sculptor Dale Dunning for her 2006 solo exhibition at the Robert McLaughlin Gallery in Oshawa. Earlier she had shared a studio with glass artist and entrepreneur Stephen Brathwaite, sculptor Sue Adams and other local artists. As Sanjeev became aware of the "critical mass of culture" that thrives in the Almonte area, his ambitions for feeding souls grew. Luck had transported him into an enclave of like-minded people, and he began to envision world-class shops that would brand Almonte as a cultural destination.

Every step he takes is in that direction. His days revolve around running the Gallery, promoting art, representing artists, collecting art, and creating the occasional work of his own celestial art. His passion

is palpable and his energy appears boundless. In addition to planning a year of gallery exhibitions, he is conceiving a variety of intimate gallery soirées, augmented with musical accompaniment and facilitated discussions. It seems that gazing at all those stars has permanently expanded his vision.

Like *theHumm*, Sivarulrasa Gallery is dedicated to enhancing and promoting the area's sphere of cultural magnetism. Downtown Almonte is an art lover's destination.

## A ConHummdrum:

Describing art is a challenging proposition. It is common knowledge that a picture is worth a thousand words. What is not generally known is how many words it takes to adequately describe a picture, let alone a three-dimensional sculpture. Therefore, I offer the following:

Q. If a picture is worth a thousand words, what is a three-dimensional sculpture worth?

A. A trip to Sivarulrasa Gallery at 34 Mill St. in Almonte!  
— Sally Hansen is *theHumm's* intrepid arts reporter



A detail from Russell Baron's *Obelisk, Autumnal Equinox*

**Almonte Lectures**  
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**Understanding Boating Safety in the Northwest Territories**  
 Audrey Giles  
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# Change of Date for RMEO Emerald Gala

We hear you! Listening to our supporters, we've moved the Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario's Annual Gala dinner and dance to Saturday, April 22. All previously purchased tickets are valid for the new date.

"April is the perfect time of the year to have an event like this," explains said Anne Shropshire, museum curator. "After a long winter, people are looking for an excuse to celebrate spring, and this is a perfect opportunity!"

The event is still being held at Hanley Hall with doors opening at 6PM for cocktail hour and dinner at 7PM, followed by dancing.

This year's theme is the Emerald Gala, celebrating the twinning of Smiths Falls with County Wicklow and the town's Irish heritage. This delightful evening is the kick-off for many more activities focused around the town's history during Canada 150.

"The Irish Legacy Project has garnered a lot of attention from Irish descendants of early immigrants who landed in Smiths Falls — from across Canada. A few of these descendants will be attending the Emerald Gala to help us kick off the Irish twinning project," says Ingrid Bron, economic development and tourism coordinator.

A refreshingly elegant evening, it will be replete with a gourmet dinner catered by NOAL Pantry (featuring the family's Irish legacy recipes), both a silent and live auction, and of course foot-stomping Irish and Scottish Celtic music with the charismatic band Freshwater Trade. This year the Gala will also feature an Irish Jig performed by dancers from the Andrea Goral School of Highland Dance in Kemptonville. All in all, it will be a terrific evening out for a great cause — raising funds that allow the museum to grow and improve programming and exhibits.

Admission to the Gala is \$65 per person, museum members can purchase tickets at \$55, and tables are also available. Tickets are on sale online at <rmco.org> and at C'est Tout Bakery, 14 Beckwith St. South. Tickets can also be purchased by phone at 283-5696.

The museum is a not-for-profit organization run by a volunteer board. We are always looking for sponsors, so if you, like us, believe that history forms the foundation that allows us to understand the present and build a brighter future, please give us a call at 283-5696 and we'll be happy to help you help us!

—Heddy Sorour



## Lanark's Legacy Cottage Program

This year, Lanark County is recognizing the cottage community with a special Legacy Cottage Program. "Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary provides a great opportunity to honour those families who have been cottaging on Lanark County's lakes and rivers for fifty years or more, some as long as 125 years," explains Warden Bill Dobson (Montague Reeve). "When the idea of a Legacy Cottage Program was presented to Lanark County Council, every municipality enthusiastically endorsed the idea."

The program will recognize cottages that have been in families for 50, 75, 100, or 125 years, with a Legacy Cottage designation. It is commemorative in nature; not an official designation.

"I'm thrilled that Tay Valley Township artist Franc van Oort graciously gave his permission to use one of his etchings for the Legacy Cottage plaque," adds

Tay Valley Township Reeve Keith Kerr. "The moment you look at this etching, you're taken to the cottage." Mr. van Oort is a cottager on Christie Lake. "I'm pleased to contribute my etching for this program," he says.

The Legacy Cottage plaques will indicate whether the cottage has been in the same family for 50 years, 75 years, 100 years or 125 years, and will be personalized with the cottage or family name recipients on their plaque. Recipients will be asked to pay \$60 to cover the cost of their plaque.

More information about the Legacy Cottage Program, including the application form, can be found on the Lanark County and municipal websites or in municipal offices. The plaques will be presented to recipients in the summer of 2017.

For more information, call 267-5353 x129 or email <planningassistant@tayvalleytwp.ca>.

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invites you to attend their

## Annual General Meeting

Saturday, May 13, 2PM

at the Museum.

Special presentation in honour of **Bernard Cameron**

Note: in order to vote at the Annual General Meeting of the MVTM you need to renew your membership or become a member by April 13, 2017. (A membership form is available at [www.mvtm.ca](http://www.mvtm.ca)).



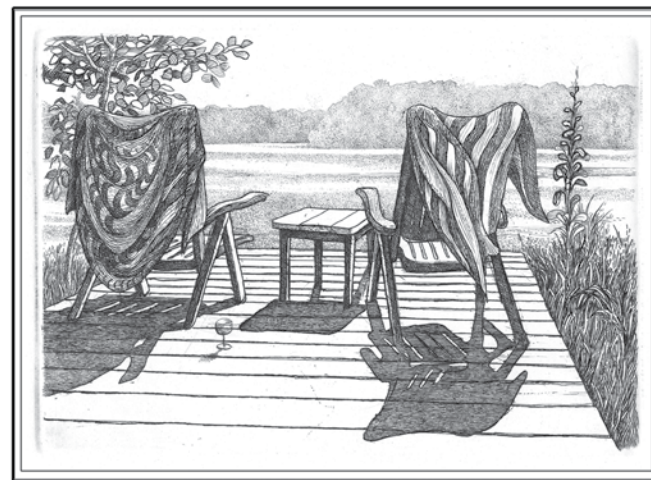
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Etching courtesy of Franc van Oort

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# Humm Bits

## 50 Years of Blockbuster Movies

The Perth Citizens' Band, Canada's longest continuous town band, will be holding its annual spring concert titled "Music from the Blockbuster Movies: 1960 to 2010". Many movies from that span had memorable music that is still recognizable today, by all ages, including the eerie opening theme of *Psycho*, war epics *Patton* and *The Great Escape*, the love ballad from *Titanic*, and the musicals *Cabaret* and *Chicago*. The concert also features familiar themes from blockbuster movie series such as James Bond, the Pink Panther, Rocky, Star Wars, Harry Potter, Pirates of the Caribbean, and Lord of the Rings.

The concert will be held on Sunday, April 30, starting at 2PM at the Perth Legion Hall (26 Beckwith St. E. in Perth). Admission at the door is \$10 per person and \$5 for students, and includes light refreshments. For more information, visit the band's website <perthband.ca> or call conductor Brian Tackaberry at 256-4221.

## MVFN to Award \$1000+ for Nature Studies

Spring is the time for the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists (MVFN) to accept student applications for the **Cliff Bennett Nature Bursary Awards**. This year, one or more \$1000 awards will go to local graduating high school students set to "become the environmental leaders of tomorrow" with acceptance to post-secondary studies in a field related to the natural environment.

The awards, named for award-winning naturalist (and retired Councillor and educator) Cliff Bennett, were established by Cliff's friends as a gift to him and to honour his contributions. Since 2007, \$9700 has been awarded to sixteen students, who have gone on to college and university in programs including ecosystem management, environmental engineering, zoology, fish and wildlife management, and others.

Application forms and further information are available from student services at area schools, and online at <mvfn.ca>. Or contact the Chair of the awards committee, Mike Macpherson, at 256-3043 or <naturebursary@gmail.com>. The deadline for applications is Wednesday, May 3, 2017.

## Colour Belt Classic in Almonte

On April 22, the Edge Taekwon-Do Academy will hold its fifth annual Colour Belt Classic tournament. The event will play host to more than 200 athletes from Ottawa and surrounding areas, as well as other parts of Canada, the United States and Puerto Rico.

The tournament, which is open to participants aged 4 and up, provides competitors with an opportunity to practice their skills, gain confidence and build lasting friendships. Tournament organizer and the Edge Taekwon-Do Academy's head instructor, Joel Denis, says that part of the appeal of the Colour Belt Classic is also the emphasis on junior belts. "Black belt competitions can be a lot of fun to watch, but it can also be intimidating for people just starting out," he said. "This tournament lets the colour belts shine and I think that's why we've seen a steady increase in the number of competitors over the last few years."

In fact, increased participation was part of the reason tournament organizers opted to hold the event at the Almonte Arena. "We were looking for a place that would accommodate both the competitors and the spectators," stated Denis. "We're really fortunate to be able to use this great facility, not to mention the opportunity to showcase the beautiful Town of Almonte." The Colour Belt Classic will take place between 9AM and 5PM on April 22, and is open to the public.

## Almonte Ladies Night for Ag Hall

The North Lanark Agricultural Society is excited to be hosting its first annual Almonte Ladies Night. It's a night dedicated to the ladies of our community to come together and celebrate family, friends and fun while raising money that will stay in Mississippi Mills.

The recipient of this year's event proceeds will be the Almonte Agricultural Hall Renovation project. As a heritage building, the Hall requires ongoing upkeep and support so that the community can continue to enjoy its use for fundraisers, weddings, crafting events, etc.

Ladies Night is set to take place on May 12 at the Almonte Agricultural Hall, with cocktails at 6PM. The evening will include dinner, live and silent auctions, a live band and a photo booth, as well as a few raffles and giveaways. Tickets went on sale March 24, and a small handful are still available. If you have a donation to help offset costs, a gift for the silent and/or live auction or a door prize, organizers would love to hear from you! For more information or to purchase tickets (\$55 per person), please email <almonteladiesnight@almontefair.ca>.

Words From Westport

# A Guitar in Good Hands

Before I introduce you to this month's artist, I would like to note that the word "artist" is not synonymous with painter or sculptor or printmaker or any other word at all. An artist is a creator in a variety of media — all used to express the soul of the artist.

This month I interviewed a musician who will fill your ears with wonderful sounds every Wednesday at the Cove Inn in Westport. Shawn McCullough, a native of our area, has been playing music since he was old enough to sit the dobro on his lap. Born

by Georgia Ferrell

in Parham, Shawn grew up in a family that was very music-oriented. His dad Lyn played the fiddle and his mom Ruth played the guitar and sang. In fact, some of Shawn's earliest memories are late nights with family music get-togethers. No use trying to sleep, so he joined right in. His dad played the fiddle and they played and sang into the wee hours. And so his music career began.

Shawn eventually learned to play the fiddle and the guitar, but at age 6 his hands were just a tad too small, so he began with the dobro and singing. At 8, however, with some growing done, he began to play the guitar. His parents showed him the basics, but he went on to teach himself. To hone his skills he played with a "garage" band, and into his teen years played '80s hair band — hard rock — and added to his technical skills.

Shawn's first paying gig came along at 19, but his future in music was uncertain. He wanted to make it his life's work, but it is a difficult row to hoe. So he played weekends and worked hard to perfect his techniques — and it paid off. He won an audition for Jason McCoy, which led to three years travelling and playing in clubs across Canada. This led to a "30 days 30 shows" opening for Martina McBride in a variety of venues.

In 1997, family life and a new daughter brought Shawn home and into a "regular" job. However, it paid the bills and allowed him to continue playing weekends. Too much construction and heavy lifting

brought on a bad back, and so Shawn quit that job and threw himself back into his music.

Tough days followed but he persevered, and he now earns his living with his music, and can spend great times with his family.

Shawn has also started writing his own songs, and in 2016 he was fortunate enough to not only release his first Canada-wide single, *Fort McMurray Strong*, but also had two of his creations come to fruition through co-writes with Brea Lawrenson and Wade Foster. *Lynchburg* and *Daddy's Moonshine* were recorded and released by Brea Lawrenson to Canadian country radio, and they were a great success!

The hard work was now showing its value. Now with fourteen new songs waiting to become his second album, Shawn is very happy that his music career is in full swing. However, when a difficult day in music comes along, Shawn says that he remembers stripping shingles from roofs, and feels much better.



Shawn McCullough plays at The Cove's "Wings & Tunes" every Wednesday from 6-9PM, and will also share the stage there with Henry Norwood for a "Country Matinée" on April 23 from 1-4PM. Find out more at <coveinn.com>.

However, he also admits that making a living with music is the hardest job ever. It just saves the back!

Shawn leaves us with the message that "to play my own songs and create feelings of joy or familiarity" is his goal, and it makes the hard work worth it. He is delighted that folks are relating to his songs. His family life has grown and now includes kids and grandkids, but he still hopes to reach more folks with his music. Travel is possible, but more recordings — both by himself and with other artists — would be wonderful. Find Shawn on Facebook, or contact him at <nshawnmcc@gmail.com>.

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# Station Theatre Presents *The Chalk Garden*

It has the makings of a classic thriller — a disturbed granddaughter who lights fires, a grandmother who dotes on her, a silent governess with a mysterious past, a dying butler who rules the roost, a venerable old judge...

Seasoned director Lynda Daniluk is convinced audiences won't agree on what happens at the end of the play. "Many will see it differently," she says, hinting that patrons will have to pay close attention to get the "real" story.

And what is the real story of *The Chalk Garden*?

The play premiered in the mid-1950s on Broadway. Written by Enid Bagnold, it is said by critic Charles Spencer to "combine tart wit with a moving understanding that damaged lives can sometimes be repaired."

Although some call it a comedy, others say it's a drama; audiences will react both ways to the dialogues that is fast, sometimes scathing, often pointed and full of misunderstanding.

The grandmother, Mrs. St. Maugham, is played by Sue Parsons. The old lady gardens long hours in the chalky earth outside her grandly dilapidated manor — but nothing grows. When the taciturn governess Miss Madrigal (played by Krista Duff) arrives, not only does she bring a secretive background but also a wealth of knowledge on how to grow flowers in a chalk garden.

Rich Croteau plays Maitland, the surly, cranky downstairs butler, and Lise Nelson takes on two small roles — the little lady and the nurse.

As the play progresses, Miss Madrigal tentatively sets to work on 16-year-old Laurel (Grace Lee), and when Laurel's mother Olivia (Katharine Coleman) returns, announcing she is taking her daughter back, things get complicated. It's a realization by the Judge (Terry Watkiss) that brings the situation to the fore.

Be aware. In this play it's the underlying currents and the background story that lead the rich and deep characters through the plot's twists and turns to the surprising ending. Audiences will find it compelling and think about it long after it's over.

Daniluk agrees. "I've chosen a wonderful cast and crew; often the crew don't get enough credit, but they're the ones who perform the magic of putting things together and making things happen."

The Smiths Falls Community Theatre is hosting a busy April schedule.

Even before *The Chalk Garden* hits the stage, you can attend a 7:30PM show (on April 7 and 8) featuring Jeff Scott and the Buddy Ray Vons in a tribute to the British Invasion music of the '60s called "Glad All Over". They celebrate fifty years of Beatmania, the Dave Clark Five, Herman's Hermits, Petula Clark, the Rolling Stones and the UK's best music.



Cast members from Smiths Falls' Station Theatre's upcoming production of *The Chalk Garden* take a moment before rehearsal for a quick picture. From left, they are Nathan Matthews, Sue Parsons, Grace Lee, Krista Duff, Katharine Coleman and Terry Watkiss.

Two weeks later, come see *Lion* at 7PM on the movie weekend April 21 and 22. Starring Dev Patel and Nicole Kidman, this is a dramatic film of memories and love.

Tickets for *The Chalk Garden* (April 28–29, May 4–6 at 7:30PM; April 30, May 7 at 2PM) are available at Special Greetings (8 Russell Street E., Smiths Falls, cash only), from <smithsfallstheatre.com> (PayPal/Visa/MasterCard), by phone at 283-0300 (Visa/MasterCard), or at the door (if available) a half-hour before the performance (cash only). Find the theatre at 53 Victoria Avenue, Smiths Falls.

## Fiddler's Friends 2017 Showcase

On Sunday, May 7 from 1–4PM, friends of traditional music will be treated to a full afternoon celebrating the Scots, Irish, French Canadian and other influences evident in Ottawa Valley fiddling.

Held at the Almonte Old Town Hall, the Fiddler's Friends showcase benefit features a talented selection of young fiddlers who have received the Danny O'Connell Memorial Award. The award includes a cash contribution designed to benefit a deserving young musician, put forward by Renfrew Country Fiddlers, The Irish Society of the National Capital and the Ottawa Traditional Fiddling and Folk Art Society. These organizations have deep roots in the tradition and a history of promoting cultural pursuits. This award was initiated by the O'Connell family and is administered through the Community Foundation of Ottawa. More details can be found at <cfo-fco.ca>.

Entertainment begins at 12:30 with popular local group The Barley Shakers and a selection of award recipients, including Ethan Walls, Beatrice Herwig, Marly and Michaela Mullan, Joe Gervais, Brendan Cybulski, Kyle Bughout, Ellen Daly and Tessa Bangs, as well as seasoned performers Matt Pepin, Terri-Lynn Mahusky and Kyle Felhaver. Adding to an already exciting program, special guests include



Alexis MacIsaac and Callum MacKenzie are just two of many to perform at Fiddler's Friends on May 7

the dynamic Cindy Thompson Strathearn, Alexis MacIsaac and husband Callum MacKenzie, guitarist Ernie Fraser, and vintage group The Monday Night Fiddlers.

Round off the afternoon with catering by Foodies Fine Foods and the excellent acoustics of the Almonte Old Town Hall, with tickets available by phone at Mill Street Books (256-9090), in person at Couple's Corner, and at the door.

Spring 2017

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Hear the Goulbourn Male Chorus, under the direction of Byron Hermann, on Sunday, April 30

## Spring Concert by the Goulbourn Male Chorus

Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations provide the men of the Goulbourn Male Chorus the perfect opportunity to showcase some of Canada's finest music, and that is what they will do at their Spring Concert to be held at 2PM on Sunday, April 30, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 1817 Richardson Side Road in Kanata. The audience will be treated to some traditional, folk and contemporary pieces — some familiar, some less so, and all Canadian — delivered with the chorus's distinctively rich harmony.

Guest artists at the concert will be the Junior Jubilees — a group of singers between the ages of 8 and 13 who are part of the Goulbourn Jubilee Singers.

The program will include spectacular arrangements of such pieces as *Northwest Passage*, *Away from the Roll of the Sea*, *Frobisher Bay* and more. The traditional Quebecois song *Dans Les Chantiers* will enchant, while the audience might enjoy singing along with Ian Tyson's *Four Strong Winds*.

This will be Music Director Byron Hermann's last concert with the Chorus as he is moving down East. The chorus is accompanied by Bonnie MacDiarmid. Tickets for this concert, entitled "**Canadian Choral Reflections**" are \$15 (children under 12 are free) from Gaia Java and Brown's Independent Grocer in Stittsville, from Chorus members, and online at <goulbournmalechorus.com>.

### Music Matters

# The Joy of Singing

Have you ever noticed that, as the days start to get longer and the sun is coming out, people are singing or humming to themselves more? It is something that seems to be a natural by-product of coming out of our long winters.

Singing is something that carries across all cultures and all time periods. Theories are starting to emerge that our ancestors were singing and vocalizing musical sounds before they were speaking. In other words, musical sounds played a direct role in the development of spoken language.

by Tony Stuart

We can see this concept in action when we look at parents and their newborns. We sing to babies instinctively, and there is an incredible bond that is formed between parent and child through singing. Even though babies can't understand what is being sung to them, they are naturally drawn to the sound of a human voice making musical sounds.

Neuroscientists have started discovering some pretty amazing things about singing. One of the most exciting new discoveries is that group singing results in the release of serotonin and oxytocin, which is a bonding hormone. They have even noticed that heart rates can become synchronized. This explains why we feel so exhilarated after communal singing activities. The speculation is that these feelings of happiness are an evolutionary tool that has helped people come together in community. This would also explain why hymns play such an important role in most religions. They are something that brings people together under a common set of beliefs and ideals.

Despite all of this research, our society continues to be one where people often feel uncomfortable singing in front of others. I was conducting a band rehearsal recently and asked my saxophone section to sing a

certain part back to me. I received terrified looks in return. The point of the exercise was to demonstrate that if you are able to sing a difficult part, then you should be able to play it on an instrument because you have internalized it. It just becomes a matter of getting the mechanics of playing that specific passage down.

When I was in university doing my music degree, I was required to sing in a choir as part of my first-year ensemble credit requirements. I enjoyed it thoroughly, and learned a tremendous amount from this experience. Even though I am a band guy through and through, I still enjoy working with choirs.

I think that we as a society have instinctively known all along what neuroscientists are now beginning to tell us about the value of singing, especially singing in groups. This ritual is everywhere. As I mentioned earlier, religions make extensive use of communal singing. Songs have become an important part of our sporting culture, especially in soccer. Premier League matches in England feature non-stop singing from beginning to end. These songs bring fans together and create a unique culture for every team.

Unlike being in a band or orchestra, you don't need to read music to be able to sing in a choir. We are born with these unique instruments that are ready to make music with others. Incidences of "tone-deafness" are extremely rare, and just about anyone can make music by singing with others. People who are not strong individual singers are almost always able to learn to blend their voices within a larger group.

The next time that you catch yourself singing or whistling a tune because you are in a good mood, know that this is part of your biological makeup. We are hardwired to sing. In the words of *Sesame Street* composer Joe Raposo, "don't worry if it's not good enough for anyone else to hear. Sing, sing a song!" — *Tony Stuart is the Music Director at Notre Dame Catholic High School in Carleton Place, and a freelance professional musician*

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On April 8, come out to the Christian Education Centre (257 John St. in Arnprior) from 10AM to 3PM to check out the **Handmade with Love** Spring Show. Get to know local makers and artisans, and support the Arnprior and District Humane Society, which is a local no-kill shelter. Buy a cake or treat from the fundraiser table, where the proceeds are being donated to this great establishment. There will also

be a volunteer from the shelter there to accept cash or pet food donations, and to answer any questions.

Mother's Day and Easter are just around the corner, and there is something for everyone: handmade cards, body products, rustic artwork, woodwork, baby goods, and more.

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# Lots to Smile About at the Cheshire Cat

Beer is definitely one of the essential food groups, providing significant calories as well as a wide and interesting flavour palette. It is also an excellent source of certain vitamins and minerals. In addition, beer has well-established properties as a social lubricant. On the downside, it is rumored to influence vision and judgment. Consumed in moderation by itself or with food, it is indeed one of the true benefits of civilization. European societies have developed in parallel with the development of their beers, and one might even argue that the health of beer culture is a measure of the health of any particular society. It has been argued that without beer there is no possibility of civilization. Weetabix has heard such arguments and therefore does not write about beer.

by Sebastian Weetabix

On the other hand, upon visiting the Cheshire Cat, it is striking how much depth and variety exists in local breweries. Over 24 taps and two casks are on offer and driven by consumer apps which identify local availability of various brews. People come here for the “beer scene”. Owner-proprietor Dustin Therien is not only enthusiastically knowledgeable about beer; he has made a substantial investment in sophisticated technologies which ensure that each beer he serves is proffered under optimum conditions. What you get is “as intended” by the brewmasters. Enough about this particular aspect, as Weetabix is both out of his comfort zone and off topic; if you are a beer fancier, just go and enjoy — but not all varieties at one session.

So, dear reader, given that lead-in, why am I writing up the Cheshire Cat Pub? Because, in addition to being a keystone element to the ferment taking place within the beer community, Dustin Therien runs an excellent restaurant and pub. The man is a creative dynamo and an inspiring leader who is a major mover in the developing local food scene. An extensive network of suppliers includes producers and wholesalers who interact to support a food ecosystem. Dustin is a major and influential participant in this ecosystem; not only as a purchaser but as a supplier and as an active promoter of the people and ideas who are its

essential elements. Entering the pub one immediately notices a bar with an impressive (over 200!) collection of whiskeys, as well as the aforementioned 24 taps and two kegs. For some, this may be where the trip stops. For others, there is a small cozy space with a number of tables and a wood stove that gives an erroneous impression of a small dining area. There is more space upstairs and on the (seasonal) patio. Even so, the parking lot appears large for the number of seats, and leads Weetabix to ask about staffing and traffic; interesting to find out that there are 55 people employed in food preparation and serving. Clearly not all the food made at the Cheshire Cat is consumed on the premises!

Dustin informs us that he has a growing lunch trade in the business park — much of it for group lunches and on delivery. Our conversation zigzags over operational issues and swings from the development of his local supply chain through his new extension, the Carp Custom Creamery. Keeping up with him is as challenging in conversation as it would be physically, and his operating motto is “get better at everything you do every day”. The evidence is that he walks the walk. From buying out the previous owner in 2005 through rebuilding after a fire in 2014, Dustin has taken challenges and opportunities in rapid stride.

Crystal Therien, an accountant, is a co-owner and an integral part of the operations. Dustin credits her as having “the less glamorous roll of organizing and managing the tornado that is me and all the chaos that I bring, as well as doing all the grown-up things within our pub that my adolescent brain doesn’t have the capacity or will to do”. Several years ago the husband and wife team had the good judgment to re-assess their operations; they decided to limit and refocus the scope of their growing empire in light of their lifestyle aspirations, which included staying on a first-name basis with their kids. They sold Alice’s Village Café to Todd and Melanie as a result (see the January issue of theHumm for details).

Their new initiative, the Carp Custom Creamery, ties to the pub in several interesting ways and is developing along a business path that takes advantage of Dustin’s strong and growing relationships with his suppliers and colleagues in the hospitality trade. Not only do they make several killer flavours of premium ice cream; they are set up to make custom small



From pub fare and local brews to take-out, whiskey and “bespoke” ice cream, The Cheshire Cat has it all going on!

batches of “bespoke” ice cream for other restaurants and pubs. Making ice cream is not a casual undertaking; Dustin personally learned the craft from Douglas Goff at Guelph University’s hands-on Ice Cream Technology Course. There is a freezer at the Cheshire Cat where you can pick up a litre or more — as well as some other prepared foods to go, so here is an important hint about visiting the Cheshire Cat: bring an insulated container and stock up. Truly food you can enjoy the next day too!

Multiple visits were made to the Cheshire Cat in preparation for this article — food and ambience brought us back to check additional items on the menu. Pub food is not light eating but it is very satisfying, and the skills of the kitchen brigade are evident in everything we sampled, including frozen take-out items. Menu descriptions are accurate and service is very competent and generally prompt. This is a busy pub and reservations are recommended; Weetabix has none about recommending dinner or lunch at the Cheshire Cat.



**Michael Runtz**  
and  
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# A Passion for the Good Food of Almonte

Nothing is as inspiring or contagious as passion. The kind of passion that sets your blood on fire and makes ambitious ideas seem possible. If you've ever spent time in Almonte, you'll notice that this community is a hot spot for enthusiasm and creativity. The Good Food Tour is born from that zealous community. Be prepared to (re)ignite your passion and pride in the Ottawa Valley.

Cathy Reside, the owner of The Good Food Tour, is one of those passionate Almonters. While this may be the first year for The Good Food Tour, Cathy has been an ambassador for food and cooking for most of her life. When living in Germany, she regularly organized a rotating cooking demonstration between locals and expats, each sharing their favourite dishes. Upon moving back to Canada, Cathy became a

Community Food Advisor with the City of Ottawa for ten years. She now looks forward to combining her lifelong passion for food with her deep love of Almonte, and introducing you to some of the flavours — and the people — that make this town so special.

The Good Food Tour is a guided walking tour that allows you to try a variety of local eateries over three hours. You will try samples and small dishes, meet the owners, and learn the history of Almonte while walking from place to place. Culinary Food Tourism is booming, and with so many exceptional and unique tastes in town, it's the perfect time for The Good Food Tour. Fully equipped with fun facts, historical details, and personal stories of the chefs, Cathy is ready to help people discover what Almonte has to offer.

You will meet the chefs and creators who pour their ardour into everything they do. On the Friday tour, learn first-hand how Hummingbird Chocolate creates their international award-winning chocolate; how beans become rich chocolate and how a couple's passionate hobby grew into a hugely successful endeavour. At Equator Coffee, find out how these fair-trade coffee roasters source and roast their coffee while supporting accessible education in the growers' communities. From the creation of innovative technology that makes delicious donuts with 50% less fat, to new local breweries, there is so much to discover! This two-part tour is only offered on Fridays, with the second half of the tour in the heart of downtown Almonte. While you will need

a car, it is well worth it as you get to experience both the innovative and the historical sides of the town.

The Saturday and Sunday tours will be totally based in the downtown area. An easy walk, the tour indulges in all that Mill Street has to offer: the history, architecture, and — of course — the food. Dive into the heart of historical Almonte with Cathy as she weaves tales from the past, seasoned with current culture and perfectly paired with an array of small dishes. Did you know the first chip wagon in town was a hand-pulled milk wagon? It was stored each night in an alleyway behind the laundromat on Bridge Street.

While each tour is unique, with different stops along the way, you will always be guided by Cathy's passionate knowledge of the town and food. You will taste flavours from France, India and Syria, as well as lovingly made classics.

With a stop at one of the most beautiful patios in the Ottawa area, you will also enjoy flavourful local offerings from our wild game specialist, as well as artisanal cheese pairings. Even locals can be inspired anew by what is being accomplished!

The Good Food Tour isn't just a tasting of the food in Almonte — it's a sampling of the passion and community; you will taste it, hear it, and feel it. Whether you're from the Ottawa Valley or from away, you'll be satis-



Want to sample Almonte's latest ales or learn how Hummingbird Chocolate makes their award-winning bars? Sign up for a Good Food Tour with Cathy Reside! (above, with Dylan Bouleau of Crooked Mile Brewing)



fied and inspired by what this town has to offer, and you'll learn how Almonte has taken the international stage time and time again.

The Good Food Tour will run tours starting on Fridays at 2PM, Saturdays at 10AM, and Sundays at 2PM, every weekend from April 28 through to October 29. To book your tour, please visit <thegoodfoodtour.com>. — Tasha Romano

Almonte and Area Artists Association  
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# Get Gardening...

The production and consumption of food plays a huge role in our society. Obviously we require food for our basic sustenance, but the role of food in our society is incredibly more complex than that. It forms the basis for celebration and for community and relationship events. Many of our annual celebrations are based on pagan celebrations that were very much structured around the annual cycles of life on our planet as they affect our production of food.

In our local community, there were line-ups on a Sunday morning in March as dozens waited patiently for pancakes and sausages at the Union Hall. How many of us highlight church suppers on our calendars?

Local food production is very much on the minds of local gardeners as this endless winter makes a last stand.

Many gardeners in Carleton Place and area were delighted to learn that they have been awarded a \$4,700 grant to rejuvenate the garden next to St. Gregory School on Townline Road. The Community Gardeners formed a partnership with the Lanark County Food Bank (aka the Hunger Stop) to apply for a grant from a program administered by the Ontario Association of Food Banks with funding coming from Sysco, a large food wholesaling and distribution company.

The Carleton Place Community Garden was initially developed eleven years ago, with twenty beds measuring ten feet by ten feet. After many years of successful gardening, the need for rejuvenation had become apparent — the lumber that supports the beds has rotted; perennial grasses and weeds have grown up between the beds; deer and other mammals have become a major concern; there is no on-site storage for gardening tools; watering depends on the availability of rain barrels, many of which are cracked and leaking; and the clay soil is no longer friable. Many gardeners have left the program due to the difficult growing conditions; others for whom the garden is critical to their dietary requirements have persevered.

The **Community Garden Rejuvenation** will be led by the Lanark County Food Bank in collaboration with existing gardeners at the site, and in consultation with local Master Gardeners. A new Carleton Place men's group, the Hackberry Men's Shed, has agreed to design and build the shed and other structures that are part of the plan. Circle the dates April 29 and 30, the last weekend in April. Construction will be in full swing at the community garden on Townline Road next to St.

Gregory School, starting at 9 in the morning and going until dark. Bring your wheelbarrows, shovels and rakes!

A **Gardening Workshop** will be held on Saturday, April 8 from 10AM until noon in the boardroom on the ground floor of the Carleton Place Arena. There will be a few slides on the Community Garden project as well as some slides on the gardening calendar, talking about which vegetables like cool growing conditions and the ones that need heat. Ed Lawrence, our very own gardening celebrity, will be there to answer your gardening questions!

— David Hinks



Ed Lawrence will be on hand to answer questions at a gardening workshop on April 8 at the Carleton Place Arena

## Zero- to Low-Maintenance Perennials

We all enjoy perennials that put on a great flower display, but some require deadheading, staking, or are prone to mildew. However, there is an elite group of perennials that are zero- to low-maintenance. They are also some of the best and most beautiful plants you could ever wish to grow. Laurie Bachand of Stoneridge Gardens and Nursery will discuss these perennials at the next **Perth and District Horticultural Society** general meeting on Tuesday, April 11 at 7PM.

Thanks to her parents, Laurie has been gardening for as long as she can remember. They always had a large vegetable garden and also grew roses. Gardening with them was fun; it just never seemed like work.

Laurie's passion for gardening was fully realized when she began growing perennials on her farm near Middleville. She found every aspect of perennial gardening fascinating. Many years later, in 1994, what had started as a hobby evolved quite naturally into Stoneridge Gardens and Nursery, a mom and pop business that Laurie and her husband (who has since passed away) began as wholesale growers but that now offers retail sales as well.

Laurie and her daughter presently have 7500 square feet of greenhouses and grow perennials from seeds, cuttings, and division — the old favourite varieties as well as the latest introductions — all hardy for our zone. Stoneridge Gardens and Nursery are open to the public for viewing.

For this timely and interesting discussion of perennials that will make your gardening more enjoyable, join PDHS on Tuesday, April 11, at 7PM at St. Paul's United Church, 25 Gore Street W. at the corner of D'Arcy in Perth. Please use the D'Arcy Street side entrance to access our basement meeting hall; doors open at 6:30PM. Arrive early with \$15 to renew your annual membership; guests are always welcome for \$5.

# Bunny Run 2017

Saturday April 15, 2017  
 11 am - 2:30 pm

Kick off in front of the Carleton Place Town Hall  
**FREE for all to participate!**

11 am to 12 pm - Performer Musician Matt Vlasblom

1 pm to 2 pm - Country Music Legend Arlene Quinn

Join us as we celebrate 10 years!

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# Mis-Leading Ladies!

How, you may ask, do two male, down-on-their-luck Shakespearean actors end up dressed head to toe in drag and bumbling their way into stealing a dying old woman's fortune? To find out, you'll just have to come see Almonte & District High School's production of *Leading Ladies!* In the sensational farce written by Ken Ludwig, the two main characters encounter the many trials and tribulations of love, riches and fame, all while switching between their usual male selves, and their dashing feminine disguises.

The lives of English chums Jack Gable and Leo Clark are going downhill because their Shakespearean acting careers are dragging in the dirt. It seems the only work they can find is on the Moose Lodge circuit in Pennsylvania's Amish country. But when they hear of sickly old Lady Florence searching for her two long-lost nephews "Max and Steve", who she wishes to leave a large portion of her fortune to, they interpret it as the roles of a lifetime! Little do they realize these challenging portrayals will be much more problematic than expected, once they find out that nephews "Max and Steve" are better known as Florence's nieces "Maxine and Stephanie"...

Following the booming success of last year's award-winning ADHS theatre production *Lend Me A Tenor*, the marvellous cast and crew are back and better than ever! Written by the same playwright as *Lend Me a Tenor*, *Leading Ladies* promises to be one performance that will leave you rolling in the aisles with laughter. Be sure not to miss Almonte's theatrical event of the year!

Tickets are \$12 can be purchased online at <onstagedirect.com/ADHS>, at Baker Bob's, and the ADHS main office, or reserve your tickets by



Photo by Tyler Blair

After the success of last year's award-winning production of *Lend Me A Tenor*, the ADHS drama club is presenting *Leading Ladies* by the same author. Callum LeRoy and Kaleigh Irvin (above), and Jackson Denis, Kaleigh Irvin, Adrian Shearman and Mack Franklin (below, l-r) rehearse scenes.

calling 256-1470. All performances will be held at ADHS, 126 Martin St. North in Almonte.

Shows take place on March 31, April 1, 21 and 22 at 7:30PM, with 2PM matinées on April 2 and 23.

— Pippa and Amelia Norman are ADHS students in grade 10 and 12 respectively







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Hanging Around the Valley

# April Art = Happy Heart Open Studios, Great Galleries... and Doors!

## General Fine Craft Turns Five

How time flies! This spring marks General Fine Craft's 5<sup>th</sup> year of business ensconced in the heart of downtown Almonte. We want to thank all of you who have supported us by regularly dropping in, bringing your friends and families, and buying from our collection of outstanding Canadian fine craft and art.

Craftsmanship is the key, so from day one we have maintained a mandate of showcasing some of the best Ontario- and Quebec-

They would like to keep it together as one piece, and they would like you to make them an offer! If you are interested in having lovely doors on your wall, please contact Ingrid Harris at <ingridharris14@gmail.com>.



Don't miss John Schweighardt's Spring Open Studio on May 6 and 7

by Miss Cellaneous

made contemporary decorative arts (both functional and experimental craft media) and 2-dimensional art. If you haven't yet, please visit to see for yourself the wonders that come from creative minds and skilled hands.

As we are celebrating Canada's 150 years since Confederation, we should also celebrate the value of original objects that are hand-crafted in Canada.

From April 27 to June 4, General Fine Craft has a special group exhibition featuring new work by many of our gallery artists. The theme and title is *Exceptional* — the meaning of which is open to their interpretation. Artists have submitted individual

## Living Stones by John Schweighardt

On May 6 and 7, John Schweighardt will once again be hosting an open studio at his home near the village of Lanark. It's well worth the twenty-five minute drive from Almonte (twenty minutes from Perth) to see and experience John's eclectic mix of indoor and outdoor sculpture. Using the native stones that he seeks out and collects throughout Ontario, Schweighardt is able to give these stones new life — offering a range of art forms from abstract to figurative to practical. Take some time to see for yourself one-of-a-kind art in an idyllic rural setting, and chat with the artist while enjoying the refreshments provided by him and his family.

Hours are 10AM to 4PM on both days at his studio at 1787 3<sup>rd</sup> Concession Dalhousie in Lanark. To learn more, visit John's website at <livingstonessculptures.ca> or find him on Facebook.



pieces that may represent great personal achievement, a rare one-of-a-kind project or perhaps an experiment that led to a change in the direction of their work.

This is a chance for us to celebrate their skill and accomplishments, and for them to celebrate five years of our enthusiasm for their inimitable work.

Please join us on the opening weekend of April 29 and 30 to raise a glass of cheer and have a chance to add to your own exceptional collection. You won't miss us at 63 Mill Street, right under the portrait of our namesake, General Juan Almonte! For more information, visit <generalfinecraft.com>.

— Richard Skrobecki

## Put Doors On Your Wall!

**Off the Wall Artists (OTWA)** are a group of visual artists who meet on Tuesday afternoons at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Almonte. They converge to create art in fellowship, enjoying camaraderie and sharing supportive feedback, and on occasion they even collaborate! About six weeks ago they came up with the idea of creating a collaborative piece consisting of doors, as a way to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>. The resulting work features quite a number of different takes on doors — the door to the House of Commons, a mixed-media log house, a faerie door, and of course a true Canadian icon — the outhouse.

Now that their work is done, the artists are looking for a good home for the collage.



This compelling collection of doors can be yours! Members of Almonte's Off the Wall Artists would like to find a good home for their combined effort, so make them an offer!

# Mudds Set Sail on the H.M.S. Pinafore

It's time to polish up the handle on the big front door, head out and sail the ocean blue!

The **Mississippi Mudds**, Carleton Place's well-loved community theatre, will be presenting a classic this spring: Gilbert and Sullivan's perennial favourite, *H.M.S. Pinafore*, the story of the lass that loved a sailor.

First performed in London in 1878, it is quite simply the most popular show in the history of musical theatre. Gilbert's witty dialogue and lyrics, and Sullivan's beautiful vocal harmonies, have packed houses ever since then — it's estimated that every day, somewhere in the world, someone is performing *H.M.S. Pinafore*.

The current Mudds production acknowledges the place that this musical has in English theatre, and adheres very closely to the storied history of this time-honoured institution. "We're doing a very traditional production — using Gilbert's text, Sullivan's music, with staging that follows the form of the first production, and costumes based as closely upon the originals as possible," says director Mark Piper. "The whole production has been created as an homage to Gilbert and Sullivan's original — there are a couple of tiny bits that introduce some current laughs, of which Gilbert would, I think, have approved — but all in all, this show has the look and feel of that first production back in 1878."



The story is well known: Captain Corcoran's beautiful daughter Josephine is sought in marriage by the First Lord of the Admiralty, Sir Joseph Porter, KCB, but is secretly in love with a humble sailor, Ralph Rackstraw. Unbeknownst to her, Ralph loves her as well, but she is high above his station in life, and to him and his shipmates (the crew of the H.M.S. Pinafore) the barriers between them seem insurmountable. During Sir Joseph's visit to the Pinafore — accompanied, as always by his cousin Hebe and the admiring crowd of sisters, cousins, and aunts that follow him everywhere he goes — the evil sailor Dick Deadeye exposes the romance, and brave and noble Ralph is sent in chains to the dungeon for his unwarranted presumption. But through the intervention of the mysterious gypsy woman Little Buttercup, evil Dick Deadeye's plans are foiled, and the lovers reunited, and happiness reigns supreme as the final curtain closes.

The musical score is choca-bloc with well-known favourites that will have every person in the audience (along with their sisters, and their cousins, and their aunts) leaving the theatre humming a favourite ditty. From *He is an Englishman* to *I'm Called Little Buttercup*, *What Never? Well, Hardly Ever!*, *We Sail the Ocean Blue*, and *Now I am the Ruler of the Queen's Navee*, these delightful comic opera pieces have inextricably woven their

way into the culture of English musical theatre since that very first opening night.

This season's cast is made up of an exciting new group of Mudds performers. Mike McCormick (of Kingston supergroup The Arrogant Worms fame) is taking the main comedic lead of Sir Joseph Porter, navigating all the patter songs with panache and aplomb (actually, those are the names of his two Dachshunds — okay, we stole his joke).

Kathleen Everett, who up until now has been modestly concealing her talent in the chorus, has stepped up to take the virtuoso coloratura soprano romantic lead as Josephine, the Captain's daughter, and is joined by Paul Montsion as the dashing male tenor lead, Ralph Rackstraw. Mudds veteran Trish Smith takes a comedic turn as Sir Joseph's bossy Cousin Hebe. Other new stars in the Mudds firmament include talented character actress Kim Knight as the mysterious gypsy woman Little Buttercup, and, in his first role with the Mudds, Calvin Beaulieu as the dastardly villain Dick Deadeye.

For all fans of musical theatre, all anglophiles, and all lovers of comedy and music,

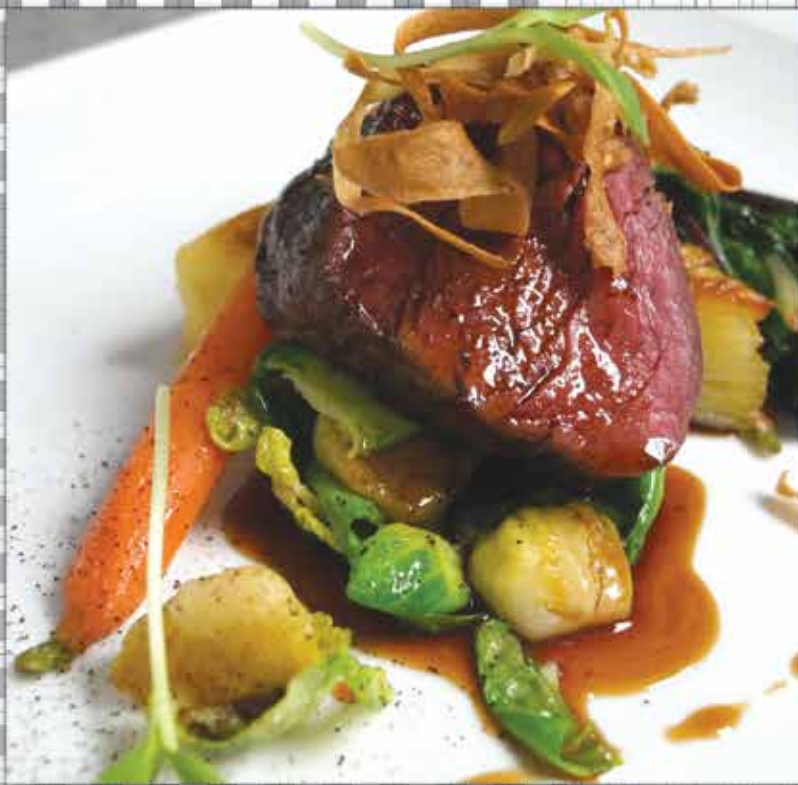


Mike McCormick (centre, as Sir Joseph) is joined by happy couple Paul Montsion (Ralph Rackstraw) and Kathleen Everett (Josephine) as well as several sisters, cousins and aunts. At left, Andrew Simpson cuts a fine figure as a Royal Marine.

this production promises to entertain, amuse, and provide a wonderful time for all ages.

The Mudds Production of Gilbert and Sullivan's *H.M.S. Pinafore* sails into the Carleton Place Town Hall (175 Bridge Street) on the last weekend of April and the first weekend of May. The play will open on Friday evening, April 28, at 8PM, with matinee performances on Saturday, April 29 and Sunday, April 30 at 2PM, and end with evening performances on Friday, May 5 and Saturday, May 6 at 8PM. All tickets cost \$20, except for the Saturday matinee on April 29, for which tickets will be \$10. Tickets can be purchased at Hallmark Cards, 438 McNeely Avenue in Carleton Place.

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# Humm Fun Feature of the Month —

Summer is on its way, and to help both kids and parents make the most of it, we offer the Humm's annual round-up of summer camp options in the area. From creating art to spying, from paddling to performing, you're sure to find something of interest on the next three pages. Happy camping!

## Day Camps

### Eco-Adventure Camp (Carp)

Carp Ridge Eco-Wellness centre is excited to be offering our new Eco-Adventure camps for 8 weeks throughout the summer. Our experienced staff will be offering a change in theme every week and will be developing programs to suit every age group. We will be offering a healthy lunch included in the price and cooked over an open fire, a variety of cooperative games, exploring nature, and interactive activities designed to develop physical ability, social skills, confidence, and knowledge of the environment. Although we do our best to accommodate everyone's needs, space is limited to ensure our 8-1 camper-to-counsellor ratio for older groups and a 5-1

ratio for our younger campers. Please email <programs@ecowellness.com> for inquiries or call 839-1198 and ask for Jared Oldford.

### Summer Spy Camp at the Diefenbunker (Carp)

Children aged 7 to 12 go undercover at the Diefenbunker and return home having mastered the skills of a real secret agent! As spies in training, they will learn the art of espionage, develop disguises for cover, make and break codes, create and use spy gadgets, go on scavenger hunts, and take part in many more fun activities. Your child will get a taste of what it's like to be a spy, and will graduate as a Level One Spy upon completion. Each week has a different theme, so don't hesitate to sign up for more than one! All camps are \$235/child/week and include complimentary before and after care. Visit <diefenbunker.ca/spy-camp> to find out more, or contact us at 839-0007 or <education@diefenbunker.ca>.

### Mississippi MUDDS (Carleton Place)

The Mississippi MUDDS would like to invite you to a great new summer program. This summer the MUDDS will be running two summer camp programs, each ending with a show. The camps will give cast members the opportunity to learn acting, dance, singing, stage combat, and stage make-up, as well as everything else needed to put on a show. This camp will help boost confidence and build friendships, and is a great place to have



It's campfire cook-out time at Maple Key Day Camp!

fun. You don't need to have any experience, you don't even have to want to act; there are many great opportunities for all kinds of people back stage as well. The staff includes university theatre students, and a MUDDS youth show director. Sessions run July 4-14 and July 17-28. For more details, contact <katecooney8123@gmail.com>.

### Maple Key Day Camp (Perth)

Now in its 9<sup>th</sup> season, Maple Key is a unique camp community that strives to help the next generation to become more confident and socially aware. By providing campers

with the opportunity to choose some of the activities they participate in, while still maintaining consistent camper groupings, MKDC helps campers practice healthy independence as well as social skills. MKDC is owned and operated by a certified and experienced teacher with a significant camp background, and offers a range of both traditional activities and specialty programming. Introduce your child to a warm, bully-free culture, wrapped in a beautiful natural setting. This is summer camp the way nature intended. Contact Kristen at 464-2468 or visit <maplekeydaycamp.com>.



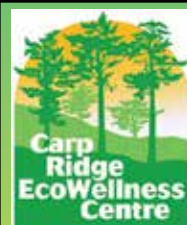
## SPY CAMP

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**Contact: Jared Oldford**  
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(613)839-1198

# Creative Summer Camps for Kids!

## Perth Outfitters Summer Day Camp (Perth)

In keeping with Perth Outfitters' reputation and five-star rating, the fabulous 7-acre waterfront site creates a classic summer camp experience. Camp includes daily certified canoe, kayak and SUP instruction (plus paddling under the fountains and locking through the locks), a world-class Mini Golf Course, plus games and other fun camp activities. A perfect combination of nature, water, instruction, friendship, personal growth, summer fun and definitely "having a blast"! Camp is run by qualified staff, including a lifeguard. Ages 7-12 years. Runs Monday-Friday. 14 campers per session. More details, registration and payment online at <perthoutfitters.com>. To avoid disappointment, register soon — camp fills early and sessions were full last year.



Learn the art of disguise at Summer Spy Camp...

## The Almonte Potters Guild Summer Drop-In Classes



Morning drop-in classes for children throughout July and August.

Adult family members welcome. Classes for adults in the evening.

Contact us at 613-256-5556  
95 Bridge Street, Almonte  
www.almontepottersguild.com

## Almonte Potters Guild (Almonte)

During July and August, the Potters Guild is offering drop-in classes from 9AM to noon on weekdays for children of all ages (\$30 per child or \$50 for 2 family members). Adult family members are welcome to participate also! There are also classes for adults two evenings a week. For more information, please visit <almontepottersguild.com> or call 256-5556.



The Mississippi Mudds are offering a new summer program for both performers and those who prefer to work behind-the-scenes

## Wildlife Watchers Summer Day Camp (Almonte)

Children ages 6-11 can spend their summer vacation outdoors and active at the beautiful Mill of Kintail Conservation Area! Each day of camp runs on a specific theme related to the natural environment. Campers will explore plants, wildlife, insects, habitats and aquatic life through a variety of games, activities, arts and crafts, stories and more! For more information, contact Sarah O'Grady at <sogrady@mvc.on.ca> or 253-0006. To register visit <www.mvc.on.ca>.

## The Academy for Musical Theatre (Perth, Ottawa)

This group provides high quality instruction in music, acting, dance and various aspects of technical theatre to youth of all ages, culminating in the performance of a full-scale Broadway musical. The Academy is a special community of non-judgmental and spirited individuals with positive attitudes, devoted to providing a fun and safe environment in which to experiment artistically without fear of negative feedback. Their primary mandate is to build confidence. One-week and two-week programs are available this summer, including Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, *Les Miserables*, *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*, *Narnia*, and Disney's *Mulan*. For more information, visit <musictheatre.ca> or phone 706-2287. Voted one of the top ten summer camp experiences in Ottawa!



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  - mixed media
  - lego
  - cooking
  - woodworking
  - dance
  - music
  - mad science
  - martial arts
  - leadership

& many more!



SUMMER  
**17**



### MISSISSIPPI MUDDS



## Theatre Summer Camp

<b>Session 1</b> ages 7-12, July 4-14 with shows July 13, 7PM and July 14, 2PM	<b>Session 2</b> ages 13-18, July 17-28 with shows July 27, 7PM and July 28, 2PM
---	---

Camps run 9-4, Monday to Friday. Cost: \$350  
For information and registration visit [mississippimudds.ca](http://mississippimudds.ca)  
or email [katecooney8123@gmail.com](mailto:katecooney8123@gmail.com)

### Wildlife Watchers Day Camp

Adventure awaits at the Mill of Kintail!

Discover

Create

Play



Campers ages 6-11 explore insects, wildlife, plants, habitats & aquatic life through games, activities, arts & crafts, songs, stories & more!

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\$150/4 day weeks  
\$185/5 day weeks

**For more information:**  
Sarah O'Grady  
[sogrady@mvc.on.ca](mailto:sogrady@mvc.on.ca)  
613-253-0006



# Creative Summer Camps for Kids!



## Summer Fashion Camp for Youth (Almonte)

Costume designer Ingrid Harris, Marg Lee of Sew Much Fun and Aamina Badran of the Milliner of Kintail will be teaching together at Aamina's studio the weeks of July 17–21, July 24–28 or August 21–25, Monday–Friday from 9AM to 2PM. The cost is \$290/week and includes all materials. This hands-on Fashion Camp is for girls and boys aged 11 and up, and ends the week with a Friday afternoon graduation fashion show at 1PM. This dynamic team of skilled instructors will guide you along and help bring your ideas to life. Our Fashion Camp ratio is 5 students maximum per instructor with a limit of 15 students per week. For details, contact <ingridharris14@gmail.com>, <marglee@teksavvy.com> or <aaminadesigns@hotmail.com>.

Experiences like the Eco-Adventure Camp at Carp Ridge Eco-Wellness can help kids reconnect with nature

## Mississippi Mills Youth Centre Summer Day Camp (Almonte)

Youth ages 10–18 are invited to spend their summer days adventuring with the MMYC team. The camp will be hosted out of the newly opened Mississippi Mills Youth Centre and will feature outdoor physical activities, crafts, games and weekly field trips. For more information and to register, please contact Kaila McCormick at 256–5959 or at <coordinator.mmyc@gmail.com>.



Come home from camp in high fashion!



Happy paddlers at a Perth Outfitters camp

## Overnight Camps

### Camp Lau-Ren (Deep River)

Camp Lau-Ren is a children's summer residential camp of the United Church of Canada. Located 10 km west of Deep River on the Ottawa River, the camp offers six-night co-ed camps for children aged 8–15 and a two-night camp for 6–7 year olds. Accredited by the Ontario Camps Association and the United Church of Canada, the camp has been in operation since 1952. Campers enjoy canoeing, swimming, crafts, campfires, nature and fun, and make life-long friends and memories. The 6<sup>th</sup> annual free Open House — Saturday, June 10 — features tours of the site, a camper's cabin, campfire, skits, songs, crafts, free BBQ and s'mores. See you there! More information at <www.camplau-ren.com>.

### Long Bay Camp — Arts by the Lake (Westport)

Long Bay Camp is a sleep-over summer arts camp, for youth aged 9–16, that offers a variety of art, drama, music and dance workshops to choose from. Long Bay Camp also offers sports, swimming, campfires, canoeing and many camp games. Campers and staff hold their weekly performances in a unique barn space that is one of their favourite places to be. Long Bay's small capacity allows campers to feel at home while learning, growing and making new friends. Great food, great people and so much fun! Please visit <LongBayCamp.ca> for more details about all the fantastic workshops offered.

## Camp Lau-Ren

**A summer to remember!**












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# April's Shower of Events in Miss Mills

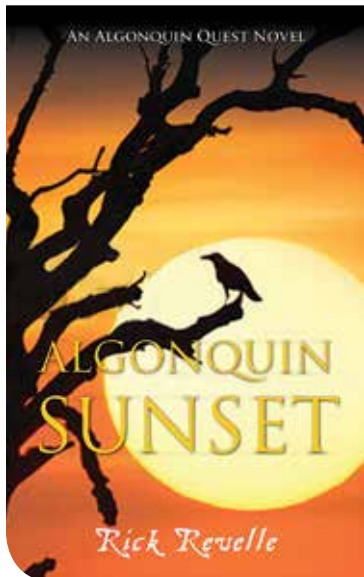
Well now, let's get the bad news out of the way, shall we? As you may know, this column is written by Miss Mills... a puppet created by award-winning puppeteer Noreen Young to celebrate Mississippi Mills, home of Puppets Up! International Puppet Festival. So it is with heavy heart that I report that the 2017 Puppets Up! festival has been cancelled. After last year's deficit, when they got news that the grants awarded were a sizeable chunk less than the board expected, they realized they had to cancel. It was not an easy decision, as this 12-year-old event has become such a part of the lives of the volunteers, puppeteers, and puppet-lovers from near and far. The folks of Puppets Up! wanted me to assure you that there will still be puppetastic events in Almonte! Just give them some time to regroup.

by Miss Mills, puppet reporter

In the meantime, adults will be able to get a puppet fix, as well as some tasty Scotch, at the May 4 **Whisky Tasting** with puppets Sir John A. Macdonald and Queen Victoria. Buy your tickets now, then you can drink to each other's health, while helping the community's health, at this Hospital fundraiser. Buy your tickets at Mill Street Books, Almonte Print Shop, the AGH Gift Shop, or at <almontehospitalfoundation.com> and pat yourself on the back for being such a selfless good citizen.

"But Miss Mills," you plead, "what will I do between now and May 4, to forget my puppet sadness?" Well, my friends, don't you worry. As always, there is fun-a-plenty on offer, to keep you busy and bring you cheer!

April's excitement starts in Pakenham. Follow the green maple-leaved signs of the **Maple Run Studio Tour** on April 1-2. On April 1, you can also help some Pakenham schoolchildren visit NASA in Laval (QC) by dropping by Bridges Bar & Grill for a **BBQ and Egg Hunt** (10AM-2PM).



Author Rick Revelle will be at Mill Street Books in Almonte on April 29 — Authors for Indies Day!

Almonte also starts the month running with **Almonte & District High School's** production of *Leading Ladies*: March 31, April 1, 21 and 22 at 7:30PM, with 2PM matinées on April 2 and 23. These productions are always a hit (last year's production was award-winning), so don't miss out! See more on page 17.

From leading ladies to "all the single ladies..." Have you ever seen the **Valley Singles Lunch** in the calendar and considered going, then said "oh forget it, it's too far away"? Well, single men and women, get yerselves down to the Barley Mow in Almonte on Sunday, April 2 at 1PM and meet some folks!

Other ways to meet people... and, ok, to simply be a good citizen... around this month. First of all, April 17-30 is **Pitch-In Week**. See the Mississippi Mills Facebook page for organized community clean-up days, but any time is a good time to tidy the town. I highly encourage participating as a family. Ever since I got Oscar the Grouch to Pitch-In, he has stopped stamping his cigarette butts into the ground. I kid... Oscar's a *cigar* smoker! Pitch-In bags — found at Nicholson's, Clayton General Store, Appleton Museum, Baker Bob's, and the Rec & Culture office (Old Town Hall) — can be put out for garbage pick-up, sans sticker, until mid-May.

You helped beautify the outdoors, now enjoy that beauty plus the tall wonder of trees during **Arbour Week**, April 24-30. There will be free events: walks, talks, films, plantings.

Did you enjoy the clean-up? Then you'll want to volunteer some more! If you didn't... then you'll want to volunteer for something *different*! Either way, drop by the **Volunteer & Recreation Fair** at the Old Town Hall on the 26<sup>th</sup> (12-2PM, 6-8PM) to check out opportunities for yourself or your kid-who'd-better-start-earning-volunteer-hours-or-else. It's also a great opportunity to learn about or sign up for local hobby and sport groups. The number of friends I've made through volunteering around town is huge!

Now, we all know that the sense of satisfaction one gets from volunteering is reward enough... but wine and cheese are nice too! So all volunteers (as well as their benefactors and new community members aka ~~helpless victims~~ prospective volunteers) are invited to the Town's **Volunteer Appreciation Night** on April 27, from 5-7PM at the Civitan Club.

Ok — enough helping others and meeting new people! It's time to call up your old friends and treat yourselves to a shopping night. The first **Downtown Almonte Street Market** of the year takes place on Thursday, April 27, from 5-9PM. There'll be live music, in-store specials and promotions, and more! Follow the Downtown Almonte Facebook page or that of your fave downtown shops to stay in the loop.

Do you have April 29 written on your calendar?

The eagerly-anticipated **Cheerfully Made Spring Market** will bring 120 handmakers to Almonte in early May!



(If not, I guess it's a defective calendar, eh?) It is **Authors for Indies Day**, when Canadians are encouraged to support their independent bookstores. Like you need another excuse to visit Mill Street Books... but here's one anyway: Rick Revelle will be there, from 2-4PM, to sign books or just talk about anything that interests you. He is the author of the Algonquin Quest Series: three "young adult" novels set in this area in the 1300s, enjoyed by young and old alike. He has spoken to many interesting people and done a lot of research for his books, so he's happy to talk about any and all of it with you.

## Looking Ahead

Here is an upcoming event to mark on your calendar, folks, just in case you get busy and don't look at the May Humm first thing. The craft show weekend that started it all, is back! May 6 and 7 is the **Cheerfully Made Spring Market** (aka Handmade Harvest) at the Almonte Ag. Hall. I don't care WHAT the forecast is that weekend — if you are lining up to be one of the first 50 (to get swag bags), you had better dress warmly (in layers)! This year's show will feature 120 amazing Ontario handmakers showcasing a wide variety of goods, from home décor and fashion to bath and body, edibles, food & drink, items for kids and babies, and so much more.

In order to feature so much talent, they switch the entire show overnight — so shoppers should plan to tuck in and spend the entire weekend in Almonte! Visitors will be able to see who will be participating (and when) by visiting <markets.cheerfullymade.com>.



Pitch-In from April 17-30!

**MMM DANCE**  
MARGARET MORRIS METHOD

**DANCE DAY 4 KIDS**  
Saturday April 8, 2017 (10AM-3PM)

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*A fun day that is just for kids!*

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Sat. Apr. 1 **Chris Murphy** of Turpin's Trail (Celtic/East Coast Folk) 6-9  
Fri. Apr. 7 **Jeff Callery** (Rock/Folk, Brockville) 6-9, **Fajitas Special**  
Sat. Apr. 8 **Henry Norwood** (Country, Perth) 6-9  
Thu. Apr. 13 **Jazz Night** with **Spencer Evans Trio** (Funk/Rock/Jazz/Blues/Soul) 7-10  
Fri. Apr. 14 **John Wilberforce** (Country/Rock, Kempsville) 6-9, **Fajitas Special**  
Sat. Apr. 15 **Head Over Heels** (Guitar/Vocal Duo, Gananoque) 6-9  
Fri. Apr. 21 Blues on the Rideau with **Jerome Godboo Band** (Toronto) 7-11, \$65 Buffet & Show  
Sat. Apr. 22 **Eric Uren** (Folk/Rock, Kingston) 6-9  
Sun. Apr. 23 **Country Matinée** with **Shawn McCullough & Henry Norwood** 1-4  
Fri. Apr. 28 **Logan Brown & Taylor Angus** (Acoustic Soul) 6-9, **Fajitas Special**  
Sat. Apr. 29 **Head Over Heels** (Guitar/Vocal Duo, Gananoque) 6-9

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*for each other*  
By Norm Foster  
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*A hilarious look at how things that begin so right can go so wrong.*



Opening night March 30, 2017  
March 30, 31 and April 1, 7 & 8 at 7:30 pm  
April 2 and 9 at 2:00 pm

See our article this edition or visit [studiotheatreperth.com](http://studiotheatreperth.com)

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# Bicycle Month 2017

## Rolling into Mississippi Mills This June!

Seen as a provincial model of encouragement to get citizens more active, **Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month** is coming together to offer its 9<sup>th</sup> annual program this June.

Hand in hand with encouragement through unique programming to entice citizens to ride is the knowledge that appropriate infrastructure is also key. Studies have shown that people want safer roads and will cycle only when they feel safe. Over the years, Bicycle Month volunteers have offered a wide array of programming while encouraging the town of Mississippi Mills to invest in life-saving infrastructure that makes the community safer to cycle.

Last year their efforts were awarded with Share the Road Cycling Coalition's bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community status, a feather in the cap for the small Municipality of Mississippi Mills.

The town now has an Active Transportation Plan and an advisory committee of dedicated volunteers, town council members, and public works staff working to implement the plan. This committee is dedicated to implementing infrastructure for all modes of "active transportation" — not just cycling but walking as well.

Bicycle Month also partners with the School Travel Planning committee who work with local parent councils, school staff, school board trustees, the police, citizen volunteers and town staff to help create a safe and active culture for our young students. Our work isn't complete until all students can safely bike to school!

This annual celebration of all things two-wheeled includes highlights like the kick-off street party, Gilligallou's Birders on Bikes, bike travelogues, the Tour de Mississippi Mills ride, RIMM Rover and



Now's the time to think up more awesome two-wheeled activities for Bike Month 2017!

Rusty Spokes gentler rides for older folk, rides with the Mississippi Mills Family Bicycle Club, movies and art shows, and the ever-popular Silver Chain Challenge <[silverchainchallenge.ca](http://silverchainchallenge.ca)>.

And we are much more! We believe we are on the front line of a cultural shift that's redefining the quality of life of our community. If you want to live in a place where it's easy to be active and encouraged, environmentally sustainable, economically vibrant, creative, and safe for all road users, consider helping with the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month. Interested in bringing a unique event to the month or volunteering for an existing event? Please contact us at <[jmills@themills.on.ca](mailto:jmills@themills.on.ca)>.

One simple thing you can do is ride your bike! Yes, ride your bike — ride with your parents, ride with your kids! It's a simple gesture that will make our town even greater.

— Jeff Mills

## 5 Wednesdays in July

Remember happenings? Love-ins? I wouldn't trust anyone who remembers these phenomena of the sixties, as they are bound to be over the age of thirty, and you know what they say about anyone over thirty — yup, not to be trusted!

But I jest. Those were days of spirit where people came together to celebrate, be creative, and support the strength of the whole. Everyone was needed, everyone involved.

5 Wednesdays in July is a happening! It's a "community love-in" and it's rolling around on Wednesday evenings throughout July in Almonte's Augusta Street Park. Do you love your town? Free music? Potlucks and Civitan barbecues? Augusta Street Park? Then this is the happening place to be.

The musical line up is being firmed up with a super list of performers that so far includes the **Ragged Flowers**, the **Ramblin' Valley Band**, the **Denis Sisters**, **The Tammy Jones Band**...

### Join the Fun!

In celebration of Canada's singer-songwriter, and poet extraordinaire **Leonard Cohen**, we are

hosting a session called "if it be your will", featuring the songs of Mr. Cohen. If you have a Cohen song or two or three, let us know which songs you want to sing. We'll put together the set and list of performers. Send in your requests early because space is limited.

Finally, happenings don't just happen all on their own! The success of 5 Wednesdays in July is based on the model that when a wide variety of people share their gifts, the job gets done; a "many hands" approach. We have a volunteer job for all. Get in touch if you can help with set-up, tear-down, picking up the stage, setting up the potlucks and cleaning up, publicity etc. We are grateful for the backbone support of Mills Community Support for this event and support from the Municipality of Mississippi Mills.

We live in one of the best towns in Canada. We have so much to celebrate. Let's dance and sing and cherish the day! To volunteer or perform, or for more details, contact Jeff Mills at <[jmills@themills.on.ca](mailto:jmills@themills.on.ca)>. Peace!

— Jeff Mills

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Community volunteer Peter Snider shows how to use chopsticks at the 2016 How To Fair at the Perth Library

Speaking Volumes

## Your How-To Go-To Place!

The collective memory of the library is an old-fashioned one. A place of hallowed books and shelves, and quiet research; dimly lit, with only footfalls echoing amongst the stacks. Today's libraries are busy, vibrant places, full of people using computers for the internet, learning with their child at storytime, and of course, reading.

by Erika Heesen, Librarian

As libraries have evolved and changed over the years, one constant remains: libraries are a place for learning. Libraries are not only a place where information is stored, but one where you can set off on a journey in learning, free from the bounds of any curriculum, with someone there to help you find just what you are looking for. After all, there's a reason why they call librarians the "original search engine"!

In this vein, we continue to offer programs that offer opportunities to learn — for everyone, of all ages.

The libraries of Lanark County are excited to announce that this year we will be hosting a How To Fair on Saturday, April 22.

What is a How To Fair? Well, we're going to take over the library for the day with all

sorts of community volunteers and stations for you to learn "how to". You can learn how to use chopsticks, make a button, start seeds, make cider, and much more!

How To Fairs will be taking place at the Perth Union Library from 10:30AM to 2:30PM; at the Carleton Place Public Library from 10AM to 1PM; at the Mississippi Mills Public Library (Almonte branch) from 11AM to 3PM; and at the Smiths Falls Public Library from 10:30AM to 2:30PM.

If you have a skill that you'd like to share, contact one of the libraries to volunteer. They look forward to learning "how to" with you!

### Erika's How To Book Picks:

- *How to Grow Perennial Vegetables* by Martin Crawford
  - *How to Listen to and Understand Great Music* (Great Courses)
  - *How to Make a Chemical Volcano and Other Mysterious Experiments* by Alan Kramer
  - *Maker Lab: 28 Super Cool Projects* by the Smithsonian Maker Lab
  - *The Maker's Manual: A Practical Guide to the New Industrial Revolution* by Andrea Maietta and Paolo Aliverti
- Erika Heesen is the CEO/Chief Librarian at the Perth & District Union Public Library

## Something to Sing About

The **Tay Valley Community Choir** is pleased to once again stage a spring concert, this year with an all-Canadian twist. Taking place on Saturday, April 8 at 7PM at the Maberly Community Hall, "Something to Sing About" is themed in the spirit of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> year since Confederation.

All songs chosen by the choir were written by Canadians, including David Francey, Bruce Cockburn, and Stan Rogers, and range from folk to swing to light rock. Compositions by noted regional musicians Tom Lipps and Tony Turner will also be on offer.

"There are so many great Canadian composers," says conductor Rebecca Worden, "from the famous to the largely unknown, and from our own region to right across Canada. Choosing a small selection of songs from them all is a real challenge, but I'm

really happy with our mix. Our choir is so looking forward to a lovely evening of music and community to help celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>." To fit in with the evening you are invited to bring along your Canadian flags and wear your Canada t-shirt.

Accompanying the choir once again will be skilled pianist Mary Lou Carroll. Several choir members will have solo singing opportunities, and joining as special guests will be Ms. Worden's own musical group, the Backroad Blenders.

Admission to Something to Sing About is \$10 per person. Refreshments will be on hand following the concert, and food or other donations to The Table can be made that evening and will be most welcome. Something to Sing About is made possible thanks to Tay Valley Township and Blue Skies in the Community.

THE MISSISSIPPI MUDDS BUOYANTLY PRESENTS

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DIRECTED BY Mark Piper  
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ILLUSTRATION OF H.M.S. PINAFORE BY PAT ACHILLES, USED BY PERMISSION: WWW.ACHILLESARTSTUDIO.COM

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Saturday May 6 10-5PM  
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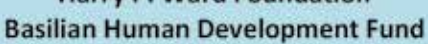

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Info: 613-264-8088 or [burning@web.ca](mailto:burning@web.ca)  
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Red Maple Leaves by Local Colours member Nora Brown

theHumm Interview

## Find Local Colours in Perth

A newly formed group of visual artists reached out to theHumm this month, because they are planning to hold their first show in conjunction with Perth's Festival of the Maples on April 29. Several members of **Local Colours** have been profiled in past issues but

by Kris Riendeau

some are new to us, so I was excited to learn more about them and their plans for the future. Pat Purdy (profiled in our April 2016 issue) was kind enough to answer my questions.

**theHumm: What was the impetus behind the formation of this group?**

Pat Purdy: Our group evolved from a chance meeting of like-minded artists who decided it would be creative, fun, and social to get together and paint. We initially started meeting in my studio, but as lunch was often involved we eventually found a local venue near our favourite restaurant for weekly gatherings. We are a mentoring, creative and social group. Our goals include furthering our personal artistic development and skills, networking, and increasing our artistic expertise.

**For artists who often work alone, what are some of the benefits of regularly coming together as a group of this size?**

The group consists of a variety of members who mainly painted alone but,

as with all artists, knew that critique, new ideas and feedback were invaluable for our personal growth. The group consists of artists of different skill levels who work with different media. We all benefit from our weekly interaction.

**Since art is so personal — both in terms of its creation and appreciation — how does your group work to ensure that critiques are constructive without being destructive?**

Respect insures that pointers, critique and comments are helpful and valuable to the artists involved.

**Where can people find you at the Festival of the Maples, and what kind of works will you be showing and selling?**

We are planning our first show together at McMartin House (125 Gore St. E.) on Saturday, April 29 in Perth. It will run from 8AM to 6PM that day, and refreshments will be served. The show will equally represent the works of all the artists involved in our group. There will be many types of fine art; acrylic, photography, ink, mixed-media will all be shown and for sale.

**Who is involved with Local Colours, and what are your plans for the future?**

The artists are Nora Brown, Pat Purdy, Pam Hills, Barbara Jordan, Linda Svarckopf, Christine Martin, Susan FeDuke and Dawn Fortin. We do plan on hosting more shows and may in future hold workshops and events.

## A Culinary and Musical Celebration of Canada 150

On the weekend of April 28, 29 and 30, The Valley Food and Drink Co. restaurant in Calabogie will have a food and music celebration of Canada 150.

Friday night will feature the music of Ontario raconteur extraordinaire Ken Ramsden, with his duo partner Ted Stanton. Ken is well known as part of his trio Freshwater Trade. This show will be paired with an "Ontario Maple Syrup Fest" menu.

Saturday night will feature music from the east coast, with Juno nominee and multiple East Coast Music Award winner Teresa

Doyle. Teresa's performance will be paired with an "East Coast Lobster Fest".

Additional weekend activities will include "The Great Canadian Shield Campfire Experience", complete with guitar, hot dogs and s'mores, as well as storytelling about the Ottawa Valley.

You can reserve tickets and get additional information by calling 752-2006 x311 or from the restaurant's event pages on Facebook or the website. The Valley Food and Drink Co. is located in Calabogie Lodge at 729 Mill St. in Calabogie.



# THE VALLEY Food & Drink Co.

**YOUR OTTAWA VALLEY DESTINATION RESTAURANT**

<b>Jesse Greene Band</b> Spirited blues with a touch of rock 'n' roll	Saturday Apr. 1
<b>Rich Martel</b>	Friday Apr. 7
<b>Al Wood and the Woodsmen</b> Four-on-the-floor blues	Saturday Apr. 8
<b>Trivia Night</b>	Friday Apr. 14
<b>MonkeyJunk</b> Swamp blues and roots rock	Saturday Apr. 15
<b>Mr. and His Sister</b>	Friday Apr. 21
<b>Johnny Vegas</b> Bringing back the '50s	Saturday Apr. 22
<b>Ken Ramsden and Ted</b>	Friday Apr. 28
<b>Teresa Doyle</b> Multiple East Coast Music Award winner	Saturday Apr. 29

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Ottawa Valley craft beers the best ingredients from local farmers

# Photography & Live Theatre — So Right for Each Other

On March 30 you can attend the opening night of the latest **Studio Theatre** production, *Wrong For Each Other*, a delightful comedy by Canada's ever-popular playwright Norm Foster, under the direction of Jeremy Dutton, and starring Lucas Tennant, Hugh McCulloch, Mary Ann Majaury and Laurie Reesor. For Studio Theatre productions, the wonderfully talented actors can come from Ottawa, Carleton Place, Merrickville, Smiths Falls, and rural Leeds and Lanark, as well as Perth. And of course we have great directors, producers, and stage managers from far and wide as well.

But at this time I want to celebrate our two skillful Perth-based photographers, Bruce Raby and Len Modderman, who, along with Studio Theatre vice-president Bob FeDuke, are all members of the prestigious **Lanark Camera Club** that meets right here in Perth. Bruce was recently featured in Reader's Digest *Our Canada Magazine* in December/January 2017 with his article entitled "Shooting Stars", which highlighted Studio Theatre productions. Bruce and Len are responsible for all the impressive photos you see on the Studio Theatre website, in your local papers, and in our lobby displays and our programs where the cast and crew of each show are highlighted.

For this show, Len attended countless rehearsals, taking insightful candid shots of the actors as they honed their craft for your enjoyment. And, to feature the theatre's new large screen and projector, photography creates the backdrop for this one-of-a-kind production. I had the opportunity to accompany Bruce Raby on a photo shoot around Perth, to seek cooperation of local businesses and take more than a few pictures. Everyone we met with was so enthusiastic and helpful — the town of Perth is a very strong supporter of live theatre. Then Bruce worked for many hours preparing the images for professional quality illumination under our bright theatre lights.

In *Wrong For Each Other*, when Rudy and Norah are having a meal at a restaurant, you will find your-

self in Maximilian's. And when the same couple meet at the flower shop — you guessed it — you will be seeing Kelly's Flowers. The scene that takes place as a voice-over in this play will transport you to the Great War Memorial Hospital. Thanks to our new rear projection technology, and some creative photography from Lanark Camera Club members, we can entertain you in a most unique way.

*Wrong For Each Other* opens at the Studio Theatre on Thursday, March 30 for seven shows, March 30, 31, April 1, 7 and 8 at 7:30PM, and April 2 and 9 at 2PM. Tickets are \$22 at the Book Nook (60 Gore St. E, cash only) and \$22 plus service fee at Shadowfax (67 Foster St., 267-6817, shadowfax.on.ca) and Tickets Please (Matheson Museum Visitor Centre, 11 Gore St. E., 485-6434, ticketsplease.ca), both of which accept in-store, phone, online and credit card purchases. Tickets are \$24 at the door, and \$10 at the door for students with ID. Attend opening night and save \$5. For complete show details, dates and ticket information, please visit <studiotheatreperth.com>.

— Jane Stott



Hugh McCulloch, playing Rudy in *Wrong For Each Other*, is pleading with Norah, portrayed by Laurie Reesor. Will she give him a second chance? Come and see for yourself at the Studio Theatre in Perth!

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH MUSIC TEAM PRESENTS

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followed by  
*Canadiana Singalong*

in honour of Canada's 150th Birthday

with the Combined Choirs of  
St. Paul's United and St. James' Anglican Churches  
and Friends along with Bluegrass Musicians

**Sunday, April 30, 2017  
7:30 pm**

St. Paul's United Church,  
25 Gore St. W., Perth  
www.stpauls-uc-perth.org

Tickets: \$20.00  
available at St. Paul's United Church Office  
or at "Tickets Please" 613 485 6434  
www.ticketsplease.ca

annie dalton

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## Fiddler's Friends

A Traditional Fiddle Awards Showcase Concert  
Proceeds to Support  
Danny O'Connell Memorial Fund  
administered by  
The Community Foundation of Ottawa

**AWARD RECIPIENTS:**  
Marley Mullan, Ethan Walls  
Beatrice Herwig, Michaela Mullan  
Tessa Bangs, Joe Gervais  
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**MUSICAL FRIENDS:**  
John Mitchell, Matt Pepin  
Terri-Lynn Mahusky, Kyle Felhaver  
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**SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCES:**  
Cindy Thompson Strathearn  
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**Sunday May 7, 2017  
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Doors open, Music starts: 12:30

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## Spring 2017 Night Sky Astronomy Course

**What:**

Night Sky astronomy courses help to foster an appreciation of the night sky and an understanding of dark sky conservation.

**WHEN:**

Friday April 21, 2017 at 7:45 pm. Subsequent 4 sessions will be determined according to weather and group consensus.

**WHERE:**

Mill of Kintail Conservation Area  
2854 Ramsay Consession 8, Mississippi Mills.

**COST:**

Donations are encouraged. All proceeds are used to fund Night Sky programming.

**REGISTER:**

Registration will occur on Friday, April 21, 2017. Attendance is mandatory for this session. Following sessions are available on a drop-in basis.

**For more information please contact:**

Sarah O'Grady, MVCA Education Coordinator  
613-256-3610 x 1 or 613-253-0006 x 239  
sogrady@mvc.on.ca  
www.mvc.on.ca

Learn constellations. Observe planets, stars, stellar systems, galaxies and more!



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**Round up some pledges,  
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**May 7, 2017**  
**On-site registration 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Hike 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

**Mill of Kintail Conservation Area**  
**2854 Ramsay Concession 8, Mississippi Mills**

**Register at [www.HubHospice.com](http://www.HubHospice.com)**



A Canada-wide initiative to raise funds for hospice care.  
All funds stay in our own community.

# A Folkus Season Finale with Merritt!

*"...it's always a treat when Scott Merritt emerges from his self-imposed performing exile... remarkable, inspirational songs"*  
— *Echo Magazine*

While often critically cited as one of the great, unsung singer-songwriters of Canada, Scott Merritt has released only six albums since beginning his career in the late '70s back in his hometown of Brantford, Ontario. He is perhaps better known these days as a producer and engineer. He actually produced a number of albums by this year's Folkus season opener, Garnet Rogers, including Rogers' most recent. Indeed, Merritt has produced many beloved albums over the years, having worked with Fearing and White, Fred Eaglesmith, Kevin Breit, Tannis Slimmon, Matt Anderson, Mike Stevens, and Ian Tamblyn. He has recently started touring with his own material again, and Folkus is thrilled that he will be playing the Old Almonte Town Hall stage.

Merritt's compositions are thoughtful and delicate. His guitar work is nimble without being egotistical, and his lyrics are well served by his slightly husky voice. His latest album release, *Of*, has been described as a "gloriously stripped down musically elegant acoustic collection of eight songs melded with Merritt's poetic perspective



Catch the somewhat elusive Scott Merritt (above), with opener Ursula Schultz (below left), in Almonte on April 22

on life out of focus. *Of* is sublime because of what is not there."

Opening for Merritt is Shawville native Ursula Schultz. Steeped in Ottawa Valley fiddle tradition, Schultz's genres consist of Celtic rock, Irish, crossover and French Canadian. Schultz brings her own spin on traditional tunes as well her own compositions. She has played at the CityFolk Festival, The Algonquin Commons Theatre and Festival Hall, and has also played a couple times at Under The Pines Music Festival as well as their Christmas series. She has played with The Keith Glass Band, has opened for Craig Cardiff, and keeps active with Twin Flames (a touring folk band from Ottawa) and Outside I'm a Giant (an indie band from Wakefield). Ursula has a distinctive and captivating stage presence with a wide repertoire of music, from deep and sorrowful laments to dancing and spirited reels.

Tickets for the April 22 show are available online at <[folkusalmonte.com](http://folkusalmonte.com)> and at Mill Street Books in Almonte, but as of press time there are only a few left! As always, doors open at 7:30PM and seating is first-come, first-served. Showtime is at 8PM. Folkus offers a cash-only bar with local beer, Ontario wine, and non-alcoholic beverages.



## The Guitar Gods Beseech You...

Assuming that you play guitar (doesn't everybody?), Sunday, April 9 might be considered a divine epiphany of celestial consequence... or it might be a good day to come to a Pentatonic Patterns Plus clinic presented by Ric's Guitar School.

Local guitar teacher Ric Denis explores this simple five note pentatonic scale with substitutions and combinations that stay simple and work great for rock, blues, jazz, and all those funky mash-ups. This will be an interactive workshop, so bring along your guitar. There will also be performances by The Fearless Freep to help demonstrate these concepts in real time. For the real keeners, you can also check out "Ric's Pentatonic Trick" on YouTube or at <[ricdenis3.com/teaching](http://ricdenis3.com/teaching)>.

Ric Denis has over twenty-five years' teaching and performance experience, plus Dean's Honours in jazz/classical musical education at Mohawk College.

The Pentatonic Patterns Plus clinic takes place on Sunday, April 9 at 1:30PM, upstairs at The Barley Mow, at 79 Little Bridge Street



Learn "Ric's Pentatonic Trick" at the Barley Mow in Almonte on April 9

in Almonte. Admission is \$10 at the door; \$5 for students. Any questions? Ask away, at <[ricdenis3@gmail.com](mailto:ricdenis3@gmail.com)>.



# Tree Sale

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April 10, 2017  
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To register email [peggymcphail@hotmail.com](mailto:peggymcphail@hotmail.com)

Your new tree comes with a root stimulator, compost and a planting seminar.  
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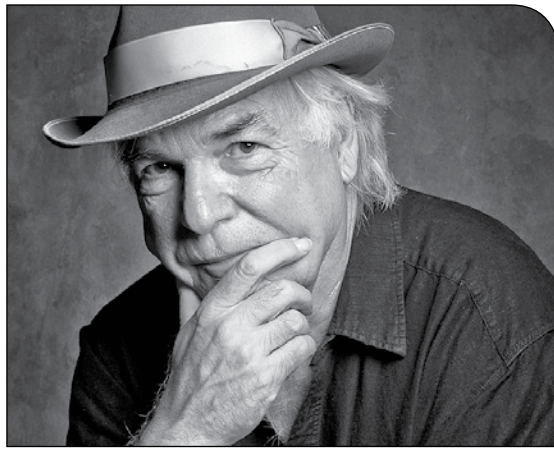


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**To order, visit [www.hubhospicetrees.com](http://www.hubhospicetrees.com)**

# Nashville Visits Perth

Last year I met one of Nashville's treasures, **David Olney**, and I have to admit that I was a bit intimidated. You'll understand why when I tell you he's the singer/songwriter who wrote the hit *Deeper Well* with Emmylou Harris and Daniel Lanois, has had his songs recorded by Emmylou, Linda Ronstadt, Del McCoury, Tim O'Brien and others, has recorded over twenty albums, has played all around the world, and has had several of his songs featured on the hit TV show *Nashville*. He'd just finished laying down the tracks for his latest album, *Don't Try to Fight It*, at Carleton Place's Big Muddy Studio, operated by Brock Zeman. Brock had



Nashville's David Olney will play Perth on April 23

by Steve Tennant

asked me to arrange a show for him. In walks this humble, no ego, friendly guy who was a joy to talk to and work with. His songs mesmerized the full house last year and I can't wait to have him return to The Listening Room Series at the Perth Tea Room (Perth Restaurant) on Sunday, April 23 at 7PM.

This quote from Olney's website quite accurately describes what he does: "David Olney doesn't change his appearance; he changes reality's appearance. He changes the room and the way we feel inside the room. He changes hearts, minds and moods, like the rest of us change bed sheets, only without the hassle of ill-fitted corners. His songs are marvels of surprise and delight."

Brock Zeman and his sidekick Blair Michael Hogan will open for Olney.

Part of the proceeds will go to Habitat for Humanity — Perth. Tickets are \$20 and available at the Perth Tea Room (Perth Restaurant) or by calling 267-7902. Dinner reservations can be made by calling 267-3170.

Speaking of Nashville, I just finished reading a wonderful biography of singer/songwriter Guy Clark, who passed away last year. Titled *Without Getting Killed or Caught: The Life and Music of Guy Clark*, it was written by Tamara Saviano, who spent years prior to Clark's death interviewing him and those friends he co-wrote with. She spoke to people like Steve Earle, Joe Ely, Rodney Crowell, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, John Hiatt, Kris Kristofferson, Jerry Jeff Walker, as well as Susanna Clark — Guy's wife and soulmate. The book also explains the unique relationship both Guy and Susanna had with the late Townes Van Zandt. I gained a far better appreciation for the principles Guy

exemplified. He was truly a songwriter's songwriter. It was never about money for him; rather, it was about getting well-written songs, that do the stories justice, out to the masses. He was always promoting unknown singer/songwriters to the music machine of record companies, studios and venues. As Saviano suggests, Susanna and Guy Clark made a profound impact on the folk and Americana music scenes. And by the way, David Olney is in the book too.

Support live music everywhere!

## Upcoming Events

- Friday, March 31: **Turpin's Trail** at the Sharbot Lake Country Inn. These Celtic/folk guys played to a full house at the Listening Room to much applause. Call Sandra at 279-2198 for reservations.
- Sunday, April 9, 4PM matinée: **Sherman Downey** at the Full Circle Theatre, Perth. Sherman won CBC's original Searchlight Contest a few years ago; his Newfoundland spirit adding gusto to his folk/roots/country stylings that have been recognized by earning him SOCAN "Songwriter of the Year" honours. I love this guy's work. Tickets are \$25 and available at Shadowfax (267-6817).
- Friday, April 21, 7PM: **Jerome Godboo Band** at The Cove in Westport; part of the Blues on the Rideau Series. \$65 dinner and show; one of Canada's harmonica masters will knock your socks off. Reservations required; call 273-3636.
- Sunday, April 23, 7PM: **David Olney** at Perth Tea Room (Perth Restaurant); see above for details.
- Friday, April 28: **Rick Fines Trio** at the Sharbot Lake Country Inn. Rick Fines is one of Canada's best acoustic blues players. You'll love his stuff. Call Sandra at 279-2198 for reservations.

# Community Responds to United Way Appeal

United Way Lanark County (UWLC) recently announced a \$40,000 shortfall for their 2016 campaign, which is threatening their ability to support their community partners. These partners include organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, Youth Centres across the County, Community & Primary Health Care, the Adult Learning & Training Centre, CROW, Family & Children's Services, and the Lanark County Community Justice Program. Collectively, these organizations support one in eight people in Lanark County, and the vital services and supports they provide are critical to those in need.

UWLC is reaching out to the community for their support. A number of initiatives are taking place in an effort to make up the difference in the Campaign.

Your Independent Grocer (YIG) locations across Lanark County have stepped up to the challenge by holding a **Drive for United Way Lanark County**. Patrice's YIG in Almonte, Mitchell's YIG in Carleton

Place, and Barnabe's YIG in Perth collected toonies from March 18-26. Andress' YIG in Smiths Falls will be collecting from June 11-24. Be sure to make a donation and sign your name in support of your community!

You may also donate online to help UWLC continue to support its partners and improve life in Lanark County and Smiths Falls. Consider **\$10 for Change** — the change to a young person that results from being able to attend a vital after-school program. Or consider **\$25 for Possibility** — the possibility of a better future for those in our community who just need a helping hand. If everyone in Lanark County and Smiths Falls would make that donation, then UWLC would be able to reach out and make that change, create that possibility, for a better life. Their goal is to change 8,500 lives in Lanark County and Smiths Falls. Please help them make a difference. Visit <lanarkunitedway.com> to donate, or call 253-9074.

# April Pub Listings

**The Cove** (Westport, 273-3636): Wed Shawn McCullough, 6-9PM

Apr 1 Chris Murphy, 6-9PM

Apr 7 Jeff Callery, 6-9PM

Apr 8 Henry Norwood, 6-9PM

Apr 13 Jazz Night w/Spencer Evans Trio, 7-10PM

Apr 14 John Wilberforce, 6-9PM

Apr 15, 29 Head over Heels, 6-9PM

Apr 22 Eric Uren, 6-9PM

Apr 23 Country Matinée w/S. McCullough/H. Norwood, 1-4PM

Apr 28 Logan Brown & Taylor Angus, 6-9PM

**The Swan at Carp** (Carp, 839-7926): Apr 7, 21 Steve Barrette Trio, jazz, 7-10PM

**The Royal Oak** (Kanata, 591-3895): jazz on Sun, 2-5PM

Apr 2, 16, 30 Magnolia Rhythm Kings

Apr 9, 23 APEX Jazz Band

**Naismith Pub** (Almonte, 256-6336): Mon Uke Klub, 8PM

Wed Open Celtic Jam, 7:30-10PM

**Carp Masonic Lodge**: Mon Carp Celtic Jam, 7-9PM

**Ashton Pub** (Ashton, 257-4423): Sun Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, 2-5PM

**The Barley Mow** (Almonte, 256-5669): Thurs Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, 8PM

**Golden Arrow Pub** (Perth, 267-4500): 9PM. Wed Karaoke.

Apr 1 George Reynolds

Apr 7 Mike Brown

Apr 8 Umberlune

Apr 13 Matt Dickson

Apr 21 Jeff Leeson

Apr 22 Brea Lawrenson

Apr 28 Ted Lalonde

Apr 29 Riley White

**Bridges Bar and Grill** (Pakenham, 624-5939):

Apr 7 The Grommets, 9PM-1AM

Apr 8 Blues Series: Peter Brown, 6-9PM

Apr 21 Country Reflections, 9PM-1AM

Apr 28 Mike Ryan, 9PM-1AM

**O'Reilly's Ale House** (Perth, 267-7994): Tues Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan 8:30PM; Wed Open Jam w/ Dave Balfour 8PM

Apr 14 Tom Watson, 8:30PM

Apr 21 Stephen Fisher, 8:30PM

Apr 28 River City Junction, 9PM

**Alice's Village Café** (Carp, 470-2233): Open Mic Thurs, 7:30PM

**The Waterfront Gastropub** (CP, 257-5755): Sun Blues w/ Redneck Limousine 3-6PM

Apr 7 Mississippi Blues Society Jam, 8:30PM

Apr 15 Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, 3PM & 9PM

**Valley Food and Drink Co.** (Calabogie, 752-2676x311): 8PM, Thurs Karaoke (see FB for dinner+show \$)

Apr 1 Jesse Greene Band

Apr 7 Rich Martel

Apr 8 AI Wood & the Woodsmen

Apr 14 Music Trivia Night

Apr 15 MonkeyJunk

Apr 21 Mr. & His Sister

Apr 22 Johnny Vegas

Apr 28 Ken Ramsden & Ted

Apr 29 Teresa Doyle

**The 2 Grands** (Arnprior, 623-7969): Fri/Sat Duelling Pianos, 6PM

**John St. Pub** (Arnprior, 623-8149): 9:45PM

Apr 1 Mothership (Led Zep Experience), \$10

Apr 13 Karaoke, 9PM, \$5

Apr 14 80s-90s-00s Dance Party, 9PM, \$5

Apr 15 Sidepipe, \$5

Apr 16 Age of Electric, 9PM, \$33

Apr 21 Julian Taylor Band, 9:15PM, \$20

Apr 22 Craig Cardiff, 8:45PM, \$20

Apr 25 Prong, 8:30PM, \$30

Apr 28 One Bad Son, 9:30PM, \$25

Apr 29 Generation Moon (Who tribute), \$10

**Lumbertown Ale House** (Arnprior, 623-8885): 8:30PM, no cover

Apr 1 Stone & Ridge

Apr 8 Mister & His Sister

Apr 15 Chris Zimmerman

Apr 29 Brent Dickie

See page 30 & 31 for other April events

## BLUES ON THE RIDEAU

THE COVE INN • WESTPORT • ONTARIO

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**DINNER & SHOW \$65**

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the Humm

Whisky Tasting, Almonte, May 4  
*The Chalk Garden*, SF, May 4-7  
 LiPS Slam Finals, Perth, May 5  
 Cheerfully Made Spring Market, Almonte, May 6-7  
*H.M.S. Pinafore*, Carleton Place, May 6-7  
 Home & Living Expo, SF, May 6-7  
 Living Stones Open Studio, Lanark, May 6-7  
 Blueberry Mtn Walk, Lanark, May 7  
 Fiddler's Friends, Almonte, May 7  
 Hike for Hospice, Almonte, May 7  
 Terry Gillespie Band, Westport, May 12  
 Art in the Attic, Almonte, May 12-14  
 Ladies Night, Almonte, May 12  
 ArtsCP Show & Sale, CP, May 27-28  
 Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month, June

## Festivals

**Festival of the Maples**, Apr 29, 9am-4pm.  
 Maple products/taffy, live music, kids' activities. Downtown Perth. perthchamber.com

## Visual Arts

**Maple Run Studio Tour**, Apr 1-2, 10am-5pm. Map-guided arts & crafts tour around Pakenham. 623-5222, mapleruntour.ca  
**Spring Into Art Conference**, Apr 8. Trinity Presbyterian Church, Carp. westcarletonartssociety.ca. \$75  
**Almonte Quilters' Guild**, Apr 17, 7pm. Almonte Civitan Hall, Almonte. 257-8444, almontequiltersguild.com  
**Vernissage: Tom Campbell**, Apr 27, 7-9pm. Xylochrome; new paintings. Fairview Manor, 75 Spring St., Almonte  
**Local Colours Art Show & Sale**, Apr 29, 8am-6pm. First show of new art group. McMartin House, 125 Gore St. E., Perth  
**Quilting in the Valley**, Apr 29 (10-5); Apr 30 (10-4). Quilt show, tea room, vendors. Nick Smith Centre, Arnprior. \$6  
**Vernissage: Arnold, Baron, Zuger**, Apr 29, 3-6pm. Sivarulrasa Studio, Almonte. 293-2492, sivarulrasa.com. Free

## Youth

**Dance Day 4 Kids**, Apr 8, 10am-3pm. Dance, art wkshp, ages 6 & up. Almonte Community Centre. 253-6026. \$30  
**Bunny Run 2017**, Apr 15, 11am-2:30pm. Music, Easter treat hunt. Carleton Place Town Hall. downtowncarletonplace.com  
**Easter Egg Hunt**, Apr 15, 11am. Kids 8 & under, w/adult & basket. Stewart Park, Perth. 267-1947  
**Easter Bunny**, Apr 16, 10:30am-2:30pm. Fulton's, Pakenham. 256-3867, fultons.ca  
**Almonte in Concert's Youthful Music Club**, Apr 30, 1pm. Almonte Old Town Hall, musicclub@almonteinconcert.com, \$7

## Theatre

**Lanark Laughs**, Mar 31, Apr 28, 8-10pm. Stand-up comedy. Waterfront Gastropub, CP. facebook.com/LanarkLaughs  
**Leading Ladies**, Mar 31, Apr 1, 21, 22, 7:30pm; Apr 2, 23, 2pm. ADHS students. Tix: Baker Bob's. Almonte & District HS. \$12  
**Wrong for Each Other**, Mar 30-31, Apr 1, 7, 8 7:30pm; Apr 2, 9 2pm. Norm Foster play. Studio Theatre, Perth. \$24, \$10 students  
**Auditions: Lysistrata**, Apr 3, 7pm. Musical, many roles. Full Circle Theatre, Perth. 267-1884, barndoorproductions.ca  
**The Invisible Boy**, Apr 7, 7pm (YAK, I Sherbrooke St. E., Perth); Apr 19, 7pm (MMYouth Centre, Almonte); Apr 20, 7pm (Carambeck Com. Ctr, CP); Apr 21, 6pm (Lanark Youth Ctr, 61 Princess St., Lanark). Youth homelessness play. burningpassionstheatre.com

# WHAT'S ON IN

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

Arnprior and District Museum presents travelling exhibit "My Story, My Tattoo" [to Apr 25]  
 CP & Beckwith Heritage Museum presents a celebration of Canada w/local exceptional artists <cpbheritagemuseum.com> [to Apr 15]  
 Carriageway Studios presents *Remember Breathing*, Maria Gomez Umana' mixed-media sculpture <carriagewaystudios.ca>  
 Diefenbunker presents CANEX 1977 canteen [to Dec 31/18], "From Hand to Hand" photos by Valerie Nofdle [to Jul 30/17]  
 Fairview Manor Lobby presents *The Art of the Tree*, paintings by Gordon Coulthart [to Apr 11], *Xylochrome*, paintings by Tom Campbell [from Apr 11]  
 General Fine Craft, Art & Design features Sayward Johnson & Chandler Swain [to Apr 23], group exhibition [from Apr 27] <generalfinecraft.com>  
 MVTM presents Blanket Statement: No Shame in Patches <mvtm.ca>  
 Sivarulrasa Studio & Gallery presents *Metaphor*, drawings & sculpture of Sue Adams [to Apr 16], *Trio*, sculptures of Deborah Arnold & Russell Baron, paintings by Mirana Zuger [from Apr 21] <sivarulrasa.com>  
 The Mississippi Mills Chambers Gallery presents Edwina Wood's acrylics  
 The Almonte Library Corridor Gallery presents Alan Mirabelli's photography

<p>4-Hand Euchre, Bolingbroke                  Bridge Club, Arnprior                  Auditions: <i>Lysistrata</i>, Perth                  Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge                  Bridge Club, Smiths Falls                  Uke Klub, Naismith Pub</p>	<p>Brock Zeman &amp; Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub                  Green Drinks, Perth                  Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</p>	<p>Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub                  Bridge Club, Almonte                  Tropical Plant Propagation, CP                  Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub                  Shawn McCullough, The Cove</p>	<p>Bridge Club, Arnprior                  Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow                  Karaoke, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.                  Mahjong, Bolingbroke                  Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</p>
<p>4-Hand Euchre, Bolingbroke                  Bridge Club, Arnprior                  Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge                  150 CP Labyrinth Walks, CP                  Bridge Club, Smiths Falls                  Uke Klub, Naismith Pub</p>	<p>Brock Zeman &amp; Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub                  Compassion Fatigue Workshop, Almonte                  Low-Maintenance Perennials, Perth                  Bridge Club, Smiths Falls                  Tenebrae, Arnprior                  Container Gardens, Carp                  Women's Business Group Breakfast, CP</p>	<p>Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub                  Bridge Club, Almonte                  Julieta, Perth                  Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub                  Shawn McCullough, The Cove</p>	<p>Bridge Club, Arnprior                  Jazz Night w/Spencer Evans, The Cove                  Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow                  Julieta, Smiths Falls                  Karaoke, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.                  Karaoke, John St. Pub                  Mahjong, Bolingbroke                  Matt Dickson, Golden Arrow                  Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe                  Toastmasters, CP</p>
<p>4-Hand Euchre, Bolingbroke                  Almonte Quilters' Guild, Almonte                  Bridge Club, Arnprior, SF                  Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge                  Uke Klub, Naismith Pub</p>	<p>Brock Zeman &amp; Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub                  Celtic Days &amp; Pancakes, Pakenham                  Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</p>	<p>Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub                  Bridge Club, Almonte                  Celtic Days &amp; Pancakes, Pakenham                  The Sweet Hereafter, SF, Perth                  Monsieur Lazhar, Almonte                  Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub                  Hort Soc Mtg, Pakenham                  Shawn McCullough, The Cove                  The Invisible Boy, Almonte</p>	<p>Bridge Club, Arnprior                  Celtic Days &amp; Pancakes, Pakenham                  Jazz Night w/Peter Brown Trio, Perth                  Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, The Barley Mow                  Karaoke, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.                  Mahjong, Bolingbroke                  MVFN AGM, Almonte                  Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe                  The Invisible Boy, Carleton Place</p>
<p>4-Hand Euchre, Bolingbroke                  Almonte Hort: Roses, Almonte                  Bridge Club, Arnprior, SF                  Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge                  Parkinson's Support Group, Perth, Almonte                  Uke Klub, Naismith Pub</p>	<p>Brock Zeman &amp; Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub                  Prong, John St. Pub                  Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</p>	<p>Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub                  Bridge Club, Almonte                  Maudie, Perth                  Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub                  Shawn McCullough, The Cove                  Volunteer &amp; Recreation Fair, Almonte</p>	<p>Bridge Club, Arnprior                  Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow                  Karaoke, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.                  Mahjong, Bolingbroke                  Maudie, Smiths Falls                  Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe                  Rummage Sale, Perth                  The Tin Woman, Perth                  Toastmasters, CP                  Vernissage: Tom Campbell, Almonte                  Volunteer Appreciation Night, Almonte</p>

Film Night International presents *Julieta*: Apr 12, 2 & 7pm (Full Circle, Perth); Apr 13, 7pm (Station Theatre, SF). *The Sweet Hereafter*: Apr 19 2 & 7pm (Perth); Apr 19, 7pm (SF), *Maudie*: Apr 26, 2 & 7pm (Perth); Apr 27, 7pm (SF). \$10. filmnightinternational.blogspot.ca  
**Nat'l Cdn Film Day: Monsieur Lazhar**, Apr 19, 2pm. Almonte Library. Register at 256-1037. Free  
**Lion**, Apr 21, 22, 7pm. Dev Patel, Nicole Kidman. 283-0300, smithsfallstheatre.com. \$10, \$5 students  
**The Tin Woman**, Apr 21-22, 27-29, 8pm; Apr 23, 30, 2pm. Full Circle Theatre, Perth. 267-1884. \$22; \$10 students  
**H.M.S. Pinafore**, Apr 28, May 5-6 at 8pm; Apr 29-30 at 2pm. Tix: Hallmark. CPTown Hall. MississippiMuds.ca. \$20 (\$10 Apr 29)  
**The Chalk Garden**: Apr 28-29, May 4-6 at 7:30pm; Apr 30, May 7 at 2pm. Station Theatre, SF. 283-0300.com. \$20/\$10

## Literature

**Used Book Sale**, Apr 28 (4-9pm), Apr 29 (9am-noon). Proceeds to scholarships for HS students. Renfrew Collegiate Institute  
**Authors for Indies: Rick Revelle**, Apr 29, 2-4pm. Algonquin Quest Series. Mill Street Books, Almonte. 256-9090

## Music

**Brad Scott**, Apr 2, 1-3pm. Under Pressure, 37 Lansdowne Ave, CP. 207-1117  
**Glad All Over**, Apr 7-8, 7:30pm. Music of the British Invasion. Tix: Special Greetings. Station Theatre, SF. 283-0300, \$25  
**Tay Valley Choir Concert**, Apr 8, 7pm. Cdn music. Bring donation for The Table. Maberly Hall, Maberly. \$10  
**Bill White & White Pine**, Apr 9, 2-6pm. Bluegrass. Westport Legion, Westport. 273-3615, irwinfl@hotmail.com. \$10

**Guitar Clinic**, Apr 9, 1:30pm. Pentatonic Patterns w/Ric Denis. Bring guitar. Barley Mow, Almonte. ricdenis3@gmail.com. \$10/\$5  
**Jeff Code & Silver Wings**, Apr 9, 2-6pm. Light lunch served. Westport Legion. 273-7017, irwinfl@hotmail.com. \$10  
**Sherman Downey**, Apr 9, 4pm. Folk/roots/country. Tix: 267-6817. Full Circle Theatre, Perth. 267-6817. \$25  
**Tenebrae**, Apr 11, 7pm. The Cygnet Consort. Singing Into Darkness. Emmanuel Anglican Church, Arnprior  
**Culture 22: Adam Cicchillitti**, Apr 15, 7:30pm. Classical guitarist. Sivarulrasa Gallery, Almonte. Reserve at 256-8033, \$35  
**Celtic Days & Pancakes**, Apr 18-21, 10:30am-2:30pm. Celtic Band. Fulton's, Pakenham. 256-3867, fultons.ca  
**Jazz Night w/Peter Brown Trio**, Apr 20, 6-9pm. Slackoni's, 82 Peter St., Perth. 257-2657, peterbrown.ca

**Jerome Godboo Band**, Apr 21, 7pm. The Cove, Westport. 1-888-COVE-INN, blue-sontherideau.ca. \$65+tax dinner & show  
**Twin Fiddle Express**, Apr 21, 7pm. Scott Woods & guests. Clayton Com. Centre, 256-9010, \$25, \$10 ages 6-12  
**Eddy & the Stingrays Dance**, Apr 22, 6:30pm-12am. Music, dinner, dancing. AGH fundraiser. Tix: RBC, Blackbird. Almonte Civitan Hall. 256-2514x2296. \$35  
**Scott Merritt**, Apr 22, 8pm. Folkus Series. \$30 at Mill St Books, folkusalmonte.com. Almonte Old Town Hall, 256-9090  
**Listening Room Series: David Olney**, Apr 23, 7pm. Perth Tea Room, 23 Gore St. W., Perth. 267-7902. \$20  
**Trad Song Session**, Apr 23, 2-4pm. Join in. Anyone can lead. The Barley Mow, Almonte. 355-5552, dpbaril@gmail.com  
**Rick Fines Trio**, Apr 28. Cdn blues. Call for reservations. Sharbot Lake Country Inn. 279-2198

## Friday

## Saturday

## Sunday

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Lectures: Richard III, Almonte</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> <li>Bahoo, Brat and Commander, Valley Food &amp; Drink</li> <li>Brea Lawrenson, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Empty Bowls, Perth</li> <li>Introspection, John St. Pub</li> <li>John Wilberforce, The Cove</li> <li>Lanark Laughs, Carleton Place</li> <li>Leading Ladies, Almonte</li> <li>Rick Fines Trio, Sharbot Lake</li> <li>Trivia Night for Pakenham Library, Pakenham</li> <li>Turpin's Trail, Sharbot Lake</li> <li>Wrong for Each Other, Perth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>40 Plus Singles Dinner/Dance, SF</li> <li>Chris Murphy, The Cove</li> <li>Duelling Pianos, The 2 Grands</li> <li>Empty Bowls, Perth</li> <li>George Reynolds, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Jesse Greene Band, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.</li> <li>Lanark Co. Genealogical Mtg, Beckwith</li> <li>Leading Ladies, Almonte</li> <li>Maple Run Studio Tour, Pakenham</li> <li>Maple Weekend, Lanark County</li> <li>Mothership, John St. Pub</li> <li>Stone &amp; Ridge, Lumbertown Ale House</li> <li>Wrong for Each Other, Perth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Brad Scott, Carleton Place</li> <li>Leading Ladies, Almonte</li> <li>Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak</li> <li>Maple Run Studio Tour, Pakenham</li> <li>Maple Weekend, Lanark County</li> <li>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub</li> <li>Valley Singles Lunch, Almonte</li> <li>Victorian Tea w/Friends, Arnprior</li> <li>Wrong for Each Other, Perth</li> <li>Public Coin Auction, Almonte</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> <li>Duelling Pianos, The 2 Grands</li> <li>Glad All Over, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Home &amp; Fashion Show, CP</li> <li>Jeff Callery, The Cove</li> <li>Mike Brown, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Mississippi Blues Society Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Rich Martel, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.</li> <li>Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp</li> <li>The Grommets, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>The Invisible Boy, Perth</li> <li>Wrong for Each Other, Perth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Algonquin College Open House, Perth</li> <li>Spring Dinner, CP</li> <li>Gardening Workshop, CP</li> <li>Glad All Over, SF</li> <li>Wrong for Each Other, Perth</li> <li>Spring Into Art, Carp</li> <li>Umbertlune, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Henry Norwood, Cove</li> <li>Dance Day 4 Kids, Almonte</li> <li>Handmade w/Love Spring Show, Arnprior</li> <li>Home &amp; Fashion Show, CP</li> <li>Mister &amp; His Sister, Lumbertown Ale House</li> <li>Spring Tea &amp; Bazaar, Ashton</li> <li>Peter Brown, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>Tay Valley Choir Concert, Maberly</li> <li>Small Space Vegetable Gardens, Almonte</li> <li>Al Wood &amp; the Woodsmen, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak</li> <li>Bill White &amp; White Pine, Westport</li> <li>Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Guitar Clinic, Almonte</li> <li>Home &amp; Fashion Show, CP</li> <li>Jeff Code &amp; Silver Wings, Westport</li> <li>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub</li> <li>Sherman Downey, Perth</li> <li>Wrong for Each Other, Perth</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dance Party, John St. Pub</li> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> <li>Duelling Pianos, The 2 Grands</li> <li>John Wilberforce, The Cove</li> <li>Music Trivia Night, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.</li> <li>Tom Watson, O'Reilly's Pub</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bunny Run 2017, CP</li> <li>Easter Market, Carp</li> <li>Chris Zimmerman, Lumbertown Ale House</li> <li>Adam Cicchillitti, Almonte</li> <li>Duelling Pianos, The 2 Grands</li> <li>Easter Egg Hunt, Perth</li> <li>Head over Heels, The Cove</li> <li>Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>MonkeyJunk, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.</li> <li>Sidepipe, John St. Pub</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Age of Electric, John St. Pub</li> <li>Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Easter Bunny, Pakenham</li> <li>Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak</li> <li>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lion, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Astronomy Course, Almonte</li> <li>The Tin Woman, Perth</li> <li>Leading Ladies, Almonte</li> <li>Jerome Godboo Band, Westport</li> <li>Celtic Days &amp; Pancakes, Pakenham</li> <li>Country Reflections, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>Fashion Show 1867-2017, Maberly</li> <li>Jeff Leeson, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Mr. &amp; His Sister, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.</li> <li>Stephen Fisher, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp</li> <li>The Invisible Boy, Lanark</li> <li>Twin Fiddle Express, Clayton</li> <li>Vintage Clothing Sale, Carleton Place</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Leading Ladies, Almonte</li> <li>The Tin Woman, Perth</li> <li>Eric Uren, The Cove</li> <li>Lion, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Brea Lawrenson, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Craig Cardiff w/DanahKae, John St. Pub</li> <li>Eddy &amp; the Stingrays Dance, Almonte</li> <li>Scott Merritt, Almonte</li> <li>How-To Fairs, Perth, SF, CP, Almonte</li> <li>Johnny Vegas, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.</li> <li>Mom-to-Mom Sale, Perth</li> <li>P'Earth Day Parade, Perth</li> <li>RMEO Fundraising Gala, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Taekwon-Do Colour Belt Classic, Almonte</li> <li>Vintage Clothing Sale, Carleton Place</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak</li> <li>Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Leading Ladies, Almonte</li> <li>David Olney, Perth</li> <li>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub</li> <li>Shawn McCullough &amp; Henry Norwood, The Cove</li> <li>The Tin Woman, Perth</li> <li>Trad Song Session, Almonte</li> <li>Vintage Clothing Sale, Carleton Place</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>H.M.S. Pinafore, CP</li> <li>The Chalk Garden, SF</li> <li>Rummage Sale, Perth</li> <li>Runtz/MacKay, Arnprior</li> <li>Rick Fines, Sharbot Lake</li> <li>Almonte Lectures, Almonte</li> <li>Ken Ramsden &amp; Ted, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.</li> <li>Logan Brown &amp; Taylor Angus, The Cove</li> <li>Mike Ryan, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>One Bad Son, John St. Pub</li> <li>River City Junction, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Ted Lalonde, Golden Arrow</li> <li>UCW Rummage Sale, CP</li> <li>Used Book Sale, Renfrew</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Tin Woman, Perth</li> <li>Lanark Laughs, CP</li> <li>Open Jam, Almonte</li> <li>Authors for Indies, Almonte</li> <li>Vernissage, Almonte</li> <li>H.M.S. Pinafore, CP</li> <li>UCW Rummage Sale, CP</li> <li>The Chalk Garden, SF</li> <li>The Tin Woman, Perth</li> <li>Almonte in Concert, Almonte</li> <li>Brad Scott CD Release, Pakenham</li> <li>Community Garden Rejuvenation, CP</li> <li>Festival of the Maples, Empty Bowls, Perth</li> <li>Local Colours Art Show &amp; Sale, Perth</li> <li>ON Green Party Leader Town Hall Mtg, Almonte</li> <li>Quilting in the Valley, Arnprior</li> <li>Riley White, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Teresa Doyle, Valley Food &amp; Drink Co.</li> <li>Used Book Sale, Renfrew</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chalk Garden, SF</li> <li>The Tin Woman, Perth</li> <li>H.M.S. Pinafore, CP</li> <li>Fashion Show, Lanark</li> <li>Youthful Music Club, Almonte</li> <li>Bluegrass Mass &amp; Canadiana Singalong, Perth</li> <li>Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Community Garden Rejuvenation, CP</li> <li>Goulbourn Male Chorus &amp; Junior Jubilees, Carp</li> <li>Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak</li> <li>Murphy's Pt Park Fundraising Dinner, Maberly</li> <li>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub</li> <li>Perth Band: Music from Movies, Perth</li> <li>Quilting in the Valley, Arnprior</li> <li>Roast Beef Dinner, Pakenham</li> </ul>

**Open Jam**, Apr 28, 8pm. Mississippi Mills Musicworks, 453 Ottawa St., Almonte. [mmmusicworks.school@gmail.com](mailto:mmmusicworks.school@gmail.com)

**Paul Marleyn & Mauro Bertoli**, Apr 29, 7:30pm. \$30/\$15 online, Mill St Bks. Almonte Old Town Hall. [monteinconcert.com](http://monteinconcert.com)

**Brad Scott CD Release**, Apr 29, 2pm. w/Jimmy Tri-Tone & Bowes Brothers. Tix: Nicholson's, Under Pressure. Stewart Com. Centre, Pakenham. 623-3245, \$15

**Bluegrass Mass & Canadiana Singalong**, Apr 30, 7:30pm. St. Paul's United, Perth. 485-6434, [ticketsplease.ca](http://ticketsplease.ca). \$20

**Goulbourn Male Chorus & Junior Jubilees**, Apr 30, 2pm. Tickets Gaia Jva. Trinity Presbyterian Church, Carp. \$15

**Perth Citizen's Band: Music from Movies**, Apr 30, 2pm. Perth Legion. 256-4221, [perthband.ca](http://perthband.ca). \$10; \$5 students

## Pub Listings p. 29

## Local Food

**Maple Weekend**, Apr 1-2, 10am-4pm. Area maple producers host special events. Lanark County. [mapleweekend.ca](http://mapleweekend.ca)

**Gardening Workshop**, Apr 8, 10am-12pm. Ed Lawrence. Q&A. Carleton Place Arena

**Community Garden Rejuvenation**, Apr 29, 9am. Help renew site. Bring wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes. St. Gregory's Next Door Community Garden, CP

## Community

**Arnprior Bridge Club**, Mon-Thu-Fri 1pm. 447-7526. [priorbridgeclub.ca](http://priorbridgeclub.ca)

**SF Duplicate Bridge Club**, Mondays 7pm, Tuesdays 1pm. 256-4747. SF Legion

**4-Hand Euchre**, Mondays, 12pm. Lunch first. ABC Hall, Bolingbroke. 279-1106

**Almonte Bridge Club**, Wednesdays 7pm. 256-4747. Almonte Legion

**Mahjong**, Thursdays, 1:30pm, ABC Hall, Bolingbroke, 273-2571. \$5 donation

**Toastmasters**, Apr 13, 27, 7-8:30pm. Guests free. Riverview Seniors Residence, 204 Lake Avenue, CP. 250-9282

**Empty Bowls**, Mar 30-Apr 1. \$25 bowl; fill w/soup. Funds sustainable food prog. Foodsmiths, Perth. [emptybowls.ca](http://emptybowls.ca)

**40 Plus Singles Dinner/Dance**, Apr 1, 7pm. Casual dress, no jeans. SF Civitan Hall. 285-5557, \$10

**Lanark Co. Genealogical Mtg**, Apr 1, 1:30pm. Brunton Com. Hall, Beckwith. [lcsinfo34@gmail.com](mailto:lcsinfo34@gmail.com). Free

**Public Coin Auction**, Apr 2, 10am-5pm. Almonte Old Town Hall. [alliancecoin.com](http://alliancecoin.com)

**Valley Singles Lunch**, Apr 2, 1pm. All welcome. Barley Mow, Almonte. 622-5693

**Victorian Tea**, Apr 2, 1-4pm. Auction, prizes for Victorian dress. \$22, at Arnprior Book Shop, Museum, Kirkman House, Arnprior

**Green Drinks**, Apr 4, 5:30pm. Informal meeting of environmental folk. Golden Arrow, Perth. [GreenDrinks.org](http://GreenDrinks.org)

**CP Hort: Tropical Plant Propagation**, Apr 5, 7pm. w/Jamie Roy (Acanthus). St. Andrew's Church, CP. 257-4101, \$3/10

**Home & Fashion Show**, Apr 7 (6-9), 8 (9-6), 9 (11-4). 100+ vendors, kids' activities. CP Arena. \$5; under 12s free

**Algonquin College Perth Open House**, Apr 8, 10am-2pm. Programs; new condensed courses. Algonquin College, Perth. 267-2859, [algonquincollege.com](http://algonquincollege.com)

**Celebrate Spring Dinner**, Apr 8, 4:30-7pm. Zion-Memorial Church, 37 Franklin St., Carleton Place. 257-8547. \$15/adult

**Handmade w/Love Spring Show**, Apr 8, 10am-3pm. Arnprior Humane Society fundraiser. Christian Ed. Ctr, Arnprior

**Spring Tea & Bazaar**, Apr 8, 11am-1pm. Ashton United Church. 256-3462. Lunch \$10; \$5 for 6-12 yrs

**Workshop: Small Space Vegetable Gardens**, Apr 8, 10am-12pm. Call 256-1037.

Almonte Library. 256-1037. Free

**150 CP Labyrinth Walks**, Apr 10, 7-8pm.

Launch, short film, potluck desserts. CP & Beckwith Heritage Museum, CP. 257-1014

**Compassion Fatigue Workshop**, Apr 11, 9am-12pm. Lise Ladouceur of Hub Hospice. Alzheimer Society, 453 Ottawa St., Unit 4, Almonte. [allison@hubhospice.com](mailto:allison@hubhospice.com)

**Low-Maintenance Perennials**, Apr 11, 7-9pm. Perth Hort. Soc. St. Paul's United Church, Perth. 253-5690, \$5; \$15/yr

**W. Carleton Garden: Containers**, Apr 11, 7:30pm, Memorial Hall, Carp. [wcgc.ca](http://wcgc.ca). \$5 for non-members

**Women's Business Group Breakfast**, Apr 11, 8am. RSVP at [womensbusinessgroup@gmail.com](mailto:womensbusinessgroup@gmail.com). Gourmet Restaurant, CP

**Carp Farmers' Market's Easter Market**, Apr 15, 8am-2pm. Carp Fairgrounds,

**Pakenham Hort Soc Mtg**, Apr 19, 7:30pm. Xeriscaping and Rockeries. St. Andrew's United Church, Pakenham

**MVFN AGM & Members' Night**, Apr 20, 7:30pm. Almonte United Church, 106 Elgin St., Almonte. [mvfn.ca](http://mvfn.ca). free

**Fashion Show 1867-2017**, Apr 21, 5:30-8:30pm. Fundraiser for Perth Com. Foundation w/dinner \$37.50. Fall River Restaurant, Maberly. 268-2197, [fallriverrestaurant.ca](http://fallriverrestaurant.ca)

**Astronomy Course**, Apr 21, 7:45pm. Mill of Kintail, Almonte. 256-3610. By donation

**Vintage Clothing Sale**, Apr 21-23, 10am-4pm. Vintage Wear/Ware. Cash only. CP & Beckwith Heritage Museum, CP. 253-7013

**How-To Fairs**, Apr 22. Perth & SF Libraries, 10:30am-2:30pm; CP Library, 10am-1pm; Almonte Library, 11am-3pm

**Taekwon-Do Colour Belt Classic**, Apr 22, 9am-5pm. Almonte Com. Centre

**Mom-to-Mom Sale**, Apr 22, 8am-1pm. St. Paul's United Church, Perth. 267-2973

**P'Earth Day Parade**, Apr 22, 10am. Meet at bandshell. Perth Town Hall, 267-0881

**RMEO Fundraising Gala Dinner/Dance**, Apr 22, 6pm/ "Emerald Gala" Hanley Hall, SF. [info@RMEO.org](mailto:info@RMEO.org), [rmeo.org](http://rmeo.org). \$65

**Almonte Hort: Roses**, Apr 24, 7:30pm. Cornerstone Com. Church, Almonte. 256-5594, \$2

**Parkinson's Support Groups**, Mar 27. Perth: 1:30pm, Com. Home Support, 267-6400. Almonte: 2pm, Mills Community Support, 256-0509. Free

**Volunteer & Recreation Fair**, Apr 26, 12-2pm, 6-8pm. Almonte Old Town Hall. 256-1077, [exploremississippimills.ca](http://exploremississippimills.ca)

**Rummage Sale**, Apr 27-28, 8:30am-3:30pm. St. Paul's United Church, Perth. 267-2973

**Volunteer Appreciation Night**, Apr 27, 5-7pm. Almonte Civitan Hall, 256-1077, [tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca](mailto:tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca). Free

**Almonte Lectures: Boating in NWT**, Apr 28, 7:30pm. Almonte United Church, [almontelectures.net](http://almontelectures.net). free/donations

**Runtz/MacKay**, Apr 28, 7pm. How Lumbering Changed the Ottawa Valley. St. John Chrysostom, Arnprior. [mfnc.ca](http://mfnc.ca). \$20/\$15/\$10

**UCW Rummage Sale**, Apr 28 (9-5); Apr 29, (9-noon). Zion-Memorial Church, CP

**Empty Bowls, Riverguild**, Apr 29, 10am-4pm. \$25 bowl; fill w/soup. Riverguild, 51 Gore St. E., Perth. [emptybowls.ca](http://emptybowls.ca)

**ON Green Party Leader Town Hall Mtg**, Apr 29, 2-4pm. Mike Schreiner. Almonte United Church. 267-7584, [ojfoxlee@gmail.com](mailto:ojfoxlee@gmail.com)

**Fashion Show**, Apr 30, 2-4pm. Clothes from Perth's Giant Tiger. Desserts. Foy Hall, Lanark. 256-1119, \$10

**Murphy's Pt Park Fundraising Dinner**, Apr 30, 5-8:30pm. Fiddling, storytelling, dinner \$37.50. Fall River Restaurant, Maberly. 268-2197

**Roast Beef Dinner**, Apr 30, 4-6:30pm. Takeout avail. Stewart Com. Centre, Pakenham. 256-4126. \$15/\$7

# Humm Bits

## Textile Museum AGM

The Mississippi Valley Textile Museum (MVTM) will hold its 2017 Annual General Meeting at 2PM on Saturday, May 13, at the museum. The Board of Directors, assisted by the auditor, will present the museum's 2016 audit to the members, elect new board members, and provide an overview of the current year, along with a discussion of the plans for the future.

As part of the meeting, there will be a special presentation in honour of Bernard Cameron. The museum lost volunteer Bernard Cameron over one year ago. Mr. Cameron was an active community member who served on the MVTM Board of Directors for 17 years and was President of the Board from 1999 to 2001. As a former millworker, he shared many stories and artifacts with the museum, to help preserve the textile mill history in Almonte. His passion for teaching, heritage and community wellbeing will never be forgotten.

Please note: In order to vote at the AGM, you need to renew your membership or become a member by April 13, 2017 (a membership form is available at [mvtm.ca](http://mvtm.ca)). The MVTM is located at 3 Rosamond St. E. in Almonte and is open Tuesday to Friday from 10AM to 4PM and Saturday from 12PM to 4PM. For more information please call 256-3754.

## Vendors sought for Mill of Kintail 150<sup>th</sup> Event

The Mill of Kintail will be hosting an outdoor event on Saturday, June 3, from 10AM to 4PM, to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. This **Confederation Celebration** will highlight a day in the life of our early settlers, with hands-on history and fun activities for the whole family.

Start with a horse-drawn wagon ride to the pioneer demonstration stations, or meander down to the Makers' Market and shop at many homespun craft tables. Watch a blacksmith at work, and take part in an old-fashioned spelling bee at the log cabin schoolhouse. Dress in period costumes, complete with bloomers and bonnets, and pose for a portrait. Make butter the s-l-o-w food way, and then scrub your linens with washboards and hang them up to dry. Enjoy live old-time music, a family barbeque, and children's games and races. Visit the Heritage Hamlets displays to learn more about the early villages of Mississippi Mills, and find out how our local pioneers worked and played. Bring the whole family for the day and go home with memories to last a lifetime.

Vendors interested in joining the Confederation Celebration are invited to reserve a spot by sending a brief summary and photos of your products to [lucy.carleton@gmail.com](mailto:lucy.carleton@gmail.com) by Monday, May 1. The fee is \$35, vendors need to provide their own tent/tables, and there is no electricity on this site.



Members of the Listen Up! youth troupe include (sitting, l-r) Felix Evangelho, Ruby Davidson, Ryan Kreissler and (standing) James Kreissler and Connor Williamson

## Teenaged Theatre Troupe Tours Play About Youth Homelessness

For the third year in a row, a troupe of rural teenaged performers will tour Lanark County and Smiths Falls with a "Listen Up!" play that directly addresses some of the pressing issues faced while growing up in small towns.

*The Invisible Boy*, touring Lanark County and Smiths Falls high schools and community centres throughout April, was conceived and written by veteran playwright and director Laurel Smith alongside a teenaged troupe who contributed ideas and dialogue to the script. Featuring the up-and-coming talents of Ruby Davidson, Felix Evangelho, Ryan Kreissler, Connor Williamson and James Kreissler, the show chronicles the challenges faced by young people who find themselves homeless in a region with no youth shelters and limited services.

While homelessness is very visible in urban centres, rural areas present a different face to the crisis that is often harder to see. Like other issues that have been tackled by the Listen Up! program of Burning Passions Theatre — from anxiety and gender identity to depression and suicide — the causes of youth homelessness are varied and, all too often, hidden from view.

"The troupe members share so much about what is going on in their lives and in the lives of their friends during the development process of the play, and sometimes, I have to shake my head and wonder how they get through day-to-day," says Smith. "But they are incredibly creative and resilient. Their understanding of the topics in the plays really provides a visceral reality for audiences, who then have an opportunity to make comments or ask questions during a post-show talkback at each performance."

A 2013 survey of Perth high school students conducted by local charity Cornerstone Landing found 25% of those questioned had experienced at least one night of homelessness; 8% reported five to seven incidents of homelessness. Sleeping rough in the bush, couch-surfing, and staying at all-night coffee shops are among the few options available to those without a permanent roof over their heads.

"People don't talk about it because they don't see it, but it's more common than it should be," says

15-year-old Felix Evangelho. "Sometimes kids get kicked out because their parents don't accept that they're trans or gay or lesbian. Sometimes there's abuse, or drug problems, or just really low income."

Troupe members compare the extensive efforts required to find temporary shelter to networking for a job; having to identify resources, allies, and services. "But there are no resources on how to deal with the resources that actually are there," says Ruby Davidson, also 15. "It's complicated for people, and there's no way to get there because there's no transit."

Evangelho agrees, adding, "Welfare may give you money for an apartment, but how do you do that if you're 16 and you've never done it before? Will there be any money left over for food? How do I buy a bed? How do I get it back to my place? We haven't been taught those life skills."

Youth troupe members feel their work has the capacity to inspire dialogue and promote change. "We're not only connecting to other youth, but also to parents and adults, spreading the word between people who need help and people who can help," says 17-year-old performer Ryan Kreissler.

Listen Up! is presented in partnership with YAK Youth Services of Perth, and is supported by the Ontario Arts Council, Perth & District Community Foundation, Unifor Canada, the Basilian Human Development Fund, the Harry P. Ward Foundation, Civitan Clubs of Perth, Smiths Falls and Lanark Highlands, and the Sisters of Providence of St. Vincent de Paul. Thanks also to First Baptist Church and St. James Anglican Church of Perth.

Public performances of *The Invisible Boy* will take place: on Friday, April 7 at 7PM in Perth (at YAK, 1 Sherbrooke Street East); on Wednesday, April 19 at 7PM in Almonte (Mississippi Mills Youth Centre, 134 Main Street East); on Thursday, April 20 at 7PM in Carleton Place (Carambeck Community Centre, 351 Bridge Street); on Friday, April 21 at 6PM in Lanark (Lanark Highlands Youth Centre, 61 Princess Street). A further production to be determined will be staged in Smiths Falls. Admission is by donation. For more information, please visit [burningpassionstheatre.com](http://burningpassionstheatre.com).

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# Getting a Move On

When we look at historical data from spring migration, we are able to see change over time — “the runway effect”, I call it. Gradually changing, picking up speed and then *bang!* lift-off, or dramatic change. I feel we saw lift-off and dramatic change all winter this year. Lots of birds that historically are not here in the winter were here in large numbers: robins, red-winged blackbirds, northern flickers and so on. We also have had many reports of (as well as our own sightings of) red-bellied woodpeckers, tufted titmouses, eastern bluebirds, American kestrels, hermit thrushes and more.

by Bob Volks

Then the great grey owl eruption happened late in the winter this year. It seemed like suddenly sightings started to pour in from all over the area, but as quickly as they were here, they were gone.

Backyard birding is one of the best hobbies, because every day can be different, as can every migration year. Keep your feeders full and your senses on alert — this is a fun time of year. Here are a few points to ponder regarding spring and fall migration.

Spring migration is a favourite of many birders, particularly those in northern climates, as it signals the changing of the seasons and the influx of warmer weather, green grass and new visitors to our backyard feeders.

Fall migration on the other hand can be a more bittersweet period for us bird lovers, as we do our utmost to provide our backyard visitors with the very best in feed and seed, helping them on their long migration journeys to their winter homes.



Photos by smHansen

Spring migration is one of the most exciting times for birders — and for birds!

These seasons, however, differ in a few key ways. Other than the obvious points of travelling in opposite directions and seasonal timing, there are a few considerations birds make in the spring migration that differ greatly from their motivations of the fall migration. Urgency is a big motivational factor for birds during the spring. They are anxiously and sometimes aggressively racing, so to speak, to reach their breeding grounds, claim their stake and attract a mate to later raise their young. Competition plays a huge role in spring migration; as the saying goes, the early bird gets the worm.

Individual migrants are more often sighted during the spring migration as well, rather than the large flocks we are used to seeing in the late fall months. While some species will always stick together, there are a number of migrants who will take their own path, often believed to be caused by the competitive nature and urgency mentioned above that comes with the spring season.

Perhaps one of my favourite differences between the two seasons is the plumage, as spring brings out the very vibrant colouring across all species of birds. Males are always donning their very best colours in the spring in hopes of attracting a mate, while in the fall most plumage takes on a more dull, worn look.

No matter what the season, there is always a lot to see and do out in the field. As more of our summer visitors begin to show up at our backyard feeders, we invite you to contact us on Facebook or stop by the store and let us know what you have been seeing so far this spring. Happy spring watching!

— Bob Volks can often be found at Gilligallou Bird, Inc. in Almonte's Heritage Court <gilligalloubird.com>.

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# Canada On Screen

As Canada enters its 150<sup>th</sup> year, celebrations of all sorts are under way. All national parks are offering free entry this year, and many concerts are planned. All, I'm sure, will be exciting and worthwhile, but as a cinephile, I am particularly enthusiastic about the Toronto International Film Festival's addition to celebrations: the **Canada On Screen** event. Throughout the country, local theatres will take part in the event by showcasing classic pieces of Canadian cinema with free admission. 150 films, to be exact, spread throughout the land, compiled by 250 top entertainment personalities in film and television (yours truly was inexplicably absent from the final list...).

by Matt Roche

Locally, we are lucky to have two showings; unfortunately both are on the same day, so you must choose wisely. They are some of the finest offerings Canada has created within our wonderful cinematic landscape. The first, Deepa Mehta's *Water*, is playing at Film Brockville in Brockville on April 19 at 7:30PM. The second, Atom Egoyan's *The Sweet Hereafter*, is playing at The Station Theatre in Smiths Falls (at 7PM) and the Full Circle Theatre in Perth (at 2PM and 7PM) on the very same day, April 19.

*Water* (2005) is a lush, poignant and sorrowful film that explores the lives of widows in India in 1938. That it coincides with the rise of Mahatma Gandhi's independence movement is a beautiful juxtaposition. Written and directed by Indo-Canadian filmmaker Deepa Mehta, *Water* is the final film in her Elements Trilogy. Before it came *Earth* (1998), which dealt with the partition of India and Pakistan in 1947, and *Fire* (1996), which dealt with love affair between two traditional Indian women. All three films have caused a fair amount of controversy. Indeed, while filming scenes for *Water* on the edges of the Ganges, most of the sets were burned and destroyed and Mehta's life was threatened by extremists who thought the film anti-Hindu. Thankfully that never stopped the film from being made. And here we are, being handed free admission to see *Water*, which went on to receive an Oscar nomination for Best Foreign Film, was made by one of the most visually arresting and politically controversial filmmakers working in Canada, and continues to impress and inspire and provoke discussions.

Atom Egoyan is one of the most intelligent and insightful filmmakers working today, yet his name seems to draw blanks in many circles. People seem to forget that this guy created a cinematic masterpiece

in 1997 called *The Sweet Hereafter*, an adaptation of the Russell Banks novel of the same name. The film is breathtaking and heartbreaking. Tragedy strikes a small mountain town in Canada when 14 children die in a school bus accident. The bus driver must live with what happened. Grief envelops the town as thick as the snow surrounding them. A lawyer with his own set of problems arrives to convince the town to file a class action suit. The lawyer is played by Ian Holm, who delivers here one of the finest performances put onto film, tremendously subtle and nuanced; an early scene where he speaks to his troubled drug-addled daughter on the phone will render you speechless. Holm's character goes about his business as surreptitiously as possible, doing what he needs to do, what his job entails; but really we just follow him as he observes the pain and emotion and anger of the town, of the parents.

Aside from the bus driver, there is one child who survived — Nicole (Sarah Polley), who is now paralyzed from the waist down. She lies about what happened. Why would she do such a thing?



Above, a scene from Deepa Mehta's *Water*. Below, Sarah Polley in a scene from Atom Egoyan's *The Sweet Hereafter*. Both films are being shown for free on April 19.

For revenge? Does she feel abused? Abhorred? Ultimately, nothing is really accomplished in the end. The bitter taste remains. The snowy vista seems colder and greyer. What Egoyan has done is given us a rare film that displays the human condition, its extremes and its powers and the effects it produces. And with an absolutely outstanding group of actors to tell the story, as well as beautifully bleak cinematography and a stirring score (which makes brilliant use of the Tragically Hip's *Courage*), *The Sweet Hereafter* is a remarkable film and a towering achievement — not just for Canadian filmmaking, but also on the worldwide cinematic scene. Do yourself a favour and watch — for free — one of the greatest films ever made. And it's Canadian. Who's gonna join me?



# Spring into Perth!

Rain or shine, folks, rejoice: it's spring at last and there's plenty to see and do in the pretty old town of Perth. There's also a lot to taste and a delightful sweetness in the air, but we'll get to that soon enough.

The blooming month kicks off with some comedy at the **Studio Theatre** as *Wrong For Each Other*, a play by Norm Foster, continues its run April 1<sup>st</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup>. Directed by Jeremy Dutton, the show is a comical look at how things that begin so right — in this case, the marriage of Norah and Rudy — can go so

by John Pigeau

bloody wrong; the divorce of Norah and Rudy. The play takes place in an upscale diner and is told in a series of flashbacks and, like most of Foster's work, is funny and touching, witty and charming. If you liked *When Harry Met Sally...* you will likely adore this comedy. For details, see the article on page 27 of this issue.

Spring is often a wonderful time to try something new. If you've ever wanted to sing with others — for fun, for a greater sense of well-being and community, for stress relief — there's a four-session workshop coming to town you might be interested in. Led by musician/artists/teacher Jennifer Noxon, **Rhythm & Song** aims to bring together teens and adults who have a desire to sing, develop their singing voices, listening skills, breathing and posture, and cultivate their ability to sing in harmony with others. Yoga Connection (39 Gore Street East) will host the workshop, which costs \$50 and runs four consecutive Thursdays in April (April 6, 13, 20 and 27), from 7:30 to 9PM. This might just be the perfect season to start singing your heart out. You can contact Jennifer Noxon at 256-8809 (or by email at randsalmon@gmail.com) to register, or to ask her any questions.

Oh boy. It's that time again — **Easter Egg Hunt!** The hunt for yummy loot begins in Stewart Park on Saturday, April 15 at 11AM sharp (that means don't be late). Wee ones under eight are encouraged to bring their own baskets and search for eggs in the park, but everyone receives a treat, regardless. There will be music and entertainment, and appearances by Mr. and Mrs. Easter Bunny, Sparky the Fire Safety Dog, and the Perth Fire trucks. Yay! It's really a fun couple of hours for folks of all ages. If you'd like more details, please contact Karen Rennie at 267-1947 — Karen knows the score.

On April 21, **BarnDoor Productions** will open the curtain on spring with *The Tin Woman*, a critically acclaimed comedy drama by Sean Grennan. Based on actual events, *The Tin Woman* is the story of a woman who receives a heart transplant, and her eventual meeting with the family of the donor. What does it mean to be given a new life, she wonders. This



April means maple in Perth — the annual Festival of the Maples takes place on Saturday, April 29.

But there's also a whole month of events leading up to that date!

profoundly human play runs from April 21 to the 30<sup>th</sup> at the Full Circle Theatre. Tickets are \$20 reserved, \$22 at the door, and \$10 for students; payment is in cash at the door. Please call 267-1884 to reserve.

St. Paul's United Church will be hosting several seasonal new-to-you events in April, including the **Spring Mom-to-Mom Sale** on April 22, and the **Spring Rummage Sale** on April 27 and 28. The Mom-to-Mom sale runs from 8AM to 1PM, and there are tables available to rent. Phone 267-2973, if you're interested. (And psst... rumour has it there will be baked goods.) The Rummage Sale opens at 8:30AM and shuts down at 3:30PM both days. Get your shop on!

It can't come soon enough for some: the **Festival of the Maples**, and all its syrupy scrumptiousness, takes over downtown Perth on Saturday, April 29. This sweetest of days kicks off at 9AM with a pancake breakfast (heaven, some people call that) at the Perth Legion, and continues on Gore Street until 4PM with all sorts of maple product vendors, arts and crafts displays, music and plenty of entertainment. There will be a kids' area near the Tay Basin, including the Mighty Machines display and lots of games. Forget all you know about tooth decay for a day, and let your sweet tooth go to town! Need more info? Call Jennifer Perkin at 267-3200. She knows where the fudge hut is.

This year, as in many years past, the combined choirs of St. Paul's and St. James Churches and Friends are teaming up for a special spring concert. This year's event sounds wholly unique: the choirs will sing a number of Canadian folk songs, with Peter Woodwark conducting, orchestrated by bluegrass instruments — banjo, mandolin, and fiddle, namely. The spring concert is also a celebration of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and audience members will be encouraged to sing along. The **World Beloved Bluegrass Mass** takes place April 30 at 7:30PM at St. Paul's United Church. Tickets are \$20 and available at Tickets Please (11 Gore Street East), by email at <tickets@ticketsplease.ca>, or by phone at 485-6434.

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#19 Memories

# Road Trip, Road Trip!

The mere suggestion of “road trip” will send our two dogs to the door right away. Anticipation abounds! Beau jumps waist-high and barks, and Bonnie scratches the door to get out. They are both yelling “Shotgun!” They race for the car, and practically jump into their crates. “Where are we going, where are we going?” It could be a trip round the block, but they think it’s a Sunday drive to the ends of the earth. If we suggest we could be passing ice cream, well, look out — this is heaven in a little cone.

by Glenda Jones

We’re tired of all our regular winter haunts, and are venturing out to, dare we say it: greener pastures. (Note: It’s snowing blue blazes here right now as I write this!) The dogs demand a car ride before a walk, so here are some of their favourite rides and hikes.

We have explored the **Trans Canada Trail** from Carleton Place to Stittsville. The walks are more interesting than you would imagine from the road. We have found quarries, swamps, and beautiful fields amid wintry silence, and fall colour alive with birds. Cedar forests reveal bird feeders — little reminders that people and wildlife can live together easily.



Two travel-ready pups...

The mirage-like straight-line railway bed makes for interesting vistas: a walk of several kilometres can be seen end to end. We park the car at one end of a section, walk to the other end and back again, and then drive to see where we’ve been. We’ve seen farms, backyards, horses, cattle, beautiful barns, ponds, and gravel pits that are totally hidden from the highway.

The **Beckwith Trail** offers a similar experience, with the added benefit of a final stop at the Ashton Pub if you desire. There are some grand homes along that route, with surprise residents as well.

A short ride to Arnprior brings us to the **Gillies Grove**. This park has suffered some wind damage over the winter, but oh, to stand under those towering trees makes one feel very small in the whole scheme of things. The dogs love this park, with winding trails and lots of “friends” to find. We do too, because we’re

never far from the car, but we can walk for an hour or so. The trail also winds its way past the Galilee Centre, and through the park and along the water, and farther along past the boat launch, and farther still past the dam, winding back up the hill through the cemetery — always a good place to explore — and back through the park. In the summer, there’s a concession stand in the park, with ice cream on a hot day, so that has to be a destination.

(Note: if you’re walking dogs, don’t head for the Macnamara Trail in Arnprior. Dogs definitely aren’t welcome.)

The long evenings will allow us time to drive to Ottawa’s **Andrew Haydon Park** and stroll by the river, past the pond, the geese, the waterfall, and the fountain. The dogs know the routine: leashes on, treats and the requisite plastic baggies, and away we go. We stop for pictures, chats with little kids and old ladies who used to have dogs and want to pat little heads. We watch the old men sailing their radio-controlled boats, and see what birds are nesting in the rushes before we head back to the car.

The best “road trip” involves a picnic, and you’d swear we were going on a safari if you saw what gets packed. We need our own lunch, a doggy lunch, extra water, and an old towel in case feet get muddy. We need the travel water dish, the extended leash, and the camera in case they do something really cute. The dogs want to be already in the car while all this is getting packed, so by the time we pull out of the driveway, they are settled and ready to roll. We save this procedure for daytrips, and frankly, when summer comes, I keep a lot of the accoutrements in the car permanently.

I swear the dogs know when we are planning a trip, and they can distinguish between when they are going and when they are not. The latter will test our emotions because they sit by the door, looking ever so forlorn and making us feel particularly guilty. The moment they know they are coming, their whole demeanour changes, and there would be no way we could deny them a road trip. So, if you ever see us simply driving for the sake of driving, you will know who rules in this household. Yes, two happy dogs know how to get their own way, and we’re happy to oblige.

## Rideau Lakes Orchestra Valley Ensemble To Play in Old Ottawa East

Last fall, Church of the Ascension in old Ottawa East launched a new chamber music series, and on May 14 they will be welcoming the Ottawa Valley’s own Rideau Lakes Orchestra (RLO).

The RLO, a 14-piece orchestra that includes synthesizers, wind, brass and percussion, will be playing a mixture of classics and movie sound tracks. Carleton Place resident Tony Stuart will be clarinet soloist on the theme from *Schindler’s List* by John Williams. Copland’s *Quiet City* will feature soloists Mark Bailey (trumpet) and Tony Stuart (clarinet). The orchestra will also perform an original suite called *A Soldiers’ Town*, specially composed by Mark Bailey to celebrate the bicentennial last year of the town of Perth, and premièred at the Stewart Park Music Festival in July of that year. Also on the program will also be works by such composers as Prokofiev, Tchaikovsky, Fauré, Satie and Goldsmith. Perth resident Alexandra Guerin will conduct the orchestra.

The concert begins at 7PM on Sunday, May 14. Tickets are available online at Eventbrite and at the door: \$18 for adults, \$7 for students, and \$5 for children

under 12. The evening includes an artists’ reception after the show; tapas and a complimentary drink are also offered. Tickets and more information can be found at <churchoftheascension.ca/chamber-2016/>. Church of the Ascension is located at 253 Echo Drive in Ottawa.

### New music in Old Ottawa East

Launched last fall, the chamber series showcases established and emerging chamber stars for an affordable price. Proceeds support the music program at the church, including helping parish youth who have musical goals. Artistic Director Adam Reid has lined up five concerts for the 2016-17 chamber series, as well as an additional five concerts in the church’s Ascension Jazz Series. He explains that: “The congregation is enthusiastic about welcoming the community to its worship space, and concert proceeds will go towards the church’s music program. I hope to engage and inspire church youth; part of the money raised will help provide resources for young people in the congregation who have an interest in music.”



Film Night International will celebrate National Canadian Film Day (April 19) with free screenings of *The Sweet Hereafter* in Perth and Smiths Falls

## One Day, One Film... it’s Free!

National Canadian Film Day is April 19. In celebration of this event, Film Night International (FiNi) is showing *The Sweet Hereafter*, winner of eight Genie Awards and two Oscar nominations, at no charge.

FiNi is a member of the Film Circuit and will not be charging admission for *The Sweet Hereafter* because the Film Circuit is paying for the rental and shipping costs on this day.

Based on the book by Russell Banks, the film follows the story of a lawyer who comes to a small town that has lost most of its children in a bus accident. It earned Atom Egoyan two Oscar nominations, the first time ever for a Canadian director.

“We chose this particular movie,” says FiNi Founder Faye Cunningham, “because we have never shown it before and it ranks among the best that Canada has to offer.”

This special screening is part of Reel Canada’s “Canada on Screen” project in celebration of the country’s 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A list of 150 essential Canadian films were identified and restored, based on a national industry poll.

The film will be shown at the Full Circle Theatre in Perth at 2PM and 7PM, and at the Station Theatre in Smiths Falls at 7PM on April 19. For more information, email <filmnightperth@gmail.com> or call 267-1224.

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# 65 Years Around Camp Lau-Ren's Rock

Camp Lau-Ren is celebrating in 2017! Lau-Ren is a children's summer residential camp of the United Church of Canada and has been in operation on the shores of the Ottawa River, 11 km past Deep River, since 1952. Thousands of campers have passed by Lau-Ren's "big rock" to start their week at summer camp. This year marks the 65<sup>th</sup> year of operation of Camp Lau-Ren, and there is going to be a party!



This year marks the 65<sup>th</sup> year of operation of Camp Lau-Ren, and there's going to be a party! In addition to their annual Open House, the camp will also host an Alumni Event on July 8 and 9.

2017 is a big year for Canada, with many events planned to celebrate our 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. There are special events planned at camp too. The sixth annual **Camp Lau-Ren Open House** is set for Saturday, June 10 from 11AM to 2PM. This free event includes camp tours, crafts, seeing a camper's cabin, campfire, skits, a free BBQ lunch and s'mores. This is a popular event for first-time campers and others who are interested in seeing the site and meeting Camp Lau-Ren folk.

The first **Camp Lau-Ren Alumni event** in fifteen years is planned for the weekend of July 8 and 9. Former campers, counsellors, leaders, summer staff, camp directors, volunteers and friends of Lau-Ren are invited to come back to the rock and reminisce about and experience again such favourite camp activities as campfires, polar bear dips, swimming, canoeing, jumping off the raft, crafts, s'mores, and awesome camp food (including camp toast!).

The fun starts on Saturday, July 8 at 1:30PM with check-in at the Dining Hall. Participants can stay until campfire or choose to stay overnight in a cabin. Campers will be bunked in cabins which will be shared with other participants. Cabin bunks are available on a first come-first served

basis. Privately-owned tents and RVs are welcome (no services provided). Individuals can stay for the day on Saturday for \$20 (includes supper) or stay overnight for \$30 (includes breakfast). You can't beat that deal! Families with up to four members can stay for the day for \$50 or overnight for \$60. (These must be 1952 prices!) You can register for the Alumni event by going to <camplau-ren.com> and scrolling to the bottom of the registration tab.

Camper registration is open and camps are filling up. Last year a record 460 campers came to Camp Lau-Ren. If you know of a potential camper, encourage them to sign up soon to avoid disappointment. Camp Lau-Ren is accredited by the United Church of Canada and the Ontario Camps Association. You can register online at <camplau-ren.com>. This is going to be a summer to remember!

— Bruce Patterson

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# The World Beloved

## A Bluegrass Mass and Canadiana Singalong

The combined choirs of St. James and St. Paul's and Friends are presenting "The World Beloved — A Bluegrass Mass and Canadiana Singalong" on Sunday, April 30 at 7:30PM at St. Paul's United Church in Perth.

The Mass, composed in 2008 by Carol Barnett, is scored for choir, soprano, alto and tenor soloists and a bluegrass band consisting of fiddle, mandolin, banjo, guitar and bass. Some of the five band members are

local, including Bill Cameron (mandolin), Cam Gray (guitar) as well as Ottawa-based Tom McMahon (bass), who grew up in Perth.

In celebration of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the second half of the concert will focus on Canadian music. The choirs will recognize three regions of Canada with *Three French-Canadian Folk Songs* (Quebec), *Song for the Mira* (Nova Scotia) and *She's Like the Swallow* (Newfoundland). The evening will

conclude with an audience singalong of old Canadian favourites like *Red River Valley*, *Four Strong Winds*, *Farewell to Nova Scotia*, *Something to Sing About* and the iconic centennial song *Ca-na-da*.

The World Beloved continues the choral partnership between the two church choirs (and last year's Perth bicentennial celebration with the Men and Women of the Tay) that has included performances before sold-out audiences of *Mass in C* by Schubert, the *J.S. Bach Mass in B Minor*, *Requiem* by Brahms and *Missa Gaia* by Paul Winter.

Tickets for the concert are \$20 and are available from <ticketsplease.ca> (485-6434) or from the St. Paul's United Church Office located at 25 Gore Street West in Perth <stpauls-uc-perth.org>.



Peter Woodward, Director of Music at St. James Anglican Church conducts the choir, accompanied by Brad Mills, Director of Music at St. Paul's United Church, Perth. Their combined choirs and "Friends" are performing "The World Beloved" in Perth on April 30.

# Tay Valley History Scholarship

"I am delighted to announce the Tay Valley History Scholarship. This scholarship will be awarded every year to a student graduating from either the Perth and District Collegiate Institute or St. John Catholic High School, who has been accepted into an apprenticeship, college or university program, and who has demonstrated a keen interest in history," announced Keith Kerr, the Reeve of Tay Valley Township.

Kerr added "The scholarship is one of Tay Valley Township's legacy projects from the celebrations of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Perth Military Settlement. As last year's celebrations demonstrated, history is inescapable — our communities are living histories. The scholarship is a concrete way to underscore to our young people that history is important." The first scholarship of \$1,000 will be awarded in June of this year.

"We are pleased to partner with the Perth and District Community Foundation, which is managing the scholarship funds on our behalf. As of today, we have raised \$18,000 — well over half of our goal of \$30,000 — which will enable the scholarship to continue indefinitely," explained Kerr. Monies continue to be raised through the sale of *At Home in Tay Valley*, a book that celebrates the people, places and events in the history of Tay Valley Township, and Lanark County more generally, and through donations by individuals and businesses. Note: All donations of \$20 or more are eligible for a charitable tax receipt. A third source of funds was the proceeds from the sale of last year's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary calendar of the Perth Military Settlement.

Deborah Duffy, President of the Perth and District Community Foundation, commented that: "The Tay Valley History Scholarship is one of the many ways the Foundation supports community needs and



Deborah Duffy, President of the Perth and District Community Foundation, received a cheque for \$18,000 for the Tay Valley History Scholarship from Keith Kerr, the Reeve of Tay Valley Township.

The first history scholarship will be awarded in June of this year.

enriches the quality of life of our community." By pooling and investing the scholarship funds with other charitable donations and gifts, the Foundation is well placed to earn interest income to distribute annually as scholarships as well as grants to charities that provide services in western Lanark County. The Foundation's investments have grown from \$100,000 when it was established in 2002, to over \$2.5 million today.

For more information on the history scholarship, phone Noelle Reeve at Tay Valley Township at 267-5353. If you wish to make a donation, simply mail a cheque to Tay Valley Township, 217 Harper Road, Perth Ontario K7H 3C6. For more information on the Perth and District Community Foundation, phone Lynn McIntyre at 326-0295 or visit <pdfc.ca>.

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# When the Chips Were Down, Did the Deer Rise?

Ads luring us to discover our ancestry are “the thing” these days. The usual pay-off? One-dimensional printouts without any real sense of life and place.

How much more satisfying to go back generations in your own Ottawa Valley backyard with two great storytellers — Rory MacKay and Michael Runtz — connecting the dots to the land and the wildlife there now.

You’ll have that opportunity on April 28 at Arnprior’s St. John Chrysostom Parish Hall, when the **Macnamara Field Naturalists’ Club** (MFNC) hosts “Axes to Ashes, Singing Saws to Howling Wolves: How Lumbering Changed the Nature of the Ottawa Valley”.

Rory MacKay, author and long-time “student” of logging history, will transport us back 200 years to the rich forests of historic logging days, while Carleton University teacher and naturalist Michael Runtz will interpret how the events and practices of those years brought about today’s array of plants and animals.

Both speakers are known for their wicked sense of humour. Combined, the duo make for a dynamic

and informative evening on the human and natural history of our area.

The presentations, which begin at 7PM, will raise funds to extend Arnprior’s Macnamara Nature Trail, an interpretive trail operated by the MFNC. Doors open at 6PM so come early to check out the displays from local organizations.

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$10 for ages 18 and under, and \$20 at the door. They are available locally at the Arnprior Library, Gilligallou Bird (in Almonte and Ottawa) and online at <mfnc.ca>.

## What About the Deer?

First, let’s situate ourselves with an overview. MacKay notes: “The logging industry in the Ottawa Valley began in 1806. Over the next century, white pine and red pine were cut and squared in the forest, then driven down the Ottawa River to Quebec City, there to be loaded into ships destined for Britain. By the 1860s, smaller pine began to be cut into logs and driven by river to be sawn into lumber at sawmills at Arnprior and Ottawa. Lumbering techniques changed over time. Lumberman J. R. Booth built railways to make it possible to keep logs moving to his mills and sawn lumber getting to market the year around.”

First clue: All the felling and squaring of pine left chips in the forest that led to fires. Together axes and ashes brought change to the Ottawa Valley. So: when the chips were down, did the deer rise? Did the change to the forest (via the wood chips and fires/ashes from logging) cause a local rise in the deer population? Find out at the event! And yes, that play on words is a Michael Runtz original!

## Life and Work in the Woods

“Over the past 200 years, there have been dramatic changes in the animal life of the Ottawa Valley,” notes Runtz. “Beavers, once so rare they were seldom seen, are now common. The type of wolves found around here changed not once but thrice. Moose were replaced by white-tailed deer, and bald eagles, which became endangered, are now common sights.”

You can expect great visuals as Runtz and MacKay paint a picture for us of the striking changes that have taken place, and they’ll give insight into others yet to come.

Photo by Michael Runtz



On April 28, Michael Runtz and Rory MacKay will explore “How Lumbering Changed the Ottawa Valley”

# Twin Fiddle Express

Renowned Canadian Fiddle Champion Scott Woods and his band present Twin Fiddle Express! This uplifting two-hour live show celebrates the wonderful sound of two fiddles played sweetly in harmony, with lots of traditional country, western swing, country gospel and old-time fiddle tunes. Enjoy sensational step dancing, wholesome family humour and Scott’s famous trick fiddling — somersaults and walking on a barrel — all while playing his fiddle!

Joining Scott onstage is his sister, Kendra (Woods) Norris — a multi-instrumentalist who is certainly no stranger to old-time fiddling, having won the Canadian Duet Fiddle Championship title three times with Scott, as well as several solo wins in various classes including the 2016 Canadian Open. Also onstage are Canadian Country Music Award Winner and Guitar Player of the Year Steve Piticco; bass player, step dancer and vocalist Patrick Linton; and drummer/vocalist Bill Carruthers.

The show takes place on Friday, April 21 at 7PM at The Clayton Community Hall, and proceeds support St. George’s Anglican Church. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for children (ages 6–12) and free for children 5 and under. Advance tickets are on sale now at the Clayton General Store, SRC Music in Carleton Place, Nicholson’s in Pakenham, Baker Bob’s in Almonte, Mark’s Cobbler Shop in Perth. You can also call Ray at 256-9010 or toll-free 1-855-726-8896 to charge by phone.



April 2017

www.thehummm.com

Some have a special connection to Charles Macnamara, the local naturalist and amateur scientist extraordinaire in whose honour the Macnamara Nature Trail is named. Starting as an accountant in 1855 and eventually becoming secretary-treasurer, Macnamara worked at the Mclachlin Bros. lumber firm until its closure in 1936. Best known as a talented amateur naturalist and photographer who extensively documented the animals and plants of the Arnprior area, Macnamara was also a recognized historian of the Ottawa River. He made frequent journeys to the shanties and had a host of friends who spent their winters in the camps.

Fittingly, this fundraiser to extend the Macnamara Nature Trail is one of Arnprior’s 150 events marking Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup>. Bring your passport to get it stamped!

— Karen Runtz



## Making 150 Count in CP

Carleton Place resident Chris Drake (seated, in red above) was selected by the RBC branch in CP to participate in their **Make 150 Count Challenge** to celebrate Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As he is an artist and loves creating art, he decided to hold an art workshop for his friends (all of whom have challenges like Chris, who has Down Syndrome) to paint pictures to celebrate Canada’s sesquicentennial. Local artist Faye Laverne (formerly of Brush Strokes) led the workshop, which was held in early March. All of the work created will be on display at the **Carleton Place & Beckwith Museum** for the first two weeks of April. The museum is located at 267 Edmund Street, and you can find out more at <cpbheritagemuseum.com>.



## Town Hall Meeting with Mike Schreiner Leader, Green Party of Ontario

Meet Mike. Learn about the Green Party perspective on today’s important issues.

April 29, 2–4PM  
Almonte United Church  
106 Elgin St.

More info: 613.267.7584  
or jfoxlee@gmail.com





# JOIN US THIS April 17-30 PITCH-IN

Watch the Mississippi Mills Facebook page for dates and times of organized community clean-up days!

## Help Miss Mills Clean Up Mississippi Mills!

### PITCH-IN BAGS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

Nicholson's Sundries, Pakenham; Clayton General Store; Appleton Museum & Mailboxes; Baker Bob's; & the Recreation & Culture office in Almonte's Old Town Hall.

### HELPFUL TIPS: Bring rakes, shovels & brooms.

**Kids bring an adult.** Always wear gloves.

Use **caution** around parked cars, in driveways, & along roads. **PITCH-IN** bags can be left out on your regular garbage pick-up day (without a sticker) until Mid-May.



For more information please call 613-256-1077



# Arbour Week

April 24 – 30, 2017

in Mississippi Mills

*Rekindle Your Love of Trees  
Replant Our Local Forests and  
Public/Private Spaces*

Free events across Mississippi Mills celebrating & educating on trees.

Join us for walks, talks, films and plantings. Visit [www.exploremississippimills.ca](http://www.exploremississippimills.ca) or email [tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca](mailto:tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca) for specific event details.

613-256-1077



## Trees for Hub Hospice

PALLIATIVE CARE



Add a beautiful shade, flowering or fruit tree to your landscape and support a great cause at the same time!

<http://hubhospicetrees.com/>

Tree Planting Seminar April 10, 6:30-8PM  
Tree Pick up April 29th

# Mississippi Mills loves Volunteers

APRIL 24-30, 2017 IS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK IN CANADA

## Volunteer & Recreation Fair

Wednesday, April 26th  
Almonte Old Town Hall

Come out and learn about all the amazing organizations in Mississippi Mills who depend on volunteers.

Sign-up on site or just collect info and think it over.

Show hours: Noon to 2:00PM 6:00 to 8:00PM

There is a group looking for someone with just your talents!

Hosted by:



## Volunteer Appreciation Night

Thursday, April 27th  
5:00 to 7:00PM  
Almonte Civitan Club

Calling all volunteers, their benefactors, and new community members

An open invitation to celebrate Mississippi Mills VOLUNTEERS

Light reception  
Almonte Civitan Club  
500 Almonte Street, Almonte

HUG Your Kids, Pet Your dog, Get out for a Walk but MOST Importantly thank a Volunteer!

Hosted by:



For more information: [www.exploremississippimills.ca](http://www.exploremississippimills.ca) / 613-256-1077 / [tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca](mailto:tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca)