

MAY 2017

the Hummm

free

Arts,
Entertainment
& Ideas



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May is all about Mother's Day

Take your ultra special mum out for brunch, buy her some flowers or a handmade gift, and if you really want to do something special, move out of her basement! I'd be happy to help you find your ideal first home.

Pat's Picks Mother's Day brunch at **The Herb Garden** <herbgarden.on.ca>
for May: Gifts at the **Cheerfully Made** craft show <markets.cheerfullymade.com>
Dinner at **Black Tartan Kitchen** <blacktartankitchen.com>
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"That's it! – Don't add another thing, or you'll ruin it!"

Readers Write

Vine Rhymes – Through the Ages

Formed in 2005 with the mandate to provide encouragement, support and inspiration to area writers, Vine Rhymes members were asked in 2008 if they might be interested in creating a book of their original work. With everyone in favour of the idea, group founder Helen Latimer-Hanah commenced the process immediately and, by 2009, the print stage was close to a reality. Unfortunately, numerous unforeseen problems delayed completion of the work. The dream of holding a collection in book form faded from the forefront as the project was relegated to the back burner.

With Latimer-Hanah's retirement in 2015, work was resumed with a resolve to complete the project, this time with inclusion of compositions from ten or more writers who came on board after 2009. Enthusiasm waxed and waned until piece by piece, a massive file consisting of poetry, songs and a few short stories began to take shape. By the end of 2016, material from thirty-one contributors — complete with biographies, testimonials and a variety of additional information — resulted in a 200-page book of original material. Excitement mounted, the word spread and by the time the first run of two hundred copies was off the press, well over one hundred books were spoken for. It appears Vine Rhymes' self-published work could be termed a success, and a second printing by the end of 2017 is a definite possibility.

The compilation, entitled *Through the Ages*, is available at The Artisan Loft and Arlie's Books in Smiths Falls, the Merrickville Book Emporium, The Book Nook and The Bookworm in Perth, as well as from local libraries. For more information, please contact Helen Latimer-Hanah at 284-2243 or <latimerhanah@hotmail.com>.

— Helen Latimer-Hanah

Editor's Note:

Vine Rhymes will have a display booth and be promoting their book at the Smiths Falls Home & Living Expo this month: May 6 (10AM-6PM) and May 7 (10AM-4PM).



Vine Rhymes presented a copy of *Through the Ages* (their first book of original work) to the Smiths Falls Library on March 14.

Left to right are Anne Tener (present Vine Rhymes Chair), Helen Latimer-Hanah (Founder), Karen Schecter (Chief Librarian), and Beth Bernhardt (Co-founder/Facilitator). Photo by Chris Must.



Back in 2015, Rhonda and John Branje sent in this great shot and wrote: "During our recent trip to The Netherlands and Belgium, John took a break to read theHumm. This picture was taken in Bruges, Belgium on May 29, 2015 outside the Basilica of the Holy Blood."

Correction

The photo that appeared on page 22 of the April issue of theHumm was incorrectly accredited to the Eco-Adventure Camp at Carp Ridge EcoWellness. It was in fact a photo of a camper at the Wildlife Watchers Day Camp at the Mill of Kintail <mvc.on.ca/wildlife-watchers-summer-day-camp>. Sorry about the error!

Jewellery by Stephen Clark

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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.

Content Deadline:

20th of the month prior to publication

Advertising Deadline:

22nd of the month prior to publication

Subscriptions

cost \$40 (includes HST) for one year (12 issues). Send a cheque with your name and address to: theHummm PO Box 1391 Almonte ON K0A 1A0

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Thanks this month to:

Chef Roop at Pizza-Ria Unlimited in Almonte, for giving us a free slice when we deliver Hummm to his very fine establishment. Here's hoping Baker Bob reads this, 'cause it sure would go nicely with a butter tart. Just sayin', Bob...

Kathryn Makinson — Drawing a Bead on Contentment

Finding your niche in life is an ongoing process. Our circumstances change. Our bodies change. Even our hard-won beliefs and biases can change. But some of us are lucky enough to discover an artistic outlet that sustains and satisfies us. For Kathryn Makinson, that outlet is reflecting the beauty of nature in her one-of-a-kind glass beads and jewellery.

by Sally Hansen

Like nature, her art is intrinsically unpredictable. Working with fire and molten glass is an adventure. She derives much of her enjoyment from the “happy surprises” that magically emerge as she transforms solid glass to a molten form and then creates a beautiful object that she fashions into a permanent ornament. She uses most of her beads to design remarkably affordable jewellery — earrings, rings, bracelets and pendants — and occasionally to adorn household objects like candle snuffers and candle holders as well.

Makinson fashions each bead individually using the exacting and time-consuming process known as the lamp-work method, more recently known as flamework. Using an oxygen/propane torch, she heats fine Murano glass rods imported from Italy to a molten state. Then she wraps each bead around a stainless steel rod that has been dipped in a bead release to prevent the glass from sticking to the rod. She adds several layers of coloured glass to each base bead to form different shapes and designs, often incorporating paper-thin silver foil to produce the desired effect. Then she cases each bead in clear glass to add depth and dimension to the colour patterns and to protect the delicate dichroic glass and



silver foil from the heat of a direct flame. She uses a slightly different process to create her lovely free-form glass pendants, eschewing the steel mandrel and working only with her pencil-thick glass rods.

When she is satisfied with the colours and shape of the bead or pendant, she places it in a temperature-controlled kiln to be annealed. This extra step ensures the durability of Makinson’s glass creations by relieving residual internal stresses that otherwise could cause cracking or shattering.

Her miniature works of art afford pleasure to Kathryn in at least two more ways. As abstract artists frequently note, it is delightful to discover what your art reveals to others. Inspired by nature’s palette — “colours taken from the nighttime sky, silky water and fiery sunsets” — she loves to hear customers

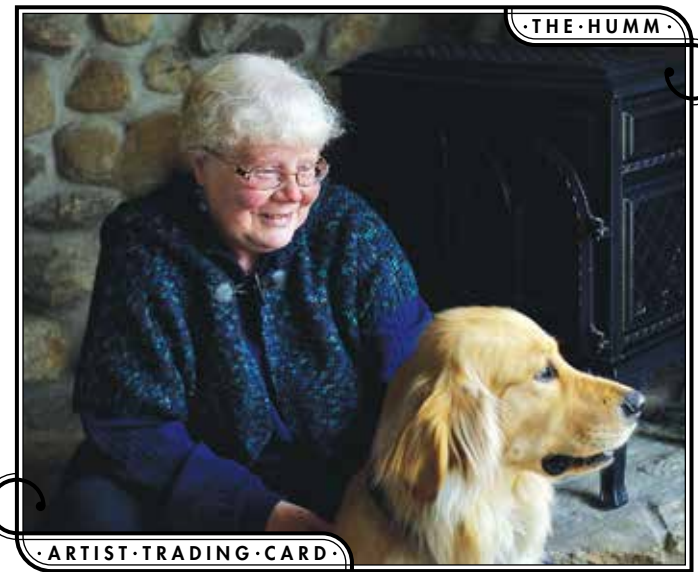
comment on the clouds, the feathery leaves and other images they discern in her glass pieces. But perhaps most telling of all, she truly enjoys donating her jewellery to the silent auctions of the not-for-profit organizations that she supports.

Makinson was born in Montreal but came to the tiny hamlet of Prospect (between Richmond and

Franktown, where Ashton Station Road crosses Route 10) at the age of three when her parents acquired the Prospect General Store. She led a happy pastoral life, one of twenty students attending the one-room school that turned the community into an extended family. Like Anne of Green Gables, she learned that honesty is the best policy, especially when your parents hear about what you have done before you reach home. As a child, she started making small objects from the clay bank along the stream that meandered through the countryside, and she remembers fashioning earrings out of paper clips.

At Carleton University she switched her major from Sociology to English, and eventually found a position in the Planning Department at Algonquin College. From there she moved to Nortel where she worked in web design and customer service until the downsizing loomed in 2007. Shortly afterward, Kathryn grew into a position as a Crisis Counsellor with Lanark County Interval House, where she continues to provide support to women and their children in managing and fleeing violence and abuse.

Makinson knows full well that life is a journey. Her exploration of art is a big part of that journey;



she has taken many classes herself and now offers private lessons to anyone interested in learning how to make glass beads. She also leads group sessions on “Creating Jewellery as Therapy” for not-for-profit organizations, and even provides the beads and other supplies when she offers “Fun with Beads – Design Your Own Necklace” group sessions at the Lanark Learning Centre in the Village of Lanark.

Her love of nature endures. Her bio on her website says, “I live a happy life in the middle of nowhere just outside of Franktown, Ontario. My 25 acres of Beckwith bedrock is home to me, my family and a variety of creatures great and small. My love of the natural world inspires my work and I love experimenting with new ideas and materials.” Located only a short distance from Prospect, the rural setting of her Cuckoo’s Nest home and studio features families of foxes that torment her beautiful Golden Retriever.

You can meet Kathryn Makinson and enjoy the happy surprises that appear in her glass beads on the last weekend of May at the Arts Carleton Place Art Show & Sale. She also will welcome you at her Cuckoo’s Nest Studio by appointment; just check the back of her Trading Card or our website <thehummm.com> for her coordinates.



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WHO Kathryn Makinson

WHAT Glass Bead Artist

WHERE Home Studio "The Cuckoo's Nest," just outside of Franktown, 283-0755, <sites.google.com/site/kathrynmakinson>, <kathryn_makinson@yahoo.com>

WHEN May 27-28, Arts Carleton Place Show, CP Canoe Club; Dec. 2, Nick of Time Artisan Show, McMartin House, Perth; October 28-29, Art Journey Fall Show, Smiths Falls Community Centre

WHY "I love the happy surprises that emerge from the magical transformation of solid glass to a molten state and back to a permanent object of wearable art."

ARTIST TRADING CARD

THE HUMM

The Buckyball and Art In The Attic

That title certainly begs two questions: "What is Art In The Attic?" and "What is a buckyball?"

Art In the Attic is the main art show and sale for the Almonte and Area Artists' Association, that takes place on Mothers' Day weekend (May 12-14) at the Almonte Old Town Hall (14 Bridge Street). Admission is free, and the show runs from 7-9PM on Friday, 10AM-7PM on Saturday, and 10AM-4PM on Sunday.

Over two dozen local artists, including many returning favourites as well as a number of exciting new members, will be participating in the show. Back by popular demand, our special guests include the Rugrat Rembrandts — a display by Ontario Early Years Centre Lanark of some of the fantastic works of preschoolers. Once again, art students from Notre Dame High School will also be showcasing their fabulous talent that never ceases to astound attendees.

When we say that Art In The Attic is where artists of all ages and experience levels celebrate our creativity, we really mean it. We have artists from age 4 to over 84; from self-taught members to those with post-baccalaureates in art from the National University of Ireland. But we all share the same passion for creating and showcasing our art, and we want you to come out and experience that joy with us. This show is also a wonderful opportunity to pick up some fabulous pieces at great prices!

Of course the best selection is on opening night. On Friday at 7:45PM we will have a fashion show by Almonte's Avenir Design Studio. Models are prominent women in our community, with hair designs by the Mane Door. Models will be incorporating art pieces

into their "runway walks" on stage and amongst the art displays. We will also have live music by local musical group Shipman's Mills throughout the evening.

And on Friday evening, we will be unveiling the "buckyball", our Canada 150th collaborative project. What is a buckyball? It is a large ball comprised of 32 pieces — like a soccer ball, but ours measures five feet in diameter. The subject of our buckyball is "The Textile Mills of the Mississippi River Valley in Lanark County". The textile industry played a very significant role in the founding and development of this area — such a fitting commemorative choice! Each artist has represented one of the textile mills in their own medium and style on a panel, all of which have then been assembled into the buckyball. And as we believe in giving back to our community, the buckyball will be donated to the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum in Almonte after the show.

Look for sneak peeks of our works in windows of downtown Almonte merchants during the first two weeks of May. Visitors to AITA during the weekend are invited to "linger longer" and make it a day. Take time after the show to visit historic and picturesque downtown Almonte, walk the Riverwalk, shop the unique boutiques, visit the museums, or take in many of the local experiences. We have even put together a guide on our website <almonteartintheattic.wordpress.com> to help you linger longer. Local artists of all ages, local designers and musicians, local heritage, and our local attractions — this is us!

—Laurel Cook

Need 'em... need 'em... got 'em...
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FOR A DISCUSSION OF OUR CONVERGING ENVIRONMENTAL, ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCE POLICY ISSUES, PLEASE JOIN

Maude Barlow



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Find works by Lorraine English at Art in the Attic on May 12-13

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A (2) Grand Slam in Arnprior

My job this month is to convince you, by the end of this column, that you have to head to the 2 Grands in Arnprior for an evening. It should be easy. The venue is great, the staff is friendly, the entertainment is amazing — why should that be difficult?

The problem is that the 2 Grands presents an experience that is truly unique in this area. I will do my best to describe it in the next few paragraphs but — since the experience they offer is so exceptional — you might have a hard time getting your head around what I'm telling you. Trust me, I was there and I had a hard time believing what I was seeing and hearing (in a good way!).

by Rob Riendeau

The Grand Tour

First, let's set the stage. The 2 Grands is a funky, cozy lounge with lots of exposed brick and wooden beams. The stage is set up along one of the long walls so that every seat has a good view of the two grand pianos. To enhance the view, each piano has a keyboard cam linked to a large screen mounted on the wall above it so the audience can marvel at the players' dexterity. I found the screens really added to the experience without being intrusive in any way.

Next, I should introduce the main characters. Chris Dziekan and his wife Natalie Day are the owners. Chris was a high-tech high roller who spent his pre-2 Grands career travelling about 300 days a year. Now that he's retired, he pretty much doesn't leave Arnprior, where he is the pianist-in-residence at the 2 Grands. Actually, the night we were in attendance, he never even left the stage. But even though he never moved more than three feet from his keyboard, his performance energy could power a small city — he very clearly did not retire in order to slow down. Natalie runs the restaurant with warmth and charm while Chris performs. The evening we were there, Schroeder Nordholt was the very talented second pianist/singer for the evening.

Finally, the entertainment. Without knowing what to expect, I went in thinking that the 2 Grands offered a loungey, jazzy, laid back piano vibe. I was wrong. Chris and Schroeder traded lead piano and vocal duties on a wide range of covers. Barenaked Ladies, Tom Jones, Elton John, Oasis, Green Day, U2... even Ozzy Osbourne and Metallica were represented. Chris and Schroeder actively solicited requests from the audience all night and never got stumped. Both had computers at their keyboards so they could look up lyrics on-the-fly, but they used them so seamlessly that I didn't notice for the first half of the night — they just seemed to pick a key and go. And, no matter what the song or style, both their piano prowess and vocal virtuosity were more than up to the challenge.



Chris Dziekan — the 2 Grands grand poobah — at his keyboard

There were definitely a few regulars in the house — *Sweet Caroline* was played in an enthusiastic call-and-response style. It was a real treat to see Chris react to familiar faces as they came in and even accept hugs while he performed. The whole evening definitely had me planning a return visit.

2 Grands hosts their duelling pianos nights on Fridays and Saturdays starting at 6PM. They have a nice selection of local beers, a good wine list, and some very tasty-looking cocktails. The menu — consisting of appetizers, tapas and desserts — is designed for sharing and lingering, which is perfect. On Tuesdays, they have started offering a "Don't Be Board" night of board games and music. In April, they also introduced "Le Noir," an evening of food and music presented in complete darkness — a chance to revel in your senses of hearing, taste, smell, and touch, which sounds fascinating. Visit their Facebook page (@The2Grands) for details on the next one of these unique evenings.

Hopefully, by now you are stoked to check out this tremendous night-spot. Just be warned, it is extraordinarily popular and reservations are highly encouraged if you want to avoid disappointment.

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Fabulous Farmers' Markets in Our Area

As you walk away from the farmers' market with your canvas bags filled with fresh local produce, plants, organic meats and assorted other delicious goodies, you just can't help feeling good. Supporting small-scale market farms means voting with your dollars for the option that is easier on the planet than large, mono-crop industrial farms. Having to plan the trip to the market means planning meals, which is a great way to reduce both wasted food and extra trips to the grocery store. Growers at the market are proud of what they sell, and their primary goal is to produce food that tastes great and is full of nutrients, instead of stuff that needs to survive a trip across an ocean and most of a country in a shipping container.

For all those reasons and many more, we put out a call to all of the Farmers' Markets in our catchment area. Here's what they have to say about the start of the season!

Almonte

The opening day for the Almonte Farmers' Market is May 20, and they welcome patrons every Saturday from 8:30AM to 12:30PM in the parking lot of the Almonte Library. They'll have knife sharpening, organic pork, lots of wonderful baking, breads, plants, syrup, honey, hopefully some fresh green things, Amanda's famous Pad Thai, pottery, and much more. For more information, please visit <almontefarmersmarket.com>.




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We run rain or shine every Saturday from May 13 to October 7, 2017 from 8AM to 1PM at the Tay Basin between Gore and Drummond.

For more information check out our website and like us on Facebook
www.perthfarmersmarket.ca
www.facebook.com/PerthFarmersMarket



Gorgeous produce from last year's Almonte Farmers' Market (photo by Dawn Walker)

Carleton Place

Everyone is invited to the Carleton Place Farmers' Market — at the Market Square on Lake Ave. — each Saturday morning from 8:30AM to 12:30PM, beginning on May 13. Besides purchasing fresh produce, baked goods (with gluten-free options), cooking oils, prepared meals and homemade crafts for yourself or as gifts, you can feel good about supporting local growers and producers.

Our market is very much a community gathering place where it's fun to meet your friends and catch up on the past week while munching on a snack and listening to some live music. Come on out and cultivate a relationship with your local producers! Remember, becoming part of the Carleton Place Farmers' Market will make you part of a special place that is creating community around food. Find them on Facebook or check out <cpfarmersmarket.wordpress.com> for more details.

Carp

The 2017 market season takes place at the Carp Fairgrounds on Saturdays from 8AM to 1PM, from May 13 through October 28. Complementing the primary meat and produce producers, the market also features bakers and other prepared-food vendors, as well as a range of juried craft products of the highest quality. Remember to take time for breakfast or lunch, as the food court will have just what you fancy. Drop by the opening on May 13, and make it a habit through the summer and fall! Don't miss the Carp Herb Festival on Saturday, June 24, and the Garlic Festival on the weekend of August 12 and 13. For more details, visit <carpfarmersmarket.ca>.

Constance Bay

The Constance Bay Community Market has set its dates for 2017! Look for the market to run on alternate Saturdays from June 17 to August 26 and every Saturday from September 9 to 30, with special markets for Mother's Day (May 14, 10AM–4PM) and Christmas (December 2). Regular market hours have been extended to run from 9AM to 2PM. Find more details at <marketinthebay.com>. Homemade treats, arts and crafts, coffee beans, fresh produce, local products, treasures and so much more! Located at 205 Bayview Drive in Constance Bay.

McDonald's Corners

The McDonald's Corners Farmers' Market opens for the season on May 20 and runs until October 7, each Saturday from 9AM to 1PM. Visitors can enjoy artisan pizza from the outdoor wood-fired oven, and relax with a coffee and pastries in the beautiful setting at the café while listening to live musicians. Fresh fruit and vegetables, meats and baking are available, along with plants and original art and handcrafts. For more information, please call 278-2739, email <mcdonaldscornersfarmersmarket@hotmail.com>, or find them on Facebook.

McNab/Braeside

The McNab/Braeside Market is getting ready for its third year of operation. They are located in the Perneel Building on Russett Drive (at the corner of Highway 17 and Calabogie Road) across from the Township Offices. The market opens on Saturday, May 20 through Saturday, October 7 and the hours are from 8AM to noon. The McNab/Braeside will host a Holiday Fair in November, time and date to be announced. New vendors are most welcome and may contact Rachel at <rachel.dupuis@me.com> or 623-0950.

Perth

The Perth market will be celebrating its 25th anniversary during the 2017 market season! Located on the Tay Basin at the Crystal Palace, the market is open Saturdays — rain or shine — from 8AM–1PM, from May 13 right through to Thanksgiving weekend. Over forty vendors will be selling fresh local veggies, plants and flowers, frozen meat, honeys and syrups, handmade crafts and fine art. Enjoy delicious prepared food while you listen to music and relax at the café by the water. Each month you will enjoy local music, cooking demonstrations, workshops and community events. Some of the highlights this year include their 25th Anniversary Party on July 8, chili cook-off, Tomato Fest, a strawberry social, Watershed Discovery Day and so much more! For detailed information, visit the market's website at <perthfarmersmarket.ca> or like them on Facebook.



Enjoying a bite at the Perth Farmers' Market...

Renfrew

The Renfrew Farmers' Market will celebrate their 46th season this year at the Renfrew Fairgrounds, located at 115 Veterans Memorial Blvd. The market is recognizing Canada's 150th Birthday with generations of area farmers providing local food for local people. It will be open on Saturdays from 8AM to noon, from May 6 to October 7. All products are home-grown and handmade from producers within a 100km radius. The market will feature meats (beef, pork and lamb), honey, maple syrup, potting and garden plants, hanging baskets, and a great selection of fresh baking. Fresh and tasty fruits and vegetables will follow as they ripen, for all your preserving, canning and pickling needs. Find details at <renfrewfarmersmarket.com> or on Facebook.

Sharbot Lake

Come to Sharbot Lake's Oso Beach on Saturday, May 20 from 9AM to 1PM for the Sharbot Lake Farmers' Market Opening Day and Plant Sale. You'll find new and returning vendors offering local products from within a 100km radius. Food items include fresh baking (some gluten-free), fair trade organic coffee and herbal tea, breakfast snacks, maple syrup, preserves, grass-fed and heritage beef, pastured pork, goat, and organically grown produce in season. Crafts include quilts, fine yarns and crocheting, rustic furniture, tie-dye clothing and more. Also on offer are potted plants, perennials, scissor sharpening and shiatsu massage. For more information, please visit <sharbotlakefarmersmarket.ca>.

Shrubs, Conifers and Small Trees

Now that spring is really here, it is time to fill empty spots in your ornamental beds left by winter kill or simply to add something new to change your landscape. Join the **Perth and District Horticultural Society** (PDHS) on Tuesday, May 9 at 7PM when Suzanne Patry and Bruce Trites of Whitehouse Nursery and Display Gardens will give a presentation on "Great Shrubs, Conifers and Small Trees for the Home Garden". Their talk will focus on tried-and-true varieties as well as introducing some new and exciting cultivars that are sure to create plant lust — all plants that could enhance your home gardens.

Suzanne and Bruce, owners of Whitehouse Nursery and Display Gardens in Almonte, are celebrating its thirty-year anniversary in 2017. It all started when Suzanne's father made her a small sandwich board that read "Plants for Sale". For many years, the nursery was only open on weekends, and Suzanne grew primarily hostas and daylilies (the first daylilies came from Missouri and cost just \$2 each). Now Bruce and Suzanne grow over one thousand varieties of daylilies as well as over fifty varieties of peonies and hundreds of varieties of hostas, and they have continued to add more types of perennials each year. They also have added trees, shrubs and conifers to their plant offerings.

Join PDHS at their next general meeting at 7PM on Tuesday, May 9 at St. Paul's United Church, 25 Gore Street West at the corner of D'Arcy in Perth. Doors to the basement meeting room, accessed from the D'Arcy Street side entrance, open at 6:30. Annual memberships are \$15 and guests are welcome for \$5.

ADHS Plant Sale

It's time to stock up on seedlings — of herbs, vegetables and flowers — home-grown by your local gardening club members. The **Almonte & District Horticultural Society's** highly anticipated annual plant sale will be held on Saturday, May 13 from 9AM to noon in the parking lot of the Almonte Public Library. There you will find a variety of seedlings, gently used books, tools and maple buckets, along with other useful and whimsical garden items. Special planters with pansies and pussy willows will be available for children to purchase for Mom for Mother's Day.

New gardeners can feel safe in the knowledge that the plants they are buying grow well in our area, and will get helpful hints on planting and maintaining the plants throughout the growing season. If you have a question on dealing with existing or new plants, there are a number of experienced and Master Gardeners in our club who can assist you and guide you on your way.

You have seen the work done by our local Society every time you pass by the gardens at the Cenotaph, the Veterans' Walkway, the Peace Park (at the split between Bridge and Perth Streets), and behind the Almonte Library, as well as the planters that grace the sidewalks of Mill Street and by the Almonte Legion. Again this year, volunteers will be starting seedlings and then planting with students at Naismith School. This is a great opportunity to teach them the benefits of growing their own vegetables and flowers. The plants are maintained throughout the summer by volunteers, with some of the bounty going to the Food Bank, and in September the kindergarten class gets to feast on vegetables they grew.

So why not come by to say "thank you" to the members by paying them a visit at the annual Plant Sale. Every purchase helps the club to continue the work they do in our community. Please note that you are welcome to view the stock earlier, but there will be no sales before 9AM.

— Janet Horton

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Planting the Seed

Sharing the Wealth

We point with pride to our success as a nation, the envy of much of the world's population. However, if truth be told, the goodies in our society are not all that fairly shared. On a monthly basis, almost a million Canadians receive food from

by David Hinks

a food bank, and the situation is not going to improve in the short term. As rents increase and as more people are stuck in poorly-paid and precarious jobs, there is often not enough money left to pay for food at the end of the month.

How can we respond to this? We can stick our heads in the sand and pretend that it does not exist.

We can rant and rave and get angry and march in the street (and yes, I did some of that a few decades ago, and perhaps it does lead to long-term societal change, but I got tired of doing that).

We can blame those living in poverty and believe that they are enjoying an indolent and carefree existence while taking advantage of society's largess. However, there are some pretty vicious cycles that can be put in place when one lives in poverty. A recent report in *The Atlantic Magazine* observes that when a person lives in poverty, the brain receives constant fear and stress messages that overload its ability to set goals, solve problems and complete tasks.

The approach I favour now is to work with people who are making small changes to try to make things better. Our local food bank, The Hunger Stop, with a storefront operation in Carleton Place and a satellite operation at St. Paul's church in Almonte, has taken some steps to address the shame that accompanies dependence on public assistance. A client-shopping model, a community

navigator, and support for community gardens are recent initiatives.

While poverty and food insecurity are serious topics, it doesn't mean that there can't be some fun along the way. The Hunger Stop has planned its third annual spring fundraiser for Tuesday, May 16 from 4:30–7PM at St. James Anglican Church hall (255 Edmund Street in Carleton Place). This is a **Community BOGO Dinner** (Buy One, Give One) — purchasing a ticket to attend automatically provides another ticket to a food bank client.

The dinner coincides with Food Banks Canada's "Every Plate Full" campaign, which aims at filling the plates of every hungry Canadian this summer, as the summer is the time that food banks really struggle with donations.

Chef Roger Weldon of Generations Inn will be back directing the volunteer kitchen staff (including food bank board members), along with help from The Beckwith Butcher's Rob Carpenter. This year's menu includes sweet potato/carrot soup and a salad with fresh tender greens to start, followed by a dry-rubbed Moroccan chicken with brown rice and smoked vegetables. The meal will be finished off with individual lemon and chocolate pastry tarts from the Beckwith Kitchen. All four local grocery stores (FreshCo, Giant Tiger, Mitchell's Your Independent Grocer and Patrice's Your Independent Grocer) are providing food.

The theme for the dinner is "On the Silk Road," and the Mississippi Mudds theatre group has jumped on board. They will be serving guests, in full costume, taking them on an excursion through England, Morocco, India and China.

Tickets for the BOGO Community Dinner are \$30 per person for adults and \$20 for seniors and children aged six to 12. They can be purchased in Carleton Place at The Granary (107 Bridge St.), The Beckwith Butcher (1 Costello Dr.) and The Hunger Stop — Lanark County Food Bank (5 Allan St.).

While it isn't singin' in the rain, we do have an opportunity for diggin' in the dirt. The rejuvenation of the **Carleton Place Community Garden**, which was scheduled for April 29 and 30, has been shifted a couple of weeks to May 13 and 14 because of the very wet conditions. This project is being led by the Lanark County Food Bank in collaboration with community gardeners. What better way to celebrate Mothers' Day?! 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! Come for an hour or two any time during the day or come for the whole day! For further information about volunteering or to reserve a garden bed, please email <carletonplacecommunitygarden@gmail.com>.

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HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

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9AM to Noon
In the Almonte Library parking lot

CONTAINERS & BOOKS
PERENNIALS
ANNUALS
HERBS

Note:
Please join us at our monthly meeting **May 15**.
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www.gardenontario.org/site.php/almonte

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“Soundwork” at Fieldwork

On Saturday, May 13 from 2–5PM, Fieldwork will celebrate ten years of land-based creativity with Soundwork, a themed exhibition of outdoor installations that explore the intersection of sound and art. Eleven artists, many of whom are known nationally and internationally for their experimental uses of sound in art, have been invited to create six new works inspired by the land at Fieldwork. The opening will include a tour of the exhibition, talks by this year’s artists, performances, and a workshop.

Fieldwork, the outdoor art space located on a rural property in eastern Ontario that has attracted a growing following over the past decade, is known for exhibiting site-specific public art along the trails that crisscross its 20-acre site. Visitors to this year’s Soundwork exhibition will undoubtedly be intrigued by the diverse ways that sound, in conjunction with technology and visual components, animates art. Many of this year’s pieces are interactive — inviting visitors to activate sonic components or to simply listen to acoustic environments that may have been generated both naturally and/or electronically.

Apidictor Symphony by Ottawa artists Annette Hegel and Debora Margo draws attention to the wonder and mystery of our important native pollinators. A collection of honey-coloured, super-sized nectar pods dotting the centre of the field like giant flowers play back pollinator songs — the communications that bees make that relate to their flight patterns as they search for sources of pollen. Visitors can wander amidst the pods imagining themselves in the role of such a pollinator.

Sit on a bench under a magnificent white pine and don a headset. Listen to Matt Rogalsky and Laura Cameron’s *In the Middle of Things* — a piece that raises questions about the role of past (and buried) geographies, as well as critical considerations of settler perception through the use of historical field recordings of the white-throated sparrow made in the ‘50s by naturalist William WH Gunn. This is part of a larger project Rogalsky and Cameron (who both teach at Queen’s University) have been collaborating on that investigates the life and work of this early Canadian environmental sound recordist.

Erratic Grass is a sound sculpture created by Mixed Metaphor Designs — the duo of Jesse Stewart and Matt Edwards (composers, musicians and visual artists based in Ottawa). Their installation — an oversized grass-like “mound” of steel rods topped with rocks found in local stone piles — may be activated by both natural elements (wind) and human interaction. Jesse and Matt will be performing on *Erratic Grass* during the opening of Soundwork.

Nicola Oddy’s offering, *Singwalk*, is based on her workshop series “A Field of Vocal Discovery”. Her self-guided trail through the field and forest at Fieldwork features signs prompting different vocal responses as one moves along the path. Experience your particular responses to the land and various installations by singing or interacting vocally at each stop on her trail. Nicola will be leading several Singwalks throughout the summer of 2017. Visit <fieldworkproject.com> for dates and times.

A dory sitting in a bed of stone waves emits the low distant drone of the sea — an evocation of the haunting and persistent pull of the ocean on those of us displaced from coastal roots, and a nod to rising tides. When visitors board the boat, their presence will animate and change the soundscape emerging from under the stone sea surrounding the dory. *Stone Song* is a collaboration between Hilary Martin, a Newfoundland artist based in Toronto, and Ranjit Bhatnagar, a sound artist from Brooklyn, New York.

Doug Van Nort’s *Genetically Sonified Organisms* is a curious assembly of electronic “creatures” surrounding the Fieldwork pond. Over time these devices will create a sonic language, a virtual call and response, evolving from recordings of ambient sounds — both natural and human-made — that are gathered on-site over the course of the season. Doug is currently the Canada Research Chair in Digital Performance, and he teaches at York University in Toronto. He will be leading a workshop on the afternoon of the opening that examines some of the conceptual and technical aspects of his installation.

Two years ago, music artist and composer Gayle Young and artist Reinhard Reitzenstein created a beautiful installation at Fieldwork called *Castorimba Suspended* — a set of three assemblages of “tuned” beaver chews that invite visitors to engage in their own percussive music-making. As part of the opening festivities, Gayle and Reinhard will be performing on *Castorimba* — which still hangs in the woods overlooking the pond.

Since 2008, the Fieldwork Collective has hosted an annual exhibition as well as numerous workshops for children, adults, new Canadians, and community members, in an effort to promote the creation and experience of art in nature. In recent years, Fieldwork has also explored the arts of writing and storytelling in relation to the land. The site has become a popular destination for a wide variety of people each year.

The opening of Soundwork will be a unique opportunity for the interested and curious to celebrate a milestone in Fieldwork’s history, to tour the Fieldwork site with the artists, to listen to performances, and



Gayle Young plays “Castorimba Suspended” at Fieldwork

to learn more about the growing field of sound art. The exhibition will continue through October. Fieldwork is open for the public to explore, free of charge, all year round. Find directions and more information at <fieldworkproject.com>.

Fieldwork is grateful to the Ontario Arts Council for their continued support.

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Saturday, 27 May, 2017 at 7:30 pm

Tickets \$10

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complementary refreshments and snacks at intermission



The band is grateful for
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A Confederation Celebration at the Mill of Kintail

The beautiful Mill of Kintail conservation area, with its grist mill that is older than Canada itself, is planning a very special Confederation Celebration in honour of Canada's 150th. TheHumm caught up with Museum Manager Stephanie Kolsters and volunteer archivist Lucy Carleton to find out more about the event, scheduled for Saturday, June 3 from 10AM to 4PM.

theHumm: Why is it important to reflect on the life of the early settlers when celebrating Canada's 150th?

The idea of highlighting our local history has been percolating for quite awhile at the Mill of Kintail. We've had requests at our popular winter Kintail Country Christmas



to hold a similar family event here in the summer. By joining forces with the North Lanark Regional Museum in Appleton and the Ramsay Women's Institute, we hope to celebrate the hardworking early settlers of Mississippi Mills. They were novice farmers, often forging their own tools, yet they left us a great rural heritage.

What can people expect to find when they get there?

The Gatehouse at the Mill of Kintail will be the starting point for our day-long event. This restored 1830s stone building was once the store for mill owner John Baird. His aristocratic ways must have been a stark contrast to the early settlers who were still dealing with the privations of living in rough log houses. A pecuniary fellow, Baird was known to "weigh goods in the store to the fraction of the ounce. He never gave more or less". Mississippi Mills early settlers, coming from the hamlets of Bennie's Corners, Leckie's Corners, Rosebank and beyond, would walk long distances to have their grist ground at Baird's booming Woodside Mills.

Over the years, some of the hamlet names changed a number of times. Some can now only be found in a historical atlas. Take Uneeda, for example. It was a thriving community that got its name from a schoolteacher living on the Bellamy Road who bemoaned the lack of mail delivery and said: "You need a post office!" Or the Rosedale Cheese factory at Union Hall, where Andrew Stevenson would load up a wagon and a team

of horses with 30 boxes of cheese and head to railway camps near Pembroke. With the help of the local Women's Institutes, we hope to illustrate the life in these Heritage Hamlets with photos, stories and displays. Eugene Fytche will round out this exhibition with his collection of framed photographs of Lanark County log fences, and local spinners and weavers will be on hand to demonstrate their skills.



What other kinds of activities will you be offering?

Horse-drawn wagon rides will transport visitors from the Gatehouse parking lot down the old Mill Road to the Celebration site. Here folks can wander through our Makers' Market of home-spun crafts and woodworking. Chad Clifford from Wilderness Rhythms will be demonstrating carving using a spokeshave. Everyone will be encouraged to take part in traditional chores, such as helping to do the laundry the old-fashioned way — with a washboard and washtub! Our local Dairy Educator will be on hand

to supervise the butter making, while some children can test their memory in our schoolroom spelling bee. We'll be hosting a field day of games at the play structure area, with potato sack races and egg-on-a-spoon contests.

If that isn't enough fun, kids and adults alike can don pioneer clothing and have their photos taken at our Portrait Studio in the Mill. We'll have all sizes of clothing available for dress-up. Web weaving and paper quilting crafts will be family-friendly activities in the Education Building, along with naturalists' hikes on our trails. Live music will fill the air around the Cloister from a number of local musical groups all day. Ken Ramsden, our fiddler friend, will be strolling the site, accompanied by Mike Kettermer on the hammered dulcimer, or lumberjack piano. Enjoy lunch at the barbeque or have your own family picnic under the apple trees.

Do you still have room for more vendors?

Yes, we still have a few spaces left in our Makers' Market. The fee is \$35/day, and vendors must provide their own tables and tent or shelter. No electricity, but lots of good will!

What makes the Mill of Kintail a perfect venue for an event like this?

Owned and operated by Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA), the Mill of Kintail Conservation Area is a cultural, historical and environmental mecca. The restored gristmill is



Find out more about our pioneer ancestors, the tools and techniques they used to settle and thrive in this area, and our rural heritage at a Confederation Celebration on June 3 at the Mill of Kintail

home to a museum celebrating the lives of two Canadian luminaries — R. Tait McKenzie and Dr. James Naismith — as well as an art gallery showcasing local artists' work. The 154 acres of field, forest, and stream offer a brilliant natural backdrop for the MVCA Education program. The trail network winding through the diverse natural community promotes both physical activity and nature appreciation. The family-friendly site features a sheltered picnic area, cloister, fully accessible play structure and half basketball court.

The cost for this full-day event is only \$10 per vehicle. For further information please contact Stephanie Kolsters of the Mill of Kintail Museum, at 256-3610 or <skolsters@mvc.on.ca>.

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Humm Bits

May is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Rehtaeh Parsons was just 17 years old when she ended her life on April 7, 2013, following a gang sexual assault and months of cyber-abuse and victim blaming. None of the four males who raped her were held accountable for their actions, despite photographing the assault and bragging about what they did to her.

Glen Canning is an advocate for victims of sexual assault. He is the father of Rehtaeh Parsons, and has spoken about Rehtaeh's case internationally and across Canada. Along with his daughter's mother, Leah Parsons, he has helped bring about changes to the Criminal Code of Canada. For their work, Glen and Leah received the Rosalind Prober Award for Advocacy in 2013.

The Sexual Assault & Domestic Advisory of Lanark County is happy to host Glen Canning and a panel of local supporters to present information on how to support a victim of sexual assault and the dangers of victim blaming. The event will take place on Thursday, May 4 from 1–4PM at the Carleton Place Canoe Club (179 John Street in CP). Please contact <brianne@lcih.com> for details.

Almonte High School Celebrates Diversity

On Thursday, May 4, at 6:30PM, Almonte and District High School (ADHS) is thrilled to welcome Sheema Khan as guest speaker at an evening entitled Celebrate Diversity! Everyone is invited to attend.

Sheema Khan lives and works in Ottawa. She encompasses a wide variety of roles within her life as a woman, a mother, a Muslim, a scientist, an author, a liberal and a hockey fan, to name a few! Her recent Tedx talk "Write your own story" encourages everyone to think about how the world is presented and to ensure that our own story matches who we really are rather than what we are told we should be. For the last fifteen years she has written a monthly opinion piece in the Globe and Mail about current Muslim/Canadian/World issues as she sees them, some of which have been collected into her acclaimed book *Of Hockey and Hijab*. She is donating her fee to Live Differently, a charity chosen by the ADHS Student Council.

There will be student musicians performing, and displays will include People First of Canada, Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth, ADHS All Inclusive Club, and ADHS Native Art Students. Locally produced food and drinks will be provided by Equator Coffee, Healthy Food Technology (HFT), Hummingbird Chocolate and Jessica's Syrian Food.

Celebrate Diversity! is an exciting opportunity to explore different perspectives of the world and each other, and in doing so, to perhaps find common ground. ADHS is located at 126 Martin Street North in Almonte. For more information, call the school at 256-1470. Contributions for The Food Bank are welcome.

Union Hall Annual General Meeting

Union Hall is hosting its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, May 30 at 7PM. The hall, which has been serving the community for over 150 years, relies on volunteers to support its operations, which include hall rentals and community functions from March through November.

Besides the formal business of Annual Reports and Election of Officers, the meeting will feature a talk by a guest speaker. This year's speaker is Jan Watson, of Mills Community Support. Covering Mississippi Mills and Lanark Highlands, their services include support for adults and transitional-aged youth with intellectual disabilities; seniors' services and programs through home support, assisted living and respite care; affordable housing to seniors and families; and community development initiatives that bring people together to build better communities.

Union Hall is located at Tatlock and Wolf Grove Roads, serving both Mississippi Mills and the surrounding area, and all are welcome.

Perth Collegiate Institute 60-Year Reunion

Plans are underway to celebrate a sixty-year PDCI reunion on the weekend of September 22–24. This is a great chance to "Come home to Perth" for a get-together with former classmates, renew friendships, and share lots of memories!

Organizers are looking forward to seeing all those who graduated from PDCI in the 1955–58 era. Enjoy a fun weekend of activities, including a "Meet and Greet" on Friday evening, an Otty Lake pontoon cruise, a catch-up on Saturday afternoon, and a dinner at a restaurant in Perth on Saturday evening. On Sunday, say farewell to new "old" friends from the past. For more information, please contact Betty at 267-9754 or Joan at 267-5369.

15th AGH Golf Classic

The Almonte General Hospital / Fairview Manor Foundation is preparing to welcome golfers to their 15th annual Golf Classic on Friday, June 16 at the Canadian Golf and Country Club. All funds raised at this annual Mississippi Mills tradition will help support new diagnostic imaging equipment at the hospital.

The day includes 18 holes of golf with a shared cart, a BBQ lunch, surprises, a sumptuous steak supper, silent and live auctions, and more! You can join the fun: \$150 per golfer or \$600 per foursome. Golfers can register online at <canadiangolfclub.com>.

Organizers invite you to discover more about this and other Foundation events, including how

to register, become a sponsor, or donate an auction item to support local health care close to home. Contact Carolyn Piché at 256-2514 x2296 or visit <almontehospitalfoundation.com>.

"We are grateful to the sponsors who help make the day such a tremendous success," says this year's tournament chair Guido Patrice. Sponsors include: Karson Konstruktion, Rexall, BMO Bank of Montreal, Bean Auto, AGH Volunteer Services, Emond Harnden LLP, Levi Home Hardware and Building Centre, Carleton Place Terrace, Sport Systems Canada, M&P Farm Equipment and PHARMASAVE – West Carleton Drug Mart. Opportunities are still available for sponsorship.

Maude Barlow to Speak in Almonte

Join Maude Barlow for an evening discussion on our converging environmental, energy and water resource policy issues on Friday, May 12 from 7–9PM. Hosted by the Mississippi Mills chapter of the Council of Canadians, the event will take place at the Almonte United Church Hall (located at 106 Elgin Street in Almonte), and admission is free.

Below is an excerpt from Maude Barlow's book *Boiling Point: Government Neglect, Corporate Abuse, and Canada's Water Crisis*:

For over three decades, I have travelled the world, learning about water, learning that abundance is not a given, and that the future of the human race and the species with whom we share this planet is literally dependent upon it. [...] And I am always amazed at how far away these struggles appear to be to most Canadians when I return home.

Despite our shared mythology of limitless water, Canada is not immune to this, the world's most pressing problem. We face serious issues of water contamination, eutrophication, overextraction, glacial melt and climate change. Extractive energy and mining projects endanger our waterways. Corporations are eyeing Canada's water, setting up bottled water operations and bidding to run water services on a for-profit basis. There are even renewed calls to allow bulk commercial water exports to drought-stricken states.

Water protection regulations across the country are uneven and generally inadequate, and federal

rules are almost non-existent. They are a patchwork of outdated, vague and even conflicting regulations with no coherent overarching principles or rational planning. Many of our laws were originally enacted well over a century ago for a country that was still largely rural and agrarian and whose population mostly extracted water for their own use. As our economy grew and industrialized, our governments updated laws, enacted new ones and set regulations piecemeal as situations and need arose. There was little understanding, among either the general population or elected officials, of the consequences of pollution, overuse or overextraction. Our forebears genuinely believed that clean water would always be available and that there was more than enough for every purpose.

We have only recently begun to realize how mistaken that belief was.

It is time to abandon our erroneous beliefs that Canada has unlimited supplies of water, that Canadians have taken care of this water heritage or that we still have lots of time to do so. We need a strong, national plan of action based on a new water ethic that puts water protection and water justice at the heart of all our policies and laws. The path forward is clear, if not simple.

— Excerpted from *Boiling Point: Government Neglect, Corporate Abuse, and Canada's Water Crisis* by Maude Barlow. © 2016 by Maude Barlow. All rights reserved. Published by ECW Press Ltd. <ecwpress.com>

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Fashion Blooms at the Textile Museum

The Mississippi Valley Textile Museum is thrilled to be hosting a fashion extravaganza by Ottawa's Darrell Thomas Textiles on Sunday, May 28. The show will feature clothing collections by six outstanding designers, together with a designer collection of hats. These designers are creating a wide range of spring fashions that will include everything from the workable everyday to evening enchantments. Guests will also be able to shop the runway after the show. "Fashion Blooms" is a fundraiser for the museum, with the money raised going towards programming and operations.

Located at 153 Preston Street in Ottawa, Darrell Thomas Textiles has been supplying high-quality fabrics and buttons to home dressmakers and professionals for seventeen years. They recently launched their own ready-to-wear collection of timeless styles made with the best of fabrics. The purpose of this show is to promote "Blooming" talent within our community.

Celebrate spring and raise your style IQ by attending one of the two showings on May 28: 12-2PM or 3-5PM. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the Textile Museum (debit, VISA, MC available) and Baker Bob's in Almonte, and at Darrell Thomas Textiles (cash only) in Ottawa. For more information, call the museum at 256-3754.



Darrell Thomas (of Ottawa's Darrell Thomas Textiles) will give a fashion show at the Textile Museum in Almonte on May 28

Spring into Summer! Almonte Gardening and Outdoor Living Show

On May 20, everyone is invited out to the Almonte United Church to enjoy a plant sale, gardening presentations, lunch, and a silent auction. Purchase new and gently used items for your yard and garden, and place an order for handcrafted trellises, arbours, planters and more!

You'll also have the opportunity to learn about plants, gardens and birds from some of the best experts in the area. Talks include "Native Plants" by Allan Goddard, "Native Orchids" by Dave Cooper (president of the Ottawa Orchid Society), "Rock Gardening Locally" with Judy Wall of Rock Wall Gardens in Perth, "Community Gardening" by David Hinks, "Birds in the Garden" with Bob Volks of Gilligallou Bird Inc., and "Plant Propagation" with Jamie Roy of Acanthus Floral & Botanical.

The silent auction will feature thirty fabulous items, including a vintage canvas/cedar strip canoe.

Prior to May 20, silent auction items can be viewed online at <likulezi.com> and bids can be placed on event day or by contacting Doug Younger-Lewis at 256-2738. Many local vendors will also be on-site for your browsing and shopping pleasure.

A variety of garden items, including garden sheds, cedar arbours, planters, trellises, bird feeders and garden ornaments will be on display, and they can be purchased or custom-ordered for later delivery.

A delightful lunch and a variety of refreshments will also be available — an excellent way to keep up your energy as you browse and shop, or as an enjoyable way to end your time at the Gardening and Outdoor Living Show.

This wonderful spring event takes place on Saturday, May 20 from 9AM to 2PM at Almonte United Church (106 Elgin Street in Almonte), and is fundraiser in support of the Likulezi Project in

Phalombe, Malawi. Likulezi is a grassroots community care organization, providing HIV/AIDS education to the community and palliative home care to those living with AIDS. A few years ago they built a greenhouse to grow indigenous Moringa trees that produce nim leaves that reduce pain for AIDS patients. The project also helps provide clean water wells, food supplements, orphan and guardian family sponsorship, and vocational training.

Follow "Almonte Gardening and Outdoor Living Show" on Facebook for regular updates, or contact Doug (256-2738) or Laurie (256-0394) for more information.



Spring into Summer at the Almonte United Church on May 20! You'll find plants and garden items for sale, expertise galore, and a chance to contribute to a great cause.

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**Saturday June 3, 2017, 11 am – 11 pm
Robert Simpson Park, 400 John St.**

- 11 AM Kyle Felhaver
- 12 PM Simon Clarke
- 1 PM Debenham Brothers
- 2 PM Danny Sylvester
- 3 PM Shep Handsome Band
- 4 PM Richmond Ramblers
- 5 PM Lauren Hall
- 6 PM The Ryans
- 7 PM Heartbeats
- 8 PM Running Naked
- 9 PM Outdoor Movie

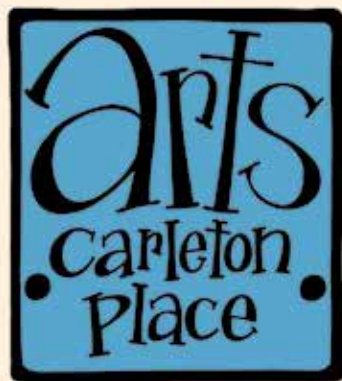
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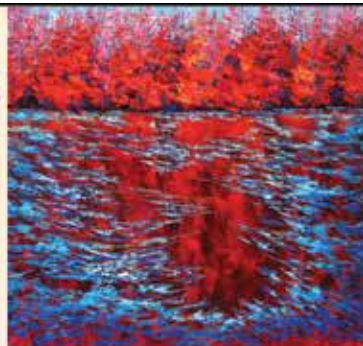


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A Country Gospel Night in Carleton Place

There's a very inspiring musical event taking place in Carleton Place this month. A Country Gospel Night will be held at the Carleton Place Town Hall on Saturday, May 13 at 7PM (doors open at 5:30). The show features the Moffatt Sisters with Ray Adams and Maureen Young, along with Dan Paul Rogers, Rick Rogers, Bailey Rogers, Wade Foster, Brad Scott and Mark Lemieux. Tickets are \$20 per person, and are available at the Arena and Graham's Shoes in Carleton Place, Mark's Cobbler Shop in Perth, and Nicholson's in Pakenham. There may also be some at door, but with only 230 seats available for this terrific line-up of local talent, you should probably get yours in advance!

The first portion of the evening's entertainment features sisters Judi and Cheryl Moffatt, accompanied by Ray Adams and Maureen Young. Their part of the program will feature country as well as country gospel music.

After a break for light refreshments and socializing, Ottawa Valley Country Music Hall of Fame member Dan Paul Rogers will take to the stage. Dan will be accompanied by his brother Rick Rogers on bass, his niece Bailey Rogers on vocals, Wade Foster on fiddle, Brad Scott on lead guitar, Maureen Young on piano, and Mark Lemieux on drums.

Born in Trenton, Dan Paul Rogers has made his home in Renfrew since the early 1970s. His exposure as a child to traditional fiddle and country music influenced his style of country contemporary sound. Throughout his extensive career, Dan has entertained from coast to coast in Canada, and has toured with Ronnie Prophet and the Family Brown in Canada, the U.S. and the Netherlands. He has performed on a number of television shows, and has appeared in concert with many well-known country music artists, including Vince Gill, Merle Haggard, Reba McEntire, Lee Greenwood, Carroll Baker, Faron Young, George Jones and Johnny Cash.

This concert is being organized by Carleton Place's own Bob White, who has put on more than two dozen music shows at the CP Arena. Since this show is part of Carleton Place's celebration of Canada's 150th, Bob thought it would be fitting to hold it at the historic Town Hall, which turns 120 this year.



Ottawa Valley Country Music Hall of Fame member Dan Paul Rogers headlines at A Country Gospel Night at the Carleton Place Town Hall on May 13

The acoustics there are also perfect for a concert that features lots of vocal harmonies.

One of the things Bob strives for when putting on an event like this one is inclusivity — he wants everyone to feel welcome and be able to attend. For this reason, there will be a free shuttle bus from the parking lot of the Carleton Place Arena to the Town Hall, so folks who don't want to worry about parking downtown can leave their cars near the Civitan ball diamond and get chauffeured to and from the venue. Once there, they will be met by ushers who can direct them to the elevator. Doors will open at 5:30 (and the shuttle will begin running at 5:15), to allow for plenty of socializing before the music starts, and Bob figures that the show will be over by about 9:30.

Bob would also like to thank Motion Creative Printing for sponsoring posters for this event, and he invites you to call him at 229-0043 if you would like more information.

World Labyrinth Day Walk

Come to the Carleton Place Community Labyrinth on Saturday, May 6, and "Walk as One at 1PM" in celebration of World Labyrinth Day. Register your walk and be part of the "150 Walks for Canada's 150th" commemorative event.

World Labyrinth Day, declared in 1998 by The Labyrinth Society, brings people together globally to recognize the labyrinth as a symbol and tool for healing and peace. For this 9th annual event, walkers in Carleton Place as well as individuals or groups from around the globe will walk their labyrinths at 1PM in their local time zones. This world-wide event

included walks in 24 countries last year, and it is estimated that more than 5,000 people participated.

The Community Labyrinth is located at the corner of George and Baines Streets, beside the Carleton Place & Beckwith Heritage Museum. The stone-bordered grassy path is the focal point for Labyrinth Park, a peaceful garden filled with ornamental grasses, native trees, benches for sitting, and a wheelchair-accessible contemplation ring.

For more information about this and other events, contact Debby at 257-1014 or find them on Facebook.

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for Therapeutic Riding Program
Wed., May 31, 6:45PM \$45 per person
no experience required!

The Thirsty Moose For tickets or information:
20 Bridge St., Carleton Place 613-257-7121 x 3238 or
www.therapeuticriding.ca

Birds, Butterflies, Bees & Native Plants

The monarch butterfly is dangerously close to being gone forever — in fact they have just been moved onto the endangered list.

Pairing the word “endangered” with any wildlife species here in North America should send shock waves through our society. The unfortunate reality is, this type of news is rarely displayed on the front pages of our most prominent publications.

The most recently paired string of terms that are a certain cause for concern is the updated status of the iconic monarch. In December 2016, the Committee on the Status

of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) announced they were changing the insect’s status from “special concern” all the way up to “endangered.” Such an upgrade does not occur based on a hunch from special interest groups — it is based on scientific research and facts.

from its list of noxious weeds. This legislation would no longer allow the plant to be targeted for destruction, and was mirrored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture soon after.

Why Go Native?

These changes, while helpful, were seemingly too late. In a little over a decade, the North American population of monarch butterflies decreased from nearly 1 billion to under 35 million by 2013.

One way to help both monarchs and other species is to integrate more native plants into our gardens and properties. Perhaps the biggest reason to do so is that because they are native, these types of plants and grasses do not require fertilizers and often require very few — if any — pesticides. Additionally, these plants can help fight growing problems such as climate change and air pollution. As native species, they often require less water (they are designed for our environment, rather than a tropical one), and they can help prevent soil erosion by increasing the soil’s capacity to store water through deep rooting systems.

As birders, we appreciate these plants for the broad range of diversity they can offer us throughout the year. Hummingbirds sip the nectar from native species and inadvertently pollinate many other flowers. The small insects that thrive in these environments also provide many other species with a reliable food source throughout the seasons, not to mention the shelter and refuge these kinds of plants offer our birds as well.

From a more holistic viewpoint, these plants can even help give us as humans a better sense of belonging. As we increasingly develop our outdoor spaces, the use of native plants helps us to better live in harmony — both aesthetically and spiritually — with the natural world around us.

Native plants, butterfly gardens with milkweed, shrubs and small trees designed to create cover and protection for nesting birds, and nesting boxes designed for songbirds will go a long way to helping our local habitat.



Photo by smHansen

While non-native and ornamental species can certainly add to the “wow factor” of your garden and property, these plants do not, unfortunately, bring the same benefits to our birds, bees, insects and other wildlife that native plants do. A recent example of this involves a non-native ornamental plant called the Japanese yew. This one plant, used by some homeowners in regions of Idaho, has caused the deaths of 16 elk and 50 pronghorn antelope this winter alone. When ingested, this yew — much like many other plants — can be detrimental to many living organisms in the environment.

As humans, we inevitably have left and will continue to leave a large footprint across the land we call home, but this footprint does not always have to be as detrimental to the wildlife that lives among us.

As we continue to develop more residential areas, more and more communities are becoming cognizant of the world around us. An example of this can be found in new housing developments in which neighbouring property owners forgo the maze-like fencing structures through connected backyards, instead opting for a shared green space.

As anyone can imagine, these types of spaces are not only beneficial for residents, but also for the native wildlife and birds in the area.

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

by Bob Volks

of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) announced they were changing the insect’s status from “special concern” all the way up to “endangered.” Such an upgrade does not occur based on a hunch from special interest groups — it is based on scientific research and facts.

Causes of Decline

For those in the know, this is not a new problem. In fact, many of us have been very much aware of the decline of the monarch butterfly, but it was only recently that the situation has become so dire.

One of the butterfly’s biggest threats came in the form of habitat destruction, as farming and commercial entities unknowingly killed off a great deal of the insect’s food and habitat: the milkweed. The female monarch must lay her eggs on the milkweed plant, and their young rely on the plant juice and leaves to start their lives, so without it they will not survive. Do you remember as a youngster seeing the ditches, riverbanks and fields full of milkweed? I can remember collecting the seed pods by the pail-full, using them as ammo in a good ole fashioned fort-to-fort fight with the neighbour kids.

It was not until 2014 that the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs removed the milkweed

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A Country Gospel Night

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Saturday, May 13, 2017

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With Special Guest
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Dan Paul Rogers

Along with Rick Rogers, Bailey Rogers,
Wade Foster, Brad Scott, Maureen Young &
Mark Lemeiux

\$20.00 per ticket

Doors Open: 5:30pm
Showtime: 7:00pm
Elevator Access Available

Tickets available at:
CP Arena, Graham's Shoes (CP), Mark's Cobbler Shop (Perth), Nickolson's (Pakenham)
For more information: Bob White: (613)229-0043

3.14159265358979324... Rounded Off

Walking in downtown Perth exposes one to all manner of risks — storefronts of various sorts entice even the wary — but be aware that danger lurks in unexpected places. Yielding to temptation is fraught. The thorny path of sin leads to sugar shock, penury and diabetic coma. Weetabix warns his readers that the following article should be read with appropriate caution and is definitely not suitable for children.

by Sebastian Weetabix

Kassy Boulay is an unlikely incarnation of Nemesis (the ancient Greek goddess of retributive justice), but her business, the **Perth Pie Company**, dispenses sweet and savoury confections capable of diverting even the iron-willed from the path of dietary austerity. Even she allows that her butter tarts are “the crack cocaine starter” — and the description is neither misleading nor inappropriate; too small to have just one, Weetabix verifies that is true but heroically returns to his mission of gathering information.

Kassy purchased the Perth Pie Company in 2013 from its founder Joan Stephenson-Bowes (now at Maximillian’s) who started the bakery in 2006 as “Delicious Baking by Joan.” “I love feeding people and the joy that food brings,” is Kassy’s immediate answer when asked “why the career change?” She and her husband Josh are devoted to devel-

oping an artisanal bakery providing high quality products to a growing market.

Word of mouth is the most effective form of public relations, and Weetabix’ mouth gets busy sampling some of the wares. Perfection is elusive and perhaps not achievable in the real world, but both the ginger cookies and the tart cherry pie have achieved a level that justifies this descriptor. I have had different versions of these dishes that were outstandingly good, but none that were better.

Whole pies to go are fresh for immediate consumption (but might not make it home) or frozen in order to ensure consistent quality. Cookies come wrapped in small pocket-sized packages, which allow for easy carriage in a jacket pocket and thus are available for snacking in transit.

There is an American Pie Council whose slogan “Grab a slice of life” is apt. According to them, pie has been around since the ancient Egyptians used a pastry casing as a container for baking a varied selection of fillings. The same source credits the Romans with a recipe for rye-crust goat cheese and honey pie — a surprisingly modern-sounding confection that should doubtless be served with an arugula salad.

Although fillings generally give their name to the pies, the foundation and common feature of all pies is the crust. Here imagination is constrained by physics (and note that a pie crust is not a “physic”). A fairly traditional crust is based on flour, fat and water, but that said, things get com-

plicated quickly and there are serious consequences that arise from even minor changes in the formulation or how it is compounded. There is also debate as to the desired end result — “flaky” is good, but it has to hold together and not get “mushy”. There are some special formulations such as “graham cracker crust”, and Weetabix has even had a tolerably good vegan pie crust made with ground up nuts. (On this last point, readers are requested to send in any recipe for an acceptable vegan pie crust that can be made in a reasonable amount of time by a cook of ordinary skill using commonly available ingredients. This is a serious request to my readers, and responses will be the subject of a follow-on article. Vegan cuisine presents some interesting challenges!)

Kassy is working overtime and “loving it”. Asked to name favourites, she concurs that the Tart Cherry Pie is top of the list, and that as a baker her favourite confection is Chocolate Chunk Pecan, which is part stove-top prep but perhaps a bit too rich. Weetabix agrees but has a predisposition towards sour in many things, butter tarts excepted. The Perth Pie Company is thriving



Owner Kassy Boulay with just some of the tempting wares at the Perth Pie Company

and expanding its distribution beyond Perth. It is the spot to get dessert to go, but also offers a small seating area for those in urgent need.

The evolutionary tree of pie has many clades, and, just as with breeds of dogs or fancy chickens, there is no apparent limit to ingenuity or complexity. A Perth Pie Company pie is an honest and simple pie — pure ingredients and a basic lard crust with a trademark lattice top create a final product that is anything but simple. Care and skill elevate the already good to the sublime. Weetabix has but one stomach to give for his readers, and regrets that a comprehensive sampling of wares was not possible — in particular, a tempting selection of meat pies went unsampled due to the constraints of time and appetite. A round trip for pie is clearly in order.

A Cheerful Month in Mississippi Mills!

This time of year seems to bring out the flowers, the locals and the daytrippers alike to the beautiful Ottawa Valley area, and fortunately there are lots of awesome things to see and do springing up in Mississippi Mills!

by Miss Mills

On the very first weekend (May 6 and 7), don't miss the **Cheerfully Made Spring Market** (formerly Handmade Harvest) at the Almonte Agricultural Hall. There will be entirely different makers on each day, so you should plan to stay all weekend! Find out more at <markets.cheerfullymade.com>, bring \$2 for admission (kids and parking are free), and plan to line up by about 9AM if you want an awesome swag bag!

The eclectic **Almonte Flea Market** opens on the fairgrounds on Sunday, May 7, as well, and runs every Sunday until October. And remember the venue, 'cause you're going to want to go back later on...

The very next weekend, you can celebrate mom by taking her to the Almonte Old Town Hall for the annual **Art in the Attic Show & Sale** (more about that on page 4), or bring her over to the North Lanark Regional Museum in Appleton for a **Celebrating Mothers Tea** on Saturday, May 13 from 2-4PM. The cost is only \$5 per person, and you can find out more at <northlanarkregionalmuseum.com>.

Now here's an eclectic mix for the rest of the month... On May 20, bring your gardening questions to the Almonte United Church for the "**Spring Into Summer**" garden and outdoor living show, where experts will speak and cool stuff will be on sale (see page 11 for details). On the 27th, you'll want to bring mom (and maybe dad too) back to the Almonte Fairgrounds for a **Truck and Tractor Pull**. Then dust off your duds, because there's a very special fashion show at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum on the 28th. It's called **Fashion Blooms**, it features several



From the Cheerfully Made Spring Market (below, on May 6 & 7) to the Family Bike-in Street Party (above, coming up on June 3), there's so much going on in Mississippi Mills!

designers and Ottawa's Darrell Thomas Textiles, and you can find out more on page 11.

May is also a great month to get your bike (and your cycling muscles) tuned up, so you can hit June's **Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month** running — or rather, rolling! The best place to start is at the **Family Bike-in Street Party** taking place on Saturday, June 3. There will be live music, a community potluck supper (tables and chairs are provided but please bring your own plates and cutlery), and best of all, Mill Street will be closed to motorized vehicles so the kids can cycle around safely. The very next day (June 4), the first of the four Sunday **Mississippi Mills Family Bicycle Club Rides** starts at the Almonte beach on Water Street at 3PM and goes for an hour. And of course you can start logging your kilometres biked or walked beginning on June 1 at <silverchainchallenge.ca>. There will be more information in June's issue of theHumm, but check in often at <mmbm.ca> so you don't miss any two-wheeled events! After you fill your boots (or at least your cycling shoes) at the community potluck, you can boogie on back to the Ag Hall for the **NLAS Spring Dance** featuring Mike Fahey, Peter Dawson and A Classic Country Re-vu. Find out more at <almontefair.ca>.



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12-2pm
3-5pm**

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note: each seating is the same fashion show

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3 draws*:

Art & Craft Supplies

Saturday May 20, 12-3PM

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Meet & Greet/ Signing

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As a thank you, watch for **flash sales & specials** the entire month of May. Check in store or like our Facebook page for announcements.



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Whisky Tasting May 4, 7PM at the Almonte General Hospital
 Tickets (\$75) at Mill Street Books, Almonte Print Shop, the AGH Gift Shop and at almontehospitalfoundation.com.



Flying in the Dark

A compelling evening with storyteller Kim Kilpatrick

Saturday, May 27, 7PM
Almonte General Hospital Octagon Room

Kim Kilpatrick was born blind, fiercely independent and filled with a love of words and language, curious about her world, experiencing it with all of its sounds, scents, textures, words and characters. Come and find out what it is like to live and thrive as a woman who weaves words with skill and humour. Come "Flying in the Dark". You won't regret it!

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 Every Wednesday from May 24, Rack 'n Tunes with **Shawn McCullough** (Country/Guitar) 7-10
 Fri. May 5 **Head Over Heels** (Guitar/Vocal Duo, Gananoque) 6-9
 Sat. May 6 **A Day in the Life: Premier Beatles Tribute** (Montreal) 7-11, \$60 Buffet & Show
 Fri. May 12 Blues on the Rideau with **Terry Gillespie Band** (Vankleek Hill) 7-11, \$65 Buffet & Show
 Sat. May 13 **John Wilberforce** (Country/Rock, Kemptonville) & Roast Beef Dinner Buffet 6-9
 Sun. May 14 **Mother's Day-All Day Specials!** Lunch & Dinner, 11:30AM-8PM
 Thu. May 18 **Jazz Night** with **Spencer Evans Trio** (Funk/Rock/Jazz/Blues/Soul) 9-11
 Fri. May 19 **Songwriter Circle** with **Brea Lawrenson, Shawn McCullough & Wade Foster** (Country) 7-10, \$10
 Sat. May 20 **Logan Brown & Taylor Angus** (Acoustic Soul) & Roast Beef Dinner Buffet 6-9
 Sun. May 21 **Head Over Heels on the Patio** (Guitar/Vocal Duo, Gananoque) 12:30-3:30 & **Tom Watson** (Folk/Rock, Perth) 6-9
 Fri. May 26 **Matty McKechnie & Ben Mullin** (Folk/Rock, Ottawa) 6-9
 Sat. May 27 **Chris Murphy** of Turpin's Trail (Celtic/East Coast Folk) & Roast Beef Dinner Buffet 7-11
 Sun. May 28 **Head Over Heels on the Patio** (Guitar/Vocal Duo, Gananoque) 12:30-3:30
 Sat. Jun. 3 **Young Petty Stones** (A Nod to the Best in Rock & Roll) 7-11, \$50 Buffet & Show

Readers Write

Talk to the Hand..

Lanark County's Stance on Roadside Spraying

Back in the '90s, "talk to the hand" was a saying in vogue with teenagers, used to dismiss whatever their parents or teachers were saying. And here's why I can't seem to get it out of my head.

Lanark County started roadside spraying two years ago. Arguing that Ontario had declared wild parsnip to be a noxious weed, they immediately decided to control it by spraying their roadsides with chemicals. There were other options: timing their annual roadside mowing to reduce the spread of wild parsnip; implementing a public education program on identifying and dealing with this plant; or simply using a complaint-driven approach. But the lure of chemicals was just too strong. Lanark County spent over \$50,000 last year to spray chemicals with unknown effects on our roadsides. Perhaps they wanted to emulate the United Counties of Stormont Dundas and Glengarry, who have sprayed chemicals for nine years, and are still going at it.

Concerned residents immediately protested. Physicians with experience in pesticide-related illnesses; retirees with environment-related degrees and experience in assessing collateral damage from pesticides; organic farmers and beekeepers; people with chemical sensitivities; property owners concerned about water contamination because of Lanark County's porous bedrock and abundant wetlands and water courses — they all wrote letters and emails to the County councillors, setting out valid, factual reasons why Lanark County should stop roadside spraying. All to no avail. They were just "talkin' to the hand". Although some councillors were responsive to the pleas of their constituents, the pro-pesticide majority prevailed.

Still, last year there was one faint ray of hope — the option to get a No-Spray sign from Lanark County to exempt your roadside (if you lived on a county road) from spraying. This option was so poorly advertised by Lanark County that concerned volunteers took it on themselves to create, pay for and publish an ad (in theHumm) to let people know that they could apply for one of these signs — only token protection against spraying, but better than nothing. Other volunteers put up posters, and delivered flyers to residents on roads that were to be sprayed. The outcome? Approximately 650 No-Spray signs lined the various county roads in Lanark County last summer. People were using what little power they had to affirm their rights to a healthy and safe environment.

Then, late last fall, dozens of environmentalists tried yet again to stop roadside spraying with numerous delegations and letters to County council. They also offered to help staff find safer and more sustainable ways to manage noxious weeds by adopting a road and remediating roadsides denuded by chemical spraying. This gesture of goodwill was then subverted. Here's how.

Shortly before Lanark County council's April 12 meeting, councillors received their agenda. Much mention was made of the County's new Adopt-A-Road program, which seemed linked to what the

environmentalists were advocating. Only through careful questioning was it revealed that this new program was REPLACING the No-Spray sign policy. Some councillors were completely surprised by this manoeuvre.

So, on April 12, the County replaced the sign option with an Adopt-A-Road policy. It enables you to manage the spread of the wild parsnip on a county-owned section of roadside. What's wrong with that? It sounds progressive — until you look at the details.

To adopt a county road, here are just some of the requirements to which you must agree:

- Complete and submit an Adopt-A-Road Program Agreement. You need to be part of a group of at least three people. *If* you are deemed to meet the County's conditions, you *may* be approved.
- Have the County pick for you an adoptable stretch of road, a minimum of 2km long.
- Commit to an adoption of two years.
- Pick up litter on your adopted stretch at least twice a year, in the spring and fall. Also, sort the collected litter into four different categories — glass, plastic, metal and "other". (*What* does this have to do with weed management?)
- Give the County office 72 hours notice prior to starting a program activity and immediately after each activity.
- Remove and control invasive plants and noxious weeds (specific plants not named).
- Comply with the Adopt-A-Road insurance requirements, and release the County of responsibility for any injuries or damages that you may suffer.
- Have your adopted section monitored by the County to make sure they're happy with your work.
- Restrict work on your roadside to weekdays during daylight hours.

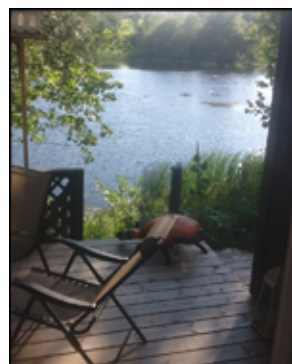
Compare this with the No-Spray sign option, where one or more individuals could take responsibility for their county road frontage and manage wild parsnip whenever and however they deemed appropriate.

We've now been left with even *less* than before, as if that was possible.

Spraying pesticides on County roadsides has replaced the vibrant beauty of our roadsides with dead vegetation, and has destabilized our environment by harming our pollinators, creating chemically-resistant weeds, and putting our water at risk. Some councillors have been impassive and evasive in response to entreaties from residents and advice from reputable experts, and are continuing to spend taxpayer money on this damaging activity. Effectively, we're just "talkin' to the hand".

We owe it to our health and our environment not to give up, though! Please share your concerns by emailing our County councillors, care of the County Clerk <ldrynan@lanarkcounty.ca>. Also, visit <friendsoflanarkcounty.wordpress.com> for background and updates on this issue.

— Theresa Peluso



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Bring It On, Ma Nature...

The snow had hardly melted when I was out in the garden inspecting. In October I swore I'd done enough raking, bagging, digging, weeding to last a lifetime, but oh no. While I was revelling in the season of no-bugs or weeds, Mother Nature was planning her revenge on this

by Glenda Jones

smug gardener. The periwinkle has spread far beyond its appointed border, the ubiquitous quack grass is already into the flower bed, acorns are sprouting where daffodils are supposed to be. There are twigs and gravel bits all through the lily bed, dead frogs are splayed on the pond surface, and to add insult to injury, the rocks are coming loose in the waterfall. It was my fervent hope that this spring I would get a jump on the gardening by doing the bulk of the work in the fall. Mother Nature laughs at a plan.



The beautiful gardens outside the Almonte Old Town Hall, photographed by DeSa Photography

So here I am now, bent double, pretending not to be working in the garden by prying weeds out with bare hands. I don't get right down on my knees because this is supposed to be only a cursory inspection, but before I know it, my jeans are dirty, my hands are a mess and I have to get out the wheelbarrow to gather up the detritus I'm accumulating. Who would have thought stuff could grow like this over a winter? Ma Nature, that's who!

She and I are in a constant tussle to see who will rule in this garden. I've given her a bit of leeway in some of the beds, probably not wise since her idea of beauty leans toward invasive dreadful plants. I have tried to foil her efforts by digging out a couple of the beds when she wasn't looking, and replacing everything with proper plants: lilies, irises, rudbeckias, and peonies, all of which I love. Within a month or so, she moves right in, and scatters Queen Anne's Lace and some daisy-like thing everywhere, totally oblivious to the fact that they aren't supposed to grow where I've mulched. Can't she see that?

Just as I think I'm in control again, she arrives with stonecrop. One time she heard me say I love yellow flowers, so in her effort to win approval, she's chucked it everywhere through the so-called lawn, which isn't lawn, but rather a mottled weed bed only she could love. It's the gift that keeps on giving,

similar to goutweed, dandelions, and her big favourite the periwinkle.

At one time I thought I could outwit her by planting poppy seeds. Indeed, she loves them; so much so that she's moved them from my one single bed throughout the whole garden, totally overwhelming the desert so we can't even enjoy the cactus flowers that struggle to bloom beneath the blousy mass of red. Okay, I have to admit I love those poppies; but really, everywhere?

The garden was carved out of a wooded area, so Mother Nature figures her purpose is to return it to its original state. To that end, she is deviously rooting poplar trees, sprouting hackberry seedlings, and encouraging sumac and prickly ash to grow vigorously in any area I have just cleaned up. No sooner have I weeded and stood back to admire than in she sweeps with her little shovel, and giggles as she undoes my labours. Sometimes I despair!

She wouldn't countenance a proper vegetable garden either. We built lovely raised beds, filled them with the best soil and compost, and, ever the optimist, planted carrots, radishes, beets and the usual things people enjoy come summer. "Oh no," says she. "Those aren't for you." Before the seedlings were an inch high, they were mowed down by some bug she imported. All right: we would put in potatoes and cover them with straw. Very good plan until the mulch started growing and we had some sort of grain growing higher than the potatoes. We did manage to get potatoes when she wasn't looking — much to her disgust, I'm sure.

I look at other gardens, urban dreams of pristine order and colour, and see that Ma Nature has decided our place is where she wants to reside. My fellow gardeners should be grateful to me for letting her stay here where she can wreak all sorts of damage, allowing them to continue to create a paradise of perfection.

However, I refuse to simply concede defeat. This garden gives me hours of enjoyment, and once in a while a complete triumph will occur. As we speak, the hundreds of daffodils that are all over the property are beginning to bloom. There are so many that even Ma Nature has to admit they are gorgeous. For the next little while, she'll leave me alone to revel in success. In this moment of exuberance, I'm gearing up to make this place a showpiece this year. I'm going to clean up the hostas, rein in the periwinkle, arrange artistic planters, grow barrels of cucumbers and an abundance of tomatoes, have hollyhocks higher than my head, edge all the beds, and watch everything thrive in glorious profusion.

My nemesis is at her drawing board already, I'm sure, just itching to invade wherever she can. She won't be content until the whole place is back to being forest. Bring it on, Girl — I've got gloves and a big shovel! I'm ready for ya!

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Last year's event sold out,
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For information: 613-257-7121, ext. #3238
or visit: www.therapeuticriding.ca



Out-and-About Time in Perth

If you're looking to skip out on your spring yard work, it's a good thing you're reading this — there's lots of good stuff happening in Perth in May that can keep you busy, stuff that doesn't require you fixing a fickle lawn mower, or yanking tiresome weeds, or pruning crape myrtles. Goodness.

Indeed, it's good time of year to get out and about.

Music lovers can do so on May 6 as the Studio Theatre presents an intimate evening with **Séan McCann**. Best known as a founding member of the award-winning Newfoundland band Great Big Sea, McCann is now on his own and touring his second solo album, *You Know I Love You*, which was produced

by John Pigeau

by Joel Plaskett. This tour is all about McCann's love for both music and connection, and sharing those things sincerely and intimately with others. An engaging performer, he has a great voice, inspiring stories to tell, and a message that sings to the heart. This will no doubt be a beautiful and memorable show. McCann takes the stage at the Studio Theatre at 8PM. Doors open at 7:30PM. And you can get tickets for \$30 in advance from Tickets Please at <ticketsplease.ca>, in person at 11 Gore Street East, or by calling 485-6434. You can also buy tickets at the door for \$35. But I'd recommend getting yours early.

You can literally get out and about on Sunday, May 7, for the **Hike for Hospice** Fundraising Walk. Shed a few of those pesky winter pounds while raising money for a beloved community resource. The walk begins at 12PM at the Crystal Palace, and I'm not entirely sure of the route but the walk ends back at the Crystal Palace at 2PM. To register, donate, or find out more about where the hike will take you, please call Fiona Bladon at 326-0775.

There's more music to dust off your soul and another splendid concert on May 13, as **Christine Graves and Kate Weekes** team up to share an evening of song at the Full Circle Theatre at 8PM. Both talented singer-songwriters have roots in the Perth area — Kate is originally from Smiths Falls, and Christine lived in Balderson for fifteen years and now lives in Ottawa — so I would imagine this will be a sold-out show, or darn close to it. (Hint: Get your tickets early.) James Stephens

will accompany them on fiddle and Franc van Oort on guitars. In the breaking and good news department, it was just announced that Christine's song *Rise Above* has won the "Songs of Protest, Songs of Hope" contest of sing-a-longable songs, and she will be featured at the Ottawa Grassroots Festival as part of that contest. Tickets for what is sure to be an excellent show are \$22 in advance and are available at Shadowfax (267-6817).

More music? Not a problem. The MERA concert series continues Sunday, May 14 with an afternoon affair with gifted local pianist **Michael Costello**. Michael is well known locally as he teaches music at area schools and also has a practice and teaching studio in Carleton Place, where he teaches students of all ages. For half of this show, Michael will be playing songs by Chopin on a Piano Controller, which

creates a sound like the 1835 Pleyel piano, synonymous with Chopin's playing style. The other half of the program will feature Michael playing songs by Mozart. The show begins at 2PM at the MERA Schoolhouse. Tickets are \$27.50 in advance and available at Tickets Please. Students under 16 are free, but space is limited so organizers ask that you please book a ticket.

Opening night celebrations for PDCI's 7th annual **Art Show and Sale** take place at Café Bean (1 Sherbrooke Street E.) on Friday, May 19 from 5:30-8PM. This is a truly exciting event for PDCI's

talented art students and also for Tara Legacy, one of the main organizers and PDCI's visual arts teacher. "I find opening night more exciting than Christmas!" she says.

What also makes this show and sale truly inspiring is that half the proceeds will help pay for the finishing touches on the school's Memorial Garden, something that's close to Tara's heart. "We started the memorial garden four years ago," she says. "It has been a goal of mine since I started working here in 2002. Over the course of my fifteen-year career here we have lost 18 students to a variety of tragedies. So far the garden consists of several large rocks donated by Willows Farm and a stone bench engraved with the words, LOVE, HOPE, and COURAGE. I also created a stained-glass piece that contains colours inspired by the students we have lost."

Tara says the Memorial Garden is located in a quiet spot just off of PDCI's track and football field.



Works by Tara Legacy's PDCI art students (like the piece by Angus Edmundson above) will be on display at Café Bean in Perth from May 19

"The next stage is to have the names of our departed students carved into the stones that edge the garden. We are half-way to the goal of the funds needed for the carving. Previous art show funds have paid for stone edging landscaping supplies, a stone bench, and carving an inscription into the bench."

The Art Show and Sale is also a great lesson for students, Tara says, as the other half of money from sales goes to the students as paid artists. "It's a lesson in how to sell art and what it feels like to lose money to commission sales."

She also says opening night, which also showcases many of the school's singer-songwriters and musicians, is her favourite night of the year. "I thoroughly enjoy hearing the music and seeing the public's reaction to the art and music. The students are so nervous about opening night and get super excited when the work sells or even just getting positive feedback from the guests. For the students going on to pursue music or art in post-secondary, the feedback and community support gives them confidence in their choices for their futures." PDCI's Art Show and Sale runs from May 19 to June 2.

In celebration of three of Perth's most popular restaurants, the Downtown Heritage Perth BIA is bringing back a popular fundraiser: Perth's **Progressive Dinner Party**. This scrumptious party takes place Saturday, May 27, and includes stops at a different restaurant for each course: Mex & Co., Maximilian's, and Fiddleheads Bar & Grill. Folks meet up at the Perth Museum at 5:30PM, enjoy a glass of wine, split into three groups of twenty, and then head out on their culinary tour and journey. Tickets are \$65 and available at Tickets Please. There are only 60 tickets for this event, so act quickly. Proceeds help support the BIA's downtown lights initiative. Enjoy your meals!



Catch Kate Weekes (above) & Christine Graves on May 13

**Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists present
Spring Gathering 2017/Tickets \$40
Doors open 5 pm/Reception/Dinner/Speaker
Thursday May 18/Almonte Civitan**

**"How Things
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Happy Anniversary, Book Nook!

In this year of major sesquicentennial celebrations, a small independent bookshop in Perth is celebrating its own notable anniversary — The Book Nook is turning ten! And as a way of saying thanks to everyone who has supported them over the past decade, owner Leslie Wallack is hosting special events on every Saturday in May, with fantastic gift draws at each one.

On Saturday, May 6, meet Carleton Place author **Natasha Peterson** from 1–3PM. Natasha will give a reading and bring copies of her first two titles, *Gayle the Goose Goes Global* and *Nutty Neighbours*, as well as her most recent — *Harold the Homeless Hermit*.

Saturday, May 13 will feature a meet & greet / art show with artist **Lynn Wallack-Maraczi** from 11AM until 4PM. Working with acrylics, mixed media and copper embossing, Lynn's main focus is abstract, inspired by her connection to the natural world.

Area historian and author **Arlene Stafford-Wilson** comes to the store on Saturday, May 20 from 12–3PM for a meet & greet and book signing, with copies of her numerous and very popular books about Lanark County characters and history. A former newsletter editor and long-time member of the Lanark County Genealogical Society, she writes about local history, and has authored articles for both Canadian and Irish genealogical publications.

And on Saturday, May 27, don't miss the chance to meet and hear from award-winning author **Charlotte Gray**, from 1–2PM. As another special incentive, if you pre-order or pay by May 5, you will receive 20%



Photo by Yelberg Imaging

Several authors — including Charlotte Gray (above) will be helping The Book Nook in Perth celebrate the store's tenth anniversary in May

off any of her books. Gray is one of Canada's best-known writers, and the author of ten acclaimed books of literary non-fiction. Born in Sheffield, England, and educated at Oxford University and the London School of Economics, she began her writing career in England as a magazine editor and newspaper columnist. After coming to Canada in 1979, she worked as a political commentator, book reviewer and magazine columnist before she turned to biography and popular history.

Charlotte's most recent book is *The Promise of Canada: 150 Years — People and Ideas That Have Shaped Our Country*. Her previous book, *The Massey Murder*, won the Toronto Book Award and the Toronto Heritage Book Award, was long-listed for the B.C. Non-Fiction Award, and shortlisted for the Charles Taylor Award, the Ottawa Award for Non-Fiction and the Evergreen Award. Charlotte is a member of the Order of Canada and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Any in-store purchase made during the hours of each event gives you a chance to win the great gift(s) of that specific day. Giveaways include Ravensburger puzzles, arts and crafts supplies, stacking shaker boxes (generously donated by Simply Shaker Custom Furniture), and much more. There will also be flash sales and specials throughout the month, so drop in often at 60 Gore St. E., or find The Book Nook on Facebook for more details.

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Look for event details at
www.downtowncarletonplace.com

Active Transportation Summit

Are you interested in living in a healthy active community — one that is safe for walking and cycling? Perhaps you're a downtown business person intrigued by the economic potential of pedestrian- and cycle-friendly communities, or a town planner or staff person interested in learning best practice techniques of others who are building healthier towns. Maybe you're a resident who wants to be able to get around your community more easily and safely on foot or on a bike. No matter who you are, you are welcome to participate in the 4th annual Eastern Ontario Active Transportation Summit.

This year's Summit will take place in Carleton Place this year on May 31 and June 1. The Honorable Eleanor McMahon, Minister of Sport Tourism and Culture, will open the

event and give a keynote address. Other highlights will include the Mayor's Slow Bike Race, an update about the Share the Road Cycling Coalition, and a Bicycle-Friendly Communities workshop. Jennifer McCourt of Discovery Routes will hold a stakeholders meeting for communities like Mississippi Mills, Carleton Place and Beckwith, and those from Renfrew County that are on the new Voyageur Cycling Route — a section of the Waterfront Trail. Nancy Smith Lea, the director of the Toronto Centre for Active Transportation, will talk about their rural initiatives.

Everyone is invited to come out and learn more about the simple concepts that make towns healthier, more vibrant and stronger economically. Find details and register at <healthyllg.org>.

“Spring Pops” with the CP Band

The Carleton Place and District Community Band is pleased to announce a return to their spring concert tradition with “Spring Pops! Snappy Marches to Broadway Spectaculars”. The concert will take place on Saturday, May 27 at 7:30PM in the Carleton Place Town Hall auditorium. Tickets are \$10 and will be available at The Green Counter Boutique (18 Mill Street) or at the door.

The Band, now fully settled under the direction of their new musical director, Gary Payne, will be playing a variety of tunes, from traditional favourites like *A Welsh Rhapsody* and *Cape St. Mary's* to recent Broadway hits like *And All That Jazz* and *Les Misérables*. The Band also plans to include a good streak of Canadian

tunes in the concert to celebrate Canada's sesquicentennial.

Also performing at the concert are Meghan Hubert and George Kay, a pair of Notre Dame High School musicians who came together to perform at a school coffeehouse. The Band is looking forward to their folk-tinged performance.

The CP Band is a volunteer organization of musicians ranging from secondary school students to seniors. They are always eager to have new members join in the fun! They rehearse every Monday evening and play for many community events. If you are interested in joining, contact Mike Peckett at <mpeckett@sympatico.ca> or ask a band member!

High Tea at Temple's

Join the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust (MMLT) on June 4 for a traditional English afternoon tea at Temple's Sugar Bush & Restaurant from 1–4PM. This beautiful rustic venue in the heart of MMLT's catchment area couldn't be a better spot to enjoy one of the most quintessential of British customs.

It's that time of year when the buds have just unfurled into fresh green leaves, the lilacs are in bloom, and gardens are beginning to flourish. That's why both indoor and outdoor activities are on offer to fill your afternoon.

Temple's will be serving the customary dainty sandwiches, scones with clotted

cream and jam, cakes, pastries and a selection of fine teas and coffee. Gluten-free options will also be served. Live music will be playing gently in the background while you share the afternoon with friends.

CBC Radio's garden host Ed Lawrence will be on hand to give tours and tips in the lovely flower garden at Temple's. There will also be a silent auction with a variety of gifts for table, garden and lawn. One lucky bidder will win a private consultation with Ed Lawrence in their own garden!

This event is a fundraiser for the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust. The proceeds will help support the conserva-



tion of ecologically significant lands in our region. Tickets are \$50 and are on sale now at <mmlt.ca/events> or by cash or cheque at Gilligallou Bird Inc. in Almonte or Shadowfax in Perth. The deadline for ticket sales is Saturday, May 29.

Temple's Sugar Bush is located at 1700 Ferguson Falls Rd., between Carleton Place and Perth. For more information, please contact <admin@mmlt.ca> or call Judy at 264–8856.

Have afternoon tea with Ed Lawrence on June 4 as a fundraiser for the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust

Taste of the County 2017

12th Annual Fundraiser for Therapeutic Riding

The Lanark County Therapeutic Riding Program would like to invite you to our 12th annual "For a Taste of the County" food, beer and wine gala on Monday, June 5 at the beautiful Stonefields Heritage Farm in Beckwith.

Donations have already started rolling in for the auction, but we are always looking for more. This year we are also introducing "painted chairs" — a fun addition to our silent auction. This is a concept whereby local artists paint and/or decorate any kind of chair, and donate that creation to our auction. We have a few donated chairs that still require "claiming" by an artist, and we hope to be able to present them (along with a small artist profile) at the gala.

The 2017 gala will once again be hosted at Stonefields incredible new, state-of-the-art event barn, which includes a beautiful outdoor terrace. Stonefields is an outdoor event destination located at 1985 9th Line in Beckwith. This historic property boasts an old stone farmhouse, country gardens, log cabins and rustic barns, plus acres and acres of rolling farmland. It is an absolutely perfect venue for our gala, and many guests last year commented on how much they enjoyed the location.

This food and wine tasting event is immensely popular, and we are expecting another sold-out crowd of two hundred people. In addition to the \$20 entry fee, gala goers will purchase \$1 coupons and each vendor will price their tasters so that you have the opportunity to sample many different appetizers, main courses, desserts, beer and wine.

While wandering through the many delicious offerings, we en-

courage gala goers to bid in the fabulous *huge* silent auction. All of the items are donated by local artists, artisans, businesses or individuals, with proceeds going to the riding program.

The Therapeutic Riding Program is celebrating 32 years of providing therapeutic riding lessons in Lanark County. All our funds are raised through grants, fundraising activities, donations and the generosity of the world's best volunteers! Come and share a toast with us at this wonderful event.

"For a Taste of the County" runs from 6–9PM on Monday, June 5. Tickets are \$20 each, and are available at Baker Bob's in Almonte, Lanark Community Programs in Carleton Place, or by reserving in advance. Come out with your friends to celebrate spring, and treat yourself to a delicious evening. For more information or to hold tickets at the door, contact 257-7121 x3238 or <info@therapeuticriding.ca>.

— Amy Booth



Once again, the Therapeutic Riding Program is offering great food and drink for a great cause at their gala on June 5



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Afternoon Tea at Temple's
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A fundraiser for the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust
Saturday, June 4th
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
With Silent Auction, Garden Tours & Tips with Ed Lawrence, Live Music and More
Tickets \$50, sold online at mmlt.ca/events or by cash or cheque at Gilligalou Bird Store in Almonte and Shadowfax in Perth.
For more information, please contact admin@mmlt.ca or call 613-264-8856.

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JOIN US JULY 7, 8, & 9, 2017
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Join us for some great music and dance, workshops, fiddle mass, Little Celtz Zone, session tent, buskers, senior's tent, food and artisan vendors, beer gardens and so much more!
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Spring Art Fair
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Saturday May 20th 10am - 5pm
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How Things Lead to Other Things

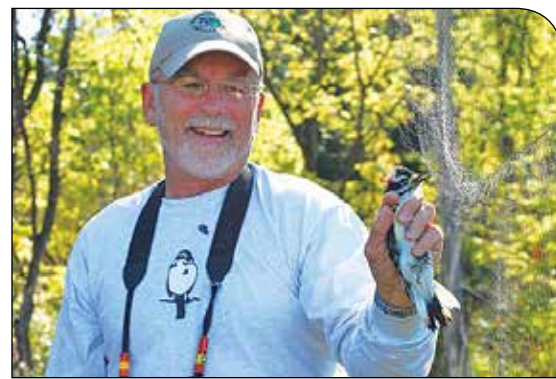
Can bird banding be a catalyst for social change? Find out on May 18 when the **Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists** hold their annual Spring Gathering at the Almonte Civitan Hall. The evening will feature a banquet, silent auction fundraiser for environmental education, and a keynote presentation entitled: "How Things Lead to Other Things: The Unexpected Results of Pursuing Birds" with Rick Ludkin, an Ontario master bird bander and sponsor/educator of birders of all ages, near and far.

Ludkin has a very diverse history in conservation birding, particularly with the "close encounters", hands-on approach of traditional bird band monitoring. It would be interesting to know exactly how many fragile snow buntings, golden-winged warblers, various Kenyan weavers and other birds he has held gently in his hands, to measure, band, and glance at for a fleeting moment before releasing. It must be in the many tens of thousands! A children's mental health expert by profession, Ludkin has always had a significant side career. He began bird banding in the 1970s, and in 1995 established a Canadian Migration Monitoring Station at Ruthven Park: Haldimand Bird Observatory. Hundreds of school children enjoy time banding and "scribing" about the migrating birds there with his team. Several field-work trips to the Arctic studying northern fulmars and common eiders also gave Ludkin a love and respect for snow buntings, and he later collaborated to create

the Canadian Snow Bunting Network. In February, Ludkin and a small team spent a day banding the snow buntings of Lanark County at a popular stopover site for the migrant flocks at a property in Sheridan Rapids. In 2013 he set out to a rural area of western Kenya to help found the Matangwe Bird Club, and has returned each year. The story of this transformative project and the diversity of birds Rick witnesses during his time there are stunning!

How far do the ripples reach, when children and communities develop acute knowledge and skills to study the wild species around them? Rick Ludkin will share his hopes and insights.

MVFN's **Spring Gathering 2017** begins at 5:30PM (doors open at 5) with a reception and chance to share a drink with friends and bid in the silent auction. Dinner begins at 6:30PM, and then sit back and enjoy the presentation! Tickets (\$40) must be purchased or reserved by Thursday, May 11, and are available in Almonte at Gilligallou Bird Inc., in Carleton Place at The Blossom Shop, and in Perth at



Rick Ludkin will give a talk on "The Unexpected Results of Pursuing Birds" at MVFN's Spring Gathering on May 18 (photo by Nancy Furber)

The Office. Further details can be found at <mvfn.ca>. To reserve your ticket(s) for pick up at the venue, please contact MVFN's Sylvia Miller at 256-7825 or <sylvia.miller.inclayton@gmail.com>.

— Submitted by the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists

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Pottery Sale
May 6 & 7
10AM TO 5PM

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Explore Our Backyard! Perth Launches Canada 150 Celebration Plans

The Town of Perth will take three days and many ways to honour Canada's 150th anniversary, including a Party by the Basin on June 30.

With a theme of "Explore our Backyard", the Town wants residents and visitors to embrace all things Canadian that already exist within Perth's landscape.

"When you think about summer in Canada, you think about heading to the water, getting together with family and friends and finding the time to slow down and have a really good time," says Perth Tourism Manager Karen Rennie. "That's our plan for Canada Day weekend, and so there's no need to travel afar for the big-city experience. We've got it all right here."

Party By The Basin

The three-day long weekend celebration will kick-off with a brand new event at the Tay Basin. Closing down the Crystal Palace parking lot, the Town will host a Party by the Basin — an outdoor celebration including three bands, a food market hosted by the Midnight Makers, cold brew from the Perth Brewery, a wine and drink table run by the Stewart Park Festival committee, and samples from Top Shelf Distillers.

The music line-up includes the Keith Glass Band, Juno-award-nominated artist JW-Jones, and MonkeyJunk. A stage will be set up in front of the Crystal Palace and the party will take place in the parking lot. The gates will open at 5PM and the music starts at 7PM.

"It's going to be an incredible vibe in the downtown core that day," says Perth Mayor John Fenik. "This is going to be an unforgettable way to celebrate Canada's birthday."

Tickets are set to go on sale May 1 through Tickets Please <ticketsplease.ca>, and the numbers are limited to 2,000 attendees. The cost is \$25 per person (plus service fee) and the ticket will also grant you access to the Perth Passport, which is a local business initiative that will give ticket holders summer-long access to special deals at participating businesses.

Family-Fun Activities

The long-standing Canada Day tradition will continue at Conlon Farm on July 1. Running from 5-11PM, the day will include children's activities, live music and fireworks. An ecumenical service is also planned for Sunday afternoon at 1PM in Stewart Park.

For more details, visit <perth.ca/canada150> or stay up-to-date on the Perth Tourism Facebook Page.

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OUR GIFT SHOP IS OPEN AND SHELVES ARE STOCKED WITH GIFT IDEAS AND INSPIRATION FOR THE GARDEN ENTHUSIAST.

Maximilian's *Sound of Music* Luncheon

Music to the Ears for Those Dealing with Alzheimer's

Maximilian's restaurant is a culinary landmark that has been serving the Perth and Smiths Falls area for 43 years, with authentic European-style cuisine and warm, caring hospitality. For many restaurants, being known for these things might be enough, but not for Maximilian's. Their reputation for quality may have begun in the kitchen, but it's what comes from the hearts and minds of their *people* that makes Maximilian's a vital part of the community. The restaurant's support of organizations such as Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Lanark County Support Services and the Alzheimer Society (among others) has established Maximilian's as a business that cares.

In keeping with that reputation, on Sunday, May 7, Maximilian's will host a special *Sound of Music*-themed luncheon to benefit the local Alzheimer's Society, and help families dealing with this life-changing disease. Along with a delicious Bavarian-style buffet, there will be a sing-along version of the famous movie, a photo booth, a trivia contest, and themed door prizes. The grand prize will be a \$50 gift certificate to Maximilian's and tickets to the full season of plays at Perth's Studio Theatre. There are only 80 luncheon tickets available, at \$25 each, and they can be purchased at the restaurant at 99 Gore St. East in Perth, or by contacting the

Alzheimer's Society. Reservations can be made by calling 267-2536.

Maximilian's is also making important ongoing operational changes to support Alzheimer's and dementia sufferers. The restaurant was recently approached by the Alzheimer Society to become the first "Dementia-Friendly" eating establishment in Perth, a move that recognizes the growing needs of our aging population.

The owners of Maximilian's, Joan Stephenson-Bowes, Kevin Van Dusen and Sheri Robertson, believe that being dementia-friendly is a natural extension of Maximilian's philosophy. "Serving great food is important to us, but so is serving the larger needs of our community," says Joan.

"Our customers truly appreciate what we're doing," echoes Sheri Robertson. "Many of our patrons are older, and it's another way we can be sensitive to their needs."

Kevin Van Dusen agrees. "It's taken some doing for Maximilian's to become Perth's first and only dementia-friendly restaurant, but we feel it's well worth the effort."

Staff and owners have taken training that explained the disease, the characteristics of those with dementia, and ways to make sufferers more comfortable in

a restaurant environment. With the assistance of the Lanark County Camera Club, a special menu is being developed that features pictures instead of words, making it easier for people with dementia to order. It's hoped that other restaurants and businesses in our area will soon realize the value of being sensitive to the needs of those with dementia, in all its forms.

In the meantime, reserve your place today at the Maximilian's *Sound of Music* luncheon on Sunday, May 7 (11AM to 2PM), in support of the Alzheimer's Society. It's an event guaranteed to feed the soul as well the body...

Let Music Sing & Ring

Voices will be singing and bells will be ringing at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Carleton Place on Friday, May 26! A concert entitled "Let Music Sing & Ring" will feature the Trinity Hilltop Ringers, with Robin Tropper on oboe, and special guests the Carleton Place Offbeats. The evening begins at 7:30PM, tickets are \$15 (available at Graham's Shoes in CP or at the door), and proceeds will go towards St. Andrew's Church.

The **Trinity Hilltop Ringers** formed in 2004 under the experienced direction of English handbell specialist Stuart Belson. The group has grown from eight members with virtually no experience, into a skilled ensemble of twelve members ringing 4-5 octaves of Schulmerich handbells and handchimes. The Hilltop Ringers hail from Trinity Presbyterian Church in Carp, and are directed by the church's minister of music, David Chin. They play a varied repertoire, both sacred and secular, in concerts and services in their home church, as well as at other churches, nursing homes and festivals in the region. Their program for this concert features *You Raise Me Up*, as well as a Gershwin medley that includes *Embraceable You*, *Rhapsody in Blue*, and *I Got Rhythm*.

The **Carleton Place Offbeats — A Vocal Jazz Ensemble** was established by Margo Smith in 2005, with assistance from Robert Dueck (music direc-



The Trinity Hilltop Ringers (above) will join the Carleton Place Offbeats in a concert on May 26 that will let music ring and sing!

tor of the West Ottawa Ladies Chorus). This SATB ensemble rehearses swing music every Thursday afternoon at St. Andrew's in Carleton Place. The group has grown to include seventeen singers and three instrumentalists, with Margo on keyboard. They enjoy local performance opportunities as well as entertaining at retirement communities. Their program will include songs from the 1940s to the 1960s, such as *Gonna Build a Mountain*, *Java Jive*, *Dream, I'll Be Seeing You*, and many others.

For more details, contact St. Andrew's at 257-3133 or email <carletonplaceoffbeats@gmail.com>.

United Way Golf Tournament

Plan to spend Saturday, June 17, on the greens of the Smiths Falls Golf and Country Club (125 Golf Club Road). Purchasing a \$100 ticket (SFGCC members \$75) will get you 18 holes of golf, a cart, games, prizes, an all-you-can-eat roast beef dinner, a silent auction, and the warm fuzzy feeling you get from helping a good cause. Family and Children's Services of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville (FCSLG) is holding this annual fundraising event for the United Way of Leeds & Grenville and Lanark County.

Mike Fair Chevrolet, Buick, GMC, Cadillac Ltd. of Smiths Falls has donated five Hole-in-One-Prizes that include a car, golf vacation, golf clubs, and golf swag. There will also be prizes for Best Team, Closest to the Pin, Closest to the Line and Beat the Pro.

Register yourself or your team of four golfers and buy dinner tickets by contacting Cynthia Redmond at 1-855-667-2726 x4121 or <cynthia.redmond@fcslg.ca>. Register by May 15 to be entered in the draw to win an LG LED Television donated by Stephen Leblanc, owner of Smiths Falls Hyundai.

The United Way Leeds and Grenville helps FCSLG send hundreds of children in need to summer camp programs every summer and provides funding so families can participate in the Family Counselling program. The United Way Lanark County also helps with their snowsuit campaign and the Angel Tree programs at Christmas time. The support the United Way provides is invaluable to local children and families.

It's spring cleaning time, not only for your home and lawn...
but for your vehicle as well.

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- SEPT** Celebrate Bees. Make a bee skep.
- OCT** Celebrate Willow. Make a basket.

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Claiming Column

Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month, June
The Spitfire Grill, Perth, Jun 1-11
 Pioneer Day, Almonte, Jun 3
 Priorpalooza Festival, Arnprior, Jun 3
 Red Trillium Tour, W. Carleton, Jun 3-4
 MMLT Afternoon Tea, Temple's, Jun 4
 Taste of the County, Beckwith, Jun 5
 Healthy Living Festival, SE, Jun 17
 Perth Kilt Run, Jun 24
 Highland on the Rideau, SE, Jun 24
 Irish Ceili and Picnic, SE, Jun 25
 Party by the Basin, Perth, Jun 30
 Steel City Rovers, SE, Jun 30
 Rideau Lakes Tour, Rideau Lakes, Jul 1-2
 Almonte Celtsfest, Jul 7-9
 Stewart Park Festival, July 14-16
 Almonte Fair, July 14-16

Youth

Guys & Dolls Jr!, May 16, 7:30PM, Academy for Musical Theatre performers aged 7-17. Code's Mill, Perth. musictheatre.ca. \$12

Festivals

Perth Regional Heritage Fair, May 11, 9AM-2:30PM. Displays, demos, entertainment. Perth Legion. prhf.org

Franktown Lilac Festival, May 27, 8AM-7PM. Pancakes, BBQ, kids' bike parade, music, etc. Centennial Hall, Franktown. 257-1539

Literature

Book Nook 10th Anniversary, May 6, 1-3PM, Natasha Peterson; May 20, 12-3PM, Arlene Stafford-Wilson; May 27, 1-2PM, Charlotte Gray. Book Nook, Perth, 267-2350

Voice Choice, May 16, 6-7PM. Discover your writing voice. Register: 257-2702. Carleton Place Library,

Local Food

Farmers' Markets Open:

May 6, 8AM-12PM, **Renfrew** Armouries. renfrewfarmersmarket.com
 May 13, 8AM-1PM. **Carp** Fairgrounds. carpfarmersmarket.ca
 May 13, 8:30AM-12:30PM. **Carleton Place** Market Square. cpfarmersmarket.wordpress.com
 May 13, 8AM-1PM. Crystal Palace, **Perth**. perthfarmersmarket.ca
 May 20, 8:30AM-12:30PM. **Almonte** Library. almontefarmersmarket.com
 May 20, 9AM-1PM. MERA Schoolhouse, **McDonalds Corners**. 278-2739
 May 20, 8AM-12PM. **McNab/Braeside**, Hwy 17 at Calabogie Rd. 623-0950
 May 20, 9AM-1PM. Oso Beach, **Sharbot Lake**. sharbotlakefarmersmarket.ca

Community Garden Rejuvenation, May 13, 14, 9AM. Bring wheelbarrows, shovels, rakes. St. Gregory's Next Door Com. Garden, 176 Townline Rd. W., CP

Mother's Day Community Market, May 14, 10AM-4PM. 262 Len Purcell Dr., Woodlawn. marketinthebay.com

Visual Arts

Community Art Show & Sale, May 6, 10AM-5PM. Arnprior Library, 21 Madawaska St., Arnprior

Open Studio - Living Stones, May 6-7, 10AM-4PM. Schweighardt Studio, 1787 3rd Conc. Dalhousie. livingstonessculptures.ca

Paint & Sip, May 6, 1-3PM. N. Lanark Regional Museum, Appleton. 257-8503, \$40

Art in the Attic, May 12 (7-9), 13 (10-7) & 14 (10-4). Almonte Old Town Hall. almonteartintheatric.wordpress.com. Free

Lynn Wallack-Maraczki, May 13, 11AM-4PM. Meet the artist. The Book Nook, Perth. 267-2350



WHAT'S ON IN

Monday

1
 Bridge Club, Arnprior, Smiths Falls
 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge

8
 Bridge Club, Arnprior, Smiths Falls
 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge

15
 Almonte Hort: Bees, Almonte
 Bridge Club, Arnprior, Smiths Falls
 Auditions: Moon Over the Brewery, Perth
 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge
 SF Community Theatre Foundation AGM, SF

22
 Bridge Club, Arnprior, Smiths Falls
 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge

29
 4As Meeting, Almonte
 Bridge Club, Arnprior, Smiths Falls
 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge
 Parkinson's Support Group, Perth, Almonte
 Travels w/my Aunt: Adventures in Europe 1914, Arnprior

Soundwork Exhibition Opening, May 13, 2-5PM. 6 new sonic installations. Fieldwork, Maberly. fieldworkproject.com
PDCl Student Art Show & Sale, May 19, 5:30-8PM. Café Bean, 1 Sherbrooke St., Perth
Meet the Artist: Jeweller Stephen Clark, May 21, 2-4PM. Riverguild Fine Crafts, 51 Gore St. E., Perth. 267-5237
Arts CP Art Show & Sale, May 27-28, 10AM-4PM. CP Canoe Club, 179 John St., Carleton Place. artscarletonplace.com
Fashion Blooms Fashion Show, May 28, 12-2PM or 3-5PM. w/Darrell Thomas Textiles. Tix: MVTM, Baker Bob's. Textile Museum, Almonte. mvtm.ca. \$20
Almonte & Area Artists' Assoc, May 29, 7:30-9PM. Almonte Library, 256-5863, 4a-artists.ca. Free
Paint w/Janet Fundraiser, May 31, 6:45PM. Therapeutic Riding fundraiser. Thirsty Moose, CP. therapeuticriding.ca. \$45

Tuesday

2
 4-Hand Euchre, Bolingbroke
 Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub
 Green Drinks, Perth
 Bridge Club, Smiths Falls

9
 4-Hand Euchre, Bolingbroke
 Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub
 Indigenous Rights Pilgrimage: Talk, Perth
 Shrubs, Conifers, Small Trees, Perth
 Bridge Club, Smiths Falls
 Perennials, Carp
 Women's Business Lunch, CP

16
 4-Hand Euchre, Bolingbroke
 Auditions: Moon Over the Brewery, Perth
 Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub
 Community BOGO Dinner, CP
 Guys & Dolls Jr!, Perth
 Notre Dame Spring Concert, CP
 Bridge Club, Smiths Falls
 Voice Choice, CP

23
 4-Hand Euchre, Bolingbroke
 Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub
 Bridge Club, Smiths Falls

30
 4-Hand Euchre, Bolingbroke
 Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub
 Bridge Club, Smiths Falls
 Union Hall AGM, Mississippi Mills

Wednesday

3
 Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub
 Bridge Club, Almonte
 CP Hort: Pruning/Flower Show, CP
 Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub
 Shawn McCullough, The Cove

10
 Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub
 Bridge Club, Almonte
 Seniors' Potluck, Bolingbroke
 I, Daniel Blake, Perth
 Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub
 Shawn McCullough, The Cove
 Talk: Pollinators, Almonte

17
 Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub
 Bridge Club, Almonte
 Dinner & Film: Sugar Coated, Perth
 Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub
 Pakenham Hort Soc Mtg, Pakenham
 Shawn McCullough, The Cove

24
 Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub
 Bridge Club, Almonte
 La La Land, Perth
 Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub
 Shawn McCullough, The Cove

31
 Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub
 Bridge Club, Almonte
 Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub
 Paint w/Janet TRP Fundraiser, CP
 Shawn McCullough, The Cove

Thursday

4
 Bridge Club, Arnprior
 Linedancing Begins, Almonte
 Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow
 Karaoke, Valley Food & Drink Co.
 Mahjong, Bolingbroke
 Musicians' Circle, Bolingbroke
 Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe
 Talk: Celebrate Diversity, Almonte
 Supporting Victims of Sexual Assault, CP
 The Chalk Garden, Smiths Falls
 Whisky Tasting for AGH, Almonte

11
 Bridge Club, Arnprior
 I, Daniel Blake, Smiths Falls
 Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow
 Karaoke, Valley Food & Drink Co.
 Mahjong, Bolingbroke
 Musicians' Circle, Bolingbroke
 Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe
 Perth Regional Heritage Fair, Perth
 The Slocan Ramblers, Perth
 Toastmasters, CP

18
 Bridge Club, Arnprior
 Jazz w/Peter Brown Trio, Perth
 Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio, The Cove
 Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow
 Karaoke, Valley Food & Drink Co.
 Mahjong, Bolingbroke
 Musicians' Circle, Bolingbroke
 Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe

25
 Bridge Club, Arnprior
 Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio, The Cove
 Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow
 Karaoke, Valley Food & Drink Co.
 La La Land, Smiths Falls
 Mahjong, Bolingbroke
 Musicians' Circle, Bolingbroke
 Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe
 Toastmasters Leadership Workshop, CP

31
 Bridge Club, Arnprior
 Jazz Night w/Spencer Evans Trio, The Cove
 Karaoke, Valley Food & Drink Co.
 Mahjong, Bolingbroke
 Musicians' Circle, Bolingbroke
 Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe
 The Spitfire Grill, Perth

Theatre

The Chalk Garden, May 4-6 at 7:30PM; May 7 at 2PM. Station Theatre, SF. 283-0300. com. \$20/\$10
H.M.S. Pinafore, May 5-6 at 8PM. Tix: Hallmark. CP Town Hall. MississippiMudds.ca. mississippimudds.ca. \$20
LIPS Poetry Slam Finals, May 5, 7:30PM. w/ Johnny McRae. McMartin House, Perth. lanarklips@hotmail.com. \$10
Hidden Figures, May 12, 7:30PM. Movie night for Team Diabetes. Studio Theatre, Perth. 485-6434, studiotheatreperth.com. \$10
SF Com. Theatre AGM, May 15, 7:30PM. Station Theatre, Smiths Falls. 283-0300, smithsfallstheatre.com
Singin In the Rain, May 19 & 20, 7PM. Station Theatre, SF. 283-0300, smithsfallstheatre.com. \$10/\$5

Film Night International presents **I, Daniel Blake**: May 10, 2 & 7PM (Full Circle Theatre, Perth); May 11, 7PM (Station Theatre, SF). \$10. **La La Land**: May 24, 2 & 7PM (Perth); May 25, 7PM (SF). \$10. filmnightinternational.blogspot.ca
Auditions, May 15, 16, 7PM. *Moon Over the Brewery*. 2 men, 2 women. Studio Theatre, Perth. 801-4212
Lanark Laughs, May 26, 8:30PM. Stand-up comedy. Waterfront Gastropub, CP. facebook.com/LanarkLaughs
Flying in the Dark, May 27, 7PM. Storyteller Kim Kilpatrick. Almonte General Hospital. 256-2500x2296, \$20; \$10 kids
The Spitfire Grill, Jun 1 7:30PM. Musical. Studio Theatre, Perth. studiotheatreperth.com. \$27; \$25 adv

Pub Listings p.27

Music

Musicians' Circle, Thursdays, 7PM. ABC Hall, Bolingbroke. 273-9005. \$5 for hall
Arnprior Community Choir, May 6, 7:30PM. Grace St-Andrews United Church, Arnprior. \$20; \$10 12 & under
Goulbourn Jubilee Singers, May 6, 7:30PM; May 7 2PM. w/GJS Teens, Junior Jubilees. Trinity Presbyterian Church, Carp. 832-4423. \$15/\$10
Sean McCann, May 6, 8PM. Studio Theatre, Perth. 485-6434, ticketsplease.ca. \$35/\$30
Fiddler's Friends Concert, May 7, 1-4PM. Tix: Mill Street Books (256-9090). Almonte Old Town Hall. \$15
The Slocan Ramblers, May 11, 8PM. Full Circle Theatre, 26 Craig St., Perth. 485-6434, ticketsplease.ca. \$25
BOTR: Terry Gillespie Band, May 12, 7PM. The Cove, Westport. 1-888-COVE-INN, bluesontherideau.ca. \$65+tx

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridge Club, Arnprior Duelling Pianos, The 2 Grands H.M.S. Pinafore, CP Head over Heels, The Cove LiPS Poetry Slam 2017 Finals, Perth Lost for Words, Valley Food & Drink Co. Mississippi Blues Society Jam, Waterfront Gastropub Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp Tara Holloway, Bridges Bar & Grill The Chalk Garden, Smiths Falls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Singles Dance, SF Com. Choir, Arnprior Art Show, Arnprior H.M.S. Pinafore, CP Natasha Peterson, Perth Living Stones, Lanark Dimestore Playboys, Valley Food & Drink Co. Cheerfully Made Spring Market, Almonte Goulbourn Jubilee Singers, Carp Humane Society Yard Sale, Arnprior Lanark Co. Genealogical Mtg, Beckwith Renfrew Farmers' Market Opens, Renfrew World Labyrinth Day Walk, CP Beatles Tribute, The Cove Home & Living Expo, SF Diefenbooker Classic, Carp The Chalk Garden, SF Sean McCann, Perth Paint & Sip, Appleton 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak Blueberry Mtn Nature Walk, Lanark Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub Cheerfully Made Spring Market, Almonte Fiddler's Friends Concert, Almonte Goulbourn Jubilee Singers, Carp Hike For Hospice, Perth, Almonte Home & Living Expo, Smiths Falls Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub Open Studio - Living Stones, Lanark Sound of Music Sing-Along Luncheon, Perth The Chalk Garden, Smiths Falls Valley Singles Lunch, Arnprior
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridge Club, Arnprior Art in the Attic, Almonte BOTR: Terry Gillespie Band, Westport Danah & David, Valley Food & Drink Co. Duelling Pianos, The 2 Grands Hidden Figures, Perth Maude Barlow Talk: Water Policy & More, Almonte Picket Fences, Westport Tom Watson, O'Reilly's Pub 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farmers' Markets Open, Carp, CP, Perth Plant Sale, Almonte Country Gospel Night, CP Garage Sale, Clayton Art Show: Lynn Wallace-Marazzi, Perth The Shimmy Kings, Bridges Bar & Grill Celebrating Mothers Tea, Appleton Christine Graves & Kate Weekes, Perth Community Garden Rejuvenation, CP Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Waterfront Gastropub Keith Glass Trio, Valley Food & Drink Co. Soundwork Exhibition Opening, Maberly West Ottawa Ladies Chorus, Kanata Art in the Attic, Almonte MVTM AGM, Almonte John Wilberforce, The Cove 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art in the Attic, Almonte Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub Community Garden Rejuvenation, CP Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak Michael Costello, McDonalds Corners Mother's Day Community Market, Woodlawn Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub Simon Clarke, Valley Food & Drink Co.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridge Club, Arnprior Brad Scott, Dinner & Beer, M3 Eatery Duelling Pianos, The 2 Grands Marc Audet, Valley Food & Drink Co. Middleville Museum opens, Middleville Opening: PDCI Art Show & Sale, Perth Singin in the Rain, Smiths Falls Songwriters Circle, The Cove Stephen Fisher, O'Reilly's Pub Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farmers' Markets Open, Almonte, McDonalds Cmrs, McNab/Braeside, Sharbot Lake CP & Beckwith Heritage Museum Opens, CP Duelling Pianos, The 2 Grands Gardening & Outdoor Living Show, Almonte Lawn Bowling Open House, Almonte Logan Brown & Taylor Angus, The Cove Meet the Author: Arlene Stafford-Wilson, Perth Mill of Kintail Opens, Almonte Mister & His Sister, Lumbertown Ale House Paul Reddick w/Steve Mariner, Valley Food & Drink Singin in the Rain, Smiths Falls Slocan Ramblers, Sharbot Lake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub Head over Heels (Patio), The Cove Meet the Artist: Jeweller Stephen Clark, Perth Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub Opening Tea, Middleville Tom Watson, The Cove
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bridge Club, Arnprior Duelling Pianos, The 2 Grands Handbell & Jazz Choirs, CP Kitchen Party w/Peoples Collective, Valley Food & Drink Co. Lanark Laughs, CP Matty McKechnie & Ben Mullin, The Cove River City Junction, O'Reilly's Pub 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Murphy, The Cove Duelling Pianos, The 2 Grands Plant Sales, CP, Pakenham Arts CP Art Show & Sale, CP Flying in the Dark, Almonte Franktown Lilac Festival, Franktown JazzNhouse: Rob Frayne Quartet, Almonte JW Stevens, Lumbertown Ale House LUTN Community Garage Sale, Almonte Meet the Author: Charlotte Gray, Perth Paul Deslauriers Band, Valley Food & Drink Co. SPRING POPS!, CP Workshop: Reclaiming Your Creative Spirit, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts CP Art Show & Sale, CP Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub Fashion Blooms Fashion Show, Almonte Head over Heels (Patio), The Cove Listening Room Series: Jim Bryson, Perth Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub Trad Song Session, Almonte

- Café Bean presents PDCI art students work [from May 19]
- Carriageway Studios presents Chandler Swain's printmaking, Lily Swain Brady's mixed-media painting <carriagewaystudios.ca>
- Diefenbunker presents CANEX 1977 canteen, "From Hand to Hand" photos by Valerie Nofle
- Fairview Manor Lobby presents Xylochrome, paintings by Tom Campbell [May]
- General Fine Craft, Art & Design features Exceptional, a group exhibition <generalfinecraft.com>
- Heritage House Museum presents Our Town: Smiths Falls in 1867 Canada <smithsfalls.ca/heritagehouse>
- MERA Schoolhouse presents Colleen Fitzpatrick White's paintings <meraschoolhouse.org>
- MVTM presents Blanket Statement: No Shame in Patches [to May 20] <mvtm.ca>
- Sivarulrasa Studio & Gallery presents Trio, sculptures of Deborah Arnold & Russell Baron, paintings by Mirana Zuger [to May 28] <sivarulrasa.com>
- The Mississippi Mills Chambers Gallery presents Edwina Wood's acrylics
- The Almonte Library Corridor Gallery presents Alan Mirabelli's photography

Picket Fences, May 12, 9PM-1AM. Country/rock. Light luncheon. Westport Legion, 273-3615, irwinfl@hotmail.com. \$10

Christine Graves & Kate Weekes, May 13, 8PM. Full Circle Theatre, Perth. \$22 from Shadowfax (267-6817)

Country Gospel Night, May 13, 7PM. w/ Moffatt Sisters, Dan Paul Rogers & friends. Carleton Place Town Hall, CP. \$20

West Ottawa Ladies Chorus, May 13, 7-9:30PM. Glen Cairn United, Kanata. westottawaladieschorus.ca. \$20/\$15

Michael Costello, May 14, 2PM. MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners. 485-6434, ticketsplease.ca. \$27.50 adv

Notre Dame Spring Concert, May 16, 7PM. Notre Dame Catholic High School, Carleton Place. 253-4700. \$5

Jazz Night w/Peter Brown Trio, May 18, 6-9PM. Slackoni's, 82 Peter St., Perth. 257-2657. peterbrown.ca

Handbell & Jazz Choirs, May 26, 7:30PM. Trinity Hilltop Ringers, CP Offbeats. Tix: Graham's Shoes. St. Andrew's Church, CP. 257-3133, \$15

JazzNhouse: Rob Frayne Quartet, May 27, 8PM. Tix: jazzn.ca. Almonte. \$25

SPRING POPS!, May 27, 7:30PM. CP Community Band. Tix: Green Counter. CP Town Hall. mpeckett@sympatico.ca. \$10

Jim Bryson, May 28, 7PM. w/ Larissa Tandy. Perth Tea Room, Perth. 267-7902. \$20

Trad Song Session, May 28, 2-4PM. Barley Mow, Almonte. 355-5552, dpbaril@gmail.com

Community

Arnprior Bridge Club, Mon-Thu-Fri 1PM. 447-7526. priorbridgeclub.ca

SF Bridge Club, Mon 7PM, Tues 1PM. 256-4747. SF Legion

4-Hand Euchre, Tue 7PM. Lunch first. ABC Hall, Bolingbroke. 279-1106

Almonte Bridge Club, Wed 7PM. 256-4747. Almonte Legion

Mahjong, Thurs 1:30PM, ABC Hall, Bolingbroke, 273-2571. \$5 donation

Green Drinks, May 2, 5:30PM. Golden Arrow, Perth. GreenDrinks.org

CP Hort: Pruning/Flower Show, May 3, 7PM. St. Andrew's Church, CP. 257-4101, \$3

Hy-Liners' Linedancing Begins, May 4, 1:30-3PM. Almonte Com. Centre, 623-0976

Celebrate Diversity, May 4, 6:30PM. Tedx speaker Sheema Kahn, music. Almonte High School, 256-1470

Supporting Victims of Sexual Assault, May 4, 1-4PM. Rehtaeh Parsons' dad & panel. CP Canoe Club, CP. brianna@lcih.com

Whisky Tasting AGH Fundraiser, May 4, 7-10PM. Scotch, music, puppets. Tix: Mill St Books. Almonte General Hospital. \$75

40 Plus Singles Dinner/Dance, May 6, 7PM. Cash bar. Smiths Falls Civitan Hall. 285-5557. \$10

Diefenbooker Classic, May 6, 7:30-11AM. Fundraiser for library. Carp Fairgrounds. diefenbookerclassic.ncf.ca

Cheerfully Made Spring Market, May 6 & 7, 10AM-4PM. 60 diff. craft/food vendors each day. Almonte Ag Hall, Fairgrounds, markets.cheerfullymade.com. \$2

Home & Living Expo, May 6 (10AM-5PM), 7 (10AM-4PM). 70+ vendors. County Fair Mall, SF. smithsfallshomelivingexpo.com

Humane Society Yard Sale, May 6, 8AM-2PM. Arnprior Humane Society. 623-0917, arnpriorhumanesociety.ca. Free

Lanark Co. Genealogical Mtg, May 6, 1:30PM. Brunton Com. Hall, Beckwith. lcginfo34@gmail.com. Free

World Labyrinth Day Walk, May 6, 1PM. CP Com. Labyrinth, CP & Beckwith Heritage Museum. 257-1014

Blueberry Mtn Nature Walk, May 7, 10AM. Guided hike, bring lunch. Blueberry Mountain, Lanark. 259-3412, mmlt.ca. \$10

Hike For Hospice, May 7, 12PM. Crystal Palace, Perth. 267-6400.

Hike For Hub Hospice, May 7, 1-3PM. Reg'n: 11:30AM. Mill of Kintail, Almonte. hubhospice.com

Sound of Music Sing-Along Luncheon, May 7, 11AM-2PM. Alzheimer's fundraiser. Maximilian's, Perth. 267-2536. \$25

Valley Singles Lunch, May 7, 1PM. Lumbertown Ale House, Arnprior. 622-5693

Indigenous Rights Pilgrimage: Talk, May 9, 7PM. NDP MP Romeo Saganash, Leah Gazan. St. Paul's Church, Perth. pfir.ca

Perth Hort: Shrubs, Conifers, May 9, 7-9PM. w/Whitehouse Nursery. St. Paul's Church, Perth. 253-5690. \$5; \$15/yr

W. Carleton Garden: Perennials, May 9, 7:30PM. Choosing/caring for perennials. Carp Memorial Hall. wgc.ca. \$5

Women's Business Group Lunch, May 9, 12PM. RSVP at womensbusinessgroup@gmail.com. Carleton Place Terrace, CP

Talk: Pollinators, May 10, 7PM. Almonte Old Town Hall. 256-1077

Toastmasters, May 11, 7-8:30PM. Riverview Seniors' Residence, CP. 250-9282

Maude Barlow Talk: Water Policy & More, May 12, 7-9PM. Almonte United Church. Free

Almonte Hort Plant Sale, May 13, 9AM-12PM. Local seedlings, used books, tools and maple buckets. Almonte Library

Celebrating Mothers Tea, May 13, 2-4PM. N. Lanark Regional Museum, Appleton. 257-8503. \$5

Indoor Garage Sale, May 13, 8AM-1PM. Fundraiser. Guthrie United, Clayton

MVTM AGM, May 13, 2PM. Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, Almonte. 256-3754

Almonte Hort: Bees, May 15, 7:30PM. Cornerstone Community Church, Almonte. 256-5594

Community BOGO Dinner, May 16, 4:30-7PM. Tix: The Granary. St. James Anglican Church, CP. \$30; snrs/6-12 \$20

Dinner & Film: Sugar Coated, May 17, 4:30PM. Table Com. Food Centre, Perth. 267-6428x4, thetablecf.org. Free

Pakenham Hort Soc Mtg, May 17, 7PM. Spring flower show. St. Andrew's United Church, Pakenham

Lawn Bowling Open House, May 20, 10AM-12PM. 157 Robert St., Almonte.

Mill of Kintail Opens, May 20, 2854 Conc. 8, Almonte. 256-3610x1, \$6/vehicle

CP Beckwith Heritage Museum Opens, May 20, 10AM-4PM. 267 Edmund St., CP. 253-7013, cpbheritagemuseum.com

Gardening & Outdoor Living Show, May 20, 9AM-2PM. Plant sale, gardening talks, lunch, auction. Likulezi fundraiser. Almonte United Church. 256-2738

Opening Tea, May 21, 1-3PM. Middleville & District Museum, 2130 Concession 6D, Middleville. 259-546

Toastmasters Leadership Workshop, May 25, 6:30PM. Learn about leadership styles. CP High School. 250-9282. \$10

CP Hort Plant Sale, May 27, 8:30AM-11:30AM. Victoria School Garden, CP

LUTN Community Garage Sale, May 27, 7-11AM. 7AM Scouts breakfast. Levi Home Hardware, Almonte

Pakenham Hort Plant Sale, May 27, 8AM-12PM. Five Span Bridge Pkg Lot, Pakenham. 800-1236

Workshop: Reclaiming Your Creative Spirit, May 27, 10:30AM. Lotus Wings, Perth. 253-2888, MelindaUrban.com

Parkinson's Support Group, Mar 27. Perth: 1:30PM, Com. Home Support, 267-6400. Almonte: 2PM, Mills Com. Support, 256-0509. Free

Travels w/my Aunt: Adventures in Europe 1914, May 29, 7-8PM. Arnprior Family History Group. Arnprior Library, 623-0001, adarchives@hotmail.com. \$5

Union Hall AGM, May 30, 7PM. Speaker: Jan Watson, Mills Comm Support. Union Hall, Mississippi Mills

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613 256 3754
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Almonte

Slocan Ramblers in Perth

Local bluegrass fans, and fans of good music in general, should take note of the upcoming appearance of the Slocan Ramblers at Perth's Full Circle Theatre, on Thursday, May 11 at 8PM. They have been called "Canada's young bluegrass band to watch", but the concert's presenter, Danny Sullivan, says that's hardly adequate to describe their musical prowess. "As far as I'm concerned, the Slocan Ramblers are the best bluegrass band north of the Mason-Dixon line," he enthuses. Their last two local appearances were sold out, so fans are encouraged to book their tickets sooner, rather than wait and be disappointed.

Rooted in the tradition, fearlessly creative, and possessing a bold, dynamic sound, they have quickly become a leading light of Canada's roots music scene, built on their reputation for energetic live shows, impeccable musicianship, and their uncanny ability to convert anyone within earshot into a lifelong fan.

On their album *Coffee Creek* (2015), the Slocan Ramblers blend lightning fast and devilishly intricate instrumentals with the sawdust-thick vocals of singer Frank Evans, who takes lead on songs ranging from rowdy old-time numbers like *Groundhog* to a Dust-bowl classic like Woody Guthrie's *Pastures of Plenty*. "Toronto audiences don't respond to a clean, polished Nashville sound," tune composer and mandolinist Adrian Gross explains. "They dig a lot of energy in their music; a rowdy bar vibe. They're hard to win over." But the Ramblers *have* won them over, moving from a young ensemble of bluegrass pickers to one of the best-known Canadian roots bands. They've done this by staying true to the roots of the music, not seeking to revive anything but rather to tap the rough and rowdy heart of the music.

Coffee Creek was produced by the band's friend and mentor Chris Coole (of the Foggy Hogtown Boys), a well-known banjo player and community leader in Toronto's bluegrass and old-time scenes. Like Coole, the Slocan Ramblers bring the live, col-



Catch the Slocan Ramblers at Perth's Full Circle Theatre on May 11

laboratory aspects of the music to the fore, and they understand that if you polish up the music too much, you lose the raw excitement that makes it so vibrant.

Listen to Evans' worn vocals and you'll hear some of the edge that great singers like Keith Whitley brought to the music. Or try Gross' powerfully discordant and innovative mandolin solo on *Groundhog*, or Darryl Poulsen's counterpoint Lester Flatt runs towards the end of the title track, or the rumbling beats of Alastair Whitehead's acoustic bass on *Call Me Long Gone* (or Whitehead's beautiful, world-weary original songs like *Elk River* or *Angeline*) to get a feel for how the Ramblers are pushing the envelope.

This is roots music without pretension, music intended to make you feel something, music to get you moving in a crowded bar. The Ramblers recorded *Coffee Creek* the same way they perform on stage: standing up, leaning into the music, and pushing harder and harder for that edge just beyond.

Tickets are \$25 in advance and are available at Tickets Please by phone at 485-6434 or online at ticketsplease.ca. Tickets can be reserved at Tickets Please and held for pick-up at the door.

Speaking Volumes

Is Your To-Be-Read Pile Constantly Growing?

My to-be-read pile sits beside my bed and continues to grow at an alarming rate. I never seem to make any progress, as I tend to add books faster than I can read them. I also have lists of books I want to read saved on my cell phone, plus I make use of the GoodReads website for saving titles of books I want to

- Mix it up! Reading a lot of the same thing can become tiresome, so alternate between authors, genres, mood and tone of book and subject.
- You don't have to finish every book you start! It took me quite a few years to come to the conclusion that I didn't have to finish every book I started. There are so many books waiting for me to read that I shouldn't waste my precious time on those that don't capture my interest.
- Join a book club. Being able to discuss the books you read can help you become a more productive reader. It can also introduce you to authors you would have never discovered on your own.
- Listen to audiobooks. Take advantage of the time in your day when you could be listening to a book — exercising, cleaning, and other repetitive tasks. Remember that you can download audiobooks from your local public library.
- Set aside time to read. It is often difficult to find the time to read in our busy schedules, but it is important to take the time to nourish your soul with a good book.

Employing some of these strategies may help you make it through your list of books to read. Of course, more will be added to your list as many interesting new books are published every day, so my advice is to just enjoy reading!

— Karen Schecter is the CEO/Chief Librarian at the Smiths Falls Public Library

by Karen Schecter, Librarian

read. Other options for managing your to-read list include Stacks, iReadItNow, and iBookshelf (all can be downloaded to your phone or tablet). These apps are especially useful when you are visiting a bookstore and see books that you might want to read in the future. But with all these options for managing your reading list, how can you make headway with your to-be-read list?

Here are some strategies that you can employ to become a more productive reader:

- Read more than one book at a time. I always have a book on the go sitting beside my favourite comfy chair at home. I often carry my e-reader in my purse so that I always have another book to read when I am at the coffee shop or waiting at the dentist's office. I might also be reading a memoir or other non-fiction book at the same time. If I am too tired at the end of the day, I may prefer to read the book that is lighter and doesn't make me think too much.

Nature Connections

Anyone who has visited Blueberry Mountain knows that the view from the lookout is well worth the climb. In all seasons, this panoramic view is absolutely breathtaking. But sometimes in our hurry to get to the view we can miss some interesting, subtle features along the trail.

On Sunday, May 7, visitors to Blueberry Mountain will have an opportunity to explore some of those special sites. Organizers have identified several "stations" along the trail that demonstrate the complex connectivity within nature. At Peeper's Pond they'll set up a station with their bio-acoustic monitoring equipment where you can hear magnificent sounds of nature not typically discernable to humans, both above and below water. Next along the trail, you'll come to the Pin Cherry Clump where you'll learn the importance of this small tree within the ecosystem. This wilderness area is shared by many interesting creatures, which you'll learn about as you see evidence of their presence along the trail, such as the abandoned wolf den. You'll hear about the wolf's complex relationship with humans and other creatures of the wild, such as beavers. The beaver pond, beaver meadow and lodge show the huge impact of this small but industrious mammal on the landscape.

Fortunately, hemlock trees are not a favourite of beavers and can live to a very old age. However, they are currently threatened by an invasive pest, so come and find all about that, and learn why it's important to preserve this elegant conifer.

As you reach the summit of Blueberry Mountain, you'll find both red and white oak — both important food sources for wildlife — and you'll learn how to tell them apart. You'll also find out why white oak is rare in this area, and why it is called the "Thunder Tree".

In 2009, the Clifford Family placed this 1250 wilderness property under the protec-



The view from Blueberry Mountain

tion of the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust for at least 1000 years. The Land Trust currently protects 2430 acres of ecologically sensitive land in eastern Ontario, and provides programs year-round to connect people with nature.

The interesting sites featured at this event are only a few examples of nature's mysteries, but they hopefully will foster a greater appreciation of how ecological connectedness and complexity is necessary to sustain biodiversity.

Registration for the hike is at 10AM and the hike starts at 10:30 sharp. Entrance is \$10 and children under 12 are free. The hike to the top is a gradual, 45-minute climb with one short, steep rise to reach the lookout. Don't forget your picnic lunch to enjoy at the top.

Blueberry Mountain is located at 502 Hills of Peace Road near Flower Station in Lanark Highlands. Drive north of Lanark on Highway 511 to Brightside, turn left on to the French Line Road, drive towards Flower Station and watch for the right turn when you get to Joe's Lake. Just before you reach Flower Station, turn right on to Hills of Peace Road. For more information, please contact Howard or Jean Clifford at 259-3412.

May Pub Listings

Valley Food and Drink Co. (Calabogie, 752-2676x311): 8PM, Thurs Karaoke (see FB for dinner+show \$)
 May 5 Lost for Words
 May 6 Dimestore Playboys
 May 12 Danah & David
 May 13 Keith Glass Trio
 May 14 Mother's Day Brunch w/Simon Clarke, 10AM-3PM
 May 19 Marc Audet
 May 20 Paul Reddick w/Steve Mariner
 May 26 Kitchen Party w/Peoples Collective
 May 27 Paul Deslauriers Band

The Cove (Westport, 273-3636): Wed Shawn McCullough, 6-9PM May 3-17, 7-10PM May 24-31.
 May 5 Head over Heels, 6-9PM
 May 6 A Day in the Life (Beatles tribute), 7-11PM, buffet & show, \$60
 May 13 John Wilberforce, 6-9PM
 May 18, 25, Jun 1 Jazz Night w/Spencer Evans Trio, 9-11PM, \$5
 May 19 Songwriter Circle, 7-10PM, \$10
 May 20 Logan Brown, Taylor Angus, 6-9PM
 May 21, 28 Head over Heels, 12:30-3:30PM
 May 21 Tom Watson, 6-9PM
 May 26 Matty McKechnie, Ben Mullin, 6-9PM
 May 27 Chris Murphy, 7-11PM

The Swan at Carp (Carp, 839-7926):
 May 5, 19 Steve Barrette Trio, jazz, 7-10PM

The Royal Oak (Kanata, 591-3895): jazz on Sun, 2-5PM
 May 7, 21 APEX Jazz Band
 May 14, 28 Magnolia Rhythm Kings

Naimsmith Pub (Almonte, 256-6336):
 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

Bridges Bar and Grill (Pakenham, 624-5939):
 May 5 Tara Holloway, 9PM-1AM
 May 13 Blues Series: Shimmy Kings, 6-9PM

O'Reilly's Ale House (Perth, 267-7994): Tues Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan 8:30PM; Wed Open Jam w/ Dave Balfour 8PM
 May 12 Tom Watson, 8:30PM
 May 19 Stephen Fisher, 8:30PM
 May 26 River City Junction, 9PM

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

Waterfront Gastropub (CP, 257-5755): Sun Blues w/ Redneck Limousine 3-6PM
 May 5 Mississippi Blues Society Jam, 8:30PM
 May 13 Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, 3PM & 9PM

M3 Eatery (Arnprior, 791-0992):
 May 19 Brad Scott w/dinner, 6PM, \$35

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

Lumbertown Ale House (Arnprior, 623-8885):
 8:30PM, no cover
 May 6 The Howlin' Jays
 May 13 Vicki Brittle Duo
 May 20 Mister & His Sister
 May 27 JW Stevens



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Dimestore Playboys Saturday May 6
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Danah and David Friday May 12
Keith Glass Trio Saturday May 13
 Juno Award winner

Marc Audet Friday May 19
The Paul Reddick Blues Band Saturday May 20
 2017 Juno Award for Blues Album of the Year with special guest Steve Mariner

Kitchen Party with The People's Collective Friday May 26
The Paul Deslauriers Band Saturday May 27
 2017 Maple Blues Award for Entertainer and Bassist of the Year

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Be in the Band!

As a musician, one of the most rewarding experiences you can have is sharing the knowledge and skills that you have accumulated over the years with keen students. Teaching others also teaches you a lot about yourself.

Living near a major city like Ottawa provides our students with many opportunities to interact with professional musicians, and there is a very special collaboration that I have been a part of for the past two years.

by Tony Stuart

RBC Bluesfest is a major festival that runs each July in Ottawa, and it attracts performers and visitors from all around the world. In recent years, they have started a program called “Be in the Band” that provides willing students with the opportunity to work with professional musicians. Students put together small combos, work with their coach, and are provided with the opportunity to play at RBC Bluesfest on the final day of the festival. It’s a fantastic program that is

coordinated by Almonte resident Alan Marsden, who is their Community Program Manager.

I first met Alan two years ago when I received an email from him. He had heard that we run a successful music program at Notre Dame, and wanted to meet with me to discuss getting the “Be in the Band” program off the ground. I was thrilled to meet with him, and we met over coffee to discuss how we could make this happen.

Alan is a fine musician and songwriter in his own right, and is clearly passionate about this program. His enthusiasm was infectious, and we hit it off right away. I jumped at the opportunity to involve my students with this, and am looking forward to many collaborations in the future.

For aspiring students, the chance to work with professional musicians is important, and we happen to have some very fine players who live in this area. The first student group we formed was coached by area resident Ric Denis. I have known Ric for about seven years, and play with him in The Somerset Combo. Ric has a ton of professional experience and



Coach Ric Denis (third from the left) poses with music teacher Tony Stuart (far right) and Notre Dame students who want to Be in the Band

is very knowledgeable about both playing in a band and songwriting. He also has the ability to help students reach their full potential. In fact, his first group was so successful that I asked if he could coach students again this year.

The key to running a successful music program is to provide students with as many performance opportunities as possible. As with just about everything else, variety is the spice of life. Working in small groups presents a unique series of challenges, since they don’t have a conductor to rely on. They need to learn to work together to find a common voice, since everyone in the group will have their own ideas about what kind of music they want to play. The rewards of this collaboration include a new sense of musical confidence that translates into just about every other area of their lives.

RBC Bluesfest has been a terrific organization to work with, and if any of you are at the festival this summer, be sure to check out the many student groups who will be performing on the final Sunday. You’ll be glad that you did.

— Tony Stuart is the Music Director at Notre Dame Catholic High School in Carleton Place, and a freelance professional musician

Get Up Off That Couch!

I had a friend whose dog was called “Owenoff”. I thought it was a Russian name, but no, it was the standard command: “Owen! Off!” as he lounged in his favourite chair. Owen was in the doldrums, wishing he could do something other than sigh heavily and slump in his chair. Walks were a battle of tug and yank. His yard was lacking in toys so he dug holes for entertainment, leading to less yard time. He couldn’t see over the fence, so when other dogs came around he barked like fury, making him a regular nuisance. Poor Owen, trying to be a good dog was really hard when no one would play with him.

Dogs aren’t meant to be decorative, regardless of the accoutrements we find at the pet store. They are meant to be companions, and should be treated with respect for their intelligence and their loyalty by educating them. Like children, they aren’t born knowing the rules, but with gentle coaxing they can learn them, often faster than kids! All it takes is the willingness to learn along with your dog while you both experience a whole new level of fun, culminating in a relationship that is fulfilling for both of you. How proud you would be to take a mannerly dog on a walk or to give commands that are heeded.

There are many training facilities in the area, but none so all-encompassing as **Ferghus & Company** in Kinburn. Providing everything from a doggy beauty salon to indoor and outdoor play areas, Erica and Andrew McTaggart have anticipated every canine need. They provide: day care with supervised play-times; expert training; first-class equipment; advice on dog food, treats, and training materials; and specialized training when needed.

“But my dog can’t do anything.” No so — your dog can do everything, once you figure out which activity you’d like to try: agility, Rally-O, obedience training, basic good manners. Ferghus & Company has it all, with instructors who make learning fun for both the handler and the dog. Everyone involved at Ferghus



At Ferghus & Company, Fiona the resident cat keeps Willow, left, and namesake Ferghus, right, in line. No doubt who is the boss here!

has trained their own dogs and many others; they’ve all started from ground zero, and have seen every problem that you’d think insurmountable. They are patient trainers who are waiting to welcome you to a whole new level of interacting with your pet. Kids especially are encouraged to learn along with the dog in an effort to make that special bond a lifetime joy.

Your dog shouldn’t be called “Owenoff”. The two of you need a road trip to the former Fitzroy Centennial Elementary School in Kinburn to visit Ferghus & Company. Before you go, have a look at <ferghusandcompany.ca> to see the potential you are unlocking. Time spent with your dog is the best time you’ll ever have! Take advantage of it — your dog will thank you.

— Glenda Jones

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Musical Events in Perth & Area

There's an exciting opportunity being presented to youth in Perth by the partnering of Ottawa's RBC Bluesfest, Perth's Stewart Park Festival, and YAK (Youth Action Committee) to offer the "Be In the Band" Program in town. The program will take place in several locations in Lanark County, and in fact Almonte, Carleton Place and Perth have each started bands in their respective communities this spring. Vocal coaching, micro-

by Steve Tennant

phone use skills, and stage presence are but a few areas in which these lucky youth will be mentored. Many thanks to Alan Marsden of RBC Bluesfest for coordinating the initiation of each of these programs.

With fewer school music programs and fewer places for kids to hone their musical skills by jamming with others, Royal Bank of Canada (RBC), in 2009, joined forces with Ottawa's Bluesfest and started sponsoring "Be in the Band". The program offers communities the opportunity to have their youth, aged 11-17 years and with at least one year of music training, form a band. Under the tutelage of a provided Music Mentor, they work together over ten to twelve weekly sessions to develop several songs, including covers and hopefully original music that they will perform at a local event. These will be judged and compared to bands from other communities, with the goal of being chosen to play at this year's Bluesfest (as well as playing at Stewart Park Festival, in the case of the Perth band).

In a brief interview with Jeff Kohl, Perth's Music Mentor (and a very proficient, experienced local musician), he said that this opportunity was exciting for him because: "this is a perfect blend of two of my life-long passions — music and youth mentorship. I love working with young people to help them be the very best they can be... which is often quite amazing!" Sounds like the perfect person for the job. Kohl also indicated that they'd had several excellent participants in Perth but are still looking for a bass player and a keyboard player. To get more information, please call 200-0655 and ask for Jeff or Tanis of YAK. Even after the first gathering at YAK, organizers received many messages from musicians, their friends and family about how excited they were to witness

such a positive program as "Be in the Band" being initiated locally. What a great way to help keep the legacy of quality music in the area alive by facilitating opportunities for our youth. Please support this.



Jim Bryson at the Listening Room

On another exciting note, mark Sunday, May 28 at 7PM on your calendars for the next Listening Room Series show. Ottawa's phenomenal go-to musician, Jim Bryson, will be sharing his tunes with us at the Perth Tea Room (Perth Restaurant). A member of Kathleen Edwards' band and the subject of her song *I Make the Dough, You Get the Glory*, he's also toured and recorded with The Weakerthans, Howe Gelb, Sarah Harmer, The Hilotrons, Lynn Miles and the Tragically Hip. Jim has six albums under his own name, including the latest *Somewhere We Will Find Our Place*. Bryson was the first musician we hosted at our Music on McLean House Concert Series back in 2004, and it's been wonderful watching his skills develop to the point where now he is so much in demand, both as a performer (with several songs in regular rotation on CBC Radio) and as a producer for other artists.

One musician Jim is especially excited about is Larissa Tandy, one of Australia's finest emerging talents — a powerful, instinctive songwriter with an arresting voice. Hailing from rural Australia, Larissa came up from the underground of Melbourne's world-class music scene, mining her difficult life for potent stories and spinning them into songs that made their way onto radio in America, the UK, and Canada, where the CBC ordained them as "songs you need to hear". Larissa will be opening for Jim. It should be quite an evening of stellar singer/songwriter tunes.

Jim announced he'd be playing at Quitters (Kathleen Edwards' coffeehouse in Stittsville) a while ago and three shows sold out in minutes, so I highly recommend purchasing your tickets soon. They are \$20 and available at the Perth Tea Room or by calling 267-7902. Dinner reservations can be made by calling 267-3170. Part of the proceeds will be going to Taycare Children's Centre.

Support live music everywhere!

Upcoming Events

- May 6, 8PM: **Séan McCann** (of Great Big Sea) at Perth's Studio Theatre; \$30 advance or \$35 at door.
- May 6, 7PM: **A Day in the Life – Beatles Tribute** at the Cove in Westport. \$60 buffet and show. Call 273-3636 for reservations.
- May 11, 8PM: **Slocan Ramblers** at Perth's Full Circle Theatre. \$25 tickets available at Tickets Please, 485-6434.
- May 12, 7PM: **Terry Gillespie**, a blues veteran from Vankleek Hill, is at the Cove for their Blues on the Rideau series. \$65 gets you an amazing dinner and show. Call 273-3636 for reservations.
- May 13, 7PM: **A Country Gospel Night** at Carleton Place Town Hall. Tickets are \$20 with the doors opening at 5:30PM.
- May 13: **Mario Franco** brings his Cuban, African and Spanish musical styles to the Sharbot Lake Country Inn (279-2198). \$15.
- May 18, 6-9PM: **Peter Brown Trio** at Slackoni's at the Best Western in Perth. Peter's trio is now playing every third Thursday.
- May 20, 6PM: **Slocan Ramblers** at the Sharbot Lake Country Inn — \$60 for dinner show. Call 279-2198 for reservations.
- May 28, 7PM: **Jim Bryson** at the Perth Tea Room (Perth Restaurant) as part of the Listening Room Series. See above for more details. \$20.



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Art is Springing Up All Over!

An Artistic Trio in Almonte

Sivarulrasa Gallery kicks off the spring season with *Trio*, showcasing works by Canadian artists Deborah Arnold, Russell Baron, and Mirana Zuger. With a remarkable mastery of techniques in stone, bronze, oil and other media, the artists bring passion, vision, and sublime energy to their work.

Deborah Arnold has been sculpting from her Almonte studio for over twenty years. "Each piece of stone has a presence, a grounded energy," she says. "My carving

by Miss Cellaneous

process mirrors the nature of each stone." Russell Baron draws inspiration from psychology, the humanities, and mythology to temper the organic forms of his sculptural works. "The driving force that compels me to create is the tension point between immanence and transcendence," he says. Multi-disciplinary artist Mirana Zuger's large canvasses burst with energy and exuberant colour. "Creating from my core is my way of navigating the realities of our world," she states — in more than a decade of prolific painting, she continues to develop a distinctive personal iconography using techniques of abstraction.

Trio runs until May 28 at Sivarulrasa Gallery, located at 34 Mill St. in Almonte <sivarulrasa.com>.



SEED, by Mirana Zuger

Celebrate Spring at the Arts Carleton Place Show & Sale!

The third annual Arts Carleton Place Art Show & Sale is taking place on the weekend of May 27–28, from 10AM to 4PM each day. Artists will showcase their work at the Carleton Place Canoe Club, located at 179 John



Great Egret by Gillian Marston

Street in CP. The show will feature original creations in oils, watercolour, acrylics, fused glass, photography, soapstone, wood, fabrics and jewellery, as well as an author's corner featuring local writers, to highlight talented artists working in a variety of media. For the first time, Under Pressure Coffee House will provide coffees, teas, homemade scones and other sweet and savoury goodies. Drop in, relax, spend a day in a beautiful setting along the Mississippi River, and support the arts all at the same time! This is a fundraiser for the annual Arts CP Bursary Awards given out to graduating students at each high school who are pursuing further education in the arts. A thank you goes out to the Town of Carleton Place for its assistance and support for the show. For more details, visit <artscarletonplace.com>.

Red Trillium Studio & Garden Tour

On the weekend of June 3 and 4, you are invited to the beautiful countryside of West Carleton, west Ottawa's rural gemstone, just twenty minutes from Kanata. Visit twenty artisans in thirteen studios and stroll through five unique private gardens. This popular self-guided semi-annual tour is celebrating its 18th year.

The tour features a variety of media including painting, pottery, woodworking, jewellery, print-making, stone sculpture, blown glass, beautiful silk textiles, photography and women's clothing. Nature is depicted in all her wonder, from colourful landscape paintings to clothing made from organic fibres. New to this year's tour is the indoor/outdoor decorative iron-forged work of Luc Ouellette, made in the traditional method using a coal forge and various hammers and anvils. From sketching an idea on paper, through heating in a coal-fired forge, shaping and texturing, to the final assembly, his designs are very appealing. His work will be displayed at the garden of Donna Christie at studio 13.

For this tour, there is an emphasis on gardens. Parts of West Carleton's topography are unfor-giving; they present gardeners with limestone bedrock, gigantic granite boulders and little soil. Each garden featured dealt with these challenges in unique ways. Come and be inspired by an array of raised beds, crevice gardens and hypertufa troughs.

Drop in for a quick lunch at restaurants and cafés along the route, or enjoy light refreshments of tea, coffee and baked goods at the heritage St. Mary's Church (studio 8). Or pack a bagged lunch and sit in one of the gardens and enjoy the view. Galetta Nurseries, one of the tour sponsors, will be featuring two "new" hardy roses available for sale to the public for the first time: a beautiful bright full red rose named "Canadian Shield" (Canada's 150th anniversary rose!), and a rare salmon-coloured rose called "Olds College Centennial".

Brochures with maps are available at many locations and at <redtrilliumst.com>, or you can call Lynda at 623–6498 or find them on Facebook. Studios are open from 10AM until 5PM each day, rain or shine, and a warm welcome awaits every visitor.

Meet Artist Anne-Marie Chagnon

Shortly after Bittersweet Gallery first opened its doors in the year 2000, owner Cheryl Babineau and her husband Richard Gill discovered the work of Anne-Marie Chagnon at a show in Montreal. The Burnstown gallery has been representing her distinctive and unconventional jewellery designs ever since. Every year for the past twenty, Chagnon has expressed the passion to create an original collection as prevailing as they are timeless. Her pieces unite chiselled pewter, iridescent glass, carved resin, gold, bronze, leather, wood and horn, along with images taken from her charcoal drawings or details from her paintings. Over the past ten years, the gallery has celebrated her latest collections with a well-attended spring launch and trunk show.

This year Cheryl and Richard are honoured and delighted to announce that, for the first time, Anne-Marie will be in attendance, with her most recent 2017 spring/summer creations. In addition, the gallery will be showcasing the artist's original abstract paintings. Part of event's proceeds will be donated directly to the Ovarian Cancer research team at Ottawa University. Don't miss the next issue of theHumm, when more details of the June 10 event will be outlined. For more information about the gallery, visit <burnstown.ca/bittersweet>.

Call to Artists

Registration is now open for the 11th Sundance Artisan Show! The show welcomes about 3000 visitors on Labour Day Weekend at the hub of cottage country in Maberly, about an hour from Ottawa. It gives you the chance to exhibit and sell high-quality crafts and artwork over a period of three days in a park-like setting along the banks of the Fall River. This year's show takes place on September 2, 3, and 4. Email <SundanceArtisanShow@gmail.com> to request a submission package, and visit <sundancestudio.ca> to find out more about the show.



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Smiths Falls Celebrates Irish Roots

As part of the Canada 150 celebrations, the Town of Smiths Falls officially launched its formal twinning with the town of Carnew in County Wicklow, Ireland. The twinning was announced on April 22 at the Emerald Gala, an event hosted by the Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario. Featuring Irish dancers and live Celtic music, participants enjoyed an Irish-inspired menu and presentations by Ian Ashe and Mayor Shawn Pankow, both early proponents of the twinning. Mayor Pankow and his family also participated in the Homeward Trek to Ireland in 2016.

“Our Irish ancestors played a significant role in the history and development of Smiths Falls, from a young, pioneer village to a growing, prospering industrial town,” explains Mayor Pankow. “Although we always recognized that many of our residents could trace their ancestry back to Ireland, we had no idea that so many of our early settlers had arrived from the same area in County Wicklow. It is hard to believe it

has taken over 150 years for this good story to finally be told, and we look forward to the formation of a closer connection to Carnew and the lands formerly occupied by the Coollattin Estate.”

The connection between Smiths Falls and the Coollattin Estate in County Wicklow was brought to the attention of the Town by Irish historian Kevin Lee, project leader of the Canadian Coollattin Connection (CCC). Mr. Lee’s information included details about the exodus of over 6,000 Irish emigrants to Canada (from the 1830s to the 1850s), through an assisted emigration program initiated by Lord Fitzwilliam, the owner of the Estate. The emigration was in a direct response to the devastation brought about during the peak of the Irish Great Famine in the 1840s. The CCC was formally launched in County Wicklow in 2015 by His Excellency, Mr. Kevin Vickers, the Canadian Ambassador to Ireland.

A large number of Fitzwilliam émigrés settled in Smiths Falls and surrounding areas, including the townships of Burgess, Bastard, Kitley, Lombardy, Montague, North and South Elmsley, North and South Crosby, Wolford, and Yonge. Many of the settlers, including the Balfe family, who settled in the Smiths Falls area and whose homestead is today the site of the Smiths Falls Golf & Country Club, found work on the railways or established farms in the area.

Some of the surnames of settlers that came to the area are Balfe, Dagg, Doyle, Eagers, Jackson, Kenny, Murphy, Pearson, Pierce, Rickby, Tallant, Tallon, Timmons, and Whelan. People are encouraged to share their own stories and information about their possible connection to the Coollattin emigration, to strengthen research as part of the twinning with Carnew, and to celebrate this connection during the 150th Anniversary Celebration as part of the Town’s Irish Legacy Project.

Céad Míle Fáilte

Join the Town of Smiths Falls in welcoming descendants of those who stayed on the Coollattin

Estate, as they travel from Ireland to Smiths Falls to explore the region, the shared history, and the landscape that the Irish ancestors found themselves in as they made a new home for themselves in eastern Ontario.

There are a number of events planned over the next several months; some highlights are listed below.

- May through August: **Our Town: Smiths Falls in 1867 Canada**. Including exhibits on Ottawa Valley Irish Heritage, at Heritage House Museum (283-6311).
- June 24: **Highland on the Rideau**. Bagpipe, drum and band competitions; Highland and Celtic dancing competitions, including Irish jig; heavy athletic field event competitions <gordonpipeband.com/hot>.
- June 25: **Irish Ceili and Picnic**, featuring Celtic music with Seventh Town, dance caller, historical presentations, and genealogy research sessions.
- June 27: **South Winds Voyageur Canoe Brigade**, featuring canal-side campfire, cook-out, and interpretative tours of the canal. Includes a presentation on the building and history of the Historic Rideau Canal, and the contribution of Irish labourers.
- June 28: **Golf Tournament & Irish Homestead Dinner and Dance**, on the grounds of the historic Balfe family homestead, today the site of the Smiths Falls Golf & Country Club! Features a full day of golfing, a delicious meal, and live music including Irish fiddle and a Beatles Tribute. All are welcome <smithsfallschamber.com>.
- June 30: **Historic Tour of our Region’s Railways**. Participants will get a glimpse into our region’s railway history — a history that formed our country! Explore the museum and go beyond our borders to visit some rarely-seen sites that demonstrate the impact of the railway <rmeo.org>.
- June 30: **Steel City Rovers**. Enjoy Celtic music on stage at The Station Theatre as the finale of the Irish Legacy Project <smithsfallstheatre.com>.



The West Ottawa Ladies Chorus will give their spring concert on May 13 at Glen Cairn United Church

Celebrating the Diversity of Canada

They came from away to find a new life, a new beginning... and they built a nation. They discovered a country as diverse as they were, these people from France, England, Ireland, China and many other countries. They met hardship, overcame the elements and settled in communities from coast to coast to coast, from sea to sea to sea. These are the people of Canada and they celebrated their life in song. The West Ottawa Ladies Chorus members celebrate their ancestry — many are first generation, and some even go back as far as seventh generation Canadian — and their country, in a special evening of Canadian music. **From Sea to Sea to Sea – Celebrating Canadian Music** roams across prairies, oceans, rivers, mountains and to the far north, song after song. Robert Dueck, Director of the West Ottawa Ladies Chorus (WOLC), selected numbers that are reflective of our nation’s weather, landscape, tragedy and, of course, hockey.

At every concert, WOLC welcomes the audience to sing along. This spring concert on May 13 is no exception, as across the country we celebrate Canada’s 150th birthday. Raising their voices in song, the chorus will demonstrate pride in their heritage, their country’s diversity and vast landscape — from wind driving across the plains to mist hanging in veils to ships at harbour. *Away from the Roll of the Sea* by Allister MacGillivray is a rolling Nova Scotia tune describing boats at rest in the harbour, and has been adopted by both east and west coasts. The words imply more than one meaning; on the surface they state that no one can know by simply looking at boats in a safe harbour what adventures or hardships they have endured. *Four Strong Winds* by Ian Tyson depicts the harshness of the prairies and its everlasting draw. *Let Me Fish Off Cape St. Mary’s* is one of the most beloved ballads of Newfoundland and Labrador; a hauntingly beautiful song written by Otto P. Kelland of Flatrock, Newfoundland. Fishermen know the perils of life at sea and wish for safe return home. The repertoire for this concert ranges from lulling lullabies to folk songs to rousing renditions of traditional favourites.

This WOLC spring concert will be held on May 13 at 7PM at Glen Cairn United Church (140 Abbeyhill Drive in Kanata). From Sea To Sea To Sea – Celebrating Canadian Music is an Ontario 150 sponsored event. Ticket and contact information is available at <westottawaladieschorus.ca>; for information, contact <westottawaladieschorus@gmail.com>.



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Celebrating our

Irish Legacy

in Smiths Falls

June 24:

Highland on the Rideau
Pipe, Drum and Band Competition
Celtic dancing, including Irish Jig

June 25:

Irish Ceili and Picnic
Celtic music with Seventh Town, Irish Ceili dance caller,
Historical Presentations, and Genealogy Workshops

June 28:

Golf Tournament & Irish Homestead Dinner and Dance
Hosted by the Smiths Falls & District Chamber of Commerce on the
grounds of the historic Balfe family homestead, now the Smiths
Falls Golf & Country Club. Featuring live music including Irish fiddle.

June 30:

Steel City Rovers
Enjoy Celtic music on stage at The Station Theatre

Céad míle fáilte!

The Town of Smiths Falls extends a warm welcome to residents and visitors to our community as we celebrate our Irish heritage during Canada's 150th anniversary celebrations.

The Town of Smiths Falls has kicked off a formal twinning with Carnew, in County Wicklow, Ireland. A special connection exists between our region and the Coollattin Estate in County Wicklow, where over 6000 Irish emigrated with the assistance of the Fitzwilliams, owners of the Estate, beginning in the 1840s.

A large number of Fitzwilliam emigres settled in Smiths Falls and the surrounding area. By 1871 the population in this area was over 60% Irish.

The Canadian Ambassador to Ireland, His Excellency Mr. Kevin Vickers, launched the Canadian Coollattin Connection in Ireland to connect descendants of those early immigrants with their history and family in County Wicklow (visit www.CoollattinCanadianConnection.com).

For the past few years Irish descendants have welcomed Canadians to County Wicklow – and this year, it is our turn! Join us as we welcome our Irish cousins to Smiths Falls to explore the region, our shared history, and the landscape that our Irish ancestors found themselves in as they made a new home for themselves in eastern Ontario.

www.smithsfalls.ca/canada150.cfm
1-888-983-4124



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