

NOVEMBER 2010

the Humm

free

Arts,
Entertainment
& Ideas

p.26 & 27



November's Events

p.16 & 17



Fall for Local Art

p.11



The Art of Local Food

p.35



Retreat to a Yurt

The Art of Ankaret Dean p.3



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ARTBEAT

by Bill Buttle



"Paints what he knows, obviously!"

Readers Write

From Windswept Desert Sands We Cry

From windswept desert sands we cry,
The dead upon dead who marched to die,
The brothers forged, hearts beating fire,
A gunshot symphony a dismal choir;

Or from the forests dark and deep
Where ghostly soldiers trudge their sleep,
The tanks echoes still ring clear,
Their dark chorus a veil of fear;

Some found faith in the trench,
Some lost it amidst the stench
Of death and sulfur, blood and bone,
Fighting and dreaming of making it home;

They spilled bloody tears in the mud and sand,
Fought for freedom in foreign lands,
Now the flowers mark the brave,
Solemn stones soldier on by the grave.

© Tom Stanley

Humble Thought

**TELEVISION: A MEDIUM.
SO CALLED BECAUSE IT IS
NEITHER RARE
NOR WELL DONE.**
— Ernie Kovacs

Who's Reading theHumm



(above) Two members of **The Nylons** (would that be equivalent to a stocking...?) took time at the end of one of their 2008 Christmas concerts to read theHumm (helpfully held by Cori Riendeau).

(below) **Nancy and John Peters** of Almonte posed with theHumm while vacationing on the sunny, southern Algarve coast of Portugal, in Carvoeiro for four weeks during the winter of 2008/09.



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

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Nov. 12 & 26 • **Table d'Hote Night**, reservations recommended (5:30-8:30PM)
Nov. 19 • **Blues on the Rideau** with **Dave Rotundo Band**, \$55 (7-11PM)
Nov. 5, 20 & 26 • **Friday Cuban Guitar** with **Mario Franco and Son** (6-9PM)
Dec. 1 • **Westport Winter Fashion Show, Lunch and Show** (12-2PM)

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Ankaret Dean — The Persuasion of Art

Not since I interviewed Juan Geuer when he was 91 have I come away from an artist interview feeling so optimistic and personally energized. Ankaret Dean expands my ever-growing list of compelling reasons to value, support and participate in the arts throughout one's life.

by Sally Hansen

Dean's extensive artist's résumé lists a large number of juried and invitational shows spanning the thirty years of her eclectic fibre artistry. Most of her acclaim has been the result of her innovative basketry and

led to her teaching a variety of courses for the Board of Education, including macramé (the art of decorative knotting) and crocheting.

Life Is a Four-Act Play

As this 78-year-old fibre artist began chronicling the highlights of her artistic career for me, she shared her metaphor of life as a four-act play. For Ankaret, art has been and continues to be the catalyst for many of her adventures and much enjoyment throughout three of those acts. She traces the origins of her love of basketry to her childhood in England where a governess taught her and her siblings how to make baskets

otal. When she turned forty, she enrolled in the Sheridan School of Design in Mississauga. Her eyes sparkle as she describes her three years as an arts student as the turning point in her life. "I became a weaver and an artist and my whole outlook changed." Luckily she had a very supportive family.

After a seminal book by Ed Rossbach entitled *Baskets as Textile Art* legitimized basketry in 1973, Ankaret discovered she was in the right place at the right time. During the '80s and '90s she participated in many shows, garnered many awards for her creative sculptural basketry, and honed her speaking and teaching skills at international conferences, workshops and symposia. In the '80s she also received funding from the Ontario Arts Council to travel to Sweden, Japan, England and the U.S. to study and teach basketry. Always a naturalist at heart, Dean grew her own willows and collected cattails and reeds. In 1985 she started a monthly publication titled *The Basketry Express* which she published and edited until 2000.

The '90s provided Dean with more support for her belief that good things can happen if you are open to new ideas and adventures. She was keeping bees on the small family farm in Oakville when she noticed an ad in a beekeepers' magazine. Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO) was looking for an instructor to teach nuns in Jamaica how to breed queen bees. Ankaret submitted her application, but a hurricane struck and the nuns' bees were all blown away. Her application remained on file, and in 1992 she was invited to teach basketry in India as a CESO volunteer. In 1994 she was sent to Bangladesh to advise on designing baskets that would succeed in foreign markets.

In retrospect, Ankaret truly appreciates the profound impact



THE HUMM

ARTIST TRADING CARD

that her experiences travelling alone as a volunteer in India and Bangladesh had on her personal development. "You really get to know yourself when you are living on your own in an environment where you don't even speak the language. I learned a lot about myself." In 1994 the couple left the much-yuppified "village" of Oakville and purchased a farm just outside of McDonald's Corners in Lanark County at the urging of their daughter who had moved to the area.

Act IV

Ankaret characterizes her experience of her current fourth act by saying that "I changed my focus from me as an artist, to us as artists." In 1997 the Village of McDonald's Corners was amalgamated with several other municipalities into the new municipality of Lanark Highlands, and the village's century-old one-room schoolhouse was no longer needed as a municipal office. Working with a like-minded group of community members who recognized the potential of the building as a valuable community resource, Ankaret became a founder and board member of MERA (McDonald's Corners/Elphin Recreation and Arts).

Still serving as the organization's Program Director, she is delighted that MERA has developed into an award-winning community arts organization offering a wide variety of activities for adults and children. These in-

clude arts and crafts workshops, lectures, musical events and many more, described on their website <www.meraschoolhouse.org>. Besides teaching a recent workshop titled *Making Things with Cattails and Rushes*, Dean is in the process of developing a grant application to build a yurt at the MERA Schoolhouse. She is a strong believer in the value of community, and in the power of art to draw people together through shared interests.

Speaking of which, Ankaret achieved her designation as a "Master Gardener" in the wake of the destructive ice storm of 1998. "I always loved to garden, and I love my fellow master gardeners," she explains. "I also am pretty energetic," she adds.

Contingency Plan

Just in case her macular degeneration progresses to the point that some of her arts activities are curtailed, a few years ago this indomitable woman decided to learn how to play flamenco guitar, by ear. She traveled to Spain recently to study and, based on a brief demonstration, she is well on her way. Are there any like-minded players in the area interested in joining her in a flamenco jam? She would love to hear from you at 278-1203, or by email at <Ankaret@storm.ca>. And if you have an idea for a community-based arts activity, I can't think of a better person to contact than Ankaret Dean.



weaving endeavours, but she began almost accidentally as a spinner in the '60s when the family acquired a new puppy. While researching the care and feeding of their fluffy Samoyed, she was intrigued to learn that you could use Samoyed fur as fleece in your sleeping bag, or spin it to knit mittens and sweaters and hats.

At the time she was raising four children in the "sleepy little village of Oakville" where her husband John worked for Ontario Hydro. Ever energetic, she responded to an ad seeking a crafts teacher for the Arts and Crafts program offered by the Department of Recreation. That

from collected round reeds. Following her studies as an x-ray technician, Act I concluded with her departure from England to see the world. On board the *Empress of Australia*, however, she met a man who was en route to Toronto to visit a friend. They discovered they would be staying two blocks away from each other, and a year later they were married. Stay tuned. In Act III she resumes her travels.

The Persuasion of Art

Act II was the raising of her family in Oakville and her blossoming love of teaching arts and crafts. For Dean, the third act was piv-

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WHO Ankaret Dean
WHAT Fibre Artist specializing in willow sculpture and basketry, community arts educator and organizer
WHERE Home at High Valley Farm in McDonald's Corners, 278-1203, Ankaret@storm.ca
WHEN All the time
WHY "I'm very energetic, and I believe in the power of the arts to foster community spirit."

ARTIST TRADING CARD

Get Cooking For a Good Cause on the Dance Floor

Annual Guatemala Stove Project Fundraiser

Guatemala Stove Project volunteers know how to plan a great night out. The GSP has a stellar night of entertainment planned for those eager to hear award-winning music while supporting the good work of the organization. It all takes place Saturday, November 20, at Farrell Hall, 186 Gore Street East in Perth. Doors open at 7PM.

One of Canada's hottest blues/roots bands, Fathead, a joyful-sounding, five-piece ensemble, is the headliner. This Toronto-based outfit has won two Juno awards, plus multiple Maple Blues awards. Dave Balfour and his friends is back by popular demand to open this musical evening.

This annual event is the Guatemala Stove Project's major fundraiser of the year. Included in the evening's program are: a silent auction, a live auction, a sale of Guatemalan crafts, gift baskets, a show and sale of paintings by local high school students, and refreshments. Our caring community has generously donated all auction items, as well as refreshments.



Fathead (above) headlines at this year's Guatemala Stove Project dance on Nov. 20

Founded in 1999, the Guatemala Stove Project is a locally-based charity that builds masonry cook stoves in the western highlands of Guatemala. Over four thousand cook stoves have been built to date, improving the overall health of recipient families while helping preserve the country's forests. The use of efficient cook stoves can dramatically reduce fuel consumption and exposure to harmful smoke. Recent scientific evidence confirms that the greater the emissions reductions, the greater the health benefits.

Please show your support for the Guatemala Stove Project. Put on your dancing shoes and make sure to attend this fun-filled, licensed event (open to ages 19 and over, ID required). Advance tickets (\$20) are available in Perth at Shadowfax and Coutts & Co. or at the door (\$22). For more information, please call 267-5202.



A Guatemalan family poses with their new stove

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A Complete Makeover

What if you could make yourself over into a totally new person? What if you moved away and became a celebrity that even those who you knew you formerly would hardly recognize. Such a person was Archibald Belaney, who became the renowned Objiway Indian, Grey Owl. Although he has become a Canadian icon, not enough is known about this fascinating character.

All that will change once the informative and entertaining speaker Michael Gnarowski, presents his Almonte lecture: *The Strange Case of Grey Owl*. Held on November 19 at 7:30PM in the United Church hall on Elgin Street in Almonte, this will be the second in the Almonte Lecture Series, which is organized and presented by Don Wiles.

Mr. Gnarowski comes with excellent credentials, as anyone who has attended his previous lectures will attest. A Professor Emeritus in English at Carleton University, Mr. Gnarowski peppers his presentations with anecdotes and historical facts that make each lecture come to life. He has just completed an edition of Grey Owl's *Pilgrims of the Wild*, which will be available at local book stores.

The lecture is free, providing an entertaining and educational evening not to be missed. Come for the knowledge; leave with new insight into Canada that you will not find anywhere else but at this marvelous lecture series. For more information, please visit <almontelectures.ncf.ca>.

— Glenda Jones

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Nunsense Can Be Habit-Forming!

The Mississippi Mudds would like to introduce you to the Little Sisters of Hoboken, a one-time missionary order that ran a leper colony on an island south of France. Unfortunately, their missionary work didn't go as well as they hoped and, when they returned home, they discovered that their cook, Sister Julia, had accidentally killed the other sisters at the convent with her tainted vichyssoise.

Upon discovering the disaster, Mother Superior has a vision in which she is told to start a greeting card company to raise funds for the burials. The greeting cards are an enormous success and, thinking there's plenty of money, the Reverend Mother buys a plasma TV for the convent, leaving her with no money in the kitty to pay for the last four burials.

With the deceased nuns on ice in the freezer, the rest of the order decides to stage a variety show in the Mount Saint Helen's School auditorium to raise the necessary funds. As you'll see when you attend a performance of *Nunsense: The Mega-Musical* in early December in the Carleton Place town hall, each character has some quirky "habits" that are sure to guarantee a night of entertainment you won't soon forget.

Take Reverend Mother Mary Regina, for example, played by Catherine Clark. A former circus performer who cannot resist the spotlight, she can be seen habitually calling to other long-dead saints for guidance, and somehow manages to dream up visions that tell her precisely what to do. We're not sure exactly how she has these visions, but (ahem), please try to forgive her contact with "spirits" during the show.

Then there is Sister Mary Hubert, played by Judith Scott. As second-in-command, she is often

the nun to whom the rest of the order look when Reverend Mother is out of sorts. She does have a tendency to compete with Mother Superior, however, so if you catch her kicking up her heels behind Reverend Mother's back, it should be good for a laugh or two.

Of course, the comedy won't stop there. With Sister Robert Anne (Pat Black) in tow there's no telling what nonsense may occur. She really does live up to her Brooklyn roots, you know. Speaking of roots, we're not exactly sure where Sister Mary Amnesia (Michele Eno) hails from, but who can blame her. You'd forget too if a crucifix fell on your head.

Then there's Sister Mary Leo (Amy Bourne) — a novice who wants only to be the world's first ballerina nun. She's routinely practicing her dance steps in preparation for a role in the *Nutcracker* someday.

That leaves the last nut for the end: Sister Julia, Child of God, played by Sylvia Giles. Sorry, did that read "nut"? It should be "nun", of course! Well, you decide after you see the show. You see, she has a habit of cooking... well, cooking mishaps that is. Why she's still the cook after the vichyssoise tragedy is a true mystery.

The rest of the cast includes the secondary roles and the ensemble, who will be singing, dancing, and probably praying to ensure everything all works out!

Show dates are December 3 and 4, 9, 10 and 11 at 8PM, with a matinee on December 5 at 2PM. Tickets are available at Arts Carleton Place, 132 Coleman Street. Call 257-2031 or check out the website <mississippimudds.ca> for more information.

— Doris Ohlmann



The Reverend Mother Mary Regina (right) prays for patience to deal with Sister Mary Amnesia (left), and Sister Mary Annette (who is a bit of a dummy...). Catch them all in the Mudds' production of *Nunsense: the Mega-Musical* in early December!

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 or at Mill Street Books, 52 Mill Street, Almonte, 613 256 9090




Books and Baking Or, an Introduction to Renewable Energy Installations at Home

The province of Ontario is promoting the use of both small- and mid-scale renewable energy generators to meet its long-term electricity production and greenhouse gas emission targets. The province also recognizes that other jurisdictions in both the United States and Canada are moving to develop similar incentives to those used in Europe, to attract new manufacturing and support jobs. By providing the necessary incentives to “seed” the uptake of these systems and providing the appropriate regulatory environment, Ontario will be a North American leader of clean energy technologies and meaningful jobs.

Under the government’s Green Energy Act, homeowners, farm operations and businesses, as well as community co-operatives and first nations, may generate and sell electricity into the Ontario power pool using a variety of renewable energy sources.

Almonte has recently upgraded its hydroelectric generating station, which is one example of the type of project targeted under the Clean Energy Act. “As the town owns the generating station, 100% of the profits paid under the FIT program are returned to the ratepayers, providing financial benefits for years to come,” explains Scott Newton, General Manager of the project.

Under the Act, payments to larger projects, such as the Almonte facility, are issued under contracts known as “FITs” or Feed-In Tariffs. Recognizing that homeowners could also generate electricity, on a smaller scale, a separate MicroFIT program was developed.

For most homeowners, this means connecting a roof-mounted, solar electric (photovoltaic) array system to the electricity grid. Special metering allows the electricity distribution company to measure the generated energy and make payments on behalf of the Ontario Power Authority to the project owner. To learn more

about the MicroFIT program, visit the following Ontario Power Authority website: microfit.powerauthority.on.ca.

Although the rules and regulations are fairly straightforward, what are not quite so simple are issues related to installation, reliability and financial value or return on investment. I was chatting about this with Mary Lumsden of Mill Street Books, when she suggested that we do an introductory talk on the subject for people who would like to better understand the opportunity provided by the MicroFIT program.

Having written several books on the subject of renewable energy, developed regulatory standards, and assisted friends in building their own systems (as well as developing my own), it seemed like a good idea. People are always asking me questions about photovoltaic systems, and there is a lot of curiosity and misinformation in their comments. This would be a good venue to help clear a bit of the fog surrounding the subject.

Now, as everyone knows, you can’t have a good meeting without good food and coffee. It seems only natural to do the presentation at Palms coffee shop (78 Mill Street in Almonte), just up the street from Mill Street Books. Proprietor Sally Parsons will open up her shop on the evening of Wednesday, November 17 at 7PM, and Mary Lumsden will host the free, informal (non-threatening) presentation on the MicroFIT program and how it can benefit you. I will provide a short slide overview presentation, with a question and answer session to follow. There should also be plenty of time to mingle, and get acquainted with Mary and Sally, who are providing the book and the baking.

— Bill Kemp is the author of the best selling books *The Renewable Energy Handbook*, *Smart Power: An Urban Guide to Renewable Energy and Efficiency*, and *Biodiesel: Basics and Beyond*.



Solar home in the Fall: a solar electric system integrated into your home could help you pay your mortgage or save for retirement. Find out more on November 17 when Bill Kemp will speak on the topic at Palms coffee shop in Almonte.



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Perth Library Goes Solar With New MicroFIT System

One of Perth's landmark buildings, the Perth and District Union Public Library, is about to get a new look, courtesy of forty-eight large solar photovoltaic panels to be added to its southeast-facing roof, which overlooks the Tay Basin. This is thanks to a creative partnership between ecoPerth and the Perth and District Union Public Library Board.

Weather permitting, the installation should be completed in October, though it may take another month or so to complete the electrical inspection and the commissioning of the system by Hydro One.

EcoPerth, a local non-profit organization focusing on climate change issues, will fund the equipment and installation of the system, with the Library Board getting an annual lease payment based on the net revenue generated by the system. Through their distributorship agreement with Canadian Solar, a major manufacturer of photovoltaic panels, ecoPerth is getting the equipment at a good price. Installation will be provided by Laser Electric, an established Perth-based business working with ecoPerth on other photovoltaic systems.

This system will act as a demonstration of what a 10kW microFIT rooftop solar system looks like and, over time, how it performs. This will hopefully encourage other groups, individuals and businesses to follow suit. The approximately \$60,000 system should produce close to \$9,500 annually in net revenue for at least the next twenty years. The majority of that revenue will go back to ecoPerth to repay the initial investors and produce a cash flow for ongoing activities, with five percent of net revenue going to the Library Board as a lease payment.

The beauty of this location is that it is very public, it overlooks and is visible from Tay Basin, which is increasingly becoming the "people place" for Perth. It will be a great example of how Perth and the surrounding area are moving forward on a path towards sustainability.

For more information, contact Bob Argue of ecoPerth at 268-2907 or <bob@ecoperth.on.ca>, or Faye Cunningham of Perth Library at 267-1224 or <fcunningham@vianet.ca>.

Thanks to a creative partnership between ecoPerth and the Perth and District Union Public Library Board, the library will soon sport a 10kW microFIT rooftop solar system!



WWI Talk And Exhibit

"The Lost Generation: Local Soldiers Of WWI"

The North Lanark Historical Society will be hosting *The Lost Generation: Local Soldiers of WWI* in honour of those soldiers from the Almonte area who fought in the Great War. Guest speaker for the opening of the exhibit will be Carleton Place author Larry Gray, who has researched the war dead from that town. Over 600,000 Canadians participated in WWI, with close to ten percent casualty rates. In many cases, the soldiers of the First World War are recorded only by their last names and initials, with nothing else known about them. As an example, the museum had a photo of the first boys to sign up for duty in 1914, but no names were listed. With a little sleuthing research, all the men in the photo have now been identified with their full names, ages, and in some cases the date of their death in the war.

Literally hundreds of men from the Almonte and Carleton Place area fought in the war, and many never returned. Several local women also served overseas as nursing sisters. The exhibit will feature photos, artifacts, medals and other memorabilia associated with some of these individuals. The talk and opening of the display will be held at 2PM on Sunday, November 7, at the North Lanark Regional Museum, 647 River Road in Appleton. The exhibit will be open to the public on weekends during November from 11AM to 4PM or by appointment. For further information on the talk and exhibit, call 256-4221 or email <appletonmuseum@hotmail.com>.



The Gift of Art
Christmas Art Festival and Sale

Saturday, November 20
Sunday, November 21
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The Cat Came Back, And Back Again

This is the tale of Eddie the cat. Well, he wasn't Eddie to start with, but that's another story. My sister Sue and her husband Bryan live in Halfmoon Bay, a stone's throw — if you have a really good arm — from Sechelt, BC

by Glenda Jones

They will tell you it is the centre of the universe, but considering you need to take a ferry and a twisty road to get there, that might be up for discussion. Of course, if you saw the place, you would want to live there too.

A few months ago, they spied a raccoon hiding under their hedge. They ignored it as they drove out of their laneway, but there was no ignoring it when they returned, as the "raccoon" was actually a large cat who marched resolutely up to the front door and barged its way into their house, much to the consternation of Cooper, the border collie.

The "poor thing" appeared pretty hungry, but Sue and Bryan had nothing to offer except left-over salmon. He devoured that and expected more, so Sue opened a can of tuna, which also disappeared as if he had just discovered the buffet of the gods. He ensconced himself on Cooper's bed, and settled in for a sunny nap, while Sue and Bryan wrestled with the idea of having a cat again. It was apparent the cat had chosen them, and why not, when the accommodations were so good.

The cat sported a Harley Davidson collar — a fashion statement if ever there was one — so Sue and Bryan did the unthinkable when you are not intending to keep a stray, and named him Eddie. This was after the poet Edgar Guest (as a "guest" is what they thought he was). Eddie moved right in, and took over whatever cozy spot he wanted. He would come when called — or not — after all, he is a cat! But if he heard the can opener, he was right there with tongue hanging out.

Just when they resigned themselves to keeping Eddie, he disappeared. They breathed a sigh of relief, Cooper moved back to his bed, and all was again right in the world. But it was not to be; a week later he was back. This routine happened again a week later, with him going AWOL for days

on end, and then returning as if he'd been on a spy mission that he wouldn't talk about. The second time he came back, he was wearing a little red pill bottle on his Harley collar. In the bottle was a note, saying that Sue's neighbour was providing Eddie with an alternate home and she just wanted his other owners to be apprised of his whereabouts. It seemed Eddie had not one but three homes!

Eddie seemed pleased with his own ingenuity in scouting out the best provisions at each residence, and spreading his benevolence around the community. He chose Sue and Bryan's as his permanent address, disdaining to return to Home Number One where there was also a large boxer sporting a matching Harley collar. Number One owner wasn't perturbed about his departure and, even though Cooper wasn't too thrilled, Sue and Bryan became his primary servants.

To repay their kindness, Ed-

neutered males when you are giving them away. It turns out Ed has a tattoo and had belonged to a lady in Surrey, BC whom the vet contacted. She had given 'Tigger' to someone who moved to the Sunshine Coast." Along the way, he'd had many names, depending on where he was residing at any given moment: Tigger, Tuffie (an apt one!) and Eddie. No wonder he wouldn't come when called!

The poor thing had an abscessed tooth, demanding much treatment. Sue and Bryan footed the bill for (ka-ching) the vet visit, (ka-ching) the antibiotics, and (ka-ching) special food. They returned home, and Eddie draped himself over the sofa back, full in the sun, drooling as if he were hung over, while the antibiotics worked their magic. Getting medicine in a roaming cat is near impossible, so they had to put a message in the red pill bottle on his collar to alert his other owners to his delicate condition, and to send him "home."

Eddie was so grateful for all this attention that one afternoon, while Sue and Bryan were entertaining, the cat waltzed in with a live blue jay in his mouth for them. To say all hell broke loose would be an understatement. Sue yelled, the cat dropped the bird, Bryan grabbed the broom, the dog barked, the blue jay flapped all over the living room pooping as it went, the guest laughed uproariously, the wine got spilled, the cat ran behind the sofa yowling, and the dog got underfoot at the exact wrong time. Bryan managed to grab the bird as it flapped past his head, and he whooshed it outside. Meanwhile Eddie went into an hysterical fit at their ingratitude,

and tore off in a mad huff. Bryan threw a few appropriate epithets after his puffed up tail, and Eddie made for the hills. By this time, the two women were laughing fit to kill, and Bryan was nearly in the mood to do it.

Now, Eddie hasn't returned — yet. Maybe he's found a more appreciative family with which to live, or maybe he's hoping Bryan is in a cooling off period. Whichever it is, both Sue and Bryan miss him. I don't think Cooper does, but border collies really only focus on the next ball they can chase. A cat, eh — why give it a second look? They only complicate a household. The Carson household for sure can do without that excitement again.



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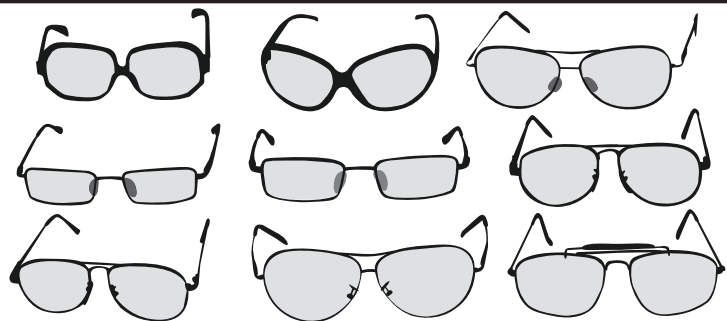
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Rosewood Studio Reopens in Perth

Most people long to create something of lasting value. The Rosewood Studio School of Fine Woodworking aims to help people do just that.

The internationally recognized school, which teaches fine furniture making and design, recently relocated to Perth. The school opened eight years ago in Almonte's Thoburn Mill, where it operated up until April

by visiting students. We are extremely happy to have been able to find a location here that will work for us."

There is still some work to be done in the studio, but the new digs should be in tiptop form for Rosewood's Open House on Saturday, November 6 at 2PM. All are welcome to come out and celebrate the opening of Rosewood's new facilities. There will be re-

niture maker. It is a program that provides challenging but achievable goals for students of various skill levels. A number of Rosewood graduates have gone on to work in the field of furniture making.

"Studio furniture making is a very challenging way to make a living," Ron cautions. "You have to stop and ask yourself, 'How many people do I know who have ever commissioned a piece of furniture to be built?' The answer will help you understand what a very small market there is for what we do. So I am proud to say that yes, quite a number of past students are now earning their livelihood with skills they have developed here at Rosewood."

Including Ron, who purchased the assets of the school in June 2007, the school boasts a long list of top-notch instructors. "Our instructors include some of the most recognized furniture makers alive," Ron explains. "Not only are they extremely skilled, but everyone who teaches here at the school is incredibly passionate about the work they do. Students can sense this, and the enthusiasm is contagious."

The number of students who return to Rosewood, year after year, is certainly a testament to the school's excellence in teaching the craft of fine furniture making. "In any given year," Ron reports, "about 75 percent of our students are 'return customers.' I like to think that they return because they enjoy themselves while they are here, and that we are helping them advance their skills, and hence their enjoyment of their work, in a meaningful way."

Rosewood attracts students of all ages and varying levels of experience and skill.

"We get a combination of people who hope to make a career out of fine furniture making," Ron says, "and those who attend for their own personal development, for the pleasure of doing something well and creating something beautiful with their hands. The skill level ranges from those with absolutely no background, right up to shop teachers and folks who have been woodworking their entire lives. One of the attractions of this field is the sheer depth of it, the fact that you could spend multiple lifetimes working at it and still not master all its facets. We get men and women, anywhere from eighteen years old to those well into their eighties."

What does Ron consider the most rewarding aspect of teaching the craft of woodworking? Mainly, it's in students' breakthrough moments.

"I've had the benefit of working with extremely talented

people who have been willing to share what they have learned with me over the years. It gives me great satisfaction to be in a position to pass some of this along to others. There are some 'a-ha' moments in our craft that I get tremendous satisfaction

in helping people achieve, and it makes my day when I get to witness them occurring here at our school."

To learn more about the Rosewood Studio, please visit them at <www.rosewoodstudio.com>.

— photo and text by John Pigeau



Ron Barter (right) works with student Tony Marik in the new Rosewood Studio space in the Perkins Building in Perth.

of this year. When the lease was up on their space in the mill, owner Ron Barter, a resident of the Perth area for almost twenty years, needed to find a new home for the school.

Finding the ideal location would be a challenge; Ron had a lengthy list of requirements for a new space. He needed a ground floor space with high ceilings, lots of natural light and three-phase electrical power. Also, because the school attracts students from all over the world, the ideal space needed to be within walking distance of a variety of accommodations and places for out-of-town guests to eat.

After a lengthy and challenging search, the studio found a new home in the Art Deco-style Perkins Building in downtown Perth, at 2 Wilson Street West. Originally built in 1947 as a General Motors car dealership, the space Rosewood now occupies most recently housed The Hungry Planet restaurant. A whirlwind of demolition and reconstruction followed, but the studio was ready for September 7, when fall classes began.

"Perth is a great small town," Ron says. "It comes as no surprise that TV Ontario voted it 'the prettiest town in Ontario.' There is a lively arts community, incredible outdoor recreation opportunities, and a wealth of variety in the amenities required

freshments, time to "talk shop" with Ron and some of the studio's accomplished instructors, as well as door prizes including a grand prize of a free weekend class at Rosewood.

Founded in 2002 by Ted Brown, Rosewood attracts students not only from across Canada and the United States, but also from around the world. International students have made their way to the school from Brazil, England, Ireland, Israel, the island of Nevis, Norway, Scotland, Sweden, and Switzerland. They come to Rosewood, Ron says, to learn the craft of handmaking fine furniture, one piece at a time, from some of the most respected furniture makers in North America.

"I obviously believe that the quality of our programs and instruction is top notch, but I know that there are other factors," Ron says, in explaining why the studio attracts people from all over the globe. "Our location in a friendly small-town setting, in a beautiful country, no doubt plays a role in international students choosing to come here. What we do is also not all that common in many places, and so foreign students are often forced to travel outside their own countries to find the type of instruction we offer."

Rosewood's Craftsmanship Series of workshops was developed to provide a logical approach to becoming an accomplished fur-

Canadian Forces Central Band

Enjoy the stirring sounds the Central Band of the Canadian Forces in concert on Wednesday, December 8 at 7PM at the Smiths Falls District Collegiate Institute on Percy Street. This "Prelude to Christmas" will include seasonal favourites, a salute to the Canadian Forces, a vocalist and soloists. Tickets are \$10, or \$25 for a family of four, and go to support the many projects of the Rideau Environmental Action League (REAL) throughout Lanark, Leeds and Grenville. Tickets are available in Smiths Falls at The Kiosk, Modern Thymes and the REAL Deal Store, or call Cathryn at 283-9819. For more information visit <www.REALaction.ca>.



Arts Carleton Place General Meeting

Monday, November 29, 7PM

Moore House, Bridge Street and after at Ballygiblin's

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Harp for the Holidays

Imagine that magical sound of the harp, the mystical notes filling a church sanctuary. St. Andrew's United Church in Pakenham is proud to present *Harp for the Holidays* on Sunday, December 5. The Ottawa Youth Harp Ensemble, under the direction of Mary Muckle, with guest flautist Kristen Carlson, will perform seasonal Christmas music with a taste of Scotland and Ireland.

Mary is a teacher, performer, composer and director of harps in ensemble. Her students have won many RCM and Kiwanis Festival awards and scholarships for their performances and compositions. Her performances in concerts, receptions, weddings, and special events cover a wide repertoire of Celtic, traditional, classical, and popular music, including her own compositions and arrangements. The beautiful acoustics of St. Andrew's makes it a wonderful place to stage such a performance. The concert starts at 2PM, followed by afternoon tea. The cost is \$15 for adults, \$7 for children 12 & under.

SRO Swing Dance in Almonte

On Sunday, November 28, you can combine a scenic fall afternoon drive to Almonte with dancing to one of the area's best big bands in an authentic period setting. The second tea dance of the 2010/2011 season will be held from 1 to 4PM in the historic Almonte Old Town Hall at 14 Bridge Street in Almonte. This is the fifth (!) season of these very popular dances, which are hosted by the well-known Almonte-based 14-piece big band, Standing Room Only. The doors will open at 12:30PM. Admission is \$10 at the door (cash only) plus a \$2 building improvement surcharge. Reservations are not required. Light refreshments will be available at very reasonable prices. The Almonte Old Town Hall has its own parking lot, and there is plenty of additional parking on nearby streets. For more information, visit <www.sroteadances.org>.

NGCC Searches for New Director

Long-time **North Grenville Concert Choir** director Jim Watson will be retiring after this year's performance of Handel's *Messiah* on December 11 and 12. After having devoted many years to the choir and leading it through many wonderful performances, from classical concerts to musical operettas, Jim has given much of his talent and encouragement to enable this community choir to soar to new heights every year.

The NGCC is now searching for a new director who can select new music, conduct rehearsals and select choir members for specific roles as, in the past, musicals have been performed in alternate years with spring concerts. The director should be experienced in choral directing, have a good knowledge of music (Grade 8 instrument and intermediate Rudiments or equivalent), have a broad musical range, and be tolerant of all musical abilities. Vocal training and humour are an asset! An honorarium is to be determined. The closing date for applications is December 31 and the position will begin in September 2011. Please contact Helen MacGregor at 258-3177 or <www.ngcc.net>

It has been a pleasure and an honour to have Jim Watson as choir director and he will certainly be missed!

Sing We Now of Christmas

The Valley Voices, Almonte's community choir, invites you to their *Sing We Now of Christmas* concert on Sunday, November 28, 7PM, at the Almonte United Church.

Under the direction of Becky Schweizer, the choir has been rejuvenated with a grand group of new singers lending their excellent voices to the mix. The selection of music is outstanding — beautiful songs to put you in the mood for winter and for the Christmas season. You'll love the calypso beat of *The Stars*. There will also be several familiar Christmas carols that will get you humming along.

Invite a friend — invite several. \$5 tickets are available from choir members or at the door. For information, call Amanda at 256-0134 or Fern at 624-5104.

The Valley Voices, along with the Valley Players, will also be performing *Brother Heinrich's Christmas* at the Mill of Kintail on Saturday, December 11, during the day as part of the Kintail Country Christmas.

Build the Local Economy with Healthy Food

There has been a lot of media hype about local food recently, such as the 100-mile diet, which is about using only food produced within a 100-mile radius of where we live. But what does "local food" mean to us in Lanark County?

The importance of farmers' markets is a big part of what local food is all about. Fresh produce, just picked, is nutritionally superior and tastes incredible. The old-fashioned heritage vegetables with their explosion of taste, available at the farmers' market, cannot withstand the handling inherent in the modern food system and will not be found in supermarkets. In contrast, vegetables bred for their uniformity of colour, shape, firmness and the ability to be stored for weeks without blemishing are on the shelves. The only thing missing is taste. The flavour and nutritional quality are reduced in supermarket produce where the distance and time between farmers' fields and the market is so much greater.

Local food means helping to build trust and relationships between the consumer and the producers of food. A chat with the farmer at the weekly market can make for a pleasant morning spent at a community event. This breaks the drudgery of simply shopping for food. Discovering the uniqueness of each farmer at the market is an adventure. These farmers are our neighbours and buying food from them helps build the local economy, by keeping cash within the community where it can do the most good.

Farmers' markets mean clean, healthy, good, local food, with produce grown using predominantly organic principles and meat and eggs from animals raised in a natural environment. When a farmer chooses to produce food organically they are prepared to control weeds and pests using time-proven techniques of building soil fertility, crop rotation and the diversity of plant varieties to build resistance to pests. The time and care taken is labour intensive, and prices reflect the extra value. Remember, this is supporting people's livelihood, and at the same time contributes to your health.

from seasonally available produce is more than just the delicate flavours; it is about improving our food preparation skills. This expands our knowledge of cooking and love of good food.

Buying food produced in Lanark County leads to the appreciation of flavour and quality, interesting farmers' market experiences, social connectedness, economic sustainability, and good health. Make it part of your life.

Visit the Perth Winter Farmers' Market inside the heated Crystal Palace on Saturday, November 13, from 8AM to 1PM. The Perth Christmas Craft and



By choosing to eat locally, people are able to experience the different vegetable varieties particular to a season, and the animal breeds of your region. It is also promotes an understanding of how to prepare food when it is locally available. This changes our habits of selecting recipes and menus in order to use the produce that is available in season. The delicious difference in a meal made

Farmers' Market is in the Crystal Palace on Saturday, November 27 from 10AM to 3PM (Festival of Good Cheer day), and Saturday, December 4 from 10AM to 3PM (Santa Claus Parade day).

See you there!
— Diane Falvey is a market gardener, together with her partner Greg Farrow, at Stony Brae Farm in Wemyss, just west of Perth, Ontario

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Flavour of the Month

Stony Brae Farm – The Art of Growing Food

In 1991, Diane Falvey attended a lecture at a conference for conservators at UBC that changed her life. During the lecture, the speaker noted that carvers from the Kwakwaka'wakw nation questioned the

by Susie Osler

practice of conserving cultural artifacts (i.e. the totems they'd been hired to repair at UBC), explaining that in their culture, when totems get old and fall over, they are left alone to decay. No effort is made to re-erect them or fix them up. It is understood within the culture that the totems that have fallen to the ground foster the growth of new cedars as they decay, ensuring that future carvers have trees to carve into new totems. By accepting the natural life cycle of the trees, the carvers (and the nation's creative traditions) were supported. How beautiful, simple, and somehow profound to have a culturally specific creative practice that is self-sustaining, integrated with, and supported by nature's cycles.

At the time, Diane had a well-established career in art conservation and was working for the Vancouver Art Gallery. After listening to this lecture, she realized that, rather than working to restore or preserve historical artifacts, she wanted to be working with nature to reveal and restore living potential. She realized that growing wholesome food sustainably not only supported people (including artists), but also preserved a way of life (farming). Diane quit her job and, after a few years of study

at UBC, she obtaining her B.Sc. in Ecological Agriculture. Following that, she studied at the Permaculture Institute in Zimbabwe where her former husband was posted for work. Finally, after many years of living in BC and elsewhere, she found her way to the Perth area where she bought an old dairy farm which has become Stony Brae Farm. She reconnected with Greg, a childhood friend from Toronto, who joined her in 2008 — making his own transition from a career in film to the life of a farmer.

When one drives up to the house at Stony Brae Farm, one can't help but notice the numerous, "organically" arranged, narrow beds surrounding the house. Many are covered with remay tunnels to protect the plants underneath from the cold and extend the growing season. Others are open and planted with a mixture of hardy perennials and edible annuals. This picture would warm the hearts of any fans of "edible landscaping" (i.e. me), a landscaping strategy that encourages the creative use of edibles in landscaping designs. Considering the farm is two hundred acres, it is not so much that the space right around the house is needed for growing food. Diane and John have used this easy-to-access space in part due to the various microclimates that can be found there (and not in their large open field garden). For example, in summer, shade trees cool the area on the south and east side of the house, making it possible to grow heat-sensitive plants like spinach and some lettuces through the summer. In autumn, when the temperature

drops, the space is sheltered from the wind and slightly warmed due to its proximity to the house and tree cover. Conscious design that works in harmony with the existing qualities of a landscape, and that mimics relationships found in nature, is one of many guiding principles of permaculture design. (Lots of info and links on permaculture can be found at <en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Permacultureonline>.)

With approximately two acres now being used for growing food, Diane and Greg have their hands full. A neighbour is hired to help with the fieldwork (haying, ploughing), and several billeted volunteers from Canada World Youth and the Katimavik programs were enormously helpful in bringing in the harvest. Drawing from her years of experience and education in ecological farming, Diane creates the vision behind the farm. She sources seeds, plans the garden layouts and crop rotations, starts seeds, and does the transplanting/planting and "fussy" work. Greg takes on much of the invaluable task of marketing and selling, as well as the heavier labour.

Along with the market vegetables that are being grown, they have planted numerous fruit and nut trees that will benefit future generations of growers. These include apples, pears, Asian pears, sour cherry, grapes, elderberry, jostaberry, gooseberry, cornelian cherry, heartnut, walnut, and northern pecan. Also of interest are the oak log piles near the house that have been inoculated with mushroom spores and which have produced a crop of shitake mushrooms this year. It is clear that biodiversity is central to the vision for the farm.

Diane and Greg are just finishing their second season as vendors at the Perth Farmers Market and, as the fall harvest winds down, they are gearing up for several Christmas season markets to be held late November and early December. Stop by the Crystal Palace to pick up special, locally made Christmas gifts, winter veggies, baking and preserves, or to treat yourself to one of Diane's delicious poached, pastry-wrapped pears!



Diane Falvey and Greg Farrow

Who They Are

Stony Brae Farm
Diane Falvey and Greg Farrow
111 Rutherford Side Rd., RR7 Perth, ON. K7H 3C9
264-8015 <niffhailbhe@gmail.com>

What They Offer

Full range of vegetables and fruits (uncertified organic) including many heritage varieties. Shitake mushrooms. Root crops, cabbage, potatoes, squash, herbs, preserves and baking available at Perth Christmas Farmers' Markets.

Where They Sell

Perth Farmers' Market (Crystal Palace). Christmas market November 13, 8AM-1PM, November 27 (Festival of Good Cheer), and December 4, 10AM-3PM (Santa Claus Parade).

Restaurants and Grocers (in season): Fall River Pub and Grill, Bistro 54, The Stone Cellar, Maximillian's, Foodsmiths, Metro (all Perth) and The Green Door, Wheatberry (Ottawa), as well as Wendy's Mobile Market.

Squash Gnocchi with Sage & Walnut Pesto

(serves 4)

Pesto:

½ cup walnuts
2 cloves garlic, chopped
handful of fresh sage chopped or 1 tsp dried
½ cup olive oil

Toast walnuts in a pan and place in a blender. Add garlic and sage. Slowly add olive oil and blend to a coarse texture. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Gnocchi:

1 small buttercup squash (note: acorn or pepper squash is too wet to use)
1 tsp rosemary
¼ tsp nutmeg
salt to taste
1 cup all-purpose flour

Bake squash (cut in half) at 350°F for 40 minutes or until soft. Scoop squash out into a mixing bowl. Add rosemary, nutmeg, salt and mix. Add flour slowly and blend until the dough is homogenous and firm. Knead for 5 minutes. Cut dough into pieces and roll out on floured board into long strips and cut into 1" pieces. Bring a large pot of salted water to boil. Add 1 piece at a time. When the gnocchi floats to the surface, cook 1 minute longer. Strain and place in a serving dish, add pesto, and mix.

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Music is at Work in Almonte!

George Turcotte never wanted to own a music store. But as a musician, performing artist, and manager of a recording studio, he decided to take the plunge when he realized that it was the best way to fulfill his top priority of running a music school.

by Euphemia Lark

Mississippi Mills Musicworks opened its doors on December 1, 2007, in a spacious unit at 453 Ottawa Street in Almonte.

"Having the store was the necessary complement to the school and, besides, it supports my habit of music recording," George admits. "I only have about 300 of my own songs waiting in the wings to record, and I also want to showcase the world-class talent pool of musicians who live in our area."

It wasn't long before Kathryn Briggs, a fine musician in her own right, came on board as the school's music director and, since their opening, she and George have gathered a team of exceptional music teachers who are both personable and qualified professionals.

"I have very high standards and our teachers meet them all," says George.

The talented faculty of Musicworks' School of Music include Terry Tufts, Alex Vorobej, Peter Brown, Ken Harper, Victor Maltby, Al Miller, Bryan Briggs, Sandra Vorobej, Tobias Meis as well as George and Kathryn. Their bios can be found on the Musicworks' website <mississippimills-musicworks.com>.

Lessons in piano, percussion, guitar, voice, woodwinds, banjo and more are now available to all ages at a very competitive price.

As well as offering private lessons, Musicworks organizes extracurricular music activities — the latest being a vocal ensemble for teens and adults who are enjoying the songs of The Beatles, Bob Marley and ABBA. George and Kathryn also make sure that Musicworks maintains a positive presence in our community by getting musically involved in local festivals and arts events. Right now they're working with the youth group, TYPS, to help the kids prepare for the grand opening of their new location in November.



Members of the Naismith Memorial School senior band (above and below right) will be teaming up with The Gryphon Trio as part of a fabulous new music project

George feels very strongly about Musicians Against Vandalism (MAV), an initiative he recently started that springs directly from the damage done to the large tent erected for Celfest in Gemmill Park last July.

"That tent is in a beautiful, natural amphitheatre and it could be up all summer!" says George, who envisions live concerts there every weekend. The money that he hopes to raise will pay for a much needed security system to keep the tent safe and available for local musicians.

Through all these efforts, Musicworks has become a popular fixture in town and their School of Music is living up to its mandate: "To Inspire".

Meanwhile, over at **Naismith Memorial Public School**, no one could be more excited than music teacher Shelley Smith. Her school has been chosen to take part in an exciting new music project which will be developed in Almonte and then taken to other elementary schools across Canada. The name of this pilot project is *Listen Up!*

Shelley wants to make sure that **Penny Blades** and **Suzanne Snelling** of the Almonte Music

Club get the credit for organizing *Listen Up!*, because she says that without them it just wouldn't have happened. "This is a once in a lifetime opportunity that the students, parents and teachers will never forget," she says.

create poems based on a theme of the four seasons.

These students, says Shannon, "are going to experience firsthand and have ownership in a fusion of their poetry to music. What more could one wish for a young person?"

By late November the poetry writing phase will be completed and composer Andrew Staniland (sponsored by the Alliance for Canadian New Music Projects), will spend time at Naismith School teaching the students how to create musical "motifs" to accompany their words. Mr. Staniland will then take these motifs and, along with his assistant, Rob Kapilow, will create a piece for The Gryphon Trio and the student choir. They are also hoping to include some student instrumentation as Naismith has an active band program and a percussion ensemble under the




Kathryn Briggs and George Turcotte of Mississippi Mills Musicworks

Listen Up! is about adapting poems written by grade eight English and French students into music and lyrics that will be performed by the children's choir alongside the acclaimed Canadian string ensemble **The Gryphon Trio** at a concert in April. Right now, English teacher Shannon Grey and French Immersion teacher Karen Armstrong are working with their students to

direction of local drummer Bill Serson.

"At their concert in April, the students will actually be playing and singing a piece of music that they had a hand in composing. They will personally get to experience the quality of sound, the attitude and the workmanship it takes to become a professional musician," says Shelley Smith.

Music is definitely at work in Almonte!



TOWN OF ARNPRIOR
Invitation to be a Board Member
ARNPRIOR & DISTRICT MUSEUM

The Council of the Corporation of the Town of Arnprior is seeking interested members of the public to serve your community on the Arnprior & District Museum Board.

The Board ensures effective management of the Museum on behalf of the public, establishing policies and standards for the Museum, as well as developing the annual operating budget. The Board attends 10 meetings per year.

Please submit a letter of interest to the undersigned by November 15, 2010:

Jacquie Farrow-Lawrence, Town Clerk
Town of Arnprior
105 Elgin Street West
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Further information regarding the Board's responsibilities can be obtained by calling Janet Carlile, Museum Curator, at 623-4902.

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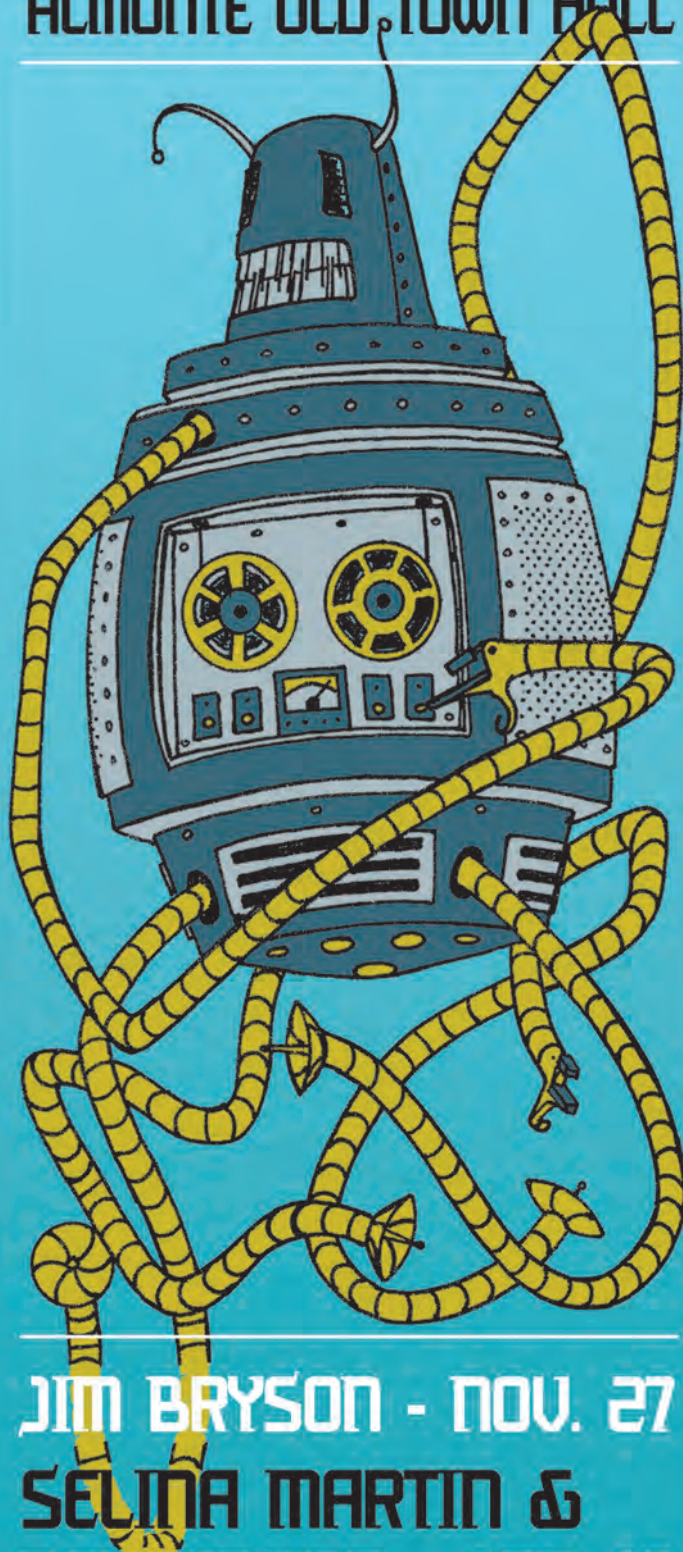
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LAWS Calendar Takes On New Face for 2011

The Lanark Animal Welfare Society (LAWS) wants to give back to those who give to them. Anyone making a minimum \$20 donation will now have the option to submit a photo of their fuzzy, furry and feathered friends.

Pet owners all have one (or many) — that cute photo of your dog gazing at you adoringly as only man's best friend can, or perhaps the cat goofing around with a favourite toy — the photos that give you a warm fuzzy feeling when you look at them, or make you laugh so hard you shed a tear. Why not share them with LAWS as a thank you with your kind donation? Know that your donation will be aiding those animals still waiting to find their forever homes.

The non-profit organization's 2011 fundraising calendar project is evolving this year — moving from a printed format to a web-based version. This shift will still allow folks the chance to feature a photo of their pride and joy, but in a digital format.

With a minimum donation, a photo may be submitted, as well as a small write-up (fifty words or fewer), which will be featured on the LAWS website. A calendar is in the works, featuring a pet for every day of the week. Share your story while reading the tales of others about how they and their pet were united.

For more information on how to get involved by making your donation today, please email <calendar@lanark-animals.ca> or check out the LAWS website at <www.lanarkanimals.ca>.

As a non-profit organization with no funding aside from donations and fundraising activities, LAWS relies on the public to support the cause. Dollars donated to LAWS go immediately to the animals in LAWS' care.

About LAWS

LAWS has been a member of the Ontario SPCA for most of their existence. LAWS remains the only affiliate with the OSPCA not to use the word humane or SPCA in its public identity. This makes finding LAWS difficult for people looking for their local "humane society" or

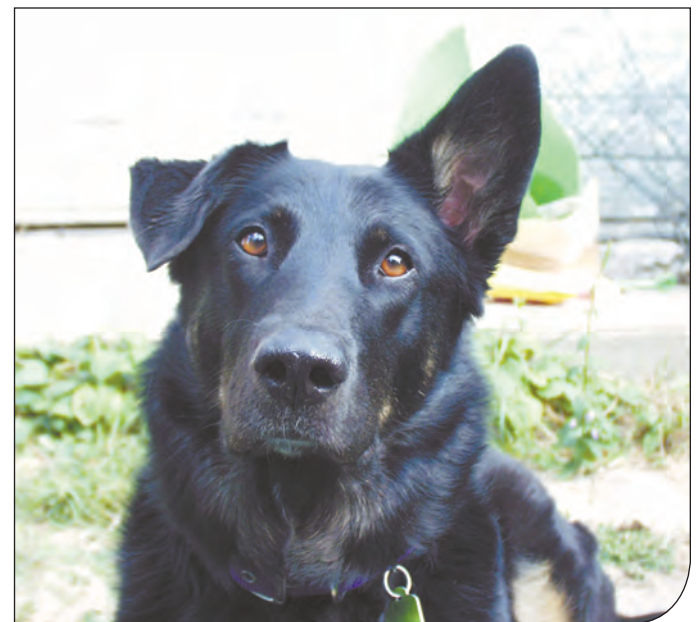
trying to distinguish LAWS from a rescue/pound. LAWS is affiliated with the Ontario SPCA and receives no funding from either the government or the OSPCA provincial Office.

The affiliation with the OSPCA gives LAWS and only LAWS (in Lanark County) the mandate to enforce both federal and provincial laws which deal with animal welfare. They are also the only enforcement agency in Ontario that receives no funding to enforce those laws.

They are part of a community of over fifty members (through their affiliation) that speak in one voice for the welfare of the animals. Some of the many services they provide include cruelty investigations 24/7, bringing perpetrators of cruelty to court, sheltering and adoptions, wildlife rescue around the clock, government and industry advocacy, humane education, reducing pet overpopulation through the SNAP program, emergency rescue and treatment 24/7, and reuniting lost pets with their owners.

The LAWS shelter is located on Glenview Road, off Highway 43, about two kilometers west of Smiths Falls. For more information, to volunteer or make a donation, please visit the website <www.lanarkanimals.ca>, email <shelter@lanark-animals.ca>, or call 283-9308.

— The LAWS board of directors



Shall We Write?

In Stephen King's book *On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft*, he says: "My basic belief about the making of stories is that they pretty much make themselves. The job of the writer is to give them a place to grow..."

Mill Street Books in Almonte wants to give local writers a supportive place to grow their stories. The shop has teamed up with local writer Susan Fisher to offer a free evening of creative writing and fellowship. If you're a wannabe writer, this two-hour event will give you a taste for

the joys of writing with others. If you're a seasoned writer, the magic that results from group writing will recharge your creative instincts. But don't worry — they won't leave you hanging. In the new year they will be offering other writing workshops led by Susan, to keep you writing well into 2011.

The workshop will be held at Mill Street Books on Thursday, November 18, from 7 to 9PM. Spaces are limited — please call to save your seat! For further information, call 256-9090.



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Creative writing workshop, Nov. 18

Microfit Talk at Palms, Nov. 17



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Selfish Juxtaposition

I'm selfish. There, I said it, it's out now. I'm not proud of this fact but there you have it. Here's the weird juxtaposition: I'm a selfish guy, however I support a number of charitable causes (and I managed to use the word juxtaposition in both a sentence and a headline). I have been involved in sponsoring children in poverty-stricken countries — but I get a yearly update and a picture of the child to satisfy my selfish need. I support the Cancer Society by buying daffodils — they raise money and I get a

by Steve Scanlon

lovely bouquet of daffodils (my favourite flower for those of you who are keeping track) for myself and my favourite people. See? Selfish. Come to me with a ticket for a raffle that also supports a charity and I start to quiver. I buy Girl Guide cookies... many boxes. Even donating for Remembrance Day gets me a poppy.

This is why one of the best fundraisers, for me, is the annual **Stephen Lewis Foundation Charity Fundraiser**, being held at The Cove Country Inn in Westport on November 6 at 7PM. Here's the thing: during this event, I get to listen to live music (the best kind of music, bar none) supplied by Westport's own String Tease, rumour has it there very well may be free coffee and dessert to be had, and I get to bid on stuff. That's right, this is a charity auction-type fundraiser, chock full of local foods, services, arts and other cool things. I hate to admit this, but in past years I have done some great Christmas shopping at the fundraiser. My (lovely and talented) wife has been the recipient of a gorgeous handmade Isidora Spielmann original jacket as a direct result of attending this event.

The organizers are concentrating their efforts based on a local and sustainable theme — local food, art, crafts and creations and local recycled goods. You can help in so many ways. You could donate to the cause with cold hard cash (for which you will receive a receipt) or you could donate that lovely piece of art you created. You could even donate that waffle iron you haven't used in years but you just know somebody would love to put to good use. Scour the shelves for those antiques you hate dusting. You could, of course, also help the cause by bidding over

and over again for the many terrific items that will be available for auction.

Now the serious part. All of the funds raised will go to the incredibly good cause that The Stephen Lewis Foundation initiated. Africa has been decimated. HIV/AIDS has torn this continent apart. We hear so much these days about the economic crisis in America and Europe and the damage this has caused internationally, but this is nothing compared to the damage HIV/AIDS has done to countries like Kenya, Lesotho, Rwanda, Mozambique and others. There are a bunch of stats out there about the number of Africans infected with this disease and the number of deaths since the disease was first diagnosed, but we hear so many numbers, so often, that we've become immune to them. This one, however, is a tough one to file away as simply another number: "as many as 13 million children have been orphaned by AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa..." That's more than just a number.

The burden of this epidemic is, in many cases, being shouldered by the grandmothers of the children. These are grandmothers who have buried their children and stepped up to take their place as caregivers with little or no local support. You can imagine the state this leaves the economies of these countries. This particular vicious cycle of the poor caring for the poor, with the only hope being the ability of their grandchildren to grow healthy and in return care for them, continues. The Stephen Lewis Foundation helps by funding grassroots projects that provide resources to small, frontline HIV/AIDS groups that make a difference with far too few funds. The key for the foundation is ensuring effective, strategic initiatives at the community level.

The Stephen Lewis Foundation's annual Fundraising event at The Cove Country Inn, Saturday November 6 at 7PM... Come on out, have fun, do a good thing at exactly the same time, bid for some cool stuff (or donate some cool stuff for bidding), and support an incredibly important cause.

Have something you'd like to donate? You can bring it with you the night of the event, or drop it off earlier at The Cove Country Inn on Bedford Street in Westport or, if you have something that needs to be picked up, give Chuck Gobeil a call at 561-6780.

MERA
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2011
call for entries
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The MERA Award of Excellence recognizes exceptional works of fine arts and fine crafts, and celebrates the local artists who create them.

For information and nomination forms, see www.meraschoolhouse.org

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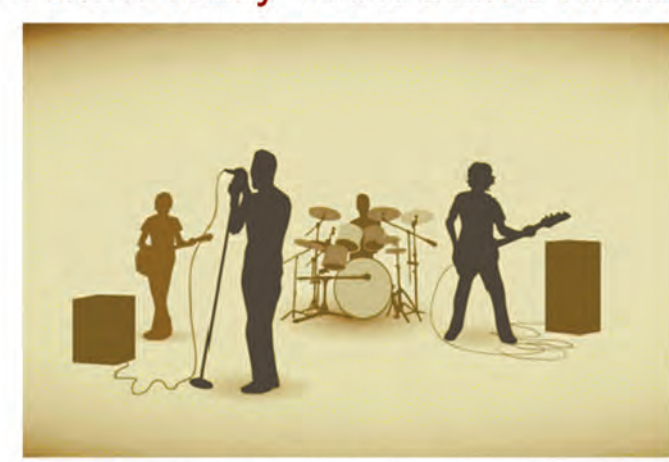
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Pottery by
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Café de la Casa
 Ottawa Valley Youth Coffee House



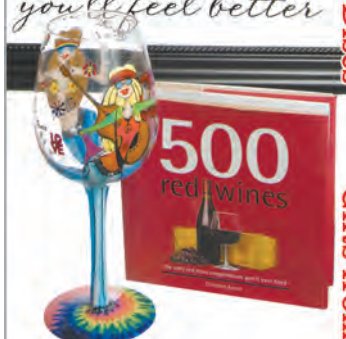
Join us for a fun night of local youth talent and support a worthy cause at the same time! A variety of performances with light refreshments. All proceeds to support Carp youth group **Viaje Nicaragua's** 2011 trip to build a school with SchoolBox

Almonte Old Town Hall
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What do you need today?
The Women's Business Group is proud to announce the launch of our new website.

OUR GOALS

1. To provide a networking and referral base for all our members.
2. To share information and ideas to strengthen or improve our business activities.
3. To provide an environment to foster friendships

MEMBERSHIP

New members are always welcome to join the Carleton Place Women's Business Group. We meet at 7:30 a.m. every second Tuesday of the month at Busters Restaurant located in Carleton Place.

The Women's Business Group is a support network for business women who work or reside in Carleton Place and the surrounding area. Log on to our website for details about the launch party coming up in November!

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Better Men Than I Have Gone to Pot...

Better Men Than I Have Gone to Pot

Ian Paige has a new home and pottery studio on Mitchell Road in Lanark Highlands. His passion hasn't changed: making stoneware and porcelain pots on the wheel and glazing them with formulae based on materials from Lanark County. Ingredients include white

ture's bellybutton now?" The hundred mile diet is in. These are hundred mile pots!

Ian had a gallery and store in Pakenham (from 1975 through 1992). It was called "Andrew Dickson's Large and Splendid Two Storey Stone Dwelling", that old stone house at the end of the bridge. He has always been a potter, as well as a craftsman in other media. As a trainer and teacher, he has developed and delivered courses in design and marketing for craftsmakers and small business owners, and chemistry for potters and scientists. He has worked for the Canadian Crafts Council, Ontario Crafts Council, Carleton University and St. Lawrence and Algon-

quin Colleges. Ian has also been a juror for competitions in craft and art across Canada.

To celebrate his return to clay, and in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of Maclean Young Picture Framers, Paige's *Better Men Than I Have Gone to Pot* collection will be featured at the Maclean Young shop from November 13. It's at 89 Mill Street in Almonte.

Paige pots are made for daily use, with elements of craft and chemistry that make every day special.



"Bird on a Wire" by Karen Thompson

by Miss Cellaneous

marble from Tatlock, wood ash from Lanark and Pakenham trees, and Canadian Shield feldspar. Ian calls it "Lanark alchemy"; friends ask him "what's in Mother Na-



Pottery by Ian Paige

Photography Matters

Photography Matters. That is the name of a small group of local photographers who get together once a month to share their work, learn from each other, and nurture their love of photography. In the past, the group has shown their work in *The Passionate Eye* exhibit in the Old Town Hall in Almonte. Another popular project has been *Naked in the House*, in which ten photographers are not told until the morning of the shoot where the location of the session will be, nor who they will be shooting. They then have five minutes to look around the location and half an hour with one camera, one

lens and 36 frames to photograph a live nude model. Each then chooses three of their favorite images to print and frame for a later exhibit. The model is shown through the eyes and lenses of ten different photographers, who create a variation of poses with imagination, lighting, composition and artistry.

This year, a few of the Photography Matters group will be showing their work at Palms Coffee Shop, 78 Mill Street in downtown Almonte. Sally Parsons, Palms proprietor, has opened her doors to showcase the work of Bruce and Karen Thompson, Hagan Hohn, Lee Brebner, Bev

Relph, Elaine Shea, Pat Kavanagh, Peter Wright and Susan Cressy. The show will run from November 20 until December 20, with the vernissage on the evening of Saturday, November 20, from 7 to 10PM. Sally will supply her own artistry of culinary delights for the opening event, and you are all invited!

Each artist has their own approach to capturing their love of wildlife, landscape, nature, architecture, people and sport. Come out and treat your senses — look through their lenses to see why "Photography Matters" at Palms Coffee Shop in Almonte, Saturday evening, November 20.

Kintail

Country Christmas

Saturday, December 11, 2010
10 am to 4 pm
Mill of Kintail Conservation Area

Horse drawn wagon rides
Crafts & a treasure hunt
Skating & snowshoeing
Stories by the fire & holiday music
Children Only gift shop
Photos with Father Christmas
Refreshments

2854 Ramsay Concession 8 in Mississippi Mills
Admission - \$15 per vehicle
call 613-256-3610 or visit www.mvc.on.ca

Mississippi Valley Conservation

mill of kintail committee • mississippi valley field naturalists • mississippi mills museums • ottawa region media group • valley voices

... and Other Art Stories

Red Trillium Studio Tour

This year's Red Trillium Studio Tour will be held on November 27 and 28, from 10AM to 5PM. See thirty-three artists in ten locations in the rural setting of West Carleton — and all with free admission!

This year the tour welcomes several new artists: Sandra Riddell with her unique jewellery, Susan Fraser and her very life-like charcoal drawings of wildlife, and Ben Gatien with his lively, colourful paintings of the Jazz scene. Returning to the tour are Sheri-Lyn Chamillard and her drawings and paintings, Erika Ferranin showing off her lovely wearable ceramics, Geoff Randall with his one-of-a-kind, finely

made wood boxes, and Susan Glazer with her fun and funky art jewellery. Johannes Veenstra has added pastel art to his skills and the paintings show his love of detail and precision.

You also have the chance to win a \$100 gift certificate to be spent with any of the talented artists. Just pick up a ballot at any of the stops and visit at least five studios.

The workAbles group (a group of disabled adults) will be having a tea room at the Masonic Hall in Carp. Come and join them for a cup of tea or coffee, soup and a sandwich.

Food can also be obtained from one of the many great pubs and restaurants in the area.

Brochures and maps can be found at many locations throughout the area. Information is available at <www.redtrilliumst.com> or by calling Catharine at 839-2793.

Call For Artists

Organizers of the **Westport Studio Tours** (Dandelion Gardens to be held on the May long weekend and Fall Colours to be held next Thanksgiving weekend) are now accepting applications from artists and studios for the 2011 tours.

Artists interested in becoming members or guests of the studio tours are invited to apply by printing and filling out the application on the website <www.artatwork.ca/westport_studiotours> (select a tour, then Tour Application) and presenting their portfolio. The committee will contact you after the jurying is complete.

Member studios must be within 15km of the Village of Westport — guest artists may apply from any area.

Jurying will take place in mid-January, so applications must be received by January 14. Please contact Loretta at 273-8347 or <hookedonthelake@kingston.net> for more information or see the website application.

Appleton Studio Artists' Travelling Art Exhibit

An impressive exhibition of paintings by twelve local artists opened in October at the Carleton Place Public Library. The **Appleton Studio Artists Show** features work by participants of the Open Studio art sessions with Adrian Baker in her Appleton studio. Their artwork covers a wide range of styles from abstract to high realism, and includes a variety of media such as acrylic, oils, watercolour and pastel. Many of the pieces are available for purchase.



"Two Beech and Hemlock #3" by Neil Carleton is part of the Appleton Studio Artists' Travelling Art Exhibit



"3AM Still Swinging" by Ben Gatien, who will be participating in this year's Red Trillium Studio Tour

The Gilded Corner

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November 12
Annual Christmas Open House
 with **Hard Pushin' Papa** jazz band, 6-8PM
 and **Nora Brown Art Show** opening night

November 13, 1PM
 Artist **Patricia Showers** print signing and
 Writer **Patricia Josefchak** book signing

November 14
Golden Acrylic Artist, Andrea Warren returns for an
 all-day workshop, Acrylics A-Z. • Register in advance

November 19 & 20
Trunk Trollbead Party

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Kazuri Jewellery Ladies Night in Perth

When November rolls around and people start to think about Christmas, a lot of us are also filled with charitable thoughts. Plain and simple, we want to give to people less fortunate than ourselves.

With that spirit of generosity in mind, the Lanark County Grannies are holding their third annual Ladies Night and Christ-

by John Pigeau

mas Sale of remarkable African Kazuri jewellery on November 19, from 5 to 8:30PM at the Royal Canadian Legion in Perth. The stunning ceramic jewellery sold at this wonderful event is handmade and handpainted by Kenyan women whose sole support for their children comes from the sale of these amazing pieces.

The story of how Kazuri jewellery came to be is a fascinating one. Kazuri (the Swahili word for "small and beautiful") was created in 1975 by Lady Susan Wood, the daughter of British missionaries, who set up a fledgling business making beads in the garden shed in her backyard in Kenya. She originally taught two disadvantaged women the ardu-

ous process of making ceramic beads by using clay taken from near the base of Mount Kenya. Lady Susan quickly realized that there were many more women in need of jobs, and she wanted to help the African women learn a skill that would allow them to care for themselves and their extended families.

From those humble beginnings, Kazuri jewellery has since grown and flourished. The company now employs over 350 women, with at least twenty women being trained regularly, ready for full-time employment as demand increases. And thankfully, demand is increasing as word spreads globally of the beauty and unique quality of Kazuri jewellery.

According to the website <www.kazuriunlimited.com>: "Kazuri designs have been perfected to compete worldwide to suit every fashion in every country for every season. This 'small and beautiful' product is providing the means to self-sufficiency for many women."

I attended this event last November, when I first moved to Perth, and was truly amazed not only by the pristine beauty of this African jewellery, but by the energy and excitement in the room. The Lanark County Grannies were all smiles and the Legion was bustling with activity and humming with a certain sort

of excitement — one that comes from knowing you're not only enjoying something special but you're helping in a greater cause.

Last year's event raised \$2,850, says the night's coordinator, Diana Bracegirdle. Asked how much the Grannies would like to make this year from the sale, Diana says, "As much as we can!" For good reason...



You can purchase Kazuri jewellery in Perth on November 19

All proceeds from this event go to support the Stephen Lewis Foundation via the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign, which aims to raise awareness in Canada about Africa's grandmothers and their struggle to secure a hopeful and healthy future for generations of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS.

It literally is a grandmother to grandmother campaign. Diana says there are 33 members of the Lanark County Grannies, with a core group of approximately fifteen. (To join, call Gail Myatt at 273-8797 or email her at <tmyatt@rideau.net>.) Their primary goal is to raise awareness about the Grannies among their families, friends and community.

a common goal, who want to contribute their energy, talents, humour and wisdom to make these events so successful."

"This particular event is held just for ladies and it is on a Friday evening," she adds, "time to wind down (or wind up!), enjoy the refreshments, the ambience, and of course the array of stunningly colourful jewellery. They are spending relaxed end-of-week time with friends or sisters or mothers or meeting new women, networking, and above all... shopping! — for either themselves or a dear one. And as they leave the hall, they know they've contributed to the well-being of women much less fortunate than themselves who live on another continent. No wonder they're happy!"

So, as Diana says, "Please join us for this exciting evening, have fun, and get started on your Christmas shopping!" Trust me, you will be happy you did.

Food and beverages will be available, with the Grannies providing free finger foods (with donations gratefully accepted), while wine can be purchased at the Legion bar. For information, contact Diana Bracegirdle at 264-1025 or <dmoon@superaje.com>.

For more information about Kazuri jewellery, please visit their Facebook page or <www.kazuriunlimited.com>, which explains the entire Kazuri story.

— John Pigeau

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A time to dance...

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Ottawa (New Edinburgh) K1M 1W2

Friday November 26 | 6-9 pm
Saturday November 27 and
Sunday November 28 | 10-5 pm
Artists' studio-113 Terraview Drive, Ottawa

For more information: Margaret Ferraro, MPAC
T: 613.839.5241 margferraro@xplornet.ca

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Tour Heritage Perth's Unique Homes

The women of CFUW Perth and District invite you to tour some of Perth's most unique homes on December 4 and 5, from 10:30AM to 3:30PM, to help raise funds to support higher education for women and young girls.

This year, a total of nine gracious homes will be open to visitors — heritage houses that remind us of our past, and some more modern but truly notable dwellings. With all of them decorated for the season, the tour will definitely put you in the Christmas spirit. One of the town's finest heritage homes, Nevis Estate (pictured above), has been added as a special bonus for visitors.

Since the tour will make you hungry, lunch will be served at St. Paul's United Church (25 Gore Street West) on Saturday, and at St. James Anglican Church (12 Harvey Street) on Sunday, for a small charge.

Don't miss afternoon tea and snacks on Saturday at The Factory Grind Coffee Shop, at the corner of North and Sherbrooke.

Tickets, in the form of a brochure illustrating the homes and their history, are available for \$25 from Home Furniture (18 Gore Street West, Perth, 264-9876), Elizabeth Interiors (8 Chamber Street, Smiths Falls, 283-7581), Tivoli Florist in Ottawa (282 Richmond Road in Westboro, 729-6911, or 18 Clarence Street in the Byward Market, 321-0960). Or simply call Muriel at 267-2270.

The Canadian Federation of University Women is a volunteer non-profit organization committed to the improvement of the status of women, human rights, and to the promotion of education. Last year's Heritage Perth House Tour allowed the granting of \$17,500 to area women continuing their education.



Ode to Music

The **Cantata Singers** of Ottawa (above) and the **Ottawa Regional Youth Choir** will present an *Ode to Music* with choral music by Vaughan-Williams, Britten, and Stanford on Saturday, November 20 at 8PM in Almonte's Old Town Hall. The concert is a celebration of the feast day of Saint Cecilia, patron saint of music, and is co-sponsored by St. Paul's Anglican Church.

Tickets at the door are \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors, and \$10 for students. There is a \$5 discount on adult/senior tickets purchased in advance at St. Paul's Church, Mill Street Books, or by calling 256-8281.

November 2010

www.thehummm.com

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FRIDAY NOVEMBER 12TH
FROM 6PM UNTIL 10PM

JOIN US FOR SCROOGE-APPROVED DISCOUNTS, GOODIES & PRE-HOLIDAY CHEER AS WE LAUNCH INTO OUR FAVOURITE SEASON OF MERCHANDISE. GET YOUR SHOPPING DONE EARLY THIS YEAR! DOOR PRIZES TO BE WON. SHOPAHOLICS WELCOME.

IN PREPARATION FOR THIS EVENT, BLACKBIRD WILL BE CLOSED FOR "CHRISTMASIZING" (OH IT'S A WORD ALRIGHT) MONDAY NOVEMBER 8TH UNTIL THE PARTY BEGINS!

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home decor . gifts . accessories . seasonal . neat stuff for every nest
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK, THURSDAY & FRIDAY UNTIL 7PM
79 MILL STREET . DOWNTOWN ALMONTE . WWW.BLACKBIRDSHOP.CA . 613-256-9669



LANARK COUNTY INTERVAL HOUSE PRESENTS THE 2010

WOMEN'S FAIR

Recipe for Success!
SHARE EMPOWER INSPIRE



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2010

CARLETON PLACE ARENA 10am - 4pm FREE ADMISSION

WIN A "Head-to-Toe New You" ~ Complete Personal Makeover \$500 value! Sponsored by Angels Roost

Join us for Exciting Seminars:	Back by popular demand, Elaine Birchall, Hoarding Specialist, 10:30-11:30 AM	Hot Flash Fitness with Jennifer Hicks, Personal Trainer, 11:30-12:30 PM	Wills and Estate Planning with Jeannette Mather, Lawyer, 12:30-1:30 PM	Everyday Survival Strategies with Children with Jackie, Child and Outreach Coordinator, LCH, 1:30-2:30 PM	Using Common Herbs for Healthy Living with Samantha Klinc, Funny Duck Farms, 2:30-3:30 PM
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PSYCHIC READINGS	CHILDREN'S CORNER	SHOPPING	SILENT AUCTION	FREE SEMINARS	LUNCH CAFÉ
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ARRIVE EARLY! Receive a free goody bag! FIRST 140 ATTENDEES ONLY!



Kellys' Success Tip of the Month:

Ever wonder about the difference in maintenance costs for homes of different ages? This chart offers average home maintenance expenses sourced from *Statistics Canada*.

Period of Construction	Repairs & Maintenance	Replacement	Total
Built before 1946	\$1,616	\$375	\$1,991
1946-1960	\$1,255	\$353	\$1,608
1961-1970	\$1,071	\$326	\$1,397
1971-1980	\$1,085	\$423	\$1,508
1981-1990	\$1,052	\$435	\$1,487
1991 or after	\$648	\$175	\$823

Ever wonder about the difference in maintenance costs for people of different ages? Well, that's not our area of expertise. However, if you would like more information about buying, selling, or investing in real estate please contact us!



Jennifer Kelly
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Sutton
Premier Realty (2008), Ltd.,
Brokerage

Patrick Kelly
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

(613)254-6580

www.kellysuccess.com

A new look but the same familiar faces...

Effective October 1, Rick & Associates assumed the law practices of Douglas Buchmayer and Patrick J. Galway. For many years, Mr. Galway was an important feature of the Almonte community as a respected lawyer and advisor. After his retirement, his practice was taken on by Douglas Buchmayer. Douglas has accepted a position at an Ottawa law firm and we wish him the best of success.

Rick & Associates has been providing common-sense, cost-effective legal advice throughout the Ottawa Valley since 1987 and we are proud to be a part of the Almonte community. We are also delighted that two familiar faces, Heather Metcalfe and Bonnie McCurdy, have joined our team providing sensible, experienced assistance in the areas of real estate, business law and wills and estates.

Drop us a line or give us a call if you need legal assistance. *We may have a new look, but we'll make sure that you're treated like an old friend.*

Rick & Associates

Barristers and Solicitors

359 Ottawa Street, Almonte, ON
T: 613-256-3480
www.rickassociates.com

Adventure Travels Near and Far

Want to enjoy a hike of a lifetime without even breaking a sweat?

Seasoned traveler Sarah de Jonge is offering to take you and your imagination to the highest heights of Africa, in the upcoming installment of *Adventure Travels Near and Far*, a series that raises funds for people in Malawi, southeast Africa.

The event includes several slide shows, including De Jonge's recent trek to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro. Presentations will take place at the Almonte United Church (106 Elgin Street in Almonte) on Friday, November 5. Doors open at 6:30PM, and the evening continues until 9PM. Admission is \$10.

De Jonge, 24, is a vibrant world traveler with family ties to Almonte, who has recently re-rooted in the Ottawa area. She describes her week-long journey to the

5 800-metre summit of Mount Kilimanjaro as a life-changing opportunity — one that everyone is capable of. "You don't have to be the outdoorsy or athletic type," says De Jonge. "It can be for anyone. It's do-able, it's enjoyable, and it's very fulfilling."

De Jonge will be joined by other adventurers. The Rusty Spokes from Carleton Place — a youthful group of seniors who bike together, will recount their tours in the region. The audience will also enjoy a show about hiking in the Rocky Mountains.

There will be refreshments and a silent auction. All proceeds go to the Likulezi Project which helps orphans, people with AIDS and villagers in Malawi.

For more information, contact Doug Younger-Lewis at 256-2738 or <doug.younger@sympatico.ca>.

Sarah de Jonge will share her stories about hiking up Mt. Kilimanjaro on Friday, Nov. 5 at the Almonte United Church (photo by Sarah de Jonge)



Celebrate Christmas with Mr. Fezziwig!

MVTM Offers a Victorian-Themed Holiday Gathering with Character(s)!

Come and experience a holiday party in a venue just like Mr. Fezziwig's workplace: a Victorian factory akin to the one in which the kind, jolly man entertained his workers and friends. As we know, it made Scrooge reminisce longingly for the joyous times of Christmas past and helped to rehabilitate his character!

Building on the success of last year's event, organizers of *Mr. Fezziwig's Christmas Celebration* are getting ready for another great party on November 27 starting at 6PM at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum (3 Rosamond Street East in Almonte). Last year party-goers outdid themselves by turning up in period party attire. There was much merriment and singing along with the Valley Voices, who appeared as Victorian carolers, and The Barley Shakers, who kept everyone's toes tapping. A most amazing array of

Dickensian characters, including Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig and Father Christmas, enlivened the festivities. Like last year, this year's party will include a groaning board of old-fashioned party treats and the biggest, most inspiring Christmas tree you have ever espied.

In addition, there will be a dramatic presentation of a classical Victorian holiday story. The audience will feel like they have stepped into a pop-up book as the Little Match Girl involves everyone in her story.

Enjoy a cup of good cheer while you celebrate the holiday spirit. Tickets are \$25 each and can be reserved by calling 256-3754 x11 or emailing <info@mvtm.ca>. As a Fezziwig party-goer remarked at last year's celebration: "This event is destined to become a much-anticipated holiday event in the Valley."

Take a Seat at the Falls!

We start this month where we left off last month, by reminding you to get your tickets for the next production of the **Smiths Falls Community Theatre**. *Ghost Train*, a play by Arnold Ridley, will be presented at the Station Theatre on November 11 to 13 and 18 to 20 at 8PM, and November 14 at 2PM. Note that these are "new" dates from those previously advertised.

Like you, of course, I like to get my Christmas shopping done early. (Hmm...) Well, maybe *this* year, since I plan to check out the 29th annual **Art Show and Sale** at

by Joffre Ducharme

the Heritage House Museum, 11 Old Sly's Road, from November 8 to December 20. Every day between 10:30AM and 4:30PM you will be treated to original works by over twenty-five local artists. From paintings to sculptures, you will be amazed at the variety of works available. So come and find that perfect Christmas gift while discovering some of our most talented artists in the festive Victorian atmosphere of the seasonally adorned museum. For more information, contact Carol Miller at 283-8560 or <cmiller@smithsfalls.ca>, or see <www.smithsfalls.ca/heritagehouse>.

Now that you know where to find the Heritage House Museum, you can plan to attend two special **Learn to Bake for the Holidays** workshops. On November 14, master the art of the perfect Savoury Dinner Bread, and on November 21 discover what you *knead* to know to insure success with the traditional Holiday Loaf. *Ramsay's Kitchen*, eat your heart out! Sue Van Slooten, a well known local chef, will host both sessions, which cost \$35 each and run from 1 to 4PM. For more information, contact Heather Campbell at 283-8560 or <heritagehouse@smithsfalls.ca> or see the website.

A nice break from our early forays into Christmas shopping and baking comes on Thursday, November 18, when **Film Night International** has a special treat for Beatles fans. *Nowhere Boy*, by director Sam Taylor Wood, presents a riveting portrait of John Lennon's late teen years in Liverpool just before the Beatles era. A superb period piece, largely faithful to the biographical record, the film boasts a stunning performance by Kristin Scott Thomas as John's indomitable aunt Mimi. The show starts at 7PM at Premier Cinemas on Main Street.

A bit more Christmas shopping (this time I'm checking out the unique, art/artisan gift options at Spotlight on the Rideau), then it's time to actually start celebrating the holiday season. What better way to kick things off than the Rideau Canal Museum's **Scotch Tasting Fundraiser**. On the heels of last month's successful wine tasting event, we continue the series on Saturday, November 27, as

Carol Anderson of GrapeScot Scotch Consulting joins us with her wealth of knowledge on everything Scotch. Guests will learn about single malts, blended scotches and the importance of aging, as well as appropriate foods that can be paired with scotch to create extraordinary flavour combinations. A unique scotch selection, great food and musical entertainment are sure to create an unforgettable evening of pure enjoyment! Tickets are \$40 each, and can be reserved or purchased at the Rideau Canal Museum (284-0505) or Bailey's Blade and Bow (283-0666).

Another perennial yuletide favourite returns to Smiths Falls on that same Saturday, November 27. At 8:15PM, the **Canadian Pacific Holiday Train** rolls into the train station at 63 Victoria Street, where the party begins. This year's entertainment will feature The Odds, with special guests The Dube Brothers.

The Odds are a Canadian power pop rock band that achieved wide commercial success in the 1990s. Their irreverent sense of humour and original sound has won them a legion of faithful fans. **The Dube Brothers** got their start in music in Ottawa, in 2006, at the ages of 6, 8 and 10. They play at many charity events and raise money for important causes for kids, and inspire young people to get involved and make a difference.

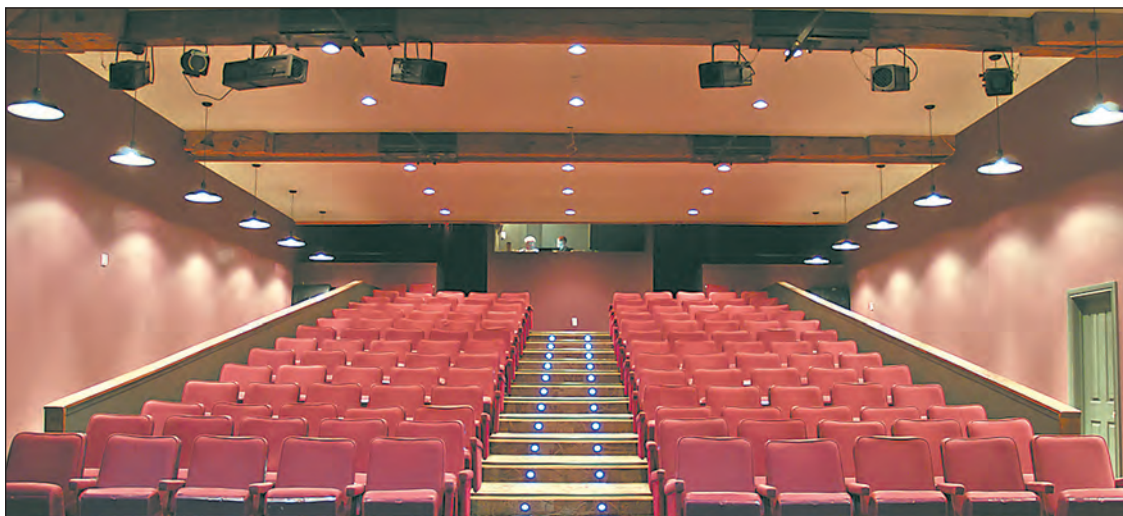
Since the Holiday Train Program's inception back in 1999, this seasonal fundraiser has collected more than \$4.7 million and over 2.2 million pounds of food in Canada and the United States. Come for the fun and the opportunity to contribute to the collection so that those less fortunate among us may have something to celebrate also.

How are we doing so far? Christmas shopping? Check! Seasonal baking? Check! Celebrating with a nice drink? Check! Contributing to the true spirit of Christmas? Check! All we need to round out this Yuletide prep month is a nice Christmas concert.

Lo and behold, back by popular demand, the acclaimed 80-man **Capital City Chorus** will entertain us with a *Dickens of a Christmas* concert on Sunday, November 28, starting at 2PM at the Smiths Falls District Collegiate Institute. This Heritage House Museum fundraising performance is sure to put you in that holiday mood just in time for December. Tickets are \$10 per adult or \$20 for a family of four and are available in advance only at the museum at 11 Old Sly's Road, Smiths Falls. The **Kemptville Fire Department Pipe Band** will also be performing, along with the **Polaris Quartet**. For further information, contact the Heritage House Museum at 283-8560 or <cmiller@smithsfalls.ca>.

Take care and see you at The Falls.

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



The best seats in the house await you at the Smiths Falls Community Theatre!

A recent survey suggests that
1 out of 10 vegetarians
 is likely to be run over by a short, angry butcher...
Don's Meat Market
 126 Mill Street • Almonte
 256-6801

Silverleaf Esthetics
November Special: \$80 for facial & manicure
 gift certificates available
 56 Johanna St., Almonte 613-806-8422

THE CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
 presents
Heritage Perth Christmas House Tour
 December 4 & 5
 10:30AM to 3:30PM
 Tour nine unique homes
 all festively decorated for the holidays
 Tickets \$25
 from **Home Furniture**, 18 Gore St. W., Perth
Elizabeth Interiors, 8 Chamber St., Smiths Falls
Tivoli Florist, 282 Richmond Rd., Ottawa
 or call Muriel at 613-267-2270
 All proceeds to CFUW education grants

Pick up theHumm in Smiths Falls at
SPOTLIGHT ON THE RIDEAU

Copper Royalty
 Please join us for our
6th Anniversary Open House
Sat., Nov. 20th, 4 to 7PM
 Featuring a once-in-a-lifetime
 viewing of the legendary
Melron Pennies
 The finest and most important
 set of Canadian Large Cents
 ever seen on public display
 since the birth of the Penny.
 Enchanting classical music by
Harpist Louise Ebeltoft
Alliance Coin & Banknote
 88 Mill Street, Almonte
 613-256-6785
 www.alliancecoin.com



Celebrate Christmas at the Santa Claus Parade!

Carleton Place is just weeks away from the largest Santa Claus parade in the Ottawa Valley, scheduled for Saturday November 27th beginning at 5PM. This year's theme is a "Disney Christmas". The parade traditionally includes approximately one hundred floats and draws an appreciative crowd of thousands of spectators.

The excitement is already brewing among the young and young-at-heart. If you have not already registered your float, there's still time! Now is also the time to book dinner reservations in town for the evening, and to start planning your holiday gathering to coincide with the event. Everyone is invited back to the Carleton Place and District Memorial Hospital after the parade for the traditional tree lighting ceremony and to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Local community groups and business owners are also invited to get creative and leave a lasting impression with the crowds of residents and visitors with your special float. Parade registrations and details can be found at www.downtowncarletonplace.com. The parade will begin at 5PM on November 27th at Carambeck School, and will travel up the town's main thoroughfare, Bridge Street.

'Tis of course the season for giving, and the parade is an opportune time to get into the Christmas spirit. The Civitan Club will be collecting food for the Lanark County Food Bank and monetary donations for the Christmas Basket Fund. Meet Me "Downtown" On The Mississippi to make a donation while enjoying holiday cheer and singing along with all the classic Christmas tunes. Parking is free in downtown Carleton Place, where visitors and residents can shop and dine amongst the 150 stores and restaurants.



"Shop Around Downtown" in Carleton Place

Get Christmas started! On every Thursday in November (the 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th) you can "Shop Around Downtown Carleton Place" until 8PM. Participating downtown businesses will offer unique specials each Thursday in their stores.

"Shop Around Downtown" on Saturday, December 4th and bring the young ones to visit Santa at the "Magical Christmas Moore House" from 1PM until 4PM. Santa won't be the only star that day. The BIA will also have Frosty The Snowman and the Gingerbread Man "meeting and greeting". There will also be a Christmas farmers' market complete with live entertainment as well as special events happening at various businesses.

You can also receive a special treat from Santa! The first 200 families to visit Santa will receive a gift envelope of coupons for downtown businesses, and each envelope will include a \$5 BIA Buck that can be used in participating stores. Capture these magical moments and bring your camera!

Downtown events will continue all day with great shopping, our local Farmers' Market, caroling, hot chocolate and festive treats, live entertainment and transportation opportunities from one end of the BIA area to the other. For more information, please visit www.downtowncarletonplace.com/events.

WHILE YOU'RE HERE, VISIT THESE DOWNTOWN MERCHANTS!

Ballygiblin's Restaurant & Pub
151 Bridge St.
613-253-7400
www.ballygiblins.ca

The Blossom Shop
167 Bridge Street
613-257-1855
www.blossomshop.ca

Bonnie and Company
114 Beckwith Street
613-257-8345

Graham's Shoes
139 Bridge Street • 613-257-3727

THE MEXICAN EMPORIUM
109 Bridge Street
613-492-0207
www.mexicanemporium.com

Nancy's Impressions
149 Bridge St. • 613-257-2124

St. James Gate
111 Bridge Street
613-257-7530
www.stjamesgate.ca

Valley DESIGN CO.
22 Lake Ave. East
613-257-1197

Wisteria
62 Bridge Street • 613-253-8097
www.wisteriacp.com



What's Coming Up Downtown...

Nov. 4, 11, 18 & 25

Shop Around Downtown Carleton Place each Thursday in November until 8PM. Unique specials and attractions at participating stores.

Nov. 6, 10AM-4PM

Lanark County Interval House presents the **2010 Women's Fair** at the Carleton Place Arena Upper Hall. Free admission, proceeds to LCIH Programs. Children's corner, door prizes, silent auction, crafts and gifts, lunch at a café.

Nov. 11

Remembrance Day Service at the Cenotaph on Beckwith Street in Carleton Place sponsored by the Carleton Place Legion.

Nov. 13, from 10AM

Snowflake Bazaar at St. James Anglican Church on Edmund Street.

Nov. 20, 9AM-3PM

Carleton Place Girl Guides **Holiday Bazaar** at the Carleton Place Arena.

Nov. 27, from 5PM

BIA Santa Claus Parade with "A Disney Christmas" theme. Followed by the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital at 7PM.

Nov. 30, from 6PM

St. Andrew's Supper, call 613-253-3195 for tickets.

Dec. 3, 4, 9, 10 & 11

The **Mississippi MUDDS** present *Nunsense - The Mega-Musical*. Tickets are \$20, available now. Details at www.mississippimudds.ca, 613-253-2007.

Dec. 4, all day

"Shop Around Downtown" Carleton Place and meet Santa at the Magical Moore House Event. Events all day long, meet Santa and Mrs. Claus from 1-4PM.

Dec. 4, 10AM-5PM

Visit the Information Centre, Gallery and Gift Shop at the Train Station in Carleton Place, 132 Coleman Street for a **Christmas Open House**.

For more information about these and other upcoming events, contact:
www.downtowncarletonplace.com
cmcormond@carletonplace.ca
 or 613-257-8049



About the BIA Buck...

The Carleton Place BIA (Business Improvement Area) would like to introduce you to our downtown community's unique currency. The BIA Buck is a standard dollar that consumers can use in the downtown core of Carleton Place, where delicious food, beautiful crafts and all of your shopping needs await you. BIA Bucks are an economic booster to town merchants and encourage consumers to support local businesses. BIA Bucks can be purchased as staff appreciation gifts, a gift for a loved one, or a special donation. For a complete list of participating businesses, please visit www.downtowncarletonplace.com. To purchase BIA Bucks, please contact info@downtowncarletonplace.com or 613-257-8049.

www.downtowncarletonplace.com



Photo by Tracy Lamb, Mopani Communications

Carleton Place Winery
 20 Lake Ave. East • 613-253-1007

The Good Food Co.
 31 Bridge Street • 613-257-7284

GRANARY
 BULK & NATURAL FOODS
 EST. 1978
 107 Bridge Street
 613-257-5986
www.granary.ca

ROYAL LePAGE
Gale Real Estate
 Independently Owned and Operated, Brokerage
 24 Lansdowne Ave.
 613-253-3300
www.welcomingyouhome.ca

SIRC
 MUSIC
 124 Moore St.
 613-253-0263
www.srcmusic.ca

There's so much to do downtown! For a complete listing of Downtown Carleton Place businesses, please visit:

www.downtowncarletonplace.com



Curing the Poetry Blues

Coming down off a poetry high can be difficult — whether it be from a simple sharing of poems with a friend, a small town poetry slam, or the largest Canadian Festival of Spoken Word (CFSW) to date. I am feeling a little low with the onset of cold weather, and the nights stretching out longer into my waking hours. The cure for the poetry blues?

by Danielle Grégoire

A Youthful Display of Excellence

I was privy to more than a few beautiful moments at this year's CFSW in Ottawa, but my downright favourite was on Wednesday, October 13, when I accompanied seven students from R. Tait MacKenzie Public School (Almonte) for a day of wordsmithing and performance. First the students took a poetry workshop from the slam champion of the world, Ian Keteku. It was a near adult-free zone, and I managed to catch a few minutes of brilliance at the end as Keteku drew the words straight from the mouths of our youth. The atmosphere after that workshop was one of heady excitement. Then the kids partook of a very solemn, and community building activist workshop which dealt with creating safer spaces for sharing poetry.

Then came the main purpose of their visit. It was time to share their work with an audience of the top slam poets from across the country. These youth, ranging in

age from 10 to 13, wowed the audience into a murmuring of appreciation. I heard comments like "It must be in the water!" (referring to the amount of talent coming out of Ottawa and surrounding areas), and occasional breaks into shared song when one of the featured performers, Sarah Jane Milligan, took the stage. This was the culmination of my poetry workshops in the schools: taking poetry from something you learn from your teachers to a real world experience that will live on in the minds of seven incredible young people, and those who were lucky enough to witness their national debut. As the days get darker, and the weather seeps into my bones, I will have this memory to buoy me until spring... or at least until the next slam.

Monthly Rural Slams

This year the Lanark County Live Poets Society (LiPS) has decided to try something new; having a consistent slam that takes place at the same time, and same place, every month. This way you can mark it on your calendars and finally ask that poetry lover out on a date. The first Monday of every month, at CP Cinemas in Carleton Place, poets from all over the county will take to the stage to compete for a chance to make the team that will represent Lanark County at the CFSW 2011 in Toronto. This year's team was magnificent, turning out four team pieces that made

the audiences at the festival laugh, cry and shiver with the power of their words. Most notable was a piece called *Famine*, which gave me goose bumps, particularly because of the lack of attention that Pakistan is getting during its time of need. A timely, and extremely well-performed piece — I know that Lanark County has made its mark on the spoken word landscape of Canada.



Dora Tamas from Almonte was one of several youth to participate in a poetry workshop with Ian Keteku as part of the recent Canadian Festival of Spoken Word

This month check out featured performers Rusty Priske and Kevin Matthews. Show up at 6:30PM on Monday, November 1, to sign up for the open mic or the slam. Remember to mark next month's date on your calendar.

Free The Children

A new feature of this column is updates about a very driven young woman's efforts to raise awareness for the plight of youth around the world, including here at home. Sarah Reside once took a poetry workshop with me — in fact she organized it herself and rounded up the participants. I should have known then that she would be a powerhouse of community activism. It is part of my mandate as a spoken word artist to help those who are helping others, and thus I am adding this segment to *Pageful of Poetry*. Last month, Sarah gathered a group of students to participate in Free the Children's Halloween for Hunger campaign, which uses the idea of trick-or-treating to collect non-perishable food items for the Lanark County Food Bank. Look for more initiatives in the near future. Let us support the younger members of our community in their goals, and let them know they are valued and appreciated.

As always, if there is a poetry or literary event in the Ottawa Valley that you want covered, or perhaps you just want to find out more about our local spoken word scene, or the potential for a tailored workshop in your community, please email me at <danielle.gregoire@hotmail.com>.



"My long-term goal is to make downtown Almonte 'the place' to live, work, eat and shop!"

Between running a gorgeous shop on Mill Street and working behind the scene to promote the entire town, Cynthia Stuart of **Appleton Gift & Basket Co.** is certainly making great progress towards realizing that goal. Cynthia's dedication to marketing the downtown and her success in building a distinctive business were recently recognized at the Chamber of Commerce Business Gala, where she won the 2010 Award for Creativity and Innovation.

Cynthia draws on her background in retail management and floral design to create gift baskets notable for the quality of both the products and their presentation. She uses local and Canadian products where possible, and specializes in themes such as new baby, bath & body, or chocolate-lover's baskets. Orders can be placed online at www.appletongiftbaskets.com or in person at the store, and can be shipped to anywhere in Canada.

Cynthia is an active member of the Chamber, MAAP, and the Women's Business Group. She and her husband Tony recently launched www.DowntownAlmonte.ca, which promotes shops, services, dining, accommodations and events in the town. She is thrilled to be able to work in the same community in which she is raising a family, and is clearly contributing a great deal to it!



Appleton Gift & Basket Co. — Chamber member since 2009



Visit us: www.mississippimills.com

**MISSISSIPPI MILLS
CHAMBER of
COMMERCE**

November 17 – MIXER

Jeff Mills from the **Mills Community Support Corporation** will speak about their Client Services / Volunteer Coordinator Home Support Program 6PM, Barley Mow

Join us:

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

White Swan — a New Healing Space in Almonte

The White Swan Healing Space has recently opened its doors to the community of Almonte and the wider area. What began as a home-based reiki practice is now a storefront healing centre on Mill Street, which is itself a destination for both residents and visitors. The White Swan Healing Space (WSHS) will endeavour to be a community centre for practitioners of alternative healing local to Mississippi Mills.

The creative forces behind WSHS are brothers Justin and Riel Ouimet. Both describe themselves as community healers, and Justin is a reiki master as well. According to Justin, "what we have created together is a space where people can come to rest between school and work. It is a place where they can unwind in a safe and comfortable space without the pressures of needing to buy anything. I like to call it a café for the soul!" Some items on the menu include reiki treatments, tarot readings and Tibetan singing bowl performances by arranger Mark Daniel (Mark will be at the WSHS on the 10th and 20th of each month). Private or group sessions can be booked by calling

256-3081. There is also the prospect of hot stone massage, reflexology, integrative energy therapy, and more.

WSHS also plans to offer workshops to help with major life changes, as well as some of the basics. The smaller "basic" workshops are free. Some examples of these are *See Your Aura*,

Breathe Again, and *Feel Your Aura*, among many others. They are currently running their first *Getting to know the Sacred Elements* workshop, which is held every Thursday for five weeks. Justin will be taking participants on a quest to discover new aspects of themselves by observing nature through the four sacred elements of earth, water, fire and air.

Justin and Riel look forward to sharing their relaxed and rejuvenating environment with you the next time you find yourself in need of some quality relaxation time, or you are simply looking to experience something new. As Justin explains, "the doors of the White Swan are open to young and old, rich and poor, beast or human. Yes, we treat your pets too!" Hours of operation are generally from 10AM to 5PM, Monday through Saturday, but separate appointments can be made outside of these times. For more information, call 256-3081, visit the website at <whiteswan-healingspace.ca>, or drop in at 96 Mill Street in Almonte.



Justin Ouimet welcomes you to White Swan Healing Space

Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol

The Merrickville United Church is delighted to host a dramatic reading of Charles Dickens' original one-man script *A Christmas Carol*. They are honoured to have the support of several accomplished members of Theatre Night in Merrickville who will be narrators for this evening of seasonal entertainment. Music is under the supervision of the

church's own talented music director, Abraham TeGrotenhuis. The performance will take place on Sunday, December 5, at 7:30PM.

It is recommended that tickets be purchased in advance as seating is limited. Please call 269-4414 to order or drop in to either Miller's of Merrickville Country Store or The Knock

Shop. Ticket price is \$10 and includes "warming" refreshments following the production. Even later, you may wish to partake of an authentic "Steaming Bishop" just across the road at The Baldachin Inn.

Organizers look forward to welcoming you to this exciting evening of a familiar traditional tale with music.

MERA Christmas Advent Fair

On Saturday, November 27 from 10AM to 5PM, the community arts group MERA (McDonald's Corners/Elphin Recreation and Arts) is holding its sixth annual fine crafts sale. This is earlier than in previous years, to give you a head start in your holiday shopping.

The MERA Christmas Advent Fair will feature many delicious foods and other items made by the MERA Farmers' Market group, including homemade breads and preserves. Other items include fine chocolate by Ludwig, handmade soap and candles by Strawberry Cottage, leatherwork by Gregory Smith, David Zimmerly's cards and photographs, handmade felted bears and handsewn items.

MERA's handweavers, including award-winner Ellen Good, will have an impressive array of handwoven items for sale and the MERA Fibrearts group will have a table with handknitted and other items, as well as some pottery. Come and enjoy a cookie and organic fair trade coffee at Café MERA, as you shop for one-of-a-kind items for Christmas.

There will also be a bake sale and raffle gift bags of donated items as a fundraiser in support of this vibrant community organization. For directions, see <www.merachoolhouse.org>.



The Nick of Time Artisan Show



Discover a fine selection of unique gifts created by more than 20 talented artisans...

- decorative tinware
- classic pewter items
- whimsical corn brooms
- decadent chocolate
- evergreen centerpieces
- and much more.....

FREE Admission..... FREE Refreshments..... FREE Draw

10:00 am — 4:00 pm
Saturday, December 4th
McMartin House
125 Gore St. E., Perth



Janice Aiken
Registered Massage Therapist
23 Years experience
Specializing in:
**Treatment-Oriented
Massage and
Myofascial Release**

1598 Ramsay Conc. 1
10 minutes west of Almonte
www.janiceaikenrmt.ca
613-256-6243

*Sing We Now
of Christmas*
a concert by
the Valley Voices

**Sunday, November 28
7:00PM
Almonte United Church**

Tickets \$5
from choir members
or at the door.

For info call 613-624-5104

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Claiming Column

Hairspray, Perth, Dec 2-4
 Light Up The Night, Almonte, Dec 3
 The Stairwell Carollers, CP, Dec 3
 Nunsense: the Mega-Musical, Carleton Place, Dec 3-5, 9-11
 Shop Around Downtown, CP, Dec 4
 Nick of Time Artisan Show, Perth, Dec 4
 Christmas Craft/Farmers' Market, Perth, Dec 4
 Christmas House Tour, Perth, Dec 4-5
 Victorian Christmas Tea, Smiths Falls, Dec 5
 Harps for the Holidays, Pakenham, Dec 5
 A Christmas Carol, Merrickville, Dec 5
 Christmas Concert, Smiths Falls, Dec 8
 Christmas Concert, CP, Dec 8
 Almonte in Concert, Dec 11
 Kintail Country Christmas, Almonte, Dec 11

Visual Arts

Christmas in the Valley Artisan Show Nov 5 (2-9), 6 (9-4), Almonte Community Centre. www.valleyartisanshow.blogspot.com
Handmade Harvest Craft Show, Nov. 6, 9AM-5PM. Almonte Old Town Hall. www.handmadeharvest.com
Rosewood Studio's Open House, Nov. 6, 2-5PM. School of fine woodworking opens new facilities at 2 Wilson Street W. Perth.
Stittsville Studio Tour, Nov 6 & 7, 10AM-5PM. www.stittsvillestudiotour.com
Pints 'n Purls, Nov. 10, 6-9PM. Knitting group. Old Mill Pub, Ashton. 257-2296
Appleton Studio Artists Show Reception, Nov. 12, 6-8PM. Meet the artists at Read's Book Shop, 130 Lansdowne Ave, Carleton Place.
 The Gilded Corner presents **Open House - Art/Jazz** with Hard Pushin' Papa & Nora Brown (Nov. 12, 6-8PM); **Print Signing/Book Signing** with Patricia Showers (Nov. 13, 1PM). Davidson's Courtyard, Smiths Falls. 284-2524
Vernissage Nov. 12, 7-9PM. Artist Glenda Covell. Brush Strokes, 129 Bridge St. Carleton Place. 253-8088.
Pakenham Christmas Craft Show, Nov. 13 & 14, 9AM-4PM. 256-1077. Stewart Community Centre, Pakenham.
Pillow Talk, Nov. 13, 2PM. Artist Talk by Karina Bergmans at MVTM, 3 Rosamond St. E Almonte. www.mvtm.ca. \$5 admission.
Remembrance Day Wire Art Installation, Nov. 13 & 20, 1-3PM. Train Station Gallery, 132 Coleman St. CP. 257-2031
Creative Spark Artists' Lecture Series, Nov. 14 Max Dean, Nov. 21, Ellen Good. 2PM. McMartin House, Perth. \$5 each
Almonte Quilters' Guild, Nov. 15, 7-9PM. Guest speaker Catherine Timms. New members welcome. Almonte Civitan Hall
Flippin' Art Night, Nov. 18, 5PM. With Al & Chris MacLachlan. Ballygiblin's, 151 Bridge Street CP. 257-2031. Free
Open Studio - Jennifer Noxon, Nov. 19 (6-9), 20 (11-6) Paintings: Field Forest Water. 154 Robert St. Almonte.
Vernissage, Nov. 20, 7-10PM. By Photography Matters members. Palms Coffee Shop, 78 Mill St. Almonte.
Lanark County Knitting Guild, Nov. 23, 7-9PM. Almonte United Church. Guests \$3.
Arnprior & District Quilters' Guild, Nov. 24, 7-9PM. With Patti Carey, 257 John St. N. Arnprior: \$5 or \$20/yr membership.
Open Studio - Margaret Ferraro, Nov. 26 (6-9); 27-28 (10-5). A Time to Dance. 113 Terraview Dr. Kinburn.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1 Poetry Slam, Carleton Place	2 Green Drinks, Perth Open Mic, The Barley Mow	3 CP Celtic Jam, Ballygiblin's Lady & the Tramp, Perth The Philadelphia Story, Perth	4 Bazaar & Chili Lunch, Almonte Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub Sweeney Todd, Perth Terry Tufts, The Barley Mow
8	9 Almonte Coin Club, Almonte Open Mic, The Barley Mow Rock Wall Gardens Talk, Carp Women's Business Group, Carleton Place	10 CP Celtic Jam, Ballygiblin's Pints 'n Purls, Ashton Roy MacSkimming, Perth Sabrina, Perth Shakespeare in Love, Perth	11 Remembrance Day Commemorations Ghost Train, Smiths Falls Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub Sweeney Todd, Perth Terry Tufts, The Barley Mow
15 Almonte Quilters' Guild, Almonte Mayan Code Study Group, Appleton Women Expanding Business Network, Almonte	16 Open Mic, The Barley Mow	17 CP Celtic Jam, Ballygiblin's Renewable Energy Installations, Almonte Madagascar, Perth The African Queen, Perth	18 Creative Writing Workshop, Almonte Nowhere Boy, Smiths Falls Flippin' Art Night, Carleton Place Ghost Train, Smiths Falls Peter Brown & Don Paterson, St. James Gate Luke Doucet, Neat Coffee Shop Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub Terry Tufts, The Barley Mow
22 Arts Carleton Place AGM, CP	23 Lanark County Knitting Guild, Almonte Open Mic, The Barley Mow 29 Arts Carleton Place AGM, CP	24 Arnprior & District Quilters' Guild CP Celtic Jam, Ballygiblin's Little Women, Perth The Private Lives of Elizabeth & Essex, Perth 24 Open Mic, The Barley Mow Potluck Supper, Ferguson's Falls St. Andrew's Supper, Carleton Place	25 Where is the Love Youth Conference, CP An Evening with Shakespeare, Perth Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub Terry Tufts, The Barley Mow

MERA Christmas Advent Fair, Nov. 27, 10AM-5PM. Handmade food & crafts, bake sale & raffle. MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners. 259-2269
Quilts/Quilted Items Sale, Nov. 27, 10AM-1PM. McMartin House, Perth. Free.
Red Trillium Studio Tour, Nov 27-28. 839-2793, www.redtrilliumst.com. Free admission. West Carleton.
Vernissage, Nov. 27, 2-5PM. Meet Gallery Perth artists at Code's Mill, Perth. 264-8338. Free
Arts Carleton Place AGM, Nov. 29, 7PM. Moore House, Bridge St, CP.

Theatre

Perth Film Society (1 Sherbrooke St. Perth. 267-9610) \$5 membership + \$5/film.
 Nov. 3 *Lady & the Tramp* 9:30AM
 Nov. 3 *The Philadelphia Story* 12:30PM
 Nov. 6 *Shall We Dance/Singin' in the Rain* 7PM
 Nov. 10 *Shakespeare in Love* 9:30AM
 Nov. 10 *Sabrina* 12:30PM
 Nov. 17 *Madagascar* 9:30AM
 Nov. 17 *The African Queen* 12:30AM
 Nov. 20 *Some Like It Hot/Imma La Douce* 7PM
 Nov. 24 *Little Women* 9:30AM
 Nov. 24 *Private Lives of Elizabeth & Essex* 12:30PM
Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street (adult themes). Nov 4-6, 11-13 at 8PM; Nov 7 at 2PM. Perth Community Choir. Tickets Please, www.ticketsplease.ca or 39 Foster St. in Perth. PDCI, 13 Victoria St. Perth. 485-6434. \$22.

Prints of Darkness, Nov. 6, 6:30PM-09:30pm Mississippi Mudds Murder Mystery Dinner fundraiser for MVTM. Tickets from laubar@sympatico.ca. MVTM, 3 Rosamond St. E Almonte. \$45
Ghost Train, Nov 11-13, 18-20 at 8PM; Nov 14 at 2PM. The Station Theatre 63 Victoria Ave. Smiths Falls. 283-9138 www.smiths-fallstheatre.com
Nowhere Boy, Nov. 18, 7PM. Film Night International. \$10 door; 267-1224. Premier Cinemas, 11 Main St. W. Smiths Falls. filmmightinternational@yahoo.ca
 PAMT presents **An Evening with Shakespeare**, Nov 25 & 26, 7PM. **Hairspray**, Dec. 2-4, 7PM. \$10 at door or from 267-9610. 1 Sherbrooke St. Perth.
Mr. Fezziwig's Victorian Christmas Celebration, Nov. 27, 6PM. Live music & theatre, dancing, light refreshments. MVTM, 3 Rosamond St. E Almonte. \$25 from 256-3754x11 or info@mvtm.ca.
Perth Cinema Circle, Nov. 28, 2PM. 1 Sherbrooke St. Perth.

Literature

Poetry Slam, Nov. 1, 7PM. With Rusty Priske & Kevin Matthews. CP Cinemas, 17 Albert St. Carleton Place. \$5; free for performers.
Roy MacSkimming, Nov. 10, 7PM. Talk by author of *Laurier in Love*. The Factory Grind, 1 Sherbrooke Street Perth.

Creative Writing Workshop, Nov. 18, 7PM. Susan Fisher offers free evening of creative writing. Call 256-9090 to save your seat. Mill Street Books, 52 Mill St. Almonte.
Book Launch, Nov. 26, 7PM. *a minute or two/without remembering* by Claudia Coutu Radmore. Read's Book Shop, 130 Lansdowne Ave., Carleton Place.

Music

Brock Zeman, Nov. 5. Rob Roy's Pub & Restaurant, 32 Beckwith St. S. Smiths Falls.
Come Out & Dance, Nov. 5, 8PM-12:30AM. A gay-friendly event with live music. Perth Civitan Hall. \$10 at Shadowfax, 259-5757 or at door.
Peter Woods & Brian Browne, Nov. 7, 6:30-9PM. Rob Roy's Pub & Restaurant, 32 Beckwith St. S. Smiths Falls.
Dinner/Dance Evening, Nov. 13, 7PM dinner; 8:30 music. Featuring "Jef and Angie". Chuckles Jack Restaurant, Smiths Falls.
The Schumann Letters (concert), Nov. 13, 8PM. Almonte in Concert. Almonte Old Town Hall, 14 Bridge St. www.almonteinconcert.ca. \$27 adults \$14 students
Blues on the Rideau, Nov. 19, 7PM. David Rotundo Band. The Cove, Westport. www.choosetheblues.ca. \$55+tx buffet & show. Reservations req'd.
Ode to Music, Nov. 20, 8PM. Cantata Singers & Ottawa Regional Youth Choir. 256-8281. Almonte Old Town Hall. \$25; \$20 seniors; \$10 students.

Guatemala Stove Project's Fundraising Dance, Nov. 20, 7PM. With Fathead, Dave Balfour. 19+ Advance tickets at Shadowfax & Coutts & Co. Farrell Hall, 186 Gore St. E. Perth. 267-5202. \$20 adv; \$22 at door
Almonte Traditional Sing, Nov. 21, 2-4PM. 482-1437. The Barley Mow, 79 Little Bridge Street, Almonte.
Cafe de la Casa Youth Coffeehouse, Nov. 21, 7PM. Proceeds to Carp youth group's trip to build a school with School-Box. Almonte Old Town Hall
The Arden Chamber Players, Nov. 21, 7PM. Zion-Memorial United Church, Carleton Place. \$12 from Remembrance Gift Shop, Appleton Gift & Basket, at door.
Brock Zeman, Nov. 26. Rideau Canal Museum, 34 Beckwith St. S. Smiths Falls.
Contra Dance, Nov. 27, 7:30PM. With Sheesham & Lotus. Maberly Community Hall. 264-1993. \$10 at door; under 16 free.
CP Holiday Train, Nov. 27, 8:15PM at the Smiths Falls Train Station; Nov. 28, 10AM at the Wilson Street crossing in Perth. Food bank fundraiser. With The Odds.
Jim Bryson, Nov. 27, 8PM. Folkus Concert Series. \$23 from Mill Street Books (256-9090), \$27 at door. Almonte Old Town Hall. www.folkusalmonte.ca
Joey Wright, Nov. 27, 8PM. CD Release Concert. Myriad Centre for the Arts, 1 Sherbrooke St. Perth.
July Black, Nov. 27, 8PM. Perth Performing Arts Ctte. PDCI, 13 Victoria St. Perth. 755-1111, www.perthpac.org. \$35

NOVEMBER 2010

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Adventure Travels Near & Far, Almonte 🎵 Brock Zeman, Smiths Falls 🎵 Christmas in the Valley Artisan Show, Almonte 🎵 Come Out & Dance, Perth 🎵 Jazz at the Swan, The Swan at Carp 🎵 Mario Franco & Son, The Cove 🎵 Open Stage, The Downstairs Pub 🎵 Sweeney Todd, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Brock Zeman, The Downstairs Pub 🎵 Christmas in the Valley Artisan Show, Almonte 🎵 Handmade Harvest Craft Show, Almonte 🎵 Mississippi Jug Stompers, St. James Gate 🎵 Prints of Darkness, Almonte 🎵 Rosewood Studio's Open House, Perth 🎵 Shall We Dance/Singin' in the Rain, Perth 🎵 Stephen Lewis Fundraiser, Westport 🎵 Stittsville Studio Tour, Stittsville 🎵 Sweeney Todd, Perth 🎵 Women's Fair, Carleton Place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Justin Rutledge, Neat Coffee Shop 🎵 Live Jazz, Fiddleheads 🎵 Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak 🎵 Peter Woods & Brian Browne, Rob Roy's Pub 🎵 Stittsville Studio Tour, Stittsville 🎵 Sweeney Todd, Perth 🎵 The Lost Generation: Local Soldiers of WWI, Appleton 🎵 Valley Singles Lunch, Renfrew
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Appleton Studio Artists Show, CP 🎵 Ghost Train, Smiths Falls 🎵 Open House - Art/Jazz, Smiths Falls 🎵 Open Stage, The Downstairs Pub 🎵 Sweeney Todd, Perth 🎵 Vernissage, Carleton Place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Dinner/Dance Evening, Smiths Falls 🎵 Ghost Train, Smiths Falls 🎵 Keen as Mustard, St. James Gate 🎵 Pakenham Christmas Craft Show 🎵 Perth Winter Farmers' Market 🎵 Pillow Talk, Almonte 🎵 Print Signing/Book Signing, Smiths Falls 🎵 Remembrance Day Installation, CP 🎵 Silver Creek, Harry McLean's Pub 🎵 Snowflake Bazaar, Carleton Place 🎵 Sweeney Todd, Perth 🎵 The Schumann Letters, Almonte 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak 🎵 Creative Spark Artists' Lecture, Perth 🎵 Ghost Train, Smiths Falls 🎵 Learn to Bake for the Holidays, Smiths Falls 🎵 Live Jazz, Fiddleheads 🎵 Pakenham Christmas Craft Show
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Almonte Lecture Series, Almonte 🎵 Blues on the Rideau, The Cove 🎵 Ghost Train, Smiths Falls 🎵 Jazz at the Swan, The Swan at Carp 🎵 Ladies Night and Christmas Sale, Perth 🎵 Open Stage, The Downstairs Pub 🎵 Open Studio - Jennifer Noxon, Almonte 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Axe2Grind, The Downstairs Pub 🎵 Bazaar/Lunch, Westport 🎵 Ghost Train, Smiths Falls 🎵 GSP's Fundraising Dance, Perth 🎵 Holiday Bazaar, Carleton Place 🎵 Mario Franco & Son, The Cove 🎵 Ode to Music, Almonte 🎵 Open Studio - Jennifer Noxon, Almonte 🎵 Pet Photos with Santa, Carleton Place 🎵 Remembrance Day Installation, CP 🎵 Some Like It Hot/Irma La Douce, Perth 🎵 The Diplomats, St. James Gate 🎵 TYPS Opening Gala, Almonte 🎵 Vernissage, Almonte 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Almonte Traditional Sing, The Barley Mow 🎵 Cafe de la Casa Youth Coffeehouse, Almonte 🎵 Creative Spark Artists' Lecture, Perth 🎵 Learn to Bake for the Holidays, Smiths Falls 🎵 Live Jazz, Fiddleheads 🎵 Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak 🎵 The Arden Chamber Players, CP
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 An Evening with Shakespeare, Perth 🎵 Big Brothers Big Sisters Curl for Kids Bonspiel, Smiths Falls 🎵 Book Launch, Carleton Place 🎵 Breakfast with Soul, Location tbd. 🎵 Brock Zeman, Smiths Falls 🎵 Mario Franco & Son, The Cove 🎵 Open Stage, The Downstairs Pub 🎵 Open Studio - Margaret Ferraro, Kinburn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Beckwith Craft Show, CP 🎵 Contra Dance, Maberly 🎵 CP Holiday Train, Smiths Falls 🎵 Festival of Good Cheer, Perth 🎵 Open House & Talk, Carp 🎵 Open Studio - Margaret Ferraro, Kinburn 🎵 Peter Brown & George Turcotte, St. James Gate 🎵 Quilts/Quilted Items Sale, Perth 🎵 Red Trillium Studio Tour, West Carleton 🎵 Scotch Tasting Fundraiser, Smiths Falls 🎵 Carleton Place Santa Claus Parade 🎵 MERA Christmas Advent Fair, McDonalds Corners 🎵 Mr. Fezziwig's Victorian Christmas Celebration, Almonte 🎵 Vernissage, Perth 🎵 Jim Bryson, Almonte 🎵 Joey Wright, Perth 🎵 Julio Black, Perth 🎵 Starfire, Almonte 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 A Dickens of a Christmas Concert, Smiths Falls 🎵 APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak 🎵 CP Holiday Train, Perth 🎵 Live Jazz, Fiddleheads 🎵 Open Studio - Margaret Ferraro, Kinburn 🎵 Perth Cinema Circle, Perth 🎵 Red Trillium Studio Tour, West Carleton 🎵 Sing We Now of Christmas, Almonte 🎵 Smiths Falls Santa Claus Parade 🎵 SRO Tea Dance, Almonte 🎵 Valley Singles Christmas Lunch, tbd

- 🎵 Arnprior and District Museum presents over 100 quilts from the 1800's, Nov 6 - 21
- 🎵 Baker Bob's Gallery presents 204/613 New works by Rick Herrera; mixed media
- 🎵 Gallery Perth presents Art Here & Now with local and regional artists <www.galleryperth.com>
- 🎵 Heritage House Museum Art Show and Sale of 25 local artists as of Nov 8. <smithsfalls.ca/heritagehouse>
- 🎵 MVTM presents TEXTing by Karina Bergmans, a text-based pillow project <www.mvtm.ca>
- 🎵 Palms Coffee Shop (Almonte), photos by Photography Matters members, from Nov 20
- 🎵 Philip K. Wood Gallery (Almonte) presents Down the Rabbit Hole & Other Works by Angele Desjardins (to Nov 14)
- 🎵 Read's Book Shop presents Appleton Studio Artists travelling art exhibit < www.readsbookshop.com>
- 🎵 The Almonte Library presents architectural illustrations & models by Peter Mansfield; The Chamber Gallery presents Paula Gray, sculptor & Peter Lewis, photographer
- 🎵 Art Mad presents Gerald Smith's oil paintings <www.artmad.ca>
- 🎵 Gallery on Main presents Artists at Work, Open Studio <www.galleryonmain.ca>

A Dickens of a Christmas Concert, Nov. 28, 2PM. With Capital City Chorus. \$10 (\$20 family) in advance from Heritage House Museum. Smiths Falls District Collegiate Institute.

Sing We Now of Christmas, Nov. 28, 7PM. Valley Voices Christmas Concert. 256-0134. Almonte United Church, \$5.

SRO Tea Dance, Nov. 28, 1-4PM. With Standing Room Only. Almonte Old Town Hall. www.sroteadances.org. \$12 at door (cash only)

Jazz at the Swan (The Swan at Carp, Falldown Lane Carp, 839-7926) 7-10pm. Nov 5, 19

The Downstairs Pub (385 Ottawa St., Almonte, 256-2031) Open Stage Fri, music 9PM, no cover; Sat live music, 9PM, \$4.

Nov 6 Brock Zeman
Nov 13 D.B.D.
Nov 20 Axe2Grind
Nov 27 Starfire

St. James Gate (111 Bridge St., Carleton Place, 257-7530): Live at the Gate Sat (8:30-10:30PM).

Nov 6 Mississippi Jug Stompers
Nov 13 Keen as Mustard
Nov 18 Jazz night (8:30-11PM) Peter Brown, Don Paterson
Nov 20 The Diplomats
Nov 27 Peter Brown, George Turcotte

Fiddleheads (Code's Mill, Perth, 267-1304)
Nov 14, 28 Live Jazz with Clay Young & guest, 12-3PM

The Royal Oak (329 March Rd. Kanata, 591-3895): jazz on Sun (3-6pm), no cover
Nov 7, 21 Magnolia Rhythm Kings
Nov 14, 28 APEX Jazz Band

The Cove (2 Bedford St., Westport, 273-3636)
Nov 5, 20, 26 Mario Franco 6-9PM
Nov 6 String Tease, Stephen Lewis Fundraiser, live/silent auction, 7-10PM

The Barley Mow (79 Little Bridge St., Almonte, 256-5669): Open Mike w/Jumpin' Jimmy Leroux (7PM); Terry Tufts Thursdays (8-11PM).

Ballygiblin's Restaurant & Pub (151 Bridge Street, Carleton Place, 253-7400): Celtic Jam Wed (8-10PM), davidh@rogers.com, no cover

Neat Coffee Shop (1715 Calabogie Rd., Burnstown, 433-3205)
Nov 7 Justin Rutledge, \$16, 8PM
Nov 18 Luke Doucet, \$20, 8PM

Naismith Pub (411 Ottawa St., Almonte, 256-6336): Open Celtic Jam (7:30-10PM).

Harry McLean's Pub (111 St. Lawrence St., Merrickville, 269-4223)
Nov 13 Silver Creek (in ballroom), \$20

Community

Green Drinks, Nov. 2, 5:30-7:30PM. www.green Drinks.org. The Crown Pub, 71 Foster Street, Perth

Bazaar & Chili Lunch, Nov. 4, 9AM-1PM. Proceeds to AGH/FVM Foundation. Fairview Manor 75 Spring St. Almonte.

Adventure Travels Near & Far: Hiking and Biking, Nov. 5, 6:30-9PM. Fundraiser for Likulezi Project Malawi Africa. Almonte United Church. 728-5514, www.almonte-united.com. \$10

Women's Fair Nov. 6, 10AM-4PM. For Lanark County Interval House. Seminars, shopping, café. Carleton Place Arena. Free.

The Lost Generation: Local Soldiers of WWI, Nov. 7, 2PM. Displays & talk on WWI. North Lanark Regional Museum. 256-4221, appletonmuseum@hotmail.com

Valley Singles Lunch, Nov. 7, 12:30PM, Rocky Mountain House Restaurant, Renfrew.

Christmas Lunch, Nov. 28, 12:30PM, location TBD. Register at 256-8117 or 432-7622.

Almonte Coin Club, Nov. 9, 7PM. Show and tell. Alliance Coin & Banknote, 88 Mill St. Almonte.

Rock Wall Gardens Talk, Nov. 9, 7:30PM. Landscaping with Judy Wall. Carp Memorial Hall. \$5 for non-members.

Women's Business Group, Nov. 9, 7:30AM. Buster's Bar and Grill, 515 McNeely Dr. Carleton Place. www.wbgroup.ca

Perth Winter Farmers' Market, Nov. 13, 8AM-1PM. **Perth Christmas Craft & Farmers' Market**, Nov. 27, 10AM-3PM. Crystal Palace, 63 Gore St. E. Perth.

Snowflake Bazaar, Nov. 13 from 10AM. St. James Anglican Church, Carleton Place.

Learn to Bake for the Holidays, Nov. 14 & 21, 1-4PM. 283-8560, Heritage House Museum, Smiths Falls. \$35

Mayan Code Study Group, Nov. 15, 8-11AM. Pot luck breakfast. 330 Wilson St. Appleton. sajewisdom@gmail.com. Free.

Women Expanding Business Dinner, Nov. 15, 6PM. \$30 members; \$40 non-members. The Downstairs Pub at JR's, Almonte. 253-1802 web-network.ca.

Intro to Renewable Energy Installations at Home, Nov. 17, 7PM. Talk on the microFIT program, Q & A. Palms Coffee Shop, 78 Mill St. Almonte. Free.

Almonte Lecture Series, Nov. 19, 7:30PM. Michael Gnarowski on Grey Owl. Almonte United Church. almontelectures.ncf.ca.

Ladies Night and Christmas Sale, Nov. 19, 5-8:30PM. Lanark County Grannies' sale of African jewellery. Royal Canadian Legion, 26 Beckwith St. E. Perth.

Bazaar/Lunch, Nov. 20, 10:30AM-2PM. Soup & sandwich with dessert: \$8. Crafts, baking & silent auction. N. Crosby Hall, Westport.

Holiday Bazaar, Nov. 20, 9AM-3PM. Proceeds to CP Girl Guides. Carleton Place Arena. bevsavard@storm.ca

Pet Photos with Santa Fundraiser, Nov. 20. Photos & \$5 nail clip. Proceeds to dog rescue. Natural Pet Food, 61 Bridge St. Carleton Place. 492-PAVVS

TYPS Opening Gala, Nov. 20, 7-9PM. To recognize sponsors & celebrate Mississippi Mills youth. 65 Mill St. Almonte.

Where is the Love Youth Conference, Nov. 25. Register at guidance office, 257-1115 or whereisthelove@lcih.com. CP Arena

Big Brothers Big Sisters Curl for Kids Bonspiel, Nov. 26, 6-10PM. Register at 283-0570. Smiths Falls Curling & Squash Club, 13 Old Sly's Road Smiths Falls.

Breakfast with Soul, Nov. 26, 8-10AM. Open discussion, open to all. Location tbd. lillywhitangels@sympatico.ca. Free

Beckwith Township Christmas Craft Show, Nov. 27, 10AM-3PM. Donations welcome for Food Bank. Beckwith Public School gym, CP. 435-8929

Santa Claus Parade, Nov. 27, 5PM. From Caramebeck School down Bridge St., Carleton Place. A Disney Christmas. 257-8049

Festival of Good Cheer, Nov. 27, 10AM-5PM. Old fashioned Christmas shopping with free entertainment. Downtown Perth.

Open House & Talk, Nov. 27, 1PM tour, 2PM talk: Natural approaches to treating depression. Carp Ridge EcoWellness Centre, Carp. 839-1198, www.ecowellness.com.

Scotch Tasting Fundraiser, Nov. 27. Tickets from Rideau Canal Museum (284-0505). Rideau Canal Museum, 34 Beckwith St. S. Smiths Falls. \$40.

Santa Claus Parade, Nov. 28. Smiths Falls 283-4124

Potluck Supper, Nov. 30, 6PM. With Steve & Lloyd Cloyne. By The Prestonvale Community Assoc. Ferguson's Falls Hall.

St. Andrew's Supper, Nov. 30, 6PM. 253-3195 for tickets. St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 37 Bridge St. Carleton Place.

A Scottish Kist at the Perth Museum

Our Community, Our Heritage, Our Connection is a new exhibit now on display at the Perth Museum. After a journey across Canada, the travelling exhibit featuring the Scottish Kist (or immigrant's chest) is making its final appearance at the Perth Museum before returning to the National Museum of Scotland at the end of the year.

In conjunction with the display of this early settler's chest, the museum features a look at early life in the Canadian wilder-

ness and how Perth, Scotland, and Perth, Canada, look today. Perth Town Council's recent visit to Scotland enhanced the opportunity to compare the two Perths and celebrate Scotland's eight hundred years of history while preparing for Ontario's two hundredth in 2016.

Drop by the museum at 11 Gore Street East in Perth to take a look at the new exhibit and at the new Perth souvenirs, which will make great gifts for the holiday season. Call 267-1947 for more information.



The Perth Museum Celebrates

The Festival of Good Cheer

Nov. 27th 10-5pm

Tour the beautifully decorated historic Matheson House and enjoy hot cider and cookies by the warm fire.

Wassail!

music, stories and traditions
presented at 10, 11am, 1 and 2pm
Tours of house by costumed staff



Also drop by *Inge Va Open House*
66 Craig Street, 1-4pm

Enjoy tours through a 1823 heritage home beautifully decorated for Christmas!

Matheson House National Historic Site
Home of the Perth Museum
11 Gore St. E 613-267-1947



Saturday, November 27, 2010

Old fashioned Christmas shopping with free entertainment!

* Roving carollers

* Free concert at the Perth Museum featuring Sheesham and Lotus

* Special farmers' and craft market in the Crystal Palace

* 6:30PM – Lighting of Community Christmas Trees, Fireworks over the Tay Basin, and gift basket draw

Pick up a 'SCRIP' coupon during the Festival and receive a 10% discount at participating downtown businesses.

Downtown heritage Perth features over 80 specialty shops and restaurants, providing big city shopping and dining at a small town pace.

For more information call 613-264-1190



Festival of Good Cheer

TYPS Opening Gala

The **TYPS Youth Centre** has finally moved to 65 Mill Street in Almonte (behind Appleton Gift & Basket, in front of the Barley Mow). It has been a highly anticipated move for many local youth and they are pleased to formally notify the community. Thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who have lent a helping hand throughout this long process.

TYPS was established in 1995 and is a non-profit, charitable organization serving youth aged 12 to 18 in Almonte. Since then, TYPS has undergone many transformations. The latest change had TYPS receiving over four hundred visits during the first two weeks of being open in the new location. This demonstrates how necessary the move to a larger space was in order to accommodate the needs of youth in the community. The expansion of the centre, including the creation of a full-sized kitchen, means the expansion of what TYPS can offer. They are looking forward to developing a new schedule of diverse programs in their fabulous new home.

Without further hesitation, they are pleased to invite you to the **TYPS Opening Gala** where they will celebrate the excellence of Mississippi Mills youth. The Gala will take place Saturday, November 20 from 7PM to 9PM at 65 Mill Street in Almonte. If you would like to nominate a youth for excellence in character or service to the community, contact TYPS at 256-8485 or <Julie@typs-youthcentre.org>.

The Opening Gala will also host the launch of TYPS' Silent Auction. All proceeds will help fund their open kitchen and nutrition programs. Come for a preview of the services and items donated from local businesses, artisans and members of the community. Bidding will

begin at the opening gala and continue online until early December. Contact TYPS if you are interested in donating a service or item for the silent auction.

Join in the celebration at the TYPS Opening Gala and mingle with members of the community while enjoying some tasty treats. Check out their website <www.typsyouthcentre.org>, or follow them on Facebook for more details on the new centre and upcoming events. TYPS would like thank all of their sponsors, local youth and the greater community for their ongoing support.



Everyone at TYPS Youth Centre in Almonte invites you to come check out their new digs at their Opening Gala on November 20!

Lanark Youth Encouraged to Ask *Where is the Love?*

For the second November in a row, Lanark County Interval House's *Where is the Love?* project team is set to spark awareness and action among local high school youth about dating violence and its many repercussions. "Given that November is Woman Abuse Prevention Month, there is no better time than now to once again rev up local interest in our activities," shared Jennifer Douwes, media liaison for *Where is the Love?*.

The project is a three-year anti-violence initiative funded by Status of Women Canada. Fashioned after Ottawa's long-running *In Love and In Danger*, this project aims to inspire student-led initiatives that promote awareness about dating violence. "At the core of this undertaking, we believe that by asking students "Where is the Love?" and really working with them to shape an understanding of healthy and unhealthy relationships, we can inspire them to take action in their own schools to help reduce dating violence," stated Douwes.

As part of the plan, staff organize two local youth conferences per year: a fall conference designed to promote awareness about dating violence and equip students with the tools necessary to lead their own initiatives, and a spring conference designed to showcase students' efforts throughout the school year.

Douwes further explained that the tone of the conferences is not supposed to be top-down, but geared more for the students themselves. "Each year we hire a youth leader to share in the work of the team, we invite area students to host the con-

ferences, and we welcome — and encourage — all the students who attend to play an active part in shaping future conferences."

Now in its second year of funding, staff are working hard to shape up another exciting fall youth conference. "Our 2010 conference is set to take place at the Carleton Place Arena on Thursday, November 25, which coincides with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Students can be prepared for another interactive and engaging conference!"

Douwes further clarified that free busing would be provided for students from Lanark County high schools (including alternative schools), and that students could count on a fabulous, free, hot lunch. Students who are interested in the conference are encouraged to register at their local guidance office or to contact the project staff directly at 257-1115 or <whereisthelove@lcih.com>.

Currently, the *Where is the Love?* team is also seeking interested students and/or adult community members who share a passion for the venture, and who would like to sit on the advisory committee. The committee meets quarterly and advises the team on conference-planning, school workshops, promotions and more. Interested persons are also invited to contact the team at the phone number or email address above.

Where is the Love? is officially supported by both the Upper Canada District School Board and the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario.

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A Full Harvest of Theatre News

November, always the biggest month on our theatre calendar, kicks off this time with the **Perth Community Choir's** production of Steven Sondheim's amazing musical, *Sweeney Todd*. This tale of the murderous barber of Fleet Street runs on November 4, 5, 6, 11, 12 and 13 at 8PM

by Ian Doig

and November 7 at 2PM, at the Mason Theatre of Perth & District Collegiate Institute. Tickets are available from Tickets Please (in Jo's Clothes, 39 Foster Street, Perth) or from Ann Hawthorne at 485-6434.

The **Smiths Falls Community Theatre** comes to the stage of the new Station Theatre on November 11, 12, 13, 18, 19 and 20 at 8PM, and on the 14th with a 2PM matinée, with a late Hallowe'en offering: the 1920s classic *Ghost Train*. Thrills, chills and things-that-go-bump-in-the-night are

the stuff of this thriller, which sounds like a real blast! For ticket information, please call Lynda at 283-9138.

Next up is the **Eastern Ontario Drama League One-Act Play Festival**, to be held, this year, at the Ottawa Little Theatre. Nine shows are to be presented, on Friday the 12th at 7:30PM, and Saturday the 13th at 2PM and 7:30PM, with a post-show party in the foyer each evening. Local troupes presenting entries are: the **Kempville Players Inc.** on with *Ciao, Baby*, the **Valley Players** of Almonte with *Harvest*, and Perth's **Studio Theatre Productions** with *The Last Act is a Solo*, and *My Narrator*. A public adjudication will be given in the theatre by the adjudicator, Laurel Smith,

after each session. For schedules and information, please visit <ottawalittletheatre.com>.



Last-minute touches: costumer Adrienne Medland adjusts Sydney Jacklin's outfit for the PCC's 2010 production of *Sweeney Todd*.

Later in the month, the young performers of the **Perth Academy of Musical Theatre** proudly present *An Evening with Shakespeare*, a selection of historical scenes from various Shakespearean plays. This group will also be performing this month on the stage of the Stratford Festival as part of the Student Shakespeare Festival! Show dates are Thursday and Friday, November 25 and 26, at 7PM. And when PAMT is on a roll, nothing can stop them! Next up is the musical *Hairspray* on December 2, 3 and 4 at 7PM. Both productions are at the Myriad Centre for the Arts in the Old Perth Shoe Factory, 1 Sherbooke Street East in Perth, and tickets for each are

\$10, available at the door or by calling 267-9610 with a credit card number.

And Carleton Place's **Mississippi Mudds** bring the hilarious *Nunsense: The Mega-Musical* to the stage of the Town Hall on December 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11 at 8PM and December 5 at 2PM. This is a hilarious musical spoof about the misadventures of five nuns trying to manage a fundraiser. Sadly, the rest of the sisterhood died from botulism after eating vichyssoise prepared by Sister Julia, Child of God, so the remaining nuns stage a talent show in order to raise enough money to bury the last of their dearly departed, who are still in the freezer. Tickets are \$20, from Arts Carleton Place, 132 Coleman Street in Carleton Place; call 257-2031 or visit <artscarletonplace.com>. For more information on these shows call Tony Scott at 253-2007 or visit <mississippimudds.ca>.

Would You Like a Twist of Tomato with That?

My first encounter with a tomato was a long time ago in an alpine galaxy far, far away, when one took a lunge at me on the end of a plastic fork. I kept my eyesight and have never looked back.

Tom-aaah-toe, tom-AAA-toe, tom-AAA-doe. Who cares? I emphatically love tomatoes and, rest assured, I'm not a tomato xenophobe because I do not care what colour they are; red, green, yellow, purple or other... they just look and taste oh, so fine! I've only ever met one person who couldn't abide tomatoes, but his staple diet was Cheerios and cabbage rolls. Even astronauts eat better than that guy, if he's still alive.

I know what you're thinking... "Is the tomato a fruit or a vegetable?" Vegetable. Definitely. "But it has seeds in it." Correct. So do cucumbers and zucchinis. "But it's not green." Err, sorry but car-

rots are orange and eggplants are purple-black. "Yeah, but Wikipedia says it's a fruit and it also says that Mexican tomatillos are a fruit." Does it now? Ayyy Caramba! OK, OK, scientifically-speaking, a fruit grows from the ovary of the plant, as do tomatoes. So bravo for science! Well done! In the kitchen, the solution to this quandary is simple: just ask yourself whether the tomato is more frequently used in savoury or sweet cuisine. How many fruit salads have you eaten containing tomatoes? Aww shucks, arguing really wears me out. Let's do something with tomatoes, right here, right now.

Let's make a tomato, potato and onion *bhaji* (baah-gee, which is Hindi for fried vegetables). It's an Indian delicacy that takes 15 to 20 minutes "street to eat"; have it as a snack-meal or as a side. In

India, they fry up *bhaji* at street stalls on large round *planchas*, and it is good at any time of day or night — even if you're jet-lagged and don't know time from space. For cheap, cheerful and super quick, eat this gem with toasted *naan* bread and scrambled eggs. Now, get yourself a cutting board and a knife. Come on, chop, chop!

To the cutting board and knife, subject 500g peeled potato and boil that off right away, then mash. Next, finely chop 300-400g fresh red tomatoes (forget the canned toms for this one). OK, put some oil in a pan and fire it on medium-high. Add 1 tablespoon of dark mustard seeds and let them crackle a bit. Add 5-6 fresh curry leaves, if you can get them (or crumble in ½ tablespoon of the dried ones), along with one finely chopped red on-

ion and 2 to 5 bird's eye chilies — other types of chili are fine too, just make an educated guess as to the "spiciness". Fry it all up on medium for a little bit, throw in the tomatoes, boiled potatoes (mash them first!) and a pinch of ground turmeric. Cook it all to a thick puree on medium-low heat. Throw in a small handful of fresh, chopped cilantro leaves and a ½ teaspoon of garam masala. Stir it for a couple more minutes and serve with slivers of red onion and lemon wedges. Eat alone. Share your *bhaji* with others only if forced to.

I know what you're thinking: "I really want to cook this, but where the heck am I going to get all those spices and stuff from?" That's even easier than the cooking bit. Almonte Natural Foods (34 Mill Street) stocks the spices (barring the curry leaves, which

you can buy at the IGA grocery) but so do many other health food stores and larger groceries. For instance, if you're headed Perthway, Foodsmiths (106 Wilson Street West) also stocks them. Many people have a vegetable garden, and if you're one of them and haven't yet grown chilies or other varieties of hot peppers, then maybe this is the time to consider setting aside some 2011 garden real estate for the hot stuff?

Oh, and finally, to sink your *bhaji*, grab a bottle or six of Kingfisher beer from the LCBO (unsurprisingly, any beer will do). All done? Excellent! Smack your lips and forever vow to think of tomatoes as the saviour of humankind.

Do winter. Do it with tomatoes, people.
— *Immit Yummy in my Tummy*

Community Home Support Volunteer Hospice Visiting Service

Grief and Bereavement Support Group

Services for Seniors & Adults with Physical Disabilities

Grief is a very individual and normal response to loss. There is no "right" way to grieve. When someone you love dies, you may find yourself on an emotional rollercoaster for days or months on end. Talking to others who have had a similar loss can be very beneficial. If you are interested in joining a Grief and Bereavement Support Group or would like further information, please contact Rebecca Bowie at 613-267-6400, extension 28 or rebeccab@chslc.ca.

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MERA Presents More Creative Sparks

The final two lectures in the Creative Spark series are by "Mad Max Dean", a mechanical artist and weaver Ellen Good.

The first lecture, on November 14, features Max Dean, a mechanical artist who has created a dazzling and thought-provoking range of interactive, computer-based works which have been exhibited around the world. His *Robotic Chair* is featured in *A Short Film about Falling*, shown at the International Film Festivals of Toronto and Vancouver. The National Gallery of Canada and the Nicholas Metivier Gallery in Toronto have acquired several of his works.

Ellen Good, originally scheduled to talk last month will now speak of Sunday, November 21. This weaver from Central Frontenac is noted for her use of shibori and Ikat weaving techniques and produces one-of-a-kind and limited-series garments, accessories and home furnishings <easternontarioartists.ca>. In 2009, Ellen received the first MERA Award for Excellence in Fine Arts and Fine Crafts; a juried award which recognizes artistic excellence.

The series is presented by McDonald's Corners/Elphin Recreation and Arts (MERA), and lectures take place in Perth at McMartin House, 125 Gore Street East, starting at 2PM. Refreshments will follow with an opportunity to meet and greet the

artist while enjoying sweets and conversation over a cup of tea or coffee. Admission is \$5; free for students.

For more information, contact 278-0388 or <meraschoolhouse@bell.net>.



Weaver Ellen Good, who was the recipient of the first MERA Award for Excellence in Fine Arts and Fine Crafts, will speak at the final Creative Spark lecture on November 21 in Perth.



CP Holiday Train

This is the twelfth year for one of North America's most exciting and perhaps longest running corporate food bank fundraisers of its kind. The **CP Holiday Train** is once again taking to the rails to support the fight against hunger in our country. The goal is to throw the focus on the important job that local food banks do in our communities and to support local leaders in fighting hunger in their neighbourhoods.

How important is the arrival of the Holiday Train every winter? In some communities, the train's visit and the money and food raised during the event is the main fundraiser for the next twelve months. According to Food Banks Canada, each month 800,000 Canadians turn to local food banks, with one third being children. What the Holiday Train does is shine a bright light on the importance of supporting food banks, as well as giving local residents the opportunity to join the train's spirit in feeding communities across the country. Since its launch in 1999, the Holi-

day Train program has raised close to \$4.8 million and 2.3 million pounds of food for North American food banks.

The Train will be making two stops in Lanark County: on Saturday, November 27 at 8:15PM at the Smiths Falls Train Station (63 Victoria Street), and on Sunday, November 28 at 10AM at Perth's Wilson Street railway crossing, south side.

Joining the 2010 Holiday Train in Canada is one of the country's most versatile bands: The Odds. An alternative rock band, they bring their energy and full-voiced harmonies to the train's stage. In Smiths Falls, The Odds will be joined by this year's Bluesfest phenomenon The Dube Brothers (above). Ranging in age from 10 to 14, these young musicians have raised \$94,000 for Haiti's orphans since February of 2010.

Each season, more than 100,000 Canadians visit <www.cpr.ca> to follow the train and to learn more about the program. The Holiday Train is also on Facebook and Twitter: @CPHolidaytrain.

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Christmas Gifts in the Nick of Time

When you do your holiday shopping this year, would you like to buy distinctive gifts that are of lasting value, support the economy where you live, be environmentally responsible, and enjoy your shopping experience in a traditional festive atmosphere?

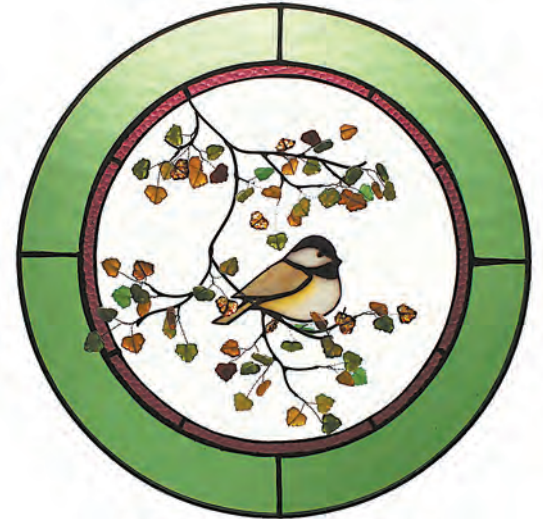
If the answer is yes to any of the above, set some time aside to shop at the 17th annual Nick of Time Artisan Show on Saturday, December 4 from 10AM to 4PM at McMartin House, 125 Gore Street East in Perth.

This popular show, long established as an integral part of Perth's old-fashioned traditional Christmas festivities, owes its success to a simple three-pillared philosophy: keep the quality as high as possible by featuring original juried works from over twenty gifted artisans; keep the show as local as possible; and keep it as environmentally responsible as possible.

To add spice to a successful formula, each year organizers bring new skilled artisans to the show. This year they have added tinsmiths who create handmade decorative and functional tinware that takes the revered craft far beyond the traditional. You will also find a fibre artist whose yarn, fibre and wool products all come from her own Lanark County sheep. You can't get much more local than that! As well, a craftsperson whose sense of design blurs the line between craft and art will be showcasing her appliquéd children's clothing.

While primarily an art and artisan show, organizers have always believed that food should be featured at this festive time of year, and who says food isn't art anyway? As well as the returning food artisans who will be offering exotic gourmet chocolate, garlic treats, and local maple syrup, the show has added a classic English chutney maker whose creations will perk up your holiday dinner. Also, why not try some homemade biscotti, a versatile Italian biscuit first created in the Tuscany region many centuries ago?

As you have come to expect, the traditional crafts will be well-represented in keeping with the ambiance of historic McMartin House and the spirit of the season. Look for delicately scented handmade soaps, natural evergreen centrepieces, pure



Works by Carmen Allen (above) and many other artisans and craftspeople will be featured at this year's Nick of Time show in Perth

beeswax candles, pewter items, fine woodworking, whimsical corn brooms, stained glass, jewellery, and much more.

And to satisfy your giving instincts at this time of year, the Grannies of Lanark County will be back again selling items to help the Grannies of Africa raise their orphaned grandchildren.

So take a break from the commercialism of the season and treat yourself by taking some time to bask in the relaxed and festive atmosphere of the Nick of Time Show. Enjoy some hot cider and homemade goodies as you are greeted by a hostess dressed in period costume while the strains of a Bach fugue fill the cedar-decked halls of one of Canada's most elegant heritage homes. Then let your shopping adventure begin as you recapture some of those warm and fuzzy feelings of Christmases past in the company of good friends and neighbours.


Be sure to enter the draw for a basket of fine gift items donated by participating artisans. And while in town, stay for the Santa Claus parade and don't forget to visit the Perth Museum for a gracious Victorian open house from 1PM to 5PM.

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a minute or two / without remembering

Marguerite de Laplace is twelve years old and on Le Saint-Jean-Baptiste, a ship out of Dieppe. She is one of more than a hundred filles du roi recruited by agents of the French king, Louis XIV, coming to New France to wed colonists. It is 1671.

by Carol A. Stephen

She has been told that the ship's mast, a tree from the new world, knows things.

Marguerite puts her ear to the tree to hear about the new land that will be her home.

She speaks:

"the King needs wives for his men
needs children for his new colony...

I have promised to do my duty
...what will the man be like
what will it be like to be a wife

...these are strong men who
do not quit...

...the tree... says that one day I will walk
on a river
made of ice
make sugar with water
from a tree...

the tree and I
check every day for the place
where the water stops
at my new world

I put both my hands against the mast
make promises
I tell the tree that I too
I will not quit"

So begins *a minute or two/without remembering*, Claudia Coutu Radmore's poetic history of New France spanning one hundred and twenty years, and the personal history of the Coutu family.

France wanted to increase the fur trade and provide economic growth in New France. Agents were hired to find women to make the journey to marry and raise families with men of the colony. The men were required to marry the women, les filles du roi (daughters of the King), in or-

der to stay in the fur trade. This would build the population and the King's wealth.

Claudia Coutu Radmore's ancestors tell stories of the history, culture and experiences of New France colonists. They come to life in Claudia's poems, giving the reader a fascinating look into the habitant lifestyle, the life of a fur trader and the effect of war on families. These are ordinary folk. They tell us what it was like to be twelve years old, crossing an ocean to marry an unknown man in a wilderness. We learn what it was like to lose a war when your brave militia had won so many of its battles. We experience a woman's conflict when her husband tells her he has an Indian wife and children. We grieve with the mother losing two young sons to a bear, and see how parents are torn by such memories when the next child is born.

Life in New France is alive for us as we hear the Coutu stories, generation after generation. We can taste *le dindon*, *les beignes*, *les tortières*. We feel the horror of public torture and executions, but we also smile when we read of a man's love for his horse.

a minute or two/without remembering concludes with the title poem, which has Daniel Coutu, in 1792, pondering *les canadiens* and asking:

"do you understand
how it is? we fought and we lost and
sometimes
we can go a minute or two without
remembering"

This is an engaging book of poetry, with startling images and beautiful language, and an absorbing journey into Canadian history. An excellent read!

Claudia Coutu Radmore is a Carleton Place artist, an internationally published writer, an educator, and member of the League of Canadian Poets, Haiku Canada and Kado Ottawa.

Come to the book launch at Read's Bookshop in Carleton Place on November 26 at 7PM. This book is published by Two Cultures Press (ISBN 978-0-9809273-5-1).



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Book by

Hugh Wheeler

From an adaptation by
Christopher Bond

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Janice Jacklin
Musical Direction by
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November 7, 2 pm

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NEW CLIENTS WELCOME

Jim Bryson in Folkus

Almonte's Folkus Concert Series opens on Saturday, November 27 with Jim Bryson, one of Canada's most distinctive alt-country acts. He is praised for his ability to capture a mood or a feeling, whether it centres on the winter weather, self-confidence, or general restlessness. Bryson has just released his fourth album, *The Falcon Lake Incident*. After recording with The Weakerthans in January in a cozy cabin in frozen Falcon Lake, Manitoba, Bryson has spent the summer promoting the recording at folk festivals and venues across the country. Now the album is finally available, released by Canadian independent label Kelp Records on October 19, and Bryson is bringing it to town.

A native of Ottawa, Bryson began his solo career with the release of his debut album *The Occasionals* in 2000. He followed this with *The North Side Benches* in 2003 and has continued to gather steam as he travels and plays. His third recording, *Where the Bungalows Roam*, was released in 2007 and with this, he left the bright guitars of his past work behind for soft strumming; strained vocals were replaced with whispered confessions. This album is as direct as they come, with his lyrics having nowhere to hide, and no reason to do so.

Bryson is both a powerful singer-songwriter and a multi-instrumentalist. *Where the Bungalows Roam* has appeared on many year-end "Best of" lists, his songs have appeared on numerous compilations, both in North America and the UK, and Kathleen Edwards has recorded his song *Somewhere Else*. He has toured Canada and the UK extensively, building a loyal fan base in both places, and has played, toured and recorded with artists such as Kathleen Edwards, Sarah Harmer, Howe Gelb, Lynn Miles, Kate Maki, The Tragically Hip, and The Weakerthans.

On November 27, Bryson can be seen in concert at the Almonte Old Town Hall. The opening act is Perth-based **Guthrie**

House. Named after a house in Elgin, Ontario, this folk rock band is guaranteed to put a smile on your face and get your toes tapping. Doors open at 7:30PM. Tickets are available in advance for \$23 or at the door for \$27. Student rates are \$12. This is the first concert in the Folkus Concert Series, and is a great opportunity to save by buying a four-concert season pass for \$80. For ticket orders and information call Mill Street Books at 256-9090 or visit <www.folkusalmonte.ca>.



Catch
Jim Bryson
on Nov. 27 in
Almonte

Bryson will be followed in the series by the January 15 double bill of Selina Martin (with band) and The Bidiniband (headed by Dave Bidini), followed by The Sultans of String on February 26. And...

For all those who have been waiting with anticipation for details of Folkus's fourth concert of the season to be announced, the wait is over. Organizers are very excited to have signed **Justin Rutledge**, a Toronto-based alt-country singer-songwriter whose musical style has been compared to that of Ryan Adams. A former English major, Rutledge approaches his lyrics as though they are poems, refusing to highlight their meaning and challenging listeners to find those lines that stand out, and examine them until they begin to take on a larger, grander shape. Experience Justin on April 9.

For more series details, please visit <www.folkusalmonte.ca>.

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Congratulations, Talented Youth!

Almonte's Got Talent and the Valley Players of Almonte would like to congratulate the finalists at Almonte's first ever youth talent show, held on Saturday, October 16, at Almonte and District High School. The winners are: Amanda Roi and Claire Hunter (first place), Jordon McIntosh (second), Emilie Scott (third), The Strobes (fourth), and Danny Albert (fifth).

Congratulations to the winners, to the fifteen contestants who performed, and to everyone who auditioned. Organizers would also like to thank the audience for their generosity, as a total of \$1,000 was raised for the Almonte General Hospital.

Retreat... to a Yurt!

We arrive in the quiet village of Burridge, Ontario, mid-afternoon on a beautiful autumn day, and find Raphael Kerem in his home woodworking studio making a wonderfully ornate, hand-made broom. Soon after, Raphael hops in his truck and we follow him 11 kilometres down winding, gravel roads until we arrive at his yurt camp.

Neither Erin (my fiancée) nor I have ever seen a yurt, let alone an authentic Mongolian one, and we are excited.

The camp — Kingsford Yurt Camp/Retreat — is set on a secluded clearing of land on the fringes of Frontenac Provincial Park, right next to a fast-running stream that flows from Kingsford Lake. The two yurts, which Raphael has constructed using materials shipped from Mongolia, sit like white domes beneath a variety of ancient, towering trees. The trees, some of them over one hundred feet tall, surround the clearing, and add to the private, majestic feel of this space.



Raphael Kerem and his Mongolian yurts

The front door to the yurt in which we will be staying is exquisitely painted, as Raphael explains, “in the traditional Mongolian manner of combining scrolls with knot work.” Inside, the rafters, the roof wheel, the three beds, poles, table, cabinets, and four small chairs, are all painted

in the same fashion — colourfully and with exquisite attention to detail. The wood stove that heats the yurt came from Mongolia, Raphael tells us, and is similarly decorated. The Mongolians are not afraid of using vivid colours, he adds with a smile.

The beauty of it all is breathtaking. Almost too much to take in at once.

We all sit down on separate beds, with a mug of tea and a butter tart (kindly provided by Raphael and his wife, Tanya), and our soft-spoken host tells us what inspired him to build these yurts.

“For quite some time,” he says, “I had planned to develop a peaceful sanctuary, combining this site’s unique natural beauty with distinctive architecture. I have attempted to create an idyllic space where landscaping, buildings and the smallest details of common objects create a unified expression of peace and reverence for nature.”

Born in Ontario, Raphael was raised in Israel and East Africa.

the basics of yurt construction and ornamentation in two small family workshops, from experts who built yurts for a living.

“The yurt offers a distinct experience of circular space,” Raphael tells us. “The crisscrossed pattern of the lattice walls, the central roof wheel and reflective rafters have an immediate effect of instilling calm and harmony. People can feel a peace and richness, and have an appreciation of nature and beauty as well. If they come here and have that experience in our camp, then I will be happy. Most people who come here feel that immediately.”

After our delightful and enlightening chat, Raphael generously lends us his Scrabble game and *The Official Scrabble Dictionary* (Tanya’s idea, both), helps us get the fire going in the wood stove, and wishes us a good night.

On our own, Erin and I are quiet for a time, taking in the splendour of the yurt. The expert craftsmanship, the cylindrical space, the vibrant and almost hypnotizing colours painted on the rafters and the roof wheel—it is all sublime.

We agree it is truly amazing, a space that feels peaceful, calming, and somewhat sacred. When we bring in our provisions, we also agree that the cooler and box of tissues look odd amid such dazzling architecture and elaborate ornamentation.

The wood stove gives off tremendous heat. I imagine it could heat the insulated yurt well enough on even the coldest of winter nights. (Earlier, Raphael told us that indeed it could; Mongolian winters are colder than Canadian winters.) Quickly, we shuck off layers of clothing and are quite comfortable in jeans and T-shirts. The crackling fire and the trickle from the nearby stream are



deliciously soothing. We decide to play a game of Scrabble.

Throughout the night, the yurt is incredibly cozy, warm and comfortable. There are no distractions here, just peace and quiet. An earlier visitor wrote in the guest book: “The yurt is a living piece of artwork.” We could not agree more.

During the night, it begins to rain. Steadily. There is something inherently soothing about the sound of moving water — the stream, the rain on the rooftop. Being encircled by trees over one hundred feet tall and in the sacred atmosphere of the yurt, you are reminded that all of this was here long before you, and that is humbling. One feels grateful.

Erin beats me in a close game of Scrabble. We do not know what time it is, nor do we care. And we sleep well through the night, aided

by the tranquilizing pitter-patter of rain on the yurt’s covering.

In the morning, we both wake rested and happy. Erin starts another fire, though the yurt is still warm from the fire that died during the night. This is a unique experience neither of us will soon forget. Nor do we want it to end, so we take a walk along the stream toward Kingsford Lake, and the fiery autumn foliage is brilliant. The water looks clean enough to drink, and some morning birds call out just as the sun shines through a bank of dull gray clouds. We both take this as a sign — we will definitely return here. The place wants us to.

For more information about Kingsford Yurt Camp/Retreat, please call 273-5693 and ask for Raphael or Tanya Kermer. You will be happy you did.

— photos and text by John Pigeau

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For more information, please contact Nicole Guthrie at nguthrie@mississippimills.ca or visit www.mississippimills.ca