

APRIL 2018

free

# the Hummer

Arts,  
Entertainment  
& Ideas



p.30 & 31

April's Events



p.20-22

Creative Summer Camps



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Good Food Abounds!

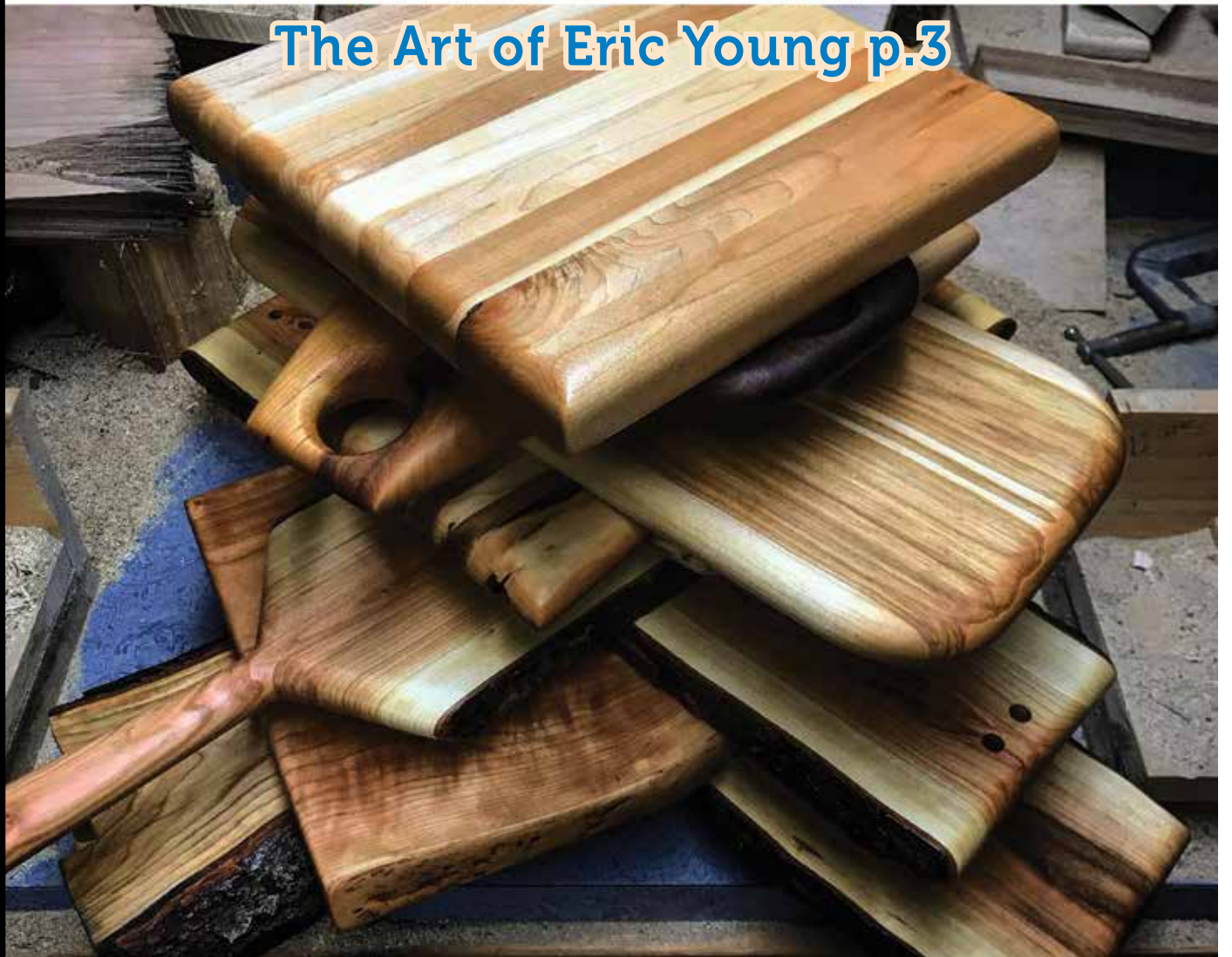


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Butterflies Are Free



The Art of Eric Young p.3



Patrick Kelly  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

## April Ales (and Brewery Tales)

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

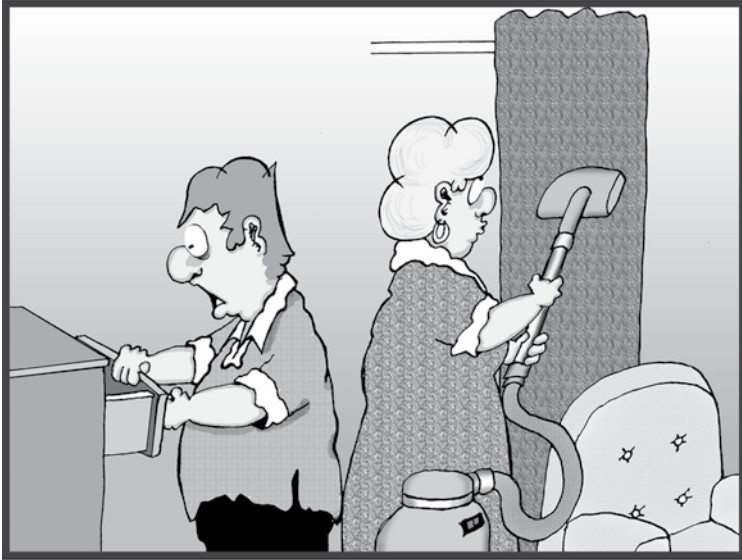
**Pat's Picks** Ashton Brewing Company's **Amber Ale** <ashtonbrewingcompany.com>  
**for April:** Cartwright Springs Brewery's **Pakenham Bitter** <csbeer.ca>  
Crooked Mile's **Highland Hillwalker Scottish Export** <crookedmile.ca>  
Perth Brewery's **Bonfire Black Lager** <perthbrewery.ca>  
Stalwart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

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"I could have sworn I left two dozen raffle tickets for an electric bass right here!"

### Clayton Food Co-op Supports Worthy Causes

Recently, a few members of the once very active group of Clayton Food Co-ops met at the Almonte Public Library to give away money — \$4,650, to be exact. Where did the money come from and why and to whom was it being given away?

Initiated by four families (the Dunnings, Doyles, MacPhersons and Redpaths), the Clayton Food Co-op began in 1975 to source organic bulk food. What started as a bricks and mortar store in Clayton evolved to several order groups with truckload deliveries to one member's house in each group. The idea was to keep family food costs down while providing healthy food for everyone. Interest spread quickly, and over the years the Clayton Food Co-op has included 250 families who paid their \$15 membership to join and to purchase food collectively. Order meetings and food division after the orders came in were lively and fun... and were another good reason to belong to the Clayton Food Co-op.

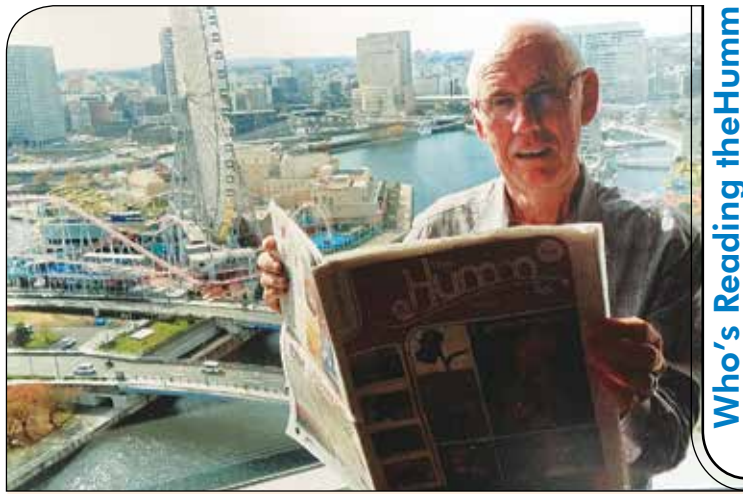
After forty years though, things change! Our suppliers had changed too — they no longer required us to be a co-operative in order to buy bulk food from them, so we decided to continue just as buying groups.

The Co-op's bank account had grown with the membership fees from each family, as well as a small percentage charged by one of the suppliers over the years, which that supplier refunded when they were no longer a co-op themselves.

A financial examination of the books prior to closing revealed a healthy balance of \$4,650. Co-op members liked the idea of donating to local groups who encourage community food production, and other groups whose work supports local and sustainable ways of living.

Four groups were selected to receive \$1,162.50 each: the Food Bank /community gardens in Almonte, Carleton Place and Pakenham; the Hub Hospice; the Hub Building Fund; and the Almonte Public Library. Funds at the Library will be used to buy books, periodicals, magazines and DVDs, as well being used as honoraria for a speaker series on topics of sustainable living practices. Thanks to the Clayton Food Co-op for their donations, and kudos to all the folks in this area who give their time to support such wonderful local initiatives.

— Julie Yeaman



In early 2016 **Mary Cram** wrote: "I am enclosing a photo of my husband, **Don Cram**, Almonte resident and UCDSB trustee of Ward 1, relaxing with theHummm on our recent trip to Japan in November 2015. Here he was enjoying a morning read while overlooking Tokyo Dome City. We both look forward to getting theHummm every month. Thank you for keeping us up-to-date on all the latest goings-on."

Below is a lovely sunset shot of **Amie Hartwick, Bonnie Barr** and **Melissa Hartwick** at Montego Bay, Jamaica, sent in by Bonnie Barr in March of 2016.

Thanks to everyone for taking theHummm on your travels!



### Correction to AGH Dinner/Dance

On page 2 of our March issue, we accidentally included some incorrect pricing for the Almonte General Hospital's Spring Dinner Dance featuring Eddy and the Stingrays. Tickets are in fact \$45 each or \$350 for a table of 8. They are selling well, but there are still a few available for folks who enjoy the band, the hospital and Fairview Manor, or just a great night out dancing and having fun! The event takes place on April 7 at the Almonte Civitan Hall. Tickets are available at RBC — Almonte, The Daily Scoop and Blackbird Gift Shop, or from the Almonte General Hospital — Fairview Manor Foundation at <almontehospitalfoundation.com>, <cpiche@agh-fvm.com> or 256-2500 x2296.

### "Gearing Up" for Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month

Calling all Bike-thusiasts! This June marks the tenth annual Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month, and organizers would love to have more folks involved than ever before. To that end, we are holding an **open meeting** on Monday, April 9, starting at 7PM at the Almonte Old Town Hall. Whether you want to start your own event (and have it publicized under the MMBM umbrella), sign up to help with an existing one, help advocate on behalf of active transportation or simply hear more about Bicycle Month and its goals, you are most welcome to attend. For more information, please call 256-5081 or email <kris@thehummm.com>.

Events being planned for this year include the annual Street Party & Pot Luck, the Silver Chain Challenge, the Tour de Miss Mills ride (with a new musical event called PorchFest capping off the day!), Sunday Brunch rides, RIMM Rovers Rambles, family bike rides, Birders on Bicycles, and participation in Pakenham's Canada Day Eve Parade. But there's always room for more events, more volunteers, and more bicycles in Mississippi Mills!



119 Bridge Street, PO Box 1391  
Almonte ON K0A 1A0  
Phone: (613) 256-5081

#### Editor:

Kris Riendeau  
editor@thehummm.com

#### Layout and Design:

Rob Riendeau  
rob@thehummm.com

#### Advertising/Promotions:

Kris Riendeau: (613) 256-5081  
kris@thehummm.com

#### Calendar Submissions:

Rona Fraser  
calendar@thehummm.com

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

#### Submissions

By email or on disk.

#### Content Deadline:

20<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication

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22<sup>nd</sup> of the month prior to publication

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#### Thanks this month to:

Claire and Don Smith for their decades-long commitment to supporting the local food scene. After 41 years in the business, they have sold their Foodsmiths grocery store to former general manager, Bill Watts. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

# Eric Young: Connecting to Wood and Woodlands

Wood is one of the most beautiful and widely used naturally occurring materials on earth. Just look around your home to see how prevalent it is, and realize how many of its uses and applications we sometimes take for granted.

For a woodworker like Eric Young, this awareness has been with him since childhood days when he would run wild in the woods of Gatineau Park near his home in

by Richard Skrobecki

Chelsea, Quebec. A deep interest in the life of forests has influenced many aspects of his life, including a passion for making functional objects from choice pieces of wood.

He is interested in the stories that wood tells through its growth rings, burls, spalting, knots and “live edge” bark. He wants his finished pieces to reflect these stories so people will appreciate the natural qualities of the material.

So when it comes to making his current line of boards and paddles for cutting or serving bread, cheese and other foods, he first reads the wood to find unique shapes that occur within the structure and grain. Using maple, cherry, oak, walnut, ash or hemlock, his board shapes are typically simplified and modern with carefully rounded edges, thoughtful handles for gripping and holes for hanging. He often laminates contrasting colours of wood together to create interesting lines and patterns before sanding all surfaces to a superfine smoothness. Finally, he finishes with a bit of mineral oil and wax, buffed to enhance and protect the wood’s natural beauty.

Being resourceful and tech-savvy, he has done custom projects for clients using laser-burning technology to etch images such as maps and text into wood surfaces. And he takes on the occasional custom furniture order, such as a recent coffee table made from a huge cross-section of 100-year-old ash.

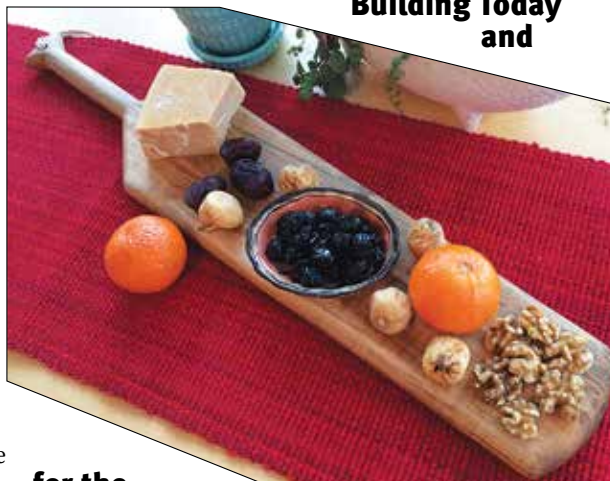
## Starting a Path

It has been a gradual road getting to this point as a maker. Eric acknowledges the influence of his father Brian, an avid naturalist and past head carpenter for the CBC in Ottawa, who made sure his kids learned to enjoy the great outdoors. His grandfather was also a carpenter, so perhaps what innately inspires him today began as a seed planted long ago. His graphic designer wife Chrissie, as well as friends and family, have been there to help along the way.

After completing a three-year business program at CEGEP Gatineau in 2005, Eric made the decision to move into the trades and has been working in the field ever since. He and Chrissie lived for a short time in Ottawa, yearning for a more rural life until they found a rental farm in Carp. As luck would have it, their neighbour Ian Campbell was an accomplished woodworker who became an encouraging mentor. Eric established the *Grassroots Furniture Company* in 2011, making rustic furniture from rough-sawn pine.

He was deeply inspired to learn more about trees after stumbling across Michael Henry’s book *Ontario’s Old Growth Forests*. This led him to visit forests and arboretums in southern Ontario, Temagami, the central United States, and the old growth forest of Gillies Grove near Arnprior, where the tallest tree in Ontario soars 150 feet into the sky. In 2016 he was on the committee board for Forests Ontario where he met people he could not only learn from, but who were interested in learning about his experiences using sustainable woodworking practices.

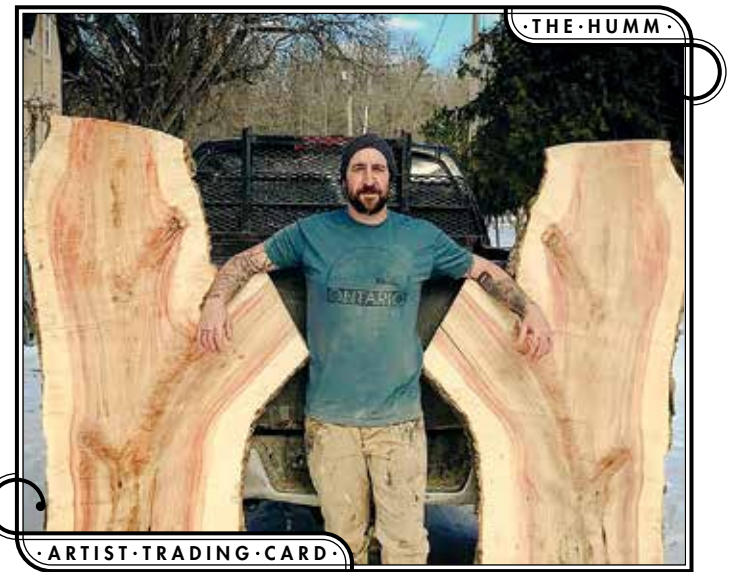
## Building Today and



## for the Future

Now in his thirties, Eric is able to appreciate the forest every day. In 2013, good karma led Chrissie and Eric to purchase a small property with a log home in the Darling area of Clayton. Soon after, they bought a 47-acre bush lot several miles down the road, fulfilling a dream and fuelling opportunities for the family — including their young daughter Aspen.

In 2016, Eric started building a small cabin on the edge of the property where a 30-foot cliff overlooks a large marsh and sprawling forest beyond. With help from his father and friends, he hauled raw materials 600 feet along a narrow path through the woods to complete this family legacy project. He humbly says



that it remains a “work in progress” despite the way it already fits so beautifully into the natural landscape.

On this acreage, Eric has identified 26 species of hard and softwood trees, the most abundant being sugar maple and hemlock typical of Lanark County woodlands.

It’s interesting that the Lanark Stewardship Council’s report *A Place In Time: The Natural Resources of Lanark County* notes that forests currently cover 57.6% of lands; 90% of those lands are under private ownership. To put things in historical perspective, a survey conducted in 1888 found that Lanark County had been harvested so extensively by white settlers and the logging industry that only 10-30% of lands remained forested.

So it’s good to know there is less logging today and that natural regeneration has contributed to the regrowth of forests; but vigilance is definitely necessary. The report states, “We now know trees are carbon reservoirs and that maintaining forested areas helps temper the effects of global warming.”

Eric is keen to properly manage the woodlands under his care for future generations of people and wildlife alike. He harvests fallen trees from the bush lot to make his signature cutting boards, milling the lumber himself and drying it over time; or, as he says, “as long as nature needs to take”. Only occasionally will he carefully select and cut down a standing tree.

## Getting the Work Out There

Eric uses social media platforms like Instagram and Facebook to promote his work and to share stories of its creation process. He also teaches cutting board courses at the Ottawa City Woodshop and regularly displays his work at the Almonte Farmers’ Market, General Fine Craft (Almonte) and 613 Flea (Lansdowne Park, Ottawa). You can visit his woodshop near Clayton on the annual Crown and Pumpkin Studio Tour on Thanksgiving weekend.

He’ll also be featured in a new exhibition entitled *Finessing the Line* at General Fine Craft from March 27 to May 8. An opening/meet the artists is scheduled for Sunday, April 1 from 2–4PM. Visit <generalfinecraft.com> for more information.

Eric Young loves to talk about trees and he loves the grassroots feeling of making connections with people who admire woodwork. It completes a circle, adding to the pride he takes in the whole process of sustainable harvesting and making objects that tell nature’s stories — bringing beautiful items into the home to use and appreciate for generations to come.

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**FRIDAY 8am-9pm**  
**SAT 9am-6pm**  
**SUN 9am - 6pm**

**foodsmiths.com**

Who: Eric Young

What: Woodworker

Where: <instagram.com/grassrootsfurniturecompany>; <facebook.com/grassrootsfurniturecompany>; 243 Concession 10 Darling, Clayton, 601-3463

When: March 27-May 8: Finessing the Line — Young, Maeda, Mueller at General Fine Craft, Almonte <generalfinecraft.com>; Almonte Farmers' Market <almontefarmersmarket.com>; Crown & Pumpkin Studio Tour, Thanksgiving Weekend <crownandpumpkin.com>

Why: "To me, wood is perfectly imperfect. My approach is to enhance its natural qualities and to bring out the story of its life."

ARTIST TRADING CARD

THE HUMM

# A Very "Beary" MVFN Spring Gathering

The Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists (MVFN) are pleased to announce the date of their main social event of the year — the annual Spring Gathering. This year it is taking place in April instead of May. Join them on Thursday, April 19 for an evening of socializing, sharing a delicious supper, winning some special prizes, entering a "Best Dressed Teddy Bear" contest, and hearing a fascinating talk by Dr. Martyn Obbard about "Bears in Hibernation".

The Spring Gathering takes place at the Almonte Civitan Community Hall, located at 500 Almonte Street (just west of Hwy 29, on the right). Doors open at 5PM for a social hour starting at 5:30 (cash bar). Dinner is at 6:30, and the talk will start at 8PM. The buffet dinner has a main course choice of either glazed chicken, roast beef or vegetarian, along with vegetables and salad. Dessert, coffee and tea are also included.

There is also a 50/50 draw, a raffle for special prizes, and a "Bring Your Best Dressed Teddy Bear" contest. Money collected from the draws will be donated to the Cliff Bennett Bursary Fund. Tickets are \$40 per person and must be purchased or reserved by April 12.

Tickets may be purchased at Gilligallou Bird in Almonte (located in the Heritage Mall on Mill Street), the Blossom Shop in Carleton Place (167 Bridge Street, beside the Old Town Hall), or The Office in Perth (11 Wilson St. E.). You may also contact Sylvia Miller to reserve tickets at <sylvia.miller.inclayton@gmail.com> or 256-7825.



Dr. Martyn Obbard will speak about "Bears in Hibernation" at this year's MVFN Spring Gathering on April 19

## Bears in Hibernation

The speaker's topic is: "Bears in hibernation — how do polar bears and black bears survive the winter?"

Did you ever wonder how these bears manage to survive our harsh Canadian winters? Noted bear scientist Dr. Martyn Obbard will share his knowledge and experience gained from many exciting years observing bears in Ontario.

Dr. Obbard is an Emeritus Research Scientist with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and an adjunct professor at Trent University. He

retired in 2016 after a 32-year career with the ministry, including 27 years in the research section studying black bears and polar bears in Ontario.

Dr. Obbard is also a long-time member of the Canadian Federal/Provincial/Territorial Polar Bear Technical Committee, and is Vice-President (Americas) of the International Association for Bear Research and Management. He is also a member of Ontario Nature, the Brodie Club, and the Peterborough Field Naturalists.

Come out for a fun and informative evening, discover more about hibernating bears, and meet old and new friends. For more details, please visit <mvfn.com>.



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 613.831.4447  
 herbgarden.ca 3840 Old Almonte Rd.



Carly Belford, "Bouquet, Red and Blue", 2018



Jane Irwin, "Orange Hay", 2017



Sarah Anderson, "Gathered II", 2018

SARAH ANDERSON

CARLY BELFORD

JANE IRWIN



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sivarulrasa.com  
613.256.8033

EQUINOX  
APRIL 13 - MAY 27, 2018

Vernissage/Meet the Artists:  
Sat April 21, 3pm-6pm

# Why Empty Bowls?

Since 2002, many in our community look forward each spring to seeing, purchasing and filling Empty Bowls, hand-made by dedicated local potters. But we need to remember why Empty Bowls still exists. Empty Bowls is an international grassroots effort to fight hunger in our communities, and unfortunately there are still many children, youth, adults and seniors in our community who do not have enough to eat.

For those new to Empty Bowls, the basic premise is simple. Potters create handcrafted bowls, the community is invited to enjoy a meal of soup and bread in exchange for a cash donation, and donors keep their bowl as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world — that food is not just a commodity but a basic right.

Some of the beautiful hand-made bowls created by local potters are available now at Foodsmiths in Perth. On April 12, 13, or 14, you can purchase and fill your bowl with freshly-made Foodsmiths soup. If you buy your bowl before the soup days at Foodsmiths, keep the receipt and drop by on the Thursday, Friday or Saturday to have your bowl filled with soup.

There's another opportunity to support this program at the Festival of the Maples in Perth on Saturday, April 28 from 10AM to 4PM. The Empty Bowls booth will be set up outside Riverguild Fine Crafts (51 Gore Street East). Purchase a bowl and fill it with delicious soup or chili donated by Perth restaurants, along with artisanal bread donated by Barnabe's. If it's too early for soup, enjoy a complimentary coffee from Coutts & Company.

If you want a bowl but will not be in Perth on April 28, bowls are available at Foodsmiths until late April and are usually available year-round at Riverguild Fine Crafts for a \$25 donation.



(l-r) Potters Anne Chambers, Rita Redner and Susie Osler pose with some of this year's Empty Bowls. You can have yours filled at Foodsmiths on April 12-14 or at Riverguild on April 28.

Donations support The Table Community Food Centre, YAK Youth Services, Food for Thought: Lanark County school nutrition program, and the Lanark Highlands Food Pantry, as well as Frontier College's Summer Aboriginal Literacy Program and the Guatemala Stove Project.

For more information about Empty Bowls Perth, visit <emptybowls.ca> or find them on Facebook.

Spring has Sprung!

BURTON

tentree

BI NATURA LISTA walking through life

Volunteering in the Valley

## "Grow" with the Almonte & District Horticultural Society!

Almonte and District Horticultural Society (A&DHS) needs volunteers from May to October for town beautification projects. Several areas around town are maintained by A&DHS, including the Cenotaph, the flower boxes on Mill Street and the library garden.

Benefits for volunteers include getting fresh air and exercise, meeting new friends, and making Almonte even more attractive. No experience is required.

If this is a volunteer opportunity which appeals to you, please contact Gerda Franssen at 257-7155. Students are most welcome, and this work counts towards volunteer hours.



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<b>Ages 9-11</b> Sundays, Apr 8-29 10:30-11:30AM	<b>Ages 12-14</b> Wednesdays, Apr 11-May 2 4:30-5:30PM

**Cost:** \$48+hst per program  
**Register:** in person at Heritage Fitness or online using our MINDBODY app

Located at  
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Carleton Place  
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[HeritageFitness.ca](http://HeritageFitness.ca)

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# The Center for Courageous Living

The Center for Courageous Living opens its doors in Almonte this month — offering classes, workshops, conversations-that-matter, community events and training that engage people in the art of human development.

Angie Arendt and Peter McGaugh created the Center for Courageous Living out of their work as organizational leaders, integral development coaches, leadership consultants, mentors and spiritual teachers, working with thousands of people from all walks of life for more than twenty years. From personal and professional experience, Peter and Angie recognize that it takes a tremendous amount of courage to lead and live in ways that make a difference, in ways that matter... and that most people haven't been provided the tools, experience, or support that is required to do so.

"Most of our clients and students come to us believing that 'success' in any given endeavour requires doing things a particular way. They are looking for techniques that will tell them how to better manage their employees, better parent their children, be better partners or coaches or religious leaders. It would seem that there are a lot of people out there looking for ways to be more successful, more happy," says Angie. "What Peter and I have learned over the years is that when we give people what they are asking for (i.e. instruction and techniques), there may be a brief moment of success... but it doesn't last. Knowledge and skills only take a person so far. To engage in work that matters in ways that matter, to experience a sense of purpose and meaning in life, requires something more than a set of instructions: it requires strengthening our ability to be curious and compassionate. We need to have an honest-to-God awareness of our gifts and blind spots, and grow beyond our need to get things right and into a commitment to do things well."

"When we changed our approach from helping people become experts at their jobs to a focus on human development, the stories of transformation started rolling in: people reported a renewed passion for work, a re-kindled aliveness in their relationships, and a connection to life that had been missing for a long time," Peter adds. "That's when we knew we were onto something: by shifting our focus from the 'how' to the 'why,' Angie and I were able to provide people with the insights and support they needed to get unstuck, to heal old hurts, to experience more joy in life no matter what... and in the process, allow their individual, natural self-expression as leaders and parents and everyday people to emerge. It has been a privilege and honour to be a part of this transformation of the lives of so many... which is why we decided to open the Center. We want to open the doors wider, reconnect even more people with



Angie Arendt and Peter McGaugh are opening the Center for Courageous Living in Almonte, and are kicking things off (with the help of Nancy Dorrier, below) with two events that involve creative writing and storytelling

their 'why,' and bring a little more humanness into the world one person, one family, one workplace or community at a time."

The Center for Courageous Living offers programs ranging from one-day events to weekend workshops to months-long training. Peter McGaugh and Angie Arendt are the visionaries and directors of the organization, each bring more than twenty years of experience in the field of human growth and development. They will be joined in their work by adjunct faculty from all over North America: mentors and teachers and leaders in their fields, all committed to the work of growing the human spirit in the world. You can read a lot more about Angie and Peter and a little more about the Center for Courageous Living at <deeplife.ca>. A new website for the Center will be coming soon, along with programs planned for Fall/Winter 2018.

## Upcoming Events

The Center's first events in Almonte will be held on April 26 and 27. More information can be found at <deeplife.ca> or by contacting Angie Arendt at <angie@deeplife.ca> with any questions.

**Stan Went Fishing: An Evening of Stories and Images for Waking Up.** From 7-9PM on Thursday, April 26, Nancy Dorrier (author and chief visionary at DorrierUnderwood in Charlotte, North Carolina) will have you laughing, sighing, and reflecting on what brings light to your life as she reads excerpts from her new book *Stan Went Fishing* — a book that isn't about fishing but that speaks simply and invitingly about waking up and paying attention to life.

**An Introduction to Red Truck Writing: Telling Stories that Light Up Life.** On Friday, April 27, from 9AM to 4:30PM, join Angie Arendt and Nancy Dorrier for a day full of writing, storytelling, and reflecting on what is important to you. You need not consider yourself a writer to participate in this workshop. You simply need a desire to grow as a leader, parent, partner, or person-in-the-world who can speak and lead from the heart, listen in a way that will make others shine, and experience joy in the midst of the absurdity of life. You will walk away at the end of the day feeling a little bit wiser and a whole lot lighter, engaged, and curious about life and work.



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\*EXCLUDES NEW ARRIVALS

# Festivals of Maples – and Tiny Houses!

In April you hope for sunshine in the afternoon so you can hang your clothes on the line in a warm fragrant breeze. But you know it's a fickle month so keep your rubber boots handy near the door. You buy some daisies to brighten up the kitchen table. Driving home one day, you are thrilled to see that the chip truck is open for the season. You treat yourself to a box of fries, if only to sit at a picnic table for a while with that salt-and-vinegar smell. Rain falls through the night. It's damp and chilly. If it snows, you'll snap your golf clubs in two, kick your kayak, and move to Florida. But it doesn't. Dawn breaks with sunlight so luminous, you need sunglasses to let the dog out for a pee. The mail carrier is wearing shorts and whistling merrily. It feels like bloody June. Rejoice! Oh mighty Persephone, Goddess of Spring, please please please let the patio at the pub be open after work.

by John Pigeau

And so it goes with spring, or something like that. And sure, the weather might be fickle, but it's a faithfully sweet season — especially in the Maple Syrup Capital of Ontario.

It's not officially spring in Perth until the **Festival of the Maples** rolls around. Technically that might not be true... but it sure feels like it, doesn't it? This year's festival will be the town's 44<sup>th</sup>, if my math is right — the first was in 1974 — marking now, as it did then, the end of the maple sap run, and therefore a perfect time to bring folks outdoors after a long winter's hibernation to celebrate together. Sweetly.

This year's Festival of the Maples takes place on Saturday, April 28 between 8AM and 4PM, and, as always, the old town will be doing it up right with a terrifically scrumptious and splendid celebration on the streets of downtown Perth. If you're an early riser (and even if you aren't), you'll want to start the day off with the tasty, traditional pancake breakfast at the Perth Legion. If you miss that, at least you haven't missed the chance to sample some of the most heavenly maple syrup ever to run from tree sap, as all day Gore Street will be chock-a-block with food vendors of all sorts, serving up delicious and



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award-winning maple syrup-related products from all over the county. Maybe I mention it every year, but even dentists are all over these lip-smacking goodies.

If the kids get a little wound up after a big sugar rush, no worries, as there are lots of things at the festival for them to do in the children's activity area down by the Tay Basin, including games, live entertainment, pony rides and a petting zoo. That's right, *pony rides*.

For the adults, there will be other food vendors on the streets, as well as those selling fine art and one-of-a-kind crafts, and day-long maple-related displays and demonstrations, entertainment and live music. There is also — and not coincidentally — a wonderful art show taking place from 8AM to 4PM at McMartin House (located at 125 Gore Street), featuring art by the **Local Colours Art Group**, including work by Nora Brown, Barbara Jordan, Aileen Merriam, Pat Purdy, and others; you can view the work and meet the artists, all while at the Festival. Many of the fantastic downtown merchants will host a day of sales to complement the celebration too, so it's also a fine time to do some local shopping. And car buffs will not want to miss the Antique and Classic Car Show.

Each year, the Festival of the Maples attracts about 20,000 visitors. It truly is one of the year's most inviting, fun, flavoursome and family-friendly celebrations. I promise you: no one will begrudge your enjoyment of this day.

I think it's safe to say the very same thing about a new and exciting event happening in Perth from 9AM to 4PM on Saturday, April 21 — Ontario's first (and finest) **Tiny House & Green Home Festival**. You could file this under "unique and progressive" too, as this event — sponsored by Century 21 and held at the Perth Campus of Algonquin College — will focus on North America's latest trend and fascination: the tiny house. There will be an array of them (six or so) to tour, in varying styles and colours, and experts to tell you all about them.

"This festival," explains Mary Rothfels, one of its organizers, "aims to inspire and explore options to reduce the ecological footprint in constructing and furnishing homes. The theme is energy efficient, sustainable and affordable housing."

A good and timely theme, one would surmise!

Throughout the day, there will be speakers and exhibitors engaging in those topics, so for the curious there's lots to learn about tiny houses, green living, social housing and new technologies.

The festival, the first of its kind in Ontario, will be informative, yes, but it will also be relaxed and fun and family-friendly, with exhibitors promoting



This charming caravan will be on display at Perth's **Tiny House & Green Home Festival** on April 21

related services and products, kids' activities, music and food available in a festive atmosphere.

Tickets are \$25 at the gate or \$20 in advance (plus taxes and fees), and available at Tickets Please at 11 Gore Street East in Perth, by calling 485-6434, or online at <ticketsplease.ca>. Admission is free for ages 16 and under, and for Algonquin students with ID.

Mary also says that volunteers are still needed for the festival, so for an "affordable" and fun way to gain free admittance, you can contact her at 264-2934. For more information, visit <the2marys-events.com>.

I would watch for this festival to be a smashing success and to be back next year in full swing. It also would not surprise me if other cities in the province organized their own versions of it. And for those who are lucky enough to enjoy the inaugural festival, well, two big green thumbs up to you! Enjoy.

There is, of course, much more happening in Perth in April, including a **Black Tie Bingo** fundraiser for the GWM Hospital Foundation at Code's Mill on April 7, **Annie Sumie** playing MERA Schoolhouse on the 8<sup>th</sup>, a Beatle's tribute concert at the Studio Theatre featuring the **Liverpool 4** on April 20, and a new film, *Menashe*, at Film Night International on April 25. For more details on those events, and many others, I will kindly direct you to theHumm's ever-helpful calendar of events on pages 30-31 of this issue.



# Memory Lane Classics

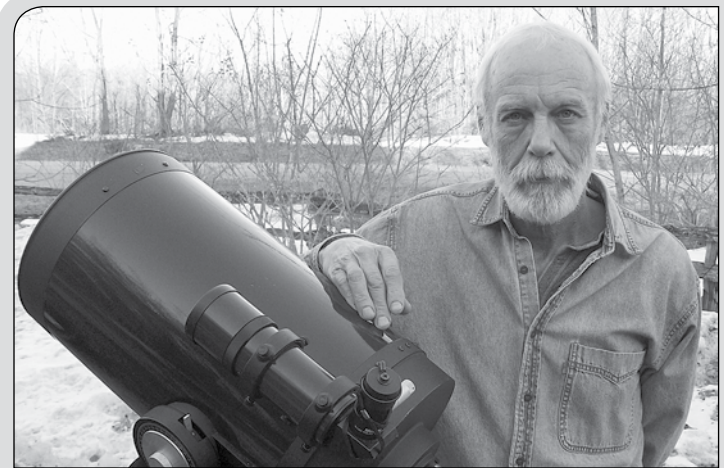
## A Concert in Support of The Hunger Stop

Do you ever wonder what it would be like to go back in time and experience those wonderful musical days of the big band era? Or listen and dance to the vocal and band arrangements of Duke Ellington, Henry Mancini, Johnny Mercer, Irving Berlin, George Gershwin, Elvis Presley and the Manhattan Transfer? On Sunday, April 15 you can relive those memories with the Lanark Offbeats, a classic swing choral ensemble directed and accompanied by Margo Smith and the Offbeats' four-piece band. You'll hear songs like *Blue Skies*, *Dream, They Can't Take that Away from Me*, *Satin Doll*, *Charade*, *Can't Help Falling in Love*, plus many more hits. Come on out and enjoy the journey from the 1940s to the 1960s!

Following the Lanark Offbeats' performance and a brief intermission, the 41 voices of the West Ottawa Ladies Chorus will perform a repertoire that ranges from the classic hits from yesteryear to contemporary ballad-style music. You'll enjoy tunes like *I'm Looking*

*Over a Four-Leaf Clover*, *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy*, *Java Jive* and *Chattanooga Choo Choo*. Hear songs from popular musicals such as *Edelweiss* from *The Sound of Music*, *Razzle Dazzle* from *Chicago* and *Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man* from *Show Boat*. The audience will have the opportunity to sing along on classic favourites such as *Side by Side*, and the ever popular '40s hit *Sentimental Journey*. The West Ottawa Ladies Chorus is directed by Robert Dueck and accompanied by Peter Brown.

This classic concert takes place on Sunday, April 15 from 2:30–4PM at St. James Anglican Church in Carleton Place, located at 225 Edmund Street. Tickets are \$12 from the St. James Church Office or at the door, and proceeds are going to The Hunger Stop Lanark County Food Bank, and to St. James Anglican Church. For more information, find the Lanark Offbeats on Facebook.



Join Frank Hitchens for an astronomy talk on April 26 at the Carleton Place Public Library

## Are We Alone?

It is arguably one of the most profound questions one can ponder: in this vast universe of one hundred billion galaxies, each composed of hundreds of billions of stars and planets, is Earth the sole refuge for living things?

It may well be that the cosmos is teeming, humming with life. As yet, however, we have no conclusive evidence that even the simplest of organisms exist anywhere out there in the cold blackness of space. Yet to quote the late Carl Sagan: "Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence." Perhaps we need to broaden our search, to be more creative in our methodologies.

Humanity now possesses technologies capable of determining whether there exist other worlds where the inanimate has, through as yet unknown processes, become animate. Interplanetary spacecraft bristling with life-detecting instruments investigate other planets in our own solar system as well as the moons that orbit them. Space and ground-based optical telescopes search for signatures of life on planets orbiting other stars. Giant radio telescopes scan the skies hoping to eavesdrop on radio signals from other far-flung advanced civilizations. We may at any moment have at hand the answer to that age-old question: are we alone?

The discovery of extant life elsewhere in the universe would mark one of the most significant events in the history of humanity. Gazing out at a dark star-filled night sky would surely never be the same again.

On Thursday, April 26, beginning at 6:30PM, the Carleton Place Public Library will host an evening with amateur astronomer Frank Hitchens who will give a presentation entitled "Are We Alone? The Search for Life Off the Earth." The Library is located at 101 Beckwith Street and admission is free.

### Volunteering in the Valley

## Hackberry Men's Shed

2017 was a busy year for the Hackberry Men's Shed! In terms of service to the local community, besides projects for Lanark Community Programs, the Fellowship of Christian Farmers and the Food Bank, in the spring we completed a board and batten tool shed for the Carleton Place Community Gardens.

Then, in the summer and fall we served the wider community by manufacturing 50 nursery bat houses for distribution by the Canadian Wildlife Federation. In 2018 we have agreed to build an additional 50 bat houses for the CWF to use in their ongoing program of battling the White Nose Syndrome fungus that is decimating the North American bat population.

At the same time we have winterized the shed (opposite 98 Donald Street in Carleton Place) that is on loan to us — including the

installation of a propane furnace — so that it is available to use year-round. This provides a meeting place for men of the communities of Carleton Place and Almonte to meet, chat, pursue personal projects and support one another in the challenges of living life. If you would like to join us or find out more, find the Lanark Men's Shed page on Facebook.

— John Peters



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# Humm Bits

## Solar Pioneer to Speak at Greens Fundraiser

The Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston Greens are holding a chili fundraiser on Saturday, April 7 in Maberly. The speakers are L-F-K Green Party of Ontario candidate Anita Payne and guest presenter Greg Allen. Mr. Allen is a professional engineer who has pioneered zero carbon building solutions for almost fifty years. His talk is entitled "A Fighting Chance to Curb Global Warming". The cost of the dinner is \$10 per person. This is a cost recovery event; voluntary donations to the GPO will be accepted. The event will be held at the Maberly Community Hall, located at 180 Maberly Elphin Road. Doors open at 5PM, dinner is at 6PM, and the talk begins at 7PM. For tickets and more information, please visit <lfkgreens.ca>.

## Bowl-Along with L'Arche

L'Arche Arnprior sponsors their annual Bowl-Along fundraiser on April 7 at the Arnprior Bowling Centre. Each team of four will be matched with one of L'Arche's all-star bowlers. Last year's top bowlers were both core members from L'Arche! The event wraps up with a spaghetti dinner at deRenzy hall, with trophies and prizes. Dinner (5:30PM) is free for bowlers, but all others are welcome to attend at a cost of \$10 apiece. Participants are encouraged to raise \$50 in donations.

Call 623-7323 to register a team or donate to the cause. This year's funds will go towards replacing the old, very well-used porch and ramp at the McLachlin Street home with a new three-season enclosed porch with ramp.

## First Seedy Saturday in Westport

Knox Presbyterian Church will be hosting the first annual Seedy Saturday in Westport on April 7 from 10AM to 3PM. The show includes two local heritage seed companies: Bear Root Gardens from Verona and Heritage Seed and Produce from Westport. There will be a local bee expert selling honey, a maple syrup producer, and a seed potato vendor. Raphael Kerem will be there with his handmade corn brooms and hats, as will a bean sprout grower who educates on how to grow sprouts in your home. There will be rose geranium plants for repelling mosquitoes as well as rare Persian Star garlic. Seeds of Diversity will be providing information about their mission to save seeds for future generations.

The event will also feature people who collect heirloom seed that they grow locally and acclimatize to our region. This is a great opportunity for gardeners to learn about the process of collecting vegetable seed through fermentation. There will also be vermicompost kits available to compost and produce your own fertilizer. All the vendors will be available to discuss their unique skills, and there will also be homemade chili, pulled pork on a bun, as well as baked goods. This event will celebrate the magic of spring!

## Showing the Love to Volunteers

This year's **Mississippi Mills Volunteer Appreciation Reception** will take place from 5-7PM at the Almonte Civitan Hall on Wednesday, April 18. The event is hosted by the Municipality, The Hub, Almonte Civitan and Mills Community Support, and is open to all volunteers in the municipality. There will be complimentary refreshments and a cash bar.

## A Mother's Love

On Saturday, May 5, Hypatia's Voice Women's Choir presents a concert in honour of mothers! Entitled *A Mother's Love*, the program pays tribute to the wonder and mystery of mothering, and celebrates the powerful bonds we share with our mothers, our grandmothers and great-grandmothers, and our children. You will hear beautiful works by composers such as Gwyneth Walker, Ysaye Barnwell and Andrea Ramsey, and you don't want to miss the Ontario premiere of Kathleen Allan's stunning *Primary Colours*, composed for Elektra Women's Choir in 2017. This concert is sure to bring you laughter, tears, and many touching moments that will inspire the heart.

The performance takes place at 10:30AM at the Almonte Old Town Hall, and tickets are available in advance from <eventbrite.ca> (\$15 for students, \$20 for adults), or at the door (\$25). For more information about the choir, please visit <hypatiasvoice.ca>.

# Fiddler's Friends 2018

Fans of traditional Celtic music are invited to assemble at the Almonte Old Town Hall on Sunday, May 6 to enjoy a full afternoon of Ottawa Valley entertainment featuring seasoned performers, award recipients and talented students.

The annual Fiddler's Friends showcase benefit features a talented selection of young fiddlers who have received the Danny O'Connell Memorial Award, a cash contribution designed to benefit a deserving young musician put forward by Renfrew Country Fiddlers, the Irish Society of the National Capital, and the Ottawa Traditional Fiddling and Folk Art Society. These organizations have deep roots in the tradition and a history of promoting cultural pursuits. This award was initiated by the O'Connell family

and is administered through the Community Foundation of Ottawa <cfo-fco.ca>.

Doors open at 12:30 and performances begin at 12:45 with popular local group The Barley Shakers providing a Celtic flavour.

and airs. Familiar local talents Matt Pepin, Terri Lynn Mahusky, Kyle Felhaver and accompanist John Mitchell provide added expertise to the afternoon program, and further evidence of the ethnic strains influencing traditional Ottawa Valley

music. Special groups include Tessa Bangs and family, Monday Night Fiddlers, Bruce Strathearn, Cindy Thompson and her guests The Space Between, Alia Currie, Travis Strong, Nate Eibner and Jim Hunter.

Complementing the excellent acoustics of the Almonte Old Town Hall are the tasty refreshments provided by Foodies Fine Foods.

Tickets (\$15) are available by phone at Mill Street Books (256-9090) or in person at Couples Corner, Mississippi Mills Musicworks, and at the door.



You'll hear Cindy Thompson (above) and many more fabulous fiddlers at this year's Fiddler's Friends Showcase on May 6

Individual award recipients Ethan Walls, Michaela Mullan and Kyle Burghout will present a lively mix of old-time and contemporary arrangements of waltzes, jigs, reels

# Hike for Hub Hospice

Sunday, May 6, promises to be a great day, with fresh air, fitness, and fundraising. Sure, no one can guarantee optimal hiking weather, but with the Hike for Hub Hospice, there are more important features than the weather.

Unlike traditional hospices, Hub Hospice strives to help you thrive in your own home: professional staff offer information and referral, assisting clients to make informed choices about their care; and trained volunteers

provide compassionate listening and companionship to clients and families at home, wherever they consider their home to be. Clients are supported to live life fully for as long as possible. They also offer bereavement support. All services are confidential and free of charge.

So go to <hubhospice.com>, register, print out pledge forms, and hit up folks for donations. Hey! They owe you for all those Girl Guide cookies you bought! Then head out to the Mill of Kintail (2854 Ramsay

Concession 8 in Mississippi Mills) for noon on May 6 to check in, then enjoy the walk! Whether you participate as part of a team or on your own, you will certainly not be alone on the day. And after walking on lumpy iced snow for a lot of the winter, a spring walk sounds like just what the doctor ordered! If you are more about fundraising than hiking, that's fine too — I don't think they're militant about the hiking thing.

— Rona Fraser




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# Making Music Education Matter, Windsor Style

We are constantly being told that school music programs in Ontario, and across Canada, are under threat as school boards

by Tony Stuart

deal with budget constraints. I've been teaching for 22 years, and that message was being delivered back when I first started. Despite reams of evidence pointing to the benefits of music education, it frequently seems to be one of the first targets when budgets are trimmed.

In a column I wrote a few years ago, I argued that simply throwing money at the problem is not the solution. A music program with all the money in the world that is being run by an unqualified teacher will simply not thrive. In my opinion, our education system needs to invest in qualified music graduates if we are going to see any meaningful improvement. A qualified, dedicated, and enthusiastic music teacher will almost always find ways to get the resources that they need. Good music teachers are the best ambassadors that a school can ask for, as their students achieve above and beyond expectations on a daily basis.

Enter the Windsor-Essex Catholic School Board. Yes, I am talking about Windsor, Ontario, one of the most blue-collar areas in our province. As of 2018 fewer than fifty percent (41 percent, to be

exact) of schools in Ontario have a dedicated music teacher, and this number continues to decline. The problem is especially prevalent in our elementary schools, as anyone with school-age children in our area can attest to.

Not so in Windsor. As of 2017, according to an excellent piece in the *Windsor Star* by Dave Waddell, 91 percent of Windsor's Catholic schools had full instrument programs, with a goal of achieving 100 percent in the near future. When

**W**hen new schools are built, a dedicated music room is a priority. They have hired music specialists to oversee these programs.

new schools are built, a dedicated music room is a priority. They have hired music specialists to oversee these programs. As Mike Lilley, a teacher consultant, says: "Sometimes I feel guilty when talking with my colleagues across the province, hearing what they're facing. We're very fortunate that senior administration and the trustees place a real value on arts education." Mike Seguin, who is a superintendent of education, added his thoughts: "If it's a priority, the dollars are put behind it. I've had many conversations with the director of education and we are committed to the arts."

Of course, it really does take an entire village to raise a child.

Schools in the Windsor area have created partnerships with the local symphony. Freelance musicians also stop by schools to visit. All-Star bands have been created. The local public board has taken notice and is working on improving its own music programs. Success really is contagious.

Through much of the research that I've done on the situation in Windsor, I feel hopeful for the future of music education in our province, despite the naysayers.

Through a dedicated, thoughtful approach, we can reinvent our music programs and allow students to experience the joy that music brings. For some of us, being in a successful high school music program was a life-changing experience.

Despite all of the bad news, I thought it might be a nice idea to share a good news story. Hopefully what is happening in Windsor will move from being an exception to being the new normal for Ontario students. My fingers are crossed.

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



A standing ovation for the OVVMF chorus and orchestra with guest conductor Mervin Fick, at the 2017 Gala Celebration Concert


## Ottawa Valley Music Festival The Beat Goes On!

The Ottawa Valley Music Festival (OVVMF) has embarked on a bold new direction, building on its 25-year tradition of bringing classical music to the Ottawa Valley.

The OVVMF is proud to continue its youth scholarship programs that provide development opportunities to young musicians. They are collaborating with the Renfrew Children's/Youth Choir, and are cultivating active partnerships with other area choirs so that singers in the Ottawa Valley area will have the opportunity to come together as a Festival Chorus for one or two performances a year. They are also developing educational programming while working with choral composers and clinicians.

This year, the Ottawa Valley Music Festival will present *Handel and the Italian Baroque*, a concert of glorious choral music, on Sunday, September 16 at St. John Chrysostom in Arnprior. Mervin Fick will return this season as Guest Conductor and Artistic Advisor.

Choristers are most welcome — please contact Rosalind at <chorusmanager@ottawavalleymusicfestival.ca>. For more information, please contact Gordon Harrison, Chairman of OVVMF, at <info@ottawavalleymusicfestival.ca> or 256-1487.



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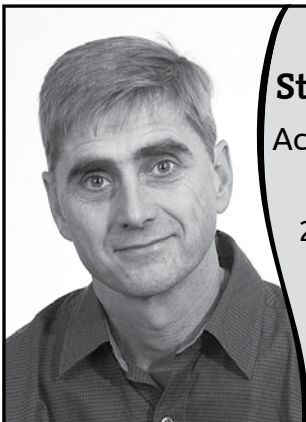
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The Reever Report

# Sad to Glad – A Fluffy Dog Story

This has been a bad winter for my dog friends. Four of us have lost longtime companions. We fight back tears when we talk about our pets, and only other pet lovers know how painful these losses are. Even as we feel sorry for ourselves and others, we sympathize with the vets who are so often our last resort in these situations. They are the most compassionate caring people you'd ever want to meet. We are so grateful they are there for us.

by Glenda Jones

Our dear Beau was over 14 years old, a soft-natured, mysterious little Sheltie who simply wore out in February. Bonnie, our seven-year-old Sheltie, trailed around after him like a nursemaid, having given up the silly dog games long ago. She kept her peace, stayed close by, but wouldn't come for his final car ride. Dogs know.

The house was pretty quiet as we tidied up Beau's accoutrements. Bonnie took to her little crate in the kitchen, and wasn't interested in anything we offered. We took a long drive to allay our emotions, but the three of us expected to see him everywhere we looked.

So what to do? We've got too much love not to share it with another dog. However, we planned to wait. We'd get a puppy in the summer; we'd spend six months house training, puppy training, and enjoying a new companion into the fall when it would be easy. In the meantime, we'd relax and enjoy a quiet house with only one dog. Sensible, right?

Here comes Serendipity! Not a day later, we got a phone call: a six-month-old Sheltie needed a new home! "Let's be reasonable and think here". It's like buying a car: go slowly, have a good look, don't commit to the first red roadster you see, ask for a demo, discuss financing. Oh right! And who among us does that?

We did manage to wait five days. The big major *Aahhh!* Brandi is cute, she's fluffy, she's friendly, she's very busy. What's not to like? We agreed to take her for the week, on approval, just in case we changed our minds about having a flurry of fur in our lives again. But within a couple of hours, blankets, food, leashes, health records, and puppy were loaded into the car, and home we came.

Now, the cat was not impressed! What on earth was this doing in her midst, yipping and running everywhere? Bonnie eyed the puppy suspiciously but decided that as long as she still had her little kitchen crate the puppy could stay. The puppy, on the other hand, figured she'd explore everything, scatter the neglected toys everywhere, leap at the cat who gave her a whack, and make Bonnie play tag. Major *Aahhh!*: isn't that cute?

We knew immediately that Brandi was here to stay. It was good Karma: just when we needed her, she came along — the right age, the right colour, and even a "B" name. And as much as we needed her, she needed us. We can only guess how hard it was for her former owner to surrender Brandi, but she can rest assured that we will love her immensely forever.

So here's the state of our house now. I have no time to sit and read. The floor is littered with toys and those chewy things that are murder when you step on them. I can't sweep the floor without a doggy on the broom, and Lord help me if I get out the vacuum! Brandi thinks the whole house is fodder for her little teeth. The cat wears her mad face when she sees Brandi coming full tilt at her (our cat was de-clawed when we got her, so there's no damage if the two of them mix it up a bit). Making a bed is nigh impossible with Brandi in the middle of it. Cleaning the hot tub led to an unexpected swim for her, a hilarious occasion that I neglected to photograph.

When all else fails, we need to go outside. A dozen times a day I'm hauling on all the winter gear and heading out. A walk is a big adventure, with sticks, snowballs, leaves, and Bonnie to engage in play. To me it's a boring game, with dancing dogs, gnashing teeth, barking, and rolling in the snow, but to them it's doggy heaven.

Here's the thing: our puppy makes us laugh, our puppy taxes our patience in a good way, our puppy knows that every day is a good day, and our puppy shares puppy secrets with soft fluffy cuddles before she settles for the night. We treasure our dogs for their constant companionship and their unique little personalities. Beau will always be there in our memories. No dog will replace him, but Brandi will fill the void he has left with a whole new little life to watch develop and to love. We'll endure the messy toy-strewn house because it's all worth it to feel the warmth of puppy fur and to hear little paws running through the house. "C'mon Mom, we need out — again!!" REALLY??



Brandi gets comfortable in her new home

## TORONTO WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR

ALMONTE UNITED CHURCH  
SATURDAY APRIL 21, 7:30PM



WITH GUEST SOLOIST KELLY SLOAN

TICKETS \$25 FROM  
CHURCH OFFICE: 256-1355  
ELEANOR: 257-3692 OR BAKER BOB'S

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM

ALMONTE UNITED CHURCH, 106 ELGIN STREET

# April is Poetry Month

April is a wonderful month for poetry. Here in the Ottawa Valley the changing weather lends itself well to poetic imagery — receding snow and newly trickling streams, robins and bluebirds returning to their summer homes, crocuses and other early flowers bravely rising as

American poet with a unique voice and syntax, Dickinson's poetry is full of wit and sorrow.

*Calling Down the Sky* (2015). Cree author and broadcaster, Rosanna Deerchild was raised in Thompson, Manitoba. *Calling Down the Sky* describes her personal experiences with Canada's Residential School System and its effect on generations of First Nations children.

*The Sun and Her Flowers* (2017). A spoken-word poet from Toronto, this is Rupi Kaur's second best-selling poetry collection. It details the journey of wilting, falling, rooting, rising and blooming.

*Love Her Wild* (2017). "Love her but leave her wild..." Named by Teen Vogue as the #1 Poet to Follow, Atticus has hundreds of thousands of followers of his Instagram account. Find out how just a few words on an Instagram photo can resonate with so many people with his first poetry collection.

*The Lyrics: 1961-2012* (2016). Winner of the 2016 Nobel Prize for literature, many of these Bob Dylan lyrics will be familiar to fans. Dylan is a master of songs about travel, youthful rebellion, social change and anti-establishment anger.

*The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou* (1994). The poetry of this celebrated author and civil rights activist exudes strength and beauty. Nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, her poetry deals with themes of love, protest and the struggle of black people in America.

— Meriah Caswell is the Manager of Library Service at the Carleton Place Library

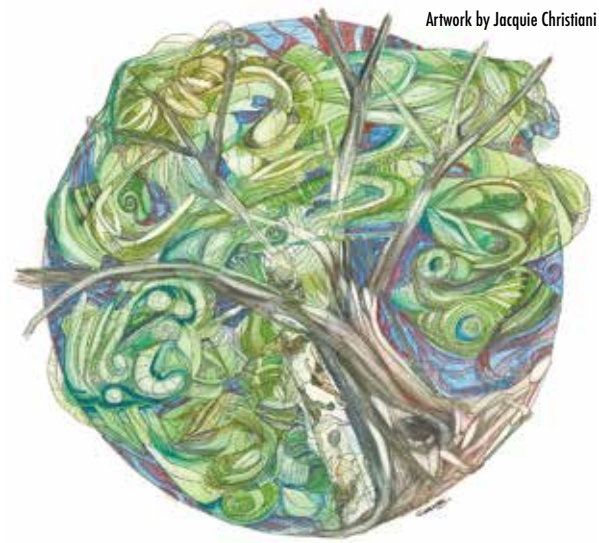
by Meriah Caswell

the earth thaws. All of this... interspersed with angry snowstorms that spite these signs of spring and rage against the warming days. It is both a violent and a hopeful month, an apt time to consider universal and perennial themes of birth and rebirth, endurance and survival.

At the Carleton Place Public Library, we will be celebrating Poetry Month with two special presentations. On April 10, local author and poet Claudia Radmore will lead a seminar on how to create Haiku and other small poems. This will be a perfect opportunity for beginners to explore the medium, and for those more experienced to hear from another seasoned poet. Then on Friday, April 20 we will be hosting a Local Poetry event, featuring five local poets presenting original work.

If you are not able to attend, consider celebrating Poetry Month by picking up one of these poetry collections. Some are new for you to enjoy, and others are classics perfect for rediscovering:

*The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson* (1960). "I dwell in possibility..." A classic



Artwork by Jacquie Christiani

## Miracles Happen

In the company of this majestic Oak tree  
I feel welcomed, uplifted, and free  
Changing magically with light and seasons  
With you, I do not need words or reasons  
Even the most glamorous castle or town  
Does not reach the beauty of your crown  
Peaceful and loving spirit, high towering  
You do not know weakness or wavering  
You are an entrance, boatman, and a ferry  
Taking me to the sacred land of the Faerie  
And there is much more for which I feel grateful  
You are my best friend, stable and faithful  
Spreading your hope in the acorns all around  
Like sparks of Life, shining in the shells round  
While nurturing one gently in my warm hand  
I can see another Oak tree here soon to stand  
Dream far beyond the far, yet who would reckon  
When a star meets another star, miracles happen

— Kamila Lastovka

**FREE** Saturday May 5th 2018, 10 am to 1 pm

Issue #9 Limited Edition

# SUPERHERO SATURDAY

## FREE COMIC BOOK DAY

DOWNTOWN CARLETON PLACE

Dress as your favourite hero. Collect FREE comic books with your Mission Card.

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COLLECT FREE COMIC BOOKS!

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WOW!

Mission card pick up: BIA Office, Total Rhythm Dance Studio (please note: no mission card, no comic book)

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# Mississippi Mills loves Volunteers

APRIL 15-21, 2018 IS VOLUNTEER WEEK IN CANADA

## MISSISSIPPI MILLS VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT

Wednesday April 18<sup>th</sup> - 5:00PM  
Almonte Civitan Club

Calling all volunteers, their benefactors,  
and community members

An open invitation to celebrate  
Mississippi Mills VOLUNTEERS

Light reception, cash bar  
Almonte Civitan Club  
500 Almonte Street, Almonte

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



Fugitive Richard Hannay (Callum LeRoy) drags the innocent Pamela (Kaleigh Irvin) through the Scottish moors.

## The 39 Steps

### An Almonte & District High School Production

Take an Alfred Hitchcock classic, swirl it into a sensational spy thriller, sprinkle some goofy Monty Python on top, and what do you get? A theatrical masterpiece entitled *The 39 Steps!*

For this year's production, Almonte & District High School has chosen to perform Patrick Barlow's adaptation of *The 39 Steps*. This suspenseful tale began as a novel written by Scottish author John Buchan during the First World War. From there, an original Alfred Hitchcock film loosely based upon this novel was released in 1935. Finally, the adventure of *The 39 Steps* was brought to the stage by English playwright Patrick Barlow in 2005.

Set in various locations across England and Scotland, the plot follows protagonist Richard Hannay, a man bored with life who decides to go out for a night at the theatre. His boredom is soon alleviated when a mysterious woman fires a gun right in the middle of the act! She then turns to Richard, begging for help and hinting at the involvement of national secrets that could ultimately be a threat to the nation if exposed. As flabbergasted Richard agrees, little does he know that the woman will later be murdered at his flat, while he is framed as the primary suspect! This staggering chain of events launches Richard into

a series of unforeseen circumstances with many characters, bewildering train chases, abnormal missing digits, and a prolonged use of handcuffs. Watch as our fugitive flees towards his own freedom, and ultimately saves the country while he's at it!

If you are lucky enough to get a sneak peek into one of the numerous rehearsals being held by the cast and crew at Almonte & District High School, you may come across a variety of many scenes. Anything from accent development, to jitterbug lessons, to shadow puppetry practice, or even some serious concentration on moustache growth from lead actor Callum LeRoy... the effort being put into this year's production will no doubt make for an unmissable performance. According to lead actress Kaleigh Irvin, "there's never a dull moment!"

The show will be taking place at the Almonte Old Town Hall. Tickets are \$15 each and can be purchased from the main office of ADHS (256-1470), at Baker Bob's, or at <onstagedirect.com>. Performances take place on April 12, 13 and 14 at 7:30PM, and on Sunday, April 15 at 2PM.

Don't miss your chance to witness this riotous and wacky phenomenon of a stage play!

— Pippa Norman is a grade 11 student at Almonte & District High School



## JOIN US THIS April 22-28 PITCH-IN

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

### Help Miss Mills Clean Up Mississippi Mills!

PITCH-IN BAGS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

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

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

Kids bring an adult. Always wear gloves.

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



For more information please  
call 613-256-1077



# The Perfect Man Comes to Almonte...

Rachelle Elie had been living and performing comedy in Toronto for twenty-five years when she decided to ditch the big city for the charms of Ottawa Valley life, moving to the Almonte area two years ago with her husband and teenage boys. In addition to producing *Rag Bag* — Toronto's longest running cabaret — since 1996, she has written five one-woman shows and won an Outstanding Comedy Award for her show *Joe: The Perfect Man*.

by Kris Riendeau

TheHumm first wrote about her back in December of 2017 when she was preparing to bring her *Rag Bag Cabaret* to town. Several successful and sold-out shows later, she is ready to unleash *Joe* on area audiences, so we thought we'd try to find out a bit more about him...

**TheHumm: You burst onto the local scene when you brought sold out *Rag Bag Cabarets* to Almonte and Carleton Place. Were you surprised by the reception those shows received?**

Rachelle Elie: I was very surprised! I was initially inspired to do *Rag Bag Cabaret* in Almonte while sitting at Palms café, feeling homesick for the Toronto arts scene and missing all of my cabaret buddies. That day I ran into Stephen Brathwaite and asked who I should talk to about renting the theatre, and from that moment on the show came together in a very organic, easy way. I have

built my cabaret fan base in Toronto over twenty-five years, so I approached the production of it in a very realistic way, preparing myself for the possibility of having a few quiet first shows. I had also been warned that Almonte is sometimes a very last-minute town, so I was incredibly surprised to do two shows in Almonte, two months apart, and sell out both a week before show time. Almonte rocks!

**With several successful events under your belt, what made you decide to change your format and bring *Joe: The Perfect Man* to the area?**

Cabaret for me is about bringing many different artists together to create a spectacle, an evening of entertainment. As a host of the shows I get to push boundaries, take risks and exert my sense of humour. Seeing how well Almonte responded to the cabarets and my sense of humour inspired me to bring my own one-woman shows here. I have been doing my shows on the U.S. and Canadian fringe circuit since 2001. Fringe audiences are generally great because they support non-traditional theatre, so I am excited to bring that style of theatre to Almonte.



*Joe: The Perfect Man* plays at the Almonte Old Town Hall on May 5

I brought *Joe* to the Piggyback Fringe in Wakefield, Quebec, and he was so popular there that they brought him back for Wakefest. I have always thought of Almonte as "Ontario's Wakefield", so if Wakefield audiences loved it I figured so would Almonte. *Joe* is a celebration of humanity and the underdog. People in smaller centres seem to get *Joe's* struggle.

**What inspired you to create *Joe*, and why is he such a clown?**

I took a clown workshop with Sacha Baron Cohen's clown teacher Philippe Gaulier. He asked us to come to class "with the pleasure that no one will know who you are". I showed up as *Joe*, and he was immediately a class hit. Gaulier is known for his insult teaching style, and despite his very tough criticism he said to me: "You play this character for life. Until he die." And he encouraged me to create a show. He was a teacher I greatly admired, so I took his advice and created *Joe: The Perfect Man* with Toronto clown festival director Adam Lazarus. After getting a B.A. in drama and graduating from Studio 58 theatre school I began my clown training, and the show brings together all of that education. The character to this day continues to inspire

me and always challenges me to grow and develop as a performer.

**Joe has appeared at several fringe festivals and been a big hit. How do you think he will feel about playing the Almonte Old Town Hall?**

*Joe* is thrilled to perform at the Almonte Old Town Hall. He has been waiting for his big break and is thinking this may be how he finally makes it to Broadway! Also, he has been asleep in his suitcase for the last year so he's happy whenever I let him out to play with an audience.

**Is *Joe* really the perfect man?**

If you asked *Joe*, he would say no one is perfect but we can keep trying. That is why he never gives up. I think *Joe* is the perfect man to play all the lead roles in *Macbeth* — which is what he attempts to convince the audience and cranky casting director of during the show. I believe he is the perfect Shakespearean character: flawed, poetic, funny and always so incredibly human. He is perfect in that he never gives up and keeps fighting for his dreams until the very end.

*Joe: The Perfect Man* plays at the Almonte Old Town Hall for one night only on Saturday, May 5 at 8PM, followed by a post-show talkback with *Joe* himself. Tickets are \$20 at Mill Street Books in Almonte (256-9090), or <eventbrite.ca>; snoozers pay \$25 at the door. For more details you can visit <facebook.com/Joecrowning-monkey>, but we recommend you stop wasting time and go grab some tickets before they're sold out!





## Tree Sale

**Buy a tree to give as a gift— for someone you love, for the earth, or for yourself!**

**You can choose from shrubs, flowering trees, fruit trees and shade trees.**

**Prices start at \$35.**

**Order early for best selection!**

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

**Pick up your trees April 21, 2018 at Mississippi Mills Municipal Office, 3131 Old Perth Road from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**When you buy from us, you are supporting the very important work being done in our community by Hub Hospice Palliative Care.**



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613-406-7020 [www.hubhospice.com](http://www.hubhospice.com)

## Arbour Week

April 22<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup>

in Mississippi Mills

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

Free events across Mississippi Mills celebrating & educating on trees.

Join us for walks, talks, films and plantings.  
Visit [www.exploremississippimills.ca](http://www.exploremississippimills.ca) or email [tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca](mailto:tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca) for specific event details.  
**613-256-1077**



**FILM NIGHT: Almonte Old Town Hall**

Monday April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:30PM

Call OF THE FOREST

calloftheforest.ca/

Scientist and acclaimed author  
Diana Beresford-Kroeger will be  
in attendance!

# A Rollicking Round-Up of April Events

Ahhh... April. The month when our shoulders stop trying to protect our ears from the cold... when daily highs are above freezing, the sun shines past suppertime, and you can finally make plans without worrying about snowstorms. And if you still need inspiration to get up and out, the friendly folk of Mississippi Mills are offering you *plenty* of opportunities to appreciate artists young and old, the outdoors (sometimes from indoors), and our most valuable commodity: community.

by Miss Mills

## Art, Maple and Deliciousness

The annual **Maple Run Tour**, taking place on April 7 and 8, invites you to experience art, craft and food at heritage locations throughout Pakenham. And while you're doing that, I recommend you visit some of our local maple producers as it is also **Maple Weekend!** See <mapleweekend.ca> for locations and offerings, and visit <mapleruntour.com> for art, craft, and local food locations.

And since we're on the topic of maple (specifically) and deliciousness (in general), I would be remiss if I failed to mention Pakenham's big news. **Penny's Fudge Factory** — a fixture in the Valley since 1989, has moved from Fitzroy Harbour to new digs in downtown Pakenham! New owners Vic and Carol Bode (who also run Carnivic Lodge and Scoops Ice Cream) are proud to present maple fudge (along with dozens of other flavours) just in time for the Maple Run Tour. They will even be hosting two local craftspeople that weekend: Clare Gallant's Old Farm House Soap handmade bath and body products, and Mary Decuyper's stained glass mosaics. Find them at 2483 County Road 29 (or on Facebook), or give them a call at 624-5676.

And check out page 24 of this issue for details about art shows at **Sivarulasa Gallery** and **General Fine Craft**, and page 27 for more about **Tributaries** at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum.

## Outdoors

Does the early bird get the worm? Find out this month by joining the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists at one or all of their 6AM **Early Morning Birding** walks. Each Wednesday they visit a different locale — please see <mvfn.ca> for locations. They recommend you dress warmly and bring binoculars and a camera. I recommend you get to bed early and pick up some caffeine at Equator, Palms or Bob's en route!

Do you prefer your outdoor time later in the day, and perhaps *indoors*? How about a walking tour of England, touching on Cornwall, the Yorkshire Dales, and the Lake District? Pull up a chair at the Almonte Library on April 5 at 7PM and Ray Parchelo will walk you through it, so to speak, at another great **MMPL Travelogue**. No plane ticket or hiking boots required, and the talk is free!

Maybe you like your outdoor time even later? Then we'll see you at the Mill of Kintail for the return of **Night Sky Astronomy**. Always fancied learning more about what you see on those clear nights? Sign up on the first night (April 6) and enjoy this night

and four more — learning about constellations and observing planets, stars, stellar systems, galaxies and more. Attendance is by donation and you can find out more at <mvc.on.ca>.

On April 21 the MMPL Seed Library continues their workshop series with Spring Tonics and Revitalizing Weeds: **The Healing Plants of Spring** with Amber Westfall. **Horticultural Societies** are also in full swing. Laurie Bachand of Stoneridge Gardens, will talk about choosing low maintenance perennials and locating plants where they will thrive at the Pakenham meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>, and catch Humm columnist David Hinks as he shoots the... talks about compost at this month's Almonte meeting, on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## Music

Tickets to Almonte's two music series have been hot commodities this winter, and you won't want to miss out on their season finales. Pianist Philip Chiu concludes the **Almonte in Concert** season on April 21 with a performance of carefully selected solo piano music by J.S. Bach, Liszt, Debussy, Vaughan Williams, Ginastera, and John Burge, together with video screenings of Quebec's churches in all their architectural glory. Tickets, \$35, are available at Mill Street Books. Check out page 35 of this issue for details about the **Folkus Concert Series** finale on April 28.



Pianist Philip Chiu concludes the Almonte in Concert season on April 21

## Community & More

We are lucky to live in a great community that celebrates the good times and comes together to support one another in the tough times. The Service family is going through one such time, with 8-year-old Wyatt Service in his third battle with brain cancer, and his mom suffering from health challenges that have put her in a wheelchair. Attend the **Ambush** Childhood Cancer Benefit Dance at the Almonte Community Centre on April 6 at 7PM. Tickets are \$10 from Baker Bob's or the Beckwith Kitchen.

Now that we've helped others, how about we help ourselves a bit. There are many social groups that are geared more towards women, plus we tend to be a bit more on the social/chatty side as a general rule, so a new type of men's group has been popping up, called a Men's Shed. Generally open to men of any age, they can be particularly helpful to men at retirement or in a time of life crisis. The newly created Almonte **Men's Shed** plans to meet at 8AM at the Superior Restaurant on the second and fourth Thursday each month to enjoy food and fellowship



From the Maple Run Tour on April 7 and 8 to the Folkus concert on the 28<sup>th</sup>, it's a fun full month in Mississippi Mills. Be sure to include a trip to Penny's Fudge Factory — now located near the Five Span Bridge in Pakenham — for delectable cream & butter fudge!

and swap stories. Why not expand your social circle and check it out? On the fence? There's bacon.

From a gender-specific event, we change gears for a gender-fluid event. On April 14, the female impersonators of **Gender Illusions** bring their show back to the Almonte Legion. Party with Shana Roberts before she hangs up her heels for the very last time.

Get yourself edumacated on April 27 as the **Almonte Lecture Series** brings you "Looking for Trouble: Natural Disasters in the Middle Ages", where Kirsty Schut will answer such questions as: What kinds of natural disasters occurred in Europe during the Middle Ages? How did people understand and react to them? And how does a modern historian go about answering those kinds of questions anyway?

For event details, such as ticket prices, exact times and locations, please see our calendar.

## And Even More in May!

And mark your May calendars and book your friends now for: **Cheerfully Made Spring Market** (May 5-6); **Joe, The Perfect Man**, a comedy show by Rachelle Elie (May 5), and **Hike for Hub Hospice** (May 6)!

## Vendors Wanted



**Artisan & Farmers' MARKET**  
ARUMA • LANARK ONTARIO

Join us for a blend of local flavours and flares along the banks of the Clyde River!

We are a new market committed to providing a calm, and peaceful space for artisans, farmers, musicians, entrepreneurs, and creators of all kinds to come together and share their gifts.

Make Sunday a day to refuel your soul, be grateful for your blessings, and enjoy your family and friends.



**Aruma**

**When:**  
Sundays, 9AM-2PM  
(May 20 to October 7)

**Where:**  
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2104 Pine Grove Rd,  
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**Contact:** haley@aruma.ca 613.259.3000 www.aruma.ca

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# Rural Root Presents *Steel Magnolias*

The Rural Root Theatre Company (RRTC) is proud to present Robert Harling's *Steel Magnolias*. This timeless play about friendship, family, and the necessity of humour in the face of tragedy is directed by Barb O'Dell.

*Steel Magnolias* is a classic in cinema and theatre, and the storyline strikes close to home for the members and patrons of RRTC. In 2017, Rural Root co-founder Helen Weeden was losing kidney function as a result of the complications from long-term diabetes. Despite her failing health, Helen continued work on last year's production of the comedy *Ghost of a Chance*, followed by the Eastern Ontario Drama League (EODL) One-Act Play Festival, hosted by RRTC in the fall, where the production *Still Stands This House* clinched two awards.

Helen's persistence and dedication paid off, as friend and fellow theatre member Peter Veale, inspired by all that she has done and continues to do for the West Carleton community, volunteered to donate one of his kidneys. On November 9, 2017, he followed through — and now Helen will always have a little piece of Peter with her on her lower left side. Recovery is slow, but Helen and Peter don't have time to waste — both are doing well and are working on the upcoming production, with Helen as publicist and Peter as producer. They hope that you can join them, in newly upgraded seating and with five fresh faces

in the cast, for a matinée show on April 29 at 2PM or from May 1-5 at 7:30PM at the NorthWind Wireless Fibe Centre (formerly the Constance and Buckham's Bay Community Centre) for this poignant presentation.

Tickets can be purchased for \$15 at the door, by calling the box office at 618-9789, or online at <ruralroot.org>.

In August RRTC will present a short run of three one-act plays, and in October they will bring the musical *Leader of the Pack* to the stage. The auditions for all of these productions will take place in June. If you are interested in taking part, please check <ruralroot.org> during May for more details.  
— Holly Veale



(l-r) Elissa Chauvin, Liz Szucs and Laura Jane Nikolakakos in rehearsal for Rural Root Theatre Company's production of *Steel Magnolias*

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**A Wonderful  
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Community!**

Welcome home to 154 Augusta Street in Almonte! Nestled into a friendly neighbourhood, this home is packed full of character and the location is truly perfect for your growing family. The large corner lot is surrounded by trees and fence, creating a private backyard oasis. Conveniently situated near schools, parks and shopping, it's just up the street from the Augusta Street Park — a very special space that hosts gatherings and free concerts throughout the summer. It also features community gardens, a new basketball court, and an outdoor skating rink!



The charming black and white exterior, accented by gingerbread detail, greets you as you approach number 154. Two front verandahs and a large back deck create ample outdoor living space and offer great spots to enjoy your morning coffee or a warm weather barbecue. Inside you'll be welcomed by wood accents, tasteful décor and spacious living areas. This 2 storey, 3 bedroom, 1.5 bathroom home is ideal for families. The full bathroom offers a traditional claw foot soaker tub. This marvelous home awaits your family's arrival!

A short walk brings you to charming downtown Almonte, where you'll find a selection of delightful boutiques and restaurants. Almonte is the community where you want to raise your family!

*Let me tell your home's story!*

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(613) 492-0860

Almonte and District High School proudly presents:

# The 39 Steps

Adapted by Patrick Barlow • From the novel by John Buchan • From the movie by Alfred Hitchcock



**Almonte Old Town Hall**

Thursday, April 12 at 7:30pm  
Friday, April 13 at 7:30pm  
Saturday, April 14 at 7:30pm  
Sunday, April 15 at 2:00pm

**Tickets: \$15**  
available at  
ADHS, Baker Bob's  
or at [onstagedirect.com](http://onstagedirect.com)

Pick up *theHumm* in Carleton Place at  
**STALWART BREWING CO.**

# Fiddler's Friends

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

**AWARD RECIPIENTS:**  
Ethan Walls, Michaela Mullan  
Tessa Bangs, Kyle Burghout

**MUSICAL FRIENDS:**  
John Mitchell, Matt Pepin  
Terri-Lynn Mahusky, Kyle Felhaver  
Monday Night Fiddlers

**SPECIAL GUEST PERFORMANCES:**  
Bruce Strathearn, Cindy Thompson and her Guests  
The Space Between  
Alia Currie, Travis Strong, Nate Eibner  
Jim Hunter

**Sunday May 6, 2018**  
1-4PM  
Doors open, Music starts: 12:30  
with The Barley Shakers

**Old Town Hall,  
Almonte, ON**

Tickets \$15  
-Mill St Books  
613 256 9090  
-Couples Corner  
-Mississippi Mills Musicworks  
-At The Door

Information:  
613 256 3786  
Line-up Subject to Change

**FOODIES**  
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# A Play Within a Play

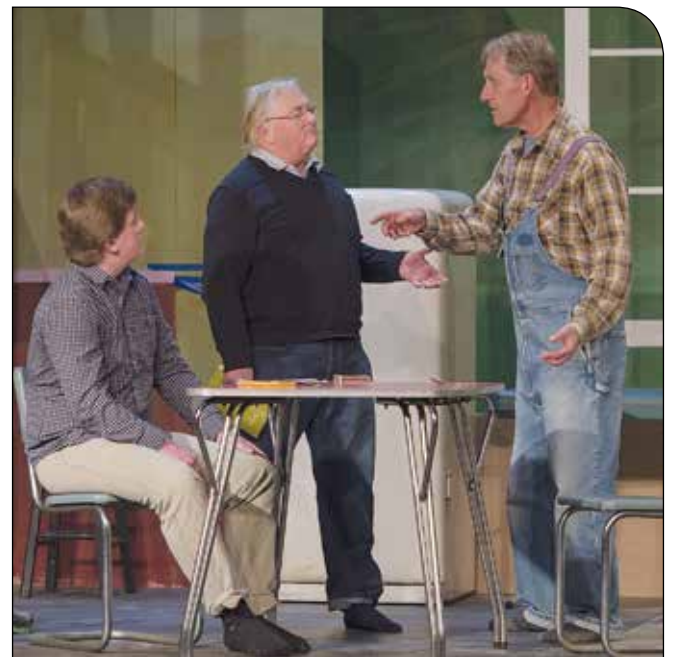
## The Drawer Boy harkens back to The Farm Show

Michael Healey's play *The Drawer Boy* is based on an actual theatrical event called *The Farm Show*, which swept through Ontario beginning in 1972. *The Farm Show* was a seminal "collective creation" in which actors went out into the countryside to talk to local farmers about their lives. The actors then transformed these interviews into plays. *The Farm Show* came to Perth in the early 1990s, and Carolee Mason was hired on as Production Stage Manager. The show was held under canvas in the Tay Basin as part of Perth's Midsummer Festival. Carolee's job was to liaise with director Paul Thompson to facilitate meetings with local farm people. Now spring ahead to April 2018, and you will see Carolee's amazing set design on the Perth Studio Theatre's stage for *The Drawer Boy*.

In *The Drawer Boy*, director Roberta Peets has worked her magic so that each character is portrayed perfectly, from the very first moment they appear on the stage, and with every word they utter. She has assembled three talented local actors to portray two farmers (named Angus and Morgan), and a young writer/actor (named Miles Potter). The three men collide in a humorous and poignant story about the power of storytelling. Alfred Von Mirbach says he was drawn to the range of emotions that Angus inhabits. Connor Williamson is a young actor with a deep love of storytelling, and he says he called on his own inner curiosity and desire to see the truth in his portrayal of Miles. Grey Masson plays Morgan, and in this complex and challenging role he strives to provide the missing pieces of the story that bring the play to fruition.

Director Roberta Peets is thrilled to have original live music throughout the play, thanks to the talents of local musician Lucas Tennant. Theatre audiences in Perth and Smiths Falls know Lucas for his wonderful acting and technical work as well.

*The Drawer Boy* opens at the Studio Theatre on Thursday, April 5 for seven shows: April 5, 6, 7, 13 and 14 at 7:30PM and April 8 and 15 at 2PM. Talk-



In rehearsal: Grey Masson and Alfred Von Mirbach star as Morgan and Angus, two farmers whose friendship is challenged when the truth, uncovered by visiting actor Miles Potter (portrayed by Connor Williamson), threatens to expose the past. Photo by Leonard Modderman.

backs after the show with the director, cast and guests are scheduled for April 6 and 13. The show is sponsored by Doornekamp and Associates: Individual, Couple and Family Therapy, and H & R Block. Tickets are \$24, available at Tickets Please in the Matheson House Museum Visitor Centre, 11 Gore St. E. (485-6434; [ticketsplease.ca](http://ticketsplease.ca)), which accepts in-store, online and credit card purchases. Tickets are \$24 at the Studio Theatre box office on show nights. Rush tickets for students with ID are just \$10 at the door, subject to availability. Attend opening night on April 5 and save \$5!

*The Drawer Boy* will tickle your funny bone and draw on your heartstrings. Studio Theatre invites you to come on down to the theatre, sit a spell, and soak up a wonderful story.

— Jane Stott

# Andrew Collins Trio

The mercurial, Juno-nominated, Canadian Folk Music Award-winning mando maestro Andrew Collins will perform in Arnprior this month!

Collins brings his trio and their popular collision of bluegrass, folk, jazz, classical and swing (not to mention a dizzying number of instruments on stage) to the Arnprior Public Library on April 21 at 8PM.

"The acoustics here are second to none," says Head Librarian Karen DeLuca. "Moveable shelves allow the space to be transformed, and it has hosted a myriad of musical genres — from blues to classical."

Andrew Collins finds himself — through no actual fault of his own — at the epicentre of Canada's burgeoning acoustic/roots music scene. He didn't invent it, but he's certainly a major contributor, having co-founded noteworthy Canadian bands like the Creaking Tree String Quartet, the Foggy Hogtown Boys, and, more recently, the Andrew Collins Trio.

As Collins amasses numerous awards and nominations for these various ensembles, he is zeroing in on the work he does with his beloved trio: fellow string guru Mike Mezzatesta, whose versatility and mastery shine through on guitar, mandolin, fiddle and mandola; and in-the-pocket James McEleney, holding it down on bass, mandocello and vocals.

Seating is limited. Tickets are \$25 and available online <[arnpriorlibrary.ca](http://arnpriorlibrary.ca)> or in person at the Arnprior Public Library at 21 Madawaska Street. There will be two sets and a cash bar with door prizes during the intermission. All proceeds go to further enhance adult programming at the library.



Catch the Andrew Collins Trio in the intimate setting of the Arnprior Library on April 21

[www.thehummm.com](http://www.thehummm.com)

April 2018



This year's fundraising Jam-a-thon takes place on April 22 at the Maberly Hall

## Blue Skies Jam-a-thon

One of the Blue Skies Fiddle Orchestra's major fundraising events for 2018 is their 7<sup>th</sup> annual Jam-a-thon. This event has grown each year as more and more folks come out to enjoy the toe-tapping music and laughter. On Sunday, April 22, the Maberly Hall will be filled with fiddlers as well as guitar, mandolin, penny whistle, viola and cello players and the like. Players can drop in to the music circle any time from noon to 5PM. Participants of all ages may bring tunes for everyone in the circle to play (or sing). Folks are welcome to sing along or just to watch.

At 2PM there will be a massive pie auction, with the proceeds going to support the Fiddle Orchestra's ongoing programs. Refreshments will be available for players throughout the day.

Please consider supporting the orchestra by sponsoring an orchestra member or by getting your own sponsors. Players obtain sponsors, collect the funds, and bring them to the Maberly Hall on April 22.

For further information or to obtain a sponsor sheet, please email <cindy.fiddle-music.mccall@gmail.com> or call 278-2448 — *Cindy McCall*



## “Swing into Spring” With the Goulbourn Male Chorus

“Swing into Spring” is the theme of this year's Goulbourn Male Chorus Spring Concert, and the music performed will certainly lift the spirits. The program includes classic swing pieces like *Blue Skies*, show tunes such as *Ol' Man River*, spirituals (always favourites), and other popular songs from, well, the last century! *Can't Help Falling in Love* (yes, Elvis is still alive!) gives the audience an opportunity to sing along, while a beautiful piece written by Billy Joel — *And So It Goes* — is guaranteed to charm. There will also be performances from smaller a cappella ensembles.

Guest artists at the concert will be the Lanark Offbeats. This vocal/instrumental jazz group began three years ago and draws singers and musicians from as far afield as Perth and Kanata. The group is made up of about twenty singers utilizing four-part harmony, accompanied by a four-piece

band with piano, guitar, bass and drums, under the direction of Margo Smith. Their musical style could be called swing, big band or even pop jazz. Songs like *Sentimental Journey*, *Satin Doll* and a medley of Hoagy Carmichael songs all lend themselves to a very “cool” approach to the genre.

The group will perform a number of pieces with the men's chorus, and the whole program will deliver an afternoon of jazzy, swingin' four-part harmony, guaranteed to lift your spirits.

The concert will take place at the beautiful Trinity Presbyterian Church on Richardson Side Road in Kanata, on Sunday, April 29 at 2PM. Tickets are \$15 (children under 12 are free), available at Brown's Independent Grocer in Stittsville, from members of the chorus, or online at <goulbournmalechorus.com>. You can also call 832-1225 and leave a message with your ticket requests.

**Hooked ON WATERWAYS**

The Ontario Hooking Craft Guild invites you to its  
**Public Show and Sale**  
Sunday, May 6, 2018, 10 am – 3 pm

**1,000 rugs and other hand-hooked beauties!**  
See dazzling displays of rug hooking, an abundance of craft fabrics and supplies from 18 vendors, and a selection of hooked items for sale. There's also a fun try-it-you'll-like-it area.

Ottawa Conference and Event Centre  
200 Coventry Rd., Ottawa  
Admission: \$10 (12 & under free)  
Parking: free  
[ohcgannual2018.wordpress.com](http://ohcgannual2018.wordpress.com)

**Hooked Pieces:**  
Pat Bonn  
Jocelyn Gordon  
Karen Kaiser  
Barbara Lukas  
Kris McDermet  
Karen Miller  
Loretta Moore

**Smiths Falls Home Living expo**

**Saturday May 5 10-5PM**  
**Sunday May 6 10-4PM**

**Settlers Ridge Centre**  
**275 Brockville St./Highway 29 S.**

**70+ vendors**

**Home Renovations • Home Decor • Landscaping**  
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**BBQ • Chainsaw Carver**  
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**Hourly Draws**

[www.smithsfallshomelivingexpo.com](http://www.smithsfallshomelivingexpo.com)

# Humm Fun Feature of the Month —

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

Happy camping!

## Maple Key Day Camp (PERTH)



Now celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> season, Maple Key is a unique camp community that strives to help the next generation to become more confident and socially aware. By providing campers with the opportunity to choose some of the activities they participate in, while still maintaining consistent camper "family-style" groupings, MKDC helps campers practice healthy independence as well as social skills. MKDC is owned and operated by a certified and experienced teacher with a significant camp background, and offers a range of both traditional activities and specialty programming — including cookouts and special overnights. Introduce your child to a warm, bully-free culture, wrapped in a beautiful natural setting.

This is summer camp the way nature intended. Contact Kristen at 464-2468 or visit <maplekeydaycamp.com>.

## The Academy for Musical Theatre (PERTH, OTTAWA)

Founded in 1998, the award-winning Academy for Musical Theatre provides high-quality instruction in music, acting, dance, stage combat, and various aspects of technical theatre to youths of all ages, culminating in the performance of a full-scale Broadway musical. The Academy is a very special and unique community of non-judgmental and spirited individuals with positive attitudes, devoted to providing a fun and safe environment in which to experiment artistically without fear of negative feedback. Our primary mandate is to build confidence. We are excited to offer programs in both Ottawa (at the epic Gladstone Theatre!) and Perth (at the gorgeous Code's Mill on the Park!), with an exciting slate of workshops this summer including: *Mary Poppins*, *The Lion King*, *HMS Pinafore*, *100 Years of Broadway*, and *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Because everyone deserves a little time in the spotlight! For more information, call 706-2287 or visit <musictheatre.ca>.



THE ACADEMY FOR  
**MUSICAL THEATRE**

PROVIDING HIGH QUALITY INSTRUCTION IN MUSIC, ACTING, DANCE AND VARIOUS ASPECTS OF TECHNICAL THEATRE TO YOUTH OF ALL AGES

COME JOIN US AT OUR SUMMER DAY CAMPS. ENROLL TODAY AND BE A STAR!

**SUMMER WORKSHOPS TAKE PLACE IN OTTAWA AT THE GLADSTONE THEATRE, AND IN PERTH AT CODE'S MILL ON THE PARK**

**2018 WORKSHOPS INCLUDE:**  
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**WWW.MUSICTHEATRE.CA**

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## Camp Lau-Ren

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Residential One Week Camps  
 On the Ottawa River  
 10 km west of Deep River  
 Ages 6 – 16 years

Canoeing, Archery, Swimming, Crafts, Bible Study, Sports and so much more!

Join us for our Annual Open House  
 Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 am – 2:00 pm  
 210 Lau-Ren Road, RR # 1  
 Deep River (Laurentian Hills), ON K0J 1P0

www.camplau-ren.com

ACCREDITED MEMBER  
 OCA  
 Ontario Camps Association

# Creative Summer Camps for Kids!

## Nature Summer Camps / PD Days / ADHD Camp (CaRP)

At Carp Ridge EcoWellness Centre we provide a natural playground to spark your child's imagination, and encourage exploration and the enjoyment of the many wonders of the great outdoors. Our nature-based activities provide an opportunity to exercise social skills and to develop sensory, agility and balancing abilities. Camp themes include: plants, animals, rocks and minerals, survival/safety skills and art/music/drama. The camp week of August 27-31 is dedicated to children with ADHD patterns and will provide healing and treatment recommendations.



Camps and PD days are for ages 3-12+. A healthy lunch and snacks are included. Your child's outdoor play starts with a call to 839-1198, or you can register online at <ecowellness.com>.



## Camp Lau-Ren (Overnight Camp, Deep River)

Camp Lau-Ren is a children's summer residential camp. Located 10km west of Deep River on the Ottawa River, the camp offers six-night co-ed camps for children aged 8-15, an all-girls camp, and a two-night camp for ages 6-7. Accredited by the Ontario Camps Association and the United Church of Canada, the camp has been in operation since 1952. Campers enjoy canoeing, swimming, crafts, campfires, have lots of fun and make life-long friends and memories. At the 7th annual free Open House — Saturday, June 9, 11AM-2PM — you can tour the site, see a camper's cabin, and experience a campfire, skits, songs, crafts, free BBQ and s'mores. See you there! Find more information at <camplau-ren.com >.

## PERTH OUTFITTERS Summer Day Camp

Over 100 canoes, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards and CORCLs, the coolest mini-golf course ever, a 400m trail through the woods for pedal go-karts and kick-bikes, plus a g'zillion other fun activities, all rolled into one stellar summer camp! 5 acres, waterfront, right in town! Kids receive daily instruction in paddling and putting skills; out on the water every day, either

paddling upstream under the fountains or paddling downstream discovering nature. Friday culminates with a canoe trip through Beveridges Locks followed by parents' show and tell; you get to try! Ages 7-12, Monday-Friday, 9AM-4PM; before/after care available. 5-star reputation. Register online at <perthoutfitters.com> or call 772-1122.



**Build confidence and discover new passions in a highly creative, supportive environment.**

**MAPLE KEY DAY CAMP** Est. 2009  
10th Anniversary Season!



**NATURE CAMPS**

- outdoor exploration and cooperative play, nature crafts, learning about plants and animals, survival and safety techniques, meditation and smudging, foraging for herbs and food, music, games, campfires, environmental stewardship, dig up minerals and fossils, drama
- healthy lunches and snacks included
- trail walks among 190 acres of forest
- family discounts and subsidies for qualifying homes through local charity Carp Ridge Learning Centre

**"There is no WIFI in the forest, but you'll find a better connection!"**

**Summer Camp (July):** \$200/week, \$45/day  
**ADHD Summer Camp:** \$300/week, Aug. 27-31  
**PD Days:** \$45/day

Visit us at [www.ecowellness.com](http://www.ecowellness.com), contact us at [programs@ecowellness.com](mailto:programs@ecowellness.com) or 613-839-1198

# Creative Summer Camps for Kids!

## MERA ARTS Camp (McDonalds Corners)

Are you looking for a summer camp experience with lots of fun opportunities to play with all sorts of materials and media? MERA (McDonalds Corners/Elphin Recreation and Arts) is holding its 16<sup>th</sup> Arts Camp in McDonalds Corners, July 23–27, for children aged 7–13. Run by a well-qualified teacher, children can draw, paint, work with clay and papier mâché, and do crafts with many materials including nature crafts. There will be lots of movement activities and games.

McDonalds Corners is a small village in the heart of Lanark Highlands, 25 minutes from Perth. MERA is an arts-focused community centre. Contact MERA at <meraschoolhouse@gmail.com> or visit <meraschoolhouse.org>.

## ALMONTE POTTERS GUILD

During July and August, the Potters Guild is offering drop-in classes in the morning for children of all ages. Adult family members are welcome to participate also! There are also classes for adults two times a week.

The Potters Guild is located at For more information, please visit <almontepottersguild.com> or call 256-5556.



## FASHION / Sewing Camp (ALMONTE)

Marg Lee of "Sew Much Fun" in Almonte will again be teaching and having fun the weeks of July 9–13 and August 20–24, Monday to Thursday, from 9AM–2PM. The cost is \$230 which includes all snacks and materials. A \$50 non-refundable deposit secures a spot for your student.

Learn to use a pattern, cut out fabric, use a sewing machine and iron and finally complete a garment of your choice. This camp is for boys and girls aged 10 and up and finishes up with a fashion show on Thursdays at 1PM. The enrolment is limited to 4 students per week. For further information, please contact <marglee@teksavvy.com>.



**Almonte Potters Guild**

**Summer Drop-in Classes**  
Morning drop-in classes for children through July & August  
Adult family members welcome • Evening adult classes

[www.almontepottersguild.com](http://www.almontepottersguild.com)  
95 Bridge Street 613 256 5556

## WILDLIFE WATCHERS Summer Day Camp (ALMONTE)

Children ages 6–11 can spend their summer vacation outdoors and active at the beautiful Mill of Kintail Conservation Area! Each day of camp runs on a specific theme related to the natural environment. Campers will explore plants, wildlife, insects, habitats and aquatic life through a variety of hands-on activities, games, arts and crafts, stories and more! Available weeks: July 9–13, July 16–20, July 23–27, August 7–10, August 13–17 and August 20–24. For more information contact Sarah O'Grady at <sogrady@mvc.on.ca> or 253-0006. To register visit <mvc.on.ca>.



**Summer Day Camp**  
★★★★★ Paddling Camp  
in beautiful Perth, Ontario

**Perth Outfitters**

613-772-1122  
For details, photos and to register, visit [perthoutfitters.com](http://perthoutfitters.com)

## Sending Your Child to Summer Camp

As summer approaches, many families will be considering sending a child to an overnight camp. Experiencing time away from home at a residential summer camp is a milestone in a child's life. Parents want to know that a fun and safe experience awaits their child and that the needs of their camper will be met.

The benefits of camp range from providing experiential learning to keeping kids' brains active, alert and continuously acquiring knowledge. Seven core summer camp benefits for children were identified by the 2011 Canadian Summer Camp Research Project. The top three are: building friendships and social skills, developing resiliency and confidence, and becoming and staying physically active. Other benefits range from overcoming Nature Deficit Disorder and learning the values of leadership to carving out time for active play.

One of the first things parents should consider when choosing a summer camp is to ensure that the camp is accredited by the Ontario Camps Association (OCA). Summer camps that have OCA accreditation

must meet high standards to ensure that appropriate programming, policies and procedures are in place.

The Ontario Camps Association's first piece of advice to parents who are sending a child to camp for the first time is to visit the camp and tour the site in advance of their camper's first day. One local summer camp that is OCA-accredited is Camp Lau-Ren. This camp is holding its seventh annual open house on Saturday, June 9 from 11AM to 2PM. Families are invited to tour the site, see a camper's cabin and explore the beautiful beach located on the Ottawa River. A free BBQ lunch is offered with hot dogs, drinks, s'mores, a campfire and more. Camp Lau-Ren is located 10km west of Deep River, ON. To find out more about the camp and the 2018 summer schedule, visit <camplau-ren.com>. For more tips about sending a child to summer camp, a listing of Ontario summer camps, and information about the Ontario Camps Association, visit <ontariocampsassociation.ca>.

— Bruce Patterson

**Fashion Sewing Camp**

Learn new skills and explore your creativity in this unique camp. Complete at least one project while learning to use your sewing machine.

Camp dates in Almonte are July 9–12 or August 20–23

Contact Marg Lee of "Sew Much Fun" 613-256-3717 or [marglee@teksavvy.com](mailto:marglee@teksavvy.com)

**Wildlife Watchers Day Camp**

Discover  
Create  
Play

Adventure awaits at the Mill of Kintail! Campers ages 6-11 explore habitats, plants, wildlife, insects & aquatic life through hands-on activities, games, arts & crafts, stories & more!

Register Today!  
[www.mvc.on.ca](http://www.mvc.on.ca)

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

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

# Butterflies are Free at the Station Theatre

Mothers should see this play.

It's about letting go of your boys, and propping them up along the way. It's witty and wise; you'll weep and wonder if that's you up there on stage.

*Butterflies are Free* is a two-act play written by Leonard Gershe and originally produced in 1969 in New York City. The title is inspired by a passage in Charles Dickens' *Bleak House*: "I only ask to be free. The butterflies are free. Mankind will surely not deny to Harold Skimpole what it concedes to the butterflies."

Don Baker is 20-something and blind since birth; his mom has always looked out for him — dressed him, cooked for him, housed him, watched over him... typical mothering.

(you'll have to come to the play to find out what they are). In the end, because Mrs. Baker loves her son, and Jill is falling in love, each listens to the other.

It's a short play, but 1960s costumes, a simple set with barely a bed and a bathtub, plus good lighting and witty dialogue, make it a big-time play in a small, intimate venue. Don is played by Garrett Pipher, who was first introduced to Smiths Falls theatre-goers as the Dickens' character Gabriel Grub; he's come a long way since then and has honed his craft to the point where he convincingly portrays a blind man in this play.

Nicki Hayes plays Jill — the flirty, flighty, messy, disorganized girl-next-door. Hayes is fairly new to the Station Theatre; recently seen as Vivian in *Who Dunit?*, she has studied in London, England, and continues to hone her craft.

Donna Howard, well-known in theatre circles in Smiths Falls, brings her energy to the role of prim and proper but achingly human Mrs. Baker, Don's over-protective mom. Lucas Tennant (who was Wishee Washee in the Theatre's most recent pantomime) plays Ralph Austin, the loud-mouthed, boorish director of Jill's play.

Performances take place on April 27 and 28 and May 3, 4 and 5 at 7:30PM, with Sunday matinées on April 29 and May 6 at 2PM. Tickets are \$20 for adults or \$10 for students with ID. Get tickets in person (cash only) at Special Greetings (8 Russell St. E. in Smiths Falls) or by phone at 283-0300 (Visa or Mastercard only). Buy them online through PayPal (no

online ticket sales the day of the performance), and at the door (if available) a half-hour before performance, cash only.

But that's not all! NOAL Pantry in downtown Smiths Falls is offering a pre-theatre dinner package on April 27 and 28, and May 3, 4 and 5. Laurie Anne Brennan, owner of NOAL, gives a true incentive — order the roast beef dinner (\$21) and along with buttermilk mash, vegetable medley and cabernet beef reduction, get a complimentary maple cream butter tart and coffee. She asks that patrons order before 6PM to be out by 7 in time for the play at 7:30. — *Sally Smith*



Photo by Smith

Jill (Nicki Hayes) watches and listens to Don (Garrett Pipher) in a scene from *Butterflies Are Free*, which opens at the Station Theatre on April 27

As chance has it, a girl comes into his life and introduces him to a few things — sex and independence being the big two. Mom's not impressed, but with much sighing and murmuring (just loudly enough for others to hear), she agrees he should venture out on his own, find an apartment, and live in New York. A two-month trial period has been set between the two of them with no visitation rights by her.

But she can't stay away. After shopping at Saks, she arrives with bags of shirts and socks, only to get there just after another girl has had her way with her son.

Here the witticisms start. Mom probes; 19-year-old Jill Tanner hands it back. But the two deliver messages

## Art & Maple Syrup Saturday, April 14

**AOG GALLERY OPEN HOUSE**  
9AM-4PM

A contemporary art collection  
and guest sculptor  
Chris Banfalvi

**gibbonsmple.ca • 613-275-2983 • 41 Leacock Rd. Frankville**

Free Taffy on Snow  
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Pancake breakfast  
at Church Hall  
in Frankville 8AM-NOON

MAPLE SYRUP  
**GIBBONS**  
FAMILY FARM

Pick up *theHumm* in Perth at the  
**PERTH RESTAURANT**

Almonte General Hospital • Fairview Manor  
**Foundation 2018 FUNDRAISING EVENTS**

*Eddy and the Stingrays*



APRIL 7, 2018  
ALMONTE CIVITAN HALL  
DOORS OPEN 6:30PM

Tickets: \$45

DINNER, DANCING AND DRAWS



Tickets Available in Almonte from:  
Blackbird, 79 Mill Street • RBC, 443 Ottawa Street  
The Daily Scoop Café, 500 Ottawa Street

2018 Almonte General Hospital  
**GOLF CLASSIC**

Friday, June 8, 2018

Canadian Golf & Country Club

REGISTER TODAY!

Funds raised support new Diagnostic Imaging equipment

For more information, contact Carolyn Piché

613-256-2500 ext. 2296 cpiche@agh-fvm.com

Calendar of Events: www.almontehospitalfoundation.com

**COMING SOON**

Sat., Aug. 11 Paddles & Puppets

Sat., Sept. 8 The Mississippi River Run & Walk

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# Spring Art Shows Beckon..

## Equinox at Sivarulrasa Gallery

In celebration of spring, Sivarulrasa Gallery presents a trio show entitled *Equinox* from April 13 to May 27, featuring works by artists Sarah Anderson (Ottawa), Carly Belford (Montreal), and Jane Irwin (Toronto). "Equinox" references the change of seasons. Technically, the vernal equinox occurs around March 20 or 21 each year, but in Eastern Ontario spring actually arrives in April and May. Equinox can also refer to balance and harmony (equal day and night) as emotional themes in our daily lives.

by Miss Cellaneous

Carly Belford's "Bouquet" paintings engage with the traditional genre of floral painting while playing with colour and texture. Jane Irwin's "High Water Mark" series of drawings blend representational and abstract imagery. Sarah Anderson's oil and wax paintings use colour to explore emotional themes in family and relationships, referencing upheavals and renewal.

Everyone is invited to the vernissage/meet the artists reception on Saturday April 21 from 3-6PM. For details, visit <sivarulrasa.com>. The gallery is located at 34 Mill Street in Almonte.



Carly Belford's *Bouquet with Foliage* will be part of the show "Equinox" at Sivarulrasa Gallery

## Come for the Art, Stay for the Treats!

Local Colours Art Group's second annual Festival of the Maples fine art show will be held on Saturday, April 28 at McMartin House in Perth from 8AM to 4PM. Please come by and meet the artists: Thérèse Boisclair, Nora Brown, Barbara Jordan, Aileen Merriam, Peggy Orders, Pat Purdy, Cathy Rivoire, Linda Svarckopf and Judith Versavel. Feast your eyes on the variety of the art and tempt your palate with homemade maple-inspired treats.

The event will showcase work in various styles and media — abstract, animal portraits, mixed-media and photography — by featured Humm artists, art teachers, and notable regional artists.

Local Colours is an established arts group whose members use their considerable skills and experience not just to create art, but to support and mentor one another. Variety really is the spice of life, so come be inspired, and take home a beautiful original artwork!

For more information about the group and their art, email Barbara Jordan at <babs@barkinc.com>. McMartin House is located at 125 Gore Street in Perth.



Local Colours artist Cathy Rivoire says of her piece *Thunderhead*: The essence of this horse came from a picture I loved as a child. In the process of trying to find a style, he evolved into a high contrast, more dramatic painting.

## Living Stones Spring Open Studio

Although visitors are always welcome at John Schweighardt's aptly-named Living Stones studio, every year since 2012 the artist has been opening his studio for two consecutive days on the first weekend of May and the first weekend of December. Just a 25-minute drive from either Almonte or Perth will bring you to the country property that John has shared with his wife for over thirty years and where his stone carving studio is located. Peruse an eclectic collection of stone art displayed indoors in a renovated log horse stable and outdoors among mature pines and around the property, and talk to John about some of his latest work— including the new work pictured here entitled *Pervasivity*. Come and enjoy light refreshments (including locally-made cheeses) and take some time to visit with the artist and his wife Liesa in a relaxed rural setting. The studio is open on May 5 and 6 from 10AM to 4PM. Find directions and more information at <livingstonessculptures.ca>.

Some of Schweighardt's "Living Stones" can also be seen at the Ottawa Cottage Life and Backyard Show at the EY Centre from April 13-15 <cottageandbackyardshow.com>.



*Pervasivity* by John Schweighardt

## Finessing the Line

Craftsmanship merges beautifully with design principles in this three-person exhibition at General Fine Craft from March 27 through May 6. See how each artist enhances the innate qualities of the materials they use, creating well-defined shapes with skill, thoughtfulness and sensitivity.

Eiko Maeda expresses traditional Japanese aesthetics with her technically complex and exceptionally beautiful *nerikomi* porcelain wares. Made with skill and subtlety of shape and line, her bowls have the softness and lightness of a blossoming flower.

Andrea Mueller is an experienced jewellery maker working with sterling silver, gold, pearls and semi-precious gem settings. Her distinctive pendants, earrings and rings reflect contemporary design ideas, often playing with geometric relationships, patterns and forms found in nature.

Eric Young makes cutting and serving boards using sustainably harvested hardwoods found on his property near Clayton. He has an eye for reading the wood, discerning shapes out of the flow of grain, and enhancing knots, burls and bark edges; in effect, telling a story of the tree's life.

Everyone is welcome to attend the opening and meet the artists on Sunday, April 1 from 2-4PM. For more information, please visit <generalfinecraft.com>.

The Blue Skies Community Fiddle Orchestra  
presents their annual fundraising

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**Sunday April 22, 12-5PM**  
**Maberly Hall**

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anytime during the day.  
Pie auction starts at 2PM.  
Proceeds to support the Fiddle Orchestra's ongoing programs.  
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cindy.fiddlemusic.mccall@gmail.com or 613-278-2448

**March 27 – May 8**  
*finessing the line*  
craftsmanship and design in harmony






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**ANDREA MUELLER**

**ERIC YOUNG**

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# #MeToo Play Tours Lanark County

## Every Friday Addresses Issues Affecting Rural Teenagers

The global #MeToo and #TimesUp movements receive a local interpretation in April when Burning Passions Theatre presents a new play, *Every Friday*, that will tour local youth centres and schools in Lanark Highlands, Perth, Smiths Falls, Carleton Place and Almonte.

Written and directed by Laurel Smith, and based on stories created by Mary Cowan, Ruby Davidson, Felix Evangelho, Ryan Kreissler, Winston Mavraganis and Lu Williams, the play is an exploration of the experiences of a group of youth who come together to share their stories of survival in a violent world. Given the mature subject matter, it is recommended for ages 14+.

"For lots of reasons, many people still have trouble understanding concepts like trust and consent, which are at the heart of so many #MeToo stories. We want to show how these issues play out in real situations," explains Smith, who notes that *Every Friday* is the fourth installment of the annual Listen Up! touring theatre project that addresses issues affecting rural teenagers. "To hear terms like 'assault', 'abuse' and 'harassment' without their full context can be distancing. By presenting characters who share their own journeys of survival, we hope to reconnect audiences to the very real emotions and effects of these terms."

Each performance will be followed by a talkback session in which audience members can dialogue with the actors and playwright.

"This play is very important to me because it's a huge problem, and is becoming even more relevant today as social media and people in power are portraying victims as liars," says Grade 12 student Mary Cowan. "I believe everyone has a right to be believed. This play gives the message to adults and teenagers alike that there is help, but also that it is okay to not be okay."

For Ryan Kreissler, who has acted in previous Listen Up! projects, *Every Friday* is "a great opportunity to learn about topics that aren't often discussed anywhere else. The plays we create are always informative, and they're great for spreading awareness of an issue and explaining how to get help."

Grade 11 student Ruby Davidson agrees, noting "it is my goal for our shows to help in the community and spread awareness of the important issues that are not talked about enough in Lanark County."

As part of the play's creation, group members met with renowned Governor-General's Award-winning anti-violence consultant Julie Lalonde, a frequent media source on issues of violence against women whose work has appeared on




The #MeToo and #TimesUp movements receive a local interpretation with a new play entitled *Every Friday*. Touring Lanark County in April, it stars (clockwise from top left) Ryan Kreissler, Winston Mavraganis, Ruby Davidson, Mary Cowan, Lu Williams and Felix Evangelho.

Al Jazeera, CBC's *The National*, TVO's *The Agenda*, *Vice*, *WIRED* and *FLARE* magazines, among others.


*Every Friday* plays in Perth on Tuesday, April 17 at 5PM at YAK (1 Sherbrooke Street East); at the Mississippi Mills Youth Centre (134 Main Street East in Almonte) on Thursday, April 19 at 5PM; at the Lanark Community Youth Centre

(61 Princess Street) on Friday, April 20 at 6PM; and at the Smiths Falls Community Centre (71 Cornelia Street) on Friday, April 27 at 4:30PM. Admission is by donation, with no one turned away for lack of funds.

For more information on the project or to arrange a school booking, contact <burning@web.ca> or call 264-8088.



**Spirituality & Aging**  
From Transition to Transformation  
Maureen McDonnell, D. Min.  
April 18-19



*The path of transformation of which Jesus spoke leads from a life of requirements and measuring up (whether to culture or to God) to a life of relationship with God. It leads from a life of anxiety to a life of peace and trust. It leads from the bondage of self-preoccupation to the freedom of self-forgetfulness. It leads from Life centered in culture to life centered in God.*

Marcus J. Borg, *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*

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Hike 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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



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

# Good Food Tour Goes Further Afield!

Because her first year in the culinary tourism business was so successful (and delicious!), Cathy Reside has decided to expand her Good Food Tour to include downtown Carleton Place this season. Beginning this May, Cathy will be adding a “Bites On Bridge Street” walking tour to her two popular Almonte-based tours.

A few vendors were hesitant, not knowing what a food tour was, but I feel very fortunate to have been embraced by the business community.”

Cathy offered two different tours in Almonte last season — one that focused on the charming downtown area, and another that combined that location with a visit to several of Almonte’s innovative foodie entrepreneurs located on the edge of town.

Highlights of the “Down By the River” tour include the intriguing Indian pizza at Pizza-ria Unlimited, buttery scones at Tea & Cake, artisanal cheeses at Pêches et Poivre, and crepes at the Mill Street Crepe Company. Sublime desserts are served at the inviting, contemporary Sivarulrasa Art Gallery, and the tour finishes with a local beer on one of the best patios in the Ottawa region.

“Downtown Meets Uptown” visits the Crepe Company and Pêches et Poivre as well, but also includes more of a behind-the-scenes look at how things are rolled, cut, roasted, brewed, and tempered. Of course, you get to eat and drink the finished product! That tour starts out near the edge of town at Equator Coffee Roasters, where you will enjoy locally

roasted organic, fair-trade coffees. Next you’ll savour the non-guilty pleasure of freshly made doughnuts with 50% less fat at HFT, followed by some of the world’s best award-winning chocolate at Hummingbird Chocolate. That part of the tour ends off with some British style ale at Crooked Mile Microbrewery.

Those well-crafted tours, combined with Cathy’s sparkling and enthusiastic personality, were an instant hit. “People are looking for unique experiences these days, so that’s what I am providing,” she explains. “When you combine great food with compelling stories, beautiful heritage buildings and wonderful scenery, what’s not to love?!” Cathy will be offering both of those tours again this year, from May right through to October.

## A Logical Progression

As Cathy notes on her website <thegoodfoodtour.com>, “Carleton Place is growing by leaps and bounds, and Bridge Street has developed a very vibrant and diverse restaurant scene.” Cathy herself also joined the Carleton Place Chamber of Commerce last year, and says that “The response I got from them encouraged me to expand there this year. I am excited to show off their restaurant scene!”

She intends to do just that with her “Bites on Bridge Street” tour, taking place every Thursday and



Cathy Reside only started her Good Food Tour walking culinary tour company last year, but she is already expanding it to Carleton Place for the coming season. Above, she poses with chef Ian Carswell (and some delectable escargots) at the Black Tartan Kitchen.

by Kris Riendeau

But just in case you missed her first season (which led to her company being one of three finalists for this year’s Ottawa Tourism New Company of the Year Award, no less), let’s catch you up. Cathy explains that: “The first year of The Good Food Tour and being an entrepreneur was quite a ride! I went into it knowing I had a great idea but not knowing what to expect.





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## Red Truck Writing

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**Stan Went Fishing: Stories and Images of Waking Up**

An evening of sharing food, drink and stories as Nancy Dorrier reads excerpts from her new book, *Stan Went Fishing*, and introduces participants to the Red Truck Writing work.

**Thursday, April 26**  
**7-9PM**

**Location:**  
143 Malcolm, Almonte  
**Cost:** \$15 (includes materials)  
Limited to 25 participants.

**An Introduction to Red Truck Writing**

A day full of writing, storytelling, reflecting on what is important to you, wondering, listening, and learning.

**Friday, April 27**  
**9:30AM-4:30PM**

**Location:**  
Old Town Hall, Almonte  
**Cost:** \$170 (includes materials)  
Limited to 35 participants.

Whether it’s a two-hour gathering or a full day workshop, **Red Truck Writing** events are opportunities for people to engage in simple-yet-specific creative writing and listening practices as a way of bringing more awareness, connection, courage, and curiosity to everyday life.

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# Explore Tributaries in Almonte

Interdisciplinary artist Emily Rose Michaud will release a series of new works as a part of *Tributaries*, a solo art exhibition at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum in Almonte. The show opens on Saturday, April 7 from 2–4PM and runs until June 23.

*Tributaries* is part of an ongoing series of interdisciplinary works exploring our human relationship to water, memory, emotions, and mapping. This multimedia exhibit explores the power and presence of water — past, present, and future. It features living tapestries, cyanotype drawings, maps and paintings, layered with the sounds of water, Gaelic folk song, social and political speech, and music from Esmerine's atmospheric melodies.

You can meet Emily on April 21, when she invites you to draw a body of water you love on a cedar tile that will be added to the museum wall installation of over 500 pieces from people of diverse communities in the Ottawa River watershed region. Tiles are arranged into a mosaic in which the water lines flow into one another as an interactive puzzle, the piece to be played with and rearranged by the public.



Art meets the great outdoors when Emily Rose Michaud brings her water-themed pieces to the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum

The Mississippi Valley Textile Museum is located at 3 Rosamond Street East in Almonte, and is open Tuesday to Friday from 10AM to 4PM, and Saturdays from noon to 4PM. For details, visit [mvtm.ca](http://mvtm.ca) or call 256-3754.

# Russell deCarle Heats it Up in Perth

The sun is finally giving some warmth and teasing us with what's coming soon, weather-wise. The Listening Room Series will also be heating up on Sunday, April 29 at 7PM when Russell deCarle takes the stage at the Perth Tea Room.

Russell deCarle is no stranger to Perth, having played here many times both as the lead vocalist and bass player of Canada's iconic and award-winning group Prairie Oyster, and, more recently, presenting his solo shows, his sweet voice captivating.

This time around, he will be offering up tunes from his recently released CD entitled *Alone in This Crowd*, featuring several originals and a few covers. I'm also thrilled to announce that the amazing guitarist Steve Briggs will be backing Russell. Steve's under-

stated style augments Russell's presentation beautifully.

A portion of the proceeds from this show will go to the Stewart Park Festival — a wonderful, admission by donation, not-for-profit, three-day music and arts festival held in Perth (this year from July 13 to 15).

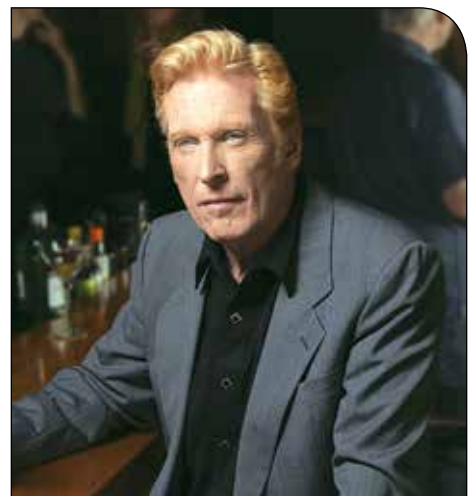
Dinner reservations, which guarantee your tickets to the show, can be made by calling the Perth Tea Room at 267-3170. For "show only" tickets, call Sue at 267-7902 to arrange payment. I look forward to seeing you there enjoying such wonderful talent, and all the while supporting an incredible festival.

Please get your tickets early because I'm sure this will sell out. And feel free to spread the news among your music lovin' friends.

Another great show coming up this month features the **Long Sault Trio** at the Lanark Legion on Saturday, April 14 at 7PM. This talented trio are celebrating their new EP release and will be sharing the stage with Band From Hell, a collective of friends who've been jamming on Friday nights for 32 years. \$10 gets you in the door.

The end of a decade-long era has been reached as **O'Reilly's Wednesday Night Jam**, hosted by Dave Balfour, has come to an end. It has always been a fun evening with wonderful players covering a wide variety of tunes. Many thanks to O'Reilly's, Dave, Jamey Cameron, Jamie Campbell, Mike Cooper and John Richard, to name only a few. Where will I get my Little Feat fix now?

— Steve Tennant



Russell deCarle plays Perth on April 29

presenting  
a hopeful new play  
inspired by the  
#MeToo movement

## Every Friday

Tues. Apr. 17, 5pm: YAK, 1 Sherbrooke St. E., Perth  
Thurs. Apr. 19, 5pm: Youth Centre, 134 Main St. E., Almonte  
Fri. Apr. 20, 6pm: Lanark Highlands Youth Centre, 61 Princess St., Lanark  
Fri. Apr. 27, 4:30pm: Community Arena, 71 Cornelia St. W., Smiths Falls

Info: 613-264-8088 or [burning@web.ca](mailto:burning@web.ca)  
Admission by Donation  
Audience talkback session follows each performance. Suitable for ages 14+.

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Refreshments by **Perth Brewery**  
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at [perthkiltrun.ca](http://perthkiltrun.ca)

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JUDITH VERSAVEL	

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# Toronto Welsh Choir with Kelly Sloan

On Saturday, April 21, the Almonte United Church is proud to present the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir (TWMVC) in concert with guest soloist Kelly Sloan. The concert takes place at 7:30PM (doors open at 7), and tickets are \$25 from the church office or Baker Bob's, or by calling Eleanor at 257-3692.

Established in 1995, the TWMVC proudly draws on the great Welsh tradition of singing hymns and songs born of the mountains and valleys of Wales. At the same time, it emphasizes a multi-cultural context in its broad repertoire that includes spirituals, operatic arias and Canadian folk songs, as well as Broadway tunes and contemporary music. The choir's performances convey the simple message that what we have in common with one another far outweighs our differences. As expressed on their website <welshchoir.ca>: "Our common ground is our humanity, and best expressed by what we at

the TWMVC do best — promoting choral traditions that have enriched the human experience through the ages."

The choir has come from humble origins to develop into a recognizable and high-demand concert experience. In addition

the North American Festival of Wales in Rochester, New York. They are conducted by Artistic Director William Woloschuk, with Matthew Coons as principal accompanist.

Guest soloist Kelly Sloan is an award-winning Canadian singer-songwriter from Almonte with pure and clean vocals, which complement her personal and earnest songwriting. Her musical influences range from folk to country, while fusing elements of vintage '50s and '60s pop rock. She was awarded the Galaxie Rising Star Award, regularly performs at folk, jazz and blues festivals, and tours full-time throughout Canada and Europe performing on guitar and keys. Kelly's third full-length album of original material was listed on CKCU's Top 10 Albums of 2016. She also released *Impressions*; a collection of covers ranging from the classics to the obscure.

For more information about this very special evening, please call Eleanor at 257-3692.



to two highly successful tours of Wales, TWMVC has performed in churches, cathedrals and concert halls throughout Ontario, Quebec and New York State. In 2017, the choir was privileged to perform as the headline choir at

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**Annual Spring Gathering**  
April 19

**AGM & Members' Night**  
May 17

Visit [mvfn.ca](http://mvfn.ca)  
Join us!

# Down on the Farm?

How to make a small fortune in farming? First of all you have to start with a large fortune...

125 people gathered in late March for a really great lasagne feast put on by the Almonte Civitan Club. Arranged by the town's Agriculture Advisory Committee, the luncheon was a great opportunity to learn what is happening in the agriculture field and meet many rural neighbours. Several speakers talked about local developments — a vodka distillery that uses milk by-products, an apple-growing and cider-making enterprise, a Christmas tree farm, and opportunities for growing barley and hops for making craft beer.

by David Hinks

Having grown up on a dairy farm many decades ago, I was curious about life on a modern dairy farm. The next day I sat down with local dairy and cash crop farmer Brad Lowry of Penlow Farms. We talked about trends in modern farming and what a farmer has to do to stay in business. Brad farms in partnership with his parents; they have 60 milk cows and grow crops on over 800 acres. Their milking operation is now handled by a robotic system — cows are free to come and go and get milked when they wish — apparently some cows come in as many as five times a day to be milked. While they are free to step outside, most prefer a warm bed inside this time of year. Brad observed that they get "more milk from a happy cow". They take great pride in their herd of Holsteins, having achieved a coveted Master Breeder status.

Brad has a diploma from the University of Guelph and has fully embraced modern management, drawing on outside expertise from agronomists and nutritionists. Many aspects of farming are heavily regulated. For example, manure can no longer be spread on a field covered in snow, the location for winter stockpiling of manure has to be approved, and a nutrient management strategy has to be in place. There is a fair amount of paperwork involved in meeting regulations. Brad sees this as a necessary part of doing business, and he believes this is true of the majority of farmers. Management of the farm is all about ensuring that none of the costly inputs exceeds the needs of the crops.

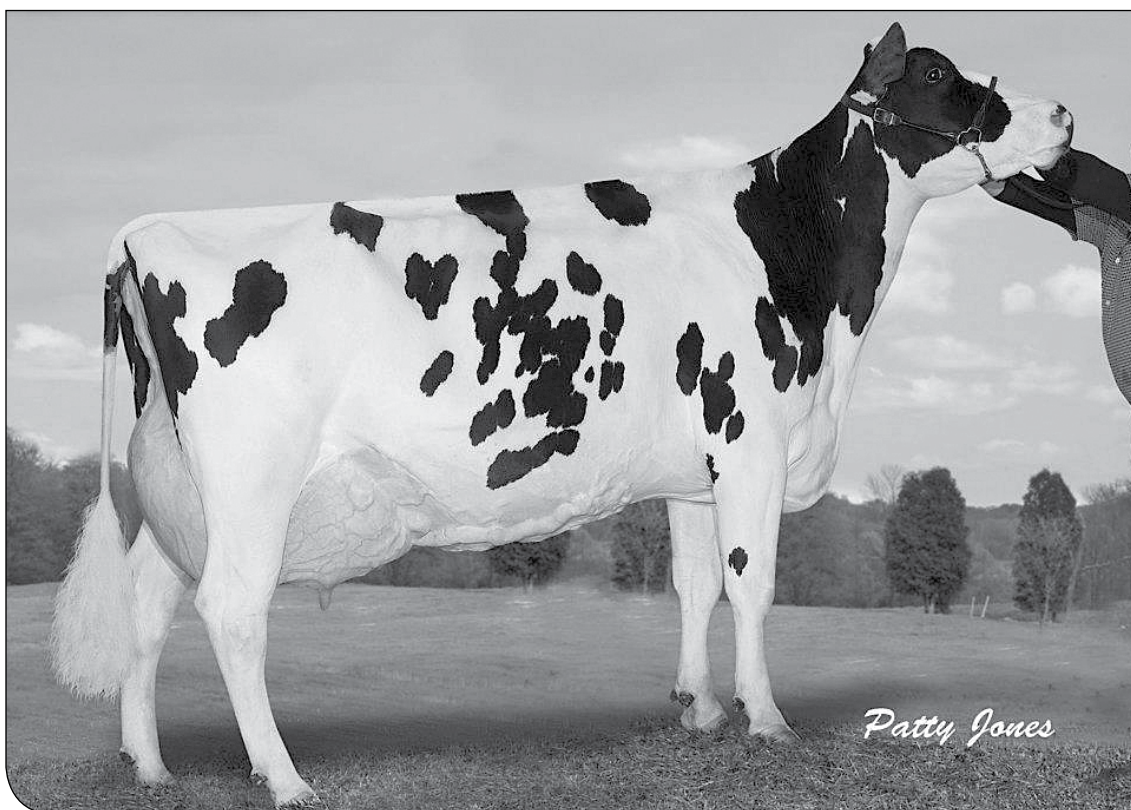
Crop growing has also changed significantly. Tillage is now at a bare minimum with their plough only being used once in six years on one field. The new rotation is corn, soybeans and wheat on the better land with marginal land being used for hay and pasture. This rotation allows for better utilisation of nutrients and for slowing down build-ups of pests. Ample supplies of manure help to maintain the health of the soil. Brad is very much committed to the sustainability of the land for future generations.

As we finished our chat Brad opined that it was going to be a great afternoon for a spin on his ATV — on one of his pasture fields hauling a seed spreader to over-seed the pasture with red clover seed. As the snow melts the seed will be perfectly positioned to take advantage of the moisture, refreshing an old pasture with new growth.

After talking to Brad I tried to get a bit of perspective on agriculture in Mississippi Mills and in Lanark County. As anyone who drives or walks around the back roads and unopened road allowances can easily observe, there are huge parts of Mississippi Mills — and for that matter Lanark County — that show evidence of once being farmland but are farmland no more.

I found a comprehensive 2007 study by the Lanark Stewardship Council. At that time the number of farms was continuing to decline, dropping 20% percent in the previous fifteen years. Agriculture is much more limited in Lanark County as compared to the rest of the province. Only 13.9% of the county is considered to have soils suitable for sustained production of field crops. Mississippi Mills fares considerably better, with about 30% of the soils having that capability. Yet much of that land is no longer in production. Much of the land is in relatively small pockets with lots of rock outcroppings rendering it unsuitable for tillage with modern equipment. Much of early agriculture featured the raising of sheep to meet the needs of woollen mills in Almonte. That segment of agriculture is no longer profitable.

The face of agriculture is changing; most of Lanark County is not suitable for modern large-scale cash-crops. We appear to be witnessing a resurgence of smaller scale production that is managing to find successful niches. Curious how much of it appears to be focussed on producing alcoholic beverages!



*Patty Jones*

This month, David Hinks chatted with Brad Lowry of Penlow Farms (home of award-winning Holsteins such as the one pictured here) about trends in modern farming and what a farmer has to do to stay in business

## April Pub Listings

- The Cove** (Westport, 273-3636): Wed Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, 6:30-9:30PM  
Apr 6 John Wilberforce, 6-9PM  
Apr 7 Head Over Heels, 6-9PM  
Apr 13 Taylor Angus, Logan Brown, 6-9PM  
Apr 14 Henry Norwood, 8-11PM  
Apr 21 Smitty, 7-10PM  
Apr 27 Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio, 7-11PM, buffet+show \$50  
Apr 28 Healy & Orr, 7-11PM, buffet+show \$45
- The Swan at Carp** (Carp, 839-7926): Apr 6, 20 Steve Barrette Trio, jazz, 7-10PM
- The Royal Oak** (Kanata, 591-3895): jazz on Sun, 2-5PM  
Apr 1, 15, 29 Magnolia Rhythm Kings  
Apr 8, 22 APEX Jazz Band
- Naimith Pub** (Almonte, 256-6336): Wed (excl Apr 4) Open Celtic Jam, 7:30-10PM
- Carp Masonic Lodge**: Mon Carp Celtic Jam, 7-9PM
- Ashton Pub** (Ashton, 257-4423): Sun Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, 2-5PM
- Golden Arrow Pub** (Perth, 267-4500): 9PM Tues Open Mic, Wed Karaoke  
Apr 6 Danielle Hewitt  
Apr 13 Shawn McCullough  
Apr 14 Pretty Ugly  
Apr 20 Matt Dickson  
Apr 21 Jon Townsen  
Apr 27 Jessie Stone  
Apr 28 Brea Lawrenson
- Slackoni's** (Perth, 326-0380):  
Apr 8 Peter Brown Jazz Trio, 5:30-8:30PM  
Apr 19 Peter Brown Jazz Trio, 6-9PM
- Bridges Bar and Grill** (Pakenham, 624-5939): Sat Karaoke 8PM  
Apr 14 Blues Series: Peter Newsom, 6-10PM
- O'Reilly's Ale House** (Perth, 267-7994): Tues Brock Zeman 8:30PM  
Apr 6 Smitty, 8:45PM  
Apr 13 The Godfreys, 8:45PM  
Apr 20 Stephen Fisher, 8:45PM  
Apr 27 River City Junction, 8:45PM
- Alice's Village Café** (Carp, 470-2233): Open Mic Thurs, 7-10PM
- The Waterfront Gastropub** (CP, 257-5755): Wed Open Jam 9PM, Thurs Karaoke 10PM, Sat Al Tambay Duo 3PM, Sun Blues w/Redneck Limousine 3-6PM  
Apr 6 Mississippi Blues Society Jam, 8:30PM  
Apr 13 The Peter Principle, 9PM  
Apr 28 Lanark County Revival, 9PM
- Neat Coffee Shop** (Burnstown, 433-9960): 8PM  
Apr 13 Megan Bonnell, \$25  
Apr 14 Whitehorse, \$55  
Apr 20 Birds of Bellwoods, \$30  
Apr 21 Stabbing Joy, \$15  
Apr 27 James Keelaghan, \$25
- John St. Pub** (Arnprior, 623-8149): 9:45PM  
Apr 1 Karaoke, 9PM, \$5  
Apr 6 Jack de Keyzer w/Redneck Limo, 8PM, \$30  
Apr 7 Rock n' Roll Dance Party w/ Gamut, 9:45PM, \$6  
Apr 14 Southbound, 9:45PM, \$7  
Apr 21 The Wild! & The Lazys w/Inlre, 8PM, \$20

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### The Power of True Kindness

A Daylong Mindfulness Retreat with Daryl Lynn Ross, Guiding Teacher, True North Insight Meditation  
Sunday, April 29, 9:45-4:00 at the Yoga Connection, Perth  
Info: [truenorthinsight.org/programs](http://truenorthinsight.org/programs)

### Income Tax Preparation

Personal, rental & Home-based Business.  
Over 20 years' experience. Call Lucie @ 613-461-0149

### A Fundraising Concert presented by THE LANARK OFFBEATS & THE WEST OTTAWA LADIES CHORUS

"MEMORY Lane CLASSICS"

Sunday April 15, 2:30PM

St. James Anglican Church,  
225 Edmund Street, Carleton Place

Tickets \$12 from the St. James Church Office or at the door  
Proceeds to The Hunger Stop Lanark County Food Bank  
and to St. James Anglican Church

For further information: 613-257-3178



# Claiming Column

Kanata Art Club Show/Sale, May 4-5  
 Diefenbaker Race, Carp, May 5  
 Joe, *The Perfect Man*, Almonte, May 5  
 Superhero Sat/Free Comic Book Day, Carleton Place, May 5  
 Arts CP Show & Sale, May 5-6  
 Open Studio: Living Stones, Lanark, May 5-6  
 Smiths Falls Home & Living Expo, May 5-6  
 Cheerfully Made Spring Market, Almonte, May 5-6  
 Hike for Hospice, Mississippi Mills, May 6  
 Fiddler's Friends, Almonte, May 6  
 Art in the Attic, Almonte, May 11-13  
 David Rotundo, Westport, May 11-12  
 Guys & Dolls, CP, May 11-19  
 Ladies Night Community Fundraiser, Almonte, May 11  
 Celebrating Mothers Tea, Appleton, May 12  
 Mother's Day Herbal Brunch, Almonte, May 13

## Festivals

**Tiny House & Green Home Festival**, Apr 21, 9AM-4PM. Algonquin College, Perth. the2marys-events.com. \$25  
**Festival of the Maples**, Apr 28. Maple products, entertainment, kids' activities. Downtown Perth, perthchamber.com.

## Literature

**Writing Workshop: Haiku & Small Poems**, Apr 10, 6PM. Claudia Radmore. Free. carletonplacelibrary.ca.  
**Reading: David Mulholland**, Apr 14, 1:30PM. Reading from *Chaudière Falls*. Arnprior Library, 21 Madawaska St.  
**Poetry Reading**, Apr 20, 6:30-9PM. Carleton Place Library. carletonplacelibrary.ca. \$5  
**Stan Went Fishing**, Apr 26, 7-9PM. Writing workshop intro., 143 Malcolm St., Almonte. deeplife.ca. \$15 (incl materials)  
**Book Sale**, Apr 27 (4-9PM), Apr 28 (9AM-noon). CFUW. Renfrew Collegiate Institute

## Local Food

**Maple Weekend**, Apr 7-8, 10AM-4PM. Local maple producers host special events. Lanark Co. and beyond., mapleweekend.ca.

## Visual Arts

**Maple Run Studio Tour**, Apr 7-8, 10AM-5PM. Map-guided arts & crafts tour around Pakenham. 623-5222, mapleruntour.com  
**Still Weaving after 20 Years Show/Sale**, Saturdays, 10AM-3PM. MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners  
**Vernissage: Emily Rose Michaud**, Apr 7, 2PM-4PM. "Tributaries" various media. Mississippi Valley Textile Museum. mvmtm.ca  
**Spring Into Art Conference & Lunch**, Apr 14. 5 speakers. W. Carleton Arts Soc. westcarletonartssociety.ca. \$75  
**Almonte Quilters' Guild**, Apr 16, 7PM-9PM. Monthly mtg. All welcome. Almonte Civitan Hall. almontequiltersguild@gmail.com  
**Draw Water on Cedar Tile**, Apr 21, 2PM-4PM. Art installation. Mississippi Valley Textile Museum. mvmtm.ca  
**Meet the Artists: Sarah Anderson, Carly Belford, Jane Irwin**, Apr 2. Sivarulasa Gallery, Almonte. sivarulasa.com  
**Lanark County Quilters Guild**, Apr 24, 7PM. Lions Hall, Perth Fairgrounds. \$3 guests  
**Local Colours Art Exhibit**, Apr 28, 8AM-4PM. 9 featured artists. McMartin House, 125 Gore St. E., Perth

## Theatre

**The Drawer Boy**, Apr 5-7, 13-14 at 7:30PM; Apr 8, 15 at 2PM. Touching drama. Studio Theatre, Perth. studiotheatreperth.com. \$24, \$10 stud, \$22 adv



# WHAT'S ON IN

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Easter at Fulton's, Pakenham</li> <li>Euchre, Maberly</li> <li>Good Grief Walking Group, Almonte</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, CP</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brock Zeman, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Olde Time Bingo, CP</li> <li>Open Mic, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>CP Hort: Beekeeping, CP</li> <li>Early Morning Birding, Almonte</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Line Dancing, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> <li>Social Conversation Circle, CP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>American Mahjongg, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>MMPL Travelogue: Walk England, Almonte</li> <li>Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>The Drawer Boy, Perth</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MM Bicycle Month Mtg, Almonte</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Euchre, Maberly</li> <li>Good Grief Walking Group, Almonte</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brock Zeman, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, CP</li> <li>Olde Time Bingo, CP</li> <li>Open Mic, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Perth Hort: Growing Cut Flowers</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>W. Carleton Garden: Pest Control, Carp</li> <li>Women's Business Lunch, CP</li> <li>Writing Workshop, CP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>Back to Burgundy, Perth</li> <li>Cookbook Book Club, CP</li> <li>Early Morning Birding, nr Clayton</li> <li>Friends Forever Lunch, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Line Dancing, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Men's Shed, Almonte</li> <li>American Mahjongg, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Back to Burgundy, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Empty Bowls - Foodsmiths, Perth</li> <li>Financial Seminar, CP</li> <li>Spring Market, Westport</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>The 39 Steps, Almonte</li> <li>Toastmasters, CP</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Quilters' Guild, Almonte</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Euchre, Maberly</li> <li>Good Grief Walking Group, Almonte</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, CP</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brock Zeman, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Listen Up: Every Friday, Perth</li> <li>Olde Time Bingo, CP</li> <li>Open Mic, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>Workshop: Getting Started in Genealogy, Carp</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>Digital Device Workshop, CP</li> <li>Early Morning Birding, Lanark</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Line Dancing, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Nat'l Cdn Film Day: Maudie, Almonte</li> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> <li>Pakenham Hort Soc: Perennials</li> <li>Social Conversation Circle, CP</li> <li>Volunteer Appreciation Night, Almonte</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>American Mahjongg, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Listen Up: Every Friday, Almonte</li> <li>Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</li> <li>MVFN Spring Gathering, Almonte</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>Peter Brown Jazz Trio, Slackoni's</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Hort: Compost, Flower Show, Almonte</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Call of the Forest, Almonte</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Euchre, Maberly</li> <li>Good Grief Walking Group, Almonte</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brock Zeman, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Gluten - The Wholegrain Truth, CP</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, CP</li> <li>Lanark County Quilters Guild, Perth</li> <li>Olde Time Bingo, CP</li> <li>Open Mic, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>Early Morning Birding, CP</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Line Dancing, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Menashe, Perth</li> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> <li>Tree Talk: Which Tree to Plant, Almonte</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Men's Shed</li> <li>American Mahjongg, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Menashe, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>Parkinson's Support Group, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Space Talk, CP</li> <li>Stan Went Fishing, Almonte</li> <li>The Taming, Perth</li> <li>Toastmasters, CP</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Euchre, Maberly</li> <li>Good Grief Walking Group, Almonte</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, CP</li> <li>Parkinson's Support, Almonte &amp; Perth</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brock Zeman, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Olde Time Bingo, CP</li> <li>Open Mic, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>Steel Magnolias, Constance Bay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>CP Hort: Bonsai/Spring Show, CP</li> <li>Line Dancing, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Maire Ni Chathasaigh &amp; Chris Newman, McDonalds Corners</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> <li>Social Conversation Circle, CP</li> <li>Steel Magnolias, Constance Bay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>American Mahjongg, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Butterflies Are Free, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>Steel Magnolias, Constance Bay</li> </ul>

Film Night International presents **Back to Burgundy** Apr 11, 2 & 7PM (Full Circle Theatre, Perth); Apr 12, 2 & 7PM (Station Theatre, SF). **Menashe** Apr 25 2 & 7PM (Full Circle Theatre, Perth); Apr 26, 2 & 7PM (Station Theatre, SF). filmnightinternational.blogspot.ca. \$10  
**The 39 Steps**, Apr 12-14 at 7:30PM; Apr 15 at 2PM. ADHS production. Almonte Old Town Hall. onstagedirect.com/ADHS, \$15  
**Listen Up: Every Friday**, Apr 17, 5PM (YAK, Perth); Apr 19, 5PM (Mississippi Mills Youth Centre, Almonte); Apr 20, 6PM (Lanark Highlands Youth Ctr); Apr 27, 4:30PM (Smiths Falls Arena). Hopeful play inspired by #MeToo. Ages 14+. 264-8088  
**Phantom Thread**, Apr 20-21, 7PM. Film. Station Theatre, SF. 283-0300, smithsfallstheatre.com. \$10, \$5 students  
**The Taming**, Apr 20-21, 26-28 at 8PM and Apr 22, 29 at 2PM. BarnDoor Prod'ns. Full Circle Theatre, Perth. 267-1884

**Butterflies Are Free**, Apr 27-28, May 3-5 at 7:30PM; Apr 29, May 6 at 2PM. Station Theatre, SF. 283-0300. \$20/\$10  
**Steel Magnolias**, Apr 29 2PM; May 1-5 at 7:30PM. Rural Root Theatre. NorthWind Ctr, Constance Bay. 618-9789. \$15  
**Gender Illusions**, Apr 14, 8PM. Almonte Legion, 100 Bridge St., Almonte. 256-4729. \$20  
**Nat'l Cdn Film Day: Maudie**, Apr 18, 1:30PM. Folk artist Maude Lewis. Almonte Library, 155 High St., Almonte. Free  
**LIPS Competitive Poetry Slam**, Apr 20, 7-9PM. Coutts Coffee, 57 Gore St. E., Perth. \$5 (performers free)  
**Lanark Laughs**, Apr 27, 8:30-10PM. Stand-up comedy. Waterfront Gastropub. facebook.com/LanarkLaughs

## Youth

**Skating w/Rapunzel & Spiderman**, Apr 15, 1-2PM. Beckwith Recreational Complex. twp.beckwith.on.ca. \$2

## Music

**Musicians Circle**, Thursdays, 7PM. All genres, no audience. ABC Hall, Bolingbroke. 268-2548. \$5  
**Ambush Benefit Dance**, Apr 6, 7PM. Tix: \$10 at Baker Bob's, Beckwith Kitchen. Almonte Community Centre  
**Vicki Brittle**, Apr 6, 7:30-10PM. Live music. ALE - Amberwood Lounge & Eatery, 54 Springbrook Dr., Stittsville. aleottawa.ca  
**AGH Eddy & the Stingrays Dance**, Apr 7, 6:30PM. Almonte Civitan Hall. almontehospitalfoundation.com. \$45  
**JazzNhouse: Marc van Vugt & Ineke van Doorn**, Apr 7, 8PM. Tix: jazzn.ca. \$25  
**Annie Sumi**, Apr 8, 2PM. Ethereal-folk artist. MERA, 974 9th Conc. A, McDonalds Corners. ticketsplease.ca. \$22 adv  
**Long Sault Trio w/Band from Hell**, Apr 14, 7PM. Celebrate new EP release. Lanark Legion, 69 George St., Lanark. \$10

**West Ottawa Ladies Chorus & Lanark Offbeats**, Apr 15, 2:30-4PM. St. James Anglican Church, CP Place. \$12  
**Blues on the Rideau: Boogie Patrol**, Apr 20, 7PM. The Cove. bluesontherideau.ca. \$65 dinner/show  
**MM Musicworks Performs**, Apr 20, 6-8PM. Music, food, drinks. Equator, 451 Ottawa St., Almonte. 256-7529  
**The Liverpool 4 Beatles Tribute**, Apr 20, 8PM. Studio Theatre, 63 Gore St. E., Perth. 485-6434, ticketsplease.ca. \$27.50  
**Almonte in Concert: Philip Chiu**, Apr 21, 7:30PM. Solo piano. Almonte Old Town Hall. almonteinconcert.com. \$35/\$15  
**Andrew Collins Trio**, Apr 21, 8PM. Arnprior Library, 21 Madawaska St. arnpriorlibrary.ca. \$30; \$25 adv  
**Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir**, Apr 21, 7:30PM. Tix: Baker Bob's. Almonte United Church, 256-1355. \$25  
**Blue Skies Fiddle Orchestra Jam-a-thon**, Apr 22, 12-5PM. Maberly Hall. cindy.fiddlemusic.mccall@gmail.com

## Friday

## Saturday

## Sunday

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ambush Benefit Dance, Almonte</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Danielle Hewitt, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Jack deKeyser w/Redneck Limousine, John St. Pub</li> <li>John Wilberforce, The Cove</li> <li>Line Dancing, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Mississippi Blues Society, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Night Sky Astronomy, Almonte</li> <li>Scottish Country Dancing, Perth</li> <li>Smitty, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp</li> <li>The Drawer Boy, Perth</li> <li>Vicki Brittle, Stittsville</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Drawer Boy, Perth</li> <li>Seedy Saturday, Westport</li> <li>AGH Eddy &amp; the Stingrays Dance, Almonte</li> <li>Algonquin College Perth Open House, Perth</li> <li>Bowl-Along w/L'Arche, Arnprior</li> <li>Black Tie Bingo Hospital Fundraiser, Perth</li> <li>Head over Heels, The Cove</li> <li>JazzNhouse, Mississippi Mills</li> <li>Karaoke, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>Lanark Co. Genealogical Meeting, CP</li> <li>Maple Run Studio Tour, Pakenham</li> <li>Maple Weekend, Lanark County &amp; beyond</li> <li>Rock Around the Clock Dance, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Rock n' Roll Dance Party w/Gamut, John St. Pub</li> <li>Solar Pioneer at Greens Fundraiser, Maberly</li> <li>Still Weaving Show/Sale, McDonalds Corners</li> <li>Vernissage: Emily Rose Michaud, Almonte</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annie Sumi, McDonalds Corners</li> <li>APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak</li> <li>Blossoming Buds Garden Party, Almonte</li> <li>Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Maple Run Studio Tour, Pakenham</li> <li>Maple Weekend, Lanark County &amp; beyond</li> <li>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub</li> <li>Peter Brown Jazz Trio, Slackoni's</li> <li>The Drawer Boy, Perth</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Empty Bowls -Foodsmiths, Perth</li> <li>Line Dancing, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Megan Bonnell, Neat Coffee Shop</li> <li>Scottish Country Dancing, Perth</li> <li>Shawn McCullough, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Taylor Angus &amp; Logan Brown, The Cove</li> <li>The 39 Steps, Almonte</li> <li>The Drawer Boy, Perth</li> <li>The Godfreys, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>The Peter Principle, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Vintage Clothing Sale/Fundraiser, CP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>40 Plus Singles Dinner/Dance, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Al Tambay Duo, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Peter Newsom, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>Empty Bowls -Foodsmiths, Perth</li> <li>Gemter Illusions, Almonte</li> <li>Henry Norwood, The Cove</li> <li>Karaoke, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>Long Sault Trio w/Band from Hell, Lanark</li> <li>Pretty Ugly, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Reading: David Mulholland, Arnprior</li> <li>Still Weaving Show/Sale, McDonalds Corners</li> <li>The 39 Steps, Almonte</li> <li>The Drawer Boy, Perth</li> <li>Vintage Clothing Sale/Fundraiser, CP</li> <li>Whitehorse, Neat Coffee Shop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak</li> <li>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub</li> <li>Public Skating w/Rapunzel &amp; Spiderman, Beckwith</li> <li>The 39 Steps, Almonte</li> <li>The Drawer Boy, Perth</li> <li>Vintage Clothing Sale/Fundraiser, CP</li> <li>W. Ottawa Ladies Chorus &amp; Lanark Offbeats, CP</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Birds of Bellwoods, Neat Coffee Shop</li> <li>BOTR: Boogie Patrol, Westport</li> <li>Line Dancing, Bolingbroke</li> <li>LIPS Competitive Poetry Slam, Perth</li> <li>Listen Up: Every Friday, Lanark</li> <li>Matt Dickson, Golden Arrow</li> <li>MM Musicworks Performs, Almonte</li> <li>Phantom Thread, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Poetry Reading, CP</li> <li>Scottish Country Dancing, Perth</li> <li>Stephen Fisher, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp</li> <li>The Liverpool 4 -Beatles Tribute, Perth</li> <li>The Taming, Perth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AiC: Pianist Philip Chiu, Almonte</li> <li>Al Tambay Duo, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Andrew Collins Trio, Arnprior</li> <li>Draw Water on Cedar Tile, Almonte</li> <li>How-To Fair, Perth &amp; Smiths Falls</li> <li>Jon Townsen, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Meet the Artists, Almonte</li> <li>Phantom Thread, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Smitty, The Cove</li> <li>Stabbing Joy, Neat Coffee Shop</li> <li>Still Weaving Show/Sale, McDonalds Corners</li> <li>The Taming, Perth</li> <li>Tiny House &amp; Green Home Festival, Perth</li> <li>Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir, Almonte</li> <li>Workshop: Healing Plants of Spring, Almonte</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak</li> <li>Blue Skies Fiddle Orchestra Jam-a-thon, Maberly</li> <li>Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub</li> <li>The Taming, Perth</li> <li>Trad Song Pub Session, Almonte</li> <li>Tree Planting w/Beckwith Youth Committee</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'New To You' Rummage Sale, CP</li> <li>Almonte Lectures, Almonte</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Book Sale, Renfrew</li> <li>Butterflies Are Free, Smiths Falls</li> <li>James Keelaghan, Neat Coffee Shop</li> <li>Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio+buffet, The Cove</li> <li>Jessie Stone, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Lanark Laughs, CP</li> <li>Line Dancing, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Listen Up: Every Friday, Smiths Falls</li> <li>River City Junction, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Scottish Country Dancing, Perth</li> <li>The Taming, Perth</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'New To You' Rummage Sale, CP</li> <li>Al Tambay Duo, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Alex Cuba, Neat Coffee Shop</li> <li>Book Sale, Renfrew</li> <li>Brea Lawrenson, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Butterflies Are Free, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Empty Bowls -Riverguild, Perth</li> <li>Festival of the Maples</li> <li>Folkus: Kevin Closs, Almonte</li> <li>Healy &amp; Orr/buffet, The Cove</li> <li>Junk &amp; Disorderly Sale/Fundraiser, CP</li> <li>Lanark County Revival, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Local Colours Art Exhibit, Perth</li> <li>Still Weaving Show/Sale, McDonalds Corners</li> <li>The Taming, Perth</li> <li>W. Ottawa Ladies Chorus, Kanata</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blues w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Butterflies Are Free, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Junk &amp; Disorderly Sale/Fundraiser, CP</li> <li>Listening Room Series: Russell deCarle, Perth</li> <li>Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak</li> <li>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub</li> <li>Steel Magnolias, Constance Bay</li> <li>Swing into Spring, Carp</li> <li>The Taming, Perth</li> </ul>

- CP & Beckwith Heritage Museum presents *Underwear and Unmentionables* <cpbheritagemuseum.com> [to Apr 7]
- Fairview Manor Lobby presents photographs by Steve McCurry, donated by Phil Wood [from Apr 3]
- General Fine Craft, Art & Design features Eiko Maeda, Andrea Mueller & Eric Young <generalfinecraft.com>
- MERA Schoolhouse presents Still Weaving After 20 Years <meraschoolhouse.org> [Saturdays, 10AM-3PM]
- MVTM presents Emily Rose Michaud's "Tributaries" <mvtm.ca> [from Apr 7]
- Sivarulrasa Gallery presents "Equinox", Sarah Anderson, Carly Belford, Jane Irwin <sivarulrasa.com> [from Apr 13]
- The Mississippi Mills Chambers Gallery presents Photography Matters & pottery by Teresa Wingar
- The Almonte Library Corridor Gallery presents Maria Moldovan's acrylics/ceramics

**Trad Song Pub Session**, Apr 22, 2-4PM. Barley Mow, Almonte. shantyman.ca/ almonte-trad-songs

**Folkus: Kevin Closs**, Apr 28, 8PM. w/Flying Horses. Almonte Old Town Hall, 14 Bridge St. folkusalmonte.com. \$30

**West Ottawa Ladies Chorus**, Apr 28, 7PM. St. Paul's Anglican Church, Kanata. westottawaladieschorus.ca \$20/\$15 adv

**Russell deCarle**, Apr 29, 7PM. Show-only tix: 267-7902. Perth Restaurant. \$20

**Swing into Spring**, Apr 29, 2PM. Goulbourn Male Chorus. Trinity Presbyterian Church, Carp. goulbournmalechorus.com. \$15

**Maire Ni Chathasaigh & Chris Newman**, May 2, 7PM. MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners. ticketsplease.ca. \$24

**4-Hand Euchre**, Mon 12PM. Lunch first. ABC Hall, Bolingbroke. 279-1106. \$6

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

**Olde Time Bingo**, Tue 7PM. Held by CP Civitans in CP Arena upper hall

**Early Morning Birding**, Wed 6AM. mvfn.ca

**Line Dancing**, Wed 3PM. Fri 10AM. ABC Hall, Bolingbroke. \$5. 885-8543

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

**American Mahjongg**, Thurs 1:30PM. ABC Hall, Bolingbroke, 268-2548. \$5 donation

**Scottish Country Dancing**, Fridays, 9:15AM. McMartin House, Perth. 264-2767

**Easter Weekend at Fultons**, Mar 30-Apr 2, 10AM-2PM. Sleigh rides, maple, more. Fultons, Pakenham. 256-3867

**Hackberry Men's Shed**: Apr 2, 16, 30, 7PM. meeting, Shed opposite 98 Donald St., CP, free; Apr 10, 24, 7:30AM. breakfast, Gourmet Restaurant, CP, \$10

Carleton Place Library, reg'n encouraged, 257-2702, free:

**Social Conversation**, Apr 4, 18, 1PM

**Cookbook Book Club**, Apr 11, 6PM

**Market Volatility**, Apr 12, 2PM

**Digital Devices**, Apr 18, 2PM

**Gluten**, Apr 24, 6:30PM

**Space Talk**, Apr 26, 6:30PM

**CP Hort: Beekeeping**, Apr 4, 7PM. Monthly meeting w/talk. Zion-Memorial United Church. \$3

**MMPL Travelogue: Walk England**, Apr 5, 7PM. Ray Parchelo walks Cornwall, Dales, Lakes. Almonte Library. missmilllibrary.com/travelogue-series. Free

**Night Sky Astronomy**, Apr 6, 7:45PM. Observe stars & more. Mill of Kintail. mvc.on.ca. By donation

**Algonquin College Perth Open House**, Apr 7, 10AM-2PM. Program info; tours. algonquincollege.com.

**Bowl-Along w/L'Arche**, Apr 7, 10AM-8PM. Teams of 4 plus a L'Arche bowler. Arnprior Bowling Centre.

**Lanark Co. Genealogical Meeting**, Apr 7, 1:30PM. Reenactor as Witch of Plum Hollow. Beckwith Township Municipal Complex. lcginfo34@gmail.com. Free

**Rock Around the Clock Dance**, Apr 7, 7PM-11PM. Dancing, w/demos: swing, salsa, line. ABC Hall, Bolingbroke. 279-1106. \$12

**Solar Pioneer at Greens Fundraiser**, Apr 7, 6PM. Lnrc-Frntnc-Kngstn Green Party. Maberly Hall. lfgreens.ca. \$10

**Seedy Saturday**, Apr 7, 10AM-3PM. Knox Presbyterian Church, Westport

**Black Tie Bingo Hospital Fundraiser**, Apr 7, 6PM-midnight. Code's Mill, Perth. Free admission. gwmfoundation.com

**Blossoming Buds Garden Party**, Apr 8, 1-4PM. Semi-formal. 19+. Herb Garden, Almonte. blossomingbuds.eventbrite.com. \$40

**Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month Mtg**, Apr 9, 7PM. Almonte Old Town Hall. Volunteers welcome! kris@thehummm.com

**Perth Hort: Grow Your Own Cut Flowers**, Apr 10, 7PM-10PM. Sylvia van Oort. St. Paul's United Church. perthhort-society.com. \$5

**W. Carleton Garden: Pest Control**, Apr 10, 7:30PM. David Hinks. Carp Memorial Hall. wgc.ca. \$5 for non-members

**Women's Business Group Lunch**, Apr 10, 12PM. Networking meeting. Carleton Place Terrace. RSVP womensbusinessgroup@gmail.com

**Friends Forever Lunch**, Apr 11, 12PM. Neighbourly potluck. ABC Hall, Bolingbroke. 279-1106

**Almonte Men's Shed**: Apr 12, 26, 8AM. breakfast, Superior Restaurant, Almonte

**Toastmasters**, Apr 12 & 26, 7-8:30PM. Guests free. Riverview Snrs' Residence, 204 Lake Ave., CP. 250-9282

**Empty Bowls-Foodsmiths**, Apr 12-14, \$25 bowl; fill w/soup. Funds sustainable food prog. Foodsmiths, Perth

**Handmade Hearts Spring Market**, Apr 12, 6PM-9PM. Local artisan vendors, \$15 tasty apps and spring treats. The Cove Country Inn. coveinn.com. \$5 (to be donated to food bank)

CP&B Museum Fundraisers: **Vintage Clothing Sale**, Apr 13-15, 10AM-4PM. Vicki Racey.

**Junk & Disorderly Sale**, Apr 28-29, 9AM-3PM. CP&B Museum, 253-7013.

**40 Plus Singles Only Dinner/Dance**, Apr 14, 7PM. SF Civitan Hall. 40plussingles-danceclub@gmail.com. \$15 (\$10 dance only)

**Workshop: Getting Started in Genealogy**, Apr 17, 7:30PM. Huntley Historical Soc. Carp Memorial Hall. 470-0060. Donations welcome

**Pakenham Hort Soc: Perennials**, Apr 18, 7:30PM-9PM. Laurie Bachand. Book exchange. St. Andrew's United Church, Pakenham. www.gardenontario.org/site.php/pakenham. \$10

**Volunteer Appreciation Night**, Apr 18, 5PM-7PM. Food, cash bar. Almonte Civitan Hall. mississippimills.ca. Free

**MVFN Spring Gathering**, Apr 19, 5:30PM. Dinner & presentation re bears. Almonte Civitan Hall, mvfn.ca. \$40

**Euchre**, Apr 21, 7:30PM. Cedar Hill Schoolhouse, 270 Cedar Hill Side Rd., Pakenham. 256-2014. \$5

**How-To Fair**, Apr 21. Learn to do various things (in 10 mins). 10:30AM-2:30PM Perth Library; 10:30AM-2PM Smiths Falls Library

**Workshop: Healing Plants of Spring**, Apr 21, 10AM-12PM. Amber Westfall. Register: kkiddey@mississippimills.ca. Almonte Library, 155 High St., Almonte., kkiddey@mississippimills.ca.

**Tree Planting w/Beckwith Youth Cttee**, Apr 22, 11AM. Beckwith Park. twp.beckwith.on.ca. \$2

**Almonte Hort: Compost, Flower Show**, Apr 23, 7:30PM. Speaker: David Hinks. Mini Flower Show. Cornerstone Community Church. gardenontario.org/site.php/almonte. \$2

**Call of the Forest**, Apr 23, 7PM. Documentary. Diana Beresford-Kroeger. Almonte Old Town Hall. mississippimills.ca.

**Tree Talk: Which Tree to Plant**, Apr 25, 7:30PM. Allan Goddard. How to select for your backyard. Almonte Old Town Hall. mississippimills.ca.

**Parkinson's Support Group**. Free

Apr 26, 1:30PM. SFCHC, 1-800-565-3000x3425.

Apr 30, 2PM. Mills Community Support, 256-0509.

Apr 30, 1PM. Perth Community Home Support, 267-6400. Free

**'New To You' Rummage Sale**, Apr 27 (9AM-7PM), Apr 28 (9AM-2PM). Zion-Memorial United Church, Carleton Place.

**Almonte Lectures: Natural Disasters in Middle Ages**, Apr 27, 7:30PM. Kristy Schut. Almonte United Church. almonte-lectures.net. free; donations accepted

**Empty Bowls-Riverguild**, Apr 28, 10AM-4PM. \$25 bowl; fill w/soup. Funds local charities. Riverguild Fine Crafts, Perth., emptybowls.ca.

**CP Hort: Bonsai/Spring Show**, May 2, 7PM. Monthly meeting w/talk & mini show. Zion-Memorial United Church, Carleton Place. \$3

**Community**

**Good Grief Walking Group**, Mon 10:30AM. 299-8866. Almonte Library

**Arnprior Bridge Club**, Mon-Thu-Fri 12:30PM. 447-7526. priorbridgeclub.ca

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The Mississippi Valley Textile Museum invites you to attend their  
**Annual General Meeting**  
Saturday, June 2, 2PM  
at the Museum.

Note: in order to vote at the Annual General Meeting of the MVTM you need to renew your membership or become a member by May 2, 2018. (A membership form is available at [www.mvtm.ca](http://www.mvtm.ca)).

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# Discover the Low Down on Dirt with MMLT

The Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust (MMLT) is offering a new Discover the Wild event series this year, and they're kicking off the season on Earth Day with "Discover the Low Down on Dirt", which couldn't be more appropriate. It's that time of year, just when the snow is beginning to melt away, when we're ordering our seeds and thinking about getting our hands in the soil once again. Even if you're not a gardener, you may have wondered why certain trees just won't grow on certain parts of your property or why some areas don't drain very well.

This opportunity to learn all about soils will be offered at High Lonesome Nature Reserve on Sunday, April 22 from 10AM to 2PM by David Kroetsch, who is a retired Soil Landscape Scientist (Pedologist). He specialized in the identification, characterization, description, classification and mapping of soils in their natural landscape positions in all regions of Canada. David has also been involved in soil education for many years, and is an Adjunct Professor in the School of Environmental Science at the University of Guelph where he has assisted in the development and instruction of a Graduate Field course. He was also a member of the team that developed and instructed a course for Provincial Ecological Landscape classification for the Ministry of Natural Resources.

High Lonesome is one of six nature reserves managed by MMLT. It is located in the Pakenham hills and offers 8km of trails that wind through meadows, around beaver ponds and through forest glades. There are many scenic vistas, so bring your camera! This event will provide an opportunity



The Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust and David Kroetsch (above) invite you to learn more about local soil types at High Lonesome on April 22

to have your questions about soil types answered and also to explore the trail network around the property.

Admission to this event is \$10 for adults, and children under 12 are free. Participants are advised to wear boots because the trails can still be very wet this time of year. Registration starts at 10AM.

High Lonesome is located at 867 Carbine Rd. in Pakenham. Take County Road 29 to Pakenham Village, turn on Waba Road and continue west for 2.9km. Turn left on Barr Side Road and travel for 1.6km. Take the first left at Carbine Road and drive 4km to 867 Carbine Road. For more details, visit [mmlt.ca/events](http://mmlt.ca/events).

## Volunteering in the Valley

### Almonte Civitan Members Are Fund-erful!

The dictionary defines "community" as follows: A social group of any size whose members reside in a specific locality, share government, and often have a common cultural and historical heritage.

Almonte can be defined as a community in which residents and businesses work together to bring a fulfilment of wellbeing and prosperity for all those who belong and beyond.

Among those residents and businesses is the Almonte Civitan Club — now in its 46<sup>th</sup> year — whose members provide an abundance of vigorous and heartfelt fundraising efforts. These include the rental/catering of weddings and other special occasions, BBQs at community events, Claxton Cake Sales, the Civitan Lottery, the Christmas Craft Fair, Father's Day Breakfast, Fish Fry, Lobster Fest, and of course their Apple Pie/Apple Crisp and Christmas Pie Days. They really keep the Almonte Civitan Community Hall active! Not to be forgotten, members are also dedicated to those in the community who have passed. The Almonte Civitan contributes the hall premises for funeral receptions to bereaved Mississippi Mills families at no cost. These events are executed by the caring and devoted Civitan members who volunteer their time and talents by preparing and serving meals, and arranging whatever is required for setting up for these special events, along with many other activities.

Civitan members encourage youth to volunteer as well through the sponsorship of the Almonte Junior Civitan Club who are supported with their own fundraisers and projects.

The Medical Cupboard is another tremendous benefit offered by Almonte Civitan members who manage the loaning of walkers, wheel chairs, medical beds and other equipment to those who require specialized assistance for limited time periods.

Deserving Civitan members do not go unrecognized! Annual awards are presented for all their admirable volunteer achievements.

Through their enjoyment, passionate hard work, and accomplishments, Civitan members have built strong friendships and connections fulfilling the true meaning of Community.

If helping support your community through Civitan is something that would interest you, please visit our website [almontecivitan.com](http://almontecivitan.com), give us a call at 256-6234 or send us an email at [theclub@almontecivitan.com](mailto:theclub@almontecivitan.com).

— Dale Penstone





# Still Going Strong – Perth's World Record Kilt Run

What I love most about Perth's World Record Kilt Run isn't the athleticism — it's the swirl of tartans and blast of Celtic music as hordes of runners pass under the castle start line and are cheered on their way. What began as a quirky idea nine years ago has put historic Perth squarely on the map as a runner's mecca and spectator's dream.

Dust off your kilts and mark Saturday, June 23 on your calendars now. The festivities start in the early afternoon with live music in the Crystal Palace Basin and a new "Dogs of the Tartan Cross" parade down Gore Street, followed by the Lads and Lassies races starting at 4PM and culminating in the Five Miler at 6PM.

Perth Brewery, proud sponsor of the 2018 Kilt Run and celebrating 25 years of business success, will once again be serving their craft beer in close proximity to the music stage and running action. As a reward for having the pluck to run in a kilt, Perth Brewery will also be offering a free beer to adult runners.

Mudmen had such a great time in 2016 that they are back as the headline performers, sponsored by Enbridge, Canada's largest supplier of natural gas for 160 years. The lineup of Celtic performers will keep your feet stomping well into the evening.

Cheering stations will be out in force during the signature five-mile race through picturesque Perth. The brawniest of runners are the Warrior Class — brandishing shield and sword while navigating an obstacle course designed to test their mettle. Finishing the Royal Kilometer race can also be a source of

pride, and the Lads and Lassies races sponsored by Mackie's Crisps will bring a tear to the eye. Perth Civitan Club members and volunteers sporting lively T-shirts donated by OMYA will be monitoring traffic at intersections and keeping everyone safe.

Registration for all races and the dog parade is well underway, so don't delay in signing up at <perthkilrun.ca> while spaces remain. *The 2 Marys Inc.* is thrilled to be organizing this year's Kilt Run, with the indomitable team of Mary and Terry Stewart returning as Race Directors.

What's that about a dog parade? Some fifty dogs decked out in tartan will be vying for awesome prizes as they trot down Gore Street with their proud owners. Paws Oasis of Perth is overseeing this event, with proceeds going to LAWS (Lanark Animal Welfare Society). All breeds are welcome, though Scottish dogs may have a wee bit of an edge when it comes to judging.

For more information, please visit <perthkilrun.ca>, email <info@the2marys-events.com> or call 326-0443. — *Mary Rothfels*



## Volunteering in the Valley

### Community Events in Perth this Spring

Our event production company name — The 2 Marys Inc. — says it all: we only have four hands! We knock ourselves out bringing top-notch community events to the Ottawa Valley, but always need lots of help on event days. This April 21<sup>st</sup> we are holding Ontario's first (and finest) **Tiny House & Green Home Festival** from 9AM to 4PM at the Perth Campus of Algonquin College. Volunteers are needed for 2- or 3-hour shifts, in return for which they gain free admittance (\$20 value). Then on June 23 the ever-popular **Perth's World Record Kilt Run** returns for a ninth year. Keeping both spectators and runners safe and organized takes a large

number of volunteers, who get keepsake T-shirts, camaraderie and a heartfelt "thank you"!

For information or to volunteer: 264-2934, <the2marys-events.com>, <info@the2marys-events.com>.



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By Michael Healey

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

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studiotheatreperth.com In historic Perth, Ontario

# Enduring Tradition gets a Modern Hook

Traditions die hard in Lanark County and the Ottawa Valley. Our practical pioneers recycled and repurposed clothing and bedding out of necessity. Floorboards were covered with hand-hooked rugs for warmth, but these rugs were also decorative — reflecting both skill and creativity in the variety of patterns, colours and shading incorporated.

Techniques were refined over time, yet the process remained true. Strips of woollen fabric continued to be secured into a fabric backing using a hook much like that used for crochet, but with a comfortable handle. It took strength to pull up the thick loops; eventually, the wool strips became narrower — a “fine” cut.

## Fast Forward

The current resurgence in rug hooking is strong. Expression has spread well beyond floor mats — and beyond wool as the fabric of choice. While the original dual purpose persists, this craft has evolved. Traditional hooking continues, with intricate fine shading now used for realistic portrayals of people, flowers, buildings and other subjects.

Rug hooking “rules” still exist, but they’re being broken as new paths are chosen. A broad palette of materials complements the art form. Sari silk, roving, yarns, synthetics and other fabrics are often embellished with beads, buttons and trinkets. Some pieces can be walked on; others belong on walls, sofas and tabletops

Similar to quilting bees, rug hooking gatherings still provide the opportunity to socialize, share knowledge and show the works created. In the Valley alone, meet-ups occur in McDonalds Corners, Burritt’s Rapids, Perth and Almonte. Ottawa Olde Forge Rug Hooking Branch boasts a membership including hookers from Perth, Carleton Place, Almonte, Carp, Westport and Arnprior.

## Two Local Talents

Loretta Moore, from Godfrey, discovered hooking more than twenty years ago — giving up quilting, beading, knitting, cross stitch and more to become an addicted hooker. She began teaching and making kits, due to the difficulty in finding supplies locally. Her home business, Hooked on the Lake, focuses on the primitive: dyeing primitive colours and offering an extensive selection of primitive patterns and kits. She’ll tell you: “Primitive rug hooking is my obsession and my passion. I’m amazed at the wonderful talented people I’ve met and befriended as a result of rug hooking.” Loretta, like many others in the Valley, belongs to two guilds and continues to take at least one or two classes every year. “I firmly believe you can never know all there is to know,” she states.



Work by many Ottawa Valley rug hookers (including Jocelyn Gordon, above, who lives near Perth) will be on display at the Ontario Hooking Craft Guild’s annual conference on May 6

form is forgiving if aspects need tweaking along the way. It’s very satisfying to pull up the loops and see my visions come to life.”

## Advancing the Art

Not long ago, it was hard to find supplies and learn the techniques. Now, area suppliers and teachers are within reach, and it’s much easier to take up the craft. Laura Boszormeny, Cathy Ivory, Loretta Moore and Carol Shewan all share an eagerness to teach and provide the tools and supplies needed to achieve wonderful results. Weekend and week-long workshops and events offer the opportunity for both emerging and experienced rug hookers to expand their skills.

And that may help to explain why Loretta also does exquisite miniature punch needle; offering classes, supplies, kits and designs.

Jocelyn Gordon, who lives near Perth, is another example of the talent flourishing in the Valley. Her work reflects the diversity of alternate fibres and materials, styles and approaches used; yet it is grounded in exceptional technical skills. “For me, rug hooking is a rewarding and therapeutic pastime. I enjoy the challenge of designing my pieces and deciding on materials to use, colour planning and finally dyeing or over-dyeing materials chosen. However, the art

If this article has piqued your interest, you can see the art form at its best on Sunday, May 6, and maybe try your hand at pulling some loops. A public show and sale is part of the Ontario Hooking Craft Guild’s annual conference taking place at the Ottawa Conference and Event Centre. More than 300 rug hookers from Ontario, Quebec, the Maritimes and the United States will participate in workshops, presentations, an amazing exhibition of their work, and just plain fun. For details, visit <a href="http://ohcgannual2018.wordpress.com">ohcgannual2018.wordpress.com</a>.

— Lesley Larsen

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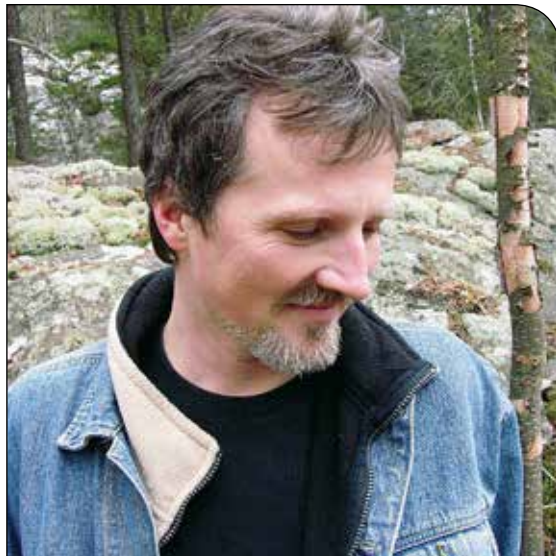
# Songs from the North

## Folkus presents Kevin Closs and Flying Hórses

As we welcome spring to the Valley, the last show of the Folkus season features two artists with fascinating relationships to the idea of North.

Kevin Closs is an independent artist from Manitoulin Island. Since 1990 he has worked as a recording and performing artist, releasing eleven independent albums and touring across the country. His music has been featured in the soundtracks of *Hard Rock Medical*, *Survivorman*, *The Jane Show*, and in a number of films. An excellent fingerpicker, a soulful singer and a clever lyricist, Closs is a versatile guitarist who has turned his hand to many styles. He has toured with Charlie Major, but his own style is far more folk than country. But we're bringing Kevin in because of his latest project. *In Deep* reflects his time travelling up North as a musician-in-residence and Zodiac driver. He's worked in sonic textures from the sounds of ice, ships at sea, and even the melody from a bird song. I can't wait to see what his latest travels have inspired.

Flying Hórses <flyinghorses.ca> is the project of Jade Bergeron. She is a classically-trained pianist working on original compositions, and recently completed a residency at the Banff Centre. She came to Almonte for a while last year to take advantage of the AOTH Steinway, and we have invited her back to give the piano a thorough workout.



Northern reflections: hear Kevin Closs (above) and Flying Hórses (aka Jade Bergeron) on April 28 at the Almonte Old Town Hall

Jade's last album, *Tölt*, was recorded mostly in Iceland (with Sigur Rós' producer, Biggi Birgisson, at Sundlaugin Studio). Bergeron was invited to play Iceland Airwaves Music Festival in 2015 as well as the world-renowned Festival International de Jazz de Montreal in 2016. In the spring of 2017, she released the single *Sorg Sea* — mixed by Efrim Menuck (Godspeed You! Black Emperor); it premiered on CBC's *The Strombo Show*. Flying Hórses was nominated for the 2018 Prism Prize for Best Canadian Music Video, alongside Leonard Cohen, The Weeknd, Feist, and Grimes.

Folkus shows take place at the Almonte Old Town Hall, in the fabulous Ron Caron Auditorium. Doors open at 7:30PM and seating is first-come, first-served. Folkus offers a cash bar with local beer, wine, and non-alcoholic beverages. Details and tickets can be found at <folkusalmonte.com>; you can find hard-copy tickets at Mill Street Books. Send questions to <hello@folkusalmonte.com>.

— Sandy Irvin



# Arbour Week in Mississippi Mills

There's still time to order trees from Hub Hospice this year <hubhospicetrees.com>, and the pick-up date is Sunday, April 21 at the Mississippi Mills Municipal Office. Right after that, everyone is invited to celebrate some tree-mendous events during Mississippi Mills Arbour Week!

On Monday, April 22, Diana Beresford-Kroeger brings her film *Call of the Forest* to the Almonte Old Town Hall at 7PM. Diana is a world recognized author, conservationist and scientist who has a unique combination of western scientific knowledge and the traditional concepts of the ancient world. The film follows her on her journey to the most beautiful forests of the northern hemisphere. From the sacred sugi and cedar forests of Japan, the ancient Raheen Wood of Ireland, the walnut and redwood trees of America, to the great boreal forest of Canada, she tells us the amazing stories behind the history and legacy of these ancient forests while also explaining the science of trees and the irreplaceable roles they play in protecting and feeding the planet.

Then on Wednesday, April 25, Allan Goddard will give a talk entitled "What tree should I plant

in my backyard?" at 7:30PM at the Almonte Old Town Hall. There are also several still tree walks being planned, but the dates/times were not confirmed at press time, so keep an eye on the Mississippi Mills Facebook page for further details.



On Monday, April 22, Diana Beresford-Kroeger brings her film *Call of the Forest* to the Almonte Old Town Hall

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Saturday April 28, 10AM-4PM

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Pete Wood of Heritage Bikes in Perth demonstrated how to fix a flat tire at the 2017 How To Fair at the Perth Library. This year's fairs take place on Saturday, April 21

## How To Fair Returns to Local Libraries!

The libraries of Perth and Smiths Falls are pleased to announce they will again be hosting How To Fairs on Saturday, April 21!

The first annual How To Fair was held at the Perth Union Library in April of 2016. In 2017, it expanded to libraries across Lanark County. This year, the focus is on "How To in 10", which poses the challenge: what skills can be learned in just ten minutes? The libraries are excited to see what skills and tips the community will share.

"Libraries are places of ongoing learning, and the How To Fair offers opportunities to learn — for everyone, of all ages," explains Erika Heesen, CEO of the Perth Union Library. "We encourage everyone in our community to come out and share or learn a new skill".

The libraries will be transformed for the day with all sorts of stations for you to learn "how to..." You can learn how to make a button, start seeds, prepare for an emergency, and more!

This year's How To Fairs will take place on Saturday, April 21, from 10:30AM to 2:30PM at the Perth Library, and from 10:30AM to 2PM at the Smiths Falls Library.

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

# A Crisis of Identity?

Public libraries may be in the throes of an identity crisis. While academic and urban libraries continue to grow and offer everything from 3D printing to equipment that rivals a recording studio, many small and rural libraries are just trying to keep up with basic demands and needs in our communities.

by Kelly Thompson

As the CEO of a small library, I have struggled a great deal trying to define who and what our little library is supposed to be. I have attended conferences and listened as other librarians have discussed how public libraries can remain relevant. I have listened and read about the amazing programs and services being offered in the urban centres. At least in small ways, I have tried to ensure the library I'm responsible for "keeps up" with our urban neighbours. The problem is that this is not always financially possible. It took quite some time for me to finally understand what my responsibility is. It is what it has *always* been. My job is to ensure that the little library I manage accurately reflects the needs, interests and desires of the community it serves.

I absolutely believe that libraries have always been about more than books. They have been resources for education, safe places for people to gather, share ideas, or just escape for a while. There are programs that allow children to have fun while also learning to read and socialize. Differing opinions are welcomed and discussed. Collections must be balanced to reflect as many beliefs as possible. What libraries offer may be changing, but their reason for being has remained the same. It's true that our urban neighbours can offer more of everything — more technology, more programs and more services — but the purpose is

still the same. Public libraries reflect the community and offer a window for those who wish to see beyond.

The whole idea for this article sprang from the need I have to entice non-users to at least walk through the doors of their public libraries — just once. Many times throughout the years people have told me they do not use public libraries because there is "nothing there for me". This may be true, but library staff work extremely hard to tailor services and programs to their respective communities. It's what they do. It's what I do. It's the reason there are now many online offerings, even from small and rural libraries. It's why there is now free Wi-Fi and tech help. It's why there is outreach and why there is a concerted effort to ensure our collections are relevant and timely. We want to ensure that your local library does have something for you — for everyone — just as public libraries always have.

So are libraries having an identity crisis? Perhaps they are, but I believe that the answer lies in ensuring they continue to do what they have always done: be there to respond as best as possible to their communities. Public libraries are an institution like no other, so if there really is nothing for you at your local library, go in and have a conversation, because that's what libraries are all about.

— Kelly Thompson is the CEO/Chief Librarian of the Renfrew Public Library

### Books about Libraries and Librarians:

- *Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat Who Touched the World* by Vicki Myron
- *The Invisible Library* by Genevieve Cogman
- *The Borrower* by Rebecca Makkai
- *I Work at a Public Library: A Collection of Crazy Stories from the Stacks* by Gina Sheridan

## Volunteering in the Valley

### Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth

This year, Open Doors for Lanark Children and Youth is launching a campaign focused on community engagement. As an accredited child and youth mental health agency we have been serving the communities of Lanark County for over 22 years. Our mission is to make it possible for Lanark children and youth with mental health needs to live, learn and thrive. This summer, our team has a number of events planned. From June-August you will find us hosting an open air art show and sale titled "The Art of Resilience". This is not only a showcase of local art but also an opportunity to raise awareness and fundraise for our youth programs. We are also hosting a Youth Recognition Event to acknowledge and celebrate resilient young people in our communities on May 8 at the Station Theatre in Smiths Falls. There are many opportunities for volunteers who want to be a part of these community events.

Our Board of Directors is looking for new members! If you are interested in becoming involved with Open Doors and

want to make a difference by helping to steer the organization, then consider joining the Board. To be a member you need to live or work in Lanark County and be at least 16 years of age. If you're passionate about child and youth mental health then this is the volunteer role for you! The board meets on the last Wednesday of every month and each member must sit on at least one committee with the agency.

To find out about volunteering at any of these amazing upcoming events or becoming a member of the Board of Directors, please contact <admincp@opendoors.on.ca>.



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# Finches and Wrens

Aaahh, April — one of the best months of the year in my view. March break has come and gone, and kids young and old had a great time at our shop making wren houses, painting and making whirlygigs and being entertained by puppets (Jacob Bluejay, Gilligallou Bird and a host of others).

April brings not only warmer weather, but also new birds visiting your feeders. Recently we're getting reports of several purple finches at our customers' feeders (at both their seed blends and their nyjer feeders). To ID these beauties, both their song and their rosy hue can be used. They're also a little larger and have longer tails than their counterpart the house finch.

by Bob Volks

The house finch has quite an interesting story. An introduced species, they were released from captivity in New York City in the 1940s when a pet



Purple finch photo by j.mcneelyphotography

shop owner who was selling them illegally let them go to avoid prosecution. Here we are some seventy years later with them widespread all over North America. They are more of an urban bird than the native purple finch, which has suffered in numbers because of the introduced house finch and house sparrow. The purple finch builds a nest out on a limb of a tree at the fork of two branches about 15–20 feet in the air. Some good wooded habitat in your yard can also offer nesting sites.

At our wren house-building March Break program, the kids also enjoyed learning about the common house wren. These curious and active birds will nest all around your gardens and yards — they

are feisty little creatures who will often evict other birds from a nesting box and lay claim to it. With one of the largest ranges of any songbird in North America, the house wren's territory extends from the southern-most regions of South America all the way up here to Canada's great white north.

While relatively small in size, these birds can become quite fierce when it comes to defending their territory or claiming a new nesting site during the spring. Insect eaters by nature, these small and nimble birds can often be heard singing their hearts out during the spring months as they flit from tree to tree in search of their next meal or mate.

## House Wren Identification

"Compact" is the best way to describe this bird. Stocky in shape, the bird does not sport much of a neck, as its head can often be seen only as an extension of its back. A bland brown in colour, the wren is easily identified not only by its small shape but also because of its uniquely shaped tail. The long tail of the house wren is often pointed higher than the body. For those who use the Carolina wren as a comparison, house wrens are smaller — often closer in size to a black-capped chickadee.

## Where to Find Them

With winter ranges stretching deep into South America and breeding ranges covering much of Canada, house wrens are well-traveled and relatively easy to find. Here in the Ottawa area, we are treated to these small, energetic birds during the spring and summer months as they pair up and prepare for the breeding season. They can be found in open forests, backyards, farms and urban centres — wherever there is reliable food and shelter.

As cavity nesters, these small birds make their homes during the spring and summer in trees or specially designed wren houses. Featuring holes just big enough to let them in, the design of these houses prevents occupation by larger birds such as starlings.

## Vocals

Singing is not reserved for just one sex when it comes to house wrens, as both males and females get in on the action. While the songs differ slightly between the two sexes, according to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, their songs are: "long, jumbled bubbling, introduced by abrupt churrs and scolds".

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



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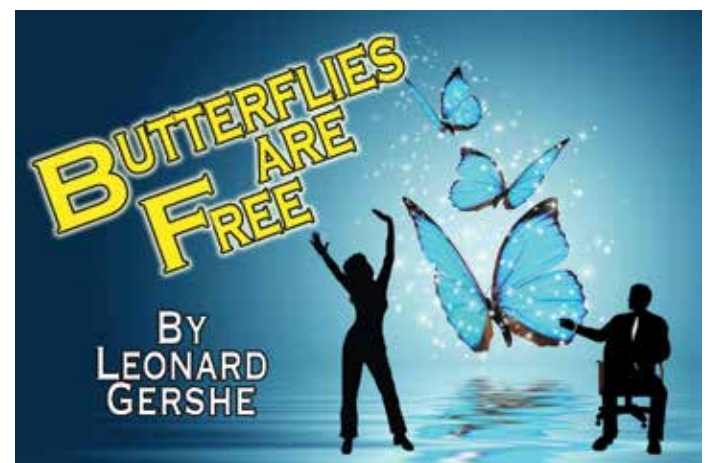
Local collector Vicki Racey is hosting her 4<sup>th</sup> Annual fundraiser for

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## Kick-Off to Summer Save the Date for SPF Movie and Dance!

Tired of winter? Thinking about summer? This year, get your summer started in style at Stewart Park Festival's Kick-Off to Summer dance party.

The dance will feature Big Bob Hammond & the Mississauga Delta Blues Band playing the best of the legendary Blues Brothers, the dynamic duo put together by comedy actors Dan Aykroyd and John Belushi as part of a musical sketch on *Saturday Night Live*.

Real life brothers Stan and Bob Hammond hail from Peterborough, Ontario, but their hearts are steeped in the tradition of old Chicago and the tale of Jake and Elwood Blues, the two brothers who set out on "a mission from God" to save the orphanage in which they grew up.

Billed as Big Bob Hammond and the Mississauga Delta Blues Band, featuring The Blues Brothers, the Hammond brothers have set out on their own "mission" to share their enthusiasm for rhythm and blues. Together the brothers travel the countryside in their '74 Dodge Monaco, a replica of the original Bluesmobile, and have entertained crowds at the Orangeville Blues Festival, the Wasaga Beach Jazz and Blues Festival, as well as the House of Blues in South Carolina.

Be sure to watch for the iconic Bluesmobile to arrive in the Tay Basin in downtown

Perth the day of the dance. It will be quite the arrival. You won't want to miss it!

### Save the Date!

Backed by a hot 7-piece band, the Hammond brothers are sure to get your toes tappin' and your feet on the dance floor at the party of the year on Saturday, June 16 at the Crystal Place in downtown Perth.

Save the date, dust off your dancin' shoes, find a fedora and glasses (prizes for best Jake and Elwood look-alikes) and get ready to welcome summer in style. Tickets for the dance are \$20 + \$2 service fee in advance at Shadowfax (at 67 Foster Street in Perth) or by calling 1-800-518-2729, or \$25 at the door.

And that's not all! The party will start with a Kick-Off to Summer Movie Night at the Crystal Palace in Perth on the Thursday prior to the dance (June 14), featuring the original *Blues Brothers* movie playing on a giant screen, along with hot dogs, popcorn, prizes and more. The first thirty people through the door on Movie Night will receive a free Blues Brothers' hat and glasses (to get them ready for the dance). Movie Night is free for those with a dance ticket or \$5 at the door. A licenced event sure to put you in a summertime mood.

Kick-Off to Summer is back! A party so big it takes two nights to get 'er done.

## Best Wishes, Pam!

Pam Harris, CEO/Chief Librarian of Mississippi Mills, officially announced her early retirement. After nearly five years of dedicated service, Pam is looking forward to new opportunities and adventures ahead. Her last day will be June 29.

In her time with the Library, Pam has brought leadership and vision to our public library service, increasing community awareness of the library through expanded programming, refreshed collections and renewed staff enthusiasm. Among her achievements is the newly expanded and renovated Pakenham Branch, which is truly a community gem. She also led the way in partnering with Lanark County Public Libraries, resulting in county-wide programmes such as the Human Library Project and the One Book, One Community; shared grant projects, pooled resources and a network of community partners.

Pam introduced our very popular "Tech Tutor" programme, increasing computer literacy and competency in patrons of all ages. She re-invigorated our summer Literacy Tutor programme securing ongoing funding through the Elizabeth Kelly Library Foundation Inc. Pam also introduced our very popular Seed Library and gardening

series. By identifying and partnering with a number of community agents such as the Neighbourhood Tomato and the Mills Community Support, Pam redefined what it means to be a public library in Mississippi Mills.

Pam Harris has never hesitated to find new and interesting ways for the Library to intersect with our community — our nearly completed community oven at the Almonte Branch is one such example.

As the Library Board Chair, I would like to thank Pam for her outstanding commitment and dedication to making the Library the best it can be. She has earned the respect of Municipal Council, the support of the Library Board, and the loyalty of her staff. We will all miss her. We wish her well in her retirement.

— Mary Lou Souter

**Editor's Note:** I would like to thank Pam for initiating and coordinating the monthly "Speaking Volumes" library column in theHumm. Thanks also to Erika Heesen from the Perth & District Union Public Library for agreeing to take on the job in the future!

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# A Vintage Clothing Sale!

Back by popular demand, the fourth annual Vintage Clothing Sale will take place from Friday, April 13 through Sunday, April 15 at the Carleton Place and Beckwith Heritage Museum. Vicki Racey, a local textile collector, museum volunteer and past owner of Almonte's Vintagewear/ware will once again transform the Museum's meeting room into a showroom of the best in vintage wear. Vicki has been adding to her stock of vintage clothing and accessories, and needs to clear out some of her best items.

This is a great opportunity to buy yourself a new treasure or two! Both men's and women's clothing will be available. Coats and capes, boots and berets, gloves and galoshes — you never know what you will discover at this sale! This year's offerings include lots of funky hats and a large assortment of 1950s and '60s dresses.

A portion of proceeds from the sale will be donated to the Carleton Place and Beckwith Heritage Museum and will enable them to continue offering excellence in displays and programming. Not only are you shopping locally for great fashions, you are supporting your local heritage, and having fun!

The Vintage Clothing Sale is pleased to be a part of this year's Spring Style Spectacular — a week-long shopping and promotion event in Carleton Place, running from April 9 to April 15 and featuring several downtown merchants. Simply make a purchase and receive a ballot. Three prizes will be awarded for shopping downtown during Spring Style Spectacular. First prize is a \$500 aesthetics and hair services package, second prize is a \$300 home décor package, and third prize is a \$100 downtown dining package.

The Carleton Place and Beckwith Heritage Museum is located at 267 Edmund Street in Carleton Place. The Vintage Clothing Sale runs from April 13–15, from 10AM to 4PM each day. Cash or credit only please. For more information please call the Museum at 253-7013, email <cpbmuseum@outlook.com> or visit them at <cpbheritagemuseum.com> or on Facebook.



**The 1950s called to invite you to find gorgeous vintage fashions at the Carleton Place & Beckwith Heritage Museum from April 13-15**

# Big Creek Campaign Achieves its Goal

Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust (MMLT) is delighted to announce that its goal of raising \$48,500 for the acquisition and stewardship of the Byrne Big Creek Nature Preserve has been achieved! This wonderful news was announced on February 25 by Mary Vandenhoff at Fulton's Pancake House and Sugar Bush during the final event of the campaign.

This exceptional 100-acre property adjacent to McCulloch Mud Lake near MacDonalds Corners had been bequeathed to the Land Trust by the late Joel Byrne, who was a longtime supporter of MMLT and the local field naturalists clubs. MMLT is honoured that their dear friend Joel has left his beloved Big Creek property to them to care for in perpetuity. They greatly appreciate this confidence, but it is



also a significant responsibility given the legal and financial obligations that "forever" entails. They are a small and relatively young charity and could not have done this without community help.

"When the fundraising campaign was launched at the end of November on Giving Tuesday, we thought our goal was wildly ambitious," says Mrs. Vandenhoff, "but we were overwhelmed with the generous response from the community. What a testament to Joel." The campaign got a jump start when Irene's Pub on Bank Street in Ottawa pledged to match the first \$5000 donated by others. Then at the first Pub Night at the Barley Mow in Almonte on November 29, the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists made a substantial contribution as well. Other private donors took up the challenge and made "matching" contributions of their own. A Nature Quiz Pub Night at the Golden Arrow Pub in Perth at the end of January was followed by the "Go for Gold Winter Games" event at Fulton's in late February. These two events put the campaign over the top.

In total, more than 90 individuals donated to the cause, and among these the contribution of the family of Joel Byrne was pivotal. "We would not have achieved our goal without the financial support of Joel's family, both in Canada and the US," explains MMLT President Howard Clifford, "We are extremely grateful to the family for their generosity."

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 Fri. Apr. 6 **John Wilberforce** (Folk/Rock, Kemptonville) 6-9  
 Sat. Apr. 7 **Head Over Heels** (Folk/Jazz/Blues, Gananoque) 6-9  
 Sun. Apr. 8 **Lions Club Mobility Van Brunch** (Pay What You Can) 9AM-12PM  
 Thu. Apr. 12 **Handmade Hearts Spring Market** feat. Local Artisan Vendors! \$15 Tasty Apps and Spring Treats! \$5 @ door Westport Food Bank donation, Kids Under 10 Free.  
 Fri. Apr. 13 **Taylor Angus & Logan Brown** (Acoustic Soul, Perth) 6-9  
 Sat. Apr. 14 **Henry Norwood** (Country, Perth) 8-11  
 Tue. Apr. 17 **Mediterranean Wine Dinner** 5-Course Wine Dinner with Wine 6-9, \$75 + hst  
 Fri. Apr. 20 **Blues on the Rideau** with **Boogie Patrol** (Edmonton) 7-11, Buffet + Show \$65 + hst  
 Sat. Apr. 21 **Smitty** (Acoustic Classic & New Rock/Country Legend, Kingston) 7-10  
 Fri. Apr. 27 **Perth Stingrays Fundraiser + Jazz Night** w. **Spencer Evans Trio** 7-11, Buffet + Show \$50  
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photo by Sandy Nicholson

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