

AUGUST 2023

# the Hummm

free

Arts,  
Entertainment  
& Ideas

## The Art of Kristi Bird p.3



p.20 & 21

August's Events



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Carleton Place Gallery Opening



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Ganja Guidance



p.15

Killaloe Craft Fair



## Family Fun!

There's still a whole month left before the kids head back to school, and fortunately August is full of family-friendly festivals and fun events. If your family decides this area would be a great place to put down roots, just give me a call!

**Pat's Picks** The Killaloe Craft & Community Fair • August 11-13 <killaloeair.ca>  
for August: Perth Garlic Festival • August 12 & 13 <perthgarlicfestival.ca>  
Come Home to Pakenham Weekend • August 18-20 <mississippimills.ca>  
Festival of the Wild Child, Pakenham • August 27 <mmlt.ca>

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## The Dragon Boats are Back!

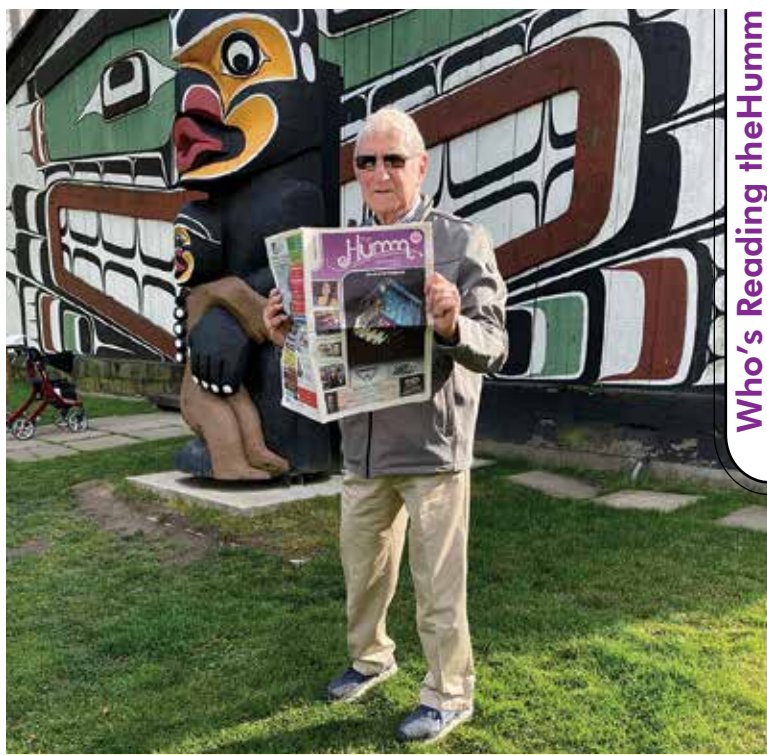
Organizers are looking forward to bringing back the Carleton Place Dragon Boat Festival — taking place on Saturday, September 9 from 9AM to 3PM at Riverside Park. All money raised goes to the Carleton Place Hospital Foundation < cpdmhfoundation.ca >.

Come cheer on all the teams — or better yet — sign up a team and Giv'r Down the River! Find more information at < cpdbfestival.ca >.

### Humble Thoughts

*This is my life, this is my planet, my home.  
I'm in love with Earth. It's extraordinary,  
it's spectacular and we have only begun  
to understand it. It is us; we are it. I want  
to celebrate its abundance of life, its beauty,  
its rarity, its stunning synchronicity.  
I don't want to participate in its demise.*

— Sue Brandum of Climate Network Lanark (read the full interview with Sue on page 23)



Who's Reading the Humm

**John Coderre** of Almonte, Treasurer of the Mississippi Mills All My Relations group, was in Victoria BC this past April, reconnecting with his own Indigenous (Métis) roots and enjoying an early Spring.

John invites everyone to follow the progress of the permanent art installation being constructed in Almonte's Riverfront Park this summer to commemorate the Indigenous Grandfather Teachings of the Seven Gifts, and to attend its opening ceremony on September 30 September as part of Almonte's Bicentennial celebration.

See page 17 for an article about this project.

You are allowed to be both  
**a masterpiece**  
and a **WORK IN PROGRESS**,  
simultaneously.

— Sophia Bush



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

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By email to editor@thehummm.com

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#### Subscribe to Hummail — it's Free!

Do you know about our weekly e-newsletter called "Hummail"? We use it to further promote independent local performers, creators, businesses and community initiatives. It's also a great reminder of what's coming up on the weekend, in case someone has stolen your copy of theHummm...

So far we have sent out over 150 editions of Hummail, and we have over 1500 subscribers.

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#### Landscape Through Indigenous Eyes

Free workshops  
August 5



#### A Conversation Between Dancers, a Cellist and Flowers at Gossamer Gardens

August 19



#### Jersey Nights

Tribute to Franki Valli & The 4 Seasons  
Farrell Hall, Perth  
August 19



#### Summer Harvest

5-course dinner  
at Stonefields Estate  
August 24



#### Little Black Dress Event Canadian Golf & Country Club Carleton Place

August 26



#### The Mabinogion

Celtic storytelling  
Maberly  
September 3

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# Kristi Bird – Taking Flight

For Kristi Bird, her art is both a refuge and her salvation. Her alluring acrylic paintings of wildlife and nature are a feast for the eyes and balm for the soul. In a world that is struggling to cope with more and more overwhelming challenges, the solace of the natural world grows ever more compelling. Bird's loving celebrations of nature and the wild creatures

by Sally Hansen

with whom we share this fragile planet are profoundly therapeutic, both for the artist and the viewer. I would challenge anyone to gaze upon her painting of three playful fox kits without an involuntary smile tugging at the corners of their mouth.

Kristi's dramatic portrait of a swan spreading its huge white wings against a dark background is a stunning testament to the lifetime this self-taught artist has devoted to healing herself with her art. Back in 2015 she posted a commentary about what her art means to her. Titled "Something Beautiful," it reads as follows: "In this strange world I have been witness to horrifying things. I know they exist. The heart can only take so much pain and angst before it gives up. I choose my subject matter (for painting) carefully, dancing around the horrible and the ugly that I know is available anywhere I look. I choose beautiful over ugly. I choose peaceful over chaos. I choose love over hate.



I hope that my paintings remind you of something beautiful in your strange world. When all hope is lost, find the beauty within. We are all something beautiful."

## The Strange World of Birdland

It started with an abusive father. As part of his anger management program, he led his family into going public with a nationally televised documentary that exposed their "secret" to the world. Kristi was ten years

old. Her mother, whom she describes as "a rock, the strongest, most generous woman I have ever known," left the marriage when he relapsed and became abusive again. At sixteen Kristi dropped out of high school and got married to give birth to her daughter. She was divorced three years later. Then began a progression of relationships characterized by pain and tragedy, but also blessing her with a son. Her common-law husband of five years suffered from depression and committed suicide when her kids were thirteen and nine. Another partner proved to be a bad mistake.

And when she chose well, tragedy struck. Between 2016 and 2020, Kristi spent most of her time administering care to two family members, both confined to wheelchairs and hospital beds. Her daughter Sky succumbed to brain cancer in 2019 at the age of twenty-nine. Her former partner went into nursing care in 2020 as the result of the long-term catastrophic effects of a personality-changing stroke. As a result of their tragic situation, they all moved from Oshawa to a wheelchair-accessible but very cramped space in the Rideau Lakes home of Kristi's generous mother, Cheryl, and stepfather, Peter Bird. "Their help and unflagging support was what made it possible for me to take care of my family when they needed me," she tells me. She is so grateful, adding: "Everyone has a biological father; Peter showed me what it means to have a Dad."

## The Art of Survival

Creating art is Kristi Bird's salvation — her method of healing trauma. Her father was an artist, and she started learning about paints as a child. She was always creative, building things, sewing and exploring various crafts. She was also dyslexic, not able to read until she was thirteen years old. She smiles mischievously as she confides that the reason she talks so quickly is that she still can read only as fast as she can speak.

Like so many artists, she remembers the thrill and consequent motivation of the first public recognition of her talent when in Grade Eight one of her works was chosen to be

in an art show. After she finally returned to complete her high school education at the age of thirty, she went on to earn her three-year diploma in graphic arts from Durham College in Oshawa. She started painting from her own photos, and entered her first show at "Art in the Park" in Oshawa two decades ago.

For Bird, the therapeutic value of painting transports her to a safe and productive space. Much has been written about being "in flow." I read recently in

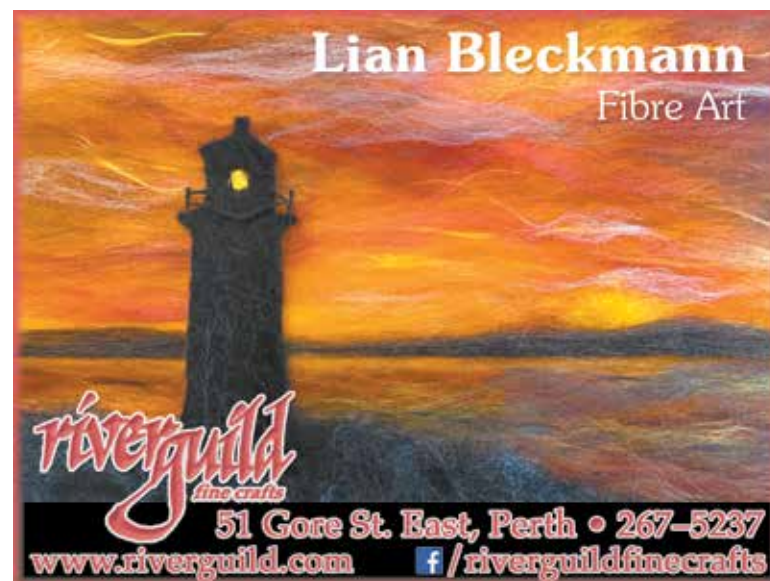


*Fast Company* that "Psychologist Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi is believed to have first introduced the concept of flow. He defines flow as a state of intense focus and absorption in an intrinsically rewarding activity. In a flow state, we feel energized, motivated, and fully engaged in the task before us." In Bird's practiced hands, the results of her safe and productive space transport others into a similar space of peace and healing contemplation of the natural world.

For someone with early learning challenges, part of Kristi's enjoyment of and pride in her artistic accomplishments stems from the fact that she is self-taught. She experiments endlessly; when others sit down to watch TV, she sits down and paints. She wants other budding artists to know that it is normal to reach a point in almost every painting you are working on where you think it isn't good enough. Her solution, and advice, is to persevere and search for that creative breakthrough. As an example, her use of an orange ground to create movement is spectacularly effective in her portrait of a white swan. It was something she learned from fellow artist Margaret Martin at a Rideau Lakes Artists' Association paint-in. You can see for yourself at <kristibird.com/works>, or full screen at minute 1:23 at <youtube.com/watch?v=D0KCQyxRbas>.

## Paint the Summer Art Show and Sale

Better yet, watch the full two minutes of her YouTube video to enjoy a preview of the artworks Kristi Bird will be showing in the Rideau Lakes Artists' Association's annual Paint the Summer Art Show and Sale on August 26 and 27. Parking and admission are free at the Westport Arena at 37 Spring Street. Go with the flow — and check the back of her Artist Trading Card for additional coordinates and more healing opportunities to commune with nature as celebrated by the area's many fine artists.





Time to open doors and windows wide, Connect to nature and step outside...

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**WHO** Kristi Bird  
**WHAT** Acrylic Paintings of Wildlife and Nature  
**WHERE** by appointment, <kristi@kristibird.com>, <kristibird.com>, <facebook.com/kristibirdart>  
**WHEN** Aug. 26-27, 10AM-4PM, Paint the Summer Art Show and Sale, Westport Community Arena, <rideaulakesartists.com>  
 Sept. 2-3, 10AM-5PM, Fantasy in the Forest Art Show & Sale, <facebook.com/fantasyintheforest>  
**WHY** "I paint because it's always been something I can count on to bring me peace and solace."

• ARTIST TRADING CARD •



Come to Arnprior's Robert Simpson Park on August 26 for a butter tart festival!

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

# Tarts and Arts in Arnprior

By Terry and Joyce Dawson

What's all the fuss about butter tarts? At its most simple form, the butter tart is just butter, sugar and eggs. The magic happens when these three ingredients are combined and baked in a pastry shell until golden. The filling may be a bit runny, or cooked longer to become more solid. The first known printed recipe was found in the early 1900's *Royal Victoria Cookbook* that was produced and printed for sale as a fundraiser by the Women's Auxiliary for the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie, Ontario. Since then it has become a significant characteristic of Canadian cooking.

But it grows bigger. The tarts can have additions such as raisins, pecans, and even bacon! The pastry shells can be made with butter too, but more conventionally shortening, or lard, or a combination of these. Some have even been made with shortbread crusts that add a crunch to the taste of this decadent treat.

And of course you need a baking pan for these tarts. Most bakers use a muffin pan, cutting out circles of the rolled-out pastry dough and fitting them into the pan. Of course there are disposable foil tart pans for sale and if we go to Amazon, one can buy 200 3" tart pans for \$22.34 or 500 for \$38.13. How many will you make?

For the baker who needs a tool for everything, Amazon sells a two-piece "tart mold pastry masher" made of wood for \$13.99. The end of the masher is the shape of the tart pan and is used to push the pastry circle into the pan. I guess one needs two of these

mashers when there are two bakers wishing to make a lot of tarts for some reason. Like maybe a festival?

This brings me to the heart of this story — The Butter Tart Festival.

The best known is the one that centres around Midland, Ontario. In 2011, this idea became a reality with just a few stops. Now one can tour over 50 locations through Northumberland County, Peterborough County and the Kawartha Lakes. You can plan your trip with an online planner. According to newspaper reports there have been 60,000 tourists and over 200,000 tarts sold, many of course consumed on the spot.

Think of the economic boon to that area, besides the happy shoppers who bought these tarts. Can we maybe have a Butter Tart Tour closer to home? There are rumblings within theHumm's coverage area where individual locations are having festivals of their own. Let's see what we can do. In the meantime, plan on attending **Tarts and Arts — the Arnprior Butter Tart Festival** on Saturday, August 26, in beautiful Robert Simpson Park. Starting at 9:30AM, this festival is a fun day for visitors of all ages. There are games for children and a butter tart competition, with the contest winner to be crowned at noon. This year's theme is Through the Looking Glass, and be sure to pass through to find Alice, the Mad Hatter and the white rabbit. Ray's Reptiles will be there at 1PM, and is only one of the many activities planned throughout the day. And as a bonus — admission is free! For more details, please visit <arnpriorrotary.ca>.



# Focus on Author Amanda West Lewis

*Focus. Click. Wind.* opens with a tense, tumultuous, claustrophobic scene: a student protest of the Vietnam War at Columbia University. It's 1968, and we see the action through the eyes — and camera lens — of seventeen-year-old Billie Taylor, an aspiring photojournalist who is there with her college boyfriend because she needs to be a part of it.

by John Pigeau

As the police, armed with pounding boots, heavy clubs and “snarling eyes,” close in on the roomful of peaceful protestors, Billie knows her “camera is her weapon, not her fists.” Armed with her Rolleiflex camera, she's intent on capturing images of “the enemy” — in this case, the “blue fury” of uniforms and badges marching up the staircase.

The doors burst open, violence erupts, and Billie is able to capture a few images of the chaos before she's pulled under a table to safety — but just like that, bruised and breathless and shaken, she finds herself drawn into the perilous war at home. From that moment on, she becomes obsessed with making a difference through activism. Through documenting truth.

The opening scene in Amanda West Lewis's latest YA novel *Focus. Click. Wind.* is intense and exhilarating, but is the book a thriller? Well, in part, yes. It's deftly crafted, and the prose is propulsive and quick-paced. After Billie meets some potentially dangerous activists in Toronto, it's clear that their activities come at great risk. Every secret meeting she attends pulses with tension. Every task she agrees to take on comes with uncertainty and risk. She keeps hearing about or uncovering alarming new atrocities by the day. And it's all hush-hush and fear-inducing, because someone is *always* watching.

But Billie is passionate and simmering with youthful rage. She's feisty and stubborn, but is she willing to risk her life to stop an unjust war? At seventeen, she's understandably confused and conflicted about a great many things: the war in Vietnam and the killing of Vietnamese people, but also the war on people back home — the poor, the Blacks, and every draft-age person in the US. Billie is clever and compassionate, but still young and at times naïve. She's figuring things out in a time of great turmoil, which genuinely makes West Lewis's novel part coming-of-age story as well.

*Focus. Click. Wind.* is captivating, shrewd and sophisticated — a difficult story masterfully told.

Stylistically, the novel is so well-written it makes for a brisk, easy read. However, the book wasn't easy

for West Lewis to *write*, she says, because she had to do a fair amount of soul searching.

“I had to go back into my own teenage passion and fall in love with my confused and conflicted self,” she explains.

“While the book is not autobiographical in any sense of the word,” she says, “there are many elements from my own history that I have incorporated into the story.”

For instance, like Billie, West Lewis grew up in New York City. And later “I became a teenager in a house on Lowther Avenue in Toronto, where my mother took in drafters,” as Billie's mother does in the book. But “I certainly wasn't involved with any

“I think that the political, social and economic times that you grow up in shape your outlook,” West Lewis reflects. “I grew up during the vibrant turmoil of the late sixties and early seventies, so of course it had a profound effect on who I have become.”

“Over the last few years,” she adds, “I have seen a similar period of foment and questioning. Young people are struggling to make sense of horrific wars, climate catastrophe and social and sexual upheaval. The parallels to me are quite stunning. Because of this, I feel a solidarity with today's young adults.”

In her opinion, those young adults are very smart. “I believe wholeheartedly in the moral compass of young people,” she says.

The novel is, therefore, never condescending — especially in its clear-eyed depiction of many of the appalling realities of the time: the killing of countless innocent Vietnamese people, the inhumane use of Agent Orange, police brutality, non-stop government lies, American soldiers returning home in body bags, without limbs, or severely traumatized — and so on.

“Do I think YA readers are up to this reality? Yes, definitely and more,” West Lewis says. “I think the worst thing we can do is to try and sugarcoat the truth. We owe it to them to be open and as honest as possible.”

When Billie starts spending more time with underground political protesters at Rochdale College, one of those people, Martin, says to her: “Photographs change people's minds. They show the truth. They make a difference.” And this rings true to Billie. She's confronted by a line from *Hamlet*: “When our actions do not, our fears do make us traitors.” Then she feels *compelled* to make a difference. And eventually, she does.

“I think the ‘need to make a difference’ is what can carry us through hard times,” says West Lewis. “It can give us purpose. It can help us to survive the chaos around us. I would love young readers to know that making a difference, whatever that means to them, isn't just about picking a cause. It's about what is in your heart, as a human in society. It's about examining your heart and finding what is unique to you. It's about the artist within. I would love anyone who reads the book to discover that person or rekindle that passion.”

I asked Amanda West Lewis what she would like readers to take away from Billie's feelings of growing anger and impatience about the carnage of war.

“I'd like a young person who reads this book to feel that their feelings are validated,” she said. “I'd like readers, young and old, to think about their responses to the world around them. If we can change our thoughts, we can change the world. And, as we all know, it desperately needs changing right now.”

West Lewis is “pretty passionate” about *Focus. Click. Wind.*, and thrilled to be doing a book tour where she will be going to bookstores and doing readings. On Thursday, August 10 at 7PM, her tour stops at The Book Nook in Perth.

“I'd love to have people, young and old, come and join in the discussion,” she says. “I'm hoping we'll have Question and Answer sessions with people who lived through the sixties, and people who are trying to live through the twenty-twenties. I can't think of anything more exciting.”

*Focus. Click. Wind.* is available at an independent bookstore near you, and wherever fine books are sold.



Amanda West Lewis will launch her new young adult novel at The Book Nook in Perth on Thursday, August 10

violent revolutionary groups,” West Lewis hastens to add. In the novel, Billie develops relationships with some dangerous activists.

There are other similarities, too. More philosophical, perhaps.

Grace-St. Andrew's United Church in Arnprior is seeking a **Music Director** (7-10 hours weekly)

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If interested, please contact the GSA church office at [office@gsachurch.ca](mailto:office@gsachurch.ca)

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## PICNIC 2023

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[smithsfalls.ca/picnic](http://smithsfalls.ca/picnic)



# landscape through Indigenous eyes

Saturday, August 5  
2023

Presenters

Chris Craig and Sarah Craig

Chris is Senior Forestry Technician at South Nation Conservation Authority and Founder of the Eastern Ontario First Nations Working Group. Sarah is an Indigenous Landscaper. Both are members of the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation.

Chris and his daughter Sarah will speak about the Indigenous relationship to the land and about culturally significant native plants. In the afternoon, under Sarah's guidance, a small group of interested people will have the opportunity to work with Sarah at the Seven Gifts site to plant some of the flora she has chosen for their colours to represent the medicine wheel.

Both were involved with Plenty Canada's creation of The Healing Place on the South Nation Conservation Area.

Morning Workshop  
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Afternoon Workshop  
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# Sharing the Wild Life!

## MMLT's Festival of the Wild Child 2023

Submitted by the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust

Saturday, August 19 is going to be a big day at High Lonesome Nature Reserve near Pakenham. It's the annual Festival of the Wild Child, hosted by the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust (MMLT). This year's theme is "Sharing the Wild Life" and we want to share some amazing nature experiences with you and your family.

Join MMLT for a fun day of learning and sharing in this beautiful nature reserve. There are 8 kilometres of trails winding through the property, providing opportunities to see the varied habitats and interesting wildlife.

We'll have experts on hand to show you butterflies in the meadow, frogs in the stream, porcupines in the trees and beavers in the pond. And if you're very quiet, you just might meet some magical fairies in the woods!

We even have a new self-guided trail along Beaver Pond, thanks to the Grade 4 and 5 students at Pakenham Public School. You will see interpretive signage and QR codes that lead you to fascinating information.

The Festival of the Wild Child is a great opportunity to learn how plants and animals who share the same space can work together to protect each other. Then we can think about how we can help protect them too.

Registration opens on August 1 at <mmlt.ca/events> (note: you can register in-person on event day as well). This family activity is only \$10 per adult, and children and youth under 16 are free. This year we're sharing the date with the nearby Pakenham Fair, the "Come Home to Pakenham Weekend" Bicentennial Event,

and with the Mill of Kintail's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Make a day of it, and celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Town of Mississippi Mills!

High Lonesome is located at 867 Carbine Road near Pakenham. The event runs from 10AM to 4PM and the rain date is Sunday, August 20. There's parking on-site and we will have pizza from the Centennial Restaurant and cold drinks for sale. Please leave your pets at home — the wildlife will thank you! For all event details including an activity list, map, and information on Wild Child t-shirts, you can check our events page at <mmlt.ca/events>.

But don't just take it from us — here's what past participants have to say! "The beaver pond was so cool — I almost got soaked!" (Jaydon, age 8); "We made a house for the fairies with sticks and pretty little stones — I hope they come!" (Finley, age 6); "A butterfly flew right onto my hand!" (Kai, age 10); "It was fun to watch my grandkids explore and ask so many questions!" (Joanna, age 63).



Come to High Lonesome on Saturday, August 19 for a wonderful day in the wilderness at MMLT's Festival of the Wild Child!

# Orion Auditions for Jesus Christ Superstar

Perth's Orion Theatre Company is planning a production of Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's *Jesus Christ Superstar* as a cancer fundraiser in February of 2024. Auditions will be held at St. Paul's United Church on Friday, September 8 (evening) and Saturday, September 9 (daytime). To book a time slot, please contact the producers at <oriontheatrecompany@gmail.com>.

The artistic team consists of Peter Dixon (director), Heidi Stepanek (vocal director and choreographer), and Gordon Craig (music director). Shows will take place from February 23 to March 3, 2024 at St. Paul's United Church in Perth.

### About Orion Theatre Company

Heidi Stepanek and Peter Dixon launched Orion Theatre Company in 2003 with a production of *Rocky Horror Show* that is still talked about by those familiar with this groundbreaking event. Orion is a semi-professional community theatre company that specializes in intimate productions of well-known Broadway musicals. It is known for presenting high-caliber productions highlighting the many talented local actors, singers, and musicians.

Past productions also include *The Fantasticks* (2003), *Cabaret* (2004), *Guys & Dolls* (2006), *Evita* (2007), *Godspell* (2008), *Cats* (2008), *Grease* (2009), *The Producers* (2009), *Into the Woods* (2010), *Rent* (2010), *The Full Monty* (2011), *La Cage aux Folles* (2012), and *Les Misérables* (2014).

On hiatus since 2014, Heidi and Peter are excited to be resurrecting Orion with a new production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* in 2024.

On hiatus since 2014, Heidi and Peter are excited to be resurrecting Orion with a new production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* in 2024.





Come out and celebrate at the Mill of Kintail on Sunday, August 20

## Happy 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Mill of Kintail!

The Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority is pleased to announce that the Mill of Kintail Conservation Area will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Sunday, August 20. Located in the heart of Mississippi Mills (2854 Ramsay Concession 8, Almonte), the Mill of Kintail is a historic recreational 154-hectare property situated on the Indian River. It boasts over 6km of trails and houses the R. Tait McKenzie and Dr. James Naismith Museum.

Festivities will officially get underway at 10AM and include a variety of activities and entertainment for the whole family. On the entertainment stage, The Cameron Highlanders of Ottawa Pipe Band will kick off the celebrations, followed by the musical stylings of local artist Vicki Brittle. Little Ray's Nature Centre will have an all-ages demonstration featuring some of their exotic animals. Other attractions will include the classic and cool cars of the Carleton Place Cruise Night club, guided hikes led by the Mississippi Valley Field

Naturalists, inflatables and interactive games and crafts for kids of all ages, and a food tent hosted by the Almonte Civitan BBQ.

"Event organizers and have been working hard to offer guests and their families a great day of fun-filled activities to help celebrate the anniversary of this wonderful property," explains MVCA General Manager Sally McIntyre. "Whether you are a regular visitor or a newcomer to the conservation area, we encourage everyone to come out and join us on August 20!"

The Mississippi Valley Conservation Foundation will be organizing a 50-50 raffle in support of the MVCF and the Mill of Kintail. Be sure to visit the booth to get your tickets.

Admission and parking will be free, and the celebration will run from 10AM to 4PM. For more information, visit <mvc.on.ca>. Come out and celebrate 50 years of the Mill of Kintail Conservation Area!

## Highland Games Time!

The organizers of the North Lanark Highland Games invite everyone to join them in celebrating the Scottish culture and heritage of the Ottawa Valley at the 38<sup>th</sup> annual Highland Games, taking place on August 26 right in the heart of Almonte.

There is much to see and do! You can cheer on champion heavyweight athletes while they try their best in the Caber Toss, Sheaf Toss and Stone Throw, listen to some talented pipers and drummers, and watch the twirling feet of some graceful Highland dancers. If you've got kids, dinna fash yersel' — there is an entire area dedicated to them

which boasts Highland Athletics, face painting, colouring and a dress-up area, all of which is free for the wee bairns.

Tickets can be found (along with some yummy treats) at Baker Bob's in Almonte and The General Store in Pakenham. If you prefer to shop from home, tickets can also be purchased at Eventbrite. The North Lanark Highland Games runs rain or shine, and they hope to see everyone come out and enjoy the fun at the Almonte Fairgrounds on August 26. For more information, visit <almontehighlandgames.com>.



Come to the Almonte Fairgrounds for the North Lanark Highland Games on August 26

**2 AMAZING SHOWS AT FARRELL HALL**

A TRIBUTE TO FRANKI VALLI & THE 4 SEASONS

# JERSEY NIGHTS

LIVE ON STAGE!

**SAT., AUGUST 19, 2023 8PM**

CANADA'S PREMIER TRIBUTE TO

CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL

DOORS at 7PM **BOOTLEG CREEDENCE** SHOW at 8PM

LIVE IN CONCERT

**SAT., SEPTEMBER 23, 2023, 8PM**

TICKETS ONLINE OR BY PHONE

19+ EVENT **TICKETS PLEASE** ticketsplease.ca (613) 485-6434 CASH BAR

ADV. \$34.00 **FARRELL HALL** DOOR \$39.00

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Lake 88.1 FOR MORE INFO: www.dreamrock.ca Dream Rock ENTERTAINMENT

IT'S BACK!

rideau lakes artists' association

# Paint the Summer

ART SHOW & SALE

**AUGUST 26 & 27, 2023 | 10 am - 4 pm**

Westport Arena | 37 Spring St., Westport, ON

Free parking | Free admission | rideaulakesartists.com | rideaulakesartists

rideau lakes artists' association



# Humm Bits

## Union Hall's Famous Blueberry Tea

By Les Humphreys

Once again, Union Hall opens its doors to invite one and all to this cherished annual event. Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 27 from 2–4PM, because this is an occasion not to be missed!

Visit in the afternoon to enjoy our freshly baked blueberry dessert, a warm cup of tea or freshly brewed Equator coffee, in celebration of the joys of summer.

Union Hall holds a special place in our hearts as a Registered Charitable Organization, serving as a gathering place since its construction in 1857. Throughout the years it has served as a beacon of community, a place of worship, a lending library, a venue for family celebrations and meetings, and a variety of cultural and commercial events.

Today, thanks to the support of Mississippi Mills and the dedication of our volunteers, we continue to preserve and maintain this historical landmark that has touched the lives of so many.

There is no charge for the Blueberry Tea, but any donations you would like to contribute are always welcome and greatly appreciated.

Make it a date for Sunday, August 27 at Union Hall.

## The Frontenac Frolic Returns!

The Frontenac Frolic, sponsored by the Bobs and Crow Lakes Foundation, will be returning after a three-year absence to the Bedford Glendower Hall, located at 1381 Westport Road. Taking place on August 5 from 9AM to 2PM, it features face painting, live music, a yummy bake sale, Ray's reptiles, the Boot'N Bonnet British Car Club, a book sale table, petting zoo, fire trucks and fire safety information, local history display and a flea market. This year the flea market is a pop-up vendor event. To reserve a spot, please contact Byron Turner at 273-6130.

The silent auction will once again have some great items such as a Jordan Hicks painting, a chainsaw, several rounds of golf, a gift certificate for dinner at a local restaurant, Adirondack chairs and Bob's Lake Calendars.

As in previous years the main attraction will be the cow flop bingo on the sports field grid. Prizes are \$1800, \$900 and \$500. Tickets are 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$20. The cow flop is the major fundraiser for projects in and around Bobs and Crow Lakes. Projects funded by the Foundation include shoal marker buoys, boating safety cards, cottage safety cards, Walleye spawning bed enhancement, septic inspections and repairs, and shoreline study and naturalization projects.

## Reclaimed Textile Workshop at MVTM

Artist Leisa Rich, whose work is currently on display at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum (MVTM), is hosting a fun workshop to create artwork with reclaimed textiles. It will take place at the Museum on August 6 from 10AM to noon, and costs \$10 per person. There is a limit of ten participants. The workshop will begin with a personal tour of the exhibit, after which workshop attendees will use a special sticky base and repurposed fabrics to create a work of art. Participants will cut and shape the materials into an abstract format, landscape, or portrait. All supplies will be provided. This workshop is suitable for all ages; however, sharp scissors will be used.

Rich is a textile artist from Howe Island, Ontario, who uses old materials and old fibre art techniques in new ways, and new materials in ways for which they were not originally intended. Rich's artwork is part of *Among the Garbage and the Flowers*, an exhibit that brings together the work of eleven female artists who are redefining and refining fibre techniques using cast-off and reclaimed materials. The exhibit will be at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum from August 5 through to October 7.

## Come Build a Scarecrow!

All ages can join in the fun at the Middleville and District Museum's Scarecrow Building Day on Saturday, August 12 from noon to 4PM. Family and friends will work together to build large scarecrows who will watch over the Museum grounds. Crafts, games and stories will provide entertainment for children during the afternoon along with cookies and lemonade. This is a free family friendly outdoor event with no pre-registration required. Please visit <middlevillemuseum.org> for more information.

## Community Harvest Supper Needs Kitchen Supervisor

St. Paul's Community Harvest Supper is in need of a kitchen supervisor for the September 2023 event. Commercial kitchen experience is preferred, however not essential. Join us in serving turkey dinners and raising funds for Lanark County Foodbank, Lanark County Interval House, Mississippi Mills Youth Center, and the church. Have fun, work with the youth center in food preparation, meet new people, get involved in a tradition that has been going on for over half a century. This can be a paid or volunteer position, please call Sandra at 613-621-9092 if interested.

The Reeve Report

# Why I Need the Newspaper

There are some daily routines that are cherished, and in our house it's the newspaper. Since I was knee-high to a grasshopper, the newspaper has landed in our house daily: *The Trail Daily Times*, *The Kimberley Bulletin*, *The Victoria Times Colonist*, *The Globe and Mail*, *The Halifax Chronicle*, *The Ottawa Journal*, *the Citizen* and *The Almonte Gazette* have all had their era.

by Glenda Jones

My father read us "the funny pages" when we were pre-school, all our favourite comic strips from Alley Oop to Blondie, pointing out words and sharing the humour until those characters became part of our lives. He didn't show us the scary news stories, and there were plenty during war times, but dwelt instead on the picture captions on the sports pages or the local news stories, short little reading lines that might tempt us to look farther.

As we got older, we all wanted a section, and before we knew it, we were interested in following the news for ourselves. That was when newspapers had multiple sections, so one of us could be reading sports while another read the classified ads or the comics or the social pages.

Ah, the social pages, with weddings and lace and bridal showers. Who wouldn't want a mention regarding that frothy hat? Anyone with a brother on the Trail Smoke Eaters hockey team relished reading how they'd walloped the Kimberley Dynamiters.

We would wait for the "plop" of the paper landing on the doorstep, and run to get the best part first. Any paperboy worth his salt could ride his bike, pitch the paper, and carry on without looking back. Very impressive!

We learned to read using the newspaper, with everything from the want ads to letters to the editor attracting our attention. The comics were a wealth of simple words when we were little, and to this day I consider them a valuable tool for teaching children to read. Any advertising where words and pictures went together gave us a leg up in literacy.

The newspaper has heralded the start of the day for as long I can remember. These days it arrives in our mailbox, delivered all the way up Carroll Side Road by a pleasant early riser who rarely lets us down. The paper gets thinner, but it's still there with the comics,

the puzzles and the editorials that define the events of the day. I rarely see the driver, but when I have, I commend him for his good service.

Now, I guess I could come into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and get my news online, but it's just not the same as snapping the pages open, folding back the section and reading words on paper. Occasionally I need to clip a recipe or a poignant op-ed piece. How could I do that on my computer? Many times I start an article, have to leave it, and then come back, and the paper is right where I left it. That wouldn't happen with the computer, and I'd simply not return to finish the thing.

It's not as if the paper goes to waste either. I've lined garden beds with it, used it as paint dropsheets, covered my work area when I'm working on craft projects. Can you see me doing that with my computer?? It would be some messy thing!

There's a stack of newspapers waiting for wood stove season too. Here's the fun of that pile: when I go to use it, I look back at the old stories that by then will be several months old, and consider what's changed since then. I found some pages from the Covid days a while back, and lived again the fear we felt through the early pandemic. How soon we move on as new crises are touted in the headlines.

That pile of newspaper is tangible history that needs to be preserved. Just handling the brittle pages conjures the passing of time, a connection to the writers, the ad agents, the artists who put that daily work of art to press so the rest of the world would have a neat little package of history to read every day.

If the time comes — God forbid — that the daily paper is no more, my life will be the poorer since I won't have the patience to sit in front of the computer to read editorials, browse the ads, look

for the comics, try the puzzles. I can listen to the news on the radio, but nothing replaces seeing it in print on paper and debating with the editorial writers whose opinions shape our interpretations of what we read.

Oh, I know, you'll say I could read it onscreen, that this is proof that I'm definitely "old school" — and hey, that's just fine by me. When you need extra paper to line the birdcage or the puppy crate, call me. I've got lots here.

(Yes, I get the weekly Hummail, and read it all, but I also have every month's Humm handy so I can go back to it every couple of days and read something I missed the first time.)



Photo by Melpo Tsiliaki, courtesy Unsplash

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Also check out Instagram & Facebook for Workshops and Wellness Journeys

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domeretreat.ca

**ALMONTE FAIR**  
EST. 1858

**\$25** Pay One Price Admission  
for All Ages!

Entertainment at this year's Fair includes:

- Eastbound of Bytown
- The County Lads
- Agriculture Education
- Woolfjocks Canine All Stars
- Demolition Derby
- Kids Zone
- Livestock Shows
- Mojo Magic
- The Keepers
- Duke & Trixie
- Beauce Carnaval

Theme: Farming, Food & Fun!

**September 8-10**  
www.almontefair.ca



# Canada's Walk of Fame – Hometown Stars

The stage is set for a Bicentennial bash in the birthplace of basketball!

On Saturday, August 12, everyone is invited to welcome Canada's Walk of Fame to Mississippi Mills for a special Hometown Stars event. This special occasion will celebrate the area's very own 2019 Canada's Walk of Fame inductee, Dr. James Naismith, and all the contributions he made to the sporting world as the inventor of basketball. Presented by Scotiabank, in partnership with Cineplex, the Hometown Stars celebration is free to the public and will feature special guests, members of Dr. Naismith's family, musical performances and a commemorative plaque unveiling.

Dr. Naismith's ties to the area stretch back to 1853, when his father John Naismith, 18 years old at the time, migrated from Scotland to the Lanark District of Upper Canada. Soon after he moved to live with his uncle Peter in Ramsay Township.

James Naismith was born near Almonte on November 6, 1861, the eldest son of John and Margaret. He attended grade school in the one-room schoolhouse in Bennie's Corners, and high school in Almonte. Before and after school he would help with chores on the farm and play with friends. One of his favourite games was "Duck on a Rock," which combined tag with throwing, where a player would guard a large stone. Much later, this game would serve as inspiration in his development of basketball.

While attending YMCA Training school in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1891, he was asked to come up with a new indoor game. Looking at the rules of some of his favourite sports, such as rugby and lacrosse, he developed a game that was fair for all and eliminated rough play, and named it basketball.

Dr. Naismith died on November 28, 1939, and one of the highlights of his career was

seeing the world play his game, which was introduced as an Olympic sport at the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany. Since that time basketball has been adopted globally, becoming one of the most widely played and viewed sports.

Dr. Naismith's innovation, and his birthplace on Mississippi Mills soil, is truly something to celebrate. The Town can't wait to honour his gift to the sporting world.

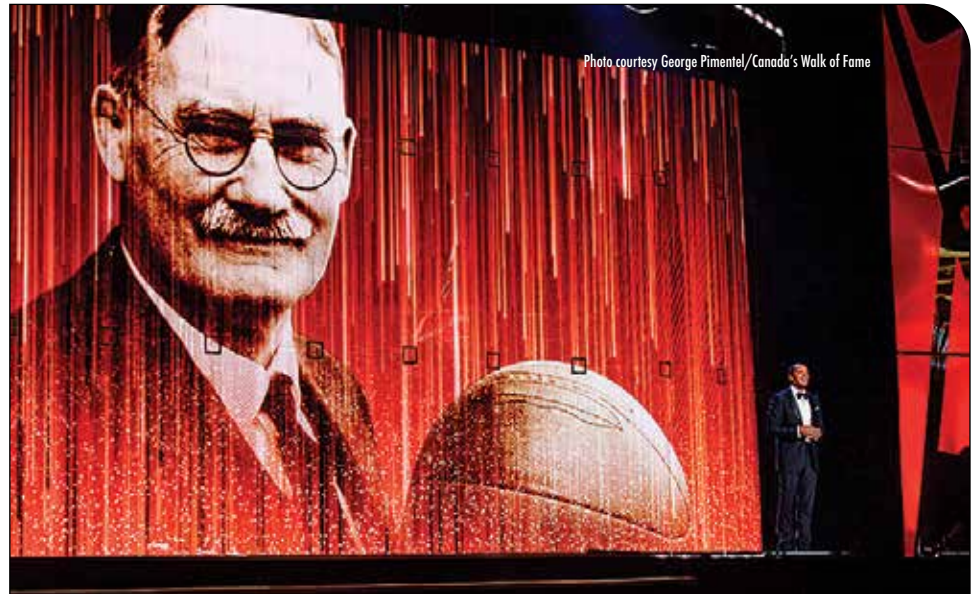
## Schedule of Events

Festivities begin on August 12 with a day of 3-on-3 basketball at the 28<sup>th</sup> annual Naismith 3x3 Basketball Tournament on Bridge Street in front of the John Levi Community Centre.

The tournament will break at 3PM for the Canada's Walk of Fame Hometown Stars event at the Gemmill Park Main Stage (182 Bridge Street, behind the Community Centre). The public is invited to join members of the Naismith family, members of council and representatives from Canada's Walk of Fame for a special ceremony and plaque presentation honouring Dr. Naismith's 2019 induction into Canada's Walk of Fame.

This event is a special collaboration between Canada's Walk of Fame, the Municipality of Mississippi Mills and the Naismith 3x3 Basketball Tournament. Find more details at <[mississippimills.ca/events](http://mississippimills.ca/events)>.

And don't forget to check out the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum's latest exhibit, *Post Up*, by athlete and artist Mallory Tolcher. It opens August 12 and runs until October 7, and is being presented as part of Mississippi Mills' Bicentennial Celebrations. Through a series of textiles installed on metal rims and wooden backboards, Tolcher challenges societal norms and reimagines the conventional basketball net. For more information on the artist and exhibit, please visit <[mvtm.ca](http://mvtm.ca)>.



Come out and celebrate Dr. James Naismith's 2019 induction into Canada's Walk of Fame at the Hometown Stars Ceremony on August 12 in Almonte!

## Family Fun at the Pakenham Horse Show

Do you ride, drive, show or love to watch horses? If so, the Pakenham Horse Show is for you! This exciting equestrian event is now entering its 158<sup>th</sup> year and is supported by many local sponsors and volunteers.

Put Saturday, August 12 on your "do not miss" list of summer events. There are classes for all ages: English and Western riding, driving, log skidding, driving slalom, and the ever-popular costume class.

It all takes place in the Pakenham Community Park, outside the Stewart Community Centre. The show begins at 9:30AM and is free for all spectators, so bring the whole family! Entry fee for riders is \$20 for the day or \$5 per class and must be entered no later than 9PM on Thursday, August 10. Late entries will be required to pay an additional \$10. Please email Cindy Schlievert-Warland at <[PakenhamHA@gmail.com](mailto:PakenhamHA@gmail.com)> for registration or enquiries, or find more details on the Pakenham Horse Show Facebook page.



The costume class is a favourite at the Pakenham Horse Show, taking place on August 12

**Thursday August 24th**

**210 Bridge Street**

**10 am - 7 pm**

**Downtown Carleton Place**

**YOU ARE INVITED!**

*Art Gallery Opening*  
**and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

The Carleton Place Gallery is a new artist-owned fine art gallery for the community featuring over 20 local and regional artists and artisans, with plans to open an attached studio offering workshops and programs starting this Fall.

**CPGALLERY.CA**



# PuppetCon: Puppets for All Ages & Stages!

If you've ever been in the audience at the Puppets Up! International Puppet Festival and thought to yourself, "that looks like fun," now's your chance to get involved!

The first ever PuppetCon is coming to Almonte from August 11–13, thanks to presenting sponsor Levi Home Hardware Building Centre, other local sponsors, volunteers and organizers who have made it a point to ensure there's something for everyone to enjoy.

"You hear a lot of people talk about 'all ages and all stages' when they develop programs," explains PuppetCon's Jenny Sheffield. "Well, we mean it! And not just all ages or stages of proficiency as a performer but all literal stages too — from budding professionals ready for the theatre stage to those who just want to put on a show in the car on the ride home."

## Family-Friendly Fun

Puppetry is a serious art form with deep cultural roots around the world, but it's also among the most accessible. PuppetCon workshops that are perfect for kids and families include:

- **A Tour of Puppetry** with Graham Soul, where participants will be able to try out different types of puppets including hand, rod, string (marionettes), table-top / Bunraku-style, shadow puppetry, object theatre, TV puppetry, plus a mascot-style body puppet and humanette puppets.
- The **How To Make** series with Jeff Banks of JB Arts, where kids can choose between workshops on building foam head puppets, latex rubber puppets, or a very fun umbrella dragon puppet.
- **Making Sock Puppets** with Frogtown Mountain Puppeteers. These festival favourites will make sure you never look at socks the same way again!

And of course you can't bring puppets to town without putting on a show! Frogtown Mountain Puppeteers are bringing their ever-popular *Everybody Loves Pirates* show back to town on August 12 at the Old Town Hall as part of the Con!



PuppetCon offers a mix of workshops, panels and shows. Adam Francis Proulx (above) will perform his award-winning show *The Family Crow: A Murder Mystery*, give a workshop, and participate in *Below Board*

## Cons Are for Fandoms

Don't worry, we haven't forgotten the young-at-heart either. Cons are known to bring fandoms together to celebrate the shows and franchises they love, and PuppetCon is no different!



**Almonte Learning Garden**  
111 Charles Street, Almonte  
[www.montessorilearninggarden.ca](http://www.montessorilearninggarden.ca)



**OPEN HOUSE**  
Montessori Preschool | JK | SK  
Accepting Applications for September

Thursday, August 17, 2pm - 4pm  
Sunday, August 20, 10am - 12 noon

**Growing Lifelong Learners**

## Schedule of Events: Shows, Workshops & Panels

### Friday, August 11

Panel	Around the World of Puppetry	Panel	5:00pm	\$5
Show	The Family Crow: A Murder Mystery	Adam Francis Proulx	7:30pm	\$35

### Saturday, August 12

Workshop	Making a Puppet Costume	Ingrid Hamster	9:00am	\$75
Workshop	Iggy Iguana Puppetry Bootcamp	Bob Stutt	9:30am	\$75
Workshop	A Tour of Puppetry: Introduction to Types of Puppets	Graham Soul	9:30am	\$30
Workshop	How to Make a Puppet With a Latex Rubber Head	Jeff Banks	9:30am	\$25
Workshop	Puppets in the Classroom	Sarah Argue	10:00am	\$95
Workshop	Sculpting with Plasticine <b>SOLD OUT!</b>	Noreen Young	1:00pm	\$75
Workshop	Adapting Stories for Puppet Performances	Emily Pearlman	1:00pm	\$50
Workshop	How to Make an Umbrella Dragon Puppet	Jeff Banks	1:00pm	\$25
Show	Everybody Loves Pirates	Frogtown Mountain	4:30pm	\$10
Panel	Below Board	Panel	8:00pm	\$50

### Sunday, August 13

Workshop	Iggy Iguana Puppetry Bootcamp	Bob Stutt	9:30am	\$75
Workshop	How to Market and Promote Your Puppet Show	Adam Francis Proulx	9:30am	\$35
Workshop	How to Make a Foam Head Puppet (for kids)	Jeff Banks	10:00am	\$25
Workshop	Making Sock Puppets	Frogtown Mountain	10:00am	\$20
Panel	Back to the Umbrella Tree	Panel	12:00pm	\$5
Workshop	Puppeteer Presence	Nick DiGaetano	1:00pm	\$50
Workshop	The Good, the Bad, and the Fuzzy of Making Puppet TV	Jamie Shannon	1:00pm	\$25
Workshop	How to Make a Foam Head Puppet (for adults) <b>SOLD OUT!</b>	Jeff Banks	1:30pm	\$25

- Fans of *Mr. Meaty* and *Nanalan* won't want to miss the chance to hear stories from creator Jamie Shannon during **The Good, The Bad and the Fuzzy World of Making Puppet TV**.
- *Under the Umbrella Tree* lovers rejoice! The gang is back together, on stage for the first time in 30 years, for a very special panel called **Back to the Umbrella Tree**, taking place on August 13 at noon.
- And true crime lovers... well... can we interest you in a not-so-true crime? Involving murder? And puppets? And puns? Because *The Family Crow: A Murder Mystery* takes the Old Town Hall stage on August 11.

## Now Let's Create!

As the organizers have said all along, PuppetCon is all about getting your hands dirty. Or at least felty. So makers and budding performers alike won't want to miss these workshops:

- **Making a Puppet Costume** with Ingrid Hamster, where participants will learn how to give puppets the finishing touches that will accentuate their character.
- **Puppets in the Classroom** with Sarah Argue — a very special offering for teachers, librarians and early childhood educators, where participants will create two simple puppets for kids to fall in love with and learn how to bring them into their lessons and programming.
- **How to Market and Promote Your Puppet Show**, where Adam Francis Proulx will help puppeteers and theatre creators discover how to communicate their brand and find the people who want to be their audience and watch them perform.
- **Adapting Stories for Puppet Performances** with Emily Pearlman, where participants will be led through a creative process that allows them to translate their script ideas into a theatrical, image-rich performance text that features or includes puppet characters.
- **Puppeteer Presence** with Nick DiGaetano, where puppeteers will learn how to add depth, richness and dynamism to their puppet's inner life and how to stay focused, alert and engaged with whatever the live environment of a puppet performance throws their way.

## Adult-Only

This just in from a naughty puppet friend of ours:

To those who may be wondering what exactly **Below Board** might be, I would say the same thing that I say to my puppeteer: "It's not a phase, those strings aren't mine, and for the last time I said I wanted him to WRANGLE me".

Below Board is a raucous, racy, rambunctious romp through the ribald ramp-up to the rockin' rager that is PuppetCon; and only the Ruler of Rods, NoReen Young, could rightfully ratify the rumours of rehearsal with no recourse.

What do you mean I'm not getting I'm not getting paid per word starting with R?

(What do you mean I'm not getting paid...?)

Right... then let's make this brief! The first annual PuppetCon is coming up fast, and this year we're trying something new. On Saturday Night, the Almonte Old Town Hall will transform into the Caron Studio, home of the late-night television talk show, *Below Board*. For one night only, we throw away the family-friendly in favour of a show that's funny, unique and kinky (get your mind out of the gutter, we're talking about strings).

But what would late-night be without our extremely special guests! We've got Adam Francis Proulx, creator of *The Family Crow*, who continues to sell out shows across the country with his incredible wit. Nick DiGaetano is our astronaut from an advanced parallel Earth and the only known human to travel at the speed of light (Also he's an idiot. Check his website. It says so right there). And rounding out our panel of puppeteers is Jamie Shannon, multi-Gemini award-winning creator of *Nanalan* and *Mr. Meaty*. He also wanted me to let you all know he bought a boat... so that's cool I guess.

We'll be dishing the dirt on what happens behind the scenes when the puppeteers have been let loose and are playing all the games they can get past the censors. Special guests, surprises, prizes and more are in store for this uncensored, unscripted and unhinged night of entertainment.

This fundraiser supports Puppets Up! for years to come, funding artists and organizers journeying to Almonte from all over the globe. It's also a great excuse to grab a drink with that incredibly sexy puppeteer you've been eyeing up since last festival who you need to impress with your knowledge of grades of felt...

In short, there are only two things to say:

Love puppets? This show's for you.

Hate puppets? This show's for you.

More information and tickets for all of these events can be found at <puppetsup.com>.





Paint the Summer will feature works by Rideau Lakes Artists' Association members such as Fred Fowler, who painted the curious trio above

## Attention Art Lovers Paint the Summer Returns to Westport!

Submitted by the Rideau Lakes Artists' Association

What could be more inviting than charming Westport in the summer? This waterfront destination that promises great shopping and delicious food is also a mecca for artists and creators of all stripes. August is a month to relish the sweetest summer weather, put down the gardening tools and head out to seek some beauty and culture. If that sounds like a good idea, have we got a show for you!

After last year's wonderfully successful event at Westport's WTC Communications Centre, Rideau Lakes Artists' Association's **Paint the Summer** is back in the same venue — and it's bigger and better.

All are welcome to attend and marvel at the creative output of more than 40 talented fine artists from all over eastern Ontario, working across a variety of media. If you're looking for a large statement painting, a tiny masterpiece or anything in between, you'll definitely find it at Paint the Summer. All exhibitors will be on hand to greet guests, answer questions and share their experiences.

This year's featured artists include Leane Bailey, Brian Bailey, Sharon Benson, Ben Bennett, Kristi Bird (profiled on page 3 of this issue), Ina Black, Margaret Brackley, Carolyne Buchanan, Dave Carlson, Jackie Coldrey, Chris Dickson, Caroline Evans, Fred Fowler, Riley Garner, Susan Gibson, David Gilmore, Jessica Lynne Godin, Sally Headford, Barbara Jordan, Margaret Kelk, Robin Laffier, Donna Laroque, Susan Leslie, Rob Maloney, Bonnie McLean, Donna McPhail, Aileen Merriam, Maureen O'Brien, Barbara Osborne-Monaghan, Pat Purdy, Barb Reilly, Sherry Lynn Rogers, Linda Rush, Barb Sohn, Linda Svarckopf, Denise Tipton, Ron Veh, Judith Versavel, Kay Wallace, Susan Walters, Laurel Wilson and Sarah Young Fowler.

Paint the Summer takes place on Saturday, August 26 and Sunday, August 27 and runs from 10AM to 4PM each day at the WTC Communications Centre, 37 Spring Street (at Concession) in Westport, Ontario. Admission and parking are free.

For details, visit <rideaulakesartists.com>, find us on Facebook or Instagram, or see our ad in this issue.

## Our Perth Trees Seeks Volunteers

A small informal group of volunteers is working to increase and protect the tree and shrub population in Perth and the surrounding townships. Our Perth Trees (OPT) evolved out of a concern for the destruction of trees and shrubs caused by the spongy moth (aka the gypsy moth) and the effects of climate change.

"The forecast is for extreme heat in the coming years. And we're already experiencing frequent above-normal temperatures," says Kate Donnelly, OPT founder and volunteer. "The establishment of a green canopy in our communities is essential to help mitigate the negative effects of climate change. That means trees need to stay healthy and thrive."

With this in mind, OPT is making a call to action. "We need volunteers," says Donnelly.

Volunteering with OPT is flexible. For starters, the work is weather-dependent. Any time offered is appreciated, whether it's a couple of hours, once a week or once a month, no matter what your age and motivation.

Currently OPT needs volunteers to plant seedlings, including mulching and fencing, at the Perth Wildlife Reserve and in the parks; to undertake weekly watering for two to three years after planting; and to cut and remove invasive vines from trees and shrubs in parks, along streets and on private property.

Volunteers are also needed to help plan next year's Seedling Sale, to share ideas for fundraisers, and to help educate residents about caring for their trees and shrubs. OPT is also looking for a landscaper or arborist who can offer ad hoc advice or expertise on the care and maintenance of trees and shrubs.

To get involved, please email OPT at <ourperthtrees@gmail.com> or visit their Facebook page at <bit.ly/43laRtt>.



Volunteering with Our Perth Trees can re-leaf stress, and help you put down roots in the community!

# It's the Perth Lions Garlic Festival...Let's Go!

24<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Perth Lions  
*garlic*  
Festival

## August 12-13, 2023

(Always the 2<sup>nd</sup> Weekend of August)  
Saturday 9AM-5PM ~ Sunday 9AM-4PM

## Perth Fairgrounds

50 Arthur St., Perth, ON

- Refreshment Tent
- Wine, Beer & Liquor Tasting
- Pumped Up Live Music that will put a smile on your face!

SATURDAY  
RUKKUZ

SUNDAY  
Eddy & the Stingrays

STARTING AT NOON

• Birds of Prey • 70+ Vendors

## Cooking Demos

12:00PM to 1:00PM  
Saturday & Sunday

Saturday:  
Kothu Labs

Sunday:  
Maximilian  
Dining Lounge

ADMISSION: \$5  
NO PETS

Children under 12 FREE  
ATM on Premises

www.perthgarlicfestival.ca



# AUGUST EVENTS

## in Mississippi Mills!

AUG. 3	MOVIE IN THE PARK - CLAYTON
AUG. 4	RCMP MUSICAL RIDE
AUG. 5	YELLOW BUS FARM TOUR
AUG. 9	CAR TOOT BINGO - ALMONTE FAIRGROUNDS
AUG. 10	MOVIE IN THE PARK - PAKENHAM
AUG. 12	NAISMITH 3X3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
AUG. 12	DR. JAMES NAISMITH'S INDUCTION INTO CANADA'S WALK OF FAME CELEBRATION
AUG. 12	POST UP - MALLORY TOLCHER ART EXHIBIT
AUG. 16	CAR TOOT BINGO - ALMONTE FAIRGROUNDS
AUG. 17	ALMONTE WELLNESS TRAIL RIBBON CUTTING
AUG. 17	MOVIE IN THE PARK - MUNRO MEADOWS
AUG. 18-20	COME HOME TO PAKENHAM WEEKEND CELEBRATION
AUG. 20	MILL OF KINTAIL 50TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY
AUG. 23	CAR TOOT BINGO - ALMONTE FAIRGROUNDS
AUG. 24	MOVIE IN THE PARK - ALMONTE LIBRARY
AUG. 26	NORTH LANARK HIGHLAND GAMES
AUG. 27	APPLETON COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
AUG. 30	CAR TOOT BINGO - ALMONTE FAIRGROUNDS
AUG. 31	MOVIE IN THE PARK - RIVERFRONT ESTATES



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## The Moth Project

Two brothers — a biologist and a musician — spend the summer of 2020 in quarantine together with their six children at the family cottage near Perth, Ontario. Through the ritual of evening campfires, a thread of an idea emerges that weaves together their combined worlds — art and science, myth and fact, music and moths. Two years and a Canada Council grant later, The Moth Project is bringing their show to a diverse range of venues with the release of an album and accompanying book featuring music, pictures, and words about and inspired by moths.

Is the show eco-theatre? Transdisciplinary and multimedia performance art? “I didn’t understand those terms when I wrote the show,” says Peter Kiesewalter, a Grammy-nominated and Emmy Award-winning composer based in New York City, “but there does seem to be a movement among the arts that incorporates the themes of biodiversity and ecological awareness. I’d explain the show this way: The Moth Project is a 75-minute live show featuring two musicians — myself on keyboard, and violinist Whitney La Grange — performing a diverse range of music, from Bach to Joni Mitchell to KISS to original songs, while a stunning visual tour of macro photography, slow motion video, and dynamic motion graphics are projected onto us, transporting us and the audience to a strange and wonderful world. It is about and

inspired by moths with a spoken word narrative arc about my family’s migration from post-war Germany to Canada in the 1950’s.”

Having showcased at arts and science conferences in the first half of 2023, the show is resonating across a wide range of cultural institutions and audiences.

“The next few shows include appearances at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, the National Arts Centre, the Santa Fe Botanical Gardens, the Cutting Room in NYC, and the immersive video projection-mapped Meow Wolf in Denver,” continues Kiesewalter “and we’re thrilled with the enthusiastic response from the biologists and photographers whose images have been entrusted to us.” But perhaps the most important endorsement has come from Robin Wall Kimmerer, the esteemed botanist, professor, recent MacArthur Fellow, best-selling author (*Braiding Sweetgrass*), and enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, whose words and voice grace the piece *Reciprocity*, a song which asks the question “what can I gift the Earth in return for the privilege of breath?” The answer — pay attention, get to know your neighbours, and create transformative works of art.

The Moth Project will be appearing at Studio Theatre Perth on Saturday, August 26 at 7:30PM.

Tickets are \$32.50 from <mothprojectlive.com>.

## “Trail Town” — Cashing In on Cycle Tourism

By Jeff Mills

This summer, there have been more and more cyclists in the Valley enjoying an ice cream, coffee or sticky bun, gathered to have a bite or snapping photos of our wonderful small towns and villages. Cyclists are having fun — and spending money — in the Ottawa Valley.

Strong, resilient communities are ones where diverse groups come together, then work together for the common good. They approach tasks from an “abundance” perspective — one that assumes we already have what we need if we recognize our existing assets and work together to leverage the gifts of our citizens.

A group from Renfrew and Lanark Counties has come together over the summer to discuss the potential of building economic development through cycle tourism. The group consists of members of



On September 13, find out how your business or community can benefit from cycle tourism!

Ottawa Valley Cycling and Active Transportation Alliance (OVCATA) and Mississippi Mills Bicycle Movement. The Ottawa Valley Recreation Trail/Algonquin Trail is a jointly owned community asset — a 300k backbone trail that connects communities from Smiths Falls through Lanark County north through Renfrew County all the way to Mattawa and Papineau-Cameron Township. This community trail lends itself as a spine for a series of regional loop trails, offering the potential to build healthy, active and economically sound communities.

On Wednesday, September 13, the group will host a meeting at the Nick Smith Centre in Arnprior from 9:30am to 2PM to discuss the potential of the “Trail Town” concept for cycle tourism. Louisa Mursell of Ontario by Bike, Jennifer McCourt of Discovery Routes/Voyageur Trail, Brenda Wood of the Trent Severn Waterway and Bob Peltzer of OVCATA will all present.

You may own an ice cream stand, perhaps a restaurant, bakery, chip truck, inn or bed and breakfast. Perhaps you run a bike shop; you may curate a local museum, coordinate a farmers’ market, or be a member of a chamber of commerce. You might work in tourism, for a municipality or a county, or sit as a council member. Maybe you’re someone who just loves to explore the riches of Lanark and Renfrew from the seat of your bike! All are welcome and encouraged to join in the conversation about how we can work together, using cycle tourism to build stronger communities in our part of the province.

Let us know you are coming by registering at Tickets Please (\$25 covers the cost of your lunch and refreshments).

Visit <TicketsPlease.ca> or call 485-6434.



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# Ganja Guidance for the Cannabis-Curious

If you've ever wandered into one of the ubiquitous "pot shops" that have popped up all over the Valley, you may have found yourself at a loss, trying to decide between products, strains and delivery methods. CBD or THC? Sativa or Indica? Gummies or salve? Fortunately, there is someone local who can help! Nancy Sendell is a cannabis sommelier whose mission is to educate people about today's cannabis marketplace. Through her **WestPot Cannabis Sommelier Services** (located in Westport), she offers a variety of services intended to do so in a safe and friendly manner. theHumm contacted her to find out more about her intriguing business.

by Kris Riendeau

**theHumm: How did you first become interested in cannabis in more than a recreational way?**

Nancy Sendell: I've used cannabis recreationally since high school — mostly just on weekends. But I also have a bad knee that I was finally able to get replaced a few years ago. After a lifetime of taking pain meds that eventually stopped working for me, I found that the only thing that helped was cannabis, and have been growing my own for the past several years. I've always been fascinated by this plant that I can grow myself, which deals with many of my issues and makes me happy with a side effect of giggles. I've followed the development of the cannabis culture and scientific research that has come out over the years, so I guess it's a bit of a passion of mine.

**Can you tell our readers a bit about your accreditation, as well as your history in the cannabis industry?**

I lucked into a job at Canopy Growth as a Sensory Panelist — apparently I have an acute sense of smell and taste. The product testing sessions were very scientific, and we delved into how we perceive and sense the various terpene profiles and tastes of both flower and edibles. Our team of fifteen was a broad cross-section of people, from craft growers to moms and medical users. I learned a lot from my colleagues, and we had numerous chats about how cannabis culture is still somewhat behind the curtain — that there is a large gap between what the industry is allowed to tell you about the products and the questions that people have about cannabis.

I am all for harm reduction regulations, but as it stands now the average consumer cannot find reliable sources of information to answer their questions. This is a complex product that can have negative impacts if used improperly.

After being laid off from Canopy, I found a training program to become a certified Cannabis Sommelier so that I could learn more about the plant and how to talk to people about cannabis, and find resources for the latest research. I am learning more and more about this magical plant and this vibrant new market every day, from genetics and growing to product development and extraction methods.

**What types of questions do you usually delve into in your one-hour private consultation service? Besides the psychoactive effects, do you also advise on taste and the consumption experience?**

I ask clients to send me their interests, concerns or questions, as well as their experience with cannabis. From there I can talk about various cultivars (strains), the genetics, terpene profiles and tastes. I cannot predict how anyone will feel, but I can guide you towards a few cultivars or products that may get you to where you want to go. I talk about dosage, various extraction and consumption methods. Sometimes people start having a different experience — even with a product that they have used before but it stops working for them. I can help find some alternatives to assist in dealing with their issues.

For the cannabis connoisseur, I recommend getting a few friends together for a Premium Cannabis Tasting. I conduct tasting sessions with several different craft-grown cultivars of premium genetics designed to highlight incredible flavours and aromas. I am all about the safe and responsible consumption of cannabis, so I will bring the party to your home or cottage for an afternoon of fun.

**What are some of the highlights of your multi-day "Play & Stay Cannabis Adventure"?**

Again, it's all about a safe and responsible way to enjoy cannabis. Running my bed and breakfast and being a Cannabis Sommelier, it just seemed natural to bring them both together. Westport has so much, all within walking distance: hiking trails, shopping, a winery, brewery, cannabis shop, and The Cove for great live music. Guests are treated to a tasting session and provided with enough edibles and flowers for them to thoroughly enjoy themselves without having to drive. I am working on adding a cannabis theme to some classic board games. I cater to my guests' interests — birding, cycling, hiking or paddling.

**What are some preconceived notions that people might have about your job and the services you offer?**

There is still a lot of stigma surrounding this plant and what it does, with the stereotype of the classic stoner. I do not sell pot, nor do I try to convince



Nancy Sendell of Westpot offers a variety of cannabis sommelier services from her Westport location

people to try pot. Cannabis is very much part of our culture, but it has been underground. My experience has been that people from all walks of life use this plant in many different ways. Many people believe that it is dangerous, and while it has its risks, used appropriately it can also have many benefits, especially with the effects of aging. People who have never tried cannabis before should not be afraid of trying CBD products even if they contain some THC.

I recommend a "go slow and low" approach because you really only need to get so high. Once you get to where you want to be, why risk getting too high? I smoke one joint a day, as I need it throughout the day. I will never say that I know everything about this plant, but I am very keen to see where this industry is going. The marketplace and science are changing rapidly, so there really is a need for someone to help guide people through the many misconceptions and myths in order to find some reliable information and advice.

**Have you ever had clients get "too high", and if so do you have any tips for us laypeople?**

Being too high isn't pleasant, and I have found it can come about in two different ways. Over-consumption of either flower — but more likely edibles or a combination of both — is a common cause. Edibles always taste like more edibles when you are high, so watch out for that, especially if alcohol is in the mix. Make sure you have uninfused treats on hand for your munchies and put away your dosed goodies. Another way of getting too high is being THC-sensitive, like me. It happens when the product is over 20% THC, and if I use it too often I will lose the beneficial effects and get tinnitus and a headache and insomnia. It isn't pleasant either, so I prefer lower THC or balanced THC/CBD products. Moderation is the key to having a great cannabis experience — sometimes less is more.

**Find more information about Nancy and her services at <westpot.ca>.**

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The phenomenal Great Lake Swimmers are headlining at this year's Killaloe Craft and Community Fair!

# Killaloe Craft Fair

## Music, Art and Activities with a Grassroots Vibe

It's an Ontario mid-August weekend and what should you do? Gaze up at the Perseids Meteor shower and marvel at the dust of an ancient comet burning up in our atmosphere? Or sit on a natural outdoor amphitheatre as sweet acoustic guitar dances on the summer breeze, lulling you into connection and community? You could always join a bongo-infused high energy joyful, multicultural dance session as you twirl with the original and neo-hippies of the Ottawa Valley. Or maybe go a bit urbane in the country and throw shapes until the small hours as DJs from the Left Coast, Toronto and Wilno hit the glowing decks under the stars? What about astrology, yoga, forest walks, tarot, shiatsu, drumming, acro-yoga and Tai Chi?

Seems like an impossible choice. Fortunately, and I think you know where we're going with this, you can do all of the above and still take in arts and crafts as you hit up the food vendors at the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Killaloe Craft Fair. The grassroots festival takes place from August 11-13 on 100 acres on Mountainview Road in the Ottawa Valley. It's a mere \$60 in advance for the weekend, with camping for only \$10 to tent-it and \$20 if you roll up in an RV. Or you can buy individual tickets for Friday or Saturday. There are also discounts for students and seniors. Children under 13 get in free and there will be plenty to entertain them, like a bubblegum blowing competition, dress-up parade, wand-making workshop and a round of old fashioned kids' games.

Friday kicks off with a blessing by Algonquin Elder, artist and storykeeper Roberta Della Picca, followed by an eclectic mix of talent taking turns, including

hometown hero Russell Leon. From a biker named Val teaching him to play chords at the age of six to playing *Heart of Gold* on an acoustic guitar in the '80s, Leon has gone on to feature in Toronto Indie Awards along with decades on the Hogtown music scene, and in August he's bringing it all back home. You'll also catch El Negro Del Zabra, Spencer Mundt and Leeny Jones before the bewitching Blue Hazel take the stage after 7PM. Then the five-piece fun bunch from Montreal, K-Man and the 45s, will bring more ska punk fusion to life than a Specials Cramps '80s reunion tour. The live music rounds out with The Arms and The Legs before the mighty missKriss takes you deep in the house on the hill as she spins her tracks before EROC serves up deep, funky and rolling bass vibes.

All day Saturday the entertainment rolls on with The Rockingham Choir, Ash Anderson, Red Sky Prophets, Liam Milne, the McLean Sisters and Gloria Guerriero, before Sigrid Geddes sets up the Saturday night stage. Saturday evening headliners the Great Lake Swimmers bring the yearning atmospherica of indie folk to the grassy hill, followed by the high energy blues rock of Lyndsay Barr. If you like a little social conscience with your blistering rhythms, Kon-Fusion blends up cumbia, ska, funk and rock with South American ancestral and traditional grooves.

After all this you might be sweaty, serene and sated... but the tent will have to wait. Up on the hill under the DJ dome Trevor Knox will be laying down the saucy high-energy house. Second up Seekquest introduces a little Pacific Northwest bass music to the scene, followed by Bobby Jackets, who grew up through drum and bass to deep house, hip hop and lo fi. Basically this dude is on a mission to wring out the last dance you got.

Now you can go to bed, but you'll wake up to coffee, yoga and a session on spirituality, which frankly you might need at this point before you go soak your head at Foy Beach and make your way back to reality. The Killaloe Craft Fair has woven itself into the fabric of the community over the last five decades, despite a few gaps for Covid and the like. It is a unique event and you will not experience anything like it anywhere else. For more information or to buy tickets in advance, go to < killaloeair.ca >.





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# The Mabinogion

## The Power and Delight of Ancient Celtic Stories

By Jennifer Cayley

On Sunday of the Labour Day weekend, five fine storytellers and a splendid harpist, together with a crowd of lucky listeners, will gather in a rustic Ontario barn not far from Maberly for a telling of the *Four Branches of the Mabinogi*. Listening to this jewel of Welsh medieval Celtic literature will be a time of deep quiet and creative imagining as listeners travel through the landscapes of the strange and wondrous world these old tales inhabit.

The *Mabinogion* is a book of eleven stories collected from oral sources and written down by monks in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, as part of a growing European-wide interest in traditional oral material, it was translated from Welsh by Charlotte Guest, an English gentlewoman married to a Welsh industrialist. The four stories to be told at this event are referred to as the Four Branches of the Mabinogi because they are loosely linked narratively and share some characters, unlike the rest of the tales in the book.

The telling of the old stories is the most ancient of art forms. Still, seldom in this sound-bite-besieged time is there a chance for people to gather together in a listening community for long enough to really immerse themselves deeply in the words, the rhythms, the images, the drama, the people of an ancient and potent story like this one. But on Labour Day Sunday there will be an opportunity for just such an immersion.

You will hunt with Pwyll as he encounters the red-eyed hounds of Aran, lord of the other world. At Beindigeidfran's side you will avenge the harsh treatment meted out to his sister Branwen. With the survivors of that battle, you will take a decades-long journey of healing. Manawydan will show you how to make saddles and shoes and how to hang a mouse. With Gwydion you will conjure all manner of illusions, among them a woman made of flowers who will one day become an owl. These and many other adventures await you. If audience response to long stories in the past is anything to go by, you will find yourself amazed by how rich and full an experience it is to listen, really listen, to this kind of magical material in an extended and committed manner.

The tellers come to this work with a great love for epic stories; they have extensive experience telling such long stories as the *Odyssey*, the *Iliad* and the *Mahabharata*. They have worked together, preparing to tell the *Mabinogion* for over a year now. As



Five storytellers, along with a harpist, will gather on September 3 for a telling of the *Four Branches of the Mabinogi* — a jewel of medieval Celtic literature


storyteller Johanna Kuyvenhoven says: “To tell these stories is to fall deep into a world that is as ancient as it is immediate. The story holds up a mirror to show what it is to be human — beautiful, careless, loyal, vicious, and wildly wonderful.”

Along with the storytelling, Mary Muckle's harp playing offers a rich musical texture that illuminates the stories, weaving a fine melodic tapestry around the tales, the tellers and the listeners.

Because storytelling is at its heart a communal experience, listeners are encouraged to bring food and drink to share in a potluck supper after the telling. Fueled by the glory of these old stories, no doubt there will be good conversation and maybe even some singing to be shared. A unique and convivial experience. Don't miss it!

The *Mabinogion: Shapeshifting and Wild Celtic Dreaming* takes place on Sunday, September 3 from 1–5PM at Wildwood Farm, located at 2501 Old Brooke Road near Maberly. Tellers are Jennifer Cayley, Daniel Kletke, Ellis Lynn Duschenes, Johanna Kuyvenhoven and Jacques Falquet

Tickets are \$23 plus fees from Tickets Please ([TicketsPlease.ca](https://TicketsPlease.ca), 485–6434). For more information, please contact Jennifer at [cayleyjennifer@gmail.com](mailto:cayleyjennifer@gmail.com).



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*The Last Oz Story* imagines what happened after Dorothy returned to Kansas. This family-friendly show opens in Smiths Falls on August 11.

## The Last Oz Story at Station Theatre

Submitted by The Smiths Falls Community Theatre

The script begins with the credit: "For Elise as promised". Elise is the daughter of playwright David Myers, who, like many others, wished there was more to *The Wizard of Oz* story after Dorothy returned home to Kansas. So Myers took it on, with assistance from his friend and composer Scott Michal. Their rendition borrows a little more from L. Frank Baums' novel *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* than Hollywood's *The Wizard of Oz* movie — for example, Dorothy has silver slippers not ruby, though we're sorry we don't know what happened to little Toto.

*The Last Oz Story* begins with Dorothy (Edison Thompson/Susannah Burt) ending up in another tornado that sends her to a hospital in present day Kansas, where she tries to convince the staff she meets there that she is Dorothy Gale. But no one believes her. Not the kind but absent-minded Dr. Strohman (Rob Glas). Not the stern but cowardly administrator Nurse Leone (Natasha Foster). And certainly not her heartless caseworker, Ms. Tyndol (Laura Robinson), who has no room in her life for fantasy. However, Elise McKenna (Shannon Riley), a young reporter eager for a byline, suspects there is something more to Dorothy's story and is determined to get to the bottom of it.

With time running out, Dorothy must find a way to help her friends before it's too late. But how? She lost one of her magic slippers in the tornado, and she needs both if she is ever to get back to Oz and save the day, for back in Oz the Munchkins and other folk are in serious trouble despite the efforts of the

Scarecrow (Taylor Gilligan) with his great brain, the Tin Woodman (Xander Sonnenberg) with his big heart, and the Lion (Brady Stephens) with his enormous courage. In fact, they've become part of the problem. What's to be done?

No one, not even Glinda (Kristina Skerries), knows where she is. She just hopes that Dorothy hasn't forgotten that Oz needs her, too. Because there's a new witch in town — Peloros (Bobby Martin) — the witchiest witch of them all, and since she arrived things have gone completely haywire in Oz.

This original sequel to the L. Frank Baum novel *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* is a funny and moving tale of friendship and redemption told through lovable characters, witty dialogue and unforgettable songs. If you love this classic story and, like Elise, wanted to see more of Dorothy and her friends after they received their special gifts from the Wizard, then this is the show to see. It's totally family-friendly and hey, you don't want to miss the opportunity to see what happens when another witch invades the wonderful Land of Oz.

*The Last Oz Story* takes place at 7:30PM on August 11, 12, 17, 18 and 19, with 2PM matinées on August 13 and 20. Tickets are \$22 for adults, \$10 for students, and can be purchased with cash or debit at Special Greetings (8 Russell Street in Smiths Falls); online or by phone (283-0300) with credit card. If tickets are still available, they can be purchased half an hour before showtime, at the door, with cash or debit. For more information, please visit <smithsfallstheatre.com>.

## Save the Date for Fiberfest!

Come out to the friendly town of Almonte on September 9 and 10 for the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum's 28<sup>th</sup> annual Fibrefest! Taking place at two locations — the Almonte Community Centre and the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum — admission to Fibrefest is \$8 per day and grants access to both sites. Local guilds will demonstrate spinning, knitting, weaving, rug-hooking, lacemaking, smocking and quilting, while vendors including quilt shops and alpaca farms will be selling finished fibre goods and textile supplies from across the province.

This year, several hands-on workshops and exhibitions will be taking place alongside Fibrefest! This is your chance to roll up your sleeves and get felting, weaving or rug-hooking with talented artists. Workshops will take place from Wednesday through Sunday (September 6–10) at both the Community Centre and Museum. Registration fees for workshops include free admission to the festival. Advance registration is required, and

some workshops may require that you bring your own supplies, so make sure to check <almontefibrefest.ca> and sign up early to avoid disappointment!

Fibrefest's featured artist is acclaimed producer, puppeteer and Order of Canada recipient Noreen Young, who has been gracing television screens with her creations since the 1960s, including classics such as *Hi Diddle Day* and *Under the Umbrella Tree*. Her puppet characters have appeared in *Sesame Park*, *Readalong* and *Téléfrançais!*, and she received three Gemini Award nominations for her achievements in Canadian television.

In 2005, Noreen founded Puppets Up!, a festival that took place in Mississippi Mills for 12 years and then reemerged in 2022. Fibrefest organizers are excited to bring her talent and imagination to this festival of fibre arts!

Festival-goers can also explore the permanent history exhibit *Material World on the Mississippi*, and featured exhibits *Among the Garbage and the Flowers* and *Post Up*.



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# Carleton Place Gallery

## Opening August 24: an Art Gallery for the Community

Four dynamic local artists — Colleen Gray, Ginny Fobert, Gillian Marston and Pamela Stewart — are thrilled to be officially opening their new space on August 24. Their vision for the Carleton Place Gallery is “to cultivate a true local artists’ hub, support and grow local art, and help living local and regional artists in selling their work, while keeping the costs as low as possible to exhibit.” Their hope is that the gallery will evolve to become an essential element of a vibrant, artful downtown Carleton Place core where the entire community identifies the gallery as theirs.

On Thursday, August 24, Chamber of Commerce and Town Council members, including the Mayor of Carleton Place, will be on hand for a ribbon-cutting to officially welcome the community into the new space. The opening ceremony will take place at 10AM and the Gallery will stay open until 7PM. To receive an invitation to the opening and more information about the gallery, please sign up for the gallery’s VIP email at <cpgallery.ca> and follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

The gallery had just under 100 artists apply to exhibit, and their work will be showing on a rotating basis. Media will include watercolour, photography, abstracts, wood and stone sculpture, fine jewellery and more.

A section of the gallery space will also be dedicated to support Art for Aid <artforaid.ca>, and visitors will be able to select from beautifully packaged products such as art card bundles, land acknowledgement plaques, art prints and more in support of this initiative. Founded and run by Colleen Gray, Art for Aid ships quality art learning tools to Indigenous youth in some of the most remote reserves in Canada. All proceeds from the sale of Art for Aid items will go to fund these special and much needed shipments.

This fall, the gallerists will also be preparing a studio/workshop space connected to the gallery, which will be used for meeting space, studio space, educational space and workshops. Watch theHumm for information about a Grand Opening bash!



Just across the bridge from the Town Hall, four busy local artists are preparing a new community hub called the Carleton Place Gallery. Pictured here are Colleen Gray, Pamela Stewart and Ginny Fobert (missing is Gillian Marston). Come to their opening on August 24!

### A Building’s Transformation

Since they got the keys to the space in early June, the four artists, alongside their family members and some wonderful local tradespeople, have removed and replaced the ceiling, removed walls and created moveable walls and displays, hung professional gallery lighting and picture hanging systems, and refreshed the interior and exterior with paint — even the exterior lighting received an overhaul. Special thanks go out to the local artists’ association Arts Carleton Place for some very appreciated financial support, and to Valley Paint and Coverings and Benjamin Moore for their donation of interior paint for the renovation.

This building is one of the oldest in the historic downtown core, and will look wonderful once updates are complete. Visitors should allot time to enjoy the park and river adjacent to the gallery, grab a beer at Stalwart Brewing Co. or a bite to eat at several amazing restaurants. Everything is within walking distance.

“When I look around the gallery space now, it’s crazy how transformed the space is in under three months,” enthuses gallerist Pamela Stewart. “We can’t wait to see amazing local art up on the walls and three-dimensional art featured around the gallery.

We knew there was exceptional talent in this region, and now we get to not only showcase it in a beautiful and professional space, but do so knowing we are supporting artists and participating in this vibrant renovated downtown area. We are thrilled that we are seeing this dream come to fruition and excited to welcome everyone on August 24!”

The Carleton Place Gallery is located at 210 Bridge Street, right along the river downtown. While the hours of operation are not final yet, the gallery intends to be open six days a week from Tuesday to Sunday, closed on Mondays. More details can be found at <cpgallery.ca>.



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**Requiem**

Ambrož Čopi *O salutaris Hostia*  
Harry Somers *Gloria*

**Lisa Webber, Artistic Director**

Jessica Belanger, Soprano  
Ian Guenette, Keyboards

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Saint John Chrysostom Church, 295 Albert St., Arnprior

Adults: \$25  
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At the door (if available)

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2023

Sharing the Wild Life

August 19 10 am to 4 pm  
Rain date August 20

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Children under 16 free Adults \$10, pre-registration is requested  
mmlt.ca/events

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Merrickville Antique Show, Sep 2  
 Sundance Artisan Show, Maberly, Sep 2-4  
 Miss Emily w/ Band, Westport, Sep 7  
 Shari Ulrich w/ Cindy Fairbank, Perth, Sep 8  
 Almonte Fair, Sep 8-10  
 Auditions for *Jesus Christ Superstar*, Perth, Sep 8 & 9  
 Almonte Fibrefest, Sep 9 & 10  
 Dragonboat Festival, Carleton Place, Sep 9  
 Rideau Artist of the Year Competition, Smiths Falls, Sep 9 & 10  
 Cashing in on Cycle Tourism, Arnprior, Sep 13  
 Perth Night Market, Sep 16  
 OPP Chorus Concert, Perth, Sep 22  
 JW-Jones, McDonalds Corners, Sep 22  
 Freddy Vette & His Rhinestone Plowboys, Perth, Sep 23  
 Perth Autumn Studio Tour, Oct 7 & 8  
 Jane Austen's *Lady Susan*, Perth, Oct 12-22  
 The Fugitives, Perth, Oct 27  
 Clue, Carleton Place, Oct 27-Nov 4  
 The Magpies, MERA, Oct 29  
 Matilda – the Musical, Perth, Nov 16-19  
 The Millworkers' Musical, Almonte, Nov 17-26

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>31</p> <p>🎵 <b>Carp Celtic Jam</b>, Carp Masonic Lodge</p>	<p>1</p> <p>🎵 <b>SF Bridge Club</b>, Smiths Falls                  🎵 <b>Music Trivia</b>, The Barley Mow                  🎵 <b>Zach Martin</b>, Cheshire Cat                  🎵 <b>Eric Uren &amp; Meghan Balogh</b>, The Cove</p>	<p>2</p> <p>🎵 <b>Trivia Night</b>, Bowie's                  🎵 <b>Duplicate Bridge</b>, Almonte                  🎵 <b>Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine</b>, Waterfront Gastropub                  🎵 <b>Wings 'n Tunes with Shawn McCullough</b>, The Cove</p>	<p>3</p> <p>🎵 <b>Puss in Boots: the Last Wish</b>, Clayton                  🎵 <b>Open Stage</b>, Bowie's                  🎵 <b>Cashmen Ford</b>, Waterfront Gastropub                  🎵 <b>Jazz Night with Spencer Evans</b>, The Cove                  🎵 <b>Jeff Rogers</b>, Cheshire Cat                  🎵 <b>Hamlet</b>, Arnprior                  🎵 <b>Dezlorado &amp; The Ranch Hands</b>, Urban Angus</p>
<p>7</p> <p>🎵 <b>Carp Celtic Jam</b>, Carp Masonic Lodge                  🎵 <b>Gerald McGrath</b>, The Cove</p>	<p>8</p> <p>🎵 <b>SF Bridge Club</b>, Smiths Falls                  🎵 <b>Music Trivia</b>, The Barley Mow                  🎵 <b>Zach Martin</b>, Cheshire Cat                  🎵 <b>Eric Uren &amp; Meghan Balogh</b>, The Cove                  🎵 <b>Hamlet</b>, Perth</p>	<p>9</p> <p>🎵 <b>Trivia Night</b>, Bowie's                  🎵 <b>Duplicate Bridge</b>, Almonte                  🎵 <b>Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine</b>, Waterfront Gastropub                  🎵 <b>Wings 'n Tunes with Shawn McCullough</b>, The Cove                  🎵 <b>Where's Waldo Party</b>, Almonte</p>	<p>10</p> <p>🎵 <b>MonkeyJunk</b>, The Cove                  📖 <b>Book launch with Amanda West Lewis</b>, Perth                  🎵 <b>Super Mario Bros</b>, Pakenham                  🎵 <b>Jillian Kerr</b>, Cheshire Cat                  🎵 <b>Kyle Fellhaver</b>, Urban Angus                  🎵 <b>Open Stage</b>, Bowie's                  🎵 <b>Cashmen Ford</b>, Waterfront Gastropub                  🎵 <b>Carleton Place Toastmasters Club</b></p>
<p>14</p> <p>🎵 <b>Carp Celtic Jam</b>, Carp Masonic Lodge                  🎵 <b>Gerald McGrath</b>, The Cove</p>	<p>15</p> <p>🎵 <b>SF Bridge Club</b>, Smiths Falls                  🎵 <b>Music Trivia</b>, The Barley Mow                  🎵 <b>Zach Martin</b>, Cheshire Cat                  🎵 <b>Tavis Triance</b>, The Cove</p>	<p>16</p> <p>🎵 <b>Trivia Night</b>, Bowie's                  🎵 <b>Duplicate Bridge</b>, Almonte                  🎵 <b>Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine</b>, Waterfront Gastropub                  🎵 <b>Wings 'n Tunes with Shawn McCullough</b>, The Cove                  🎵 <b>Pakenham Horticultural Meeting</b>, Pakenham</p>	<p>17</p> <p>🎵 <b>The Last Oz Story</b>, Smiths Falls                  🎵 <b>Valley Voices Auditions</b>, Almonte                  🎵 <b>Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile</b>, Almonte                  🎵 <b>Montessori Learning Garden Open House</b>, Almonte                  🎵 <b>Jazz Night with Spencer Evans</b>, The Cove                  🎵 <b>John Chandler w/ Blair Hogan</b>, Cheshire Cat                  🎵 <b>Ryan MacIntyre</b>, Urban Angus                  🎵 <b>Open Stage</b>, Bowie's                  🎵 <b>Cashmen Ford</b>, Waterfront Gastropub</p>
<p>21</p> <p>🎵 <b>Carp Celtic Jam</b>, Carp Masonic Lodge                  🎵 <b>The Lucky Ones</b>, The Cove</p>	<p>22</p> <p>🎵 <b>SF Bridge Club</b>, Smiths Falls                  🎵 <b>Music Trivia</b>, The Barley Mow                  🎵 <b>Zach Martin</b>, Cheshire Cat                  🎵 <b>The Retro Kings</b>, The Cove</p>	<p>23</p> <p>🎵 <b>Trivia Night</b>, Bowie's                  🎵 <b>Duplicate Bridge</b>, Almonte                  🎵 <b>Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine</b>, Waterfront Gastropub                  🎵 <b>Wings 'n Tunes with Shawn McCullough</b>, The Cove</p>	<p>24</p> <p>🎵 <b>Art Gallery Opening</b>, Carleton Place                  🎵 <b>Hook</b>, Almonte                  🎵 <b>Curtis Chaffey</b>, Cheshire Cat                  🎵 <b>Hamlet</b>, Carp                  🎵 <b>Wade Foster and Jeff Gallery in Concert</b>, Snow Road Station                  🎵 <b>Dezlorado &amp; The Ranch Hands</b>, Urban Angus                  🎵 <b>Open Stage</b>, Bowie's                  🎵 <b>Cashmen Ford</b>, Waterfront Gastropub                  🎵 <b>Carleton Place Toastmasters Club</b>                  🎵 <b>Jazz Night with Spencer Evans</b>, The Cove</p>
<p>28</p> <p>🎵 <b>Carp Celtic Jam</b>, Carp Masonic Lodge                  🎵 <b>Gerald McGrath</b>, The Cove</p>	<p>29</p> <p>🎵 <b>SF Bridge Club</b>, Smiths Falls                  🎵 <b>Music Trivia</b>, The Barley Mow                  🎵 <b>Zach Martin</b>, Cheshire Cat                  🎵 <b>Colleen Brown</b>, The Cove</p>	<p>30</p> <p>🎵 <b>Trivia Night</b>, Bowie's                  🎵 <b>Duplicate Bridge</b>, Almonte                  🎵 <b>Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine</b>, Waterfront Gastropub                  🎵 <b>Wings 'n Tunes with Shawn McCullough</b>, The Cove</p>	<p>31</p> <p>🎵 <b>Guardians of the Galaxy 3</b>, Almonte                  🎵 <b>Open Stage</b>, Bowie's                  🎵 <b>Cashmen Ford</b>, Waterfront Gastropub                  🎵 <b>Jazz Night with Spencer Evans</b>, The Cove                  🎵 <b>Graven</b>, Cheshire Cat                  🎵 <b>Abri Van Straten</b>, Urban Angus</p>

## Festivals

**Goodwood Music Festival**, Aug 4-6. Ottawa Valley musicians, rough camping. Passes available at the Beckwith Township Office, 1702 9th Line Beckwith, 257-1539. Beckwith Park. [twp.beckwith.on.ca](http://twp.beckwith.on.ca)

**Killaloe Craft & Community Fair**, Aug 11-13. Live music & DJs, educational demos & workshops, Kids Zone, artisan market, food options. Killaloe Fair Site. [killaloeair.ca](http://killaloeair.ca)

**PuppetCon**, Aug 11-13. Presented by Puppets Up!, this Con features workshops, panels, shows and more for all ages and stages of puppet-lovers. Details and tickets at [puppetsup.com](http://puppetsup.com). Downtown Almonte

**Naismith 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament**, Aug 12, 8AM-6PM. Watch teams play. John Levi Community Centre, Almonte. [mississippimills.ca/events](http://mississippimills.ca/events)

**Perth Lions Garlic Festival**, Aug 12-13. Vendors, cooking demos, more. Perth Fairgrounds. \$5 entry; under 12 free. [perthgarlicfestival.com](http://perthgarlicfestival.com)

**MUSICwestport**, Aug 19, from 12PM. Live music on two stages, after hours party. Lockwood Park, The Cove, Westport. free. [westportartsCouncil.com](http://westportartsCouncil.com)

**Tarts & Arts in the Park Festival**, Aug 26, 9:30AM-4PM. Butter tarts, artists, craftspeople, musicians, food, games & more. Robert Simpson Park, Arnprior. [arnpriorrotary.ca](http://arnpriorrotary.ca)

**North Lanark Highland Games**, Aug 26, 8AM-6PM. Bagpipers, highland dancers, heavy events, children's games, massed bands, beer tent! Tix: Baker Bob's, Pak Gen Store, online. NLAS Almonte Fairgrounds. \$20, \$18adv, under 12 free. [almontehighlandgames.com](http://almontehighlandgames.com)

## Literature

**Book launch with Amanda West Lewis**, Aug 10, 7PM. Reading and Q&A celebrating the release of *Focus. Click Wind*. The Book Nook, Perth. [thebooknookperth.com](http://thebooknookperth.com)

## Visual Arts

**Vernissage: Among the Garbage and the Flowers**, Aug 5, 2-4PM. Curated by Susan Avishai. Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, Almonte. [mvtm.ca](http://mvtm.ca)

**Eras: The Paint Night**, Aug 11, 6-8PM. A Taylor Swift-themed paint night. Heritage House Museum, Smiths Falls. \$30 from Eventbrite. [heritagehouse@smithsfalls.ca](mailto:heritagehouse@smithsfalls.ca)

**Smiths Falls Arts Crawl**, Aug 19. A self-guided tour of unique artists in downtown Smiths Falls. Downtown Smiths Falls Business Association. Free. [smithsfallsarts.ca](http://smithsfallsarts.ca)

**Art Gallery Opening**, Aug 24, 10AM-7PM. Gallery opening celebration and ribbon cutting ceremony. Carleton Place Gallery. [cpgallery.ca](http://cpgallery.ca)

**Paint the Summer Art Show & Sale**, Aug 26-27, 10AM-4PM. Art show & sale by members of the Rideau Lakes Artists' Association. Westport Community Centre. [rideaulakesartists.com](http://rideaulakesartists.com)

## Theatre

**Mysteries of the Keyhole House**, every Fri (7:30pm) & Sat (2pm & 7:30pm) July 28-Aug. 12. See the Grand Masters of Illusion. Studio Theatre Perth. \$33 plus fees from Eventbrite

a Company of Fools presents **Hamlet**, Aug 3, 7PM at Arnprior's Robert Simpson Park; Aug 8, 7PM at Perth's Stewart Park; Aug 24, 7PM at the Diefenbunker in Carp. Pay-what-you-can, \$20 suggested donation. [fools.ca](http://fools.ca)

**YukYuks Comedy Show**, Aug 4, 8PM. Featuring Brian Paratie chronicling his career in hockey. Final Score Sports Bar, Carleton Place. \$20+hst. [yukyus.com/carletonplace](http://yukyus.com/carletonplace)

**The Last Oz Story**, Aug 11, 12, 17 & 18 at 7:30PM; Aug 13 & 20 at 2PM. The Station Theatre, Smiths Falls. \$22 adult, \$10 student. [smithsfallstheatre.com](http://smithsfallstheatre.com)

**Mysteries of the Keyhole House**, every Fri (7:30PM) & Sat (2PM & 7:30PM) Aug 18-26. See the Grand Masters of Illusion. Carleton Place Town Hall. \$33 plus fees from Eventbrite

**The Moth Project**, Aug 26, 7:30PM. Peter Kiesewalters' 2-person show, photos, videos & music about moths. \$32.50 from [mothprojective.com](http://mothprojective.com). Studio Theatre Perth.

## Youth

Movies in the Park presents **Puss in Boots: the Last Wish** (Aug 3, Clayton); **Super Mario Bros** (Aug 10, Pakenham); **Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile** (Aug 17, Munro Meadows); **Hook** (Aug 24, Almonte Library); **Guardians of the Galaxy 3** (Aug 31, Riverfront Estates). At dusk, free. [mississippimills.ca/events](http://mississippimills.ca/events)

**Where's Waldo Party**, Aug 9, 3PM. Treats and prizes for those who completed the Waldo Scavenger Hunt. Mill Street Books, Almonte. [millstreetbooks.com](http://millstreetbooks.com)

**Montessori Learning Garden Open House**, Aug 17, 2-4PM; Aug 20, 10AM-noon. Almonte program, accepting applications for September. Almonte. free. [montessorilearninggarden.ca](http://montessorilearninggarden.ca)

**Festival of the Wild Child**, Aug 19, 10AM-4PM. Nature-themed activities including scavenger hunts, nature walks & workshops. High Lonesome Nature Reserve, Pakenham. Adults \$10; under 16 free. [mmlt.ca/events](http://mmlt.ca/events)

## Music

**MERA Makers Market**, Saturdays, 10AM-2PM. Crafts, music, great food, refreshments and more! MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners. [meraschoolhouse.org](http://meraschoolhouse.org)

Aug 5 Free-Blue Skies  
 Aug 12 Long Sault Trio  
 Aug 19 Gentle Sparrow

**White Family Concert**, Aug 12, 1-6PM. The Country Pals, The White Family Band and more. BBQ, lemonade. Fundraiser for the CP & Beckwith Museum. White Family Farm, Carleton Place. \$10. [cpbheritage-museum.com](http://cpbheritage-museum.com)

**Perth Citizen's Band** free public concert, Aug 13 & 27, 2PM Crystal Palace, Perth. [perthband.ca](http://perthband.ca)

**Valley Voices Auditions**, Aug 17. Audition for Almonte community choir. Email [valleyvoicesofalmonte@gmail.com](mailto:valleyvoicesofalmonte@gmail.com) for audition time. Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, Almonte

**Jersey Nights**, Aug 19, 8PM. Franki Valli and the Four Seasons tribute presented by Dream Rock Promotions. 19+. Cash bar: Farrell Hall, Perth. \$34 in advance/\$39 at the door. [ticketsplease.ca](http://ticketsplease.ca), 485-6434



## Friday

## Saturday

## Sunday

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mysteries of the Keyhole House, Perth</li> <li>RCMP Musical Ride, Almonte</li> <li>Meghan Balogh &amp; Martin Smit, The Cove</li> <li>Yuk Yuks Comedy Show, Carleton Place</li> <li>Kyle Fellhaver, Urban Angus</li> <li>Slo Tom, Bowie's</li> <li>Goodwood Music Festival, Beckwith</li> <li>Ken Armstrong, Waterfront Gastropub</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mysteries of the Keyhole House, Perth</li> <li>Goodwood Music Festival, Beckwith</li> <li>Frontenac Frolic, Godfrey</li> <li>Landscape Through Indigenous Eyes, Almonte</li> <li>MERA Makers Market, McDonalds Corners</li> <li>Jon VW, Westport Brewing Co.</li> <li>Vernissage: Among the Garbage and the Flowers, Almonte</li> <li>Jeff Callery, The Cove</li> <li>Ken Workman, Cheshire Cat</li> <li>Karaoke, Bowie's</li> <li>Rob Kerr, Al Tambay, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Drag Show, Urban Angus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goodwood Music Festival, Beckwith</li> <li>Bob Peppin, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Dylan Watts, Cheshire Cat</li> <li>Head Over Heels, The Cove</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PuppetCon, Almonte</li> <li>Killaloe Craft &amp; Community Fair</li> <li>Mysteries of the Keyhole House, Perth</li> <li>Robert Keyes, The Cove</li> <li>Eras: The Paint Night, Smiths Falls</li> <li>The Last Oz Story, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Chester Rose, Urban Angus</li> <li>Nothing Serious, Bowie's</li> <li>Ken Armstrong, Waterfront Gastropub</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PuppetCon, Naismith 3-on-3 Festival, Almonte</li> <li>Perth Lions Garlic Festival, Perth</li> <li>Killaloe Craft &amp; Community Fair</li> <li>Watershed Discovery Day, Perth</li> <li>Pakenham Horse Show, Pakenham</li> <li>MERA Makers Market, McDonalds Corners</li> <li>Scarecrow Building Day, Middleville</li> <li>White Family Concert, Carleton Place</li> <li>Dave Balfour, Westport Brewing Co.</li> <li>Naismith Walk of Fame, Almonte</li> <li>Matt Dickson, The Cove</li> <li>Supernatural Buffalo, Cheshire Cat</li> <li>Classic Covers, Bowie's</li> <li>Mysteries of the Keyhole House, Perth</li> <li>The Last Oz Story, Smiths Falls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Killaloe Craft &amp; Community Fair</li> <li>PuppetCon, Almonte</li> <li>Perth Lions Garlic Festival, Perth</li> <li>Guthrie United Church Cemetery Service, Clayton</li> <li>Free Public Concert, Perth</li> <li>Bob Peppin, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Dylan Watts, Cheshire Cat</li> <li>Head Over Heels, The Cove</li> <li>The Last Oz Story, Smiths Falls</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Last Oz Story, Smiths Falls</li> <li>MUSICwestport kick-off, The Cove</li> <li>Mysteries of the Keyhole House, Carleton Place</li> <li>Come Home to Pakenham Weekend Celebration</li> <li>Vicki Brittle, Urban Angus</li> <li>Matt Connell, Bowie's</li> <li>Ken Armstrong, Waterfront Gastropub</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dancers, a Cellist and Flowers, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Smiths Falls Arts Crawl, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Festival of the Wild Child, Pakenham</li> <li>The Last Oz Story, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Mysteries of the Keyhole House, Carleton Place</li> <li>MERA Makers Market, McDonalds Corners</li> <li>The Summer Social, Smiths Falls</li> <li>MUSICwestport</li> <li>Michael Wilcock, Westport Brewing Co.</li> <li>Summer Social Outdoor Market, Karaoke, Bowie's</li> <li>CA &amp; Sonny, Cheshire Cat</li> <li>Jersey Nights, Perth</li> <li>Comedy Night, Urban Angus</li> <li>MUSICwestport after party, The Cove</li> <li>Come Home to Pakenham Weekend Celebration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mill of Kintail 50th Anniversary, Almonte</li> <li>Montessori Learning Garden Open House, Almonte</li> <li>Bluegrass Brunch, Bowie's</li> <li>ELEVATION Album Release, Perth</li> <li>Come Home to Pakenham Weekend Celebration</li> <li>Third SNDY Concert, Bowie's</li> <li>Bob Peppin, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Dylan Watts, Cheshire Cat</li> <li>Head Over Heels, The Cove</li> <li>The Last Oz Story, Smiths Falls</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mysteries of the Keyhole House, Carleton Place</li> <li>CA &amp; Sonny Folk Show, Urban Angus</li> <li>The Steadies, The Cove</li> <li>Trivia Night, Smiths Falls</li> <li>umberlune, Bowie's</li> <li>Ken Armstrong, Waterfront Gastropub</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paint the Summer Art Show &amp; Sale, Westport</li> <li>The Moth Project, Perth</li> <li>North Lanark Highland Games, Almonte</li> <li>Tarts &amp; Arts in the Park Festival, Arnprior</li> <li>Heritage Day at Inge Va House, Perth</li> <li>Mysteries of the Keyhole House, Carleton Place</li> <li>Almonte Celebration Market, Almonte</li> <li>Head Over Heels, The Cove</li> <li>Red Dirt Skinners, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Walker &amp; Wyld, Cheshire Cat</li> <li>Mississippi Station, The Cove</li> <li>Café Parodique, Bowie's</li> <li>Rob Kerr, Al Tambay, Waterfront Gastropub</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paint the Summer Art Show &amp; Sale, Westport</li> <li>Sunday Market, Perth</li> <li>Blueberry Tea, Union Hall</li> <li>Appleton Community Celebration</li> <li>Free Public Concert, Perth</li> <li>Bob Peppin, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Dylan Watts, Cheshire Cat</li> <li>Head Over Heels, The Cove</li> </ul>

**General Fine Craft** presents new works by Eiko Maeda (nerikomi porcelain), John Ward (turned woodware) and Rob Raeside (blown glass) <generalfinecraft.com>

**Mississippi Valley Textile Museum** presents *Post Up* by Mallory Tolcher [from Aug 12] <mvtm.ca>

**Sivarulrasa Gallery** presents *William Liao: City Limits* [to August 4]; *Elaine Carr: In Unexpected Places* [to August 18], and *Catherine Gutsche: News Blues* [to August 18] <sivarulrasa.com>

**The Almonte Library Corridor Gallery** presents *Swashlines* — an exhibition of Beach Finds by printmaker Melanie Brunton [to August 12]

**Art & Class in Perth** presents daily art classes all summer long <artandclass.ca>

**A Conversation between Dancers, a Cellist and Flowers**, Aug 19, 5PM. Garden performance by cellist Raphael Weinroth-Browne and Ottawa Dance Directive. \$50 from TicketsPlease.ca. Gossamer Gardens, Smiths Falls. \$50

**ELEVATION Album Release**, Aug 20, 2PM. By John Dorsch music. Studio Theatre Perth. \$20 from Eventbrite. studiotheatreperth.com

**Wade Foster and Jeff Callery in Concert**, Aug 24, 7:30PM. An evening of Celtic and folk music. Snow Road Community Centre, Snow Road Station. \$15. snowroadcommunitycentre.com

**Red Dirt Skinners**, Aug 26, 6:30PM. Live in concert. The Station Theatre, Smiths Falls. \$35. smithsfallstheatre.com

**The Cove** (Westport, 273-3636): 5-8PM unless noted; Mon Gerald McGrath (except Aug 21); Tue Eric Uren & Meghan Balogh; Wed Wings'n Tunes w/Shawn McCullough (5:30-8:30); Thu Jazz Night with Spencer Evans (except Aug 10); Sun Head Over Heels

Aug 4 Meghan Balogh & Martin Smit

Aug 5 Jeff Callery

Aug 10 MonkeyJunk, 5-9PM, \$130 dinner+show

Aug 11 Robert Keyes

Aug 12 Matt Dickson

Aug 15 Tavis Triance, 7-11PM, \$10

Aug 18 MUSICwestport kick-off, 7-11PM, \$90

Aug 19 MUSICwestport after party, 8:30-11PM, \$10

Aug 21 The Lucky Ones, \$10 sugg.

Aug 22 The Retro Kings

Aug 25 The Steadies, 7-11PM, \$80

Aug 26 Head Over Heels

Aug 26 Mississippi Station, 8-11PM

Aug 29 Colleen Brown

**Bowie's** (Smiths Falls): Wed Where is my Mind Trivia, 8-10PM (sign-up online); Thu Open Stage, 8PM (casual sign-up)

Aug 4 Slo Tom, 8:30-11:30PM, \$10 sugg.

Aug 5 Karaoke, 9PM, free

Aug 11 Nothing Serious, 8:30 & 11:30PM, \$10 sugg.

Aug 12 Classic Covers, free

Aug 18 Matt Connell, 8:30 & 11:30PM, \$10 sugg.

Aug 19 Summer Social Outdoor Market, 2-10PM, free

Aug 19 Karaoke, 9PM, free

Aug 20 Bluegrass Brunch, 11AM-1PM, \$25

Aug 20 Third SNDY Concert, 8PM, \$20 adv, \$25 at door

Aug 25 umberlune, 8:30 & 11:30PM, \$10 sugg.

Aug 26 Café Parodique, free

**The Cheshire Cat Pub** (Carp, 831-2183): Dylan Watts, 2-4PM every Sun; Zach Martin, 6:30-8:30PM every Tue.

Aug 3 Jeff Rogers, 7-9PM

Aug 5 Ken Workman, 8-10PM

Aug 10 Jillian Kerr, 7-9PM

Aug 12 Supernatural Buffalo, 8-10PM

Aug 17 John Chandler & Blair Hogan, 7-9PM

Aug 19 CA & Sonny, 8-10PM

Aug 24 Curtis Chaffey, 7-9PM

Aug 26 Walker & Wyld, 8-10PM

Aug 31 Graven, 7-9PM

**Urban Angus Steak & Wine** (Arnprior, 558-5050)

Aug 3 Dezlorado & Ranch Hands, 8PM

Aug 4 Kyle Fellhaver, 8PM

Aug 5 Drag Show, 9:30PM

Aug 10 Kyle Fellhaver, 7PM

Aug 11 Chester Rose, 8PM

Aug 17 Ryan MacIntyre, 7PM

Aug 18 Vicki Brittle, 8PM

Aug 19 Comedy Night, 8:30PM

Aug 24 Dezlorado & Ranch Hands, 8PM

Aug 25 CA & Sonny Folk Show, 7PM

Aug 31 Abri Van Straten, 7PM

**Pub Listings**

**Westport Brewing Co.** (Westport, 273-2739): Tunes on Tap, 2-4PM

Aug 5 Jon VW

Aug 12 Dave Balfour

Aug 19 Michael Wilcock

**Carp Masonic Lodge:** Mon Carp Celtic Jam, 7PM, \$3

**The Barley Mow** (Almonte, 256-5669): Tue Music Trivia, 8PM

**The Waterfront Gastropub** (CP, 257-5755): Sat Rob Kerr, 3-6PM & Al Tambay, 9:30PM-12:30AM; Sun Bob Peppin, 3-6PM; Wed Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine, 8PM-12AM; Thu Cashmen Ford, 8PM-12AM; Fri Ken Armstrong, 8PM

**Community**

**SF Bridge Club**, every Tuesday 12:45pm. 283-2690. Smiths Falls Legion. 256-4747

**Duplicate Bridge**, 12:45PM every Wednesday Almonte Legion. 256-4747

**Carleton Place Toastmasters Club**, Aug 19 & 24 7PM. via Zoom, carletonplace.toastmastersclubs.org

**RCMP Musical Ride**, Aug 4, 5PM. Almonte Fairgrounds, \$15, mississippimills.ca/events

**Frontenac Frolic**, Aug 5, 9AM-2PM. Fundraiser for Bobs and Crow Lakes. Live music, food, kids' activities, cow flop bingo, flea market. Bedford Glendower Hall, Godfrey. 697-4695

**Landscape Through Indigenous Eyes**, Aug 5, 10AM. Indigenous-led gardening workshop and hands-on opportunity. Free, register at ticketsplease.ca. Almonte United Church. mmallyrelations.ca

**Scarecrow Building Day**, Aug 12, 12-4PM. Family-friendly activities (crafts, games, stories, snacks). All ages, materials provided. Middleville & District Museum. free. middlevillemuseum.org

**Watershed Discovery Day**, Aug 12, 8AM-1PM. Environmental exhibition by conservation organizations. Crystal Palace, Perth

**Naismith Walk of Fame**, Aug 12, 3PM. Ceremony and plaque presentation honouring Dr. James Naismith's 2019 induction into Canada's Walk of Fame. Gemmill Park, Almonte. free

**Pakenham Horse Show**, Aug 12, from 9:30AM. Free for spectators, \$20/day or \$5/class for riders. Register by August 10 at PakenhamHA@gmail.com. Stewart Community Centre, Pakenham

**Guthrie United Church Cemetery Service**, Aug 13, 2PM. Annual service. Please bring your own lawn chairs. Guthrie United Church, Clayton. 259-9132

**Pakenham Horticultural Meeting**, Aug 16, 7PM. Lori Ray: Growing since 1925, PHS History. St. Andrew's United Church, Pakenham. gardenontario.org/society-listing/entry/51

**Come Home to Pakenham Weekend Celebration**, Aug 18 (4-9PM), 19 (11AM-11PM), 20 (10AM-4PM). Craft beer fest, BBQ & live music, family dance, community paddle, antique car show & more. mississippimills.ca/events

**The Summer Social**, Aug 19, 12-8PM. Summer fun in Downtown Smiths Falls. Downtown Smiths Falls Business Association. downtownsmithsfalls.ca

**Mill of Kintail 50th Anniversary**, Aug 20, 10AM-4PM. Celebrate with food, music and family events. Free parking and admission. Mill of Kintail Conservation Area, Almonte. milllofkintail.com

**Trivia Night**, Aug 25, 7:30PM. To register your team, contact sales@4degreesbrewing.com. 4 Degrees Brewing Company, Smiths Falls. \$25 per table

**Almonte Celebration Market**, Aug 26, 10:30AM-5PM. Live music, local artisans, coffee and treats. Equator Coffee Roasters, Almonte. equator.ca

**Heritage Day at Inge Va House**, Aug 26, 10AM-4PM. Open house and activities. Inge-Va House, Perth. perth.ca/heritageday

**Sunday Market**, Aug 27, 10AM-3PM. 50+ vendors plus food, drinks, and music. Ecotay, Perth. Free. ecotay.ca

**Blueberry Tea**, Aug 27, 2-4PM. Blueberries, pastry, tea, coffee. Admission is free, donations appreciated. Union Hall, Almonte. mississippimills.ca/en/play/unionhall.asp

**Appleton Community Celebration**, Aug 27, 5-7PM. Live music, corn roast. Lubbers Park, Appleton. mississippimills.ca/events



# Blue Heron Wetlands

## Important Wetlands Now Protected by MMLT

The Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust (MMLT) is pleased to announce it has protected a new property in Lanark County — a hidden gem of great ecological significance and home to a diverse range of plant, butterfly, bird, amphibian, reptile and mammal species, including 16 species at risk. Spanning 106 acres, the nature sanctuary adjoins three other MMLT properties that have been under the protection of the land trust since 2014. This addition creates a 900-acre contiguous stretch of natural lands near Scotch Corners that will be protected for the benefit of the environment and future generations.

Known as Blue Heron Wetlands, this wonderful property derives its name from

multiple features. These include the siting of its namesake on the property, the Blue Heron Road that leads to the protected lands, and the extensive wetlands that drain into the Innisville Wetland Complex and the Mississippi Lake National Wildlife Area.

“I cannot overstate the importance of this property to MMLT and our conservation efforts,” notes Stephen Kotze, MMLT president. “Its ecological value and importance for biodiversity were recognized over ten years ago, and MMLT has been working on acquiring this land ever since. We are thrilled to announce that the lands will now be protected by MMLT forever.”

The acquisition of Blue Heron Wetlands aligns with MMLT’s key priority of acquiring and protecting natural wilderness areas for long-term preservation and community enjoyment. The property is also closely connected to the late Cathy Keddy, a former director who played a key role in MMLT’s accomplishments until her sudden passing in October 2022. It was Cathy who showed a personal interest in this particular piece of land, mainly due to its potential in establishing an ecological corridor with the neighbouring protected properties. In honour of MMLT’s dear friend and colleague, the extensive wetlands on this property will be named “Cathy’s Pond”. Having Blue Heron in the protected property portfolio is a tremendous legacy to Cathy and her husband Paul, a prominent ecologist, conservationist, and published author on the ecological and natural history of Lanark and other regions. “Protecting habitat through land acquisitions is one of the most important tools MMLT has to help conserve biodiversity and help reduce climate change and environmental challenges,” emphasizes Kotze. “We are making a difference one property at a time.”

MMLT now has eleven properties entrusted to its care, spanning 3,300 acres in the region of the Mississippi River basin, extending north to the Madawaska River. Many of these properties are open to the public to enjoy nature hikes and MMLT events, such as High Lonesome Nature Reserve and Blueberry Mountain at cliffLAND. While Blue Heron Wetlands is not accessible to the public at present, MMLT will soon be working on developing a trail, installing signs and fencing, and constructing a parking lot.



The acquisition of Blue Heron Wetlands — including ‘Cathy’s Pond’, named after former MMLT director Cathy Keddy — creates a 900-acre contiguous stretch of protected lands



Once this work is completed, MMLT will gladly welcome individuals interested in visiting the property to reach out to them and arrange a guided tour.

The acquisition of Blue Heron Wetlands was made possible through generous donations, grants, and support from various sources, including The Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund Initiative, with federal funds from Environment and Climate Change Canada, and in partnership with Conservation Ontario and the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority; The Greenlands Conservation Partnership Program, with provincial funds from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, and in partnership with the Ontario Land Trust Alliance; and from private funders including MapleCross, Richard and Louise Schnarr, and many other kind community donations, such as the funds raised by the Backyard Beauties Auction. MMLT extends their heartfelt gratitude to generous supporters who share their vision and help them achieve their conservation goals. For more information, please visit <mmlt.ca>.

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# Climate Network Lanark — Feedback Needed!

I recently had a ton of fun volunteering at the Climate Network Lanark (CNL) booth at Stewart Park Festival, along with my husband and daughter. We had a terrific view of the stage, rocked out to some fabulous music, and helped festivalgoers divert their waste and leftover food from landfill. We also got

by Kris Riendeau

to promote the good work of CNL, whose actions on behalf of the environment go far beyond a three-day stint at one event. While chatting with Sue Brandum, one of CNL's founders and a member of the Executive Team, I learned about a few pressing issues that the group is currently championing and have asked her to give an "elevator pitch" to Humm readers.

**the Humm: Lanark County has written the first draft of its Climate Action Plan but has chosen to go against ALL reduction target recommendations made by Climate Network Lanark. What do you think this means for the environment, and how can Humm readers help persuade the County to be more ambitious in their goals?**

Sue Brandum: They haven't just gone against what Climate Network Lanark has been advocating for more than a year — to cut our emissions from Lanark County in half by 2030 — they went against the global scientific consensus, against the target set by the IPCC and all countries in the Paris Agreement, against the national targets, and against the recommendations from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and its Partners for Climate Protection directly to the County, because the County is contracted with FCM. Fundamentally what they have gone against is what our best thinkers say we need to do to keep from falling into a collapse of key systems that support human and other life on Earth.

Many people don't know that fully 50% of our greenhouse gases are overseen or governed by our local governments. So we have a huge opportunity to make a difference.

Setting an emissions reduction target of only 10% for the community by 2030 doesn't challenge us to take the big steps we need to take, to make system changes. We need our governments to make changes in systems so that people don't have to spend silly time trying to figure out what the right choice is.

The County has issued its draft Climate Action Plan and is asking for public comment. CNL is asking the citizens of Lanark County to respond to the County's questionnaire by saying they want serious action taken, a serious reduction target set. This is the first of four points CNL is asking citizens to endorse in their personal submissions to the public consultation. The points can be found at <climatenetworklanark.ca> and include the reduction target, eliminating all fossil fuels, implementing a Climate Lens immediately by the County and all lower-tier municipalities, and acting on public transit immediately.

The County's draft Climate Action Plan and the questionnaire can be found at <lanarkcounty.ca/en/environmental-initiatives/climate.aspx>. They are calling for feedback until August 28.

**CNL recently initiated a pilot project called the Climate Concierge Cluster, with the goal of connecting neighbours who are interested in getting their homes off fossil fuels. What's your message to anyone who either knows about, or wants to find out more about heat pumps?**

As part of eliminating fossil fuels, we must basically *electrify everything*. I have never doubted that we humans have the smarts, the capacity to solve this. And we have made major developments in technology so that we can do this. One of those developments is heat pumps. It's a rather old technology — refrigerators are heat pumps, because they take the heat from inside the fridge and transfer it to a liquid, which moves the heat to outside the fridge. Household heat pumps do the same thing in the summer — taking heat from inside your home and using a liquid to transfer it outside the building. They do the reverse in the winter — taking heat from outdoors and transferring it into the building. Now we have heat pumps that work down to -30°C.



Climate Network Lanark did a wonderful job of helping divert waste from landfill at this year's Stewart Park Festival. Now they need your help in getting feedback to the County about the Climate Action Plan!

But as heating systems, heat pumps are still new to many. Our Climate Concierge Neighbourhood Clusters help people through the learning curve. The project connects community members to provide motivation, leading-edge knowledge, peer support and connections to specific trades and technology suppliers in our community. It enables the participants in the clusters to share experiences in working with local suppliers and expertise so that everyone can make the best decisions with confidence.

Based on results from our first test group, we're running a pilot this year with neighbourhood clusters in Almonte, Carleton Place, Lanark Village, Perth and Smiths Falls. It's free to participate — simply contact Sadie Brule at <sadie@climatenetworklanark.ca>. We're going to start a small business cluster too!

**What gives you hope as you (and other members of CNL) continue to work on behalf of the environment?**

Despite everything, I have hope. CNL has more than 1,000 supporters and we just added another 200 at Stewart Park Festival. We know from two surveys in Lanark County that more than 80% of citizens here want serious action taken on the climate crisis; people aren't content with frivolous, lightweight assurances from politicians anymore, everyone has smelled the smoke, felt the heat, has had or knows someone who has had a tick bite... Fundamentally I follow what women before me have said. Joan Baez said, "Action is the antidote to despair." Greta Thunberg says "Act. Do Something. Because that is the best medicine against sadness and depression."

This is my life, this is my planet, my home. I'm in love with Earth. It's extraordinary, it's spectacular and we have only begun to understand it. It is us; we are it. I want to celebrate its abundance of life, its beauty, its rarity, its stunning synchronicity; I don't want to participate in its demise.

**How else can people engage with CNL, if they are looking for more information or want to volunteer? What are the organization's most pressing needs?**

Right now, we need people to respond to the County's Draft Climate Action Plan. Tell the County you want serious action, read the report (or at least the quick guide) and tell them the actions you want to see taken here, in our county, to cut our greenhouse gasses. Respond now to the questionnaire and tell CNL what you said at <hello@climatenetworklanark.ca>.

Beyond that, simply go to <climatenetworklanark.ca> and sign up for our newsletter, so you know what's happening on climate change around the County and about volunteer opportunities. Then, develop a climate action plan for your family, your household, your business, your organization. And bring your ideas and your energy to us, tell us what you think you'd like to do, and we'll see if we can find a way to help you do that. The climate crisis is the defining crisis of this and future generations, we need everyone to fix it.

Thank you so much Kris for this opportunity. We were absolutely thrilled to have you and your family helping at our booth at the festival. You sure brought some great dance moves to the recycling depot!



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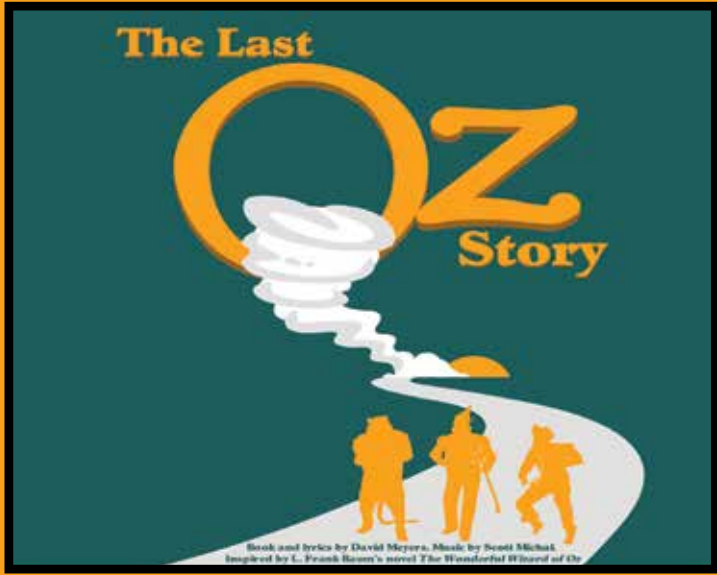
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Members of the Arnprior-McNab-Braeside Men's Shed have spearheaded a national Men's Shed effort to build toys for kids impacted by wildfires. Below, Josie and Eloise enjoy their new toys!

## A Real Toy Story

When Andy Tamas, member of the Arnprior-McNab-Braeside Men's Shed, learned about the devastating wildfires in Nova Scotia, he checked in on a former member, Denis St. Pierre, who had recently moved from the Arnprior area to Nova Scotia to be closer to family.

"Denis shared with me that his daughter's home had burned to the ground in the fires and that he was looking for design plans to build a rocking horse to replace the one his granddaughter lost in the fire," explains Andy. "I told him I would let the guys at the Shed know and asked if his grandchildren might like to receive a few wooden toys, which I had been making for a while."

Denis liked the idea, so Andy shipped the toys to Denis's granddaughters. When the toys arrived, Denis thanked him and shared that his granddaughters, Josie and Eloise, loved them.

"Denis mentioned that many other families in Nova Scotia had lost their homes in the fires and would benefit from the wooden toys. The one problem was the shipping costs," says Andy, who has been a member of the Men's Shed for two years.

Andy wondered if the toy project was an opportunity for Men's Sheds across Canada to collaborate to support the numerous families who lost their homes to wildfires across several provinces.

Andy shares: "When we reached out to Men's Sheds Canada, they agreed this was an initiative worth pursuing for several reasons: to be of service to communities in need, the potential benefit to families whose homes had gone up in smoke, and to generate better awareness of how the Men's Shed movement is part of the solution to the country's inadequate policy framework and programs addressing social and health-related needs of older men."

Robert Goluch, President of Men's Shed Canada, explains: "Every child deserves a sense of joy and normalcy, especially in the face of adversity. Men's Sheds believe in making a positive impact in the lives of children where homes have been devastated by

fire. We hope these toys provide a glimmer of hope and happiness during challenging times."

Back home, the Arnprior Lion's Club began working with the local Men's Shed to support the transportation and distribution of the toys via the St. Margarets Toy Library in Nova Scotia. By the end of June, the Arnprior-McNab-Braeside Men's Shed had produced dozens of toys ready to ship out to Nova Scotia, and the Squamish Men's Shed committed to providing 50 toy locomotive kits as well as marble runs for distribution in both eastern and western Canada.

"The Arnprior Lions Club is very proud to work with the Arnprior-McNab-Braeside Men's Shed on this amazing project," adds Don Gougeon, Secretary of the Arnprior Lions Club. "The members of the Men's Shed have used their talents to create these wonderful toys for wildfire survivors in Nova Scotia. We were honoured to be asked to help by shipping the toys to the St. Margarets Bay Toy Library. We hope these toys bring pleasure to children who have lost so much."

Jill Crowe, Secretary of the St. Margarets Bay Toy Library, echoed the Men's Shed efforts' impact: "Toys made with such love and care are so special to our children. Many children lost their favourite toys, and these new handmade ones will bring them comfort and help them begin the healing process by making happy memories. Thanks for all the hard work that was put into this. Our children are lucky so many wonderful people across the country have stepped up to help. We are forever grateful."

Andy explained that the Men's Sheds' efforts have just begun: "Our toy story continues to develop and build momentum, and we hope to bring more Men's Sheds on board to reach more families who have lost their homes to the wildfires."

The Arnprior-McNab-Braeside Men's Shed opened its doors in 2018 as an Arnprior Regional Health community program. It is a place where senior men connect to their community through social interaction and woodworking projects.



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# Dance, Cello and Flowers

"Art is the discovery of beauty in unexpected places."

— Bono

A **Conversation Between Dancers, a Cellist and Flowers** will take place on August 19 at Gossamer Gardens Flower Farm, located between Perth and Smiths Falls. Enjoy a performance by internationally renowned Canadian cellist Raphael Weinroth-Browne and Ottawa Dance Directive.

The solitude and beautiful, bucolic spirit at Gossamer Gardens Flower Farm, with its 19<sup>th</sup> century Lanark County farmhouse, is a perfect setting for contemporary dancers and a cellist to bring a sense of joy to everyone. Watch a conversation between dancers and a cellist in nature — a feast for all the senses. Be captivated by the inspired choreography of Yvonne Coutts, created especially for the location, performed outdoors in beautiful Lanark County. Choose from a locally sourced picnic menu with picnics pre-ordered from Gather in Perth, or bring your own, along with a blanket or chair.

Watch contemporary dance, which is attention-grabbing and perfect for music, with Raphael Weinroth-Browne transforming the performances into powerful and engaging art works. This event combines art, dance and music into a rapture in nature.

Tickets are \$50 from Tickets Please (TicketsPlease.ca or 485-6434). Gates open at 5PM, and everyone is invite to walk the gardens from 5-7PM.

Gossamer Gardens Flower Farm specializes in unique, seasonal, locally grown flowers and foliage, cultivated with love, and nurtured using sustainable, organic practices.

## About the Performers

Ottawa Dance Directive is thrilled to collaborate with these remarkable Ottawa Gatineau-based dance artists: Myrielle Bernier-Acuna, Mary Catherine Jack, Lana Morton, Katherine Ng, Jocelyn Todd and Elizabeth Emond-Stevenson.

Internationally renowned Canadian cellist and composer Raphael Weinroth-Browne is celebrated for his emotive and virtuosic playing. In 2016, Raphael joined Norwegian progressive rock icons Leprous. His cello has since featured prominently on their latest three albums; he has played over 200 shows with



A Conversation Between Dancers, a Cellist and Flowers features internationally renowned Canadian cellist Raphael Weinroth-Browne and members of Ottawa Dance Directive

them in Europe, North America and the Middle East. Appearing on over 150 studio albums, including the JUNO Award-winning *Woods 5: Grey Skies & Electric Light* (Woods of Ypres), Raphael has also produced cello renditions of prog/metal songs that have been praised and reposted by Opeth, Steven Wilson, and Chris Adler (Lamb of God). Raphael released *Worlds Within Live* in 2021, a live rendition of the 2020 studio album, which led to performances of the material in Lisbon, Portugal, as well as a highly successful collaboration with the Ottawa Dance Directive.

Yvonne Coutts is the Artistic Director of Ottawa Dance Directive and resident choreographer of Compagnie ODD. Her new works for the company have been featured at numerous national festivals and for many local events and performances. She received the Bonnie Bird Choreographic Award and the commissioned work toured Europe, Asia and the USA. She has received commissions from artists across Canada and was the 2015 recipient of the Ottawa Arts Council Mid-Career Artist Award.

# Outerbridges Out and About in the Valley!

Ted and Marion Outerbridge — TikTok sensations and headliners at Hollywood's Magic Castle — are set to stage their new show, *Mysteries of the Keyhole House*, at several new venues. The show moves to Studio Theatre Perth from July 28 to August 12, to Carleton Place from August 18-26, and to Gananoque from September 8-16, with performances on Fridays at 7:30PM, and Saturdays at 2PM and 7:30PM.

The Keyhole House is an enchanting sanctuary inhabited by masters of Grand Illusion, Ted and Marion

Outerbridge. Beckoned by the spirits of yesteryear, these connoisseurs of all things magical were chosen by the abandoned, dilapidated home to be guardians of this historic gem. As they meticulously restored the creaking floors that carried the weight of countless footsteps, a treasure trove of cherished relics materialized before their eyes.

From delicate skeleton keys to faded photographs, from a forgotten spool of thread to yellowed newspapers, a Victorian dollhouse, and even a 1918 golf ball, each artifact whispered tales of bygone eras.

But it was Ted's compelling videologues, marrying history with the digital age, that transported the Keyhole House into the viral universe. With over 30 million views on social media and appearances on CTV National News, a TVO documentary, and NBC's The Golf Channel (Brooke Henderson's grandparents had a 54-year connection to the house), the Keyhole House became international news!

These videos and the true stories they tell birthed *Mysteries of the Keyhole House*, a simultaneously reverent, mystical and joyous show where magic becomes the master storyteller. Audiences will be transported through time as Ted and Marion take them through an evening of enthralling illusions, theatre and dance, creating a spine-tingling spectacle of living history.

Tickets are \$33 plus HST and fees at <outerbridge.eventbrite.com>.



Ted and Marion Outerbridge bring their magical illusion show *Mysteries of the Keyhole House* to Perth, Carleton Place, and beyond!

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Sat Aug 5 **Jeff Callery** (Folk/Rock, Brockville) 5-8  
Tue Aug 8 **Eric Uren + Meghan Balogh** (Fiddle/Guitar Duo, Folk/Rock, Westport) 5-8  
Thu Aug 10 **Blues At The Cove** with **Monkeyjunk** (JUNO Award Winning Blues) 5-9 on patio. \$110 + Hst  
Fri Aug 11 **Robert Keyes** (Blues/Jazz/Rock, Instrumental Guitar, Trenton) 5-8  
Sat Aug 12 **Matt Dickson** (Folk/Rock, Perth) 5-8  
Tue Aug 15 **Tavis Triance** (Members of Spoon River) Folk/Rock from Bc/Montreal) 7-10 \$10  
Fri Aug 18 **Musicwestport Kick Off Party - The Human Rights** (Modern Roots Reggae, Members of Big Sugar, Toronto) 7-11 \$90 + Hst Dinner + Show  
Sat Aug 19 **17<sup>th</sup> annual Musicwestport** at Lockwood Park Stage + The Cove Stage 12-6.  
**Yelling at Clouds** (Jazz/Funk, Toronto) 6-8:30, **Generator Party** (90s Alt/Grunge) 8:30-11 \$10  
Mon Aug 21 **The Lucky Ones** (Bluegrass Band, Yukon) 5-8 Suggested \$10 Music Cover  
Tue Aug 22 **Retro Kings** (Acoustic Folk/Rock Group) 5-8  
Fri Aug 25 **The Steadies** (Roots Rock Reggae! 3 x Juno Nominee + former co-founder of Wide Mouth Mason + Mobadass) 7-11 \$80 Dinner + Show  
Sat Aug 26 **Head Over Heels** (Vocal/Guitar Duo, Blues/Folk/Jazz, Gananoque) 5-8 on patio + **Mississippi Station** (Folk/Rock, Westport) 8-11 indoors  
Tue Aug 29 **Colleen Brown** (Member of Major Love, Folk/Rock, Edmonton) 5-8  
Fri Sep 1 **Doug Vanderhorden** (Piano/Guitar, Folk/Rock, Kingston) 5-8  
Sat Sep 2 **Jeff Callery** (Folk/Rock, Brockville) 5-8  
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# Perth Night Market Returns

## Come for an Enchanting Evening this Fall

Perth Tourism is delighted to bring back the popular Perth Night Market, taking place on Saturday, September 16.

Beginning at 5PM, this free event features over 80 artisans, crafters, makers and more from Lanark County, the Ottawa Valley and beyond, showcasing the incredible talent found close to home. A variety of entertainment will also be featured, from musicians to magicians and more.

Most shops throughout Perth will be open late for the event, giving attendees the opportunity to explore the unique offerings housed in the beautiful heritage buildings. Sip and savour delicious food and drink under the stars at one of the many restaurants and pubs, or enjoy some takeout in Stewart Park along the Tay River.

Street closures will allow guests to move about freely, and a shuttle service will be running from 2:30-10:30PM from several parking lots on the outskirts of Perth to the event area.

Experience the magic of Perth's streets at night. Visit [perth.ca/nightmarket](http://perth.ca/nightmarket) for more information and to stay up to date on details.



This fall's Perth Night Market takes place on Sept. 16

Planting the Seed

## All About Garlic

Why do we waste fossil fuels shipping garlic halfway around the globe to our local supermarket when we can grow superior garlic right here?

Garlic is quite easy to grow, but I find it doesn't routinely fit into the garden plans of local gardeners. I suspect that many gardeners don't regularly grow garlic as it just doesn't fit

the leaves or bulbs. Many growers report good results using floating row covers.

I harvest garlic when the bottom three leaves are dead — usually towards the end of July. The bulbs should not be left in the ground much longer as they can split their skins and then will not store well. Once all the garlic has been pulled, I generally seed the area with a green crop such as buckwheat. It will eventually be tilled into the soil to increase its organic content.

Garlic is fantastic freshly pulled from the soil, but if you want to store it longer it has to be properly cured. While it is great for short term it will not store well. Curing is simply a term used for the process used to preserve a product. In the case of garlic as well as onions, it simply means to allow them to air dry in a sheltered well-ventilated place for two or three weeks. This allows the skin to dry and harden, thus protecting the inner flesh from outer contaminants.

Once cured, trim off the roots and snip off tops to about 2cm unless you want to braid it. Do *not* store it in the refrigerator as this is too humid and may lead to rot.

If you want your fill of local garlic, I highly recommend two local long-running garlic festivals. The Perth Garlic Festival takes place August 12 (9 to 5) and August 13 (9 to 4) at the Perth Fairgrounds, while the Carp Garlic Festival takes place every

Saturday in August (8AM to 1PM) at the Carp Fairgrounds. I have been to both, and they are consistently a huge success with large crowds and even traffic congestion. They are great places to buy local garlic, but there are also a lot of other related things going on — demonstrations of braiding, garlic bread tasting, garlic flavoured ice cream, cooking demonstrations and contests, and all nature of preserves and healthy concoctions made with garlic.

Another reason to buy garlic locally is the enormous diversity available — I have encountered about 60 varieties ranging from very mild to very hot. Very little of this diversity finds its way into the commercial food system. Many of the regular vendors at other Farmers' Markets such as Almonte, Perth and Carleton Place will have lots of local garlic available as well.

If you buy garlic with the intention of planting it in the fall, it needs to be kept in a shaded cool place with good air circulation until it is time to plant it. **Buy from a local producer** if you are buying garlic to plant — you know that what you are buying was produced locally and is suited for local conditions. Garlic that is sold in supermarkets may have been shipped in from China and may not be hardy in the Canadian climate — many of the imported soft-neck varieties are easy to braid whereas the hardy locally-grown stiff-necked varieties are not.

by David Hinks

into the "plant the garden by May 24 routine", or it is not something that their parents or grandparents grew (full disclosure — growing up on a dairy farm in Southwestern Ontario, I didn't actually eat garlic until I was over twenty). A bit of research shows that three-quarters of garlic production is accounted for by China and India. It has been used in the cuisine of Eastern countries for over 4,000 years. Not quite so long in Ontario.

Garlic needs to be planted in the fall if possible, as it requires a long cool growing season. I always find this such a symbolic activity, planting in anticipation of a harvest next July/August. While most of my vegetable garden is winding up the annual cycle of growth and harvest, the little garlic cloves will be growing up to 10cm of roots this fall and will be ready to produce strong green shoots when the snow has barely gone next spring. While garlic is pretty flexible as to when it is planted, I usually aim for mid-October and have had excellent results.

I prepare the growing bed by adding compost and some well-aged horse manure and then working it up with a spading fork. I then break apart the garlic bulbs into the individual cloves, planting the large ones and saving the small ones for culinary purposes. The variety I plant is called Music — I have found it the most versatile garlic for my purposes as it is reliable and easy to grow, it is very winter hardy, it produces large cloves, stores relatively well and has a very pleasant pungent garlic flavour.

I plant with the pointed end up 15cm apart in rows 20 to 25cm apart (I plant three rows on my raised beds that are about a metre wide). I push the cloves into the soil with my fingers until they are covered with about four cm of soil, and then use the back side of a steel garden rake to level the bed and fill in the space over the cloves. A light tamping with the rake and the garlic is planted! Once we've had a couple of hard frosts, I will cover the beds with about ten centimetres of straw as a mulch to protect the garlic from winter thaws.

Garlic has few pests and is used by some as a pest deterrent. In recent years the leek moth has become more of a problem. The larvae feed by mining into





# Post Up at MVTM

Mallory Tolcher's *Post Up* will be displayed at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum (MVTM) from August 12 to October 7. Tolcher is a Canada-based interdisciplinary artist and athlete who challenges societal norms, redefining femininity within the typically male-dominated realm of sport. *Post Up* is a series of textiles installed on metal rims and wooden backboards, reimagining the conventional basketball net through the intricate, domestic and traditionally feminine medium of crocheted lace.



*Post Up* reimagines the conventional basketball net through textiles

Firmly planted in the gendered realm of femininity and domesticity, lacework and crochet have been integral to women's creative expression, serving as profound forms of artistic craftsmanship that often went unrecognized within patriarchal systems. Like basketball, lace allows creativity, improvisation and skill within a structured arena. Tolcher draws on these similarities to juxtapose the perceived hyper-feminine with the hyper-masculine, subverting restrictive gender norms within the realms of sport and domesticity.

Sponsored by the Municipality of Mississippi Mills as part of their Bicentennial Celebrations, the MVTM is proud to host this exhibit for the community. The area has been immersed in textile manufacturing and fibre arts for its 200-year-long municipal history, making *Post Up* a fitting exhibit to

bring to Almonte as both the birthplace of James Naismith, inventor of basketball, and the "Little Manchester" of North America, as it was known during its textile mill heyday.

"There are many interesting conversations that *Post Up* can inspire, and the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum is looking forward to being a forum for these discussions," explains Michael Rikley-Lancaster, MVTM Executive Director/Curator. "The systemic gender binary has shaped both the sports world and the world around us, and it's important to question, challenge and think critically about these enforced norms."

Find more information about this and other exhibits and events at <mvmtm.ca>.

# John Dorsch Scales New Heights

Ottawa Valley singer-songwriter and guitarist John Dorsch recently released his 15-song collection with MTS Records. *Faith In Me* is the lead single and YouTube video from the album.

*ELEVATION* showcases Dorsch's unique folk rock/Canadiana style and is full of vibrant melodies that bring the listener on a journey of music. He draws on influences from Rush, Led Zeppelin, The Beatles, John Mayer, Tommy Emmanuel, Jerry Reed and Merle Travis to create his own blend of traditional and modern music.

The album features 15 original songs all composed and recorded by Dorsch himself. The album was recorded and produced at JDM Studios, his home-built studio in Rideau Ferry. *ELEVATION* was mixed and mastered by Dave Draves at Little Bullhorn Studios in Ottawa. The entire process has taken two years to complete.

Accompanying John on this musical journey is his wife Dani Baribeau, who contributes in production, African djembe drum, percussion and harmony vocals. The track *Save Just One More Life* features special guests Paul Johnson on mandolin and bouzouki, and Bonny Skiffington on harmony vocals.

John has been playing electric and acoustic guitar in venues locally for 45 years and has been drawn to fingerstyle guitar in recent years. He is passionate about creating new music blending jazz, pop, rock and folk fingerstyle influences.

John and Dani currently perform as John Dorsch Music in acoustic coffeehouse style. The duo has been performing at area indoor and outdoor venues, restaurants, patios and pubs. Audiences enjoy their reimagined acoustic pop/rock songs and originals. The duo performs, in vibrant acoustic format, all 15 of the new *ELEVATION* album songs, which include three fingerstyle instrumentals. Their mission when performing live is to "Put smiles on faces".

*ELEVATION* is being well received. The song *Dragonfly* was selected and included in the 2021 City of Ottawa — On Hold Music Program. *Save Just One More Life* was selected



A celebration concert for the release of *ELEVATION* takes place at Studio Theatre Perth on Sunday, August 20

for the 2023 City of Ottawa — City Sounds Music Program.

On July 5, the lead single, *Faith In Me* reached #1 on the UK iTunes Top 100 Folk/Rock singles chart. The couple produced a YouTube Music video for the release.

Timothy Ball of *Showbiz Now Magazine* advises people to "Seek this release out today because, I believe, it's one of the year's most interesting releases and holds up under repeated listens."

A celebration concert for the launch of *ELEVATION* is taking place at The Studio Theatre in Perth on Sunday, August 20 at 2PM. The audience will experience the entire album performed acoustically, along with the inspirational stories behind the songs. For information, visit <johndorschmusic.com> and <Eventbrite.ca>. *ELEVATION* is available on Spotify, Apple Music and Deezer. CDs are available from <johndorschmusic.com>.

You will find John Dorsch Music performing at the Perth Stewart Park Bandshell on Saturday, August 12 from 1–4PM, the Perth Farmer's Market on Saturday, August 19 from 9AM to 1PM, and the Carleton Place Farmer's Market on Saturday, August 26 from 8AM. For more details, follow John Dorsch Music on Facebook and YouTube.



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