

# the Hummm

free

Arts,  
Entertainment  
& Ideas

## The Art of Stephen Brathwaite p.3

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February's Events

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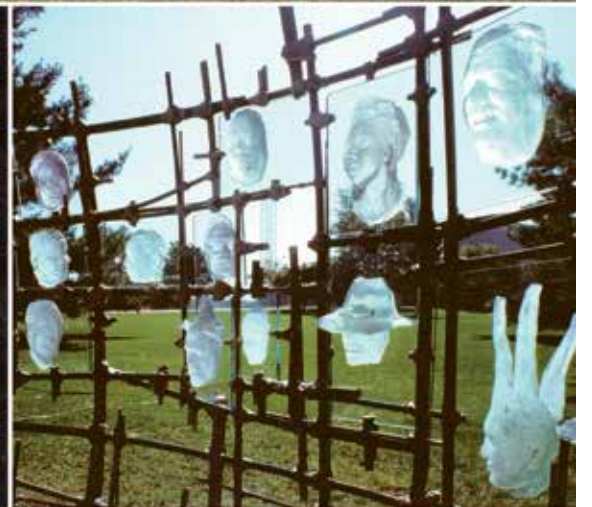
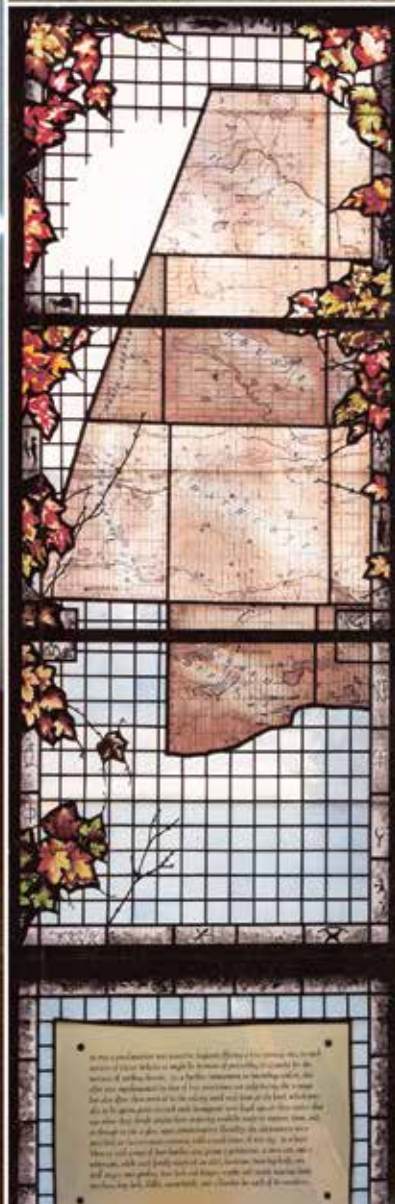
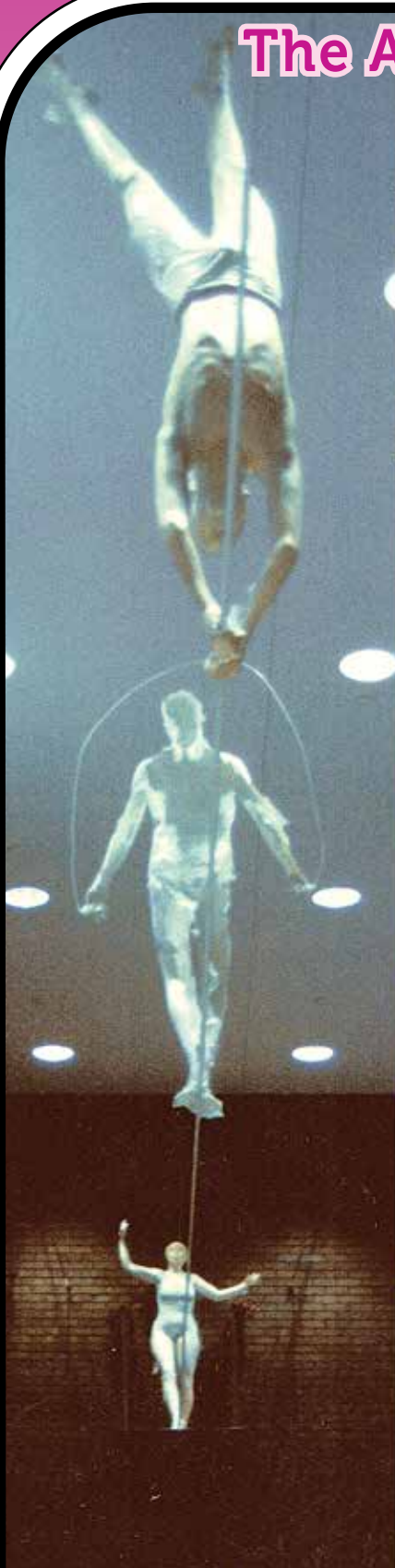


Rumors at Station Theatre

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2 Years Later



### ♥ Celebrate With Your Sweetie

Celebrate Valentine's Day right here in the Valley at one of the many area restaurants that are offering special menus on February 14<sup>th</sup>. If things go really well and you wind up needing more bedrooms, just give me a call!

**Pat's Picks for February:** The Black Tartan in Carleton Place <[blacktartankitchen.com](http://blacktartankitchen.com)>  
Heirloom Café and Bistro in Almonte <[heirloomcafe.ca](http://heirloomcafe.ca)>  
The Cove Country Inn in Westport <[coveinn.com](http://coveinn.com)>  
The Redneck Bistro in Calabogie <[redneckbistro.ca](http://redneckbistro.ca)>

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I want your advice... should I tell him the kids made jello in it on the weekend?

## Volunteering in the Valley

### A Year-Long Love Affair

For the past several years, we have run a special “Get Involved, Get Connected” feature in our February issue, in which we offered free listings to organizations in our area that rely on volunteers. Our hope was to help them attract new volunteers so that they could continue in their efforts to make our communities more vibrant, artsy, welcoming, accessible and healthy.

This year, we decided to change the way in which we promote those volunteer opportunities. Instead of listing them all in our February issue, we will be promoting them year-round (both in print and via Facebook and Instagram), running their listings at a time of year that makes sense to them. In this issue, you will find information about several organizations that are seeking assistance immediately, so please keep an eye out for the “Volunteering in the Valley” listings like the one at right.

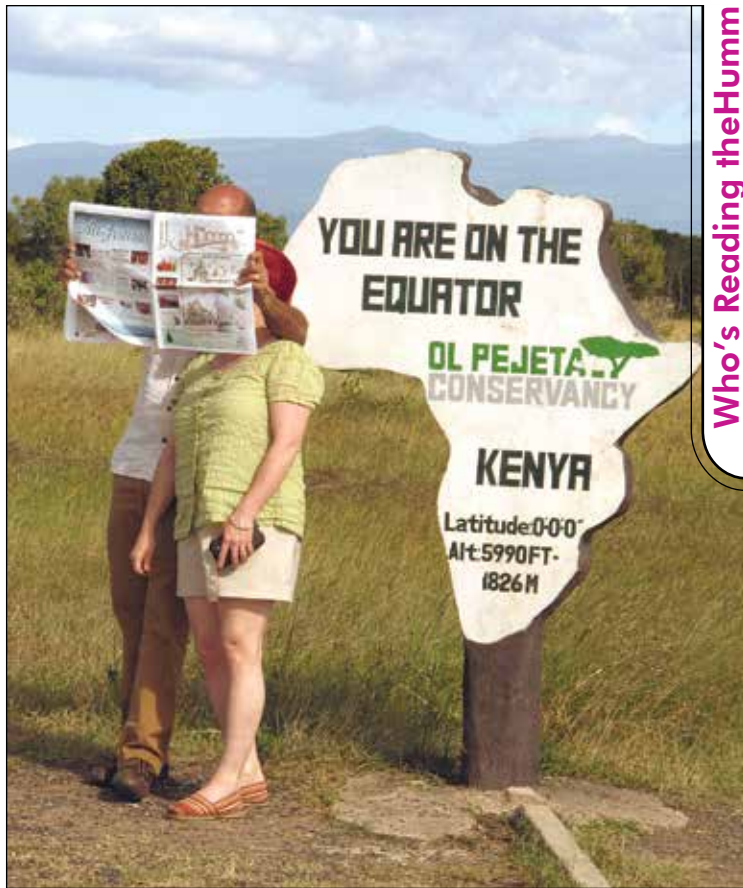
By volunteering locally, you will help ensure that we can all continue to live in communities where folks sort our used stuff and help re-direct it from landfills, care for us when we get older and have trouble getting around, coach our children, figure out how to be good stewards of the land and water on which we rely, preserve and celebrate our cultural heritage, raise money for good causes, and put on events that are a ton of fun!

And if you are seeking volunteers for a community or service group, arts event, museum, festival, concert series or conservation organization, feel free to contact us at <editor@thehummm.com>. We look forward to hearing from you!

#### Hummm Thought

“The most effective forms of censorship today involve meddling with trust and attention, not muzzling speech itself. As a result, they don’t look much like the old forms of censorship at all. They look like viral or coordinated harassment campaigns, which harness the dynamics of viral outrage to impose an unbearable and disproportionate cost on the act of speaking out. They look like epidemics of disinformation, meant to undercut the credibility of valid information sources. They look like bot-fueled campaigns of trolling and distraction, or piecemeal leaks of hacked materials, meant to swamp the attention of traditional media.”

— Zeynep Tufekci, from her article *It’s the (Democracy-Poisoning) Golden Age of Free Speech* <wired.com>



Back in early 2016, some mystery readers sent in this picture of theHummm at the equator in the foothills of snow-capped Mt. Kenya. Thanks for taking theHummm with you!

Who's Reading theHummm



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

#### Submissions

By email or on disk.

#### Content Deadline:

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

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#### Thanks this month to:

Everyone who volunteers in the Valley!

## Volunteering in the Valley

### Passion to Action: Volunteering on the Mills Community Support Board

The twelve amazing individuals who choose to share their passion, energy, skills and time as Directors on the Board of Mills Community Support are an essential part of why the organization continues to make positive change in our communities. Linda McGreevy is a great example. A Board Director for the past seven years, Linda contributes her intense energy, enthusiasm, and deep experience in fundraising — in fact, she is currently leading a fundraising campaign for the Country Street Centre. Linda is very personally motivated by her own mother’s experience in finding supportive housing, maintaining proper nutrition, and staying connected to her network of friends. Helping her mother through health challenges, Linda discovered just how tough it can be to find the right support. “This was my wake-up call. Knowing who to contact and where to turn for help was in itself a challenge. I wanted to make it better, and work with an organization in my community that will directly help with that”.

Linda’s lifetime belief in community participation and volunteerism, as well as her expertise in fundraising, led her to seek a Board Director role with Mills Community Support. “I love the attitude and approach of Mills Community Support, and the values MCS lives by every day: the drive to make our communities better, to engage the individual in their support and care, the ‘person-centredness’. And I have a passion for seniors — I’m one too!”

Mills Community Support is currently seeking additional Board Directors with a passion for community. For more information, please visit <themills.on.ca>.



Linda McGreevy has been an enthusiastic Board Director with Mills Community Support for the past seven years



# Stephen Brathwaite – Different Perspectives

Which artist should I write about first? The irreverently funny puppeteer? The creator of inclusive thought-provoking public art? The sculptor of ingenious and evocative forms? The heritage restoration redeveloper? The eclectic artistic accomplishments of Almonte's Stephen Brathwaite extend far beyond his adopted home town.

by Sally Hansen

Let's start at the very beginning. Stephen was born in Ottawa South, the youngest child with two gifted and dauntingly artistic siblings. His brother John was owner of a successful kitchen design company, and, by the time she was 26, his sister Noreen Young was creating and operating puppets for *Hi Diddle Day*, a CBC series that aired until 1977. She was also creator and Executive Producer of *Under the Umbrella Tree*, a popular CBC Television children's series that ran from 1987 to 1997. Not feeling competitive, Stephen elected to study the Sociology of Deviance at Carleton University. His choice proved auspicious; he continues to apply his knowledge of patterns of human behaviour across his many artistic endeavours.

## Puppet Misbehaviour

"Nepotism isn't necessarily a bad thing," Brathwaite jokes. While acquiring his Honours B.A. he was flying to Toronto on weekends to earn extra money as a puppeteer on his precocious sister's TV show. Under Noreen's tutelage, Stephen had become an accomplished puppeteer as early as 1969, working with her puppets on *Hi Diddle Day*. For me, an unexpected highlight of our interview was watching a YouTube episode of *The Bride of Chucky* as Brathwaite explained how he worked with a team of ten people in 1998 to animate Chucky and his puppet bride. Stephen operated Chucky's right arm; the two puppets' lips were controlled by software.

## Multifaceted

After graduation he spent a year working as a psychologist administering tests. That spurred him to combine his arts interests with his academic background and he earned a Master's in Environmental Studies at York University. Anticipating a career in arts administration, he concentrated on Art Communication and Community Development in the Arts.

Almost inadvertently he acquired the accoutrements of a professional glass studio with a fellow arts student, and found that more and more often he was heading back to the studio to create his own art. By 1984 Stephen participated in the (juried) First International Architectural Stained Glass Design Seminar in Germany with internationally recognized

glass painter Jochem Poensgen. In 1985 he won a scholarship to attend a design seminar with glass artists Joachim Klos and Lutz Haufschild. The latter is an internationally recognized glass artist known for his thoughtful integration of art and architecture.

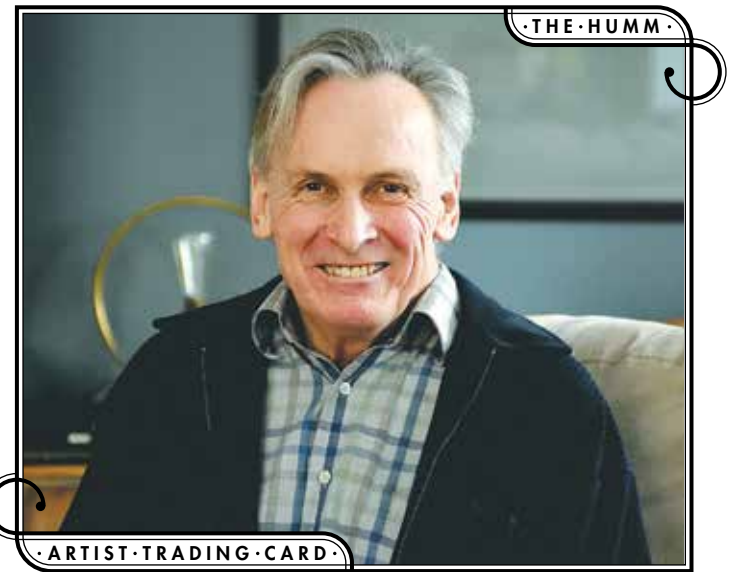
## Connecting

Stephen Brathwaite's public art and heritage redevelopment projects epitomize that profound understanding. "It's organized playing," he explains. "Art offers so many opportunities for self expression and creating a direct connection to a community."

That is what he is known for. Collaboration is his hallmark — with clients, with models, with other artists and especially with communities. He seldom exhibits his works, preferring to interact with people and to develop relationships that are site- and client-specific. He has cast fibreglass molds of neighbours and their kids for his public pieces. He has worked locally with artists Dale Dunning and Robert Pauly, and created the "North is Freedom" sculpture for the city of Halifax with Nova Scotia sculptor Doug Bamford. In typical Brathwaite fashion, the piece includes stories and bits of text referencing the history and culture of the neighbourhood. Even Mrs. Johnson's recipe for black-eyed peas and rice is included.



To lighten the tone at the North Bay Courthouse he created "In the Balance" as a visual pun. The piece features life-size acrobats performing on a tightrope, suggesting that justice hangs in the balance in the courtroom. His "Strathcona Folly" is an imaginative work of "playable art" for kids at Strathcona Park in Ottawa. Essentially a large sand box, the structure was inspired



THE HUMM

ARTIST TRADING CARD

by the floor plans of Victorian mansions that were built in the neighbourhood, and constructed with actual found stone pieces of local architectural history. Once again, Brathwaite demonstrates his highly inventive ability to engage the viewer, indeed, the entire community, through intrigue. His works are accessible, but puzzling. He draws you in but doesn't fill in all the pieces; he invites you to engage — to figure them out for yourself.

Glass remains a favourite medium, and he has created windows for churches and for private entrances. For the latter, he incorporates images and texts that hold particular meaning for the owners.

## Community Collaboration

With the support of many partners and investors, Brathwaite's heritage redevelopment initiatives continue to play a major role in the economic development of his adopted home town of Almonte. Capitalizing on its scenic location along the banks of the Mississippi River, Brathwaite has helped change the face of the town.

In 1993 he and partner Greg Smith purchased Almonte's historical and dilapidated Victoria Woollen Mill, launching an ongoing series of heritage redevelopment projects that have revitalized the town. His next project, with partner Joh Hill, resulted in the creation of beautifully designed spaces for galleries, shops, studios, offices and residences in Thoburn Mill. The former textile mill now houses 23 apartment residences and small businesses. As a powerful testament to the wisdom of Lutz Haufschild's philosophy, today the corridors of the building serve as an ever-changing art gallery, featuring the works of local artists and attracting tourists and residents.

The latest Brathwaite initiative is the recently launched project known as 65 Mill St. The restoration of the delightful second-floor gingerbread balcony is just the frosting on the façade of another major reclamation of prime real estate at the heart of the downtown business and arts area.

Brathwaite is quick to note that many others have "...shared a vision in rebuilding in a way that shows great respect for heritage." In addition to business partners Greg Smith, Joh Hill, Marc Lefebvre and Bob McKay, he credits architects Peter Mansfield and Richard White, as well as trades people and many others for contributing in all kinds of ways. To see more about these community-changing initiatives, visit <almontecondos.com>, or contact Stephen at the coordinates shown on the back of his Artist Trading Card.

This article barely skims the surface of an artist with a six-page résumé on his website <stephenbrathwaite.com> that also contains links to his many artistic achievements and redevelopment endeavours. I encourage you to peruse it. (Don't miss "Stiltwalkers" at the West Carleton Community Centre!)

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**WHO** Stephen Brathwaite  
**WHAT** Artist, Sculptor, Puppeteer, Heritage Redeveloper  
**WHERE** Almonte, <stephenbrathwaite.com>, 794-4816, <sbrathwaite@storm.com>, <almontecondos.com>, public art installations in many locales  
**WHEN** By appointment  
**WHY** "Creating art is organized play."

ARTIST TRADING CARD

# The Humour in *Rumors* Can't be Beat!

## Neil Simon Comedy at the Station Theatre

The 2018 theatre season in Smiths Falls starts with a full-on belly laugh when the Station Theatre presents Neil Simon's *Rumors*. Get set for guffaws, giggles and howls of hilarity, even though the scene-behind-the-scenes is a darker one.

Chris and Ken have arrived for a tenth anniversary celebration with their friends Charley (the Deputy Mayor of New York) and Myra. Three other couples will join them for a cultured and grand evening, ladies dressed to the nines and men in tuxedos.

Chris and Ken are startled by the sound of a gunshot on their way into the apartment; Charley has tried to kill himself. The cover-ups, the confusion and the witty dialogue are all intended to keep the facts away from each other and certainly out of the news, and they make for a great evening of entertainment.

Director Nancy Keech has selected a cast with chemistry that includes some faces familiar to local audiences. "Jamie Schoular (Ken) and Robert Del Grande (Lenny) are the Abbott and Costello of the Station Theatre," she says, "and the rest of the cast fits perfectly into their comic pairing."

Heddy Sorour (last seen in *Who Dunit?*) plays Chris, Ken's wife. Chris, says Sorour, "is a neurotic, bimbo lawyer who turns to vodka for want of a cigarette and is not above smoking the odd Q-tip."

Sheila Jasiak is back as Cookie (wearing her "grandmother's dress from Russia"), and Ursula Rice-Leech, a 17-year-old SFDCI student, plays the strong but silent policewoman Officer Pudney. Rob Glas (Officer Welch) was last on stage in *No Sex Please... We're British*. You've probably seen Maria Fournier (who plays Cassie) at the Heritage Museum. Keech says that Fournier acted for her in high school and has come back to Smiths Falls "from away". Noel White plays her husband, Glenn. And though he's fairly new to acting, Noel has been



Cookie, in red (Sheila Jasiak), spends a lot of time crawling in Neil Simon's *Rumors*, which opens at The Station Theatre on February 23. At hand to help are, (l-r) Chris (Heddy Sorour), Glenn (Noel White), Lenny (Robert Del Grande), and Ernie (Garry Welsh).

involved with the Station Theatre as a set designer and builder for several years. Julie Heney, new to the Station Theatre but not to acting, plays Claire; Garry Welsh plays her husband Ernie.

Keech explains that: "the play is a hilarious romp, a farce with no purpose except to make you laugh — a perfect remedy for the winter blues. Pairing this cast — some new-to-us faces and some old favourites — with Neil Simon's brilliant words, you can't go wrong."

The show runs on February 23, 24 and March 1, 2 and 3 at 7:30PM, with Sunday matinées on February 25 and March 4 at 2PM. Tickets are on sale now: adults are \$20, students with ID are \$10. Get them in person (cash only) at Special Greetings (8 Russell St. E. in Smiths Falls), or by phone at 283-0300 (Visa or Mastercard only). Buy them online at <smithsfallstheatre.com> through PayPal, Visa or Mastercard (no online ticket sales the day of the performance), or at the door (if available, cash only) a half-hour before performance.

— Submitted by the Smiths Falls Community Theatre

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 Prize draw for each category

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Proceeds go to the Big Creek Campaign

Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust  
 For details visit [mmlt.ca/events](http://mmlt.ca/events)



Installation views at Sivarulrasa Gallery: Left to right, works by artists Mirana Zuger, Gayle Kells, Deborah Arnold, Adrienne Dagg, Sue Adams, Jim Hake, and more!

Throughout February we continue to feature works by gallery artists!

Visit us in beautiful Almonte, Ontario  
 Gallery Hours: Tues-Sun 11am to 5pm

Represented artists: Sue Adams, Sarah Anderson, Deborah Arnold, Russell Baron, Carly Belford, Adrienne Dagg, Dale Dunning, Barbara Gamble, Jim Hake, Jane Irwin, David Kearns, Gayle Kells, Susan Low-Beer, Sanjeev Sivarulrasa, Susan Tooke, Mirana Zuger



34 Mill St, Almonte  
[sivarulrasa.com](http://sivarulrasa.com)  
 613.256.8033



# Double-Double Duo at The Perth Manor

On Saturday, February 3 at 2PM, the Music at the Manor Series returns to Perth Manor with a truly fabulous performance by "Double-Double Duo". The Duo features Kornel Wolak on clarinet and piano, with one of Canada's most outstanding accordion players, Michael Bridge. Gordon Craig enthuses: "This is the most outstanding concert we have presented since we began our series here at The Manor!" For this special show they have also created a special ticket price for students, less than half-price!

Double-Double Duo (DDD) is about much more than coffee; each member is a "double threat" on two instruments: Kornel Wolak on clarinet and piano, and Michael Bridge on accordions and piano. Classically trained international soloists, they use comedy, virtuosity, and musical sensitivity to bring their broad repertoire to life. The *Barrie Examiner* exclaims: "Double-Double Duo is the best of new,

young 'classical' musicians... bringing their own style of intellect, expertise, and talent to a new 21<sup>st</sup> century audience."

Actively touring in Poland, France, Ecuador, and across Canada, DDD performs their all-original arrangements of classical showpieces, sensitive jazz ballads and fiery folk music from around the globe.

Of Kornel Wolak the *Toronto Star* has said: "Control and a smooth expressivity are what make Wolak shine". Dr. Wolak is currently pioneering collaborative research in oral articulators with the department of Speech Language Pathology, University of Toronto. He is an internationally renowned soloist, teacher and touring chamber musician.

Michael Bridge was named one of CBC's "30 Hot Classical Musicians Under 30" in 2016, and is a winner of the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta's Emerging Artist Medal and the Canadian Digital Accordion Championships. Active in new music, he has over thirty world premières to his credit. He is a graduate student in accordion performance at the University of Toronto studying with Joseph Macerollo.

Wolak and Bridge began their collaboration in 2011. They have since performed across Canada for arts organizations as diverse as the music they play — from the Ontario Philharmonic to the Calgary Stampede.

Tickets are available by calling Perth Manor at 264-0050 x1. Tickets are \$35 plus HST and include a glass of wine and hors d'oeuvres at the post-concert reception. Student tickets (age 18 and under) are available for \$15 plus HST and include a non-alcoholic beverage with hors d'oeuvres!



Don't delay — go get your tickets to hear the Double-Double Duo at Perth Manor on February 3

## Volunteering in the Valley

### Celebrate the Heritage of Arnprior!

The Arnprior and District Museum celebrates the heritage and culture of the Arnprior area. We have a wide variety of volunteer positions for adults and students alike, and seek volunteer team members of all skills and abilities.

Would you like to help reinstate our heritage perennial garden? Can you help build a new exhibit, or do you have experience with carpentry? Can you conduct research, document artifacts, write grants, assist with children's programs or greet visitors? Those with sewing skills may wish to join our textile conservators on Thursday afternoons (call Cathy Rodger at 623-6289). Share your talents or learn a new skill by joining our team! For more information, please call 623-4902 or email <abrown@arnprior.ca>.

—Anita Brown



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## Dies ist der Tag

high baroque music for a German bassoonist



'Our Very Own'

Friday, February 16th

7:30 pm

St. Paul's United Church

25 Gore Street West, Perth, ON

Marie Bouchard, Harpsichord

Andrew Burn, Bassoon

Marianne Moore, Soprano

Performance on period instruments

Tickets (\$20) are available at the church office or through [www.ticketsplease.ca](http://www.ticketsplease.ca)

For more information, visit [stpauls-uc-perth.org](http://stpauls-uc-perth.org)



# Humm Bits

## February Evensong at St. James

St. James the Apostle Anglican Church in Perth welcomes Dr. Deirdre Piper as guest organist at Evensong on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February at 4PM. The prelude starts at 3:45PM, so come early. Dr. Piper is a talented musician, composer and former Professor of Music at Carleton University, and is currently the Co-Music Director at All Saints Anglican Church in Westboro, Ottawa. "I have chosen introductory organ music suitable for the First Sunday in Lent," says Deirdre, "a dramatic musical interpretation of *Psalm 130 v1 — Out of the depths I cry to you, O God* by Herbert Howells. The postlude is a *Toccata* by Théodore Dubois.

The St. James' Liturgical Choir will sing the *Magnificat in B flat* and *Nunc Dimittis*, both by Philip Moore, as well as a psalm and anthem.

St. James Church is located on the corner of Drummond and Harvey Streets in Perth. For more information, contact the church office at 267-1163 or email <stjamesperth@gmail.com>.

## Pancake Supper for Maple Grove

At Maple Grove School, we are focused on improving our students' interest in the sciences. We believe that providing students with enriching opportunities in these areas will have a positive effect on both their achievement in and their enthusiasm for these subjects. On Tuesday, February 13, from 5-7:30PM at the Civitan Club in Lanark (2144 Pine Grove Road), the Fundraising Committee of the Maple Grove School Parent Council is planning a Pancake Supper to support the school in these efforts. The cost to attend is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. We are raising money to provide an interest-building, one-day workshop for each classroom called "Science In The Classroom", in which professional scientists will come for the day to perform exciting feats of science.

— Jason Wilkinson

## Firearms Safety Courses

The Arnprior and District Museum is hosting a Canadian Firearms Safety Course and Canadian Restricted Firearms Safety Course on February 12 and 13 from 8AM to 6PM. The cost is \$260 plus HST (\$293.80), payable to the instructor on the first day. If you want to get a license following the course, the cost is an additional \$80. Space is limited. For further details and to reserve a seat, please call the museum at 623-4902 or email <jcarlile@arnprior.ca>.

## Ornamental Grasses

Happy New Year to all gardeners and garden lovers. Yes, it is winter, but the Perth and District Horticultural Society gives you the opportunity to dream now of the growing season to come. On February 13, they present their first gardening talk of 2018 when Tim Dyer speaks about "Ornamental Grasses in the Northern Garden." Tim feels ornamental grasses are one of the most underutilized options for garden planting. His presentation will illustrate the different colours, sizes and structures of ornamental grasses, as well as showing the ideal way to incorporate them into the garden.

Owner and operator of Carp Garden Services, Tim is a professional horticulturist with extensive experience in the propagation of trees, perennials and shrubs, as well as pruning, garden design, and all other areas of horticulture. Educated with a Business degree from the University of Wisconsin, Tim originates from the United Kingdom where he gained a strong background in horticulture. Subsequent years of evergreen tree propagation led to Tim owning and operating a 45-acre nursery near Carleton Place for fifteen years. Here he had two million tree seedlings under propagation along with 60,000 shrubs and 40,000 herbaceous perennials. Tim has taken many horticultural courses through trade association programs, and has taught pruning at the Governor General's residence at Rideau Hall. He has also taught various aspects of horticulture at Algonquin College in Ottawa.

The meeting takes place at 7PM on Tuesday, February 13 at St. Paul's United Church in Perth, located at 25 Gore Street West at the corner of D'Arcy. Doors will open at 6:30 for social time; please use the D'Arcy Street side door to access the basement meeting room. If members wish to bring a plate of light refreshments to share that would be greatly appreciated.

All are welcome. Come to get inspired for your 2018 gardens. Renew your membership at \$15 for the year, or be a guest for \$5. Find more details at <perthhortsociety.com>.

# Historical Bassoonist to Perform in Perth

It all started at bassoon camp....

That's where Andrew Burn first ventured to Lanark County to participate in the annual Brooke Valley Bassoon Days held at Providence Point. Now, he's back. The Swiss-based bassoonist and enthusiastic proponent of early music will be performing at St. Paul's United Church in Perth, in a concert that will feature music from the Baroque era.

Sharing the stage with Burn will be harpsichordist Marie Bouchard and soprano Marianne Moore, under the ensemble name "Our Very Own".

While J.S. Bach is arguably the best-known Baroque composer, he was hardly alone. Moreover, he never wrote specifically for the bassoon in a solo role. Luckily for Perth concertgoers, a host of others did. Like Bach, these composers forged strong links

to Leipzig, Germany, one of the musical epicentres of the day.

The program includes early 18<sup>th</sup> century works by Telemann, Kuhnau, Stölzel, Fasch and Galliard. The concert is billed as "Dies ist der Tag" ("This is the Day, this is the Hour"), which is the name of the cantata, by Stölzel, that will close the first half of the concert.

Burn will perform on a period instrument — a forerunner of the modern bassoon and one that has far fewer keys. But he is an accomplished musician on the modern bassoon as well and has appeared internationally, including as sole bassoonist for the European Union Baroque Orchestra, which presented over fifty concerts from London to Istanbul. He has performed for radio in over fifteen countries and is recorded on the ATMA and Obsidien labels. Burn is a graduate of Carleton University, where he studied baroque bassoon with Mathieu Lussier and modern bassoon with JoAnn Simpson.

Marie Bouchard is an Ottawa-based harpsichordist who is well established in the world of Baroque music. She has performed with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, Les Violons du Roy, Tafelmusik, the Toronto Consort and Seventeen Voyces.

Guest soprano Marianne Moore is a recent graduate of Memorial University, where she obtained her Masters of Vocal Performance and Pedagogy. This past spring, she made her orchestral debut with the Newfoundland Symphony in their performance of Vivaldi's *Gloria*.

The concert will take place at St. Paul's United Church (25 Gore Street West in Perth) on Friday, February 16 at 7:30PM. Tickets are \$20 and are available weekdays between 8:30AM and 3PM from the Church office, online from <ticketsplease.ca> and at the door. For more details, visit <stpauls-uc-perth.org>.



## If the bassoon ain't baroque...

Hear bassoonist Andrew Burn in concert on February 16 at St. Paul's in Perth

# Beat the Freeze Kitchen Party

On Friday, February 16, St. Andrews United Church in Pakenham is hosting a "Beat the Freeze Kitchen Party". Come on over at 6PM for a ham and bean dinner, followed by a lighthearted evening of music and variety sure to melt away the midwinter blues.

Seating is limited. Advance tickets are available from the Pakenham General Store, Nicholson's, or by calling Shirleen (623-6679) or Marilyn (256-3130). The cost for the evening is \$20 for adults and \$10 for children. This is a wheelchair-accessible event.

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Above: The Mustafa family on Jenna's first birthday: Ahmad, Radwan, Jenna, Amal and Ayah  
Below: Khedr Jarous with Amjad, Nour, Jessica and baby Goldana

## Two Years Later: Syrian Families in Almonte

More than 25,000 Syrian refugees arrived in Canada during the frigid winter of 2015/6, including the Jarous and Mustafa families.

Of their first two years in Almonte, Radwan Mustafa jokes: "Two years? Feels like two days!" Then he turns serious. "These two years have been great: meeting new people, learning a new way of life."

The learning started with language. The four children attended local schools and quickly became conversant in English; Amjad Jarous (now 11 years old) won an English composition award in just his first year. Meanwhile, the four adults — Radwan and his wife Amal Damara, and Khedr Jarous and his wife Nour al-Tarsha — attended morning English lessons taught by local volunteers (many have since become friends to the families) and discovered that children learn a foreign language much more quickly.

Both Radwan and Khedr, however, were eager to become self-sufficient. The men set up home-based businesses, which brought further learning: about Canadian business practices, income tax, accounting, where to purchase supplies, how and where to market their services (upholstery) or goods (food). Their sponsorship groups helped in the business set-up, and several members continue to volunteer with accounting, marketing and client liaison.

Local media gave a generous and much-needed boost to enhancing public awareness of the two businesses. A September 17, 2016 article about Radwan Mustafa Upholstery even became *The Millstone's*

most-accessed article to date. Radwan still receives clients as a result of that article and last year's advertising in theHumm. His clients' addresses reflect the media readership area; they have come from as far as Deep River, Chelsea (Quebec), Perth and Ottawa.

CBC Radio One broadcast "In Town and Out" from Almonte in November 2016, and Nour was able to promote their business — Jessica's Syrian Food. Jessica's is a catering company, named for their daughter, that also operated from the Almonte Farmers' Market and, last summer, from the Carp Farmers' Market. Their catering jobs, for 8–200 people, also come from around the Ottawa Valley.

Amid all the business and navigating a new culture ("don't point with your middle finger"), the best news arrived at the Almonte General Hospital. Baby Jenna was born to Amal in January 2016, and five weeks later, Goldana joined the Jarous family.

Both families agree the first two years have gone by very quickly. Like many Canadians, they feel that winter is the worst thing about living here, but they're thankful: for their sponsorship groups, for being in Almonte and for the friends they've made.

The Syrian conflict robbed them of their future in that country, but they're hopeful for a good one in Canada.

"Our plan for the future is striving for a better state of living," says Radwan. To achieve that, Radwan wants to build his business, through formal and word-of-mouth advertising, and adds, "my work is my focus."

Radwan works efficiently from a small room in his house but looks forward to having a larger, ventilated work shop one day. Such a shop will allow him to take on re-upholstery jobs that entail gluing or sanding repairs. In the meantime, he does meticulous, clean work and loves tackling antiques.

Khedr and Nour are also looking to the future. They will be opening a small restaurant in Carleton Place sometime in February. Khedr has been cleaning and outfitting a former pizza joint on Bridge Street and at press time was arranging signing, licensing and suppliers.

Despite all the favourable moments in their lives, the families endure a constant pressure that few of us know. Their parents, siblings and friends remain in war-torn Syria. Sporadic electricity in that country can mean no news for days, and it's easy enough to imagine the worse.

But even in this there is light. Khedr's sister, Alset, her husband and two children arrived in Almonte from Jordan in December, and Radwan and Amal expect family to join them soon.

—Fay Devlin



## Volunteering in the Valley

### Volunteering with Lanark County Interval House Makes You Feel As Good As New!

Lanark County Interval House <lcih.org> has a wide range of volunteer opportunities available to people of all ages, from high school-aged to retirement-aged. Roles and areas where we need support include: yard maintenance (lawn mowing, trimming greenery, raking leaves); shelter support (cooking/baking with residents, sorting donations, room turnover, etc.); special events (putting up posters to advertise, set-up and take down, selling raffle or 50/50 tickets, greeting guests, etc.); and office/admin support (data entry, stuffing envelopes, and supporting the fundraising and volunteer programs).

Our largest endeavour, and where we currently require the most support, is our As Good As New Thrift Store. Located at 33 Bridge Street in Carleton Place, this store is completely volunteer-run, and contributes greatly to LCIH's fundraising efforts. We are always looking for positive and enthusiastic volunteers to sell clothing and other items, provide customer service, sort donations, and perform various other tasks to help maintain the store. In turn, you can gain customer service skills and retail experience, which can be added to your résumé. Join our team!

For more information and to download an application, please contact our Volunteer Coordinator at 257-3469 or email <volunteer@lcih.com>.

—Christine Jones



## CALL FOR ARTISTS

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Lots of exciting changes this year to make your experience the best yet.

## Almonte Seedy Saturday!

Heirloom, organic, open-pollinated seeds for sale

Seed & Garden Supplies Exchange

Workshops for beginners to advanced-level gardeners

**February 10, 9AM-3PM**

**Almonte Civitan Hall  
500 Almonte Road**

Brought to you by: Beyond the Garden Gate

**Free Admission with this ad!**  
(reg. \$2, kids under 5 are free)





# Eat Local Support a CSA!

Do the grey winter days have you dreaming about the greens of spring and summer? Why not ensure a steady supply of those greens (as well as lots of other delicious produce) by investing in a local CSA?

CSA stands for Community Shared Agriculture (also known as Community Supported Agriculture), which is essentially a partnership between growers and eaters. By purchasing a CSA “share,” eaters enter an agreement with farmers who then supply them with a season’s worth of vegetables — with a full share usually feeding a family of four. Typically, some or all of the cost of the subscription is paid up front, which helps the farmer with financing for the year. It also provides a secure market, allowing farmers to do what they do best — grow nutritious, great-tasting food. In Lanark County, many farms (such as the ones listed on this page) begin selling CSA shares as early as January, so contact them early to reserve your spot!

## The Benefits

One of the advantages of participating in a CSA is that you get to deal directly with the farmer who grew the food. You can ask questions about the growing conditions or find out how to best prepare an unfamiliar vegetable. Knowing what kind of produce you’ll be getting in a given week enables you to plan meals, which is a great way to reduce both wasted food and extra trips to the grocery store.

Supporting small-scale, local farms means voting with your dollars for the option that is easier on the planet than large, monocrop industrial farms. You will also feel like you’re doing something good for your health and the health of your family. Local growers are proud of what they sell, and their primary goal is to produce vegetables, fruit and meat that taste great and are full of nutrients. You will be dealing with a local expert, someone who spends a good deal of time on the many tasks related to turning soil, sunlight and water into delicious food. The farmers then sustain the local economy by making local purchases, resulting in a win-win situation!

**Most CSAs sell out well before Spring, so call now to book your share!**



## Local CSAs

### Funny Duck Farms Whole Farm CSA

RR#3, Jasper  
info@funnyduckfarms.com  
www.funnyduckfarms.com

Our certified organic farm offers a unique year-round CSA program that delivers to your door. Customize your weekly food baskets based on your individual family needs. We offer a wide range of pasture-raised meats as well as vegetables, eggs, herbs, dry goods, honey, maple syrup, and value-added foods. Home delivery to most areas in Ottawa, or pick up at the farm gate. We have limited shares available for the 2018 season.



### Rock-N-Horse Farm

1267 Rae Road, Almonte  
Contact Arlee & Diane at 613-256-6117  
am.sheets@hotmail.com  
www.rocknhorsefarm.ca

We offer a Short Season CSA (12 weeks) for \$540 or a Long Season CSA (20 weeks) for \$800. Pick up at our farm. We also have beef, pork, lamb, chicken, turkey, eggs, maple syrup, honey, bread, flour, preserves, sweets and more to add to your veggies.

### Indian Creek Orchard Gardens

919 Sugar Bush Road, Pakenham  
Contact Scott at 613-914-7444  
scott@indiancreekorchard.ca  
www.indiancreekorchard.ca

Indian Creek Orchard Gardens is an organically managed bio-intensive micro farm. We are nestled on five acres along the Indian Creek between Pakenham and Almonte. We employ a hybrid of regenerative, agroforestry and organic farming techniques. Our vegetables are sown between rows of fruit trees, bush fruits and aisles of grape vines. We have pick-up locations at Dandelion Foods in Almonte, the Granary in Carleton Place, as well as at our farm. We are proud to offer you naturally grown CSA garden shares in three sizes, available on 14- or 18-week share plans. Taste the difference naturally grown makes. Buy local, know your farmer, eat healthy and live long. Visit our website for more details and to complete your online reservation.



### Miller’s Bay Farm

65 Rideau Ferry Road, Lombardy  
Contact Robert and Shannon Miller at 613-283-0205  
millersfarmfresh@gmail.com  
www.millersbayfarm.com

Miller’s Bay Farm is a 4<sup>th</sup> generation family farm that is home to the “Bountiful Basket” Program, entering its sixth season. Our weekly baskets contain conventionally, sustainably grown produce only — and everything we sell is produced right here at the farm. The 15-week program runs from late June through Thanksgiving, with pick-up options in Perth, Smiths Falls and at the farm. Online registration for the program will begin in early March. Visit our website to sign up for our “Farm Fresh Alerts” and be among the first to be notified.

### Pathback Farms

798 Rae Road, Mississippi Mills  
Contact John Sandberg at 613-794-7334  
<facebook.com/pathbackfarms>

We at Pathback Farms are on the path back to better tasting agriculture. We offer a small number of CSAs so that we will be able to fill the baskets full for our customers. We offer a 16-week CSA starting in the second week of June. We also have a pre-season and post-season CSA for a limited number of customers. We are an organic practice farm. We are also a third-generation market garden farm. Also available are organic, free run eggs and non-medicated meat birds.

**For more information about local food, farm-gate sales and CSAs, visit  
lanarklocalflavour.ca**



# Seedy Saturdays (and Sundays)

Are you developing symptoms of “garden-withdrawal syndrome”? Drooling over seed catalogues? Sharpening garden tools until you can shave with them? Haunting the garden aisles of local hardware stores?

Take heart, there is a support group; a place where you can meet like-minded souls whose green thumbs are itching for action. I am referring of course to **Seedy Saturdays (and Sundays)**. These grass-roots events are locally organized — the Canadian not-for-profit organization Seeds of Diversity has a loose organizational role, providing some guidance and some publicity. They are a series of separate events that have sprung

by David Hinks

up across the country; each individually organized under the themes of encouraging the use of open-pollinated and heritage seeds, enabling a local seed exchange, and educating the public about seed saving and environmentally responsible gardening practices.

These events are very timely for the serious gardener who is venturing into starting their own seedlings under lights. While the time to start some varieties indoors under lights is rapidly approaching, it is important to take a deep breath and slow down. Tomatoes should not be started until mid-March — otherwise they will become hopelessly lanky and out of control — you will not produce robust seedlings that are worthy of gracing your veggie patch. Peppers and eggplants can be started a couple of weeks earlier. But there are a number of other vegetables that respond very well to a much longer growing period under lights — veggies that I have very successfully started in February include parsley, onions, leeks, celery, celeriac, globe artichoke and cardoon. So now is a great time to get out and talk to experienced gardeners and check out the huge diversity of vegetable varieties that are available.

## Seedy Saturday in Almonte...

The seedy season kicks off in Almonte! Seedy Saturday comes to the Civitan Club (500 Almonte Road) on February 10 from 9AM to 3PM. Johvi Leeck, a young local entrepreneur and owner (along with a bit of help from mom and dad) of the gardening venture “Beyond the Garden Gate”, is organizing this event for a third year. The inaugural year of 2016 was a tremendous success, and Johvi continues to build on it.

There will be many vendors of heritage seeds, a seed exchange table, and presentations on gardening. And of course all of our local gardening groups will be well represented — the Neighbourhood Tomato Community Gardening Program, the Almonte & District Horticultural Society, the Canadian Organic Growers, the Seed Library at the Almonte Library, Seeds of Diversity and the Lanark County Master Gardeners are all enthusiastic supporters of Seedy Saturday. For me, one of the most important aspects is the opportunity for networking with many gardening groups to learn of their latest accomplishments and their plans for 2018.

Gardeners will be able to exchange information (and of course to commiserate about the wild challenges of gardening in 2017) and to buy, sell or trade interesting and unusual heritage varieties of vegetable, fruit, herb, flower, wild and native Ontario seeds. There will be an exchange for seeds and extra plants, cuttings, books, magazines, pots,

trellising, tools and/or gardening supplies. Bring an item and another can be taken home. Many gardening and environmental organizations will have information tables. Speakers throughout the day will discuss a range of topics of interest for beginners through to advanced gardeners.

For many years I attended and spoke at the larger Seedy Saturday event at Britannia Park in Ottawa. But eventually this overwhelmingly successful gardening event became too successful for my tastes! Before the doors opened there was a line-up of people and by afternoon it was so crowded that it was almost impossible to move. So I was delighted when Seedy Saturday came to Almonte. This is another amazingly successful Almonte event and a terrific opportunity for gardeners from the area to network, for local producers to showcase their wares, and for learning. It’s also a great way to support local small businesses — these folks are not in it for the big bucks, but rather because they believe fervently in what they are doing.



The seedy season kicks off on February 10 at Almonte’s Seedy Saturday at the Civitan Hall (see page 7 to get in for free!)

Some Seedy Saturdays are hosted by established institutions; others by the voluntary effort of a few individuals in community centres or church basements. The events are relatively informal, have a low cost of entry for visitors and vendors, and a general theme that attracts growers of heritage seeds, organic practitioners, native plant growers and environmental groups. This is aligned with Seeds of Diversity’s interests — that organization has come to be viewed as a natural participant and promoter of these events. Seedy Saturdays’ grass-roots nature — low overhead, low admission, local talent, and volunteer energy — distinguishes them from expensive, commercially driven garden shows. Attendees are able to contribute, not just consume.

## ...and Beyond!

For more details on the great network of Seedy Saturday (and Sunday) events taking place across the country, check out the Seeds of Diversity website at <seeds.ca>. This year Seedy Saturday in Ottawa takes place on March 3 at Britannia Park (Ron Kolbus Lakeside Centre), and Seedy Sunday is in Perth on March 4 (location to be determined). If you want to go a bit further afield, Brockville is on March 3, Renfrew is on March 4, Kingston is on March 10, and Cornwall is on March 17.

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# A Prescription for the February Blues

## Folkus presents Sussex with Ali McCormick

There are nights where nothing will do but the blues. And most of them are in February.

On Saturday, February 24, Folkus has the cure for what ails you — a little blues, a little jazz, a little mojo je-ne-sais quoi. We're prescribing Sussex <sussexvibrafolk.com>, a band put together by Montreal bluesman Rob Lutes (two Maple Blues award nominations this year!) and his childhood buddy, vibraphonist Michael Emmenau. Rob and Michael played together twenty-five or so years ago as high school students in New Brunswick, and began collaborating again in Montreal around 2011.

Their songs reflect influences from Tin Pan Alley, from blues and folk history, and from the gypsy jazz of Django Reinhardt. But where Reinhardt's guitar worked with the delicate strings of Stéphane Grapelli, Lutes' guitar has a foil in Emmenau's airy vibraphone. It sounds unlikely, but it really works. They round out the sound with flugelhorn, stand-up bass and violin, with vocal contributions from the gravel-voiced Lutes.

*Parade Day*, the first Sussex album, includes five songs written by Rob, one by Michael, and five co-written songs. It also includes a delightful cover of Randy Newman's *Dayton, Ohio - 1903*.

The Lioness of Lanark, Ali McCormick, will be opening for Sussex. She grew up in Lanark County, and has been singing ever since she can remember. McCormick has been honing her skills the last few years with a lot of hard touring — and it shows. Her stage presence, songwriting and singing have become so strong. We are really pleased to welcome Ali to our stage.

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

— Sandy Irvin

## Volunteering in the Valley

### Volunteer with SchoolBOX to Make Education Possible!

SchoolBOX is an international charity "making education possible" for children across Nicaragua, and in reserve communities here in Canada. SchoolBOX was founded in the heart of Almonte and continues to operate out of the "friendly town", in large part due to its generous local volunteers. We invite volunteers to join us in Nicaragua in 2018, to work alongside resilient local heroes to help build new schools and libraries for some of the poorest communities in Central America.

We offer ten-day volunteer experiences, giving you a taste of the local culture and the stunning Nicaraguan natural environment, all while building much-needed education infrastructure. We also host our annual "Latin Fiesta Fundraiser" in Almonte every fall, which is run by a dedicated volunteer committee. This is our biggest annual fundraiser, and we are always looking for new faces to join the committee and get involved with things like planning, promotion, silent auction, decorating, and food preparation!

If you would like to join our global community with local roots, please don't hesitate to contact us: <schoolbox.ca>, <facebook.com/schoolboxhelps>, or by phone at 200-9777.

—Stephanie Rudyk





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February 17 to April 15 • Open Daily



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**ALMONTE IN CONCERT**  
presents  
**Beethoven on Record**




**Andrew Wan - violin**  
**Charles Richard-Hamelin - piano**  
**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2018 at 2:00 pm**  
**ALMONTE OLD TOWN HALL**



**BUY TICKETS ONLINE**  
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**ADULT \$ 35**  
**STUDENT \$ 15**

TICKETS ALSO AVAILABLE AT  
Mill Street Books, 52 Mill St. Almonte






# Family Day and More: Fun in Miss Mills

First up in Mississippi Mills this month is a **Paint Day** on Saturday, February 3 from 1–3PM at the Almonte General Hospital. Hosted by JB Arts, this event is a fundraiser for the Hospital. For only \$45, you can create a beautiful painting that incorporates a printed photograph/image of your choice. To reserve your spot, email <jeff@jbart.ca>.

by Miss Mills

The following Saturday, February 10, sees **Seedy Saturday** sprout up at the Almonte Civitan Hall from 9AM to 3PM. You can find details about the event on page 9, and an ad that gets you in for free on page 7!

If your honey likes funny, you won't want to miss the **Valentine's Rag Bag Cabaret** on Wednesday, February 14 at the Almonte Old Town Hall. Doors open at 6:30PM for a cocktail reception, and the show gets underway at 8. This is an adults-only night of naughtiness and titillating fun hosted by award-winning comedian Rachele Elie. Rachele's New Year's Cabaret was a sell-out and a huge hit with the crowd, so get your tickets right away! They are \$25 in advance from Mill Street Books (256–9090) or <eventbrite.ca>, or \$30 at the door (if available).

Then on Sunday, February 18 at 2PM, **Almonte in Concert** is offering a special out-of-series concert entitled *Beethoven on Record*, featuring Andrew Wan on violin and Charles Richard-Hamelin on piano.

Before they head to the recording studio in March to make the first of three CDs, these two captivating and consummate artists will treat you to a live performance of Beethoven's Opus 30 "middle period" violin sonatas, as well as a post-concert talk. Tickets are \$35 for adults and \$15 for students, and are available online at <almonteconcert.com> or from Mill Street Books (256–9090, 52 Mill Street in Almonte). As always, the concert takes place in the acoustically wonderful Almonte Old Town Hall.

## Stay and Play this Family Day!

February 19 is Family Day in Ontario, and there are many affordable (and free!) activities to enjoy close to home. Mississippi Mills offers something for everyone in your family! Here's the scoop:

The Mississippi Mills Recreation and Culture department is hosting a screening of the movie *Wonder* at the Almonte Old Town Hall at 11AM. Admission is free and light refreshments will be available for sale.

There will be **free public skating** at both the Almonte arena (182 Bridge Street, from 1–3PM) and the Pakenham arena (112 MacFarland Street, from 3–5PM). Thanks to Tim Hortons for sponsoring these great skates!

Visit the **Mill of Kintail** (2854 Concession 8) on Family Day and enjoy cross-country skiing, hiking or snowshoeing along their beautiful trails (bring your own equipment). The Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority is celebrating the day by waiving the admission/vehicle fee.

Learn about local history at the **North Lanark Regional Museum** (647 River Road in Appleton). Museum hours are 10AM to 4PM, and admission is by donation.

**Fulton's Pancake House and Sugar Bush** is offering a fun-filled Family Day. They are open from 8AM to 3PM, and will have special activities between 10AM and 2PM. Bring your own equipment and enjoy snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and sliding. Explore historical displays and enjoy live music. Bring your appetite for all things maple, including pancakes, taffy and cotton candy.

So come on out and enjoy some quality family time close to home this Family Day. For more information, contact the Mississippi Mills Recreation and Culture Department at 256–1077, or email <tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca>.

## Mid-Winter Milling

After milling about Mississippi Mills on Family Day, you'll definitely want to return for Almonte's popular Mid-Winter Milling event. On Saturday, February 24 from 10AM to 5PM, you can wander up and down Mill Street (and adjacent Bridge Street), visiting all of the charming and funky shops and eateries, and partaking in some spiritual and self-awareness sessions with area practitioners. You can indulge in Reiki or tasseography (Turkish coffee reading, in this case), visit with an astrologer or an intuitive empath, have your Tarot or Angel cards read, and much more.



Activities for all ages abound in Mississippi Mills this month, including cross-country skiing at Fulton's Pancake House

All sessions must be booked that day, so it's a good idea to plan to arrive right around 10AM for the best selection. And if you have some time in between sessions, shopping and dining, you can express your creative side too! Drop in and make a beautiful bowl at the Almonte Potters Guild (\$20, 95 Bridge St.), and it will be glazed and fired for you to pick up at a later date. Make a stone chakra bracelet (which includes lava beads — perfect for essential oils) at Dragon's Lair Beads (\$25 +HST, 10 Mill St.). Or take a break and drop in for coffee, cake and a storewide sale as part of That's The Spirit's 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration (42 Mill Street).

Find details on the back page of this issue, and for more information about participating shops and practitioners, please visit <midwintermilling.com> or find them on Facebook.

# Family Day

STAY & PLAY  
IN MISSISSIPPI MILLS

MONDAY FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>

### FREE FAMILY MOVIE "WONDER"

Almonte Old Town Hall, 14 Bridge St. 11 AM  
Admission is Free. Refreshments will be available for sale.

### FREE PUBLIC SKATING

Sponsored by Tim Hortons  
Almonte Community Centre 1PM to 3PM  
Stewart Community Centre 3PM to 5PM

### MILL OF KINTAIL CONSERVATION AREA

2854 Con. 8, RR1 Almonte, ON  
Family Day Special: no vehicle charge/admission. Enjoy hiking, snowshoeing, or cross country skiing (B-Y-O equipment)

### NORTH LANARK REGIONAL MUSEUM

647 River Rd, Appleton, ON  
Admission by Donation, Open 10AM-4PM

### FULTON'S PANCAKE HOUSE AND SUGAR BUSH

Open 8AM-3PM, Special Activities 10AM-2PM  
Enjoy horse drawn sleigh rides, maple taffy & cotton candy, trails for skiing, sliding, snowshoeing etc. (B-Y-O equipment)  
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# Mudds Youth Present *The Little Mermaid*

## A Loving Tribute to Kate Cooney

This season, our wonderful Mudds Youth are rehearsing hard for their performances of Disney Junior's *The Little Mermaid*, but this production will be a mix of sadness and joy. This show is a favourite of our favourite director of all time, Ms. Kathleen Kelly-Cooney. On January 9, 2018, Kate lost her courageous battle with brain cancer, and the Mudds lost one of our greatest assets. When Kate was diagnosed, the first thing I did was approach the Board to ask if they would consider me to co-direct with Kate's daughter Molly — the only person who could showcase her mom's vision. Now this show will be our tribute to Kate for all her hard work, for all the generosity of her spirit, her kindness to everyone she met and all the inspiration she gave to everyone: to the Mudds, through her work as an Early Childhood Educator at A. Lorne Cassidy school in Kanata, and to the Carleton Place community in general.

At rehearsal on the Monday after the funeral service (which was also our first rehearsal in the Town Hall), the cast and crew gathered together around some lit candles in the shape of a heart and recounted little memories or statements of what Kate meant to them. As each person talked about Kate and what she meant, it was resounding — love, acceptance, encouragement, fun, care, the importance of each one of us — we were all sad, but we are all so grateful to have spent time with this wonderful lady.

This really is Kate Cooney's show under Molly's direction and so through her, both the cast and I are still learning from Kate; even in this sadness there is laughter, even in this loss there is new growth. The cast is hard at work, and together with the rest of the production team we are forging ahead, turning Kate's dream into reality. We have our usual stellar crew helping behind the scenes with fantastic costumes, makeup and wigs. Our amazing set-build team will be turning the stage into an underwater grotto, beach and palace, all so we can retell the classic Hans Christian Andersen tale of the young mermaid who fell in love with a human Prince and dreamed of becoming human herself. Add in Disney's reworking of the story with such memorable numbers as *Under the Sea* and *Kiss the Girl* (among many other great songs), and you will see why *The Little Mermaid* was Kate's favourite and is quickly



Photo by Dalene Gallo

The Mudds Youth production of Disney Junior's *The Little Mermaid* opens on February 23 at the Carleton Place Town Hall

becoming a favourite of the cast, some of whom have travelled from as far as Merrickville to be part of this show. So come and see *The Little Mermaid* — you won't regret it!

Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce, located at 170 Bridge Street in Carleton Place (257-1976). Tickets are \$10 each for all performances except for the Thursday night show, which is \$5. Show times are Friday February 23, Thursday March 1 and Friday March 2 at 7PM, with 2PM matinées on Saturday February 24, Sunday February 25, Saturday March 3 and Sunday March 4.

— Karen Lapointe is Co-Director of The Little Mermaid Jr.



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# A Full February in Perth

As a boy, I was always confused by Groundhog Day. Now that I'm older I'm still perplexed. The same questions plague me: Why is this not a national public holiday? And how is it that a groundhog — a rodent, essentially a large ground squirrel — came to wield such amazing weather-prognosticating prowess?

And if the woodchuck sees his shadow, *what* happens exactly? This part I always forget. But of course I'm reminded by thou-

by John Pigeau

sands of articles on the Internet. If the furry marmot spots his shadow, we are to endure six more weeks of winter (well, just bloody brilliant!). This begs the question: do celebrity groundhogs like Wiarton Willie have some sort of police protection? Seriously.

Lastly, if the groundhog fails to see his shadow, predicting an early spring (ha-ha!), why oh why do we not throw this fuzzy little cutie a second and even more substantial congratulatory party?

There is a celebration in Perth that night — Friday, February 2 — as **O'Reilly's Ale House** is, after month-long renovations, throwing a **Grand Re-opening party**. Always a crowd pleaser, Smitty is the musical act for the night. Check out the pub's new digs, enjoy the mid-winter music, and maybe raise a glass or two to Canada's foremost meteorological soothsayer, and, hopefully, an early spring. Because we're all tired of shovelling snow, aren't we? Yes, yes we are.

February can be a dreary month it's true, and perhaps the ideal remedy might be a little laughter. If you agree, you might wish to take in *On A First Name Basis*, a charming comedy by Canada's beloved playwright Norm Foster, when it opens at Perth's Studio Theatre to kick off the month. Directed by Jeremy Hutton, it stars veteran actors Krista Duff and Hugh McCulloch. The story revolves around the relationship between a disagreeable novelist and his maid of nearly three decades, and it's said to be a witty comedy with heart



Norm Foster's *On A First Name Basis* opens at the Studio Theatre on February 1

and a bit of mystery too. It plays on February 1, 2, 3, 9 and 10 at 7:30PM, and on February 4 and 11 at 2PM. Tickets are \$24 and available at Tickets Please at the Perth Museum, by calling 485-6434, or online at <ticket-splease.ca>. Tickets for students with ID are \$10.

If you're looking for some different entertainment, **Film Night International** will be screening two films in February at the Full Circle Theatre, and both look to be exquisite, thought-provoking movies. *The Other Side of Hope*, a Finnish comedy/drama, is on the bill for Wednesday, February 7, followed up on Wednesday, February 21 by a new Canadian film starring Sandra Oh called *Meditation Park*. Tickets are \$10 and available at the door. Matinées begin at 2PM, with evening shows at 7PM. All profits from Film Night International, by the way, are donated to the Perth Public Library — just one more reason to "enjoy the show."

You'll be able to catch another flick at the Studio Theatre on February 16, as they continue with their **Movie Nights**. February's gem is *Three Billboards Outside of Ebbing, Missouri* — a black comedy crime film starring Frances McDormand, Woody Harrelson, Sam Rockwell, John Hawkes and Peter Dinklage. Now that's an exceptional cast! Tickets are \$10 at

the door only, and yes, there will be mouthwatering popcorn. For more information, please call 267-7649. The show starts at 7:30PM.

There is another intriguing play opening in mid-February, as BarnDoor Productions presents *Panto Can Be Murder*. Described as "an all-new mystery thriller farce," it promises plenty of laughs and silliness in addition to the mystery. Performances are on February 16, 17, 22, 23, 24 at 8PM, with 2PM matinées on February 18 and 25. Reserved tickets are \$20, tickets at the door are \$22, and students pay \$10. For more details, visit <barndoorproductions.ca> or call the Full Circle Theatre at 267-1884.

On Saturday, February 17, Perth Tourism is holding its annual "**Fire & Ice**" event at various locations about town, but primarily at the Crystal Palace. This winter celebration features great events for the whole family. The fun begins at Conlon Farm where, between 1 and 4PM, there will be tobogganing, outdoor skating, a custom-made obstacle race, a toddlers' play area, Snolf, and, get this, an "official snowball fight facility" (yay!). Later, from 8PM to midnight, the fun shifts to the Crystal Palace where adults can dance in a winter wonderland to the live sounds of Under The Covers, grab a drink at the ice bar, cozy up to the bonfire, and enjoy the fireworks show at 9PM. Everything is free except the dance. For that you can get \$10 tickets — and do so early, as this event typically sells out — online at <ticketsplease.ca>, or by calling 267-1947.

Oh, yes: Monday, February 19 is Family Day. Enjoy! Hopefully we, and all of our families, will all get to celebrate the coming of an early spring.

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# Gardening for the Bees and the Birds

February — a wonderful time of the year. A time when the winter season change begins and our early nesters are hard at work, either preparing to raise their young or already in the process. Start to pay attention to the activity of the crows and ravens — in mid- to late-January their vocals change, the ravens become more active. If you're in the country or a wooded area, step out on the back

vegetable garden, plotting out their yards to plant the landscape. By planting native plants designed for local wildlife, we increase our own survival by contributing to the natural landscape and supporting the other animals that we live with. At my home, we planted a natural meadow of native wild grasses and wildflowers two years ago, and we're still amazed at the enjoyment we get seeing all the animals taking advantage of these plants.

The planet Earth is one magnificent creation, that much we know. While there is still debate as to how the Earth came to be and how we as humans came to inhabit it, there is no denying its absolute beauty and wonderment.

As humans, we can often get swept away in day-to-day life and forget how truly amazing it is that we live in such a diverse ecosystem. As we evolve and learn more about how our planet works, more of us are becoming mindful of the health of the planet and each of the organisms that call it home.

As defined by the Merriam-Webster dictionary, an ecosystem is "the complex of a community of organisms and its environment functioning as an ecological unit". As stewards of this great planet, we need to remember this fact.

While there are issues facing us today that are certainly global or political in nature, much of the necessary change does lie in the power of our own two hands. It starts right in our own communities and backyards. Break it down far enough, and it is not hard to understand that every animal

on this beautiful planet gets its food from plants — either directly or as a by-product.

## The Importance of Insects

We've changed as a society, and that is not always a bad thing. That said, over the course of the last few decades, we have grown increasingly hostile towards insects and have severely affected their populations.

While some folks might get a good case of the "heebee jeebies" when encountering certain insects, we must not forget their importance to this cycle we call life.

According to Doug Tallamy, Professor and Chair of the Department of Entomology at the University of Delaware, "The most important group of animals that take energy from plants and pass it to other animals are the insects that eat plants."

Creating Meadows & Wildlife Gardens The key to this part of the equation is using native species. When we plant something in our yard, we must consider the native qualities of that plant or flower. The herbivorous insects have adapted to them, and therefore have developed the physiological ability to digest them.

When we create gardens containing non-native plants and flowers, it interrupts the vital cycle needed to keep balance within



Landscaping and gardening with local plant varieties benefits the bugs, the bees, the birds... and ultimately the humans!

our delicate ecosystem. When designing a wildflower patch or garden in your yard, be sure to keep these factors in mind and you are bound to enjoy the benefits that come with a healthy ecosystem and an aesthetically pleasing landscape.

Please check our YouTube channel, where we have several videos on this and other topics <youtube.com/gilligalloubird>. We would appreciate you subscribing to our channel, as it helps us get our message out. Please feel free to stop by the shop to discuss my experience with planting a large area of our yard with natural meadow grasses. Our plan is to reduce lawn and expand on native meadow in the future.

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

by Bob Volks

step in the evening and see if you can hear owls hooting it up. By the middle of the month they'll be sitting on eggs. Owl chicks covered in a blanket of snow in the nest is a crazy sight.

Humans also start to plan for spring, researching and ordering seeds for their



Photos by smHansen



## Valentines Day Menu

### The Pre-Dine

**French Onion Soup** — house-made and served with crostinis & 4-cheese blend.

**Pulled Pork Potato Skins** — fried skins filled with pulled pork and green onion. Topped with 4-cheese blend and candied bacon.

**Redneck Bruschetta** — baked on naan bread with chopped tomato, red onion & red pepper. Topped with shredded Asiago.

### The Main Dish

**Prime Grade Striploin Steak** — cooked to your liking and served with your choice of loaded mashed or baked potato and fresh, house-cut veg.

**Chicken Marsala** — tender chicken breast in Marsala wine sauce served over rice pilaf with fresh cut veg.

**Garlic Shrimp Linguine** — delicious tender shrimp, garlic-fried with fresh veg and tossed with al dente linguine noodles.

### The Part You're Waiting For

**Red Velvet Cake** — that "mmm where was this all my life" decision.

**Cookie Dough Cheesecake** — because no great story ever started with salad.

**Snickers Cake** — this is the reason there are no recipes for leftover cake.

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# Time to Tree-vitalize!

## Spring Tree Sale for Hub Hospice

Well, well, well... (this article is very deep!). The sesquicentennial celebrations are over and done with. Here's some good news: under the auspices of the Hub Hospice Events Committee, the **Mississippi Mills Spring Tree Sale** program is in full swing again — check out <hubhospicetrees.com>.

Could I say it's back by Poplar demand and not be pun-ished? The fact is, we desperately need to plant more trees. The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is getting further and further ahead of us in its fatal attack on our sorry Ashes! Much like Dutch Elm Disease (DED) in the late '60s and early '70s, people often don't pay too much attention until dramatic die-off hits close to their homes.

The Emerald Ash Borer has reached that "critical mass" in our neck of the woods now! Unlike DED, there will be no survivors, not even young trees in the short-term. EAB kills every type of Ash tree (*Fraxinus*). What will happen when every Ash is dead? Will the pest die off? What if they try our beloved Maples and find the tasty sap to their liking? We have no idea!

That's the big difference between these two pests: the disease (DED) leaves some short-term survivors, but the insect (EAB) is fatal to all its victims.

Tree-mendous as our efforts have been, Mother Nature (who already has a reputation for such things) has thrust a stick into our collective spokes. But there's no sense just Pining over the facts as we Cedar right in front of our faces. Let me Spruce this missive up by sandwiching the hard facts between another positive message.

Yew can be part of the solution. Plant a tree or three!

The net proceeds from this community project go to the Hub Hospice Palliative Care coffers, so you will be supporting a good cause as you "treevitalize" the local environment. I for one plan to spend part of my summer under a Beech rather than just at one!



This stately Red Oak at Rideau Hall was planted by HRH Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, on May 1, 1906. Ed Lawrence advises planting your own trees this spring to leave a legacy for future generations!

The Tree Sale organizers have carefully selected a variety of species most useful and suitable for local conditions (both urban and rural). They include mainly hardy native species or their cultivars (no Ash and no Norway Maples). The sales program is now available online at <hubhospicetrees.com> where there are photos and excellent descriptions of all the plants offered, so making a suitable personal choice has never been easier.

Stick to your resolution Fir the New Year to put some more life in your garden or to donate a tree in memory of a loved one. You have to order early for the best selection, as perennial favourites sell out quickly (I know — it's a Birch!). The organizers plan to have no leftover stock (at discounted rates) at the end of this sale.

Even a Dogwood like a tree planted! Do you know why we got a gatekeeper? Hemlock the door!

Sticking to my story, I remain yours truly,  
— Ed Lawrence

## New Music by Local Duo

Longtime readers of theHumm will know that we have a special place in our hearts for Carleton Place musician Andy Simpson. Andy has been active in the local music scene for about as long as we've been publishing, and over the years he has partnered with Gerry Madden to produce several CDs. From the ambitious rock opera concept album *The Fork* to the "alternative fantasy ambiance" of *Music and Songs Inspired by Robinson Crusoe*, the duo (known as GASM — a combination of their initials) has continually tackled new musical challenges.

GASM recently released their fourth album, entitled *W.H.I.P.* (for *Works Halted In Progress*), which is available from CD Baby <store.cdbaby.com/cd/gasm14> and hopefully soon to be available locally. Its six tracks (all written and sung by Andy and Gerry, with Jaimie Reath co-writing *The Crusader* with Gerry) sit comfortably in the realm of progressive pop, and lean a bit more into the mainstream than some of GASM's earlier, high-concept releases.

As with their past endeavours, several musical friends are featured on this CD, including local no-

tables Kirk Armstrong on guitars and keyboards and Victor Maltby on saxophone. But it's the combination of Andy's heartfelt lyrics and Gerry's strong and soulful voice that will keep fans coming back for more GASM.



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BY NEIL SIMON

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# Art — All Year Round

## A Year's Worth of Art

Almonte's **Sivarulrasa Gallery** is in full swing for 2018, with an exciting schedule of exhibitions coming up. During the month of February, the gallery will feature works by represented artists including Sue Adams, Sarah Anderson, Deborah Arnold, Russell Baron, Carly Belford, Adrienne Dagg, Dale Dunning and many more. The gallery is located at 34 Mill Street in Almonte, and is open from 11AM to 5PM Tuesdays to Sundays. For more information, please visit <sivarulrasa.com>.

by Miss Cellaneous



"Exponential" by artist Sarah Anderson, at Sivarulrasa Gallery in Almonte

## Save the Date for Art!

A few months ago, ten Mississippi Mills painters got together to talk about putting on a show of their work in 2018. The idea caught fire and **The Ten Collective** was born. The first exhibit of their work will be at a two-day show at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum in Almonte on Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1. The show runs from 10AM to 6PM both days and will feature paintings in a variety of styles, including acrylic, oil and mixed media. Admission is free.

"We are very excited about sharing our work with each other's networks and about mounting an exhibit in a heritage location — the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum," said The Ten Collective member Eileen Hennemann. "It is a perfect venue for a group of our size."

The Ten Collective artists are Amelia Ah You, Jill Halliday, Eileen Hennemann, Rosemary Leach, Marina Malvada, Katherine McNenly, Kaija Savinainen Mountain, Jennifer Noxon, Lily Swain and Nancy Young. To learn more about the artists and the show, visit <thetencollective.com>.

## Arts CP Call for Artists

The annual Arts Carleton Place Spring Art Show & Sale will take place on Saturday, May 5 and Sunday, May 6 at the Carleton Place Canoe Club. There are 35 spaces available to be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. The entry fee is \$65 to \$125 — two types of grid sizes are available, with four-foot deep

kiosks available for larger pieces.

The registration deadline is March 15, and considered complete when payment is received in full. Membership in Arts Carleton Place is \$20 (required). Further details and forms are available at <artscarletonplace.com>. If you have any questions, please contact Suzanne at <sm-deschenes1951@gmail.com>.

## Crown and Pumpkin Call for Artists and Artisans

Are you a practicing fine artist or craft person interested in joining a successful tour? Join the Crown and Pumpkin for their 22<sup>nd</sup> annual tour, which will take place on Thanksgiving weekend, October 6, 7 and 8, in Almonte, Clayton and the surrounding area. Organizers always like to expand the variety of offerings, and are particularly interested in professional-quality innovative work. Does this sound like your practice? If "yes", they want to see your creations!

To apply, submit examples of recent work, and include a brief biography and artists statement. Work is judged on originality of expression and concept, and



Katherine McNenly, whose "Blue Vase & Thistle" is pictured above, will be part of an upcoming art show by The Ten Collective in Almonte

quality of execution; new types of three-dimensional work will receive particular consideration. The deadline for submissions is May 1. Email your application, including electronic images of work and a link to your website (if applicable) to <barbara.mullally@gmail.com>. For information, call 256-3647.

## IS COMMUNITY YOUR PASSION? MILLS COMMUNITY SUPPORT SEEKS BOARD DIRECTORS

Mills Community Support is currently seeking passionate, motivated and dedicated Board Directors to help us create welcoming communities for seniors, adults with complex needs, young families, and individuals living in Lanark County.

Our volunteer Board Directors are strongly committed to helping us define and fulfill our vision, mission and values through their broad range of skills and experience in Board governance, finance, fundraising, stewardships, community development, and more.

Our Volunteer Board Directors:

- Act as ambassadors for Mills Community Support and its programs
- Are informed about social, political and cultural factors affecting our work
- Have experience in Board governance and Board policy, strategic planning, finance, programs, human resources, fundraising and community relations
- Have strong personal and professional integrity and broad experience in three interdependent domains: fiduciary, strategic and generative
- Prepare for, attend and participate in all Board meetings and take on Committee responsibilities

If you'd like to be part of helping us create welcoming communities now and in the future, and have the skills, experience and commitment to assist us, we'd love to hear from you by March 15. A full description of the Board Director position is available at [www.themills.on.ca/careers](http://www.themills.on.ca/careers)

Please forward your resume by March 15 2018 to:

Mills Community Support Corporation

67 Industrial Drive, P.O.

Box 610 Almonte, Ontario, K0A 1A0

Attention: Patti Fee

EMAIL: [info@themills.on.ca](mailto:info@themills.on.ca)

TELEPHONE: (613) 256-1031 FAX No: (613) 256-1185

We thank all applicants; however, only those who are to be interviewed will be contacted.



Mills Community Support (MCS) assists over 1,000 people throughout Lanark County (Carleton Place, Beckwith Township, Mississippi Mills, Lanark Highlands, and Smiths Falls) to live healthy, safe and connected lives. Since 1975, MCS has provided seniors' services and programs such as home support and personal care at home, affordable housing to seniors and families, and support for adults with complex needs. Mills Community Support also undertakes community development projects that engage partners and build healthy, welcoming communities. A non-profit multi-service agency and registered charity, Mills Community Support employs over 150 people and gratefully receives the time and talent of over 100 community volunteers.



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# Once a School Marm...

Sit down, turn off your infernal not-so-smart phones, and listen! No gum, no ball caps, NO SLOUCHING!!

This is it, kids: a grammar lesson! I'm appalled at the insouciance of writers and speakers who are ignoring the most basic of grammatical structures. It is little wonder students are unable to express themselves clearly when they are ignorant of the very constructs that make our language work. Again today, I ground my teeth when I read: "He made me lay down." Now, I'm here to tell

by Glenda Jones

you there has never been a person, nor a dog for that matter, that can "lay down". Down is shed from birds, and unless some supernatural event is occurring, no creature can produce *down* in the same manner as a chicken can produce an egg. Do you get it? A chicken can lay an egg; a dog cannot *lay down*!

"But everyone says that". Well, they shouldn't. It's just plain wrong, and here's why. The word *lay* is a transitive verb. (There are lots of these babies, but we're just working on this one for now. No use overloading the brain.) Transitive means that there is an action conveyed from that verb to something else, namely an object. Thus, you can lay *a book* down, you can lay your *cards* down, but you can't simply lay down, since *down* is only an object when it is coming off ducks. Should I tell you that *down* can be an adverb? La la la, too much information.

Some of you may know the little prayer, "Now I lay me down to sleep." That's a perfect example to keep in your pocket. See how the word *lay* is followed by *me*? That's the transitive verb at work right there!

There used to be a song called *Lay, Lady Lay*. Not possible unless Lady is a chicken! I know, "Lie, Lady Lie" wouldn't have worked, but let's call that poetic licence. Sometimes grammar is superseded by art.

So what are you going to tell your dog now? You're going to stand in front of the dog and in proper grammatical English say sternly: "Lie down". Watch his little face brighten and watch his bum hit the ground, all because you spoke to him correctly. Don't confuse the dog by expecting him to perform an unnatural act!

Grammar Lesson Part Two: the poor little apostrophe. It's a useful little mark, but not one to abuse. Use the apostrophe to replace omitted letters, as in this example called The Refrain of Regret: "Should've, could've, didn't". Use the apostrophe to show possession, as in "Mary's Lament". There are other places for it too, but for now, that's enough.

For goodness sakes, do not abuse the apostrophe. It's better to err on the side of omission than pop it in willy-nilly. A sign on our main street declared "Open Sunday's". I stood there thinking maybe they meant "Open Sunday's gift", "Open Sunday's letter", but no, what they meant was "Open on a few Sundays", plain old plural, not in need of the apostrophe at all. A simple "s" on the end of a word will be sufficient to convey the meaning. The sign could have read "Sundays, Mondays, and Tuesdays", and we'd have gone on our merry way so much the wiser.

"Is this yours"? There's no need for the apostrophe here either. Think of this: mine, hers his, yours. Now, think of this one: "its". Is the apostrophe in or out? When dealing with this little word, the rule is: if you're leaving out letters, you use the apostrophe; if you're not, you don't. If the "i-t-s" stands for "it is", pop in the apostrophe: "it's not rocket science"; if the "i-t-s" indicates possession, leave it out: "Its head was screwed on backwards".

Grammar Lesson Part Three: the split infinitive. English defies explanation at times. Our infinitive verb form demands two words: "to" plus the verb. These must be kept together like lovers' hands in one mitt. Every day we see things like: "I try to *not* think of politics". That should have been "I try *not* to think of politics". The verb is "to think", and that's what you have to do every time you get carried away and force some word into the infinitive couple. It's not acceptable! The extra word needs to be before or after the infinitive, but never smack in the middle. Read any newspaper and you can red-pencil this construct many times.

You're going to stand in front of the dog and in proper grammatical English say sternly: "Lie down". Watch his little face brighten and watch his bum hit the ground, all because you spoke to him correctly.

Grammar Lesson Part Four: the dangling preposition... Oh drat! There's the bell to end the class. Don't think you're getting off without this lesson. It's first on the agenda next time. Wait a minute... I didn't say you could leave yet! Yes, it's going to be on the exam... No, I won't be allowing cheat sheets! Get out of here; you'll be late for your next class. Kids, honestly!

## Local Authors — Exposed!

Ever wonder what really goes on behind the scenes in the publishing world? Find out all the gritty details at the first ever "Local Authors Exposed" event at the Carleton Place Public Library on Friday, March 2.

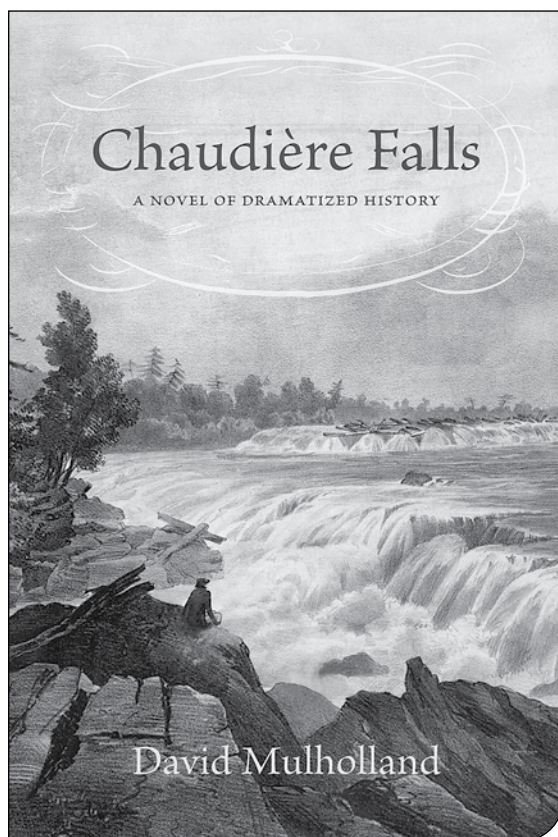
Book tours, lavish advances, the luxury of earning a living by writing books — all of those are a thing of the past for most authors. While they now have more choices as far as publishing, the industry has changed, leaving many authors to do it all on their own whether they have a traditional publishing contract or not. It's not all glitz and glamour anymore.

So what's really happening out there in the publishing world? Do authors like having more control over what happens to their books, or is the struggle even greater because of it? If you've been thinking about writing a book, or are just interested in hearing more about the process, "Local Authors Exposed" is an evening you won't want to miss.

The tell-all panel includes: Joëlle Hübner-McLean (author of the YA series *Corvus & Me*), David Mulholland (author of historical fiction such as *Chaudière Falls*), Claudia Coutu Radmore (editor, author, and 2017 CBC Poetry Prize longlist nominee), and mystery series author Sandra Nikolai (*Broken Trust*). Moderating the panel will be local historian and author extraordinaire Linda Seccaspina.

Come out on Friday, March 2 at 6:30PM to mingle with the authors and share in some refreshments. At 7PM the lively panel session will begin, followed by a question and answer period from the crowd. Afterward there will be an opportunity to purchase books, have an author sign a book, and chat with participants and attendees. There will also be plenty of information available regarding the CP Library

Writers group. Tickets are \$5 each, on sale now at the Carleton Place Public Library (257-2702). All proceeds will go to their Children's Summer Literacy Program.



Find out all about the glamour and grit of the publishing world at the Carleton Place Library on March 2

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Chipmunk 2"	3"	Skunk 3"	White-tail deer 4"	Wolf 6"
Red squirrel 4"	4"	Pine marten 4"	Lynx 7"	Wolverine 8"
Black squirrel 5"	5"	Fisher 5"	Coon 8"	Moose 10"
Cottontail 6"	6"	Elk 8"	Caribou 10"	Porcupine 12"
Beaver 8"	8"	Deer 10"	Elk 12"	Wolverine 14"

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**The Almonte Potters Guild**

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- After school classes for kids
- We host special events & parties

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Register now at 613-256-5556  
95 Bridge Street, Almonte  
www.almontepottersguild.com

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[www.welcomewagon.ca](http://www.welcomewagon.ca)

**The Perth Community Choir**

is inviting proposals for **2018-2019 Shows**

Proposal forms available from [perthcommunitychoir@gmail.com](mailto:perthcommunitychoir@gmail.com)

Deadline for proposals is **Friday, March 23, 2018**

Proposals to be sent to 8 Glenview Cres., Perth, Ontario K7H 2L1 or emailed to [perthcommunitychoir@gmail.com](mailto:perthcommunitychoir@gmail.com)



# Claiming Column

*The Little Mermaid, Jr.*, CP, to Mar 4  
**Local Authors Exposed**, CP, Mar 2  
**Kanata Choral Society**, Kanata, Mar 3  
*Rumours*, Smiths Falls, to Mar 4  
**Almonte in Concert**, Mar 17  
**Sean Pinchin Band**, Westport, Mar 16  
**St. Patty's Dance**, Pakenham, Mar 17  
**Soup for Thought**, Almonte, Mar 24  
**Big Little Lions**, Almonte, Mar 24  
**GG Foot Guards**, Perth, Mar 25  
**The Ten Collective**, Almonte, Mar 31-Apr 1  
*The Drawer Boy*, Perth, Apr 5-15  
**Maple Run Studio Tour**, Pakenham, Apr 7-8  
**AGH Dance**, Almonte, Apr 7

## Festivals

**Fire & Ice**, Feb 17, 1-4PM: Outdoor fun (Perth Outfitters, Conlon Farm); 7-8:30PM free skate at Perth Arena; 8PM Under the Covers (\$10, 19+); 9PM Fire Weaver, bonfire at Crystal Palace. Perth. 267-1947

## Literature

**Book Sale Fundraiser**, Feb 17 (10AM-3PM) Feb 18 (12-3PM). Sales by donation to Perth Library. Perth Library, 30 Herriott St., Perth

## Local Food

**Seedy Saturday**, Feb 10, 9AM-3PM. Seeds, swaps, workshops, vendors. Almonte Civitan Hall. \$2; free w/Humm ad (see page 7)

## Visual Arts

**AGH Paint Day**, Feb 3, 1-3PM. Photo w/ acrylics. Email jeff@jbarts.ca w/photo. Almonte General Hospital, 95 Spring St. 256-2500x2296, cpiche@agh-fvm.com. \$45  
**Almonte Quilters' Guild**, Feb 19, 7-9PM. All welcome. Almonte Civitan Hall, 500 Almonte St. almontequiltersguild@gmail.com  
**Vernissage: 'The Musings of Five' Photography**, Feb 22, 7-9PM. 5 photographers' work. Fairview Manor, Almonte

## Theatre

Almonte Library Films: Jan 31, **The Zookeeper's Wife**; Feb 14 **Bringing up Baby**; Feb 28 **Fantastic Mr. Fox**. 1:30PM. No reg'n, ltd space. Discussion after: Almonte Library, 155 High St. missmillslibrary.com. Free  
**Rag Bag Cabaret**, Feb 14, 6:30PM cocktails, 8PM show. Comedy, burlesque, magic, music. Tix: Mill St. Books, eventbrite.ca. Almonte Old Town Hall. 256-9090. \$30, \$25 adv  
**3 Billboards Outside of Ebbing, Missouri**, Feb 16, 7:30PM. Studio Theatre, Perth. 267-7469, studiotheatreperth.com. \$10  
**Auditions: The Taming**, Feb 19, 7PM. 3 women. Full Circle Theatre, Perth. 267-1884, barndoorproductions.ca  
**Lanark Laughs**, Feb 23, 8:30-10PM. Stand-up comedy. Waterfront Gastropub, 12 Bell St., CP. facebook.com/LanarkLaughs/  
**On a First Name Basis**, Feb 1-3, 9-10 (7:30PM); Feb 4, 11 (2PM). Norm Foster. Studio Theatre, Perth. studiotheatreperth.com. \$24  
 Film Night International presents **The Other Side of Hope**, Feb 7, 2 & 7PM (Full Circle Theatre, Perth); Feb 8, 2 & 7PM (Station Theatre, SF). **Meditation Park** Feb 21, 2 & 7PM (Perth); Feb 22, 2 & 7PM (SF). film-nightinternational.blogspot.ca. \$10  
**Panto can be Murder**, Feb 16-17, 22-24 at 8PM and Feb 18, 25 at 2PM. Full Circle Theatre, Perth. 267-1884. \$22/\$10  
**Wonder**, Feb 16, 17, 7PM. Film. Station Theatre, SF. 283-0300, smithsfallstheatre.com. \$10/\$5

# WHAT'S ON IN

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attracting Birds to your Backyard, Almonte</li> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, CP</li> <li>Nature Quiz Night, Perth</li> <li>Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> <li>The Zookeeper's Wife, Almonte</li> <li>Bridge Club, Almonte</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>MMPL Travelogue: Finding St. Denis, Almonte</li> <li>Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</li> <li>On a First Name Basis, Perth</li> <li>Open Jam &amp; Beer Tasting, The 2 Grands</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>Transgender Awareness Workshops, Perth</li> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, Carleton Place</li> <li>Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brock Zeman &amp; Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Band of Rascals, Neat Coffee Shop</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> <li>The Other Side of Hope, Perth</li> <li>Wonder Will Guide Us, Arnprior</li> <li>Bridge Club, Almonte</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Open Jam, The 2 Grands</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>The Other Side of Hope, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Toastmasters, CP</li> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brock Zeman &amp; Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, CP</li> <li>Pancakes &amp; Pyjamas, Lanark</li> <li>Ornamental Grasses, Perth</li> <li>Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Clayton</li> <li>Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</li> <li>W. Carleton Garden: Ireland, Carp</li> <li>Women's Business Group Lunch, CP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Bridge Club, Almonte</li> <li>Bringing up Baby, Almonte</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Love Songs on Piano, The 2 Grands</li> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Rag Bag Cabaret, Almonte</li> <li>Sweetheart Dinner w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> <li>Wonder Will Guide Us, Arnprior</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jazz Night w/Peter Brown Trio, Slackoni's</li> <li>Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</li> <li>MVFN: Nature Talk, Almonte</li> <li>Open Jam, The 2 Grands</li> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>Transgender Awareness Workshops, Arnprior</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family Day at Fulton's, Pakenham</li> <li>Family Day at Mill of Kintail, Almonte</li> <li>Public Skating, Almonte, Pakenham</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, CP</li> <li>Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Wonder, Almonte</li> <li>Almonte Quilters' Guild, Almonte</li> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> <li>Auditions: The Taming, Perth</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brock Zeman &amp; Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meditation Park, Perth</li> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> <li>Pakenham Hort Soc, Pakenham</li> <li>Wonder Will Guide Us, Arnprior</li> <li>Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Bridge Club, Almonte</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CP &amp; B Historical Soc. Dinner, CP</li> <li>Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Meditation Park, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>Panto can be Murder, Perth</li> <li>Toastmasters, CP</li> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> <li>Transgender Awareness Workshops, Renfrew</li> <li>'The Musings of Five' Photography, Almonte</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Hort: Pruning, Almonte</li> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brock Zeman &amp; Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, CP</li> <li>Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fantastic Mr. Fox, Almonte</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Mike McCormick, Neat Coffee Shop</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> <li>Wonder Will Guide Us, Arnprior</li> <li>Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Bridge Club, Almonte</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rumors, Smiths Falls</li> <li>The Little Mermaid, Jr., CP</li> <li>Bridge Club, Arnprior</li> <li>Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Barley Mow</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</li> <li>Open Jam, The 2 Grands</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> </ul>

**Rumors**, Feb 23-24, Mar 1-3 at 7:30PM; Feb 25, Mar 4 at 2PM. Neil Simon farce. Station Theatre, Smiths Falls. 283-0300. \$20/\$10

## Youth

**Wonder**, Feb 19, 11AM, Family Day movie. Almonte Old Town Hall, 14 Bridge St. 256-1077, tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca. Free  
**The Little Mermaid, Jr.**, Feb 23, 7PM, Feb 23, Mar 1-2 (7PM), Feb 24-25, Mar 3-4 (2PM). Mudds Youth. Tix: CP Chamber (170 Bridge St.). Carleton Place Town Hall. 253-3000, mississippimudds.ca. \$10 (\$5 Mar 1)

## Music

**Musicians Circle**, Thursdays, 7PM. All genres, no audience. ABC Hall, Bolingbroke. 273-9005, abchall.ca. \$5  
**Totally Hip**, Feb 2, 9PM. Live music. Lee Hotel, 72 Daniel St., Smiths Falls

**Double-Double Duo**, Feb 3, 2PM. Perth Manor, 23 Drummond St. W., Perth. 264-0050, perthmanor.com. \$35/\$15

**Beat the Freeze Kitchen Party**, Feb 16, 6PM. Ham & bean dinner, music, more. Tix: Nicholson's. Gen. Store, 623-6679. St. Andrew's Church, Pakenham. \$20/\$10

**Harpdog Brown & Travelin' Blues Show**, Feb 16, 7PM. Blues on the Rideau. The Cove, Westport. 1-888-COVE-INN, bluesontherideau.ca. \$65 dinner/show

**St. Paul's Bassoon Concert**, Feb 16, 7:30PM. Harpsichord, bassoon, soprano. St. Paul's United Church, 25 Gore St. W., Perth. stpauls-uc-perth.org. \$20

**Ian Tamblin and Kate Weekes**, Feb 17, 7:30PM. Batstone's Northern Ramble, Renfrew. northernramble.com. \$20

**Beethoven on Violin/Piano**, Feb 18, 2PM. Almonte in Concert. Tix: almontein-concert.com, Mill St. Bks. Almonte Old Town Hall. \$35/\$15

**Choral Evensong**, Feb 18, 4PM. Church service; guest organist Dr. Deirdre Piper. St. James Church, Perth. 267-1163, stjamesperth.ca

**Ariana Gillis**, Feb 18, 7PM. Singer/songwriter. Perth Restaurant, 23 Gore St. W., Perth. 267-7902. \$20

**Folkus: Sussex**, Feb 24, 8PM. w/Ali McCormick. \$30 at Mill St Books, folkusalmonte.com, door. Almonte Old Town Hall, 256-9090, folkusalmonte.com

**JazzNhouse: Mike Downes Trio**, Feb 24, 8PM. Tix: jazzn.ca. TBD, Mississippi Mills. \$25

**SRO Big Band Tea Dance**, Feb 25, 1-4PM. Standing Room Only. Almonte Old Town Hall. 563-7044, sroteadances.org. \$14; \$25 couple (cash only)

**Trad Song Pub Session**, Feb 25, 2-4PM. Join in. Anyone can lead. The Barley Mow, Almonte. 355-5552, dpbaril@gmail.com

## Pub Listings

**The Cove** (Westport, 273-3636): Wed Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, 6:30-9:30PM  
 Feb 2 Honey & Rust, 6-9PM  
 Feb 3 Reunion Party w/Smitty, 8-11PM  
 Feb 9 Sweetheart Dinner, 6-9PM, \$50  
 Feb 10 \$5000 Jr. B Elim. Draw w/Jeff Gallery + Buffet Dinner, 6-10PM  
 Feb 14 Valentine's w/Shawn McCullough, 6-9PM, \$50  
 Feb 18 Family Day Hoedown, Elgin S. Crosby Rec Cttee Fundraiser, 4-8PM, \$5  
 Feb 23 Chris Murphy, 6-10PM  
 Feb 24 Sin & Swoon, 6-9PM  
**The Swan at Carp** (Carp, 839-7926): Feb 9, 23 Steve Barrette Trio, jazz, 7-10PM  
**The Royal Oak** (Kanata, 591-3895): jazz on Sun, 2-5PM  
 Feb 4, 18 Magnolia Rhythm Kings  
 Feb 11, 25 APEX Jazz Band



# FEBRUARY 2018

## Friday

## Saturday

## Sunday

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>Honey &amp; Rust</b>, The Cove</li> <li>🎵 <b>Mississippi Blues Society Open Jam</b>, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>🎵 <b>On a First Name Basis</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Scottish Country Dancing</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Totally Hip</b>, Smiths Falls</li> <li>🎵 <b>All Request Piano Show</b>, The 2 Grands</li> <li>🎵 <b>Amulet</b>, Golden Arrow</li> <li>🎵 <b>Bridge Club</b>, Arnprior</li> <li>🎵 <b>Grand Re-opening w/Smitty</b>, O'Reilly's Pub</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>40 Plus Singles Dinner/Dance</b>, Smiths Falls</li> <li>🎵 <b>AGH Paint Day</b>, Almonte</li> <li>🎵 <b>Comedy Night</b>, Golden Arrow</li> <li>🎵 <b>Ducks Roadhouse Reunion w/Smitty</b>, The Cove</li> <li>🎵 <b>Double-Double Duo</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Jimmy Tri-Tone Band</b>, Lumbertown Ale House</li> <li>🎵 <b>Karaoke</b>, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>🎵 <b>Lanark Co. Genealogical Meeting</b>, CP</li> <li>🎵 <b>On a First Name Basis</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Sushi Lesson &amp; Piano Show</b>, The 2 Grands</li> <li>🎵 <b>Tom Watson</b>, O'Reilly's Pub</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>Blues w/ Redneck Limousine</b>, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>🎵 <b>Magnolia Rhythm Kings</b>, The Royal Oak</li> <li>🎵 <b>Music Trivia Night</b>, The Barley Mow</li> <li>🎵 <b>On a First Name Basis</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan</b>, Ashton Pub</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>On a First Name Basis</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Scottish Country Dancing</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Steve Barrette Trio</b>, The Swan at Carp</li> <li>🎵 <b>Sweetheart Dinner</b>, The Cove</li> <li>🎵 <b>All Request Piano Show</b>, The 2 Grands</li> <li>🎵 <b>Bridge Club</b>, Arnprior</li> <li>🎵 <b>Hillsburn</b>, Neat Coffee Shop</li> <li>🎵 <b>Matt Dickson</b>, Golden Arrow</li> <li>🎵 <b>Nolan Hubbard</b>, O'Reilly's Pub</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>Seedy Saturday</b>, Almonte</li> <li>🎵 <b>Valentine's Dance</b>, Clayton</li> <li>🎵 <b>\$5000 Jr. B Elimination Draw w/Jeff Callery</b>, The Cove</li> <li>🎵 <b>Brea Lawrenson</b>, Golden Arrow</li> <li>🎵 <b>Bridges Blues Series</b>, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>🎵 <b>Dueling Pianos</b>, The 2 Grands</li> <li>🎵 <b>Karaoke</b>, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>🎵 <b>On a First Name Basis</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Opening: Underwear &amp; Unmentionables</b>, CP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>APEX Jazz Band</b>, The Royal Oak</li> <li>🎵 <b>Blues w/Redneck Limousine</b>, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>🎵 <b>Music Trivia Night</b>, The Barley Mow</li> <li>🎵 <b>On a First Name Basis</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan</b>, Ashton Pub</li> <li>🎵 <b>Pancake Breakfast</b>, Lanark</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>Ala.Ni</b>, Neat Coffee Shop</li> <li>🎵 <b>Balfolk Dance</b>, Killaloe</li> <li>🎵 <b>Beat the Freeze Kitchen Party</b>, Pakenham</li> <li>🎵 <b>Harpdog Brown &amp; Travelin' Blues Show</b>, Westport</li> <li>🎵 <b>Dueling Pianos</b>, The 2 Grands</li> <li>🎵 <b>Jimmy Tri-Tone Band</b>, Golden Arrow</li> <li>🎵 <b>Panto can be Murder</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Scottish Country Dancing</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>St. Paul's Bassoon Concert</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Stephen Fisher</b>, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>🎵 <b>Three Billboards Outside of Ebbing, Missouri</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Wonder</b>, Smiths Falls</li> <li>🎵 <b>Bridge Club</b>, Arnprior</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>Ariana Gillis</b>, Neat Coffee Shop</li> <li>🎵 <b>Book Sale Fundraiser</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Fire &amp; Ice</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Fulton's Opening Day</b>, Pakenham</li> <li>🎵 <b>Ian Tamblin and Kate Weekes</b>, Renfrew</li> <li>🎵 <b>Karaoke</b>, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> <li>🎵 <b>Panto can be Murder</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Red Fox</b>, Golden Arrow</li> <li>🎵 <b>Wonder</b>, Smiths Falls</li> <li>🎵 <b>All Request Piano Show</b>, The 2 Grands</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>AiC: Beethoven on Violin/Piano</b>, Almonte</li> <li>🎵 <b>Blues w/Redneck Limousine</b>, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>🎵 <b>Book Sale Fundraiser</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Choral Evensong</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Corb Lund</b>, Neat Coffee Shop</li> <li>🎵 <b>Family Day Hoedown</b>, The Cove</li> <li>🎵 <b>Ariana Gillis</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Magnolia Rhythm Kings</b>, The Royal Oak</li> <li>🎵 <b>Music Trivia Night</b>, The Barley Mow</li> <li>🎵 <b>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan</b>, Ashton Pub</li> <li>🎵 <b>Panto can be Murder</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Snow Angel Making Party</b>, Lanark</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>Almonte Lectures: Einstein's Relativity</b>, Almonte</li> <li>🎵 <b>Bridge Club</b>, Arnprior</li> <li>🎵 <b>Chris Murphy</b>, The Cove</li> <li>🎵 <b>Jeff Stone</b>, Golden Arrow</li> <li>🎵 <b>Lanark Laughs</b>, Carleton Place</li> <li>🎵 <b>NLHS Heritage Dinner</b>, Almonte</li> <li>🎵 <b>Panto can be Murder</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>River City Junction</b>, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>🎵 <b>Rumors</b>, Smiths Falls</li> <li>🎵 <b>Scottish Country Dancing</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Steve Barrette Trio</b>, The Swan at Carp</li> <li>🎵 <b>The Little Mermaid, Jr.</b>, CP</li> <li>🎵 <b>William McCarthy</b>, Neat Coffee Shop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>Mid-Winter Milling</b>, Almonte</li> <li>🎵 <b>Folkus: Sussex</b>, Almonte</li> <li>🎵 <b>Panto can be Murder</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Rumors</b>, Smiths Falls</li> <li>🎵 <b>Sin &amp; Swoon</b>, The Cove</li> <li>🎵 <b>Spaghetti Supper</b>, Munster</li> <li>🎵 <b>Ted Lalonde</b>, Golden Arrow</li> <li>🎵 <b>The Little Mermaid, Jr.</b>, CP</li> <li>🎵 <b>Genesis Tribute &amp; Piano Show</b>, The 2 Grands</li> <li>🎵 <b>JazzNhouse: Mike Downes Trio</b>, Mississippi Mills</li> <li>🎵 <b>Jimmy Tri-Tone Band</b>, Lumbertown Ale House</li> <li>🎵 <b>Karaoke</b>, Bridges Bar &amp; Grill</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🎵 <b>Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan</b>, Ashton Pub</li> <li>🎵 <b>Panto can be Murder</b>, Perth</li> <li>🎵 <b>Rumors</b>, Smiths Falls</li> <li>🎵 <b>SRO Big Band Tea Dance</b>, Almonte</li> <li>🎵 <b>The Little Mermaid, Jr.</b>, CP</li> <li>🎵 <b>Trad Song Pub Session</b>, Almonte</li> <li>🎵 <b>Winter Games &amp; Big Creek Fundraiser</b>, Pakenham</li> <li>🎵 <b>APEX Jazz Band</b>, The Royal Oak</li> <li>🎵 <b>Blues w/Redneck Limousine</b>, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>🎵 <b>Music Trivia Night</b>, The Barley Mow</li> </ul>

- 📍 **CP & Beckwith Heritage Museum** presents *Underwear and Unmentionables* <cpbheritagemuseum.com> [from Feb 6]
- 📍 **Diefenbunker** presents *CANEX 1977 canteen* [to Dec 31/18]
- 📍 **Fairview Manor Lobby** presents Richard James Hutton's *Northern Reflections* paintings [to Feb 12], *The Musings of Five* photographers [from Feb 14]
- 📍 **MERA Schoolhouse** presents the photography of Geoff Stimpson & Victoria Laube <meraschoolhouse.org>
- 📍 **Mississippi Valley Textile Museum** presents *Portrait of a Mill Worker* <mvmtm.ca>
- 📍 The **Mississippi Mills Chambers Gallery** presents Maria Moldovan's acrylics/ceramics
- 📍 The **Almonte Library Corridor Gallery** presents fabric artists Sharon Collins & Joanne Zorzi

**Naismith Pub** (Almonte, 256-6336): Wed (except Jan 3) Open Celtic Jam, 7:30-10PM  
**Carp Masonic Lodge**: Mon Carp Celtic Jam, 7-9PM  
**Ashton Pub** (Ashton, 257-4423): Sun Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, 2-5PM  
**The Barley Mow** (Almonte, 256-5669): Thurs Jimmy Tri-Tone Band 8:30PM, Sun Music Trivia, 8PM  
**Golden Arrow Pub** (Perth, 267-4500): 9PM, Wed Karaoke  
 Feb 2 Amulet  
 Feb 3 Comedy Night  
 Feb 9 Matt Dickson  
 Feb 10 Brea Lawrenson  
 Feb 16 Jimmy Tri-Tone Band  
 Feb 17 Red Fox  
 Feb 23 Jeff Stone  
 Feb 24 Ted Lalonde  
**Lumbertown Ale House** (Arnprior, 623-8885): 8:30PM, no cover  
 Feb 3 Jimmy Tri-Tone Band

**Slackoni's** (Perth, 326-0380): Feb 15 Jazz w/Peter Brown Trio, 6-9PM  
**Bridges Bar and Grill** (Pakenham, 624-5939): Sat Karaoke 8PM  
 Feb 10 Blues Series: Peter Brown, 6-10PM  
**O'Reilly's Ale House** (Perth, 267-7994): Tues Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan 8:30PM; Wed Open Jam w/Dave Balfour 8PM  
 Feb 2 Grand Re-opening w/Smitty, 9PM  
 Feb 3 Tom Watson, 8:45PM  
 Feb 9 Nolan Hubbard, 8:45PM  
 Feb 16 Stephen Fisher, 8:45PM  
 Feb 23 River City Junction, 8:45PM  
**Alice's Village Café** (Carp, 470-2233): Open Mic Thurs, 7-10PM  
**Cheshire Cat** (Carp, 839-2183): Jul 27 Kelly Sloan, 6:30PM  
**The Waterfront Gastropub** (CP, 257-5755): Wed Open Jam 9PM, Thurs Karaoke 10PM, Sun Blues w/Redneck Limousine 3- Feb 2 Mississippi Blues Society Jam, 8:30PM  
 Feb 24 Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, 9PM

**The 2 Grands** (Arnprior, 558-5050): 7PM  
 Feb 1, 8, 15, Mar 1 Open Jam  
 Feb 2, 9, 17, 24 All Request Piano  
 Feb 3 Sushi Lesson then Piano  
 Feb 10, 16 Dueling Pianos  
 Feb 14 Love Songs on Piano, 5-10PM  
 Feb 23 Karaoke, 9PM  
**Neat Coffee Shop** (Burnstown, 433-9960): 8PM  
 Feb 7 Band of Rascals, \$20  
 Feb 9 Hillsburn, \$20  
 Feb 16 Ala.Ni, \$35  
 Feb 17 Ariana Gillis, \$20  
 Feb 18 Corb Lund, \$65  
 Feb 23 William McCarthy, \$25  
 Feb 28 Open Mic w/Mike McCormick  
**Community**  
**Arnprior Bridge Club**, Mon-Thu-Fri 12:30PM. 447-7526. priorbridgeclub.ca  
**SF Bridge Club**, Mon 7PM, Tues 1PM. 256-4747. SF Legion

**Almonte Bridge Club**, Wed 7PM. 256-4747. Almonte Legion  
**Wonder Will Guide Us**, Wed 7-9PM. Journey of the Universe; discussion, exercises. 623-4242x21. Galilee Ctr, Arnprior  
**Toastmasters**, Feb 8 & 22, 7-8:30PM. Guests free. Riverview Snrs' Residence, 204 Lake Ave., CP. 250-9282  
**Hackberry Men's Shed**: Feb 5, 19, 7PM, meeting, Shed opposite 98 Donald St., CP; Feb 13, 27, 7:30AM, breakfast, Gourmet Restaurant, CP  
**Scottish Country Dancing**, Fri, 9:15AM. McMartin House, Perth. 264-2767  
**Almonte Hort**: Attracting Birds to your Backyard, Jan 29, 7:30PM; Pruning, Feb 26, 7:30PM. Cornerstone Community Church, Almonte. 256-5594, \$2 (first time=\$0)  
**Nature Quiz Night**, Jan 30, 7PM. Benefits Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust. Golden Arrow, Perth. mmlt.ca. \$10

**MMPL Travelogue: Finding St. Denis**, Feb 1, 7PM. Bob & Sherryl Smith. Almonte Library. 624-5306. Free  
**Transgender Awareness Workshops**, Feb 1 (Perth Library), Feb 15 (Arnprior Library), Feb 22 (Renfrew Library). 1-4PM for soc/health/ed professionals; 6-8PM family/youth. Reg: booking@behcjxlynx.ca, 818-0443. Sugg. cost: \$15/\$20  
**40 Plus Singles Dinner/Dance**, Feb 3, 7PM dinner; dance with DJ. Smiths Falls Civitan Hall. 285-5557, \$15 (\$10 dance only)  
**Lanark Co. Genealogical Meeting**, Feb 3, 1:30PM. Beckwith Township Municipal Complex, CP. lcginfo34@gmail.com. Free  
**Opening: Underwear & Unmentionables**, Feb 10, 2-4PM. CP & Beckwith Heritage Museum, CP. 253-7013  
**Valentine's Dance**, Feb 10, 8PM. Kyle Felhaver Band w/Brad Scott. Tix: Clayton Store, Baker Bob's, SRC. Clayton Community Centre. 256-9010. \$15; \$12 adv.  
**Pancake Breakfast**, Feb 11, 10AM. Fundraiser for Sacred Heart Church. Foy Hall, 91 Princess St., Lanark. \$9; \$5 ages 6-12  
**Pancakes & Pyjamas**, Feb 13, 5PM-7:30PM. Fundraiser for Maple Grove School. Lanark Civitan Club, Lanark Village. \$5; \$15 family  
**Perth Hort: Ornamental Grasses**, Feb 13, 7-9PM. St. Paul's United Church, Perth. 253-5690, perthhortsociety.com. \$5 guests  
**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**, Feb 13, 4:30-6:30PM. St George's Church, Clayton. 256-4470, \$8; ages 6-12 \$4  
**W. Carleton Garden: Ireland**, Feb 13, 7:30PM. Phil Reilly, Carp Memorial Hall. wceg.ca. \$5 for non-members  
**Women's Business Group Lunch**, Feb 13, 12PM. Networking meeting. RSVP at womensbusinessgroup@gmail.com. CP Terrace, 6 Arthur St., CP. 250-9282  
**MVFN: Nature Talk**, Feb 15, 7:30PM. "Wildlife Crime Comes to Canada". Almonte United Church. mvfn.ca. \$5  
**Balfolk Dance**, Feb 16, 7-10:30PM. Music: Emilyn Stam, John David Williams. All ages. Lion's Hall, Killaloe. \$10-\$25 sliding scale  
**Fulton's Opening Day**, Feb 17, 9AM-4PM. Family activities, taffy. Fulton's Sugar Bush, Pakenham. 256-3867, fultons.ca  
**Snow Angel Making Party**, Feb 18, 1-4PM. All welcome. Wear hood, snowpants; bring snowshoes, cross-country skis. Highlands Gate, 4381 Wolf Grove Rd., Lanark. Free  
**Mississippi Mills Family Day**, Feb 19. Free admission at Mill of Kintail; Public Skating at Almonte Community Centre (1-3PM) and Stewart Community Centre in Pakenham (3-5PM). 256-1077, tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca. Free  
**Family Day at Fulton's**, Feb 19, 10AM-2PM. Sleigh rides, maple, music, more. Fulton's Sugar Bush, Pakenham. 256-3867, fultons.ca  
**Pakenham Hort Soc: Flower Arrangement**, Feb 21, 7:30-9PM. Cindy Zorgel, plant exchange. St. Andrew's Church, Pakenham. 256-4768, \$10  
**CP & B Historical Society Dinner**, Feb 22, 6PM. 3 courses, history of hotel, music. The Grand Hotel, 7 Bridge St., CP. 253-7013, cpbheritagemuseum.com. \$50  
**Almonte Lectures: Einstein's Relativity**, Feb 23, 7:30PM. Carson Mok. Almonte United Church. almontelectures.net. free; donations accepted  
**NLHS Heritage Dinner**, Feb 23, 6-9PM. Almonte Train Wreck. Almonte Legion. Almonte. 257-8503, northlanarkregional-museum.com. \$30  
**Mid-Winter Milling**, Feb 24, 10AM-5PM. Tarot, numerology, psychics, crafts. Downtown Almonte, midwintermilling.ca. Varied \$  
**Spaghetti Supper**, Feb 24, 4:30-7PM. Munster United Church, 2881 Munster Rd. By donation  
**Winter Games & Big Creek Fundraiser**, Feb 25, 1-4PM. All ages; solo/group; putt, quiz, riddles. Prizes. Fulton's Sugar Bush, 399 Sugar Bush Rd., Pakenham. mmlt.ca/events. \$10; free for under 18s



# Valentine Dance in Clayton

**Kyle Felhaver Band & Brad Scott**

Back by popular demand — The Kyle Felhaver Band with Brad Scott will have you up on the dance floor at the annual Valentine Dance and Auction sponsored by St. George's Church in Clayton. Break up the winter blahs by coming out on Saturday, February 10 to the Clayton Community Hall, located at 147 Linn Bower Lane. Doors open at 7PM, with music from 8 PM to midnight. There will be a cash bar, late light lunch and several door prizes.

Local businesses have been generous in providing many interesting and tempting items for the silent auction, and the talented members of St. George's have been knitting, sewing and baking up a storm to provide special gifts to purchase.

Tickets for this much-anticipated event are \$15 at the door or \$12 in advance from the Clayton Store, Nicholson's in Pakenham, SRC Music in Carleton Place, Baker Bob's in Almonte, or by calling Ray and Kathy at 256-9010. More information is available at <stgeorgechurchclayton.webs.com>.

This is the first event of 2018 presented by St. George's. Proceeds are used to maintain the 117-year-old little stone church and to continue its ministry of community outreach in the village and beyond. In 2017 the congregation was able to contribute to local food banks, Hub Hospice, the Canadian Cancer Society, Samaritan's Purse (shoe boxes), CAS (mittens and hats) and other needs of local individuals.

They appreciate the support that they have received in the past and anticipate that once again they will have a sellout crowd, so don't be disappointed — get your tickets early!

# 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Snow Angel Making Party

Come and celebrate winter at the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Snow Angel Making Party at Highlands Gate, 4381 Wolf Grove Road in Lanark Highlands, on Sunday, February 18 from 1 to 4PM. This is a fun party that is open to everyone who wants to fall backwards in the snow and flail around to make works of art. Make your own unique impression and see who else shares the joy of play. Make one or make many — the record was set by a young girl who made 54 one winter — our goal is to fill the field with a plethora of snowy winged angels. The invitation is open to everyone, so bring your friends and family. There is a play structure with

a curly slide, horses to feed carrots to, sliding hills, and 85 acres of fields and forest to snowshoe and cross-country ski. There will be a campfire with hot cider and good cheer, and you are welcome to bring something to cook over the fire or a treat to share. Dress for the weather and wear a coat with a hood so you don't get snow down your neck when you are creating your angel. It's fun, it's free, and everyone is welcome, so spread the word and we will see if we can break the record.

To get there, take exit 155 from the 417 (the Carp/Almonte turn-off), and continue on to Highway 49



towards Almonte. Continue on this road all the way to the farm for 40km — there are no turns. When you get to Almonte you will continue on Almonte Street, through the lights at the ESSO station where it turns in the Wolf Grove Road, drive another 20km through the flashing yellow light in Middleville and then look for the second laneway on your left (4381 Wolf Grove Road) after the flashing yellow light in Middleville.

— Susan Cressy

**Almonte Lectures** **E=MC<sup>2</sup>: Explanations of Einstein's Theory**  
**Carson Mok**  
**7:30PM Friday, February 23**  
**in the Almonte United Church Hall**  
 Visit [almontelectures.net](http://almontelectures.net) for the series schedule

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**The Kanata Choral Society** presents  
**Here comes the Sun**  
 A concert of light, fun music to give us a break from winter and usher in spring  
**Saturday, March 3, 2018 at 3:00 pm**  
**St. Paul's Anglican Church**  
**20 Young Road, Kanata**  
 information 613-592-1991 or [www.kanatachoralsociety.ca](http://www.kanatachoralsociety.ca)

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# Ariana Gillis Helps Family Relief Program

On Sunday, February 18, the Listening Room Series presents the wonderful Ariana Gillis at 7PM at the Perth Restaurant. This concert is also a fundraiser for the Lanark Community Programs — Family Relief Program. These telling quotes from musical elite lend credence to the quality of this young woman's musical gifts.

Bernie Taupin (Grammy winner and Elton John's lyricist) says: "I'm staggered by how good she is. There's not much that impresses me these days but after hearing her available tracks, I can honestly say she's the single most exciting artist I've heard in a long time."

Buddy Miller (Grammy winner and guitarist for Emmylou Harris) enthuses: "I have been a fan of Ariana Gillis since discovering her music on satellite radio in 2009... something rare and unseen — genuine, un-calculated, un-co-opted, art from a soulful gem."

With kudos like this, it's easy to see why Ariana's audiences rave about her writing and performing skills. A serious concussion in 2015 was thought to be the end of her musical career, but she has battled back, and after taking the necessary time and treatment is back in the studio making new magic. The Perth audience will be hearing the results of those sessions. She "wowed" them at MUSICwestport a few years ago, where I saw her for the second time,



Catch the ebullient Ariana Gillis on February 18 in Perth when she plays a concert that will raise funds for the Lanark Community Programs — Family Relief Program

the first being at Folk Music Ontario. I'm sure you'll be impressed, and you'll also get to support the incredibly good work of the Family Relief Program, which coordinates and provides much-needed relief for parents who support their children with developmental issues.

Dinner reservations, which guarantee your tickets, can be made by calling the Perth Restaurant at 267-3170. For "Show Only" tickets, call Steve at 267-8532 to arrange payment. I look forward to seeing you there enjoying such wonderful talent, while supporting a good cause.

— Steve Tennant



# MMLT's Go for Gold Winter Games

## Family-Friendly Fundraiser at Fulton's

On Sunday, February 25, from 1–4PM, Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust (MMLT) is hosting Go for Gold Winter Games at Fulton's Pancake House and Sugar Bush. Don't worry — Olympic-level athleticism is not required! These winter games are all about having fun in nature. This event will also be the finale for MMLT's campaign to raise funds for the stewardship of the Byrne Big Creek Nature Preserve near McDonalds Corners. Come participate in the Go for Gold Winter Games and celebrate our community's generosity in making Joel Byrne's dream a reality.

Snowshoe or hike along the Green Trail, starting and ending at Heritage Path. Try your hand at the polar putt and target toss. Participate in quizzes and riddles and roast marshmallows on the Heritage Path campfire where Chad Clifford of Wilderness Rhythms will be making heritage items using a shaving horse.

Join the games as a family/group or individual. The cost is \$10 per adult, and children under 18 are free. There will be a prize draw in each category (family/group or individual) for those who complete all the games by 3:30PM. These are not timed events.

Fulton's Pancake House will also be open so you can indulge in their fluffy pancakes, maple baked beans, maple sausages and delicious maple desserts

Fulton's <fultons.ca> is located at 399 Sugar Bush Road near Pakenham. From County Road No. 29, turn onto Cedar Hill Side Road and follow the signs to Sugar Bush Road.



Photo by Janet Mason

Come to Fulton's Sugar Bush on February 25 to have fun and help raise funds for the stewardship of the Byrne Big Creek Nature Preserve

For further information about the Big Creek Campaign and the Go for Gold event at Fulton's, visit <mmlt.ca> or call Susan at 253-2272.

# Kanata Choral Society Beats the Winter Blues

At this time of the year we all need a break from the winter weather, and one of these breaks will happen on Saturday, March 3.

The **Kanata Choral Society** will perform an event called "Here Comes the Sun", featuring family-friendly music from our childhood as sung by the Kings' Singers. The conductor is Scott Auchinleck, music director of the Choir.

Children will love hearing favourites like *There was an Old Lady who Swallowed a Fly* and *I am a Train*.

The concert takes place at 3PM in St Paul's Anglican Church, located at 20 Young Road in Kanata. Tickets are available at Gaia Java (1300 Stittsville Main St.), Granata Music (18-1568 Merivale Rd.), The Leading Note (370 Elgin St.), or at the door. They are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door, \$15 for seniors, \$10 for students 13 and up, and free for children 12 and under. The ticket price includes a reception.

For more information, please call 592-1991 or visit <kanatachoralsociety.ca>.

Treat your loved one to **Valentine's Tea** at  *Tea & Cake*

They'll fall in love with our Valentine's platter! Take home your beautiful floral centrepiece and house-made chocolates, all for \$25.<sup>99</sup>/person. Available by appointment only, Feb. 12-17. Drop by or call to reserve.

98 Mill St. Almonte 613-256-4830

## Pick up theHumm in Mississippi Mills at FULTON'S PANCAKE HOUSE



### Three Great Evenings Just for You

Feb 21  
Cindy Zorgel:  
A Florist's Secrets

Mar 21  
David Hinks:  
Grow your Own Great Veggies

Apr 18  
Laurie Bachand:  
Right Plant for Right Place

Cost:  
only \$10 per evening or free with membership

**THE BRIGHT THE BEAUTIFUL AND THE EDIBLE**  
*Pakenham Passionate Gardener Speaker Series*

New to Gardening? Need inspiration? Need a break from hectic routines? **This speaker series is for you!**

Each session: 7:30 to 9PM

Hosted by the Pakenham Horticultural Society  
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# The Road Less Travelled...

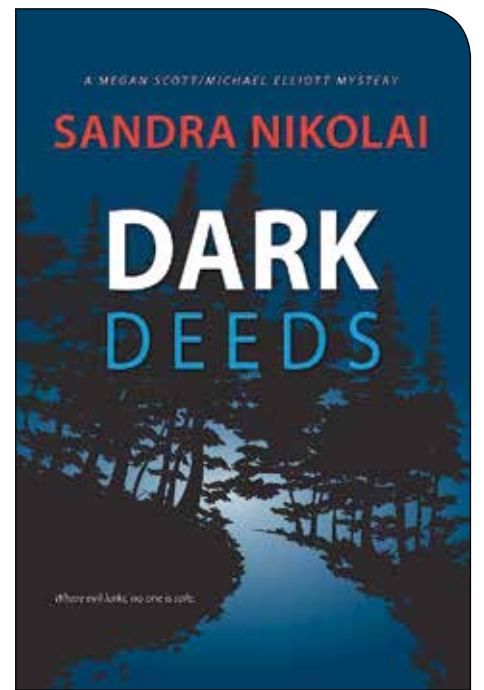
There was never any doubt in my mind. My ultimate goal in life was to be a mystery writer. After taking an early retirement from a management career path that spanned more than two decades, I set out to make my dream come true.

I took creative writing courses, joined writing groups, and attended writers' conferences. To gain credibility as a writer, I wrote articles for a community newspaper and submitted short crime stories to online and print publications. I was thrilled when they were accepted. I was now a published writer! The next step in my career was to find a literary agent that would represent me. Out went the letters to my chosen list of agents and I waited. Since the competition was fierce, I didn't raise my hopes too high.

Though most agents expressed positive feedback in their replies, none offered to represent me. But I didn't give up so easily. I sent out another batch of requests, then another. I received the same response. My mystery novel wasn't *exactly* what the traditional publishers were looking for at this time. I was discouraged, but as they say, when a door closes, another one opens. And it did.

It was 2012. I stood at the threshold of a new surge in independent publishing. Recording artists and filmmakers had already gained success under independent labels, so the extension into book publishing was a logical move. Retail giants like Amazon offered writers a range of services that included direct publishing in e-book and paperback formats and international distribution. Toronto-based Kobo offered similar services with comparable book royalties. There was hope!

I explored this opportunity with newfound enthusiasm. Through social media, I connected with a network of successful independent writers—or *Indies*. A motivated and confident group, they were happy to share their publishing and marketing experience and pay it forward. The advantages? My book wouldn't have to be shopped around by an agent and go through lengthy committee approval. I'd retain complete creative control over book content and



Sandra Nikolai chronicles her path to becoming a self-published author

design. I'd have to handle my own marketing, but most traditional authors had to promote their books months after the initial launch too.

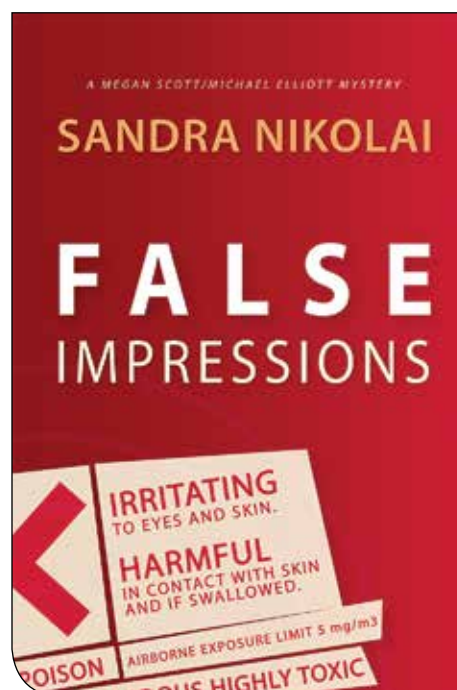
I did more research. Some self-published writers had become so successful that they'd quit their day jobs. Even traditionally published authors had blurred the lines and were self-publishing their new books. I gave the premise serious thought. Should I or shouldn't I? The way I saw it, a self-published writer was no different from any other small business owner who worked to ensure their personally crafted goods met high standards.

Vowing not to compromise quality for speed, I took the leap. I hired a website designer and chose professional editors, proofreaders, book cover designers and distributors. I established author pages on retailer book sites and on social media, notably Facebook and Twitter. Promotion took up a fair share of my time and still does, but it's an essential tool in increasing the chances of one's "discoverability" in today's competitive global market.

By the time I'd published my third mystery novel, I was holding several book-signing events a year. I was excited to meet readers in person and eager to chat with them about their reading habits and preferences. I especially valued their feedback about the types of mysteries and literary characters they enjoyed.

Do I have any regrets about taking this road to publishing? Not in the least. My days are busy but I love every moment. Knowing that readers enjoy my stories is the reason I'll continue to write the best books I possibly can. With only five mystery novels to my name so far, the road ahead is limitless!

— Sandra Nikolai is a local author who has published a series of mystery novels featuring ghostwriter Megan Scott and investigative reporter Michael Elliott. To find out more about Sandra's books, visit <sandranikolai.com> or email her at <sandra@sandranikolai.com>.



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# The Bright, the Beautiful and The Edible

## Exciting Gardening Speaker Series in Pakenham

Are you a brand-new gardener? Are you an experienced gardener who needs some inspiration? Or do you just need a night out to break from hectic routines? What better way to spend a winter/spring evening than by being captivated by the beauty of flowers and growing plants, and learning useful tips in the process. This exciting garden lecture series will be fun and informative.

It starts on Wednesday, February 21 with **A Florist's Secrets**. Floral designer **Cindy Zorgel**, formerly of "Keepsakes" in Almonte, will share tips for creating outstanding arrangements and discuss the differences between commercial designs and designing for flower shows. Her creations will be auctioned off to lucky attendees. Participants are encouraged to please bring a houseplant or rooted cutting for a plant exchange.

Then on Wednesday, March 21 you can learn to **Grow Your Own Great Veggies**. Master Gardener **David Hinks** will share the secrets of growing your own flavourful and healthy vegetables. He will offer information on all



'Lady in Red' floral arrangement by Cindy Zorgel

aspects of vegetable gardening and answer any perplexing questions. Participants are encouraged to please bring seeds for a seed exchange.

The final event in the series is on Wednesday, April 18, when perennials will take centre stage with **The Right Plant for the Right Place**. **Laurie Bachand** of Stoneridge Gardens in Clayton will talk about choosing low-maintenance perennials and locating plants where they will thrive. She will also have plants available for purchase. Participants are encouraged to please bring old gardening books and exchange them for new titles at a book exchange.

Three great evenings, three great speakers. The Speaker Series will be held at St. Andrews United Church Hall in Pakenham, and is proudly hosted by the Pakenham Horticultural Society. Each session runs from 7:30 to 9PM and costs \$10 per person at the door. The fee is waived for members. Annual membership to the club is only \$15 per person, or \$25 per couple. Please come out and join — all are welcome. For more details, please call Lori at 256-4768 or email <pakenhamhort@gmail.com>.

# Tamblyn and Weekes — Together in Renfrew

On Saturday, February 17, folk music lovers have a wonderful opportunity to hear two very talented singer/songwriters share one stage, when Batstone's Northern Ramble in Renfrew presents Ian Tamblyn and Kate Weekes. And although they will be taking turns on stage, there may be some common themes to their music.

Northern wilderness adventurer Kate Weekes captures the landscape of her travels in song. Life as a dog musher influenced her Yukon album *Frost on Black Fur* (2014) and a body of new work composed during the winter of 2017 above the arctic circle on a Norwegian fjord. Kate's live performance is laden with candid stories of human migration and time spent in the bush. She received the 2017 Songs From the



Heart award (from Folk Music Ontario) in the political category for her song *Sing it to the Hills*.

Ian Tamblyn <tamblyn.com> has been a musician since 1972. He has released forty albums and CDs of his own work, as well as acting as producer for dozens of other artists. Ian has also written fifteen plays and over one hundred theatre soundtracks, and has received a number of awards and nominations. In 2012, he was made a fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographic Society for his guiding and creative work in the Canadian Arctic.

When asked about their double-bill, Kate explains: "I met Ian when I was a teenager and attended a songwriting workshop he was hosting with Christine Graves in Ottawa. Any time I ran into Ian after that he would encourage me to write. He challenged me to write a song about Highway 7, and that led to the creation of my first song, *Land Shaping the People*. Since then we have swapped tunes and tales over the years whenever we've gotten together, handing each other CDs of songs we've been working on or pulling out a guitar. Part of Ian's journey has been to explore the Canadian north, and that certainly



Ian Tamblyn and Kate Weekes play Batstone's Northern Ramble on February 17

influenced my decision to hitchhike to the Yukon when I was twenty, where I ended up living as a dog musher for many years. Ian met my sled dogs when he came through on a house concert tour a few years back. He and I have a mutual appreciation for adventure, and his songs have inspired my path through music and life."

Doors open at 7:30PM, and tickets for the show are \$20 from <northernramble.com>. Batstone's Northern Ramble is located at 45 Railway Avenue in Renfrew.

February 2018

www.thehummm.com



**Ruth Dubois - Playing the Organ:  
Not a Music Course**

6 Tuesdays, beginning March 20, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm.

**Heather Loubé - Wonder and Wander  
in the Ancient Greek World**

6 Thursdays, beginning March 22, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm.

To Register: email [cmapsimon@gmail.com](mailto:cmapsimon@gmail.com) indicating the courses you wish to attend. Fee is \$75 per course. Space is limited so register early!

For more information:  
Marny 613-256-6739 or Claire 613-73-2382  
All courses are held at the Almonte Public Library

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- Every Wed. **Wings 'n Tunes** with **Shawn McCullough** (Country/Guitar), 6:30-9:30
- Every Thu. **Fajitas Night!** Margarita Specials 5-8 \$20
- Fri. Feb.2 **Honey & Rust** (Folk/Rock Duo, Ottawa) 6-9
- Sat. Feb.3 **Ducks Reunion Party** with music by **Smitty** Celebrate the End of an Era in Westport Entertainment (Folk/Rock/Country, Kingston) 8-11
- Fri. Feb.9 **Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner** with music by **Logan Brown & Taylor Angus** (Acoustic Soul Duo) 3-Course Table d'Hoté 6-9
- Sat. Feb.10 **\$5000 Jr. B Elimination Draw** with music by **Jeff Gallery** (Solo Country/Rock Guitar) + Roast Beef Buffet Dinner 6-10
- Wed. Feb.14 **Open All Day! Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner** with **Shawn McCullough** (Solo Country/Rock Guitar Ballads) 3-Course Table d'Hoté 6-9
- Fri. Feb.16 Blues on the Rideau with **Harpdog Brown & The Travellin' Blues Show** with **Sugar Brown** (Vancouver/Toronto) 7-11 Buffet + Show \$65 + hst
- Sun. Feb.18 **Family Day Hoedown** with music by **Henry Norwood & Shawn McCullough** (Country, Perth/Westport) 4-8 \$5
- Fri. Feb.23 **Chris Murphy of Turpin's Trail** (Celtic/Folk, Perth Road) 6-10
- Sat. Feb.24 **Sin & Swoon** (Indie Old-Time Folk Duo, Montreal) 6-9

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# Mid-Winter Milling

Explore the delightful shops and cafés along Mill Street in Downtown Almonte and sign up for spiritual and self-awareness sessions with local practitioners.

<b>Donna Kinniburgh</b> ..... Deep Trance Medium & Tarot Card Reader	<b>Mill Street Fashions - 7 Mill St.</b> Hand-selected collections from Canadian and international designers
<b>Joanne MacLaren</b> ..... Tarot Card Reader	<b>Dragon's Lair Beads - 10 Mill St.</b> Full service bead store
<b>Jennifer Hoy</b> ..... Rune Stone & Intuitive Healing	<b>Acanthus - 14 Mill St.</b> Flowers, tropical plants & floral design
<b>France Koroscil</b> ..... Access Bars	<b>8008 Lingerie - 14 Mill St.</b> Luxury lingerie boutique
<b>Denise Carpenter</b> ..... Reiki Master	<b>Crush Marketplace - 14 Mill St.</b> Shoes, decor, accessories and more
<b>Trevor Couturier</b> ..... Tarot Card Readings	<b>Vamos Outdoors - 14 Mill St.</b> Outdoor apparel, footwear & accessories
<b>Tamara Geddes</b> ..... Psychic Reader	<b>L.G. Lee &amp; Sons - 36 Mill St.</b> Merchandise for the home, garden and workshop
<b>Maureen Sullivan</b> ..... Reiki and Reflexology	<b>Booo Clothing - 46 Mill St.</b> Quality bamboo clothing & bamboo products for your home
<b>Mary Willemsen</b> ..... Angel Messenger and Fairyologist	<b>Mill Street Books - 52 Mill St.</b> Books, puzzles, CDs, games and other fun stuff
<b>Yesim Gumus</b> ..... Tasseography: Turkish Coffee Readings	<b>General Fine Craft, Art &amp; Design - 63 Mill St.</b> Outstanding craftsmanship by Canadian artists
<b>Tracey Foster</b> ..... Angel Card Readings	<b>Baker Bob's - 75 Little Bridge St.</b> Breads, cakes, pastries, confections & fine foods
<b>Nancy Kerr-Wilson</b> ..... Spiritual Intuitive Readings	<b>Palms-The Coffee Shop - 78 Mill St.</b> Baked goods, lunches, desserts, espresso bar, tea
<b>Kim MacLeod &amp; Penny Samek</b> ..... Psychic, Medium, Energy Healer	<b>Blackbird - 79 Mill St.</b> Home decor, candles, gifts
<b>Leanne Dwyer</b> ..... Intuitive Empath Indigo	<b>Textile Traditions - 87 Mill St.</b> Fabric, yarn, quilting & sewing supplies
<b>Aidan Morton</b> ..... Reiki Master	<b>Alliance Coin &amp; Banknote - 88 Mill St.</b> Coins, banknotes & collector supplies
<b>Shelley Irvine Killoran</b> ..... Astrology	<b>Pêches &amp; Poivre - 89 Mill St.</b> Quality fine food, fun & artful kitchen & dining ware
<b>Suzanne Ritchie</b> ..... Lenormand Card Reader/Quantum Touch	<b>Tea &amp; Cake - 98 Mill St.</b> Quaint, classic tea room
<b>Chrissie Young</b> ..... Mythic Tarot Readings	<b>Almonte Potters' Guild - 95 Bridge St.</b> Adult & children's classes, studio rentals, birthday parties

Express your creative side in between sessions and shopping! Drop in to make a beautiful bowl at **Almonte Potters Guild** (\$20, 95 Bridge St.), or a stone chakra bracelet at **Dragon's Lair Beads** (\$25 +hst, 10 Mill St.). Take a break and come in for coffee, cake and a store-wide sale as part of **That's The Spirit's** 8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration (42 Mill St.).



MAAP ~ Mainstreet Almonte Attraction & Promotion

Sign-up sheets will be available on the day.

For up-to-date details, visit

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