

the Hummm

free

Arts,
Entertainment
& Ideas



p.18 & 19

February's Events



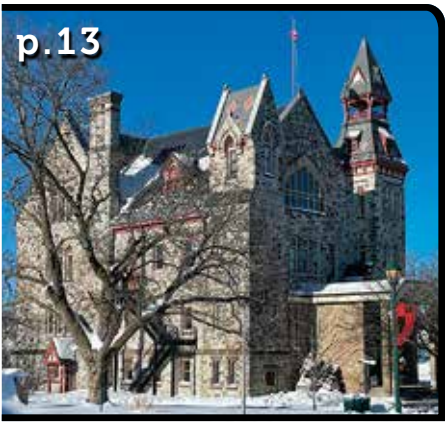
p.7

Working in Perth



p.9

Music at MERA



p.13

SPARC in Almonte



The Art of Catherine Blake p.3



Patrick Kelly
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

♥ 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 14th. If things go really well and you wind up needing more bedrooms, just give me a call!

- Pat's Picks:** The Black Tartan in Carleton Place <blacktartankitchen.com>
 The Sterling in Almonte <sterlingalmonte.com>
 Redneck Bistro in Calabogie <redneckbistro.ca>
 The Cove Country Inn in Westport <coveinn.com>

expTM
 REALTY
 BROKERAGE
 C: 613.286.8444
 O: 866.530.7737
www.kellysuccess.com

At the Speed of Life

By Mike Nickerson

The fast moving excitement of smartphones and computer screens eclipses the slow motion of the natural world, but what the natural world lacks in speed it makes up for in depth. Over billions of years it has developed intricately cooperative associations upon which we humans have always depended. Perhaps the hard knocks of climate change will call us back to Earth before we drift off into Cyberspace.

Watch closely over a season as a seed germinates, grows to maturity and bears its seeds. It isn't as fast as a Google search, but it will provide experience that can enrich your life and provide insight to enable following generations to enjoy their place under the sun.

Consider a single bean, covered with moist soil. The germ — the sleeping essence of the plant — wakes up and starts to grow. It takes multiple doublings in size before a first root emerges to tap into the soil.

With the plant anchored and moisture assured, the first leaves rise up — unfurling their solar collectors to absorb sunshine and feed further growth. With each new leaf, more sunshine is captured, accelerating its growth until it is big enough to support flowers and produce seeds. Seeds, like the one we started with, except there might be 40 or 60 of them on the single plant. A significant multiplication capable of sustaining our lives.

By composting the unused parts of plants, along with our bodily by-products, and feeding them back into healthy soil, the vast array of organisms residing there support their lives by metabolizing it into basic nutrients that can be used again by plants. This cycle has sustained earthly life for billions of years. It can sustain the human project for generations to come.

The wonder expands when we realize that chloroplasts, the green parts in plants that bind sunshine with carbon into sugars, is a separate life form from the plants they inhabit. This cooperative alliance was formed hundreds of millions of years ago and has come to power most life on Earth. Of similar importance are the symbiotic relationships between plants and mycorrhizal fungus which mine essential minerals from rock and deliver it to plant roots in exchange for a portion of the sugars the plant produces.

Deep cooperation goes even further! Thought to have started out hundreds of millions of years ago as bacteria, mitochondria have a remarkable ability to process the energy caught up in organic matter. They were so effective that almost all fungus, plants and animals formed close alliances, absorbing them at the cellular level. Their partners provide nutrients, and the mitochondria make energy available in return. Passed down generation to generation, since the earliest beginnings of complex life, they continue to power the show. They enable you and me to process our food, to move and to think.

Add to this the friendly viruses, bacteria and fungi that protect our skin and enable digestion, and one might wonder if we humans are independent beings or complex communities of beings that cooperate to enable our lives.

Over the eons, life forces have cooperated to enhance life's presence. What better way to celebrate the wonders that combined to bring us to this place than to examine our relations with plants and animals and with each other, and to cultivate the cooperative relations that will enable the generations following?

Let's slow down and smell the roses.

Read more about Mike and his 7th Generation Initiative at <sustainwellbeing.net>. To join their email list, contact <sustain5@web.ca>.



Who's Reading theHumm



Back in February 2022, **Scott and Sally Hortop** sent in this lovely photo and wrote: "We came to spend time with our son who is living in Portugal now. We didn't see this river 'til we were passing it, on our way from Lisbon to Madrid, but it was too good to not stop!"

**Happiness is simply the absence of desire...
Happiness is not about the achievement of pleasure
(which is joy or satisfaction),
but about the lack of desire.
It arrives when you have no urge to feel differently.
Happiness is the state you enter
when you no longer want to change your state.**

— James Clear, *Atomic Habits*



237 Borden Road
Mississippi Mills ON K7C 3P1
Phone: (613) 256-5081

Editor:

Kris Riendeau
editor@thehummm.com

Layout and Design:

Rob Riendeau
rob@thehummm.com

Advertising/Promotions:

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

Calendar Submissions:

Rona Fraser
calendar@thehummm.com

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

Submissions

By email or on disk.

Content Deadline:

20th of the month prior to publication

Advertising Deadline:

22nd of the month prior to publication

Subscriptions

cost \$40 (includes HST) for one year (12 issues). Send a cheque with your name and address to: theHumm: 237 Borden Road Mississippi Mills ON K7C 3P1

Opinions and information published in theHumm in letters, press releases, or individual columns do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this newspaper.

All writing, artwork, and photographs published in theHumm are copyright to the author, or to theHumm in the case where no author is specified. Reprinting any content without permission violates copyright and is prohibited. If you enjoy something, let us know and we'll pass it on to the author or artist though!

Thumm's up this month to: Vicki Graham from **Theatre Night in Merrickville**, for encouraging us to start distributing Humms in that lovely village! You can now grab a copy at The Village Bean Coffee House (205-B St. Lawrence Street), Fiona Macintyre Design (141 St. Lawrence Street), at the delightful collection of shops sharing space at 108 St. Lawrence Street, and at the LCBO (205 Elgin Street).

Since we're driving there anyway, if you own a shop in Merrickville or have a favourite spot where you'd like to pick up theHumm, let us know and we'll see what we can do!

THE GOOD FOOD Co.

Established 1997

Take-Out Café Gourmet Food Store

Breakfast + Lunch Menus
Take-Home Freezer Meals
From-Scratch Desserts
Local Gourmet Pantry Items
Ontario Wine, Beer, Spirits
Fair-Trade Coffee + Tea

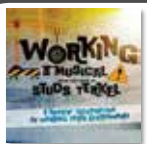
Tuesday to Sunday
8AM to 4PM
Closed Monday

31 Bridge Street
Carleton Place
(613) 257-7284

/TheGoodFoodCo1997
 /thegf.co

TICKETS
Please

TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT
TICKETSPLEASE.CA



Working
by Studio Theatre Perth
February 9-19



SPARC Cabaret
Almonte Old Town Hall
February 25



Valentine's Day Dinner
Aarusuvai World Cuisine
Smiths Falls
February 14



Mia Kelly & Basset
presented by MERA
MERA Schoolhouse
February 26



#DoITforCraiger
SF Bears Alumni vs Sens Alumni
Smiths Falls Community Centre
February 19



This is Elton John
presented by Dreamrock
Farrell Hall, Perth
March 11



Raise Your Voice
presented by Mudds Youth
Carleton Place Town Hall
February 24, 25 & 26



Nature's Folk Songs
presented by Almonte in Concert
Almonte Old Town Hall
March 11

Plus many more!

SELLING TICKETS?
Concerts · Plays · Festivals

WE CAN HELP!
Setup · Support · Promotion

Catherine Blake — An Artist's Inspiration

Creating art inspires her and she inspires artists — it's a win-win for this irrepressible Almonte artist and art instructor. Nothing stops her — not polio or being a single woman working for CUSO in Zanzibar or concussion or cancer. Life hasn't worn her down; it has both distilled and emboldened her and her lifetime passion for art. Cathy Blake's response to my incredulity at the challenges she has faced and the opportunities she has embraced is an understatement: "I have a lot of energy; I don't sit around a lot."

by Sally Hansen

Her art is a natural reflection of her life and her personality — exuberant and eclectic. In her words, "High school art teachers have to be generalists!" Art collectors and galleries generally prefer artists whose works are easily recognizable — a painting by Glen Loates should look like a Glen Loates painting. We all have certain expectations attached to certain famous artists, but there are as many notable exceptions, such as Picasso (painter, sculptor, printmaker, ceramicist and stage designer) and Leonardo da Vinci (whose wide-ranging interests included painting, architecture, mechanics and human anatomy). As an art teacher and now instructor, Cathy's versatility and mastery of multiple media enable her to pursue a variety of interests and offer courses in drawing, acrylics, watercolours and mixed media.

Blake has had shows in many local venues, and her Almonte home is a showcase of some of her favourite paintings, each one with its own story. One that occupies a place of honour in her living room is a heart-warming portrait of a teenage boy with a wonderful mop of unruly hair looking disgruntled



while writing an exam. He was so sure he would fail that he wrote her a note explaining why she should give him a passing grade.

Another student grew so frustrated that he stomped out of her classroom, not wanting to learn the basics of design. A few years later he called her to thank her and tell her that he was the only student in his class who knew the answer to a question in his Algonquin design course. Another kudo she values came from a former student who called to thank her for "my interesting career" as an assistant museum director. Teaching is in her blood. "Seeing them get excited about what they're doing — it's a real thrill to help people have that feeling."

Cathy always loved to draw, and from the age of twelve she took lessons from an artist living near

her home in Kobe, Japan, where her dad taught at Kwansei Gakuin University, a private Christian university founded in 1889. That first teacher taught her an invaluable firsthand lesson: never draw on a student's work! "Teachers have a terrible responsibility not to hurt a kid," she adds.

At the age of eighteen she left Japan to attend McGill University in Montréal, but by the end of her second year she wanted to quit and go to Ontario College of Art to focus on her art. She has always been grateful that her parents convinced her to complete her BA degree before continuing her arts studies, because her career as a teacher enabled her to support herself and her two daughters throughout a series of health and personal challenges. After completing her teaching certificate she spent two years in Toronto and Ottawa teaching to work off her student loans. She finally managed to go to art school in England on a part-time basis, working as a teacher one-quarter time to support herself. The Irish guy she met there came to Canada; they married, started the Bywater Pottery in Almonte, had two daughters, and eventually divorced.

For a long time her primary focus was pottery, but in 1991 when she had to support her family, she decided to return to teaching. It turned out to be a serendipitous change as it spurred her back to her first love of drawing and painting. Also, in 1995 she was diagnosed with post-polio syndrome — symptoms typically occur fifteen to 30 years after an initial attack — and the physical demands of pottery had begun to cause permanent damage to her hands and body. She thoroughly enjoyed her career as a fulltime art teacher at Arnprior District High School until her retirement in 2008.

Most of us take up reading or painting or gardening or photography or bird watching or community service or travelling when we retire. When Cathy got bored, she traveled to Asia to visit her daughter and then joined CUSO in 2010. When they offered her the possibility of a posting in Rwanda, the Gobi Desert or Zanzibar, she chose the latter with alacrity. She had always dreamed of visiting Samarkand (Uzbekistan), Timbuktu (Mali) or Zanzibar (island province of Tanzania). For a year and a half she taught secondary school teachers in a Muslim teachers' college, until her body let her know it no longer wanted to deal with concrete floors and sidewalks everywhere. She describes it as a wonderful experience. As Pablo Picasso said, "The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away."

Her body may be limiting her physical options, but in no way does she allow that to interfere with her joie de vivre or her artistic endeavours. Despite a bout of cancer and a concussion from a fall a few years ago, this indefatigable spirit continues to inspire — both herself and others. After decades of experimenting with a myriad of media and subjects, she finds herself



returning to her Japanese roots. "In Japan everything has a spirit, and I find myself moving back to a Shinto awareness of spirits in the trees, rocks and water around us." And then she convinces me we are kindred spirits with her comment about a work in progress: "I've known that tree since I was a kid. I find myself drawing and responding to water and trees more and more because they are the guardians of our world."

You can find Catherine Blake's coordinates on the back of her Artist Trading Card above to learn when you might want to be inspired by taking an art course from this breath of fresh air and enthusiasm. You can also purchase her art cards at General Fine Craft at 63 Mill Street in Almonte.

Quiet on the Set!

By Glenda Jones

On a Sunday afternoon when the weather is messy, wouldn't it be nice to meet with friends, watch a good movie together, and enjoy a social hour? Maybe see some film you wouldn't find on Netflix? Maybe open your imagination to new ideas? A small group who used to attend films is interested in forming **The Almonte Film Society**. It's not high-brow by any means, just a like-minded group who'd come together monthly to see good films on a big screen close to home. It would work similarly to the concert series: an early-bird subscription to a pre-selected programme, or single tickets to individual showings. The idea is in its early stages, but if you are interested in attending something along these lines, please contact Marny McCook at <rfmc-cook@gmail.com>. And no, you won't be expected to volunteer or sign up, just show an interest.

Backyard Beauties 2023

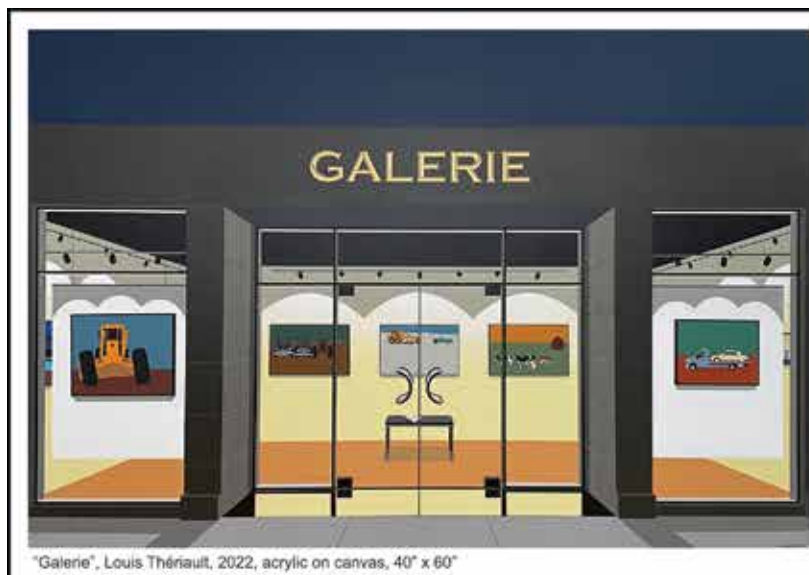
in cooperation with
the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust

Everything Avian:
birdhouses, bird baths, bird feeders,
backyard and bird art of every kind
Let your imagination soar!

Entry deadline April 14, 2023
Online auction April 17-28, 2023

**Help MMLT kick off their
20th Anniversary in style!**

Need more details? Call Glenda at (613)256-6479
or email aljones@xplornet.com
or barbaracarroll493@gmail.com



"Galerie", Louis Thériault, 2022, acrylic on canvas, 40" x 60"

LOUIS THÉRIAULT

Duality

February 10 - March 24, 2023

Artist Reception: Saturday February 18, 2pm-4pm



34 Mill St, Almonte ON
info@sivarulrasa.com
sivarulrasa.com
613.256.8033

WHO Catherine Blake
WHAT Acrylics and Watercolour Artist, Art Instructor
WHERE Contact <catherine.blake7@gmail.com> and check <facebook.com/AlmonteCathy> for updates on her art and classes
WHY "Making art is for me a form of meditation — being totally absorbed in my response to my subject."

• ARTIST • TRADING CARD •



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

Mudds' Raise Your Voice!

After a long hiatus of over two years, the Mississippi Mudds Youth Theatre Group is thrilled to be back on stage directing and producing a musical revue show called *Raise Your Voice!* The cast and team have been hard at work since September, and invite everyone to help celebrate the Mississippi Mudds' 50th year by supporting another amazing youth performance.

In this original musical, the storyline centres around a group of students who attend a strict and regimented boarding school. Under the watchful eye of their stern principal Mrs. Prickleworth and her meek sidekick, Mr. Worminthorpe, the students are bored and restless. One day they happen to stumble upon a locked and abandoned theatre, and to their surprise they discover that the stage is far more than it appears. Behind the locked door, they find and befriend many stage characters who have been trapped in the theatre for years. Using courage, wit and friendship, the students learn what it takes to not just free their new friends, but also to follow their hearts to explore their own individuality and dreams.

Featuring a wonderful cast of 33 young performers between the ages of 9 and 17 years, the 2022/23 youth production is filled with popular Broadway songs along with a fun script that was written by the Mudds' own Nancy Keech (who is directing the show). The production team of volunteers also include Sherrie Seward (co-director), the talented Laurel Tye (musical director), three savvy producers Abigail Brown, Linda Beiglee and Laura Bennett-Ferland, and the very organized Rhonda Bell (stage director).

As most are aware, the impact of the pandemic was significant to the performing arts community, and the Mississippi Mudds was no exception. Given this situation, the *Raise Your Voice!* production team really needed to be creative and resourceful to help their young cast return to the stage. This has been a pure labour of love — for the kids and for the Mudds' commitment to making theatre available to youth in the community. With the help of some amazing sponsors, added support has allowed them to do just that, and it also provided an opportunity (and a lot of joy) in allowing them to re-purpose some amazing costumes, props and sets from many beloved past Mudds shows.

A Mudds youth show just wouldn't be the same without many remarkable behind-the-scenes volunteers who transform the cast and help the stage come alive. Namely, Mark Tye (sound mastermind), Ann Price and Judith Scott (very talented costume designers), and Cathy Boyton (props and set guru). These folks, along with many other volunteers for hair, make-up, lights, front of house and so much more, are all integral parts of the team and it has been so refreshing and fun to be back together again.

Featuring songs from Roald Dahl's *James and the Giant Peach Jr.*, *Children of Eden Jr.*, *Fiddler on the Roof Jr.*, *Legally Blonde Jr.*, Disney's *The Little Mermaid Jr.*, and many, many more, the Mississippi Mudds Youth Theatre Group invites you all to come and see the brilliant young cast perform this fun and lively musical. There are only three shows (February 24, 25 and 26), so get your tickets to see *Raise Your Voice!* today at Tickets Please (TicketPlease.ca or 485-6434).



Drywall & Painting
 Fully Insured

Duncan Campbell

613-880-3788

campbell.carpenter@gmail.com

www.campbellrenovations.com

Joanne Beaton



**Exclusive Listing – Duplex
 Excellent Investment Opportunity**

Once upon a time in the mid-1800's, it's believed this was a purpose-built triplex. In more recent years it has been converted to a duplex.

With a charming side yard on one side, and ample parking for 4 cars on the other, this property provides an opportunity for owner-occupancy with rental income OR a cashflowing rental property for a savvy investor.

One side features 3 bedrooms, with 3 bathrooms and a large open-concept kitchen/sittingroom area. The 2-bedroom side, currently under renovation, provides 2 bedrooms and 2 baths.

To arrange your private viewing, call Joanne.

**Need a Realtor in 2023?
 Let's Connect!**



JOANNE BEATON
 Sales Representative
 613-407-4309
 joanne@joannebeaton.ca



Steam, Sweat, Soak... Repeat

Private Indoor Sauna and Tub

Offering a Cedar Sauna and Deep Soaking Tub
 in a Tranquil Environment



By Appointment Only in Carp
 www.meristemmassage.com
 613-200-7677

Harvey Comes to Smiths Falls

A hilarious, fast-paced comedy is coming to the Station Theatre at the end of February. With a stellar cast bringing to life a case of mistaken identity, *Harvey* by Mary Chase will be performed from February 24 to March 5. This newest adaptation of the well-known play-turned-film will be the directorial debut of Maria Fournier and Lewis Koluk, both long-standing members of the community theatre.

Audiences will delight in the hijinks of Elwood P. Dowd and the lengths his family will go to bring back a sense of normality in this mid-

century romp. Brought to life once again by Jamie Schouler, Elwood is a kind and gentle soul who cannot understand why people are so surprised by his best friend — a well-dressed rabbit named Harvey. New to the Station Theatre, Anita Plunkett brings her talent to the role of Elwood's sister, Veta — a woman working hard to protect her family's wealth and reputation from her brother's antics. With the help of her daughter Myrtle May (played by Ava Legault), they hatch a plan to put Elwood in an asylum run by the famous Doctor Chumley (David Snider) and his new junior psychologist Doctor Sanderson (Jesse Gibson). From there, things start to go horribly wrong for all parties involved. Filling out this cast are the maid (Leigh Gibson), nurse Kelly (Katharine Coleman), asylum worker Wilson (Richard Croteau), Mrs. Chumley (Christine Winter), Judge Gaffney (Nathan Matthews) and Cabbie (Lewis Koluk). This amazing cast of characters will keep you laughing, questioning reality and at the edge of your seat until the final curtain falls.

The comedy opens on February 24 and runs Friday and Saturday at 7:30PM, and Sunday at 2PM. The second week sees shows Thursday to Saturday evening and ends on March 5th with a Sunday matinée. Tickets are now on sale at Special Greetings, located at 8 Russell Street East in Smiths Falls, and online or by phone (283-0300) with credit card. If tickets are still available, they can be purchased a half-hour before showtime at the door. The 6-pack of 2023 Season Vouchers is also available and will be for sale at the theatre during the run of this show. For more information, please visit <smithsfallstheatre.com>.

February boasts a lot of action at The Station Theatre! Check their website for information about all that's coming up, including On the Road Again (a Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton tribute concert), some magic with Sin City Illusions, a murder mystery with *Great Gatsby! It's Murder*, as well as their usual movie weekend and Film Night International. A little something for everyone!



Elwood P. Dowd (played by Jamie Schouler) has a lively chat with his invisible friend Harvey, much to the horror and delight of his castmates (l-r) Ava Legault, Anita Plunkett, Leigh Gibson, Christine Winters, David Snider, Richard Croteau and Jesse Gibson

2023 MERA Award of Excellence

Every two years since 2009, the MERA Schoolhouse has put out a special call to all artists and craftspeople living in this area. This call is to apply for the very generous award of \$1000 given to acknowledge a body of work demonstrating exceptional artistic skill, originality and quality.

The application is open to artists working in fine arts and fine crafts. It is specifically open to local residents, those living in the Townships of Lanark Highlands, Tay Valley, Drummond/North Elmsley, Central Frontenac, North Frontenac, and the Town of Perth. Previous non-winners may apply again.

The prize is funded in large part by the generous donation to the Perth and District Community Foundation (PDCF) made by Chris and David Dodge who conceived the award. The award is administered and given by MERA.

Applications for the 2023 MERA Award of Excellence will be accepted up until April 30.

For further information, please visit MERA's website at <meraschoolhouse.org>, email <meraschoolhouse@gmail.com> or write to MERA at: MERA Award of Excellence, McDonalds Corners/Elphin Recreation & Arts, 974 Concession 9A Dalhousie, McDonalds Corners, ON, K0G 1M0.

MERA (McDonalds Corners/Elphin Recreation & Arts) is a not-for-profit charitable corporation dedicated to enriching the lives of members of its community of all ages by providing and encouraging a variety of opportunities for personal expression, instruction and appreciation of the visual and performing arts. MERA's activities are based in a heritage schoolhouse in McDonalds Corners in the Township of Lanark.

GET OUT AND ENJOY THE SNOW FOR LESS

WINTER SALE

ON SELECTED ITEMS FROM MOST BRANDS
ALL ACCESSORIES UP TO 50% OFF

patagonia
up to 40% Off

All remaining insulated footwear up to 40% off

25% off
for a limited time

glerups dk beautiful natural warm

ZAKET & PLOVER
Spring Collection is here!

VAMOS

OUTDOORS
14 Mill Street, Almonte
613.461.2000
open 7 days a week
VAMOSOUTDOORS.CA

Dezigual Columbia Sportswear Company
Blundstone MERRELL

Valentine's Day Special!
get a \$100 gift certificate for only \$80

French lingerie from
MAISONLEJABY
PARIS
un cadeau parfait pour votre amoureuse

(this means "a perfect gift for your lover"...but we think it's more romantic en Français)

Shop online or call now!

It's Our 5th Birthday!
(OFFER VALID FEB. 1 - 14)

8008 LINGERIE • BRAS • PANTIES • SHAPEWEAR • and more!
14 MILL ST., ALMONTE • 613-883-8008

www.8008lingerie.com Follow us on @8008lingerie

fulton's
OUR FAMILY MAPLE FARM SINCE 1840

2023 Maple Season

- We're open every day starting February 18.
- Stop by the Grab 'n Go Counter for sweet and savoury treats and beverages.
- Bring your cross country skis, snowshoes or hiking boots and enjoy over 8km of groomed trails.
- Weekend fun too! Enjoy a horse-drawn sleigh ride, trail games, maple taffy on snow and yummy samples at the new Tasting Bar.

Note: We no longer have a Pancake House Restaurant, but we're up to lots of fun this season!

Open Daily: Feb. 18 - Apr. 16, 10AM-3PM
fultons.ca

Follow our Facebook and Instagram pages for same-day updates.

A-paw-ling Internet Scam Precipitates Pet Rescue Partnership

On a warm, late-October morning, Perth-area paper-mosaic artist Choleena DiTullio was getting ready to start her day in the studio. She had just finished her usual routine of walking her dog, making coffee and sitting down to check messages, when Instagram alerted her to an incoming note from Texas.

A follower of her Art By Choleena account was asking if she took commissions. They wanted a mosaic portrait of their dog. Having never sketched a dog, Choleena wrote back with hesitant enthusiasm, "I'd love to try! That subject matter is new to me so I would not ask for a down-payment until I did some sketches and felt assured that I can draw dogs."

A few days later, with the sketching stage complete, the client and Choleena were conversing with confidence, and the final

stage of creating the mosaic from the sketches was at hand. After she requested an e-transfer down-payment of \$125, the client emailed a low-resolution, heavily pixelated image of a cheque. To Choleena's surprise, the cheque was for \$1000. Accompanying the cheque was a note indicating that the client's account had a charge-back dispute, so their bank instructed them to only pay with a cheque. In addition, their bank had a minimum amount of \$1000 for cheques, so Choleena would have to return the overage of \$875. Suspicious of the situation, Choleena contacted the client with her concerns and let them know that it was akin to well-known Internet scams. "After some odd responses, including them scolding me for not trusting them, the client ghosted me. I guess that's how it goes! They push until it's clear that you're not falling for it, and then they disappear. So, I 'scratched' the commission," Choleena chuckled.

During the project (but before the ghosting), Choleena had proudly posted the image on social media, as she was excited to show her work; many liked and commented on it. Her friend Linda Berube asked if it was possible for Choleena to draw cats, and would she consider donating a piece to a holiday fundraiser of a rescue group that is dear to her: Ottawa Stray Cat Rescue (OSCaTR).

Ottawa Stray Cat Rescue is a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to getting adoptable stray cats off the streets and into



Choleena DiTullio (at left) and her beautiful cat cards

loving homes, as well as healthily managing feral cat colonies in the National Capital Region.

No stranger to rescues, and a companion to two rescue dogs and two stray cats, the project seemed purr-fect for Choleena, so she leaped in to help. Linda introduced her to full-time veterinarian and founder of OSCaTR, Dr. Katie Jones, to work out the details of collaboration. Choleena then produced a playful mosaic that included a black cat and three red tulips. Linda helped with the title "Tiptoe Through the Tulips", and the piece was put on auction. It received an excellent response, and soon the concept was expanded to a Variable Edition of nine more cats (an apt number for felines). A Variable Edition is a numbered set of images that are similar but with the allowance for each

image to be varied in some way. In this case, clients could specify their preference for the colour of the cat and the colour of the tulips. Moments after the edition was announced, Dr. Jones pounced at claiming one. "When Choleena sent a photo of the first artwork, I instantly thought that I had to have one," she explains. "My orange and white kitty, Sheldon, would look very handsome in mosaic, so I ordered it right away!"

All ten sold quickly, netting a total value of donations to the rescue at \$460. It was clear that a second edition would be well received, and so orders are now being taken for it. The mosaics are 5"x8", framed in black, and have a lush, glossy surface. Each is titled, signed, and numbered with an authentication label on the back, and is \$160, with \$30 going directly to OSCaTR.

If you're interested in immortalizing your cat with a mosaic artwork, Choleena and Ottawa Stray Cat Rescue hope that you will get in touch.

Keeping the momentum going, the existing set of images has been produced as greeting cards and postcards. Talks are also underway to research local dog rescues to partner with and support. "I hope to be able to 'rescue' the 'abandoned' dog drawing, and re-purpose it for good," winked Choleena. Should you have a proposal, Choleena invites you to reach her by email at <choleena@gmail.com>.

Choleena tidily sums up the whole experience: "what could have been a cat-astrophe was turned around with paws-itive thinking."



THE ACADEMY FOR MUSICAL THEATRE 2023 WORKSHOPS

SPRING WORKSHOP

Disney BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

FEBRUARY-MAY

IN BOTH PERTH & OTTAWA

Summer WORKSHOPS:

In PERTH

Newsies (JULY 3-7)

Disney's ALICE IN WONDERLAND (JULY 10-15 • STEWART PARK FESTIVAL)

In OTTAWA

Newsies (JULY 24-28)

Disney's ALICE IN WONDERLAND (JULY 31-AUGUST 11 • 2 WEEK TEEN WORKSHOP)

MATILDA (AUGUST 14-18)

MUSICTHEATRE.INFO@GMAIL.COM (613) 706-2287

WWW.MUSICTHEATRE.CA

Because Everyone Deserves A Little Time In The Spotlight!

REDNECK Bistro

Please join us at one of two seatings
5:00PM OR 7:30PM

Valentine's Day Menu

Appetizers

Pickled Buttons – hand-breaded, fried pickle slices served with zesty cajun sauce

Shrimp Wontons – filled with shrimp, water chestnut, roasted red peppers, ramen, topped with chili cream sauce

Roasted Cauliflower Bisque Soup – the name speaks for itself, served with truffle oil and dried fruit

Entrées

Stuffed Chicken – with goat cheese, asparagus and mushroom, served with creamy white wine risotto with mushrooms, onions, and asiago cheese and fresh seasonal vegetables

Filet Mignon – cooked to your liking, with red wine gravy reduction served with roasted mini potato and fresh seasonal vegetables

Pan-Seared Sea Bass – with tomato chutney, served with a mixed grain quinoa and fresh seasonal vegetables

Dessert

No need for explanations, it is all delicious!

Red Velvet Cake with cream cheese icing

Cookies and Cream Cheese Cake

Maple-Crusted Crème Brûlée

\$50/person

12609 Lanark Road, Calabogie
Redneckbistro.ca • 613-752-1888



Photo by Len Modderman

The cast of *Working*, in rehearsal at Studio Theatre Perth, (l-r) Zach Brown, Emily Morris Cree, Diane Cote, Clair Campbell, Sarah Jane LaBerge, Dave Corbishley and Sarah Wibberley

Working: A Musical

“It’s More Than Just a Job” at Studio Theatre

By Jane Stott

Did you ever have one of those days? Stuck in your car behind the garbage truck, grinding your teeth in frustration because you are late. At each driveway a young person, dressed in a hoodie, jeans and work boots swings down off the back of the truck. They hoist the bins and bags up into the truck and then they are back on their perch, giving the truck a thump on the side to let the driver know they’re on board. Did you ever wonder what their story was? Or how about the story of the person who waits on you in the local diner? Or the construction worker you see up on the scaffolding of a new high-rise apartment? These workers inhabit the framework of our lives, and yet we know so little about them. Where did they come from? Where are they going? Why are they doing this job? These questions are all answered in the rock musical *Working*, coming to the stage at Perth Studio Theatre.

Your feet will be tapping and your hands will be clapping as an iron worker, a housewife, a millworker and a firefighter, to name just a few, sing and dance as they tell their stories. The musical is based on real life interviews by Studs Terkel with everyday people doing everyday jobs.

Speaking of music — wow! You’ll hear songs by James Taylor, Lin-Manuel Miranda and other talented lyricists, plus you get to see Brent McLaren, *Working*’s musical director, playing his rock-band monster Hammond organ on stage, alongside a phenomenal percussionist, bass player and guitarist.

Someone may need to write a play about the roller coaster search for a keyboard player that led to the behemoth rock band organ — because if it can’t fit in the theatre elevator the *Working* crew will have to

engineer a way to hoist it into the theatre via the sky door from the street below.

Don’t even get this writer started on the amazing cast in this production! Seven “workers” sing and dance and build the set as they portray over 20 roles. Sarah Jane LaBerge, an accounts payable administrator and a real-life mom to a 12-year-old, portrays a fast-food delivery employee and a beleaguered receptionist — among others. Zach Brown, working real time in a pet supply store by day, is up on stage as Rose Hoffman, a third-grade teacher, and then as the grandchild of a stone mason. The cast also includes the multi-talented Claire Campbell and Diane Cote, both just recently on our stage in the 2022 *Muses* and *Mysteries One Acts*. Add to that the amazing vocalist Sarah Wibberley, plus our own Dave Corbishley (is there anything Dave can’t do in our theatre?). New to our stage in this production is the talented Emily Morris Cree.

Our multitalented director, Dani Corbishley, first brought this show forward for our consideration. Dani is directing and choreographing this great piece. Although the subject matter may be for more mature audiences, this production is sure to knock your socks off!

Working is the perfect antidote for the February blues. A pair of tickets are a great date idea for you and your favourite friend or partner. Our Valentine’s gift to the community — not to be missed.

The play opens on Thursday, February 9 and continues on February 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18 at 7:30PM. Matinées are Sunday, February 12 and Sunday, February 19 at 2PM. All performances will be held at Studio Theatre Perth on Gore Street. Tickets are \$27 and can be purchased at <TicketsPlease.ca> or by calling 485-6434. Tickets are also available at the door. For more information, please visit <studiotheatreperth.com>.

Spark

BOOKS & CURIOS
FOR THE CURIOUS MIND

Formerly The Bookworm

**NEW & USED BOOKS · INNOVATIVE MODEL KITS
TRAIN SETS AND UNIQUE CURIOSITIES**

Featuring an eclectic variety of works for all ages and interests, including graphic novels, Indigenous fiction, cutting-edge adult, young adult and children’s works.

76 FOSTER ST, PERTH
(613) 466-0555
SPARKPERTH.CA

PURE Chocolate LOVE

Open 7 days a week
476 Ottawa Street, Almonte
HUMMINGBIRDCHOCLATE.COM | 613-801-0357

general

FINE CRAFT

hand-crafted works by
regional artists for your
Special Valentine ♥

winter shop hours: Wed. -Sat., 11-5 / Sun. 11-4

63 Mill St., Almonte ON tel: 613-461-3463
www.generalfinecraft.com

25% OFF

All Ravensburger Puzzles

February 1-14 • In-stock only

Where imagination & creativity meet

Books • Arts & Crafts • Games & Puzzles • Unique Gifts

60 Gore St., East, Perth 613-267-2350

Under One Roof

A Conversation with Authors Susan Gillis and John Steffler

I love interviewing authors. They are clever, charming, imaginative people. Hearing what they have to say about their work and the world is often a treat. This interview with award-winning writers Susan Gillis and John Steffler was done by email but it was still a great pleasure. Their deeply insightful and captivating responses were truly a joy to read. And the wonderful thing is, because they're on the page, I — and now you — can enjoy and savour them, again and again.

by John Pigeau

theHumm: Home is such a vital space when it comes to creative work, I find. John called your home, just outside of Perth, a "book-house." So, you're surrounded by nature and books, one would surmise. How does your home, and the nature you occupy, influence your creative work?

Susan Gillis: I like this phrase, "book-house," and how it reaches out to say "house filled with books," "house where books are welcome," and even "house made of books." It's true there are a lot of books in our house...

Your question shines light on the difference between indoors and outdoors, and the all-important passages between the domestic and the wild. The passages: house to porch, lawn to screen house, gardens, fields, woods, wetlands, forest, lake and beyond. Or list back, from the wild to the domesticated.

Threshold spaces like this are utterly compelling to me, and a lot of my work is situated in or written from them: the screen house where *Yellow Crane* took shape, the window overlooking a neighbourhood under construction at the heart of that book; the St. Lawrence River seen from a balcony in Montreal's Habitat 67 in *The Rapids*; the shady terrace that let me time-travel in *Volta* — spaces where the imagination can roam freely — yet not too far from books!

John Steffler: Every writer's needs are likely to be a bit different. Some like to be surrounded by human activity, loud music, urban commotion. Some go off to work in a separate studio. Since I work at home, home needs to be — among other things — a place that allows me to write. I seem to need a calm, private place a bit removed from the busy human world. For me, being close to the natural world is important in ways that go beyond

what's needed in a convenient working environment. Some writers would hate to live where we do, but fortunately Susan and I seem to have roughly the same needs and habits as writers.

Some folks might think two writers living together might be a wonderful thing... or it could be disastrous. How does that work in your home? Is it a good thing to live with someone who loves writing as much as you do?

Susan: It's great to know my writing practice is something my life partner understands. We're quite compatible in our "ideal conditions" for practice — quiet, solitude, space, time — which I know for some artist-couples isn't the case, which can be challenging. And it's great to share this love of words; our jokes are pretty much all word jokes. It's also handy on occasions of ceremony and ritual, or when one or the other might be at a loss for words, or when exuberance makes us giddy.

John: I think it works well for us. It works well for me. We've been together a long time, and we've been writers all our lives; so, I can't imagine being together any other way. We both like quiet and freedom. We talk about writing and reading a lot, but we don't collaborate on projects, and we generally don't talk much about what we're working on individually at the time. Since we're both writers, we can respect and sympathize with each other's habits and needs.

Both of your most recent collections of poetry, it seems to me, had something in common — that is, there was an awareness and an uneasiness of sorts in the poems about the natural world and what we're doing to it. Perhaps you could speak to your concerns about the environment, your admiration and love for the natural world, and how those things make their way into your creative work.

Susan: That's a good observation, about these concerns driving the work of both of us, though we take different approaches to those subjects. My most recent book *Yellow Crane* has been described as a love-poem to a city, yet it's concerned with what we destroy as much as what we build. It's also a love-poem to hayfields and gardens and the movement of ideas through culture, and these have inescapable, usually devastating, impacts on the natural, wild world.

Though there are lots of artists and writers producing wonderful environmentally conscious work, there's also a great deal of cultural content, especially in the more commercial sectors, that seems to come out of trying to escape or deny, or to simply ignore, the devastating changes in the natural world we occupy.



Perth authors John Steffler and Susan Gillis

I can't really do that, nor do I want to, even in poems that aren't directly about the natural world. At the same time, gratitude and praise and hope, which I think about a lot (and maybe this speaks to your word "admiration"), are my foundation, and so is the amazing grace that humans are capable of enacting and experiencing, somehow side by side with our hubris.

John: I grew up in a rural area that was being obliterated by the expanding city of Toronto, and in my twenties I moved to the rugged, sparsely populated west coast of Newfoundland where I wrote my first seven books including *The Grey Islands* and *The After-life of George Cartwright*; so, the relationship between rural and urban, nature and culture, wilderness and industrial technology has long been at the centre of my writing and personal life. And now, as with so many of us, the looming environmental/ecological crisis facing humanity overshadows all my thinking. I can't help feeling that the human species has been deluded about itself for a long time. Our efforts to create a material paradise on Earth are backfiring. This kind of thinking is hard for all of us, and it's what I grapple with in *Forty-One Pages: On Poetry, Language and Wilderness*. In these circumstances, a writer is apt to doubt the value of writing, the value of an audience, the value of language itself. And yet, being a writer, I go on writing about these things themselves.

NOTE: To read the full interview with Susan and John — in which they talk about why they love living near Perth and what they're reading and working on at the moment — please see this article in the online version of theHumm. You can also visit their websites for more information on their latest work and such: <susangillis.ca> and <stefflerjohn.blogspot.com>.

TAXES

PERSONAL • ESTATE • CORPORATE

613 434-1836



Mark Houghting
CPA, CMA CFP

SHOP OUR BULK BINS

SAVE MONEY REDUCE WASTE

HAVE A GREAT MEAL!





stay fresh with us! ❤️

your Local, Canadian, Natural Health Food Store
and so much more!

106 WILSON ST. W. PERTH, ON 613.267.5409 [foodsmiths.com](https://www.foodsmiths.com)

Are you tired of working from home but don't want to commute?

We're offering Private Workspaces in Almonte!

Available Services

- 5 Private Office Spaces
- Free Parking
- Free WiFi
- Access to Additional Meeting Space
- Access to Outside Sitting Area

For Leasing and More Info
Contact Ron
ron@abg-ca.net



Back Forty Artisan Cheese invites everyone to celebrate great food and the great outdoors on February 18. Check out their inaugural "River to Sky 5k" snowshoe race!

Back Forty Cheese's Winterland Event

Looking to break the February Blues? Visit the cheese shop and explore the Back Forty on Saturday, February 18 between 10AM and 4PM to celebrate the Family Day weekend. Enjoy the outdoors with some great food, drink and fun-filled winter activities.

With multiple toboggan runs and over five kilometres of groomed trails meandering through the farm's forests and fields, Winterland provides a great opportunity to get some exercise, enjoy nature and reward yourself with delicious food and beverages fireside, hot from the outdoor wood oven and grill.

"Although the farm is beautiful year-round, the winter is our favourite time to explore the trails," says owner and cheese maker Jeff Fenwick. "The Mississippi River

is typically open with resident trumpeter swans, and Black Creek flows through the bush with multiple waterfalls to listen to and enjoy."

In addition to the self-guided snowshoe trails, Back Forty has teamed up with Kick and Push Brewery to host the inaugural "River to Sky 5k" snowshoe race. If you're looking to challenge yourself or explore a new sport, this exciting snowshoe race will provide a great opportunity to have some fun and test your fitness. After the race, participants can enjoy a Kick and Push craft beer and some delicious food fireside.

To pre-register for the race and for more Winterland details, please visit their website <artisancheese.ca>.

Double Bill Kicks Off MERA Music Series

Music at MERA is excited to announce the first of their 2023 spring music concerts, featuring Mia Kelly and Basset on Sunday, February 26 at 2PM. This double bill of young, exciting talent is two shows in one.

Returning to the Schoolhouse for the third time, Mia Kelly frames her insightful lyrics with a powerful and versatile voice backed by guitar, piano, and her infectious optimism. Her fans are enthralled by her distinctive blend of folk roots and blues, and her foot-stomping, sing-along songs are anchored by her powerful voice that resonates with raw emotions.

Mia has gained a reputation as a poetic lyricist and is a born performer who radiates confidence and insight beyond her years.

The other half of the concert will feature the Toronto-based folk duo Basset, who

are described by their fans as having music with timeless heart. Acoustic songwriter/singers Sam Clark and Yasmine Shelton will share their deep love of the natural world in meditative, original songs and an assured style of playing.

Basset has performed across Canada and at venues in the United States, garnering passionate fans. They will be presenting a number of songs from their latest album, *In the Clay*, which they released to critical acclaim in September of 2022.

The MERA café will be offering their usual array of delicious baked treats.

Tickets are \$25 plus fees at Tickets Please (TicketsPlease.ca or 485-6434). The MERA Schoolhouse is located at 974 Dalhousie Concession 9A in McDonalds Corners.



A double bill featuring Mia Kelly (above) and the folk duo Basset kicks off this season's Music at MERA Sunday concert series

MISSISSIPPI MUDDS presents

The Mississippi Mudds Youth Theatre Group

RAISE YOUR VOICE

a musical

ARTISTIC DIRECTORS
NANCY KEECH
SHERIE SEWARD
MUSIC DIRECTOR
LAUREL TYE

PERFORMANCES:
Carleton Place Town Hall
FEBRUARY 24 - 7PM
FEBRUARY 25 - 7PM
FEBRUARY 26 - 2PM

FEATURING SONGS FROM:
Roald Dahl's James and the Giant Peach JR.
Children of Eden JR.
Fiddler on the Roof JR.
Legally Blonde JR.
Into the Woods JR.
Disney's High School Musical JR.
Lionel Bart's Oliver! JR.
Disney's The Little Mermaid JR.
Grease and Dolls JR.
Simon & Garfunkel's Bridge Over Troubled Water JR.
Disney's Aladdin JR.
Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins JR.
Sister Act JR.
Godspell JR.
Once on this Island JR.

Tickets- \$15 available at:
ticketsplease.ca

MIRA Broadway Junior Review: Raise Your Voice is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International, New York, NY (212) 341-4684 mthi.com

ARISE 613-230-9663

Bean

shout out to our gold sponsors

GIANT TIGER

OICA ELECTRONICS

GRANARY

L-D Food & Deli

black tartan

LIFER Canada ELEVATORS

PREMIER

RSR

Almonte Antiques & Collectibles

6th Annual CABIN FEVER SALE

Feb. 20 to 26

CDs • GAMES & PUZZLES

50% OFF

26 Mill Street, Almonte 613-256-1512

Visit us on Facebook!



Vacation rental, 2-bedroom self-contained apartment
Almonterental.ca

Warm Pearls for Cold Winter Days

Kehla
Jewellery Design
88 Queen Street, Almonte • 613-256-7997
www.kehladesign.com

Learning Again in Almonte

Opportunities to Ignite Your Mind

**February Lecture
A Luthier's Life**

Local resident Linda Manzer shares her experiences as a builder of world class guitars
Wednesday February 8 at 7PM

**February Course
Understanding Gender and Sexual Diversity**

Instructors Karen Luyendyk & Chrissie Young
Exploring the vocabulary and issues of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community
Tuesday afternoons commencing February 14

Register online for new courses and lectures
learningagainalmonte.ca

swarbrick law
BARRISTERS + SOLICITORS

Need Answers To Your Questions? Just Ask.

Family Separation/Divorce
Mediation
Wills

83 Little Bridge St.
Almonte
613-256-9811
www.swarbricklaw.ca

Frost & Fire Winter Festival on Family Day Weekend in Perth

Perth Tourism is pleased to present the Frost & Fire Winter Festival, taking place over Family Day weekend on Saturday, February 18 and Sunday, February 19.

This tremendous two-day, family-friendly event will provide visitors with an array of activities geared towards all ages. Experiences will be taking place throughout Perth, both indoors and outdoors.

Strap on some skates and enjoy one of the outdoor rinks, take part in outdoor laser tag, or try your hand at axe throwing. Encounter entertainers, partake in a horse and carriage ride, see artwork frozen in ice, and enjoy special promotions offered by Perth businesses. Browse treats and handmade wares by skilled artisans at the Vendor Marketplace in the Crystal Palace. Wander throughout Perth and take part in the scavenger hunt for a chance to win some fun prizes, then drop by the indoor and outdoor warming stations. Finish your day with a hot beverage and dine in at one of Perth's great restaurants.

Experience a fun-filled weekend in Perth! Visit perth.ca/frostandfire for more information and to stay up-to-date on details.



“Go Wild” for the Birds!

When the seed packets hit the grocery store, it's time to think spring. While you're planning your gorgeous garden, think of the myriad projects you could incorporate: birdhouses, bird baths, feeders and more. **Backyard Beauties 2023**, the online auction in support of the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust, is three months away, giving you plenty of time to create something unique to add to the auction.



The internet provides no end of ideas, from materials to designs both funky and fashionable. Birds will flock to houses made with conventional materials, but here's your chance to “go wild”. Not only will they want nesting spaces, but also water supplies. What about a birdbath made from a garbage can lid? What about a HUGE one made from an old satellite dish? Feeders can be as simple as plastic pop bottles, but how about creating something from a rubber boot, or a stack of tea cups, or an old tray?

Garden art with an avian theme will enhance any outdoor space. Stained glass window art, banners, plaques and fence decoration of every sort will be welcome additions to the auction.

When you're creating your masterpiece, please remember that these items will be exposed to the elements. Use exterior products — glue, paints, grout — that will not deteriorate with the first rainfall. Hot glue and papier mâché will not suffice for this project!

Local stores can provide the supplies you will need. Check out the library for information on construction, the hardware stores for kits, J.B. Arts for paints. Visit various birding sites to get unique ideas. Gather a group of friends and work on a few houses at one time. Make this the year you see your work displayed online for all the world to see!

Check the Land Trust website mmlt.ca in early March to register your entry into Backyard Beauties 2023. This is the first event of the Land Trust 20th Anniversary year. Let's make it a winner!

A sound bath is a form of meditation assisted by sound waves generated by bells, chimes, gongs and singing bowls. Private, group and couples' sessions are available

For full details and prices on our services, please visit domeretreat.ca

DISCOVER
Calligraphy
with the
CALLIGRAPHY SOCIETY of OTTAWA

Meetings are held at
City View United Church
6 Epworth Ave., Ottawa

Check our website for current information about meetings, courses & workshops

ottawacalligraphy.ca

What's All the Fuss About Pronouns and Bathrooms?

Understanding Gender and Sexual Diversity

By Jane Ellens (she/her)

I thought I was pretty up-to-date on gender and sexuality, but then I listened to my friend's six-year-old grandson gently explain the school's gender-neutral bathrooms to his four-year-old brother. He made me realize that if I want to have meaningful conversations with my grandkids about what they're learning at school, I'll need to up my game! I include my pronouns (she/her) when I sign my name and have been asked why, sometimes with genuine curiosity, sometimes with hostility, and I wish I had more articulate answers. Somehow, "To demonstrate support" just doesn't cut it. Four of my close friends have grandkids who identify as transgender, and I wonder quietly what factors are at play to explain this apparent surge, but I don't give voice to that for fear of being perceived as unsupportive. I know that LGBTQ+ teens are four times more likely to die by suicide, but I don't know how to be an effective ally/advocate and I would like to be part of the solution. These are just a few of my questions, and I'm sure you have many as well.

Issues around gender and sexual diversity are making headlines every day, largely driven by the strong feelings they invoke from all corners of society. Sadly, however, the stories behind many of these often-inflammatory headlines tend to be anything but nuanced, lacking both context and evidence;



Chrissie Young (above) and Karen Luyendyk will co-present a course on diversity beginning on Feb. 14

consequently, they serve to intensify positions and consolidate discord. Open analysis and the effort to seek deeper understanding is thwarted by a fear of being perceived as intolerant or dogmatic. So we avoid the conversation and miss out on opportunities to learn more and to better understand one another.

Learning Again in Almonte is creating an opportunity to explore some of these myths and fears in the upcoming course **Understanding Gender and Sexual Diversity**. Presenters Karen Luyendyk, a nurse with significant experience in trans/non-binary health, and Chrissie Young, who designs gender and sexual diversity inclusion training for the Federal Public Service, hope to create a safe space for questions and open conversation over four Tuesday afternoons, beginning, appropriately, on February 14 at the Almonte Branch of the Mississippi Mills Public Library. A fifth session (possibly an evening) is also in the works, with a panel who will share diverse personal experiences and wisdom. For further information and to register, please go to <learningagainalmonte.ca>.



Come visit the Museum's Gift Shop to get that special something for the love in your life – yourself or another! These gifts are made with love, and it shows in the quality!

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY TEXTILE MUSEUM

The Smiths Falls Community Theatre Presents

HARVEY

BY MARY CHASE

Directed by Maria Fournier & Lewis Koluk

Harvey is presented by arrangement with Dramatist Play Service - Feb/Mar 2023

Feb 24, 25 & Mar 2, 3, 4 at 7:30 pm
Sun Matinees Feb 26 & Mar 5 at 2:00 pm

• Adult \$22 • Student (with ID) \$10

Group rates available for 15 or more for same performance - call for details

Tickets available at:

- Special Greetings, 8 Russell St. E., Smiths Falls (cash/debit/voucher)
- smithsfallstheatre.com (Paypal/Visa/Mastercard)
- By Phone - 613-283-0300 (Visa/Mastercard/voucher)
- At the Door - 1/2 hour before performance (cash/debit/voucher) 53 Victoria Avenue, Smiths Falls

Proudly Serving Lanark County

Real Estate Staging
Interior Design
Colour Consultations
Downsizing – Relocating

Call today for more information
613-913-4524

www.lamaisonstagingdesign.com

Sylvie B.
IDS, CCSP, CLIPP



DIVERSITEA

2 friends creating unique tea and herbal blends. They have 70 varieties. There must be one to fight the February Blues!

SPECIALTY COOKWARE | KITCHEN GADGETS | UNIQUE GOURMET ITEMS | GIFT BASKETS

PÊCHES & POIVRE
fine food, fun kitchen & artful dining ware

613-256-5764
89 Mill St. Almonte

black tartan kitchen
132 Bridge St. Carleton Place, ON
(613) 492-0860
www.blacktartankitchen.com

Where to Go for Gardening Advice

Who knew that gardening advice clinics could be asked to resolve marital disputes?

In my over 20 years as a Master Gardener, I have participated in hundreds of advice clinics and from time to time have faced an irritated couple who were at loggerheads over their garden. I have learned to tread carefully and perhaps point out that there may be more than one way to prune (or not prune) a tomato plant!

by David Hinks

A bit of an aside, but I always find it fascinating how couples work out methods to share a garden space: perhaps she grows the flowers and he grows the veggies; perhaps he does the heavy lifting and she does the plant care; perhaps she operates the motorized equipment and he operates the secateurs; or, worse case scenario, the lot is divided down the middle with a razor-wire divider!

Admittedly, most garden advisors should not be relied on for relationship advice, and in my experience most relationship advisors are not that interested in gardening. So, where does one go for gardening advice? I admit that I'm biased, but may I recommend your local friendly Master Gardener for free, unbiased and objective gardening advice?

Lanark County Master Gardeners and Ottawa-Carleton Master Gardeners are two of about 30 Master Gardener chapters in Ontario. They are under the umbrella of Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. (MGOI), which began in 1985 as a program of the Ontario government to help home gardeners and to take some of the load off of County Agricultural Agents.

Master Gardeners have studied horticulture extensively and continue to upgrade their skills through technical training. They are very often specialized in their area of knowledge and experience; for example, many are very knowledgeable about perennial plants, whereas my expertise is largely with vegetable gardening. One of the strengths of the groups is the ability to draw on the expertise of fellow members. Master Gardeners are required to provide a minimum number of volunteer hours and provide horticultural information to the public, at no charge, via garden clinics (many at Farmers' Markets), telephone, letters, displays, workshops, television, and radio and newspaper articles.

Experienced gardeners are recruited locally, often from Horticultural Societies. In turn Master Gardeners are often asked to be speakers at monthly meetings of Horticultural Societies.

Our local Master Gardener group has allowed me to try different approaches to spreading the knowledge of gardening and of growing our own food with youth centre gardens, community gardens, the food bank garden, retirement homes and group homes. The response is variable, gardeners being a rather unruly lot, but in general the reaction is very rewarding as new gardeners experience the thrill of harvesting and eating a vegetable that they have grown.

If you are interested in obtaining more information about becoming a Master Gardener, go to <lanarkmg.blogspot.ca>, <mgottawa.ca> or <MGOI.ca>.

If you are not ready for that level of commitment, may I suggest joining a Horticultural Society. The Ontario Horticultural Association was created by the Province of

Ontario in 1906 and has 270 autonomous local societies and over 30,000 members.

Where would I find a local Society? What is amazing to me is the number that are within easy driving distance. Within a fifteen-minute drive from the Almonte Old Town Hall there are four societies to be found — if one is willing to drive 45 minutes one has a choice of an additional ten societies. Learn from other local gardeners and from knowledgeable guest speakers. Society membership often brings other perks, such as discounts at local garden centres. Go to <gardenontario.org> to find the nearest society.

There are many other sources of gardening knowledge out there. I have found seed catalogues surprisingly good sources of information about varieties, horticultural techniques and pest information. Not surprisingly, companies based in Ontario provide more appropriate local information than ones based in British Columbia.

Consulting the "Wicked Wild West" has its perils. Algorithms designed to send one down a rabbit hole and spend buckets of money on the latest shiny gardening fad are to be avoided. Potatoes growing upside down in a hanging basket are just not going to do well. If it sounds too good to be true, it very likely is.

One of my main "go-to" sites is the website of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs — I find it is really good on horticultural information, but its recommendations are often more appropriate for commercial growers. Many university websites are also great sources of information. I go to sites that have information germane to our local conditions such as University of Guelph or University of Minnesota. Of



course, I could always pull down one of the hundreds of gardening books that are gathering dust on my shelves.

I frequently peruse local gardening Facebook groups. Some of my favourites are Master Gardeners of Ottawa-Carleton, Almonte and Carleton Place Gardeners, and Edible Ottawa Gardens.

I do not always agree with the approach of well-meaning folks, and I sometimes find myself asking why they did not just go to an authoritative source. After some sober thought, the wisdom of going directly to our local gardening peers struck me. I have conducted dozens of gardening workshops — it is really difficult to know what to include in a one- or two-hour presentation. The reality is that no matter how hard one listens, it is nearly impossible to retain enough information to put it all together. It takes a whole lot of hands-on experience, and what better source of advice than other local gardeners who may have already grappled with the issues that are bedevilling you?

I always try to talk from my own personal experience and what has worked for me. But my way is not the only way — there is no substitute for trial and error to see what works for you and your neighbours.



NOW IN STOCK!
QUEEN ELIZABETH MEMORIAL FIVE DOLLAR COIN
With unique "Quad Portrait" obverse!
Struck in .999 Silver
\$34.95 each

ALSO EXPECTED IMMINENTLY:



1 oz Pure Silver
IMPERIAL STATE CROWN
\$159.95



2022 MEMORIAL TWO DOLLAR COINS
with Blackened Rims
Special-Wrapped Roll of 25 pieces **\$79.95**

YOUR PRECIOUS METAL HEADQUARTERS!

At Alliance Coin & Banknote, we offer a range of the most popular Gold & Silver bullion products for investment. Whether you wish to invest \$100 or \$50,000, we can offer discreet and expert advice on your options, at very competitive prices.

In this complex and uncertain world, precious metals continue to play a key roll as a hedge against inflation, as well as a safe and discreet option for today's investor — as it has been for more than 2,000 years!

Take advantage of our low overhead, and more than 30 year experience in the coin and precious metal business.

Contact Sean Isaacs today by telephone or email to discuss, or for a private appointment with no obligation!



Sean Isaacs
Serving Collectors and Institutions since 1988

ALWAYS BUYING GOLD & SILVER AT INDUSTRY-LEADING PRICES!

At Alliance Coin & Banknote, we continue to have constant demand for precious metals in all forms. Our low overhead and tight margins allow us to pay more than any competing scrap-metal buyers, coin dealers, or "travelling road-shows".

Each and every year we handle more than 1 ton of Gold & Silver, and are always interested in the following:

BARS Gold, Silver, or platinum, by any maker, in any size, from 1 gram to 1,000 ounces!

COINS in Gold and Silver, including modern Bullion issues such as Maple Leafs and Krugerrands, all older circulating Gold coins such as Sovereigns and United States fractional issues, to older circulating "junk Silver" from the 1960's and prior

MEDALS & TOKENS We pay strongly for all Franklin Mint type Sterling Silver medallions and ingots, as well as any commemorative Tokens or Medal in Gold or Silver

JEWELLERY We pay the guaranteed highest price in the region for all Gold jewellery, broken or intact, including necklaces, rings, earrings and bracelets, etc. No quantity too large or too small!

FLATWARE AND SERVING WARE Strongest prices offered for all Sterling Silver or .900 fine forks, spoons and knives, coffee & tea pots, candy dishes and platters. Silver cigarette cases especially wanted!

Call for an appointment today, and you will be surprised at how much your scrap gold & silver will generate!



Alliance Coin & Banknote
88 Mill St., Almonte 613-256-6785 / 613-558-2895
www.alliancecoin.com Sean@alliancecoin.com

"Where the
World's Coins are
Bought & Sold"

Réseau SPARC Network Gathering & Cabaret

Free Networking Event for Artists and Animators

By Rachel Marks

SPARC (Supporting Performing Arts in Rural and Remote Communities) is a provincial network that connects rural and remote performing artists, creators, producers, presenters and community animators. Who are community animators? You know, those folks in town who make things happen!

SPARC is launching a brand new in-person event at the Almonte Old Town Hall on Saturday, February 25.

So, what is a Regional Gathering and Cabaret? The Gathering is a peer-to-peer networking and learning day. It will feature facilitated networking and sharing in the morning. Then a catered lunch will be followed by two workshops to choose from, and a panel on engaging municipalities in the arts. In the evening it's time for regional artists to shine! This is the Cabaret portion of the event, and it is open to the entire community. While attendees of the Gathering can attend the Cabaret for free, tickets will be available to the community at pay what you wish price points of \$5, \$10, \$20 and \$50.

Information on workshops and panelists for the Gathering will be released via our website <sparcperformingarts.com> and social media (follow us on Facebook @sparcperforming and Instagram @sparcperformingarts). Registration for the Gathering is completed via a simple google doc at <https://forms.gle/CGCar3fAQugnKYXbA>.

Oh, and did we mention that attending the Gathering is FREE? That's right — it is totally free to attend the Gathering. And if you register for and attend the Gathering, your ticket to the Cabaret is included!

As artists are confirmed for the Cabaret, we will be sharing their info via our socials and through



On Saturday, February 25, SPARC (Supporting Performing Arts in Rural and Remote Communities) presents a Regional Gathering for community animators, followed by a Cabaret that is open to everyone. Come out and get connected!

Tickets Please. All sales for the Cabaret will be via Tickets Please (TicketsPlease.ca, 485-6434). Produced by local talent-finder Joey Graff, the Cabaret is sure to delight. We don't want to give too much away just yet, but here's a teaser for you... the amazing and talented Wake Lloire will be our MC and host for the evening. Wake will be taking us on a journey filled with regional artists like Heather and Kathryn Adeney, James King and Nathan Sloniowski. Stay tuned to our socials for intro videos and artist announcements!

So if you're within the Almonte region (which includes Perth, Smiths Falls, Kemptville, Brockville and everywhere in-between) and want to connect with your fellow members of the performing arts community, please join us for this inaugural event. We can't wait to meet you!

BLUES ON THE RIDEAU
THE COVE INN - WESTPORT ONTARIO

February 17 7-11 pm
LLOYD SPIEGEL & SUZIE VINNICK

DINNER & SHOW FUNDRAISER \$100...
PROCEEDS TO FRIENDS OF FOLEY MOUNTAIN
ADVANCE RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
613-273-3636

More info at www.BluesOnTheRideau.ca



THE COVE INN WESTPORT

ACCOMMODATION - MUSIC - PATIO - DINING - WEDDINGS
Westport-on-the-Rideau | 613-273-3636 | www.coveinn.com

Every Wed	Wings 'n Tunes + Open Mic with Shawn McCullough (Country) 5:30-8:30
Thu Feb 2	Gerald McGrath (Folk/Rock, Kingston) 5-8
Fri Feb 3	John Wilberforce (Folk/Rock, Kemptville) 5-8
Sat Feb 4	Country Pickin' Mayhem Band feat. Wendell Ferguson, Shawn McCullough+Steve Piticco (Classic Country) 7-11 Dinner+Show \$80+HST
Sun Feb 5	Eric Uren (Folk/Rock, Westport) 5-8
Thu Feb 9	Mellow Lily (Folk/Pop, Perth) 5-8
Fri Feb 10	You've Got A Friend: Tribute to Carole King+James Taylor 7-11 Dinner+Show \$85+HST
Sat Feb 11	Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner + Head Over Heels (Blues/Folk/Jazz, Gananoque) 5-8
Sun Feb 12	Eric Uren + Meghan Balogh (Folk/Rock, Westport) 5-8
Tue Feb 14	Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner with Eric Uren+Meghan Balogh (Folk/Rock, Westport) 5-8
Thu Feb 16	Matt Dickson (Classic Rock, Perth) 5-8
Fri Feb 17	Blues On The Rideau with Lloyd Speigel + Suzie Vinnick (Australia/Niagara) 7-11 \$100 + HST Dinner, Show + Charity
Sat Feb 18	Jeff Callery (Folk/Rock/Country, Brockville) 5-8
Sun Feb 19	Family Day Hoe Down with Henry Norwood + Shawn McCullough (Classic Country, Westport) 5-9
Mon Feb 20	TBA
Thu Feb 23	Benni's Piano Bar with Benni Vander (Rock/Pop Piano Classics, Picton) 5-8
Fri Feb 24	Brock Zeman (Folk/Rock/Americana, Carleton Place) 5-8
Sat Feb 25	Nolan Hubbard (Folk/Pop, Kingston) 5-8
Sun Feb 26	Eric Uren (Folk/Rock, Westport) 5-8

Zero Waste REFILLERY

Cleaning & Body Care Products in Bulk

Available at The Granary
107 Bridge Street in Downtown Carleton Place
www.granary.ca
Open 7 Days a Week

Laundry - Dish - All Purpose - Hand Wash - Hair Care - Body Wash - Lotion - More

Providing Cost Effective, Zero Waste Solutions.
Because there is no Planet B

Represent yourself in family court ...with help

At the Family Law Advisor, our lawyers provide targeted legal advice and coaching to people in Ontario like you who:

- want to self-represent in family court
- are smart, self-sufficient and want to do the work
- have questions an experienced family lawyer can answer

Find out more at

FamilyLawAdvisor.ca

We ♥ Our Clients

IS YOUR BUSINESS SHIFTING WITH THE TIMES?
WE CAN HELP!

Schedule a free call with Auni or Dagne today!

Sumack Loft
sumackloft.ca
256-0378

foilmedia
foilmedia.ca
256-5855

BRANDING | PRINT DESIGN | WEB DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT


JOHANNES BRAHMS
EIN DEUTSCHES REQUIEM
 Jonelle Sills, *soprano*
 Geoffrey Sirett, *baritone*
 Matthew Larkin, *piano*
 Frédéric Lacroix, *piano*
Saturday, March 11, 2023 • 8 PM
St. Matthew's Church
130 Glebe Avenue • Ottawa
 Information - Tickets
613.270.1015 www.ottawabachchoir.ca








Country Pickin', Blues and Friends at The Cove

If you're worried about the February blahs, there's no better place to go than The Cove Inn in Westport to beat 'em. Their line-up of musical events is sure to raise your spirits, and you can treat yourself to some terrific food and drink while you're there!

Things kick off on February 4 with **Country Pickin' Mayhem** featuring Wendell Ferguson, Steve Piticco and Shawn McCullough. These are three of Canada's top masters of the Telecaster guitar, and this show has become an annual treat for guitar enthusiasts and music fans. In a recent interview with theHumm, Wendell Ferguson had this to say about why he loves his Telecaster: "I think it's the sharp, twangy tone. You can do a lot on other models of guitars and sound great on them... but none of them have that twang/spank/sharpness. It's that lead, single-coil pickup spring-mounted in a steel bridge plate (with a copper plate on the bottom). It's a lot of metal and it's located very close to the bridge, where it's the twangiest."

Wendell adds: "If you pick an acoustic guitar near the sound-hole it sounds mellow, if you pick it back by the bridge it sounds twangier... but an electric guitar strung with steel/nickel strings and a metal bridge really enhances the upper end. They'll cut through anything! It's like that old joke, 'How many telecaster players does it take to change a lightbulb? None, it's bright enough in here now!' With a tele you're naked, raw, exposed. It's sink or swim."

February 10 brings **You've Got a Friend** — a tribute to the terrific music of Carole King and James Taylor. And if you've got a very special friend, The Cove offers two opportunities to treat them to a **Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner** and live music. On Saturday, February 11, the blues/folk/jazz stylings of Head Over



Among the marvellous musicians queued up to play The Cove Inn in February are Australia's Lloyd Spiegel (above) and Canada's Suzie Vinnick, who will share the stage on February 17

Heels will accompany your feast, and on Tuesday, February 14 you'll hear the folk/rock duo Eric Uren and Meghan Balogh.

February 17 brings the incomparable **Suzie Vinnick**, along with Australian blues legend **Lloyd Spiegel**, as part of this year's Blues on the Rideau series. Suzie has already won ten Maple Blues Awards, one Canadian Folk Music Award and is a 3-time Juno nominee. She has also twice won the International Songwriting Competition – Blues Category, and recently released her seventh solo album entitled *Fall Back Home*. Her voice is a national treasure!

Lloyd Spiegel could be described as Suzie's counterpart down under, having won a staggering 14 Australian Blues Awards while essentially growing up on stage, learning from and touring with the founding fathers of modern blues. Melbourne's *The Age* says: "Spiegel is ALL presence, authority, rhythm and drive. He epitomizes control, soul and passion with white hot ferocity and blazing instrumental mastery dangerous enough to spark a destructive inferno." Find more details about this dynamic duo, as well as other Blues on the Rideau shows, at <bluesontherideau.ca>.

Looking ahead to next month, you'll want to book now for the March 4 **Mardi Gras** celebration with Spencer Evans! Find details for these and many more Cove events at <coveinn.com> or <facebook.com/thecoveinn>.



BACK FORTY
ARTISAN CHEESE


Winterland
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18th
10am - 4pm
 SNOWSHOE TRAILS . FARM HILL TOBOGGANING
 FIRE PITS . HOT FOOD & LICENCED BAR
 SNOWSHOE RACE . CHEESE SHOP & MORE
 MORE DETAILS AT WWW.ARTISANCHEESE.CA
 1406 GULLEY RD, MISSISSIPPI STATION

FOLKUS
concert series
 2023

SUZIE VINNICK & LLOYD SPIEGEL
Saturday, February 18
 ALMONTE OLD TOWN HALL
 Doors open at 7:30
 Show starts at 8:00

Sold Out



 Perth and District
 COMMUNITY
 FOUNDATION

\$1,000 AWARD
FOR A LOCAL ARTIST

APPLY FOR THE
2023 MERA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN FINE ARTS AND FINE CRAFTS
 MERA (McDonald's Corners/Elphin Recreation & Arts) recognizes a local artist with the MERA Award of Excellence in the Fine Arts and Fine Crafts. The winner is chosen on the basis of their artwork. Eligible artists must submit their applications by **April 30, 2023** and be citizens or permanent residents of Canada and live in the Township of Lanark Highlands, Tay Valley, Drummond/North Elmsley, Central Frontenac, North Frontenac or the Town of Perth.
 For more information and application forms check MERA's website at www.meraschoolhouse.org
 McDonald's Corners/Elphin Recreation & Arts (MERA) is a non-profit community arts organization. This award is funded in large part by the generous donation to the Perth and District Community Foundation (PDCF) made by Chris and David Dodge, who conceived the Award.



STUDIO THEATRE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
WORKING
A MUSICAL
 FROM THE BOOK BY
STUDS TERKEL
 ADAPTED BY
STEPHEN SCHWARTZ & NINA FASO
 WITH ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY
GORDON GREENBERG
 SONGS BY
CRAIG CARNELIA, MICKEY GRANT, LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA, MARY RODGERS AND SUSAN BIRKENHEAD, STEPHEN SCHWARTZ, JAMES TAYLOR
 DIRECTED BY:
DANI CORBISHLEY
A ROCKIN' CELEBRATION OF WORKING FOLKS EVERYWHERE!
 SEE OUR ARTICLE IN THIS EDITION FOR DETAILS
 WORKING 2012 REVISED VERSION IS PRESENTED THROUGH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (MTI). ALL AUTHORISED PERFORMANCE MATERIALS ARE ALSO SUPPLIED BY MTI. WWW.MTISHOWS.COM
 POSTER CREDIT: MELISSA BAKER NGUYEN

The Studio Theatre
studiotheatreperth.com

63 Gore St. East
 In historic Perth, Ontario



Prochaine Sortie by Louis Thériault will be featured in his solo show at Sivarulrasa Gallery

Duality at Sivarulrasa

From February 10 to March 24, Sivarulrasa Gallery is pleased to present *Duality*, a solo exhibition of new paintings by Gatineau-based artist Louis Thériault. The show can be seen in-person during regular Gallery hours: Wednesdays to Sundays from 11AM to 5PM.

Born in New Brunswick, Louis Thériault began his studies in visual communication at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in Halifax, but reoriented his training toward applied science, earning a Bachelor of Applied Science (Industrial Engineering) in 1983 at the Université de Moncton, New Brunswick. His paintings are inspired by the places where he has lived: the Maritime Provinces in his early years, and the Outaouais region in Western Quebec where he currently resides. With a Cartesian spirit, his compositions exploit perspective, geometry and trigonometry. The works explore shapes, textures and relationships between objects, adding to or subtracting from his observations in the physical world.

The artist's inspiration for the new body of work in *Duality* comes from current events, personal situations, historical facts

or nostalgic moments where he has observed elements in complementarity or opposition. "As I completed the paintings, I realized that most illustrated elements opposed to or complementing each other, such as arrival and departure, shadow and light, day and night, authority and delinquency," he states. "Other more serious subjects such as the precariousness of life and death, peace and war, are also profiled in this series of paintings."

Louis Thériault's works are also informed by his Acadian origins, and the cultural richness and linguistic duality of his early family life in New Brunswick. "My ultimate motivation for creating this exhibition was to pay tribute to my late brother who could have had a career as an artist-painter but for whom life decided otherwise," he says. "The painting *Galerie* praises a painter who never exhibited a single painting but who inspired me a lot personally."

Artist Louis Thériault will be in attendance at a Reception on Saturday, February 18 from 2-4PM. Sivarulrasa Gallery is located at 34 Mill Street in Almonte. For more information, visit <sivarulrasa.com>.

Big Band Dances Return to Almonte!

After a three-year hiatus, the Standing Room Only Big Band is excited to once again be staging Sunday afternoon tea dances in the historic Almonte Old Town Hall. There will be a tea dance on Sunday, February 12.

These afternoon dances were popular in the 1920s, '30s, and '40s, when big bands were king. They were generally held in hotels and, of course, featured a live band. One key part of the concept is that, as implied by "tea", beverages served are non-alcoholic. Standing Room Only (SRO) launched the popular Almonte tea dances in 2006 — seventeen years ago! They give band members a regular opportunity to perform the music they love to play in a period atmosphere, while allowing guests a chance to listen and dance to live big band music. Over the years, SRO's Sunday afternoon Almonte tea dances have become widely known, attracting ballroom and swing dancers from as far away as Brockville and Deep River, as well as from the Ottawa area. The music naturally includes a

lot of swing music, but also enough waltzes and Latin music such as cha-chas and tangos to keep the ballroom dancers happy.

The Old Town Hall is a beautiful classic old building located at 14 Bridge Street in Almonte. The dances take place on the top floor of the building, a beautifully preserved venue with a spacious wooden dance floor, natural lighting and wonderful acoustics.

SRO learned early on that its tea dances can't compete with the nice weather, when even keen dancers would rather be outside on a Sunday afternoon, or with the holiday season. The tea dances are normally held once a month in November, January, February, and March.

The tea dance on February 12 will feature vocalist Saffron Bradbury. Saffron has sung with jazz and pop bands, and in an a cappella female quartet. Her many years of experience and her versatile voice will contribute to an enjoyable Sunday afternoon.

The dance will be held from 1:30 to 4PM. Doors open at 1PM. Admission is \$16 per person at the door or \$30 per couple, cash only. Reservations are not required. Light refreshments will be available at reasonable prices.

For more information, visit SRO's website at <srobignand.ca>, where you can watch video clips of the band performing for dances and concerts, or visit their Facebook page at <facebook.com/srobignand>. To receive notifications of upcoming tea dances and other public performances, send an email to <srobignand@bell.net>.



NOW®
Essential Oils
Assorted varieties and sizes

20% OFF

PLUS get \$2 off coupon with the purchase of 2 essential oils

NOW®
Solutions Massage Oils
Assorted varieties

20% OFF

Valid February 1 to February 28

dandelion foods

Eat Well, Live Well. Choose Local.
451 Ottawa Street, Almonte
256-4545
www.dandelionfoods.ca
dandelionfoods

21 CENTURY 21
Synergy Realty Inc.
Independently Owned and Operated

Stephanie Mols
Realtor®
613.812.5510
Stephanie.Mols@C21.ca www.stephanie-mols.c21.ca

ACROSS ROAD FROM CONSERVATION AREA

Secluded and serene 6+ acres on paved township road. Tree lined laneway leads to clear site for your new home. Located directly across the road is Conservation Area with walking trails. Clayton Lake is 3 km down the road. You are also approx 15 mins from Mount Pakenham for winter skiing and summer golfing. And, just 10 mins to Almonte for shopping and fine dining. Cell service. High speed available. Curbside garbage pickup. Approx 35 mins Kanata. \$299,000. MLS 1323555

LIKE STEPPING INTO THOREAU'S WALDEN POND

Natural beauty on 34 private acres with lake-pond surrounded by serenity, song birds and Bambi. Blending perfectly into the landscape is classic log home. All new - 2022 hardwood floors, second bedroom and bathroom. Exterior access to basement workshop, former pottery studio. The 1850s homestead now a storage shed. Old growth forest. Sugar bush. Newly graded and graded driveway. School bus route. Starlink available. 25 mins Almonte. Listed for \$689,900

...going the **EXTRA** mile to deliver exquisite service!

GRAND CENTURION
REALTOR®
2022-2023
1%
Preferred Client Agency
TOP AGENT
2022-2023

Almonte | Carleton Place | Perth | Smiths Falls | Mississippi Mills | Arnprior | Lanark Highlands | Ottawa and The Valley | Eastern Ontario


 the
QUEENS
 crafters and antique market

87+ Vendors!

Parking and easy access through
 back entrance off Allan Street
 142 Bridge Street, Carleton Place
 /thequeenscraftmarket 613-253-5333

Become a Home Child Care Provider

Contracting your services to CROW:

- ◆ No administrative fees
- ◆ Work from your own home
- ◆ Care for up to six children
- ◆ Set your own hours
- ◆ Access to equipment lending
- ◆ Support from a Home Visitor
- ◆ Access to possible grants & subsidies




"I like the support, whether it be equipment, emotional support, or reliability of payment. I have nothing but great things to say about CROW."

Apply Now!

www.crowlanark.com





4 Ross St., Smiths Falls, ON K7A 4L5
 613-283-0095 • 1-800-267-9252
 Text 613-285-5383 • hccinfo@crowlanark.com



PAKENHAM MAPLE RUN TOUR

APRIL 1 & 2

mapleruntour.com

NOTICE OF ASSUMED NAME FILING
 Certificate of Assumed Name:
 Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333;
 ASSUMED NAME:
 JULIE CATHERINE SILVA OLIVEIRA;
 Registered at the office of
 Minnesota Secretary of State;
 Work Item **1363190600025**;
 Original File Number **1363190600025**;
 Filed on 01/02/2023 11:59PM;
 Name Holder: Oliveira, Julie-Catherine-Silva;
 Active/In Good Standing;

NOTICE OF ASSUMED NAME FILING
 Certificate of Assumed Name:
 Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333;
 ASSUMED NAME:
 MELANIE RENEE MARTIN;
 Registered at the office of
 Minnesota Secretary of State;
 Work Item **1363191200028**;
 Original File Number **1363191200028**;
 Filed on 01/02/2023 11:59PM;
 Name Holder: Martin, Melanie-Renee;
 Active/In Good Standing;

NOTICE OF ASSUMED NAME FILING
 Certificate of Assumed Name:
 Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333;
 ASSUMED NAME:
 JENNIFER ALEXANDRA GARRITSEN;
 Registered at the office of
 Minnesota Secretary of State;
 Work Item **1363191200027**;
 Original File Number **1363191200027**;
 Filed on 01/02/2023 11:59PM;
 Name Holder: Garritsen, Jennifer-Alexandra;
 Active/In Good Standing;

A Pocket Full of... Kleenex

The Reeve Report

We of a certain age need pockets in all our clothing. We don't care that they'll leave us with lumpy hips. Lord knows they're lumpy already, so who's going to notice? We're not carrying coins to rattle through our fingers like tiny wind chimes; we're not simply looking for a place to warm old fingers. We need those pockets for the ubiquitous tissue that is essential in drippy-nose season.

"Don't leave home without it" applies to my compulsion to assure my drippy nose won't embarrass me. The worst is when I have to dig through my purse to find the packet of tissues hidden in the nether reaches. I have them in the car, in the equipment bag for dog classes, and in my gym bag. They're on the bedside table, the kitchen cabinet, the buffet. And yet, often in the moment of need, they have abandoned me.

However, I know where they are lurking. As diligent as I am at checking pockets before laundry day, I always miss one lone renegade tissue that is waiting to foul the works. What a catastrophe when I open the washer, and find every single dark item swathed in white flecks of disintegrated tissue! No amount of flicking, shaking, swiping and picking is going to remove it. I swear, if put together those bits would grow to the size of a bedsheet. If by the grace of the Laundry Goddess the darn thing manages to stay in the pocket, it morphs into a sodden ball that sticks in there like a burr, staying damp and in time solidifying to surprise you the first time you reach into that pocket.

No, don't even think of trying to unravel it! It's a life lesson that's going to be repeated as long as I'm committed to carrying those things.

Two handkerchief stories for you:

Story One. I had a good and frugal friend in our university days who carefully washed and dried her used tissues, declaring she saved at least two dollars over the course of her term by treating this Kleenex with deep respect. I later found out that growing up in the far north, Kleenex had been considered a luxury that her family rarely had, so when she was given the honour of coming south to attend university, she felt it was her duty to treat her possessions with great care.

Story Two. My father often thought that his parental duty was to embarrass his girls whenever possible. As my sister and I would be going out on a date, with boyfriend nervously waiting, we'd hear my Dad: "Well son, when are you getting her home?" "Not sure, Sir, not late though." "Do you have a handkerchief?" "YES!!"

And at this point we'd run for the door, and hope we got out before he called, "Have you been to the bathroom?" SLAM! We could practically hear him laughing as we raced down the driveway!

And to this day, Kleenex is always in one or more of my many pockets.

by Glenda Jones

In "the olden days" our mothers carried lovely lacy handkerchiefs tucked delicately up a sleeve, where they could retrieve them discretely to be used noiselessly as required. Fathers too had large handkerchiefs tucked in a back pocket. They of course had no compunction to be discreet. Who among us hasn't sat in church and heard a loud "HONK" from a back pew, sending us into fits of none-too-pious laughter?

Handkerchiefs were the simplest of gifts. They were cotton, decorated, monogrammed, trimmed, and presented in lovely little gift boxes, men's in little wooden crates that could be turned into dolls' cradles. No birthday, Mother's Day, Father's Day, or Christmas would have been complete without someone receiving those useful handkerchiefs. They lasted for years too. They were laundered and pressed, stored in special handkerchief pouches, and used until threadbare.



In Grade School, daily we had to show that our hands were clean and that we were carrying that handkerchief, even though we never used it. We used our sleeves for runny noses; disgusting, but there it is. And then along came Kleenex, a big box of which sat on the teacher's desk. Every student could have a balled-up Kleenex jammed up a sweater sleeve or floating on a desktop. Hence the need for the pockets.

Once the habit of carrying a tissue was established, it remained firmly entrenched. Now I can't be without that thing, and I need somewhere to carry it. I have a lot of pockets: jeans have four, coats three, my hoodie has two, even fancy dress pants and skirts have one, and there will likely be a tissue in at least half of them. I'm bereft if I can't find the pocket in which I've secreted the darn thing, and will go looking to fill one more. Lumpy? Oh yes!

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
 Certificate of Assumed Name
Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable customers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

ASSUMED NAME: RAOUL ALEXANDER PETTIT

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: -111-200 BESSERER-STREET, -OTTAWA, -ONTARIO, [KIN8A7] [CANADA]

NAMEHOLDER(S):
 Name: Address:
 POSTMASTER: Raoul-Alexander-Pettit: CARE-OF--111-200 BESSERER-STREET, -OTTAWA--ONTARIO, [KIN8A7] [CANADA]
 Raoul-Alexander-Pettit: CARE-OF--111-200 BESSERER-STREET, -OTTAWA--ONTARIO, [KIN8A7] [CANADA]
 Raoul Alexander Pettit: CARE-OF--111-200 BESSERER-STREET, -OTTAWA--ONTARIO, [KIN8A7] [CANADA]
 Raoul Alexander PETTIT: CARE-OF--111-200 BESSERER-STREET, -OTTAWA--ONTARIO, [KIN8A7] [CANADA]
 Pettit, Raoul-Alexander: CARE-OF--111-200 BESSERER-STREET, -OTTAWA--ONTARIO, [KIN8A7] [CANADA]
 Raoul-Alexander-Pettit: CARE-OF--111-200 BESSERER-STREET, -OTTAWA--ONTARIO, [KIN8A7] [CANADA]
 STATUTORY-AGENT: CARE-OF--111-200 BESSERER-STREET, -OTTAWA--ONTARIO, [KIN8A7] [CANADA]


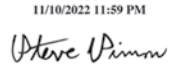
If you submit an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY: : Raoul-Alexander-Pettit.

MAILING ADDRESS: None Provided

EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: pettit.raoul@gmail.com




 Work Item 1348140800023
 Original File Number 1348140800023
 STATE OF MINNESOTA
 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
 FILED
 11/10/2022 11:59 PM

 Steve Simon
 Secretary of State

Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State
 Certificate of Existence and Registration

I, Steve Simon, Secretary of State of Minnesota, do certify that: The entity listed below was filed under the chapter of Minnesota Statutes listed below with the Office of the Secretary of State on the date listed below and that this entity or filing is registered at the time this certificate has been issued.

Name: RAOUL ALEXANDER PETTIT
 Date Filed: 11/10/2022
 File Number: 1348140800023
 Minnesota Statutes, Chapter: 333
 Home Jurisdiction: Minnesota

This certificate has been issued on: 11/10/2022



 Steve Simon
 Secretary of State
 State of Minnesota

But What Can / Do?

In a recent conversational with fellow Climate Network Lanark (CNL) Communications Working Group member Tom Shoebridge, I was struck by an idea of his for a CNL column in this illustrious publication.

After reading my January article here in theHumm on “thinking globally but acting locally”, his thought was that if we describe little do-able actions everyone can take to help the planet, more people might not

by Chandler Swain

throw up their hands at the enormity of the problem and just go about business as usual. Forming new habits related to our everyday energy and resource use is so possible. Perhaps we could parse that idea and make some suggestions that are as worthwhile as they are do-able.

Both in Canada and around the world, many people are keen to do their bit to help the planet at this critical time. Particularly younger folks have much to gain by all of us facing facts and acting on climate issues.

Here is an optimistic quote related to the youth demographic from an article by Chris Hatch, a climate reporter for the excellent and important online independent news site, *Canada's National Observer* <national-observer.com>, following the recent midterm elections in the US:

“U.S. President Joe Biden gave special thanks ‘to the young people of this country who voted to continue to address the climate crisis.’ Climate-forward candidates did well at the national level.” This site provides in-depth climate reporting, as opposed to what can be found in commercially-supported main-

stream media, plus there is a whole section dedicated to Climate Solutions Reporting — highly recommended!

It's obvious that we have a responsibility to our kids and grandkids to get serious about this climate crisis we are facing. We can all get going with small daily steps in our own homes and neighbourhoods.

Below is a bit of my conversation with Tom Shoebridge.

Chandler: Tom, this approach sounds really effective. Can you describe some ways people can try to up their climate crisis action in everyday life?

Tom Shoebridge: I give a lot of thought to these matters, but just common sense shows that we, as individuals, can make a difference by being more aware of the natural world around us.

In our busy lives, we often don't take the time to appreciate the positive natural things around us — very close to our home. Without making this into a lecture, here are a few ideas:

We can slow down our lives by periodically stopping to appreciate something simple like the trees that surround us. These beautiful creations are a wondrous work of nature. They can transform sunlight and water into food. We can delight in their shade, the music in their leaves and their testament to a healthy planet.

We can resolve to leave a tree as a long-lasting contribution to the planet. Gather people you love around you and plant a tree. Watching it grow gives personal satisfaction, retains warm memories, and captures greenhouse gases. Eventually you may need to get some binoculars and see what birds and bees are also enjoying the tree. Maybe you will make some applesauce some day or get few bottles of maple syrup!

We can expand our appreciation of green things to include planting seeds or cuttings. Start with a pot of flowers or herbs. Reduce the size of your lawn by planting a band of shrubs and flowers. Every green leaf improves the atmosphere. Every flower nurtures insects, which in turn feed the birds.

Chandler: This particular suggestion grabs me. I just read a headline today in *The Globe and Mail* about a study from The Harvard School of Public Health showing that the effects of losing so many pollinators because of widespread herbicide use and habitat destruction is being felt around the world. The study has found that: “Strategies to protect wild pollinators are not just an environmental issue, but a health and economic one as well”.

Your suggestion about lawns versus flower gardens is a wonderful way to create a better environment for pollinators. It seems every summer I'm seeing more and more gorgeous flower gardens! Helping the pollinators has so many rewards.

The CNL Youth Climate Action Working Group can help get folks started on a garden to attract pollinators. Check out their list of projects, including a list of resources to plant your own pollinator garden, at <climatenetworklanark.ca>.

Tom: Yes, who doesn't love to see an Ottawa Valley flower garden. It's one of the great optimistic ventures of our short summer! But we can also help our children or grandchildren to appreciate wider, wild spaces. When children fall in love with the great outdoors, it is proven that they carry on those habits over a lifetime. That will ensure that the next generation will take better care of the planet than this one has.

We can also travel slower. Walking and cycling puts us in touch with the earth and the atmosphere, the sky, the clouds, our sur-



Creating a pollinator garden is just one way to act locally for the climate

roundings. It is free and can be done all year long. Someone (most likely a Canadian) said that there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing. An improvement of our health, along with that of the planet, will be the result.

We can care about the purchases we make. Stop and think: do we need something that was designed to be obsolete very quickly? Is there something local to replace an item that was manufactured or grown thousands of kilometres away? Every purchase can contribute to pollution, or not.

I hope these suggestions might be helpful.

Chandler: Thanks Tom. This is a great start, and I'd love to get more ideas about daily life in the Green Lane from readers. So dear reader — what new things are you planning to do this year to add to the inspiring job of living more thoughtfully and sustainably on our precious blue planet? Let us know! We will print a list of all the suggestions we get, and we won't even send you a tote bag or t-shirt! Please email your suggestions to <info@climatenetworklanark.ca>.



HOMETOWN EXPERTS WITH A WORLD OF EXPERIENCE®



LAURA KELLER
REAL ESTATE TEAM

RE/MAX
AFFILIATES REALTY LTD. BROKERAGE
INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED

ALEX FEDORCHUK,
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

ALEX@LAURAKELLER.CA

(613) 790-5723

515 MCNEELY AVE UNIT 1A, CARLETON PLACE ON K7C 0A8

Celebrating 3 Years in Almonte!



Electrolysis

Laser Hair Removal

Anti-Aging Laser Skin Treatment

We provide services in a private and professional setting and use the latest equipment, including the industry's leading laser technology for hair removal and skin rejuvenation.



forever smooth
Confidence in Your Own Skin

Meet the Artist: Ankaret Dean, McD Crnrs, Mar 4
 Reuben & the Dark, Burnstown, Mar 5
 AiC: Nature's Folk Songs, Almonte, Mar 11
 Elton John tribute, Perth, Mar 11
 Melanie Conly & Jason Fowler, McD Crnrs, Mar 12
 Travelogue: Cycling in England, Almonte, Mar 15
 Lecture: Arctic Return Expedition Leader David Reid, Almonte, Mar 18
 The 39 Steps, Perth, Mar 23-Apr 2
 BOTR: David Gogo, Westport, Mar 24
 Folkus: Vicki Brittle & Brock Zeman, Almonte, Mar 25
 Maple Run Tour, Pakenham, Apr 1-2
 "Pysanky" Making Workshop, CP, Apr 1-2
 BOTR: Harrison Kennedy, Westport, Apr 14
 AiC: Nannerl, Almonte, Apr 15
 Travelogue: Daily life in Iran, Almonte, Apr 19
 Dancing at Lughnasa, Almonte, Apr 20-28
 The Sound of Music, Carleton Place, Apr 28-May 7
 Folkus: A Leverage for Mountains, Almonte, Apr 29
 Welcome to the Rock, Perth, May 3
 Nunsense, Perth, May 4-14
 BOTR: Goudreau & Boppin' Blues Band, Westport, May 5
 Coronation Day Garden Party, Carleton Place, May 6
 Arts Carleton Pl. Fine Art Show & Sale, May 6-7
 BOTR: Blackburn Brothers, Westport, Jun 2
 Red Trillium Studio Tour, West Ottawa, Jun 3-4
 Tempting Providence, Perth, Jun 15-25
 Highland Games, Almonte, Aug 26
 Jane Austen's Lady Susan, Perth, Oct 12-22
 Historical Cemetery Tours, Carleton Pl., Oct 28 & 29
 Ethan Claymore, Perth, Nov 23-Dec 3

Festivals

Frost & Fire Winter Festival, Feb 18-19. Indoor & outdoor winter activities and entertainment in downtown Perth. perth.ca/frostandfire
White Lake Winter Carnival, Feb 18, 11AM-2PM. Music, skating, hockey, winter games, hot drinks/ food, sliding, bonfire. White Lake Park. 623-5756

Local Food

Back Forty Winterland, Feb 18, 10AM-4PM. Food, drink, outdoor fun. Back Forty Artisan Cheese, Mississippi Station. artisancheese.ca

Visual Arts

Karen Dover Modern Art, presents Karen & Co. Art Exhibition, Feb 4 & 5, 11AM-4PM. Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, Almonte. karenovermodernart.com
Meet the Artists/Art Sale: Wood & Iron, Feb 5, 2-4PM. Functional pieces by Timothy Booth, Steve Griffiths, Barry Russell. MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners. gwstryde@outlook.com
Artist Reception: Louis Thériault, Feb 18, 2-4PM. View the art & meet the artist. Sivarulrasa Gallery, Almonte. sivarulrasa.com
Lanark County Quilters' Guild Mtg, Feb 28, 7-9PM. Speaker: Cyndi McChesney, Panelpalooza. By Zoom. Register: lanark-countyquiltersguild.com. Guests: \$5
Lanark Co. Camera Club Meeting, Feb 28, 7-9PM. Speaker: Marie Read, Birds, BIRL Bldg. Algonquin College, Perth. 1st mtg free. lccameraclub.com

WHAT'S ON IN

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>30</p> <p>🎵 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</p>	<p>31</p> <p>🎵 Men's Sheds, Appleton, Carleton Place</p> <p>🎵 SF Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</p> <p>🎵 Music Trivia, The Barley Mow</p> <p>🎵 Swing Dance, Almonte</p>	<p>🎵 Trivia Night, Bowie's</p> <p>🎵 Almonte Bridge Club, Almonte</p> <p>🎵 Board Game Drop-in, Perth</p> <p>🎵 Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</p> <p>🎵 Trivia, Ridge Rock Brewing Company</p> <p>🎵 Wings 'n Tunes & Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</p> <p>🎵 Meditation & Associated Processes, Perth</p>	<p>🎵 Naismith Men's Shed Breakfast, CP</p> <p>🎵 Open Stage, Bowie's</p> <p>🎵 Cashmen Ford, Waterfront Gastropub</p> <p>🎵 Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</p> <p>🎵 Almonte Song Circle Collective</p> <p>🎵 Gerald McGrath, The Cove</p> <p>🎵 MERA Speaker: Helga Zimmerman on Running Away to Sea</p>
<p>6</p> <p>🎵 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</p>	<p>7</p> <p>🎵 SF Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</p> <p>🎵 Music Trivia, The Barley Mow</p> <p>🎵 Hackberry Men's Shed Social, CP</p> <p>🎵 Soup 'n Dipity Luncheons, Carp</p> <p>🎵 Swing Dance, Almonte</p>	<p>🎵 Lecture: A Luthier's Life - Guitar Maker Linda Manzer, Almonte</p> <p>🎵 Trivia Night, Bowie's</p> <p>🎵 Almonte Bridge Club, Almonte</p> <p>🎵 Board Game Drop-in, Perth</p> <p>🎵 Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</p> <p>🎵 Wings 'n Tunes & Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</p>	<p>🎵 Working - A Musical, Perth</p> <p>🎵 Almonte Song Circle Collective</p> <p>🎵 Mellow Lily, The Cove</p> <p>🎵 MERA Speaker: Heidi Stepanek & Kris Riendeau on Community Theatre, Zoom</p> <p>🎵 Toastmasters: Let's Get Organized!, Zoom</p> <p>🎵 Naismith Men's Shed Breakfast, CP</p> <p>🎵 Open Stage, Bowie's</p> <p>🎵 Cashmen Ford, Waterfront Gastropub</p> <p>🎵 Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</p>
<p>13</p> <p>🎵 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</p>	<p>VALENTINE'S DAY</p> <p>14</p> <p>🎵 Music Trivia, The Barley Mow</p> <p>🎵 Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner w/ Eric Uren & Meghan Balogh, The Cove</p> <p>🎵 Men's Shed, Carleton Place</p> <p>🎵 SF Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</p>	<p>🎵 Travelogue: Hawaii, Almonte</p> <p>🎵 Trivia Night, Bowie's</p> <p>🎵 Almonte Bridge Club, Almonte</p> <p>🎵 Board Game Drop-in, Perth</p> <p>🎵 Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</p> <p>🎵 Wings 'n Tunes & Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</p> <p>🎵 Meditation & Associated Processes, Perth</p>	<p>🎵 Working - A Musical, Perth</p> <p>🎵 Matt Dickson, The Cove</p> <p>🎵 MERA Speaker: Nicola Oddy & Jennifer Noxon on Singing 4 Community, Zoom</p> <p>🎵 Naismith Men's Shed Breakfast, CP</p> <p>🎵 Open Stage, Bowie's</p> <p>🎵 Cashmen Ford, Waterfront Gastropub</p> <p>🎵 Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</p> <p>🎵 Almonte Song Circle Collective</p>
<p>FAMILY DAY</p> <p>20</p> <p>🎵 Carleton Place Comic Con V</p> <p>🎵 Family Day Activities in Mississippi Mills, Almonte</p> <p>🎵 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</p>	<p>21</p> <p>🎵 SF Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</p> <p>🎵 Music Trivia, The Barley Mow</p> <p>🎵 Hackberry Men's Shed Social, CP</p> <p>🎵 Soup 'n Dipity Luncheons, Carp</p> <p>🎵 Swing Dance, Almonte</p>	<p>🎵 Trivia Night, Bowie's</p> <p>🎵 Almonte Bridge Club, Almonte</p> <p>🎵 Board Game Drop-in, Perth</p> <p>🎵 Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</p> <p>🎵 Wings 'n Tunes & Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</p>	<p>🎵 Almonte Song Circle Collective</p> <p>🎵 Piano Bar w/Benni Vander, The Cove</p> <p>🎵 Toastmasters: Place your best foot forward, Zoom</p> <p>🎵 Naismith Men's Shed Breakfast, CP</p> <p>🎵 Open Stage, Bowie's</p> <p>🎵 Cashmen Ford, Waterfront Gastropub</p> <p>🎵 Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</p>
<p>27</p> <p>🎵 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</p>	<p>28</p> <p>🎵 Men's Shed, Carleton Place</p> <p>🎵 SF Bridge Club, Smiths Falls</p> <p>🎵 Music Trivia, The Barley Mow</p> <p>🎵 Lanark County Quilters' Guild Mtg, Zoom</p> <p>🎵 Lanark Co. Camera Club Meeting, Perth</p>	<p>🎵 Trivia Night, Bowie's</p> <p>🎵 Almonte Bridge Club, Almonte</p> <p>🎵 Board Game Drop-in, Perth</p> <p>🎵 Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine, Waterfront Gastropub</p> <p>🎵 Trivia, Ridge Rock Brewing Company</p> <p>🎵 Wings 'n Tunes & Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</p>	<p>🎵 Naismith Men's Shed Breakfast, CP</p> <p>🎵 Open Stage, Bowie's</p> <p>🎵 Cashmen Ford, Waterfront Gastropub</p> <p>🎵 Musicians Circle, Bolingbroke</p> <p>🎵 Almonte Song Circle Collective</p> <p>🎵 Harvey, Smiths Falls</p>

Theatre

Film Club Fridays w/TIFF, every Friday. See studiotheatreperth.com for movie info. Studio Theatre Perth
Working - A Musical, Feb 9-11, 16-18, 7:30PM; Feb 12, 19, 2PM. Studio Theatre Perth. Tix: \$27 (\$22 opening night). TicketsPlease.ca
Film: Ticket to Paradise, Feb 10-11, 7PM. George Clooney & Julia Roberts. The Station Theatre, Smiths Falls. \$12 at door. smithsfallstheatre.com
Great Gatsby! It's Murder, Feb 18, 7:30PM. Paper Picture Productions, fundraiser for youth homelessness. Station Theatre, Smiths Falls. paperpictureproductions.com. \$39
Raise Your Voice, A Musical, Feb 24-25, 7PM; Feb 26, 2PM. Mississippi Mudds Youth Theatre Group. TicketsPlease.ca. Carleton Place Town Hall. \$15.
Harvey, Feb 24-25, Mar 2-4, 7:30PM; Feb 26 & Mar 5, 2PM. Heartwarming & funny play. Tix: \$20/\$10. Smithsfallstheatre.com
SPARC Cabaret, Feb 25, 7:30PM. Regional artists across disciplines, presented by SPARC. Tix: 485-6434. TicketsPlease.ca. Almonte Old Town Hall. Pay what you wish: \$5-50. sparcperformingarts.com

Music

Musicians Circle, Thu, 7PM. All musicians, all genres; no audience. ABC Hall, Maberly
Swing Dance, Jan 17-31, 6:30-9:30PM. Every other Tuesday. Intro dance lesson 7PM. \$5 entry. Equator Coffee Roasters, Almonte. \$5 entry. creativelygraceful@gmail.com
Almonte Song Circle Collective, Thu 6PM share new songs, 7PM play covers. Acoustic. New musicians welcome. Equator Coffee, Almonte.
Willie Nelson & Dolly Parton Songs, Feb 5, 2:30PM. Cliff Edwards, Teagan McLaren, Dan Kasaboski, Ken Hall, Zak Colbert perform covers. The Station Theatre, Smiths Falls. 25. smithsfallstheatre.com/music
Swing Dance, Feb 7 & 21, 6:30-9:30PM. No partner needed. Intro dance lesson 7PM. \$5 entry. Equator Coffee, Almonte. creativelygraceful@gmail.com
Folkus: Suzie Vinnick & Lloyd Spiegel, Feb 18, 8PM. Cdn & Aussie award-winning singer-songwriters. Tix: ticketsplease.ca. Almonte Old Town Hall. \$30/\$15. folkusalmonte.com
Music at Mera: Mia Kelly & Basset, Feb 26, 2PM. Double bill. TicketsPlease.ca, \$25. MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners

Pub Listings

The Cove (Westport, 273-3636): 5-8PM unless noted; Wed Wings 'n Tunes w/Shawn McCullough, 5:30-8PM
 Feb 2 Gerald McGrath
 Feb 3 John Wilberforce
 Feb 4 Country Pickin' Mayhem Band, 7-11PM, \$80 dinner+show
 Feb 9 Mellow Lily
 Feb 10 Carole King/James Taylor Tribute, 7-11PM, \$85 dinner+show
 Feb 11 Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner w/ Head Over Heels
 Feb 12 Eric Uren & Meghan Balogh
 Feb 14 Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner w/ Eric Uren & Meghan Balogh
 Feb 16 Matt Dickson
 Feb 18 Jeff Callery
 Feb 19 Henry Norwood & Shawn McCullough, 5-9PM
 Feb 23 Piano Bar w/Benni Vander
 Feb 24 Brock Zeman
 Feb 25 Nolan Hubbard
The Barley Mow (Almonte, 256-5669): Tue Music Trivia, 8PM
Carp Masonic Lodge: Mon Carp Celtic Jam, 7PM, \$3

Buster's Bar & Grill (Kanata, 836-7007): 2-5PM, no cover
 Feb 5 Apex Jazz Band
 Feb 26 Grey Jazz Big Band
Bowie's (Smiths Falls): Wed Trivia, 8-10PM (sign-up online); Thu Open Stage, 8PM (casual sign-up); Fri original live music 8:30 & 11:30PM; Saturday Night Jazz w/the Beeched Waiters, 8-11PM
 Feb 3 C.A. & Sonny
 Feb 4 Karaoke w/Joel Brown, 9PM-1AM
 Feb 5 Musical Comedy, 8PM, \$25 adv.
 Feb 10 Nick Di Gaetano
 Feb 11 Jazz w/the Beeched Waiters, 8-11PM
 Feb 17 Bobby McGinnis
 Feb 18 Café Parodique Drag Show, 9PM, \$20 adv / \$25 door
 Feb 19 Songwriter Series: 3 out of 5 Barrell Boys, 8PM, \$20adv
 Feb 24 Josephine Leone
 Feb 25 Jazz w/Pete Woods, 8-11PM
Golden Arrow Pub (Perth, 267-4500): 9PM, Feb 11 The Three2Go Band, 9PM
Neat Coffee Shop (Burnstown, 433-9960): 8PM.
 Feb 4 Mountain Head, \$30

FEBRUARY 2023

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎬 Film Club Fridays w/TIFF, Perth 🎵 John Wilberforce, The Cove 🎵 Ty Hall, Pakenham 🎵 Kyle Felhaver, Urban Angus 🎵 C.A. & Sonny, Bowie's 🎪 Naismith Men's Shed, Zoom 🎵 Jimmy Cochrane, Waterfront Gastropub 🎪 Scottish Country Dancing, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎨 Karen & Co. Art Exhibition, Almonte 🎵 Country Pickin' Mayhem Band Dinner+Show, The Cove 🎵 Mountain Head, Neat Coffee Shop 🎵 Karaoke w/Joel Brown, Bowie's 🎵 Winter Blues Burlesque Show, Urban Angus 🎵 Rob Kerr, Al Tambay, Waterfront Gastropub 🎵 Cargo Cult, Lumbertown Ale House 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🍷 Old Time Country Dinner & Dance, Clayton 🎨 Meet the Artists/Art Sale: Wood & Iron, McDonalds Corners 🎨 Karen & Co. Art Exhibition, Almonte 🎵 Spencer Scharf, Pakenham 🎵 Willie Nelson & Dolly Parton Songs, Smiths Falls 🎵 Musical Comedy, Bowie's 🎵 Lee Francoeur, Waterfront Gastropub 🎵 APEX Jazz Band, Buster's 🎵 Eric Uren, The Cove
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎪 Working - A Musical, Perth 🎵 Open Mic w/Dale Yuke, Pakenham 🎵 Carole King/James Taylor Tribute Dinner+Show, The Cove 🎬 Film: Ticket to Paradise, Smiths Falls 🎵 Nick Di Gaetano, Bowie's 🎪 Naismith Men's Shed, Zoom 🎵 Jimmy Cochrane, Waterfront Gastropub 🎪 Scottish Country Dancing, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎪 Working - A Musical, Perth 🎬 Film: Ticket to Paradise, Smiths Falls 🎵 Valentine's Sweetheart Dinner w/Head Over Heels, The Cove 🎵 Spencer Scarf, Urban Angus 🎵 Jazz w/the Beeched Wailers, Bowie's 🎵 The Three2Go Band, Golden Arrow 🎵 Rob Kerr, Al Tambay, Waterfront Gastropub 🎵 Danielle Hewitt, Lumbertown Ale House 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎪 Working - A Musical, Perth 🎵 Jenna Steele, Pakenham 🎵 Eric Uren & Meghan Balogh, The Cove 🎵 Lee Francoeur, Waterfront Gastropub 🎪 Talk: The Art of Embroidery, Carleton Place
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎪 Working - A Musical, Perth 🎵 Adam Fieldhouse, Pakenham 🎵 BOTR: Lloyd Spiegel & Suzie Vinnick, The Cove 🎵 Bobby McGinnis, Bowie's 🎵 Eastbound of Bytown, Urban Angus 🎪 Naismith Men's Shed, Zoom 🎵 Jimmy Cochrane, Waterfront Gastropub 🎪 Scottish Country Dancing, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎪 Working - A Musical, Perth 🎬 Great Gatsby! It's Murder, Smiths Falls 🎪 Frost & Fire Winter Festival, Perth 🎪 Fulton's Maple Season Opens, Pakenham 🎪 Back Forty Winterland, Mississippi Station 🎪 White Lake Winter Carnival 🎪 White Lake Polar Plunge 🎨 Artist Reception: Louis Thériault, Almonte 🎵 Jeff Gallery, The Cove 🎵 Folkus: Suzie Vinnick & Lloyd Spiegel, Almonte 🎵 Ty Hall, Lumbertown Ale House 🎵 Café Parodique Drag Show, Bowie's 🎵 Anti-Valentines Drag Show, Urban Angus 🎵 Rob Kerr, Al Tambay, Waterfront Gastropub 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎪 Working - A Musical, Perth 🎪 Frost & Fire Winter Festival, Perth 🎪 Scouts Pancake Breakfast, Almonte 🎪 Fulton's Maple Weekends, Pakenham 🎵 Jordan Dubeau, Pakenham 🎵 Henry Norwood & Shawn McCullough, The Cove 🎪 Hockey Fundraiser: Sens Alumni & SF Bears Alumni, Smiths Falls 🎵 Songwriter Series: 3 out of 5 Barrell Boys, Bowie's 🎵 Lee Francoeur, Waterfront Gastropub
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Brock Zeman, The Cove 🎵 Sky & Jer, Pakenham 🎪 Heritage Dinner & Historic Presentation, Almonte 🎪 Raise Your Voice, A Musical, Carleton Place 🎪 Harvey, Smiths Falls 🎵 Josephine Leone, Bowie's 🎪 We Forgot Valentines Day' Comedy Night, Urban Angus 🎪 Naismith Men's Shed, Zoom 🎵 Jimmy Cochrane, Waterfront Gastropub 🎪 Scottish Country Dancing, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎪 Raise Your Voice, A Musical, Carleton Place 🎪 Harvey, Smiths Falls 🎪 Fulton's Maple Weekends, Pakenham 🎪 Coldest Night of the Year - Fundraiser, Perth 🎵 Nolan Hubbard, The Cove 🎵 The C.A. and Sonny Show, Urban Angus 🎪 SPARC Cabaret, Almonte 🎵 Johnny Franco, Lumbertown Ale House 🎵 Jazz w/Pete Woods, Bowie's 🎵 Rob Kerr, Al Tambay, Waterfront Gastropub 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Lee Francoeur, Waterfront Gastropub 🎪 Fulton's Maple Weekends, Pakenham 🎵 Grey Jazz Big Band, Buster's 🎵 Music at Mera: Mia Kelly & Basset, McDonalds Corners 🎪 Raise Your Voice, A Musical, Carleton Place 🎪 Harvey, Smiths Falls 🎵 Ty Hall, Pakenham 🎵 Eric Uren, The Cove
<p>MERA presents <i>Wood and Iron</i> w/Timothy Booth, Steve Griffiths, Barry Russell <MERAschoolhouse.org> [by appointment] Mississippi Valley Textile Museum presents <i>Weaving Cultural Identities</i> [from Feb 18] <mvtm.ca> Sivarulrasa Gallery presents Louis Thériault's <i>Duality</i> <sivarulrasa.com> [from Feb 10] The Almonte Library Corridor Gallery presents <i>12 Masks of 24th Century, Greater Ottawa Dukedom</i>, by Robert Pauly [to Feb 26]</p>		

Find more detailed descriptions online at thehummm.com

Lumbertown Ale House (Arnprior, 623-8885), 8-11 PM
Feb 4 Cargo Cult
Feb 11 Danielle Hewitt
Feb 18 Ty Hall
Feb 25 Johnny Franco

Mount Pakenham (624-5290): Fri Socials 5:30PM, Sun Après-Ski 2:30PM
Feb 3 Ty Hall
Feb 5 Spencer Scharf
Feb 10 Open Mic w/Dale Yuke
Feb 12 Jenna Steele
Feb 17 Adam Fieldhouse
Feb 19 Jordan Dubeau
Feb 24 Sky & Jer
Feb 26 Ty Hall

Bridge Rock Brewing Co. (Carp, 470-2337):
Fri Live Music, 7-10PM
Feb 1 Trivia

Urban Angus (Arnprior, 558-5050)
Feb 3 Kyle Felhaver, 7-10PM
Feb 4 Winter Blues Burlesque Show, 9PM, \$21+
Feb 11 Spencer Scarf, 7-10PM
Feb 17 Eastbound of Bytown, 9PM-12AM
Feb 18 Anti-Valentines Drag Show, 9:30PM, \$18+
Feb 24 We Forgot Valentines Day' Comedy Night, 8:30PM, \$22+
Feb 25 The C.A. and Sonny Show, 7-10PM

The Waterfront Gastropub (CP, 257-5755)
Wed Open Mic w/Redneck Limousine, 8PM-12AM
Thu Cashmen Ford, 8PM-12AM
Fri Jimmy Cochrane, 9:30PM-12:30AM
Sat Rob Kerr, 3-6PM; Al Tambay, 9:30PM-12:30AM
Sun Lee Francoeur, 3-6PM

Community 🌿
SF Bridge Club, Tue 12:45PM. Bring proof of vax. Smiths Falls Legion
Almonte Bridge Club, Wed 12:45PM. Bring proof of vax. Almonte Legion
Board Game Drop-in, Wed, 3-5PM. Join in or bring own game. North Folk Café, Perth. No cover, food available
Toastmasters Online, 7PM: Feb 9 "Let's Get Organized"; Feb 23 "Place your best foot forward". carletonplacet toastmasters@gmail.com for Zoom. All welcome
Meditation & Assoc Processes, Feb 1, 15; 1:30-3PM. Perth Library. 225-4675, by donation
Naismith Men's Shed (naismithmensshed.ca):
Thu, 8:30AM, breakfast (\$12+), Gourmet Restaurant, CP, then social/games (10AM), Almonte Legion; <djbustard@rogers.com

Fri, 10AM, Zoom chat, nicolasdfry@gmail.com for link.
Hackberry Men's Shed (dougjohnson70@outlook.com):
Mon-Tue-Fri mornings, Workshop open, 10AM coffee, opposite 98 Donald St., CP
Tue 6:30-8:30PM, Social, CP Arena Boardroom
Feb 14, 28 7:30AM, breakfast (\$12+), Gourmet Restaurant, CP.
Scottish Country Dancing, Fri, 9:30AM. Beginner to experienced. 264-2767. At McMartin House; annual membership \$30 + \$2/class.
MERA Speaker Series: Thu, 7-8:30PM on Zoom. Reg: meraschoolhouse.org. Feb 2 Helga Zimmerman on **Running Away to Sea - A Risky Business**. Feb 9 Heidi Stepanek & Kris Riendeau on **The "Stages" of Community Theatre**. Feb 16 Nicola Oddy & Jennifer Noxon on **Singing for Community, Self Growth & Personal Health**.
Old Time Country Dinner & Dance, Feb 5. Music 2-6PM, dinner at 5PM. Musicians welcome. Clayton Community Centre. \$15; ages 6-10 \$7; under 6 + musicians free. 256-0740

Soup 'n Dipity Luncheons, Feb 7 & 21, 11:30AM-1PM. Soup, sandwiches, cookies. Book table: 809-2488. St. Paul's United Church, Carp. \$10. stpauls-dunrobin.ca
Lecture: A Luthier's Life - Guitar Maker Linda Manzer, Feb 8, 7-8:30PM. World-renowned guitar builder/designer. Register: learningagainmonte.ca Almonte Public Library. By donation
Talk: The Art of Embroidery, Feb 12, 2-4PM. Barbara Drake. Carleton Place and Beckwith Heritage Museum. By donation. cpbheritagemuseum.com
Travelogue: Hawaii, Feb 15, 7PM. w/Elizabeth Venditti. Almonte Library. Free. missmillslibrary.com
Fulton's Maple Weekends, Sat & Sun from Feb 18, 10AM-3PM. Maple Shop, taffy, horse-drawn sleigh rides (from 11AM, \$4 cash). \$10/car pass to enjoy grounds (trails, playground, sledding hill, Heritage Path). Season: Feb 18-Apr 16. Fulton's Pancake House and Sugar Bush, Pakenham. fultons.ca
White Lake Polar Plunge, Feb 18, 2-3PM. Fundraiser for Special Olympics ON. Donate: soopolarplunge.crowdfunder.ca/27759. White Lake Dam. 623-5756

Hockey Fundraiser: Sens Alumni & SF Bears Alumni, Feb 19, 8PM. Supporting the Craig family's health journey to find a liver donor. Tix: TicketsPlease.ca Smiths Falls Memorial Community Centre. \$20/\$10
Scouts Pancake Breakfast, Feb 19, 8-11:30AM. With Scouting Exhibit. Almonte Civitan Hall. \$12; \$8 (4-12yrs). bookings@almontecivitan.com
Family Day Activities in Mississippi Mills, Feb 20. 9AM-5PM Mount Pakenham; 10AM-3PM Fulton's Maple taffy & sleigh rides; 10AM-4PM Museums (Appleton Museum, Textile Museum); 11AM Free Family Movie, AOTH; 1-3PM Free Skating, Alm Comm Ctr; 2-4PM Free Skating, Stewart Comm Ctr; Mill of Kintail, free entry. mississippimills.ca/200
Carleton Place Comic Con V, Feb 20, 10AM-4PM. Entry: \$1 or 1 non-perishable food or personal care item. Kids 12 & under: free. Carleton Place Arena. facebook.com/cpcomiccon
Heritage Dinner & Historic Presentation, Feb 24, 7PM. N. Lanark Historical Soc. Almonte Legion. 30.257-8503
Coldest Night of the Year - Fundraiser, Feb 25, 5-8PM. Raise \$ for Cornerstone Landing (youth homelessness) then do family-friendly walk. Downtown Perth. cnoy.org/location/lanarkcounty

SPARC'S NEWEST EVENT!

Regional Gathering & Cabaret

10 ACTS, 1 MC & 1 NIGHT ONLY!

OLD TOWN HALL,
ALMONTE
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2023
7:30PM

PWYW (PAY WHAT YOU WISH):
\$5, \$10, \$20 & \$50

TICKETS
Please

TICKETSPLease.ca
613-485-6434

WWW.SPARCPERFORMINGARTS.COM



Canada

PERTH TOURISM PRESENTS



FEBRUARY 18 & 19, 2023

- OUTDOOR LASER TAG
- CURLING DEMOS
- VENDOR MARKETPLACE
- AXE THROWING
- ART EXHIBIT
- BOWLING
- GAMES & ACTIVITIES
- OUTDOOR PICNIC AREA
- SKATING
- HORSE & WAGON RIDES
- FIRE SHOWS
- IN-STORE SPECIALS
- ENTERTAINMENT
- WITH MORE TO COME!



Find out more at
PERTH.CA/FROSTANDFIRE

Family Day

STAY & PLAY IN MISSISSIPPI MILLS

MONDAY FEBRUARY 20TH

FREE FAMILY MOVIE

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

FREE PUBLIC SKATING

Almonte Community Centre 1PM to 3PM
Stewart Community Centre 2PM to 4PM

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

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY TEXTILE MUSEUM

3 Rosamond St. E., Almonte, ON
Free Admission, Open 10AM-4PM

FULTON'S PANCAKE HOUSE AND SUGAR BUSH

Open 10AM-3PM, Enjoy horse drawn sleigh rides and maple taffy. Trails for skiing, sliding, snowshoeing etc. (B-Y-O equipment). Admission \$10 per vehicle.

MOUNT PAKENHAM

577 Ski Hill Rd, Pakenham, ON
Open 9AM-5PM for skiing, snowboarding & snowshoeing
"Discover Skiing/Boarding" beginner packages available.



For more information email 200@mississippimills.ca or visit www.mississippimills.ca/200

