

JULY 2012

the Hummer

free

Arts,
Entertainment
& Ideas

p.26 & 27



July's Events

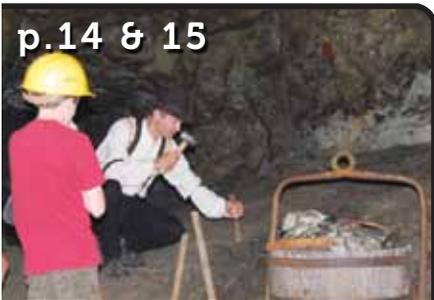


Herbfest p.17-20



Celtfest Special Insert

p.14 & 15



Heritage Mica Festival



The Art of Vicki Veenstra p.3



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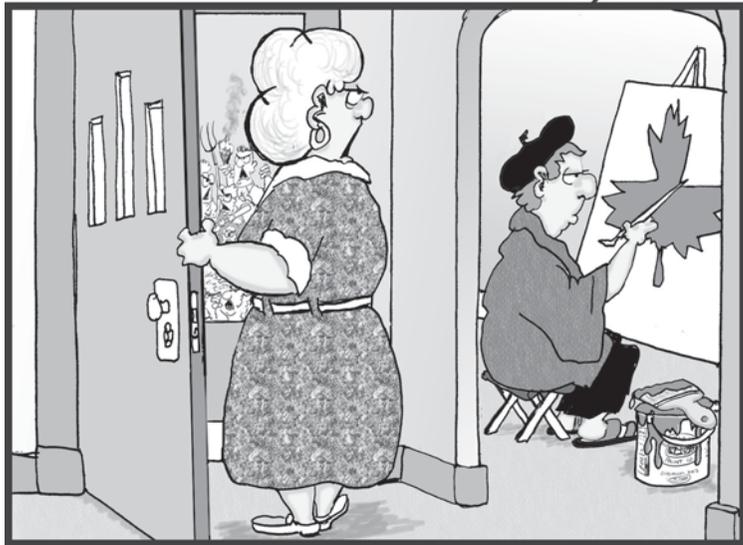
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ARTBEAT

by Bill Buttle



"Maybe you should have asked people if they'd LIKE their front doors painted red for Canada Day!"

Who's Reading theHumm



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

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Thanks this month to:
Everyone who helped us make our tightest-ever deadline (which happened to coincide with our biggest-ever issue...) — especially to our advertisers, columnists and contributors, Rona, Kevin and the staff at Performance Printing. Great job, team!! We miss you, Mr. Fat Pants, and your fat pants dance.



Paul, Brian, Jean-Guy and Laura Ellis-Legault pose with theHumm outside Johnny Appleseed Restaurant in New Market, Virginia (in the Shenandoah Valley) in August of 2010. It's their favourite stop en route South from Almonte.

Jeff Mills from the Mills Community Support Corporation sent this in back in 2010: While on a Home Support day trip to the Mills cottage on White Lake, Marjorie Buttrum and Dallas O'Connor found that the good reading was in the outhouse!



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Vicki Veenstra – Creating the Illusion of Life

In a fairy-tale studio set in a fairy-tale forest setting, the soulful looking white dog sitting on top of Vicki Veenstra's work table looks as lifelike as Mason, the 15-year-old black dog lying under the table. The white dog is "Jennie", the dog that puppet artist Veenstra is holding in the Trading Card photo at the top of this page. Jennie is a puppet that Veenstra designed and built to star in a film adaptation of the Maurice Sendak classic *Higglety Pigglety Pop! or There Must Be More to Life*.

by Sally Hansen

The 24-minute film produced by Spike Jonze is an NFB/Warner Home Video production directed by Montreal filmmakers Chris Lavis and Maciek Szczerbowski of Clyde Henry Productions. It appears on the Blu-Ray DVD version of Jonze's full-length movie *Where the Wild Things Are*. Vicki remembers the celebration that followed the news that Meryl Streep had agreed to do Jennie's voice on the film!

"It was the hardest and the most rewarding thing I've ever done," she tells me. A particular challenge was enabling Jennie to spit — even more difficult than "teaching" her to gobble up real pancakes, and cleaning her up between retakes. The results spit for themselves. I had a lot of fun watching the online clips available at <nfb.ca> (search "Higglety trailer"), and I watched the entire *Higglety Pigglety Pop* film at <clydehenry.com> (click on the adorable white dog at the upper-right-hand corner).

Last year Veenstra landed a contract to design and build four puppet characters for Radio Canada's French language children's TV program, *À la Ferme de Zénon*. To create two versions each of pink pig "Zénon," "Zoumba" the llama, "Colin" the puffin and "Crépine" the goat, Vicki hired talented local artists Russell Baron, Angus Affleck and Angèle Desjardins. "It was fantastic to be able to bring people to my own studio where I could devise an environment that allowed us to meet a deadline while working in a safe, creative, healthy way."

A work schedule that permits a balanced home life is the exception in many production arts venues. Veenstra really enjoys being able to walk to work down the laneway from her beautiful home, in the countryside between Almonte and Pakenham. She and her partner, Stephen Brathwaite of Almonte, met in Toronto in 1995 when she was the wrangler and he was the puppeteer and voice for the "Mud" half of the two-headed monster, Mud/Slinger, in the successful Canadian children's TV show *Groundling Marsh*. She started calling Almonte her home in 2000.

Puppet Wrangling

Besides something cowboys do, wrangling in the movie and TV industries refers to the handling and coordination of puppets and props during the production of film and television programs. For example, when Jennie drinks and spits milk, or eats pancakes, the wrangler (Vicki Veenstra, in this case) is the person responsible for rigging the puppet and having all the props prepared and ready for innumerable repetitive takes. The demanding job is one Vicki has performed for the Radical Sheep Productions' *Panda Bear Daycare*, for the PBS *Zoboomafoo* show, and for the hit TV comedy series *Puppets Who Kill*.

Wrangling has certainly informed her ability to design and build puppets that meet her ultimate goal — to provide puppeteers and TV and film directors with sculptures that can be made to appear alive. When a friend got Vicki her first job on a puppet show, she was instantly intrigued. "My mechanical brain loves the challenges of solving problems. I want to give the puppeteer the widest possible scope — the range of mobility and emotional expression that can make you fall in love with the character." Jennie is a superb example of Vicki's talent, creativity and dedication.



Vicki and Jennie at work

Puppetry in Motion

Veenstra's first passion was to become a dancer, and the eight years she spent training are immediately evident when she starts to explain how she designs her puppets. As she speaks, her body language automatically illustrates the flexibility and fluidity with which she painstakingly endows her puppets. Puppet Jennie can assume ballet positions, her ears move, her tail wags, and the whole is much more



ARTIST · TRADING · CARD ·

convincing than the sum of the parts. Every time I walk past her reclining on the table, I have to stifle my instinct to scratch behind her ears. And this is without animation!

Veenstra's tendency towards perfectionism is an obvious asset in achieving her goal of creating lifelike creatures. When she searched the taxidermy catalogue for eyes for "Crépine" the goat, they were "creepy," so she and her team decided to make them. The project involved extensive research, advice from many authorities, and the design and construction of a studio exhaust system by her inventive father, Dick Veenstra.

Opportunity Trumps Planning

Born in Campbellville just west of Toronto, Veenstra pursued an eclectic arts education that had a marvelous beginning at the Etobicoke School of the Arts (high school). She majored in Visual Arts and minored in Dance, and then spent two years in the Musical Theatre Performance Program at Sheridan College. After two years at Ryerson Polytechnic University's School of Interior Design, she fell into puppetry accidentally when she got a job as the second assistant art director for the producers of *Groundling Marsh*. "I don't worry too much about planning my life," she confides; "sometimes it just precludes taking advantage of opportunity."

Much as she likes working in her amazing country studio, Vicki readily welcomes projects that take her to Montreal, Toronto and abroad. In 2010 she was the build manager and builder of three puppet characters for the children's TV series *Tati's Hotel*, produced by Machine Productions in Wales. Through the extensive use of Skype's communication services, Vicki was able to work from her studio; she met her customers for the first time when she arrived in Wales to personally deliver her puppet characters. She and Stephen spent two months in Cardiff as puppeteers during the filming of the first season. You can watch an excerpt from the TVO Canadian premiere of the series on YouTube (search "Tati's Hotel").

Veenstra's accomplishments are numerous. She has built "Hearty Bear" for a coaching academy, a superhero character for a print ad, and both "Big" and "Small" — the eponymous stars of the very successful preschool TV comedy series produced for YTV and BBC. She has designed jaw and brow mechanisms, designed costumes, and, just to make sure she doesn't over-plan her life, she recently partnered with Errin Stone to open a small shop in Almonte named "Tin Barn Market." It features a mix of vintage, salvage, handmade and upcycled objects, and is as eclectic and vibrant as Vicki. It is located at 73 Little Bridge Street, next to Baker Bob's, and you can check it out at <tinbarnmarket.com>. You can reach Vicki Veenstra at 791-4816 or by email at <vveenstra@gmail.com>.

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WHO Vicki Veenstra

WHAT Puppet Designer, Builder and Wrangler; Puppeteer

WHERE 374 Klondike Rd., Pakenham, 791-4816, <veenstra@gmail.com>; <clydehenry.com> (click on white dog in upper-right-hand corner to see "Jennie," Vicki Veenstra's puppet starring in *Higglety Pigglety Pop!* or *There Must Be More to Life*)

WHY "It's a truly engaging challenge to attempt to transform inanimate materials like foam and fur into creatures that can elicit a full range of emotions."

ARTIST TRADING CARD

THE HUMM

theHumm Editorial

A Matter of Perspective And Thoughts on Abundant Communities

Caution: this may be maudlin. And silly.

I walked my dog last night. I know, that's not the sort of thing I usually lead with in an editorial (what is this, Facebook?). But the way the experience unfolded was rather unusual. The day had been grey, rainy, and kind of unseasonably cold. I might have opted for a shorter walk around the block, but my dog Fly is getting old and I figure she deserves good off-leash walks as often as possible.

by Kris Riendeau

Ye Olde Consciousness Shift

The process of having my perspective so completely reoriented reminded me of when my kids were kids (i.e. before they were teens, yea verily, *well* before the older one went and turned *twenty*), and a parent of teens told me how much fun it was to parent teens. I had simply never considered that perspective, for which I blame the media, every parenting book I ever read (t'was back in the days before blogs, remember), whiny parents of teens, and my own lack of imagination. But once the seed was planted, it opened up a whole new world view.

I recently experienced a similar shift in consciousness while attending a presentation by John McKnight (organized by The Mills Community Support Corporation — thanks, folks!). He spoke about "Asset-Based Community Development", a fascinating concept (with a snappy acronym) that starts by identifying what communities *have*, and building from those points of strength, rather than focusing on what they *lack*. Mr. McKnight spoke about the importance of associations (groups of people getting things done because they think it's important to) versus institutions (hierarchical organizations or businesses that do things because they get paid to). I'm paraphrasing here, of course, with apologies to Mr. McKnight and encouragement to read his book *The Abundant Community — Awakening the Power of Families and Neighbourhoods*.

I had had a long day at the computer as it was full-on deadline time. The first two things that happened on my walk were: 1) I picked up dog poop, and 2) I fell on my ass sliding down a small (but wet — it was actually still sprinkling) hill. Relatively undaunted but feeling a tad sorry for myself, I pressed on. Fly and I walked through a lovely lush drippy part of the path, and then emerged at the edge of a field. The last time we had walked there at dusk, we surprised two white-tailed deer and I got to watch them bounding elegantly off, trying not to chuckle as my ancient doggie made a half-hearted attempt at pursuit. This time, no deer. Poor me, eh?

Things started looking up as I neared the turnaround part of the trail, though. The sun was just beginning to peek through the grey clouds as it prepared to set, casting spectacular light onto the treetops and setting the horizon on fire. In my whiny state, however, all I could think was that the view wouldn't be nearly as nice when I turned around and started back. I slowed to prolong the enjoyment (this also lets old doggie catch up), and came to a stop on a gentle rise where the slanted rays caught me full in the face. How extraordinarily lovely at the end of such a dismal day! And how I longed not to have to head back in the opposite direction!

Enter irony, in the form of a big ol' slap upside my head (albeit an exquisite looking one). I turned around with a sigh, and was confronted by a full double rainbow arcing over the landscape I love best in all the world. After my breath returned and I wiped the tears from my eyes, Fly and I proceeded to have the loveliest "way back" walk ever. New wonders appeared around every bend — the rainbow framing a stand of conifers ablaze in the setting sun; the mist turning a golden-orange near the "ends" of the rainbow. Then, right near our journey's end and almost back to the access road, a white-tailed buck leapt across the path, not twenty metres from where I walked.

By the time we returned to the car (after stops to wipe away more tears and give thanks for the mystery of existence), I had basically spun the whole experience into a gloriously convoluted metaphor about the second half of our lives and what we tend to expect from it (who's middle-aged? Certainly not *me!*).



Awesome rainbow photo by Pippa O'Brien. Thanks, Pippa!

Well, I thought, our communities are fairly bursting at the seams with amazing organizations! And according to Mr. McKnight, that gives us the ability to continue to create local solutions and innovations, and also to gradually de-institutionalize ourselves (it's as easy as ABCD...). As Wendell Berry so eloquently put it, "What we need is here."

I seem to be running out of space to discuss all the directions in which my newly-shifted consciousness is heading, so I think at this point I'll just put it out to the world. After all, that parent didn't sit me down and outline her techniques to me — she simply pointed out something I had never before considered. You can find lots more information and resources at <abundantcommunity.com>, or you can borrow my copy of the book (which I borrowed from Marilyn Anderson — thanks Marilyn!). And then give me a shout!

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on **Twitter** and **Facebook** (Renfrew Art in the Park)

Coffee Couple Teams Up with SchoolBOX

Every cup of coffee you drink at Equator Coffee Roasters is “making education possible.” Recently, Equator co-owners Craig and Amber Hall experienced firsthand the difference this is making.

In May of this year, the Halls travelled with Tom Affleck and Sarah Kerr of SchoolBOX to San Antonio, Nicaragua, where next year the two couples will partner to build a school in one of Equator’s coffee growing villages.

Equator has been supporting SchoolBOX since 2010, and ten cents from every pound of coffee Equator sells is donated directly to the local charity. The funds raised will help build the school in the spring of 2013, and Amber hopes everyone will get involved in the project.

“People can know that simply by buying coffee they are making a difference,” said Amber. “But this project will also give customers and staff an opportunity to be a part of the building, as well as to visit our farmers, hear their stories, and see how coffee is grown and processed.”

Seeking Volunteers

She thinks this is an amazing opportunity for customers and community members, and welcomes them to join the adventure. They are currently looking for volunteers to travel with them to take part in the construction, meet the farmers, and learn about the origins of coffee.

Kerr, the program development manager for SchoolBOX, thinks it is a gift to have two local organizations working together helping some of the world’s poorest children.

“It is amazing to see how two Almonte-based entrepreneurs, Craig and Tom (SchoolBOX founder and president), have taken on complementary tasks to change the world, and have now brought those visions together to have an even greater impact,” said Kerr. She feels that it is an inspiration to see Craig and Amber taking corporate social responsibility to the next level by embedding SchoolBOX into their business plan. “Together we are able to empower the farmers,



Craig and Amber Hall (at right) from Equator Coffee were warmly welcomed during their recent trip to Nicaragua.

(below left) Three amazing women working to ‘Make Education Possible’ pose at the Rueben Dario School in Leon, Nicaragua where SchoolBOX built 7 classrooms, a sports area and washrooms in 2009-2010. (l-r) Sarah Kerr, SchoolBOX International Operations Manager; Maria Del Carmen, Rueben Dario School Principal; Amber Hall, Equator Co-Founder. Enrollment at the school increased by over 300 students after SchoolBOX built the new infrastructure.

and the families from whom they buy their coffee, through basic education,” added Kerr. During their recent trip, they toured several SchoolBOX sites and visited the current school that they will rebuild. The very small adobe structure holds twenty-four bright and energetic young students and has holes in the roof but no windows. The Halls’ goal has always been to help southern producers, which they have been able to do by paying the farmers a fair price and maintaining a relationship through their coffee buying co-op. However, now it is becoming a very hands-on personal experience and they are eager to make a difference in the community.

“SchoolBOX is an amazing local organization that began very similarly to Equator — with the goal of making a real difference in developing countries,”

explains Craig. “Now, especially that we’ve seen firsthand their operations and progress in Nicaragua, we’re even more impressed with how they’re making use of their resources, not only to help children, but to bring employment and pride to communities.”

SchoolBOX and Equator are also teaming up for a fundraising golf tournament and dinner on July 2. The **Kent Huskins Golf 4 SchoolBOX Charity Tournament** is taking place at Pakenham Highlands Golf Club beginning at 11:30AM. Tickets are available at Equator Coffee or online at <schoolbox.ca>.



LEGION

Legion Branch 240 Almonte invites you to attend its

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Stop & Smell the Chocolate

You Really Should Read This

I heard a snippet of something on TV this morning, while procrastinating starting the day. They were discussing children's books, and the age at which kids should read these books. In my dozy morning state, part of my brain pondered the preconceptions we have towards our children as they grow,

more weight? Speaking of more weight... "I should eat better." Ya, good idea, but when you compare that statement to "I will eat better" or "I am eating better" or even "eating less junk will make me feel better", which do you think sounds more effective and likely to occur?

Please note that this only works with "I". Telling your son "You will study harder" will not work, unless you are a Jedi knight or you follow it with "or you'll lose your cellphone for months, young man."

by Rona Fraser

and how children and their parents are made to feel they have failed if the kids don't perform at the levels society expects (as in, "ten year-olds should be able to understand this book"). This wondering subtly combined with my solemn and heartfelt wish to return to bed ("but I should get ready for work")... and morphed into my deep and considered opinion that I could name the biggest obstacle in the entire world, standing between us and true happiness. Any ideas?

Lack of sleep? Reality TV? Lack of personal assistants to prep my clothes and food? Nope. The biggest obstruction between people and happiness is, in my opinion... the word "should".

I don't know *where* or *why* we are taught this word, but I really think it should be... oops... I really think it *needs* to be struck from our vocabulary. Why? Because "should" generally causes bad feelings, in ourselves and others. For instance, "I should go to bed early" implies that it is a good idea, but that I haven't been doing it, and I am wrong for not doing it. And perhaps implies that I am unlikely to do it. Don't you think? It is a guilt-inducing word. "I should pass on dessert... but I'll have the maple crêpe please. I will flagellate myself with broccoli later."

To paraphrase Yoda, "Do or do not. There is no should."

There are things you *should* do to stay healthy, to stay safe, to be kind, to make the world a better place. I am not telling you "don't do them." But "should" is inviting a fight or a failure. Surely using "I need" or "I will" would give our decisions

Now, all that being said, I will admit that releasing the word "should" will likely be difficult for me. One of my *raison d'être* is that life should be fair, and if it is not so, I will do my best to help it along. This leads to over-volunteering, which I have been getting a handle on lately, but still... letting go of that feeling that the world "should" be fair? That is a big thing for me. But on the other hand, it marries well with my effort to do things I enjoy.

Almonte Celfest, for instance. I love Celfest and have attended all years but one since moving here. I bring a blanket and a book and a writing pad and my sunscreen and I sit on the hill, soaking up the friendly, relaxed ambiance and fantastic music. Sure, I often meet up with friends, but I don't like to let that dictate my day. What is important is that I get to enjoy Celfest's music and people and food (of course). I hope the lemonade guy is back this year!

Hey — you know what I just realized? The year that I didn't attend? I was feeling burnt out with commitments and felt I "should" go... so I didn't. And I felt guilty. As if anyone cared! Well this year I simply want to go because I enjoy it so much and deserve a day of relaxation and good tunes. If you feel the same, why not come on out to Gemmill Park in Almonte on July 7 and/or 8. Or if you prefer your music in a pub, check out the Friday night offerings. All schedules are in the insert in this Humm. And if you enjoy healthy living and the outdoors, I highly recommend July 29's **Herb-fest** at the Herb Garden. Another fun, relaxing day outside in the Almonte area! See the centre of this issue for deets.



The Elders headline at this year's **Almonte Celfest**, which runs on July 6, 7 and 8. You really should go!

Celebrating Diversity

On July 7, a fresh, new and exciting initiative will arrive in Renfrew — the **Celebrating Diversity Festival**. Marcus Magdalena, the mind behind the successful local production *Memoirs of a Genderless Warrior*, has teamed up with the Local Immigration Partnership of Renfrew and Lanark and other community members to bring us a day filled with entertainment, activities and information, in celebration of what makes Renfrew an excitingly diverse community.

Chéla Breckon is a member of the Celebrating Diversity Festival committee, and involved in the organization of the festival. She is also the project manager of the Local Immigration Partnership of Renfrew and Lanark, which is involved in many local initiatives throughout the year. The Celebrating Diversity initiative was chosen as their primary project, in terms of a welcoming event for immigrants new to Lanark County, as well as a significantly helpful tool in the organization's ultimate goal of promoting a diverse, inclusive community.

Chéla explains that celebrating diversity is not only humanitarian, but it actually improves the functionality of a community. "From a business perspective, we know from research and experience that well-managed diverse workforces are considered a competitive advantage to companies," she said. "The same is true for communities. It is not enough to just be a diverse community — we must 'manage' it."

Fran Watson, the festival's Logistics Committee chair and a performer in the festival's bookending production *Dragon's Breath*, believes that Renfrew is a diverse community that will benefit immensely from the celebration. "Many in our community are 'on the fringe' — people who use the Food Bank, people who are mentally and/or physically challenged, as well as new Canadians and immigrants," she said. "There is also no recognition for the diversity of sexual orientation."

The desire to be a part of a thriving, functional community is what brings us all together, says Chéla. This common goal is what allows us to put aside differences, and work together for the common good. Chéla hopes the festival will not only be a fun, interactive way for locals to enjoy what living in Renfrew has to offer, but a way for participants to "acknowledge that no matter your skin colour, background, sexual orientation, language, size, job or religion, we are all the same underneath."

The festival will take place from 9AM to 6PM in Low Square, on Raglan Street South and Railway Avenue, in Renfrew. It will feature a number of booths displaying information, cultural artefacts and food. Booths will be run by the Francophone

community, Toastmasters, TLC, Valley Animal Rescue, Kids Korp, and many more. The main stage, situated on Railway Avenue beside the Town Hall, will feature a variety of performers and speakers throughout the day.

Festival-goers of all ages are expected, and encouraged to attend. Family-friendly activities such as face painting, balloon animals and children's book readings will take place throughout the day, in and around Low Square.

Dragon's Breath, a

play directed by Marcus Magdalena and a production that "highlights diversity in the best possible way," will be performed at 4PM and tickets will cost \$12. Although this portion of the day will have a cost, admission to the festival as a whole will be free.

The committee hopes the festival will return every summer, growing larger each year, with the possible addition of a parade and street closure. "I hope that the positive feedback and response from this year's festival will leave a label on this event as 'inaugural,'" says Chéla.

— *Kylie Kendall is theHumm's summer intern, and will be entering her second year in Carleton University's journalism program in the fall*



Don't miss the Ottawa Valley's first-ever Diversity Festival, taking place in Renfrew on Saturday, July 7

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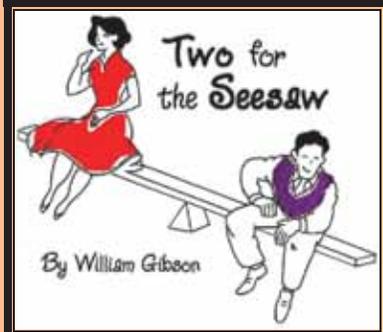
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Studio Theatre Offers Laugh-A-Minute Comedy

In a world bombarded with news of natural disasters, wars and gruesome murders, laughter is a precious commodity — the best medicine, we are told. So treat yourself to a healthy dose of laughter by taking in Studio Theatre's summer production of Norm Foster's comedy *Opening Night*. It's non-stop laughter from curtain to curtain.

Director David Parry, assisted by Patricia Parry, has assembled some of the county's most talented actors to play this cast of dysfunctional characters. The setting is the Charles Killian Theatre during the opening night of a new Canadian play, "Whisper on the Wind." Ruth and Jack Tisdale (Jennifer Pfitzer and Grey Masson) are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary with dinner and the theatre. Ruth has obtained tickets that allow them to mingle with the theatre elite in the V.I.P. lounge before the play and during the intermission. Here they meet: Michael, an out-of-work actor (Howard Sonnenburg); Tom, the bartender and aspiring actor (Lucas Tennant); Richard, the play's director (Brian Tannenbaum); Cilla, his girlfriend (Danielle MacDonald); Libby (Julia Bryant), a cast member whom Cilla suspects is involved with her husband; and Clayton Fry, a has-been actor (David Parry). For Ruth, the event is sheer delight. Jack would prefer to be home watching the baseball game.

As the play within a play unfolds, the situation becomes increasingly disastrous for the characters onstage and off, and hilarious for us in the audience. A comedy of errors at its best.

Opening Night opens on August 2 at 8PM in the Studio Theatre and runs August 3, 4, 10 and 11 at 8PM and August 5 and 12 at 2PM. Tickets are \$20 in advance and available at the Book Nook or at the box office on Saturday

mornings; \$22 at Tickets Please or at the door. There will be a Gala before the August 2 opening performance as Studio Theatre kicks off another thrilling season of theatre. Foster's play will be followed August 16 to 26 by the touching love story *Love Letters* by A.R. Gurney.

Look Forward to Winter

But this summer season is just the beginning, and will be followed by Studio Theatre's exciting regular season of comedies, thrillers and dramas. The classic thriller *Wait Until Dark* will kick off the winter season in October, to be followed by an evening of one-act plays, featuring Studio Theatre's Eastern Ontario Drama League festival entry. In December they present the heart-warming seasonal comedy *The Christmas Express*, to be followed in February by the offbeat, rib-tickling Canadian comedy *\$38,000 for a Friendly Face*.

Then in April, Studio Theatre launches its first musical, the Broadway hit and Tony award winning *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and closes the season with the Golden Globe nominee drama *Proof*. You can see all six plays of this regular season for just \$99 if

you purchase your season tickets before Labour Day from the Studio Theatre (\$110 from Tickets Please). After Labour Day, the price is \$109 from Studio Theatre, and \$120 from Tickets Please. Those who buy a season pass before Labour Day will be given the special rate of \$17 for tickets to *Love Letters* (\$19 at Tickets Please).

The Studio Theatre box office will be open Saturdays from 9AM to noon until Labour Day and also for one hour before each show. Tickets to any Studio Theatre Production play will be available for purchase at that time. Only cash and cheques are accepted. For further information, please see <studiotheatreperth.com> or call the box office at 267-7469.

For purchase outside of box office hours or by credit card, please visit Tickets Please at 39 Foster Street in Perth, call 485-6434, or go to the website <ticketsplease.ca>. All prices quoted include convenience fee.

Don't miss out on a single production of this varied and exciting season. And if you're looking for a gift for that person who has everything, why not give the gift of live entertainment. Gift certificates are available for all Studio Theatre productions.



The cast of *Opening Night* rehearses at Perth's Studio Theatre

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Awesome Music and Poetry in Perth

Nothing quite says "Perth is awesome" like the **Stewart Park Music Festival**. Seriously. Three days of free music in a beautiful, majestic park. Tasty food from all over the world. Workshops and roving musicians, children's show and activities. An always diverse and eclectic artists' market.

by John Pigeau

This July 20–22 marks the 22nd anniversary of the festival — surely one of the premier music festivals in Ontario. As ever, this year's lineup of musical acts is an impressive one, with a little something for everyone, whether you like rock or folk, blues or jazz.

Stewart Park Artistic Director Joel LeBlanc says it's difficult to pick just one act that he is particularly excited about. "Everyone I choose to play is there because I am excited about what they do," Joel says. "Don Ross is obviously

one of the best acoustic guitar players in the world. The Toronto All Star Big band is going to let us close with a big sound and hopefully all-ages dancing. Ian Tambllyn is a Canadian song-writing treasure. Lots of diverse fiddle music with Belle Starr, goDjango and championship fiddler Shane Cook. The Once are one of the hottest traditional bands on the festival scene out of Newfoundland. The beautiful harmonies of Dala, Belle Starr and The Claytones are sure to please. MonkeyJunk are multiple Maple Blues award winners and will rock the park on Saturday."

So, he says, "That's a hard one." Still, LeBlanc aimed to bring in music for all tastes. "I really took an eclectic approach to try to have something for everyone," he says. "The line-up is mostly roots music but that term can be defined pretty broadly. Lots of horns, fiddles and harmony this year. Also more blues and the addition of classical music."

LeBlanc says festival organizers expect about 20,000 people to attend the free, three-day event. "It is always well attended," he adds. For good reason!

A special treat for the kids (and for the kid in all of us) will be Saturday's noon performance by Kiki the Eco Elf. Also known as Tanya Lipscomb, Kiki will be bringing her fun and exuberant show from the west coast. Making it a little bit more special is the fact that Tanya Lipscomb is originally from Perth. Her homecoming promises to bring smiles and win over hearts.

Friday night's headliners, Belle Starr (on stage

at 8PM), unites three of Canada's top fiddlers and singers: Stephanie Cadman, Kendel Carson and Miranda Mullholland. They are known, by their loyal following of roots music fans, for their glorious harmonies and innovative arrangements. Their debut EP, *The Burning of Atlanta*, is named after the album's title track, which was penned by local favourite Jenny Whiteley. This act is sure to please folk, country and roots music fans as well as anyone who loves a good harmony... or anyone with a pulse.

Saturday night features MonkeyJunk, winners of the 2012 Juno Award for Best Blues Album (*To Behold*). (William Shatner called the band "The Sultans of Swamp R&B." How cool is that?!) The band, an Ottawa-based trio (Steve Marriner on vocals, harmonica, keyboards and guitar; Tony D on lead guitar, with Matt Sobb on drums), refers to their music as a mix of "Swamp R&B. Soul boogie. Deep blues. Bedroom funk." And... something you can dance to. MonkeyJunk is a hardworking, soul-jarring band whose star is on the rise — big time. They should rather easily blow away the Saturday evening crowd.

Rounding out the weekend with a Sunday afternoon performance is the always popular Toronto All Star Big Band. This band of talented musicians, ranging in age from 15 to 21 years of age, take to the stage with a whole lot of instruments — trombones,



This year's Stewart Park Festival lineup includes guitar player extraordinaire Don Ross (above), the beautiful harmonies of Dala (below left), and many others. It takes place from July 20–22.

year at four venues: Jameson's, Michael's Table, Perth Restaurant and the Studio Theatre. The price for access to all After Hours shows is \$20, and you can still get into individual shows for \$10. Buttons are on sale in the park during the festival.

Switching gears a bit to the world of literature: mighty congratulations are in order for Perth poet **Phil Hall**, who has been asked to be writer-in-residence at Queen's University this coming fall. It's been quite a year for Phil, the self-professed "word-muddler." His latest book of poetry, *Killdeer*, won the 2011 Governor General's Award for Poetry in English, was nominated for the Griffin Poetry Prize (the richest poetry prize in the world), and was also just awarded the Trillium Award — a \$20,000 prize honouring Ontario's best French and English language poets and authors.

No stranger to the classroom, Phil has taught writing at York University, Ryerson University, Seneca College, George Brown College and elsewhere. He is currently working as a poetry manuscript midwife, a distance program offered by the Toronto New School of Writing. Recent books include *An Oak Hunch* (shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize in 2006) and *The Little Seamstress*.

Congratulations, Phil! — John Pigeau is the owner of *Backbeat Books and Music* and the founder of the *First Edition Reading Series in Perth*.



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Humm Bits

Fiddlers and Friends

Fiddlers and Friends are bringing their toe tapping fiddle tunes to Ompah on July 25. Twelve veteran musicians make up the group. Seven fiddlers are joined by friends who play piano, banjo, cello, double bass, percussion and penny whistle. Some members sing, others dance, and some play multiple instruments. The group has played together for several years, performing in Perth, Lanark and Maberly. They love to entertain by sharing their joy of music and infectious sense of fun. Audiences are encouraged to join in and clap, toe-tap, sing along, and maybe get up to dance.

Fiddlers and Friends play at the Ompah Community Centre on Wednesday, July 25 at 7PM, and admission is by donation at the door. This fundraising event is sponsored by the Ompah-Plevna United Church. Refreshments will follow the concert as the musicians and audience mingle to share this celebration of music and community. For further information, contact Rev. Jean Brown at 336-2516 or Marily Seitz at 479-2855.

Museum Getaway Packages in Almonte and Carp

Whether you're an art lover, a history buff, or just want to enjoy a relaxing change of pace, the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum's (MVTM) getaway packages offer something for everyone's tastes. You can experience great local cuisine and small town hospitality, follow Almonte's Riverwalk by the Mississippi River, enjoy romantic gourmet dinners and sumptuous accommodations, and discover history as you've never seen it before. For details, call the Textile Museum at 256-3754.

Have a **Woolen Bombing Experience** without harming any sheep! Enjoy tours of both the Diefenbunker (Canada's Cold War Museum) and the MVTM, shop with a Mill Street Books gift certificate, and savour a gourmet Italian meal at Café Postino, and relax by the river at the Menzies House 1850 B&B.

The **Fibre Art Tour along the Mississippi** will once again have you sleeping at the beautiful Menzies House and shopping at Mill Street Books, with a special curator's tour of the MVTM's fibre art display, and a gourmet dinner at Almonte's Heirloom Café.

The **Presidential Experience** follows the footsteps of Bennett Rosamond, president of one of Canada's largest woolen mills. Spend the night in the Rosamond Suite at Pinehurst Manor, built by Rosamond in 1890, and retrace his daily walk across the private bridge to the mill and museum, learning the finer points of the industry that built a town. Dinner is at the Heirloom Café (in Rosamond's first woolen mill).

Take a **Step Back in Time** with a one-day tour (for groups) of the Diefenbunker (with lunch), the MVTM, and tea/dessert at The Mill Street Crepe Company (with shopping in Almonte as well).

Rails to Bales in Smiths Falls

Join the **Heritage House Museum** and the **Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario** on their exciting summer exhibition tour, and see two exhibitions for one discounted price. Take a journey through time and enjoy Rails to Bales, with "A Social History of the Railway in Smiths Falls" at the Railway Museum and "The Legend of Frost & Wood: Outstanding in their Field" at the Heritage House Museum. Discover the legacy of the Frost & Wood Company (one of the largest farm implement producers in Canada for 116 years), the men who founded the company, and the impact that this homegrown industry had on the world, and explore the heritage of Smiths Falls through the development of the railway.

Rails to Bales saves you 25% off the museums' admission, and is offered until September 3. Tickets are available at both museums.

The Heritage House Museum is open daily from 10:30AM to 4:30PM, at 11 Old Sly's Road in Smiths Falls (283-6311, heritage-house@smithsfalls.ca). The Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario is open daily from 10AM to 4PM, at 90 Williams Street West in Smiths Falls (283-5696, rmeo.org).

The Millstone

An intelligent and informed source of news for Mississippi Mills, Almonte, Pakenham, Ramsay and Carleton Place

FREE

www.millstonenews.com

Funny You Should Write...

Work it Good!

Disclaimer: Please consult your medical professional, life coach, personal trainer and mom before heeding any of the following advice. Got a question? Send Miss Write an email at <misswrite@thehummm.com>.

Dear Miss Write.

I have recently started offering fitness camps for both adults and children in the Almonte and Carleton Place area. Most

ple the tools to be your greatest champions and they'll do a good part of the work on your behalf. Make it easy for fans to "share" your emails and Facebook posts with friends. Keep those things updated regularly so they don't go stale. Post challenges, tips and recipes to inspire people with a broader range of interests and goals. Start a referral program. When the time is right for the individual, you'll be top of mind.

Happy Camping!

Dear Miss Write,

Any ideas how I can get my kid (he's four) to go to bed earlier than 9:30PM, and sleep in later than 6AM? I mean besides offering him up a cocktail of prescription sleeping aids and brandy.

Sleepless in the Country

Dear Sleepless,

I was going to ask you the same thing.

Miss Wrzzzzzzzz

Dear Miss Write,

Me again. My husband woke me up snoring so I thought I might as well write. Between my night owl/early rising four-year-old and my log sawing husband waking me up on the hour through the night, I feel like I'm losing it. Any tips to help me get a little shut-eye?

Still Sleepless in the Country

Dear Still Sleepless,

Sounds like it's not really all that fun, or fair, being you. As you know, I can't help you with the kid issue (except to suggest that perhaps dad, if he doesn't already, get up every second morning with the early riser so you can sleep in the extra hour), but as far as your husband goes, I'm curious to know if he's fully aware of how disruptive his snoring is to your beauty sleep. Have you ever recorded him so he can hear for himself? Not that that would make him stop necessarily, but it might make him look for solutions that would help. Those nose and mouth sleep apnea

Darth Vader hook up things are pretty sexy. Maybe he needs one of those? I don't know. Despite my impressive ability to spew medical jargon, I'm no doctor. Would it be possible to have your husband sleep somewhere else? Another poor woman's bed perhaps? I mean that's about as good advice as it gets over here.

Sleep tight!

Dear Miss Write,

Why is it that some people are so special that they get to leave their cars running in No Parking zones while they go in for a coffee, and then they don't even feel any obligation to hold the door open for a mom with a coffee in one hand and a three-year-old in the other? How does one become so important?

Choking on the Fumes and Fuming

Dear Fuming,

It has been my experience that there are some people who have been put on this earth to both test us and to reassure us that we are far superior beings. Plain and simple, some people are jerks. I saw someone litter the other day. Litter I say! Who litters? I'll tell you who. The same people who leave their vehicles idling (No Parking zone or not, it's despicable) and don't hold doors for people in wheelchairs let alone coffee-deprived moms in need of a hand.

So to answer your question, one doesn't become this important. They're born important. And, incidentally, without reflections. Because they're pure evil.

— Emily Arbour is a freelance writer (among other things) who lives and works in Almonte, Ontario. By no means is she an expert in anything but having an opinion and making things up. You can go ahead and take her advice, but you'd probably do just as well asking a vampire if this garlic smells funny. Only difference is he doesn't have a column in this fine publication.

by Emily Arbour

everyone who has participated in them so far keeps coming back, so I know I'm doing something right. Thing is, my current audience is pretty small. I'm new to the area, and not as connected as I think I need to be to spread the good word about my business. Any tips on how I can get my name out there and grow my business?

Sincerely, Erin O'Reilly

Dear Erin,

Two words. Social Media. Now don't get me wrong, it's not as simple as parking yourself online and waiting for people to stumble upon your business. It's not just about having a presence on Facebook, Twitter and the Blogosphere — you've got to work those media and work them like they're an out-of-shape new mom slash freelance writer who spends more time picking up cookie crumbs than picking up her bootstraps.

The unique feature of your business is that the operating costs are low and the most valuable thing you have to offer is your time. Don't be afraid to give out some freebies. Just as 63 is the new 27, social media is the new word of mouth. The more people you can get to try your "product", the more likely (we're talking like 100% more likely since they didn't know you before now) they are to spread the good word. Give peo-

It's Christmas in July!

ALMONTE FAIR

July 20, 21 & 22

www.almontefair.com

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Nature Notes

Getting Out and About on the Bonnechere

Have you always wanted to paddle the Bonnechere, take a bike ride with friends, take a canvas and paint outdoors, or take a guided herb walk? Now you have a chance to do one or more of these wonderful activities this summer in the Bonnechere River watershed area!

The Nature in Your Neighbourhood excursion series kicked off on June 3 in Eganville with a mass paddle from Wilber Lake to Eganville as part of the first Celebrate Our River event in partnership with the Township of Bonnechere Valley. The next excursion will be in Renfrew on **Saturday, July 14**, in partnership with the Ontario Plein Air Society, the A.Y. Jackson Trail project and the Renfrew Art Guild. Come participate in a "Paint Out", as part of Renfrew Art in the Park at Haramis Park at 160 O'Brien Rd in Renfrew, beginning at 9AM. This will be a fun opportunity for artists of all levels to get out in nature, try their hand at open air painting, meet fellow painters, and be part of an exciting art weekend! This event is free for OPAS members and \$10 for non-members. Please pre-register at <pamc@sympatico.ca>.

The excursion series continues the following **Saturday, July 21** at 10AM at Hoch Farm and Ecology Centre in Killaloe, when herbalist Diana MacAuley will lead a herb walk through the grounds of Hoch Farm, exploring the medicinal and culinary herbs that grow throughout the farm and wetlands. Come on out and identify and learn about the many and varied uses of herbs in our neighbourhood.

Pre-registration is not required. Hoch Farm and Ecology Centre is located on Queen Street, next to Killaloe Public School. Check out the weekly Farmers' Market while you're there.

On **Saturday, July 28**, explore the lower section of the Bonnechere River from your canoe or kayak, as Ole Hendrickson and Kathy Lindsay co-lead a leisurely paddle excursion downriver from Renfrew, between the Second Chute and the confluence of the Bonnechere with the Ottawa River at Castleford. Explore the river, its vegetation, wildlife and geology, and drink in the beauty of the First Chute, one of the most scenic spots on the entire Bonnechere! Paddlers are asked to meet with your canoe/kayak, floatation devices, and other safety equipment at 32 Bridge Street in Renfrew at 10AM. The trip is approximately 15 km in length and will take about five hours, including a 200-metre portage around the First Chute. Shallow water levels may require some wading. The paddle will finish at the Horton Township boat launch, at the bridge on River Road. At least one car will be parked at the boat launch to shuttle drivers back to Renfrew.

The last of the Nature in Your Neighbourhood excursions will take place on **Sunday August 19**, in partnership with the 2012 Tour de Bonnechere, when cyclists are invited to join with others for a group bike excursion. Celebrate cycling and take in the wonders of nature in the Bonnechere River watershed area as you tour your choice of the 20, 50 or 100 km routes. Participants are asked to

pre-register with Gearheads at 687-4624. The morning of the tour, sign in at the Legion Field Park in Eganville between 8 and 8:30AM, for a departure at 9AM. The cost is \$20, and lunch is potluck. For more information call Chris at 628-2283.

More information on this series and the collaborative Nature in Your Neighbourhood initiative can be found at <ottawariverinstitute.ca> and <BonnechereRiver.ca>. The Ottawa River Institute and the Bonnechere River Watershed Project gratefully acknowledge funding for this project from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.



This summer's Nature in Your Neighbourhood excursion series includes plein air painting at Renfrew's Art in the Park, a wild herb walk, paddling the Bonnechere River (above), and cycling with the Tour de Bonnechere



"Quality
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Summer is the perfect time to visit our beautiful town of Almonte! Come to enjoy the shops, natural sites and heritage architecture, and you cannot miss the wonderful Café Postino — situated in a vintage Post Office in the heart of downtown Almonte.

Owners Steve and Claire Falsetto have been delighting patrons with their succulent Italian cuisine. By giving full attention to good service, they ensure that your visit is a pleasurable and memorable one. The wonderful smells will immediately stimulate your appetite as you enter the premises...

Join us for lunch or dinner... we would love to serve you!

Reservations recommended.

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Fun With Art at MERA

Looking for something creative and enjoyable for your children or grandchildren this summer? The MERA Art Camp for children takes place from July 23 to 27, from 10AM to 3PM each day. Art-maker Janice Ling is the Camp Director at this very popular camp, suitable for children aged five to fourteen.

This year's theme is a celebration of international arts, and the emphasis is on fun! During the week, participants will construct a Spanish piñata, create Chinese scrolls, design Indonesian paper puppets, build Aboriginal sculptures, learn how to create fashion templates, and craft awesome glass sculptures inspired by the Louvre in Paris.

The MERA Arts Camp helps young people to enhance creative thinking, organization, and confidence. Projects are taught through hands-on learning with loads of games and activities. Children learn how to conceptualize, gather materials, work with tools and equipment, as well as set up and present exhibitions.

The cost for the week is \$150 per child for MERA members and \$165 for non-members. To register, please phone 278-0388 or email <meraschoolhouse@bell.net>.

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\$16 per class — free parking
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Book your calendars and get your runners for 1 or all 6 hikes:
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July 17: 6-8PM • July 24: 6-8PM

Contact Bryde Kelly for more information or to confirm attendance:
bm808@sympatico.ca

Location: concession Road 8, off of Clayton Road, Mississippi Mills
For directions visit **mvc.on.ca**

Fantastic P/T Employment Opportunity in Almonte!

Developer for the 45+ market seeks an energetic and personable individual who is well-connected and familiar with local businesses and residents of Almonte and surrounding villages to work part-time (20 hrs/wk) as a sales associate in their Almonte office.

This will appeal to someone who is outgoing and likes to be busy. Some Saturdays will be required. Remuneration to be discussed.

No phone calls, please. Submit resumes by no later than July 15th to: **anne.vanwyck@hydeparkcanada.com**

Please note that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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Showtime at the Station is Back!

Arts Carleton Place is pleased to present Showtime at the Station this summer, from 6 to 8PM every Wednesday from July 11 through to August 22. Last year's series was a huge success, so be sure to mark this on your calendars. Come out with your family throughout the summer for "Something Just a Little Bit Different!"

Every week there will be a BBQ. Bring your family, chairs and blankets to the park behind the Old Train Station at 132 Coleman Street in Carleton Place. There's quite a lineup of performers to entertain the whole family! **Doug Barr** will be there on opening night with his music and stories along with **Crash the Clown**. Then on July 18, there's **Maria Hawkins**, the Blues Lady, who always keeps the kids involved in her performances. July 25 will feature the funky musical stylings of **Junkyard Symphony** (at right) with their tips on recycling and their unique sound. On August 1, **Chris Pilsworth** comes with his magical illusions. Then, **SRC** presents their **Talent Showcase** on August 8. The **Cowguys** are coming on August 15 to share a little comedy and some juggling too. Closing off the series on August 22 will be **Latin Breeze** — everyone will be up dancing to their Latin American rhythms.

Youth Art Competition

On Saturday, June 16, at the Lambs Down Festival, Arts Carleton Place presented prizes to the winners in their 2nd annual Youth Art Competition. They received more than fifty entries this year, and are already looking forward to having even more entries in next year's competition!

Arts Carleton Place would like to congratulate the winners on their successful entries in the contest.

In the Visual Arts category, winners in the Ages 6–10 category were Kirra Martin (1st), Chikita Georgeson (2nd) and Madison Lajeunesse (3rd). Ages 11–14 winners were Amber Willows (1st), Tessa Stroud (2nd) and Mitchel Bernique (3rd). Ages 15–18 winners were Sydney Ohlmann (1st), Emily Santos (2nd) and Shelby Millar (3rd).

For Photography, winners in the Ages 6–10 category were Sydney O'Toole (1st), Aliana Sanchez (2nd) and Maddy Martin (3rd). Ages 11–14 winners were Kira Salter (1st), McKinley Van Klei (2nd) and Jessica Taylor (3rd).

Poetry was not divided by age. The winning poets this year were Sierra Ivy Elliot (1st), Cassidy Banks (2nd) and Gwendolyn King (3rd), with an Honourable Mention to Heather Dodsworth.



A Concert of Summer Song

"I question not if thrushes sing, if roses load the air; beyond my heart I need not reach when all is summer there."

— Cheney

The beauty of high summer will be celebrated in song at a recital on Sunday, July 29, 2PM at St. Paul's United Church in Perth. Soprano Phyllis Knox and Brad Mills (organ and piano) will collaborate to present songs and arias that range from Elizabethan lute songs to works of Purcell, Bach and Mozart; from songs of Faure and Debussy to folk songs of the British Isles and Atlantic Canada.

Phyllis specializes in singing the soprano roles in the works of Bach, Handel and Mozart. These include Mozart's *Requiem* and his *Great Mass in C Minor* with the Thunder Bay Symphony, and Bach's *B-Mass* with along with Fiona Huggett and Tafelmusik. Summer concerts and festivals are Phyllis' forte. She has performed in the Festival International de Musique Baroque de Lameque on the Acadian Peninsula of New Brunswick. She recorded for the CBC from the prestigious Indian

River Summer Festival in PEI, and with Duo New Brunswick in New Brunswick Summer Music in Grand Manan. At the Petite Rivière summer concerts in Lunenburg County (Nova Scotia), she sang three years running, working with Paul Halley on organ and Brian Start on fortepiano and harpsichord.

Accompanying Phyllis will be Brad Mills. Brad has been Director of Music at St. Paul's since 1979 and has recently retired from a thirty-year career teaching music in the public school system. Brad has collaborated with St. Peter's Anglican Church organist Peter Woodwork to present large choral works with orchestra and soloists, including the Bach *Mass in b Minor*, the *Requiem* by Brahms, *Elijah* by Mendelssohn and *Creation* by Haydn, along with many years of mixed choral programs and annual services of *Nine Lessons and Carols*. Join these two accomplished musicians for a delightful hour of music on Sunday, July 29, 2PM, at St. Paul's United Church, 25 Gore Street West in Perth. Donations will be accepted at the door.

El Sistema — Parte Dos

As promised, this month's column is going to once again discuss Venezuela's publicly-funded music program, "El Sistema". For those of you who are new to *theHumm*, here's a brief synopsis: Venezuela has become a hotbed of musical talent in the classical music ranks because

by Tony Stuart

of this system of music education, which is able to reach even the poorest of students. It was originally conceived and implemented in 1975 as a way to help students escape extreme poverty and the associated social ills.

The most famous musician to come out of El Sistema is Gustavo Dudamel, who is currently the music director for the Los Angeles Philharmonic. If you watch Dudamel conducting, you'll see his energy is infectious. In his home country he's treated like a rock star, and he is actually getting similar treatment here in North America. Along with Dudamel, there are many graduates of the program working in top-notch orchestras

throughout the world, as both players and conductors.

Another graduate of El Sistema is an up-and-coming conductor named Carlos Izcaray. He was recently featured in a newspaper profile in *St. Louis Today* <stltoday.com>. Izcaray has fond memories of his time spent in youth orchestras in Venezuela. His big observation upon coming to the United States was that youth orchestras in North America tend to be a weekend type of activity, whereas in Venezuela, rehearsals take place every day of the week after school, from Monday to Saturday. He also noted that now every student in Venezuela has access to El Sistema, regardless of their socio-economic background. When describing the impact that graduates of the program are going to have in the next few years, his answer is succinct: "Just wait."

He also provides a glimpse into daily life in Venezuela in some of the poorer areas. It wasn't without risks. According to Izcaray: "My first conducting experience in El Sistema was in a very, very dangerous area. The first bassist couldn't make it to rehearsal one day because she was caught in the crossfire be-

tween gangs. For kids from the most dangerous, vicious places, this is a channel of hope, a ray of light to guide them." He goes on further to discuss why many countries are now trying to emulate El Sistema: "People are moved by it. They see the power of music beyond the enjoyment of a concert setting. They see its effect on kids, on parents. There's a snowball effect, and once started, it's unstoppable."

I'm sure that some of you are thinking that this is all very nice, but what does the hard evidence say, especially since the program has been around for over thirty-five years. The Inter-American Development Bank conducted a widespread study of the more than two million students who have gone through El Sistema, and found marked improvement in school attendance and decreased rates of juvenile delinquency. They also calculated that, with the benefits associated with better school attendance and a decline in crime rates, each dollar spent on El Sistema was producing \$1.68 in social dividends. This study was initially commissioned because this particular bank was hesitant to provide a loan to create new regional training centers in Ven-



Concurrently serving as Music Director of the Simón Bolívar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Gustavo Dudamel is probably the most famous musician to have emerged from El Sistema

ezuela on the grounds that classical music was simply for the elite. They were quickly proven wrong, and provided the loan.

For further information on El Sistema, there was a wonderful documentary produced in 2004 called *Tocar y Luchar* which translates as "Play and Fight". The best part is that this film is widely available for purchase, so it is easy to learn more.

Wouldn't it be nice if we took a page or two from El Sistema and gave music (and the other arts) the attention and respect they deserve? One can't help but think that world would be a better place.

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



3 DAYS OF FREE MUSIC IN DOWNTOWN HERITAGE PERTH

After Hours, Workshops, Children's Activities
Line up subject to change
Sorry no dogs allowed in the park.

Friday
Perth Youth Showcase
goDjango
Ian Tamblyn
The Jivewires
Sherman Downey & the Silver Lining
Belle Starr

Saturday
PAMT
Kiki the Eco Elf
Shane Cook
Samantha Martin & the Haggard
Fraser/Daley
Don Ross
The Claytones
Dala
Monkey Junk

Sunday
Arts in Motion
Rideau Lakes Chamber Orchestra
Hard Ryde
The Once
Toronto All Star Big Band

22ND ANNUAL

Stewart Park Festival July 20-22

www.stewartparkfestival.com

2012 Heritage Mica Festival

FRIENDS OF MURPHYS POINT PARK



Friday July 13 – Spirit Walk at the Silver Queen Mine at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Meet character actors from the past during our theatre performance along the mine trail. The Spirit Walk includes a visit in the underground mine and the miners' bunkhouse. The cost for the Spirit Walk is \$2.00 per person for registered campers or \$20.00 per car which includes the park entry fee for non-campers.

Advance tickets are recommended.



Wednesday July 18 – Dinner/Theatre at the Silver Queen Mine and the Miners' Bunkhouse at 6:30 p.m.

Join a small group for this truly one-of-a-kind experience! Our theatre presentation unfolds along the Silver Queen Mine trail, taking you back to the heyday of the mine in 1900. The evening culminates in a fabulous dinner in the tradition of the times. "Cookie" will maintain law and order as you find a place at the trestle table. Enjoy traditional fare while being entertained by itinerant musicians. Who knows, some of the spirits of the mine may join you at dinner!



Advance tickets required. Tickets are \$55 per person which includes your park entry permit.

Friday July 20 – Story Telling at the Campfire Pit at 7:30 p.m.

Join "Bear the Tinker" for stories around the campfire! Let your imagination take you away as Bear spins his magic. No admission charge for the story telling, but you do need a park entry permit for your car. We will be roasting hot dogs at the campfire pit starting at 6:30 for those who want to come early. Donations requested for the hot dogs.



Saturday July 21 – Lally Homestead Heritage Day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.



The Lally site features the original log homestead and drive shed buildings as well as the stone foundation of the Lally barn. Wander the homestead grounds and visit a wide variety of heritage craftsmen. Heritage musicians and story tellers will keep you entertained. Kids of all ages can take part in traditional games. Join "Ma Lally" for a short cultural hike through the Lally property. Heritage lunch available for sale.

Saturday July 21 – Amphitheatre Performance at 7:30 p.m.

Freshwater Trade (www.freshwatertrade.ca) performs at the outdoor amphitheatre in a show for all ages. Their original and traditional tunes present a singing and fiddling tour of the forests and waterways of Canada. Join us for a toe-tapping time!



Murphy Point Provincial Park is located about 20 km south of Perth on Elm Grove Road. The park is designated as a Natural Environment Park and features tent and trailer sites, beaches, hiking trails, canoe rentals and playgrounds. Camping reservations can be made at www.ontarioparks.com. Murphys Point participates in the Learn to Camp program. Day use permits are available at the park gate at a cost of \$14.00 per car (\$11.00 for seniors or \$7.00 for handicapped). Seasonal passes are also available.

The Heritage Mica Festival is a program of the Friends of Murphys Point Park. Festival events continue through until the fall. For full



details on all Heritage Mica Festival Events, visit our website at www.friendsofmurphyspoint.ca/heritage-mica-festival/.

Advance tickets are recommended for all festival activities by contacting us at eventsmurphys@ripnet.com or 613-267-5340.



Mica, Theatre and History to Enjoy!

Costumes have been pressed, facilities prepared, scripts written, musicians booked, and food ordered. The 2012 **Heritage Mica Festival** is ready to go, and the volunteers from the Friends of Murphys Point Park are excited about this year's program.

The 2012 festival lasts throughout the summer at Murphys Point Provincial Park and has components to attract all ages. The ever popular **Spirit Walks** return this year with an updated script and some new characters. The walks are scheduled on two Friday evenings — July 13 and August 24 — and feature a community theatre production with scenes along the trail to the Silver Queen Mine, down into the mine and on to the miners' bunkhouse. The trail is entirely lit with the glow of mica lanterns, adding to the magical experience. Spirit Walks are suitable for the whole family, but you do need to be able to walk the 1km down the trail and back.

A new event for 2012, designed especially for adults, is our **Dinner/Theatre** experience. This experience has a limited capacity of thirty-six people per show and runs on two Wednesdays: July 18 and August 15. Join members of the Lally family at their homestead site as they take you back to the year 1900. Then follow Johnny, the eccentric farmer/inventor, along the Silver Queen Mine trail as he spins a wistful tale of the mining life. After a visit underground into the mine, you will be seated at trestle tables in the bunkhouse where Cookie will serve up a tantalizing

dinner (and keep order at the same time). Enjoy the music of itinerant musicians. Who knows, some of the miners may join you at your table! Tickets must be purchased at least one week in advance for the Dinner/Theatre experience, and the cost is \$55 per person.

For a truly unique experience for the cultural explorer, you can upgrade your Dinner/Theatre experience to the **"Culture, Crier and Canoes"** package. This two-day package includes the Dinner/Theatre as described above, as well as overnight accommodation at the Best Western Plus Parkside Inn and Spa, an afternoon wine/cider sampling hosted by the Perth Town Crier at the Perth Museum, a guided tour in a Voyageur Canoe, and more. The cost is \$450 for double accommodation and \$310 for single.

Bear the Tinker returns this year for **storytelling** around the campfire on two Fridays: July 20 and August 3. Come a little early for a hot dog roast. Plan to camp over at the park and join Bear again the next day for the **Lally Homestead Heritage Days** (July 21 and August 4) at the Lally site. Other activities include displays of heritage trades and crafts, a tour of the homestead site by Ma Lally, heritage music and some great food!

You can **"Be a Miner for a Day"** on Saturdays, August 11 and September 1. Take a self-guided tour of the mine and

the bunkhouse and hear stories from costumed interpreters. Learn about the life of the miners and enjoy a fabulous corn on the cob lunch at the bunkhouse. Visit the festival on Sunday, August 19, for a **pan-**



The 2012 **Heritage Mica Festival** provides events and opportunities all summer long at Murphys Point Provincial Park!

cake breakfast on the beach and a tour of Hogg Bay in a **Voyageur Canoe**.

The Heritage Mica Festival originated two years ago as a way to celebrate the history of mica mining in what was formerly North Burgess Township. In the late 1800s, dozens of small scale but commercially viable mica mines operated in the area. These mines provided an additional source of income to the subsistence farmers and were an important part of

the local economy of the day. The ore was shipped via the Rideau system to Ottawa and Kingston, and was used for things like stove and lantern windows, insulation and axle grease. Today the Silver Queen Mine has been recognized as one of the Seven Wonders of Lanark County and is open to the public on select days for viewing.

The Heritage Mica Festival has received support from Tay Valley Township, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, and Ontario Parks, in addition to many community partners. Some events have an admission fee, and advance tickets are recommended by contacting us by phone at 267-5340 or email at <eventsmurphys@ripnet.com>. Full details on all festival event dates, times and ticket prices can be found at <friendsofmurphyspoint.ca/heritage-mica-festival> or check the advertising in this issue of *theHumm*.

All events at the park require a vehicle permit for entry. This can be a current camping pass from any one of the Ontario Parks, a summer or annual pass or a day use permit. Day use permits range from \$7 to \$14, can be purchased at the park gate and provide access to all the facilities at the park. Murphys Point is located just 20 minutes south of Perth on the Elm Grove Road and is classed as a natural environment park. Camping reservations are available at <ontarioparks.com>.



A Special Package for the Cultural Explorer **Culture, Crier and Canoes!** Available July 18-19 or August 15-16



Day One:

- Afternoon at the Perth Farmers' Market with music by the Long Sault Trio
- Private guided tour of the Perth Museum (including the Wilson Collection)
- Wine and Cider Tasting Reception at the Perth Museum hosted by the Perth Town Crier with stories of Heritage Perth
- Dinner/Theatre experience at the Silver Queen Mine at Murphys Point Provincial Park
- Overnight accommodation at the Best Western Plus Parkside Inn and Spa in Perth



Day Two:

- Hot deluxe continental breakfast at the Best Western Plus Parkside Inn and Spa overlooking Stewart Park
- Voyageur Canoe Tour of the Tay Basin and part of the Tay Canal in Perth (a UNESCO world heritage designated site) with costumed interpreters
- Box lunch from Sunflower Bake Shop to enjoy in Stewart Park
- Complimentary single day use pass for Murphys Point Park



Cost is \$450.00 double accommodation or \$310.00 single accommodation (taxes included). Limited availability for this unique experience. Tickets must be booked and paid in advance.

The **Culture, Crier and Canoes experience** is a joint project of the Heritage Mica Festival and Perth Tourism



Contact us at: www.friendsofmurphyspoint.ca - 613-267-5340 - eventsmurphys@ripnet.com
For other tourism information, contact Perth Tourism at 613-267-1947 or 1-855-326-1947



Summer Fun in Mississippi Mills

Ah... summer. Picnics at the beach, wienies on the barbie, weekends at the cottage, family reunions!

Here's one intrepid puppet reporter who is totally over the moon about an upcoming family reunion. THE PUPPETS ARE COMING! Yes, dear friends, the puppets — my “family” — are coming in August. They'll be coming to Almonte for the **Puppets Up! International Puppet Festival** on August 11 and 12.

It's not often that you get so many puppets in one place and, for sure, I'll be hanging out with them, getting caught up on all the family news. I'm excited to see the cast of Tanglewood Marionette's *Cinderella* production. They'll prob-

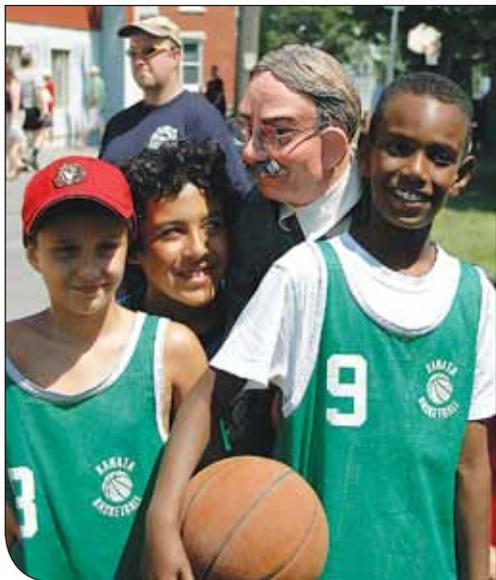
by Miss Mills, puppet reporter

ably be tired after their long drive from Ware, Massachusetts, and, believe me, those two ugly stepsisters can get pretty cranky. But once I take them all for a cool drink on the patio at the Barley Mow, they'll be fine. Anyway, Cinderella is always sweet and that Prince is a hunk.

The puppet troupe La Cie Pelele has the longest way to come. They'll be flying all the way from France and, during their stay in Canada, they'll be performing at three separate puppet festivals: one in Almonte (of course), one in Montreal, and one in Caraquet, New Brunswick. Puppeteer Paz Tatay is well known all over France, and she, along with her accordionist Alice Behague, will be presenting *Tauromaquia* — a kind of Punch and Judy show but with a bull-fighter named Curro and his girlfriend, the beautiful Rosita.

The cast and crew of Clunk Puppet Lab are driving all the way from Calgary to Puppets Up! in a rental truck! Their cross-Canada journey will probably take about four days! Clunk Puppet Lab has the biggest set-up of all the ten puppet productions that are coming and their show, *How I Became Invisible*, will be presented in the Almonte Old Town Hall. It's a beautiful show about old age, and their hand-crafted

puppets are truly exquisite. This will be the first time that the festival is presenting a show specifically for older children (8+) and adults. Clunk Puppet Lab is headed up by two young emerging artists, Kyla Read and Shawna Reiter, who are mentored by Calgary's renowned Old Trout Puppet Workshop. Kyla and Shawna were recommended to Puppets Up! by Ronnie



From the **Almonte Fair** (below right, July 20–22) to the **Naismith 3 on 3 Basketball Festival** (below left, August 11) and with **Puppets Up!** too (August 11 and 12), there's so much going on this summer! I'm posing above with James Naismith — we're both in the Puppets Up! production of *Happy Birthday, Jimmy!*

Burkett, who is famed for his own adult marionette productions and who is originally from Calgary.

I'm planning on catching up with my family when I'm not performing myself in the Mississippi Mills puppet production called *Happy Birthday, Jimmy*. This show is about James Naismith and was written by Fern Martin, who has become something of an expert on our local basketball hero. It stars talented young fiddler Danny Albert, MC Kris Riendeau, and many familiar looking puppet characters.

Seven other puppet productions will be presented at Puppets Up! 2012 and you can check out <puppetsup.ca> for more information. It's certainly going to be a busy weekend on August 11 and 12 — especially if you're a puppet... and even more so if you're a basketball player who loves puppets!

On Saturday, August 11, the Naismith Foundation presents their popular **Naismith 3 on 3 Basketball Festival**. Kristen Ray, manager of the event, invites you to “Join us where the game of basketball got its roots! James Naismith would be proud to see the streets of his hometown come alive with teams of all ages and abilities playing 3 on 3 basketball.” Whether you wish to register to play, or simply to watch and cheer from the sidelines, this familiar basketball event continues to provide a spirited and

entertaining tribute to James Naismith. For registration, go to <naismithmuseum.com> and select “Programs & Events”.

Before you do any of the August events above, make sure you attend the **Almonte Fair**, July 20 to 22. Presented by the North Lanark Agricultural Society at their fairgrounds on Water Street, the Almonte Fair is proudly celebrating its 154th year!! The theme for 2012 is “Christmas in July”, so don't be surprised if you see Santa judging heifers or Rudolph tasting rhubarb pie. They may be wearing shorts if the weather stays hot.

Marilyn Snedden, the fair's PR person, really wants everyone to know that “This year, family entertainment is especially high on the list, with popular returning acts Sean and Heather Ross-McManus from Spring Action trampolines, Little Ray's Reptile Zoo, and the Papa's Trains display where children can operate Thomas the Tank Engine.” There will also be games, competitions and displays for all ages and all animals.

The midway is #1 on any child's visit to the fair, but parents can also show them dairy and beef cows, sheep and heavy and light horses, as they compete for prizes in front of the grandstand or down at the barn. Displays of beautiful flowers, mouth-watering baked goods, and crafty handi-



crafts in the main hall are always a welcome part of the fair. Will you submit something?

“The **Demolition Derby** on Friday night is always a crowd pleaser,” says Marilyn, “and Ridin Shotgun is providing music in the Beer Gardens. Saturday night the Stool Pigeons will entertain.”

So, if you enjoy outhouse races, square dancing tractors (yes, that's what I said), horseshoe tournaments, Cow Plop Bingo, good eats, and lots more, get yourself on down to the fairgrounds July 20 to 22. Find out more at <almontefair.com>.

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Lanark County

Bed & Breakfast Association



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the 17th Annual Midsummer

HERBFEST

Sunday, July 29, 9^{AM}–5^{PM} (rain or shine)

Demonstrations

Admission included with Day Pass.

Demo Tent 1

- 9:30–10:30AM **Summer Sizzlers — What's Hot in Local Artisan Cheese** (Vanessa Simmons)
- 11AM–1PM **Chef Cook-Off** (see Special Feature)
- 2–3PM **Fresh & Healthy Cooking for Two** (Ellie Topp)
- 3–4PM **A Meditation on the Healing Spirit of Cooking Spices** (Bhuvanewari Devi)

Demo Tent 2

- 10–11AM **Everyday Flexitarian** (Pat Crocker)
- 11–12PM **Photography is a Healing Art** (Helene Anne Fortin)
- 12–1PM **Wheel Thrown Art** (Carole Holmes-Kerr)
- 1–2PM **Optimum Calcium & the Plants You Should Know** (Kathleen Leeson, RH)
- 2–3PM **Herbs Rock! A Naturopathic Doctor Talks About Using Herbs** (Anne Lawrence, ND)
- 3–4PM **Nutrient-Rich Foods** (Stephanie Anderson)

Music Program

- 9–9:45AM Wake You Up Marimba Band
- 1–2PM Sangit Surabhi (at the gazebo)
- 2:30–3:30PM Lucas Haneman
- 4–5PM Ottawa Valley Special

For all ages

Authors Pat Crocker and Ellie Topp (afternoon);
Dancing Fairies; Garden Tour; Wild Herb Walk; Storytelling;
Face Painting; Glitter & Air Brush Tattoos, Balloon Sculptures

Advance Herb Festival passes are on sale at:

the Herb Garden, 3840 Old Almonte Rd., Ottawa (613) 256-0228
The Table Restaurant, 1230 Wellington St., Ottawa (613) 729-5973
Reid Landscaping, 142 Pick Rd., Carleton Place (613) 253-3467
Rainbow Foods, 1487 Richmond Rd. at Carling (613) 726-9200

Single Pass: \$4 / Family Pass: \$12 in advance (\$5 ea. or \$15 per family at the gate)

On-site parking \$2 (Sorry, no parking available on Old Almonte Road)

The Herb Garden is 15 km west of Scotia Bank Place towards Almonte. It is located just east of the Upper Dwyer Hill Road on the Old Almonte Road.

For more information, maps and other festival pass locations:

(613)256-0228 www.herbfest.ca

Special Feature

Demo Tent 1: Chef Cook-off

11AM to 1PM

Chef Cook-Off with host **Susan Desjardins** (accredited sommelier of Savvy Company)

Chef Daniel Mongeon of *Churchills*. Born and raised in Ottawa, Danny began cooking at the age of thirteen for Neil Tully, executive chef of Friday's Roast Beef House. He has trained under well-known local Chefs Warren Sutherland and Marc Lepine. Churchills is Ottawa's new upscale local pub in the heart of Westboro with a tantalizing menu.

www.churchillsottawa.com

Chef Chris Archer of *Tennesy Willems*. Chris has been with TW's from the beginning. His love and enthusiasm for local produce is reflected heavily in their menu. Having previously worked at Serendipity in Merrickville and as Sous-Chef at Absinthe Café under Pat Garland, Chris fully supports local farming and uses organic produce when available.

www.twpizza.com





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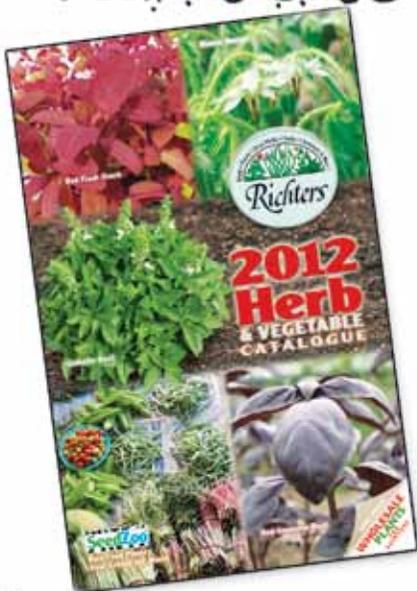
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Celebrate Herbs and More at Herbfest!



Herbfest is a co-operative effort by almost 100 local small enterprises, farms and artisans. Many vendors and visitors have been returning for years. One reason is that it is virtually impossible to see, hear and experience everything that Herbfest has to offer in just one visit. Our goal is to introduce you to your neighbours who produce local, healthy, natural, pesticide-free, organic products. These small- and medium-sized vendors not only supply the Ottawa Valley with their great products, but also spend their money locally. Their profits are not sent out of town!

While you're here, take a tour of the formal theme beds, where over 150 different varieties of culinary, medicinal, aromatic and landscaping herbs are featured. Take a guided "wild herb

walk" on the wetland trail, or bring the kids on what they will call the "jungle trail", because of the tall grasses. Then take a break and enjoy a micro-brewed beer.

Wander through the outdoor herbal market and discover the many uses of herbs — from potted plants, potpourris, oils and vinegars, dried wreaths and preserves to salves, natural skin care products, bath salts, massage oils and tinctures. Enjoy live music and dance performances, storytelling, face painting, and guided tours throughout the day as well as demonstrations, seminars, and of course the popular Chef Cook-Off.

For further information, and directions to the Herb Garden at 3840 Old Almonte Road in Ottawa, visit www.herbfest.ca or call 613-256-0228.

Coming Up Roses!

The rose is the flower chosen by the International Herb Association as the 2012 Herb of the Year. The rose can be hearty, wild and prolific like the provincial flower of Alberta, or as spoiled and fragile as a variegated hybrid tea rose. Either way, there is no mistaking the scent, the tight buds, the slightly curled petal unfurled, or the honour accorded it in florist circles and amateur horticulturalist gardens.

Is there indeed any other flower that has been the muse for so much poetry, song and inspiration? Is there another that more aptly represents the delicate, sweet and fickle nature of love or friendship?

The colours in a bouquet are often chosen to relay different messages. Passion, devotion and love are conveyed by red roses; friendship and forgiveness by yellow roses; gratitude can be expressed with pink roses; and the white rose represents bridal happiness and innocence.

Did you know that essential rose oil is so rare and requires so many flowers that it fetches a price of \$25-\$45 per ml? If you are purchasing rose oil that is much less costly, you can be sure that it is in a carrier oil — don't be duped.

Luckily we can grow roses, and there are ways to enjoy the essence of them in our very own kitchens.

Prepare **rose butter** by mixing a half-cup to one cup of chopped rose petals in a cup of sweet unsalted butter. Let the blend stand at room temperature for 24 hours, then mix again and refrigerate to fully flavour the butter. This can be rolled into tubes wrapped in wax paper and fro-

zen to easily take out and slice into pretty little circles. Serve on fresh scones, biscuits, pancakes.

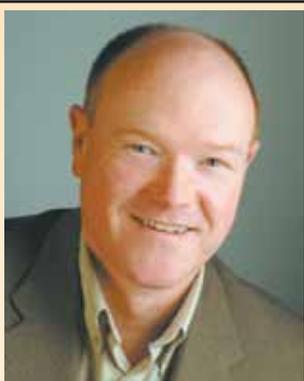
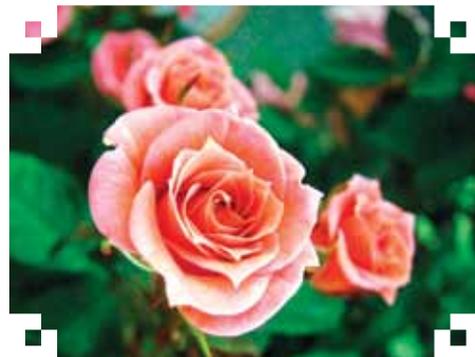
Infuse **rose water** by adding two cups rose petals to one quart water. Bring to a gentle boil, then turn off heat and let cool. Filter out the rose petals and bottle the water. Refrigerate the water for use in ice cubes or tea or mixed in equal parts with honey for a dessert syrup.

Rose sugar is easy to make. Seal fresh rose petals into a glass jar with sugar and leave for at least three weeks to infuse the scent into the sugar. After this you can even dampen the sugar with a spray bottle of water (or rose water) and press it into tiny heart shaped ice cube or chocolate moulds to make rosy sugar hearts.

Rosebuds and rose petals are found in herbal teas and black teas around the world and they have long been used to soothe emotional turmoil and ease heartache. We do know in fact that rose hips, the dried bright red pods left after the flowers are finished blooming, have an incredible amount of vitamin C. Many of our grandmothers made rose hip syrup or jam, and used them to prevent colds.

The Herb Garden will be highlighting this year's herb of the year, the rose, at the 17th Annual Herbfest on July 29. They are thrilled to present to you three local chefs who will each be preparing a gourmet dish for our judges featuring the rose. It should be positively divine. The Chef Cook-Off is always great fun, and things will surely be coming up roses for all three of them, and especially for the rose dish tasters at this fantastic event. Don't miss it!

— Bonnie-Jean Stacey of Take Charge Tea



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Organized by the Ottawa Valley Herb Association members

Herbfest 2012

Sunday, July

It All Began In A Garden...

The Herb Garden was established in 1994, and the current owners, George and Gerry, experienced their first season in 2004. Our specialty remains the growing and selling of potted herbs for people to plant in their gardens. We encourage their use for culinary, medicinal and landscaping uses. The Comfrey Cottage, one of our two renovated log farm buildings, serves as our farm gate gift shop stocked with an eclectic array of pots, herbal and gardening books and interesting exotic foods. The Bergamot Barn serves as our reception area and art gallery.



The Herb Garden has since expanded to become more than an agro-tourism endeavour. George and Gerry hosted two weddings during their first summer. It proved to be such a positive experience that they themselves were married in the now famous gazebo, renowned for hosting twelve weddings this season. The increase in wedding ceremonies and receptions resulted in the installation of composting toilets that make an environmental statement and are a huge improvement over portable toilets. You can even try one before buying a Sun-Mar composting toilet from us!

Our annual Mothers' Day Buffet Brunch, catered by Savoury Pursuits of Almonte, has been a sellout for the past eight years. We also collaborate on a Thai Buffet Dinner and "100 Mile" Buffet Dinner, new last year, and a sell out as well.

As a result of developing a reputation for excellent service, the Herb Garden has become a go-to destination for

outdoor special occasions and corporate events. The availability of no-charge display gardens, picnic areas, a children's playground area, wild wetland trail and art gallery is appealing to both our urban and rural neighbours. It is a family-oriented place that also welcomes dogs. The creation of a labyrinth has added to the serenity and magic of the gardens. Visitors often tell us that their feelings of wellbeing begin as they step out of their cars, with the fresh air, the scent of herbs and the tranquility of the place. Although only 30 minutes from downtown Ottawa, the feeling is one of being in a magical environment.

Activities have grown to include community yoga sessions held Monday evenings, free garden workshops, art exhibits, organized children's activities and scheduled luncheons. Volunteers come to gather red clover flowers to assist breast cancer victims and survivors with this herbal tea.

Our large Century Barn, the highlight of our annual Ottawa Doors Open event in June, has undergone the third major renovation

in 180 years, with a new pine floor from Barr Lumber filling in the haymow. The other change you will quickly notice is the new solar array which will make the Herb Garden an electricity producer capable of powering 4 to 5 homes.

The Ottawa Valley Herb Association, a group of herbal businesses, created the first "Midsummer Herbfest" at the Herb Garden, and we are celebrating the 17th annual event this year. The goal of the festival is the promotion of local, small herb and wellness related entrepreneurs and artisans. Unlike most festivals, it is not subsidized with your tax dollars but self-financed with the affordable entrance fees of \$5 per adult and \$15 for a family pass. A quick look at the scheduled events listed will confirm what a great deal this represents.

We look forward to hosting the 17th Annual OVHA Midsummer Herbfest. Join us, and all the Herbfest fans, this summer.

— George and Gerry, owners of The Herb Garden

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Fascinating Playwrights Anchor CTF Season

One of the pleasures of staging the Classic Theatre Festival is stepping into the lives of writers who created works from the golden age of Broadway. This summer's shows (*Two for the Seesaw* and *Mary, Mary*) were written by two remarkable playwrights whose theatre work was equalled by creativity in other media as well.

Best known for *The Miracle Worker* (the story of Helen Keller), playwright William Gibson (1914–2008) debuted on Broadway with the compelling *Two for the Seesaw*. This comedic chronicle of a curious relationship introduced the then-unknown Anne Bancroft, paired with Henry Fonda. *Seesaw* emerged at a time in America where all was not as it seemed: the superficial "everything's all right" attitude of 1950s America hid, and at times repressed, stirrings of discontent, producing characters like those in this play who, in good comedic fashion, deal with the then-taboo subjects of divorce, multiple romantic partners, and the meaning of happiness in a nation of manufactured conformity.

Gibson also published *The Seesaw Log*, a diary that documented his struggle to maintain the integrity of his vision when faced with the pressure to commercialize aspects of the play. *Seesaw* nonetheless struck a chord with audiences, and ran for 750 performances in 1958–59, winning a Tony Award for Best Play along with awards for Best Actress and Best Director.

Gibson's other notable work included the book for the musical version of Clifford

Odets' *Golden Boy*, an autobiographical novel (*Mass for the Dead*), and a speculative play about Shakespeare, *A Cry of Play-ers* (which also featured Bancroft). His play *Golda Meir* became the longest-running one-woman show in Broadway history.

Gibson's wife, Margaret Brenman, was an American pioneer in the field of psychoanalysis (often collaborating with Erik Erikson), an author, and a respected social justice activist who, during the 1980s in China, was prevented from meeting students and staff at the University of Shanghai. She gained access, though, when she threatened to have the Chinese rights to perform *Two for the Seesaw* withdrawn. At the time of her death, she had yet to publish the results of a massive survey she'd conducted on the psychological effects on physicists of working on successive generations of nuclear weapons.

Jean Kerr (1922–2003), in a uniquely comedic way, captured the female angst experienced by North American women coming out of the post-World War II boom, when millions were forced out of the workplace and back into domestic roles.

The wife of famous theatre critic Walter Kerr and a mother to six children, she held her own in a male-dominated publishing world with her best-selling satire on suburban life, *Please Don't Eat the Daisies* (also a TV series). Her bon mots are instantly

recognizable: "The real menace about dealing with a five-year-old is that in no time at all you begin to sound like a five-year-old," and "I'm tired of all this nonsense about beauty being only skin-deep. That's deep enough. What do you want, an adorable pancreas?"

Her quick wit and social critique continued with *Mary, Mary*, a wickedly funny

play (which ran for four years) that asks why women seem to have to hide their talent, humour and intelligence in order to bag a man. If that sounds like a conflict out of today's headlines, that's because despite the changes brought about by the women's movement, the underlying gender dynamics that produced both *Mary, Mary* and *Two for the Seesaw* are very much alive and kicking.

That both plays enjoyed long runs on Broadway at a time when post-war film and television fare showed women in *Leave it to Beaver*-style domestic roles, speaks to the chasm between the various art forms. Both plays also anticipated the rumblings that would emerge in works like Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique* and the second wave of the women's movement beginning in the mid to late 1960s.

That both shows manage to leave us laughing and rooting for the characters up until the final curtain is a testament to the unique ability of mid-century playwrights to present fully-rounded, human characters with whom audiences could readily identify, reflecting our desires, loves and hopes. Tickets to the Classic Theatre Festival (July 13 to September 2) are available at <classictheatre.ca>, by calling 877-283-1283, or at Tickets Please, 39 Foster Street in Perth. All shows are at Perth's wheelchair-accessible Mason Theatre, 13 Victoria Street, with free parking and air conditioning.

— Matthew Behrens



Playwright Jean Kerr appeared on the cover of the April 14, 1961 issue of *Time Magazine*. The Classic Theatre Festival presents her play *Mary, Mary* in August.

Current WORKS

We recently decided to make our real estate office do double-duty because I was lonely working at the computer by myself. My house was filling up with all the glass work I was creating in my off-hours, so we decided to convert the office into a gallery to show off my pieces as well work from a few artist friends.

"A few artist friends" has since turned into eighteen different artists, such as Linda Hamilton, Lynda Forgues, Maggie Glossop, Peter Edmison, Kiersten Eagan, and Kirk DesRosier to name a few. Our hours are Saturday 11AM to 5PM and Sunday noon to 5PM, and by chance or by appointment during the week. Do drop in for a visit!

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My son posed for a picture at the Toronto zoo last year. It was a funny look-at-me-daddy kind of picture — unscripted — he just did it. He had the world on his back. I keep that picture at work these days — it reminds me of being young, without a care, the way childhood should be. I want that for my children. I want them to be children first, like we were.

Is it just me or were things simpler then? You know, back “then”, when we were kids. Oh, I know I sound like an old man, but it doesn’t really seem like it was all that long ago when we listened to the radio or watched one of three television stations — at least one of which came in like a blizzard — that you had

by Steve Scanlon

to change by hand (unless you were lucky enough to have one of them newfangled television converters with the push buttons to change the channel). If we wanted a song, we bought the 45rpm (after we cashed in the pop bottles we collected) or used our cassette recorder to record it off the radio, if they ever stopped talking over the song. My first record? *Rockin’ Robin*, recorded by Michael Jackson. I remember it like it was yesterday. I googled the recording date — you don’t want to know (when did Google become a verb?). Just goes to show, some things are worth forgetting.



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We didn’t think twice about riding our bikes — you know, the ones with the banana seats — for miles and miles just to hang out at a different park. More importantly, our parents didn’t think twice about us riding for miles and miles. In the summer we went out after breakfast and didn’t come home until dinner, and nobody knew where we were but assumed we were safe.

Seat belts? No. Lawn darts? Yes. Bike helmets? No. Drive-ins? Yes. SPF 1000 sunscreen? No. Captain Kangaroo? Yes.

Okay, so I can see where seat belts, bike helmets and sunscreen could actually be called advancements. After all, I don’t know about you, but our gang (a group of kids — sans weapons) was just a tad reckless.

My buddies and I created a game where we would climb to the top of a large sapling until it started to bend, and then you rode the top until it touched the ground (which was all fun and games until two snapping sounds in a row, one the sapling snapping followed quickly by a wrist snapping. Game over). We played ball hockey on the road — “car” — we even had a night game. The night game (singular) took place at night (obviously) with a tennis ball soaked in Coleman fuel (you know, that fuel that you can never put out no matter how far in the ground you bury it) and lit on fire. It’s all fun and games until the ball rolls under the car... “car”!

In the winter, jumping off the garage roof was a sport, albeit another rather dangerous one, but mostly because you could get seriously stuck in the snow or, at the very least, your boots could, and it’s a long lonely walk through the back door to ask Mom (who would ground you) or Dad (who would try not to laugh) to help get your boots out of the snow.

Even if I take off these rose-coloured glasses, “then” still looks pretty good compared to the here and now. Sure we had crime, and we had media covering the crime, but it just seemed so tame. Maybe there was more crime and more hate than I remember, or perhaps with the technology of the day it just wasn’t as widely reported. I don’t know, it just seemed that the news of the day wasn’t all bad.

You have to wonder, where did all the good news go? Every day we are inundated with the best bad news the world can throw at us — it’s endless. I mean seriously, murder and mutilation on video? C’mon — who didn’t shut that down? And worse, who’s watching it?



Carrying the weight of the world at the Toronto Zoo in 2011

I did a Google search (verb) for “good news” and it came up with... “Our search for ‘good news’ did not match any documents.”

Here’s the thing: I have children and I want them to have the best I can possibly give them. I want them to grow up in an environment that is good — and wholesome and innocent and child-like — for as long as they possibly can. I worry that “as long as they possibly can” is not going to be nearly as long as we had. I want my kids to tune out of today’s instant access to all of the world’s woes. They’ll have plenty of time to worry about that when they are older. Maybe, if we work real hard at it they can, one day, solve a few of the issues. I also want my kids to have every advantage imaginable. I want them to have access to today’s technology and, better yet, I’d love them to embrace tomorrow’s technology. I don’t want them to shy away from the world but I so want to shelter them from it.

Do you see my dilemma?

I would just prefer it if everybody would just stop for a second, give their collective heads a shake and start using the technology for good and not for evil. If not, I will send the whole damned world to their room until they learn to behave.

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A Reever's Summer Wish

Months ago I received the gentle prayer shown at right from my sister, who is involved in about as many things as I am, way out there on the West Coast. I think it is appropriate for all of us to take a moment and just ease into the season for which we've been waiting. Even if the imbibing part is not necessarily your favourite, it's summer, for goodness sake. Let's enjoy it.

There I was yesterday, staying in the house because — and read this with a whine! — it was too hot to be in the garden. And — again whine! — the supermarket

by Glenda Jones

was so cold I needed a sweater! Today it's pouring rain — too wet for our picnic. I think I should adopt the frog's mantra, and just relax.

I thought that the summer would be a time of no obligations, and now I find I have as many as ever. I hold out the hope that I can have some time to paint, but unless I actually make that time, I can't see that happening for months. In bleak February, I'd planned to learn to row a scull this summer — what was I thinking? As the Peanuts cartoon opined last week, "the days aren't getting shorter, they're getting narrower". Maybe in July I should play hooky for a couple of weeks and indulge my creative self. Well no, that's not the best time as we are really in high gear with our Hub Hospice project right now, so I can wait. Maybe in July 2013 I will attempt that!

There are so many good things happening right now: festivals to attend, garden tours, farmers' markets, and excursions aplenty. We can holiday at home easily. So I think what we'll do is take mini-holidays, and do day trips or even hour trips to en-



God grant me the wine
to make bearable what
I can't change.
The beer to make it funny
and the wisdom to
never get my knickers
in a knot
because it solves nothing
and makes me walk funny.

joy the summer. And then we'll assume the froggy pose at least once a day and stop walking so funny.

Have a good summer with no worries greater than which lounge chair is the most comfortable.

Editor's Note: Guru Eduardo's Serenity Prayer, as well as many other words of wisdom, can be found at <gurueduardo.blogspot.ca>. You should go there and buy his book — it comes highly recommended by the author!

Cycling Just Keeps Getting Grander in Lanark County!

Good news for area cyclists — the fun doesn't end when Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month wraps up on June 30! July 21 is the **GranFondo Ottawa**: three routes of different lengths, all showing off the beauty of Lanark County.

A GranFondo implies a race over 100 miles (with shorter distance options), with ascents to challenge the athletes. They began in cross-country skiing and running, with Italy and France expanding the concept to include cycling. Organizer Greg Capello explains that this is not an event for charity, nor is it a race — he simply wanted a ride for cyclists to enjoy purely for the love of cycling. He knows of the beautiful cycling routes in the area and is looking forward to introducing cyclists from all over to our welcoming (and challenging) country roads.

Greg anticipates 1,350 to 1,500 participants, split up into the three routes, cycling from 7AM until mid-afternoon. Everyone will begin (and end) at the Brookstreet Hotel in Kanata, riding towards Ashton. The 100km MedioFondo then heads for Carleton Place, Appleton, Almonte and back through Carp. The 170km GranFondo does Ashton to Perth to Lanark to Almonte and home, while the 220km SuprFondo continues from Lanark, winding on to Clayton then Almonte to home. As you can see, all roads lead to Almonte!

So on July 21, give the cyclists some encouragement, and some road space, and perhaps even consider joining them! See <granfondoottawa.org> to register — see some great sights and some awesome participation swag and food!

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Jul.24 **Emily Fennell** • Jul.31 **Shawn McCullough & Mike Cochrane**

Thursday Jazz Night with **The Spencer Evans Trio** feat. Jeff & Seamus Cowan 9-11

Acoustic Blue Sundays, Buffet & Show 6-10
Jul.8 **Danny Brooks** • Jul.22 **Harrison Kennedy**
Jul. 27 **Drumhand** (Latin/World drum group from Toronto) 8-11

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Fools Bring *Henry V* to MERA

*O! for a Muse of fire, that would ascend
The brightest heaven of invention!
A kingdom for a stage, princes to act
And monarchs to behold the swelling scene.*

Presented by the graduating class of the Wm. Golding Academy, they say "This is an overreaching and unflinching production that tackles all the tough questions: Why do we fight wars? What qualities make a good leader? Can this cockpit hold the vast fields of France? And what are we going to do with all of these tennis balls?"

To enjoy a full dinner-and-theatre evening, arrive at 5:30PM for the Farmers' Market supper — the à la carte menu includes a spit-roasted pig, freshly-baked bread, a variety of salads, a tempeh entrée (not spit-roasted), a groaning board of sweets, cold drinks and full barista service. Bring your own plates and cutlery. Dinner service closes at 6:30PM in order to be ready for the 7PM performance.

For more information, contact Kristine Swaren at 278-1226 or <kristine@bluechicory.ca>. For directions to MERA, see <meraschoolhouse.org>. To learn more about the play, see a plot summary at <shakespeare-online.com/plots/henryvps.html>, and for a full schedule of Fools' performances, visit <fools.ca>.

All rabble and monarchs are herewith invited to behold a torchlight presentation of Shakespeare's *Henry V* at the MERA Schoolhouse in McDonald's Corners on Thursday evening, July 5.

The **Company of Fools** are the actors, and the McDonald's Corners Farmers' Market is your host. Supper is served from 5:30 to 6:30PM, and the play begins promptly at 7PM. Bring lawn chairs or blankets, and be prepared for weather and insects. Admission is "pass-the-hat-pay-what-you-can" with a suggested minimum donation of \$10.

The Fools are an Ottawa-based troupe inspired by the rogue Elizabethan players that once entertained audiences outdoors and at the Globe theatre. Being Fools, they combine physical theatre techniques such as clown, mask and puppetry with the classical text.

Wild and witty, outrageously punny, and imaginatively adaptive, the Fools say this about their version of *Henry V*: "War is heck! *Henry V* is a boy-meets-girl story with a slight twist. Part *Saving Private Ryan* and part *Before Sunrise*, this tale of patriotism and romance finds the boy struggling under the heavy mantle of recent ascension to the throne. Excited to try his leadership skills, he sets out to invade the girl's country, based on a dubious claim to the throne. He lays siege to a key logistical port, marches inland and, against the odds, manages to defeat a much larger force by deploying new military strategies... and then he meets girl."



Catch **A Company of Fools** at the MERA Schoolhouse on July 5

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Art in the Park Comes to Renfrew!

Art, Food, Music and Children's Activities

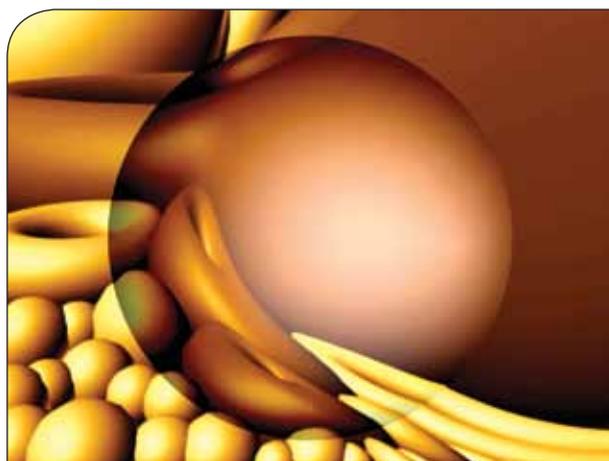
A brand new festival in the Town of Renfrew will bring together over thirty local artists to Haramis Park on Saturday, July 14 and Sunday, July 15, from 10AM to 5PM. Art in the Park is sponsored by Renfrew Art Guild and other community partners. There is no admission fee to this family event, which will showcase watercolours, oil paintings, jewellery, pottery, textiles, wood carvings and much more. Art in the Park is designed to bring together local artists and residents, as well as visitors.

Another feature of Art in the Park will be the food available from local food vendors. Beavertails, Spanky's Spuds, and The Renfrew Tea Room will be on-site serving up amazing local favourites. The food vendors will be located right beside the tourist booth at Haramis Park on O'Brien Road, and the children's activities will feature a special children's painting exhibit where kids will be invited to try their hand at producing artwork. The Ontario Plein Air Society (OPAS) is also inviting artists of all skill levels to bring their easels and enjoy an outdoor painting experience in a favourite Renfrew location. OPAS is partnering with the A.Y. Jackson trail project and the Bonnechere River Water project.

In addition to the local food and various artists, there will also be musicians performing near the histor-

ic locomotive train at the park. Performers include Limited Edition, Simon Clarke (formerly of 60s British pop band Freddie & The Dreamers), and others.

Haramis Park is located on O'Brien Road in the Town of Renfrew, directly across from the Walmart Shopping Centre. There is plenty of parking near the park. So enjoy the weekend in Renfrew and meet some incredibly talented local artists who will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. For more information, visit <renfrewartguild.com> or see "Renfrew Art in the Park" on Facebook or Twitter. You can also call Frances Shea of the Renfrew Art Guild at 432-8205 or Bruce McIntyre, the County of Renfrew Media Relations Coordinator, at 732-5945.



You'll find digital art by Basil Pessin (above), as well as works by numerous other artists, at Renfrew's Art in the Park event on July 14 and 15

Classic Theatre Benefit Nights

Perth Kiwanis is going artsy once again with a fundraiser featuring the Classic Theatre Festival's first play of the season, set in the fabulous 50s — *Two For The Seesaw*. For the 8PM performance on July 18, Kiwanis will receive 50% of the \$30 ticket price in support of their Terrific Kids program. There will be an inter-club, all welcome meal ahead of time at the Perth Restaurant on Gore Street, with cocktails at 5:30 and the meal at 6PM. \$15 all-inclusive, at cost and just for fun. 50s clothing is encouraged, and if Marilyn or Elvis show up, so much the better! Call 267-4662 for tickets and to reserve a spot at the table.

Classic Theatre Festival is also partnering with two other local organizations for their August production of *Mary, Mary*. For the performance at 8PM on Friday, August 17, half of the ticket price goes to the Lanark Animal Welfare Society (LAWS), and patrons are asked to call 762-6743 or email <lizataylor1@msn.com> by July 17 to reserve tickets. And on Wednesday, August 22, the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum will be the beneficiary. Tick-

ets to that show can be purchased until July 15 calling 256-3754 x7 or emailing <info@mvtm.ca>.

Two for the Seesaw by William Gibson (author of *The Miracle Worker*, the story of Helen Keller) is a quirky romantic comedy of two lost souls finding each other in late 1950s New York City. Bristling with snappy dialogue, with a perfect combination of humour and pathos, it won the Tony Award for Best Play. Originally starring Henry Fonda and Anne Bancroft, this heartfelt play keeps audiences rooting for the characters right until the final curtain.

Mary, Mary by Jean Kerr (who also penned the beloved bestselling satire on suburban life, *Please Don't Eat the Daisies*) is the 8th-longest running play in Broadway history. With witty dialogue that sparkles and characters you'd gladly invite over for dinner, this tale of a hasty divorce and second chances is reminiscent of the best of the era's screwball comedies.

For more details about the Classic Theatre Festival, visit <classictheatre.ca> or see the article on page 21 of this issue.



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July 11
Doug Barr
— with —
Crash the Clown



July 18
Maria Hawkins



July 25
Junkyard Symphony



August 1
Chris Pilsworth



August 8
SRC Talent Showcase
\$ Crash the Clown



August 15
The Cowguy



August 22
Latin Breeze



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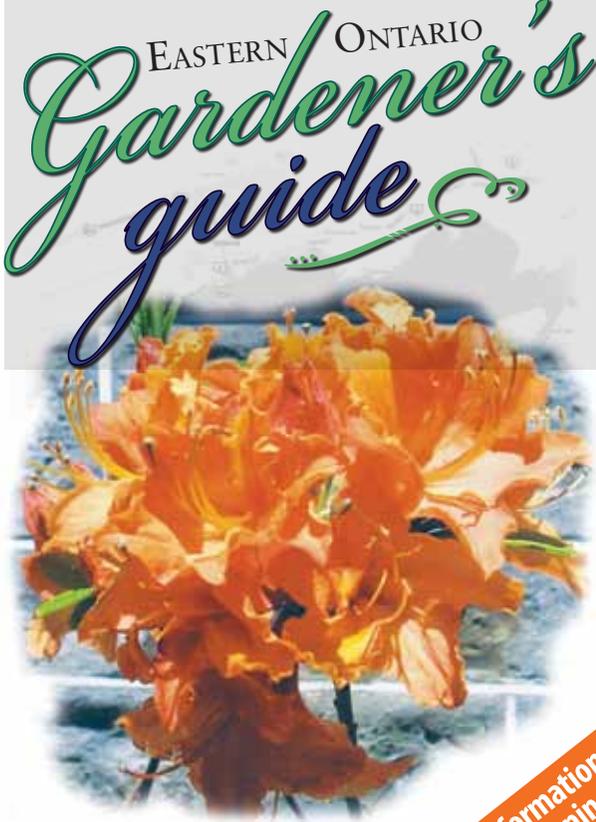
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Bridge Street Bazaar, Carleton Place, Aug 4
 The Pacific Curls, Burnstown, Aug 9
 Canal Railway Festival, Smiths Falls, Aug 10-12
 Naismith 3-on-3 Basketball Festival, Almonte, Aug 11
 Puppets Up!, Almonte, Aug 11-12
 Perth Garlic Festival, Perth, Aug 11-12
 Blues & Ribfest, Calabogie, Aug 17-19
 ARTstravaganza, Carp, Aug 18
 Emilie Capulet, Almonte, Aug 19
 Rideau Lakes Art Show & Sale, Lombardy, Aug 24-26
 North Lanark Highland Games, Almonte, Aug 25
 Children's Walk for Autism, Carleton Place, Aug 25
 Sundance Studio Tour, Maberly, Sep 1-3
 Tweed Ride, Almonte, Sep 8
 Sounds of Downtown, Carleton Place, Sep 8
 Doors Open Mississippi Mills/Carleton Place, Sep 8
 Fibrefest, Almonte, Sep 8-9
 Selina Martin, Burnstown, Sep 15
 SchoolBOX Fiesta, Almonte, Sep 26
 Murray McLauchlan, Carleton Place, Sep 29
 Crown & Pumpkin Studio Tour, Miss. Mills, Oct 6-8
 Rideau Lakes Art Show & Sale, N. Crosby, Oct 20-21
 Ashley MacIsaac, Burnstown, Oct 16 & 17
 4th Annual Country Harvest Music Show, CP, Oct 21
 Bif Naked, Burnstown, Oct 28
 Handmade Harvest Craft Show, Almonte, Nov 3
 Christmas in the Valley, Almonte, Nov 3-4
 Valdy, Carleton Place, Nov 23
 Hawksley Workman, Burnstown, Dec 1-2
 Light Up The Night, Almonte, Dec 7

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge 🏌️ Kent Huskins SchoolBOX Golf Tournament, Pakenham 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Mississippi Blues Society Jam, The Thirsty Moose 🎵 StringTease, The Cove Country Inn 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Henry V, McDonalds Corners 🎵 Jazz at Bally's, Ballygiblin's 🎵 Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio, The Cove Country Inn
<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge 	<p>10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 The Bright Lights Social Hour, Neat Coffee Shop 🎵 Tom Savage, The Cove Country Inn 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Beyond the Bomb: Music of the Cold War, Carp 🎵 Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub 🎵 Showtime at the Station, CP 🎵 Moreland & Arbuckle, Neat Coffee Shop 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Fellowship of the Ring, Perth 🎵 Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio, The Cove 🎵 Perth Citizen's Band Outdoor Concert, Perth 🎵 The Imaginary Invalid, Perth
<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge 	<p>17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Brock Zeman, The Cove Country Inn 🎵 Cold War Cinema: The Ugly American, Carp 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Mica Dinner Theatre, Perth 🎵 Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub 🎵 Showtime at the Station, CP 🎵 Two for the Seesaw, Perth 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Flippin' Art Night, Carleton Place 🎵 Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio, The Cove 🎵 Two for the Seesaw, Perth
<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge 	<p>24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Emily Fennell, The Cove 🎵 Mind-Body Healing Talk, Carp 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Adult Bereavement Group, CP 🎵 Fiddlers and Friends, Ompah 🎵 Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub 🎵 Fall River Open Stage, Fall River Restaurant 🎵 Showtime at the Station, CP 🎵 Two for the Seesaw, Perth 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio, The Cove 🎵 Perth Citizen's Band Outdoor Concert, Perth 🎵 The Be Good Tanyas, Neat Cafe 🎵 Two for the Seesaw, Perth
<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge 	<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Mike Cochrane/Shawn McCullough, The Cove 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Dave Gunning, Neat Coffee Shop 🎵 Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub 🎵 Showtime at the Station, CP 🎵 Two for the Seesaw, Perth 🎵 Dave Gunning, Neat Coffee Shop 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎵 Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio, The Cove 🎵 Opening Night, Perth 🎵 The Love List, Perth 🎵 Two for the Seesaw, Perth

Visual Arts

Vernissage, July 6, 5-7PM, Dale Dunning (photography), Laura Heaney (pen & ink). Mill St. Gallery, 7 Mill St., Almonte.
Art In The Barn, July 7-8, 10AM-4PM. Annual art show & sale of Rideau Lakes Artists' Assoc. Lombardy Fairgrounds, Smiths Falls. www.rideaulakesartists.com.
Perth Antique Show/Sale, July 7-8, 10AM-4PM. Royal Canadian Legion, 26 Beckwith St E., Perth. \$7
Vernissage, July 7, 8-9:30PM. Originals by Equator staff, live music. Equator Cafe, 451 Ottawa St., Almonte. equator.ca.
Vernissage, July 13, 7-9PM. Donna Baskin, Deborah Guthrie, Diane Kearnan. Brush Strokes, 129 Bridge St., CP. 253-8088
Vernissage, July 15, 2-5PM. "Between Friends", Gallery Perth in Code's Mill, 17 Wilson St. E., Perth. galleryperth.com
Flippin' Art Night, July 19, 5-7PM. Angelique Willard & Marc Rochon. Ballygiblin's, 151 Bridge St, CP. 257-2031

Youth

Showtime at the Station, 6-8PM: Jul 11 (Doug Barr/Crash the Clown), Jul 18 (Maria Hawkins blues), Jul 25 (Junkyard Symphony), Aug 1 (illusionist Christ Pilsworth). Free family entertainment. 132 Coleman St., CP. artscarletonplace.com
 Perth Academy of Musical Theatre presents **Fellowship of the Ring**, Jul 12 (7PM), Jul 13 (10:30AM, 7PM); **Glee 2** (July 20, 7PM); **The Mikado** (July 27, 7PM); **PAMT Idol** (July 29, 7PM). Tickets at 267-9610. Myriad Centre, 1 Sherbrooke St., Perth. \$10

Festivals

Almonte Celtfest, Jul 6-8. Fri night music in pubs. Sat am workshops. 2PM Sat concert in Gemmill Park. Sun 10:30am Fiddle Mass, 12-6PM festival in Gemmill. almonteceltfest.com

Diversity Festival, July 7, 9AM-6PM. Display booths featuring info, cultural artifacts, food, live music, dance. 4pm *Dragon's Breath* performance (\$12). Low Square, Renfrew. 433-6955
Art in the Park, July 14, 10AM-5PM, Haramis Park, O'Brien Rd., Renfrew.
Almonte Fair, Jul 20-22. Demolition derby, livestock & homecraft demos, midway, children's games, beer tent, live music. Almonte Fairgrounds, almontefair.com.
Stewart Park Festival, Jul 20-22. Free music in the park, after hours shows (\$10/20). Stewart Park, Perth. stewart-parkfestival.com
Festival of Family, July 28, 10AM-8PM. Family fun day. 2:30PM Sharon/Bram show, \$15. Low Square, Renfrew. 432-8300
Herbifest, July 29, 9AM-5PM. Vendors, health, food, cook-off, talks, walks. The Herb Garden, 256-0228, herbifest.ca. \$5; \$4 in adv.

Theatre

Henry V, July 5, 5:30PM. Company of Fools performance (7PM) & supper by the Farmers' Mkt (5:30PM). MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners. 278-1226, kristine@bluechicory.ca. \$10 sugg. min. donation
Dragon's Breath, Jul 6 (7PM), & 7 (4pm). Play featuring challenges of finding one's place in the community. Fundraiser for Renfrew's Diversity Festival. Tickets at 433-6955 or diversityfestivalinformation@gmail.com. Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church, Renfrew. \$12
The Imaginary Invalid, Jul 6, 7, 12, 13, 14 at 8PM; Jul 8, 15 at 2PM. BarnDoor Productions. Full Circle Theatre, 26 Craig St., Perth. 267-1884, barndoorproductions.ca. \$22; \$18 in adv.; \$10 students
Spirit Walk, Jul 13, 7PM & 9PM. Includes a visit in the underground mine and the miners'

bunkhouse. \$20/car (or \$2 per person if camping). Adv. tickets recommended. Murphys Point Provincial Park, Perth. 267-5340, friendsofmurphyspoint.ca
Two for the Seesaw, Jul 13-Aug 5, Wed-Sat 8PM; Wed, Sat, Sun 2PM. Classic Theatre Festival. Perth & District Collegiate Institute, 13 Victoria St., Perth. 1-877-283-1283, classictheatre.ca.
Cold War Cinema: The Ugly American, July 17, 6PM optional tour, 7PM film. The Diefenbunker, Carp. \$15 tour/movie; \$8 movie only
Mica Dinner Theatre, July 18. Outdoor theatre, musicians, mine trip, dinner in bunkhouse. Reserve 1 wk in adv. Murphys Point Provincial Park, Perth. 267-5340, friendsofmurphyspoint.ca. \$55
The Love List, Jul 27, 28, Aug 2, 3, 4 at 8PM; Jul 29, Aug 5 at 2PM. Full Circle Theatre, 26 Craig St., Perth. 267-1884, barndoorproductions.ca. \$22; \$18 in adv.; \$10 students

JULY 2012

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almonte Celtfest, Almonte Beguillers, St. James Gate Dragon's Breath, Renfrew Johnny Sansone, Neat Coffee Shop The Imaginary Invalid, Perth Vernissage, Almonte 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almonte Celtfest, Almonte Andy Langley, Harry McLean's Pub Art In The Barn, Smiths Falls Diversity Festival, Renfrew Dragon's Breath, Renfrew Kevin Head & Miss V, The Cove Searson CD Release, Neat Coffee Shop Perth Antique Show/Sale, Perth Strawberry Festival, Carleton Place The Imaginary Invalid, Perth Vernissage, Almonte 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almonte Celtfest, Almonte APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak Art In The Barn, Smiths Falls Carp Garden Tour, Carp Danny Brooks, The Cove Jazz Brunch, Fiddleheads Kevin Head & Miss V on the patio, The Cove Perth Antique Show/Sale, Perth The Imaginary Invalid, Perth Valley Singles Lunch, Almonte
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fellowship of the Ring, Perth Spirit Walk, Perth Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp The Imaginary Invalid, Perth Two for the Seesaw, Perth Vernissage, Carleton Place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almonte Legion 80th Anniversary, Almonte Art in the Park, Renfrew Jazz House Concert Kevin Head & Miss V, The Cove On Common Ground, Harry McLean's Pub Strawberry Social, Carleton Place The Imaginary Invalid, Perth Two for the Seesaw, Perth Vine Rhymes, Smiths Falls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Art in the Park, Renfrew Jazz Brunch, Fiddleheads Bar & Grill Kevin Head & Miss V on the patio, The Cove Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak Margie & Bob Graff Party, Almonte The Imaginary Invalid, Perth Two for the Seesaw, Perth Vernissage, Perth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almonte Fair, Almonte Glee 2, Perth Stewart Park Festival, Perth Two for the Seesaw, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almonte Fair, Almonte Carp Ridge Movie, Carp Kevin Head & Miss V, The Cove Country Inn Lally Heritage Homestead Day, Perth Stevie Nugget Band, Harry McLean's Pub Stewart Park Festival, Perth Talk: Healthy Food, Carp Two for the Seesaw, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almonte Fair, Almonte APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak Harrison Kennedy, The Cove Country Inn Jazz Brunch, Fiddleheads Bar & Grill Kevin Head & Miss V on the patio, The Cove Stewart Park Festival, Perth Two for the Seesaw, Perth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast with Soul, Almonte Foodsmiths Summer Taste Fair, Perth Drumhand, The Cove Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp The Love List, Perth The Mikado, Perth Two for the Seesaw, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Festival of Family, Renfrew Kevin Head & Miss V, The Cove Terry Tufts, Harry McLean's Pub The Love List, Perth Two for the Seesaw, Perth Vine Rhymes, Smiths Falls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Herbfest, Almonte Jazz Brunch, Fiddleheads Bar & Grill Kevin Head & Miss V on the patio, The Cove Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak PAMT Idol, Perth Spiritual Cinema Circle, Perth The Love List, Perth Two for the Seesaw, Perth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brush Strokes presents 3 D's: Donna Baskin, Deborah Guthrie, Diane Kearnan <brushstrokesart.ca> Equator Coffee Roasters celebrates 1 year at 451 with Coffee-Inspired Originals by Equator Staff <equator.ca> fieldwork presents Sylvia Pendl, Barbara Meneley, Susie Osler <fieldworkproject.com> Gallery Perth at Code's Mill presents "Between Friends", a group show <galleryperth.com> Herb Garden presents "Spice of Life" by Ottawa Mixed Media Artists <herbgarden.on.ca> Kiwi Gardens presents outdoor sculptures <kiwigardens.ca> Mill St. Gallery of Contemporary Art (Almonte) presents Nick Moore's fine furniture, Steve Thompson's photography MVTM presents "Pathways" exhibit by Juanita Sauve [to Aug 18] <mvtm.ca> Palms Coffee Shop presents Kate Collins' papier maché (til mid-July), Richard Skrobecki's pottery <palmonline.ca> The Mississippi Mills Chambers Gallery presents the poster art of Ryan Lotecki and Rick Herrera The Almonte Library Corridor Gallery presents Diane Provost, mixed media Kanata Civic Art Gallery presents "Hot 'n Bothered", a group show <kanatagallery.ca> 		

To ensure that your event makes it onto our August calendar, please email the information to calendar@thehummm.com

by July 22nd. We are also accepting listings for the Claiming Column right through the end of 2012 and into 2013.

Carp Masonic Lodge (3704 Carp Rd., Carp): Carp Celtic Jam, \$3/\$25 for 3 mos, all levels, Mon (7-9pm).
Thirsty Moose (20 Bridge St., Carleton Place, 253-0879): no cover
 Jul 3 Mississippi Blues Society Jam, 8:30pm

Community

Kent Huskins SchoolBOX Golf Tournament, July 2, 11:30AM. Tickets at Equator Coffee or schoolbox.ca. Pak-enham Highlands Golf Club
Strawberry Festival, July 7, 8AM-Noon. Part of the Farmers' Market. Market Square, Beckwith St/Lake Ave, Carleton Place. 253-3561, cpfm.ca.

Carp Garden Tour, July 8, 10AM-4PM, 12 gardens in Carp area. West Carleton Garden Club's fundraiser for Carp Memorial Hall landscaping project. sites.google.com/site/westcarletongardenclub/.

Valley Singles Lunch, July 8, 12:30-2:30PM. All welcome. To register, call 256-8117 or 432-7622., Superior Restaurant, 84 Mill St., Almonte.

Almonte Legion 80th Anniversary, July 14, 1PM. Johnny Spinks & Koolwater, pig roast, historic displays. Royal Canadian Legion, 100 Bridge St., Almonte.

Strawberry Social, July 14, 1-3PM. Music, children's activities in the gardens. CP & Beckwith Heritage Museum, 267 Edmund St., CP. 253-7013, cpbheritagemuseum.com. \$10 adults, \$3 children

Margie & Bob Graff Anniversary Party, July 15, 2-4PM. Best wishes only. Drop in at 9386 McArton Rd., Almonte.

Lally Heritage Homestead Day, July 21. Heritage crafts & trades displays & activities, with live music. Murphys Point Provincial Park, Perth. 267-5340, friendsofmurphyspoint.ca/heritage-mica-festival. Park pass needed

Adult Bereavement Group, July 25, 1:30-3:30PM. Newcomers welcome. Waterside Retirement Home, 105 McNeely Ave., CP. 256-6646. Free

Breakfast with Soul, July 27, 8-10AM. Open to all. The White Lilly, Heritage Court, Almonte. lillywhite.ca. Free

Foodsmiths Summer Taste Fair, July 27, 12-5PM. Meet local growers and producers, try free samples. Foodsmiths, 106 Wilson St. W, Perth. foodsmiths.com

Spiritual Cinema Circle, July 29, 2PM. Myriad Centre, 1 Sherbrooke St., Perth. 267-4819, fp@superaje.com. \$2 donation
Opening Night, Aug 2,3,4,10,11 8PM; Aug 5,12 2PM. \$20 Book Nook; \$22 door, 485-6434/ticketsplease.ca. Studio Theatre, Perth. 267-7469, studiotheatreperth.com.

Literature

Vine Rhymes, July 14, 7-9PM. Area song-writers & poets. Coffee Culture, 2 Russell St. E., Smiths Falls. No cover

Vine Rhymes, July 28, 7-8:30PM. Part of Music in the Park. Lower Reach Park, Smiths Falls. No cover

Music

Beyond the Bomb: Music of the Cold War, July 11, 6-9PM. Music by Moscow String Quartet & more. Tickets at musicandbeyond.ca/shop/diefenbunker. The Diefenbunker, Carp. \$50

Perth Citizen's Band Outdoor Concert, July 12 & 26, 7:30PM. Bring lawn chair or stroll. Stewart Park, Perth. perthband.ca.

Jazz House Concert, July 14, Renee Yoxon Trio. jazzn.ca

Fiddlers and Friends, July 25, 7PM. Ompah Community Centre. 479-2855. By donation

Fall River Open Stage July 25, 7PM. All welcome. Fall River Restaurant, 21980 Hwy 7 at Maberly. 268-2197.

The Swan at Carp (Falldown Lane Carp, 839-7926), jazz, no cover
 Jul 13, 27 Steve Barrette Trio, 7-10pm

St. James Gate (111 Bridge St., Carleton Place, 257-7530):

Jul 6 Beguillers (Celtfest), 9pm, no cover

Fiddleheads (Code's Mill, Perth, 267-1304):

Sundays Jazz brunch w/Clay Young & guest, 12-3pm.

The Royal Oak (329 March Rd. Kanata, 591-3895): jazz on Sun, no cover

Jul 1, 15, 29 Magnolia Rhythm Kings, 3-6pm

Jul 8, 22 APEX Jazz Band, 2-5pm

The Cove (2 Bedford St., Westport, 273-3636): Tues Locals Night 8-11pm, Thur Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio 9-11pm, Kevin Head & Miss V on Sat 6-9pm & Sun 12-3pm

Jul 3 String Tease

Jul 8 Danny Brooks, dinner/show, \$45

Jul 22 Harrison Kennedy, dinner/show, \$45

Jul 10 Tom Savage

Jul 17 Brock Zeman

Jul 24 Emily Fennell

Jul 27 Drumhand, 8-11pm

Jul 31 Mike Cochrane/Shawn McCullough

Ballygiblin's (151 Bridge St., Carleton Place, 253-7400), jazz, no cover

Jul 5 Peter Brown, Don Paterson & guests, 6-9pm

Neat Coffee Shop (1715 Calabogie Rd., Burnstown, 433-3205): 8pm

Jul 6 Johnny Sansone, \$20

Jul 7 Searson CD release, \$20

Jul 10 The Bright Lights Social Hour, \$17

Jul 11 Moreland & Ar buckle, \$20

Jul 26 The Be Good Tanyas, \$41

Aug 1 Dave Gunning, \$20

The Naismith Pub (411 Ottawa St., Almonte, 256-6336): Open Celtic Jam Wed, no charge (7:30-10pm)

Harry McLean's Pub (111 St. Lawrence St., Merrickville, 269-4223)

Jul 7 Andy Langley

Jul 14 On Common Ground

Jul 21 Stevie Nugget Band

Jul 28 Terry Tufts

Big Changes at the Myriad Centre in Perth

Since 2005, Perth's Myriad Centre for the Arts has been home to the Perth Academy of Musical Theatre (PAMT), Orion Theatre Company, and the Perth Film Society. It had long been a dream of PAMT founder Heidi Stepanek to develop a multi-arts facility in Perth, and she and her husband Peter Dixon worked extremely hard to make the Myriad Centre a place where people of all ages could gather and take part in, or experience high quality opportunities in, the performing arts. Operating a privately-run arts-based business has many challenges, and is a rare thing in this country, but over the past seven years, the Myriad Centre has been able to remain viable and occupy an important niche in Perth's extensive artistic community.

It is time, however, for a change, and as of September of this year, the Myriad Centre will be closing its doors. Heidi and Peter are taking advantage of several converging situations, both personal and professional, to take a sabbatical. During their time away they will be doing some travelling around North America and taking time to develop a new vision for their future.

They will be back in time for the 2013 summer session of PAMT, which will be held at a new location still to be finalized. They also look forward to working with Perth's immensely talented actors, singers and musicians for their next Orion Theatre Company production in 2014.

The **Perth Academy of Musical Theatre** has been a mainstay for the area's budding artists for

the past fourteen years. Founded in 1998 by Heidi, it started out as a summer job, but since that time has grown in size and scope, becoming a full-time occupation for her and her employees. Starting with a mere forty students that first summer, she now teaches classes to over 300 students a year, many of who have traveled from great distances — Germany, Mexico, California and Winnipeg — to take part in PAMT's award winning, one-of-a-kind programs. PAMT has also graduated from offering two sum-



The Myriad Centre has been home to the Perth Academy of Musical Theatre since 2005

mer workshops, to running over twenty programs throughout the year, for both youths and adults of all ages, with repertoire varying from musical theatre, drama and vocal technique to sword-play and stage combat.

Over the years, PAMT has received several prestigious accolades, including the Perth Chamber of Commerce's Business Achievement Award in 2004, and a nomination for Heidi from the YWCA's Women of Distinction awards in 2006. Heidi, however, feels that the business's greatest achievement is the impact the programs have had on her students. Many young people

come through PAMT doors for the first time nervous and unsure of themselves, but by the end of their first day, they are already a part of the family atmosphere that the staff and other students create, and bond with lifelong friends from all over the world.

Students, parents and audience members of PAMT's productions consistently rave about the quality of the instruction and of the final performances put on by the company. Particularly important is the emphasis on ensuring that every student receives

time in the spotlight, either singing a solo, dancing a feature dance, or acting in a lead role. Building confidence in the students is PAMT's primary mandate, and there are numerous stories from parents of how a child, who was always the shyest in their class, became stronger and more self-assured after a PAMT workshop. The children help to create a special and

unique community of non-judgmental and spirited individuals with positive attitudes, devoted to providing a fun and safe environment for everyone to experiment artistically, without fear of negative feedback. Everyone has fun together, regardless of their backgrounds and abilities, and experiences the joy of acting and playing, both on and off the stage.

This coming summer will be the last PAMT workshop season to be held at the Myriad Centre, and to mark this Heidi has developed a wide range of workshops representing the variety of musical theatre and dramatic performance opportunities PAMT has

always tried to maintain. During July and August, participants will be able to take part in a two-week *Lord of the Rings* (*The Fellowship of the Ring*) workshop or enjoy the ever-popular Gilbert & Sullivan by spending a week with *The Mikado*. The younger crowd can play the part of Pooh Bear, Piglet or Tigger in the *Winnie-the-Pooh* workshop, while teens will have the opportunity to work on the amazing *Jesus Christ Superstar*, whose Stratford production won such high acclaim last year that it moved on to Broadway. Fans of the popular show *Glee* can spend

a week learning some fantastic versions of favourites, and then perform them on the Stewart Park Festival main stage, while up and coming songbirds can receive professional assistance in preparation for involvement in the annual PAMT Idol competition.

For more information, visit PAMT's website at <myriad-centre.ca> or call 267-9610. All workshops and performances will take place at the Myriad Centre for the Arts, located in the Old Perth Shoe building on Sherbrooke Street.

— Heidi Stepanek

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10 Things You (Probably) Didn't Know About the Almonte Legion

Heck, we didn't know most of this, and we live right across the street! Thanks to John Souter for touring us around, and for bringing us up to speed on Branch 240.

1 – July 15, 2012 marks the **80th anniversary** of the Almonte Legion, and a celebration is planned for Saturday, July 14, starting at 1PM. The day will feature live entertainment by Johnny Spinks and Koolwater, displays of many of the historic photographs and artefacts from the Legion's archives, and a pig roast barbecue. The official ceremony will take place at 2PM.



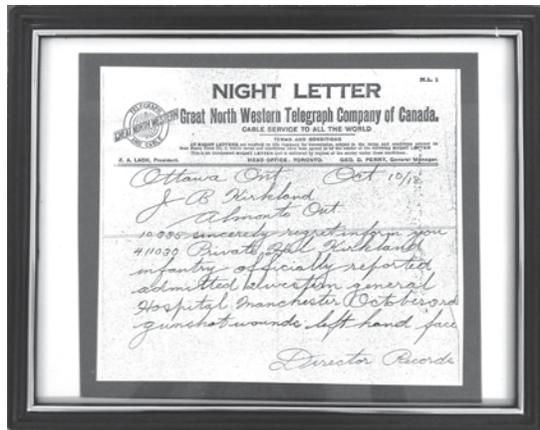
2 – The Legion is the largest veterans' organization in Canada with over 340,000 members worldwide. There are over 1500 branches in Canada, the U.S. and Europe. **Membership** in the Legion is not limited to armed forces members and their families. If you are a Canadian citizen or Commonwealth subject of federal voting age and you support the aims and objectives of the Royal Canadian Legion, you may be eligible for membership.

3 – The **Almonte branch** was originally chartered in 1932, but they did not acquire a permanent home until 1947 when they purchased a 3-storey, limestone building from the Bank of Montreal for \$3500. Built in 1870, the building served as the Bank of Montreal and, later, the bank manager's home when the bank was

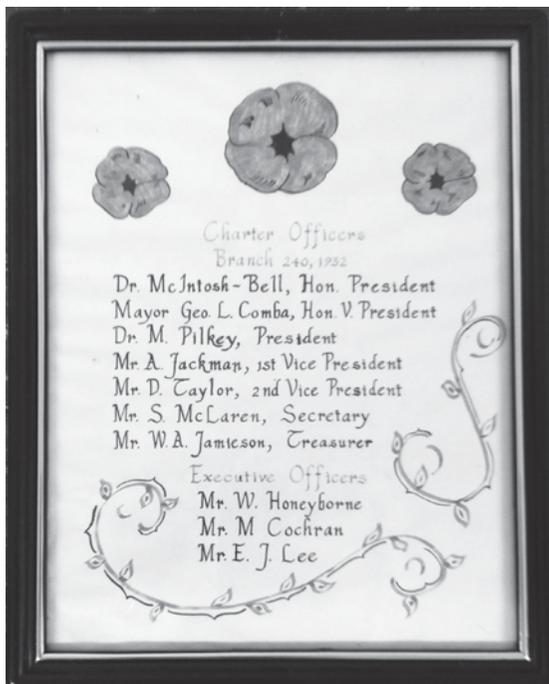
moved "closer to the commercial centre of town." Although a fire in the '50s claimed the third floor, the Almonte Branch still occupies the now slightly shorter building.

4 – Although not technically a museum, the Almonte branch is definitely a **repository of memories and artefacts**.

A quick tour runs the gamut from a grainy photo of a group of soldiers on the front steps of the Almonte Old Town Hall holding a sign proclaiming "Next Stop, Berlin" to a sharp colour picture of young people proudly brandishing a "Next Stop, Afghanistan" banner. There are telegrams, night letters, and documents with names that read like a street map of Almonte: Tait McKenzie, Kirkland, Comba, Jamieson, and many more. So it's like a museum where you can grab a beer and sing karaoke!



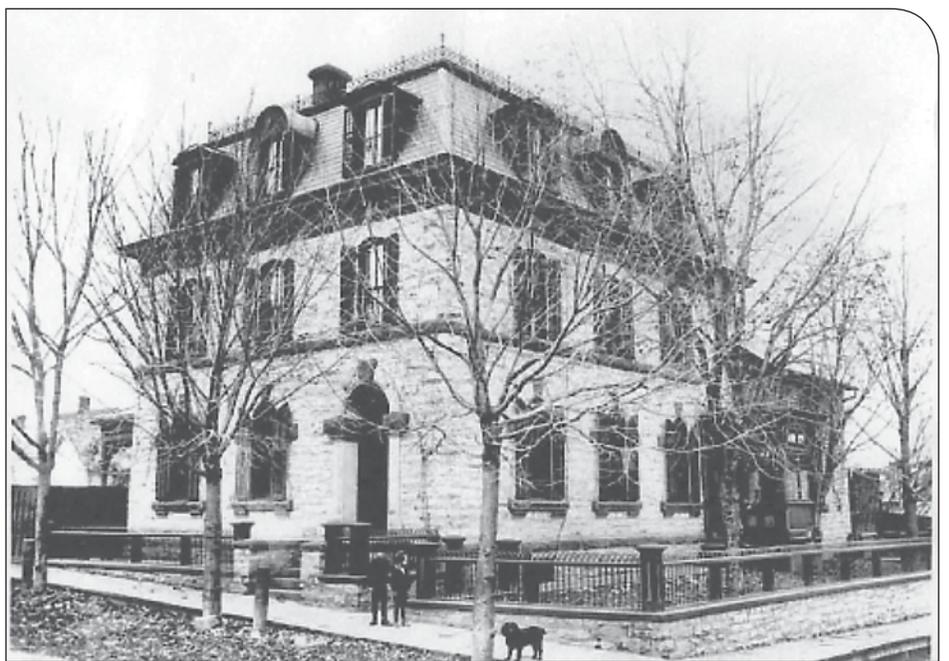
5 – On the third Saturday of every month from 8–11, the Almonte Legion hosts an egg and bacon **breakfast** for \$5. Eggs, bacon AND sausage, pancakes, homefries, coffee and juice!



6 – The Legion sponsors an annual **bursary program** designed to assist students pursuing a post-secondary education including courses and training programs of a technical and vocational nature. The bursary program is open to members and their children or grandchildren.

7 – Recent **renovations** to the Legion have seen the addition of a new licensed patio. All of the stones, bricks, fencing, surveying and landscaping was donated!

8 – In addition to being a gathering place for members with a regular schedule of live entertainment, the Almonte Legion provides **free meeting space** to community groups such as The Mills, Puppets Up!, and the North Lanark Highland Games.



The Almonte Legion as it appeared prior to the fire that destroyed its third floor

9 – On-site **amenities** include a sports room for playing darts and pool, the aforementioned licensed patio, an upper hall that can hold up to 100 people suitable for birthdays, weddings, dances or meetings, and a commercial kitchen designed (pro bono) by renowned "kitchenographer" John Brathwaite. Contact the Legion to inquire about rentals.

10 – **Everyone is welcome** come in and find out more about the Legion! Mark July 15 on your calendar, but also plan to come in for breakfast or bingo, or whenever you are in need of some accessible meeting space. It's located at 100 Bridge Street, and you can reach them at 256-2142.

— Kris & Rob Riendeau

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"Adventure Painting"
 August 7, 8, 9 \$200
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All Things Creative

Summer Art Camps for Kids

Art has always been a part of Kate Ryckman's life. As she states on her website, <kateryckmanart.weebly.com>, "(my) mother was an accomplished artist and always encouraged a creative home."

Perhaps it was her artistic upbringing, or having three children of her own, that ignited her passion for educating children in art. Kate says that her idea for children's art programs was born when she asked her daughter Paisley what she wanted to plan for last March break, to which Paisley replied: "Art and play dates." So they combined the two into a children's art program. Paisley, other children, and their parents enjoyed the March break program so much that Kate decided to offer a regular Sunday morning art class for kids aged four to six.

This summer she is introducing **All Things Creative**, a series of summer camps for kids aged four to twelve, run in her home in Carp. Parents can choose to enrol their kids in either a camp that runs for three half-days, or one for five full-days. "The classes are designed to be hands-on and interactive for each child and their skill level." Each day, kids will learn a new medium or technique, sampling from the styles of masters such as Van Gogh, O'Keefe, Matisse and Warhol. Inspiration will be drawn from reading stories together, observing nature, and from the music playing in the background. Campers will also visit Kate's studio to learn about the professional process of creating art.

Kate strives to create a welcoming and creatively stimulating environment for children, as well as an affordable option for parents.

"My goal is to inspire children," she says. "Art is not available to children the way it once was in schools. They are now more interested in using electronics than using their imaginations and hands."

Parents can find registration information at <kateryckmanart.weebly.com>. For any other questions or comments, people are invited to call 839-0946. Classes are quickly filling up, so register as soon as possible! Other classes may also be opened, depending on interest.

Children who attend are asked to "dress for a mess." Kate only uses materials that are safe for children and provides smocks; however, paint does seem to have a peculiar attraction to fancy or expensive clothing.

All Things Creative is a dream come true for Kate. She hopes children leave camp inspired, and with a drive to continue creating.

Kate's own art can be seen in an ongoing exhibit at the West Carleton Family Medical Clinic in Carp, as well as at ARTstravaganza, the West Carleton Arts Society's first summer art show and festival, on Saturday, August 18 at the Carp fairgrounds.

— *Kylie Kendall is theHumm's summer intern, and will be entering her second year in Carleton University's journalism program in the fall*



Happy campers show off their creations at Kate Ryckman's "All Things Creative" summer art camp

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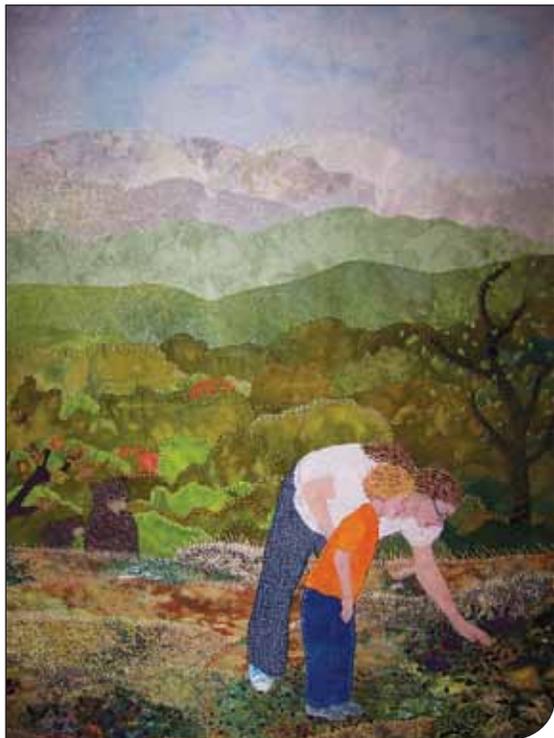
Pathways at Textile Museum

Until August 18, the Norah Rosamond Hughes Gallery of the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum presents the exciting and original work of fibre artist Jaunita Sauve.

Working with a variety of fabrics and employing techniques that range from embroidery and photo transfer to quilting, Sauve creates unique hand-stitched pieces that delight and inspire. She produces vibrant colours and effects using dyes, watercolour crayons, inks, paint sticks and fabric paints. Many pieces also incorporate embellishments, such as yarn, pebbles and gemstones.

by Miss Cellaneous

The works on display represent the artist's own pathways to music, art and friendship, as well as to "great hiking trails in places where you won't find the golden arches of McDonalds." Indeed, the natural world, from Saskatchewan's endless sky to Newfoundland's Gros Morne, is the inspiration for many of the pieces in this exhibition. Come and feed your spirit as you enjoy *Pathways*.



"Blueberry Magic" by Jaunita Sauve

OMMA at Herb Garden

From July 3 through 31, The Herb Garden on Old Almonte Road will host "Spice of Life", an exhibition of paintings produced by Ottawa Mixed Media Artists. The show, which will hang in the charming Bergamot Barn, coincides with the Herb Garden's annual and extremely popular Herbfest. In lieu of an opening reception, the OMMA artists have been invited to set up easels in this beautiful rural setting at any time during the show for a bit of "plein air" painting. Come out and watch these creative mixed media artists develop their creations, then drop in to the gallery to see some completed works that are sure to put some spice in your life!



See works by Pam Warren McKinnon at the Rideau Valley Art Festival in Westport from August 24-26

2012 marks the tenth anniversary of Ottawa Mixed Media Artists, or OMMA, as it is affectionately called by its members. The group was created as a forum for artists interested in experimenting with the plethora of new water media products that had begun to appear on the shelves of area art stores — art materials that did not meet the strict criteria of the more traditional local and international art associations. From an initial membership of approximately forty curious and experimental artists, OMMA has grown to a membership base of over two hundred artists who live and work all across the greater Ottawa area. Over the past ten years, OMMA have mounted over forty exhibitions, as well as numerous workshops, many by nationally and internationally acclaimed artist-instructors. For more information and to see some of the members' artwork, please visit <omma.co>.

The Herb Garden is located at 3840 Old Almonte Road near the junction of Upper Dwyer Hill Road. Summer hours are Tuesday through Sunday, from 10AM to 5:30PM. For information contact the Herb Garden at 256-0228 or visit <omma.co>.

Rideau Valley Art Festival in Westport

Located in the beautiful Village of Westport on Upper Rideau Lake in the heart of the historic Rideau Valley, the 31st annual **Rideau Valley Art Festival** is home to over sixty professional artists this year.

From Friday, August 24 to Sunday, August 26, see original artwork by artists both well-known and new, juried to ensure the excellent content of the festival. "Those who attend will find the highest quality original art — no prints. Our artists will be on hand to answer questions, and a variety of attractions promise something for everyone," promises the new director, Tamara Carlson.

The festival will continue with its annual Amateur Art Competition and reveal its new Amateur Digital Photography Competition. "Both of our amateur competitions are intended to encourage and develop artistic talent in our surrounding communities," said Carlson, "We encourage all ages and all levels to compete. We have cash prizes in both competitions and the new electronic application process on our website makes it easy to enter." To find out more about the professional artists who will be attending the festival, as well as the rules and regulations around the amateur competitions, go to <rideauvalleyartfestival.com>. Proceeds from the festival fund many area community organizations.

Soul Scents would like to welcome **Sam Smith** of Carleton Place to the store as our newest Intuitive Card Reader working with Tarot and other decks. She will be available the 2nd Saturday of every month (12-4PM) for 15 minute readings as well as each Tuesday from 12-3PM for 30 or 60 minute readings.

Nancy Kerr-Wilson will continue to offer readings (using stones, crystals, and cards) on the last Saturday of every month (10-5PM.)

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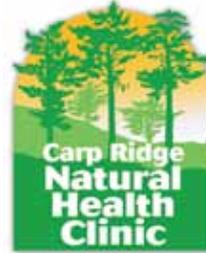
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Great Bridge Street Bazaar

Locals and out-of-towners alike are invited to visit downtown Carleton Place on Saturday, August 4 to enjoy a summer community extravaganza. The 7th annual Bridge Street Bazaar will showcase the centre of this colourful and historic town through a sidewalk shop with over one hundred vendors. From 9AM to 4PM, visitors can Meet Us "Downtown" On The Mississippi to find great bargains, explore the fantastic array of local shops, and eat at waterfront pubs and restaurants, all while basking in non-stop local entertainment.

The entire downtown section of Bridge Street will be closed off to vehicular traffic to create a pedestrian-friendly area where vendors and merchants will display and sell their wares. The day-long schedule of events features numerous activities and attractions, including some of Carleton Place's finest musicians and dancers as well as some new mascots. Spectators will enjoy a full day of live local entertainment that will bring the sounds of pop, rock and country to the stage, as well as local buskers who will be wandering the streets performing. Entertainment in the downtown market area is free of charge and full of variety.

Fun For All Ages

As a special treat for children, this year's event will feature the Partytime Inflatable Carnival, a petting zoo and pony rides, and of course there will be plenty of BBQs, candy floss and ice cream to snack on while enjoying the sights and sounds of downtown Carleton Place. The restaurants in the downtown core will also offer a wide variety of live entertainment and delicious food to suit all tastes.

Organized by the Carleton Place Business Improvement Association (BIA) and with participation from all facets of the town — church groups, restaurants, merchants and arts programs — the Bridge Street Bazaar allows visitors to truly immerse themselves in the Carleton Place character and discover all that the town has to offer. When the BIA works together with the Carleton Place community, great events are born that work to unify people and develop the town's attraction and spirit.

Become a Vendor!

Everyone is welcome to set up a table and sell their wares at the bustling Bridge Street Bazaar. The cost is \$25 for a 10' by 10' space, and they must be reserved by contacting Cathie McOrmond at cmcormond@carletonplace.ca or 613-257-8049. All registration forms must be received by July 20 at 4PM. See you on Bridge Street!



July 1	Canada Day Celebrations at Riverside Park beginning at 1PM < www.carletonplace.ca >
July 7	Carleton Place Farmers Market Strawberry Social from 8AM until noon < www.cpfm.ca >
July 10-18	Annual Scottish Heritage Tattoo
July 11	Showtime at the Station with Doug Barr and Crash the Clown < www.cpchamber.com >
July 14	Strawberry Social & CP Community Band at the CP and Beckwith Heritage Museum < cpbheritagemuseum.com >
July 15	The Annual Graham Beasley Triathlon, Decathlon, Heritage 5k Run < www.somersault.ca >
July 18	Showtime at the Station with Maria Hawkins < www.cpchamber.com >
July 21 & 22	The Carleton Place Canoe Club Regatta weekend < www.cpcanoecub.com >
July 25	Showtime at the Station with Junkyard Symphony < www.cpchamber.com >
August 1, 8, 15 & 17	Showtime at the Station < www.cpchamber.com >
August 4	The 7th Annual BIA Bridge Street Bazaar 9AM until 4PM < www.downtowncarletonplace.com >

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Full Circle Theatre Starts Summer with a Bang

The summer season is here and Perth's Full Circle Theatre is offering a lineup of great comedy for your entertainment. The intimate, ground-level, barrier-free, air-conditioned theatre is approaching its first anniversary with a liberal dose of funny!

BarnDoor Productions, resident company at the Full Circle Theatre, has a long history of presenting classics in the summer, going back to 1996. For 2012, BDP is offering a mix: one of the great classic comedies of all time by one of the great comic playwrights of all time, and a sexy, funny comedy by Canada's most-produced modern playwright. Between them, they offer two ends of the comedy spectrum and a whole cartload of laughs.

The Imaginary Invalid starts off Perth's summer season on July 6. It is considered to be perhaps the greatest play by the 17th century French master known as Molière. It is certainly his most frequently produced show and is, in fact, the play that killed him! Playing the title role, Molière collapsed during the second performance in 1673 and succumbed shortly after to lung disease.

Even four centuries later, the play is hilariously funny and filled with outrageous humour — Molière's plays are anything but polite and the jokes are both philosophical and scatological. The butt of the play is the medical profession of Molière's day — a profession that could "give a Greek name to all the diseases but as for curing those diseases... nothing." It culminates in one of the funniest induction ceremonies ever penned: a burlesque doctor's initiation that spoofs medicine, opera, and any profession that takes itself too seriously.

BDP's new adaptation of the original French (from a translation by Charles Heron Wall) is fresh and vigorous, and their patented high-energy, fast-paced approach to classic theatre productions ensures a surprising, exciting and laugh-filled show. With new music written especially for the production, a cast of twelve, and gorgeous 17th century costumes created by Almonte-based designer Sara Cochran, it will be the biggest production of the summer in Perth, and a visually and aurally stunning show.

The Imaginary Invalid runs July 6, 7, 12, 13, 14 at 8PM and July 8 and 15 at 2PM, at the Full Circle Theatre.

The second BDP summer show changes gears entirely, from one of the great classic playwrights to Canada's most-produced modern playwright. Norm Foster's *The Love List* is sexy, adult fun and one of Foster's best scripts. The three-hander, directed by Janice Jacklin, includes veterans laugh-getters David Bird, Kristy Angel, and David Jacklin. It's a perfect mid-summer romp, just right for oiling up the funny bone. *The Love List* will run July 27, 28, August 2, 3, 4 at 8PM and July 29 and August 5 at 2PM.

Tickets for either show are \$18 reserved, \$22 at the door or \$10 for students. No credit cards are required: just call 267-1884 or go online to <barndoorproductions.ca> for tickets or information. There are no convenience fees or HST added to your price — just the kind of great entertainment that BarnDoor Productions has been offering for seventeen seasons.



Between Friends at Gallery Perth

Gallery Perth is delighted to present a special show for this summer entitled "Between Friends", featuring works by Maxine Noel and Stephen St. Christian, as well as Suzette MacSkimming, Aili Kurtis, John Matthews and other friends. There will be an open house on July 15 from 2 to 5PM at the gallery in Code's Mill (17 Wilson Street E.). For more details, please visit <galleryperth.com>.

Maxine Noel is Santee Oglala Sioux, born on the Birdtail Reservation in south-western Manitoba. She believes that there is a common bond that links all cultures of the world. She has participated in video productions and given many television and radio interviews to assist in bridging the gap between Native and non-Native communities. Her work is pictured above.

Originally from Toronto, Stephen St. Christian currently lives in Stratford with a husband, two dogs, and a remarkable chosen family. This family is at the heart of his work as an artist, in which he explores the ways image making can challenge history and invoke the personal and the physical at the heart of the politics of experience.



PERTH Garlic FESTIVAL

Sat., August 11
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

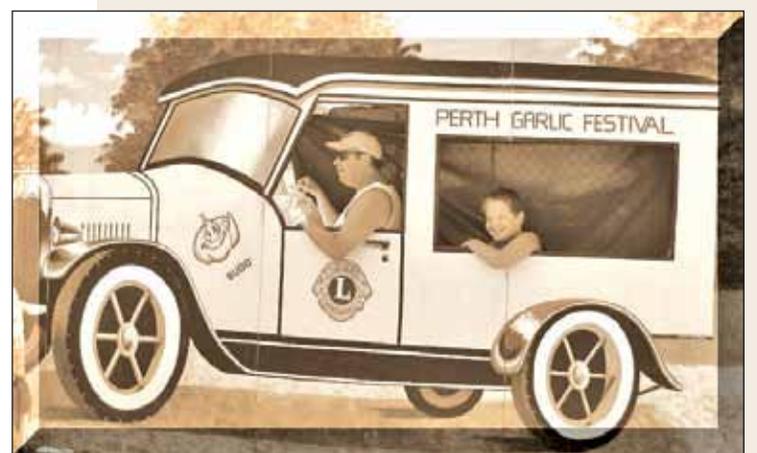
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Emily Fennell (left) and Brock Zeman both play this summer's Locals Nights at The Cove

These Locals Are No Yokels (Although Some Might Yodel...)

Looking to hear more local entertainers and be amazed by what's in your own backyard? Check out Tuesday Locals Night, the new summer series at The Cove in Westport featuring solo, duo and small group acts performing a mix of original and cover music in the lounge. All shows are free and run from 8–11PM.

Here's a quick look at the line-up, with links so you can check them out in advance. For more information or to book a dinner (or overnight stay) reservation, visit <coveinn.com> or call 1-888-COVEINN.

On July 3 and August 7, **StringTease** from Westport performs a mix of gypsy, blues and folk. On July 10 and September 11, Kingston's **Tom Savage** <tomsavage.ca> brings his rock, folk and blues to town. On July 17 and Au-

gust 28, **Brock Zeman** <brockzeman.com> plays his special blend of folk, rock and storytelling. **Emily Fennell** brings her soul, jazz and pop stylings over from Kingston on July 24 (find her on Facebook). Westport's own **Mike Cochrane** and **Shawn McCullough** finish off the month on July 31. On August 14, you can hear a mix of rock and folk from Montreal and Westport when **Jason Kent** <myspace.com/sunfields> is joined by **Jeff** and **Seamus Cowan** <spoonriverband.com>. **Chris Murphy** of Crooked Wood <myspace.com/crooked-woodmusic> comes over from Perth Road Village on August 21, and then on September 4 you can catch **Eric Lawrance's** folk, rock and Delta blues <myspace.com/ericlawrance>.

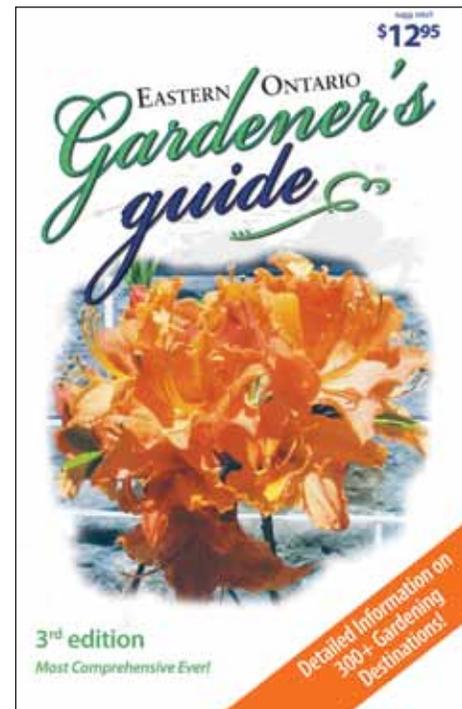
Great Guide for Area Gardeners

As of today, gardeners everywhere who enjoy daytripping in search of new, different and rare plants will have access to a resource tool like never before, with the launch of the third edition of the *Eastern Ontario Gardener's Guide*. Perfect as a carry-along in a glove compartment or purse, this informative local publication has 200 pages jam-packed with information for gardeners.

Consult the Guide for informative articles, tips, listings and upcoming events. There are over 300 gardening destinations listed, including growers/nurseries, garden centres, public gardens and purveyors of garden décor. You'll find creators of garden art and places where gardeners meet.

Geographically, this edition introduces Peterborough and the Northumberland Highlands to complement the other eleven travel districts featured in the guide. From Picton in trendy Prince Edward County to Vankleek Hill, from Cornwall to the rolling hills of Perth and Lanark Highlands, from Kingston and the Islands to Pembroke in the beautiful Upper Ottawa Valley, and all places in between, this guide has it all.

For those who are into "eat fresh, buy local", you'll find pages of places where local growers take their products to market. The guide makes the perfect gift



for that special friend or neighbour who has a love of gardening.

To order a copy or find out where you can pick up this great local guide, enquire at your local bookstore or visit <gardensguide.ca>. The *Eastern Ontario Gardener's Guide* sells for just \$12.95. Discounts are available for large groups or associations, including garden clubs and horticultural societies.



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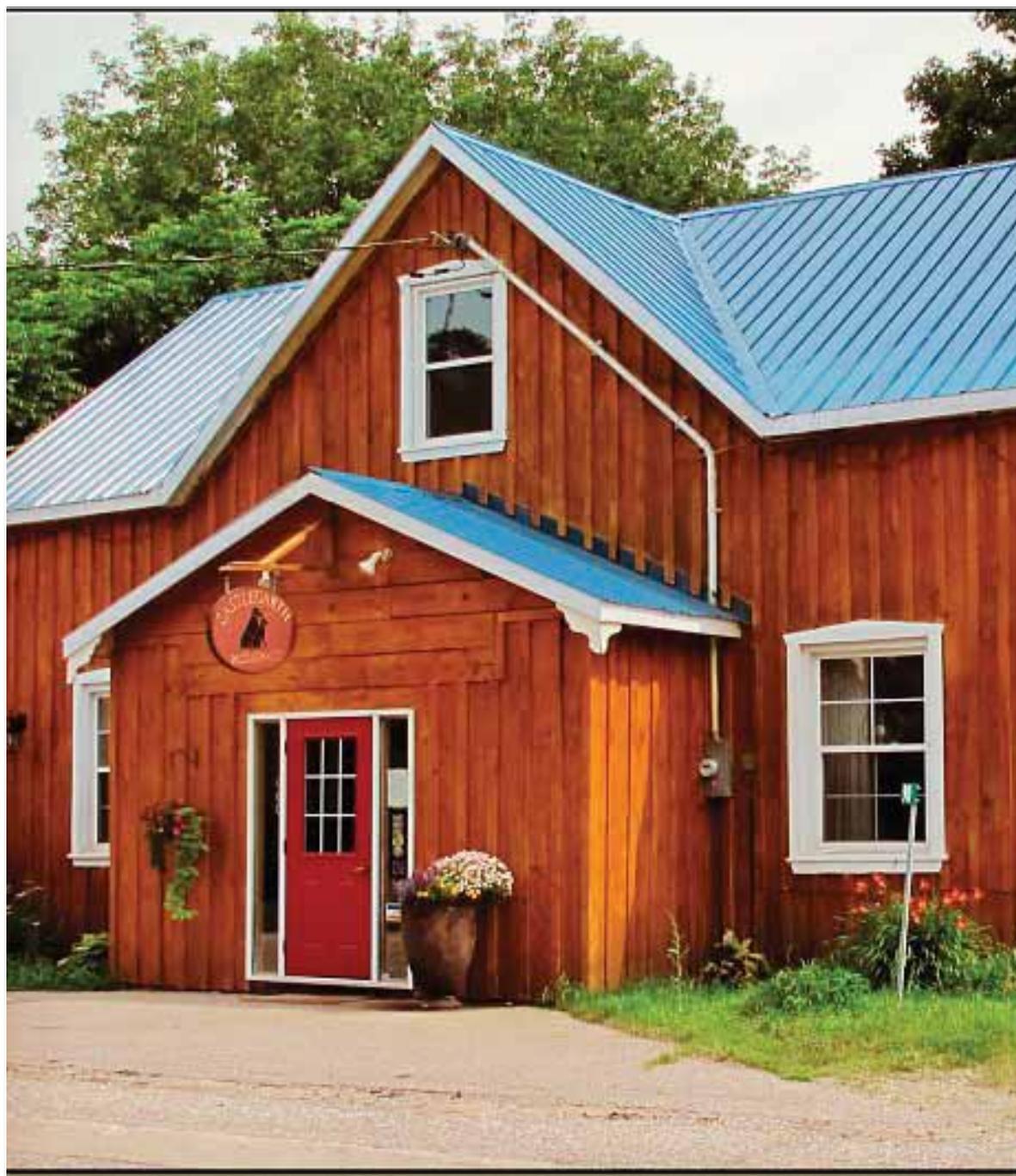
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