

MAY 2018

# the Humour

free

Arts,  
Entertainment  
& Ideas



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The Art of Barbara Jordan p.3



Patrick Kelly  
SALES REPRESENTATIVE

## May is all about Mother's Day

Take your ultra special mum out for brunch, buy her some flowers or a handmade gift, and if you really want to do something special, move out of her basement! I'd be happy to help you find your ideal first home.

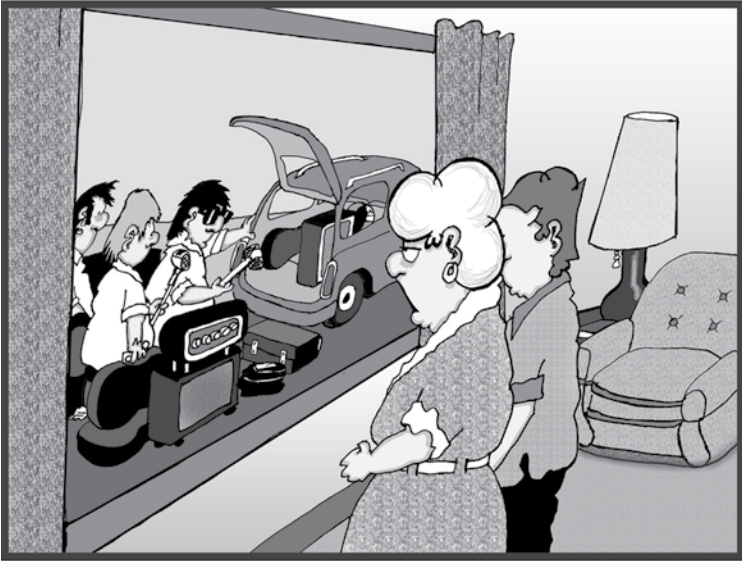
**Pat's Picks** Mother's Day brunch at **The Herb Garden** <herbgarden.on.ca>  
**for May:** Gifts at the **Cheerfully Made** craft show <markets.cheerfullymade.com>  
Dinner at **The Heirloom Café and Bistro** <heirloomcafe.ca>  
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Humble Thought

“I calculated once how many times I fell during my skating career — 41,600 times. But here’s the funny thing: I got up 41,600 times. That’s the muscle you have to build in your psyche — the one that reminds you to just get up.”

— Scott Hamilton, Olympic gold medalist

Readers Write

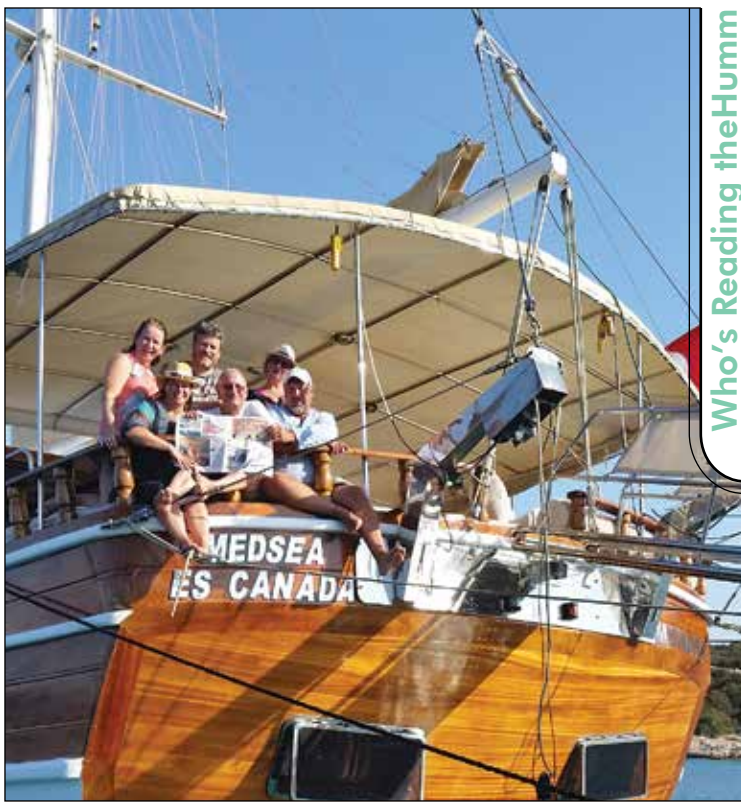
**MM2020 — Connecting Clayton**

There is nothing more important to building the health, prosperity and safety of our community than modern connectivity — to the internet, to cell phone coverage, to being part of the broader Canadian country-wide cell phone alert system.

Right now, it’s hit or miss as to whether Clayton would receive a health and safety alert. The community’s access to internet and cell service is among the worst in the country. This is motivating a determined group of local citizens to pull together an innovative, community-based initiative to bring better broadband and cell access to the community.

MM2020 is a volunteer-led initiative to enhance broadband throughout Mississippi Mills. The MM2020 Clayton working group has come together to drive better broadband and cell connectivity for the estimated 600 homes in the greater Clayton area. With more than 25 volunteers, the group launched a community survey on internet and cell phone gaps in service. More than 40% of households have already responded.

Survey results point directly to the importance of bringing better connectivity to local businesses and residents. Almost a third of all respondents (29%) operate a home-based business and face economic challenges related to poor internet/cell service. As Barbara Mullally, co-owner of Moondance Gallery and an organizer of the annual Crown



Who’s Reading the Humm

TheHumm made it to Greece and Turkey on a Mediterranean Cruise! **Michael & Caroline Nolan, Mark Joynes and Emma Moxley** from Pakenham and their friends **Randi and Pal Bredesen** from Norway were onboard the ES Canada, sailing the Dodacanese Islands and Turkey. The 12-passenger and 4-crew Medseayachts Gulet ship had a fabulous week discovering quiet bays, uninhabited islands and calm, crystal clear waters, which allowed for wonderful views of sea turtles and dolphins playing along side the boat. Local travel consultant Emma Moxley <travelbyemma.com> will host a free “Let’s Talk Travel” evening on May 22, starting at 7PM at the Pakenham Library — find out more on page 8 of this issue!

and Pumpkin Studio Tour, noted: “Some artists use Square technology to process payment from their smartphones but have payment issues unless they are in Almonte. We need better internet and cell to bring more tourism and business to the community”.

Other respondents have singled out health and safety. Dwayne noted: “We lost a community member to a health emergency in the village of Clayton a few years ago. 911 service failed. Had cell phone coverage been available, perhaps this death could have been prevented”. And Crystal, who works in emergency services, told us that: “Recently there was a code orange at the Queensway Carleton Hospital and they needed me to help with a 120% patient overload; if I had been outside when they called, I would have missed that call”.

The Clayton group’s work includes their community survey <surveymonkey.com/r/RPSLRBP>, as well as a platoon of volunteers going door-to-door to mobilize the community. As Clem Pelot, one of the leading organizers of MM2020-Clayton, highlighted: “Appleton has already succeeded in what we are doing. The only way to bring better broadband and cell service to the Clayton community faster is to organize a unified buying group representing the majority of residents to work with MM2020 on viable service improvement options”.

Anyone interested in volunteering is asked to contact Clem at <clempelet@storm.ca> or 256-7535.

— Scott Taymun



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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, Smiths Falls, Burnstown, White Lake, Balderson, and Ottawa. Our mandate is to connect and promote people and events in the small towns and rural communities of the Ottawa Valley — where the arts flourish and entertaining characters run amok!

**Submissions**

By email please.

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

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**Thanks this month to:**

Our moms.

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**Pottery Sale**  
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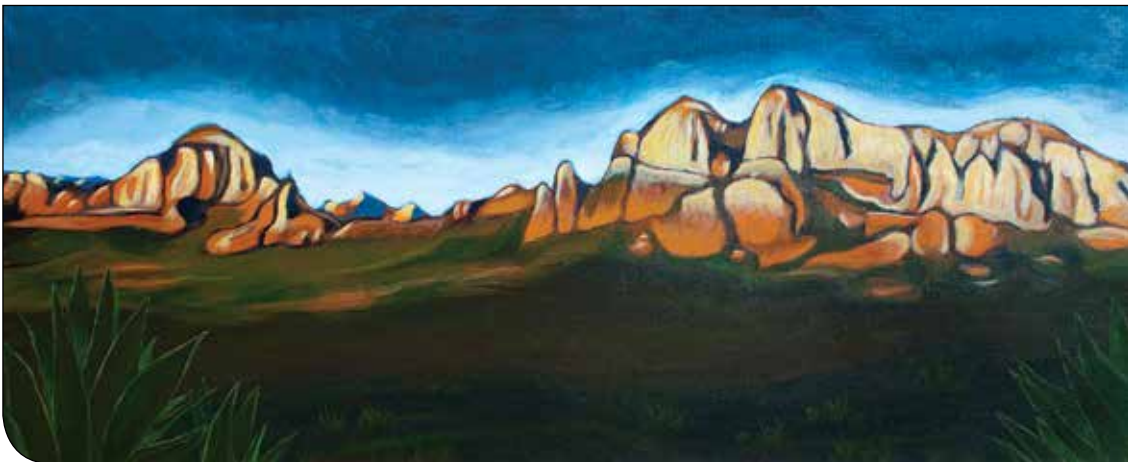
60 Gore St., East, Perth 613-267-2350

# Barbara Jordan – Uncovering the Artist Within

When Barbara Jordan started her arts education at Sheridan College she already knew how to draw. It was a skill she had been practicing since she was a toddler. Her mother, her aunt and her grandmother were artists, and art had always been an integral part of her life. When she was six years old she announced that she would become a commercial artist when she grew up. She did.

by Sally Hansen

Now she is expanding her successful career in commercial photography and graphic design to indulge her personal fine arts interests. After more than twenty years of conceiving and producing print and web material for public and private sector clients, Jordan is following her own artistic muse. She is focusing her camera on scenes that delight her as



she travels in pursuit of them, and she has begun to use her photos to inspire her acrylic paintings.

Thoroughly experienced in all aspects of photography, Jordan puts her technical knowledge to good use. Printing on canvas, she produces striking images in a variety of formats. A single flower — a common field daisy — shimmers in the sunlight. With her choice of perspective, the inclusion of three blades of grass, and her large print format she creates a joyous tribute to nature, to spring, to sunshine — guaranteed to brighten a bedroom or an office. Her favourite photo is a dramatic close-up of a stunning blue orchid. Her floral works predicate her answer to one of my standard interview questions: “If you couldn’t be an artist, what would you do?” Jordan would be a florist.

Jordan loves architecture, and some of her most eye-catching images feature city scenes. An admirer

of Lawren Harris’s trailblazing style, she highlights architectural aspects in many of her landscape photos as well. Her portrait of a lighthouse is a striking example of her talent for finding the angle and the lighting that elevate her photos from snapshots to fine art.

## Empty Fears

Given her extensive career as a professional photographer and graphic designer, it surprises me to learn that she only recently has overcome her “fear of painting.” Each time she purchased new brushes and paints, they languished on the shelf. After all those years of translating clients’ needs into effective graphic designs, photos, videos and art work, why was she intimidated by a blank white canvas facing her? Walt Kelly, creator of the famous comic strip “Pogo,” provides the answer — she was “confronted by insurmountable opportunities.” A fortuitous confluence of circumstances enabled her to overcome her hesitation.

## The Prologue

When Barbara was a little girl she “lived for the days I took an art class.” During high school in Cobourg, her Australian art teacher encouraged her to pursue her arts ambitions. When Jordan applied for the Arts and Design Program at Sheridan College in Oakville, the program was full, and she was asked if she would consider photography instead. She absolutely loved it. She credits her Visual Awareness class with teaching her the most useful thing she learned — how to see.

She got a job right out of school working in the photo lab of a big Toronto firm that specialized in the design and production of large catalogs for major firms. After moving to Winnipeg she loved working in a portrait photographer’s studio, and then accepted an offer to work as an industrial photographer for a large firm. That proved to be a very interesting job.



For one commercial video, Barbara was running ahead of a huge farm tractor through winter corn stubble to get the perfect action shot. When she broke through the chest-high Winnipeg snow, she managed to hold her expensive Hasselblad camera over her head until it and she were rescued. She vividly remembers shooting film for a promotional video while strapped into the front seat of a Bell JetRanger helicopter with her feet on the landing skids, jockeying her huge 16mm film camera as they flew across crop fields.

Jordan returned to Toronto and worked as a senior printer in two boutique film labs downtown. After a move to Ottawa (and the birth of her son, Brooks) she did a stint at a National Film Board lab where she continued as a senior printer and supervisor. She was hired away from that job to manage a large private sector lab that had won a government contract for photo services. She has a great story about the time she received a call from Yousuf Karsh from his NYC studio. He was photographing David Rockefeller and was asking for her advice regarding which filter would correct the blue tones in facial shadows.

Next she was hired as a producer by a film and video production company. Between her work ethic and people skills, she surmounted a steep learning curve — “people love to share their knowledge,” she told me, “just ask.” In 1991 she and her partner, Erik Gustafsson, launched their own company, Bark Productions. Initially producing for film and TV, they branched into graphic design and Barbara became what she said she would be when she was six years old.

## Fear of Painting

In 2008 the couple relocated to their rural log house near Portland, and Erik subsequently became a Captain for Gananoque Boat Line — 1000 Islands Cruises. Jordan continues to captain Bark Productions, and appears to have conquered her fear of facing a blank canvas. When she approached the Cove Inn in Westport in 2014 about displaying her photographs on canvas, she was introduced to the Rideau Lakes Artists’ Association. A painting course with Blair Paul of Ottawa provided her with the underpainting method she needed to tackle those intimidating blank canvases. She now paints every week with fellow RLAA artists at Local Colours in Perth.

Not only do the flowers spring up in May — Barbara Jordan will be displaying her photos and acrylic paintings on May 5 and 6 at the **Arts Carleton Place Fine Art Show** at the Carleton Place Canoe Club (located at 179 John Street), and again on July 14 and 15 during the Rideau Lakes Artists’ Association’s **Paint the Summer** art show, at the Algonquin College Perth Campus at 7 Craig Street. Drop in and see how rewarding it can be to overcome “painter’s block.”

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WHO Barbara Jordan

· THE HUMM ·

WHAT Photographer, Painter, Graphic Designer

WHERE Bark Productions Inc., 684 Narrows Lock Rd., Portland, <barkinc.com>, 272-3066 or toll-free at 877-370-2275, <babs@barkinc.com>

WHEN May 5 & 6, Arts Carleton Place Fine Art Show, Carleton Place Canoe Club, 179 John St., CP; July 14 & 15, Rideau Lakes Artists' Assn. "Paint the Summer" Art Show, Algonquin College Perth Campus

WHY "When I create something that I'm especially proud of, I feel pure happiness."

· ARTIST TRADING CARD ·

# Art in the Attic — This is Us!

The 28<sup>th</sup> annual Art in the Attic (AITA) Show and Sale takes place on Mothers' Day weekend (May 11-13) at the Almonte Old Town Hall. This fun show is a celebration of the creativity of local artists of all ages and experience levels — from preschoolers to octogenarians, and from novices to those schooled at high level art institutions such as the Musée des beaux-arts, Oxford Brookes University and others. This show has also earned a reputation as a fantastic place to pick up some wonderful art at very affordable prices!

AITA is the main annual event of the Almonte and Area Artists' Association (AAAA), whose mandate is to encourage all artists to continue to develop their skills and showcase their work. To that end, they have invited the "Rugrat Rembrandts" from the Ontario Early Years Centre in Lanark, the very talented senior art students from Notre Dame High School, and the artists participating in the Lanark County Support Services art program to join them in this celebration. Visitors are continually amazed at the work produced by these special guests.

The Featured Artist this year is Jim McGrath, a very accomplished pastel artist who has been participating in Art in The Attic for over twenty years. Jim is 86 years old and this will be his last show, so don't miss this opportunity to see his work!

AAAA believes that the local art community is an integral and contributing part of the larger



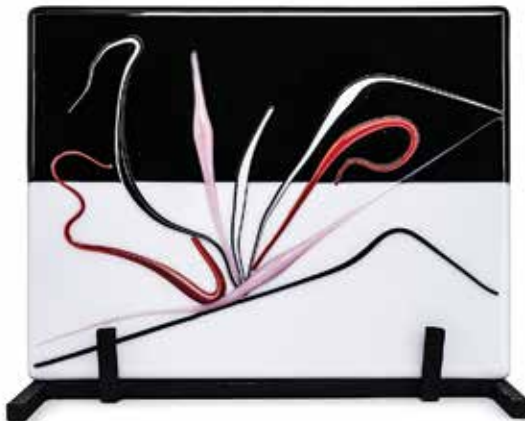
Jim McGrath will be the featured artist at Art In The Attic. The 86-year-old painter has been participating for over twenty years, but this will be his last show.

Mississippi Mills community, and so each year they produce a large group art project that they give back to the town. This year it is an 8-square-foot mural of Bellamy's Grist Mill that will be hung on the Clayton Community Centre this summer. The mural will be unveiled at the AITA Friday evening festivities.

To help promote other great aspects of Almonte, the AITA Friday evening festivities will also include a twenty-minute fashion show featuring clothing from several Almonte boutiques starting at 7:30PM. The local Crooked Mile Brewing Company will be providing samples of their very popular craft beer (other beverages will also be available), and Almonte Pizza-ria Unlimited will also be providing samples — including their fantastic butter chicken pizza.

Art in the Attic is always a great starting point for spending a day in beautiful heritage Almonte. The website <almontearthattic.wordpress.com> offers an abundance of information to help you make a day of it, as does a display table at the show. The show runs on Friday, May 11 (7-9PM), on Saturday, May 12 (10AM to 7PM), and on Sunday, May 13 (10AM to 4PM).

AITA is one of four art events in the "Mississippi Mills Creative Seasons", the others being the Crown and Pumpkin Tour (on Thanksgiving Weekend), Christmas in the Valley Artisan Show (on the first weekend in November), and Maple Run Tour (on the first weekend in April).



Fused glass by Danielle Morgan

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# It's a Revelation!

## Sister Act, The Musical Opens May 24 at the Studio Theatre

Green grass. Sunshine. Jacket-rather-than-parka weather. There are obvious reasons for anticipating springtime. But here's one more: this is the season when veteran stage director C. Lee Bates is perennially found creating musical magic on the stage of Perth's Studio Theatre. As the driving force behind some of this area's best-loved shows — among them *9 to 5*, *Bingo Ladies*, *The Marvelous Wonderettes* and *The Drowsy Chaperone* — C. Lee has a lot to live up to. After all, when you're batting 1000, your next hit has to be something special.

Holy cow, is it ever...

On May 24, the Studio Theatre will proudly present *Sister Act, The Musical*, featuring original music by Tony- and 8-time Oscar-winner Alan Menken (*Newsies*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Aladdin*, *Little Shop of Horrors*), with lyrics by Glenn Slater, book by Cheri and Bill Steinkellner, and additional material by Douglas Carter Beane. Nominated for five Tony Awards including Best Musical, *Sister Act, The Musical* is the feel-good smash hit (based on the hugely successful 1992 film) that has had audiences literally dancing in the aisles since it opened in 1995. The Studio Theatre's production will feature an astonishing cast of this area's favourite singing and dancing actors, plus a live 7-piece band under the direction of the great Brad Mills.

You remember the story, don't you?

When disco diva Deloris Van Cartier witnesses a murder, she goes into protective custody in the one place no one would think to look for her — a convent! Disguised as a nun, Deloris finds herself at odds with the rigid lifestyle and the uptight Mother Superior. But soon, using her unique dance moves and singing talent, she breathes new life into the convent and the community. Naturally, when the bad guys finally discover her secret and catch up with her, they're no match for Deloris and her new-found sisterhood.

Overflowing with powerful multi-genre music, outrageous dancing and a truly moving story, *Sister Act, The Musical* has wowed audience members (more than 6,000,000 so far!) from Broadway to London, Brazil to Japan, Spain to Singapore. It's a musical story made in heaven.

Director C. Lee Bates says *Sister Act, The Musical* far outdoes the 1992 movie for sheer exuberance and phenomenal music.

"The Perth production of *Sister Act* is an overwhelmingly joyful experience," she enthuses. "Twenty-two exceptionally talented cast members have been working hard with Brad Mills to learn the challenging four-part harmonies of the soaring disco and rock-gospel music, while getting 'whipped into shape' learning the exciting original choreography by Mary Ann Majaury and Kristen Widenmaier. The voices are angelic, and the moves are devilish!"



*Sister Act, the Musical* in rehearsal: Sister Mary Lyola (Sheila Jasiak) shares bad news about life in the convent with Deloris (Lindsay Rewi), while Sister Mary Patrick (Amber Mitchell) and Sister Mary Lazarus (Kristy Tait-Angel) on the left take it all in, with Sister Mary Lucie (Lucie Brun del Re) and Sister Mary Helena (Dagmar Sagat) on the right

With a demanding run of ten shows — the longest ever for a Studio Theatre production — the lead role of Deloris will be shared by two consummate performers, Lindsay Rewi and Cait (Morton) Porteous. Each will take the lead in five of the ten performances, and be part of the ensemble cast for the other five. Both young women are Studio Theatre musical veterans, and a big part of why C. Lee Bates loves her job as Stage Director.

"It won't matter which actor you see in the lead role," says C. Lee. "Lindsay and Cait are both sensational 'triple threats' who sing, dance and act with 100% commitment to their role, and to the show as a whole."

As you can see, this is a major production, featuring 22 on-stage performers, a 7-piece professional band, and more than 20 others handling lights, sound, choreography, props, costumes and set changes behind the scenes — a small army of talented, energized volunteers who are passionate about Perth's community theatre.

*Sister Act, The Musical* opens at the Studio Theatre on Thursday, May 24 for ten shows: May 24, 25, 26, 31, June 1 & 2 at 7:30PM, and May 26 & 27 and June 2 & 3 at 2PM. Tickets are \$27 at Tickets Please, 11 Gore St. E. (485-6434 or ticketsplease.ca) and at the door on show nights. Save \$5 on opening night. Students with ID are \$10 at the door.

This is the spring musical the Ottawa Valley has been waiting for all year. Tickets may sell out for some performances, so get yours early! Visit <studiotheatreperth.com> for complete details. — Paul Joyce

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# MMLT: Discover the Wild

The month of May features two more events in the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust's (MMLT's) new *Discover the Wild* event series.

On Sunday, May 6, their annual Blueberry Mountain nature walk will feature a special side trip down the Porcupine Trail to *Discover the Rugged Rocks*. Bob Betcher, MMLT's resident hydrogeologist/geologist, will show participants some marble that was once limestone in a shallow sea but was subsequently uplifted and altered by heat and pressure. The type of marble at cliffLAND is slightly soluble in acidic precipitation and over time has developed Karst dissolution features such as caves and sinkholes, which can form important habitat for bats, snakes and other creatures.

Come out on May 6 for a fascinating look at the distant past on your trek to the top of Blueberry Mountain. Registration for the hike to the lookout, including the geology tour, is at 10AM. A donation of \$10 per person is requested and children 12 and under are free. Children under 12 will be awarded certificates for making the climb to the lookout. Refreshments will be served after the walk.

Blueberry Mountain is located at 502 Hills of Peace Road near Flower Station in Lanark Highlands. A map is available at [mmlt.ca/events](http://mmlt.ca/events).

On Saturday, May 26, MMLT is providing an opportunity to *Discover the Wonder of Warblers*. Bring binoculars and be ready to crane your neck and cup your ears. The diminutive warblers are on their way back to, and through, High Lonesome Nature Reserve, to breed in its forests (these *are* wood warblers, after all) or to feed before carrying on to the far north and west. Tiny little insect-eating energy balls, the warblers make the long trek back from South and Central America to breed. Their spring colours are vibrant, as are their warbles.



MMLT presents **Discover Rugged Rocks** on May 6 and **Discover the Wonder of Warblers** on May 26

You'll spend two hours wandering the trails of this gem of a nature preserve, observing the High Lonesome warblers and other avian visitors. Led by ecologist and nature enthusiast Art Goldsmith, who travels the continent following warblers and other creatures, this trek will reveal a few of their needle-billed secrets.

This event kicks off at 10AM sharp on May 26, and admission is \$10. Participation is limited to 25 people to provide an optimum experience, so advance registration is required. Please visit [mmlt.ca/events](http://mmlt.ca/events) to get your ticket now, because they're likely to go quickly. Waterproof footwear is recommended because the ground can still be quite wet at this time of year.

High Lonesome is located at 867 Carbine Road in Pakenham. A map is available on the webpage where you buy your tickets.

# POPS! and PIPES with the CP Community Band

The Carleton Place and District Community Band will present their annual spring concert on Saturday May 26, at 7:30PM in the Carleton Place Town Hall Auditorium.

Band Director Gary Payne has put together a program with a two-fold theme this year. Part of the program will include a variety of popular classics such as musical theatre medleys from *Grease*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Chicago*, as well as standards like *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* and Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah*. One number entitled *Clarinet Escapade* will spotlight the clarinet section.

The other part of the program will include Scottish-themed music featuring guest soloist, piper Graeme Ogilvie. Graeme is Pipe Major for the RCMP Pipe Band (Ottawa) and the Ottawa Fire Services Pipe

Band. He has been awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal and the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers. Graeme will play some solo numbers and the band will join him on some others. This will be a new and exciting experience for the band.

The band has grown in number in the last year or so to its present size of thirty musicians, and they all invite you to share this musical evening with them. The Carleton Place Town Hall is a great location to showcase their music. The cost is \$10 at the door, including some snacks at intermission.

The band appreciates the support of the Town of Carleton Place in presenting this concert. For more info contact Mike at [mpeckett@sympatico.ca](mailto:mpeckett@sympatico.ca) or 721-8661, or Louise at [louise.link@rogers.com](mailto:louise.link@rogers.com) or 298-3953.



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# Ali McCormick CD Release in Perth

Oh... it's so nice to witness young pups following their dream — especially in the music world — and seeing them succeed. Working hard at their craft, developing good writing skills to grow their catalogue of original tunes, touring to both coasts of our vast country a few times to “road test” those songs, earning a name and even a moniker (in this case, the “Lioness of Lanark”). The music industry these days is not for the faint of heart. It's lonely out there, often thankless when starting out, necessitating the growth of a thick skin to survive. I'm proud to say The Listening Room Series is hosting one of our own successful “pups”, Ali McCormick, on Saturday, May 12 at 7PM at The Perth Restaurant for the release of her third CD, *That Place You Know*.

Ali grew up “off the grid” with her family, learning to appreciate nature and music, and developing her fiercely independent spirit and an eye for unique characters and stories that have fed her songwriting mind. I remember when she started out as a kid many years ago at open mics around town and the surrounding area. Dedicating herself, working part-time jobs to help pay her way, she has earned the respect of many via an ever-expanding tour schedule. She's also donated her skills to countless community fundraising efforts, honing her stagecraft in the process. Ali is an independent musician in that she has no record company behind her. She proudly pays her own way, thus maintaining her integrity; living modestly, spending hours booking her own tours and lining up studio time and players to augment her sound. Her professionalism is impressive. She's dedicated herself to touching others through her creativity. And she's lovin' the ride...

So now it's our chance to congratulate one of our own and hear the results of Ali's hard, hard work that's driven by her infinite energy. She will perform her newest creations and bare her soul



Ali McCormick, aka “The Lioness of Lanark”, will launch her latest CD entitled *That Place You Know* as part of The Listening Room series. The concert will take place on Saturday, May 12 at The Perth Restaurant

bravely. I know you will enjoy it, as well as the opportunity to take her great new work home with you. Tickets are \$20. Dinner reservations, which guarantee your tickets, can be made by calling The Perth Tea Room at 267-3170; for “show only” tickets, call Sue at 267-7902 to arrange payment. I look forward to seeing you there, enjoying such wonderful talent. Tell your friends!

— Steve Tennant

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# Humm Bits

## Stories from the Publishing Industry

On Saturday, May 5, the Perth Library presents a lively afternoon with publisher and raconteur Tim Gordon from Burnstown Publishing House. Tim will share stories from over forty years in the publishing industry, as well as insights into the current state of the industry — including copyright royalties, film sales and self-publishing. The event takes place from 1–3PM at the Perth Library (30 Herriott Street in Perth). Please RSVP to 267–1224.

## Growing and Using Herbs

Jean Dagley of Smith Falls will give a timely and interesting presentation on growing and using herbs to the Perth and District Horticultural Society (PDHS) at their next general meeting on Tuesday, May 8.

Jean has been growing and using herbs in this area for over thirty years. She loves how they smell, how they taste, how they look, and that they appeal to every sense. They are so versatile, require such little care and provide a huge return on investment. She will talk mainly about culinary herbs that can be grown easily in pots or in gardens and then used throughout the year.

The first PDHS Flower Show of 2018 also takes place on May 8. Members may make entries, which should be placed on the display table by 7PM when the judging begins.

PDHS meetings take place at St Paul's United Church at 25 Gore Street West in Perth. Please use the D'Arcy Street side entrance to the meeting space in Fellowship Hall. Doors open at 6:30PM and the meeting begins at 7PM. Membership is only \$15 a year and guests are welcome for \$5.

## Rotary Mushroom Compost Sale

The Carleton Place & Mississippi Mills Rotary Club will be having their annual mushroom compost sale on Friday evening, May 11 (after 5PM), and all day on Saturday, May 12 (9AM to 5PM). The price is \$9 per bag (approximately 25kg), with an additional charge of \$5 for delivery, (regardless of the number of bags ordered) within a 10km radius of Carleton Place or Almonte.

Pick-up will be at the site of the Old Barracks at 7270 Highway 29 near Carleton Place. To pre-order, please call 253–1386 or email <compost@rogers.com> no later than May 9. Proceeds go to the Carleton Place Soccer Clubs and to other local charities.

## CPDMH Auxiliary's Giant Garage Sale

Come shop 'til ya drop — and support the Carleton Place & District Memorial Hospital! The CPDMH Auxiliary is hosting a Giant Garage Sale on Saturday, May 19 from 8AM to noon in front of the hospital (211 Lake Avenue East). All proceeds will be used for new patient care equipment.

"Everyone has stuff in their basements and garages that they don't need," explains Marg Leblanc, Auxiliary President. "We'd be happy to pick it up for our giant garage sale in support of the hospital."

Smaller items can be dropped off at the hospital front desk. Call 257–2200 x323 or 253–0808 for pick-up of bigger items, or drop them off on May 18 between 10AM and noon. Thanks for your support, and see you on May 19!

## Talking Travel at the Pakenham Library

Local travel consultant Emma Moxley (of Travel by Emma) will host a free "Let's Talk Travel" evening on May 22, starting at 7PM at the Pakenham Library. At this fun and informal get-together, she will talk about travel trends and destination highlights, and participants can share travel stories with one-another.

Emma explains that: "In the three years since I launched my travel business I feel like I have visited much of the world through my own travels and also my clients' experiences. And yet, there is still much more to see! I also want to talk about what a Travel Consultant can do for people. I think there is a bit of a misconception that people will have to pay more if they use a travel professional, and that's not always the case. I love to provide an end-to-end solution for my clients to make their travel experience both seamless and effortless; ultimately giving them their dream vacation."

For more information, contact Emma at <emoxley@tpi.ca> or 864–5734.

## Music Matters

# Worst. Gig. Ever.

I was recently watching a segment on the *The Tonight Show* with Jimmy Fallon called "The Worst I Ever Bombed". The idea behind these segments is that famous comedians discuss their worst gigs. The experiences have been either caused by their own performance or due to issues with the venue and/or the audience.

by Tony Stuart

Every musician who has been gigging for any length of time will have similar stories. In that spirit, I would like to present my top three candidates for "Worst. Gig. Ever". One of my fellow performers in this journey to the dark side was none other than Rob Riendeau, who does layout and design for this wonderful paper (and who also played very well that evening!).

So, is everybody comfortable? Good! Let's start with number three. This gig was seven or eight years ago. Rob and I were playing with Ric Denis and Ian Douglas, and had a show booked at an Ottawa bar (now closed) called Baseline Station, which was described to us as a "hopping place". As I recall, we were on from 9PM to 1AM. We arrived about an hour before to do setup, and the place was pretty empty. We didn't think much of this, however, because crowds generally come in a little bit later.

For much of this show, the four of us outnumbered the customers. However, the show must go on, and we rocked that place. Our performances weren't what made this gig qualify for my list. It was the little things, such as one of the more inebriated patrons doggedly trying to hypnotize us while we were on break, or the fact that we didn't realize that we were going to be charged for the one drink that each of us had. If memory serves, we each walked out of there with about \$17 in our pockets. At least none of us were hypnotized (that we were aware of). Needless to say, we never did play at Baseline Station again. Stories like this are a sad reality of the music business.

Number two on the list was a gig that happened about twenty years ago. I had been hired to play in a pit orchestra for a run of *West Side Story* at the Brockville Arts Centre. Friends of mine who were also in the pit orchestra and are reading this will remember the name "Diego". Diego (I can't remem-

ber his last name) was the producer, and we were hired for about five rehearsals and several shows. We were to be paid about \$1,000 each. Keep in mind that at that time I was not the wily old veteran I am now, and I really needed the money as we had two young children and not a lot of income. Also keep in mind that we were all commuting back and forth to Brockville.

It is customary in musical theatre productions that cheques are waiting for the musicians on their music stands before the first show. I think you know where this story is going! There were no cheques waiting for us, but Diego assured us that he just hadn't had time to get them ready, and that they would be there for the next evening's performance. Sure enough, the cheques were there and the pit orchestra played brilliantly all through the three-night run. *West Side Story* is a very tough score, and extremely rewarding to play.

**I**t was the little things, such as one of the more inebriated patrons doggedly trying to hypnotize us while we were on break, or the fact that we didn't realize that we were going to be charged for the one drink that each of us had.

Shortly after the show had finished, all of us received notices that our cheques had bounced. Diego was not answering phone calls, so one of the members of the orchestra went to Brockville to try and get some answers. His response was that if we tried to go after him, he would declare bankruptcy. We never did end up getting paid. At least in today's digital age, people like Diego will be exposed very quickly on social media, but back then it was a bitter pill to swallow. Again, most musicians who I know have been stiffed at least once during their careers.

Wouldn't you know it? I am running out of space on this month's page! I guess that means that you, dear reader, will have to wait until next month to hear about my "Worst. Gig. Ever". It is the stuff of nightmares. I'll give you a quick hint: it almost escalated into a situation similar to that scene in *Blues Brothers* where the band accidentally gets booked into a country and western joint. Stay tuned!

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

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# Hike, Bike, Read and Dine in Perth

May comes Mom-approved — with the comfort of dependable sunshine, a satisfying coffee by the window in the warming morning, and more blue skies than not. Tulips, in a rainbow of magnificent colours, reach up to those skies, which seems some form of miracle after a long cold lonely winter, and George Harrison sings it from the radio for free — “The smiles returning to the faces” — and yes, it feels quite true: it’s all right.

by John Pigeau

May is a fine month for a hike, don’t you think? I do too. And my mom, who often walks 90 minutes a day, most certainly does. On Sunday, May 6, you can break a sweat and do some good, too — by raising funds for Lanark County’s Hospice Palliative Care Services and taking part in their annual **Hike for Hospice**, a 2km walk, hike, run, jog, or stroll that begins at noon at the Crystal Palace. You can pick up your pledge package at the Perth office at 40 Sunset Boulevard, and you can register online at <chslc.ca> or in person on hike day. For more details, please phone 267-6400. All funds generated from this excellent event remain in the community and benefit local palliative services.

Perth’s first responders aren’t afraid to sweat a little either. These fine folks are fond of a good time too, and they like to help people in the community. You can join them at Perth Physiotherapy on Saturday, May 12 at their first annual **Battle in the Saddle** event, where they will take part in a 10-hour spinning challenge to raise money for the Canadian Cancer Society’s Wheels of Hope Program.

Their goal is to raise \$10,000 for Wheels of Hope, which ensures that cancer patients in need receive transportation to and from their treatments — and if they can raise that amount, Perth’s Fire Chief, Trevor Choffe, has promised to the bike for the full ten hours. Yeah, that’s a lot of spinning. So he’ll need lots of cheering on. And Gatorade. And likely a good rub down afterward by the good folks at Perth Physiotherapy, hosts and partners for the day’s activities.

“I would like to see the \$10,000 raised,” he says, “however my legs aren’t sure about the ten hours of cycling...” Good humour aside, Chief Choffe knows this event is an important one to people in all walks of life. “When it comes to cancer,” he says, “everyone knows someone who has dealt or is dealing with this disease. It seems every day a new report is out that talks about the increased risks for firefighters. Members of the Perth Fire Services are proud to take part in the Battle in the Saddle event. Emergency Services workers come together every day to help our communities and this is another way for us to work together, this time in the fight against cancer.”

Alongside the community’s first responders, students from the Police Foundations program at Algonquin College will also hop on spin bikes for the day. That part begins at 10AM.

At 11AM, in conjunction with the fundraiser, is the annual **Emergency Services Bike Rodeo**, a family-friendly event that gives kids and their families the opportunity to bring in their bikes for a tune-up, to pedal about an obstacle course, learn safety tips from the pros, and to possibly win a new bike or a new bike helmet (bring your bike, helmet, and close-toed shoes!). The Bike Rodeo is absolutely free. There will be a complimentary barbecue, too, and kids — likely of all ages — will get the chance to tour the police cruisers and fire trucks. The day’s events run from 10AM to 8PM.

For more details about this wonderful fun and interactive community event, you can call Trevor Choffe, Perth’s Fire Chief, at 267-5574, or email him at <firechief@perth.ca>. Oh, and rumour has it that there might be a dunk tank too, but that report is yet to be confirmed.

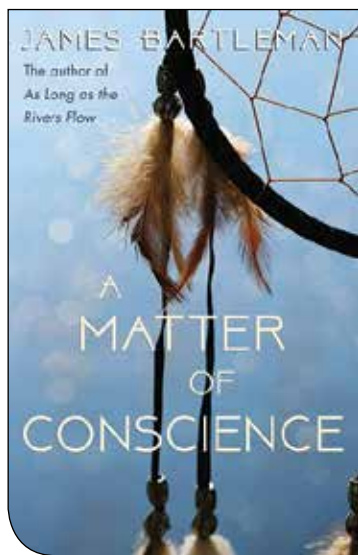
Perth is home to a handful of talented and celebrated authors. You can meet one of them at **The Book Nook** on Saturday, May 12, as the cozy little stream-side bookshop hosts the launch of James Bartleman’s latest book, *A Matter of Conscience*.

The novel deals with some of the most significant issues facing Canada’s Indigenous peoples today, as it confronts the murder and disappearance of Indigenous women and the infamous Sixties Scoop. A long-time Perth resident, James Bartleman was also the former lieutenant governor of Ontario. He is an

officer of the Order of Canada, winner of the Aboriginal Achievement Award, and the best-selling author of the novels *As Long as the River Flows* and *The Redemption of Oscar Wolf*. The book launch runs from noon until 2PM.

That same evening, one day shy of Mother’s Day, there will be a **Mother of a Dinner** served up at the Perth Lion’s Hall. The meal, to be lovingly prepared by local chef and owner of Picnic Catering, Jordan Kennie, with guidance from Perth’s new Syrian/Canadian moms, will be a fresh, delicious Middle Eastern-themed dinner. There will be gluten-free and vegetarian options. Cocktails will be served at 6PM, appetizers at 6:45, the meal at 7PM — with a silent auction featuring Mayan handicrafts throughout the night. All proceeds from the night will benefit Mayan mothers. Last year’s Mother of a Dinner generated \$11,000 in donations, which led to forty stoves being built for families in Guatemala this past year. Tickets, available online at <guatemalastoveproject.org/fundraiser>, are \$60 each or \$50 per person for a group of eight. Please call 264-6044 to learn more. Tickets will sell quickly for this mouth-watering Mother’s Day meal, so make sure you get yours early.

If, after his ten hours of spinning for charity, Fire Chief Choffe is able, he and his colleagues in the Perth Fire Fighter’s Association will host their 6<sup>th</sup> annual **Golf Tournament** on Friday, June 1 at the Perth Golf Course. As with the Battle in the Saddle, money raised from this enjoyable day on the links will be used in the community, in this case to fund youth activities that promote an active and healthy lifestyle. The tournament is a 12:45PM shotgun start and a four-person scramble. The cost is \$100 per person, which includes golf, cart, dinner, and tables of nifty prizes. To register or to get more information, please contact Trevor Choffe at <t\_choffe@yahoo.ca> or call 812-1415. As always, spots are limited so enter your team early.



James Bartleman signs his latest book at The Book Nook in Perth on May 12



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On the second level you’ll find 4 ample bedrooms including an oversized master with a walk-in closet and ensuite bath. The children’s bedrooms are spacious and bright, with new windows this winter.

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# Getting Serious about Climate Change

## Meet Local Green Candidate Anita Payne

April's ice storm, coupled with major flooding and severe forest fires dominating the news for months on end in 2017, are further evidence that climate change is real. Scientists agree that it's bad and we are responsible, but there is hope. That hope is what inspires Anita Payne to run for the Greens.

"More and more people are getting it, but I really worry when one of the major parties still is not pledging to act on the climate crisis," said Payne, who is running as the Green Party of Ontario candidate in Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston. Promises to abandon efforts to reduce our carbon footprint "are just irresponsible in 2018." The climate crisis



Anita Payne is running as the Green Party of Ontario candidate in Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston

is "an existential issue that we all should be acting to solve," she adds.

As a volunteer with Citizens' Climate Lobby, Payne has pushed for the implementation of a revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend: a fee or tax on all fossil fuels at their source and a dividend to help Ontarians deal with rising costs associated with the fee. The fee is an incentive to spur deep retrofitting of buildings, providing local jobs and investment in renewable energy. The use of fossil fuels would decrease as seen in the BC experience.

The Liberals' Green Energy Act was "the right idea" but the implementation was "way too top-down". Instead of handing the job to large corporations, wind and solar power needs to be done at the local level, ensuring local benefit and local buy-in, says Payne.

Spending billions of our tax dollars to upgrade outdated technology like nuclear power is also an issue for Greens. Payne also notes the growing awareness about the environmental impact of "fracked" natural gas.

The future "is and has to be" renewable energy, says Payne.

While environmental protection is important, the Greens also have strong social, health, financial and justice policies as seen in the Green Vision document <gpo.ca/vision>. It focuses on three pillars: Jobs, People and Planet.

Anita Payne is no stranger to the political arena, having run locally for the riding in the 2015 federal election, and as a provincial candidate in past elections in Belleville, Lindsay and Stratford, where she lived before moving back to the Perth area several years ago.

A retired high school science teacher, Payne has been active in numerous community and environmental groups over the years in both Lanark

County and Stratford. In the 1990s she chaired the Lanark County Waste Management Public Liaison Committee and served as president of her lake association and the Lanark County Quilters' Guild. Since returning to Lanark County in 2011, Payne has volunteered with Fair Vote Canada, Climate Reality, Citizens' Climate Lobby, the Guatemala Stove Project and the Canadian Federation for University Women. She has two grown children and one grandchild.

Anita Payne looks ahead to working towards a more people-centred, consensus style of government that will get us more quickly to a healthy, happy and prosperous post-carbon future. Find out more at <anitapayne.ca>.

### The Arnprior & District Humane Society

**Volunteering in the Valley**

We are a small no-kill shelter located on Didak Drive in Arnprior. The dedication and hard work of a few volunteers made the dream of a humane society a reality back in October of 1997. Since then, thousands of lost, stray, injured and abandoned animals have found permanent loving homes. Our society serves Arnprior and McNab/Braeside (and sometimes other areas when space permits). All admitted animals receive vet care that includes spaying or neutering, vaccinations, deworming and microchipping before they are ready for adoption. We rely primarily on donations to keep the doors open, including several fundraising activities throughout the year.

Volunteers are valued members of our organization and play a vital role in the lives of the animals. We simply could not function without their generously donated time, skills and much-needed supplies. As a volunteer you would provide the extra love

and support our animals need to prepare for them for their forever homes. At the end of the day, you'll know that your efforts have an impact on the animals, and we're sure they'll have an impact on you too. If you are ready to help, we've got several options to suit you. Our volunteers are involved in all areas, including cat cuddling and socializing, cleaning, dog walking, organizing and/or attending special events, fundraising, yard work, gardening and light maintenance work. Please visit <arnpriorhumanesociety.ca> and sign up today!

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# Introducing COVAC

## Central Ottawa Valley Arts Collective

A few years ago, a small group of arts lovers from the Arnprior area began exploring the possibilities of developing an arts space for the central Ottawa Valley region. Their hope was to encourage and facilitate involvement in a broad range of creative arts and cultural activities through the development of a dedicated arts facility.

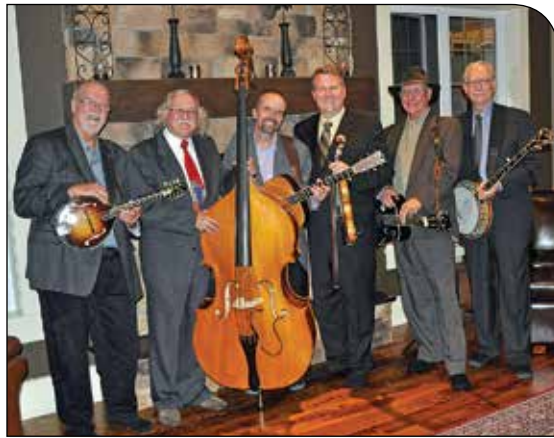
In 2018, this hope solidified into a mission statement and their exploration became a not-for-profit organization called COVAC (Central Ottawa Valley Arts Collective).

### Arts Venue in the Valley

This was especially made possible through a collaboration with the United Church (Grace St. Andrew's, in Arnprior) whose beautiful church hall was made available to COVAC as a space in which to pursue their endeavours. While growing activity in the hall supports its upkeep and use as a community resource, the hope is that the availability and development of the space will be an inspiration to performers, artists and cultural project administrators in the region.

In the past, the lack of an arts-friendly presentation venue between Pembroke's Festival Hall and the Ron Maslin Playhouse in Kanata has challenged arts groups in the area with the inherent difficulties of producing shows or exhibitions without such a venue. In the near future, COVAC would like to help local theatre groups, music performers, visual artists and a host of other arts and culture enthusiasts grow their displays of creativity and talent by making it easier to mount productions and presentations.

COVAC welcomes all who are interested to contact the organization through their web page <covac.art> in order to become a member, help out at events, propose new events or just get more information.



Catch the Northern Sons in concert on May 5

### Northern Sons Concert

So far COVAC has had an open house, held theatre events and hosted concerts. The Heather Dale Band was featured just last month, and coming up fast — on May 5 — the Ontario-based, award-winning Northern Sons bluegrass band will be gracing the stage.

The Northern Sons are a five-man, string pickin', harmony singing musical collaboration who recently recorded a single in support of Wounded Warriors Canada. Concert-goers can purchase the CD and help raise funds for veterans, first responders and their families who are experiencing the difficulties that come with such self-sacrificing careers.

Details for this show can be found on COVAC's website or on their Facebook page. The venue is in Arnprior, but at only \$20 a ticket, it's worth the drive from out of town!

COVAC organizers hope that 2018 is just the start of decades of artistic growth... the kind that can only be expected if folks take a community's arts and culture seriously enough to pull together and support a space in which such growth is encouraged.

—James Hrkach



*men make quilts  
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*The Royal Wedding*  
*The Hub and You*  
**LIVE WATCH PARTY**

**SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018**  
6 a.m. Refreshments  
7 a.m. Ceremony start time  
Brunch and wedding cake to follow.

Almonte Civitan Hall  
500 Almonte Street, Almonte, ON

**Tickets: \$25.00**  
Available at Blackbird and  
Gilligallou in Almonte or through  
[info@thehubalmonte.com](mailto:info@thehubalmonte.com)

# Merry Museum Month!

May is Museum Month, and it's the perfect opportunity to explore your local history! Whether you are looking for an afternoon of fun or a deep-dive into your family history, there is a diverse community of museums to discover across Lanark County. In Perth, the **Hall of Remembrance Military Museum** will open for the season on Friday and Saturday, May 4 and 5, from 1–3PM. The Smiths Falls **Heritage House Museum** will be open on weekends beginning May 5 (from 10AM to 5PM), and will open the doors on a new exhibit entitled *In-laws & Outlaws: The Founding Families of Smiths Falls* on May 19. Then on May 24, author Anne Raina will deliver a touching presentation on her book *Clara's Rib* and the tuberculosis epidemic in Canada.

While in Smiths Falls, hop on over to the **Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario** and take a ride on a real diesel locomotive on Victoria Day weekend (first come, first served!). The Railway Museum will be open daily from the Victoria Day weekend until Thanksgiving (10AM to 5PM).

Happen to be in Middleville? Enjoy the Opening Day Tea of the **Middleville Museum** on May 20 from 12 to 2PM. In the mood for something supernatural? The **Carleton Place & Beckwith Heritage Museum** is holding the Paranormal Show on May 4 — find out more at <cpbheritagemuseum.com> and get your tickets now!

In the Almonte area, the **Mill of Kintail Conservation Area** will open its doors on May 19 (Monday-Friday from 9AM to 3:30PM; Saturday and Sunday from 10:30AM to 4:30PM). While taking a stroll, make sure to check out the two on-site museums: the R. Tait McKenzie Memorial Museum and the Naismith Museum. And discover the power of water in the new multimedia exhibit *Tributaries* at the **Mississippi Valley Textile Museum**, which runs until June 23.

Meanwhile, in Appleton, take a peek at the fascinating history of fashion buttons at the **North Lanark Regional Museum** (Monday-Friday from 10AM to 4PM). Sue Dickout will present “The Fabulous History of Buttons” on May 6 at the opening of the new exhibit *Buttons à la mode*, and on May 12 you can treat the mothers in your life to an afternoon tea at the Museum.

In Lanark, celebrate the Royal Wedding at the **Lanark & District Museum** on May 19 from 1–4PM. Enjoy a romantic afternoon admiring a display of wedding dresses and sharing your wedding photos and special memories to contribute to the Museum's collection. Need to do some research? **Archives Lanark's** summer hours begin May 25 (Friday and Saturday from 10AM to 3PM).

There's a lot to see and do in Lanark County! For more information on the museums and to keep up-to-date with events, follow the Lanark County Museum Network on Facebook.



Celebrate local museums during May! Above, the Middleville Museum invites you to their traditional Opening Day Tea (Sunday, May 20, from 12–2PM), where Wendy will entertain you with her fiddle and other volunteers will be on hand to show you around. The Mississippi Valley Textile Museum has some fascinating exhibits and events outlined in the sidebar at right, and more information about these and other area museums can be found at <facebook.com/LanarkCountyMuseums>

## Tributaries and More at MVTM

Emily Rose Michaud's water-themed art exhibit *Tributaries* is currently on display at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum in Almonte. This multi-sensorial exhibit explores the power and presence of water in our lives, and consists of living tapestries, cyanotype drawings, paintings, a cedar-tile river mosaic, a sound piece, video, words and more. In addition to the exhibit, there will also be a panel discussion and workshops. The workshops will be facilitated by Emily Rose Michaud, and the cost is \$8 for MVTM members and \$10 for the general public. Spaces are limited, so please RSVP to <curator@mvtm.ca>.

### H<sub>2</sub>O as Personal

A free panel discussion and public conversation entitled *H<sub>2</sub>O as Personal* will take place on Saturday, May 5 from 1–3PM at the Museum. Moderated by science writer and author Jacob Berkowitz, the multidisciplinary panel will explore the physical, emotional and spiritual roles of water in our lives. Panelists for whom water is central to their professions will reflect on the meaning of water in their lives and work, followed by a wide-ranging public Q&A session. Panelists include artist and educator Emily Rose Michaud, explorer and author Jennifer Kingsley, Ottawa Riverkeeper Meredith Brown, and Queen's University adjunct professor Robert Lovelace.

### Living Tapestries

In a workshop immediately following the panel discussion (May 5 from 3:30–5PM), participants will learn the basics of germination while experiencing the magic of living, breathing embroidered tapestries (an element featured in the museum's installation) with roots that bind to fabric as growing thread. This is a great way to experiment on a small-scale tapestry while learning concrete growing tricks that may be translated into one's own creative practice. Materials include burlap, seeds and mineral supplements.

### Cyanotype/Sun Prints

In this workshop on Saturday, June 23 from 2–4PM, participants will learn about an enchanting photo process from the mid 1800s (featured in Michaud's museum installation of over 500 cyanotype-based drawings) to make their own blueprint and unique artwork to bring home. Please bring some found or favourite objects to make your own unique impression.

For more information on the discussion or the exhibit, please contact Emily Rose Michaud at <emily@emilyrosemichaud.com>. The Textile Museum <mvtm.ca> is located at 3 Rosamond Street East in Almonte.

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ROTARY CLUB OF CARLETON PLACE AND MISSISSIPPI MILLS'S ANNUAL

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613-253-1386 or  
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Pick-up:  
Fri., May 11 (after 5PM)  
Sat., May 12 (9AM–5PM)  
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Proceeds go to  
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Rural Artisans  
'handmade' Market

Saturday May 12  
9:00 to 3:30

Horton Community Centre  
1005 Castleford Rd., Renfrew

613-432-5555

www.RuralArtisans.net

# An Eclectic Month in Mississippi Mills

This time of year seems to bring out the flowers, the locals and the daytrippers alike to the beautiful Ottawa Valley area, and fortunately there are lots of awesome things to see and do springing up in Mississippi Mills!

On the very first weekend (May 5 and 6), don't miss the **Cheerfully Made Spring Market** at the Almonte Agricultural Hall. There will be entirely different makers

by Miss Mills

on each day, so you should plan to stay all weekend! Find out more at <markets.cheerfullymade.com>, and bring \$2 for admission. That same weekend, from 10AM to 5PM each day, the **Almonte Potters Guild** will be holding a two-day sale of functional and decorative wares made by their members. Find them at 95 Bridge Street, or online at <almontepottersguild.com>.

And on the evening of Saturday, May 5, there's an amazing one-woman, one-man show (with only one person in it) going up at the Almonte Old Town Hall. Almonte comedienne Rachelle Elie plays the title role in **Joe: The Perfect Man**, her award-winning fringe production about a fellow who just wants to play all of the lead roles in MacBeth. Intrigued? You should be! Tickets are \$20 at Mill Street Books in Almonte (256-9090), or from <Eventbrite.ca>; snoozers pay \$25 at the door (but since

Rachelle's other shows have all sold out in advance, maybe don't snooze for long).

Fans of traditional Celtic music are invited to assemble at the Almonte Old Town Hall on Sunday, May 6 to enjoy a full afternoon of Ottawa Valley entertainment by a variety of performers. Doors open for the annual **Fiddler's Friends** showcase at 12:30 and performances begin at 12:45. Complementing the excellent acoustics of the Almonte Old Town Hall are the tasty refreshments provided by Foodies Fine Foods. Tickets (\$15) are available by phone at Mill Street Books (256-9090) or in person at Couples Corner, Mississippi Mills Musicworks, and at the door.

The very next weekend, you can celebrate mom by taking her to the Almonte Old Town Hall for the annual **Art in the Attic Show & Sale** (more about that on page 4 of this issue), or bring her over to the Herb Garden for a **Mother's Day Herbal Brunch** on Sunday, May 13 — find out more at <herbgarden.ca>.

And speaking of celebrations, there are not one but two celebrations of the Royal Wedding in Almonte on Saturday, May 19. **The Hub** invites all earlybirds to join them at the Almonte Civitan Hall for 6AM refreshments before the 7AM ceremony start time, with brunch and wedding cake to follow. Tickets (\$25) are available at Blackbird and Gilligallou Bird in town, or through <info@thehubalmonte.com>. **Tea & Cake** on Mill Street will be throwing a party that afternoon from 3-5PM, but please reserve

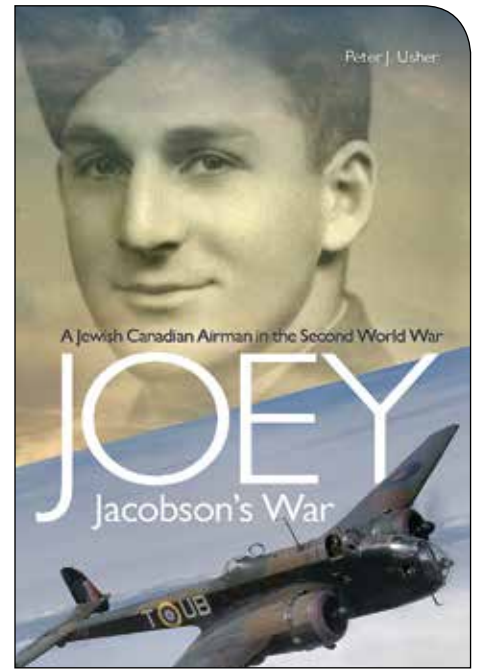
your spot (\$30) by calling 256-4830 or emailing <gwendolyn@teaandcake.ca>.

On a more sombre note, on Thursday, May 24, you can come hear author Peter J. Usher share the incredible tale of his cousin, RCAF Airman Joey Jacobson, and sign copies of his new book *Joey Jacobson's War — A Jewish Canadian Airman in the Second World War*.

Usher explains that: "In the spring of 1940, Canada began training thousands of young men to man Britain's bomber force in the war against Nazi Germany. Nearly half of them were killed or captured within a year of their arrival. This is the story of how one of those men, Joey Jacobson, my mother's favourite cousin, was transformed from a raw recruit to a deadly serious yet idealistic warrior. From his own letters and diaries, I have pieced together his account of why he enlisted, his training as a navigator and bomb-aimer in Western Canada, and his service in Bomber Command at the sharp end of the air war over Europe. *Joey Jacobson's War* also relates how the fatal crash of his aircraft in Holland in January 1942 galvanized local resistance to the German occupation.

The event starts at 7PM at the Almonte Public Library. For more information or to reserve a seat, call 256-1037.

May is also a great month to get your bike (and your cycling muscles) tuned up, so you can hit June's **Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month** running — or rather, rolling! The best place to start is at the **Family Bike-in Street Party** taking place on Saturday, June 2. There



In Mississippi Mills, May is full of art, music, literature and celebrations of the Royal Wedding!

will be live music, a community potluck supper (tables and chairs are provided but please bring your own plates and cutlery), and best of all, Mill Street will be closed to motorized vehicles so the kids can cycle around safely. And don't forget — you can start logging your kilometres biked or walked as of June 1 at <silverchainchallenge.ca>. There will be lots more information in the June issue of theHumm, but check in often at <mmbm.ca> so you don't miss any events!

## Lanark County MUSEUMS NETWORK

*Illuminating the Past, Brightening the Future*

Heritage House Museum

Railway Museum of Eastern Ontario

Naismith Museum

Middleville & District Museum

Archives Lanark

Lanark & District Museum

Perth Legion Hall of Remembrance

North Lanark Regional Museum

Matheson House

Mill of Kintail Conservation Area

Mississippi Valley Textile Museum

Carleton Place and Beckwith Museum

Discover the Excitement!

May is Museums Month.

/LanarkCountyMuseums

## EMILY ROSE MICHAUD TRIBUTARIES

at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum  
until June 23 3 Rosamond St. E., Almonte 613-256-3754

Panel Discussion and Public Conversation:  
**H<sub>2</sub>O as Personal** · May 5, 1-3PM

Moderator:

Jacob Berkowitz  
*Science Writer/Author*

*Free Admission*

Panelists:

Emily Rose Michaud  
*Artist/Educator*

Meredith Brown  
*Riverkeeper,  
Ottawa Riverkeeper*

Jennifer Kingsley  
*National Geographic  
Explorer/Author*

Robert Lovelace  
*Adjunct Professor,  
Queen's University*

Workshops:

**Living  
Tapestries**

Saturday, May 5, 3:30-5PM

Experience the magic of living, breathing embroidered tapestries with roots that bind to fabric asgrowing thread.

**Cyanotype/  
Sun Prints**

Saturday, June 23, 2-4PM

Learn about an enchanting photo process from the mid-1800s, make your own blueprint and unique artwork.

Workshops are \$8/MVTM member. \$10/general public  
Please RSVP: [curator@mvtm.ca](mailto:curator@mvtm.ca) — spaces are limited

[mvtm.ca](http://mvtm.ca)

# Fabulous Farmers' Markets in Our Area

As you walk away from the farmers' market with your canvas bags filled with fresh local produce, plants, organic meats and assorted other delicious goodies, you just can't help feeling good. Supporting small-scale market farms means voting with your dollars for the option that is easier on the planet than large, mono-crop industrial farms. Having to plan the trip to the market means planning meals, which is a great way to reduce both wasted food and extra trips to the grocery store. Growers at the market are proud of what they sell, and their primary goal is to produce food that tastes great and is full of nutrients, instead of stuff that needs to survive a trip across an ocean and most of a country in a shipping container.

For all those reasons and many more, we put out a call to all of the Farmers' Markets in our catchment area. Here's what they have to say about the start of the season!

## Almonte

It's almost here! Opening Day for the Almonte Farmer's Market is May 19! This year we are excited to introduce a number of new vendors, including Back 40 Sheep's Cheese and Saucy B Hot Sauces. Our usual host of characters will be there to bring you fresh vegetables, bedding and potted plants, fresh flowers, organic pastured pork, rustic bread and other baked delights, beautiful and functional pottery and wood-working, honey and maple syrup — plus you can visit Tony to order pastured chicken and turkey, and see Nick to get your knives sharpened. Of course, that's not all. Plan to come for breakfast or lunch, bring your



bags (or buy one from new vendor Jenni at For Keeps reusable vessels) and support your local farmers' market. We are in Almonte Library parking lot from 8:30AM until 12:30PM, Saturday mornings. Looking forward to seeing you!

**THE ALMONTE  
FARMER'S  
MARKET  
2018**

**SEASON OPENS  
SATURDAY, MAY 19**  
8:30 to 12:30  
155 High Street (library parking lot)

**FARMERS' MARKET  
PERTH**

**Open May 12 to October 6, 2018**  
At the Crystal Palace on the Tay Basin  
in beautiful, downtown Perth.  
[www.perthfarmersmarket.ca](http://www.perthfarmersmarket.ca)

## Aruma (Lanark)

Join us for the first annual Artisan & Farmers' Market happening on Sundays in Lanark, at Aruma. Aruma is located at 2104 Pine Grove Road, on 13 acres along the banks of the Clyde River. Our vision is to bring Sundays back to a day of rest and a time to reconnect with community. The Market opens on Sunday, May 20 and runs until Sunday, October 7 from 9AM to 1PM (except for August 19, when the annual Roots on the Clyde music festival takes place).

Market-goers can enjoy a blend of local flavours and flairs! Make Sunday a day to refuel your soul, be grateful for your blessings, and enjoy your family and friends. For more information or to apply to be a vendor please contact <haley@aruma.ca>, call 259-3000, or visit <aruma.ca>. Hope to see you there!



## Carleton Place

Everyone is invited to the Carleton Place Farmers' Market — at the Market Square on the corner of Lake Avenue and Beckwith Street — each Saturday morning from 8:30AM to 12:30PM, beginning on May 12. Besides purchasing fresh seasonal produce, baked goods (with gluten-free options), prepared meals and homemade crafts for yourself or as gifts, you can feel good about supporting local growers and producers. Our market is very much a community gathering place where it's fun to meet your friends and catch up on the past week while purchasing fresh produce and munching on a snack. Come on out and cultivate a relationship with your local producers! Supporting the Carleton Place Farmers' Market will make you part of a special place that is creating community. Find us on Facebook or check out <cpfarmersmarket.wordpress.com> for more details.

## Carp

The Carp Farmers' Market takes place on Saturdays from 8AM to 1PM at the Carp Fairgrounds. Their 2018 season runs from May 12 through to October 27. Complementing the primary produce and meat producers, the market also features bakers and other prepared-food vendors, as well as a range of hand-

made craft products of the highest quality. The Carp Farmers' Market is proud to be a producer-only market, which means that all of the vendors make, bake or grow what they sell! Remember to take time for breakfast or lunch, as the international food court has something delicious for everyone. Drop by for opening day on May 12 and make it a habit through the summer and fall. Don't miss the Carp Herb Festival on Saturday, June 23, and the highly popular Garlic Festival on the weekend of August 11 and 12. For more details, visit <carpfarmersmarket.ca>.

## McDonald's Corners

The McDonald's Corners Farmers' Market opens for the season on May 19 and runs until October 6, each Saturday from 9AM to 1PM. Visitors can enjoy artisan pizza from the outdoor wood-fired oven and relax with a coffee and pastries in the beautiful setting at the café while listening to live musicians. Fresh fruit and vegetables, meats and baking are available, along with plants and original art and handcrafts. For more information, please email <mcdonaldscornersfarmersmarket@hotmail.com>, call 278-2739, or find us on Facebook.

## Perth

Located on the Tay Basin at the Crystal Palace, the market is open Saturdays — rain or shine — from 8AM to 1PM, from May 12 right through to Thanksgiving weekend. Over forty vendors will be selling fresh local veggies, plants and flowers, frozen meat, honeys and syrups, handmade crafts and fine art. Enjoy delicious prepared food while you listen to music and relax at the café by the water. Each month will feature local music, workshops and community events. Some of the highlights this year include a chili cook-off, Tomato Fest, a strawberry social, Watershed Discovery Day and so much more! For detailed information, visit the market's website at <perthfarmersmarket.ca> or like us on Facebook.



## Volunteering in the Valley

# Sundance Artisan Show

The Sundance Artisan Show is a 3-day, 40-artist event held annually on Labour Day Weekend in Maberly, Ontario. We need enthusiastic volunteers who enjoy working outdoors and talking to people. Your main task will be to warmly welcome visitors. No experience required. If you are a student, we're happy to sign your School Volunteer Program form. Email us at <SundanceArtisanShow@gmail.com> or learn more at <sundancestudio.ca>.



# Talking to the Tomatoes

A local writers' group that I belong to had a fascinating discussion recently about our relationship with nature and the profound effect that growing vegetables has on us.

One poet talked about how her grandfather used to sit quietly in a chair beside his small patch of tomatoes. When family asked him what he was doing, he replied that he was "talking to the tomatoes".

by David Hinks

While recent scientific research has demonstrated that plants respond to the human voice and can communicate in many ways, I suspect that the interaction has much stronger benefits for the human participant. Getting our hands in the soil and nurturing plants has tremendous benefits.

With peril we ignore our "animal" side and our deep connection to the earth. While not denigrating the benefits of mindfulness exercises, I have found that a half-hour in the garden takes me away from the craziness in my mind and brings me clarity, objectiveness and a sense of peace and contentment.

While a solitary pursuit of gardening has salutary benefits, gardening collaboratively can multiply those benefits. We are very fortunate in Almonte to have the Neighbourhood Tomato Community Gardening Program. It is a phenomenon that owes much to the support of the Mills Community Support Corporation and to the dozens of committed

volunteers in our community who toil long and hard every summer.

The Tomato started in 2011 with the construction of a few raised gardening boxes at group homes and at the hospital. This was followed in 2012 by the planting of 75 apple and pear trees in the two towns and three hamlets that comprise the municipality of Mississippi Mills. In 2013 more raised beds for growing vegetables were installed at many locations around the municipality, including several at Augusta Street Park, and an educational component was launched. In 2014 a 6,000-square-foot community vegetable garden was created in Augusta Street Park. Since then, improvements have included a large shed, a path through the garden that connects with the bridge and the street, and a large berm planted with edible shrubs.

On a broader scope, the Neighbourhood Tomato has built strong links to community gardening programs in Carp and Carleton Place. Testifying to the vibrancy of these programs, all plots are committed; but do not despair — all gardens welcome volunteers for their collaborative plots and if there are enough gardeners on waiting lists, I suspect that expansion plans will be approved.

The Augusta Street Park Garden has 28 private plots and 12 plots for the Food Bank that are gardened collaboratively by volunteers. Contact Gerda Franssen at 257-7155 if you wish to help with the Food Bank plots. A **spring clean-up and garden prepara-**



While a solitary pursuit of gardening has salutary benefits, gardening collaboratively can multiply them...

**tion day** is scheduled for Saturday, May 5 from 10AM to 3PM. Light refreshment will be served.

The Carleton Place Community Garden has 20 low-rise beds and 6 raised beds that are individual plots which are free for anyone in the community. The "community" portion is the sharing of ideas, hints, labour (if requested/offered), seeds, and perhaps helping to make the whole garden a bit of an oasis. The Hunger Stop (food bank) has five large beds. There is also a lockable shed to store tools and water barrels for watering. For any further details or to volunteer, please contact <carletonplacecommunitygarden@gmail.com>.

The Carp community garden has 20 beds. Four are waist-high raised beds for those with mobility challenges. Of the 20, 14 are private beds and 6 are collaborative gardens where the veggies are harvested and delivered to the West Carleton

Food Access Centre. All plots are reserved this season, but they are always looking for volunteers to help garden the collaborative beds and to help with harvesting and delivering to the food bank. Any interested volunteers can email <michellerehkopf@rogers.com>.

## Great Veggie Grow-off

The Great Veggie Grow-off is a very exciting initiative created by the Neighbourhood Tomato in 2014 as a friendly challenge to see which community could donate the greatest amount of fresh produce to the Food Bank. For the fifth year, all nine Lanark communities are again being challenged to grow and donate to their local food bank. Presently all four food banks (Carleton Place, Lanark, Perth and Smiths Falls) take donations of freshly grown produce. They have been asked to weigh and record the community of origin of locally grown food from May 1 until the final weigh-in at Thanksgiving. Last year 7,000 pounds of fresh produce was donated. Bragging rights will be given to the community that donates the most locally grown food as well as to the community with the most freshly grown food donated per person. Of course, the big winners are always our community's food banks.

The kick-off to this year's Great Veggie Grow-Off takes place on Tuesday, May 1 at noon at the Friendship Oven in front of the Almonte Library.

**Women's Night**  
Sample • Shop • Socialize

May 9 • 6-9p.m.

Indulge yourself, enjoy an evening with friends & try samples from:  
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Lorna Vanderhaeghe • Artizen Kombucha

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dandelion  
foods

**2018 CBBAG Book Arts Show and Sale**

Saturday, May 12, 2018  
10:00 am to 4 pm  
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For information, contact: 613-851-4626 Email: Spike13@rogers.com

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38<sup>th</sup> Tour  
June 2018

**Red Trillium Studio & Garden Tour**

Saturday & Sunday  
June 2 & 3  
10AM-5PM

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and Artisans

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The Reever Report

# This Summer...

Could this be it? Am I able to go outside without five layers of grungy winter clothes? Can I wash the mitts, the coats, the car, the dogs, the cat? Well, not the cat... what was I thinking?

Spring was bound to come one day, and it better stick around for a couple of weeks instead of launching us straight into summer. After all, if I'm not going to be planting a garden (see the March Humm for my "no seed buying" admonition), I have to have a few days to plan out my summer.

First admission: although I didn't buy seeds, I did resurrect the half-dead geraniums which are now sprouting ever-so-grateful green leaves. I have more than my share of

make proper salad dressing. We'll eat on the deck most of the summer, sipping cool drinks from tall glasses clinking with ice cubes (no plastic straws though). I've never had a mint julep, but wine spritzers are easy and delightful on a hot afternoon — should we be so lucky as to get those.

I'll make my garden an oasis instead of a To-Do list. I'll plan on an hour a day to simply sit back and listen to the leaves rustle and watch the flowers grow. Green will be such a welcome colour.

I'll smear on sunscreen so I can enjoy my time outdoors. I'll even buy a new straw hat to replace the old one with the wavy brim that looks like something Ma Clampet would covet. My summer wardrobe will likely not improve, but that's all right. When it's really hot, no one goes around in long pants if they can get away with shorts. I will discard the old T-shirts and get new ones with dog logos or lovely designs.

We'll plan picnics and walks that culminate in shady spots to eat ice cream. We'll head out in one direction and end up somewhere else on day trips to anywhere that suits our fancy, even on a weekday. Here's a hint for a positively exotic picnic: head to Jabulani Winery off Franktown Road, sit in the shade of a big umbrella in sight of the grapes from which you can sip beautiful wine. Take fresh bread from Baker Bob's and really good cheese from Pêches & Poivre, and you will think you are in the heart of Tuscany.

Part of my plan might be impossible: when, and if, it turns brutally hot, I might dream about the return of some "decent cool April weather". I'll recall how that felt, and hold it like a snowball in the freezer for the worst part of the summer heat.

Isn't this a brilliant plan? However, before I can initiate all these things properly, I have to clean up the fallen branches, square off the flower beds, and dig out those messy roses. I should also think about the grass patches that need repair. There's some pruning I didn't do last fall, and a lot of creeping Charlie taking over the space where the daffodils are poking up. I think the pond is ready to be cleaned out, a two-day job, and then I need to figure out the pump set-up again. I might have to rebuild part of the creek too. We have a few downed trees to haul in for next year's supply, likely a two-day task if we get into the woods before the bugs come out to play. There's gravel on the boulevard that needs to be raked, and we can get at that next week... maybe.

It's all this sort of good planning that gets me nowhere. If I spent the planning time doing the tasks, then I would have time to spare. We know the gods laugh at people making plans that they will never see fulfilled. So when you're at the greenhouse and I'm loading up on plants, please don't be too harsh.

by Glenda Jones

canna lilies to cajole into growing, and there are some pineapple lilies that are threatening to bud as well. All in good time though.

Here's my plan for summer. I'm going to spend more time upright this year, not so much bum-in-the-air weeding — a ridiculous endeavour you will agree. I'm going to look higher than ground-level so I don't see the grass growing in the flower beds instead of in the lawn area. I'm going to live and let live as long as the poison ivy doesn't come a-calling. It'll be a bumper year for any weeds that flower, because I won't spend hours pulling them out in hopes of achieving the veritable *Botanical Gardens* look.

I will go to the greenhouses as usual, but I'll be strong and ignore lovely flowering "whatsits" and Proven Winners, knowing full well that unless I personally have Proven they are Winners, they likely are not. I won't come home with a carload of annuals that will phaff the summer away demanding to be dead-headed and attracting aphids. I won't even consider bedding plants that are ground covers. "Ground cover" is a euphemism for "quickly spreading, taking over your garden, house, and likely your children" sorts of plants. A dear friend took away literally carloads of periwinkle from my garden and now you can't even see where he dug it out.

I'll drag myself away from the HGTV channel featuring gardens that only a landscaper could achieve, and I won't fall for the allure of magazines festooned with blue hydrangeas and giddy nasturtiums overflowing planters. My planters look like the remainders from the nursery chucked in the pot and ordered to grow or else.

If it rains I'll make lovely green garden salads of ingredients I'll get at the market. I'll sprinkle them with fresh herbs, not the dried gritty kind, and I'll

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# Come Out on June 4 For A Taste of the County

Everyone is invited to attend **For a Taste of the County** — the (extremely popular) annual charity fundraiser that benefits the Lanark County Therapeutic Riding Program. Our 13<sup>th</sup> annual food, beer and wine gala takes place on Monday, June 4 at the beautiful Stonefields Heritage Farm in Beckwith.

This food- and wine-tasting event is both fun and delicious, and we are expecting another sold-out crowd of 200 people. In addition to the \$20 entry fee, gala-goers purchase \$1 coupons and each vendor will price their tasters so that you have the opportunity to sample many different appetizers, main courses, desserts, beer and wine.

While wandering through the many local vendors, we encourage you to bid on the fabulous silent auction. All items are donated by local artists, artisans, businesses and individuals, with proceeds going to the riding program. Donations have already started rolling in for the auction, but more are always welcome!



This year's food and wine gala fundraiser for Therapeutic Riding will take place at the beautiful Stonefields Heritage Farm in Beckwith

Stonefields is an outdoor event destination located at 1985 9<sup>th</sup> Line in Beckwith. This historic property boasts an old stone farmhouse, country gardens, log cabins and rustic barns, plus acres and acres of rolling farmland. It is an absolutely perfect venue for our gala, and many guests last year commented on how much they enjoyed the location.

The Therapeutic Riding Program is celebrating 33 years of providing therapeutic riding lessons in Lanark County. All of our funds are raised through grants, fundraising activities, donations and the generosity of the world's best volunteers! Come and share a toast with us at this wonderful event.

For a Taste of the County runs from 6–9PM on Monday, June 4, and tickets are \$20 each (available at Baker Bob's in Almonte, Lanark Community Programs in Carleton Place, or by reserving in advance). Come out with your friends to celebrate spring and treat yourself to a delicious evening for a really great cause. For more information or to hold tickets at the door please call 257-7121 x3238 or email <info@therapeuticriding.ca>.

— Amy Booth



The Lanark County Therapeutic Riding Program provides therapy, rehabilitation and recreation

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by Patricia Josefchak

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Hanging Around the Valley

# The Valley Art Scene...

## Arts Carleton Place Show & Sale

The fourth annual Arts Carleton Place Art Show & Sale is taking place on the weekend of May 5 and 6, from 10AM to 4:30PM each day. Twenty local artists will showcase their work at the Carleton Place Canoe Club, located at 179 John Street in CP. The show will feature original creations in oils, watercolour, acrylics, fused glass, photography, wood and jewellery. Three of the artists will be showing their work in public for the first time. Drop in, relax, spend some time in a beautiful setting along the Mississippi River, start thinking spring, and support the arts all at the same time!



Paintings by Richard Hutton will be on display at MERA in McDonalds Corners throughout the month of May

by Miss Cellaneous

If you are looking for a special gift for an event this summer, then visit the show and find that unique piece of local art. Participating artists come from every corner of the region: Almonte, Carleton Place, Kanata, McDonalds Corners, Perth and Portland. A portion of sales as well as voluntary door donations support the annual Arts CP Bursary Awards given out to graduating high school students who are pursuing further education in the arts. This show is also a great opportunity to meet members of the Board and discuss with them what Arts CP does in the community. A thank you goes out to the Town of Carleton Place for its assistance and support for the show. Admission is free and plenty of free parking is available. Visit <facebook.com/artscp> to learn more about participating artists.

## Richard Hutton's Art at MERA

McDonalds Corners Elphin Recreation & Arts (MERA) is proud to feature paintings by Richard Hutton throughout May in Dean Hall. A vernissage will be held on Saturday, May 5 from 1-4AM, and everyone is welcome.

Richard's art is as multi-faceted as the human mind. In fact, the depth and breadth of the mind itself, and everything it conjures up in this world, is the constant underlying theme in all his works. The subject matter can sometimes be still and reflective,

at other times turbulent or playful, but is always enquiring and often provocative. Richard is accomplished in acrylics, watercolour, drawing and oils, but the latter remains a favourite. He prides himself in not being a slave to any particular style or technique.

Born in Glasgow, Richard acquired a first class BA (Hons) in Fine Art as a mature student. He married late in life and his Canadian wife brought him to Perth, where they now reside. Richard is keen to immerse himself in the landscape and culture of Eastern Ontario and to see where that takes him artistically.

Please visit MERA's newly updated website at <meraschoolhouse.org> for more information, directions and hours, or email <meraschoolhouse@gmail.com>.



Stephen Hower will be showing his wood burning art publicly for the first time at this spring's Arts Carleton Place show

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# Springs into Action!

## men make quilts / women make sculpture

The exhibition title is slightly tongue-in-cheek and somewhat provocative, but its irony rings true in the case of a new show at General Fine Craft in Almonte from May 8 to June 17. The two featured artists are no strangers to working outside of the norm, engaging the viewer and experimenting with ideas and materials in unique ways.

**Robert Pauly** is a collector and a maker of art and objects who lives in Clayton, Ontario. Over a lengthy career, he has created everything from sculpture to wearable art. His curiosity and a healthy mix of respect for tradition and irreverence for the status quo shine through in a selection of his quilts in this exhibition.



General Fine Craft features quilts by Robert Pauly (above) and clay works by Cynthia O'Brien

Robert's approach is playful: using vintage fabrics and vibrant colour combinations, he alters traditional patterns with unusually beautiful results. His "postage stamp" quilts are made of thousands of one-inch squares painstakingly sewn into bedcover size. Other quilts feature row upon row of colourful stripes that give an overall dazzling visual effect.

The medium of choice for Ottawa's **Cynthia O'Brien** is clay. She has used it to create functional, non-functional and sculptural objects for over thirty years. She has also explored its more ephemeral qualities through art installations and live performance pieces.

This show features her *Father Series* of sculptural objects hand-built with black clay. They are complicated 3-dimensional constructions full of nuance and contrast. Cynthia's approach to making them is unique: she imagines them first as interior spaces filled with emotion, roots of her family tree which then burst outward energetically.

Everyone is invited to the opening and meet the artists on Sunday, May 13 from 2-4PM. The gallery is located at 63 Mill Street in Almonte. For more information, please visit <generalfinecraft.com>.

## Indulge Your Senses for AGH

On Saturday May 26 from 4-7PM, Sivarul-rasa Gallery will host an elegant fundraiser evening entitled "Indulge Your Senses" to benefit the Almonte General Hospital / Fairview Manor Foundation's ongoing campaign to raise money for diagnostic equipment. The evening will feature fine art, light food and wine in the gallery's exquisite

contemporary art setting. A live jazz duo, the Somerset Combo, featuring local favourites Ric Denis on guitar and Tony Stuart on clarinet, will provide lively atmospheric and classic jazz music. The gallery's ongoing spring-themed exhibition *Equinox* featuring works by artists Sarah Anderson, Carly Belford, and Jane Irwin will be on display.

Tickets for the fundraiser are \$80 each, with a \$50 tax donation receipt. Only fifty tickets are available, so get yours early by calling the gallery at 256-8033 or emailing <info@sivarulrasa.com>. All ticket proceeds go to the AGH-FVM Foundation — the gallery hopes to raise \$4000 for the hospital through this event. For more information, please visit <sivarulrasa.com>.

## Donation to AIM

Art in the Manor (AIM) was recently delighted to receive, through a generous donation by Phil Wood of Almonte, twenty photographs by the acclaimed American photojournalist Steve McCurry.

The centrepiece of this collection is the haunting portrait of the "Afghan Girl". This world-famous work was featured on the cover of National Geographic in June 1985 and was a product of McCurry's coverage of the Soviet war in Afghanistan. The other nineteen pictures are equally stunning.

The collection is currently on view along AIM's gallery wall between the two entrance doors of Fairview Manor in Almonte, and will remain there until June 5. After the showing, the photos will be hung in the Almonte General Hospital and Fairview Manor.



Art in the Manor received a donation from Phil Wood that includes a print of this iconic photo by Steve McCurry

## Call to Artists for Sundance

Registration is now open for the 12<sup>th</sup> Sundance Artisan Show! The show welcomes about 3000 visitors on Labour Day Weekend at the hub of cottage country in Maberly, Ontario, about an hour west of Ottawa. It gives you the chance to exhibit and sell high-quality craft and art over a period of three days in a park-like setting along the banks of the Fall River. Live music and food by the Fall River Restaurant add a festive feel to the event and encourage guests to stay a while. Loads of free parking is available onsite. Show dates are Labour Day Weekend 2018 (Saturday to Monday, September 1-3). Request a submission package by emailing <SundanceArtisanShow@gmail.com> or find out more about the show at <sundancestudio.ca>.

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# Mudds' *Guys and Dolls* is a Delight!

Are you eager to roll the dice, try your luck, and risk it all for a high-stakes reward? Well even if you're not, the cast and crew of the Mississippi Mudds' upcoming production of *Guys and Dolls* are certainly willing to do it for you!

This musical sensation has been enthralling Broadway fans since it first debuted in 1950. The tale is mostly based upon two short stories written by Damon Runyon (*The Idyll of Miss Sarah Brown* and *Blood Pressure*); however, it also utilizes several characters and plot elements from some of Runyon's other stories. Written by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows, with lyrics and music by Frank Loesser, this outstanding show has claimed Tony Awards for Best Musical, Best Book, and Best Revival.

The plot follows New York's most accomplished floating crap game organizer, Nathan Detroit (Calvin Beaulieu), as he desperately seeks a venue for his next game and tries to evade the eyes of overbearing Lt. Brannigan (Andrew Hunter). He finally narrows in on a potential refuge for his illegal shindig, but it comes at a pretty price. Joey Biltmore, owner of the Biltmore Garage, requires a \$1,000 safety deposit before he agrees to hand his place over into the arms of this reputable crook. Frantic, Nathan turns to Sky Masterson (Mike McCormick, who is also a member of the group The Arrogant Worms), who is in town and ready to take on a bet. As the pressure heightens, Nathan makes Sky a deal. A thousand bucks says that Sky can't take Miss Sarah Brown (Tracy Ahern), of the pious Save-A-Soul Mission, to dinner in Havana with him the following night. As the adventure unravels, Sky embarks on a quest that leads him into feelings unknown, Nathan lays out a web of lies to cover his tracks, and eager gamblers would rather cheat than stay honest on their way to the top. This is a story of taking risks, gambling with fragile hearts, and putting lifelong reputations on the line. Set to a foolproof soundtrack that includes hits such as

*Luck Be A Lady*, *Adelaide's Lament* and *Sit Down You're Rocking the Boat*, it is guaranteed to thrill audiences right to the edge of their seats.

Filled to the brim with talent (and with the help of director Adam Pelletier, musical director Laurel Tye and producer Karen Lapointe), this latest Mudds production is sure to be the next in a long line-up of illustrious theatrical successes. Since 1973, the Mississippi Mudds of Carleton Place have been offering incredible amateur theatre performances to their community, while receiving nothing less than an overwhelmingly enthusiastic response.

The show will be taking place at the Carleton Place Town Hall on May 11, 12, 13, 18 and 19. All shows begin at 7:30PM. Tickets are \$20 (special \$10 price for Sunday, May 13), and can be purchased at the Carleton Place Visitor Centre, located at 170 Bridge Street (257-1976).

So why not roll the dice and let yourself be transported to the exhilarating underworld of New York. With a catchy beat and a vintage vibe, odds are this is one scene that you don't want to miss!

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



Ahh... love! In the Mudds' production of *Guys and Dolls*, Calvin Beaulieu plays the part of Nathan Detroit, and his real-life partner Julie Hunter plays his fiancée Miss Adelaide. TheHumm caught up with Julie and Calvin to find out how off-stage partners cope with an on-stage relationship...

## TheHumm: How did you two meet? Have you been on stage together before this show?

Julie: We met in high school and were very good friends. We got together when I came back from university and we reconnected. We both did theatre separately — I did some in high school and so did he, but I was three years ahead so we didn't have a lot of crossover. I did some community theatre musicals when at university, and Calvin did some community theatre outside of high school as well.

Our first musical together was *H.M.S. Pinafore* with The Mississippi Mudds. We fell instantly in love with the Mudds. They are so encouraging and supportive and friendly. Since *Pinafore*, we have been in *Assassins* (with the Mudds Underground), *Anne of Green Gables*, and now *Guys and Dolls*.

## What are the best parts about playing on-stage partners with your off-stage partner?

Julie: It's so easy to be natural when showing him affection — there's no hesitation, no awkwardness — and I know this will come across to the audience.

Calvin: We trust each other a lot. I am not nervous at all when I am on stage with her. And we get to practice at home together.

Julie: Yes! Being able to run scenes we are in together outside of the rehearsal space has been really beneficial.

## What are the hardest parts about playing on-stage partners with your off-stage partner?

Julie: The most challenging part for me is having to act upset with him. It takes everything in my power to keep a straight face when I have to be

upset, because he is doing something so funny with his face or his lines.

Calvin: Neither of us can see each other as a spectator, because we are either in a scene together or we are getting ready to be in another scene.

## Is Calvin like Nathan at all in real life? What is your favourite part of his portrayal of Nathan?

Julie: There is one part, where Nathan defends his love for Adelaide, and I always thought that was cute. But Nathan is kind of a scoundrel. Calvin is so not a scoundrel. I have to say his character voice is my favourite part. I love the accent he worked out, the slight raspy quality, and it's a lot higher than he normally talks. He played with certain words and phrases at home until he got them right.

## And is Julie like Adelaide at all in real life?

Calvin: Julie is exactly like Miss Adelaide in real life. She is bubbly, fun and smart, but she's also fiery and emotional. Julie was born to play Adelaide. It is the perfect role. There is no one moment of her portrayal that I like more than another. She is exactly like I imagined Adelaide should be.

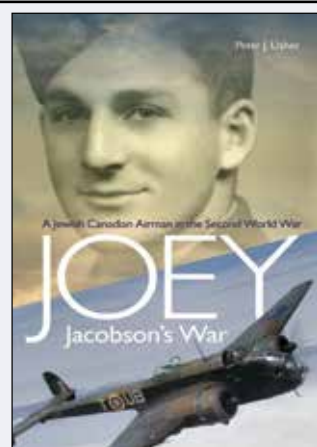
## How hard will it be to stop speaking with New York accents once this production is over?

Julie: I hadn't thought about that, but we talk in our accents at home together all the time. I have noticed that I have just started at work, slipping in a few words here and there when talking to coworkers. It is completely by accident. It will probably take me a while to stop completely.

Calvin: As hard as it will be to stop talking entirely, I am saying words in my Nathan voice all day.



Sky Masterson (Mike McCormick, bottom centre) and the crapshooters hoping that Luck will be a Lady...



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# PorchFest de Miss Mills

## Three Hours of Free Music on June 16

The first Porchfest took place in Ithaca, NY in 2007, inspired by some outdoor ukulele playing and a conversation between neighbours Gretchen Hildreth and Lesley Greene. They came up with the community-building porchfest concept and gathered musical acts to make it happen in September of that year. Still going strong in Ithaca, their great idea has spread to more than 60 towns and cities across North America. Now it's Almonte's turn on Saturday June 16, starting at 3PM.

PorchFest de Mississippi Mills came out of another conversation between two music lovers — Mills Community Development Coordinator Jeff Mills, from Pakenham, and Almonte singer-song-

writer Nathan Sloniowski (aka Rudyk), a member of Almonte's neo-psychedelic folk-rock band The Ragged Flowers.



On a cycling trip with friends in Montreal last spring, Nathan and fellow Almontonian Kirk DesRosier happened on a porchfest in the Notre-Dame-de-Grace neighbourhood. Upon their return, they talked to Jeff about how great it was — everything from jazz, roots and classical groups to basement rock bands and a talented teenage singer accompanied by her guitar-playing grandfather.

Jeff suggested timing PorchFest de Mississippi Mills with the completion of Tour de Mississippi Mills — a mainstay event of Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month. Nathan ran with it, applied for a seed-money grant from the Municipality of Mississippi Mills, recruited headline acts and porch owners, and lined up supporters and sponsors including Crooked Mile Brewery, Equator Coffee Roasters, Menzies House 1850 Bed & Breakfast, market2world communica-

tions, and the Barley Mow in Almonte. Kirk stepped up to create a logo and is helping Nathan coordinate the musical celebration on June 16.

Thanks to this community support, residents and visitors alike can enjoy three hours of free musical performances on their neighbours' porches throughout Almonte. Headline acts include:

- Alex George — recipient of the 2017 Danny O'Connell Memorial Award that recognized Alex's role in advancing the Ottawa Valley fiddle tradition.
- Jen Noxon and The Brindled Cats — a trio with Brendan Gawn on bass and Rob McMurray on guitar that serves up covers and original songs in toe-tapping hip folk, jazz and swing.
- Lost: Pet Pigeon — a group that plays original music that is quirky, heart-felt, and sometimes irreverent. Members include Steve Martin on bass, Jonas Barter on guitar and Mike Wattie on guitar.
- The Ragged Flowers — a five-piece neo-psychedelic folk-rock outfit that performs original music; with Ian Douglas on piano and drums, Rob Riendeau on bass, and Steve Reside, George Birchall and Nathan Sloniowski on guitars.
- New Sounds — high school students who play various styles of jazz

(and are also playing an evening JazzNhouse concert on June 16). They are Matthew Roberts on trumpet, Vincent Ribberink on piano, Adison Rossiter on bass and Mike Furlong on drums.

- Bradley D. Scott — an amazing finger-style guitarist and singer-songwriter who wowed audiences earlier this year at the Folkus concert series.
- The Somerset Combo — Ric Denis on guitar and Tony Stuart on clarinet play lively atmospheric, smooth and classic jazz music.

While the porch performances run between 3PM and 6PM on Saturday, June 16, there is also a PorchFest de Mississippi Mills "After Party" at Equator Coffee Roasters from 6-8PM, and an "After After Party" from 8-10PM at the Barley Mow. Porch locations and times are listed at <porchfestdemississippimills.com>. Anyone interested in donating their porch for additional musical acts, or musicians who want to perform on a porch, can contact Kirk or Nathan through the same website.

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## May Pub Listings

**The Cove** (Westport, 273-3636): Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, 6:30-9:30PM  
May 4 Lonesome Ace Stringband, 7-10PM, \$15  
May 12 Acoustic Lunch w/David Rotundo & Seamus Cowan, 12-3PM, lunch+show \$30  
May 17 Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio, 8-10PM, \$5  
May 18 Jesse Stone, 6-9PM  
May 19 Chris Murphy, 6-9PM  
May 20 Tony Silvestri Band w/Tom Savage, 7-11PM, buffet+show \$45  
May 24, 31 Jazz w/Spencer Evans solo, 8-10PM  
May 25 Tom Watson, 6-9PM  
May 26 Jeff Callery, 6-9PM

**The Swan at Carp** (Carp, 839-7926):  
May 4 Craig Kennedy Trio, jazz, 7-10PM  
May 18 Steve Barrette Trio, jazz, 7-10PM

**Naismith Pub** (Almonte, 256-6336): Wed (excl May 2) Open Celtic Jam, 7:30-10PM

**The Royal Oak** (Kanata, 591-3895): jazz on Sun, 2-5PM  
May 6, 20 APEX Jazz Band  
May 13, 27 Magnolia Rhythm Kings

**Carp Masonic Lodge:** Mon Carp Celtic Jam, 7-9PM

**Ashton Pub** (Ashton, 257-4423): Sun Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, 2-5PM

**Golden Arrow Pub** (Perth, 267-4500): 9PM Tues Open Stage, Wed Karaoke  
May 4, 25 Logan Brown  
May 5 Shawn McCullough  
May 11 EDJ  
May 12 Jeff Leeson  
May 19 Jessie Stone  
May 18 Brea Lawrenson  
May 25 Jon Townsen  
May 26 Dugout Boys

**Bridges Bar & Grill** (Pakenham, 624-5939): May 12 Blues Series: Barry Buse, 6-10PM

**Alice's Village Café** (Carp, 470-2233): Open Mic Thurs, 7-10PM

**O'Reilly's Ale House** (Perth, 267-7994):  
Tues Brock Zeman 8:30PM  
May 11 Jono Townsend, 8PM  
May 18 Smitty, 8:45PM  
May 25 River City Junction, 8:45PM

**The Waterfront Gastropub** (CP, 257-5755): Tues Acoustic Classic Rock 9PM, Wed Open Jam 9PM, Thurs Karaoke 9PM, Sat Al Tambay Duo 3PM, Sun Blues w/Redneck Limousine 3-6PM  
May 4 Mississippi Blues Society Jam, 8:30PM

**Neat Coffee Shop** (Burnstown, 433-9960): 8PM  
May 3 Sun K, \$20  
May 4 Whitehorse, \$55  
May 5 Ben Caplan, \$40  
May 6 Lindi Ortega, \$35  
May 13 Terence Jack, \$25  
May 18 Julian Taylor Band, \$28.50  
May 19 Major Love, \$20  
May 20 Skydiggers (duo), \$35  
May 25 Great Lake Swimmers, \$45



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# Claiming Column

Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month, June  
 Priorpalooza Music Festival, Arnprior, Jun 2  
 Red Trillium Tour, W. Carleton, Jun 2-3  
 Taste of the County, Beckwith, Jun 4  
 BusFusion, Almonte, Jun 7-10  
 AGH Golf Classic, Ashton, Jun 8  
 Almonte Summer Craft Show, Jun 9  
 Public Coin Auction, Almonte, Jun 10  
 SPF Summer Dance, Perth, Jun 16  
 Lambs Down Park Festival, CP, Jun 16  
 Healthy Living Festival, SE, Jun 16  
 Perth Kilt Run, Jun 23  
 Carp Herb Festival, Jun 23

## Festivals

**Franktown Lilac Festival**, May 26, 8AM-7PM (pancakes, activities, supper). Centennial Hall, Franktown. twp.beckwith.on.ca

## Literature

Writers Month: May 5, 1-3PM, **Tim Gordon**, Burnstown Publishing; May 12, 1:30PM, **David Mulholland**, *Chaudière Falls*; May 19, 12:30-2:30PM, **Patricia Josefchak**, Writing Workshop; May 26, 11AM-2PM (talk 1PM), **Claire Smith**, *Falling into Now*. Perth Library, 267-1224  
**Meet the Author: James Bartleman**, May 12, 12-2PM. The Book Nook, 60 Gore St. E., Perth. 267-2350.  
**SF Historical Soc: Anne Raina**, May 24, 7PM, *Clara's Rib & tuberculosis*. Heritage House Museum, SF 283-6311  
**Talk: Jewish Cdn Airman in WWII**, May 24, 7PM. w/Author Peter J. Usher. Almonte Library, 256-1037

## Local Food

**2018 Launch: The Great Veggie Grow Off**, May 1, 12PM, Regional competition. Almonte Library  
**Carp Farmers' Market Opens**, May 12, 8AM-1PM, Carp Fairgrounds, carpfarmersmarket.ca  
**CP Farmers' Market Opens**, May 12, 8:30AM-12:30PM. Beckwith St/Lake Ave, CP, cpfarmersmarket.wordpress.com  
**Perth Farmers' Market Opens**, May 12, 8AM-1PM, Crystal Palace, 63 Gore St. E., Perth, perthfarmersmarket.ca  
**Almonte Farmers' Market Opens**, May 19, 8:30AM-12:30PM. Almonte Library, almontefarmersmarket.com  
**McDonalds Corners Farmers' Market Opens**, May 19, 9AM-1PM. MERA, McDonalds Corners. 278-2739  
**Lanark Farmers' Market Opens**, May 20, 9AM-1PM. Aruma, 2104 Pine Grove Rd., Lanark. 259-3000, aruma.ca

## Visual Arts

**Kanata Art Club Show & Sale**, May 4 (5-9PM), May 5 (9:30AM-5PM). Friday: meet the artists. Kanata Legion, kac l.ca. Free  
**Arts CP Art Show & Sale**, May 5-6, 10AM-4:30PM. 20 artists. CP Canoe Club, Carleton Place, arts.carletonplace.com  
**Open Studio: Living Stones**, May 5-6, 10AM-4PM. John Schweighardt Studio, 1787 3rd Conc. Dalhousie. livingstonessculptures.ca  
**Pottery Sale**, May 5-6, 10AM-5PM. Almonte Potters Guild, 95 Bridge St., Almonte. 256-5556, almontepottersguild.com  
**Workshop: Living Tapestries**, May 5, 3:30-5PM. Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, Almonte. mvmtm.ca. \$10; \$8 members  
**Launch: Mississippi North**, May 10, 5-8PM. Sarah Jaynes's work. Carriageway Studios, Almonte, mississippinorth.com

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Euchre, Maberly</li> <li>Good Grief Walking Group, Almonte</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, Carleton Place</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2018 Launch: The Great Veggie Grow Off, Almonte</li> <li>Acoustic Classic Rock, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Brock Zeman, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Olde Time Bingo, Carleton Place</li> <li>Open Stage, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Smiths Falls Bridge Club</li> <li>Steel Magnolias, Constance Bay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>Bonsai/Spring Show, Carleton Place</li> <li>Econ &amp; Poli of 19th Century Ott Valley, Burnstown</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Máire Ní Chathasaigh &amp; Chris Newman, McDonalds Corners</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic, The Cove</li> <li>Social Conversation Circle, CP</li> <li>Steel Magnolias, Constance Bay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Butterflies Are Free, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>Steel Magnolias, Constance Bay</li> <li>Sun K, Neat Coffee Shop</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>CP&amp;B Historical Society AGM, CP</li> <li>Good Grief Walking Group, Almonte</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acoustic Rock, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Brock Zeman, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, CP</li> <li>Olde Time Bingo, Carleton Place</li> <li>Open Stage, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Herbs &amp; Flower Show, Perth</li> <li>Smiths Falls Bridge Club</li> <li>Spring Fashion Show, Westport</li> <li>Gardening w/Kids, Carp</li> <li>Women's Business Group Breakfast, CP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>Cookbook Book Club, Carleton Place</li> <li>Graduation, Perth</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> <li>Women's Night, Almonte</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adulting 101: Mindfulness, Perth</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Collection Launch: Mississippi North, Almonte</li> <li>Fish Fry Dinner, Perth</li> <li>Graduation, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>Toastmasters, CP</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Good Grief Walking Group, Almonte</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, Carleton Place</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acoustic Classic Rock, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Brock Zeman, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Huntley History Trivia Night, Carp</li> <li>Olde Time Bingo, Carleton Place</li> <li>Open Stage, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Smiths Falls Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>Digital Device Workshop, CP</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic, The Cove</li> <li>Pakenham Hort Soc: Exp Farm &amp; Flower Show</li> <li>Reflections of a Dissident Muslim, Burnstown</li> <li>Social Conversation Circle, CP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio, The Cove</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> </ul>
<p><b>Victoria Day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Quilters' Guild</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Good Grief Walking Group, Almonte</li> <li>Smiths Falls Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acoustic Rock, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Brock Zeman, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, CP</li> <li>Lanark Cty Quilters Guild, Perth</li> <li>Olde Time Bingo, Carleton Place</li> <li>Open Stage, Golden Arrow</li> <li>SF Community Theatre Foundation AGM</li> <li>Smiths Falls Bridge Club</li> <li>Travel Seminar, Pakenham</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>Finding Your Feet, Perth</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adulting 101: Hemming Pants, Perth</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Finding Your Feet, Smiths Falls</li> <li>Jazz w/Spencer Evans, The Cove</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>SF Historical Soc: Anne Raina, SF</li> <li>Sister Act - The Musical, Perth</li> <li>Talk: Jewish Cdn Airman in WWII, Almonte</li> <li>Toastmasters, CP</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte &amp; Area Artists' Assoc.</li> <li>Almonte Hort: Easy Perennials</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge</li> <li>Good Grief Walking Group, Almonte</li> <li>Hackberry Men's Shed, Carleton Place</li> <li>Smiths Falls Duplicate Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acoustic Rock, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Alkalinity - The Base-ics of Health!, Carleton Place</li> <li>Brock Zeman, O'Reilly's Pub</li> <li>Community BOGO Dinner, CP</li> <li>Olde Time Bingo, Carleton Place</li> <li>Open Stage, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Singin' in the Rain, Perth</li> <li>Smiths Falls Bridge Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almonte Duplicate Bridge Club</li> <li>Karaoke, Golden Arrow</li> <li>Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub</li> <li>Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic w/Shawn McCullough, The Cove</li> <li>Social Conversation Circle, CP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sister Act - The Musical, Perth</li> <li>Adulting 101: Meditation Yoga, Perth</li> <li>Arnprior Bridge Club</li> <li>Jazz w/Spencer Evans, The Cove</li> <li>Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub</li> <li>Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe</li> <li>Parkinson's Support Group, SF</li> </ul>

**Art in the Attic**, May 11 (7-9), 12 (10-7) & 13 (10-4). Art show & sale. Almonte Old Town Hall. 256-5863. Free  
**Meet Artists: Cynthia O'Brien, Robert Pauly**, May 13, 2-4PM. General Fine Craft, Almonte. generalfinecraft.com  
**Almonte Quilters' Guild**, May 21, 7-9PM. All welcome. Almonte Civitan Hall, almontequiltersguild@gmail.com  
**Lanark County Quilters Guild**, May 22, 7PM, Play the Deck Quilt Challenge. Lions Hall, Perth Fairgrounds, Perth. \$3 guests  
**Almonte & Area Artists' Assoc.**, May 28, 7-9PM. All welcome. Almonte Library, 256-5863, 4a-artists.ca. Free

## Theatre

**Steel Magnolias**, May 1-5 at 7:30PM. Rural Root Theatre. North Wind Ctr, Constance Bay. 618-9789. \$15/\$12 mat

**Butterflies are Free**, May 3-5 at 7:30PM; Apr 29, May 6 at 2PM. Station Theatre, SF. 283-0300. \$20/\$10  
**The Paranormal Show: Wunderkammer**, May 4, 8:30PM. CP & Beckwith Heritage Museum, CP. \$25  
**Joe: The Perfect Man**, May 5, 8PM. Absurd comedy starring Rachele Elie. Almonte Old Town Hall, 256-9090. \$25; \$20 adv  
 Film Night International presents **Graduation** May 9, 2 & 7PM (Full Circle Theatre, Perth); May 10, 2 & 7PM (Station Theatre, SF). **Finding Your Feet** May 23 2 & 7PM (Perth); May 24, 2 & 7PM (SF). filmnightinternational.blogspot.ca. \$10  
**Guys & Dolls**, May 11-13, 18-19 at 7:30PM. CPTown Hall. MississippiMudds.ca. Tix: CP Visitor Ctr; \$20 (\$10 May 13)  
**SF Community Theatre Foundation AGM**, May 22, 7:30PM. All welcome. Station Theatre, SF. 283-0300

**Sister Act - The Musical**, May 24-26, May 31-Jun 2 7:30PM; May 26-27, Jun 2-3 at 2PM. Studio Theatre, Perth. ticketsplease.ca. \$27, \$10 stud.  
**Lanark Laughs**, May 25, 8:30-10PM. Stand-up comedy. Waterfront Gastropub, CP.  
**Game Night**, May 25-26. Station Theatre, SF. 283-0300. \$20/\$10

## Youth

**Singin' in the Rain**, May 29, 7:30PM. Academy for Musical Theatre. Youth. Code's Mill, Perth, musictheatre.ca. \$12

## Music

**Máire Ní Chathasaigh & Chris Newman**, May 2, 7PM. MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners, ticketsplease.ca. \$24  
 Hypatia's Voice Women's Choir: **A Mother's Love**, May 5, 10:30AM. Almonte Old Town Hall, \$25/\$20/\$15 eventbrite.ca

**Northern Sons Concert**, May 5, 8PM. Bluegrass. Supports veterans/1st respndrs & fam. Christian Ed. Ctr. Arnprior. \$20  
**Stairwell Carolers**, May 5, 8PM. Tix: Jim's Restaurant, online. St. John Chrysostom Arnprior; stairwellcarolers.com, \$20/\$15  
**Fiddler's Friends Concert**, May 6, 12:30-4PM. Tix: Mill Street Books (256-9090), Almonte Old Town Hall. \$15  
**Perth Citizens' Band**, May 6, 2PM. An Aft w/the Classics. Perth Legion, 256-4221, perthband.ca. \$10; \$5 students  
**Pretty Ugly**, May 11, 9PM. Live music. Lee Tavern, 72 Daniel St., Smiths Falls  
**Denis Chang Quartet**, May 12, 8PM. TBD, Mississippi Mills, JazzN.ca. \$25  
**Listening Room Series: Ali McCormick**, May 12, 7PM. Show-only tix: 267-7902. Perth Restaurant. 267-7902. \$20  
**The Buddy Ray Vons**, May 18 & 19, 7:30PM. Tix: Special Greetings. Station Theatre, SF, smithsfallstheatre.com. \$25



# A Picnic (Café) in Perth!

Finally, spring is in the air — and also Weetabix who springs into action to chase down a hot tip. Picnic Café is a welcome addition to the Perth food scene, and word of mouth works. However, directions are needed since the Café is not in the downtown core. Skilled detective work produces an address and a phone number. Good news is that parking is not an issue; bad news is one is not likely to get there without knowing the way.

by Sebastian Weetabix

More good news — the effort is rewarded! We learned how to get there (read on), we went, and we plan to return. Lunch at Picnic (eat there or take out) can be chosen from an interesting list posted on the wall. If you are early enough, the list will not sport multiple “sold out” tags. The open kitchen allows the curious to watch a small staff assemble orders into presentations that are as pleasing to the eye as they are to the palate. Everything here is fresh and freshly made. Wait times are short; Slow Food meets fast service! Weetabix is impressed and investigates further. An interview with the founder and proprietor follows, and not surprisingly there is a lot behind the scenes — notwithstanding an open kitchen.

A former teacher, Jordan Kennie has a deep love of food in all respects, and food preparation is an essential part of her life. With young children, and prodded by friends, she transitioned from the front of the classroom to a role where both learning and teaching are integrated with her production activities. She is serious about Slow Food — both as a philosophy (see [www.slowfood.com](http://www.slowfood.com)) and as a

practice. Carlo Petrini articulated the movement’s three interconnected defining principles as GOOD, CLEAN and FAIR, and memorably stated that: “It’s possible to change the world even while preserving the concept of the right of pleasure.” Weetabix’s favorite Petrini quote is: “An environmentalist who is not a gastronomer is sad.” And Picnic is, above all, a happy place where, in the words of Alice Waters: “things taste the way they are”.

Although Kennie did not train as a chef (and is careful to describe herself as a cook who loves food), she decided to shift from teaching in order to have more flexible time for her children. A food-centric lifestyle led her to develop a home-based catering practice. One thing led to several others, and soon the business side of the practice was encroaching on other aspects of her family life. A developing business is not dissimilar to a child in some respects and makes its own demands. After several cycles of planning she realized that despite major challenges ahead she would be “very sad” if she did not “just go for it”. Kennie does not do sad by choice, and so Picnic Café opened last September.

The choice of location of Picnic interests Weetabix since it does not capture pedestrian or casual tourist traffic. Turns out that there is a personal connection to a nearby business at several levels (Weetabix does not refer readers to physiotherapists, but it is comforting to know that if one is needed either before or after lunch, one could simply go next door). Aside from the synergy and traffic, available parking and ease of access for loading (Picnic offers a full range of catering services), the space itself facilitated the development of an open concept kitchen and seating area. It is bright and done in a simple modern style

that provides a pleasant setting for dining as well as good work space. The large workspace helps organize efficient flow, and staff works in view of customers. This provides a show or background depending on one’s interest.

Kennie is part of the surprisingly small crew and manages from the floor. Her team is well coordinated and clearly enjoys working together. All of them cooperate in preparation and delivery of the orders. The short but varied menu is posted on large signboards and orders are taken at counter-side where take-out items are delivered. Take-out can be ordered ahead by phone, text or email for



This month Weetabix visited Picnic Café in Perth, where Jin-hyun Kim, owner Jordan Kennie, and Miche Callaghan serve up delicious fare, including dishes that “show significant influence of other cultures — notably Korean, Mediterranean, Indian and Japanese”

those who either fancy efficiency or live with time constraints. If you elect to eat in, get your table first as the place gets busy and standing with a bowl, utensils and a beverage requires more than average coordination. Limited seating availability is the result of demand — and with good reason. But fear not: once your order is in, food will be delivered promptly. Everything is to order; Slow Food but not slow food.

So, what about the food? Weetabix is, after all, hungry, and one of the perks of this gig is that it requires practical research. Forewarned as you now are too, a table was reserved. We (party of four) arrived in time to beat the noon-hour rush. After a quick look round, selections were made which included a special order and items from the menu. All showed significant influence of other cultures — notably Korean, Mediterranean, Indian and Japanese — and dishes are attractively presented on deep bowls. Visuals are an important part of eating and Kennie pays attention to presentation as well as content. As a dedicated food taster, Weetabix indulged further with a simple egg salad sandwich and is happy to report that it was an excellent example of “deliciously simple and simply delicious”. My companions were very pleased with their bowls, and in what may have been an excess of zeal, Weetabix scored a gluten-free specialty of Picnic’s creation — a savoury sweet potato bake. Very savoury it was too, a good companion for a gluten-free coffee from Reunion Island Coffee Roasters.

Picnic Café <[picnicperth.com](http://picnicperth.com)> is located at 1865 Rogers Road in Perth and is open from 7AM to 4PM Monday through Friday (closed weekends). Staff is well-treated and holiday closings are anticipated, so call ahead (466-0743) to reserve / order / avoid disappointment. Of course, eating there can achieve all of that. By the way, Picnic is catering the Guatemala Stove Project’s fundraiser on May 12 <[guatemalastoveproject.org/fundraiser](http://guatemalastoveproject.org/fundraiser)> so you can eat well while doing good!



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 Every Thu. starting May 17 **Jazz Night** with **Spencer Evans**, 8-10  
 Fri. May 4 **Lonesome Ace Stringband** feat. **John Showman** (Bluegrass, Toronto) 7-10, \$15  
 Tue. May 8 **Spring Fashion Show** in Memory of Deborah Waddell 12-2, \$30 includes Lunch, Dessert and Donation to P.A.W.S.  
 Sat. May 12 **BOTR Matinée** with **David Rotundo & Seamus Cowan** 12-3, Lunch + Show \$30 + hst  
 Fri. May 18 **Jesse Stone** (Folk/Rock, Montreal) 6-9  
 Sat. May 19 **Royal Wedding Viewing and Breakfast Party** 6-9AM, \$25 +  
**Chris Murphy** (Solo of Turpin's Trail, East Coast/Celtic, Perth Road Village) 6-9  
 Sun. May 20 **Tony Silvestri Band** feat. Tom Savage (Classic Rock!, Kingston) 7-11, Buffet + Show, \$45 + hst  
 Fri. May 25 **Tom Watson** (Folk/Rock, Perth) 6-9  
 Sat. May 26 **Jeff Callery** (Folk/Rock/Country, Brockville) 6-9

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**VENDOR APPLICATIONS OPEN**



# Classic Dinner Theatre Premières in Perth

Every Tuesday evening this summer, the 2018 Classic Dinner Theatre and Michael's Table present the hilarious G.B. Shaw comedy *Overruled* (about two couples confronted by an unconventional challenge), along with a sumptuous three-course home-cooked meal.

Performed by some of the area's most talented up-and-coming performers — including Mallory Brumm, Katie Irvine, Connor Lyon and Connor Williamson — the brand-new dinner theatre experience represents an extension of the annual summertime Classic Theatre Festival, which already features three mainstage professional productions as well as a morning walking play and an evening ghost play.

"Our mandate of performing classics from the golden age of Broadway and the London Stage is perfectly suited to dinner theatre," explains Artistic Producer Laurel Smith. "I also think it's something that's primed for a comeback in an age when there's only so much binge-watching people can do at home before they start to long for the connection of a live performance experience like this one."

Dinner theatres sprang up across North America after World War II and reached their heyday in the 1960s and '70s, but they have recently been enjoying a resurgence as companies like the Classic Theatre Festival and Michael's Table come together around shared values of artistic and culinary excellence. "It's a great opportunity to tickle your funny bone, please your palette, and create a memory you'll enjoy long after the final curtain," Smith adds.

The Classic Theatre Festival decided to launch the new dinner theatre based on audience feedback about additional activities they would like to enjoy while attending a mainstage show. Given that 80% of audiences are tourists, a key request was getting home before sundown, and with a running time of 5-7PM from June 5 to August 28, that should



Beginning on June 5, Michael's Table is partnering with the Classic Theatre Festival to present dinner theatre every Tuesday evening throughout the summer, starring Connor Williamson (above) and other talented young actors

pose no problem for travellers coming from as far as two hours away.

The Michael's Table menu will be offering four special entrees, with soup and salad, dessert and coffee or tea. Tickets for the experience will be \$48 (which includes all box office charges, taxes and gratuities.)

With limited seating and strong advance word of mouth, seats are already selling fast. To reserve dinner theatre seats — and to enjoy the Festival's early bird offers (which expire May 15), contact 1-877-283-1283 or visit <classictheatre.ca>.

## Volunteering in the Valley

### Almonte Celtfest

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Almonte Celtfest, taking place from July 6-8, is on the lookout for some great volunteers! Celtfest is an entry-by-donation celebration of Celtic entertainment in the heart of Almonte. We promote Ottawa Valley's music and dance heritage, attracting performers from both near and far (check out this year's lineup!) in a family-friendly and accessible way.

Celtfest relies on committed and talented volunteers to make this event great, and there is something to suit everyone. Can you help out for a few hours? Or make it your weekend plan! Timing, duration and types of volunteer tasks are varied and include site set-up, greeting our guests at the gates, managing our parking lots, face-painting and games at the little Celts tent, as well as set-up and registration at our Celtic College workshops. We also hold events and fundraisers year-round, such as parades and a curling bonspiel, which would benefit from volunteer hands!



Whether you volunteer as a family activity, for your high school volunteer hours, or to support our wonderful community and Celtic music, you are welcome at Celtfest! Learn more by visiting our website <almonteceltfest.com> or Facebook page, and contact us about volunteering at <almonteceltfest@hotmail.com> or 566-7067. — Robyn Edwards

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# The Electric Soap Box Derby

## Electric Vehicle Pioneers are Paving the Road for the Future

The need for electric vehicle technology is growing exponentially as the importance of reducing greenhouse gas emissions is increasingly legislated. The obvious solution to this global problem is electric vehicles. Electric vehicles (EVs) are more energy-efficient, use green-sourced fuels for charging, emit no pollutants into the air, and are quieter.

The next generation of engineers and mechanics need to have an understanding of EVs, and that's where the Waterloo Electric Vehicle Challenge comes in. The EV Challenge tasks teams of high school students with designing and building all-electric vehicles that are tested in an annual endurance competition. Teams participate in two races, plus an engineering design competition. This challenge gives students an amazing opportunity to develop skills in engineering, automotive, communication, organization, networking, selling, marketing and teamwork.

The EV Pioneers is the only high school team in the entire Ottawa Valley competing in this year's University of Waterloo EV Challenge. They are an earnest group of students who hope for a cleaner, safer and fresher future. The team has students from grades nine to twelve with diverse skill sets and strengths: from Arduino experts, robotics champions and computer programmers, to bike mechanics and small engine enthusiasts. These students are coming together to channel their passions into this year's race.

The EV Pioneers, competing at the University of Waterloo Electric Vehicle Challenge for the first time in spring 2018, will be racing against teams from throughout Ontario. Being a first-year team they are the underdogs of the challenge, facing teams that have competed in the challenge for over fourteen years. It's a daunting challenge but they are using the pressure to fuel them. "We have a group of students willing to give 10-plus hours a week, on top of their studies, to make this happen. We've had former race winners in to help us out. We really want to win this race. There are a lot of folks who have put their confidence in this team and, Lord willing, we are going to win it," says Gabe Braden, marketing lead.

The team consists of a Computer-Aided Design (CAD) sub-team. This sub-team designs the EV in a 3D modeling software with the help and supervision of Zac Harvie.

The Pioneers also have an electrical sub-team, led by William Rolston. This sub-team is responsible for connecting the 12v battery to the motor and installing these electronic components into the vehicle. The fabrication sub-team, led by Adam



The EV Pioneers is a group of local high school students who will be competing at the University of Waterloo Electric Vehicle Challenge for the first time this spring

Rolston, Sam Griffin and Dawson Giardino, cuts, welds and assembles the frame and chassis of the EV. Dawson also brings his

motorsport racing experience to the team. Finally, Gabe Braden and his business sub-team manage finances and connect with sponsors and the community. Mr. Garret Reid and Mr. Stephen Roslton have been tireless mentors to this team.

### Community Support Needed

The EV Pioneers could not compete without the help of their sponsors, namely the title sponsor Keith Bean and all the staff at Bean Chevrolet, Buick and GMC dealership in Carleton Place, but we are still in need of community support and funding! If you'd like to assist this eager group of local students in competing at this University of Waterloo challenge in May and see EV technology advance to meet the challenges of modern transportation, please visit us at <evpioneers.weebly.com> to link to our Go Fund Me page or contact the marketing director at <gabebraden2003@gmail.com>. We want to bring EV fame back home! Help us do it! Visit us and check out our car at Bean GCM in Carleton Place, every Wednesday (from 5-8PM) and Saturday (12-4PM)

until May 16.  
— Gabe Braden

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# Welcoming Wildlife

Spring — it's finally here, isn't it? While it has been delayed somewhat, we're now seeing lots of spring birds. As early as April 7 I spotted an American kestrel near Blakeney. And as soon as there were pockets of water in the ice the spring ducks started to show up, including both hooded and common mergansers, buffleheads, common goldeneyes, wood ducks, and for a very short time a ring-necked duck and a greater scaup. I suspect we will see even more traffic on the river as most of the northern lakes are just now opening up.

by Bob Volks

Many songbirds are close behind — from warblers to swallows and flycatchers — and with that in mind our yard preparations and installations of nesting boxes, platforms and new barn swallow nesting cups are in full swing. More than ever, yard planning and planting must be geared toward wildlife. For years now, the focus of the gardening industry has drawn us away from a diverse yard habitat that supports nature, towards exotic plants and shrubs with vast amounts of lawn commonly referred to a monoculture.

Creating valuable habitat for birds and countless other species of insects and wildlife is beneficial to the ecosystem as a whole — we are nature and nature is us.

While gardening is certainly a big aspect of this, there are many other complementary elements that can be added to almost any yard that will take your habitat creation game to a whole new level.

## Bird Feeders

Yes, that's right, bird feeders are obviously a vital element of a backyard oasis for birds and other wildlife. In addition to keeping your birds fed, it attracts

them to your yard where they will hopefully soon find other sources of suitable food and shelter close by.

## Snags

Snags, also known as standing dead or dying trees, are great sources of food and shelter. Insect-eating birds can often be found traversing downed trees searching for their next meal, and many cavity- and ground-nesting species will take up residence during the spring season. In addition, snags also provide great shelter to many small mammals.

## Rain Barrels

Recycling water is awesome for the environment — no two ways about that. In addition to allowing for an alternative to your home's garden hose, these barrels can provide a reliable source of water for many species of birds as well.

## Brush Piles

Much like snags, these small piles of brush make for either a great hiding place, a nest, or both! Take a closer look around brush piles in the woods or around your neighborhood and you will often be treated to birds flitting about.

## Compost Heaps

Compost (or, as some refer to it, "controlled decomposition"), is absolutely fantastic for our natural world. Considering that landfills are overrun by compostable materials, starting a small heap in your yard is a step in the right direction.

In addition to the environmental advantages, compost heaps are full of wildlife — including insects, snails and slugs — a perfect combination of valuable food for our backyard birds. Then, a great next step is:

## Pollinator Gardening

One feature of backyard habitat projects that is of the utmost importance is pollinator gardens. As



Incorporating features like pollinator gardens, brush heaps and snags (standing dead or dying trees) into your landscaping can provide important habitat and food sources for local birds and other wildlife!

outdoor enthusiasts, many of us are aware of the act of pollination and its importance to our natural world — something I am extremely passionate about. The fact of the matter is that roughly 75 percent of all flowering plants rely on animal and insect pollinators — of which many are birds such as hummingbirds and small mammals such as bats.

The first rule for any backyard habitat or garden creation is to always use native plants and grasses only. The introduction of invasive and non-native plants can in some cases prove fatal to a number of insects, birds and mammals that call our area home. Secondly, you will want to use a wide range of native flowers. Each different flower suits a different group of pollinators and the more variety your garden has, the better it is for everyone involved. A good starting point is to choose a number of flowers of different shapes and sizes (thus accommodating as many different pollinators as possible) and choosing plants that bloom throughout the entire season to keep the cycle going for as long as possible. Our native grasses and wildflower patches bloom throughout the season with a variety of flowers and grasses that birds use all year. The Gilligallou Bird YouTube channel has several videos on this subject.

If you have any questions about creating a pollinator garden or any other natural habitat developments in and around your yard, do not hesitate to contact us. We'd love to help you, our insects, birds, mammals and the natural world flourish.

As a side note, June is quickly approaching, so check in next month for more details about Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month <mmbm.ca>, Birders On Bikes, The Silver Chain Challenge, and many more great events to participate in.

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

# Yoga — Heart to Heart

Yoga Heart to Heart was established with a vision to offer yoga instruction and wellness teachings. We offer workshops and instruction that accommodates individuals who are looking for smaller classes, one-on-one attention, a beginner-friendly climate and a caring, nurturing space in which to practice and grow proficient. We specialize in supporting those living with anxiety, PTSD, depression and cancer. Yoga, mindfulness and related philosophies are proven to increase people's abilities to cope with stress and to find pathways to healing. We welcome anyone, from anywhere, with any body type, who wishes to start or continue their journey of an in-depth practice seeking the quiet mind and peaceful heart.

Classes are in the Hatha style and include Beginner, Yin, Vini, Gentle, Restorative and Kripalu yoga, as well as meditation. In addition, we offer "Creative Mindfulness" on Friday afternoons from 12:30–3PM, where anyone can register online and participate in the art of the day and be mindful for a while. Some of the activities you can expect to encounter include creating vision boards, Zentangle, drawing, painting and pottery. No experience is needed, and all supplies are included with the participation fee. We play soft music, drink tea and just be.



Carleton Place's new yoga studio offers a variety of Hatha classes as well as "Creative Mindfulness" sessions on Friday afternoons

Co-owners Penny and Kate are Yoga Alliance-registered yoga teachers with backgrounds in the medical field. Together our life experiences bring knowledge and compassion to combine with the ancient practice of yoga to offer service to our community. We hope you will join us here at Heart to Heart to find the wisdom and power of your yoga heart energy.

Workshops and special events are announced on Facebook and our website <cphearttoheart.com>. We are located at 275 Country Lane Drive in Carleton Place, and you can reach us at 864-0267 or <yoga-hearttoheart@yahoo.com>.

— Penny and Kate Osborne



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