

APRIL 2014

the Hummm

free

Arts,
Entertainment
& Ideas

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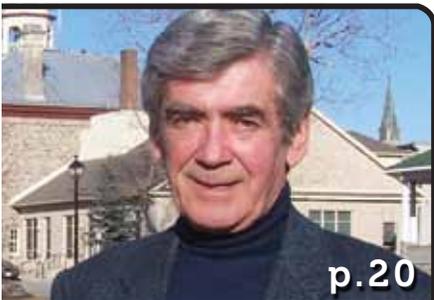
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Readers Write

Dear Humm,

I am writing a fan letter having just read your article on Mike Nickerson (*Slowing Down With Mike Nickerson*, March 2014 issue). I am a great fan of Mike's work. His writings about living on earth as if we mean to stay are so inspiring. Your coverage of his projects is also so timely. Just this week an old friend wrote to me to say he had been reading (and despairing over) *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History*, in which the author Elizabeth Kolbert writes that her research concludes we have begun the next great extinction from human causes of "life as we know it" on the planet (since the last one, eons ago, when an asteroid the size of Manhattan hit Mexico, causing everything to die off). It's quite a hair-raising read.

Then I got my weekly email from David Suzuki Foundation, which I love, 'cause I always think, "If David and company can remain calm and rational and keep trying to spread the word of a more sensitive approach to living on this precious, delicate planet, I can feel hopeful." He writes about measuring progress with GDP as a gross mistake: as if environmental protection and other critical issues are impediments to the goal of maintaining economic growth. Unfortunately, the GDP has become the sacred indicator of well-being, and if you do things to reuse, recycle and repair, you fail to contribute to the GDP.

Mike Nickerson, in walking his talk, shows us that prosperity can't only be measured in economic terms. I hope you will keep reporting on his work.

Cheers,
Chandler Swain, Blakeney

Editor's Note:

We welcome letters to the editor and will print them whenever possible, but we will not print letters that are unsigned or over 300 words in length. If you have a longer message, feel free to send us a "for-print" excerpt of 300 words or fewer, and we can then run the full text on our website <thehummm.com>.

On that note, please visit us online to read the full text of a letter entitled "**Ban Fracking in Ontario Now!**", sent in by Stephen R. Knowles, P. Eng. (Ret.), which was too long for us to print.

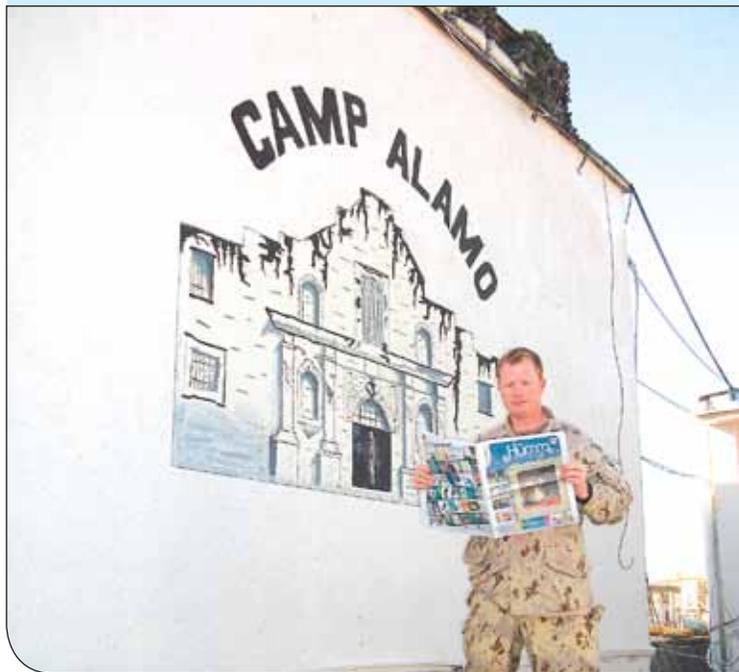


Who's Reading the Humm

(above) Back in late 2011, Audrey Proulx wrote: "Jean Jefferies and I traveled to the South Pacific in October. We thought we would share a couple of photos from our trip."

At that same time, Dawn Barker sent in the photo below and wrote: "My husband's name is Andrew Bone (Major), and he's stationed at Camp Alamo in Kabul training Afghan soldiers. The camp houses many other nationalities including Croats, Turks, French and Georgian soldiers, all training the Afghan troops and liaising with NATO. He spends his days with all of the nationalities and is trying to learn their languages."

Thanks for taking theHummm far and wide, and a special thank you to everyone who has served in Afghanistan since 2001.





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Heritage Court is an amazing group of 7 retail stores under one roof in Downtown Almonte. Effective April 1st, 1200 square feet of store front space will be available for a successful retail business.
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theHummm is a monthly arts, entertainment and ideas newspaper delivered free to businesses and visitor attractions in Almonte, Perth, Carleton Place, Westport, Pakenham, Carp, Arnprior, Smiths Falls, Burnstown, White Lake, Renfrew, Balderson, and Ottawa. Our mandate is to connect and promote people and events in the small towns and rural communities of the Ottawa Valley — where the arts flourish and entertaining characters run amok!

Submissions

By email or on disk.

Content Deadline:

20th of the month prior to publication

Advertising Deadline:

22nd of the month prior to publication

Subscriptions

cost \$35 (includes HST) for one year (12 issues). Send a cheque with your name and address to: theHummm PO Box 1391 Almonte ON K0A 1A0

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Thanks this month to:

Valley Animal Rescue (find them on Facebook or visit valleyanimalrescue.ca), for letting us foster Maggie the awesome office dog! At press time we are hopeful that we have found a terrific "forever" home for her!



Fabulous Fries is excited to be a part of the Almonte community. We will be opening mid-April and having our grand opening **May 1**. Everyone who comes to celebrate our grand opening with us will get a **free small fries!** Martin and Joel of Fabulous Fries look forward to seeing you there. Come visit us at 400 Almonte Street and look for the big yellow truck at the Esso gas station.

Andréa Fabricius and Jamie Boal – Together They're Faboalous

What's not to like about salvaging an old window and turning it into a brilliant, glowing work of art? Andréa Fabricius and Jamie Boal are a husband and wife team who transform discarded window frames into amazing and amusing glass mosaics, perfect for brightening up your windows and hanging in your garden.

by Sally Hansen

Their imaginations are their muses. Subject matter ranges from cute to beautiful to pop art to comical to whimsy. There is a mosaic for your kitchen window, your teenage son's window, your bedroom window and any other naked window you may choose to dress.

Together They're Faboalous

A visit to their refurbished backyard studio at 281 Water Street in Almonte is enlightening in several ways. Most notably, it showcases the way in which glass window mosaics can light up your life. Whether you want to block a view (i.e., a bathroom window) or enhance a view (i.e. an alley or unattractive wall) or decorate a room (a kid's window), Jamie and Andréa have imagined and created the solution. One of my favourites was Jamie's take on a brightly-hued robot. I wish I had seen it when my son was a kid. Looking at a snow-covered garden through a beautiful floral mosaic almost mitigated the malaise induced by an interminable winter. A hen with three chicks brought a smile to my face, as did the stylized owl perched on a branch.

The second illumination was the realization that Andréa and Jamie are a seamless artistic partner-



ship. Sometimes even they had trouble remembering which of them had created which mosaic. I thought it took more years than they have had together to reach the point where one could finish the other's sentence, let alone work together in a small space to produce an exuberance of happy art.

Their backgrounds are very different, but the end result of their finding each other brings to my mind a favourite poem by e.e. cummings — "if everything happens that can't be done." The Fabricius/Boal relationship that has engendered the Faboalous Mosaics partnership is "wonderful one times one." It is wonderful to watch them interact, and it is wonderful to contemplate the artistic results.

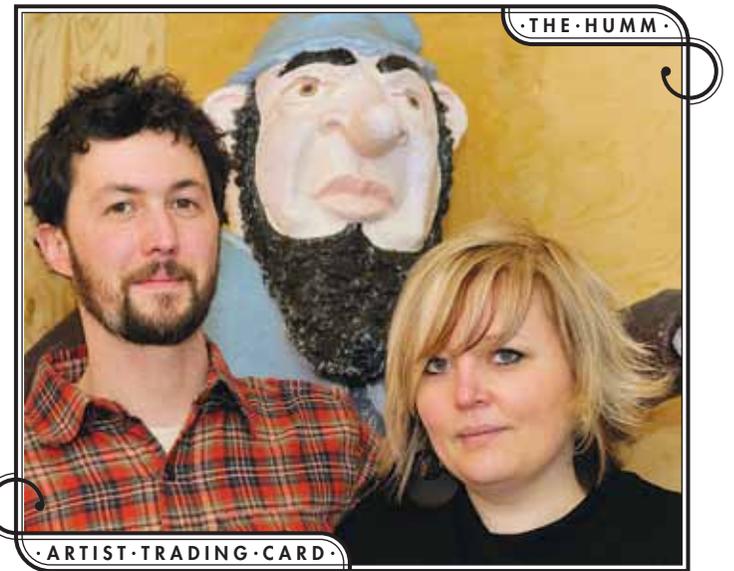


Becoming Faboalous

After a childhood in the Arnprior area and high school in Renfrew, Andréa Fabricius earned her degree in Fine Arts at the University of Toronto and studied the ancient art of mosaics while obtaining a diploma in visual arts from Sheridan College. In 2003, when she was photographing a wedding in Arnprior, her parents mentioned that Almonte was "getting artsy." Amazingly, Andréa had never been to Almonte.

On her very first visit, she was "snooping around Thoburn Mill" and ended up signing a lease on the spot to open "Fabulous — the Shoppe of Gorgeous Things." In 2005, she met Jamie Boal when he stopped at her Fabulous booth during Herbfest. Three years later she moved her shop to Mill Street in Almonte, and married Jamie.

Their wedding was a major artistic event. The industrious couple hosted three hundred people in medieval period costume, seated on hay bales arranged in the field by Jamie and friends. The photographs are amazing. Jamie's mother, Diana Boal,



(named "Outstanding Employee" of 2013 by the Mississippi Mills Chamber of Commerce for her work at the White Lilly in Almonte) created marvelous feather bouquets, and the bridal bouquet occupies a place of honour on the couple's living room wall.

In 2008, Andréa left her Almonte shop to take a full-time job as a creative arts instructor at the Perley and Rideau Veterans' Health Centre. Her mother has been a health care advocate for seniors for over 25 years, and Andréa thrives on the knowledge that her contribution makes a huge difference in the lives of her participants. Creating art is one of the few opportunities that these seniors have to act independently and make choices. The kudos and gratitude Andréa receives from them and their families make the long commute worthwhile. One senior left his room for the first time in over six months to participate. As Andréa puts it, "Art is magical. It can cure depression!"

Jamie grew up on a dairy farm in Cedar Hill near Pakenham. He credits his mom with his artistic flair. After a stint as a ski bum out west for a few years, he followed in his grandfather's footsteps and studied carpentry. He always liked working with his hands, and carpentry is an art that produces a practical product. He has done landscaping and worked as a tractor salesman before becoming a safety inspector and trainer for S. P. Safety Solutions in the construction industry. He tells me "Farming will always be in my blood. I have great respect for the land and a love for the animals." Their magnificent 100-pound Bouvier des Flandres is more evidence of the Faboalous couple's mutual interests.

Another artistic passion the couple share is photography. Formerly a serious film photographer, Andréa is completing a course in wedding and event planning because "It brings all the things I love together." Each has done wedding photography in the past, and they look forward to doing it together in the future.

Lighten Up!

In case you can't make it to the Almonte Agricultural Hall on May 3 to see Faboalous Mosaics during the spring **Handmade Harvest** event, drop in at **Hello Yellow** at 72 Main Street in Almonte. And don't let that huge dwarf posing with them in their Artist Trading Card photo keep you away from their home studio. Like their Bouvier, Grumpy is extremely well-behaved. The two couldn't resist rescuing him from the auction that was held when Storyland (near Renfrew) closed. Andréa Fabricius and Jamie Boal offer accessible and affordable glass window mosaics that will lift your spirits and brighten up your life. Contact information and event details are on the back of their Artist Trading Card, with more fun links at <thehummm.com>.

YEP... ..IT'S TIME!

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Fri April 18 Good Friday - Closed
Sat April 19, 8am - 7pm
Sun April 20 Easter Sunday - Closed
Mon April 21, 8am - 8pm

WHO Andréa Fabricius and Jamie Boal

WHAT Glass Window Mosaics

WHERE Hello Yellow, Almonte, <hello-yellow.ca>, 461-MADE; Fabolous Mosaics studio at 281 Water St., Almonte (by appointment), <fabmosaics.com>, 302-4882, <andfabric@hotmail.com>

WHEN May 3, Handmade Harvest, Almonte Agricultural Hall, 195 Water Street, <handmadeharvest.com>

WHY Andréa: "It's an art form I can share with my husband."
Jamie: "It's a way to give old windows new life."

ARTIST TRADING CARD

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Postcards from Perth

Maple, Music, and More in Perth

April is always an exciting month in Perth. Spring has officially sprung, all the shops are decked out as the downtown prepares for the influx of tourists, and there will be lots of maple syrup to enjoy at one of the town's most popular annual events: the **Festival of the Maples**.

Lanark County is known, after all, as the Maple Syrup Capital of Ontario. About forty years ago, Mr. Vic Lemieux decided it

by John Pigeau

would be a good idea to celebrate the end of a long winter, and the beginning of a promising spring. This year, his vision of a sweet celebration continues with the 38th annual Festival of the Maples, which begins in downtown Perth, as is tradition, on the last Saturday in April (the 26th). Each year, this hugely popular event attracts about 15,000 visitors to scenic downtown Gore Street and other venues in Perth, and there is a great deal to see and do and, best of all — let's face it — taste!

The Festival of the Maples is a great excuse to come out of hibernation, tick off your dentist, and sample some of the most delicious maple syrup — and related products, like fudge! — produced in Ontario. (I think it would be safe to say Lanark County produces some of the best maple syrup in the world. Now that's something to be proud of, and certainly to celebrate.) Think maple taffy. Think pancake breakfast. Think maple FUDGE!

Yummy, luscious, delectable, mouthwatering maple fudge...

Too much? This festival had me at maple syrup on snow.

At any rate... as always, vendors will set up shop on lovely Gore Street to offer their scrumptious award-winning maple products, much of it made locally. There will also be informative (and tasty) displays, fantastic contests, award ceremonies, great live music, and lots of fun activities for the kids as well, including a petting zoo (alpaca sweet lunch for you!) and free horse-drawn trolley rides.

If you've been, you'll know Perth does maple syrup right. If this will be your first year at the Festival, well, you'll be back to celebrate. And don't be surprised to see your dentist there too.

Need another great way to usher in the blossoming season? How about taking in some great live music! To that end, there is a highly entertaining act coming to town April 26 — an Elton John tribute band called **The Captain Fantastic Band** that might just help you kick off the season right. Touted as Canada's leading Elton John tribute act, by all accounts these talented musicians put on a tight, energetic, and passionate show, both musically and visually.

The Captain and the voice of the band, Donnie Leafloor, says audiences can expect to hear a lot of earlier Elton John songs — the classics: *Crocodile Rock*, *Don't Let The Sun Go Down On Me*, *Your Song*, *Levon*, and many more — and some newer recordings as well. The Perth crowd can expect to be taken on an amazing musical journey, celebrating the songs of one of the world's most respected and talented musicians.

"In a small venue (like the Studio Theatre)," Donnie says, "the audience can see the performance up close, and see the emotions on the musician's faces that are often lost in big venues. Our band is known for outstanding musicianship, and having a great deal of fun with the audience."

The Captain Fantastic Band, made up of some of Ottawa's finest musicians, isn't known for its gimmicks, like wearing wigs and outrageously large sunglasses or diamond-studded leather jumpsuits, as Elton John did back in the day. Instead, this outstanding band aims "to perfect the essence, atmosphere, style and showmanship that we have come to love and expect from this musical legend."



Donnie Leafloor brings his Elton John tribute band — **The Captain Fantastic Band** — to Perth on April 26

They like to note the important distinction between a tribute band and a cover band. "A tribute band is a band who attempts to emulate in every way the band they are in tribute to," Donnie explains. "This includes reproducing the music as accurately as possible to the original recordings. We create the perfect atmosphere and give the audience the opportunity to hear what Elton's band would sound like."

Why pay tribute to the music of Sir Elton John? For Donnie, that's an easy one. "He is an incredible writer who brings lyrics and music to a perfect point that sends shivers down my spine," he says.

You can hear it and take it all in for yourself at the Studio Theatre at 8PM on Saturday, April 26. Tickets are \$30, and available in Perth at Shadowfax; visit the shop at 67 Foster Street or order by phone at 1-800-518-2729. Friendly tip: don't wait till the last minute on this one, folks. This exciting show should sell out quickly.

— In memory of Patrick White, Canadian poet, 1948-2014.

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The Three Musketeers at The Station Theatre

The sounds of clashing swords and shouts of "All for one and one for all" are being heard throughout the Smiths Falls Station Theatre this month. Most of us recognize this oft-shouted refrain from cherished childhood games played in the backyards of our youth, when every summer day was an adventure. Neighbourhood companions gathered together under sunny skies in pursuit of some honourable quest, which ended up cementing and celebrating the comradeship of lifelong friendships.

Many of us also realize that these lines — shouted out in unison, loudly and boisterously — are hallmarks of author Alexandre Dumas' characters The Three Musketeers from the novel of the same name. Yet the majority of us have probably never read the novels in which these and other characters are brought to life at a breathtaking pace.

Lynda Daniluk, resident director of the Smiths Falls Community Theatre, has taken on the challenge of bringing *The Three Musketeers* to the stage of the Station Theatre. Lynda chose famed playwright Ken Ludwig's adaptation for his ability to bring to life this classic novel's story. Ludwig has captured Dumas' devil-may-care sense of adventure, his love of wine, women

and song, his sense of romance, and above all his sense of honour. Woven throughout the story, both humour and pathos help balance the telling of the tale with warmth and believability.

The story, set in 1625, begins with d'Artagnan (Tanner Flinn), who sets off to Paris in search of adventure. D'Artagnan brings along his sister Sabine (Shawna Merkle), the quintessential tomboy who he's to drop off at a convent school in Paris. Posing as a young man — her brother's servant — she quickly becomes entangled in her brother's adventures. In a series of humorous misadventures, d'Artagnan meets up with the famous musketeers — Athos (Brant Daniluk), Porthos (Todd Daniluk), and Aramis (Sam Saikaley) — and soon joins forces with them to defend the honour of the Queen of France (Emily Starks). In so doing, he finds himself in opposition to the most dangerous man in all of Europe: Cardinal Richelieu (Stephen McWade). Continuing to meet characters of questionable scruples, d'Artagnan runs afoul of the deadly and infamous Countess de Winter (Krista Duff), a.k.a. Milady, who will stop at nothing to avenge herself on d'Artagnan and Sabine for their meddling behaviour. Little does Milady know that the young girl she scorns will ultimately get the best of her.



Starting on April 25, it's one for all and all for one at the Station Theatre in Smiths Falls!

Now well into rehearsals, the cast has immersed themselves in this period piece. Sure to be stunning in appearance, actors are learning — some for the first time — the fine art of swordsmanship, under the tutelage of fencing choreographer John Piche.

The sword manoeuvres are complex, but since this is a story about exemplary swordsmanship of the calibre of the days of the Three Musketeers, the cast has been pushed to make all swordplay as authentic as possible, to sustain believability. They certainly have taken up the task with robust enthusiasm. Many of the practice wooden "swords" have splintered in rehearsals. Once the moves are firmly established, metal swords will be introduced,

so that the cast can get used to their heft and feel before opening night. The sound and fury will be mesmerizing to the audience, making them feel as if they are part of the action happening all around them.

A tale of heroism, treachery, close escapes and above all honour — fun and mayhem ensue in abundance. *The Three Musketeers* promises fun for the entire family. The adventure starts April 25 at The Station Theatre in Smiths Falls. Catch the show at 7:30PM on April 25-26 and May 1-3, or see a Sunday matinee, 2PM on April 27 and May 4.

Get your tickets at Special Greetings (8 Russell St. E in Smiths Falls), by calling 283-0300, or online at <smithsfallstheatre.com>.

Spring has Sprung!

sandwich_

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RETROLICIOUS

Fill Your Empty Bowl on April 26

You are invited to take home an empty bowl from Perth's **Festival of the Maples** on Saturday, April 26, from 10AM and 4PM. You will find beautiful pottery bowls at the Empty Bowls booth in front of Riverguild Fine Crafts (51 Gore Street East). In return for a suggested donation of just \$20, you will not only receive a hand-crafted bowl of your choice, but you'll also be able to fill the bowl with one of the hearty soups or chili (while they last). Bistro 54, Fiddleheads Bar and Grill, The Stone Cellar, Sunflower Bakery, The Masonry and The Table Community Food Centre will be delivering a range of delicious hot soups to the booth, fresh from their kitchens, and Mex & Co. will be serving chili. To top it off (or soak it up), you will enjoy artisanal bread donated by Barnabe's and complimentary coffee from Coutts & Company. Soup will be served by volunteers from ScotiaBank Perth. The employees and management have been enthusiastic supporters of Empty Bowls for three years running. ScotiaBank will match the first \$5000 raised. Be early and double your contribution! Over the years, more than \$150,000 has been raised by Empty Bowls Perth.

Proceeds will be donated to help sustain three community-based food security initiatives: Food for Thought, The Table Community Food Centre, and YAK Youth Centre. As in other years, a portion of funds will also be donated to Frontier College's Summer Aboriginal Literacy Program as well as the Guatemala Stove Project.

Jackie Seaton began the Empty Bowls Perth project in 2002. Sadly, Jackie died in 2013, so his familiar salt-glazed bowls will not be available at the upcoming Festival. In recent years, however, Jackie had en-

gaged the talents of other local potters to help him create hundreds of Empty Bowls. This winter, those potters (Anne Chambers, Glenn Gangnier, Ali Ross, Susie Osler, Rita Redner) and invited guests (Margaret Hughes and Krystyna Chelminska) have worked together creating bowls to ensure the continuation of Jackie's legacy.

Support for this project has been overwhelming. This year, in response to a special request, clay craftsmen from coast to coast are sending their unique bowls to add to our wonderful local wares. It is their way of honouring Jackie's important contribution to Empty Bowls Perth and his long career as a professional potter who contributed so much to so many (and in turn, Jackie felt that he gained a great deal from the diverse clay community). You will discover Empty Bowls from



Buy your Empty Bowls at Riverguild on April 26, then have them filled with delicious soup or chili at a nearby restaurant!

Newfoundland to BC, as they arrive at the Riverguild starting on April 20.

If you cannot make it to the Festival of Maples, you will be able to find an empty bowl at Riverguild Fine Crafts while the stock lasts. For more information on Empty Bowls Perth, visit <emptybowls.ca> or call Riverguild Fine Crafts at 267-5237.

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Ottawa Valley Music Festival Update

The Ottawa Valley Music Festival (OVMF) is preparing another exciting season of bringing glorious choral music to the Valley. The chorus is made up of singers from throughout the Ottawa Valley, and new members are always welcome. This is an exciting opportunity for any interested singers wishing to join the choir as they raise their voices in joyful song.

The chorus is directed by Peter Morris, now in his third season with the OVMF. Rehearsals take place on Thursday evenings, from 7-9PM, at Trinity St. Andrew's United Church in Renfrew. The first rehearsal will take place on April 10.

The OVMF Chorus will be singing in two concerts during this upcoming season. There will be a **Festival of the Choirs** event on June 7 in Eganville, which will include

pieces by Mozart, Franck, Mendelssohn, and Holst, as well as some traditional Spirituals. There will be eight rehearsals for that concert, beginning April 10 (there will be no rehearsal on Maundy Thursday).

Following the June performance, the Chorus will take a break until later in the summer when they will reconvene to rehearse John Rutter's *Requiem*. This choral masterpiece will be performed with orchestra on September 28 in Arnprior. Once again the rehearsal period will be eight weeks.

More information is available on the web at <ottawavalleymusicfestival.ca> or through the following contacts: Arnprior 623-5185, Deep River 584-4264, Eganville 754-5217, or Renfrew 649-2677.

Taste of the County 2014!

The Lanark County Therapeutic Riding Program is celebrating the start of their 28th season and hosting their 8th annual **For a Taste of the County: Food and Wine Gala**, on Monday, May 5, from 6–9PM. You will be treated to your choice of fine food from many of the area's best restaurants and caterers, as well as local and imported beers and fine wine.

The Gala will be held at Almonte Civitan Hall. Last year was a sold out success, with over 200 people sampling the culinary delights of the Ottawa Valley's best chefs. The food is complemented by wine and beer, served to you by experts who can help you choose and explain the different selections. In addition to the \$10 entry, gala-goers will purchase \$1 coupons. Each vendor will price their offerings between \$1 and \$6, so that you have the opportunity to sample many different appetizers, main courses and desserts.

In between the mains and dessert, you can also bid in the silent auction. All of the items are donated by local artists, artisans, businesses and individuals, with the proceeds going to the riding program. The auction includes original paintings and photographs, gift certificates for hotels and B&Bs, pottery, stained glass, and many other items. This gala is one of the primary fundraisers for the riding program, which does not receive any ongoing government funding. So come on out and help support a super cause — and enjoy friends, food and fun!

The Therapeutic Riding Program provides beneficial therapy, rehabilitation and recreation, with horses as the helping partners, to over 148 riders in the Ottawa Valley. The riding season is about to



Longtime supporter of the Therapeutic Riding Program Steve Falsetto poses outside his Café Postino. Taste his delicious food at the 8th annual **For a Taste of the County** charity food and wine gala on Monday, May 5th

begin and organizers are looking for volunteers to assist with the riding lessons. The spring session starts in mid-April. Lessons take place in Almonte at Willaway Farm, and at Cedar Rock Farm in Perth. A volunteer training clinic will be held on Wednesday, April 23, at 4PM at Cedar Rock Farm (100 Rathwell Road in Perth).

"For a Taste of the County" runs from 6 to 9:30PM. Tickets are \$10 each, available at Mill Street Books in Almonte, Shadowfax in Perth, or Read's Book Shop in Carleton Place. Come out with your friends to celebrate spring and treat yourself to a delicious evening. For more information, email <aboorth@lcp-home.com>, or call 257-7121 x238. — Amy Booth

Coming Up in Carleton Place

Free Comic Book Day

Saturday, May 3, is nationally-celebrated Free Comic Book Day. Join the Carleton Place BIA, in partnership with Read's Book Shop, from 11AM to 2PM, for a day that celebrates comics, art and literacy — meet superheroes and collect free comic books!

You can start at either Read's Book Shop (135 Bridge Street) or Tania's Dance Studio (Lansdowne Avenue). Participants will receive only two "Mission Cards" per family, so two comic books per family. Get your Mission Cards initialed at each stop and then return your completed cards and ballots to one of the two home locations, to be entered into a draw. Free comic books while quantities last.

Free Comic Book Day is expected to draw thousands of people to Carleton Place. Children and adults can meet some of their favorite superheroes on the streets of the downtown. Make it a family event — dress the part of your favorite superhero, bring your camera, enjoy lunch.

Time for a Spring Clean!

The Carleton Place BIA knows the Town's citizens are rock solid in their belief that they can make an environmental difference in their community. Pitch In Canada is run the week of April 20–26 and the BIA will be co-ordinating the community clean up.

In 2013, approximately 2000 participants cleaned, swept, polished windows, and made our community look beautiful. The folks of the BIA anticipate the 2014 clean up will again bring an astounding number of people together for this very worthwhile activity, and they are looking forward to seeing churches, schools, service groups, sporting groups, and citizens of our community out picking up litter. Your commitment makes a difference to all of us. Please RSVP by April 13.

For more information on how you can participate in these events and many others, contact the BIA through <cmcormond@carletonplace.ca> or 257-8049, or visit <downtowncarletonplace.com>.



CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

INVITES YOU TO HEAR

MICHAEL "BULL" ROBERTS

Invite your friends to meet Michael "Bull" Roberts at The Superior Restaurant, Almonte.

Michael will share his story of transformation. Raw, honest & life changing.

He is now a Pastor, award winning author, artist, motivational speaker and youth mentor.

Michael Roberts' face is a canvas of pain.

Almost his entire body is draped in ink, from faces and flames to skulls and swastikas. Individually, he says, his tattoos are meaningless. Collectively, they once offered a mask to his misery — a means of therapy for a life of crime, abuse and violence.

Excerpt from: *No Bull: Michael Roberts' Story of Redemption* by Omar Mosleh

**Saturday, April 12, 2014
2:00 pm & 7:00 pm**

Free Admission — Pizza & Pop included

Please contact Cornerstone Community Church Almonte
1728 Conc. 11-A, Almonte, Ont. K0A 1A0 613-256-4995
WWW.CORNERSTONE-ALMONTE.COM

Pick up theHumm in Almonte at

LOLA DOT STUDIO

The Bells of St. Paul's In Concert

Under the Direction of
Ann McMahon

St. Paul's United Church
25 GoreW, Perth, ON.

With
Beth Misener, cello
Helen Mogford, flute
and
Tom McMahon, bass

7:30 PM, Sunday, May 4, 2014



Freewill Offering

www.stpauls-uc-perth.org

The Metropolitan Opera **HD LIVE**

**Borodin
Prince Igor**

**Saturday,
April 26, 1PM**

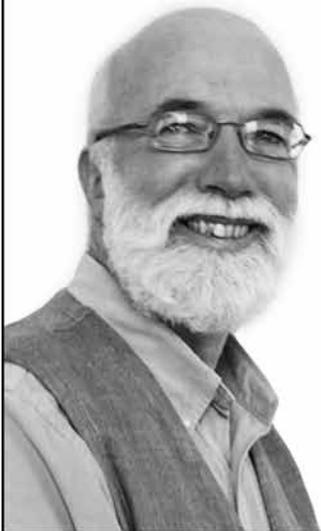
The O'Brien Theatre
147 John St., Arnprior

2013 Tax Tip

Adoption expenses for adoptions finalized in 2013 and subsequent years now have an expanded period from which to select expenses.

Accounting for Small and Large Business

Income Tax Services



Mike Doyle



Shelley Munro

(613) 256-9987

mike@www.mdoyle.ca



Help shape the future of Almonte General Hospital

Almonte General Hospital is accepting applications for three positions on the Board of Directors, beginning June 2014.

AGH's Board provides leadership and strategic direction to the organization's three divisions – Almonte General Hospital, Fairview Manor and Lanark County Paramedic Service – while overseeing key aspects of performance. To complement existing skills on the Board, a legal or healthcare background is desirable. Previous experience as a member of a board or in a senior leadership role is an asset.

Board members must be at least 18 years of age and must live or work within the area served by the Hospital. Members of the Professional staff, employees and their spouses, children, parents or siblings (or the spouse of any child, parent or sibling) are not eligible to serve unless permitted by a majority vote of the Board of Directors.

The Nominating Committee will interview potential candidates and make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval.

Application forms are available at www.agh-fvm.com or through the office of the President & CEO at 613-256- 2514 ext 2220.

The deadline for applications is **Thursday, April 10, 2014**. We thank all applicants for their interest in serving AGH. Only those selected for interview will be contacted.

Help Send Blue Skies to PEI

The Blue Skies Fiddle Orchestra is planning a trip to Prince Edward Island the summer of 2015 to attend the 38th annual Rollo Bay Fiddle Festival. Members are delighted to have this opportunity to share their own fiddling style and to learn from PEI fiddlers. This exciting undertaking will require a huge amount of fundraising.

One of the major events planned is their 3rd annual **Jam-a-thon**. Each year the Jam-a-thon has grown, as more and more folks come out to enjoy the toe-tapping music and laughter. On Sunday, May 4, the Maberly Hall will be filled with fiddlers, as well as guitar, mandolin, penny whistle, viola, and cello players and the like. Musi-

cians of all ages can drop in to the music circle anytime from 12–7PM. Participants may bring tunes for all in the circle to play (or sing). Folks are welcome to sing along or just to watch. Refreshments will be available for players throughout the day.

Support the orchestra by sponsoring an orchestra member or by getting your own sponsors. Players obtain sponsors, collect the funds and bring them to the Maberly Hall on May 4. For further information or to obtain a sponsor sheet, contact Wolfe (cerlichman@yahoo.com, 273-3986) or Cindy McCall (cindyfiddlemusic.mccall@gmail.com, 278-2448).

— Marily Seitz

Carp Easter Market

While the odd snowflake may still be around, spring is officially here! Why not come and taste a little of the spring magic conjured up by the Carp Farmers at their Annual Easter Market on Saturday April 19.

Gates open at 8AM and stay that way until 2PM. Fifty-plus vendors will be on hand with a wide selection of premium products designed to give your holiday meals that special local touch.

Assorted meats (local lamb, elk, pork, and beef), eggs, fresh micro greens, and lettuce, stored root vegetables, herbs, garlic dips and delights, maple syrup, cranberries, fresh cider and juicy apples from last year's crop, plus a wide range of preserves and cheeses, savoury and sweet baked goods are among some of the many products on offer, along with Easter's special candy favourite — chocolate.

Hunting for that special Easter gift? The market offers delightful crafts including

cards and art, ceramics, quilts, woodwork, jewellery, toys and clothing. The food court will be in full swing to keep your energies high with homemade drinks, both hot and cold, snacks and more substantial plates.

The Carp Farmers' Market is growing bigger year by year, but their commitment to maintaining the highest possible quality in both produce and crafts remains as strong as ever. Market President David McCreery adds that: "times are still tough for many families, so the Market will be running a 50/50 draw in support of the West Carleton Food Bank as well as accepting donations of non-perishable food items. And, in keeping with our Easter Market tradition there'll be a draw for the market's decorated Easter basket."

So forget the weather. Take a break and catch a touch of the Market's special brand of spring fever. There's a warm welcome waiting for old friends and new, rain or shine.

MVCA is Rolling Out the Barrels

Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) is selling rain barrels to raise funds to support rural and urban City Stream Watch programs.

MVCA is all about water and our need to protect, conserve and respect it. Purchasing a rain barrel can help them meet their water monitoring goals in the Carp and Mississippi River watersheds, as well as helping you do your part at home.

Rain barrels capture and store rainwater collected from roofs through downspouts. They provide chlorine-free and fluoride-free water, which is ideal for flowers, vegetables, lawns, shrubs and trees. Use it to wash cars, clean floors, and do laundry. It will save you money and help you conserve this precious resource.

Pre-order your rain barrel online at rainbarrel.ca/mvca or call Alyssa at 253-0006 ext.267, then pick it up on Saturday, April 26, between 9AM and 1PM, at the location you selected with your order — Carleton Place or Kinburn.

Each base model rain barrel costs \$55 and comes equipped with the parts

needed to set it up at home: filter basket, overflow adaptor, 1.2m overflow pipe, and spigot. Other accessories and styles are also available online.

MVCA receives \$10 from each barrel sold. Funds raised will support comprehensive monitoring programs for both rural and urban streams. This monitoring is essential for identifying trends and tracking changes to the water and shoreline environment of Mississippi and Carp Rivers and their tributaries.

"Taking a closer look at what is happening in the water and along the shoreline helps us target areas for rehabilitation and maintain areas that are in good health," says MVCA biologist Kelly Stiles. "Stream Watch programs allow for comprehensive monitoring and offer an opportunity for volunteers to work with MVCA staff protecting the water and habitat they value."

For more information about MVCA stream monitoring programs, please contact Kelly at 253-0006 ext.234 or kstiles@mvc.on.ca.

Flavour of the Month **A Renegade Scientist and Forest Heroine for Our Times**

Every breath we take is because of a tree's ability to create oxygen. No other organism or invention can do what the tree does. Trees are entirely unique in our galaxy, quite possibly the universe — so with every breath you take, thank a tree... then plant trees and fix your forests.

— Diana Beresford-Kroeger

by Susie Osler

Every once in a while I pay a visit to a big, twisted white oak on the top of a hill near my house. The tree is one of the largest on the land I have come to occupy. It is a scraggly mess of thick branches that sweep out horizontally from a vast crusty trunk. How it survived the onslaught of settlers, and the accompanying twin abuses of timber extraction and animal pasturing over the last century, remains a mystery. But I am grateful it did. This tree has a palpable presence, solidity and wisdom that come with age and survival. I have adopted this oak as my tree “elder”. Or perhaps it is the other way around, and the tree has taken me under its limb. I visit “my” oak when I need to regroup and ground myself. On occasion I will simply go and sit in the comfortable bend of one of its lower limbs and take in the view of its surrounding kingdom. And it does feel like it presides over the small valley and beaver pond below, and the slopes beyond. To some this may sound a bit “woo-woo”, but as anyone who has

spent time with big trees will know, they have an incredible and inarguable energetic presence.

A woman in our midst also holds similar powers. Diana Beresford-Kroeger will be a familiar name to many who take an interest in trees and forests. Her book *Arboretum America: a Philosophy of the Forest* (2003) is one of the only books on trees I know of that takes an integrated approach to describing the *culture* (in all manners of speaking) of trees within North American forests. Her approach weaves together an unusual and rich tapestry of scientific and traditional knowledge with an insightful reverence. Bringing light to the oft-unseen and undervalued roles that trees play in the complex web of ecological relationships is Beresford-Kroeger's specialty. Talking to her, like reading her books, is like being fed nuggets that spur one's curiosity, intuition and observational powers. She helps us to reorient *ourselves* rightly and firmly within complex local and global ecosystems.

Diana has an agenda that might intimidate even the most ambitious amongst us. She wants to reach a mere billion people around the globe to tell them about the importance of preserving our global forests and about the myriad reasons (as yet largely unrecognized) why the current course of flattening forests for pulp wood and suburban developments could truly be cause for a diagnosis of collective insanity. In Canada, 50% of our boreal forests — part of the last great forest system left in the world — is on the chopping block, and few people know about it. Fewer still know why this should matter. Aside from the more common arguments as to why these forests should stay standing — habitat, emotional and cultural value, carbon sequestering and oxygen-producing abilities — Diana can point out more than a few more profound reasons why they should remain. To start with, many feet of uncomposted leaf litter will quickly decompose with the removal of the protective forest canopy, resulting in the release of enormous amounts of CO₂ into the atmosphere. These forests also produce healing antifungal and antiviral aerosols that have a purifying effect, on a very grand scale, on the air we breathe. And who knew the role that fulvic acid from leaves plays in chelating (bonding with) iron in the soil? This chelated iron then trickles by way of rain and streams down to the oceans far away, providing essential nutrients to the ocean's living systems. This is simply the tip of the proverbial iceberg. The forests are vital to the health of our planet, and indeed, to our own health.

Somehow, despite the shameful record governments have displayed in (not) protecting the forests, Diana remains hopeful that, if we arm ourselves with knowledge and some ambition, things can turn around. According to her calculations, if



Author and scientist Diana Beresford-Kroeger (photo by Erika Beresford-Kroeger)

What to Plant?

- Bur oak (*Quercus Macrocarpa*): reduces pollution by about 25% around it. It is known as an anti-famine tree due to the large numbers of acorns that were harvested and eaten by aboriginal people.
- Eastern White Cedar (*Thuja Occidentalis*): Deer and sheep can survive on it in winter. Radiant heat increases the temperature by about one degree around it, providing a warmer shelter for birds to cluster in; Thujone aerosol in summer is antiviral and helps boost the immune system.
- American Basswood (*Tilia Americana*): Produces more nectar that feeds beneficial insects (i.e. pollinators) than any tree on the planet.
- Standard (ungrafted) Apple: For eating. Skin of the apple aids digestion and helps the large intestine.
- Bitternut and Shagbark Hickory (*Carya Cordiformis* or *Ovata*): *Cordiformis* can be a source of nut oil and *Ovata* produces nuts for nut cream and milk. Another super-effective carbon-dioxide-absorbing tree, and a valuable timber tree.

each of us inhabiting the planet planted 6 trees, we would regenerate our forests. So for those of you for whom that is easy, take it upon yourselves to plant several times that number, to make up for those who can't. Encourage everyone you know to do the same. (See the side bar for species she suggests for our area).

The seeming endless barrage of negative, if not calamitous, information coming at us often has a crushing effect on my spirit. So finding guidance and solace amongst the mayhem is becoming ever more important in my life. Diana's latest book, *The Sweetness of a Simple Life*, is a precious collection of short essays on how to lead a happy, healthy life by drawing from the bounty that nature offers and a maintaining a profound reverence for it. The book has become a comforting bedtime dose of practical wisdom and intriguing and accessible science-based explanation, as well as an entry point for further reflection. As with any of her books, I highly recommend it.

Diana and her husband Christian Kroeger live on a property near Merrickville with a simplicity and humility that belies the riches of experience they have both had. Diana descends from a lineage of ancient Irish scholars who once advised kings. Orphaned as a child, Diana was taken under the care of a Brehon wardship that tutored her in the Druidic tradition and in the natural connections between the arts and sciences. As the last of her lineage, she was told she would be needed to bring this knowledge to the new world, and with passion and conviction she is doing just this. These early teachings have informed the unique way she marries her extensive science background (ethnobotany, medical biochemistry, organic and nuclear chemistry) with traditional Irish and Aboriginal wisdom. Developing sensitivity and a holistic approach to understanding the “invisible” and subtle phenomena within the natural world is critical to our future. Similarly, cultivating personal rituals of silence, meditation and reflection, and valuing the potent roles that art, poetry and dreams can play in healing our collective and individual psyches are, in her opinion, essential ingredients to regenerating a healthy culture.

I urge you to delve more deeply into Diana's work, research and philosophy. They are likely to transform the way you experience a forest and even your life. There will be links posted on theHum's website <thehum.com>, and you can also follow her blog for news about the upcoming feature documentary now in production at <dianasjourney.com>. Diana will also be speaking and signing books on May 7 at the Portland Horticultural Society (contact Madeleine at 273-8707), on May 12 at 7PM at The Branch in Kemptville (contact Doug at 258-4044), and on a date to be determined in Brockville (contact Hugh at 345-2712).

Most of all, resolve to get out into the wild for some “forest bathing”! Forest bathing has been around for more than a thousand years, but has recently been officially recognized in Japan as being significantly beneficial to human health. So make a point to spend time walking slowly through the forest. Listen to what the trees and other creatures have to say. Observe what is encompassing you. Breathe deeply and just be for a while. You may be amazed at how profoundly healing for the body and soul the experience is. In Diana's words, “the path of the forest is the path to peace.”



BLOOMFIELD FARM

Bear says:
You should sign up!



Thanks to the long winter, there is still time to sign up for 12 weeks of local, organically-grown greens!

Weekly pick-up at Dandelion Foods in Almonte on Thursdays, beginning in April (date still to be determined).

For more details:
bloomfieldfarmalmonte.com **613.601.1465** *Space is limited!*

Humm Bits

Look Up... Way Up... at the Mill of Kintail

Discover some celestial treats this spring by attending one (or all!) of the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority's **Night Sky Astronomy** classes at the Mill of Kintail Conservation Area.

They are generally held on Friday evenings (April 4, 11, 25 and May 2) from 7:45 until 10PM or later — because they don't shut the sky down at 10! There will also be a special class on Monday, April 14, for the lunar eclipse and Mars near opposition (Mars actually reaches opposition on April 8, when it will be shining at a magnitude of 1.5). If you know what I am talking about, then you should come on out to the Mill... and if you *don't* know what I'm talking about, then you should come on out to learn! You can observe objects within and beyond our Milky Way galaxy — planets, stars, constellations, stellar systems, galaxies and beyond.

Drop-ins are welcome at any class, or you can register with Sarah O'Grady at <sogrady@mvc.on.ca> or 256-3610 ext 1. As for the cost, donations are welcome. The Mill of Kintail Conservation Area is located at 2854 Ramsay Concession 8, between Almonte and Pakenham in Mississippi Mills. These courses instill an appreciation of the night sky, helping students recognize the importance of light pollution abatement to conserve our night sky environment.

A Salute to the Big Bands

The **Perth Citizens' Band**, Canada's longest continuously-running town band, will be holding its annual spring concert: "A Salute to the Big Bands". The concert will feature a selection of well-known tunes from the turn of the century up to the 1960s, including blues, Dixieland, jazz and ballads, all popular with the big band sound. Included are tunes by big band orchestras such as Duke Ellington and Glen Miller, and by popular composers such as Cole Porter.

The musical afternoon gives the audience a chance to chase away the winter blues and swing into spring. The concert will be held on Sunday, April 6, starting at 2PM at the Perth Legion Hall, 26 Beckwith Street East. Admission is \$5 per person and \$10 for families, and includes light refreshments. For more information, visit the band's website at <perthband.ca> or call conductor Brian Tackaberry at 256-4221.

Beckwith Youth Care for Kids and the Earth

The Beckwith Youth Committee is hosting the Canadian Safety Council **Babysitters Course** April 11 and 12 — Friday 7-9PM and Saturday 9AM to 4PM — at Brunton Community Hall, 1702 9th Line, Beckwith. To take the course, you must be at least 12 years old, or be turning 12 in 2014. Youngsters will soon recoup the \$40 registration fee, once they start putting their newfound knowledge to work!

To register for the course, taught by Heather Legge, or simply for further information, please contact the Beckwith Recreation Department at 257-1539. Forms can be found online at <twp.beckwith.on.ca> under Recreation — Youth Committee.

Then on Saturday, April 19, everyone is invited to celebrate **Earth Day** and help keep our community green by joining the Beckwith Youth Committee for some tree planting. Come out to Beckwith Park and do your part to help the environment.

Bring Your Parents... And Your Grown Kids!

Olivia and Gabe are moving into their first apartment together. They've just packed up all of their belongings and driven halfway across the country, to start a new life together in Chicago. Their moving day doesn't go exactly as planned, though, and things become slightly more complicated when all of their parents show up to help! Can a two-bedroom apartment contain all of the love, laughs, worry and wisdom that's about to ensue?

This brand new comedy from Katherine DiSavino, author of *Nana's Naughty Knickers*, takes a generational look at relationships, and how sometimes parents are passing their best lessons on to their children without even meaning to. Funny and touching, this one will make you laugh out loud and fall in love all over again.

Rural Root Theatre Company is proud to present *Things My Mother Taught Me*, April 30 to May 3, May 8 and 9, at the Constance and Buckham's Bay Community Centre. Show starts promptly at 7:30PM. Ticket prices are \$15 for Friday and Saturday night performances, and \$12 for all other performances. More information at <ruralroot.org/tmmtm>.

Garnet Rogers to Launch MERA's Next Series

MERA launches the final segment of its 2013/2014 Sunday Schoolhouse Concert Series with a flourish on Sunday, April 27, with a matinée concert featuring **Garnet Rogers**, one of Canada's best-known and enduring singer/songwriters. The series continues with a concert on May 25 featuring **Trent Severn**, a trio of women who specialize in original Canadiana, presented in glorious harmonies. The final show is on June 29, with **Jason Fowler**, one of the music world's most in-demand guitarists, who is a fine singer/songwriter in his own right.

Born in Hamilton to parents of Nova Scotian descent, Garnet Rogers spent many hours in front of the old floor model radio listening to Grand Ol' Opry broadcasts and harmonizing with his brother, the late folk legend Stan Rogers. Two years later, Garnet was playing the definitive 8-year-old's version of *Desolation Row* on his ukulele. He soon abandoned that instrument to teach himself the flute, violin and guitar.

At 18, Garnet was on the road as a full-time working musician with brother Stan. Together they formed what has come to be accepted as one of the most influential duos in the history

of North American folk music. Garnet acted as producer and arranger for his older brother from 1973 to 1983, when Stan died tragically in a plane crash.

Since then, Garnet has established himself as a formidable solo artist. Hailed by the *Boston Globe* as a "... charismatic performer and singer — one of the major talents of our time," Garnet is widely considered by fans

songs about people who are not obvious heroes, and about small everyday victories. As memorable as his songs, his over-the-top humour and lightning-quick wit move his audiences from tears to laughter and back again.

Rogers has been the featured performer on numerous television and radio programs, including *Much Music*, *Mountain Stage*, and *All Things Considered*.

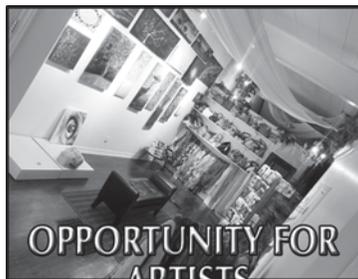
He has been a headliner at concert venues and festivals such as Wolf Trap, Lincoln Center, and Art Park; sharing the stage with performers such as Mary Chapin Carpenter, Billy Bragg, Bill Monroe, Feron, Greg Brown, and Guy Clark. Though Garnet has enjoyed much popularity over the years, he remains resolutely independent, turning down offers from major labels to ensure that he continues doing music his own way.



Catch Garnet in concert on April 27

and critics alike to be one of the finest singers anywhere. His music, like the man himself, is literate, passionate, highly sensitive, and deeply purposeful. Cinematic in detail, his songs give expression to the unspoken language of the heart. An optimist at heart, Garnet sings extraordinary

Advance tickets for Garnet's show on April 27 are \$22, and series tickets for all three concerts are just \$55. All tickets are available from Tickets Please at 39 Foster Street in Perth, by phone at 485-6434 or online at <ticketsplease.ca>. Tickets can be reserved at Tickets Please and held for pick-up at the door.



OPPORTUNITY FOR ARTISTS

Showcase your works of art in 2000sq ft of heritage store front, downtown Arnprior.

emotionsartstudio@gmail.com
..for details please contact

The Almonte Potters Guild

New classes starting the week of April 22

- Mother's Day workshop for kids ~ make a gift for Mom!
- We host special events and birthday parties

Contact us at 613-256-5556
95 Bridge Street, Almonte
www.almontepottersguild.com

STOP YOUR PIGS FROM STRAYING

Animals in visual art of all media

April 2-30, 2014

Opening reception **Sunday April 13** 3-5PM

1st Year Anniversary Celebration!

General

fine craft, art & design

63 Mill Street in historic Almonte

generalfinecraft.com

Help Us Play at Naismith!

There has been a lot of discussion lately about how little time kids spend outside these days, when we compare their childhoods to ours. Books are being written about nature deficit disorder, studies done on how this lack of time outdoors is leading to increasing anxiety in young children, issues with obesity are being attributed to lack of exercise, and now there is evidence that time spent in nature can help alleviate stress, calm the mind and help kids learn to self-regulate.

At Naismith Public School in Almonte, we are taking these findings very seriously and have decided to see what we can do to get kids more active, and to get them outside more often. We want them to be able to test their abilities and boundaries in a safe environment, to build confidence in themselves, and to explore the natural world around them. To not just read about science, but to feel it with their own hands. Ultimately, we realize that it is important for kids to have the space to play and learn outside.

To that end, school staff, parents and members of the community have been working hard, primarily through volunteer time, energy and donated materials, to improve the school yard. We've been setting up an outdoor classroom in the kindergarten yard — one that we hope all grades will be using regularly

over time. One parent, though his work, has put together an Environmental Stewardship Committee and will be working with grade 4–6 students to create an arboretum in the front of the school. This will allow the kids to choose appropriate flora, and organize themselves to plant trees and plants for everyone to enjoy for years to come. It will be a full learning experience, with benefits for everyone. Plans are also in place to create bat boxes, birdhouses and a butterfly garden.

Energy is building, and we're all excited to see what we can accomplish. And our enthusiasm is shared by the students as well — from the beginning, they have been included in the planning of the projects, creating wish lists and 3D models of what they would like to see (unfortunately we had to cancel the outdoor pool and mini zoo... for now!). Kids from the older grades built wooden garden boxes for the outdoor classroom, other students have written essays and created logos for our initiative, and one student even wrote a moving speech about how important it is to get off your DS game and go outside (Camryn is in grade three, and her speech won at a competition at the Legion!). It is so exciting to see how the students themselves are taking on this initiative, and we want to do what we can to support them.

One thing that we find we are lacking is a play structure suitable for the youngest students at Naismith. The old one was deemed unsafe and needed to be removed last year, so now we would like to turn our energy to installing a new one — one that is fully accessible to wheelchairs and appropriate for our 3–6 year olds. For this we need to raise \$40,000. It has been incredible how much community support we have received up to now, and we are excited to continue working with the community at large to see our vision come to life. Please help us bring alive our Naismith motto: Sound Mind ~ Sound Body!

Fundraising Events

In order to raise this money, we will be planning many fundraising activities, so please keep an eye out for more details!

On the morning of Saturday, April 26, we will be hosting a **multi-family garage sale** in the school gym. If you would like to book a table for your own mini-garage sale, they will be \$20 (contact Christine Deugo at 256-8997 or deugocr@gmail.com). There will be coffee and baked goods for sale, so come on by at 7AM!

On Saturday, May 24, we will be having a **bottle drive**, so save your cans and bottles for us to pick up — or you can meet us at



Help Naismith School raise funds for outdoor fun stuff!

the beer store, where we will be returning our bottles.

Thursday, May 29, at 6:30PM, we will be hosting a performance by **Jon the Cowguy**, who was very popular at On Stage For Kids. Tickets will be available at the door, and will be \$5 per person or \$15 for a family.

We are also planning a fun run this fall, which is bound to be a

blast — details to follow. And, of course, we are always happy to provide tax receipts for donations!

At any time, we would be happy to present to your group what we have done so far and what our future plans are. Please contact Principal Gail Brant-Terry at <gail.brant-terry@ucdsb.on.ca> or call 256-3773.

— Erica McKay

Humm Bits

Have a Psychic Experience in Carleton Place

The Captain Hooper Chapter of the IODE and its members from the Carleton Place and Almonte areas invite you to a fundraiser on April 11, with psychic-medium Matthew Stapley. Stapley specializes in bringing forward evidence of the afterlife by describing specific things about his clients' — or in this case, attendees' — lives. He will be giving messages to several of the show's attendees from their loved ones who have passed on, as well as their spirit guides and angels. Utilizing this gift that he was born with, Stapley has provided peace to many through sold-out performances, two television series that he hosted, and countless media interviews and private readings.

This exciting, uplifting and inspiring event will consist of a talk, messages from spirit, and a Q&A period. It takes place at 7:30PM on April 11 at the Carleton Place Town Hall. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at Soul Scents in Almonte, C Style Fashions or Apple Cheeks in Carleton Place, or from any IODE member. Please call Hilda Docker at 253-1516 for more information.

Songs of the War Years

2014 marks one hundred years since the beginning of World War I. To commemorate this milestone in world history, the **Tay Valley Community Choir** will feature Songs of the War Years at their upcoming spring concert on Sunday, April 27.

The choir sings in lovely four-part harmony and has developed a warm rich sound — “Just like velvet,” says director Grace Armstrong. The Maberly Hall has great acoustics and is just the right size to enhance the music and create a cozy country atmosphere. As usual, the audience will have plenty of opportunity to sing along.

Refreshments will be served following the concert. This Tay Valley Choir tradition provides an opportunity to mingle with other music lovers and performers over coffee and treats. Admission is by donation at the door on Sunday, April 27, at 7PM.

Ready for Relay For Life?

The Mississippi Mills Relay For Life committee would love to hear from you! Get your friends and family together and enter a team, or become a part of an existing one.

Is volunteering for a good cause your thing? Looking for somewhere meaningful to promote your business? If you would like to participate in this year's event on June 6 in Almonte's Gemmill Park, please contact Allison (vaughana@ottawasenators.com, 256-0421) or Yvonne (yvonne_stewart@sympatico.ca, 256-5975), or sign up online at <relayforlife.ca/mississippimills>.



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Carlos del Junco and The Blues Mongrels

Carlos del Junco is one of those players whose music is so advanced that, when it comes to awards, it's either retire the category or rephrase the question to "Best Harmonica Player Not Named Carlos". His awards include two gold medals from the Hohner World Harmonica Championship in Trossingen, Germany, as well as multiple national awards in Canada, including Carlos' eight Harmonica Player of The Year wins (out of the Maple Blues Awards' sixteen-year history).

To say he plays the harmonica is like saying "Jimi Hendrix plays guitar." Carlos blows the blues harp

through a prism — suddenly it seems like he's holding every colour in the musical rainbow right there in his hands.

Simultaneously sophisticated and raw, his playing blurs the boundaries between blues and jazz (hence the name of his band — The Blues Mongrels — and they could just as well be called "The Jazz Mongrels"). The emphasis is on blues, but they are not afraid to merrily traipse off in other directions, delivering a seamless fusion of everything from New Orleans second-line grooves, jazz swing, Latin, hip-hop or ska melodies, to swampy roots rock.

The Blues Mongrels are: bassist Henry Heilig (who founded the nine-piece Latin band Manteca) and guitarist Eric St. Laurent. Get ready to trash all you thought you knew about the harmonica. The Blues Mongrels deliver a no-holds-barred display of fun and melodic virtuosity.

For more information about Carlos, visit carlosdeljunco.com. There you can sample his music, including tunes from his Juno-nominated CDs *Steady Movin'* and *Big Boy*, as well as his newest release with The Blues Mongrels: *Mongrel Mash*.

Better yet, see for yourself at 8PM on Friday, May 2, when Carlos del Junco and The Blues Mongrels pay a visit to Almonte's Old Town Hall. Tickets are \$30 (including HST) and available at Mill Street Books (256-9090, millstreetbooks.com).



Catch Carlos del Junco in concert at the Almonte Old Town Hall on May 2

Perth's Hike for Hospice

A group of dedicated volunteers, friends, families, supporters and some local notables from all over Lanark County will be taking a short walk through Perth on Sunday, May 4, to mark the beginning of **Hospice Palliative Care Week** in Canada, and to raise funds for hospice palliative care services in our communities. They are hoping you will join in as well.

The Lanark County "Hike for Hospice" is a 2km walk starting at the Crystal Palace in downtown Perth. The fundraiser is a team effort of Community Home Support — Lanark County's Hospice Palliative Services and national sponsor Bayshore Home Health, both of which provide hospice palliative care for Lanark County residents.

Please donate and/or sign-up and walk to raise funds for something we all care about: the expectation of being treated with dignity and respect when someone we care for is at their most vulnerable.

There will be a BBQ, live music and a silent auction. Registration starts at noon, with the walk at 1PM. All funds raised here stay here. To register and start fundraising, go to chpca.net/hike or print a pledge package from the "Our Services Calendar" tab at chslc.ca. Pledge packages may also be picked up at Bayshore Home Health in Smiths Falls and at the Community Home Support offices in Perth, Smiths Falls and Carleton Place.

For further information, please contact Community Home Support — Lanark County at 267-6400.

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And Our Little Dog Too...

Since January of this year, we've been singing the praises of theHumm's amazing new website <thehummm.com>, which is the result of our partnership with the equally amazing Dagne Forrest and Earle Barber <foimedia.ca>. "TheHumm online" represents our collective desire to create a vibrant online community that complements the print version of



Maggie, theHumm delivery dog

sie Osler's interview with Diana Beresford-Kroeger, Linda Seccaspina's hilarious column 'Til Milkbone Do Us Part; a notice about the Goulbourn Jubilee Singers' upcoming CD launch, and much more.

And... you gotta go there if you want to see more photos of our adorable foster dog Maggie. We began fostering Maggie, a ward of the Valley Animal Rescue <valleyanimalrescue.ca>, just over a month ago, and as of press time we are happy to report that we are working to place her in a wonderful "forever" home. We'll miss her a lot, and because she's so photogenic we promise to post photos on a regular basis until she settles in to her new home.

But that's just our sneaky way of enticing people to visit us online. We also have lots of un-sneaky reasons to visit, like all of the extra details about our calendar events that simply can't fit on the two-page spread in print, and our extensive directory of local artists, performers, shops, services and community groups. While you're there, why not subscribe to our blog too!

by Kris Riendeau

theHumm, and offers opportunities that we can't provide in a paper with a finite number of pages and a monthly deadline.

One of those opportunities is the ability to include content that we couldn't fit in the paper, and to promote events that we heard about after our deadline. This month, you can find music videos by The Captain Fantastic Band (who play the Studio Theatre on April 26) and Jonathan Byrd (who's at the Full Circle Theatre on April 6), links to some terrific tree-related resources from Su-

World, Where Am I? A Joyful Journey of Self Discovery

Judith Poirier is one of those very special storytellers who sings as beautifully as she tells. In this new show, she will share the stories of her family and her growing up, illuminating them with captivating renditions of songs that have been an integral part of her life. While exploring issues of personal history that are universal in their application, the piece is still firmly based in the rich soil of her French Canadian heritage and in the vibrant neighborhoods of Montreal.

In talking about her new work Judith says: "Sometimes when I look back, I see my life as a series of journeys taken through and around Montreal, my true and abiding home. Each journey is marked by how I travel. Sometimes I am walking, sometimes it's the train, sometimes the bus, but always I am moving, exploring, becoming the woman I am now: an activist, a lesbian, a storyteller who sings. I am seeking always the joy, the vividness of being alive."

While French is Judith's first language, her career as a performance teller began in English. She has performed across the country, from Newfoundland to the Yukon, as well as performing in her native Quebec. When she tells in English, as she will do on this tour, the rhythms and cadences of her beloved Quebecois language are still very evident, an integral part of how compelling her performances are and how she is able to take her audiences deeply into the cultural life of French Canada.

Judith is a teller who is beloved across the country, both because she has been a driving force in supporting the growth of storytelling in Quebec and across Canada as a whole, and because her style is so particular; warm and engaging, filled



Storyteller Judith Poirier performs the final 2wp show of this season on April 11 and 12

with humour and depth, a style just right for reminding us how good life can be in spite of its ever-present challenges.

2 women productions is dedicated to bringing a diversity of fine adult performance storytelling to communities in Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec. They are thrilled to be finishing out the season with this very special show that will offer audiences an intimate and compelling journey through the story-soaked streets of Montreal, as seen through the eyes of a woman who is filled with a hunger to live life to the fullest.

World, Where Am I? will be performed on April 11 at 7:30PM at the Arnprior Public Library, and on April 12 at 7:30PM at Full Circle Theatre in Perth. Tickets are \$18 in advance, \$20 at the door, and \$10 for under 25 or under-employed, and are available from Tickets Please, 39 Foster Street in Perth, 485-6434 <ticketsplease.ca>. For more information, visit <2wp.ca>.

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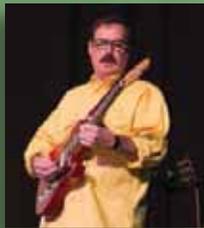
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Living Stones, and Art in the Attic

Living Stones (I Presume)

On Saturday and Sunday, May 3 and 4, from 10AM to 4PM, **John Schweighardt** is once again opening his studio to the public. In an idyllic rural setting, outside the Village of Lanark and just west of Hopetown, John will be displaying his stone works indoors and out, including many new works.

by Miss Cellaneous

Living Stones is a varied collection ranging from garden sculpture, water features and birdbaths to vessel sinks, bowls, vases and indoor sculpture and more, all carved from stone John collects throughout Ontario. Also on display will be the whimsical acrylic paintings of Tara Schweighardt, one of John's daughters. Light refreshments will be provided.

If you're looking for something else to do while you're out in the country, why not check out Victory Farms Alpacas just down the road, or treat yourself to breakfast or lunch at Wheeler's Pancake House in McDonald's Corners, with an opportunity to view the current art show at the MERA Schoolhouse in McDonald's Corners.

A Weekend of Art and Shopping in Downtown Almonte

The **Art in the Attic Show and Sale** will be returning for its 24th annual appearance! The dates this year are May 9, 10, 11 (Mother's Day weekend) at the Almonte Old Town Hall. As usual, it will showcase inspiring works by members of the Almonte and Area Artist Association (4A), as well as guest student artists from Almonte & District High School, including a special display with the theme "Celebrating Mothers". And once again, at the Grand Opening on the Friday evening, theHumm folks will judge their distinguished "Humm Selection" amongst the artwork.

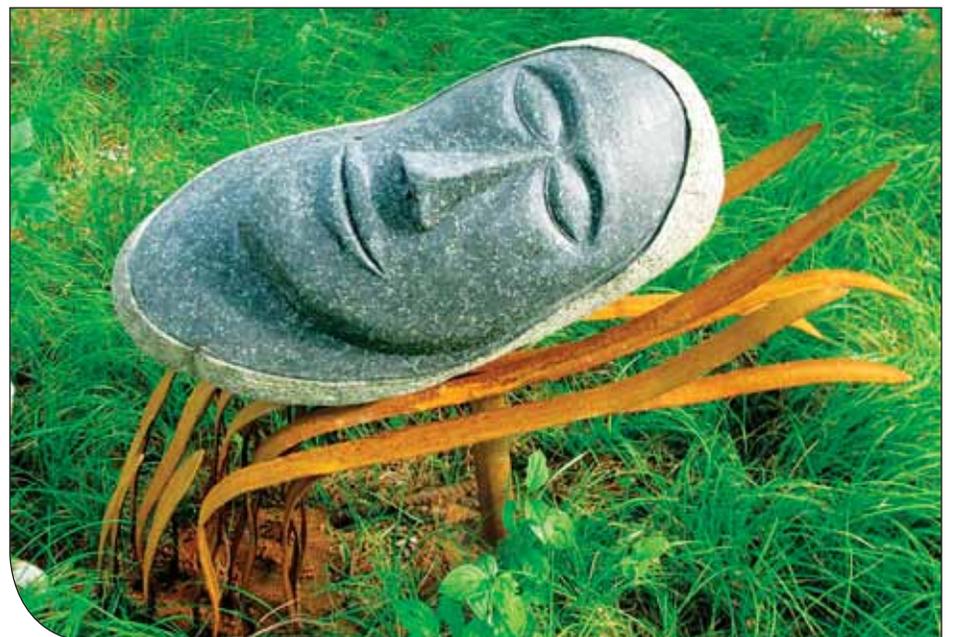
What is different this year is that the 4As will be partnering with downtown Almonte businesses to promote both the art show and local merchants. Artwork from 4A members will be displayed in storefronts downtown starting the second week in April and, in return, visitors to Art in the Attic will receive a gift package containing Mother's Day Weekend coupons and promotions from participating stores.

Avenir Design Studio will even be putting on a **fashion show** at Art in the Attic on the Saturday (May 10) to showcase their wonderful women's fashions. The objective is to "Make it a Day" by starting at Art in the Attic, and then following a suggested route to enjoy the wonderful heritage, stores and restaurants for the rest of the day in beautiful downtown Almonte. The 4As were looking for a more interactive arrangement with local businesses, rather than just asking for sponsorship money, and they are hoping that this will be a win-win partnership for everyone — visitors, artists and local merchants. Watch for more details in next month's Humm!

Call for Artists and Artisans

The **Crown and Pumpkin Studio Tour** invites artists and those practising fine crafts to join its 18th anniversary tour. The tour will take place on Thanksgiving weekend, October 11–13, in Mississippi Mills. Organizers want to expand the tour's range of offerings, and are particularly interested in fresh and innovative three-dimensional work. Does this sound like your practice? If "yes", they want to see your creations!

Applicants are asked to submit at least five examples of recent work, and to include a brief biography and artist statement. Work is judged on originality of expression and concept, and quality of execution; new types of work will receive particular consideration. Deadline for submissions is May 15. Send application, including electronic images of work, via email to <barbara.mullally@gmail.com>. For information call 256-3647.



Carved stone sculptures by John Schweighardt will be featured at the annual Living Stones Open House on May 3 & 4

Which One Are You?

Disclaimer: Please consult your interior design, baking and automotive experts before heeding any of the following advice. Got a question? Send an email to <misswrite@thehummm.com>.

Dear Miss Write,

Over the past few years I've begun noticing a sad phenomenon among my friends and peers. They're bailers. We make plans, and at the last minute they cancel. In all honesty, they do this at least 50 percent of the time. It hurts my feelings and is so disappointing. How do I communicate to these people that it's not acceptable behaviour without risking the friendship?
— *Disappointed in the city*

by Emily Arbour

Dear Disappointed,

This is going to be a bit of tough love I'm afraid. Have you ever read the book *He's Just Not That Into You* by Greg Behrendt? You should. It applies here. Bottom line, these people aren't really your friends. Friends don't bail 50 percent of the time on people they care about. Plain and simple, if you do decide to give them another chance and they bail again, you need to tell them you're not going to stand for it. Call them up (don't email — email is scary in emotionally charged conversations) and in your calmest voice explain that it really upsets you when they don't keep their commitments. Tell them you'd prefer they declined an invitation than left you hanging. Ask how they would feel in your position. If this doesn't turn things around, I say close the door and move on. As the saying goes, "Bail on me once, shame on you. Bail on me 50 percent of the time, shame on me."

Dear Miss Write

I am forever being mistaken for my partner. We look nothing alike and have lived in our community for several years. I find it a little insulting really. My question to you is, do you have a witty remark I could make to the next person who calls me by my partner's name, so they remember me always?
— *Sincerely, John Whichoneareyouagain Smith*

Dear John,

It is John right? I kid. I kid. This is a toughy! I've been sitting here for an hour now trying to think of what I'd say if I were you. Here's the best of what I've come up with. Someone calls you by your partner's

name. You a) slap them jovially on the shoulder and reply "Guess again chump!"; b) start referring to them by their partner's name, even (especially) if their partner is of the opposite sex; c) begin turning around in slow circles like a dog biting its tail looking for your partner of whom they speak.
That's all I've got. Hope it helps.

Dear Miss Write,

I've been following your shop on Facebook since you opened last August. I'm overwhelmed by how much you seem to accomplish. In fact, it makes me feel pretty lazy by comparison. How do you do it?
— *Sincerely, a fan in awe*

Dear Fan,

Well thanks. I'm sure you're aware by now that Facebook is where we all put our best faces forward. Also, it's kind of my business. I spend all day long in this shop, working on shop things and putting it up on Facebook. It just looks impressive because I'm making it look that way. I'm sneaky like that. What I do for a living just happens to be very conducive to social media sharing. I bet if you wrote a public post about everything you accomplish in a day, it would be equally impressive.

To answer your question in all seriousness, I start each day with a list of all the things I need to get done. And then I proceed to do them. If an idea

You a) slap them jovially on the shoulder and reply "Guess again chump!"...

pops into my head, I act on it not because I'm trying to be some sort of productivity superhero, but because if I don't then I'll forget it entirely. I think that's truly the secret to how I accomplish so much. I'm a doer. I often don't even spend very much time thinking over ideas. I just do them. Also, because I have kids (and can't do anything once I'm home for the day), I have to get a load done during working hours. Knowing those kids are waiting at home to steer me off track (and on to another) is motivation to get 'er done, as they say here in the Valley.

— *Emily Arbour is a freelance writer, mother, and shop owner who lives and works in Almonte. By no means is she an expert in anything but having an opinion and making things up. You can go ahead and take her advice, but you'd probably do just as well asking John's neighbour which "one" he is. Only difference is he doesn't have a column in this fine publication.*

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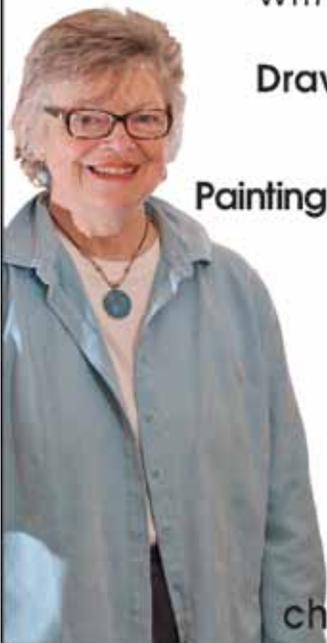
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Sat. Apr. 5, Westport Arts Council presents **Kiss the Cod at the Ceilidh** an East Coast
Kitchen Party feat. McCullough, Norwood, Head, Foster, Murphy and more, 1-4
Sat. Apr. 5 & 19, **Head Over Heels** (vocal guitar duo), 6-9
Sun. Apr. 13 **Lions' Club Mobility Van Fundraiser Breakfast**, 9-12:30
Fri. Apr. 18 **Blues on the Rideau** presents **The Hometown Allstars**.
Thu. Apr. 24, **Italian Wine Dinner** 5 course meal with wine pairings, 6-9, \$75
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Wed. Apr. 30, **Westport Annual Spring Fashion Show**, 12-2, \$25 lunch, show
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Jonathan Byrd Lands in Perth This Month

Anybody who's seen Jonathan Byrd — appearing in Perth at the Full Circle Theatre on Sunday, April 6 — knows that he is something special. A tremendously talented singer/songwriter, he's been called "one of the top 50 songwriters of the last 50 years." The folk magazine *Penguin Eggs* called 2008's *The Law and The Lonesome* the "album of the decade."

Though he proudly hails from the southern U.S., Jonathan has a special relationship with Canada, having co-written a number of songs with Toronto's Corin Raymond, and recording three of his most recent albums here, with Canadian musicians backing him.

This concert in Perth marks a unique opportunity for local audiences to see and hear Jonathan performing with The Pickup Cowboys, who regularly back his appearances closer to his home in North Carolina.

Jonathan Byrd is the son of a Baptist preacher, and is himself a U.S. Navy veteran, and a Piedmont flatpicker from seven generations of North Carolinians. A 2003 Kerrville New Folk winner, a riv-

eting songwriter and storyteller, Byrd has recently written some of his best material with Toronto singer-songwriter Corin Raymond.

At the 2003 Kerrville Folk Festival in Texas, Byrd won the New Folk competition and was hired as a performer for the next three years. In 2004, Byrd recorded an album called *The Sea and the Sky* with a group called Dromedary, bringing beautiful instruments from all over the world into his sound and his songwriting. He toured in Europe and the U.S. with them, including a return to Kerrville and two consecutive years at the Moab Folk Festival in Utah. Byrd has made a number of albums since then, recording with a variety of musical cohorts, including Corin Raymond, with whom he co-wrote songs for his 2008 release, *The Law and the Lonesome*.

Byrd followed up that CD with *Cackalack* in 2010, recorded in six hours with a handful of the best musicians in Toronto. Ken Whitely, who has gold and platinum records to his name, engineered the record in his converted garage with Nik Tjelios. By mid-January 2011, *Cackalack* was #1 on Roots Music Reports' folk radio chart. "It's the best thing I've ever done," says Byrd. "I might not beat it. But I'm damn sure gonna try."

Since 2010, Byrd has released a number of "download only" albums with a variety of other musicians, including Chris Kokesh (billing themselves as "The Barn Birds") and the group he will be bringing with him to Perth, the Pickup Cowboys.

Jonathan Byrd appears at the Full Circle Theatre in Perth (26 Craig Street) on Sunday, April 6, at 7PM. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$23 at the door. Byrd's last appearance in the area was sold out, so advance tickets are recommended. They are available at Tickets Please at 39 Foster Street in Perth, by phone at 485-6434 or online at <ticketsplease.ca>. Tickets can be reserved at Tickets Please and held for pick-up at the door.



Jonathan Byrd plays the Full Circle Theatre on
Sunday, April 6

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The Naismith Physiotherapy & Sports Injury Clinic will close its doors for the last time on April 1st. Nancy Dowker and Heather Miller have considered it an honour being part of the community and appreciate working with such loyal clients who trusted in their therapy and care. It has been 20 wonderful and fulfilling years.

If you wish to reach Nancy for pelvic health, please call **613.726.3838**. She will treat you in a quiet, safe and confidential environment. Please visit **pelvicupport.com** to learn more about Nancy's expertise in continence and pelvic pain.

Designs On Almonte

I've decided that I owe myself a little reward for surviving this long, hard winter. In fact, forget about a little reward... I deserve a BIG reward for braving the polar vortex, the freezing rains, the icy sidewalks, the drifting snow, scraping off car windows, and wearing long underwear. I say enough of frostbite and temperatures below 40 degrees with a wind chill of minus 50! Bring on spring! I'm ready for it.

by Miss Mills

So... strolling down Mill Street in Almonte in search of my reward, I decide to check out some newcomers in town. At the top of the street is **Avenir Design Studio** <facebook.com/avenirdesigns> which sells "fashions for the rhythm of your life". Since my rhythm at the moment is spring spring, I bounce right into the store like a rubber ball!

I quickly learn that Avenir Design Studio is a women's boutique, run by a mother (Donna) and daughter (Micaela), featuring their own fashion label: "Avenir". Micaela Cook is the young designer of these original, upbeat clothes that have the amazing ability to tie, twist, snap or even turn upside down! You can express yourself by creating your own personalized outfit. Micaela received her college diploma in Fashion Design from Fanshaw College of London, Ontario, and then attended Huddersfield University in England, where she completed her university degree.

Her mother, Donna Cook, is thankful that her busy and talented daughter agreed to take on this venture with her and to design their clothing line, which ultimately led to the opening of their first boutique together. "We love our boutique at 96 Mill Street", says Donna, "Almonte is a beautiful town with a great history and a growing tourist shopping district. We have lived nearby for years, so it seemed like a great fit!"

Avenir Design Studio will be having their Grand Opening on Saturday, April 26, from 10AM to 5PM, and everyone is invited! "We'll be revealing our Spring/Summer 2014 collection," Micaela tells me proudly. "Our vibrantly-coloured garments are inspired by nature, and our multi-wear pieces include a cardigan, a dress, and a tunic. You will be amazed to find how versatile a quality piece can be when added to your wardrobe!"

Donna and Micaela make sure that their fashions are made in Canada, and believe in supporting local artisans. They are thrilled to have already participated in some town activities, and excited to see what amazing opportunities come their way this summer season. Boy, I don't know about you, but I'm already excited!



Further down the street is the new **Lola Dot Studio** <loladotstudio.com>, a boutique that sells handmade goods and features a studio where products are made on-site. The first thing I see when I enter the little shop is a large loom and, behind it, the young owner and textile artist, Laura Fauquier, hard at work weaving a beautiful vibrant scarf. "Each one is different because they're handmade," she tells me. "I get my inspiration from the landscape photographs that I take from abstract textures such as rust, peeling paint, and nature."

The store is small and charming, and with the loom set up right there, it's more than a store — it's also a studio for Laura so that people coming in can watch her work and learn more about weaving. Laura sells yarn for other weavers, and a selection of craft items like knit pieces, cards, jewellery and ceramics.

"I'm originally from Ottawa and fell in love with Almonte," says Laura. "I felt immediately at home here and really loved the 'artsy' feel. I thought that opening a store in this location was perfect — especially because of the Textile Museum and the positive vibe of the other store owners." Laura plans to be involved with the Textile Museum and wants to give weaving classes to adults and youth in the community. She seems excited to be here and happy to be part of Almonte's Mill Street. "I think Almonte is really beautiful and I hope it continues to grow!"

At the bottom of the street, in The Heritage Mall, I find artist and photographer **Tony Mihok** and his wife, **Pippa**, in their new **Studio and Gallery**. It's a bright and airy space, entirely wheelchair- and stroller-accessible. "We wanted to create a stress-free atmosphere," says Tony, "where everyone can browse and enjoy our creations."

The studio is filled with their own work — Tony's paintings and photographs and Pippa's distinctively decorated reclaimed containers called Pippa's Pots. They offer unique artwork at very reasonable prices, for home or office décor. Recently, they added digital printing services and can now make large-sized prints on canvas or on fine art papers (up to 44 inches wide) of people's own photos and artwork.

"Both Pippa and I took early retirement and moved to Ottawa in the fall of 2010. We had lived in Oakville for over thirty years, and it was time for a change," explains Tony. "I had worked as a freelance business and corporate photographer in the greater Toronto area, and Pippa was a patient care manager in a rehabilitation unit at Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital." They moved to Ottawa to be near their only daughter, Dr. Marika Mihok, who was finishing up her residency in internal medicine there. After moving to Ottawa, Tony began to exhibit his paintings and photographs at various local art festivals and at The Byward Market. All the while, they were looking for a permanent location where they could set up a studio/gallery.

"On one of our trips we discovered a store for rent inside the Heritage Court in Almonte. It was an ideal location and we opened our Studio and Gallery in August of 2013." Tony's longterm goal was to become a full-time artist and have his own studio one day. "It only took 40-plus years to make it happen. But here I am in Almonte, living out the dream!"

So, I say welcome to these three new businesses and their friendly owners! Welcome to Almonte and to your community of fellow creative entrepreneurs on the street. It's a great place to live and do business. Almonte in Mississippi Mills has become a popular destination spot for day trippers who appreciate our area as a great place to visit and find treasures.

Oh! And my reward? Well, I bought a tunic that I can turn inside out from Avenir, a scarf from Lola Dot, and had my picture taken by Tony Mihok. I asked him to blow it up to poster size. I deserve it.

Welcome spring!



Spring is a great excuse to check out all of the wonderful shops and cafés in downtown Almonte. Three new 'kids on the Mill Street block' are Avenir Design Studio, featuring clothing designed by Micaela Cook (above centre); Lola Dot Studio, with weaving by owner Laura Fauquier (below), and Tony Mihok's studio in the Heritage Court.

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Mississippi Mills Tree Champion - 2014

Congratulations to Alison Ball, the fourth recipient of the Mississippi Mills' Tree Champion award! The award is presented annually by the Mississippi Mills Tree Committee.

The Tree Committee, chaired by Dr. Ron Ayling, promotes the maintenance and planting of trees in Mississippi Mills in order to preserve and expand the urban and rural tree canopy, and raise awareness about the environmental and aesthetic benefits of a well-treed community. For several years, the Committee has promoted **Arbour Week** in April — providing education about our local trees through Tree Walks and Talks and films and encouraging people to plant trees and shrubs.

The Tree Committee is part of the Town's Beautification Committee which, under the leadership of Fern Martin, coordinates public art, banners, flower and tree plantings, and maintenance and clean-up projects.

The award is rotated among the town's main communities: Almonte Ward, Pakenham Ward and the Ramsay Ward hamlets of Appleton, Blakeney and Clayton. Past winners are: Al Potvin (Almonte, 2011), Bill Tuffin (Blakeney, 2012) and Neil Carleton (Almonte, 2013).

This year's Tree Champion is from Appleton. For the last ten years, Alison has been actively involved in core Appleton community activities, such as coordinating Appleton Community Association activities; encouraging and facilitating com-

munity communication and participation; increasing awareness of village events and issues facing the village; coordinating input from Appleton residents to Mississippi Mills-wide activities (Mississippi Mills Residents' Association, the Recreation Master Plan, the Edible Tree project and Commu-



Alison Ball, the 2014 "tree champion", with her exhibit *Unravelled* at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum in 2010

nities in Bloom); planting a community orchard in Appleton Bay Park, which was part of the Mississippi Mills Edible Tree project funded by Tree Canada; and monitoring documenting the clean-up of a former textile mill in the village, which had become a large brownfield property (this included an exhibit of photos called *Unravelled* at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum in 2010).

Alison credits her interest in environmental issues to growing up beside the

Niagara escarpment and hiking frequently on the Bruce Trail. Later she did biology field work in the Yukon and co-wrote a book about toxic contaminants in water and sediments of the Great Lakes. Alison is currently a science library manager with the federal government.

Alison says that: "This award is for all the village residents. These activities are only possible with the participation of many community volunteers." She goes on to explain that: "Appleton is the perfect place to focus on trees. It has always been renowned for its scenic beauty; it now has a community orchard and sits beside a large wetland forest in need of rehabilitation."

As you travel through the village, the tree-lined river and streets are dominant features. Some of the trees you will notice are a prominent stand of mature Black Locusts (False Acacia) trees, a large mulberry tree, large stands of pine trees and mature maple trees. In the spring you will see many varieties of apple trees blossoming in yards, in the parks and along the roads.

The Ministry of Natural Resources has declared the Appleton Wetlands an Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) and a Provincially Significant Wetland. A few years ago, one of the village residents, Mike O'Malley, began noticing that many of the trees in the wetland were dying. As a result, last year, an international film crew, led by

Alexandra Cousteau (daughter of the late oceanographer Jacques Cousteau), made a documentary about the wetland. The film will be part of the 2014 Blue Legacy Film Festival and Hot Docs documentary film festival. Mississippi RiverWatchers and the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists have been conducting studies regarding the changes. Along with the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, they are establishing an independent water level monitoring station that will produce real-time, publicly-available water level data. A community fundraiser is planned for the spring to cover the costs of equipment.

To learn more about the trees of Appleton, you are invited to join the Arbour Day celebrations in Appleton on Saturday, April 26. At 2PM, Alison and the Tree Committee will plant a tree in Appleton Bay Park. The Mississippi RiverWatchers will then provide an overview of their investigation into changes to the trees in the Appleton Wetlands. Following that, Rob Cretien, Appleton's tree expert, will lead a tree tour through the village. At the end of the tour, Saje Spa will provide a tour of their spa garden and an overview of their new Green Circle Salon certification program.

Alison's photo exhibit "Unravelled" will be part of the art exhibition at the Tree Talk by Dr. Ian Nadar at the Almonte Old Town Hall on Wednesday, April 23, at 7PM. For more information about these and other **Arbour Week** activities, please call 256-1077.

May 3 & 4

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Keep The Hive Alive!

Open House Saturday April 19 in Carp

Calling all entrepreneurs! Do you have a home-based business and are looking for a way to have a bigger presence in the community? The Hive in Carp is striving to fill a void in the West Carleton area by offering a space-sharing opportunity that will enable you to grow your enterprise. Their second floor has several nicely appointed rooms available for you to increase your networking synergy in a cooperative setting with like-minded individuals. Presently they have space available in the Wellness Room and the Tranquility Room. Your perfect work environment awaits!

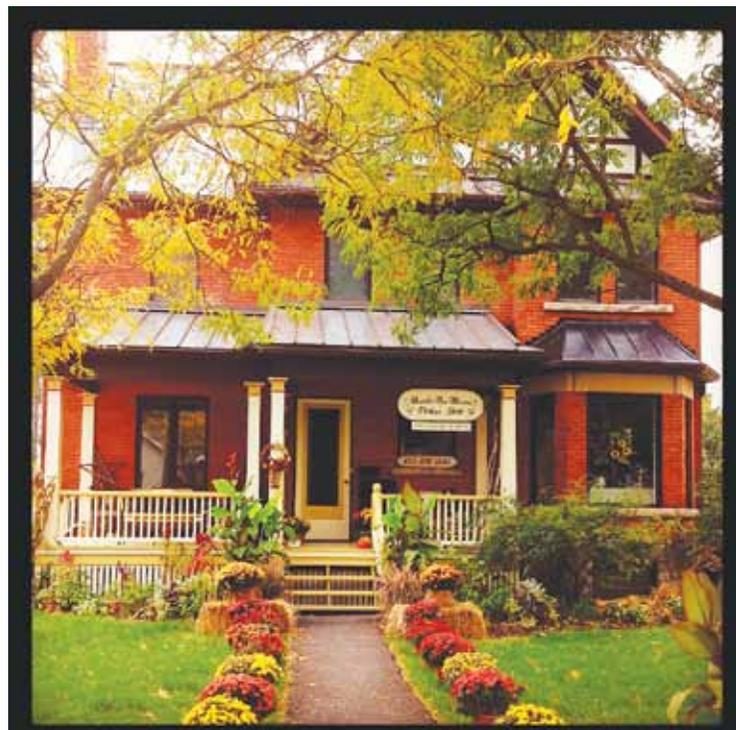


Also on the second floor is the Gathering Room, which is regularly used for workshops, craft events, and birthday parties. The Hive encourages community members to host information sessions there, to promote their particular endeavours. This room is rented by the hour. And Alice's Village Café is conveniently located right next door, and is happy to provide you with any catering needs!

On the main floor, Bumble Bee Blooms Flower and Gift Shop is proud to promote local vendors and artisans. The store also carries plants, soaps and candles, and provides a full-service flower shop — including delivery!

Presently in the Wellness Room, Eileen Ibbetson is offering reflexology and Reiki, and Patty McComb from Rural Roots is offering a full range of dental hygiene services. They will both be moving down to the main floor, so as to be more conveniently located for those with mobility issues. Joining the gang in April is Stephen Mark Fisher, a local musician and recording artist. The Hive will be promoting his bookings, and will gladly play a sampling of what he has to offer for your coming event. A Grief Recovery program is also coming soon, given by Gina Pilon <responsiblyhealthy.ca>.

The folks at The Hive would like to invite the public to attend their **open house** on April 19 (the day of the Carp Easter Market), where they will be introducing their newest member. Heather Fortin of Gently Used Clothing will be offering high-end, gently used women's clothing on the third floor. Adorable tutus from Treasures in the



(above) The Hive is located at 3775 Carp Road, beside Alice's Village Café.

(left) The "Gathering Room" comfortably accommodates up to eight people, and can be conveniently catered by Alice's.

Attic are also beautifully displayed in that space. Pam Ross will be set up in the Tranquility Room to introduce the new spring line from Jockey, as well as offering some great buys from the past season. The Gathering Room will display the various catering package deals that Alice's Village Café is offering for your group events at The Hive. Please come and sample local jams, jellies and honey, meet some of the artisans, and check out the new shop in the attic! For more information, please visit <thehiveincarp.com>, as well as the actual Hive, at 3775 Carp Road, beside Alice's Village Café.

— Denise Burnham

www.therapeuticriding.ca

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A fee of \$40 will be charged for fridges/freezers, \$10 for washers/dryers/stoves; less for smaller appliances like blenders, toasters, microwave ovens, vacuum cleaners, etc. For more information on prices, call TTER at 613-596-0310 or check their website at TTER.ca.

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Local Broadcaster Norm Wright Retires

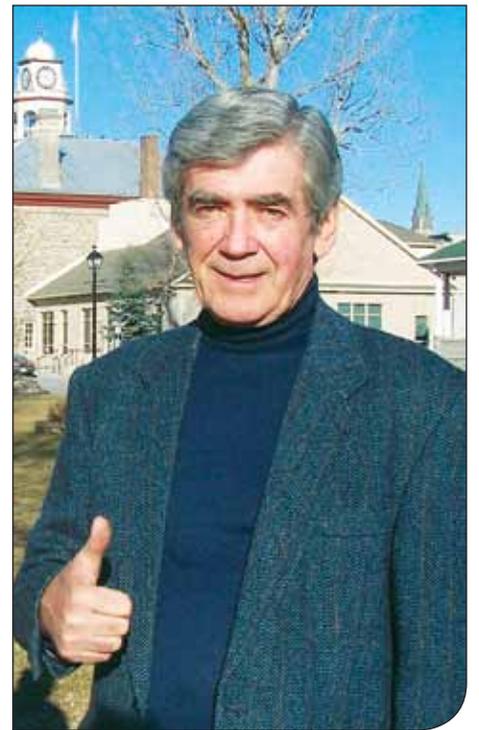
After a long and colourful 57 years in broadcasting, Norm Wright is signing off the air and hanging up the headphones on an incredibly memorable career. It has been an exciting journey that has seen the Perth native move from being a radio and television professional, to a manager, educator and owner.

Wright, the co-founder and co-owner of Lake 88 Radio in Perth, was remembered by his colleagues this month during a moving tribute on the morning show, which Wright had hosted for six years. His business partner Brian Perkin thanked him for his persistence in working to establish a local station to serve the region. Perkin stated: "Ten years ago, we started the process. Norm was tireless in the campaign to land a licence from the CRTC. He had the vision, experience and will to make it happen. And fittingly, he was the first voice that listeners heard when we launched in 2007. It was an exciting time!"

Sales Manager James Smith noted, "Norm has been a broadcasting icon and well-known personality throughout the Valley for years. He will definitely be missed."

Creative Director Donna Donaldson spoke of Wright's passion to involve the community in his morning show. Donaldson said, "Norm loved to tackle the big issues of the day head-on. But he also revelled in drawing on the experiences and talents of friends, neighbours and community leaders. It's what drew listeners in. He always enjoyed making that connection with people."

That ability to connect also led Wright to many different markets over the years, though he maintained close contact with the Perth community his entire life. He started in radio in 1957 at CFCO Radio in Chatham, Ontario, with subsequent positions at CFJR in Brockville, CKSF in Cornwall and as morning man at CFRA in Ottawa, preceding "General" Ken Grant. From 1961 to 1971 he served as News Director, Senior News Anchor and program host at CKMI-TV, Quebec City. There, his "pre-Dick Clark" hits music show ruled the TV ratings in Quebec. From 1971 to 1973, he was owner and operator of CFOM, Quebec City's only English-language radio station. He also gained



Norm Wright, co-founder of Lake 88 Radio in Perth, is retiring after a 57-year career in broadcasting

agency experience as a Marketing Director with Pierre Tremblay Publicité in Quebec City.

Wright was invited to join the faculty of Algonquin College's Media Division in Ottawa in 1974, making his return to the Perth area and purchasing a home on Otty Lake. He spent the next 25 years as Professor of Radio and Television Broadcasting and served as a member of the Dean's Academic Council. During his tenure at Algonquin College, Norm accepted a contract with CBC Television at CBOT Channel 4 in Ottawa, where he worked as a television news, sports and weather anchor from 1979 to 1992. After his retirement from Algonquin in 1998, Norm took on other training assignments, including broadcast sessions for the Polish Broadcasting Corporation in Warsaw.

Following his on-air tribute at Lake 88, Norm thanked his listeners and colleagues: "My wife Claudette and I are deeply touched by what was said and the impact each and every one of you have had on my life over the past ten years. I wouldn't trade it for anything else."

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Get ready for a deliciously different culinary experience! On May 10, Perth's Studio Theatre puts the fun in fundraiser with their Crazy Dinner, featuring great food with a zany twist, live entertainment, a cash bar, valuable prizes, and lots more. So save the date — Saturday, May 10 — and get your tickets now by calling Isabel at 326-0437. Tickets are \$50, with a \$25 tax receipt. All proceeds go to support the great work of Perth's favourite community theatre. More details can be found at studiotheatreperth.com. You'd be crazy to miss the fun!

Magic Words

There are people out there who read my column every month, and both of them know that I have children — they are the theme of many of my writings and, of course, the centre of my universe. I try, desperately, to instill manners in my children. I try to ensure that they will grow up appreciating the kindness of others and have the ability to show respect and kindness in return. I have taught them (and am still teaching them) that a simple please when asking for something and a mere thank you when receiving something goes a long, long way.

by Steve Scanlon

I have to constantly remind my five year-old to say please and thank you. He's five; he'll get it eventually. Not long ago I was at a Tim Horton's with my son (who I think I may have mentioned is five years old and still working on the please and thank you thing), when the "lady" in front of us ordered something without saying please. My son, being the astute fella he is, caught the infraction... in a very vocal way. To my son's (and my own) horror, the person received her order and left without saying thank you. A double infraction — punishable by the "thinking chair" in our house — and she was just walking away? It's a tough enough job trying to explain to a five year-old what rudeness is, and then somebody, out of the kindness of his or her blackened heart, demonstrates it. The lesson was made even easier when the cashier explained that she appreciated people who are polite much more than rude people. Polite people, she explained, get smiles in return and sometimes, when they are especially polite and cute (my son — not me... apparently... I know this because I asked) get a special treat, like a Timbit. My faith was renewed when virtually everybody in the line-up smiled at him as we were leaving.

As Canadians, we've been defined, internationally, by our politeness. "Oh those Canadians, they are just so polite." Now, I hate to be rude, I really do — it's ironic that I must be — but I feel I must bring up a touchy topic. We're not polite any more. At least, we're not as polite as we used to be and we're certainly not as polite as we've led the international community to believe. I realize that this is a blanket statement, painting everyone with the same rude brush, and that there really are some polite people left in the world. It just seems to me that the rude

people are on the rise; it's like a rude virus is spreading and there's no vaccine. It's the ingredients of a great prime time show like *The Walking Dead*... without the walking... or the dead.

I've been dealing with the public in my professional life in one form or another for years, and over the last decade it's been behind a counter dealing with customers on the other side of said counter. I have to tell you, there are many days that it would be a much more pleasant experience being on the customer side of that counter. Some people assume that because they are being served, they can treat the good folks serving them as servants. Here's something that these people don't know... we laugh at you when you leave. Well, we shake our collective heads in frustration first... then we laugh at you because smacking you upside the head, apparently, isn't an option.

In my efforts to teach my son the benefits of being polite, I will pause after he has asked me for something until he clues into the fact that he has forgotten, yet again, to say the magic words. I would truly like to do the same behind the counter. Imagine not serving somebody until they say please, or coaching them with a "what's the magic word"? Or merely finishing their sentence with your own

Imagine not serving somebody until they say please, or coaching them with a "what's the magic word"?

"please". I've come close, and have said it under my breath more times than I can remember, especially with the "gimme" people. These are the people who point at something and say "gimme one of those..." I just want to look them right in the eye and shake my head... no. Instead, because we all have a job to do and part of my job is being polite — even extra polite — to the rude people, we give it to you... but we do laugh at you. A lot.

Australian comedian Tim Minchin said: "Respect people with less power than you. I have, in the past, made important decisions about people I work with, agents and producers, big decisions based largely on how they treat the wait staff in the restaurants we're having the meeting in. I don't care if you're the most powerful cat in the room, I will judge you on how you treat the least powerful... so there."

I like that concept.

Of course he also said; "Happiness is like an orgasm, if you think about it too much it goes away..." Thank you!



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Big Band Extravaganza

It's a remarkable testament to the staying power of big band music when you realize that tunes which first topped the charts in the 1930s and '40s are still popular today. Indeed, the work of big band leaders like Benny Goodman, Count Basie, Glenn Miller and the Dorsey Brothers continues to find life and a broad range of fans from all age groups via modern swing orchestras. One such orchestra is Standing Room Only, the 16-member big band that will perform at the annual Classic Theatre Festival fundraiser **Swing into Spring** event at the Perth Civitan on Saturday, May 3 at 7PM.

Now in its 11th year, Standing Room Only started in 2003 when trombonist and Almonte resident Catherine Illingworth brought some musical friends together under the direction of a former Glebe Collegiate Institute music teacher, Stan Clark. Among the original members was Elizabeth Sampson, who plays alto saxophone and clarinet.

Sampson represents that growing corps of musicians worldwide who remain entranced with big band and swing music, defying the popular wisdom that anything older than yesterday's Twitter feed could possibly interest anyone. In fact, as Sampson and Standing Room Only members point out, that interest is shared by everyone from octogenarians to pre-teens, all of whom show up at their popular



Members of Standing Room Only, shown here performing in the motion picture *Ming*, will play a Swing into Spring event on Saturday, May 3.

monthly tea dances at the Almonte Old Town Hall. (Sampson's twelve year-old son also plays clarinet and enjoys selling tickets at the tea dances.)

While Standing Room Only's authenticity is often based on finding the original arrangements for classics, from *In the Mood* and *One O'Clock Jump* to *Mack the Knife* and *The Pink Panther*, the band is open to new arrangements from the likes of Michael Bubl 's band.

Although Sampson must pay attention to the music and her band director during performances, she cannot help but notice the infectious enthusiasm on the dance floor as couples and individuals foxtrot, waltz, and tango to the band's tunes. "This music is a lot of fun to dance to," she says, "and it's very democratic. Everyone dances with everyone else."

On May 3, free dance lessons will be provided from 7-8PM. The show, a benefit for the Classic Theatre Festival, will also feature a silent auction with items ranging from tickets to the Stratford and Shaw Festivals, to other surprise goodies. Get your tickets to Swing into Spring for \$25 at Tickets Please (39 Foster St. in Perth) or by calling 485-6434.



Get Your Glam On in CP!

Platinum Black (nail lounge) and Static Salon are excited to present **'50s Glamour Night** on April 19 in Carleton Place. Travel back in time to the '50s, when Elvis took over the airwaves and Marilyn ruled the silver screen. This will be a fun-filled evening with prizes for the best themed outfits, an all-dessert bar, and the opportunity to get glammed up by Platinum Black, Static Salon and Make-up by Chris. It doesn't stop there though, because C Style Fashions will be joining in with a **Retro Fashion Show**, and the Freedom Photography event booth will be there to commemorate the evening. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased at Static Salon and Platinum Black, located at 17A Albert Street in Carleton Place (the Olde Church Shops), or by calling 894-5700.

So don't be a wet rag, Daddy-O! Call up your tightest friends, get on your hippest '50s threads, and we'll see you April 19, 6:30PM, at the Olde Church Shops (former CP Cinemas building) for a night of fashion and fun! It'll be the ginchiest!

(right) Christine Armstrong from C Style Fashions in Carleton Place brings a Retro Fashion Show to the '50s Glamour Night on April 19



TO OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS



MISSISSIPPI MILLS



OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thank you on behalf of **Mississippi Mills Council & Staff**. We recognize that without the numerous local volunteers who serve on Municipal Committees, organize countless community festivals & events and run our many local charity initiatives Mississippi Mills would not be the thriving, unique community it is today. **Thank you very much.**

Stay tuned for information on our Volunteer Fair - May 14, 2014 at Almonte Old Town Hall.

APRIL 6-12, 2014 IS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK IN CANADA

If you are interested in volunteering in Mississippi Mills, please contact Tiffany MacLaren at tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca

Prepare for Summer With a Rain Barrel!

Residents who want to save money, care for their gardens and protect the environment know that rain barrels help meet all three goals. **Neighbourhood Tomato Community Gardens** is now accepting pre-sale orders as part of their truckload Rain Barrel Sale. This fundraising event is scheduled for Saturday, April 26, at the Town of Mississippi Mills Municipal Garage (3131 Old Perth Road in Almonte), from 9AM until noon. Rain barrels are \$55 each and orders must be placed in advance of the sale, either online at <RainBarrel.ca/tomato>, by contacting Deanna at <deannabarry@storm.ca> or 256-7535.

The Neighbourhood Tomato is a grassroots organization that supports existing community gardens, works to build new ones, and hosts workshops on different aspects of growing local and organic food. At its heart, the organization is not just about growing local food, but about building community too. Throughout the year, it holds inclusive community potluck dinners to share the abundance of food that is grown. Funds from this rain barrel sale will continue this work, establishing collaborative gardens in the Almonte and Mississippi Mills areas, with some of the produce heading to local food banks. "We are fundraising to provide opportunities for more local people to grow more local food," says chief Tomato-head Jeff Mills.

With a focus on community gardens, a rain barrel sale is a natural fit for the Neighbourhood Tomato. The barrels capture and store chlorine-free and fluoride-free rainwater from a home's downspouts, making it ideal for gardens, as well as flowers, lawns, shrubs and trees. Collected water can also be used to wash cars, clean floors, and even do laundry! These many uses can provide cost savings to every resident, especially those who pay to have water trucked in, use a well, or have a water meter installed. They can also provide water con-

servation opportunities, particularly during the dry summer months.

When ordering in advance of the sale, purchasers select the colour and model of their rain barrel, and add any accessories, such as downspout diverters and rain barrel stands. Each barrel is equipped with all the parts needed to put it together, so it can be collecting water in no time at all.

These environmentally-friendly products were once used to transport fruits and vegetables, but now they have been repurposed and offer years of reliable service as rain barrels. Purchasing one not only saves residents money and helps the environment, but, with the Neighbourhood Tomato Rain Barrel Sale, it also supports growing local food in the community.



Buy a rain barrel and help support community gardens in Mississippi Mills!

About the Neighbourhood Tomato

The Neighbourhood Tomato provides intergenerational workshops on growing, harvesting, storing, preserving and preparing food. They also support community gardens throughout Almonte and Mississippi Mills, and work with the communities to create new ones. For more information, please contact Deanna Barry at <deannabarry@storm.ca>.

FIRST Class UNISEX SALON 256-5610

Moving to New Location
We are re-opening the Salon May 1st at 79 Bridge Street Unit C2, Almonte.

Free Hair Cuts
May 3rd from 9 to 12
accepting donations to an Almonte charity

Daphne, Sue and Sharon look forward to seeing you there!

C'est Cheese!
Tour de Fromage
Spring Tasting Evenings

- Regions & Traditions of France
April 14 in Perth, April 25 in Almonte
- Explore the Quebec Cheese Trail
April 28 in Perth, May 9 in Almonte

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MISSISSIPPI MILLS PITCH-IN

April 22-27, 2014

Lets get ready for spring by picking up garbage along rural roads, town streets & in Mississippi Mills parks. **PITCH-IN** can be done on your own anytime during the week of April 22-27th or join us downtown Almonte, Saturday, April 26th 9:00 am-Noon.

PITCH-IN bags available at Nicholson's Sundries, Pakenham, Clayton General Store, Appleton Mail Boxes, Baker Bob's, the Recreation and Culture office at Almonte's Old Town Hall.

5-MINUTE FRIDAYS

We invite you to join the residents of Mississippi Mills who, on a regular basis, pick up litter along our streets and roadsides.

Take a few minutes each week or month to keep our community looking good, spring, summer, fall and winter.

For info contact the Mississippi Mills Recreation & Culture Dept. 613-256-1077

Arbour Week

in Mississippi Mills

Rekindle Your Love of Trees
Replant Our Local Forests and Public/Private Spaces

Free events across Mississippi Mills celebrating & educating on trees.

Join us for walks, talks, films and plantings.
Visit www.exploremississippimills.ca or email tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca for specific event details.
613-256-1077

April 22 -27, 2014



High Lonesome Nature Reserve, Pakenham
May 3 & 4, 9am to 3pm

For information: jacquie.christiani@bell.net
Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust www.mmltc.ca

Creativity Blitz at Nature Reserve

What better way to explore your own creativity than in the natural beauty of the 200-acre **High Lonesome Nature Reserve**, a property conserved in perpetuity by the Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust Conservancy?

On Saturday and Sunday, May 3 and 4, from 9AM to 3PM, young and old alike are invited to participate in the first ever Creativity Blitz at this oasis of tranquility in the Pakenham Hills. Join with others, connect with nature, and explore your creative side. Admission is free! Registration opens at 9AM on May 3. There will be volunteers on hand to get you started.

Some of the possibilities include: arranging natural materials and objects found on the ground into your creative piece; bringing your own art supplies, musical instrument, poetry book, journal; or coming with nothing but a willingness to open your eyes, ears and senses. Let your imagination soar!

No artistic experience is necessary and there will be many opportunities to participate in collaborative creative projects, with mentors around to prompt and encourage. The emphasis is on creativity and nature — not art or artists.

Three special “WOW” spots have been selected as focal points, but with the

eight kilometres of trails winding through woodlands, by beaver ponds and through meadows, you may just find that special spot that speaks to your soul and cries out for creative expression. There may be no Maypole, but dance around your favourite tree!

Once you have completed your creation, take it for immediate display in the barn or submit a photo, a short video or a CD as a keepsake of your creativity and a tribute to the inspirational value of nature. On Sunday, continue on with your own creative project or simply appreciate the pieces on display.

Maps will be provided. The Creativity Blitz takes place rain or shine, so dress appropriately for the weather. Stay for the day — you can bring your own lunch and enjoy it outdoors.

To get to High Lonesome, take County Road 29 to Pakenham Village, turn on Waba Road and continue west for 2.9km, turn left on Barr Side Road, travel for 1.6km, then take the first left at Carbine Road and drive 4km to 867 Carbine Road. You have arrived! A map with directions can be found at <mmltc.ca>.

For more information, please visit the website, phone 624-5530, or send an email to <Jacquie.christiani@bell.net>.

Climate Change Expert to Speak in Perth on April 14

The Canadian Federation of University Women – Perth and District (CFUW) invites the public to their annual environment-themed meeting on April 14, which is about the local impact of climate change. The speaker, James P. Bruce, is nationally and internationally known for his expertise in climate change impacts and adaptation responses. The meeting is at 7PM at the Royal Canadian Legion, 26 Beckwith Street East in Perth.

Jim Bruce was the first Director of the Canadian Centre for Inland Waters (Burlington, Ontario), and was active in drafting the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement of 1972 and 1978. Subsequently he was Assistant Deputy Minister of Environmental Management and Atmospheric Environment Service (weather service) of Environment Canada. After leaving the Federal Government, he held in senior positions in the World Meteorological Organization in Geneva, Switzerland. He led in the establishment of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and for several years participated in their various working groups on economic and social dimensions of climate change and water impacts. In fact, he was a member of the IPCC delegation that received the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo in 2007. More recently he has acted as a consultant on

climate change adaptation for many national and international projects.

Mr. Bruce holds a Master of Physics (Meteorology) from the University of Toronto, and honorary doctorates from The University of Waterloo and McMaster University. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada, was awarded the Massey Medal of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society, the International Meteorological Organization Prize awarded by the World Meteorological Organization (1994), as well as being the recipient of many other accolades.

Mr. Bruce will speak on the possible effects climate change could have on Eastern Ontario, and in particular on the Tay River and Rideau Watersheds and surrounding area. While the provincial, federal and municipal governments will possibly take action to reduce the impacts, much needs to be undertaken at the community level, involving all citizens, to promote effective adaptation to a changing climate. Come and hear about the impacts and what you might be able to do.

CFUW is an organization of women, linked nationally and internationally, to promote quality education, to encourage participation in public affairs, and to improve the status of women and girls, all in an atmosphere of friendship and fun.

— J. Preston



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Fiddler's Friends Concert

Bring out the whole family to a showcase fiddle concert at the Almonte Old Town Hall on Sunday, April 27, from 12:30–4PM.

Fiddler's Friends is a benefit concert for the Danny O'Connell Memorial Fund, initiated in 2004 to provide encouragement and financial help to traditional Ottawa Valley fiddlers under 25 years old. Recipients are nominated by three respected organizations with long-time records of interest in the tradition: The Renfrew County Fiddlers, The Irish Society of the National Capital Region, and the Ottawa Traditional Fiddling and Folk Art Society. Each society endorses a candidate from its current crop of upcoming young talent. In this way the fund helps to shine the spotlight on many more young musicians than just the winners of the annual award.

The cash award is produced from capital generated by donations from the O'Connell Family and friends of traditional music. It is owned by the Community Foundation of Ottawa and administered by them to ensure that the award will continue in perpetuity.

Performing at Fiddler's Friends will be recent recipients of the award, as well as an array of groups and individuals presenting the va-

riety of ethnic and cultural strains that make up the unique musical tradition of the Ottawa Valley. Slow airs, waltzes, clogs, jigs and reels performed by talented and enthusiastic devotees make for a varied afternoon of lively family-oriented entertainment with a truly Ottawa Valley flavour.



Elly Squared (aka Ellen Daly and Elly Wedge), along with numerous other performers, will take to the stage at the Almonte Old Town Hall on April 27

A partial list of performers includes John Mitchell, Kyle Felhaver, Terri-Lynn Mahusky, Matt Pepin, Alexis MacIsaac, Monday Night Fiddlers, and Irons in the Fire. Showcase performances feature recent award recipients, including the Mullen Sisters and the Bangs Family, two groups incorporating both vocals and dance in their presentations.

Award winners Ellen Daly, Elly Wedge, Joe Gervais, Amy Felhaber, and Brendan Cybulski are expected to round out the showcase presentations by young fiddlers. Accompanist Callum Mackenzie will assist Alexis MacIsaac in representing the Scottish Cape Breton influence in fiddle music for evoking strong emotion, listening and dance.

A special treat is the delightful Cindy Thompson, local teacher and veteran performer noted for the energy and variety of her performances. She incorporates fiddle, percussion, and dance — phew!

Doors open at 12:30 and music starts right off with Irons in the Fire contributing to the fun, ahead of brief official opening remarks at 1PM. Refreshments of distinction will be available, courtesy of our talented friends from Foodies Fine Foods.

Friends, fine food, fiddling and a family atmosphere make for a great afternoon of enthusiastically supporting young local musicians. Get your advance tickets (\$15) at Mill Street Books (256-9090), drop in at Couple's Corner or Mississippi Mills Musicworks, or simply pay at the door. That's Fiddler's Friends, Sunday, April 27, at 1-4PM, in the Almonte Old Town Hall.

TUNES AT THE TERRACE

Live Music

- April 1 Twilight Two
- April 8 Ed Boot
- April 15 John Foster
- April 22 Shamrock and Thistle
- April 29 The Diplomats

Shows start at 7PM and are FREE. All are welcome (especially seniors)

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Help for Haiti

Sponsor a dairy goat for the Centre Vie Orphanage in Haiti. It's a great gift idea for:

Easter • Anniversaries • Birthdays

Donate \$100 to sponsor a dairy goat, and help the orphanage move toward sustainability \$100 tax receipt Gift card to recipient

AND/OR

Buy a ticket to Classic Theatre Festival's summer comedy *Come Blow Your Horn* by Neil Simon — the July 26 show at 8PM is a benefit for Centre Vie Orphanage.



Contact Linda Dryer at 613-257-7617 or led613mail@gmail.com

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SAT. APRIL 19TH AT

ALICE'S

AND

THE HIVE

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Michael "Bull" Roberts To Speak in Almonte

On April 12, the Cornerstone Community Church in Almonte invites everyone to come out to the Superior Restaurant to meet Michael "Bull" Roberts and hear him tell his incredible life story.

Roberts, a former drug lord, gang leader and violent white supremacist, has gone from a life of crime, drugs and violence to a life honouring God. He is now a pastor, an award-winning author, a motivational speaker, and youth mentor, and he shares his moving story with truth and honesty. In the words of Omar Mosleh, author of *No Bull: Michael Roberts' Story of Redemption*: "Michael Roberts' face is a canvas of pain. Almost his entire body

is draped in ink, from faces and flames to skulls and swastikas. Individually, he says, his tattoos are meaningless. Collectively, they once offered a mask to his misery — a means of therapy for a life of crime, abuse and violence."

This inspirational event will take place at 2PM and again at 7PM on Saturday, April 12 at The Superior Restaurant, 84 Mill Street in Almonte. Bring a friend, because admission is free, pizza and pop are included, and music will be provided by The Samuels. Seating is limited, so come early. For more information, please contact the Cornerstone Community Church at 256-4995 or visit <cornerstone-almonte.com>.

The Reever Report

How To Bring Spring

I hung clothes on the line last Sunday. It was -15°C, with a gale from the wet laundry side of the line whipping frozen towels into my face until my vocabulary tended towards the non-Sunday sort. I stomped in, took off the pre-requisite four layers of outerwear, and swore off going outside the rest of the day. (I did venture out after supper since it was still light — Hallelujah for Daylight Saving Time.)

rinse the last pane sparkling clean, the sky opens, the wind comes up, and hello once again to rain mixed with white stuff plus the winter dirt. Yes, indeed, spring must be around the corner.

Our biggest task in the spring is raking off our sizable boulevard, so the daffodils will have a fighting chance through the road gravel. To get a jump on the raking, we decide to shovel off the frozen gravel/snow first. It's tough going, heavy work, and frankly, not too successful. We no sooner have the most of it done when the plough comes along doing the spring "cleanup", and shoves most of it right back from where we shovelled. We're back to rakes, rubber boots, and dusty clothes to finish the job when the whole business melts. However, it's surely spring when the plough guy is in a T-shirt instead of a winter jacket.

Take stock of your winter wood supply. It's probably wise to use up the last few sticks, so you can start fresh in the fall. On a "surely this is spring" day, decide to tap a few trees for your own maple syrup, and set up your little stove outside. It's a joy when the snow is rotting and the sun is shining, to drag the over-flowing buckets to the stove, and begin your boil. Yummy, that smells so good, even though there are days when the cold pelting rain threatens your fire, and you have to keep running in and out just to keep the thing going. (Under no circumstances should you decide it would be easier to do this process in your kitchen — not unless you want to spend at least a week washing sticky mess off every surface in your entire house! Been there, hated doing that!)

by Glenda Jones

This crazy season is enough to make a gardener weep. It's time we take action, and do those activities that always bring on the warmer weather.

Begin with the first day it's above zero; even one degree above. Rush to the car wash, and bring your vehicle back to some semblance of a colour other than salt-grey. Vacuum the inside too — get all the crusty scum off the floor mats. Dig out the old gas receipts hiding in the glove compartment. They'll only cause you heart palpitations as you see the rise in price. Stand back, admire your clean shiny car, and hop in to drive away. The very second you do that, the sky will cloud over, and rain will threaten. Some jerk will splash through the biggest puddle next to you, and your clean car will once again be a myth. But hey, doesn't rain indicate not-snow? Isn't that a good sign?

When you get home, have a look at your long gangly house plants straining for the sunny window. It would be a good idea to take slips from

those plants. A little nip here, one there, and before long you'll have enough cuttings to furnish the whole garden, if not your neighbour's too. Collect every jar you have, and line every window sill with cuttings that are supposed to root up. But wait: there may be enough sun, but not enough heat, and before you can see roots on those babies, half of them will have rotted off. The other half will thrive, and now you're in for it. You have to pot them up. Much mess: pots of some sort, soil, water, floppy half rooted geraniums, and a floor washing when you're done. Line the pots on the aforesaid window sill again, and you can hardly see the non-melting snow out there. They're green, and we all know green means spring — at some juncture.

The day the sun manages to creep into the kitchen window is cause for celebration — "must be spring," we say. "Must be the dirtiest windows you've ever seen," we think. Ahh, it's not exactly freezing, so window washing would be a great way to start spring cleaning. Hold that thought. As we

This crazy season is enough to make a gardener weep. It's time we take action, and do those activities that always bring on the warmer weather.

You can be sure if you use up all your winter wood supply, you will be hit with at least two more really cold days when you're going to need that wood. However, it is a sure sign of spring when you are down to the last cord. Clean up the basement, put away the fire tools, sweep out the stove. That'll make spring come.

There's one more thing you need to do. Get out the patio furniture. Set the chairs on the sunny side. Put a pot of spring bulbs just ready to bloom on the little table, and hang up the wind chimes. Before the sun leaves the patio, make some sandwiches of spring greens straight from California, and enjoy lunch on the patio, even if you have to wear your winter jacket to do it. You'll be pleased that indeed you've done it — you've made spring arrive. But wait: what's that? Is that a mosquito?! Darn it all anyway. Now it's summer and the bugs are back!

Join a Scavenger Hunt for Kids in Haiti!

"Faith is walking to the edge of all you have... and taking one more step." — Luis Martinez

This quote was cited by Dieu-donne "DD" Batraville, founder and main patron of the **Centre Vie Orphanage** of St. Marc's, Haiti, in her fall newsletter to supporters and volunteers in Lanark County who established the orphanage after the devastating earthquake in 2010.

Certainly, DD lives true to the quote! On faith, DD left her business and livelihood in Canada this past fall to visit the orphanage's charges, now 6 to 15 years of age and growing out of everything (see Scavenger List at right).

Using a generator in the early hours to send her emails, she conveyed her life of service, work and thoughts over the five months of her visit. My overriding impression upon reading them was that the basics are still lacking in Haiti — including water, electricity, medicine, even underwear and shoes.

Soon after her arrival, DD was asked by a parish priest if she could help set up a medical clinic for Gracette — a rural area near a polluted water source. The request came because so many there are suffering and dying.

After community consultations, a small building was constructed. However, they do not have water or supplies yet. I asked DD for a list of what is needed for both the clinic in Gracette and for Centre Vie's urgent needs. In order to tackle the list that she sent, I decided to see it as a challenging scavenger hunt for Easter aid instead of eggs!

The objective is to send a shipment of goods by the end of May or early June. With such a daunt-



Kids at Centre Vie Orphanage in Haiti really appreciate your donations!

ing list, I welcome participation and donations from individuals, groups, and the professional community. There are a number of great sources for these items, and you don't necessarily need to buy them new. Feel free to search for items while doing your spring cleaning or down-sizing, check out garage sales, use your reward points, or search on Kijiji and ask your friends for help.

The Scavenger List

- Household items: linens (flat sheets or twin, for both the clinic and Centre Vie); towels; underwear for ages 6 to 15 (boys and girls)
- Medicines for children and adults: Tylenol; Advil; Polysporin; salves for skin, eye and ear; hand sanitizer; Benadryl/anti-allergy; cold, flu and sinus relief; Immodium/anti-diarrhea; Gravol; vitamins (especially folic acid)
- Medical supplies: rubbing alcohol; plastic gloves; boxes of bandages and tapes; syringes, wound cleansers; catheters
- Special items for medical clinic setup at Gracette: blood pressure monitors (cuff size large and regular); diabetic monitor/strips; hospital bed; portable exam table; patient gowns; tuning fork; reflex hammer; supply carrying case; ophthalmoscope; handheld eye chart; surgical instrument tray; surgical needle (for sutures, skin cuts); stethoscope; cholesterol charts; generator and solar panels

Thank you for reading and considering this list. To donate items, please contact Linda at 257-7617 or <led613mail@gmail.com>. Another great way to support Centre Vie is by purchasing tickets to the special showing of a Classic Theatre Festival play this summer. See the "Get Your Goat for Haiti" ad on page 25 of this issue.

—Linda Dryer, Volunteer

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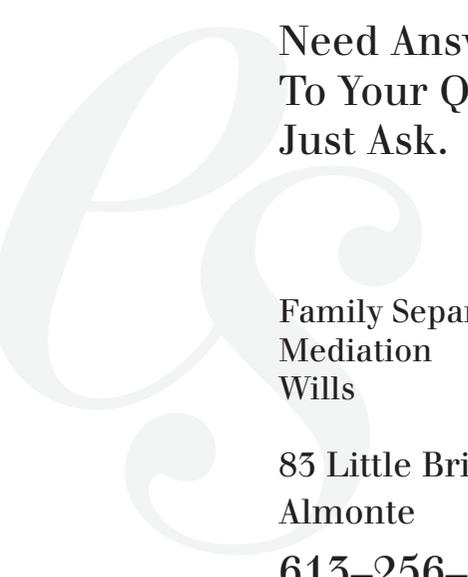
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 Carlos del Junco, Almonte, May 2
 Kanata Artists Studio Tour, May 2-4
 Handmade Harvest, Almonte, May 3-4
 Swing into Spring, Perth, May 3
 Home & Living Expo, SF, May 3-4
 Hike for Hospice, Miss Mills, May 4
 David Rotundo, Westport, May 9-10
 Art in the Attic, Almonte, May 9-11
 Young Awards Gala, Almonte, May 10
 Red Trillium Studio Tour, W. Carleton, May 10-11
 Disorderly Dinner Show, Perth, May 10
 St. Paul's Spring Concert, Perth, May 11
 Volunteer Fair, Mississippi Mills, May 14
 Amos the Transparent, Herb Garden, May 17
 Bob Seger Tribute, JRs Almonte, May 24
 Jon the Cowguy, Almonte, May 29
 Little Women — The Musical, Perth, May 22-25, May 30-Jun 1
 Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month, June
 Busfusion, Almonte, Jun 5-8
 Fred Eaglesmith, CP, June 7
 Cantores Celestes Choir, Perth, Jun 7
 Festival of the Choirs, Eganville, Jun 7
 Doors Open Smiths Falls, Jun 8
 Westport Heritage Festival, June 14
 Celfest, Almonte, Jul 4-6
 Art in the Park, Renfrew, Jul 12-13
 Stewart Park Festival, Perth, Jul 18-20
 Herbfest, Almonte, Jul 27
 Puppets Up!, Almonte, Aug 9-10
 Highland Games, Almonte, Aug 23

Visual Arts

Vernissage, Apr 5, 2-4PM. A Collaboration of Weavers. MVTM, Almonte. mvmtm.ca
Vernissage, Apr 11, 7-9PM. Jean Gauvreau, Brush Strokes, CP. brushstrokesart.ca
Spring Into Art Conference, Apr 12, 8:45AM-4:15PM. Carp Memorial Hall. jozodesigns@rogers.com, \$70
MERA Vernissage, Apr 12, 1-4PM. Five Women and Some Art. MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners.
Nature Textile Workshop, Apr 12, 1-4PM. Nature-themed fabric art. acegkelly@hotmail.com. MVTM Almonte. \$45
Open House, Apr 12 & 13, 10AM-4PM. S. M. Art Studio, 11 Main St. W., Almonte. sarahmoffatt.com
Opening Reception, Apr 13, 3-5PM. Animals in visual art. General Fine Craft, Almonte. generalfinecraft.com
4A Mtg, Apr 14, 7:30PM. Almonte Public Library. 256-5863, 4a-artists.ca. Free
ARTiculate Fireside Art Talks, Apr 16, 7-9PM. St. Paul's United Church, Carp. mario.cerroni@photodiction.com, Guests \$5
Lanark Cty Quilters Guild, Apr 22, 7PM. Challenge presentation & prizes. Guests \$3. Lug your mug. Perth Lions Hall, 264-9232
Arnprior Quilters' Guild, Apr 23, 7PM. Christian Education Centre, Arnprior. arnpriordistrictquiltersguild.com. \$5; \$20/yr
Breakfast with the Arts, Westport Style, Apr 26, 8-10AM. 8AM breakfast, speaker 9AM. TBD. 273-8775

Youth

Caring Clowns Troupe, Apr 6, 10:30AM-12:30PM. Fultons Pancake House, Pakenham. 256-3867, fultons.ca
AiC Youth Music Club, Apr 13, 12:30-2PM. Almonte Old Town Hall. almonteinconcert.com/youth-music-club. By donation
Easter Egg Hunts, Apr 19-20, 10AM-2PM. Hunts every half-hour. \$2 per child under 8. Fultons, Pakenham. 256-3867, fultons.ca

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
31 🎵 Carp Celtic Jam , Carp Masonic Lodge	1 🎵 Brock Zeman , O'Reilly's Pub 🎵 Green Drinks , Perth 🎵 Seniors' Music & Brunch , Pakenham 🎵 Twilight Two , Carleton Place Terrace	2 🎵 CP Horticultural Society , CP 🎵 Open Celtic Jam , Naismith Pub 🎵 Open Jam w/Dave Balfour , O'Reilly's 🎵 Seniors' Music & Brunch , Pakenham 🎵 Shawn McCullough , The Cove	3 🎵 Jazz at Bally's , Ballygblin's 🎵 Musicians' Circle , Bolingbroke 🎵 Open Mic w/The Matts , Golden Arrow 🎵 The Lion in Winter , Perth
7 🎵 Carp Celtic Jam , Carp Masonic Lodge 🎵 Nebraska , Arnprior	8 🎵 Brock Zeman , O'Reilly's Pub 🎵 Ed Boot , Carleton Place Terrace 🎵 Roast Beef Luncheon , CP 🎵 Seniors' Music & Brunch , Pakenham	9 🎵 Adult Bereavement Group , Perth 🎵 Gabrielle , Perth 🎵 Open Celtic Jam , Naismith Pub 🎵 Open Jam w/Dave Balfour , O'Reilly's 🎵 Shawn McCullough , The Cove	10 🎵 Gabrielle , Smiths Falls 🎵 Musicians' Circle , Bolingbroke 🎵 Open Mic w/Matt Dickson , Golden Arrow 🎵 Perfect Wedding , Middleville
14 📅 4A Mtg , Almonte 🎵 Astronomy Night , Almonte 🎵 Carp Celtic Jam , Carp Masonic Lodge 🎵 CFUW Meeting , Perth 🎵 The Book Thief , Arnprior	15 🎵 Brock Zeman , O'Reilly's Pub 🎵 Fashions with Flare , Perth 🎵 John Foster , Carleton Place Terrace	16 📅 ARTiculate Fireside Art Talks , Carp 🎵 Open Celtic Jam , Naismith Pub 🎵 Open Jam w/Dave Balfour , O'Reilly's 🎵 Shawn McCullough , The Cove	17 🎵 Devon Coyote , Golden Arrow 🎵 Musicians' Circle , Bolingbroke
21 🎵 Carp Celtic Jam , Carp Masonic Lodge 🎵 Le Week-End , Arnprior	22 🎵 Brock Zeman , O'Reilly's Pub 📅 Lanark Cty Quilters Guild , Perth 🎵 Shamrock & Thistle , CPTerrace 🎵 Tree Walk & Talk & Films , Blakeney	23 📅 Arnprior Quilters' Guild , Arnprior 🎵 Neat Soundcheck , Neat 🎵 Open Celtic Jam , Naismith Pub 🎵 Open Jam w/Dave Balfour , O'Reilly's 🎵 Shawn McCullough , The Cove 🎵 Siddharth , Perth 🎵 Tree Talk , Almonte	24 🎵 Lucky B's , Golden Arrow 🎵 Musicians' Circle , Bolingbroke 🎵 Siddharth , Smiths Falls 🎵 Steve Dawson , Neat 🎵 Tree Walk & Talk , Clayton
28 🎵 Almonte Horticultural Soc. , Almonte 🎵 Carp Celtic Jam , Carp Masonic Lodge 🎵 Muscle Shoals , Arnprior	29 🎵 Brock Zeman , O'Reilly's Pub 🎵 The Diplomats , Carleton Place Terrace	30 🎵 Adult Bereavement Group , Perth 🎵 Open Celtic Jam , Naismith Pub 🎵 Open Jam w/Dave Balfour , O'Reilly's 🎵 Shawn McCullough , The Cove 🎵 Things My Mother Taught Me , Constance Bay 🎵 Annual Spring Fashion Show , Westport	1 🎵 Hub Hospice AGM , Almonte 🎵 Musicians' Circle , Bolingbroke 🎵 The Three Musketeers , Smiths Falls 🎵 Things My Mother Taught Me , Constance Bay

Theatre

The Lion in Winter, Apr 3-5, 11-12 at 8PM; Apr 6, 13 at 2PM. \$20 adv (Book Nook, theatre) or \$22 (TicketsPlease.ca). Studio Theatre, Perth. 267-7469
The Fox on the Fairway, Apr 4-5 8PM. Mudds comedy. CP Town Hall, 257-1976, mississippimudds.ca \$20
 O'Brien Theatre Film Group presents **Nebraska** (Apr 6, 1PM; Apr 7, 7:30PM), **The Book Thief** (Apr 13, 1PM, Apr 14, 7:30PM), **Le Week-End** (Apr 20, 1PM, Apr 21, 7:30PM), **Muscle Shoals** (Apr 27, 1PM, Apr 28, 7:30PM). O'Brien Theatre, Arnprior. 622-7682, \$10
 FINI presents **Gabrielle**, Apr 9, 2&7PM (Full Circle Theatre, Perth); Apr 10, 7PM (Station Theatre, SF); **Siddharth**, Apr 23, 2&7PM (Full Circle Theatre, Perth); Apr 24, 7PM (Station Theatre, SF). filmnightperth@gmail.com, \$10

Perfect Wedding, Apr 10-12, 7:30PM. Middleville Players. Tickets at Lanark Era, or tel/email. Trinity United Church, Middleville. 259-5692, jgibson@storm.ca
World Where Am I?, Apr 11, 7:30PM (Arnprior Public Library), Apr 12 (Full Circle Theatre, Perth). ticketsplease.ca. 485-6434, 2wp.ca. \$20; \$18 adv
August: Osage County, Apr 18, 19, 7:30PM. Station Theatre, Smiths Falls. 283-0300, \$10 (cash); \$5 students w/ID
The Three Musketeers, Apr 25-26, May 1-3, 7:30PM; Apr 27 & May 4, 2PM. \$20/\$10 at Special Greetings (cash), or web/tel. Station Theatre, SF 283-0300,
Live At The Met: Prince Igor, Apr 26, 1PM. O'Brien Theatre, Arnprior. 623-4007, obrien theatre.com. \$22
Spiritual Cinema Circle, Apr 27, 2PM. McMartin House, Perth. 267-4819, fp@superaje.com. \$2 don.

Things My Mother Taught Me, Apr 30-May 3, May 8-9, 7:30PM. Constance Bay Com Ctr. ruralroot.org/tmmtm. \$15/\$12

Literature

LiPS Poetry Slam/Open Mic, Apr 4, 7PM. Signup 6:30PM. Back room, Perth Restaurant, 23 Gore St W. lanarklips@hotmail.com. \$5
Vine Rhymes, Apr 19, 7-9PM. Smiths Falls songwriters, poets & storytellers perform., Coffee Culture, Smiths Falls. Free
Used Book Sale, Apr 25 (4-9PM), Apr 26 (9AM-noon). Funds scholarships for high schools. Renfrew Collegiate Institute

Music

Seniors' Music & Brunch, Apr 1, 2, 8, 11-1. Irons in the Fire Celtic Band, pancake lunch. Fultons, Pakenham. 256-3867

Musicians' Circle, Thursdays, 7PM. Musicians only, all ages. ABC Hall, Bolingbroke. 273-9005. \$5 for hall

Jazz House Concert, Apr 5, 7:30PM. Christine Fagan Trio. jazzn.ca. \$20
Concert for Lanark Co. Food Bank, Apr 6, 3PM. W Ottawa Ladies Chorus. St. Mary's Church, CP. LadiesChorus@bell.net
Jonathan Byrd & the Pickup Cowboys, Apr 6, 7PM. Full Circle Theatre, Perth. 485-6434, ticketsplease.ca. \$23/\$20
Music at the Manor. Sharlene Wallace (pedal & folk harp), Apr 6, 2PM. Trio Chanteclair, Apr 27, 2PM. Perth Manor, 23 Drummond St. W. Perth. 264-0050. \$35
Perth Citizens' Band Spring Concert, Apr 6, 2PM. Perth Legion. 256-4221, perthband.ca. \$5/\$10 per family
PPAC: Quartango, Apr 11, 7:30PM. ticketsplease.ca, 485-6434. PDCI auditorium, 13 Victoria St., Perth

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 Astronomy Night, Almonte 🎸 Fish Fry, Almonte 🎸 Fox on the Fairway, Carleton Place 🎸 Gerry O'Kane, John St. Pub 📖 LiPS Poetry Slam/Open Mic, Perth 🎸 Pakenham Home Show, Pakenham 🎸 Roxy Swan, Golden Arrow 🎸 Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp 🎸 The Lion in Winter, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 Brea Lawrenson, Golden Arrow 🎸 Brews for Briar Fundraiser, John St. Pub 🎸 Empty Bowls - Foodsmiths, Perth 🎸 Fox on the Fairway, Carleton Place 🎸 Head over Heels, The Cove 🎸 International TableTop Day, Almonte 🎸 Jazz House Concert 🎸 Kiss the Cod at the Ceilidh, The Cove 🎸 Lanark Co. Genealogical Soc., Perth 🎸 Pakenham Home Show, Pakenham 🎸 Posse, The Downstairs Pub at JR's 🎸 The Lion in Winter, Perth 🎸 Vernissage - Weavers, Almonte 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 Caring Clowns Troupe, Pakenham 🎸 Concert for Lanark Co. Food Bank, CP 🎸 Jonathan Byrd, Perth 🎸 Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak 🎸 Music at the Manor, Perth 🎸 Nebraska, Arnprior 🎸 Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub 🎸 Pakenham Home Show, Pakenham 🎸 Perth Citizens' Band Spring Concert, Perth 🎸 Sarah Slean w/Strings, Neat 🎸 The Lion in Winter, Perth 🎸 Valley Singles Lunch, Renfrew
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 Astronomy Night, Almonte 🎸 David Vest & East meets Vest, Neat 🎸 MonkeyJunk, John St. Pub 🎸 Perfect Wedding, Middleville 🎸 PPAC: Quartango, Perth 🎸 Psychic Matthew Stapley, Carleton Place 🎸 Scott Woods Jubilee, Clayton 🎸 The Lion in Winter, Perth 🎸 Vernissage, Carleton Place 🎸 World, Where Am I?, Arnprior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 Gryphon Trio, Almonte 🎸 Open House, Almonte 🎸 Art Conference & Luncheon, Carp 🎸 Auction & Spaghetti Dinner, Carp 🎸 Long Sault Trio, Golden Arrow 🎸 Megan Lane & Band, Neat 🎸 MERA Vernissage, McDonalds Corners 🎸 Michael 'Bull' Roberts Talk, Almonte 🎸 Mom to Mom Sale, Almonte 🎸 Nature Textile Workshop, Almonte 🎸 Perfect Wedding, Middleville 🎸 The Lion in Winter, Perth 🎸 White Lake Acoustic Jam, White Lake 🎸 World, Where Am I?, Perth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 AiC Youth Music Club, Almonte 🎸 Open House, Almonte 🎸 APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak 🎸 Jazz Brunch, Fiddleheads 🎸 Lions Club Mobility Van Fundraiser, Westport 🎸 One Piano, Four Hands, McDonalds Corners 🎸 Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub 🎸 Opening Reception, Almonte 🎸 The Book Thief, Arnprior 🎸 The Lion in Winter, Perth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 August: Osage County, Smiths Falls 🎸 BOTR: Hogtown Allstars, Westport 🎸 Brea Lawrenson, Golden Arrow 🎸 Emm Gryner, Neat 🎸 Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 Easter Egg Hunts, Pakenham 🎸 '50s Glamour Night, CP 🎸 Arlene Quinn & Lyle Dillabough, Gallipeau Centre 🎸 August: Osage County, Smiths Falls 🎸 Breakfast at the Legion, Almonte 🎸 Carp Farmers' Easter Market, Carp 🎸 Head over Heels, The Cove 🎸 Vine Rhymes, Smiths Falls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 Easter Egg Hunts, Pakenham 🎸 Le Week-End, Arnprior 🎸 Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak 🎸 Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 Ali McCormick & Black Strap Moss, Golden Arrow 🎸 Almonte Lectures, Almonte 🎸 Astronomy Night, Almonte 🎸 Jazz Night w/Spencer Evans Trio, The Cove 🎸 Peter Liu Trio, Merrickville 🎸 The Three Musketeers, Smiths Falls 🎸 Tree Walk & Talk, Pakenham 🎸 Used Book Sale, Renfrew 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 Brea Lawrenson, Golden Arrow 🎸 Breakfast with the Arts, Westport Style 🎸 Dan Hill, Gallipeau Centre 🎸 Empty Bowls - Riverguild, Perth 🎸 Festival of the Maples, Perth 🎸 Garage Sale Naismith Fundraiser, Almonte 🎸 Live At The Met: Prince Igor, Arnprior 🎸 Pitch In, Almonte 🎸 Recycle Day at RONA, Carleton Place 🎸 The Elton John Experience, Perth 🎸 The Three Musketeers, Smiths Falls 🎸 Tree Champion Award & Walk, Appleton 🎸 Used Book Sale, Renfrew 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎸 APEX Jazz Band 40th Anniv Party, The Royal Oak 🎸 Fiddler's Friends Concert, Almonte 🎸 Garnet Rogers, McDonalds Corners 🎸 Jazz Brunch, Fiddleheads 🎸 Muscle Shoals, Arnprior 🎸 Music at the Manor Concert, Perth 🎸 NightCrawlers Acoustic Blues, Carleton Place 🎸 Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub 🎸 Songs of the War Years, Maberly 🎸 Spiritual Cinema Circle, Perth 🎸 The Three Musketeers, Smiths Falls 🎸 Traditional Song Session, Almonte 🎸 Tree Walk, Talk & Bike Ride, Almonte
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 🎨 Brush Strokes presents Impressionist oil artist Jean Gauvreau <brushstrokesart.ca> 🎨 Fairview Manor Foyer presents Stephanie Huckabone's mixed media, then (from Apr 15) Holy Name of Mary Students 🎨 General Fine Craft, Art & Design presents <i>Animals in Visual Art</i> <generalfinecraft.com> 🎨 Kanata Civic Art Gallery presents <i>City Scapes</i> (to Apr 18), <i>Young at Art</i> (from Apr 22) <kanatagallery.ca> 🎨 MERA Schoolhouse presents <i>Five Women and Some Art</i> <meraschoolhouse.org> 🎨 MVTM presents <i>A Collaboration of Weavers</i> <mvtm.ca> 🎨 Ottawa West Arts Assoc Gallery (Goulbourn Rec Complex) presents <i>The Awakening</i> <owaa.ca> 🎨 The Mississippi Mills Chambers Gallery presents Almonte Crazy Quilters 🎨 The Almonte Library Corridor Gallery presents Irene Emig's collage/acrylic/origami 		

Carleton Place Terrace Snr Living (CP, 253-7360): Live music, 7PM.
 Apr 1 Twilight Two
 Apr 8 Ed Boot
 Apr 15 John Foster
 Apr 22 Shamrock & Thistle
 Apr 29 The Diplomats

Gallipeau Centre Theatre (Smiths Falls, 284-9916):
 Apr 19 Arlene Quinn & Lyle Dillabough, \$10
 Apr 26 Dan Hill, \$29.50

Community

Green Drinks, Apr 1, 5:30PM. Informal meeting of environmental folk. Around the Corner, Perth. GreenDrinks.org.

CP Hort Society, Apr 2, 7PM. St. Andrew's Church, CP. cphorticulture.ca. Visitors \$3

Astronomy Night, Apr 4, 11, 14, 25, 7:45-10PM. Mill of Kintail, Almonte. 256-3610x1

Pakenham Home Show, Apr 4 (6-9PM), Apr 5 (9-6), Apr 6 (10-4). Stewart Community Centre, Pakenham. 256-1077

Empty Bowls - Foodsmiths, Apr 5, 11AM-2PM. Buy bowl for \$20 donation; fill w/curry. Foodsmiths, Perth. emptybowls.ca

Intl TableTop Day, Apr 5, Noon-4PM. Play games & have fun. Almonte Old Town Hall. disobedientdonkeygames@gmail.com

Lanark Genealogical Soc., Apr 5, 1:30PM. Archives Lanark, Perth. 866-2029, Free

Valley Singles Lunch, Apr 6, 1PM. Flamingo Restaurant, Renfrew. 623-6698

Adult Bereavement Groups, Apr 9 (1-3PM, Perth); Apr 30 (1:30-3:30PM, Waterside, CP). 267-6400, rebeccab@chsl.ca. Free

Psychic Matthew Stapley, Apr 11, 7:30PM. Presented by IODE. \$20 at C Style Fashions in CP. CP Town Hall, 253-1799

Auction & Dinner, Apr 12, 5:30PM. St. Paul's United Church, Carp. 839-2155, \$10/\$8

Michael 'Bull' Roberts Talk, Apr 12, 2 & 7PM. Free; pizza, pop & music. Superior Restaurant, Almonte. cornerstone-almonte.com

Mom to Mom Sale, Apr 12, 9AM-1PM. Almonte Civitan Hall. momsale@gmail.com

Lions Club Mobility Van Fundraiser Breakfast, Apr 13, 9AM-12:30PM. The Cove, Westport. 273-3636, coveinn.com

CFUW Meeting, Apr 14, 7PM. Local impact of climate change. Perth Legion. cfuw-perth-district.com

Fashions with Flare, Apr 15, 6PM. Tickets at Shadowfax (Perth). Fundraiser for Lanark Co Com Justice. Perth Civitan, 264-1558, \$20

'50s Glamour Night, Apr 19, 6:30PM. Tickets at Static Salon, Platinum Black, 894-5700. Olde Church Shops, 17a Albert St., CP. \$25

Carp Farmers' Easter Market, Apr 19, 8AM-2PM. carpfarmersmarket.com

Arbour Week Activities, Apr 22-27. Tree walks, talks, art and events. Mississippi Mills. 256-1077

Almonte Lectures, Apr 25, 7:30PM. Barbara Carroll: Understanding Grief. Almonte United Church. don_wiles@carleton.ca. Free

Festival of the Maples, Apr 26, Maple products/taffy, displays, live music, petting zoo, trolley rides. Crystal Palace, Perth.

Empty Bowls - Riverguild, Apr 26, 10AM-4PM. Buy a bowl for \$20, fill with soup/chili. Riverguild Perth. 267-5237

Garage Sale for Naismith, Apr 26, 7AM. Fundraiser for school grounds improvements. Naismith School, Almonte.

Pitch In, Apr 26, 9AM-Noon. Clean up with friends. Downtown Almonte, 256-1077

Recycle Day at RONA, Apr 26, 9AM-1PM. Recycle paint, batteries, electronics. RONA, Carleton Place. 596-0310, tter.ca.

Almonte Hort Soc., Apr 28, 7:30PM. Cornerstone Com Church, Almonte. gardenontario.org/site.php/almonte.

Westport Annual Spring Fashion Show, Apr 30, Noon-2PM. \$25 for lunch, show & donation to Cancer Society. The Cove, Westport. 273-3636, coveinn.com

Hub Hospice AGM, May 1, 7PM. Almonte Legion, 406-7020, hubhospice.com

Scott Woods Old Time Jubilee Concert, Apr 11, 7PM. Proceeds to St George's Church. Clayton Com Ctr, 256-9010

AiC, Apr 12, 8PM; Gryphon Trio/James Campbell. \$30/\$15; at 256-4554, almonteinconcert.com, or door. Almonte Old Town Hall

White Lake Acoustic Jam, Apr 12, 7-10PM. White Lake Fire Hall. wlol.ca/home/hot-licks-acoustic-jam. Free

One Piano, Four Hands, Apr 13, 2PM. Val Leavitt & Brad Mills. MERA, McDonalds Corners. ticketsplease.ca. \$25+surcharge

BOTR: Hogtown Allstars, Apr 18, 7-11PM. The Cove, Westport. choosetheblues.ca. \$60+tx dinner & show

Peter Liu Trio, Apr 25, 7PM. Baldachin Inn, Merrickville. 269-4223, merrickvillesjazzfest.com. \$40 incl dinner

The Elton John Experience, Apr 26, 8PM. \$30 at Shadowfax. Studio Theatre, Perth. 1-800-518-2729, shadowfax.on.ca

Fiddler's Friends Concert, Apr 27, 1PM. Tickets at Mill Street Books (256-9090). Almonte Old Town Hall. \$15

Garnet Rogers, Apr 27, 2PM. MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners. 485-6434, ticketsplease.ca. \$22; \$55 for series

NightCrawlers Acoustic Blues, Apr 27, 6-9PM. Generations Inn, 717 Lake Park Rd., CP. 253-5253, generationsinnhouse.ca

Songs of the War Years, Apr 27, 7PM. Tay Valley Community Choir. Maberly Community Hall. By donation

Traditional Song Session, Apr 27, 2-4PM. Join in traditional songs w/choruses. The Barley Mow, Almonte. 355-5552

The Swan at Carp (Carp, 839-7926): Apr 4, 18 Steve Barrette Trio, jazz, 7-10PM, no cover

The John St. Pub (Arnprior, 623-8149): 9PM Apr 4 Gerry O'Kane, \$5
 Apr 5 Brews for Briar Fundraiser, \$5
 Apr 11 MonkeyJunk, \$25/\$30

The Downstairs Pub at JR's (Almonte, 256-2031):
 Apr 5 Posse, 9PM, \$3 cover

Fiddleheads (Perth, 267-1304):
 Apr 13, 27 Sun Jazz Brunch, 12-3PM

The Royal Oak (Kanata, 591-3895): jazz on Sun, no cover
 Apr 6, 20 Magnolia Rhythm Kings, 3-6PM
 Apr 13 APEX Jazz Band, 2-5PM
 Apr 27 APEX 40th Anniv Party, 2-5PM

The Cove (Westport, 273-3636): Wed Shawn McCullough, 6-9PM, no cover
 Apr 5 Kiss the Cod at the Ceilidh, 1-4PM
 Apr 5, 19 Head over Heels, 6-9PM
 Apr 25 Jazz w/Spencer Evans Trio, 8-11PM

Ballygiblin's (CP, 253-7400): jazz, no cover
 Apr 3 6-9PM Peter Brown, Don Paterson, Dave Arthur, Glenn Robb

Neat (Burnstown, 433-3205): 8PM
 Apr 6 Sarah Slean w/Strings, \$52.50
 Apr 11 David Vest, \$27.50
 Apr 12 Megan Lane & Band, \$25

Apr 18 Emm Gryner, \$25
 Apr 23 Soundcheck, free
 Apr 24 Steve Dawson, \$20

The Naismith Pub (Almonte, 256-6336): Open Celtic Jam Wed, no charge (7:30-10PM)

Carp Masonic Lodge: Carp Celtic Jam, \$3/\$25 for 3 mos, all levels, Mon (7-9PM)

Ashton Pub (Ashton): Sundays Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, 2-5PM

O'Reilly's Pub (Perth, 267-7994): 8:30PM. Brock Zeman Tues, Dave Balfour Jam Wed

Golden Arrow Pub (Perth, 267-4500): 9PM
 Apr 3 Open Mic w/The Matts
 Apr 4 Roxy Swan
 Apr 5, 18, 26 Brea Lawrenson
 Apr 10 Open Mic w/Matt Dickson
 Apr 12 Long Sault Trio
 Apr 17 Devon Coyote
 Apr 24 Lucky B's
 Apr 25 Ali McCormick, Black Strap Moss

Smiths Falls Home & Living expo

Saturday May 3 10-6PM
 Sunday May 4 10-4PM

Smiths Falls Memorial Centre
 71 Cornelia St. W.

70+ vendors, BBQ

House • Car • Boat • Kitchen • Jewellery • Skin Care
 Renovations • Gardens • Pools & Hot Tubs

Bridal/Fashion Show Sun. 1pm with Tea.

Photo op on Stage Coach

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 oldandnewshoppe@cogeco.net

O'Brien Theatre Film Group Spring 2014

Nebraska

Sun., Apr. 6, 1PM • Mon, Apr. 7, 7:30PM

The Book Thief

Sun., Apr. 13, 1PM • Mon, Apr. 14, 7:30PM

Le Week-End

Sun., Apr. 20, 1PM • Mon, Apr. 21, 7:30PM

Muscle Shoals

Sun., Apr. 27, 1PM • Mon, Apr. 28, 7:30PM

The Invisible Woman

Sun., May 4, 1PM • Mon, May 5, 7:30PM

The Great Beauty

Sun., May 11, 1PM • Mon, May 12, 7:30PM

The Lunchbox

Sun., May 18, 1PM • Mon, May 19, 7:30PM

Alan Partridge

Sun., May 25, 1PM • Mon, May 26, 7:30PM



8 admissions for \$70
 Any 4 admissions for \$38
 Or pay \$10 at the door for each movie.
 Passes are on sale now.

147 John St. North, Arnprior
 613-622-7682
 www.obrientheatre.com



Get BeDazzled! Jewellery Auction for Interval House

They say it's not what you wear on the outside that glitters in light, it's what you have on the inside — but sometimes wearing a little jewellery can't hurt! **Lanark County Interval House** is having a jewellery and accessory online auction on their website <lcih.org> on April 12-27. BeDazzled, the accessory fundraiser, makes it easy to bid on your favorite items from your computer without ever having to leave home.

Jewellery can transform your whole outfit, and this auction will feature over thirty gorgeous jewellery sets, watches, earrings, pendants, rings, bracelets, necklaces, hair accessories and children's pieces. Glamorous, modern and unique donations from local artists have come from Almonte, Smiths Falls, Perth, Ottawa, Toronto and Quebec, just in time to put a little spring in your step.

Some unique items are the amazing "Grow" 16-inch necklace that features a handmade 3-inch glass pendant, with sterling wire, enameled copper, and a sterling chain. The necklace was created and donated by artist Jennifer Kelly of Current Works of Art, who works with fused and kiln-formed glass, natural elements, and metals. Her creative process of sand blasting and kiln work is done in her studio, nestled by the river in Mississippi Mills. Kelly's work can be found at Cirque Du Soleil boutiques across North America, Montreal's Musée des Beaux Art boutique, and select exhibits.

In love with the popular Downton Abbey style worn by Lord Grantham's fashionable daughters? Then the sassy 1920s' distinctive tassel necklace expertly and carefully crafted by Bengal Bijoux jewellery will let you enjoy a timeless investment while you build an enviable legacy for future generations. It's infused with the power of the 1920s flappers that helped women break away from the severe Victorian constraints. The Flappers revolted against societal norms by throwing off their "boned" corsets, moving into the workplace, and helping to se-



Bid on this year's jewellery auction from April 12-27. Proceeds support Lanark County Interval House.

cure the vote for women. Above all, they focused on being true to themselves. The sleek, streamlined 90cm tassel necklace conveys elegance and sophistication, and originally retailed for \$275. Bengal Bijoux pieces feature highly collectible components such as New Vintage elements or NOS (New Old Stock) that has been carefully stored but never used, and sourced from designer warehouses all over the world.

This is only a small sampling from the BeDazzled collection that jewellery lovers can save money and have fun bidding on. There is something for everyone, and last year the auction raised over \$2,300 for Lanark County Interval House. The organizers aim to surpass that amount this year and the preview is now open at: <lcih.org/bedazzled-jewellery-auction>

For more information, contact Suzanne Cronkwright at 257-5159, or email <bedazzled@explornet.com>.

— Linda Seccaspina

The Peter Liu Trio

On Friday, April 25, come out to the Baldachin Inn in Merrickville from 7-9:30PM, for a special event presented by Merrickville's Jazz Fest.

Well known for his warm velvety voice, creative phrasing and engaging presence, Peter Liu is a popular vocalist who is passionate about singing jazz and connecting with audiences. He performs with some of Ottawa's finest jazz musicians at a variety of public and private events in the region. With a tight professional sound, they deliver moving and exciting interpretations of timeless standards, including swing, Latin, ballads and blues. Find out more about Peter at <peterliuvocals.com>.

Peter is accompanied by Yves Laroche on piano and Tom Denison on bass. Yves is a busy performer, arranger and educator in Ottawa, who has appeared numerous times at the Ottawa International Jazz Festival. Tom, one of the most in-demand

bass players in Ottawa, is known for his inventive lines, impeccable time and melodic solos, and has performed at the Montreal, Ottawa and Halifax jazz festivals.

For this special performance, the Trio presents a unique program exploring the mystery, intensity and complexity of love relationships.

The Baldachin Dining Room will be offering a \$40 set menu for dinner, including a cover charge. Reservations are highly recommended; contact 269-4223 or <baldachininn@gmail.com>.

For further details, please visit the "Special Event" page on the website <merrickvillesjazzfest.com>

The concert is presented by The Baldachin Inn and Merrickville's Jazz Fest to highlight the fourth edition of the festival, which will take place this year on October 16 to 19.

Westport is Warming Up!

As I sit here typing these words, I watch the snow falling again and wonder if it will ever end! However, spring is on the way, and there are some wonderful events happening this month in Westport.

At the Cove Inn, the fantastic series of music nights and community events continues. Every

cal music with Chris Murphy, Henry Norwood, Shawn McCullough, Kevin Head and more, with the afternoon culminating in an open jam for anyone to join in! Organizers will also be hosting a phone call with the mayor of Westport, Newfoundland, and giving you a chance to "Kiss the Cod" and get Screeched-In... Intrigued? Find out more about this fundraiser for the 8th annual MUSICwestport Festival at <westportartscouncil.ca>.

by Georgia Ferrell

Wednesday is **Wings & Tunes Night** with Shawn McCullough (guitar player/singer), from 6-9PM <reverbnation.com/shawnmccullough>. Most Saturday nights you'll hear the vocal/guitar duo of **Head Over Heels** <kevinheadmusic.com> — this month they play on April 5 and 19. Kingston's Kevin Head is an accomplished singer, songwriter, musical director and actor. Formerly from Nova Scotia, he and his life/musical partner Miss V perform free at The Cove from 6-9PM.

Other Events of Note
Breakfast With The Arts ~ Westport Style continues on the last Saturday of the month, with great presentations by area artists. It is open to everyone, and the breakfast is a potluck, with hot coffee provided. Bring your own mug and whatever utensil you think would be necessary — although just a small paper plate or napkin would do very well! Muffins, breads, fruits and the like are the normal fare. For more information about this month's Breakfast, please contact Georgia at 273-8775.

Spring will bring more workshops and classes to town in a variety of arts, including pottery and ceramics, watercolour and acrylic painting, and life drawing, among others, as our artists begin to prepare for the coming season of shows and studio tours.

I am happy to announce that the **Bottles of Hope Program** will restart as well. This international program was created by a woman undergoing chemotherapy for cancer. She took her polymer clay to her session one

day and, seeing that the little bottles that the nurses were just throwing away could be covered with hope, she began covering them and giving them to her fellow patients. They were so well received that her polymer clay artists' guild also started to cover the bottles and it wasn't long before many polymer clay guilds around the world took up the campaign and labeled it Bottles of Hope. Anyone interested in learning about polymer clay by making Bottles of Hope can call me, Georgia, at 273-8775 for details.



One of the creative endeavours starting up in Westport is the Bottles of Hope Program

On Friday, April 4, the **Ladies' Night TGIF** is back by popular demand, when ladies can choose from Tarot Card readings from Carolyn Avery, facials by Wicked Styles, and massage or polish renewal by Sundari Day Spa. Drop in to The Cove from 6-9PM, have a glass of wine and a bite to eat! Services are \$10 each.

On Saturday, April 5, the Westport Arts Council presents **Kiss the Cod at the Ceilidh at The Cove**. This event has a decidedly East Coast flavour (and menu), and you will hear the best in lo-

Just Say Yes! Carleton Place's First Bridal Show Comes to Town on May 4

Organizers of the Carleton Place Mom 2 Mom Sale and Wrap It Up Toy & Crafter Sale have announced that they are partnering with Tania & Rick's Dance Studio to bring a Bridal Show to Carleton Place.

The **Just Say Yes! Bridal Show** will take place on Sunday, May 4, at Tania & Rick's Dance Studio (located at 55 Lansdowne Avenue in Carleton Place) and will run

from 10AM to 4PM. The bridal show will showcase more than thirty local vendors and businesses that cater to brides and wedding parties. Along with free admission, brides can enter to win some great door prizes and get extra discounts from some of the vendors who will be set-up at the show. For more information, please visit <facebook.com/justsayYESbridal>.

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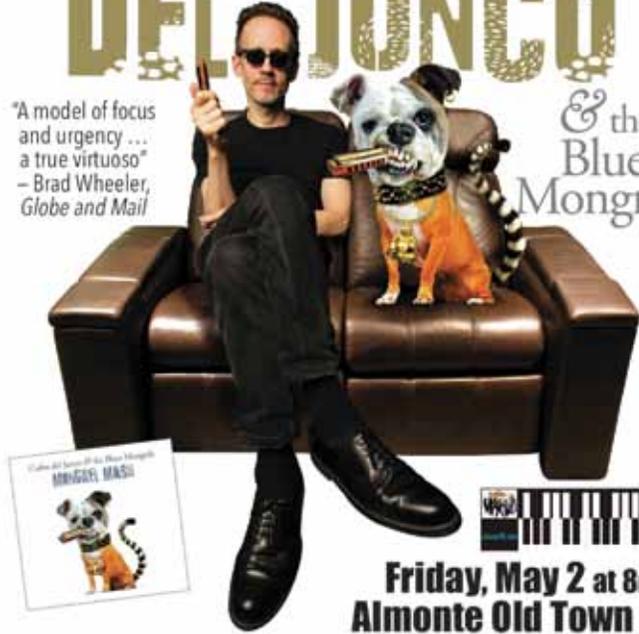
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 Online at: www.ticketsplease.ca

And
 at the church office or at the door

justthink...

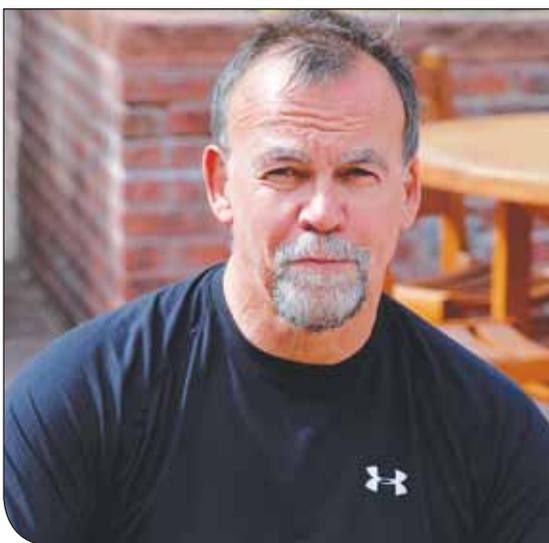
Meet Patrick Arbour

Dreamer/Creative Director/Humm Contributor

We're delighted and excited to introduce our newest columnist. Patrick Arbour is a gifted writer and a Creative Director, and has been a friend to theHumm since he advised us on advertising and marketing back when we first ventured into the publishing business. He has also played those integral roles for a wide variety of clients, in both Canada and the U.S., over the past thirty years.

by Patrick Arbour

Patrick has lectured on "Creativity" and "The Role of Emotion in Advertising" at colleges and universities in Canada and the U.S., has won over 75 industry awards, and has produced a series of marketing articles that have been published in local business magazines in Canada. Today he operates a company called **justthink**, providing marketing and creative coaching to businesses large and small.



Welcome to theHumm Team! Creative Director Patrick Arbour can help you to brand and promote your small business, group or community event.

We feel that Patrick's views on marketing and creativity will be useful to many within theHumm's community — small independent business owners (or anyone dreaming about taking the plunge), event organizers, community movers and shakers — heck, pretty much anyone with a message that they want to convey.

Here's a bit more about Patrick's background and philosophy in his own words:

"**justthink** grew out of a philosophy that there always is an answer; however, there is also a methodology and a process. It all starts with the gathering of information (read wisdom), followed by the setting of realistic goals, and a sound strategy, all mixed together with a little creative magic.

I have the privilege to have worked with more than 400 businesses, over a 35-year career in major advertising firms in Canada and the U.S. From Molsons to Citi Bank, Julio's Pizza to Baker Bob, Expo '86 to the Waubashene Cemetery — I have advised large corporations and first-time businesses; health services and charity golf tournaments; public, private, strange and curious (ask me about the small town cemetery some day).

On each and every occasion there was a product or service to sell, a message to be conveyed, and a goal to be attained. I approach every situation with a problem/solution mentality. I have developed answers that range from the obvious to most unlikely, and have delivered them in all types of media, including radio, television, print, event, word of mouth and sticks of gum.

There is always an answer. We just have to make sure we ask the right question.

Over the coming months I will address topics ranging from Emotional Hard Sell and the role it plays in your advertising, to Branding. If there is a topic you would like me to comment on, please contact me at theHumm and I will certainly consider it or at least will direct you to where you can learn more."

The Bells of St. Paul's

The Bells of St. Paul's, which have rung joyfully for 22 years, will be presenting a concert at St. Paul's United Church in Perth on May 4 at 7:30PM. Each year of the handbell choir's existence, handbell music and musicians have been changing and developing. Sharing these developments in a concert is indeed a joy.

For one thing, handbell repertoire is no longer limited to church music. Several composers now write music specifically for this beautiful instrument. The concert program will include sizzling, jazzy, and swiny selections, sensitive and expressive melodies, and a few surprises!

The techniques employed in bringing the music to life have greatly expanded beyond just ringing. And, in addition to being more interesting for audiences, the new music and new techniques have attracted a high calibre of musicians.

Recently, the St. Paul's ensemble introduced hand chimes to its repertoire. The hand chimes add an exciting contrast and depth to the sound. Ann McMahon, the handbell choir's director, has inspired the handbell musicians to develop musically and has challenged the

group to prepare for and participate in handbell festivals.

Adding to the scope and beauty of the concert program will be guest musicians Helen Mogford on flute, Beth Misener on cello, and Tom McMahon on bass.

For an uncommon and beautiful musical experience, this is a concert not to be missed. No charge for admission. There will be a freewill offering. St. Paul's is located at 25 Gore Street West in Perth. For more information <stpauls-uc-perth.org>.



The Bells of St. Paul's are in rehearsal for their concert on May 4

One Piano, Four Hands at MERA

If you think hearing one person play the piano is wonderful, just think about how exciting, interesting and entertaining it would be having two people, using four hands, playing a piece at the same time.

That's what is in store at the One Piano, Four Hands concert to be held on Sunday, April 13, at 2PM at the MERA Schoolhouse in McDonald's Corners.

This is another in the Blue Jeans Classical Music series, which features professional performers presenting famous classical pieces of music in an informal, conversational way. At the concert, the players will be talking about the piano and the pieces they will perform, and will invite questions and comments from the audience.

The featured performers are Val Leavitt and Brad Mills, both well-known pianists and musical educators from Perth. Val, whom many remember from her sparkling performance with the Trio Capriccio at MERA last fall,



The four hands of Val Leavitt and Brad Mills will perform together on April 13 at MERA

is a popular accompanist and established piano teacher. Brad was a teacher of musical instruments and vocal performance for thirty years at various high schools, is a featured player in several musical groups, and a regular choir-master with the Perth Community Choir, which he founded.

Together, Brad and Val will play an entertaining repertoire of one piano, four hands musical selections, which will include both popular and lesser-known works by Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Piazzolla, Debussy, Gershwin, and Berio.

This fundraising performance is in aid of the recent restoration of the MERA piano, a renowned Canadian-made piano from about 1910. Thanks go to the performers who

are donating a major portion of their fees. Tickets are \$25 plus surcharge, and are available from Tickets Please at 39 Foster Street in Perth, by telephone at 485-6434 or online at <ticketsplease.ca>.

A Not-So-Perfect Wedding...

Middleville Players present *Perfect Wedding*

What does it take to put together a perfect wedding? A prepared bride, an organized best man — and preferably a groom who doesn't get drunk on the eve of his wedding and do something that could completely change the direction of his wedding day.

Two out of three may not be enough, as proven in the **Middleville Players'** production of *Perfect Wedding*. The annual spring event will take place Thursday to Saturday, April 10-12, at Trinity United Church in Middleville, which has been transformed into the bridal suite of a hotel for the wedding of Bill (Shawn Gibson) and Rachel (Gena Gibson).

It all starts on the morning of the wedding, when Bill wakes up to a surprise. When his best man, Tom (Lorne Dale), shows up to begin last-minute preparations, Bill is in no shape or frame of mind to think about the rest of his life.

Judy (Carla Schonauer) is a mystery woman who plays a large role in the plot — no spoilers! — and could change the direction of her own life, as well. Julie (Shayna Wark) enters, minding her own business and trying to do her job, but confusion reigns, especially for the befuddled Tom.

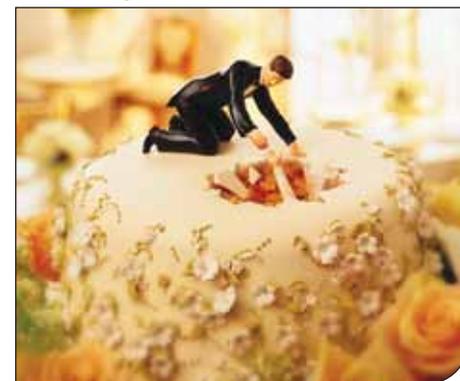
Daphne (Kristy Gibson), just wants to oversee the perfect wedding as the mother of the bride, and tries to make it hap-

pen despite the odds. She may need a little luck for that to come about, because these people seem determined to sabotage the wedding, accidentally or on purpose.

Perfect Wedding is a contemporary two-act comedy written by Robin Hawdon.

The Middleville Players began under the direction of Toots Borrowman in 1986 at the former Lanark Township Hall, making the move to the Middleville church a few years ago. Take Wolf Grove Road (County Road 16) from Almonte and turn left onto 6th Conc. C in the small hamlet, about twenty minutes from Almonte.

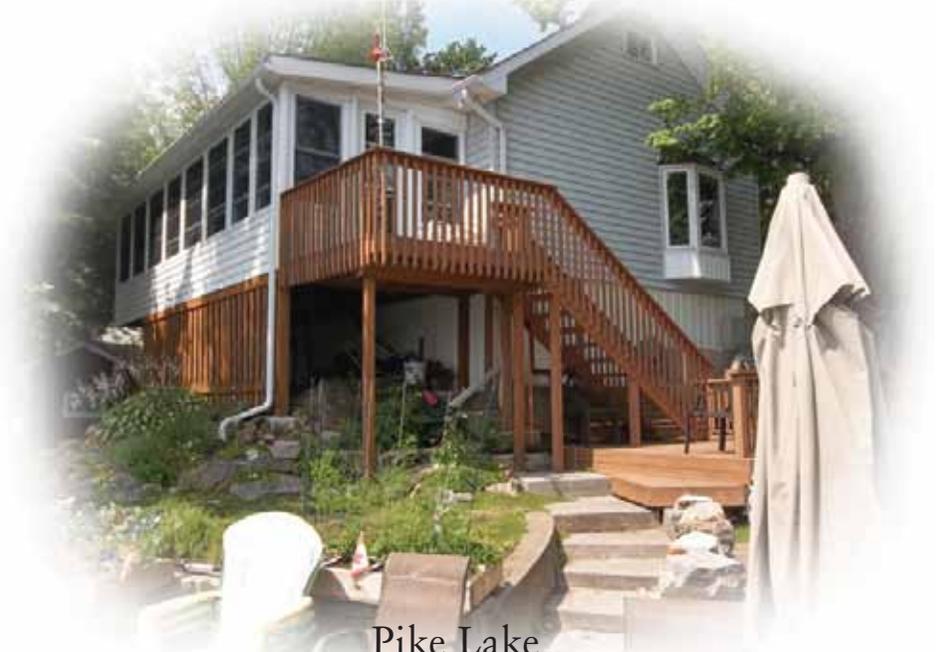
The play starts at 7:30PM each night. To order tickets, call 259-5692 or email <jgibson@storm.ca>, or simply pick them up at the Lanark Era office in Lanark Village.



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Check out a book — Discover a life!

This spring, the libraries in Lanark County, in partnership with United Way Lanark County, are excited to introduce the **Human Library Project!** On the weekend of May 3 and 4, all five libraries — the Perth Union Library, Smiths Falls Library, Carleton Place Library, Mississippi Mills Library (both Almonte & Pakenham branches) and Lanark Highlands Library — are offering the opportunity to “check out” a human book and learn about that person’s life. During regular opening hours on that weekend, any member of the community may visit the libraries in Lanark County to enjoy an honest and open dialogue with a “book” for one of the half hour sessions. The project is also being supported by Lake 88, your Metroland papers and theHumm.

“We are very excited to be offering this event in Lanark County and, with all libraries collaborating, it really increases accessibility for all members of the community,” said Elizabeth Goldman, Chief Librarian at the Perth & District Union Public Library, who is heading up the five libraries’ efforts. “With several groups coming together to organize the event, the potential for a wide variety of human books is huge. We are expecting a very unique and diverse group of people to offer their time.” Interested “loaners” can reserve a half-hour time slot with a book of their choice, starting on April 27, by visiting humanlibrary.webs.com. In addition to these, there will be time slots available on a first-come, first-served basis at each library. Starting March 19, the website will also provide an overview of the books at the various libraries — be sure to check back often, as other “titles” are added!

The Human Library Project originated in Denmark in 2000 and has grown into an internationally acclaimed event, implemented in communities spanning from New Zealand to Beijing to North America and everywhere in between. The

for the poor and social equity, amongst others. The idea of bringing this event to Lanark County came from a group of community members at a “Welcoming Communities” workshop in Smiths Falls this past summer, sponsored by the Mills Community Support Corporation.

“Our goal in helping to present the Human Library Project in Lanark County is in part to say thank you to the community for their support of our 2013 Campaign,” noted Fraser Scantlebury, Executive Director of United Way Lanark County. “The other reason is to provide a venue for community members to interact and hear the stories of people in Lanark County who are an important part of the fabric of our rural community. In essence, to start a dialogue that will hopefully lead to improved understand-



On May 3 and 4 you can “check out” a human book at any of the five libraries in Lanark County

ing of the lives of those who live amongst us — and it is all free — there is no cost associated with taking out a book.”

The range of books available will include a wider variety of subjects. “Already, we are uncovering gems such as a retired spy, a forensic policeman, someone who has lived in Canada’s North, a master gardener and a film maker”, commented Goldman, “and we are expecting even more interesting ‘books’ from our youth and senior communities”. Goldman continued, “If anyone has a suggestion for a book, we would love to have them speak to the head librarian at their local library, and we will follow up to see about putting them on the schedule.”

“We hope the community will help us celebrate the diversity within Lanark County, and make this a success”, said Scantlebury, “and we want to thank all of the librarians and staff at the libraries

The concept is to encourage dialogue among people who might otherwise not come into frequent contact, thereby breaking down barriers in our society.

concept is to encourage dialogue among people who might otherwise not come into frequent contact, thereby breaking down barriers in our society. The original projects focused on increasing tolerance by promoting diversity through human books. More recently, the concept has broadened to include anyone with an interesting story to tell. These individuals may work in social service areas including mental health awareness, advocacy

for their willingness to participate in this inaugural edition of the Human Library Project in Lanark County.” For more information, please go to humanlibrary.webs.com, contact the United Way Lanark County at 253-9074, or contact your local library in Mississippi Mills, Lanark Highlands, Carleton Place, Perth or Smiths Falls. We hope to see you on May 3 and 4, when you Check out a book — Discover a Life!

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Highs and Lows

One of the other musical hats I wear is that of Choir Director at a local church. We recently lost a member of our choir family, and that is the impetus for this month's article.

Music has always been very closely tied to emotions. In fact, if you are like me, certain pieces of music will remind you of chapters of your life, whether good or bad. Composers very often use

by Tony Stuart

emotion as the starting point when writing music, and we can gain a good deal of insight into a musician's life by listening to their collected works.

Musicians, by their very nature as performers, can get caught up in emotions very easily. For instance, wedding season is approaching, which means that many performers will be quite busy. When you are playing at a wedding, it always gives you a bit of a lift because there is that sense of hope and optimism. I really enjoy playing at weddings for this very reason.

A lot of musicians will tell you that they rely on the energy from a crowd, and that this really helps their performance. In venues other than a classical concert hall, audience reaction and participation really makes a difference. It becomes a symbiotic relationship, because the more the audience enjoys a show, the more the performer wants to please them. I suppose it is no different than the energy that athletes get when playing in front of a raucous home crowd. I really enjoy both performing and attending concerts at small venues where the division between audience and musician hardly exists.

This "high" that you get when performing can become addictive. I've had many students tell me that the experience of playing one of our concerts in front of a packed audience is unlike anything they have ever experienced, and that it is something they can't wait to do again. When you are in the middle of a performance and you know that everything is clicking into place and going well, the feeling is pretty indescribable.

Of course, life is full of highs and lows. Some of the most difficult moments I have ever experienced have been as a musician. About ten years ago, we lost a staff member at school. He was only my age, in his mid-forties. The entire school community was in shock, especially because two of his children were students there. I remember telling Dave to have a nice weekend on Friday, and then getting a call on Sunday evening that he had passed away. The family asked if I would play at his funeral, and in particular, they had asked if I could sing *Somewhere, Over the Rainbow*, as that song held special significance for him. All I could think of during that funeral service was that I wanted to keep it together for the family's sake. Luckily, I was able to get through the song, but to this day it remains one of the most difficult tasks that I've ever had to accomplish.

I've also had to play at funeral services for several students. When you are asked to do something that is as emotionally charged as playing at a funeral for a seventeen-year-old, it is important to be able to try and "compartmentalize" your brain, so that the musical side of things can be accomplished without succumbing to the urge to break down. I think that the specific training that musicians receive helps with this process. You are so used to having to focus all the time, and that part of your brain automatically takes over until your performance is done.

When my father passed away a few years ago, I delivered the eulogy, but was also asked if I could perform a song. Again, I feel like the training that I received as a musician really helped with this. It's not that you turn into some kind of robot during the performance, but that you keep emotions in check out of professional necessity, because the family and friends are there to celebrate the life of this person.

Being a musician can be the greatest job in the world when you are playing at a celebration, or performing in front of an appreciative crowd and feeding off that energy. On the other hand, when you have to perform at an event such as a funeral, it can be the worst.

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

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Visit www.rainbarrel.ca/tomato or contact Deanna at 256-7535.

This year's lovely tree art was generously donated by Sarah Moffat.

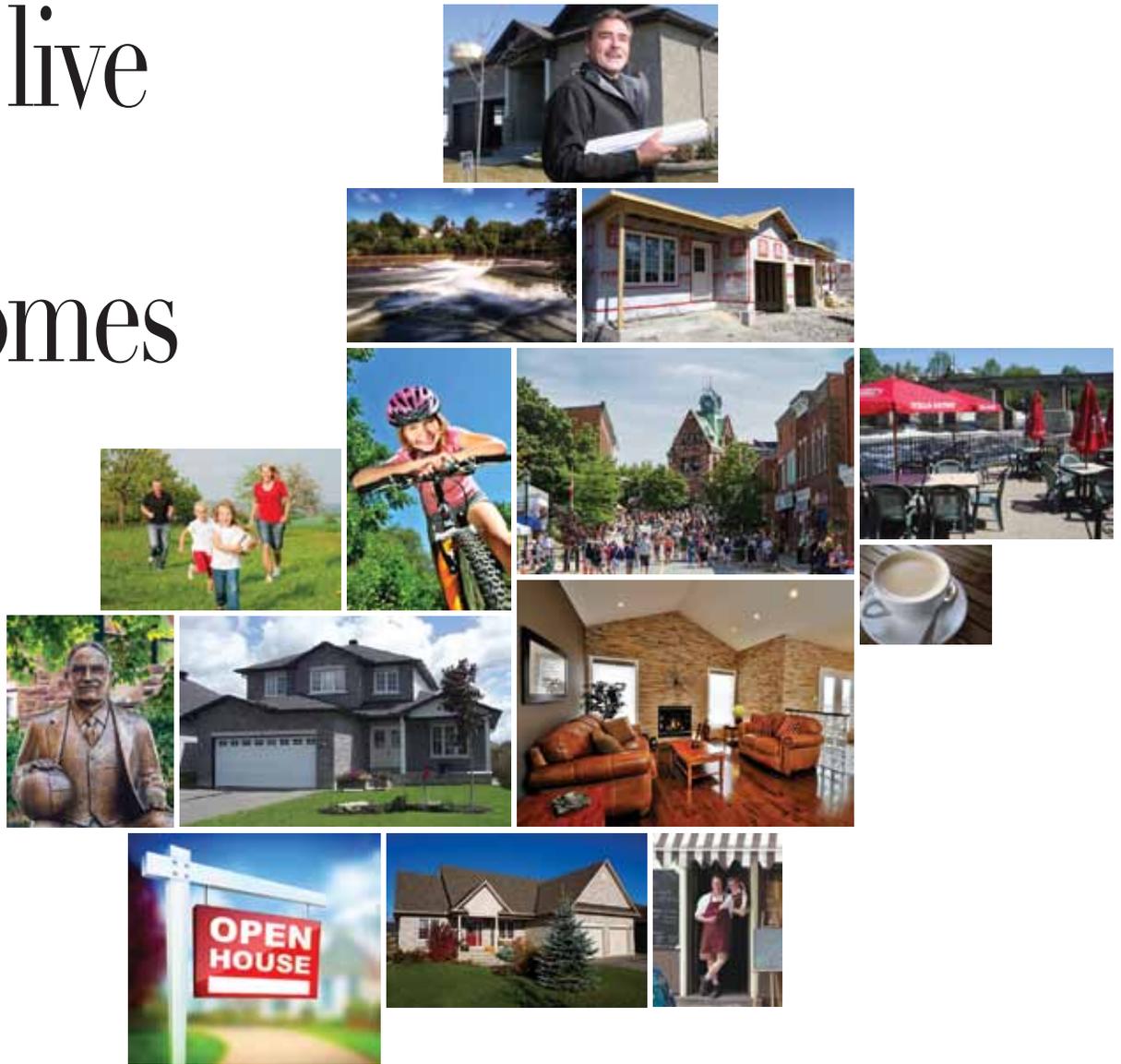
Visit www.sarahmoffat.com to view more of her work.

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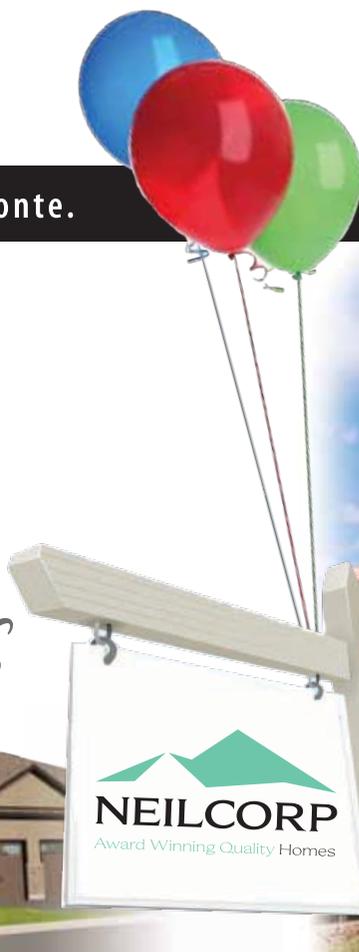
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