



"Bet you've had enough dingbat experiences to fill a book!"

ARTBEAT AND PASSING SCENERY by Bill Buttle SURE ENOUGHIII...

NEAR YOUIII

Editor's Note

Watch for a write-up about Bill Buttle's newest Artbeat book in our May issue. We can't wait!

Pakenham Horticultural Society too!

In Rona Fraser's listings of local horticultural societies in the article *Talk the Talk Before You Garden the Garden* (on page 16 of the March issue), she missed mentioning that the Pakenham Horticultural Society meets at St. Andrews United Church in Pakenham on the third Wednesday of most months at 7:30PM. On April 20, the guest speaker will be Olly Chuchryk of Charing House Gardens (Nepean), who will talk about "Dancing Dahlias".

Readers Write

This poem was sent in by a reader in anticipation of Arbour Week. To read more about that, see page 22!

The Sanctuary of Green Light

Light and shadow above, velvety touch of the moss The most beautiful scent, branches in the wind toss I am in your trunks, in your leaves, in your dreams When I am in trees, life has been blessed, it seems

In my sadness or in those moments very dark To stop my crying, you let me touch your bark Ready to give comfort, healing, enchantment Even when you suffer, there is no resentment With each falling body and chain saw sound I feel the same pain, so cruel, sharp and loud Our brother has died, and we have to stand by But he didn't have time to say to us Goodbye

> Strong, gentle, ceaselessly giving Always and everything forgiving You are world's lungs and breath Sacred marriage of life and death

You listen to the storm's powerful rage You listen to those melodies of the rain None of your lives ever needs to change None of your moments was ever in vain

You are my home, my port of delight You are my ship, refuge of green light Peace of the stars, silence of the night Forest is the sanctuary of green light

Rooted so deeply into the ground With your arms touching the sky You give me the power to stand You give me the power to fly

Under your green covering My soul all around spreads My heart softly whispering: Thank you beloved friends

— Kamila Lastovka





In April, 2013, **Marietta Hildreth** (from Almonte) and her daughter **Allison** browsed theHumm at Cape Reinga, New Zealand, the northern-most tip of the country. Marietta wrote: "The lighthouse marks the spot where the South Pacific Ocean and Tasman Sea meet. The signpost on location read 'Vancouver 6059km'. A spectacular sight in a beautiful country!"

White Lake Campground Expansion Meeting

The proposed expansion of the White Lake Campground has raised major environmental concerns among area residents. The White Lake Preservation Project (WLPP), which represents more than 200 individuals, has taken the lead in proposing a compromise that would balance development and environmental protection.

The original development proposal for the Hayes Bay campground, which is located in a shallow isolated bay of White Lake, is to increase the number of trailer sites from 33 to between 150 and 200.

In light of the recent algae blooms, one of which was toxic, WLPP is recommending that the municipality live by its own by-laws as they were written to protect the lake. The developers, in contrast, want to amend these laws and replace the small, old, temporary trailers with much larger, permanent residential trailers. Their push to add upwards of 200 residential trailers — above the current allowance of 100 vacation trailers — has triggered the concern of residents who are worried about the health of the lake. The developer has also requested 150 boat slips, which would put an additional burden on the already challenged Environmental Protection Zone, which is also a Provincially Significant Wetland.

The meeting, scheduled for April 5, will provide an opportunity for the public to present their points of view. Residents are not suggesting that development be banned but rather that the developers scale it down so that the lake will not only provide family fun but also remain the wildlife habitat that it has come to be known for.

The Township has recommended that to be sure not to miss the start of the public meeting, interested parties should be there by 6PM. The public meeting will start immediately following the Council Meeting, which is at 6PM.

The meeting will take place at the Mississippi Mills Town Hall, 3131 Old Perth Road in Almonte. For additional information, email <wlpmail@gmail.com>.

Submitted by the White Lake Preservation Project

If you hear a voice within you say "you cannot paint" then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced. - Vincent Van Gogh



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Peter Ausland from Ottawa's *Parenting Times* magazine, for distributing copies of theHumm on his Ottawa racks for the past three months!



Pat Purdy — Purdy Is as Purdy Does

Known as Pat Betcher to her friends and her Trading Card on the next page). Comments on her maiden name as her artistic identity. As she puts it, "Art is in my blood — it's a family thing." She is the sister of Richard Purdy, academic now living in Sainte-Agathe-des-Monts, QC, who has had many exhibitions in the U.S., Europe, Asia and Australia.

by Sally Hansen

Art... and Sou

The talent is shared, but the approach is wildly different. On Richard's website he writes, "The history of my artistic practice has been the subversion of reality systems (ontological, epistemological or phenomenological) through the application of their distinctive reality demonstration protocols upon fictive material..." Pat's approach is a lot more... well, let's say approachable.

In her paintings, colour and line fuse to feast the eye, excite the imagination, and evoke an emotional response. Surprisingly, even her brightest and boldest pieces can have a soothing effect. Hers is art that you want to live with, not just experience. It talks to you; it doesn't provoke.

Purdy Diversified

That Pat shares her brother's predisposition for artistic exploration is evident in her body of work, although she expresses it in a more familiar manner. She loves to discover and investigate new media* and art supplies as they emerge, and she really enjoys being asked "how did you do that?" Her recent paintings, using alcohol-based inks on small tiles, have been extremely successful, both aesthetically and commercially. I particularly like Rugged, available on her commercial websites (see the back of



neighbours, Perth artist Pat Purdy retains the works displayed on her websites consistently include the following terms: inventive, dynamic, energizing yet calm, stunning and wow!

Other areas of her creative exploration include an internationally recognized artist and art ongoing experimentation with encaustic and collage techniques. She has just added an impressionistic collage created with handmade paper, acrylic paint and ink on canvas titled Into the Woods to her web presence. It is another beautiful example of Pat Purdy's creative versatility across media and styles.

Woven among her paintings on her online galleries are photographs that display her artist's eye for capturing line and colour in striking ways. They also reveal her passions — nature, travel (especially in Italy) and animals (especially dogs). Some of her photographs have inspired paintings; all reflect Pat's appreciation for the wonderful but endangered world we live in.



Sibling Revelry

Pat and Richard Purdy both take great delight in their art. It has never been a question of rivalry. Pat remembers being intimidated by her younger brother's early successes — he started winning prizes for his art in Ottawa when he was thirteen years old. She is proud of the fact that he has supported himself throughout his life with his art.

Pat's life followed a completely different trajectory. She married her Carleton University sweetheart, Robert Betcher, 44 years ago after attaining her B.A. in Geography. His job took them to Charlottetown, where Pat worked in the library at the University of P.E.I. When they moved to Winnipeg, Pat had to leave her horse behind. She became a confirmed dog lover after adopting a rescue dog, and regularly donates artworks to raise funds for animal rescue organizations.



Locally, Purdy donates 100% of the sales of her paintings on display at CC's On the Rideau, located at 1030 Rideau Ferry Rd. in Rideau Ferry. The new restaurant, previously home to Shipwreck Restaurant, is owned and operated by Mel Young who runs Mel's Farm, an all-animal rescue organization in Lanark County <melsfarm.ca>.

After thirty years as a library technician with a law firm, in 2002 Pat turned to her lifelong interest in art to cope with a confluence of personal events. At her husband's suggestion she signed up for courses at the Winnipeg Forum Art Institute. Within two years she was doing shows with her mentor, Daniel Gregg, who became her friend. She remains grateful for Gregg's encouragement and his advice to "believe in your art." It also bolstered her confidence when her husband pointed out that "if an eye doctor buys four of your paintings, you must be doing something right." Before long she was a juried member of the Manitoba Society of Artists, and she was featured in the Winnipeg Free Press in 2004.

Pat (Purdy) and Robert Betcher returned "home" in 2011 to be near family and the cottage on Mississippi Lake where Pat spent her childhood summers. Her art provided an introduction into the rich cultural life of the Perth area, and she soon began participating in local art shows. This year she will show her works at the upcoming 2nd annual Arts Carleton Place Spring Art Show & Sale on Saturday, May 28, from 10AM to 4PM at St. James Hall, 225 Edmund Street.

In addition to being a participating artist in the 6th annual Art in the Barn art show and sale at the Lombardy Fairgrounds from July 8–10, she is also chair of sponsorship of this popular event. It features more than fifty fine artists, and is one of the largest exhibitions of original art in Eastern Ontario.

The Purdy brother and sister share a passion for art, and each Purdy is as each Purdy does. Pat and Richard approach art from very different angles and they succeed in very different ways. It is fascinating to me to contemplate the range of creativity that these two siblings express. I am equally fascinated by the range of emotional response that any given work of art can elicit. Pat Purdy's Trading Card and our links at <thehumm.com> will guide you to a rich and rewarding consideration of her online art.

The usual plural form of medium is media. However, with regard to art materials, the preferred form is usually mediums – except in the term "mixed media". However, "mediums" also conjures up thoughts of persons claiming extraordinary communications abilities. Therefore, this publication has chosen "media" as its standard usage.



April 2016



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A Breath of Fresh Air: Slow Leaves & Jill Zmud

"Those who have not the warm, invigorating Chinook winds of this country, cannot well comprehend what a blessing they are. The icy clutch of winter is lessened, the earth throws off its winding sheet of snow. Humanity ventures forth to inhale the balmy spring-like air. Animated nature rejoices..." (Calgary Herald, circa 1900)

Folkus is bringing you Chinook-style warmth from the prairies for their final show this season. They can't promise spring will come any sooner, but there will be a warm welcome in the Almonte Old Town Hall when they feature Winnipeg import Slow Leaves on April 23. A solo project for singer-songwriter Grant Davidson, he brings a vibrant folk-pop sound to the stage with strong vocals and great hooks. A fluid guitarist and thoughtful lyricist, Davidson evokes a rainy night, back porch vibe; his work is wistful, elegiac, but without a trace of shoe-gazing. Slow Leaves could easily fit on a playlist between Great Lake Swimmers and JJ Cale. His work has gotten a lot of airplay on CBC Radio Two and campus radio since the release of 2014's Beauty is So Common, especially the single Life of a Better Man. Wellestablished on the Winnipeg scene, Davidson is starting to tour the country and build a national presence, occasionally joined by his producer (and stray Sheepdog) Rusty Matyas.

Opening the show will be a transplanted prairie lily, Jill Zmud. Her latest project, Small Matters of Life and Death, delves into family history, reworking songs left on tape by a long-gone uncle. The originals are reminiscent of early Kristofferson, but she makes the songs all her own. Zmud is blessed with a rich voice, plays a mean guitar (including her Uncle Ed's Telecaster), and will be bringing two of Ottawa's finest backup singers, Christine Mathenge and Jerusha Lewis, with her.



The April 23 Folkus concert features Slow Leaves (above, aka Winnipeg's Grant Davidson) with opening act Jill Zmud

Folkus has enjoyed a couple of full house shows this season, and are so grateful to their audience and sponsors for the support. Because of the strong advance sales, there will only be forty or so tickets on Eventbrite and about the same number at Mill Street Books. Get your tickets early to be sure you get in!

As always, Folkus shows happen at the Almonte Old Town Hall, in the fabulous Ron Caron Auditorium. Doors open at 7:30 for the 8PM show; seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. Beer by Whitewater Brewing Co., and other fine Ontario beverages are also available at our cash bar; please drink responsibly. Send any questions to <hello@folkusalmonte.com>; details and tickets at <folkusalmonte.com>.

Deborah Arnold Barbara Gamble Susan Tooke Mary Wong





Special musical guests: "The Fine Tuners" a delightful ensemble of young violinists!





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April 2016

It Takes a Scene to Raise a Musician

In the age of social media, it may seem that creating a comthe difficulties of converting Facebook likes into bums in a better advisor. seats and you will quickly discover that it is not such an easy task. By contrast, active, "in-real-life" communities of music lovers, musicians, and venues have the power to create scenes that produce music that takes over the world. Liverpool's Merseybeat produced a huge number of very popular bands in the 1960s, including a notable guartet of moptops, and the world would never have heard Nirvana or Pearl Jam without Seattle's grunge clubs and fans in the '90s.

by Rob Riendeau

Thriving music scenes are all unique but they do have elements in common: a few venues that care about and support music, and a group of musicians who are open to influencing and encouraging each other. One young artist who is benefitting from the burgeoning local scene is **Ali McCormick**. I had a chance to sit down with the "Lioness of Lanark" before her recent show at Love That Barr in Pakenham, to discuss the strong community of pubs, performers and fans that is helping her achieve her dreams.

Ali grew up in the Lanark Highlands on an off-grid farm. She was drawn to music at a young age, and with help and encouragement from her family she began writing songs (many, many songs!). Over the years, Ali has developed a musical style all her own. She captivates audiences with her unique voice and lyrics about life, love and rural Canadian living. She has played coffee houses, basements, attics, and

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campfires, but her favourite places to play are rural ven-

ues such as Love That Barr. Love That Barr was one

of the first places that ever booked Ali to perform, and to tell me how important LTB's role is in keeping the local music scene healthy. Randelle and James of the Jimmy Tri-Tone Band (also good friends of Ali's) also praise Lindsay Love and all the staff at LTB for their caretaking role in the Lanark scene.



Ali McCormick at Love That Barr

Ali is also fortunate to have Brock Zeman as both a mentor and a munity is easier than ever. However, talk to a musician about producer on her latest release, *Clean Water*. She could hardly ask for

> In June, Ali will traverse the country on a tour to support her upcoming CD. She is looking forward to bringing her music to rural venues all the way out to Victoria and back. Until she heads out in June, you can catch this rising star at one of the many fine establishments that are so important in keeping local music alive. On April 29, she will be taking part in The Cove's songwriters' circle. The next night, she plays O'Reilly's Ale House with Matt "Graven" McKechnie. In May, she is back at The Cove doing a show with Petunia and the Vipers on May 7 and then back at LTB on May 27. For details, visit <a limcormick.com>.

DIY CBG

Feel like adding your own melodic styling to the local music scene? But, what's that? You don't have an instrument? No worries, my friend — the good folks at Mississippi Mills Musicworks can help you create an instrument that is uniquely you. On April 30, Jeff Hullin of The Devil's Due Cigar Box Guitar Company will lead a group of workshop participants through all the steps necessary to build their own cigar box guitar.

I was fortunate enough to get to participate in Jeff's first-ever workshop for Musicworks and I was thrilled with the results. From getting to pick my own cigar box from the many colourful offerings Jeff provided to deciding on headstock shape and soundhole design, I really felt that this instrument was my own right from the beginning. By the end of the workshop, I had a delightfully playable and funky CBG that I could really take pride in.

Bluegrass Junction

she is not the first musician Hailing from Carleton Place and Ottawa, Bluegrass Junction first formed in 1985 and performed in the area regularly until the very late '90s. Recently, the group re-formed with three (almost) original members: Peter McGuire on banjo and vocals, Nancy McGuire on bass and vocals, and Marc Rochon on guitar and vocals. In their new configuration, this talented trio has added a fourth member: awardwinning fiddler and Ottawa Valley Country Music Hall of Fame member Peter Dawson. It's a truly impressive gathering of musical experience and ability all on one stage! Be sure to catch their show on May 7 at the New Queen's Hotel in Carleton Place. Get there early it's a "matinée" performance from 6 to 8рм.







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Hilim

MERRELL

April 2016

8**R**

Rediscover your inner child this spring when the Mississippi Mudds presents

Oeter Pan

"...the older ones become glassy-eyed and seldom speak, but the little ones still wonder." J. M. Barrie

> Based on the novel by I. M Barri Music by George Stiles and Lyrics by An ent with Samuel Frencl

Ticket Info

Evening performance tickets cost \$20.00 Matinees and the Thursday evening, April 28, performance tickets cost \$15.00

Tickets may be purchased at the Hallmark Store 2-438 McNeely Avenue, Carleton Place Telephone • 613-253-3000

> Performances will take place at the Historic Carleton Place Town Hall Corner of Bridge and Mill Street, Carleton Place

Trees for Hub Hospice

Add a beautiful shade, flowering or fruit tree to your landscape, and support a great cause at the same time. Prices start at \$40. Order early for best selection!



All funds raised will support

6

Show Times

Evening performances start at 7:30 PM

Friday, April 22 • Saturday, April 23

Thursday, April 28 Friday, April 29 • Saturday, April 30

Matinee performances start at 2:00 PM

Sunday, April 24 • Saturday, April 30

Director Jeff Lee

Musical Director Adam Reid

nississippimudds.cd

To order, visit www.hubhospicetrees.com

PALLIATIVE CARE

Hike for Hospice 2016 A Fun Event for the Whole Family

Sunday, May 1 marks the fifth annual Hike as members of the same team (outfits, for Hospice. As in previous years, the hike wigs, face painting, whatever) with prizes raises much-needed funding for Hub Hospice Palliative Care, allowing them to continue providing free in-home hospice visiting service to clients who are living with a life-limiting illness.

In part, this year's hike will look like previous ones. Why tinker with what has been so well developed by Gary Pollock and his committee over the past four years? Organizers are tremendously grateful to Gary and will be dedicating this year's hike to him in recognition of the wonderful groundwork he has done.

This year there is a new committee and, like all new committees, they felt the need to add their own touch. They have therefore created some add-ons designed to make this a fun event for the whole family - adults, children and dogs. Hikers can register as individuals and gather pledges as always. This year, for the first time, they are also encouraging people to form hiking teams of at least four people, so that members can work together to gather pledges, and in the hopes of fostering some friendly competition between teams. Dogs can also gather pledges. There will be prizes for the individual and the team collecting the most in pledges. There is even a prize for the dog that brings in the most pledge dollars. Don't laugh — Anglican Minister Pat Martin's dog Jack was the big winner last year!

There are also fun prizes this year. Hiking teams are required to find some creative way of identifying themselves

for the most distinctively attired team. Women should wear wacky hats — there is a prize for the best one. Men come with dogs — there is a prize for the man with the biggest or the smallest dog. And these are just some of the prizes for adults. The most appealing dog will also be up for a prize, but no, hike judges can't be bought! Nor can they award the prize to their own dog.

Kids have prizes too. They should dress as royalty or superheroes, and rumour has it that participants will be hiking with a couple of real superheroes who will award prizes for the best costumes. In addition, items will be hidden on the trail and the youngster with the sharpest eyes will get a prize. The sharp eyes have to be child eyes though — adult eyes should stay on the trail.

Come and enjoy. Pick up pledge forms at the Hub in Almonte or at Bayshore Home Health in Carleton Place and get pledging! You can also register and collect pledges online at <chpca.convio.net/ HubHospicePalliativeCare>. The goal is to raise 12,000 — help make that a reality. The hike takes place at the Mill of Kintail on Sunday, May 1. Registration is at 11:30AM and you can warm up those hiking muscles by dancing to the music of the Ukelele Ladies. The Hike starts at 1PM with prizes and afternoon tea, coffee, and nibbles afterwards. See you there! For more information, visit <hubhospice.com> or call Barbara Carroll at 883–6646.

n Animal Adventure

Rock the Arts is an Ottawa-based professional puppet company that tours yearround, and in April they will be bringing their handmade puppets to Arnprior! They will perform their "Animal Adventure" show at 11AM and 1:30PM on April 16 at the Carleton Reid Memorial Hall of Emmanuel Anglican Church, located at 287 Harrington Street. Come join the Creature Crew on a field trip to the zoo like no other. Find out how you can help the environment as the puppets come to life and make it a comical adventure to remember! Tickets are only \$7 per person, available at the door.

Rock the Arts have travelled across Canada and all the way to Sydney, Australia, where they performed and taught at after-school programs. They have appeared on YTV's Saturday morning Crunch, CTV's Regional Contact and Rogers Ottawa. The Rock the Arts pup-

pets live in Creatureville, but humans are always welcome to join them in their imaginative world.

Sarah Argue is the creator of Rock the Arts and one of the hands behind the puppets. She has performed at NASA's Kennedy Space Centre, Six Flags in Los Angeles, and Branson, Missouri. She has also appeared at the George Theatre in New York City as well as the Galveston Texas Grand Opera House.

Like many other children, Sarah grew up watching and loving puppets, but her love and passion for the art of puppetry has driven her to make a career out of it. She now has over sixty handmade puppets living with her, and she never forgets any of their names. Sarah's university degree in Theatre Performing Arts and her puppeteer training with Fraggle Rock's Trish Leeper and Under the Umbrella Tree's Noreen Young have given her the skills to make her handmade puppets come alive and bring laughter wherever she goes.

You can read more about Creatureville at <rockthearts.ca> or their Facebook page, or take it from these two 5-year-old girls at a show in March. Girl 1: "Rock the Arts shows are really funny." Girl 2: "Oh good because funny jokes are my favourite kind of jokes."



Rock the Arts will perform "An Animal Adventure" in Arnprior on April 16

in your community

Peter Pan — A Musical Adventure **On and Off Stage**

Following the retirement of accompanist Mudds were in search of someone to fill his big shoes for their upcoming production of Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure. A replacement was found in Perth native and musical theatre enthusiast Adam Reid.

by Cait Morton

"Growing up in Perth, I did a lot of musical theatre," said Reid. "We are really lucky in Perth, and Carleton Place as well, that smaller towns have really vibrant amateur theatre opportunities."

A regular in the Perth music scene, Reid was brought to the Mudds through his multitude of community connections, specifically with Laurel Tye, a long-time Mudds member, director, and musical director.

"When I knew that Peter was moving on and that we were going to be in need of an accompabe able to read some pretty tough music," said Tye, the conductor for *Peter Pan*. "I'd heard Adam play before and he just blew me away, he's got such skill and technique."

If anyone could suggest a new qualified accompanist, it was Tye. After many years working with Brown and other guest musicians, she knew how difficult a position it could be and what type of person would be perfect for the job.

"I worked with Adam in (the Perth Studio Theatre production of) The Drowsy Chaperone and sometimes he'd help me with the warm-ups, and they were so good," said Tye. "I thought that if he could do vocal warm-ups as well as play challenging music, I had no qualms recommending him."



Although he's new to the Mudds, Reid brings and arranger Peter Brown, the Mississippi a wealth of experience and youthfulness to the group. "This is my first time being a music director for a show," he explained. "I've sort of done the various things that the job entails in different contexts over the course of my degree at the University of Ottawa."

> Reid graduated with a Bachelor of Music in 2013, followed by a Bachelor of Education in 2014. After completing his degrees, he worked as the musical director within the pastoral charge shared by the Balderson and Lanark United churches, and currently he's the music director at the Church of the Ascension in Ottawa as well as the lead guitarist for Perth-based band Under the Covers.

> "I've played and accompanied singers and taught for the church," said Reid. "So having to do that week to week, you're always learning new music. You have to be able to lead them whether the music is new or familiar."

Reid dubs Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure nist, I knew we would need somebody who would a "classic tale with a fresh twist". This completely new version of the play — with all-new songs and dialogue — brings together the established Mudds adult company with its growing company of skilled young actors and singers. Mudds newcomer Lilly Gray stars as Peter Pan, facing off against Captain Hook, played by established Mudds character actor and singer Mark Piper.

> The idea for this show came about when director Jeff Lee was unwinding after a past Mudds show and the movie *Hook* came on TV.

> "As I watched it I thought it would be great to put it on stage," said Lee, president of the Mississippi Mudds board of directors and first-time director. "I thought it was a good fit because of our strong youth right now, and *Pan* needs strong kids and adults to make it work."

> Mixing adults and kids together is no easy task, but Reid was confident heading into rehearsals. "I had been doing a lot of piano teaching with kids and did some work with the junior choir in Lanark," he said, adding that the most difficult part in working with children and adults simultaneously is that their voice registers are completely different. "The regular vocal ranges don't quite apply, since everyone is at a different stage of vocal development."

> Musical experience aside, Reid fit right in with the ever-welcoming Mississippi Mudds. He said that, being new, he might do things the Mudds



The Mississippi Mudds are preparing to bring Peter Pan to the stage in Carleton Place, starring Mark Piper as Hook and Lilly Gray as Pan (above). The Mudds also welcome newcomer Adam Reid (below, with Laurel Tye) as their new accompanist and arranger.

aren't used to, but everyone has been open and communicative. Tye attributes that to his positive attitude and youthful energy.

"He's very good personality-wise, which is important," said Tye about Reid. "Somebody who understands voices, who can sing, play amazingly well and direct everybody at the same time, and keep them all happy? To get all that in one package is quite unique."

Although the loss of Brown has been significant, Lee is optimistic about the impact of bringing in Reid.

"Peter was with the Mudds for over two decades and he has helped define the group's personality," explained Lee. "Adam has been great. He has a wonderful way with the kids to draw them out and help them with their singing, and he's equally good with adults. His musical skills are amazing and I feel we're lucky to have him for this show."

Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure opens April 22 at the Carleton Place Town Hall and promises to be a swashbuckling, multi-sensory experience for the whole family, complete with "some thrilling action and warm fuzzies," according to Reid.

Performances take place on April 22, 23, 28, 29, and 30 at 7:30PM, with matinée performances on Sunday, April 24, and Saturday, April 30, at 2PM. Tickets cost \$20 for evening performances, \$15 for matinées and the Thursday evening show, and are available at Hallmark, 438 McNeely Avenue in Carleton Place, 253-3000.

Tye is looking forward to the show and is sure the audience will enjoy being along for the adventure. "We've always had a devoted group of people who come to the Mudds and who love us," she said. "I think they're going to be very pleased with Peter Pan."

i **im**





Jekyll & Hyde at the Station Theatre

After a series of farces, mysteries and pantos, the Smiths Falls decades of theatre acting, voice-Station Theatre continues its 2016 play season with something completely different: a new and shocking version of Robert Louis Stevenson's classic tale of depravity, lust, love and horror, adapted in 2008 by the respected U.S. playwright and screenwriter Jeffrey Hatcher (Mr. Holmes).

With this production of *Dr*. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, director Stephen McWade seeks to give audiences a taste of a newer style of theatre - a modern, expressionist piece that plays with the duality of human nature in a way that will keep audiences guessing. He promises a fast-paced drama with staging that employs dramatic lighting changes and a cast of six, with four members playing multiple roles. McWade is hoping to reach out to younger people with a style of presentation many will not have seen before, but which they will find highly entertaining. It is also an opportunity to expand the theatre's audience base while still appealing to their "core," and to provide younger actors with a new kind of stage experience.



Stephen brings over three acting, public speaking, radio, television and film to bear on his directorial début in Smiths Falls. Although not new to the medium, having directed in theatre, radio and film, this is his first foray locally. Station Theatre patrons may remember his acting roles as Dolly Dumpling in the Seven Dwarfs panto, Cardinal Richelieu in The Three Musketeers, and Kind Old Gentleman in The Railway Children.

Four men and two women make up the cast. Richard Croteau, who has starred most recently in Love from a Stranger and Fox on the Fairway, plays the part of Dr. Henry Jeykll; Todd Daniluk, who most recently played a major role in The Railway Children, is Edward Hyde. Hyde #2 is portrayed by Brant Daniluk, Hyde #3 is Sam Saikeley, and Heather Mitchell-Adams plays Hyde #4. Emily Starks rounds out the cast in the role of Elizabeth Jelkes, the unlikely love interest of Hyde, who cannot resist his attraction to her.

Evening performances of the play take place on April 8, 9, 14, 15 and 16 at 7:30рм. Sunday matinées are on April 10 and 17 at 2PM. Tickets are \$20 for adults; students (with ID) pay \$10. Group rates (at \$15 per person) are available for some performances. Call 283-0300 for ticket details (and for credit card purchases) or visit <smithsfallstheatre.com>. Cashonly tickets sales are at Special Greetings, 8 Russell St. E. in Smiths Falls, and at the door a half-hour before each performance. The Station Theatre is located at 53 Victoria Avenue, the site of the former CPR Railway Station.



The Station Theatre's production of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde features Richard Croteau (below left) as Jekyll, and Todd Daniluk (above) as Hyde

Spotlight on April 22 /23

The riveting, true story of The Boston Globe's investigation that rocked the city with its exposé of the clergy's cover-up of child abuse, comes to the screen of the Station Theatre on April 22 and 23. Winner in the 2016 Academy Award's Best Picture and Best Original Screenplay categories, Spotlight has been described by The New York Times as "a gripping detective story and a superlative newsroom drama." Directed by Tom McCarthy, the film features an all-star cast including Mark Ruffalo, Rachel McAdams, Michael Keaton, Liev Schreiber and John Slattery.

The Station Theatre provides patrons with excellent highdefinition sound and picture in a comfortable 140-seat auditorium. Tickets, sold only at the door for cash, are \$10, \$5 for students. Screening time is 7:30PM, and the film is rated 14A.

200 years of Fiddling in Tay Valley Township

As part of the 200th anniversary celebrations of the founding of tar, cello, viola, mandolin, penny the Perth Military settlement, the whistle, dancers, listeners and Blue Skies Community Fiddle Or- anyone who appreciates homechestra will fill the Maberly Hall made acoustic music is welcome with the heritage sounds of fiddle to join in the fun. Players obtain play together while raising funds music on Saturday, April 23, from sponsors, collect the funds, and for the Blue Skies Community 1 to 6PM. This fundraising "Jam- bring them to the Maberly Hall Fiddle Orchestra. The orchesa-thon" supports the orchestra, which is affiliated with the Tay Valley recreation programs in recognition of the important place of fiddle music in our culture.

The fifty-member fiddle orchestra will play all afternoon and is inviting any local musicians to come and play with them.

It's not just for fiddlers — guion April 23. Participants can drop in and join the jam circle anytime during the day between 1PM and 6PM. Participants will have the opportunity to choose tunes (or songs) for the circle to play (or sing). Admission is by donation and refreshments will be available throughout the day. A pie auction call 273–3986.

starts at 4:30pm and promises to be a highlight of the day!

The Jam-a-thon's aim is to provide a relaxed opportunity for local musicians to have fun as they tra is supported by Blue Skies in the Community and keeps the community's musical heritage alive by making it affordable for anyone to learn to play the fiddle and join in the fun. To obtain a sponsor sheet, contact Wolfe at <cerlichman@yahoo.com> or

Nashville Visits Perth

Musical Musings

On Sunday, April 3 at 7рм, Nashville's David Olney will be playing at O'Reilly's Ale House in Perth, as part of their "Listenin' Series". The cost is only \$10, and there are no screens, no chatter, just music. The kitchen closes at 6PM, so book early if you'd like to order from their scrumptious menu.

by Steve Tennant

David Olney has recorded over twenty albums, and has had his songs recorded by Emmylou Harris, Linda Ronstadt, Johnny Cash, Steve Earle, Tim O'Brien and Del McCoury, to name but a few. I'd say that's pretty high praise for his songwriting abilities. One has only to remember Emmylou's haunting version of his song *Deeper Well* to be reminded of the quality lyrics this man can lay down.

David Olney was born in Rhode Island but headed to Nashville after a brief stint at university. His songwriting gained him jobs, but fame alluded him, which, in hindsight, he is glad of because "anonymity allowed me to follow my muse," he claims. He tells the story of playing at Nashville's Bluebird Cafe and being so "inspired" by the shallow, safe songs sung by the others on the bill that he went home and wrote *Titanic*, spinning a chilling, lusty love story, told from the iceberg's perspective.

He's known in "Music City" as "Nashville's answer to The Bard, in that he loves Shakespeare and has performed in a 2014 Nashville musical version of As You Like It, for which he wrote most of the music and played a role as well. He loves writing sonnets and says: "I appreciate good structure. In songs, melody and rhythm act as an editor, throwing out the extraneous stuff. Sonnets seem really close to that, to me."

David is coming north to record at Brock Zeman's Big Muddy Studio, so we've lucked into having him at O'Reilly's for this show. His songs range from funny to chilling, with lots of characters and colour in between. Hope to see you there.

I enjoyed the recent launch of the informative book The Beatles in Canada - The Origins of Beatlemania by Piers Hemmingsen. Who knew that, in fact, the first Beatles records in North America were pressed in Smiths Falls at the RCA pressing plant where Cornelia Court stands now? Kudos to Hemmingsen for his exhaustive research showing how The Beatles actually had their first North Dennis Staples for arranging the event.



Nashville performer and songwriter-par-excellence David Olney plays the Listenin' Series at O'Reilly's in Perth on April 3

American #1 hit She Loves You in Canada, months before they played on Ed Sullivan in the U.S.

The book is full of pictures and stories about rock and roll in Canada back then, interviews with folks behind the scene who made things happen (like the RCA plant employees), and tons of Beatles trivia as they made their mark here. It all adds up to thorough coverage, painting a colourful vista of the era.

At the launch, photographer Lynn Ball showed some of his famous pictures of his meetings with The Beatles. Trudy Medcalf was there to tell her tale of seeing The Beatles while in England visiting relatives, coming back to her home in Toronto and, at age 15, starting what would become the largest Beatles Fan Club in North America, gaining her a daily 30-minute radio show about The Beatles on CHUM radio during the Beatlemania craze. Smiths Falls resident Gary Comeau, guitarist for legendary group The Esquires and later a producer in Nashville, Toronto and New York, told a great story of visiting New York to buy a pedal steel guitar at Manny's Music. He called to say hello to his friends at one of the recording studios and was told to get there right away. He arrived to find Ringo Starr, George Harrison and John Lennon in the studio, choosing songs they hoped would be on a "Beatles return" album. While they were on the phone to entice Paul McCartney to join them, Gary ended up giving pedal steel lessons to the others, a memory he'll never forget. Chris Saumure, current owner of the RCA Plant building (Cornelia Court) also spoke, indicating his intention to develop a permanent display to memorialize the RCA Plant history. Thanks to

Pub Crawling: April Listings

Golden Arrow (Perth, 267-4500): 9PM. The Barley Mow (Almonte, 256-5669): Apr I Texas Tuxedo Apr 2 Matt Dickson

- The Cove (Westport, 273-3636): Wed over Heels 6-9PM.
 - Apr I Rob Lutes, 7-10PM, \$10
 - Apr 3 Norwood & McCullough, I-4PM
- Apr 15 Jazz Night Fundraiser, 6-1 IPM, \$40 Apr.23 Fiddlefest fundraiser 1-4PM,\$10
- Apr. 23 John Wilberforce, 7–10PM Apr 29 Songwriters Circle, 7-10PM, \$10
- Apr 30 Pat Temple w/Spencer Evans,
- 7-10pm, \$10 **The Swan at Carp** (Carp, 839-7926): The Royal Oak (Kanata, 591-3895): jazz
- on Sun, 2-5PM Apr 3, 17 Magnolia Rhythm Kings
- Apr 10, 24 APEX Jazz Band Naismith Pub (Almonte, 256-6336):
- Wed Open Celtic Jam, 7:30-10PM Carp Masonic Lodge: Mon Carp Celtic
- Jam, 7-9PM Ashton Pub (Ashton, 257-4423): Sun-
- days Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, 2-5PM

Generations Inn (CP, 253-5253): Apr 7,21 George Turcotte & Band, 8PM Apr 14, 28 Kitchen Party w/Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, 8PM

- Shawn McCullough 6-9PM, Sat Head O'Reilly's Pub (Perth, 267-7994): Tues Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan 8:30PM;Wed Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour 8PM, Fri Live music 9pm
 - Apr I Smitty
 - Apr 3 David Olney (7PM)
 - Apr 15 Tom Watson Apr 16 Under the Covers
 - Apr 22 Stephen Fisher
- Apr 29 River City Junction Apr 30 Ali McCormick & Matt McKechnie Apr 1, 15, 29 Steve Barrette Trio, 7-10PM Love That Barr (Pakenham, 624-2000):
 - Apr I Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, 9PM Apr 7,21 Kitchen Party w/Jimmy T-T 8PM Apr 9 Love the Blues w/Ric Denis, 7-10PM
 - Alice's Village Café (Carp, 470-2233): Open Mic Thursdays, 7:30PM
 - John St. Pub (Arnprior, 623-8149): 9:40PM Apr I Foo Fighters tribute (play '97 album), \$7
 - Apr 16 The Glorious Sons, \$30 (\$25 adv) Apr 22 Destroyer (KISS tribute), \$10 adv

Apr 17 The NightCrawlers, 6-9PM The Waterfront Gastropub (CP, 257-5755): Wed Open Mic w/Kevin Ficzere 9PM; Thurs Karaoke w/Barry Buse, 10 PM-2AM; Sun Blues w/Barry Buse

- & Redneck Limousine 3-6PM Apr I Mississippi Blues Society Open
- Iam. 8:30PM
- Apr 2 Jimmy Cochrane
- Apr 8, 30 Jean Pinel Apr 9 Shut Up & Trouble
- Apr 15 Peter Newsom
- Apr 16 Jazz at the Waterfront, 8PM
- Apr 22 Blues & Co.
- Apr 23 Live Acoustic Entertainment
- Valley Food and Drink Co. (Calabo-
- gie, 752-2676x311): Thurs Karaoke 8PM Apr 16 Bahoo, Brat & the Commander, 8PM, \$5
- Apr 23 Music Trivia Night, 7:30PM Apr 30 Theresa Doyle, 8PM, \$20
- Queens Hotel (Carleton Place, 257-7639) Apr 7 Jazz 6-9PM
- Sharbot Lake Inn (279-2198): Apr 9 Oh Susanna, \$55 dinner &/show







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The Smiths Falls Station Theatre Presents

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Humm Bits

World-Renowned Organist in Arnprior

World-renowned organist Maurice Clerc from Dijon, France, will be giving a recital at Grace St. Andrew's United Church, 269 John St. N. in Arnprior, on Wednesday, April 20 at 7:30рм. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the church, 623-3176, or at the door. He will be performing to inaugurate the completely revoiced Casavant organ in the church.

Born in Lyon in 1946, Clerc is currently organist of the cathedral in Dijon, a post he has held for over forty years. He was also a professor to the Conservatory of Dijon and lecturer at the University. He has recorded a dozen CDs, including Bach and the German baroque masters, and is considered one of the world's specialists in French music. He has given 1200 recitals in some twenty countries, including 28 tours in North America, and has played such prestigious venues as Notre-Dame de Paris, New York's Saint Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne's Saint-Paul's Cathedral, and Tokyo's N.H.K. auditorium.

Spring Workshops by Natural Wisdom

Andrea Usworth of Natural Wisdom has recently relocated her Naturopathic Services business to Lanark County, and is offering a series of workshops in April and early May.

On April 2, from 2-4PM, learn how to make your own lip balms, and leave with know-how and two lip balms (extra materials are also available). On April 7, from 7–9PM, a workshop on essential oils and their everyday practical applications will teach about safety, appropriate doses (for children and adults), infusions and more. To learn to cook with essential oils, there's another workshop from 7–9рм on April 26, and from 7–8:30рм on May 5 you can learn about bush cocktails (wild mushroom vodka, anyone?). All workshops are \$25 per person, and take place at 453 Ottawa Street, Unit 4 in Almonte (Harmony Way, in the Almonte Alzheimer's Society meeting place). Find out more about Andrea and her services at <naturalwisdom.ca>, or call 762-8832 to reserve your spot.

China with Monica Blackburn

On Thursday, April 7 at 7рм, Monica Blackburn will be speaking about her recent trip to China. As she explains, China was "the last place I thought I would ever go to, but because my youngest son moved there and stayed longer than planned, the trip was inevitable! My preferred way to travel is to fly by the seat of my pants, and I wasn't sure that would work in China. It was a surprise to me that it was possible, and even, for the most part, pretty easy!"

Monica visited sites in Beijing and Sichuan Province, including a panda breeding centre and a 72-foot-tall Buddha carved into a red sandstone cliff. She climbed a Buddhist mountain, spent hours enjoying the tea gardens of Chengdu, and "experienced a sensory overload — sights, sounds, smells. The food was an experience not to be missed!"

Come to the Library Travelogue series on April 7 to hear more - this event is free and takes place in the Almonte Branch Meeting Room. For more information, or if you would like to share your stories as part of the series, please contact K. Pillsworth at 624-5306.

Country Music Legend Neville Wells Plays Westport

Neville Wells was born in Newfoundland in 1940 and grew up in Ompah, just north of Sharbot Lake. His musical career began in the Ompah Dance Hall where, on Saturday nights, for \$2, he sang and played rhythm guitar, backed up the fiddler, and called the square dances.

A musical presence on the Ottawa Valley scene for many years, Neville has played in all of the country music establishments in the area and also travelled extensively. He has had several records that received considerable airplay across the country, placing high on RPM and Country Music News charts, most notably If You Will See Me Through and Please Don't Mention Her Name. He was inducted into the Ottawa Valley Country Music Hall of Fame and has been recognized by the Canadian Country association for his contribution to country music. This month he makes his first appearance at the Westport Legion on April 10, from 2 to 6PM, with a light luncheon. Come out and enjoy a great afternoon with proceeds going to the ways and means committee. For more information, call 273–7017.

Home, Fashion & More!

Carleton Place Spring Home & Fashion Show

Carleton Place will be buzzing from April 8 to 10 as the Arts from 10 to 11AM, a Geothermal Heating the Town's Recreation and Culture Department pre- & Cooling seminar from 10 to 11AM, and a women sents the 5th annual Spring Home and Fashion Show. & children's Fashion Show at 1PM.

Taking place at the CP Arena (75 Neelin Street), addition, patrons can enjoy convenient amenities with Street) with transportation provided by the such as free parking, accessible washrooms, elevator access, and free wifi.

The exciting weekend kicks off on Friday, April 8, when the Home Show runs from 6 to 9PM, and admission provides access to the **Country Music** Kick-Off Dance featuring the Bowes Brothers in the Upper Hall from 8PM to midnight. This event provides vendors and patrons alike an opportunity to socialize and network while enjoying great entertainment.

Saturday, April 9, is a jam-packed day of seminars, shows and fun! Doors are open from 9AM to 6PM, and patrons are welcome to take part in a 12 get in free. For more information, please call pancake breakfast hosted by Waterfall Catering for 257–1704 or visit <carletonplace.ca>. \$5 per person, a children's puppet show by Rock

Overflow parking and shuttling is available on the event holds over 100 vendors on two levels. In Saturday at the Market Square Pavilion (7 Beck-Carleton Place Junior A Canadians. "We want to provide patrons with convenient parking that doesn't require a lot of walking," says co-organizer Jessica Smith. "We will pick you up right at Market Square, and drive you back when you are ready!"

Sunday, April 10, provides the final opportunity to browse this fantastic show with free face painting and balloon animals for the kids, as well as a door prize draw of a \$500 gift card to Mitchell's Independent Grocer, which will be drawn before doors close at 4PM.

Admission is \$5 for adults, and children under

Cliff Bennett **Nature Bursary**

The Cliff Bennett Nature Bursary Awards Com- a college or university program related to nature and mittee of the Mississippi Valley Field Naturalists the environment. As well as academic achievement, (MVFN) is looking to support a young person who the Committee will consider an applicant's involvewants to make a difference in meeting the environ- ment in issues related to the natural environment; mental challenges of the future. The Cliff Bennett previous recipients actively promoted environmental Nature Bursary is offered annually by MVFN to assist a graduating high school student who will be pursuing post-secondary studies in a field related included ecosystem management, environmental to the natural environment. One bursary of \$1000 engineering, and zoology. Other recipients followed will be awarded this year to a deserving student their passion in environmental stewardship by studfrom the area.

The bursary is named for Cliff Bennett, a founding member of MVFN, and was established in 2007 by his many friends on the occasion of his 75th birthday, to honour his contributions with a lasting legacy. To date, \$8200 has been awarded to fifteen graduates from six high schools in Almonte, Carleton Place, Perth and Dunrobin who have pursued studies in twelve programs at three colleges and six universities across the country.

graduating from a local high school with acceptance to <naturebursary@gmail.com>.

awareness through school projects and volunteering.

Post-secondary studies by bursary winners have ying fish and wildlife management or biotechnology. "I am pleased that the bursary may encourage a young person today to become an environmental leader tomorrow," says Cliff Bennett. "I consider it an investment in our shared environmental future."

Application forms are available from the student service offices at area high schools, or at <mvfn.ca>. The deadline for applications is Monday, May 2. For further information, students may contact Mike Macpherson, Chair of the Cliff Bennett Na-To be eligible for the bursary, a student must be ture Bursary Awards Committee, at 256–3043 or

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Postcards from Perth

Perth is Sounding Great!

We made it through another winter of arcto toss off our toques and celebrate all the promising joys of spring! Thankfully, there's a lot to get out and see and do — and hear. In April, Perth is a-bustle with musical activity.

Melwood Cutlery, whom David Francey has called "the hippest songwriter around", will be playing a Sunday afternoon show at the Perth Manor on April 10. For this special one-time concert, Melwood will be playing grand piano alongside The Long Sault Trio, featuring Linda Grenier, Dave Tilson and Victor Maltby, with **Dave Card** on percussion.

by John Pigeau

Melwood Cutlery is a Canadian roots performer who blends bluesy rock with country inspired music marked by "a beautiful voice and powerful songwriting," according to the Toronto Star. Lynn Myles, Jane Sibbery and Stuart McLean have all also sung his praises.

Tickets are \$35, including hors d'oeuvres and refreshments, and are available in advance by calling Perth Manor at 264–0050. Please note that seating is limited. Showtime is at 2PM.

The Toronto All-Star Big Band will be performing on Friday, April 15 at 7:30рм at PDCI's Mason Theatre. Known for their brilliant programming and choreography, this cast of talented youngsters revive the spirit, style and sound from the golden age of big bands spanning the 1930s through the 1950s. Tickets are \$38.50 and available at Tickets Please at 39 Foster Street in Perth, online at <ticketsplease.ca>, or by phone at 485-6434.



tic blasts and biting winds, and now it's time is coming to town. A seriously cool Nirvana cover band, that is, and they will be playing at the Studio Theatre on April 16. For two of the band's members, the show will be a sort of homecoming. Hervana's lead singer/guitarist Carly Beath (aka Skirt Cobain) is from Smiths Falls, while the band's bass player Erin



This month you can catch a show by the Nirvana cover band, Hervana, at the Studio Theatre, and Garnet Rogers drops in for a visit to MERA

Cousins (aka Miss Novoselic) hails from Almonte. As both young ladies began playing music in the Ottawa Valley, I'd expect a big crowd of friends and family cheering them on at this gig when they take the stage alongside bandmates Michelle Turingan (aka Pap Smear) and Adrian Pasen (aka Dave Grrrl). The Toronto-based band has enjoyed great success since it formed in 2014, winning over audiences at shows and festivals across Ontario and Quebec.

Hervana will be playing songs from one of Nirvana's best-loved albums, Unplugged in New York.

All you children of the '90s, take heed: **Hervana** Adding to the fun, Hervana will also be unplugged for the show. Singer-songwriter Kate Weekes takes the stage as the special opening act. The doors open at 6:30PM and the show starts at 7:30PM. Tickets are \$15 in advance — available online at <hervanaperth.eventbrite.ca> and \$20 at the door, and I would get them early, folks, because this should be a scorching show. Not to be missed.

> The charismatic Garnet Rogers takes the stage at the MERA Schoolhouse on April 24 at 2PM. Rogers is known for his "smooth, dark baritone" (Washington Post), his powerful stage presence, and his incredible range. His songs, said the Kitchener Waterloo-Record, "give expression to the unspoken vocabulary of the heart." Tickets for this extraordinary show are \$24 at Tickets Please.

> BarnDoor Productions kicks off its spring season with Under *Milk Wood*, a play for voices by Dylan Thomas. The play — at once poetic, comic, tragic, and musical — is performed by a varying number of "voices" as they tell the story of a spring day in Llareggub, a small (fictional) town in Wales. Some consider Under Milk Wood to be the culmination of Thomas' life's work. Others believe it to be a masterpiece. But you can judge for yourself. The play opens on April 15 at the Full Circle Theatre and runs until the 24th. Tickets are \$20 (or \$22 at the door), and \$10 for students. For show times and to book seats please call BarnDoor Productions at 267-1884, or visit <barndoorproductions.ca>.

> Surely the sweetest sign of spring's arrival in Perth is the scrumptious celebration that is the **Festival of the Maples**. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the festival, created by Mr. Vic Lemieux with the goal of bringing people out to celebrate after a long winter. Hosted by the Perth & District Chamber of Commerce, this delectable event also ballyhoos Lanark County as the maple syrup capital of Canada.

> As always, Gore Street will be awash with vendors offering awardwinning maple products, maple-themed demonstrations, and fascinating displays. There will also be a pancake breakfast, live music and entertainment, artisans, commercial vendors, free horse-drawn trolley rides, and plenty of kid's activities in the Tay Basin, including a petting zoo. Keep your dentist happy - come on out and enjoy some tasty wares. Cast your vote in the maple syrup contest. And never ever forget to visit the fudge hut. That's where the love is.

> Also, please visit the good folks set up in front of Riverguild Fine Crafts and enjoy a delicious meal in a one-of-a-kind bowl made by a local artisan, as part of the Empty Bowls Perth 2016 project. Buy a meal, get a bowl — it's truly a wonderful project with one hundred percent of each meal's proceeds devoted to local hunger-fighting organizations.

> The 40th annual Festival of the Maples takes place on April 30 from 9AM to 4PM. For more information on being a sponsor or a vendor at the festival, please contact Jennifer Perkin, the festival coordinator, at 267-3200 or at <welcome@perthchamber.com>.

Happy spring, everyone!



April 2016

Humm Fun Feature of the Month —

Summer is on its way, and to help both kids and parents make the most of it, we offer theHumm's annual round-up of summer camp options in the area. From creating art to spying, from helping animals to performing, you're sure to find something of interest on the next three pages. **Happy camping!**

The Almonte Potters Guild

for Children

Adult Classes

Contact us at 613-256-5556

95 Bridge Street, Almonte

www.almontepottersguild.com

Day Camps

JB Arts Summer Art Club (Almonte)

This program offers fantastic art projects, with different ones every day throughout the entire nine weeks! We start our day playing games, colouring and doodling from 8AM until everyone arrives. All our art projects start with a lesson and a demonstration, and then the kids get their chance to create. We do four different projects a day using different media each time (paint, clay, charcoal, plaster...), with snacks, lunch, and outdoor breaks in between. We usually save the messiest project for the end of the day — yay! Kids also get a chance to finish up earlier projects, play games or show each other their creations from the day. We are already excited for this year, and hope to see you soon. For details, call 220-3005 or visit <jbarts.ca>.

Summer Spy Camp at

Children aged 7 to 12 go undercover at the Diefenbunker and return home having mastered the skills of a real secret agent! As spies in training, they will learn the art of espionage, develop disguises for cover, make and break codes, create and use spy gadgets, go on scavenger hunts, and take part in many more fun activities. Your child will get a taste of what it's **Summer Day Camps (Almonte)**

theDiefenbunker (Carp)





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Espionage at the Diefenbunker



Cool projects at Maple Key Day Camp

like to be a spy, and will graduate as a Level One Spy upon completion. Each week has a different theme, so don't hesitate to sign up for more than one! All camps are \$225/child/week and include complimentary before and after care. To find out more, visit <diefenbunker.ca/spy-camp>, or contact us at 839-0007 or <education@diefenbunker.ca>.

Wildlife Watchers

Children aged 6-11 explore the natural environment at the beautiful Mill of Kintail Conservation Area. Space is limited and filling up quickly. For more information, contact Sarah O'Grady at <sogrady@mvc.on.ca> or 253-1756 x239. To register, visit <mvc.on.ca>.

Holistic Summer Camp (Carp)

This July, Carp Ridge EcoWellness Centre is offering a holistic camp for children aged 6-12. We will follow campers through 190 acres of woods on the Carp Ridge in search of wild food, herbs, beautiful rocks and rare species of animals. A campfire will be made to cook our findings along with local and organic produce that we prepare together. Afterwards there will be a quiet time for napping, reading, making crafts out of nature and playing music. Once refreshed, we play cooperative games and get wet in order to cool off the summer heat. By 4PM, we will have had our afternoon snack and be working on the final presentation for the parents at the end of each week. Our days end as they begin, with a calming meditation. Register by May 31 by calling 839-1198 or via <lori@ecowellness.com>.



www.thehumm.com

children ages 7-12 years

at Rock N' Horse Farm

Week 1 - July 11-15 Week 2 - July 25-29

Week 3 - August 8-12

Week 4 - August 22-25

For more information contact:

or visit www.rocknhorsefarm.ca

Creative Summer Camps for Kids!

Fun on the Farm Summer Day Camp (Almonte)

Rock-N-Horse Farm is a 230-acre farm that includes cropland, forest, market gardens, a maple sugar bush, and a barn full of animals. Participants will learn hands-on to take care of animals, explore nature, be creative and harvest their own food. A variety of activities will engage youth with nature and farm life, making each week a unique experience. Contact Sarah at 979–8754 or clickley.sarah@gmail.com> or visit <rocknhorsefarm.ca>.

Almonte Potters Guild (Almonte)

The Guild is partnering with local artist Cathy Blake and the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum to deliver camps in which kids can create pottery in the morning and either visual arts or textile projects in the afternoon. There are three different programs, for various ages, running in July and August, as well as drop-in morning classes during the weeks that the camps are not running, so call 256–5556 or visit <almontepottersguild.com> for more details. The camp cost is \$250 per week, which includes all supplies and materials.

Maple Key Day Camp (Perth)

Owned and operated by a certified teacher with a significant camp background, Maple Key was created to provide an authentic summer camp experience for campers aged 4–12, without having to stay overnight. Designed to meet the needs of families whether they attend for just one week or all eight, MKDC offers a summer-long program that never repeats. In addition to traditional activities such as sports, arts & crafts, mad science, music, nature, and water play, MKDC also provides specialty programming in a variety of skills such as woodworking, leadership, outdoor cooking, orienteering, performing arts, pottery and more. Introduce your child to a warm, bully-free culture, wrapped in a beautiful natural setting. This is summer camp the way nature intended. Contact Kristen at 464–2468 or visit <maplekeydaycamp.com>.



Fashion in action in Almonte!

NP

Almonte Summer Fashion Camp for Youth (Almonte)

Costume designer Ingrid Harris and Marg Lee of Sew Much Fun will personally instruct this unique camp in Ingrid's studio. Only the weeks of July 25–28 or August 22–25 are available, so book soon. Camp hours are Mon–Thurs from 9AM–2PM with a Thursday afternoon

graduation fashion show, modelling the items made during class. The cost is \$230/week including snacks and all materials, for girls and boys aged 10 and up. Confirm your spot with a \$50 deposit. Book your spot with Ingrid at <ingridharris14@gmail.com> or 256–5577, or Marg at <marglee@teksavvy.com> or 256–3717.

Perth Outfitters Summer Day Camp (Perth)

In keeping with Perth Outfitters' reputation and five star rating, the fabulous 7-acre waterfront site includes certified canoe, kayak and SUP instruction, a world-class mini golf course, plus other fun camp activities. A perfect combination of nature, water, instruction, friendship, personal growth, summer fun and "having a blast". Ages 7–12. Find more details, links and registration at cperthoutfitters.com> or 772–1133.



Communing with nature at Carp Ridge Holistic Summer Camp



www.mvc.on.ca



diefenbunker.ca | 3929 Carp Road, Carp, ON | 613-839-0007

Diefenbunker Musée canadien de la Guerre froide Canada's Cold War Museum

espionage, disguise, code making/breaking and more:

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April 2016

Creative Summer Camps for Kids!

The Academy for Musical Theatre (Perth, Ottawa)

This group provides high quality instruction in music, acting, dance and aspects of technical theatre to youth of all ages, culminating in the performance of a full-scale Broadway musical. The Academy is a special community of nonjudgmental and spirited individuals with positive attitudes, devoted to providing a fun and safe environment in which to experiment artistically without fear of negative feedback. Their primary mandate is to build confidence. One-week and twoweek programs are available this summer, Residential camps offer a more immersive including Peter Pan, West Side Story, Alice in Wonderland, and Narnia: Prince ish and find their independence as they Caspian. For more information, visit <musictheatre.ca> or phone 706–2287.

Big Sky Ranch Camp (Kemptville)

This year, Big Sky Ranch Animal Sanctuary is again offering week-long camps during the month of July. Youth enjoy exploring the Ranch and participating in activities such as pony rides, being responsible for the care of an animal, arts and crafts, games, the Great Race and much more! For more details, visit
bigskyranch.ca>.

Residential Camps

experience and really allow kids to flourget older. Here are two great options in our area:



Making a lifetime of summer memories at Camp Lau-Ren



Getting creative at Long Bay Camp — Arts by the Lake

Camp Lau-Ren Residential Camp (Deep River)

This is a children's residential summer camp of the United Church of Canada, accredited by the Ontario Camps Association, that offers weeklong co-ed camps for ages 6 to 16, as well as a girls' camp, a threeday Tadpole Camp for six and seven-yearolds, and a ten-day

Leaders-In-Training Camp. Camara- Long Bay Camp derie and friendship are built in the Arts by the Lake (Westport) camper's cabin with counsellors, and Long Bay Camp is a sleep-over summer this continues throughout the day at morning watch, at meals in the dining hall, and while eating tuck on the dining hall steps. A camper's day continues with Bible study, nature study, swimming, beach time, crafts, archery, canoeing, games in the field, doing dishes by hand, campfire, skits, bedtime snack and lots of active outdoor fun. Find out more at <camplau-ren.com>, and come to the Open House on Saturday, June 11 from 11AM–2PM for a tour, free BBQ, campfire, skits, s'mores and more.

arts camp for youth aged 9–16 that offers a variety of art, drama, music and dance workshops to choose from. Long Bay Camp also offers sports, swimming, campfires, canoeing and many camp games. Campers and staff hold their weekly performances in a unique barn space that is one of their favourite places to be. Long Bay's small capacity allows campers to feel at home while learning, growing and making new friends. Great food, great people and so much fun! Please visit <LongBayCamp.ca> for more details about all their fantastic workshops.



Are Nature-Oriented Camps Still Relevant?

There are many different kinds of summer camps to be found in Ottawa and in the Valley. There are sports camps, computer camps, science camps, hockey camps, aqua fun, leadership camps and more. Are traditional summer camps located in nature still relevant? In 2012, Richard Louv wrote an article called The Natural Gifts of Camp, and he believes that families still value nature-oriented camps.

He points out that one reason kids don't go outside is parental fear, which is likely why parents will value summer camps more now and in the future. Summer camps can offer parents the reassurance that their children will be safe as they receive the gifts of nature. Camps such as Camp Lau-Ren are certified by the United Church of Canada and the Ontario Camps Association.

Children are plugged into some kind of electronic medium 5½ hours per day at home, more time than they spend doing anything else besides sleeping. Studies show that at camp, the time spent experiencing nature significantly reduces children's stress.

Nature-oriented camps also help care for the health of the earth. Many studies show that nature play in childhood is the chief determining factor in the environmental consciousness of adults.



These happy campers certainly think so!

Louv makes the point that nature-oriented camps benefit both children and the earth in general. Parents value traditional summer camps as well. Families can learn more about nature-oriented camps such as Camp Lau-Ren at an Open House. Lau-Ren's Open House is on Saturday, June 11 from 11AM to 2рм. Come for a tour, do some crafts, see a camper's cabin, climb "the Rock" and stay for a free BBQ, campfire, s'mores and more. You can find out more about it at <camplau-ren.com>.

Bruce Patterson is the Secretary of the Camp Lau-Ren Board



Rhythm and Song Community Choir in Almonte

There are choir junkies out there. I have a friend nifer Noxon and the Rhythm and Song Commuwho is so addicted to singing that she is in three different choirs in her community. And I can't say I blame her. There is something about singing in a the basses kick in, because it sounds so cool. And group, together, that tickles the brain.

I like to think that singing together is one of the oldest things that makes us human. I picture our distant ancestors, huddled together around a fire, singing — to let the world know they're there; to let each other know they're a tribe. It's one of our earliest forms of communication, and still the most intimate.

Singing was used for centuries to keep groups together — sea shanties set the time for hauling, field songs set the pace for harvesting, and drinking songs set the pace for... you get the idea.

Now there are scientific studies that back me up. well imagine, but did you know their heartbeats can also synchronize? Singing (in the shower, karaoke) releases endorphins, giving you the same buzz as a good singer to benefit.

And that reason, in particular, is why I enjoy Jen- - Sandy Irvin

nity Choir so very much. Warm-ups dissolve into laughter. We catch each other's eyes and grin when when it's all going well, we move together through the song, sharing our voices and our smiles.

Our intrepid choir leader Jennifer Noxon recently played a sold-out show for Folkus, was the vocal coach for Trashdance! The Musical, and is a trained community choir leader. She sings with us, leading by example, and laughs with us, too.

Rhythm and Song has no auditions, and no barriers. Members range in age from 13 to at least 63. Our level of talent varies; our enthusiasm does not. We learn our songs by ear, so there is no need to read music (lyrics sheets are supplied when things get tricky). We've moved from simple rounds to our Choristers end up breathing together, as you can first four-part harmony, but new members have been able to "step in" without too much confusion.

The choir is beginning its spring session, hich is a great time to join. The choir has two good run, but singing together releases oxytocin, practices a week: one in the daytime and one in the bonding or love hormone. Not surprisingly, all the evening. Members can attend one or both. this feel-good stuff circulating in the bloodstream There is a fee (100-120, for 10-12 weeks) reduces anxiety, lowers blood pressure, and re- per session, and you also have the option of duces the presence of cortisol, the stress hormone. a try-it-out visit (\$10 per visit), but for conti-And studies also show that you don't have to be a nuity's sake, it's not a drop-in choir. You can find out more through contacting Jennifer at But you know, I sing in choir because it's fun. <randsalmonte@gmail.com> or 256-8809.



Pick up theHumm in Carleton Place at ST. JAMES GATE

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Smiths Falls Glivin 10-6pm Saturday May 7 Sunday May 8 10-4pm New County Fair Mall Location! Hwy 29 S 70+ vendors, BBQ Home Renovations • Home Decor • Landscaping Energy Savings • Computers • Food • Skin Care Real Estate Services • and much more! Door Prizes • Basket Raffle Mother's Day is May 8 Moms get special treats and flowers on Sunday! www.smithsfallshomelivingexpo.com



YOUR OTTAWA VALLEY DESTINATION RESTAURANT Experience and Reconnect to the Tastes, Music, Culture and Heritage of the Ottawa Valley

Bahoo, Brat & the Commander

\$5 cover charge

Saturday, April 16, 8PM

Music Trivia Night Saturday, April 23, 7:30PM

ECMA Award Winner Theresa Doyle

Tickets \$20 (avail. on Eventbrite or call) Saturday, April 30, 8рм

You be a Star... Karaoke with Scotty, Thursdays at 8PM Fish & Chips Fridays — The Best in the Valley! Afternoon Tea Thursdays 2–4PM

Your Place in the Valley

729 Mill Street, Calabogie (in Calabogie Lodge) 613-752-2676 x311 for tickets and reservations info@thevalleyfoodanddrinkco.ca www.thevalleyfoodanddrinkco.ca Ottawa Valley craft beers the best ingredients from local farmers

A Walk in the Woods

Tired of winter and can't wait to get out and smell the fresh earth and hear the first sounds of spring? There couldn't be a better way to experience spring's emergence than a walk in the woods. Not only will you enjoy the advantages of being immersed in nature, but there are great benefits in walking itself. On Sunday, April 24, you'll have the opportunity to hear all about the benefits of walking from expert Dan Rubinstein and then you can take a stroll through the winding, scenic trails of High Lonesome Nature Reserve to enjoy those benefits first-hand.

Dan Rubinstein is the Ottawa author of the book Born to Walk: The Transformative Power of a Pedestrian Act. At a turning point in his life, Dan decided to combine his love of writing and his love of walking and turn it into a book. He travelled throughout Canada, the U.S. and the U.K. talking to countless people who see walking as transformative, with benefits that go far beyond simple transportation or recreation. Dan's talk will cover some of the latest research into the physical, emotional and spiritual benefits of walking. Learn more at <borntowalk.org>.

The Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust (MMLT) shares Dan's convictions and feels that nature itself offers similar benefits to humanity. If you combine nature and walking together you've found a very powerful tool to help transform your life. High Lonesome Nature Reserve is a 200-acre wilderness property in the Pakenham hills, within easy driving distance of Ottawa. The property was donated to the Land Trust by the family of Barry (Sam) Spicer in 2012 and has seen a growing number of visitors each year since. The 8 kilometres of trails wind through forests and wetlands, passing through a variety of <mmlt.ca/events>.



The Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust invites you to their High Lonesome property on April 24

rich habitats. Who knows what interesting wildlife you'll see along the way?

Registration for this event is at 9:30AM on April 24, rain or shine, with Dan's presentation starting at 10AM. Following the talk we'll set off on the trails, and it's probably wise to wear waterproof footwear this time of year. The admission fee is a \$10 donation to MMLT. To reach High Lonesome, take County Road 29 to Pakenham Village and turn onto Waba Road. Continue west for 2.9km, turn left on Barr Side Road and travel for 1.6km. Take the first left at Carbine Road and drive 4km to 867 Carbine Road and you have arrived! For further information and a map, visit

Time to Get Your Bike Out!

To steal a page from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's playbook, here's to sunny days and sunny ways! Yes, here's to longer days and to long, sun-soaked bike rides with family and friends. And here's to sunny ways where local governments are seeing the benefit of safe streets designed for people and not just cars; where communities strive for a world where children can safely bike to school.

winter or not, we all love to see it end. Each April, if you haven't already, you put your bike in line at your local bike shop for a spring tune-up, and every spring you vow to do it earlier as the line grows longer each year! It's also the time when bikes to see which is the most active), and Mississippi Mills Bicycle Month gets a Street Party (giant potluck/open stage) down to firming up their program for in downtown Almonte on June 4. MMBM the coming June. Upcoming bicyclerelated events include: an Arbour Week (April 17–24) **Tree Bike Ride** with the Mississippi Mills Family Bicycle Club <exploremississippimills.ca>; the **On**tario Bike Summit on April 19 and 20, where MM is up for a Bicycle-Friendly Community Award <sharetheroad.ca>;

and Streetfight: New York's Urban Revolution Comes to Ottawa, on April 27, where author and former Transportation Commissioner for NYC, Janette Sadik-Khan, will be in Ottawa to talk about how she re-imagined public spaces and helped transform the streets of New York (search for Ecology Ottawa on Facebook and find the event to reserve a free seat).

May 13 brings the third annual East-Whether it was a long, cold, bitter ern Ontario Active Transportation Summit in Kemptville <healthyllg.org/ events.html>.

> June events include the month-long Silver Chain Challenge (pitting Lanark County against Renfrew, recording walks/ is also partnering with Causeway Work Centre to present a Vintage Bicycle **Show** on June 27, including a screening of the wonderful documentary Marinoni -Fire in the Frame <marinonimovie.com>. Watch for information at <mmbm.ca>. - Jeff Mills

Listen Up, Lanark County! Teen Play Addresses Suicide in Rural Towns

During the final two weeks of April, a new youth theatre troupe called Listen Up, Lanark County! will be touring Almonte/Mississippi Mills, Carleton Place, Smiths Falls and Perth. Staging a new hour-long play entitled *Jessie's Song*, it focuses on the ripple effects of teen suicide on a community.

Produced by Burning Passions Theatre, the project is a collaborative effort by a quartet of teenagers who have worked to develop the play, facilitated by the company's Artistic Producer Laurel Smith, who also helms the summertime Classic Theatre Festival in Perth. Also working with the troupe is Community Engagement Intern and recent Carleton University Bachelor of Social Work graduate, Gillian Scott.

"It's a great opportunity for young people to come together and, in an unfiltered way, express their most honest and heartfelt thoughts about the compelling challenges they face on a daily basis, obstacles which tend to be invisible to so many of us in the adult world," says Smith.

Listen Up, Lanark County! is in its second year following a successful 2015 launch, which played at the national Youth Centres Canada conference before hundreds of teenagers from across the country, and in Perth as well. The project was created to address uniquely rural challenges faced by teenagers, from the lack of transportation and youth homelessness to issues of gender fluidity, depression and anxiety, sexual assault, substance abuse, and self-harm.

Many of those challenges have been documented in reports by regional health units and in media coverage that reveals the significant risks faced by a younger demographic. A 2015 report by the Canadian Institute for Health Information found that, for young people aged 5 to 24, emergency hospitalization involving at least one overnight stay to address mental health crises had increased 37% in the last seven years, with the age group most affected being 15 to 17 years old.

The despair facing many teenagers is also reflected in statistics compiled by CHEO, which has found that 79% of children and youth assessed by crisis intervention workers in emergency had shown suicidal behavior, and over one-third had a suicide plan or had made an attempt.



Tara Kreissler (left) and Kaija Evangelho (featured in last year's *Listen Up!* production) will be joined by Garret Pipher and Ruby Davidson for a touring show addressing teen suicide. *Jessie's Song* plays throughout Lanark County in April.

"Despite this, there's still so much stigma and silence in talking about mental health issues," explains Smith, "and so this theatre piece is one more opportunity to have a serious discussion that is based on the real lived experiences of the young people in our own communities."

This year, troupe members include Perth's Kaija Evangelho and Tara Kreissler (veterans of the project's first year) and newcomers Garrett Pipher of Smiths Falls and Ruby Davidson of Tay Valley.

All performances will feature a talk-back session, resource materials for people needing assistance, and an on-site social service worker who can assist with anyone who may be triggered by the content. The show is supported by the Ontario Arts Council, the Perth & District Community Foundation, YAK Youth Services, Kiwanis Club of Perth-on-Tay, Lioness Club of Perth, First Baptist Church, Unifor, Basilian Human Development Fund, and the Crabtree Foundation.

All performances are free (donations will be gratefully accepted, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds). To see the performance schedule and for more information, visit
burningpassionstheatre.com> or call 264–8088.





Claiming Column

CP Beckwith Music Festival, May 2-6 Scott Woods Fiddle Concert, CP, May 2 Art in the Attic, Almonte, May 6-8 Fieldwork Opening, Maberly, May 7 Free Comic Book Day, Almonte, May 7 Cheerfully Made Craft Show, Almonte, May 7-8

Home & Living Expo, SF, May 7-8 Nature Walk, Lanark, May 8 Limestone String Trio, Perth, May 8 Kelly Sloan, Almonte, May 13 BOTR, Westport, May 13



Festival of the Maples, Apr 30, 9am-4pm, Maple products/taffy, live music, kids' activities. Downtown Perth (Gore St). perthchamber.com

The Almonte Library Corridor Gallery presents Nancy Young's acrylics/landscape MERA presents Maureen O'Brien's paintings <meraschoolhouse.org> Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, Brooklyn, Smiths Falls George Turcotte & Band, Barley Mov O'Reilly's Pub 4-Hand Euchre, Perth Duplicate Bridge Club, Almonte Jazz at the Queen's, Queen's Hotel 🖌 Brock Zema<mark>n & Bla</mark>ir Hogan, Se Brooklyn, Perth Karaoke, Valley Food & Drink Co. **Visual Arts** O'Reilly's Pub CP Hort Mtg CP Karaoke, Waterfront Gastropub Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge Green Drinks, Perth MMLT AGM/Howard Clifford, Perth **Kitchen Party** Love That Barr Maple Run Studio Tour, Apr 2-3, 10AM-Duplicate Bridge Club, Smiths Falls Paint Nite, Carleton Place **Open Celtic Jam**, Naismith Pub MMPL Travelogue: China, Almonte 5PM. Self-guided studio tour around Paken-Dpen Drawing, Almonte 🖌 Seniors' Music & Brunch, Pakenham Mom's Gift, Middleville ham. 623-5222, mapleruntour.ca Duplicate Bridge Club, Smiths Falls ✓ Open Mic , Waterfront Gastropub Musicians' Circle, Bolingbroke Vernissage: Maureen O'Brien, Apr Seniors' Music & Brunch, Pakenham • Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe 2, 2-4PM. Paintings. MERA Schoolhouse, The Art of Letter Writing, Almonte Shawn McCullough, The Cove McDonalds Corners. 278-0388 Paint Nite, Tuesdays, 7PM. No experience 🕮 An Evening w/Her Excellency, req'd.Waterfront Gastropub, CP.257-5755 Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, Open Drawing, Wednesdays, 7-9PM. Bring Regional Strate **4-Hand Euchre**, Perth O'Reilly's Pub materials. Carriageway Studios, Almonte. Adult Bereavement Group, Perth Duplicate Bridge Club, Almonte Karaoke, Valley Food & Drink Co. 256-6522, carriagewaystudios.ca. \$10 Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan, **Open Celtic Jam**, Naismith Pub **Karaoke**, Waterfront Gastropub Mississippi Wood Carvers Mtg, Apr Dpen Drawing, Almonte Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge Kitchen Party, The Barley Mow O'Reilly's Pub 8 & 22, I-4PM. Coffee, cookies & carving. Duplicate Bridge Club, Smiths Falls Paint Nite, Carleton Place **Open Mic,** Waterfront Gastropub Musicians' Circle, Bolingbroke Almonte Library, mwcarvers@gmail.com Perth Hort: Garden Features, Perth Seniors' Music & Brunch, Pakenham Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe Meet the Artists: Rob Raeside, Alex A Duplicate Bridge Club, Smiths Falls Shawn McCullough, The Cove 🖌 Seniors' Music & Brunch, Pakenham Taves, Apr 10, 1-3pm. General Fine Craft, W. Carleton Garden Club, Carp Nolunteer Appreciation Night, **Toastmasters**, CP Nolunteer & Recreation Fair, Almonte. 461-3463, generalfinecraft.com Almonte Almonte Quilters' Guild, Apr 18, 7-9PM. Almonte Civitan Hall. 257-8444, almonteauiltersguild.com Opening Reception: Bloom, Apr 23, 3-6PM. Acoustic Stage, O'Reilly's Pub George Turcotte & Band, Barley Mow Meet artists, music. Sivarulrasa Gallery, Duplicate Bridge Club, Almonte Karaoke, Valley Food & Drink Co. Almonte. 293-2492, sivarulrasa.com. Free 4-Hand Euchre, Perth **Open Celtic Jam**, Naismith Pub Almonte Quilters' Guild, Almonte **Karaoke**, Waterfront Gastropub Lanark County Quilters Guild, Apr 26, Den Drawing, Almonte 👫 Bereave<mark>ment</mark> Support Gr</mark>oup, Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan, Kitchen Party, Love That Barr 7PM. Kathy Wylie trunk show. Lions Hall, **Open Mic,** Waterfront Gastropub Musicians' Circle, Bolingbroke Almonte O'Rei<mark>lly's</mark> Pub Perth Fairgrounds, Perth. \$3 guests Paint Nite, Carleton Place MVFN: AGM, Almonte Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge Organ Recital, Amprior Lanark Open Studios, Apr 30-May I, Duplicate Bridge Club, Smiths Falls A Pakenham Hort: Dahlias, Pakenham Duplicate Bridge Club, Smiths Falls ♪ Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe 10AM-5PM. Nat Capitanio's paintings (1523 Room, Perth Room, Smiths Falls Sheridan Rapids Rd. studiocapitanio.ca). John Shawn McCullough, The Cove Se Under Milk Wood, Perth Schweighardt's sculptures (1787 3rd Conc. Dalhousie. livingstonessculptures.ca) Theatre Karaoke, Valley Food & Drink Co. 🕸 4-Hand Euchre, Perth Self Help, Mar 31-Apr 2, Apr 8-9 at 8PM; Apr Acoustic Stage w/Dave Balfour, **Karaoke**, Waterfront Gastropub 🗱 Adult Bereavement Group, SF Kitchen Party, The Barley Mow 3, 10 at 2PM. \$24; \$22 in adv at Book Nook, Brock Zeman & Blair Hogan, O'Reilly's Pub Almonte **Duplicate Bridge Club**, Almonte Musicians' Circle, Bolingbroke Shadowfax, Tickets Please. Studio Theatre, Almonte Hort: Exhibiting, Almonte O'Reilly's Pub Open Mic, Alice's Village Cafe Lanark County Quilters Guild Open Celtic Jam, Naismith Pub Perth. studiotheatreperth.com Carp Celtic Jam, Carp Masonic Lodge Den Drawing, Almonte 🗣 Peter Pa<mark>n: A M</mark>us<mark>ical Adve</mark>nture, Duplicate Bridge Club, Smiths Falls Film Night International presents **Brooklyn** Paint Nite, Carleton Place **Open Mic,** Waterfront Gastropub Apr 6, 2 & 7PM (Full Circle, Perth); Apr A Duplicate Bridge Club, Smiths Falls Shawn McCullough, The Cove Normal Spring Time Junket, Burnstown 7, 7PM (Station Theatre, SF). Room Apr Toastmasters, CP 20, 2 & 7PM (Perth); Apr 21, 7PM (SF). \$10. filmnightinternational.blogspot.ca Mom's Gift, Apr 7-9, 7:30PM. Middleville Play-Live at the Met: Turandot, Apr 23, ers. Tickets at Lanark Era, or 259-5692, jgib-JazzNhouse: Casati, Apr 2, 8PM, \$23; Youth IPM. O'Brien Theatre, Renfrew. 432-0866, Roddy Ellias Trio, Apr 30, 8PM, Carson@storm.ca.Trinity United, Middleville obrientheatre.com. \$22 riageway Studios, Almonte, \$35. jazzn.ca Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, April 8-9, 14-16 at Public Skating w/Batman & Elsa, 7:30PM. April 10, 17 at 2PM. Station Theatre, Lanark Laughs, Apr 29, 8-10PM. Stand-Seniors' Music & Brunch, Apr 5, 6, 13, Apr 10, 1-2PM. Beckwith Rec Complex, up comedy. Waterfront Gastropub, CP. 14, 1 IAM-IPM. Celtic Band, pancake lunch. Smiths Falls. 283-0300, smithsfallstheatre. 257-1539, twp.beckwith.on.ca. \$2 com. \$20;\$10 students facebook.com/LanarkLaughs?fref=ts Fultons, Pakenham. 256-3867, fultons.ca Beckwith Youth Dance, Apr 15, 6-9PM.

Tuesday

🗏 Fairview Manor Lobby presents Cathy Blake's paintings & mixed media [changing Apr 11 to] Greta McDonald's Feather, Flight, Song paintings in acrylic

🗏 Sivarulrasa Studio & Gallery presents Dale Dunning [to Apr. 17], Bloom w/Deborah Arnold, Barbara Gamble, Susan Tooke, Mary Wong [from Apr. 23] <sivarulrasa.com>

🗏 General Fine Craft, Art & Design features Rob Raeside's blown glass & Alex Taves' works on paper <generalfinecraft.com> [from Apr 5]

Arnprior and District Museum presents Energy House (interactive exibit) <arnpriormuseum.org>

E North Lanark Regional Museum presents carvings of the Brydges family <appletonmuseum@hotmail.com>

In the Mississippi Mills Chambers Gallery presents Amelia Ah You's mixed media & Cathy Walsh's acrylics

Equator Coffee Roasters presents "Mississippi North" art by Sarah Jaynes <equator.ca>

E MVTM presents Losing Dave: An Artist's Journey Through Loss [to Apr 15]

Monday

Under Milk Wood, Apr 15-16, 21-23 at 8PM; Apr 17,24 at 2PM. Full Circle Theatre, Perth. 267-1884, \$22/\$20/\$10

No Men Beyond this Point, Apr 17, 2:30PM. "Mockumentary" supports Hub Hospice. MVTM, Almonte. hubhospice.com. \$12

Lend Me A Tenor!, Apr 22, 23 at 7:30PM; Apr 24 at 2PM. Almonte & District High School, \$10

Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure, Apr 22-23, 28-30 at 7:30PM; Apr 24 & 30 at 2PM. Tix at Hallmark. CP Town Hall. 253-3000, mississippimudds.ca. \$20 evg, \$15 matinée

Spotlight, Apr 22 & 23 at 7:30PM. (film) Station Theatre, Smiths Falls. 283-0300, smithsfallstheatre.com. \$10 (cash)

Black & White themed. Brunton Com. Hall, Beckwith. 257-1539, twp.beckwith. on.ca. \$3

Animal Adventure Puppet Show, Apr 16, 11AM & 1:30PM. Emmanuel Anglican Church, Arnprior. rockthearts.ca. \$7

Shaw (3-5PM, launch of YA book at Mill Music Street Books, Almonte. 256-9090); San-

Iterature

Register: 257-2702. CP Library

An Evening w/Sharon Johnston,Apr

14,7PM. Début novel Matrons and Madams.

ors for Indies Day,Apr 30: Li

Backbeat, Perth). authorsforindies.com

ocal Food 😒

maple producers host special events.

ALGO:

Maple Weekend, Apr 2-3, 10AM-4PM. Area

mapleweekend.ca

mm

dra Bradley (1-3PM, children's author at The Countrymen, Apr 1, 8PM-1AM. \$10 incl. Fri access to Pak. Home Show. Stewart Com Centre, Pakenham. 256-1077 Clayton Kitchen Party w/Gail Gavan, Apr 2, 8PM. \$20; \$15 in adv at Gen Store, Nicholson's, Baker Bob's. St George's Church, Clayton. 256-9010

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

WHAT'S ON I

Thursdav

Sharon Johnston, CP

Almonte

Wednesday

Melwood Cutlery, Dave Card, Long Sault Trio, Apr 10, 2PM. Perth Manor, 23 Drummond St.W., Perth. 264-0050. \$35 Neville Wells, Apr 10, 2-6PM. Proceeds Legion. 273-7017, roleytrish@gmail.com PPAC: Toronto All-Star Big Band, Apr 15, 7:30PM. PDCI auditorium, 13 Victoria St., Perth. 485-6434, ticketsplease.ca Spring Dance, Apr 16,6:30PM. Eddy and the

Stingrays, dinner, dancing. Almonte Civitan Hall. 256-2500x2296, \$35

Hervana Unplugged, Apr 16, 7:30-9:30PM. Tribute at Studio Theatre. Perth. hervanaband.com. \$20; \$15 adv.

Carleton Place

Musical Variety Show Fundraiser, Apr 16, 2PM. For Renfrew Refugee Welcome Group. \$10 at Aikenhead's. Trinity-St.Andrew's Church, Renfrew

Tay Valley 200th: A Song Celebration, Apr 16, 7:30PM. Choir. Bring donation for The Table. Maberly Com Hall, \$10

Clearview Country Gospel Singers, Apr 17, 7PM. Proceeds to mission work. Glad Tidings Church, Perth. Freewill

to ways & means committee. Westport Law & Orders Fundraiser w/Brea Lawrenson, Apr 17, 2-5PM. \$15 at SRC Music. Carleton Place Arena. 253-5046.

Perth Band: Sounds of the '60s, Apr 17, 2PM. Perth Citizens' Band. Perth Legion. 256-4221, perthband.ca. \$10; \$5 students Rideau Lakes Orchestra, Apr 17, 2pm. W/ Men & Women of the Tay. St. James Church, Perth. ticketsplease.ca. \$15, \$10

build futures



APRIL 2016



Home & Fashion Show, Apr 8 (6-9), 9 (9-6), 10 (10-4). 100+ vendors, kids activities. CP Arena. carletonplace.ca

1			Algonquin College Perth Open
Friday	Saturday	Sunday	House, Apr 9, 10AM-2PM. Program info tours. Algonquin College, Perth. 267-2859
 Almonte Lectures: Quick Clay, Almonte Astronomy Night, Almonte Foo Fighters tribute, John St. Pub Jimmy Tri-Tone Band, Love That Barr Mississippi Blues Open Jam, Waterfront Gastropu Pakenham Home Show, Pakenham Rob Lutes, The Cove Savoir French - Open House, Almonte Self Help, Perth Smitty, O'Reilly's Pub Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp Texas Tuxedo, Golden Arrow The Countrymen Live, Pakenham 	 Clayton Kitchen Party w/Gail Gavan, Clayton Fill-a-Bowl SFDACC Fundraiser, Smiths Falls Head over Heels, The Cove JazzNhouse: Casati, Almonte Jimmy Cochrane, Waterfront Gastropub Lanark Co. Genealogical Mtg, Perth Maple Run Studio Tour, Pakenham Maple Weekend, Lanark County Matt Dickson, Golden Arrow Pakenham Home Show, Pakenham Spring Tea & Bazaar, Ashton Vernissage: Maureen O'Brien, McDonalds Crnrs 	 Blues w/Barry Buse, Waterfront Gastropub David Olney, O'Reilly's Pub Henry Norwood & Shawn McCullough, The Cove Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak Maple Run Studio Tour, Pakenham Maple Weekend, Lanak County Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub Pakenham Home Show, Pakenham Pancake Breakfast, Mississippi Mills Self Help, Perth The Purse Event, Smiths Falls Valley Singles Lunch, Almonte 	algonquincollege.com Mom to Mom Shop/UCW Bake Sale Apr 9, 8AM-12PM. St Paul's United Church Perth. stpauls-uc-perth.org Spay-Ghetti Dinner,Apr 9, Fundraiser.5PM & 6:30PM. Stewart Com Centre, Pakenham 623-0916, arnpriorhumanesociety.ca Lions Club Mobility Van Brunch Fun- draiser, Apr 10, 9AM-12:30PM. The Cove Westport. 273-3636, coveinn.com Adult Bereavement Group, Apr 12 (1- 3PM, Com Home Support, Perth, 267-6400) AD 26 (1/2) 555 C
 Astronomy Night, Almonte Cr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, Smiths Falls Home & Fashion Show, Carleton Place Jean Pinel, Waterfront Gastropub Mississippi Wood Carvers Mtg, Almonte Mom's Gift, Middleville Self Help, Perth 	 Algonquin College Perth Open House, Perth Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, Smiths Falls Head over Heels, The Cove Self Help, Perth Home & Fashion Show, Carleton Place Love the Blues w/Ric Denis, Love That Barr Mom to Mom Shop/UCW Bake Sale, Perth Mom's Gift, Middleville Oh Susanna, Sharbot Lake Country Inn Shut Up & Trouble, Waterfront Gastropub Spay-Ghetti (no meatballs) Dinner, Pakenham 	APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak Blues w/Barry Buse, Waterfront Gastropub CDr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, Smiths Falls Home & Fashion Show, Carleton Place Lions Club Mobility Van Fundraiser, Westport Meet the Artists, Almonte Melwood Cutlery, Long Sault Trio, Perth Neville Wells, Westport Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub	 Apr 26 (1-3PM), SF Com Health Centre 283-6745). Free Perth Hort: Garden Features, Apr 12, 7-9PM. St Paul's United Church, Perth perthhortsociety.com. \$3; \$10/yr W. Carleton Garden Club, Apr 12 7:30PM. Carp Memorial Hall, wcgc.ca. \$5 Volunteer Appreciation Night, Apr 13, 5PM. All Mississippi Mills volunteers welcome. Civitan Hall, Almonte. Free Toastmasters, Apr 14 & 28, 7-9PM. River view Seniors' Residence, 204 Lake Ave., Cl
Astronomy Night, Almonte Beckwith Youth Dance, Beckwith Cr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, Smiths Falls Jazz Night - Stingrays Fundraiser, The Cove Peter Newsom, Waterfront Gastropub PPAC: Toronto All-Star Big Band, Perth Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp Tom Watson, O'Reilly's Pub Commentation of the Star Big Band, Perth Commentation of the Swan at Carp	 Empty Bowls, Perth Spring Dance, Almonte Pitch In, Almonte Animal Adventure Puppet Show, Armprior Bahoo, Brat & Commander, Valley Food & Drink Co. Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, Smiths Falls Head over Heels, The Cove Hervana Unplugged, Perth Jazz at the Waterfront, Waterfront Gastropub Musical Variety Show Fundraiser, Renfrew Tay Valley 200th: A Song Celebration, Maberly The Glorious Sons, John St. Pub Under Milk Wood, Perth Under The Covers, O'Reilly's Pub 	 Blues w/Barry Buse, Waterfront Gastropub Clearview Country Gospel Singers, Perth Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, Smiths Falls Last Day of the Pancake Season, Pakenham Law & Orders Fundraiser w/Brea Lawrenson, CP Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak No Men Beyond this Point, Almonte Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub Perth Band: Sounds of the '60s, Perth Rideau Lakes Orchestra, Perth The NightCrawlers, Generations Inn Under Milk Wood, Perth 	 mastermindtoastmasters.com Volunteer & Recreation Fair, Apr 14 12-2PM & 6-8PM. Almonte Old Town Hall 256-1077, exploremississippimills.ca Empty Bowls, Apr 16, 11AM-2PM. \$25 for bowl & soup. Funds sustainable food prog Foodsmiths, Perth. emptybowls.ca How-To Fair, Apr 16, 10:30AM-2:30PM. Perth Library, 30 Herriott St.perthunionlibrary.ca Pitch In, Apr 16, 9AM-12PM. Clean up Down- town Almonte! 256-1077, exploremissis- sippimills.ca Bereavement Support Group, Apr 18
 Astronomy Night, Almonte Blues & Co., Waterfront Gastropub BOTR: Ria Reece Band, Westport Destroyer (KISS tribute), John St. Pub Lend Me A Tenor!, Almonte Mississippi Wood Carvers Mtg, Almonte P'Earth Day Celebration, Perth Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure, Carleton Place Stephen Fisher, O'Reilly's Pub Under Milk Wood, Perth Vintage Clothing Sale, Carleton Place 	 Ale Tasting, Almonte Cunder Milk Wood, Perth Spotlight, Smiths Falls Live at the Met, Renfrew It's A Diva Sale, Westport 40 Plus Singles Dinner/Dance, Smiths Falls Blue Skies Fiddle & More Jam-a-thon, Maberly Celebrate Spring Dinner, Carleton Place Folkus: Slow Leaves, Almonte Fiddlefest, John Wilberforce, The Cove Lend Me A Tenor!, Almonte Music Trivia Night, Valley Food & Drink Co. Opening Reception: Bloom, Almonte Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure, Carleton Place Vintage Clothing Sale, Carleton Place 	APEX Jazz Band, The Royal Oak Blues w/Barry Buse, Waterfront Gastropub Garnet Rogers, McDonalds Corners Lend Me A Tenorl, Almonte NLHS Speaker Series: Claudia Smith, Appleton Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure, Carleton Place Trad Song Session, Almonte Under Milk Wood, Perth Vintage Clothing Sale, Carleton Place Walk & Talk: Walking, Pakenham	 10:30AM-12PM. Mills Com Support, Almonte 883-6646, hubhospice.com. Free Pakenham Hort: Dahlias, Apr 20 7:30PM. St. Andrew's United, Pakenham gardenontario.org/site.php/pakenham MVFN: AGM, Apr 21, 7:30PM. Almonte United Church, mvfn.ca P'Earth Day Celebration, Apr 22, 6PM Table Community Food Centre, Perth TransitionPerth.ca/earthday16 Vintage Clothing Sale, Apr 22-24, 10AM 4PM. Fundraiser. CP & Beckwith Heritage
 Almonte Lectures: Brain controlling Muscle Astronomy Night, Almonte Lanark Laughs, Carleton Place Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure, Carleton Place River City Junction, O'Reilly's Pub Songwriters Circle, The Cove Steve Barrette Trio, The Swan at Carp 	 Empty Bowls, Perth * Festival of the Maples, Perth Ali McCormick & Matt McKechnie, O'Reilly's Pub Almonte in Concert: Spirit & Spring, Almonte Authors for Indies Day, Almonte, Perth Diefenbooker Classic, Carp Human Library, Lanark JazzNhouse: Roddy Ellias Trio, Almonte Jean Pinel, Waterfront Gastropub Open Studios -Capitanio, Living Stones, Lanark Pat Temple w/Spencer Evans .The Cove Peter Pan: A Musical Adventure, Carleton Place Theresa Doyle, Valley Food & Drink Co. West Ottawa Ladies Chorus, Kanata 	 Blues w/Barry Buse, Waterfront Gastropub Creativity Blitz, Pakenham Fiddler's Friends Concert, Almonte Goulbourn Male Chorus, Carp Hike For Hub Hospice, Almonte Magnolia Rhythm Kings, The Royal Oak Open Mic w/Kelly Sloan, Ashton Pub Open Studio - Capitanio, Lanark Open Studio - Living Stones, Lanark Roast Beef Dinner, Pakenham 	 Museum, CP. 253-7013 It's A Diva Sale, Apr 23, 9AM-2PM. Genthused jewellery, purses, etc. For RCL Westport Kitchen. Westport Legion, 273-7017 40 Plus Singles Dinner/Dance, Apr 23, 7PM (8PM DJ dance). Cash bar: Casual dress no jeans. SF Civitan Hall, 285-5557, \$10 Ale Tasting, Apr 23, 7PM. Cartwright Spring beer with Foodies Fine Foods. MVTM Almonte. 256-3754, mvtm.ca. \$50; \$45 in additionate. 256-3754, mvtm.ca. \$50; \$45 in additionate. 257-8547. \$15 NLHS Speaker Series: Claudia Smith
Church, Arnprior BOTR: Ria Reece Band, Apr 22, 7-11PM. The Cove, Westport. 1-888-COVE-INN, bluesontherideau.ca.\$65+tx dinner & show Blue Skies Jam-a-thon, Apr 23, 1-6PM. Fundraiser for Blue Skies Com Fiddle Orchestra. Maberly Hall. 273-3986, cerlichman@yahoo.com.By donation Folkus: Slow Leaves, Apr 23, 8PM. \$30 at Mill St Books, folkusalmonte.com, or door.Almonte Old Town Hall, 256-9090 Garnet Rogers, Apr 24, 2PM. MERA Schoolhouse, McDonalds Corners. 485- 6434, ticketsplease.ca. \$24 Trad Song Session, Apr 24, 2-4PM. The Barley Mow, Almonte. 355-5552, dpbaril@gmail.com Almonte in Concert: Spirit & Spring, Apr 30, 7:30FW W/Luia Nagrallah Almone	 Pakenham Home Shot 2 (9AM-6PM), 3 (10AM-4PM munity Centre, Pakenhar Savoir French Open 4.7PM.Treats, lending libra 83 Little Bridge St., Almo 4.7PM.Treats, lending 1.7PM.Treats, lending 1.7PM.Trea	 Stewart Com- m. 256-1077, \$5 House, Apr 1, rry, courses. 109- inte. 206-2866 B, IOAM-4PM,Area special events. Apr 2, 11AM-1PM. SF Arts Council. SF Arts Council. ST Arts Council. ST	 Apr 24, 2PM. N Lanark Museum, Appleton 257-8503, appletonmuseum@hotmail.com Walk & Talk, Apr 24, 9:30AM. High Lone- some Nature Reserve, 867 Carbine Rd. Pakenham., mmlt.ca/events. \$10 donation Almonte Hort: Exhibiting, Apr 25 7:30PM. Cornerstone Com Church, Al- monte. 256-5594 Spring Time Junket, Apr 28, 4-8PM. An- tiques & vintage treasures, refreshments Rustic Remnants, Burnstown. 432-5555 Diefenbooker Classic, Apr 30, 7:30-11AM Walk, run, cycle; raise \$ for library. Carp Fairgrounds, diefenbookerclassic.ncf.ca

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Spring Migration

Birder's Eye View 4

Migratory time is here! I love this time coming alive after winter. As mentioned very erratic winter, which saw many ly. From the tail end of March into early April, we're seeing the return of redin Almonte, where often several species of waterfowl can be spotted right

by Bob Volks

in town: common goldeneyes, mergansers, buffleheads and more. Almonte's Riverwalk is healthy growth of red oak on our property, and a great place to start, and is one of the many things that make Almonte the interesting town why they're so nutty? Fallen oak also make great it is. Soon you will see the flycatchers and hummingbirds, who normally arrive by mid-April and into May. More importantly though, it's wood warbler time, when these fantastic birds rush of air moving over their wings creates their return in full breeding plumage to Ontario for wonderful sound. Interestingly, when a male our bugs and forests. A Warbler Wander is on grouse finds a good drumming log, it will use the schedule!

On a recent excursion to the wilderness, I of year, when everything and everyone is noted that the ruffed grouse's drumming has begun. Grouse are one of my favourite birds previously, our early nesters are well on because they are very curious little critters. their way with raising their young. Our Many times over the years, while working in the bush cutting wood or doing various other tasks, birds never leaving (that normally do), it has not been uncommon to turn around and has started the spring migration ear- see a grouse very close by, looking at me as if to ask "What the heck are you guys doing?"

A few years ago, when we were reassemwinged blackbirds, robins and lots of bling an older building that we had torn down ducks. I keep an eye on the river here in Kingston and brought back to our camp to use as a screened porch for bug season, several of us worked all day accompanied by a male grouse which stayed within ten feet of us. If we got to close to him he would wander off, only to come right back to watch us work. We are fortunate to have lots of them around, as we have a grouse eat the acorns year-round. Maybe that's drumming logs that echo the grouse's territorial and mating drumming sounds. They do this by beating their wings in such a way that the the same log over and over again and then gen-



Ruffed grouse are often easy to spot because of their curious natures

erations after it will also use the same log. I guess it's the old "if it ain't broke, don't fix it" approach.

Another sound I can't wait to hear is the endless call of the eastern whippoorwill. These nightjars are seldom seen and often heard, although habitat loss has not only shrunk their ranges but has also reduced their numbers. We are fortunate to have a healthy population returning to our property each year. The record for this vocal ground bird's song is over one thousand continuous "whippoorwills" in a row. Crazy!

So before the blackfly, deerfly and mosquito seasons start, it's definitely time to cycle, go birding, and get out the back door!

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





Ellen Symons, RMT delivers focused and effective treatment with deep tissue, fascial, and relaxation techniques. Her Body Poets clinic in downtown Ottawa (10 RMTs, founded 2004) was voted Top Massage Therapist 2016*. Ellen is delighted to work both in Ottawa and in Almonte, where she lives. *Top Choice Award

Call 613-222-0465 Or book online: www.bodypoets.com

Therapist

available

Saturday hours

359 Ottawa Street #3, Almonte (at Patterson - with Kim Narraway, RMT)

The Not-Too-Flaky-Pastry Pasty

As official Sherpa and sometime wheelman for theHumm's arts reporter, Weetabix is frequently called upon to undertake lengthy car journeys — not always at times that are convenient to his feeding schedule. And as anybody attest, the multiple requirements of taste, convenience, and nutri-

by Sebastian Weetabix

tion are not easily met. Sandwiches - especially the more interesting varieties have distressing tendencies to disintegrate or shed pieces. Frankenfood (trail bars or sports foods) is exactly that — it may provide the requisite number of calories and a calculated mix of carbohydrates, fats and proteins, but what can one say beyond "ugh". Memory banks and the internet are searched for solutions. Lo, a traditional ethnic food is (re)discovered.

Almost all regions have some sort of "hand food" (the Wikipedia entry for "empanada" provides a list of nearly thirty variants and another thirty or so "similar dishes"). The basic idea is simple - take some sort of bread/dough, wrap it around some filling (savoury or sweet), cook (bake/fry) and serve hot or cold, with or without condiments. Weetabix is overcome with insurmountable choices but realizes that there is another important requirement. A fastidious and tidy person

should not attempt to eat something that British Pasty and Pie Co., which sheds shards of pastry into the vehicle, let has an excellent and informaalone something from which filling may escape and render one's garments suitable for use as an ingredient for soup!

This basic problem was solved with the creation of the pasty. The actual origins who has eaten on the move can of the pasty (pronounced past-tee) are not documented, however the creation myth most commonly invoked involves Cornish tin miners. It should be noted that, like other creation stories, there are some disputes and that partisan debates can become heated — witness the clashes between advocates of Devon pasties and Cornish pasties, which culminated in the July 20, 2011, ruling by the European Commission that granted the name "Cornish pasty" Protected Geographical Status. A conforming Cornish pasty should be "shaped like a 'D' and crimped on one side, not on the top. Its ingredients should include beef, swede (known as turnip in Cornwall, and rutabaga in the Valley), potato and onion, with a light seasoning of salt and pepper, keeping a chunky texture. The pastry should be golden and retain its shape when cooked and cooled" <en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pasty>.

> The Great British Pasty & Pie Co. A complete meal that could be carried easily and eaten from the hand ... exactly right for the modern road warrior! Now pointed in the right direction, a few short steps bring us to Matt Grant and The Great

tive website as well as a menu at <gbpastyandpie.ca>. Matt, a genial bloke with strong cultural roots in the pasty tradition, agreed to an interview just after returning from the 2016 World Pasty Championships (held in Cornwall of course), where he was named "World Pasty Ambassador" — a title appropriate to his role as pasty maker extraordinaire and pasty evangelist. He can currently be addressed as the Present Pasty Ambassador and, one supposes, next year will be "Past Pasty..."

We discussed pasties in his small but well-kitted commercial kitchen in Arnprior, where he de-

velops new recipes and makes a steady and growing number of pasties for customers in Ottawa and surrounding communities. Pasties freeze well, and The Great British Pasty and Pie Co. sells all of its products wrapped and frozen. This is an important feature both for Matt (who can thus manage a diverse menu), and for his customers (who can buy these excellent products and keep them for use "as required"). A key component of the pasty is the pastry. Matt has refined his to meet the mechanical requirements (holding things together and not shedding flakes), while providing both good flavour and mouth feel. Hand crimping each one is hard work but pays



Matt Grant, owner of Arnprior's Great British Pasty & Pie Co., was just named "World Pasty Ambassador" at the 2016 World Pasty Championships in Cornwall!

off in the integrity of the seal, which is important for flavour development. A proper pasty requires that the filling cook within the pastry. High-quality ingredients, well integrated recipes and care in assembly — note the distinct layers! — all come together in Matt's products. Weetabix's on-site sampling was limited, but additional pasties were taken off-site for further research, and we can attest to their uniform high quality. Matt is justifiably proud of his results and is systematically and methodically planning the expansion of The Great British Pasty and Pie Co. In the meantime, visit <gbpastyandpie.ca> to order and arrange pick-up.

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Feeling the Love in Mississippi Mills!

really hard to fit it all into one article. you can find out about the Pakenham Home Show on April 1–3 <exploremississippimills.ca>, the Maple Weekend on April 2 and 3 <mapleweekend.ca>, and Studio Tour on April 2 and 3 <maplerunstudiotour.ca>. That's one busy weekend you don't want to miss!

There's so much going on in Al- year's appreciation night, well then have I monte and Pakenham over the next got the event for you! The very next day, month-and-a-bit that it's going to be on Thursday the 14th, you are invited to a Volunteer & Recreation Fair organized And I do hope you read my column by the Town and the Mills Community last month, because that's where Support Corporation. Come out and learn about all the amazing local organizations that depend on volunteers, and sign up on-site or just collect information and take it home to think it over. Hours are from 12–2рм and again from 6–8рм at the Althe always popular Maple Run monte Old Town Hall. For more information, visit <exploremississippimills.ca> or call 256–1077.

by Miss Mills

Loving the Volunteers

To start the rest of the month off right, the Town itself is partnering with the Civitans to host a Volunteer Appreciation Night on Wednesday, April 13, beginning at 5рм at the Almonte Civitan Hall. It will be free for any and all Mississippi Mills volunteers, and there will be appetizers and a cash bar. Organizers are still working out the rest of the details, but they will soon be sending an open invitation to all community and festival groups to forward to their volunteers. If you volunteer in this area and would like to attend, they would ing 256–1077. love to have you!

area but want to be able to attend next the **Trees for Hub Hospice** sale is in full

Tree Love Shortly after that, there's a whole week in which you can show your love of some of the area's oldest and most established residents — trees! Taking place from April 18 to 24, **Arbour Week** is a time to celebrate and honour the trees in our lives. Think of the trees that nurture us — whether it's an oak in the backyard holding a treehouse in its limbs, or a sugar maple along a back road providing dramatic colour in the fall. The Mississippi Mills Tree Committee is offering several events during Arbour Week, where participants can join "Tree Walks and Talks" or attend a film featuring trees. Up-to-date details can be found at <exploremississippimills.ca> or by call-

One hands-on way to show your love for And if you don't yet volunteer in the trees is to plant a new one, and fortunately



ADHS Lends You a Tenor

The students of Almonte & District High School cordially invite you to their production of Ken Ludwig's Lend Me A Tenor! Performances are on April 22 and 23 at 7:30PM and on April 24 at 2PM, and tickets are \$10 each (available at the door). Pictured above (l-r) are Levi Albert, Adrian Shearman, Mack Franklin, Kaleigh Irvin, Callum LeRoy, Gillian Bentley and Kennedy Snaith (missing is Alison Carson).

swing! Order at <hubhospicetrees.com> by April 15 for pick-up on the 30th, and find out more in the article on the next page of this issue. Another great way is to help clean up the environment in genfrom April 11-16. Special bags are available at Nicholson's Sundries, the Clayton

General Store, the Appleton Museum, Baker Bob's, and the Info Centre at the Almonte Old Town Hall, and they can be left out for regular garbage pick-up (without a sticker) until April 29. On Saturday the eral, which you can do with help from the 16th, from 9AM to noon, you can meet at Town during **Mississippi Mills Pitch-In** Baker Bob's to join in a special downtown Almonte clean-up!

Mississippi Mills lover Volunteers

APRIL 10-16, 2016 IS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK IN CANADA

Volunteer Appreciation Night Wednesday, April 13th 5:00 to 7:00PM Almonte Civitan Club

Calling all volunteers, their benefactors, and new community members

> An open invitation to celebrate **Mississippi Mills VOLUNTEERS**

Wine and cheese reception Almonte Civitan Club 500 Almonte Street, Almonte

HUG Your Kids, Pet Your dog, Get out for a Walk but MOST Importantly thank a Volunteer!

Hosted by:





Volunteer & Recreation Fair

Thursday, April 14th Almonte Old Town Hall

Come out and learn about all the amazing organizations in Mississippi Mills who depend on volunteers.

Sign-up on site or just collect info and and think it over.

Show hours: Noon to 2:00PM 6:00 to 8:00PM

There is a group looking for someone with just your talents!

Hosted by:





For more information: www.exploremississippmills.ca / 613-256-1077 / tmaclaren@mississippimills.ca



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More in Mississippi Mills in May!

More amazing things are coming up in Almonte over Mother's Day weekend in May, so here's a sneak preview before your dance card fills up.

The annual **Art in the Attic** show will be filling the Almonte Old Town Hall with works by artists of all ages from May 6-8. There's a whole article on this one on page 31, so be sure to check that out!

Also on May 7 and 8, just down the street at the Agricultural Hall, you'll find the **Cheerfully Made Markets** craft show (formerly called Handmade Harvest). It runs from 10AM to 4PM each day, but you might want to get in line early because the first fifty people get a free swag bag (and they're always full of amazing stuff!). Parking is free, admission is \$2, and there will be more than fifty makers on site each day - with an entirely new crew on Sunday! For a closer look at the maker profiles, visit <cheerfullymade.com> and click on the Craft Markets link.

What a great way to spend the weekend with mom — enjoying the spring air, doing some seriously fantastic shopping for handmade crafts and art, and exploring the beautiful (and friendly) Almonte downtown.

That very same weekend, the Almonte Fair Board and Action & Video Toy Store are bringing Free Comic Book Day to Almonte! This event is in its 15th year internationally, and is a fantastic way to get kids excited about reading and comics. May 7 is the big day, starting at noon at the Almonte fairgrounds (free parking on site), and running until 4PM. People of all ages are welcome to dress up in their best superhero costumes. A scavenger hunt on that!



Find clever cake toppers, campy candles and much more at the Cheerfully Made Markets craft show on May 7 and 8

will take place downtown, where families will go into participating stores to find their comics and colouring books and see what the shops have to offer. There will be meet and greets with comic book characters, some activities on the fairgrounds for the kids, and other surprises along the route. Any proceeds made from the activities on the fairgrounds will go towards the Ag Hall Reno Project.

Also on the fairgrounds that day will be a Mother's Day Vendor Market for last-minute shopping from direct sellers and crafters. For more information about these events, contact Cathy at 862–3750 or <jcgayton@hotmail.com>. The Fair Board is also planning a Zombie Dance for adults on May 6 at the fairground's Big Red Barn, so check out the May issue of theHumm for more details

Hub Hospice Trees: Thinking Globally, **Planting Locally**

The news about global warming, climate change and pollution can be overwhelming, and we can be tempted to throw the covers over our head and say: "There's nothing I can do!" But there is one simple thing you can do to help the earth, and memorable gift. yourself, at the same time — plant a tree!

Even one tree on your property can contribute to making the world a better place. Trees reduce pollution by absorbing carbon dioxide, dangerous gases and particulates from the atmosphere, and also by runoff from storm water and prevent soil erosion. They control climate by lessen-Leaves absorb and filter sunlight, keeping things cool in summer.

On the home front, trees can provide shade and wind protection, reducing costs and saving energy by maintaining years ago, but the next best time is today! temperatures in your home. Trees provide privacy and beauty, and a healthy tree can add value to your home.

Trees can have value at a personal level too. They can protect you from UV rays of the sun, while at the same time creating a relaxing environment. Due to their long life, trees can be a living memorial or

Hub Hospice Palliative Care is proud to be continuing the traditional Mississippi Mills tree sale, started by the Chamber of Commerce almost twenty years ago. Since then more than 10,000 trees have been sold, contributing to our households, our replenishing oxygen. Trees reduce surface communities and the environment. A selection of shade, flowering and fruit trees suitable for our area is now available at ing the effects of the sun, rain and wind. very reasonable prices. Check out our selection and place your order by visiting <hubbospicetrees.com> for pick up on April 30. Order early for best selection.

> The best time to plant a tree was twenty - Helen McIntosh





(meet at Baker Bobs at 9am)

Help Miss Mills Clean Up Mississippi Mills! **PITCH-IN BAGS ARE AVAILABLE AT:**

Nicholson's Sundries, Pakenham; Clayton General Store; Appleton Museum & Mailboxes; Baker Bob's: & the Recreation & Culture office in Almonte's Old Town Hall.

HELPFUL TIPS: Bring rakes, shovels & brooms. Kids bring an adult. Always wear gloves. Use caution around parked cars, in driveways, & along roads. PITCH-IN bags can be left out on your regular garbage pick-up day (without a sticker) until April 29th

For more information please call 613-256-1077





Art is in Bloom All Over the Area!

Two Studios — Two Days

John Schweighardt's biannual open studio event is taking place three years old. In his artistic bio, he writes: "I have the weekend before Mother's Day, on April 30 and May 1. John will be displaying old and new work at his Living Stones studio, located just northwest of Lanark Village and 25 minutes west of Almonte, at 1787 3rd Concession Dalhousie in Lanark (259–2203). The outdoor sculpture garden in the pines, the water feature gardens, and the indoor studio space all feature the varied and beautiful stones that John has collected himself and carved into one-off objects of art. John's studio will be open both days from 10AM to 5PM, and

more details can be found at <livingstonessculptures.ca>.

by Miss Cellaneous

Located just ten minutes from John's studio and open at the same time is **Studio Capitanio**, at 1523 Sheridan Rapids Road in Lanark (278-1230). Nat Capitanio officially opened his country studio last December, and he and his partner Lise will welcome you to experience firsthand his beautifully detailed exquisite nature paintings. If you haven't had the pleasure of knowing Nat's work, you can get a preview at <studiocapitanio.ca>. Nat was born in Cassino, Italy, and



On April 30 and May 1, visit the studios of painter Nat Capitanio (above) and stone sculptor John Schweighardt (right)





immigrated to Canada with his family when he was

always been fascinated with the beauty of nature; I



Bloom — a Group Exhibition

Bloom: to come into, to flourish, to thrive... In the group show *Bloom*, Almonte's Sivarulrasa Gallery brings together four Canadian artists — Deborah Arnold (Almonte), Barbara Gamble (Ottawa), Susan Tooke (Halifax) and Mary Wong (Toronto) to celebrate the energy and vitality of spring. Curated by Sanjeev Sivarulrasa, the exhibition pre-Carrara marble, new oil paintings by Mary Wong from her florals series, and new paintings in oil, Tooke. Meet the artists at the opening reception on Saturday, April 23, from 3 to 6рм. A delightful ensemble of young violinists, The Fine Tuners, perform to open the show. Admission is free and the show runs from April 22 until May 29. More details can be found at <sivarulrasa.com>.



Sivarulrasa Gallery's group exhibition Bloom features works by Susan Tooke and three others

Calls for Artists and Artisans

The second Arts Carleton Place Spring Art Show & Sale will take place on Saturday, May 28, from 10AM to 4PM at St. James Hall, 225 Edmund Street in Carleton Place. The entry fee for participants is \$55, with grids provided (8' wide by 4' deep booth). A limited number of outside spots are available for \$45 (you are responsible for your own booth). Membership in Arts Carleton Place is \$20 (required). The show features a central cash with 10% commission going to Arts Carleton Place. The registration deadline is May 1, and application forms can be found at <artscarletonplace.com>. For more information, contact Pauline Bean at <p-bean@hotmail.com>.

The 20th anniversary Crown & Pumpkin Studio Tour will take place on Thanksgiving weekend sents Deborah Arnold's newest stone sculptures in in Almonte, Clayton and the surrounding area. Organizers are particularly interested in fresh and innovative three-dimensional work. To apply, subwax and acrylic by Barbara Gamble and Susan mit examples of recent work, and include a brief biography and artist's statement. Work is judged on originality of expression and concept, and quality of execution; new types of work will receive particufrom the music school Ottawa Suzuki Strings, will lar consideration. Send your application, including electronic images of work and a link to your website (if applicable) to <barbara.mullally@gmail.com> by May 15. For information, call 256–3647.



Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1, 2016 — 10AM to 5PM Come discover fine art in Lanark Highlands. 1523 Sheridan Rapids Road, Lanark studiocapitanio.ca nat@studiocapitanio.ca

The Art of Sarah Jaynes, and her Students

Artist and art teacher Sarah Jaynes has always loved the technical aspects of classical drawing and the spontaneity and colour of street art. Ironically, while throwing paint at one of her drawings to encourage a student to take risks, she combined her two loves for the first time. Her realistic charcoal drawings are now layered with bright colours of spray paint.

A home in Almonte a few blocks from the Mississippi River, a cabin on the river, and kids who love the outdoors, give Sarah ample opportunity to observe, sketch and photograph. Her current series of drawings explores the wildlife of beautiful Eastern Ontario. The paint is also deeply influenced by her surroundings. Local fauna is often used as stencils for the spray paint, as are the geometric shapes of everyday items that litter her life.

Sarah's "Mississippi North" series will be on display at Equator Coffee Roasters in Almonte throughout April, and will also be available at the Cheerfully Made Markets craft show (formerly called "Handmade Harvest") at the Almonte Agricultural Hall on the first day of the show, May 7 (the craft show runs from 10AM to 4PM on May 7 and 8). You can follow her creative stumbles on Instagram <@mississippinorth> and contact her at <mississippi_north@yahoo.com>.

More Exceptional Art

Sarah also teaches art full time at Notre Dame Catholic High School in Carleton Place, and in 2008 she founded *Without Exception: Exceptional* Art from Beautiful Minds. For several years she had students with Down Syndrome in her art class, ful artworks they produced. Sarah explains: "I am Hall.



Sarah Jaynes's "Mississippi North" series will be on display at Equator Coffee Roasters during April, and you can find art by both the teacher and her students at Cheerfully Made Markets in May!

used to beautiful student art, but I was not used to these unique minds. My program (which for the last eight years has been funded by the CDSBEO) is founded on the strong belief that we are all wonderfully made. That students with exceptionalities are exactly that: exceptional and *not* exceptions to the norm. That all minds are beautiful."

Art from the Without Exception program is currently adorning the walls at Perth's Studio Theatre (where it will hang until the end of April), and will also be available at the Cheerfully Made Markets craft show in Almonte (May 8). In September and October, it will be on display at the Mill of Kintail. Creations by Sarah's Notre Dame students will

and she was constantly amazed both at how they also be featured in this year's Art in the Attic show interpreted her instructions and at the beauti- coming up on May 6-8 at Almonte's Old Town

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*living*sto by John Schweighard studio April 30-May 1 10:00-5:00 1787 3rd Con Dalhousie Lanark.ON.KOG 1K0 613.259.2203 livingstonessculptures.ca

Paint Night for Therapeutic Riding

The Lanark County Therapeutic Riding Program is hosting their first "Paint Night" on Tuesday, April 26, at the Perth Restaurant (23 Gore Street in Perth). Come out and join artist extraordinaire Penny Harding as she teaches us all how to create a beautiful country landscape in about an hour. Paint night begins at 7PM and is open to everybody absolutely no artistic talent whatsoever is required.

The evening is in support of a great cause, and 100% of funds raised will go directly to supporting local disabled riders. This is a great opportunity to grab some friends and let your creative juices flow. Come share some laughs, and perhaps a glass of wine as you learn step-by-step how to create your own masterpiece. Tickets are \$45 per person and are available by reservation only. Hurry — they're going fast. Get yours at 257–7121 x238 or <therapeuticriding.ca>.



Come out and have a great night painting in support of the Lanark County Therapeutic Riding Program on April 26. No experience needed!





April 2016



Nicholas Sparks 200

Nicholas Sparks arrived in the Ottawa area 200 years ago this summer. On June 10, 11 and 12, join descendants of his extended family and others to celebrate this Ottawa pioneer and honour the founders of Bytown at the Anglican cathedral.

For more information, program, cost, and registration form, go "Nicholas Sparks Ottawa 200" on Facebook. For questions contact Brian Hull at: sparks1816@gmail.com

Pick up theHumm in Burnstown at **BLACKBIRDS CAFE**



invites you to attend their **Annual General Meeting** Saturday, May 28, 2PM at the Museum. Special presentation by Workers' History Museum Note: in order to vote at the Annual General Meeting of the

MVTM you need to renew your membership or become a member by April 28, 2016. (A membership form is available at www.mvtm.ca)



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With spring (barely) upon us, we already have a wide variety of films to check out. Most are large, spec-tacle-oriented blockbust-ers, which tend to produce mixed results. Yet, as al-

mixed results. Yet, as always, under the radar, a being discharged from the studios. And a few gems from last year's circuit are

by Matt Roche

coming to our local theatres as well, and should not be missed. In particular, Room, starring Jacob Tremblay (fresh off his Canadian Screen Award for Best Actor) and Brie Larson (fresh off her Best Actress win at the Oscars), and The Lady in the Van, starring Maggie Smith. Both are playing this month at Smiths Falls' Station Theatre and the Full Circle Theatre in Perth. You can also catch The Lady in the Van this month at the O'Brien Theatre in Renfrew.

The Lady in the Van really is a wonderful, charming little film. And Maggie Smith gives yet another marvellous performance as, well, the lady in the van. Sharp, witty and spry as ever, Maggie Smith's eccentric homeless woman is a sight to behold. Directed by theatre veteran Nicholas Hytner, who also directed the original play on London's West End in 1999, the film meanders around its plot, but it doesn't really matter since the writing is so good and the performances so appealing. Watching Maggie Smith scream with delight as she's pushed down the street in a wheelchair will undoubtedly put a huge smile on your face, and is worth the admission price alone.

Room, on the other hand, is an emotionally exhausting film. Brilliantly orchestrated by director Lenny Abrahamson (half the film takes place in a tiny room)

us, we already have a wide performances from Brie Larson this means is hard to decipher. of uncertainty and awe.

The film deals with the kidfew cinematic treats are napping of a woman. She is confined in a very small room with just enough room for a small bed, bath and kitchen sink. She is held captive and at some point during her six-year stay was impregnated. She has raised the child, who is now a feisty, inquisitive five-year-old. He starts to question things. He knows nothing but this room, no clue of the outside world. How would one even begin to explain something like this to a child? How does one even raise a child in such a situation? All this is handled so intelligently and so creatively by the entire cast and crew, and is so effective in its execution. Though the ending is essentially a relief, it's a bittersweet albeit poignant result. Powerful stuff. Room got four Oscar nominations this year, including Best Picture, and deserved every one. Room is a film not easily forgotten.

> Another film that just got released, Terrence Malick's Knight of Cups, is more for the hardcore cinephiles. Anyone familiar with Malick's work will know what to expect: vivid, intoxicating visuals, swirling cameras and intense, exploratory close-ups. Malick is usually enamoured with nature, revelling in its infinite beauty. Here, he has chosen to revel in the unnatural: in the cold concrete and steel of L.A., of car parks and office spaces, of endless highways and overpasses. We journey through this landscape with Rick (Christian Bale), as he searches for meaning. We see this through the many people in his life. The film is cut into eight chapters,

With spring (barely) upon and showcasing two powerful each named for a tarot card. What

The film frequently quotes *The* Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan, heard in voice-overs from two legendary knights no less: one passed (Sir John Gielgud) and one present (Sir Ben Kingsley). Rick's journey does loosely follow Christian's trials and tribulations and search for salvation, but it's all so vague. That's typical of Malick, though. It's his visuals that entice and stun you and lead you along.

Indeed, Knight of Cups is a gorgeous film, shot by three-time Oscar winning cinematographer Emmanuel Lubezki (Birdman, The Revenant). And Malick is truly a cinematic poet. But Knight of Cups is no masterpiece, not like what he accomplished with The Tree of Life or Badlands. And this is mainly due to Bale's sullen performance. His acting is fine; it's the context that is uneven. All these people seem attracted and seduced by him, yet he never seems to show any emotion whatsoever. What do they all see in him? It's very hard to relate. Perhaps he's too busy pondering life's mysteries (lines such as "Where do we find reality? How do we get there? Out of the clouds of dust kicked up everywhere?" are heard in voice-over all too frequently while Bale looks soulfully out a window towards the horizon).

Either way, for a film fan, this is essential viewing. It's so visually arresting, you can forgive any shortcomings in the acting department. And as another added treat for my fellow film fans, Malick is slated to release a second feature this year, a film called Weightless. For such an infrequent filmmaker as Malick (he's only made seven films in 43 years), this will be a real treat.

And here we are just beginning the film season. I can't wait for more!





A Sprightly Bouquet of Spring Concerts

Tay Valley Choir's Spring Concert

Party on! From Aboriginal heritage to the struggles of immigrant settlers to the building of community, life in Tay Valley Township over the past 200 years will be commemorated on Saturday, April 16, by the Tay Valley Community Choir and special guests. Tay Valley 200th: A Song Celebration is the 40-member choir's spring concert, to be held at Maberly Hall at 7:30рм.

Choir director Rebecca Worden says there is music for everyone, touching on the rich history of Tay Valley Township over two centuries. "Drumming, Scottish and Irish ballads, Canadian waltzes, The Beatles, Simon and Garfunkel, and even a hint of music associated with James Bond - we will present a lyrical evocation of life in Tay Valley going back to 1816."

"And bring your noisemakers and streamers!" adds Worden. "Help us celebrate the joy of living here in beautiful Tay Valley!"

Special guests include Jane Cunningham on flute, and talented Sharbot Lake teenagers Natalie and Lukas Reynolds on fiddle and piano. The choir's new accompanist on piano is Mary Lou Carroll. As is usual at Tay Valley Choir concerts, there will be plenty of opportunity for the audience to sing along. This event is sponsored by the Tay Valley Township and Blue Skies in the Community. Admission is \$10 at the door. There will be time to chat with neighbours and musicians over refreshments at the end of the concert. Please bring a food item for The Table Community Food Centre.

The Sounds of the Sixties

The Perth Citizens' Band, Canada's longest continuous town band, will be holding its annual spring concert: The Sounds of the Sixties. The 1960s was a period of great change in musical styles, as fifties rock gave way to the California sound of groups such as the Beach Boys, as well as to the "British Invasion" of the Beatles and many other influential bands.

This concert will feature traditional orchestral works by composers such as Bert Kaempfert, mixed with new sounds from Herb Alpert & the Tijuana Brass. The local wind quartet Event Horizon will be joining the band to perform music from the Broadway Stage and movies including Music Man, My Fair Lady, and Gypsy. The band will also include music from familiar TV shows of the '60s such as Hawaii Five-O, and movie epics such as Doctor Zhivago and The Great Escape. The concert will be held on Sunday, April 17, starting at 2PM at the Perth Legion Hall, 26 Beckwith St. E. in Perth. Admission is \$10 per person and \$5 for students, and includes light refreshments. For more information, visit <perthband.ca> or call conductor Brian Tackaberry at 256-4221.

All Nature Sings and Swings

music to welcome the season, as the **West Ottawa** Ladies Chorus celebrates the arrival of fresh starts in their concert titled "All Nature Sings and Swings". Under the direction of Robert Dueck, the harmoto celebratory, and rousing to inspirational. Peter Brown, well known throughout the Ottawa Valley Hall Auditorium. for his jazz, will accompany the voices and treat the audience to several renditions guaranteed to dent an upbeat and positive experience. With supplease.

Special guests will have the audience tapping their toes to classic swing-style rhythms performed by the Carleton Place Offbeats — a vocal swing ensemble under the direction of Margo Smith, along

with Gary King on guitar, Tom Kobolak on bass guitar and Tom Kemp on drums.

On April 30 at 7рм, St. Paul's Anglican Church (20 Young Road in Kanata) will be alive with joyous song celebrating the arrival of spring. This annual performance will lift spirits and put everyone in the mood to enjoy the season. In tune with the theme, a silent auction will feature garden items and special baked goods, along with other selections. Advanced tickets are \$15 (from Mark's Cobbler in Perth and Graham's Shoes in Carleton Place), with tickets at the door for \$20. Further ticket and concert information is available from <westottawaladieschorus@gmail.com>.



Many Ottawa Valley choirs and bands are gearing up for spring concerts, including the Goulbourn Male Chorus (above)

Goulbourn Male Chorus Spring Concert

The warm harmonies of the Goulbourn Male Chorus will be combined with lots of humour in their spring concert entitled "From the Sublime to the Ridiculous", to be performed at 2PM on Sunday, May 1, at Trinity Presbyterian Church on Richardson Side Road in Kanata. Over the last five years or so the GMC has built a reputation for delivering a wide variety of music, from spiritual to classical and from folk to contemporary, and this concert will be no exception. Pieces by Billy Joel, PDQ Bach, Lennon and McCartney, and Andrew Lloyd Webber will be featured, along with folk and spiritual numbers. An entertaining afternoon is guaranteed, and the proceeds will go back into the community through donations.

Members of the chorus come from throughout the Ottawa Valley, from towns such as Carleton Place, Calabogie, Almonte, Constance Bay, Stittsville, Kanata and Ottawa West. The chorus has built a regular following through its spring and Christmas concerts, as well as its sing-outs at seniors' homes and other events.

Tickets are \$15 (children under 12 are free), and are available at Gaia Java and Brown's Independent Grocer in Stittsville, from members, and online at <goulbournmalechorus.com>.

CP and Beckwith Music Festival

What springs forth as temperatures rise? Joyous May 2 to 6 will see amateur musicians compete in the third annual Carleton Place and Beckwith Music Festival, which welcomes both amateur pianists and high school bands.

The Festival will be followed by a Gala Concert, nious voices of the chorus are bound to please the where the top performances (as recommended by most discerning ear. Tender songs will give way the adjudicator) are presented. The concert will be held on May 18 at 7PM in the Carleton Place Town

The objective of the Festival is to give each stuport from both municipal councils and also the Festival Association, the first two events were quite successful. Scholarship support from local businesses and personal donations are awarded to encourage and recognize the hard work of talented local music students.

www.thehumm.com

For more information, please see <cpmusicsociety.com>. Tickets for the Gala Concert will be available at the door for \$10. Come on out and support the young local musicians — then when they hit the big time, you can say "I knew them when!"

New Date for Almonte in Praise

Mark your calendars and get ready for an enjoyable evening of music. This year's Almonte in Praise! will be held on Saturday, October 29, at 7:30PM at Holy Name of Mary Parish, 134 Bridge Street in Almonte. This popular event, celebrated by the combined churches of Almonte, is being moved from its regular date in May to the fall.

As in previous years, all Almonte church choirs, praise teams, or representative groups are invited to participate on their own. Back by popular demand will be the massed choir for all participants. Further information will be sent to area church choir directors and music leaders in the coming weeks.



Humm Bits

NLHS Speaker Series: Claudia Smith

The North Lanark Historical Society is pleased to host local author Claudia Smith as part of their spring speaker series for 2016. Claudia is a retired elementary school teacher and the author of several books related to local history. Her presentation will be entitled "Barns and Silos - A Reflection of Changing Times," based on her recent book published on the topic. It will focus on historic barns of Eastern Ontario, particularly in the Lanark County region, and her book will also be available for sale and signing. Light refreshments will follow her talk. The presentation will be held on Sunday, April 24, beginning at 2PM at the North Lanark Regional Museum, 647 River Road in Appleton. For more information, please contact the museum at 257-8503 or <appletonmuseum@hotmail.com>.

A Celebration of Song & Dance

On Saturday, April 16, come out and enjoy A Celebration of Song and Dance — Musical Variety Show, in support of the Renfrew Refugee Welcome Group. This wonderful show, featuring a wide assortment of local talent, starts at 2PM at Trinity St. Andrew's United Church on Plaunt St in Renfrew.

You won't want to miss the amazing performers that have volunteered their time for this event, including: Jessica Belanger, Marie Buscombe, Peggy Williams, David Campbell, Valley Harmonizers, Hannah, Delaney and Caroline Holley, Lawrence Mahusky, Terri-Lynn Mahusky, Michelle School of Dance (Pembroke), Christina Ouellet, Lisa Webber, Jame Hykach and Michael McCormick, Danielle Vaillancourt, the Presbyterian Choir and Renfrew Children's/Youth Chorus. The MCs for this event will be Chris Kyte and Heather Sagmeister.

Tickets are \$10 and can be pre-purchased at Aikenhead's Drug Store on Raglan St. in Renfrew. Tickets will also be available at the door, but seating is limited. Proceeds will go the Renfrew Refugee Fund.

The Art of Making Herbal Teas

In a weekend workshop from April 29 to May 1, instructor Steven Martyn will teach you how he formed the Algonquin Tea Company herbal tea blends, as well as how you can harvest, dry, make, store and brew customized tea blends for your own personal taste and health needs. You will learn to reverently and sustainably harvest wild teas to create the blends (mostly various tree barks in April). While you will only use herbs from the area, the time of year will not limit the composition of your tea, as you will also have access to a great many dried herbs stored from last year's harvest. Many of these plants will be familiar to participants and at least a few will likely be new to even the most adventurous tea connoisseur.

The workshop takes place at The Sacred Gardener, 486 Trail Blazers Road in Golden Lake, and the fee of \$275 includes taxes, camping spot, six organically-grown and wild-infused meals, plus your personalized blend of herbal tea! To register or get further information, contact Megan at 625–1106 or <megan@thesacredgardener.ca>.

Humour, Sarcasm and Sentiment in Middleville

Mom is on a mission. She's just not exactly sure what it is. Whatever it is, though, it's important — because completing it will give Mom her wings, and let her get into Lutheran heaven.

That's right... Mom died eleven months ago.

Mom's Gift, the latest production of the Middleville Players, is an almost brand-new play. Written in 2014, the play by Phil Olson has won numerous awards for its humour, its twists, and even a few sentimental, touching moments.

The play begins with the never-seen Mrs. Norquist greeting Kat (Gena Gibson) - the older and more cynical daughter of Mom/ Peggy (Carla Schonauer) and Dad/Jack (Lorne Dale). Brittany (Shayna Wark) is the younger and infinitely more airheaded daughter... or is she?

Kevin (Shawn Gibson) shows up, to the delight of Mrs. Norquist and the less-than-thrilled reaction from Kat. Trish (Kristy Gibson) adds more interest, especially for Kat, as she wonders why the former nurse has returned after Mom's death.

From Facebook to Donald Trump, the punchlines prove that this is a timely, and also very funny, play that will appeal to people of all ages. Performances of Mom's Gift run Thursday to Saturday, April 7 to 9, at Trinity United Church in Middleville, beginning at 7:30PM each evening.

Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 12 and under, and are available at the Lanark Era office or by contacting <jgibson@storm.ca> or 259–5692.

Taste a New Brew at the Textile Museum

On April 23 at 7PM, "A Worker's Ale" returns to the on its own, but it is also exceptionally good with Mississippi Valley Textile Museum. Once again, food. Learning to match different foods with differ-Cartwright Springs will be showcasing its new and original beers, locally brewed in Pakenham. With this year Foodies Fine Foods will be providing tasty the wide variety of styles available, such as bitters, fare to accompany each beer. stouts, milds and old ales, it's no wonder that tasting real ales has become as sophisticated as tasting wine — and just as popular.

You don't have to be an expert. Tasting beer is just as enjoyable and satisfying as tasting wine. Just like wine, beers have their own unique characteristics and complexities based on the style, the ingredients and the recipe. You will soon find which brews please your taste buds.

reserved for wine. Of course, beer can be enjoyed For more information, please call 256–3754.

ent beers makes this evening extra enjoyable, and

Throughout the evening, the Barley Shakers band will be providing toe-tapping music, and Sarah Robertson of Prior Engagements will be donating the plates and glassware.

Last year's ale tasting fundraiser was a quick sellout, so don't wait to get your tickets. The event is open to adults only. Tickets are \$45 purchased in advance or \$50 at the door. Tickets are available at the Museum and at Baker Bob's. The Textile Mu-And don't think that the dining table should be seum is located at 3 Rosamond St. E. in Almonte.

The Joneses Enter the 21st Century

grade in TV sets, maybe going all the way coming together the way I knew it would. to a 32-inch screen.

by Glenda Jones

The Reever Report

However, the mere thought of replacing the TV opened a Pandora's box. We would need a new built-in cabinet, we'd have to get rid of books, we'd have to reorganize our CDs and radio. It was already a "cha-ching" moment just thinking about it. remotes. We tried to look intelligent, but I'm sure But in true Glenda fashion, I barged ahead with my he knew we were not going to touch even one butplan. February does this to me!

who was prepared to put up with three dogs underfoot along with a woman who couldn't make up her mind. Alan was beginning to think this guy was and watch our big new TV. What a treat! But wait a a saint for taking us on at all. I, on the other hand, was energized with the notion of something new.

So we took ourselves to Best Buy to find the wandering stunned through aisles of equipment I couldn't even identify. Mercifully, an experienced young man with Bluetooth and smart phone in at Ma Bell had led us to believe that after a free hand took pity on us. (I couldn't help wondering preview we'd be able to sign up for a particular seniors, or if we just give them stories for years.) He took over like a pro, didn't laugh at our inane questions, and found us a TV we thought looked huge — actually just 32". I figured we should go "high tech" and get a Smart TV, although it won't get a workout in this house, us not being so Smart ourselves. Maybe, though, we will be in a few years. ing at the same not-so-smart shows, and dithering Good luck on that score!

Was our shopping done? Not by half. We now needed a sound bar, a woofer, a new DVD player, know it's going to lead to a service call or three, and maybe a wi-fi router. Yikes, who knew? By this more wires, and probably another remote. I hesitime we'd amassed a fairly high stack of boxes, and tate to call our supplier to install it, just in case it we also needed this same young guy to come and turns out to be a disappointment. I think it would install the whole thing. Of course, I'd pay for that be judicious to simply live with what we have, and service; that little phrase "plug and play" doesn't not try to be too Smart too soon. After all, February cut it with me.

builder to contemplate. There we were with a new have been put soundly to bed until next year.

The February "discontents" reared their TV, the sound bar, the woofer, the DVD player, a ugly head as I was struggling to read the hundred miles of hook-ups, three remotes, and fine print on the TV guide listing. The pic- three books of instructions, all of which I kept "just ture was the same size as our computer in case." That man was a wizard. In a day, we had monitor, and I had to squint to see the de- a lovely new built-in oak cabinet with space for all tails. It was like trying to read a postcard at the components, plus the proliferation of stuff we thirty feet. The time had come for an up- had had in the old cabinet. Amazing! Indeed, it was

In comes the Geek guy the next day, unfazed by the jumble of things he needed to wire up. There was nothing we could do but gawk in wonder as he plugged this into that, used his internet to find elusive code numbers, hooked the sound to the TV set, the DVD to the Express View box, and then, after an hour, spent what could have been the worst half hour of his life showing a senior how to use the ton more than he'd shown us. I should have given We found an excellent builder, a patient man the poor guy a gift certificate to the beer store for his trouble.

We could hardly wait to fire up the whole works, minute: the programming is all the same, only bigger. The ads are just as annoying, only bigger. So what we needed to do was tackle getting into the right TV. Right off the bat, we were in foreign lands new Bell system of pick and pay channels. This is an exercise in futility especially if you, like us, have an old TV package you got on the ark. The agents if these young guys get a bonus when they serve channel. Not so: it's in a convenient — for them - package, none of which we want. If we want to get a special channel, we would have to give up our "grandfathered" plan, go with the new budget plan, and start adding packages that they have put together. No way are we doing that.

So here we are with our new Smart TV, lookabout going the wi-fi route. Netflix flickers on the horizon, and everyone extolls its virtues, but I just and March are now past, I'll be out in the garden We packed it all home, and laid it out for our before long, and the allure of the "discontents" will



Introducing the Rideau Lakes Orchestra

A new ensemble is going to be making its début at St. James Anglican Church in Perth on Sunday, April 17 at 2рм. The Rideau Lakes Orchestra is going to be offering an eclectic program of classical and quasi-classical music, with a little something to please every taste.

by Tony Stuart

Music Matter:

The orchestra is the brainchild of Musical Director Mark Bailey, who also plays trumpet and flugelhorn with the ensemble. Mark is retired from the Central Band of the Canadian Armed Forces, and also held the title of Chief Arranger. Besides maintaining a career as a professional trumpet player, he is also a well-respected composer with many published compositions. The program on the 17th features Mark's arrangements, as well as an original concert overture. His skills as an arranger really bring this music to life in a new and interesting way.

When asked to describe the Rideau Lakes Orchestra, Mark puts it this way: "The group is made up of professional musicians from the Ottawa Valley area, including former members of the Central Band of the Canadian Armed Forces, as well as active and retired music teachers and freelance musicians. We are a mix of electric and acoustic instruments playing classical music, as well as soundtracks from Hollywood movies. All the music is specifically written for this unique ensemble."

Perhaps the most distinctive element of this orchestra is the fact that both acoustic and electric instruments are playing together. It starts with the conductor at the front. Next, the woodwind section features two flutes (who also double on piccolo), clarinet (doubling on soprano and tenor saxophones), and bass clarinet (doubling on baritone saxophone). The brass section is made up of two trumpet players, who also play flugelhorn, and two trombone players who double on euphonium and tuba. The "string" section is made up of three synthesizer players, and if you close your eyes, it is nearly impossible to tell that you are not listening to a full string section. The final piece of the puzzle is a two-person percussion section, playing everything from orchestra bells to timpani. I always enjoy watching percussion players, as they are quite often run off their feet switching from one instru-



ment to another in a very short time, and they really do provide the "icing on the cake" with all of the sounds they create.

This small lineup of musicians is also a real strength, since nearly all of us play two or more instruments during the show. From a personal perspective, playing in an ensemble where everyone's role is so clearly defined is also refreshing, as is the fact that these are all very nice, down-to-earth people. This is a group of solid professionals who are all there to create the best possible experience for the audience. I'm also happy to report that there is none of the behind-the-scenes drama that exists in many orchestras.

The inaugural program features a wide variety of music, including music by well-known composers Tchaikovsky, Copland and Prokofiev. There is also some film music, an original composition by Mark Bailey, and a special feature where the orchestra will be joined by the choirs of The Men and Women of the Tay under the direction of Shelley McLaren.

The Rideau Lakes Orchestra has also been confirmed as being in the lineup for the Stewart Park Festival on July 14, so audiences will have several chances to hear this unique ensemble over the next few months. As I mentioned above, I think that all of the pieces are there to create an experience that will offer something special for every member of the audience.

Tickets to the April 17 concert are \$15 (\$10 for students) and available at <ticketsplease.ca>.

Disclosure: I am a member of this orchestra. This article is written as an informational piece, and the proposal for the article came from my editor.

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

Ottawa Valley Music Festival Prepares for New Season

the 2016 season, and is busy preparing to wow au- Lancaster at 754–5217. diences across the Valley with a repertoire of fan-Artistic Director Peter Morris.

an afternoon of Choral Delights, featuring glorious \$25 each or \$65 for a season pass (all 3 concerts). Porter, George Gershwin and Latvian-Canadian with ID are \$5, and children 12 and get in free. composer Imant Raminsh.

Perhaps you would like to join the choir? Rehearsals for Festival of the Choirs begin on Thursday, April 14, at Trinity St. Andrew's United Church in Renfrew. Rehearsals run from 7 to 9рм every Thursday until June 2. Anyone interested in

The Ottawa Valley Music Festival is gearing up for joining the Chorus is asked to please contact Lesley

Other concerts in the 2016 Season include tastic classical and choral music under the baton of Wondrous Winds on Sunday, August 7, at Grace St. Andrew's United Church in Arnprior, featuring The season begins with the third annual **Festi**- The Bel Canto Wind Quintet accompanied on pival of the Choirs on Sunday, June 5, 3PM at Grace ano by Diane Wilkie; and Classicism Par Excel-Lutheran Church in Eganville. The OVMF Chorus lence on Sunday, September 18, at Zion Evangeliwill be joined by the Deep River Choral Group for cal United Church in Pembroke. Adult tickets are music by Arnold Schoenberg, Dorothy Fields, Cole Young adult (under 30) tickets are \$10, students

For more information about the Ottawa Valley Music Festival, including scholarship and outreach programs, please visit <ottawavalleymusicfestival.ca>, call 754–5217 or email <info@ottawavalleymusicfestival>.



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Creativity Blitz at High Lonesome

The Mississippi Madawaska Land Trust invites you to its annual Creativity Blitz on Sunday, May 1, from 10Aм to 4рм. The Creativity Blitz is held at the 200-acre High Lonesome Nature Reserve outside Pakenham, a natural treasure conserved in perpetuity by the MMLT.

Nature is endlessly creative. Let some rub off on you. Spending time in nature fuels creativity, and creativity is valuable in all walks of life. The Creativity Blitz provides a unique opportunity to share the beautiful woodlands, meadows, wetlands and critters of High Lonesome with others who find solace and inspiration from nature.

To help fuel your imagination, organizers will have creative projects going on, such as a collaborative poem. And you can listen to the undercurrents of the spring wilderness through the MMLT's soundscaping equipment. Mentors will be available to encourage you in whatever you choose to do. They've identified several "WOW" spots as focal points, but you can find your own special spot anywhere along the 8km of clearly marked trails.

Come with a willingness to open your eyes, ears and senses and see where that takes you! Bring the kids or grandkids for a day of hiking and playing outdoors — the kids can arrange natural materials into a creative piece, or make pictures of something that catches their attention. Celebrate your moment in nature using your own art supplies, musical instrument, or journal.

The Creativity Blitz takes place rain or shine, so dress appropriately for the weather and be sure to choose sturdy, comfortable footwear. Trail maps are provided so you can wander at leisure. Bring a lunch and enjoy it outdoors. A rustic outhouse is

available near the barn. Admission is by a donation of \$10 for adults, and children under 12 are free.

Organizers hope you'll choose to share something about your day with them. Send in a picture of what you did or a note to say how your day went. You can see examples from past Creativity Blitzes on the MMLT website (under Events). For more information, go to <mmlt.ca> or email <jacquie.christiani@bell.net>.





Frantically Funny Farce at Studio Theatre

Following hard on the heels of a foot — playwright Ken Ludwig's The Game's Afoot, to be precise -Studio Theatre Perth's current fun-filled production is a farce, this time by Canada's own beloved Norm Foster. *Self Help*, penned by Foster in 2002, received rave reviews from critics when it had its world première with Aquarius Theatre in Hamilton: "You are in for a belly full of laughs... from Canada's preeminent, prolific... and most-produced comic playwright."

Hal and Cindy Savage, a married couple who also happen to be a pair of unsuccessful actors, love the stage but lament their ongoing dreary existence in out-of-the-way, second-rate dinner theatres. It just seems they are making neither artistic nor financial progress in their chosen profession. Cindy has an idea, inspired by a self-help book she disdainfully tosses aside, remarking that she and Hal could easily transform themselves into advice gurus, given their smarts and superior acting skills. Fast forward to the Savage's luxurious home seven years later and we have the setting for Foster's witty and fast-paced farce, featuring a cast of six characters plus a "stiff" who we turned to the Perth stage in the crowd-pleasing The never actually see in the flesh — thankfully, since *Game's Afoot* after a five-year hiatus, and enthuses: it's part of his anatomy that much of the humour revolves around... so to speak.

Perth audiences are in for a treat as three of Eastern Ontario's most accomplished veteran female provided: "kissing a much younger man!" actors share the stage with audience faves Lucas Tennant, Grey Masson and Martin Treffers in this gut-splitting romp. A resident of Smiths Falls, Krista Duff takes on the role of Cindy Savage, wife to Tennant's Hal. "I love Norm Foster plays, particularly his comedies, (and) I wanted another chance to have David Parry as a director," says Duff. "David Parry is a wonderful director to work with," echoes Jenny Pfitzer. Annette Huton has also worked with Parry on stage and was motivated by the opportunity to be directed by him.

In an interesting twist, both Pfitzer and Huton hometown theatre company, and enjoyed the show so much they did not hesitate to join friends in a to as a "hilarious play." In her hometown of Merrickville, she played the maid, Bernice, and is currently cast as the Savage's hard-nosed talent agent. Pfitzer, from Almonte, played Cindy Savage in Almonte several years ago, and has now stepped into the role of the divinely ditzy Bernice.



In rehearsal for Self Help: Cindy (Krista Duff) chats with her agent (Annette Huton) while Bernice the maid (Jenny Pfitzer) eavesdrops

All three women have performed in several Studio Theatre shows over the years and agree that their return for *Self Help* is a testament to the company - "an amazing organization," says Pfitzer, who sparkled in last summer's hit, Cemetery Club. Huton re-"I am hoping that I will get to come back and play again soon!" Duff, also seen in The Game's Afoot, shares a final bonus the Self Help experience has

During the run of this play, the Studio Theatre's lobby art gallery will feature art works created by special needs students as part of a program called Without Exception: Exceptional Art from Beautiful Minds. Founded in 2008 by art teacher Sarah Jaynes, Without Exception highlights and shares the talents of special needs artists from all over eastern Ontario. Revenue from the sale of merchandise supports students and families in difficulty within the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario through the Good Samaritan trust fund.

Don't miss Self Help on March 31, April 1, 2, 8 have performed in *Self Help* previously, each with a and 9 at 8PM and on April 3 and 10 at 2PM at the Studio Theatre, 63 Gore Street East, in Perth. Tickets are \$22 cash at The Book Nook (60 Gore Street E.), Studio Theatre production of what Huton refers and online or by phone at Shadowfax, 67 Foster St. (267-6817, shadowfax.on.ca) and Tickets Please, (485–6434, ticketsplease.ca) where a convenience fee applies. Tickets are \$24 at the door, and \$10 for students with ID. Visit <studiotheatreperth.com> for details. Attend opening night and save \$5! -C. Lee Bates





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After



"Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life," said Pablo Picasso. It's time to shake off some cobwebs and come to Art in the Attic (AITA) on Mother's Day Weekend! The show will be held at the Almonte Old Town Hall, at 14 Bridge Street, opening on Friday night, and then going all weekend: May 6 (7–9рм), May 7 (10Ам–7рм), May 8 (10ам-4рм).

AITA has a reputation of offering amazing and affordable art. There will be art in almost every medium: oils, acrylic, watercolour, glass, photography, textile, jewellery, pottery and more. Many of your favourite artists from the Almonte and Area Artists Association are returning, as well as some "fresh" new ones. Once again, the Notre Dame High School art students will also be showcascease to astound attendees.

There will also be a display by the "Rugrat Rembrandts". These works are by preschoolers from the Ontario Early Years Centre Lanark. Many of the pieces took over an hour for these young children to create, and considering that the average attention span of a four-year-old is about five to ten minutes, that is remarkable. Picasso also said: "Every child is an artist. The challenge is to remain an artist after you grow up." AITA is an art show and sale where local artists of all ages and experiences celebrate their creativity!

Almonte's Avenir Design Studio will be doing a fashion show, at 7:45PM on Friday, on the stage and amongst the art boards. Some models will also be wearing jewellery made by participating artists calmonteartintheattic.wordpress.com>.

- art is not only hung on walls! Throughout the weekend, live music will be provided by local group Shipman's Mills. Talent abounds in this area!

Last year, the collaborative project for the show was such a success that organizers are planning another one for this year. They are recreating the Farmers' Market mural (originally painted in 1991 as the first mural in Almonte), and unveiling it on Friday evening.

This year AITA is co-promoting with Cheerfully Made Goods and Markets, which will be taking place on May 7 and 8 at the Agricultural Hall, just a stone's throw from the Almonte Old Town Hall. Plan to take lots of time to enjoy both shows.

Still not enough? Starting the week of April 18, the shopkeepers in downtown Almonte will be ing their emerging and exciting talents that never displaying works in their storefront windows as a sneak preview to AITA. After the art show, stroll down the Riverwalk and then walk along Mill Street and enjoy the unique offerings of the downtown merchants. Make it a day, make it an artful experience!

> And last but not least, the staff of the Humm will be doing "theHumm Selection" of their favourite piece by each artist. Art in the Attic organizers truly appreciate the fantastic support of the arts that they provide, and love to have them participate in the show. Former U.S. State Senator Lorraine Wojahn has been quoted as stating: "Arts are the glue that hold a community together." This is truly a "glued together" community that you really should come and visit. For more information, check out



15 Years of Empty Bowls

Over the last fifteen years, donations to Empty Bowls Perth for some 9,000 bowls produced by local potters have resulted in over \$190,000 being raised for local food security programs. Many of these bowls have been filled at two annual April events in Perth that feature a variety of delicious soups donated by local restaurateurs.

Again this year, Foodsmiths will host a "Many Hands Meet and Greet" Empty Bowls event on Saturday, April 16, from 11AM to 2PM. Meet many of the "hands" who work together to make Empty Bowls an ongoing success. Purchase a bowl and fill it with delicious cream of vegetable soup with parsnip and apples. Enjoy it with a crusty roll (ingredients donated by Foodsmiths suppliers).

Come to the Festival of the Maples on Saturday, April 30, from 10AM to 4PM. The Empty Bowls booth will be set up outside Riverguild Fine Crafts at 51 Gore Street East. Purchase a bowl and fill it with delicious soup donated by seven Perth restaurants, along with artisanal bread donated by Barnabe's and complimentary coffee from Coutts & Company.

until late April and are usually available year-round at Riverguild.

After fifteen years, Empty Bowls Perth organizers hope that the community will understand the decision to ask for a \$25 donation for each bowl. Donations support The Table Community Food Centre, YAK Youth Services, Food for Thought:



Linda Harvey, Mike Doxey, Anne Chambers, Joni Seligman, Molly Forsythe, Rita Redner and Chandler Swain are some of the local potters who contributed to this year's Empty Bowls campaign (missing from the picture are Susie Osler, Jean Dunning, Ali Ross and Rosemary Kotze)

If you want a bowl but will not be in Perth on Lanark County's school nutrition program, and the those dates, bowls are now available at Foodsmiths Lanark Highlands Food Pantry, as well as Frontier College's Summer Aboriginal Literacy Program and the Guatemala Stove Project. Empty Bowls Perth thanks Perth TD Canada Trust for their second year of sponsorship.

> For more information about Empty Bowls Perth, please visit <emptybowls.ca> or <facebook.com/ emptybowls.ca>.



News from Almonte's Carriageway Studios

The recently opened Carriageway Studios in Almonte, in the old manifest them. We want to know what TYPS location off Mill Street, is a place for everyone to experience makes them tick, what their inspirations the arts across a broad spectrum of activities. Already there is a roster of intriguing events on the calendar. The building houses six private studio spaces (two are still for rent — contact us!) and also a large exhibition/workshop/event area and a spacious kitchen.

The studios were developed by three local artists; each with a different practice and background in visual art. As such, they all are working to bring events to the space that will enrich your imagination and experience of art: there will be something for everyone!

For example, a weekly open drawing studio is in full swing on Wednesday nights, from 7–9PM, with a \$10 drop-in fee. This drop-in "class" is open to anyone, regardless of skill level. It is facilitated by Chandler Swain, who has taught visual art and ceramics for many years. She is noted for her drawing abilities and for being able to help people "get" what drawing is all about. There is support for beginners and a good set-up for experienced artists to practice this fundamental skill. As creative genius Tim Burton says, "Drawing is exercise for a restless imagination".

Another ongoing project at Carriageway Studios will be presentations by noted makers, designers and creative thinkers, called The Imagineers Series. Imagineers have been deemed by Team Carriageway to be those who imagine big, creative ideas and then proceed to



were, and who their mentors were.

The first presentation was given by Stephen Brathwaite. He spoke about architectural art glass, his impressive public art career, and how that ties in with his current work developing creative living and working spaces in re-purposed heritage buildings in Almonte.

The next in the Imagineers Series (April 24, from 10AM to 4PM) is called Impression/Expression, in honour of April being Letter Writing Month. This will be a day-long presentation by Merrickville artists (and life partners) Holly Dean and Larry Thompson. Holly is a painter and calligrapher, and Larry is a printmaker and handmade letterpress book printer from Greyweathers Press. Participants will learn about the

broad skill sets of these two well known and accomplished artists in the morning, and participate artist living in Almonte. She is a painter in her own with them in a project in the afternoon. For more practice, and is organizing a series of art-making information, visit <carriagewaystudios.ca> or find us on Facebook.

Dawn Walker (of Walker's General Store: Letterpress Printing and Graphic Design) is a founder of Carriageway Studios, and April's Letter Writing Month projects are a result of her passion for the hand-printed and handwritten word. If you have ever wanted to write a letter to someone on gorgeous hand-printed stationary, with a beautiful Dawn will be leading one of these popular letterwriting events in April. More details can be found on our website or Facebook page.



Almonte's new Carriageway Studios offers a broad spectrum of arts activities, including a drop-in drawing class, workshops, and the intriguingly-named "Imagineers Series"

Lily Brady, also a founding member, is a visual workshops that will explore a variety of painting media and collage making. Stay tuned for dates.

April 30 is International Jazz Day! The Jazzn.ca house concert series will host a fantastic musical celebration at Carriageway. For more details on that, contact Arnie Francis at 282-8712 or visit <jazzn.ca>.

If you have an idea for an event or an Imagineer presentation, or want to come and visit and see pen (to a real or imaginary friend, mailed or not...), what is possible at Carriageway Studios, please get in touch. We'd love to show you around! — Chandler Swain

Fiddler's Friends Benefit Concert on May 1

Almonte Old Town Hall once again opens its doors Michaela Mullen, and Ellen Daly are well known Scottish, Irish, French Canadian, Polish and wider diences. European strains of influence evidenced in the tragroup The Barley Shakers.

Not surprisingly, much of the talent presented in this benefit concert is offered by lively young fiddlers under 25 years of age, many of whom are recipients of the Danny O'Connell Memorial Award. Initiated by the O'Connell family and administered by The Community Foundation of Ottawa, the fund honours a young Valley or Celtic fiddler annually from monies generated by donations owned by Capital Region, and The Ottawa Traditional Fiddling and Folk Art Society. These organizations select candidates from their wide entertainment association of the current year. In this way the award focuses attention on many youthful performers beyond just the award recipients.

The 2016 concert features several award winners. Ethan Walls, Beatrice Herwig, Tessa Bangs,

to fans of the varied streams of culture entwined for entertaining locally and/or in the contest cirin the traditional music of the Ottawa Valley. On cuit, either provincially or internationally. Of Sunday, May 1 from 1 to 4PM, friends of traditional course, some fiddlers are also stepdancers, and that music — especially fiddle — meet to celebrate the combination of skills presents a special treat for au-

The fiddle contest world emphasizes many asditional music of the Ottawa Valley. Doors open pects of traditional play, but universally emphaand music begins at 12:30PM with popular session sizes danceability in its evaluations. This is because the fiddle has been closely associated with dance throughout its history in "the old country", the lumber camps of the Ottawa system and the weekend entertainment of today. This event features traditional stepdancers and other lively participants.

Look for popular groups The Barley Shakers and Monday Night Fiddlers, as well as exceptional performers Kyle Felhaver, John Mitchell, Matt Pepin, Terri-Lynn Mahusky, John Dahms and former the Foundation (find out more at cfo-fco.ca). The Riverdance soloist Alexis MacIsaac accompanied aim of the memorial is to foster traditional music by her talented husband Callum MacKenzie. Other and recognize local youth. Prospective candidates expert accompanists on piano, mandolin and guifor the cash award are put forth by three organiza- tar contribute to a sensational afternoon of musitions with deep roots in the tradition: The Renfrew cal entertainment. Expect exuberant performances County Fiddlers, The Irish Society of the National by true lovers of traditional music, an appreciative audience, a family atmosphere, and great food and drink by Foodies Fine Foods.

Tickets are \$15, and are available from Mill Street Books (phone orders) at 256–9090, at Couples Corner, at Mississippi Mills Musicworks, and at the door. For more details, please call 256–3786. You are sure to enjoy this afternoon of toe-tapping family fun!

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A Brew in Review

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Welcome to "A Brew in Review", a column dedicated to the true pursuit of happiness: enjoying a good pint of beer! If you're of a certain age, you'll recall times when we simply didn't have access to exciting, wellbrewed Ontario beer. Thankfully times have changed, with the explosion in the craft brewing industry over the last decade resulting in near-endless opportunities to enjoy a good pint. In this column we'll explore the art, science and history of brewing, while reviewing select Ontario craft beers through this lens. Cheers!

by John Scime

The first brew I'll look at comes from the family of Pale Ales that includes Bitter, Best Bitter, Extra Special Bitter (ESB), Pale Ale, American Pale Ale (APA) and India Pale Ale (IPA) — a broad group sharing the general trait of malty sweetness balanced by hoppy bitterness. Let's get one thing clear straight off: Pale Ales are not pale — they are generally a shade of coppery amber. When these beers were first developed they were referred to as "pale" because most beers brewed at the time (mid-1700s) were dark, cloudy and muddy by comparison. Lots of beers these days are marketed as Pale Ales — but only those that are amber in colour are true to style.

When Mill St. Breweries entered the Ontario craft brewing scene over a decade ago, they immediately set a new standard for the industry by producing well-brewed beers that were true to style, and using fresh, high quality ingredients. Mill St.'s Tankhouse Ale — one of my favourites — is a fine example of an American Pale Ale — a full-bodied deep amber ale roughly 5 to 6% ABV. Like its British cousin, an APA enjoys the pronounced bite of hops balanced by malty sweetness. I remember the first time I enjoyed one at The Ironworks pub in Almonte — I was in heaven — and to this day Tankhouse is one of my favourite craft beers.

Mill St. uses five malt varieties in this beer. While they don't tell you which ones, you can bet that most of the "grain bill" (the list of malts used in a beer) is comprised of British 2-row malt and crystal malt. British 2-row malt is the backbone of the style that provides Tankhouse and other pale ales with their heft and mouth-feel. Crystal malt (about 10% of the grain bill) adds sweetness and the deep copper hue to the beer. A defining ingredient in all pale ales, crystal malt is processed at a somewhat higher temperature than 2-row malt, resulting in the caramelization of the malt kernel. As a result of this malting process, crystal malt contains sugars that cannot be converted to alcohol during fermentation. These unconverted or residual sugars are what gives pale ales their full-bodied sweetness.

The Pour

The first thing you notice about a properly poured pint of Tankhouse Ale is that it has a brilliant white head of foam that remains visible for a long time. As you drink the pint, you'll no-



Welcome John Scime — a new Humm columnist who will be offering up a monthly review of an Ontario craft beer, and generally addressing whatever ales you...

tice traces of foam clinging to the glass, generally marking each sip you have consumed. This is the sign of a well-brewed beer with lots of hops! If you put your nose into the glass — the same way you would if you were assessing wine - you'll find hints of bread, flowers and citrus. Take your first sip — swish it around your mouth and gums on the inside of your lips — a sweet, malty melange offset by the tart, flowery bitterness of Cascades hops (a mainstay of the APA style). Hold it up to the light and you'll see a deep amber-coppery beer that is very pleasing to look at (about 12-14 SRMs on the colour scale). At 5.2% ABV and 40 IBUs (International Bittering Units), it falls mid-range in the APA spectrum, with a pronounced hops profile. One of the things I like best about Tankhouse Ale, especially if you get it on draft at your local pub, is that it is gently carbonated, with an aftertaste that leaves a drop of sweetness on the back of the tongue and a long-lasting bitter tang on the back of the throat. To my taste buds, it is one of the most balanced, well-constructed beers made in Ontario and never fails to leave me feeling refreshed and content. I can nurse a pint of Tankhouse over the course of an entire evening and be very happy doing so... it never gets old.

Monthly Brewing Term: mash tun (pronounced mash ton) — a vessel used in the mashing or "steeping" process to convert the starches in crushed malted grains into accessible sugars for fermentation.

Well, that's it for our first time together. Cheers!



April 24 9:50 - 1:00 May 1 10:00 - 4:00 May 8 10:00 - 2:00

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Westport's Gentle Musical Giant

Speaking Volume:

You might wonder why I use those words to describe George Reynolds, but if you get a chance to hear him play, I am sure you will agree 100% and maybe even more!

At the tender age of six, a one-string guitar found in a musty closet began a most amazing career. Teaching himself to play Twinkle Twinkle Little Star with one string also led an inquiring mind to learn about sound technology.

by Georgia Ferrell

Sometimes it takes a circuitous route to get us where we want to be, and for George this adage is very true. Even though other pursuits became important in his life, George always played the guitar. From the one-string, to adding more strings from an old guitar he found, George taught himself to play. However, he had to use his inborn good ear, as there were no tuning forks available to him.

His experimenting and learning, as well as the great support of his family — who gifted him with his first acoustic guitar when he was eleven years old — were all very important in his musical development. This new guitar was to replace the plastic guitar of prior days. His high school teacher had a Supro — an old "surf-sound" electric guitar which was even more intriguing to the young musician.

However, life and the need to feed himself and his growing family took George off in a slightly dif-



George Reynolds can often be found at Chane Audio in Westport, or playing at a venue in the area

electronics industry. It also gave him a tremendous boost in finding a way to combine those two passions. All the while, he kept on playing in gigs with some who were to become famous musicians, but always with his own particular "background charm".

Eclectic in his musical tastes, George plays with his heart and seeks to mix jazz, folk and country into his own tasteful interpretations. Listening to him play during our interview was wonderful, and very pleasing to a classical buff like me. These elements have all found their home in the music of George Reynolds. Please do come out to hear this ferent direction, into the technical aspects of the fine musician captivate your soul, as his mission is

to expand both his own and his listeners' love of music. Unlike much of today's music, George's pared-down playing gives you moments in the song to reflect and to really listen and be part of the experience.

George currently lives in Westport where he runs his business Chane Audio <chaneaudio.com> (Chane stands for Canadian Handbuilt Amplifier Number Eighteen). Teaching aspiring young musicians, and working to provide many musicians with the finest guitars, George is also able to spend more time writing and playing his own music, which is great news to anyone who finds their way to local venues to hear him.

Some of these include The Golden Arrow in Perth, Moroni's in Gananoque, the ABC Hall in Bolingbroke, and Players and Fort Hemlock in Smiths Falls. On April 2 at 7:30PM you can catch him at The Old English Pub in Gananoque <theoldenglishpub.ca>. George will also be playing bass guitar for the Full Circle Theatre's summer production of Cheddar in Perth, and is also looking to future participation in Westport's own wonderful annual celebration of music — MUSICWestport — to share his love of music with his home community!



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concept was started by a youth group in Copenhagen, Denmark. A human book is a person chosen

questions.

by Erika Heesen, Librarian

Library, and Perth's new How To Fair.

As a library, we have a mission not just to pro-

vide information, but to be that place for the people

we serve. We do that in the physical building, and

we also do that in the programs that we offer. There

are two engaging programs coming up that em-

body that philosophy: the Lanark County Human

ies have partnered to offer a human library. The

This is the third year that Lanark County librar-

to be a public representative of a certain group, or a person who has amazing life experiences to share. The human library offers everyone the opportunity to learn more about people from other walks of life, **Erika's Picks: Books that Teach** and engage in their stories by "borrowing" a per- To pick up any of these titles, check your local lison for a one-on-one conversation. This year's **La**- brary or enquire about inter-library loan. nark County Human Library, held on Saturday, For children & teens: Amazing Rubber Band April 30, will feature a wide variety of people, in- Cars by Mike Rigsby, Block City: how to build like a cluding an expert on maple syrup production and a Minecraft master by Kirsten Kearney, and Build It! computer programmer. For more information and to reserve your time with a book, go to <humanlibrarylanark.com>.

Another new and exciting program at the Perth Library is our first "How To Fair", which will be held Saturday, April 16 from 10:30AM to 2:30PM.

Let's Get Physical at the Library! One of the wonderful things about a li- We're taking over the space for the day, with stabrary is that, beyond offering information, tions all over the library teaching you how to: make it is also a physical place. It is a place for buttons, tie a knot, publish a book, run a marathon,

community, for exchanging information, and more! We'll have door prizes and great learnfor engaging with one's neighbours. It is a ing opportunities throughout the entire day. We place for lifelong learning and for asking look forward to seeing you at the library — and helping you learn "how to"!

> The Perth Library is also proud to announce the addition of the Ottawa Museum Network to its museum pass program. The network incorporates eleven community museums, including the Diefenbunker: Canada's Cold War Museum and the Bytown Museum. Museum passes can be borrowed from the library for up to a week, and can be used for the whole family to go to any of the Network's museums for free.

> The library also offers family museum passes to the Canadian Museum of Nature, the Canada Aviation and Space Museum, the Canada Agriculture and Food Museum, and the National Gallery of Canada. For more information or to learn about other programs offered by the library, please visit <perthunionlibrary.ca>.

by Adrienne Mason.

For adults: The Big Book of Maker Skills by Chris Hackett, Build Your Own Website by Nate Cooper, and Build Your Own Small Wind Power *System* by Kevin Shea

- Erika Heesen is the CEO/Chief Librarian at the Perth & District Union Public Library







Liane Shaw's Launch

Although she might be reluctant to admit it, Alrise. Her latest book for young adults, *Don't Tell*, Don't Tell, Don't Tell, published by Second Story Press, made the CBC's list of most anticipated books for 2016 and was featured in Quill & Quire's spring book preview as well.

Liane will be launching the book at Mill Street Books in Almonte on Authors for Indies Day, April 30, from 3 to 5PM. Though she has published four other books to date — three for young adults and one memoir — this will be her first official book launch.

She is excited about it, especially because it's at

one of her favourite independent bookshops in the town where she has worked and lived for the last twenty years.

"When I learned of Authors for Indies Day last year, I wanted to support the local book store, Mill Street Books," she said. "It was such a great experience that when I realized that my book would be released in April (this year), I decided to approach Mary and Terry to ask if they would help me with a book launch for this year's Authors for Indies Day." Of course the Lumsdens said yes, but really it's a win-win-win — for Liane, for her readers, and also for Mill Street Books.

Liane knows the value of independent bookshops. "Independent book stores are the heart and soul of literature," she

said, "providing an intimate and welcoming environment within which both authors and readers can ing is a very solitary pursuit much of the time," she explore the written word. There is nothing sweeter than walking into a small local bookstore, as I did one day on Mill Street, and hearing someone asking about my books... only to discover that the person is young reader who had read her book The Color of an old friend who I haven't seen in years."

That's a lot less likely to happen at Chapter's, she kind enough to share an excerpt of the letter: noted.

Before she started writing books, Liane worked for twenty-five years as a teacher, spending much of her time with students facing academic, emotional or physical challenges. She says they inspired and encouraged her to write.

"My students and my own children have alexplained. "I worked with many children facing significant challenges in my career and I've always been in awe of their strength and courage. Writing gives me a chance to share some of their stories and, in doing so, give them a voice that might could ever have from a reader." otherwise be silent."

She shared her passion for writing with a number of her students, she added, and frequently entertained them with her work while asking for honest critiques too, "of course assuring them that I wouldn't fail anyone who said my writing was less other book stores and online retailers. than perfect!"

"My grade seven class urged me to submit my monte-based author Liane Shaw's star is on the material and had a big influence on my decision to finally take the plunge," she added. "I actually included handwritten critiques from my students in my first set of manuscript submissions."

Liane chose to write Young Adult books because, as she says, teenagers are as interesting to write for as they are to teach.

"I was an intermediate teacher for many years and have always found adolescence to be the most fascinating phase of development," she explained. "Teens have such active and volatile minds, so full of passion and determination."

Her career as a YA author has been "equal parts

rewarding and terrifying," she added. "My very first book review took the form of a rock song dedicated to one of my characters, performed by a twelveyear-old on YouTube. It doesn't get much better than that!"

When it comes to the writing process, authors often have different likes and dislikes. Liane is clear about her favourite part. "For me writing is all about the characters," she told me. "I love 'inventing' someone new and getting to know him or her. I think about every aspect of the characters' lives and imagine having conversations with them to the point where they start to wander around in my dreams. Once I'm at the point where that happens, I'm ready to write the book."

She also really enjoys the stage of the process when she

begins to work with her "substantive" editor. "Writsaid, "and it is so nice to have a collaborator to share the next phase of development with."

Recently, Liane received a lovely letter from a Silence. She was immensely moved by it. Liane was

... As both a blogger who loves super emotional reads and someone who is physically disabled, the story affected me immensely. I sobbed throughout most of it. You made the character of Joanie so relatable. While I'm not as severely disabled as Joanie, I have Spina Bifida and I'm paralyzed from the waist down, I definitely saw myself in ways been at the core of my inspiration," Liane her. Thank you for writing such a realistic book. It means so much.

> "Knowing that something I wrote had a positive effect on a young person, that somehow I managed to make a connection," she said, "is the best gift I

> Liane Shaw's books include Time Out, The Color of Silence, Fostergirls, and Thinandbeautiful.com. You can pick up her latest, Don't Tell, Don't Tell, Don't Tell, at Mill Street Books on April 30 or at your favourite independent bookshop, as well as





Liane Shaw will launch her latest

book at Mill Street Books in

Almonte on April 30



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