

FREE

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IN GREY-BRUCE

MOSAIC

SEPTEMBER 2015
VOL. 23 NO. 3



SWEETWATER MUSIC FESTIVAL

MARK FEWER | ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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Rachel Brown • David Braid • Drew Jurecka • Meredith Hall

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Meredith Hall rehearses David Braid's *Heroes*, a highlight of last year's festival, as Geoff Nuttall of the St. Lawrence String Quartet looks on. Ms. Hall will be stirring audiences again at this year's SweetWater Music Festival. Photo Credit: John Fearnall

Make This the Year You Visit the SweetWater Music Festival

Terry Burns

Fans of the SweetWater Music Festival sometimes find it hard to identify what they like best about the festival. Outstanding performances from world-class musicians rank near the top, of course, along with the unusual arrangement of musicians who form one-of-a-kind ensembles during festival weekend. The range of music, from the Baroque to new work and from familiar to unfamiliar compositions, as well as the classical and jazz repertoire, are also cited as major draws for patrons. Audiences love the acoustically beautiful venues (Historic Leith Church in Leith and Georgian Shores United Church in Owen Sound), the presence of local luthiers (stringed instrument makers) in displays and demonstrations, and the intimate, friendly and social feel of the festival. Add to all of that esteemed educational opportunities like master classes, clinics, artist talks and lectures, and it becomes hard to find something to actually dislike!

SweetWater is back again for its 12th year running, and **Artistic Director Mark Fewer** has, as usual, surpassed himself in planning his innovative and exciting program. Leith Church will once again host SweetWater's Friday night concert (September 18), which will feature early music selections from Bach, Telemann, Quantz, Frasch and Rebel, performed by world-

renowned musicians **Adrian Butterfield, Edwin Huizinga, Rachel Brown, Myron Lutzke** and **Kenneth Slowik**.

Saturday (September 19) begins with a treat for the tots, as Mark Fewer and **Kati Gleiser** perform Mozart for the little ones and their adults at Harmony Centre, Owen Sound. The luthier display takes place at Georgian Shores in the middle of the day and then the church will reverberate with the sound of choral voices as local choristers are invited to come and jam with guest musicians in a "no-pressure" workshop/ performance of J.S. Bach's monumental *B minor Mass*. Saturday closes with two concerts: the Bach Cello Suites in the late afternoon and an evening Jazz Masters extravaganza with **David Braid, Drew Jurecka, Dean McNeill** and **Joseph Phillips**. On Sunday, September 20, guest musicians and vocalists will present a moving professional performance of the *B minor Mass*, featuring a SweetWater specialty, the "world's smallest orchestra."

If you haven't yet experienced the musical excellence and original programming of SweetWater, this is the year to do it. Tickets and information are available through sweetwatermusic.ca, as well as the Roxy Box Office, 251 9th Street East, (519) 371-2833. Festival passes are available, as well as single tickets. We hope to see you there! **ℳ**

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MOSAIC*A composition created by inlaying various pieces to form one picture.*

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 Santa Fe Gallery ~ South Grey Museum
 Sun Life Financial (David Huntley)
 Sweetwater Music Festival ~ Sydenham Bruce Trail
 Tamming Law ~ Welbeck Sawmill

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COPY DEADLINES

Issue	Deadline
March	February 10
April	March 10
May	April 10
June	May 10
July	June 10
August	July 10
September	August 10
October	September 10
November/December	October 10

From My Desk

by Maryann Thomas

Sitting at my desk a few weeks back, I thought it might be time to actually open my daytimer to see what September holds. Oh, my. What was I thinking? All those events I've been putting off all summer have somehow collected themselves into the next few weeks. And, since the rest of MOSAIC is given over to everything else, I'm going to pull rank and share what I'll be doing with you right here. Mostly I'm hoping you'll join me for this great lineup of events; truly we do live in a remarkable hotbed of creativity. Here goes:

9:00-12:00 Saturday September 5: This is Zach's last day before heading off to university. As many GP regulars know, my grandson Zach has been helping out on Saturdays for the past four years. Drop in and say bye to him as he heads out to U Windsor. Thank you, Zach. We'll miss you.

7:00-9:00 Thursday September 17: This is the start of a 4-week course on Travel Writing led by Sandra J. Howe, one of our favourite MOSAIC writers. Topics covered will include story-crafting skills, potential markets, photography tips, assignments and more. Register now at 376-4233 (\$125).

7:00 Tuesday September 29: Local poets Rob Role and Lenore Keeshig both have new books to launch! Double the fun and music (Larry Jensen) too. Details on page 14.

7:00 Wednesday September 30: Owen Sound's Poet Laureate Terry Burns will be finishing her two-year term with a farewell and book launch. She has assembled her poetry into *the quality of light*, a new book published by The Ginger Press. Join us at The Roxy for this one. Details on page 2.

7:00 Thursday October 1: Do you remember Claudia Staines? Well-known local radio person, she also worked here at The Ginger Press. Well, Claudia has written a memoir with recipes (untitled right now, but I'm sure we'll come up with something soon). Join us for the book launch with munchies based on recipes the book. Yummo. Claudia will be here to sign books, all the way from her current home in Buffalo.

7:00 Tuesday October 6: The Novel Course for lazy, undisciplined writers with Richard Thomas begins. November is National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) and Richard will prepare you for the process and make sure you get it done. Class includes four evening sessions in October and five Saturday afternoon sessions in November. You can do it! More information and registration details on page 2.

7:00 Wednesday October 7: Andrew Armitage has assembled another collection of local stories and we're having a party! *Vanishing: Lost Places in Grey and Bruce* contains 26 stories; from the Corran to the Leith Distillery to the Wiarton Beet Sugar Factory, this area's amazing heritage is rapidly disappearing. Illustrated throughout with line drawings by Patti Waterfield, *Vanishing* reminds us what life used to be like here. We will be launching this important new book and exhibiting the artwork by Patti and cover artist Sheila Brown-San Cartier at The Roxy. Oh, and Bryan Leckie will be providing music: I said it was a party.

Phew. Please join me for everything. New books can be reserved and courses can be registered for at 376-4233. See you soon. Lots.

WHAT'S ON AT Santa Fe Gallery

Lin Souliere

Opening on September 5 from 2:00 to 4:00 is a joint exhibit with two very special artists. Montreal based **Garry Hamilton** will have his second exhibit at Santa Fe Gallery of his vibrant and lively watercolours done with his distinctive style. This exhibit, Two Cultures, depicts the many faces of people and places he has visited this year on the east coast of Canada and in the Dominican Republic, his winter home. **Arend Nieuwland's** sculptures are bold, strong and sensitive. He works in clay, limestone, plaster, bronze and soapstone, where he "looks for the simple essence of complex insights to create an interna-

tional language." Arend lives in Durham and Tobermory.

Looking forward to October, Owen Sound painter **Elaine Doy** will display her new works in acrylics alongside **Tammy Kirkpatrick's** photographs. Show opens Saturday October 10 and runs until November 12.

Creative Lights, our annual Christmas and Holiday Sale and Exhibit, will be accepting submissions by artists starting October 1. For an entry form contact linsouliere@gmail.com or (519) 516-1007 or (519) 793-4758 or drop by the Santa Fe (828 3rd Avenue East in Owen Sound). **M**



Bonding, Soapstone by Arend Nieuwland

Owen Sound Poet Laureate *Jane Mingay*

As her two-year term as Owen Sound's Poet Laureate draws to a close, Terry Burns is pensive about what the role has meant to her: "From learning more about the poetry community in our area to developing my skills at the craft, it's been such an opportunity for growth and education," she says. "I just hope I've given something to the community in return."

Her parting gift to the community is a book of collected poems called *the quality of light*. Burns will be launching the book at her final poetry salon at the Roxy Theatre on September 30. Published by The Ginger Press, *the quality of light* is a mixture of old and new poems. "Even though I didn't plan these poems with the idea of a book in mind, when I began to sort through them I was surprised at the themes that emerged," said Burns. In her poems she uses light and darkness as visual elements and also as symbols and metaphors to explore abstract concepts like ambivalence and marginality. "Sometimes it's only when they look at their body of work that writers become

aware of certain ideas or images that preoccupy them."

The quality of light also features several poems that were written and performed for special occasions in and around Owen Sound, including the Roxy Theatre's 100th anniversary, the Emancipation Festival and John Barnum's farewell at the Georgian Bay Symphony.

The poetry salon will be an opportunity to celebrate Burns' tenure as Owen Sound's fourth poet laureate. As well as launching *the quality of light*, Burns will be passing the torch. By then the Owen Sound Poet Laureate 2015 – 2017 will have been chosen, and Burns will introduce her successor at the salon. This free event will take place at the Roxy Theatre at 7:00 on September 30. Everyone is welcome. **M**



THE 30-DAY NOVEL COURSE FOR LAZY, UNDISCIPLINED WRITERS

If November is National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo), October must be the perfect month for a pre-marathon novel course, with Owen Sound author Richard J. Thomas. Prepare yourself for the 30 days of NaNoWriMo (or get a jump on your novel writing goals with a 30-day marathon of your own in October), supported by other local novelists in the Novel Writing Course. The Novel Course consists of four sessions from 7-10pm at The Ginger Press, beginning September 29 and ending on October 20. A final session the afternoon of Saturday October 31 from 1-4 pm will send participants off with the intention they'll begin writing novels on November 1.

"I came up with this idea because I am undisciplined and lazy, like most writers," Thomas says. "As well as leading the sessions, I will be participating by writing a new novel myself." Thomas wrote first drafts of many of his novels during local three-day novel marathons in support of literacy initiatives. He says thirty days to write a first draft will be luxurious. All writers are expected to write

during the Novel Writing Course. Participants will also discuss the myth of writer's block. Subject areas to be covered include, but are not limited to:

- setting, genre, characters and character development;
- the controlling idea;
- the three levels of conflict;
- the inciting incident, the crisis, the climax;
- setups and payoffs;
- sub-plots;
- and dialogue.

While going on to participate in NaNoWriMo is completely optional, The Saturday Support Group is available to all course participants and provides authors an opportunity to compare progress, discuss problems and ask questions. It begins November 7 and runs throughout the month. The Novel Course is limited to ten participants and includes all sessions described above. Phone 376-4233 to register now (\$195) to ensure your place at the table.

Words Aloud: from West to East

Arabez D Smith

And now for something completely different . . . Not a Monty Python fan? That's okay. They're not attending Words Aloud: Spoken Word & Storytelling festival this fall. Do you know who is?

Heralded by CBC Radio as "truly one of the smartest comics out there," **Charlie Demers** will take the stage at the Durham Art Gallery on Friday, November 6. In addition to having performed in clubs and at festivals across the country, and as a regular guest on CBC's *The Debaters* and *This is That*, he is the author of the novel *The Prescription Errors* and the book of essays *Vancouver Special* (which was a finalist for the BC Bookprize for nonfiction), as well as the forthcoming collection of humour essays *The Horrors*. He is a lecturer in the prestigious Creative Writing program at the University of British Columbia, where he teaches non-fiction, new media, and comedy writing.

We are also very excited to have West Coast environmental educator and poet **Veronica Gaylie** reading at the main stage on Sunday, November 8. Her work has been published in literary journals including *Poetry Review* (UK) and *Crannog* (Ireland), as well as *Geist*, *Grain*, *Ditch*, and *Filling Station*. She has written two books about ecological education. Veronica's first book of poetry is *Sword Dance* (Exile, 2015). Gaylie's work and perspective will address our connection to the earth and its health, artfully crafted into a poetry of ecology. In addition to her reading at the gallery, Veronica will host a workshop Sunday morning titled *Words and Work: a Weaving*. This workshop weaves together the words of the workplace into compelling stories or perhaps, poems. Whether you are a wood-worker, a farmer, a phlebotomist, or simply living the daily grind,

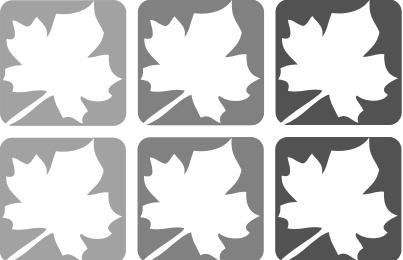


Charlie Demers

this workshop will help bring you the inspiration to get your words out to the world.

Check back here in October for a complete schedule of events, which will include an expanded children's program as well as a screening and discussion at the Garafraxa Cafe on Thursday, November 5. You can also watch our website: wordsaloud.ca for the latest Words Aloud news. It's all coming to Durham from November 5 – 8. Wait for it . . . **¶**

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UPDATE: at the Owen Sound Artists' Co-operative

by Morag Budgeon



I am grateful for our wonderful Legacy Gallery. Four years ago, my predecessor at the Co-op, Caroline Menzies, wrote and received a generous Trillium Grant to support emerging youth artists and students in secondary school. We were able to take over the store next door, enlarging our space by one third. It was a thoroughly successful venture, encouraging youth in the arts and raising the profile of the Co-op. Our emerging artist program, Next Generation, has produced two members for our group, Jen Klemm, with vividly visual photography, and Mallori McArthur, with stained glass.

Mallori was introduced to the art of stained glass through a co-op placement at a local stained glass shop, Artemisia Glass Design. During those years, while still working at Artemisia, she furthered her education at Sheridan College. Currently, she has been creating and designing unique custom pieces. Watching Mallori's progress

as a maker has been delightful and her fresh approach to stained glass has been a blessing to our fine store!

With the end of our Trillium Grant, we continue to support some of our youth programs, and have begun renting out the Legacy Gallery monthly to groups and individuals with much success. Each month there is a distinctive new exhibit in this adaptable gallery. The month of September features local artist and cultural anthropologist Peter Beckett. His intriguing and thoughtful paintings raise a question, "Asking Mother Nature: Will beauty save the world?" Peter will be available for discussion at the exhibit opening on Saturday, September 5, from 5pm to 7pm. Our wildly popular guest artist program features Jane Dunphy this month. Lake Blue Rugs creates one-of-a-kind, hand tufted, wool area rugs, but she is best known in this area for her beautifully designed felted scarves and



Mallori McArthur, Stained Glass Feathers

accessories.

The Owen Sound Artists' Co-op is open Monday to Saturday, 9:30 to 5:30. An artists is always on duty. **M**

Everyone Can Sing!

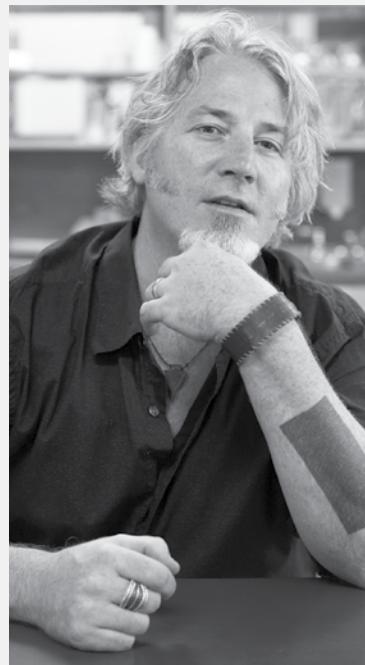
Louise Jarvis

OSSIA has a website! To learn more about the Owen Sound Singers in Accord, visit our brand new website www.ossia-choir.com. Here you can learn about our style, upcoming concerts, and how to register for the next season, which starts September 28. When you visit the site, drop me a note to say hello.

JON BROOKS at The Bleeding Carrot

Jim Ansell

Armed with only an acoustic guitar, a harmonica and a gritty ragged voice, singer-songwriter Jon Brooks will perform at The Bleeding Carrot on Saturday September 12 at 7:00pm. Described as "mature, wise and intrepid" (Julie Miller, CFLX radio), Brooks' most recent CD, *The Smiling and Beautiful Countryside*, defies categorization. "This music will never be heard in your dentist's waiting room," he says. "I wanted to write an album that can only be loved or hated: if courage is a muscle, it needs to be exercised. I write songs to calm those who've looked into, and seen, what is in their hearts. I also write songs to terrify those who have not." Jon Brooks has been nominated three times for Songwriter of the Year by the Canadian Folk Music Award; he is also the Kerrville Folk Festival New Folk winner. Seating is limited and tickets (\$20) are now available at The Bleeding Carrot, 945 2nd Avenue East, Owen Sound or (519)270-8570. **M**



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TREES 'N' TRAITS: OAK – “ENDURANCE”

Neil Baldwin

Anyone spending substantial time amongst trees knows they can affect body, mind and spirit. This series encourages you to examine whether particular species can make a difference to you and the degree to which you may embody some of their traits, or those traits you might at times desire. Several varieties of Oak may be found in Grey-Bruce: Red, White, Pin, and Bur. They all tend to be generally slow-growing and long-lived trees. Over the years, Oaks develop widely-spreading branches that appear to be going in all directions. Especially growing in open areas, branches can keep going and going, expanding far beyond the tree's centre, such that a mature Oak might have a spread up to one and a half times its height.

Oak's long life span is also reflected in how it takes 20-50 years before it begins to produce acorns, which are themselves hard, tough little nuggets which can withstand a lot between dropping and germinating. Oaks have long oval leaves with distinct lobes that make them easy to identify – though the Bur Oak can be tricky because its leaves have great variance of shape from tree to tree and may even not have obvious lobes. Something else unique about Oak leaves is their tendency to grow twice in a season due to the variety of insects which seem to thrive on them. While Oaks do provide a good living

environment for insects, they are rarely bothered by those which bore into their bark, which may in part account for their long life.

Can you identify with some or all of Oak's enduring characteristics? Are you a “slow-and-steady wins the race” kind of person? Can you be tough and tightly closed like the acorn, steeling yourself against what the world throws your way? Do you have the ability, like the Oak's leaves, to regenerate yourself when necessary? If you are an Oak, you may also have a presence which is large yet looms quietly and calmly in the background. It may also be the case that you provide a nurturing and sheltering environment for others.

If you are like an Oak and need to bolster your energies, try spending time either under an Oak's expansive branches, or perhaps cultivate presence while positioning yourself in view of the tree's entire broad canopy. And even if you're not an Oak but value its characteristics, these may be great opportunities to cultivate them.

Less common on the Peninsula, Oaks are scattered throughout most of Grey-Bruce. Some particularly good examples are along the Harrison Park entrance road on the hillside, and also just south of there in the arboretum by Grey Sauble Conservation HQ off Inglis Falls Road. Next month: Maples. **ℳ**

WAR, ITS MEANING AND CONSEQUENCES

Judy Beth Armstrong

The new season begins September 10 for The Bluewater Association for Lifelong Learning when Dr. Stanislav Kirschbaum introduces his six-part series, War: Its Meaning and Consequences. He will explore the whats, whys and hows of war, especially its many consequences, and considers alternatives. Dr. Kirschbaum is professor and chairman of the Department of International Studies at York University's bilingual Glendon College, where he has taught for over four decades. His teaching, research and publications focus on Central Europe, especially Slovakia, and also deal with issues of

security, war and diplomacy.

All lectures in the 2015-2016 season are scheduled for Thursday mornings (unless otherwise noted), 10am to noon, in Owen Sound at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre. Additional courses include The Wonders of Renaissance Art; Let There Be Light; and Our Beautiful Baffling Brains. BALL membership is open to all adults who are interested in life-long learning. For further information and to register, please visit bluewaterlearns.com. Each 6-part lecture series costs \$45, including BALL membership fee. **ℳ**



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The logo for the Bluewater Astronomical Society features a circular design with a telescope and the text "Bluewater Astronomical Society".

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A black and white portrait of Sandra J. Howe, a woman with glasses and a warm smile.

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This Fall at Meaford Hall

Leslie Bochna

Meaford Hall Arts & Cultural Centre presents over 20 live shows, two film series plus new gallery exhibits, speaker series and more for fall/early winter 2015. The season kicks off in September with something for the younger generation: *Tyler Shaw* plays Meaford, bringing his signature brand of rock-tinged pop. Next up is *Whiskey Jack: the Stories and Songs of Stompin' Tom*, East-coast legends *The Barra MacNeils*, and *That's the Way it Was: Tribute to Tom Jones & Elvis*. The Toronto Concert Orchestra featuring Heather Bambrick and conducted by Maestro Kerry Stratton is next as Meaford Hall partners with the Blue Mountain Village Association in presenting 'Classical Sundays.' And to push the theatrical boundaries is *Fresh From the Fringe*: two evenings of entertaining and thought provoking theatre straight from the Montreal and Toronto Fringe Festivals featuring three productions: *Shevil, Little Miss Understood* and *Paleoncology*. On Culture Days weekend see folk singer-songwriter *Craig Cardiff*

live onstage, and for those looking to learn — attend a free workshop hosted by the talented *Craig Cardiff*. Returning for the fall is the popular 'Thursday Flicks' series, featuring award-winning films sourced through *TIFF Film Circuit*. Another popular series beginning in September is Transition Meaford's *Films for Thought* series: Together, for a liveable future on a changing planet.

With the cooler temperatures comes a thought-provoking 'Speaker Series,' including presentations by the *Bluewater Astronomical Society*, local historian *Marjorie Davison*, a talk about *British Home Children* and local researcher and author *Robert Burcher*. The 'Speaker Series' is open to all, admission is by donation.

All are welcome so please do come for a show, film or just to take in the current Gallery Exhibition! For more information on these and other Meaford Hall events (over 60 live shows per year!) visit www.meafordhall.ca, call 1.877.538.0463 or drop by 12 Nelson St E in beautiful historic downtown Meaford. **¶**

Sustainable Living WORKSHOP

Barry Randall

The third in a series of Sustainable Living Workshops (SLW) will take place on Saturday September 12 from 8:30 to 5:00 and will focus on Sustainable Building Techniques through hands-on participation in workshop sessions hosted by skilled professionals in their respective fields, specifically the use of clay and straw as a building material. The site for the workshop is Riverstone Retreat, just west of Durham which is a living example of sustainable building. This "eco-nest" demonstrates how alternative techniques and materials can be used to create modern, energy efficient, low carbon and healthy building structures. The workshop will include a tour of Riverstone with host Ernie Martin, owner, builder and visionary; and hands-on sessions with Josh Thornton; clay cob construction of wood fired bread and pizza oven as well as "wattle and dab" fence/wall structure. Lunch is also included. For more information and to register contact randall@wightman.ca or (519) 881-1392. **¶**



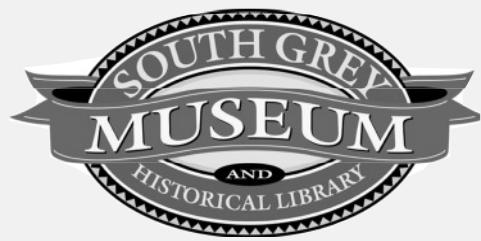
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Happy Camper Paddles into Museum AT SOUTH GREY MUSEUM



Kate Russell

On September 23 at 7pm at the South Grey Museum in Flesherton, come explore why being outdoors is such an enjoyable experience. Popular author, film maker, outdoor educator and wilderness canoeist, Kevin Callan, will remind us why we belong outside. Popularly known as the "Happy Camper," Callan's illustrated presentation will feature tales from some of his best adventures —and misadventures! Informative as well as humorous, he will offer a talk designed for a broad audience beyond just outdoorsy types. Don't miss this Patron Paddler for Paddle Canada, who hails from Peterborough but finds he is at home anywhere in the wild. Kevin's presentations are amazing and engaging! Admission is \$7 per person and \$5 for members. This event is part of the museum's annual speaker series, every fourth Wednesday through to November. **¶**



The Happy Camper



The Food Doctor in Hanover

Alison Rowe

Something fresh has arrived in Hanover! The Food Doctor is in, providing delicious and healthy vegetarian food to its customers. Kim Quesnel, owner/operator of the new venture, aims to fill a void in the area by offering juices, smoothies, Mapleton organic ice cream, organic fair trade coffee and coffee substitutes, as well as food items that are gluten free and vegetarian.

"I hear comments all the time that there is nowhere that serves vegetarian food, or that the only things my gluten-free friends can eat at a restaurant is salad. That needs to change," says Quesnel. "It's time to bring plant-based food to Grey-Bruce!" The Food Doctor cafe is located in a shared space with Quesnel's friends at the T-Zone at 554 7th Avenue in Hanover and offers take-out food and a small dining area. Cafe hours are Monday to Saturday, 8am to 8pm, starting with a healthy breakfast menu each day.

Opening a vegetarian restaurant has been a lifelong dream of Quesnel's, who is passionate about nutrition and believes everyone can benefit from meatless meals, even if they are not strictly vegetarian. She enthuses about the health benefits of plant-based eating and wants to be "the change I want to see in the world." Her main objective is to spread the message that food is medicine to our bodies. Having had the privilege of eating her food, I can say with confidence that this is medicine that will be very easy to swallow.

Although this is Quesnel's first food venture, she has big plans for the future: "My vision is to expand into a larger sit-down restaurant with an indoor playground and activities for children to promote healthy eating to our next generation. I would also like to host

events and workshops to educate the community about nutrition." She would love to have The Food Doctor in other towns, creating change in many communities but, for now, Hanover residents are the fortunate ones to get the inaugural Food Doc. Here is an easy and quick menu item to sample at home:

Gluten-Free Loaded Veggie Quesadillas:

2 gluten-free tortillas

1/2 large carrot grated or chopped finely

1 small bell pepper (or half a large one), your choice of colour, finely chopped

1/4 onion, finely chopped

1 large handful spinach, chopped

1/2 cup grated cheese, or Daiya "cheez" for a non-dairy option

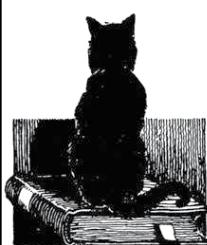
1/2 tsp coconut oil for cooking

Start by heating a pan over medium heat. Sprinkle one tortilla lightly with cheese. Then sprinkle evenly with all the different veggies. Again sprinkle with cheese, just enough to hold it all together then top with the other tortilla. Add 1/2 tsp or so of coconut oil to the hot pan and then put the quesadilla in and cook like a grilled cheese sandwich. When the bottom tortilla is golden very carefully flip the quesadilla over and continue to cook just until it is golden. Remove from the pan and let cool for a couple minutes before slicing into quarters or sixths. Serve with a side of salsa, sour cream, or plain yogurt. Enjoy! ☺

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www.sydenhambrucetrail.ca



National Tree Day: The Extraordinary Tree

Stephen Hogbin



The Extraordinary Tree

The Extraordinary Tree project was initiated in 2014, with the *Nominate a Tree Challenge* by Grey Sauble Conservation. The aim was to exhibit the representations of nominated trees at Grey Roots Museum in 2016. We are halfway into the project and able to show some of the resulting nominations.

On National Tree Day, September 23, Grey Roots will present over thirty Nominated Extraordinary Trees from

Grey and Bruce in an evening slide show. These local trees have inspired stories and have even changed peoples lives. There are family trees that date back to early settlement, treasured and remembered. One tree is believed to be a First Nation marker, signing the direction of a trail. They have stood the test of time, climate and fire, some clinging impressively to the rocks others are in our backyards.

The uniqueness of any tree is always

in the perception of the beholder. It's about our individual and collective history, science of naming the tree and placing it in the ecology, the art found in the beauty of its form, while learning about trees and what makes our region unique. So hug your favourite tree then come for a sneak peak at 7:00pm on September 23, Canada's National Tree Day, to see the future 2016 exhibition of Extraordinary Trees from our region.

JYOTISH CLASSES

"The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars, but in ourselves, that we are underlings." ~ Cassius, Julius Caesar

Our Jyotish chart is a unique karmic map that shares the wisdom of life – past, present and future. Your chart holds the key to understanding who you are – on a mental, emotional, physical and spiritual body level. This sacred karmic map can also share intimate secrets about your current healing and transformation process. Though Jyotish is a Vedic science that takes hours, years and even lifetimes to fully explore and understand, there are some very basic steps for starting to peel back the layers of your own Jyotish chart. The ongoing classes or the one-day Intensive are designed to help you gather momentum

Christina Richa Devi

in befriending your birth data and learn the basic principles of Jyotish, *the art of light*, in decoding the universal esoteric information inherent in your souls blue print. All that is needed is accurate birth data and natal chart (can be supplied). The classes are kept small (4 to 6) students so you may accelerate your learning and get deeply acquainted with the planetary signatures and directives. No pre-requisites, only a sincere commitment to evolve. Classes ongoing September 15 to December 23 for \$30/class or Intensive September 12th New Moon 10 to 5 for \$ 210. Details at www.ompalace.ca.



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**GRANT DEADLINE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

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The focus for this fall grant intake will be concentrated mainly on support of disadvantaged children and families. As well, modest funding is available to support minor sports in the smaller communities outside of Owen Sound and for the improvement of women's health in Grey and Bruce Counties.

For more information, phone 519-371-7203, Monday to Friday, between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm or email Grants Coordinator Wendy Bachiu at wendy.bachiu@cfgb.ca

www.communityfoundationgreybruce.com

Youth Literacy Gets Back to School

Kimm Culkin

South Grey Bruce Youth Literacy is now accepting registrations for students in our free one-on-one tutoring program, which offers weekly reading or math help with screened and trained volunteers. And in September, Youth Literacy's free drama workshops for children and youth continue in both Durham and Hanover. Classes for children 7-11 (Mondays in Durham) and youth 12-18 (Thursdays in Hanover) start the week of September 21. These workshops introduce improv and presentation skills, and participants tell us they feel more confident, too.

Since 1989, Youth Literacy has matched screened, trained tutors for one-on-one sessions with students 6-18 who are struggling with literacy skills – reading, writing and math. We provide alternative ways to learn and resources for students and parents. We're always looking for patient, dependable teen and adult volunteers for our programs. For more information, call SGB Youth Literacy (519) 364-0008 or email info@sgbyouthliteracy.org.



THE ROXY REPORT

- Maria Canton

Combining storytelling and his own brand of folk music, **Steve Poltz** is a travelling troubadour who inspires, makes you laugh, makes you think and makes you dance. I'm thrilled to announce Steve will perform at The Roxy on September 23 with none other than **Danny Michel**, a three-time Juno nominee and so much more. Danny and Steve met a few years ago and became fast friends. At The Roxy, they'll perform their own solo sets and share songs too. It will undoubtedly be carefree and brilliant and I can't wait.

The very next night, September 24, we have the first concert in our fifth-annual Hats Off Tribute Series with Bayshore Broadcasting: **Fleetwood Mix** with its five-piece tribute band that recreates with incredible accuracy the sounds of the legendary Fleetwood Mac. The other two bands in the series are **Hotel California, the Original Tribute to the Eagles** (October 8) and **Billy Joel & The Piano Men** (October 15). We also have a tribute to **Patsy Cline** on

September 26 and the hilarious **Comic Strippers** on September 27.

Rehearsals for our 55th Annual OSLT season are already underway for the fall musical *Carousel*, directed by Corry Lapointe with musical direction by Don Buchanan. *Carousel* is a Rodger's & Hammerstein musical drama classic that was ahead of its time in tackling troubled relationships. A story of love and redemption set in coastal Maine, *Carousel* spans heaven and earth in its exploration of human frailty, resilience and the power of forgiveness. As well, auditions for our upcoming production of Harper Lee's American Classic, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, will take place September 8-11 at The Roxy starting at 7:30pm. Scripts are available at the box office or you can visit our website or call the theatre for more details. Auditions will be held in the new year for the two other OSLT plays on the bill, *Whose Life is it Anyway?* directed by Shirley Holmes and *Blithe Spirit*, directed by Cathy Brouse. For more details, visit roxytheatre.ca 

CELEBRATE BRUCE TRAIL DAY: OCTOBER 4

Sandra J. Horwitz

Bruce Trail Day is an annual event celebrating Canada's oldest and longest footpath, hosted by the Bruce Trail Conservancy and each of the nine Bruce Trail Clubs. Each BTC Club hosts free guided hikes and family activities to help the general public and BTC members explore the Bruce Trail and discover the amazing variety of life along the Niagara Escarpment. Check out: www.brucetrail.org for further details.

The Sydenham Bruce Trail Club (SBTC) invites everyone to join us at the Springmount Information Centre, Pottawatomi Conservation Area from 1:30 to 3:30pm. This beautiful area is owned by Grey Sauble Conservation Authority and features Jones Falls. The cliffs give excellent views to Owen Sound and the Pottawatomi Valley.

We will wander through several forest types, and see spectacular standing rock formations. At 1:30 pm, a 4km hike around the Merle Gunby loop and following the Niagara Escarpment along the Bruce Trail is available. Shorter hikes exploring the Pottawatomi River and Jones Falls are offered throughout the afternoon. Refreshments will be served. Bring water, outdoor clothes, sunscreen, and your sense of adventure for this fun outing.

Keep checking www.sydenhambrucetrail.ca and the SBTC Facebook page for updates. Bring your family and friends, and learn about our year-round hiking programs, trail maintenance opportunities, and what we are doing to establish a conservation corridor from Niagara to Tobermory. ☺

The logo for Mudtown Art Supply features a black and white photograph of a landscape with trees and water in the background. Overlaid on the top half of the image is the company name "Mudtown Art Supply" in a large, bold, black serif font. Below the photograph, the address "828 3rd Ave. E., Owen Sound - Now on the main floor" and phone number "519-416-5747" are printed in a smaller black font. At the bottom, the slogan "Art supplies for Artists" is written in a large, bold, black sans-serif font.

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Sant Baljit Singh

A fair, faire or fayre, is defined as a gathering of people for entertainment and activities that are temporary in nature. Fairs were often tied to religious dates, such as the Saint's day of the local church, special occasions, and the bounty of the season. Fairs developed as marketplaces, important for long-distance trade. Historically the privilege of holding a fair required a royal decree in towns and villages where there was a sheriff or governor who could keep order, as the celebratory crowds attracted to the fairs often grew rowdy and caused disturbances.

In partnership with volunteers from the Sydenham Agricultural Society, the **162nd Annual Sydenham Fall Fair** is perhaps the last remaining school-based fall fair in Canada, giving over 500 students a chance to show off their talents in a wide range of agricultural activities, on September 24, from 10am to 3pm. Some children have raised farm animals to show at the fair, while others have made crafts or baked goods, and still others will display the fruits (or vegetables) of their labour in garden club displays. This event is also open to the public and displays will remain up Friday and Saturday, until 3pm.

On October 4 from 12 noon to 5pm Grey Roots celebrates its **6th Annual Pratie Oaten Irish Festival** in Moreston Heritage Village. The potatoes are dug and its time boil up a pot of "lumpers" to make a batch of everyone's favourite, Pratie Oaten, our Irish potato oatcakes. A day of music, games and stories of the past from our costumed interpreters; watch as the Blacksmith twists molten hot

iron into intricate Celtic designs. Samples of Pratie Oaten will be available throughout the day in the Log Cabin. Do not miss this fun tribute to the early

Irish settlers in Grey County. And don't forget to visit beautiful Morland Place and Gardens, located right next door to Grey Roots.

Dinosaurs Unearthed will inspire curiosity and capture the imagination with dinosaurs at an exciting time in history, until October 31. Four years and more than 8,000 volunteer hours later, the diorama representing the east side of the Owen Sound Harbour circa 1910, is now the centrepiece of **Arrivals and Departures**. This original exhibit also includes beautifully designed interpretive panels and rail artefacts. For 75 years, families have relied on CFOS for the latest news of their communities and around the world. In honour of this anniversary, Grey Roots presents an encore display of its original exhibit, **On the Air: 70 Years of CFOS Radio**. This exhibit will be open until the end of the year.

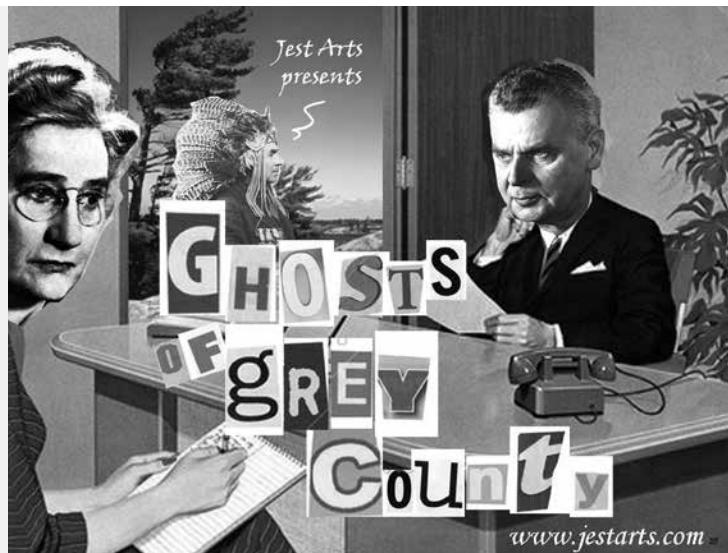
Grey Roots combines Museum, Archives, and Tourism services under one roof and is located at 102599 Grey Road 18, just west of Inglis Falls and a few minutes south of Owen Sound, in the Municipality of Georgian Bluffs. Grey Roots is open seven days a week, from 10am to 5pm until Thanksgiving. For information on any of the programs or services at Grey Roots, please refer to our website at www.greyroots.com or call (519)376-3690 or toll free 1-877-GREY ROOTS. ☙

SEEKING YOUNG GHOSTS

Jenny Parsons

Ghosts of Grey County is a partly improvised, partly true ghost story produced by the comedy duo Parsons & Morel. You may recognize Jenny Parsons and Steven Morel from the Family Channel's hit TV show "Wingin' It". Jenny is the drama teacher and Steve plays the ukulele toting Principal. Or maybe you have just seen them around; they moved here eight years ago to live in the land of leisure (and ghosts!). They met and worked at The Second City, Canadian comedy institution renown for its improvisation. So when they were asked to produce a play for the family portion of the upcoming Words Aloud festival, they were quick to say yes and gave that unwritten play a title: Ghosts of Grey County.

Many a time a great play has been improvised with only a title given as a suggestion. But much like the poster, which is cut and pasted together, the show already has a number of elements that can be moved around as it develops. These elements include a youth troupe, some local musicians, and of course, the legendary ghosts John Diefenbaker and Agnes Macphail, played by Parsons & Morel. The youth troupe has in it some of the young people who were taking the South Grey Bruce Youth Literacy Council's Drama workshop



last year. Anyone else interested in joining the "Ghosts" troupe can be brought up to speed. Rehearsals will start mid-September on Tuesdays, early evenings. They will take place at Parsons & Morel's new workspace "Jest Arts" of Durham. Anyone interested in joining the troupe or volunteering back-stage should call (226) 432-2152 or email Jenny at parsonsjenny@hotmail.com. Check out Facebook too and search for "Jest Arts" or go to www.jestarts.com, for more information. The South Grey Bruce Youth Literacy Council workshops resume this fall as well, more information can be found at www.sgyouthliteracy.org. ☙

FROM THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GREY BRUCE

Aly Boltman



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
GREY BRUCE

It will make you remember and smile. Just five days ago, my kids and I woke up at the KOA campground, mere minutes from downtown Owen Sound, blissfully unaware of the chaos that had unfolded in my town in the early dawn. Perhaps it was the holiday relaxation. Maybe it was the belly full of roasted marshmallows, or the country air, but I had somehow managed to sleep through a chorus of sirens ringing out in the night. I awoke to plumes of smoke coming from the hill below and an uncontrollably buzzing cell phone. My city was on fire.

Between about three to four in the morning, while people innocently slept in their beds, more than ten different seemingly random sites were set ablaze in Owen Sound's east end by three arsonists. Up to 45 people had lost their homes, including about ten children. At least seven families had lost everything and had no insurance. It was a true miracle that no one lost their life in this senseless act of depravity.

I hurriedly left the campground and drove downtown before I had even had my first coffee of the day – an unheard of level of personal activity without morning fuel. My first stop was the United Way Bruce Grey. Entering the back room filled with hundreds of full backpacks waiting to be shipped out to needy regional youth, there sat Director Francesca Dobbyn with thumbs a' flying, madly posting on social media networks while fielding phone calls, directing staff, answering questions and mentally preparing for what would be one of the toughest weeks of her professional life. Beside her was freshly retired Minister David Shearman, who by all accounts should have been hard at work on his deck at his cottage on beautiful Lake Huron instead of being here at United Way at 8 am on a Monday morning prepared to comfort the victims. Francesca filled me in on the details, including the incredible and methodical first response system in place through Victim Services and The Red Cross, all seamlessly working together to comfort and support the victims of the arson spree.

The phone buzzed again. My friend Megan posts a picture on Facebook of a burning house, her first upon moving to Owen Sound, now burned to the ground. Her husband Howard says, "This was our

baby's first room. I had just painted it myself – blue." People huddle together on the streets, or are carted off to the hospital to be treated for smoke inhalation. Others frantically call out for missing pets, or sip coffee with chattering teeth while wrapped in strangers' blankets, staring hollowly at the wasteland they used to call a neighbourhood.

My city was on fire. In five days, our people have endured a disaster, witnessed police chases and hundreds of news broadcasts, felt desperation, rage, fear and disbelief. But most importantly, our city has felt compelled to step up and looked after its own in incalculable ways. As I write this, United Way is having a Radiothon on Mix 106.5 and has raised more than \$90,000 in eight hours, and close to \$150,000 in five days. Community Foundation Grey Bruce is proud to be a part of that good news story, through a donation of \$10,000 from the Eva Leflar Donor Advised Endowment Fund. Eva's legacy was built to help disadvantaged children and families in perpetuity, and I don't think anything qualifies more than being destitute and homeless as a result of an arson. But the silver lining here is about much, much more than just money. The crux of it comes down to our resiliency as a community, and the power of that resiliency.

I like to think that our little town, for all its faults, has that in spades – that and a lot of amazingly generous people who have all bent over backwards to help the people affected by this fire. Even those who have next to nothing themselves are giving what they can or volunteering tirelessly. We have proven once again that we have something far more important than any of the negativity this situation has brought to our door: we have each other. We have community. We have a foundation of caring and a deep commitment to the well-being of our people. I'm proud to work for an organization that helps exemplify this, and I'm prouder still to live in a community directly responsible for the flourishing over the Foundation over the past twenty years to allow us to be in a position to help. On behalf of all of us, thank you for making all of this possible – the healing, the relief, the generosity, the optimism, the caring, and most of all, the community. **¶**

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Now in its 13th year, Write @ Your Library is the biggest and longest running local creative writing contest for youth, partnering public libraries across Grey and Bruce Counties with MOSAIC magazine, the United Way of Bruce Grey and the Centre culturel du Jardin découvertes to provide young writers from our region with the opportunity to be recognized for their creative achievements. If you would like to find out more about the Write @ Your Library contest please contact Nadia Danyluk, Youth Services Librarian at the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library at ndanyluk@owensound.library.on.ca or (519) 376-6623 ext. 4.

Junior Short Story – First Place **Cloaked in Shadows**

Rachel Shave

Nine days. No food. No water. Nothing. Trapped. Starving. Vision is getting poorer. Not that I can see much at all. The inside of a casket. My casket. Oxygen is limited. Unable to move. Alone. Cramped. Confined. The memories rioting in my mind are a blur. In each image the pixels are a whirlwind. The sounds. I myself am surprised what noises I can hear. What silence sounds like. Except it's hardly silent. The thump, thump, thumping of my fading heartbeat. Blood rushing in my ears. Gulping down saliva. Even a raw cry escapes me. Voices inside my head. They tell me only one fate awaits me. A fate much farther beyond this casket. This dark, dry, cold, stale, hopeless prison. What lies in the distance? I can only dream of it. A new life. If it can even be called life. Free of sorrow. Without misery. Untouched by pain. Filled with colour. Love. Smiles. Summer breezes. The changing of seasons. Auras of wild flowers. Songbirds. Wind, water, the crackle of fire. Freshly baked loaves of bread you discover by following your nose through a maze of white buildings. Waves. Crashing down

on steep beaches. Waves. Lapping against golden sands. Leaves. Footsteps on cobblestone. Laughter. Music. That is what I will wish for. I do wish for. I have wished for. "Wish. Wishing. Wished. It makes no difference." He says. The cloaked figure on the inside of my eyelids, dark and light, drew nearer. Well, he seemed to be closer. Strangely, I am not afraid. I find his presence surprisingly reassuring. I knew he would come. For me. I can sense why he chose now. Not in the past nine days, I can't be certain it was even close to being nine days. For all I know, it has only been a couple hours. In which I have had plenty of time. Time to complain, and wish. The dark, cloaked lord chose now because I looked forward. I have not dwelt in the past. My past. It can hurt. It can feel like fire. No matter how much we want, it cannot be changed. Any past that anyone has can be portrayed in many ways. Though now, I can only think of the future. My future. My new journey, a new adventure. I nod at the dark lord. He reaches out and opens my eyes. I see an empty void. Yet it is not empty. It feels empty. The souls of the dead. And now I am one of them. My spirit will roam the world. Searching for those whose hearts are as black as mine was. Now I will be the one, cloaked in my shadows, closing their eyes.

PROFILE:

RED ROAD Cafe and Grill

Sandra J. Howe

It is September again and the summer crowds have thinned on the beach. Relaxing on the patio with cold drinks and warm bruschetta, the lake breeze and surf sound provide a soothing backdrop. This is the life at Red Road Cafe and Grill, on the sand at Sauble Beach in the former Driftwood Restaurant premises. Owned and operated by the Saugeen First Nation, the Red Road Cafe offers an aboriginal-inspired menu, as well as beach favourites.

I enjoyed the bison burger, but so far the salmon is my favourite. Served with a light lemon sauce and wild rice, it was the perfect ending to a leisurely beach stroll. Sit awhile to partake of a Lake Huron sunset with a delicious dessert. The Red Road Cafe is also liquor-licensed for a casual evening with friends.

The Red Road name is a tribute to the First Nations path of life, a commitment to living with integrity, following traditional wisdom imparted by community elders. Many of the restaurant's staff and servers have First Nations heritage. The hospitality of Canada's Aboriginal peoples shines through in the Red Road's excellent customer service.



New managers this season are Susie Cameron and Greg Williams. Greg says: "We are thrilled with events at Red Road Cafe so far this year. The Band Council and Administration have been very supportive. We are totally focused on providing great food and great service. Our menu continues to evolve in response to guest feedback. Come visit us soon!" Through the autumn, the Red Road Cafe and Grill will operate on reduced hours, mainly weekends, so call ahead, (519) 422-3232, or visit www.redroadcafe.com. Don't miss out on this opportunity to indulge in fine food with a wonderful beach setting. Megwich! **M**

THE REASON OF ART

Peter Beckett

excerpted from a series of emails

A curator friend of mine asked me to justify my existence, posing the question, "Why do you make art and why do you think it is important?" It's a mysterious process. As I sit in the pristine silence of a winter night in the woods and contemplate a couple of very large paintings, unexplained things start to happen. If I can relinquish my role as an actor and become part of the audience, assemblages of shapes and colors emerge as if the paintings have a mind of their own.

Looking at paintings is something I love to do. I've loved playing with colours since I can remember. It's no more or less rational than getting up in the middle of the night to be in a canoe on some misty lake as the sun rises. We follow our inclinations and that's what defines our individuality, our value as human beings. To me, making art is as natural as picking a stick up off the beach and making marks in the sand.

As humans we are curious, we push at boundaries, we explore the world around us and we explore the world within. There are pleasures, delights and surprises along the many paths of learning and, like exploring Paris by Metro, we find out that the routes intersect at many different levels. When we marvel at some unexpected achievement and exclaim, "I didn't know I had it in me" we are speaking the truth. If we can quiet the mind and allow the soul to speak, the soul speaks through art.

When we learn to draw we are learning to draw forth from a well. In art there is a mysterious ability to transcend boundaries. When we look at a painting that Tom Thomson made as he sat in Algonquin Park amidst the fleeting colours of a late afternoon in October, how difficult is it to imagine that crisp smell of autumn leaves or the call of the loon?

I went to University in the seventies to study earth science and/or art, so Al Gore's inconvenient truth has been old news to me for over 30 years. I used to be content thinking that my art would be discovered by future generations but seeing how reluctant humanity was to take responsibility for the mess we are making of the planet,



I came to wonder, are cockroaches and jellyfish going to care about art? So, environmental art/activism seemed to be a logical next step.

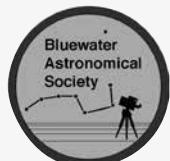
Circling back to beauty saving the world...I live on a rocky hillside in a hardwood forest in a house I built 35 years ago. There's a lot of wood in the structure and furnishings that came from this place. The woods is good company. Gearing up to paint a tiny self portrait, I started collecting up small abstract paintings, landscapes, beginning with portrait shapes etc. Anything to try to hang a face on. I hung a mirror in the studio and put a discarded plywood drawer-bottom on an easel to see what might come of it. The plywood had "v" matched ash veneer one on side and was varnished. I saw the shape of a head in the wood-grain so I lightly sanded that side and, like those sculptors who see something in a piece of wood or stone, I started to paint myself to see what would emerge.

Making art is probably futile, but what's the harm in trying for the sake of every other living thing on the planet? That's why I'm showing my paintings. Oh, and by the way, they make great decoration.

Peter's month-long exhibit titled Asking Mother Nature: Will beauty save the world? opens at The Artists' Co-op on Saturday September 5 from 5:00 to 7:00. Everyone is welcome. The artist will be present.

Are Astronomers Just Big Kids?

Zoë Kessler



Astronomers are big, scary, intimidating science nerds, right? The truth is astronomers are really just big kids who still love a good game of peek-a-boo. This September, we'll be out to enjoy the games as several celestial bodies play peek-a-boo in the sky. At the beginning of the month, the planet Neptune hid behind the earth, playing peek-a-boo with the Sun. Neptune was said to be at opposition, which is when the sun, the earth and a planet are all in line. At that time, the planet at oppo-

sition (opposite the sun), is at its brightest, largest and its closest point to the earth.

Just after midnight on Saturday, September 5 (around 12:07am), Aldebaran (a bright star in the eastern constellation Taurus) will hide behind the moon for about a half hour. This is called an occultation, but it's nothing spooky. It's just a game of peek-a-boo, remember? When Aldebaran pops back out and into view, it won't need to yell "Surprise!" It'll be brightly shining in the dark night sky.

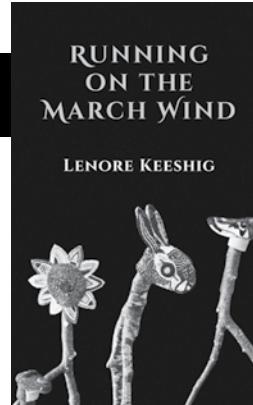
Upping the peek-a-boo ante will be this year's best lunar eclipse on Sunday, September 27. Come on out to watch the eclipse with local amateur astronomers (aka fellow big kids) at the E.S. Fox Observatory. For more big-kid astronomy fun in September (including public viewing nights), visit our website at bluewaterastronomy.info or our Facebook page facebook.com/bluewaterastronomy. And don't forget to Follow us on Twitter @BASAstronomy! 

NEW BOOKS:

RUNNING ON THE MARCH WIND

BY LENOKE KEESHIG

and HARD TIMES BY ROB ROLFE



Poets Lenore Keeshig and Rob Rolfe will launch new books on Tuesday, September 29 at 7:00pm at the Ginger Press Bookshop in downtown Owen Sound. Popular singer-songwriter Larry Jensen will perform with Rolfe. Everyone is welcome and admission is free.

Lenore Keeshig is a traditional storyteller, poet and award-winning author from the Chippewas of Nawash First Nation at Neyaashiinigmiing. She currently works as a naturalist, providing education programs about the natural and cultural history of the Great Lakes region. Lenore's poetry has been widely anthologized. She has produced three children's books: *Bird Talk*

(1991) and *Emma and the Tree* (1996) and *The Truth About Nibbles* (2005) co-authored with her husband, David McLaren. Keeshig's *Running on the March Wind* offers exquisite lyrical portrayals of the Saugeen region; biting commentary on historic injustices to First Nations people; engaging magical realism and Native mythology; touching treatments of the bonds between Elders and children; and celebrations of the solace of trees and water and even the company of bears. Her writing is suffused with affection and deep love for her homeland and those living there.

Born in London, Ontario, **Rob Rolfe** was a labour leader and librarian in Toronto.

He now lives in Owen Sound, where he often performs his poetry with singer-songwriter Larry Jensen. He is the author of *The Hawk* (2008), *Saugeen* (2011), and *Beyond Mudtown* (2013), all from Quattro Books. His poetry has appeared in numerous Canadian literary and political journals and poetry anthologies. Rolfe's new collection *Hard Times* renews his imaginative exploration of the haunting, mostly unrecorded history of Owen Sound's working class Mudtown and the Grey-Bruce region. He also journeys in memory to Montreal, Toronto and to places beyond. The writing shows his continuing mastery of subtly simple poetic forms, and of short tales in prose. **M**

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QUAYSIDE CHRONICLES

..... Paul Thomas



To fence or not to fence; that is the question. Ella sings a magnificent cover of Cole Porter's "Don't Fence Me In" proclaiming the need for "land, lots of land, under starry skies above...". In the landscape a fence offers us definition. It provides delineation between spaces. It creates an opportunity for us to organize our visual experience as we make our way through the landscape. A fence can provide us with a peaceful barrier from the outside world in order to connect with the natural world. As a backdrop, a fence offers plantings a special setting to show off their beauty. It also affords us the practical aspect of fending off our gardening efforts against uninvited guests. We can "borrow" or "claim" vistas and "frame" the experiences we prefer by using fencing.

Imagine the exhausted inspiration pioneers experienced after clearing land and building a fence; from wilderness to meadow in one not-so-easy step. Our need to believe we can control nature is a deep unconscious force. This, we know, is fraught with the angst that has created tension in land use since the beginning of our time on earth.

Here at QuaySide, we took down the old cedar fencing which then offered us a magnificent new prospect of Colpoys Bay. Removing all the nails, screws and posts gave us the satisfaction of repurposing vintage building materials. It was a kind of meditative task that gave us the chance to appreciate the time line starting from the cedar trees and ending in the fence boards. Building a new fence out of these old boards created a new "room" in the garden. It's a cross between a picket fence and a screen which helps to buffer the road. It offers delineation between out there and in here. Perhaps it's an offering to appease my desire to challenge the clichés about the "picket fence dream."

And so the process of defining how we are to live here at this time unfolds. There are layers and layers of decisions to be made. Embracing and respecting all that has gone on before with all that we envision in the context of "reading" nature's footprint is an exciting task.

I was talking with Ron, a local second generation farmer from just down County 9, about this aspect of caretaking a place with an attitude of the connectivity between all that has gone on before with all that is yet to come. He has almost daily chats with his ancestors about what's going on down on the farm; the farm he inherited and will likely pass on to one of his kids.

Our time is now. The process of how we repurpose the existing infrastructure while respecting the heritage is a mindful exercise in balance. Our unique economy of scale sets pretty specific parameters of what we can accomplish thereby increasing creative reinvention. When neighbours who have lived here all their lives give us the thumbs up, we feel we're on the right track. I think it's called

community. Hopefully this process will last for decades to come. Perhaps our great grandchildren will be able to visit here and experience what went on in 2015. Small steps, one by one. The new kitchen garden with its new raised beds have, overall, been a success for this first year. The joy of reaping what we sow never gets under-acknowledged. Earwigs have firmly made their presence known. The rabbit, so far, has been enjoying just the white clover. The plans for next year's efforts take hold. That's the life of a gardener. Constant revision. Constant change. Constant give and take. This of course brings us to September and renewal and harvest and well we won't speak of that other thing...In fact let's go out with some panache!

How about a sassy Corn Salsa?

Sweet corn has been amazing this year. Don and Ruth at the Farmers' Market have blessed us with a terrific supply. Vine-ripened tomatoes are also plentiful. A red onion, some cilantro, a jalapeno pepper, salt, pepper, lime juice and we're ready to go! Grill up 3 or 4 cobs, husks on, until nicely charred. Remove husks and finish off for another 5 minutes. Remove kernels and mix with a couple of juicy ripe tomatoes a diced red onion and the rest of the seasonings. Be generous with your cilantro and freshly squeezed lime juice. Savour the explosion in your mouth and thank the growers for these stellar crops of the season.

If you're really in the mood to celebrate September, try making your own **corn tortilla chips** with a polenta-like dough:

- 1 cup corn meal
- 1 Tbs vegetable oil
- ½ tsp sea salt
- dash of fresh ground pepper
- perhaps a pinch of garlic powder
- ¾ cup boiling water.

Mix all ingredients and pour out on a greased baking sheet. Spread the dough out as thinly and evenly as you can. Using a knife or pizza cutter you can score the dough into pieces. Bake at 400 degrees for around 10 minutes. Let cool and break apart.

Now that's a combo worthy of a hearty salute to the end of a spectacular summer! So the curtain is beginning to close on the summer of '15 and Ella's refrain "Don't fence me in..." plays sweetly in the background. I'm sitting on the verandah looking out into the garden and the recycled fence beyond. And beyond that I can soak up all that Georgian Bay demands. Yup, I too want to "ride through the wide open country that I love..." so much but for now I'm grateful for this sense of calm refuge that this old/new fence symbolizes. My saddle of choice is on my bike and I know that it's always at the ready...after I finish one more corn chip and salsa. *Eet smakelijk.*

¶

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Celebrate Our Story

Wendy Tomlinson



In September 2014, the Community Waterfront Heritage Centre (CWHC) became aware of a 1953 Pullman-Standard train car for sale. After inspection of the 62.5 tonne car, CWHC purchased it in November of that year. Likely manufactured in New York or Chicago, car #4884 was originally built as a passenger coach for the Grand Trunk Western Railway. It was converted into a buffet-coach in 1969 and was eventually assigned to Canadian National Railway (VIA Rail) in 1972, where it saw service until its retirement in the early 1980s. As a buffet-coach, car #4884 would have offered counter service for passengers to purchase snacks and drinks to be taken back to their seats and consumed.

Acquired by the Town of Georgina, near Keswick, Ontario, in 2005, #4884 was operated as a Tea Room. The restaurant was short-lived, but the car continued to mark the entranceway to the Civic Centre until its recent move to Owen Sound at the beginning of August.

Earlier in the summer the main body of the car was removed from its trucks (the wheels) and the trucks were painted and delivered onto the tracks at the museum site. The body of the car was then loaded by crane, onto a specially designed rear-load steering flatbed, capable of moving a house. Over a 12-hour period, the car made the 173-km journey from Keswick to a workshop located outside of Owen Sound, where its exterior was sandblasted and minor bodywork repairs made. Based on original blueprints, exterior paint colours were carefully chosen and hand lettered decals are authentic to the era.

Car #4884 retains many of its period features, including the original power plant, ticket window, wood veneer panelling and a

fully outfitted kitchen. This car has a one-of-a-kind brass trimmed viewing platform that was added to the car after manufacturing, and is unique to this passenger car.

Community interest in the dining car project and the development of Owen Sound's harbour-front has been tremendous and ongoing fundraising support will be required to install services and complete the refurbishment of the train car. Possible future plans for car #4884 include using the space for educational programming, special events and as an ice cream parlour during the summer season.

In support of this project, consider making a donation, supporting the Community Waterfront Heritage Centre's upcoming events and be sure to purchase your raffle ticket for a luxury train trip for two to Quebec City, with accommodation at the Fairmont Chateau Frontenac (or take the cash value - \$8000). Tickets are only \$25 each and available at the museum and locations throughout the area. The draw will take place on Saturday September 19 at 2pm.

September 19, 2015 will be a historic day, as this will be the first time in nearly a half century that passengers can board a train at the CN station in Owen Sound, as the Community Waterfront Heritage Centre opens car #4884 to the public.

The Community Waterfront Heritage Centre celebrates and preserves Owen Sound's heritage on the waterfront: the marine, rail and industrial history of the City and surrounding communities. For more details visit www.marineandrail.ca, call (519) 371-3333 or email info@heritagecentre.ca. Community Waterfront Heritage Centre is located at 1155 1st Avenue West, Owen Sound and is open daily from Victoria Day to Thanksgiving, or by appointment. **M**

ARTeries

Barbara McLean

Every year, on the weekend preceding Thanksgiving, Grey County area artists signpost their lanes, open their gates and invite us to their **Autumn Leaves Studio Tour**. Recently I travelled through diverse topography to visit many of these artists and see their surroundings on a typical working day before the tour signs were out or the floors swept. I discovered a pristine region of back roads connecting private alleys and hidden tracks through countryside pulsing with colour and design. The terrain acts as muse.

My tour began in Holstein, a pretty village at the south end of the county surrounded by the rolling fields of old family farms and old order Mennonites, to the adjoining studios of two dedicated metal workers, Jane and Tony. Jane welds, Tony forges and though they work separately, they share an intense love of ore. "You can make it fly, you can make it grow, and it will last forever" Jane told me, surrounded by massive tools, racks of hammers and piles of waste metal that are formed through fire into

art. I experienced the intensity of the work through the scent of oil in the shop and coal from the forge.

I drove past a master dry stone wall, near an active fox den and by fields of Red Angus cattle until I found my way up a winding lane to SunsPots pottery with its beehive kiln shed. Bill and Ruth built the kiln themselves and monitor the fickle process of firing their earthenware pots at 2350 degrees Fahrenheit for a full 45 hours. But the whole process takes three months from the raw clay to your coffee mug. This is handcrafting at its source.

Following another branch of sideroads I passed through cedar bush into a sun-filtered circular lane to Inya's house, built by her grandfather long before she arrived to fill it with her art. I sensed her passion for drypoint intaglio printing before we followed an enchanting wooded path to a secret pond filled with waterbirds and surrounded by wildflowers, the inspiration for her colourful landscape paintings. The air pulsed with frogsong.

North past a sugar bush and over a shingled creek I arrived at a unique pottery where Vince creates delicate porcelain ware. He combines an astute scientific knowledge with a solid connection to nature, and his gardens interplay with his glazes in subtle intensities of colour. Wind chimes and bird boxes lead to the studio where racks of plates and pots are punctuated with porcelain birds' eggs displayed like Victorian collections; true to species, but made through art, not theft.

The artists who work among us, many of them hidden away on back roads, some self-described "hermits", were kind enough to open their doors for me, and will do so for everyone on the weekend of the tour. I couldn't catch them all that day, but hope to return in October when this exceptional landscape puts on its stunning autumn display. The Autumn Leaves Studio Tour is always the weekend before Thanksgiving: October 2 to 4 10am until 5pm. Details on all the artists involved can be found at www.autumnleavesstudiotour.ca. **M**



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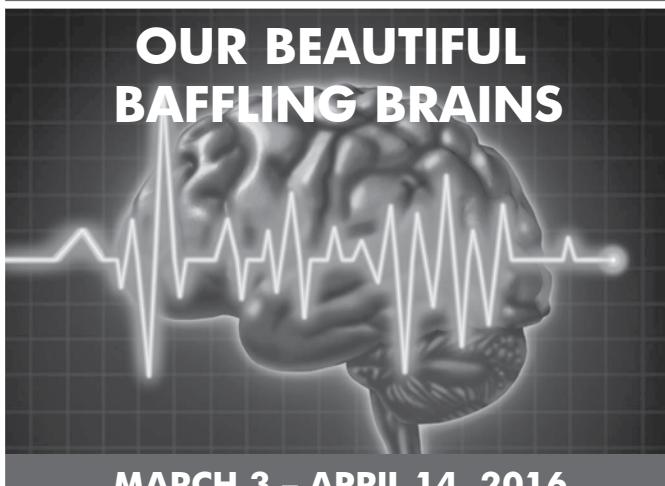


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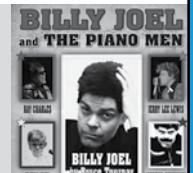
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