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VOL. 23 NO. 2

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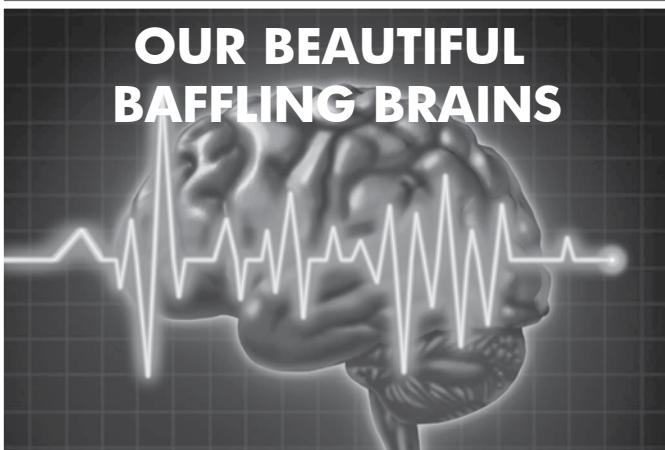
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2016 with Peter Middleton

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MOSAIC

Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

August 2015

Vol. 23 No. 2

MOSAIC

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

Established in 1993, MOSAIC is the only publication in Grey-Bruce dedicated 100% to encouraging and supporting all the local arts and entertainment.

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 Tom Thomson Art Gallery ~ Walter's Falls Art Show
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Published monthly from March to November, MOSAIC is available in the places where people gather from Tobermory to Kincardine to Collingwood and everywhere in between. Current and back issues are also available at www.greybrucemosaic.ca.

The Ginger Press

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The views expressed by the contributors are not necessarily those of the publisher or editor of MOSAIC

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

Wow! What a summer! August is filled with sunny days and starry nights. Why would anyone want to be anywhere else? And why would anyone want to search anywhere else than right here for the clues on what to do and how best to enjoy all that Grey-Bruce has to offer? MOSAIC is your guide to what's really happening locally. We strive to connect residents and tourists with the best music, food, art, books and ideas our area offers. We invite you to get physical with us. Experience a dinner cruise on the Chi-Cheemaun with Digging Roots in Tobermory; attend the 40th Summerfolk Music and Crafts Festival in Owen Sound; join a choir in Woodford; attend a Full Moon Dance in Chatsworth; take a hike in Bognor; and check on the night sky in Oliphant. And so much more. Many options are spread throughout these pages and I encourage you to take advantage of these snow-free roads and warm temperatures to get out and about. And when you get to where you're going, don't be a stranger! Tell them MOSAIC sent you.

Maryann



Jon Farmer

In 2003, when I was 13, I begged my parents to take me to see Ron Sexsmith at Summerfolk. Despite my best efforts, I couldn't convince them. The next year I attended Summerfolk as a volunteer. I decided I would never miss one again and I haven't. It's difficult to explain the magic of Summerfolk to someone who has never been. It's more than just good music and gorgeous art in a beautiful setting. It's a catalyst for connections. By the third weekend of August, the summer season is winding down. Summerfolk is a friendly celebration, a collective farewell to warm days and vacations. Audiences discover new musical loves and artistic treasures. Friendly strangers mingle in front of stages, singing along, and comparing new CDs.

Festivals have natural rhythms and I learned the Summerfolk routine quickly: soak up workshops through the day, dance Down by the Bay until 1am, follow musicians to the campground across the road, jam with strangers until your eyes can't stay open, repeat. I meet people in front of stages and at bonfire jam sessions who return to Summerfolk every year to camp in the same spots or volunteer on the same crews. I meet families who treat Summerfolk as a reunion. I have become one of those people and every year I look for friendly faces.

Even rain doesn't dampen the joy. In 2011 a mid-afternoon thunderstorm forced the sound crews to shut down their equipment. Ken Whitely, Kildear, and the Good Lovelies were just starting a workshop at the Gazebo Stage. When the sound was turned off, they invited the entire audience to come in under cover and sang while rain pelted backs and umbrellas. They performed an acoustic set that culminated with Ken Whitely leading the crowd in swelling harmonies on "This Little Light of Mine." It was fitting for a festival that just keeps shining. Order tickets at www.summerfolk.org or 1-888-655-9090. August 20 to 23. Kelso Beach Park in Owen Sound. See you there. ☺

WHAT'S ON AT Santa Fe Gallery

Lin Souliere

Please join us on Saturday August 1 from 1:00 to 4:00 for the opening reception of a solo exhibit by **Stella Coultais' Photo-collages & Constructed Paintings**, featuring paintings, sculpture and photography. Using plants as a reference point, Stella's work explores the boundaries between image and audience, the real and the imagined. Paintings erupt from the canvas and spill over the edge into our space. In contrast, the photographs fold in on themselves luring us into their unknown depths. The exhibit runs until August 29.

In September we host a joint exhibit of the paintings of Montreal artist **Garry Hamilton** and the sculptures of **Arend Nieuwland**. Garry's watercolours of landscapes and people are vibrant and alive with colour; his brushstrokes are free, with emotion and movement. Garry paints en plein air and in his studio to develop his colourful and exciting works. One additional event with this exhibit is a workshop that Garry will lead on drawing the figure. For more information, contact Santa Fe Gallery. Arend Nieuwland uses stone and cast bronze for his modern sculpture. The work flows with rhythm and form and begs to be touched. Figurative pieces show a dynamic interpretation of the human form. This exhibit runs September 5 to October 3, with the opening reception Saturday September 5, 1:00 to 4:00.

Located at 828 3rd Avenue East in Owen Sound, Santa Fe Gallery is open Monday to Friday, 10:00 to 4:00, and Saturday 9:00 to noon. For more info, contact www.dragonflyridge.ca or 519-416-1007 or 519-793-4758 or linsouliere@gmail.com. **■**

EARLY HARVEST FULL MOON DANCE

Brad Peterson

Mark Saturday August 29 on your calendar for the 7th annual Sacred Circle Dance at Aisling Keep Farm. This year, along with Terry O'Sullivan and Vera Monk, we will have special guest Panneurhythmy (Dance of the Soul) dance instructors Jane Booth and Erika Allen. Everyone is invited. All dances are taught on the spot. No partner is needed. Gates open 2:00 p.m. Come early for a relaxing and fun afternoon with Ecstatic Poetry Reading and Panneurhythmy dancing at 3:30pm and Dancers' Pot Luck at 5:00pm. Dancing starts 7:30pm with instruction by Vera, Terry O', Jane, Erika and friends at 397112 Concession 2 Chatsworth at Aisling Keep Farm. For more information, call (519)794-0698. **■**

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Join Sandra J. Howe for this fun, engaging, hands-on course. Sandra has been writing travel stories since grade school when she sent Letters to the Editor home from family vacations. Now she is published regularly in local and regional magazines. She loves to include great photos with her stories, and looks forward to sharing photography skills too. Course includes reading material, assignments, opportunities to read and critique, and a field trip.

Travel Writing 101 will run on Thursday evenings, September 17 to October 8 inclusive, 7-9pm, at The Ginger Press. Register now (\$125) at 376-4233. **■**

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THE ROXY REPORT

Maria Canton

August is blissfully quiet at The Roxy. There are no plays, no concerts, no summer camps. Our Owen Sound Little Theatre members are (typically) on a well-deserved, albeit brief, hiatus from all things theatre. The house is dark, as they say.

As a result, August becomes a month for tackling with verve all things administrative. The annual audit, advertising for the upcoming season, scheduling rehearsals for four OSLT shows in a calendar packed with upcoming events, actual housekeeping like carpet cleaning and painting touch ups and test driving new technical equipment.

We are now installing our brand new, state-of-the art lighting console. This beauty of a board, officially called an ETC Ion Console, was purchased with the help of a donation by a philanthropic OSLT member and a generous capital grant from the Community Foundation Grey Bruce. The ETC Ion Console replaces OSLT's "vintage" (ie, technologically archaic) lighting board purchased more than 30 years ago in the mid-80s. That board, the old lighting board, is now only compatible with a Commodore 64 monitor. Yes, you read that right, a Commodore 64 monitor, circa 1970. As you

can imagine, it has become increasingly difficult to find replacement parts and we can barely find a technician to service it. The aged lighting board has graciously lived long enough for us to raise the funds to replace it, letting us put band aid after band aid on it, sometimes giving us near-heart failure in the hours leading up to a show, but never failing us. At least not catastrophically. Admittedly, it is somewhat terrifying to go from using an electronic device with an on/off switch and two rows of control sliders, to something that looks like an airplane instrument panel, but our volunteers are most definitely up to the challenge. They have already attended seminars, visited and spoken with people from other theatres with the same board, watched You Tube videos and read printed manuals. They are ready for take-off.

The new lighting board will get to strut its stuff when our new 2015-2016 season starts next month with our fifth annual Hats Off Tribute Series with Bayshore Broadcasting, featuring **Fleetwood Mix** (September 24), **Hotel California, The Eagles** (October 8) and **Billy Joel & The Piano Men** (October 15). We also have a must-see show with **Danny Michel** and **Steve Poltz** (September



Hotel California, The Eagles

23), presented by Irish Mountain Music, The Legendary Patsy Cline Show with **Amberley Beatty** (September 26) and the **Comic Strippers** (September 27).

By the time we get to our October line-up and our November musical, *Carousel* (November 5-21), our new lighting board will already be well-used, creating a better experience for the directors and technical operators, the actors and musicians and for you, our audience members. For more information on our 2015-2016 season, please visit roxytheatre.ca **¶**

Everyone Can Sing!

Louise Jarvis

Everyone Can Sing! is a new daytime choir starting October 6 in the Woodford Community Hall on Tuesday afternoons with Louise Jarvis, director of Owen Sound's community choir, OSSIA. A twenty-minute drive from either Thornbury/Meadford or Owen Sound will make this choir accessible to a large area. Everyone is welcome. The only

essential is a desire to sing. The music, both heartfelt and fun, is accessible to different skill levels, utilizing short songs with built-in harmonies. Some will make you laugh, some will touch your centre, some will make you think. This is a community choir that helps create community. Meanwhile, OSSIA begins its sixth year starting September 28 with practices at St.

Andrew's Presbyterian in Owen Sound on Monday nights from 7 to 9:00pm. We will be singing some Native songs, and songs about trees and rivers, and our beautiful planet. Everyone is welcome, no matter what skill level. If you want to sing, we want your voice! Registration required. Phone Louise at 519-271-8227 or email lojarvis@gmail.com. **¶**

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UPDATE: at the Owen Sound Artists' Co-operative

by Morag Budgeon



Attend any craft show in Grey and Bruce and there will be a serious amount of body adornment for sale. If you include other craft disciplines that have jewellery as an aside – woodworkers' jewellery, potters' jewellery, glass blowers' jewellery, textile artists' jewellery – you can't take a step without tripping over a pair of pretty earrings or a lovely bracelet. It would be grand if we jewellers could easily grind out a bowl or a glass or perhaps a scarf at our work benches. On the other hand, at any craft show, vendors are green with envy when we pull up with a small suitcase full of all our stock!

When I was a young co-op student studying jewellery at Georgian College, work placements were fiercely sought after in the Barrie and Toronto area. I was able to swan into a co-op with a pair of the finest studio jewelers in all of Canada, **Andrew Goss** and **Sandra Noble-Goss**. Right here in Owen Sound! Their ongoing generosity and kindness has had a huge impact on my career.

Upon realizing the density of fine jewellers in our area, we started meeting regularly to discuss techniques, designs and chatter about the business. We have had several small shows and I am very excited to announce we have a month-long exhibit in the Legacy Gallery. It is also a bittersweet opportunity to say goodbye:

our comrades Andrew and Sandra Goss, are beginning a new chapter in their lives, moving to Guelph to be closer to family. There will be a hole in our artists' community but, trust me, there are plenty of jewellers to physically pile into it. However, none will fill the void of the Goss's creativity and benevolence. I have always been impressed with their ability to design a piece, then explore all avenues, creating an intentioned series of jewellery or art that is fully realized and finished magnificently. I am the queen of shortcuts in my jewellery life, so I am mystified and enthralled by their dedication and skill!

Thank you Sandy and Andrew! I hope Guelph knows how fortunate it is. So make a point of visiting the Legacy Gallery this month and celebrate the Goss' as well as all our other exceptional jewellers.

Our guest artists for the month include quirky clay sculptures by **Pam McCowan** and the intricate drawings of **Marc Matei**. These two very different artists complement each other with their interpretations of the fantastical.

Located at 279 10th Street, the Owen Sound Artists' Co-operative and Legacy Gallery are open Monday to Saturday, 9:30 to 5:30 and Sunday 12:00 to 4:00. For more information, visit www.osartistsco-op.com. **¶**



Dragonfly necklace by Andrew Goss



Ribbon Locket by Sandra Noble-Goss

Terrace Tuesdays in Meaford

Leslie Bochna

Meaford Hall Arts & Cultural Centre is pairing great live music with fabulous food, all rolled up in a sunny and relaxing spot on the Terrace. Entertain your senses with the food stylings from different restaurants, paired with a variety of talented local musical artists all summer long. Come celebrate 'Terrace Thursdays!'

On August 6 hear **Drew McIvor** bringing acoustic pop, folk, worldbeat, soul and jazz interwoven into a tapestry of intelligent, catchy tunes that fit like your favorite jeans, and soothe like a warm summer breeze. That same breeze brings delicious smells from **Bruce Wine Bar** of Thornbury (the evening's caterer), serving up eclectic, fresh, seasonal and innovative foods via Chef Shaun Edmonstone. August 27 marks the return of **Romney Getty & Aisha Chiandet** with **Georges On Main** of Meaford providing casual fare made of only the finest ingredients from the Grey Bruce region.

Since no summer evening would be complete without some libation, Meaford Hall is pleased to pour some of the region's best locally-produced beverages including Kilannan beer, Creemore Springs, Coffin Ridge wines and Forbidden Artisanal Hard Cider. A proud part of the Apple Pie Trail, Meaford Hall introduces a special Apple Pie Trail summer cocktail, designed by Trail partner, Sisi On Main in Thornbury.

For more information on these and other Meaford Hall events (over 50 live shows per year!) follow us on Facebook, Twitter @MeafordHall, visit www.meafordhall.ca, call (877) 538-0463 or drop by 12 Nelson St E in beautiful historic downtown Meaford. **¶**



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WAR, ART, LIGHT AND THE BRAIN: BALL 2015-16

Judy Beth Armstrong



Become a part of The Bluewater Association of Lifelong Learning (BALL) whose approach is similar to the increasingly popular world-wide movement called Third Age Learning, the almost spontaneous emergence of autonomous learning groups accessing the expertise of their own members in the pursuit of knowledge and shared experience.

Beginning September 10, Series One is titled "War: Its Meaning and Consequences". Through the 6 lectures, Dr. Stanislav Kirschbaum explores the whats, whys and hows of war, especially its many consequences, and considers alternatives. Series Two, "The Wonders of Italian Renaissance Art", (October 29 to December 3) will be presented by Judy Thomson. We'll learn about the glorious art of the Italian Renaissance, with special focus on the role played by three Italian cities – Florence, Rome and Venice – from 1350 to 1550. "Let There be Light", Series Three, a 6-part series presented by John Hlynialuk (January 7 – February 11, 2016) celebrates the science

and scientists who over the centuries have unlocked the secrets of light. Series Four, "Our Beautiful, Baffling Brains" (March 3 – April 14, 2016) will be presented by six leading experts in "this golden age of brain science" who examine advances in neuroscience. All lectures are scheduled for Thursday mornings, 10am to noon, in Owen Sound at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre.

In addition to the above series, two special lectures have been planned for 2015-2016. Dr. Larry Black is back on Monday, October 19 providing an update on "Ukraine, The West and Russia: Where do we Stand Now?" and Peter Middleton talks about "Patterns of Change: The Arctic In the Modern Era" on Thursday, February 25, 2016. Each of these special lectures is scheduled at the Bayshore Community Centre from 10am to noon. BALL membership is open to all adults who are interested in life-long learning. For further information and to register, please visit: www.bluewaterlearns.com. **M**

Digging Roots on the CHI-CHEEMAUN

JUNO award winning indie roots innovators Digging Roots will perform on the Chi-Cheemaun during a dinner cruise on Wednesday August 19. Firmly inhabiting roots and blues yet with a nomadic wanderlust to explore other musical

terrain, the husband and wife team Raven Kanatakta and ShoShona Kish trade lead vocals fluidly complimenting each other's strengths with sweet harmonies and melodic accompaniments of ukulele, banjo, mellotron and of course Raven's

bombastic resonator guitar. The Dinner Cruise experience includes a gourmet meal, return ferry crossing (8:00pm departure from Tobermory, returning at 12 midnight) as well as the Digging Roots concert. Reservations (\$50) required at 1-800-265-3163. **M**

Visit meafordhall.ca
for a full event listing



12 Nelson St. E. 877.538.0463



Jackie Richardson &
Joe Sealy Africville Stories
Sat. August 8, 7:30pm \$36.50



Susan Aglukark
Inuk singer | songwriter
Sat. August 14, 7:30pm \$46.50



Sultans of String
instrumental | folk | Cuban | gypsy jazz
Sat. August 29, 7:30pm \$41.50



The Barra MacNeils
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Sun. September 13, 8pm \$50



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Contra Dancing at the Harmony

Kate McLaren

Come Contra dancing Tuesday evenings during August from 7:30 to 9:30 at the Harmony Centre on 9th Street East in downtown Owen Sound. Wondering what to expect? Contra dancing is not – and yet it includes – square dancing. The same dance configurations that evolved out of 17th century French Court dances migrated to the kitchens of Great Britain and then the New World to become Irish Set Dances, Scottish and English Country Dances, square dances, and the more informal “Contra Dances” that have gathered dancers of all ages and every level to join the fun. So expect to change partners with each dance during the evening. Expect a caller to prompt you about where to go and what to do. Expect live music from the traditional sessions that have been hosted at the Harmony Centre for months, cultivating a new crop of players. Expect callers who are honing their skills and testing new dances. Expect to put a toonie in the donation bowl. Beginners are always welcome so bring your friends and families. Bring your water bottle, bring soft-soled shoes, bring your smiles!

Do-si-do your partner and swing your corner round! Dancing is followed by an optional visit to a local pub for snacks and beverages afterwards. Need more info? Contact me at mudtown@bmts.com. **M**

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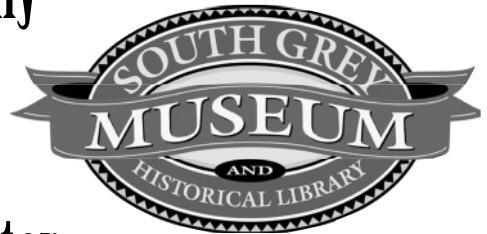


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AT SOUTH GREY MUSEUM

A Metis family fur trade history with Virginia Barter



Kate Russell

Come visit the South Grey Museum on August 26 at 7pm as artist, author and filmmaker Virginia Barter will lead a fascinating historical journey of discovery through tales from her own personal Cree and Métis family. Spanning 300 hundred years of the fur trade, three ancestral families joined for an extraordinary tale of wilderness survival covering ground from Labrador to Oregon and Hudson Bay to the shores of Lake Huron. Her connections, uniting Red River, Ungava and Saugeen Nations, will specially engage local history in the query: who are the Métis? She will also examine what it means to be Aboriginal today and offer new perspectives on an often thorny and always complicated history. Presented as part of the museum's annual speaker series, every fourth Wednesday through to November. Admission is \$7 (\$5 for members). **M**

COMING SOON

DANNY MICHEL & STEVE POLTZ
SEPTEMBER 23, 2015



Hats Off tribute series

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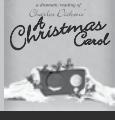
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DIANA BRAITHWAITE & CHRIS WHITELEY
DECEMBER 5, 2015



DRAMATIC READING OF CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL
DECEMBER 13, 2015



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THE LOST MURAL

Story/photo by Ted Shaw

For several years prior to 2002 there was a large mural on the northwest corner of the 10th Street bridge that goes across the Sydenham River in Owen Sound. By size it was somewhere around about 12 feet by 6. It portrayed a tranquil vista of the harbour on a summer's day, looking over the water to the elevators in the distance. Several people are enjoying themselves in the foreground. Lazy drifting white clouds float across a blue sky. The artist who created this idyllic scenario is not known at this time.

And then one day, it was decided by 'powers that be' that it was time to re-paint the bridge. Apparently the mural stood in the way of this likewise artistic endeavour. And so it was removed by the appropriate City Department on April 5, 2002. But, the mural was never returned to its rightful place of honour on the bridge. Having overly optimistic thoughts of proposing to put the mural back on the bridge, these remain as just thoughts. Because no-one to



City worker removing mural from 10th Street bridge

date knows where it is! Enquiries for its whereabouts have traversed from The Tom through several departments of City Hall. And so, any information relative to the lost mural will be very much appreciated. **M**

Cultural Channel in Grey Highlands

Kate Russell

In partnership with Markdale Cable, the Grey Highlands Public Library and the South Grey Museum are working on the development of the channel. Thanks to \$43,500 in funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation last fall, this community collaborative is purchasing new equipment and will provide training

to volunteers for the promotion and launch of a community culture TV channel. "This is an investment in our area and will play a key role in helping to promote our culture and heritage," said Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MPP.

"The library and museum work well together on these kinds of projects,"

said library CEO and project lead Wilda Allen. "The new channel provides an additional access point for local cultural information which ultimately benefits the whole community." For more information and to get involved, contact the library at 519-924-2241 or email contact@greyhighlandspubliclibrary.com. **M**

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Whither Culture?

Richard-Yves Sitoski

"Made in Grey" County, the economic development strategy designed to steer us through the next few years, is out. And you'll notice that our arts and heritage sector, despite its ubiquity and vitality, rates but scant mention. Why? What I have concluded is sobering.

First, culture, for all that it flourishes here, is overall small economic potatoes. In Owen Sound alone, even when rolled into other aspects of tourism, it's the second smallest employment sector; province-wide, even where economies are stronger, it amounts to less than 4% of GDP. Second, and perhaps this is the kicker, culture doesn't do a great job of bringing in money from outside the area; it principally recirculates the cash that's already here. In an area with an underperforming economy, that is the surest disincentive to investment. As a chicken-and-egg corollary, we are so utterly lacking in cultural infrastructure that we are almost impossible to market outside the region. For example, the paucity of available accommodations discourages film crews, and no big name cultural producers will be able to work here until our broadband issues have been resolved.

There was a time when I thought local creative ferment could easily be harnessed to make this region western Ontario's version of Taos NM, Nelson, Dawson or Banff. Then it occurred to me that

what makes those places tick is more than just creativity, or even political will; for even without the arts and supportive policies those places would be economically prominent and diverse. Rather, arts development and marketing requires spillover budget and the ability to handle potentially low yield on the investment dollar. And that's where things go off the rails in an economically underperforming area such as ours.

I'm not versed in marketing, so I have few insights to offer. Which is why I challenge you, the reader, to give it your best shot. Come up with creative solutions and see where they lead. For example, if the arts on their own are not enough to draw influxes of outside cash, then can we piggyback them onto something that is? The new plan has already identified value-added agriculture (agritourism and boutique production) as a marketing priority. Can the arts not be marketed to the same people? Come for the biodynamic kale, stay for the concert? Or how about following Newcastle, AU, where Renew Newcastle, an independent organization, has successfully re-energized a moribund downtown core by turning empty pedestrian malls and dilapidated buildings into temporary artisanal shops?

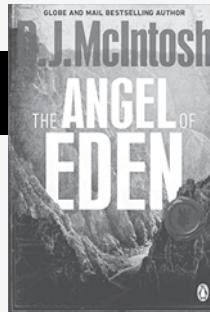
See what you can come up with on your way to Harbour Nights. Or Summerfolk. Or the Nawash Pow Wow. Or the Tom. Or... ☺

NEW BOOK:

THE ANGEL OF EDEN

by D.J. McIntosh

Andrew Armitage



A few years ago, I reviewed D. J. McIntosh's *The Witch of Babylon* (2011), one of those novels that follow the adventures of an antiquity collector into the Middle East. It became one of the year's bestsellers and found a place on the short list of the Crime Writers' Association Debut Dagger awards.

McIntosh, who lives in Toronto and Sauble Beach, is a member of the Society for Mesopotamian Studies, a member and supporter of Reporters Without Borders and the Committee to Protect Journalists. She now returns with a conclusion to her Mesopotamian Trilogy, *The Angel of Eden*.

The Witch of Babylon introduced John Madison, a New York art dealer who uncovered a stash of antiquities in the hills outside Baghdad. Now, Madison has been hired by a famous magician to find a rare 16th century book on angel magic and the person who stole it four decades before. There is much about the true location of the Garden of Eden as Madison goes careening around mosques, temples and churches in the midst of the ruins of Pergamon. D.J. McIntosh is the real thing, a terrific storyteller and creator of readable historical thrillers. And unlike many a book of its ilk, this one comes complete with a map for reference, chapters that end in cliff-hangers, and of course, an exotic locale.

D.J. McIntosh will be reading from *Angel of Eden* at The Ginger Press at 7:00 on Thursday August 20. She will also be talking about writing, publishing and getting published. Everyone is welcome to attend. No charge. Reserve copies of *Angel of Eden* (\$26) at 376-4233 if you are unable to attend. ☺

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CASERO COMES TO TOWN

Sandra J. Howe

Welcome to Casero Kitchen Table, newly opened in downtown Owen Sound. Hooray for amazing fish tacos close at hand! The Casero culinary team has been wowing diners in Sauble Beach at the Casero Taco Bus for three summers where made-to-order, gourmet Mexican cuisine appears magically from a funky, British doubledecker bus. Crazy, right? Now we can sample their delicious, locally-sourced goodies in a slightly more conventional, licensed setting here in Owen Sound.

Owners Beth Milne and Emily Leonard both lived in Mexico and fell in love with the food. Jesse Gibbons and Todd Milne round out the core team to keep both locations running smoothly. Jesse notes, "We have limited hours in Owen Sound for now. We want to deliver thoughtful, consistent, fresh, and delicious in every bite. This takes time. We really appreciate your patience and support!" The plan is to expand hours and the menu after the Taco Bus shuts down in fall. This month, look for Casero at Sauble Beach as well as Casero Kitchen Table at Building A, 946 3rd Avenue East in downtown Owen Sound.

Chef Emily highlights Casero's commitment to using fresh, local ingredients in their dishes. Persephone Market Garden at Allenford is a key partner, supplying beautiful, seasonal herbs and veggies. Last year, Casero staff preserved excess produce for later use. It is wonderful to see younger generations learn these vital skills of growing, harvesting, and keeping good food. August is here and luscious, local, ripe tomatoes abound. Here's a tasty Casero recipe to whet your Mexican appetite:



Salsa Roja (Red Sauce)

Charred Tomato Salsa

- 12 red ripe tomatoes (cored and halved)
- 2 medium white onions (or any garden fresh onions – 1 bunch green, red, etc) peeled and halved
- 4 cloves fresh garlic peeled
- 2 chiles de arbol (thin red medium spicy dried chile peppers)
- 1 tbsp Mexican oregano (or fresh garden oregano or dried regular oregano)
- 1 tsp cumin seeds
- 1/2 cup fresh lime juice
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- 2 tbsp cider vinegar

On a hot grill or bbq, blacken onion, tomato and garlic until cooked down and charred. In a dry skillet toast chiles, cumin seeds and Mexican oregano until fragrant then blend until smooth in spice grinder, or by hand with mortar and pestle. In a blender, combine charred tomato, garlic and onion with spice mix until "almost smooth" texture. Add fresh lime juice, cider vinegar and salt. Allow flavours to meld for several hours in refrigerator. Taste for seasoning and spice. Enjoy with fresh corn chips, or as a sauce for grilled fish or meats, or with your favourite Mexican dish. *Buen provecho!* . ☺

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Join experts from the **Bluewater Astronomical Society** on August 7 for some heavenly views under one of Ontario's last truly dark sky locations. *Public Night Sky Viewings* are free and will be held just outside of Grey Roots in the parking lot. The event starts at dusk and can only take place if the sky is mostly clear. All Night Sky Viewing dates have a crescent moon to view along with at least two good planets.

Until Labour Day, enjoy wandering through *Moreston Heritage Village* at your own pace, any time from 11am to 4:30pm, talking with our knowledgeable costumed volunteers about life in bygone days. Or, join one of our three daily guided tours (11:15am, 1:15pm, and 3:15pm) through the Village with a Historic Site Interpreter to ask questions about the Village, future village plans, and about the main facility.

Dinosaurs Unearthed will inspire curiosity and capture the imagination with dinosaurs at an exciting time in history. Three lifelike and life-sized animatronic dinosaurs, as well as a T-Rex

head, a feathered T-Rex juvenile, stunning fossils and a Gasosaurus skeleton, take centre stage in this family friendly exhibit. Hands-on activities include the 'Designosaurus' colour wheel and a kid's dig area offering an immersive way for amateur paleontologists to make their own fossil discoveries. This exhibit is available until Labour Day.

Four years and more than 8000 volunteer hours later, the diorama representing the east side of the Owen Sound Harbour circa 1910, is now the centrepiece of *Arrivals & Departures: The CPR in Grey County*. This original exhibit also includes beautifully designed interpretive panels and rail artefacts and is available until 2017.

Grey Roots combines Museum, Archives, and Tourism services under one roof and is located at 102599 Grey Road 18, a few minutes south of Owen Sound. It 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. **ℳ**

TREES 'N' TRAITS: BEECH – "SENSITIVITY"

Neil Baldwin

Much like identifying with a power animal that bolsters your resources, this series asks you to consider trees which may exemplify your traits. This month consider the Beech. Easily recognizable and distinctive from any other species in Grey-Bruce, its smooth grey bark looks like an elephant leg in the forest. Beech has sparsely-toothed oblong leaves that sometimes, especially on younger trees, stay attached into winter like light-brown paper fans. Tiny, sharply-angled beech nuts, food for many animals, are often found widely scattered underneath.

Beech is highly shade tolerant, able to continue growing beneath and among the canopy of other trees. As such, growth is slow and particularly affected by trees and the environment which surround it. Unlike other tree's bark that gets thicker and furrowed with age, Beech bark does not change much

in appearance – it is thin and retains signs of injury or distress. Bears love Beech nuts and their climbing scratches are etched into the tree's history. Lovers who have carved their initials into a Beech return decades later to see their love immortalized almost as clearly as the day they professed it.

Do you have a calm outer appearance yet find you are inevitably touched in an enduring way by the people and events around you? Are you one to nourish and sustain others rather than to rise above them and deplete their light? Perhaps you share characteristics of the Beech. Due to Beech's ability to grow in locations overshadowed and accompanied by other trees, it is often found in the final stage of forest succession. If you are a Beech, you may be one of those people who remain quietly and steadfastly in the company of others as they grow and mature. Beech is about stillness, peace and grace, but with that

comes a deep sensitivity to what is happening around you. Like the bark which holds scars, and leaves which persist into winter, perhaps emotional happenings (as well as wounds) tend to stay embedded in you. If your reminiscence of feelings tends to be deep-seated, this may be another sign Beech is your tree.

We are gradually losing our Beech in Grey-Bruce as bark disease (woolly scale) and bleeding canker become widespread. If you are a Beech and need strength, put yourself in the company of this gentle tree. You will still find many, interspersed with maple, along the trails west and southwest of the falls in Inglis Falls Conservation Area. Another great spot to connect with Beech is Kinghurst Nature Reserve, accessible from Concession 4 or 6 north of Grey Road 25. Here, if you look, you will find several mature Beech willing to share their sage sensitivity with you. Next month: Oak. **ℳ**

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FROM THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GREY BRUCE

Four Days in History

Donna Elliott, Past Chair,
Community Foundation Grey Bruce



COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
GREY BRUCE

For more than 120 years, tens of thousands of Aboriginal children were sent to Indian Residential Schools funded by the federal government and run by the churches. They were taken from their families and communities in order to be stripped of language, cultural identity and traditions. Canada's attempt to wipe out Aboriginal cultures failed. But it left an urgent need for reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples. - Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)

The independent TRC was established in 2008 to provide former Indian Residential School students with an opportunity to share their experiences and stories, and to offer Canadians opportunities to learn about this lesser known chapter of Canadian history. In a 300-page summary report, the TRC has prepared a comprehensive historical record on the policies and operations of Indian Residential Schools, culminating with 94 recommendations to bring about true healing and reconciliation.

From May 31 to June 3, 2015, the TRC held their closing events in Ottawa. Hundreds of people participated in a series of moving collective activities: sharing circles, a Walk for Reconciliation, traditional ceremonies, cultural performances, films and archival photo exhibits, acts of reconciliation, and more. I was privileged to represent Community Foundation Grey Bruce (CFGBC) at some of these events.

Community Foundations of Canada and the Circle on Philanthropy and Aboriginal Peoples in Canada collaborated with almost twenty other national philanthropic organizations in the preparation of a "Declaration of Action" for the philanthropic community. In anticipation of the event, I had imagined that the Declaration's sig-

natories would be senior executives of the sponsoring organizations. Imagine my surprise when I was invited to sign that document on behalf of CFGBC and then be part of the delegation that presented it to the Commissioners! As we walked to the hotel where the Commission was in session, it was sunny, warm and the streets were filled with people. The hotel was packed. It was extremely emotional to realize that CFGBC and myself would forever be part of this historical event.

Days later, an editorial in the *Owen Sound Sun Times* told the story of a family from the James Smith First Nation in Saskatchewan that was forced to send their children to Residential School or face a jail sentence. The story itself was horrible, but what rocked me was that my grandmother was a member of the James Smith First Nation...was it possible that she too attended a Residential School? This piece of my family's history was buried, leaving me to uncover the roots of that silence and my own heritage.

What does it mean now that the CFGBC has signed a Declaration of Action? We are committed to supporting the fulfillment of the vision of Aboriginal peoples and the recommendations of the TRC. Many recommendations deal not only with past atrocities but with existing government policies that deny Aboriginal people the opportunity to have adequate housing, good health care and the ability to flourish within their own culture. Since returning home, I've talked with many people about the event and the TRC has initiated new dialogue. Many have said "Is this the turning point?" My response is YES. This is a watershed moment. CFGBC invites you to join us to explore "new opportunities to support healing and reconciliation and the implementation of the spirit, intent and content of the TRC findings and recommendations." It is time to set things right. **¶**

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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.

French – First Place

Les Ratons Laveurs

Mark Sgro

"*Got one less problem without ya.*" C'est la musique de la sonnerie du téléphone de Mme Tana. *Qui me téléphone à cette heure de la nuit?* Se demande elle en atteignant son cellulaire.

-Mme Tana. Dit-elle à la personne mystérieuse.

-Oui, inspecteure Tana, on a un problème...Répond une voix qu'elle connaît très bien.

-Je serai là en dix minutes. Affirme Tana en se préparant déjà pour son départ au poste de police. Quand elle part, elle remarque un courant d'air en ouvrant la porte. -Hmm. Fait Tana en se disant. -Ce n'est jamais si froid à Rio...Après ça, elle pressentait que quelque chose de mal était arrivé cette nuit

Dix minutes passent, et elle arrive au poste en scooter. Tana n'est jamais en retard.

-Tu me dis que deux personnes ont juste marché à la banque et volé dix millions de dollars?!S'exclame-t-elle au Sergent Adam. Mais il est vite à répondre. C'est n'est pas la première fois qu'elle lui crie après.

-Oui... C'est ce qui est arrivé... Explique Adam dans une voix douce. Quand elle ne répond pas, il ajoute; -Mais la bonne chose est qu'il y avait au moins dix personnes là quand le crime c'est pas--Cela ne fait pas de différence. Interrompt Tana. -Il y a encore deux voleurs dans les rues de Rio et DIX MILLIONS DE DOLLARS PERDUS! Le sergent Adam essaie de la calmer, mais elle ne lui donne pas une chance de parler. -Je vais inspecter la scène du crime. Est-ce que tu viens ou non?

-Non. Je reste ici. Je dois terminer mes rapports. Répond-t-il.

-Ok. C'est comme tu veux, mais moi je pars. Dit Tana en oscillant vers la porte. Elle est grosse, et elle est courte, mais elle

peut résoudre un crime.

Lorsqu'elle arrive devant la banque, elle commence par ordonner à une subalterne de délimiter cette zone dangereuse au public avec du ruban jaune autour de la banque. Elle entre dans la banque et demande de parler aux témoins en privé. Son premier témoin s'appelle Kevin et il lui dit qu'il n'a rien vu sauf beaucoup de mouvements et des personnes avec des masques, des gants, et des lunettes de soleil. Tana sait qu'elle ne trouvera probablement rien, mais elle décide de balayer la zone avec une lumière UV qu'elle sort de la pochette de son scooter. Elle travaille vite et avec prudence.

Après trente minutes, Tana a fini de passer tout les espaces avec son appareil et elle n'a trouvé aucune trace d'empreintes digitales. Il y a encore deux autres témoins à interroger. Elle décide qu'elle n'a rien à perdre, alors elle questionnera les victimes. Un ambulancier lui dit que la caissière qui travaillait à la banque quand les criminels sont venus doit attendre de récupérer avant de lui parler. Elle est dans un mauvais état. Elle décide qu'elle va interroger l'homme avant la femme. Même si elle sait que celle-ci a plus d'informations à partager que l'homme qui pour sa part a presque répété mot par mot ce que le premier témoin lui a dit; une fille, et un homme qui n'ont laissé aucune trace.

L'interrogation a duré même pas cinq minutes. En attendant pour que la caissière puisse récupérer, Tana décide de faire une sieste. Tout ce travail a pris un péage sur son corps et ces pieds. Elle porte toujours des talons hautes et cela n'aide définitivement pas que Rio soit une des places les plus chaudes au monde.

Elle est réveillée par l'inspecteur Adam qui lui secoue l'épaule.

-Quel heure est-il? Demande Tana en se redressant ces cheveux. Elle avait toujours des cheveux désordres au réveil.

-Presque dix heures...Je ne t'ai pas vu retourner au poste, alors je suis venue ici

pour voir ce qui est arrivé. Lui explique Adam.

-J'attends qu'une témoin ait récupéré avant de l'interroger. Elle était ici quand les bandits sont venus. Dit Tana en se levant. -Je vais voir si elle est prête. Avec sa, elle marche vers le groupe de personnes qui est attroupé autour d'une personne assise sur une chaise. -Je dois lui parler. Annonce Tana. Alors tous le gens se séparent et laisse Mme Tana passer pour lui parler. Quand personne ne bouge, elle annonce très direct. -En PRIV? s'il vous plaît.

-Qui êtes-vous Madame? Demande la caissière.

-Je suis l'inspecteure Tana. Dit-elle en sortant son badge de policier. -Je suis ici pour vous demander des questions au sujet du vol. Est-ce que vous pouvez me dire tout ce que vous vous souvenez des criminels?

-Oui... Ils ont rentré, une femme et un homme. Ils ont déclaré qu'ils étaient les Ratons Laveurs et ils voulaient dix millions de dollars. Je pense qu'ils ont eu accès aux ordinateurs de la banque car par hasard, il y avait une livraison d'exactement cette balance ce matin. Quand j'ai refusé, ils m'ont tiré dans la jambe. Je leur ai dit la code... Je leur ai dit tout. Je m'excuse. Je suis coupable.

-Ce n'est pas votre faute Madame. Mais, dites-moi, pouvez-vous penser à un seul détail, un seul souvenir qui pourrait m'aider à les identifier? Demande Tana.

-Oui. Quand l'homme à prix la monnaie, j'ai vu une tatouage d'un dragon sur son bras droit. Je m'excuse. C'est tout ce dont je me souviens. J'ai appelé le 911 et l'ambulance est venue me soigner.

-C'est correct. Vous m'avez grandement aidé. Merci! Dit Tana. Et avec ça, elle savait exactement où allait.

Read the rest of this story at www.owensound.library.on.ca by visiting the Teen Programs page. ■

Skygazing: Unplugged



Zoë Kessler

Is it any coincidence that Clapton's 1992 six-Grammy-award-winning album *Unplugged* included the hit, "Tears in Heaven"? While both deserve top billing, astronomy's unplugged event – the annual Perseid meteor shower – will bring tears of joy at the heavenly display.

You don't need a private backyard observatory. You won't need a telescope. Or binoculars. You don't even need a ticket. All you need is to look up, starting the second week in August. At its peak this year (August 13), you'll see about 50 meteors an hour (or more) flash in the moonless night sky, peaking in the wee hours of the morning.

If you're looking for quality, not quantity, check out nightfall and early evening skies. If you're lucky, you'll see one of astronomy's jaw-dropping sights: a rare, colourful earthgrazer meteor – one of the loooooong, slow ones that moves horizontally across the horizon. Earthgrazers are like prize fish stories: the ones people talk about for years. There may be one or two an hour before about 10pm.

So find an open, dark sky, grab a blanket or reclining lawnchair, look north, and get ready for a spectacular unplugged evening, all for much less than the price of a concert ticket. For more info about local astronomy events, visit our website bluewaterastronomy.info. ☀

MEAFORD INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The 9th annual Meaford International Film Festival (MIFF) brings four internationally acclaimed and award winning films to Meaford Hall on September 3-6. Each film is guaranteed to bring you a new perspective on places, people and events around the world. *Selma* (September 3) is a passionate, compelling chronicle of the historic and bloody months in 1965 when black Americans in Selma, Alabama put their lives on the line to win the right to vote. In tight and effective dramatic sequences, director Ava DuVernay portrays the idealism, divisions, fortitude and personal anguish behind the moral triumph of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's crusade for dignity.

Red Army (September 4) Cold War Shiny! A documentary history of the Soviet Red Army hockey team from Stalin to Putin. Blending some astounding archive footage, KGB confessions and analysis, this movie offers unique insight into Russian politics while documenting super star "Slava" Fetisov's journey from national hero to despised defector.

A Brilliant Young Mind (September 5) Imagine a world full of Sheldons from the Big Bang Theory where suddenly, everyone is the "weird kid" in the competitive bubble of the International Mathematics Olympiad in Taiwan. Starring Asa Butterfield (Enders Game, Hugo, The Boy in the Striped Pajamas) this movie is an intense, sometimes humorous and charming portrait of an autistic British teenager who learns that life is about more than connecting prime numbers – it's about connecting hearts.

Speed Sisters (September 6) is an intimate portrait of five dynamic Palestinian women who defy obstacles to do what they love: race cars in a man's world. Bold, fearless and charismatic, they are part of a scene that draws thousands of avid fans to venues ranging from vegetable markets to helicopter pads. Despite politics and family dynamics – not to mention the omnipresent military occupation – these women shatter stereotypes and offer a source of inspiration for girls and women around the world.

"We've managed a bit of a coup this year," says MIFF Artistic Director Christopher Thomas. "I'm often asked what the theme is going to be for MIFF. While I don't set out to craft one, sometimes the links just fall into place, this year more than ever. Each of our films tells its own story, but together they are a testament to the human drive to break through obstacles in order to stay true to ourselves and our dreams."

Presented by the Meaford Hall & Culture Foundation, all proceeds from the film festival are used to support local arts and culture projects. The festival is full of extras including special guest interviews, parties after each film and exclusive presentations of short films by talented student filmmakers from the area. MIFF will also be offering delicious catered meals by local chefs each night under the big top. Pricing, movie trailers, full synopsis of the films and more can be found at meafordfilmfest.ca. ☀

At the DURHAM ART GALLERY The Future is Dead; Long Live the Future

Arabéz D. Smith

D/A
Durham Art Gallery

I've borrowed from the seemingly paradoxical proclamation that announced the accession of monarchs through the ages to illuminate the central themes of the upcoming show at the Durham Art Gallery. Two Ontario artists with their roots and thoughts firmly planted in the history of indigenous Canadians explore the idea of redefining oppression, whether it be spiritual, elemental or physical.

Christin Dennis and Jason Baerg share an interest in looking at a communal story, or a common history, and offering alternative visions that allow us to see a future world less defined by its colonial past. The future may be stark, they seem to observe, but let us abandon our received ideas about what we can do about that.

Jason Baerg's new work, collected under the title *The New Pangea*, addresses themes of 'survivance,' a term coined by cultural theorist Gerald Vizenor as something of a catch-all to suggest new understandings of survival, resistance and endurance as these terms apply to the Native populations of Canada. Chippewa artist Christin Dennis shares a more visually recognizable link with his predecessors – and he names Norval Morrisseau among his early influences. A

pervasive image in Dennis' work is a series of four circles, or a circle divided into four quadrants as in representations of the Medicine Wheel. The four sections being red, yellow, white and black – four ritual colours that signify the four directions, four seasons, four quarters of the moon, four parts of the day, four cycles of life. Dennis believes that "by understanding and embracing our ancestral past, we can use those teachings to preserve a way of life, document its core value, and build a vision for our future."

These two artists leave me wondering if the history of the First Nations in this country really can teach us a new way forward in dealing with the twin crises of climate and spirit we currently face. Can we bury one king, a colonial tyrant, and celebrate a new monarchy held in the hands of many? This art, the path and the message of these two artists, is one way of trying.

Located at 251 George Street East, the Durham Art Gallery hours are Tuesday to Friday from 10 to 5; Saturday, Sunday and holidays from 1 to 4. For more information contact (519) 369-3692 or info@durhamart.on.ca or www.durhamart.on.ca. ☀

NEW BOOK:

Silent Valley BY RON SAVAGE

Sandra J. Howe

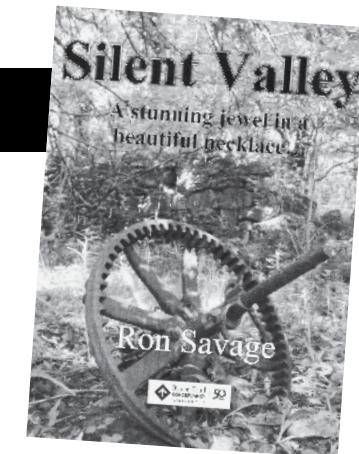
Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play and pray, where Nature may heal and give strength to body and soul alike. In every walk with Nature one receives far more than one seeks. - John Muir

Ron Savage spends abundant time in Nature on the Bruce Trail, Sydenham Section, in his Trail Director role. He has been a dedicated volunteer for many years and has rendered great service to the local hiking community by building and maintaining trails. Now he has brought a new gift to light in the form of a fascinating book: *Silent Valley: A Stunning Jewel in a Beautiful Necklace*. Whether you are an armchair adventurer or active hiker, this easy read with lots of Ron's lovely photos will entertain and educate. It highlights geology, cultural history, flora and fauna, and the unique connection Ron has felt in developing trails on this land. It is a story of learning and

loving a place.

Silent Valley Nature Reserve is one of many ecologically significant properties owned and stewarded by the Bruce Trail Conservancy whose mandate is to establish and preserve a conservation corridor for the Bruce Trail along the Niagara Escarpment, in order to protect its natural ecosystems and promote environmentally responsible public access. Land acquisition is our surest way for securing protection of Escarpment habitats. All proceeds from the sale of Ron's book support the BTC's Land Acquisition Program.

Silent Valley Nature Reserve is located along the Bruce Trail and Niagara Escarp-



ment between Bognor Marsh Management Area and Woodford. Easiest access and parking can be found at the deadend on 2nd Concession South, about 4km north of Bognor village. Several hiking loops totaling 6.4km now allow full exploration of this beautiful area. The Wilson Homestead, Silent Valley and Avalanche Pass Side Trails plus the main Bruce Trail are well marked and include interpretive signage. The Sydenham Bruce Trail Club invites you to come explore. To maximize your appreciation of this special place and to support the BTC's mission, please purchase your copy of *Silent Valley* (\$15) from Ginger Press or SBTC Board Members. Happy Reading and Hiking! ☀

The Biggest Little Show in Rural Ontario

Kate McLaren

Around the dramatic rolling hills of the Bighead River Valley there is a seething nest of artists, each working in isolation throughout the four seasons, creating images and objects, nurturing ideas and celebrating beauty. They are the Walter's Falls Group of Artists. In August every year, they come together to mount the most extraordinary exhibition and art event in rural Ontario: The Show is the year's culmination and a collaboration of this group's collective talents. The quaint Community Centre in Walter's Falls becomes a very busy art gallery filled with paintings, sculptures, pottery, drawings, woodworking, jewelery and baskets. The artists are there for the entire Show, meeting friends new and old. The event transforms an otherwise quiet village into a cultural hub.

One of the most unique aspects of this annual gathering is that all of the artists work in studios within a 20-minute radius of this tiny village. The Show grew out of a one-time event that two friends dreamed up while golfing one day: so many artists live around Walter's Falls, why not get them together for an exhibition? Al Saltonoski and Fred Oakley had the original inspiration in 1998. It was such a resounding and boisterous success that groups from all over the province have sought advice about how to emulate it. The answer? Location, location, location! Walter's Falls has a notorious reputation for getting visitors quite thoroughly lost. The saying goes: "All Roads Lead to Walter's Falls... and NONE Lead Out!" August 28, 29, 30. Google it! ☀



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The Royal Oak: *Quercus alba* in Colpoys Bay Village

Once upon a time, or so the legend goes, William and Hermione Parke had a baby daughter named Gladys. The Parkes lived in the village of Colpoys Bay, on the north shore of Colpoys Bay near Wiarton. William had built a beautiful yellow brick home commanding a spectacular view of the bay in 1909. He had a good position as a merchant with the local commercial enterprise, Whicher's General Store.

Gladys was young when, one day, a package of acorns was delivered to the Women's Institute in the village. It had come from none other than Buckingham Palace! It is not known how this magical act came to be, but the implications were filled with all the hope that a seed can become. Because a visit to Buckingham Palace was not possible for young Gladys, she could only imagine the adventure. She could only imagine all the beautiful things that are a part of the life of a Royal Family.

She could only imagine all of it through the spirit of a small acorn held in her small hand. This acorn needed be planted at once, Gladys must have thought. What better way to visit the Palace than to plant a royal acorn? We know that at least one was planted right in her own yard, in the northeast corner, across the street from the Women's Institute Hall, just down the street from Whicher's General Store and just up the street from the dock on Colpoys Bay.

That tree grew. It grew and grew into the magnificent White Oak that it is today. At one hundred years, the tree spans a time in history when the Bruce Peninsula was at its commercial zenith and Colpoys Bay rivaled Wiarton as the hub of the peninsula. It can tell the story of a time when water was the main form of transporting goods and people all over the Great Lakes region. It can tell of clear cutting and great fires on the peninsula. It can tell of sadness and jubilation. But mostly it can tell the story of a little girl who planted an acorn and grew hope. A hope laden with all the dreams of what her world could be.

In the end, Gladys stayed in the village. She eventually taught school in the basement of her family home. She sold insurance. She never married but she did raise an adopted daughter, Nancy. Perhaps for this story, the most wonderful thing Gladys did was to plant and grow a magnificent white oak tree from which acorns still fall today. For this reason she remains a vital piece of the history of a small village on the north shore of Colpoys Bay.

Our world is no less tenuous now than it was over a hundred years ago. This magnificent oak stands tall and proud as a testament to a simple act. It was an act of the faith of a young girl and her re-



markable outlook on life, or so the legend goes.

I wrote this story as a submission for "The Extraordinary Tree Challenge," sponsored by Grey Roots Museum & Archives. Some internet searching reveals that indeed acorns are a fabulous food source and a staple in the diet of First Nations people throughout oak-growing North America. Early settlers were taught how to harvest and use acorns in their cooking, as they did corn and other traditional foods. Acorns have been tested and found to be effective in controlling blood sugar levels. They have a low sugar content, but leave a sweetish aftertaste, making them very good in stews as well as breads. They are rich in complex carbohydrates, minerals and vitamins and are lower in fat than most other nuts. Of course, they are also an excellent source of fiber. Acorns taste bitter because of the tannin they contain; although this tannin can be used to tan leather, it is too bitter to be eaten. The process of rendering acorns edible is not complicated. Leaching the tannins is necessary. Once the acorns are ripe, they need to be peeled. This is easily done with a gentle squeeze with a pair of pliers. Once a bunch of acorns have been peeled, the kernels are ground. Boiling water is poured over top and left for an hour or so, then drained. This process is repeated a few times until the meal tastes edible. Drying the meal is the next step in a dehydrator or oven set as low as possible. Stir often and when it is dry enough, grind it again in a mill or processor. Store the meal in a fridge or freezer in airtight containers. Use it in breads, stews and soups.

Who knew? Right here in our own yards, these little acorns have been quietly doing their thing for centuries. I have Gladys to thank for her tenacity in planting the acorn that grew the oak that thrives on the property we have come to steward in our yard, for our time at this place in the heart of the village of Colpoys Bay. This is the simple act of planting a seed and the humbling reality of the finiteness of our "life-time" here on earth. Legacy: I get it! *Eet smakelij!* 



David Huntley
Advisor

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Youth Literacy Plans Busy Summer

Kimm Culkin

Information sessions for both students and parents in August will help families get organized to meet the new school year, and offer ideas for supporting reading and writing skills at home. And in September, Youth Literacy's free drama workshops for children and youth continue in both Durham and Hanover. Classes for children 7-11 and youth 12-18 start the third week of September.

Open to anyone aged 9-18 (Grades 4-12), the theme for our writing competition this fall is "Ghosts." We're looking for poems and one-page short stories that explore the topic of ghosts – in either French or English. We've added categories for Grades 9-10 and Grades 11-12 to our roster, along with Grades 4-6 and 7-8. The deadline's in October but maybe the creative juices (and extra time) are flowing now...Winners will have a chance to read their entries at the Words Aloud 12's family production of *The Ghosts of Grey County*, by local performers Steve Morel and Jenny Parsons.

Since 1989, South Grey Bruce Youth Literacy has matched, screened and trained tutors for one-on-one sessions with students 6-18 who are struggling with literacy skills – reading, writing and math. 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. **M**

At The Avalon

Brent Jeffries

There's a new music venue in town called Avalon Jazz Lounge & Patio. Located at 229 9th Street East in downtown Owen Sound, we offer an intimate setting with dinner options, local craft beers on tap and Owen Sound's only rooftop patio.

On August 4 beginning at 7pm celebrate Louis Armstrong's 114th birthday at the Jazz Lounge with two great acts: Owen Sound's Eighth Street Orchestra performs from 7-9 and Collingwood's Regal Jazz Band plays from 9-11pm. Admission is Pay What You Can. On August 22, we welcome back ET RHINO for another evening of alternative jazz, fusion and funk.

There will be live music most Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings and during the Sunday Brunch. Avalon is a "fine dining meets southern fried with a jazz attitude" venue with a "no tipping please - this is a living wage establishment" policy.

For more information on music events or reservations contact info@avalonjazz.ca or 519-416-JAZZ. **M**



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f



A photograph of a woman with long dark hair and a young girl with short brown hair standing in a field of tall grass and wildflowers at sunset. The sun is low, creating a warm glow and lens flare.

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