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MAY 2011  
VOL. 18 NO. 8

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# MOSAIC

Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

May 2011

Vol. 18 No. 8

## MOSAIC

A composition created by inlaying various sizes of like pieces so as to form one picture.

Established in 1993

MOSAIC is the only publication in Grey-Bruce dedicated 100% to encouraging and supporting the arts and entertainment specifically in the Grey-Bruce area.

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Copies of MOSAIC are delivered free of charge to the general public at specific drop-off stops in Grey and Bruce from Tobermory in the North, Kincardine in the West, Mount Forest in the South to Collingwood in the East and many places outside of this area.

We welcome your letters and suggestions as your opinions are important to us and help us better understand what you desire to see and read in MOSAIC.

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# Remembering Milly Lambe

by Anne Duke Judd

It's nearly 26 years since Milly Lambe walked into the bookstore I operated in Port Elgin with copies of her novel she wanted to sell—a common way for booksellers and authors to meet. She put the red-covered paperback in my hands, and we agreed it would interest readers in Bruce County. We probably talked of the challenges of self-promoting; Milly was confident and excited in an understated way. Likely we reminisced about our high-school days; Milly had included the difficulties of being a student where one's parent is a teacher. And we certainly agreed on the beauties of the coastal towns of Lake Huron, whether Southampton or places on the Michigan shore.

More details than that I don't recall, but when *The Sun Times* carried notice of Milly's passing on March 14 of this year, what popped into my mind was the title *Don't Call Me Lizzie!* and the spirited woman who had written and published it in 1985. Subtitled a "love story of World War II", the novel follows Lizabeth Anne Collins through high school and nursing training in fictional small-town Michigan. It echoes the author's student days in Southampton, where the public school now houses Bruce County's Archives, and the Continuation School site is now covered by the expanded museum. Readers find a strong clue to what Mildred Mary Lamb felt during those years in the book's dedication: *to my mother, who was my 'Daddy Collins'*.

Mildred wrote her first story at age eight. By then she had already met the boy she would later marry. Picture a snowball fight between the neighbour boys of the Lambe-with-an-e family and Mildred and younger brother Jim Lamb-without-an-e. When Cameron and Don Lambe ran out of ammunition, Cameron leaped from their tree to the chicken coop roof for more snow. With that Tarzan-like move, he became Mildred's "hero for life".

When her father died, eleven-year-old Mildred, Jim, and their mother, Mary Lydia (Kay) Lamb moved to the locale of Mrs. Lamb's earlier teaching job. "My Hometown Southampton" a memoir included in *Southampton Remembered*, published in 2008, gives us the girl's point of view: "While she was being interviewed, my uncle, who had driven us to Southampton, took my cousin and me down to the beach to have a swim. When I saw the gorgeous golden sand and the sparkling sapphire blue water of Lake Huron stretching all the way to the horizon, I thought this must be what the ocean was like. I prayed that Mom would be hired and I could spend my summer days swimming in that glorious water and sun bathing in the lusciously warm sand of The Hot Beds."

After graduation, Mildred went to work as a stenographer in Ottawa, continuing to write to Cameron. They married in early 1945, just before he went overseas. After the War, the young couple settled in the Detroit area. Cameron attended university; their son and two daughters were born; and Mildred worked part time as a school secretary.

At the age of 37, she enrolled as a freshman at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, where Cameron was teaching. While earning a Master of Arts degree, Milly (as she then preferred) worked in the university's Archives, then as a school librarian. She later taught English at Kalamazoo Valley Community College and at her alma mater.

And she continued to write: contributions to textbooks, articles, novels for children, and, eventually, memoirs. Her husband of 66 years, Dr. Cameron Lambe, and her brother, James Lamb of Owen Sound, are also working on memoirs. What a treasure this legacy will leave for the extended family of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and cousins scattered from Maine in the USA to Japan.

*Don't Call Me Lizzie!* and *Southampton Remembered* are both out of print, but may be available through libraries.

# Owen Sound's ART CRAWL

**Where Main Street & Artists Meet!**

Creativity, imagination and the arts collide in beautiful downtown Owen Sound, Saturday mornings this summer. From Victoria Day weekend to Labour Day weekend, an inspiring group of local artists gather in the Percy England Parkette, beside Owen Sound City Hall, for a unique outdoor show and sale.

Owen Sound Art Crawl has become a staple of a Saturday summer morning stroll through the city's core, since it started seven years ago. You'll find friends meeting, visitors browsing and an interesting selection of local art displayed in an outdoor market setting. Every weekend you will find a different group of new things with this rotating group of artists, so you never know what collectibles you might find. Whether you are looking for a gift or a treat for yourself, the artists of Owen Sound Art Crawl are sure to surprise and delight you with their talent and imagination.

Art Crawl is on Saturday mornings from May 21st to September 3rd, Victoria Day to Labour Day, 8am to Noon. The selection of artists varies from week to week so be sure to drop by often. At any given time, you might find paintings, weaving, photography, jewellery, woodturnings and recycled material products among the art you might find on display. Interact with the artists, ask questions and take advantage of this great opportunity to buy something local.

For more information or to display, contact Cheryl Sims 519-370-2080, [cheryl\\_sims@hotmail.com](mailto:cheryl_sims@hotmail.com) or [www.cityhallartcrawl.ca](http://www.cityhallartcrawl.ca)

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# May

And I even might,  
Next Monday night  
Change the "snows"  
To quieter summer "go's"  
Now that "It" has all melted away,  
Leaving "Gravel" all over my driveway  
And the lawn, to let my mower play  
At breaking windows when I cut the hay.  
The Tractor blower  
Is now a five foot mower  
And the grass grows green and long,  
Almost noisily amongst the birds' rising song.  
The bulbs have flowered in between the weeds,  
Leaving it the time to plant all those seeds  
Which add colour to my swampland's green  
And I might see it as I have never seen.

For I was a "Rainbird" as each summer came  
And I returned to my "Highland Hame",  
Dropping the 'Saltire' from my pole  
To seek the heather's purple soul.  
This year is different somehow  
And I perhaps will stay amongst the mud now,  
The instant Spring that lasts but seven days,  
Unlike winter's forever holding ways.  
Should I stay until summer and humidity's threat,  
To cut the lawn and rake the grass drowning in sweat?  
It has been forty years since that I did,  
For always abroad I hid,  
Seeking warmth across the sea.  
This year I will see  
If I might stay,  
I May?

– by Mary Angel

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In the mid 1500s, a publication called *A Hundred Good Points of Husbandry* featured the adage "Sweet April showers, do spring May flowers". This simple lesson in patience reminds us that many of life's greatest pleasures are worth waiting for. Your wait is over, however, for all of the exciting activities and events happening at Grey Roots Museum & Archives!

From April 9 to September 25, the fascinating exhibit, *Mystery of the Mayan Medallion*, will transport you to the mystical realm of Maya culture in the ancient city of Palenque, Mexico. There, an archaeological team has mysteriously disappeared from a dig site while investigating rumours of a priceless jade medallion buried in the ruins. People of all ages can follow clues the team left behind to locate the precious medallion. However, visitors are urged not to forget to heed the warning signs to avoid the same fate! Developed by the Arkansas Discovery Network and funded by the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation, this 3000-square-foot immersive exhibit uses the mystery and intrigue of the Maya empire to introduce children to Maya culture, including their mathematics, architecture, and the study of the stars and planets, as well as the work of archaeologists, astronomers, and ethnobotanists.

**Mystery of the Mayan Medallion school programs** are available from April 18 until June 24 and are designed primarily for students in grades 4 and 5 but can be customized to fit any curriculum. Students will be "transported" through time and space to explore and investigate this amazing culture. Through hands-on activities, students will learn, not only about the world of the Maya, but about archaeology as well. Teachers are reminded to book their class visit early, as programs are sure to fill up fast.

Join the Bluewater Astronomical Society for *Celebrate the Night Sky* at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, May 3. This popular talk and night sky viewing takes place outside and in the Grey Roots Theatre and regular admission rates apply. The experts from the Bluewater Astronomical Society will be back at Grey Roots on Friday, June 3, at 9 pm for a *Public Night Sky Viewing*. This is an excellent opportunity to get tips and share their telescopes. This is a free event.

Get your engines running at the *Bluewater Car Club Annual Car Inspection*, from 9 am to noon, on Saturday, May 14. Vehicles will be inspected at the Bluewater Garage in Moreston Heritage Village. The Bluewater Garage is a gable-roofed building replicating an early 20<sup>th</sup> century village garage, complete with a small office, two service bays and single grease pit. Witness automobile history come to life!

Grey Roots Museum & Archives celebrates *International Museum Day* in conjunction with the *International Council of Museums* (ICOM), on Wednesday, May 18. The ICOM promotes the development of museums and museum professionals at an international level. Take this opportunity to view exceptional Grey Roots exhibits - including our summer blockbuster, *Mystery of the Mayan Medallion*, and Grey Roots original exhibits, including *The Good People*, *Pearls & Politics*, the *Nels Maher Print Shop*, and the *Grey County Gallery*. Regular admission rates apply.

Hey Kids... *Grey Roots KidsCamp* is an exciting way to spend your summer! We offer eight weeks of intriguing programs inspired by our collections and exhibits, from July 4 to August 26. With a different theme each week, you are sure to

find a program that matches your interests. *KidsCamp* is available for participants ages 5 to 12 (Please note: Quilting Camp is for ages 9 and up) and the cost is \$125.00+HST per child (\$110.00+HST per child for Grey Roots members). **KidsCamp** runs Monday to Friday from 9 am to 4:30 pm, with drop off between 8:30 and 9 am, and pick up between 4:30 and 5 pm (early drop off, from 8 am, is available at an added cost of \$2). For more information or to register, please visit our website or drop by Grey Roots and fill out a registration form. Our energetic staff and volunteers guarantee that your camp experience will be something you will remember for the rest of your life!

Grey Roots is pleased to announce the launch of the book, *Echoes in the Hills*, on Saturday, June 4, from 1 to 4 pm, in the Grey Roots theatre. This is the latest publication by local author, Jane Cooper-Wilson, and tells the story of abolitionist, John Brown. In October, 1859, John Brown launched his famous raid on the arsenal at Harpers Ferry, Virginia. For a period of thirty-six hours, Brown and his group of men held the entire South at bay in the attempt to eradicate slavery. Learn more about the intriguing and sometimes cruel facts surrounding the Harpers Ferry incident and the Canadian involvement in Brown's radical plan. This is a free event featuring fabulous musical entertainment by Bobby Dean Blackburn.

Step back to an earlier era and become a **Moreston Heritage Village volunteer** this summer at Grey Roots. Help bring the past to life as a pioneer, farmer, pioneer blacksmith, teacher, or a mechanic in one of our seven volunteer-staffed heritage buildings in picturesque Moreston. Share the history of our ancestors with thousands of visitors from around the corner and around the world, and learn new skills to demonstrate to "your" guests. Training, costuming, and ongoing support are provided. Bring your love of people and the past together at Grey Roots! For more information or to fill out an application, visit our website or call (519)376-3690, ext. 6107.

With so much to see and do at Grey Roots Museum & Archives, becoming a **member** is a great value and the best way to keep up with what is happening. For only \$40\* for an individual, \$30\* for a senior, or \$60\* for a family (\*plus HST), you get free admission to both Grey Roots Museum & Archives and Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre (through our reciprocal membership agreement) for one year. Members also receive a subscription to *Grey Matter*, our quarterly newsletter, invitations to exhibit openings, and discounts at the Grey Roots Gift Shop, on programming and facility rentals. Purchase a membership between now and September 25, 2011, and you will be automatically entered into a draw for your chance to win a Maya-themed prize pack! A membership makes a great year-long gift!

*Grey Roots combines Museum, Archives and Tourism services 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. Beginning after Thanksgiving Day Weekend until Victoria Day Weekend,*

*Grey Roots is open Tuesday to Saturday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. For information on any of the programs or services at Grey Roots, please refer to our website at [www.greyroots.com](http://www.greyroots.com) or call 519-376-3690 or toll free 1-877- GREY ROOTS.*

# First Annual Authors' Day at Coffin Ridge Winery

**O**n Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> the Coffin Ridge Winery and The Downtown Bookstore will host an all day literary event overlooking the lush Coffin Ridge vineyard and the sparkling waters of Georgian Bay. Hazel Lyder, of The Downtown Bookstore, says she has been keen to begin a literary festival in Owen Sound for some time and, when approached by Coffin Ridge about the possibility of collaborating on such an event, she jumped at the chance: "I can't think of a more inspiring place to spend a day appreciating fine literature in all of Grey and Bruce." Gwen Lamont, one of the Coffin Ridge owners, adds that she firmly believes "nothing goes together better than fine wine and fine writing."

The Authors' Day line-up includes:

**Tony Aspler**, who has been writing about wine for over 30 years. On this visit, Tony will treat us to some of his fine detective fiction (*Blood is Thicker than Beaujolais; The Beast of Barbaresco; Death on the Douro*), all set in ... you guessed it ... vineyards!

**Karen Connelly**, who is the author of nine books of best-selling non-fiction, fiction, and poetry. She won the **Pat Lowther Award** for her poetry, the **Governor General's Award** for her non-

fiction (*Touch the Dragon, A Thai Journal*), and Britain's **Orange Broadband Prize for New Fiction** for her first novel *The Lizard Cage*. In 2010 *Burmese Lessons* was shortlisted for the Governor General's non-fiction award.

**Cathy Ostlere**, who is the author of *Lost* which recounts the events that unfolded after her brother and sister-in-law were determined to be lost at sea when their sail boat failed to turn up at Maderia as expected. *Lost* was shortlisted for the **Edna Staebler Award** for creative non-fiction in 2009 and was described in the *Globe and Mail* as "...an impressive work that resolves extraordinarily difficult material into moving, effective narrative and achingly beautiful prose poetry."

**Sarah Selecky**, who was a short-listed author for the Giller Prize, Canada's foremost literary prize, in 2010. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of British Columbia and has been teaching creative writing workshops in her living room for the past ten years. As well as making the Giller short-list, her short story collection, *This Cake is for the Party*, was also longlisted for the **Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award**.

Tickets for the Authors' Day are \$45 (plus tax) and include a gourmet

vintner's plate between two. Tickets are now on sale at The Downtown Bookstore and Coffin Ridge Winery.

## Opportunities for Emerging Writers to Work with Visiting Authors

The June 4<sup>th</sup> Authors' Day will be augmented by opportunities for local writers to examine their craft.

Tickets are available at \$35 for an intimate **Master Class** – maximum enrollment of twenty – with **Karen Connelly** on the Friday evening from 7:30 to 9:30 to discuss some key lessons that need to be mastered in the writing life – in fiction and memoir writing.

In addition, **Sarah Selecky**, will host an **all day writing workshop** on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> from 10 am to 3 pm at The Downtown Bookstore. Tickets are \$90 and include a light lunch. Selecky describes her workshop as "hearty and nutritious" and designed to stir the creative impulse and satisfy the writer's appetite. This course is open to intermediate and advanced writers, or beginners who are ready for a challenge. Enrollment is limited to ten.

**Workshop** and **Master Class** tickets are available at a 20% discount for anyone with an "Authors' Day" ticket. Call 519 372-9760 for more information. **¶**

## An Evening with Bramwell Tovey Saturday, June 18, 2011

**S**weetWater Music Festival's second annual Fundraiser, will take place at the historic, recently renovated and beautifully restored Meaford Hall. After the resounding success of last year's Fundraiser featuring SweetWater Artistic Director **Mark Fewer**, Gene DiNovi and James Campbell, Maestro **Bramwell Tovey**, Music Director of the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra and Director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic at the Hollywood Bowl, will join in with a piano performance and share stories from his incredible career. Fewer will join Tovey for the second half of the performance for what will surely prove to be one of the most memorable and unique performances Festival fans will ever have the chance to experience.

The Fundraiser will feature hors d'oeuvres and attendees will have the chance to peruse and bid on exciting



Silent Auction items donated to support SweetWater. It will take place on Saturday, June 18, 2011 at 7:30pm (doors open at 6:30 pm) at Meaford Hall, 12 Nelson Street East. Tickets: \$100. For further information call 1.877.538.0463 or visit meaford.ca/meaford-hall

SweetWater Music Festival is an annual event that brings world-class musicians to the local stage. It is the only festival of its kind in the Grey-Bruce area, showcasing a unique blend of both classical chamber and jazz music. Dedicated to enhancing the music experiences of the local youth, SweetWater presents annual master classes, and supports an in-school string programme at Alexandra Elementary School, which is dedicated to giving the gift of music to underprivileged students by providing both private and group instruction, free of charge. **¶**

# Creative Arts Programme for Rural Youth

The Owen Sound Artists' Co-op has been awarded a \$103,800 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) to offer creative arts programming to rural youth in Grey and Bruce Counties. "This grant will allow us to nurture and encourage young people as they explore their creative art aspirations. We are thrilled that we have been given this opportunity to play a part in ensuring the future of art and craft in our region," said OSAC manager, Caroline Menzies. The grant will be used to fund The Legacy Project, a multi-component program spanning four years. A portion will be used to establish a dedicated youth art space adjoining the Co-op.

A summer youth artists' co-op will be set up in the space for youth aged 16 to 29. Dubbed, "Next Generation," the summer co-op will provide risk-free space and guidance for young artists to show and sell fine art and craft, with training in sales, customer service, marketing, display and exhibition assistance. One-on-one opportunities for mentorship with established artists in the same field will also be offered. Applications for the summer co-op can be downloaded from [www.osartistsco-op.com](http://www.osartistsco-op.com). The space will also be available to other children's and youth groups, such as schools and organizations, who wish to display their art and craft.

The grant will also be used to enhance an annual art and craft competition open to high school seniors in Grey and Bruce, which began last year. The competition differs from others in the

area, in that there is no entry fee, all the entries are displayed, and the prizes are all art-and-craft related.

Another component of the project will be a series of workshops, hosted by working artists and artisans, set up throughout the region and open to high school seniors. The workshops, which will begin next March, will give the students a chance to engage in various types of art and craft that are not currently taught in high schools, and experiment with different techniques, practices and expressions.

*The Owen Sound Artists' Co-op was formed in 1994 to offer public exposure for the many fine artists in Grey-Bruce*

*For more information, please contact:  
Caroline Menzies at [osartists@bmts.com](mailto:osartists@bmts.com)*

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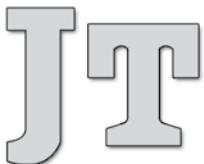
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# AIRCRAFT RISES FROM SCRAPHEAP

By Doreen Fawcett

You wouldn't think that a ladies' club would be interested in raising money for the restoration of a wartime bomber aircraft, would you? But in 1940, members of the IODE (Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire) contributed \$100,000 towards a new maritime patrol aircraft, a Bolingbroke Bomber. For many years since the "Bolly" went out of service, IODE chapters across Canada have been supporting a wartime memorial project quietly going on in southern Ontario.

The Bristol Bolingbroke aircraft was a Canadian version of a British light bomber known as the Bristol Blenheim. More than 600 were built by the Fairchild plant at Longueuil, Quebec, starting in 1939. The Bolingbroke was the first modern all-aluminium aircraft built in Canada, but it was also obsolete before the first example flew. Nevertheless, for lack of anything better, the design was widely used. In July 1942, a Bolingbroke helped sink a Japanese submarine off British Columbia.

The late Catherine Harrison, last Regent of Owen Sound's now disbanded Capt. William F. Owen Chapter, IODE, had been part of the 1940 fund raising campaign to support construction of the plane. Later, during her three terms as regent, she would exhort the members to continue to allocate cash for a restoration project each year as a patriotic gesture to Canada's history.

Spokesman Wayne Ready says work to build a restored Bolingbroke has been ongoing for 30 years. Ready and his 'boys' have been toiling away for years with the aim to build a flying Bolingbroke Bomber. The Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum houses the restoration project in Mount Hope. "We have about 19 guys left," said Ready, "working part time, some in 16 to 20 hour shifts." What began as a nucleus of eight men ebbed and flowed through the years. They collected reusable parts of several junked aircraft, one scavenged from a field near Winnipeg. Finding wrecks that were not vandalized was a rare occurrence. "We had a big celebration a few months ago, when a key piece of fuselage was attached. Now the cockpit is in place, the end is in sight," he said. "We couldn't have done it without the ongoing support of the IODE," he said. "They have been the nuts and bolts."

Ready says the refurbished bomber will be dedicated on July 13, 2015 to those who served, both the ones who did not return, and those who did. The date marks 75 years after the original craft to which IODE contributed was dedicated. Hamilton Tiger

Squadron and IODE logos will adorn the restored and, we hope, airworthy plane.

A one-day event was held on April 7th to recognize all IODE members of Earl Grey, Capt. William F. Owen and Annie Jaffray Eaton chapters. Among members from all three disbanded IODE chapters were several members who had rejoined other chapters in Stratford (Wanda Bart) and Wiarton (Marion MacLauchlan and myself). Also former members from Owen Sound attending were Helen Alles, Betty McManus, Jean McArthur, Marjorie Cochrane, Evelyn Penny, Marie Mills, Lois Meades, Vi Toms, Rosemary Fenwick and Elinore Anderson.

Wayne Ready, who took photos of the reconstructed Bolingbroke progress to Grey Roots last month, told the audience of plans for a roll-out of the project at the museum later this year. Grey Roots Museum and Archives will mark the 100 years of service by Owen Sound chapters to the community of IODE chapters with an extensive display of artefacts to run until Labour Day.

Sharing the update on the Bolinbroke Bomber by Ready were Wiarton's White Cloud IODE members Joanne Barfoot, Pat Caldwell, Sally Vickers, Eva Nickel, Irene Goldner, Eleanor Silk, Carol Smith, Hiede Arnold. Greetings were brought from IODE National President Catherine Moore by Provincial President Bonnie Rees from Waterloo who also shared some insights into IODE, as well as myself, who transferred from Capt. Owen in Owen Sound to White Cloud group in Wiarton. ■



Several wrecks found across Canada were rescued and scavenged for parts of Bolingbroke bomber being rebuilt at Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Port Hope ([www.warplane.com](http://www.warplane.com))

# We've got mail!

I'd like to thank John Tamming for his poem 'We Found A Way' (MOSAIC, April 2011 Issue) and the MOSAIC for publishing it. I would also like to thank the Words Aloud Festival for accepting and applauding the author's presentation of the poem at the beginning of the event at the Durham Art Gallery last November, and for C. R. Avery's performance at the end of the evening. The reason for my gratitude is that for past decades I have pondered why there are wars and why they are perceived as 'inevitable'. I now have the answer to my query.

Frank Barningham, Durham

Hello,

I loved John Tamming's poem We Found a Way which appeared in the April issue of Mosaic. It was rough and raw, as I imagine a so called non-contact hockey game might be. This poem did two things for me; it found me talking about poetry with a 50s something goalie. I talk to this guy all the time, but about poetry?

The other thing is it made me feel it might be possible to one day expose my own poetry. It takes courage to put yourself out there in such a way, especially in a gutsy poem such as this one.

Bea Miller, Owen Sound

## Spring Cleaning

At the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library  
824 First Avenue West

*The Library Spring Cleaning Book Sale! Two days only!*

*Saturday May 14 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

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Fill the cottage book shelves! Stock up for summer!

We are making room for new items in the library  
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EXHIBITIONS EDUCATION EVENTS GIFT SHOP

### CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

Judy Chicago: Setting the Table  
The Owen Sound Artists' Co-op  
May 13 to September 25, 2011

Canadian Spirit: The Tom Thomson Experience  
May 20 to September 25, 2011

Student Showcase  
May 1-June 5



TOM THOMSON ART GALLERY

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[tomthomson.org](http://tomthomson.org)

IMAGE: Tom Thomson at Lake Scugog, Fall 1910

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519-986-7526

# Taste the Wild

by Paulette Peiro

I learned to identify stinging nettle the hard way, after wading through a field of it growing knee-deep in my own backyard shortly after moving into a new home. The leaves left red welts on my skin for several hours. Yet curiously, my neighbour balked when I told her I wanted to get rid of it. "Save me the leaves if you do," she said. "It's a great tonic." I thought she was crazy.

Years later, taking a course in wild edibles with local experts Gino Ferri and Jennifer Khan, I would learn she was right. While I remain partial to stinging nettle, I have grown to know, like and even respect many other edible plants commonly dismissed as weeds. Give me a salad of freshly picked watercress from a stream with lamb's quarters, violets, lilies, ox-eye daisies and young, succulent dandelion leaves and I'm in heaven.

Yet there were far more exotic things on the menu at the Advanced Wild Edibles workshop organized by Janet Schnurr of Soul Searching Tree in Hepworth and taught by Ferri and Khan of Survival in the Bush Inc. last summer. Consider: Bear, goose, venison, rabbit and pike wrapped in pond lilies and pickerel weed, along with wild carrots, cattails, garlic mustard and other herbs and vegetables roasted for hours in a deep pit of smouldering embers. Sounds like something you might expect at chef Michael Stadtlander's world-renowned Eigensinn Farm near Collingwood. But if you came only for dinner, you wouldn't see the hours of labour required by six people to prepare such a meal – chopping wood and tending fires for the pit roast, harvesting aquatic plants while waist-deep in mucky water and combing fields and bushes under a hot summer sun for wild edibles to stew and use as seasoning.

There was no question of us starving, and we didn't have to hunt, though we did catch a pike in the Sauble River by canoe at dusk the evening before. The challenge and intrigue was in harvesting as many nutritious wild edibles as we could recognize and learning how to best prepare them, given the season. It meant learning the

difference between some edible species and their poisonous or less palatable cousins (eg: pickerel weed versus blue flag, or dandelion versus sow thistle). We were told we'd be doing well if we could become intimately familiar with five new plants each year

There were more than a few surprises. One was the arduous task of harvesting cattails, wrenching them from the mucky river bottom. Although the entire plant is edible, we were most interested in the tender stalks near the roots and cut off the tops before throwing the rest into our canoes. When we were done, that portion of the riverbank looked as though it had been ravished by cattail-loving beavers. We had harvested from an area where cattails grew in abundance, and had left the rhizomes intact, ensuring the plants would regenerate completely, as if we had never been there. But still, we were shocked and a little embarrassed to realize the extent of our human imprint, simply foraging for food. What if that was our habitat? How quickly would we use up all available land and have to move on, just to feed ourselves? By the time we got to the raspberry bushes (using the leaves for tea and the fruit for bannock), we had learned an important rule of thumb: don't harvest unless you see at least 25 plants in a group, and then take only a few and move on.

Cleaning and peeling a few bowlsful of wild carrot later, we got to talking about the people we knew who used to harvest wild plants for their own consumption, people a generation older who saw them as delicacies or survival food, or knew some of their medicinal qualities. Almost everyone had a story to tell. My mother picked fiddleheads from the forest, my grandfather picked mushrooms and young dandelion leaves. For my in-laws here in Grey County, the first sign of winter abating was watercress in the springs and creeks flowing through crevices in the escarpment – a welcome dose of Vitamin C after months of only preserved vegetables.

"It's the stories that help link us back to our roots. Everyone taking these courses has a story," said Ferri, an

educator who's taught survival courses for more than three decades. Yet what our ancestors harvested so innocently is not always available to us now, due to pesticides, lead and other pollutants found in the soil of most farms, parkland and even highway roadsides. Unless you know that a property has not been contaminated, do not harvest plants from there, Ferri advises. Khan, who co-authored a book, *Eating Out*, with Ferri, suggests people cultivate herbs and medicinal plants in their own backyard or kitchen window so they will know that what they harvest is safe.

*Soul Searching Tree is offering another introductory and advanced wild edibles course with Ferri and Khan this year.*

*The introductory course will take place June 4<sup>th</sup> in Harrison Park, and the advanced workshop is July 15-17.*

*For more information or to register, call 519-935-2581.*

## Authors' Day Saturday June 4

at Coffin Ridge Winery

Tickets \$45 plus hst  
includes gourmet vintners' plate for two

**Tony Aspler ...**

wine columnist & author of 15 books on wine & food

**Karen Connelly ...**

winner of the Pat Lowther Award,  
the Governor General's Award  
and Britain's Orange Prize

**Cathy Ostlere ...**

author of the Edna Staebler Prize shortlisted, *Lost*

**Sarah Selskey ...**

author of *This Cake is for the Party*,  
nominated for the Frank O'Connor Award,  
the Giller Prize and the Commonwealth Prize

Friday June 3<sup>rd</sup>

**Master Class with Karen Connelly**

\$35 + hst limited enrollment

Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup>

**All Day Writing Workshop**

with **Sarah Selskey** \$90 includes lunch ...

20% discount for Authors' Day ticket holders

Tickets from The Downtown Bookstore  
& Coffin Ridge Winery

[www.thedowntowbookstore.ca](http://www.thedowntowbookstore.ca)

# In CELEBRATION and TRIBUTE

by Linda Manchester

The Saugeen Bach Choir celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2010. For the last eleven years the choir enjoyed the capable direction of the Robert Rix who died suddenly September 19, 2010. Under Bob's leadership, the choir was challenged and fine-tuned with humour and hard work. Bob brought out the best in all of the choir members and we certainly miss his stories and sense of humour. The final concert under Bob's direction was "*Gioacchino Rossini's - Petite Messe Solennelle*" held at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, in Carlsruhe, Ontario on Sunday, June 6, 2010. It was Bob's final and triumphant major work that he had directed.

In honour of Bob, the choir under the leadership of Elaine Pearce will be presenting a concert of a selection of short pieces that were some of his favourites from J. S. Bach, B. Rutter, G.F. Handel, O. Peterson, F. Mendelson, G. Fauré and A. Mozart and other composers.

The concerts will take place Sunday, **May 29<sup>th</sup>** at St. Thomas Anglican Church, Owen Sound at 3:00 p.m., Sunday, **May 29<sup>th</sup>** at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Wiarton at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, **June 5<sup>th</sup>**, at St. James' Anglican Church, Hanover at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15.00 and will be available at the door from any choir member or St. Thomas or St. Paul's Church Office.

*The choir is currently looking for a new Choir Director and anyone interested in conducting the choir can call Linda Manchester, President*

*Saugeen Bach Choir; at 519-364-9924  
or email: lem@wightman.ca*

## Spring in the Heart

Spring in the heart  
is not a certainty.  
so when it comes,  
no matter what the season,  
we must oblige,  
plant love and good green things,  
nourish them well,  
with care, with hope, with reason.  
And if all fails,  
we plant again in time.  
Or if there's bloom  
we glean the joy,  
harbor the seeds  
within a hopeful mind  
against a better time  
for their employ.

— Paul Douglas Scott

# Teen Writing Contest

Attention young writers! Public libraries across Grey and Bruce Counties are seeking submissions of poetry, short stories and comics for the 2011 Write @ Your Library creative writing contest for teens.

The winning entries, as chosen by this year's judges, will receive cash prizes and have their work published in the Write for 2011 anthology. Check out previous years' copies of the Write for anthology at your public library.

An awards ceremony and reading of the winning entries will be held at the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library on Monday, June 13. In addition to this, the first place winning poems and short stories will be published in The Sun Times.

Submissions are also needed for the cover design of the 2011 anthology. The artist responsible for the winning design will receive a \$100 cash prize. Designs must fit on an 8.5" x 11" piece of paper and include the words "Write for 2011".

Contest guidelines can be picked up at your local public library or downloaded from the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library's website: [www.owensound.library.on.ca](http://www.owensound.library.on.ca). Submissions must be emailed to Nadia Danyluk, at the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library no later than **May 13, 2011**.

For more information or to submit please contact Nadia Danyluk at [ndanyluk@gmail.com](mailto:ndanyluk@gmail.com), or phone 519-376-6623 ext. 4.



### CELEBRATE! A live revue honouring 50 years of OSLT

Friday, May 13 at 7:30 pm  
\$30, OSLT members \$20

A night of songs, skits, memories & special guests!  
Director Pat O'Connor. Musical Director Brenda Dimoff.  
Champagne reception with hors d'oeuvres!  
Live auction featuring artworks by Studio XX.  
Win a trip to Florida or a Toronto Theatre Getaway!

### Sharron Matthews' Big Broadway Show

Saturday, May 14 at 7:30 pm  
\$28 Adult, \$26 Senior, \$11 Student



Only \$15 with the purchase of a **CELEBRATE!** ticket  
Cabaret diva Sharron Matthews "sings with attitude  
and humour in a show that has more musical surprises  
and mood swings than an episode of 'Glee'."



### Owen Sound Little Theatre Presents Neil Simon's Comedy *Jake's Women*

June 2-4, 8-11 at 7:30 pm  
\$23 Adult, \$20 Senior, \$11 Student



Jake, a daydreaming novelist in the midst of a mid-life crisis, finds himself more successful with his fictional women than those in real life. Director Ron Carney.

## the Historic Roxy Theatre

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251 9th Street East  
Owen Sound, Ontario

# THE KINCARDINE SUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL 2011

presents

## Panache



As a part of the Kincardine Summer Music Festival 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert Series, *Panache* – Julie Nesrallah, mezzo soprano, and Caroline Leonardelli, harp – will perform Sunday, **August 7, 7:30 pm** at the Knox Presbyterian Church,

### Julie Nesrallah ~ Mezzo Soprano

Described by Pacific Opera Victoria Artistic Director, Timothy Vernon, as “a future supernova,” Julie Nesrallah has achievements and standards of musical excellence established across the continent. An extremely versatile singer and actress, she is at ease in all styles. The recipient of many distinguished awards & prizes, Miss Nesrallah is frequently featured on CBC Radio and National Public Radio, and is currently the host of *Tempo*, CBC Radio 2’s flagship national classical music program. Miss Nesrallah has participated in many prestigious summer festivals and Symphonic engagements.

### Caroline Léonardelli – Classical Harpist

A 2010 Juno nominee for her solo album *El Dorado*, Classical Album of the Year, Solo or Chamber, Caroline Léonardelli, has an accomplished career as a soloist, chamber musician, orchestral musician, and teacher. Born in France, Caroline graduated with first prize in harp from the Paris Conservatoire under the guidance of Jacqueline Borot at the age of 18. She went on to advanced study with Judy Loman at McGill University. Caroline studied in France with Lily Laskine, one of the most celebrated harpists of the 20th century. Caroline is Principal Harpist with the Ottawa Symphony Orchestra, and the Orchestre Symphonique de Gatineau. Her recording projects include the recently released and critically acclaimed Impressionism by the Para Arpa harp duo with Caroline Lizotte, and A Conte de Noel with the Ottawa Bach Choir. Caroline is a member of the Four Season’s Harp Quartet with harpists Jennifer Swartz, Lori Gemmell, and Caroline Lizotte.



Julie Nesrallah and Caroline Léonardelli

Caroline will stay on in Kincardine through August 13 as one of the many gifted KSMF Artists in Residence to coach and direct Masterclasses for KSMF students. Pedal harp is a new program offered this year to KSMF Chamber Music students.

Tickets for *Panache* are \$20 and go on sale in June. KSMF Concert series tickets are available. KSMF also offers 23 music programs for adults, families and children, from Children’s Music to Choir, Band and Strings programs, and advanced Jazz, Blues and Chamber Music.

For further information visit [www.ksmf.ca](http://www.ksmf.ca) Visit KSMF on Facebook:  
[info@ksmf.ca](mailto:info@ksmf.ca), 519-396-9716, 866-453-9716 KSMF  
Box Office: 519-396-9400

**Owen Sound's ART CRAWL**  
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519-370-2080

[www.cityhallartcrawl.ca](http://www.cityhallartcrawl.ca)

**Edgehill Country School**

**May Fair & Open House**  
May 28, 2011  
11:00 am to 4:00 pm

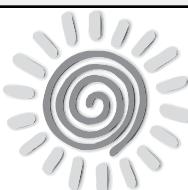
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**Celebrate An Evening of Art & Film With South Grey Bruce Youth Literacy Council**

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Saturday, May 14th, Victoria Jubilee Hall, Walkerton  
Doors open 6:30pm

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**Edible Plant Courses**

Learn how to identify and harvest plants from the wild with Dr. Gino Ferri

**10 - 4 Saturday June 4 (beginners - \$150)**  
**July 15-17 (overnight advanced - \$350)**

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519 935-2581  
[janet@soulsearchingtree.com](mailto:janet@soulsearchingtree.com)

# Build a Creative Community

by David McLaren

**A**rt, like most Canadians, comes from small places. Margaret Laurence's *The Stone Angel* takes place in Manawaka, her fictional mirror for Neepawa in Manitoba. Everything in Robertson Davies' *Deptford Trilogy* begins with a snowball thrown in the tiny town of Deptford, modelled after his birthplace, Thamesville, Ontario. And Tom Thomson's trees and lakes and skies can only be found in Algonquin Park and around Georgian Bay.

So perhaps it's no coincidence that the arts are being promoted as the spark for rural economies. After all, the arts have the potential to be an economic engine in their own right.

In 2007, the arts industry (not including cultural festivities) contributed over \$80 billion to the GDP or about 6% and nearly \$25 billion to federal and regional government coffers. That's more than some of Canada's major industries, including forestry and sports: we spent \$1.2 billion on live performance, but only \$540 million on live sporting events. The performing arts alone generate \$2.70 in revenues for every dollar invested by government. It takes up to \$300,000 to create a job in heavy industry, \$100,000 in light industry, but only \$30,000 to create a job in the arts industry - partly because artists subsidize their art way more than government or private foundations or corporations do.

That government, at all levels, is not investing in the arts to the same tune it invests in other industries might have something to do with the nature of the beast. Art provokes. It's not just another pretty picture to hang on a wall or a well-turned pot. It says something interesting about our collective experience, about our place in the world. Art, when it's good (when it's art) points to another plane, another way of seeing or of being and it takes us along for the ride. The small place expands to hold universal truths.

That's pretty hard to nail down. It's not like a car that people need (or think they do), or a can opener. But it seems to be something we hunger for anyway: we spent \$21 billion on artistic and cultural products in 2003.

So, growing up out of the cracks in the pavement of our post-recession economy, where manufacturing cars and can openers has taken such a hit, is this notion that the arts might be the heart of what Richard Florida calls "the creative economy." The idea is that art ought to be at the centre of an economy that embraces everything from the lonely poet in a garret to a cutting edge engineering firm.

## Creative communities are important

As the Conference Board of Canada puts it: "Creative communities are important drivers in Canada's economy. They project unique identities that act as magnets for skilled and creative people and for business investment. An important challenge for all levels of government is to ensure that communities have the means necessary to support creativity and diversity, and to build a thriving culture sector."

The arts are, after all, portable, and artists are nothing if not flexible about where they work and, as the data suggest, altogether too flexible when it comes to being properly paid.

And therein lies the danger for artists and for the creative economy. For if you don't first make sure artists' needs are met you will end up, instead, with a doughnut economy: a little cake with a big hole. The arts will remain separate from the rest of the economy, put into a little box and sold on the side like Timbits.

So, here are a few rough ideas for putting the arts at the centre of the creative economy and keeping them there:

**Fund your artists.** You don't have to know what art is to know what is art. The wise investment is always in good product, and artists make art. Good art attracts paying customers. The data show that the arts spin off jobs and jobs produce tax revenues for governments.

**Find a venue** that is attractive in itself. Harbourfront was the seed that turned Toronto's waterfront into a prestigious place to dine and shop and now, to live. Make it a production facility with studios, coffee shops, writing, teaching and rehearsal spaces. Make it a learning retreat for musicians and filmmakers, writers and artists from outside the community. Make it a place for artists to connect with government and business.

**Find a brand.** Look what the Shaw has done for Niagara-on-the-Lake and what General Idea did for the arts industry in Toronto in the seventies and eighties. If the principle we started with is true: if art comes from small places, then the art produced in say, Owen Sound, will have its own, special brand and will be rooted in the trees and bluffs and farms, people and spirit of this place. Find it and define it; promote it and sell it.

**Local politicians:** clear the way with zoning bylaws, incentives, tax breaks and promotions to attract and foster a creative economy. But remember, this is long term investment – no quick fixes or profits here. Contract artists to come up with new, refreshing ways for promoting your community and integrating its economy.

**Local businesses: become partners.** You stand to benefit the most from the economic spin-off. I know of one award that gives free meals to writers for a year in a restaurant of his or her choosing. And, of course, the winners bring their paying friends and the place becomes a bit of a hang-out. Sponsor awards and competitions. Discover what the arts and artists can add to your profit margin. Just don't forget to pay them for their expertise.

**Provincial and federal politicians:** lobby for funding for arts competitions, grants and artists in residence. Help your arts industry seek funding from the private sector and help negotiate private and corporate partnerships. Resist the temptation to get your name on a building – the top priority is to fund the production of art, not to warehouse it.

But to the arts community itself falls the heaviest responsibility. For beyond making art (which is never an easy thing to do), you and others in the arts sector must find the vision that will convince the politicians and funders to invest in your products and expertise. You must remind everyone else that, to paraphrase a sign that hung in Bill Clinton's campaign office, "It's the art stupid."

*David McLaren is a creative writer living on the Bruce Peninsula in Ontario. He worked in the arts industry in the 1980s and served on the Board of the Alliance of Canadian Television and Radio Artists.*

*He has also worked in the private sector (advertising) and in government.*

*The statistics and reports referred to in this article can be found in Statistics Canada's quarterly Focus on Culture reports ([www.statcan.gc.ca](http://www.statcan.gc.ca)), at Hill Strategies Research Inc ([www.hillstrategies.com](http://www.hillstrategies.com)), at the Conference Board of Canada (<http://www.conferenceboard.ca> - search 'Valuing Culture') and at the Canadian Conference of the Arts (<http://www.ccarts.ca> - search 'Creative Economy').*

# At the Thomson Art Gallery

## EXHIBITIONS

### Judy Chicago: Setting the Table

May 12-September 25, 2011

Artist, educator, author, art rock star and creator of the celebrated **The Dinner Party** will be present to attend a Gala Dinner, the opening of **Setting the Table** at the Tom Thomson Art Gallery (featuring preparatory works from **The Dinner Party**) and an artist talk at the OSCVI auditorium. At \$250 for members/\$285 non-members, they include one ticket to: the Patrons' Dinner, Exclusive Reception, Opening, Artist talk, a Judy Chicago book & a \$100 tax receipt. Tickets for the separate events are now available. Patrons' Dinner \$125 (limited tickets), Artist Lecture \$20/\$5 Students. Tickets for the Opening of **Setting the Table** are limited and will be offered to Gallery Members first. Call now to reserve.

For more information and to book your tickets, please contact Leanne Wright [lwright@tomthomson.org](mailto:lwright@tomthomson.org) or Christy Telford [ctelford@tomthomson.org](mailto:ctelford@tomthomson.org) 519-476-1932.

Thanks to event sponsors Cobble Beach, Investors Group, Diemert Architect Inc., Pelee Island Winery and Mosaic.

### Canadian Spirit: the Tom Thomson Experience

Canadian Spirit: the Tom Thomson Experience will be building on the **Searching for Tom** exhibition which was created in collaboration with THEMUSEUM in Kitchener. The Experience will give visitors an educational and entertaining introduction into Tom Thomson's life, his connections with Owen Sound and Grey County, and the factors that led him to become one of Canada's greatest artists. The Experience will make use of the TOM's important collection of objects, photos, documents and artworks by Thomson.

### Student Showcase 2011:

Celebrating the Visual Arts in Bruce & Grey County Schools  
May 1 to Jun 5, 2011 Opening reception: Sunday, May 1 from 1 to 3 pm



*Judy Chicago, Petronilla de Meath  
Test Plate 1300-1324*

pm with remarks at 1:30 pm

This special student display features art works from Public, Catholic and Independent schools from across Grey Bruce, who have participated in Gallery Educational programming this past year.

### Live Art

Saturday May 28 from 2pm

Presented by Alan Glicksman, Live Art presents a display place for artists to explore creative intuitive performance in an improvisational atmosphere.

### Programming / Movies

#### Gallery Night at the Movies

##### THE FIRST GRADER

Monday May 16 at 2, 4:30 & 7:15 at Galaxy Cinemas in Owen Sound; Wednesday May 18 at 6:45pm at Port Elgin Cinemas; tickets available at the door. Passes for the 2011-2012 season now on sale. Contact the Gallery.

### The Social Studio – FREE!

Drop into the Tom Thomson Art Gallery's new afternoon open studio session. No oil paint. Continues: May 4 & 18.

### Figure Drawing Session

May 8, 1-3pm (arrive early for set-up as doors close at 1:00)  
Non-instructional studio sessions. Bring your own materials. No oil paint. Cost: \$15; \$12 for TTAG members

### 3rd Sunday Make Art

May 15 (and every 3rd Sunday) between 1 and 3 pm for an afternoon of family fun with arts and crafts activities. All are welcome; admission by donation.

*For further information or to become a Member,  
contact the Tom Thomson Art Gallery,  
840 1st Avenue West, Owen Sound ON N4K 4K4  
tel: 519-376-1932 [www.tomthomson.org](http://www.tomthomson.org)  
Be sure to follow us on facebook and twitter!*

## Does This Canoe Make Me Look Fat?

Adventure documentary film shot in Temagami

Director Beth Mairs of BAM North Productions will be present to introduce the film and answer questions

By special arrangement, the Grey Roots exhibit of Pearls & Politics, Women of Distinction in Grey County will also be open to ticketholders

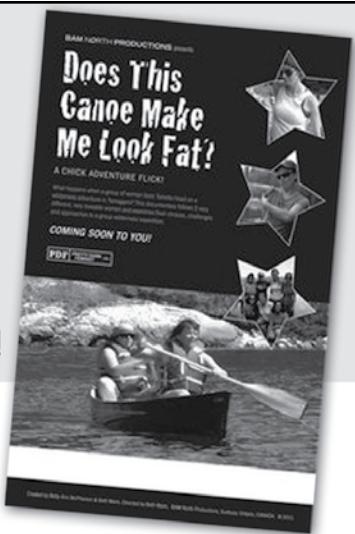
7:30 pm Tuesday May 10 at Grey Roots • Tickets \$20 - there will be doorprizes!

Tickets available from co-sponsors



Suntrail Outfitters - 519-935-2478

The Ginger Press - 519-376-4233



# THE ROXY REPORT

by Aly Boltman

**I**t's been seven months since I became the Theatre Manager at The Roxy, seven months that have felt like both a flash and an eternity, depending on the day. It is an odd thing to spend one's life staring at a computer screen, likely tackling more strokes on the keyboard in one hour than breaths or blinks taken in an entire day. But that's my world. And to someone on the outside, perhaps one of the energetic actors flying by my office, sword in hand and Shakespeare on the tongue, it would appear that my computer and I are united in dull but holy matrimony. Yet in our little office sanctuary, our proverbial love shack, my computer and I are living large. We are building momentum. We are shaping the future for about 20,000-25,000 people that we expect to see at The Roxy Theatre in a single year. One email can change the course of an entire series, or breed a hundred more — dare I press send? A missed phone call can be a lost opportunity, or a life saver. And the Google calendar makes or breaks you.

After seven months of surfing the learning curves, the coming season is finally taking shape, and a busy summer of programming is almost upon us. By end of May, we will be announcing our entire 2011-2012 series. I can hardly wait to let the cat out of the bag and show you what my marriage to my computer has produced... one thing at a time though. You'll have wait until June to hear it all.

For now, I can tell you about our dazzling summer season that will appeal to music lovers across the board. To begin, the inimitable **Christy Taylor** (of Christy's Stage Door) will be working at The Roxy with community youth on a two week musical theatre camp in early July, culminating in a public show in July 15<sup>th</sup>. Close on its heels, we are proud to announce the birth of the **Collingwood Music Festival West at the Roxy Theatre** — a two night festival that will bring internationally acclaimed musicians to our beautiful region. On July 22, South American music guitar virtuoso **Jorge Lopez** and his quartet will take to the stage, bringing the unstoppable rhythm of passionate Latino music and the genius of an accomplished guitar master to The Roxy. On July 23, the Austrian-born, renowned solo pianist **Anton Kuerti** will play the Festival, marking the artist's first

appearance in Owen Sound or Grey County. Since his performance with the **Boston Pops Orchestra** at age 11, Anton has taken the classical world by storm. He is one of the world's most recorded artists, an Officer of the Order of Canada, and a recipient of the Governor General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Artistic Achievement. This will be an unforgettable show featuring one of the truly great pianists of our time.

July will also mark the start of the three part series **Hats Off: Country 93 and The Roxy's Summer Tribute Series**. On July 21st, **Hard Workin' Men, a Tribute to Brooks & Dunn**, will bring a rocking salute to one of country music's most popular bands in history. On August 11, **Leisa Way and the Wayward Wind** will perform **Sweet Dreams: a Tribute to Patsy Cline**. The best in the business, Leisa will bring the house down and keep the music of Patsy Cline alive in your heart 'til the end of your days. And on September 22, we will offer a **locally developed, homegrown musical tribute to Johnny Cash!** *Musicians in every conceivable genre are invited to audition for this opportunity to take their hats off to the iconic Johnny Cash.* Choirs, soloists, folkies, bluegrass players, blues musicians, straight ahead country lovers and everything in between are encouraged to walk the line and come out to the Roxy for audition night in mid August to try to earn a spot on the bill for this unforgettable performance. The date for auditions will be posted on the Roxy's website shortly.

Featured rentals at The Roxy this summer include The Youth Theatre Coalition, The 6 & 10 Music Festival, The Tom Thomson Art Gallery's summer movie series and Otherfolk! And for a little new year's cheer in July, come see The Beckett Family at the Roxy Theatre on August 31st to celebrate the Canadian Plowing Match.

And if all of that is just making you jumpy with anticipation, take a deep breath, focus, and hunker down with the Owen Sound Little Theatre as we finish off our 2011-2012 season with a bang. Our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration weekend is just around the corner on May 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, starting with **Celebrate!** — a live revue directed by **Pat O'Connor** with special guests highlighting 50 years of Owen Sound Little Theatre in the community. Hors d'oeuvres,

champagne, music, vignettes, chances to win trips, art auctions, you name it! The comedic and talented award winning cabaret artist **Sharron Matthews** and her Big Broadway Show continues the celebration on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Buy a **Celebrate!** ticket and get a coveted seat for the Sharron Matthews cabaret show for half price! From June 2-11, Neil Simon's comedy **Jake's Women** will run, closing our 2010-2011 season. Directed by **Ron Carney** and starring professional actor **Matt Evans\***, this hilarious and touchingly human comedy will follow the foibles of Jake, a writer who has better luck in love in his novels than in real life.

\*appears courtesy of the Canadian Actors' Equity Association

For more information about these and other exciting events at The Roxy, visit our website at [www.roxytheatre.ca](http://www.roxytheatre.ca) and "like us" (Roxy Theatre Owen Sound) on Facebook for a chance to win tickets to events!

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# Interested in Writing?

By Barbara Jane Buckendale

The Grey Bruce Writers is a group of like-minded people, male and female, young and old, who love to write. We have a number of published authors in our ranks, writing poetry, prose, short stories, even novels and personal histories. We cover the whole gamut and have much fun doing it.

Recent publications by our members include: *Brigit's Story* by Stella Keenan-McPeak; *The Tree and Other Stories* by our founder Marion Wyllie who at 104 years of age is still writing daily; *The Wedding Chill* by Sharon Eibisberger; *Chaos in China* by much-published children's author Cora Taylor; *Wild Clematis* a collection of poems by Lynn Wyvill; and Phyllis Rowe's personal memoir *Our Hearts were Tender and Our Days are Rich*.

Our meetings are always filled with lively discussions and interesting perspectives on the work that we have read. The meetings take place the first Wednesday of the month at Summit Place Lodge in Owen Sound, beginning at 1:30pm and running as late as it takes us to finish what we want to say. Members have access to an amanuensis who, for a fee, can assist them with preparing their manuscript for publication, and a small, but good, library on writing topics including editing and punctuation as well as copies of books published by our past and present members.

All are welcome to join us and anyone wishing more information may contact Paula Niall at 519-372-0225. Membership is a mere \$15 per year, an inexpensive price for good company, good fun, and an opportunity to read your work and receive gentle and helpful suggestions.

## NEW BOOK:

# The Owen Sound Mercury's

On May 10, 1951, the Owen Sound Mercury's won the Allan Cup, the prize given to the best senior amateur hockey team in Canada. Now, sixty years later, their former stick boy, Cliff Keeling, has assembled the ten-year history of this remarkable hockey team. *The Owen Sound Mercury's* will be launched at 4:00pm on Tuesday May 10 at The Ginger Press. The author and some of the former Mercury's players will be present.

From 1947 to 1957, the Mercury's entertained sports fans with their skill and enthusiasm. From goalie Bobby Gillson (an "outstanding player") to centre man Tom Burlington ("the best hockey player never to play in the NHL") the team was filled with strong, capable players. In addition to a game-by-game rundown of the Mercury's most successful playoff season, this timely new book provides overviews and statistics of their years before and after 1951. In addition, Cliff Keeling adds a little background information on Owen Sound during that period before television; back when attending a game cost \$1 and "hockey was as good as it ever got."

"I was delighted when Cliff brought me his manuscript. *The Owen Sound Mercury's* is the perfect companion to *Moon Remembered: The Life of Lacrosse Goalie Lloyd "Moon" Wootton*

# THE AXEMAN SUMMIT

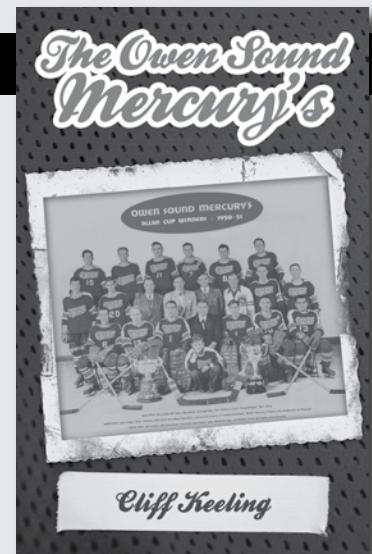
What do you get when you mix the best guitarists in the Owen Sound area with a rockin' back line and a handful of special guests? You get THE AXEMAN SUMMIT, a showcase of the best guitar wizardry ever assembled in one room! Featuring Dan "Bearcat" Jeffares, Trevor "The Wizard" Mackenzie, Dennis "Old School" Ridout, Al "Suitcase" Walker, and Roger "Slideman" Williamson, plus special appearances by Lloyd "Country" Williamson and Rod "Young Gun" Bottrell. Backed up by Kevin Dandeno on bass, Dave Fearnall on keyboards, and Beaker Granger on drums. This is going to be a night to remember!

One night only at the Owen Sound Legion Auditorium, Sunday **May 29** starting at 7 p.m. This will be a licensed, all ages event. Tickets on sale now at these outlets: The Downtown Bookstore, Fromager Music on 10th Street, Music & More on 8th Street (all in Owen Sound), and Stuff to Read on Sykes Street (Meaford). Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

Proceeds benefit the Harbour Nights Concert Series to keep the music rolling all summer long and into the fall. Find out more at [www.harournights.ca](http://www.harournights.ca).

## OWEN SOUND CULTURAL AWARDS (OSCAs)

Nomination Packages for the 2011 OSCAs are now available online at [www.owensound.ca/culturalawards](http://www.owensound.ca/culturalawards). Celebrate excellence - Nominate your favourite artist or cultural worker today!



which we published a couple of years ago," says Maryann Thomas of The Ginger Press. "1951 was an amazing year in Owen Sound's history: the lacrosse team (with Moon Wootton as goalie) won the Mann Cup (best in Canada for the national sport of summer) and the hockey team won the Allan Cup (best in Canada for the national sport of winter). To my knowledge, this double win for Owen Sound has not been achieved before or since in Canadian history. It is particularly exciting to be launching this book when the Owen Sound Attack hockey team is doing so well in this year's playoffs."

Everyone is welcome to attend the launch for *The Owen Sound Mercury's* by Cliff Keeling on Tuesday May 10 at 4:00 pm at The Ginger Press, 848 2nd Avenue East, Owen Sound. Autographed copies of *The Owen Sound Mercury's* (\$24.95) can be reserved at 376-4233.

**M**ay 2-4 is named for the quantity of beer consumed that weekend, as well as beach parties, barbecues and the official beginning to the summer season. Canadians recognized Queen Victoria's birthday, May 24<sup>th</sup> with a statutory holiday until her death in 1901. The subsequent monarch, King Edward VII, was born November 9th. Why then didn't Canadians celebrate his birthday and then that of his son King George V and so forth on the actual date of their birthdays? The answer has a local connection that has remained largely unacknowledged.

With Queen Victoria's death in 1901 the May 24<sup>th</sup> celebration was in question. Would the May 24<sup>th</sup> statutory holiday be replaced for one in November? It was Dr. Edward Henry Horsey, Liberal Member of Parliament for Grey North which included Owen Sound, who moved to introduce Bill 33 at the House of Commons under the government of Sir Wilfred Laurier. He requested that the 24<sup>th</sup> of May remain a permanent Canadian holiday.

Dr. Edward Henry Horsey was born in Kingston in 1867. He attended Queen's University and then moved to Owen Sound to open a medical practice. In 1891 he ran as a Liberal candidate for the riding of Grey North but lost on a very narrow margin. Shortly afterwards, he was taken on as medical examiner for the Sun Life Assurance Company in Canada as General Manager for Japan and China where he lived and travelled for a number of years. In 1899 he returned permanently to Owen Sound as a wealthy man and invested in local manufacturing including the Sun Cement Company and the Strathy Wire Fence Company. In 1900 he was elected to Parliament as MP representing Grey North.

After Queen Victoria's death in February, 1901, Dr. Horsey introduced Bill 33. In March this riding's MP read the Bill for a second time and was allowed to speak to the topic in greater detail. Horsey explained that Queen Victoria was a great monarch and we should continue to honour her memory. However, he was convinced there were other important reasons that we should retain May 24<sup>th</sup> as a holiday.

Without any disrespect to King Edward the VII, Dr. Horsey stated that November 9<sup>th</sup> is an awful time for Canadians to holiday. With some sense of humour, he was concerned about the "rising generation of both sexes, and with the picnickers, the excursionists, the devotees to our national and other games, and with the amateur fishermen as well." How could this leisure generation enjoy these pastimes on November 9<sup>th</sup>? In addition, the cost of leisure activities and travel was declining and there was a growing middle class who could afford short excursions. November is not a preferable month for a holiday in Canada whereas May is!

In answer to his critics who didn't want to offend the new King, Dr. Horsey suggested that we celebrate November 9<sup>th</sup> as our Thanksgiving holiday. He also spoke to those critics who suggested that Canada had *too many* holidays. He insisted that Canada actually had too few statutory holidays, and that with the rising stress levels and pressures on society in 1901, all Canadians could do with a few more breaks from work.

If the other Members of Parliament remained unconvinced, Horsey appealed to history. It was during the Victorian era in which Canada established responsible government and democracy. Horsey asserted that it was a great era of imperialism and empire for the British Commonwealth and future Canadians should continue to remember this era by celebrating May 24<sup>th</sup>. The Act respecting Victoria Day was assented to May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1901.

Unfortunately, Dr. Horsey was able to celebrate only two more Victoria Days with the picnickers and excursionists. On Wed-

nesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1902 he was touring with friends through the engine room at the Sun Cement Works when a driving wheel on the machinery flew off in pieces. A steam pipe connected to the dynamo from the boiler also blew. Shrapnel from the explosion exploded through the roof and onto a nearby coal pile. A piece of the flywheel hit Dr. Horsey on the right side of the head. *The Advertiser*, a local newspaper, described the scene: "Dr. Horsey was found in a pool of blood which oozed from his gaping wound, from which a portion of the brain about two inches in diameter protruded." He was carried gently by stretcher to the hospital where he died a few hours later. Dr. Horsey was 35 years old.

His wife, Leila Horsey, was in Wingham visiting her parents at the time of the accident. Along with her parents, she rushed to Owen Sound by carriage to be by her husband's side. After changing horses in Walkerton and Tara, the group arrived in Owen Sound early the next morning. The funeral, held July 25<sup>th</sup>, was a large affair with many businesses closing at 3 p.m. The streets were lined with onlookers. The pastor of Knox Church held the service at the Horsey house and then the funeral processed to Greenwood Cemetery. The 31<sup>st</sup> Regimental Band led the procession with muffled drums. It was estimated that over 100 men from the Canadian and Independent Foresters marched behind the band. The Prime Minister sent a telegram from London, England to Mrs Horsey's father. Dr. Edward Henry Horsey (1867-1902) is buried in Greenwood Cemetery on the east side of the ravine. A beautiful Celtic cross marks his grave.

The long awaited May holiday still beckons picnickers, excursionists and amateur fishermen and signals the beginning of summer. And so, as we gear up for a busy weekend with barbecues and beach parties, we should stop for a moment and raise our glasses to the constituents of Grey North and Dr. Edward Henry Horsey. Proud to know that in a small way our poor November weather and we are responsible for the glorious long weekend in May.

Kate Walsh has a Masters Degree in History and is a teacher at Sydenham School in Owen Sound. When she isn't teaching, she writes.

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# From the Front Burner

by Paul Thomas



**T**ime for reading is a rare commodity in our busy lives. We are daily bombarded with information and, if that isn't enough, we need only access the internet to become completely submerged with the latest of everything. That said, my reading time has found a new slot whilst spinning on my thirty-five-year old ten speed, with our son's music stand as prop. Great therapy for the "post-op" on the hip! Using a clothes peg to hold the pages back is tricky, but doable. The latest book to find its way to the prop is *Consulting the Genius of Place*, by Wes Jackson. It's a very serious overview of how agriculture and the environment and humanity have intertwined over the past several centuries. The bottom line is nothing new: we're in worse shape than we thought, when it comes to how we are producing our food. Jackson advocates using perennial wheats, grains and grasses as a foundation for a new food-producing agriculture. Permit me to share a snippet with you, because as gardeners and producers and consumers of food, we need to heed and act. While it's from 1942, it couldn't be more timely:

*...when you get out on the land with people, and work with them and talk with them about the productivity of the soil, there is some sort of common denominator there. I think that our statesmen, our educators and all of our great men from the beginning of time, have missed that point. When you begin to talk and work with the fertility of the soil and the way it relates to the welfare of humanity, you are talking a common language. It brings people closer together. It will bring nations closer together.* P.121, Consulting the Genius of Place by Wes Jackson

I was spinning so fast I thought I better come up for air: *We are what we eat.* There are so many links to be made even here in the Owen Sound area where we can, we must, make decisions about our diet that help to build a more sustainable community. Getting dirt under our fingernails, if only symbolically by supporting local food growers, is essential.

I was raised on the philosophy: *think global, act local.* So the other day, while I was rebuilding the planters in front of MarketSide, I had two encounters which resulted in offers to engage in public gardening projects. One was for a neighbourhood compost site, and the other was to begin to survey public lands suitable for community garden plots, much like the United Way has fostered on 9<sup>th</sup> Street, East, in Owen Sound. It's time.

Remember from April MOSAIC, that feeling of being overwhelmed by something larger than our own tiny perspective? Does urban agriculture, from plot to pot, give us an opportunity to feel better about our own genius of place and, in so doing, build neighbourhoods and offer an aesthetic sense of beauty for all? Let's embrace urban agriculture in our city with gusto! In our cold frames, I'm happy to report that the spinach, arugula and chard have germinated and begun their quest for light and life. The miracle of planting seeds never ceases to amaze me. It really is that easy. Plant seeds; grow hope.

As the daylight lengthens and leads us into this renewal of getting outside, getting our hands dirty and feeling the sun on our faces, it's time also to renew and re-assess our larders. Using up the last of the winter vegetables and saluting the end of another successful season can offer some creative culinary expressions

in the kitchen. It is so tempting to jump into the produce aisles these days and fall victim to some of the exotics like asparagus from who knows where...resist dear friends...be patient and wait for the Real McCoy from your own region. You will taste the difference and you'll be glad you did. Instead, why not create a bountiful harvest pie from what remains of hardier roots and tubers? One that we love to make in the MarketSide kitchen goes something like this.

## The Recipe

**Harvest Pie:** Use prepared quinoa (pronounced keen-wa; see April MOSAIC for preparation details). I like to curry it up and add some raisins and chopped apples. This will form the bottom layer.

Next roast some of the root vegetables like squash, parsnips, turnips, carrots, potatoes, onions. Dice and sprinkle with a little roasted sesame oil, salt and pepper — (from our first article on making soup (Nov./Dec/2010 MOSAIC). This will form the middle layer of the pie.

Lastly, cook up a mix of squash, carrot and sweet potato, or any of these on their own. Add some fresh ginger to this mix and season to your taste. When off the stove use your blender or food processor to puree into a smooth blend. Feel free to add tofu to this mix.

Form the top of your pie. I use a pastry recipe out of my mother's recipe box:

2 cups flour  
1 egg  
1 cup shortening  
a dash of vinegar and some cold water.

Blend and roll out over your favourite pie plate, the deeper the better. Then layer in the quinoa, vegetables and puree and fold over the excess pastry on top. Bake in the oven at 425 degrees to finish for 20 - 30 minutes.

Celebrate the end of the season with this robust vegetarian harvest pie and know that spring is just around the corner. As soon as you can, get out into the garden...wage war on your lawn and turn at least some of the area into a patch for an edible garden. An area of one square metre will be a great start. Believe me, you'll taste the difference. **M**



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# Whetting Our Appetites

..... by Monica Graf

We just said goodbye to the 2010 Words Aloud Festival in the March issue of MOSAIC in which Ruth Mittelholz reviewed a toe-tapping, ear-snapping encore performance by C.R. Avery, and we're already back pawing at the gates, eager to usher in the eighth festival this November. Are we putting the coffee on too early? Certainly not, since the preparations have been percolating for at least seven months. We're bubbling over with enthusiasm and information to relay.



Ariel Gordon

Words Aloud remains loyal to its tradition of showcasing a diverse assortment of unique talents, genres and performance styles, gathering together voices from regions across Canada and beyond. Although the festival bills itself as a 'spoken word' event, there is a lot more than just speaking that goes on!

The sky is the limit, when it comes to the possibilities of conveying language through voicing. The piece might be yelled out, murmured, hissed ...or an artist might sing or tongue tap with percussive beat boxing. A voice can be ornamented and enhanced by accompanying instruments or puppets. We've seen stuffed animals and costumes, drums, recorders and slide shows. The artists may slam, dub or hip hop their creations to us. We could be treated to small skits or the two-step shuffle. Or, our attention may be quietly drawn to a single voice sharing the beautiful bones of a poem.

The hooks have been cast into the ocean of literary talent, and Artistic Director Liz Zetlin is reeling in some phenomenal performers. The impressive stamp Durham's already made on the map of spoken word festival destinations is only getting bigger

with this year's emerging line-up, even more so with the well known 'big catches' we've made! To whet your appetite, here's a sampler sized introduction to the line-up confirmed so far. We'll update you as the year ticks on. We invite you to look up the authors on the



Lillian Allen

Internet to get acquainted with them.

First we introduce **Anne Simpson**, who's an award-winning poet and novelist based in Nova Scotia. Following Anne, we say hello to Ontario based **Lillian Allen**, who's known to rouse audiences out of their seats with her dub poetry. Perhaps you've heard of her landmark album "Revolutionary Party." We then swivel our attention in another direction entirely and welcome **Ayub Nuri**, who's originally from Iraq. Perhaps he'll escort us to his home country briefly through his journalist writings. Next we usher in **Ariel Gordon**, an emerging poet from Manitoba, who'll tempt us with refreshing writings. And speaking of "Gordon", can you guess the name of the well-known and loved singer-songwriter who's hopping the fence from Guelph to join us? None other than **James Gordon**, will be treating us to songs of social justice, our heritage and the environment.

Also joining this talented team is **Steven Heighton**, who many of you may already be familiar with. Let's give this prolific and acclaimed author of 20 novels and books of poetry a warm reception! We also welcome Marilyn Dumont, a poet with Métis and Cree ancestry whose work is filtered through multi-cultural lenses, encouraging us to look beyond our cultural short-sightedness. Finally, we announce with enormous pleasure the special



Steven Heighton

appearance of a legendary performer who has been in the 'biz' for decades, who almost single-handedly changed the way poetry is performed and regarded, who is a veteran of the countercultural beat generation and is still going strong; please give a very warm hello to New York based **John Giorno** as he joins us on his 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Tour.

As if this wasn't enough, *Words Aloud* will shift its focus away from the Durham Art Gallery stage just long enough to feature spoken word satellite events throughout the area. We will be combining efforts with partnering organizations and venues to host events like *the International Festival of Authors*, which draws more than 100 authors from 25 countries for a series of readings and on-stage interviews. Most IFOA events are located at Harbourfront, Toronto, but Owen Sound will also showcase internationally acclaimed authors.

There's still so much more to 'speak' about! We'll continue to provide you with in-depth information about the festival while also introducing the concepts and history of spoken word and poetry in general. You can see why we started talking about all this so early! **ℳ**

*Words Aloud 8, Spoken Word, and Storytelling Festival, is being held this year on Nov 4, 5, and 6. Check out the Words Aloud website ([www.wordsaloud.ca](http://www.wordsaloud.ca)) for a look at last year's festival, and sign up for the e-newsletter to stay in touch for updates about the main stage program, as well as the Children's Program, the Toronto Youth Slam Team, and IFOA Ontario, where The Downtown Bookstore brings authors from the International Festival of Authors to Owen Sound.*

# At the DURHAM ART GALLERY

by Ilsa Gassinger

D/A  
Durham Art Gallery

## Secrets and Lies:

On display until Sunday, May 15

The Durham Art Gallery's current show features thought-provoking and conceptually intriguing photo-based portraits by two renowned Canadian artists: a selection from Arthur Renwick's ongoing series *Mask* which he began in 2006 and from Susan Dobson's series *Rememory* dated 2008. **Arthur Renwick** is increasingly acknowledged internationally as a First Nations artist. He was born on a Haisla reserve in Kitimat, British Columbia and received his Master of Fine Arts in Photography at Concordia University in Montreal. **Susan Dobson** was born in Moncton, New Brunswick and received her Master of Fine Arts from the University in Guelph where she currently lives. Her work has been widely exhibited internationally.



by Susan Dobson

## Yes I Do:

On display until Sunday, May 15

In his work as an engagement and wedding photographer, Jimmy Bender, focuses on what might otherwise be overlooked, capturing pictures that tell the story behind the story. These are the little moments that form to create the big day: brides primping and groomsmen "grooming." Bender, who grew up in Durham, also has a gift for finding beauty in decrepitude: crumbling back alleys and rusty jalopies create bittersweet and nostalgic backdrops for photos of promise and hope. Creative vision and careful staging blended with a meticulous attention to form and detail, takes Bender's work out of the realm of memento and places it well within the realm of art.



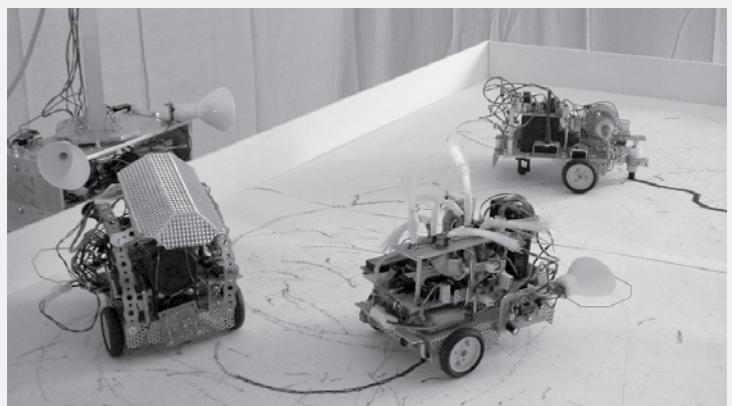
by Jimmy Bender

## Spring Brewhaha!:

Saturday, May 7, 8pm at the Durham Town Hall (main floor)

Join us for a highly entertaining variety night on the eve of Mother's Day hosted by musical comedians Jenny Parsons and Steve Morel (a.k.a. "The Funny Ones"). Jenny and Steve will introduce a selection of songs from their new folksy musical farce, *Brewhaha*. Set in the Neustadt Brewery, *Brewhaha* features West Grey politicians Agnes Macphail and John Diefenbaker, along with many other fabulous local heroes. Rounding out the evening will be new music by Jim Grant and his amazing back-up band, fantastic puppetry by Yolanda Yott, Nate the Great - Junior Magician, and a live auction of locally-sourced merchandise, services and event tickets.

Admission: \$15 or \$12 for seniors, youth and gallery members. 12 and under are free.



by Jessica Field

## COMMON PULSE

### Residency and Workshops

COMMON PULSE is an art and digital culture festival celebrating and exploring new ideas in media art, technology and society. The festival consists of several inter-connected events and takes place from June 10 to June 12, 2011 in and around the Durham Art Gallery. Please check out [www.commonpulse.ca](http://www.commonpulse.ca) for details.

There are four main elements to COMMON PULSE: a symposium, an artist residency, exhibitions and performances. New works will be created by COMMON PULSE artists-in-residence Ken Gregory, Jessica Field, Laura Kikauka, Andrew McPerson and Karo Szmit during the three weeks leading up to the festival. Hands-on workshops will provide an opportunity for artists and students to explore hardware hacking and software mash-ups.

For more information contact the Gallery  
at 519-369-3692 or email [info@durhamart.on.ca](mailto:info@durhamart.on.ca)

Hours: Tues to Fri, 10 to 5,

Sat, Sun and Holidays, 1 to 4 plus Thurs evenings 7 to 8pm

Location: 251 George Street East, Durham

# Edge Hill Country School brings Head, Heart and Hands to Children's Learning

The first thing you notice when you pull up to Edge Hill School in the morning, is motion. Children are climbing the rough wooden structures, pumping the swings for all they're worth, exploring in the mud, calling to each other to play. They are called to class, in one of the three small buildings on the grassy property, by a school bell, pulled on a rope by one lucky kid each day. This is life at Edge Hill, a rural Waldorf-inspired school.

Edge Hill School, located just east of Durham, began as a stone schoolhouse in 1872. Many local residents fondly recall their years there through the decades. In the fall of 1986, the efforts of a small group of parents transformed Edge Hill into Edge Hill Country Day School, a Waldorf "initiative". That means it draws from the fastest-growing independent school system in the world. Its 1919 originator, Rudolf Steiner, was charged with the task of developing an educational approach that encourages a sense of social responsibility, respect, and compassion; to teach children how to work co-operatively; and to enable them to contribute to society and culture.

The Waldorf inter-disciplinary approach to learning, using practical and artistic as well as academic elements to make learning deeper and more memorable, is catching on world-wide.

As mainstream school systems focus on costs and disparate demands from parents for "more, faster" and the results show up in stressed-out families and over-scheduled lives, the Waldorf movement could be considered a companion to the "slow food" movement. Edge Hill uses this well-established Waldorf curriculum and approach for its students from kindergarten to Grade Eight. You notice the difference as soon as you enter any of the school's classrooms: there's both simplicity and richness. Each class includes a nature table, beautiful paintings and other student work, a chalk drawing on the blackboard relating to the current lesson "block". There are basic school supplies, but no computer screens. The Waldorf approach emphasizes the importance of the right thing at the right time, and insists on allowing the child the chance to have a childhood, with particular importance on imagination, learning by doing and times to simply "breathe out".

Where you really notice the difference is when you speak to the children. They are actively engaged in learning, even when they don't know it. They take their lessons with them and the transition from learning to recreation is practically seamless. At recess, you can see children re-enacting the morning's Greek myth or practicing balancing

skills on the long logs temptingly laid out in the schoolyard. The Grade Five botany block results in those students wandering under the trees, delighting in their ability to identify the different species.

While these are still children of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, they are not pre-occupied with screens and pop culture. They are involved with the living world and their discovery of what's in it. Their focus is paying off: many who enter regional competitions in everything from writing to public speaking to music to visual arts, distinguish themselves, often in disproportionate numbers to the size of the school. Visitors often comment that they wish they'd attended a school like this, and indeed many families are prepared to make major changes in lifestyle to ensure their children have this advantage.

You can see Edge Hill Country Day School in action, when the students, faculty and parents offer a celebration of the warmer weather at its **May Fair** on Saturday, **May 28<sup>th</sup>** with games and activities, music and the yearly May Pole dance. It's a great time to be a kid, if you're an Edge Hill kid.

For more information on the school or upcoming events, visit [www.edgehill-school.com](http://www.edgehill-school.com) or call at 519-369-3195.

## The Good, the Bad, and the Downright Ugly

The Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre (BCM&CC) in Southampton features an extensive history of Bruce County and all it entails. From storms creating shipwrecks, to lighthouses and their keepers, there is no end to what you will see and learn when it comes to Marine Heritage. The museum is also the proud new home of the Stokes Bay Lighthouse, which now overlooks Fairy Lake.

The BCM&CC offers adult and children's programming; exhibits; a rich history of Bruce County; and a wonderful gift shop. One visit will have you buying a membership.

Don't miss the 2011 Summer Blockbuster "Grossology; The (Impolite) Science of the Human Body." Visit the Vomit

centre. Stop by the *Toot Toot* exhibit, help a larger-than-life cartoon character release a giant burp, climb a large scale replica of human skin, slide through an intestine and explore the role of the kidney in a virtual reality experience in *Urine: The Game*. Grossology uses sophisticated animatronics to explain the good, the bad and the downright ugly truth about runny noses, body odour and much more – but only from May 21<sup>st</sup> to September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

To keep up with all of the events and happenings at the BCM&CC, at 33 Victoria Street North, Southampton, visit [www.brucemuseum.ca](http://www.brucemuseum.ca) or phone toll free 1-866-318-8889.

# Nothing Without Effort

by Narda Elvidge

"*Tada gan iarracht*" is Gaelic for "Nothing without effort." The statement seems to perfectly describe Robert Burcher's life. The Thornbury resident's manuscript is a story steeped in historical intrigue and theories that even the hardened academic may find too fantastic to believe, but all of the pieces of a 16-year-old puzzle seem to fit together. Mr. Burcher is a photographer turned amateur history sleuth. The latter occupation started with a visit to Peterborough's Petroglyph site in the early 1990s, leading to his current literary pursuit.

The Petroglyphs are believed to have been carved by the Algonkian people around 900 AD. The carvings, called *Kinomagewapkong* (the rocks that teach) by the First Nations people of Ontario, depict many interesting images; their meaning is lost over the course of time, but speculation abounds.

Upon viewing the rock out-cropping containing over 900 ancient Petroglyph images, one in particular would spark



A Peterborough Petroglyph "sailboat" image

Robert Burcher to begin research that would produce a fascinating theory; did Celtic explorers make land fall on North American Shores? The image appeared to be that of a sailboat, and being a sailor himself, Robert knew there were no traditions of native North Americans sailing, and that they "were in fact terrified to venture out into the big waters of the Great Lakes." The question then was, why did a sailboat appear on a native site?

Research into this particular image was informative, but conclusions by some academics did not sit well with Mr. Burcher. One conclusion, by Joan and Romas Vastokas, was that this image depicted a "funeral boat," which was intended to sail to heaven carrying the souls of native people after death. But why would you travel to heaven in a sailboat,

if you did not use one in your normal day-to-day life?

The image elicited more questions than answers. Alternative theories suggest Viking and even Celtic explorers made it this far inland and the images depicted visitations by these people. Mr. Burcher's continued research into the sailboat carving would lead to his solid belief that this was a Celtic sailing vessel called a 'curragh'. "I started doing some sleuthing in books and found a match with an image of a boat from Ireland dating back to 500 AD., 1500 years ago," he explained. "I went 'OK, that's interesting.' It fits with my observations."

Evidence of such a vessel reaching our North American shores were further strengthened, thanks to an Irish adventurer named Tim Severin, who in 1976 built a curragh based on an ancient design. Ancient Irish texts referenced a Saint, called "Brendan the Navigator," travelling to North America between 484 A.D. and 578 A.D. With a crew of three, they set off on a voyage to see if a trip was possible in the primitive craft. They encountered many mishaps along the way, but in the end the ancient craft design landed on the coast of Newfoundland. Celtic travellers could have braved the ocean waves and landed on North American shores after all.

Research into another prominent image called the *Gitchee Manitou* (The One Big God) gave way to another theory. Could this image actually be a Celtic traveller, playing a musical instrument? This idea was not broached until Mr. Burcher was asked to give a talk on his findings to the Beaverton Historical Society. During his talks, he often incorporates images, and encourages discussion upon viewing them. "I showed the Petroglyph photos and someone said, 'You know what I see? I see someone playing a musical instrument. Have you ever thought of that?'" he recalled. "I could see it just like that. I had a new direction which was to research some of the musical aspects of the site. Within 24 hours, I discovered that this image was of an Irish instrument that dated back 2,000 years." It is a wind instrument called a *Lur*, which consists of a conical shaped tube bent into an S-shape with an embossed metal disk at the end; its length running anywhere from five to eight feet. Robert Burcher travelled to Ireland to meet Simon O'Dwyer, a classically trained musician and expert on Bronze Age music. He demonstrated how a *Lur* is played and just the image alone tends to leave people speechless.



Does this Peterborough Petroglyph image of the "Gitchee Manitou" depicted a Celtic traveller playing a musical instrument called a "Lur"?

Other areas explored included the acoustics that resonate from within the Peterborough Petroglyph rock formation, the suggestion St. Patrick was actually driving out heathens who played symbolic instruments in the shape of a serpent and that the motivating factor for the Celtic voyages was the need for high quality copper for use in such things as weapons and artwork.

Research into Celtic mythology revealed stories of people travelling behind the sunset and arriving back with golden apples – were these highly prized items copper? To further the mystery, the mythologies state that these apples were harvested from under the sea. If you bring the focus back to the Great Lakes region, particularly the Keweenaw Peninsula, there is an area where one can find copper lying on the ground. Ancient volcanic activity was responsible for the deposits of nearly pure copper. Wave action in the Great Lakes molded the copper and, over thousands of years, beautifully tumbled nuggets washed to the shoreline. The natives use to call them two things – *apples from the lake* or *thunder bird eggs*; the golden apple of Celtic mythology appeared to correspond with this.

Delving into these mythologies during this intensive investigation has

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*Author Robert Burcher with a reproduction of an amphora; an ancient ceramic vessel used to hold wine or oil.*

revealed much about the Celtic way of life, their battles and more importantly their travels. Mythologies are often looked upon as stories with little historical significance. Keep in mind that any story can be equally valid and thus equally invalid. But these stories were the means of passing down oral histories of a culture. If you follow the thread of truth, woven within the fabric of these stories, the narrative of real events will become clear and the conclusions drawn by Robert Burcher become plausible.

Burcher's manuscript can be placed alongside other literary works that question the mainline stream of thinking and willing to explore avenues outside the box.

### **Update:**

Since writing this story, things have taken a dramatic turn. In the course of doing research at the Museum of Civilization in Ottawa, Mr. Burcher found reference to a boulder on the coast of Newfoundland that might provide the final piece to this fascinating puzzle. The boulder is located near the L'Anse Aux Meadow in Newfoundland, a Viking settlement discovered in 1960 by Helge and Anne Stine Ingstad.

The boulder contains the possible existence of an ancient form of writing called 'Celtic Ogham'; writing that pre-dates Christianity in Ireland. The markings on the boulder remain un-deciphered to this day; this is a link that might one day silence the naysayers and open a new chapter on our terra firma.

*Narda Elvidge is a freelance reporter  
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## **Growing up Gay\* in Bruce and Grey: Reflections by Current and Former Residents**

Collected by Joan Beecroft

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