

MOSAIC GREY BRUCE
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & COMMUNITY

the
owen sounder

.....
vol 6 no 1 spring 2024

combining two great community
magazines in one great issue!

FEATURING:

- Wordshop 2024!
- Heads Up!
- Write @ Your Library Winners!
- River District Academy!
- ...and so much more!



Sarah M. Zelkowitz



The Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library
and The Ginger Press
present

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a one-day experience for beginning and experienced writers

9:30 TO 4:00 SUNDAY APRIL 7 AT THE OWEN SOUND LIBRARY

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- ⇒ **ANNE DONDERTMAN + ARWEN GREENWOOD** - What makes a book rare?
- ⇒ **DIANE FERGUSON** - What I've Learned from Writing Workshops
- ⇒ **GLORIA HILDEBRANDT** - Writing for Magazines
- ⇒ **JENNY LEE LEARN** - Writing and Publishing Books for Children
- ⇒ **MIRANDA MILLER** - AI for writers and editors
- ⇒ **TARA SHANNON** - Writing and Illustrating Inspirational Books
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and introducing Owen Sound's newest Poet Laureate!

plus networking with local writers,
opportunities to connect with existing literary groups
and create new ones, open mic, book table, and a delicious box lunch!

Registration (\$95) now open.

Participants can sign up for four sessions
online at <https://www.osngupl.ca/wordshop> or at
The Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library.
824 1st Avenue West Owen Sound



Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library



THE GINGER PRESS

the owen sounder
and MOSAIC

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about the front cover:

Piping plovers, an endangered small shorebird, nest at Sauble Beach in early May, when there are few predators or people around. By June, just when the chicks hatch and hit the ground running, the beach gets busier. Volunteers watch over the chicks to try and protect them, as well as educate the public about the birds. Local artist Sarah McComb Turbitt's painting of the plover will be included in her exhibition at Grey Gallery (March 7 to 30) of endangered species; it is a fundraiser for Wildlife Preservation Canada.

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mosaic + the owen sounder

FROM MY DESK

Welcome to spring! As usual, we've compressed so much into this issue, it feels like the pages can barely contain our community. Here at The Ginger Press, we're looking ahead to what could well be our busiest year ever. In addition to four issues of this magazine, we've also launched an online publication in partnership with Miranda Miller. *The Owen Sound Current* provides subscribers with very up-to-date news and views about what's happening in and around Owen Sound. Check it out at owensoundcurrent.com.

And books! We will be publishing lots and lots of new books in 2024! Coming up soon will be a couple of new books from Richard Thomas: the first celebrates the 50th anniversary of the *Chi-Cheemaun*, and the second will explore the history of the King's Royal Hotel, the remarkable, opulent 100+ room resort built just north of Owen Sound, which opened in 1902 and was demolished in 1916. Described as "Canada's Most Modern Summer Resort" the King's Royal will also be the subject of the feature exhibit this summer at the Community Waterfront Heritage Centre.

We are also working on new spring books from Lili Anne Holding (author, *Mythos* and *Oykos*) as she concludes her history of the local Greek community with *Bios*; and George Auer (author *Soldiers of the Soil* and *The Day the Ravebeek Ran Grey*) with *An Indomitable Spirit: The Life and Times of Major Homer Jukes, DSO, MC*. Another new book this spring will be Gwen Lamont's memoir *View from Coffin Ridge: A Childhood Exhumed*. And so much more...stay tuned!

- Maryann

WORDSHOP 2024

Once again, The Ginger Press has partnered with the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library to bring you Wordshop 2024. This one-day event for writers at every stage of their career brings a wonderful range of sessions from a great roster of local experts. Check left for the full line of options. Wordshop is also a great opportunity to connect with other local writers, showcase your work at the open mic, browse the book table which features books from the presenters, and recharge your writing. Register now at the Library!

WHAT IS JEST ARTS?

JENNY PARSONS

JEST ARTS is the thing you do when you buy a storefront. You call it something. When you purchase a bungalow, well that's easy, no label required. Your car might get a nickname, but the condo – no! The castle probably comes with a monarch's moniker, but the average domicile is what it is. A home. Which is the name for all kinds of places where the hat is hung.

We tossed our toques into a main street building in the town of Durham partly because I like tall ceilings. Then came the sign. We took JE from Jenny and ST from Steve (my hubby) to spell JEST. The ARTS part included comedic performance classes, in the beginning. It shifted to paintings thereafter. The transformation from gallery to gift-shoppe transpired when someone brought in an armload of handmade sweaters. We've added hats made of men's ties, magic bath salts, and bamboo undies (more comfortable

than any other thing you'll put near your bits, ever)! The Tarot readings? Well, where there is a demand for answers, one offers psychic supply. Bagels? Montreal-styled? Why not? Steve grew up in his mother's bakery making donuts, swap the sprinkles for sesame seeds and – voila!

Are you still confused about what we offer? Maybe, if you received our newsletter, *Today's Bananas* everything would become clear. Sign up by emailing us at jestartsmarket@gmail.com. In *Today's Bananas*, you will learn about events we're hosting, like the history of Wicca, meat preservation, and how to darn a pair of socks (not all on the same day). You'll also meet our talented vendors.

One thing's for sure, I'm glad we were NOT named Samantha and Adam, because that would end up spelling "SAAD ARTS". And we don't do opera.... Yet! Jest Arts Gallery Shoppe is located at 148 Garafraxa Street in Durham.

REACH CENTRE GREY BRUCE TURNS TEN!

JENNIFER MILLER

The Reach Centre Grey Bruce is celebrating 10 years of experience in creating empowering life-changing programming for youth and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Throughout the past decade, the program has evolved to meet the changing needs of participants, families, volunteers, and the community. The agency focuses on three pillars: skill acquisition for independence, meaningful contribution to community, and friendship.

In March, 2021, the agency opened the Reach Centre facility located on 369 8th Street East, Owen Sound and refocused outreach efforts with intentional partnerships for inclusion and continued contextual learning. By doing so, they solidified their impact with measurable outcomes. Program participants acquire skills for independence including social emotional competence, self-regulatory skills, neuroplasticity, self-reliance and self-advocacy skills, employment readiness as well as improved mental health and well-being.

Current partnerships of the REACH Centre include Owen Sound Police Services, Grey County, Bruce Grey Children and Family Services, and more. The agency also partners with Grey Bruce Public Health to assemble the harm reduction kits and volunteers at O'SHARE to assist with the Food Rescue program.

"Our programs are evidence-based and grounded in

bestpractice," stated Executive Director, Jennifer Miller. "By leveraging passive learning strategies, we strive to ensure every day is their best day while they continue to grow, learn and connect. We have over 50 families we support and a service rate of 100 participants a week running 48 weeks a year. That's over 135,000 hours of skills training annually."



Continuing to look for opportunities to facilitate inclusion and connection, the REACH Centre will be having several events this year including their Annual Walk/Run for REACH event on May 4, at the Bayshore Community Centre. They will also be doing a community art project celebrating the diversity of the human experience. The project will invite various community groups to do a watercolour that will be woven together to make a tapestry of connection. That installation will be featured at the REACH Centre and will be part of an installation at the TOM Thomson Art Gallery in September as part of a larger exhibition that will feature a celebration of Neurodiverse Art in our community.

For more information on the REACH Centre, visit <https://reachcentre.org/> or call (519) 377-9204.

EMPOWERING PEOPLE AND PREVENTING POVERTY

FRANCESCA DOBBYN • ●

The United Way's Financial Literacy Program is a free confidential program that can be life-changing. There is no eligibility criteria except that you live in Grey or Bruce. Financial literacy plays a crucial role in poverty prevention, by providing the knowledge and tools necessary to make informed financial decisions, build confidence, and secure a more stable future. By offering counselling, courses, workshops, and online resources, this program equips you with the knowledge to make informed decisions, avoid costly mistakes, and improve financial well-being.

The budgeting exercise is a key aspect of financial literacy, as it helps you gain an understanding of your finances. Fraud prevention is another essential component. People with low income are often vulnerable to scams and schemes that promise quick riches or easy solutions to debt. By understanding the basics of fraud prevention, people can safeguard their hard-earned money.

Filing income tax is also a critical aspect of financial



literacy, especially for people with low income. You may not be aware of the benefits and credits you are eligible for, resulting in missed opportunities to receive assistance. By educating you about tax laws, deductions, and credits, this program can help maximize your income and access support that can alleviate financial burdens.

The average household income of people accessing the Financial Literacy Program in 2023 was \$25,200. Over 260 appointments were scheduled for 245 unique households. This involved 421 adults including 146 seniors, and 32 children. To access this program, contact coordinator Caroline at advice@unitedwaybg.com or phone (519) 378-4773.

The United Way Financial Literacy Program is 100% supported by United Way donors. To make a donation, please visit www.donatetoday.ca and comment 'financial literacy' when making your donation. In person donations can be made at 380 9th Street East in Owen Sound or by calling (519) 376-1560 M-F 8:30 to 4:30.

COMMUNITY WATERFRONT HERITAGE CENTRE

JAN CHAMBERLAIN • • • • • • • • • •

We've got something to celebrate in 2024! The city turned over the keys to the former Marine and Rail Museum in the spring of 2014, after a strong community campaign to save the then 30-year-old museum. Now, 10 years later and after many volunteer hours and much community support, the Community Waterfront Heritage Centre (CWHC) has arrived at a 40-year record of holding our museum as the keeper of our past marine, rail, and industrial history.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at 7:00pm on Wednesday May 8 at the Branch 6 Legion in Owen Sound. Guest speaker Richard Thomas

will give a talk on the former King's Royal Hotel at Balmy Beach, which will be featured in the CWHC summer exhibit as well as his upcoming book. We'll also be updating our *30 for 30* special edition keepsake book to *40 for 40*; this new book will highlight 40 artifacts and 40 special contributors to the CWHC. It will be launched at the AGM.

Several special events will be held throughout 2024 to "Make Memories at our Museum." You continue to generously donate memorabilia from our past and throughout this celebration year we'll be highlighting many artifacts in special pop up



displays throughout the community which highlight the cultural role this museum plays.

Everyone is welcome to attend the AGM with Richard Thomas. For more information on the CWHC, contact <https://waterfrontheritage.ca/> or email info@waterfrontheritage.ca. Thank you for your support.



You are invited to join The Helpers,

our monthly donation program that supports all the work and programs that make a difference in our community.

Throughout March, if you create a new monthly gift of \$20 or more in support of United Way Bruce Grey through CanadaHelps, they will make a one-time extra \$20 donation to your United Way! This could become a meal for a family, a week's worth of wood pellet heat, two packages of period supplies, or so much more!

Sign up today at www.thehelpers.ca.

REMEMBERING BARNEY BARNINGHAM

Ya gonna hafta manage the world without me

- Francis Robert Barningham: January 28, 1933 – November 14, 2023

Barney Barningham, born in England, had many friends in this area and many lives during his almost 91 years. His choice, through MAID, he passed away on November 14, 2023.

Barney was a great storyteller and his long and varied life meant he had a large store of them. During the early 1980s he was a limousine driver in Toronto and loved to recount how he had been called to pick up John Belushi's wife Judith, at Dan Aykroyd's home near Toronto (both were in the classic movie *The Blues Brothers*). Belushi had recently died of an overdose and his wife and Aykroyd were grieving together. Upon leaving, Akyroyd told Barney to take care of Judith on the way to the airport. Barney, always a quick wit, responded by saying, 'Don't worry, I'm on a mission from god', a famous quote from *The Blues Brothers* movie.

"I admire(d) Barney for his authenticity, upholding his values as a vegan, peace activist, and generous community advocate," said friend, Dyan Jones. Barney didn't do things halfway. As a peace activist, he spent every Saturday for three years at Durham's four corners, accompanied by many supporters, protesting the bombing of Serbia by NATO and then the invasion of Iraq by the USA. He was handed the Owen Sound YMCA Peace Medal that year. Right up to near the end, in October last year, when he was 90, he was on the corner of 10th Street and 2nd Avenue East in Owen Sound, holding signs saying, "Ceasefire Now" and "War is Not a Solution" in relation to the attack on Gaza by Israel.

He and his dear wife Liz, who passed away by the same choice two years ago, were great supporters of growers of local food, especially Saugeen River CSA, north of Durham. Cory Eichman, owner, told me that Barney and Liz became members very early on, receiving locally grown food from the CSA for years and years. They also gave generous financial support to the operation which, “kept us going; they were such a boost.” Barney very recently inspired Cory to call a meeting of his members. “I heard his voice in my head saying, “It is Community Shared Agriculture.” Out of the meeting there is now a core group of members who will be part of the operation. “I call it the Barney group,” says Cory.

Randy Martin recalls that Barney and Liz wanted him and his crew to build an off-grid solar home for them on the outskirts of Durham. To finalize the design details, Barney drove a small motorcycle all the way to Nova Scotia and back.



to consult with the original designer. He was in his seventies by then. He also worked alongside Randy helping to build his house in hot summer weather.

"He was surprisingly easy to talk to," said Penny Rogerson from Elmwood, who met Barney fairly recently through the Saugeen Trading Community where he was a member for over 20 years. Penny's homemade desserts were a favourite of his.

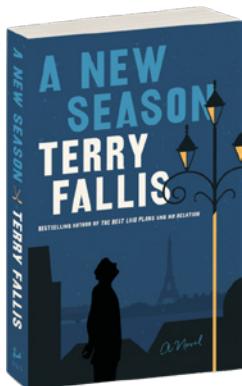
The last time I saw Barney was when I went to visit him with my wife Lillian, at his apartment in Owen Sound. He wanted to show me his car, which he wanted to pass on to me when he died. I joked that the car, already over 10 years old, would be too old to drive by the time he passed. He seemed in such good shape, quick witted as usual, sarcastic about politics, always with a big smile.

Two weeks later he was gone. Although Barney had told friends that he would choose MAID, he didn't want to broadcast that final date, and his cancer was getting worse. The licence plates on his car said "PEACE EH."

Barney wrote his final email and timed it to be sent an hour after he passed, a self written eulogy. So like Barney – brave, cheeky, full of love. He titled it, *Going, Going, Gone*: “Farewell dear friends, plant a tree, let John Lennon’s *Imagine* be your anthem and to quote Clayton Ruby, ‘Go out and change the world.’ Peace...Barney”.

TERRY FALLIS IN KIMBERLEY

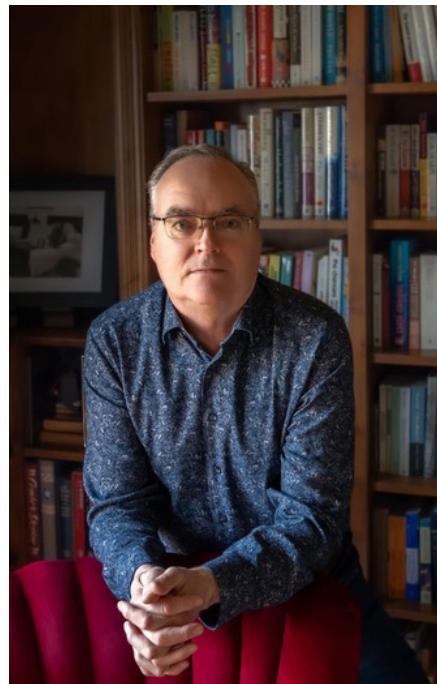
JANET POUNDER •



Author Terry Fallis will read from his most recent novel *A New Season* at 2:00pm on Wednesday May 8 at the Kimberley Community Centre in the Beaver Valley. Hosted by the Grey Highlands Probus Club, this event is part of their ongoing programming to provide social events throughout the year.

Unlike Terry's other books, *A New Season* is a thoughtful exploration of aging, loss, family, friendship, and love, written with his trademark humour and heart. This is the ninth book written by the bestselling author who has been awarded the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour twice.

The Grey Highlands Probus Club is a social club that provides regular gatherings for people who appreciate and value opportunities to meet others from the Grey Highlands area wanting to pursue similar areas of interest. Over 20 activity groups provide opportunities for members to meet new people, make new friends, pursue common interests and discover or try out new ones. Participate in as few or as many activities as you like, no experience is required. Activities range from book and bridge clubs, cycling or snowshoeing, to a writers' group and everything in between. More information is available at <https://greyhighlandsprobus.club>.



An advertisement for the Owen Sound Farmers' Market. It features a circular logo with the text 'Owen Sound Farmers' Market' and 'YES, WE ARE OPEN!' in large yellow letters. Below the logo, it says 'The Market is open Saturdays 8am-12:30pm' and provides the website 'www.owensoundfarmersmarket.ca'. The background of the ad shows various fresh vegetables like carrots, potatoes, and pumpkins.

Celebrating 175 Years!
in downtown Owen Sound
featuring 50+ local vendors

114 8th Street East 519-371-3433
8:00am to 12:30pm every Saturday
www.owensoundfarmersmarket.ca

LEARN TO MEDITATE

LAURA LANE • • • • • • • • • • •

Have heard that meditation is good thing that could better your life but you don't know how to do it? Have you heard that prayer and meditation go together but you have only figured out the prayer part? Not sure that could just sit and be quiet for 5 minutes because your mind goes a mile a minute? Courage Coach Laura Lane addresses all those concerns in her half day and full day Soul Chocolate meditation retreats. With over a decade in experience teaching women of faith how to incorporate meditation into their daily life, in a way that fits harmoniously with their beliefs, Laura guides her participants on how to find moments of quiet reflection no matter how hectic life seems. Register now for her full day retreat May 25 hosted in beautiful South Bruce Peninsula. Registration is limited: \$247 early bird price; includes healthy meals, a luxurious day of pampering, gentle exercise, relaxation, instruction, and guided meditations at www.lauralane.ca/soul-chocolate-retreats or contact laura@lauralane.ca for more details.

ENTERPRISING WOMEN OF BRUCE COUNTY

ROBIN HILBORN, BRUCE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

For eight decades, two Bruce County women tirelessly sent daily weather reports to the national weather service. The pioneer weather observers were Catherine Isabella McNabb (1840-1917), starting in 1872, followed by her protégée and neighbour, Agnes Tolmie (1861-1951). They sent thrice-daily weather observations to Toronto by Morse code over a telegraph line strung from their homes on Alice Street to the telegraph office in downtown Southampton.

Nor were Catherine and Agnes unusual in holding decidedly non-traditional jobs. Enterprising Bruce County women have long struck out on their own, opening stores, managing hotels, working in factories. The first stop was often teaching, like Jane Nairn, first schoolteacher in Kincardine (1851), and Edna (Palmer) Aiken, born in 1906, organist at Allenford United Church, and piano teacher to many local children. Also in Allenford, Annie (Heddle) Aiken ran a dressmaking shop around 1917 and trained a number of young apprentices. After teaching, nursing beckoned. Mary F. Stinson, born in Huron Township in 1876, graduated in the first nursing class at McKellar's General Hospital at Fort William. During the deadly flu epidemic of 1918-19, she went "from house to house in Ripley and cared for everyone without remuneration."

When doctors were rare in isolated areas, local women

acted as midwives. In Pike Bay, Catherine Robbins was one of the earliest known midwives, remembered for the pipe she carried. Of course we should not forget Southampton's very first midwife, Angelique Longe (1844-1934), known universally as "Aunt Annie."

Women took positions in libraries or with the telephone company. Mae MacArthur served as Underwood telephone switchboard operator from 1947 until the 1960s. At Brinkman's Corners, Esma Rouse opened the Dew Drop Inn in 1939 while her husband was away guiding. The business she began lasted more than 30 years. Esma also began writing a column for *The Wiarton Echo* in 1944.

With the advent of the Second World War, women moved into war work. Malcolm Furniture in Kincardine had over 300 employees, many of them women, building components for the all-wood Mosquito bomber. And with the men away at war, the women took over. For example, Albert and Alice Wright operated their grocery store at Broadway and Princes streets in Kincardine from 1930 to 1949. But when Albert joined the Home Guard during WWII, Alice ran the store, helped by her daughter May. Mrs. Wright also owned her own hat shop.

More information on the Bruce County Historical Society can be found at www.brucecountyhistory.on.ca.

HARMONY CENTRE NOW HOME TO WOMEN'S A.A. GROUP

AMY STEWART •

Harmony Centre in Owen Sound is now host to a Women's Alcoholics Anonymous group on Sundays and Wednesdays. According to the A.A.'s website, the group is a "fellowship of people who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking." Alcoholics Anonymous has been part of the Grey-Bruce community for more than 75 years. The women's group was formed in 2020, and previously met at The Hub, which

closed in December.

There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; they are self-supporting through their own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution. Their primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety. If you could benefit from A.A.'s Women's group, please consider attending one of their upcoming sessions: Sundays, 3:45 pm, Studio 12 and Wednesdays, 5:30 pm, Studio 12, at the Harmony Centre.

CLOTHESLINES: RIBBONS ACROSS THE SKY

DYAN JONES • • • • • • • • •

The ordinary arts we practise everyday at home are of more importance to the soul than their simplicity might suggest.

- Thomas Moore, Irish poet

This exhibition brings together three distinct artists, Susan Lindsay, Heather Murray and Dyan Jones, as they explore the clothesline as a point of convergence between domesticity and civil disobedience. From political bans to aesthetic symbolism and environmental responsibility, each artist approaches the subversive power of the humble clothesline through their own creative processes to present a visual dialogue that brings the outdoors into the gallery. Please hang out with us in celebration of the clothesline, opening at the Durham Art Gallery, Saturday May 11, from 2 – 4pm. Scatter the Cats will be musical guests at the opening.

The clothesline brings beauty and movement to the landscape. An art form of the commonplace, it is an endearing symbol of everyday life which can evoke sensory connections and rooted emotional memories. There is a simple humility to the clothesline yet the aspects of form and function can raise it to a loftier consideration. This gentle trademark of home claims other distinctions. Quilts hung on a wash line were a subtle communicator of the Underground Railroad, signalling the way to freedom through the displayed quilt design symbolism.

It is well documented that wash line users are reducing electricity use, greenhouse gas emissions, and prolonging the life of clothing. Each household can reduce their carbon footprint by one half tonne per year, saving 900 kWh hours of electricity by utilizing free wind and solar energy. Clotheslines inspire global citizenship and responsible living. While pro-clothesline advocates champion these environmental benefits there are those who oppose laundry lines as an aesthetic affront especially to the urban landscape.

Whereas some municipal jurisdictions juggle with these two



conflicting arguments, bans on clotheslines continue to be put into place or withdrawn according to government whim. Who knew that such simple practical domesticity could be considered subversive? There is an international group, The Right to Dry which advocates for the use of clotheslines, endorsed by Dr. David Suzuki.

Clotheslines: Ribbons Across the Sky will be at the Durham Art Gallery from May 11 to July 7. Community engagement and activities are scheduled throughout this exhibition.

WONDERLAND SINGERS SPRING CHOIR

COCO LOVE • • • • • • • • •

I'll be leading a local choir again this spring. Wah hoo! It'll be on Monday nights, from 7:00pm to 8:30pm at the Harmony Centre from March 4 to May 20. The Spring Choir will include monthly socials after singing with snacks and chit chat time, as well as a low-pressure, fun concert on Friday May 17. To learn more and register for the Spring Choir, visit <https://wonderlandsingers.com/join-local-choir>. Come sing with us! All are welcome.

I'll also be hosting a weekend of joyful, soulful and spirit

lifting singing this summer from August 23 to 25 at the Harmony Centre. We will sing a mix of my songs and cover songs focusing on folk, blues, jazz, and soul music. Songs will be taught by ear and I will lead participants in call and response, circle singing, jazz scatting, and other explorations of music in the moment. Participants will have opportunities to improvise, collaborate, explore harmony, rhythm, creativity, and gain greater trust in their own voice and musicality. Details at wonderlandsingers.com.

NEW BOOK

SHEPHERD'S SIGHT: A FARMING LIFE BY BARBARA McCLEAN

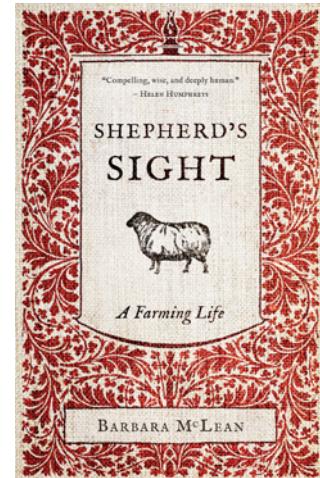
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Grey County sheep farmer Barbara McLean will launch her second book, *Shepherd's Sight: A Farming Life* at 2:00pm on Saturday March 23 at the Durham Art Gallery. Everyone is welcome to attend.

For over 50 years, McLean has tended a flock of Border Leicester sheep on her small farm. In *Shepherd's Sight*, she shares the crises, pleasures, and challenges of farm life over the course of a year. Now in her 70s, McLean faces

a new problem: How much longer can she continue with the physically taxing work that is her central source of meaning and satisfaction?

Through her unsentimental gaze, we witness the highs and heartbreaks of delivering and rearing lambs, the shearing and spinning of wool, the wildlife in the woods (and occasionally in the house), and the garden produce moving from seed to harvest to table. Even after half a century on this land,



McLean is still making fresh observations, and she shares them evocative, elegant prose. As she moves through the calendar year, she also reflects on years past, offering a long view on climate, stewardship, and agriculture.

Copies of *Shepherd's Sight* (\$26.95) will be available at the launch and in local bookshops throughout the region.

UPWARDS!

AMELIA KRAEMER •

We're excited that spring is in the air! Grey County certainly has been grey. We're very fortunate to have such a colourful and vibrant store and studio to work in and for you to visit. Spring brings us all out of hibernation and we have many different workshops to tempt you.

Encaustic painting is a continued focus and we offer workshops for the absolute beginner and the experienced artist alike. This painting process can be traced back to ancient Egypt's Hellenistic period. A combination of beeswax and tree resin is melted together and then coloured pigments are added. Painting is then done with this molten liquid on a rigid board. Throughout the process, additional heat needs to be applied using a blow torch. As in any other medium, different styles can be accomplished. Try one of our workshops to explore this fascinating process.

Mixed media, gelli-plate printing, and collage are also featured workshops at our studio. Create a mixed media painting in as little as two sessions. Learn to make your own unique collage papers in our biweekly Collage Fodder class with different techniques each session. Learn how to create one of a kind gelli-plate prints that can be mounted, framed, or used to make cards. We have daytime, evening, and weekend

adult classes.

Our workshops range in length from 1.5 hours to multiple days. Are you an artist who works alone most of the time? We have lots of open studio possibilities. Are you looking for a community of artists who like to explore the process of creating? Sign up for our Creative Conversations: Exploring the Artistic Journey. Looking for a community of artists who will share your triumphs and challenges? Check out our Creative Accountability class. What about learning the ins and outs of the business of art? We offer The Artful Entrepreneur: Navigating the Business of Art to help you in your journey.

Our popular programming for the kiddos continues with Art After School for children grouped in ages 5-8 and 9-12. Plans are underway for our summer workshops. We offer a variety of different classes that are 1.5 hours in length on different days of the week throughout the summer for 7 to 12 year olds.

Check out what we have to offer, as well as our online store at: <https://upwardsartstudio.com/>. We are located at 975 2nd Ave East in Owen Sound's River District. Phone (519) 370-0448.

WRITE @ YOUR LIBRARY - 2023 FIRST PLACE SELECTIONS

SARAH CHAMBERLAIN •

Write @ Your Library is the biggest and longest running local creative writing contest for youth, partnering public libraries across Grey-Bruce, the United Way, and the Ginger Press to provide young writers from our region with the opportunity to be recognized for their creative achievements.

This year's judges, authors Richard Thomas and Cathy Hird, and Owen Sound Poet Laureate Richard-Yves Sitoski had the serious task of making the selections from over 100 stories and poems submitted by young writers from across Grey-Bruce. There was a tremendous amount of creativity, with the stories and poems crossing all genres, from comedy to action/adventure to stories about death and reconciliation. There seemed to be an emphasis on themes of nature, the world, and the way people interact with one another. We hope you enjoy this year's winning stories and poems!

If you would like to read more, you can pick up a copy of the *Write for 2023 Anthology* at the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library (OSNGUPL) or visit <https://www.osngupl.ca/write-your-library> to read the stories and poems online.

Watch for information about the 2024 Write @ Your Library contest and call for submissions in September. If you would like to find out more about the Write @ Your Library contest please contact Sarah Chamberlain, Youth Services Assistant at the OSNGUPL at schamberlain@library.osngupl.ca or (519) 376-6623 ext. 5220.

JUNIOR SHORT STORY – FIRST PLACE

VERSIFICATION CAFÉ

BY STELLA TORRIE

“Ok, mom, I’m ready to go,” called Elizabeth as she shut the trailer doors and checked that she had everything in the tack room of the horse trailer.

“Alright hon, I’ll be out in a minute,” responded Lizzy’s mom in a cheerful voice. The drive to the horse show was beautiful. It was now fall and the leaves were falling, lining their paved driveway. They lived just outside a quaint little town called Palgrave. Lizzy was excited for the show, because it was the season finale! She had been showing her mule, who she called Huck, at local shows all summer, but her mom had promised her she could go to a big show at the end of the season. As her mom turned the old Chevy truck and the little two-horse trailer into the parking lot of the big Palgrave Equestrian Center, it was like all Lizzy’s dreams were coming true at once. To add to the excitement, Lizzy’s best friend Olivia was going to show with her pony, Muffin.

“We’re here!” Lizzy exclaimed. As they parked by their stalls she felt as though she was at the Olympics or something as exciting as that.

“Ok, Lizzy, don’t be too excited, we are only here for two days, and you have done it before,” said Mom.

“I know but that was with Polly and she was such a slow pony, and besides, she bucked me off on the first day. Huck would never do that.”

...read more at <https://www.osngupl.ca/write-your-library>

JUNIOR POETRY – FIRST PLACE

THE RIVER

BY OLIVIA BELL

Quick and quiet,
Racing down
A mountain side,
Growing now.

Getting louder,
Swelling bigger,
Sweeping down
With growing vigour.

Flows down into
Lush green valleys
Winding to its
Grand finale.

The ocean now
Comes into view
Sparkling colours
Green and blue.

Flowing there
And flowing fast
To the ocean,
Wide and vast.

Smell the salt
That’s in the air.
Feel the breeze brush
Through your hair.

The river flows
Down to its end.
Sea and river

Start to blend.

The river waves
To say goodbye
As it stretches
Toward the sky.

VERSIFICATION CAFÉ

BY EMMA RADSTAKE

I wiped down the counter for the umpteenth time on a drizzly October morning. Working in a café provided me with two joys: One, the ability to make a clean counter even cleaner by wiping it during slow spurts in a day, and two, getting a glimpse of how other people lived their lives. One could call it people watching, or stalking. But it's not that. I'm not creepy, just observant. It let me practice my storytelling, or fictitious versification, as I liked to call it. The old man who sat in the corner by the window reading his paper. The married couple who sat by the fireplace arguing emphatically. Or take for instance the boys' soccer team that came in once a week for hot chocolate. They let me in on a taste of what they did each day. The old man, Al, was eighty-three. Everyday, at nine o'clock, he ordered a large coffee, one cream, two Splenda, and read his paper. He would then go visit his wife in the nursing home. Being that he came daily, meant that the coffee shop was at least one stanza in his life story. A drunken lawyer. A kindergarten teacher. College students who added one-too-many espresso shots. I thought I had seen it all, been placed in many stanzas, and lived through much fictitious writer's block.

Until I met Byron. He was tall, lanky, and had creamy-dark skin. He loved to talk, to lyricize. This proved true in our first interaction. It was a normal Wednesday morning. I was working alone, and it was bright and sunny, meaning the normal drip coffee group wasn't in. Al was still faithfully reading his newspaper by the time Byron walked in. I said my usual spiel.

'Hi. I'm Nadia. What can I get started for you today?' At this point, any normal person would tell me their order, and that would be that.

'Turn back, o' desperate soul, for shalt I end up before thee?'

I stared at him blankly. 'What does that mean?'

'No idea.' He smirked. 'Say, Nadia, what do you recommend me getting?'

'The coffee here is good, I guess,' I said back.

'You guess? Aren't you supposed to sell me on these sorts of things?'

I smirked. I didn't know if he was joking, or a sales critic. 'That's not my job. Just tell me what you want. I don't make the decisions.'

He pondered what I said for a minute, and then smiled. 'Okay, I got it. Iced chai. Honey instead of sugar. And some whipped cream on top if you can.'

'You don't take me for the iced chai type,' I said. A smile

crept onto my face.

'Appearances are deceiving.' He slid me a five-dollar bill, still grinning. 'Keep the change, Nadia.'

That's where it began. He'd come in, every-other day, with the same order, an iced chai latte with honey and whipped topping. He'd order with a smirk on his face, and a random line of poetry. He'd stay in the shop for hours, writing in a notebook, in the same seat Al often sat in. After a few weeks of this routine, I sat myself next to him during my break.

'Hello Nadia,' he said, without looking up.

'What are you writing?'

'I just write,' he replied. 'Poetry, mostly. The world is big enough to lyricize about almost anything.'

'Can I see?' I was curious.

'No, it's for my creative pleasure. One day, Nadia, when it gets published, you can read it.' We sat in silence for a while as he wrote. 'Tell me about yourself,' he said randomly.

...read more at <https://www.osngupl.ca/write-your-library>

THE ONES BEYOND

BY KARDIN PENNER

Last purple twilight rays through leaves reflect
The dying sunset off the glossed grey stones
The beams of flying light do intersect
The ghosts who are now free from earthly homes

Not vile is this cooling eve'ning air
That dances nimbly through the maple leaves
Instead 'tis sweet of silent spirits fair
Who left behind the ones on Earth who grieve

And as the twilight starts to fade away
And moon begins to light the darkened graves
I wonder of the ones who choose to stay
And wait for those beyond the dirt and waves

We must leave in silent memory
The ones who were, and think of ones to be.

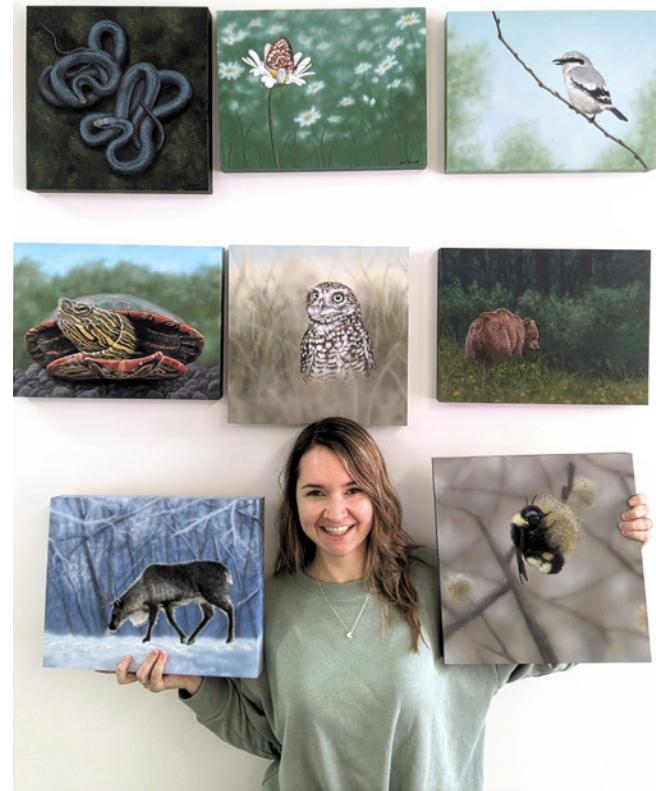
AT GREY GALLERY

ANNE DONDERTMAN • • • • • • •

Owen Sound wildlife artist Sarah McComb Turbitt is collaborating with Wildlife Preservation Canada (WPC) to paint Canadian endangered species. She committed to a 31-day art challenge in January of this year to paint as many of Canada's endangered species as possible, and was able to complete fifteen detailed, realistic paintings. The paintings will be exhibited during March at Grey Gallery, and 15% of sales will be donated to Wildlife Preservation Canada. An exhibition opening event will take place on Saturday March 9 from 1-3 and all are welcome to attend. Sarah will be live painting in the gallery all day and will give a brief artist talk about the project during the opening event. Members of Wildlife Preservation Canada will also be on hand to make a short presentation and answer questions. We hope to see you at the opening, or during the course of the exhibition which runs from March 7 to 30. You can also watch Sarah painting online on her website, YouTube channel and Instagram.

WPC saves critically endangered species whose numbers in the wild are so low that hands-on action is the last defence to save them from extinction. WPC specializes in science-based techniques such as conservation breeding and releases, headstarting, and translocation to restore wild populations and recover species.

A Marine Biologist turned artist, Sarah works from her studio in Owen Sound. She is a signature member of Artists for Conservation with a united vision to preserve and sustain our natural heritage. Her painting First Breath depicting mother and calf Humpback whales was chosen for the cover of the organization's 2023 calendar. She has supported conservation with every work created since launching her full-time career as an artist in 2020.



Born in Chatsworth, Sarah's love for nature and the ocean began early. Growing up and always dreaming about the sea, she moved to Halifax in 2013 to study Marine Biology at Dalhousie University and make her dream of studying ocean animals a reality. While in Halifax, Sarah researched long-finned pilot whales and cultivated her skills as a wildlife photographer out on the ocean. She graduated with a degree in marine biology and a certificate in animal behaviour in 2017 and transitioned to painting full-time in 2020.

Grey Gallery, located at 883 2nd Avenue East in downtown Owen Sound, is open 10am-5pm Thursday and Friday, 10am-4pm Saturday; and closed Sunday to Wednesday.

SAVOUR OWEN SOUND

MELISSA CRANNIE • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

Elevate your March with Owen Sound's Winter Culinary Extravaganza! Dive into exclusive Savour Menus at local hotspots within 20km, where each bite is a passport to flavour paradox. Be part of the excitement with giveaways, special features, and the thrilling People's Choice Savour Skillet...that's right, it's once again up for grabs! Will we see a Papi's Eatery victory encore? You be the judge! Cap off the month with a chance to win a grand prize worth \$1000!

Participating restaurants this year include Harrison Park Restaurant, Minh's, Mudtown Station and Brewery, Bishops Landing Restaurant- Inn on the Bay, Sweetwater Restaurant-Cobble Beach, Sugar Dust Baking, Parkwood Restaurant, Casero Kitchen Table, European Bakery, Sabitri's Nepalese & Indian Food, and Papi's Eatery & Lounge. Follow our online updates for a taste of the extraordinary – this is culinary bliss redefined!

BUILDING POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS FOR MUNICIPAL LEADERS

LAURA WOOD •

A new online learning event is scheduled for March 5 at 7:00pm with the theme “Building Positive Connections: Keys to Successful Encounters with Council, Staff and the Public.” Hosted by electHER Now, events like this are one way this non-partisan volunteer organization, is working to achieve sustainable gender balance of elected municipal officials in Grey Bruce.

“Politics is not solitary work. Building bridges through positive connections with the public, municipal staff, and our political colleagues benefits us all,” says Carol Merton, Owen Sound Councillor and electHER Now co-founder.

The event will feature a panel with Dr. Olive Yonge (PHD, RPsych, Coach and Distinguished University Professor Emeritus), Chatham-Kent Councillor Allyson Storey, and Georgian Bluffs Mayor Sue Carleton, moderated by Southgate Councillor Joan John and followed by a question and answer session.

“I am a firm believer in mentoring others – particularly

women – to be more successful than I. It is not easy work and requires courage, vulnerability and honesty on both our parts,” says guest panelist Dr. Olive Young.

One of electHER Now’s goals is to support elected women to thrive in their roles on council and encourage them to seek re-election after their first term. A recent electHER Now survey of elected officials identified communication and conflict with other council members, staff, and the public can be a challenge for elected officials.

The online event is open to all with an interest in the topic. Tickets are available on a “Pay What You Can” basis online at electhernow.ca/events. electHER Now is a non-partisan volunteer organization determined to achieve sustainable gender balance of elected municipal officials in Grey Bruce. This group is led by women and supporters with current and past political experience willing to work hard to achieve this shared vision. More information about electHER Now can be found at www.electhernow.ca/ or on Facebook and Instagram.



We invite you to visit
Grey Gallery when you are
next downtown.

In March we feature wildlife artist
Sarah McComb Turbitt’s detailed
paintings of Canada’s endangered
species. Our exhibitions change
frequently, so there is always
something interesting to see.



Watercolour painting by Raquel Yang

Note our new hours:
Open 10am-5pm Thurs-Fri, 10am-4pm Sat;
and closed Sunday to Wednesday

883 2ND AVE E., OWEN SOUND 226-664-2776



/GGOWENSOUND

GREYGALLERY.CA

AT THE ROXY

MARcia CUNNINGHAM AND EMMA MCCONACHIE-ANDERSON • • • • • • • • • • •

With spring on the horizon, The Roxy Theatre/Owen Sound Little Theatre is looking forward to a busy last half of the 2023/24 Season. OSLT is now gearing up for the hilarious musical farce *Something Rotten!*, directed by Kathleen Cassidy. Set in the 1590s, brothers Nick and Nigel Bottom are desperate to write a hit play but are stuck in the shadow of that Renaissance rock star known as "The Bard." When a local soothsayer foretells that the future of theatre involves singing, dancing, and acting at the same time, Nick and Nigel set out to write the world's very first musical. This laugh-out-loud spectacle runs April 11-14 (Sunday matinee), 18-20 and 24-27, 2024.

Film buffs are excited for the return of the Owen Sound Reel Festival, taking place March 2 with three special screenings of three different documentaries. The original folk musical *Tom Thomson's Wake* hits the stage May 3. Relive the magic of Led Zeppelin's album "Led Zeppelin II" performed with note-by-note accuracy by the incredible Classic Albums Live on May 4.

Roxy Young Company is busy with their upcoming production of *The Addams Family young@part*. This one-hour

version of the popular Broadway musical follows Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, who has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family whom her parents have never met. She confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before – keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Twenty-two talented youngsters are set to take the stage June 8, 14 and 15, 2024.

Roxy Star Company is set to start up again this spring. The program, which creates opportunities for adults living with complex needs – including intellectual, developmental, or physical disabilities – to participate in theatre, will run weekly from March 28 - June 20. Tickets for their final performance on June 27 are available now.

To view all of our upcoming events, and to buy tickets, head to our website at www.roxytheatre.ca or give us a call at (519) 371-2833. Businesses or individuals interested in sponsorship or advertising opportunities are encouraged to contact our Executive Director Marcia Cunningham at marciac@roxytheatre.ca. We look forward to seeing you soon.



CHILL VIBES AND LOCAL EATS: A WINTER CULINARY FUSION

MARCH 1 - 31, 2024



OWENSOUNDTOURISM.CA/SAVOUR

ELGB NEEDS YOU! NOW!

KEL SMITH

I've drafted quite a few newsletters, and this is probably the most important one. Eat Local Grey Bruce (ELGB) is teetering on the edge of existence, and we desperately need your help. We need more orders. And we need them now. The TLDR (too long, didn't read) version is this: We need 10-15 more weekly orders, or we will need to close down the cooperative.

Now here's the long version: The last year has been a journey for board members, staff, and volunteers alike. After facing insolvency, we poured our hearts and souls into rebuilding this co-op. There have been so many successes! The doors are open, we are operating without accruing debt, we have streamlined, we have connected with new communities, and we are providing volunteer opportunities for local schools. There is so much to celebrate.

Alas, now is not a time for celebration because we risk losing it all. We have fallen short of our 100 orders per week goal for the last few weeks, which means that things need to improve NOW in order to continue operating the co-op. There's no longer a grace period. This is it.

Kristine used the famous line from the Kevin Costner classic Field of Dreams: "If you build it, they will come." Well, we've built it, and we are eagerly awaiting you! ELGB is honestly such a unique and amazing model that represents a shared responsibility to create a better food system: it's local, it's a cooperative, and it pays our local food producers fairly. When I dream about a better world (something that I do far too often), this is it! This is the better model that I dream about building. It's right here, right now, accessible to tens of thousands of people in my community, and we risk losing it because we are struggling to find 10-15 more people to welcome into our community of local food resilience. I know you are out there!

When we relaunched last year, almost 200 people committed to ordering regularly, and we have new members signing up every week. 10-15 more orders per week seems

like such a small goal to reach, but it is critical. We need to meet that goal, or we will have to close our doors.

I can't express enough the importance of this little organization. In the face of conglomerates taking over our food systems, independent and ecologically minded producers like our producer members at Eat Local face extinction. Maybe that's a bit dramatic, but maybe not. As Jason shared at our town hall meeting recently, it's an uphill battle for local food businesses. "Why is it that providers of something so universal, so central to the health of our bodies, our lands, our economies and cultures, are statistically unlikely to succeed?" he asked, and it's a worthy question.

Eat Local Grey Bruce represents a way forward that not only provides viable income for our local producers but also access to fresh, local food for our eater members – something that grocery giants are less concerned about over producing record-breaking profits year after year. Eat Local is a way to push back and take control in a way that is collective, communal, and honestly, a lot of fun. So we need to do this together, and this is my call to you: if you also care about local food, if you care about good quality food, if you care about our local farmers and food producers, now is the time to step up. We'd love to have you as part of this community! Get in touch right now at <https://eatlocalgrey-bruce.ca> or info@eatlocalgreybruce.ca. Thanks!

Bruce Trail
is for everyone.

Membership
Matters

contact:
publicity@sydenhambrucetrail.ca



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RENT SUPPLEMENTS FOR YOUTH IN TRANSITION

Now entering its second year, Helping Youth in Transition is a multi-year project that addresses the needs of youth, 16 to 24 years of age, facing homelessness in Grey Bruce, through a rent supplement along with counselling and mentoring to ensure best outcomes. The project partners include Community Foundation Grey Bruce (CFGGB), United Way of Bruce Grey (UWBG), Grey Bruce Poverty Task Force, YMCA of Owen Sound Grey Bruce, private donors, and other foundations. With originating support from the Laidlaw family and the Laidlaw Foundation, as well as two funds managed by the Community Foundation (The Joseph & Marilyn Hunt Fund, and the Next25 Fund), the project has been able to offer a monthly rent supplement over the past year to the first cohort of twelve youth from across Grey-Bruce.

YMCA Youth in Transition Services delivers the supplement as well as wrap-around services, mentoring, and transitional supports that have the potential to significantly change the life trajectory of participants. The

rent supplement adds to the supports available from the associated County, meaning that youth will have more money in their pockets by association, more freedom, and sovereignty over their situation and finances. The project aims to lend dignity and autonomy to youth in transition.

At the end of year one of the program, YMCA gathered both qualitative and quantitative data from fourteen participants who received the supplement. This testimonial is from Stephanie who is 23 years old: "My rent went up so much this year...I was constantly worried about becoming homeless...and then what? My worker with the YMCA helped me to find an apartment in a smaller town with two bedrooms, one for me and [one for] my daughter who has her own space, too. The supplement each month makes a big difference in the rent and then I am able to afford to take my daughter out every once in a while. The subsidy created more breathing room."

At the beginning of year two, the supplement amount increased by \$50. In the first few months of 2024, three

youth gained meaningful employment and were able to graduate out of the program, allowing others to be supported. Matt Shute, Director of Community Initiatives & Employment Services at YMCA, writes about the broader impact of the supplement: “Our shared communities also benefitted from this systemic approach to homelessness prevention. By offering a modest solution that signifies a way out of the cyclical nature of poverty, the light it affords those most in need benefits us all.”

You can be part of this project by making a donation to support the rent supplement. Those with the means, may want to consider a monthly donation on a credit card to help a youth avoid housing precarity and enhance their quality of life and shift to more financial autonomy and stability. Donations can be made online (www.communityfoundationgreybruce.com) to the Next25 Fund, designating direct donations to Helping Youth in Transition, or you can call Stuart Reid at the Community Foundation (519) 371-7203 for more information about giving.

A black and white photograph of a woman holding a small child in front of a wire fence and a wooden building.

The logo features a white silhouette of a dog's head and upper body on the left. Above the dog is a white rectangular door with a handle, from which several white rays of light or energy are emanating. To the right of the graphic, the company name is written in a serif font, with "BROOKE" and "MOBILE" stacked above "VETERINARY" and "HOSPICE". Below "VETERINARY" and "HOSPICE" is "SERVICES". To the left of the main text, the services offered are listed: "in home", "euthanasia", and "for pets". At the bottom right, there is a phone number "519 265 4639", a website "animalsintransition.ca", and an email address "contact@animalsintransition.ca".

BRUCE TRAIL IS FOR YOUNG FAMILIES TOO

MARIE KNAPP •

Most people living here have heard of the Bruce Trail. Some view it as an opportunity to walk or hike in nature either solo or in a group, or as part of their exercise regimen. Walking on uneven irregular terrain helps develop balance and prepares us for aging by reducing risk of falls.

There is another group which benefits from spending time in nature: young families. The Sydenham Bruce Trail Club (SBTC) knows the value of supporting youth and is working on new programs specifically for them. Time in nature helps create a firm foundation in children, by helping build confidence in themselves, building greater respect for nature, and strengthening their values. In some situations it offers the opportunity to take note of naming trees, plants, birds, butterflies.

While several sections of SBTC provide unique features that may be challenging for young children, there are also sections that are easier for walking and intriguing at the same time. Hikers of all ages can learn appreciation for the peacefulness of walking through a cedar forest or the majesty of a diverse deciduous woods with tall oak and maple. They can notice interesting bark on beech trees or the new growth on a fallen tree that has become a nursery for other plants. I still remember the day when we were hiking through a beautiful woods several decades ago. Our youngest, at 4 or 5 years old, stopped, turned to me and said, "Mom! It is like there are two worlds. The one on TV and the one out here." I was deeply touched.

For more information and upcoming hikes, visit www.sydenhambrucetrail.ca.



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Glowing Blooms by Kelly Maw

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HEADS UP!

DIANE FERGUSON

Mark your calendars for Monday, April 8, for the upcoming solar eclipse. Just this week, both local school boards moved their April PA day to coincide with the eclipse. So if you have vacation time, take the day off and watch the event with your kids.

But please be careful. DO NOT LOOK AT THE SUN WITHOUT PROTECTION. There are special glasses you can wear to protect your eyes. Amateur astronomers use filters over their binoculars and telescopes. And if you don't have anything, make a pinhole in a piece of paper and hold it towards the ground so the sun shines through it and you will see reflections of the eclipse happening.

There are two to five solar eclipses a year, so they're not entirely uncommon. However, the path of this year's eclipse runs fairly close to home. Grey/Bruce is not in the path of totality – where the sun is completely covered – but we will see a significant portion of it. One of the best locations in southern Ontario to view the eclipse will be in the Kingston area. They are right in the path of totality. (If you decide to go, plan ahead as you won't be alone!)



The poster features a large circular logo for "GREY ROOTS MUSEUM & ARCHIVES" with stylized green, red, and blue vertical bars. Below the logo, the text "Spring into MORESTON!" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Underneath that, the date "Saturday, May 25, 12-4 pm" is displayed. At the bottom, there is a "Grey County Colour It Your Way" logo with a purple triangle icon. The background shows a photo of a crowd gathered outdoors at a festival.

Spring into MORESTON!
Saturday, May 25, 12-4 pm
Members & kids under 5: FREE!
Family pass: \$27.50+tax
GREYROOTS.COM

But there are other locations you can find in the link at eclipse2024.org.

One of the challenges in viewing eclipses (or doing any astronomy) in southern Ontario is the number of lakes we have. This creates considerable humidity and cloud cover. For true eclipse chasers, the odds aren't good enough here and they'll be travelling to places such as Texas where clear skies are far more likely. They'll setup ahead and do time-lapse photography, wanting to capture the "diamond ring" phenomenon when the sun first peaks out from behind the shadow.

If you're interested in learning more about astronomy, or seeing some of those time-lapse videos from the eclipse, plan to attend Starfest (presented by the North York Astronomy Association, NYAA), which takes place every August just outside of Mount Forest at the River Place Park. Now running for over 40 years, this year's event is August 8 to 11 and registration opens in the spring. For more information, visit: NYAA.CA, and click the link to Starfest. And maybe you'll catch eclipse fever!



A collage of event photos and descriptions for the Owen Sound River District. It includes a QR code with the text "SCAN ME" and social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

Wheel & Ride Safety Festival May 25

River District Blooms June 8 to 30

Pride Parade June 15

Hoitest Street sale July 13

Cars & Coffee September 14

Trick-or-Treat Trail October 26

Grey Roots Museum & Archives

Grey Bruce Pride

Grey County Colour It Your Way

STAY YOUNG AT HEART AND IN BODY!

REENIE FEDUN • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

What do you do to stay healthy, mentally, physically and emotionally? Have you considered contra dancing? It keeps the body limber, exercises the mind – and the laugh muscles! – and you can bring the whole family. Fiddlefern Country Dancers offers dances 10 times a year on the first Saturday of every month (except during the summer when we may organize special events). We welcome folks of all ages.

You might think you have two left feet, but we won't judge! It's not about perfection – it's about enjoying the fabulous live music and your friends (newfound and long-standing), responding to the prompts of the caller, relaxing and having fun. Please bring indoor shoes so we don't damage the beautiful floor at the Harmony Centre.

Recent studies have shown that dancing, especially to patterns, can increase muscular tone and strength; lead to a healthier heart and lungs; improve endurance, coordination, agility, and flexibility; reduce the risk of osteoporosis; help with balance; improve cognitive skills; enhance self-confidence and social skills; and elevate mood.

Do you need other reasons to come dancing? Come on your own, or bring your kids and/or your grandkids or the neighbour's kids and make it a memorable evening. Sharing successful – and wobbly – dance experiences and laughing uproariously builds community and keeps us young!

Come and join us. The next dance will be on Saturday, April 6 from 7:30 to 10pm at the Harmony Centre, 890 4th



Avenue East, Owen Sound. If you're new to contra dancing, plan to arrive a half hour early to learn a few basics – introduction to contra begins at 7pm. Visit fiddlefern.ca, check us out on Facebook, follow us on Instagram @fiddleferncountrydancers or email Donna at pedlinround@gmail.com.

REPAIR CAFÉ

DANUTA VALLEAU • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

In a bid to promote sustainability and empower the community, the Georgian Bluffs Climate Action Team and the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library (OSNGUPL) have partnered to proudly announce the launch of a Repair Café, which aims to reduce waste, revive belongings, and make a tangible difference, one repair at a time.

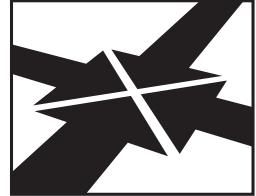
Starting March 9, and continuing every second Saturday of the month from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., the Repair Café will open its doors at the Library, welcoming individuals to bring in their broken items for assistance with repair, free of charge. Whether it's clothing, household items, electronics, furniture, or bike repairs, skilled volunteers will be on hand to mend and breathe new life into these items.

"This initiative embodies our commitment to sustainability and community engagement. It's an opportunity for

us all to come together, reduce our carbon footprint, and foster a culture of resourcefulness," says Danuta Valleau, representative of the Repair Café. Moreover, the Repair Café is not just about fixing items; it's also a platform for community interaction. Participants can enjoy refreshments, connect with like-minded individuals, and contribute to a more eco-conscious society.

For those looking to share their expertise and join the cause, the Repair Café welcomes volunteers proficient in various repair skills such as sewing, electronics, furniture restoration, and bike repairs. Interested individuals are encouraged to email GBOSRepairCafe@gmail.com to get involved and become a part of this impactful initiative. To learn more about the Repair Café and its schedule of events, please visit OSNGUPL Repair Café webpage.

WHAT'S NEW AT INTERSECTIONS



Intersections is a non profit woodworking studio in Owen Sound offering wood-focussed learning opportunities through workshops, demonstrations and community events. Nestled in the heart of the River District in Owen Sound, Intersections has become a hub of designing, building, and community around woodworking.

For the beginner, Intersections provides regular workshops to introduce new woodworkers to both power and hand tools, as well as to woodturning. These workshops range from a single day, through to a very popular ten-day course in the foundations of woodworking. Intersections prides itself on offering attentive instruction in a welcoming and well-equipped studio. Our students often return again and again as they discover the joys of this practical and creative art.

This spring, Intersections is featuring workshops for intermediate woodturners with new instructor **Adam Cottrill**, who joins **Carl Durance** to bring even more depth to our woodturning offerings. **Jennifer Hart** also joins Intersections as a woodworking instructor. She has a keen interest in introducing women woodworkers to machines and power tools and brings over a decade of experience in woodworking instruction. New this spring also is instruction on the CNC router, a computer controlled tool that allows for the creation of precise and replicable fine pieces. Our CNC user community continues to grow and we are pleased to be able to offer instruction.

Experienced woodworkers can choose to work independently in the studio during open shop time. From ukuleles to furniture to paddleboards, our workshop can accommodate almost any wood project. Members are also working together on a community project this spring to build benches to furnish the newly landscaped southwest corner of the Owen Sound Hospital property.

Intersections also hosts non-stop informal conversation and peer consultation about woodworking, a robust library of books and magazines to borrow, and special events with guest speakers. Our open hours are Tuesday to Thursday 10am to 3pm and we encourage you to stop by and see what is happening in the studio.

For more information about our upcoming workshops or to join our email list, please visit our website at www.intersectionsstudio.com, follow us on facebook at www.facebook.com/intersectionswoodcollaborative or email us at info@intersectionsOS.org.





River District Academy

If you're looking to brush up on your skills or learn a new one
The River District is the place to be. For complete class information and registration, get in touch directly with these businesses today!

THE GEORGIAN BAY SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

March 9	Get to know your Serger II	\$80
March 9	Stained glass garden spinner	\$320
March 9	Wheel Throwing Bootcamp	\$170
March 11	March Break Creative Arts Camp	\$420
March 11	Absolute Beginner Knitting	\$85
March 12	Handbuilding Clay 5-session	\$270
March 16	Botanical Watercolours	\$90
March 17	Step By Step Acrylic	\$140
March 17	Animal Studies I	\$90
March 17	Pottery Wheel Taster – 1 day	\$170
March 19	Silver & Copper Tapestry Needles	\$75
March 20	Level 1 Clay – 6 Sessions	\$345
March 23	Absolute Beginners Crochet	\$80
March 23	Bookbinding Sewn Board Binding	\$90
March 23	Stained Glass Taster	\$90
March 24	Drypoint II Working in Colour	\$140
March 24	Get to know your Serger	\$80
March 25	Fused Glass Bird Suncatcher	\$85
March 27	Let's Knit Socks!	\$85
March 29	Botanical Sketching I	\$75
March 30	Grapevine Trellis	\$30
March 30	Kokedama	\$30
March 30	Mounted Staghorn Fern or Orchid	\$40
March 30	Silver Tropical Leaf Pendant	\$50
March 30	Mix Your Own Soil	\$30
March 30	Moss Pole	\$30
March 30	Rainfall Watering Jug	\$80
April 3	After School Arts - Fibre Club	\$145
gbarts.ca		(519) 371-2200

GREY GALLERY

Wednesdays	Life Drawing	\$15
greygallery.ca		(226) 664-2776

HARMONY CENTRE

Thursdays	Community Meditation	
Thursdays	Square Dancing	\$10
Sundays	Sublime Yoga	\$15
harmonycentre.ca		(519) 376-8880

INTERSECTIONS WOOD COLLABORATIVE

March 2	Introduction to CNC Router	\$200
March 17	Build a Sled with your Teen or Team	\$350
March 23	Tree to Table Live Edge Bowls	\$200
intersectionsstudio.com		

OWEN SOUND WELLNESS

April 11	Ditch the Sugar Workshop	FREE
owensoundwellness.com		(226) 664-0407

RIVERSIDE YARNS

Wednesdays	Knitting Clinic with Joan Spence	\$15
riversideyarns.ca		(519) 371-4311

UPWARDS ART STUDIO

March 1	Creative Accountability-6 Sessions	\$90
March 2	Fiery Brushes: Exploring Encaustic	\$100
March 4	Art After School: Ages 5-8	\$160
March 6	SoulCollage: Going Deeper	\$90
March 7	Creative Conversations	\$30
March 8	Collage Fodder Creation Series	\$45
March 9	Exploring Encaustic Photography	\$400
March 11	March Break Kids Art Workshop	\$30
March 15	The Artful Entrepreneur	\$30
March 19	Gelli-Plate Printing Workshop	\$120
upwardsartstudio.com		(519) 370-0448

**Complete River District Academy information also at
owensoundriverdistrict.ca**

An Owen Sound Little Theatre Production

SOMETHING ROTTEN!

Book by
Karey Kirkpatrick and John O'Farrell
Music and Lyrics by
Wayne Kirkpatrick and Karey Kirkpatrick
Conceived by Karey Kirkpatrick and Wayne Kirkpatrick
Director - Kathleen Cassidy
Musical Director - Gordon McConachie-Anderson
Choreographer - Paula Mercer

April 11-13, 18-20, and 24-27
at 7:30pm
April 14 at 2pm

THE ROXY THEATRE - 251 9th Street East, Owen Sound
www.roxytheatre.ca 519-371-2833

From the creative team that brought you
DSL's
Monty Python's SPAMALOT

A Roxy Young Company Production

The Addams Family

June 8, 14, & 15 at 7:30pm

June 8 & 15 at 2:00pm

A NEW MUSICAL COMEDY

Book by Marshall Brickman and Rick Elice
Music and Lyrics by Andrew Lippa
Director: Grace McRae

THE ROXY THEATRE - 251 9th St. East, Owen Sound
www.roxytheatre.ca 519-371-2833

THE ROXY
Owen Sound Little Theatre | TOM | PRESENTS:
TOM THOMSON ART GALLERY

Owen Sound's Reel Festival

March 2

3 FILMS! 1 DAY!

"An amazing slice of Canadiana served up with a rootsy and earthy vibe!"
"Canadian to the core, a rich story told beautifully!"
"Brilliant! ...Loved the presentation, the story—and especially the twist ending!"

TOM
THOMSON'S WAKE
AN ORIGINAL FOLK MUSICAL

THE ROXY
Owen Sound Little Theatre | MAY 3, 2024 | ROXY THEATRE

NOTE FOR NOTE

LED ZEPPELIN II

CLASSIC ALBUMS LIVE

May 4, 2024

CUT FOR CUT

THE ROXY
Owen Sound Little Theatre