

# the owen sound

.....

vol. 3 no. 4 winter 2021

the community  
magazine for  
these times!

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- A Miracle on 8th Street!
- Santa Claus Is Coming Downtown!
- 90th Grey County Kiwanis Festival of Music!
- Virtual Job Fair!
- ...and so much more!







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vol 3 no 4 winter 2021

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# FROM MY DESK

It may not be the usual venue, but we're just going to do it this year. That's right, the 36th Annual Authors' Open House is really happening. On December 11, from 11:00 to 3:00, we'll be invading Heartwood Hall, just up the street from The Ginger Press. Over a dozen famous local authors will be on hand to talk about their projects and sign copies of their books for everyone on your gift list. Who could ask for anything more? Well, I know, we all want to return home to the bookshop, but for this year, I think it'll be great to get together at Heartwood, in a socially-distanced, double-vaxxed kind of way. If you can't make it up those stairs, just give me a call at (519) 376-4233 and I'll get your books autographed for you and have them ready for pickup at the store.

Our authors this year will include: Joan Beecroft, Dana Benson, Donna Jansen (*A Place to Belong: Stories from Newcomers*); John Butler (*House of Refuge*); John Fearnall (*Leith*); Lili Anne Holding (*Mythos: Owen Sound's Greek Community 1912-1932*); Larry Jensen (*These Streets I Know: Book + CD*); Bonita Johnson de Matteis (*Black Eyed Peas and Races: The Emancipation Picnic*); Marie Knapp (*Path to a More Inspiring Future*); Barry More (*A Thing of Beauty: The Story of Morland Place*); Rob Rolfe (*Sturgeon Bay: Poems*); Richard-Yves Sitoski (*No Sleep 'Til Eden: Poems*); Richard Thomas (*History of Owen Sound: 1840-1939 - in 3 volumes*); Brad Wilcox (*Too Far Back in the Bush: Meaford Knights Hockey Team*); and Eric Zweig (*Hockey Hall of Fame Heroes*).

Heartwood Hall is located on the 2nd floor at 939 2nd Avenue East, in downtown Owen Sound. All COVID protocols will be in place for this special event. Although The Ginger Press will be closed on December 11 for the Authors' Open House, we will be open at the bookshop throughout the rest of the festive season. Book your holidays with us!

- Maryann

### about the front cover

In 1957, Owen Sound celebrated its 100th anniversary. The festivities throughout the year were mighty and many. Local resident Marg Capel turned her artistic talent to designing Christmas lights to hang across the main street downtown. Noma Electric, a factory located here which had been producing Christmas lighting products since 1947, agreed to manufacture the lights, which were displayed downtown for several years. The Owen Sound Noma plant closed in 1963 and the lights became a thing of the past. The design was resurrected many years later, and the Noma lights continue to be part of our annual seasonal celebrations.

Marg Capel, who passed away in 2010, owned the original of the painting on the front cover of this *Owen Sounder*. The image is taken from *A Visit from St. Nicholas* by Clement C. Moore. In this version of his famous poem ("Twas the night before Christmas...") local artist Bonita Johnson de Matteis has set the poem in Owen Sound. With many local paintings by Bonita, it is available at The Ginger Press (\$14.95).



# 2021 - RICHARD-YVES SITOSKI

AMANDA EARL • • • • •

The annual John Newlove Poetry Award, launched in the fall of 2004, commemorates the honest, poignant and well-written poetry of John Newlove, an Ottawa resident for almost twenty years and poet who died in 2003.

The winner of the 2021 John Newlove Poetry Award is *Air Kiss*, a poem submitted by Richard-Yves Sitoski (he/him) who is a songwriter, performance poet, and the 2019-2022 Poet Laureate of Owen Sound, on the territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation. His poems have appeared, or are forthcoming, in many journals, including *The Fiddlehead*, *The Maynard*, *Barren Magazine*, in the League of Canadian Poets' *Poetry*

*Pause*, and as part of Brick Books' Brickyard video series. His latest book is *No Sleep 'til Eden*, an augmented reality multimedia collection of poems on the environment, published by The Ginger Press.

Richard has written poetry on snow with biodegradable food dyes, has read poems to earthworms, and is composing a sound opera on waste reduction using garbage as musical instruments. When not chasing his impossible cat, he uses guitars to make sounds not heard since the Cretaceous as part of an indie folk duo with his wife Mary.

This year's judge was Elee Kraljii Gardiner, who writes, "I feel the kindred recognition of the ridiculous-




ness of being human. Richard-Yves Sitoski has lifted a regular moment into something both glittering and poignant that for a moment made me forget about routine, expectation, order. This poem cleaned my smeared glasses and straightened my collar. Here I am, buoyed and mentally reorganized to face another pandemic day."

## AIR KISS

RICHARD-YVES SITOSKI • • • • •

The sun behind the clouds is a child  
hidden in the drapes with feet in plain view.  
Happiness is manifest today.  
That couple, suffering each other on account of the kids,  
bickers like gulls and it rouses my smile  
from a summer torpor. I feel no guilt.  
That's consigned to cults practised by the sick.  
I repeat—nothing will eclipse my happiness today.  
That old man on the bench, he knows it.  
He reads hope in the tiger stripes  
painted by the Burning Man Guinevere  
on his granddaughter's face, and thinks back  
to his brush-cut youth, where each new day was a bike  
you jumped on and rode till the tires blew.  
The little girl hands him her kite, a tame pterodactyl,  
then bolts to the monkey bars, weightless with laughter.  
Would he sell me the kite, I wonder.  
A storm is coming and there's something I'm dying to try.

*Air Kiss was originally published in Bywords.ca in November, 2020.*



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# A STOCKING IN THREE PARTS: PART 3

TED MYATT . . . . .

*(Parts One and Two for knitting this Christmas stocking were published in the last two issues of The Owen Sounder, now available online at [www.theowensounder.ca](http://www.theowensounder.ca).)*

After the excitement of working the heel, finishing the sock will be easy. You'll have this done in time to use it for Christmas!

Abbreviations: k = knit; k2tog = knit 2 together; (...) x times = repeat the instructions between the brackets the stated number of times to the end of the round.

First, the two stitch markers used to mark the increase points for the heel shaping can be removed. Then, make sure that the stitch marker at the beginning of the round is moved up the fabric as close to the needle as possible. You'll use it to measure the length of the foot, before you start the decreases for the toe. Now let's work the foot portion of the stocking. Simply knit in rounds for an additional 3.5 inches (9cm). Measure from the beginning-of-round stitch marker.

We're on the home stretch, and it's time to work the decreases to shape the toe. (You might want to change from circular needles to double-pointed needles for this.)

Row 1: (k7, k2tog) 8 times  
(64 stitches remaining)

Row 2: knit

Row 3: knit

Row 4: (k6, k2tog) 8 times  
(56 stitches remaining)

Row 5: knit

Row 6: (k5, k2tog) 8 times  
(48 stitches remaining)

Row 7: knit

Row 8: knit

Row 9: (k4, k2tog) 8 times  
(40 stitches remaining)

Row 10: knit

Row 11: (k3, k2tog) 8 times  
(32 stitches remaining)

Row 12: knit

Row 13: knit

Row 14: (k2, k2tog) 8 times  
(24 stitches remaining)

Row 15: knit

Row 16: (k1, k2tog) 8 times  
(16 stitches remaining)

Row 17: knit

Row 18: (k2tog) 8 times  
(8 stitches remain)

Cut the yarn leaving about 6 inches (25cm). Thread this end into the sewing-up needle; thread it through the eight stitches twice, and pull up snugly. Pass it into the inside of the work and sew it in nicely. Decide whether you want the garter stitch cuff folded down or not. If folded down, I recommend you carefully stitch the two layers of the fabric together, especially if you plan to hang the stocking. Do this at the cast-on edge as the cuff will be most secure and won't roll up.



Sew in any other ends on the inside of the stocking. If you intend to hang the stocking, use a length of yarn, or crochet a length of cord, and sew it securely from the top to bottom of the cuff. Go through both layers of fabric if you've folded down the cuff.

There. Done. Admire your work. Now cast on another.

*Lena Landei*  
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# A MIRACLE ON 8TH STREET

JENNIFER MILLER - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REACH • • • • •

Without a doubt, 2021 has been an adventure for everyone. It's hard to imagine that just over a year ago, the REACH Centre Grey Bruce was facing an uncertain future and look at us now! In December, 2020, we purchased a 4,015 sq ft building in downtown Owen Sound formerly known as Powered Up, The Clothing Zone, and a litany of other enterprises. In January, 2021, demolition was started to make it a fully accessible space to deliver programs for youth and adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities. In record-breaking time, during the throws of the pandemic, the masked people of Grey Bruce gave their time, experience, hard labour, money, and their hearts to do the impossible. The REACH Forever Home was built to safeguard the self-funded local charity far into the future. A miracle on 8th Street.

The doors to this community asset first opened for on-site programming in March, and like everyone else, we

struggled with shut downs and uncertainty. However, we persevered, were nimble, and pivoted to show resilience and devotion to some of our most vulnerable. Now serving over 50 families, you can hear the joy and laughter carrying on the wind into downtown Owen Sound.

These often overlooked members of our community have so many gifts to share but need support to do it. Here is how you can help: you can become a volunteer (the application form is downloadable at <https://reachcentre.org/join-us>); you can make a donation to support the program (<https://reachcentre.org/ways-to-give>); or you can stop by and visit our charming gift shop that features handmade unique gifts made by program participants. The shop is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 to 4:00 and the online store is open 24/7 (<https://reachcentre.org/store>), providing a great way to support local, support a charity, use your dollars for impact, and do more good this holiday season.

# EXCITING TIMES FOR PFLAG OWEN SOUND

JOAN BEECROFT • • • • •

Pflag Owen Sound is a group that meets monthly to provide peer support and information about gender identity and sexual orientation to anyone looking for it. Recently, Pflag Canada was the recipient of a very generous gift from UPS Foundation; it was to be used for books on LGBTQ2S themes for any chapter which requested it. The books have arrived and what a gift it is! There are 25

titles and include picture books, novels, graphic novels, and non-fiction for everyone from pre-schoolers to adults. The books will soon be available on loan to attendees.

The Owen Sound group meets on the 3rd Wednesday each month at 7:00 pm. Drop us a note at [owensoundon@pflagcanada.ca](mailto:owensoundon@pflagcanada.ca) for the Zoom link or for more information. All ages and identities are welcome.



# CO-OP HOUSING

[illegible]

Housing has long been out of reach for middle-income Canadians in cities like Ottawa, Toronto and Vancouver. But now it's hurting families in small cities from Owen Sound, Ontario to Moncton, New Brunswick, as the pandemic vaulted the red-hot housing market to the forefront during the federal election.

According to MLS, the average house price in Grey Bruce rose 40% from 2020 to 2021 alone. This has had a tidal-wave effect on rental affordability and availability as current landlords cash-out on the COVID-fired housing market. Many young families and potential buyers now find the possibility of home ownership completely out of reach. Equally unaffordable rental markets and historically low vacancy rates make housing security and stability a depressingly unattainable goal.

Not only is the cost of housing out of reach for many, there still aren't enough houses to meet the demand from people looking to buy them. Coupled with the problems of a scarcity of building materials, the need for skilled labour, lengthy costs, delays and complexity in approvals for rezoning and development, it's clear building more housing is easier said than done.

Buyers need more innovation to create the kinds of sustainable, attainable housing communities, that Canadians are longing for – a place to call home that enables financial security and a sense of belonging and connection. Cooperative housing offers an affordable housing solution, for home-seekers who are as concerned about connection, as they are about quality and budget. Housing cooperatives are communities of people who share common interests – in housing as well as in community and quality of life.

A housing co-op is a corporation that exists primarily to provide housing and related services to its members. Unlike housing communities developed by commercial developers, cooperative housing members often plan and secure financing for their own developments. Co-op ownership and governance structures reflect this democratic purpose. In a housing cooperative, the cooperative corporation owns or leases the housing stock, which includes all land, dwelling units and common areas. Common areas often include shared office and meeting spaces, kitchens and dining areas, guest accommodations, community gardens, artists and maker studios, child and elder-care resources, recreation facilities and car/bike shares. Member-owners then purchase, lease or rent from the co-op, and participate in decision-making about the life of the co-op and its resources.

Although housing co-ops have been around since the mid-19th century, few people really understand how the cooperative housing model works. Even fewer people appreciate how effectively cooperative housing can serve as a viable housing solution. EcoVillage at Ithaca, NY, is both a co-op and a cohousing community which started in 1991, and now has 175 acres, 100 homes, and 220 residents.

Cooperative housing offers tangible benefits for families and individuals, including access to attainable housing, safety, security, flexibility, financial and social return, and stability. Co-op housing also often has a ripple effect on a community and leverages broader community benefits such as an enhanced level of trust among neighbours and increased civic participation. All these benefits translate into the development of an economically stronger and more socially engaged community. Co-ops bring people together from diverse social, economic and cultural backgrounds and they are built on mutual respect and support. A young professional family that is saving up for a house can be neighbours with a young adult living with disabilities, or low-income senior who otherwise might be isolated. Supporting Indigenous-led efforts to create cooperative communities welcoming to all generations, can advance Canada's commitment to reconciliation and deepening our understanding and appreciation for Indigenous history and place-making.

With the help of supportive government policies, including those offered through CMHC Community Housing and Transformation Centre, as well as resources offered through community development experts at the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada, the Canadian Cohousing Network and New Commons Development co-ops can accelerate new development of opportunities with supportive government policies and non-profit resources and programs.

Co-ops that are emerging across Canada – including Glassworks Co-op right here in Owen Sound – have something new to offer when they ask – won't you be my neighbour? The Glassworks Co-op 2021 Annual General Meeting will take place via ZOOM on Thursday December 9 at 7pm. Join us for an inspiring guest speaker, meet new board and committee members, and get the low-down on plans for an exciting year ahead. Check us out and get involved at <https://www.glassworks.coop>.

*Pat Kelly is a member of the board of Glassworks Co-op in Owen Sound.*





# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT G.B. ARTS?

MORAG BUDGEON • • • • •

A remarkable thing is happening in downtown Owen Sound. The Georgian Bay Centre for the Arts (GBArts) has transformed the former bingo hall into a thriving centre for all things creative. They have put together a wonderful schedule of classes for beginner to advanced artists. If there's something you've always wanted to try, now's the time. Or maybe you'd like to add to your skills repertoire with some new techniques and materials? Do it!

GBArts provides art classes in a safe and comfortable space. All materials are provided for whatever you choose to learn. Class sizes are small, and hands-on attention is high. Teachers are experts in their fields and ensure a positive learning experience.

Following is a list of opportunities at GBArts for the next couple of months. Make a special gift now for someone on your list, or gift someone on your list with a class. Better yet, do both! For more information and to register, visit <https://gbarts.ca> or phone 519 371-2200.

## UPCOMING CLASSES AT GBARTS

- 6:00-8:30 November 15: Cards and Cocktails – Lino Block Prints with Michelle Minke (\$65)
- 6:00-8:30 November 15: Cards and Cocktails – Collage with Heather Murray (\$65)
- 6:00-9:00 November 16: Punch Needle with Emily Foden and Marcelina Salazar (\$80)
- 9:00-noon November 17: Acrylic Painting of Succulents with Kelly Maw (\$65)
- 6:00-9:00 November 18: French Press Cozy with Audrey Armstrong (\$65)
- 6:00-9:00 November 18: Barn Quilting Holidays with Alan McIntosh (\$75)
- 9:00-noon November 20+21: Ice Dyeing with Pam Woodward (\$100)
- 1:00-4:00 November 20: Clay Holiday Ornament with Marcelina Salazar (\$70)
- 10:00-3:00 November 21: Acrylic Landscape Painting with Kim Atlin
- 1:00-3:00 November 21 (for kids): Clay Throwing with Michelle Minke (\$50)
- 1:00-3:00 November 21 (for kids): Stained Glass Ornament (\$50)
- 6:00-9:00 November 22: Victorian Egg with Pam Woodward (\$60)
- 5:30-8:30 November 23: Clay Scoops with Marcelina Salazar (\$80)
- 6:00-9:00 November 23: I-Phone Photography with Willy Waterton
- 6:00-9:00 November 24: Wreath Making (\$75)
- 6:00-9:00 November 25: Wreath Making (\$75)
- 9:00-noon November 27: Welcome Board with Kelly Maw (\$85)
- 1:00-4:00 November 27: Architectural Drawing & Watercolour with Michelle Minke (\$65)
- 9:30-12:30 November 28: Beginner Stained Glass Ornament with Patti Di Florio (\$70)
- 1:00-4:00 November 28: Wreath Making
- 1:30-4:30 November 28: Beginner Stained Glass Ornament with Patti Di Florio (\$70)
- 9:30-4:30 December 4: 3D Stained Glass Flower with Patti Di Florio
- 1:00-4:00 December 5: Bring Your Kid to Art – Cookie Decorating (\$65)
- 6:00-9:00 December 6: Wreath Making (\$75)
- 2:00-5:00 December 9: Beginner Stained Glass Ornament with Patti Di Florio (\$70)
- 6:00-9:00 December 9: Beginner Stained Glass Ornament with Patti Di Florio (\$70)
- 6:00-9:00 December 13: Cookie Decorating (\$60)
- 1:00-4:00 December 18: Cookie Decorating (\$60)
- and
- January 9-February 6 (5 sessions): Clay Level 1 with Michelle Minke (\$250)



# OWEN SOUND, SO SUBLIME

IRENE CHAMBERLAIN

*Excerpt from a poem written in 1982*

.....

Here comes our Mayor, walking down the street  
With a smile and a wave for everyone he meets,  
That's why we like him,  
Bob Rutherford is his name, and PROGRESS is his aim.  
Here in our Scenic City  
The water is pure, the air is clean  
You can sail on the bay  
Or stand on the harbour wall  
and watch the ships come in.  
If you wish to soar up in the sky  
Our Scenic Airways you can try.  
I've heard it said that Owen Sound is dead,  
Those who say that have holes in their heads.  
Soon the winter will roll around  
There will be lots of snow on the ground,  
But have no fear, Dunc McClellan is here  
with a clash and a bang, and his snow clearing gang  
You'll soon find yourself in a Winter Wonderland.  
Where else in the whole wide world  
can you find a place like Owen Sound, so sublime?

In 1982, when Mayor Bob Rutherford was campaigning for re-election (it was the year of the big Bayshore Arena proposal), my esteemed mother-in-law, Irene Chamberlain, wrote out this ditty. She called in to Dave Carr's Open Line on CFOS and read it on air. Mayor Bob lost that campaign and Warren Loughheed stepped up.

The poem resurfaced this week; it had been tucked away with my late husband George's special treasures. Thirty years on, it makes me think that some things never change. I agree with Irene, and still think this is the best place in the whole wide world to live.

- Jan Chamberlain

the library ONLINE



Resources for You

Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library  
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Sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Owen Sound





# SANTA CLAUS RETURNS TO THE DOWNTOWN

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The Kiwanis Club of Owen Sound is excited to announce the return of the Owen Sound Santa Claus Parade. This will be the 76th consecutive year of the Club's commitment to making the community a better place for children (of all ages!) by producing one of the holiday season's signature events.

Last year the Club hosted a stationary parade that saw hundreds of families drive through the Bayshore Community Centre parking lot to welcome St. Nick to Owen Sound. This year marks the return of the more familiar parade. "We never imagined a year without some sort of celebration," said club past president Andrew Drury. "We knew that the parade was important to families, and staging a drive-through event showed us just how much. At the time it was the best we could do, but this year allows us to go back to our traditional route."

The Kiwanis Club first sponsored the Owen Sound Santa Claus Parade in 1945. This year's parade will be on Saturday, November 20 and will help ring in the festive season with bands, floats and activities for families to enjoy. In recognition of the 76th anniversary of the parade, this year's theme is "Back to the Past."

The parade is being organized with the input of the Grey Bruce Public Health Unit, and will proceed only if the conditions are right at the time. One significant change for this year's parade is that the start time has been moved to 5:00

pm. "Last year's evening event really let people show some creativity with their lighting and it really seemed to add to the excitement," said Parade Committee Chair Tim Brown. "So this year we thought we'd start a little later and let participants show off a little!"

The change in time will also tie in to the City of Owen Sound's kick off of the Festival of Northern Lights immediately after, so families can attend both events. "It also means that Santa can flip-the-switch and light the lights," said Tim.

This year will feature two local celebrities as a part of the festivities: Heather Hiscox and Fred Wallace. Heather was born and raised in Owen Sound and is now a well known CBC news anchor and former Miss Teen Canada. Fred is a local media personality who is especially well known to sports enthusiasts in our region. Each will help bring in the holiday season.

The Santa Claus Parade will begin at 5:00 on Saturday, November 20, near the intersection of 11th Street East and 2nd Avenue East (Metro Grocery Store); it will travel south toward City Hall, and turn east (left) at the intersection of 8th Street East and 2nd Avenue East, ending at 3rd Avenue East.

Families are also reminded that the Owen Sound Kiwanis Club will be selling Christmas Trees again this year beginning November 27. Proceeds from the sales of trees will support the activities and community contributions by the Kiwanis Club.

# OWEN SOUND FARMERS' MARKET

## VENDOR PROFILE: COTTAGE COUNTRY NORTH PRESERVES

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Laura Buckler of Cottage Country North Preserves transforms much of the fruit and vegetables which grow here into an amazing selection of jams, jellies, salsas, and preserves. Her raspberry jam is exquisite; her apricot hot pepper jelly accompanies baked brie for the best appetizer; her cranberry jalapeno jelly and/or her cranberry rum jelly need to be with your Christmas turkey; and her lemon ginger marmalade...oh my, need I say more? There's dozens of flavour options available at Laura's booth at the Owen Sound Farmers' Market every Saturday from 8:00 until 12:30. Cottage Country North Preserves are also sold at many retail outlets throughout Grey and Bruce, or you can call Laura directly at 519 379-9423.





# GREETINGS EARTHLING (AS STOLEN FROM STAR TREK)

LESLIE CHALMERS • • • • •

**T**oday's Kitty Calendar pinup features the Maine Coon cat. This took me back to one of my beloved pets growing up. When one of our kitty pets went to kitty heaven, a funny thing happened. I found myself in downtown Owen Sound. As I was walking in the front door of Gardel's Pet Shop, my dad was walking in the back door. We met at the kitty cage. It was filled with about six kittens ready to be adopted. Dad stuck his finger into the cage, and a cute, little kitten grabbed onto it. That was it. He was chosen. We asked Mr. Gardel if we could use his phone to call mom and ask her permission. Mr. Gardel rolled his eyes, as though he hadn't heard this a million times every day, and handed us his phone. It had a cord that had been stretched to the maximum length due to constant wear.

Mom did her usual cry of "No more pets," but we both begged and I pleaded: "But mom, he grabbed Dad's finger!" The next thing I knew, we were driving home with this lovely kitten that fit into the palm of my hand. He was marked just like a raccoon and was too sweet to resist. No surprise there. We brought him home and Mom named him Sydney. As was our custom, we didn't have regular feeding times, but kept the food bowls full, and replenished when needed. Sydney loved his chow so much that he would lie down in front of the bowl and embrace it with his front paws. One got quite used to stepping over him in the tiny kitchen that we had.

Unsurprisingly, Sydney grew and grew. When he stopped

growing, he was a metre long from the tip of his nose to the tip of his tail, and weighed 25lbs. Mom deemed him a Maine Coon Cat, as no other domestic cat could possibly reach his size. His nickname became "His Vastness." Colleen's brother Chuck took one look at him and exclaimed, "That's a cat?" Yeah Chuck, we grow 'em big up here!

Sydney loved his luvvies. He would squeeze his eyes shut and reach up with his paw and gently pat your cheek. Totally irresistible. When he sat on your lap, your legs would go to sleep from the sheer bulk of him. Sydney was a lover not a fighter. One day, he was lazing on the back lawn, basking in the sun. A ruffed grouse came down from the bush on the edge of the hill, and started eating the fermented apples on the ground nearby. The bird ate so many that he got drunk and started weaving all over the lawn. Sydney kept a wary eye on him but didn't move. The inebriated bird kept circling closer and closer to Sydney. Finally Sydney could resist his natural kitty impulses no longer, and with a look of disgust, bagged the twit. He left it by the back door, as a macabre gift. Mom came out with a basket of laundry to hang, and screamed as though she had been scalded. "Don – there's a body by the back door again!" Dad assumed his duty and disposed of the body. Sydney gave him a look that seemed to say, "Hey – what'd you do that for? I got dinner!"

We always had two cats and one dog when I was growing up. I loved each and every one but I just adored Sydney.

## TRACES OF BLACK PIONEERS

**T**he final instalment of the Grey Roots Virtual Fall Lecture Series – 'Traces of the Durham Road's Black Pioneers with Naomi Norquay – will take place at 1:00 on Tuesday, November 30. This will be a free online talk to enjoy from the safety and comfort of your own home. The presentation will explore traces of early Black settlers in Grey County found in historical written records, oral history accounts, artefacts, and on the land itself. Connections will also be drawn between the Old Durham Road and Owen Sound.

Naomi Norquay, Associate Professor in York University's Faculty of Education, is co-editor of *Northern Terminus: The African-Canadian History Journal* and President of the Old Durham Road Black Pioneer Cemetery Committee. Naomi is also currently coordinating the Greenwood Cemetery Indigent Plot Reclamation Project. Sponsored by the Social



Sciences and Humanities Research Council, this project is combing through historical records to reconstruct the lives behind the names of the 1200+ people who are buried in the plot in Owen Sound's Greenwood Cemetery.

This event can be streamed from [greyroots.com](http://greyroots.com) – pre-registration is not required. The 2021 Virtual Fall Lecture Series is a free event, but if these talks are something you enjoy, please consider becoming a Grey Roots member (details at [greyroots.com](http://greyroots.com)). Your interest and support is sincerely appreciated.





# CHRISTKINDL MARKET

MICHAEL SCHMIDT • • • • •

The tradition of Christkindl Market dates back to the Middle Ages where city streets or town squares were transformed to street markets during the four weeks of Advent. We've added a twist and brought the Christmas market to the country, to picturesque Glencolton Farm near Durham. On December 10 and 11, from 4:00 to 9:00, the farm will host a magical experience with live music, sleigh

rides, seasonal craft activities, specialty local food vendors, and so much more.

The Christkindl Market is a fundraiser to benefit the newly formed Saugeen Academy located in Hanover. Admission to the Market is \$20 for adults and children are free. For more information, including how to become a vendor, contact [christkindlfarm@gmail.com](mailto:christkindlfarm@gmail.com).

# 90<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREY COUNTY KIWANIS FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

MARK HENDRY, FESTIVAL CHAIR • • • • •

The Grey County Kiwanis Festival of Music has been working hard to produce a brand new virtual festival for 2022. The syllabus has been updated to current RCM/CC standards and new classes have been added for students without formal training. The syllabus has new, separate categories for Upper and Lower Strings, and for Brass and Woodwind instruments. This will allow the festival to hire more specialized adjudicators. We've also added new categories for Popular Guitar, Popular Vocal, and Popular Piano which include classes for solos, own composition and ensembles (2-10).

All the new Ontario Music Festivals Association provincial classes have been added to our syllabus including their new duet, trio, and small ensemble classes, plus their two new categories for Popular Piano

and Popular Voice. All RCM trained levels, starting with Level 1, can now be recommended to Provincials. The new classes also allow school entrants, or students without formal training, to be recommended in the new "Popular" solo classes, or in the duet, trio, and small ensemble classes.

The Festival is also migrating to a new system that will make registrations much simpler. Once entrants, teachers, and parents are signed up in the system, all future registrations will be streamlined. Registration will open December 1, 2021, and the deadline for entries is March 1, 2022. Late entries, up to March 8, will be subject to a late fee. The Festival will run from April 4-14, 2022.

For more information, please visit: [www.kiwanismusicfestival.net](http://www.kiwanismusicfestival.net) or email [info@kiwanismusicfestival.net](mailto:info@kiwanismusicfestival.net).



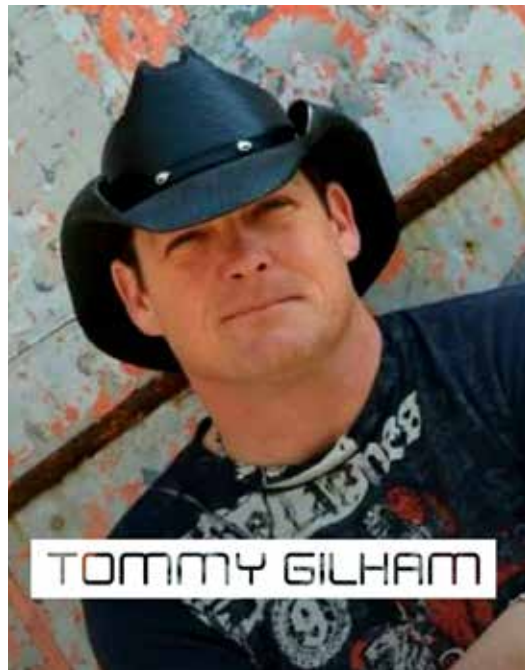
# TOMMY GILHAM IN CONCERT

.....

Tommy Gilham was born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama in a home filled with love and southern hospitality where gospel and country music filled the air. He was drawn to Nashville after he won a songwriter contest, and immediately received a publishing deal with Polygram. While there he had the opportunity to work with artists such as Charlie Daniels, Hank Williams Jr., Lynyrd Skynyrd, Marty Stewart, and others. He was for a time a member of the Charlie Daniels band Saddletramp and cut his teeth performing nightly all over Nashville.

Tommy was a rising star in Nashville and then the distraction of a beautiful Canadian woman took him on a new wonderful journey. After marrying, they settled on her fifth-generation family homestead on the Bruce Peninsula, with two Alabama dogs, Banjo and Mandolin.

Tommy Gilham and the Stone Cold Garage Band will perform at Heartwood Hall in downtown Owen Sound at 8:00pm on Saturday November 20. Tickets are available at Heartwood Home Store or [heartwoodhall.ca/events](http://heartwoodhall.ca/events) (\$20) or at the door (\$25). Doors open at 7:00pm.



## Christkindl Market

2021

A Christmas tradition returns

December 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>  
4-9pm

Glencolton Farms  
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Tickets \$20 - at the door  
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Kids are free



# THE M2M STORY

PAUL WAGENAAR, FOOD SERVICE CO-ORDINATOR, UNITED WAY OF BRUCE/GREY • • • • •

She stood on the front lawn of what was now her former home. Lost, alone, and stunned she didn't know what to do. What little she had salvaged was in boxes around her feet, but the furniture she had cobbled together over the years was no longer hers and remained locked in the house behind her. She had no place to go, and no way of getting there. She stared at the street, evicted; this was her new home.

An isolated story? Unfortunately not. Repeating a pattern seen too often lately, this woman was yet another local person experiencing homelessness. Just one more statistic to add to the long list of people in our community who are in similar situations.

A Habitat for Humanity employee, who knew too well the personal cost of our housing crisis, noticed her plight. Stopping, they listened, made a phone call to the YMCA, and spoke to an emergency housing person.

We know about her because she is one of the hundreds helped by a coordinated support program, known as Meals to Motels (M2M), that quietly assisted people experiencing homelessness over the past 16 months. In late April, 2020, during a weekly Pandemic Emergency Housing and Homelessness meeting, concern was expressed that the people being sheltered in area motels were challenged with accessing food. Restaurants were closed due to lockdowns and getting to OSHaRE to get meals while practising social distancing during lock-down was a challenge, especially for those in Chatsworth.

Fast-thinking collaboration by several community agencies resulted in a program that subsequently delivered thousands of meals to motels, to support those who were experiencing homelessness and sheltering in motels. Due to food safety considerations, the program was limited to a

specific number of motels in Owen Sound and Chatsworth.

M2M served over 12,700 meals. Each day, YMCA Housing, M'Wikwedong, and the Women's Centre all communicated with OSHaRE how many people they were sheltering and at what motels. The volunteers and staff at OSHaRE prepared hot and cold meals, with Father Thomas and his volunteers from St Aiden's providing the weekend frozen meals. The meals were placed in coolers and picked up, initially by Habitat for Humanity, and then by United Way staff and volunteers, who delivered them to the motels. Dietary needs were tracked and accommodated.

It was on a Monday lunch-run that Habitat for Humanity noticed the woman and her boxes. Knowing all the partners, they were confident in stopping to see if help was needed. Later that day, upon delivering dinner to the motels, they said "hello" again as she was one of the recipients.

We remain grateful to the funders, the volunteers, the organizations, and staff who all worked together to support people in our community experiencing homelessness. We may not have been able to find them a place to live, but we could find a temporary roof, and hot nutritious meals.

In consultation with all partners, the program was closed on September 30. YMCA Housing will continue to support those sheltering in motels who are unable to access other available food programs with frozen meals, and the partners will continue to monitor food insecurity for those experiencing homelessness.

To support our community through this pandemic and to support other community United Way projects, donations can be made at [www.donatetoday.ca](http://www.donatetoday.ca) or by calling (519) 376-1560 or by mail to United Way of Bruce/Grey, 380 9th Street East, Owen Sound, N4K 1P1.

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# IN OUR TIME AT THE GREY GALLERY

ANNE DONDERTMAN • • • • •

During the month of November, Grey Gallery is hosting *In Our Time*, exhibitions by two local artists, each of which is a direct response to the world we now find ourselves inhabiting. Lydia Knox's exhibition of oil paintings is entitled *Angels of Covid*, and Diana Griffith's series of portrait drawings is entitled *My Voice, Their Stories*.

Lydia Knox is an established artist who tackles social issues through the use of allegory and symbolism in her series of large paintings (3ft x 6ft) of the four Archangels (Gabriel, Michael, Raphael, and Uriel). Her contemporary take on the subject is evident in her choice of models, as she has based each portrait on someone she knows personally.

The Archangel Gabriel is the Voice, known as the messenger and herald of visions, who offers us the rainbow of hope through acceptance and understanding. He is represented by Michael MacKid, who is gender fluid and has experienced homophobia and exclusion, but walks with grace, courage and compassion.

Archangel Michael, the Protector, guides us through tough times and offers protection and help during crisis. The model here is Gregory Brent Courtney, the first black police officer to work for the Waterloo Regional Police. He has always tried to make the world a better place.

Raphael, the Archangel of Healing, works to heal the mind, spirit, and body of those who require it. The model is a PSW, Bastian Cassidy-Feddern, who works tirelessly in a seniors' health care centre.

Uriel is the Archangel of Light, holding the divine flame and a book – symbols of light and wisdom. The model is local artist Patti Waterfield. She has the power to gaze into the heart of a situation fearlessly and see the truth.

These Angels represent the four compass points, and guide us like stars through dark times. In the end, Lydia hopes they offer us a sense of hope...that there will be recovery if we are strong enough to face the darkness.

Diana Griffith is a health practitioner and creative spirit. She was driven by the tragic stories of residential schools to create a series of powerful drawings, on top of which she has transcribed accounts taken from the testimony of survivors, in their own words. She writes: "That I was undone by these stories would be putting it mildly. I would like to help tell the truth. These are some of the stories of our very own people, who introduced us to this precious land."

Two of Diana's drawings have been in the front window of Grey Gallery in advance of the exhibition, and I have been

heartened to see how many people have stopped to view them, even though they are difficult to read in every sense. I can see in their reactions that they are moved and, perhaps for the first time, have taken the individual stories to heart, and felt the pain of our shared history. When the exhibition closes, Diana would like to make the series available on loan to educational or community organizations interested in displaying them to raise awareness.

The *In Our Time* exhibition continues until November 27, and is followed by an eclectic December exhibition which introduces several established artists who have never previously exhibited in Owen Sound, as well as some popular local artists. Grey Gallery is open Wednesday to Saturday, from noon to 5pm, with extended hours during the holiday season.

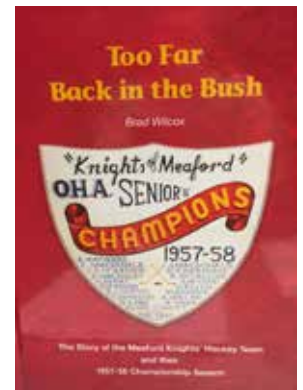


*Raphael, the Archangel of Healing* by Lydia Knox



# NEW BOOK

## TOO FAR BACK IN THE BUSH: THE STORY OF THE MEAFORD KNIGHTS' HOCKEY TEAM AND THEIR 1957-58 CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON BRAD WILCOX | \$40



It was the little town that could as Meaford became one of the smallest centres ever to win a Senior B title and the coveted W.A. Hewitt Trophy. From the small town of Chatsworth came a group of players including can't-miss Boston Bruins prospect Charlie Macdonald and his brother John. Along with Tom Sims, player-coach Macdonald began to build the club into a power house Intermediate and Senior entry in the OHA.

Playing in a new arena, the team began to play in 1953 and rose to Senior B champs in five short years after previously losing three heartbreaking final series to Tillsonburg, Sundridge, and Elmira.

The Knights literally bought their way into the prestigious Metro Toronto Senior B League in 1956-57, by

subsidizing the southern clubs to the tune of \$50 per game for travel expenses.

Renowned *Toronto Daily Star* sports columnist Milt Dunnell wrote in a column in the spring of 1957 that Meaford was told, "You're too far back in the bush!" The bigger centres in the "Big Seven" which included Brampton, Oakville, Georgetown, and Elmira argued they didn't belong in the league. Milton even asked Meaford players how much snow they got up there. Star player Charlie Macdonald responded, "They think we live at the North Pole."

Author Brad Wilcox was born and raised in Meaford and is a passionate fan of amateur hockey. Now retired, Brad plays hockey locally with oldtimers hockey teams. This is his first book.



It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas at Grey Gallery. Be sure to check out seasonal workshops and offers during River District events: Holiday Magic on November 20, and Moonlight Madness on December 3.

Our regular hours are Wednesday to Saturday from noon to 5pm but watch our website and social media for extended hours during December.

883 2ND AVE E., OWEN SOUND  
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# VIRTUAL JOB FAIR RETURNS

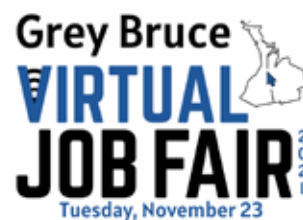
In response to local labour shortages, partners of the Grey Bruce Virtual Job Fair are planning a fall edition to be held on Tuesday, November 23, from 2:00pm to 7:00pm. Two events held earlier this year in March and April saw a combined participation of 174 employers and 970 job seekers. The Virtual Job Fair committee is proud to host another event and hopes to build on this success. Employers can connect with job seekers seamlessly through one-on-one text and video chat options. Organizers expect to see 80-100 employers register for the event with full-time, part-time, seasonal and student positions available and all industries represented.

"We've spoken to many business owners within the region who are struggling to find staff. The virtual

job fair will provide these employers the opportunity to connect with local job seekers and those from surrounding urban centres who are willing to relocate," said Linda Alexander Program Director at YMCA Employment Services.

Registration for job seekers opened the first week of November. Registering early for the event guarantees virtual entry and also allows employers to view resumes and profiles and schedule interviews in advance of the job fair. YMCA Employment Services and VPI Working Solutions are available to assist job seekers with writing/ updating their resume, preparing for a virtual interview, building their online profile within the virtual platform, and answering questions.

Once again, the Counties are



working with the Rural Employment Initiative to attract even more potential employees to the job fair to help address our local labour challenges. The Rural Employment Initiative works directly with immigrant clients wanting to relocate to rural communities. The Grey Bruce Virtual Job Fair event will not only help connect employers to job seekers, but also highlight our region as a community ready to welcome newcomers.

For more information, contact [www.Grey.ca](http://www.Grey.ca).

## NEW BOOK

THE PATH TO A MORE  
INSPIRING FUTURE  
MARIE KNAPP | \$20

Marie Knapp is a retired Nurse Educator who studied how people make changes related to what is meaningful for her doctoral thesis. Her research participants were led to meaningful actions of their own choice. That is where Marie leads readers of this book. "Today, as we experience the dramatic effects of a pandemic, of climate change, and of a rise in populism, there is a need for action," she writes. *The Path to a More Inspiring Future* offers readers ways to steady themselves, then lovingly reach out to others, and finally choose inspiring actions true to who they are. "This is important," she writes. "This is your future."



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# COCO IN CONCERT

Join “legendary soul-folk singer-songwriter” (*The Coast*, Halifax), Coco Love Alcorn, and her band, as we welcome them back to the Roxy stage. Coco’s career has spanned over 25 years, countless cross-Canada tours, 10 albums, and many award nominations. In 2021 she was awarded Best Contemporary Vocalist of The Year at the Canadian Folk Music Awards. Her music captivates audiences with soulful melodies, heartbeat grooves, and lyrics that come from a personal place, yet speak to the listener on a universal level.

Coco Love will perform at the Roxy at 7:30pm on Friday December 10. Tickets are available for in-person attendance (\$28.25) or streaming online (\$16.95) at the box office or online at [roxytheatre.ca](http://roxytheatre.ca).




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# WORKING TOGETHER TO KEEP INFORMATION AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

TIM NICHOLLS HARRISON • • • • •

Since 1994, we have been the largest “union” library in Ontario in both geographical area served, and number of members. The “union” in the name Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library (OSNGUPL) means according to the Ontario Public Libraries Act that the library has been established by the councils of two or more municipalities making an agreement.

Almost 28 years later, the municipalities of Chatsworth, Georgian Bluffs, and Owen Sound continue to work together to ensure that our library service is available to their citizens. A separate contract with the Meaford Public Library also provides access to their members to the OSNGUP Library. We acknowledge and celebrate these partnerships.

We are charged with providing 21st century library services to our members, recognizing both the distances involved and other challenges such as the pandemic. To make this possible, our services must go beyond the building itself. We offer a virtual branch that is easy to access at [www.owensound.ca/library](http://www.owensound.ca/library).

Users can visit and use our catalog online. They can also

borrow hundreds of thousands of e-resources including paid premium services, located on the internet, that are free to use through their library membership. E-resources include e-books, e-audiobooks, e-newspapers, e-magazines, online courses, and more.

Interested in learning more? Join Chief Librarian/CEO Tim Nicholls Harrison on Zoom for a short presentation about accessing the many online resources available with your library card to meet your educational, employment and entertainment needs. Find out about accessing Libby/Overdrive, PressReader, LinkedIn Learning, Ancestry.com, Mango Languages, Novelist Plus and other online resources. We'll also introduce you to the OSNGUPL app that is now available. The Zoom link to attend “The Library Online – Resources for You”, on Monday, November 29 at 7:00 pm is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83957003394?pwd=R0RpUC8x-MG0rTTF4Y3NZd3hxNlVGQT09>.

The meeting ID is 839 5700 3394 and the passcode is 720074. For more information, please email [info@library.osngupl.ca](mailto:info@library.osngupl.ca) or call 519-376-6623 ext.5.

## OWEN SOUND AWARDS

ANDY O'LEARY • • • • •

The City of Owen Sound is pleased to announce 2021 Award recipients Pat McDonough and Thom McDonough (Volunteers of the Year), and Jan Chamberlain (Senior of the Year).

Thom McDonough was nominated by OSHaRE where he has held a number of positions since 2015. Among other volunteer commitments, he has volunteered up to 70 hours in one week during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Described by his peers as “volunteering with a genuine smile, you know he cares.” Pat McDonough was also nominated by OSHaRE where he has held a number of positions since 2013. Described by his peers as “approachable, dependable and willing to struggle and serve,” Pat continues to spend 6-7 days each week volunteering where his colleagues say “he’s a blessing and when you are in his company, you feel

perhaps that you are a blessing too.”

Jan Chamberlain has a long history of volunteering through a number of different boards for over 25 years. She is described by her peers as “professional and bringing a compassionate voice to everything she is involved with,” “a changemaker,” “having a strong sense of judgment and compassion,” and “enthusiastic and tireless in her efforts to educate others.”

For almost 45 years, the City of Owen Sound has been recognizing volunteers from community groups and organizations who have had a substantial positive influence on our quality of life. The City is now accepting nominations for the 2022 Senior of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, and Youth Volunteer of the Year. Forms can be obtained on the City’s website at [www.owensound.ca/volunteer](http://www.owensound.ca/volunteer).



# HIBERNATION TEMPTATION

BILL HAWKES • • • • •

I have been thinking lately, being rather house-bound anyway, why not set my alarm clock for next spring and just pull up the covers? I know by mid-morning that this is not a real option. Seasonal doldrums may well occur. We want to resist the temptation to hibernate as best we can.

Small hikes about the neighbourhood beckon. Walking around town, actual neighbours will appear. This does not happen when on a treadmill. The addition of a social element adds to the community's well being as well as one's

own.

For myself, I bring back the notion of the daily constitutional. The specifics of creating routes and routines will be personal. Asked to locate myself on a scale of idle to fit, I would likely reply, "Nice weather we're having," or make some other attempt to change the subject.

My fit friends need not apply. Others might consider dressing for the weather and getting out there. See you on the street!

## SWIMMING AT THE EDGE OF UTOPIA AT THE TOM THOMSON GALLERY

*Swimming at the Edge of Utopia* is a solo exhibition at the Tom Thomson Gallery featuring a new series of paintings by local artist Kristine Moran. Formerly based in New York City, Moran now resides in Owen Sound where her practice has focused on an obsessive exploration of durational swimming including all the sensations, rhythms, and mental states that surface while slowly moving across a large body of water. The exhibition

immerses the viewer in a space with the swimmers; together they are vying to reach a utopian destination as represented through the depiction of idealized, abstracted landscapes. Cumulatively, the works evoke the nature of human persistence, desire, and the endurance to overcome obstacles. This exhibition will be available until January 8, 2022. The Tom Thomson Gallery is now open Tuesday to Saturday from noon until 4:00.

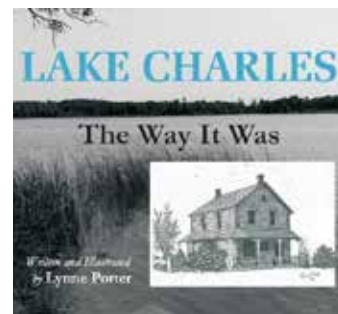
## NEW BOOK

### LAKE CHARLES: THE WAY IT WAS

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY LYNNE PORTER | \$20

Lynne Porter takes readers back to the early years of this small community just north of Owen Sound. Back in its pre-1950s glory days, Lake Charles once had a school, public library, general store, and a church. In *Lake Charles: The Way It Was*, readers will meet settler families and later residents, and learn of their trials and successes around this inland lake.

This is the third book about small local communities written by Lynne Porter. In each one, her research and words are enhanced with her historically accurate drawings of long-gone homes, public and commercial buildings. *Oxenden: The Way It Was* and *Big Bay North Keppel: The Way It Was* are also available for \$20 each.







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MARIE KNAPP (Path to a More Inspiring Future)

BARRY MORE (A Thing of Beauty: The Story of Morland Place)

ROB ROLFE (Sturgeon Bay: Poems)

RICHARD-YVES SITOSKI (No Sleep 'Til Eden: Poems)

RICHARD THOMAS (History of Owen Sound: 1840-1939 - in 3 volumes)

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ERIC ZWEIG (Hockey Hall of Fame Heroes)



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