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great community
magazines in one
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- Midnight Cowboys!
- Downtown Dine Around!
- 37th Annual GP Authors' Open House!
- ...and so much more!



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Established in 1994 and revived in 2020, The Owen Sounder is an independent community magazine which is written, designed, published and distributed right here in Owen Sound. Established in 1993, MOSAIC continues to encourage and support all the local arts and entertainment. Current and back issues also available at www.greybrucemosaic.com and www.theowensounder.ca

esteemed contributors

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about the front cover

The 77th Annual Kiwanis Santa Claus Parade in downtown Owen Sound will have the theme of A Magical Musical Christmas. Starting at 5:00 pm on Saturday November 19, the Parade will take the traditional 2nd Avenue East route. Please bring your letters to Santa as well as donations for the Salvation Army Food Bank. This photograph shows the extra special beauty of the night parade, which features the overhead Noma lights. Drone photograph by John Fearnall of Good Noise Photography.

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FROM MY DESK

Welcome to another issue of our combined community magazine. MOSAIC and *The Owen Sounder* seem to have developed some kind of relationship. As with most relationships, I have no idea how long it will last or what it might look like in the future. But, for right now, the match-up seems to be working and that's a good thing. Print is alive and well at The Ginger Press! We are committed to words on paper.

To that end, I am very pleased to announce our 37th Annual Authors' Open House! Who would've thought, all those decades ago, that such a simple idea would hold such resonance for our community. Bringing together authors and readers makes such sense and, each year, dozens of writers honour us with their presence. The 2022 Authors' Open House will include many of our regulars: you know them well – Barry More, Joan Beecroft, Bonita Johnson de Matteis, Richard-Yves Sitoski, Richard Thomas, and Eric Zweig – as well as some newbies including Gwen Harris, Kate Russell and Ansley Simpson. We don't have the definitive list of authors at time of publication but I assure you there will be an amazing selection of writers of books for all the children, adults, and everybody in between on your gift list. And books are so easy to wrap!

I also have four more manuscripts in my computer awaiting publication. I'm keeping them a secret for now, but there may well be some new books launched at the Open House as well! Speaking of new books, did you know that we now have a nifty online course to help you self-publish yours? It was developed to answer all those questions from all those writers who stop by to learn more about how they can propel their manuscripts into finished books. The link is at www.gingerpress.com; check it out if you're looking for a winter project and you're ready to move your great Canadian novel forward.

Thank you as always for taking the time to read MOSAIC/The Owen Sounder. We live in such a remarkable community and it is an honour for me to gather together some of its uniqueness for you all. Thank you also to Shelley Jackson, whose remarkable design skills shine from these pages. She is the miracle worker who takes all the bits and pieces that make up the magazine, and ties them together with such skill. And of course, thanks are extended to our advertisers who, once again, have made this publication possible. Please support them, and tell them thanks for supporting us.

I wish you the very best of the holiday season and look forward to seeing you soon!

- Maryann

THE FLEMINGS OF DERBY TOWNSHIP

JANET ILES • • • • •

Everyone who wants to write their family history wishes they had firsthand stories written by their relatives to include. They also hope to discover photographs that will add interest. Fortunate family historians locate notes, diaries, letters, and even newspaper articles about their family. This Fleming family is one of them. But what if you do not?

You seek writings by their contemporaries. *The Flemings of Derby Township: A Family History* (2022) is one that might help you, if you had family who lived in the Scottish Highlands in the early 1800s and in Ontario during the 1800s and early 1900s.

Gwen Harris worked with Ruth (Fleming) Larmour to bring together years of research, family papers and photos, and personal stories. Ruth is the granddaughter of Roy Fleming and great-great granddaughter of Alexander Fleming. Some living Fleming descendants also contributed to the chapters, including descendants of Christopher Alexander Fleming of Owen Sound, best known as C.A. Fleming.

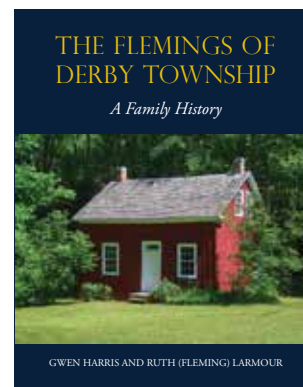
Alexander Fleming and Jean Stewart emigrated from Perthshire to Canada West in 1843. They settled first in Vaughan Township. By foot, they came up to Grey County where they purchased property in what became Kilsyth in Derby Township. Their stories show the determination of the Scottish immigrants to make what they hoped would be better lives for themselves and their children.

This narrative describes the Flemings' Scottish roots, the challenges of travelling to a new country and pioneering in Derby Township, Grey County. While many of the Flemings and their descendants remained in Derby Township and the Owen Sound area, some left for various other parts of Canada and the United States. The book shares stories of Alexander and Jean's nine children and their grandchildren around the turn of the twentieth century as they undertook new travels and challenges.

The Flemings of Derby Township is divided into four sections: Scotland; Canada West; The Families; and Farming and Faith in the Lives of the Flemings. Readers will appreciate the maps, photographs (colour and black & white) and sketches, the extensive source notes, bibliography, and indexes. Source notes come at the end of each chapter.

The bibliography is organized by topic. The detailed index has two sections: Names and Subjects. Derby residents mentioned in the book, who are not family members, are marked [Derby].

This book is more than a history of the Fleming family. It is about the life and times of their communities, both in the Scottish Highlands in the 1800s and in Ontario. A limited edition, professionally designed book, 554 pages, has been printed by Copywell (Woodbridge, Ont.) and is available at Ginger Press (\$85); also, it will be available in the collections of Grey Roots, the Owen Sound and North Grey Union Public Library, and other repositories.



Note: I have a personal interest in The Flemings of Derby Township: A Family History. Since 2018, I worked closely with Gwen Harris and did copyediting and indexing of the manuscript. For 26 years of my life, I lived in Derby Township, before returning to Owen Sound, and through this book I learned a great deal about the pioneers who opened the township. I recognize many of the names, and people living in the Owen Sound area will also. - Janet Iles

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DOWNTOWN DINE AROUND

FRANCESCA DOBBYN • • • • •

In support of United Way Bruce Grey, The Ginger Press brings you the first ever Downtown Dine Around! Check out four amazing downtown Owen Sound establishments while giving to Supportive Outreach Service (SOS). SOS Outreach provides, medical, mental health and social supports to people throughout Grey County, with a focus on downtown Owen Sound. The United Way of Bruce Grey is a part of this valuable program assisting with many of the unfunded needs that emerge in this work.

On Tuesday November 29 (Giving Tuesday) you can enjoy a **sparky** appetizer at Casero's, head over to Sabitri's for an **outstanding** dinner, and finish off with a **sumptuous** dessert at Georgian Bay School of the Arts. If you're up for more, end the night at Heartwood Concert Hall for their Open Mic Night.

Tickets (\$75) are available now at www.downtowndinearound.ca and The Ginger Press. As part of your ticket, you will receive a \$25 tax receipt for your contribution to SOS. You will also receive a remarkable dinner downtown. There are four sittings of 15 tickets each, starting at 5:00 pm,



5:30 pm, 6:00 pm, and 6:30 pm. You can purchase 1 ticket or 15, or something in between, per sitting. You'll be able to talk to members of the SOS leadership and front line team throughout the evening about the important work they do in our community.

Designed as a way to encourage folks to come downtown during the evenings and sample some of the excellent food our independent restaurants provide, the Downtown Dine Around also supports the work of many agencies which provide necessary services. C'mon downtown!

MIDNIGHT COWBOYS

I was speaking with a homeless man who has been living in a small tent for the past month in a grove of trees by the bay. He asked me if I had any weed we could share. He offered me a cup of campfire coffee. We were trying to come up with the name of a movie he had seen once in Kalamazoo, Michigan. It had been filmed in New York City.

The movie seemed to relate to his current living condition, with the word *Cowboy* in its title. I knew the film, and could see its two anti-heroes trudging the gritty streets of New York, one a seasoned denizen, the other overtaken by the same feelings of disorientation and awe I'd experienced myself at a similar age, staring in astonishment at the red flashing lights on Rue Sainte-Catherine during my first night in Montreal.

We never recalled the title of the film, two aging men, me with a sudden short-term memory lapse, he burdened with the after-effects of a traumatic head injury. I could picture the cowboy in a Stetson hat. He remembered Dustin Hoffman in a starring role. Nearby was the little tent he'd erected on the concrete foundation of a burned down factory building. I was thankful it was *his* life. I have enough problems of my own.


- Rob Rolfe

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CEMETERY PRESERVATION AWARD

DANIEL DISHAW, BLACK HERITAGE SOCIETY • • • • •

The 2021-22 OHS Cemetery Preservation Award is presented to the Potter's Field Monument project, recognizing Aly Boltman, and John and Shirley Reaburn as the steering committee which led the work, supported by a number of integral individuals and organizations in Grey County. The Cemetery Preservation Award recognizes individuals (or a not-for-profit heritage organization) that have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the preservation and protection of cemeteries in Ontario.

Owen Sound's Greenwood Cemetery Potter's Field was established in 1858 as a final resting place for the indigent, located on the north side of the chapel, on the east side of the ravine. To date, over 1,200 burials of the community's most vulnerable citizens have been recorded, including hundreds of babies, children, orphans, seniors, homeless, poor, and outcast. These unfortunate individuals lay in their graves completely unidentified and forgotten, without any visible markers to indicate anything about the lives they had lived.

In 2018, when Aly Boltman was leading a cemetery tour as part of Owen Sound's Doors Open event, two anonymous donors approached her about funding a monument for Potter's Field. These generous community members were later revealed to be John and Shirley Reaburn of Georgian

Bluffs. The public was asked for input regarding the design of the proposed monument, and volunteers worked with Sanderson Monuments to create an appropriate memorial, which was inspired by the Black History Cairn in Harrison Park, designed by Bonita Johnson deMatteis.

Once the initial positive steps had been taken, a successful application was made to the federal government's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council to secure the necessary funding to research and learn more about those interred at the Site. The Potter's Field Research Project was led by Dr. Naomi Norquay of York University, in partnership with Grey Roots Museum & Archives. Many of Owen Sound's earliest Black citizens – who fled slavery in the United States and arrived via the Underground Railroad – and several generations of their descendants are interred in Greenwood Cemetery's Potter's Field. *The Indigent Plot Narrative Stories*, the result of a year of research by Norquay and Dr. Rachel Lobo, have now also been released through the archives to complement the monument. Congratulations are extended to the steering committee, as well as a number of invaluable supporters of the project, including Terri Baird-Jackson, Dr. Naomi Norquay, Dr. Rachel Lobo, Grey Roots Museum & Archives, The City of Owen Sound, and The Grey County Black Heritage.

CHARLIE BROWN COMES TO HARMONY CENTRE

KIT PINEAU • • • • •

Harmony Centre's *Ten for Ten* series of free or by-donation events to celebrate our 10th Anniversary year continues in December as we bring back a performance of the much-loved music from *A Charlie Brown Christmas* with Tyler Wagler on bass, Adam Bowman on drums, and Duncan Wilson on piano. The Keppel-Sarawak School Choir directed by Deanne Hallman, and special guest Tara MhicCoinnigh will add to the holiday fun.

A Charlie Brown Christmas is an Emmy Award-winning holiday tradition enjoyed by children everywhere. Equally magical is the soundtrack created by Vince Guaraldi. Tyler and friends evoke all the memories and attachments people have surrounding the music and the annual animated special.

Who doesn't know the popular *Christmas Time is Here*?

Join us at Harmony Centre for this jazz classic and stay on for free milk and cookies in the Commons. *A Charlie Brown Christmas* will be on December 18 at 2:00pm, in the Harmony Auditorium. Like all of our *Ten for Ten* series events, admission is Pay-What-You-Can to ensure that all are able to attend, made possible by our donors, including generous support from Van Dolder's Home Team.

For more information check www.harmonycentre.ca. Subscribe to our newsletter to keep up with all Harmony Centre news, including future *Ten for Ten* events. In January, we have a zany evening of film and entertainment with Rob McLean. You won't want to miss that!

CHRISTKINDL MARKET

Get in the Christmas Spirit at the Christkindl Market presented by Symphony in the Barn and the Friends of Glencolton Farm and Saugeen Academy on Friday December 9 (4-9pm) and Saturday December 10 (2-9pm). Enjoy the sights and sounds of a European Christmas with traditional European food and baking, local artisans, and vendors. Plus, meet the barnyard animals, get involved with the children's activities and enjoy great entertainment. Walk the candlelit pathways and warm up in the stable with hot apple cider.

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. Glencolton Farm near Durham has added a twist and brought the Christmas market to the country.

Delicious European style food and drinks will include Choucroute Garnie (sauerkraut braised in riesling with sausages and potato), Carbonnades Flamandes (slow

cooked beef and onions in Chimay Abbey beer), Gluewein (literally "glow wine" or German mulled wine; it is served at special stands at Christkindl Markets throughout Germany and Austria), Cherry Street Bar-B-Que (sausages on a soft Glencolton pretzel bun garnished with fried onions and sauerkraut featuring Kozlik's mustards), and Krautfleckerln (Austrian winter street food with egg noodles, cabbage and onions sautéed in butter).

The entertainment will include performances by Michael Louis Johnson (trumpet), Robbi Joy (children's entertainer), Sam and Robin (folk, blues and country music), and the Durham Sauntering Band, as well as sleigh rides, candle dipping, chestnut roasting, storytelling, carolling, outdoor games, and so much more.

Advance tickets (\$20) are available online at eventbrite.ca; tickets at the door are \$25. Children are free. For more information visit chirstkindlfarm.com.

THE OWEN SOUNDERS

RICHARD THOMAS

What do Emma Scott, James Lee, Jennie Butchart, Wilson Woodbeck, Mary Alfretta Gifford, Alfred Frost, and Annie Jaffray Eaton have in common? They're all included in *The Owen Sounders*, the latest book from local historian Richard Thomas. Richard has chosen to profile some of the not-so-famous men and women who lived and worked here during the past century. Describing their achievements with biographical essays and photos, he clearly makes the case for remembering them today.

Uncovering their stories while researching other events, he accumulated enough names to warrant further research. While we all know about Tom Thomson, Billy Bishop, and Agnes Macphail, Richard focuses on the accomplishments and adventures of other Owen Sounders who were part of this community.

Available for Christmas, *The Owen Sounders* is a significant addition to your library of local books and will be available from The Ginger Press (\$24.95).





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BLUE MOUNTAIN POTTERY CALENDAR

ANDREA WILSON • • • • •

The Craigeleith Heritage Depot has produced a 16-month calendar celebrating Blue Mountain Pottery. This beautiful calendar features historical highlights from the pottery as well as pieces from the museum collection. All proceeds from the calendar will go toward the publication of a new book about the pottery.

The museum is working with Conrad Biernacki, a recent Royal Ontario Museum retiree who is writing a book about Blue Mountain Pottery. He has been collecting this iconic pottery since his youth. At this point research is still ongoing into the finer details about the pottery. The museum would love to learn from everyone who either worked at the pottery

or may have images of the various factories in The Blue Mountains and Collingwood.

This calendar was created with the assistance of the Georgian Bay Photography club who helped photograph the museum collection of Blue Mountain Pottery. Their volunteer assistance has been greatly appreciated, as their members expertly handled the technical challenges of photographing ceramics.

Calendars are available for sale from the Craigeleith Heritage Depot or the LE Shore Library in Thornbury (\$23 plus tax). It makes a great gift, sharing a part of our local history.

MY TEAMMATE, FRED

BILL HAWKES • • • • •

Years ago, I lived in the village of Kemble, about eighteen kilometres north of Owen Sound. The village was so small that everyone had status, quite aside from any single person's eccentricities. One neighbour was Fred Stott, who had his home on adjacent land and spent much time by his forge.

Come winter, if snowed in, I would meet up with Fred in the back field. Fred would say, "You can't always do what you want to do, when you want to do it." He chewed tobacco and would spit for emphasis. Fred had a way of making things sound like wisdom, or, at least, folk wisdom.

At the time, there was a curling rink at the south end of the

village. I barely knew how to curl and Fred was on my team. I would throw the stone and Fred would shuffle backwards down the ice, sweeping and grinning from ear to ear.

He was grinning because he did not let his broom touch the ice! The broom was missing half of its bristles, and Fred did not want to risk losing any more.

In his unique way, I believe that Fred was teaching me an old truth: it was not about winning or losing, but how you played the game.

Remembering Fred makes me smile, a situation to be envied.

TRANS DAY OF REMEMBRANCE IN OWEN SOUND

JOAN BEECROFT • • • • •

November 20 is Trans Day of Remembrance. This is the day when we pause to honour the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence.

Pflag Canada sees, celebrates and stands with our trans, two-spirit, non-binary and genderfluid friends and loved ones today, this week and always. Because Trans Day of Remembrance is on a Sunday this year, the Trans flag will

be raised at the Owen Sound City Hall Community Flagpole on Friday, November 18, at 10:30 a.m. Mayor Boddy and a representative from Pflag Owen Sound will speak briefly. This event is open to everyone.

Questions? Contact Pflag Owen Sound by email owensoundon@pflagcanada.ca or on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/PFLAGCanadaOwenSound>.

MISS MACPHAIL'S RECIPE

AGNES MACPHAIL • • • • •

(excerpted from *The Ginger Press Community Cookbook: A Celebration of 40+ Years*)

This recipe was first published on February 3, 1936, in Agnes Macphail's weekly newspaper letter home to her constituents. Known throughout the riding as "Miss Macphail's Recipe," this fruit cake has been popular for over 85 years in Grey-Bruce. Agnes Macphail was Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound's (and Canada's) first female Member of Parliament; she was elected in 1921.

INGREDIENTS

- 3 eggs
- 1-1/2 cups sugar
- 1 cup jam (raspberry)
- 1/2 cup dark molasses
- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup cold coffee
- 4 cups flour
- 4 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 tsp cloves
- 1 tsp nutmeg
- 1 box raisins
- 1 cup pecans
- grated rind of one orange
- grated rind of one lemon
- 1/2 lb pineapple
- 1/2 lb citron
- 1 tsp allspice
- 1 cup coconut
- 1 cup dates

Bake one hour, or more, very slowly. This will make one large cake, or four layers. Enjoy!

OWEN SOUND FARMERS' MARKET

MORAG BUDGEON • • • • •

It has been three and a half years since Tom Pink, the market manager for over 20 years, retired and passed the proverbial carrot to new managers, Morag Budgeon and Richard Thomas. This long-running institution has certainly been tested, but the market has proven to be tough and resilient, weathering newbie managers, major building and grounds construction, and a world pandemic.

The market has recently been busier than ever with new and returning customers, signalling a community that is stepping up to support local growers and makers. The Market Board of Directors has worked hard to ensure that a wide variety of quality local food and craft are represented, highlighting the cornucopia of delights available in Grey and Bruce Counties. Christmas 2022 is going to be a special celebration for Owen Sound's year-round market, with the configuration and number of vendor stalls finally returning to its pre-construction and pre-covid footprint.

Every seven years, Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve fall on a Saturday, and happily, this is the year! The market will be sparkling with lights and decorations, awash with festive music from buskers and on December 24th, when you arrive for your pre-ordered turkey, brussel sprouts and beeswax candles, you will be treated to a warm glass of festive cheer and a yummy Christmas cookie!

Consider challenging yourself to get a percentage of your holiday shopping on Saturday morning at market. Local growers, producers and makers have struggled with limited places to sell their wares during the pandemic, and now that craft shows are re-opening and markets are accepting more vendors, it is a perfect opportunity to thank them for the hard work and ingenuity incorporated to stay viable and strong over the last three years.

The Owen Sound Farmers' market staff, board and vendors are now very confident that they can survive any challenge with the skills that they have gained during some very tricky years. LETTUCE celebrate victories, make sure 2023 does not go BACON hearts, SQUASH any concerns, and ROMAINE calm. PEAS, take the time to JAM with friends and family. Without sounding too CORNY, know that market vendors will TURNIP every week on THYME, with no EGGscuses, offering a PEAS of themselves as they have BEAN for many years, even during the CHILI weather. They apPEARciate your encouragMINT. You are a big DILL and BERRY important. Thanks a MELON. Your support makes our hearts skip a BEET. The vendors look forward to CELERYbrating 2023 with you.

The Owen Sound Farmers' Market is open Saturday mornings from 8am to 12:30pm, year round.

AT THE ROXY

MARCIA CUNNINGHAM AND EMMA MCCONACHIE-ANDERSON • • • • •

The Roxy Theatre/Owen Sound Little Theatre's 62nd season has started with a bang, and there's lots more to come! We have an amazing line-up of theatre, concerts, and comedy in the works. November saw the OSLT season open with the enchanting *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*. The show was a huge success thanks to the tireless dedication of our volunteers, and our community, which was more than ready to return to live theatre. The rest of the fantastic Owen Sound Little Theatre (OSLT) season is set with *You, Me and a Bit of Driftwood* in February 2023, *The Game's Afoot* in April 2023 and *Gorgeous, Gallivanting Goddesses* in June 2023. *The Game's Afoot* promises to bring fun and laughter to the stage, while *You, Me and a Bit of Driftwood* and *Gorgeous, Gallivanting Goddesses* will celebrate our local playwrights, both having been written by OSLT members.

Discounted tickets through our OSLT Flex-Passes are available. Perhaps you want to bring a group of 10 or more – if so, reach out to the Box Office for group rates. And, we are always looking for new cast and crew. Watch the website for auditions, and reach out if you'd like to participate on-stage, or off.

December at the Roxy is full of fun events and music. The Roxy

Theatre and the Billy Bishop Museum are proud to co-present *Billy Bishop Goes to War*, a comedic and gripping Canadian musical about the World War 1 fighter pilot, starring Matt Evans as Billy Bishop and Michael Mulrooney as the Piano Man on December 1.

Coco Love Alcorn*, legendary soul-folk singer-songwriter, returns to the Roxy stage on December 3. Experience the film premier of *The Christmas Tree**, adapted for the screen by local volunteers from the popular Norm Foster play, filmed in Grey Gallery Gardens in the heart of Owen Sound and featuring actors from the Roxy stage, on December 9 and 10. The ever-popular Next Generation Leahy returns with their Christmas Celtic music show on December 16. Get ready for the holiday season with A Rockin' Elvis Christmas* on December 17.

The Roxy Young Company (RYC) has been busy every Wednesday night with its Act One classes that give youth an opportunity to develop theatre skills, be creative and have fun. The next session, Act Two, will run January to April and is now on sale. In addition, auditions for Willy Wonka Jr, the RYC's spring production, will be held at The Roxy on December 5 and 6. Tickets are now on sale for this scrumdiddlyumptious musical guaranteed to delight




everyone's sweet tooth. Check out www.roxytheatre.ca for more details.

There is also a variety of additional music and entertainment that other promoters are bringing to The Roxy. The Beckett family is back for their perpetually popular New Year's Eve show, at 2pm and 7:30pm on December 31 and the Music of Hockey event of last year has been rescheduled to January 18. We are looking forward to a busy and fun New Year.

For more information on all of our upcoming events please visit our website, www.roxytheatre.ca, or call the box office at (519) 371-2833. You can also check out our membership and donation opportunities and help support The Roxy, our vibrant local theatre. We look forward to seeing you soon.

**In addition to in-person performances, Virtual Tickets are available for these shows for viewers to enjoy from home or far away.*

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A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

ANDREW ARMITAGE

There was almost no snow the first few weeks of December, 1896. Townspeople passing on the muddy streets and sidewalks of Owen Sound made small talk of grand white Christmases they remembered when they and the town were younger. Owen Sound *Advertiser* editor J.H. Little noticed the malaise and called on his friends and readers to ignore the drabness of the weather and “have an old-time merry Christmas this year; a real old-fashioned happy one.” That night a blanket of white snow fell over the valley town.

The first cutters, sleighs and democrats appeared on Poulett Street. Store assistants shovelled snow into great piles that would not melt until spring while merchants readied their holiday stock and decorated windows with green holly imported from England. The holly was particularly fresh that season, full of red berries.

The town’s businessmen announced their holiday promotions. R.P. Butchart had “Just What You Wanted For Christmas Presents” with specials on jardinières, onyx tables, banquet lamps and a completely new stock of electro-plated ware. Eaton Brothers Brewing and Malting Company had prepared an aged stock of India Pale Ale, Golden Ale, and Triple X Stout while Christie’s Central Grocery guaranteed “no complaints about our special shipment of holiday Japan tea, especially imported for Owen Sound.”

James Little inveighed against what he felt to be the growing commercialization of Christmas and the bad habit of giving expensive presents: “The true spirit of Christmas is often wholly lacking. There is often a petty rivalry as to who will give the greatest number of expensive gifts; there is often an unworthy jealousy. Money is spent which is ill-afforded causing bitterness and bad feeling. There ought to be less giving of presents at Christmas.”

W.F. Wolfe, importer of dry goods, 101 Poulett, did not seem to agree and lured last moment shoppers with a half page ad: “Knick-knacks and quite a pile of plunder at all kinds of low prices are available. Belated holiday shoppers – get them now!”

The first of many gala holiday events took place at the Seldon House on Wednesday, December 9. An oyster supper was thrown by city officials for officers of the C.P.R. steamers and other shipping lines. The captains, pursers and mates of the *Manitoba*, *Athabasca*, *Alberta*, *Petral*, *City of Midland* and the steamer *Chamberlain*

sat down to a great repast with Mayor Kennedy and 100 townsmen.

Toasts were heartily drunk to the Queen, the Dominion of Canada, the sailing season, Christmas, fair weather, Scotland, children, and women. The *Advertiser* reported that after a time the Mayor had difficulty with his introductions. The evening ended with three rousing cheers and a rendition of “For They Are Jolly Good Fellows.”

A more sober service was offered for sailors and railway men a few nights later at Knox United. The church was packed as Rev. Dr. Waits led the congregation in the singing of such hymns as “Fierce and Wild the Storm is Raging,” “Master, The Tempest is Blowing,” and “Committed to the Deep.”

The Young Men’s Christian Association celebrated Christmas with a fun-filled debate before a full house at the Town Hall. The feature of the evening was a contest between a Y.M.C.A. team debating the Collegiate Institute on the topic, “Resolved that man is a greater gossip than woman.” The debate was awarded to the negative and carols closed the evening. A Promenade was held by Collegiate students at the Paterson House Hall on the Saturday night before Christmas. Over a hundred were reported in attendance and agreeable topics of conversation included bits of school gossip, the latest continental fashions, and the bobsledding season. The noted town soprano Miss Lillie LePan favoured guests with two solos and the evening concluded promptly at 10:30 p.m.

Commercial entertainment was readily available. D.W. Douglas had just returned from Chicago with a Phantascope, a machine that reportedly would throw images of living figures onto canvas. Mr. Douglas also had a graphophone for his audience’s amusement. Both of the “great inventions of the age” would be demonstrated in the Town Hall for the holiday amusement of the countryside.

The Town Hall again was the centre of amusement for the season. Dr. and Mrs. Carlyle offered an excellent reading from Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol* complete with limelight views. Dan McKenzie operated the lantern and John Ramsay appeared in the curtain-riser. Admission was ten cents.

Christmas charity was not ignored. The pupils of Boyd Street School had, for the second year, donated a goodly number of books for the children’s library



at the General and Marine Hospital. Officials of the Hospital commended the students for their choices which included *Miracles of Heavenly Love*, *Chatterbox for '96*, and *Little Women and Good Wives*.

The Ladies' Aid Society of Division Street Presbyterian Church followed their successful Christmas Bazaar with a short literary programme which included a lecture on Canadian birds and their habits by the Principal of the Collegiate. Over at Scrope Street Methodist the entire Christmas gathering of the Epworth League was given over to the subject of temperance.

There was of course course, a dark side to the season. Four suicides were reported including that of George Jones who shot himself in the head with a British Bulldog 32. The Chief of Police commented on the number of drunks and "vags" hanging around town while Judge Creasor sentenced three men to jail for having made whiskey illegally.

Still, it was Christmas, and, as the final shopping days raced by, the tempo of the season increased. Buying special ingredients for holiday baking and that very special December 25th dinner was much on the minds of every woman in town. Grocers R.J. Scott, W.A. McLean, and W.A. Grier staged a price war on Christmas cake goods offering lower and lower prices on California seeded sultanas, fresh cleaned currants, shelled walnuts and almonds and "all new figs and dates." It was the main course for Christmas dinner that received the most attention if not notoriety. Late in November the *Advertiser* reported there had been "fine carcasses of deer which have been such a prominent feature at the butcher shops where they have been exhibited during the past week." The writer commented that, "These beautiful creatures were among the common denizens of the woods in which they are now never seen."

George C. Brignell of the City Meat Market on Poulett invited the public to come by and see the "beautiful black bear" that had been captured in North Keppel by W.J. Rogers. The bear would be "exhibited this week alive: next week it would be exhibited dead." Parties wishing to obtain a piece of the delicacy were urged to do so early.

Out in Sarawak Township at the Royston Park Estate seven fine turkeys had been stolen from Mr. William Morrison. Chief McCauley exercised his detective skills and found three of the fowl at John

Bolton's Bay Street home. A fourth had been eaten. Crown Attorney R.G MacKay successfully prosecuted the case and Bolton was remanded to gaol. Mr. Morrison was so pleased he presented the Chief with a turkey.

The town's newspapers were packed with advice on Christmas matters. An extract from the *Ladies' Home Journal* advised that Christmas day should be given over to children, "without stint or reservation."

The free-thinking writer commanded the reader to be patient. "Suppose the boy is particularly noisy on Christmas? What of it? Tell me, if you can, a better sign of strong, young health than the noise from a boy's lungs. And if the little girl does insist on putting her sticky candy fingers on your dress, what of it? Give her the joy of feeling that for one day the house is hers in every nook and corner of it." We'll never know how many Owen Sound parents followed this advice.

Christmas "do's and don'ts" were offered as daily reminders of how to celebrate the season:

- Don't rush in and out of the stores as if St. Nicholas was a foul fiend and was after you.
- Don't shop with wrinkled forehead and a care-worn face as if the giving of gifts was an intolerable bore.
- Don't fuss, don't hurry, don't worry, don't fret. Christmas has come and gone many times and will come and go again.

By Christmas Eve, all the events of the season had been held, all the shopping was done and one by one downtown stores shuttered their windows, turned off the lights and closed all the doors. Only the Post Office and the Customs wicket stayed open for a few final hours.

The faint sounds of carols were heard down the street as a gentle snow started to sift over the town. Families gathered for the evening, finishing the last small tasks before Christmas morning. There was a feeling of peace and hope that season, so close to the end of a century. Who knew what the coming years might bring? It was as if that Christmas in 1896 was perhaps the one that would be best remembered.

By the glow of the hearth, the Christmas Eve newspaper was read. Editor James H. Little of the Owen Sound *Advertiser* offered a final season's greeting: "May the demon of adversity never knock at your door, but may the goddess of prosperity and the angel of happiness be ever your companions. Again, a merry, merry Christmas to all."



OPEN MIC NIGHTS WITH THE BIG SOUND

KATE MOSHER • • • • •

The Big Sound and the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library are partnering to bring an exciting new project to Owen Sound and Grey-Bruce youth. A series of open mic music and social justice rooted events for youth ages 13-17 will stretch their music muscles while they learn new skills and frameworks to grow as musicians and make an impact in the community through social justice education, awareness, and engagement.

Youth in our local area don't have ample options for connection outside of school, especially those who come from families that are economically disadvantaged. Youth who are interested in learning and playing music have even fewer opportunities. By connecting both music and social justice, this project intends to be a container for youth who want to be involved in the community in ways that have meaning and importance to them.

This Open Mic series will be hosted by different local

young adult musicians who can bring their lived experience of music to the workshops. Each host will bring a unique skill set to the event, keeping the contained structure of the program moving while engaging with the participants and offering supportive ideas and feedback. The topic of the workshops will also be rooted in social justice, and the participants of the Open Mic events will help guide the selection of topics we explore. The workshops are deeper dives, and are open to the participants of the Open Mic events.

Both the Open Mic Nights and Workshops are free to youth and food will be provided. No musical experience is required; instruments and equipment will be available for use. Registration is helpful but not mandatory. Open Mic nights will happen at The Library starting at 5:30 on Thursdays December 1, January 12 and 26, February 9, March 9, April 6, May 11 and June 8. For more information please contact us at hello@thebigsound.org.

A TALE AS OLD AS TIME

MARCIA CUNNINGHAM • • • • •

The Owen Sound Little Theatre (OSLT) is thrilled to be opening their 22-23 season with Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, a dynamic show filled with music and magic on November 10. An incredible number of volunteers have worked together to bring this much-loved production to the stage, and it is sure to please crowds of all ages.

Directed by Lacey Mooney (director of last year's Roxy Young Company production of *Matilda Jr.*), *Beauty and the Beast* is a tale as old as time that tells the story of Belle, a young woman yearning for adventure, and the Beast, a young prince who remains trapped under the spell of an enchantress. It features all of the wonderful songs written by Alan Menken and the late Howard Ashman, along with new songs by Mr. Menken and Tim Rice. For fans of the movie or the stage show, and people eager to

see the wonderful spectacle that their friends and neighbors have created, *Beauty and the Beast* is a must see!

Beauty and the Beast features an impressively large cast to bring these larger-than-life characters to the Roxy stage. Frequent OSLT theatre-goers will recognize some familiar faces (some who have been on stage recently and some returning after years away) and see some faces who are completely new to the stage. The impressively large crew has been working around the clock to make sure lights, sound, costume, set and more are ready for opening night. The dedication of the OSLT cast and crew in preparing to bring this to the community has been incredible. Local businesses and families have made this possible through their sponsorship of the season and show, and we couldn't mount a production of this scale without their commitment. This production is a wonderful spectacle



of song, dance, magic and romance, and the OSLT members are thrilled to present this to the Owen Sound community.

The production runs November 10-12, 17-19 and 23-26 at 7:30pm and November 12 and 19 at 2pm. Masking is appreciated at all shows, but only required for the November 25 show, where, for the safety of our patrons, we are offering a masked patron performance. Tickets can be purchased in person at our box office, online at www.roxytheatre.ca, or by calling (519) 371-2833.

BALL HAS IT ALL!

ANN MAGNER • • • • •

Over twenty years ago, a small group of individuals in Owen Sound led by Eva Schwartzentruber took the initiative to provide interesting lifelong learning opportunities in a social setting to those seeking the pursuit of knowledge. That group grew and developed into the renowned Bluewater Association for Lifelong Learning (a.k.a. BALL) with a membership of several hundred individuals from Grey and Bruce counties and now from across Canada. Throughout the pandemic, BALL continued to offer its outstanding lectures via Zoom, and during this 2022-2023 season we are presenting a hybrid model whereby participants may choose between viewing lectures either with an audience at the Bayshore Community Centre, or via Zoom from the safety and comfort of home.

The 2022-2023 BALL season is brimming full of engaging topics, from our completed and intriguing first six-lecture series on *Understanding Populism* to the current series titled *Going to the Movies For a Century: From the Birth of Hollywood to the Present*, a riveting and entertaining series that is drawing to its close on November 24.

There is more! If your interest in BALL has been peaked, and you are looking for a rewarding and informative way to spend a Thursday morning or a Tuesday evening throughout the cooler snow-covered months, then please join us for our two remaining six-lecture series; *The Climate Crisis: Perspectives, Insights and Solutions* runs from January 12 to February 16, 2023, followed by *Health and Medicine in the 21st Century*, from March 2 to



April 5. For those who choose to view our lectures at Bayshore Community Centre, the cost is \$50 per person. If watching on Zoom from home, then the cost is \$50 per household. Your ticket price includes a one-time re-play of each of the lectures.

Please visit our new website at www.bluewaterlearns.com for further details on both our lectures and our esteemed speakers, and to purchase tickets. We look forward to you joining us!



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Recreation is vital to the wellbeing of healthy kids and families and a great way to bring neighbours together. Many of our endowed funds grant to programs so that local kids have all kinds of ways to play.



A Giving Story...

In 2017, the Hopper family started the Ted & Carol Hopper Endowed Fund to support kid's access to sports and recreation in memory of Ted Hopper, who taught music to students in local elementary schools for many years. Since 2020, this fund has granted over \$6,000 to Orchestra North, that allowed kids of all ages and ability to experience the power of music.



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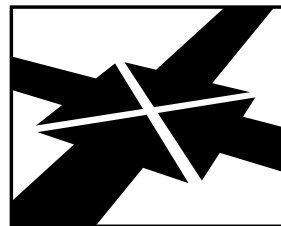
PAULA HUISMAN

The last months have been busy at Intersections Wood Collaborative (IWC). Along with our regular selection of woodworking classes, our Project Groups have been busy building drum hoops, bonsai boxes, and finishing a small boat, *The Nymph*. We also hosted our First Online Fundraising Auction. Thank you to everyone who donated and purchased items to help make the auction a success. We couldn't be more grateful. Your support both humbles us and makes us proud to know that the community supports our effort to create a welcoming centre for woodworkers of all skill levels, along with woodlovers and designers.

As the trees lose their leaves and temperatures dip lower, our attentions turn indoors and, for many,

to the warmth and light of the winter holidays. With the holidays, also comes the quest for the perfect gift. Intersections has a series of *Just in time for the holidays* workshops on offer for the make-it-yourselfers out there. We are also pleased to offer a different kind of gift, one that lasts a lifetime – experience.

Annual and Lifetime Memberships to Intersections Wood Collaborative provide the holder with opportunities to join Special Project Groups, book Studio Time, Early Registration opportunities for workshops and special events, and more. By gifting a membership, you are also giving IWC a gift. Memberships make it possible for IWC to maintain the studio and continue to offer high-cal-



ibre woodworking classes, and other wood-focused learning opportunities. Gift Certificates are available in any denomination and can be used for workshops and memberships. Visit www.intersectionsstudio.com to learn more.

We are excited by what can be accomplished when a small group of interested individuals comes together to share their skills and knowledge and to make things happen. That is, after all, what collaboration is all about!



Some things improve with age. Wine. Cheese. Your home movies do not. Save your family memories before they age to the point of no return.

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BRUCE TRAIL MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

MARIE KNAPP • • • • •

Why is membership to the Bruce Trail important? You don't need to be a member to hike on the trail. True. Let me give some insight into the how the Bruce Trail operates. The purpose of the Bruce Trail Conservancy is: "We conserve, restore and manage land along the Niagara Escarpment UNESCO World Biosphere to protect its ecosystems for the benefit of all. We make it available to explore by foot along the Bruce Trail and our protected natural area."

The Bruce Trail provides a ribbon of wilderness that serves as a natural corridor for birds and animals to migrate, find food and shelter, seek protection from predators including humans, and to protect endangered species. And it is there for you to respect, enjoy and appreciate.

Membership helps inform potential funders and donors of the level of support of the local people for the continuing

development of the Bruce Trail through land purchases and donations; fund the purchase of properties to secure the existence of the trail in areas not owned by the Bruce Trail or other protectors of the land; encourage more volunteers to serve as Trail Captains, Land Stewards, Club Board Members; and (one of our local club's biggest needs at the moment) to increase awareness of the need for more support in maintaining existing trails and create new ones where needed.

We invite you to see the bigger picture of the Bruce Trail and the long term vision of something our generation is helping provide for our children and grandchildren in the future. Your membership matters. You can make a difference for the future. Visit www.sydenhambrucetrail.ca For details on membership and local group hikes.

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IF YOU NAME IT...

MARYANN THOMAS • • • • •

With apologies to the writer of the original quote (and Google suggests it's not who you think it is, but it's definitely in the public domain according to that source) there's surely something going on in downtown Owen Sound. Many of these independent businesses have created, or expanded, their opportunities for learning. Classes are being offered for adults to acquire new skills and remember the ones they used to have. Studios are available to rent, and groups are gathering to share what they know and learn more about what they don't. Hence, if you name it, they will come. And I'm thinking we could name it the Downtown Academy.

To start with, **Georgian Bay Centre for the Arts** (GBArts) has transformed the old Bingo Hall into a thriving arts hub. Upcoming classes include making a clay ornament (Nov 18, \$80), making a birchbark and porcupine quill ornament (Nov 19, \$120), and spinning fibre (Nov 26, \$100). Registration to these classes and information on lots more can be found at www.gbarts.ca.

If woodworking is your thing, you definitely want to check out the **Intersections Wood Collaborative** (IWC). They offer wood turning simple ornaments (Nov 19-20, \$226), make a wood kaleidoscope (Dec 3-4, \$226), make a small hanging cabinet (Dec 9-11), and make picture and mirror frames (Dec 17-18). For more information, email info@intersectionsos.org or check out IWC online at www.intersectionsstudio.com.

Riverside Yarns has started up their in-person classes again as well with Knit Fingerless Gloves (Nov 21, \$45), Learn to Crochet Snowflakes (Nov 29, \$45), and Knit a Christmas Elf (Dec 3, \$65). They also host a Sit 'n' Stitch for knitters, crocheters and stitchers of all kinds at 6:00 on Thursdays until December 22. More information and registration info available at www.riversideyarns.ca.

Upwards Art, the downtown's newest art supply store, also offers classes. You can Make & Take Holiday Ornaments (Nov 19, \$35), Make & Take Holiday Cards (Nov 26, \$35) and Make & Take Holiday Ornaments (Dec 3, \$35). Details and registration at www.upwardsartstudio.com.

Of course there's also yoga and dance classes. Sat Dharam Kaur offers kundalini yoga at the **Trillium Healing Arts Centre** (www.trilliumhealingarts.ca). And Stuart Reid (www.hollowreedyoga.com) runs yoga classes at the Harmony Centre. There's highland, contemporary and ballet dance classes at the **Owen Sound Dance Academy** (owensounddanceacademy.com) and jazz, modern, hip hop and zumba classes at **Dixon's Dance Studio** (www.dixonsdance.com). Just do it!

And, many of these these great venues offer gift certificates and private classes too. If you're not into making Christmas gifts for your friends and family, why not give them the gift of learning? Join the Downtown Academy! Because if you name it, they will come.

AGNES MACPHAIL: *NO BED OF ROSES*

BARRY PENHALE • • • • •

It was in 1922, yes, a hundred years ago, when a shy country girl from Grey County arrived in Ottawa to take her seat as Canada's first federally-elected female MP. Initially artificially fawned over, a 31-year-old Agnes Macphail found herself the brunt of jokes and being treated as some kind of circus freak. Fortunately for "Aggie," and as it turned out for Canada, she was made of good stuff – anything but a quitter. Over time she won over countless opposing politicians, many of whom came to admire her integrity and who also chose to not invite her scathing barbs.

Agnes was as quick with a quip as was her Scottish farmer/auctioneer father; her speaking prowess while the House was in session regularly garnered favourable

headlines in the Ottawa newspapers of her time. In reviewing her political achievements, biographers and historians alike are on record as being totally awed by all that one woman accomplished in an era that largely denied her gender the opportunities they deserved.

Macphail's inspiring story as a never-back-down political reformer is the subject of the new original production entitled *No Bed of Roses*. The public will have the opportunity to view this documentary in-person at Annesley United Church in Markdale, beginning at 7:00 pm, Saturday, December 3, 2022. Admission is by freewill donation. The production will also be streamed. Details may be found at www.annesley.events.

DAVID MCLAREN: ACTIVIST OF THE YEAR

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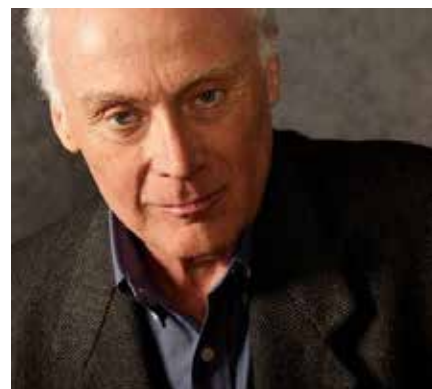
On Monday, October 24, the Grey Bruce Labour Council awarded David McLaren its annual Activist of the Year Award, “for a career devoted to the well-being of your community and in recognition of your ceaseless drive...The award recognizes contributions made to and on behalf of the community, workers and vulnerable members of society.” It was election night and we enjoyed a fine turkey dinner anticipating the results.

David moved up here in 1990 and has spent the last 32 years working on social and economic justice issues as an individual and also with the Saugeen Ojibway Nations, then through the local riding association of the NDP. He ran for federal office in the election of 2015.

Over the 32 years he has called Grey Bruce home, David has been an

activist and advocate for those who fall through the cracks.. Recently he brought attention to the numbers of homeless people in Owen Sound and elsewhere in Grey and Bruce. Homelessness is increasingly an epidemic in our area. “The solution some municipalities, including Owen Sound, have for our homeless neighbours is to roust them from their encampments and safe places. This, I think, is cruel, especially with winter coming in. There are better ways to help, but it doesn’t seem to me that Councils are looking very hard at them. They are certainly not implementing them.” Clearly, one answer is to provide for them, not remove them.

David feels income inequality is the root cause of poverty: “It all comes down to not having enough money to get to the end of the month,” he says. “If you’re working for a living, you need a



living wage, and currently that means at least \$20 an hour in Grey Bruce.” David has always been among the first to volunteer when there is a job that needs doing. He has a passion that he brings to so many causes. The Grey Bruce Labour Council’s recognition of David McLaren as their Activist of the Year is an honour to be celebrated.



GREY GALLERY

Now is a fine time to visit downtown Owen Sound. Our November exhibition of watercolours of local scenes by Raquell Yang is followed by Alan Glicksman and Cindy Norton in December. Mark your calendar NOW for their exhibition opening on Sunday Dec. 11 which will also feature live music by G.R.I.N.D. All are welcome.

Regular hours are Wednesday to Saturday, noon to 5pm. Check FB or our website for extended hours during December.

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- START at Casero's, CONTINUE at Sabitri's, FINISH at Georgian Bay School of the Arts. Each restaurant will serve one Downtown Dine Around course; there will also be speakers explaining SOS activities. THEN, if you're up for more, head over to Heartwood Hall for their Open Mic Night.
- Tickets (\$75) include dinner and donation to SOS (a tax receipt for \$25 will be issued); and are available at www.downtowndinearound.ca and The Ginger Press. Tickets (\$5) for Heartwood Open Mic available at the door.

Ticket includes dinner and donation. Alcoholic drinks are not included; please do not drink and drive.



United Way
Bruce Grey

GIVING TUESDAY

HEARTWOOD HALL



NEW BOOK

TOUCHING GREATNESS, FOREVER TOGETHER THE VILLANOVA TRACK STORY 1966 – 1981 BY JERRY BOUMA

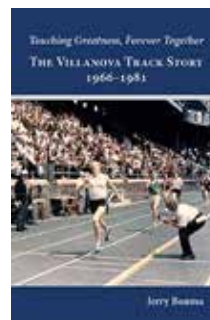
In 1971, Jerry Bouma was a freshman at Villanova University, watching, for the first time, the University of Pennsylvania Relays, better known as the Penn Relays, the oldest and largest continuous track and field meet in the world. He was not alone. Over 30,000 spectators, all eyes focused on the start area, anticipated the Championship of America Collegiate Distance Medley Relay, and witnessed Villanova University take its sixth

consecutive win. From that electrifying experience, the young athlete joined a cadre of middle-distance runners who ran the half mile, the 3/4 mile, and the mile. For 15 years, the Villanova Track Team dominated the Penn Relays like no team before or after. This is their story, told from an insider's perspective. It is a story of comradery, commitment, and indefatigable confidence. These young athletes, brought together by their legendary coach "Jumbo" Elliott – were destined, by touching greatness, to forge a legacy that holds them forever together.

Jerry Bouma was the first Canadian to receive a track scholarship to Villanova University. He grew up on a family dairy farm near Owen Sound. As a boy, he took a great interest in such sports as hockey and baseball; however,

his daily duties on the farm precluded his involvement in team sports. At the age of 14, he took up running, a sport he could pursue on his own schedule and on the backroads near the farm at Leith. Self-coached and by the time he was 17, Jerry set several under-18 age class Canadian records including the indoor 1500 metres (3:56.9), outdoor 1500 metres (3:53.3) and the one mile with a time of 4:09.2. He was also the Canadian Junior Outdoor 800-metre champion (1:54.1). This is his first non-fiction book.

The Villanova Track Story 1966-1981 is available from The Ginger Press (\$25).



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ANNA JEAN BRADLEY • • • • •

Here at Green Heart Whole Life Wellbeing, our philosophy is deeply rooted in the importance of the natural world to human health and happiness. Whether it's the support and inspiration to eat more fruits and veggies through our coaching programs and cooking classes, or the joy of learning about the health promoting benefits of herbs and spices, or encouragement and information to get grounded and active outdoors, our mission is to help you get acquainted or deepen your connection with the power of plants to improve your life and health. This is the green in Green Heart.

If you feel worn down by the stress and challenges of the last few years, you are not alone. Group classes and even online group programs give you a sense of community as you take steps to rebuild your sense of wellbeing. Coaching gives you a person in your corner so you do not have to attempt positive changes in isolation. Recognizing that body, mind, and spirit play important interdependent roles in our thriving, we teach and emphasize tools and practices that support all these aspects. This is the heart in Green Heart.

You are invited to prime yourself for a happier holiday season by joining our free online group program "Merry



Mindfulness" from November 28 to December 2. You'll establish some mini habits such as *The Merry & Mindful 3* that you can continue throughout the month as well as learn and explore options and opportunities for keeping your stress levels down and your capacity for enjoyment up! View the daily videos on your own schedule and support and be supported in our private discussion group.

To see upcoming classes and programs, please visit our website and subscribe to our newsletter at www.greenheart-studio@mac.com. There is always lots of free content on our Facebook and instagram pages as well. Our intention is to inspire, educate and support you on your way to greater whole life wellbeing.



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