

Summer

VOLUME 18 NUMBER 2 2011

IN THE HILLS

A MAGAZINE OF COUNTRY LIVING IN THE HEADWATERS REGION

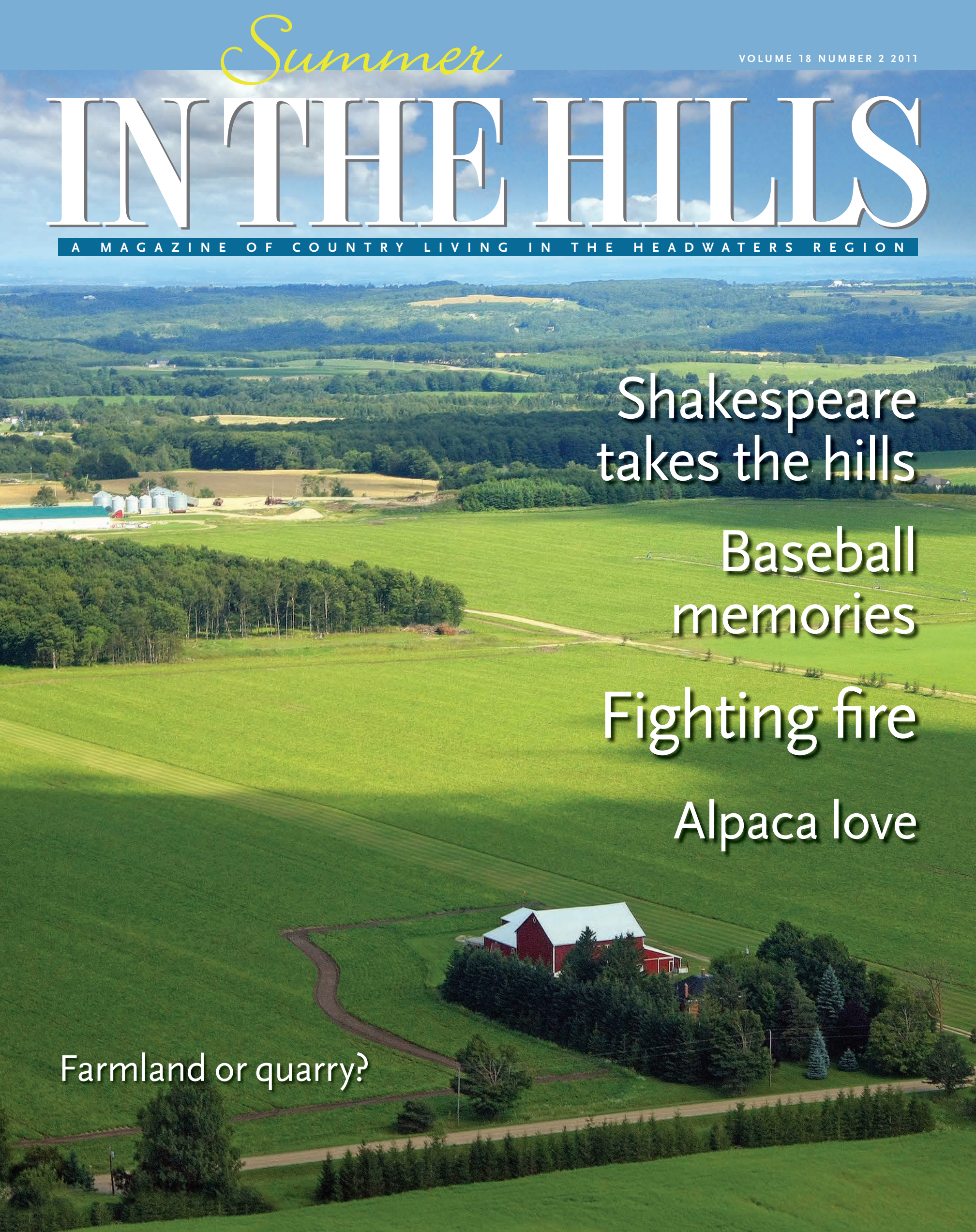
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takes the hills

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memories

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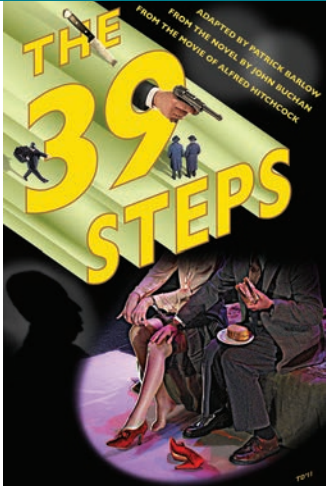
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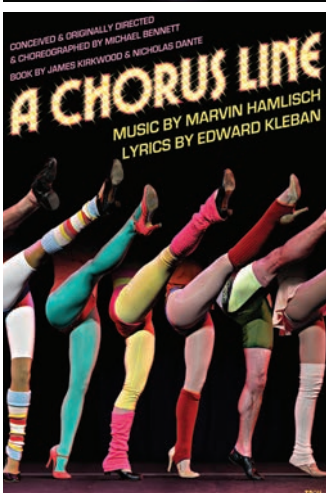


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Directed by Robert Woodcock

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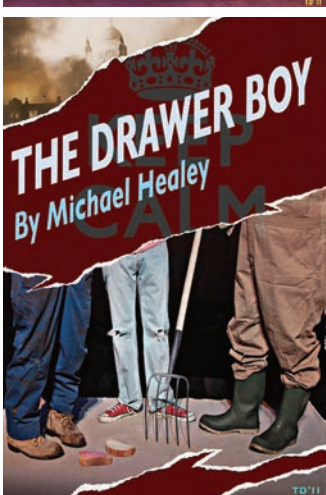
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Musical Direction by Rosalind Mills
Choreography by Melissa Jane Shaw

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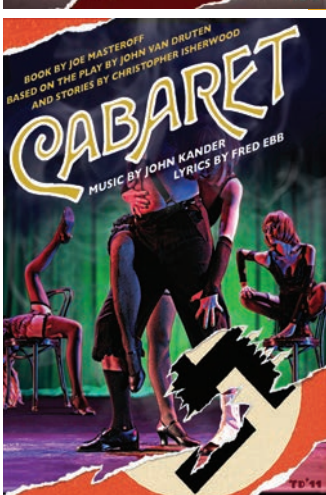


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Directed by Scott Lale

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July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					8 39S 7:30pm	9 39S 7:30pm <i>Saturday Social</i>
10 39S 2:00pm	11	12 12N 7:00pm 39S 7:30pm	13 12N 7:00pm 39S 7:30pm <i>Post-Show Talk Back</i>	14 12N 7:00pm 39S 7:30pm	15 39S 7:30pm	16 39S 7:30pm
17 39S 2:00pm	18	19 12N 7:00pm 39S 7:30pm	20 12N 7:00pm 39S 7:30pm <i>Post-Show Talk Back</i>	21 12N 7:00pm 39S 2 & 7:30pm	22 39S 7:30pm CL 7:30pm	23 39S 7:30pm CL 7:30pm <i>Saturday Social</i>
24 39S 2:00pm CL 2:00pm	25	26 12N 7:00pm 39S 7:30pm	27 12N 7:00pm 39S 7:30pm CL 2 & 7:30pm <i>Post-Show Talk Back</i>	28 12N 7:00pm 39S 2 & 7:30pm CL 7:30pm	29 39S 7:30pm CL 7:30pm	30 39S 7:30pm CL 7:30pm

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 RJ 7:00pm	3 RJ 7:00pm	4 RJ 7:00pm	5 DB 7:30pm	6 DB 7:30pm <i>Saturday Social</i>
7	8	9 RJ 7:00pm DB 7:30pm	10 RJ 7:00pm DB 7:30pm <i>Post-Show Talk Back</i>	11 RJ 7:00pm	12	13
14	15	16 RJ 7:00pm DB 7:30pm	17 RJ 7:00pm DB 7:30pm <i>Post-Show Talk Back</i>	18 RJ 7:00pm DB 2 & 7:30pm	19 DB 7:30pm CAB 7:30pm	20 DB 7:30pm CAB 7:30pm <i>Saturday Social</i>
21 DB 2:00pm CAB 2:00pm	22	23 RJ 7:00pm DB 7:30pm	24 RJ 7:00pm DB 7:30pm CAB 2 & 7:30pm <i>Post-Show Talk Back</i>	25 RJ 7:00pm DB 2 & 7:30pm CAB 7:30pm	26 RJ 7:00pm DB 7:30pm CAB 7:30pm	27 RJ 7:00pm DB 7:30pm CAB 7:30pm

LEGEND OF SHOWS

12N – Twelfth Night; 39S – The 39 Steps; CL – A Chorus Line;
RJ – Romeo and Juliet; DB – The Drawer Boy; CAB – Cabaret

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PEOPLE POWER

Maybe it's a sea change. I came of age in the sixties and grew up believing that there is power in collective action. In the decades that followed, however, many of the ideals that fuelled the dreams of a generation dissipated like so much dust in the wind. Somehow, in the brave new world that emerged, we had anointed corporations as king and above our collective heads floated a giant thought bubble that said: Bigger is better and growth and prosperity are inextricably linked.

Now that bubble has burst; in fact, a lot of bubbles have burst. Global economic meltdown along with large-scale, man-made and natural environmental disasters, food shortages, rising fuel prices, rogue germs – the list goes on – are making us rethink our priorities and in whose hands we passively place our destiny.

The surge in “people power” is playing out in popular movements around the world, in an energized grassroots environmental movement, in the companion local food movement, in the explosive communication power of social media. Most notably right now it is playing out in the revolutionary uprisings in the Middle East, where the stakes are fearfully high for millions of people. And it is also playing out in our small corner of the world, in the grassroots protest against the proposed mega-quarry in north Dufferin.

In this issue, writer Tim Shuff examines how the protest took root in the small farm community of Melancthon – a rural township so quietly going about its business that even locally many people couldn't have pointed it out on a map (let alone spell it) – and grew into a broad-based movement that reached across the region, into Toronto and beyond, and attracted the support of national organizations and the attention of national media.

For some, the issues are fundamental – the protection of local water, foodland and community. For others it's not so simple. We need roads and we need buildings, and for those we need aggregates, and they have to come from somewhere, right? Right. And we also need fuel and plastics and energy to light our homes and power our businesses, and all kinds of other things that make our busy lives run. But above the collective heads of the quarry protesters, and others like them around the globe, is a giant new thought bubble that says: At what cost?

It is in popular insistence on answering that urgent question that we may yet change the world.

Pace,

Signe Ball

IN THE HILLS™

VOLUME 18 NUMBER 2 2011

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Farmland on the site of the
proposed Melancthon quarry
by Bryan Davies

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HIGH SCHOOL

I love this story (*Textbooks and Toddlers*, SPRING '11). I had a child at 16 and if it weren't for a few teachers who made it easy for me to bring my child to class when I needed to and a few friends who would watch him on their spares, I don't think it would have been so easy to complete my grade 12. Please keep up the great work, these young moms need to know they are doing a great job as moms, but that they can still reach all the goals they had before their lives took a (very important) detour.

BECKY FABI
WEB COMMENT

Wow, what a great article! I can't imagine having to raise a child, go to school and work half/part time. I wish these hardworking girls all the best. They are benefitting themselves, and their children. Very inspiring!

SARA AMBROSE
WEB COMMENT

I am one of the Registered Early Childhood Educators who gets to work with these amazing students and their children. I feel so blessed to be a part of something so wonderful and they've become such an important part of my daily life. It's a great program!

JENNIE HILTS
WEB COMMENT

Thank you so much for the wonderful opportunity to be interviewed for the story on the Young Parents Education Program at ODSS. It was honestly so much fun for the kids and me. I appreciate everything everyone has done to keep this program going.

Another very well-deserved thank you goes to Peekaboo daycare centre, which my children attend. It is seriously an amazing group of people who work there.

Also, a huge thank-you goes out to Gillian Gauthier of Gigi Photography for those amazing photos, and to all the amazing parents who are in this program alongside me. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

RAE HILTZ
ORANGEVILLE

I was both shocked and concerned when I read the article "Textbooks and Toddlers," by Laura LaRocca. As a parent, I am very worried about the youth of Orangeville.

I see far too many teenage mothers and high-school drop-outs in this area. While I commend the compassion and commitment of teacher Susie Chamberlain at ODSS for helping these young women, I cannot believe the article states "thanks to this program, the halls are full of strollers." Does any parent want to see strollers in their child's high school?

The writer comments on the previous "party" lifestyles of these young mothers. Shouldn't high schools be spending time and money on programs that will educate, motivate and encourage young people to stay in school and develop goals for rewarding careers and successful futures? Shouldn't there be counselling programs and courses aimed at teaching young people about the importance of education and healthy living (abstaining from sexual intercourse/drug abuse)?

This article quoted both students as saying they did not understand the importance of education/responsibility until after they had a baby. In my opinion this is backwards. This article appears to be condoning this lifestyle choice: "It's okay to get pregnant between 14-19 years because the Board of Education will take care of your children and let you finish school." Really?

Ms. LaRocca quotes the head of the program as saying, "It's not about how they got here." Well educators need to look at how students got there. I think prevention is the key and the priority of the Ministry of Education should be to focus on educating students to make responsible choices and understand consequences.

One young mother admitted an education should definitely come before children and that hopefully she can prevent her daughter from becoming a teen parent. There is the answer. How about writing an article about the importance of high schools implementing programs that help students "avoid becoming teenage parents." I think that story would be much more effective.

KAREN VEHKAVAARA
ADULT CONTINUING EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR

Editor's response:

There is a broad spectrum of opinion among Canadians about when, how and under what circumstances women, young or old, should bear, or not bear, children. There is also controversy about school programs on reproductive health, although the fact that the teen pregnancy rates in Canada have fallen steadily for the past decade suggests such programs have had some effect.

However, there does seem to be strong social consensus in this country around the notion that once a child is born, we assume some collective responsibility for that child's health, education and well-being.

Taxpayer-funded maternity leave, public education and subsidized daycare are three pillars of that social commitment. Unfortunately, teenaged mothers (some of whom are still legally protected as "children" themselves) and their children are often excluded by circumstance from those benefits. We would argue that the Young Parents Program at ODSS admirably fills that gap. It does that not only by ameliorating the drop-out rates that concern Ms. Vhekavaara, but also by helping, as she wishes, "to educate, motivate and encourage young people to stay in school and develop goals for rewarding careers and successful futures" in both this generation and the next.

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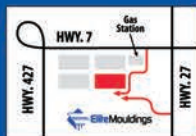
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Just read your fabulous write-up on Le Tour de Terra Cotta (SPRING '11). You've covered all the bases and we are grateful you have given cycling in Caledon a boost. Please remember to join us on August 1st for the race. Happy cycling!

TED WEBB
LE TOUR DE TERRA COTTA

HAPPY CYCLING

In the early 1990s Ted Webb and I rode our bikes from Vancouver to San Francisco. Even though I'm nine years younger, he left me gasping trying to keep up. More than the typical sports pro who quits in mid-life and spends his retirement exercising little more than his 'glory day' memories, Ted is a true hero of sports. He exemplifies its greatest ideal, to 'never give up'. He's still racing at age 78. Thanks for your story on Ted (and his Tour de Terra Cotta); he's a credit and inspiration to his community and the sport of cycling.

DAVE STEEN
THETIS ISLAND, BC

(Journalist and athlete Dave Steen won the gold medal for shot put at the 1966 Commonwealth Games)

Sincere thanks for Nicola Ross's wonderful article on Le Tour de Terra Cotta. What was most amazing to me was the unexpected rush of excitement and thrill of anticipation that the article evoked in me. As someone who knows the event intimately it caught me by surprise.

The finely crafted words, the carefully chosen visuals – the final result an enduring testament to Ted, the race and the community. The response has been heart-warming and the process a pleasure.

DONNA CRAGG
TERRA COTTA

I want to compliment Nicola Ross on her article on our biking together. What fun! I have had so much positive feedback. Big eye-opener as to how many people read In The Hills. Thank you for mentioning Creek Side Clothing – many customers have come in because of the article. Happy pedalling

KAREN GILLIES
ORANGEVILLE

I read with great interest Nicola Ross's article about biking and particularly noted her statement that "Mountain biking is all about athleticism and quick response."

I have often thought the same during the Humber Valley Heritage Trail Association's long experience with Toronto Region Conservation Authority's attempts to convert part of our trail from pedestrian use to shared use with bikers. While we hikers do not need "guts" like bikers to do what we do, we do cherish "quiet enjoyment" and the uninterrupted experiences of nature. The biking and hiking experiences are quite different and they do not mix well. Shared-use trails tend to degrade both experiences.

BILL WILSON
PRESIDENT, HIKE ONTARIO

Nicola Ross responds:

Many mountain bikers are fine, but some are real speedsters and can come up on a hiker way too fast. I'm not sure what the solution is, but respect would go a long way to solving problems.

MORE LETTERS ON NEXT PAGE

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MISSING THE Sketchbook

The first thing we turned to in each issue of In the Hills was the Headwaters Sketchbook. It is with more than a little disappointment that we learned from your Editor's Desk column (SPRING '11) that Linda McLaren has retired from the Sketchbook. Linda's detailed line drawings and clear, concise annotations made for a focal point of your magazine, contributing to a balance in the texture of its layout, and were a welcome insight into the natural world around us. Headwaters Sketchbook has been appreciated in our household and will be missed. We encourage Linda to consider publishing her Sketchbook collection.

ROGER AND PATRICIA KENYON
CALEDON EAST

THE PLEASURE WAS OURS!

Normally, I savour reading In the Hills from cover to cover on a day when there is a bit of down time. (That sometimes means weeks or even months after it comes out... life is just too busy).

Today, instead of sitting down at my computer, I read the spring edition.

One word: green.

I don't mean in the big political sense, but in the wholehearted-embrace-the-concept of living lightly, locally and sustainably, not only for our good but for those who come after us. A green volcano, who knew!

For the pieces on revitalizing Mill Creek in Orangeville, solar panels in Mulmur, and artists at the Alton Mill, as well as for Karen Gillies' and Nicola Ross's beautiful, healthy, inspiring faces on their bikes... thank you.

BERNADETTE HARDAKER
ORANGEVILLE

Your spring issue is amazing. I loved reading the article on the different gardens and the photos were stunning (*Secret Gardens*). Mr Nephew has done an incredible job on his yard. John and I volunteer together for the Mono/Nordic Ski Club and seeing his yard, wow, I need to get him to invite me over to take it all in.

Thank you for helping us get out the word on our Mill Creek Restoration Project (*Must Do*, SPRING '11). We appreciate your support.

KAREN MORRISON
ORANGEVILLE COLDWATER CONSERVATION CHALLENGE

Thank you for such a wonderful article on *Stitches Across Time* by Michele Green (SPRING '11). The article will go a long way to helping me and other textile artists bring awareness to what we do.

PAT BURNS-WENDLAND
MULMUR

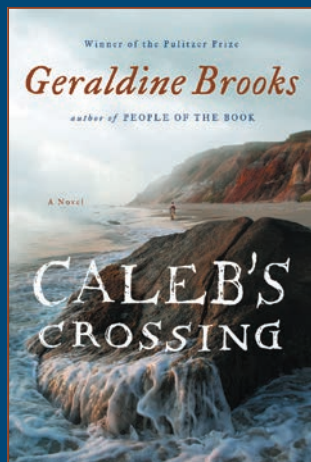
Wow! The article *Closing The Divide* about our farm market (*Home-grown in the Hills*, FALL '10) has been a godsend to us.

It took us quite by surprise, but we were even more taken aback by the people who came through the door once the magazine came out. Again, wow!

Writer Nicola Ross was terrific at gently gathering information, and photographer Pete Paterson had us in stitches the entire time he was here. It was a great experience for the whole Heatherlea crew. Thank you for letting us be part of your great magazine.

GORD & PAT MCARTHUR
HEATHERLEA FARM MARKET, CALEDON

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original designs by Anne-Marie Warburton

STOP THE MEGA QUARRY

I am honoured to be asked by the farmers of Melancthon/Mulmur Townships to join them in their struggle to protect their water and farmland from the proposed mega quarry by the Highland Company, privately backed by a Boston multi-billion-dollar hedge fund. As a native/indigenous man of the Turtle Clan Mohawk Nation, I have had a chance to listen to many community citizens of Dufferin County to learn of the concerns to the threat to farmland and clean water supply...

When the people look into the sacred treaties of the Great Iroquois and Ojibwa Nations they will see that we were promised fresh water and game as long as the grass grows and the sun shines. The quarry will be an attack on our relations and our way of life. We should not make the land unreal. Limestone will not feed our unborn, limestone will not produce a rich food supply for our families in the future, and this mining will be a form of eco-genocide!

These are my thoughts, my prayer is for life, we belong to Mother Earth and Mother Earth is terribly wounded. Our old elders, chiefs and Clan Mothers are saying over and over we must protect her! My uncle taught me a great lesson in life: "If you are awake you cannot deny the truth, everything is alive and everything has a Spirit, our Relatives and Relations are our allies."

For Mother Earth and My Ancestors.

DANNY BEATON
TURTLE CLAN MOHAWK

(See the full text of this letter at
inthehills.ca, under Current Issue:
The Birth of a Protest)



ONLINE IN THE HILLS

We welcome your comments! For more commentary from our readers, or to add your own thoughts on any of the stories in this issue, please visit inthehills.ca. You can also send your letters by e-mail to sball@inthehills.ca. Please include your name, address and contact information. In the Hills reserves the right to edit letters for publication.

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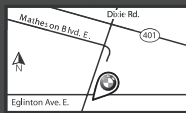


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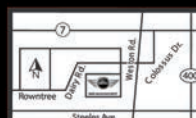
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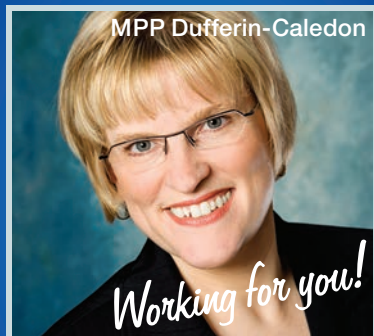


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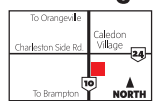
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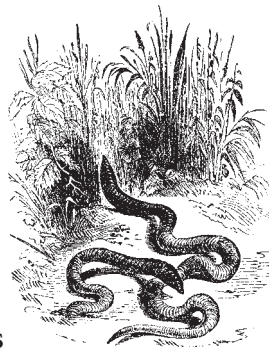
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WASHING, WAGES, WAX AND WORMS

TWO FIRSTS

The first car to be imported into British North America was made by Elijah Ware, an inventor from Bayonne, NJ, and shipped to Georges-Antoine Belcourt, the parish priest in Rustico, PEI, in 1866. The first public showing of this steam-powered car resulted in positive reviews. The second began well, but the machine accelerated uncontrollably and crashed into a fence, giving us Canada's first automobile accident. From "Driving Ambition," by James Mays and Ryan Rogers, in *Canada's History*, APR-MAY/11.

KEY TO INVENTION

"I don't think that necessity is the mother of invention – invention, in my opinion, arises directly from idleness, possibly also from laziness." Agatha Christie, 1965.

KEY CONTRIBUTION

"Darwin described how worms occur in great density over much of England, and how they emerge in their countless thousands in the darkest hours, their tails firmly hooked in their burrow entrances, to feel about for leaves, dead animals and other detritus which they drag into their burrows. Through their digging and recycling they enrich pastures and fields, and so enhance food production, thereby laying the foundation for English society. And in the process they slowly bury and preserve relics of an England long past. Darwin examined entire Roman villas buried by worms, along with ancient abbeys, monuments and stones, all of which would have been destroyed had they remained at the surface; and he accurately estimated the rate at which this process occurs: about half a centimetre per year." From *Here on Earth*, by Tim Flannery (HarperCollins, 2010).

KEY OMISSION

"As the year 1814 entered its last months, the owner of a Baltimore music store sought to profit from the sudden popularity of a new song titled 'Defence [sic] of Ft. McHenry.' Thomas Carr, proprietor of Carr's Music Store on Baltimore Street, apparently didn't like the song's name because when he published the tune in October 1814, he changed it to 'The Star Spangled Banner.' Perhaps in his haste to capitalize on what a 21st-century publisher would call the buzz about the song, he left off the name of author Francis Scott Key...

"His edition includes a seven bar introduction and acknowledgment that the octave-and-a-half melody, notoriously tough for bad pop singers at sporting events, was originally 'To Anacreon in Heaven,' the official ditty of an 18th-century club for English amateur musicians." Dale Keiger in *Johns Hopkins Magazine*, SPRING/11.

DARK SARK

"Sark, the smallest of the four landmasses in the United Kingdom's Channel Islands, has no paved roads, no cars, and no public street lighting. When it gets dark, it gets really dark, making for spectacular Milky Way views.

"The island's rustic ways have now earned it the title of the world's first 'dark sky island,' bestowed by the Tucson-based International Dark-Sky Association (IDA), which raises awareness of light pollution and its effects. Many of the island's 650 residents have modified the lighting on their homes and businesses to minimize the amount of light spilling upward, says Steve Owens, a member of the IDA committee that identifies and recognizes sites with suitably dark skies. With the new recognition, he notes, Sark will likely see a boost in tourism, especially among amateur astronomers." From *Science*, FEB 11/11.

AYE WORKIN'

"Oh she died of a whole complication of things... She died of overwork as so many women did. The women of the working class in those days were first up in the morning and the last to go to bed. They kept the houses clean and they kept themselves clean, they kept the family's clothes clean in the worst possible conditions. They had a communal wash house in the back court with a coal fire boiler and they had to wash for the family in that. They had no equipment at all, there was no washing machines, there wasn't even hot water, you had to put on a kettle. (Councillor Davidson, born in Cowcaddens, Glasgow in 1909, paying tribute to his mother and all the women like her.)"

"My mother was always washin', always cleaning, she was aye workin'. She never got anywhere. That was her life." (Flora MacDonald)

From *She Was Aye Workin': Memories of Tenement Women in Edinburgh and Glasgow*, by Helen Clark & Elizabeth Carnegie (White Cockade, 2003).

JUST REWARD

"Clearly the most unfortunate people are those who must do the same thing over and over again, every minute, or perhaps twenty to the minute. They deserve the shortest hours and the highest pay." John Kenneth Galbraith

WAX FACTS

"Earwax, also called cerumen, acts as a cleaning agent for the ear with lubricating and antibacterial properties. Cleaning occurs because the epithelium – the surface layers of the skin inside the ear – acts as a conveyor belt carrying dust or dirt out of the ear.

"Starting at the eardrum, this epithelial migration is as slow as fingernail growth but, aided by jaw movement, accelerates as the entrance of the ear canal is reached. Earwax is formed in the outer third of the ear canal, a mixture of watery secretions from sweat glands and more viscous secretions from the sebaceous glands." Mike Follows, in *New Scientist*, APR 12/11.

MORNING IN AMERICA

"In the short run, Reagan took the solar panels off the White House roof ... In the slightly longer run, his worldview gave us not only the Bush administrations but also the Clinton years, with their single-minded focus on economic expansion. The change was not just technological; it wasn't simply that we stopped investing in solar energy and let renewables languish. It's that we repudiated the idea of limits altogether – we laughed at the idea that there might be limits to growth. Again, not just right-wing Republicans but everyone. Here's Larry Summers, treasury secretary under President Clinton, now Obama's chief economic advisor: "There are no... limits to the carrying capacity of the earth that are likely to bind any time in the foreseeable future. There isn't a risk of apocalypse due to global warming or anything else. The idea that we should put limits on growth because of some natural limit is a profound error." From *Eaarth*, by Bill McKibben (Alfred A. Knopf Canada, 2010).

AMOEBIA NEWS

"The tiny organisms are not the asexual reproducers we typically think they are. A review of recent studies suggests many amoebae have sex." From *New Scientist*, MAR 26/11. ≈



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Ivan Eyre is 1935, Bora Bora, 2009, bronze, 138 x 345 x 119 cm
Image credit: Alan D. McDavid Photography

New Sculpture Garden Opening July 1st

Explore the McMichael's recently enhanced grounds featuring its new outdoor Sculpture Garden. Canadian artist Ivan Eyre has created and generously donated nine monumental bronze works for the open-air gallery that will blend seamlessly into the forested landscape. Eyre is the recipient of many distinguished awards and is a respected artist whose works appear in numerous collections throughout Canada and the world.

Plus, join us this Canada Day, July 1, to celebrate the opening of our new Sculpture Garden and redesigned grounds, and in honour of three exceptional exhibitions! Visit www.mcmichael.com for details.

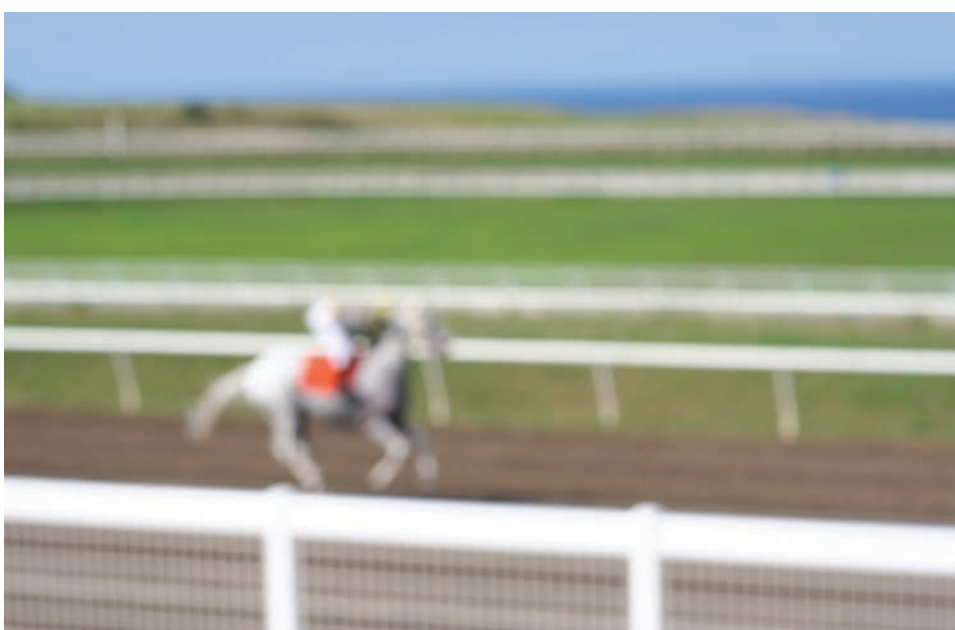
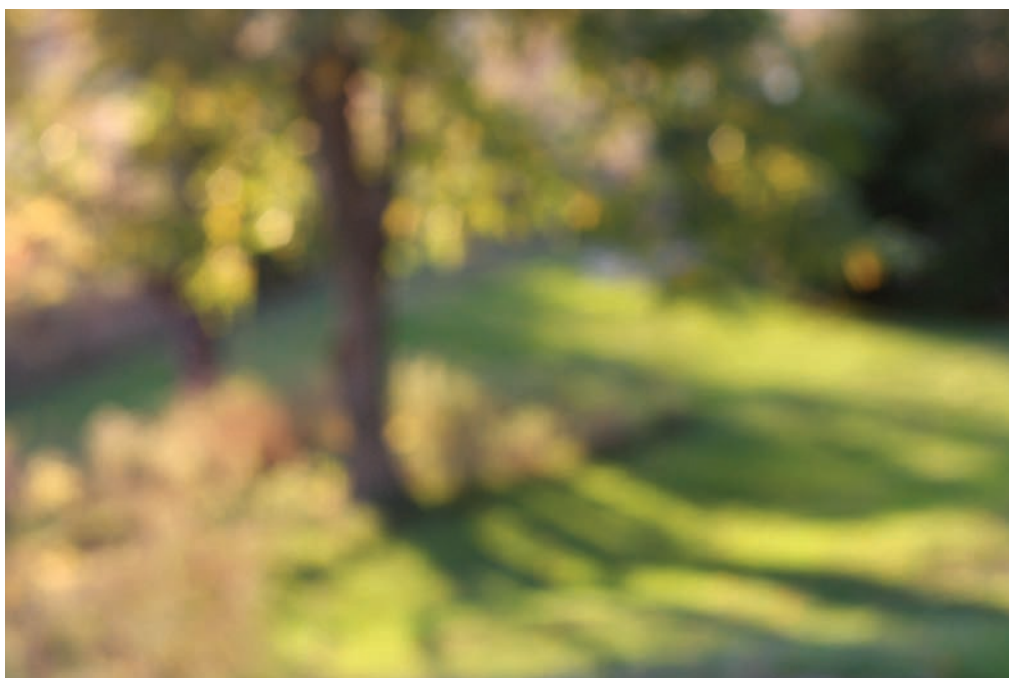
Installation of the Ivan Eyre sculptures
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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
 Nevis Series "Stop" 14" x 17"
 Wellington Series "Polo #1" 36" x 48"
 Nevis Series "Bananas #2" 14" x 17"
 Nevis Series "St. Kitt's Races #10" 14" x 17"
 Caledon Series "Maple" 14" x 17"

PAM PURVES

Caledon photographer Pam Purves prefers a non-representational approach to photography to emphasize the essentials of colour and form. Like all impressionistic art, soft-focus photography takes the obvious out of commonplace objects and draws attention to more fundamental elements. The method requires concentration on framing, colour and graphic structure in order to achieve a sense of coherence and quiet beauty in the overall movement of shape and colour. Pam says it is her way of slowing down, simplifying life and creating a small record of the things she has noticed and appreciated. pampurvesphotography.com

must do



must pickle

Your grandma did it, maybe even your mom or dad, but in recent years pickling and canning have become something of lost skills. No more. Taking its cue from the resurgence of interest in backyard vegetable gardening and fresh local produce, not to mention the simple joy of cooking, Everdale Farm in Hillsburgh is offering a workshop on “The Lost Art of Canning.”

From pickles to jams to salsas and more, Everdale promises it’s easy to learn to preserve foods in your own kitchen. Participants will learn to create canned goods and take home samples and recipes.

And canning and pickling is not the only way to make your produce last through the long winter months. Everdale is offering another workshop on food preservation that focuses on dehydration, freezing and infusion. It includes step-by-step techniques for maintaining food quality and garden-fresh taste.

Saturday, July 16
The Lost Art of Canning
6–9pm | \$95

Thursday, July 28
Food Preservation
6–9pm | \$45

To register online for these workshops and to view the full lineup of Everdale’s summer workshops, which range from raising chickens to cultivating mushrooms to baking bread, visit everdale.org.

Everdale Organic Farm and Environmental Learning Centre is located at 5812 6th Line Erin, near Hillsburgh.



must golf

A highly selective guide to the picks of the season.

There’s no shortage of golf courses in the hills. And no shortage of golfers willing to get out and tee up for charity. Here’s a list of just some of the tournaments where golfers can pursue their favourite sport, enjoy a fabulous meal, and go home satisfied that they’ve contributed to a good cause.

JUNE 16
18th annual tournament in support of Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Dufferin & District. Shelburne Golf & Country Club, 519-941-6431; bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/dufferin

JUNE 22
3rd annual tournament for the Association of Parent Support Groups of Ontario. Cardinal Golf Club, Newmarket. apsgo.ca

JULY 7
3rd annual tournament to “Help Stop the Quarry” sponsored by NDACT. Shelburne Golf Club & Country Club, 519-925-3645; ndact.com

JULY 11
Tournament in support of The Children’s Wish Foundation. Caledon Country Club, 905-838-0200 ext. 0; golftaledon.com

JULY 26
16th annual tournament sponsored by Hockley Valley Resort, proceeds to Headwaters Health Care Centre, Caritas, Meagan’s Walk, Ontario Track 3 Ski Assoc. 519-942-0754; hockley.com

AUGUST 8
9th annual Garden Foods tournament, proceeds to Caledon Community Services. Glen Eagle Golf Club, 905-857-1227; ccs4u.org

AUGUST 8
Ladies’ scramble tournament, proceeds to Hospice Dufferin. Shelburne Golf & Country Club, 519-942-3313; hospicedufferin.com

SEPTEMBER 15
10th annual tournament in support of Family Transition Place. Caledon Country Club, 519-942-4122; familytransitionplace.ca/golf



must row

On misty summer mornings, it’s not just the geese who ripple the calm surface of Island Lake, next door to Orangeville. Rowers of all ages are sweeping and sculling across the water. They’re members of the Island Lake Rowing Club, which runs a variety of recreational and competitive rowing programs throughout the summer months.

Rowing is an excellent way to build physical strength, endurance and cardiovascular fitness – and the best part is there’s no smelly gym.

Many of the club’s members are high school students who row five times a week in training sessions, but the club also offers a summer camp for kids aged 12 to 14 and a masters’ program for men and women 27 years or older, as well as an adaptive rowing program for people with cognitive or physical disabilities, including those who are in a wheelchair or blind.

And you don’t have to be experienced to get in on the activity. Novices are welcome to sign up for the six-session Learn To Row program which takes place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings throughout July.

Fees for various programs range from \$150 to \$400. For information, see islandlakerowing.com.



must indulge

Nothing says summer like a fresh fruit pie. And you'd be hard-pressed to find yummiest ones than those created by Laura Ryan (who also happens to be the mayor of Mono).

From blackberry to wild blueberry, apple to peach, nine different varieties in all, Laura hand-rolls and hand-makes every one, and sells them under her company name, Laura's Luscious Desserts.

The ten-inch pies are sold raw, frozen and ready to bake for \$16-\$20, depending on the variety. They're available at Rosemont General Store (which also carries Laura's fresh cream pies), Hockley Village General Store, Simple at Hwy 10 and Hwy 89, and The Olde Stanton Store south of Mansfield. You'll also find them on the menu at One99 restaurant in Orangeville.

And while you're at it, you might also want to tuck some of Laura's savoury pies into the freezer. Options such as sherried chicken, pork and apple curry, and steak and mushroom make for fuss-free, guaranteed delicious meals (8-inch, \$16; 10-inch, \$26).

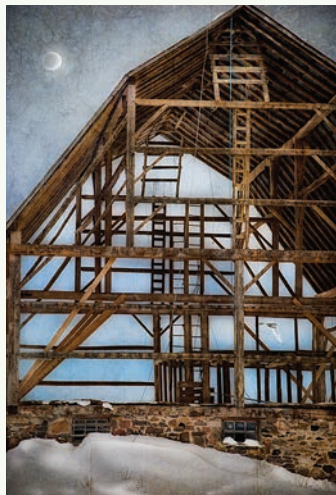
must see

Ontario's cultural, architectural and natural heritage are featured in an exceptional art show curated by Heritage Caledon in honour of its 35th anniversary.

Called "Time Frame," the juried show is presented in partnership with The Alton Mill and features 90 pieces by 48 artists, including paintings, photographs, fibre art, sculpture and furniture – all offering reflections of the essence of Ontario. Themes include old factories, tattered barns, historic storefronts, Gothic houses, farm animals, country fairs and other iconic Ontario subjects.



JUDY ANDERSON 'CROKINOLE'



ROSEMARY HASNER 'BARE BONES'

"These works are encoded with Ontario's DNA. They speak of the land and the people who inhabit it," says the show press release.

A heritage-themed show of art by students from Mayfield Secondary and Alton Public School runs in conjunction with the main show.

At the Alton Mill in Alton until July 10. caledon.ca, altonmill.ca

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june 19th

CELEBRATE THE START OF THE SEASON

Chefs: Chef Daniel Mezzolo of **Babbo & Tavola** and Chef Jeff Scaife of **restaurant 85**
Producer: Featuring Gigi Farms Lamb & Caledon Farms Greenhouses and Organic Farm

september 18th

A DINNER WITH MARIO PINGUE

Chef: Jay Scaife from **restaurant 85**
Producer: Mario Pingue from Niagara Food Specialties
Wine: Lifford Wine Agency featuring Scot Northey

july 24th

A DINNER WITH TAWSE WINERY & DONATO FARMS

Chefs: Mario Turco & Marco Malizia
Wine Maker: Tawse Winery with Daniel LaFleur
Producer: Featuring Pat Donato from Donato Farms

october 16th

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august 21st

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Wine: B&W wines featuring Lenny Panzer
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Birth of a Protest



PHOTO JASON VAN BRUGGEN

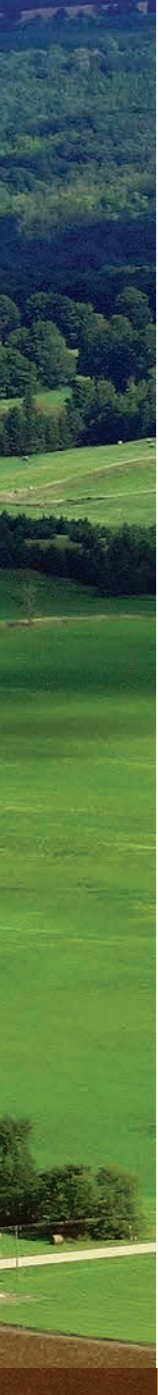
Cattle rancher and agri-tourism entrepreneur Carl Cosack, 52, is the cowboy-philosopher of the Stop the Quarry cause and a late convert to citizen engagement. “You grow up and things sort of just happen to you. As you get to be a little bit older you see that if you engage you can actually make a difference – your actions and your words and your participation are meaningful. People are truly trying to reclaim some decision-making process here.”

Priceless for potatoes: The quarry would be in the heart of the Honeywood plateau, a parcel of exceptional vegetable land twice the size of Holland Marsh. The area’s farmers have their own reasons to love the porous limestone that lies not far below their prized Honeywood Loam: it’s what drains the soil while reducing the need to irrigate by wicking moisture from below. Add to that a high elevation, cool climate and virtually flat, stone-free acreage, and it’s heaven for spuds – a combination they say can’t be found anywhere else.

PHOTO BRYAN DAVIES



PHOTO KEVIN DESORMEAUX



It began in farmhouse kitchens with rumours that a company buying thousands of acres in Melancthon was interested in more than potatoes. Soon meetings called by a small band of activists began to fill local community halls. This spring, when The Highland Companies filed its application for a 2,316-acre limestone quarry, a small rural protest caught the big wave.

BY TIM SHUFF

Remarkably, Carl Cosack is not angry. Naturally, he's upset about an American-based corporation's audacious proposal to blast a hole 20 storeys deep and remove a billion tonnes of limestone from prime agricultural land near his own farm.

Cosack's life was busy enough already. He runs Peace Valley Ranch, a 100-head cattle operation, and Rawhide Adventures, "Ontario's last western-style cattle ranch left standing," where people come from all around to get a good horse under them and learn how to be cowboys – and will continue to come if the quarry traffic doesn't snarl up every highway access.

As it has for many of his neighbours, fighting the quarry has taken over his life. And this spring, after The Highland Companies filed its official application to mine 2,316 acres of limestone in Melancthon Township, things went into hyperdrive. For Cosack, the battle essentially became an unpaid 50-hour-a-week job. Unanswered calls and machinery and fences in disrepair on his 1,200 acres are signs of the thousands of hours he's spent researching, attending public meetings, speaking to media and writing midnight emails as vice-chair of the North Dufferin Agricultural and Community Task Force (NDACT) over the past two-and-a-half years.

Yes, on the surface things look bleak. The Highland Companies is a huge force in a small rural township that lacks a significant population to oppose it. In total, the company bought up close to 8,000 acres of prime agricultural land in north Dufferin, most of it in Melancthon with some in neighbouring Mulmur. It now owns the largest potato farming operation in the province, making it the most powerful player in the industry that some of its fiercest opponents depend on for their livelihoods.

The company is backed by the Boston-based Baupost Group, a \$22-billion hedge fund. Its registered lobbyists in Queen's Park include Dalton McGuinty's former chief of staff and a former attorney general. And it is applying for a licence in a province whose policies and laws, notably the Aggregate Resources Act, are widely criticized as biased in favour of the industry – and poorly implemented at that.

It could be a recipe for cynicism and disempowerment. But Cosack remains positive and respectful.

"It's all good," he says of the fight and all he's poured into it. The experience has been, if anything, uplifting – because everywhere he looks he finds support, offers of help, enthusiasm and affirmation of the worthiness of the cause. All signs, he insists, that the quarry's opponents can and must win.

Consider Earth Day. On April 22, Cosack drove four of his 33 horses downtown to Queen's Park for the Walk to Stop the Quarry protest. Curiously, you're allowed to graze horses at the legislature, as long as you don't ride – only police can do that. Getting permission to park a trailer in the reserved MPP parking spaces on a Good Friday proved difficult, however, and Cosack got the runaround until he mentioned to a security chief that he lived near the Pine River – one of the trout streams that originates deep in the proposed quarry land.

Then it was, "Oh, Pine River Valley! I ride my bike up all through there, that's great! Of course you can park, no problem!"

And that's what it's been like all along.

Strangers become allies.

NDACT meetings always run out of chairs.

Downtown, farm animals attract attention, and Cosack was stunned by how many passersby who stopped to chat had heard of the quarry. They had heard NDACT representatives interviewed on CBC, or followed consumer advocate Dale Goldhawk's repeated coverage on Zoomer Radio, or read about it in The Star.

So many people. That's what Cosack finds uplifting. The issue is a natural attention-getter, he says, "because the overwhelming truth is that this is not a good project in a good area, and therefore it's easy for people to join."

It's as if by dropping the spectre of a quarry on this place, this magical high point of southern Ontario from which rivers flow south and north to the Great Lakes, and deeming it to have a sparse rural population and no features worthy of protection, Highland started a wave of land-love and moral outrage that swept all the way to Queen's Park and shows no sign of slowing down.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



The Walk to Stop the Quarry arrives at Jim and Marian's Black's potato farm in Melancthon. The walkers left Queen's Park on their 120-kilometre trek on Earth Day and arrived at their destination five days later. Supporters joined them at various stretches along the way. Dr. John Bacher (in safety vest), researcher, Preservation of Agricultural Lands Society (PALS), walked all five days. To his right is Danny Beaton, Turtle Clan Mohawk, who initiated the Walk. And to Bacher's left is Patricia Watts, who performed opening ceremonies at Queen's Park, closing ceremonies in Melancthon, and water ceremonies at every creek, stream and river the walkers crossed.



More at home on his Melancthon potato farm than in front of the cameras during the Earth Day rally at Queen's Park (above), Dave Vander Zaag has nevertheless become the unofficial spokesman for Honeywood loam – the area's famed soil that drew him to purchase 1,000 acres and settle his family here. "Is this good land-use planning?" asks the father of four. "Why place the largest quarry in Canada on precious agricultural lands only one hour from the largest urban centre and food consumer?"



QUARRY CONTINUED FROM PAGE

Cosack has been riding that wave ever since 2008, when the small group of farmers most directly affected by the quarry – “folks who had their head out of the sand early,” as Cosack puts it – organized and commissioned their own studies to find out what was behind all the suspicious tree clearing, well drilling and house demolition on Highland's newly acquired holdings. In January 2009, they formed the North Dufferin Agricultural and Community Taskforce, inviting neighbours in next-door Mulmur to join them.

That was the pebble in the pond. From there the ripples spread, first through the networks of Mulmur's well-connected and politically engaged weekenders, where it quickly drew the support of two established groups,

CORE and (MC)² (Conserve Our Rural Environment and the Mono Mulmur Citizens' Coalition). Then it was onto the corridors of power and influence in Toronto.

The two Mulmur groups united with NDACT to create the Citizens' Alliance for a Sustainable Environment (CAUSE) expressly to oppose the mega-quarry on a strategic, beyond-local scale. The list of Mulmur academics, lawyers, developers and business executives publicly backing CAUSE suggests a formidable counterpoint to Highland's imposing PR and financial clout.

That list includes Harvey Kolodny, professor emeritus at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management and president of the Dufferin Arts Council; Diane Lister, former

CEO of the Hospital for Sick Children Foundation and current president and executive director of the Royal Ontario Museum's board of governors, and David Patterson, founder and CEO of the investment firm Northwater Capital.

From the beginning NDACT knew that they had to win supporters outside of Dufferin, and Patterson more than anyone provided an entrée to the city by hosting after-work meetings between NDACT and various “well-connected folks” in his company's Bay Street boardroom. Picture Cosack in cowboy gear and Melancthon potato farmer David Vander Zaag eloquently presenting the threat to Melancthon's land and water to downtown suits.

People were “just in awe, they had no idea of the size and scope. They left

way better informed and pledging to do their thing,” says Cosack.

That thing, Cosack suspects, included spurring the wider media coverage just when the anti-quarry movement most needed it. The Highland Companies filed its official application on March 11. In more than 3,000 pages, the document attempts to lay out in scrupulous detail every aspect of the proposal as required by the Aggregate Resources Act.

For opponents of the quarry, it was a good thing, giving them something to sink their teeth into after years of anticipation. But the strict rules of the aggregate act gave them only 45 days to do so. And to Highland's distinct advantage, day 45 was the Tuesday after the Easter long weekend, meaning any objections mailed within the last



Bill French (right) and son Brian grow rhubarb, peas and other vegetables for the Toronto market at Lennox Farm, beside the quarry site. Bill's father farmed in Brampton and sold when subdivisions and golf courses moved in. A generation before, his grandfather farmed on Islington Avenue in what is now built-up Toronto. Bill feels lucky to have found this 300-acre patch of paradise near Reddickville in 1988 after combing the province for the best soil. Bill hopes Brian and his one-year-old son won't be the next generation to pick up and move: "There's no other place to go."

several days of the comment period would miss the cut-off.

Rallying the public to submit objections gained urgency in the face of the provincial government's apparent complacency. In February, Melancthon's mayor and deputy mayor had met with the minister of Natural Resources, Linda Jeffrey, to share the township's extensive concerns. Her advice: get constituents thinking about rehabilitation, "because this will not be going back to agriculture, but maybe you could get a nice golf course."

The minister's careless response left Mayor Bill Hill with the impression "that the ink was already on the rubber stamp." He wrote an open letter of complaint to Dalton McGuinty that became a call to action – even inspiring one Pine River resident, Dick Byford, to hand-deliver an old golf ball to Jeffrey's Queen's Park office.

One of the Bay Street meetings, on March 31, attracted First Nations environmentalist Danny Beaton, who has led several multi-day protest walks for water-related issues. "We need to have a walk right away," Beaton declared. His friend Brian Danniels volunteered to organize it and within days the date was set for what would be a landmark media event.

On April 22, the Walk to Stop the Quarry kicked off with Maude Barlow and the Council of Canadians, and the Sierra Club of Ontario among the many farm and environmental or-

ganizations lending their support. Three hundred supporters – and Cosack's four horses – saw the walkers off from Queen's Park on their five-day trek to Melancthon.

The Walk held press conferences in every town, and by its conclusion at Jim and Marian Black's potato farm on the Tuesday of the public comment deadline, hundreds of thousands of people had heard about it. Dale Goldhawk was there reporting in person. CBC Radio's *As It Happens* started covering the issue regularly. Cheers rose up in the hills when CBC host Carol Off took Linda Jeffrey to task for her golf course gaffe.

The local landscape-loving painters, writers, musicians, radio and television hosts, producers and ad execs pitched in. TV host Dini Petty spoke at an NDACT meeting last year. In May, *Homemakers* magazine published an impassioned anti-quarry blog by freelance journalist and veteran radio producer Donna Tranquada.

And, as the social media universe lit up, Margaret Atwood tweeted to her 180,000 followers, "Mega-quarry in ONTARIO will blow up Escarpment, trash clean water... Yikes X 10! Write McGuinty!"

Thanks in part to Carl Cosack's teenage daughter, the quarry protest established its own Facebook site, and now has a Twitter feed and a YouTube channel too.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

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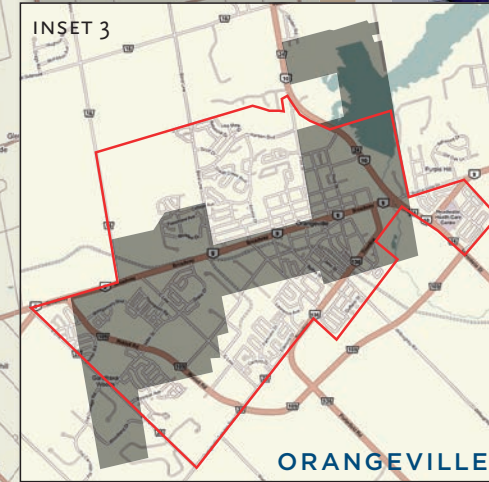
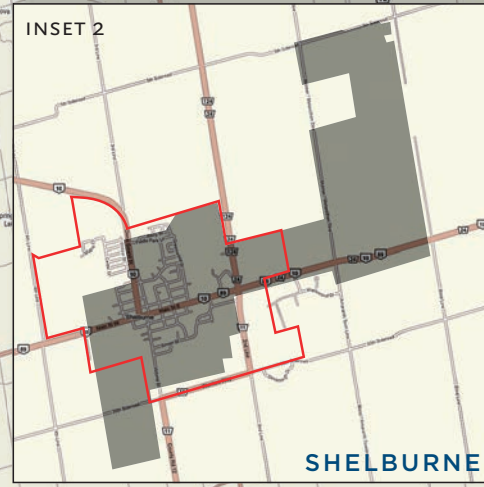
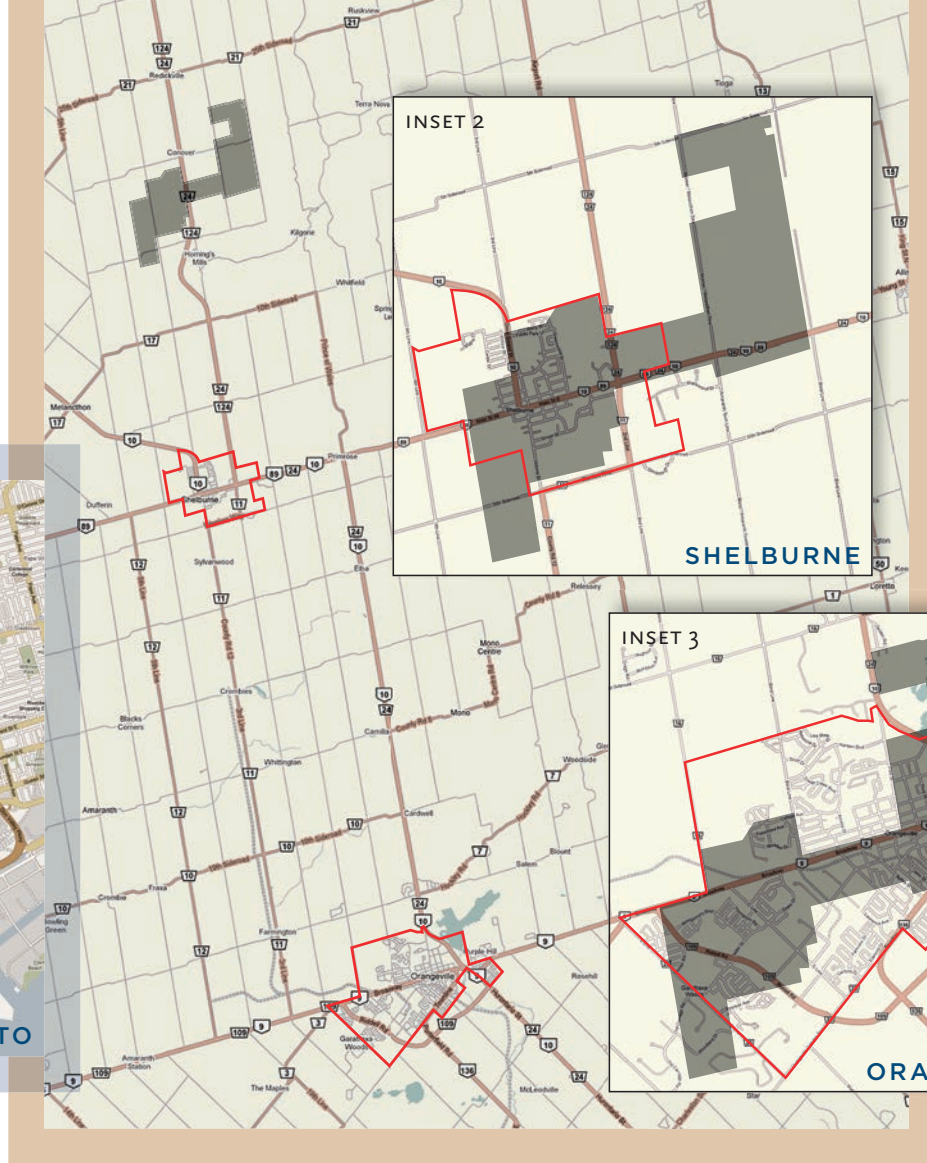
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The background map shows the location of the proposed quarry in Melancthon. Inset 1 shows the size of the quarry in relation to downtown Toronto. Inset 2 shows it in relation to the Town of Shelburne, and inset 3 shows it in relation to the Town of Orangeville.



Melancthon Mega-Quarry by the Numbers

Size of proposed Melancthon quarry, in acres ¹

2,316

Width, in kilometres ²

5

Amount of rock reserve required to meet MNR's definition of a "mega-quarry," in tonnes ³

150,000,000

Amount of rock reserve in the proposed quarry, in tonnes ⁴

1,000,000,000

Length of two-lane highway that could be built with this aggregate, in kilometres ⁵

55,555

Circumference of the earth, in kilometres ⁶

40,075

Approximate depth the quarry will dig below the water table, in feet ⁷

200

Height of Niagara Falls, in feet ⁸

167

Number of major watersheds affected ⁹

2

Amount of water that will have to be pumped each day to divert it from flooding the quarry, in litres ¹⁰

600,000,000

Number of times this exceeds the combined amount pumped by all quarries in Ontario today ¹¹

60

Number of Ontarians' daily water needs this represents ¹²

2,700,000

Rate of aggregate extraction cited in application's economic studies, in millions of tonnes per year ¹³

10

Number of years it would take to deplete the quarry reserve at this rate ¹⁴

100

Amount of aggregate extracted at Canada's largest existing quarry in 2009, in millions of tonnes ¹⁵

6.6

Maximum combined total aggregate extraction permitted in the country of Sweden, in millions of tonnes per year ¹⁶

12

Hours per day that the quarry plans to conduct extraction, conveyance, maintenance, processing and shipping ¹⁷

24

Actual rate of aggregate extraction, supported by the application's traffic scenario of the 150 trucks that will come and go per hour, in millions of tonnes per year ¹⁸

52

Amount of residual ammonium nitrate fuel oil (ANFO) explosive that immunologist, Unitarian and anti-quarry activist Neil denHollander calculates could be released by quarry blasting into the air, water and soil each day, in tonnes ¹⁹

1

Fee per tonne that the government levies on virgin aggregates extracted in Ontario ²⁰

\$0.115

Amount of the equivalent fee in the UK ²¹

\$3.22

Percentage of Ontario aggregate production that comes from recycled material ²²

7

Percentage of UK aggregate production that comes from recycled material ²³

21

Value that an MNR-commissioned study gave to "ecosystem services" provided by intact natural heritage features in Southern Ontario ²⁴

\$84,000,000,000

Amount the North Dufferin Agricultural and Community Taskforce has spent on consultants to help understand and fight the quarry application ²⁵

\$100,000

Amount that NDACT is in debt as a result of this spending ²⁶

\$56,000

Approximate value of assets of the quarry's U.S.-based backer, the Baupost hedge fund, headed by investment guru Seth Klarman ²⁷

\$20,000,000,000



PHOTO JASON VAN BRUGGEN



PHOTO KEVIN DESORMEAUX

At the open house Highland Companies was required to host as part of the public consultation process, protestors sang folk songs, handed out brochures, and heard an address from Green Party of Ontario leader Mike Schreiner. Inside the Horning's Mills community hall, Highland's consultants mingled to answer questions. Attendees included two busloads of Unitarians. "The democratic process is being usurped by foreign nationals and their self-serving interests," says member Neil denHollander. "We also very ardently believe that humans are an integral part of the whole web of existence and that the actions of this multi-national corporation are rending a gigantic rip in that fabric."



PHOTO JASON VAN BRUGGEN

Dogs with signs, horses, potato farmers, anarchists, kids, Unitarians, First Nations and raging grannies were represented among the crowd of several hundred who gathered at Queen's Park on Earth Day to protest the quarry and to send off the Walk to Stop the Quarry. Michael Sacco, holding the flag and sign (above, right), was among the hardy group who walked the entire distance to Melancthon.

ON OUR COVER This farmland sits at the centre of the proposed 2,316-acre quarry. The red barn has already been removed. The large potato storage facility in the background, now owned by Highland Companies, is also expected to disappear to make way for the 200-foot-deep pit.

Approximate amount per acre that Highland Companies paid for its quarry land ²⁸

\$8,000

Estimated value per acre of the aggregate reserve on this land ²⁹

\$3,500,000

Amount per acre the quarry will pay in annual county and township property taxes ³⁰

\$86

Cost on Amazon.ca of a used copy of Klarman's book, *Margin of Safety: Risk-Averse Value Investing Strategies for the Thoughtful Investor*, in which he outlines his philosophy of "always buying at a significant discount to underlying business value" ³¹

\$1,345

Number of permanent jobs Highland says the quarry will provide ³²

465

Percentage of these jobs that are local, on-site jobs, other than trucking ³³

35

Percentage decline in the number of MNR aggregate inspectors since 1994, before the Conservative government replaced annual inspections with industry self-reporting ³⁴

52

Percentage of quarries that MNR inspectors now attempt to visit in person each year to verify industry compliance reports ³⁵

20

Percentage of surveyed quarries that the MNR found to have compliance problems when it conducted an internal review in 2006-2007 ³⁶

83

Ratio of land disturbed for aggregate extraction to land rehabilitated in Ontario, 1995 to 2005 ³⁷

2.3:1

Percentage of government aggregate fee that goes to an abandoned pits and quarries fund ³⁸

4

Number of significant "built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes" identified on the quarry site by the Highland Companies' Cultural Heritage Study ³⁹

0

Number of farmsteads demolished by Highlands on its properties prior to its application ⁴⁰

30

Duration that The Highland Companies' scientists searched for amphibians or played recorded birdsong at various locations to determine the presence of endangered species at the quarry site, in minutes ⁴¹

3 to 6

Percentage of Ontario's stored potato crop located in Melancthon last November ⁴²

49

Percentage of Melancthon's prime potato-growing area – a unique 15,000-acre plateau of Honeywood Loam soil – located on the quarry site ⁴³

15

Percentage of Canada's land area that is rated Class 1 farmland, the highest quality ⁴⁴

0.5

Percentage of proposed quarry land that is Class 1 farmland ⁴⁵

95.8

Percentage of farmland lost in Central Ontario since 1951 ⁴⁶

49

Percentage of proposed quarry area that the application says will be rehabilitated to "prime agricultural land and agriculturally related uses" on the quarry floor, where a "hardy crop...is expected to produce acceptable yields" ⁴⁷

58

Lift that will need to be overcome by the quarry's dewatering pumps, in feet ⁴⁸

175

Lift of pumps operating in the Holland Marsh, in feet ⁴⁹

8

Annual amount per acre in 2011 dollars that NDACT estimates it will cost to operate these pumps in perpetuity in order to avoid flooding and sustain farming on the quarry floor ⁵⁰

\$4,500

Annual gross yield from an acre of potatoes in 2007, of which 5 to 10 per cent may be profit ⁵¹

\$3,360

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Avid fly-fisherman Rob Krueger frequents the Pine River, which rises near Horning's Mills and bubbles over the Niagara Escarpment and into the Nottawasaga. When anglers learned that the quarry footprint covers more than half of the Upper Pine's catchment, they thought of the river's native brook trout and steelhead. Krueger rallied support on online fishing forums and prompted the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters to file an objection. He was also one of 300 attendees pressing Highland Companies consultants for answers at the public open house in Horning's Mills last April, and wrote afterward, "I heard a lot of 'we will do this' answers, but when pressed on how...there was a troubling absence of details."

QUARRY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

According to CAUSE, more than 2,000 letters of objection have flowed into the MNR from individuals, neighbouring municipalities, and organizations such as the Dufferin Federation of Agriculture, the David Suzuki Foundation, Lake Ontario Waterkeepers, and numerous members of the Unitarian Church, which operates a children's camp near the quarry site.

Largely through the work of a dedicated fly fisherman named Rob Krueger, the issue also made its way onto online fishing forums and attracted the concern of yet another demographic, prompting an objection letter from the influential Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. Stop the Quarry signs even popped up on lawns in downtown Toronto.

On April 21, local Conservative MPP Sylvia Jones introduced Cosack

and a representative from the Council of Canadians to the legislature and she has called for an environmental assessment of the proposal (something that is not required by the Aggregate Resources Act). NDP leader Andrea Horwath presented the premier with a petition demanding an extension to the public comment deadline. And local Conservative MP David Tilson has weighed in with a letter to his party's environment minister suggesting the impact of the quarry on freshwater fisheries may warrant a federal environmental assessment.

Linda Jeffrey later announced a 76-day extension for comments on the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry (though these are distinguished from official objections). Dalton McGuinty sent letters to concerned citizens' assuring them that, "We are still in the early stages of the licensing application process, and no approval has

The quarry protest started with those farmers whose land abuts the pit and whose water wells will mix with the pit's 600-million-litre daily draw. Ralph Armstrong and his wife Mary Lynne have a 200-acre, old-style mixed farm that their family has worked since 1853; their five daughters are sixth-generation. Armstrong says, "We're talking about two essentials of life here, the soil and the water. If they change the water in any way it will affect farming here." The Armstrongs typify this fight's unlikely activists, says NDACT vice-chair Carl Cosack: "Ralph is about as quiet a guy as you would ever find. For him to go out to council meetings and to become a board member of NDACT just blows my mind."



yet been given for a quarry to proceed in Melancthon Township."

A message from Jeffrey now appears on the MNR's home page acknowledging "the significant number of responses received so far regarding this application."

Taken all together, says Cosack, it's proof "that if you engage you can actually make a difference. Your actions and your words and your participation is meaningful. There is power in people."

Now that the media blitz ignited by the Walk to Stop the Quarry and the intensity of the 45-day comment period is over, CAUSE and its supporters are girding for a protracted and multi-fronted battle.

The extended period for public comment ends on July 11. After that The Highland Companies has two years to review and respond to all the objections raised during the initial comment period, to which recipients must reply in just 20 days or else their objections will be considered resolved.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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“The water is the blood of our mother the earth,” says native environmentalist Danny Beaton, whose Six Nations of the Grand River reservation lies downstream of the quarry site. Beaton led the five-day, 120-kilometre Walk to Stop the Quarry as a callout to citizens everywhere that this issue goes way beyond the local: “Everything in creation has a duty and the humans’ duty is to be a voice for the earth... to give thanks. Only now, giving thanks is not enough. We need to defend the earth.”



PHOTO JANE FELLOWES

QUARRY CONTINUED FROM PAGE

If unresolved objections remain, MNR may refer the application to an Ontario Municipal Board hearing.

Meanwhile, at the municipal level, Melancthon has deadlines to rule on requests for zoning bylaw and official plan amendments submitted by The Highland Companies. CAUSE and NDACT are filing requests for official plan amendments of their own. They are pushing for specialty crop designation for Melancthon’s famous Honeywood Loam soil.

They are also continuing to push the provincial government on the matter of an environmental assessment, as well as working to block Highland’s attempts to purchase the railway to Owen Sound from Dufferin and Grey counties.

And they are planning more events and outreach activities to sustain public interest, build momentum and raise funds, including a golf tournament and a “paint-in” at Carl Cosack’s ranch on July 3. Co-organizers of the latter, Sandi Wong and Martha Bull, envision a ’60s-style sit-in as a way to express a value of the landscape that tends to get lost in the scientific and policy jargon, namely the natural

beauty that surely motivates many of the protesters.

Says Wong: “The paint-in is in reaction to the picture painted by Highland: that this area is a wasteland, devoid of culture, heritage, nature, or anything worth preserving. We want artists to show how wrong they are!”

Whether CAUSE, NDACT and their supporters will succeed in stopping the quarry remains to be seen, but with their successes to date, the snowballing media interest and popular support, the momentum appears to be on their side.

Still as anti-quarry activist Harvey Kolodny cautions: “Many a group has appeared before the OMB supremely confident in the righteousness of their cause – only to lose.”

For cowboy philosopher Carl Cosack, though, there’s no room for such doubts. In meetings and interviews he relentlessly shares his belief that all NDACT and its supporters have to do to win is tell the truth. Public opinion and people’s sense of what’s right will take care of the rest.

To support his confidence in that belief he points to what he calls The Highland Companies’ “utter failure” to win over the over the community

with its slick public relations campaign. Cosack claims he could write a “how-not-to” book based on the company’s PR missteps.

But to be fair, there’s probably no right way to sell such a massive hole in the ground, or for a foreign company to properly demonstrate respect for a community whose land it wants to blow to smithereens and ship away, by the millions and millions of tons, for profit. ≈

Tim Shuff is a freelance writer. His previous article on the Melancthon quarry, “High Stakes in the High County,” appeared in the autumn 2009 issue of this magazine.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

North Dufferin Agricultural and Community Task Force: **ndact.com**

Citizens’ Alliance for a Sustainable Environment: **citizensalliance.ca** (and follow on Facebook and Twitter)

The Highland Companies: **highlandcompanies.ca**

Mega-quarry by the numbers: sources

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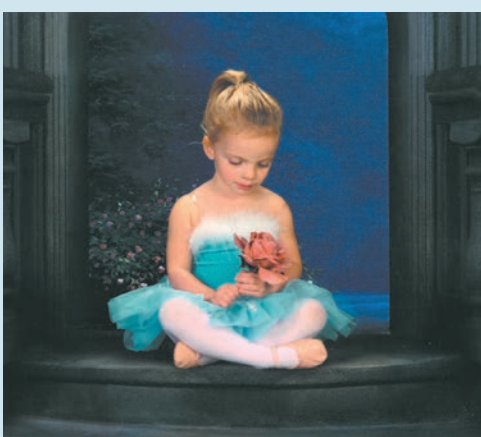
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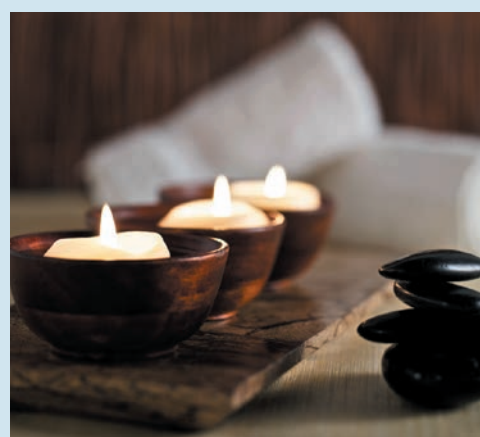
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Go, hang yourselves
all! you are idle
shallow things: I am
not of your element.

Ay, he does well enough
if he be disposed, and
so do I too. He does it
with a better grace,
but I do it more natural.

Dost thou think,
because thou art
virtuous, that there
shall be no more
cakes and ale?

Not to be
a-bed after
midnight
is to be up
betimes.

Many a good
hanging prevents
a bad marriage.

In nature there's
no blemish but the
mind; None can
be call'd deform'd
but the unkind.

Some are born
great, some achieve
greatness, and some
have greatness
thrust upon 'em.

This is very
midsummer
madness.

Leave thy
vain bibble
babble.

I would I had bestowed that
time in the tongues that
I have in fencing, dancing
and bear-baiting. O! had
I but followed the arts!

The South Mulmur Shakespeare Study
Group: BACK ROW Gordon Morton, Anne
Corkett, Huntly Christie, Jo Harrison,
Cecily Ross, Maureen Bixley, Brian Bixley.
FRONT ROW, SEATED Nancy Woods, John
Harrison, Shelagh Roberts, Jane Cooper,
Gary Corlett, Eleanor Corlett, Penny Lewis.



If this were played upon a stage now, I could condemn it as an improbable fiction.

Love sought is good, but giv'n unsought is better.

Reading Shakespeare in Mulmur

BY CECILY ROSS

Gordon Morton clears his throat and in a rich baritone, enlivened by his English accent, begins reading the lovesick Count Orsino's glorious opening lines in Shakespeare's comedy *Twelfth Night*:

"If music be the food of love, play on,
Give me excess of it, that surfeiting,
The appetite may sicken and so die,
That strain again, it had a dying fall.
O, it came o'er my ear like the sweet sound
That breathes upon a bank of violets—"

When Gordon has finished Orsino's speech, Huntly Christie, sitting next to him at the large dining-room table, delivers Curio's idle query:

"Will you go hunt my lord?"

Then, Huntly's wife Nancy Woods picks up the rhythm of Orsino's distracted response:

"What Curio?"

And after Nancy, John Harrison sitting to her left, intones Curio's answer (and the first of countless double entendres in this richly layered comedy):

"The hart." (Or course, the audience also understands "heart.")

Our goal on this the first meeting of the 2011 South Mulmur Shakespeare Study Group is to take turns around table reading until we have come to the end of Act I, Scene 4. But we are barely forty lines into the play when our host and facilitator, Brian Bixley, stops us.

All fifteen of us in the group are well prepared on this January morning. At Brian's request, we have read the play carefully during the Christmas holidays. And then reread the first four scenes aloud the night before so that we do not fumble our lines.

"Before we go any further," says Brian, who has spent the previous two or three months immersing himself in the play in preparation for his role as director of our motley crew, "let's look at the first line of the play: *If music be the food of love—* What do you think that actually means?"

And so began another session of the Shakespeare Study Group. Every second Tuesday morning from January until mid-April, each of us warmed up our winter-weary brains around the Bixleys' commodious dining table while the violets in Brian's snow-covered gardens slept soundly through another long and bitter winter. *Twelfth Night* was our second play. Last year, we studied *The Winter's Tale*, a play we found sometimes fantastical, sometimes incomprehensible, but ultimately miraculous.

"It was a delight to see the longing to read Shakespeare with such gravity," says Brian, adding, "Most of the group were not people who usually went to see Shakespearean productions."

But go and see *The Winter's Tale* we did (at last summer's Stratford Festival), with a profoundly heightened appreciation for texts that most members of the group had previously viewed with bewilderment if not downright apprehension.

"Shakespeare is hard," said Brian (quoting the Irish critic Fintan O'Toole) on the day the SSG started in early 2010, "but so is life." His implication was, of course, that both are eminently worth the effort.

Still, how did it come to pass that fifteen people with little or no previous exposure to Shakespeare (at least not since high school or an obligatory, often

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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“O time! thou must untangle this, not I;
It is too hard a knot for me to untie!”

SHAKESPEARE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31
unsatisfactory trip to Stratford every few years) find themselves poring for hours over dog-eared copies of plays that have enthralled and challenged scholars for centuries?

It all began with a talk that Brian, a retired economics professor and active gardener (the gardens at his Lilac Tree Farm are the stuff of local legend), delivered in 2008 to the Dufferin Arts Council about Shakespeare's sonnets. Brian's neighbours, John and Jo Harrison, attended the event, and although the retired engineer and his former dressage-instructor wife had had very little exposure to Shakespeare in their lives, the experience triggered something.

“We loved Brian's talk, but we still found the sonnets unfathomable,” says Jo, “So we thought it would be fun to study them in a group.”

The couple approached Brian with their idea and he admits now that he was skeptical.

“I liked idea because I had become immersed in the sonnets,” says Brian, “but I wondered how many other people would be interested.”

John and Jo began calling friends hoping to get together a group of six or eight people, but no one wanted to sign up. “Brian said no one would be interested and he was right,” says Jo.

So John, who is as determined as he is curious, suggested they try to organize a group around a play instead. Brian agreed, but only on the condition that members be genuinely “serious” about doing a textual study.

“I didn't want it to turn into a gossip/coffee klatch session the way many book clubs do,” Brian says.

This fit perfectly with the Harrisons' vision. “We really wanted to understand the text,” says Jo, “to go through a play line by line. We'd been going to Stratford all these years and sitting through plays thinking ‘what was that all about?’ Sometimes I would pick up a play and try to read it, but a lot of it seemed like gibberish.”

A Shakespeare Study Group, the couple decided, would give them and other like-minded people a chance to learn about the bard in a way that they hadn't experienced since leaving school. They sent out an email to DAC members and almost immediately received more than a dozen responses. And so the SSG was born.

From the outset, the format was rigorous and intense. Beginning sharp at 10 a.m. we began reading aloud, stopping every 100 lines or so to look closely at what we'd covered. There was often disagreement over the meaning

of certain lines and phrases, and much speculation about the motivation of the characters, Shakespeare's intentions and how scenes should be staged.

At 11 o'clock we took a brief break for coffee and cookies, and we wrapped things up at noon. A day or so later Brian recapped in an email what we had discussed and added further musings, which usually triggered another round of electronic exchanges.

Initially worried that people might be reluctant to speak up, Brian was pleased to find that the opposite was the case. His biggest challenge was to keep things moving so that we could finish the play on schedule. Indeed, inhibitions were so relaxed that two of the five men in the group (John Harrison and Gordon Morton) sang *a cappella* the songs that occur in both *Twelfth Night* and *The Winters' Tale*.

“What I love about the group,” says Brian, “is that gradually they became possessed by the play. It gave them a sense of ownership and made them want to go and see it.”

Jo Harrison echoes that sentiment: “It was absolutely magical,” she says about her visit to Stratford to see *The Winter's Tale* last summer. “They're doing *our* play,” I thought. Knowing the lines so intimately deepened the experience for me. I felt it was my play. I'd never experienced such a thing before. It was wonderful.”

In her write-up on the first year's study group for the DAC newsletter, Jane Cooper observed, “Under Brian's able and knowledgeable leadership we teased out the meanings of the text's complexities, agonized over obscure and ambiguous passages, delighted in the beautiful language and imagery, enjoyed time spent making connections, and finally emerged with new insights and a new and deeper understanding of WS's genius.”

And next year? Well, that depends on the new lineup at Stratford. Still, this summer, as he tends his gardens under sunny skies at Lilac Tree Farm, Brian Bixley may allow himself to dream of cold, bright winter mornings to come, contemplating with pleasure the prospect of taking on a tragedy next time, *Hamlet* or perhaps *Lear*.

And the buzzing in his ears as he tills the earth may sound less like bees than the aching musings of a young man bent on death, “*To sleep: perchance to dream.*” And the thunderstorms may bring not just rain, but also the mad ravings of a despairing king: “*Who is it who can tell me who I am?*” ≈

Cecily Ross is the editor of *Food In The Hills*. She lives in Creemore.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls...

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— Humber River Shakespeare Co. website —



The Bard visits the Mill

BY MICHELE GREEN



At the end of a perfect summer afternoon last year, I plunked down my lawn chair at The Alton Mill and, as the day turned to dusk and the stars grew bright, I enjoyed a charming outdoor performance of *The Taming of the Shrew* by the Humber River Shakespeare Co.

This summer the company will return to Caledon for two nights at The Alton Mill and two nights at Dick's Dam Park in Bolton during their four-week tour of *The Comedy of Errors*.

"This is one of Shakespeare's earliest pieces," says Kevin Hammond, the company's artistic director. "It is an energetic farce, but the complexity of some of the characters elevates it from a traditional farce. I think it will create a really great park show full of lovely crazy characters and crazy moments."

Now, before anyone backs away from the thought of a hoity-toity "Shakespeare for intellectuals" soirée, it's worth a closer look at this talented team and their mandate.

"I truly believe that there is nothing 'precious' about Shakespeare's plays," Kevin says. "They were written as popular entertainment. They are full of spirit and joy and excitement and not meant solely for upper-class people."

Performed in the open air as in Shakespeare's day, the company takes

advantage of picturesque outdoor environments by using minimal and unobtrusive sets and, wherever possible, no electricity. All productions are pay-what-you-can and, because the area is not roped off in any way, people are apt to wander by during an evening stroll and remain to enjoy the performance.

Artistic producer Sara Moyle came up with the idea for the company in 2008, a year when many summer theatre organizations faltered for various reasons. An avid hiker and outdoors person, Sara frequents the Bruce and Humber Valley trails and, in her journeys, realized that few of these communities had professional theatre organizations serving them.

"I thought what a great idea it would be to set up a theatre company and take Shakespeare – which I love and has been part of my life for so long – to the communities," she says with a genuine and contagious enthusiasm.

Sara approached Kevin with the idea and two weeks later the ball was rolling. Both Kevin and Sara bring a wealth of experience to the project. Sara is a seasoned classical theatre actor and Kevin's credits as a director include five years for Toronto's Shakespeare in the Rough and co-founder of Toronto Shakespeare Workout.

"As a director of Shakespeare in the park type of productions, Kevin is unique in the fact that he never shies away from the truth of the story and the dark side of the story," Sara says. "We don't dumb it down – so to speak – but show it in all its glory."

Initially the plan was to be exclusively a summer company.

"One show – two weeks – and then close it," Sara recalls. But the demand has been enthusiastic from the start, with communities asking for return visits and winter programs.

Now in its fourth year, the company is moving in two directions. "There is a very strong classical theatre bent to what we tour," Kevin says, "but at the same time we are exploring the historical human richness in the communities that we live in and visit."

This interest has developed into a partnership with Toronto and Region Conservation which, in 2009, commissioned the company to create and present a series of theatrical vignettes illustrating the human history of the Humber River from 1615 to 1954 in celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Humber's designation as a Heritage River.

Each project they delve into and

research opens doors to more ideas, more potential stories and more interesting historical possibilities.

"At some time we will definitely do a Hurricane Hazel story. It's a story that needs to be remembered," Sara says. "We keep accepting projects because we are so eager to learn and have new experiences."

Their spring Sonnet Show, held in the historic Montgomery's Inn in Etobicoke, has just wrapped up for the fourth year. A fundraising event for the company, the sonnet show consists of five new fourteen-minute all-Canadian plays inspired by a Shakespearean sonnet. The plays are written in fourteen days and produced and performed over the course of one afternoon.

The combination of Shakespeare, historical vignettes and compact tourability also makes the company a natural for school performances.

"We have just finished workshoping our 'theatre in education' piece, which will start touring this fall," Sara says. The piece will be a "trunk" show, where they bring a Victorian trunk on stage and everything re-



PHOTOS JUDY CRAIG AND RICHARD LEVERTON



The cast in productions of *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Twelfth Night* and *Much Ado About Nothing*: Byron Rouse, Tiffany Martin, Adriano Sobretudo, Hugh Barnett, Jessica Moss, Sara Moyle, David Simor, Jan-Michael Weir, Eric Miinch, Paul Stephen, Sean Wayne Doyle.

quired for the production – including costumes – emerges from it. This simple storytelling makes the show accessible for almost any venue. Schools appreciate the quick set-up time and the convenience of not having to bus children to a theatre.

Along those lines, Kevin and Sara have also developed Chamber Shakespeare, a tour-friendly theatrical production of *Henry V*. The group of five actors should be able to play anywhere – community centres and theatres, town halls, barns and even vacant storefronts during the winter months.

The company has already performed *A Christmas Carol* as a trunk show for several years. Originally a staged reading, the production of the Dickens' classic now involves five actors performing twenty-two characters, aided by masks, puppets and costumes.

I attended last December's production of *A Christmas Carol* at The Alton Mill. In a small space with a capacity audience of about eighty-five, the company was mesmerizing. Only a couple of feet – sometimes less – from the audience, they spun the classic tale of Scrooge in a flawless non-stop whirlwind, despite a mere three days

of rehearsal. When they return to The Alton Mill this winter I'll certainly be in the audience to witness the changes they plan to bring to an already stellar production.

Ensemble work is key to presenting these shows, says Sara. "The ensemble spends a lot of time together on tour and we are always communicating closely with the audience, so it requires a different kind of cast cohesion and a different understanding of where you are." Each project is unique and actors audition for the parts; however, they like to retain a core of actors who have been through the process and are familiar with the distinct culture and the trials they encounter.

Certainly being a team player with strong improvisational skills at the ready comes in handy in outdoor theatre. Each venue is not only comparable to a new theatre, it is tantamount to working with an entirely new set. There are no wings in which to relax and regroup, and the audience is apt to watch those supposedly "off stage" as much as those on. In last summer's Alton Mill production a window in the walled foundation that served as the theatre became an impromptu entrance and exit for one

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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PHOTO SEAN WAYNE DOYLE

Hugh Barnett, Jessica Moss, David Simor and audience at The Alton Mill.

THE BARD CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

actor – a change that might have unnerved less seasoned performers.

And then there is mother nature to contend with. As the sun set during last year's production at a Caledon East location, Sara recalls that a flock of mosquitoes "the size of helicopters" descended, flying around the actors' faces and into their mouths during the climax of the show. Although the performers persevered, the audience became increasingly uncomfortable and eventually the mosquitoes began to drive them away.

"Ideally we would have a rain or shine location in every venue," Sara says. However an indoor space is not always available, as is the case at Bolton's picturesque Dick's Dam Park, where the company will launch its season in early July. Canada's unpredictable weather might even be considered an integral part of the complete outdoor theatre experience.

"We don't come and put a theatre in your park," Kevin says, "we make the park our theatre. We arrive, we roll out a tarp, we put on costumes

and we tell a story for two hours."

Bring a lawn chair, maybe an umbrella and bug spray. The company will take care of the magic. ≈

Michele Green is a freelance writer who lives near Belfountain.

The Humber River Shakespeare Company will perform *The Comedy of Errors* at Dick's Dam Park in Bolton on July 6 & 7, and at The Alton Mill on July 16 & 17, as part of the Mill's Cuisine Art Festival. A dinner/theatre package is offered both evenings by The Millcroft Inn in Alton.

Performances begin at 7 pm.

In addition, the company will perform the play at several other locations in Toronto and York Region throughout the month of July.

For the full performance schedule or to join the mailing list, visit humberrivershakespeare.ca

The company is always looking for new community partners and performance venues.

Shakespeare in the Square

You don't have to travel to Stratford for an additional Shakespeare fix this summer. Instead, it's a short hop to downtown Brampton where The Rose Theatre presents Shakespeare in the Square, featuring two of the Bard's best-loved plays during July and August. These free, interactive outdoor performances on the Lorna Bissel Fountain Stage are described as "fast, loose, fun and accessible." The plays run Tuesday to Thursdays at 7pm, weather permitting. Bring a lawn chair and blanket.

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BY JEFF ROLLINGS

AND LOU

It's a tale that falls somewhere between a comedy of the absurd worthy of Monty Python, and a fantastical fairy tale worthy of the Grimms. For the hero of the piece, Lou Maieron, it all began with a failed avian romance.

Perhaps better known these days as mayor of the Erin, Maieron is also the long-time owner of Silver Creek Aquaculture, a fish hatchery and pond supply business on the south side of Erin Village.

In the fall of 2005, two mute swans built a nest on the banks of one of Maieron's 15 fish ponds. When it became clear the birds were sticking around, Maieron and his family gave them names: the smaller of the two they dubbed "Penelope," the larger they called "Brutus."

It turned out things weren't all roses in the Swan household. There were frequent loud fights of the sort the neighbours overhear, and Penelope spent more than a few nights sleeping at the far end of the pond. Eventually, Penelope flew off – presumably to her lawyer's office – leaving the big guy a lonely bachelor.

Like many spouses who keep the house in a break-up, it seemed Brutus wanted to hang on to his familiar surroundings, and decided he was staying put. Over the next four years, although he occasionally took off for a few days, he always returned. Becoming an ever more crusty and possessive fixture on Maieron's fish ponds, which remain open year-round due to bubbling springs, Brutus seemed quite content with his self-appointed role as solitary lord and master of the Silver Creek ponds.

But sometime before Penelope left, the hands of fate had been twitching. A provincial Ministry of Natural Resources official, visiting the fish farm on an unrelated matter, had happened to notice the swans. Time passed, he changed jobs, but he remembered Penelope and Brutus. Now working for the federal environment department, he mentioned them to a wildlife officer colleague.

The gates of a farcical hell begin creaking open.

Along came "Officer Bruce," as Maieron likes to call him. Officer Bruce informed Maieron that having Brutus living on his pond is a contravention of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act. Though by now Brutus was alone, the first official had witnessed a breeding pair, and this was considered the worst transgression. Beyond that, Maieron had both fed and tended to Brutus, and the inspector explained that in the department's eyes, that meant the animal was, in effect, a pet. And for that Maieron needed a \$10 permit.

As Officer Bruce dutifully expounded on the intricacies of waterfowl law, a heron landed on a nearby pond, stabbing a trout from the water. Maieron pointed out that, even though he didn't want to, he was feeding that bird too. He asked the officer if he needed a permit for every migratory



Brutus is as cranky as he is beautiful. Although he is devoted to Lou Maieron, who repaired his broken leg, he flees from, or attacks, all other human interlopers.

bird that happened to land on his ponds – often forty a day, the odd one even spending the winter.

Neither that argument, nor Maieron's repeated exclamations of "But it's not my bird!" and "It's free to leave any time it wants!" impressed Officer Bruce. Instead, he flexed some muscle: Maieron could be taken to court. He could be fined \$300.

Eventually, Officer Bruce wrote Maieron a ticket for \$180, and told him again that he still needed the \$10 permit.

Maieron said "I don't want that either."

"Too late for that," said Officer Bruce.

Maieron even offered to let Officer Bruce take the bird, and for a while it looked like that would happen. However, male mute swans, which average 26 pounds and stand over 47 inches tall on land, dwarf a Canada goose in size and they're notoriously aggressive. They easily can, and often do, injure humans.

True to form, Brutus also has some serious anger management issues, and as Officer Bruce approached, Brutus made it clear he wasn't going anywhere. Wondering how far it would all go, Maieron reminded Officer Bruce that he was carrying a gun: "Shoot the bastard!" Maieron cried.

Officer Bruce backed down. Instead, he gave Maieron a receipt allowing Brutus to remain where he was legally while the case went to court.

Ironically, Maieron couldn't get rid of the swan himself either. Putting it in a crate to send away

somewhere would have constituted illegal possession.

It is true that Maieron fed and tended to the bird. Brutus is known to chow down on the occasional stray pellet of fish food, and like anybody with a backyard bird feeder, in the depth of winter Maieron has put out corn.

On one occasion, Brutus's temper got him in trouble. For some reason, he especially hates diesel engines, and attacked a truck making a delivery to the fish farm so savagely that he broke his own leg. Unable to locate a veterinarian with suitable know-how, Maieron, who is a biologist by training, bound the leg himself. This may explain, at least in part, why Maieron is the only human able to get anywhere near the bird.

Not native to North America, mute swans were first imported from Europe and Britain in the late 1800s, their elegant

forms serving as living water sculpture in parks and rich estates on the eastern seaboard. Brutus might even be the descendant of one of the several pairs Queen Elizabeth II herself gifted to Ottawa in 1967 in celebration of Canada's centennial.

Mute swans are known to travel regionally to find open water during winter. However, while they may be listed under the Migratory Bird Act, they don't migrate: as newcomers to North America, there's nowhere they're wired to migrate to.

Over time individual birds escaped or were set free from those private collections, they naturalized and established a wild population. With a suitable environment and few or no natural predators, wild mute swan numbers exploded, colonizing the Great Lakes watershed by the mid-1960s. Southern Ontario's total current population is estimated at 4,000 to 5,000 individuals, and that total doubles in size every seven to eight years.

They are so successful that the Ministry of Natural Resources identifies mute swans as a Terrestrial Invasive Species, and a threat to biodiversity. The bird's habit of pulling up aquatic plants – often many more than the six pounds a day they consume – damages natural fish habitat. Their ornery disposition and imposing size mean they routinely drive other waterfowl from nesting and feeding sites. That has negative consequences not only for local birds, but also migratory species passing through.

The inclusion of mute swans in the Migratory Bird Act was originally done so that governments could prohibit people from setting them free, in an attempt to control over-population, which has now been a problem in the United States for decades. In Chesapeake Bay, for example, five birds released in 1962 had become a flock of 4,500 by 2002.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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BRUTUS & LOU CONTINUED FROM PAGE 39

More recently, the burgeoning numbers have prompted the Long Point Waterfowl and Wetlands Research Fund and other conservation groups to recommend that mute swans be removed from the Act, allowing hunters to assist with population control. Similar measures are already in place in several U.S. states.

But of course, in Canada we don't shoot swans. We take them to court. "The Swan v. The Queen" first landed there in June of 2009, where a justice of the peace dismissed the matter on a technicality.

The Crown appealed and at the next hearing, a judge in Guelph slapped the inches-thick mound of paper pertaining to the case down on his desk and exclaimed, "I was half-way through reading all of this before I discovered it's over a ten-dollar permit!" He dismissed the case, taking the view that the officer could have used more discretion. He also urged the Crown not to appeal.

Disregarding that advice, the nothing-if-not-tenacious Crown, apparently with a bottomless, publicly-funded budget dedicated to fighting the evil keeper-of-a-mute-swan-without-a-permit scourge, took it to another judge in Toronto. And this time they got their way: leave was granted to appeal the lower court ruling.

Maieron represented himself throughout the ordeal – six court appearances in total – all the while decrying the huge waste of everyone's time and money. He even received a few cheques in the mail from people sympathetic to his cause. "Not a lot," he says, "only about \$200 in total, but it really made me feel people understood." He guesstimates the government spent between \$50,000 and \$100,000 on his prosecution.

Finally, it all came to a head at a Court of Appeal for Ontario hearing in front of a panel of no less than three judges. Maieron says it's "quite a feeling to find yourself at Osgoode Hall surrounded by all these people in wigs and robes."

He went armed with a secret weapon that he had saved up, though he never got to use.

Over all the court appearances, the prosecution had made much of Penelope and Brutus as a couple, or to use Officer Bruce's term, "breeding pair." They claimed the evidence showed that Maieron had been intentionally breeding mute swans.

However, there was a flaw in that theory. Shortly before Penelope disappeared, Maieron had invited a friend with waterfowl expertise to take a look at the swans. It turns out swans are the only male bird known

to have one particular anatomical characteristic. Penelope had a penis.

Whatever the relationship between Penelope and Brutus, one thing was sure: offspring were highly unlikely.

When the national media took an interest in Brutus's legal woes, it didn't hurt Maieron's run for mayor last fall either. He claims that during the campaign, quite a number of voters asked "Are you the fellow who's fighting the swan issue?" and offered their support in what played out as a David and Goliath battle. At the same time, the prosecution was complaining in court that Maieron was using the swan for political advantage.

Ultimately, as Maieron tells it, the judges found that, while the Crown may have been right to appeal, after so many appearances they understood Maieron's plight. The appeal was dismissed.

Leaving court, a federal prosecutor stopped Maieron and congratulated him. "For what?" Maieron asked. "You're 3 and 0," the man responded. "You've won in every court. That's quite an accomplishment."

While admitting that it would have been easier and cheaper just to pay the fine, Maieron says it was a point of principal, with a much bigger scope. "Sure it's a funny story about the swan who won't fly away," he says, "but really the whole thing isn't funny. It's a serious issue about land-owner rights. If this were to stand it would mean that every farmer who has migratory birds land on his property could need a permit for them. It's ridiculous."

So Brutus can go on patrolling his domain, blissfully unaware of the ruckus he created. Unless Officer Bruce, or someone like him, decides to write Maieron another ticket. Brutus could live to be twenty, so he may be around for awhile, and Maieron says "I could be charged again."

The old saying that swans mate for life and pine to death after losing a mate is not always true. Research shows they often move on to several partners in a lifetime, and Brutus is no exception.

As breeding season plays out this year, Brutus is doting on the current object of his misguided affections. "Now he's bonded with me," Maieron says. Brutus follows Maieron everywhere around the farm, and he's a high maintenance paramour: "He bites me if I don't pay enough attention to him. I seriously think I need to get him a mate."

Goodness knows what the Queen's henchmen might make of that. ≈

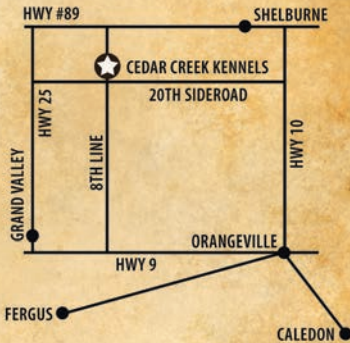
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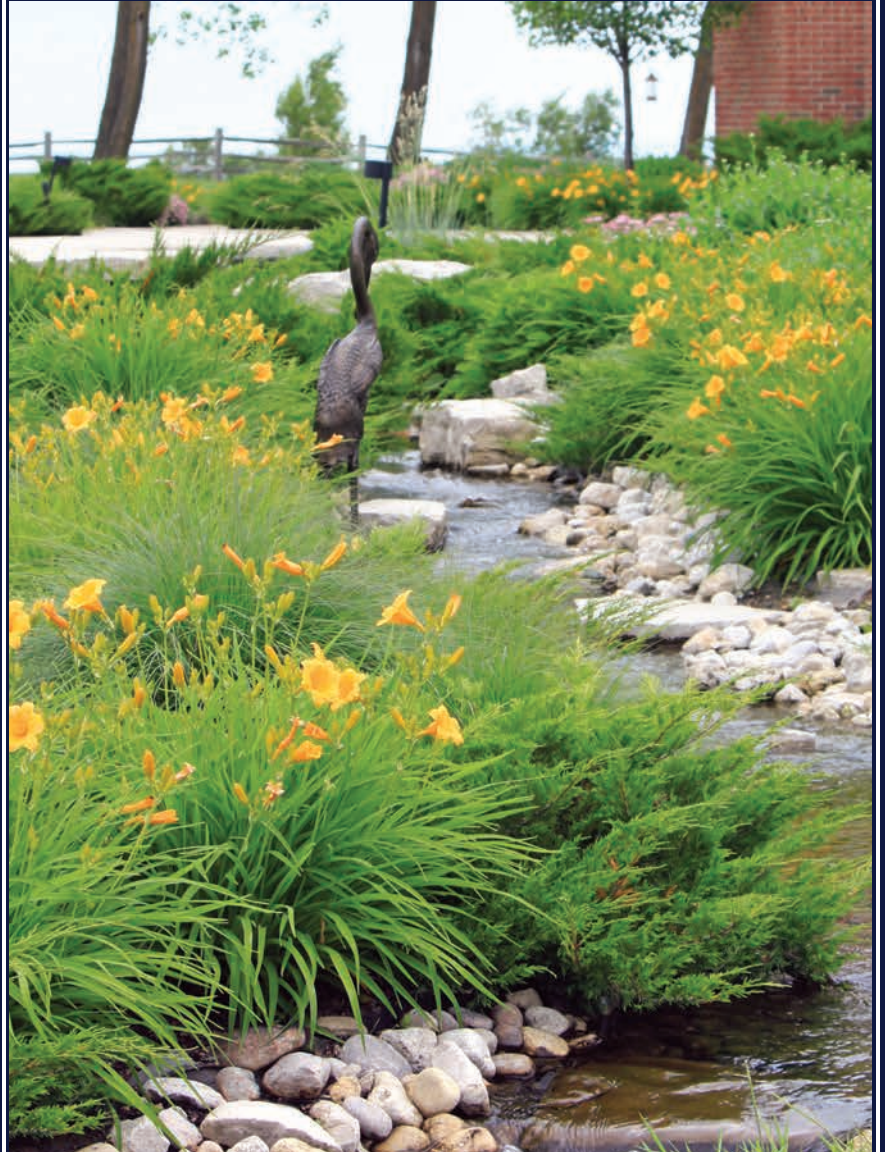
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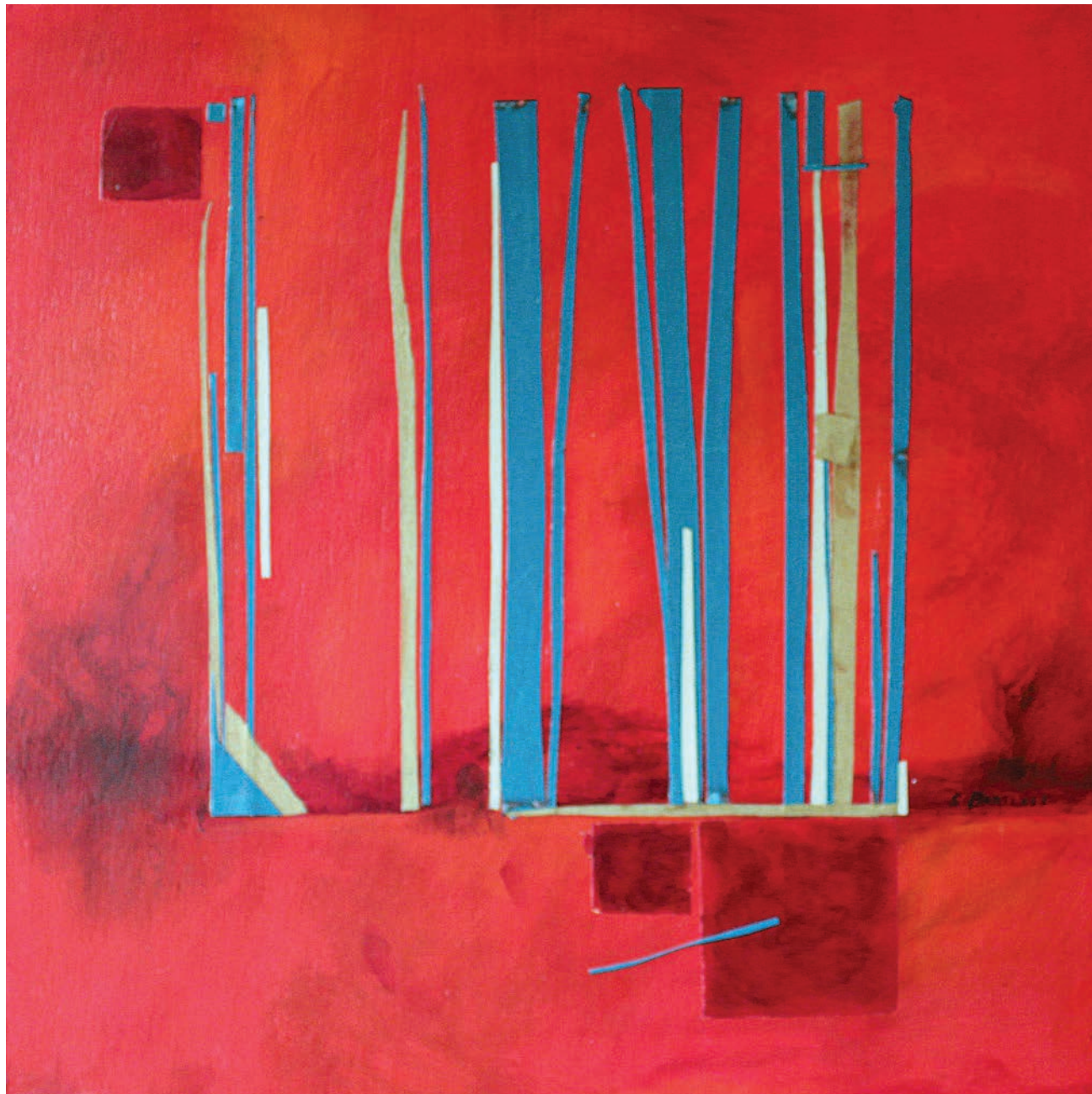
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In the small hamlet of Mono Centre there stands, barely, an old drive shed. The building is nothing if not rickety and even between its owners, Gary and Sharon Bonikowsky, there is a debate whether it qualifies as picturesque or simply an eyesore. Either way, its very insistence on remaining vertical against time and gravity has earned it an affectionate reputation as a local icon.

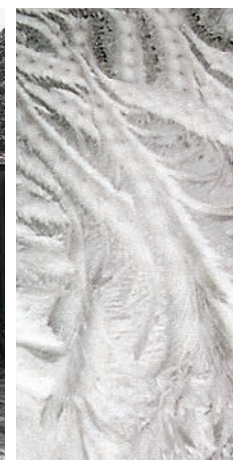
While Sharon rolls her eyes, Gary champions the structure, and his enthusiasm was recently vindicated when a Toronto fashion house used it as a location for a photo shoot. His insistence on its

merits will be buttressed considerably more this summer during an intriguing art show at Dufferin County Museum.

The old drive shed forms the inspiration for five of the twenty-five paintings created for the show by The Flaming Spirit Artists.

Last year, the group of five artists – Shirley Bartlett, Lillian Kletki, Jean Mull, Carole Sisto and Luella Thomson – set themselves a challenge: How many ways are there to paint a picture? Their goal was to create a collaborative project that would showcase individual artistic interpretations of the same subject.

For one of them, there was no question that the texture, history





TOP ROW, L-R

Shirley Bartlett
I Choose Life
MIXED MEDIA
30" x 30"

Shirley Bartlett
For Everything There is a Season
MIXED MEDIA
10" x 12"



Carole Sisto
Time Moves On
(detail)
ORIGINAL LITHO
PRINTS, ACRYLIC,
COLD WAX
18" x 18"

Jean Mull
Relic of the Past
ACRYLIC
24" x 20"

and spirit of the old drive shed made it a worthy candidate for the endeavour. The other four artists also chose a subject and supplied the group with a photo of it. Each artist then set to work to create five paintings, one for each of the chosen subjects.

The twenty-five paintings that resulted will be exhibited throughout July and August in a show called "5 by 5" in the museum's Silo Gallery. The works inspired by each of the five subjects range from realistic to abstract, and they are represented in a variety of media, including cold wax, original prints, oil, acrylic and mixed media.

Membership in the Flaming Spirits has evolved over the years, but the five current members have been together for twelve years. All work from their home studios, but meet regularly, not only to share their own painting experiences and experiments, but to travel together to local and national galleries and shows in Canada and the United States.

They have also regularly mounted their own group shows, notably in recent years amid the greenery and antiques at Orangeville Flowers. "5 by 5" is at Dufferin County Museum & Archives from July 10 to August 28. You can meet all five Flaming Spirits at the opening on July 10 from 2 to 4 pm. ≈

MIDDLE ROW, L-R

Lillian Kletke
Current Baggage
ACRYLIC
30" x 24"

Luella Thompson
Together
OIL
30" x 30"



BOTTOM ROW
Photographs of the subjects that the five artists used as inspiration for their "5 by 5" show.

When baseball fever swept North America in the late nineteenth century, the good people of these hills signed on, but they embraced the game with a unique, local flair.

Baseball

BY KEN WEBER

If a time machine could take baseball fans back to some of the wonderfully unusual games of the past, a good place to start would be in Orangeville on July 1, 1888.

As part of the Dominion Day attractions, a match had been arranged between a team of senior boys from Orangeville High School and a club from Hillsburgh. After piling up a lead of 14 to 4 by the fifth inning, the hometown boys were suddenly faced with the bases loaded as Hillsburgh's power hitter took the plate. True to baseball's mystical drama, he let go a towering fly to right field. It came down fair, hit a rock, bounced into the crowd, and landed in a baby carriage. Players on both teams were just as surprised as the baby. Hillsburgh scored four runs on the play and the tide turned. In the next inning Orangeville's excellent catcher was taken out with a broken thumb and Hillsburgh pulled into a nail-biting lead of 27-26 with just one inning left to play. At this crucial juncture, Umpire Bert Rowcliff, from allegedly neutral Alton, inexplicably declared the game over and Hillsburgh the winner.

THE POPULARITY GROWS

The hometown crowd was furious, and Rowcliff's peculiar decision that day no doubt contributed to the intense baseball rivalry that soon developed between Orangeville and Alton. But that July game was noteworthy for another reason. Elaborate Dominion Day celebrations had become a solid tradition in Orangeville by the 1880s, attracting crowds from miles around to enjoy parades, fireworks, and an afternoon of sports, including lacrosse, football, horse racing and track and field. The Orangeville-Hillsburgh game was the first time baseball had been included. Not only that, but newspaper coverage of the game far outweighed all the other sports.

In fact, media coverage of Orangeville's Dominion Day celebrations throughout the 1880s offers an

interesting gauge of baseball's rise in popularity. The celebrations of 1886, for example, included tug-of-war teams from all over the hills (Caledon, Garafraxa and Mono Mills were the winners that day). Track and field events attracted competitors from as far afield as Monticello, Erin and Cheltenham. The highlight, a lacrosse game as always, had the Dufferins taking on the Onondaga Indians of Brantford (although it was upstaged that afternoon by a short but mighty fireworks display that occurred when a glowing cinder from one of the food concessions landed on a wagon loaded with the evening's explosives!). But there was no baseball that year or the next. By 1889, however, the year following Hillsburgh's controversial victory, the Dominion Day festivities included three baseball games with teams from Erin and Hillsburgh meet-





Memories



“Farmers of the surrounding district forsook their ploughs, mechanics in the village laid down their tools, as Alton men and women alike donned their Sunday best and went out to cheer their Aetnas at home or abroad.”

NOTHING BETTER THAN A WINNING TEAM

Nothing drives the popularity of a sport like having a winner in the community, and early on Bolton had that a big way. In 1885, Bolton’s red hot nine (starring local pitching hero Harry Sheardown) not only defeated every other team in Peel, including mighty Brampton, it went on an Ontario tour, winning by scores such as 24-4 over Aurora and 30-12 over Cobourg. It even attracted national attention by trouncing the Toronto Athletics 18-1.

With a role model like that to emulate, it’s no surprise that junior squads formed quickly. One of the more successful was the Bolton Young Athletics Baseball Club. Their most successful year was 1889 when they played well enough to challenge the notorious – and undefeated – Woodbridge Maple Leafs, famous for the “curve pitcher” on their roster.

Bolton’s youngsters were leading by a healthy 18 to 8 in the fifth inning of the match with the Maple Leafs and might have scored an historical win. But then, at the top of the sixth, the sound of a train whistle came wafting in from the distance and the entire Bolton team abandoned the field and raced for the station. It was the last train of the day and their only ride home.

ing local teams in competition for a silver cup.

Even so, Orangeville continued to be primarily a “lacrosse town” well into the next century. In other communities, though, baseball grew rapidly. Ballycroy and Mono Mills embraced the game. Alton started playing in 1875 and eventually grew into a powerhouse. Churchville and Erin were underway early too, perhaps because of their proximity to Brampton, where a team had formed in 1871. By the end of the century, there were teams in almost every community. In places such as Terra Cotta, Inglewood and Waldemar, these tended to be pickup teams, responding to one-off challenges from neighbouring villages. However, some communities, such as Bolton and Alton, developed high-flying signature teams.

SUPPORT FOR “OUR BOYS”

Although Bolton’s senior team disbanded in 1890 it didn’t take long for another banner carrier to emerge in the hills. In 1893, the Alton Aetnas had begun to attract attention and within a few years the team from this tiny village was being invited to play against London, Hamilton and Toronto.

In addition to their stellar play, the Aetnas had an extra player on the bench so to speak. According to the Perkins Bull histories, no team anywhere in Canada enjoyed the intense support the village of Alton gave its “boys.” Beginning with the very first game in 1875, in the words of Perkins Bull, “Farmers of the surrounding district forsook their ploughs, mechanics in the village laid down their tools, as Alton men and women alike donned their Sunday best and went out to cheer their Aetnas at home or abroad.”

For those who think Bull’s prose ran to hyperbole, consider the part played by village supporters in a special game during the 1898 season. By this time, baseball rivalry between Alton and Orangeville was thoroughly, even bitterly, entrenched. The Aetnas were still the hot team in the hills, but that year Orangeville had fielded an unusually able nine and, after losing a close game on Alton’s turf, insisted that biased umpiring was the cause.

Challenge and counter-challenge filled the air (accompanied by occasional fisticuffs in the taverns of both communities) until Orangeville proposed a special exhibition game on neutral ground in Erin for a wager of \$100. Alton’s money for this grand encounter was secured by public subscription, with

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Although various forms of mischief have always been a part of baseball, they didn't really play much of a role with our local teams. Not that advantage wasn't taken whenever possible!

BASEBALL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 45

10¢ and 50¢ contributions collected door to door. The entire village travelled to Erin for that special game only to watch Orangeville win in a cliff-hanger and see the bet duly paid. That disappointment produced no wane in support in Alton though. The entire village lined the field for the very next Aetnas game.

WHATEVER IT TAKES TO WIN

The village of Palgrave also developed into a baseball hotbed. Although there are several high points in the village's baseball history, none generated greater satisfaction for the hitherto perennial losers than their defeat of Bolton (11-10) in 1895.

The habit of losing had begun early for the Palgrave team. In what is believed to be the community's first-ever game against a team from another town (Tottenham, c.1881), it had lost by over 50 runs. The loss was understandable, because except for local sawmill operator, William Campbell, who had accepted the challenge from Tottenham, no one on the Palgrave team knew how to play! They lost their second game a few months later, this time to Lockton, but the final score was a little more balanced: 60

to 40. It seems the boys from Lockton didn't know how to play either.

But on Dominion Day, 1885, the underdog triumphed over Bolton and the game marked a turning point for Palgrave. For the next several years, they became a team to beat. Once they'd tasted victory, the Palgrave nine sought to avenge an ignominious defeat at the hands of Tottenham from years before and accomplished that in 1890. The final score, with the entire village present to cheer and bear witness, was a narrow 4-2, an indication that some pretty sharp baseball was played that day.

Still, the victory was not entirely without a touch of hanky-panky. While both teams boasted "curve pitchers," increasingly common by then, Palgrave stretched the game's implicit code: that a team's players must be hometown boys exclusively. On the mound for Palgrave that day was Paddy Horan's "hired man," who was actually the star pitcher for the title-winning Toronto Crescents.

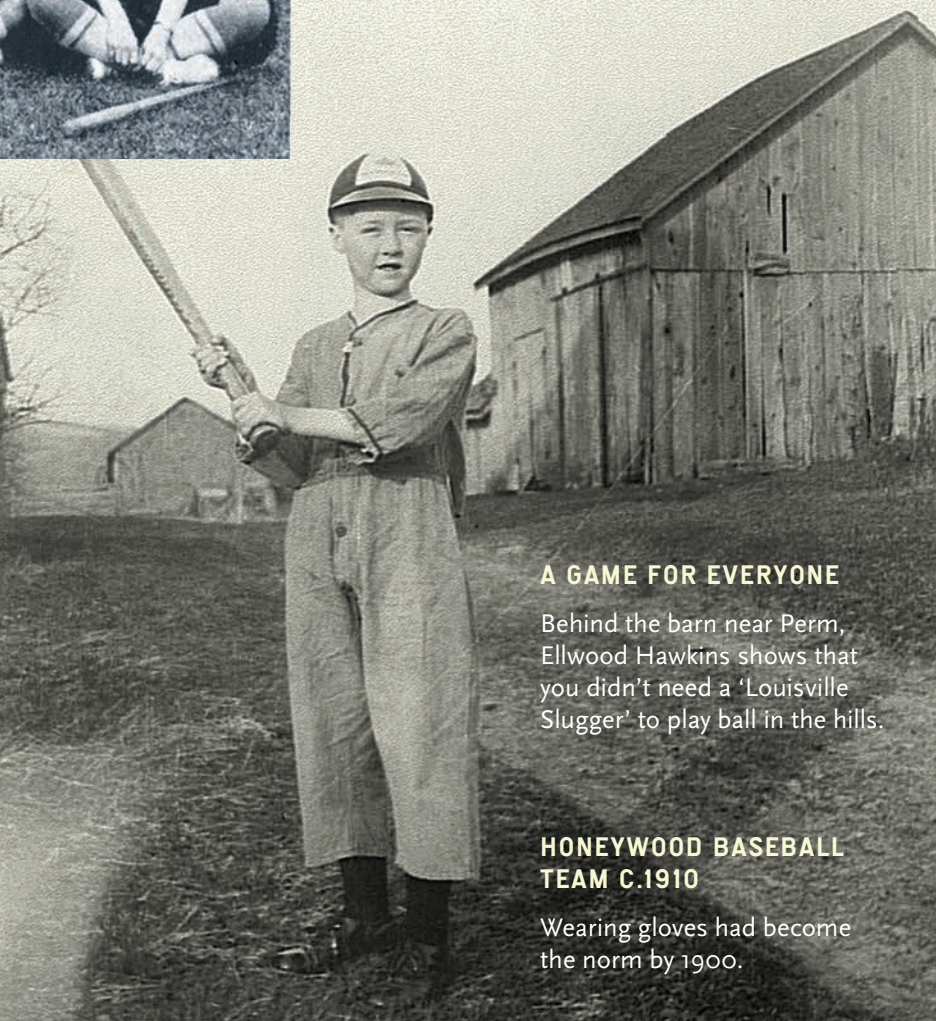
Not only that, but on the reasonable assumption that the Tottenham boys had brought in a ringer or two of their own, Palgrave packed a little extra insurance in their equipment bag: a loaded bat. This secret weapon not only provided the winning edge in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 48



BOLTON LADIES SOFTBALL TEAM, 1925

Softball originated in 1887 at the Farragut Boat Club in Chicago, invented as baseball to be played indoors. Originally dubbed 'kittenball' (and other names like 'mushball' and 'cabbageball') the game evolved rapidly into an outdoor game. By the turn of the century, it had become extremely popular among women players whose skills were anything but 'kittenish.' In 1925, the Bolton Ladies Softball Team won the All-Ontario title and advanced that year to the semi-finals of the Canadian Championship played at the CNE.



A GAME FOR EVERYONE

Behind the barn near Perm, Ellwood Hawkins shows that you didn't need a 'Louisville Slugger' to play ball in the hills.

HONEYWOOD BASEBALL TEAM C.1910

Wearing gloves had become the norm by 1900.



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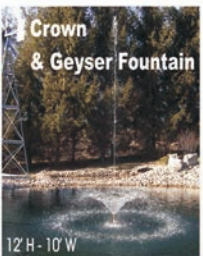
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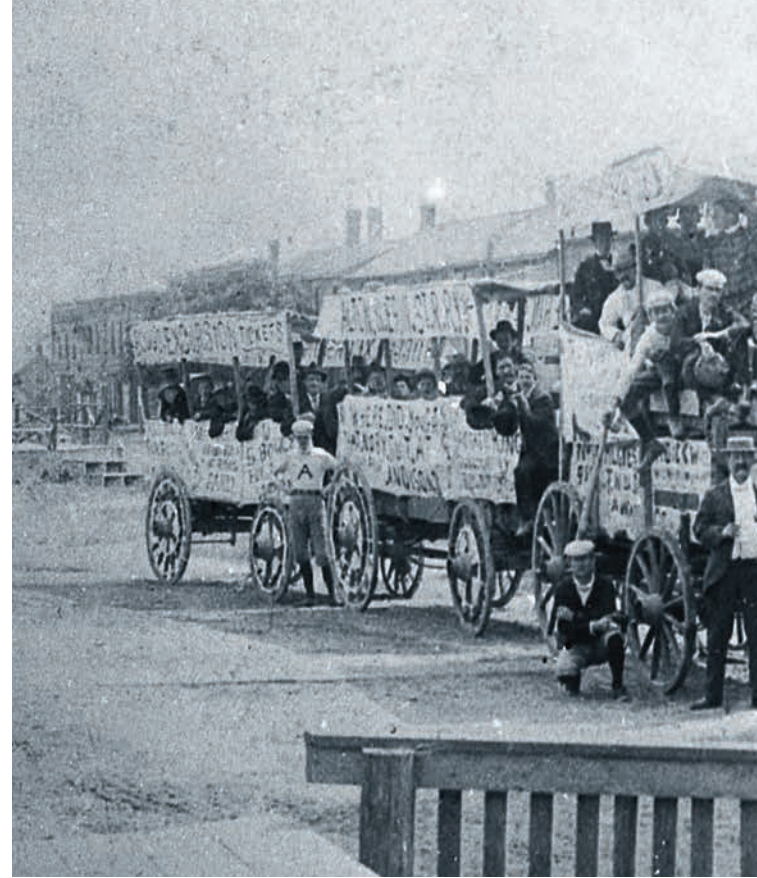
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PLAYING "SCRUB" ON A SUNDAY AFTERNOON IN TERRA NOVA

Baseball was easily adaptable for play by groups as few as five or six. Called "scrub" or "workup" (because players worked their way through positions to become batter), it was an ideal game for one-room schools with small enrolments.

BASEBALL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 46

the Tottenham game, but for the entire 1890 season and it bestowed such a reputation for the "long ball" on the Palgrave team that, inevitably, suspicions were aroused.

The truth came out at a game in Alliston during a bench-clearing brawl in which the Palgrave nine tried to hide the bat and Alliston's team fought to expose it. When Alliston's constable lined up both teams for a scolding before the game could begin again, there were only eight Palgrave players. The ninth man – and the bat – had disappeared through a hole in the fence. The bat was never seen again.

GOOD WILL AND GOOD FUN

Although various forms of mischief, like loaded bats or the notorious spitball, have always been a part of baseball, they didn't really play much of a role with our local teams. Not that advantage wasn't taken whenever possible. Shelburne, for example, is alleged to have maintained several bumps and holes under the too-long grass of its outfield. The local nine had the locations well mapped out in their heads, but the visiting team invariably learned the topography the hard way.

Such schemes worked fairly well for small communities in the early days of baseball, before they were organ-



SAM BOGGS' EXCURSION TO ERIN

Carriage maker, Sam Boggs, hooked three wagons behind his steam engine (used for powering threshing machines) loaded them with citizens of Alton and early on the 24th of May, 1897, set out for Erin at 4 km an hour for the afternoon baseball game. As Erin came into view, Sam announced their approach with a blast on his engine's whistle, causing the engineer of an approaching CPR freight train to panic in fear there was another train on his track. The trainman brought his charge to a screeching halt and while it stood stalled in its tracks, Sam crossed in front, tooting a thank-you salute as he did so. That afternoon Alton won the game.

ized into sophisticated and regulated leagues with a season of scheduled games. But that step was didn't arrive until the coming of the automobile. Until then, travelling from town to town to play was challenging and time-consuming. And in rural areas, harvest cycles had priority. On August 9, 1901, for example, when the Palgrave Maple Leafs failed to show up for a game in Bolton, nary an eyebrow was raised, for the summer had been a wet one and when the sun finally shone in earnest that month, threshing machines in Albion Township were humming.

Thus, in baseball's early days, most games were either home-and-home challenge matches between two communities, usually coinciding with Dominion Day or the Glorious Twelfth, or a challenge match within a single community.

Typical of the latter was a game played in Bolton on Labour Day, 1901. The young men of the town, The Bachelors, defeated a team of older men, The Benedicts, by three runs. So entertained were the many local spectators that a rematch was scheduled. The Benedicts lost again, once more to the great amusement of the spectators who were no doubt aware that

the team of older players was missing a key man. Earlier in the summer, Tom Robinson, one of those hitters who could make outfielders back up to the fence simply by stepping up to the plate, had accepted a challenge from companions who wagered he could knock out a cow with his fist. The cow stood her ground, the bettors lost their money, and Tom broke his hand and landed on the injured list.

The Bachelor-Benedict game was hotly contested but played in good-natured fun. Even a gross error by the umpire was forgiven because, as the Bolton Enterprise reported, "it was getting quite dark at the time and third base was an imaginary spot where grass did not grow."

Reaction to an umpire's behaviour was not always so sanguine, especially when a decision seemed unusually arbitrary. One such case was Umpire Rowcliffe's sudden declaration in Orangeville in the 1888 game with Hillsburgh. (Rowcliffe, according to reports, was noticeably absent for the rest of the day's activities.)

Another case, which caused a free-for-all that drew attention beyond these hills, developed at a game in Alton in 1901. After Hillsburgh's vis-

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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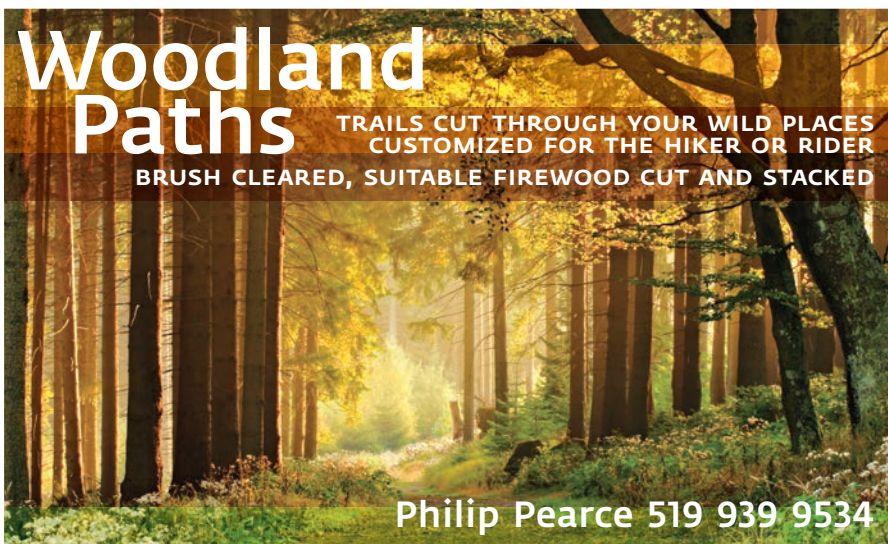
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BOLTON: THE HOTTEST TEAM IN THE HILLS

BACK ROW : Daniell Henderson, Harry Sheardown, William Robertson, George A. Norton, William Swinerton, Joseph Robertson. MIDDLE ROW : Asley Norton, Stewart Cameron, Rev. Martin. FRONT ROW : Reuben Sheardown; Albert Pilson.

BASEBALL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 49

iting nine had been on the receiving end of several dubious calls, a Hillsburgh batter approached the plate while eating an orange. What passed between him and the umpire is unknown, but before the unbelieving eyes of all present the batter suddenly threw his orange at the umpire – who responded by decking the batter with a punch to the jaw! In the words of Perkins Bull, “a donnybrook ensued.”

It was a major dustup. Not only did the players from both teams end up in a mass wrestling bout, but so many fans joined the fray that there was no one left to bring peace. It was not until the imbroglio simply ran out of steam that order prevailed. Curiously (or perhaps not), the umpire disappeared during the melee. He was later said to have hidden out at the train station until he could grab the first available transport out of town.

Perhaps more intriguing, is what developed once the dust had settled. There was no more baseball that day. It was getting late. And crucially, there was another event on tap: a dance. Not just any dance, either. Dick’s Foundry had been renovated after a serious fire to serve as a community centre and the dance there would boast an imported orchestra and specially catered refreshments. Whether

this temptation alone dispelled the antagonism or whether it did so in concert with the good will that naturally connected the two communities, the end result was that the teams shook hands, the fans cheered, all was forgiven and everyone went to the dance.

Later that evening, it was agreed that because Hillsburgh had been leading when the interruption occurred, then Hillsburgh had won the game. After all, there would be more games to come between the two villages and plenty of opportunity to work out whose team was superior. In the meantime, neighbours are neighbours and it’s best to get along. That’s how baseball was played in the hills. ≈

Writer Ken Weber will present a talk called “Other Mothers of Invention: Necessity Wasn’t the Only Parent” on June 26, 2 pm at Dufferin County Museum & Archives.



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valley of t

Hockley honey
 When Dan Gavett
 gill about five years
 meadows of Hockley
 Organic honey, liked
 complexity, and the C
 environment within a
 valley featuring a th



Sweet or savory, chilled soup in summer
 is as comforting as it is cool. BY LAMAR CLARK

PEOPLE SAY THAT NOTHING WARMS
 Unfortunately this means we need an
 a blanket, because soup is easy to prepare
 regardless how your diet. Have an idea
 for you. The spring and summer of last
 Cold soup is a favorite in a hot day
 as a light lunch or addition to a barbecue
 dinner, or as the first course of a gourmet
 meal. It's light, it's easy to make, it's
 healthy, and it's delicious. Here are
 10 recipes for cold soups that are
 simple to make and perfect for the
 season. My first experience with cold soup
 was in the kitchen of a Spanish-speaking
 friend of mine. She had a bowl of
 cold soup, and I was hooked. It was
 healthy, refreshing and so delicious.
 It has stuck with me ever since.
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FOOD IN THE HILLS

FOOD IN THE HILLS is an exciting new magazine celebrating all the best about food in the Headwaters region: who grows it, who serves it, where to find it and how to cook it. Pick it up at restaurants, specialty food stores and markets throughout the hills. And watch for the fall issue coming in August. In between, visit FoodintheHills.ca for recipes, food festivals and fairs, and our bloggers.

Food In The Hills is distributed twice a year in May and August. It is an independent magazine brought to you by the publishers of In The Hills and featuring the same quality content and superb design that has made In The Hills the distinctive voice of the Headwaters region for 18 years.

For print and web advertising information, contact Jennifer Payne at 519-925-1851 jennifer@inthehills.ca. Deadline for booking space in the autumn|winter issue is July 8.



A COURTLY ROMANCE



His playful eyes sparkling, Bob Wille begins recounting a story about his wife Audrey. Although both are itching to get me on the court, I want to learn about how the couple became involved in a game that most people think of as something played by kids in the backyard on hot summer afternoons.

Bob explains how one day in 1991, he was at the Caledon Mountain Trout Club taking drinks around to fellow members who were fishing or engaged in some other outdoor activity. When he spied a woman teaching some cockamamie game on the club's badminton green, he wandered over and asked her if she would like something to drink. "Of course not," she responded, "can't you see what I'm doing?" Actually, Bob wasn't at all that sure what she was doing, but he could take a hint. Little did he know then how croquet, the game she was playing, would figure into his life.

Croquet, at least the version I was about to learn, is both remarkably like and completely different from what most kids play. Manufacturers estimate that 100,000 backyard croquet sets are sold each year in Canada. They consist of nine white wire hoops, two striped pegs and a set of coloured wooden mallets and balls.

At the Trout Club party later that evening, Bob spotted Audrey. Summoning up his courage, he

made his way over and asked her to dance. The night went well, ending with a kiss as Bob tucked Audrey into her car to drive home. Bob used the guise of his interest in croquet to arrange to meet Audrey again. That "date" became dinner. A year later the couple married and croquet has been central to their lives ever since.

The Willes have Caledon's only official-size croquet "court." While the court is Bob's baby, the game is Audrey's. At 73, she has the lowest handicap (-0.5) of any woman in North America. In a game that has to be the world's most politically correct – there are no allowances for age or gender.

"I took to the game right away," she recalls. It all began in 1988 when her neighbour Shirley Coombes, whose arthritis had forced her to give up riding, invited a dozen girlfriends over to play. What ensued was the Caledon Croquet Club, which eventually graduated from Shirley's front lawn to the lawn bowling green in Monora Park, just north of Orangeville, and finally to the Willes' after they built their court in 2001. The ladies learned that while they still used mallets – though much heavier ones – and still had to put the ball – which now weighed a pound – through a hoop – now called a wicket – the similarities stopped there.

Playing by American rules, they were immersed in a sport often referred to as "chess on grass." Not only does it take considerable hand-eye coordination to put the ball through the narrow wickets (only about 1/16 of an inch wider than the ball), but with *roquets* and *croquets*, *peels*, *pegs* and *three-ball breaks* to worry about, strategy, memory, planning and

cunning are key to the game.

No longer able to resist the court's pull, Bob, Audrey and I stroll out as the late afternoon air begins to cool. To build their court, the Willes leveled the area before about a dozen trucks dumped their loads of special "sharp" sand. Bob recalls rolling it and rolling it and rolling it until, with the help of a laser, he was confident it was perfectly flat. He planted bent grass, and the next spring, Bob and Audrey began hosting their friends, tournaments and practice groups on what, with Bob's daily attention, had become an emerald green carpet. Members of the Caledon club now travel to play twice a week from as far away as Toronto, Milton and Collingwood.

Though not his sport of choice, Bob took it up in earnest when he realized that his winters were going to evolve around Audrey's tournaments, mostly in Florida, but throughout the US and beyond. The last time they counted, in 2006, the two of them had competed in 127 tournaments and collected 122 trophies.

Back on the court, Audrey and Bob give me tips as we try the American-rules game. I learn about the deadness board which records which balls are "dead" – another player's ball can only be hit (roqueted) once per wicket. We're playing singles, so we each play two balls, a deviation from the backyard game that requires a very strategic approach. (In doubles, partners each play one ball). Deciding what shot to take next, who to hit and where to send my opponent's ball makes me understand the comparison to chess.

Audrey prefers American rules (as opposed to Association rules played in most places outside North America) and shines in the singles competition. "I



LEFT TO RIGHT : Diane Richardson lines up two balls for a “take off” shot. Bob Wille takes a closer look at his options during a Tricky Wicket competition. Bob prepares for a shot; Audrey Wille lines up.

can focus my strategy myself better than with a partner.”

Her most memorable win came against a man in Florida. “He was winning 24 to 7 and all he had to do was hit the peg with his two balls and it would have been over,” she recalls. (After making it through the six wickets twice, you have to hit a wooden peg with both of your balls to win the game.) “I managed to hit in and run the remaining wickets with both balls and peg out first. It was a nice comeback,” Audrey tells me, using a handful of terms that define this lingo-ridden game.

I learn to keep my head down and watch the ball as I strike it. “Don’t forget to follow through,” Bob advises me. I eventually put my ball through a wicket, having forgotten my nervousness at playing with North America’s lowest handicapped woman looking on.

The following day, I return to the Willes to join the Boston Millers for some “golf” croquet, a game they play each Sunday morning through the summer. It’s a casual affair among close neighbours. We are turned out in comfortable everyday clothing, whereas members of the Caledon Croquet Club, who play on Tuesdays and Thursdays, wear whites, a practice that harkens back to the game’s early days in the late 1800s as it was played at the All England Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club (aka Wimbledon).

Golf croquet is a straightforward, quick game. It’s also social, full of jokes and smiles. Emery Branscombe, my partner, gives me helpful tips as we win four to two. “I peaked a few years ago with a handicap of three [in American rules],” Emery tells me. “Now I find it difficult to keep up with all of the strategy.” Good for a Sunday morning with friends, golf croquet lacks the intrigue of the American-rules game.

Wayne Harper and Colleen Whitney join Audrey and Bob for a game. A fellow Boston Miller, Wayne sometimes brings his grandson to play. Audrey says that she has often competed against teenagers – one of the pleasures of the game is that all ages can play together. Croquet was even an Olympic sport in 1900 in Paris and again in 1904 in St. Louis.

I could see how the strategy would captivate me if I were to take up with the Caledon Croquet Club. But I’d miss the physical challenge of a sport such as cycling or cross-country skiing or, especially, tennis, a game that combines some of croquet’s strategy with heavy-duty physical demands. But for anyone with a trick knee, for instance, croquet has lots to offer – romance even. Then I wonder if croquet is one of those games that gets under your skin as you improve and learn its intricacies, so I ask Bob about that. Despite his croquet prowess (a two handicap), he quips: “I took to Audrey faster than I took to the sport!” ≈

For information about the Caledon Croquet Club and the Boston Millers, to join in for a game or to attend a tournament, contact the Willes at 905-838-2163; bawille@sympatico.ca

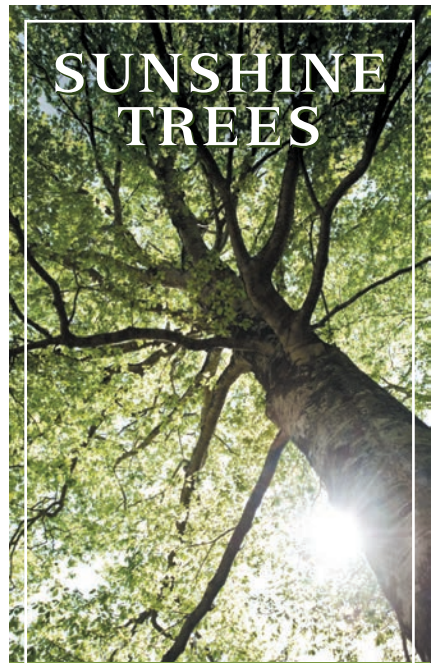
The Caledon Croquet Club plays (American rules) Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 am to noon.

The Boston Millers play (golf croquet) Sundays, 9 am to noon. Guests welcome with notice. No fee.

The Willes’ Croquet Museum can also be viewed.

The annual Tricky Wicket Tournament (featuring one “obstacle” wicket) is on Saturday, June 25 at 9 am. Spectators are welcome.

PHOTOS PETE PATERSON AND CALEDON CROQUET CLUB



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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

Human joy and tragedy are all in a day's work for the selfless and committed members of the Grand Valley fire department.

BY BRANDON MUIR

A simple “click” is sometimes all it takes. Somebody is having a bad day.

That “click” is the emergency radio channel, XJI 799, coming on line. A toned coded alarm activates the hip pagers of 29 men and one woman, who are all now in an adrenaline-charged state of alertness.

“Grand Valley Firefighters, please respond to a possible structure fire,” comes the message, followed by a specific address.

I grab my car keys, step into my shoes and I'm out the door. With no time to warm the engine, I throw the car into drive, and I'm on my way to the fire hall. This usually takes about three minutes, but on a night like this, half that time would seem too long.

Inside the fire hall, it's a flurry of activity. Firefighters getting dressed, some calling out directions and truck assignments. On the apparatus floor, diesel engines are coming to life, the usual quiet darkness of the hall now replaced with the flash of red and white lights, and the sound of diesel engines. Truck doors slam shut, air brakes release. In only a few seconds, I've gone from jeans and a t-shirt to full firefighting bunker gear.

Striding across the floor, I grab the polished handrail of Pump 34 and climb aboard. Closing the door behind me, and settling into one of the open jump seats, I can see the bay door opening through the front windshield.

As the truck cautiously exits the hall onto the road, all hopes for a false alarm are dashed. A massive orange glow is visible from almost 10 kilometres away.

Lights flashing and siren screaming, Pump 34 arrives on scene only minutes later. The crew dismounts and immediately sets up for a rural fire pumping operation, one we've practised and performed countless times before. The commanding officer is approaching the burning house, calling out his orders on the two-way radios.

“Grand Valley Base, Pump 34 on scene, 311 in command. Fully involved house fire, heavy fire showing from all windows. Pump 32 set up for pump relay. Tank 35 drop your tank at the rear step of Pump 34.”

All firefighters on scene have specific duties, all designed to contribute to a larger team operation. Some are reporting to command for suppression duties, others are dragging portable pumps down to the nearby river.

Generators fire up; massive halogen floodlights illuminate the scene with stadium-style lighting. The property owners, safely out of harm's way, are walking down the driveway, accompanied by an OPP officer. An ambulance arrives and stages on the road, just in case.

As I walk toward the fire, along with my assigned crew, the heat is getting intense, even through my fire-resistant gear. Flames are shooting almost 75 feet into the air, smoke and heat tornado from an upstairs window. Water from the 65mm hoses turns to steam even before it reaches the seat of the fire, evaporating instantly in the 1000°F temperature.

In only a few minutes, the entire structure begins to collapse, the roof falls into the walls in a massive eruption of fire and smoke. In spite of our best efforts, unfortunately, this one is long beyond saving.

The volunteer fire service in Grand Valley started in much the same way as in all the small towns and villages in Ontario. In pioneer days, all available members of the community were expected to help out at the scene of a fire, doing whatever could be done to minimize the loss.

By the early 1950s, a group of Lions Club members recognized the need for a more organized department, and official helmets and boots were purchased for the members. Used trucks were acquired and basic training was provided.

Today Grand Valley Fire is a state-of-the-art volunteer department trained to the Ontario Fire Marshall curriculum standards, using equipment and trucks even some career departments would envy. Members train weekly, attend courses and seminars throughout the province, and respond whenever possible, whenever our pager beeps.

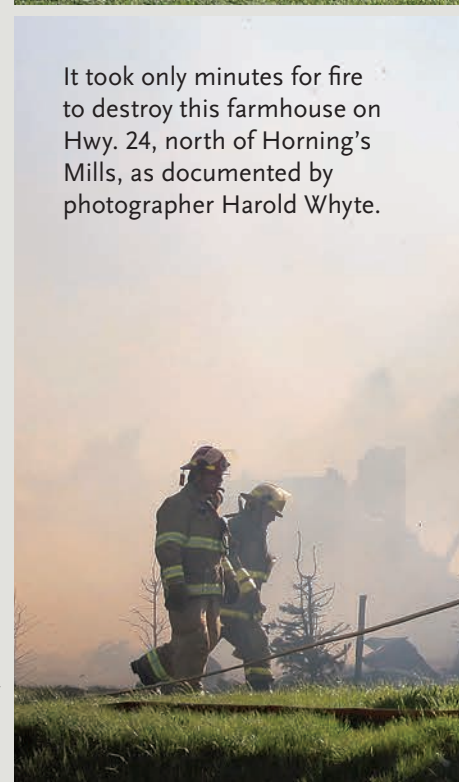
I joined the volunteer service in 2001, following in the footsteps of my father. The members all have their own reasons for joining. Some use it as a stepping stone to a full-time career; others just enjoy the brotherhood and the camaraderie that goes with the job. Others join after moving to the community as a way to meet people.

A general recruitment drive occurs when enough vacancies open to warrant a new class of rookies. Following an intense three-day program of lectures and practical exercises, prospective members are offered a probationary job placement.



It took only minutes for fire to destroy this farmhouse on Hwy. 24, north of Horning's Mills, as documented by photographer Harold Whyte.

PHOTO SEQUENCE HAROLD WHYTE



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



PHOTO BRANDON MUIR

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UPPER : Orangeville fire crews respond to a garage fire.
LOWER : Emergency services arrive at a crash in snowy weather, Dufferin Road 109.

FIREFIGHTERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 54

A young man is driving across Dufferin Road 109, in just a few minutes time he will be on his back deck, enjoying the afternoon. From the other direction a driver is heading east in a mini-van, thoughts of the upcoming weekend on his mind.

A cell phone rings, and in the half second it takes for the driver to reach over and pick it up, the two cars meet head on in a violent explosion of screeching tires, twisted metal and broken glass. The two vehicles fly apart after the collision, ending up almost 50 feet away from each other.

Witnesses to the wreck immediately start calling 9-1-1. Computers and phones link up, and our pagers start to beep.

Often for me car crashes are the hardest to deal with, because the severity can go from minor fender

benders to serious head-on collisions with critical injuries. And often it is impossible to predict what might be waiting for us; we have to get on scene for any indication about what needs to be done.

Crashes like the one on Dufferin Road 109 involve many different agencies, including the police and paramedics. Our job is to stabilize the cars, provide any fire suppression or prevention that is required, and then extricate the victims from the cars, so that advanced life support can be applied, and all patients transported.

Ironically, modern safety features built into cars have made this job incredibly difficult – there are literally hundreds of options when it comes to side impact beams, airbags and dent shock absorbers, all which can prove fatal to rescuers if an unexpected rupture or activation should occur.

PHOTOS BRANDON MUIR



UPPER : A Rosemont firefighter prepares to enter a burning building in Violet Hill.
 LOWER : A medi-vac helicopter lifts off Dufferin Road 109.

Using hydraulic tools like cutters and spreaders, we cut doors, remove roofs, roll dashes and remove steering wheels to gain access to people injured or trapped inside wrecks.

As a general rule, for seriously injured victims to have a good chance of survival, they must be in the trauma centre of a major hospital within one hour of the crash. With some extrications taking 45 minutes or more, that doesn't leave much time for patient transport, even if an air ambulance is used.

I've served in Ontario for 10 years as a volunteer firefighter, for a few different departments. In that time I've been to house, barn and car fires, assisted paramedics with medical calls, worked at several major car accidents, and was once even called to rescue a drowning horse.

There truly is no such thing as a routine call, and the abilities to think on the fly and to react and adapt to a constantly changing environment are critical. Firefighting is an ultra-hazardous job, and the dangers are always present, regardless of what type of call we are on.

Firefighting is a team effort; no one does anything without at least one partner. People ask me if I've ever saved someone's life, and I always respond, personally no, but I've definitely been part of a crew who did.

Unfortunately I have also been on the other end of that equation – I've worked hard to rescue someone only to have him or her pass away later on that night. It's times like these that we all question our efforts, and ask if there is something we could have done better or faster to change the outcome.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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TOP LEFT : Grand Valley firefighter works on hot spots at an Amaranth house.

TOP CENTRE : Grand Valley's champion men's waterball team in competition at the Ontario Fire Convention.

FIREFIGHTERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 57

The first time that happened to me it took a while and some support from both the fire department and my family to accept what had happened. Luckily, I have experienced many more good times, where we successfully saved a house from fire, extricated a crash victim in time and, because we work in Grand Valley, rescued someone from the rising flood waters of the Grand River during the spring run-off.

Joining the fire department has also been a great social experience for me. After moving to Grand Valley, I knew the fire department would be a good way to meet members of the community, and in the five years I've been here I've already formed friendships both locally and throughout Ontario that will no doubt last a lifetime.

Such friendships are especially im-

portant when, from time to time, we are exposed to sights and scenes that scar our memories. Talking them through with our buddies is often the best way of coping.

Even though the men and women who go into the emergency services may learn to handle stress better than the general public, we've all had one call that we can't shake. It may involve a child similar in age to our own, or some other injury or death that likewise strikes too close to home.

Often while the call is happening, there is just no time to be affected; however, as days or even weeks pass, the symptoms might appear, and it's often our friends or family who first notice them.

Being on call 24-7 also poses its own set of problems, as the calls rarely come in at "perfect" times. Often it's a dinner with family that gets missed, or a child's hockey game. Other times



TOP RIGHT : The brotherhood that bonds firefighters worldwide.
 BOTTOM : Pumps 34 and 32 on a practice exercise.

it's in the dead of night or, predictably, as I sat down to type these very words!

Our families understand the commitment and generally go along without complaint. Some members have even trained their small children to help, by running for the car keys when the pager goes, for example, all in an effort to get out the door faster.

Volunteer firefighters provide an invaluable service to their communities day in and day out, helping people in times of trouble and tragedy. Occasionally that service comes at a heavy price.

As I was writing these words, behind me hanging on my basement door, my formal dress uniform, recently cleaned and pressed, was ready for the trip to Listowel the next day for the final service for volunteer firefighters Kenneth Rae and Raymond Walter. Both were killed in the line of duty while working at a large com-

mercial fire in downtown Listowel on March 17. The funeral was attended by about 8,000 firefighters, all of them part of the larger brother- and sisterhood that is the firefighters of Ontario, and indeed the world.

Every day across the province thousands of volunteer firefighters go about their lives, working at their careers, playing games with their kids, eating dinner with their families, or relaxing in front of the TV – but they all have one ear tuned to their pager, waiting for the inevitable “click” that tells them once again there’s a job to do.

With red lights flashing, sirens screaming, and the roar of a fire truck hitting the road, these men and women carry on the centuries-old tradition of helping a neighbour or lending a hand to a stranger in need. ≈

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There was a time in Upper Canada when the road ended at Mono Mills and most people felt that going past there into the bush would be like falling off the edge of the earth. Not Lewis Horning. In 1830 he went over the edge to build a village.

FROM VISION TO VILLAGE

He didn't have to do it. In 1830, when the Crown sold him 2,500 acres here in the hills, Lewis Horning was already 63 years old and comfortably settled in Hamilton where he had a store, two mills and 200 acres of productive land, as well as a wife and fourteen children. But a surveyor's report about the headwaters of the Pine River excited him, and once he visited the area and saw for himself the potential of this untouched wilderness, the pull was just too strong. In the wilds of what would one day be Melancthon Township (but not until 1853), he determined to build a complete town, a self-sustaining pioneer community.

The distinction between visionary and dreamer is a fuzzy one, but Lewis Horning was no back-to-nature romantic. He was an educated, thoughtful, energetic and resourceful planner. And no softie. He was seven years old when his family first set out from Pennsylvania and walked to Upper Canada, so he knew hardship and the realities of pioneering. But he loved the bush, loved trapping, hunting and fishing, and where better to indulge this passion than in land that had never known a plough or an axe or a saw.

THE VISION REALIZED

Lewis must have been powerfully persuasive, even charismatic, for when he trekked out to establish Horning's Mills, it was at the head of one of the largest groups these hills had yet seen, a group that included such skilled men as a carpenter, millwright, blacksmith, teamster and the like. There is no certain record whether wives were included in that first trip, although it is probable. Nor is there any account of what Lewis Horning's own wife thought of the venture, although she must have been a true "whither thou goest" mate, for in 1833, while the walls of Horning's Mills were still rising around her, she presented Lewis, now 65, with his fifteenth child.

From Hamilton, Lewis and his crew used ox teams to haul equipment and supplies over the primitive roads to Market Hill (Mono Mills), the jump-off point for the wilderness. From there, to reach what in a very short time became Horning's Mills, they had to blaze through forty kilometres of virgin forest, slog around swamps and across streams, and force their way up mighty hills that would one day be treasured for their beauty, but were almost insurmountable for Lewis and company. In addition to supplies and livestock, they were hauling the wherewithal for a saw mill, a grist mill, and tools to build a dam. It took more than one trip.

Horning must have surrounded himself with people of his own powerful stripe. In an historical sketch, his son Robert reports that by the end of 1830 the intrepid crew had cleared enough land to plant wheat, turnips and potatoes. They had begun the two mills, built the dam, raised a communal dwelling known as a base



AN EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW

Lewis' parents, Peter and Isabella, were originally from Germany, and after fourteen years in Pennsylvania, set out for Canada in 1774 when Lewis was seven. Peter built a boat and a wagon and used both to cross two states to reach Lake Ontario at Oswego. Here they followed the shoreline – Isabella and three children within hailing distance in the boat as Peter and Lewis drove the wagon and led a cow on shore. When a storm wrecked the boat, the family camped for weeks while Peter walked to Niagara for help. A government schooner brought them to Hamilton where in just a few years they became one of the most prosperous families in the community.

lodge, and then built log cabins. Lewis moved his family into one of the cabins just as winter came. By 1833 he had built his family a frame house, and by 1835 the mills were fully up and running. Ever so gradually more settlers began to appear and it looked like Horning's Mills was going to change perceptions about falling off the edge of the earth.

A SHADOW PASSES OVER

Sadly, Lewis himself never fully enjoyed the fruits of his vision. In the summer of 1832, before the basic infrastructure of the settlement was complete, a terrible incident cast a shadow over Horning's Mills and

burrowed into its founder's soul.

Lewis returned periodically to the Hamilton area ("the front" he called it) for supplies, to evangelize about the new settlement and to hire work parties. On the return journey these latter groups had to be guided through the bush to a familiar point like Mono Mills. It was while Lewis was off-site doing just that in July of 1832 that four children disappeared. Three of them, two girls and a boy were the children of Vanmear, the blacksmith. The fourth was Lewis' favourite son, nine-year-old Lewis Jr.

Immediately, the development of Horning's Mills took second place as every available hand turned to the



IMAGE COURTESY DCMA P-1360

THE CHILDREN'S FATE

The conviction that natives were guilty of kidnapping the children remained so strong that for years even the vaguest clues were interpreted to support that view. In response to rumours that the two Vanmear girls were on Manitoulin Island, Lewis's son, Peter, went there in disguise (it failed), but to no avail. However, in 1834, Oliver Vanmear, the youngest of the four turned up in Toronto Township. Regrettably, Oliver had a mental disability (the details in Robert Horning's sketch strongly suggest a form of autism) and although almost everyone inferred from what little he could explain that natives were indeed guilty, there was never any real proof. Neither the Horning nor Vanmear families ever saw the other children again.

The accounts of this incident were set down years after it occurred, and it is impossible to know where the truth lies. It is known that the children were never found (not quite; see sidebar above) and that Lewis Horning, from that point on, was diminished, his grand vision faded. His wife, Frances, became deeply depressed. And the hitherto rapid rate of development in Horning's Mills began to slow.

Rumours were whispered that Lewis was actually discouraging new settlers from buying land. In 1838, he left the village and moved back to Hamilton, and in 1844 he sold outright the 2,500 acres for which he had once conceived such a bright future.

Although it is a tiny, purely residential community today, Horning's Mills did indeed become a village and commercial centre in the decades following Lewis's great venture. (The population peaked in the 1870s at about 350.) Whether his spiritual force would have brought about a greater future for the village had it not been broken by the children's disappearance is hard to say. However, one thing is certain: he had the vision to see a future in these hills and the courage to pursue it. The building of Horning's Mills pierced a psychological barrier in Upper Canada and opened new possibilities for a growing country. Lewis Horning was a Canadian hero. ≈

search. At first, everyone believed the children were lost in the bush. Lewis had offered a dollar reward to anyone who could find a missing calf and it was thought the children may have been trying to earn the reward and lost their way. A second fear was that they had fallen prey to bears. But neither explanation made sense because two of the Vanmear children were teenagers and quite bush-savvy. Inexorably, collective opinion in Horning's Mills turned to the theory that the children had been kidnapped and, without skipping a beat, that idea cast suspicion on the local native people.

Relations between the natives and the settlers had never been ideal. Although there was some interaction, each group remained aloof and wary of the other. When the search turned up no physical clues, the children were assumed to be victims of what Lewis Horning's grandson, writing in 1910, described as "the treacherous aborigine."

WHILE HORNING'S MILLS WAS RISING...

The Welland Canal opened. William Lyon Mackenzie was expelled from the Upper Canada legislature. A cholera plague decimated Montreal. The first runaway slaves arrived in Upper Canada via the Underground Railroad. Jesse Ketchum established the Home District Savings Bank in York. Bolton was reported (in 1840) to have fourteen buildings "with roofs on." Orangeville did not exist.

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LIKE YOUR MOM AND POPEYE TOLD YOU:

Eat your spinach!

If you are like me, you probably figure that greens sold in ready-made packages are well-travelled by the time they arrive on grocery store shelves. Well, it turns out that's not necessarily the case, at least not if you buy Queen Victoria Baby Leaf Spinach from just about any supermarket in Southern Ontario between mid-June and late October.

Packaged in Burlington, these greens come from right here in Dufferin County. They are grown by the Collins family – Betsy, Jim, their three grown children, and their daughter- and son-in-law – on 500 acres surrounding their new home and warehouse on the corner of Mono's 15 Sideroad and the Amaranth Townline. The Collins, I'm soon to learn, are crazy about their spinach, and they grow it so meticulously – so unlike what you might expect of such a large operation – that I predict you'll be crazy about it too.

I pulled up to their two-year old home on a blustery April afternoon. Evenly spaced, poker-straight stakes

with reflectors made sure my car didn't drift on to their perfectly trimmed lawn. Once inside the 3,000-square-foot, low-profile house that Jim helped design, I couldn't take my eyes off the reclaimed beech floor. The place was photo-shoot ready and, indeed, it had just been featured in a home-design magazine. Jim said, "I knew I wanted our new home to have a timeless feel about it." Clearly, he has succeeded. The house has enormous rooms and floor-to-ceiling windows open up to a wide expanse of spinach fields.

In a small agricultural oasis on the Town of Mono's west side, E & J Collins Limited produces an astounding 1,800 tonnes of baby spinach each year, selling virtually all of it to Ippolito Fruit and Produce in Burlington. This food broker washes it, packages it and sends it to pretty much every major grocery store in Southern Ontario, as well as outlets in the U.S. And since Ippolito contracts both Ontario's major growers, E&J and Jim's brother Lorne who farms near Guelph, chances are that if you shop

at any of the Loblaws chain, most of Sobeys and some Metro stores, you will buy Collins' spinach.

After they were married, Jim and Betsy, began growing spinach on their 60-acre farm near Huttonville. Jim learned the trade from his father, Edward Collins, a.k.a. The Spinach King, who had bought the property in the mid-1950s. But by the 1990s, urban sprawl was taking its toll. "The writing was on the wall," Jim told me. "We were going to have to sell the farm."

It was Jim's parents who found the place in Dufferin County. They used to drive around looking for good soil. When they found some, they'd bring back a bucket of it for their son's rigorous inspection ("He even tasted it," Betsy says.) When they showed him the silt loam from Mono – perfect for potatoes and spinach – Jim said he couldn't believe it. He'd thought Dufferin was a big swamp.

When he came to see for himself, he discovered that not only was the soil excellent, but the land was flat

The Collins clan, from left to right: Julie, Elaine, Brad, Jim, Betsy, Dan and Becky.

and there was plenty of clean groundwater. "I don't like irrigating with river water," Jim told me, because of the increased risk of contaminants.

As well as offices and equipment storage, their 43,000-square-foot warehouse contains their production line where the harvested spinach is transferred to a conveyor system, sorted, graded, packed into blue-box-sized reusable plastic containers, and stored in cold rooms before being picked up by Ippolito.

The system is mostly mechanized. Two enormous machines cut the spinach to within a quarter inch of the ground and pass it into wagons, which are unloaded mechanically onto the conveyor. Jim says that much of his success is because he can keep staff

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numbers to a minimum. When the operation is going full out, it takes a total of fifteen people to make it purr.

These days, it purrs mostly under the stewardship of the next generation of Collins. Jim is still in control and Betsy does the books, but 31-year-old Elaine looks after human resources, 28-year-old Dan is the field manager, and 24-year-old Julie takes care of shipping and receiving. Brad and Becky, spouses of Elaine and Dan, provide invaluable general help. So tight is the family that both the young couples married in 2009, and both are due with their firstborns in July!

Sticking together is something the kids likely picked up from their parents. Jim grew up in Huttonville and Betsy in Streetsville. They met at Streetsville High School and were among the thirteen couples in their graduating class to marry their high-school sweethearts.

Income from the sale of their Huttonville property to developers certainly helped launch their successful operation. But recognizing that food safety was a growing concern, Jim also built a state-of-the-art warehouse that has received rave reviews from experts. He included expensive stainless steel equipment and mechanized systems that help avoid contamination.

He recalls 2006 when an *E. coli* disaster involving an organic spinach producer from California bankrupted a number of U.S. producers. Jim got off easily because he was two weeks from his last harvest when the scare hit, and by the time he was producing again the next spring, the fallout from the incident had mostly subsided.

Still, Jim responded to the crisis by implementing a complex traceability program so that in the event of a similar situation, he could prove whether or not his operation was the source of the problem, and if so, exactly which batch was involved. It also made him very wary of organic production. *E. coli*, he pointed out, comes from cow manure, which is often used to fertilize organic crops. He doesn't want to take that chance for either financial or health reasons.

Instead, he uses a commercial fertilizer and a very limited application of pesticides to ward off the insects and diseases that can plague spinach. Jim explains that although baby spinach is trickier to grow (because it's more prone to frost damage) than the mature spinach he grew up producing, he switched to baby spinach for two reasons.

The first was a response to the market: "Everyone wants instant salad." The second was because disease and insect infestations are less of a risk than for longer-maturing plants. It takes only three weeks to produce a crop of baby spinach during the height of the season, so "weed and disease pressure is almost eliminated."

The farm also composts; has completed three editions of the Environmental Farm Plan; planted trees as natural windbreaks; added a storm-water management pond; and uses cover crops, reuseable bins and GPS-generated soil analyses to minimize fertilizer inputs.

As their kids take over the operation, Jim and Betsy find they have some spare time, especially in the winter. Jim works on his customized equipment. They travel, and both are avid skiers. Betsy, a keen cook, says they eat spinach every day. In fact, a cookbook dedicated to spinach sits on the kitchen counter. And, yes, this healthy and prosperous team has heard every Popeye joke anyone could possibly dream up. ≈

Nicola Ross is the executive editor of Alternatives Journal. She lives in Belfountain.



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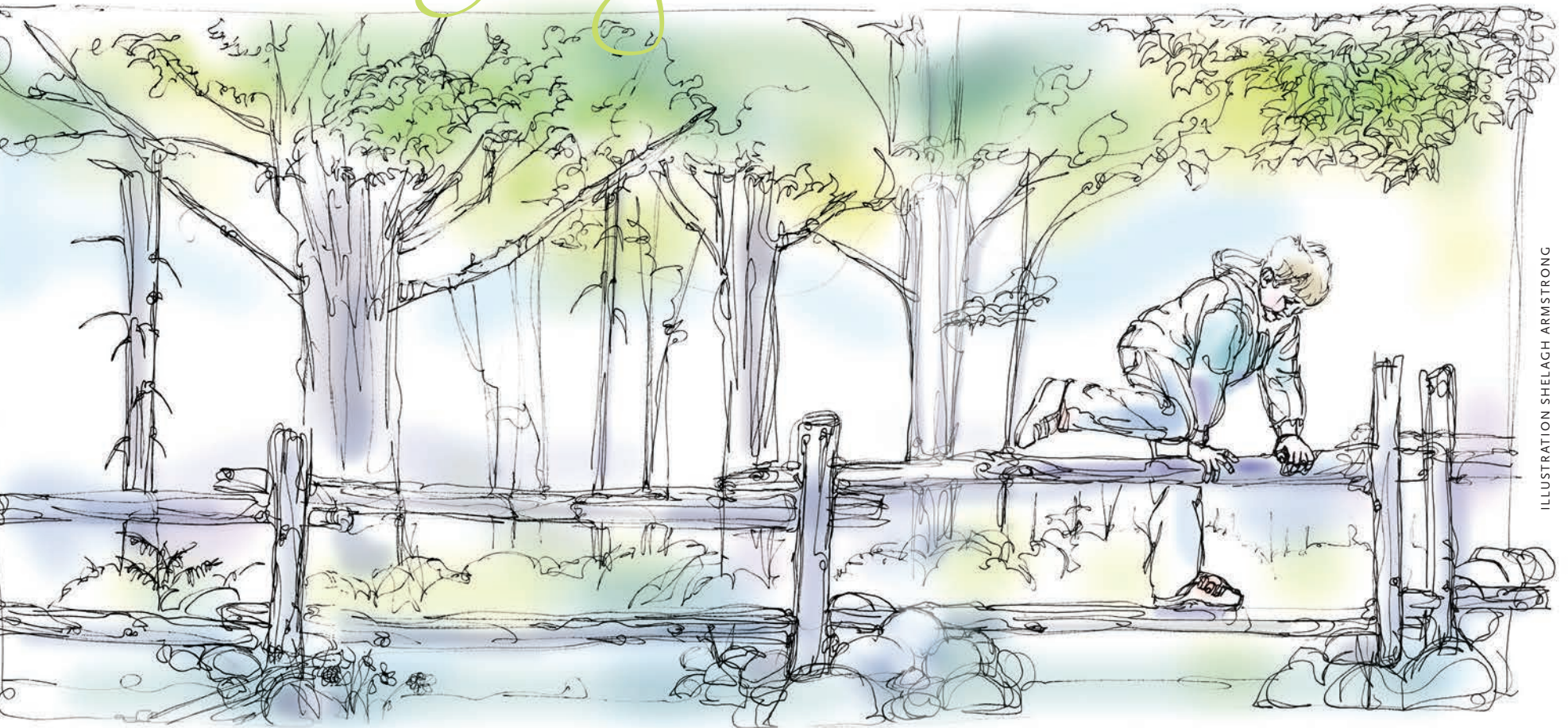
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Two opportunities for your little ones with special needs are offered at the Caledon Centre for Recreation and Wellness, on Highway 50 at the north end of Bolton.



The Snoezelen Sensory Room is a safe place for persons living with disabilities to enjoy gentle sensory stimulation. Snoezelen means to sniff and to doze, a concept originating in Holland as a leisure experience for people with severe learning disabilities. The Caledon multi-sensory room is filled with colourful objects, images, pleasant sounds, gentle vibrations and interesting aromas. Experience Snoezelen by appointment.

Jesse's Sensory Garden is designed to celebrate not only the beauty, but the scents, sounds, and textures of the garden. It features Braille markers, tactile sculptures, raised garden beds, wheelchair access, and an outdoor classroom. Call Caledon's Healthy Community Hotline at 905-857-3313 or 1-800-621-1287 to make an appointment.

It was with great anticipation that I saw a new shortcut emerging this spring.

I have often run by the intersection of Highway 10 and Fourth Avenue, looking across to Island Lake in the misty morning. A bridge appeared on the east side of the highway more than a year ago... but there was no way to get to it. At least, no way that didn't involve crossing the highway without a walk signal, going through a swamp and only then making my way to the bridge.

I finally see that a route into the park is emerging and that the bridge to nowhere will soon be connected. Screenings have been laid and a walk signal installed. Now it is possible to enter the trail system safely from the west side of the park, as well as the north and south entrances.

Shortcuts abound in our everyday lives. Some are formalized, such as the one under construction at the conservation area. But the shortcuts that really interest me are the informal ones that develop naturally through use over time.

As children, we experimented with impromptu shortcuts every day. I lived in Brampton for a short time when I was growing up and I benefitted from being able to whip through the central park zone of Peel Village to get to the other side in five minutes flat. By car, it would have taken ten.

Children will take the natural shortcut, every time! Why go around something when you can

go over it? Children traverse creative routes over benches and road blocks, hopping, skipping and crawling over whatever gets in their way. You may tug on their hands and say, "Don't climb on that! It's not your property!" But where there is a will, there is a way.

As your child's world grows and expands, the shortcuts become more purposeful. Witness the teenagers sneaking through backyards to get to high school on time. Their morning commute is cut by two-thirds if they slip unnoticed over fences instead of taking the usual pedestrian route. Homeowners either shake their fists in dismay



CALEDON DAY!

Offering up something for everyone, Caledon Day is a must-attend community celebration of outdoor art exhibits, fresh food and live entertainment. Caledon families will especially enjoy the Kid Zone, co-ordinated by the Caledon Public Library (look for the marquis tent beside the Trans-Canada Trail entrance). Children will be entertained with a magic show, airbrush tattoo artists, face painting, balloon sculpting, crafts, storytelling, a bouncy castle and more.

If you get tired and need to take a time-out, you can always take the stroller out to the Trans-Canada Trail for some quiet.

The fourth annual Caledon Day takes place on Saturday, June 18. Activities begin at 11 am with fireworks lighting up the sky for the grand finale at 10 pm. caledon.ca/recreation/events/caledonday.asp



CAMP CLOSE TO HOME

Your little one is ready to graduate from the backyard camp-out to a true campsite experience, but you still might need to dash home for the favourite but forgotten stuffed animal? Or you don't want to fight traffic to go up north? Your best option is Albion Hills, operated by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Just off of Highway 50 north of Bolton, on the banks of the Humber River, you can hike, bike, pitch your tent and experience a true camp experience close to home.

Albion Hills offers individual serviced and unserviced sites, as well as on-site trailer rentals. Book early in the season using the online service: reservations@trca.on.ca



Kids IN THE HILLS

Ahhh... summer in all its glory... sun-kissed skin, long evenings and sandy, dirty feet tucked into light sheets at the end of the day, perhaps cleaned up with a run through the sprinkler the next morning. Isn't it grand?

Summer brings all sorts of interesting and engaging events to the hills, and we post as many as we receive to our online calendar at kidsinthehills.ca. Keep the information coming by emailing me at bethany@inthehills.ca. We will continue to bring you the best coverage for families living in the hills.

and set their dogs on these transient teens, or else welcome the passers-through by building a gate – one that will often be mysteriously fixed with a string that hangs over the other side for entry later in the afternoon when school gets out.

Laneways may be the ultimate shortcuts in our rural towns. The historic lanes that parallel our main streets are a sneak peek into our past. They hold the secrets of days gone by when carriages pulled up behind stately homes and horses would be bedded for the night. Now these laneways act as perfect shortcuts for stroller pushing and dog-walking off the main drag. When I peek over fences and into garages converted to home studios, I feel that I am seeing a more personal and gentle side to my town.

Urban Parkourists have taken short-cutting to a hard-edged athletic art form. Practitioners of Parkour, or *l'art du déplacement* (the art of moving), move through the urban landscape in the most efficient way possible. Their amazing physical abilities are something to behold and are not for the faint of heart. Tumbling, flipping, running, jumping, vaulting, rolling. Skateboarders also seek out creative routes and even make travelling over concrete fun once again.

Some of us never lose our passion for shortcuts. I still get a thrill of satisfaction when I scale a split rail fence quickly and efficiently, something I learned growing up in the hills. While I may not jump down from the top rail anymore, it hasn't lost its appeal. My son wiggles and worms over (and through) the rails, aiming to perfect his approach. Little stone piles, wooden stepladders or stumps may seem to be positioned at random, but for the shortcut taker, their intended purpose is perfectly clear. ≈

Bethany Lee is the online editor of kidsinthehills.ca, a sister site to inthehills.ca, where she also writes a regular blog.




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EAT YOUR HEART

BY MONICA DUNCAN

Patience, Limerick and Anabella nimbly crowd in and give us a sniff. A stud named Larceny, with a Billy Idol haircut, watches eagerly from his stall. These are the 'paca girls and 'paca boy, a small alpaca herd that Mulmur's Kai-Liis McInnes dotes on. And it's easy to see why. With their long necks, topknots and luxuriantly lashed eyes, they exude a goofy charm that makes entering the barn feel like walking into the pages of a Dr. Seuss picture book. Outdoors, it's all exuberant foolery under the morning sun as they flirt, roll in the mud and, in a word that might have been coined by the good Dr. S. himself, "pronk" (hop straight up and down).

For Kai-Liis, it all began rather abruptly in pottery class several years back. She recalls working intently on a bowl while discussing a local farm dispersal with

another student. She casually mentioned she wouldn't mind owning a llama. Several days later came a phone call, "The llamas are on their way!"

Hesitant at first, Kai-Liis soon acquiesced, "Oh why not!" Suddenly she found herself rushing about the barn at Heed Farm and hastily blocking in a stall with an old clothes dryer to create makeshift accommodations for geldings White Cloud and Everest.

Unfortunately, White Cloud did not live long and Everest, so named for his love of high ground, became lonely. He was sulky, standoffish and not remotely interested in the farm's Icelandic horses and donkey. Kai-Liis reasoned he might appreciate a chum closer to his own kind. And so she acquired alpacas, two pregnant females and a male. She swears she saw Everest smile the day his new paddock mates arrived. He loved them.



PHOTOS ROSEMARY HASNER

The Heed Farm alpacas.

FAR LEFT, TOP TO BOTTOM : Babycakes, Patience, Larceny, Guinevere and Arlo.

LEFT : Annabella and Corona.

NEXT PAGE, BOTTOM : Mary May.

ALPACA MATH

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NUMBER OF ALPACAS TO SUSTAIN A COMMERCIAL FIBRE SUPPLY

20,000

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF ALPACAS IN CANADA

two

TOES IN CAMELID RUMINANTS

25

ALPACA LIFESPAN IN YEARS

180

UPPER WEIGHT IN POUNDS

36

WITHER HEIGHT IN INCHES

1/8

ACRE OF PASTURE REQUIRED FOR EACH ANIMAL, WITH SHELTER

11

CRIA GESTATION IN MONTHS

14to20

POUNDS CRIA BIRTH WEIGHT

5-10

POUNDS FLEECE PER ANIMAL EVERY YEAR

22

NATURAL FLEECE COLOURS

two

POUNDS FORAGE REQUIRED EVERY DAY, PLUS CONCENTRATE

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The herd soon expanded. Although alpacas are known as easy keepers, Kai-Liis could barely believe it when the first alpaca gave birth successfully. A call came while she was out teaching an evening seminar. “You’ve got a baby,” announced her daughter Sara. Racing back, Kai-Liis arrived at the paddock gate to find Everest and his three alpaca friends standing quietly in a circle, looking down. There, in the moonlight, was the baby – in alpaca-speak, a “cria.”

Every year there are one or two more alpacas as Kai-Liis carefully grows the group. And every year, as the season warms up, Kai-Liis hosts a shearing party. Raised for their fleece, Heed Farm’s alpacas yield up gorgeous textiles in black and white and a variety of earthy tones. Along with an experienced shearer, friends and fellow alpaca owners convene for the

day-long exercise, holding and soothing the animals as the shearer does his job, then skirting (removing dirty wool) and sorting, bagging and labelling the fleece, ready to ship to the processor.

Fleece sent out raw to the processor, Shears For You near Palmerston, comes back graded and cleaned, some as skeins of yarn, but most of it as “roving,” bundled fibre for use as felting or stuffing, with the best of it ready for hand spinning. On one of her several looms Kai-Liis works up scarves and other pieces. She also knits a variety of hats, sometimes blending in merino or other wool, using her own designs which are largely based on the Fair Isle patterns of her Scottish heritage and Scandinavian motifs.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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ALPACAS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 67

As well as a fibre artist, Kai-Liis is a prolific painter, frequently inspired by her animals, nature and her extensive travels. During a recent trip to Mongolia she rode yaks, Mongolian horses and a camel. It was the last that made her realize just how closely her alpacas – with their jaunty wool topknots, straight ahead gaze, softly pursed lips and upturned smiling muzzles – resemble the other members of their wider “camelid” family.

Although alpacas are mountain creatures and used to harsh conditions, the herd at Heed Farm has barn access during the day and spend the nights in their stalls. They generally hide from wind and humidity and Kai-Liis likes to keep the youngsters far from the coyote packs she often hears howling after dark, as well as the cougar rumoured to be roaming the area.

Smaller than llamas, alpacas aren't as defensive of their territory. And Kai-Liis says they only spit at each other, not at people. In a fit of pique or a tussle over food, they raise their tails and point their noses in the air to indicate displeasure. On the other hand, like llamas, they prudently dole out kisses. After a quick assessment, they'll smooch you right on the lips.

When Everest first met a neighbour's child, a young girl originally from Peru, he gave a big smile. The little visitor marched right up to him and announced, “I'm Inca.” He responded by reaching down and giving her a great big kiss. And then he did it again.

Heed Farm is the namesake and legacy of Kai-Liis's aunt Helmie and uncle Edmund, a Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist who emigrated from his native Estonia to Connecticut.

“Larceny has the same inquisitive look as Uncle Edmund,” says Kai-Liis. If Edmund could see Kai-Liis today, in her rustic country house, original art in every nook and cranny, an enormous stuffed bear collection looking out from every surface, and out in the barn, horses, a donkey, several cats, two dogs, and a herd of pronking, cartoon-like alpacas, he would be well amused. ≈

Monica Duncan is a freelance writer who lives in Adjala.

MORE ALPACA ON PAGE 76



PHOTO COURTESY KAI-LIIS MCINNES

Julio plants himself in Kai-Liis's lap, while Limerick grazes nearby.

COMMON THREADS FIBRE SHOW & SALE

In conjunction with the Textiles and Stitches Across Time exhibits running this summer at Dufferin County Museum & Archives, Heed Farm is hosting the Common Threads Fibre Show and Sale, a chance to meet the alpacas and take in some arts and crafts. Kai-Liis McInnes, Mardi Steiner and Lyla Stockdale will demonstrate heritage crafts of spinning, felting and knitting. The show takes place Saturday, June 25 and Sunday, June 26, from 11 am to 5 pm, at Heed Farm, 836100 4th Line Mulmur, 1 km north of Hwy. 89. See kai-liis.com for details.



Kai-Liis McInnes creates knitted hats and scarves of her own design, inspired by Scottish and Scandinavian patterns, using pure alpaca fibre she hand-spins, often blending it with other fine wools.



Showcase of fine HOMES

◀ MILLION DOLLAR VIEWS IN HOCKLEY



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COUNTRY LIVING AT ITS BEST! CLOSE TO THE BRUCE TRAIL IN THE NEC

Fabulous rolling, private 70 acres in Mono overlooking 2 ponds with waterfalls. 11,000+ sq ft house features black walnut floors, granite countertops, 10 fireplaces, full elevator service, billiards room and a 3-level home theatre room that holds 20+ people. Geothermal heating and cooling. 2 large outbuildings. \$5,875,000 **Jamie Gairdner****



NEW GRANGE ESTATE!

A fabulous 4-bdrm stone country house + 2-bdrm apt on 82 acres of rolling land overlooking countryside. Built to the highest standards. Solid oak floors, plaster crown mouldings, 10' & 12' ceilings. \$2,980,500 **Jamie Gairdner****



BRIGHTWATER FARMS!

Hunter/jumper horse farm, turn-key operation w/ 30 fenced acs close to Erin. 3-bdrm refurbished house, 1-bdrm apt upper flr. Bsmt office & 3-pc wshrm. 70' x 185' arena, 100' x 200' sand ring, 7 paddocks, 32 stalls. \$1,285,000 **Jamie Gairdner****



HOCKLEY VALLEY LOG HOUSE!

Just across from Hockley Valley Ski & Golf Resort, sits this adorable 4,200 sq ft log house on 1/2 acre. B&B addition, 4+1 bdrms. Close to the river w/ a pretty 20' x 35' inground saltwater pool. "Wow" \$885,000 **Jamie Gairdner****



1860s STONE HOUSE

on Heart Lake Rd. Move-in condition. House has lots of room for upgrades. 29 rolling acres. The bones are great. 2 large outbuildings, one formerly held six insulated box stalls. \$879,000 **Jamie Gairdner****



GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY!

Plan of subdivision to be approved plus levy and development charges for buyers account. Once approval for servicing is complete, it's estimated that 6 lots would be max number allowed. \$497,000 **Jamie Gairdner****



8-ACRE LOT IN MONO

Has a building envelope with a new driveway already in place. It's nestled amongst red pines on a hill overlooking a valley with a private river. It's located near the Bruce Trail and a walk to Mono Cliffs Park. \$275,000 **Jamie Gairdner****



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BELFOUNTAIN INN

Award-winning opportunity. Available lease/buy. 54 seat casual fine dining restaurant on the Credit River. Inquire, Jim Wallace

LEASED



PRIVACY IN BELFOUNTAIN

Situated on 3.59 acres on top of the Escarpment, this stone house offers multiple level walkouts, indoor pool, hot tub, custom gourmet kitchen with wood-burning fireplace, 4 bedrooms, office off the main floor master, 4 fireplaces, balcony off kitchen and living room, fish pond and 4-car garage, wood-working shop, exercise room, office. \$1,699,000



RARE OPPORTUNITY IN INGLEWOOD!

This 15-acre property is on approximately 1,500 sq ft of Credit River frontage and boasts some of the most incredible views of the Niagara Escarpment. Lovely 3+2 bedroom home with wrap-around porch. \$1,599,000



ESCARPMENT VIEWS NEAR HWY 10, CALEDON

9.8 acres close to Hwy 10, easy commute to the city. Recently renovated, gourmet kitchen, amazing views of the Niagara Escarpment, 5,000 sq ft, pond. \$1,499,000



CUSTOM NEW BUILD IN CATARACT

3,600 sq ft backing onto stunning views of the Credit River. 4 baths, 4 bedrooms, 400 sq ft balcony, custom kitchen. \$1,195,000



COUNTRY EXCELLENCE IN THE HILLS

3,000 sq ft home on 3 acres. Located at Hwy 10 and Forks of the Credit in Caledon. 4 bedrooms, theatre room, wine cellar, pool, gourmet kitchen, 3-car garage. 1,000 sq ft finished loft above garage with 2-piece washroom. \$899,000



CALEDON EAST DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

Buy now as an income opportunity and develop later along with the master planned community. 3 properties available, 2.1 acres. \$999,000 each property



HOME ON THE GRANGE - EXCLUSIVE

Built in 2010, this 4,000+ sq ft custom home situated on 2+ acres is stunning. Large principle rooms, 6 fireplaces, entertainer's dream, gourmet kitchen. \$999,000



CALEDON VILLAGE

1.5+ acre property, 4 bedrooms, inground pool, master on main floor, new appliances, 30' x 50' workshop/garage. \$524,000



BUILDING LOT IN CALEDON

12 acres, NEC development permit application in progress, build your dream home. \$449,000



GEM IN MELANCTHON

.75 of an acre, customer kitchen, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, open concept, new renovation. \$375,000



WELCOME TO INGLEWOOD

Custom built, 4 bedroom, professionally landscaped with inground pool, 5 bathrooms, 2-bedroom nanny suite, gourmet kitchen, 5 walkouts to deck and patio. \$780,000



WELCOME TO STANDING STONE POND

25 acres on the Caledon/Erin border. Build your dream home on this approved building lot. Driveway and culvert are in. \$275,000



OFFICE/RETAIL LEASE, ALTON

5 units for lease - office rental 900 -1,600 sq ft. Masterfully renovated, fully equipped for today's entrepreneur. Historic Village of Alton, Caledon. \$16 Net Lease \$5 TMI



OFFICE/RETAIL LEASE, ALTON

5 units for lease - office rental 900 -1,600 sq ft. Masterfully renovated, fully equipped for today's entrepreneur. Historic village of Alton, Caledon. \$16 Net Lease \$5 TMI



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Patrick Bogert**, Sandy Ball*, Sue Collis*



ERIN, CALEDON, MONO
 AND SURROUNDING AREAS

** Broker *Sales Representative



THE CREDIT VALLEY, YOURS ALONE

Architecturally redesigned to embrace this spectacular nature scape-terraced gardens. Japanese Tea House. Trails down to Credit River, skill hills. Contemporary open living spaces. Rooftop summer deck/bar. \$2,195,000



ALL SEASON ESTATE ON 122 ACRES

Your own virtual parkland. Aged trees, hills and valleys, woods with cleared trails. Very large panabode lodge. Great entertaining spaces, family parties, plus additional 2-bedroom guest house on lower pond. See anytime. \$2,195,000



FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD

Unique in King area. Miles of cleared trails over hills, valleys and views. Large spacious family home. 40'x 60' barn, bring the ponies. Guest house. Unusually private location yet minutes to the GTA. \$1,650,000



EXPLORE THE HILLS OF MONO

This property is in a world of its own. Winding drive through woods, opening to grand country house with style and character. Four outbuildings. Professionally landscaped gardens/gazebo. \$1,200,000



AMAZING AMBIANCE

Private 95-acre paradise. Woods, trails, gardens, pond, views. A handcrafted log house w/ soaring ceilings, bright spaces, authentic detail. Must be seen to appreciate. Sep coach house + apt. Oh so private, oh so convenient. \$1,079,000



YOUR OWN COUNTRY RETREAT

Enjoy the charm of century stone. Country estate completely restored/updated in move-in condition. Dine by stunning pool after family tennis match. Pick organic veggies/fruit for picnic by creek. Privacy is yours. \$895,000



CONTEMPORARY STYLE - APPEAL!

A wow factor of 10! Bright open living spaces. Walls of windows overlook pond. Open lawns, backdrop of woods, nature at your doorstep. Master on main, professional kitchen. Huge workshop and kennels. \$910,000



NOT TO BE MISSED...

Words do not describe. 1840's log-reconstructed with top style and comfort. Every detail planned. Idyllic property, abundant ambiance with low maintenance. Easy come and go or just stay...complete privacy. \$699,000



IDEAL HOBBY FARM 50 ACRES

Gently rolling organically cared for land. Comfy open concept home. Perfect market store/studio at gatehouse + guest apt. Backdrop of ponds, nature, gardens. Choose your hobby or business. Make this your own. \$689,000



CASTLE IN CALEDON HILLS

Architecturally designed and built with quality of construction and fun. Enjoy the privacy maintained by Caledon Ski Club. Fun for all ages. Whimsical appeal. Turn-key convenience. Arrive and leave with a smile on your face. \$669,000



THE IDEAL CALEDON CHALET

Turn-key charm. Open kitchen to sun-filled dining room. Cozy living room, stone fireplace, family/party room, floor heated mud room, double garage + workshop. On superb 11+ acres, trails, pond, open green, yes! \$669,000



BUILD YOUR OWN IN ERIN

Walking distance to quaint town of Erin. Shopping, schools, restaurants. 12-acre lot (7 acres of conservation). On Hwy 24, close to Go Train plus commuter roads. Nice residential area. \$283,000



CALEDON ESTATE ON THE GRANGE

Reminiscent of Provence. An exceptional property with sophisticated understated quality. Large open living spaces, barn, stables, guest apt. Rolling land, wooded trails, dry stone walls. Such opportunity seldom available. \$3,175,000



ENCHANTING - LIVE, WORK, PLAY

An ideal country lifestyle. A great contemporary family house. 30 acs in complete privacy w/ sep state-of-the-art internet office over workshop/grge. 3 bears guest cottage, sugar shack, pond, grdns, barn, woods, paths, horses run free! \$925,000



CENTURY BRICK STORYBOOK 1877

Be charmed. House has all original detail in tact with every modern comfort. Joylic setting. Garage, stables, workshop or studio. Established gardens, privacy hedge. Minutes to all local amenities. \$378,000



EVERYONE LOVES BELFOUNTAIN!

Charming village cottage w/ sep living rm, dining rm. Priv view over back garden/deck. Ideal location in heart of Caledon, just around the corner from skiing, shopping, dining + fun. Imagine this little country haven can be yours. \$270,000

Wayne Baguley*
Sales Representative

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FOR QUIET CONTEMPLATION

33.95 acs of privacy surrounds this 3+2 bdrm home w/ dbl-sided flr-to-ceiling stone fireplace, spa room, billiards area, sunroom, tiered brick deck, triple garage, inground pool & sep shop. \$1,100,000 **Wayne Baguley*** 519-941-5151



84+ ACRE FARM WITH POND

Set back from the paved road is this 2-1/2 storey Victorian w/ orig doors, trim & high baseboards. 4 bdrms, 2nd floor balcony. 3rd floor loft. Garage, pond, barn, drive shed, coverall, chicken coop & shed. \$699,000 **Wayne Baguley*** 519-941-5151



ON EDGE OF THE GRAND RIVER

sits this 4+2 bdrm home with solarium, indoor pool & triple garage. Drive shed, tennis court, 44+ acres, mature managed forest with miles of trails, pond with island, horse shelter + more. \$1,549,000 **Wayne Baguley*** 519-941-5151



TWO HOMES & HORSE FACILITIES

Main house has 5 bdrms, lrg country kit & w/o bsmt. Second residence ideal for in-laws or tenants. Indoor arena, wash stall, barn w/ 18 stalls, heated shop, 6 paddocks. 10 ac w/ pond. \$939,000 **Wayne Baguley*** 519-941-5151



NEW HOME, EXTREME PRIVACY

For sale or lease. 1,850 sq ft, 3 bdrms, 3-car garage & all the upgrades. 61 acres w/ trails, trees, rolling hills & Shaws Creek running through property. Electric security gate. \$799,000 or \$3,000/mo **Wayne Baguley*** 519-941-5151



2 ACS WITH BUSH, POND & TRAILS

Spacious home w/ open concept kit/eating/sitting area w/ maple hrdwd flr. Plus 2 sep liv/fam rms & an office. One bdrm on main level w/ wheelchair accessible 3-pc ens w/ w/i shower. 3 more bdrms up. \$589,000 **Wayne Baguley*** 519-941-5151



CUSTOM EXECUTIVE HOME

On private 1.69 acres with views. 4+1 bdrms, granite counters, bamboo flooring, 9' ceilings, fin bsmt with bdrm with w/i closet, full bath, kit & living rm. Att 2-car garage + det 2-car garage. \$799,000 **Wayne Baguley*** 519-941-5151



BEAUTIFUL VISTAS

can be seen from this 208-acre farm w/ 2 houses, barn & outbuildings. One of the most beautiful & private properties in the area w/ rolling hills, long views, woodlot & approx 145 acs of arable land. \$1,699,000 **Wayne Baguley*** 519-941-5151



THE BOYNE MILL...MULMUR

Built in 1865 as a flour mill beside the Boyne River and enjoyed now as a wonderful country retreat. 3 levels of unique living space with dramatic staircase and exposed beams. 325 acres with large pond, island and log cabin, 1900 Miller's house, pool, tennis court. Spectacular fishing and hunting. Sensational gardens. A once in a lifetime opportunity. \$3,800,000



HILLTOP SETTING...MULMUR

Mountainview Rd, 2.44 acres capture sunrise and sunsets. Soaring ceiling and generous windows exude space and maximize light. Grand foyer, 4 bedrooms, lower level family room with walkout. Mansfield area. \$499,900



AMARANTH FARM

98 acres with Victorian brick home with 3/4 finished addition. 75 acres workable, spring-fed pond, large kennel building, workshop 28' x 45', 10 acres hardwood. Perfect for two families. \$499,900



MULMUR...DEER FOR NEIGHBOURS

14 acs w/ long views over spring-fed pond & hills. 3 level contemp totally reno'd. Wonderful o/c kit/dining/breakfast rm w/ 2 w/o's and gas fp. Light-filled liv rm w/ cathedral ceiling, fp & w/o to deck. 1.15 hrs to Tor Int'l. \$769,000



SOUTH MULMUR...52 ACRE GEM

Century maples, perennials, a storybook setting for this delightful 122-year board & batten retreat. Deck overlooks saltwater pool. 5 bdrms, family room. Totally renovated barn, a play space for kids of all ages! \$769,900



MULMUR...FOREST HIDEAWAY

Secluded 5.8-acre haven. Good mix of table-land and spring-fed pond. Enjoy the birds and wildlife from your patios. Open concept great room, dining room & kit. Geothermal heating. Mstr bdrm w/ generous ensuite. \$549,900



MUSICIAN'S HIDEAWAY

Recording studio with rehearsal space in 4-bedroom custom Viceroy, open kitchen, screened porch, fireplace, 9 secluded acres, Mulmur. Birder's paradise and gardener's delight. Golf, ski, or ride. \$649,000

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Moffat Dunlap*, John Dunlap**,
Peter Boyd, Murray Snider, George Webster, Peter Bowers***

*Broker, **Broker of Record, ***Sales Representative



PARKMOOR, CALEDON

A spectacular property for people who enjoy the active country lifestyle and privacy of 99 acres. Designed w/ country pursuits in mind! Swimming in the deep clean pond, hiking, skiing, biking or snowshoeing along groomed trails. \$3,499,000



GEORGIAN MANOR, CALEDON

3 finished levels with 5 bedrooms. Newly renovated kitchen. Huge dining room with fireplace. Elegant master suite. Distant views. Stream. Tennis. Pool. 27 acres. \$2,050,000



GRAND CALEDON ESTATE

A superb country estate of unmatched scenery with outstanding buildings. In the same family for almost 100 years, this land in the heart of Caledon's Forks of the Credit Valley offers mature woodlands, dramatic ravines, ponds, streams, orchard, stunning views and rolling farmlands. Main house + 3 other houses. Tennis. Pool. Sporting clays. \$19,000,000



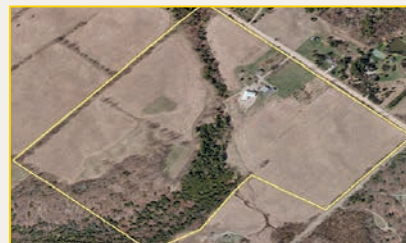
LONG ACRES, CALEDON

100+ acres. Low maintenance custom 5-bedroom home. Lovely gardens, stream, paved driveways on paved road. Situated within 7 minutes of major retail, private schools, hospital, restaurants. \$1,050,000



SKYLINE VIEWS, CALEDON

Stunning 88-acre parcel. Convenient to Caledon East. Perfect site for country estate. Rolling valleys, woods, open fields and paddocks. House could be used as a studio or live in while new home is being built. \$1,000,000



QUIET STREAM FARM, CALEDON

Prime location. A tributary of the Humber River meanders through the acreage. Miles of trails with mix of woods, rolling hills and farm fields. Solid farmhouse + separate office + workshop + storage buildings. \$1,429,000



THE RANKIN HOUSE, CALEDON

Exceptional Bill Grierson designed bungalow on a cul-de-sac in the Terra Cotta countryside. Balconies that wrap around the south and west sides were created to take full advantage of the views all the way to the CN Tower. \$1,398,000



VIEWS FOREVER, MULMUR

Views for 30+ kms across the Mulmur Hills from this 4-bedroom brick home. Tree-lined lane gently passes past paddocks and a 3-stall horse barn. 46 acres. \$875,000



TORY GLEN FARM, CALEDON

Lovely Caledon horse property. Renovated home with 3 finished levels. Stable with indoor arena, sand ring, 20 stalls, board paddocks. 5 minutes to Palgrave. \$1,995,000



HORSE FARM, ORANGEVILLE

10 minutes to town. 29 stalls, 3-bedroom brick farmhouse, mega dome arena, staff apartment, drive-in storage building. 2-car garage + workshop. 62.5 acres. New Price! \$649,900



COUNTRYSIDE BUNGALOW, MONO

Countryside walkout bungalow overlooks 24 acres. Updated home with new master suite with 7-piece ensuite and walk-in closet. Stable. Paddocks. \$835,000



UNDER CONTRACT

1. 55 ACRES, HOCKLEY VALLEY
2. HILLY HAVEN FARM, CALEDON
3. EAST FARM, CALEDON
4. WINDY FIELDS SOUTH

UNDER CONTRACT



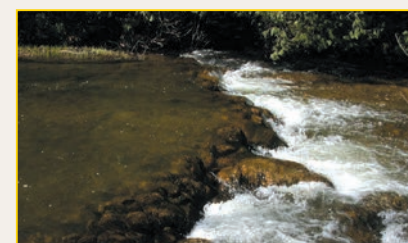
BRIARDALE, CALEDON

Updated farmhouse on 15 acres. Studio building plus century barn and pond. Long trails which leads into Glen Haffy Park. \$799,000



POND VIEW, HOCKLEY

3 bedroom, 3 bath home on almost 15 acres. Ponds plus woods ensure total privacy. Almost new home. \$599,000



PINE RIVER RETREAT, MULMUR

This property has many striking features including valley ridges that soar from the valley fir up to the cottage site. Pristine river frontage which offers wild trout fishing in season. Distant views over the Mulmur Hills. \$449,000

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SUMMERTIME OASIS

Fabulous Victorian Century home. Great room & conservatory additions. Tasteful kitchen & bath updates. Finished bsmt with separate entrance & finished 3rd floor loft. Workshop with small greenhouse. Splash pool. Almost 4 acres in south Mono! **\$799,900**



MILLION DOLLAR VIEWS!

Watch the valley roll out below you and its carpet of colours change with each passing season, breathtaking. Completely renovated multi-level home with large windows. 4-stall horse barn. Inground pool. Approx 10 acres. Come and escape! Mono/Hockley. **\$895,000**



STATELY EXECUTIVE RESIDENCE

On one of Caledon East's most sought after streets. Corian counters, hrdwd flrs, main flr office, huge dining rm w/ one of 4 fireplaces. Separate suite w/ its own access. 3-car garage + a det 2-car 'toy box'. Just over 1.5 acs of privacy w/ deck & gazebo. **\$1,300,000**



CALEDON CUSTOM BUNGALOW

High-quality finishings throughout this finely crafted home. Stunning gourmet kitchen, great room w/ fireplace & 14 ft ceiling, living/dining room with gas fireplace. Solid oak baseboards & doors. Finished w/o basement. Private, treed, 7+ acre lot. **\$1,599,000**



MUSKOKA SETTING

Privately situated on 10 acres at the end of a dead end road in south-west Caledon. This handsome home has had extensive updating with a \$45K lavish master bath. Private suite above garage w/ a living room, bdrm, den & bath ideal for the extended family. **\$949,888**



EXCLUSIVE LISTING

Almost new and on top of the world, this rambling ranch bungalow is built with high quality to match the elevation. View of the Toronto skyline and Devil's Pulpit mountain from many vantage points. Welcome to one of Caledon's best kept secrets! **\$1,489,000**



WATERFRONT PROPERTY

A unique offering. Add onto the existing bungalow or build your dream home w/ walk-out basement on the shores of Heart Lake. The seller states that perhaps this property could also be severed to create 3 lots (to be verified). Approx 2.28 acres! **\$1,875,888**



PRIVATE SANCTUARY

Just off of the Forks of the Credit, close to the shops & artisans of Belfountain, mins to the Caledon Ski Club & mins to the Devil's Pulpit golf course. The 10-ac lot is manicured & park-like. The floor plan of this retreat is geared towards entertaining. **\$1,199,000**



Roger Irwin,
Broker

Barbara Rolph,
Sales Representative

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ABSOLUTELY ONE-OF-A-KIND ON 1.5 ACRES IN CALEDON

Architecturally unique home overlooks pool and terraced wall of large limestone rocks with dramatic waterfall, lighting and plantings. Almost 6,000 sq ft of high quality details. Huge windows let in tons of light everywhere but especially on the lower level which features heated floors, 10' ceilings and a large glass atrium. If you appreciate quality, uniqueness and like entertaining, this can't be beat. **\$1,850,000**



STONE VICTORIAN-STYLE HOME AND PRIVATE LAKE

Built in 2001 in the centre of what is now an exquisite private park with its forest, lake, ponds, streams, trails, dock, beach and abundant wildlife. Luxurious finishing details highlight all major rooms in the house - slate, hardwood, granite, glass and stone. The Muskoka room is a special joy, letting you sense and hear nature's sounds all around you. The perennial beds are well established and source of great beauty. **\$2,450,000**



OVERLOOKING HOCKLEY VALLEY

Sunlight and shadows dance on this high, glorious rolling 5 acres. House has views of sunrises and sunsets. Key features include pool, large screened-in porch, wonderful landscaping, dead-end road, paddocks and quiet. **\$969,000**



CALEDON EAST ON 89.9 ACRES

Trees, trails, ponds, streams and rolling land are highlights of this property. Located next to the village, and a perfect place to build. Existing house would be great as studio or guest house. **\$995,000**



CALEDON, STUNNING VIEWS

Survey all your 48.7 acres, pool and 3-car garage from this 10-year, 7-bedroom and 7-bathroom home with fully finished walkout lower level. Gourmet kitchen open to double height of family room. **\$1,995,000**



95 ACRES, EAST GARAFRAXA

3,000 sq ft Georgian built in 1992. Overlooks 12-stall barn with hay storage, 4 run-in shelters, swimming pool, high metal drive shed, 4 stained glass doors, geothermal heating/cooling, 2-car garage. **\$1,159,000**



Sales Representative

Susan Brown

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SUPERB CRAFTSMANSHIP

With old world charm on 3 delightful acres. This spectacular home has been transformed throughout with quality upscale elements amid landscaped gardens, deck and privacy. Separate coach house. **CALEDON \$939,900**



3 FAMILY HOME ON 68 ACRES

Over 10,000 sq ft divided into 4 wings. 3 separate living accommodations, 7 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, massive 2 floor deck. 3 car garage, large steel workshop 60' x 40', bush, open areas. **NEAR SHELBURNE \$929,900**



OUTSTANDING STONE BUNGALOW

on 19 acres. Over 5,000 sq ft with cathedral ceilings, spacious chef's kitchen with granite, separate in-law suite, indoor pool, landscaped gardens, 3 patios, hot tub, mixed bush, views. **MULMUR \$849,900**



VICTORIAN REPRODUCTION

Beautifully crafted reproduction century farmhouse on 5 private acres. Built 2006, this home has the charm of the past w/ all today's amenities. Basement w/ 2 walkouts. Rolling land, mature trees, trails. **MULMUR \$629,999**



SUPERIOR QUALITY AND BEAUTY

on 5 highly scenic acres. Striking bungalow 2,113 sq ft on main floor plus walkout lower level. Great room with solid maple floors, soaring ceilings and massive picture windows. Chef's kitchen, gardens. **MULMUR \$629,900**



CAPTIVATING CAPE COD STYLE

Home on premium treed lot in sought after subdivision on a golf course. Open concept, stunning oak floors, chef's kitchen, sunroom, recreation and games room. Natural lot with mature trees. **NEAR ALLISTON \$569,900**



SCANDINAVIAN SCRIBE LOG HOME

on 2.2 acres. Immaculate, custom built, 16' peak ceiling, high efficiency woodstove, large country kitchen, ornamental pond, landscaped gardens. Detached garage with work area. Close to Orangeville. **MONO \$549,900**



IMPECCABLE COUNTRY HOME

on premium hardwood lot with stunning views. Huge windows, fabulous kitchen, 4 bedrooms, separate garage/studio, sweeping deck. A very picturesque setting, close to Orangeville, walking trails and fishing. **MULMUR \$549,900**



A TASTE OF MUSKOKA

on 5.8 acres, with privacy and a fabulous pond. Expansive chalet style home with more recent upgrades. High peaked ceiling, picture windows, reclaimed brick fireplace, walkout lower level. **MULMUR \$549,900**



ELEGANT COUNTRY HOME ON 2.8 AC

Spectacular great room, 17 ft to peak, walks out to spacious deck. Palladian windows, Barzotti kitchen with granite. Perennial gardens, lawns, wooded area, inground saltwater pool. **MULMUR \$539,000**



3 ACRES NR MANSFIELD SKI CLUB

Open concept living in this 3 yr old custom bungalow with hardwood flooring thru the main level. Enjoy the hills of Mulmur from a 2 tiered deck and pool. Detached 26' x 20' workshop, ideal for the hobbyist. **MULMUR \$489,000**



ENCHANTING HILL TOP HOME

With million dollar views overlooking the Pine River Valley. Many upgrades include kitchen with granite, floor-to-ceiling fireplace, upgraded washrooms, rec room. 24' x 41' heated workshop. **MULMUR \$494,900**



CENTURY HOME WITH ROOM FOR ALL

On 5.56 rolling acres with scenic views. This house features many upgrades. Spacious main floor addition with family room and gorgeous master suite. Barn, drive shed, paddocks and perennial gardens. **MULMUR \$439,000**



COUNTRY CLASSIC ON 9.7 ACRES

Attractive 2 storey home with views to the south and west, covered wrap-around porch, huge deck, gazebo, large open backyard, mature trees, perennial gardens and a heated greenhouse. **MULMUR \$429,900**



CHARMING 10 ACRE PARCEL

Bungalow with original pine floors restored, newer windows, finished walkout basement with large south facing windows. Rolling terrain, hardwood bush, gardens, patio, gazebo and south east views. **MULMUR \$409,900**



DELIGHTFUL 3 BEDROOM RETREAT

on 1 acre lot with country views. Reproduction century home, 11 years old. Open concept, bright space, fabulous family sunroom, perennial gardens, studio loft above 2 car garage. **NEAR SHELBURNE \$399,900**

A FINER FIBRE — AN EASY KEEPER

In the milling world, alpaca fibre is considered a luxury product, standing well on its own for a variety of applications, but also blending beautifully with other fibres. It is creamy soft and durable, grading out several ways to produce a pashmina-like textile at the high end, to cozy batting and felt. Hypo-allergenic and lanolin-free, it is lighter and less irritating than sheep's wool, but warmer, breathable and water repellent.

Descended from the vicuña, a wild camelid once hunted to near extinction, alpacas come in two varieties: the dreadlocked Suri, whose lustrous fleece hangs down elegantly like a Komodor dog's, and the more common fluffy Huacaya (wa-ky-ah). Ninety percent of the world's alpacas are Huacaya. Their gently kinked fleece grows perpendicular to their bodies, producing a finger-in-the-light-socket effect.

A native of the high Andes, wild alpacas are adapted to extreme weather and marginal land. However, it is recommended that domestic alpacas have safe fencing to keep them in and predators out, optional shelter from heat, wind and humidity, and a minimum of an eighth of an acre per animal. They graze about two pounds of forage a day and require about 20 per cent more in quality feed and mineral supplements.

Their reputation as "easy keepers" comes in part because they are light on the land and make a communal manure pile, their "rabbit-pellet," nitrogen-rich waste making excellent compost. Stoic and, according to Alpaca Canada, more disease-resistant than other livestock, alpacas do require occasional worming, farrier work and annual vaccinations.



Babycakes and friend.

A COTTAGE INDUSTRY

There are only about 20,000 alpacas in all of Canada, a population adequate for farm-gate craft sales, but not for a commercial fibre supply. Alpaca Ontario is hoping to change that through owner education related to both husbandry and business management, as well as by increasing consumer awareness.

On the business side, producers get to the point of shearing, but grade and sort off site, sending revenue out the door. And there is no standardized pricing for fleece, with rates fluctuating from \$10 to \$45 dollars per pound.

Animal pricing also varies widely, though that's not surprising perhaps, given that Canada's original breeding stock was chosen during a helicopter "fly-over" of a herd in Chile. Alpaca Ontario now requires that show animals be approved through the Canadian Llama and Alpaca Association registry, which verifies with DNA testing.

Another concern is the lack of veterinarians familiar with camelid care, so Alpaca Ontario is working with professional veterinarian associations in the province to develop educational programs.

Alpaca Ontario is also encouraging farmers to develop a "fleece first" attitude; that is, to actively breed animals for the quality of their fleece. It is hoped that thoughtful breeding can also improve the length of time that animals will continue to produce high-quality fibre. Alpacas can live about 25 years, but produce their best fibre in the first five.

"The Incas had much of this figured out 3,000 years ago," says Melody Macdonald, Alpaca Ontario's treasurer. "We're catching up."

The organization's annual spring show in Orangeville has been helping to make that happen. This year, judged categories included ten colour classes for both the Suri and Huacaya breeds. Out of some 150 Alpaca Ontario members, 92 farms were represented at the show and an estimated 4,500 visitors came through the doors on its busiest day, making it the largest show in Canada for the third year running.

See alpacaontario.ca for events through to the Royal Winter Fair.

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INCREDIBLE TIMBER FRAME HOME

Privately situated on 2+ acs, south Erin location. Open floor plan, stunning kitchen with large centre island combined with great room featuring an incredible 23 ft stone fireplace, cathedral ceiling, reclaimed wood floors. Main floor master bedroom with 5-piece ensuite plus 2 additional bedrooms plus family room on second floor. Amazing 3-car garage with 600 sq ft loft suitable for apartment. Outstanding ambiance and quality throughout. **\$839,000**



CALEDON COUNTRY AT ITS BEST, CONVENIENT TO TORONTO

Superb 57+ acre property w/ fantastic pre 1900's home totally reno'd w/ addition & stunning updates. Superb kit, fam rm & main flr mstr w/ 6-pc ens. Loft, refurbished bank barn, 11 stalls & drive shed. **\$2,595,000**



MARKET GARDEN

Lovely 60 acres in Campbell's Cross, Caledon for sale w/ updated and charming home, in-law apt, legal 3-bdrm trailer with its own septic, pond, stream, 10 acres of hardwood bush, arable lands set up w/ irrigation, great investment property. **\$1,830,000**



NATURE AT ITS FINEST!

2+ acres building lot. Outstanding property nicely wooded, somewhat rolling, private, superb area to build your dream home on. Located close to Walters Falls, Meaford and skiing. **\$89,000**



SUPER BUNGALOW ON PREFERRED STREET IN ERIN

Beautifully cared for home with new kitchen with granite countertops. Lovely updated bathrooms, tasteful décor and style, main floor master bedroom with two bedrooms upstairs with huge bonus room. **\$629,000**



WHAT A VIEW!

Lovely 3+2 bedroom bungalow situated on 3/4 acre overlooking a picturesque landscape with views that go for miles. Country bungalow with walkout basement, fireplace up and downstairs, updated bathrooms and newly renovated kitchen. **\$474,900**



DELIGHTFUL POST AND BEAM

Beautiful home, decorated with style, superb layout. Lovely 5 acres on quiet road near Bruce Trail in South Caledon. Bungalow with 3 bedrooms plus loft and full walkout basement with two workshops, family room, 2-piece. **\$829,000**



24.6 ACRE HORSE FARM

The finest finishes everywhere you look! Gourmet kit, studio, gym, tumbled marble, great rm w/ hrdwd, wood fp & multiple w/o's, views of patio & koi pond, paddocks, barn, 70' x 146' indoor arena & 100' x 200' sand ring. **\$1,149,000**



LUXURY LIVING!

Fully finished executive home in prestigious Pine Forest Estates on manicured 2-acre lot. State-of-the-art features, custom indoor pool/spa, heated drive, guest suite, 4-car garage + 6-car underground parking. **\$2,495,000**



SECLUDED PIECE OF PARADISE

In the Hills of Mulmur, 11+ acres, forested with walking/snowshoeing trails, manicured lot set back from the road is home to 2,000 sq ft bungalow + 1,300 sq ft of finished w/o, positioned for passive solar gain, custom kitchen. **\$599,900**



CUSTOM COUNTRY ESTATE

Scenic Mono Township, 30 mins to Pearson Airport. All brick 2 storey, quality thru-out, slate, hrdwd flrs, views, lofts, stone fp, vaulted ceilings. 44' x 30' shop w/ concrete flrs. 25 rolling acres ready for horses or hobby. Must see! **\$949,900**



18 AC FARM W/ STONE FARMHOUSE

2 large outbuildings & hay fields. Set well back off road, features fam-sized kit, encl sunroom, summer kit, 3 bdrms & loft. 2-car garage w/ att single car or workshop at back of garage. Original owner. Near Hwy's 9 & 27. **\$629,900**



GORGEOUS CUSTOM-BUILT

4,200 sq ft country estate on 29-acre ravine lot. Extensive landscaping. 36' x 18' inground, solar heated saltwater pool, sauna, propane fire pit. Hardwood flrs, unique open concept design w/ main flr mbdm & generous rm sizes. **\$999,900**



UNIQUE! VIEWS! HORSES!

Unique property w/ stunning views of the Adjala countryside. Open concept living w/ soaring 22' ceilings in great room. Barn w/ 5 box stalls, tack room, 3 paddocks. 25' deep spring-fed stocked pond w/ sandy beach. **\$769,900**



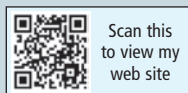
FAIRYTALE SETTING!

Caledon log home on private wooded estate lot at Piper's Hill near Hwy's 9 & 50. Inground pool, perennial gardens, large front covered porch, garden pond. Quality finishings. Multiple w/o's to tiered decks, granite, hardwood. **\$669,900**



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CREEMORE CENTURY HOME

Updated, charming century home with original character. 3 bdrms, 2 baths, laundry on main & detached garage. Stainless steel kitchen appliances. Walk to Creemore's shops, restaurants, schools, art galleries. **\$265,000**



MULMUR GEM ON 9.8 ACRES

Perfect country home to launch your weekend activities or enjoy quieter life. Unique 2,200 sq ft home. Open concept, great for entertaining. Watch amazing wildlife at your back door. Walk back to bridge over stream. **\$489,000**



CALEDON COMMUTER

Country bungalow on 3.4 acres conveniently located on main road close to Erin with great rear views. Open concept, walkout lower level cleverly segregated into themed niches with heated floors. **\$585,000**



SAVE YOUR ENERGY

Private and pretty custom built, energy efficient bungalow, on 2 partly wooded acres on quiet paved road in Erin. Maintenance free exterior, modern and move-in ready. Come relax and recharge. **\$584,900**



SOLID HOME/REPUTATION

Charming & well maintained seniors' rest home well known for providing superior care and excellent meals for more than 27 years. Turn-key business opportunity for an entrepreneur. Call today! **\$489,000**



CATCH OF THE DAY

3.5+ acres overlooks Grand River with best fly fishing in the area. Reel in space and luxury with indoor pool, walkout lower level with games room, wet bar, gym, sauna and BBQ. In-law suite potential. **\$800,000**

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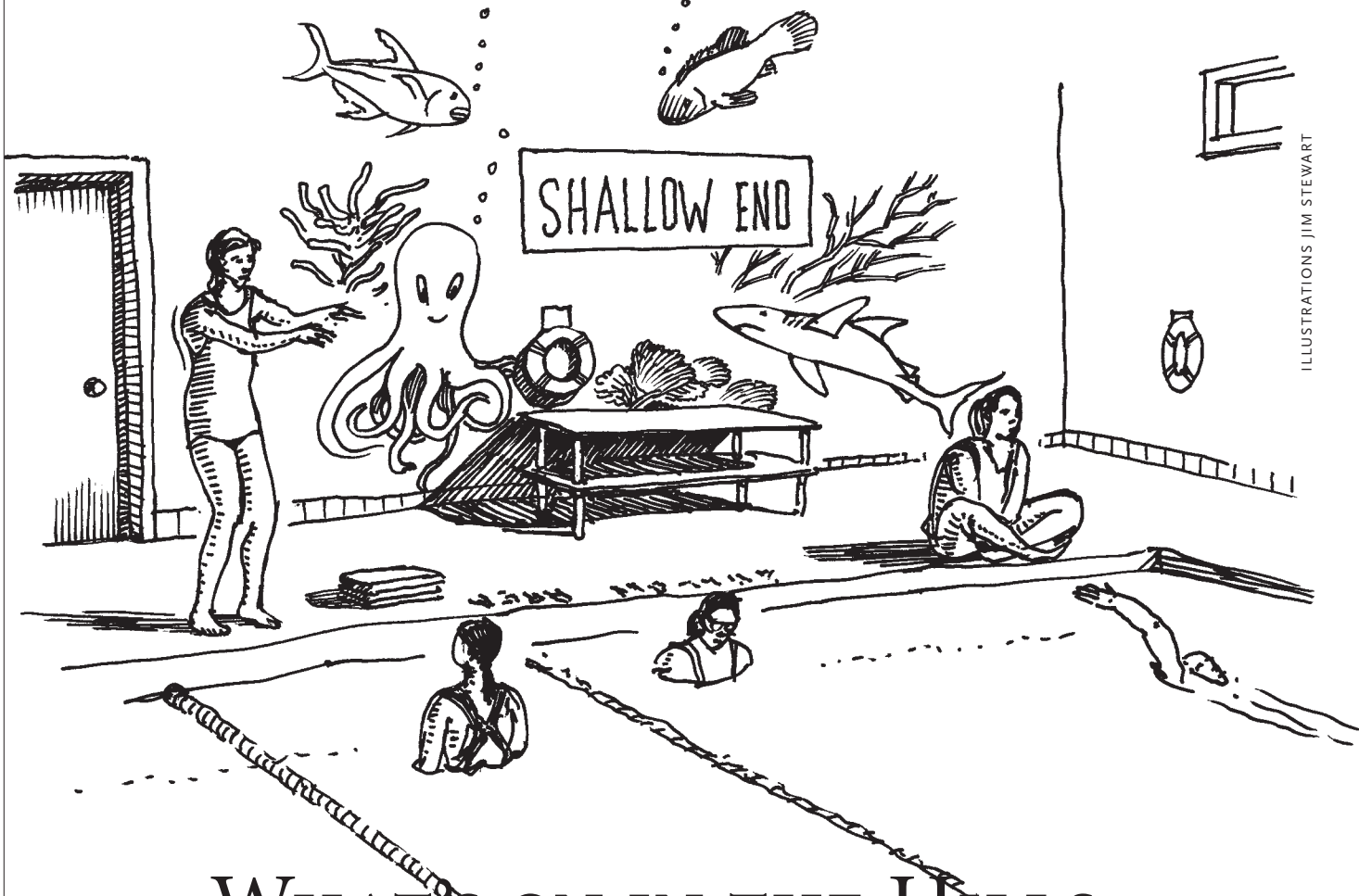
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ILLUSTRATIONS JIM STEWART

WHAT'S ON IN THE HILLS

A CALENDAR OF SUMMER HAPPENINGS

arts+craft

NOW – JUN 27 : HOT! HOT! HOT!

Explosion of colour in paintings by Kai-Liis McInnes and glass artist Eleanor Brownridge. Mad & Noisy Gallery, 154 Mill St, Creemore. 705-466-5555; madandnoisy.com

NOW – JUL 10 : TIME FRAME

Heritage Caledon marks its 35th anniversary with juried art show celebrating Ontario's cultural and natural heritage. Concurrent heritage-themed student show. Free. Alton Mill Gallery, 1402 Queen St, Alton. 519-941-9300; altonmill.ca

NOW – AUG 21 : STITCHES ACROSS TIME

Juried show features work by 21 textile artists. Concurrent workshops, lectures, including kids' program. Full schedule on website. Museum hours & admission. Dufferin County Museum & Archives, Airport Rd & Hwy 89. 1-877-941-7787; dufferinmuseum.com

NOW – AUG 21 : NORTHCOTT CHALLENGE QUILT EXHIBITION

Quilts created with cloth donated by Northcott Silk, on loan from Dufferin Piecemakers Guild. Museum hours and admission. Dufferin County Museum & Archives, Airport Rd & Hwy 89. 1-877-941-7787; dufferinmuseum.com

NOW – SEP : WATERCOLOURS & POTTERY

Show and sale by Lorraine McDonald and potter Al Pace. Enjoy home-brewed Hockley Valley coffee in the new Riverside Coffee House on site. Art show daily, coffee house Wed-Sun, 10am-5pm. Farmhouse Pottery, 307114 Hockley Rd. 519-941-6654; pacepottery.com

NOW – DEC 15 : CORN FLOWER EXHIBIT

The best of the museum's corn flower collection, including early designs

from Dufferin-based WJ Hughes Corn Flower glass manufacturer. Museum hours and admission. Dufferin County Museum & Archives, Airport Rd & Hwy 89. 1-877-941-7787; dufferinmuseum.com

NOW – DEC 15 : TEXTILES: MORE THAN WORDS CAN SAY

Wide range of textiles from the museum's extensive collection, includes handmade pioneer fabrics, Victorian to contemporary fashion, quilts, hooked rugs. Museum hours and admission. Dufferin County Museum & Archives, Airport Rd & Hwy 89. 1-877-941-7787; dufferinmuseum.com

JUN 18 : CACY OUTDOOR ARTS MARKET @ CALEDON DAY

Caledon Arts & Crafts for Youth instructors provide free art classes and artists showcase works for purchase. 11am-6pm. Caledon Civic Campus, 6311 Old Church Rd, Caledon East. CACY.ca

JUN 19 : WATERCOLOUR – THE AGONY AND THE ECSTASY

Watercolour workshop with artist Doug Brown. Some knowledge required. 10am-1pm. \$90 + materials. Mad and Noisy Gallery, 154 Mill St, Creemore. 705-466-5555; madandnoisy.com

JUN 23 – SEP 5 : INSIGHTS: A JURIED EXHIBITION

The Elora Arts Council presents annual juried exhibition. 9:30-4:30. Sat & Sun, noon-4pm. Wellington County Museum & Archives, 0536 Wellington Rd 18, Fergus. 519-846-0916; wcm.on.ca

JUN 25 & 26 : COMMON THREADS SHOW & SALE

Artists Kai-Liis McInnes, Mardi Steiner and Lyla Stockdale demonstrate spinning, felting and knitting. Meet the alpacas too. Kai-Liis Art Studio & Heed Farm Alpacas, 836100 4th Line Mulmur, 1km N of Hwy 89. 519-925-0421; kai-liis.com

JUN 25 & 26 : DOWN THE GARDEN PATH

Artwork by Joan Gray, Sonja Mortimer & Lucille Weber in a garden setting. Sat 9:30am-4pm. Sun noon-4pm. 17 Lorne St, Inglewood. 905-838-0922; lucilleweber@rogers.com

JUL 3 : PAINT-IN – ARTISTS AGAINST THE MEGA-QUARRY

Artists paint *en plein air* in protest against the proposed mega-quarry in Melancthon. Proceeds to NDACT at later auction. 11am-5pm. Artists register to participate. Peace Valley Ranch, 638135 Prince of Wales Rd, Mulmur. 416-546-2555; facebook.com/no.mega.quarry

JUL 9 – 30 : THE FOUND ART FESTIVAL

Show of works by artists who use found objects in their work. Dragonfly Arts, 189 Broadway, Orangeville. 519-941-5249; dragonflyarts.ca

JUL 9 : HARNESSING THE CREATIVE PROCESS

Intermediate workshop with artist Sue A. Miller. 10am-4pm. \$103.50 + materials. Mad and Noisy Gallery, 154 Mill St, Creemore. 705-445-8191; madandnoisy.com

JUL 10 – AUG 28 : 5 BY 5

Five members of The Flaming Spirits art group interpret the same subject with five paintings each. Reception: Jul 10, 2-4pm. Museum hours & admission. Silo Gallery, Dufferin County Museum & Archives, Airport Rd at Hwy 89. 1-877-941-7787; dufferinmuseum.com

JUL 16 & 17 : CUISINE-ART

Food tasting, cooking demonstrations by local chefs, art shows. 10am-5pm. Plus performances of Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*, free, July 15 & 16, 7pm. The Alton Mill, 1402 Queen St, Alton. 519-941-9300; altonmill.ca

JUL 20 : TIMELESS ArtWear Network presents a wearable art fashion show and dinner. Concurrent with Stitches Across Time exhibit at Dufferin County Museum. 15 per cent of sales to breast cancer research. 7-9pm. \$40, reserve. Mrs. Mitchell's Restaurant, Violet Hill. 519-925-3950; artwearnetwork.com

JUL 30 : STONE SCULPTING Workshop for novice and intermediate with sculptor Kathy Beatty. 1-4pm. \$135 + materials. Mad and Noisy Gallery, 154 Mill St, Creemore. 705-466-5555; madandnoisy.com

AUG (DATE TBA): ARTIRONDAK CHAIRITY AUCTION Five Muskoka chairs handcrafted by the woodworking team at Community Living Dufferin and painted by local artists. Displayed at local businesses prior to auction in CLD's Sensory Gardens. Artists call 519-941-8971 x 165. Community Living Dufferin, 065371 Cty Rd 3, off Hwy 9. communitylivingdufferin.ca

AUG 21 : WOOD BLOCK CARVING AND PRINTING Workshop with sculptor David Bruce Johnson and printmaker Liz Eakins. 9am-5pm. \$120 + materials. Mad and Noisy Gallery, 154 Mill St, Creemore. 705-466-5555; madandnoisy.com

SEP 11 – OCT 13 : LANDSCAPES AND MEMORIES New oil paintings by Arnold De Graaff. Reception: Sep 11, 2-4pm. Concurrent with exhibit of works by Glen Godfrey. Dufferin County Museum & Archives, Airport Rd at Hwy 89. 1-877-941-7787; dufferinmuseum.com

community

NOW – OCT : FARMERS' MARKETS It's market season in the hills as local producers pitch their tents and present their wares, everything from meat and produce to baked goods, preserves and crafts. Check websites for details of special events at each venue.

MARKET ON BROADWAY : Saturdays 8am-1pm. Second St & Broadway. Orangeville BIA, 519-942-0087; marketonbroadway.ca

CREEMORE FARMERS' MARKET : Saturdays 8:30am-12:30pm. Station on the Green parking lot. 705-466-3591; creemorefarmersmarket.ca

CALEDON FARMERS' MARKET : Thursdays 3-7pm. Albion-Bolton Community Centre, 150 Queen St S, Bolton. 905-584-2272; caledon.ca/farmersmarket

INGLEWOOD FARMERS' MARKET : Wednesdays 3:30-7pm. Inglewood General Store, McLaughlin Rd. 3:30-7pm. 905-584-6221; eatlocalcaledon.org

AMARANTH FARMERS' MARKET : Wednesdays, 5-8pm. Township Municipal Building, 6th Line Amaranth and 10th Sdrd, across from Laurelwoods School. 519-941-1007; amaranth.ca

HOCKLEY VALLEY FARMERS' MARKET : Sundays 10am-3pm. Hockley Valley Resort, Third Line Mono and Hockley Rd. 519-942-0754; hockley.com

GRAND VALLEY COMMUNITY HARVEST FARMERS' MARKET : First & third Thursdays, 3-7pm. Grand Valley Fairgrounds, 90 Main St N. 519-928-2949; communityharvest@hotmail.com

JUN 16 : BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS GOLF TOURNAMENT 18th annual tournament in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin & District. 18 holes, lunch, dinner, prizes, trophies. Registration 11am. Shelburne Golf & Country Club, 516423 Cty Rd 124. 519-941-6431; bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/dufferin

JUN (TUESDAYS): FIRST STEPS – MEMORY LOSS SERIES For caregivers and individuals newly diagnosed with memory loss, includes adapting to changes, planning and providing care. 1:30-3:30pm. Register, Alzheimer Society of Dufferin County, 25 Centennial Rd, Unit 1, Orangeville. 519-941-1221; alzheimerdufferin.org

JUN 18 : SHOE KAT SHOO'S CHARITY FASHION SHOW Sandals, shoes, fashion accessories, to support Family Transition Place. 2pm. \$5. Shoe Kat Shoo, 85 Broadway, Orangeville. 519-942-1176; shoekatshoo.com

JUN 18 : INGLEWOOD COMMUNITY DAY Parade, pancake/sausage breakfast, vendors, silent auction, penny raffle, food, beer tent, live music and more. 9am-5pm. Inglewood Park, McLaughlin Rd. 905-838-2625; villageofinglewood.com

JUN 18 : CALEDON DAY Live entertainment, heritage trolley tours, birds of prey, battle of the bands and more. Fireworks at 10pm. Plus video dance on ice, skating and old timers hockey on summer ice at the Community Complex. Free. 11am-11pm. Caledon Town Hall Civic Campus, 6311 Old Church Rd, Caledon East. 905-584-2272; caledon.ca/recreation

JUN 22 : APSGO GOLF TOURNAMENT Tee times start 10:30am. \$150 includes cart & dinner. Proceeds to the Association of Parent Support Groups in Ontario. Cardinal Golf Club, Hwy 9, Newmarket. 905-727-3298; apsgo.ca

JUN 23 : GRAND FINALE – ONE BOOK ONE COUNTY Joseph Boyden headlines the entertainment with a reading from his award-winning novel, Three Day Road. 7:30pm. \$10, from BookLore and libraries. Town Hall Opera House, 87 Broadway, Orangeville. 519-941-0610; orangeville.library.on.ca

JUN 24 : BOLTON TRUCK & TRACTOR PULL Trucks, more trucks and tractors, including 6200lb 2WD modified trucks, multi-engine tractors. Kidsland, dealers, vendors, beer garden. 6pm-midnight. \$15; children under 12, \$5. Albion & Bolton Fairgrounds, 150 Queen St S, Bolton. 905-880-0369; boltonfair.ca

JUN 25, JUL 23, AUG 27 : CLOTHING SALE Sale of gently used clothes. 9am-noon. Donations, call 519-941-1932. Westminster United Church, 247 Broadway, Orangeville. 519-941-0381; westminsterorangeville.ca

JUN 26 : KEN WEBER – OTHER MOTHERS OF INVENTION This magazine's Historic Hills columnist presents a talk on the origins of some Canadian inventions. 2pm. \$10. Dufferin County Museum & Archives, Airport Rd & Hwy 89. 1-877-941-7787; dufferinmuseum.com

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

HEADWATERS ARTS FESTIVAL OPENING NIGHT PREVIEW

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A CALENDAR OF SUMMER HAPPENINGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 77

JUL 1 : CANADA DAY, SHELBURNE

Music, pony rides, bike rally, Shelburne's Got Talent competition, and more. Fireworks at dusk. Begins 3pm. 519-925-2600; townofshelburne.on.ca

JUL 1 : HIGHLAND ROTARY CANADA DAY FIREWORKS Events throughout the afternoon; fireworks at dusk. Orangeville Fairgrounds, 5 Sdrd Mono, off Hockley Rd. orangevillefairgrounds.ca

JUL 1 : STRAWBERRY FIELDS – CELEBRATE CANADA DAY Pancakes laded with fresh strawberries and cream, live music, vintage cars, craft fair, beer garden, silent auction and more. 10am-4pm. Free. Fairgrounds, Caledon Village. Caledon Agricultural Society, 519-927-9206; caledonfairgrounds.ca

JUL 8 & 9 : FOUNDERS' FAIR & SIDEWALK SALE Live entertainment, Different Spin Fire Show and juggling school, in-motion Family Fun Zone, amusement rides and more. Fri 5-10pm; Sat 10am-6pm. Downtown Orangeville. Orangeville BIA, 519-942-0087; downtownorangeville.ca

JUL 9 : CHELTENHAM DAY Day-long celebration with games, soap box derby, tube race, duck race, parade, street sale, dinner-dance and silent auction. Cheltenham Area Residents Association. Creditview Rd, Cheltenham. 905-838-9962

JUL 11 : CHILDREN'S WISH GOLF TOURNAMENT Shotgun start, 11am. \$150, register. Caledon Country Club, 2121 Olde Baseline Rd, Caledon. 905-838-0200 ext. 0; golfcaledon.com

JUL 16 : BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS BASEBALL TOURNAMENT Mixed 3-pitch baseball tournament, in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin & District. 9am. \$225 per team. Prize \$400; runner up \$225. Beer garden, BBQ. Rotary Park, 59 Second Ave, Orangeville. 519-941-6431; bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/dufferin

JUL 22 – 24 : ORANGEVILLE ROTARY RIBFEST Featuring the talents of five international ribbers, and lots more food. Beer tent, midway, live music. Alder Street Recreation Centre, Orangeville. orangevilleribfest.com

JUL 23 : HONEYWOOD BEEF BBQ With all the fixin's. Entertainment by Kristin Henry Scott. 5-8pm. \$15; under 12, \$5. Baseball tournament in afternoon, register: 705-435-3066. Honeywood Arena, Cty Rd 21. 705-466-3341; mulmurtownship.ca

AUG 3 : GARDEN FOODS CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT 18 holes, golf cart. Shotgun start 8:30am. Champagne breakfast, gourmet lunch. Proceeds support Caledon Community Services. Register, 905-857-1227 by July 20. Glen Eagle Golf Club, 15731 Hwy 50, Caledon. 905-857-1227; ccs4u.org

AUG 6 : ERIN SUMMERFEST Erin Village merchants' summer sidewalk sale, with roster of live music. 10am-5pm. villageoferin.com

AUG 18-20, OR AUG 20-21 : THE HEALING WISDOM & MEDICINE OF AFRICA Two intensive evening sessions

with African medicine elders. Teachings, fire ritual, power of story. Register. Ecology Retreat Centre, 308046 Hockley Rd. 416-231-4815; leslie.fell@gmail.com

AUG 18 : HOSPICE DUFFERIN LADIES GOLF TOURNAMENT 18-hole scramble golf and lunch. Proceeds to Hospice Dufferin. Tee off 8:30am. Shelburne Golf & Country Club, 516423 Cty Rd 124. 519-942-3313; hospicedufferin.com

AUG 20 : SPIRIT OF THE HILLS, HILLSBURGH'S FAMILY DAY Classic cars, kids' activities, food, vendors, silent auction, musical entertainment. 10am-2pm. Sponsored by Hillsburgh Lions Club & The Let's Get Hillsburgh Growing Committee. 519-855-4010; donnar@wellington.ca

SEP 2 – 5 : ORANGEVILLE FAIR Traditional handcrafts, culinary, vegetables and youth competitions, food and craft vendors, livestock & horse shows, stage entertainment, classic car show (Sat), town crier competition (Sun), and much more. Fri evg: holstein show and draft horse pull. 9am. Orangeville Fairgrounds, 5 Sdrd Mono, off Hockley Rd. 519-942-9597; orangevillefairgrounds.ca

SEP 5 : FERGUSON FALL FAIR CLASSIC Run along Mono sideroads and Island Lake trails. Proceeds to Family Transition Place. 5k run/walk, 10am. Kids Mini Mile, 11am. Orangeville Fairgrounds, 247090 5 Sdrd, Orangeville. 905-853-4743; fergusonrun.org

SEP 10 : GOGO GRANNIES AT ORANGEVILLE FARMER'S MARKET Sale of African crafts in support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation's Grandmother to Grandmother Campaign in Africa. 8am-noon. Orangeville Farmers' Market, Town Hall, Broadway. 519-942-2399; k.henkel@sympatico.ca

SEP 15 : FAMILY TRANSITION PLACE GOLF CLASSIC 10th anniversary classic, presented by RBC Dominion Securities. Proceeds to end violence against women. Shotgun start 11am. Dinner and silent auction. Caledon Country Club, 2121 Olde Baseline Rd. 519-942-4122; familytransitionplace.ca/golf

SEP 17 : HEADWATERS HOUSE TOUR Self-guided tour of homes in the Headwaters region. Gourmet boxed lunch, silent auction. Proceeds to equipment purchase for Headwaters Health Care Centre. \$35. headwatershousetour.com

outdoor+ environment

NOW – JUL 27 : OUTDOOR BOOT CAMP From grass rolls to burpees to picnic table push-ups, take your workout outdoors. Improve endurance and strength through team and individual drills. 6-7pm. Members \$50; non-members \$100. ACTS Fitness & Athletics, 207321 Hwy 9, Orangeville. 519-940-3735; actsathletics.com



JUN – JUL : EVERDALE WORKSHOPS

JUNE 19 : Beekeeping. 1-4pm. \$45
 JUNE 23 : Invasive plants. 6-9pm. \$45
 JUNE 26 : Raising chicks. 1-4pm. \$45
 JULY 10 : Fencing for pastured poultry. 1-4pm. \$45
 JULY 16 : Lost art of canning. 6-9pm. \$45
 JULY 24 : Maintaining your organic vegetable garden. 10am-2pm. \$60
 JULY 28 : Food preservation: dehydration, freezing, infusion. 6-9pm, \$45
 Everdale, 5812 Sixth Line, Hillsburgh. 519-855-4859; workshops.everdale.org

JUN 19 : LILACTREE FARM OPEN GARDEN

Tour a spacious country garden, unusual plants, meadow maze, escarpment views. Free. 10am-4pm. 547231 8 Sdrd Mulmur. Brian Bixley, 519-925-5577, lilactreefarm@gmail.com

JUN 21 & AUG 16 : SHELburne HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

June 21: Twiners, stickers, clingers and hookers. Aug 16: Rock gardening. 7pm. Royal Canadian Legion, William St, Shelburne. 519-925-2182; shelburnehort.blogspot.com

JUN 25 : INGLEWOOD GARDEN TOUR

Walking tour of gardens in the historic village. 9:30am-1pm. \$10, at Inglewood General Store. Proceeds to Hospice Caledon Bethell House, sponsored by Inglewood Garden Club. Start Community Centre, 15855 McLaughlin Rd, Inglewood. 905-838-2597

JUN 25 : HERB, HEALTH & GARDEN FAIR

Displays, vendors and activities. 9am-4pm. Wellington County Museum & Archives, 0536 Wellington Rd 18, Fergus. 519-846-0916; wcm.on.ca

JUL – AUG : GO FISH! TackleShare presented by Ontario Power Generation. Youth and new anglers can sign out a rod, reel and with their library card. Contact any branch of Caledon Public Library for details. caledon.library.on.ca

JUL – AUG : EXPLORE CREDIT VALLEY CONSERVATION AREA

Sign out a free pass (7-day loan) from Caledon Public Library and take your family to any Credit Valley Conservation area. caledon.library.on.ca

JUL 9 : DELPHINIUM DAY

Garden tour, lunch and guest speaker, author Paul Knowles on *The Joy of Gardening: A Gardener's Journey*. \$25, register. 11am-3pm. Plant Paradise Country Gardens, 16258 Humber Station Rd, Caledon. 905-880-9090; plantparadise.ca

JUL 16 : CALEDON GARDEN TOUR

Visit 10 to 12 gardens, sponsored by Caledon Horticultural Society. 10am-4pm, rain or shine. \$10 advance, \$12 on day, from Glen Echo Nurseries, Inglewood & Cheltenham general stores, Spirit Tree Cidery. 905-838-3541.

JUL 16 : WATERSHED ON WHEELS

Bring the family, play bingo, learn about the water cycle, touch and feel furs and

skulls. Presented by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Register. Alton public library, 10:30am-noon. Inglewood public library, 1-2:30pm. caledon.library.on.ca

JUL 22 – 24 : HUNTFEST Sponsored by Wild TV to instill outdoor ethics in a new generation of hunting, fishing and outdoor enthusiasts. Fri noon-9pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 10am-5pm. \$12; kids and seniors \$6. Orangeville Fairgrounds, 247090 5 Sdrd Mono, off Hockley Rd. 780-484-4974; huntfest.ca

JUL 23 : ALONG THE GARDEN PATH

Visit 10 gardens on this self-guided tour sponsored by Orangeville & District Horticultural Society. 519-938-8659; eangcoish@sympatico.ca

AUG 13 & SEP 13 : ORANGEVILLE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Aug 13: Summer flower show, judged. 2:30-5pm. Sept 13: Simple and elegant flower design. 7-9pm. Seniors Centre, 26 Bythia St, Orangeville. 519-787-7637; orangevillehort.org

AUG 20 – 21 : ERIN RODEO

Rawhide Rodeo presents cowgirl precision riding, calf roping, barrel racing, bull riding and more. Beer garden. BBQ & dance, Sat 5pm. Erin Fairgrounds, 190 Main St, Erin Village. 519-833-2808; erinfair.ca

SEP 10 : GRAND OPENING – ALBION HILLS COMMUNITY FARM

Local harvest, maze, children's events, farm skills challenge, straw bale castle, giant pumpkins. 10-5pm. Opening ceremony, 11am. Albion Hills Conservation Area, 16555 Humber Stn Rd, Caledon. albionhillscommunityfarm.org

SEP 18 : HORSE TRIALS

Dressage, show jumping, cross country. Spectators welcome. Equus 3D Equestrian Centre, 434136 4th Line Amaranth. 519-940-0048; equus3dfarm.com

SEP 24 : VANNER FAIR

Exclusive gathering of Gypsy Vanner breeders and owners. Horse sale, trade fair and demonstrations. 9:30am-4:30pm. Free. DeerFields Stables Country Inn, 17084 Duffy's Lane, Palgrave. 905-880-5585; vannerfair.com

kids

JUN – JUL : CREATIVE SATURDAYS IN INGLEWOOD

Drop-in for play-based learning for families with children 0 to 6. Second & fourth Sat. 9:15-11:30am. Free, register. Caledon Parent-Child Centre, Inglewood United Church, 15672 McLaughlin Rd. 905-857-0090; cp-cc.org

JUN 21 – 23 & 25 : SIGN UP FOR SUMMER READING

Come out for the launch of the TD Summer Reading Club at Caledon libraries. Pictures taken with famous characters. Play games and listen to stories. Attend weekly reading programs all summer. Week 1: Alton & Inglewood, 6:30pm. June 22: Caledon East, 6:30pm. June 23: Caledon Village, 6:30pm. June 25: Belfountain, 10:30am; Albion-Bolton, 1pm. 905-857-1400; caledon.library.on.ca

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

17th ANNUAL House Tour
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Saturday, September 17th, 2011

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- Silent Auction & Raffle Items
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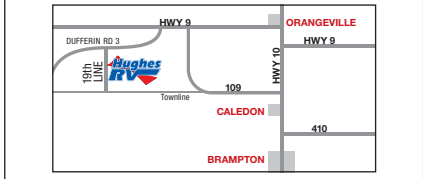


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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 79

JUN 26 : CAMP QUALITY PUPPETEERS

Puppeteers perform during Children's Worship to help us understand and respect our differences. 10:30am. Westminster United Church, 247 Broadway, Orangeville. 519-941-0381; westminsterorangeville.ca

JUL - SEP : TEEN RANCH SUMMER CAMPS

Weekly camps include swimming, rock wall climbing, trail rides, water slide, crafts, canoeing, basketball, tennis, volleyball and more. Teen Ranch, 20682 Hurontario St, Caledon. 519-941-4501; teenranch.on.ca

JUL 2 : PLAY SOCCER ON THE ROAD

Rogers' travelling interactive show for youth and families features soccer-themed inflatables, including a speed kick zone, battle zone and more. Designed for youth and parents. Presented by Grand Valley Strikers Minor Soccer. Grand Valley Community Centre, 90 Main N. playsoccer.ca/ontheroad

JUL 5 - AUG 9 (TUESDAYS) : READY, SET, READ!

Reading program for children in grades 1-3 with their parents. Book lists, read aloud and comprehension assistance. Presented by Caledon Library and Dufferin Peel Catholic School Board. Register. Margaret Dunn Valleywood branch, 20 Snelcrest Dr, Caledon. caledon.library.on.ca

JUL 7 - AUG 25 (THURSDAYS) : SUMMER READING BUDDIES

Children read weekly with youth volunteers. Caledon Library, Alton Branch, 35 Station St. 905-857-1400; caledon.library.on.ca

JUL 8 - AUG 12 (FRIDAYS) : FRENCH FUN FOR BEGINNERS

Explore French through songs, rhymes, games and stories. Ages 5-7. Register. Caledon Library, Albion-Bolton branch, 150 Queen St S, Bolton. caledon.library.on.ca

JUL 14 : VISIT WITH JEREMY TANKARD

Meet the author of *Grumpy Bird* and *Boo Hoo Bird*. Age 6 & up. Register. Caledon Library, Inglewood branch, 2-4pm; Margaret Dunn Valleywood branch, 6:30-8:30pm. caledon.library.on.ca

JUL 16 : CREEMORE CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

Multi-disciplinary arts festival interactive activities, workshops, live entertainment and play focused on education, cultural diversity and fun! 8:30am-7:30pm. Downtown Creemore. creemorechildrensfestival.com

JUL 18 - 31 : LITTLE RIDER'S CLUB

An enrichment club for first-time riders who can spend time around the horses and stables. Ages 6-10. Noon-3pm. Greyden Equestrian Facility, 5565 Wellington Rd 24, Erin. 519-833-2274; greydenequestrian.com

JUL 26 : CUPCAKES GALORE!

Learn to decorate cupcakes with Tanya Pelosi-Atwood from Bella Mia Custom Cakes. Ages 9-12. 6:45-7:45pm. \$3, register. Caledon Library, Caledon Village branch, 18313 Hurontario St. caledon.library.on.ca

JUL 26 : CREATIVE CARTOONING

Kids create their own characters and stories under guidance of Eden

Bachelor. Ages 8-12. 6-8pm. \$5, register. Caledon Library, Alton branch, 35 Station St. caledon.library.on.ca

JUL 28 : HERB POTTING

Get your hands dirty and plant an herb pot to take home with you! Ages 7-10. 6:45-7:45pm. \$3, register. Caledon Library, Caledon East branch, 6500 Old Church Rd. caledon.library.on.ca

AUG 4 : ASTRONOMY FOR KIDS

Learn more about astronomy and the night sky, and make a simple star finder to take home! Ages 8 & up. 7-8pm. Register. Caledon Library, Belfountain branch, 17247 Shaw's Creek Rd. caledon.library.on.ca

AUG 9 : MAKE YOUR OWN RECIPE BOOK!

Children make their own recipe book with recipes provided or using their own! Offered by Early Literacy Specialists of Peel. Ages 6 & up, with adult. 2pm. Caledon Library, Caledon Village branch, 18313 Hurontario St. caledon.library.on.ca

music

JUN 18 : LILY FROST BENEFIT CONCERT

Singer-songwriter Lily Frost and José Contreras perform in aid of People for Responsible Escarpment Development Caledon, challenging gravel pit extensions on Heart Lake Rd. Appalachian string band opens. 7pm. Claude Church, 15175 Hurontario St, Caledon. 519-927-3376.

JUN 25 : TERRY TUFTS HOUSE CONCERT & GUITAR WORKSHOP

Award-winning singer and multi-instrumentalist instructs and performs. Guitar workshop, 2-4pm, \$40. Concert, 8pm, \$20. Workshop, concert & BBQ, \$65. Private home in Orangeville. Call to reserve, 519-942-1587; laurabird.com

JUL 5 : LAND OF THE SILVER BIRCH

Relative Harmony celebrates Canada with participatory concert of music, songs and stories from early settlers to modern times. Inuit string games, step dancing,

songs in French, English and Iroquois. 7pm. Reserve. Caledon Library, Albion Bolton branch, 150 Queen St S, Bolton. 905-857-1400; caledon.library.on.ca

JUL 10 & AUG 14 : ANNUAL SUMMER CONCERTS

Dufferin Museum presents renowned symphony musicians performing classical and contemporary favourites. 7pm. Historic Corbetton Church, Dufferin County Museum & Archives, Airport Rd & Hwy 89. 1-877-941-7787. dufferinmuseum.com

AUG 3 - 7 : CANADIAN OPEN OLD TIME FIDDLE CHAMPIONSHIP

61st annual. Wed evg: Battle of the Bands. Thur evg: fiddle and step dance concert with eight-time champion Louis Schryer. Fri & Sat: competitive playdowns. Sat evg: finals. Sponsored by Shelburne Rotary. \$10-\$40 (event package). Shelburne. shelburnefiddlecontest.on.ca

AUG 13 & 14 : RHYTHM & RIBS FEST

Erin Optimists present a music and BBQ festival. Live local and regional bands on two stages, plus artisan showcase. Sat 11am-9pm; Sun noon-6pm. McMillan Park, 109 Main St, Erin. 519-833-9137.

theatre

JUN 22 : EXPECT RESPECT: BREAKING THE SILENCE

Live drama and dance performance addressing elder abuse, includes information on older adults' rights and local support services. 2-4pm. Free, reserve, 519-941-1221. Dufferin Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse. Theatre Orangeville, 87 Broadway. theatreorangeville.ca

JUN 23 & 26 : TIPLING STAGE COMPANY AUDITIONS

Jun 23: Auditions for *Deathtrap* by Ira Levin, 7pm (rehearsals begin Aug 4). Jun 26: Auditions for *Jack and the Beanstalk*, 2pm (rehearsals begin Oct 23). Grace Tipling Hall, Shelburne. For details, 519-925-2600; info@tiplingstagecompany.com

P U Z Z L I N G S O L U T I O N S from page 86

Adding Up to 15 in Melancthon

- a) 6 : HAM HAT HEM HEN HOE HOT
- b) 3 : OATH OMEN ONCE
- c) 1 : ENACT
- d) 4 : LAMENT LANCET LOATHE LOCATE
- e) 1 : CHANNEL

Spoons at Dufferin County Museum

Invert spoons 2 and 3; then 3 and 4; then 4 and 5. Other solutions exist.

Power Point in Amaranth

From top to bottom: seven of clubs, king of hearts, ace of hearts, jack of diamonds, four of spades.



On the Floor at S.S. #19 Caledon

There are 23 rectangles:
ANPD - AIMD - AILC - AIJB - AEHD - AEGC - AEFB
BJMD - BJLC - BFHD - BFGC
CLMD - CGHD
EIMH - EILG - EIJF - ENPH
FJMH - FJLG
GLMH
INPM - INOK
KOPM

In Albion Mulmur's Harness Shop

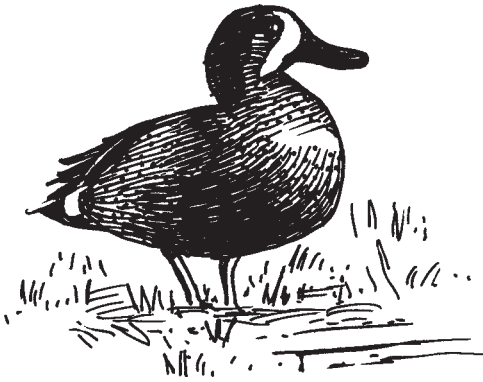
The way Hattie came in and automatically gave the door an extra push to close the latch suggests she is more than a bit familiar with the harness shop and its quirks.

To submit your community, arts or non-profit event, go to inthehills.ca and click EVENTS on the menu bar. That takes you to the listings page. Click SUBMIT YOUR EVENT and complete the easy form.

For the autumn (mid-September) issue, submit by August 5.

We reserve the right to edit submissions for print and web publication.

For up-to-date listings between issues, go to inthehills.ca and click EVENTS on the menu bar.



JUL 6 & 7, 16 & 17 : THE COMEDY OF ERRORS Humber River Shakespeare Co. performs Shakespeare's classic outdoors. 7pm. Pay as you can. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Jul 6-7: Dick's Dam Park, Bolton. Jul 16-17: The Alton Mill, part of Cuisine Art, with dinner/theatre option at The Millcroft Inn. humberivershakespeare.ca

JUL 8 - 30 : THE 39 STEPS Adapted from Buchan's novel, 1915, and Hitchcock's film, 1935, this is a fast-paced whodunit and old-fashioned romance! Jul 9: post-show social. July 13, 20, 27: post-show talk-back. Tue-Sat 7:30pm. Sun & Jul 21 & 28 2pm. Rose Theatre, Brampton, 1 Theatre Ln. 905-874-2800; rosetheatre.ca

JUL 12 - 28 : SHAKESPEARE IN THE SQUARE: TWELFTH NIGHT One of Shakespeare's greatest comedies ponders love lost and found in a land turned upside-down by passion, illusion and fantasy. Free. 7pm. Lorna Bissell Fountain Stage in Garden Square. Weather permitting. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Rose Theatre, Brampton, 1 Theatre Ln. 905-874-2800; rosetheatre.ca

JUL 13 - 17, 20 - 24 : CONFUSIONS BY ALAN AYCKBOURN Five interlinked stories take a riotous look at human eccentricities. 2:30pm. July 15, 16, 21-23, 8pm. Century Church Theatre, Trafalgar Rd & Station St, Hillsburgh. 519-855-4586; centurychurchtheatre.com

JUL 22 & 23 : SEUSSICAL JR Horton the Elephant must protect his tiny friend Jojo and the invisible Whos from danger and guard an abandoned egg in this Young Company musical. 7:30pm. Also 2pm, July 23. Theatre Orangeville, 87 Broadway. 519-942-3423; theatreorangeville.ca

JUL 22 - 30 : A CHORUS LINE In the chance of a lifetime, seventeen dancers audition for a new Broadway production. Tony Award-winning musical. Jul 23: post-show social. July 27: post-show talk-back. Tue-Sat 7:30pm; Sun & Jul 27 2pm. Rose Theatre, Brampton, 1 Theatre Ln. 905-874-2800; rosetheatre.ca

AUG 2 - 27 : SHAKESPEARE IN THE SQUARE: ROMEO & JULIET The world's most enduring and heartbreaking love

story tells of star-crossed lovers and a bitter family feud. Free. Tue-Thu, plus Aug 26 & 27, 7pm. Lorna Bissell Fountain Stage in Garden Square. Weather permitting. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Rose Theatre, Brampton, 1 Theatre Ln. 905-874-2800; rosetheatre.ca

AUG 5 & 6, 9 & 10, 16 - 27 : THE DRAWER BOY A young actor from a Toronto theatre group sets out to learn all about farming, in hopes of writing a play about it. Funny and touching tale based on a true story. Aug 6: post-show social. Aug 10, 17, 24: post-show talk-back. Tue-Sat 7:30pm. Sun plus Aug 18 & 25, 2pm. Rose Theatre, Brampton, 1 Theatre Ln. 905-874-2800; rosetheatre.ca

AUG 17 - 28 : COMING APART Writers whose marriage is on the rocks remember their romantic past differently, leading to a happy ending. Aug 19, 20, 25-27, 8pm, plus several matinees, 2:30pm. Century Church Theatre, Trafalgar Rd & Station St, Hillsburgh. 519-855-4586; centurychurchtheatre.com

AUG 19 - 27 : CABARET A young American writer searches for inspiration in 1920s Berlin and finds debauchery, Nazis and the enigmatic Sally Bowles in this celebrated musical. Aug 20: post-show social. Aug 24: post-show talk-back. Tue-Sat 7:30pm. Sun plus Aug 24, 2pm. Rose Theatre, Brampton, 1 Theatre Ln. 905-874-2800; rosetheatre.ca

AUG 26 : THE OUTLAW ROBIN HOOD A hero fights back against greedy nobles in Nottingham in the time of the Crusades in this Young Company drama. Theatre Orangeville, 87 Broadway. 519-942-3423; theatreorangeville.ca

SEP 14 - 18 : SHIRLEY VALENTINE A middle-class housewife reflects humorously on her life, husband and children during a transformative trip to Greece. 2:30pm; Sep 17, 2:30 & 8pm; Sep 16, 8pm. Century Church Theatre, Trafalgar Rd & Station St, Hillsburgh. 519-855-4586; centurychurchtheatre.com

SEP 17 : NEW FARM HARVEST FESTIVAL An evening of theatre, food and music to benefit the Grow for the Stop. 6:30pm. The New Farm, 6/7 Sdrd Nottawasaga, near Creemore. 705-466-9906; aveninghall.wordpress.com

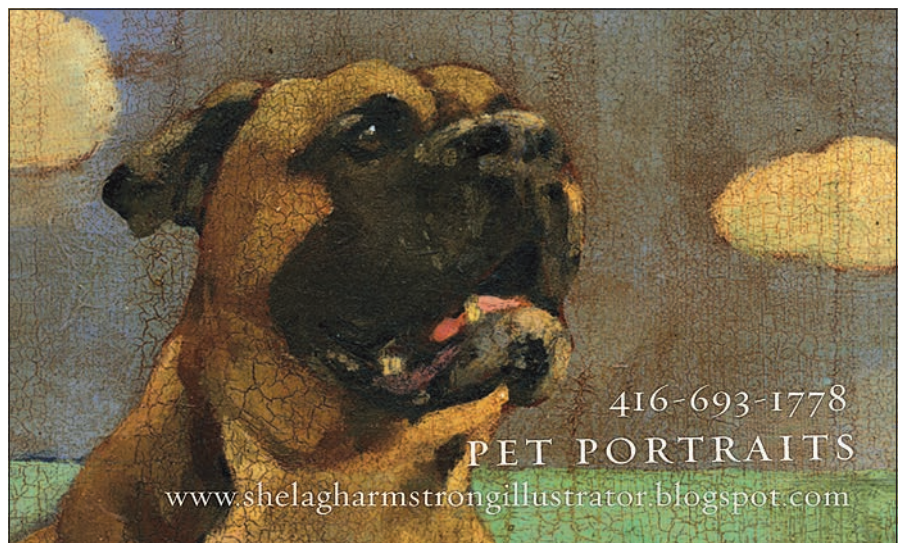
SEP 22 - 25 : HANK WILLIAMS LIVE, 1952 Joe Matheson pays tribute to the Country Music Legend, featuring many of Williams' hits in this funny and bittersweet re-imagining of his final recording session. 8pm; Sep 25, 2pm only. Theatre Orangeville, 87 Broadway. 519-942-3423; theatreorangeville.ca

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Adding Up to 15 in Melancthon

MELANCTHON

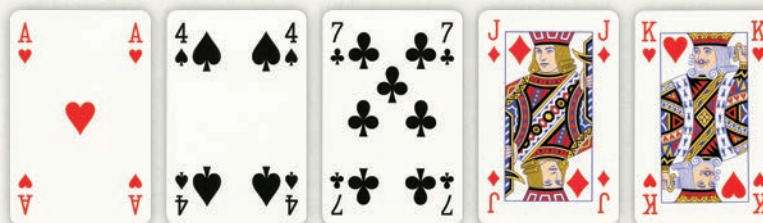
- a) Add the number of three-letter words in MELANCTHON that begin with H to:
- b) the number of four-letter words that begin with the letter O.
- c) To this sum add the number of five-letter words that begin with E,
- d) plus the number of six-letter words that begin with L,
- e) and finally, add the number of seven-letter words that begin with C.

In this anagram challenge use only the letters that appear in MELANCTHON and only as often as they appear. (For example, your words may have two 'N's, but only one 'e'.) Proper nouns (e.g., ALTON), non-English words and slang words are not acceptable. *The results of the tasks at right should add up to 15.*

Power Point in Amaranth

Cameron developed a sore throat on the morning of the Amaranth Township Annual Public Speaking Contest. By noon it was worse and by mid-afternoon he had lost his voice.

Rather than withdraw from the contest, Cameron made a Power Point slide. First he scanned these five playing cards into the top half of the slide.



In the bottom half, Cameron typed the following challenge:

"These five cards sit one on top of another, somewhere in the middle of a deck where you can't see them. Can you use the three clues below to tell which one of the cards is on top, which is the next one down, and so on?"

1

2

3

The face cards are separated by one or more of the other cards.

The top and bottom cards are not red.

The ace is somewhere above the diamond and somewhere below the club.

In this way Cameron took part in the public speaking contest, but because he didn't actually speak, the judges didn't know what to do. (They couldn't solve his puzzle either. *Can you?*)

On the Floor at S.S.#19 Caledon

In September of 1884, when students arrived on the first day of the brand new school at Forks of the Credit, they noticed their teacher, Mr. Boyle, had put letters on the floor at the points where the pine planks fit together. In one corner of the room the floor looked like this:

A	B	C	D
E	F	G	H
	K		
I	J	L	M
N	O		P

"I just want to see if your minds are still working after a nice, warm summer," said Mr. Boyle to the older students, pointing at the pattern in the corner.

"How many rectangles do you see?"



AN IN THE HILLS MINI MYSTERY

In Albion Mulmur's Harness Shop

Hattie reached for the thumb latch on the battered old door but stopped to take a deep breath. It wasn't going to be easy to bring this off. The lawyer from Orangeville was waiting for her inside but he wasn't the problem. Her two stepsisters were inside too and they'd be ready for a fight. A tiny smile briefly overcame Hattie's anxiety. They had good reason.

She took another deep breath and reached out to flick a paint scab off the door. The door, indeed the old harness shop itself, was done for. So was Albion Mulmur. Not that his death bothered Hattie. Years ago, when she'd been adopted out of a foster home by

Albion and his wife, her life had turned into a replay of the Cinderella story, but without a handsome prince and certainly without a fairy godmother.

Until now. Two weeks ago, her stepsisters' applecart had been overturned by the surprise discovery of a will in Albion's harness shop. It appeared genuine and was more recent than the one in the Orangeville lawyer's office, the one which gave the stepsisters everything. Old Albion, mean as could be to Hattie in life, was now going to be generous to her in death. If... if... her plan worked.

One more breath and Hattie grabbed the latch,

pushed the door open and stepped in. Two pairs of eyes bored into her, but she faced the waves of hate head on as she backed against the door, giving it an extra push until the latch clicked.

"So this is what the harness shop looks like!" Hattie said brightly, moving her gaze to the ceiling and then into a sweep around the walls. "I was never allowed in here. Kinda dingy, huh? Smells a bit too, doesn't it?"

Hattie was about to say more, but took a deep breath again. She'd made a mistake and was frightened that someone had noticed.

What is Hattie's mistake?

The Spoons at Dufferin County Museum

Matt stepped back to look at the museum shelf where he had just set down six spoons in a three-up, three-down pattern like this.



A grade-five class was due shortly and Matt had designed a puzzle for their visit. Beside the spoons he put a card which read: "In just three moves, inverting two **adjacent** spoons at a time, create an alternating pattern, so that the first spoon on the left points handle down, the second one handle up, the third one down, and so on."

Can you solve Matt's puzzle?

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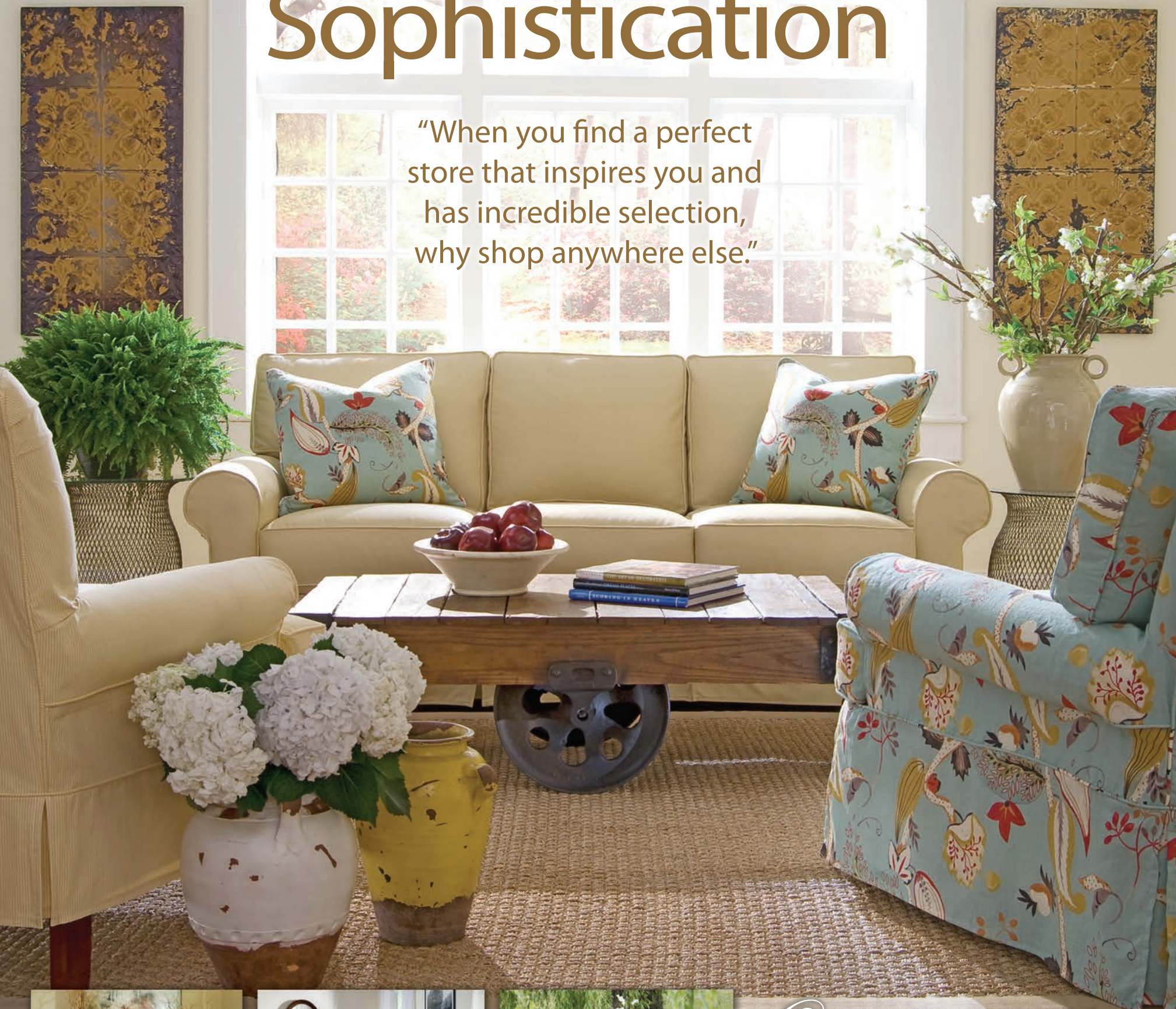
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