

the owen sound

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vol. 2 no. 2 winter 2020



**the community
magazine for
these times!**

FEATURING:

- New Food Gallery
by Jane Dunphy
- Home Away from Home
by Shohail Gohil
- Hockey Road
by Eric Zweig
- Wellness Recovery
by Melanie Knapp
- Gitche Namewikwedong
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- ...and lots more!



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vol. 2 no. 2 winter 2020

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www.theowensounder.ca.

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about the front cover:

The Harrison Park Good Cheer Outdoor Rink by John Fearnall, a photographer, teacher, writer, podcaster and thinker who regularly shares his art and ideas under his pseudonym Good Noise. You can see more of his work at www.GoodNoise.ca.

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FROM MY DESK

This *Owen Sounder* has lots of things to do and places to go. Our stores, restaurants, services and events are adapting, altering, replacing, and reinventing constantly as we move forward with tenacity. Owen Sounders have grabbed opportunities buried in the depths of this pandemic and brought forth new ways of living and working and doing business we couldn't have dreamed of a year ago. Yay, us!

Here at The Ginger Press, we have published more books this year than ever. The Café has temporarily transitioned into the Supper Club, and the Bookshop has reduced hours but more online ordering. What does the future hold? Who knows? But we will continue to move forward. And, okay, sometimes I make mistakes. In our last issue, I referred to the Musical Director of SweetWater as Richard Huizinga. Of course, his first name is Edwin. What was I thinking? Sorry about that, Edwin, and congrats to SweetWater for their excellent programming as part of SweetWater Surreal.

You know the drill: wash your hands; wear a mask; keep six feet apart; stay safe. But remember to reach out to friends and family, read books, write books, learn new skills, cook something different, and get outside. We will make lots of new holiday traditions this year; be sure to remind yourself of this remarkable place we live in and make this the best season you can for yourself and others.

Thank you for reading and supporting *The Owen Sounder*. We'll be back in the spring (deadline for ads and articles is February 18). In the meantime, don't be a stranger!

- Maryann Thomas

A FRESH LOOK AT THE HISTORY OF GREY & BRUCE

ANN MAGNER

The Bluewater Association for Lifelong Learning (BALL) presents an online course focusing on the Indigenous people who have lived here for millennia, and the waves of settlers and refugees who arrived to what many of us now call Grey and Bruce. Lecturers will include Dr Bimadoshka Pucan, who shares her journey of repatriation through the successful digitization of Sacred Medicine Songs and Stories of the Anishinaabeg; Trish Meekins, who looks at the history of Canada from a First Nations person's perspective; Richard Thomas who discusses Owen Sound during Prohibition, as well as the emergence of the Owen Sound port, and the years before the Depression; and Terri Jackson, who explores the personalities, churches, cemeteries, industries and homes of the Black Freedom Seekers who arrived here before 1871 by way of the Underground Railway. The course runs 10:00am to noon on Thursdays from January 7 to February 11. For more information and to register (\$45), visit www.bluewaterlearns.com.

THE HISTORIC ROXY THEATRE AND OSLT

JUDY BETH ARMSTRONG • • • • •

The lights may be off, the doors locked and live shows cancelled BUT members and friends of OSLT (Owen Sound Little Theatre) are determined to change all that! We miss live theatre every bit as much as you do...the camaraderie of rehearsals, set-building, costumes, makeup, sound, lights...the buzz of opening night, the excited anticipation of the audience, meeting friends and neighbours as you take your seats in the theatre...

While live performances at The Roxy will have to wait for now, we do invite you to support our interim plan: renew your membership, make a donation and soon you will be able buy your subscription to help OSLT realize its Virtual Programming Season through 2020-2021. Watch your email in-box, social media, and roxytheatre.ca for details.

In the coming weeks and months, OSLT plans to mount productions (while carefully abiding by all COVID restric-

tions) to stream to you in your home theatre. You will see the people – your friends and neighbours – that you know and have come to love, back on the Roxy stage, doing what they love to do.

What do we have in mind for this virtual season? *Gas Head Willy*, the radio play; a dramatic reading of *A Christmas Carol*; a concert by Don Buchanan and Friends; and more. No, it's not the 60th anniversary program or playlist that OSLT had originally planned for the 2020-2021 season, but we'll be giving our members the opportunity to perform while giving our audience a taste of the magic that is live theatre. Please support The Roxy and OSLT at roxytheatre.ca or phone the box office at (519) 371-2833. Renew your membership, buy a subscription, make a donation...and help keep live theatre alive at The Historic Roxy Theatre in downtown Owen Sound.

THE MORE THINGS CHANGE

KYLA WONG, EMILY STUPPLE AND SHANNON JONES • • • • •

With mixed emotions, Midwives Grey Bruce has said goodbye to two founding partners this past year as they move into retirement: Michelle Kryzanskas and Heather Keffer have supported families in Grey Bruce for the past 35 years – that's a lot of babies! While we are happy for them and their adventures to come, they will be greatly missed by their midwifery colleagues and the community members they have served for so many years. Their midwifery practice was built on the fundamental principles of midwifery care in Ontario: informed choice for clients, continuity of care providers and choice of birthplace.

Although some of the faces at Midwives Grey Bruce have changed, these principles of care remain the same. Our practice is made up of 12 Registered Midwives who provide care for clients with low-risk pregnancies. Our Midwives are fully funded to provide care to all residents of Ontario, regardless of OHIP status. We continue to offer choice of birthplace: we maintain hospital privileges at GBHS – Owen Sound, Hanover District Hospital and SBGHC – Walkerton, while also providing the option of homebirth. Our Midwives give evidence-based care and support clients to make informed decisions about their care throughout pregnancy, birth and for 6 weeks postpartum.

This pandemic has changed the way we do many things. As essential workers, Midwives Grey Bruce has adapted to current Public Health guidelines to protect our clients and ourselves from COVID-19. As proud members of the community, we thank everyone for their hard work and dedication to looking after each other by taking measures to slow the spread. When a shortage of personal protective equipment was declared in the early days of the pandemic, we saw our inspiring community come together to support us with donations of gloves, masks and gowns from local businesses and individual community members. Each time we put on a gown or cap we are grateful for the members of this community and the opportunity to serve them.

Midwives Grey Bruce looks forward to caring for you and your family during your pregnancy. We are located in Owen Sound at 265 8th Street East and also offer prenatal appointments at our Walkerton clinic at 15 Ontario Road. Our waitlist fills up quickly, so we encourage you to call us as soon as you find out you're pregnant! You can contact our office at (519) 371-2886 to inquire about coming into care.

Kyla Wong, Emily Stupple and Shannon Jones are Registered Midwives at Midwives Grey Bruce.

NEW FOOD GALLERY AT THE OWEN SOUND ARTISTS' CO-OP

JANE DUNPHY • • • • •

Homemade cookies and chocolates, honey farmed off-grid, hot sauces and curries to make dinner easy, locally blended teas and fair-trade coffee, homemade jams and jellies, handmade soap, maple syrup, pesto, chili mix and granola are now available in The Food Gallery at the Owen Sound Artists' Co-op in downtown Owen Sound.

The Food Gallery suits the Artists' Co-op to a T (tea?). Several local food producers have joined the Co-op's 45 artists to offer a delicious selection of packaged foods. The Co-op has always been a great place for Christmas shopping but now it's one-stop shopping, thanks to The Food Gallery. Think of gifting a handmade pottery mug and blended teas;

natural soap and a handmade soap dish; local honey with a turned honey jar; or, for your sweetheart, hand-crafted sterling earrings and a box of homemade chocolates. You get the picture.

The Food Gallery began as a pilot project but it has been an instant hit with Co-op customers. Because of its success, we hope to make The Food Gallery a permanent part of the Co-op. Our plan is to renovate the Food Gallery space in the new year to enhance the products and make room for more producers – and there are more! We have so many industrious, talented and creative people in our region. The Co-op is pleased to show them off. The Artists' Co-op is located at 942 2nd Avenue East and www.artistscoop.ca.



REFLECTIONS

The Life and Work of J. W. (Jack) McLaren

From Mirth and Mud at Ypres Salient and Vimy Ridge to the vibrancy of landscapes from Huron County and the Maitland Valley, explore the works of artist Jack McLaren (1895-1988).

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A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

SHOHAIL GOHIL

Coming from a middle-class Indian background where everyone tells you life is a race, Owen Sound feels like a pause. Sitting here on the porch, sipping my cup of tea, in this magically beautiful fall that I am seeing for the first time in my life, I wonder if this is my destiny? Is this what it feels like when your dreams come true?

Before moving to Owen Sound to attend Georgian College, I considered courses in Toronto, Mississauga, London, and Kitchener, the well-known immigrant cities of Ontario; but I wanted to enjoy some breathing space. The majority would think small towns are boring and for old people; well, I am an old soul. Owen Sound gave me a chance to re-start my life the way I wanted, being a neighbour to mother nature.

Initially, Owen Sound was nothing for me but a dot on the map. As my days of moving to Canada came closer, I researched and explored more and more about this city. The mere thought of living so close to the waterfalls and parks made me feel like the chosen one.

2nd of January, 2019, was my first day in Owen Sound. The temperature was -13°C. It was the coldest I had ever been, but I was restless. I went out to explore the land of my dreams. I discovered that I was to live in a beautiful house just outside the Harrison Park – the park whose photos I used to surf on the internet! After unpacking, I began my first walk into the park, all by myself, without my gloves. The air felt fresh and I felt free, free from the ever-running life, free from the toxicity of the world. I couldn't stop admiring the beautiful landscapes, all bright and white. The trees were bare and dried up, dormant, with snow on the branches. A big fat black squirrel, which I had never seen before, jumped from one branch to another; snow fell like cotton from the sky. I tried to put my hands into my pockets, but my jeans rubbed against my cold skin. It hurt, but I kept on going till I reached the swans and ducks. These swans, that were first sent to Owen Sound by the King of England, were like the

ones I used to watch on Animal Planet. I could not believe my eyes.

Winter was slow and long. I started working part-time and got busy with student life. I made a few friends, with whom I hiked to plenty of new spots leading to breathtaking views. Everything was bright and shiny. Inglis Falls was like watching vanilla ice cream dropping. The water droplets from the falls cast a beautiful rainbow in the sky. I felt like I was in Narnia.

The cherry on the cake here is my landlord; he is teaching me the true Canadian culture and cuisine. He is one of the nicest people in the world and believe me when I say he is the best version of everything I've left back in India. Half of the beauty of Owen Sound is because of him and the other elders who spin the cycle of kindness around. If someone had told me when I was growing up that someday I was going to live in a place where there's peace, where people are kind and friendly, where it doesn't matter what you do or where you come from, or which caste you follow or how much money you have, I would not have believed them.

For an Indian boy who had never been to a place like this before, Owen Sound has accepted me with its arms wide open. This feels like my new home, and the people here are like my new family. The place where you start to love the silences in your life never leaves you; that is what Owen Sound is for me.

As I approach the end of my course, the thought of leaving here for better job opportunities makes me sad. If I could wish for one thing, it would be to be an Owen Sounder for the rest of my life.

Shohail Gohil, a second year Power Engineering student at Georgian College, moved to Canada to pursue higher studies after completing his bachelor's in electrical engineering from India. After graduation, he would like to follow his passion for writing. This is his first published work.

PROMPTED BY HAPPINESS

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Owen Sound's first poet laureate, Liz Zetlin has a new collection of poetry, *Prompted by Happiness*, available at The Ginger Press (\$15.95). Former Owen Sound Poetry Laureate Terry Burns calls the book "a meditation on uncertain and change...a woman exploring

her relationships with family, friends, place, her heritage, world events, and the practice of mindfulness." Discover more about the book and her writing process at <https://blackmosspress.com/elizabeth-zetlin-interview/>.



BEING SENIOR IN OWEN SOUND

ELIZABETH WILLMOTT • • • • •

My husband, Don, and I purchased a part-time house in Derby Township in 1988. We fell in love with Grey County while exploring and did the rashest thing we had ever done. I was 60 and Don was 63. In 1994, we moved to a house in Owen Sound under the Niagara Escarpment where we lived for 17 years – the longest we'd lived anywhere.

Don's inability to continue driving because of vascular dementia took us downtown to a house in sight of the library. His hip fracture next took us to a disability-friendly house near the Old Courthouse where we now live.

Aside from the area's beauty, we were attracted to Owen Sound because of its hospital, library, and the Tom Thomson Gallery (I am an artist). The hospital saved my life! I suffered from severe pulmonary thrombosis (due to an unknown blood clot in my leg called DVT). I got to the hospital in a few minutes with a Team waiting for my arrival. The symptoms come without warning and I was told you can easily die in half an hour. In Toronto I would not have arrived at the hospital in time. I had never heard of it, yet it is a major cause of death among healthy people. The clue is that you feel weak and cannot make a fist. Nothing hurts!

Vascular dementia is caused by strokes that deprive the brain of oxygen yet are too tiny to notice. We have found the local Alzheimer's Society to be a strong support. Of course a lot is cancelled now because of Covid-19, but in normal times: 1) counsellors are a source of information and help;

2) there is a weekly Memory Café at the Frog Pond where people gather for friendship, support and information sharing; 3) several informative series are run; and 4) a program run through the Family Y combines exercise of both body and mind.

Although Alzheimer's Disease strikes more women than men, it is noticeable that there are more men than women with dementia registered in the society's programs. The men are usually brought by their wives! The effect is that women with memory problems are not participating in the community as they might. Too many are missing out on the stimulation and joy involved. There are social-role reasons for this. But perhaps these can be overcome.

Don broke his hip in 2017 and was in Long Term Care (LTC) for awhile. He learned to walk with a rollator and, although his left foot lacks normal mobility, he can move about independently with supervision. He has been at home with me for nearly two years. He receives two hours a week of provincially funded care and normally participates in the locally run and subsidized Day Away program three days a week. I have also put paid help in place. He is much happier than in LTC and it costs less.

By writing about our experiences here, I hope to help other Owen Sounders navigate old age.

Elizabeth Willmott is an artist whose work is included in the Tom Thomson Gallery collection.



GEORGIAN BAY CENTRE FOR THE ARTS

MORAG BUDGEON

The Georgian Bay Centre for the Arts (GBarts) is an educational makers' space offering classes in pottery, jewellery, printmaking, stained glass and numerous other mediums. Located next door to the Artists' Co-op in historic downtown Owen Sound, the Centre is steadily growing, offering new classes for children and adults, open studios and acquiring new equipment regularly. GBarts is a main street creative hub. A variety of users – professional and public – have access to the specialized tools and equipment, encouraging collaboration and skills development. The emphasis is on printmaking, pottery, jewellery, and stained glass, with a swing space/classroom to explore other disciplines, including textiles, painting, drawing, encaustic, and alternative mediums. The 6500-square foot beautifully renovated space compliments the expanding arts culture in Owen Sound.

The centre boasts a sweet eating spot, The Palette Café, and recently welcomed Marnie Weiss of Red Hot Catering into their kitchen. Enjoy a delicious lunch while sipping on a Mudtown draft or Spy Cider. There is plenty of room for social distancing.

Classes are limited to small sizes and all COVID-19 protocols are in place. They fill quickly, so register now for yourself (and for others for Christmas) at gbarts.ca, in person at 938 2nd Avenue East, or call (519) 371-2200. Gift certificates are also available.

Upcoming classes and workshops include (visit gbarts.ca for the full list):

- Nov 13 Clay Spoons with Marcelina Salazar (\$70)
- Nov 14 Victorian Christmas Egg Decoration with Pam Woodward (\$50)
- Nov 18 or 19 Wreathmaking with Joanna Bottrell (\$70)
- Nov 20 Clay Christmas Decorations with Marcelina Salazar (70)
- Nov 22 Handbuilding Clay Birds with Jan Mok (\$80)
- Nov 22 Exploring Cold Wax and Oil with Laurie Skantzios (\$110)

- Nov 24 Watercolour Studies – Animals with Kailey Lang (\$70)
- Dec 4 Step by Step Acrylic Painting with Peter John Reid (\$100)
- Dec 5 Barn Quilting with Alan McIntosh (\$75)
- Dec 6 Watercolour Painting - Buildings with Michelle Minke (\$85)
- Dec 9 Acrylic Painting Christmas Image with Kelly Maw (\$50)
- Dec 14 Etched Copper Christmas Ornaments with Kate Civiero (\$68)
- Jan 16-17 Painting Fast and Loose with Peter John Reid (\$180)



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A CHRISTMAS NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

adapted from Sheila's book *All Right So Far*

SHEILA BALLS • • • • •

Christmas at the local museum will be different this year, but then maybe it is almost as satisfying to remember how it used to be: The night was cold, but inside, light and music from the Salvation Army band had everyone smiling. Two young men with tweed caps and suspenders entered the room and the audience all but held its breath. This was what we were all waiting for. With great care, the men began lighting candles on the tall Christmas tree, long tapers in one hand and fire extinguishers in the other. *O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree* the band played, and we filed out the door. We passed an 1800s dining room re-creation. Each year the toys in the display were exactly the same. And each year my mother pointed out things she remembered from her childhood.

A short walk took us to the first little cabin and we crowded in, thinking about the pioneers and their primitive living conditions. How hard those beds must have been, and how cold, despite the flames in the huge open fireplace.

The musician playing *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen* was probably not expecting an outburst of four-part harmony to accompany him but, where there is music, our family cannot resist singing. Women in long cotton dresses and white house caps served cups of goose stew, but the little building could hold only a dozen people at a time. So those coming in and those going out took turns at the narrow doorway.

We moved to the open fire outside, solemnly spooning the steaming mixture into our mouths before proceeding to the log house just up the road. In its kitchen we chose fancy cookies to go with our apple cider. A swag of fat-bellied calico gingerbread men with ribbons at their necks hung in one window. I looked for it every year.

This year I'll imagine singing *O Christmas Tree*, and crowding into the log cabin, and eating goose stew, as we once did. Have one of those fancy cookies for me, will you?

Sheila's website is www.mooalleypress.ca

REFLECTIONS: THE LIFE AND WORK OF J.W. (JACK) MCLAREN

AMY ZOETHOUT • • • • •

Explore the fascinating life and the extraordinary work of Huron County artist Jack McLaren in *Reflections*, the newest exhibit on now at the Huron County Museum in Goderich. Presented in partnership with the Huron County Historical Society, *Reflections* travels from mirth and mud at Ypres Salient and Vimy Ridge to the vibrancy of landscapes from Huron County and the Maitland River Valley, telling the story of McLaren's prolific career as an artist, illustrator, and performer.

The exhibition shares a portion of McLaren's extensive body of work, including an incredible collection of close to 100 pieces of his art on loan from the local community. The exhibit also looks back on his fascinating life, including his time in World War I where he performed as a member of the famous Dumbells Comedy Troupe, his successful career

as a graphic designer, and his membership in the Toronto Arts and Letters Club where he became associated with the Group of Seven.

"It's very gratifying that the new dates for this exhibit will allow the Jack McLaren story to be told at the museum," said Acting Senior Curator Sinead Cox. "His work brings local, national and international stories together, and is always infused with his trademark sense of humour."

The original opening of *Reflections* was delayed this spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will now run at the Huron County Museum until April 30, 2021. *Reflections* is included with regular admission. To pre-arrange your visit, please call (519) 524-2686 and review the latest guidelines for visiting the museum on www.huroncountymuseum.ca.

THE FESTIVE SEASON AT THE FARMERS' MARKET

RICHARD THOMAS • • • • •

It's hard to believe the year is coming to a close, though some of us will be happy to turn the page and hope for brighter fortunes in 2021. As with many businesses and organizations, the Owen Sound Farmers' Market closed during the early days of coronavirus. Unlike many businesses, many of the market vendors couldn't just stop – the hens kept laying, no matter what the people were doing.

Within the first couple of weeks, a number of vendors switched to a farm gate system of delivery. Though markets were deemed an essential service, the Grey Bruce Health Unit encouraged us to choose an online shop with curbside pickup model for re-opening. By the start of May we were ready, using Local Line, a startup from Waterloo. Shoppers could place online orders from Sunday noon until Thursday noon. Pickup was on Saturday afternoons at the market.

In June, the market was able to physically re-open as an outdoor market, with a smaller indoor presence in the old market building. At the time, the board of the Owen Sound Market Vendors' Association decided to continue with the

online shop. It recognized that some people just weren't comfortable coming back under the present circumstances. Sales have remained steady, with Saturday morning pickup taking place on the 8th Street side of the building.

None of us can predict what might happen next. The market online store (www.owesoundfarmersmarket.ca) will remain open, so if we do get caught by another quarantine, the flow of farm fresh food and craft will continue without a pause. As we approach the holiday season, the physical market will remain as you see it now: an outdoor market.

With the unfortunate cancellation of many Christmas craft shows, we invite you to stop by and see what our year round crafters have to offer. Our food vendors remain committed to providing the freshest foods year round – if all we can do during a pandemic is eat, then it should be local, fresh and wholesome!

The Owen Sound Farmers' Market truly appreciates your patronage. We wish you the best of the holiday season, and share our hope that 2021 will be a better year for all of us.

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HOCKEY ROAD

ERIC ZWEIG • • • • •

During the winter of 2014–15, in its inaugural season, the traveling circus that is Rogers Hometown Hockey came to Owen Sound for the weekend of January 3-4. I appeared with Ron MacLean during the second-period intermission of the Sunday night broadcast to tell the story of the Owen Sound Greys' 1924 Memorial Cup championship.

The Greys were the first small town team to win the Memorial Cup which had been donated to Canadian Junior hockey in 1919. The Greys beat teams from Toronto, Montreal, and Calgary en route to winning the first national title to be brought home to this tiny town on the shores of Georgian Bay.

The story I told that night was about the large crowds who stood in the streets during the playoffs to get the scores of the games by telegraph outside the local newspaper office. In a town of just 12,000 people, there were 8,000 fans who turned out to greet the team when they returned home from Winnipeg for a parade from the CNR train station to the Market Square, a few blocks away. The old newspaper reports are quite remarkable.


But the story I had actually pitched to Rogers was something I called *Hockey Road*. The Greys were a true small-town success story. Not only did six of the team's nine main players all grow up in Owen Sound, three of them were raised within a few blocks of each other on the same street: 4th Avenue West in a long stretch from 13th Street to 20th. They learned to play hockey at Victoria School (which regularly produced the best teams in town during this era) under the tutelage of the elementary school's one-armed principal and hockey

coach, Henry Kelso – for whom Kelso Beach in Owen Sound is named.

Kelso also lived on 4th Avenue West, a block away from the school. Teddy Graham and Butch Keeling were two of the players who grew up there, and both went on to play in the NHL. Even so, it was the third of these 4th Avenue boys who made the biggest contribution to the team's success: Goalie Hedley Smith was just 15 years old when he made the Greys in 1923.

As a 16-year-old boy in 1924, he stopped 23 shots in the third period alone as Owen Sound hung on desperately to take home the title in the final game of the season. Smith had moved to Owen Sound with his family in 1917, at the age of 10. According to his obituary in the *Owen Sound Sun Times* on October 19, 1983 (he had died two days earlier), Smith was, "a steady player who rose to the heights when the chips were on the line." He had many offers to continue in hockey after his junior career ended but decided to pursue his education instead. He received a degree as a chartered accountant in 1934 and later became president of the William Kennedy and Sons foundry in Owen Sound. He was one of the first athletes named to the Owen Sound Sports Hall of Fame in 1981.

Eric Zweig has written about sports and sports history for many major publications. He has also been a writer/producer with CBC Radio Sports and TSN SportsRadio, and written several popular books about hockey, including Star Power: The Legend and Lore of Cyclone Taylor (the story of one of Canada's greatest athletes who grew up in Tara and became hockey's first superstar).



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WELLNESS RECOVERY

MELANIE KNAPP • • • • •

Recently I was presented with a three-year service award by GBHS (Grey Bruce Health Services). It has been seven years since I turned around a negative experience at the hospital by working to find solutions. It's been three years since I registered as a volunteer, but my role has been much more. I have been leading a people's movement to have more solution-focused recovery plans and more room for art, music, poetry, exercise, comfort and community involvement at the hospital. This means less reliance on medication for wellness and more therapeutic options.

Mental health is as important as physical health and senior care. Recently I spoke to an audience of over 100 via a virtual meeting to encourage others to make changes at their facilities and listen to the patient voice to make these changes. There was a positive response; one participant said that GBHS did an awesome job at inspiring others.

It is with joy that I received the service award for GBHS. It is hard work to do this job and being recognized is great. The people have many solutions to problems in mental health. They often have their own solutions to their situations if listened to respectfully and kindly. When asked what one of their main concerns was, people wanted more time to be

listened to when in hospital and spoken kindly to. The second main concern was the use of less medication and more recovery-based programs and options. When people feel they are cared for, they recover easier.

Donations can be made directly to the mental health contact at the hospital or to myself at melaknappsnowflake@yahoo.ca. Toiletries and items such as colouring books, journals, music and prayer books from different faiths are all welcome. Your thoughts and prayers for people when they are going through a difficult time are most welcome. Remember that people are diverse and different in age, religion, background, orientation and culture. As well, prayers and positive thoughts for those like myself and our families who support those in crisis are appreciated.

If you are going through a difficult time there is now a crisis recovery room which we have developed over the past year where a person can stabilize over a day or two without staying in hospital. If you feel broken, maybe there are places that the brokenness can let the light shine through? It is a struggle: sometimes recovery means many counselling appointments and doctors appointments; other times it means pizza, or a sunny day or a favourite song. God bless!



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DECEMBER 5-6: Simple Hinged Box with Jonathan Cox
JANUARY 23-24: Make a Designer Lamp with George Hart
FEBRUARY 8-12: Hand Tools with Pierre Rousseau

299 10th St at 3rd Ave East, Owen Sound

Visit **intersectionsstudio.com**
for more information
and to register for classes



Route 1 & 2

Highway 10
Owen Sound to Orangeville

MON
to
FRI

Route 3 & 4

Highway 26
Owen Sound to Blue Mountain

WED
to
SUN

Route 5

Highway 6
Owen Sound to Wiarton

TUE
to
THU

Route 6

Grey Road 4
Flesherton to Walkerton

MON
&
FRI

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Grey Transit Route

Grey County, with funding from the Province of Ontario's Community Transportation Program, is now operating four intercommunity transit routes in the region. Grey Transit Route (GTR) offers service between Owen Sound and Orangeville along Highway 10, between Owen Sound and Town of The Blue Mountains on Highway 26, between Owen Sound and Wiarton on Highway 6, between Flesherton and Walkerton on Grey Road 4.

Grey County has contracted local transportation company Driverseat Owen Sound to provide 10 passenger vehicles for the GTR service. Driverseat staff have been operating safely throughout the pandemic with safety and sanitizing procedures in place for the protection of staff and customers. For customer convenience, Driverseat vehicles will be equipped to handle electronic fare payment.

Fares range from \$2.50 to \$5.00 making GTR an affordable transportation option for getting to employment, appointments, stores and services and more. All rides are required to be booked in advance. Book your ride online at www.Grey.ca/GTR or by calling (1) 226-910-1001.

Fully accessible transportation is not currently available due to manufacturing delays, but it will be provided as soon as possible. Riders with accessibility needs can call Driverseat to arrange an alternative accessible service.

Supplied by Grey County



INTERSECTIONS

STEPHEN HOGBIN

“You can’t go back and change the beginning but you can start where you are and change the ending.” - C.S. Lewis

In a recent exchange with Carolyn Hirtle, who was an artist in Residence at Intersections, I discovered that her time with us helped redirect her career path towards the discipline of art therapy. In an email, Carolyn observed that “I am quite set on including woodworking in my practice of art therapy. Personally I have found hand tools especially empowering, and the attentive repetition in a good number of woodworking tasks allow for access to optimal experience or ‘flow’ state. Using the lathe in particular I have found time slip away completely while cutting to a contour that feels right. It seems as if there are endless ways to research these ideas, for instance how the embodied or expressive nature of the router changes at your particular studio once you’ve rigged it up to somewhat defy gravity.”

It is while in these states of mind – where time seems suspended or disappears from the usual way of experiencing things – that some of the best work is made. It can be therapeutic to be lost in the process while working, or why else would there be such a strong draw to making? In our classes and with the instructors I also jokingly talk about the therapy of cleaning up the studio workshop. It may be a ploy to not leave the studio in a mess; however, for me sweeping up is a contemplative act which strengthens the sense of accomplishment.

Starting a project takes planning and problem solving where skill and challenge work hand-in-hand towards a

solution. The resolution reduces stress and opens time out for the next experience. I think classes at Intersections achieve these experiences. A beginning, middle and end, well defined and doable.

There are two classes left before the year ends. One in November, **Beginners Woodwork with Pierre Rousseau**, is full at this point with a waiting list. The other class, **Making a Hinged Box with Jonathan Cox**, (December 5 & 6, \$192.10 + materials \$15) still has a couple of spaces.

Next, we will have **Making a Designer Lamp with George Hart** (January 23 & 24; \$192.10 includes tax + materials \$20) and **Hand Tools with Pierre Rousseau** (February 8 to 12; \$508.50 + materials \$60). One week of making various hand tools is the best way to know how wood likes to be worked. The tools will be an asset for the workshop and fine woodworking. March and April both have classes already on the website and others will be listed soon.

We also offer opportunities for families or social bubbles to take workshops together in groups of up to six. To date, different private classes have made Hand Tools, Paddles for the Canoe or Kayak, a Vase for Valentine’s Day, Carving Kitchen Utensils, Wood Turning on the Lathe and so on. I just need to know what people want to make together and then find the appropriate instructor. With all our studio workshop classes, we start with safety and then move into the project.

Intersections is located at the intersection of 10th St and 3rd Avenue East in downtown Owen Sound. Visit www.intersectionsstudio.com for a complete list of upcoming classes and other events.



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THE WORDS ALOUD FESTIVAL RE-ORGANIZES AND REGROUPS

RICHARD-YVES SITOSKI • • • • •

Since 2004, the Words Aloud Festival of Spoken Word and Storytelling has brought to Grey and Bruce counties some of the finest poets in Canada and from abroad. But as with all arts organizations, our plans have been upended by COVID-19. This has provided the festival with an opportunity to reflect on its past and consider its future. After much deliberation, we have decided to take several steps in order to continue presenting our audiences with the most dynamic poetry around. Please bear in mind that these changes are all provisional, as we need to remain flexible under ever-changing circumstances.

First, we are taking a hiatus in 2021 and will return in April, 2022, under the shorter name of Words Aloud; look for a re-branded festival with different activities and a new focus. Next, our events will be concentrated now on Owen Sound, and we are proud to have solidified our partnership with the Owen Sound and North Grey Union Public Library as our charitable sponsor. Finally, we are under new admin-

istration: former committee members who made the festival what it is today have moved on to embrace new challenges, and we wish them every success. Yvonne Pelletier will be the Interim Coordinating Director, Carolin Brooks will be the Library Liaison, and Richard-Yves Sitoski will be Interim Artistic Director. Current expressions of interest for committee and volunteer roles are always welcome.

The festival wishes to extend a hearty thanks to all who have attended and who have performed in the past. Lovers of live poetry can access previous performances on our YouTube channel. We look forward to new challenges and new experiences. In times of crisis, art becomes all the more important. It is, we are convinced, the thing that will save our spirits. It helps us, to paraphrase Mary Oliver, to create the world every morning. We are looking forward to seeing what we can create – and we hope you will join us as we evolve. For more information, please go to <https://wordsaloud.ca/>.



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ROUNDNESS

ROBERT W. MENZIES • • • • •

Why are so many rocks and stones rounded?
Was it years and years of tumbling down mountains,
Or being washed by waves?
Maybe it just takes a long time to get well-rounded.
Humans are soft flesh, but many seem so rigid and hard-edged:
All angular and sharp.
They think they're tough and resistant...
Rugged individualism at best...
Not fully grasping that they are, in fact,
More easily stackable and turned into walls;
More employably dangerous and easily weaponized;
More easily crushed and turned into pavement to walk upon.
If we only get 80 years – *give or take* – to work on our roundness,
We'd best start early,
And that's where History might help.
Unlike rocks we have both feelings and brains.
How we use them will determine what shape we can attain.
It doesn't have to be as dramatic as stumbling down mountainsides,
Or being tumbled by the tides.

GITCHE NAMEWIKWEDONG

ROB ROLFE • • • • •

Gitche Namewikwedong
this is the bay of your youth
unknowable untouchable it was too blue
too cold and it rejected you
it was always there but it was outside of you
and its name meant nothing to you
some stranger's name from some other place
no one ever whispered its true name
its beautiful name the name we didn't know
gitche namewikwedong
great sturgeon bay

PRESSREADER FOR OSNGUPL MEMBERS

NADIA DANYLUK • • • • •

The Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library (OSNGUPL) is excited to provide library members with access to PressReader. Enjoy full text content from over 7,000 international newspapers and magazines from over 120 countries, in over 60 languages. At the library, at home or on the go, PressReader is available with your library card.

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WELCOME BACK TO GREY ROOTS!

KATRINA PEREDUN • • • • •

Grey Roots Museum & Archives opened its doors to guests on September 16 after a six-month shutdown. The facility closed to the public in March following regional and provincial health guidelines to limit the spread of COVID-19.

New Grey Roots Manager Jill Paterson is excited to be welcoming back guests. Jill joined Grey Roots in April, bringing with her a wonderful range of experience gained from her work with Historica Canada and the City of Toronto's museums. She, along with the rest of the Grey Roots staff, was hard at work over the summer to ensure a safe visiting experience for guests, staff, and volunteers when the facility reopened.

Moreston Heritage Village, Grey Roots' seasonal ten acre living history site, remained open until Thanksgiving weekend to allow the public more time to enjoy the outdoor space and fall weather. The outdoor Village spaces are being

used again in the weeks leading up to Christmas to provide safe, physically distanced holiday fun.

Indoors, the popular exhibit *Facing the Flames: The History of Firefighting in Grey County* has been extended until May 2021. Visitors can explore the original exhibit *Voices of Grey*, which features a variety of local artefacts and moving personal stories about Grey County's past, present, and future, and check out a new interactive exhibit, *More Power to You: Simple Machines in Everyday Life*, which was originally set to open during March Break. The Archives is open as well, welcoming researchers back by appointment.

Grey Roots will continue to follow Public Health guidelines as we adjust to our new fall and winter routines. Visitors are asked to book a time slot for their visit in advance, as capacity at Grey Roots is limited. Bookings can be made online at greyroots.com or over the phone at (519) 376-3690. See greyroots.com for details.

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AT GREY GALLERY

JURIED EXHIBITION

Illustrated recipes from the Artists' Kitchen Table exhibition will continue in November, followed by a display of antique and vintage prints, and a selection of work marking the end of the Year of the Rat.

Be sure to drop by in person, Wednesday to Saturday from noon to 5pm, as there is always something new and unusual to see.

**883 2nd Ave E, Owen Sound
226-664-2776**

  /ggowensound

John Laughlin, Hot Rat

