

The Massie Messenger

A Biannual Newsletter

Issue N° 31 Spring 2023

What Did You Miss?



Photographs by Ralph Bergman

Did you make it to any of the 2022 concerts at Massie Hall? If not, here's a snapshot of the great music and fun performers you missed!

The Beatles' Tribute was a sold-out Massie extravaganza! Our two local bands, The Millpond Project and The Little Bigheads, had a whale of a time playing and singing as individual bands and altogether – and the audience loved it! Thanks to Pete Miller for organizing this fabulous 2022 season concert opener and all the other concerts, and doing the sound!

The Dave Hawkins concert was held outdoors on a breezy, sunny day. It was a pleasure to listen to his poetry set to acoustic guitar.

The Boots and Roots foursome covered a broad range of musical territory from heartfelt to wildly

entertaining. Their music brought the audience to life and we enjoyed the amusing banter among the artists about which key the next song should be played in!

Drew McIvor couldn't fail to please with his infectious humour and great lyrics. He sang one song in Portuguese because, according to him, the lyrics in English would have had us all blushing! His buddy Bam, playing the cajon – essentially an empty box that makes great sound – obviously loves playing with him. Drew even got one of the audience members, Kailey Jane Hawkins, to sing harmony to The Question Song. What a treat!

Larry Jensen gave us an intimate look into our lives through his storytelling. The audience was gathered to hear him in the quiet hall, as if in his living room. His songs dealt with many themes, includ-

ing trying to leave the little town of his youth, coping with pandemic lockdowns and losing one of our local musicians. Larry gave so much so easily.

The plan was to hold the concerts outdoors if the weather cooperated. All but one ended up in the hall, but they were still most enjoyable! The delicate musical and sound equipment must be protected from rain or hail, so even if there's a possibility of inclement weather, it's just safer (and not nail-biting) to bring everything indoors. We'll follow the same protocol this year. Hope to see you there!



Dave Hawkins on the outdoor concert stage.



Tigger visited just about everybody at the outdoor concert



Larry Jensen mellowed out inside the hall.

The three 2023 Massie Hall concerts finalized to date are featured on pages 4 and 5. BUT we have two surprise concerts in the works which we will let you know about in due course. Stay tuned to massiehall.com or Facebook, or check for details in the summer issue of The Massie Messenger which will be out in July. Will this year's concerts be as great as previous events? You bet!

Another Massie Celebration!



Lisa Hunter, the groom's mother, the newlyweds and Rocky Neelands



Kiera and Keegan Hunter on Wendy Neelands' dock

Photography by King's Studio

Emrys Robert Thomas Euesden

Emrys at 8 months old is crawling, loves music and being outside! His mother Julie says he's starting to love foods like oatmeal with peanut butter, black beans and frozen peach slices. He is pretty social, with a smile for anyone who stops to say hi!



If you'd like your baby's photo featured in the Messenger please send your high-resolution photograph to Renee at ifedun@explornet.com.

Live at Massie Hall

Rick Fines

Saturday June 10, 7 pm
In the Hall Building

Tickets \$22.00 massiehall.com

Canadian roots music veteran Rick Fines has visited Massie Hall several times, on his own and with singer-songwriter Suzie Vinnick. His appearances in our little hamlet are always greatly anticipated and he never disappoints! “Rick Fines crafts a unique blend of warm-hearted blues, juke joint folk and dockside soul that both embraces and defies the genres that influence him.” His latest CD is called Solar Powered Too! We’ll make sure Rick has some on hand to sell to his many admirers!



Scott Almond

Sunday July 16, 2 pm
On the outdoor stage
Bring your lawnchairs

Tickets \$18.00 massiehall.com

Meaford’s country star Scott Almond, a vocalist and rhythm guitarist, has delighted audiences locally for over two decades. His 2004 CD, *This Hard Land*, is a compilation of covers and originals that keep his fans asking for more. He hopes to record again and go on tour (he’s popular in the Netherlands!), but his day job keeps him playing “in the neighbourhood.” Lucky for us, he is performing at Massie Hall in 2023.



The Millpond Project

An Afternoon with Mr. Zimmerman: The Songs and Stories of Bob Dylan

October -date and time to be determined

In the Hall Building

Tickets \$18.00 massiehall.com

Massie's homegrown quartet celebrates iconic American wordsmith Bob Dylan, who has written over 500 songs recorded by more than 2,000 musicians around the world!



Don Kivell 1958-2022



Don riding around the parking lot at the back of Massie Hall.



Don, Cathy, Travis and Vaniessa with Don's gorgeous garden in the background.

Don, his wife Cathy and baby Travis moved to the scenic hamlet of Massie in June of 1984. Shortly thereafter, Travis had his first birthday in their new home!

Don loved Massie: seeing neighbours waving as they drove by, taking Travis to the dam to fish, participating in community functions, and hopping on his Mule (an ATV which carries six people) to explore the neighbourhood! Among his favourite pastimes were flying kites, watching the wild birds and gardening. The family appreciated the Geranium Tea for all the great baking available for sale!

The Kivells had chickens – meat birds and egg layers – and then pheasants, unruly birds that would fly over the fence. It was a challenge getting them back in their coop.

Don was always willing to lend a hand with spring cleanup, cutting community lawns, blowing snow off driveways or just helping a neighbour. As Ed Neelands says, we miss “his expansive wave”!

Our hearts go out to Cathy, Travis and his wife Vaniessa, and Don's brother Wayne and his family.

Dogs of Massie



Nymble and Salut Watson



Tyrone Charles and Tucker Elizabeth Downey



Oakley Kiss



Nymble Watson



Buddy Thompson



Einstein Miller



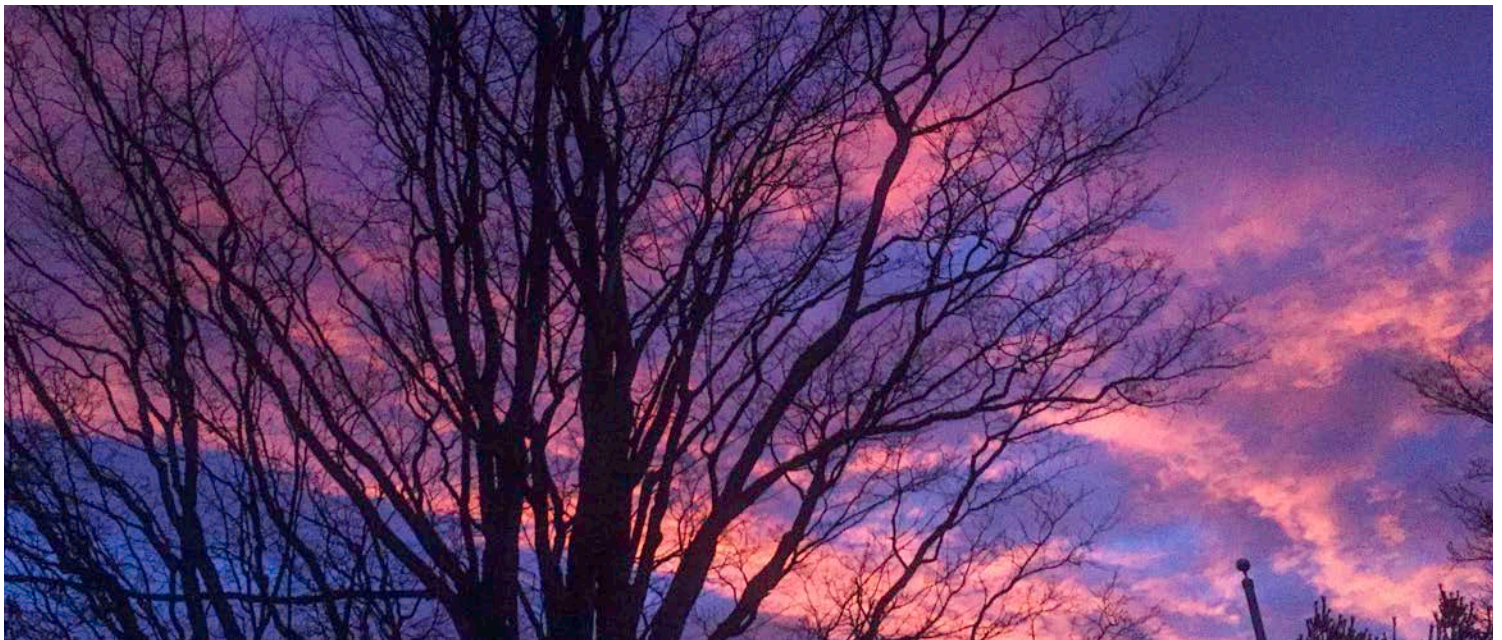
Oakley, Dexter and Odie Kiss



Molly Grant



Roxy and Sparkle the cat Bergman



Photograph by Ralph Bergman

2023 Events

- Sundays **Massie United Church.** Sunday services at 10 a.m. with Rev. Debbie Grant presiding. All are welcome.
- Sundays **Massie Church Sunday services at 11:30 a.m.** Pastor Michael Henkel. 496660 Veterans Road North in the spring. Summer services may be held outdoors at different venues. Call Marie at 519-794-3571 for details. Fellowship after service: bring a lunch!
- Saturday May 13 **Massie Annual Geranium Sale and Garage Sale** Geraniums: 9 a.m. to noon at the Downeys.
Garage sale: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Carl Seeley's driveway. Rent a table for \$10 and take all your proceeds home.

AS ALWAYS, MASSIE HALL WILL BE HOLDING A FISH FRY IN THE SUMMER AND A MUM SALE IN SEPTEMBER. STAY TUNED – DATES WILL BE ANNOUNCED SOON. FOR THE LIST OF MASSIE HALL CONCERTS, RETURN TO PAGES 4 & 5.



Many thanks to the congregation of the Massie Church for raising \$360 for the Red Cross Ukraine Relief Fund through their Easter Memorial!

Editorial Board

Renee Fedun — Editor
Ralph Bergman — Art Director