BAYFIELD BREEZE
the village's own online news source

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BAYFIELD BREEZE

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LABYRINTH VILLAGE "DISCOVERY"

BY MELODY FALCONER-POUNDER

A labyrinth by definition is an archetype, a divine imprint, found in places as varied as the Andes Mountains, the Island of Wier in Finland, the nave of the Chartes Cathedral in France, and the back yard of 13 Clan Gregor Square in the Village of Bayfield.

Its recent “discovery” by members of the community was practically providential.

Bayfield resident Joyce Lambert explains, “I have done meditation for many years and have gained an interest in labyrinths since visiting with the Sisters of St. Josephs in London. I recently met with Shelagh Sully of the Bayfield Horticultural Society about having a labyrinth in the village. It was then we discovered a wonderful labyrinth already existed in Bayfield in the garden behind The Spa.”

The labyrinth in question is of the classical variety, meaning the design consists of a single pathway that loops back and forth to form seven circuits, bounded by eight walls, surrounding the central goal. It was created using rope and stone by the owner of The Spa in Bayfield, Phyllis McTaggart.

According to Lambert, McTaggart has “most graciously welcomed the idea of the public making use of the labyrinth and she volunteered to place a covered box with a book inside so that anyone who wishes may sign that they have been there.”

Rev. Susan Moore, of Knox Presbyterian Church, said, “We are very fortunate to have it here. Its creation has obviously been a labor of love as they are very time consuming to build.”

Rev. Moore plans to work the labyrinth into her summer book study. The study entitled, Catch Your Breath, will be based on the book of the same name by Don Postema. The sessions will be held at Knox Presbyterian Church every other Thursday starting July 9 from 10-11:30 a.m.

“It is my hope to introduce participants to what a labyrinth is, the traditions surrounding it and then have a meditative walk and come to the garden to experience one first hand,” said Rev. Moore.

Shelagh Sully hopes that members of the local Horticultural Society will also make use of the labyrinth.

“At our next society meeting I am going to encourage everyone to come here,” she said.

All three women agree that the labyrinth is about more than just the spiritual and religious communities.

Shelagh Sully and Joyce Lambert (foreground) show that there is no wrong way to journey through the labyrinth.

TOWN HALL

Approximately 550 people walked through the doors of the eight fabulous homes on display when the Bayfield Town Hall Heritage Society held The 2009 Town and Country Home and Garden Tour, on July 4.

"It is a therapeutic journey that only takes fifteen to 20 minutes. If someone comes here with a problem they can walk through the issue and by the end they may find some peace, some closure, regarding the issue," said Rev. Moore.

"It is a melding of the east and the west; a wonderful world of ideas," said Lambert. "A great part of it is that there are no barriers, there are no walls here. It is open to anyone."

LABYRINTH ETIQUETTE

The Labyrinth at 13 Clan Gregor Square was created in the classical style by The Spa in Bayfield owner Phyllis McTaggart. She is pleased to open it to the community to use. In this photo (l-r) Joyce Lambert, Shelagh Sully and Rev. Susan Moore take a quiet moment on its path.

According to The Labyrinth Society website, there are 3,100 Labyrinths registered in over 65 countries and there is no right or wrong way to journey through any one of these. There are no tricks to it or dead ends. It is one path which winds throughout and becomes a mirror for where those who enter are in their lives. When walking through the labyrinth place your weight from heal to toe and become aware of your own breathing. By taking the journey at your own pace you may pass others or allow others to pass you. The Three Fold Path used at the labyrinth is: entering, centering and returning.

ENTERING or stepping onto the labyrinth, is a releasing, a letting go of the details of your life. It quiets the mind.

CENTERING is arriving at the center and staying there as long as you like. It is a place of meditation and/or prayer where you can receive that which is there for you to receive.

RETURNING, as you leave, following the same path out of the centre as you came in, you bring back to the world what is awakened in your heart.

The gardens at 13 Clan Gregor Square provide a tranquil setting for reflection and journeying the labyrinth as was recently discovered by Rev. Susan Moore, Shelagh Sully (standing) and Joyce

The home of Walter and Min Zuppinger, 1 Tuyll Street, was one of eight houses featured in the Bayfield Town Hall Heritage Society's 2009 Town and Country Home and Garden Tour.Approximately, 550 visitors admired this turn-of-the century Tudor home over the course of the tour held on July 4.

"The feedback was very positive both from visitors and home owners," said Margo Robeson, one of the organizers of the tour. "Bayfield merchants and restaurant owners were very supportive with donations which helped cover expenses."

Of the eight homes on the tour, four were located in the village, two were north across the Bayfield River and two were south along the lakeshore.

According to Robeson, participants seemed "very pleased with the variety of homes styles and décor as well as garden and landscaping styles."

Proceeds from the tour go toward the maintenance and upkeep of the historic Bayfield Town Hall.

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Jazz is the musical genre of choice for the next in a series of concerts to be held at the Bayfield Town Hall.

Vocal Jazz quartet, After Four, will take to the hall's stage on July 25. This will be a return visit to the hall for Jenny and Ron Nauta, Theresa Wallis and Dave Williams. They will be accompanied by an instrumental quintet. Their lively renditions of traditional jazz songs will be sure to have fingers snapping and toes tapping.

Tickets for this 8 p.m. show are now available for $20 per person. For more information please contact Pat Langley at 519 565-2894.

The Bayfield Town Hall wishes to acknowledge OLG for their generous sponsorship of this concert

PIONEER PARK

The doors of the Bayfield Arena will open on the 62nd annual Pioneer Park Rummage Sale, July 10.

At 7 p.m. people will be allowed into the sale where they will be able to browse through a wide variety of merchandise including, household items, books, collectibles, tools, toys, furniture and baking

A silent auction will also be a featured part of the event.

Lambert (right).

LABYRINTH GRACE

The Path of Grace is the name given to the labyrinth created by Phyllis McTaggart in the back yard at 13 Clan Gregor Square.

It has been the central focus of the gardens since 2000. It was initially made out of rope. The rope was originally part of a dumb waiter removed from her husband's family home in Clinton. After awhile the rope began to rot so stone was added to mark out the walls of the labyrinth. These stones have been collected from the beach and around the local area.

McTaggart first saw a labyrinth while on vacation in Europe. It was in a big cathedral. When she returned home she began to investigate them further.

"I felt that the back yard at The Spa in Bayfield was the perfect enclave for a labyrinth as it is a place of wellness. The labyrinth provides an opportunity to experience some peace and quiet amid the stressful lives we all have," said McTaggart.

OPTIMIST CLUB

Bubbles, magic, balloons, hotdogs and a fire truck tour: what more could a child ask for on a sunny Saturday in the summer? The Optimist Club of Bayfield offered it all and more during their annual Play Day held on July 4 on the grounds beside the Fire Hall.

According to Optimist member, Dale Brandon, "There were a ton of kids, more than in other years for sure. It was a great few hours."

The club members came together to offer some traditional favorites like sack races and the always popular craft table.

Snippity the Clown was kept very busy making some fairly outrageous balloon hats and Jennifer Black of Goderich had them lined up for her face painting talents.

Magician Daniel Steep of Clinton kept the crowds mesmerized. Many a young lad and lass were delighted with a tour of the fire trucks. The club sincerely appreciates the cooperation of the Bayfield Fire Department for making the tours possible.

A surprise this year was a delight for all ages – an ice carving demonstration. Over the course of the event, Dave Heatherington transformed a block of ice into a fish.

Play Day is an annual free event organized by the Bayfield Optimist Club as a thank you to all in the community who support their fundraisers for youth related projects.

Coryn Knox, 9, of Bayfield, showed that the simplest of summer pleasures can bring a smile.

Hailey Brandon, 8, of Varna, took advantage of all that was offered at the Bayfield Optimist Club's annual Play Day.

Donations to the sale will be gratefully accepted at the arena from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on July 9-10. Anyone in need of help delivering items should contact Bud Robinson at 519 565-5322.

Items that will no longer be accepted are clothing, shoes, magazines, encyclopedias, large appliances, building materials and mattresses. Baby furniture, sports equipment and electrical items must be CSA approved.

The length of the line for face painting was at times extraordinarily long but Jennifer Black, of Goderich, took it all in stride as she applied her talents to the cheeks of many smiling youngsters.

HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Rosie Weiss of Bayfield was honored by the Bluewater Heritage Committee (BHC) for her efforts to preserve the heritage character of her properties on the corner of Catherine and Main Streets in the village. The BHC presented Weiss with a plaque in a presentation held July 4.

PRESBYTERIAN

Visitors and local residents are invited to Knox Presbyterian Church to rest, pray or meditate through the hectic summer months. The doors of the church will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday to Saturday, from now until the end of August.

Knox, Bayfield will play host to the *Joy of Music* to be held on July 29 at 7 p.m. All are invited to attend this concert featuring local church choirs and some very talented soloists.

Knox's anniversary service is fast approaching. This year the church will celebrate 78 years on July 26. The service

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will be followed by an ecumenical pot luck picnic on the church grounds.

Looking ahead, the Annual Knox Summer Sale is planned for Aug. 1. This sale is always a bargain hunters' delight featuring household items, jewelry, purses, books, toys and other treasures.

Four-year-old, Avery Faust of Uxbridge, showed determination to make it to the finish line on stilts as part of the Bayfield Optimist Club's annual Play Day on July 4.

SUBMISSIONS

Bayfield on a weekend in the summer is undeniably one of my favorite reasons for calling this village home. This past weekend there was certainly no shortage of things to do with the Firemen's Breakfast, Vettefest, Optimists' Play Day and the Bayfield Town Hall's Home and Garden Tour adding to the busy summer mix.

Memories created on weekends such as these are what made being the correspondent for the Clinton News Record's Bayfield Bugle so special for the last 16 years. However, the prevailing winds are blowing me in a new direction and I have now taken up the pen for the Bayfield Breeze. This site for weekly village news is setting sail this week under the banner of the Bayfield and Area Chamber of Commerce.

What is the Bayfield Breeze? It will be historical society guest speakers, fall fair results; town hall concerts…whatever the readers and contributors deem it to be each week through their submissions and support. Deadlines will continue to be Sundays at 4 p.m. Please email me at bayfield.breeze@villageofbayfield.com for call 519-565-2443. Hope to see you online soon at www.villageofbayfield.com - *Melody*

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Special thanks to the **Bayfield and Area Chamber of Commerce**

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