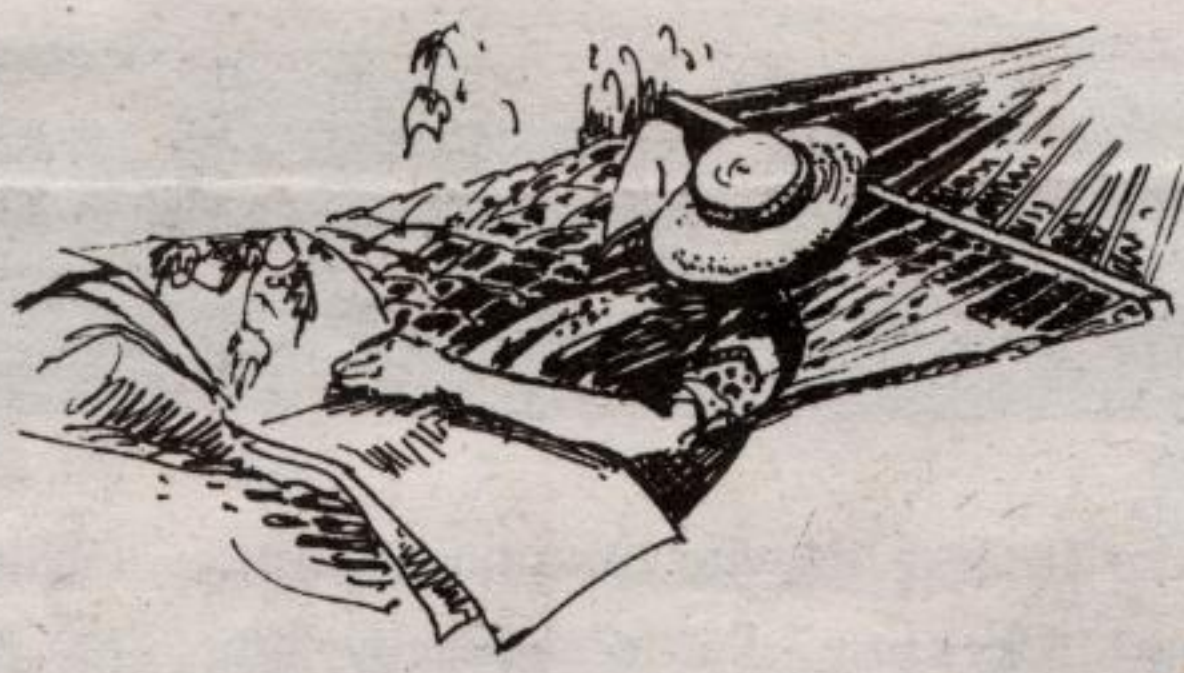


Idle



Pursuits

Ideas moving from mind to hand

From Mind to Hand is the new exhibit presented by the artists of the Williams Mill Creative Arts Studios that opens on the weekend of October 5 and 6, with extended hours from 10 am to 6 pm.

In an event celebrating the artistic processes by which raw materials and inspiration are transformed to fine crafts and artwork, the artists will use their tools of the trade as a focal point for visitors' voyages of discovery.

More than 30 artists will be working in their studios, and a display will be available in the gallery.

As well, visitors can enter their name to win a gift certificate toward the purchase of an item by a Williams Mill artist. The exhibition continues in the gallery until October 14. The gallery is open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 5 pm, and studios are open varying hours or by appointment.

14th Annual Eden Mills Writers' Festival

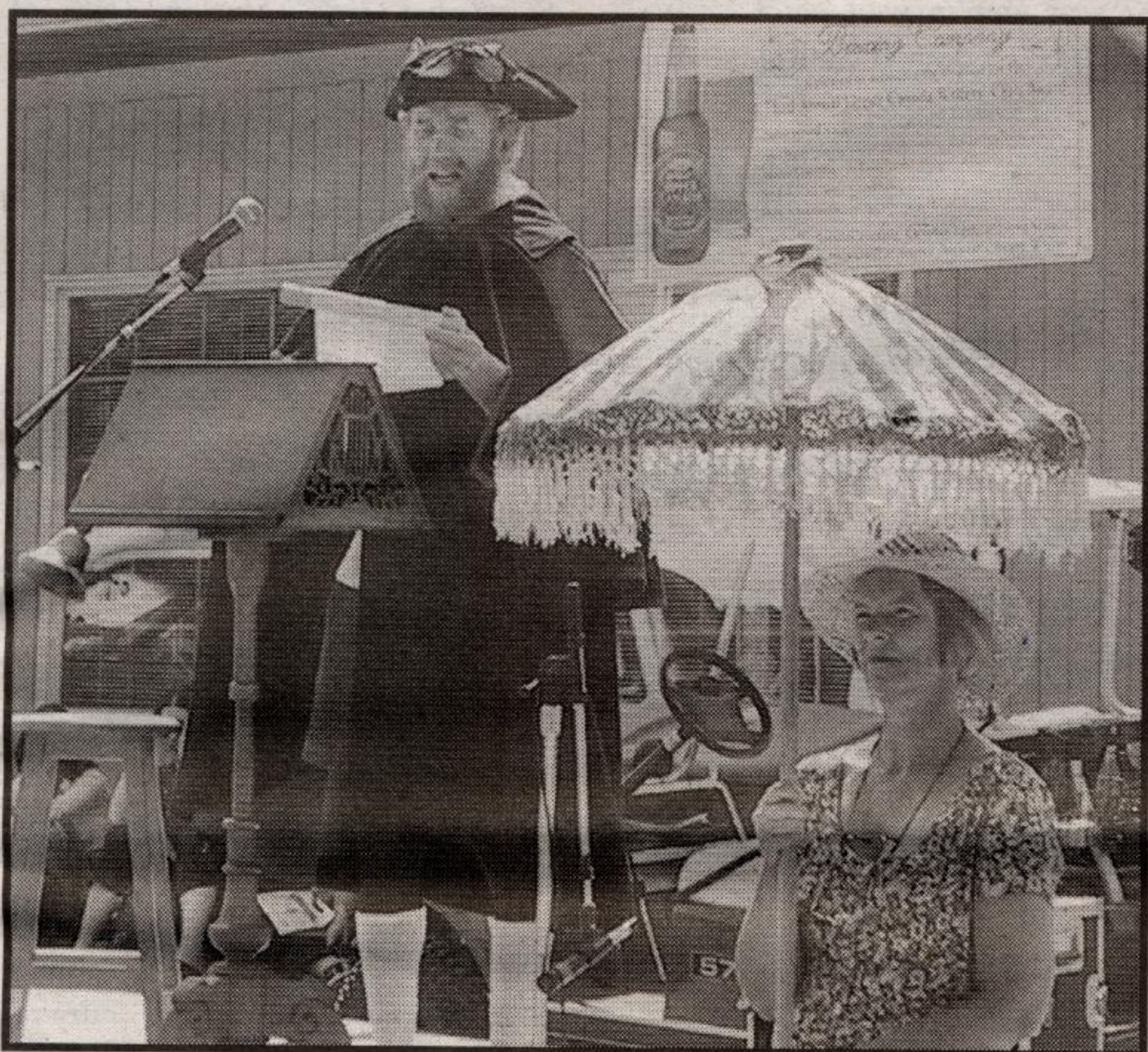


PHOTO BY DEBORAH QUAILÉ

Town Crier Kit Bresnahan, accompanied by Jenny Kitson, gave a welcoming speech at the 14th Annual Eden Mills Writers' Festival. The festival had several new additions to this year's program, such as the Aboriginal area with readings and drumming, as well as tented locations for readers' and listeners' comfort, and wheelchair accessibility.



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Paul Mattina's in the cucina

By DONNA DANIELLI

Anyone who has wanted to learn to cook some of the inside secrets of great Italian cooking is invited to join the Upstairs at Loblaw's Cooking Class on Tuesday, October 29 when guest chef Paul Mattina comes to show off his stuff. Paul is well known as the owner of Mattina's Cucina in Georgetown and plans to prepare a tasteful three-course meal, complete with recipes, tips on preparation and sampling of each recipe prepared.

"It's always a lot of fun to show people how to make something that looks complicated, but is really simple once you know how to do it," says Paul. He isn't sure yet what recipes he'll be offering as he wants to see what is still in season and fresh at the end of October.

"I may start with a butternut squash soup, but I haven't decided on the entree. It'll really depend on what looks good in the market that week. Fresh ingredients are one of the keys to great cooking."

The class will run at Upstairs at Loblaw's in Milton, October 29 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm for a cost of \$25. To register, or to find out more, contact Christine Thomas at 905-875-4999.

Ongoing to February 16, 2003

In Remembrance: A Show of Commemorative Works focusing on a famous poem takes place at Wellington County Museum & Archives, Rd. 18 between Fergus and Elora. Everton artist Susan Strachan Johnson and Guelph artist Wendy Donohue have created a memorial to commemorate the first anniversary of the terrorist attacks in the US, with a timeless message. Eleven images and lines of the poem are interpreted in watercolour collage by Johnson, and watercolour and calligraphy by Donohue. Museum hours are weekdays 9:30 am to 4:30 pm; weekends 1 to 5 pm.



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Quail Reviews

Jasper's Day

Reviewed By DEBORAH QUAILÉ

Riley's family is celebrating Jasper's Day. Everything they do is in honour of their old friend, rather like a birthday, except that this is Jasper the dog's final day on earth. After sharing a big breakfast of people food, the family enjoys several visits before the leave-taking.

Although Jasper has cancer, can't see or hear well, and arthritis is making life a misery, the family wants to share one last special day together, without worrying about going to work or school. It will be the hardest thing the young narrator, Riley, has had to do - let Jasper go.

Jasper's Day is a wonderfully written book, evocative of every special moment in the lifetime of a beloved pet. The language, although portrayed in short and sometimes punchy sentences, is true-to-life. And the words are carefully chosen and honest, which makes the story just the thing to give to a family member or friend who may soon lose - or has just lost - a best friend.

Author Marjorie Blain Parker carefully describes that "last shot" given to faithful friends who have aged and reached the end of their life. The story pulls no punches about the fact that the dog is dead. She even carries readers through the burial on the other side, and the healing work of a memory book for the pet.

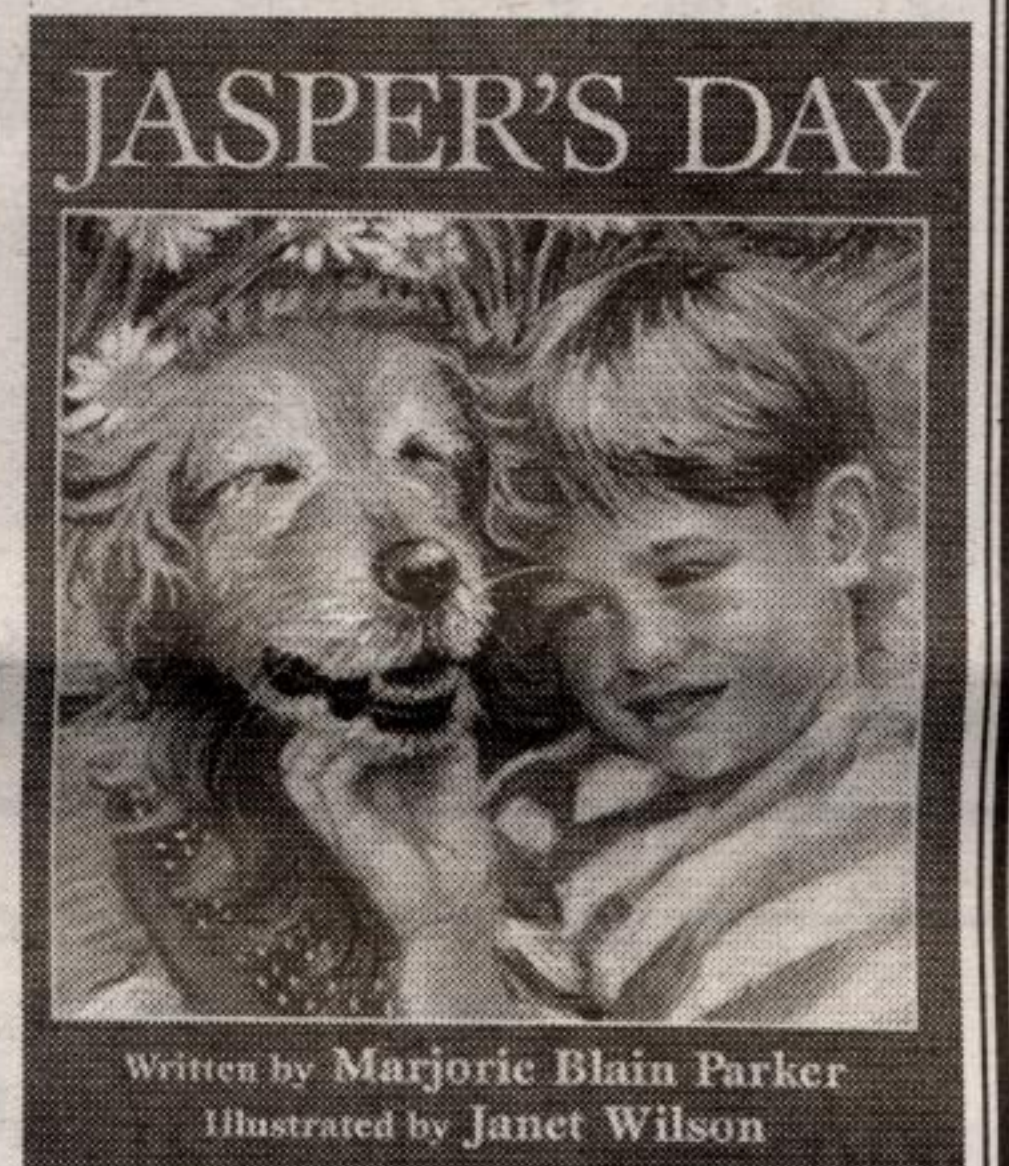
Throughout the story, readers realize how a dog touches other lives, not just those of the

family with which he resides. Most importantly, the author has shown how the narrator comes to realize that even though he is not ready to give up Jasper, his elderly dog is ready to move to the next stage.

Eden Mills artist Janet Wilson has used coloured paper under the chalk pastel to soften the look, allowing the images a slight mistiness of sweet memory. The story is finished off with her collage of "photos" of Jasper's life, and an image of the completed memory book - a beautiful, gentle touch to complete the story.

Death and remembrance, although thought of as a time of crying, are also recognized as times for healing and laughter. *Jasper's Day* is very nicely done - a wise and loving purchase for any pet-owning person. But you'd better read it with a big box of tissues.

Jasper's Day
Written by Marjorie Blain Parker,
Illustrated by Janet Wilson
Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2002
32 pgs, HCJ, \$16.95
ISBN 1-55074-957-9
Ages 5 & up/Grades K & up



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