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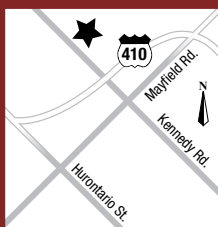
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Stonebridge Roots at Stonebridge By the Bay in Wasaga Beach

By ERICA PHILLIPS
Staff Writer

Stonebridge by the Bay in Wasaga Beach is more than a new home community; it's become a whole new way of living.

Stonebridge Building Group continues to nurture the roots of live music and community spirit at the beach with Stonebridge Roots on Sept. 17 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Stonebridge Town Centre.

Fans of roots music— and music in general— are promised another great line up of performers at the music pavilion at Stonebridge Town Centre for this free festival.

JK Gulley, the event's musical director and creative force, has been busy ensuring Stonebridge Roots is as successful as previous festivals: Stonebridge Country and Stonebridge Blues held earlier this year, which have drawn close to 2,000 fans.

Jimmy Rankin, Katherine Wheatley and Fred Eaglesmith will take to the stage. They all bring a unique approach to music, infused with country music, bluegrass and rock and great storytelling. This group of songwriters and performers is excited to play in Wasaga Beach for Stonebridge Roots.

"They are Canadian/roots artists... singer/songwriters that are a little folk, a little country," Gulley says.

About the artists

Jimmy Rankin's fourth CD, *Forget About the World* has a slight country sound. Keith Urban plays guitar on the first single "Here in My Heart". Rankin has recently been nominated by the Canadian Country Music Association for Roots Artist of the Year. Visit www.jimmyrankin.com.

Katherine Wheatley is a geologist turned singer/songwriter. The guitarist, who grew up in Parry Sound and the Georgian Bay area released her first album *Straight Line* in 1995, *Habits And Heroes* was released in 1999 and *Landed* was released in 2009. Wheatley, who teaches music to grade school children, also plays with Betty and The Bobs. Her music has been featured in television documentaries, films and series. Visit www.katherinewheatley.com.

Fred Eaglesmith's 18th CD, *Cha Cha Cha* has a harder rock 'n' roll feel. After more than 30 years, this highly regarded singer songwriter is still touring and entertaining fans around the world. Visit www.fredeaglesmith.com.

Music events at Stonebridge expose people to a variety of acts— many from the area, newcomers and veterans— and plant the seeds of neighbourhood pride in a beautiful, pond-side setting.



Clockwise from top: Jimmy Rankin, Fred Eaglesmith and Katherine Wheatley

Stonebridge Town Centre is raffling off a full-sized concert guitar (a G23CR, a Grand Auditorium model, which has a MSRP of \$3,000) from Stonebridge Guitars. Tickets for this summer long raffle are available at various venues throughout the Stonebridge Town Centre. Visit www.stonebridgeguitars.com.

About the Stonebridge Town Centre

The Stonebridge Town Centre on the pristine shores of Wasaga Beach— the world's longest freshwater beach— is a live, work, and play community created by the Stonebridge Building Group. This 95-acre site features, new homes, businesses, naturalized areas and a music pavilion, which was donated to the town. Stonebridge Town Centre is transforming the beach— for everyone.

While Stonebridge Roots is a free event, donations are gratefully accepted. All donations will go to support the new Wasaga Beach Public Library.

This complete, pedestrian friendly, active community offers residents more than just a collection of houses. This is a place to call home, year round where you can let the 2.1km of trails guide you to the Stonebridge Town Centre or through the 22.75 acres of open space parkland, which includes a pond— nature is a partner at Stonebridge by the Bay.

Freehold bungalows and two-storey villas start from the low \$200s. Short closing dates are available. The sales office and model homes are located on Stonebridge Boulevard near River Road West and Main Street South in Wasaga Beach. Office hours are Monday to Friday from noon to 6 p.m. and Saturday, Sunday and holidays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 705-422-0880 or 1-877-420-0880 or visit www.mystonebridge.ca.

