

Buzzfest returning to Terra Cotta Country Store next weekend

Terra Cotta Country Store will be hosting its second annual Buzzfest later this month.

It will be Sept. 27 and 28 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m..

Store proprietor Judy Vella said Buzzfest is an outdoor art and food festival, featuring approximately 40 high calibre artisans and foodies from the local and surrounding area.

"We are really excited about the opportunity to showcase such wonderful talent," she said.

Among those who will be on hand will be local nature photographer Bob McCloskey.

McCloskey's love affair with nature began in his early teens, when he would leave his native Ottawa each summer and work as a summer counsellor for inner city boys at Columbus Boys Camp on Lake Simcoe. It was during these years serving youth that he developed his canoeing, kayaking and climbing skills. These early opportunities served him well in his desire to seek out experiences in the natural world and took him to climbs across North America and paddling on the waters of Ontario's provincial parks including Algonquin and favoured Killarney.

McCloskey's deep respect for the environment is rooted in a philosophy that sees the individual connecting harmoniously with nature. There is beauty in grand vistas and equal beauty in small windows to the natural world. It is his passion for the environment that encouraged him to begin photography more than 30 years ago. More recently, his photographs centre on the splendour found in and around his Caledon home of over 20 years. Discovering the wonder within his own backyard never fails to delight him.

With a background in physics, McCloskey's understanding of light is evident in his work. Early morning is one of his favourite times of day to photograph, when light can transform a single moment into art. Armed with his Nikon, he is often be found by the Credit River, hiking on the Bruce Trail or in his own backyard at day's first light, oblivious to black flies and mosquitoes. It is a time of day when a single blade of grass becomes magical covered in dew and bathed in sunlight.

McCloskey is currently working on a new collection he will be showing at Buzzfest. His work can be viewed on www.500px.com/bobmc2 or his website, bobmccloskeyphotography.ca