



BAPTISTE LAKE ASSOCIATION

www.baptistelake.org • info@baptistelake.org

BOX 877, BANCROFT, ONTARIO K0L 1C0



ICE OUT

This exciting sign of spring features the ice retreating. Photo by Shelley Pickard

BLA Officials - Spring 2022

Marlin Horst, BLA President

Diane Jared, Director, Treasurer

Mike Di Cintio, Vice President

Hilary Phillips, Director,
Lake Plan Implementation

Anne Coleman, Director,
Lake Plan Implementation
& Secretary

Sabe Belcastro, Director

Paul Coleman, Director, Editor

Cindy Belcastro, Director

Eric Hooley, Director, Webmaster

Liliane (Lily) Mabson, Director

Shelley Pickard
Director, Advertising,
Membership Chair,
Website Co-coordinator

Use mybaptistelake@gmail.com
to get in touch with any of the
BLA officials

BLA 2022 Events

MAY OPENING EVENT

Birch Cliff Lodge
Sunday, May 22, 2022
from 5:00 to 7:00 pm

AGM

Birch Cliff Lodge, 10 - 12:00 noon
Saturday, August 13, 2022

PIKE TOURNAMENT

Sunday, July 3, 2022
(See details inside)

CLOSING EVENT

Corn Roast and Barbecue
Camp Ponaka
Sunday, September 4, 2022
5:00 to 7:00 pm



Photo by Shelley Pickard



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Marlin Horst

As you are reading this many of the seasonal cottagers will have opened the cottage (or are planning to) and welcomed a new season. For those of you who have year round places on the lake I can only express my jealousy. I certainly miss the lake during the winter. This year Margot and I will open the first week of May, assuming the ice is gone of course!

We continue to keep abreast of what is happening at the municipal and provincial governments and how their actions will affect the lake. The municipalities' shoreline buffer by-law continues to be in the news. We are taking a wait and see attitude.

I note that 2022 is a municipal election year. Please make sure that you are on the voters list and exercise your right to vote. Please note that even if you are a seasonal resident or if you or your spouse own property in Hastings Highlands you are, with few exceptions, entitled to vote. Be sure to check the rules to confirm if you have voting rights and exercise your right to vote. It is likely that the Hastings Highlands Interlake Group, of which the BLA is a founding member, will again host an all candidates meeting in the fall. Such an event is a great way to find out what issues are important to the local politicians and also an opportunity to meet them in person and question them on policy.

To say the pandemic has changed our lives is an understatement. We have not had the traditional social events of the BLA since 2019. In preparing for this letter I read the letter from last year and noted that the Opening event was cancelled but I was very hopeful we would have the closing event. Well that certainly did not happen. The number of infections are again on the rise but we are planning on having the traditional opening event at Birch Cliff Lodge on the May long weekend. Please keep an eye on the website for any breaking news on that. One thing that the last two years have taught us is that things can change very quickly. I am certainly looking forward to seeing people I have

not seen since 2019. Elsewhere in this newsletter you can also see other events planned for this summer, including the Second Annual Pike Tournament. The event last year was a great success and we hope the same will happen again this year. Thank you to Mike DiCintio for all of the work he does on the tournament.

We continue to be active in the Hastings Highlands InterLake Group, which is made up of lake associations in the Municipality of Hastings Highlands. This group has been instrumental in getting the municipal council to take note of the concerns of the lake associations and given us a voice in municipal affairs. We continue to advocate at the municipal level for the protection of our lake and others in the municipality. The InterLake Group's Land Use Planning committee continues to receive notice of any request for a minor variance on any waterfront property in Hastings Highlands and allows us to make any submissions. It is quite surprising what some people would like to build. The Interlake group has been meeting remotely the last two years but we are planning on an in person meeting in June (fingers crossed as they are for all events at this time).

The BLA continues to work towards implementing the Lake Plan. The Lake Plan is a living document and we must continue to build on and implement its recommendations to ensure that the objectives of the residents, both permanent and seasonal, as set out in the Lake Plan, are achieved. These objectives can only be achieved by volunteers. If you would like to help, in no matter how small a way, I would encourage to you contact Anne Coleman (contact details elsewhere in the Newsletter) and let us know that you are willing to volunteer. The more people who volunteer; the easier it will be for all

The BLA has been a member of FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottagers Association) for many years, which is an association of over 500 lakefront owners associations. As a result of the BLA's membership in FOCA,

...continued on page 3

...from page 2

the members of the BLA also have access to many benefits available through FOCA. Please go to their website at www.foca.on.ca to see the many benefits membership in FOCA provides. You can also sign up for the FOCA newsletter, which is delivered by e-mail every month and has links to many informative articles and updates on what is happening in connection with water-fronts in Ontario.

As many of you know I was President of FOCA for three years. I finally obtained the coveted position of Past-President and as of the beginning of March this year my term on the FOCA board has now ended. It was an enjoyable 6 years and I made many friends over the years. I look forward to in person FOCA meetings in the future so I can again see everyone.

As you know I was briefly no longer President of the BLA but am again. I will continue to serve as long as people want me to but if someone out there has a desire to be President please contact me before you change your mind!

Please visit our website regularly to see what is happening around the lake. In addition if you have not provided us with your e-mail address please do so as this is one of the most effective ways to communicate in the modern world. Please be assured that we use email addresses only for the purposes of the BLA and we do not inundate you with messages. Please send your e-mail along with your cottage address to Membership (contact details elsewhere in Newsletter). Finally if you are not a member I would encourage you to become a member. The cost is minimal (\$25 per year or 3 years for \$60) and benefits are so much more.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or any other member of the board. This is your association.



Purple Woods, water colour by Anne Coleman



*Shannon, Ellie (centre) and Tara, a skating lesson.
Photo by Anne Coleman*

READY FOR A CHANGE OF SCENERY?

Quinte Health Care
NORTH HASTINGS HOSPITAL
Located in the beautiful town of Bancroft

WE'RE HIRING!

IS SEEKING ADDITIONAL
EMERGENCY MEDICINE PHYSICIANS

JOIN OUR TEAM!
Enjoy comprehensive emergency medicine in a rural setting.

- CCFP or CCFP-EM or FRCPC Emergency Medicine with experience or interest in working in a rural setting
- Valid license from CPSO or be eligible for independent licensure in Ontario

For more information and available incentives, contact
Martha
mfarrell@qhc.on.ca
www.qhc.on.ca

QHC
Quinte Health Care

FROM THE MAYOR OF HASTINGS HIGHLANDS

By Tracy Hagar

Hello Everyone

It is my pleasure to give you a year in review.

After our former Mayor resigned on April 1st, 2021, I became Acting Mayor on April 2nd, 2021, then appointed Mayor by my fellow Council members on May 19, 2021, after an intense but rewarding interview process. Council then appointed Councillor Gerrow to the position of Deputy Mayor after the interview process to replace me and Councillor Buck was the successful one of many interviewed to replace Councillor Gerrow. This past year has seen many challenges put to rest with the cooperation of Council and Staff of Hastings Highlands, together we have achieved so much. I feel we have had much growth through respect, honesty and most importantly much needed open communication.

I became Mayor halfway through the Covid-19 pandemic. We have all been through a lot these past 2 years and we are coming out ready to gather again and move forward. Our Council, Staff and Stakeholders have come together to do everything we can in the

best interest of our health and mental wellbeing. Our Municipality worked along side our Health Unit and followed every protocol, rule and guidelines that were put in place by the experts. I was fortunate enough to have weekly and biweekly teleconference meetings with the County Council and these experts in this field. Though this was all new and no one had a crystal ball into the future I feel we have done well as a community, County, Province and Country, Onward and Upward.

To start with Council passed an Exotic Animal Bylaw. This was a challenge, but we received support through the County, Province, our Lawyer and Staff and together we achieved a Bylaw that was fair and acceptable for all. We have been working on the finishing touches for the Maynooth Main Street Revitalization that will be enjoyed by many for years to come. We had several km of roads paved in our Municipality over this past year and have plans for many more paved areas of roads this year. This brings me to our budget that was just passed in the third reading at a small 1.57 increase to our Taxes.

After the closure of the Maynooth Community Center 2 years ago, Council was able to come up with a plan to possibly have a replacement structure before going ahead with the demolition of the old building. This was a tough decision as this building was the heart of Maynooth for past generations. The idea is to work together with the North Hastings Children Services, the County, The Algonquin Peoples and our community to have a Native Cultural Center, Child Care facility, Community Kitchen and incorporating an outdoor space for a Market. This is an amazing time for Hastings Highlands and to be able to achieve this will be rewarding for all.

Council and Staff have been working on our Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw update. This will/must conform to the County Official Plan that is inline with the Provincial Policy Statement. There has been much information about this to our stakeholders, opportunity to have your say, online open house as well as an in person open house. This is for the protection and preservation of our lakes. Though it seems to some as a roadblock for growth on our lakes, there is always the opportunity for stakeholders to do a Minor Vari-

...continued on page 5



Bancroft
SPORT & MARINE
613-332-1830

206 Hastings St. N, Bancroft, ON



CAN-AM **STARCRAFT** **SKI-DOO** 

EVINRUDE **YAMAHA** **SEA-DOO** 

www.bancroftsportandmarine.ca

...from page 4

ance with our Committee of Adjustments. We have had a record past year of Minor Variances as well as a record year in building growth in our Municipality coming in at third in our County!

Our Fire Services have had a very challenging year with a forced closure of Fire Station #5 from the Ministry of Labor, our Fire Chief Resigned and our Admin Assistant for Fire Services retired. We are now fortunate to have Fire Chief Akerman and are just about to interview for a Deputy Fire Chief. We have budgeted a large sum this year to help bring our Fire Services up to satisfactory operation, though we will be needing much more in the future but it's a good start. Rome was not built in a day...

We also had a retiree in the Finance Department that we were able to hire for. Emily is our new person in the Finance Department, settling in nicely, we are pleased to have her.

We also saw the retirement of our Library CEO, Rod Moffitt. After interviewing for this position, the Hiring Committee brought forward Wendy Sue Keating to the Library Board as their selection, Wendy too is settling in nicely in her new role as with all the others we are pleased to have her.

We have a new MP, Shelby Kramp-Neuman. Her office staff are at our Library the first Wednesday of every month to meet and hear from the stakeholders in our Municipality. Thank you to Shelby and welcome.

In the past year we have had delegations with various Ministers at the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Ontario Good Roads Conferences about Fire Services and our challenges, Mental Health, Long term care and better support for residents, Insurance increases to Municipalities, and MPAC delayed assessments and the burden it puts on the Municipal-



ity and stakeholders and at two Conferences we had delegations about the Hastings Highlands Road #62, the work we have put into it thus far and what needs to be done to compete it.

Through grant funding we have been working on the Monteagle office space revitalization project and the Kamaniskeg lookout project.


Council and Staff have also been working hard to have information sessions at our meetings for shoreline health and are working to bring awareness and education to our stakeholders.

We have also opened roadblocks and set the path to bring Tiny Home Communities to Hastings Highlands for developers and for stakeholders to be able to build a home for themselves.

We continue to work on our Strategic Plan that Council passed at the beginning of this term, and I am very pleased with what we have accomplished together to date.

I am sure I have missed a few things as this has been a very busy and exciting year, I look forward to this year ahead as your Mayor of Hastings Highlands.

*Thank you,
Mayor Tracy Hagar*





Early morning start from last year's tournament. Photo by Shelley Pickard

SECOND ANNUAL PIKE TOURNAMENT

By Mike Di Cintio

Northern Pike

Last year Baptiste Lake held its first annual Pike fishing tournament, despite the restrictions and the general negative vibe in the world, it was still a huge success and a really fun day for everyone! Proof that a positive mindset and sense of community can be more powerful than the government controlled media. We thank everyone for participating in the event and have already started gathering the prizes and sponsors for the tourney this year. With no restrictions or rules to follow, 2 new major sponsors and more time to prepare, this year's event will be a great way to kick off the start of the summer.

With the Tourney being set to Sunday July 3rd there are factors behind this decision. The main one being that the bass spawning season in June will not be disturbed. Also, families are beginning their summer visits to the lake since the children are out of school and that allows for children to participate in the pike tourney.

One other change to this tournament is that the prize will be based on total length of fish per team. This will give more incentive for parents to bring out their kids and for teams to stay out fishing longer. The more pike kept the better! There will still be a separate prize for single longest fish and lots of free giveaways to anyone that brings their kids to the event. At the end of the event we will have a fish cleaning station for anyone that doesn't know how to clean pike properly I will show you how, even the smaller pike can be made into nice boneless fillets!

Entry fee is still \$50 per team and you can register anytime by E-Transfer or in person at Mack Attack Outdoors. The first teams to sign up will be allowed to blast off first on tourney day so I suggest getting started as soon as possible! If you have any questions you can call or text me at 613-334-6583.

Hope to see you all at the event Sunday July 3, from 8 am to 4 pm at the main boat launch on Dock Road. Fly your Canadian Flag in honour of Canada Day.

York River Plaza
200 Hastings St. N.
Bancroft, ON
613-332-4848
E: cingram@carenh.org
www.carenorthhastings.org

In partnership
with CARE
North Hastings

**HEALTHY FEET
HAPPY TOES**

1 Manor Lane, Lower Level
PO Box 1786, Bancroft, ON
613-332-4700
carenorthhastings.org

Meals on Wheels
Escorted Transportation
Reassurance Programs
Foot Care
Home Help & Homemaking

Promoting senior independence in our community

RE/MAX®

Country Classics Ltd., Brokerage
Independently Owned & Operated

BANCROFT, ONTARIO

www.remmaxcountryclassics.com



Ted Bartlett Team

Jackalin O'Brien
Broker
613-334-6960

Ted Bartlett
Broker
613-334-6961

Marilyn Dillon
Sales Representative
613-202-2110

Our success depends on others, and we really appreciate all the help we receive. For service with integrity, call Ted, Jackalin or Marilyn at:

613-332-0444
1-800-663-4193

E: tedteamremax@gmail.com
www.tedremax.com

HEY GRANDAD HOW TO CLEAN A PIKE

By Paul Coleman

Hey Grandad

My friend's dad won't eat Pike because of the "Alphabet Bone". What's that all about?

Well Cooper, it's called a "Y" and the experts have a simple cleaning method. They cut around the neck, split down the belly, slice along the back bone, flip it over, slice along the other side, throw away the guts, remove the ribs, then remove the "Y bone and wiggle the skin off.

Ahhh Grandad, slow it down a little ok!

Sure Cooper, my buddy Max T is a fisherman who likes a nice meal of Pike every now and then. Here is his method for preparing a delicious bone free meal.

Make diagonal cuts on both sides of the Pike just behind the gills (along the neck). Stop at the spine and then cut along the backbone to the tail. Don't cut all the way through the tail. Then flip the fish and make a second cut like the last. Now you can hold on to the tail like a handle and wiggle the skin back and forth while holding the knife firmly as you remove the skin.

Take your knife and place it slightly inside the belly of the fish. Cut along the center-line of the fish, "opening" the belly. Remove the guts and you have 2 large fillets full of bones.

Remove the rib cage while leaving as much meat as possible.

Next, remove the strip of meat on top of the bones by running your tip down the bone line, at an angle, as you feel the bones "ticking".

Then look for the line of white dots which is the dreaded "Y" bone. Switch to a 4" knife and cut about ¼" above this line while running your knife softly across the flesh of the fish. Stop when you hear the knife tip ticking against the bones as you move to the

tail. Stop where the bones end. Here you will find 2 extra small fillets in the tail that have no bones.

Now make your final cut slightly below the "Y" bone at a 45 degree angle and pull the "Y" bone away from your fillet.

The end result will be 5 filets of completely deboned delicious pike.

Hey Grandad can I watch some of this on Youtube? Cooper, what's a "U" tube?



Did someone put a spotlight on Blueberry for Christmas decorations? What's going on.

Photo by Cindy Belcastro

BOBBY KEARNS
Qualified Arborist
Licensed and Insured



Tree Service

TREE REMOVAL

Dangerous Tree Removal, Confined Spaces, Difficult Access

TREE PRUNING & MAINTENANCE

Structure Pruning, General Pruning, Crown Reduction, Deadwooding

FIREWOOD SALES • WOODCHIPS/MULCH SALES

613-334-0861
www.bktree.ca
b.ktreeservice@hotmail.com

HOW THE BASS SPAWN WORKS

By Vivien Bullen

When it's time to spawn, bass mean business. As a rule, they don't waste a lot of time. In fact, the entire spawning process, which involves building a nest, finding a mate, hatching fertilized eggs and guarding young fish until they are ready to be on their own, can take a little as three weeks.

When winter ends and the water warms back up, bass feel the urge to spawn. At this time, male fish will find a suitable nesting area and prepare it for mating. Then the male bass circles the humble home slowly and waits for a mate. When a female has chosen to join the male in the nest, they waste little time getting to know one another.

The mating process begins with the two bass swimming right next to each other around the nest. While swimming, the bass are tilted on their sides with their vents closed. Simultaneously, they release their respective eggs or sperm into the nest. With the female's role in this spawning over, she's free to leave the spawning area or mate with a new fish.

The male bass is responsible for watching over his school of offspring. He'll stay close and protect the eggs from harm until they hatch a few days later. After hatching, the young spawn will spend about two weeks growing and learning what to eat. Then they'll disperse and leave the male free to mate again or head to warmer waters [source: Davis].

Ah, springtime. The trees are in bloom. The birds are singing. Love is in the air.

Scratch that -- love is in the water.

Like many species, the end of winter means it's time to mate. A fish is able to spawn after they've reached one year in age (they don't waste a lot of time) and exceeded 10 inches (25.4 centimeters) in length [source: Davis].

When the water consistently reaches 60 degrees Fahrenheit (15.6 degrees Celsius), the male bass will move toward spawning ground. Most of the spawn will occur in the spring months -- April, May and even early June -- but are bass such a widespread species that location plays a large role, too. In the southern half of the north-

...continued on page 9



**Makin'
Waves
Marine**



PRINCECRAFT



HONDA



MERCURY

**HONDA
Power
Equipment**

29720 Hwy 62 North, Bancroft
P: 613-332-3777 • F: 613-332-4777
info@makinwavesmarine.com
www.makinwavesmarine.com



GECO INDUSTRIES THE #1 KOHLER DEALER IN EASTERN ONTARIO

KOHLER
IN POWER. SINCE 1920

Fully automated
Generators protect
your home and family

**WHAT'S A HOME
GENERATOR?**

A standby home generator keeps your power on during an outage. It's installed outside your house (like an AC unit) and comes on automatically - whether you're home or away. All within seconds of a power outage.

Plus home generators run on propane or natural gas, so there's no refueling.

GECO INDUSTRIES IS YOUR LOCAL INSTALLER OF KOHLER STAND-BY GENERATORS

- In business since 1999
- 4 Service Technicians
- Large inventory of Generators, Switches and Parts
- Turnkey systems
- Warranty
- Locally owned and operated

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT
2 Ranney Gorge Dr., Campbellford, ON

CALL TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION
705.653.1116 877.653.1116 www.geco.ca



www.geco.ca

...from page 8

ern hemisphere, spawning will occur earlier because of the warmer waters. So perhaps it's better to understand the ideal temperatures for spawning to occur.

The ideal water temperature for the bass spawn is between 65 and 75 degrees Fahrenheit (18.3 and 23.9 degrees Celsius). If the water temperature drops below 60 degrees Fahrenheit (15.6 degrees Celsius), the current spawn will be in jeopardy. When the water cools below this point, the male will abandon the nest in search of warmer waters. If left alone, the eggs will likely fall prey to any number of predators and never hatch. Even if an aquatic neighbor doesn't eat them, the spawn won't be protected from harmful debris or other disturbances that the male bass would have fended off.

Because bass are so abundant, their choice of spawning grounds is quite basic.

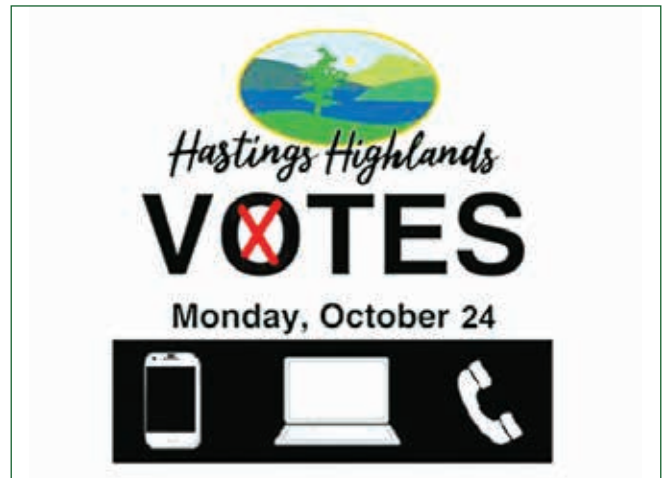
Water temperature is important for the spawn. It makes sense that the bass would go to shallow waters to prepare their nests. For the most part, nests will accumulate at depths of 1 to 4 feet (0.3 to 1.2 meters). But in clear water, bass have been known to nest as deep as 20 feet (6.1 meters) [source: Davis]. The farther down the nest, the less likely is it that waves or boats will interfere with the spawn, and the eggs will have a more stable environment. Unfortunately for the bass, this is only possible in clear waters, when the sun can reach more impressive depths. The sun's warmth is needed to keep the fertilized eggs incubated [source: Canning].

Come spring, the male bass will swim to warm, shallow waters. There he will seek out a clear area with a hard surface. Bass prefer rough bottoms -- such as gravel or rocks -- but in sandy areas they have no other choice [source: Canning]. Once he has found an area that will accommodate the spawn, the male bass uses his tail to clean the nest. Then he clears a circular area with a diameter that is two times the length of his body [source: Davis]. After he's constructed the nest, he'll begin to circle his territory in search of a mate.

The male bass bears the majority of the responsibility during the spawn. Accordingly, they don't always fare too well. Most will not eat at all from the time they meet their mate until their spawn have grown and dispersed, which leaves them weak. In addition, the male bass tears his tail up moving debris around while building the nest. These small cuts make the male bass especially susceptible to infection [source: Dunn's Fish Farm].

There are quite a few ethical issues associated with bass fishing during the spawn. It's a popular time to game fish as the fish have moved to shallow waters, but is it fair or safe? When a male bass is caught while nesting, he is forced to abandon his instinctive duties, and often the spawn is left to die. Other males die -- even if they're not caught -- because they're already weak from fasting. The stress and lack of oxygen drain what little energy the bass have left. Anglers should consider the impact they have on the bass population [source: Noble].

References available upon request for this article.



A logo for Birds Creek Farm Supply. It features a circular emblem with a white rooster's head in the center, set against a red background. The words "BIRDS CREEK" are written in a green, serif font around the top of the circle. Below the rooster, a green banner with the words "FARM SUPPLY" in red, bold, sans-serif letters is displayed. Underneath the banner, the text "SINCE 1987" is written in a smaller, green font. At the bottom of the logo are two stalks of golden wheat. Below the logo, the names "JEFF GRAF" and "PERRY GRAF" are written in white, sans-serif font. At the bottom of the block, the phone number "613.332.1516" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font, followed by the website "BIRDS CREEK FARMSUPPLY.COM" and the address "29815 HWY 62 N, BANCROFT" in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.



Canada's
**Building
Centre**



HWY 62 SOUTH OF BANCROFT
613-332-3424 | bancrofttimbermart.ca



TIPS TO MAKE A LAKE ICE RINK

By Sabe Belcastro

Making a back yard ice rink is far easier and doesn't compare to the challenges of making a lake rink, the last two years have been spent battling Mother Nature and her obstacles.

My problems existed when: obstacle #1 the slushy ice, the combination of the weather elements such as snow/ice/rain resulting in trapped unfrozen water below the snow surface. Obstacle #2 is the weight of many inches of snow and slush which causes downward weight pressure and pushes the lake water up through the cracks, this resulted in the slushy water that would eventually leak under the snowbanks and into my rink, "Not good!" How to correct that?!, more information below.

This past winter I made a prototype Zamboni cheaply and efficiently which works very well when using hot water. There will be some minor modifications made to the Zamboni before next year. Next year I will also use the lake water, heating the lake water, so I won't have to run back and forth to the house using the house hot water and Cindy saying we have no more hot water.

Yes, the rink is lots of work but well worth the effort. It's a blast to hit the ice with family and friends playing shinny hockey, also playing keep-away puck with your furry family members, watching the young'uns improving their playmaking skills, that is joyful to watch, neighbor's skating as they please, it's just very gratifying to see the many outdoor activities on a frozen lake, as well as just being outdoors in the fresh air.

Due to the province being shut down we had received calls if they could use the ice rink, so this was a pleasure to see the rink being used for missed indoor practices as well as their enjoyment.

This is an everyday job so if you don't mind the exercise this will fit in perfectly with the fresh air as

well.

Top 10 tips for making a LAKE rink I found to be helpful.

1) Ensure the existing lake ice is thick enough, 4 inches (10 cm) of ice is considered the minimum thickness for safe foot traffic. To make sure of the ice thickness, mark a drill with masking tape at 4 inches back from the tip of the drill, note your lake rink depth then drill into the ice, if you don't hit water then it's safe.

2) Make sure you have your proper tools ready to go, snowblower, good shovel, bush broom, a strong leaf blower works well, fasten a wide chisel to a painting pole as this I found works great to remove the small bumps on the ice surface.

3) Start your outer boundary ice rink with snow-
...continued on page 11



*Deklan, Sabe, Jordan, Matt, Stephanie and Cooper.
Photo by Sabe Belcastro*



Every team needs a snowgoalie. Photo by Shelley Pickard

...from page 10

banks. **

4) Water the outside of the snowbank, this will freeze and also this will prevent the slushy water from leaking into the rink. **

5) Clean every smidge of snow before flooding or using a portable Zamboni.

6) If flooding from a submersible pump, use a small amount of water for resurfacing, if windy or too cold the water applied will not freeze properly and the sur-

face will crystalize, I had used both methods and my go to method is a portable Zamboni that I will start using on a constant basis, the ideal temperature for resurfacing is 0 to 20 F.

7) If using a submersible pump, the hole should be a good distance from the rink, as I mentioned with snow weight, once you re-open the hole the pressure from the winter elements will cause the lake water to quickly run back into your rink, I found out the hard

...continued on page 12

Cottage
Docks.com



BANCROFT

info@cottagedocks.com

**YOUR
FLOATING
DOCK
SPECIALIST
FOR
BAPTISTE
LAKE**

1-877-565-0551

...from page 11

way.

8) You will have cracks in the rink, what worked for me is pack the crack with snow as deeply as possible, then I resurface the rink with my portable Zamboni, or a portable water sprayer works just as well. Just use hot water.

9) It's important to remember that you are on a lake, and its public property, make sure to clearly mark your ice rink boundaries, I used broken hockey sticks with reflectors at the top but to my surprise there were a couple of sledders that came from the road and crossed my ice rink to access the lake, I WASN'T IMPRESSED!! to see their deep sled track etched in the ice.



*Ice rink maintenance is a full time job around here.
Photo by Sabe Belecastro*

10) Many thanks to all the neighbors that helped me maintain the ice surface, much appreciated.

FROM THE WEBMASTER

By Eric Hooey

Last November, just after the Fall newsletter went to press, we were informed by GoDaddy, our web server provider, that our free email accounts (e.g. info@baptistelake.org) were being discontinued.

As a result of this change, we have created the following new public email addresses using Gmail:

MyBaptisteLake@gmail.com

MyBLA.WebMaster@gmail.com

MyBLA.fishing@gmail.com

This change also provides the BLA with more storage space for emails and a more reliable email service and makes it easier for us to monitor incoming emails. Information regarding this change was posted on both our website and our Facebook page previously and all links to the old email addresses on our website were updated prior to the old emails being discontinued. Any emails that were sent to any of the old address-

es after February 5, this year, would not have been delivered. Depending on your email provider and your email client program, you may or may not have received an "unable to deliver" notification.

KITCHEN MAGICIANS
Over 25 yrs experience
Cabinets • Counter Tops
Laminate/Hardwood/Vinyl
Floor Installations • Decks
Cottage Maintenance

GIVE US A CALL!
Ron Lee 613-332-5119
Cell 613-334-6254

**THE OLD HASTINGS
MERCANTILE
& GALLERY**

OPEN DAILY
Victoria Day
to Dec. 31
(Winter Weekends)

Follow us on Facebook for info,
and fun 'North of 7' stuff!

Step back in time when you enter Ormsby's 1880s general store. Discover room after room filled with fine Canadian arts & crafts, vintage toys, antiques, jewellery, cottage-themed gifts & clothing, nostalgia books, country-themed merchandise... and penny candy. We feature Baptiste Lake gift ideas for yourself, friends and family, many exclusive to our store. Laser cut multi-depth wooden clocks and cribbage boards, mugs, embroidered clothing, hats and towels, pillows, frames and more.

Now Bigger & Better
with 11 Rooms
and more to Explore!

www.oldhastingsgallery.ca

PET PEEVES, “THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY”, AND A FUNNY

By Paul Coleman

So lake enthusiasts what do you think? How do you feel? Do you really have time to care about your shoreline and our backyard?

There are new bylaws being discussed by HH Council that will affect us all. The Baptiste Lake Association is often asked to provide comment and or written proposals to carry your message to our various levels of government. Many of the Topics include the Lake Trout, the Dam and the water levels, pollutants, use of lawn and mosquito products, septic, wells, invasive species and many others! Your BLA has no authority to make change, to enforce Bylaws or to challenge individual owners' questionable practices. In fact, we are an aging Board of Directors who do try to educate folks with best suggestions and practices to preserve Baptiste.

We are often made aware that many will choose to disregard and level of authority and manage their own property with little or no regard for the lake. This may become more of a problem when we see more shoreline erosion, more milfoil and more ‘green soup’ water quality. Others will be vehemently strong to offer very valid opinions to support a reasonable, understandable and not overly authoritative solutions to enhance best practices. Where do you stand?

It seems funny to say that many residents see the BLA as “the enemy” as if we are about to tell them what to do. Far from it, but we do try, we do attempt to get more families to share time and ideas to have more fun like the “old” days. So keep that in mind as we provide some cool articles and hopefully set up some gatherings as the Kayak/Canoe Day, the Fish Derby, Corn Roast etc. and please send in your Membership fees which allow us to send donations to the Fish Hatchery, the Library and other needy causes.

Now lets' have some fun and try to stimulate a dock conversation.

If you hit a 250 yard golf ball and it lands in a divot, why are you penalized by hitting out of the dirt and not the grass?

In the old days of baseball, pitchers “got an advantage over batters” as they spat on the ball, used Vase-

Birch Cliff Lodge



A beautiful summer resort since 1931.

Open May to October

Cottages and campground

Weddings and conferences

Boat rentals, store, newspapers,

Ice cream, “Baptiste Lake” clothing

www.birchcliffodge.ca

email: info@birchcliffodge.ca

613-332-3316

line, scuffed up the ball with nail files, yet they were not allowed to wear jewelry as it would distract the batter. Now pitchers wear gold chains and medallions, are covered in tattoos and throw 100 miles per hour. Pitchers win 70% of the time. Batters win 30%, how is that fair?! How would you make a better playing field in this magical Sport?

Referees and Umpires make split second decisions. Now the call is challenged and the video review crew take as much time to check to see if the play was off side or out by a millimeter or a micro second. In the meantime the fan who pays the big price to watch the game spends more idle time waiting for the outcome. Wonder why games take so long?

The Good

- Thanks to all the cottagers who made an ice rink this year and invited all the local kids to play
- Thanks to those who turned down their bubblers or shut them off when they posed safety issues
- Thanks to all of you who donated hockey gear to the Bancroft Minor Hockey Association
- Thanks to all who donated food to our 1st Annual Food Drive and to your Directors who collected and delivered the goods

...continued on page 14



METAL ROOFING AND TRIM

We're more than just roofing!

Visit our design centre for help with your next project.

856 11th Line Belmont, Havelock 705-639-0688

www.hbmmetalroofing.com



...from page 13

• Thanks to Marion and Sharon for picking up the garbage dumped in ditches on North Baptiste

• Thanks to Mike DiCintio for coordinating the amazing Pike Tourney

The Bad

• The litterbug who dumps Tim's cups on the road every day!

• The big time litterbug on North Baptiste who dumps the blue bags at the Recycle Gate every Monday for the birds to feast on

• The "fishers" who keep every size fish they catch no matter how many, how big or how small

The Ugly

• The drivers who more regularly



Every day, at the same spot there is the CUP. Photo by Paul Coleman

pass on the double line

• Ditto above but on the curves!

• Ditto, Ditto above but coming down Sobey Hill

And lastly, the Funny

Without mentioning names, we had a frantic call at Christmas: "Who in God's name put Christmas flood lights on the top of Blueberry Island"! Turned out it was the Full Moon rising between the trees and rocks and looked as if it really was a huge Christmas decoration! As the moon revealed itself, rising into the sky, we were quickly reassured that there was no need to take down the prank flood lights.



Moon over Blueberry. Photo by Cindy Belcastro

“MILLIONAIRE’S ISLAND”

THE STORY OF THE HERSCHEL FISHING CLUB (HERSCHEL ISLAND) 1934-1979

By Dave Radley

Historical records for the land which encompasses Lake Baptiste document the presence of the Algonquin first nations people back to the early 1700s.

Baptiste Lake itself was a product of the need for lumber. Originally a river valley, the first dam was built in 1866 by Harris & Bronson, the first lumber company to set up operations there. The lake was originally named Long Lake, but was renamed after Chief John Baptiste, who is believed to have been the first permanent resident on the lake.

Thus the Herschel Islands, in the main lake, were created, because they constituted ground that was higher than the level established by the lake. The first documented private ownership of the two islands was the sale by ‘The Crown’ to John McAllister, on the 26th September 1905, listed as ‘Island “A”, Long Lake’.

The ownership of the island changed hands several times between 1909 and 1934:

1st June 1909, sold to James Best; 25th June 1916 to Annie E. Best; 22nd April 1916 to Corey Valean and 24th April 1934 to John Emil Lawson. Lawson’s was the name that fronted the buying of the Island for the Canadian Niagara Company

John Emil Lawson (born in the USA in 1881 and died in Niagara Falls Ontario in 1948) was an employee of the Canadian Niagara Power Company, serving as General Manager from 1936 – 1946 and President from 1946 -1948.

The ownership of the island is briefly mentioned in the minutes of a 1934 Board of Directors meeting, when the board approved \$8,500 for “providing health and recreational facilities for the officers and employees of the company.” The island and the establishment of the Herschel Fishing Club is a shadowy part of the history of the Canadian Niagara Power Company and Niagara Mohawk. The Canadians did not really participate much; it was more for the executives from the parent company (Niagara Mohawk, Syracuse, New York) as a base to fish and party.

There was the main lodge, a guest house, a boat house, and a bunk house where the staff slept. The main lodge had a big lounge, a dining room, a large

kitchen, pantry, and four bedrooms. The 15 acre main island was soon connected to the secondary island by the ‘kissing bridge’.

The locals had several theories about the island, one being that it was a Mafia hangout with men arriving in black limousines and heading off to the island on a private launch. The popular nickname became “Millionaires Island”.

Sid Morris, an electrician for the company, was a man who could wire anything, and he first went to Herschel in 1946 to look after the generators, which were two cantankerous, 32-volt DC affairs. Both generators were kept in working condition, so that if one failed, the other would be available. This sometimes meant that Sid had to work until 2 o’clock in the morning to keep them running. He went back every summer until 1954, when Hydro came to the island and the company bought a 60-cycle army surplus generator for back-up. This was popularly known as “Generator No. 12” (in addition to the

...continued on page 16

The **Granite** Restaurant 45 Bridge St. W



www.thegranitebancroft.ca 613.332.1500

Are you looking to have a casual get together with friends, colleagues, family, a team? Call the Granite. There’s plenty of choices to suit everyone. We’ll take care of the rest.

Ask about our
Reception • Catering **Menu**
Special Events & Festive

*Where friends meet for
fun, laughter and good food*

BANCROFT Go GREEN

EBIKES • SCOOTERS • ATVs • MOBILITY • CANOES • KAYAKS • SUPs

www.BancroftGoGreen.ca 613-202-2077

...from page 15

eleven generators at Rankine, the company powerhouse at the falls) and was used as a way to account for the expenses of the island.

The rest of the staff for the island consisted of a year-round caretaker and summer help that included three guides, two waitresses, a cook, and a cook's helper, who also did the laundry. The island created seasonal employment for many of the locals. In fact the payroll list for the island includes members from most of the families from Baptiste and the surrounding area. Wilfred Holbrook took over the running of the island in later years.

Visits to the island were not about roughing it. Cynthia Durward, who processed some of the bills for the Club, notes, "They ate very well." People who acted as fishing guides will attest that in many cases putting on bait and removing fish from the hook fell to them.

Canadian Niagara employees were proud of having built the flat-bottomed boats for Herschel, as well as a system of narrow-gauge tracks and carts that were used to winch supplies and luggage from the dock up to the lodge. However, some employees were a little disapproving, since the place had a reputation for loud drinking parties. A few were not happy about having to work there, and one even quit on the spot.

Getting Herschel ready for the season was like opening a cottage, only on a much larger scale. Every spring, everyone who could be spared from Niagara Falls would go there to paint and repair the place and



Scows at the dock



Staff group Ed Grant, Loretta Kelley, Hugh Peever, Allan Peever, Marie Hickey, Betty Wyatt, Sid Morris (Snr & Jnr)

make it welcoming to visitors. But the Club was not supposed to interfere with other priorities, and there was an unwritten rule that if there were any problems at Rankine, the employees had to drop everything and go back to Niagara Falls. But once, when Don Bracken ordered the men back to Rankine to fix a problem, the visitors from Niagara Mohawk refused to let them go. Bracken complained to top management, and management reprimanded the people involved. But the next time he went to Herschel, three or four Niagara Mohawk visitors threw in him the lake in retaliation.



Work at the dock.

By the late 1970s, regulatory commissions, including the New York State Power Authority, were becoming much more inquisitive. Niagara Mohawk was forced to scrutinize its books more carefully and the Herschel Fishing Club, which was wholly owned by Ni-
...continued on page 17

...from page 16

agara Mohawk through its ownership of Canadian Niagara, came under scrutiny. The Club could not be satisfactorily explained to the regulators and it was quietly sold off; on the 28th February 1979, to



Bringing in the ice



*"Rest time for the hardest worker".
Photo unknown credit*



Photo by Greg Gibbons

G. Bert Mitford.

Sid Morris, after his original stint on the island, was called back several times to "manage" the island. During his tenure on the island he became good friends with a local farmer, Jim Kelly, whose wife Loretta was the island cook for many years. Through this relationship, Sid was able to buy a plot of land on the south shore (off Martin Road) where he built a cottage which is still owned by his daughter.

Excerpts taken from 'The Canadian Niagara Power Company Story' by Norman R. Ball



Kissing Bridge

*Kawartha
Docks*

Designs for Waterfront Living



705-931-1497

jeff@kawarthadocks.com

www.kawarthadocks.com

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES OUTREACH PROGRAM

By Matt Robbins

Hi there,

My name is Matt Robbins, I am the Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach Liaison with the OFAH's Invading Species Awareness Program (ISAP). Specifically, I run the Water Steward Program, a project which focuses on engaging boaters on the issue of aquatic invasive species (AIS) in the Durham, Haliburton, Kawartha and Pine Ridge regions of Ontario.

Our program is an opportunity for folks in the cottaging, boating, and conservation community both to learn and to teach others about how to protect Ontario's lakes and rivers from the threat of AIS like stary stonewort or quagga mussels. Volunteers in the program are trained on how to Clean, Drain, and Dry a watercraft, on species identification, and more!

During the open water season, we help groups of volunteers organize "boater engagement events" at local boat launch locations, where volunteers, and sometimes ISAP staff, provide helpful resources to watercraft users, walk them through where to check for AIS on their equipment, and more. ISAP supplies

a variety of resources for these events, including printed materials, labeled chamois, pop-up tents, AIS-check toolkits, and more.

Last season we were able to reach a wide variety of recreational boaters, but our efforts were somewhat geographically confined. With easing covid-restrictions across the province, however, we are looking to have events and training opportunities across the DHKPR catchment area this year!

I am writing to see if there is any interest within your group in learning more about the Water Steward Program, and helping us spread the message of Clean, Drain, Dry this boating season.

We are happy to provide you resources to share within your membership and community, or to discuss any other opportunities that may exist.

Yours in Conservation,

Matt Robbins

Aquatic Invasive Species Outreach Liaison

Invading Species Awareness Program

Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters

4601 Guthrie Drive, Peterborough, ON, K9J 0C9



FOR ALL YOUR INSURANCE NEEDS

Auto | Commercial | Home

- Auto
- Health Benefits
- Life
- Marine
- Boat
- Travel
- Business
- Farm
- Recreational
- Sporting
- Truck
- Commercial

Phone: 888.925.5580

Email: info@hudsonhenderson.com

69 Hastings Street, Bancroft, ON



*Sugar shack painting in watercolour
by Anne Coleman*



Belcast
COTTAGES

1799 N Baptiste Lake Road
Maynooth, ON
Contact us directly at
613-332-4550 or visit our
website www.belcastcottages.ca.
Check us out on Facebook
or Instagram



Belcast Cottages & General Store is an affordable family friendly destination that is great for reunions and yearly getaways. Our General Store is open 7-days a week May till October. We offer Kawartha Dairy products including scoop ice-cream. Ice, worms and basic groceries. Book exchange and Cottage décor.

AN UPDATE ON SEASONAL CLASS DELIVERY CHARGES BY HYDRO ONE

If you have been following the action since the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) decreed they must eliminate this class in March of 2015, here is the latest installment. And if you haven't but are a Seasonal customer of Hydro One, you should pay attention

Let's be clear: this is not about the cost of electricity which is strictly a political decision. It is only about how much you pay to have your electricity delivered to your property

The new plan will raise the price for Seasonal customers in this area substantially. The OEB is the primary driver of this new pricing formula, and Hydro One has always claimed they don't support the move.

What is changing now is the density factor used for Seasonal customers and the change will take apart a density factor that has been in existence for decades. And it has always been unfair; it penalized Seasonal customers in the R1 class and undercharged customers in the R2 zones. There are about 62,000 Seasonal customers in R1 density zones and about 78,000 in R2 density zones, the least dense class for Hydro One (and all of the Seasonals in North Hastings)

But all this is bafflegab and obfuscation because both Hydro One and the OEB can't find a simple, equitable solution to the pricing for delivery of electricity although all other utilities like phone, cable, natural gas, internet, water can.

When I last wrote about this change in 2021 the plan was to start implementing the new higher rates for Seasonal customers January 2022... however Hydro One said they couldn't make the changes to their billing system until 2023 so the OEB agreed on that date

Recently Hydro One wrote to the OEB with a plan for customer communication in advance of the January 2023 rate increase. And if you are a low volume Seasonal customer it will take 10 years to get to the new rates as increases will be limited to 10% per year, and costs for many will double.

So get ready for more bafflegab from Hydro One in

2022 about why you should be charged more for delivery of your electricity

The problem is a simple one but neither Hydro One nor the OEB want to admit this.

Why can't two properties, side by side, with the same level of electricity service and consumption have the same delivery charge? It's the same poles, wires, transformers that go down the road. The same crews that reconnect these two properties when there are storms and outages.

Is there any good news if you are a Seasonal customer in an R2 density zone (all of us in North Hastings)?

If you have been using your seasonal residence a lot lately with COVID, it may be a good time to see if you can meet the residency requirements that Hydro One has determined (and the OEB has endorsed) are required to get the lower cost of electricity delivery of your R2 neighbours

The link to the Hydro One website is here:

<https://www.services.hydroone.com/forms1/ResidentialRateStatusDeclaration.aspx>

Now you may be thinking it may be a good time to cut off your electricity for the cottage in the fall and reconnect in the spring so you won't be paying the higher delivery costs all winter when you have no usage.

You are allowed one free disconnect and reconnect by Hydro One for 24 hours per year. However if you chose to disconnect your service for longer be forewarned: cost for disconnection and reconnection will all be paid by the customer. And if you disconnect for 6 months or longer, Hydro One has the right to insist on an inspection of all wiring on the property by the Electricity Safety Authority to ensure it meets current standards. All of this is outlined in detail in Hydro One's Conditions of Service dated March 1, 2019. My guess is this will not be an option that is cost effective.

And think about this: A decision to eliminate the Seasonal class in March 2015 will take until at least December of 2033 to complete.

Bill Cheshire Baptiste Lake February 2022

HASTINGS HIGHLANDS AGENDA ITEM REPORT

Meeting: Regular Meeting of Council, Operations and Planning - 19 Jan 2022

To: Members of Council

From: Nancy Matheson, Councillor

Department: Council

Subject: Lake Health Working Group Update

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council accept this report "Lake Health Working Group Update" as submitted by Councillor Matheson as information only.

ORIGIN:

The "Lake Health" working group was formed in June of 2021, to discuss a pathway forward with

Council's directive from the June 2, 2021 meeting.

Council resolved:(220-2021)

That Council directs staff to Contact the County of Hastings to obtain professional advice and support for a pathway moving forward on the following items:

- Education on shoreline health for Hastings Highlands Council, Staff and Residents
- Assistance with the preparation of a one-page information sheet that would be provided to contractors and real estate agents on existing regulations for maintain shoreline health (for example; silt fencing and 30 metre buffer zone etc).
- A simple and enforceable policy to protect shorelines from clear cutting.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The members consist of CAO David Stewart, Planner John Jardine and Councillors Tammy Davis, Tony Fitzgerald and Nancy Matheson. We held our first meeting June 23rd with the County, presenting our plan and seeking their expert advice.

With education on "Lake Health" as our primary focus, we set up three presentations with:

- Watersheds Canada on October 6, 2021;
- FOCA (Federation of Ontario Cottage Association) on November 3, 2021; and
- BASC (Bancroft and Area Stewardship Council) on December 1, 2021.

We requested written material from each of the above to share with the public, to be placed in both the municipal office and the library. We have received a box of information from each of the first two, to date.

At our November 17, 2021 Council meeting, Council passed a new fee (pg 65) of \$750.00 with regards to installing a silt fence before beginning work. "No Silt

fence deposit for building permits issued within 30 metres of a water body (Refundable at final. Not refundable after three years from permit issued date or if the silt fence is not installed)." The rationale for this addition follows "For projects being built within 30 metres of a water body that require a building permit, the proposal is for a deposit of \$750.00 to ensure the applicant installs a silt fence that meets provincial standards. A silt fence should ensure the run off from the project is collected at the silt fence and not deposited in the lake. The deposit would be refundable at final if the project was completed in under three years after the permit was issued. The deposit would not be refundable in a period of over three years after the permit was issued.

Two videos have been posted from the presentation to the HH You Tube page.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v9_a7QisjDM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8rbQD7Yp7Ow>

We are submitting a "Friends of the Environment Grant" through TD Canada Trust, in the amount of \$7,560.00 on January 15, 2022 with a response date of April 15, 2022. If successful, this will enable us to mail out a one page visual and information sheet, based on scientific data on "Lake Health," not only to all of our ratepayers, but it would also be provided to contractors and real estate agents. We would also create 2 large interpretative signs, exhibiting an educational display of a naturalized shoreline, which would be strategically placed at entrance points to our municipality.

Watersheds Canada is currently drafting the materials for a toolkit and will be finalizing it in the next few months.

The Planning For Our Shorelands Best Management Practices Toolkit is designed to help municipalities make informed decisions around sustainable shoreland development. It will highlight the scientific literature discussing the social, economic, and environmental benefits of natural shorelands, discuss common planning issues municipalities are currently facing with regards to shoreland development, and offer policy solutions based on the success of municipalities from across Ontario.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Not Applicable

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN: Not Applicable

REFERENCES: Not Applicable

Prepared by: Nancy Matheson, Councillor

Reviewed by: Municipal Clerk January 10, 2022

Reviewed by: CAO/Treasurer January 12, 2022

COMMUNITIES ARE FED UP WITH BEACH TOWNS BOUGHT UP BY INVESTORS AND OVERRUN BY ‘PARTIERS’

Colin Butler · CBC News · Posted: April 10, 2022

Port Stanley, Ont., sees an influx of tourists each summer to its beaches. The lakeside town is considering a licensing scheme for short-term rentals for next summer, part of a growing movement of lakeside communities looking to keep investors from eroding local neighbourhoods. (Colin Butler/CBC)

There’s a growing movement among Ontario lakeside communities to push back against short-term rental services, such as Airbnb and VRBO, that some say are disrupting the social fabric of their close-knit rural communities to the point where it could upend their way of life.

The Municipality of Lambton Shores is the latest to look at more stringent regulations for the beach communities of Port Franks, Ipperwash and Grand Bend, when council reviewed a draft bylaw on Tuesday to license short-term rentals, put a cap on occupancy at 10 people per dwelling and create a 24/7 hotline for locals to report nuisance parties.

Port Stanley, a beach town on Lake Erie’s shore that’s part of Central Elgin municipality, is also considering a bylaw and recently voted 4-3 to study the issue to hopefully have a licensing scheme in place next year.

“To me we needed to regulate it,” said Mayor Sally Martyn, noting most homes sold in town often get scooped up by out-of-town investors looking to turn them into short-term rentals. “It’s a real problem in Port Stanley.”

Preventive medicine

Others, such as the Town of Goderich, are weighing their options. “Canada’s prettiest town” only has about 30 short-term rentals, but as they grow in number, it’s becoming clear to some that they can influence more than just property prices.

While it may have all-year industry, such as the town’s salt mine as shown here, with a slogan like ‘Canada’s prettiest town,’ Goderich gets plenty of tourists. So council is looking at regulating short-term rentals before they become a problem. (Colin Butler/CBC)

“We have to be careful that we don’t erode that rural fabric and rural neighbourhoods that we’ve had for centuries,” said Goderich Mayor John Grace.

With factories, a courthouse and the largest salt

...continued on page 22



“Is this your weekly donation after the dump is closed?” Photo by Paul Coleman



5629c Hwy 620, Main St.
Coe Hill, ON
613-337-5274
www.carenh.org

*Our thrift shop
is proudly run
by volunteers
of CARE
North Hastings*

All proceeds stay in our community



51 Hastings St. N.,
Bancroft, ON
613-332-6868
www.carenh.org

*Our thrift shop
is proudly run
by volunteers
of CARE
North Hastings*

All proceeds stay in our community

Make your next Real Estate move with Emma & Ray!

We put the "Real" in Real Estate!

Real Estate cannot be lost or stolen, nor can it be carried away. Purchased with common sense, paid for in full and managed with reasonable care, it is about the safest investment in the world." - Franklin D. Roosevelt



EMMA KEARNS Broker of Record
613-332-9080
emma@bancroftwaterfront.com

RAY KRUPA
Broker/Co-Owner
613-332-8801
info@raykrupa.com

CENTURY 21
All Seasons Realty Ltd.

...from page 21

mine on Earth, Goderich is far more than just a tourist town.

Goderich's 7,600 residents live there year round and they worry that if enough of the community's homes get bought up by absentee landlords who operate short-term rentals, it would alter the centuries-long tradition of neighbours helping neighbours that keeps the community bonded together.

We need to make sure it doesn't take over our neighbourhoods.- Goderich Mayor John Grace

"We need to get a handle on it, we need to manage it and we need to make sure it doesn't take over our neighbourhoods."

The Municipality of South Bruce Peninsula, a collection of beach towns about an hour and a half northeast on the coast of Georgian Bay learned that lesson the hard way.

'Every cottage country town is facing this'

The community — which includes the lakeside towns of Red Bay, Mallory Beach and Sauble — cracked down on short-term rentals in January 2021, creating a licensing scheme, a round-the-clock hotline to report party houses, and a "three strikes and you're out" system to keep absentee landlords in line with neighbours' expectations.

A little girl plays on a beach in Sauble Beach, Ont., where municipal officials estimate up to 15 per cent of private dwellings are short-term rentals. (Colin Butler/CBC News)

If they don't, they're liable to lose their licence and could face fines of up to \$500 a day, according to Mayor Janice Jackson, who said the tradition of cottaging in the community took on new intensity with the financialization of housing in Ontario.

"We're not messing around. Partiers and people who don't care about our community are not welcome here.

"We're fielding increasing complaints from the community where their neighbour sold their place

and now it's party house next door, and it's just been heartbreaking to hear some of the stories.

"We're getting people who are buying houses sight unseen."

Jackson said its estimated short-term rentals now account for up to 15 per cent of all private dwellings in her community, which has had serious impact on the community, turning otherwise residential neighbourhoods into tourist zones.

"Every cottage country town is facing this and COVID has really exacerbated this issue. So we had to do something.

"If this continues, we're going to get to a point, maybe five years from now, where we have equal amount of rental properties to our permanent residents," Jackson said.

"That is going to erode the fabric of the community, there's no question."

Jackson said the pandemic and the rise of the staycation brought so many visitors and outside investors to town that something had to be done to balance things out.

"We want people to come up here and enjoy South Bruce Peninsula because it's absolutely gorgeous here, but you've got to respect your neighbours. We have too many people who are coming up that simply have no respect for our neighbours."



Osprey with fish. Photo by Greg Gibbons

THE BANCROFT VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE IS BACK!

By Tim Porter, Artistic Director

We're sure that most residents, both seasonal and otherwise of Baptiste Lake have attended a show at one of the crown jewels of our region, the Bancroft Village Playhouse. This stunning and intimate 192 seat theatre has hosted world class acts and local talent for over thirty years, but was not immune to the effects of a two year global crisis. **HOWEVER!** We are thrilled to report that the Playhouse is **BACK**, with a new team at the helm, a renewed commitment to make the building as active and as accessible as possible, and with events planned every weekend from May until December!

There is a lot to take in this year at Playhouse from old favourites to new adventures. This past January, the playhouse passed hands to Hasting's County's foremost producer and creator of Musical Theatre, Tweed & Company Theatre. This award-winning troupe now operates both the Playhouse and the nearby Marble Arts Centre in Tweed, and have been quick to program both venues with a wide range of events. The group has also applied for countless grant applications to continue to bring the venues into the future and present the highest calibre performances possible.

This professional company is known for their incredible musical theatre productions, as well as a keen eye for local and professional talent. Their tenure will officially begin this May with concerts from Long Range Hustle, local opera star Hannah Crawford, Blue Rodeo's Michael Boguski and Trio, the North Hastings Community Choir, and Second City Toronto's She The People playing for three nights.

June will bring Johnny Cash Tribute Covered in Cash, popular drag queen from Canada's Drag Race BOA, and local fiddle legends The Fitzgeralds. In July, the off-Broadway smash hit musical Ride the Cyclone will play for one full week, and throughout the month you'll have the chance to catch teen talent Star Power Live, Caroline Smith's the Best of Broadway, and several productions for young audiences.

And finally, throughout the month of August, don't miss Broadway Smash hit MAMMA MIA from August 17th to 28th. This professional mega musical is sure to blow your socks off with an incredible cast of 20, stunning sets and costumes, and all of your favourite ABBA hits!

The Bancroft Village Playhouse has moved to as-

signed seating, so book early for best seats. You can also take advantage of great savings by booking multiple performances at once with the new season pass options.

And there is much more to come! This fall will see the return of the TIFF film program, many more exciting concerts and special events, and our first annual Christmas Pantomime! We can't wait to welcome you back to the Playhouse. It's been too long!

Tim Porter, Artistic Director

Tweed & Company Theatre

BLA Publication Credits

Paul Coleman, Editor

Anne Coleman, Editor

Shelley Pickard, Advertising Liaison

Rachel Etmanskie, Graphic Designer

Hannah Lithographers, Printing

Each publication is composed with the help of many others.



Vance Motors

CHRYSLER

DODGE // Jeep RAM

www.VANCEMOTORS.com

1-800-55-VANCE

SALES, LEASING, PARTS, SERVICE, AND DETAILING.

Proudly serving Chrysler, Jeep, Dodge, and Ram Fans for over 80 years!





WOOD RESTORATIONS
restoring the natural beauty of wood

Proudly Restoring & Maintaining the Log Homes & Wood Siding of Baptiste Lake

WoodRestorations.ca
1.855.594.1900

THE SIDE ROOM

Introducing Eliza Plumley and Toshika Hino

Two local artists have developed an idea for fabric and wood. Eliza is a graduate of Textiles Craft and Design from Sheridan College and Toshi is a self-taught wood artisan, taking inspiration from Japanese woodcarvers, such as George Nakashima and wood sculptors, such as James Krenov. Eliza and Toshi met in Tofino, Vancouver Island several years ago and realized they shared many philosophies and ideals.

Eliza and Toshi have created a space, the Sideroom as a gallery for their crafts as well as a boutique for their collection of vintage clothing. They have made everything in this gallery by their own hands. Eliza is a textile artist who makes rugs, embroidered tapestries and loves to mend clothing. Eliza loves to collect recycled and thrifted materials to create colourful works of textile art. She was born in Bancroft, Ontario and her rural upbringing has fostered a close connection to the natural environment and a fondness for the serenity of craft/handwork.

Toshi is a woodworker who makes furniture and cabinetry, using hand cut joinery and other traditional techniques. After several years of experimentation with hand tools, he has developed a quality style which is very unique.



Toshika Hino and Eliza Plumley

Their boutique collects, mends and sells second hand clothing. They love high quality materials, iconic Canadian styles and vintage designs. Each item is carefully inspected and if necessary, professionally repaired by Eliza. On certain items, she also uses hand mending and embroidery to create artful and unique pieces and collections. They recently had an exhibit of their products at the Hastings Highlands Public Library.

The Side Room opened in July 2021 and still operates a physical location - with separate inventory. It is an extension of the Old Peterson Road Gallery in Maynooth, Ontario -32994 Hwy 62 N. 20 minutes north of Bancroft, 30 minutes west of Barry's Bay, 45 minutes south of Algonquin Park's east gate.

- Toshika Hino and Eliza Plumley



Photo by Eliza Plumley



Photo by Eliza Plumley



Store & Gallery

23 BRIDGE ST. WEST, BANCROFT, ONTARIO
WWW.APFTA.CA

40 local artists including Baptiste Lake artists
Jane Armstrong - Ken Balmer - Seth Macey

VISIT US



Monthly
THE ANNEX GALLERY
Exhibitions

BAPTISTE LAKE ARTIST FEATURED AT THE ART GALLERY OF BANCROFT

*By Hugh Monteith,
President of the Bancroft Art Gallery*

The May exhibition at the Art Gallery of Bancroft features local watercolour artist Tanya Fenkell, a seasonal resident of Baptiste Lake. Tanya first came to Baptiste Lake a dozen years or so ago when she vacationed at BirchCliff Lodge. She fell in love with the Lake and surrounding area, and purchased an old hunting cabin on the Lake a couple of years later.

Throughout her life, Tanya has explored her artistic side through practice and study of various arts and fibre-related crafts, including knitting, drawing, sewing, embroidery and bookbinding. She inherited talent from both her father, a professional photographer and wood carver, and her mother, who was an adept machine knitter.

Tanya considers herself a self-taught artist, developing her style over a number of years. The solitude and isolation specific to raising small children allowed her to delve deeply into watercolour, a medium valued to her as a mother of young children for being portable and quick-drying. While she only started to display her work publicly about four years ago, she was delighted to be accepted as an artist in Orillia's Carmichael, Canadian Landscape Exhibition in 2020, only to have the show cancelled due to COVID.

Solitude and solitary spaces in the natural world are dominant preoccupations in Tanya's art; most of her paintings are inspired by and focus on quiet parts of Baptiste Lake and its surroundings. She is able to take her watercolour kit with her as she kayaks into the tranquil nooks and crannies of the Lake to discover inspiration for her paintings.

Watercolour is her favourite medium for depicting moody landscapes and figures for several reasons. She likes the "fluidity" of watercolours, their portability, and that they are a relatively non-toxic medium. "I use watercolours to semi-abstractly convey the deep, calming feelings evoked by the lake", notes Tanya of her paintings. Her exhibition, 'Emotion-



Dusking painting by Tanya Fenkell

al Landscapes' focuses on the positive and pensive feelings evoked by being in nature, especially those found in monochromatic, melancholy, early morning and sunset lake views. Tanya's paintings, in her words "picture stolen moments of silent bliss, seem-

...continued on page 26



**BANCROFT AND BAPTISTE LAKE
AREA REAL ESTATE BROKER**

CONTACT
MICHAEL ARBOUR
BOWES & COCKS LIMITED BROKERAGE
11 Station St., Bancroft 613-332-1841
CELL / TEXT 613-334-0182
WEBSITE: WWW.BANCROFTPROPERTY.COM
EMAIL: ARBOUR@BANCROFTLAND.COM

Over 1100 Properties Sold Since 1983 and 5 Cottages/Homes Sold on Baptiste Lake in 2020

...from page 25

ingly removed and untouched by the devastation of world events". She finds tranquility and hope within Canada's landscape while recognizing that seeking these in nature is a profound and fragile privilege.

Her painting is a type of refuge, admits Tanya, in which she can attempt to convey how she feels about the places and scenes that she paints. Her exhibition of "emotional landscapes", she explains "displays my work about the Lake showing the mixture of comfort, loneliness and rapture felt when we are alone with nature, more compelling than ever as we struggle with the strictures of life during a pandemic."

Her love of nature and the environment is clear. She comments that "as we accept nature's comforts, we have an acute responsibility to reciprocate its protections. The deep solace and joy provided by the Canadian landscape is visceral and even, paradoxically, painful, as we come to terms with ensuring that our environment survives our constant demands on it. And yet, solitary natural spaces sustain and console us more than ever in the new, uncertain context of 2022."

Tanya's exhibition Emotional Landscapes runs from Show runs from May 4 to 28 at the Art Gallery of Bancroft. The Opening Reception takes place on Friday May 6 at 7:30. The public is welcome and admission is free. As another connection to Baptiste Lake, the show is sponsored by Camp Po-nacka.



Birches in the Sunlight by Melinda Shank-Miles

2022 Exhibitions | Bancroft Art Gallery

MAY 4-28 Tanya Fenkell

Watercolour Emotional Landscapes. Opening Reception May 6 at 7:30 pm.

JUNE 1-25 Melinda Shank-Miles

Paintings Fragile. Opening Reception June 3 at 7:30 pm.

JUNE 29 - JULY 30 Freddie Towe

Collage and Mixed Media. This Day. Opening Reception July 1 at 7:30 pm.

AUGUST 3-27 Ketha Newman Paintings.

PAiNtDEMIC! Opening Reception August 5 at 7:30 pm

SEPTEMBER 2-30 Larry Ostrom

Photography. *Variations on a Theme*

OCTOBER 7-31 Anne Hoover

Paintings and drawings of the figure. *Figuring it out*

NOVEMBER 4-30 ARNE ROOSMAN

RECENT WORKS

Opening Reception: Friday, November 4 at 7:30 pm

DECEMBER 2-31

40th Invitational Juried Exhibition

Opening Reception: Friday, December 2 at 7:30 pm



Blueberry Island by Ketha



Highlands Hot Tubs
613-338-3000

- hot tub, pool and sauna sales, service and installations
- water testing and chemical sales
- a large selection of inflatable water toys and SUPs
- and much more

33010 Hwy 62, Maynooth, ON K0L 2S0

THE LAND BETWEEN CHARITY

By Mel Abberger

Hello there!

I hope this email finds you well. I am reaching out today on behalf of The Land Between Charity. We are a conservation non-profit organization that is working to protect and restore natural spaces and wildlife in Southern Ontario's last intact wilderness. We run community science and education programs that give local residents opportunities to help protect wildlife populations and connect with nature in a meaningful way.

As spring approaches, The Land Between is getting ready for our busy season, and we need all the help we can get. We run a variety of community science programs where community members help us survey their areas for wildlife and contribute to keeping native Ontario wildlife populations safe. Our Turtle Guardians program works to protect Ontario's native turtle populations, while other programs work with snakes, birds, and invasive plant species. Most of our programs run from approximately the middle of May to the end of September. Volunteers can participate at any age and from almost anywhere in the province.

Based on the work that your organization does in the community, we think that your members and/or volunteer network might be interested in getting involved with Community Science programs with The Land Between. Below please find brief descriptions of each of our programs.

Turtle Guardians Community Science Programs:

Wetland Watchers - Survey wetlands to see what turtle species and other wildlife are using these ecosystems.

Road Researchers - Monitor roads to help turtles cross safely and make sure that injured and nesting turtles get the care and help they need.

Nest Sitters - Watch over nesting turtles and their nests to protect them from the threats of roads and predators.

Crossing Guards - Help monitor a high road mortality "hotspot" by helping turtles cross the road safely and making sure injured and nesting turtles get the help they need.

The Land Between Community Science Programs:

Phragmites Fighters - Help locate and remove stands of invasive Phragmites australis or European common

reed to protect our native wildlife and ecosystems.

Snake Supervisors - Survey for snakes in your backyard or around your area while you are out walking or biking.

Nightjar Surveys - Listen and look for Nightjar birds along specific routes near you during their peak breeding and calling season.

Backyard Whip-Poor-Will Challenge - Tell us if you can hear this heritage species from your property.

Volunteers can register for our programs using the link attached.

<https://www.thelandbetween.ca/community-science-sign-up/>

This link will take you to the Community Science registration page, where you can learn more about our programs, register to volunteer your time, and get updates about training workshops. You can register for multiple programs at once. Once you are registered, our staff will be in touch to help you register for a training workshop for your specific program.

We hope to get more people involved with local community science projects and connected with nature, and would appreciate it if you could send this email around to your members, volunteer networks, and anyone else that may be interested.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you for your time, and have a great day!

Sincerely, Mel Abberger

Volunteer & Education Coordinator

Turtle Technician

www.turtleguardians.com 705-457-1222



Lion's Mane Mushrooms. Photo by Greg Gibbons

Tucker's
MARINE
 705-656-4402 • APSLEY • ONTARIO
"A family name you can trust, for over 30 years!"

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
 YEAR ROUND AND
 UNTIL 9 PM ON FRIDAYS



YAMAHA
Revs Your Heart



SALES • SERVICE • STORAGE

Visit our showroom www.tuckersmarine.com
 Conveniently located on Hwy 28. Just 30 mins from Lakefield & Bancroft



**WE ARE
 TRUCK COUNTRY**

BOYER CHEVROLET BUICK GMC BANCROFT



Boyer
 Chevrolet GMC Bancroft

613-332-CHEV | 29668 Hwy 62 N., Bancroft, ON K0L 1C0

WWW.BOYERGMBANCROFT.COM

A DIVISION OF BOYER AUTO GROUP, YOUR FAMILY OF DEALERSHIPS SINCE 1981

Proud FANS and
 Title Sponsors
 of the



Boyer Auto Group
 North Kawartha
 Knights!



Baptiste Lake Association
MEMBERSHIPS

Please check the label on your newsletter envelope for your current membership status and expiry date.

We offer memberships for one or three year terms. Cost for one year \$25, three years \$60. Please note that all membership expiry dates are March 31, our fiscal year end. We offer 3 methods of payment:

- **CHEQUE** - Please complete this form and send it along with a cheque payable to "Baptiste Lake Association", PO Box 877, Bancroft, ON K0L 1C0.
- **ETRANSFER** - Send payment to MyBaptisteLake@gmail.com. Please include necessary information to ensure we have your correct mailing, lake, and email addresses.
- **PAYPAL** - Use the link on our membership page on our website www.baptistelake.org.

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____ City, Province/State _____

Postal Code/Zip _____ Phone _____

911 Lake Address _____ Lake Phone _____

Email Address _____ YES Please send me email updates.

Waterfront? Yes / No

Water Access Only? Yes / No

please check here if you have any objection to the Baptiste Lake Association including your name in our Newsletters and/or on our website.