

ISLAND Clippings

"Your Island Newspaper"



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3 Island Camps Destroyed by Fire

ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE AND THE ONTARIO FIRE MARSHALL'S office are investigating three serious fires on the S & T Line over the holiday season.

Sometime between December 12th and December 29th, two camps on opposite sides of the eastern portion of the S & T Line in Hilton Township burned to the ground. Luckily, no one was in either camp at the time. Since the fires were not discovered and reported until after the fact by a neighbouring property owner, Hilton Union Firefighters had no chance to even attempt to save the camps.

A December 31st OPP News Release indicated that the Ontario Fire Marshall's office had been called in to investigate. At that time, the fires had not yet been declared 'suspicious', although neither camp has hydro power, nor any other apparent probable cause of a fire, without human involvement.

At our press time, we have not been able to reach the Ontario Fire Marshall investigator for comment. Officers from the East Algoma OPP Thessalon detachment are also continuing their investigation. And there's definitely more to investigate!

On Monday, January 3rd we learned that a third fire had been reported, also an unoccupied camp, located at the western end of the S & T Line in Jocelyn Township. Although the OPP have not yet released a media update at press time, the time of that fire has been established as the early morning hours of Wednesday, December 29th.

The fire, which completely destroyed the camp and all of its contents, was discovered Wednesday morning by a local resident who noticed that the gate to the property had been ripped off its posts. Being a friend of

the owner, he went in to investigate. Upon discovering the smoldering remnants of the fire, he promptly called police.

The resident had been by the property the previous day, narrowing the timeframe of the fire down to a 24 hour period of Tuesday, December 28th and Wednesday, December 29th. The glow from the flames was also seen at about 6:30 am that morning by another resident living nearby, but because of dark and foggy conditions, he wasn't sure what he was actually seeing, or its actual location. The man's wife called Crime Stoppers to report the incident. Unfortunately, with Crime Stoppers staff away over the Christmas holidays, this drew no response from police until Sunday, January 2nd.

As with the other two Hilton Township occurrences, Jocelyn firefighters were unaware of the fire until days afterward. Again, there is no hydro power at the unoccupied camp, nor any other obvious source of combustion, barring human involvement. Police and Ontario Fire Marshall investigators have been called in.



Continued on the next page



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AND ANGLERS ASSOCIATION**

PRESENTS

**17TH ANNUAL
WILD GAME DINNER**

January 29, 2011

Royal Canadian Legion Hall,
Richards Landing

Doors open at 5 pm

Appetizers 5:30 pm until 7:00 pm

Dinner 7:00 pm

Tickets \$40. donation per person

Cheque/Cash only

Ticket price includes a chance on the "Door Prize"

Tickets go on sale January 8th, 2011 at 8 am at the
Conservation Centre on the 20th Side Road

No Ticket Limit

Lots of raffles and prizes

**Proceeds of the Dinner and Toy Draw used to fund
Conservation Projects on St. Joseph Island**

Fires ... continued from page 1

Not even appearing on most maps of the Island, the S & T Line does not run continuously between the two townships. Getting from one end to the other would entail either detouring to the Q & R Line or the U Line, unless one went cross-country using an off-road equipped vehicle. Although unconfirmed by official sources, it's likely that the perpetrator(s) have a good knowledge of the Island roads and trails.

Since the 'Jocelyn' fire was reported at 9 am Wednesday and the 'Hilton' fires were reported at 1 pm the same day, it appears probable that the three blazes might be connected, although the actual time of each fire has yet to be established.

Each camp's remote location at opposite ends of the same road, the uncertain timeline of the events and the lack of eyewitness accounts all combine to complicate the investigation. The owners of the three properties have been contacted and will hopefully be able to help investigators determine what might have attracted unwanted attention to their properties.

While investigators remain tight-lipped about any evidence or leads they might have uncovered so far, the Island's Fire Chiefs Joe Books, Dave Belsito and Cory Furlong are concerned about what might happen next. If these fires were indeed deliberately set, whether by vandals or thieves seeking to cover their tracks, or even worse, one or more 'fire bugs' doing it just for mindless thrills, it could happen again. And perhaps the next time, there will be human casualties as well as property damage!

Although he acknowledges his concern at people rashly jumping to unfounded conclusions, Hilton Chief Joe Books encourages Island residents to increase their vigilance and awareness of people, vehicles or events that might seem out of the ordinary in their neighbourhood. You could be seeing something that might be connected to something far more serious than just bad or odd behaviour.

Owners of isolated property should consider increasing the attention paid to the safety and security of their property, especially if left unoccupied for long periods.

And if you do see what you even THINK might be a fire, even in a remote area, take note of its general location and CALL 911! Although each of our volunteer firefighting forces is always ready to respond to emergency calls in as short a time as possible, they too have stepped up their alert levels. But they have no chance at all against fires that they don't hear about in time!

Anyone with information about these, or any other suspicious fires should call police at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. Any information that leads to the arrests or identity of the persons responsible can lead to a cash reward. You can remain anonymous and Crime Stoppers do not subscribe to call display.

(Paid Advertisement)

It's all About Co-operation

If we are to obtain the very best in health care for our area, it's time to set aside all of the past divisiveness and conflicting viewpoints and pull together for the common good. That's my pledge to you.

I believe that everyone who has been involved in saving our health care over the past two years agrees that we are now heading in the right direction. Now, let's all work together to finish the job.

I'm committed to positive participation and support for the MMHA Board and its objectives, as a Board Member or as a private citizen. In either case, I'm happy to place myself, my resources and my energy at the Board's service. I believe that I have much to offer in helping to meet our health care challenges.

You can help too. Join the Matthews Memorial Hospital Association and show your support as a contributing member. Be sure to vote in the upcoming Board election, to ensure that our Board has a clear and strong mandate from its membership. If you can't make it to the Annual Meeting, you can still cast your vote by proxy.

With our health care on the line, every one of us can help to get the job done!

Sincerely,

Mark Henderson, Reeve, Jocelyn Township

246-2110



On the upcoming MMHA election

As a retired educator, having 37 years experience, I value learning. For the past year I personally have been on a sharp learning curve. In January, 2010 I was elected to the Matthews Memorial Hospital Association. I had some idea of the responsibility this Association held but soon learned the depth of it.

This past year has been one of record challenges for the Hospital Board and its Administrator. Fortunately, the Association is made up of dedicated and committed members. Further, several Board members have years of experience and knowledge which they have willingly shared with the new comers.

The challenges we have faced this past year are compounded by divisiveness and misinformation. We need to pull together in creating happy, healthy communities in which people want to come and live and work.

I have gained the utmost respect for the work of the Association, its Board members and the Administrator. The skills and knowledge at the table are invaluable. My request to residents of the catchment area, Echo Bay to Bruce Mines including St. Joseph Island, is to consider being a member of the Matthews Memorial Hospital, attend the Annual meeting and vote for Board members that are dedicated and willing to work for the betterment of all of us.

If you are a member in good standing and unable to attend the Annual meeting proxy forms are available. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

*Respectfully yours,
Lavera Crack, Hilton Beach
246-2311*

Island Insight continued on page 4

**THE TOWNSHIP OF ST. JOSEPH
STAFFING ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Council and Staff of the Township of St. Joseph is pleased to announce the appointment of Amanda Richardson to the position of Senior Accounting Clerk. Amanda will be graduating from Algoma University with a Bachelors degree in Business Accounting in April 2011, and brings to the position a solid knowledge of our community. She started work on January 4, 2011 and will be available in the office three days each week to assist you with your financial and taxation questions.

Please join us in welcoming Amanda to our Township team!

Carol Trainor, A.M.C.T.
Clerk-Administrator



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Island Insight ... continued from page 3

About our 'MMH Becomes a Movie Set' article:

[It was] a negative article about something positive happening on the Island which contained inaccurate information. The event had and has potential for positive economic dollars coming into the community of St. Joseph Island.

You also missed the opportunity to find the positive side of the event or publish facts as opposed to innuendo. In the fourth paragraph it is noted that "Nobody on the Production Crew notified or asked permission from the Township of St. Joseph either." Which may be true, but completely irrelevant because, as you have noted in the very next paragraph the responsibility to notify or obtain clearances and permission was to be handled by a Soo based production company.

Perhaps by talking to those Legion members who prepared the dinner and to the local motel owners who benefitted, you would have had another part of the positive side to report.

The tangible things that the movie industry will bring to the island such as; creating jobs, economic boon to business and giving young and old, life experiences that they may never have had the opportunity to do, will be jeopardized by negativity.

The intangible is the overall pride of being recognized as a place that a industry such as the film industry would not only consider but "prefer" because of the atmosphere and the welcoming approach of the people.

Your article has the potential to continue to feed the negative and thus sabotage further projects and the tangible and intangible benefits mentioned above.

I was asked to obtain local extras for the movie. I was proud of the enthusiasm and the willingness of the extras to be part of it. They were paid an honorarium and supplied with food for the day and a meal provided by our local Legion. No one asked how much they were to be paid, it was a chance to be part of a positive experience and showcase the characteristics of Islanders that would make the experience for the film crew, one that they would want to repeat and share.

We are proud of who we are and what we can accomplish; we do that by having a positive outlook on life.

Jackileen R. Rains

Editor's Note: We were quite surprised to learn that someone had interpreted our article in Issue # 779 (December 23, 2010) as being negative in its tone. It was certainly not our intent and we completely agree with Ms. Rains about the many positive aspects of part of the movie being filmed here.

We respectfully disagree with Ms. Rains' viewpoint about the lack of advance communication by the producers being "completely irrelevant". We expect that Township of St. Joseph and public safety officials might disagree as well, as did some local residents with whom we spoke. North Port Productions, the Soo-based company hired to take care of such things, took the

Township and its residents - and presumably the news media - by surprise. That's all. We simply included that fact in our article.

Nor can we accept without challenge, her accusation of our using "innuendo" in the place of facts. Although we missed the filming (which was really the main point of our article), we did speak afterwards directly with many of the Island residents who took part.

The Island Clippings will always seek to communicate facts - not 'innuendo'. THAT would be 'negative'!



A man walked into a lumber yard office and said, "We need some four-by-twos." The clerk asked, "You mean two-by-fours, don't you?" The man said, "I'll go check," and went back outside. He returned shortly and said, "Yeah, I meant two-by-four." "How long do you need them?" The customer paused for a moment and said, "I'd better go check." After a while, he returned to the office and said, "We need them for a long time. We're gonna build a house."

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Friday Night Foods at the Legion

Keith Barlow will be cooking from the regular menu.

Entertainment will be provided
Crystal Creek

Come on out and enjoy good food and try your luck on the meat draw!

Take out available

FOR SALE

Drywall lift. Used for 18 sheets. Bought new. The job is done. \$150. Call Verne 246-7048.

Two bell satellite receivers, c/w remotes. \$50. each or two for \$75. Call 246-2444.

33 in. Toshiba TV, old style. \$100. Call 246-2176

1994 Mazda 323 "handyman special". 100,000 km, auto-matic, Needs TLC. Asking \$500. OBO. Call 246-2807

Enclosed Snowmobile Trailer; holds 2 skidoos; \$1,500. Call 705-246-2807 or 905-960-2120

Browning 270 Safari Rifle; Belgium; 2.5 x 8 B & L Scope; \$850. Clam Portable Ice Fishing Shelter - 2 Person. \$150. Otter Village Ice Fishing Shelter - 4 Person. Used 4 times; \$750. Call 705-246-2807 or 905-960-2120

Dry firewood. Can be picked up at 5054 5th Side Road. Call 246-0923

Lab puppies, born November 27th. Will be ready to go to a new home by January 22nd. Call 246-2701

ITEMS WANTED

Wanted: Men's skates, size 11, in good condition. Please call 246-2753

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A St. Joseph Island Voyageurs Snowmobile Club reminder that we will be collecting christmas trees for the treelines. The drop off is by the outdoor rink in Richards Landing and the marina in Hilton Beach.

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 374, St. Joseph Island will be hosting a "Welcome Home" reception for Bombardiers Jason Kent, Jeff MacIntyre and Thomas Ross on Sunday the 9th of January 2011, from 2 to 5 pm. Jason, Jeff and Thomas, members of the 49th SSM Field Regiment Royal Canadian Artillery, returned home from their Afghan tour in December. Members of the public are invited to come and meet and show support for these fine young men from our rural community.

Reminder: Yoga classes in Richards Landing at the Old Town Hall start on Jan. 19th, 1pm or 7 pm. Call 246-2516

Please save your Christmas cards for the St Joe Island Central School P&T. Our trees did well this year, and we have other ideas for next year. Drop them off at the school, put them in the Campbell's bins around the island or drop them in my mailbox at 2144 F&G Line. Thank you for all your support. Cynthia Schaafsma. 246-3920

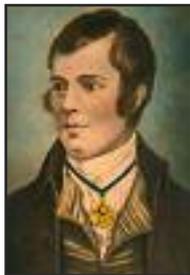
Robbie Burns Dinner at Legon Br.374. Sat Jan 15, 2011. Tickets \$25.00 Available at Kents Corner, Ambeaults, and the Legion Bar. Enjoy Scottish Food (Haggis), Music (Fiddles & Pipes) and Dance (Your favourite flings and schottises). Door Prizes.

Wes Caufield will be celebrating his 99th birthday at the Moose Lodge on Trunk Road in the Soo, on Saturday, January 8th from 2 to 4 pm. Everyone is welcome. Best wishes only, please!

Algoma Trad Dance - Sat. Jan. 8th, 7:30 pm Hilton Beach Hall, St. Joseph Island. Dan Gorno, caller. Music by the O'Schraives and guests. Adults: \$10. Students and Seniors: \$5. Children 10 and under, free. Beginners welcome! For info call 782-4311

ROBBIE BURNS DINNER

Sponsored by
ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION
Branch 374



January 15, 2011
Celebrate the Scottish Poet
Music, Dancing & Food
Come and Enjoy
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Tickets \$25. available at Kent's Corners, Ambeaults
& the Legion Bar

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OBITUARIES

Yakimicki, Elsie: On Tuesday afternoon Elsie Yakimicki sat in her lazy boy chair for the last time with her niece Gail and nephew Joe by her side. Elsie Yakimicki, born April 12, 1919 was a proud Torontonion. She will be missed by many family members and friends, including her sister Emily Simons, and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. Say a prayer today for Elsie. Messages of Condolences may be placed at www.RidleyFuneralHome.com.

THANK YOU

The staff of Northern Credit Union would like to thank all their members for their best wishes, cards, fabulous baking, chocolates, and beautiful Christmas gift bags and baskets. We feel so fortunate to have such great friends in the community and want to express our sincere gratitude for your continued support. Thank you for a Wonderful Year. We wish you a Happy Healthy Prosperous New Year! *Tammy, Kathy, Norma, Dawn, Breanne*

Many thanks to family and friends, who surprised me with a 50th birthday party on December 27th. Special thanks to "Queen Linda" and my "big sisters" of the RedHat "Island Red Belles", who presented me with my first official red hat. Thanks also to Theresa, who did a wonderful job of organizing. I am truly blessed. *Denise Read*

Words cannot express how much we appreciate the way you all have reached out to us during this time of our huge, sudden loss. Herb was greatly loved, and highly respected by many people, scattered around Canada, and the U.S.A. For those who were able to attend the funeral service we thank you for your presence and for those who weren't able, we greatly appreciate your thoughtful phone calls, letters, food donations, flower arrangements, prayers and continued support. Rev. Eun Joo Park, the service you delivered at the funeral gave comfort and inspiration to everyone present. The Ladies of Harmony St. Mark's UCW, thank you for helping with the wonderful lunch

provided. For the pallbearers, Jacob, Matt, Tim, Calen, Larry, & John we know how difficult it was for you to fill this position, but it is greatly appreciated and your time spent around the fire in the garage will forever be remembered. Our family is still numb in shock for the sudden loss of the head of our family, but with your love, support, and prayers we are slowly finding the strength to move on. Milly is lost without him. Thank you and God Bless You. *Marg, Janene, Herbie, Paul and Families*

Deadline for display ads is 3 pm Mondays.

Deadline for Classifieds is noon Tuesday.

John Cain named Superintendent of Works

The Township of St. Joseph has announced the appointment of John Cain as its new Superintendent of Works. John has been employed with the Township for over six years, and previously worked for the Ministry of Transportation. He brings a great deal of experience in road construction and maintenance, recreational facilities, and recognizes the needs of our community.

The Island Clippings is delighted to convey this news to our readers. Knowing John as well as we do, we are certain that he will make a strong contribution to meeting the needs of St. Joseph Township residents. Congratulations, John!

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NO JANUARY 20TH ISSUE!

The Foxes will be taking a break the week of January 17 to 23. We will therefore NOT be publishing a January 20th issue. Our normal operations will resume for Issue # 783 coming out on January 27th. Please plan your advertising or content submissions accordingly. We thank our readers and our advertisers for their understanding and co-operation.

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Inventory Clearance SALE!

Back Room 70% OFF
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Classified Ads and Announcements

The Island Clippings is pleased to publish personal Classified Advertising and Public Service Announcements of **50 words or less**, free of charge to Island residents, as a community service. Other than personal for sale ads the announcement must be of value to the community. We reserve the right to decide if the ad is of service to the community.

Ads or announcements for non-residents, businesses, or items or services, to be sold for profit, or generate income as well as items valued at over \$1,000. will incur a nominal charge of \$10. plus HST. We reserve the right to determine if a fee is required. We reserve the right to edit down to 50 words or less.

Ads or announcements will appear in one issue, but may be repeated, to a maximum of three consecutive weeks (space permitting). **Advertiser must resubmit ad each week.** To ensure space for everyone, please limit your content to a **maximum of 50 words.**

Ads can be placed by: **Email to:** islandclippings@gmail.com or by phone 705 246-1635 (from 9 - 5, Mon-Fri) or fax 705 246-7060. **Mail to:** Island Clippings RR1, Hilton Beach, ON P0R 1G0 Or simply put it in one of our pick-up boxes conveniently located at Ambeault's, Kent's Corners and the Hilton Beach Post Office.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON ST. JOE

Friday

Seniors Walking Program, Legion - 9 am to noon
Hens & Stitches, Dr. Trefry Centre - 10 am to 12 pm
Island Cast-a-Weights, Calorie Watchers, Hilton Community Hall (rear door, basmt) - 8:30 am
Friday Foods at the Legion
AA Meeting, United Church (new addition, side door) - 8 pm

Saturday

Childrens Library - 10 am to 3 pm
Story time - 10:30 am
Hilton Union Public Library - 1 pm to 5 pm - New phone number: 255-3520.
St. Joseph Twp. Public Library - 1 pm to 5 pm
Nordic Walking Group, Tranter Park - 10 am
Free pool all day in the Legion lounge
St. Boniface Roman Catholic, Hilton Beach at 4:30 pm.
Jam Session, Legion - 4 pm to 6 pm

Sunday

Holy Trinity Anglican, Jocelyn at 11 am.
Free Methodist, 10th Side Rd. Coffee, tea and friendship at 10:30 am. Worship service 11 am.
Island Bible Chapel, Richards Landing.
Lord's Supper 10 am, Family Bible Hour 11:15 am.
Grace United, Hilton Beach. 9:30 am.
Harmony St. Marks United, Richards Landing. 11 am.

Monday

Seniors Walking Program, Legion - 9 am to noon
Bridge, Dr. Trefry Centre - 1 pm to 5 pm (Open to all seniors)
60+ Exercise Program, Dr. Trefry Centre - 10:00 am
Euchre, Legion Hall - 8 pm (\$3.00 per person)

Carpet Bowling for 50 Plus, Legion - Refreshments Available - 1 pm
St. Joseph Twp, Public Library - 6 pm to 9 pm
Hilton Union Library - 3 pm to 5 pm & 7 pm to 9 pm - New phone number: 255-3520.
Children's Library - 6 pm to 8 pm

Tuesday

CAPC Play & Learn, Free Methodist Church - 9:30 am to 11:30 am
Cribbage (singles), Legion Hall - 7:30 pm (\$3.00 per person)
Quilting - 1-3 pm, Downstairs Hilton Hall except the 3rd week held at the Trefry Centre.

Wednesday

Seniors Walking Program, Legion - 9 am to noon
Bridge, Dr. Trefry Centre - 1 pm to 5 pm (Open to all seniors)
St. Joseph Twp. Public Library - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Food Bank, United Church, Richards Landing (side door) - 1 pm to 3 pm
Children's Library - 9 am to 12 pm
Story time - 10:30 am
Hilton Union Public Library - 3 pm to 5 pm - New phone number: 255-3520.

Thursday

St. Joseph Twp. Public Library - 1 pm to 5 pm and 7 pm to 9 pm
Dr. Trefry Centre's Day Out Program - 9 am to 4 pm
Children's Library - 9 am to 12 pm; 3:30 - 5 pm
Story time - 10:30 am
Pool, Legion - 7:30 pm

Advertising in the Island Clippings Works!

Debbie's Hair Hut
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