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Deep Sea Fish Released into Lake Huron

IT LOOKS LIKE THE WATERS around St. Joe may be about to receive some very strange new residents.

On March 26th, Fisheries and Oceans Canada announced that a breakdown of the gate control system in its Kincardine Quarantine Station has resulted in the accidental release of three species of deep sea marine life into Lake Huron. The three species are native to especially-deep areas of the Pacific Ocean near Australia and Tasmania, and are being studied by oceanographers working for the federal government.

Although each has earned a place on the list of the 'Top Ten Ugliest Fish in the World,' they should be unable to even exist in our environment.

Surprisingly, the sea creatures are still very much alive and well in Lake Huron's (to them at least) very shallow and warm fresh water. "Some of these



Above and left: Blobfish

aquatics live 2,000 feet down, where the pressure is 80 times that of the surface and where no sunlight reaches," explains Dr. Daniel Delude of the Kincardine facility. "They should have just exploded in our atmosphere! What's up with that?"

Since the deep sea species were never expected to survive outside their laboratory environment, Fisheries and Oceans Canada made no special security arrangements to contain any potential escapees. "Who expected this?" laments Dr. Delude. "Up

until now, our biggest security concern was 'Blinkie', the three eyed salmon who has become our station's unofficial mascot. He likes to jump the safety nets and swim around, scaring the bedoodles out of the tourists!"

But while 'Blinkie' may be harmless, no one is sure how the 'new arrivals' will act. Two of the escaped species could pose more than minimal danger to our local fish and possibly even humans.

Dragonfish



Continued on next page



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DEEP SEA FISH...*continued from page 1*

“We’re not so concerned about Psychrolutes marcidus, which is just big, lazy and butt ugly, but the Chauliodus Sloani and the Grammatostomias Flagellibarba are another story altogether.” says Dr. Delude, wringing his hands in anxiety. Perhaps we do have something to fear from the latter two. Known more informally as the ‘Viperfish’ and the “Dragonfish’ respectively, both are considered among the fiercest predators of the deep, and look more like a set of razor sharp teeth with bodies attached to propel them.

“Both might be inclined to attack humans, but only if provoked.” Dr. Delude advises. “Be very careful around them! Don’t go into water that’s more than 6” deep, don’t make any noise which would attract them and, if you do see them, don’t leave both feet in the water! And this is especially important don’t make eye contact or challenge them in any way!”

The attack of the Viperfish in particular is quick and lethal, taking place in a mere fraction of a second. Its 10 to 12 inch body features a long dorsal spine, along with a ‘photophore’ – an appendage common to deep sea creatures that emits light to attract a mate or prey. They range in colour from green to silver, black and even blue. Don’t look at the light or you could end up as fish food!

The Dragonfish is just as potentially lethal and ferocious, although smaller, growing to a mere 3 or 4 inches. Luckily for humans and our hardy local fish breeds, a pickarel could



Dr. Daniel Delude (right) & his friend Prankster

swallow this fish in one bite. But a large pack of them could make for a very, very bad day!

We asked Dr. Delude if and when these nasty predators might make it as far as St. Joseph Island. “Oh yes!” he replied

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instantly. After a few moments with his computer and a calculator, he indicated that “Based on the prevalent water temperatures and currents, as well as the relatively quick speeds at which these fish travel, I would venture a rough estimate that they could be expected to arrive in your local waters on Sunday, April 1st at 10 am.”

He then elaborated on his ‘rough estimate’, adding that “Taking into account the geological and topographical features of your island, available food supply, projected wind and weather and the time of day, I suggest the best place to witness their arrival would be a concrete structure of some kind do you have a bridge connecting your island to the mainland?”

“How can we tell if and when they’ve actually arrived?” we asked. “That’s simple!” he replied. “The water’s surface will look like it’s boiling. Just watch for schools of smelt, trout, pike, pickerel and salmon, all jumping out of the water and trying to fly or run on the surface. You’ll know!”

“What about that other fish the *Psychrolutes marcidus*?” we asked. “You haven’t said anything about them!” we prodded. “Well that’s a different kettle of fish.” chuckled Dr. Delude, offering what apparently passes for a sense of humour from a government scientist.

“*Psychrolutes marcidus* comes from the Phylum: Chordata, of the Class: Actinopterygii and the Order: Scorpaeniformes. Its

family is Psychrolutidae, of the Genus: *Psychrolutes* with the Binomial name of *Psychrolutes marcidus*.” he offered. “But most of us around the water cooler just call it the Blobfish.”

If you’ve ever wondered where the creator of Ziggy came up with the artistic concept, wonder no more. Rarely seen by humans, Blobfish live at depths between 2,000–3,900 feet, where the pressure is several dozen times higher than at sea level. Its flesh is primarily a gelatinous mass with a density slightly less than water. This allows the fish to float above the sea floor without expending energy on swimming. It doesn’t propel itself and barely expends any energy even eating. It simply gobbles up whatever just happens to be floating by at the moment.

We don’t like to be judgemental, but in his own way, perhaps the same could be said of Dr. Delude ... and perhaps some lawyers! But we shouldn’t be too hard on him. As it is, he’s got a lot of explaining to do about how and why he left the gate open in the first place.

If you’d like to learn more about our new arrivals, visit www.deepeatmonsters.com. And, if you have nothing else to do at 10 am on the morning of Sunday, April 1st, grab your camera and join us at the bridge to watch the show. But remember! No fishing from the bridge!

By April & Rupert Fuhl

Continued on next page

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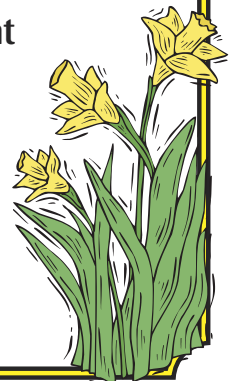
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DEEP SEA FISH...continued from page 3

We were just kidding!

JUST IN CASE you didn't catch on, this week's cover story about the deep sea creatures wasn't really true! Although these strange creatures really do exist, to the best of our knowledge, none are going to be anywhere near Lake Huron in the foreseeable future.

We simply couldn't let April Fool's Day go by, just because this week's issue came out a few days earlier.

For those who don't know or remember Rupert and April Fuhl, we featured them and their moose Mickey in Issue # 741 which we published on – what a coincidence! - April 1, 2010. If you don't have a copy, visit our website archive at www.islandclippings.com

Another Sure Sign of Spring!

THANKS TO JIM BAYLER for this great photo of a male turkey 'strutting' his stuff in the Bayler back yard. 'Strutting' is the term used to describe how males behave to attract females during mating season, which takes place in March and April, while the turkeys are still flocked together in their winter territories.

The courtship begins when the male turkey 'displays' for females by puffing out his feathers, spreading out his tail and dragging his wings. He uses gobbling, drumming his wings and spitting as signs of his power and dominance.

A male turkey's neck actually changes colour with his mood. His usual red, white or blue head and neck will change to solid white when he is at peak excitement. Unless you're a female turkey, you might want to avoid being near him at such times!



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Food for Fools

YOU CAN MAKE “ostrich eggs” with a blob of vanilla yogurt with a half a canned peach in the centre.

“Pre-Sliced” Bananas - Insert a long pin into each unpeeled banana. Use a back and forth motion to “slice” the banana, without actually breaking or opening the peel. Repeat a few times to make more slices and “slice” as many bananas as you’d like. Then, on April Fool’s day, you can offer your kids (or anyone else) the chance to try those new-fangled pre-sliced bananas!

What about making a meat loaf and making it look like a cake by icing and decorating with mashed potato frosting. Not so ambitious—make cupcakes.

Put food colouring in the bottom of a bowl with cereal on top. Watch their faces when they add the milk...you get the idea!

Chocolate-dipped... treat? - Slice raw onions, potatoes, or carrots to mini chocolate size. Dip in chocolate! Haha! Maybe have some real candy on hand.

Prepare some Jello in glasses and insert a straw so that it solidifies with the straw in place. Set out for your family or guests and watch them attempt to take a sip.

Be aware of everything on April 1st to avoid being caught by someone’s prank. Look at everything carefully when entering a room. Don’t believe anything anyone tells you, especially in the morning.



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NEW LISTING

1324 ORRELL CALLAHAN DRIVE



A beautiful waterfront home on picturesque Sterling Bay. Large open concept kitchen/dining area with granite counter-tops, 3 extra large bedrooms, lots of HWD flooring and finished in pine. This home is very well built with an oil forced air furnace, wood stove, a spectacular open staircase and a double car garage.

There are many recent updates and deep water for boating. Don't miss out on this one! **\$264,900.**

2774 CANOE POINT ROAD

A beautiful waterfront home on Canoe Pt. Road with 150' of frontage on the North Channel. This custom designed has 3 bedrooms, large open concept living room/dining area with cathedral ceilings, hot tub/sauna room, large den/sunroom and a large country kitchen with oak cabinets. Other features include a single attached garage, lots of hardwood flooring, a large deck overlooking the water and a full basement. This home has a very private setting with good usable waterfront. **\$469,900.**



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Beautifully appointed 3 BR home with vaulted ceilings, ceramic and hardwood floors. South facing grand lake views from living room, large country kitchen and spacious rear deck which is ideal for summer barbeques. Full basement for extra living space and oversized double garage. Nicely landscaped with mature trees and 144 feet of waterfront. Quiet and private dead end road location. **\$259,900.**



5918 JOCELYN DRIVE

A three bedroom waterfront home with 100' of sand beach on picturesque Sterling Bay. The main level has two large bedrooms, a bathroom, laundry, a large country kitchen, a dramatic dining/living room area with cathedral ceilings and lots of hwd. flooring. The second level has a large master bedroom with ensuite, a walk-in closet and a den with great views of Sterling Bay. Vinyl siding, wrap around deck, double car garage with finished loft, good drilled well and the hot tub is included. This could be the waterfront home you have been looking for at **\$259,900.**



3690 HAMILTON COURT

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From time to time, the Island Clippings is happy to feature selected literary works written by our readers. While some writers are happy to see their works published with their 'By Line', even in a little paper like ours, others prefer to remain unnoticed, hiding their identity behind a 'nom de plume' – a pen name, as in the case of our mysterious 'Mr. Duke'. His essay is especially attuned to this time of year.

Tree Tapping

By Mr. Duke, Long time Island Resident

IT'S A COLD MORNING, but it's a good morning. The good pair of snowshoes are strapped tightly to my feet and a satchel of tools are hanging at my side. I enter the bush imagining myself as some sort of frontiersman; after all, why not? I look the part, I'm bundled up in a parka, warm pants and winter boots. Besides looking the part I feel I am the part, entering the bush for a day's work and the chance to eke out what tiny bit of money it will give me.

With my satchel of tools, I enter the bush and I am struck with a sense of awe. At this moment it feels like I am the only living soul on the face of the planet; one lone man among all these trees. I can't help but feel small and insignificant. With the wind blowing strong against the left side of my face, I look around the bush and in my field of vision all I can see is what seems like miles upon miles of hardwood maple and the

Continued on page 9

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zigzagging pattern of neon blue pipe line running from tree to tree. It is my job to get every one of these trees tapped before the warm weather hits us like a fireball in a few days. A smile makes its way across my face as I enter into the abyss of the Island forest.

I stop at the first tree and light one up, not because I need it to enjoy this moment, but only to enhance it. The first tree is a big one, three taps on it in fact; and I puff away and look up its trunk at the massive span and reach of the old maple's branches. This is what staring up at God must feel like.

In my satchel are all the tools necessary for tapping trees; a

Continued on page 11

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Call Stew 705 256-9497

SERVICES

Tax Preparation Services starting at \$40 for a basic return. Call P. Nadjiwon, Certified Management Accountant. No calls on Sunday please. Phone 705 246-0569

Need help with English? an Essay? an ISU? Call Elizabeth at 705 246-7155. I do **tutoring in English and Music Theory**. I will also edit any essay or ISU. Located in Richards Landing. Reasonable rates. Qualified and licensed English and Music teacher.

GARAGE/YARD SALE

Garage sale for men. Sat, March 31st, 9 am until 3 pm. ac/dc welder tools large & small, downrigger rods. 827 Nelson Rd. next to Jocelyn park, just past fort entrance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join the Clover Valley Women's Institute Tuesday, April 3rd at 7:30 pm to hear St. Joseph Island Coffee Roasters Entrepreneurial Story. Learn the why's & how's of Following a Dream and Starting a Fair Trade Business. We meet at Harmony St. Mark's and everyone is welcome. Coffee & Tea will be served after the presentation.

Fresh daffodils for sale! The St. Joseph Island Cancer Society will have bouquets available starting Wed. March 28 at these locations: Ambeault's Confectionery, Kent's Corners, Kentvale Merchants and The

Dry Dock Restaurant (starts Thurs.) \$7 per bouquet or \$12 for 2. Please help us "Fight Back Against Cancer" For info. contact Joan 705-246-2387

Hilton Community Projects Committee is holding their annual Children's Easter Party on Sunday, April 1st from 1:30 to 3:00 pm at the Hilton Township Office, 2983 Base Line, Hilton Beach. Crafts, treats and a free colour photo of each young person with the Easter Bunny! All kids are welcome!

Holy Trinity Jocelyn & Harmony St. Mark's Come walk with us on the Annual Good Friday Walk from Richards Landing to Holy Trinity Jocelyn Church, which features the stations of the cross. This year we meet at Harmony-St. Mark's in Richards Landing at 10 am and proceed along the 10th side road to Holy Trinity. You could also join us for prayers at Harmony-St. Mark's at 10 am and 3 pm for the Service at Holy Trinity. We stop at the Free Methodist Church for our bag lunch.

The Anglican Parish of St. Joseph & St. George, as part of our Holy Week observances will be holding a Maunday Thursday Service at Echo Bay at 7:30 pm with The Rev'd Dr. Jay Koyle officiating,

Parish of St. Joseph & St. George Easter Morning Sunrise Service at 6:30 am at Holy Trinity Jocelyn begins in the Church and ends out doors in, the cemetery, remembering those who have died from our Parish in the past year, namely Alice Trainor, Therese Lapierre, Patricia Gaebel and Richard H. Boyle. A continental breakfast will follow in the parish hall. Easter Service/Eucharist at St.

George's, Echo Bay at 9 am Easter Service/Eucharist at Holy Trinity at 11 am.

MEMORIAL

In loving memory of Nicholas Missere who left this earth way too early on Mar. 29/02 at the age of 9.

Your presence I miss,
Your memory I treasure;
Loving you always,
Forgetting you never.
You are never far from my thoughts, Nick.
Mrs. Carol Holmes (Gr. 4 Teacher)

OBITUARY

Maria Gebhart passed away peacefully on March 25th 2012. A resident of 35 years Mom adored the island, her new found home here and the people she got to know and love. Together we say good bye to Maria and will cherish the many memories of her 78 years of life amongst us. *Detlef and Daniela*

THANK YOU

The weekend of the big snow storm could have been a nightmare for us had it not been for our neighbours. We are very thankful for the thoughtfulness of John Fleming and Tim Keenan for showing up and clearing out the driveway and yes, even snow blowing a path to the bird feeders. Also, a big thank you to our friend Roy Broadhagen for coming and blowing the snow away from the deck. We really appreciated the three of you helping us and not even having been asked. Thank you! *Laurel and Orrell*

THE TOWNSHIP OF ST. JOSEPH PUBLIC NOTICE ANNUAL WATER AND SEWER REPORT

Municipal Water and Sewer users are advised that a copy of the Annual & Summary Reports for the 2011 Richards Landing Well Pumphouse Waterworks is available for viewing at the Township Office, or on the website at www.stjosephtownship.com.

*Barry Elliott,
Water Works Superintendent*



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Last week, I unknowingly dropped some money on the floor at Kent's Corners. Sarah found it and kept it safe for me. Then, Ralph made sure that the money got returned to me. The wonderful people at Kent's Corners have once again reminded me how great life on this island can be, because of its people. *Thank you!*
Angie Pierce

Summer Cleaning Service Needed
 RICHARDS LANDING Cottage, 800 sq ft, 3 bed, 1 bath ♦ Saturday Rental Cleaning, 6 wks rented so far ♦ Straight Cleaning. No laundering required.
 If interested, call 613-482-2289

A cocky MTO employee stopped at a farm and talked with an old farmer. He told the farmer, "I need to inspect your farm for a possible new road."

The old farmer said, "OK, but don't go in that field." The

MTO employee said, "I have the authority of the Provincial Government to go where I want. See this card? I am allowed to go wherever I wish on farm land."

So the old farmer went about his farm chores.

Later, he heard loud screams and saw the civil servant running for the fence and close behind was the farmer's prize bull. The bull was madder than a nest full of hornets and the bull was gaining on the employee at every step!!

The old farmer called out, "Show him your card!!"

TREE TAPPING...continued from page 9

drill, hammer and spiles. Make sure to keep the drill in a sling around your neck though, keep it at a good reach, it will make the job go much faster. My uncle (who is not the kind of man who tells a fib) tells me that he can do 100 taps an hour. I am going to try to beat this record, but a few hours into it I realize that this seems to be a venture into the impossible. It would seem that the best I can do is 75 taps an hour. How the old bugger does it? He doesn't even have knee caps you know.

You go through the motions as you move up and down the lines from tree to tree. Drill the hole (about an inch and a half deep), insert the spile, give it a few taps with the hammer, then add the drop and give it a few taps, and it's that simple. At the same time it is important to check for squirrel chews and holes in the line. The tree climbing rodents are a menace to any syrup producing bush. They chew holes and create tiny pin holes in the line with their petite claws.

On a windy cold day like today you might be wondering how anybody could enjoy this sort of work. Well it's easy - the answer is right in front of you. You're right smack dab in the middle of what very well could be the "Garden of Eden". I happen to think the Island is that nice, and you're tapping Maple trees.

Is there anything else like it in the world?

Advertising in the Island Clippings Works!

CLOSED GOOD FRIDAY, OPEN MONDAY APRIL 9TH



St. Joseph Island MARKET

SPECIAL

This Week!

Fresh local lamb available for Easter. Please call or stop by the store to reserve your selection.

Your Island Grocery Store ... fresh meat, produce, groceries and more!

Downtown Richards Landing
705 246-2500
 or email us at sjislandmarket@gmail.com

**HOURS 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
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RICHARDS LANDING

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 (**please limit three items**) 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 or events charging an entrance fee 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.

Sorry, we're not available on Sundays.

Deadline for display ads is 3 pm Mondays.

Deadline for classifieds is noon Tuesday.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON ST. JOE

Friday

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

Walking at the Legion - 9 am to noon

Friday Foods at the Legion

AA Meeting, United Church (new addition, side door) - 8 pm

Saturday

Childrens Library - 10 am to 3 pm, Storytime 10:30 am

Hilton Union Public Library - 1 pm to 5 pm - Phone number: 705 255-3520.

Nordic Walking Group - Tranter Park, 10 am

St. Joseph Twp. Public Library - 1 pm to 5 pm

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

The Anglican church worships 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

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 (\$4.00 per person)

Walking at the Legion - 9 am to noon

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 - Phone number: 705 255-3520.

Tuesday

Child Care Algoma's CAPC Play & Learn Best Start Hub, Free Methodist Church - 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Cribbage (singles), Legion Hall - 7:30 pm (\$4.00 per person)

Quilting - 1-3 pm, Downstairs Hilton Hall except the 3rd week held at the Trefry Centre.

Wednesday

Walking at the 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 - 1 pm to 5 pm - Phone number: 705 255-3520.

Pool, Legion - 7:30

Native Drum Circle, Harmony St. Mark's Church - 7 pm

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 - 12 pm, Story time 10:30 am After school 3:30 to 5pm

St. Joseph Twp. Public Library - 1 pm to 5 pm & 7 pm to 9 pm

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