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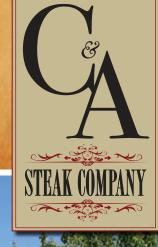
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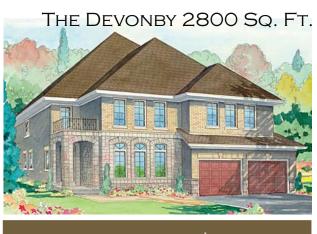


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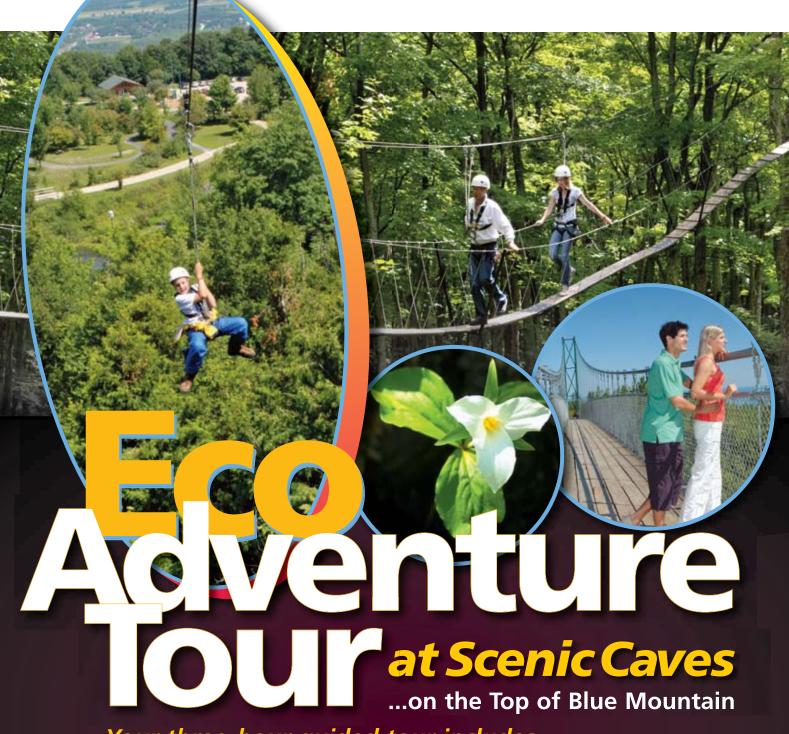
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64 The Search for Skatepark Island

What started as a rumour led to an adventure like no other; bikes, boats, planes and beer all made the trip to the infamous Skatepark Island. Was it worth all the effort? We've got the answers.

70 The Swamp Thing

Development of a new climbing spot can be a controversial affair. The Swamp is just such a spot. Its location has been shielded from the general public, while climbers argue amongst themselves about the ethics of it all. What are the issues? Aidas Rygelis investigates.

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PUBLISHER GLEN HARRIS

glen@mountainlifemag.ca

EDITOR COLIN FIELD

colin@mountainlifemag.ca

CREATIVE & PRODUCTION GERAD TREANOR

gerad@mountainlifemag.ca

MANAGING EDITOR NED MORGAN

ned@mountainlifemag.ca

WEBMASTER KEVIN CRAWFORD

kevin@mountainlifemag.ca

CIRCULATION DON ORMSBY

don@mountainlifemag.ca 705.444.0045

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER IDA GIBSON

ida@mountainlifemag.ca 705.443.1323

CONTRIBUTORS

Tom Arban, Kami I Bialous, Alija Bos, John Davies, Kimberly Edwards, Alistair Fraser, John Haines, Loo McNulty, Ethan Meleg, Jack Morgan, Jason Murray, Ester O'Ne ill, Richard Roth, William Shelley, Ben Rahn, Aidas Rygelis, Stacy Seldon, Dave Schall, Tim Shuff, Paul Wilson, Pat Whyte

NATIONAL ACCOUNT MANAGERS

PATRICK FLYNN TEL: 416.525.6116

E-mail: patrick@mountainlifemag.ca

GLEN HARRIS TEL: 705.441.6334

E-mail: glen@mountainlifemag.ca

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT MANAGERS

REGIONAL: SIMONE STERIO-RISK TEL: 705.888.1959

E-mail: simone@mountainlifemag.ca

MATT MORRIS TEL: 519.538.2279

E-mail: matt@mountainlifemag.ca

WEST GREY & PENINSULA: BETTY ANN FAWCETT

Tel: 519.986.2599 bettyann@mountainlifemag.ca

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Locals Only

IT'S KIND OF A BEGINNER TRAIL. I mean it's a blue square. One of the trails that if you have any expertise at all, you rarely ride. The guys I usually ride with don't take me there. I'm a relative newbie to downhilling, so I just follow their lead. They know the other trails way too well; the gondola conversation sometimes consists of exchanges like this:

"Remember there was that section on R-Shore, you know, just past the third tree after the seventh left?"

And the guy he's talking to goes, "yeah."

"Well, then you go over the four rocks and there's that \" root?"

"Yeah, I hate that root!"

Consequently, they lose me pretty quickly both in conversation and on the trail.

So when an old friend wanted to go downhilling for the second time in his life, I suppose I was guiding him. But not really. Because he went left where I usually go straight. And that's where we found the trail both of us were looking for. Berms, bumps, wallrides and jumps all spaced perfectly making one of the most fun, flowing downhill trails, I'll argue, in Ontario. It was the only trail we rode for the rest of the day.



No one knows how to say the name of the trail. Even the lifties and patrollers don't say it correctly. People call it things like Hey Ole, or A Hole, but rarely does someone get it right. It's actually pronounced How Lee, though it's spelled Haole. The only reason I know this is because I wore out my VHS version of 1987's cheesy surf flick, *North Shore*, years ago. The characters say the word "haole" over and over again. I'm sure surfers detest the movie, but back in the day I couldn't get enough of it.

According to the *Urban Dictionary*, "when used on the Hawaiian islands, haole is generally accepted to mean foreigner or outsider."

In essence, any non-local. I don't know why the trail builders called it this. But it took a non-local to show it to me. And he found it by accident.

As my wheels touched the ground off the wallride, I whooped and laughed instinctively, surprised at just how fun this trail is, even after riding it five times in a row. Haole is by no means a secret trail. There's no initiation needed to find it, no band of brothers keeping it under wraps, it's simply another outdoor gem the region offers. We get asked all the time to stop sharing these local spots. When "secret spots" end up overcrowded, we're the ones that get blamed. And I used to sympathize with the locals. That is, until a haole showed me Haole.

We write stories about places to celebrate them. And if a non-local can introduce me to my new favourite trail then there are no secret spots, only places waiting to be discovered. And there's no better time to explore than summer. See you on the trail.

Colin Field Editor





THE GOLDEN BEAVER

Thanks for the Rat Race story, it brought back a lot of memories. We went in it about seven times. The article was pretty accurate; yes we usually had quite a bit of antifreeze in us. The first year we made a boat out of four steel drums. We couldn't steer it. We went where the Beaver River took us: log jams, the shore, whirlpools. Nobody told us there was a portage! Between the anti-freeze and the boat's weight we couldn't lift the thing. But the spectators came to our rescue and we finished the journey.

Thanks Again, Greg Stephens

Hey Guys,

Great mag. Living for so many years on the cusp of the Beaver River, and collecting all the leftover inner tubes, I'd say it was worth the casualties. Not to be disrespectful to the fallen.

I remember going with my father, Hank, Mr. Yaskovich, Mike Robertson, several other fellows from Teledyne and the BVAA, with their horrid green jackets. Dad still wears his!

The race almost ended before it started with Mr. Yaskovich, chainsaw in one hand, dynamite in the other crossing a 100 year-old maple that had rested across a narrow of the mighty Beaver, just 500 yards past the Clarksburg Bridge. He had easily guided his saw through the three-foot girth of the fallen tree when he ended up on the wrong side of the tree. Down he went into the whitewater. For minutes the group couldn't find him until he popped up 50 yards downstream, safe and sound. He was so pissed, he lost his chainsaw!

The next half hour was spent with a grappling hook, I believe it was Bob from Teledyne. Or it could have been Mike. I was just 10 and my memory is already gone!

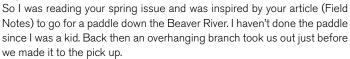
Anyhow, thanks for the memories.

Pete Vanderschans

The Golden Beaver was a fun story to put together. So much fun and so much history was packed into the event. With liability issues having a neverending effect on what's considered safe (see Burning Bridges, p.30), it was refreshing to look back on a time when people were willing to take responsibility for their own actions.

SINKING SHIPS

Hey Man,



This spring, we ended up piling three guys into one canoe and going for it. Definitely some sketchy spots, but our bowman was calling out where to go to avoid the rocks. Just before the reservoir the river left us nowhere to go and we got clotheslined and bailed just before running into a huge beaver dam. Turns out there wasn't even a path to make it through. We had to spend a few minutes prying the canoe out from under a huge log.

Yeah, things could've been worse for sure. I was half expecting to bail the whole time, and was ninja-quick to the bank. My friend stupidly tried to save the canoe and ended up pinned between it and the shore for a second. Still so worth it. All in all, an awesome time.

Cheers,

Greg Sturch

Congrats on your survival there, Greg. 0-2 for the Beaver River. Going for 0-3 in 2011?



Hey Guys,

I just picked up a copy of the latest *Mountain Life* mag and flipped right back to your article on urban exploration. Love it. You did a great job telling our story and not making us sound like a bunch of crazy guys. I am passing off copies to everyone in my family and have heard nothing but great reviews. I really wanted to thank you for taking the time to get our story out there.

Sincerely,

Devon

P.S. Next time will bring you a respirator.

We've had more response to this Artist Profile than ever. Seems the urbex crowd is a passionate, opinionated bunch. Thanks for letting us tag along. Ned's black mould induced cough is finally starting to clear up...

Grée syirit T-0-U-R-S

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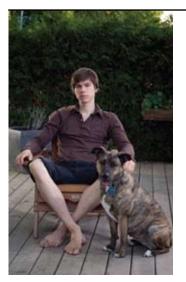
KIMBERLY EDWARDS

After three years of living out of a backpack in the Caribbean, Sweden and Ontario, Kim Edwards has grown some roots in the Southern Georgian Bay region as a writer on local and sustainable living. Kim found her purpose to make the world a more sustainable society while completing her Masters in Strategic Sustainability in Sweden. Through this lens, Kim guides local businesses in becoming more "green." She also teaches yoga, outdoor education and snow sports.

ALISTAIR FRASER

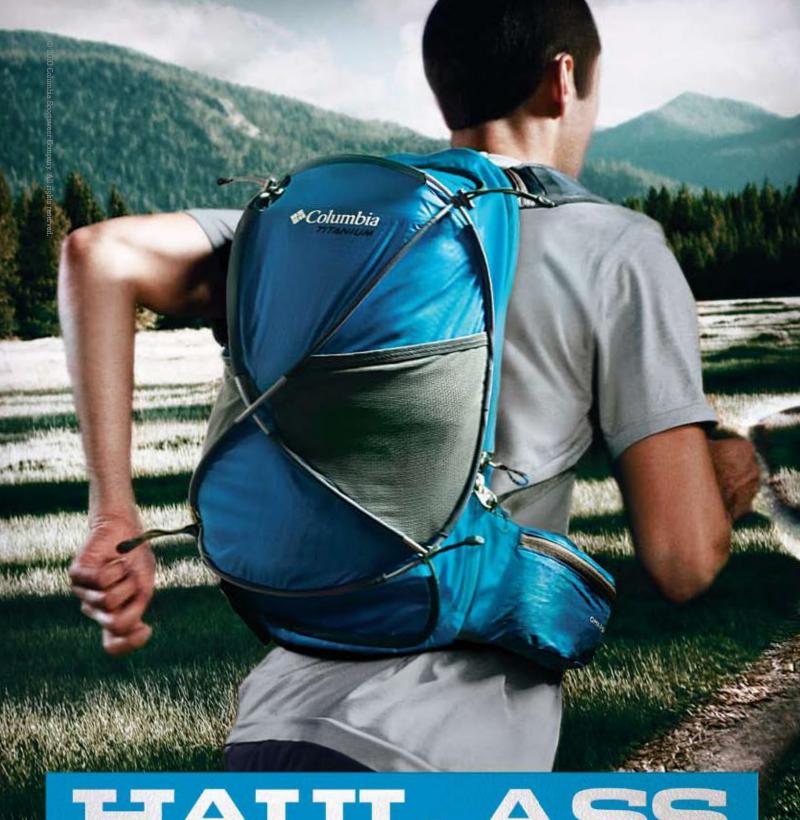
Alistair "1 i" Fraser roams the globe looking for new adventure. He has created a golfer's belt called the 1 Eyeron which can be seen on many pro golfers, celebrities, and hacks alike. He is a fifth-generation golfer with Scottish roots. A purist of the game, his favourite course is Tomahawk in Thornbury. His company 1 Eye Design will be featured on next season's *Dragon's Den* TV show. And if you ever need a fourth, he's always game.





AIDAS RYGELIS

Aidas Rygelis is a Canadian climber, photographer, and writer based in Toronto where he lives with his fiancée Meagan. Previously he resided in Halifax, NS where he earned a degree in fine art with a photography major from the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design. Although he is trained as a photographer, he finds himself published at least as often for his writing. Regardless, he continues shooting everything from rock climbing to glacial erratics to dogs.



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All Terrain Violation

Hiking on a secluded section of the Bruce Trail in the Bayview Escarpment Nature Reserve I'm surprised to find a series of deep water-filled ruts torn through the centre of the path. "Ruts" isn't a strong enough word. "Craters" is better. They're so deep and wide that the path is all but destroyed, obliging hikers to walk into the forest undergrowth to pass. Fat-tire tracks imprint the surrounding mud, giving away the culprit: All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs).

At both entry points to the Reserve signs read "No Motorized Vehicles" and boulders block the way. One of the signs is bent and sprayed with a shotgun blast. More fat-tire tracks lead around the barrier. Viewing such devastation interrupts a hiker's enjoyment. The realization that ATVs have left scars on our landscape comes often in rural Ontario, with its numerous unopened road allowances, former logging roads and understaffed nature reserves and trails.

What can a peace-loving hiker do about the war-like rumblings and battle scars of the ATV trespassers?

Why not start with the perps? Dufferin-Grey ATV Club President Vera Lloyd is cheerful and willing to talk to me even though I tell her I'm against increased ATV access. When I ask about trespassing, she brings up a point I hadn't considered. The municipalities of the Blue Mountains and Meaford "put up the barriers, therefore we can't assist them." I take this to mean that since liability-fearing municipalities (or provincial authorities) prohibit accident-prone ATVs, the clubs, whose members actually follow codes of conduct, are shut out. The only riders left are the non-affiliated. This *Mad Max* element rips it up in its own lawless wasteland where barriers, signage, and threats of fines only add to the thrill.

When I tell Lloyd I've seen evidence of ATVs trespassing on the Bruce Trail she replies: "I don't think

our riders are riding the Bruce Trail. Non-members may be and if it is in Meaford or the Blue Mountains, we have no control over these areas." Fair enough. "We run our organization by the book," she adds. I believe her. The ATV clubs are not the perps after all.

Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC) Land Stewardship Coordinator Adam Brylowski says ATV trespassing is "a Trail-wide problem for us." He pinpoints the Peninsula, Sydenham and Beaver Valley sections as the worst afflicted, although the Toronto section "has recently seen a tremendous amount of ATV activity" which in some cases required police intervention.

Brylowski adds that the BTC can only prohibit motorized vehicles when the trail is on properties it owns or manages; on the large percentage of trail that crosses private land, the BTC is powerless. Recently the BTC produced a pamphlet to hand out to ATV riders and organizations outlining concerns including personal safety (of both riders and hikers), erosion, and damage to endangered flora and fauna.

From a provincial point of view a spokesperson for Ontario Parks tells me their policy "is very standard surrounding ATVs. They are completely



prohibited. Park Enforcement is highly dedicated to preventing people from disobeying these regulations in the interest of preserving our natural heritage." At Bayview Escarpment, which is under Ontario Parks jurisdiction, enforcement is obviously not working.

"We continually monitor and are planning to block off more of the accesses," says local Park Superintendent Chris Tomsett. "It is however very difficult to catch them in the act." Tomsett says the Warden who monitors the 12 Escarpment parks in Grey-Bruce has authority to ticket ATV trespassers. This is comforting news for hikers and anyone else who treasures the unsullied expanses of our public lands.

How can you curb ATV trespassing? It may be quite simple. Hike more. Bring your friends. Your presence on the trail is the best way to claim it for muscle-powered traffic. And if you encounter an ATV rider, suggest they go join a club.

- Bill Shelley

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Centurion: Roadies' Delight

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With corresponding events earlier in the summer in Colorado and Wisconsin, the organizers boldly claim that, "Centurion Cycling will forever alter the landscape of North American amateur cycling."

"We want to offer an opportunity for everyone to enjoy cycling," adds Centurion CEO Graham Fraser.

With \$10 of each entry fee going directly to charitable organizations, you can rest easy knowing your money is going to a good place. Supporting everything from hand cycling groups to Crohn's, colitis and Parkinson's foundations, there's nothing selfish about signing up. Even if your only goal is riding the roads of Grey County without a vehicle in sight.

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Transition Towns:

HOPE IN THE DECLINE OF OIL

Eat better. Lose weight. Ride your bike more. Be happier. Make more friends. While this reads like an advertisement for a magic pill or a fitness centre, it is actually a response to the idea of living fossil fuel—free in 10 or 15 years. "I think I'd be 100 pounds thinner," says Kerry Macdonald, Program Coordinator at The Environment Network in Collingwood. As conventional oil production reaches its peak and begins to slope downwards, our world is going to look a lot different.

Today, there are few visible symptoms of an expected drop in world oil production. However, sometimes the worst symptom is no symptom at all. Gas prices bring our attention to oil, and imagine how much attention we'll pay when gas accelerates past 2 dollars a litre. Oil is a non-renewable resource, and we will reach a point where we have used half of that supply. This is peak oil. After the peak, the argument goes, the supply tightens and the price of oil (and gas) begins to rise – never to drop significantly again.

Some experts say peak oil happened in July 2008 when prices at the pump shot past 1 dollar. Others estimate it will happen sometime before 2015. While peak oil refers to global oil production, individual nations will each reach their own peak, such as that of the United States in 1970. After peak oil, The Energy Watch Group estimates that there will be 30-40 years worth of oil left, without further growth in demand.

Like a good parent storing small amounts of medication in hard-to-reach places, the planet has secured its own resiliency. Just as we push the upper limit of greenhouse gas emissions that the planet can handle, the supplies of the very stuff that we are burning — causing emissions — is running out.

What will change as oil supplies dwindle? Responses to this difficult question include fear, denial, apathy and – thank goodness – positive action. For some, the warnings and threats of global warming, food scarcity, and peak oil summon images of a return to the life of the 1800s. The Transition Town movement, that began in Ireland and has spread around the world, takes a refreshing approach to these impending changes. Transition Towns are moving forward and away from oil addiction through acts of self-sufficiency such as community gardens, re-education of lost skills, and oil-free transportation plans. In Ontario, established Transition Towns include Barrie, Peterborough and Guelph. Volunteers from Collingwood, Meaford and Kimberley are planning Transition Towns.

According to Transition Peterborough's Trent Rhode, his organization offers "courses around self-sufficiency, where people from the community teach for free and it's pay what you can." Such an initiative suggests that perhaps we're beginning to heed the advice of International Energy Agency (IEA) Chief Economist Fatih Birol, who said: "One day we will run out of oil; and we will have to leave oil before oil leaves us."

Back in Collingwood's Environment Network office, Executive Director Michele Rich adds that oil-free Kerry would not only be 100 pounds thinner, but \$9000 richer – the cost of owning a mid-sized car for one year. "And no more French fries, Kerry," Michele jokes. Everyone in the office laughs, indicating the lightness that the Transition movement can create just in conversation, despite the darkness of the challenge it is up against.

Kimberly Edwards



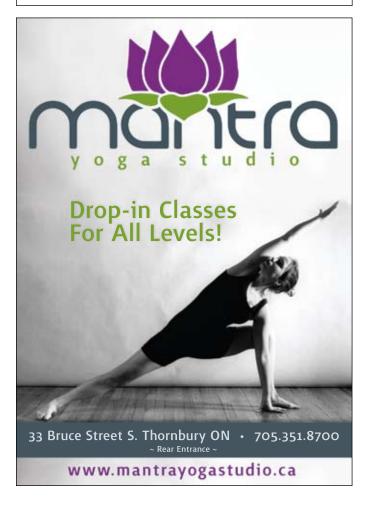
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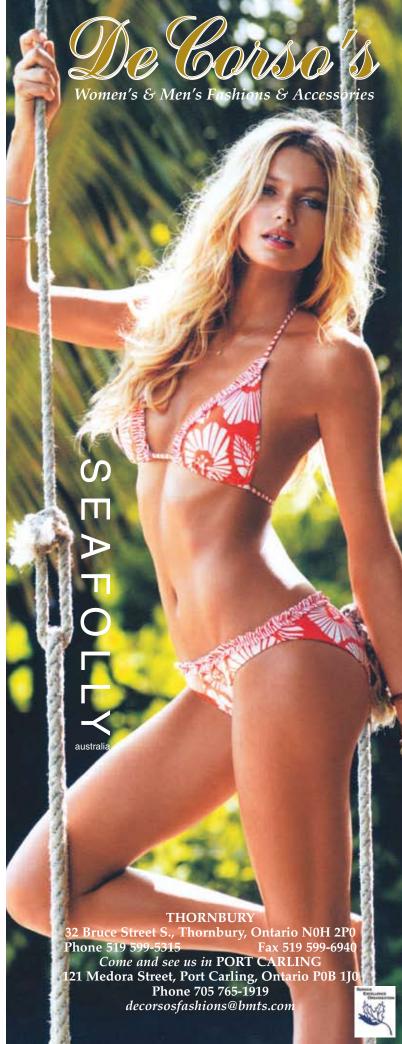


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Luckily, the captain is nearby. He's playing Wizard of Oz from the computer control room. Have you guessed yet that my predicament is simulated? I'm piloting my chemical tanker in the safe confines of the world-leading Great Lakes International Marine Training Centre at Georgian College Owen Sound. The GLIMTC offers instruction and training in marine engineering and navigation and recently underwent close to \$8 million in upgrades including two marine simulators that recreate the control rooms of lake and ocean-faring vessels. The bridge simulator is a large circular room with walls covered in floor-to-ceiling video screens. The illusion is cinematic and complete: the computer-generated deckhouse and bridge wings surround you, while the gangways stretch out before you, leading up to the foremast and the bow cutting through the surf. Foaming water churns past on all sides as the horizon of New York gradually gains clarity. (Or other

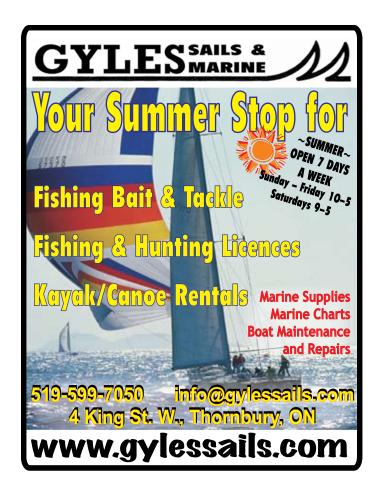
horizons; the simulators can recreate dozens of international ports.) In a heavy sea, so perfect is the illusion of movement that your feet seem to feel the floor moving. According to Captain Peter Buell, the Centre's Director, "I've had people who have spent their lives at sea tell me I'm lying when I tell them the deck on that main bridge simulator isn't moving. I say 'Look guys, this is two feet of concrete. If it's moving, we've got serious problems."

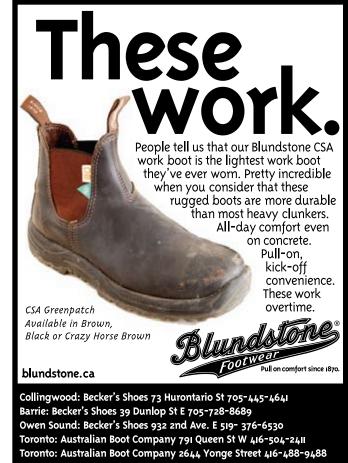
Buell joined the Canadian navy in 1982 and after 17 years' service, joined the New Zealand navy to serve in onshore roles and as captain on frigates and other vessels before returning to Canada in 2006. As the simulated storm rages around us, I ask Capt. Buell how he handled a real storm during his years at sea. "You strap yourself in, you stand watches... that's about it. There's nothing you can do about it. You don't always get to go where you want to go. You can't fight it. You have to go where you're allowed to."

I think I understand. The waves are now broadsiding me, rendering my steering useless. I can't fight it. I abandon all hope of reaching dock. I hear thunder. Lightening strikes my rails. The roar of the surf heightens and whitecaps continue to crash across my decks. The beeping stops, then starts again. Capt. Buell tells me I've entered a "worst-case scenario".

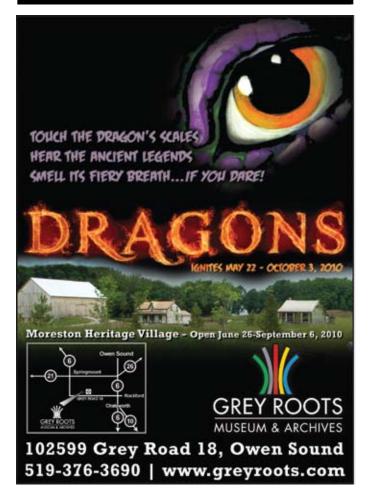
The beeping turns to a loud pinging. Does this mean I'm about to sink? Is the gale now a hurricane? The captain kindly suggests I abort my mission and then the screens go blank as he reboots the computers. To complete my tour of the simulator, I'll attempt to dock the M.S. Chi-Cheemaun ferry in the more familiar waters of Tobermory harbour, which I do mostly without incident. Doubtless, my task is made easier and safer by the cushy pixilated concrete of the pier. — Ned Morgan











Burning Bridges

This spring, the Bruce Peninsula Mountain Bike Adventure Park announced it was closed for renovations as they remove all bridges. **Jason Murray** of the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) examines the controversy.

In a nutshell, here's why all the technical trail features (TTFs) are being removed: unfortunate accidents occurred and due to pending lawsuits the County can no longer acquire insurance for the Adventure Park.

Does this make you mad? It makes me mad. Who should we get mad at?

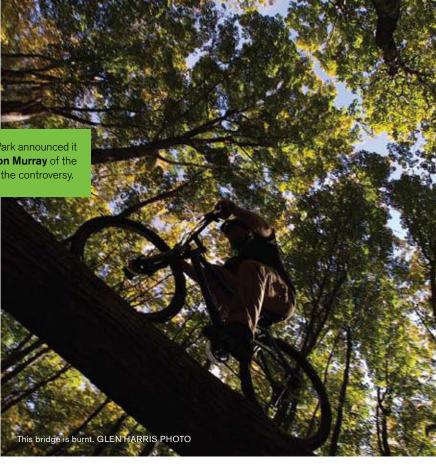
We could get mad at the riders who got injured. You may think, "They were riding above their ability, got hurt and are looking for someone to blame." There is some truth to this, but let's be honest, we've all ridden above our skill level at some point. It's part of the sport to push your boundaries and try to progress as a rider. Usually we can do this with no trouble. But sometimes we crash. I've had my share of contusions and abrasions, but that's not what I'm talking about. Sometimes things go really bad: career-ending injury bad. Someone is out riding, they try something new, and things go pear-shaped. It happened to me: I broke my neck at C7 and T3.

Fortunately I'm alive, still walking, still riding, and suffering no after-affects. But what about those who don't walk away from it? I know another mountain biker who broke his neck and is paralyzed from the waist down, his life permanently changed. If this happened to you, would you simply accept the consequences? What about medical care, providing for your family, keeping your job? We are all one bad crash away from that, and we all know it. It's part of the sport. So don't blame the poor riders who got unlucky.

Maybe we should blame the landowner? They shouldn't simply cave in to the lawsuit and yank out all the TTFs at the first sign of trouble. Time for a reality check. Public landowners are by their very nature subject to lawsuits, some valid, some not. Regardless of merit, they have to defend themselves. Sometimes the case proceeds, sometimes it's dropped, and sometimes it's settled out of court. In each situation the lawyers have to get paid. Who pays? That depends. It could be the landowner directly, or it could be the insurance provider (more on them later). This necessarily makes public landowners a fiscally conservative lot. Why open yourselves up to potential costs down the road? Much better to simply keep everyone off the land in the first place.

Of course that is a very incomplete picture and thanks to work done by IMBA, Bruce County was providing not only advanced XC riding opportunities, but also an expert-level "freeride" trail system: the Mountain Bike Adventure Park, operating since 2004. Bruce County designed, built, and maintained that Park according to the best principles in trail design. They did it well and they did it right. They are not knuckling under; they are making the best of a bad situation. If you were in charge of their trail program and faced with the choice of a) Close it down or b) Keep it open but remove the TTFs, what would you do? I think you'd try to keep as much open as possible – precisely what the County is doing. So don't blame the land manager.

How about the insurance company? This is a harder one to call. This particular insurance company will no longer provide coverage for mountain biking on TTFs, despite providing coverage for hockey, soccer, baseball, slips and falls, and all the other countless things that can happen (it's a general liability policy). An insurance company is not in the business of ensuring we can mountain bike when and where we like. It's not their responsibility to provide good riding experiences. To put as fine a point on it as I can, insurance companies make money by collecting premiums, not by paying out claims. So when you have a newer activity, such as mountain biking and



in particular TTFs, with little claim history to base a risk decision on, what do you do? If you work for an insurance company that understands adventure sports, you say yes. If you work for another company that doesn't understand adventure sports, you take the precautionary approach and say no. But even if you did say yes, as soon as a few incidents happen, you might not want to say yes when the policy is renewed. You don't know how much risk you're really taking on, or how much it might cost in the end. Better to say no – just in case. That's the prudent approach.

In a competitive market if one insurer won't give you the coverage you want for a price you like, you simply shop around. But we're not talking car or home insurance here. There aren't many insurance companies willing to provide general liability coverage for municipalities. Claims will have to be paid, guaranteed, and there is not much money to be made. Consequently you can count the number of providers who are willing to take on this business in the single digits. Some cities don't even bother looking for an insurance provider, but self-insure instead. So don't blame the insurance company.

Then who's to blame? No one. All the parties involved are making the best of a bad situation. It's a systemic problem we're facing. There are no quick and easy answers. This is the start of a process that will take some time to play out.

Hopefully the lawsuits proceed and solid legal precedents are set. Win or lose, clarity is provided, that clarity allowing the land managers and insurance providers the ability to make informed decisions about TTFs. Similar processes occurred with hockey, soccer, baseball; name your sport.

But there is one party we haven't touched on yet. The rest of us. What can we do?

We can support the land manager. Bruce County built the Adventure Park before anyone else in Ontario was even thinking about TTFs and they have a number of other great trail systems. Send them an email thanking them. Tell them you hope they win the cases so they can make excellent riding available again. Support IMBA Canada and your local mountain bike advocacy club. Lastly, hang in there: the path to securing our trail systems is a long one. We won't get through this in a season or two. But it's important for the sport that we do get through it. Just like a bad accident on a soccer pitch won't close it down, a bad (even fatal) accident on a trail shouldn't threaten its existence. — Jason Murray

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Thursday July 22, 2010 & Tuesday August 10, 2010, from 6:30 pm – 7:00 pm Bring your blanket and flashlight and meet us in the courtyard! For children 2 and up! Children under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult. FREE

TD- SUMMER READING PROGRAM - DESTINATION JUNGLE

Register in person at the Library. For beginning readers and beyond, up to 12 years of age. Children must be accompanied by adults. Please register in advance for all programs. Free.

Friday July 9, 2010, from 10:45 am - 11:30 am

Explore Destination Jungle, an introduction to the summer reading program! Ages 2 - 5.

Thursday July 15, 2010, from 2:00 pm - 2:45 pm

Animals, Animals, Animals! What are your Favorites? Ages 2 - 5

Friday July 23, 2010, 10:45 am - 11:30 am

Come explore the Wonders of Nature In the Jungles of the World! Ages 2 - 5

Thursday August 5, 2010, 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm Traveling to the Jungle! Ages 6 plus

Friday August 13, 2010, 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm

No more monkeys! Ages 6 plus

STORY TENT

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Join us at Bayview Park for a drop in story time, crafts and games

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Readings

ONTARIO'S OLD-GROWTH FORESTS

A Guidebook Complete with History, Ecology and Maps By Michael Henry and Peter Quinby Fitzhenry & Whiteside, \$40.00. Published 2010.

The "sack" of Ontario's old growth trees does not reflect well on our 19th-century pioneer settlers. Their obsession with cutting down every tree in sight is at odds with our contemporary trend towards sustainability. To make way for subsistence crops or pasture, these tireless homesteaders cut down millions of trees. Countless irreplaceable giants were not even milled or squared for lumber but merely burned to make potash, an ingredient in soap. By 1920, it's estimated that 94 per cent of

forests south of the Canadian Shield were cleared. Before the annihilation, some oaks reportedly reached 3 metres in diameter and over 40 metres in height. A white pine cut in 1862 was over 2 metres wide and 67 metres tall - roughly 20 stories. No Ontarian alive today has seen trees of such size. The largest known white pine in Ontario today is 45 metres high.

Without dwelling too much on the vanished giants, Ontario's Old-Growth celebrates and calls for the preservation of such stands as remain in Canada's most populous province. The book surveys Ontario's five forest regions and pinpoints the old growth within each, while also providing generous detail on natural and human history as well as biodiversity. The final chapter outlines conservation strategies.

From the monster tulip trees and black gums of southern Ontario's Backus Woods to the famous white and red pines of Algonquin, many old growth stands lie inside provincial parks and conservation areas, but many do not. The book offers thoughtful descriptions of each old-growth stand, its protection status, and how to get there (maps included). No other book can take hikers, day-trippers or paddlers this deeply into the heart of Ontario's tree heritage. Local stands include Kinghurst Forest near Owen Sound and the Niagara

Escarpment's cliff-dwelling ancient white cedars. The only

old-growth trees never harvested, these small, gnarled Yodas of the Escarpment escaped the axe because they are worthless as timber. One of the most impressive ancient cedar sites within day-tripping distance is a short hike from the town of Lion's Head: the fantastically wizened "three kings," one of which germinated in the year 878.

Our only complaint about Ontario's Old-Growth is the inconsistent quality of the photography. Some photos feature humans to give a sense of scale, but many do not. The pages are crowded with amateurish photos of ordinary-looking forests that fail to inspire. And more than a few photos are murky or poorly colour-corrected, marring this otherwise well-executed project.

- Ned Morgan

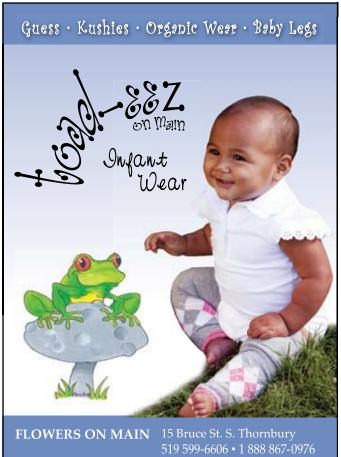
"The sack of the largest and wealthiest of medieval cities could have been but a bagatelle compared with the sack of the North American forest."

- A.R.M. Lower. historian

















Doug Slaine & Gabrielle Slaine Cell: 705 606 6152

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TOWNHOME

A very clean 3 bdrm + extra den/computer rm. Kitchen on main floor (an ease after shopping), open concept liv/din rm. Bdrms are all up in bright airy rooms, master is on top floor. Main floor washrm & 3pc on 2nd fl. Rear yard looks at a park, garden doors lead to the patio, which has extra storage for the

BBQ & patio set. Gas f/p heats entire condo. Condo complex has 2 pools in the summer & tennis courts & is located right across from park & kiddle corner to the Community Ctr which hosts many events such as the antique wknd & Lobster Fest. Great location, great condo, great price for this 3 lvl unit. - **\$169,000** 3037-SU



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Land rented to Nov 2010; tenant in farm house. 4 kilometers south from town of Meaford, this 1875 farm house has 4 bdrms, generous kitchen w/woodstove, wood firs, solid stone foundation, good barn high enough for horses, generous wood lot, 25 acres workable,15 acres pasture, black walnut grove. 2-car wooden garage at roadside. - \$399,000 3031WH

WATERFRONT LOTS / ACREAGE LOT









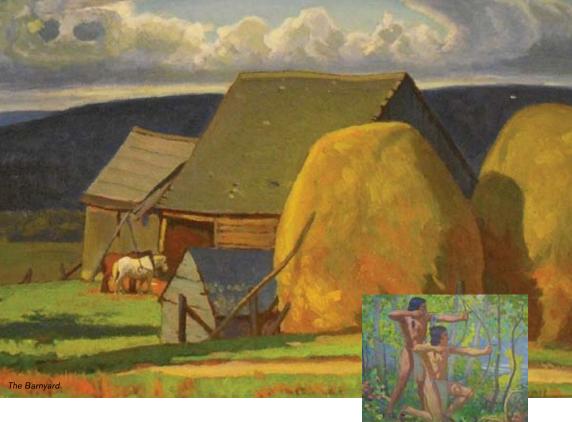
3 ACRE VIEW & WATERFRONT 100 FOOT WATERFRONT LOT \$299,000 \$239,000

11.52 ACRES \$79,000

Where are these properties? Go to: http://www.meafordthornburyrealestate.com you will enjoy the map and pictures of these individual properties.

HISTORY





The Group of Eight? BY JACK MORGAN

An artistic retrospective to take place this September raises an interesting question about one of Meaford's native sons.

The artist Frederick Stanley Haines was a friend to the Group of Seven, most notably J.E.H. MacDonald, Arthur Lismer and Frederick Varley, and first cousin to Franklin Carmichael, the youngest member of the original group. Haines was a member of their circle early on; he went north on sketching trips with them; he shared art showings with them; he even employed some of them at the Ontario College of Art when things got tough in the thirties. His art displays a similar progression, through to the dramatic northern elemental landscapes associated with the group. By any objective measure he painted as well as they did. Why then didn't he join them? Why, from the outset, was it not the Group of Eight?

Haines was born in Meaford in 1879. By the time he died in 1960 he was well known as a painter of landscapes and portraits, as a figure painter, an engraver, a print-maker, a teacher of art, a member of the Royal Canadian Academy, later its president, president of the Ontario Society of Artists, curator of the

Art Gallery of Ontario and principal of the Ontario College of Art. Fred had done well.

Perhaps Haines did not join the famous Group because he had done so well. From the moment he arrived in Toronto from Meaford as a 17-year-old boy in 1896 Fred Haines was working hard at his art. He started out painting portraits on demand for a Toronto portrait company. His early rural landscapes sold well. He had his first public exhibition as early as 1901. By the time the Group of Seven was created in 1919, Fred was an associate member of the Royal Canadian Academy. He was having difficulty keeping up with the demand for the aquatints he was producing. In short, Fred had already arrived.

Another answer is that his interest in teaching and art administration were taking him in another direction. It was not just his art that mattered, but the work of other artists and even the public's knowledge of art. A long stint as the Commissioner of Fine Arts for the Canadian National Exhibition helped him introduce a wondering public to the work of artists like Dali, Picasso and Matisse.

So the "Group of Eight" was

not to be. The fact that Fred didn't join probably affected both critical and popular recognition of his talent. But now, 50 years after his death, it's clear Fred Haines was a very talented artist (a "Genius Overlooked" in the most recent issue of the arts quarterly *Arabella*).

Fortunately, people in the Georgian Bay area will have an opportunity this fall to decide for themselves. A Fred Haines Commemorative Exhibit will run from September 10 until September 30 in the galleries of the Meaford Museum, Meaford Hall and Georgian Bay Secondary School.

Many of the paintings are of local scenes from the Meaford, Beaver Valley and Collingwood areas. Others are of the more northern landscapes associated with his colleagues in the Group of Seven.

As a visitor to the exhibit you will be invited to make up your own mind. You can look at the paintings and the aquatints – at their subject matter; at Fred's treatment of rural scenes and animals in the early paintings; his capturing of still and elemental nature in his later ones; and at his masterly use of form, colour and composition.

You can decide. Group of Eight?



Rocks and Trees.

Untitled.



The Rail Fence



Cranberry Lake

DIY:

Check doorsopenontario.on.ca and meafordhall.ca for info about the Fred Haines showings from September 10-30.





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Friday June 25th Jason Redman

Jason keaman

Saturday June 26th

Jason Redman

Thursday July 1st – Canada Day Celebrations with Chris Deneau

Friday July 2nd

Jon Klawz

Saturday July 3rd

Jon Klawz

Friday July 9th Jason Redman Band

Saturday July 10th

Jason Redman Band

Friday July 16th – TBD

Saturday July 17th - TBD

Friday July 23rd – Pat Robitaille

Saturday July 24th – Pat Robitaille

aturaay July 24th – Pat Robitallie

Friday July 30th

Shane Cloutier & Johnny Rockstar

Saturday July 31st

Shane Cloutier & Johnny Rockstar

Friday August 6th

Graham Playford

Saturday August 7th Graham Playford Friday August 13th
Pat Robitaille

Saturday August 14thPat Robitaille

Friday August 20th – Jon Klawz

Saturday August 21st – Jon Klawz

Friday August 27th

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Friday September 3rd

Jason Redman

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Spring Fed

BY ESTER O'NEILL

KOLAPORE SPRINGS FISH HATCHERY HAULS IN A SUSTAINABLE BOUNTY FOR FISH LOVERS

Sean Brady didn't intend to revive the defunct trout farm when he purchased property on 3rd Sideroad in Kolapore. He was looking to build a log home, kick back and enjoy the scenery. But when Bruce Green, active member of the Georgian Triangle Anglers Association, informed him of the potential of the fish farm, his interest was piqued. Together, Sean and Bruce came up with a business plan and by the end of May 2009 the trout farm was back in action after sitting unused for two years. "Pond stocking was the original business that we were planning here and we would work up to restaurant trade," explains Bruce, "but what we found here is that the water system that comes in is quite unique."

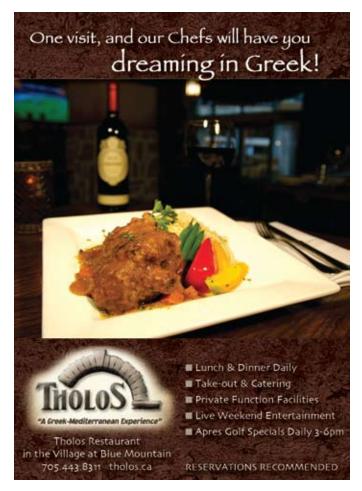
As a result, the quality of the trout was too good for pond stock alone and they were supplying restaurants by the fall.

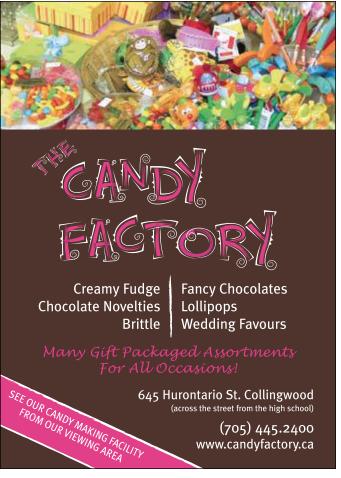
Like most other fish farms, Kolapore Springs Fish Hatchery is situated on a water source. What makes this water source unique is that the source (two springs that join together) is uphill from the farm, deep in the heart of the dense Kolapore forests. The water runs under the soft, silty forest floor between 400 and 500 metres to get to the farm all the while picking up microorganisms, including tiny shrimp. The shrimp contain an enzyme that adds flavour and

a gorgeous deep red colour to the trout flesh. In large-scale fish farms, this enzyme is produced artificially and added to the feed.

In addition to its nutritional richness, the water stays cold. "10.5 degrees [Celsius] is the highest the water gets in the height of summer. We average around 6.5 to 7 degrees and 11 to 12 degrees on the outflow," Bruce says proudly. This is much colder in comparison to other fish farms. And cold water means firm flesh, a quality that is appreciated by fish lovers everywhere. The reason the









FOOD



Cold water means firm flesh, a quality that is appreciated by fish lovers everywhere.

water maintains this temperature is due to the constant and high-powered flow of the water from the source. The water at Kolapore Springs is 100 percent gravity-fed. It runs through the farm at a rate of about 400 gallons per minute.

One year into business Sean and Bruce find themselves way ahead of the game. "This is only year one, but we are already on year three with the way that we have progressed." They supply rainbow and speckled trout to about six local restaurants with plans to expand and stock ponds with brown trout. The fish farm is home to about 120,000 trout ranging in size from half-inch babies to 14-inch and larger trout ready for consumption. In addition to the restaurant and pond stocking business, Kolapore Springs offers Fish Thursdays, an online service allowing customers to order trout online at kolaporesprings.com for pickup every Thursday. Hatchery tours are also welcome.

But business doesn't end here. Construction is underway for naturally raised speckled trout – a gourmet item that is nearly impossible to come by – for the food market by the end of summer. A concrete raceway (a contained pond) separate from the fish farm building will be stocked with speckled trout that will feed naturally from the rich spring water and water bugs abundant in the area, like mayflies and mosquitoes. Restaurants are already lined up to purchase this stock.

Many large-scale fish farms are getting a bad rap these days because of antibiotic use, parasitic outbreaks and the environmental damage to local waterways. But Sean and Bruce are not out to compete with that market. Instead, they are doing their best to create a natural and sustainable fish farm for the local market. Gravity-fed water, natural feed, controlled fish population and a desire to work with local business from processing to sales are all signs that Kolapore Springs is heading for an exciting and delicious future. ml





GRILLED LEMON HERB WHOLE TROUT

Kolapore Springs can supply you with smoked trout or trout fillet, but their whole trout is where it's at for summer. On the grill, the trout takes on a subtle smokiness. And it makes an easy, but impressive dinner to serve guests. For best results, count on about 10 minutes of total grilling time per inch of thickness.

Feeds 4 to 6 depending on appetites.

2 whole trout (14 to 16 inches each, or about 2.5 lb total) Kosher salt

Fresh ground pepper

1 lemon, sliced into rounds

20 sprigs fresh parsley

10 sprigs fresh thyme

10 chives

- Sprinkle the cavity of each trout with salt and pepper. Stuff each trout with half each of the lemon rounds, parsley, thyme and chives.
 Skewer closed. Sprinkle outside of each fish with salt and pepper.
- Place on well-greased grill over medium-high heat. Close lid and grill, turning once, until fish flakes easily when tested with fork.
 Transfer to serving platter. Serve with lemon wedges if desired.

GLEN HARRIS PHOTO





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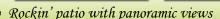


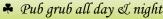
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Located in the bright yellow Mill Pond Boathouse, Kaytoo is hard to miss in the Village at Blue Mountain. Kaytoo explores what it means to be Canadian through its coast-to-coast inspired menu. With an outstanding three-level patio right on the Mill Pond, Kaytoo is one of the Village's busiest spots.

kaytoo.ca 705.445.4100



Tholos

The spectacular old-world charm and warmth of the Greek island of Crete is now in the heart of the Village at Blue. Meaning "dome" or "vaulted space," Tholos fittingly describes the high ceilings featured in this Greek/ Mediterranean restaurant. Entertainment including live music and belly dancing, plus a medley of Mediterranean delicacies, set the stage for a dining experience you won't soon forget.

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Azzurra Trattoria

A blue gem in downtown Collingwood, Azzurra has a longstanding reputation for blending classic Italian dishes with up-market contemporary cuisine. Pastas, desserts and pastries are crafted in-house with fresh, seasonal ingredients. Warm terra cotta tile and timeworn wood under candlelight frame a fine collection of Canadian landscape art. "Pranzo Italiano" dinners are a lively and unique way to accommodate larger tables.

azzurra.ca 705.445.7771



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Located in the Village at Blue, the C & A Steak Company serves only the finest USDA Prime steaks and features a carefully selected wine list. Whether you're celebrating a birthday, an anniversary, part of a corporate retreat, or simply out to treat yourself, the C&A Steak Company will make any occasion special.

candasteakcompany.com 705.444.8877



Jozo's

Blue Mountain's original rockin' hot spot, featuring nightly live entertainment, located in the Blue Mountain Inn right across the hall from The Pottery. There's incredible dancing and nightlife where the energy intensifies until the wee hours. Jozo's menu is the best of pub grub featuring fabulous wings, nachos, pizzas, stacked sandwiches and burgers. Après vibrations at their best!

bluemountain.ca/jozobar.htm 705.443.5508



The Pottery Restaurant

Located in the original Blue Mountain Inn, the Pottery has lots to offer including a casual atmosphere, exceptional service and creative dining experiences. Menu features seafood, AAA steaks and amazing daily selections. Open breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Children's menu available.

bluemountain.ca/potteryres.htm 705.443.5509



Bridges Tavern

Located in the area's first brick mansion, Bridges Tavern has been recently renovated and re-opened with a refreshed atmosphere of warmth, friendliness and sophistication. Casual dining menu items include Grilled herbed calamari, Bridges baby back ribs braised in Peeler cider, Chicken flatbread pizza and many more.

bridgestavern.com 519.599.2217



Windy O'Neills Irish Pub

In the heart of the Village at Blue Mountain, the true Irish atmosphere will have you unwinding with one of our 17 draft beers. Our hearty pub fare is all you'll need, from our famous Fish 'n chips to our traditional Irish stew to the Windy's mixed grill or signature steak.

windyoneills.com 705.446.9989



Green Mango Tree Thai Fusion

Collingwood's Thai food hotspot offers favourites such as Lemongrass beef short ribs, Shrimp curry and Spring rolls stuffed with pork, shrimp or veggie salad and rolled in rice paper with a delicious house lime sauce. Other dishes include Tom yum soup, Chicken curry, Thai fried rice and Tamarind shrimp. Signature dishes are offered along with vegetarian options.

greenmangotree.com 705.719.7888



Raven Grill

Located in the heart of the famous Lora Bay fairways, Raven Grill offers casual yet elegant menu choices prepared by Executive Chef Geoff Kitt. Also choose from an exciting selection of special winetasting dinners, jazz brunches and themed cooking classes. Raven Grill is ideal for corporate groups or private parties.

ravenatiorabay.com 519.599.7500



Copper Blues

The first restaurant to open in the Village at Blue, Copper Blues is a true Village pioneer. Featuring a casual yet sophisticated menu for lunch and dinner daily, diners can enjoy AAA steaks and seafood, wild game and much more.

copperblues.com 705.446.2643



Duncans Café

Downtown Collingwood's Duncans Café offers a fresh and diverse menu paired with wines from all regions. Every dish is prepared and served with love. Reserve your favourite table again. Live music on Friday nights. Also offers Sunday brunch and kids' menu. Try Duncan's for your next catered event, from private functions on our premises or your home to large-scale functions.

duncanscafe.com 705.444.5749



Tesoro

Tesoro, at 18 School House Lane, Collingwood, specializes in traditional Italian foods, gourmet pizza and homemade pastas including gluten-free selections. Licensed patio with bar. Adjoining Avalanche Ice Cream & Juice bar specializes in homemade ice cream and fresh fruit smoothies. Tesoro Mercato features homemade Italian entrees fresh, frozen and ready to go. Live music Thursdays in July and August. Call to cater your next event.

tesoro@bellnet.ca 705.444.9230



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cobblebeachgolflinks.com 519.370.2118



Buddha Dog

Buddha Dog is founded on a very simple philosophy to use local and promote local. We work with the best regional farmers, dairies, bakers, butchers and chefs who hand-make hot dogs, salads, soups, desserts and sauces. With every bite, we strive to make you one with everything local. Named Canada's Best Hot Dog in Reader's Digest. 48 Pine Street, Collingwood.

buddhafoodha.com 705.444.2005



Ravenna Country Market

This historic site, functional for 126 years in the hamlet of Ravenna on Grey Road 2, has been reinvented. Fully renovated with an expanded kitchen, the new store offers soups, sandwiches and baked goods made on-site, as well as gourmet frozen entrees and more from Sara's Incredible Edibles and the Blue Mountain Bakery. Also offers local produce, video rentals and maps of the Kolapore Uplands trails.

ravennacountrymarket.ca 519.599.2796

How Not to be a Jackass on the Links

BY ALISTAIR FRASER



- THE OLD CLICHÉ IS, golf is a good walk spoiled. But it's still better than any day at the office. So first off, leave your cell phone in the car. Seriously. Or buy your group a beer every time it rings.
- LEAVE NO TRACE of your hacking exploits; replace all your divots, fix any ball marks you see on the green (these are the puncture marks left by your ball when it hits the green).
- FOR PETE'S SAKE, BE READY when it's your turn to play. There is nothing worse than Captain Practice Swing one is fine, two will suffice. Any more than that you're not Tiger Woods. So try to behave better than him.
- ON THE PUTTING GREEN, START LINING UP your putt while others are playing their shots. Leave your clubs between the pin, and the next tee; save yourself the double trip.
- MULLIGANS ARE A PERSONAL CHOICE, whatever you and your mates decide. Try to keep an honest score, or don't count at all. You are either keeping track for an official handicap or you're not. Fabricating scores just creates false expectations. This will deflate your ego when someone else actually keeps your real score.

- WHEN IT COMES TO ADVICE, or quick tips: If your buddy asks for it, fine. Just don't give random advice, even if you think you know what you're doing. Everybody's game is different. Respect that.
- WHEN THE BEER CART cowgirl or cowboy trundles in your direction, don't whistle. They know you have the thirst. Tip them well, it's someone's kid just trying to do their summer job. Buy a shooter for your shooters. Keep the transaction to five minutes.
- FIVE MINUTES also happens to be the allotted time to search for your missing egg in the bushes. They make almost a billion new balls every year. If it's gone, drop a freshie, add a stroke, and carry on.
- HEY CARGO SHORTS, your roommate from college called, he needs them for a hike. As for those sandals: bad idea. I'd rather see someone barefoot better balance and an ethereal connection to the sand and turf. Try to dress appropriately. Meaning sunblock, and a hat. Rain or shine, be prepared. Wear what you like, just be aware of different dress codes at public and private courses.
- PLAY THE GAME YOU BROUGHT to the course. Whatever your ball is doing consistently, go with it. Hooks won't become slices, and slices rarely hook.
- **ENJOY THE DAY**, respect the course and the pace of play. After the round, remove your hat and shake hands, there is always the 19th hole to wash down the birdies, bogeys and blunders.



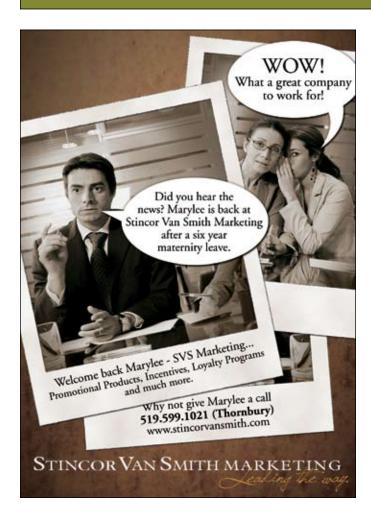


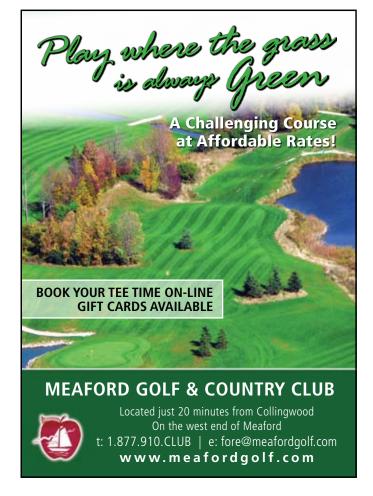
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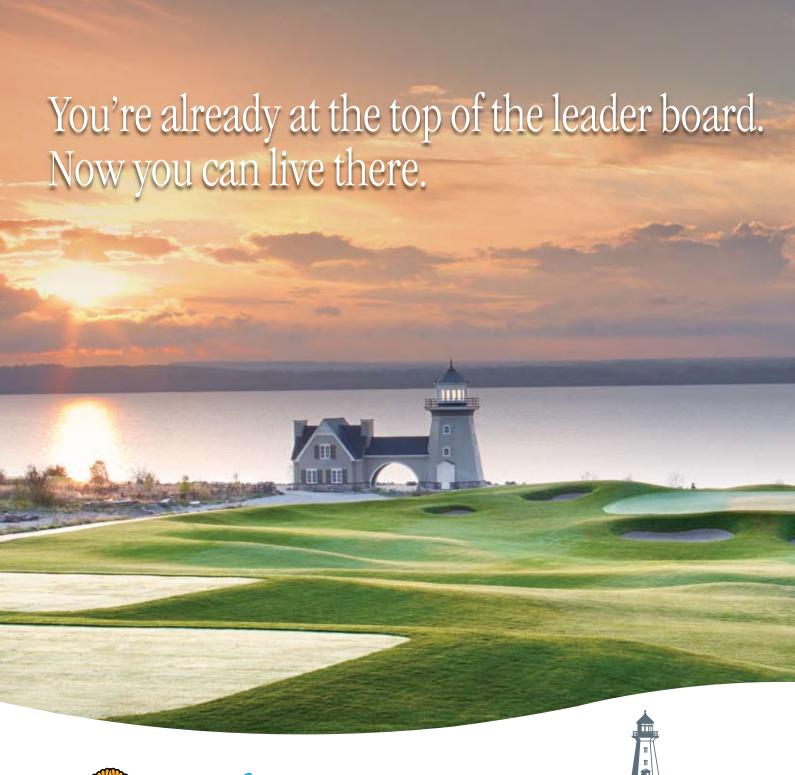
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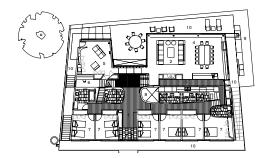
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Lake House Rising

AFTER A FIRE, A NEW COTTAGE BECOMES TRANSCENDENT

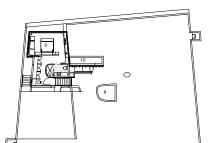
BY PAT WHYTE

AFTER LEAVING THE COTTAGE FOR THE WINTER AND HEADING BACK TO THE CITY, THEY GOT A PHONE CALL. YOUR COTTAGE HAS JUST BURNT DOWN, SAID THE POLICE. NOTHING IS LEFT EXCEPT THE CHIMNEY.



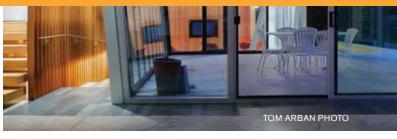
MAIN I FVFI

- BBQ/Outdoor Buffet



UPPER LEVEL

- Light Court Master Bedroom



The mythical phoenix comes to mind instantly.

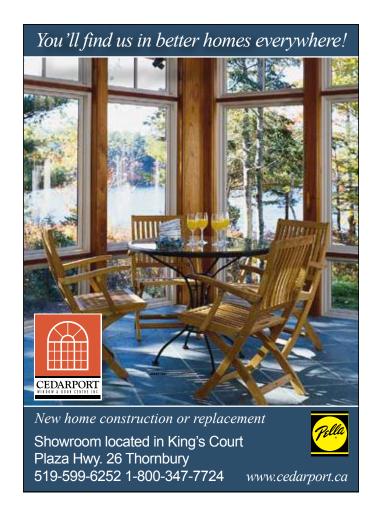
One of the first phone calls they made after the news was to their insurance company. The second call was to John Shnier of Kohn Shnier Architects. Although replacing a cottage that had been in the family since the 1950s was impossible, the cottage would, no doubt, rise from the ashes like the phoenix.

"During planning we talked with the clients, and asked them to imagine themselves moving through the house like a gymnast, or moving through the house like a chess game," explains Shnier. "So one is an expression of fluidity, the other an expression of strategic way-finding. So we presented two designs early on, and they said, 'We like elements from both."

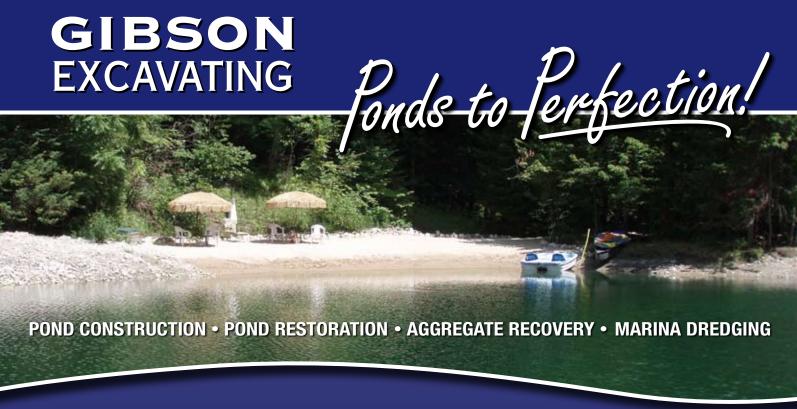
"The house is used as a kind of filter to create expectations, and then delays as you move through the house. The plan is designed to create a series of layers that seduce and delay the occupant from reaching the lake, eventually rewarding them with spectacular space, light and experience of

With about three acres of lakefront property in Innisfil, the Lake House (as it is now known) stands at just over 4300 square feet and took a year to build. The clients, along with their three grown children, their spouses and kids, and the family's great-grandmother, all needed accommodations. Building a home that could be comfortable for 20 people as well as for two was a challenge for Shnier and associates. The design they came up









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MOUNTAIN HOMES







with they refer to as a four level, single storey home, eliminating long stretches of stairways and enabling everyone from newborns to nonagenarians to easily get anywhere in the house.

Set back from the water, the contemporary Lake House combines steel framing and wood stress panels. With cement-board siding and commercial windows, the interior is finished in concrete, oiled oak and white marble. An efficient mechanical system with in-slab radiant heating provides warmth and the entire guest bedroom wing can be mothballed, effectively changing the square footage from 4300 square feet to 2100 when only two people are present.

"Most people are traditional," says Shnier. "They see living in the country as living in nature. But nature is a human construct. And to me, it's not about making a

house that looks as though you should be a pioneer. If we really want to understand our true nature as human beings, regardless of where we sit on earth, it has to bring some kind of transcendent experience that brings you into contact with yourself. Anybody can make a cabin, but no one talks about it being transcendent. People talk about a cottage as a commodity, the ambition should be to always capture the intangible."

Whether this house captures the intangible is obviously up for debate, but the clients themselves are more than happy with the results.

"The client's son-in-law came up to me at some point and said, John, a year ago, when you were presenting this project, I shook my head and said, These people are being taken advantage of. This architect is designing something for his ego. It'll never work. It's going to ruin the property. It's not going to bring back the emotional well-being they lost when their cottage burned down. They're screwed. And I wanted to tell you, John, after staying here several times, this is the most beautiful, peaceful, functional experience that I've had visiting a house and I owe you an apology. I think you guys did something really special and you've changed the way I think about space and design.' You can't get a better piece of feedback than that."

And you can't get a better analogy than a phoenix rising from the ashes. m





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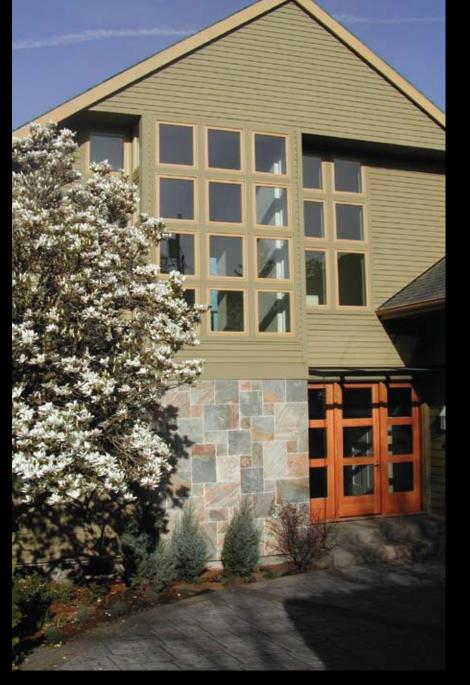




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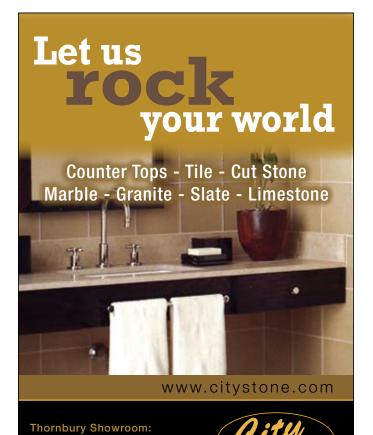
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A Day with the Godfather

You would think being called the Godfather in any sport means you've won everything there is to win. But Kamloops' Wade Simmons, known throughout the mountain biking community as the Godfather of Freeride Mountain Biking, didn't really compete. Sure, he placed well in a few events in the late '90s, and early 2000s, but it isn't what made him the world-renowned athlete he is today. His film segments did. As mountain bike professionals realized the power of filming and magazine photos to boost their careers, Wade Simmons was right there. When the term "freeride" started applying to mountain biking, Simmons was one of the proponents along for the ride. In essence, his nickname – the Godfather of Freeride Mountain Biking – is pretty spot-on.

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY COLIN FIELD









His segments in classic mountain bike videos like ROAM and the Kranked series show a guy ready to put in the hard work and ride the difficult lines. And often referred to as an ambassador of the sport, Simmons gets stoked helping up-and-coming riders progress. His clinics at Blue Mountain this summer are the perfect chance to ride with a legend. From July 16-18, Simmons will be at Blue Mountain for the second year in a row offering the opportunity to ride with and learn from the Godfather himself.

"He's a really engaging guy to meet, but he's still just a kid who rides a bike," says local John Brownlow who took the clinic last year. "You would think for a guy like him, clinics would get kind of boring, but he seemed to really enjoy it. It wasn't dutiful at all. He's really passionate about it. The most fun part was just riding with him. You could try to keep up but you couldn't."

While many hardcore mountain bikers would consider themselves too skilled to attend a clinic, there is a lot to be learned from a guy like Simmons. From his humble demeanor, to his incredible war stories, Simmons is one of the nicest and most approachable guys in the biz.

"You would think that riding with a guy like this would make you feel inferior, but he didn't make you feel inferior at all. It was a really enjoyable experience to ride with him."

And whether you're a diehard mountain biker or an intermediate, spending a day riding with one of the legends is more than worth the price of admission. ml



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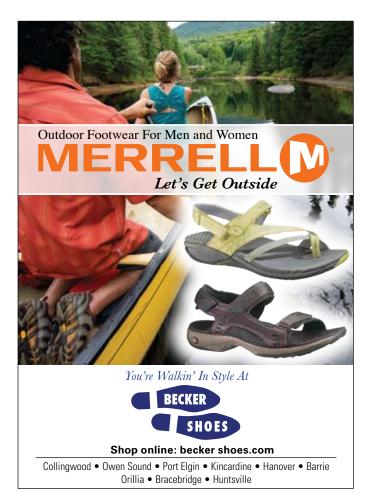


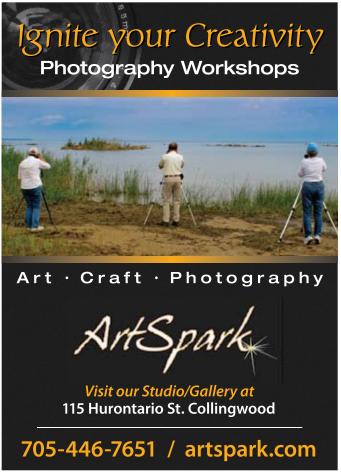


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THE SEARCH FOR SKATEPARK ISLAND

FREESTYLE MOUNTAIN BIKE TALENT VS. THE WILD. WHO WINS?

WORDS AND PHOTOS BY COLIN FIELD mrkt SUMMER 10 65







The first I'd heard of Skatepark Island came from kayak guides in Killbear. Then the kayak guides in Killarney were talking about it. They spoke of this semi-mythical island where the rock had been shaped just so, with transitions smoother than a skillfully crafted skatepark bowl. My interest was piqued and I made sure to get the coordinates of the island. This rumour had to be investigated.

Thankfully, the guys at Georgian Bay Airways thought it was a good idea, too. And so did the guy at Killarney Mountain Lodge. The plan was to fly from Parry Sound to Killarney, hop in a 17-foot fishing boat with our bikes and rip out to the island in question. We'd spend a few days shooting and camping in the bush before heading back. It was a lot of planning based on some random kayaker's interpretation of a skatepark, but a damn good excuse for an adventure.

The crew I'd rounded up contained some of the best

skatepark mountain bikers in Ontario. Eighteen-year-old Andrew Bigelow is a self-admitted mama's boy. And this trip would mark a number of firsts for him: first time he ate a pickle, first time he took a dump in the woods and the first time he pitched a tent. Like many of the skatepark kids, he wears girls' jeans, "because they fit tighter." Which is officially the worst trend since Kris Kross wore their jeans backwards. It makes me feel like an old man complaining about how "the kids these days wear their pants," but seriously - girls' jeans?

Twenty-one-year-old Kent Woods is a bit of a one-trick pony. If you want him to bar-spin something, he's all over it. Kent is a genuinely good kid. His skill with a Swiss Army can opener is appalling, though. He had to resort to vice grips whenever asked to open a can. He gets funnier and funnier (to himself of course) the more scotch he consumes and between him and Bigelow, we had

some serious freestyle mountain bike talent with us.

To round out the crew, and the age gap, Owen Sound's Mike Comello came along for support. He joined my sorry, over thirty-year-old ass and thank God he did. Mike and I had a brief glimpse into what it would be like to father a couple of teenagers; they were basically useless. They couldn't feed themselves, water themselves or fend for themselves. Fortunately, they hadn't quite developed a taste for quality beer yet, which, thanks to Neustadt Springs Brewery, we had a lot of.

On the map, Skatepark Island is nothing special – just a small blip in amongst a thousand other blips surrounding the incredible Phillip Edward Island. I'll argue with anyone that this is Ontario's most beautiful region. The key to Skatepark Island's rumoured smooth transitions is its geological history. With a major fault running the length

of the region, pressures between the two plates a billion years ago forced the La Cloche Mountains of Killarney skywards, reaching the vertical equivalent of today's Rockies. Lava punched through the surface and settled beneath it, now exposed through erosion as the pink quartzite the region is known for. A further deposit of calcium carbonate about 350-500 million years ago, from a giant sea that stretched from Mexico to the Arctic, has since hardened into limestone. Throw a giant, kilometre-thick glacier on top of all that, drag it back and forth through countless millennia, and according to some kayak guides, you get the perfect venue for riding. Supposedly, the greatest example of this smoothly striated and eroded rock is found in the Fox Islands. Which is, more or less, exactly where we headed.

Once we touched down at Killarney Mountain Lodge, we loaded up a 17-foot fishing boat with



bikes, four guys, 96 tallboy beers and enough supplies for a week in the bush. Surprisingly, during the rental procedures, no one asked if I knew how to pilot one of these things. Which I didn't. And as the marina owner, the owner of Killarney Mountain Lodge and a couple of their fishing guides stood watching me back out of the complicated marina docks awkwardly, fully loaded, they realized I had no idea

what I was doing. I could feel them laughing and cringing as I narrowly missed three boats, and the docks themselves. Everyone in town already thought we were idiots for going on a mountain bike trip to the unrideable Phillip Edward Island environs, but once they saw us drive the boat, it was confirmed: we were a bunch of yahoos.

Upon arrival at Skatepark Island the kids, as Comello and I referred

to them, immediately found a small lip right in camp. They hucked and carved the tiny transition, yielding some of the best photos of the trip almost instantly. For Bigelow, setting up his tent did not go so flawlessly.

For the next three days, as we explored many of the islands in the Foxes, riding the transitions here and there, we discovered that a kayak guide's idea of a skatepark is quite different from an actual

EVERYONE IN TOWN ALREADY THOUGHT WE WERE IDIOTS FOR GOING ON A MOUNTAIN BIKE TRIP TO THE UNRIDEABLE PHILLIP EDWARD ISLAND ENVIRONS, BUT ONCE THEY SAW US DRIVE THE BOAT, IT WAS CONFIRMED: WE WERE A BUNCH OF YAHOOS.





skatepark. Skatepark Island's transitions are far from perfect. What may look like a beautiful eight-foot quarterpipe from the water turns out to have impossible run ups or roll outs. Perfect banks to walls have immovable curb-sized rocks midtranny and massive cracks situated in exactly the wrong spot.

That's not to say riding here isn't an amazing experience. One can't help but compare the Canadian Shield to the sandstone of Moab, Utah; it is grippy like a meandering sidewalk, providing traction in the most unlikely of angles. The rock feels exactly like Moab's legendary and hugely influential Slickrock trail. Without a doubt, a few dedicated trail builders could turn this into a world-class mountain biking

destination, its remoteness providing part of the allure. But it would take a lot of work.

On our last morning, as I lay in my hot tent trying to sleep off a final Neustadt binge, I cursed whoever it was as they rifled through our food box noisily. And then Comello spoke up.

"Umm, guys...there's a bear in our camp."

And as I looked outside my tent I realized he wasn't kidding. Six feet from Kent Woods' tent, a black bear sat casually trying to find something to eat. Woods stood bone still in his tent, hunched over, terrified while Comello and I started yelling and throwing rocks at the bear. For the rest of the morning we repeatedly threw stuff at the bear to scare him

out of our camp. In essence the bear represented what we all knew. It was time to get off Skatepark Island. And while I know I'll be back, I'll definitely do a few things differently; and I'll probably arrive in a kayak. Without my bike.



Sea Kayaking Guide by the people over at The Adventure Map, is the only map to label Skatepark Island by its actual name: Blockbuster Island.

Killarney.com
Georgianbayairways.com



ON THE EVE OF A NEW CLIMBING ZONE'S UNVEILING, A LOOK AT THE COMPLEX QUESTION OF ACCESS



I was asked to keep the directions to myself. This newly developed climbing hotspot in the Beaver Valley was exactly what I was looking for: well-bolted sport climbing routes of all difficulties. But even with directions, I got lost in the woods. What was supposed to be a 20-minute hike in, took me two hours. Even with directions it was nearly impossible to find.

A shock wave of gossip about these routes has transfixed the climbing community. Known affectionately as The Swamp, this series of secluded limestone cliffs has seen extensive (though secretive) development over the past several years. A small group of climbers has worked year round, installing bolt anchors, clearing loose rock and making the base of the cliffs safe and easy to navigate. Yet instead of being recognized for their work, some in the climbing community have begun to criticize these volunteers, claiming they're behaving in a selfish and elitist manner by attempting to keep the cliff for

themselves. It's true that access to the cliff has not been disclosed to the public. This is to allow development of the area to reach a level at which it is safe for the public. Still it seems the climbing public will not praise developers nearly as fast as it will criticize them.

Just because a cliff face exists does not mean you can climb it. All sorts of legal, ethical and environmental concerns arise when developing a climbing area. Cliffs often stand on crown land, which allows for easy development, but they also stand on private or otherwise restricted land, which necessitates



negotiations with landowners to secure access. Many landowners are reluctant to allow climbing access for the obvious liability factor associated with what is perceived as a very dangerous activity.

A climbing area known as Halfway Log Dump, exemplifies what can happen when climbers act irresponsibly on restricted land. Located within the Bruce Peninsula National Park, climbing was banned in the spring of

Authority remain off-limits to climbers.

The OAC is an organization of climbers who work to identify access issues and solve them. They have secured access to many Ontario cliffs and continue negotiations to retain access where it has come into peril. In 2009, the OAC incorporated as a non-profit business, largely to allow the organization to accept memberships. More members translate into more power to



IT SEEMS THE CLIMBING PUBLIC WILL NOT PRAISE DEVELOPERS NEARLY AS FAST AS IT WILL CRITICIZE THEM.

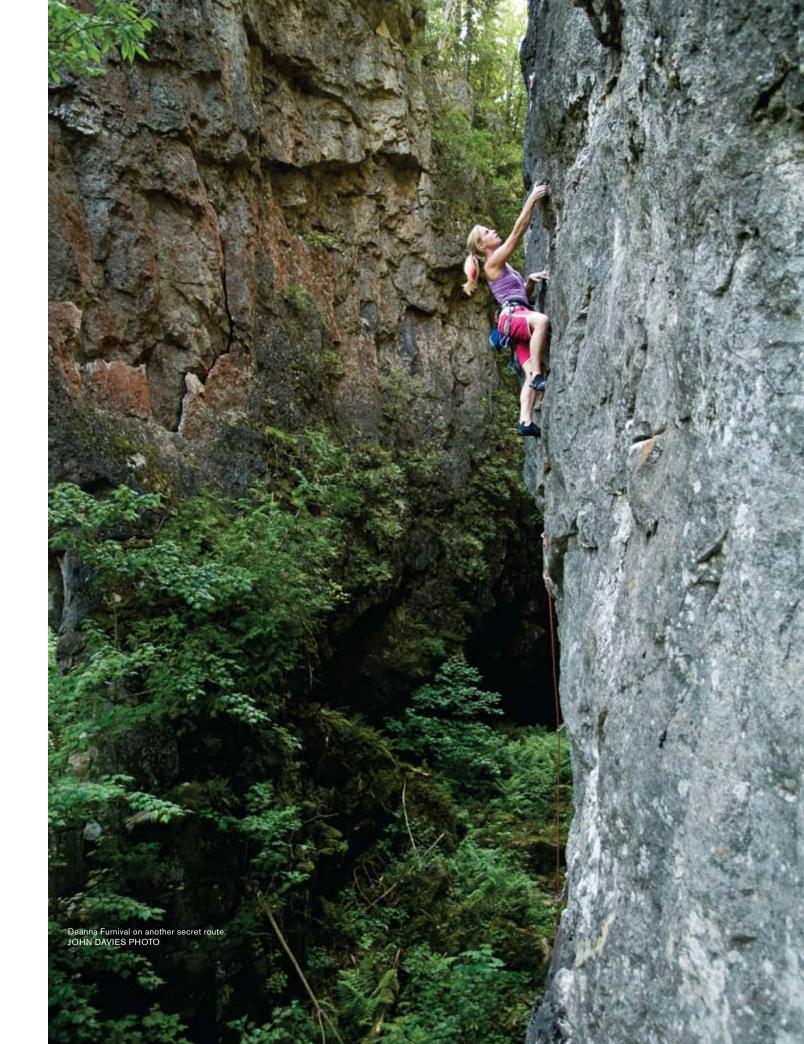
2003, after climbers developed the cliff without concern for environmental sustainability. It remained closed to climbers for seven years. Thankfully, due to negotiations by the Ontario Access Coalition (OAC) and a partnership with Parks Canada, climbing was once again allowed at Halfway Log Dump as of May 22. But not all climbing spots have re-opened. Places like Rockwood in the Grand River Conservation

negotiate climbing access.

Access work would appear to be about educating the public and convincing landowners and parks management to allow climbers to climb. However it is equally, if not more important, to show climbers that their actions have an exponential impact on how the public views the climbing community. Simple actions like practicing leave-no-trace principles, brushing off chalk, and



Kyle Thomas on a secret route. JOHN DAVIES PHOTO





respecting access restrictions go a long way in keeping the perception of climbers positive. In contrast, ignoring access restriction and behaving irresponsibly have an equally detrimental effect on the climbing community. OAC Director Adam Reeve explains that many climbers have a strong opinion on their (non-existent) right to climb, a lot of ideas on how to correct access problems, and little time or desire to actually get anything done.

"I am trying to help raise awareness of the situation in Ontario, so that we can work together from a common and educated perspective. Climbers generally think that land managers don't realize what is going on with the climbing community and that their activities go unnoticed. The truth is that land managers actually are climbers too. They talk to one another about

climbing, they know what's up."

Part of what the OAC is trying to do is educate climbers about different land management goals. Parks organizations typically have a mandate to balance recreation and preservation, but in nature reserves and conservation areas this mandate may not necessarily exist.

"What parks like about climbers is our ability to act as stewards," explains Reeve. "To stop the guy with the can of spray paint, help the lost hiker and avoid problems before they arise. We need to step it up though and be able to point out the endangered species and help land managers who are short on resources and funds accomplish their goals if we want to improve access."

When climbers learn to respect the privilege of climbing at well-developed and safe cliffs, we will stand a better chance at Leslie Timms is the The Swamp's
'Portfolio Manager' for the OAC.
JOHN DAVIES PHOTO

gaining access to new areas – and regaining access to old ones. If we want to keep introducing our friends and families to climbing, then it only makes sense to behave in a manner that inspires people to become involved in the sport.

As for the Swamp, the release of a new guidebook will provide the necessary information. As time goes on, more rumours will inevitably spread, but as developer and guidebook author Gus Alexandropoulos explains, "it's not about secrets or anything like that. There are still thousands of dollars of personal gear out there necessary for developing a new cliff. Having it get lost or damaged would be a serious setback to everyone involved in

developing an amazing climbing area that everyone will ultimately enjoy."

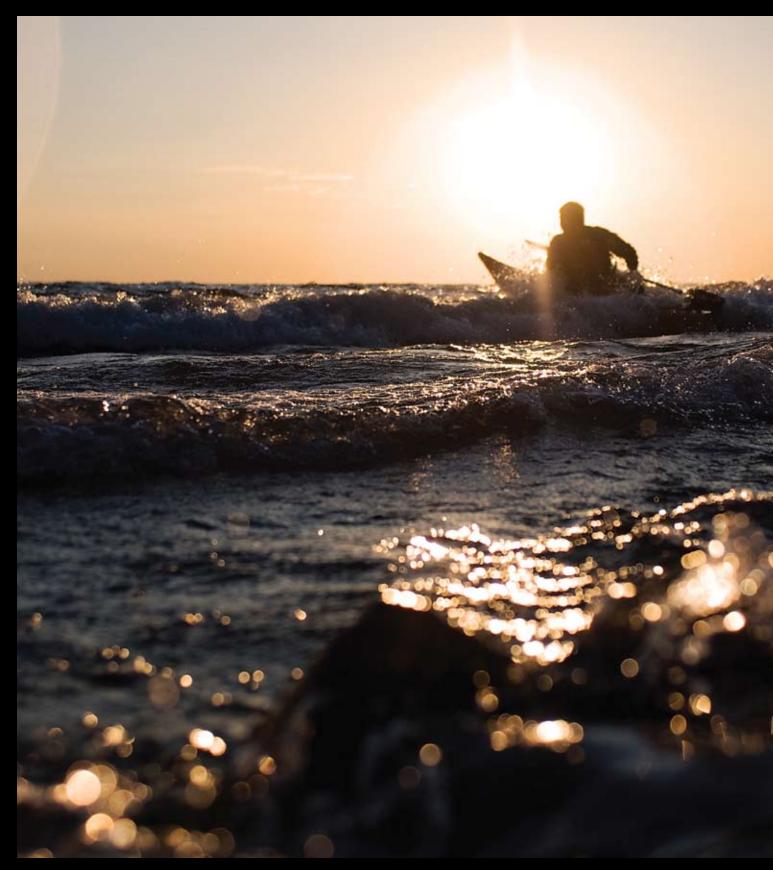
Fueled by a passion for climbing, it is nonetheless a very time-consuming process. "If developing climbing areas and writing the new guidebook was a paid full-time job, it would happen a lot faster. However that is not the case," explains Alexandropoulos. "In reality these things only get done when the bills are paid and other priorities are taken care of." He hopes to have a new guidebook released by the end of 2010. People need to consider what a large undertaking it really is, and be thankful that someone has taken the initiative to do it. ml



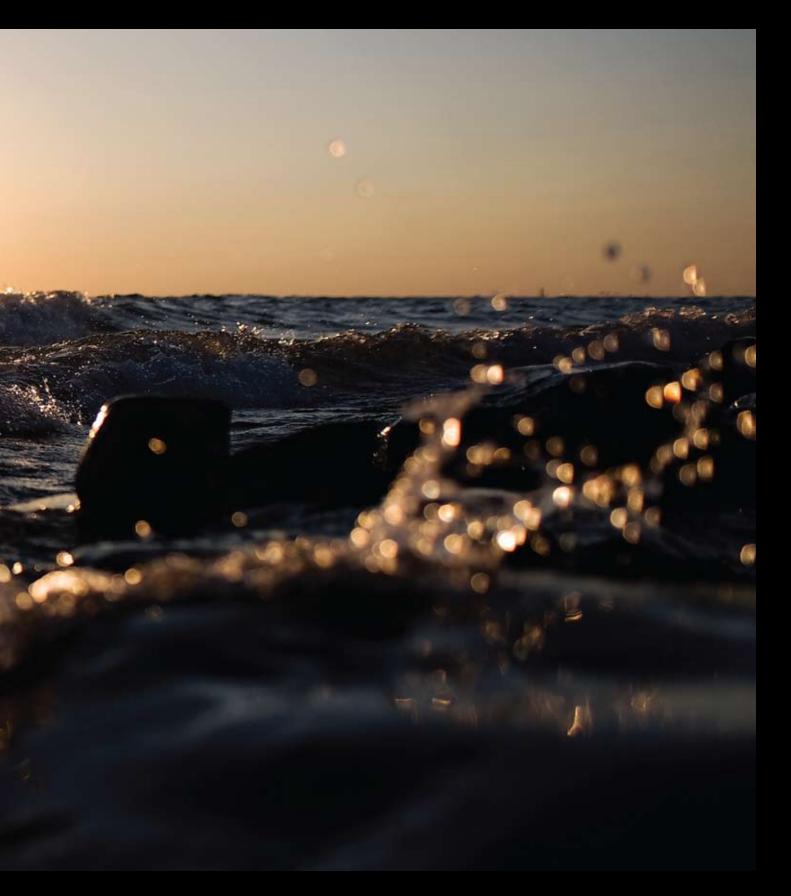
DIY.

Check out video from the Swamp at **mountainlifemag.ca**For more info on the OAC go to **ontarioaccesscoalition.com**





GLEN HARRIS PHOTO



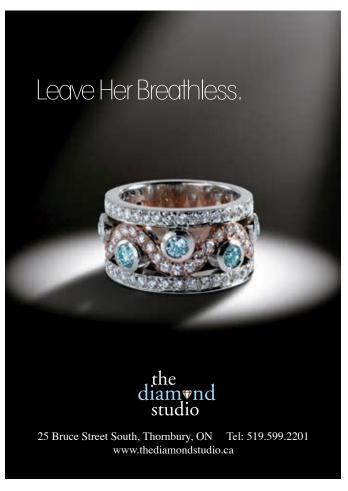
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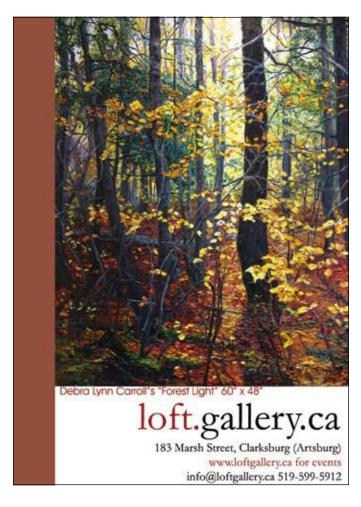


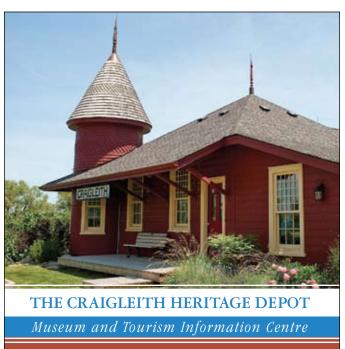












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ARTIST PROFILE

Inside the studio, built onto a former airplane hangar the Whites use as a workshop, stands a multi-dimensional forest of Julia's recent sculpture. These works all draw on the natural world, both in their materials and in their themes. White's beginnings, though, were urban. Brought up in Toronto in an artistic household, her artist mother enrolled her in youth classes at the AGO. White remembers a teacher there who encouraged abstraction. "If you want to paint the sky yellow or a tree purple, go ahead," she remembers the teacher telling her. White later took a Sculpture Major at Queens and then spent several years in Toronto and in BC before settling on 50 acres near Walter's Falls. After the move, she discovered that her new home was just a ten-minute drive from her ancestral family farm.

Many of White's sculptures involve trees – both actual and imagined. Frozen Flame is steel wrapped in thread and yarn, but its mass of tendrils resembles a root system. Tree roots are a key image for White. An earlier work, Roots and Wings, half hand-printed linocut and half hand-embroidery, gives equal space to the above- and below-ground sections of a stylized tree. Her recent sculpture Trinity is fashioned from an inverted cedar root she found on her property's back forty.

She cites the influence of Celtic art and its preoccupation with intertwining roots. "I'm fascinated with trees," says White. "I've always been intrigued by how vines and branches grow – a wild essence underlying the form. And I suppose I'm cultivating that in myself, too."

White has also cultivated her tree fascination alongside ancient mythology. Her *Garden of the Hesperides* re-imagines the story of the three nymph-sisters of Greek myth who guard (with the aid of a dragon) a grove of sacred golden-apple trees. In White's creation, three tall inverted cedar roots, which she brushed and then varnished with linseed oil and wrapped partially in thread, represent the three nymphs, while a chalice



woven from wild grapevine holds the apples White fashioned from plaster and finished in gold leaf. It is evidence of White's talent that she is able to imprint a myth with her unique stamp while bringing its environmental message effortlessly to the forefront. I ask White why the dragon seems to be missing from the tableau and she tells me, "the dragon is implied: maybe the viewer is the dragon."

Dreams also influence White and inform her imagery. She often dreams she's in a gallery looking at a sculpture and realizes it is her own work. Upon awakening, she sketches the image. White opens her sketchbook and shows me one of her dream-sketches: a stylized tree whose upper branches form several rooms. She explains that in the dream, the tree was "made of some kind of cement. People were

sitting up inside it. It was inside a big space in New York City. I remember thinking that it looked like an Antonio Gaudi building." White will be working with this idea to create a piece for a show in 2011 in New York State called 100 Artists, 100 Dreams.

Other pieces White has produced recently include steel-frame sculptures (*Torus 1*, *Waveform* and others) wrapped in fabric, in shapes which remind me of large animal tusks. But these curious sculptures cannot be defined by comparison to a figurative shape or a familiar symbol, a habit I too often fall into. White says she feels a need to "get beyond the literal" by "giving form

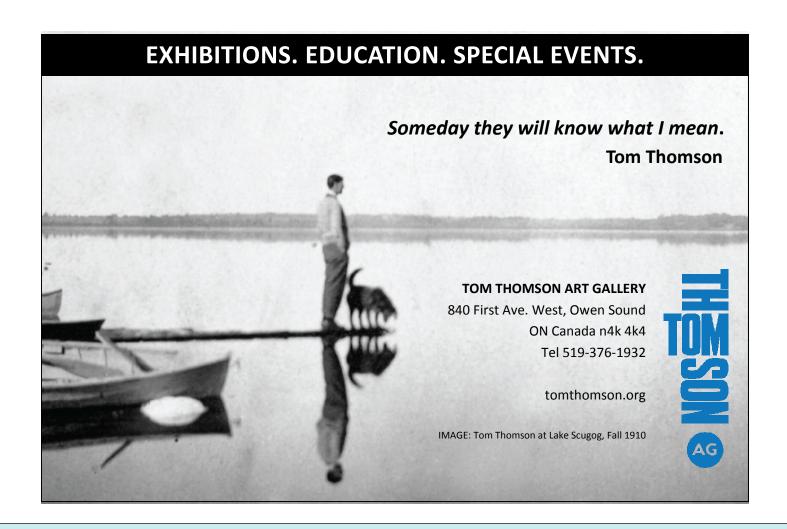


to the formless" and creating her own imagery. "I've tried to make art that people can understand and speak about in a way that can define it, but now, more and more, I'm freeing myself from that." Julia explains that if she thinks about a piece too much, her artistic processes can break down. "Dreams may be a starting point ... but I need to surrender to the natural flow of things. If I think too much, I get blocked, thinking 'how am I going to do this?"

We keep returning to the subject of trees. She muses, "Trees don't think about *how* they grow, they just extend out toward the light." I offer that trees do have a kind of consciousness. She quickly replies, "that's the essence I'm trying to get at." I see her oeuvre as an effort to create art that grows out of her imagination as a tree grows out of the ground.

Julia White explains that she wants all her sculptures to form a single gesture. This gesture can't be pinned down by words or classification. To me, the gesture is one of seeking harmony with the natural world – a harmony that is too often stifled. Most of us never hear it. To hear it and turn it into art, White explains, "takes patience. It takes a lot of time and focus to stay with it. It's like a meditation practice."

Julia White (juliawhite.ca) is a member of the Walter's Falls Group of Artists, who hold a group show during the last weekend in August. waltersfallsartists.ca. Julia and Steven White's Wonderactive art workshop will begin offering classes this fall. wonderactive.ca



Find something for everyone...









MEC Hold Steady (\$1250)

Yep, you read that right, this is an MEC bike. As in Mountain Equipment Co-op. After much debate, the Canadian outdoor behemoth has entered the bike market. And they've nailed it. The Hold Steady is the perfect commuter. An internal 8-speed hub keeps the bike looking clean and a flat black finish gives it that stealth look so it doesn't get stolen. Featuring hydraulic disc brakes and a carbon-fibre fork and seatpost, the Hold Steady is a really responsive, fast-riding bike that's perfect for getting around on the city streets.

mec.ca

Prince Lionheart Balance Bike (\$110)

We've featured run bikes and Like-A-Bikes in the section before – so what's so special about this one? Well, in comparison to the \$315 price of the Like-a-Bike, the price is. About one-third of the price, this bike has all the aesthetic appeal of the European version with none of the price restrictions. With inflatable tires and an adjustable seat height, this Balance Bike will have your little ones skipping the training wheels and going straight to a two wheeler. princelionheart.com

Osprey Raptor 10 Hydration Pack (\$110)

When it comes to hydration packs is there anything new? In the case of this Raptor 10 Hydration Pack, the answer is yes. The proprietary Hydralock creates flow where there normally is none. In the hose itself. Meaning you don't have to suck like a mosquito to get water out of this thing. Add to that a magnetized sternum strap to keep the valve at the ready, an easy-to-use bungee to keep your helmet attached to the pack and this is one solid new offering in the hydration pack market.

ospreypacks.com

Kuat NV Bike Rack (\$639)

Not gonna lie on this one: this rack is awesome. Easy to assemble and remove from your vehicle, the NV is a trailer hitch rack system from the guys over at Kuat Innovations. The NV takes up to two bikes and folds up and out of the way when not in use. While still costing a whack-load of cash, this is a rack that will last ages. Beefy construction, complete with a cable lock, mechanic stand and adjustability for all kinds of wheel sizes, Kuat is gettin' 'er done. Great to see an option coming from someone other than Yakima or Thule.

kuatinnovations.com











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Gear Guide

GSI Pinnacle Camper Cookset (\$119.95)

The Pinnacle Camper fits a lot of utility into an ultralight and compact package. This integrated cooking and eating set is reconfigurable for attention to functional design is usually reserved for space travel (the ultrawith interchangeable strainer lid made of BPA-free resin, plus durable and slop-proof mugs, bowls and plates.

gsioutdoors.com

Primus OmniFuel camp stove (\$174)

Primus' most advanced stove is low on frills and high on performance in extreme altitudes and all temperatures. A fast pre-heating system saves time and fuel and flame control is exact. Primus claims the stove will run on LP gas, gasoline, diesel, kerosene, and even aviation fuel, and will also attach to butane or propane canisters. We tried it with some "mystery fuel," an unlabeled canister of which had been kicking around my basement for years. The OmniFuel rocked it, whatever it was. It also worked well with standard camp stove fuel (naptha).

Revo Transom Titanium (\$249)

The tagline for these shades is Aviator Inspired, Sherpa Approved. We don't know about sherpas, but for us, they work exactly like a pair of sunglasses is supposed to. The polarized lenses keep the glare away, while the titanium frame is light, but durable and the spring hinges keep everything functional. While not the oversized shades that are all the rage this summer, Revo's Transoms will keep the sun out of your eyes for as long as you can manage not sitting on them or losing them.

Olympus Stylus Tough 8010 (\$449.99)

This camera is fierce. What other camera is shockproof, waterproof, crushproof and freezeproof and delivers 14 megapixels, one-touch HD video, AF tracking, dual image stabilization, 5x wide-angle optical zoom, in-camera panorama and more? We tested it on a wavy Georgian Bay day where it was fully dunked and dropped. No worries. The lack of worries may not make you a better photographer, but your carefree attitude will certainly free you up to shoot more creatively. The Stylus Tough is for outdoors people who want a camera to go where no other can.

olympuscanada.com

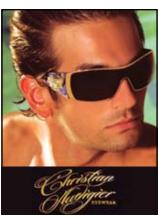


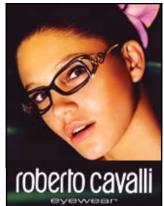


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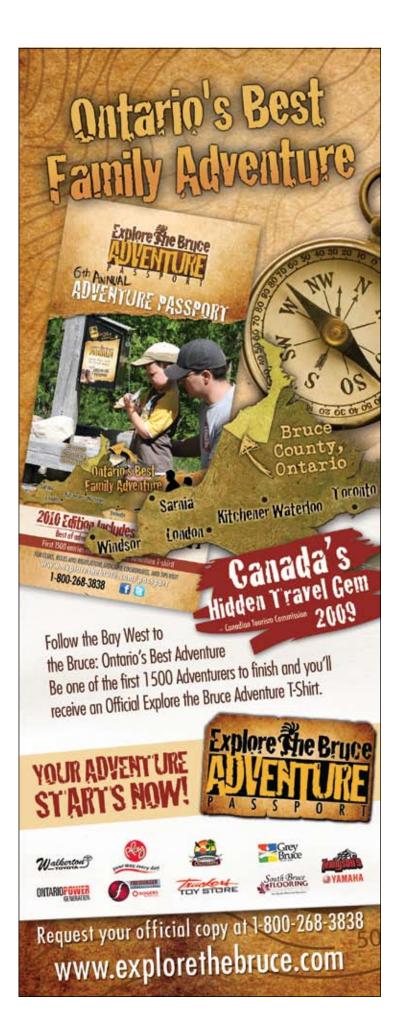
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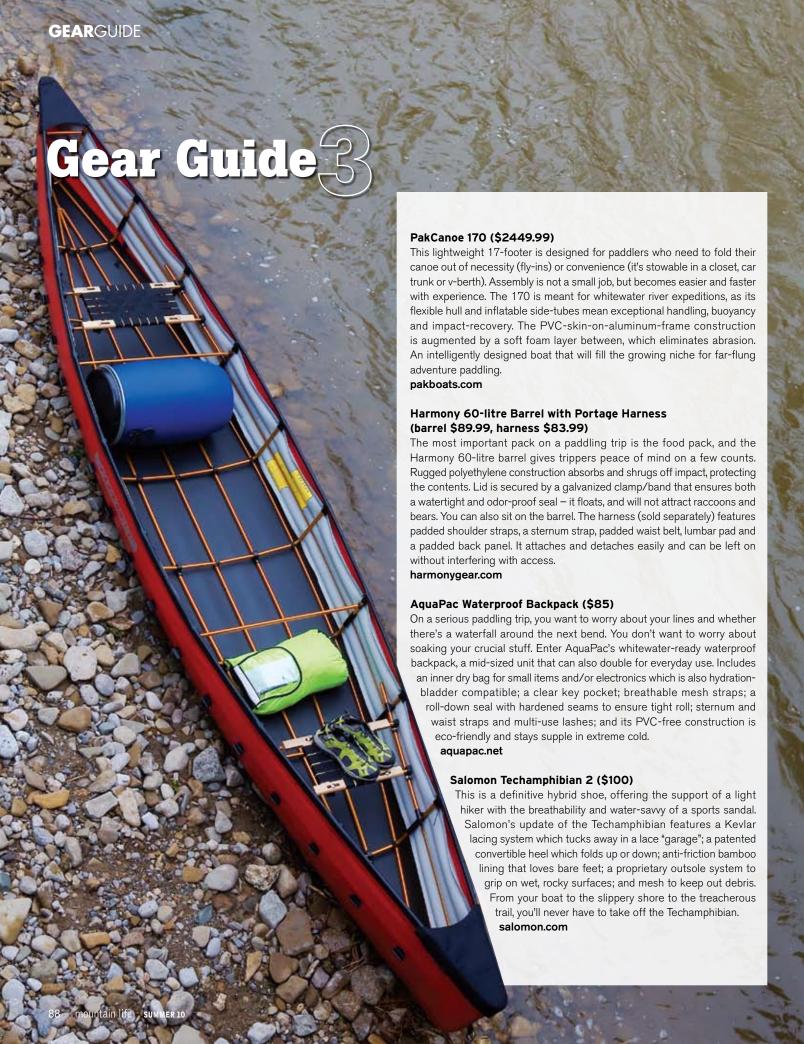




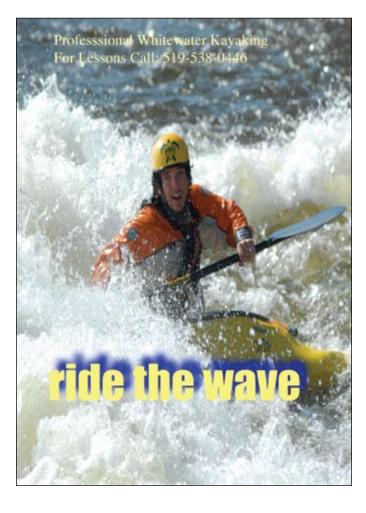
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Picks from the Locals



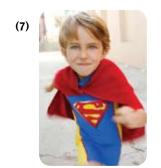


















1) Spalt wood frames and cutting boards

Spalting is the process by which controlled fungi growth imbues wood with unique coloration and patterns. Grant Holmes' beautiful spalted creations can't be found in any store. Available at Craigleith Depot or direct from Grant.

Holmes Woodworking

(519.599.5366 grantman@bmts.com)

2) Chariot Cougar 1

Your child's comfort is assured with additional climate control venting, padded seats and the smooth ride of the Chariot adjustable suspension. The Cougar is loaded with innovations that set it apart from the competition.

Shane, Squire John's, Craigleith (squirejohns.com 705.445.1130)

3) KHS Flite Team

The limited production flagship road bike offers unbeatable performance at a reasonable price. KHS manufactures road, track, mountain, tandem, folding, cruiser, youth bicycles and more.

Jack, Little Ed's, Collingwood (littleeds.com 705.444.5488)

4) CRP recycled plastic Muskoka chair

Canadian-made in Stratford, Ontario, from 100 percent recycled plastic available in numerous colours.

John, Squire John's, Craigleith (squirejohns.com 705.445.1130)

5) Oakley Jawbone

This revolutionary eyewear combines style with versatility. The quick-release "jaw" can be opened in seconds for quick lens changes. Oakley's high-definition optics are crystal clear and are available with a tonne of lens options.

Kris, Kamikaze, Collingwood (kamikazebikes.com 705.446.1234)

6) Canadian Summer Flying Jacket

A Canadian classic, this replica of the traditional RCAF and Canadian Forces jacket will keep you cool in more ways than one. Lightweight 80/20 cotton/nylon.

Leslie, Evolution for Men, Thornbury (evolutionformen.ca 519.599.5013)

7) Superman UV 1-piece Swimsuit + Towel Cape

UVA and UVB blocking fabric with 50++SPF. UV activated inks that remind parents to re-apply sunscreen to exposed areas. Swim and play-all-day wear at its best. We call it Sunsmart. Linda, Toad-eez Children's Wear, inside Flowers on Main, Thornbury (519.599.6606)

8) Clementine Natural Art Supplies

Clementine's high-quality art supplies are natural, certified non-toxic and environmentally friendly. Packaging is made of 80% post-consumer recycled and reusable materials. Supplies include paint, natural markers, crayon rocks and more.

Samantha, Evolve, Meaford (evolvetoys@yahoo.com 519.538.5600)

9) Thai Handcrafted Bags

Striking and durable woven bags, handcrafted with bamboo and water hyacinth. Made in Thailand. Available at Terraware.

Terraware, Thornbury (519.599.6160)

10) Yoga Mats

We love Half Moon's Canadian-made durable, non-slip and latex-free yoga mats. These 6-foot-long mats come in gorgeous colours and are easy to carry and clean.

Laura, Mantra Yoga Studio, Thornbury (mantrayogastudio.ca 705.351.8700)



massage yin or yang?

As massage therapy continues to grow in popularity, many people still have a tough time deciding whether they prefer a male or female massage therapist. Personally, I have had great experiences from both genders. My experiences have been positive because I understand my needs and made sure to talk to therapists about their approach to massage therapy. So, what can you do to choose the right therapist? The most important thing is to honour yourself and listen to what your body needs. If you're new to massage then you may want to do a little background research before you book an appointment. All therapists are happy to answer questions about technique and skill, or address common concerns about your massage experience.

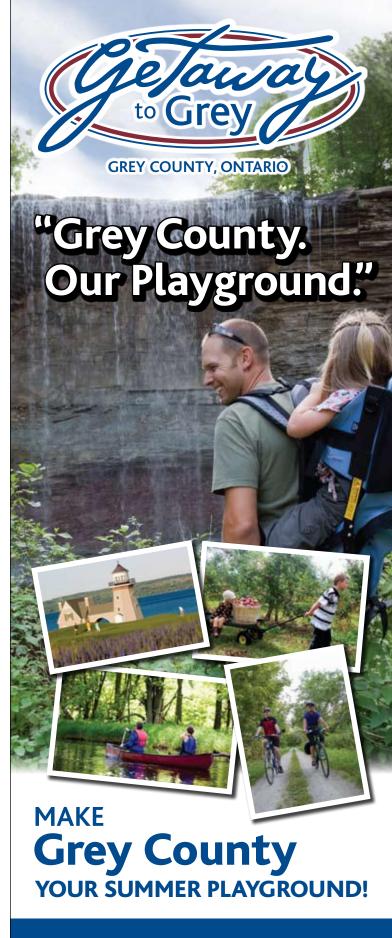
In the province of Ontario, Registered Massage Therapists must undergo a required number of theoretical and clinical hours before consideration is made to undergo provincial testing regulations. These high standards allow the College of Massage Therapists of Ontario to guarantee that every Registered Therapist, regardless of gender, has undergone the same training and is able to provide each client with skilled, professional expertise and ethical care.

Being a Registered Therapist myself, I assure guests/clients that my thoughts are completely gender neutral and my mindset is focused on meeting your therapeutic needs as outlined in the health form. With this in mind, my advice is to try a few different therapists, male and female. Regardless of gender, all Registered Therapists' hands are filled with the same empathetic, caring, nurturing and skilled expertise. You may be surprised to find a new therapist is offering a technique that makes your body feel better.

Spa owners and operators are always hiring therapists to meet demand for massage therapy. Scandinave Spa Blue Mountain for instance, has contracted over 40 Registered Therapists, regardless of gender, to fulfill the demand for treatments. Therapists are interviewed and a practicum evaluates skill to ensure a high quality of service. Massages at Scandinave Spa are booked by availability, not by gender, unless a guest specifies male or female at time of booking. All bookings though cannot be guaranteed with a specific therapist in the event of illness, leave of absence or room availability. So sometimes believing in the benefits of massage therapy requires an open mind and an understanding of the job equality standards of the individual spa.

For additional information on the benefits of Registered Massage treatments, please contact Scandinave Spa Blue Mountain (705) 443-8484 or visit the website www.ScandinaveBlue.com.

Charmaine Whitman - RMT Scandinave Spa Blue Mountain



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11) Rudy Project sunglasses with FreeForm TEK Rx inserts

Rudy Project offers the ultimate in design, engineering and performance. The revolutionary FreeForm TEK Rx is the world-leading sports lens.

Betty, Envy Eyewear, Village at Blue (envyeyewear.com 705.445.3168)

12) Volatile Women's Forgiving Sandal

Gladiator-inspired style that stands out in a crowd. With synthetic snake-print upper and adjustable ankle strap buckle.

Cathy, DeCorso's Fashions, Thornbury (519.599.5315)

13) Columbia Marrakesh Maven Dress

Omni-Dry technology wicks and breathes, while Omni-Shade UPF 50 provides enough sun protection to be recommended by the Skin Cancer Foundation. Generous pockets are hidden along the side seaming.

Columbia@Blue, Village at Blue (705.443.5802)

14) TOMS Shoes

With every pair you purchase, TOMS will give a pair of new shoes to a child in need. The TOMS One for One business model transforms our customers into benefactors. TOMS shoes come in a wide variety of styles and materials, including vegan.

Nicole, Red Devil Sports, Village at Blue (705.443.5803)

15) Sea to Summit XBowl & XPlate

With sides made of flexible silicone bonded to a rigid nylon base, these camping bowls and plates are stable, easy to hold and cut-resistant. Pop them up for a meal and flatten them down for sleek storage. Versatile, compact, lightweight, unbreakable!

Cheri, Sojourn, Barrie (sojournoutdoors.com 705.739.9694)

16) Healing Stones & Crystals

A new addition to Cecile's Beads. Beveled to carry energy and healing benefits since ancient times. Gems such as Jade, Tiger's Eye, Turquoise and more now available. Neil, Cecile's Beads Gemstones & Findings, Meaford (cecilebeads.com 519.538.1229)

17) Ethletic flip-flops

The ultimate in ethical summer fashion. Ethletic flip-flops are made entirely from FSC-certified and fairly traded natural rubber.

Tarren, Gaia Boutique, Thornbury (519.599.3040)

18) Pet Water Bottle

Give dogs a drink quickly and easily on a hot day, without carrying extra bowls and water bottles. Business logos custom-printed on stainless-steel bottles.

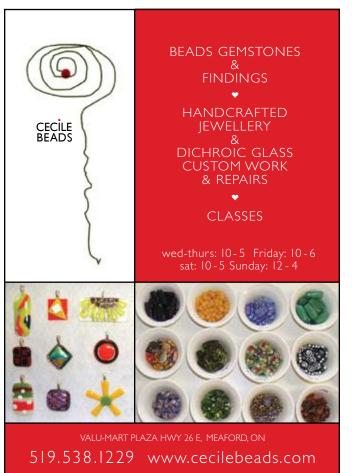
Marylee, Stincor Van Smith Marketing, Thornbury (maryleeh@stincorvansmith.com 519.599.1021)

19) Glamjulz

Custom design jewelry to match any outfit. Glamjulz' hand made designs reflect a woman's uniqueness and individuality, using the highest quality glass beads, semi-precious stones and crystals.

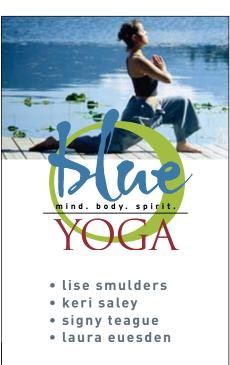
Furbelows, Thornbury (furbelowsfashions.com 519.599.5422)











519 599 6901

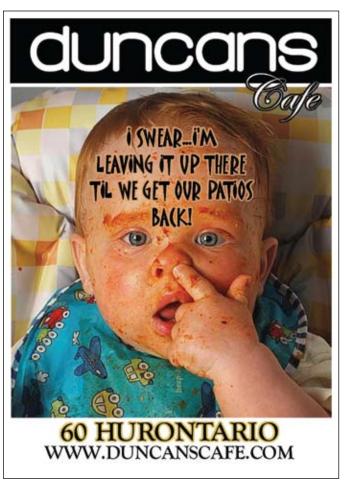
info@blueyoga.ca

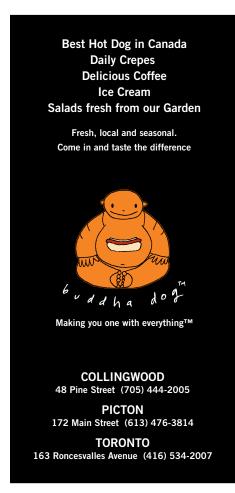
www.blueyoga.ca

for information + schedules





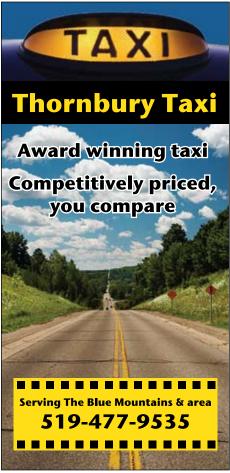


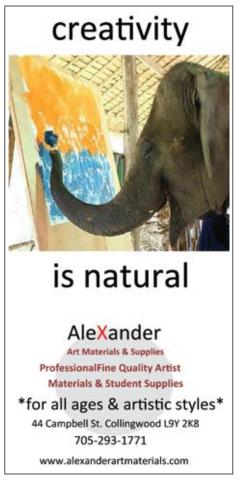












TODAY I SAY GOODBYE to you, a dear old friend. My 1991 Marin Bear Valley. I'm tossing you into the dumpster; my first mountain bike, my first true love, stripped down and naked, with only a few unusable parts still hanging from your rusty, dented frame and rigid fork. I feel pangs of remorse and regret as I heave you into that dark green abyss, but it's time to move on. Big changes are in store. You are no longer a priority. We are preparing to move halfway across the country and sadly, sentiment, no matter how strong, isn't enough to justify keeping you.

I bought you new in 1991 for \$500. I'd wanted a mountain bike for years. For high school graduation, my parents told me they'd pay for half so I saved my pennies and lawnmowing money all summer until I had enough. I'll never forget standing there watching the mechanic tune you up for the first time, the sweet smell of chain lube and fresh rubber filling the air. Ostensibly, your purpose was to transport me to and from college, but soon you were put into off-road service. I look back fondly on the memories we share. Remember riding Haw Ridge in that sleet-snow mix back before people knew or cared about sustainable trails? Oh, the mud holes we wallowed in that day. Remember endoing on that last rock section right before returning to the trailhead? I dragged you all the way down that rock face, hopping wildly on one foot, the other foot still stuck in the toe clips. I felt as though I had cheated death. Your chromoly frame bent but didn't break. I thanked my

lucky stars and went out and bought a helmet the very next day. What about riding down that two-mile-long fire road descent? We drifted through all the corners. My forearms were so pumped up and sore from pinning the levers to the bars that I could barely hold on. Your cantilevered rim brakes were squealing loudly and barely capable of slowing us down. The pads were literally burning and melted by the time we got to the bottom. Was that what those famous Repack riders felt like at the dawn of mountain biking?

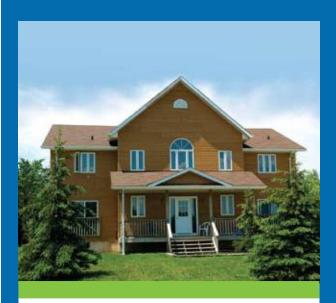
Soon I traded you out for a cushier model. Your rigid frame and fork just couldn't compete with that new bike I saw at the shop with two and a half inches of plush elastomeric suspension. I tried to sell you once but nobody wanted you even then. I stored you in the back of the barn at my parents' house. A few years went by, close to a decade actually, and you patiently waited, gathering dust and dry rot while other bikes came and went. Then I met somebody, somebody who liked bikes. I dug you out from the back of the barn, lubed your chain, adjusted your shifters, and gave you a new set of tires, tubes, and brake pads and you came to life once more, this time for my wife-to-be. You were a little too big for her but we didn't have much money so we made do. We tooled around the back roads and rail trails. Soon my new wife had the wandering eye too. We scrimped and saved for a bike more suited to my wife's size and riding style. You had been replaced once again, this time by a cyclocross bike. I briefly converted you to a single speed and equipped you with studded snow tires for winter commuting, just to keep the road salt off my newer bikes. Then finally your bottom bracket died. It was some weird size and antiquated style. If I had hunted long enough I probably could have found a replacement. But we had just added a third member to our family and between the midnight feedings and the endless dirty diapers, there was barely time to ride any of the functional bikes much less repair the old, tired ones. So once again, you got pushed off to the side and ignored, gathering more rust and rot.

A dumpster diver's dream. COLIN FIELD PHOTO

That brings me back to today, standing by the dumpster, tears welling up in my eyes, as I prepare to move on and start a new chapter in my life. I pay my last respects to a dear old friend. May you ride long and hard on the great never-ending singletrack in the sky.

Cottage and Chalet Rentals

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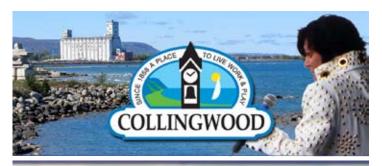


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SUMMER EVENTS

JAZZ AT THE STATION SERIES Wednesdays from June 23 – August 25 The Station, 45 St Paul Street 7pm – 9pm

Enjoy live music outdoors in a park setting. Bring your lawn chair. 705-444-4449

www.collingwoodjazz.ca

SALSA FESTIVAL - June 25 – 26
The Village at Blue Mountain &
Collingwood Downtown
This Award Winning, free family
street party celebrating Ontario's
Latin cultures will turn the Village at
Blue and Downtown Collingwood into
a showcase of Latin life including
pulsating music, passionate dancing,
fiery foods, fireworks, children's
activities and so much more.
705-445-5595

COLLINGWOOD FESTIVAL FOR CANADA
July 1

www.salsaatblue.ca

www.collingwood.ca

Join friends and neighbours in celebration of Canada Day. The Collingwood Festival for Canada will be the official public opening of the Shipyards Waterfront with activities stretching from the water to downtown including live music, children's activities and fireworks at dark. 705-445-9463

THEATRE COLLINGWOOD PRESENTS
The Love List by Norm Foster
July 12 – 17
The Courts Theatre 464 Humanisis Street

The Gayety Theatre, 161 Hurontario Street 866-382-2200

www.theatrecollingwood.com

16TH ANNUAL COLLINGWOOD ELVIS FESTIVAL

July 22 - 25

Various locations in Collingwood, The Blue Mountains, and Meaford The Collingwood Elvis Festival is the World's Largest Elvis Festival featuring more than 100 Tribute Artists, live music, Vegas-style shows, outdoor venues, a newly enhanced Kidsfest Village, midway, Elvis memorabilia vendors, and special VIPs The Imperials! 866-444-1162

www.collingwoodelvisfestival.com WAKESTOCK WORLD SERIES

August 6 – 8 Millennium Park, Collingwood Featuring tons of bands, nightly parties, an Action Sports Lifestyle Expo, and 3 days of world-class boarding www.wakestock.com

THEATRE COLLINGWOOD PRESENTS Sweet Dreams – A Tribute to Patsy Cline August 16 – 21 The Gayety Theatre, 161 Hurontario Street

866-382-2200

www.theatrecollingwood.com

PEAK TO SHORE MUSIC & ART FEST August 20 – 22

Collingwood & The Blue Mountains
A 3-day Music & Art Extravaganza!
Featuring Canada's finest independent
recording artists, an art exhibition and
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the Village at Blue Mountain to the
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2010 Summer Festivals and Events

THE VILLAGE AT BLUE MOUNTAIN

EVENTS

www.villageatblue.com
Events Hotline 705-445-0231 x6820



Wild Wonders at Blue June 19-20 SALSA at Blue..... June 25-26



July 1 Canada Day Celebrations July 3 Blue Mountains Chili Cookoff July 10-11 Harvest Moon Music Fest July 17-18 Rock the Mountain July 23-25 Collingwood Elvis Festival at Blue July 30 – Aug. 2 Village Beach Party

Wild Wonders at Blue August 7-8 August 13-15 FAMARAMA Festival August 20-22 Peak to Shore Music & Arts Fest. Village Vibe Music Series August 27-29

Summer Sundown Festival September 3-6 September 11 The Good Taste Festival September 17-19 **CENTURION Cycling Festival** September 25-26 GeoCache Blue September 26 Blue Mountain Half Marathon

October 9-11 Blue Mountains Apple Harvest Festival

October 22-23 Oktoberfest at Blue



More FREE EVENTS throughout the Summer

SAMSUNG Movies Under The Stars Every Friday night in June, every Wednesday and Friday in July & August

SAMSUNG Mid-Week Music Series Monday - Friday the areas finest musicians perform on the Village Stage from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm July and August, Friday nights throughout September

COLUMBIA Guided Family Hikes 10:30 am every day throughout July & August. An hour hike winding up the mountain. Be rewarded with panoramic views of Georgian Bay and a Free Gondola Ride down!

Yoga On The Docks Tuesday and Thursday July-Aug. 9 am-10 am. Resort Hotel Guests will enjoy the morning serenity of the Village in open air yoga classes by Partners in Health.

Village Scavenger Hunt available every day during Activity Central operating hours.

...Plus 13 restaurant patios, an array of boutiques, night time hot spots, live entertainment daily and kids play areas



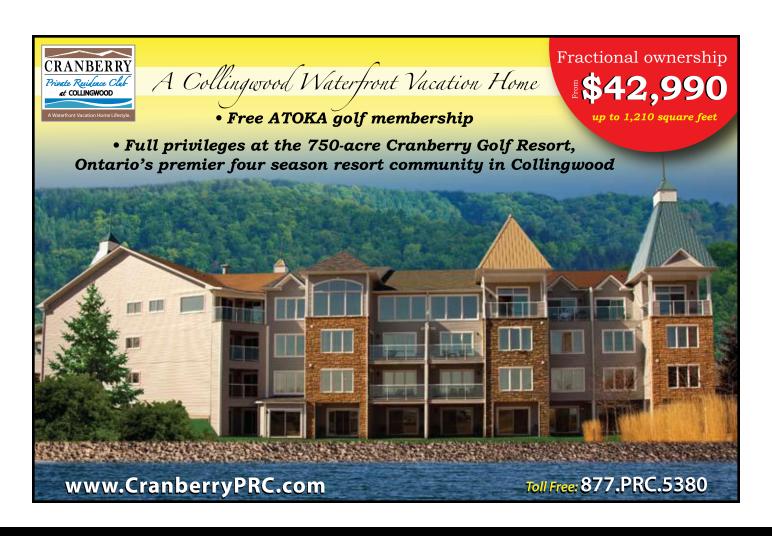
















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Altitude 70 Ride up, ride down, ride all day long. With its Straight-Up geometry and patented SmoothLink suspension system, Altitude is a super efficient climber and a wicked descender.



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