



Member Profiles

Our community is filled with wonderful people, and in an effort to help you get to know your neighbours just a little bit better, we have introduced Member Profiles to the CCA Newsletter. Sandy Thompson chatted with **The Weber's** recently. Check out their story on page 4.

Your CCA Board

Tom Halpenny is one of your newest Board members. Learn a little bit more about Tom and his family starting on page 9.

Social Media

Check out our new CCA social media platforms. Follow us, share with us, #hashtag us and post along. All handles listed on page 12 under the Communications Update.

Next edition will follow in early May.

President's Message: *Bob Snider*

The headline in early February in the London Free Press read "Gloomy Weather and Shorter Days bring on the Winter Blues." The gist of the story was, Ontario had significantly fewer hours of sunshine in January. I think we all noticed it; day after day of grey, overcast weather. The article continues to describe the health effects known as Seasonal Affective Disorder or SAD. Then February arrives and the days begin to get longer, daylight at 6 p.m. seems a bit novel. The short overcast days of January contrast dramatically with the bright clear days of Family Day Weekend. Spring must be on its way!

With warmer weather and sunny days, the snow begins to melt and I start to think about getting back on the water and to the cottage. This leads to all the unfinished projects at the cottage. It is a long list and so I start planning which ones to do first and then I see something in Cottage Life that might work and the list of projects gets longer. By this point, my SADs has turned to SCAD (Seasonal Cottager Affective Disorder) and the only cure is summer.

Never being satisfied with the current conditions and always planning for something better is a human trait that has brought our society to the level of convenience, instant communications and ease of travel that prior generations did not enjoy. This trait and a desire to remain relevant to the membership is what has your board considering what is next for the CCA. Over the winter the board has considered the question "What is the CCA's value proposition and how do



Help Wanted: 2018 Regatta Chair

For over 90 years the Regatta and Long Distance Swim have been the opportunity each summer for Cognasheners of all ages to gather, socialize and compete in an assortment of water sports. The Regatta Chair has the satisfaction of seeing it all come together. Jacqueline Limoges is coordinating these events again for 2017, but the CCA needs a replacement by 2018 as her term is ending. By volunteering now, you have the opportunity to orient with Jacqueline during the spring and summer of 2017.

If you have an interest in this rewarding opportunity, please contact Jacqueline Limoges, Regatta Chair at jlimoges@rogers.com

we improve it?" The outcome is a list of possibilities which include, improvement to existing CCA services and programs, and ideas for new programs and services.

In 2013 your CCA Board conducted a long-form survey covering such topics as what issues the membership was concerned with, to how satisfied the membership was with the various programs and services the CCA provided. The survey results precipitated many of the changes that have taken place to CCA services and programs over the last three years: a revamped website with more functionality, photo and email technology brought to the winter patrol, an invasive phragmites mapping and cutting program, improved eBlasts, changes to the Rec program, and soon the reprinting of the community map. The last item has a bit of a wow factor to it and will get rolled out this summer. The board is now considering a 2017 long-form survey, augmented with short surveys to fill in the gaps and provide some direction to the list of possibilities. In simple terms, the board is looking for ways to serve the membership better by improving its value proposition and wants your input.

However, for the CCA to continue with its current services and programs, and possibly expand into new areas, volunteers are needed. Two current positions include a leader for the invasive phragmites program, and a chair for the 2018 Regatta. Both are rewarding opportunities with a chance to get to know our community, both the people and the places, a whole lot better. If this is not a fit, let us know where your interests lie and we will work with you to find an opportunity that does fit.

Summer is a great time of year, and even better when spent in Cognashene on the shores of Georgian Bay. Winter though, is planning time, and without time to plan all the great activities of the summer; learning to swim at the Rec program beach, winning first place at the Regatta, sitting on the dock reading the Cottager, buying the perfect piece of art at Art on the Rocks or just fishing and boating, would fall flat. And so the board and all the event leaders plan.

Come on out and...



...join the fun!

Recreation Report: *Cheri Wilson*

Hello Beach families! With winter well under way, it's never too early to think of summer at the cottage. As we begin to think about our summer holiday schedule please consider the following dates: Our 2017 CCA Summer Camp Rec Program will run from Monday July 3rd to Thursday August 24th. The schedule will be very similar to other years with swimming on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Camp Cognashene (kids entering grade 1 to grade 7) will be all day on Tuesdays. The newly revised Water Sports (kids entering grade 3 and up) will be on Wednesday afternoons. Kognashene Kinders will also be offered for our younger campers (ages 2 through senior kindergarten) on Thursday mornings. YPOC for our older campers will remain on Monday afternoons. This summer our Jr. canoe trip is tentatively scheduled for August 16-17th and our Sr. canoe trip is tentatively scheduled for July 26 - 27th. Please mark these dates on your calendar so you can plan your summer accordingly.

We are pleased to announce that Molly Giroux will be our CCA Recreation Program Head this summer! The balance of the staff is in the process of being hired and we will start our on-line registration process in late April - early May. We would like to encourage as much on-line registration as possible so the staff can be fully prepared with new and innovative ideas for the summer program. We also hope to avoid on-site registrations at the beach as much as possible. As we did last year, a late registration fee will apply after June 1st.

We hope to have a digital calendar up on our Facebook page in May so please continue to follow us on Twitter (@CCARecProgram), Facebook (Cognashene Recreation Program) or Instagram (ccarecprogram).

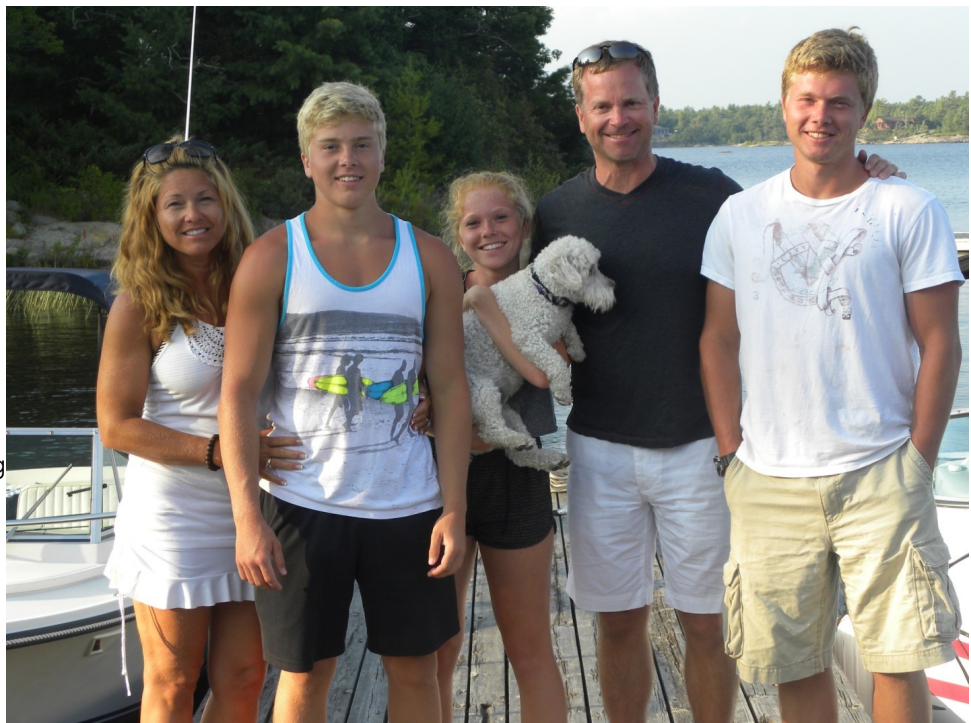
Member Profile: *Meet the Webers...Marilyn, Tom, Cole, Corbin and Brooke*

You might know M45 better as "the breezeway cottage," "the old pink cottage," or the old Ledingham cottage at the south end of Ava Island, but now it is the the Webers' place and they are looking forward to their 4th summer there.

Marilyn and Tom both grew up cottaging in Ontario; in Wiarton for Marilyn, and in both Algonquin and the north shores of Lake Huron for Tom. They got to know many of the communities along the northern shore of Georgian Bay the way many people do, through boating and renting cottages. In 2003, they bought a cottage in the relatively quiet and calm North Bay of Honey Harbour. The changes in weather and wind in North Bay was felt very differently than it is now on Ava Island! Tom and Marilyn spent 11 fun family-filled years in Honey Harbour as their three children grew up; all of whom are still involved in the cottage community working for BigRedWorks and the CCA Rec program.

Tom and Marilyn had a dream to one day build a cottage farther out in the open where they would be able to see the expansive rocks and water from their windows. In 2014, when the Ledingham cottage came on the market, it was the view that they first fell in love with. The friendly neighbours just made their decision seem that much better. As is the way in Cognashene, so many friends and neighbours have memories of playing, as kids and adults, in "the breezeway" between the main cottage and the sleeping cabin and they have heard many stories as they have entertained and had a chance to meet new friends. As the new cottage is built this summer (mother nature and the winter ice has not cooperated with getting work done earlier), the breezeway will be coming down making way for a place for new memories to be created. The Webers have a deep love for the unique natural environment that we have in Cognashene and have taken care in the design and construction on their new place to ensure the protection of the lake and sensitive areas on Ava Island.

The Webers have fully embraced living in Cognashene, joining the CCA to get to know the community better and keep in touch with local activities. The family has been involved in many activities including Art on the Rocks, the Rec Program, and taking advantage of the many (many) social activities and they are looking forward to volunteering in the community.



BE A FROG AND TURTLE WARRIOR: *Sandy Thompson*

We all know the best places around the cottage to find the turtles on a sunny day or the wetlands with the most frogs. Do you know the difference between a Bullfrog, a Leopard Frog, and a Green Frog? What about the sound of a Tree Frog? Of course you have heard the Spring Peeper! Your



intimate knowledge of the area around your cottage can help scientists better understand the range and density of different species of frogs and turtles, track population trends through the years, and help shape management strategies. Did you know that 7 of 8 species of (native) Ontario turtles are perceived as imperilled (threatened with extinction or extirpation).

Frogs and turtles can be considered bio indicators, meaning that a shift in the environment may be seen in their physiology, chemical qualities, and/or behaviour. Because their lifecycles are so closely tied to the water, subtle changes in factors such as temperature, chemical composition and/or oxygen levels can affect both frogs and turtles. But Ontario is really big and your help is needed to know where different species of frogs and turtles are located and how many are there (if possible). Tracking this information will help to develop the most appropriate management strategies to maintain the biodiversity of Ontario ponds and wetlands.

The Toronto Zoo operates the Adopt-A-Pond (AAP) program that encourages people to spend time in their local natural environment for education, protection and conservation of wetlands habitats and biodiversity. <http://www.torontozoo.com/AdoptAPond/>

Two of the 6 programs run by the Toronto Zoo under the AAP program request residents to watch and/or listen in their area and report online of the species identified.

- Turtle Tally: Report sightings (and numbers) of turtles in a certain location
- FrogWatch: Report both sight and sound observations of frogs in your area/bay/or island



The data for both programs is stored in the Natural Heritage Information Centre. Through the website, you can request a FrogWatch Ontario package that will help with the identification of frogs (both by sounds and sight) that are in your area or there are online resources available as well.

I know many of you are likely already involved in these, and other, monitoring programs already. Keep up the good work! If not, consider trying it out this spring and summer. It can be that excuse you need for everyone to stop and listen for a few minutes at dusk. And what a great experience for guests when they come to learn different frog calls and how to identify turtles! We really do get to spend time in a truly unique part of the world.

Great identification resources can be found on the Toronto Zoo website that include descriptions, photos, and even sound files for frog calls. <http://www.torontozoo.com/AdoptAPond/species.asp>

Pop Quiz: What kind of turtle and frog are pictured in this article?

Answer: Blanding's Turtle and Leopard Frog



Sunsets of Cognashene...because
we know you miss them!



Municipal Council Report: *Steven Jarvis*

The OMB hearing into the proposed Macey Bay development wrapped up on Feb, 8. We now await a decision. Further to this convoluted situation a Judicial Review was requested by the Georgian Bay Association prior to the start of the OMB hearing challenging the jurisdiction of the OMB to make their ruling in 2015 changing the conditions of the 1996 OMB order so as to allow Talisker to revive a defunct trailer park use. Things are now quite complicated, but information is available if you need it. The best bet is to talk to your councillor.

There is still a very real possibility that Honey Harbour will lose its public school and possibly its Catholic school. Council, through Councillor Kay, is working on this and a recent article in the Toronto Star highlighted this problem as it now plagues many small municipalities.

If you are not on the Municipal eNews mailing list, you can join it via: <https://georgianbay.civicweb.net/document/161009/February%20e-news.pdf>

I mention it as the Feb issue contains relevant info regarding **voting**. For your benefit, here is what is states:

How to get onto the Voters List

Request to be added to the Voters Database by either going in person to the Township office or emailing a colour copy of your photo identification which shows that you qualify. Address this request to the Acting Clerk at jgunby@gbtownship.ca. If your mailing address is different from your property address in the Township, provide that as well. If you are a

tenant, personal identification combined with proof of your tenancy will be required (rental / lease agreement, utility bill in your name, etc.).

Who is Eligible to Vote?

In order to vote in any municipal election in Ontario, you must be aged 18 or older and be a Canadian citizen. You must also qualify to vote in your municipality. If you own an undeveloped property in the Township, you may vote, even though you do not reside on the property. You and your spouse are entitled to vote by virtue of your status as a property owner / ratepayer. Whether you reside in the Township on a permanent basis or a seasonal basis, if a property is registered in your personal name, then you and your spouse are entitled to vote in the municipal election (subject to age and citizenship). If a property is registered in the names of multiple individuals, whether related or not, all registered owners and their spouses are entitled to vote (again subject to age and citizenship). If you occupy a seasonal residence that is registered in the name of any entity other than your personal name, then you are not considered to be the owner of the property but rather a tenant. A tenant must be "in possession of a property" for at least 6 weeks during the calendar year in which the election takes place in order to be eligible to vote. For the entire publication regarding getting added to the Voters Database and who can vote, please go to www.gbtownship.ca/content/2018-election-0. (My italics)

If you have any questions, please contact the Municipal Offices per the email address provided. It is extremely important that all eligible voters register and vote in the fall of 2018. Sign up NOW.

Membership News: *Chris Hawley*

DID YOU KNOW...After surveying some of the younger CCA generation (those under 35), we found out that many of this generation would like to become more socially connected with each other through, and with, the CCA. So, if the full member of the CCA could go into their profile on the CCA website, you can have this generation (your children) input their own email addresses so they can stay in touch with CCA activities and stay active with our social media pages. Your board is continuing to investigate more avenues of communication within the CCA and other members of the association.

Board Profile: *Tom Halpenny (one of our newest board members)*

As I sit and write my auto bio for the Newsletter, I'm feeling on top of the world, I just spent three days in Cognashene enjoying winter. Three days of sun and a trip to Twelve Mile Bay with our extended family for a lunchtime cookout. We had the usual issues that we all experience in any season, one snowmobile stopped and would not start and one hit a tree. Thinking of trees, there was open water at One Tree Island and American Camp.

So on to my auto bio.

I have been coming to GB since I was born. I was there for the first time shortly after July 1, 1956. My mom, Dora Halpenny, is the daughter of Dr. George Smith who bought Island 62 or Smith Island. Two very important facts about mom. First, she was born in Cognashene on Island 62 (Smith Island) on August 26, 1923, and second, she still is around living in Sunnybrook Veterans' Wing. Mom was at GB last summer and still talks about her life at GB almost every time I visit her. My dad, Arthur, married into Georgian Bay life and lives with mom at Sunnybrook Veterans' Wing. He occasionally will tell me of the trips he took up the shore with Ed Smith (brother-in-law) when there were no channel markers, just the occasional red or green dot on a rock. I never heard any stories about hitting shoals and probably never will!!

My Family

As most know, I am married to Beth, one of the Leonard girls from Waubanoka Island. Beth and I married in 1981 and knew each other for many years before that. Beth has a passion for the GB and uses all her professional skills (urban planner) and her knowledge to help maintain the right things for the area from a planning perspective. Beth is in the development business and is currently freelance working for several developers in the Caledon, Whitby and Brampton.

We enjoy our cottage year round together, coming up in the winter starting in 2002. Our combined skills seem to keep just slightly behind the maintenance and repair schedule that we all have at our cottages.

Beth and I have two daughters, Brooke and Dale, and both share the love of GB with us. Brooke is in the investment business at RBC and lives in downtown Toronto. Dale is currently in Chiropractic College with the goal to open a practice in Collingwood when she graduates. Brooke and Dale enjoyed their younger days growing up at Waubanoka under the supervision of many aunts and uncles when Beth and I were at our jobs.

When I am not at the cottage, I work in Toronto at H H Angus and Associates, a consulting engineering business. I am part of the ownership group and have been in the business for 38 years. Most of my duties are associated with running the business but I occasionally get to work on projects with a team to keep my knowledge current.

I volunteered to take the services portfolio on the CCA as it seemed like something that matched my skill set. The winter patrol was my first task and I am learning lots about the problems, the limitations due to weather and things that need improvement. I will set a goal to improve some things each year. The other areas in the portfolio are large garbage pick up (or drop off!!) and the township fire pumps. I have done a little homework on both and have some ideas on how to improve both subjects.

I look forward to helping out on the CCA board.



My life in Cognashene continues to be full of the best things. Here are a few that come to mind, in no particular order!

- Getting my first motor, a 6 hp Evinrude in 1968. I still have it!!!
- Fishing around Green Island (Tabasakwa Island) in a dory pushed by a 3 ½ Johnson
- Water skiing behind a 16 foot Peterborough Handy Boy with a 35 Merc.
- Dealing with rattlesnakes
- Boats that won't start
- Swimming classes at Springers'
- Hitting in Hell's Gate
- Driving through the Shadow river / channel in my Sheperd on full plane. (at night)
- Working for Larry Simons at Honey Harbour Small Motors
- Boys weekends with chores!!
- Beautiful girls
- Costume parties
- Playing music on vinyl
- Trips to Henry's
- A trip to Killarney and Bay Finn
- The sunset at Waubanoka
- The Ice Caves at Giant's Tomb
- Getting stuck in the slush in the 60s and having to chip out the ski doo the next day
- Feeding the ducks in Longuissa corn in the fall
- Fishing with Tom Hewitt (and a shore lunch)
- Driving up after the university term had ended in early spring with Ice on our dogs jowls
- Clearing our land for our cottage
- Two concrete trucks on a barge with a pumper in November
- Building our cottage
- Watching and trying to manage my two daughter's wonderful experience in Cognashene

Get Involved! Water Quality Monitoring: *Sandy Thompson*



Do you love the great water quality that we have in Georgian Bay and Cognashene? Do you want to get involved in water quality monitoring to help ensure it stays that way or trouble is identified early? The Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change has the Lake Partner Program (LPP) which is a volunteer sampling program that monitors total phosphorus and water clarity.

<http://www.desc.ca/programs/lpp>

Volunteers will be sent a package of information and equipment including sampling bottles and a Secchi disk to measure water clarity. Postage-paid envelopes are included to send in the water samples. For lakes located "on" the Canadian Shield, total phosphorus samples are collected in May (during the spring-turnover period) and Secchi disc water clarity measurements are taken at least once every two weeks throughout the summer.

If you are interested, please sign up on the webpage above or call Anna (number below). You will need your GPS location – which you can get from the CCA website map information. The objective is to have good coverage of areas for monitoring but not to duplicate efforts (we will be sampling in the middle of the our bays, not off our docks). If one of your close neighbours has already signed up, LPP will let you know. You can also check the online map which contains current and historical sampling points. There do not seem to be a lot of points in our area yet! <https://www.ontario.ca/environment-and-energy/map-lake-partner>

Anna DeSellas is the LPP coordinator and she is happy to answer any questions. You can reach her at Hotline: 1-800-470-8322 (toll-free in Ontario); 705-766-1294 (outside Ontario).

The most important request the LPP had was they are looking for people that are willing to sample for many years continuously so that trends can be identified. Longevity is not a challenge for cottagers in Cognashene so we should be able to do this!

ART on the ROCKS®

Sunday July 30

12:00-4:30
rain, shine or wind

27th Annual
Maxwell/ Whalen's Island
on the inside main channel
M42 on Cognashene map

**Come and see
great Georgian Bay
art & visit with
friends!**

CALL FOR ARTISTS contact
gillespie.cath@gmail.com

Questions? Call 756.1621
or 519.217.1415

28th Cognashene Long Distance Swim, The 92nd Regatta and The Amazing Cognashene Raffle! *Jacqueline Limoges*

Save the dates...

It's never too early to start or step-up your training for these events!

The Long Distance Swim starts at 1pm on July 29, 2017 from Val and Rob Thompson's dock. The David Hopper and John Visser dock is the turn-around point or final destination. This is a rain-or-shine event and is only rescheduled if there is lightning.

All swimmers receive a participation ribbon and perhaps more importantly, your name is recorded in the Cottager for posterity! There is only one rule for the Long Distance Swim: every swimmer must be accompanied by a person (of suitable strength to lend a hand should the need arise) in a non-motorized watercraft. Swimmers can use any form of flotation to help them make the crossing. Everyone is welcome so bring your cottage guests. Similar to last year, there will be a special notation in the Cottager for the highest number of crossings from a single cottage so start recruiting now. The Long Distance Swim is not a race!

The Regatta is on Saturday August 5, 2017 starting at 12:30 at Townsend Island (Davis, Kohler and Endress cottages). As always, the Top Girl and Top Boy Trophies are only open to CCA members so be sure to renew or join the CCA. Non-members can compete for ribbons and all events are open to the community, including the novelty races!

The Amazing Cognashene Raffle also happens at the Regatta. The proceeds from the raffle are used to offset the cost of the Regatta and the Recreation Program. Donations to the raffle are most welcome. As you start to build your pile of stuff to go to the cottage this spring perhaps you can set something aside for the raffle.

This year marks the end of my term as the organizer of these events and the CCA is looking for my replacement (someone to organize these events in 2018). If you are interested, please contact me for more information.

If you have a raffle donation or would like to volunteer for the regatta, please contact Jacqueline Limoges: jlimoges@rogers.com.

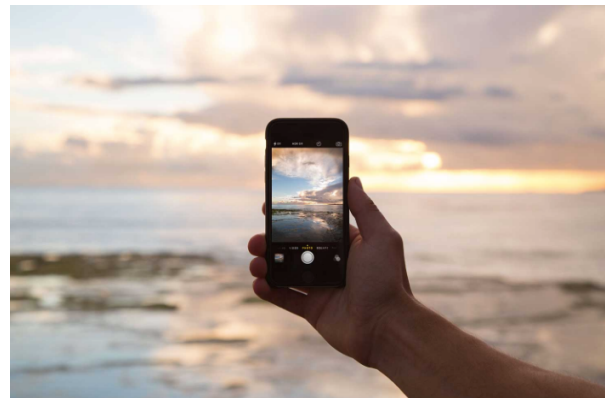


Communications Update: *Laura Adams*

Communication has never been easier than it is right now, however often times important messages get lost in the barrage of information that gets dropped into our inboxes. The CCA is striving to communicate more effectively with fewer and more content-rich eBlasts, as well as sending out our regular newsletter electronically several times a year.

Not only is the electronic version more environmentally friendly, it also helps reduce our yearly mail-house and postage cost; money that we can channel elsewhere. The added bonus is that you can now read this communicate in full colour and refer back to past newsletters easily on the CCA website. Please let us know what you think by replying directly to this email.

We are also amping up our social media reach with newly launched accounts on several platforms. Please follow us on Instagram and feel free to #hashtag us on your posts so that we can share your fabulous photos and smile-worthy moments. We've also started a Twitter account; a wonderful vehicle for important information such as weather, hydro outage updates and event cancellations. Cognashene has several Facebook pages however we have one now that will be the official CCA voice, which anyone can like or follow. Please note that this is an open group. Below are the links:



Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Cognashene-Cottagers-216043372202353/>

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/cognashenecottagers/>

Twitter:

<https://twitter.com/CogCottagerAssn>

The next newsletter will be sent towards the beginning of May, so if you have anything to share with your fellow cottagers, please let us know. A reminder email will be sent out in mid-April.

Whoever thought island cottaging was remote and isolated has clearly never met our Cognashene community!

All the best for spring, and fingers crossed on an uneventful first boat trip to the cottage!

Classified Ads & Cottage Rentals

CONNOR & ALEX'S WINDOW WASHING

A Spotless Reputation



After month's of build-up during the winter, if your windows aren't as clean as you'd like them to be, we're here for you. We do inside, outside, and screens. For a free estimate, call Connor Roth at 647-920-1410, Alex Carter at 416-528-7288, or email us at cognashenewindowwashing.com

Jack's Island Paper Delivery

Spring/Summer 2017 Newspaper Schedule

delivering

The Globe & Mail and The Toronto Star

available soon

Please contact:

Jack Giroux

416-904-2272

jackgiroux@hotmail.com

Cottage Sailboats for Sale

Laser 1, Albacore w/trailer, Invitation, Caprice, BlueJay and 17 O'Day; all complete ready to sail.
\$750-\$1850.

Parts and sails available.

Please contact Jim Handley 705-534-4050
anytime after April 10th or at the cottage
705-756-3770 after June 1.

Whiskey Half-Barrels

Ideal for flower planting
available from my dock commencing
May 24 weekend at \$15 each.
All in excellent condition, some never
been used.

To reserve call
Dave Winlo @ 416-723-4321

Cottage for Rent located on the north shore of Minnicog.

Please view the link for details and pricing. troispins.weebly.com

Many thanks, Julie Brady

Cottage for Rent

3 bedroom (sleeps 7), 1 bathroom family cottage in central Cognashene available for rent by the week throughout June, July, August and September. There is no motor boat included with this rental, so you would need your own or arrange taxi service from Honey Harbour. For

details on rates and availability, please contact Mark and Sandra McGugan
(Sandra.mcgugan@utoronto.ca) or view our on-line listing (<https://cottagesincanada.com/cognashenegeorgianbay>).

Cottage Rental on West side of Big Ship Island

Spectacular 3-bedroom cottage with 2-bedroom Bunkie available for rent in either July or August. Prime western exposure with 2 docks, beach, laundry, fireplace, modern kitchen, 2 fridges, dishwasher, bbq and large decks. Contact Don Bannister at 416-505-1119 or dbannister@cecommprop.com for more info.



Cottage available for weekly rental

Built in 1992, this 1,500 sq. ft. cottage has all the amenities; spacious fully equipped kitchen with pantry, large screened in veranda, deck with bbq and seating for 8. Sleeps 6...master bedroom with ensuite, guest bedroom with queen bed, queen futon bed in alcove. Large flat screen tv with satellite, wifi, sound system with speakers in living room, dining room, screened in veranda and master bedroom. 2 kayaks, a double and a single, a canoe and a 14 ft. Rossiter Shoreline outboard with Yamaha 40 HP 4 stroke engine included.

Contact Bob Baines at
bbaines@gmail.com

