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## President's Message...*Ian Davis*

It is Sunday evening, May 3 and we have just returned from our first night back on the Bay. While we tried unsuccessfully two weeks prior to make our way to Townsend Island by way of Blarney Castle, the south wind and a kilometre of ice an inch or two thick was a definite obstacle. Regardless, even if we had made it, congratulations this year go out to Bob and Andrea Snider for their perseverance and determination arriving at Dr. Coopers dock April 18th, at 1:37 pm. The Ice Breaker Award will, once again, be changing hands. The official hand off will be July 11th at the Associations AGM.

For me, the spring rituals rarely change; inevitable repairs to splits in copper lines, leaking foot valves, pumps that don't prime and the list goes on and on. Our basement (at the cottage) could rival the Honey Harbour Town Centre plumbing supply aisle. One thing for sure, when Rose yells out to me "there's water", her excitement could rival a young child's on Christmas morning. "Yee of little faith" I say. I hope to pass these skills along to the boys, but inevitably the question is always asked "why don't you just get Kevin to do it". My answer never changes. There is a sense of accomplishment in something as simple as getting the water running that first spring weekend!

The water level is up again this year, and in our little Bay there is a cottage missing and another undergoing major renovations. Regardless of the things that change, so much remains the same. The seagulls are nesting yet again and their sounds (and at times their odour) are a reminder of this annual event. Gnats hang above the pine trees like moving black clouds, and even the odd water snake can be seen suspended in shoreline shrubs. These first few weeks of spring are some of my favorite of the cottage season. It is quiet, but for the odd boat going up the channel, or the Coast Guard marking and adjusting buoy locations. What I most notice are the sounds and sights. Geese, flickers, ducks, starlings, canaries and loons are everywhere. Bass are nesting and when looking to the open on a calm day the Pine Islands and Hope Island look like they are floating in midair. Someone once told me it is a temperature inversion; I just said "ok". I must look up what this optical illusion really is someday. Life is good.

### **This summer will again be a busy one;**

✓The Rec Program will be in full flight in a few short weeks.

✓We will be identifying and tackling phragmites

- ✓We will be monitoring OMB appeals
- ✓The District is making a decision on OPP funding models that will affect how much we are charged for their limited services. We will be advocating for fairness and commonsense.
- ✓We will be advocating for a more effective Dark Sky By-law
- ✓I will ask our elected officials why the Township feels it necessary to develop policies and to buy a "new" flagpole to fly a flag that we flew with "pride" last year.
- ✓We will be celebrating Champlain's visit to Cognashene 400 Years ago.
- ✓We will be celebrating 100 years of the Cognashene Cottagers Association.
- ✓We will have new mapping on our website.
- ✓We will ask questions that need answers on the Honey Harbour Waterfront Development Plan
- ✓We will thank Peter and Pat
- ✓I know I already said it but I will say it again...**Life Is Good - ITS SPRING!**

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## Celebrating on the Bay

The summer of 2015 is one of significant celebrations!

It is the **90th Anniversary of the Regatta**, the **25th Anniversary of the Long Distance Swim**, and the **400th Anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's journey to Georgian Bay**. 2015 also marks the **100th Anniversary of the Cognashene Cottagers' Association** (*more or less*)...and we are planning to celebrate. Join your friends and neighbours at a community barbeque following the Regatta on August 1st on Townsend Island. The evening will be capped off with a fabulous fireworks display. So save the date and plan to come and celebrate – everyone is welcome!

Volunteers for this event would be greatly appreciated and if you can help out, please contact Nancy Bennett at [nbenne1636@rogers.com](mailto:nbenne1636@rogers.com).

## Membership...*Chris Hawley*

Happy Spring to fellow CCA members,

It is with significant excitement that I can announce a new level of service for the CCA map. Through the brilliant efforts of Brian Neely and John Maynard we now have the capability of adding digital GPS coordinates for every cottage and fire pump etc on our new map. It will be available on our web site first and then we plan on doing a printed version.

We are presently investigating the usefulness of the information for the "911" services (OPP, Fire and Coast Guard). Privacy concerns will be addressed for each cottager. Having the map in a digital format will give us tremendous flexibility on changes and usage.

At this point we should acknowledge the tremendous efforts of Bill Stewart, who for years has had to manually do all the map information. I think I can hear the sigh of relief coming from him now!

There will be much more information to present to you at our AGM on this exciting project. See you on the Bay!

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## Georgian Bay is for Everyone...*Bob Snider*

Included with this newsletter is a copy of the pamphlet - Georgian Bay for Everyone. This is the product of an initiative spearheaded by the Georgian Bay Association in response to the concerns raised by both the cottager communities and the boating communities. As explained on the GBA website:

“Our water based and largely water access community necessitates sharing our water resources. All users of Georgian Bay share the same concerns about safe enjoyment and protection of our waterways. A wide variety of users frequent Georgian Bay and they include: kayakers, anglers, hunters, cruising boaters, day sailors, canoeists, contractors/ tradespersons, guests, tenants as well as permanent and seasonal residents.

Georgian Bay for Everyone is intended to be a resource and a guide for shared enjoyment of the Bay. It replaces the Georgian Bay Boater and Cottager Code, originally printed Spring 2002 and updated 2005. It is our hopes that this pamphlet will reach a broader audience so please share it with other users of the Bay.

This pamphlet has been developed cooperatively by the GBA, cottage associations, and representatives from the marine industry, boaters and input from the OPP. Both Boating Ontario and the Georgian Bay Association have contributed financially to printing costs.”

Additional copies of the pamphlet can be obtained by contacting Bob Snider at [municipalaffairs@cognashene.com](mailto:municipalaffairs@cognashene.com). Georgian Bay is for everyone.

## Recreation Program...*Jane Starr & Laura Hilliard*

Have you registered for our summer recreation program yet? It's time!

We are very excited for this summer's program and are happy that so many families will be back at the beach. We are also looking forward to welcoming some new families! We have an awesome crew of staff and lots of volunteers (we can't do it without them). Anne Hughes will be leading the program with instructors Leigh-Anne McKnight, Aislin & Connor Roth, Molly & Jack Giroux, Alex Carter and assistant instructors Nikki Cutler, Haley Walker and Katie Tawaststjerna.

The recreation program offers swimming lessons three times per week (including Bronze Medallion and Bronze Cross levels) as well as a full-day camp on Tuesdays (kids entering grade 2 & up), YPOC (grades 5 & up), water sports (grade 2 & up), and a Kinders program for our youngest Cognashene kids (ages 2-6).

Detailed information about our program is available at [http://www.cognashene.com/rec\\_program.html](http://www.cognashene.com/rec_program.html). The program will run for 8 weeks, from July 6th to August 27th. Canoe trip dates are on the calendar - note that the senior trip will be in July and the junior trip will be in August.

Online registration is easy and payment can be made via PayPal. We are hoping to avoid on-beach registrations so we encourage you to get your registrations done early! A late fee of \$25 per child will apply after June 1st. We offer options to register for the full summer or by week. IF you are registering by week, please be sure to fill in the total number of weeks you are selecting. That number is needed to calculate your fee. We do offer an 'other' option if you only want to register for select parts of our program (ie. swim only).

We make full use of social media so we encourage you to follow us on Facebook (Cognashene Recreation Program) or Twitter (@CCARecProgram). As the summer approaches and then on a daily basis, updates are posted on our activities. You do NOT need Facebook or Twitter accounts to view our postings.

Join us with your rakes for our beach clean-up day on Friday July 3rd at 10am.

We look forward to seeing you on the beach! Should you have any questions, don't hesitate to email us at [recprogram@cognashene.com](mailto:recprogram@cognashene.com)

## Recreation Program...*Anne Hughes*

Hello Cottagers!

After another long winter I'm sure we're all looking forward to being back in Cognashene and the Beach for another great summer! I am so excited to be back at the Beach in the position of Program Head for another summer. The staff and I are looking forward to making the program the best it can be. This summer we have a wonderful group of both returning and new staff members. I would like to welcome back Leigh-Anne McKnight, Aislin Roth, Connor Roth, Molly Giroux, Alex Carter and Jack Giroux as Instructors and welcome Katie Tawaststjerna, Nikki Cutler and Haley Walker as Assistant Instructors.

We will be continuing our volunteer program this summer. We have already had a lot of interest, so far, but we are always looking for more help. Volunteering is a wonderful opportunity to work alongside the staff of the beach to see how things run from a staff perspective as well as great experience. It's a great chance to build your resume and stay connected to the Rec Program. The staff really appreciates the work the volunteers do, as they are an important aspect of the program and are vital to the success of the beach each summer. Please contact me if interested.

As always, we will be running the Red Cross Swim Program as well as all Bronze levels. The program will start the morning of July 6th, at 10 am, with a meet and greet before the start of swimming lessons to give parents and children the opportunity to be introduced to their instructors for the summer and the rest of the staff.

We will post the exact times for each swim level on Facebook by July 1.

We do have some changes to the timing in some of our Thursday Programs, this summer. Please look out for the calendar to confirm the time and location of the Bronze and Kinder programs. We will also be changing the months of the canoe trips: The senior trip will now be in July and the junior trip will be in August.

To make sure that the beach is in great shape we will be having our annual Beach Clean Up on Friday July 3rd at 10am. Please bring your rakes, shovels, gloves and enthusiasm. With everyone's help and effort I'm sure we

will get it cleaned up quickly and ready for the start of the program.

This summer any changes in the program due to weather or other circumstances will be posted on Facebook and Twitter so stay tuned for those to be up and running. Please like our page (on Facebook) "Cognashene Recreation Program" and follow us on both Twitter and Instagram @CCARecProgram for updates and some great pictures.

Feel free to contact me anytime with questions/concerns or ideas you have at [annehughes00@hotmail.com](mailto:annehughes00@hotmail.com) or come July by cell/text at 416-846-6205.

We will be tie-dyeing again this summer, as part of our Camp Cognashene program, so please remember to bring any white things you or your children would like dyed!

Once again we'd like to say a huge thank you to the church committee for allowing us to use the church for our program. We would also like to thank Dennis Robitaille for his continued help with the beach raft. Finally, thank you to all the parents of the Beach who keep the program running smoothly.

Some other things to keep in mind:

The beach is not to be used outside of the program hours. We ask that everyone arrive no earlier than 9:50 for morning programs and leave right at the end of the program, which varies based on the day. Staff are not able to lifeguard or supervise before or after these times, as they are busy setting up or cleaning up.

Also the program does not have use of the side shoreline, so please do not pull your boats up or tie off there.

The beach is a peanut free zone as there are some children with severe allergies. Please do not bring any food or snacks that contain peanuts.

The whole staff and I look forward to seeing and welcoming you all to the Beach for what I'm sure will be another great summer! I hope you are all as excited as I am, see you soon!



## Port Severn to celebrate 100th Anniversary of Lock 45

On a sunny Saturday morning in July 1915, a flotilla of boats belonging to members of the Midland Businessmen's Association gathered at the newly constructed lock at Port Severn. Large crowds lined the shores to witness an historic event.

Just a decade or so earlier, Port Severn faced an uncertain future. The Georgian Bay Lumber Company Mill, which had operated in Port Severn for over 50 years and had been the major employer running through over 20 million board feet of lumber per year, was struck by lightning and burned to the ground leaving Port Severn without its only employer.

As fate and luck would have it, another reason for Port Severn's existence was about to occur and, very likely, saved Port Severn from disappearing off the map. The Trent Severn Waterway, begun in 1833, was slowly expanding westward toward Georgian Bay and Port Severn was chosen to be the entrance into the Bay. The lumber companies' aging timber and mud dams built so many years before were replaced with a modern concrete dam and a small lock to allow access between Gloucester Pool and Georgian Bay. While only meant to be temporary until a larger lock was constructed, the original lock still stands today and is the last completely hand operated lock on the waterway.



On that warm July day in 1915, as the Pipes were sounding, the little flotilla was locked through into Gloucester Pool, the first leg of the Trent Severn Waterway and into one of Canada's most unique and beautiful National Parks.

Almost 100 years to the day on Saturday July 25th 2015, witness a re-enactment of the first lockage through Lock 45, where vintage boats will recreate this historic event. Then enjoy a day of picnics and a street fair that will be held throughout the village.

Come and join The Georgian Bay Township Historical Society, Georgian Bay, Severn and Tay Townships and the Southeast Georgian Bay Chamber of Commerce (SEGBAY) for the 100th Anniversary of Lock 45, Port Severn on the Trent Severn Waterway.



**Friday evening, July 24th...** Gala Dinner followed by an on water fireworks display.

**Saturday all day, July 25th...** Historic re-enactment of first lockage through Lock 45, Street Fair throughout Port Severn and fun, family entertainment.

For more information, please visit: [www.segbay.ca](http://www.segbay.ca) and/or [www.facebook.com/SEGBAY](https://www.facebook.com/SEGBAY)

"The Georgian Bay Township Historical Society"

**ART on the ROCKS**  
**Sunday July 26**

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



24th Annual  
 Maxwell/ Whalen's Island  
 on the inside main channel

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

Questions? Call 756-1621  
 or 756-2821  
 sponsored by CCA

## Champlain by Canoe 1615

This year marks the 400th anniversary of Samuel de Champlain's historic journey to the New World through the inside passage of Georgian Bay. With members of First Nations, Champlain paddled through our region from the

French River to the Huron settlement now known as Midland and Penetanguishene. In 1954 the Georgian Bay Association erected and dedicated a monument on Cupid Island to mark this significant event. Come and celebrate this special anniversary on Sunday August 2nd @ 1:00 with a ceremony at the "Champlain Monument". Picnic to follow at Artist's Island at 2:00. More details to follow.

You can also visit [rendezvouschamplain.ca](http://rendezvouschamplain.ca) for further information.

## Regatta...Margaret Eaton-Kent

As incredible as it may seem, after our so very cold, long winter, summer is coming fast, and with it, numerous celebrations and events! It's Gala year on Cognashene!

2015 marks the 25th Anniversary of the Long Distance Swim (technically speaking, as it is the 26th Swim this year). Our hosts, Rob and Val Thompson, have been hosting the Swim since 1989, when Rob established it as a non-competitive adjunct to the Regatta. Swimmers receive ribbons, with the only rule being that every swimmer be accompanied by a person in a non-motorized watercraft. Swimmers can use any form or flotation to complete their swim. This is a community event, open to all, so bring your guests, friends and neighbours! The 2015 Long Distance Swim will take place, rain or shine, on July 25th, meeting at the Thompson dock at 1 pm.

This year will be the 90th Regatta of the Cognashene Cottagers' Association! There will be special events and prizes for our children-of-all-ages spectacular! As ever, competition for the Girls and Boys (ages 7-16) Trophies (non-members can compete for ribbons) is restricted to CCA members in good standing (i.e., paid up), but all events are open to the community, including the ever popular Novelty races! There will also be our outstanding raffle, proceeds of which go to support the Recreation Program wish list, and other events in conjunction with the Cognashene Cottagers 100th year anniversary! To help me with some of the special events, and in preparation for becoming the Regatta Co-ordinator next year, I am very pleased to announce that Jacqueline Limoges has agreed to co-coordinate with me this year! The 2015 Regatta will take place on Saturday August 1st, (rain date Sunday August 2) at Townsend Island (Davis dock), starting at 12:30 pm.

As you know from previous CCA communications, there will be other special celebrations for the 90th Regatta. There will also be celebrations of the CCA 100th, and the Champlain 400th!

It really is Gala Bay year! See you there!

## Communications...Laura Adams

Enjoy your summer on the Bay and please continue to visit our website @ [www.cognashene.com](http://www.cognashene.com) for updates, news, photos and interesting & informative links.

## Environment...Sandy Thompson

### Personal and household cleaning products

Last summer I was asked what brand of shampoo I recommended for use at the cottage and I did not have a specific answer at the time (I still don't have a specific answer). The cleaning products that we use at the cottage have a direct effect on the quality of our water and the health of the ecosystems on the islands. We know that we should not use any cleaning products directly in the lake as the water does not have free oxygen needed for materials to biodegrade. But what about the products that go down the drain and into our septic systems?

Septic systems are designed to trap the solids and allow for them to break down with the help of bacteria in the tanks with the liquid (effluent) flowing into the surrounding soil. What happens to the chemicals in the shampoo and soaps we use? These materials are dissolved/suspended in the water and while some may remain in the tank, the majority of chemicals flow with the effluent into the drainage bed where they enter the natural environment. Therefore, what we put into the septic system, the location of our septic system, and its condition, will have a direct effect on the health of the natural environment around the cottage and, eventually, the lake. Choosing biodegradable products that will breakdown into carbon, oxygen and water in the soil can reduce the build up of other chemicals and toxins in the soils.

“Regular” shampoos, dish detergents, and body washes generally contain and materials that are not biodegradable in addition to sodium laureth sulfate (SLES) which helps to make them bubble and foam. The manufacturing of SLES includes materials that are known and probable human carcinogens and can remain in the SLES and in the products and can accumulate in the soils. When choosing a cleaning product, soap or shampoo, look for those without SLES (some ‘green’ products still contain SLES) and a product that is biodegradable.

Cleaning products used on the deck or outdoors should be non-toxic and biodegradable and used only in areas where the wash water has at least 100 feet of soil to run through before it will get to the water (100 feet of open rock doesn't count.) This will allow the cleaning materials to be broken down in the soils and not run directly to the water.

Update: We published an article last year about microbeads: small plastic pieces that are used as exfoliants in body wash and face scrubs and in toothpaste ([beatthemicrobead.org](http://beatthemicrobead.org)). In March 2015, a private members bill was introduced at Queens Park to ban the manufacture and addition of microbeads to products in Ontario. If you would like to support this bill, please write to The Honourable Glenn Murray (Ontario Minister of the Environment and Climate Change.) The Environmental Defense website has a form letter you can start from.

#### What can you do?

1. Remember: if you won't drink it, don't put it in the lake.
2. Ensure your septic is working properly and that no sewage water is running directly to the lake.
3. Think about what goes down the drain. Use biodegradable products that can be broken down in the drainage bed and vegetation of the island.
4. Use products without SLES and other additives.
5. Check your products for microbeads and throw those products in the garbage to ensure the plastic microbeads do not make their way into the lake systems.

#### Call to Action to clean up legacy dumps this summer!

Large Garbage pick-up is Saturday July 11 from 10:00am - 4:00pm at the Honey Harbour Town Dock.



## Classified...Cottages for Rent, Jobs & Items for Sale

### Four bedroom cottage for rent...

...in July/ August located on an island in Cognashene .  
Located nine miles north of Honey Harbour . Beautiful  
view from all directions. For further details you may  
email [nanr@neptune.on.ca](mailto:nanr@neptune.on.ca) or call 905-251-2299.

No pets and non-smokers please.

### Cottage for rent

Minnicog Island. North shore (McCullough).  
For more info see <http://troispins.weebly.com>

#### For Sale:

1999 Yamaha gas golf cart which has been adapted for carrying items /supplies from dock  
to cottage. Asking \$2200 with delivery possible in Honey Harbour /Cognashene area.

Contact : Doug or Bonnie French

@

Home: 705.445.6054

Cottage: 705.756.8009

Cell:705.790.6978

#### Items For Sale:

1. One 12 foot aluminium boat, equipped for a motor, running lights, plus it can  
be rowed. No leaks. \$300.00
2. One 25 hp Mariner 4 stroke engine. Good condition. \$650.00
3. One 1956 Johnson 5 1/2 hp engine. \$100.00

Contact Robert Baines- 705-756-4727 or [bbaines@gmail.com](mailto:bbaines@gmail.com)





# Cognashene Tennis Lessons

*Stocking's Island June - September*

↪ Contact Haydn Walker at [cognashene.tennis@gmail.com](mailto:cognashene.tennis@gmail.com)

Want to get your list of jobs done quickly?

**Call Odd Jobs on "Q"**

I am available on weekends and from June 26 until Labour Day! As needed, I will work with other Cognashene students to get your jobs done quickly.

I can do jobs such as:

**Painting**

**Brush clearing and yard work**

**Light carpentry**

**Private swimming lessons (I am a fully certified swim instructor and lifeguard)**

**Boat Trips – including taking your kids to tennis or to the movies**

**Small moving jobs**

**Grocery shopping (I know where to find all the local delicacies)**

**Babysitting**

**Helping at parties**

I am going into first year of university and I have experience doing odd jobs!

Quinn Limoges Friend Cell: 1-705-795-7095

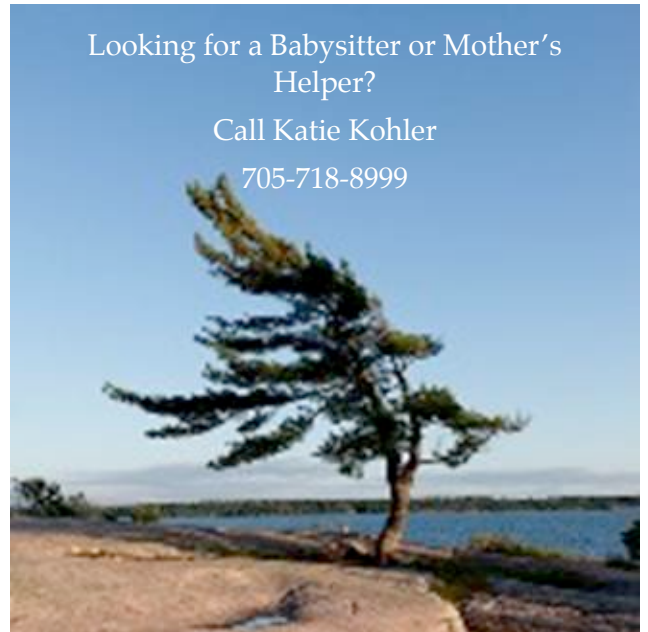
Cottage phone 705-756-5553 Email: [quinnlf15@hotmail.com](mailto:quinnlf15@hotmail.com)

I will do the jobs and you get to cross them off your "to-do-list"

Looking for a Babysitter or Mother's Helper?

Call Katie Kohler

705-718-8999







# Kerr's Island Delivery

## Spring/Summer 2015 Newspaper Schedule

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Spring Weekends Starting May 16<sup>th</sup>- June 20<sup>th</sup>  
\$7 per paper

Summer Delivery:  
Beginning Saturday June 27<sup>th</sup> Regular Weekday  
&  
Weekend Paper Delivery Deliver Begins!

The Globe & Mail and The Toronto Star will be available all Spring/Summer season

The final day for paper delivery will be Saturday August 29<sup>th</sup>

### **2015 Summer Delivery Rates**

<i>Delivery Schedule</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Single weekday	\$ 5.00 per paper
Single Saturday	\$ 7.00 per paper
Summer Saturdays (10 weekends)	\$ 70.00 per summer
Season (Monday-Saturday)	\$ 260.00 per season

*Please get back to me with your order as soon as possible, so papers can be reserved.*

**Looking forward to serving you for the Summer of 2015.**

**Thank-you very much for your order!**

### **Contact Information:**

Kerr Davis:	Townsend Island, Cognashene
Cottage Telephone:	(705) 756 1574
Email:	<a href="mailto:kerrdavis96@gmail.com">kerrdavis96@gmail.com</a>
Home:	(905) 453 1913
Cell:	(416) 909 9697

