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### Autumn 2022

(September, October, November)

ON THE COVER: BALL'S FALLS, NIAGARA REGION, IN OCTOBER, FROM VIEWS & VISTAS: FAVOURITE PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE WHOLE NIAGARA ESCARPMENT IN CANADA NIAGARA FALLS TO MANITOULIN ISLAND, by Mike Davis & Gloria Hildebrandt.

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### Niagara Escarpment

**SINCE JANUARY 2008** 

A division of 1826789 Ontario Inc.

### **PUBLISHERS**

Mike Davis and Gloria Hildebrandt

Gloria Hildebrandt, editor@NEViews.ca

#### ADVERTISING/ACCOUNTS MANAGER

Mike Davis, ads@NEViews.ca 905.866.7888

### **SALES REPRESENTATIVES**

Pamela Bowen, 905.979.1997 Chris Miller, 905.460.6606

### **GRAPHIC DESIGN & LAYOUT**

Nicholl Spence, nsGraphic Design nsgdfreelance@gmail.com

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Canada We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.



Conservation Halton Award, 2014 to Mike Davis in Media/Blogger Category

**OUR SECOND DECADE OF PUBLISHING** 

# **Exciting New Views**



▲ At the Tunnel's new viewing platform with one of the sightseeing tour boats approaching the bottom of Horseshoe Falls.

ttending the opening of Niagara Parks' new attraction at Niagara Falls was a great pleasure. After the speeches and ribbon cutting, my co-publisher and I took an elevator down, seeing the antique inner workings of the power station as we descended. At the bottom we walked the new, safe passage surrounded by Edwardian brickwork that had been hand laid in the hand-dug water tunnel. It was astonishing to consider how much hard labour had gone into building this tunnel.

The views at the end of the Tunnel are exciting. All of the waterfalls seem very close, and their spray makes for an invigorating experience. It's awe inspiring to see, hear and feel these falls from this new vantage point, especially because these are considered to be one of the great natural wonders of the world. Seeing Niagara Falls never grows old

for me. A bonus wonder is that the water flows over the Niagara Escarpment.

We have more photographs of this attraction on page 8.

#### In This Issue

Also in this issue is another feature exploring electricity, but related to electric vehicle (EV) use along the Escarpment. A reader had made a suggestion that led to the feature that Mike Davis researched, wrote and photographed. EVs are new enough to need planning ahead when driving

them far from the bigger cities.

Frequent contributor Sandra J. Howe shows reasons to give thanks for the work of the Bruce Trail Conservancy and its volunteers, in her feature exploration of Barrow Bay Cliffs Nature Reserve near Lion's Head.

The Bruce Trail is also part of another feature. Jamie Dietrich recently hiked the whole trail, but he documented it by

photographing some of the people he met who were also hiking. His portraits of hikers show the wonderful diversity of people who value the trail.

Artists who specialize in adorning the female body will show and sell their creations in Oakville this fall at The Wearable Art Show. We offer a sneak peek at the kind of lovely pieces that will be available. Bonnie Glass and Annette Graydon met us for an afternoon in Bonnie's home studio.

In his regular column on land conservation, Bob Barnett of Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy shares what \$5.5 million from the federal government will be able to do for Escarpment lands, with our involvement.

Finally, David Kendall reveals that heritage designation alone cannot prevent important buildings from suffering demolition by neglect. The fact that he and his wife personally offered a significant gift to help pay for the preservation of a heritage house in Caledon, yet this generosity was not acted upon, is particularly disturbing.

There's much to celebrate, something to ponder and action to be taken as you read this Autumn issue. If

you have another view of the issues written about, we love to read them, as always.

### **Damaged Views & Vistas**

Finally, we want to share that we have available, some slightly damaged copies of Views & Vistas: Favourite Photographs from the Whole Niagara Escarpment in Canada - Niagara Falls to Manitoulin Island. The damage is minimal, leaving the books fine for reading and enjoying, and we're offering them for half price, only \$30 + \$1.50 GST. The regular price is \$60 + \$3 GST plus \$21 for mailing, a total of \$84. Our sale price for mailing a damaged book comes to \$52.50 in total.

Pristine copies of the book are available in many places along the Escarpment, listed on our website https:// NEViews.ca and on page 62 of this issue. If you want one of the slightly damaged books, be sure to let us know when you order.



P.S. Wild animals need wild spaces.

The offices of Niagara Escarpment Views are located on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, specifically The Ajetance Treaty No. 19, of 1818, when Chief Ajetance sold the lands to the Indian Department of the government.

### Let us know what you think!

Write us at editor@NEViews.ca or Niagara Escarpment Views, 50 Ann St., Georgetown ON L7G 2V2.

### **More Online!**

Keep in touch with Escarpment news between issues at our website. We have unique content not seen in the magazine, and you can leave comments in response. See www.NEViews.ca.



Niagara Escarpment Views is on Facebook as: www.facebook.com/N.E.Views

### **READERS & VIEWERS**



I am writing regarding some of the wording of the land acknowledgement on page 5 in the summer edition of your magazine. While I am not Indigenous, I have worked with a number of Indigenous educators, Elders, and Knowledge Keepers during the development of several educational resources. It is my understanding that treaties were made Nation to Nation... meaning the treaty would have been with England, not the Indian Department of the government. I am not certain where you got this information or this wording. I wonder if this portion might need to be re-worded.

Susan Cox, Limehouse

Editor's Note: I believe you are correct that treaties were considered to be between nations. However, in preparing our land acknowledgement wording, I researched a few websites, including those of the Town of Halton Hills and Halton Hills Public Library, but I relied mostly on the website of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and their summary of the Ajetance Treaty, No. 19, specifically the statement: "The Deputy Superintendent of the Indian Department, William Claus, met with the Mississaugas from October 27-29, 1818, and proposed that the Mississaugas sell their 648,000 acres of land... Chief Ajetance, on behalf of the assembled people, readily agreed to the sale of their lands..." Should the Mississaugas want us to revise the wording, we are happy to oblige.





I had to write you this. This issue centre pages - Dundas (Terrific - I know it is a "repeat.") 40 yrs ago we went to live in Dundas. Our relatives & friends in Toronto thought we were "nuts". "How can you go to live in a small town (12,000 pop) in the wilderness" they said. It was one of the best decisions we have made. How many people can say they lived in a "Biosphere" area. I am sure that this picturesque location was there 40 years ago – maybe 400 years! It looks like you are getting back your advertising. I have found in my life I have gone through many turns - most have not been planned. You see - now - that your magazine goes beyond its original purpose - Yes - you can help save the environment (in general). People can become more aware of their surroundings (nature) & can appreciate "simplicity" - trees - flowers - water; etc. I have had a number of careers - 2 you might be interested 1, worked in Printing Industry – some large companies. 2, Involved in Manufacture of Books & selling various (books) types (subjects) to various markets - throughout Ontario and Mtl. Edward Naftolin, Burlington

Since I'm still enthused about this marvellous magazine, I certainly don't want to miss a copy. I collected most of them. Beauty must be, if at all possible, preserved. Erika Hildebrand, Mulmur

I just read your Summer 2022 issue cover to cover while cabinsitting on Gillies Lake on the Bruce. An inspiring read! Keep up the transformative publishing! P.S. Subscription enclosed.

Stephen Scharper, Toronto

I was given a Summer 2022 copy of your magazine. I love it! I'd like to subscribe for a year, enclosed is my cheque. I am a Senior and live in the Terrace at Mountainview. I have lived in Georgetown since 1967, great place to live!

Jan Gourlay, Georgetown

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My son picked up your spring copy in Lion's Head at the grocery store. I was so impressed with the contents and have decided I don't want to miss a single issue (even if I am not at our cottage on Cape Chin S.) Tell Irene Bakaric I hope she can explore the rugged & beautiful Northern Bruce Trail - great photo opportunities!

Lucille Papillon, Kitchener

Editor's Note: Brain Spasm An eagle-eyed reader pointed out that on page 58 in the Spring issue, the Chi-Cheemaun is not coming into Little Current on Manitoulin Island, but South Baymouth! This is the editor's mistake.

Loving the magazine. Hoping to get out this year & visit the places you've been featuring for the past 2 years. Every issue a treat!

Nancy Barker, Georgetown

I'm a travel counsellor at the Ontario Travel Info Centre in Toronto. Prior to 2020, we carried your magazine. It would get delivered to us automatically every season. Are we able to receive 1 box of the latest Niagara Escarpment Views?

**Ontario Travel Information** Centre, Union Station, 65 Front Street West, Toronto

Our readers & viewers tell us they love reading our letters section! Send us your thoughts and responses and share what you think! Write us at editor@NEViews.ca or Niagara Escarpment Views, 50 Ann St., Georgetown ON L7G 2V2



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## **Old Tunnel, New Views**



▲ Dignitaries at the elevators inside the Niagara Parks Power Station opened the underground Tunnel with a ribbon cutting on June 22. Joining Niagara Parks chair April Jeffs, holding the shears, were MPP Sam Oosterhoff and MP Tony Baldinelli, among others.



▲ The Tunnel is a pathway 180 feet below ground, inside the former waterway to the Niagara River. Visitors walk the 2,200-foot channel to reach the viewing platform.

pectacular new views of the mighty American Falls and Horseshoe Falls can now be experienced at Niagara Parks Power Station in Niagara Falls. The 100-yearold former outlet tunnel that used to return water from the hydroelectric generating station to the Niagara River, opened on June 22 for people to walk through.

The 2,200-foot tunnel leads to a new viewing platform with truly breathtaking views of the waterfalls. Just across the river from both falls, the platform at the water's edge has visitors hearing the roar of the falling water and feeling its spray. Tour boats pass by, going closer to the bottom of the waterfalls.

Entry to the above-ground, refurbished Power Station and its educational exhibits is included with the admission price. Adult tickets start at \$28 and more information is at niagaraparks.com/power.



▲ This spectacular view of the American Falls is only half of it. The viewing platform also lets visitors see the entire Horseshoe Falls to the right.

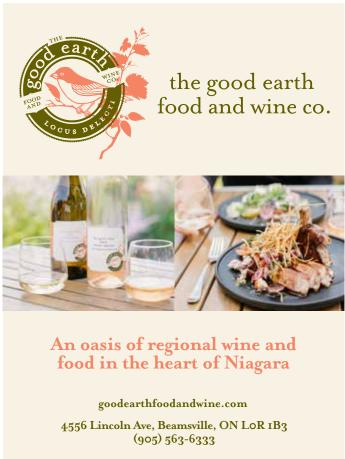


▲ Light at the end. The stunning view of the falls begins to be revealed where the tunnel meets the river.



▲ Mist and spray obscure part of the mighty, massive Horseshoe Falls. A tour boat approaches the base of the falls. Niagara Escarpment rock can be seen at the edge of the viewing platform.





### **EVENTS**



### ▲ Artist Steven Volpe

The work of Orangeville resident Steven Volpe was exhibited at the Museum of Dufferin from April 23 to July 2.



### ► Marking the Queen's Jubilee

From June 2 to July 2, purple and white lights remained on the Tree of Hope in



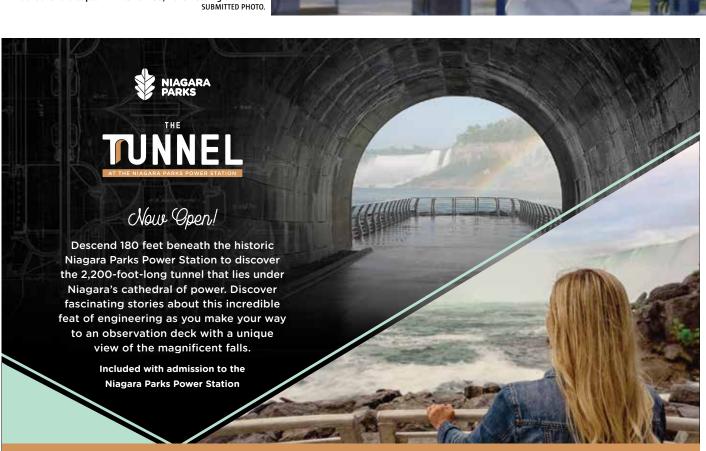


### **4 25 Years of EBC**

On June 11 Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy (EBC) celebrated the 25th anniversary with lunch and a tour of the property at Whole Village in Caledon. The 191 acres at Whole Village have been protected for 20 years by a conservation easement with EBC.

### ▶ Delivering the Torch

As part of the Niagara 2022 Canada Summer Games, the games torch was carried on board CSL-St-Laurent on June 15, during the relay to the Games in Niagara Region. Head of the St-Laurent is Captain Anita Lambe, here holding the torch.



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### EVENTS



### **▶** Berry Social

**Delicious strawberry desserts** were popular at the June 25 Strawberry Social at the Memorial Hall in Limehouse. Live music was performed outside while displays about the nearby Limehouse kilns were available inside the Hall.



### **∢** Canadian Cats & Dogs

Dogs and cats alike participated in the pet show at Canada Day festivities on July 1 in Glen Williams.





### **◄ Sustainable Power**

On July 9 The EV Society of Caledon, the Town of Caledon and EcoCaledon hosted Electrify Caledon, for people to examine electric vehicles, discuss them with owners and take test drives. The event was held at Southfields Community Centre in Caledon, where there are free public charging stations.

### ► Native Knowledge

Bruce Mackenzie, a contributor to this magazine, fascinated visitors to his property with information about his native plants, as part of the Grimsby Garden Tour on July 16.





### EVENTS

# **Bat Gathering**



◄ Many people turned out to Silvercreek Conservation Area north of Georgetown at twilight on July 22, and stayed until midnight for a demonstration by Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) of bat species monitoring, led by Derek Morningstar of Myotistar, a research and conservation company focusing on bats.



▲ At this event, nets were placed to catch bats temporarily for health inspections, study and weighing. Some were tagged. Traps were set in the forest and in clearings.

◀ A Big Brown Bat being carefully held
by the wings by Derek, an expert on bats.

# **Swapping Lawn for Natives**

ustainable Milton organized a native plant garden tour for July 23 at the Brookville residence of Margaret and John Beaudette.

Having lived on their 1 1/3-acre property for 30 years, the couple have recently changed the back lawn to a natural meadow and are creating garden beds

with native plants provided by Julie Power of Georgetown. Julie's pollinator garden was featured in our Summer 2022 issue.



◆ A native plant bed in the Beaudettes' back vard has Ierusalem Artichokes and Blackeyed Susan in bloom.

> ▶ Bee Balm demonstrating the reason for its name.



■ A sign in the Beaudettes' front yard.



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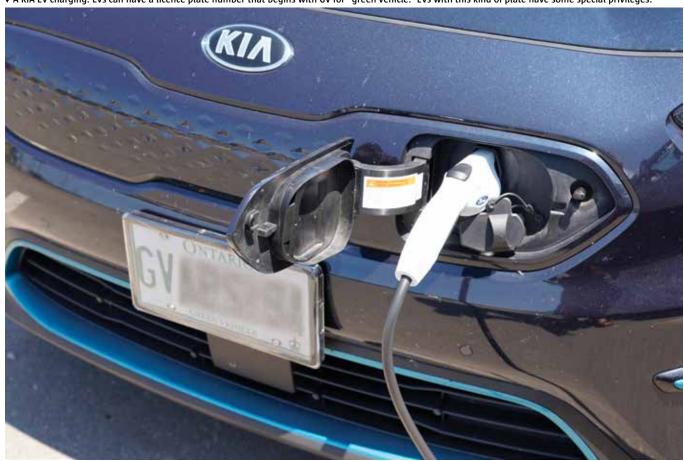
Wing the Escarpme

### WRITTEN & PHOTOGRAPHED BY MIKE DAVIS



sing an electric vehicle (EV) saves money and reduces fossil fuel use, which helps with climate change, something many of us want to do. Yet for people driving on or near the Niagara Escarpment, EVs can cause challenges. Finding the locations of charging stations is a main concern, but there are other aspects to keep in mind.

▼ A KIA EV charging. EVs can have a licence plate number that begins with GV for "green vehicle." EVs with this kind of plate have some special privileges.



### Three Levels of Charging Options

### Level 1

Commonly the type of charger that comes with the car, the slowest to charge, in the 10s of hours, can plug into a 120-volt receptacle. They range from about 1.5 to 2.5 kW.

### Level 2

Typically about three to seven times faster to charge than a Level 1, can be home based but needs a 240- volt outlet, and uses the same type of plug to the car as a Level 1. They are about 7kW ranging from 3 to 19kW. Cost to use in public charging stations ranges from free to around \$1.00/hr or \$2.50/charge.

### Level 3

Typically 30 minutes to one hour to charge to 80 per cent full. Not a home-based option. Different automobile makes can have different plugs. Most Level 3 stations are pay-for-use for about \$15-20+v/hour. They range from about 20kW to 350kW.

ravelling the Niagara Escarpment with an EV can be easy, to difficult, depending on where you go. Quickly charging the battery is easy enough in the southern, more populous areas, and more difficult in the northern parts. EV drivers will need to know the charging infrastructure along the Escarpment if they

want to go on a long road trip.

It was a suggestion from one of the readers of this magazine that led to this service piece on EVs. The good news is that locations of charging stations are increasing. It is no surprise that home is the preferred place to charge.

According to Cara Clairman, president and

CEO of Plug'n Drive, "80 per cent of EV owners charge at home, 95 per cent of the time." Plug'n Drive is a non-profit organization committed to increasing electric vehicle adoption for environmental and economic reasons. Cara adds that many EV drivers go long distance, which is further than a full charge, only a couple of times a year.

Charging away from home is a necessity for long-distance and high-mileage driving.

Along the Escarpment, the fastest charging stations are reasonably plentiful in towns and cities from Owen Sound south to Niagara Falls. There are none on Manitoulin Island, with the nearest to the north in Espanola. As can be expected, charging



▲ Dashboard screen showing the charging progress for a plug-in hybrid. At the top of the left circle, the PHEV stands for plug-in hybrid electric vehicle. The red light at bottom indicates that the car is plugged in.



■ Remaining range of distance available from the battery, shown on a dashboard.

stations thin out on the Bruce Peninsula, although slower-charging stations are in Tobermory and Wiarton.

Arlene Kennedy of Tobermory owns a 2019 Chevy Bolt which she bought as a demonstration model in 2021. She explains "I have a level-2 charger in my garage that I use overnight, which takes about eight hours

for a full charge, as well as a charger that comes with the car that can be used with any three-pronged domestic outlet, although I understand that takes a good deal longer to get a full charge with. There is a public charger for my type of vehicle here in Tobermory, right beside two chargers for Teslas, which are different."

### An App for That

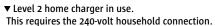
Two charging apps that are mentioned by Plug'n Drive are Chargehub, a Canadian company, and Plugshare, which is American-based. Both can use your present location to show you some of the charging stations near you. You can filter out non-relevant stations. They can also create a route for you, showing the

various charging options along it, which can be great for planning a longer trip.

There are at least 10 companies offering EV charging, including Petro Canada, FLO, ChargePoint and Ivy, which is owned by Ontario Power Generation and Hydro One. Some have apps that show only their own stations that may not



◆ Level 1 home charger. This slowest charger comes with the car and can be plugged into a 120-volt, threepronged outlet.





show on the main apps. Cara says that FLO has the most chargers, but tends to have higher pricing. To access charging, some stations require a credit card, some want a smart phone, and some a company-specific tap card.

"Some of the companies are collaborating, so a card for one brand will work on another system," says Cara. "This is inter-opportunity, but it's a mixed bag."

A look at some online charging location websites revealed a comment from one customer who did not see a price, charged the car thinking it was free, and received a bill for \$100!

#### **Other Factors**

Various conditions can affect

the range you can get between charging. Air conditioning, heating, going up hills and outside temperatures use more power. Most EVs regenerate electricity back to the battery when you coast to a stop or coast downhill, basically reclaiming energy for later use.

"You can generally lose about 20 per cent of your range in temperatures around minus-five degrees Celsius and as much as 40 to 50 per cent in really cold temperatures like minus 20 to 30 degrees Celsius," says Cara. "The car is always giving information such as the range remaining. Pay attention to it." Be aware that a road trip in the summer may not work out the same in the winter.

So what about the extended

### **EV Physics 101**

POWER is force (such as pushing something up a hill) carried out travelling a distance and also the amount of energy transferred within a certain time (such as charging a battery). For EVs, it is measured in Kilowatts (kW).

**ENERGY** for an EV is power stored, or used or gained in a certain amount of time. It is measured in Kilowatt-hours (kWh).

The more power you use in driving the car, the less time you have left before recharging is needed.

The more power available at a charging station, the less time you have to wait when plugged in.

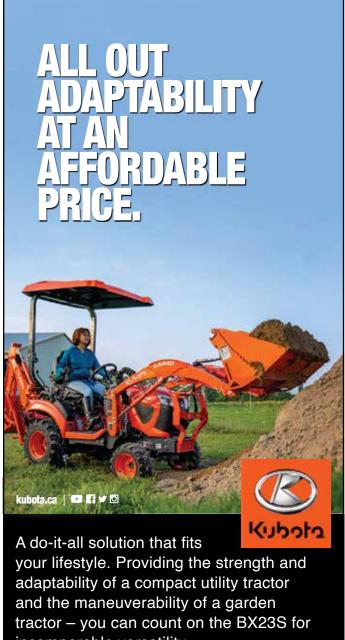
The larger the battery, the more energy it can store, and the longer you can drive, which usually means you can travel a longer distance, but it takes longer to charge.



road trip into Escarpment country? First off, plan your trip. How far are you going? Where and when will you stop for breaks or for the night where you could take advantage of a charging station? Are you staying at a B&B that will allow you to plug your charger in for a slow Level 1 charge? Work on your plan to consider

such factors on range loss as elevation change of going up the Escarpment, having a head wind, using air conditioning or heating. You should even factor in widespread power or internet outages that could strand you and your car for longer than anticipated.

Check out the apps to see what is available where, but know that they may be



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▲ Charging receptacle in car with Levels 1, 2 and 3 options available. On this vehicle, the top round receptacle is used for Level 1 and 2 charging. Both receptacles are used for the fastest, Level 3 charging.

incorrect or the station may actually be out of service or may be being used by someone else. Charging opportunities vary widely depending on where you are along the Escarpment, particularly Manitoulin Island. Level 3 chargers are common in the highly populated areas like the GTAH, but at the time of writing, nowhere on

Manitoulin. For Manitoulin, the nearest Level 3 chargers are in Espanola to the north and Owen Sound to the south. There are not even Level 2 chargers shown on the main apps for Manitoulin, leaving you to charge at Level 1 only, perhaps the only option being overnight at your accommodation. The good news is that more chargers

are coming online all the time. Finn's Gas Bar in M'Chigeeng on Manitoulin is planning to install EV charging stations.

Cara points out that Plug'n Drive has an Electric Vehicle Discovery Centre in North York. They offer a test-drive program to try out some EV and Hybrid vehicles. Interestingly, they offer a \$1,000 rebate to buy a used EV that is only battery, not a Hybrid, when you follow a program they have set up. Yet "the money is running out," she warns. This rebate may soon close.

### **Going Electric**

Arlene bought her Chevy Bolt EV because "through the Northern Bruce Climate Action Committee work on



▲ Storage in an EV can be available under the front hood as well as in the rear trunk. The engine and battery tend to be less visible in EVs.

a climate action plan, I had an increasing awareness of the need for personal, individual action that might also encourage others to undertake what they can too. The \$5,000 federal purchase incentive was attractive and this car was available at the lot in Owen Sound, so there was no long wait as others have experienced."

Arlene's use of the Bolt seems to be positive. "Quiet, instant power, easy to operate, comfortable, a size comparable with my last two vehicles, successive Toyota Prius automobiles," she notes. "There's good mileage on a full charge for my needs, such as return trips from Tobermory to Owen Sound." **NEV** 





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WRITTEN AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY SANDRA J. HOWE Tom Hall, Laura Browne, and Beth Gilhespy take in an Escarpment view west and north from Barrow Bay Cliffs lookout. 24 Niagara Escarpment Views \infty AUTUMN 2022





n a clear, sunny Thanksgiving Monday last year, a group of Bruce Trail volunteers meets at the new Bruce Trail parking lot on Bruce Road 9, just south of Barrow Bay. Tom Hall is volunteer maintenance coordinator for the Peninsula Bruce Trail Club. Laura Browne is a trail maintenance volunteer and sawyer. Beth Gilhespy is a long-standing Bruce Trail volunteer, and was CEO of the Bruce Trail

Conservancy (BTC) from 2004 to 2018. Beth is also known for her wonderful geology hikes. Dennis Stier, my husband, is also hiking with us. Dennis and I met while I was leading a Bruce Trail hike. He likes to joke that he has been following me ever since! I am grateful to have such knowledgeable companions to explore Barrow Bay Cliffs Nature Reserve.

We head east along the main Bruce Trail following the white blazes. The smell

of apples fills the air as we pass through old orchard and hawthorn meadows, a former pioneer homestead. The last of the fall wildflowers are in bloom: pink mallows, indigo chicory, bright yellow goldenrod, and white and purple asters. A sprinkling of orange and red maple leaves drifts in the breeze. These active hikers set a good pace. The trees shift from meadow species toward hardwoods: ash, maples, birch. The soil gives way to bedrock: dark

dolostone full of fissures and crevices. Beth describes this as karst pavement because it resembles large man-made paving stones. As we near the Escarpment edge, hardwoods are replaced by cedar, spruce and poplar trees. The trail is littered with fallen leaves which crunch underfoot.

### **Tiny Community**

Climbing gradually toward the lookout, we catch glimpses of Little Lake and the cottages that surround it. This tiny



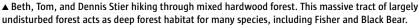


▲ Beth, Laura and Tom pause during the vigorous hike. Laura and Tom were lead volunteers in building the Beth Gilhespy Side Trail, which is named to honour Beth as former CEO and long-time volunteer with the Bruce Trail Conservancy.



► This geological feature called karst pavement shows exposed dolostone that has eroded and been carved into patterns resembling man-made paved surfaces. Water and ice action on the bedrock shape blocks and fissures in regular lines.





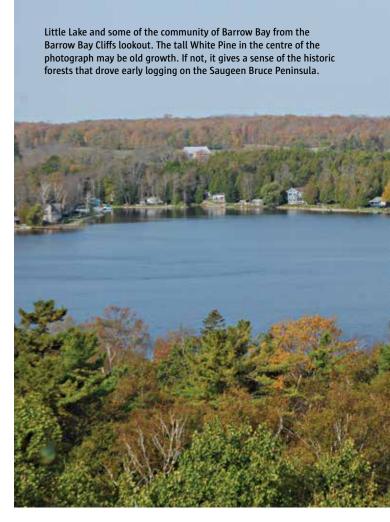


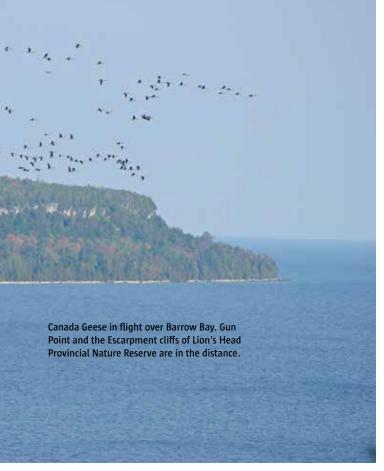
community was first known as Little Scotland because many early loggers and settlers came from Scotland. Now, commonly called Barrow Bay, it is home to both year-round and seasonal residents. Since the 1920s, it has been a popular cottage and fishing destination. It began as a lumbering village in 1874 when Patrick Judge built the first sawmill on Judge's Creek. A grist mill for grinding grain produced on local farms soon followed. Both were powered by a dam and waterwheel on the creek. Soon we reach the 20-metrehigh Barrow Bay Cliffs where long views across lands and waters take our breath away.

From the open clifftop, looking west, the vista includes Little Lake and the farm land beyond. Below us the waters of Barrow Bay and Georgian Bay to the east sparkle in hues of blue and turquoise. Across Barrow Bay, we see the high cliffs of Lion's Head Nature Reserve. Suddenly geese lift from Little Lake with a great honking as a small boat motors through the channel from Georgian Bay into the lake. Beth explains that a baymouth bar, a natural stone ridge formed by wave action, separates Little Lake from Barrow Bay. This bar was the site of the Barrow Bay Lumber Company's sawmill. Little Lake served as a holding area for logs while finished lumber was loaded onto ships docked in the bay. This steampowered mill ran from the late 1800s until the timber ran out in the early 1900s. Thankfully, the trees have regrown from this clearcutting era.

### **Critical Forest Habitat**

An interpretive sign at the lookout details highlights of Barrow Bay Cliffs Nature Reserve. Ecologically, this property preserves a vast tract of interior forest habitat, or deep woods, so critical for species such as Black Bear and Fisher. Most of southern Ontario's forests are fragmented by roads, farms, and development. The









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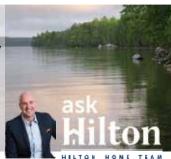


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■ Looking down the magnificent stairway that was built in 2020 to connect the shoreline to the top of the Escarpment. The main Bruce Trail now goes up and down these stairs. The stairway was built around trees and natural features to minimize ecological impacts.



Dolostone forms the uppermost layers of the Niagara Escarpment throughout much of the Saugeen Bruce Peninsula. Here the dolostone layers are exposed and blanketed in lichens, mosses, ferns, Herb Robert, and fallen leaves.

■ Amabel

BTC's conservation mandate helps protect remaining woodlands. As we continue along the trail, Laura points out a dark shape moving fast through the trees; I catch my first glimpse of a Fisher. Soon we arrive at the new staircase linking the shoreline and Escarpment summit.

Tom describes the construction process. "It took five days to carry all materials to the site, bushwhacking from the forest road. The lead builders were Doug Hill of Lion's Head, and John Hill and Josh Hazzard who are both rock climbers. They had to rappel and work from ropes to set initial structures. The stairway completion took six days with four volunteers working at clifftop cutting

lumber for the builders. A final day of cleanup meant hauling out tools and leftover materials. It was a huge project but very rewarding!"

Our group descends the steep stairway down the Escarpment face and on to the Barrow Bay shore. The cliffs rise high above us. We cool our feet in the refreshing waters. The main Bruce Trail

continues near the shore toward Rush Cove. We head back up the Escarpment to follow the Beth Gilhespy Side Trail through the interior forest of the Nature Reserve. This new trail honours Beth's commitment and service to the BTC.

As we follow the blue blazes, Laura tells us, "I painted every one of these blazes, even the



▲ Beth examines a quartzite glacial erratic along the trail. This boulder was dragged here from farther east by a glacier and is a billion years older than Escarpment rock.

bad ones. Tom and I are on the trail somewhere between Wiarton and Tobermory on most good-weather days, usually with a chainsaw and tools for trail maintenance. We met on the Ganaraska Trail and just keep hiking!"

The trail meanders through beautiful hardwood forest glowing in autumn yellow light. Beth points out geological oddities and glacial erratics. Soon

the Beth Gilhespy trail junctions with the John Appleton Side Trail and brings us back to the parking lot. Our eight-km journey exploring the Barrow Bay Cliffs Nature Reserve is a reason to give thanks on our Thanksgiving weekend. **NEV** 

Sandra J. Howe's last feature for Niagara Escarpment Views was "Saving Nottawasaga Lighthouse" in Summer 2022.

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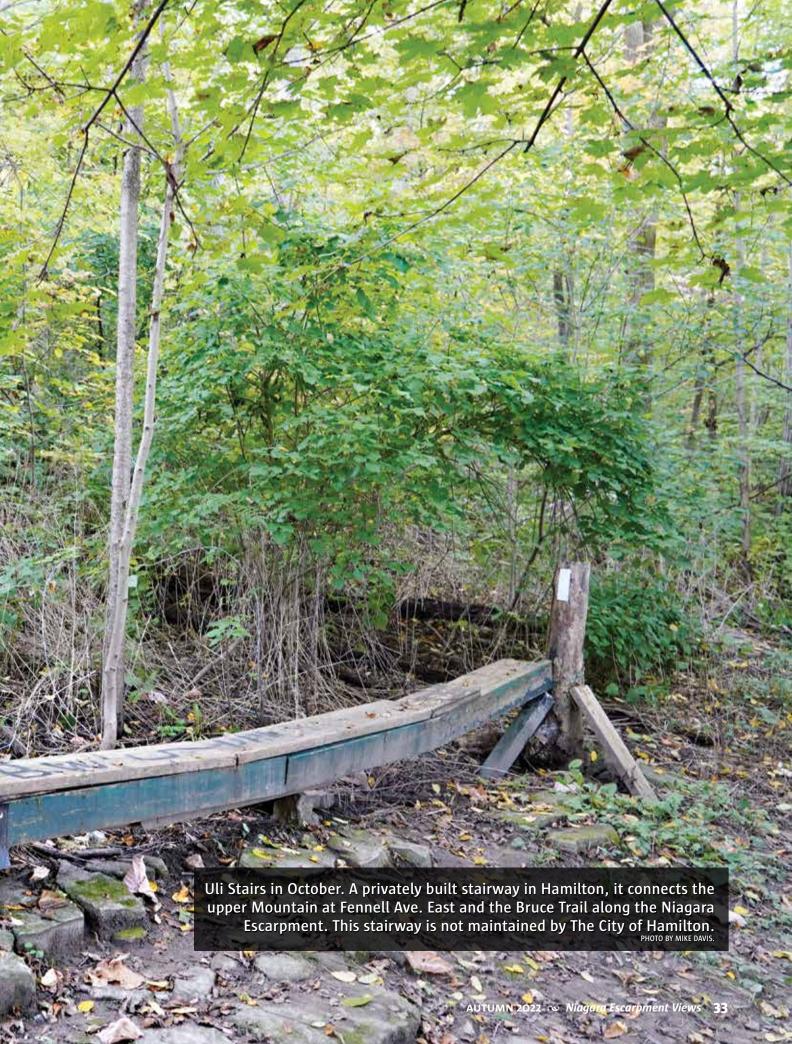
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rom daily chores to big adventures, I enjoy composing still images that tell the story of human activity. I've never been a fan of self-portraits, so I made it my project to take portraits of people I met on this hike. It meant I would have to first, see people, then engage them in conversation, and finally ask to take their portraits. As I quickly found out, the Bruce Trail is not a busy trail. Passing one or two people on a weekday in May was average.



I met Graham early on May 9 as he was touching up the paint on some trail markers. Graham has been a volunteer trail captain for 30 years, keeping a section of trail in Kerncliff Park, in Burlington, well marked. He is a retired teacher who finds trail-maintenance volunteering to be satisfying. The plywood markers on some trees, meticulously painted with a black border around a white blaze, were cut from his old mahogany sailboat. Porcupines are not fond of eating mahogany so they leave his signs alone.

Diego and Henry live in Georgetown and enjoy exploring the Bruce Trail through day hikes. I met them at a pretty area known as the Silver Creek Conservation Area on May 20. Henry is writing a blog post about thruhiking the Bruce Trail and was very interested in the logistics and gear required. I'm sure Henry will one day complete his own thruhike.





At the end of my hike on May 20, my friend Ron picked me up in Caledon and took me to his friend's farm to camp. The next day Ron dropped me off where he had picked me up, to continue my hike. He drove ahead to the Cheltenham Badlands and started walking back towards me. We walked through the Badlands together. This is Ron there on May 21. North of the Forks of the Credit, ominous clouds developed into the storm in which nine people died across Ontario and Quebec. I took shelter where I could but the trail in that location passed through several rolling meadows. The sky was dark, the rain was heavy, and the thunder was constant for 30 minutes. I was fine but wet. I spent the night at home in Midland and my wife Kelly returned me to the trail a day later.

Early morning joggers are generally not interested in stopping to chat, but other users, luckily, were willing to engage in conversation and agree to a portrait. I didn't get everyone's last name, so I've only given everyone's first name. My thruhike took from May 3 to June 10, 2022. I had to take some days off to deal with an infection in my right leg. This is an inside view of my experience, and an



- Cam introduced me to the Merlin Bird ID app on May 25. It is a free tool for beginning birdwatchers that identifies the birds singing in your immediate area. Cam, from Brampton, was out for a walk south of the Nottawasaga Bluffs Conservation Area and was having great luck identifying a variety of hard-to-spot warblers.
- Chris was on her second attempt to thruhike the Bruce Trail SOBO (South Bound). Last year she didn't eat enough along the way in an attempt to reduce pack weight and ended up malnourished. She ended last year's hike at Mono. This year she started May 9, was better prepared for the hike, and was doing well when I met her in the Len Gertler Memorial Loree Forest on May 27. She was nearing the halfway point with the most difficult sections behind her.









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May 28, she arranged to cross paths with me and brought me fresh scones from the Farmer's Market. She is a member of a trail running group that organizes fun weekly races on the Bruce Trail. Coordinates are sent out only hours before the races to prevent practising on the secret routes. Emily is pictured on her husband's favourite bench on the Bruce Trail. The plaque reads, "Wendy loved the Bruce Trail and I loved her."

introduction to the friendly people on the Bruce Trail.

In an effort to lighten my load, all portraits were taken with a Fujifilm X E3 Camera body and a Fujifilm 23mm f2.8 lens. **NEV** 

Jamie Dietrich is an adventurer at heart. He has paddled and hiked thousands of km in Ontario. He directed a summer camp, served as a park naturalist at three Ontario Provincial Parks, and introduced thousands of youths to canoe tripping and backpacking while teaching high school. He has been telling the tales of his adventures through photographs from the beginning. Jamie lives with his wife Kelly in Midland.



10

On June 2 I was hiking on Hwy 26 heading to Owen Sound. Unknown to me, Anna, Marisa, and Mike noticed me from their car. In the afternoon I met them near the Bruce Trail's Boyd Protected Natural Area. Marisa asked if I had been on the highway earlier.



I was running low on water on June 1. I had camped the previous rainy night at one of the few Bruce Trail campsites and just wanted to escape the mosquitoes in the morning. Just south of the Bognor Marsh, I knocked on this woman's door looking to refill my water bottles. She happily filled them both with filtered water and offered me a Gatorade. I told her that her sign at the door drew me in. She said her generosity and friendliness was a product of her upbringing in Woody Point, Newfoundland. I forgot to ask her name so Trail Angel seems appropriate. Trail Angel is a common term used to describe people who generously assist thruhikers.

> There are lots of backpackers in the Bruce











## **EXQUISITE CONTROLL <b>CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL <b>CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL <b>CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL <b>CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL <b>CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL <b>CONTROLL CONTROLL <b>CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTROLL <b>CONTROLL CONTROLL <b>CONTROLL CONTROLL CONTRO**

## **The Wearable Art Show**



WRITTEN BY GLORIA HILDEBRANDT PHOTOGRAPHED BY MIKE DAVIS

n October, St. Volodomyr Cultural Centre in Oakville will again host what is claimed to be the best show of wearable art in

Canada. "If you want to find fashion that is unique, this is a fun, visually stimulating show of one-of-a-kind pieces," says Bonnie Glass, one of the show's founders. "It's an experience of wearable art for the Bohemian at heart."





earable art, or art you can wear, is the artistic expression of fine craftspeople in such media as fabric, leather, silver, metal, and more. The pieces include clothing, jewellery, handbags. They are unique, individual, handmade and "slow fashion" as opposed to "fast fashion." One piece can take as long as 35 hours to create, although it varies for each artist. Annette Graydon, president of The Wearable Art Show, reveals that it took her three years to complete a coat after taking a workshop by Bonnie once.

Wearable art never goes out of style and can be investments that actually outlive the original purchaser. Some of Bonnie's pieces are returned to her and she is able to resell them.

"You don't go unnoticed when you wear wearable art," says Annette.

Over three days in October, about 40 artists will display and sell their own pieces. Opening night on Thursday Oct. 20 will be a gala event featuring a fashion show of "real," relatable people, not models, wearing the pieces. Admission to this is \$15 and includes a glass of wine. The evening offers an exclusive shopping experience for customers who get first chance at purchasing the new creations. On Friday Oct. 21 and Saturday Oct. 22 admission is \$10.

The show includes a challenge for artists in the show who want to participate. This year's theme is "Interwoven," requiring the combination of different materials and crafting methods in one piece. Two or more artists may collaborate in the creation.

Visitors to the show can



▲ Art for the body. Top left, the green shoulder bag is by Karen Gunna. The top is a design of Catherine Goetz. The necklace is the work of Naomi Assenheim. The middle topper is a Bonnie Glass. Right, the felt hat is Janet Martin's. The pink scarf was created by Elina Ten. The striped tunic dress is a piece by Anna Perena. Bottom left, the "Cleopatra" neck piece is a creation of Bonnie Glass, while the pink purse is by Christine VonBun. At right, the white painted shirt is the art of Irina Rapaport. The necklace of hand-blown glass and silver is a piece by Berna Kilic. The shoulder bag is another Karen Gunna.

## SOME ARTISTS & THEIR COMPANIES

Naomi Assenheim,
Opal Wing
Eve Farber Fashion Design
and Illustration
Bonnie Glass Originals
Catherine Goetz, Catkin Design
Karen Gunna Leather
Berna Kilic, Studio Ada
Janet Martin, Wool and
Silk Inspirations
Anna Perena Fashion Design
Irina Rapaport Jewellery
and Textiles
Elina Ten, Eco Couture
Christine VonBun,
Exotic Skin Handbags





► Colourful toppers by Bonnie Glass in her studio.



vote on the pieces for the people's choice award while the patron's choice is another award given. Some of these items will be for sale but need to remain part of the display throughout the show.

#### **Treasure**

"We wanted a treasure box of a show," says Bonnie, who was a founder of the show

in 2007 when it was called the Just For Us Originals show and was held in Toronto. In 2009 the name was changed to The Wearable Art Show and since 2017 it has been held in Oakville.

Bonnie has been working at her craft for almost three decades; 2023 will be her 30th year. For ten years from 1998 she had a studio

in Williams Mill, Glen Williams. She now makes only jackets, coats and toppers.

"A topper is a lighter weight jacket or top that can be worn indoors and under a larger coat," explains Bonnie. "It can be worn layered with a blouse or sweater underneath or on its own but it is still lightweight, so shouldn't be in the jacket category."

These days she works out of her home studio, which is the only place where people can purchase her creations, by appointment, outside of such opportunities as The Wearable Art Show.

Bonnie describes her pieces as being "distinctive in their combinations of line, texture and colour, often accented with bias trims I create myself.





▲ Bonnie pointing to framed inspiration boards in her studio. Because she likes to design for specific types of people, she assembles photos of items that might suit them.

Curved lines in my jackets, coats and toppers, originally inspired by the Art Nouveau movement, are a hallmark as well. Timeless design has given the garments longevity, but it is the artistry in them that makes them collectible now." Every piece is original, unique and may even be given a name. Her market tends to be women over the age of

40 who understand and can afford the prices of the pieces.

"It takes time to know who you are, to step into yourself," says Bonnie. "I love those clients." It's important to Bonnie that the piece complements the person. She uses a lot of fabric samples in her work, doing what she calls a lot of upcycling.

"The whole piece sings as



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▲ A bounty of bags in leather. From the top, a pink purse by Christine VonBun. The grey and green shoulder bags are Karen Gunna creations.

a whole," observes Annette.

Bonnie is mostly self taught, having no formal training or education other than some night courses at a community college. In this she is much like many other talented, creative artists.

"You can't be taught line, colour and texture," she declares, adding that if you have an intuitive or natural sense or feeling for those qualities, it's a gift.

#### **Environmental Benefits**

There are environmentally friendly reasons to buy wearable art. Slow fashion outlasts disposable clothing. Made locally, the pieces come from known sources

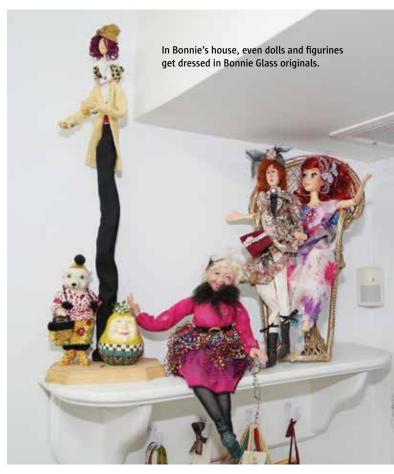
and locations. Workers are not being exploited to make them. Buying these pieces is an investment for life or even beyond. Purchases support artists and allow them to continue enriching their communities.

"People's attitude to clothing has changed after COVID and all the supply chain issues," believes Bonnie. "They have an increased appreciation for where clothes come from."

The most important reason to buy wearable art is for the pleasure. No one else will ever wear the exact same piece. Whether to project wealth, success, taste, knowledge or another desirable trait, wearing an art



▲ A display of jewellery. The two pieces of hand-blown glass and silver are the work of Berna Kilic. At centre is a chain mail necklace created by Lord Normand. The large Labradorite pendant is by Naomi Assenheim. The two cuffs at bottom are from Karen Gunna.



piece helps to make it easy to stand out in any gathering.

The Wearable Art Show will be held Oct 20 to 22 at St. Volodomyr Cultural Centre, 1280 Dundas Street West in Oakville. Reduced early tickets are available online at www. thewearableartshow.com. The show's motto is "Experience the Exquisite. Acquire the Divine."

"I get asked if I design clothing for the theatre," says Bonnie. "I don't. I want to take theatre to the streets. It makes life better." **NEV** 



▶ Bonnie in her large home studio with some of her collection of fabrics.

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#### VIEW OF LAND CONSERVATION

## **Our Escarpment Challenge**

**By Bob Barnett** 

and prices are going through the roof and donors are pinched by high interest rates.

Just in time, Environment Canada has set out in earnest to conserve as much land as possible to meet their 2025 and 2030 targets of 25 and 30 per cent of our land conserved. Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy was able to help last year by setting aside 9.3 square km with 2.5 km of Escarpment slope. That included 2.1 km on Manitoulin's Wolsev Lake where Roy Jeffery has already built a trail and more at Ten Mile Point. This year our Escarpment goal is even more ambitious:

- We have a signed offer to protect four km of Escarpment on Barrie Island with good trail potential
- We are working to add a further km at our Fossil Hill reserve
- We are getting a donation of 500m of Escarpment near Kemble and have an offer accepted to get a further 500m nearby.
- We are negotiating for 300m in Springmount near Jones Falls on the Pottawatomi

- We are hoping to protect 300m near Sheguiandah by agreement
- We are negotiating to purchase 77 acres near Meaford on the lower Ordovician Escarpment with important fossils
- We are discussing three other "flat" Escarpment properties with 83 acres.

All these projects are within reach, but just reaching out and hoping money will fall in won't do it. On some projects we need to fulfil our obligation to match the value of the funding with donated land or cash. Every project needs appraisers and lawyers who, no surprise, send a bill when they've done their part. We also always need enough money, five per cent of money raised, to pay our staff and keep the office running.

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) has offered to contribute \$5.5 million if we can match that amount. That's huge!!! But accepting that offer means we have to do our part... and we can't just hope the land and money come in. We depend on you.

#### **Each Dollar Becomes Six**

The good news is that each dollar that comes in to



◀Some Escarpment land to be donated above Gowan Lake near Wiarton.

▶ Barrie Island, part of Manitoulin Island. This project includes four km of Escarpment and shoreline.



fund Escarpment purchases becomes SIX dollars after the contributions of ECCC and land donors. Those six dollars don't fall into a pit, never to be seen again. They create hiking trails and protect a variety of species FOREVER!!! You get to walk there, just as I walked the Bruce Trail with my own kids 40 years ago. Now their kids are soaking up nature.

Then they protect nature's services. Bruce and Grey Counties have declared a climate emergency. Rain and winds are increasing their intensity. Our wetlands soak up and slow down the flood waters. Our forests absorb water and carbon. They slowly release the moisture and oxygen while they store carbon forever in the leaves first, then the wood itself and finally in the soil. Forest insects feed the birds and pollinate crops. Absorbing carbon is just as important as reducing the use of the carbon stored millions of years ago.

Your dollar spent on land doesn't just end up as habitat for rare species, a pretty place or even a place to visit. That land is working for us. Nature brings visitors to rural areas. Carbon sequestered in trees is worth money, but severely under valued. Your dollar creates a stream of services worth a continuing stream of value to the local community and the country.

#### An Acre of Land

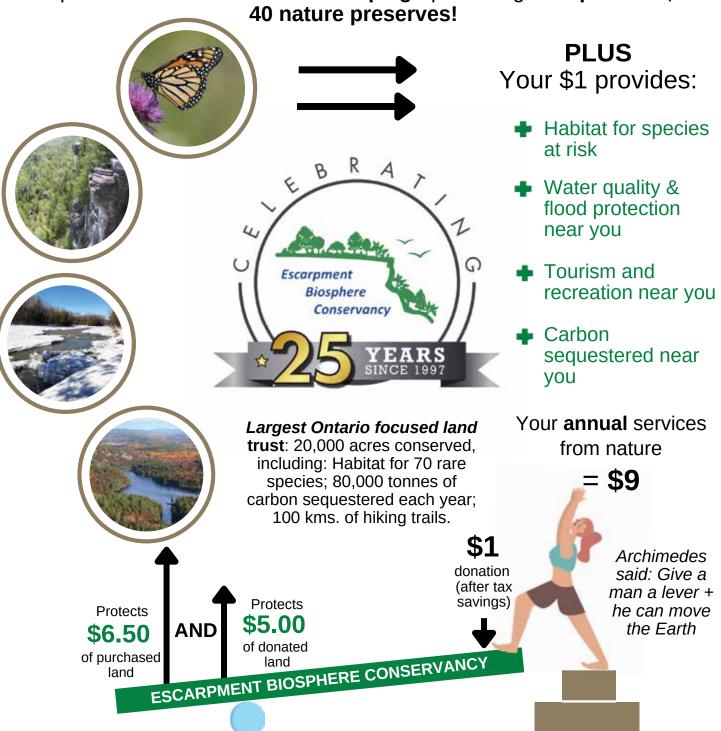
Let's say you donate \$500. That costs you only \$300 after your tax savings. That \$500 gets multiplied by six after grants and land donations and is enough for us to acquire an acre of land. That acre of forest is worth \$1,800 every vear or even \$4,200 if it is wetland. This calculation is according to a report called "Estimating Ecological Services in Southern Ontario," prepared by the consulting group SIG for Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry. Your dollar helps us acquire \$6 worth of land and that same single dollar creates a stream of nature's services worth \$3.50 to \$8.20 every year thereafter.

Some economists dismiss such figures as "externalities" because they are not included in conventional financial statements or gross domestic product. Our ideas of progress, growth and societal wellbeing must be reformulated to account for the things we really need, like nature. Hundreds of studies showing nature makes us healthier can't be wrong. They shouldn't be ignored by politicians or business columnists or investors like you.

**Bob Barnett** is executive director of Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy and can be reached at 888.815.9575 or through www.escarpment.ca.

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## **Demolition by Neglect of Pinkney House**



Written by David Kendall Photograph by Grecia Mayers

#### Drip, drip, drip...

Does a heritage building have the right to life? Or, put more graphically: if a gravel company lets a derelict 136-year-old stone house slip into "demolition by neglect," is that slow house-slaughter?

That's what seems to be the fate of the heritage-designated Pinkney House sitting beside the Elora-Cataract trail at 17923 Shaw's Creek Rd. just north of the hamlet of Belfountain. Built by an immigrant Italian stonemason in 1886, the house was lived in by the Pinkney family for 115 years. The Pinkney family had operated a "wayside pit" for decades before the Smythe gravel operation came in and mined the original farm in the 1950s. The former Pinkney fields flanking the north side of the Elora-Cataract Trailway are now a great, emptied pit. Only the three or four acres on which the house stands, remain un-mined.

The property was purchased Jan. 4, 2001 as part of a \$400 million takeover of KVN Co. Ltd.'s gravel assets by Lafarge North America, subsidiary of Lafarge International with aggregate operations in some 60 nations worldwide. In 2016 a merger resulted in the parent company being renamed LafargeHolcim Corporation.

By 2007, the empty house was already seriously damaged, having suffered a fire in an upstairs bedroom. That year, my wife Grecia and I tried to preserve the house. We offered

an interest-free loan to restore and sell it with all net profit going to the local Headwaters Hospital. Under the proposal, the house and one acre would first be donated to the hospital, giving the gravel company a charitable receipt against taxes and letting the hospital sell the property. Our offer went to the Lafarge gravel company as well as to the hospital and the Town of Caledon heritage office. But our offer trickled away due to dithering and denial.

"This property was placed on the Town of Caledon's Built Heritage Resources Inventory in 2007. In June, 2009, it was elevated to a property listed on the Town of Caledon Register for Cultural Heritage Properties," writes Su Murdoch, a historical consultant based in Barrie, in her report of that year commissioned by the Town of Caledon.

The Pinkney House is a four-bedroom home with two staircases and a high basement. It is described in the consultant's report as having a "typical Gothic Revival, medium to high pitched, cross gable roof, with pointed gables decorated with wood inserts (fretwork)." She goes on to write: "The window and door openings and corners of the structure have quoining (surrounds) of large dimension stones." In simple terms, the lintels above the windows and doors are not plain stone rectangles, they are beautifully sculpted stone like in an ancient church.

Trickle, trickle, trickle... But an empty house is a

dying house. An occupied home is a beating heart. And a gravel company, no matter how well-intentioned, is an absentee landlord.

The Pinkney House's long state of "demolition by neglect" took an important break in December of 2013 when the aggregate company abruptly replaced the rotting cladding on the roof of the house, along with new shingles, a chimney repair, a roof truss upgrade, and new fascia, soffits and guttering.

Finally, at a September 6, 2017 meeting, Caledon Council unanimously voted to confer the full protection of heritage designation for the deserted Pinkney House and the property it stood on. The gravel company contested the ruling within the automatic 30-day objection period.

Two years of haggling ensued behind closed doors. During that time, the collapsing centuryold barn was demolished, on safety grounds, a classic example of "demolition by neglect". Finally, October 22, 2019, the two sides agreed on full designation of the house.

But the "demolition by neglect" did not stop in the empty building. The mortar continued to crack, intruders kept breaking in, and last winter copious roof shingles flew off with every storm. Ms. Drummond drove by and snapped photos of the deterioration. The company dutifully re-shingled the roof this spring. But the house stands empty and purposeless.

Sure enough, a visit July 9 revealed a torn-down plywood shield and a smashed ground floor window, a great hole inviting animals, trespassers, and rain.

#### Dribble, dribble, dribble...

The concept of legal standing for objects and creatures that are not human was advanced in 1972 by Christopher D. Stone (1937-2021), a University of Southern

California law professor. His book Should Trees Have Standing? is an early treatise on the idea. He points out that in humankind's early stages, only the caveman's immediate family had standing. Anyone or anything outside that narrow circle was meat.

Over time, the right to life has expanded to women, children, slaves, nations, corporations, municipalities. "The fact is, that each time there is a movement to confer rights onto some new 'entity', the proposal is bound to sound odd or frightening or laughable. This is partly because until the rightless thing receives its rights, we cannot see it as anything but a thing for the use of 'us." Stone goes on to write: "I am quite seriously proposing that we give legal rights to forests, oceans, rivers, and other so-called 'natural objects' in the environment, indeed to the natural environment as a whole."

Of course, 50 years later, climate change has brought increasing endorsement of Stone's proposal. Desperation does that. If we fail to protect the world's land and water and air and living species, humanity faces starvation, poisoning and asphyxiation. Endangered species legislation, Greenbelt restrictions, conservation easements, old-growth forest rulings, all are examples of legislation appointing individuals and organizations as guardians to safeguard the rights of wordless entities.

As does heritage designation. So, is there a long-term plan for the Pinkney House?

"Absolutely none I've heard about," says Ms. Drummond.

"We'll maintain the house," insists LafargeHolcim's central Ontario land manager Mal Wensierski.

**David Kendall** is a retired Toronto Sun newspaper reporter now living in Belfountain and writing ecological thriller novels. An excerpt from his novel Slag was published in Winter 2020-21.



# Pumpkin, Apple and Oat Mini Muffins

Prep Time: 15 min. | Total Time: 30 min. | Makes: 32 Mini Muffins

#### **Ingredients**

All-Purpose Flour (250 mL) 1 cup Quick Oats (125 mL) 1/2 cup 1 tsp Baking Soda (5 mL) Ground Cinnamon (5 mL) 1 tsp

1 tsp Ground Ginger (5 mL) 1/4 tsp Salt (1 mL)

Egg

Brown Sugar, firmly packed (125 mL) ½ cup

1/2 cup Milk (125 mL)

Melted Butter (75 mL) 1/3 CUD

Pumpkin, peeled and coarsely grated (375 mL) 1 1/3 cup 2 cups Granny Smith Apples, peeled and coarsely grated

#### Directions

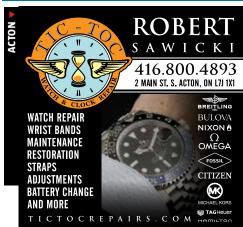
Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C). Grease or line Compliments Mini Muffin Pans with paper liners and set aside. In a large bowl, mix the flour, oats, baking soda, spices and salt.

In a medium bowl, mix the egg, brown sugar, milk and butter until smooth.

Stir the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients and then stir in the pumpkin and apple. Spoon the batter into the muffin tins. Bake for 12 to 14 min. or until a toothpick inserted into the centre of a muffin comes out clean. Allow muffins to cool for a few minutes in the tin before cooling completely on a wire rack. Store in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 4 days.











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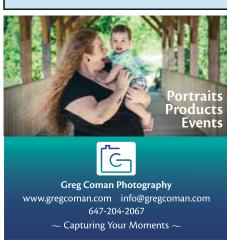
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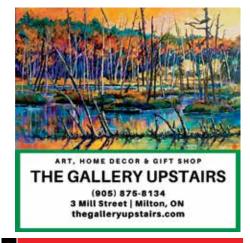
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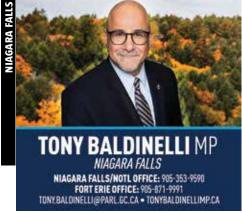
















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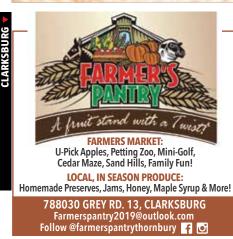




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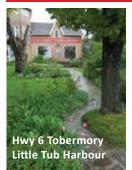












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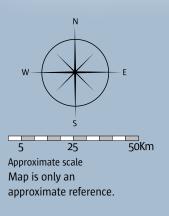


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