

ISLAND Clippings



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The Christmas Bird Count

If you happened to notice people with binoculars and cameras with large lenses peering into your backyards last Thursday, there was absolutely nothing to worry about. It was the Christmas Bird Count for the Desbarats area which included parts of St. Joseph Island. Volunteers were out and about counting as many birds as they could find.



Bohemian waxing. Photo : Barry Lyons

The Christmas Bird Count started in 1900 and it's North America's longest running Citizen Science project. The idea is to monitor and conserve the birds across North America.

We teamed up with Barry Lyons, an avid birder, and set out to count every single bird we saw around the Hilton Beach area. I didn't expect to see too many birds, to be quite honest. Andrew and I had been practicing looking for birds every time we left the

house, but we never saw much other than a few crows and ravens. Occasionally, a group of turkeys would run out in front of the car, but other than that, it was hard for us to spot birds.

On Thursday, though, things were different. I'm not sure if Barry was our good luck charm or the snowy day brought out all the birds, but as far as I'm concerned we did a good job spotting birds.

The morning did start off slow - just a couple blue jays here and there and of course a crow. We then headed into the village, where we encountered a quite large flock of finches - gold and purple and pine siskins. I never realized gold finches dulled out in the winter, or even flocked at all. When Barry was saying they were gold finches, I was trying to find the mostly solitary, brightly coloured birds I was used to seeing in fields back when I lived in Kentucky.

continued on next page



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be filled with
laughter and joy!**

BIRD....continued from cover

Andrew and Barry enthusiastically spotted a cardinal. I wasn't impressed, then it dawned on me that cardinals might not be very common up here. Kentucky's state bird is the cardinal, University of Louisville's mascot is a cardinal, you can't throw a rock where I come from without hitting at least five. Even in Mississauga we had a couple that were nesting in our backyard.

We continued around every inch of Hilton Beach and the surrounding areas that were included in our zone. Occasionally, we would get out of the car and walk, sometimes spotting a flock of chickadees and nut-hatches but other times only seeing one or two crows.

Barry continued after lunch, after we retired back to our home as we were expecting company later that afternoon. It was hard not to want to count every flock of goldfinches or mourning doves we saw on the drive home, but the Desbarats bird count only included part of St. Joseph Island.



Another group out on the count. Credit : Carter Dorscht

Altogether, including when Barry went back out with his wife in the afternoon, we saw 17 species of birds with a grand total of 242 birds. Among them were one red-bellied woodpecker, who flew right over our heads as if to say "hey don't forget to count me!" Barry's wife, Bev, was able to spot two bohemian waxwings over by the Hilton Beach post office, snacking on berries in the trees.

While the "official" totals aren't out for the Desbarats

Seniors Fitness Instructor

The Township of St. Joseph Seniors and Disabled Program is seeking an enthusiastic fitness instructor to provide one hour fitness and activation classes at the Laird Community Hall two mornings each week.

Preferred Candidates should have:

- Experience leading group exercise facilitation for seniors and persons with disabilities;
- Experience working with the seniors and disabled population.

First Aid, CPR and AED certification are required. Preference will be given to candidates with instructor certification by YMCA, Can Fit Pro, ACE, CSEP, or AFLCA.

Qualified candidates are asked to submit a cover letter and resume outlining qualifications by 4 pm on Monday, January 16, 2017 to:

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The deposit of snow on a highway is an offence under the Highway Traffic Act.

Pushing snow onto or across the road not only creates a hazard for the snow plough operator, but all other motorists as well. Property owners can be held liable for any accident or injury which occurs as a result of pushing snow across a road.

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Mark Henderson 246-2110

area, the reported total of birds that were recorded by 33 volunteers is close to 1400. 34 species, including four necked ducks, two sharp-tailed grouse and house sparrow. And a partridge in a pear tree.

So which species was the winner? The black-capped chickadee at 277 sightings. It's hard to go anywhere in the winter, or summer for that matter, without hearing their distinct *chick-a-dee-dee-dee* calls. The common raven came in second at 171 sightings and the pine grosbeak was third with 159 sightings. What do the winners receive, Rod? Oh, nothing but if it were up to us we would give them a big bag of bird seed.

Be sure to check out the Kensington Conservancy's website for full bird count totals at www.kensingtonconservancy.org



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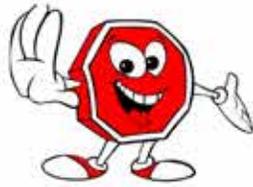
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for 2017**



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and Murray Pritchard*

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and make publishing
the Island Clippings possible!

Recipe Corner

Hi There, Susan Muise here. My partner Bob and I have a lovely cabin in Hamilton Bay area and always enjoy our time there in the summer.

Danish Apple and Prune Cake

This is a wonderful cake From the renowned Australian Cook Greta Anna
Preheat the oven to 375 F and butter a 10 inch round spring form cake pan. Line the bottom and sides with buttered parchment paper

FOR THE BATTER

½ cup plus 2 Tbsp. butter (1 ¼ sticks)
1 cup sugar
2 eggs, well beaten
½ cup plus 2 Tbsp. self rising flour (recipe follows)
1 1/3 cup ground almonds
½ cup milk
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 Tbsp. boiling water
½ tsp. baking powder

FURTHER INGREDIENTS

8 pitted prunes, minced
1 cup finely minced walnuts, mixed with 2 Tbsp. sugar
2 green apples, cored and sliced
3 Tbsp. sugar
Ground cinnamon
butter

Cream together all of the ingredients for the batter in a food processor and run it for 10 seconds. Run a spatula around the bowl and process for 5 more seconds.

Place the prunes on the batter. Spoon the walnut and sugar mixture over. Arrange the apple slices on top of the walnuts. Bake for 45 minutes.

Sprinkle the surface with the sugar and some cinnamon. Dot with butter and bake for a further 20-25 minutes until a skewer comes out clean. COOL IN THE PAN

For self rising flour... (double or triple recipe so you have this on hand)

1 cup flour
½ tsp. salt
1 ½ tsp. baking powder

THE TOWNSHIP OF ST. JOSEPH PLANNING BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

The Township of St. Joseph is seeking one individual to fill a vacant seat as a Township representative on the St. Joseph Island Planning Board.

In addition to considering applications for consent to sever and Official Plan amendments, the Planning Board also provides advice and assistance to municipal councils on the Island in matters of local land use planning.

Property owners in The Township of St. Joseph with an interest in land use planning are encouraged to contact the Township office for an application form, or you may download the form directly from www.stjosephtownship.com under Current Postings, Notices and Minutes.

This is a Council appointed position for the remainder of the Council term, being October 2018.

The deadline for applications is **Wednesday, January 11, 2017**. For further information, please contact the Clerk Administrator at 246-2625, ext 202 or by e-mail at stjoeadmin@bellnet.ca

A Dog Licence is a Ticket Home



With a licence your dog has a greater chance of getting home compared to unlicensed dogs.

A licence is cost effective; as well we will contact you immediately to avoid paying boarding fees.

A licence means your dog will spend less time away from you, reducing the stress they may experience.

Licensing your dog shows you are a responsible pet guardian.

Reminder for ALL residents of The Township of St. Joseph! 2017 Dog Licences are in! Stop by the office today with proof of rabies vaccination and spay or neuter to licence your dog. Cost is only \$6 before February 28, 2017 and \$12 after. Call 705-246-2625 for more information.

New Year, New You?

Let's face it. New Year's resolutions hardly ever stick. Not matter how determined you are, sometimes it's hard to get past the middle of January keeping up with those little promises you made to yourself once the ball dropped at midnight. Whether your resolution was to lose weight, save money, stop smoking or get organized, most resolutions tend to fail by January 17th. However, forming a new habit takes a minimum of 21 days. See the problem here?

There are many reasons why resolutions fail. Sometimes it's because the resolutions are simply too unrealistic. Sometimes it's because the person tries to change too many things at a time. Sometimes it's because the person has no plan of action to achieve their goals. Sometimes it's the brain itself that has set the person up for failure. For instance, if you associate something such as exercise with negativity, you're not suddenly going to enjoy it just because you made it your New Year's resolution.

So, what are some good ways to get those New Year's resolutions to stick?

Make realistic goals. There's no way you're going to lose 100 pounds before the summer. Not in a healthy way at least. Set small, easy to reach goals for yourself and plan it out well. Keeping the goals smaller will make it much easier to achieve than one giant, unattainable resolution.

Accept failure. Yes. It will happen. The key is to not give up. They're just little setbacks, not the end of the world and not a reason to give up entirely. You planned on saving money but splurged on a pair of shoes? That pesky scale says you gained a pound? That doesn't mean give up. Keep going. Try to reach that simple goal you set for yourself. Remember to be kind to yourself as well.

These are just a couple of ways of sticking to New Year's resolutions, maybe you have some tips and tricks of your own that you use to help better yourself in the new year. Whatever you do, make sure you do whatever makes you happy. Hopefully 2017 will be a great year for everyone.

St. Joe Creature Feature

Ermine

The stoat, also known as a short-tailed weasel or an ermine when donning their white winter coats, is a tiny yet one of the larger members of the weasel family, usually measuring between 16 and 31 cm. They are native to the northern parts of North America and Eurasia, but were introduced to New Zealand in the 1800s to control the rabbit population. There, they have had a devastating effect on the wild bird population.

In their native habitats, stoats are excellent mouse hunters, as well as other rodents, insects, fish, reptiles and amphibians. Their black tips on their tails can act as a decoy to deter predators such as foxes, fishers, wolverines, raptors and house cats. In the summer, stoats are greyish brown with a white underbelly which will turn white as snow come winter.

Stoats do not dig their own burrows but rather nests in the burrows they steal from the rodents they kill. A female stoat can give birth to a litter of 3 to 18 babies, or kits, a year. Their gestation period lasts 280 days, with a period of 8 to 9 months where the kits do not develop. When the days become longer in the springtime, this triggers the kits to begin developing. A group of stoats is called a caravan.

This ermine was photographed and submitted to us by Dan and Ruth McCarty. Hopefully this little guy is busy hunting mice around their property and not getting into any weasel-y mischief!



Classifieds and Announcements

New Classified service for 2017!

For the modest cost of \$5 we will include a thumbnail sized photo of your item on this page as well as a full sized image in a special album on our facebook page to give people the opportunity to see your items without having to arrange a time to check them out. *Personal items only. \$5 charge is in addition to the \$10 charge if classified ad is over \$1000 (if applicable). HST additional. You must supply the photo.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Starting January 10th there will be organized shinny for kids from Grades 3-8 at the Tranter Park rink Tuesday nights from 6:30-8:00pm. Players must provide their own equipment. Helmets are required, hockey gloves are recommended. For more information please call Bryan Windle at 705-246-7606.

St. Joseph Island Hunters and Anglers general meeting is on Thursday, January 12th at 7:30. Guest speakers will be Rob Rutledge and students from Sault College presenting results from this fall's deer check station. Also Jason Doyon will introduce the Algoma Fish and Game Club and discuss a proposed Lake Trout stocking project for the north channel. Public are welcome to attend.

If you are interested in the making of quality maple syrup, the ALGOMA MAPLE SYRUP PRODUCERS will be hosting their Annual General Meeting and Maple Information Day on Saturday, January 21, 2017 at the Bruce Mines Community Hall from 11:00 - 4:00. Doors will open at 10:00 with dealer displays and representatives available to help with your equipment needs. Information sessions begin at 11:00 at a cost of \$6.00. A lunch will be available for \$17.00 which includes the cost of the information sessions. (For catering numbers, please RSVP for the lunch by Jan. 16, 2017 to juno.hughes@gmail.com or 705-248-3038 leaving messages) The AGM will be held following lunch, before the afternoon information sessions begin. Note: You do not have to be a member to take advantage of this information day. PRODUCERS HELPING PRODUCERS

Nordic Walkers - meet every Saturday for 1 hr. for snowshoeing. Sat., Jan 7th, at 10:00am at the Jocelyn Township Trails, will meet in the parking lot in front of the ski hill. Everyone welcomed!

OBITUARIES

January 1, 2017, long time Island resident and business woman Pauline Armstrong was welcomed into eternity and the arms of Jesus. She is reunited with her husband Keith. Join us to celebrate her life at the SJI Free Methodist Church on January 13th at 11am followed by a luncheon.

Friday Night Foods at the Legion

Heather Littleton will be cooking a lasagna and salad.

Entertainment will be Streamline Country

Entertainment supplied by volunteer musicians

Come and try your luck at the meat draw!

Take out available

JOB OPPORUNTIES

Masters Fibre Mill is located near Richards Landing on St. Joseph Island and currently has openings for both full and part-time permanent employees. All applicants must be comfortable using Excel and working in a team environment. The positions involve being on your feet and moving for an entire shift to operate large equipment as part of the yarn manufacturing process. Applicants must be able to lift a minimum of 20lbs. Training will be provided; experience with natural fibre or yarns a benefit. Resumes can be sent to P.O. Box 181 Richards Landing P0R1J0 or via email to: mastersfibreml@live.com.

Wishing all, the very best in the New Year; In loving memory of my son, Will Duma, from Elizabeth Eddy.

Happy New Year to all my family & friends; In memory of Will Duma, from Kiera Prout.

MMHA thanks you for your donation



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Patrick Gladu

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Sudoku
answers in next week's Clippings

			5				3	2
5		6			7			1
3		7			2	4		
		8		1				
7					5	8		
	5	2	8					4
			6		8			
		4	2	5		6		
						5	9	

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Last Week's Answers

4	1	3	6	2	7	5	9	8
9	2	6	8	3	5	4	7	1
7	5	8	4	1	9	3	6	2
2	4	5	7	8	6	1	3	9
8	6	1	3	9	2	7	5	4
3	9	7	5	4	1	8	2	6
1	7	2	9	5	4	6	8	3
6	8	4	2	7	3	9	1	5
5	3	9	1	6	8	2	4	7

What's Happening on the Snowmobile Trails?

I know when riders see all the snow that we have been having they want to know why our trails are still not open. Because most of our trails aren't on roads it takes more snow to have the base required to get our trails packed. Our trails are mostly on unopened road allowances, we also have many areas of swamp, rocks and water crossing our trails. Our trail boss and others have been out since the fall removing the many trees that fall across the trails, this is an ongoing task as trees fall all the time. Our signage boss has been out to check the signage to make sure all the signs that are required are still in place and up to the standard of the OFSC. All of this must be done before any trails can open. In the last 2 weeks the guys in the club have been working extremely hard to get the trails packed and now we must wait for more snow and colder weather to get our trails up to top grade. On Monday January 2nd we opened most of the trails on the island to yellow. This is caution and you must be aware that many of the trails will have rocks showing and water on them so please ride accordingly. Check the interactive trail map on the OFSC to see what trails are open in the area.

The club thanks you for your patience and remind everyone that everyone is welcome to join our club. Check the Clippings for our meeting dates.

Thank you for your patience.
Pat Davey
President SJIVoyageurs
705-450-6745



Happy New Year

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The Island Clippings is pleased to publish personal Classified Advertising and Public Service Announcements of 50 words or less, free of charge to Island residents, as a community service. Other than personal for sale ads the announcement must be of value to the community. We reserve the right to decide if the ad is of service to the community.

Ads or announcements for non-residents or items or services, to be sold for profit, or generate income or events charging an entrance fee (which includes "not for profit organizations") as well as items valued at over \$1,000. will incur a nominal charge of \$10. plus HST.

We reserve the right to determine if a fee is required. We reserve the right to edit down to 50 words or less.

Business or commercial ads, including those placed by individuals do not qualify as Classified ad or Public Service Announcements.

Such advertising must be via display advertising, governed by our published rates in effect at that time.

Ads or announcements will appear in one issue, but may be repeated, at your request (space permitting).

Advertiser must resubmit ad each week. To ensure space for everyone, please limit your content to a maximum of 50 words.

Ads can be placed by: Email to: islandclippings@gmail.com or by phone 705 246-7678 (from 9 - 5, Mon-Fri)

Mail to: Island Clippings

2328 Huron Line, Richards Landing, ON P0R 1J0

Or for non timely ads simply put it in our pick-up box conveniently located at Gardiner's Corner. Kent's Corner & The Hilton Beach Waterfront Centre.

Sorry, we're not available on Sundays.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON ST. JOE

MONDAY	THURSDAY
Euchre, Legion Hall - 7:30 pm St. Joseph Twp. Public Library - 5 pm to 8 pm Bridge, Dr. Trefry Centre - 1 pm to 4 pm (Open to all seniors) Senior's Exercise Class, Dr. Trefry Centre - 10 am Free pool all day in the Legion lounge Carpet Bowling for 50 Plus, Legion - 1 pm St. Joseph Twp, Public Library - 5 pm to 8 pm Hilton Union Library - 3 pm to 5 pm & 7 pm to 9 pm	Dr. Trefry Centre's Day Out Program - 9 am to 3 pm. Coffee Connections 9 am, Dr. Trefry Centre, Come for a coffee! *Children's Library 9 am - 12 noon, Storytime at 10:30 am, Free pool all day in the Legion lounge Senior's Exercise Class, Dr. Trefry Centre - 1 pm The Children's Library, 10 am - 3 pm, Storytime 10:30 am St. Joseph Twp. Public Library - 3 pm to 8 pm
TUESDAY	FRIDAY
Cribbage (singles), Legion Hall - 7:30 pm Free pool all day in the Legion lounge Childcare Algoma C.A.P. Children's Playgroup - 10 am to noon at Free Methodist Church Community Quilting 1-3 pm, Main Floor Waterfront Centre except 3rd week held at the Trefry Centre	Hens & Stitches, Dr. Trefry Centre - 10 am to 12 pm, Island Cast-a-Weights, Calorie Watchers, moved to Hilton Beach Waterfront Centre, near Post Office, same time - 8:30 am Archery, Hunters & Anglers Range - 7pm to 9 pm. Friday Foods at the Legion AA Meeting, United Church (new addition, side door) - 8 pm
WEDNESDAY	SATURDAY
Life Labs at the Dr. Trefry Centre - 9:30 to 10:30 am Free pool in the Legion lounge Bridge, Dr. Trefry Centre - 1 pm to 5 pm (Open to all seniors) 705 246-0036 St. Joseph Twp. Public Library - 10 am to 3 pm Food Bank, United Church, Richards Landing (side door) - 1 pm to 3 pm *Children's Library 9 am - 12 pm, Story time at 10:30 am Hilton Union Public Library - 1 pm to 5 pm League pool in the Legion Lounge at 7:30 Wednesday Food at the Legion 7:30 to 9 pm Hilton Beach Library Book Club : 3rd Wednesday every month from Jan - Nov 9:30am-11am at HB Library, call 705-971-1858 for booklist. Please Join us! Jocelyn Social Ski/Snowshoe Every Wednesday afternoons at 1:30, Jocelyn Recreation invites everyone to join us for a social ski or snowshoe on our freshly groomed Mountain View Trails.	*The Children's Library - 10 am to 3 pm Hilton Union Public Library - 1pm to 5 pm Free pool all day in the Legion lounge St. Joseph Twp. Public Library - 10 am to 3 pm, St. Boniface Roman Catholic, Hilton Beach at 4:30 pm.
	SUNDAY
	The Anglican Parish of St. Joseph & St. George worships at 11 am at Holy Trinity, Jocelyn Free Methodist, 10th Side Rd. Coffee, tea and friendship at 10:30 am. Worship service 11 am. Island Bible Chapel, Richards Landing. Lord's Supper 10 am, Family Bible Hour 11:15 am. Grace United, Hilton Beach. 9:30 am. Harmony St. Marks United, Richards Landing. 11 am. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints meeting at McLennan Hall with services starting at 10am, all are welcome. School 10:50 - 11:30 Sacrament Meeting 11:40 - 12:30 St. Boniface Roman Catholic, Hilton Beach: See Saturday
	The Children's Library will be closed until Jan 24th.