



# StoneViews

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE NEIGHBOURS OF THE DUNTROON QUARRY Spring/Summer 2015

## Quarry Update

Aggregate production in Duntroon began the last week of April. There is some stone remaining to be mined from the north face of the existing quarry.

Over the winter a new shop was constructed on the floor of the existing quarry, which is now operational.

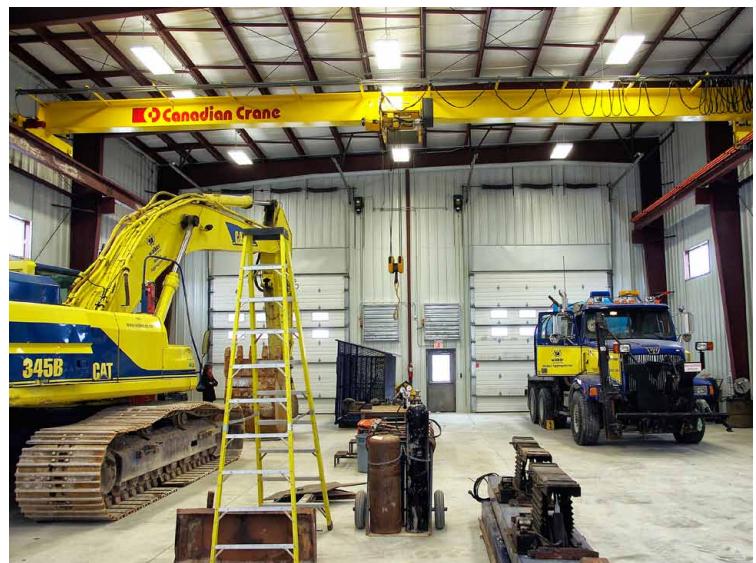
Work on County Road 91 will resume this spring and is expected to be completed sometime this summer. The construction of two main culverts along the road between Highway 124 and the 10th Concession was completed last fall. Part of the remaining roadwork on County Road 91 – from the 10th Concession to the quarry entrance – involves moving 17 hydro and telephone poles.

Once the work along County Road 91 is finished, Clearview Township will be satisfied that all roadworks within Walker's control have been completed, which will allow for shipping from the expansion quarry to begin.

The future of the roadworks planned for the 10th Concession and Side Road 26/27 is still uncertain. A staff report from the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) on development permit applications was originally scheduled to come before the commission in February 2015, but is now expected for the June meeting.

In the meantime, the existing Duntroon Quarry license has been amended to align with the expansion, as a result of plans to construct a tunnel under County Road 91. It is anticipated that the tunnel work will take six to eight weeks to complete and be finished sometime this summer.

(Photos at right - above) Two new culverts have been constructed as part of the overall road improvements on County Road 91. (Below) A new shop, on the existing quarry floor, is high enough for large equipment to enter and be repaired.



## A \$50,000 Gift to South Georgian Bay

The Walker family and Walker Industries Holdings Limited have committed to a donation of \$50,000 to help provide families in South Georgian Bay with safe, decent and affordable homes.

The gift is part of a \$200,000 donation over this year and next to four affiliates of Habitat for Humanity in Ontario – in South Georgian Bay, Windsor-Essex, Niagara and Halton. These are among the regions in Ontario where Walker's

operations are located. The company operates pits and stone quarries in Simcoe County, including the Duntroon Quarry.

"The Walker family, the company and its employees are committed to making a difference in the communities where we do business," says Sheila (Walker) Bonapace, one of the Walker Industries' shareholders. "We continually look to find ways to improve the social and environmental conditions in these communities, and are

so pleased to support Habitat for Humanity in helping families in need to purchase their own homes."

Habitat homes are built with contributions of building materials, goods and volunteer labour from businesses, along with financial donations from individuals, groups and corporations. The Habitat for Humanity model ensures that low-income families own their homes and no longer rely on social housing subsidies.

## ABOUT OUR NEIGHBOURS

### Living Right Next Door to the Quarry Expansion



Dana Brown and Brian Dempsey spend parts of each winter travelling south in their 45-foot motor home.

Brian Dempsey and his wife Dana Brown live as close to the Duntroon Quarry expansion as anyone; their property abuts the east side of the expansion area on County Road 91. They moved to their 33-acre property in 2000, after previously living closer to Collingwood near the Osler Ski Club.

Brian and Dana enjoy their expanse of land with its nearby trails for snowmobiling and snowshoeing in winter, and hikes along the Bruce Trail behind their property during the other seasons. They spend several weeks each winter travelling in the southern U.S. in their 45-foot motor home, and also have a summer vacation retreat near Parry Sound.

Brian owns his own contracting company, DBD Systems Inc., and Dana is the bookkeeper. The company has built several local landmarks, including some car and truck dealerships, riding arenas, agricultural buildings, the Ice River Springs Bottling Company in Feversham, and a drug store/medical office complex and adjacent bank/retail building now under construction at the foot of Hurontario Street in Collingwood.

The company has done several projects in the U.S. and offshore; one took him and Dana to Iceland to build an airplane hanger for Iceland Air in 1992 and 1993. Most recently, he completed work on the new shop for the quarry expansion, located on the floor of the existing Duntroon Quarry.

In addition to being a supplier to Walker Aggregates, Brian's company is also a customer. He often purchases material from the quarry for his construction projects. Another connection is Dana and Brian's son-in-law, Murray Arcaro, who is a Walker employee.

"The quarry has never bothered me," Brian says. "Walker has been amazing as a neighbour. As soon as they bought the quarry, they started making improvements, such as policing trucks along County Road 91 for noise and speed. They've been very fair."

### In Memory of Ron Plewman and Gene Fortin



#### Ron Plewman

It is with great sadness that the employees of Walker Aggregates learned of the passing of Ron Plewman in November 2014 at the age of 68.

Ron was a long-time employee of Walker Industries, having served as production supervisor, operations manager, and then vice-president of all of Walker's operations from 1976 to 1999.

A former resident of St. Catharines, he moved to Meaford, Ontario, after his retirement. Ron continued to work for Walker Aggregates as a consultant on special projects and overseeing the operations of the Clarksburg Pit, near Collingwood.

"He was a leader and an inspiration," notes Aggregates executive vice-president Ken Lucyshyn, who says Ron was a personal mentor to him. "He was a very gentle man, with a lot of integrity, who had a great deal of respect within the industry. He was a tremendous influence on the people he worked with here at Walker, and we will miss him deeply."

Ron leaves behind his devoted wife Connie, and daughters Dayna and Sharlene and their families.



#### Gene Fortin

A 35-year employee of Walker Industries, Gene Fortin, passed away suddenly in March 2015. Gene Fortin began his career at Norjohn Contracting and Paving as a heavy equipment mechanic.

He held his most recent position as equipment manager for the Walker Aggregates and Construction Group for more than 20 years.

"For those of us who knew Gene, we know he was a committed family man who was always ready with a laugh, extremely fun-loving and so lovable," says Walker executive vice-president Ken Lucyshyn. "He was also like family to many employees at Walker Industries. He will be sorely missed for so many reasons, especially the loyalty and dedication he showed to our company."

Gene was based at Walker's head office in Thorold and lived in Niagara Falls.

He leaves behind his loving wife Larisa, daughter Ashton and step-son Timour.

# A Plan for Quarry Work Until Retirement

At the age of 54 and after a decade of work at the Duntroon Quarry, Doug Lockhart was one of the anxious employees who had wondered if the quarry expansion would ever proceed. "This is the place where I'd like to finish off my years of work," he says. "I plan on staying until retirement, as long as the quarry work is still there."

Now employed as a shipping loader operator, Doug has held various jobs at the quarry over the years, including as a crusher operator and rock truck driver. Before joining Walker Aggregates, he worked in heavy equipment sales, but says he made the job change because he wanted to come home to his family every night and not be constantly on the road.

"It's a great place to work," Doug says of the Duntroon Quarry. "We're all family."

Doug and his wife Janet live in Nottawa; Janet was born and raised there and

Doug was raised in Collingwood. Janet is employed at the Saunders Book company in Collingwood.

Doug and Janet have two children. Matthew is a pastor at a church in Port Colborne and Amelia teaches grades 4/5 at True North Academy in Wasaga Beach.

The couple are known in their Nottawa neighbourhood as hosts of a "Little Free Library," where people are welcome to stop by the book box at the end of their driveway, and take a book and leave one to share.

## EMPLOYEE PROFILE



Janet and Doug Lockhart have a "Little Free Library," mounted on a post at the end of their driveway.

In their spare time, they enjoy walking, skating, biking and snowshoeing, with summer long weekends spent in their camper at one of Ontario's provincial parks.

## Two Industry Awards for Duntroon Quarry

The Duntroon Quarry has won a Community Relations Award and a Progressive Rehabilitation Award from the Ontario Stone, Sand & Gravel Association (OSSGA). Both awards were presented to Walker Aggregates during the OSSGA's Annual General Meeting in Toronto last February.

The Community Relations award recognizes good neighbourly activities, community involvement, media relations, education and industry awareness.

The Duntroon Quarry was recognized for community events – such as the annual summer BBQ and quarry tour and Christmas holiday Wine and Cheese reception – support for local organizations, efforts to reduce noise and dust, and regular print and online communications.



Walker Aggregates operations manager Frank Kielbowich accepts the OSSGA Progressive Rehabilitation Award from association president James Gordon.

The Progressive Rehabilitation Award recognizes ongoing efforts of individual operators in progressively rehabilitating their sites in accordance with their site plans. The Duntroon Quarry's rehabilitation efforts last year included the creation of a perimeter road around the quarry, and 75,000 cubic metres of overburden placed along the quarry's slopes for its eventual transformation into a lake.

The awards review panel was comprised of judges including representatives of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Ducks Unlimited, associate members of the OSSGA and Mayor Dennis Lever of Puslinch Township.



## Where the Rock Goes



## Whirlpool Golf Course

Manufactured bunker sand from the Duntroon Quarry has been used by prestigious golf courses across Ontario, including the Niagara Parks Commission courses (Legends on the Niagara and Whirlpool), Forest City National in London, Cardinal Golf Club in Kettleby, Barrie Country Club, Duntroon Highlands Golf Club, Mitchell Golf & Country Club, Georgian Bay Club, Tangle Creek Golf & Country Club and the Raven Golf Club at Lora Bay.

# Duntroon Quarry Holiday Reception 2014

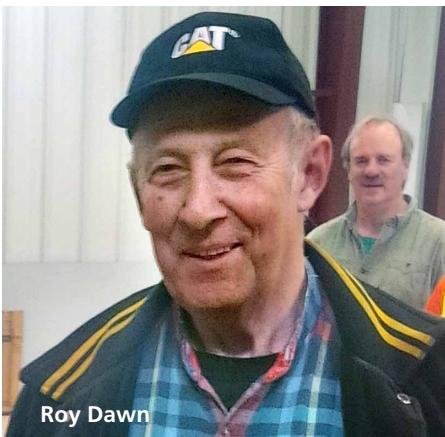


Friends and neighbours of the Duntroon Quarry and expansion joined Walker Aggregates staff for the annual PLC Holiday Reception at Mylar and Loreta's Restaurant last November.

## Good Luck Roy!

The team at Walker Aggregates wishes Roy Dawn all the best in his retirement from the company.

Roy came to the Duntroon Quarry as a welder 28 years ago, and has been an employee of Walker since the company purchased the quarry in 1995.



Roy Dawn

## You're Invited!

To the Annual Duntroon Summer BBQ & Quarry Tour

Friday, July 10, 2015

Tour buses load at 11:30 a.m., followed by the BBQ at noon.

Hope to see you there!



Duntroon Quarry  
Simcoe County Road 91  
Duntroon, ON L0M 1H0  
705 445 2300

## QUARRY MANAGEMENT

Rick Laws  
Quarry Superintendent  
705 445 2300 ext.4250  
rlaws@walkerind.com

[www.walkerind.com](http://www.walkerind.com)

Frank Kielbowich  
Operations Manager  
905 680 3673  
fkielbowich@walkerind.com



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