



StoneViews

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE NEIGHBOURS OF THE DUNTRON QUARRY Spring/Summer 2017

Duntroon Quarry Update

The extraction of stone from the Duntroon Quarry expansion is progressing well, with processing for the season having begun in early March. The existing Duntroon Quarry had lost some local customers over the past couple of years as its stone was being depleted. Many of these customers, as well as new ones, are now placing orders for stone from the quarry expansion. These include customers that manufacture Ready Mix concrete.

Since last summer, two new stackers have been installed in the production area on the floor of the former quarry, along with two new conveyors to connect to the stackers. One of the stackers is 170 feet long, and the other is 150 feet. They will allow for stone to be stockpiled more efficiently and moved out of the quarry more quickly. In the past, quarry workers operated loaders to create the piles of aggregate. The new stackers also allow for taller piles of inventory to be built up, since stone is shipped 12 months per year, but not produced during the winter months.

Walker Aggregates, The Ontario Aggregate Resources Corporation and the Natural

Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada are supporting a project to develop and test new strategies to restore mixed woods forests in the Duntroon Quarry expansion lands.

A team of academics and students from the University of Waterloo's School of Environment, Resources and Sustainability will be conducting research in an effort to quickly establish forest habitat in areas around the quarry expansion. More details about this project will be included in the Fall/Winter edition of StoneViews.



Two new stackers and conveyor systems have been installed at the Duntroon Quarry.



The extraction of stone from the quarry expansion is progressing well.



Where the Stone Goes



Collingwood Road Reconstruction

Approximately 10,000 tonnes of stone from the Duntroon Quarry is being used for road works happening this summer on Seventh and Eighth streets in Collingwood, between Birch and Hurontario streets. The project involves the replacement of sewer lines and water mains; and road, curb and sidewalk reconstruction.

Save the Date for Our Summer BBQ!

Friends and neighbours of the Duntroon Quarry are invited to our annual summer BBQ and quarry tour. The date is **Friday, July 14, 2017**, with tour buses loading at 11:30 am, followed by lunch.

We hope to see you there!

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Enjoying the Great Outdoors

After heading west to the Rocky Mountains as so many young people do after high school, Bill Merkley figured it was time to get serious about life and return home to Ontario. He had been driving a tow truck in Banff where he met his future wife Jolanda, also from Ontario, who'd been working in hotels in the popular tourist destination.

After returning to his hometown of Dundalk and hearing about the Duntroon Quarry from a friend who worked there, Bill kept applying before he was eventually hired as a haul truck driver in 2004. He now operates the primary crusher, situated on the floor of the original quarry. He is also one of two health and safety representatives for the site, which means his job includes identifying possible hazards, conducting monthly site inspections and touring Ministry of Labour representatives who come for visits, among other responsibilities. He is a strong advocate of Walker's safety mantra, "If you see something, say something."

Bill enjoys the tight-knit family atmosphere that comes with working at the Duntroon Quarry. "I like the people and the guys all get along well," he says. This includes socializing away from work, whether it be on hunting trips with co-workers or recreational outings as families.

A spring-time ritual for Bill involves collecting and boiling down maple syrup collected from trees on the farm of a family friend. "I get between 15 and 40 litres each year and give most of it away," he says.

Bill and Jolanda live in Kimberley with their nine-year-old daughter Miah and seven-year-old son Ebyn, along with a chocolate lab, cat and rabbit. "We're big outdoors people," he says, and spend much of their free time camping, biking and riding on their ATVs.



Jolanda and Bill Merkley, with their children Miah and Ebyn, near their home in Kimberley.

Hard at Work on the Family Farm

As you'd expect from farmers, Lyle and Marie Kenwell are usually up at 5:30 every morning to tend to their cattle and all the other work that needs to be done on their 290-acre farm. Also typical is the fact that both come from very large families with history of farming in the Simcoe-Grey area – Lyle is the oldest of 12 children and Marie is the oldest of seven.

The Kenwells purchased Beaver Meadow Farms, on the 10th Concession in Grey Highlands, when they first got married 56 years ago, and they've been hard at work ever since. Lyle is now 78 and Marie is 75, but retirement is not something they ever think about. "Farmers don't retire," Marie says with a laugh. "They just die."

"What would I do in the morning if I wasn't working?" Lyle asks. "I love to get up, go outside and kick the snow," he says.

Over the years, the Kenwells have purchased large plots of land around their property, which they later sold to each of their four children when they got married. Their two sons and two daughters and their families are carrying out the farming tradition.

"All of our neighbours are our kids up the road," Marie says.

In addition to caring for their 70 head of beef cattle, the Kenwells sell hay and firewood, and Lyle clears snow in the winter. Earlier in their lives they were growing mostly cash crops on 25 local farms. Until recently, their cattle were grazing on the 110 acres of Walker Aggregates' Osprey Quarry lands, at the corner of County Roads 31 and 91. That land will soon be forested, to compensate for the woodlands being removed for the Duntroon Quarry expansion.

Living across Grey County Road 31 from the Duntroon Quarry does not present a problem for the Kenwells. "We hear the blasts, but it doesn't bother us," Lyle says. "Everybody needs gravel."

Both Lyle and Marie, and their children and grandchildren regularly attend



Marie and Lyle Kenwell at their farm in Grey Highlands.

the BBQ and tour at the Duntroon Quarry every summer. Lyle also goes to the holiday receptions in Singhampton each year. They host their own get-togethers during Christmas and birthdays, when all the Kenwells gather at the Beaver Meadow Farms homestead for family celebrations.

ABOUT OUR NEIGHBOURS

Walker Purchases Three Pits in Simcoe County

Walker Aggregates has added to its operations in Simcoe County with the purchase of three sand and gravel pits. Two of the sand and gravel pits are in Oro-Medonte Township – one on 12th Line and another on 13th Line – while the other is in Severn Township on Uthhoff Line.

Last December, Walker Aggregates purchased the assets of the Stewart Group of Companies (GH Stewart Const. Inc. and Stewart Carriers Limited), based in Orillia. These included the sand and gravel pits, as well as the trucking operations of the group. Walker subsequently sold the trucking division to Duivenvoorden Haulage of Innisfil.

The purchase agreement does not include J.G. Stewart Construction Limited, which is a separate company.

This acquisition enables Walker to expand its aggregate operations in the Simcoe area by serving more customers and by enhancing the supply of products to its existing customers.

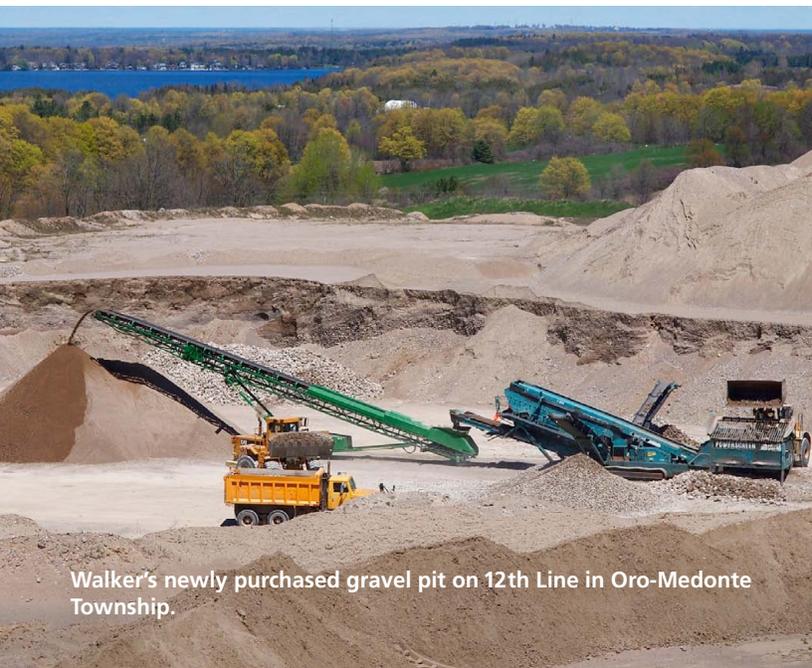
The approximately 15 employees working at the pits were offered jobs with Walker Aggregates, while the approximately 12 trucking employees were offered positions with Duivenvoorden Haulage.

“I’m pleased to be able to welcome Stewart’s aggregate and construction employees to the Walker team, and to know that the trucking employees have been given the opportunity to become part of Duivenvoorden,” says Walker Aggregates executive vice-president Ken Lucyshyn.

Lucyshyn says the acquisition of Stewart’s aggregate assets is part of Walker’s sustainability plan for the future. “We want to ensure we can continue to provide a good supply of sand and gravel to our customers involved in construction projects that contribute to the growth and economic well-being of Simcoe County.”

Glen Stewart had owned the Stewart Group of Companies for the past 33 years, which was spun off from a business his father Russell established more than 60 years ago. His son Rob had owned Stewart Carriers Limited since 2007, and grew up working with the company.

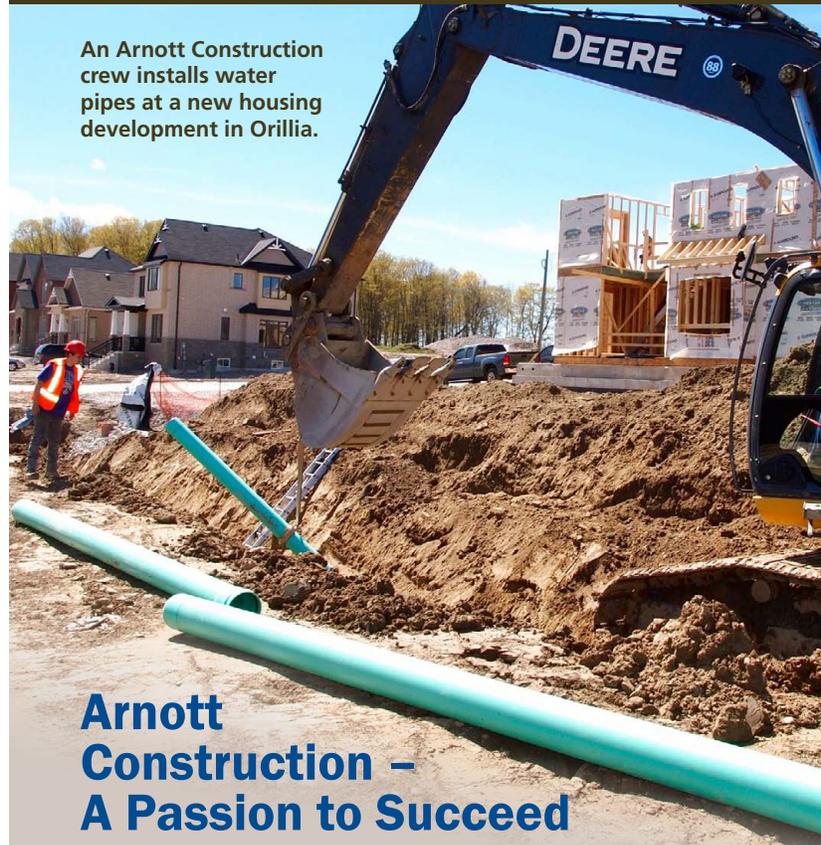
Walker Aggregates owns pits and quarries in Niagara Region, Simcoe County and Essex County.



Walker’s newly purchased gravel pit on 12th Line in Oro-Medonte Township.

CUSTOMER PROFILE

An Arnott Construction crew installs water pipes at a new housing development in Orillia.



Arnott Construction – A Passion to Succeed

Established way back in 1929, Arnott Construction is now one of the largest contracting companies in Simcoe County. Arnott specializes in water and sewer main work for customers including municipalities, businesses, land developers and public sector organizations. It also performs road reconstruction and earth moving, and builds concrete structures. A fairly new area of business involves site servicing for solar energy farms.

The company’s head office is located in Midhurst, with an area office in Collingwood. Arnott Construction was primarily a bridge builder in its early years and based in Arthur, Ontario. It moved its headquarters to Simcoe County in the mid 1970s, and transitioned into mostly doing sewer and water main work in the 1990s.

Projects have include Mapleview Drive and the Lowes store in Barrie, Lighthouse Point in Collingwood, and the Home Depot stores in Midland and Orillia. Arnott employs approximately 130 people during the busy construction season.

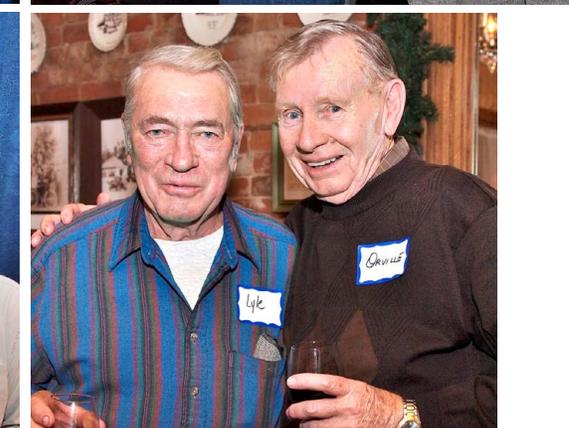
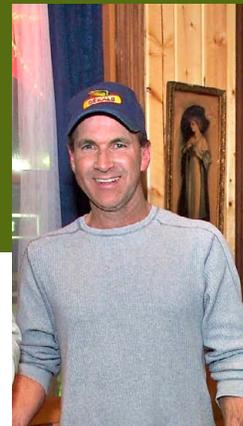
President Nigel Shaw began working as a labourer at the company in 1987, eventually becoming president and part owner, along with Todd Arnott, who is the CEO and grandson of founder Leonard Arnott.

Nigel attributes the company’s growth and success to “having the people with the passion to succeed. We have a reputation for doing things right, and doing what we say we’ll do.”

Arnott Construction uses stone, sand and gravel from all of Walker Aggregates’ pits and quarries in Simcoe County.

“Walker has great sales people and provides great service,” Nigel says. “It’s not just about the stone. The gravel doesn’t talk to me. It’s the people that make the difference.”

Duntroon Quarry Holiday Reception 2016



Friends and neighbours of the Duntroon Quarry joined quarry employees for the annual PLC Holiday Reception at Mylar and Loreta's Restaurant in Singhampton last November.



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