



# StoneViews

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE NEIGHBOURS OF DUNTRON QUARRY

Fall/Winter 2017



Charles Shalno has been hired as Duntroon Quarry's quality control technician.

## Duntroon Quarry Update

Production of stone from the Duntroon Quarry expansion area ended for the season on October 13, 2017 and is not scheduled to start again until next April. Material will be shipped throughout the rest of the fall and during the winter months, except from December 22 until early January. In the meantime, routine maintenance is being conducted throughout the fall and winter on the quarry equipment.

A new quality control technician was hired for Duntroon Quarry earlier this year. He is Charles Shalno, who previously worked as a field inspector for a construction consulting company.

A growing problem for the quarry over the past year has been the number of motorists stopping along County Road 91 and jumping the fence to take a closer look at the expansion area, which is easily visible from the road. "This is extremely dangerous," says superintendent Rick Laws.

The company has posted numerous "no trespassing" signs along County Road 91,

and Clearview Township has also posted "no stopping" signs along the roadway.

"Had the section of County Road 91 from Grey County Road 31 to the edge of the Walker property been closed to the public as planned, we would not be facing this very dangerous problem," says Walker Aggregates' executive vice-president Ken Lucyshyn.

The fact that the road remains open is also resulting in increased truck traffic along County Road 91, with trucks using the road to come to and from other aggregate operations in Grey County and beyond.

Meanwhile, recent changes to provincial legislation – including the Niagara Escarpment Plan, Aggregate Resources Act and the Greenbelt Plan – have necessitated revisions by Clearview Township to its application to the Niagara Escarpment Commission to upgrade Side Road 26/27.

There is still the expectation that the application will go before the Environmental Review Tribunal at some point next year.

Neighbours and friends of Duntroon Quarry are invited to join us for our

## Holiday PLC Wine & Cheese RECEPTION

Thursday, November 23, 2017

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

at

Mylar & Loreta's Restaurant  
Singhampton

RSVP before November 20  
to Rosemary Ackermann  
705-445-2300 ext. 4223  
rackermann@walkerind.com



Motorists have been engaging in the dangerous practice of stopping their cars and jumping the fence to get a closer look at the quarry expansion area.

## CUSTOMER PROFILE



A work crew from B&J Contracting has been doing major work on a section of Seventh and Eighth streets in Collingwood, replacing sewer and water lines, and reconstructing roads, curbs and sidewalks.

## Plenty of Opportunities for B&J Contracting

B & J Contracting has a problem that most business owners would love to have. The company is so busy that it's unable to handle all the project opportunities that come along.

"It's been a really good three to five years," says Dean Prior, the company's general manager.

Based out of New Lowell, B & J Contracting

specializes in excavating, water and sewer installations, and road works. It has been in operation for 20 years, mostly working in Simcoe County, but also taking on projects in Grey County and Muskoka.

About 75 per cent of the company's work is for private companies, usually new housing developments. The rest involves projects for municipalities, installing new

or replacing old water and sewer mains, and reconstructing the roads on top of them.

The explosion in housing construction – primarily in the Collingwood and Blue Mountain areas, but also throughout other parts of Simcoe County – has kept the company's approximately 50 employees busy all year round.

Five separate B & J Contracting crews do all the preliminary work on each development site – from the very start of clearing the land until the homes start going up.

The company sources virtually all of its stone from Walker Aggregates' Duntroon and Severn quarries – everything from limestone fill to level out housing sites, to gravel for road base construction and to place in trenches where sewer and water pipes are laid.

Dean says one of the biggest challenges the company is facing these days relates to the workforce. B & J Contracting is always looking to bring on new employees. "We're looking for anybody with drive and passion, who is willing to work long hours and show up every day in all kinds of weather," he says.

## Sarah's Working in a Man's World

### EMPLOYEE PROFILE

It's not all that typical for women to be employed in the aggregate industry, and especially not to come to work in a hard hat, safety vest and steel-toed boots. The few female employees who are employed at pits and quarries are usually found behind a desk in an office, or working in the scale house weighing trucks that come and go.

Sarah Nicoll is different. As the quality control lead for Walker Aggregates in Simcoe County, she works hands on in all of the company's local pits and quarries, as well as on job sites where the sand and stone goes. It's her job to ensure the products being produced meet customers' specifications and that those customers are happy with the performance of the materials once they arrive on the job site. If there is an issue, Sarah is the person the customers call. "I'm the complaints department," she says with a chuckle. Sarah troubleshoots any problems that might arise with aggregate materials on construction sites, and works with the pits and quarry staff and the customers to resolve them.

"I really like it," Sarah says of her job. "The guys are pretty easy to work with, once you get to know them."

Sarah's attraction to the aggregate industry came naturally. Both of her parents had worked in the business; her father drove a gravel truck and her mother was a scale house operator.

Sarah herself has 17 years of experience in sand, stone and gravel. She's been with Walker Aggregates for the past decade as a quality control technician and was recently promoted to lead. She spent seven years before that with another



Sarah Nicoll with her fiancé Wes Lawler and their 10-year-old Boxer dog Kilo at home in Dundalk.

aggregate company in various capacities involving quality control, general labour work and helping with equipment maintenance.

She is engaged to be married next summer to another Walker Aggregates employee – Wes Lawler, a mechanic at Duntroon Quarry. Wes has four children from a previous marriage, two boys aged 15 and 10, and nine-year-old twin girls, so Sarah will be marrying into an instant family. "I completely skipped over the baby years," she says. She and Wes live together in Dundalk, along with the children part of the time.

In their spare time, Sarah, Wes and the kids enjoy outdoor activities – including camping, fishing, baseball and golf – and watching the oldest child play hockey during the winter months.

## Keeping Busy and Fit in Retirement

For Bill and Marg Beam, taking care of a house and sprawling property isn't a burden. Instead it keeps them occupied and healthy.

It's obvious that the long-retired couple spend a lot of time tending to their place on the 10th Concession. Both their home and gardens are immaculate; even the horse barn is in pristine condition.

Bill and Marg had a home custom built on their acreage 30 years ago, after deciding to move to the countryside from Stayner. The land was formerly rolling pasture and forested hills.

Sections of the land around the house have been landscaped, with increasing amounts becoming lawn that takes Bill several hours each week to cut on his riding lawnmower.

Bill notes he can't help being inspired by the greens of the nearby Duntroon Highlands Golf Club.

Before retiring in 2001 Bill drove trucks transporting cars from manufacturing plants to dealerships throughout Ontario and across the border into the U.S. Marg retired in 1993 from her career with what is now Hydro One to enjoy more time with her family and grandchildren.

Bill and Marg are big supporters of the Duntroon Quarry and expansion, and attend the summer BBQs and holiday receptions each year.

Marg explains that when Walker purchased the quarry in 1995, she once complained after a blast vibration. "Walker sent engineers to visit our property and conduct monitoring," she says. The company then made alterations to its blasting practice.

"I have nothing but good things to say about Walker," says Bill.

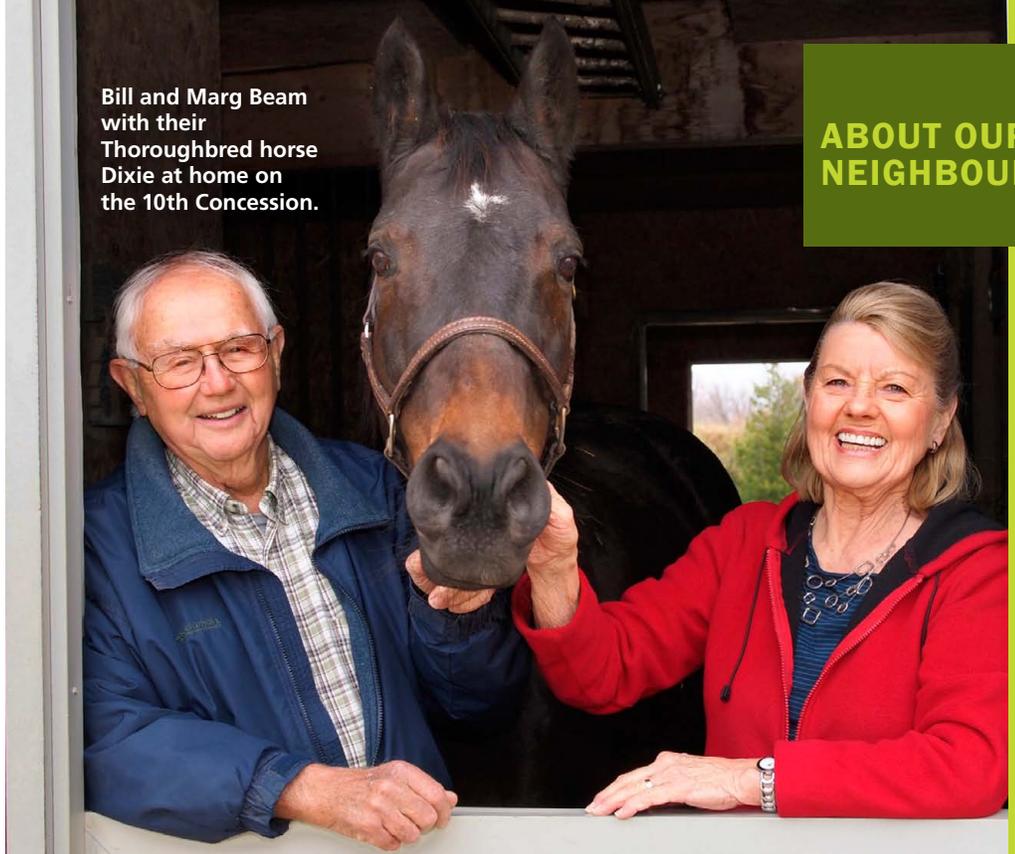
"The expansion is wonderful for this area as far as employment for the workers and their families, as well as the economic spin-off effects," Marg adds.

"Look at the growth in Collingwood, Wasaga Beach and Stayner," Bill notes. "Where would they get the gravel if not for the Duntroon Quarry?"

In their younger days, the Beams were avid skiers, both in the Collingwood area and in the U.S., where they travelled with their family.

In 2001 they also began taking long trips on their Honda Goldwing motorcycle,

Bill and Marg Beam with their Thoroughbred horse Dixie at home on the 10th Concession.



## ABOUT OUR NEIGHBOURS

including to Nova Scotia, the Eastern United States, the Smokey Mountains and Nashville, Tennessee.

The trips are shorter now, since Marg injured her back while helping to clear trees a few

years ago. The injury also ended Marg's horseback riding. The Beam's two horses, 22-year-old Maddie and 17-year-old Dixie, are now enjoying retirement, just like their owners.

## Crestview Estates Housing Development



Approximately 78,000 tonnes of stone from Duntroon Quarry has been used in 2016 and 2017 at the Crestview Estates housing development on Grey County Road 19 at Jozo Weider Boulevard. This includes limestone fill to bring some areas up to grade level, clear limestone for pipe bedding and granular limestone for road construction.



# Duntroon Quarry Summer BBQ 2017



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

## QUARRY MANAGEMENT

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