

# *Talpines*

*Property Owners Association*

## *Newsletter*

*December*

*2013*



**Another** year is slipping by. The above picture was snapped Thanksgiving weekend and seemed to show the reluctance of the sunsets to be out done by those taken on the warmer summer evenings.

**Water Levels** have made a bit of a come-back during late October and November due to considerable rain fall and cooler temperatures which would slow down evaporation. According to the latest Great Lakes Level News, Michigan-Huron is almost 12 inches higher than it was at the same time a year ago. It is however, still a good 16 inches below the long term average level. Perhaps next year we will be able to enjoy more normal water conditions again.

**Weed** mats washing onto our shoreline were not as large of a problem this year as last. Perhaps the low water meant boaters were unable to disturb as many weedy areas as in past years. Then again, maybe the weeds never got as tall this year trying to reach the sunshine. We did still have some to clean up but not like in the past few years.

**Recreational Water Sampling** of Sturgeon Bay was an interesting experience and as the information we gathered makes the rounds, the more your Directors feel it was very worthwhile and will be carried out again next year. Several suggestions so far indicate we should add several more sampling locations and do bi-weekly rather than monthly. Another suggestion was to just do June, July & August putting our program more in line with the Health Board program which only does Public Beaches in July & August.

**The Tay Shore Trail** enjoyed an extra long season this year with the first real snowfall being the weekend of the 24<sup>th</sup> of November. Incidents of illegal use seemed relatively lighter than in years past and many point to the re-installation of all the Barriers should receive a great deal of the credit. The winter gates were installed November 26<sup>th</sup> in our area.

*“Preserving our Heritage....Protecting our Future”*

**Tay Township** now has a new CAO on the job since mid October. Robert Lamb replaces the retiring Simone Latham in that position. Having met with Robert this week, I think he should be a good fit for the future of Tay. Welcome on board, Robert.

**Veterans Park** on Pine Street was a “beehive of activity” the last weekend of September. TVO teamed up with our local Waubaushene Recreation Group to transform the playground area into an attractive place for kids to play & while away the hours. Special thank you goes out to our member Bob & Kathy Murrell whose business (Pepi’s) supplied portable toilets for those involved that weekend. Amazingly, this was carried out and completed on a wet, cold couple of days and reports are that there was no shortage of help! Well done all!



**Unfortunately** the Waubaushene outdoor rink will not be seeing a hard surface floor this year as the only tender received for having a concrete floor installed was definitely way over the amount budgeted for the project. Unless a suitable alternative comes along, this project may never occur.

**Pine Street Beach** was the scene Tuesday morning (Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>) of a **dangerous rescue** performed by the Waubaushene Fire Department. Seems 2 individuals thought it was a good morning to go out in their canoe & do some hunting. Apparently, they were able to navigate over the ice but capsized in the water. The men, their dog and equipment were all brought ashore by Firemen and the hunters were taken to hospital by ambulance to be treated for hyperthermia. Well done Waubaushene Volunteer Firemen!

**Tay Artificial Ice Rink** is now open for the season in Port McNicoll. Check the Tay web site for skating times if you are looking for some refreshing exercise this winter. ([www.tay.ca](http://www.tay.ca)).

**Municipal Election** time will be upon us in the fall of 2014. This time around, Tay will be using the “Vote by Mail” system for collecting our votes. There will also be 1 Polling Station Election Day only, at the Tay Office.

**Talpines Annual Meeting** for 2014 will be held the first Saturday in June which this year is June 7<sup>th</sup>. More details will be in the next two Newsletter editions. Our Guest this year will be Alison Thomas, Clerk of Tay Township who will explain & show how Mail in Voting is to be done & works.

**The Keewatin** is apparently all decked out with Christmas Lights and a Community Tree is all lit up in the parking area in front of it in Port McNicoll. Sorry I didn’t get to see it when I was up this week. All reports indicate they had a very successful first year as a Tourist Attraction stating that around 300,000 visitors toured the ship.

**High Winds** at the beginning of November brought down a number of trees in the King Road area of Waubaushene. There were no reports of damages from what I have been told.

**FOCA** reports that most Associations this year have seen membership drop slightly as did ours. Since a part of their funding comes from these Associations based on their number of members, plus the fact that some of their Government program funding was also cut or eliminated, they may have to review several of their programs this year as to sustainability.

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**Our Web Site** hasn't been set up yet. The easiest and cheapest part apparently was reserving our Domain name. Hopefully in the New Year, we will finally get something up and running.

**Membership** (as stated earlier) is down several members this year mainly due to selling their properties. We hope to do a membership drive this spring and try to bring all the new property owners of the past couple years into our Association. Our dues are quite reasonable considering they also cover the FOCA membership dues, Quarterly Talpines Newsletters plus the Bay Water Sampling and special news reports. Talk us up to your friends and neighbours. This is your Association and the more members we have, the more we will be able to be involved with local issues and programs as well as items like our water testing.

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Wishing all the very best of the season and looking forward to seeing everyone next year!

*Merry*  
  
*Christmas*

**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR**

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