

Oakville resident Perry Pappas holds the carp his son Tyson, 7, caught off the Bronte Harbour Pier during a Father's Day fishing expedition. The fishy friend put up a fight, posed for photos, then dove back into the lake, leaving the Pappas family with a story to write home about.

photo by Megan Vaughan - special to the Beaver

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## A Father's Day fish 'tale'

Last Sunday (June 16), my wife Megan and I took our three boys to Bronte Marina to have some fun fishing together on Father's Day.

Tyson Pappas, aged 7, and Ashton Pappas, 4, both fished, and our one-year-old, Blake, acted as our fishing consul-

We were only there for half an hour when Tyson got a bite. He waited until the fish bit again and set the hook.

His rod bent right over, and said "Tys, you have a snag."

Tyson said, "No daddy, it's a huge fish."

I said, "I don't think so, it's not moving at all."

That's when I noticed the line moving upstream very quickly. The line was peeling off the reel, and was almost gone, when the fish turned back towards the dock.

As the fish began to surface, I saw a monster carp, slowly trying to re-submerge.

I have caught many large carp in my life, nothing even close to the size of this monster. We didn't have a net, but I happened to notice people gathering around to witness the action.

I recognized a colleague of mine Yvonne Howitt and her husband, Rick. They kindly offered to help lower me

down, as there was very little room to stand near the water. They each had a hold of my shirt as I leaned over the water, grabbed this giant carp and lifted it up on shore.

The fish measured 35 inches and was estimated to weigh 35 pounds.

Tyson gave me the 'Ultimate Father's Day present. Experiencing that moment with my wife and three sons was fantastic.

Thank you, Yvonne and Rick for helping us land this great fish. We took a few pictures and released the fish.

Priceless.

Perry Pappas, Oakville

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