

The Independent • August 16, 2012 | 4

Warkworth Long Lunch good fare for village

Proceeds used to
beautify community

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WARKWORTH -- It's al fresco dining on such a large scale that it shuts down the village's Main Street for one day a year.

The first time the Warkworth Long Lunch was held nine years ago, organizers expected a turnout of about 300 people; instead about 500 showed up, said Meirion Jones, co-chairman of the lunch with Kim MacNeil and Jim Cohen.

But that number was dwarfed on one occasion in the Long Lunches that followed.

"The most we've ever had was around 1,400," Mr. Jones said. However, in the last couple of years, attendance has settled in at between 600 and 700, which is "a very manageable number," he said, "and it looks like that's what we'll be again this year."

The first Long Lunch was held to celebrate the completion of the first phase in a long-term project to make improve-



KAREN LONGWELL / THE INDEPENDENT

WARKWORTH -- Kim MacNeil, Trent Hills councillor, left, and Meirion Jones are looking forward to the Warkworth Long Lunch this Sunday. The street is blocked off and tables are stretched out for the eighth annual Warkworth Long Lunch.

ments to the village, beginning with its Main Street.

The proceeds it generates, between

\$3,000 and \$4,000 a year, is ploughed back into the community's beautification led by the Warkworth Business Association.

This year's funds will go toward the installation of decorative light fixtures on the village's three bridges at an approximate cost of \$80,000.

"We're hoping for next year," Mr. Jones said, but it will probably require getting a grant to raise the necessary capital.

Tickets for the Aug. 19 event are available in person or by phone at Eclectic Mix in Warkworth, 705-924-9200, and the chamber of commerce in Campbellford, 1-888-653-1556.

The menu includes beef, ham, baked beans, pasta salad, corn on the cob and pie.

"It's a great way to show off the village because the Main Street looks terrific now," Mr. Jones said. "It's a lot of fun."

The event includes music by The Fade Kings, a juried art show by Spirit of the Hills with artists painting on the street, and a book sale at the library.

The stores will be open, and for the second year in a row, the Percy Agricultural Society will operate a fruit and vegetable market at the red barn.

BOAT

Ship runs aground

FROM PAGE 1

hoisted the sails, but the wind picked up.

"The wind was relentless and it kept blowing me towards shore," he said.

The Coast Guard responded to Seta's Mayday but the sailboat was too close to shore and nothing could be done.

"They couldn't get in close with the big boat, so they went back to Cobourg to get the inflatable, and it couldn't get in close either, so they had me abandon ship," Seta said.

"I just stepped off the side and I was on shore."

Seta said the ordeal lasted nearly three hours, but he remained calm throughout.

"I have lots of faith in our Coast Guard and I wasn't all that far off shore," he said.

"I've also got full scuba gear on board, so if worse came to worst I could have swam."

The extent of the damage to the 18-ton vessel is unknown. Seta said there was some water coming into the boat, but he had no idea from where.

Looking over the waves pounding at the side of his sailboat, Seta took it all in stride.

"I've run aground before and I've run aground sailing with others. That does happen. You just run out of water," he said.

But the good news is the good people from the community of Grafton who've helped Seta since he washed up on their shoreline.

"The people and neighbours are absolutely phenomenal," he said. "All morning they are bending over backwards to be helpful."

"I'm had breakfast and a shower and now I need some kip."

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TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT: Wind drives ship to shore

NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY AUG 20/12

Sailboat runs aground in Grafton

PETE FISHER

Northumberland Today

GRAFTON - A Toronto man's holiday was extended after his 46-foot sailboat ran aground early Friday morning.

Anthony Seta was on his way home after a two-week sailing vacation to the Bay of Quinte in the Belleville area on his boat called Morse Code of Love.

He's been sailing for 10 years and he bought the sailboat last year and sailed it up from Rhode Island.

Around midnight Thursday night, Seta said, water got in the engine near Colborne.

"My engine cut out when water got into the fuel," Seta said at about 9 a.m. while waiting for salvage crews to arrive from Pickering.

When the engine quit, he

see BOAT | Page 2



PETE FISHER Northumberland Today

The 46-foot sailboat Morse Code of Love owned by Anthony Seta made an unexpected stop along the shores of Grafton early Friday morning.