

Waterfalls Playground goes up for sale as Joe Prucyck gets ready to call it a day



Waterfalls Park is named after the waterfalls shown here. The park, which has been owned by Joe Prucyck for 28 years, is now for sale. Mr. Prucyck says his other business interests are claiming his attention to the point where he doesn't have enough time to properly run the park. The park covers an area of 156 acres and includes the pond at the head of these waterfalls and a 15-acre quarry lake.

(Herald photo by Lori Taylor)



A recent aerial view of Waterfalls Playground near Limehouse, currently listed for sale after 28 years' ownership by Joe Prucyck, who's retiring from the park management business to pursue other interests.

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald Staff Writer

Joe Prucyck bought the land now known as Waterfalls Park 28 years ago as he could have a quiet place to fish with his sons.

Now his sons are full-grown and his other business enterprises are demanding more and more of his time, so he has decided to sell the popular recreation spot near Limehouse.

The 156-acre property includes the scenic waterfalls for which the park is named, the 15-acre quarry lake for which the park is best known in the area, a second pond, a snack bar, two houses and hook-up facilities for 45 trailers.

Mr. Prucyck bought the land

in 1954 when he was working as a plumber in the area. He had two young sons who liked to fish, but "every place on the Credit was either private property or there was somebody else already there."

"Somebody told me there was some good fishing here, so I bought the place and dammed up behind the falls a little to form the pond," Mr. Prucyck said. "I bought this place because I wanted to fish, but people started coming along and asking me if they can have a picnic on the property, and next thing you know, I have a park."

OPEN 25 YEARS
Mr. Prucyck said he has people who've been coming to the park for 15 years. The park has been open to the public for

25 years.

"I've got all the customers I can handle," he said. "I'm booked solid this summer for picnics already."

Mr. Prucyck and his wife live in one of the houses on the property, and the man who helps maintain the property lives in a house by the waterfalls. That house was built on the foundations of the old mill which was located on the spot at one time.

The area was also known as the headquarters of the "Jones Gang" back in the late 1800's. Few solid facts about the gang are known, but rumor has it they were fond of stealing horses and burning barns, among other illegal activities they were supposed to have participated in, Mr. Prucyck said.

Keeping the park going is a lot of work, and Mr. Prucyck said he now has other businesses which are taking up much of his time. He owns a

meat plant in Burlington which employs 35 people. He also owns two-thirds of a truck company run by his son, Martin, in Parry Sound. The company is the only one in Canada to manufacture trucks for hot-painting the lines on roads.

"It all keeps me busy," Mr. Prucyck said. "And we're

getting too old to handle the young bucks, although we've had pretty good success with the young crowd. I just tell them they have to behave themselves or they won't be allowed in again, and this is a private park, so I can keep them out if they don't behave."

Developing the park took quite a few years, Mr.

Prucyck said. The first step was the bulldozing and flooding of the pond. The hydro and sewage hook-ups came later. The area around the quarry has been left almost untouched.

"This park could be developed some more, but I've decided to sell it," Mr. Prucyck said.

'Cool in the Furnace' entertains Glen theatre fans

"IT'S COOL IN THE FURNACE" about an energy crisis? No, it was anything but that.

"It's Cool in the Furnace" was the show presented by the Glen Williams Junior Choir last Sunday evening, under the leadership of Irene Wheeler. The Biblical story of

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego was given new life in this presentation, featuring songs, dances, a fiery furnace complete with smoke and a cheerful group of 25 enthusiastic children called Hal's Angels.

The King was played by David Collier, Daniel by Lisa

Green and Kevin Schneider, Kevin Roe and Joanne Totten had the dubious pleasure of being Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (who were thrown into the fiery furnace).

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About the Hills

Bake sale

Members of the Georgetown Red Cross Youth are holding a Mother's Day Bake Sale Saturday at Zellers from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The sale will feature a number of different kinds of cake, all for Mother's Day. The proceeds from the bake sale will be donated to the Ontario Red Cross Youth Fund, which pays for orthodontic work for youths in Ontario, among other services the fund provides.

Dean's list

Elizabeth Kewley, of 62 McGillivray Cres. in Georgetown has been named to the Dean's List for the winter quarter at the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio. William Baird, vice-president of Academic Affairs announced recently.



Ontario Outdoors

By R.C. (BOB) OLLIVIER

Tagged Fish are very important to the Ministry of Natural Resources. If you catch a tagged fish please return the tag along with the location the fish was caught. It's length, weight, date caught, species and your name and address should also be included. If you want to keep the tag, then send the tag number with the above information and you will share the work that goes into our fisheries.

The folder "Your Guide to Ontario's Fish Testing Program" lists the lakes and waterways that are tested for possible fish contamination. This list will identify the region of the lake or river you are concerned with and then you may order the corresponding book, "Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish."

Ontario tests 54,000 fish provide a good guide to anglers, and tests from some 250 new waters during the past year confirm that the majority of this province's waters contain healthy fish. Since 1977 there has been a steady improvement and only two waters show fish should not be eaten.

Claireville conservation area will be open for a canoe workshop on Mother's Day, May 11. Demonstrations, advice, magazines (Canoe Ontario) and retailers and manufacturers will all make it a valuable day for anyone interested in canoeing. FREE ADMISSION, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Highway 7 west of Highway 50.

CONSERVATION AWARD

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) and Garling have announced a new conservation award. This one is for the professional person in the field of biology, conservation and forestry, or those whose work involves them in conservation.

The OFAH has also kicked off the 1980 fishing season with their 22nd annual Molson's BIG FISH CONTEST. This year a special painting by Michael Dumas will go to every entry for a fish over the minimum weight. These weights are as follows: Brook trout - 3 pounds, Smallmouth bass - 4 pounds, Largemouth bass - 5 pounds, Rainbow trout - 6 pounds, Walleye - 8 pounds, Muskellunge (muskie) - 20 pounds. Entry forms are available at sports and bait shops or from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Box 28, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 6Y5.

I think the best spring bait for trout is the helgramite followed closely by the earth worm. Dig the worms and hook them through the nose but almost never should you have to use a dew worm. For helgramites, take a "flour sieve" and dig into the mud bottom of a pond or stream, sift out the mud and hook the "mite" under the collar for long life.

STUDY STOMACH CONTENTS

Fish both of these baits through a feeding lane in streams or on near the bottom in ponds. I never fail to examine the stomach contents of the fish I keep, and this is a sure way of finding what they eat most often. You do not need to know the names of the various foods, only to identify them when you see them, and in this way you can search for the best baits or more closely imitate their natural foods with an artificial lure or fly.

When it comes to cooking fish, there are many and varied ways, and the best depends on the kind of fish, and your own personal taste. You can bake, broil, barbecue, poach (cooking that is) steam, pan-fry or deep-fry. Regardless of the favoured method, do not over cook it. Next week, a few recipes for the fish cookery in ONTARIO OUTDOORS.

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