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THE INDEPENDENT & FREE PRESS

Tuesday, January 17, 2012

Halton Hills' award-winning newspaper serving Acton & Georgetown

32 Pages

50 Cents (+HST)

Globe-trotting Gills taking the long way back to Glen home

By LISATALLYN
Staff Writer

After living overseas for the past 21 years the Gill family is coming back to Canada and their house in Glen Williams—but they're taking the long way home.

The family— Barbara and Wayne and their son Jacob, 9—recently left Africa, where they have been for 18 years. Instead of coming straight home they're taking the scenic route— an around-the world seven-month adventure with stops in the Galapagos, China, Turkey, Italy, Ireland to name a few before arriving back home in Canada in August.

"All of us are looking forward to different parts of the trip," said Barbara. "We've got friends in seven different countries."

She said Jacob is looking forward to visiting Greece and checking out the 24 Hours of Le Mans car race in France. The grand finale of their trip—a cruise on the Queen Mary from England back to Canada— is something she's very excited about.

"I think I'm looking forward to the cruise— to relax— stare at the ocean," said Barbara.

First stop on the tour is Florida and a visit to Disney World followed by stops in Grand Cayman, Cozumel, Galapagos Islands, Machu Picchu, San Francisco, Fiji, New Zealand, Australia, China, Kazakhstan, Moscow, Turkey, Greece, Italy, France, England, Isle of Mann and Ireland.

The Gills have owned a house in Glen Williams since 2003 but have only been able to spend a month each year there. With Wayne working as senior advisor to the United Nations in monitoring and evaluation for HIV and AIDS for the past 21 years they have been living overseas in Africa (Sudan, Malawi, Botswana, and South Africa) and the Caribbean (Trinidad, Tobago, Grenada, St. Vincent).

Wayne, who grew up in Halton Hills, has also served as head of a Canadian non-governmental organization, World Food Programme logistics manager working on drought relief in Malawi, and is currently



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Submitted photo

rently working on his PhD.

Barbara has been a missionary, relief and development worker for two Canadian non-governmental organizations in

Malawi Africa, and a personal trainer, exercise specialist and Cancer Well fit trainer.

This trip of a lifetime, which will cost \$40,000, is something

they have wanted to do for years and are hoping their adventure might inspire others to do the same.

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