

Hollywood comes to Rockwood

By Rebecca Ring
The Rockwood Miller

Hundreds of film cast and crew descended on Rockwood Monday. "Cheaper By the Dozen 2", a 20th Century Fox production, is being partly filmed at Rockwood Conservation Area.

Adam Shankman directs this sequel, starring Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt, Hilary Duff, Eugene Levy and Carmen Electra. Martin's and Levy's families are rivals. Their vacation scenes (at Lake Winnetka, Wisconsin) are being filmed at the conservation area. Chances of "star gaz-

ing" are low to nil however, as the set is sectioned off and the cast is shuttled daily from Toronto for filming. Forget about spotting them at local restaurants, as all meals and snacks are catered on location.

The park is open but the beach area is closed to the public June 13 to 17, and possibly some days the following week. Until June 24, some areas of the beach may be restricted even when open. Contact the RCA directly for updates.

Traffic along Guelph Line is being delayed for filming. The OPP have been hired to stop traffic as each scene is filmed. These delays have so far been about 5-10 minutes each but have lasted up to 15 minutes. Residents on that stretch have been stopped in their driveways while cameras are rolling. Anyone in a hurry should take an alternate route this week if possible.

As local press, this paper attempted to get photos and stories of the filming. The public relations office of the production company (Dozens Canada Ltd.) did not return our calls. Taking the initiative, we showed up on set with cameras in hand and were soon approached by Shawn, a PA (production assistant). One of his duties was to keep outsiders away from the set.

In a show of gratitude to our community, we were allowed to take a photo of the set from the opposite side of



AAAAAND ACTION: "Cheaper By The Dozen 2" starring Steve Martin, Bonnie Hunt, Eugene Levy, Carmen Electra and Hilary Duff is being filmed at Rockwood Conservation Area this week and next. Pictured here is the set at the beach. - Danielle McIsaac photo

the water while no stars were present. As we were being escorted away from the beach, a voice came over the PA's 2-way radio saying "if the local press is still here, politely tell them to skidaddle."

On our way out of the park, we met Blake Woodruff, a very handsome boy who is acting in the movie. He plays Mike, the 10th Baker child. He kindly allowed us to take a photo of him and his dog, Joe.

Rockwood Conservation Area Park Superintendent, Brad Dixon, said interruption to the park is minimal. Campers with reservations were contacted and told about the beach closing. None objected. Currently, there are few weekday campers in the park. Of the five campers located, none had any objections to the beach closing and two were not planning to swim anyway. In an attempt to minimize disappointment for park patrons, Dixon said the GRCA negotiated a time for

filming when the park was not yet at high season.

According to Dave Schulz, coordinator of communications, the GRCA will earn \$10s of thousands for renting the beach as a film location. He declined to name a specific amount so as not to bias any future negotiations with

production companies. A final tally will not be available until filming in the area is complete. He said these earnings were not in the budget and will allow the GRCA to do some extra infrastructure improvements. With recent vandalism, the money could be well spent.

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Wellington O.P.P. Report

YOUTH FACES CHARGES

On Sunday, June 12 at 7:25a.m., officers from Wellington O.P.P. responded to a report of a male damaging a motor vehicle on Main Street, Rockwood. As officers arrived on scene, the suspect fled.

Members of the Western Region O.P.P. Emergency Response Team and the Western Region O.P.P. Canine Unit were called to the scene to assist with the search for a suspect. He was located under a bridge and taken into custody.

One officer sustained minor injuries when he slipped on a rock and injured his knee.

A 16-year-old youth from Guelph was arrested and faces charges of Mischief Over \$5,000, Theft Under \$5,000 (2 counts), Possession of Property Obtained by Crime (2 counts) and Assault with Intent to Resist Arrest. He is scheduled to appear in Youth Court in Guelph on July 27.

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