

## Clayton River Festival

Spend the weekend exploring the gorgeous and historic village of Clayton, NY at the Clayton River Festival, happening June 24-27, 2010! This festival will focus on the natural features of the Thousand Islands Region. We want to highlight the many recreational opportunities on and near the River, and promote the many great organizations and businesses around Clayton. Clayton Island Tours is organizing the event in partnership with local organizations and businesses, including the Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund, the Thousand Islands Land Trust, the Minna Anthony Common Nature Center, Cross Island Farms, the Hawn Memorial Library, the Thousand Islands Art Center, Save The River, Plein Air Painters Thousand Islands Region, Coyote Moon Vineyards, and others.

The Clayton River Festival weekend's activities include Nature Boat Tours, live painting by Plein Air Artists, bird watching TILTreks with ornithologist Gerry Smith, a traditional Shore Dinner on Grindstone's Picnic Point, kayak tours, free afternoon entertainment and a farmer's market in Frink Park, and an organic farm tour at Cross Island Farms on Wellesley Island. At Cross Island Farms, kids can meet the animals and learn about how they are raised on this special farm. The Minna Anthony Common Nature Center at Wellesley Island State Park will be hosting a Birds Of Prey presentation at their outdoor arena, featuring hawks, owls and eagles.

The Hawn Memorial Library will host a children's activity Saturday as part of their Children's Only book sale that weekend. There will be crafts, a book reading, and snacks available at the library. Be sure to check out the live art demonstration by the Thousand Islands Art Center at their Pottery Studio on Saturday afternoon.

Saturday night will feature a concert by the Great Lake Swimmers with a presentation by photographer Ian Coristine, hosted by the Thousand Islands Performing Arts Fund at the Clayton Opera House.

## Community Notes

### Thousand Islands Life e-zine

Thousand Islands Life e-zine, [www.thousandislandslife.com](http://www.thousandislandslife.com), invites the Clayton Community to visit our website each month. This online e-zine was created in 2005 by the late Paul Malo. Our objective is to encourage "raising the bar" and building pride in the Thousand Islands by recognizing and encouraging excellence, and it is our hope that our readership will help us accomplish that by participating in the process. We may not have room for all, but encourage contributions that will increase our knowledge and appreciation for the Thousand Islands. With over 200 square miles, there is much more of it than any of us can possibly know intimately. The magazine can help fill that gap. If you are interested in providing content to TI Life, please review these guidelines on our site and then submit a query to the Editor, Susan Smith [[susansmith@thousandislandslife.com](mailto:susansmith@thousandislandslife.com)].



Guidelines: The Region (On the River, above the River or under the River): "Thousands Islands Life, the regional overview, strives to provide the most comprehensive resource for information about the St. Lawrence River, from Cape Vincent and Kingston on Lake Ontario to Brockville and Morristown, fifty miles down the river. The web site is huge, providing information about twenty-two communities and other subjects. Exploration of layered materials should prove rewarding."

You can also find *Thousand Islands Life* on Facebook.

The Great Lake Swimmers are a Canadian band with strong ties to the Thousand Islands. They filmed a music video for their song *Palmistry* on the tall ship *Fair Jeanne* as it sailed through the islands last year. Ian Coristine is a long time fan of the band, and he will join them at the Clayton concert event to debut a multimedia presentation of his photos with their music. Ian will be signing his newly released fifth and final book, *The Very Best of Ian Coristine's 1000 Islands*, after the concert.

Free transportation and shuttle busses will be available all weekend, provided by the Freeman Bus Corporation. A shuttle will be running from the Cerow Recreation Park Arena, where there is plenty of free parking available, and dropping off/picking up passengers at various places around downtown Clayton. Another free shuttle will provide transportation from Clayton to Wellesley Island for the special events happening there on Saturday.

The Clayton River Festival weekend is packed with events and activities, and thanks to the strong community support, there is something for everyone to do. Many thanks go out to all of our event sponsors so far: Clayton Rotary Club, American Legion Post 821, Clayton Lions Club, Cross Island Farms, Jmf Publishing Inc, and Freeman Bus Corporation.

For a full schedule of events, please visit the Clayton Island Tours ecology website, [www.1000islandecology.com](http://www.1000islandecology.com), and click on the "Clayton River Festival" page. Call the Clayton Island Tours office at 315-686-4820, or email [islandtours@verizon.net](mailto:islandtours@verizon.net), for more information.

The Paynter Center would like to welcome all seniors to join us Monday through Friday, at noon, for our mid-day meal—tastefully prepared fresh at their kitchen on Strawberry Lane in Clayton. The suggested contribution is \$2.50 for seniors, and \$4.50 for visitors under age 60. Remember, no one over the age of 60 is ever refused due to lack of funds. Please call one day prior to reserve your noontime meal (315) 686-3553.

## Land Trust Announces TILTreks & Talks Schedule

We invite you to join us for one of our TILTreks & Talks in 2010. Most TILTreks are free and open to the public. The Grindstone Island Tour is reserved for TILT supporters only. Please sign up in advance so we are sure to have enough space for everyone. For more information about our TILTreks & Talks or to sign up, visit our website, [www.tilandtrust.org](http://www.tilandtrust.org) or contact us at 315-686-5345.

### Calendar of Events

Jun 11—Community Picnic at Zenda Farm, 6-8pm  
 Jun 24-26—Clayton River Festival  
 Jul 6—TILTrek, Kayaking on Grass Lake w/Indian River Lakes Conservancy and TILT, 6pm  
 Jul 10—TILTrek, Bike Tour on Grindstone Island, 9am  
 Jul 17—Annual Loon Census, 8-9am  
 Jul 17—Summer Gathering at Zenda Farm Preserve, 6-9pm  
 Jul 20—TILTrek, KidsTrek, 1pm  
 Jul 27—TILTrek, Grindstone Tour, 8:30am (TILT Supporters only)  
 Aug 3—TILTrek, Bike Ride on Wellesley Island, 10am  
 Aug 9-13—TILTrek, Eagle Wings Tern Grid Removal, 9am  
 Aug 14—TILTrek, Wolfe Island Bike Ride, 10am  
 Aug 17—TILTrek, KidsTrek, 1pm  
 Sept 11—Potter's Beach Cleanup, 9am

### Wellness Services Expand Along the River

The River Wellness Center, 814 Riverside Drive, Clayton, is open Monday through Saturday, by appointment. The Center now offers various types of massage; Energy Sessions; Aromatherapy facial massage; energy sessions; doula services; and wellness consultations, all provided by certified professionals. The Center's Thousand Islands Park location opens in June. Call 315-767-7391 for more details.

## Clayton Community Newsletter Summer 2010



### Summer 2010

All events begin at 7:30 pm

**Lost Channels:**  
 an evening with Great Lake Swimmers & Ian Coristine  
 Saturday, June 26

**Orchestra of Northern New York**  
 Thursday, July 1

**Ballroom With A Twist**  
 Wednesday, July 14

**Ensemble Caprice,** Friday, July 23

**The Complete Works of William Shakespeare—Abridged**  
 Friday, July 30

**Los Lobos,** Wednesday, August 4

**Eric DeGray,** Wednesday, August 11

**Taj Mahal,** Thursday, August 19

**The Glenn Miller Orchestra,** Thursday, August 26

**Ted Keegan,** Friday & Saturday, September 3 & 4

**Chopin Piano Competition Winners**  
 Saturday, September 11

Please visit: [ClaytonOperaHouse.com](http://ClaytonOperaHouse.com)  
 for a complete listing of events.

THOUSAND ISLANDS PERFORMING ARTS FUND

ISSUE

Summer  
2010

# Clayton Community Newsletter



Former Frink America Site: 2009  
 Photo Courtesy of Doug Johnston & Christiana Langer

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## Important Meetings

[Clayton Town Board](#)

2nd & 4th Wed., 5pm

405 Riverside Drive

[Clayton Village Board](#)

2nd & 4th Mon., 6:30pm

(Jun, Jul, Aug-4th Mon. Only)

425 Mary Street

[Joint Town/Village Planning](#)

1st Thurs., 7pm

405 Riverside Drive

[Joint Zoning Board of Appeals](#)

3rd Mon., 7pm

405 Riverside Drive

[Clayton Local Development Corp.](#)

1st Thurs., 4pm

405 Riverside Drive

[Clayton Fire District](#)

2nd Wed., 7pm

Clayton & Depauville Fire Halls

[TIERS](#)

4th Tues., 6:30pm

Clayton TIERS & LaFargeville

Town Offices

Public is welcome  
 at all meetings!

**Town of Clayton, 686-3512**

Justin A. Taylor, Supervisor  
 Town Board: George E. Kittle,  
 Donald Turcotte,  
 Lance Peterson,  
 Robert Cantwell, III  
[www.townofclayton.com](http://www.townofclayton.com)

**Village of Clayton, 686-5552**

Norma Zimmer, Mayor  
 Village Board: Doug Rogers,  
 Shauna Sherboneau, Mary  
 Burke, Dennis Honeywell  
[www.villageofclayton.com](http://www.villageofclayton.com)

## Making Diamonds from Coal...

On February 5, 2010, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Peter Grannis announced that the cleanup of the former Frink America snowplow manufacturing site in Clayton was complete, clearing the way for the 8.4 acre parcel along the St. Lawrence River to return to productive use. Historically, the former Frink site was home to industrial operations including a rail yard, storage of feed, lumber and coal, an ice house, and bulk storage of petroleum—as well as being the main manufacturing site of Carl Frink's Frink Sno-Plows from the 1920's through 2000. In 2005, the Town of Clayton and Clayton Local Development Corporation acquired the property from Jefferson County through tax foreclosure.

The first order of business was to bring the site into alignment with environmental regulations. This process included asbestos abatement, removal of buildings, removal of petroleum storage tanks, and removal of contaminated soils. Work began in August 2007 and the last soil was removed and the last building demolished by July 2009. In total, 19,035.44 tons, or 38,070,880 pounds—of petroleum, solvent and metals-contaminated soil were removed from the site. The remediation of the former Frink America property was made possible through \$1.5 million in grants from the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP), administered by the DEC.

During the remediation process, the Town and CLDC secured a 1.27 acre public easement and has since constructed a Riverwalk within the easement that follows the shore of the St. Lawrence River and will be accessible by the public in perpetuity. Now that the remediation efforts are completed, amenities such as overlooks, benches and lighting are planned for along the Riverwalk and mixed-use development is planned within the site itself. This may include new park areas, green-space, and room for some commercial development. The Town of Clayton and the CLDC have acquired two Department of State Local Waterfront Revitalization grants and one NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation grant to implement and further the Riverwalk and its amenities. Additionally, the Town of Clayton, Village of Clayton, CLDC and the Clayton Chamber of Commerce have recently secured a federal Boating Infrastructure Grant for the purpose of building a transient docking facility on the shore of the Frink property.

On the whole, this entire project has and will continue to maximize public access to our waterfront, both physical and visual, and improve the community's quality of life while enhancing visitors' experiences of Clayton's unique coastal setting in the Thousand Islands. It is the "single, most important opportunity that will influence reinvestment in the community for the foreseeable future and have the greatest impact on Clayton's vision of renewed and inspiring waterfront. This property will attract new business and residential development ventures in Clayton as well as attract new residents and retain existing residents."

## Boating Infrastructure Grant

The Clayton Local Development Corporation (CLDC) is pleased to announce it has received funding through the Boating Infrastructure Grant Program from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The CLDC partnered with the Village of Clayton, the Town of Clayton and the Clayton Chamber of Commerce to apply and receive funding for \$1.1 million of a \$1.7 million project. The project will include the construction of a transient docking facility specifically for recreational boats that are 26 foot in length or larger. The project will include a wave attenuator, docks and a bathhouse. The new facility will be built on the remediated Brownfield site of the former Frink Snow Plow factory.

The transient docking facility will allow a new population of visitors to explore the shops, restaurants, parks and museums that Clayton has to offer. The transient facility will be located a short walk from the shopping district. Boaters will be able to reach the shopping district by walking along the newly built Clayton Riverwalk. Residents and local businesses will benefit as the transient facility attracts more people to the area.

## Community Calendar

Jun 6—Jul 25, 6:30pm  
Sunday Sunset Series  
Frink Park

Jun 7—12  
Craft Book Sale—Hawn Library

Jun 11  
TILT Community Picnic  
Zenda Farm

June 11—13  
Bi-Annual Quilt Show  
Cerow Recreation Park

Jun 12  
"Trash & Treasures", Village

Jun 12  
1000 Islands Miracle Day  
Antique Boat Museum

Jun 14—19  
Cook Book Sale—Hawn Library

Jun 18—20  
Great NY Food & Wine Show  
Cerow Recreation Park

Jun 19  
Lion's Trash & Treasure Day

Jun 21—26  
Mystery Book Sale, Hawn Library

Jun 24—27  
Clayton River Festival

Jun 24—Sep 16 (Thursdays)  
Farmer's Market—Frink Park

Jun 24  
5th Annual Art & Architecture  
House Tour—TI Arts Center

Jun 26, 6:00am  
Bass Fishing Tourney  
French Creek Marina

Jun 26, 7:30pm  
Ian Coristine & the Great Lake  
Swimmers, Opera House

Jun 27  
1000 Islands Seaway Bass  
Tourney & Angler's Choice  
Clayton Marina

Jul 1, 7:30pm  
Orchestra of Northern New York  
Clayton Opera House

Jul 3  
Gala Fireworks Downtown

Jul 11, 4:00pm  
River Rat Rhythm Project  
Clayton Opera House

Jul 12—16, 9:00am—1:00pm  
Magic Week—Opera House

Jul 14—16  
Hawn Library Book Sale  
Clayton Vol. Fire Department

Jul 14, 7:30pm  
Ballroom with Twist  
Clayton Opera House

Jul 14, 11:00am  
History & Tour of Grindstone  
Clayton Island Tours

### Joint Town/Village Courtroom Project

The Town and Village recently completed work on the joint municipal courtroom project, which now offers a separate courtroom in order to provide safety and security; rest rooms; a ventilation system; and a portion of the exterior painting of the Village municipal building. The public is welcome to call the Village Office (686-5552) and arrange to view the new complex.

### Preserve America

The Town of Clayton was recently honored by First Lady Michelle Obama, designating the community as a Preserve America Community. This program is a federal initiative that recognizes communities for their efforts in preserving and enjoying America's price-less cultural and natural heritage. The goals of the initiative include strengthened regional identities and local pride and increased local participation in preserving our heritage assets. Find more information at [www.preserveamerica.gov](http://www.preserveamerica.gov).

### Great NY Food & Wine Show

The Clayton Chamber of Commerce will once again host the Great NY Food & Wine Show on June 18-20, at Cerow Recreation Park. Exhibit hours will be 1-8pm on Friday; 11am-6pm on Saturday; and 12-5pm on Sunday. Admission is \$5/adults; \$4/military; and \$3/children. This event celebrates "Made in New York" food and wine products including candy, cheeses, nuts, sauces, herbs, spices, maple syrup products, cookies, and of course, New York State wines. This year a newly added feature will be the "people's choice award" for the wineries. Consumers will vote on the wine of their choice. A gold, silver and bronze award will be given out to the wineries. There will be cooking with wine demonstrations all three days, featuring guest chefs. Check with the Clayton Chamber for demonstration times. Go to [www.1000islands-chamber.com](http://www.1000islands-chamber.com) and click on Food & Wine for more details.

### Town of Clayton Completes Pool Renovation Project

The Town of Clayton has recently completed a pool renovation project at its Cerow Recreation Park location. Based on the results of a NYSERDA Energy Audit and on the evaluations of Fourth Coast, Inc., the project engineer, the project included a new boiler to provide greater efficiency, filters, electrical improvements to replace the existing panels from the 1970 construction of the facility, a pool cover with a storage reel system to significantly reduce the energy necessary for heating the pool, the replacement of the bathhouse roof which is also from the original 1970 construction of the facility, and installation of a new electrical transformer disconnect. The anticipated project cost for this renovation was \$255,802. However, through the diligent efforts of the Town of Clayton staff and the project engineer, the entire project cost was \$176,768.60—almost \$80,000 less than expected. At the last Town meeting, the Town requested that our Town Engineer investigate the additional cost for adding solar hot water. Any excess heat from the collectors when shower demand is down could then be displaced to the pool. It would allow the Town to shut the boiler down after the pool is up to temperature, depending on weather—reducing the cost to the Town for heating the pool.

The pool will reopen on June 11, 2010, after school and on weekends depending on weather. Regular hours will begin on June 24, 2010. Open Swim is offered daily from noon-5pm. You must be at least ten years old or accompanied by someone sixteen or older. Lap Swim is from 5-6pm and Family Swim is from 6-8pm (all children must be accompanied by an adult). Swim Lessons begin on June 27. Make sure to register by June 20. Applications and more details are available at 686-4310 or [www.townofclayton.com/recparkpoolschedule.htm](http://www.townofclayton.com/recparkpoolschedule.htm).

### New NYS DEC Burning Restrictions

As of October 14, 2009, the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation has initiated new rules regarding open burning. Burning trash is now prohibited statewide. The exceptions to the open burning rules include the right to have campfires less than 3' high by 4' in length, width or diameter; small cooking fires; and ceremonial or celebratory bonfires. Remember, fires cannot be left unattended and must be fully extinguished. For details, see: [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/58519.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/58519.html).

### Post Your 911 Numbers

The Village of Clayton wishes to urge residents to plainly post their 911 address where it can be seen by emergency responders. By making these numbers visible, emergency responders will be able to find your homes and businesses more quickly—possibly providing critical time necessary to save a life.

### Thousand Islands Young Leaders Organization (TIYLO) Plans 1st Annual River Rat Triathlon, August 29th

TIYLO will be hosting its first annual River Rat Triathlon on Sunday, August 29, 2010. The event will be staged out of Centennial Park in the Village of Clayton and will consist of a 600 meter swim or 3 mile kayak/canoe; an 18 mile bike; and a 5k run. Information on registration and race details can be found at TIYLO's website: [www.tiyllo.org](http://www.tiyllo.org) and interested individuals can also



The Thousand Islands Winery, located at 43298 Seaway Avenue, in Alexandria Bay, is the most northern winery in NY. Conveniently located just off the Seaway Trail, the winery offers a wide array of wines for purchase. In addition to hosting numerous events each year, the Winery would also be happy to host and cater any event you have in mind, including birthday parties, weddings and receptions, family reunions, and pig roasts. Their calendar of events, and more information on the Winery, can be found at their website, [www.thousandislandswinery.com](http://www.thousandislandswinery.com).



### Clayton Community Band Announces Summer Concerts

Great music, local North Country talent, and a ticket price you can't beat! This describes the Clayton Community Band, Resident Ensemble of the Clayton Opera House. Having begun its sixth season on April 27, the Band, under the direction of Gloria Hvizdos Musser is looking forward to welcoming everyone to its summer concerts. The **June 8, July 20 and August 31** concerts will all be held in the Opera House at 7 PM, and admission is \$5. Students accompanied by an adult are always admitted free.

Come one, come all, sit back, and enjoy the music presented by the Clayton Community Band. The approximately sixty Band members represent nineteen different North Country communities! Tickets for the Band concerts are always available at the Clayton Opera House. For more information about the Clayton Community Band, please also check out the Band's website: [www.claytoncommunityband.com](http://www.claytoncommunityband.com).

We look forward to seeing you for our June 8, July 20 and August 31 summer concerts (and later on, too, for our October 19 concert, and our November 30 Holiday Concert)!

### New York's Best Kept Secret: The Antique Boat Museum

The Antique Boat Museum is New York's best kept secret. Situated on one of the loveliest protected harbors in the 1000 Islands, the Museum's campus includes dockage, exhibit buildings, a library and archives, the magnificent McNally Yacht House, the Museum Store and a priceless collection of antique boats and nautical memorabilia. *LaDuchesse*, the 106' historic houseboat is available for guided tours. Have a lunch catered in the Rivershed, row a skiff along the waterfront of Clayton, take a thrilling speedboat ride in a reproduction triple cockpit runabout or just enjoy the incredible beauty of the St. Lawrence River with ocean going freighters navigating the narrow channel through the 1000 Islands.

#### 2010 CALENDAR

**May 14** Summer Hours 9am-5pm daily  
**May 27** Volunteer Breakfast – bring a friend  
**June 12** Family Day 1pm-5pm FREE Admission  
**Jul 30- Aug 1** 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Antique Boat Show & Auction  
**Aug 13-15** Antique Raceboat Regatta 2010  
**Oct 12** Exhibits Close, Museum Store & Administrative Offices remain Open

[www.abm.org](http://www.abm.org)

#### Fast Facts about the ABM

- 3,000 Active Members
- 40,000 Total Visitors during the season
- Annual Antique Boat Show attendance=8,000 visitors over 3 days, including over 200 participants
- Biennial Antique Raceboat Regatta=7,000 visitors over 4 days, including over 100 participants
- Employees=Thirteen full-time, year round, Forty during the summer months
- Volunteers=Over 200 volunteers work over 9,000 hours during the summer months
- Education Department working in the public schools during the winter months
- Tuesday Night during the summer offer FREE sailing and rowing
- Camp ABM open to children ages 4-12
- Boater Safety offered to the public throughout the summer months

#### Citizen of the Year

Gloria Hvizdos Musser, Conductor of the locally-renowned Clayton Community Band, has been chosen as the 2010 Clayton Citizen of the Year. An award dinner in her honor is planned for June 24, 2010, at the Clayton Opera House.

### T.I. Museum Opens for Season

The Thousand Islands Museum is now open Tuesday-Sunday (10am-4pm) until Memorial Day. Then, hours will be 7 days a week. We have some exciting new exhibits and events planned for the 2010 season. You can visit our website at [www.timuseum.org](http://www.timuseum.org) for a list of scheduled events. You can also visit the museum at 312 James St. for a tour and enjoy the rich history of Clayton and the 1000 Islands.

### Save the River's 5k Fun Run/Walk

Save the River's 8th Annual River Day 5K Fun Run/Walk will be held on Saturday, July 24th at Frink Park in downtown Clayton. For the first time, it will be a professionally timed event. Registration begins in Frink Park at 8:30am and the race starts at 10am. For more information on the race and registration, contact Save the River at 686-2010 or go to [www.savetheriver.org](http://www.savetheriver.org).

## Community Calendar

Jul 16—17  
42nd Decoy & Wildlife Show  
Cerow Recreation Park

Jul 16—28  
Grindstone Island Quilt Show  
Town Hall, Grindstone Island

Jul 17  
TILT Summer Gathering  
Zenda Farm Preserve

Jul 17, 5:00pm  
Clayton Fire Dept. Booster Dinner

Jul 18  
NYS Bass Federation Tournament  
French Creek Marina

Jul 21  
"Pasta on the Greens"—Hawn  
Library, C-Way Restaurant

Jul 23, 7:30pm  
Ensemble Caprice, Opera House

Jul 24—25  
32nd Stamp/Coin/Postcard Show  
Cerow Recreation Park

Jul 24  
Save the River 5k Fun Run/Walk

Jul 24  
Lion's Jet Ski Poker Run

Jul 25, 4:00pm  
Soul Window, Opera House

Jul 30—Aug 1  
46th Antique Boat Show & Auction  
Antique Boat Museum

Jul 30, 7:30pm  
William Shakespeare Abridged  
Clayton Opera House

Jul 31, 1:00pm  
TIERS Fundraiser  
Clayton Vol. Fire Dept.

### Do You Know?

#### Community Garden Continues to Grow

The garden at TILT's Zenda Farm Preserve outside of the Village has doubled this year thanks to the joint efforts of TILT and TIYLO and a grant from the Northern NY Community Foundation. There is no cost to participate in the garden—other than helping to plant and tend to the vegetables. Excess produce will be donated to the Paynter Senior Center for their consumption.

#### Local Business Wins Award

The Lyric Coffee House Bistro recently won the New Business Venture Award given by the Jefferson County Job Development Corporation. Visit the Lyric at: [www.lyriccoffeehouse.com](http://www.lyriccoffeehouse.com).

Find even more events at the Clayton Chamber's Website: [www.1000islands-clayton.com](http://www.1000islands-clayton.com)