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The Highlander

Thursday **August 26 2021** | Issue 500

INSIDE: PRIDE WEEK PAGE 25

FREE



Scott Neilson, Aggie Tose and Nathan Petrini stand at the intersection of Industrial Park Road and Mallard Road. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Haliburton businesses want better security

By **Lisa Gervais**

Industrial Park businesses in Haliburton have banded together after a number of recent thefts.

Represented by Aggie Tose of the Haliburton County Home Builders Association (HCHBA), Nathan Petrini of Petrini Construction and Scott Neilson of Walker's Heating & Cooling, they made a delegation to Dysart et al council's Aug. 24 meeting.

They want a letter signed by council sent to the OPP detachment commander with concerns regarding the recent loss of tools and equipment as well as vandalism. They would like street lighting considered in future township budgets. They would also like the municipality to consider installing a traffic light with a camera at the entrance to the park.

The delegates told council that "over the past few weeks, a number of businesses

have lost tools and equipment. They have also lost many hours off the job dealing with the OPP and insurance companies. The loss of vehicle parts deemed the vehicles inoperable. Add to that, delay getting replacement parts, created more lost time on job sites. This all during the busiest season for all contractors and businesses."

The three said 10 businesses had been directly or indirectly affected.

Tose told council the HCHBA has 57

member businesses and has continued to work throughout the pandemic, making it an economic driver for the County. Petrini added they estimate the park brings in \$75 million in revenue with 300-plus employees. Petrini added there are now 28 businesses plus the college and landfill. "So, it's a busy area in here."

Petrini said his business was recently robbed, its third since being in the park. He

Continued 'Businesses' on page 2

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Businesses want cameras, streetlights, traffic light

Continued from page 1

said they had invested in yard lights, cameras, gates and locks.

Neilson said his business has been hit twice in 10 years and has invested \$10,000-plus on extra lighting and security at the shop.

The businesses are now looking for a partnership with the municipality and OPP.

Petrini said, "Number one, let's light the park up, street lights would be a huge asset for us, cameras ... on the roads, the other thing is stop lights out there. It's tough to get in and out. It's time consuming and perhaps doing all of that at one time might make fiscal sense on your part." Neilson said the businesses would also like more of an OPP presence.

Mayor Andrea Roberts said if anything is done at the County Road 121 intersection it is County of Haliburton jurisdiction. She added council is planning phase three of the park but not during this term. She said it might be an opportunity to put in streetlights but could be a few years.

Coun. Larry Clarke said there's a primary entrance and exit to the park, and even a streetlight and camera at Industrial Park Road and Mallard Road would capture most traffic, particularly if there is an incident overnight. He said there could be other less costly, interim, solutions prior to phase three. "I think this is something that has to be dealt with on a very immediate basis."

Coun. John Smith said they could avoid dealing with the County if they put a camera at Industrial Park Road and

“

We're looking for solutions, not roadblocks. So, I want everybody to have an open mind. I want us to look at how we can solve the problem, not having to rely on the County for instance or someone else. Let's do what we can here.

Nathan Petrini, Petrini Construction

”

Mallard Road.

Coun. Walt McKechnie said, "I definitely want us to look into it as a council, definitely communicate with the OPP and try to come up with some type of solution."

Petrini said, "We're looking for solutions, not roadblocks. So, I want everybody to have an open mind. I want us to look at how we can solve the problem, not having to rely on the County for instance or someone else. Let's do what we can here." He added they are open to other suggestions.

Meanwhile, the OPP said Aug. 24 that they are investigating a number of thefts from the Industrial Park area, specifically catalytic converters. "These investigations are still ongoing and we encourage anyone with dash cam or video surveillance to contact the OPP. Our detachment has increased patrols in this area in an effort to reduce the number of thefts that are occurring."

A staff report will come back to a future council meeting.



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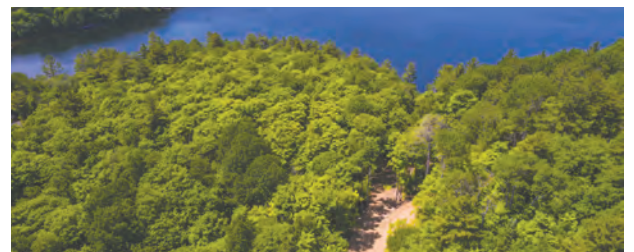
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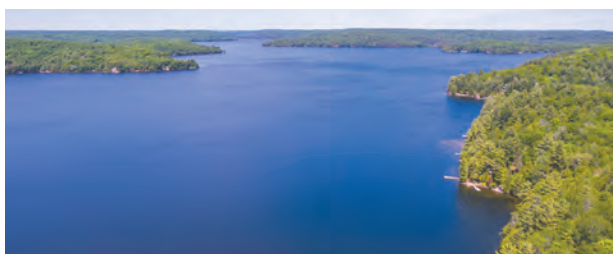
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Haliburton County sees recent increase in opioid overdoses

By Lisa Gervais

An international overdose awareness week event slated for Head Lake Park in Haliburton Aug. 31 is promising “a safe space for community members to remember loved ones who died from overdoses, share stories, provide support and help break the stigma.”

In announcing the 10 a.m. to noon event, the HKPR district health unit said it will also have a flag where individuals can place a pin in honour of a departed loved one to keep their memory alive and wave with pride.

“We encourage everyone to come out and show their solidarity and support,” the health unit said.

The week comes on the heels of the health unit issuing an opioid alert for Haliburton County Aug. 18.

“In this situation, Haliburton EMS notified the health unit about an increase in overdoses involving Fentanyl,” said Cathy MacDonald, the substances and harm reduction coordinator for the health unit. She said their hospital data corroborated the finding, resulting in the alert.

She did say “as is the situation in Haliburton County, the safety of the drug supply can also lead to overdoses. Some ‘street’ drugs are more dangerous and could be contaminated or poisoned, meaning they are more potent and likely to cause severe overdose reactions.”

Asked for local numbers, the health unit said it could not separate out from a region that also includes The City of Kawartha Lakes and Northumberland County.

Department of emergency services director, Tim Waite, said he did not have the exact numbers, however, local EMS usually see a “few” opioid-related incidents but had six to eight ambulance responses for possible opioid overdoses over a two-week period.

Haliburton Highlands OPP added on Aug. 24 that last week, officers attended five overdoses, including one resulting in death.

“So far in 2021, the Haliburton Highlands



Department of emergency services director, Tim Waite. File.

Detachment have investigated four drug related deaths, which is an increase from the 2020 year, when two drug related deaths were investigated,” they said.

MacDonald said the numbers are trending upwards not only in the HKPR district health unit region, but across the province and country, particularly during COVID.

She said there’d been a “worrying” increase in opioid overdose-related emergency department visits, hospitalizations and deaths in the region since the start of the pandemic.

“In recent weeks, both Cobourg and Haliburton County have seen a rise in overdose incidents,” she said.

She said the regional numbers doubled between April 2020 and March 2021, compared to April 2019 to March 2020.

There had been 208 emergency room visits in 2020, 29 hospitalizations from January to September 2020 and 37 deaths in 2020.

“These are more than statistics. These are real people who are overdosing and dying in our communities,” MacDonald said.

She added, “Let’s remember that overdoses are a health and social issue, and that with increased community awareness and action, we can save lives.”

She attributed the increases to more people using drugs during the pandemic, in part to try to cope with COVID-related challenges such as social isolation, losing a job, poor mental health and concerns or anxiety about the virus. She added people may also be

using alone, due to COVID-19 precautions and restrictions.

The event in Head Lake Park is in partnership with PARN, the John Howard Society, Fourcast Addiction Services, local health care providers, Haliburton EMS, and Haliburton Highlands OPP.

“Equally important as preventing overdoses is changing the conversation about substance use. We need to look at substance use as a health and social issue. With increased community awareness, understanding and action towards overdoses, we can save lives. We need to work together, setting aside personal concerns and opinions, and treat people impacted by opioids with compassion and dignity to get to the root of this issue,” MacDonald said.

Safety measures

MacDonald also provided some safety measures, such as: test a small amount of any drug before using; never use alone; if alone, call the National Overdose Response Service virtual safe consumption at 1-888-668-6677 or practice the buddy system and call a friend; call 9-1-1 in the event of an overdose; keep a naloxone kit on hand. They are available at pharmacies and needle exchange sites; avoid mixing drugs.

If you see someone overdosing, you are also asked to intervene by calling 9-1-1 and giving naloxone, knowing you are protected by the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act.

COUNTY NEWS

Drag Lake Dam South works set to begin

Parks Canada says it is moving forward with a full replacement of Drag Lake Dam South beginning in mid-August 2021.

Work will include the construction of two sluices, hydro intake and abutment walls, new mechanical equipment and public safety improvements.

The project is expected to take approximately one year to complete. The contractor will be onsite Monday to Friday between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m., and Saturdays as necessary. Construction noise and traffic can be expected during this time.

The site includes two concrete dams (north and south) on each side of a small island, both with extended concrete wing walls branching off of the sides of the operable sluice. Drag Lake Dam North was successfully rehabilitated in 2017 as part of the Federal Infrastructure Investment program.

New income thresholds for senior dental care

More older adults in the region may now qualify for a provincial program that pays the costs of dental care.

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit is promoting new income limits that increase eligibility for the province’s Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP).

The publicly-funded program covers the cost of dental care for eligible low-income seniors who are 65 years of age and older. The OSDCP will pay for procedures such as dental checkups, fillings, fixing broken teeth, X-rays, removing teeth, and treating gum conditions and other infections.

To enable more seniors to access the program, the health unit said on Aug. 19 that the Ontario government is increasing income eligibility. As of now: a single Ontarian aged 65 and older who makes up to \$22,200 per year is now eligible. The previous income limit was \$19,300 per year. For couples, the combined income to qualify goes up to \$37,100 per year. This is nearly a \$5,000 per year increase from the previous income cut-off.

(Lisa Gervais).

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Plumvicious reads to families outside the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Aug. 25. The Drag Storytime was part of Minden Pride 2021. See additional coverage on page 25.
Photo by Lisa Gervais.



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NDP and Greens join federal election fray

THE HIGHLANDS VOTES

By Lisa Gervais

Zac Miller will represent the NDP in the upcoming federal election.

The university student stood for the party in the 2018 provincial election won by sitting Member of Provincial Parliament, Laurie Scott.

Along with the Green party's Angel Godsoe, the electorate has four candidates to date.

Miller and Godsoe join incumbent Conservative MP Jamie Schmale and Liberal candidate Judi Forbes.

Miller is completing his Masters of Information after already completing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. He lives in the City of Kawartha Lakes. He has served with the Kawartha Lakes Health Coalition and is vice president of the museum in Lindsay.

Godsoe grew up in the east end of Toronto and served as a legislative page at Queens Park. She now lives on a farm north of Lindsay and is a mother of nine children. She identifies as a parent, farmer and small businessperson. She has never been a political candidate but worked for the Greens' Elizabeth Fraser during the last federal election.

She further describes herself as a Biblical scholar and believer.

Miller said some of the key local issues for him include: rising debt due to stagnant wages, a need for improved health and long-term care, jobs, housing and recreational activities.

He said young people need free post-secondary tuition and all student debt cancelled.

"No longer do we have a generation that sees themselves doing better than their parents but we now have hard-working Canadians looking at the realities of never affording their own homes, buried under massive student debts, and stagnant or shrinking wages with little or no health care or pension benefits," he said.

He said families want youth to stay close to home but to do that there must be more opportunities for jobs, housing and recreational activities.

"The area was once booming with industry, providing great jobs and resources in the local communities and it could be again with improved infrastructure and a determination to attract new businesses in green technology fields to the area," he said.

Miller said businesses assess entire communities with a high focus on housing, health care and recreational amenities when looking to locate their new or expanded

facilities and he wants to work with local municipalities to address those needs.

Godsoe said working for the Greens in 2019 was "an invigorating learning experience."

"Our Green presence and platform was well received, thanks to Elizabeth's exceptional poise and debating skills. When I witnessed the positive feedback from the public and even the camaraderie of the other candidates, I felt the Greens' time to have a strong presence in this County has come."

She said some of her key beliefs include a need for electoral reform and being better stewards of the planet. She said she's also interested in international affairs, human rights and immigration.

"I am concerned about equal representation. I believe our government would be much improved and the confidence of the people regained by electoral reform. We've got to put First Past the Post in the past."

"And, the Green Party is the party that will best ensure our future as a species on this planet and facilitate the responsible use of our natural resources."

She said she also shares the social values of the party: a guaranteed livable income, housing, all aspects of health care, clean water and nutritious, accessible, locally-produced food.



Top: Federal NDP candidate Zac Miller ran in the June 7, 2018 provincial election. *File.* Bottom: Green Party candidate Angel Godsoe. *Submitted.*

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Highlander news

HIGHLANDS EAST NEWS

Township to stay virtual

Highlands East CAO Shannon Hunter outlined how COVID case counts and current Emergency Operations Centre directives suggest council will not be meeting in person for the foreseeable future.

At an Aug. 24 meeting she said, "We will be continuing meetings as they are. However, we are taking the steps to prepare for meetings in the future."

Once COVID-19 protocols allow, council meetings will be in person, yet will include a full livestream of events.

"I know this has been raised as a concern for a few members, but it is a means for the public to have access," Hunter said.

Currently, committee meetings must be livestreamed in order to comply with the municipal act, which requires transparent proceedings. Under COVID-19 restrictions that means live streaming is the best option to allow public attendance, Hunter explained.

Some councillors were concerned that the current committee live streaming system, which requires all committees to meet during the day is inconvenient for members.

"For one thing, timing is not always the same," said Coun. Cecil Ryall. "It makes it difficult for people to attend because they also have things to do like jobs."

Council members voted for mandatory attendance of all council members at livestreamed committee meetings.

"I'm going to ask that they all attend, and treat it like a council meeting because that's what it is," Mayor Dave Burton said.

Councillors Ryall and Suzanne Partridge opposed the motion.

Tory Hill and Green Mountain to rent land that would see two 45 metre internet towers erected.

The new towers would provide more robust coverage to the immediate area and greater capacity for more users, since Xplornet's towers won't be shared with other networks like Bell or Rogers.

The process to build these towers will require public consultation and final permission from council.

Cardiff to get off-leash dog park

A new dog park in Cardiff will act as a "pilot" project in the municipality. The park, located behind the Cardiff community centre, will provide a space for dog owners to let their hounds loose in a fenced area.

Upon council's request, the recreation and culture committee established a set of rules to govern use of the area.

"I'm really happy to see the recommendations for the regulations for the dog park. I wholeheartedly agree with those recommendations," Partridge said.

All dogs at the park would be required to have valid dog license tags, and the park would only be open during daylight hours. As well, dog handlers will need to be a minimum of 18 years old and no food for human consumption will be allowed on the premises.

Start-up costs are estimated to be \$6,480, which includes fencing, signs, waste disposal bags and more. The park will be financed by the recreation and culture committee's reserve funds.

Build values exceed \$25 million

Highlands East saw 36 new dwellings begin construction in July.

"That is a considerable amount," said chief building official Laurie Devolin.



Highlands East council continues to meet on Zoom. *File.*

That brings the total to 133 building permits issued in 2021, with a building value of more than \$25 million.

There are 157 building related bylaw infractions currently unresolved, with none resolved in July.

Devolin mentioned some parts of the application process and wording of information found on the municipality's website might be changed.

"There are some things that are a bit confusing for people," she said. "It's mainly just understanding some of the terminology that's on the website and what it means."

Algae bloom requires action

High acidity has led to an algae bloom at the Cardiff Sewage Lagoon. On July 5, provincial water inspectors found pH levels

in the water were in violation of Provincial Environmental Compliance Approval limits, directly causing the bloom. Highlands East has hired D.M. Wills Associates Limited (Wills) to determine an action plan including recommendations and new groundwater testing procedures. According to Wills, the blooms are directly linked to high pH levels, and likely caused by heat and increased rainfall during the summer months.

The amount of sewage entering the sewage system was reported by Mills to be eight times limits established by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. According to Wills' report, decreasing the amount of groundwater runoff to the system and servicing the wastewater lagoon could improve the system, as well as decreasing the likelihood of future blooms and high pH levels. (*Highlands East news compiled by Sam Gillett*)

Xplornet charts HE expansion

Xplornet internet service is contemplating an expansion of faster 5G internet services in Highlands East.

They've approached property owners in

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"Prevention of algal blooms is better than treatment."

— David Biello, Scientific American, July 2014

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Editorial opinion

TheHighlander

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To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands.

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

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A team to deter thieves



By Lisa Gervais

Jumping online to do some research, it appears that businesses in Haliburton's Industrial Park aren't the only ones experiencing an increase in crime.

From coast to coast, companies are being robbed, with catalytic converters being a hot commodity due to their precious metal content.

There have been about half a dozen catalytic converters taken from Industrial Park Road.

According to an article posted by Northbridge Insurance, in Canada, theft of construction materials, equipment, and machinery is projected to cost roughly between \$300 million and \$1 billion annually.

Locally, businesses sought an audience with Dysart council this week due to a rash of tool and equipment thefts over the past few weeks.

Reading most of the stories online, there are a lot of similarities. In most cases, the parks are not well-lit and can be a bit off the beaten track so thieves can go largely undetected.

It's also apparently easy to store and move stolen items. The recovery rate is not encouraging.

The delegation that came to council wants

street lights and video surveillance cameras as well as a greater OPP presence.

Reasonable asks.

The Northbridge Insurance article says while equipment theft can be traced to local thieves, organized crime has also moved onto building sites, and stolen equipment from Canada has wound up halfway across the world.

A lot of the businesses have already taken measures to secure their premises, including putting up fences and gates and installing their own surveillance cameras.

However, as they quite rightly point out, it's going to take a team approach involving businesses, the municipality and OPP, to crack this problem.

Dysart et al staff need to begin by investigating putting up a light standard with at least one camera. The best location is likely the Industrial Park Road and Mallard Road intersection if they can ensure power and Internet.

That way, if a crime is reported overnight, they can scan the surveillance to determine if a vehicle or vehicles were on the road around the time of the theft. There won't be many.

Longer term, they have to investigate putting street lights in the park. While

costly, they need to recognize the money these businesses bring to the County in revenue as well as wages and benefits for staff. It is something that should be discussed for the 2022 budget.

The township must also liaise with OPP. While the police have a vast area to cover in Haliburton County, the occasional drive by at night would help to deter would-be thieves.

Businesses can also do their part.

For example, while time consuming, it's a great idea to inventory your stock. Write down information such as serial numbers, makes and models, time of purchase and value at time of purchase, and any identifying information. Not only will this help in possibly getting the tools and equipment back, but it will make your insurance claim a whole lot easier.

As for the rest of us, keep your eyes out. If you happen to be travelling in the area of Industrial Park Road, especially at night, and you see something suspicious, call the OPP.

LET'S TALK PETS with SUE Healthy dog diets



By Susan Andresen

Dogs are related to wolves and other wild canids.

In the wild these animals procure most of their nutrition from whole prey, wild-caught meats but they can be seen stripping berries off bushes, picking up apples fallen from trees and foraging in farmer's corn fields and barnyards under the grain bins.

Their teeth are generally designed for ripping meat but they also have minimal chewing surfaces for breaking up hard pieces.

Their digestive system, which is adaptable for survival, does use proteins and fats easier than carbohydrates.

Dogs however are actually more adept at using carbohydrates than their wild cousins and actually need some in their diet.

Instead of gorging once or twice a week, most of our pet friends usually eat two times per day which gives the digestive system sufficient time to break down a variety of food items for use in the body.

High quality proteins and fats are essential to providing energy and nutrients but low-

glycemic and easy to digest carbohydrates are also beneficial.

Most dogs, if fed strictly meat over time, will become deficient in several key nutrients which can lead to muscle and nervous system issues.

The pet food industry attempted to 'fix' this problem by adding fruits and vegetables and legumes to their meat diets but some of these have been not perfect in their composition and have led to some science-based inquiries and research around certain cardiomyopathies that are possibly linked to taurine blocking enzymes in high quantities of legumes. There is still lots of research being done but in my opinion some grains are essential for most dogs.

For most dogs, a balanced meal with meat proteins and at the 'top of the list' and a small portion of the diet consisting of oats and brown rice for fibre and some fruits and veggies for other key vitamins and minerals is a perfect food when paired with quality treats for variety and interest. This brings the price down at the checkout compared

to pure meat diets and provides peace of mind that all nutrients are being provided.

There are instances where your dog might need a grain-free diet including a sensitivity or an allergy to a certain grain. It is a completely reasonable need to stay away from grains while you try to ascertain which ingredients are the triggers. You may have to cut out all but one protein source and one carbohydrate to start in order to reduce or eliminate the allergic reaction (perhaps manifested in skin scratching, head shaking, ear infections etc.). Sometimes eliminating carbohydrates altogether are needed but it should be done on your veterinarian's advice. There are so many high-quality brands of food out there but rest assured, it is not as complicated as it may seem.

Ask at your favourite pet supply store to help you understand the labels and to help you decide what foods are a great fit for your pets.

HAVE AN OPINION?

Send your letters to editor@thehighlander.ca

(300 words max)

Editorial opinion

LETTERS

Put your money where your mouth is

Dear editor,

Throughout the whole pandemic I have seen signs saying “Thanks to all health care workers!”

I saw lunches and flowers being delivered to hospitals and nursing homes to thank health care workers for their tireless work. When I saw or heard these sentiments my thoughts were what about putting your money where your mouth is! I couldn’t help but wonder if this appreciation would continue when the pandemic settles down.

Well, Mr. Ford, true to his reputation, has given us the answer. Right now the cost of living is higher than the last 20 years at 3.7 per cent and all of the health care staff has been limited to a one per cent increase. I know that the minister of health says that these workers can make more if their seniority increases or they enhance their education but that doesn’t put food on the table for everyone else. Regardless of their seniority, they all did the same job.

Is this really the way we want to say thanks to the workers that have worked tirelessly for the past year and a half experiencing exhaustion, trauma, and depression to save our loved ones? The signs don’t mean very much if we allow these workers to work without the money they deserve.

Marilynne Lesperance
Minden

Ban all fireworks

Dear editor,

I don’t know where to begin but I am one of the many people that stress over the thought of the holidays that produce the most frightening sounds for many dogs, birds, wild animals and the men and women that suffer greatly from the horrible memories of war and suffering.

For me, I begin to stress, knowing how my beloved dog will cower in any small tight space where he tries unsuccessfully to hide from the horrors of the sounds. He has no idea where they are coming from or what makes such a noise. First, he tries to climb into the bath tub. He is old now and cannot get into it.

I wrap Tanner in a blanket and rock him back and forth. I do this every long summer weekend that the bombs go off for man’s enjoyment.

My dear friend Sharon, her poor dog flies down to the basement and hides behind their furnace. Sharon goes downstairs to comfort Ginger and sits on the floor with her while she watches her shaking with fear.

So please send me a petition to sign for a total fireworks’ ban.

P.S. At the end of our lake a cottager took his floating raft and anchored it way off his shoreline and set off so many fireworks. They all ended up in the lake. My neighbour said, “Oh, Jan did you enjoy the fireworks display?” He was letting them off

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



“I am not talking to you!” - Mergansers observed at Drag Lake by Ilsemarie Tarte.

on his float dock. I wrote and told her ‘no’ I was with Tanner comforting him while he was trembling from the frightening sound that no animal will ever be able to figure out what the hell is happening to them.

Please ban all fireworks.

Jan Graham
Algonquin Highlands

It's all about ventilation

Dear editor,

The keys to combating the spread of COVID are ventilation and masks – in that order. Vaccines reduce our risks of hospitalization and dying.

The main way that COVID spreads is via aerosol droplets (from talking or breathing) – not from large droplets (from coughing or shouting) or from a contaminated surface. We know that one is much safer when outside relative to being inside. It is widely accepted that we are 15-20 times safer. (That is not 15–20 per cent safer, but roughly 18 times safer.)

When outside, a contaminated breath is quickly dissipated by the amount of fresh air that is circulating. You can see this evidence on a cold winter day. Creating an outdoor situation for inside spaces will be much safer. Fortunately, it is relatively easy

to do with a centralized ventilation system.

ASHRAE (the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers) developed a set of standards (for offices, classrooms, warehouses, etc.) to mitigate COVID transmission. What is needed is for provincial governments to modify building codes to be in compliance with the ASHRAE recommendations.

Right now, school boards, building developers and building owners are trying to implement their ideas on how to improve their ventilation system, without guidance from the province. We are left with a patchwork of noble changes, based on good intentions, good ideas and constrained budgets.

Healthy ventilation will not only mitigate the spread of COVID (and its various mutations), but also the annual influenza, the common cold and future pandemics.

Will our provincial governments wake up and change the building codes to make us safer? Based on bureaucratic and political paralysis, it is very doubtful. Yes, the costs of renovating existing ventilation systems will be high. But the costs of doing nothing will be much higher – in dollars and human lives.

Dennis Choptiany
Markham/Koshlong Lake

Get the shot

Dear editor,

In the Aug. 19 issue, letter writer Ms. Buckingham wrote: “Many intelligent, well-educated people including scientists, immunologists, epidemiologists ... have raised concerns about the wisdom of mass vaccination and long-term consequences.”

This is patently false. The risks of COVID hugely exceed that of the vaccine. Get the shot.

Robert D. Wagman, MD, FRCSC
Minden

Wants candidates vaccinated

Dear editor,

The Conservatives claim that Mr. Trudeau is arrogant.

But the height of arrogance is for Mr. O’ Toole to tell us that we don’t deserve to know if his fellow candidates are vaccinated.

Any Conservative hopefuls who come to my door will find it slammed in their faces.

Tom Needham
Haliburton

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Highlander news



Discarded bags of garbage. File.

Renters dump waste

By Sam Gillett

It isn't unusual to see bags of garbage, discarded household wares or even furniture lying roadside around Haliburton.

Students and faculty from Fleming College's sustainability program wanted to find out why.

In partnership with U-Links, Fleming College's sustainability program produced a new study which sifts through reasons people might dump garbage illegally, and steps Dysart Township could take to stop the problem.

While they couldn't determine if illegal dumpers were aware that they were breaking laws, they found nearly half of Dysart's Airbnb listings didn't mention waste disposal. The students suggested mandating clearer instructions about how tourists can deal with their waste.

"To make waste management really front and centre for people booking online: that, to me, was a really great take away," said John Watson, Dysart's environmental coordinator.

The study also recommends signage at garbage "hot spots" as well as monitoring illegal dumping instances and creating flyers to be distributed to short-term rental sites.

Coun. Larry Clarke said he hopes the study's findings will influence the County's rules for short-term rentals in the future.

"I think it's important that if somebody is

not stepping up and providing a process for people dealing with their waste their license should be pulled. It shouldn't be on the short-term rental market," he said.

It's not an issue unique to Dysart, however illegal garbage disposal has an environmental and financial impact on the township. Rob Camelon, director of public works, estimates crews spend 20-25 hours responding to illegal dumping complaints and Mayor Andrea Roberts recounted how nearly every morning garbage bags are found lying around Head Lake Park garbage bins.

Fleming's study compared how municipalities across Ontario deal with the issue, as well as how residents can report garbage being dumped on roadways.

Watson said that information has already helped Dysart improve its own reporting practices. Currently, people can submit details and photos of each instance on Dysart's website. That information helps municipal staff create maps and databases that highlight areas which see a lot of garbage.

Watson said the students and faculty's hard work is helping Dysart "[build] practices and procedures here that will really help keep our community clean."

The study is available to read on the municipality's website on the agenda for the Aug. 10 committee of the whole meeting.

Faculty from Fleming College declined an interview request.



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IT'S WHAT EVERYONE'S **READING**

Highlander news

Dysart calls for security camera feedback

By Sam Gillett

Dysart et al has launched a community survey about surveillance cameras in Head Lake Park.

Residents can share their opinion on the cameras and their usage through a three-question survey on the municipality's website.

A recent uptick in vandalism around the park, including graffiti scratched onto the Rotary band pavilion, sparked the idea.

"We're looking at various areas in the park that have received vandalism and not so much positive activity in the last while," said CAO Tamara Wilbee.

Only certain municipal staff, such as Wilbee, would be able to view the footage.

"This isn't general surveillance that anyone can access. It's only accessible by certain staff like myself if there was an incident," Wilbee said. "It's not so we can watch everybody. It's for a very specific service."

The municipality will also only store surveillance video for seven days, and let people know through signs when cameras are in use. Those policies, as well as public consultation, are mandated through the Municipalities Video Surveillance Policy.

On the survey web page, the municipality claims a lack of video surveillance "makes it more difficult for the municipality and law enforcement to prove what happened in a particular incident, whether that be



Vandalism on benches or the band shelter can be spotted around Head Lake Park. Photo by Sam Gillett.

vandalism, an altercation or someone getting injured."

Mayor Andrea Roberts said that surveillance could be a good step in apprehending vandals.

"When there is a vandalism report, the first thing the OPP do is ask for our surveillance," she said. "The OPP are completely in support of this."

She said reports of vandalism at the park

are "disheartening."

After receiving responses, staff will present the survey's findings to Dysart et al council.

To access the survey, go to dysartetal.ca

Concerned Citizens pose questions of candidates

THE HIGHLANDS VOTES

By Lisa Gervais

The Concerned Citizens of Haliburton County has fired off a list of questions to federal election candidates.

The local advocacy group said in a media release that "the electorate has many questions."

The group is asking:

- If your party forms the next government, will you commit to a Guaranteed Basic Income that ensures individuals and

families can thrive in a world of stagnant wages, a high cost of living and precarious work?

- If your party forms the next government, will you legislate national standards for high quality childcare spaces requiring qualified and well-paid childcare providers, appropriate child/care provider ratios and regular inspections? Please outline your party's childcare plan including how much money will be invested, how that plan would save money for parents and how desperately needed new spaces would be created.

- If your party forms the next

government, will you commit to a full-cost accounting, by an independent body, of the measures you propose to address the climate emergency?

- If your party forms the next government, how will you transition the economy to one that is low-carbon and support the workers who will need to find new jobs?

- What is your party's position on electoral reform? If your party forms the next government, will you call a national citizens assembly on electoral reform and implement its findings?

- If your party forms the next government, will you amend the Canada Health Act, to

include Long-Term Care and ensure that federal funds are designated to create 'life enriching' national standards for residents and workers?

- If your party forms the next government will you: support a one per cent wealth tax on people with assets over \$20 million; close regressive tax loopholes that drain the public pocket of billions of dollars of revenue; institute an excess pandemic profits tax on giant corporations that have profited from the pandemic?

The Concerned Citizens said they had given candidates until Sept. 6 to respond.

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Highlander news



Former assistant Dylan Robichaud with Jamie Schmale and Laurie Scott during the 2019 election. File.

Schmale puts focus on post-COVID economy

THE HIGHLANDS VOTES

By Sam Gillett

MP Jamie Schmale's campaign for a third term in office is well underway.

"Besides the heat, it's been pretty good," said Schmale.

He said this campaign includes a lot of younger volunteers helping out alongside "veterans" as the team goes door knocking with COVID-19 safety protocols in place.

"We knock on the door, we step back. Most people have been very good, a lot of good conversations."

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock has been Conservative since 2004, however 2021's election is shaping up to be entirely unique as issues such as COVID-19 take center stage. For Schmale and the Conservatives, the focus is stimulating the post-COVID economy.

"I think the one that's on a lot of people's minds is jobs and the economy, what we're trying to do to move things along."

He highlights support for small business owners, which includes incentives for new hires and \$200,000 loans for small and medium-sized businesses.

A central talking point in the Conservative's economic plan is an overhaul of the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit, which Schmale suggested is a key factor in why there

have been staffing shortages around the County.

"As our vaccination rates increase, as the economies re-open we need to incentivize employees to go back to work where possible. We also need to ensure the business owners, who have been hanging on by their fingernails, are on stable ground," he said.

According to Schmale, that could boost employment in heavy-hit industries such as tourism and hospitality in the Highlands.

Housing and long-term care

Affordable housing options, either to rent or buy, are scarce in Haliburton County.

"Housing is one of the top three concerns we're having here," Schmale said. His party proposes to free up 15 per cent of Crown land for housing developments. The plan would also temporarily block foreign buyers from purchasing real estate in Canada. He supports foreign investment, but said "the problem is, it's gotten a bit out of control where we as a government have to step in."

"Stepping in" also applies to helping out long-term care facilities. Schmale was critical of the Liberal approach to investing in long-term care support, including increasing transfers to the

long-term care funding system.

Similarly, Schmale detailed how the Conservatives would replace a hallmark Liberal campaign promise, \$10 a day childcare.

"The kids that are in daycare now are going to be paying this back. The question is how are they going to be paying that back?"

Schmale's party would introduce a 75 per cent tax credit, paid throughout the year, to help fund childcare.

Vaccine hesitancy

Conservative leader Erin O'Toole will not support vaccine passports or mandatory vaccines for federal public servants or travellers. That's a position Schmale agrees with, though he urges people to get vaccinated.

"Personally, I think the best way to combat this pandemic is to get vaccinated," he said.

Some claim that vaccination requirements infringe upon privacy and their rights. Others claim a workplace's obligation to provide a safe work space means mandating vaccines for employees, or requiring vaccine passports, is a necessary next step in the battle against COVID-19. A poll from Abacus Data reports Conservative voters are the most likely to oppose mandating vaccines for employees, or requiring vaccine passports.

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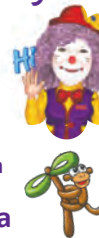
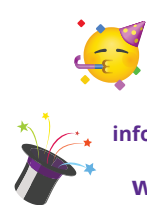
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Highlander business

Marina aims to be community 'destination'

By Sam Gillett

On a sunny Saturday in August, Kennisis Lake Marina and Storage is full of conversation and laughter. People play corn hole with a scenic view of the lake, chat dockside or sip lattes and eat ice cream outside the newly refurbished store, cafe and ice cream bar.

Gary Bouwmeister, Chad Burden and Jim Dale said their goal is to create a community "destination" that's a whole lot more than a place to store boats.

Bouwmeister, in an interview beside the marina, gestures to a crowd of corn hole players chatting in the sun and tossing bean bags across the parking lot.

"Stuff like this brings people together," he said with a smile.

The trio met on the lake: Bouwmeister and Dale, longtime cottagers, joined up with Burden to buy the marina last year. Burden had been leasing the space from its previous owners.

"The three of us got together and talked about what the future could bring here," Dale said. They all had a part in planning changes, and getting the marina operational for the summer. Now Burden handles most of the day-to-day operations.

"I can't ask for better partners, they've been great," Burden said of Dale and Bouwmeister. He mentioned how the first goal of the renovations was to make use of all the marina's property.

The renovated storefront and cafe,



Owners Chad Burden, Gary Bouwmeister and Jim Dale. Photo by Sam Gillett.

cleaning up the lot and installing pickleball courts came together fast. Those spring renovations meant they could open for the 2021 cottage season. Kayaks, water skis and paddle boards are available to rent and the trio is planning self storage units to be available in the future. Dale said they've also chatted about expanding food and beverage options in the main store.

Whether through corn hole tournaments, pickleball games, concerts or their busy

storefront, Dale said he wants to invest in the community through the marina.

"It's a very tangible thing. People on the lake can see it and experience it," said Dale, who works in the financial industry in Toronto. And for the owners, it was important the marina become a place they'd want to hang out as well. "We're cottagers here too, we want it to be fun as well," Dale said.

Throughout the marina's grounds, staff

and customers greet Bouwmeister, Dale and Burden by their first names. They pose with the corn hole tournament winners and chat with onlookers in the hot summer sun.

On Aug. 28, they're inviting the community to the famous annual "Rock on the Dock" concert at the marina, with proceeds going to SIRCH Community Services.

"It's a business venture," Dale said, "but it's a lot more than that to us as well."



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Highlander business

It's all about the wood at The Toolbox

By Lisa Gervais

Opening a side door to The Toolbox in Minden, one is greeted by T-Rex, the German Shepherd, and the smell of wood.

There are trademark Haliburton Garden chairs, a more age-appropriate version of the Muskoka chair. There's wood everywhere and tools can be heard in the back of the store.

The Toolbox has taken over the former Organic Times building in Minden, just over the main bridge.

Opening over the Victoria Day long weekend, it's an extension of Lakeland Millwork and Windows, which Andi Schollig has owned and operated for nearly 30 years.

Schollig sits at a wooden table with daughter, Kirsten Schollig, who is handling marketing, and store manager, Krista Hoover. T-Rex circles the table and Mike Thompson operates tools at the back.

Lakeland Millwork and Windows has been around 28 years, doing construction and cabinetry, including millwork at the local hospitals, and pretty much every school from Haliburton County to Cobourg, Schollig said.

"Cabinetry is my forte. Windows, doors and trim is my passion. Stairs and furniture. In all of that, we've always needed a place to do it," she said. "I've always had a shop of some sort."

Schollig moved to Toronto in 2009 with

her family while still owning a home and serving loyal customers in Minden while traveling between the two areas before permanently returning home to Minden in 2019. After losing her shop in Oakville, she was looking for new space.

One day in 2019, after tending a public garden her late wife had planted, she was walking down Bobcaygeon Road in front of the former Organic Times which was up for sale.

"I'm sure I'd walked past the sign 100 times but this particular day it was like she [her wife] hit me in the back of the head with a two by four and said 'buy it' so in doing that, it just opened the whole idea."

That idea is that Lakeland Millwork and Windows continues to operate out back while The Toolbox is its own enterprise out front. That storefront will also be a project venture place.

"I love Lee Valley, it's an impression of mine as to what a good tool store is. Yeah, we rely on hardware stores but this is going to be a different tool store. It's unique tools for the people in the area, the artisans, the home hobbyists and people who just want to do something different," she said.

For example, the Bosch tools that they are promoting will be accessible. "You can try them out. We'll have a full work bench with full access on any tool. So, you can fit yourself to the tool you need."

"If you need extra help with the parts that

you need for your project, we can facilitate it in our 1,000 square foot shop at the back."

She said artisans and others will be welcome to come and use the space, including if they have their own wood but need it milled.

"Anything to do with wood, we can facilitate for the customers."

She also talked about venue nights.

"We'll pick a night and say 'sanding'. Learn how to sand from start to finish. Or, we'll have finishing if you want to finish what you've just sanded. We'll have finishing products as well, just simple style or suggestions on how to finish your products."

Schollig believes there is a need in the area with a lot of interest expressed to date.

"A lot of people just want to come and see me work a day in the shop so that they pick up some of the ideas on how to do something. They're willing to help me a day so that they learn. That experience."

They also plan to have a display area so artisans can have a storefront for a month and offer their own show and tell evenings.

Other plans include a kitchen, barbecue, living room assembly, full working shower and bathroom for use, but to show off the kind of work they can do.

They will donate money from proceeds of chairs to mental health, no cutoffs are wasted as they are made into garden



Mike Thompson, Andi Schollig, Krista Hoover and T-Rex. Photo submitted.

markers and it is an LGBTQ+ safe space. "Everybody is welcome here," Schollig said.

Hoover said it's been a great experience to date for her. "I love everything to do with woodworking. I love that Andi actually shows me how to do everything while we're making projects, just different things that people have ordered, it's just been amazing."

For more information, visit lakelandmillworkandwindows.com or call Schollig at 416-427-9050.

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Highlander arts

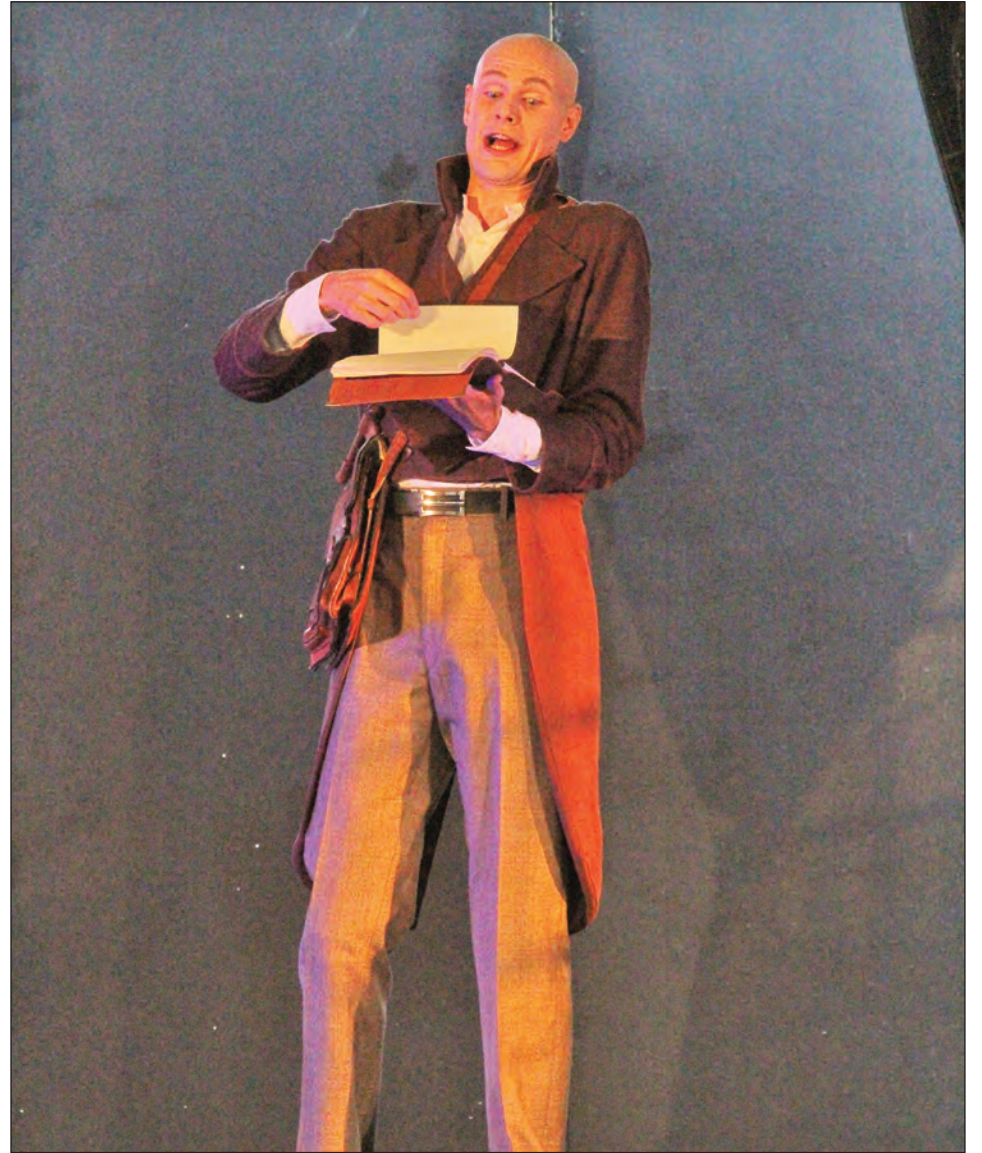
6704 PEOPLE
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A night at the opera

The Highlands Opera Studio performed “The Leporello Diaries: An Unsolved Mystery” under the stars at Abbey Gardens marquee tent Aug. 19 and 20. It was the studio’s first fully-staged performance at Abbey Gardens, featuring an acclaimed cast of singers who perform in productions worldwide. The performance was narrated by Charles (Richard Margison) who draws inspiration for a novel from his uncle’s diary which details the scandalous exploits and mysterious disappearance of the famed Baron Giovanni. (*Sam Gillett*).

Left: Tamar Simon as Donna Elvira, Lauren Margison as Donna Anna and River Guard as Don Ottavio. Right: Dylan Wright as Leporello. *Photos by Sam Gillett.*



NEW PLACES TO PICK UP YOUR PAPER IN HALIBURTON

- In front of RE/MAX/Century 21
- Kennaway Road (near the mailboxes)
- We also have boxes outside Todd’s Independent & Haliburton Foodland
- We are also available at Rexall, Shoppers Drug Mart and other locations around town.



Haliburton Curling Club Registration

Registration for **existing** members
sign up in person • Sept 8 - 3pm - 7pm
please bring proof of vaccination
if not already emailed.

New member registration
Sept 9 - 3pm - 7pm.
Must bring proof of vaccination. \$99 new
curler membership includes one league for
approximately 8 weeks.

New curlers Learn To Curl Clinic
October 2 - 10am - 3pm.
Attendance is mandatory to be placed
on a team. No exceptions.

Curling season begins October 4.

Highlander arts

...JOIN THEM AT
thehighlander.ca



Grooving through rock history in the park

From the Doobie Brothers to Mick Jagger to the King of Rock and Roll, the Leisa Wayward Wind band rocked a crowd of roughly 150 at Head Lake Park Aug. 21-22. The concert series was hosted by the Highland Summer Festival. (Sam Gillett).

Top: People sat on lawn chairs, picnic tables and blankets as the sun dipped below the horizon and the band played on. Bottom: Guitarist and singer, Jake Simons, delivers a song as the King of Rock and Roll. Photos by Sam Gillett.



As of Monday August 16th
the following activities will be offered out
of the NEW! SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena

PICKLEBALL

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am-1pm
Adults \$5 Senior \$3

BASKETBALL

Tuesday, Thursday 9am – 1pm
Adults \$5 Senior/Youth \$3

WALKING TRACK

Monday-Friday 9am-4pm
No cost

PLEASE NOTE:

- All activities are offered in 1 hour time slots and participants must have clean, indoor shoes to participate
- Preregistration is required
- Visit www.minden hills.ca for more info. and to find out what COVID protocols are currently in place.



Highlander arts



Photographers roam County once again

The Haliburton Highlands Camera Club has released winning photos from its latest competition. For the pictorial category, members were free to submit images of any subject.

Winners were: first advanced, Banking on Time, by Fred Pyziak (bottom right); first intermediate, Tuscan Outlook, by Gordon Sheehan (top right), and first novice, Dogsled Fun, by Lorry Brandon (top left). The club continues to be active online. Over the summer, members have been able to participate in some small group photo shoots to nearby locations. Competition results are presented at monthly Zoom meetings that visitors are welcome to attend. For meeting schedules and to view all competition images visit highlandscameraclub.ca. You can also follow the club on Facebook. (Lisa Gervais)



INFORMATION PAGE

7 Milne Street, PO Box 359 Minden ON K0M 2K0 Phone: 705-286-1260
Toll Free 1-844-277-1260 Fax: 705-286-4917 • www.mindenhills.ca

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently looking to fill a variety of positions within the Township. Many opportunities include benefits such as enrollment in a comprehensive benefit package, Employee Assistance Plan, life insurance, personal health coverage, OMERS pension plan, vacation, float and sick time entitlements as well as opportunities for training and development.

We are currently looking for qualified individuals to join our team in the following positions:

Building Inspector

Equipment Operators

Please visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/ for more information and how to apply.

A Message from the Fire Department

Something to talk to with the kids for a safe ride to and from school on the school bus.

Rules for getting on the bus safely:

- Be at the bus stop on time. Never run to or from the bus.
- Wait at the designated stop in a safe place well back from the side of the road.
- Remember the danger zone around the bus. The danger zone is anywhere close enough to touch the bus. The bus driver cannot see you when you are in the danger zone.
- If you cross the street to get on the bus when the bus comes, wait until it has come to a complete stop. The bus driver will make sure all the traffic stops. The stop arm will be out and the red lights will be flashing. Watch the driver. When the driver knows it is safe, he or she will signal you to cross, but watch for traffic yourself. Walk, don't run.
- Hold the hand rail as you get on the bus. Don't push or shove.

Rules for on the bus:

- Take your seat as quickly as possible and sit properly, facing forward at all times.
- Hold bags and parcels in your lap. Do not put your feet into the aisle someone might trip.
- Keep your head, arms and everything inside the bus. Don't throw anything out the windows or around in the bus.
- Talk quietly. The driver must concentrate to drive the bus safely.
- Save snacks for snack time at school or for when you get home. They may spill or you may choke if the bus goes over a big bump.
- No fighting, shouting or playing in or around the bus.
- Always follow the bus driver's instructions.

Rules for leaving the bus safely:

- When you leave the bus, hold the handrail and step away from the bus.
- To cross the street in front of the bus, walk ahead at least 10 giant steps (three metres). Cross only when the driver gives a signal. Cross the street in single file.
- If you drop something near the bus, don't pick it up. Tell the driver or another adult first.
- If everyone is getting off the bus, the people at the front leave first. Do not push.
- Be familiar with the bus driver's rules for emergencies.

Hazardous Waste Collection Event

The next Household Hazardous Waste collection event is **Saturday, September 11, 2021** at the Scotch Line Landfill from 8am to 11:30am. Please visit www.mindenhills.ca/landfill for a list of accepted items.

Notice of Tax Sale

TAKE NOTICE that the Township of Minden Hills is selling land by Public Tender. Deadline for submission is Friday, October 1st, 2021 on or before 3:00 PM. For more information visit www.mindenhills.ca/tenders/, contact the Tax Collector at 705-286-1260 ext. 501.

(Virtual) Council Meetings

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted.

The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

August 26
Regular Council Meeting
September 9
Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process. Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

Highlander environment



Left: Kept in climate-controlled conditions, turtle eggs often hatch all at once. Right: Kristyn Bennett prepares hatchlings for release. Photos by Sam Gillett.

Saving turtles, a Tupperware at a time

By Sam Gillett

By the reedy shores of Head Lake, Leora Berman gently scoops a baby snapping turtle from a Tupperware container and places it on a semi-submerged tree branch. With a “plop” the turtle’s shiny green shell disappears underwater as it begins life in the big wide world of Haliburton. Its chance of surviving just increased tenfold because of the care of a dedicated crew of Turtle Guardians. That turtle is just one of thousands which Berman and her colleagues at The Land Between nurture at their hatchery. The creatures are scooped as eggs from their nests around the County to keep them

safe from predators including humans. “Little ones don’t know where water is instinctively. They would scatter and they would get run over easily,” said Berman beside Head Lake. She explains how nests around the County are monitored. Once a mother lays her eggs in the late spring, the group comes in and brings the turtles to the hatchery on Gelert Road, where they’re stored in cool, humid conditions until they hatch. Then Berman and her volunteers spend much of August transferring turtles to their new homes or making sure the miniature guests are happy and healthy at the hatchery. But how can you tell if a turtle is ready for

the adventure? “See this little belly button?” Berman points to a little bump on the turtle’s soft underbelly. “As soon as it’s flush then they’re ready to go. Then they’re good swimmers.” She explains how since turtles have great memories, it’s important to release them where they were born in case they’re drawn back to the area. “Instantly they start memorizing these pathways that they walk,” she said. And turtles are in trouble. Eggs make a tasty treat for many animals and despite awareness campaigns and monitoring by groups such as Berman’s, hundreds of turtles are hit by cars each year. Adults also

need longer to reach reproduction age than most animals. “Since it takes so long to replace themselves, the populations are really dumping,” she said. In order to help the turtle population, it’s important for her and The Land Between to know the genetic makeup of locations around the County too. That’s why each Tupperware travels back to where the eggs were found. “We can’t just put them anywhere.” With each Tupperware, Berman and her team release a new generation of turtles into the Highlands’ vast ecosystem of wetlands, rivers, ponds and lakes; spreading hope for a species at risk along the way.



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RICK FORGET
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WILBERFORCE

2260 Loop Road
705-448-2222

Sports hall of fame



Left: Taly Williams poses next to an American patent for his Taly MIND set golf invention in his Los Angeles office. Right: Williams with Jerry Kelly, a PGA player with 15 professional wins who has been spotted using the Taly MIND set device. *Photo submitted.*

Williams trusted his talent

By Sam Gillett

"You have to know where you want to go. Otherwise, you'll waste a lot of time," said Taly Williams.

Williams hasn't wasted much time. Originally from Haliburton, he's a co-founder and managing partner of a water management firm in Los Angeles and an inventor with multiple patents for sports technology that's used by top athletes. That's not to mention his professional football career.

Now he has one more accomplishment to add to the list: a spot in the Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame.

"What's interesting for me is I've never been one to chase awards," Williams said, adding he greatly admires the work the hall of fame committee has done.

He, along with his sister, Lesley Tashlin, have been a big focus of the Haliburton County sporting community this year, with local students winning the push to have their murals installed on the side of the A.J. LaRue arena. For Williams, the hall of fame and mural conversations have renewed his connection to the community he grew up in.

"To actually have this award and this mural, it really does provide a new level of connection," he said.

Williams studied engineering at Waterloo. After that, he spent a stint playing football professionally for the Toronto Argonauts and Hamilton Tiger Cats from 1994-96.

However, while playing, he was also working in engineering.

He said he feels fortunate to have had the choice to switch into engineering full time after his playing career.

"Professional sports are very cutthroat. You, at the end of the day, are just a number to them, they'll cut you in a second," he said. The lessons he learned on the field spurred him on.

"To be a professional athlete and to 'make it' gives you a higher level of confidence in anything you do," he said.

That confidence and desire to combine academics and sports led him to develop the Talynt Point system for golfers, a device which attaches to your arm to guide your swing.

"It's actually about trust, talent, still executing something," he said. The device was the result of hundreds of hours of practice.

"They always say 'fail faster.' They're right. We played almost every day," explains Williams.

He's patented the Taly MIND set system with the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

"Instead of focusing on the movement that you are attempting to execute, I give you a new point of focus that results in the action occurring correctly," he explained in an email. It's about knowing what to focus on and trusting the process along the way.

Trusting your talent (or Talynt, as the brand's slogan reads) is a central part of Williams' worldview.

"We all have a talent. In my opinion we are all the best in the world at something."

His inventions have roots in the Highlands: "As with most things in my life it starts in Haliburton," he said. That's where he started playing golf and football.

Growing up in Haliburton

Williams circles back to the students at J. Douglas Hodgson elementary school who rallied for his recognition on the wall of Haliburton's arena. All five athletes currently depicted are white.

"Diversity and inclusion in Haliburton is important. That wasn't there when I was there."

Being Black in a community almost exclusively made up of white people meant he had to tread carefully sometimes.

"I know that I had to be careful when I was up there," he said. "Sure, Haliburton's a fun cottage-loving town, but not everyone's accepting of minorities up there."

He said both the hall of fame and mural could be a chance to motivate change.

"I'm hoping that this opens up the conversation and starts allowing others who feel left out and not a part of Haliburton to start connecting to it."

He attributes much of his early success to teammates and coaches at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School where he set multiple track and field records and starred as quarterback for the football team.

Through his life, Williams has seen how keeping an eye on the goal pays off. And that's what he wants to share with the youth of Haliburton as a new inductee into the hall of fame.

"I would like kids to believe anything is possible, understand that they have a talent. Always differentiate themselves. Go the other direction and explore."

Banquet postponed

The Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame has postponed its Oct. 23 inaugural induction ceremony. Chairman Scott LaRue said, "The board felt that it would be best to postpone the event due to the ongoing uncertainty around COVID. Naturally we are very disappointed but we look forward to the time when it will be safe to bring everyone together for a wonderful celebration of the inductees' many contributions and accomplishments. We will be watching the situation closely and plan to reschedule when it looks appropriate to do so."

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Highlander sports



Two participants ride down the Haliburton Forest's gravel pathways during the 8 Hours of Hurtin in Haliburton' race. Photo by Matt Cassell.

All-day biking challenge returns to Forest

By Sam Gillett

An eight-hour cycling race will test riders' grit and endurance as they pedal through the Haliburton Forest Sept. 18.

The 8 Hours of Hurtin in Haliburton' race began in 2019 and has attracted more and more riders each year who test their limits on the 27 kilometre gravel course. The idea is simple: complete as many laps of the scenic forest route as you can in eight hours.

"It's just something unique compared to other places in Ontario," said event

organizer Marc Sinclair. "It's fast and slow, it's got beautiful vistas, lakes: tons of climbing to keep your legs hurting!"

It's open to riders of all skill levels: some just want to compete a lap or two while others ride the whole eight hours.

Last year, one competitor completed eight laps or 216 kilometres.

"It's a huge feat. But that's part of the challenge: people really want to push themselves," Sinclair said. "It's super flexible and you're not committed to a point-to-point race where you have to get rescued if you're unable to make it to the

finish line."

Cyclists can also compete in a relay system, each taking turns speeding through the gravel roads lap after lap.

After completing the marathon, camping options are available with food vendors being announced in the coming weeks.

Sinclair said gravel cycling has become very popular with all types of cycling popular during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Registration has been very strong," Sinclair said. "It's hard to tell if that's a boom in cycling or if that's just interest in the race."

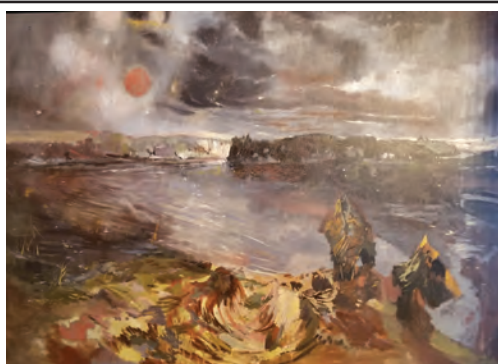
Since the event is outside, COVID-19 guidelines will be easy to accommodate and Sinclair doesn't expect issues with attendance limits.

This year, they're starting an electronic timing system to account for the increase in participants.

It's a gruelling challenge, but as the event website states, no more so than an eight-hour work shift: "it's easier than a day in the office."

Registration closes on Sept. 4.

For more information or to register visit valleyworks.ca.



Brighter Shore, acrylic and oil on canvas, 52x70, 2018.

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Highlander sports

Huskies to round out roster after camp

By Lisa Gervais

The Haliburton County Huskies will hold their inaugural tryout hockey camp at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena this coming Aug. 27-29.

The ice is in and team head coach and general manager Ryan Ramsay said the squad is looking to sign four players from the weekend camp.

There will be goalie evaluations Aug. 27 from 6 to 9 p.m. and the forwards and defence will have an opportunity to show if they belong in the Ontario Junior Hockey League on Aug. 28 and Aug. 29.

Ramsay said he is looking to find one defenceman and three forwards.

"The OJHL is a fast league so they have to be able to skate," he said of prospects, adding he is looking for a compete level and some urgency in the players' games. He said top prospects tend to stick out at camp.

The Huskies got to evaluate their current roster during a tournament in Toronto the Aug. 20-22 weekend.

Ramsay said they played in seven shortened games, losing in the final, with "a lot of good positives we took out of the weekend." He said part of the reason they went was to get their game timing after a COVID-impacted couple of seasons.

"It takes some time to get your timing back so that's why we put a team in the tourney."

The team will soon begin a month-long

training camp. Players are to report to their billet families Sept. 5. Ramsay said they have about a 50 per cent player turnover from the Whitby Fury team that has now moved to Minden.

The squad also picked up goalie Nicolas Heinzle in a trade. Ramsay said the 19-year-old played last weekend for the first time in a Huskies jersey and "looked really good."

The team has also gotten some of its players back that were loaned to other teams when the OJHL was shut down due to the pandemic.

"They're back. Two defencemen and a forward. We're happy. We're excited to see their progress and how far they've come," the coach and GM said. They will also be looking to some affiliate players to round out the roster.

Ramsay said renovations of the former Scout Hall at the arena to give the team its own dressing room, lounge, training rooms, officers and showers are underway.

"They are coming along nicely. We got really lucky with a local contractor, Tom Neville, who has really helped us out. Time is of the essence with players coming next week and he says he will have it done by next week."

There will be a blue versus white game Sept. 11; a preseason clash with the Aurora Tigers Aug. 18 and a game against Collingwood Sept. 25.

The OJHL has also released the regular



Ryan Ramsay behind the bench. Shawn Muir/OJHL Images.

season schedule for the 2021-22 season. It will see the Huskies play 27 home games and 27 on the road. The season opener is Oct. 1 on the road in Lindsay. The squad will debut in Minden Oct. 2 against the Muskies. The season finale is slated for March 5 at home versus Trenton.

Ramsay said he is pleased with the schedule, which includes an early New Year's Eve game and a Family Day clash.

He said season ticket sales are going well and added they will be working with the

HKPR district health unit on capacity for the arena during COVID as well as vaccine requirements for entry.

He also plugged for area families looking to billet a player. He said they still need three homes for players that are coming soon. Billet families receive financial compensations, do not have to supply transportation and are given regular season and playoff tickets.

For more on the Huskies go to: huskieshockey.ca.

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Highlander community



Trevor Mitchell, 13, from Hamilton, landed this smallmouth bass fishing on Farquhar Lake. Photo submitted.

THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS

IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON

FORM 6 - SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER Municipal Act, 2001 Ontario Regulation 181/03, Municipal Tax Sales Rules THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS

TAKE NOTICE THAT tenders are invited for the purchase of the land(s) described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on October 1, 2021, at the Township Offices, 7 Milne Street, PO Box 359, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0.

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day at 3:30 p.m. at the Township Offices. The opening of tenders will take place in person if possible; however, should it be necessary to open tenders by way of a virtual meeting due to efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 and to protect all individuals, members of the public wishing to watch the meeting may do so by joining the live-stream link, available on the Township's website at: www.mindenhills.ca/tenders/

Description of Lands:

Legal Description:

1. PT LT 20 CON 2 SNOWDON AS IN H220587 EXCEPT PT 15 19R1328; MINDEN HILLS. BEING ALL OF PIN 39220-0168 (LT).
Roll # 46 16 041 000 19600 – Township of Minden Hills
Municipal Address: 7096 County Road 503, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2A1
Minimum Tender Amount: \$7,045.27
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$60,000.00.
2. LT 31 CON A SNOWDON EXCEPT H11023, H156745, H222053 & H234159; MINDEN HILLS. BEING ALL OF PIN 39211-0242 (LT).
Roll # 46 16 042 000 41200 – Township of Minden Hills
Municipal Address: N/A
Minimum Tender Amount: \$4,420.56
According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$1,100.00

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit of at least 20 per cent of the tender amount, which deposit shall be made by way of a certified cheque/bank draft/ money order payable to the municipality (or board).

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the land(s) to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001, and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and any taxes that may be applicable, such as Land Transfer Tax and Harmonized Sales Tax.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

A copy of the prescribed form of tender is available on the website of the Government of Ontario Central Forms Repository under the list for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender contact:

Jane Leavis, Tax Collector
THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS
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Highlander events

Minden Pride's 'come a long way, baby'

By Lisa Gervais

He may not have been there in person, but the spirit of Minden Pride co-founder, Sinclair Russell, has been felt during the first four days of Pride Week in Haliburton County.

During a flag-raising event at the Minden Hills township office Aug. 23, mayor Brent Devolin borrowed the expression 'you've come a long way, baby.'

He said passing by the rainbow bench overlooking the Gull River, that was placed in honour of the late Russell, he remembers "an imperfect person like the rest of us" who had a dream.

Growing up gay in Minden Hills at a time when the community was not as inclusive as it is today, Russell helped co-found the event six years ago.

Devolin said Russell knew there was a long way to go and was proud of the acceptance that continues to grow.

"Certainly, as I look at the bench across the water I will continue to be reminded of Sinclair and the journey he began. We've come a long way, baby."

The Pride committee will officially dedicate Russell's bench Aug. 27 at noon. There will also be a video tribute on mindenpride.ca

Pride chair Allan Guinan said this year's theme is proud and hopeful.

"For the pride committee, it represented many ideas. We are very proud of all we have accomplished over the past six years,



Bob Fisher is adding an international perspective to this year's events. He's a representative of Rainbow Railroad, a global not-for-profit which helps LGBTQI+ people who are persecuted around the world. Photos by Lisa Gervais.

building Minden Pride into one of the largest events in the County."

"The community support we have gained, the business partnerships we have established and the extent of our reach around the County is nothing short of incredible."

He said they were also proud of their work

advocating for the rights of the LGBTQI+ community. This past year, they petitioned the federal government on Bill C-6 an act to amend the criminal code which would have made conversion therapy illegal.

Pride committee member Bob Fisher, along with the committee, is hoping to raise \$10,000 to help a refugee from Afghanistan

or another county where their life is being threatened due to their sexuality.

The remainder of the week's activities include a trivia night at the Dominion Boat House Aug. 26 from 7-9:30 p.m.; a parade your Pride colours float down the Gull Aug. 28 from 1-3 p.m.; and a multi-faith service Aug. 29 at 1 p.m. online.

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Highlander events



Nothing corny about this competition

The first ever Kennisis Marina Corn Hole Tournament saw 64 players vying for trophies and a chance to have their name etched onto a commemorative plaque. Larry Speakman and Simon Kersten were the winning team. Corn hole, a game where players toss bean bags at opposing targets, is a popular backyard game growing in popularity across North America. The tournament was organized by Jon Sims. *(Sam Gillett).*

Top left: Left to right: marina co-owner Gary Bouwmeister, winners Larry Speakman and Simon Kersten, marina co-owner Jim Dale and event organizer Jon Sims. *(Photo submitted)* Top right: Nicole Jones tosses a bean bag while teammate Catherine Ranson looks on. Bottom right: 32 teams played on 16 corn hole boards in the parking lot of the Kennisis Lake Marina. *Photos by Sam Gillett.*

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Highlander events



Hitting the links for Volunteer Dental Outreach

A sold-out group of 148 golfers hit the links at the Blairhampton Golf Club Aug. 19 to raise funds for Volunteer Dental Outreach (VDO). Spokesperson Lisa Kerr said they were hoping to raise \$50,000 for the cause. VDO has treated 1,094 patients, during 8,788 appointments for \$3,217,006 in total free dentistry. This was the 11th annual golf tournament.

Top left: Rob and Kathy Chapman and Anne and Kevin Mills take a break from play. Top right: Rory Campbell prepares to drive the ball. Middle left: Kevin Mills drives the ball down the fairway. Middle right: Lisa Kerr, pictured, and Janis Parker organized the tournament. Bottom right: Into the Blue pizza provided lunch. Pictured is Janine Papadopoulos. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.*



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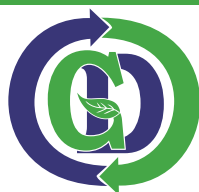
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58	K	N	O	T			59	F	E	E	S		60	P	A	T	S	Y

Highlander classifieds

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Highlander puzzles

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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

5	8	2	4	9	3	7	1	6
6	1	9	7	5	8	4	2	3
4	3	7	6	2	1	8	9	5
8	6	5	2	1	7	9	3	4
2	4	3	8	6	9	1	5	7
7	9	1	5	3	4	2	6	8
1	2	4	3	8	6	5	7	9
9	7	6	1	4	5	3	8	2
3	5	8	9	7	2	6	4	1

1	S	I	P	S		5	E	T	T	O		9	B	O	O	T	S
14	E	L	E	E		15	L	E	A	P		16	A	N	V	I	L
17	P	E	T	E	18	S	S	A	K	E		19	F	E	E	L	Y
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35	A	R	O	36	U	S	E				37	E	N	T	E	R	S
39	B	I	B	S		40	C	41	L	42	O	N	E		43	R	A
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57	T	58	A	B	O	O		59	T	R	A	D	E	N	A	M	E
60	S	E	E	U	M		61	Z	O	N	E		62	E	M	E	R
63	O	R	D	R	E		64	Y	S	E	R		65	D	E	R	N

This is The Pits!

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

- Across
- 1 Affix with a lower price, say

6 902, to Titus

10 Freezer-filling beef buy

14 "There ___ stupid questions"

15 Joins uninvitedly, as a conversation

17 Naughty nightie retailer

19 Ones privy to private info

20 Comic book artists

21 "I ___ Rock" (Paul Simon song)

22 "... blackbirds baked in ___"

23 Media blackout regarding a court case

30 Trudeau's Drive

31 Chris Hadfield's ISS title

32 Marcanã Stadium city

33 Spanish "ones"

34 Certain freight trains

35 At any ___ (no matter what)

36 Heart murmur detector, in brief

37 Old woman's home, in a rhyme

39 ___ pink (delight)

41 Intense interrogation

44 Diner owner in "Garfield"

45 It may be left of centre?

46 Ashram gurus

49 Sliced thinly, as almonds

54 Wood splitter with two blades

56 Arms that aren't for hugging

57 Let the swine run freely

58 Macramé unit

59 Dues

60 Country's Cline
- Down
- 1 Indian sitarist Shankar

2 Brockovich portrayed by Julia

3 Private eyes, slangily

4 No voter

5 Liberal politician Ralph ___

6 Former French president Jacques

7 Extinct birds of New Zealand

- 8 American equivalent of the CRA

9 Flavourless

10 Are revolting

11 Concerning, on a memo

12 Action figure?

13 Sinus specialists, briefly

16 Discount recipient at Denny's

18 Old song's poppier version, often

22 Convenience store conveniences

23 Party beverage in a bowl

24 Amount consumed, as electricity

25 Talks a load of crap, briefly

26 Being spotted?

27 Rendered ridable, as a horse

28 Loblaw's lane

29 What teachers don't want students to pass

30 Birdfeeder substance

34 Mrs. Dithers of the funnies

35 "Lookin' Out My Back Door" grp.

37 High-pitched, as a fire alarm

38 "When a man is wrapped up in ___ he makes a pretty small package": John Ruskin

39 Lukewarm

40 Crossword solver's words before checking the solution

42 Tiny treat with a Double Double

43 Postpones

46 Mt. Rushmore's state

47 Overused

48 "Grand Theft ___"

49 Desert-dry

50 Krabappel of "The Simpsons"

51 Deeply engrossed

52 Split decision makers?

53 Block, as access

55 Half a titter

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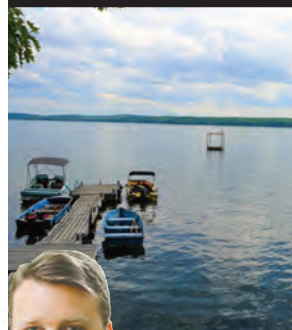
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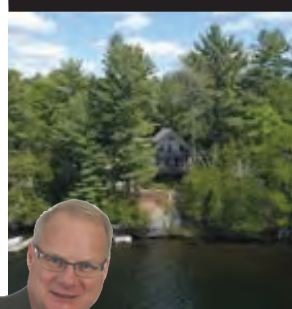


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