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The Highlander

Thursday **January 6 2022** | Issue 522

INSIDE: MIRACULOUS COMEBACK FROM LYME DISEASE PAGE 11

FREE



Judy MacDuff and a volunteer organize food donations. *Photo by Sam Gillett.*

A hungry Highlands: food banks respond to the growing need

By **Sam Gillett**

"A bag, or a bag and a half and you're at \$50," said Joanne Barnes.

She's talking about a trip to the grocery store; a lot of Highlanders are experiencing the same thing these days, with inflation hitting an 18-year high.

Barnes knows all too well how rising food prices affect residents. She manages the Minden Community Food Centre. She said this year has further exposed how prevalent food insecurity is in the County.

"I said all along in the beginning of October we were going to see people lined up out the door. That's what has happened."

Food banks across Haliburton County are reporting high usage and changing demographics; those who work in the field are calling for urgent action to address the crisis.

Tina Jackson, executive director of the Central Food Network in Highlands East, said there's been a year-on-year increase in food bank use.

She said the food bank assisted 318 people in 2018, 394 in 2019, and 525 in 2020. "We just can't sustain this significant increase, year after year," she said, adding the food bank needs "urgent" support to maintain current service levels due to soaring food costs.

Barnes said the end of COVID-19 supports means some clients haven't budgeted for taxes, or don't qualify for income supports.

"Now, you've got a whole new set

Continued 'Barnes' on page 2

County families impacted by Lindsay collision

By **Lisa Gervais**

Mark Sadgrove travelled to Lindsay Jan. 3 to see a concussion specialist.

He had to drive the same stretch of road he and son, Andrew, were on Dec. 14 when a horrific motor vehicle accident sent them to hospital and claimed the life of Highlands resident, Robert Clark, 64, for whom a GoFundMe page has been set up for his widow, Marylou Clark.

Sadgrove told his story to *The Highlander* prior to Christmas.

On a sunny, clear day, he said he and Andrew had just gassed up at the Ultramar on Hwy. 35 just north of Lindsay. When they turned back onto the highway, they had to brake behind other vehicles as someone in front of them was turning into a driveway.

"Suddenly, my vehicle was hit from behind. I was knocked unconscious for approximately 30 seconds according to my son, who was in the passenger front seat calling me, 'dad, dad, are you ok?' I was confused when I awoke from being unconscious. Thankfully, Andrew did not receive the impact I received but he was shaken up and had hurt his shoulder. He proceeded to call 911 for emergency assistance at approximately 10:30 a.m."

Looking around, Sadgrove said he surmised they'd been hit by a dump truck that had veered into the south lane and struck a pick-up truck, which appears to have been driven by Clark.

Mark and Andrew were taken by ambulance to Ross Memorial Hospital, where Sadgrove said they received excellent care. Andrew had a sore shoulder and neck. Sadgrove said, "my head was pounding and getting worse, my neck, shoulder, upper back area, my left ankle and my left eye were also a nagging area of pain. I also felt a sense of foginess and trying to grasp what had happened and perhaps feeling a sense of shock and disbelief, but thankful my son was still alive after this horrific event."

Continued 'They're' on page 2

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Highlander news

Barnes: Ontario's minimum wage 'doesn't cover it'

Continued from page 1

of people who have never been in this situation before," she said, mentioning a family who had been sleeping in a tent after losing their home. "What we're seeing now is desperation."

Jackson said Haliburton's tourism and hospitality sector, hit hard by shutdowns and restrictions the last two years, is also an industry where many jobs pay minimum wage or just above.

"It had a greater impact on low-income workers," she said. In Haliburton County, that means "we have a huge portion of our economy and residents connected with that."

Judy MacDuff of the 4Cs food bank said she's seen an increase in younger people seeking help at their York Street location in Haliburton.

Last estimates put Haliburton's low-income population at just over 17 per cent, compared with 12.3 per cent Ontario-wide.

Yet all three food banks try to address more than just food needs; Feed Ontario estimates 90 per cent of food banks in the province offer other vital services such as help dealing with energy bills.

Jackson also runs Heat Bank Haliburton County, which in 2020 alone assisted 276 people, supplying firewood, providing energy kits or helping unlock energy benefits.

More than 47 per cent of residents in Haliburton County pay more than 10 per cent of their income on heating costs.

"The majority of the households we're working with are struggling to cover hydro and heating bills because of a lack of income," Jackson said. "There's overlap there."

For Dr. Valerie Tarasuk of PROOF, a University of Toronto interdisciplinary study group focusing on Canadian food insecurity, that overlap suggests food banks aren't a long-term solution for hungry Highlanders.

"By the time someone doesn't have enough money to buy food there are other things missing besides food," she said.

Systemic solutions

"We can absorb ourselves with activities of collecting food, Tarasuk said, referring to festive fundraisers Canada-wide. "It sounds like we're doing a gigantic thing. But it's so out of sync with the scale of the problem."

While food banks can offset grocery bills and meet emergency needs, Tarasuk hasn't found evidence suggesting food banks can move households out of food insecurity.

Instead, she points to studies that show basic income, for example, or a minimum wage which more accurately reflects living costs, target the source. PROOF also states that programs such as the Canada Child Benefit have helped reduce instances of severe food insecurity.

For those working on the ground like Jackson, it's difficult to balance a desire for long-term solutions with the increased number of visits.

"I think it's really difficult to get public buy-in and political buy-in when the answer isn't immediate," said Jackson. "The answer to addressing poverty is not going to be an instant solution."

MPP Laurie Scott said her government has invested in food support programs across the Highlands, noting multiple provincial grants that have funded SIRCH training programs or food banks.

"We've invested in a lot of that to help these communities," Scott said.

Feed Ontario's 2021 hunger report states that Ontario's social assistance programs, ODSP and OW, totaling \$8,796 and \$14,028 a year, are "significantly below the level needed for a standard of living that is adequate for the health and well-being of the recipient and their family."

The 2016 census reports Haliburton County's unemployment rate at 9.6 per cent, 2.2 percentage points higher than the province's.

Barnes and Jackson see many who are employed seeking food bank services.

"A wage has to be higher than what it is, to be able to sustain a person, \$14 or \$15 an



Judy MacDuff surveys pre-Christmas donations. Photo by Sam Gillett.

hour doesn't cover it," Barnes said.

Scott said raising the minimum wage could discourage job opportunities. "There's a very fine balance between supporting employees or the fact they'll close up shop or stop expanding," she said.

Scott added there are many openings for positions in industries, like construction, that pay well.

However, in the four years leading up to the COVID-19 pandemic, the percentage of those with jobs accessing Ontario food banks grew by 44 per cent.

PROOF claims that 65 per cent of those going to food banks report salaries and earnings as the main source of income: "Simply having a job is not enough; low-waged jobs and precarious work means people in the workforce often don't have enough income to be food-secure," states PROOF's website.

In an address to parliament Dec. 16,

MP Jamie Schmale said the Liberal government's newly-passed aid package represents government spending that drives inflation, "making the savings of many in the working-class worth less."

He said living costs are rising "because the government has thrown all this money up into the atmosphere, and refuses to change course."

While Jackson and Barnes acknowledge politics, inflation and systematic changes all play a role in the Highlands, they and their volunteers are focused on those needing urgent help.

"We need more political buy-in to address the deep systemic changes we need to address these things, but we certainly still need investments in the non-profits that are doing the grassroots work," Jackson said. "People still need to be fed, people still need warmth while these things are happening."

'They're in heaven right now, probably fishing'

Continued from page 1

Sadgrove said he is still struggling with pain and severe headaches and is conferring with his family doctor and now a concussion specialist.

"I also suffer from PTSD (diagnosed approximately three years ago) and my concern now is that this incident may exasperate my condition further. Andrew has severe anxiety and is struggling as well," he said.

GoFundMe for Clark family

Meanwhile, Jenn Abbott has organized a GoFundMe on behalf of Robert Clark's wife, and her mom, Marylou Clark.

Abbott said Robert Clark had been a janitor at J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School in Haliburton and was also an outdoor enthusiast.

She said her mom and Rob were best friends, enjoying hunting and fishing, being on the boat as well as gardening. "All the time, go, go, go," she said of their relationship. They had lots of plans for the holidays, she added.

She said her purpose in setting up the GoFundMe was to get word out about the accident and to help her mom, who cannot work now as she is grieving.

While Abbott said it is hard financially post-holidays and with COVID, any bit of financial support is welcome.

"Our community is small but mighty."

She also talked about the awareness that a loved one can be gone in a second.

In a twist of fate, Rob's son, Adam, was cycling when he was struck and killed by a car nine years ago in Kingston.

"They're in heaven right now, probably fishing," Abbott said.

Go to: gofundme.com/f/help-marylou-after-tragic-death-of-husband

OPP update

In a Dec. 14 press release, the City of Kawartha Lakes OPP said they were on scene with EMS and fire at a fatal three-vehicle collision involving a dump truck and two SUV's, on Hwy. 35 north of

Lindsay.

They announced that Clark had been pronounced deceased at the scene and two others transported to a nearby hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

The highway remained closed for several hours while the OPP Traffic Collision Investigation (TCI) team did its work.

At the time, OPP were looking for the driver of a black cube van as well as any witnesses who had not yet spoken to them to call 1-888-310-1122.

As of press time Jan. 5, the City of Kawartha Lakes OPP said the investigation was ongoing.

Highlander news



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Volunteers head back to Minden COVID clinics

By Sam Gillett

As COVID-19 cases rise across Haliburton County, Highlands volunteers have returned to the Minden arena to help roll out booster shots.

Sally Moore, who's organizing the volunteer effort alongside Pat Bradley and Lynda Litwin, said "people are taking responsibility for their community" as they book appointments online.

Moore and many other volunteers face busy weeks ahead with 10 vaccination clinics at the arena scheduled between Jan. 6-28. She said each clinic has rigorous safety measures in place. "These environments of the clinics are nothing to fear," she said.

As COVID-19 infections surge across Ontario, schools, hockey rinks, gyms and restaurants across Haliburton County have shut their doors once again.

On Jan. 3, Premier Doug Ford announced a return to Stage 2 of Ontario's reopening plan.

As of Jan. 5, restaurants can't offer dine-in service, fitness centres must close and schools will revert to virtual learning until at least Jan. 17. Ford made the announcement three days after stating schools would reopen Jan. 5.

Ford said medical advisors predict the highly transmissible Omicron variant could overwhelm hospitals, with some expecting more than 100,000 cases a day. That could potentially mean more than 1,000 new hospital admissions per day.

While some studies and evidence from around the world show the variant is less severe, the sheer number of infections means hospitals could be "thousands of beds short in the coming weeks," Ford said.

"We need to slow [COVID-19] down in order to deliver shots," Ford said.

The HKPR district health unit reported 54 new cases of COVID-19 in Haliburton on Jan. 3, bringing the active case count in the County to 76.

There are 1,041 active cases of COVID-19 in the entire health region, with five people currently hospitalized.

However, those with COVID-19 symptoms are no longer eligible for testing unless they work in high-risk settings or have pre-existing medical conditions.

On Jan. 4, the health unit reported a seven-



The Minden arena will host vaccine clinics by appointment only during the month of January. *File.*

day positivity rate of 15.24 per cent. "With the high number of cases we are seeing locally, we know this virus is circulating and that if someone has symptoms, they probably have COVID," medical officer of health, Dr. Natalie Bocking said in a Dec. 24 press release.

New rules

Starting Jan. 5, Ford's government implemented the following rules:

- All restaurants will move to take-out only.
- All publicly-funded and private schools will move to remote learning starting Jan. 5 until at least Jan. 17.
- Workplaces with employees able to operate remotely must do so.
- All retail establishments (including malls) will run at 50 per cent capacity.
- Organized public events and private gatherings are limited to five people indoors and 10 outdoors.

- All indoor sports facilities and gyms must temporarily close, including the Minden arena and curling clubs.
- Ontario hospitals will pause all non-emergency and non-urgent surgeries and procedures.
- Museums, such as the Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Museum, will close.
- Restricting alcohol sales after 10 p.m. and alcohol consumption at a business after 11 p.m.
- Libraries can open at 50 per cent capacity. Haliburton Village, Minden and Wilberforce libraries will operate at 50 per cent capacity during normal operating hours. Gooderham, Cardiff, and Highland Grove branches will offer curbside pickup only.
- Personal care services are to be limited to 50 per cent capacity.

The rules will be in place until at least Jan. 27.

Business supports

In a press release, the Ontario government announced an expansion of the new Ontario Business Costs Rebate Program.

Some businesses required to close or limit capacity can apply for rebates on energy and property tax bills.

"Eligible businesses required to reduce capacity to 50 per cent, such as smaller retail stores, will receive a rebate payment equivalent to 50 per cent of their costs, while businesses required to close for indoor activities, such as restaurants and gyms, will receive a rebate payment equivalent to 100 per cent of their costs," states the press release.

Applications for the program are slated to open later in January.

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Minden Fire lands rapid attack truck

Minden Hills has a new firefighting weapon. The “initial attack mini pumper” truck is smaller and more agile than a traditional fire truck, still capable of hauling 750 liters of water.

“The smaller truck can access water sources that the bigger trucks could not get to, this truck will then be able to pump water to the trucks at the scene,” said fire chief Nelson Johnson in a Dec. 16 press release.

In some cases, the department must snake

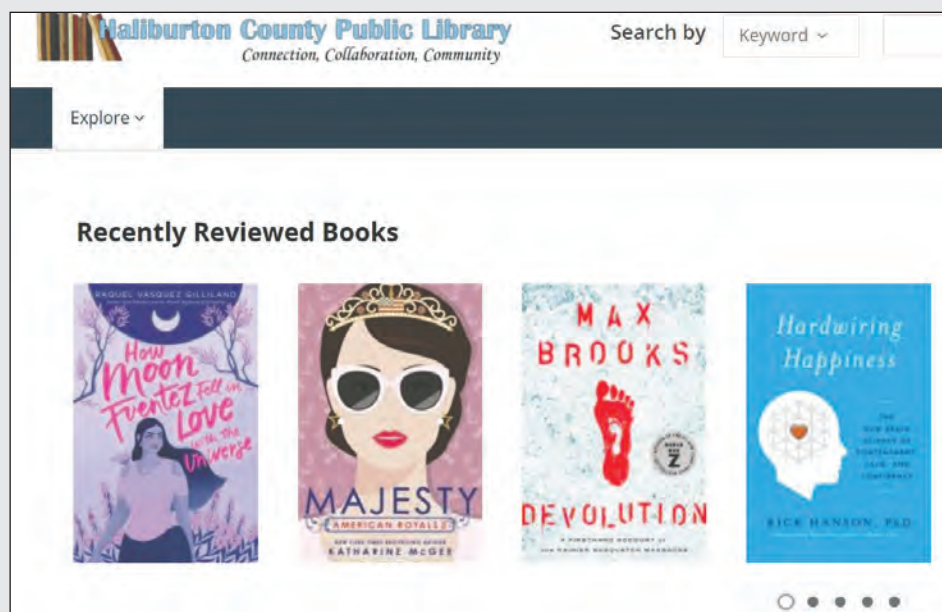
a firehose up long driveways or other hard-to-access areas. The small truck is capable of pumping water directly at the scene.

The department has been waiting for the pumper since 2019, when council approved \$470,000 for the custom-manufactured vehicle, which cost \$464,000.

“The addition of this new unit provides us with three fire trucks that can respond, the smaller unit gives us diversity, which we did not have before,” said the fire department. (Sam Gillett).



Minden Fire Dept. received its long-awaited mini-pumper truck in December. *Submitted.*



Virtual book loans get new look

The Haliburton Public Library has a new method for online book loans. Now, users can scroll through books to see cover art, in-depth summaries and even post their own reading picks on a new profile system, accessible through the library’s website.

Readers can filter results by availability, genre, format, branch and more, before placing a digital hold on the item for pickup.

In early 2022, the library will add online audiobook and e-book to the platform.

The new hold system will continue on

the library’s new website, currently under development.

County libraries are currently operating under stage two provincial guidelines.

Dysart, Minden Hills and Wilberforce branches will be limited to 50 per cent capacity with curbside pickup by request.

Cardiff, Gooderham and Highland Grove branches are now pickup only, with curbside printing available on request.

Haliburton Public Library urges patrons to wear their masks when visiting the library and during curbside pickups. (Sam Gillett).

INFORMATION PAGE

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A Message from the Fire Department

Slippery Slope: Take Care to Prevent Tobogganing Injuries

If you are planning on taking the kids to the local hill, don't just drop them off, especially if they are a younger age. Stay while they toboggan, make sure everyone wears a helmet – sledding injuries often include skull fractures and broken bones – and be sure to share these important guidelines with them so they can enjoy tobogganing safely.

Winter Driving

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(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:

January 13 – Regular Council Meeting

January 27 – 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. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting, please download 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 news



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New COVID restrictions to drive housing demand

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton County real estate agent Andrea Strano said the Ford government putting the province back into a modified stage two circuit breaker will fuel the demand even more for a desire to be in cottage country.

Strano was commenting on real estate trends in 2021 and her predictions for 2022.

She said her RE/MAX Professional North brokerage December statistics showed a true indication of what happened all year in Haliburton County.

"The limited inventory has pushed our number of sales down by 60 per cent for single family non-waterfront properties, simply because 'there is nothing to sell.' Not surprisingly, this has caused the average sales price to rise to \$678,000 for the month. The waterfront market is still holding strong with an average sales price of \$1.069 million," the report stated.

Strano said, "2021 was another whirlwind, record-breaking year for sales, both off-water residential and waterfront properties. Haliburton County saw trends similar to real estate markets in other areas across the country - a shift in property buying trends prompted by the pandemic.

"We saw low inventory in both the residential and cottage market and a growing demand in both sectors making it more difficult for buyers to obtain the property they desire.

"We usually see a lack of inventory during the winter months in a more balanced market regardless," Strano said.

However, she predicted the start of 2022 will mimic 2021, especially with a fifth wave COVID modified lockdown.

The Lakelands Association of Realtors also released statistics for the period ending November 2021 in late December. The association includes Lakelands North, which has agents serving Algonquin Highlands, Dysart et al, Highlands East, and Minden.

They said the trend is non-waterfront property sales taking off while waterfront purchases are starting to come back to more normal seasonal levels. It's being reflected in higher sales prices for non-waterfront while waterfront prices are edging off.

Association president, Chuck Murney, said, "We are beginning to see diverging trends in our market between non-waterfront residential activity and waterfront properties. Non-waterfront activity is still going strong and posted the second-best November on record, while waterfront sales are back down to more normal seasonal levels."

Murney added, "Trends in prices are also on divergent paths, as median price levels continue to rise to new records for non-waterfront home sales, median prices have turned a corner and are edging off their highs for waterfront homes."

The association said supply levels for both types of properties are still trending at their lowest on record.



Low inventory is slowing sales. *Freepik.*

By the numbers

The Lakelands Association of Realtors said 492 non-waterfront homes sold in November 2021, down 10.2 per cent from a record-breaking 2020. However, that was still nine per cent above the five-year and 18.8 per cent above the 10-year average for November.

Year-to-date, residential non-waterfront sales totaled a record 6,754 units over the first 11 months of the year, up 3.7 per cent from the same period in 2020.

There were 11 waterfront properties sold in November 2021, down 33.1 per cent from the same period in 2020 and more in line with historical averages for the month. They were 5.4 per cent below the five-year but one per cent above the 10-year average for the month. Year-to-date sales were 2,124 units, down 4.1 per cent from a record-breaking 2020.

When it comes to prices, the overall average was \$632,300 in November 2021, up 31.4 per cent from November 2020. The benchmark price for single family homes jumped to \$646,000, up 31.6 per cent on a November year-over-year basis.

The median price for residential non-waterfront in November 2021 was \$701,000, up 31 per cent from November 2020. For 2020, it was \$651,000, up 32.3 per cent from 2020's first 11 months,

For waterfront, it was \$835,000 for November 2021, up 5.7 per cent from November 2020. Year-to-date, it was \$907,650, up 29.7 per cent from the first 11 months of 2020.

The total dollar value of all residential non-waterfront sales in November 2021 was \$391.7 million, a gain of 12.4 per cent from the same month in 2020. It was a new record for November. The total dollar value of all waterfront sales in November 2021 was \$103.5 million, down sharply by 32.9 per cent from the same month in 2020.

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Highlander news

Lockdown more about staffing: Scott

By Mike Baker

MPP Laurie Scott said the latest Ontario government lockdown is “basically a human resources issue,” with many public workplaces such as hospitals and schools struggling to staff their facilities.

The province will temporarily revert back to Step Two of its Roadmap to Reopen plan, originally introduced last summer, until at least Jan. 26. This comes as the new Omicron variant spreads, with more than 100,000 confirmed cases in Ontario since Dec. 25.

“This is not necessarily where we wanted to go, but is where we felt we had to go,” Scott told *The Highlander*. “We’re trying to slow this down. Omicron is highly transmissible. It’s maybe less severe, but our hospitals are full. If we have one per cent of the tens of thousands of people that are getting this every day [admitted], that’s enough to tip us over the edge.”

“There aren’t enough nurses, we’ve seen that in Haliburton County. Our education system can’t find enough supply teachers to fill the gaps. The community spread [of Omicron] is very high level, we’re seeing shortages in the workforce everywhere,” Scott added. “People are getting sick and then having to stay home for five days. This last step is really a human resource problem more than anything.”

Despite COVID in 2021, Scott said there

have been many positives, such as the near \$3 million in joint federal and provincial funding for the Highlands to support upgrading the Haliburton County Rail Trail Corridor; renovating the Kinark Outdoor Centre; improving accessibility at facilities in Minden, Lochlin and Irondale; and rehabilitating Rotary Beach Park.

Haliburton Highlands Health Services received an additional \$1.4 million to support various infrastructure upgrades, while a new mobile mental health and addictions clinic will soon be available. There have been improvements to high-speed internet as well, Scott said.

“I’m pleased to say that improvements through the Eastern Ontario Regional Network with its cell gap project are coming along. We are on track to have everybody connected by 2025,” Scott said.

With a provincial election slated to take place by June 2, Scott expects she will be on the campaign trail sooner rather than later. The handling of the pandemic will be a major issue and Scott said she’s proud of what the Progressive Conservatives have accomplished.

“We have a lot of really, really good stories about new businesses in Ontario, and how we’ve been able to attract back existing businesses. There have been 150,000 new jobs created since the beginning of the pandemic,” Scott said.

As of Dec. 3, 2021 the unemployment rate

in Ontario sat at 6.4 per cent according to Stats Canada, down from 10.2 per cent at the beginning of the year.

Scott acknowledged the housing crisis needs attention. House prices and the cost of rent spiralled to all-time highs in 2021. Homelessness across Haliburton County is worse than it has ever been according to Michelle Corley, manager of the Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Housing Corporation, while a provincial report commissioned in 2018 noted nearly two million people across the province are living in poverty or precarious housing situations.

Scott hopes the recently introduced *More Homes, More Choice: Ontario’s Housing Supply Action Plan* will help address some of the issues.

“This plan is actively putting more affordable home ownership and rentals in reach of more Ontario families. Housing stats last year were up 15 per cent compared to the previous year.”

She said the Ford government has also taken an active role in promoting more and different kinds of housing, including tiny homes, co-ownership, life-leases, and secondary suites.

The province is projected to invest \$3 billion in 2022 to help sustain, repair and grow community housing and address homelessness, although details have not yet been announced.



Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott. Submitted.



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Highlander news

Owner of closed restaurant objecting to 'passport segregation'

By Lisa Gervais

The Minden 50's Diner remains shuttered after the HKPR District Health Unit said on Dec. 30 that the eatery had consented to an Order of the Superior Court of Justice to close after failing to comply with a Section 22 order issued by the local Medical Officer of Health.

According to the health unit, on Dec. 14, they served owner/operator Jason Lake with a Section 22 Order. They said it was issued under the Health Protection and Promotion Act which governs the prevention of the spread of disease and the promotion and protection of the health of Ontarians. The order required the owner to comply with all provincial measures for restaurants required by the Reopening Ontario Act, and associated regulations, or to close the premises, a news release said.

"The Section 22 order came after HKPR staff received multiple complaints about the restaurant not following provincial COVID-19 regulations. Health unit staff visited the site multiple times to provide information and education to the owner before progressing to further enforcement measures," the HKPR said.

According to them, on Dec. 23, a Superior Court judge made an order with the consent of the parties, that the restaurant remain closed until further order of the court.

"Because patrons are not always fully masked while in a food premise, the province's Reopening Ontario Act requires that restaurants take additional actions to prevent spread of COVID-19," said medical officer of health, Dr. Natalie Bocking.

"By not complying with provincial regulations for indoor masking and proof of vaccination, operators put their staff and customers at risk," she added.

Lake did not respond to an email from *The Highlander* requesting an interview. However, he did comment on a story on *The Highlander's* Facebook page.

In that comment, "dated weeks ago"



Minden 50's Diner owner Jason Lake outside the restaurant on May 29, 2020. *File.*

and addressed to "loyal Minden 50's Diner patrons," he said they were closed to dine-in service as "unfortunately, we cannot willingly participate in this vaccine passport segregation that is taking place. There is health and safety and then there is government unjust overreach."

He went on to say he finds it "absolutely disgusting how the government has stigmatized the unvaxxed."

He added, "The 50's Diner believes in human rights and freedoms and if we can't serve everyone then we would rather serve no one ... thanks to all those that supported us over the last seven years. It's been a pleasure but we cannot participate in this vaxx passport. It is morally wrong and we hope you all understand."

Not the first time

It's not the first time the diner has gotten into hot water over COVID regulations.

Lake ignored provincial orders May 29, 2020 by allowing sit-down customers to return to his restaurant that morning despite a no dine-in rule.

However, the protest was short-lived with the local eatery reverting to takeout later in the day.

Lake said at the time, "we had nice, positive conversations with OPP and the health unit. They didn't shut me down. We are continuing with takeout."

Lake said he knew the opening would be short-lived and the action was a protest to bring attention to all small businesses that were closed in the area, not just his.



Local shopper wins big

Kathy Barry of Eagle Lake won the Haliburton BIA's annual "buy in and win" draw on Dec. 24 after buying ski boots for her granddaughter at Algonquin Outfitters. She won \$1,500 in gift cards to four local businesses of her choice and said she's planning on buying a new pair of skis from Algonquin Outfitters with the winnings. (Sam Gillett).

BIA board member David Zilstra, winner Kathy Barry, and BIA board member Brandon Nimigon. Photo by Sam Gillett.

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Editorial opinion

TheHighlander

Published by The Highlander Newspaper Limited

OUR MISSION

To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas.

To report on issues, people and events important to the community.

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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We shouldn't need food banks



By Sam Gillett

December showcased the Highlands' giving mentality. Our editorial schedule was peppered with community food drives, toy collections, gift-giving and countless other events hosted and attended by people who want to help.

At the 4Cs food bank, one donor even spent more than \$900 on food donations.

Those donations helped feed Highlanders.

But it's unlikely donations made during the Christmas season will keep bellies full for long.

A study by three Canadian universities estimates food costs will rise a further five to seven per cent in 2022, and inflation is surging to levels not seen for nearly 20 years.

Dr. Valerie Tarasuk, who has spent decades researching food insecurity, argues that the federal and provincial governments miss the mark if they think food banks are a solution for food insecurity and food drives an effective method to end it.

Jamie Schmale, Laurie Scott or Justin Trudeau (and nearly every elected official) advocate for food drives, food banks and the volunteers who staff them. We

applaud Scott's support of the hardworking volunteers, Schmale's questions in parliament and his research into the rising cost of living.

However, Tarasuk, and other research groups and food bank workers say one cause is clear: people in Ontario aren't making enough money. Schmale's Conservative Party has been a staunch opponent of basic income initiatives, which Tarasuk said could be a valuable step in the right direction; Scott's provincial party has approved a minimum wage that sits nearly \$5 below what's needed to support a family of four in the County.

When people with full-time jobs (as over 60 per cent of Ontario's food bank clients have) cannot afford to feed themselves, or those living with disabilities must choose between rent or dinner, our politicians need to recognize their food drives, grants, and congratulatory social media posts seem like slapping a Band-aid on an injury that requires emergency surgery.

To say Haliburton County is facing difficulties now seems like an understatement. We are a spread-out

community, with a minuscule rental stock, sky-high energy prices, and an aging population that will soon rely on services provided by a younger demographic who may struggle to afford to live here.

It's our job as a community newspaper to unpack that big ball of challenges and make it understandable. To do that, we need your stories.

While I understand the difficulty in discussing these hard topics, we need the voices of those directly impacted. You see, the hard part of this argument is convincing the powers to be that the 'hidden' homeless, hungry and poor truly exist in the Highlands. We urge you to share your experiences, to help us change the narrative about the issues of homelessness, hunger and poverty in the County.

COVID CORNER

By Sarah Thomas

(sister of regular COVID Corner contributor Dr. Nell Thomas)

Singapore, where I live with my two sons, is a city-state of six million people on an island 35 km long and 20 km wide. It sits one degree north of the equator; take your hottest, most humid August day in Minden and multiply by 365 - that's the climate. I call it the air-conditioned jungle: it's a super-rich, high-tech city embedded in a rainforest. It takes 20 hours in the air to get from there to Toronto.

We make the trip every summer and some winters too, but our last trip was Christmas 2019. After watching two summers and Christmas 2020 go by, I bought tickets last August and kept my fingers crossed, telling everyone I would believe it when the plane took off. Still, I checked our passport dates and winter clothing supply.

Getting to Canada is not the hard part: as citizens, we're entitled to enter the country. (This is not true for all countries: Australia and the Philippines, among others, have denied their own citizens entry during this pandemic.) The hard part is getting back into Singapore. I knew we would be in for a seven-day enforced "stay-home notice" upon return - provided my employer got approval from Immigration Singapore to let

us back in - still preferable to the two-week quarantine in a windowless hotel room others had endured.

Then Singapore Airlines opened Vaccinated Travel Lanes (VTLs) from certain countries: flights dedicated to vaccinated travellers (and unvaccinated children under 12) only. Even better: no quarantine or approvals required. Only a series of "sticks up the nose" on arrival, day four and day seven interrupted the almost-normal travel experience.

My teacher colleagues were getting cautiously excited: they too were eager to see parents, children, family, friends. Life abroad as an expat can be wonderful, but it all breaks down when you can't return to your home country. Every day, our conversations revolved around the travel to-do list: Did you get your VTLs yet? How much did you pay? How about the VTP? (Oh, it turns out you cannot board the VTL without an approved Vaccinated Travel Pass too) Did you download your vaccination certificate? Got your booster shot yet? In Singapore, it's not legal to teach without being fully vaccinated, and we were all jabbed early on, and "invited" for boosters six months later.

Singapore keeps a tight control on its residents. As the pandemic wore on, we were gently nudged, step by step, into

compliance: you cannot enter a public building without scanning in with your "Trace Together" app that tracks everyone's movements and reveals your vaccination status. If you're older than 12, stepping into a mall without being vaccinated will trigger an alarm. There is no dining out, seeing a movie or even buying a snack at the seven to 11 without going through this. As a result, 91 per cent of eligible residents are double-jabbed. Masks are mandatory everywhere, even outdoors, and "safe distancing ambassadors" in red T-shirts politely but persistently remind you to keep it over your nose. There have been two high-profile cases of anti-maskers: the expat was deported and the local was remanded to the Institute of Mental Health.

It was early December; Delta was retreating but Omicron was in the air. I printed vax certificates for me and my 14-year-old, booked our pre-flight PCR tests, and uploaded all info required by Canadian immigration to the ArriveCAN app, honestly declaring that yes, we would be visiting a front-line worker and the elderly. My finger crossing must have worked, because here we are. And despite everything, including the seven-day basement quarantine Dr. Nell imposed for extra safety - it has been worth it. Now we just need to get back...

The Highlander welcomes all contributions, however we wish to remind readers of the following:

Letters to the editor policy

- Letters should be exclusive to *The Highlander*. We do not publish letters also addressed to other media outlets, open letters, letters to third parties, or cc'd letters.
- Letters must be signed with first and last name and home town. We also need an address and phone number for verification. The address and phone number won't be published. We do not run anonymous letters.
- Letters must be a maximum of 300 words. If submitted at greater length, they will be returned for editing.
- *The Highlander* may still edit for length and clarity. • *The Highlander* has the right not to publish letters.

Social media policy

The Highlander expects respectful debate in Facebook and Twitter comments. We reserve the right to hide or delete posts, and to block commenters, if necessary.

Editorial opinion

PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



Tina Smith of Haliburton Lake sent in these fun photos of her Baby Yoda greeter having his booster at the Haliburton Legion. She's posting pictures of 'Adventures of Baby Yoda' in her Facebook posts and thought this would get a chuckle. "The nurses and staff were so awesome and were totally onboard," the long-time cottagers on South Bay said.

LETTER

Timely help

Dear editor,

Thank you for your opinion piece on Coping (*The Highlander*, Dec. 23, 2021, page 8).

It was exactly what I needed to read as the

year was coming to a close.

Your list of coping skills is great and it reminded me that I am doing the right things to stay sane.

It also reminded me that we're all "a little sad" at this point.

However, I was glad to hear that someone

else was reading two books at the same time. After two years of being stuck inside at night, I am really sick of television.

I also want to add my shout out to The Source in Haliburton. When I got my new phone, there was no way I was going to be able to safely change the SIM card

by myself. I took it there and they were amazing. Super friendly, super helpful. They really came through for me when I needed it.

Krista Baker
Minden Hills

Life one big maskparade

As we quietly tuck 2021 into bed, or more possibly silently press a pillow over its face with increasing pressure until the thrashing and kicking subsides, we can look back and take stock of the past 365 days and say, thank goodness that is over.

Unfortunately, the roll-over into 2022 carries with it some baggage from last year. Wish as we might, the pandemic refuses to be left behind and while the consequences of contracting the Omicron variant seem much less dire, especially for those triple vaxxed, safety protocols of masking, distancing and reduced contacts etc., continue to be the norm.

We have all become quite used to slipping on a mask when going indoors, giving friends and acquaintances lots of space when we stop for a chat and maintaining a tight circle of contacts. It has all become routine and a royal pain in the ... However,

I must confess that, when out and about, I have grown quite fond of wearing a mask and seeing what others have chosen for their face covering. I appreciate the protection it affords me from the airborne, invisible infection nodes that seem to be all around us. Other than cowering in a basement corner and vaccinations, the mask is our first line of defense in the public realm. But there are many other uses for the mask that have evolved over the past year.

Since masks are available in a plethora of styles these days, what a person puts on his or her face can say a great deal about the personality of the wearer. The optimist is reflected in the broad grin or doggie mask or some other whimsical pattern while the grump usually hides behind something darker and threatening. Those with surgical masks are all business or perhaps on a shift change from the hospital.

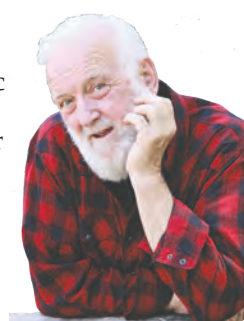
A mask can absolve the wearer of multiple social faux pas, such as not remembering someone's name in a post office encounter, because one always has the excuse of being unable to identify the hidden face. One can banter away about the weather or state of politics or the price of frozen pork belly futures, without even mentioning the person's name, and blame it on the mask ... even though they started the conversation with your name.

I notice more people on the street are saying a simple hello to all passersby. The mask has allowed us to be friendlier even when we have no idea who the person is. Now that's a positive outcome and certainly something that should continue long after the masks are no longer required.

It hasn't been a harsh winter ... yet. However, on occasion a gust of wind will blow through the streets and one becomes

acutely aware of another benefit of a mask. The pandemic face shield is also a great winter weather protector. It blocks the harsh winds that can turn a pleasant stroll into what seems like the final push to the summit of Mount Everest.

So, we stride confidently into the New Year, hopeful that we are turning the corner on this pandemic. A new world awaits to be discovered for those vaxxed to the max, appropriately distanced and above all sporting the latest in facial fashion, a mask.



By Jack Brezina

Highlander arts

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Jonny Harris visited local landmarks like Minden's Dominion Hotel while filming season seven of his CBC comedy special. *Submitted.*

A flood of jokes in Minden comedy special

By Sam Gillett

Sandbags, rapids and a cow on a roof: those are just a few Minden emblems comedian and actor Jonny Harris points out in an upcoming episode of *Still Standing*, a CBC comedy that features the town.

Still Standing sees the *Murdoch Mysteries* cast member exploring Canada's small towns and how communities rally in the face of adversity. From Rankin Inlet to Turner Valley, Harris delivers a good-natured stand-up routine to a live local audience after interviewing locals.

"I'm humbled by all I learn every episode," Harris said. "I feel like an idiot by the time I've left."

Harris' September 2020 visit to Minden focuses on the town's floods.

"How the town has learned from that, how the town almost has a fast action response to it now," he said. "People sort of know what to do, what area to target: that's unique."

He speaks to Emily Stonehouse, who led the township's communication efforts during the 2019 flood, and flooded-out community members such as Michael J. Bainbridge and Brigitte Gall.

Between flood-related puns and quips (including a comparison to a backed-up

toilet), Harris charts Minden's community response before chatting with business owners about living and working in the Highlands.

"I try and be a bit cheeky or a bit saucy but it never needs to be meanspirited," he said.

The episode also features Shawn Smandych explaining the town's successful pride week and Plum Vicious, his vibrant drag queen persona.

Smandych also talks about the engaged kids who attended his first drag queen story hour.

Harris told the live audience he wished someone like Plum Vicious read to him as a kid, "just to have somebody spectacular to look at, to keep you engaged."

Harris said he tries to celebrate the town while recognizing struggle in each episode. "Often these struggles unite people, bring people together," he said.

He said Minden residents "give selflessly and work hard to ensure the survival of their town. If you acknowledge that, the comedy can come out of that. It's sort of a pat on the back."

Still Standing season seven airs on CBC and CBC Gem. The season's Minden episode airs on CBC TV Feb. 2 at 8 p.m.



2022 Municipal Election Joint Compliance Audit Committee Members

The Corporations of the Township of Algonquin Highlands, the Township of Minden Hills, the Municipality of Dysart et al and the Municipality of Highlands East, are currently seeking interested applicants from professionals who are required to adhere to codes of standards of their profession, and other individuals with in depth knowledge of the campaign financing rules of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 for appointment to a **Joint Compliance Audit Committee**.

The Joint Compliance Audit Committee has full delegation of the authority in the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, to address applications requesting an audit of a candidate's election campaign finances. This authority includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Review applications and grant or reject audit requests
- Where an audit is granted, appoint an auditor and review the audit report
- Where indicated, decide whether legal proceedings shall be commenced.

The Joint Compliance Audit Committee will consist of members appointed by each Council. Committee members must have the ability to understand and apply the election campaign finance provisions of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* and should be considered impartial with respect to their ability to fulfill their responsibilities. Preference shall be given to candidates that have applicable experience in accounting, law, law enforcement and academics from related fields.

Preferred Qualifications:

- (a) Accounting and audit – accountants or auditors with experience in preparing or auditing the financial statements of municipal candidates;
- (b) Academic – college or university professors with expertise in political science or local government administration;
- (c) Legal; and
- (d) Other individuals with knowledge of the campaign financing rules of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

Members of the public interested in serving on this Committee are asked to submit a resume, and covering letter, marked "Confidential" no later than Noon on January 28, 2022 to:

Robyn Rogers, Clerk
Corporation of the Municipality of Highlands East
2249 Loop Road, P.O. Box 295, Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0

For further information, please contact Robyn Rogers, Clerk by email at rrogers@highlandseast.ca

We thank all applicants for applying, but only the selected candidates will be contacted. Personal information and supporting material is collected and used in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

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Celebrating 'another chance' at life

By Mike Baker

Karen Dawnn was at death's door 18 months ago, her body ravaged by an initially undiagnosed disease that specialists say is often overlooked in Ontario.

Once a fit and healthy yoga instructor and artist, Dawnn, who turns 60 in February, found herself bed-ridden and unable to take care of herself after falling sick in the summer of 2017. While she didn't know it at the time, Dawnn had contracted Lyme Disease. It would be three years before she learned the full extent of her diagnosis.

What happened in between could only be described as a living nightmare by Dawnn, who suffered extreme pain brought on by neuropathy, the ignominy of being told by several medical professionals that she was imagining her illness, and eventual grim acceptance that she was destined to die.

Typical symptoms of Lyme include a fever, headache and fatigue. If left untreated, infection can spread to the joints, the heart and the nervous system. The disease is transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected blacklegged tick. The bites typically spring up a bullseye rash, that can often go undetected.

"When I first got sick, it started with weird symptoms. I had very loud tinnitus that would come on suddenly, and a really strange feeling like someone had set fire to the top of my head," Dawnn said.

"I was pretty much ready to die, then we went to see Dr. Timothy Cook and that was the first time I felt real hope."
Karen Dawnn

"I was in a tremendous amount of pain and discomfort."

Believing she was going through a serious medical episode, Dawnn went to the emergency room at Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket.

"They had no idea what was wrong. They thought I was suffering from anxiety or something. They told me to go to my regular GP. He did some checks and couldn't find anything. This was going on for months, and then I started to lose weight," Dawnn said. "I went from around 150 pounds to 69 pounds in a few months."

That all of this occurred at a time when Dawnn and her husband, Dave, were preparing to build their dream home in Haliburton County was particularly cruel. The pair had purchased a plot of land on West Lake, and had gotten to the stage where they were talking to contractors. That all fell apart, quickly, once it became clear that Dawnn's sickness wasn't going away. The couple sold the property in early 2020.

As she reflects, Dawnn said she and her husband visited a handful of hospitals and

doctors in Southern Ontario in that first year. She went for dozens of MRIs, CT scans and X-rays but nobody could put a finger on what was going on.

More time passed. Still no answers. Eventually, the finger started to point towards Dawnn herself. "They just kept saying they couldn't find any reason for the weight loss, no reason for the neuropathy ... I had had a Lyme test by then, and it had come back negative. Eventually, the doctors started to say that I must have mental issues ... They tried to blame me, telling my husband that I must be starving myself, or that I had an eating disorder," Dawnn recalls.

The great imitator

This story is one of thousands that Steve O'Neill has heard during his 15-year career as a Lyme Disease practitioner in Ontario. He operates a specialist clinic in Uxbridge, offering treatments, help and supports to hundreds of patients annually.

O'Neill said the makeup of the disease itself and the way the medical profession approaches it in Ontario makes Lyme appear elusive and hard to diagnose.

"Lyme is called the great imitator because it looks like so many other things. It could be fibromyalgia, chronic fatigue, neuralgia, the list goes on and on. The unique symptom of Lyme is that it's what they call

migratory, meaning the symptoms come and go and move from place to place and change in severity from person to person," O'Neill said.

"Unfortunately, most places in Ontario – and this is a problem all across Canada too – just aren't equipped to be able to properly diagnose and treat Lyme. And, even if they are, there is still a wide belief that there's no such thing

as chronic Lyme," he added.

Chronic Lyme, O'Neill says, is when Lyme Disease has gone undiagnosed and untreated for a period of time – which can be as short as two weeks – leaving it to run roughshod over your body.

Real hope

Feeling failed by the Ontario health system, Dawnn eventually went private after being convinced by a psychologist that her problem was indeed real. She had bloodwork done at a private clinic in Toronto, which was sent for testing at a specialized Lyme facility in Germany. When the results came back, Dawnn was told she had one of the most advanced cases of chronic Lyme on record.

"By this point I couldn't function at all – my vision was failing, my hearing was failing, my heart felt weak. I couldn't stand up at all. I felt like my kidneys were giving out, my bowels weren't working. My brain wasn't functioning anymore. I was pretty



Karen Dawnn is on the road to recovery after seeking treatment for an almost fatal case of Lyme Disease. Submitted.

much ready to die," Dawnn said. "Then we went to see Dr. Timothy Cook, and that was the first time I felt real hope."

Cook works alongside a team of "Lyme literate" physicians at the ReGen Clinic in Toronto who develop what Dawnn describes as functional treatment models for patients looking to recover from a Lyme diagnosis.

She credits Cook with saving her life.

Now, a year later, Dawnn's condition has improved tremendously. After completing courses of prescribed antibiotics and natural supplements, she is no longer bed-ridden and is learning to walk again.

"The Lyme attacked the cartilage in my knees and feet, so I have what's called Lyme arthritis. For a while, my knees couldn't straighten out and were locked at a kind of 45-degree angle ... My doctor assures me that I will walk again, and I'm working very hard with a physiotherapist a few times a week to try and get my mobility back," Dawnn said.

While the cost of going private was substantial – Dawnn estimates she and her husband have spent around \$50,000 on different appointments, procedures and medications over the past three years – the new lease on life her recovery has given her has been priceless.

In the past couple of months, Dawnn has written three children's books that she plans

to self-publish, and has even been keeping up with real estate postings in the area.

You see, her dreams have been reinvigorated too.

"I had everything stripped away from me – all of my dreams, my talents and almost everything in my body. Everything that I loved and held dear and cherished was stripped away until I was nothing but a skeleton waiting to die. Now that I have another chance, I'm actually starting to dream again," Dawnn said. "My dream is to get myself walking again, then I'm going to walk right out of [physiotherapy], sell our house and then move to Haliburton full-time."

The couple recently purchased a plot of land in Fort Irwin and plan to build their "dream home" on the property.

Now that she has come out successfully on the other side, Dawnn plans to become an advocate for improved Lyme Disease testing in Ontario.

"I know there's around 2,000 cases reported here in Canada every year, but the real number is much higher because so many people aren't diagnosed. Lyme is becoming more and more prevalent," Dawnn said. "Our medical system is not set up to diagnose Lyme Disease properly. Because of this neglect, it almost guarantees that many Lyme patients end up with chronic Lyme."

Highlander environment

Land Trust applauds Enviro-Heroes

By Sam Gillett

From non-profit rallies to radio shows and shoreline seminars, a host of Highlanders work to bring awareness to environmental concerns around the County each year.

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) through its “Enviro-Heroes” awards, singles out a few of those hard workers each year.

Terry Moore, host of Planet Haliburton on CanoeFM, The Haliburton Master Gardeners, and teen environmental activist Blake Parkinson were named this year’s heroes.

“It’s always a good feeling, to get recognized by other folks who recognize the impact human beings are having on the natural environment,” Moore said.

Moore, named an Enviro-Hero in the education category, is vice-president of Environment Haliburton! and his radio show features leading scientists and thought leaders who help shine light on pressing environmental issues.

One recent guest was Katharine Hayhoe, an atmospheric scientist who’s been featured in more than 100 peer-reviewed studies and is the chief scientist in one of the world’s largest conservation non-profits.

Moore said he tries “finding ways and means of constructing environmental conversations in such a way that people can get inside of it, and then be a part of it and do something down the road themselves.”

The Haliburton County Master Gardeners were named Enviro-Heroes in the stewardship and education category.

“Certainly, we don’t expect recognition, but when we get it, it’s lovely because we’re all volunteers,” said Master Gardener Marilyn Whittaker.

Landowners often call the group’s volunteers for gardening tips or to book personalized consultations at their properties.

“Lately, we’ve found shoreline questions have risen to the forefront,” she said. “People want to know what can I do to keep it natural and yet make it look good?”

They also have PowerPoint presentations they send to property owners and they hold a plant sale each May, with a focus on plants suitable for Haliburton properties.

Parkinson, awarded an Enviro-Hero Youth Award, is a Grade 8 student who’s led beluga whale protection campaigns, a beach cleanup, and even a “Swim for the Sea” fundraiser at his grandparents’ Lake Kashagawigamog cottage for the Worldwide Wildlife Foundation.

Parkinson and his family created a video series in December on his Instagram page, Planet Protectors, showcasing environmentally-friendly holiday tips. He could not be reached for comment.

The HHLT said an in-person awards ceremony will be announced at a later date.



Terry Moore was named an enviro-hero for his work promoting conversations on climate and preservation. *File*



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Highlander outdoors



An Eastern Screech Owl was the star of this year's Christmas Count.
Photo by Ed Poropat.

Stormy skies challenge Christmas bird counters

By Sam Gillett

Birders around Minden faced stormy weather and mild temperatures during a record-setting Christmas bird count. More field observers than ever, 32, scanned the skies, trees and waterways for winged creatures on Dec. 18 in a search area north of Minden.

Along with those watching backyard bird feeders, 4,238 different birds were counted. The 20-year average sits at 4,282.

Organizer Ed Poropat reported 51 species were recorded, up from the average of 45. Snow, which began to fall mid-morning, made it difficult to find birds due to decreased visibility and poor driving conditions.

That meant many birds passed on backyard feeders in favour of seed crops in the shelter of the forest.

"Once again in 2021, most feeder watchers lamented the lack of birds on count day," Poropat said.

He added bumper seed crops from spruces, tamaracks, hemlocks and yellow birches were a big draw for hungry finches. Some field observers noted "this was the best winter finch year they could remember."

Birders spotted 867 Common Redpolls, 354 American Goldfinches, and smaller numbers of Pine Siskins and Purple Finches.

Open water meant it was challenging for participants to spot spread out birds on lakes within the search area. However, astute observers found four Common loons, 54 Common Goldeneye ducks, 51 Hooded Merganser ducks, and 28 Common Merganser ducks.

Five Red-breasted Mergansers were spotted on Canning Lake, and six Buffleheads near Minden.

Poropat said birders documented a record

number of 16 Ring-billed Gills, along with 33 Herring Gulls.

Some birds commonly hunted, such as Wild Turkey and Ruffed Grouse, likely found shelter throughout the storm, making them harder to spot. Observers spotted 107 and 11 respectively.

Other birds showed up in decreased numbers, for example, 632 Black-capped Chickadees marked a decline from previous years. Poropat said Ontario-wide monitoring could help determine if the population is declining.

Rare finds

"As always, one of the interesting aspects of Christmas counts is the discovery and/or documentation of uncommon or rare species," Poropat said.

An Eastern Screech Owl might be this year's celebrity. It was the 109th new species discovered in the 55 years of the count.

It is a "rare, prized find anywhere on the Canadian Shield," Poropat said.

"Despite its name, Eastern Screech Owls do not normally screech and instead make a distinctive whinny-like whistle or quiet trill."

This year, observers also spotted a single male Black-backed Woodpecker near Kinmount, and a Canada Jay was found near Dena Lake.

A pair of Red-bellied Woodpeckers visited feeding stations near Minden Lake and two rare Cedar Waxwings were found. Two White-throated Sparrows and a single female Northern Cardinal made an appearance too.

Poropat thanked volunteers for participating in the count.

"Our collective efforts help contribute to knowledge of avian populations and conservation across the continent."



PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills proposes to consider by-laws to stop up, close, and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:

1. **File No. PLSRA2020067:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull River, lying in front 1020 Moore Lake Estates Road located within Lot 27, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
2. **File No. PLSRA2020043:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Black Lake, lying in front of 11255 Black Lake (Water Access Only) located within Lot 25, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
3. **File No. PLSRA2020056:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Black Lake, lying in front of 11267 Black Lake (Water Access Only) located Lot 25, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
4. **File No. PLSRA2021058:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Kashagawigamog Lake, lying in front of 1023 Pocket Trail located within Lot 27, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Minden
5. **File No. PLSRA2021059:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Kashagawigamog Lake, lying in front of Vacant Land having Roll Number 4616-030-000-81002-0000 on Pocket Trail located within Lot 27, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Minden
6. **File No. PLSRA2021060:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Kashagawigamog Lake, lying in front of 1010 Crofters Lane located within Lot 27, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Minden
7. **File No. PLSRA2021061:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Kashagawigamog Lake, lying in front of 1014 Crofters Lane located within Lot 27, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Minden
8. **File No. PLSRA2021062:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Kashagawigamog Lake, lying in front of 1032 Crofters Lane located within Lot 27, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Minden
9. **File No. PLSRA2021063:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Kashagawigamog Lake, lying in front of Vacant Land having Roll Number 4616-030-000-80500-0000 on Crofters Lane located within Lot 27, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Minden
10. **File No. PLSRA2021064:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Kashagawigamog Lake, lying in front of Vacant Land having Roll Number 4616-030-000-80400-0000 on Crofters Lane located within Lot 27, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Minden
11. **File No. PLSRA2021079:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Twelve Mile Lake, lying in front of 1540 Twelve Mile Lake Road located within Lot 8, Concession 10, Geographic Township of Minden

The above noted plans of surveys are available for inspection in the Building and Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario by appointment only. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the undersigned or by visiting www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected is asked to contact the undersigned at their earliest convenience. If deemed advisable, By-laws giving effect to the proposed closure and conveyance will be passed by the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills.

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons)
Township Planning Consultant
705-742-2297x278
adougherty@mindenhills.ca

2021 year in review

JANUARY

Ron Reid remembered

With the pandemic socially distancing and isolating people, Ron Reid set out to reconnect. The long-time, Minden-based volunteer's children said Reid called and emailed others throughout COVID-19. He messaged friends from across his life, even those who he had not talked to in years. At one point, the 73-year-old could not sleep and got up at 4 a.m. to finish a letter to a former boss. That was two days before he passed suddenly due to a heart attack Dec. 10, 2020.

OPSEU buys Frost Centre

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) purchased the Leslie M. Frost Centre in Algonquin Highlands. OPSEU announced its acquisition of the land and buildings, for \$3.2 million, in a Jan. 8 press release, saying, "Haliburton's historic Frost Centre is set for new life and a major lift as OPSEU/SEFPOs newest member resource and training centre."



OPSEU buys Frost Centre. *File.*

Raising money for connectivity

When the pandemic closed schools in 2020, student Megan Klose found herself travelling to the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School parking lot. Online learning proved challenging with their family's internet quality. To make do, they utilized the school's WiFi hotspot, with her mother – a teacher – working from the front seat and Klose taking a class from the back. County council heard that and other stories of connection problems from a delegation headed by Point in Time Jan. 13. The organization was seeking financial support to help students struggling to learn due to a lack of online connectivity.

Buttermilk Falls changes hands

Long-time guests, Stephen and Megan Orr, took over the Buttermilk Falls Resort from John and Dale Rider, who are retiring after 13 years. The changeover happened Jan. 20, 2021. Stephen Orr said he and Megan have been coming to the area for more than 20 years, discovering Buttermilk about 15 years ago. They developed a friendship with the Riders, other guests and introduced the resort to friends.

FEBRUARY

RFP for shoreline preservation bylaw

County council changed direction on its shoreline bylaw by hiring a private firm to continue work in response to public outcry. Council unanimously voted at a special meeting Jan. 27, 2021 to put out a request for proposals. The chosen firm led further development on the bylaw, including reviewing related science, an environmental scan, exploring municipal comparators and

public consultation. The move came after weeks of public pushback on the current draft of the shoreline bylaw, which aims to restrict development within 30 metres of shorelines.

Pandemic reopening for Sir Sam's

Chris Bishop had worked just about every winter weekend for the past 42 years. However, the owner of Sir Sam's Ski/Ride had 17 weekends off during COVID lockdowns. That ended with the Haliburton County ski hill reopening Feb. 17, 2021. "Very strange," Bishop said of the year that's been, adding he was excited about the reopening but also very conscious about what was and is going on in the world with the pandemic.



Pandemic reopening for Sir Sam's. *File.*

Cottage power rates to escalate

Hydro One said more than half of its seasonal customers could see a \$650-a-year jump in electricity costs after the Ontario Energy Board approved the elimination of a special rate class for seasonal homes. A spokesperson for the utility told *The Highlander* that in the coming weeks from mid-to-late February, 2021, the OEB was sending out a notice to customers with details on next steps. There was information on moving customers to one of the three residential rate classes, urban, medium or low density, and the projected bill impacts.

Residents search for the Starlink

When Joe Mukherjee got his first email that the Starlink internet service was touching down in Haliburton, he wasted no time in ordering the service. The Haliburton Lake resident had waited for months for the opportunity. As someone doing video calls for his job, he sought better service, struggling with slow speeds using other providers. He made it work by paying for separate connections for himself and the rest of his family. The satellite service from U.S.-based SpaceX seeks to use Starlink to deliver better speeds in remote areas across the globe.

MARCH

Helping seniors age in place

The province provided Haliburton County \$3.25 million to expand its community paramedicine for long-term care program. The funding announced March 9, 2021 was used to expand the program, which has paramedics use their expertise to do regular, non-emergency home visits to provide care and reduce emergency hospital trips. The province said the funding initiative, which began October 20, 2021 in five other communities, will help seniors on long-term care waitlists stay home longer.

Fire chief remembered

Whether fighting fires, plowing roads or getting kids to school on time as a bus driver, Highland Grove district fire chief, Doug Bowen, was continually serving his community. His daughter Mary Rutledge said he was her first hero – and was a selfless individual. "He loved to be around people," Rutledge said. "He just really got a kick out of making people happy ... He made a point of making everyone feel welcome and part of the community." Highland Grove came together March 10, 2021 to mourn the 68-year-old Bowen after he passed away March 5 due to cancer.

Rogers wins cell contract

Rogers Communications will deliver a more than \$300 million project to improve cellular connectivity throughout the region. The Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) announced March 19, 2021 that Rogers was the successful bidder for its Cell Gap project. The initiative aims to provide better service in Eastern Ontario, especially in dead zones, over the next five years, with goals of 99 per cent having cellular calling, 95 per cent having coverage for video and applications, and 85 per cent having high definition video streaming.

County sticks with emissions target

County council decided not to up its 15 per cent corporate emissions reduction target despite staff presenting options for higher goals. Climate change coordinator, Korey McKay, presented to council Feb. 24, 2021 about its climate change plan. It targets a 15 per cent reduction in emissions from 2018 levels by 2030. But McKay presented other options such as increasing that figure to 30 per cent to align with federal and provincial targets, or 45 per cent to follow the best science and help further limit global warming.



County sticks with emissions target. *File.*

APRIL

Electric vehicles

The County of Haliburton was preparing to install electric vehicle charging stations throughout the municipality. County council reviewed a proposal from its climate change co-ordinator March 24, 2021 for seven or more stations spread in all four townships. The proposal included options for municipal ownership using grant funding or paying a service fee for chargers owned by service providers. Council voted to keep both options open and provide information for lower-tier townships to decide later.

Rotary staff vaccine clinics

The Minden and Haliburton Rotary clubs put a call out for volunteers as they took on duties to help run mass vaccination centres that started April 7, 2021. The Haliburton,

Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit tasked area Rotary clubs with managing the volunteers needed at the centres across the region. The Minden Rotary Club handled the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena which began April 7, 2021 while the Haliburton Rotary Club did the same for the A.J. LaRue Arena starting April 12, 2021.



Rotary staff vaccine clinics. *File.*

Citizen calls out council

Brian Johnston said the sight of oil spilling into a Drag River stream where Walleye spawn is "sickening." The avid fisher called out the decades-long problem in a viral Facebook post March 30, 2021. Johnston said a small stream of oil, the result of an old gas station near the locale, has continually poured into the river since the 1980s.

Kick off to community safety plan

The County of Haliburton and OPP kicked off the formal process to create a community safety and wellbeing plan April 12, 2020. A steering committee made up of councillors and Haliburton Highlands OPP acting commander Sgt. Dan Collings held a kickoff meeting for the plan. The provincially-mandated document would outline how different sectors - including municipalities, policing, social, education and health - can collaborate to address community risks and service gaps.

Crown Land dispute

Citizens came forward to express their concerns with a proposed disposition of Crown land on the shoreline of Centre Lake at a Highlands East council public meeting April 27, 2021. More than 60 people viewed the livestreamed meeting, of which seven delegations presented. The municipality hosted the meeting to gather feedback as the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) considers selling a 200-foot Crown reserve. The move comes at the request of two developers at the east and west sides of the lake.

Next week May to August.

Highlander sports

Austin Boylan's got baseball talent

By Lisa Gervais

Hitting a dinger out of Loan Depot Park, home of the Florida Marlins, during a competition in Miami, FL is definitely a highlight for Minden baseball product, Austin Boylan.

"It was crazy," the 15-year-old recalls during a Zoom interview, remembering thinking, "that's going." It went but Boylan said he didn't do much celebrating as he had other balls to hit during a home run derby, part of the 14th Annual World Power Showcase.

The Power Showcase All-World/All-American baseball classic provides a platform for the top amateur power hitting prospects from 27 countries around the world to demonstrate their overall skill-set in a major league stadium in front of baseball's top evaluators. Boylan took part Nov. 19-24.

He was able to hit four home runs, two out of Loan Depot Park and was sixth of 27 hitters in his age group.

The combined Power Showcase and Babe Ruth Classic, a 14/15U American vs National League all-star game was the biggest stage Boylan has played on to date. The Ontario Blue Jays product was the only Canadian to take part.

During the game, he said as a short-stop he made an athletic play to catch a ball in the outfield; from left-field threw out a

runner at the plate and hit an opposite field triple.

"It was awesome," he said. "I matched up pretty well, actually."

He said if he had to compare his game to a major leaguer, it would be former Toronto Blue Jay Marcus Semien.

"I like to hit a lot of gaps and I have speed so I can turn a double into a triple. Kind of the grittiness. If there's a chance to get an extra base, I'm going to go."

Boylan left The Highlands to live with his dad in the GTA four months ago. He attends high school in Markham and is playing for the top team in the Canadian Premier Baseball League, the Ontario Blue Jays. He plays out of Mississauga three to five nights a week.

"I'm never really at home," he says of a heavy school and practice schedule. Summers are extremely busy with games and out-of-town tournaments. While COVID has taken a bite out of the travelling, the Jays hope to go to Florida in the spring, for spring training and tournaments in Jupiter and Fort Myers as well as Georgia.

Starting out with the Highland Storm Minor Hockey Association, Boylan switched to baseball in 2020.

"I've just always liked the game. It's slower paced, more like a thinking game. There's just something about it that I like more than hockey. Ever since I was little, I

picked up a baseball, and I could throw it. It's just something I fell in love with."

He has goals: "to get to a division 1 college in the States. From there, I would like to get drafted to the major leagues and hopefully play. I'm striving for that because I've realized, and a lot of people have realized, that I've got talent. I only started playing baseball two years ago. Look where I am right now, so I want to try to make it somewhere."

Seeking sponsorship

Proud mom and dad Kristen and Jason Boylan, said, "I think this is a great news story to highlight another potential Haliburton County athlete."

They added they are looking for local support to help Austin "reach success through financial sponsorships so that he may attend more competitions and tournaments in the US and help cover his ever-increasing organization costs for him being an Ontario Blue Jay."

If you're interested in helping, contact Jason at 705-783-4533 or Kristen at kriss.ropo@gmail.com. People can also donate directly to the Ontario Blue Jays for Austin by cheque. Contact there is director of baseball administration Stephanie Wilkinson, 3350 Wolfedale Rd., Mississauga, ON, L5C 1W4; T: 905-507-



Austin Boylan participated in a major youth baseball event in Miami. Submitted.

9393, C: 647-287-8694, E: swilkinson@ontariobluejays.com

The Power Showcase and Babe Ruth events were live streamed and are available on YouTube at youtu.be/YrpUIIm14LR4 and youtu.be/9IR_IJ6zU3o

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Hall aiming to go out with a bang in final season

By Mike Baker

Playing at his home arena in front of friends and family is the “perfect way” for Haliburton County Huskies defenceman Ryan Hall to end his junior hockey career.

The 19-year-old was one of the first players to declare for the blue and white for their debut season. A three-year veteran of the OJHL, having previously represented the Lindsay Muskies and Trenton Golden Hawks, Hall brings a calm, veteran presence to the team’s blueline.

A popular figure in the locker room, Hall’s character and personality have made him a big hit with his teammates. His tenacity and never-say-die attitude on the ice have resonated with coaching staff, too. Head coach and general manager Ryan Ramsay says Hall is a player that leads by example, both on and off the ice.

It all comes down to respect, Hall says. That’s something he learned fairly early in his hockey education, growing up in the Highland Storm system and a family that seemingly breeds high-quality defencemen.

“I started playing Timbits here in Haliburton when I was three. I really learned to play while I was with the Storm. I had a lot of coaches growing up that had a big impact on me,” Hall said.

Older brothers Chris and Andrew played a pivotal role in his development too. Hall remembers weekends where he practically lived at the arena, between playing his own games and watching his siblings.

It was all about hockey at home too. The brothers were constantly practicing their stick skills, while *Hockey Night in Canada* was a staple in the evenings.

“I never really had a favourite player growing up that I would watch. I would more pick one player from every game and watch them closely and see what they did and how they played the game,” Hall said. “Whenever they did something really special, I would take that and try to incorporate it into my game.”

Hall was a standout with the Storm from a young age, impressing in each age group. Upon graduation, he went on to represent the Central Ontario Wolves, Vaughan Kings and Whitby Wildcats in AAA.

In 2018, he was selected by the North Bay Battalion in the OHL Priority Selection. Later that year, he was recruited by the Golden Hawks to serve as an affiliated player. He made the team as a regular starter in 2019/20, dressing in 21 games before being traded to the Lindsay Muskies, where he made a further 25 appearances.

Last year he was dealt again, this time to the Whitby Fury. Hall was preparing himself for a season playing in the GTA when a phone call from Ramsay changed everything.

“I was just astonished when coach told me the organization was moving to Haliburton. I couldn’t wait to play in front of everybody at home,” Hall said. “The rink is literally three minutes away from my house. It was



Haliburton County Huskies defenceman Ryan Hall is reveling at the chance to play junior hockey in his home town. *Submitted.*

just a dream for me.”

Hall has played in 27 games for the Huskies this season. The team has taken the league by storm, and currently sits in second place in the East Division.

While play has been paused for the next three weeks as Ontario heads back into partial lockdown, the OJHL has reiterated its commitment to finish out the current season.

It’s likely to be Hall’s last. Despite having another year of junior eligibility, the Minden native wants to begin the next phase of his life. He has come to terms with

the fact that he won’t be turning pro, and is instead focusing on enrolling in college come fall.

“I’ve thought about becoming a firefighter,” Hall said.

After winning an Ontario Minor Hockey Association championship in his final season with the Storm in 2015, Hall said he’s dreaming of following suit with the Huskies, and claiming a title at the OJHL level.

“I mean, I can’t think of a better way to go out. It would be quite a storybook ending,” Hall said.

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Left: Sam Solarino battles for the puck in front of the Canadiens' goal. Right: Things got heated at the final buzzer, with many Huskies players aggrieved at the decision to rule out a late game-tying goal. *Photos by Mike Baker.*

Huskies fall to Canadiens, league pauses until Jan. 26

By Mike Baker

The Haliburton County Huskies dropped a 2-1 decision to the Toronto Jr. A Canadiens Jan. 2, two days before the OJHL announced it's suspending all operations until Jan. 26.

Commissioner Marty Savoy said Jan. 4 that all games will be postponed for the next three weeks in light of Ontario's return to lockdown. He said the OJHL has developed a plan that will allow the league to complete a full regular season and playoff schedule this year.

Huskies head coach and general manager Ryan Ramsay isn't happy about the suspension. Some "elite level" amateur sports leagues such as the OHL and Ontario Junior Lacrosse League have been given the green light to continue; Ramsay said he sees no reason why the same rules shouldn't apply to the OJHL.

"I have 18 out of 22 players that have been drafted to the OHL, and three or four of them that have played in the league. Then we have other high-end players

like Oliver Tarr, Patrick Saini and Isaac Sooklal who were offered contracts, but have decided to go [the NCAA] route. I'd say that's pretty elite level competition," Ramsay said.

The Huskies had a scheduled game against the Caledon Admirals called off over the holidays after the GTA team experienced a COVID-19 outbreak. Sunday's loss to the Canadiens was the Huskies' first match-up in almost two weeks. Now, Ramsay's players will be forced to take another break.

"It's frustrating. I just feel for the players. They listen to the government and get their vaccine, their boosters and everything else and they still get screwed in the end," Ramsay said. "There's such a short window for junior hockey. These guys have already missed so much time. They're getting the short end of the stick here, for sure."

Controversial call ends Huskies' run

It hasn't been a good week for the team,

which found their defeat to the Canadiens a tough pill to swallow. Playing in front of a reduced crowd at S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, the Huskies gave a good account of themselves, dominating much of the game.

Even without star goaltender Christian Cicigoi, top forward Christian Stevens and defencemen Sooklal and Will Gourgouvelis, missing through illness and injury, the Huskies controlled the play through the first two periods, generating several good scoring chances.

It wasn't a surprise when Tarr finally gave the blue and white a lead 9:02 into the second period, capitalizing on a bad turnover from the Canadiens.

The lead held up until midway through the third period, when Matthew Wilde scored on the powerplay. He sent a gorgeous shot up over Huskies' netminder Christian Linton's glove, with the puck hammering the post on its way into the net. Christian Catalano added a quickfire second two minutes later, firing past a helpless Linton after a two-on-none breakaway.

"I think we started to run out of gas a little

bit in the third period. A lot of our players had only really skated once in almost two weeks, so some mistakes started to creep in," Ramsay said.

Ramsay called a time out. It seemed to work when, with 21 seconds left on the clock, the Huskies appeared to tie the game. A scramble in front of the Canadiens' goal ended with Tarr jamming the puck past a prone Shelby Warren.

Referee Dylan Rodgers waved off the goal, believing the Canadiens' net to have come loose before the puck crossed the line.

Ramsay was livid. "When he (the ref) went to put the net on again it was already in place. He didn't have to push it back on, because it never came off. It's a [bad] call," Ramsay said. "That would have tied the game and then maybe we would have gotten at least a point, if not two out of it. Again, very frustrating."

The Huskies don't have a game until Jan. 26, when they're slated to face the Mississauga Chargers on the road. Their next home game is scheduled for Jan. 28, against the North York Rangers.



HUSKIES BILLET FAMILIES NEEDED

The Haliburton County Huskies are seeking individuals or families to host our players during the season.

Monthly Compensation & Season Tickets are provided.

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Highlander community



Pauline Plooard of Minden was the December grand prize winner of \$7,080 in the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation 50/50 lottery. Executive director Lisa Tompkins said it was the foundation’s biggest jackpot yet. She said Plooard’s winning ticket F-4515069 was drawn Dec. 31. For January, there will again be two early bird prizes of \$250 added to the draw schedule on Jan. 17, with the grand prize draw taking place Feb. 1. Tickets are now available for purchase for the January draws. To be eligible for the early bird draws, tickets must be purchased by 11:59 p.m. on Jan. 16. Entries close for the grand prize draw at 11:59 p.m. Jan. 31, and the grand prize draw will take place on Feb. 1, at 9 a.m. It is possible to win both the early bird and grand prize draws. Tickets can be purchased online at hhhsf5050.ca and in person at the HHHS Foundation’s Haliburton office, 7199 Gelert Rd. Visit the website for the rules of play, to see the current estimated take-home prize, and to purchase tickets. (Lisa Gervais).



The Minden Kinsmen Club recently donated \$10,000 to the Minden Community Food Centre. Pictured with Joanne Barnes are Kinsmen, Jim Carroll and Tom Prentice Sr. Submitted.



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Municipality of Dysart Et Al

Notice of Proposed Sale of Municipal Land

Take notice that the Corporation of the Municipality of Dysart et al intends to pass a by-law to dispose of certain lands that have been declared as surplus described in Schedule "A" hereto;

And further notice that the purpose and effect of the proposed by-law is to authorize the sale of the said lands to Nathan Petrini;

And further notice that any person wishing to comment on the proposed sale should submit such comments in writing to the Clerk at the address set out below on or before the 18th day of January, 2022.


And further take notice that the proposed by-law will come before the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Dysart et al, at its regular meeting on the 25th day of January, 2022.

Dated at Haliburton and published this 3rd day of January, 2022.

Mallory Bishop, Clerk
mbishop@dysartetal.ca

Schedule "A"

Part Lot 11, Concession 9, being Part 15, Plan 19R-4878 and Part Lot 12, Concession 9, being a portion of Part 9, Plan 19R-2953, in the geographic township of Dysart.



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by Friends of Grass Lake

SOLUTIONS FOR JANUARY 6

1	E	L	M	O	S	6	N	A	C	H	O	11	S	E	C
14	M	O	O	R	E	15	E	M	A	I	L	16	P	A	R
17	M	U	D	S	T	18	R	E	A	K	E	19	A	V	E
20	A	D	E			21	A	D	Z	E		22	B	O	R
						24	M	O	M	I	E	27	E	A	R
						28	R	O	I			29	T	T	O
30	S	T	A	Y	S	33	E	A	T	E	D	36	A	W	W
39	T	W	I	X	T	40	L	O	O			41	I	N	R
43	D	O	R			44	B	L	I	N	D	45	D	A	T
						46	S	O	B	E		49	I	L	L
50	A	F	T	E	R	52	O	O	N	T	E	55	S		
56	T	E	R	R	A	57	P	R	O	T		58	M	L	A
61	L	I	I			62	W	H	E	N	D	64	W	E	E
66	A	S	K			67	N	O	N	O	T	68	I	T	A
69	S	T	E			70	Y	E	S	N	O	71	T	H	R

GOING AWAY?

Read the complete paper online each week. Sign up at TheHighlander.ca

OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of Dale Gunther Brauer

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our dear son Dale Gunther Brauer on Thursday December 23, 2021, in his 49th year.

His parents, Yvette, Gunther and his brother Trevor from Kinmount and his son Taylor from Orillia are devastated. He will be missed by his many cousins, aunts, uncles and friends.

Dale was always ready to help, a generous soul. Forever wanting to fix things. He had many talents which he willingly shared. A regular MacGyver!

Due to Covid-19 restrictions there is no visitation. Cremation has already taken place. A celebration of life will be planned in the future when it is safe to do so.

Memorial Donations to the Special Olympics Ontario, Haliburton County Red Wolves (cheques only) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



In Loving Memory of Gail Barnhart-Anderson June 10, 1968 – December 29, 2021

Wife and best friend of Ross Anderson of Paris, Ontario. Very proud mother of Malcolm (Emily).

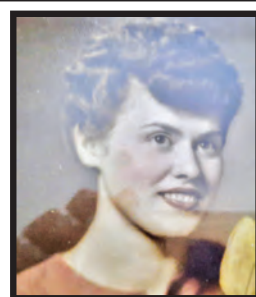
Youngest daughter of the late Jack and Roelan Barnhart. Cherished sister of Lynn (Larry) Watson of Peterborough, Sandra (Greg) Bishop of Carnarvon and Barbara (Jim) Winn of Haliburton. Loved and admired by her nieces and nephews.

Due to Covid restrictions, no service will be held at this time. Spring interment at Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery.

Memorial Donations to the Twelve Mile Lake Historical Church would be appreciated by the family and can be made by "cheque only" and sent by mail to the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



IN MEMORIAM



In our hearts forever Mom and so very thankful for the foundation you and Dad gave us to build our lives upon.

Fondly remembered by Sylvia, Rocky and their families.

Christmas List

Everyone is busy shopping,
As Christmas rolls around.
Getting parcels, wrapping presents,
Writing names of people down.
Hoping no one's been forgotten,
As they hurry on their way.
Lest someone be offended,
That they missed on Christmas Day.
What a sadness to the Saviour.
When the list of shopping's done.
Not one trace of a present,
For the Saviour can be found.
Will you take down one more item,
In words so true an sweet?
Write, "My life I give to Jesus",
and your Christmas lists complete.
~ written by Jessie Roberts
who passed on Dec. 29th 2017.

ANNOUNCEMENT

CELEBRATION OF LIFE
For Ron Perrin Sr. on January 8, 2022
has been postponed to a later date.



In Loving Memory of Nancy Hussey (nee Carson) (Resident of Minden, Ontario)

Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on Thursday evening, December 30, 2021 in her 77th year. Beloved wife and best friend of Larry Hussey. Dear mother of Lynn (Eddy) and Carl (Diana). Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Kaitlyn (Matt), Brendan (Kristin), Peyton. Dear sister of Evelyn, Tom, Lila, Donna, David and Patricia. Predeceased by sisters Mary, Mavis and Heather. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Nancy worked in the legal industry, real estate offices for many years and then worked at Pinestone Inn and Conference Centre in Haliburton. She enjoyed reading, relaxing at the cottage on Drag Lake and most of all spending time with her family.

Celebration Of Life

A Celebration of Nancy's life will take place at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, donations to Heart Stroke Foundation of Ontario would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.



In Loving Memory of Joan Brodhagen (nee Burton)

Peacefully at Haliburton Highlands Health Services on Sunday evening, January 2, 2022 in her 71st year. Dearly missed by her loving husband Michael. Adoring mother to Michael and Cindy (Arden). Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Ashley, Krista, Megan, Shannon, Nathan, Ethan and Michael. Dear sister of Doris, Ross and Fay. Predeceased by her sister Helen. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Joan worked in the Airline Industry for many years. She enjoyed riding the motorcycle and camping across Canada. Most of all, she loved time spent with her family.

Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton 4Cs - Food Bank would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.



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- Computer skills in record keeping and communication with a knowledge of Windows, MS Word; Excel and Outlook
- A valid Driver's Licence

Interviews will be held during the week of January 17, 2022.

Please send a detailed resume to: mindenfoodbankpthornett@gmail.com or send to: Minden Community Food Centre at P.O. Box 893, Minden Hills, ont. R0M 2K0.



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ANNOUNCEMENT

WILBERFORCE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY – AGM
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Registered Practical Nurses earn \$30.58 - \$31.75/hr and provide client care in accordance with the Professional Standards of the College of Nurses of Ontario. She or he, as a member of the health care team, has a significant role in promoting health, preventing illness, and helping clients attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a client's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable. RPN's must have a diploma in Nursing, a Current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario, current BCLS. Must have a demonstrated knowledge of RPN scope of practice, excellent organization and prioritization skills and an ability to fully communicate in English.

Personnel Support Workers earns \$22.25 - \$24.85/hr and provide resident care in relation to activities of daily living. PSW's help residents attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a resident's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable. Successful completion of Personal Support Worker program which meets one of the following:
The vocational standards established by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, The standards established by the National Association of Career Colleges, or The standards established by the Ontario Community Support Association; and Must be a minimum of 600 hours in duration, counting both class time and practical experience.

Interested: Submit your application and resume to:

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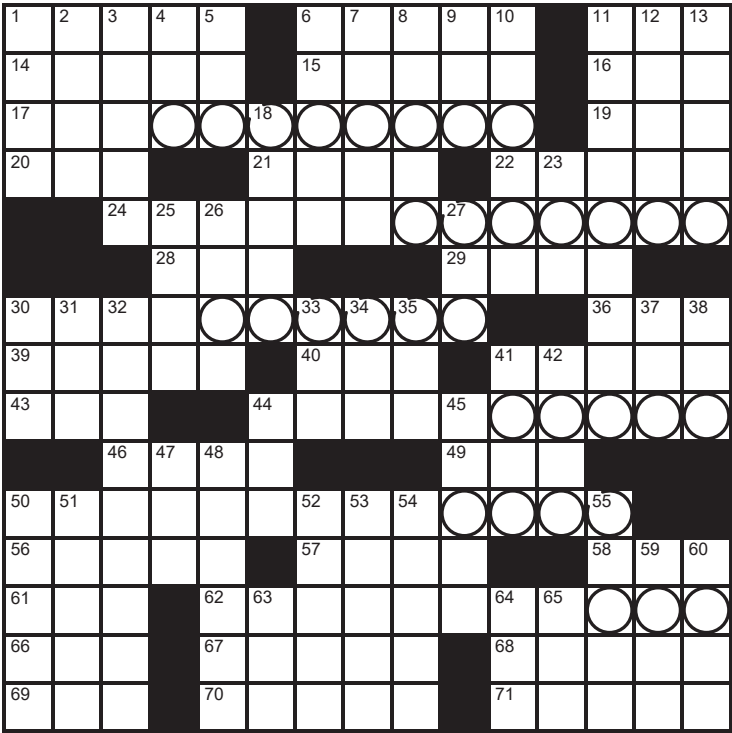
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And Then There Were Three

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

- Across**
- 1 Ticklish toys popular in 1996
 - 6 Guacamole scooper
 - 11 Brief time?
 - 14 Mary Tyler or Mae
 - 15 Spam delivery, e.g.
 - 16 ___ excellence (superior)
 - 17 Marked with wet dirt, as a windshield
 - 19 "Hail! " to Caesar
 - 20 Fruity quencher
 - 21 Carpenter's shaping tool
 - 22 Makes a short story long, maybe
 - 24 Film depicting Joan Crawford as an abusive mother
 - 28 King of France?
 - 29 Alternative to a convertible
 - 30 Remain in one's chair
 - 36 "How adorable!"
 - 39 'Tween's mate
 - 40 Where to go in England?
 - 41 How a negative balance appears
 - 43 Québec town Val-___
 - 44 Romantic setups between strangers
 - 46 Drink brand with a lizard logo
 - 49 Not working, maybe
 - 50 Pekoe-sipping social affairs
 - 56 Word before firma or cotta
 - 57 Luth., Bapt. or Presby.
 - 58 Prov. riding rep.
 - 61 Card-deck count, to Cassius
 - 62 Query heard before dinner
 - 66 Play Twenty Questions, at times
 - 67 "___ that one, the other one"
 - 68 "Give ___!" ("Try!")
 - 69 Canonized "femme," for short
 - 70 Question with no grey area
 - 71 Pound, as a headache

- Down**
- 1 Most popular girl's name of 2015
 - 2 Making a racket
 - 3 Web user's gadget
 - 4 Surgery sites, briefly
 - 5 Collectors goal, maybe
 - 6 "___ say more?"
 - 7 Elicit a "Wow!"
 - 8 Plastered (on), as makeup
 - 9 Get a move on
 - 10 Annoying biddy
 - 11 Old car engine buy, say
 - 12 Trough spots
 - 13 Surfer's surface
 - 18 Cottonlike fibre
 - 23 It's panned in a "rio"
 - 25 "___ and Crake" (Atwood book)
 - 26 Hog's portion
 - 27 When-ish you'll take off: Abbr.
 - 30 Not auto., as a transmission
 - 31 Company, it is said
 - 32 B-52 mission
 - 33 ABC shelfmate
 - 34 "Bonne fête à ___!"
 - 35 Ages and ages
 - 37 Little, in Loch Lomond
 - 38 Typing test count: Abbr.
 - 41 ___ No More movement
 - 42 Simba's sweetie
 - 44 Brian Mulroney's son
 - 45 ", in a list
 - 47 Above, in some poems
 - 48 Built like an ox
 - 50 Where the world is flat
 - 51 Juno Award winner for "1234"
 - 52 Is the warm-up band
 - 53 "Smoking ___?"
 - 54 Greet silently
 - 55 Nasty campaign trick
 - 59 Figaro's freshwater body
 - 60 Short distance, alphabetically
 - 63 Dig up the dirt?
 - 64 Punster's asset
 - 65 Its cap. is Addis Ababa



SUDOKU

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

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

1	P	O	T	A	S	H		7	C	A	P	T	C	H	A					
14	E	N	U	R	E	S		15	O	C	A	S	E	Y	S					
16	P	E	R	M	A	N		17	E	N	T	P	R	E	S	S				
18	T	O	N					19	M	E	S	A		20	S	T	U	21	D	
22	O	R	I	23	G	A	25	M	I		26	A	Y	27	E		28	E	M	E
			29	P	O	S	T	N	A	S	A	L	31	D	R	I	P			
					32	B	E	S	O	T				33	P	O	I	N	T	
34	A	L	G	A			37	T	R	U	R	O		40	Z	A	G	S		
41	R	O	O	N		42	E			43	R	O	C	H	E					
45	G	O	O	G	L	46	E	47	I	N	S	T	A	N	48	T				
49	O	K	D		50	L	A	S		51	C	O	R	S	I	52	C	53	A	
54	T	H	O	U	55		56	T	A	C	O				58	R	U	N		
		59	E	M	P	L	O	Y	M	E		61	N	62	T	63	P	E	R	K
		64	R	E	S	O	U	N	D			65	R	E	S	O	I	L		
		66	E	N	A	C	T	O	R			67	C	O	F	F	E	E		

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