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The Highlander

Thursday **April 28 2022** | Issue 538

INSIDE: SPRING CAR CARE PAGE 17

FREE



Red doors open

Instructor Kelsey Redman showed visitors around the school's glass-blowing facilities during an open house at the Haliburton School of Art + Design April 23.
Photo by Sam Gillett.

Moffatt third mayor out of election race

By Lisa Gervais

After 16 years of public service, Algonquin Highlands mayor Carol Moffatt announced April 23 she will not be seeking re-election in the fall.

She joins Dysart et al mayor Andrea Roberts and Minden Hills mayor Brent Devolin in exiting public life following this term of office. The municipal elections are slated for Oct. 24 this year.

Moffatt said the decision was "tremendously difficult" and came with "mixed emotions."

"While I'm passionately drawn to participating in what's ahead for the Haliburton Highlands, it's no secret to many that I've been at a personal crossroads for some time now," she said.

"As the days have ticked along, it's become very clear that 'some day' is now, so I'm choosing to shift my focus to the many personal pursuits I've set aside throughout 16 years of public service.

"Politics is an oddly captivating challenge that I'll certainly miss being involved in - and there will undoubtedly be days when I'll question this choice but for right now,

it's the right one for me.

She went on to say, "I'm excited for the revival of unfinished projects and the start of new ones. There are histories to preserve, photographs to make, stories to write and many roads to travel."

Moffatt cautioned would-be councillors that the job is not "for the faint of heart, and yet we need people full of heart to do it.

"To those seeking office this fall: be strong, fair, responsive and open-minded. Work to build better forward, and remember that the correct decisions are rarely the popular ones.

"To those voting this fall: choose flexible, forward thinkers with broad knowledge who can listen and work as a team toward progress."

The new Algonquin Highlands council will be sworn in Nov. 15 and until then, Moffatt said her commitment to governance, both at the lower-tier township and upper-tier County of Haliburton "is steadfast; and I'll work toward a collaborative leadership transition."

She added she was grateful for "this

Continued 'Proud' on page 2

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Highlander news

Proud of hands-on research

Continued from page 1

amazing experience” and thanked members of council, staff, and the public for putting their faith in her over the years.

Moffatt first ran for council in 1994 but lost by 22 votes. She then became heavily involved in the community. She was elected to her first term as a councillor in 2006 and was acclaimed as mayor in 2010, 2014 and 2018. She has also served as County warden.

She said that when first elected in 2010, she handed CAO Angie Bird a list of more than 80 housekeeping items, such as policies and procedures, and all have been long done.

She’s proud of the township’s “very solid” council-staff working relationships that have fostered progress, collaboration and modernization as part of a team.

She joked a well-worn phrase she uses, “we all need to concede something for the greater good” will likely be etched on her tombstone.

She is pleased with her ability to communicate, becoming the first elected official in Haliburton County to use social media for public education and engagement.

Some of the wins have included



Algonquin Highlands mayor Carol Moffatt. *Submitted.*

getting the Ministry of Natural Resources headquarters at Stanhope; being asked to run federally in 2014; being part of an all-female council that made Chatelaine magazine’s top women of influence and a phone call from the prime minister.

At the County, she comments on

things such as OPP billing reform, work on the rail trail and tourism director’s job, and more recently the community safety and well-being plan.

“That’s the stuff I feel best about, having had really hands-on and research-based involvement in.”

Dysart’s Clarke not contesting

Dysart ward 2 coun. Larry Clarke announced April 22 he will not be joining the race. He was elected for the first time in 2018 and will have served one term.

Clarke said with COVID over the last two years, and not being a fan of social media, he felt disconnected from the community. He and wife Shelley would also like to travel more.

Clarke said he wanted to declare early as, “Dysart, similar to most rural communities, is experiencing significant changes and challenges related to population growth, environment and support from upper levels of government. We have many talented people in this community who can bring skill and vision to council, but they do require time to research and consider the challenges and opportunities related to a position on council.”

Clarke said he would recommend the job “for a chance to engage with the community and help plan for opportunity can be very rewarding.

“The next few months should provide some great opportunity for discussion on what our community could look like going forward,” he added. *(Lisa Gervais).*



Larry Clarke at an in-person meeting. *File.*



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Dysart to get legal help on land use

By Sam Gillett

Confusion and complaints have prompted Dysart et al to seek legal advice on private docks and paths which encroach on municipal land.

Council received a complaint at its April 26 meeting pertaining to a \$500-a-year agreement permitting a dock and trail on a municipally-owned section of Lake Kashagawigamog.

According to Virginia MacLean, a lawyer representing an anonymous client, council failed to provide public notice before rendering the decision in 2011, and the agreement violates a provision under Ontario's 2001 Municipal Act that the lands should be an "open highway" for public use.

Deputy mayor Patrick Kennedy said the issue wasn't about the individual property. Similar agreements about unopened road allowances are common across Haliburton County.

"I think we need to go back right to the drawing board and rethink what we're doing with unopened road allowances," he said.

Mayor Andrea Roberts suggested the township defer the file until it receives legal advice.

Roberts and other members of council said the use of municipal land for private docks and structures is a widespread issue.

A following agenda item concerned an application for a shared dock on Mink Road which sparked further discussion of municipal land-use rules.

Five landowners submitted a joint request to erect two docks on a municipal slice of Long Lake waterfront.

Director of planning Jeff Iles said the application contravenes the township's official plan which states road allowances are to be preserved for lake access for the general public and not add to an already crowded lake. The recreational carrying capacity for Long Lake is 53 lots, however there are currently 159.

However, the applicants are already using the area for water access.

The landowners were instructed to remove existing docks in 2021 but representatives from the group said they were unable to do



Dysart et al regularly receives applications to erect docks and structures on municipally-owned waterfront. *File.*

so since the lake was frozen.

Nick Neag, who spoke on behalf of the property owners, said he understood concerns about increased pressure on the area's lakes and influx of rental activity, but said none of the land owners plans to rent out their properties. He added there won't be structures erected on shore.

Coun. John Smith said it was an inappropriate use of public land and suggested paying contractors to come in and remove docks.

"Frankly the backlot owners have completely ignored orders and instructions

given to them to have their docks removed," he said.

The application prompted public correspondence in support of the land use and rebuking it.

One email from Trevor Benson, a local landowner, argued that permitting docks and private structures on public waterfront access is unfair to waterfront property owners paying extra fees for their lake access.

"It seems to us that giving a license of occupation for a minimal fee is incomprehensible," he said.

Roberts said it was important to judge each land use application similarly.

"It's hard to be heavy-handed on one hand and lenient on the other," she said.

Coun. Walt McKechnie pointed out his window to docks on municipally-owned land on Moose Lake. He said diving into the issue was "opening a big can of worms."

Council voted to allow a one-year license of occupation for the docks on Long Lake, with Roberts suggesting that license of occupation agreements are "all about the liability" of using municipal land.



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HOME • LIFE • INVESTMENTS • GROUP • BUSINESS

Businesses search for workers at job fair

By Sam Gillett

Businesses at a Haliburton Highlands Secondary School job fair said they're struggling to fill vacancies before a busy summer.

An estimated 100 high schoolers and a scattering of adult job seekers attended the fair, organized by the Haliburton County Home Builders Association (HCHBA).

Glen Rickerby, Home Hardware district manager, estimated 40 per cent of teens who attended stopped at employers' tables to chat.

High school student Rio O'Malley said teens are looking to "have fun, work with good people and make money" at part-time jobs. O'Malley is working multiple jobs this summer, and said a "good work environment" makes for an attractive workplace.

Damon Harriss, another student, said some of his classmates don't want to work in the summer because they're at cottages or playing sports.

"Some people don't want to work in something they're not interested in," he said.

Harriss plays sports all summer and looks for schedule flexibility in potential jobs.

HCHBA executive officer Aggie Tose said in an email that "The students and public that attended were very engaged. The students had very appropriate questions."

Rickerby said it has been "extremely tough" to hire seasonal and full-time staff since 2020, with both Haliburton County locations seeking to fill a combined 40 positions.

He received approximately 300 resumes in 2019 and 40 in 2020, and said they'll likely



An attendee chats with Home Hardware staff at a job fair April 20. Photo by Sam Gillett.

be understaffed this summer.

"We push through and adapt," he said. "I'm hoping we can not only hire, but get the students involved. Interacting with people you don't know is a life skill."

Others from businesses such as Kawartha Dairy and BKS Carpentry said positions

have gone unfilled for months.

Some pointed to the discontinued Canadian Response Benefit or employment insurance as reasons why Highlanders may not be seeking jobs.

While it's difficult to gauge how those programs might have impacted the

Highlands' labour force, unemployment rates in Canada are at pre-COVID-19 levels.

In fact, the labour participation rate — people employed or looking for work — aged 15-24 was 64.7 per cent in February 2022 and 65.4 per cent in February 2020.

INFORMATION PAGE

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Notice: Public Meeting Draft 2022 Budget and Adoption of 2022 Budget

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, April 28, 2022, at 9:00 a.m., during its Regular Council Meeting via web conference regarding the Draft 2022 Budget. If you wish to speak at the Public Meeting regarding the Draft 2022 Budget please register on or before April 27, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. by telephone at 705-286-1260 ext. 512 or email admin@mindenhills.ca. Final Passing of the 2022 Budget will include the following By-laws:

2022 Budget for the Minden Cemetery Board; and
2022 Estimates By-law

For Budget related inquiries please contact Greg Bedard, Director of Finance, at 705-286-1260 ext. 504 or email gbedard@mindenhills.ca.

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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:

April 28 – Regular Council Meeting
April 28 – Public Meeting Draft 2022 Budget
May 12 – 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 file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

SUMMER WASTE SITE HOURS

Summer landfill and transfer station hours come into effect May 1st. Please visit mindenhills.ca/landfill for all site's hours of operation.

Highlander news



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Left to right: Green candidate Tom Regina, Liberal hopeful Don McBey, NDP-selected Barbara Doyle, PC incumbent Laurie Scott and Ontario Party's Kerstin Kelly. Missing is Grant Dewar of the None of the Above Party. *The Highlander* could not source a photo as of press time. *Submitted.*

Voters have a six-pack to choose from

By Mike Baker

There will be at least six names on the ballot when local voters head to the polls for the 2022 Ontario general election, to be held on or before June 2.

Don McBey is the most recent candidate to be approved for the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock (HKLB) riding, acclaimed as the Liberal nominee during a virtual nomination meeting April 19.

McBey is a lawyer with a background in medical and community advocacy, and was most recently the vice-chair of the Workplace Safety and Insurance Appeals Tribunal. His other previous roles include minister with the United Church of Canada, pastoral and community worker with the Methodist Church of Great Britain and

executive director of the Hamilton Halton Counselling and Mediation Centre.

While this will be McBey's first run for office, he has experience volunteering on election campaigns. During the 2014 and 2018 provincial elections, he supported Granville Anderson, a former Liberal MPP from the neighbouring Durham riding.

Speaking at last week's nomination meeting, McBey criticized the way premier Doug Ford has governed the province over the past four years. He believes people are ready for change after what he described as a term of turmoil.

"I think we have a number of things going in our favour. One of those is that we can be, I think, the rational party of empowerment, empowering people to take back some control over their lives,"

McBey said. "We want to restore some predictability, not only to politics but to people's lives."

He said getting a handle on Ontario's housing and inflation crisis would be priorities for him should he be elected.

Judi Forbes, who served as the Liberal candidate in HKLB during last year's federal election, has been brought on as McBey's campaign manager.

Elsewhere on the ballot, incumbent Laurie Scott has already been acclaimed as the Progressive Conservative candidate as she seeks a sixth term in office. During her current stint, Scott spent considerable time as one of Ford's inner-circle, serving in cabinet positions as minister of labour and minister of infrastructure. She was relegated to the backbenches in June 2021.

Barbara Doyle, manager of the Olde Gaol Museum in Lindsay and co-founder of the Kawartha Lakes Health Coalition, will represent the NDP in the summer election. She previously served as the NDP candidate during the 2019 federal election.

Tom Regina, a retired schoolteacher, has been acclaimed as the Green Party candidate, retired veterinarian Kerstin Kelly will stand for the Ontario Party and retired farmer Grant Dewar is running for the None of the Above party.

Scott secured 56.7 per cent of the local vote during the 2018 election, comfortably defeating Zac Miller (NDP), Brooklynne Cramp-Waldinsperger (Liberal), Lynn Therien (Green), Thomas Rhyno (Independent), Gene Balfour (Libertarian) and Chuck MacMillan (Consensus Ontario).

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Minden Hills tax levy likely 5.5 per cent hike

By Sam Gillett

Minden Hills' latest draft budget is 1.5 per cent higher than the previous, bringing the anticipated 2022 tax levy to 5.5 per cent. It will mean an additional \$16.33 per \$100,000 of residential assessment for taxpayers.

The draft also includes \$6.7 million in projects funded through debt.

On April 20, council voted to provisionally approve the budget ahead of an April 28 meeting where the public can comment, such as on a governance model for the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. The township is expected to adopt the budget at that meeting.

Coun. Bob Carter voted against the draft over concerns about the funding model. He said using debt financing to complete projects such as Scotch Line reconstruction would impact ratepayers next year in a "double-digit" 2023 budget.

"It's like we're borrowing money for operational expenses ... that is something philosophically I am opposed to," Carter said. Staff said a double-digit increase is unlikely.

The \$3,495,700 reconstruction is set to be financed through debenture, money borrowed by the township and repaid year-over-year.

Staff proposed borrowing \$6,760,578 for projects completed in 2022. Yearly interest costs are estimated to be \$578,630, which

staff said will call for a six per cent 2023 tax rate increase.

"We do feel that it is important [the road reconstruction] begins in 2022," said McKibbin. Staff estimated the roads will cost \$25,000 annually to service as their condition declines.

A staff report said financing the work through the tax levy would push this year's budget past a 5.5 per cent rise.

Mayor Brent Devolin said "the product we're going to get in the end is a much more substantial road. It isn't just a light upgrade or repurposing ... this is a substantially different road that is going to come out the other end."

Carter said since the project doesn't yet have completed engineering plans, "the chances are, it's not going to be done in 2022."

Snack bar conversation continues

The township is likely to approve using \$300,000 of borrowed funds to retrofit the recently-opened arena snack bar - a recommendation that continues to spark controversy at meetings.

Coun. Pam Sayne said she "cannot support" using taxpayer funds to outfit the space, which the Huskies will be responsible for operating.

"If we're going to do any kind of debenture of \$300,000, we should put it



Minden Hills is set to fund the reconstruction of Bobcaygeon Road and Scotch Line through debt. *File.*

into services we're trying to maintain as opposed to services that are not for the full municipality," Sayne said. "Whether it's the boardwalk or boat ramps that everybody uses in the community, I think we've pulled way too much towards the arena at this point."

Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell called the snack bar a "necessity," and said the Huskies' game-day attendance proves how dire the need is.

"It's so important to have within a community centre when you have user groups using it," she said. "I think more people will use a snack bar ... than a boat launch at Bob Lake."

Coun. Jean Neville said since a municipal tender, released three times, went unanswered, it makes sense to supply the space to the Huskies.

"Councillor Sayne obviously hasn't been there when there are hundreds of people in that arena who desperately want a snack bar," she said.

Council also approved a two per cent water rate increase and five per cent wastewater increase for Minden and Lutterworth ratepayers.

Minimum rates for property owners on Minden's water systems will be approximately \$47.80 more annually, while in Lutterworth it will be a \$24.01 hike.

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Highlander news

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Highlands East recorded over \$40 million in construction activity in 2021. *Freeoik.*

Build activity prompts HE application changes

By Sam Gillett

Highlands East has tweaked permit application processes to simplify staff workflow and minimize application mistakes.

The moves come as staff report record-breaking building activity in 2021 with 14.6 per cent population growth since 2016.

At an April 19 council meeting, the township voted to standardize the way site plan applications record a building's setback from municipally-owned land.

"Building and planning staff have seen an increase in proposals not compliant with building bylaws," said junior planner Kim Roberts.

She said previous builds have inadvertently overstepped into municipal road allowances, for example.

The township also accepted a recommendation to revise planning application costs.

Current planning fees, said Roberts, are "pretty bare bones."

Highlands East saw construction values exceed \$40 million in 2021.

"We know people are building bigger

houses, bigger cottages," Roberts said.

A new standardized system will mean a flat fee, instead of a refundable deposit and non-refundable administration fee.

"This will better capture municipal staff time and decrease the administrative burden on finance staff to reconcile individual accounts," reads a staff report.

The new standardized fee for residential site plan agreements will be \$1200. That fee doesn't apply to most residential building applications.

Coun. Cec Ryall said he worried increased fees would stagnate building activity.

Roberts said fees for most residences wouldn't rise.

"Where we see the difference is where people are wanting to make major changes," she said.

Roberts added that affordable developments could still benefit from municipal incentives such as waived fees.

Temporary use changes

Building a temporary dwelling on a job site will now require a \$5,000 deposit.

Temporary residences, often built during

the construction of a house on the same property, can only be used for one year, after which the deposit is returned.

Roberts said this will make it easier to document when an agreement is up.

"We are able to essentially put a calendar reminder to follow up with those folks," she said.

Coun. Suzanne Partridge asked how the department will enforce the year-long term limit. Roberts said the deposit will likely be enough of an incentive.

"Most people in the middle of a construction project do want to get their \$5,000 at the end," she said.

Municipal land purchase requires consultation

The township is standardizing the application process for use of municipal land. While Highlands East has a policy in place regarding unopened road allowances, Roberts said many applications center on the use of land-crossing trails, or docks which are adjacent to municipal road allowances.

Applications must enter a usage agreement with the County, and the use of municipal lands does not mean it's exclusively used by the landowner.

Without a policy in place, Roberts said the township is making these decisions on an "ad-hoc" basis.

Municipal access and encroachment applications would trigger the notification of nearby residents who could voice concerns to staff and council.

Staff get mileage hike

Highlands East will join the County's other lower-tier municipalities in hiking gas reimbursement rates.

The rate will be tied to the Canada Revenue Agency's (CRA) suggested allowance of \$0.61 for the first 5,000 km and \$0.55 after.

"It was felt simplest if we followed what CRA provides as their mileage," said CAO Shannon Hunter.

Hunter explained the CRA gauges appropriate mileage rates based on a number of factors including gas prices and inflation.

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Editorial opinion

TheHighlander

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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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County behind Huskies (mostly)

The Haliburton County Huskies may have been knocked out of the OJHL playoffs on April 20 but their inaugural season playing out of Minden's new arena can be judged a success.

Standing along the boards last Wednesday taking photos and notes for a game report, I couldn't help but notice the atmosphere around me.

The stands were full of people, some brandishing homemade signs. The upstairs warm viewing area was equally packed. People stood or sat in the lobby to look through the glass. I was joined around the rink by excited kids, and some big kids with a massive air horn.

During the break, there were volunteers everywhere. There were folks at the front door checking people in and others posted at other doors. The people selling the merchandise were doing it on their own time and dime. The ones dispensing the non-alcoholic beverages and snacks were also donating their efforts.

Some in the stands - many in fact - had offered to take players into their homes for the season.

The atmosphere in the arena was loud and very parochial. The crowd, not just from Minden but all points of the Highlands,

have clearly gotten behind Paul Wilson's team.

While playoff hopes were high, it was no small feat to relocate a team from Whitby and have it win its first playoff series against the Trenton Golden Hawks. Would the Cobourg series have been a best of five or best of seven, the Huskies might well be playing on.

The owner and staff frequently commented on visiting other arenas this season and there being far fewer fans at the games. We also heard from the players that there was something special about coming north to cottage country. They became country lads for a while, enjoying the outdoors, and it allowed this team to forge a unique chemistry.

Does it mean everyone now backs a decision to build a \$14-million arena on taxpayers' backs. No.

Does it mean people have forgotten the County would dearly love to have a public swimming pool? No.

Have some people stopped grumbling about their perception the Huskies got too much of a sweet deal from Minden Hills? No.

However, those same grumblers have to concede that the more than \$100,000

the Huskies spent making the former Scouts room their own has been a generous donation to the township's new arena. Further, they can't argue that local businesses have not benefitted from having the Huskies in town.

It has certainly given many something to do on a weekend in the County. They have embraced the team. As a result, it looks like the Huskies will be here for many years to come.

In making the announcement in May 2001, the Huskies brass said the move was a "no-brainer" with the County being a hockey and sports town.

"We think it could really be something special for fans, the community and our players," they said.

Turns out they were right.

And as the township's seven-year-deal with the Huskies progresses, it stands to make more money off of the club every year to make it all a little more palatable for taxpayers.



By Lisa Gervais

EleXion files

Concerned Citizens of Haliburton County (CCHC) is offering a series of articles entitled, EleXion Files until mid-May. Articles focus on non-partisan information that we hope will be of interest to readers in helping to cast their vote in the provincial election, June 2. Voting is a right, a privilege and an obligation that every citizen should exercise.

Wanted: an affordable home for everyone

Everyone needs shelter. Like poverty amidst plenty, housing presents another contradiction in our society. It is both a necessity and a way to increase wealth. Young people seeking to purchase a home are priced out of the market yet homeowners looking to sell benefit from the very same high prices.

With houses selling well over the asking price, scarce rental units, 'renovictions' and persistent homelessness, all political parties have affordable housing as a key part of their platform.

The Conservative Party's focus is on increasing the housing supply and implementing municipal planning guidelines aimed at streamlining the approval process. Premier Doug Ford stated at the Rural Housing Roundtable, they want to "allow more families to realize the dream of home ownership". The goal is to build 1.5 million homes in 10 years.

The first of a three-pronged Liberal plan is to "unlock" home ownership, with incentives and tax breaks and a way to help

renters become owners. Their second prong involves building more homes and funding the repair and building of affordable homes. Finally, the Liberals would introduce a homebuyer's bill of rights and crack down on renovictions, speculation, foreign ownership and excessive profits in the rental market.

The NDP plan centres around making renting more affordable with greater security; making it easier to buy a home, and strengthening homebuyers' protections; addressing speculation and house flipping in an effort to cool the market; supporting an Indigenous-led housing strategy; tackling the housing shortage in Northern Ontario; and ending homelessness with more stable options.

The Green Party would build 100,000 affordable rental units and maintain an affordable housing supply; fund an Urban and Rural Indigenous Housing Strategy; build 60,000 supportive housing units to end chronic homelessness; address speculation; provide stability and security for renters; create more pathways to home ownership; and launch a \$5 billion Green Building program.

The term "affordable housing" has expanded to include new homebuyers, like a young couple I know approved for a \$700,000 mortgage who can't find a house in the city where they work. The term 'affordable housing' traditionally refers to units provided at below-market rates with government support.

Why is this definition important? The Ontario Housing Affordability Task Force states that people who spend 30 per cent or

more of total household income on shelter expenses are defined as having a "housing affordability" problem. Shelter expenses include fuel, water and other municipal services, mortgage payments, property taxes, condominium fees, and rent.

In Haliburton County 50 per cent of people who rent, spend more than 30 per cent of their income on shelter costs and people wait three to five years for subsidized housing. For those using food banks, rent and housing costs use up the majority of their household budget each month, leaving very little for other essentials. Affordable housing is the foundation of a decent life.

Local community housing provider, Places for People, faces a number of challenges building much needed one-and two-bedroom units. In rural areas the lack of infrastructure such as water and sewer systems make scaling up difficult. With high land prices, Places for People can't put their plans into action.

Increasing the supply of new housing is part of the solution; however, building will take time especially with supply chain and other issues compounded by COVID. Many renters need an affordable place now. The party we elect will spend money on housing. We must ask ourselves, how and where the money will be spent and most importantly who benefits?

By Judy Paul

Next week, see "What matters most to you?" by Carolynn Coburn

Contact our Facebook page or info@concernedcitizenshc.ca

Clarification: Contest chance for youth to sing the blues, April 21. Two County teens will be selected for the Buckslide Blues Society Award and accompanying prizes. Those submitting entries are directed to upload their performance on Youtube and email a link to highlandsbbs@gmail.com by May 18 2022

Editorial opinion

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Rachel Lower moved this snapping turtle across the road in Tory Hill last summer. She reminded readers turtles are now starting to cross roads so keep an eye out.

LETTER

Thanks Marilynne

Dear editor,

Up until two years ago, I volunteered on the Minden Food Bank board as well as picking up and delivering for those in need of groceries; both at the former location beside Sunny Variety on Bobcaygeon Road and the new location at the Masonic building on Newcastle Street, Minden.

There have been several items in different papers honouring volunteers around the

County and rightly so as they have, and are doing an excellent job without any remuneration except thanks for their efforts.

There is one person that really should be honoured for her efforts and that is Marilynne Lesperance from Minden and the many roles she has played in aiding at the food bank over the years.

Marilynne has cooked and prepared meals at the food bank and assisted with those picking up groceries each day since the opening at the new location.

The leadership award of Ontario was given by the province to Minden due to Marilynne's efforts and leadership just after our awful flood in the downtown area several years ago. Hot meals were served each day at the Minden arena to the volunteers and over 70 meals for dinner prepared and either delivered or picked up by volunteers for many days.

For many years and up until last August, Marilynne arranged for grocery pick up from suppliers as well as picking up with

her own vehicle besides being on the food bank board, teaching cooking, operating and managing the food bank kitchen and prepared and arranged special dinners to raise funds for the community.

I know I have missed some of the duties Marilynne was involved with but she has given 100 per cent effort. Thank you for being there.

Dick Schell
Minden

COVID CORNER

COVID not going away

They estimate 200,000 children in the U.S. have lost at least one parent to COVID-19. Officially, close to one million Americans have died of COVID, many more unreported, untested and uncounted. COVID is now the third-most-common cause of death in the United States.

Over 500 million cases and officially over six million COVID deaths are reported in the global population of 7.9 billion. True numbers are higher. Lack of testing means many infections are undetected or unreported. An estimated 65 per cent of Africans were infected as of September 2021, nearly 100 times the official number. The WHO calculates the real global death toll at 15 million.

US and Canada have restricted the formal PCR testing, instead relying on home rapid tests. But the CDC urges formal testing to identify what variants are circulating, and some epidemiologists call the lack of formal testing "dangerous." With reduced mask mandates and new highly contagious variants, Ontario's ICU numbers increased 9.7 per cent in one week (over 200 April

18), and hospitalizations increased 19 per cent (over 1,300).

Each new infection allows mutations and new variants, and it's getting harder to keep up with Omicron's variants. There was BA.1 and BA.2, each more contagious, and now there are BA.4 and BA.5, new lineages identified by South Africa's Centre for Epidemic Response and Innovation. The virologists are studying whether these are immune to protection from prior infections and vaccines ("escape immunity").

Two things the researchers must determine quickly is whether the new lineages are able to evade vaccines, and whether they can cause more severe disease. So far it appears while BA.4 and BA.5 are moving quickly through South Africa (five per cent of circulating strains in March, 50 per cent in April), hospitalizations are stable in South Africa this month. These strains are now detected in New York, and nine other countries.

One thing that makes BA.4 and BA.5 stand out to virologists is an amino acid mutation they share called F486V. It is

located on the viruses' spike protein where the protein attaches to ACE2 receptors on human cells (where the virus enters). Antibodies created by COVID-19 vaccines and by prior infections neutralize the virus by clinging to this spot. But virologists are noticing in lab testing this spot where antibodies attach has been getting weaker. A year ago, researchers at Icahn School of Medicine in New York City counted only one version of the spike protein that could evade the antibody treatment they tested it against. Its mutation was nearly identical to F486V. Now, with the rapid rise of BA.4 and BA.5 in South Africa, it appears the coronavirus has evolved. Antibody treatments that reduced severe illness in earlier mutations, no longer can.

Samples from South Africa went to researchers in the UK, US, and China. So far, scientists are reassured these variants are not causing more severe disease than earlier versions but warn it's not guaranteed the coronavirus will continue to weaken. Virus evolution also includes recombination, the insertion of one chunk

of DNA sequence from one variant into another (e.g. Omicron XE, a hybrid of BA.1 and BA.2).

A recent study shows increased risk of COVID-19 infection from unvaccinated to vaccinated people in public settings. When vaccinated hang out with other vaccinated, infection risk is low. When unvaccinated hang out with other unvaccinated, infection risk is high. When unvaccinated people mix with vaccinated, their infection risk drops, but the risk to the vaccinated goes up (Canadian Medical Association Journal).

Even if symptoms are mild, even in healthy people, long term risks of blood clots, heart inflammation, irregular heart beats, stroke and heart attacks are higher for anyone infected with COVID-19 (Johns Hopkins, March 14, 2022: COVID and the Heart).



By Dr. Nell Thomas

Highlander business

Scott talks economy and social services

By Sam Gillett

The cracks in the Highlands' workforce took centre stage at The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce's (HHCC) first in-person event in two years.

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott, the event's keynote speaker, engaged in discussion about the future of the Highlands' economy and social services during the gathering at the Haliburton Legion April 20.

"It's a watershed moment for Haliburton County," Scott told the crowd.

She described how she's seen the pandemic "throw lots of curveballs" but applauded the adaptation she's seen in Haliburton County's business community in the face of expansive population growth and COVID-19.

The discussion gradually became focused on labour shortages, which have plagued every corner of the region's economy in 2021 and 2022.

Scott pointed to the suite of Ontario-funded incentives, crafted to attract young Highlanders into the trades, nursing and personal support worker roles, as possible workforce boosters. These include offering tool rebates, free schooling and signing bonuses in multiple professions.

But many business owners or organization leaders at the event said it's still difficult to acquire long-term staff.

"I'm trying to find ways to attract young families here," said Greg Hebert of Oakview Lodge & Marina. He said declining high school numbers and young families moving away are contributing to

the workforce troubles. "What's keeping young parents here?" he asked.

Haliburton County Public Library CEO Christopher Stephenson said he receives job applications from around the world but lack of housing is a sticking point. "We're on the map, people want to come here ... but when I get into the interview scenario one of the questions I have to ask is what's your plan for housing?"

Stephenson said he commuted an hour to Haliburton County for months before finding accommodation.

He said internet connectivity for libraries might have been top of mind in the past, but housing issues have become a "really big barrier" for the library service.

Mark Bell, chamber president, asked about provincial incentives to drive up affordable building activity such as allowing tiny homes or easing severance rules.

Chamber executive director Robert Gaudette said boosting the County's workforce participation rate, which reflects how many people are seeking jobs, could be a good first step.

"We have a lot of folks here. We could take some time to ... find out what would move them closer to the labour market, and what's holding them back," he said.

"I agree," replied Scott. "That's why there's the personal support worker [high school education program]: to get young people in that high school trained up now."

Aggie Tose, executive officer of the Haliburton County Home Builders Association, called for more accurate statistics on the number of job vacancies



Chamber president Mark Bell asked about housing incentives. *Photo by Sam Gillett.*

in the Highlands and the corresponding housing needs.

"Until we get those numbers together, I don't think we have any idea how far behind we are," she said.

Mike Moffatt, a Canadian economist, said in a November 2021 webinar that

Haliburton County needs 1,190 homes built by 2031 in order to keep up with demand.

Scott said she agreed the housing market and employment struggles are intertwined.

"We have a whole bunch of people we have to bring here and get employed, we have to house them," she said.

SIRCH celebrates grant

Since opening in 2020, the SIRCH Bistro has become a social hub in Haliburton, offering breakfast and lunch from a team of students learning food service and retail skills. The cafe and renovated training facilities were funded by a three-year \$800,000 Ontario Trillium Foundation Grow grant. On April 20, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott visited to celebrate the funding's results. SIRCH executive director Gena Robertson said the bistro has gotten "rave reviews" and its Ready for Retail and Cook It Up programs have boosted the resumes of dozens of Highlanders looking for culinary or retail work. "Most of them now have jobs," she said. *(Sam Gillett).*

MPP Laurie Scott with SIRCH executive director Gena Robertson at the SIRCH Bistro April 20.



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Highlander health



The HKPR tobacco control unit reports rising vaporizer use among teens. *Pixabay.*

Vaping non-compliance up 'dramatically': health unit

By Sam Gillett

The use of e-cigarettes and vaporizers among teens is on the rise, reports the Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Pine Ridge District health unit (HKPR).

"Warnings and charges have gone up dramatically," said Robert Hewitt, an HKPR tobacco control officer, at an April 21 board meeting.

The unit has issued 270 warnings for non-compliance and conducted 267 inspections so far in 2022. In 2018, they completed 742 inspections and issued 49 warnings.

Infractions include selling tobacco or vaporizer products to underage people, smoking in prohibited areas or using tobacco or cannabis products while underage.

"Vaping is our predominant concern right now," said Hewitt.

There isn't long-term research on the health impacts of e-cigarettes and vaporizers, but early data shows chemicals they emit can cause lung disease, as well as cardiovascular (heart) disease.

Many vaporizer products contain nicotine, the extremely addictive chemical found in cigarettes.

Hewitt pointed to Canadian studies which show 15 per cent of youth aged 15-19 have

accessed vaporizer products in the last 30 days. He said teens report it's "extremely easy" to acquire vapes.

Dysart et al mayor Andrea Roberts asked how adult vaping habits might influence a teen's choice to smoke.

"If the youth are watching adults and think it's ok because it's legal for them.. what more could we be doing?" she asked.

Hewitt said, "Health Canada kind of missed the boat. These devices have been around for several years, and went unregulated."

Even now, he said high schoolers report that it's easy to acquire vaporizers while underage.

Pandemic work remains

HKPR chief medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking said COVID-19, "is not something that is going to end."

Instead, she said that means incorporating COVID-19 responses and activity into regular programming.

"At some point in time we need to plan how this is going to look in the future," she said.

Bocking said Ontario governmental funding, covering extra staffing costs, COVID-19 personal protective equipment

and more, won't sustain a long-term pandemic response.

Some funding is yet to arrive, such as a \$165,200 provincial injection into COVID-19 programming retroactive for the 2021 calendar year.

COVID-19 case counts in the region are now "just the tip of the iceberg," Bocking said, since most cases go unrecorded. She urged HKPR residents to receive their third or fourth COVID-19 shot to increase protection against severe illness.

Nursing incentives raise funding issues

Bocking said a new provincial retention bonus for nurses who worked through COVID-19 points to gaps in health unit funding.

"We absolutely acknowledge the role nurses have played in our response," she said of the up to \$5,000 bonus for nurses.

But she added, "in some ways it challenges the health unit and management as we have a number of other professions who have helped with the pandemic response."

Bocking said the unit must continue to "demonstrate the tremendous role health units have ... in [COVID-19] response."



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Join the Chamber's Board of Directors

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce is seeking members for our Board of Directors.

Contribute to the development of the Chamber, its policies, member services, and more.

Contact Chamber Executive Director Robert Gaudette at 705-457-4700 or ed@haliburtonchamber.com

An application will be emailed to you upon request or can be downloaded at haliburtonchamber.com

Applications due by Tuesday, May 15th at 4:00pm

haliburtonchamber.com

Highlander arts



Steve Poltz played the Haliburton Legion April 23. The Haliburton County Folk Society brought Poltz to town. Photo by Sam Gillett.

Spring workshops share creative passions

By Sam Gillett

From sketching and knitting to floral crafting, seasoned creatives are teaching 16 arts workshops aimed at kids and adults this spring.

Organized by the Arts Council Haliburton Highlands (ACHH), the series will run from April 25 to May 28 at various locations.

"We were really pleased with the variety and diversity of the workshop proposals we

received," said Chris Lynd of the ACHH in a press release. "Choosing just sixteen was a challenge."

The workshops don't require prior experience. Kids workshops are free and workshops for adults cost \$10.

They include sessions on knitting, creative writing, acting, upcycled fashion, crafting bracelets and more.

"I love showing people you can do very

simple things with simple materials," said Noelia Marzali, an artist who will be leading workshops on claymation for kids and floriography for adults.

She said she feels people are "hungry" for live, in-person creative events after so long apart or sharing virtually.

Marzali said she's especially excited to share her love of claymation with kids.

"You can combine something very tactile,

with something technology-based. I love the marriage of those two worlds," she said. "It's pretty magical, it has the potential to really suck someone in. They can walk away in a little over an hour with a video that brings an inanimate object to life."

Registration information and a full list of workshops can be found at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/community-workshop-project-275909>

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hhwgl.ca or call Lynne Brady at 705-887-4230

Highlander arts

This is the sixth in a series profiling the unique challenges and successes of Haliburton County musicians through COVID-19.



The Highlands Male Chorus at “The Best of the Last Ten” concert in 2014. Submitted.

Pandemic the last note for Highlands Male Chorus

By Sam Gillett

With declining membership and pandemic-related cost pressures, the Highland Male Chorus has exited stage right.

“With all the COVID shutdowns, our bank account slowly got down to critical,” said former president Christopher Chumbley. A big insurance bill due in the fall of 2021 proved too much to handle. So, they donated the remaining funds to the Festival Singers, along with their music collection.

The group began during a Highlands Festival Singers rehearsal in 2003. They were singing an impromptu, all-male version of “Unchained Melody” by The Righteous Brothers. Legend has it that after that song, the group knew they had something special on their hands. Bob Thompson said, “we need to do something with this,” recounts former director Melissa Stephens.

“A bunch of guys got together, had a meeting with me, and as they say ... the rest is history,” she said.

That formed the Highlands Male Chorus, a group that once counted 30 members, who hosted yearly concerts and Christmas celebrations, usually ending concerts with the song that inspired them.

“I enjoyed the camaraderie,” Chumbley said. “I met some really great people through the choir.”

Chumbley said the group offered a great chance to sing regularly, something he’s missed through the pandemic. “Mostly I miss singing in general ... I really haven’t

sung for the last two years.”

Stephens said “a male chorus has quite a different sound than a choir that has females in it.” The sound takes on a “luscious” style when it’s just lower male voices, she said.

In 2003 there weren’t tons of repertoire available for male choirs. Since 2010, Stephens said, “it’s become a big thing to do.”

However, even before the pandemic, regular membership was down to 16 people with some losing interest, others moving away, and deaths among members.

Stephens conducted six choirs before the pandemic, including the male chorus. She’s noticed a pandemic-induced attendance dip in the other choirs as well.

“We’re still missing people. At all of the choirs, the numbers are down. there are some people because of elderly parents or a spouse in the home who’s not well, not everyone is comfortable being in person.”

She’s taken part in a host of webinars exploring issues not commonly talked about before the pandemic, such as concert live streaming or the aerosol produced when playing an instrument.

While the male chorus is no longer, Stephens said there are many opportunities in Haliburton for those eager to sing.

“The festival singers is a good one. Because we’re not an auditioned choir. There are some people there who don’t know how to read music and sometimes the people who don’t read music are the better singers, they have to really learn it.”

NOTICE OF NOMINATION FOR OFFICE

Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (s. 32)

2022 MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the positions listed below must be made on the prescribed form (Form 1) and **must** include signatures of **at least 25 persons** (eligible electors within your municipality) endorsing the nomination on the prescribed form (Form 2) (**School Board Trustees are excluded from the 25 signature requirement**). Nomination forms are available at your local municipal Clerk's Office or on the municipality's website. All Nomination forms must be filed, either in person or by your agent, with the Clerk/Returning Officer of the appropriate municipality during normal office hours between May 2, 2022 to Thursday, August 18, 2022, and between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Friday, August 19, 2022 (Nomination Day).

The required filing fee for the Head of Council is \$200.00 and all other offices are \$100.00, cash, debit, certified cheque or money order made payable to the appropriate municipality, and must accompany the signed forms. Full details on the procedures to be followed may be obtained from the appropriate Municipal Clerk. Please call the appropriate office to schedule an appointment to file your nomination.

MUNICIPAL OFFICES FOR WHICH PERSONS MAY BE NOMINATED:

Township of Algonquin Highlands	Municipality of Dysart et al
MAYOR (1)	MAYOR (1)
COUNCILLOR (1)	DEPUTY MAYOR (1)
Ward 1 (1)	COUNCILLOR (1)
Ward 2 (2)	Ward 1 (1)
Ward 3 (1)	Ward 2 (1)
	Ward 3 (1)
	Ward 4 (1)
	Ward 5 (1)
Returning Officer – Dawn Newhook	Returning Officer – Mallory Bishop
Township of Algonquin Highlands 1123 North Shore Road Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1 Tel: 705-489-2379 www.algonquinhighlands.ca Email: dnewhook@algonquinhighlands.ca	Municipality of Dysart et al 135 Maple Avenue P.O. Box 389 Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 Tel: 705-457-1740 www.dysartetal.ca Email: mbishop@dysartetal.ca

Municipality of Highlands East	Township of Minden Hills
MAYOR (1)	MAYOR (1)
COUNCILLOR (1)	DEPUTY MAYOR (1)
Ward 1 (1)	COUNCILLOR (1)
Ward 2 (1)	At Large (1)
Ward 3 (1)	Ward 1 (2)
Ward 4 (1)	Ward 2 (1)
	Ward 3 (1)
Returning Officer – Robyn Rogers	Returning Officer – Trisha McKibbin
Municipality of Highlands East 2249 Loop Road P.O. Box 295 Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0 Tel: 705-448-2981 www.highlandseast.ca Email: rogers@highlandseast.ca	Township of Minden Hills 7 Milne Street P.O. Box 359 Minden, ON K0M 2K0 Tel: 705-286-1260 Toll Free: 1-844-277-1260 www.mindenhills.ca Email: elections@mindenhills.ca

SCHOOL BOARD OFFICES FOR WHICH PERSONS MAY BE NOMINATED

TRUSTEE (1) English Language Public School Board	TRUSTEE (1) French Language Public School Board
Representing the County of Haliburton with the Trillium Lakelands District School Board.	Representing Sector 1 – Counties of Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough, Hastings; Cities of Peterborough, Kawartha Lakes, and the Region of Durham of Conseil scolaire Viamonde.
Nominations to be filed with the Clerk, Township of Dysart et al	Nominations to be filed with the Clerk, City of Oshawa or a local Municipal Clerk/Returning Officer within Sector 1.
Returning Officer – Mallory Bishop	The County of Haliburton Local Municipal Clerk(s)/Returning Officer(s) and municipal contact information is above.
Municipality of Dysart et al 135 Maple Avenue P.O. Box 389 Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 Tel: 705-457-1740 Email: mbishop@dysartetal.ca Website: www.dysartetal.ca	Or City Clerks Services: City of Oshawa 50 Centre Street South, Oshawa, ON Toll Free: 1-800-667-4292 Phone: (905) 436-3311 Email: clerks@oshawa.ca Website: www.oshawa.ca

Highlander people

Cyclist fights aging with charity rides

By Sam Gillett

Ever since the snow melted, 76-year-old Peter McLuskey has been pedaling around Eagle Lake on his bike.

He's not riding strictly for pleasure, and he's certainly not taking it easy.

McLuskey is training for a 70-kilometer charity ride in Ottawa, one of three cycling events he spent months training for this winter.

He's raised more than \$900 for the ride so far, with all proceeds going to the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario's (CHEO) cancer treatment programs.

McLuskey decided to participate due to a decline in physical fitness that began with a hip replacement in his early 70s.

In the years following, he became slower on his bike.

"I thought if I carried on going downhill like this it's going to make me a really old man," he said.

So, he decided to start training.

Throughout the winter, McLuskey logged hours of indoor workouts, guided by video classes and self-monitoring blood

pressure and heart rate.

Windy conditions have made on-the-road training difficult this spring, but McLuskey said it's important to gauge his condition by hitting the hills. Eagle Lake has plenty. He'll often ride around County Road 6, up Highway 118 and loops around Irish Line.

As he begins this season's calendar of rides, he said age and experience count for a lot on long-distance rides. After the start, he said, "these young guys go like the clappers about 20 kilometers down the road."

The burst of speed can't be sustained, and McLuskey often will cruise right by them.

He's received good-natured pushback from friends about riding long-distance in his mid-70s, but he said it's important to keep moving and active no matter your age.

"Try to do something. We're at an age now where there might be no tomorrow," he said.

To donate to McLuskey's fundraiser search for Peter McLuskey on cheofoundation.donordrive.com



Eagle Lake resident Peter McLuskey plans a 70 km charity ride in Ottawa May 1. Photo by Sam Gillett.

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Highlander outdoors



Volunteers release Lake Trout into Maple Lake April 22. Submitted.

HHOA splashes into stocking season on Maple Lake

More than 2,500 Lake Trout were released into Maple Lake by the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association (HHOA) April 22 as the group begins stocking season.

The HHOA estimates it will stock

approximately 15,000 Lake Trout and 20,000 Rainbow Trout in 20 lakes this year. “The stocking season is always an exciting time,” said HHOA president Dan Smith. “Our volunteers work very hard to make this happen and maintain good fishing in

our lakes.” The HHOA has raised and released more than 800,000 fish into Haliburton County lakes since 1998. The association encourages anyone eager to help or donate to visit HHOA.

on.ca or play the monthly 50/50 raffle at bigcatch5050.ca. Fifty per cent of the profits support the hatchery, fish stocking and other HHOA activities such as their walleye spawning rehabilitation program. (Sam Gillett).

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Highlander events



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

Due to restrictions related to COVID-19, the 26th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation (HHHS) will be held virtually on June 23, 2022 via the Zoom video platform.

2022-23 Membership in the HHHS Corporation is available to any individual who is a resident* of, or who is employed or operates a business in, the County of Haliburton or in the Townships formerly known as Laxton, Digby and Longford, or Bexley or Somerville of Victoria county, or Cavendish and Galway of Peterborough County for a period of at least 12 months immediately prior to the payment of an annual membership fee of ten dollars (\$10).

Membership in the Corporation entitles an individual to vote at any general meeting of the Corporation. **To be eligible to vote at the 2022 AGM, new memberships must be obtained by May 9, 2022.** Members of the Corporation are also entitled to nominate Directors for election to the Board.

Forms for corporate membership can be found on HHHS' website - hhhs.ca Payment of the membership fee can be arranged by contacting:

Marlene Vieira
HHHS Administration Office
7199 Gelert Road, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0
Phone: 705-457-2527
Email: mvieira@hhhs.ca

* this includes seasonal residents (i.e., summer cottagers / landowners)



Debbie Rohr of the Gooderham Community Action Group picks up trash by the Hwy 507 bridge. *Photo by Sam Gillett.*

Volunteers give Gooderham a spring clean

Braving cold weather and rain, volunteers picked up trash in Gooderham for an April 23 Earth Day cleanup, organized by the Gooderham Community Action Group. The annual event has been on hold since 2019 due to COVID-19 restrictions. After gathering at the Gooderham community centre, the group spent two hours combing the park and roadways around the hamlet for cans, bottles and other garbage. (*Sam Gillett*).



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Top: Gibson Pockett holds a bucket to collect sap from a freshly-tapped tree. Bottom: Mark Bramham explains how his family pumps sap back to a central production facility. *Photos by Sam Gillett.*

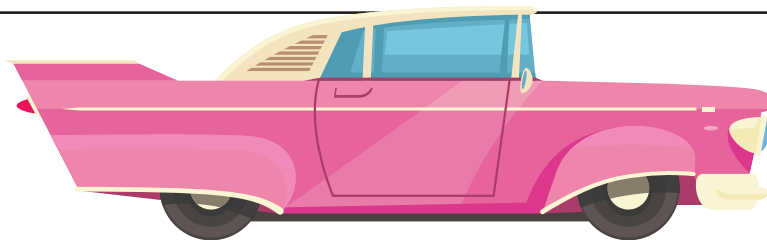
Learning the sweet life

Grade six students from J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School learned the ins and outs of maple syrup production April 13 at Esson Creek Maple in Highlands East. Two classes from the school travelled to a sugar shack, watched sap being deposited into reservoirs and learned about tapping trees and keeping a forest healthy while enjoying its produce. Since April 10, school groups have visited the facility. (*Sam Gillett*).

GOING AWAY?

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

Spring car care



Spring the best time to detail your vehicle

By Lisa Gervais

If you think you can use a bucket of soap and water and a dry vac to clean your vehicle after a long winter in the Highlands, think again.

Louis Laurcella has been detailing vehicles for 40 years, starting in Toronto where he was one of few who offered the service.

The popularity of the industry has grown, he said, and more people are opting for professional car clean ups.

His business, Louie's Car Care just outside of Haliburton Village, is booking two weeks out as people look at their rides this spring and realize they're a bit of a mess.

He said with COVID, a lot of people were busy working from home and their children were at home for long learn-from-home stretches so it was hard to find time to give their vehicles much attention. We've also emerged from a long, cold, snowy and icy winter.

Laurcella said sand from area roads, and salt from outside roads, has done a number on people's floor mats and carpets.

He said hard salt stains are difficult to clean up at home. They use a special salt remover that brings it out so it can be vacuumed and then shampooed.

Vacuums for home use don't have the suction power to really get upholstery cleaned, he said. They have a tool called the Tornado. In addition, he said they don't just vacuum, Tornado, and shampoo once, but sometimes four or five times so the carpet comes out "brand spanking new."

He said detailers offer a range of services depending on people's budgets.

"Here in Haliburton County, some people don't have the money to spend on their vehicles. We try and be reasonable," he said. Laurcella added he's conscious that seniors in particular are on fixed incomes and budgets.

He said in Toronto, people can pay \$75 for a basic exterior car wash and \$300 to \$400 for interior cleanups alone.

Louie's and other details have basic,



Louis Laurcella recommends car detailing once a year. Flickr.

medium and higher-end packages. "It all depends what people want."

For exteriors, they can wash, polish, wax, apply ceramic coating and remove minor scratches.

This time of year, Laurcella suggests people do at least a basic package at a detailer. This usually involves washing the outside, including under the wheel wells, exterior windows, then inside upholstery, vinyl and windows. A basic service can take three hours.

Laurcella said a lot of people think they can do the job at home, or the local car wash, but "there's a lot more work involved. People don't really know how much work is involved." He added detailers have tools for every stage of the process.

"People think a bucket and soap is all you need, but that's not true. If you want to keep the value of the vehicle, I recommend getting it detailed once a year. It brings back the life of the vehicle."

Laurcella added detailers take pride in their work.

"If I was paying the money for this vehicle to get done, I would want a good job ... so I look at it that way."

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The Huskies



Marshall lays it on the line for Huskies

By Mike Baker

With the Haliburton County Huskies season now over, forward Lucas Marshall has a summer of rehab and recuperation ahead of him.

The hometown team dropped a heartbreaking 4-3 decision in overtime April 20, closing the book on a fairy-tale inaugural season in the Highlands. The Dogs defied all expectations this year, playing a unique brand of hockey that Marshall said resonated with players and excited fans.

Marshall was a staple for the Huskies this year, appearing in 40 games across the regular season and playoffs. It's been far from an easy ride, however, for the 19-year-old, who had to carefully manage a serious knee injury while playing.

During a game against the Wellington Dukes Nov. 28, Marshall absorbed a hit before heading for the bench. He knew he was in trouble, as he barely put any pressure on his leg. An MRI after the game brought the worst possible news – Marshall had torn his ACL and MCL.

"I basically had a choice either not to play the rest of the season and go get surgery to further my recovery, or take a few weeks and see how it heals... I was working close with some physios in Haliburton and back home [in Alliston], and together we came up with a plan for me to finish out the year," Marshall said.

That plan involved wearing a knee brace during practices and games, and creating an

extensive post-game recovery program.

With the season now over, Marshall will undergo surgery in May. Recovery time is slated at between six months and a year, meaning he will almost certainly miss a huge chunk of next season.

Marshall is keeping positive, however, and sees himself returning to Haliburton County, in some form, next season. He's had a great time playing with the Huskies, alongside friend Bryce Richardson, and has learned a lot under the tutelage of head coach Ryan Ramsay.

"It's a great brand of hockey. That was the thing that drew me in when I talked to Bryce and to Ryan – they sold me on the community, but on style of play too," Marshall said. "It's been a great season for me. It's the first year when I've been out on the ice every single day, that's probably the thing that shocked me most, is just how professional things are day-to-day. It's all about hockey."

Marshall said he's developed a bond with his billets, Don and Marie Gage, that will last a lifetime, and went on record with thanking Huskies fans for making his first year of junior hockey extra special.

"This is the most amazing spot to play in, with the new arena and the incredible fan support. Every single game, no matter who we were playing, the stands were full. It was really cool to see how the community embraced us. Their support definitely pushed us on and helped us to succeed," he said.



Forward Lucas Marshall played through the pain barrier this season. OJHL Images.

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Top left: Payton Schaly finds himself in a difficult position. Top right: Sam Solarino scores on a penalty shot. Bottom left: Cougars goalie Justin Easton congratulates Dogs goalie Christian Cicigoi on a hard-fought series. Bottom right: The teams shake hands after the game. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.*

Huskies drop heartbreaker to end season

By Lisa Gervais

With less than 17 minutes in the game - and up 3-1 - it looked like the Haliburton County Huskies were headed to a second-round playoff victory. However, the hockey gods had other ideas.

The Cougars' Caleb Thompson scored at 5:22 of the third to bring Cobourg within one. Then, Michael Palandra fired one in at 15:10 to send the game into overtime April 20 at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

It was truly do or die as the teams skated out for a tense overtime frame. Although the Huskies peppered Cougars' goalie Justin Easter with shots, they could not get one past the netminder.

At 12:40 of overtime, Andy Reist scored for the visitors, to end the playoff series and the Huskies first season in the Highlands.

Coach Ryan Ramsay said it was an emotional time post-game in the dressing room with some players staying in their gear until 11 p.m. and not leaving until midnight or later.

"Sometimes you make the playoffs and you know your team is not good enough to win but we thought we were good enough to win it, so I think they took it a little extra hard," he said.

The game started with intensity with thundering checks and speed as both teams wanted to light the lamp to get a start on the decider.

Cobourg got on the board first as Jacob Gilbert fired the puck past Christian Cicigoi. However, the Dogs answered back just 14 seconds later. Patrick Saini got one past Easter, assisted by Christian Stevens

and Isaac Sooklal. The period ended 1-1.

Ramsay said, "we've done that all season. We've been down a couple of goals right off the bat and we've responded really well."

In the second, the Dogs broke the tie at the 5:56 mark when Payton Schaly finished the play from Lucas Stevenson and Sooklal, making it two-one Dogs.

Early in the third, Sam Solarino was hauled down breaking in on net and the ref awarded the rarely called penalty shot. Solarino made no mistake and the Dogs were up 3-1 at the 3:09 mark, and looking to be headed to a third-round showdown.

But no one told the Cougars that as they fired the two third period goals to send the game into extra time.

Ramsay said it was something his squad

did all year. “After we get up a couple of goals, we kind of sat back. Cobourg’s a good team. They’re there for a reason as well. At this level and at this stage of a conference semi-final you’re playing against good teams that find ways to win.”

As Reist raised his arms after scoring the game winner in OT, the Cougars bench cleared in jubilation. A subdued Huskies squad watched the celebrations.

After the game, Ramsay admitted his team was banged up with quite a few skaters playing hurt. He said if a team is going to go all the way in such a tough East Division, it has to have puck and injury luck “and obviously that wasn’t the case for us this year.”



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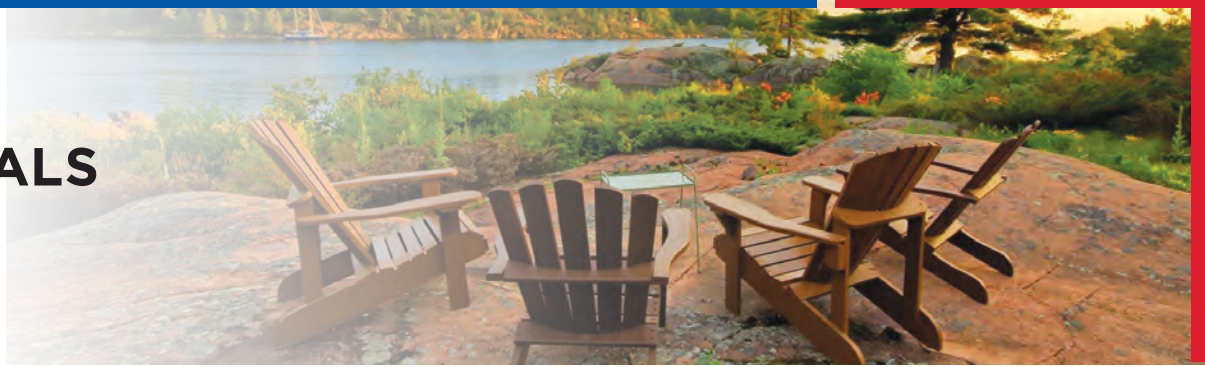
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What's on



A scene from Returns Department. Adrien Taret.

Bringing the world to Haliburton once again

By Lisa Gervais

The world is coming back to Haliburton County May 1 as Razzamataz returns after more than a two-year COVID-19 hiatus.

The Razzamataz committee is presenting the Kif-Kif Sisters at 2 p.m. at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavillion.

Programmer Isabel Buttler recalled the last show was on March 1, 2020 and there was some concern it might be the final forever.

They lost some committee members from an already small rank of long-time volunteers and then a global pandemic struck.

She said some of their helpers, such as herself, Jolene Thomas and Dawn Mole-Hurd joined when their children were babies and toddlers but they are now growing up.

They had not been able to attract new volunteers and were worried they may have to fold, “which would be a huge loss for families in the community,” Buttler said.

But some new members have come forward to steady the ship and the current committee is more hopeful of

continuing a tradition that has been ongoing for 33 years now.

They are planning for a full 2022-2023 season of shows starting in the fall and running until May 2023.

Buttler is pleased with the result.

“I have been the programmer, and it’s always been fun to program Razzamataz. Razzamataz has been able to offer these shows with really great artists for such an affordable price because we’re funded by the Department of Canadian Heritage and the Ontario Arts Council. They basically subsidize all the tickets for the shows.

“One of our mandates is to bring in artists from diverse cultural backgrounds and different art forms, or genres, to bring the world to Haliburton so families don’t have to travel, especially with travel being so expensive.”

Buttler added they are still looking for volunteers. “Many hands make light work.”

The Kif-Kif Sisters

The Kif-Kif Sisters are bringing their show ‘Returns Department.’

They are identical twins from Quebec City who have completed studies at the Conservatory of Music and done street performances in 15 countries. In Canada, they have worked with Theatre de l’Aubergine and the Cirque du Soleil.

“We use laughter to unleash the audience’s emotions and always involve them in our performances, allowing them to be a part of the fun while experiencing a unique and intimate event,” the sisters said.

In this show, a pair of twin sisters welcome the audience to the Returns Department. On their conveyor belt, a parade of objects, manufacturing errors, and dysfunctional accessories appear. Labouring with love, the twins handle complaints like boxes of candy.

Little by little, the temptation to play with the merchandise before them takes hold, the objects themselves play some tricks of their own.

Tickets are available online at www.razzamataz.ca or by contacting Dawn Mole-Hurd at 705-854-0728. Masks must be worn.

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OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of

Ward, Joan Marylin (nee Douglas)

Died peacefully on March 30th, 2022 at Andy's House Hospice in Port Carling Ontario. She was born on November 14th, 1938 in St. Mary's ON where she attended elementary and high school. Her parents owned a garage there and later, a trailer park in Grand Bend called Wondergrove. In her early teens Joan, with her mother's blessing, fibbed about her age and moved away to be a waitress at Milford Bay Manor in Muskoka. She had chutzpah and she loved an adventure – just like her mom.

Joan graduated from Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto with a diploma in Interior Design and was one of only three women in Canada at the time to become a member of the National Society of Interior Designers. While attending Ryerson she caught the eye of a promising footballer and part-time caterer, Arthur Ward, who was enrolled in the hospitality program.

Whilst working together at Cleverlands House, Muskoka in the summer of 1958 they became 'smitten' - with each other as well as the resort lifestyle. They married soon after graduating in 1960 and began working various assignments in Hamilton and Brockville. Joan's acumen for style and design fit nicely with hospitality and in 1967 they soon settled in as Innkeepers of the Wigamog Inn in beautiful Haliburton. This was the canvas to which Joan applied her creative talents for 27 years and raised her three 'wild ferrets' Kimberley, Lisa and Christopher. These were the 70s and 80s and 'Joannie' embodied everything social and colourful about these times. She was a fiercely independent woman and respected for her keen sense of fashion and her acerbic tongue. When trying to make a point she would often say - "I like to call a spade a f#%&\$# shovel when I see one".

After retiring, Joan purchased Country Rose Garden Center from dear friend (and previous head waitress of Wigamog) - Brenda Ripley. It still flourishes today. She also opened Antiques and Neat Stuff beside "The Rose" and toiled about in her little piece of paradise there until 2017 - talking the ear off complete strangers and entertaining them with her incredible ability to find that 6 or seven degrees of separation where she inevitably knew something about someone in your family.

Joan was a huge fan of the arts, of antique stores, of counting cards at her epic bridge nights, telling jokes and being a confidant to countless staff and friends over the years. She was known as "The Dragon Lady". We are not sure why but it likely had something to do with industrial chain-smoking combined with tired exasperation when she let people know where they stood after crossing her. She was someone who rarely knew where her kids were but always knew that they were safe ... ish.

Joan is predeceased by her husband Art (Dec '21) and her brothers Gary and Bob Douglas. She is survived by daughters Kimberley and Lisa, son Christopher and 10 grandchildren. As per Joan's wishes, there will be no service. Cremation took place in Toronto with her final resting place at the Ingoldsby United Cemetery near her beloved town of Haliburton beside husband Art, mother Mayme and father Murray. If you listen closely ... you will likely still hear them arguing. Dragons are like that.

Charitable donations can be made to your local cancer agency as her second hand smoke has affected many. Her humour will be missed, her style sense will forever be remembered and her poker pot remains hidden. Thank you for everything mom, we love and miss you dearly - despite the times you docked our pay for taking lunch breaks when we worked through. Set 'em straight up there and say hello to Caesar for us.



In Loving Memory of

Doris Edith LaPorte (nee Lewis)

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

On a beautiful Sunday morning, April 24, 2022, with family at her side, Doris passed away peacefully at Extendicare in Haliburton in her 85th year. Born on December 14, 1937, Doris was the daughter of the late Ruby and Gordon Lewis. Beloved wife and best friend of 50 years to the love of her life, the late Frank LaPorte (2004). Loving Mother of Larry (Sheila), Blake (Nicole), and Rhonda Shaw (Barry). Predeceased by her daughter-in-law Sherry (2010). Proud Grandmother of five grandchildren, Jenny Moore (Darryl), Aaron LaPorte (Nicole), Josh Shaw (Amy), Meghan Kelsh (Tyler), and Alexandre LaPorte and 9 great-grandchildren. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by sisters Mae Cooper and Millie Dawe. Doris is survived by her brothers-in-law, Ed LaPorte and Howard Higgins, and sisters-in-law Barb Nesbitt, Audress LaPorte, Caroline LaPorte, and Marilyn LaPorte. Predeceased by brothers-in-law Don LaPorte, Dave LaPorte, and Jim LaPorte, Ray Cooper, Mel Dawe and sisters-in-law Doris Winter, Clara Higgins, Hilda LaPorte and Diane Smith. Doris loved spending time with her family the most and was an active member of the West Guilford Baptist Church. She loved camping, country music dances and shows, watching hockey games, and greeting people at the West Guilford Shopping Centre, where she worked for many years. Doris's family would like to thank all the staff who cared so lovingly for her at Extendicare, Haliburton.

Visitation & Celebration of Life

Family and friends are invited to attend at **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME**, 13523 Hwy #118, Haliburton, Ontario 705-457-9209 on Friday evening, April 29, 2022 from 7 to 9 pm, and on Saturday, April 30 from 10 - 11 am, followed by a Celebration of Life at 11:00. A private family-only Interment will be held at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation or the West Guilford Baptist Church would be appreciated.

At the request of the family, please wear a mask.



In Loving Memory of Debra Laurie Horne

November 17, 1957-April 15, 2022

Debra passed away early Friday, April 15th, 2022 at Highland Wood Long Term Care, Haliburton, Ontario. Much loved daughter of Ross (deceased 2017) and Jean Horne. She was a loving mother to her children, Douglas

McHattie (Jayme), Elizabeth (Beth) Edwards (Ryan), Miranda Hawkins (Cole), and stepson David McHattie. She is survived by her brother, Albert (Allison) and predeceased by his sister Dale LaFrance (2018). Debra also leaves 8 grandchildren, Dustin, Kingsley & Beau McHattie, Ethan, Chloe & Jacob Hawkins, Cameron & Madelyne Edwards.

A Private Family Visitation, Service and Reception will take place at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P. O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 on Tuesday, May 3, 2022. Interment at Ingoldsby Pioneer Cemetery.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation -Highland Wood LTC (HHHSF-Highland Wood LTC) or the University Hospital Network (UHN for D-2 Hydroxyglutaric Aciduria) would be appreciated by the family.

When someone you love becomes a memory

The memory becomes a treasure.

May you rest in peace, Debra!



CELEBRATION OF LIFE



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for

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HELP WANTED

Ontario Early Years Centre Haliburton Victoria Brock Inc. is seeking an EarlyON Early Learning Facilitator



6 month contract position—may be renewed or made permanent
The Ontario Early Years Centre Haliburton Victoria Brock (OEYC HVB) is a non-profit organization that provides free, responsive and innovative programs for families/caregivers with children newborn-6 years of age.

Early Learning Facilitators are responsible for planning and facilitating early learning and caregiver education/support programs. Our facilitators offer activities to promote enquiry-based learning and socialization for children 6 years of age and under. Working alongside other OEYC HVB staff and community partners, they support the needs of the participants and share up to date information and resources. Building positive connections with children, parents, grand-parents and caregivers is essential to this role.

The successful candidate:

- is a RECE, or has evidence of ongoing coursework towards this designation; and has experience working directly with children and families.
- has an up to date Criminal Reference Check, including Vulnerable Sector Check.
- holds current First Aid and CPR certification (or be willing to obtain).
- has an Ontario G-class license and is willing to travel within the City of Kawartha Lakes/Haliburton County.

Please submit an email of intent and resume to Julie Bosker (juliebosker@oeyc.ca), EarlyON Program Manager no later than May 9, 2022.

We thank all who apply, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Ontario Early Years Centre Haliburton Victoria Brock Inc. is seeking an EarlyON Early Learning Facilitator Assistant



12-16 week contract position (renewal possible)
The Ontario Early Years Centre Haliburton Victoria Brock (OEYC HVB) is a non-profit organization that provides free, responsive and innovative programs for families/caregivers with children newborn-6 years of age.

Early Learning Facilitator Assistants are responsible for helping to plan and facilitate early learning and caregiver education/support programs. Our facilitators and assistants offer activities to promote enquiry-based learning and socialization for children 6 years of age and under. Working alongside other OEYC HVB staff and community partners, they support the needs of the participants and share up to date information and resources. Building positive connections with children, parents, grand-parents and caregivers is essential to this role.

The successful candidate:

- has experience working directly with children and families.
- has an up to date Criminal Reference Check, including Vulnerable Sector Check.
- holds current First Aid and CPR certification (or be willing to obtain).
- has an Ontario G-class license and is willing to travel within the City of Kawartha Lakes/Haliburton County.

Please submit an email of intent and resume to Julie Bosker (juliebosker@oeyc.ca), EarlyON Program Manager no later than May 9, 2022.

We thank all who apply, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

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15166 & 15168 Hwy 118
(just east of Glamorgan Road)
Saturday, April 30th & Sunday, May 1st. 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. each day. Electronics, rugs, artwork, dishes, small furniture pcs, wide array of tools, shop vac, saws, tires with rims, motorcycle helmets/boots, lounge chair, folding chairs, garden ornaments, wheel barrow, yard tools, kayaks, kayak rack and much more

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Computer Unsavvy

by Barbara Olson

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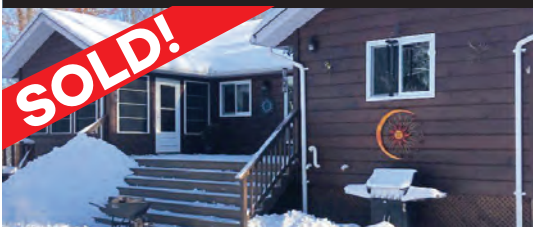
- Across**
- 1 Violin section: Abbr.
 - 4 Do some bird watching, maybe?
 - 10 Love handle, in reality
 - 14 "___ Haw" ('60s variety show)
 - 15 Certain things?
 - 16 Juste pour ___ (Montreal comedy festival)
 - 17 Yore, of yore
 - 18 One who just can't chuck out that old strainer?
 - 20 Words after shake or break
 - 22 Smelter tram load
 - 23 Singer Billy, or where he might swim
 - 24 Pub with the drinks you like best?
 - 28 Signed one's name to
 - 29 Puts in a bind?
 - 30 Disney's "The Bare Necessities" bear
 - 31 Like this clue: Abbr.
 - 32 "Getting things done" initials
 - 35 Journal kept by a casual shopper?
 - 40 Pit stop additive
 - 41 Soy Sauce maker Lee Kum ___
 - 42 Hawaiian honkers
 - 43 He's got it coming to him?
 - 45 Trump who wrote "The Trump Card"
 - 47 Going from single-panes to double-panes, say?
 - 50 Heeded the curling skip
 - 52 Worker's stat day, say: Abbr.
 - 53 Hoop or dangle alternative
 - 54 Sign that spiders inhabit a place?
 - 58 Either you ___ (one of us)
 - 59 "Whose woods these ___ think ..." (Frost line)
 - 60 Levy on smokes and booze
 - 61 So far
 - 62 Man of "la famille"
 - 63 ___ Belt (star trio)
 - 64 Movie theatre silencer

- Down**
- 1 Pile of papers
 - 2 Not mix up, as identical twins
 - 3 Convert to office towers, say
 - 4 Playground settings: Abbr.
 - 5 Final set follow-up, maybe
 - 6 Like affairs in a bodice ripper
 - 7 Millennial's "rad"
 - 8 Serpent tail?
 - 9 "That's Hockey" TV channel
 - 10 Raucous hubbub
 - 11 ___ spots ("senile freckles")
 - 12 Part of L x W = A
 - 13 Swiss capital city
 - 19 Drink brand with a lizard logo
 - 21 "You need to leave"
 - 25 Spanish ones
 - 26 ___-A-Sketch
 - 27 Voice from an Apple Watch, maybe
 - 30 Ammo also called birdshot
 - 31 Pet subject for George Burns
 - 32 Some sandbox trucks

- 33 Critters and beasts
- 34 Fly-___ (air show displays)
- 36 "___ you not!" ("It's true!")
- 37 Aptly-named CD burning software
- 38 Sound accompanying "just like that!"
- 39 Leans towards, with "to"
- 43 Classic VW van owner
- 44 ___'acte (interlude)
- 45 Has clued in about
- 46 Mr. Spock's planet
- 47 Barbecue grill brand
- 48 "___ was your age, ..."
- 49 Gloria's "All in the Family" mom
- 50 Give and take?
- 51 Existed once
- 55 That, in a Paul Anka hit
- 56 Title for John A. Macdonald
- 57 Strait's "All My ___ Live in Texas"

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