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The Highlander

Thursday **June 22 2023** | Issue 595

INSIDE: HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC AWARDS PAGES 16-17

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In a pickle

Wayne Forth prepares to hit the ball during a game of pickleball June 20 at the Minden rec centre, as a large group competed in the OSGA 55+ games. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Urgent care clinic to open in Minden

By Lisa Gervais

Minden Hills' new urgent care clinic will open for the first time next Friday, June 30 and operate noon to 6 p.m. throughout the Canada Day long weekend.

It will continue to operate on weekends until fully staffed, the Ontario government said in a press release announcing it is providing money to the Kawartha North Family Health Team (KNFHT) to open the clinic in the former Minden emergency department site.

The province made the announcement June 20.

The clinic will provide routine and urgent care to people in the community, and has been described as somewhere between a walk-in clinic and an ER department.

The ministry said it would also provide one-time funding to buy equipment.

KNFHT executive director, Marina Hodson, told a community meeting June 9, she did not think it would take long for the ministry to approve a clinic for the town after its ER was closed June 1, with consolidation of ER services at the Haliburton site.

"KNFHT has provided care to the Minden Hills community since 2007," Hodson said of the announcement, adding, "we are very proud to be responding to a community need and continuing our commitment to service by operating an urgent care clinic at the Minden site."

KNFHT has clinics in Fenelon Falls and Bobcaygeon, with County residents attending those sites.

Planning is underway to operate up to seven days a week, based on the community's needs. The clinic will be operated and staffed by KNFHT nurse practitioners and registered practical nurses who will provide care to patients with unexpected but non-life-threatening health care concerns through walk-ins and booked appointments.

Continued 'Urgent' on page 2

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'Urgent care not same as ER'

Continued from page 1

The province said in order to accelerate implementation, it is "working quickly with the KNFHT and Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS).

"KNFHT is continuing to engage the community to determine how the clinic can best serve the people of Minden Hills," the press release stated. "As a result, while the clinic itself will be managed entirely by KNFHT and its board of directors, it will be located at the former Minden emergency department site, so no major renovations are required."

The province said HHHS is supporting the operation of the clinic.

"HHHS is pleased to support the KNFHT's operation of an urgent care clinic at the Minden site," said interim CEO Veronica Nelson. "This initiative has led to an expedited implementation of an urgent care clinic for our community."

Minister of health, Sylvia Jones, added, "we recognize the need for all Ontarians to have access to convenient care, closer to home, no matter where they live in the province." She added her government was proud to be a partner with community partners to help improve care for residents of Minden Hills.

Jones refused to step in after HHHS made the decision to shutter the Minden site, leading to its closure.

MPP Laurie Scott said, "the quick action taken by the KNFHT and supported by HHHS, with support from the ministry is good news, ensuring Minden Hills will have access to an urgent care clinic very soon. Thank you to everyone involved, for working together to make this happen."

Current hours of operation will be posted on the KNFHT, HHHS and Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Ontario Health Team websites.

Patrick Porzuczek, spokesperson and founder of Save Minden ER and Minden Matters, said, "The Ford government funding the clinic does not mitigate the responsibility for allowing the Minden ER to close.

"The closure of the ER has negative impacts on traumatic instances like heart attacks, immediate cardiac care, strokes, allergic reactions, and urgent community health. The closure has created a hole in health care within the community, and will continue with the pattern we are seeing across the province."

Porzuczek added urgent care is not the same as an ER and people need accessible local, immediate, access to emergency services when they are faced with life-threatening conditions. "Hallway health and eight-hour-plus wait times are not acceptable. This does not equal quality health care in Minden or across the province."

He said the ministry of health "must take immediate steps to reopen the ER as quickly as possible in order to save lives in the community."

He noted it was the only ER located centrally between Lindsay and Huntsville.

Porzuczek went on to say, "the Ontario Government should be working closely with the Minden and Haliburton



Marina Hodson, executive director of KNFHT, held a community meeting June 9, with media, such as this cameraman, in attendance. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

communities and learn from their mistakes. It's not political gain. It's not about the PC party or Laurie Scott taking accolades for urgent care coming to Minden. It should be about making health care better and stronger for rural Ontario and learning from this community. Together we can rewrite history and implement a health care system that will work collaboratively for all of Ontario."



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County debates side-by-sides on rail trail

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton County council deferred making a decision June 14 on whether to allow side-by-sides on the rail trail.

Council heard from Carolyn Richards of the Kawartha and Haliburton ATV associations, as well as Friends of the Rail Trail (FoRT) chair Pamela Marsales.

Richards said, like ATVs and dirt bikes, side-by-sides must be licensed, registered and have insurance, with driver age, and vehicle size regulations.

Side-by-side sales have grown exponentially over the years, Richards said. She added while ATVs are allowed on the rail trail, side-by-sides are not. All County roads, with a couple of exceptions, are open to ATVs, side-by-sides and off-road motorcycles.

“We are looking to ask for a trial period to allow side-by-sides on the rail trail,” she said. The association is recommending a two-year pilot, with reports from County staff and the association after the first year.

In pleading her case, Richards said seniors, families and people with disabilities are turning to side-by-sides.

“By providing designated trails, you are taking the pressure off of areas where they might be trespassing. We’re trying to create places for the rail trail to connect to other trail systems. It’s not for them to just run up and down the rail trail for no reason, but to get from point A to point B on the trails to get to another area, whether it’s for gas or food, in a community.”

Richards said the associations wants to ensure safe and legal use, via trail patrol, signage, education, and possible future bylaw enforcement. She said a partnership with the County would ensure accountability. “Our experience in the City of Kawartha Lakes has been that the more managed the trail is, the less complaints we get from the residents.”

Richards added she works in risk management and insurance, and the association has \$5 million liability with the County listed on its policies as additional insured. They pay for trail maintenance, having recently spent \$100,000 on the Victoria County Rail Trail in the Somerville Forest and \$15,000 per km of trail between Lindsay and Kinmount.

She said in other jurisdictions, they have successfully shared the trail with ATVs, side-



The County is debating whether or not to allow side-by-sides on the rail trail. *freepik.com*.

by-sides, walkers, bicyclists and horseback riders. “We’ve never had a conflict. We’ve never had a problem. We’ve never had an accident in all the years we’ve been doing this since, I believe, 2019.

“You get that one per cent not following the rules, but the majority of riders are respectful people. We’re not a bunch of people just coming to race around for no reason.” She added they favour hefty fines for offenders.” Speed limits are 20 kilometres per hour coming into towns, and 50 kilometres an hour on trails.

“We take this seriously. We take our role as trail stewards seriously. And this is something we want to bring into Haliburton County in partnership with the Haliburton ATV association. What we’re asking you is allow us to do what we do best, manage this, but work with you in partnership because side-by-sides aren’t going away.” She added they will bring tourism dollars into the County.

Friends of rail trail disapprove

Marsales said side-by-sides are different from the ATVs of the early 2000s, at the time of the Rail Trail Master Plan. She said they are larger and more powerful.

“We’re suggesting you follow these existing plans and strategies that are practices for public benefit, because they optimize the best economic advantage to the County’s budget. Bottom line, they’re socially and fiscally responsible.”

Marsales said adding a “new, more extreme, motorized use to the County on the rail trail would predictably deter other types of public green space activities. This would trigger negative repercussions in direct contrast to these best practices, recommendations and strategies.”

She added side-by-sides go against the County climate change action plan, active transportation, health promotion, the age-friendly communities master plan, asset management plan, and promotion of the area as bicycle-friendly.

“This is a big market that is untapped. That is mentioned specifically in the Haliburton County cycling master plan. A combination of rail trails, off-road and on-road cycling opportunities would provide a complete network and wide array of cycling opportunities for residents and visitors alike.”

Councillors weigh in

Coun. Lisa Schell said she has been driving off-road vehicles since she was eight, so does not find them as “menacing” as some. She

added ATVs give young people something to do, while seniors are gravitating towards side-by-sides. She thinks side-by-sides would travel slower on trails. She said she’d be comfortable with a two-year pilot.

Coun. Bob Carter was seeking more information and Coun. Dave Burton said he was not opposed to a trial but would like further details as well.

Coun. Cec Ryall said while FoRT’s concerns were “real,” some appeared “slightly extreme” and could be mitigated with proper planning. With more information, he was also leaning towards a pilot.

Coun. Murray Fearrey asked why it couldn’t be a one-year trial, and had concerns about bylaw enforcement. “I think we need to be careful with this. We spent hours and hours and hours trying to decide what should be on the rail trail and what shouldn’t.”

Coun. Walt McKechnie also wants information on things such as what side-by-sides do to the trail surface and related maintenance costs.

Coun. Jennifer Dailloux raised the issue of “the deteriorating slippery slope of something that is multi-use becoming, over years, something that is really all about all terrain and off-road vehicles, almost to the exclusion of others.”

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

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REPORT ON BUSINESS 2022 SHOOK
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AH launches ‘fresh modern’ new website

By Mike Baker

Algonquin Highlands unveiled a new municipal website June 20, with communications coordinator, Chad Ingram, saying the updated virtual space “is fresh, modern and ultimately allows the township to better serve the community.”

Council supported the project last fall, with the township contracting GHD Digital to carry out the work. Ingram pegged the total cost at just over \$21,000.

“This has been a long project, a huge project... but we’re finally there,” Ingram said at a recent council meeting.

A revamped home page includes a customizable news and notices section, which Ingram says will allow visitors to choose what information they see. There is space to promote upcoming events, while popular tourist attractions such as the Dorset Tower, a myriad of trail systems, and the Dorset and Stanhope heritage museums also featured.

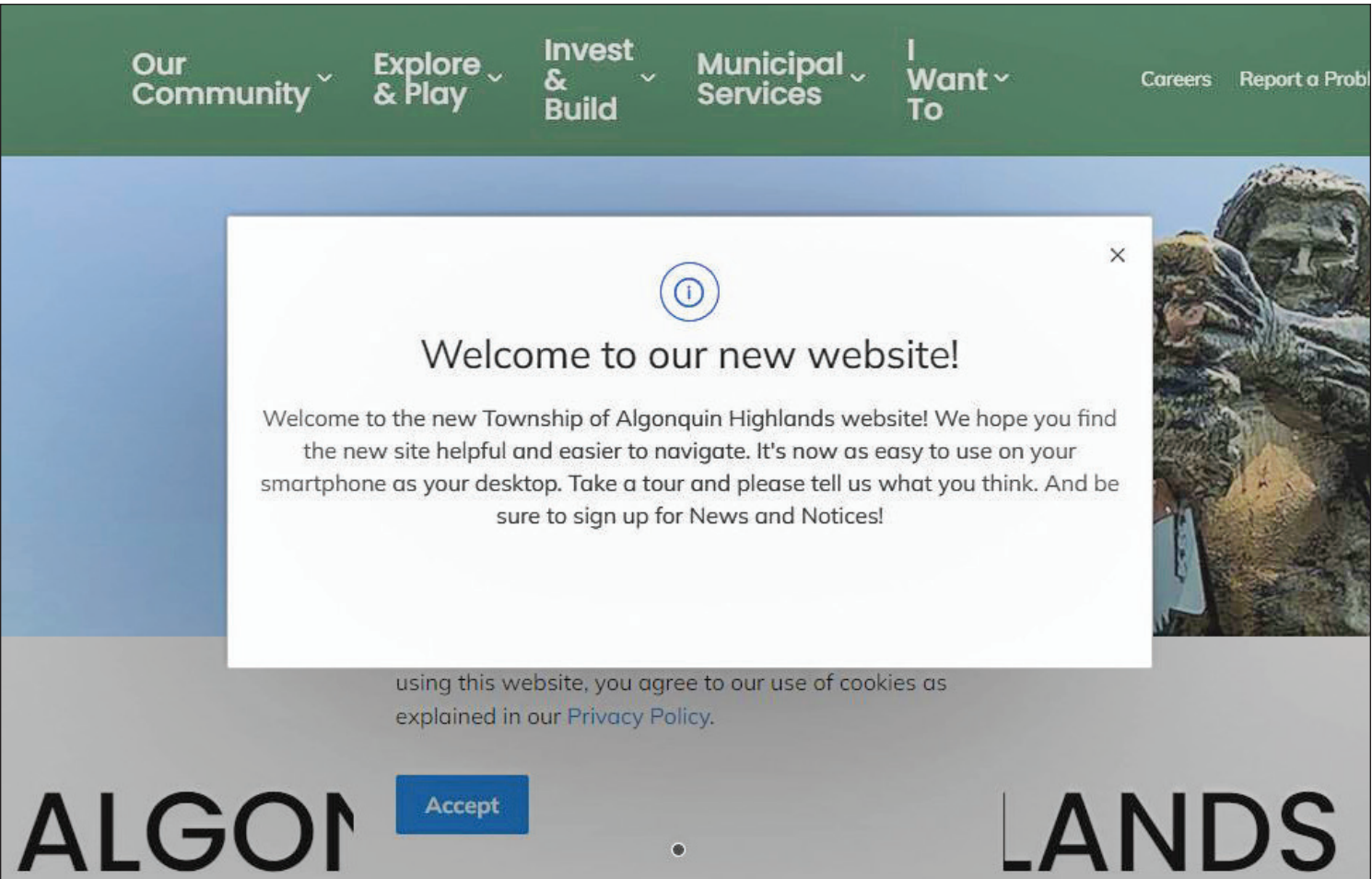
There are clickable buttons for information on council, recreation, waste and recycling, planning, property taxes, and public works.

Ingram said the main search bar is “enhanced by Google”, meaning individual searches on the new site will run through the tech giant’s virtual library.

“In theory, it should be easier to find our stuff,” Ingram said.

The new website also offers electronic forms and e-commerce capabilities, so residents can do more of their business with the township online. The e-commerce function will not be available immediately, Ingram says, but residents can complete a form to sign up for e-billing.

Ingram said a key feature is that the new website will “display well” on tablets and smartphones, which was a major complaint



The new Algonquin Highlands website is cell phone-friendly. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

of the old website.

He noted staff had been able to access the site during beta demonstrations in recent months and that most feedback had been positive.

While the new site won’t directly house the township’s Bang the Table forum, released in 2021 to engage with residents on key

issues online, links will be provided when discussions are live.

Some of the features, such as colour scheme, will remain the same, but Ingram said he has the capability to edit the website at any time. He noted this would be a big help when promoting upcoming events and timely news.

“I love what I’m seeing. I like all the different ways you can get into the guts of the township, what we’re offering and [making it easier to find] whatever you need to find,” said deputy mayor Jennifer Dailloux.

The site went live at 9 a.m. June 20. To visit, go to algonquinhighlands.ca.

INFORMATION PAGE

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CULTURAL CENTRE EVENTS

The Backwoodsmen will perform live outdoors at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre this Saturday June 24 at 2 pm. The quartet featuring the Gallery’s current artist Rob Niezen, Dr. Al Kirby, Rob Cory and John Bird, tells the stories and sings the folk songs documented throughout rural Ontario in the 1950s by song-collector/scholar Edith Fowke. Bring your lawn chair. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca.

Cross Cut, an exhibit by Rob Niezen, is on display at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery until July 1. The exhibit features 24 linocuts illustrating traditional Ontario folk songs reimagined in a contemporary context. The Agnes Jamieson Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation. For more information please look at the events calendar <https://calendar.mindenhills.ca/default/Detail/2023-05-04-1000-Cross-Cut-Exhibit-by-Rob-Niezen>.

Bateman Family: A Sense of Place will be on display from July 6 to September 2 at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. This personal family exhibit features original paintings and limited-edition prints by renowned artist and naturalist Robert Bateman; Alan, Brad, Jack & Ross Bateman, and photographs by Birgit Freybe Bateman. The opening reception will take place on Saturday July 8 from 1-4 pm. Pre-registration is required for the artist talk at 1:30 pm. For more information, please call 705-286-3763, email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or look at the events calendar <https://calendar.mindenhills.ca/default/Detail/2023-07-06-1000-Bateman-Family-A-Sense-of-Place>.

The Minden Hills Museum & Heritage Village and Nature’s Place is now open for the season Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Join us daily for self-guided village tours and hands-on activities including Paper Plate Birds on June 22 from 3-4 pm, Mini Scarecrow Building on June 23 from 3-4 pm and Pioneer Dress-up on June 24 from 11 am – 12 pm and 2-3 pm. Don’t miss the Songbirds exhibit in Nature’s Place! Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca.

VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

June 29 – Regular Council Meeting
July 27 – Regular Council Meeting

Please note Council Meetings are reduced to one (1) meeting a month in July. Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in person or joining a live-stream link available on the township CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting; please download by visiting our CivicWeb Portal at mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx. Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Reminder there is a **COUNTY WIDE TOTAL FIRE BAN**. The Minden Hills Fire Department advises everyone to be very cautious around open waterways, swimming pools, and other standing water. Sadly, the Minden Hills Fire Department responds to numerous incidents each year involving victims of drowning or near drowning. Life jackets are proven to help prevent drowning; therefore, the Minden Hills Fire Department encourages anyone that ventures onto the waterways or enters the water to wear a life jacket.

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Residents gathered April 25 after it was announced the Minden ER would be closing. *File.*

Minden Team seeks dialogue with HHHS

By Lisa Gervais

A group calling itself 'The Minden Position Paper Team' has asked to meet with Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) interim CAO and president Veronica Nelson prior to June 22's HHHS annual general meeting.

Team member, Jeff Nicholls, said they comprise community advocates, health care professionals, and stakeholders, including Debbie Sherwin, who are all, "deeply concerned about the sudden closure of the Minden ER." He said there is a core team of six people, supported by a research group of five to 15 people.

"The group has conducted rigorous research into the impacts and decision-making process behind the closure, culminating in a comprehensive position paper, which has been posted at mindenpaper.com as a call for comment."

Part of that, Nicholls said, is a money trail in which MPP Laurie Scott says the Minden ER closure was due to staffing issues, while HHHS finance chair Irene Odell has reported to meetings that HHHS' deficit of more than \$3 million was a stressor for the corporation.

In an interview, Nicholls said between December 2022 and April 20, 2023, when the closure was announced, something changed.

"What happened between the board saying no closure was possible to a permanent closure? As far as we can tell, HHHS ran out of money and staff. That's the working

theory."

While Nicholls said Nelson had not responded to the team's request to meet, the "real hope" is to begin a dialogue between her and "a group of people that have done a lot of research on the decision and on its impacts...and have a conversation in the interests of health care in the region. It's kind of twofold. There's a bit of a retrospective, but also what's to come moving forward because it's critical our County gets the health care that we need."

Nicholls said they also want to educate the public about board governance, particularly around health care planning and provision, "because the more people understand how these decisions are made, the better questions they can ask."

The spokesman added it's also about focusing on something positive and constructive coming out of the Minden ER closure.

"How do we take something like this and turn it into something positive in a way for our community to grow? I think our community has grown stronger in many ways. But I think in terms of the next phase or phases of advocacy, it's super critical to raise the community level of understanding of these issues."

Nicholls added they are keeping an eye on the performance of the consolidated Haliburton ER site and plan to add a case study to their paper in future.

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The **Highlander**

County looking to give February a little love

By Lisa Gervais

The County of Haliburton will embark upon a month-long ‘fall in love with winter’ campaign next February as it looks to expand its Hike Haliburton winter edition.

Manager of tourism, Tracie Bertrand, made the recommendation at a June 14 council meeting and received support.

Bertrand said the campaign will take place the last three weekends of February 2024.

“This will help to capitalize on the increased visitation over Valentine’s Day and the Family Day weekend,” she said. She added in addition to Hike Haliburton, it would incorporate and promote other existing events, such as the Dorset Snowball winter carnival, Abbey Gardens’ cupid carnival, and any others that are taking place.

She said staff would use those existing offerings as “anchors” to encourage stakeholders to develop other products or special promotions the tourism department would help market as part of the ‘fall in love with winter’ campaign. She is also encouraging continued cross-promotion of events and experiences.

“Data results indicate a strong interest from the public on other events and happenings or experiences taking place around Hike Haliburton,” Bertrand noted in a written report. She said they were planning to leverage the Hike Haliburton brand all-year long, update the map and evergreen content, and continue with the added value signature picnic backpack program, to encourage

people to stay overnight at accommodations in what is otherwise a very quiet time.

She said planning for the ‘fall in love with winter’ campaign will begin in October.

As for last year’s hike, Bertrand said there was a renewed interest among hike leaders in offering unique hikes, including a full-moon hike in -32C weather. There were also new hikes at Crane Lake and in the Queen Elizabeth II Wildlands provincial park.

She noted visits to the Hike Haliburton website increased 66 per cent from January 2020 to January 2023. As for attendees, about one-third came from outside of the County, including Kawartha Lakes and Peterborough, the GTA, Hastings, Barrie, Central Ontario and Guelph.

Resident Sentiment Survey

Bertrand also discussed results of a resident sediment survey (RSS), “to establish and benchmark local attitudes towards tourism growth, the visitor economy, and tourism development,” in the County for the next five years.

She said information collected through the annual process will be used to help guide her departments’ annual work plan “to ensure the opinions of residents are being considered when looking at the growth and development of tourism and the visitor economy in the County.”

She noted the RSS was in the County’s



Peter Dahl was joined by wife, Janet, on a Hike Haliburton Winter Edition tramp through the Dahl Forest last February. File.

Destination Management Plan.

In analyzing results, Bertrand said they had 592 responses, including 74 per cent permanent, and 24 per cent seasonal residents. She said an average of 8.3 out of 10 said the Highlands was a “very attractive place to visit.”

In addition:

- 68 per cent agree the County should invite more visitors throughout the year.
- 68 per cent do not rely on the visitor economy for their household income.
- 43 per cent of 18 to 44-year-olds do rely on it for one to 50 per cent of their household income.
- 66 per cent agree the visitor economy is respectful of them and their community.
- 63 per cent agree tourism increased

quality of life.

- 85 per cent agree the visitor economy supports local business;
- 65 per cent agree the visitor economy has a positive impact on the economy.
- The level of familiarity with the County’s tourism department was 4.6 out of 10.

Bertrand said there were “excellent” comments to open-ended questions, such as, “residents need to understand they are an important part of making Haliburton a destination. People make the place what it is; people make Haliburton.” Another was, “as a local business owner, I feel like all we hear is how tourism somehow damages Haliburton. I can tell you, that without tourism and seasonal residents, local businesses like ours would not survive.”



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Call for conservation reserve

By Lisa Gervais

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) held a reception at Queen's Park June 7 to introduce the Highlands Corridor project to provincial politicians and their staff.

In addition to local MPP Laurie Scott, speakers included MPP John Yakabuski, the parliamentary assistant to the minister of the environment, conservation and parks, HHLT board members, Sheila Ziman, Jennifer Dailloux, who is also deputy mayor of Algonquin Highlands, Peter Kendall, executive director of the Schad Foundation, John Harbinson, HHLT partner in conservation, leader of the Ontario NDP party, Marit Stiles, and MPP Sandy Shaw, the critic for environment, conservation and parks.

The keynote speaker was Paul Heaven, senior wildlife biologist and consultant at Glenside Ecological Services Limited.

"Paul presented several maps of the Highlands Corridor and made the case that the extensive Crown land that sits in the corridor be designated by the Province of Ontario as a conservation reserve," the Land Trust said in a press release.

Conservation reserves are a type of protected area intended to safeguard significant natural and cultural features. Conservation reserves are an important part of the protected area system in Ontario, covering 1.4 per cent of the province. There are currently 259 reserves in Ontario, including two in Haliburton County.

"Paul outlined four compelling reasons to name the Highlands Corridor as a



Paul Heaven, senior wildlife biologist and consultant at Glenside Ecological Services Limited. *Submitted.*

conservation reserve," the release said.

First and foremost is biodiversity. "Through species at risk investigations and habitat assessments, we have come to understand the Highlands Corridor is rich in biodiversity providing habitat for over 40 species at risk, 25 provincially significant species and 43 regionally rare species," the Land Trust said.

Second is flood mitigation. "The Highlands Corridor is comprised of provincially significant wetlands, rocky barrens and forests, including old growth forests such as the Catchacoma Forest. Through wetland mapping, we know the area has exceptionally high wetland representation at 17.9 per cent. For an area that has been subjected to flooding in 2013, 2016, 2017 and 2019, maintaining wetlands is a critical strategy to mitigating the impacts of flooding," The Land Trust said.

Third, the Highlands Corridor significantly helps with long-term climate change resilience, the release added.

"The forests and wetlands sequester and store vast amounts of carbon. For wildlife communities, the Highlands Corridor maintains habitat connectivity, thereby allowing populations to move when faced with climate phenomena."

Fourthly, they said the Highlands Corridor provides a significant opportunity to apply landscape conservation at a meaningful scale, with over 60,000 hectares of uncaded Crown land extending between three provincial parks.

"Through raising the level of protection of the Crown land to conservation reserve, we can ensure these natural assets are not lost," the Land Trust said.

Murder trial underway in Lindsay

By Mike Baker

A jury will decide the fate of 62-year-old Highlands East man Robert Anthony Ferguson next week.

Ferguson was charged with second degree murder in July 2019 following the death of 29-year-old Dysart resident Dylan Dahlke. A trial kicked off June 12 in a Lindsay

courtroom, with Ontario Crown prosecutor Kent Saliwonchuk seeking the mandatory sentence of life behind bars.

"A conviction for second degree murder has a mandatory life sentence, with parole eligibility set by the judge between 10 and 25 years, depending on the circumstances of the offence and the offender," Saliwonchuk told *The Highlander*.

Saliwonchuk noted evidence in the trial was completed June 16. Closing addresses by counsel will be made June 26, with jury deliberations to start June 27.

Maija Martin and Stephanie Brown of Toronto-based Martin Criminal Defence are representing Ferguson in the case. Justice Clyde Smith is presiding over the trial.

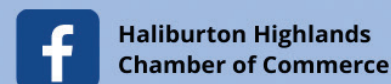


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2023 Summer Swim Program preparations are well underway at the Cardiff Pool

Lifesaving Society Swim for Life lessons are running for three, 2-week sessions July 10th, 24th and August 4th (*dates subject to change).

Registration opens mid-June! To register, fill out the application found at the Swimming and Swim Lesson page on our website.

The Cardiff Pool will also be open for public swimming in July and August. If you are interested in a pool membership, or would like to know more information visit our website at highlandseast.ca or contact the office at 705-448-2981 Ext. 426



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Deadline for submissions: October 30, 2023

WEBSITE: hhshoff.ca | E-MAIL: info@hhshoff.ca

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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AGM won't reverse ER closure

Haliburton Highlands Health Services' (HHHS') annual general meeting is coming up today (June 22) and it will be interesting to see what happens.

As of press time June 21, *The Highlander* had not received a media package. That isn't surprising. Press agendas for board meetings tend to come only shortly before the meetings. And former CAO Carolyn Plummer's report was sometimes sent immediately prior to the meeting. Not a great practise for the general public when it comes to transparency.

Many members of the public have also questioned the timing around the Minden ER closure announcement of April 20, and the deadline to apply for HHHS membership only a few days later, since HHHS requires a 60-day period for memberships prior to an AGM.

Others have complained there were no online forms.

It would appear that HHHS has attempted to reduce voices of concern about its hasty closure of the Minder ER prior to its 27th annual AGM.

However, the truth is, even with a stacked meeting of new members, they would have no impact on the ER consolidation or overturning the board.

Last year's AGM, for example, simply

included the business of the corporation, including reports of the CEO and board chair, chief of staff, auditor, HHHS Foundation, nominating committee, election of directors, and appointment of auditors.

There is expected to be a short, perhaps 20-minute question and answer period, but it will have to be on the business of the corporation.

However, with a new board of directors, and we hear there will be some new faces, we can hope the board does a better job of providing the much needed transparency that the public is crying out for.

We are hearing from sources the future will include better community outreach and broader representation.

This is something the newly-minted Minden Position Paper Multidisciplinary Team is calling for.

As outlined in a story in today's *Highlander*, they say they have conducted rigorous research into the impacts and decision-making process behind the Minden ER closure.

They are now seeking an open and transparent dialogue with HHHS. They had hoped this would occur prior to the AGM but perhaps it will happen after. We would also ask the board to reconsider its past practise of not having a County council representative.

It would be an important inclusion moving forward.

While not giving up on an ER returning to Minden Hills one day, we also welcome news from the province this week that it will fund an urgent care clinic for the town, to fill the dearth created by the loss of an ER.

Many lessons have been learned by this painful process of consolidated ERs in our County. Could the province have done - and do - better? Most certainly. Could HHHS management and the board have done a better job. Definitely. Could the County's politicians and the public have been more involved in decision-making prior to the April 20 announcement. Most assuredly. Minden has put a health care spotlight on the Doug Ford government. It is a government that throws health care dollars, and other dollars, away, on seemingly wasteful things. It is heading towards health care privatization.

Personally, I'll pay more than a buck for a beer, and am happy to pay for my vehicle registration, in exchange for better local health care. I think we all would.



By Lisa Gervais

GUEST COLUMN

Tips for ATVers to avoid fires

By Susan Hay, president of EH!

With forest fires raging across the country and smoke clouding the air, the climate crisis is being brought into sharp focus.

Air pollution, the stress of evacuation, and the loss of property, pets, livestock, birds and wildlife have been extreme in areas not so very far away. In Haliburton County, we are living in the forest, and with the drought this spring, I did some research about how wildfires get started. I read that over the years, sparks from ATVs have caused a significant number.

While wildfires can occur as a result of lightning paired with dry climates, drought, and heavy winds, the Smithsonian says human activity caused 1.2 million of 1.5 million wildfires from 1992 to 2012.

Of those, 11 per cent came from equipment use, including off-road vehicles. This is the third most common cause of wildfires, after debris burning and arson.

In 2002, at the request of Alberta Sustainable Resource Development, The Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada (FERIC) evaluated the potential for ATVs to ignite fires in certain types of wildland fuels. Researchers documented exhaust system temperatures, interviewed ATV riders about their riding habits, and inspected ATVs to identify where potentially

flammable debris could accumulate on the vehicles.

This report listed two possible processes leading to fire starts: fuels accumulating on the vehicle's exhaust system, and sparks from the muffler. The author hypothesized that accumulations of sphagnum moss and grass that contact the exhaust system of an ATV could be ignited if they were to stay in contact long enough for combustion to take place. Then, if the burning debris falls from the exhaust system to the ground surface, the potential exists for a wildfire to occur.

The study showed that all makes of ATVs tested produced temperatures from their exhaust systems high enough to ignite fires, and they all were susceptible to debris accumulations on exhaust systems.

The study also found that the majority of ATV-caused fires occur during the spring when the fuel bed consists primarily of dry cured grasses and other vegetation.

To reduce the occurrence of ATV related wildfires:

- Spark arrestors must not be removed. Sparks from the muffler are a potential cause of fire ignition. (Baxter (2002). Most new ATVs are equipped with spark arrestors and these are capable of trapping most expelled carbon particles, lowering the probability of fires caused by

carbon sparks. However, in some cases, spark arrestors are removed when work is done near the muffler and, in others, for so-called horsepower gain. Some ATV associations do warn about this, but enforcement is difficult.

- Be aware of fire bans. Burn bans exist for a reason. Climate factors, like drought and wind, can make riding through dry grass even more risky. Pay attention to current conditions and note any official warnings or restrictions. If a fire ban is in effect, consider riding only on surfaces that don't have any vegetation. Engines get hot. Avoid potential fires by parking ATVs away from vegetation. Hard-packed dirt is safest.
- Maintain your engine. Keep an eye out for leaks. Oil and transmission fluids are highly flammable. Leaking over dry grass during a drought increases risk of fire. Stop often to inspect your vehicle to make sure it isn't leaking or doesn't have debris clinging to the exhaust system.
- Travel with a fire extinguisher - a shovel can also be used to beat down flames.
- Carry a cleaning tool to remove debris from the exhaust system.
- ATV clubs should use this for education. It can be published in fishing and hunting guides and presented at ATV club meetings.

HAVE AN OPINION?

Send your letters to editor@thehighlander.ca
(300 words max)

LETTERS

What good County health care looks like

Dear editor,

The Highlander reported May 18, 2023 on the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) merger plan for the Minden and Haliburton Emergency departments. HHHS CAO Carolyn Plummer stated that “Minden will still do X-rays and bone density testing by appointment. There will be no job losses. However, bone density tests are currently only available at Ross Memorial Hospital and X-rays are only available in Haliburton. There is no radiology staffing planned for Minden.

Perhaps the lack of even these promised services is because the Minden Emergency Department (ED) has been stripped of its equipment, right down to the ‘stained glass’ decals on the triage windows (think of the house in *the Grinch who stole Christmas*, with nothing but hooks and some wire left on the walls). The Minden ED equipment is jammed into a storage room in Haliburton.

This scorched earth approach, which is so disrespectful to the people of Minden who have donated money and supported HHHS for the last 27 years, will make it difficult to open the Kawartha North Family Health Team (KNFHT) urgent care clinic on June 30 as has been announced.

The KNFHT urgent care clinic will allow the residents of Minden to receive both primary care (like going to a family doctor) and immediate same-day urgent care to address sprains, burns, cuts requiring sutures, dehydration, shortness of breath, and other health conditions. Hopefully, they could at least stabilize and coordinate services for more severe emergency ‘life or limb’ cases.

I commend the KNFHT for opening on one of the busiest weekends of the year. I can’t wait to see what positive health outcomes can be achieved once they are open, eight hours a day, seven days a week.

Imagine if the barely-used telemedicine equipment in Minden, that was bought with community donations, was added as part of the clinic equipment so patients could access specialty care. Then add a paramedic station during non-clinic hours, with an overnight emergency nurse. Then we would have a pretty robust model of health care in our County, until staffing improves, and we can re-open the Minden ED as well.

Dr. Diane Duff RN PhD
Minden

Considering moving without ER

Dear editor,

For what it is worth, my two cents; I have severe food allergies and go into anaphylaxis with even the smallest amount of ingestion of food that I am allergic to.

For anyone not aware, look into how quickly food allergies can go from ingestion to death. It’s tremendously sobering. The Minden ER has saved my life twice over the years I’ve been visiting Minden. I chose to build my cottage close to Minden for this very reason.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Debbie Irvine said she made sure to nudge this large Snapper turtle safely off the shoulder of the road near Head Lake recently.

With our population continually expanding and similarly the number of people affected by food allergies, it seems a gross step backwards to be closing ER departments.

The thought of a child dying in their parents’ arms because the hospital is too far away scares me.

The thought of an elderly parent dying beside their child because it took too long to get to the hospital scares me.

The thought of anyone dying needlessly scares me.

It seems we are not progressing as a society, but instead moving backwards.

Since the Minden ER closing, I have been seriously considering selling and moving closer to Haliburton or another area with a local ER department. I’m sure many others have been considering the same.

Michael Marsland
Minden Hills

Reducing voices of concern

Dear editor,

On April 20, Carolyn Plummer, CEO, and David O’Brien, chair of the board of directors, announced that Haliburton Highlands Health Services would close the Minden Emergency Department permanently.

The annual general meeting of the corporation was set for June 22. According to HHHS bylaws, “for a member to be eligible to vote at meetings of the corporation,

including annual general meetings, new members must meet the member eligibility requirements, be admitted as members by the board of HHHS and have paid in full the membership fee 60 days before the date of the meeting”.

This means that only people who applied for membership within two days of the announcement and paid their \$10 fee could become voting members for the 2023 annual meeting.

However, there was no application form available online. Michel Henry, Plummer’s executive assistant was notified of this, and on April 27 she posted an online application which I printed, completed and dropped off at HHHS in Haliburton.

I have been expecting an AGM agenda package to arrive this week in advance of the AGM, but instead, on Thursday, June 15, I received an email at 6:17 p.m. from Veronica Nelson noting I needed to re-complete and return a new application form prior to “12 p.m., Monday, June 15, 2023...as the signature line was missing.”

Fortunately, the form had the correct date as noon, Monday, June 19, not noon, Thursday, June 15, which would have been six hours before the note was sent. I have both scanned and dropped off the form, just to be sure it was received. Re-doing the form required me checking my emails on Thursday evening, having the technology to scan/transportation to drop the form off in Haliburton, and an hour of time to waste.

Whether it is an intentional strategy by HHHS, or simply continued incompetence by the office of the CEO/president, the net result

is the same: to reduce voices of concern about the hasty closure of the Minden Emergency Department at the 27th AGM.

Tatra Palfery
Minden Hills

Fire bans and fireworks

Dear editor,

In the June 15 *Highlander*, I read the letter hoping County retailers would post signs around displays of fireworks that a fire ban was in place - along with fireworks restrictions – and dates.

If there’s a ban in place during a time when fireworks are allowed doesn’t mean they are allowed the next weekend if the ban is lifted.

Let me add to that - could our radio stations announce more often that the ban is still in place and would be in place until officially listed. A little rain does not mean the ban is automatically lifted. I’m tired of hearing “we had some rain.”

Visitors coming to the area may not see the signs, but there’s a chance they have a radio playing.

There are alternatives to fireworks - light shows do not harm the environment.

Phyllis McCulloch
Haliburton/Richmond Hill

Gomes baking the world a better place

By Mike Baker

A member of Haliburton ‘royalty’, Diana Gomes is back in business after opening a new bakery on the ground floor of Stedmans Mall.

It’s been an emotional couple of months for Gomes, who opened The Portuguese Princess Bakery April 24. Opening the business with her son, Travis Carroll, Gomes told *The Highlander* this was the culmination of three decades of hard work, determination, and big dreams.

“It’s been a long journey getting here, but I wouldn’t change it for the world,” said Gomes, a former nurse and one-time owner of the Head Lake Grill, which closed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“When a door gets closed, another window of opportunity opens. This is my amazing, wonderful opportunity.”

Baking is in Gomes’ blood, a passion since she was a young child when she used to watch her father, Francisco, in the kitchen of his family restaurant in the city.

“I come from a long line of cooks and chefs who made food for kings and queens in Portugal. I’m a first generation Canadian, but the Portuguese heritage was instilled in me very deeply,” Gomes said. “I learned a lot of these skills from my dad. I watched him make so many things from so little. It was like he was an artist... he’s definitely the inspiration behind all of this.”

Gomes has breathed new life into the unit located underneath Glecoff’s Family Store. The open concept space features an industrial fridge, prep area, and commercial baking oven. Customer facing, there’s a cooling counter that features a generous array of confectionery – Portuguese inspired puff



Diana Gomes takes a batch of buns out of the oven at Portuguese Princess Bakery. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

pastries like pasteis de nata and pasteis de tentugal, and other favourites such as coconut tarts, lemon meringue, and chocolate puffs.

There are warm treats too – sausage rolls, mini quiches, pastries infused with beef and cheddar, or salmon.

“There’s almost always something new for customers to try. I really enjoy looking at a bunch of ingredients and making something out of nothing,” Gomes said. “The feedback has been amazing so far. I’ve loved getting to know so many new people, and seeing repeat customers come through the door. I always do whatever I can to make sure they leave with a smile on their face.”

A key feature for Gomes is the pricing. She said all items are available for between \$2 and \$10. She’s keen to ensure nobody is priced out of visiting her bakery.

“I’m doing what I can to try and fill a gap in this town and be here for the community. The first step in doing that is making sure anyone can afford to come in and buy something,” she said.

Gomes said she hopes the space will become a gathering spot for locals, particularly once she’s set up tables and chairs for dining in. That should help bring more eyes to what she’s calling her artist corner – featuring works from various local

makers. Featured now is photographer June Krisko and Tracy Schell of Native Soul Creations.

The bakery is open Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., though Gomes noted the hours will change after the busy summer season. For now, she’s just going to enjoy the ride.

“This is a dream come true for me. My heart and my soul are in this place. Food is my love language. I do this for the smiles and for the connections,” Gomes said. “I’m really excited about what this place can be for the people of this community.”



Porsche and Nomi partner on EV charging station

Nomi Resort in Highlands East has partnered with Porsche Cars Canada Ltd. and Porsche Centre Oakville to offer a new destination electric vehicle charging station. The event was celebrated this past Saturday, June 17 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on-site as part of an afternoon and evening of events. Nomi chief executive officer and developer, Elise Blouin, said the agreement between Porsche and Nomi offers complementary charging for guests with electric or e-hybrid Porsche models. “The destination charging program is a campaign that helps connect Porsche drivers with charging stations at high-end hospitality spots,” Blouin said. On hand were Matthew Greco, Porsche pro brand ambassador and Erin Mitchell, Porsche photographer and videographer. The guests enjoyed hors d’oeuvres and beverages and checked in prior to the 2:30 p.m. ribbon-cutting. That was followed by a resort tour, and visit to the 8FIFTY Lounge for drinks and socializing before dinner. Nomi Resort is at 4727 Elephant Lake Rd., Harcourt.

Above: The Porsches were lined up at the Harcourt site. Right: The new Porsche charging station at Nomi Resort. *Photos by Jaxon Gill.*



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Bennington 22 SXSR

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\$310 biweekly*



Alumacraft 175 FSX

Yamaha VF150, full stand up fishing top, ski bar, hydraulic steering, ladder, travel cover, Helix 7 Graph, trolling motor, console cushions and trailer

\$268 biweekly*



Bennington 20 SXLG

Yamaha VF90 SHO, Speedo, S/S docking lights, ski bar

\$220 biweekly*



Alumacraft Escape 165 SC

Yamaha F50, trailer, cover, extra seat

\$128 biweekly*



Bennington 20 Stern Fish

Yamaha VF90, mooring cover, 10' Bimini top, fish finder, Livewell, 2 stern fishing seats, ski bar

\$217 biweekly*



Monterey M22

Mercruiser 250 hp with Bravo 3 drive, twin props, wakeboard tower, Bimini Top, tonneau and bow cover, snap in woven flooring, dual buckets, GPS Chartplotter

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Tran LaRue, owner of Minden Subaru at the work site. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

Minden Subaru steering into future

By Mike Baker

Tran LaRue is building for the next generation at Minden Subaru. Work on a new 6,200 sq. ft. service centre at the dealership, located on Hwy. 35, got underway late last month. It will see the facility grow to 12 service bays, from five, and expand its offerings for electric vehicle (EV) owners. LaRue told *The Highlander* the \$2 million redevelopment will include the purchase and installation of a specialty hoist, used to lift EV batteries, reinforced tables to store and work on the batteries, and three-stage hydro technology to properly charge and service them. “We’re really excited about this project. That portion of the dealership was built in the 1960s – there have been some additions in the past, but we’ve run out of space there,” LaRue said. “What this does is set us up well

for the future. It’s going to be a state-of-the-art build. We’ll have plenty of new space to grow into.” He said there’s been an increased demand for vehicle servicing in recent years, with business tripling since the onset of the pandemic. That’s not necessarily a surprise for LaRue, who said “you can definitely tell” there’s more people residing in, and visiting, the Highlands. Per the 2021 Census, the County’s population increased 14 per cent between December 2016 and January 2021. The focus on EVs, he said, will help Minden Subaru stay ahead of the curve. “The landscape has changed over the past few years. There’s a real push on EVs now. We want to make sure we’re compatible with that and providing services that all customers can access,” he said. “We’re still in the infancy of electrification, but we’ve seen in the past with other innovations – the changes will come around quickly.” The new space will be more energy efficient too, LaRue notes. Instead of five garage doors, the service centre will feature one access point each at the front and rear of the building, as well as new heating and air conditioning systems. LaRue is estimating an eight-month build, pegging completion for early 2024. While he didn’t plan it this way, the project coincides with LaRue’s 10-year anniversary as owner of the local dealership. “The time has flown by. It’s really quite a nice milestone. Our family has poured everything into this place over the past decade,” LaRue said, noting his wife, Tammy, son Chad, daughter Breana, and son-in-law Trevor, all work at the dealership. “I’m making plans for my kids to take this over one day, and hopefully their kids after them. “I’m fourth generation in Haliburton County. My grandparents came here in the

early 1900s and settled on South Lake in Minden. My grandfather, AJ, was a serial entrepreneur. I’d like to keep that spirit, that tradition of business alive in our family. That’s a big reason for us doing this project – building for the future.” LaRue said the rebuild will create jobs, not just for contractors but for locals looking to break into the automotive industry. “We will be looking for good quality technicians, but this also opens doors for students. We have a strong relationship with the high school – we see this as an opportunity to bring young workers in and expose them to a high-quality operation in a top notch space. That’s one of the most exciting things about this whole thing for me.” For more information on Minden Subaru, visit minden-subaru.ca.



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New business passionate about guiding

By Lisa Gervais

Allan Bickle says the “panhandle” of Algonquin Provincial Park, near his property in Harcourt, has been “like his backyard” for the past 15 years.

“I know it very well,” he says, while discussing his new business venture, Algonquin Yeti Paddling (AYP) South – Algonquin Park.

A self-proclaimed fan of the outdoors, Bickle started discovering the panhandle with his son when his sister bought a cottage in the area at the base of the park. Four years ago, he purchased 15 acres and started building his dream of a canoe guiding business.

“AYP has been in the works for a number of years, COVID hit, I had a fire in the shop which delayed my plans for two years,” he said.

However, his website is now up and running. Doors are open with a street presence, displaying his signs, paddle shack and rental canoes.

“So, it's time to get some exposure and make it real,” he added.

AYP is just 12 kilometres from Algonquin Park's South Gate. Bickle said AYP has 11 canoes. He added they are all 16 ft. and one 17-footer that a third seat can be added to. All canoes are Souris River which are ultralight Kevlar. They are as light as 39 lbs for portaging. AYP also offers canoe shuttles/drop-offs, outfitting and gear rentals.

However, the thing Bickle is most passionate about is guiding. He is offering guided group canoe trips; guided interior camping trips and organized local hikes and paddles. He is also getting into camping sites for those arriving late, and guided snowshoeing in winter.

“It's the guiding side that I'm more interested in ... taking people into the bush.” He wants people to leave the packing and food prep to him.

He is ORCKA certificated, as a canoe trip leader, with wilderness advanced First Aid training, and more than 30 years of tripping, camping/outdoor experience.

This past winter, he did a one-week winter wilderness survival course with Lure of the North near Espanola.

“I want to take people out and let them enjoy the outdoors and teach them confidence skills, such as being bear wise, water safety, how to stabilize your canoe, proper paddling and bushcraft,” he said.

Being part of the local community is important to Bickle as well. He encouraged people to visit him at this year's Wilberforce Fair to learn more about AYP and to get to know him.

Contact: Algonquin Yeti Paddling via 4025 Loop Rd., Harcourt, allan.bickle33@gmail.com 905-706-3978 or aypinfo.ca

Allan Bickle at Algonquin Yeti Paddling. Submitted.



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BACKWOODSMEN LIVE!

Telling the stories and singing the folk songs of rural Ontario

The quartet focuses on folk songs documented throughout rural Ontario in the 1950s by song-collector/scholar Edith Fowke.

Outdoors in the Village at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre
Saturday, June 24 at 2 pm | Admission by donation



Rob Niezen will also be at the Gallery from 10 am - 12 pm demonstrating the linocut technique used in his exhibit Cross Cut, on display until July 1.

CROSS CUT

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Huskies looking to add billets to the pack

By Mike Baker

With plans for another year of Jr. A hockey in the Highlands well underway, Haliburton County Huskies coach Ryan Ramsay said the team is looking for billet families who can house players for the upcoming season.

“We need several households to join the fold. If there are families willing to take multiple players, that would help – we need housing for 12 players,” Ramsay told *The Highlander*. “We have guys reporting here in early August, so that gives us two months to get things in place.”

For the past two seasons, the team has had around a dozen billets on its roster. Some have doubled up, taking at least two players, Ramsay said. To make the numbers work, older players have been put up in the ‘hockey house’ located in Haliburton, with the Huskies and players’ families taking care of the costs.

Billet families will receive a monthly stipend of \$550 per player – up from \$500 last year – and two complimentary season tickets at centre ice. Ramsay said hosts will also receive two ‘butcher boxes’ packed full of meat, provided by Haliburton Foodland, during the season.

It’s an approximate eight month commitment, with the family expected to provide players with a private bedroom and daily meals. Players will be responsible for their own transportation to and from the rink.

Ramsay said inviting a teenage hockey player into your home may seem daunting

but can have many benefits.

“Players and their billets often make connections that can last a lifetime. I played five years in the OHL and lived with some awesome families – all of them were at my wedding. Most of them are friends that I still talk to today,”



he said. “For families with children, welcoming a player into your home provides a great opportunity for mentorship. The player will be a role model your kids can look up to.”

The Huskies coach said for many players this will be their first time away from home, so it’s important to find a good fit.

“It’s all about helping a kid who has probably worked since they were three years old to make it to the NHL. It’s about helping them as they chase their dream,” he said.

“Away from the rink is just as important as at the rink. If the players are resting and comfortable in a good environment, it allows them to play better and succeed on the ice.”

Jess Jackson has managed the Huskies billet program for the past two seasons. In a previous interview with *The Highlander*, she said anyone could be considered for the role.

“There’s no perfect fit, no ideal scenario as to who can be a billet family.

Anybody from a single working professional, to a family with children, to a retired senior can take a player in,” Jackson said.

Ramsay noted players typically return home at least once a month and are gone for two weeks over the

Christmas holidays, while the OJHL is on break.

Anyone interested in becoming a billet can contact Jackson at huskieshousing@hotmail.com.

Roster shaping up

Five familiar faces will return to Haliburton County for another season, with Ramsay confirming Patrick Saini, Lucas Stevenson, Jack Staniland, Lucas Marshall and Zack Morissette will all be back.

Three young players – 17-year-old forward Noah Lodoen, and 18-year-old blueliners Lucas Vacca and Hunter Martell – have signed with the Huskies for the 2023/24 season.

“We’re losing 16 guys from our roster last season, so that’s a big turnover. We want to be competitive again and will be icing a quality team,” Ramsay said, noting his goal is to make the playoffs for the third straight season.

There will be a key change behind the scenes this coming season. Assistant general manager and director of player relations, Brian MacKenzie, has left the team to take up a coaching role with a prep school in Toronto. Replacing him is Kevin Bloch, a longtime coach and scout who recently worked with the Oshawa Generals of the Ontario Hockey League.

Huskies coach Ryan Ramsay.
Photo by Amy Deroche/OJHL Images.

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Chaulk Talk: The Perfect Countertop

Kitchen countertops are an essential part of any kitchen, providing a functional workspace for all types of activities and are often the showpiece that sets the stage for your decor.

There are many different materials to choose from when selecting the right countertop for your kitchen, including stone options such as quartz, granite, and laminate. Each material offers unique benefits and drawbacks that should be considered when making your decision.

You'll want to consider all the functions that you normally perform in your kitchen and which counter would best accommodate. Think of factors such as heat tolerance, stain and scratch resistance.

Quartz is extremely popular but will also stand the test of time. Quartz countertops are also a very eco-friendly choice. Minimum 90% of the base material that forms quartz are waste byproducts of other quarrying or manufacturing processes. Quartz is also quite durable and it's possible to buff out light scratches and fill deeper scratches, should they occur. However, it's always best to use a cutting board to prevent any damage to your countertop, regardless of the material.

Another option for your counters is granite. Granite is a natural stone and the most heat resistant of countertop choices. Granite countertops are considered a low maintenance surface and the likelihood of needing to be repaired or resurfaced is low. There are also lifetime sealers available in today's market.

Introduced in mid-century homes, laminate countertops have stood the test of time when it comes to décor and function. They are the least expensive option and there are so many affordable choices that look incredible. Laminate counters are also stain-resistant and easy to clean just with simple soap and water.

With careful consideration of the pros and cons of each material, you will be able to choose the perfect countertop for your kitchen. Contact Chaulk to help you decide which is best for your needs!

Be sure to check out next week's edition of Chaulk Talk – our final in this series – we'll be sharing care & maintenance tips for kitchen cabinets & counters.

I hope to hear from you,

-Trevor



Evan Backus was named Rising Male Red Hawk after qualifying for OFSAA in three different sports. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

Hal High celebrates its soaring Hawks

By Mike Baker

Standing on stage at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion June 14, Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) teacher Janice Scheffee was drowned out by a chorus of cheers after saying “finally, we’re back” prior to the school’s 43rd annual athletic awards ceremony.

“This is an extra special celebration for us as it’s the first time in four years we’ve been able to get together and honour our Red Hawk athletes. It’s hard to believe, but this is the first time any of our wonderful athletes have attended an end-of-year ceremony,” Scheffee said. “I want to congratulate everyone here today for showing resiliency and commitment to sport. I know it hasn’t been easy.”

HHSS fielded 16 teams during the 2022-2023 school year, winning Kawartha championships, COSSA titles and seeing cross country runners, Nordic skiers, wrestlers, badminton players and track and field athletes blaze their way through provincial competition at OFSAA.

The cross-country team, coached by Karen Gervais, had a successful season with three

athletes, Evan Backus, Violet Humphries and Erika Hoare, running and placing well at COSSA.

“We had a small but mighty team,” Gervais said.

Coach Mike Rieger said Nordic skiing returned in a big way this year, with four female athletes testing themselves against some of Ontario’s best up and coming talent at OFSAA. Olivia Humphries finished sixth in the senior girls’ division, with Violet Humphries posting a team-best eighth place finish in the junior event. Erika Hoare and Ella Gervais also placed in the top 15 skiers on the younger circuit.

The junior girls relay team, of Humphries, Hoare, Gervais, and Olivia Gruppe narrowly missed out on a podium finish at provincials, finishing fourth.

Paul Longo said the future is bright for HHSS’ basketball program, with the junior team securing a Kawartha West championship – beating out rival IE Weldon in the final.

Wrestling coach Paul Klose said “it takes a special athlete” to don the singlet, presenting individual awards to the 10-plus member

Continued on page 17



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Left: Ivan Zagorsky and Emmerson Wilson were named 2023 male and female athletes of the year. Right: Teachers Paul Longo and Bob Schmidt were recognized for their years of coaching. Photos by Mike Baker.

Continued from previous page

strong team. Levi Samson was the top performer, placing in the top 12 at OFSAA.

It was a big year for badminton, according to coaches Jason Morissette and Mike Gaffney. At the junior level, Lily Casey and Lara Gallant won gold at the Kawartha championships, qualifying them for COSSA as the top seed. “We haven’t seen something like that in a long time,” Morissette said.

At the senior level, Avery Horner and Emmerson Wilson competed at OFSAA in ladies’ doubles after winning silver at COSSA.

It was a record-setting year for track and field, with four school records broken. Violet Humphries set a new HHSS best in the girls’ 800 metre run, shattering a record that had stood since 1996. Erika Hoare posted a new record time in the 2,000 metre steeplechase, finishing 7th at OFSAA in the process. Evan Backus broke two records – in novice boys long jump, setting a new mark of 5.77 metres, and in the 300 metre hurdles, finishing with a new personal best of 42.01 to win silver at provincials.

Coach Gervais reserved special credit for Graham Backus, who finished a triple crown champion at the Kawartha championships, winning three events. Liah Gallant won gold at Kawartha for the 100 metre sprint, with Jordana Jennings placing first in long jump. In total, 16 of 23 competing athletes qualified for OFSAA this year.

Major awards

Grade 12 student Ivan Zagorsky was named senior male athlete of the year, after excelling in basketball, soccer, and badminton, while Emmerson Wilson took female top honours having competed in rugby, soccer, badminton, and volleyball this year.

“Sir Isaac Newton said ‘if I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants’. Ivan was that giant that allowed his teammates to reach their potential,” said Rob Gervais, who coached Zagorsky in soccer. “He has shown time and time again that he’s not just a great athlete, but also a great leader and role model.”

Volleyball coach Dan Gimón said Wilson is “a tenacious competitor through and through” and was well deserving of her award.

Speaking to *The Highlander* following last week’s ceremony, Wilson said she was honoured to be named female athlete of the year.

“It feels amazing. It’s validation for all the hard work and extra time I put in, just doing my best,” Wilson said. “My biggest takeaway is if you want something bad enough, put in



the work and keep pushing through. Persistence does pay off.”

Evan Backus and Erika Hoare each received the rising Red Hawk award, recognizing the efforts of junior athletes in Grades 9 and 10. Major awards, honouring students with continued success in sports over several years, were dished out to Riley Boersman, Abby Dykstra, Stephen Howe, Rio O’Malley, Matthew Wilson, and Noa Yates. Awards of excellence were issued to Zagorsky, Wilson, Liah Gallant, Avery Horner, and Sophie Longo.

Paul Longo and Bob Schmidt were recognized for their combined 53 years of coaching at HHSS with 2023 impact awards.

“A lot of our staff go above and beyond to support the Red Hawk athletic program... these two individuals have spent hundreds of hours in the gym with our students. They have inspired countless athletes to excel in their respective sports. Hal high is fortunate to have them not only as coaches, but as leaders, mentors, and role models for our youth,” said Scheffee.



Above: Wrestling coach Paul Klose honours his group of “special athletes.” Photo by Mike Baker.



County of Haliburton Notice
County Council Summer Meeting Schedule

By resolution of Council there will be only one regularly scheduled Council meeting during the months of July and August. Committee of the Whole meetings have been cancelled. County Council will meet as scheduled on July 26 and August 16, 2023. For more information, please refer to the County’s CivicWeb portal: <https://haliburton.civicweb.net/Portal>

If a special meeting is required, notice will be posted on the County’s social media channels.

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Honouring Legion's rich Wilberforce history

By Mike Baker

The Douglas C. Hatch Legion Branch 624 in Wilberforce is marking its 50th anniversary in style this weekend, with a three-day celebration June 23 to 25 featuring live music, games, food, and prizes.

Hilary Klapow, a member for 32 years, took the lead in organizing the festivities, which she said will honour the Legion's rich history in the community.

"The Legion here means so much to so many people. It's been a hugely important part of my life," she told *The Highlander*. "Fifty years is a tremendous milestone. When I think back to all the celebrations, all the fundraisers – people have poured huge amounts of their lives into this place. It's important, I think, to honour that."

Hilary's husband, Robert, is one of the longest tenured members at more than 40 years. His dad, Walter, was one of the founding members of the branch when it was chartered in April 1973. The elder Klapow served in the Navy during the Second World War. Stationed in Halifax, Nova Scotia, he worked on boats about to leave for Europe, and those just coming back.

During the early years, members met at the Wilberforce fire hall monthly, with dances and other fundraising events at the Harcourt Hall. The current location, which served as a laundromat and snack bar, was bought and renovated in 1975.

Over the next decade, members raised money for a new drilled well, a lounge complete with console television and satellite, new floor and wall tiles in the washrooms, installation of outdoor lights, extended parking lot, and a new pool table for the bingo room. By 1986, the mortgage had been fully paid, with locals fundraising for a new cenotaph, which was erected outside the Lloyd Watson Centre.

One of the most generous donors during this time was Douglas C. Hatch, whose contributions were recognized by having the local Legion adopt his name. The name change was made official in May 1988.

Hilary said the Legion was in its pomp during the late 80s and early 90s, hosting regular socials during the week and special events on weekends.

"I can remember Halloween parties, murder mysteries, Canada Day celebrations. The Legion was the central hub of the community," she said.

Klapow is hoping to recreate that spirit this weekend. The celebration begins Friday at 2 p.m. with free pool. Legion-themed posters designed by students from Cardiff and Wilberforce elementary schools will be on display, while chicken wings, nachos and cake will be served between 4 and 8 p.m. Evening entertainment will be provided by Phil O'Reilly.

Local band Half Tuned will perform Saturday from noon to 6 p.m., with a BBQ, games and various prize draws commencing at 1 p.m. MP Jamie Schmale, MPP Laurie Scott and Highlands East mayor Dave Burton will be on hand for poster judging and cake cutting.

Complimentary pancake and sausage breakfast, prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary, will be served Sunday between 9 and 11 a.m.



More stories

Janice Sorensen has been a Legion member for 37 years. Originally signing up in Brampton, she switched allegiances to the Wilberforce branch in 1988 after relocating north. Recently voted in as the branch's new president, Sorensen said her ties to the Legion organization run deep.

"My grandfather, Jesse Day, served in the First World War. He had a tank posting and lost both his arms. Growing up, I remember he had a hook on his arm and used to mess around with us kids. It was only once I got older that I realized the sacrifices he'd made," Sorensen said. "My dad, James Day, served and my husband, John, also served... I've had a lot of fun as a member of the Legion, but it's about respect too."

Past president John Glassey has been a member for around 15 years. He had a couple of close friends who served and did time overseas, joining as a way of commemorating them. He said the Wilberforce branch has around 150 members, though many of them are seasonal residents.

There's a tight-knit group who still gather for darts on Wednesdays and meat draws on the weekend, which Glassey also tries to attend.

"It's like another family here," Glassey said.

Theresa and Parry Hiuser were regular attendees when they lived in Wilberforce several years ago. Parry is a retired master corporal, having served in the armed forces, and attended the Legion regularly after being honourably discharged following a tour of Afghanistan in the 2000s.

"We were welcomed like family right from day one. Parry was very broken mentally and physically from his tour, the people in Wilberforce truly embraced us. They look after their own," said Theresa. "When Parry had a brain bleed and stroke, and was



Top: The Wilberforce Legion is hosting a 50th anniversary celebration June 23 to 25. Inset: Hilary Klapow pictured beside student submissions for the Legion's 50th anniversary poster contest. Photos by Mike Baker.

transferred to the Peterborough hospital, members took turns visiting him and making meals for our family. The support was overwhelming. It's a little Legion with a huge heart."

Sorensen said there's been a concerted effort in recent months to attract new members, who she hopes can take the Legion forward into the next generation.

Victor Townsend is one of those new wave members. The 26-year-old jumped at the chance to join the executive last year after "practically growing up" at the local Legion.

"I can remember back to when I was so small I could crawl under the old deck and wait for people to drop loonies and toonies – I used to think I'd won the jackpot," Townsend said. "I was at the Legion every weekend. It was like a second home to me."

"I'm at the point now where I realize if we younger folk don't get more involved and

bolster the numbers, the Legion probably isn't going to be around much longer. My memories here go back forever, so I want to keep the good times rolling," he said.

Townsend recently installed a new 12-pit horseshoe set up behind the building and hopes to launch a league this summer. He's also planning to bring back the fishing derbies he remembers participating in when he was a kid.

For him, it's all about continuing the legacy that his parent's generation, and those who came before, established.

"I have everything I have in life today because of the people who fought and died for me back in the wars. I appreciate that every single day," Townsend said. "Doing my bit here and paying my respects is the least I can do to make sure people remember all the sacrifices. We wouldn't be where we are today without them."

Revisiting importance of volunteering

By Jaxon Gill

Following the resumption of regular activities post-pandemic, numerous local businesses and organizations in Haliburton County are seeking to replenish their volunteer bases.

The Haliburton Legion was the venue for a volunteer engagement fair June 16, with approximately 30 organizations on hand to promote their business and operations. The event was organized by the Haliburton Highlands Volunteerism Coalition.

The Haliburton County Heat Bank, Haliburton Highlands OPP, Canadian Red Cross, and Places for People (P4P) were among the many in attendance. Service clubs such as Haliburton Rotary, the Haliburton Lions Club and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton were also there.

Fay Martin, vice president of Places for People, said events such as this are vital to remind the community about the importance of volunteering. Martin said the non-profit, which seeks to provide affordable housing options to area residents, has seen a 25 per cent increase in demand for housing after the pandemic. Ramping up its efforts requires additional peoplepower, she added.

Planning is underway for this year's Highland Yard, taking place in Minden

Aug. 6. Martin noted the fundraiser is celebrating its 50th anniversary, with 90 per cent of funds raised helping P4P maintain affordable rents for its 15 tenants and exploring opportunities to increase its portfolio of properties. Rotaract Haliburton Highlands is taking over organizing Highland Yard this year, Martin noted, with volunteers needed. Since 2012, the event has raised more than \$140,000 in support of P4P.

Tina Jackson, executive director of the Haliburton County Heat Bank, said they had several volunteer opportunities available. The organization had representatives accepting applications and conducting on-the-spot interviews with anyone interested.

During its 2021-2022 fiscal year, the Heat Bank assisted 266 households by offering, and delivering, free firewood, while completing complementary income tax returns for 45 people.

Volunteers have the opportunity to "make a difference in their community for the people who really need it," Jackson said.

Fay Martin and Susan Tromanhauser, both of Places for People, at a volunteer engagement fair in Haliburton June 16. *Photo by Jaxon Gill.*



Township of Minden Hills

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7:30 am: Kid's Fishing Derby registration open on Water St.
8:00 am: Kid's Fishing Derby begins on Water St.
10:00 am-2:00 pm: Vendor and Exhibitors open
10:15 am: Opening Ceremonies. Royal Canadian Legion Colour Party Parade, Mayor's opening remarks at Main stage
11:00 am: Kid's Fishing Derby final weigh-in on Water St.
11:00 am: St. Paul's Anglican Church Fashion Show
1:00-2:00 pm: **NEW!** Rob Power Master Magician strolling performance
1:30 pm: Rubber Ducky Race begins. Hosted by the Minden Lioness at the Town Dock on Water St.

CULTURAL CENTRE

10:00 am-4:00 pm: Museum, Village, Nature's Place and Gallery open for tours and hands-on activities
10:00 am- 2:00 pm: Air Bounce Inflatables and games
11:00 am-12:00 pm: **NEW!** Rob Power Master Magician show
12:00-1:00 pm: **FREE** ice cream sponsored by Kawartha Dairy, while supplies last!

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- Glitter tattoos & balloon animals
- The Minden Hills Fire Department
- Minden Pride
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Lions Club - Burgers/Sausages



Making the old new again

SIRCH's Repair Café at the Haliburton Legion June 17 allowed community members to bring in pre-loved, broken or worn out items to be fixed. Volunteers worked on a range of things, including jewellery, wood and furniture, clothing, computers, and appliances. Visitors could also volunteer and learn about the repair process. The event was free, with complimentary coffee and tea. For those interested in volunteering at future Repair Cafés, more information can be found at sirch.on.ca.

Top: SIRCH volunteer Kelly Outram fixing microwave. Above: SIRCH volunteer Michael Woods with a fixed chair. *Photos by Jaxon Gill.*

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Master Gardener seminar ‘for the birds’

By Jaxon Gill

Highlands bird enthusiasts were given a few pointers on how to attract different species to their gardens at a special event in Haliburton last week.

The Haliburton County Historical Society hosted a presentation from Haliburton County Master Gardener, Pauline Plooard, at the Haliburton Highlands Museum June 15 at 1:30 p.m.

Plooard dished out many useful tips and directions on how to make your properties more attractive to birds. Discussing different techniques, Plooard said keeping things simple, and natural, is the best way.

“Birds have evolved with our native plants, that’s what they’ve been raised on and it’s what they expect,” she said.

She gave many other pointers during the presentation, such as what to do with your bird feeders. She suggests having them placed by a window so you can get a nice view. She also recommended trying to place them near some shrubs.

Plooard also talked about the benefits of installing a bird bath, suggesting people should keep them low to the ground and have shallow water in the bath so the birds can bathe properly.

More useful tips can be found on the app Merlin Bird, which Plooard said is a “great resource” for bird lovers seeking identification of species via sight or sound. The software can be downloaded via the app store on your smartphone.

The Master Gardeners provides consultations for residents looking for assistance with their gardens, Plooard noted. For more information, visit haliburtonmastergardener.ca.

Haliburton County Master Gardener Pauline Plooard at the Haliburton Highlands Museum. *Photo by Jaxon Gill.*



HHHS Brings Together Emergency Services at Haliburton Site

Emergency services are no longer available at the HHHS Minden site.

This change came into effect on June 1, 2023, as a result of severe and on-going staffing shortages.

If you are in need of serious medical attention, always CALL 911.

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

this week

JUNE 22 - JUNE 28

Thursday

Dominion Hotel, Gord Kidd 4-6 p.m.

Boshkung Social, Cam Galloway 6-9 p.m.

Friday

Dominion Hotel, J Exs 3-6 p.m.

Boshkung Social, Family Feud Night 7 p.m.

Saturday

Dominion Hotel, Jeff Moulton 3-6 p.m.

The Music Room, Sule 7:30 p.m. \$32

Boshkung Smokehouse, Mike Rae 5-8 p.m.

Sunday

Dominion Hotel, Gord Kidd & Friends 3-6 p.m.

Tuesday

Dominion Hotel, Gord Kidd & Friends 5-8 p.m.

Music in the Park, The Ya Babys! 6:30 p.m.

Boshkung Social, Canoe FM Radio
Bingo 6 p.m.

Haliburton Highlands Brewing, Canoe FM
Radio Bingo 6 p.m.

Wednesday

Bonnieview Inn, Cam Galloway
5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Boshkung Social, Trivia Night 6 p.m.

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SATURDAY OPEN: 11AM - 9PM	SATURDAY OPEN: 8AM - 8PM LIVE MUSIC: 6PM - 8PM MIKE RAE
SUNDAY OPEN: 11AM - 6PM SUPREME CEASAR SUNDAY	SUNDAY OPEN: 8AM - 6PM PRIME RIB SUNDAY
MONDAY OPEN: 11AM - 6PM	MONDAY OPEN: 12PM - 6PM
TUESDAY OPEN: 11AM - 8PM CANOE FM BINGO: 6PM - 7PM	TUESDAY CLOSED
WEDNESDAY OPEN: 11AM - 9PM EUCHRE: 5:30PM - 10PM	WEDNESDAY OPEN: 11AM - 7PM



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday, June 28, 2023
4:30 p.m.

SIRCH will be hosting its AGM at the SIRCH Bistro & Bakery, 49 Maple Avenue, Haliburton. The meeting agenda will include the Auditor's Report, Election of Directors, Appointment of Auditor.

Members of the public are invited to attend.
Please contact us for more information.

Linda Kay, Administration Manager
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PHOTO OF THE WEEK
Send your photos of Haliburton County to editor@thehighlander.ca



Backwoodsmen are headed to Minden Hills June 24. Left to right: Rob Cory, Alan Kirby, John Bird and Rob Niezen. Submitted.

Sharing rural folk culture

By Lisa Gervais

Peterborough-based band, Backwoodsmen, will bring some of Ontario's rural folk song culture to the Minden Hills cultural centre June 24.

Minden Hills manager of cultural services, Shannon Kelly, said the 2 p.m. performance is accompanying the exhibit, Cross Cut, by Rob Niezen, currently on display at the Agnes Jamieson Gallery.

Niezen is part of the musical quartet that also includes historian and musician, Dr. Allan Kirby, and musicians John Bird and Rob Cory.

Kelly said, "Ontario's rural folk song culture is revealed in words and music by traditional music group Backwoodsmen, performing live outdoors in the Heritage Village."

She added the province has one of North America's richest folk-song traditions, saying that between 1929 and 1960, internationally-recognized scholars have documented more than 3,000 orally-transmitted folk songs.

In 1958, the cultural services manager said Folkways Records of New York City released the first of 10 vinyl recordings featuring Ontario singers and musicians.

"This little-known piece of Ontario history is presented by Backwoodsmen," she said. "The quartet focuses on folk songs documented throughout rural Ontario in the 1950s by song-collector and scholar Edith Fowke."

For their part, the Backwoodsmen said Fowke worked for

CBC and collected the folk songs, many in Peterborough County.

"Traditional music came to Ontario with European settlers. Lyrics and tunes were adapted to local experiences and the personal preferences of the players, and these offer a reflection of society at different moments in history," they added.

"The underlying themes are of a timeless nature, as they deal with human existence: love, deception, politics, war, immigration, work, leisure, murder, death."

They said they selected and revisited the songs, adapted lyrics, and created contemporary arrangements.

Niezen and Dr. Kirby also produced a book that introduces Fowke's work, the song lyrics and their history, along with the linocuts in the exhibit.

The exhibition runs to July 1.

The gallery is a public art gallery with year-round exhibitions of local and regional art. It's part of the cultural centre, which includes the museum, Heritage Village and Nature's Place. The MHCC is at 176 Bobcaygeon Rd., Minden. The gallery is fully accessible and is open to the public Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is by donation.

For questions about the exhibit, call the community services department at 705-286-1260 x 542. For more information, visit mindenhills.ca

CFUW supports women and children

By Jaxon Gill

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) held its summer social at the Post House on Kashagawigamog Lake Road June 15. This event was part of CFUW's tradition of hosting two socials annually, one in December and another during the summer months.

Jenny Rieger, president of CFUW in the Highlands, highlighted the organization's mission to support women and children, particularly in education. CFUW actively promotes higher education for women and children, aiming to improve human rights and the status of women.

As part of their efforts, CFUW grants a \$500 bursary to a graduate from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School and the Haliburton School of Art + Design.

With approximately 70 members, CFUW in the Highlands organizes monthly meetings on the third Thursday of every month. These gatherings feature guest speakers who share insights on various community and global topics. Recent discussions have covered issues such as energy poverty reduction, by the Haliburton County Heat Bank, and cancer care, provided by the Abbey Retreat Center. CFUW also offers interest groups, such as book clubs, lunch and learn sessions, euchre, and wellness groups to engage members in a range of activities.

Rieger emphasized CFUW'S openness to welcoming new members. To join, individuals can visit the CFUW Highlands website at cfuwhh.ca. The website provides information on interest groups, monthly meetings, and the membership process.

EVENTS

June 22, 2 to 3 p.m.
Learn how to use your device that uses Android software, such as Samsung, Lenovo, LG, or Google tablets and phones at the Dysart branch of the Haliburton County Public Library. For adults and seniors. Please bring your own device. Visit haliburtonlibrary.ca or call 705-457-2241 to register.

June 22, 5:30 to 8 p.m.
Aging Together as Community (ATAC) is hosting an event at Haliburton United Church to celebrate the organization's efforts and successes over the past year, and plan next steps for the future. Light supper will be provided. For more information, contact Bonnie Roe at 705-457-6579.

June 23, 2 p.m.
Open house at the Wilberforce Red Cross Outpost Historic House Museum at 2314 Loop Road in Wilberforce. Visit us and see our museum after significant renovations and new displays. Refreshments provided.

June 24, 1 to 2 p.m.
Razzamataz Kids' Shows presents Branche, an acrobatic circus and dance performance at Abbey Gardens' Solstice Festival, in partnership with Dance Happens Here. Question and answer session with performers to follow the show. Admission by donation. Pre-register at abbeygardens.ca/solsticefestival.

June 24, 2 p.m.
Open house at the Wilberforce Red Cross Outpost Historic House Museum at 2314 Loop Road. Visit us and see our museum after significant renovations and new displays. Refreshments provided.

June 24, 4 to 6:30 p.m.
Strawberry supper at Highland Grove Community Centre at 5373 Loop Road. Adults \$15, children \$8. All are welcome.

June 25, 1 to 2:15 p.m.
Let's Jam! kids music event at SIRCH. Free drop-in event for kids to experiment on a variety of

provided musical instruments. All are welcome.

June 26, 7 to 8 p.m.
Coffeehouse at Castle Antiques in Haliburton. Join the Baha'i community of Haliburton County for a musical presentation and facilitated discussion on the topic of 'a kindly tongue is the magnet for the human heart'. Light refreshments available. Free admission.

June 27, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.
Create DIY t-shirts using bleach and stencils at the Dysart branch of the Haliburton County Public Library. For ages 12 and up. Participants can bring their own clothing items or request a black shirt during registration. Register for free at haliburtonlibrary.ca.

June 27, 7 p.m.
Environment Haliburton! is co-sponsoring an online learning opportunity featuring Michael Polanyi from Nature Canada, who will discuss how industrial logging is putting the climate and biodiversity at serious risk. A question and answer period will follow. Go to environmenthaliburton.org to register. For more info, contact Terry Moore at tmoore7031@gmail.com.

June 28, noon to 3 p.m.
Join Meggan Winsley at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre to learn about the creative process of printmaking. Participants will leave with a print of local flora and fauna. Meggan will share experiences of her time spent at Halls Island Artist Residency. Light snacks provided. Admission by donation. To register, visit hallsisland.ca.

June 28, 4:30 p.m.
SIRCH Community Services is hosting its AGM in-person at SIRCH Bistro. Hear from the board, program coordinators and executive director Gena Robertson. For more info, visit sirch.on.ca.

Have an event?
Email mike@thehighlander.ca
Monday by 5 p.m.



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ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 129 Haliburton weekly activities

Mondays: Bridge at 1 p.m. in the Schofield Room.

Tuesdays: League darts starting at 7 p.m.

Wednesdays: Bid euchre 1 p.m. start, main hall & bingo, doors open at 6 p.m.

Thursdays: General meeting third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. & ladies auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.

Fridays: Meat draw, five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets \$2 per draw. Ed Pickard, MC. Friday fun darts 4:30 p.m. onwards.

Saturdays: 50/50 draw 4 p.m. Tickets \$1 each available in the Clubroom.

Clubroom hours: Mon 3-6 p.m., Tues 3-9 p.m., Wed/Thurs 3-6 p.m., Fri 3-7 p.m. & Sat 3-6 p.m.

Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, call the Legion at 705-457-2571, email rcl129@outlook.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com.

June 23: Adverse Conditions performing in the main hall from 7 to 11 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$20. All funds go towards the Legion's lift program and SIRCH Community Services.

June 24: Bill Black and Dan O'Neil in the clubroom, 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. Doors open at 2 p.m. Chili and a roll, or chili dogs for \$5.

Royal Canadian Legion - Mabel D. Brannigan Branch 636 Minden

Monday - Thursday: Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with regular menu and daily special including Liver Lovers' Tuesday.

Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 4-7 p.m.

Saturday all day breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with

meat draws at 11:30 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541

Weekly activities:

Karaoke every second Friday.

Monday: Rug Hookers every second week.

Tuesday: Euchre 1-3 p.m.

Thursday: Cribbage 1-3 p.m., Darts 7-9 p.m. and euchre 7-9 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 624 Wilberforce

June 22: Open 2 to 6 p.m. HHHS social recreation 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

June 23: Opening ceremony at 2 p.m. Pool, poster contest display, wings, nachos and cake available, music with Phil O'Reilly.

June 24: Music with Half Tuned BBQ, popcorn, games, giveaways, and poster judging, with MP Jamie Schmale, MPP Laurie Scott and Highlands East mayor Dave Burton in attendance.

June 25: Pancake breakfast from 9 to 11 a.m. T-shirts available for \$20.

June 26 and 27: Closed.

June 28: Open 2 to 6 p.m. Darts at 2 p.m.

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 519 Cobocnk

Second Monday of the month: General meeting - 7:30 p.m.

Tuesdays: Euchre - 1 p.m. Open Darts - 7 p.m.

First Wednesday of the month: Big Buck Bid Euchre from 10 a.m. \$15 per person.

Saturdays: Music & Meat Roll - Music starts 2 p.m. Meat Roll at 3 p.m.

For more information contact Legion 705-454-8127

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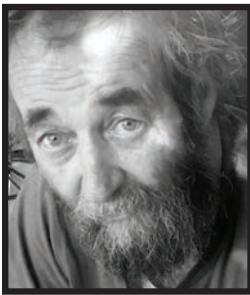
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In Loving Memory of
Larry Allin
(Resident of Haliburton)

Peacefully at his residence on Saturday evening, June 17, 2023, in his 72nd year. Beloved husband and best friend of Christine Wooder. Loving father of Guy, Danny (Cindy), Thomas, Sabrina, and Steven. Dear brother of Douglas, Kenneth, Rick, and Glen. He will be missed by his grandchildren Amber, Matty, Joshua, Tory, Elizabeth, Wes, Ben Mackenzie, Greyson and great grandson Colton. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Larry owned and operated Haliburton Fencing for a number of years. He enjoyed helping others.

Celebration of Life

A Celebration of Larry's life will take on Saturday, September 16, 2023, from 1-3 p.m. at the **Family Residence**, 4693 County Road #21 Haliburton, Ontario. As an expression of sympathy, donations to a charity of your choice are 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
Glenda Rae (Medley) Atkins
(Retired teacher with Trillium Lakelands School Board)

Passed away peacefully at home in Lindsay on Sunday, May 28, 2023 with her husband John by her side. At the age of 81.

Loving mother of Shelley (Mark) Crawford, Soozy Atkins and Nancy (Vince) Twist. Loving nana of Kaelynn Atkins, Vinessa Twist, and Cameron Twist. Predeceased by her parents Bud and Muriel and by brother Larry Medley. Lovingly remembered by her nieces, nephews and their extended families.

A Memorial Gathering to Celebrate Glenda's Life will be held at the Atkin's Home, 80 Colborne St. W., Lindsay on Saturday, July 8, 2023 from 2:00 until 4:00 pm. A graveside service and interment will be held at the 12 Mile Lake Cemetery, Carnarvon on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at 2:00 pm. Cremation has taken place.

Memorial Donations to the Alzheimer's Society 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
Paul Roger Morin

Passed away peacefully surrounded by his family at the Haliburton Hospital on Tuesday, June 13th, 2023, at the age of 78.

Beloved husband of Pamela (nee Howe). Dear father of Marc (Lindsay Grice) and Andrew (Colleen). Loving Papi to Madison, Colton, Miller and Alabama. Dear brother of Lorraine, Claudette, Lise, Louise and predeceased by Leopold, Phillip, Roland, Rina and Laurette. Dear brother-in-law to Diane and Tom Dawson, uncle to Ryan and Kate.

A Celebration of Paul's Life will be held at the Wintergreen Maple Products and Pancake Barn, 3325 Gelert Road, Minden on a date and time to be announced.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



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Furniture, advertising signs, gold, silver or costume jewellery, wrist & pocket watches, old coins, sterling silver, tea cups & china, military items & paintings, **Anythingold** etc.

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1	S	O	B		4	S	O	F	T	Y		9	A	S	N	A	P			
14	C	F	L		15	C	L	A	R	A		16	L	L	A	M	A			
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69	S	H	E	E	N		70	S	L	A	N	G		71	K	O	S			

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

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14	G	A	R		15	P	I	L	A	T	E		16	A	X	I	L		
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29	S	M	O	R	E	S				30	E	L	E		31	C	T	E	E
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39	E	A	R	N		42	A	I	M	E		43	A	K	I	S	S		
47	G	R	E	Y	48	E	S	T			49	P	R	E	C	U	T		
50	G	I	L		51	T	H	E		52	G	R	E	A	T	E	S	C	
54	S	E	A	T	O				56	R	A	T		57	S	T	A	R	
58	A	L	T	U	N		59	I	V	E	R	S		61	E	N	O		
63	C	L	O	D		64	S	O	B	E	I	T		65	A	N	I		
66	S	E	R	E		67	A	L	E	R	T	S		68	S	A	X		

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

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Call Cliff - 705-286-3351

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YARD SALE – 12 Bishop Court (at the end of Halbiem Cres) Follow signs. Saturday, June 24th 8 a.m. to 12 noon & Sunday June 25th 8 a.m. to 12 noon.
Something for everyone.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

**Celebration of Life
Fred J. Simmons (d. Feb 2023)**

Saturday June 24, 2023
2pm – 4pm
1019 Elm Rd, Irondale

We invite family & friends to a casual get together as Fred requested.

If nice weather, please bring yourself a lawn chair.
Need directions? Call 705-457-8438

MUSICIAN AVAILABLE

ACOUSTIC GUITAR / VOCALIST available for private parties / corporate events and bars. Songs ranging from the 70's / 80's / 90's to current hits. I have played the Ontario Place Forum / The El Mocambo and multiple other Ontario bars throughout my career. "Call or text for more info and for a copy of my song list" – 416.580.3195

FOR SALE

FOR SALE – 1 Bedroom Suite – Black Bookcase Double Bed with 5 drawer chest & 9 drawer dresser with mirror, good quality, recent new mattress \$550. Also 1 Bedroom Suite 4 Post Double Bed, with 2 dressers, clean mattress \$400. Call 705-489-7897 or 705-286-4876

FOR SALE – Fishing Boat, 16 ft Discovery, Kara Boat Trailer, 1-Helix 7 Fish Finder / New. 1-2021 20 HP Yamaha 4 Stroke Electric Start Boat Motor with 1 year warranty left, used 3 hrs. 1-2021 4 HP 4 Stroke Yamaha Boat Motor, 1 year warranty left, used 5 hrs. 1-Minn Kota 50 lb Thrust Trolling Motor. Paddles/Anchor/Live Well. Asking \$14,000.
Call 705-854-9201

FOR SALE – 2004 5th Wheel Camper, Terry Quantum 25 ½ ft, 2 popouts (kitchen & dining room) Large bedroom, everything works. Comes with cover & tongue holdup for winter. 2 Tv's & 2 lounge chairs. Asking \$14,000.
Call 705-754-4949

FOR SALE – trolling motor, 1 weed wacker – brand new, 2 brand new sledge hammers, Briggs Stratton Generator 8,000 Watt running, 10,000 Watt starting, 13 hrs on it. \$1,000. Firm. Daigle 8 lb axe for splitting wood \$50. Or best offer. Mig Welder & Helmet \$500. Or best offer. 1 used loading ramp \$150. & 1 new loading ramp \$300. Utility trailer 4x8 \$600. Or best offer. Call 705-457-3282

FOR SALE – 16 ft Fiberglass Canoe \$225. 18 ft Summer Boat cover \$25. Call Gerry at 705-489-1944

HELP WANTED

**HALIBURTON
BUS LINES**



NOW HIRING

\$500.00 Sign-On Bonus! *

**Spare Drivers
School Excursion Drivers
Summer Charter Drivers**

**No Experience Needed
No Need For Child Care**

**Flexible Schedule
Fun & Friendly Team**

**Class B Training Provided
Steady Income**



Apply Today!

Phone: 705-457-8882 --- Email: ascheffee@haliburtonbuslines.ca

Requirements:

21+ Years Of Age

Clean Driving Record

Clear Vulnerable Sector & Background Check

Sign-On Bonus Paid once fully B Licenced. Paid to current B Licenced Drivers after 1 month of employment

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HEATING & COOLING

We are a well established Heating and Cooling company looking for permanent, full time technicians with one or more of the following licenses: oil, gas, or a/c.

We are also able to offer education for licensing to interested, motivated individuals.

Please forward resume to
info@kegelheatingandcooling.ca



HELP WANTED

We are looking for a unique individual with great admin and customer service skills who wants to make a difference. If you are passionate, energetic and love working in a dynamic team environment send your resume and cover letter to:

info@sirch.on.ca

This is a full time, permanent position.

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time or full time -
needed for Hyland
Taxi. G License for
taxi is required.
B, C or F License
required for 11
passenger van
and bus.
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email by advertising in
The Highlander.
Call 705-457-2900
or email
sales@thehighlander.ca**

CLASSIFIEDS \$9 • BUSINESS CLASSIFIEDS \$29

HELP WANTED



The Corporation of the County of Haliburton
Requires a
Human Resources Manager

The County of Haliburton is accepting applications from qualified candidates interested in obtaining an approximately 20-month contract in a Human Resources Manager position. This contract is to provide coverage during a parental leave of absence.

Requirements for this position include post-secondary education in a related field. A Certified Human Resources Professional (CHRP) designation is considered an asset. This position requires prior experience in a human resources management role in a unionized environment and a comprehensive understanding of employment related legislation including AODA regulations. Annual salary for this position ranges from \$101,961.64 - \$119,280.70 with a comprehensive benefit package.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than June 30, 2023.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.



DEREK
BEACHLI
CONSTRUCTION

WANTED
**LABOURERS &
CARPENTERS**

FULL TIME

**COMPETITIVE WAGES
DEPENDING ON EXPERIENCE**

BENEFITS AVAILABLE

APPRENTICESHIPS AVAILABLE

**CONTACT DEREK 705-457-7341
RESUMES CAN BE EMAILED TO
DEREK@BEACHLI.CA**

CORNER GALLERY

GALLERY MANAGER

The Corner Gallery is a contemporary fine art gallery located in the historic Lucas House in Haliburton Village. Opened in 2020, the Corner Gallery's mission is to showcase Ontario artists and to contribute to Haliburton County's reputation as a destination for collectors.

The Gallery Manager is responsible for daily operations, including: sourcing and arranging individual and group shows with qualified artists; organizing events such as exhibit openings; art sales; and promoting the gallery.

The Corner Gallery is open 18 hours per week in the shoulder season (May-June and Sep-Oct), 30 hours in July and August and closed from November through April, making this position perfect for a (semi)-retiree or snowbird.

The ideal candidate will have a college or university education in fine arts or equivalent experience and knowledge. We're looking for someone professional and outgoing who will enjoy and succeed at representing artists, both established and those yet to be discovered.

Please send a resume and cover letter to bram@lebolaw.ca.

123 Maple Avenue, Haliburton 705-457-7518 cornergallery.ca



HALIBURTON COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Haliburton County Public Library
Requires Part-time Library Branch Staff**

Successful applicants will have enthusiasm for creating and running library programs, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, and demonstrated proficiency in basic computer software, internet applications, e-books and mobile devices. Educational requirements include an OLS Certificate in Small Library Management, or a Library Technician Diploma, or a combination of education and related experience.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than 4:30pm on July 4, 2023.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.

HELP WANTED

CLEANER REQUIRED for small 1 level cottage plus bunkie. West Guilford / Maple Lake area. \$140. Per visit. 12 noon to 4 p.m. Any or all of the following dates Saturdays July 1, 15, 22, 29, August 26, September 2nd. Wednesday August 9th. Call Carolyn 647-401-7321

HELP WANTED – looking for individual to run a wood splitter, starting in June. Please call 705-935-0950

REPUTABLE BUILDING CONTRACTOR looking for a person with Carpentry Experience. Must have valid driver's license. Please call 705-754-4603.



HIRING

PART TIME DIETARY AIDE'S/ HOUSEKEEPING

- Student positions available
- Competitive rates
- Benefits
- Positive working environment
- Year round positions

Please apply via our website, by email at jobs@gardensofhaliburton.ca or by calling 705.457.4848 for more information.



West Guilford Shopping Centre
1116 Kennis Lake Road
705-754-2162

Seeking Motivated, Reliable, Team Member for summer employment in our Meat Department.
Minimum wage, Expect 40hours/week
Please send Email with Resume to: billburden@wgsc.ca

Requirements:

- Physical ability to stand for long periods of time and lift products.
- Punctuality, reliability and dependability.
- Ability to work cooperatively with the Employer and with other employees.
- Good communication skills, both oral and written, and ability to accurately follow directions from the Employer.

Duties:
Provide services as required and directed by the Employer, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Prepping and wrapping customer orders at the counter.
- Monitoring and restocking the meat and deli display cases.
- Prepping meat products for counter display.
- Sorting and storing orders upon arrival.
- Assistance with maintaining and ordering supplies.

FOR RENT

FOR RENT – 1 bedroom shared accommodation, large bath, kitchen, living space & dining area. Hot tub, water access & shared laundry. 5 min. to Minden. \$800/month, first & last. Mature working individual. References required. Available July 16th . Call 705-455-2050

SELF-CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS for rent - Industrial Park Road, Various Sizes. Call (705) 457-1224

LOOKING TO RENT

SENIOR CHRISTIAN COUPLE, with excellent references, looking for a year lease for August 1st or sooner, in Minden / Haliburton area. Preferably 2 bedrooms. Non smoking & very clean. Call 289-400-8853 or 905-483-7703

FOR SALE

FOR SALE - GE Washer and Dryer Set GE Washer and Dryer, both purchased in 2021 - both in excellent condition. Washer is GE Model GTW680. Dryer is GE Model GTD72E. Both in Diamond Grey colour and in excellent condition. Asking \$975.00 Cash only. Contact rcatcheside@outlook.com

WANTED

LOCAL VIDEOGRAPHER seeking unused, unloved, unwanted vintage camera lenses, and cameras for use in nature filmmaking across Haliburton Highlands. Call Russ (705) 935-0430 or email russellcwest@protonmail.com.

J & D TOWING & SERVICE STATION - will pay top dollar for scrap cars. We also provide towing services as well as flat bed. Call Jim 705-447-2113

NOTICES

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS meets Wednesday nights 7:00 p.m. at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St., Minden – rear door. Thinking about alcohol. Thinking about stopping. We've been there. We can help!

AL ANON- WE CARE, are you troubled by someone's drinking? Meetings: Thursdays 7 p.m., St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton, and Mondays 7 p.m. at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle, Rear Entrance, Minden. 1-888-4AL-ANON (1-888-425-2666) al-anon.org All are welcome.

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Dawn 705-306-9258
Laurie 705-457-6924

Save up to \$1200

This is Steer Lunacy

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

- Across**
- 1 Unstified lament
 - 4 Pushover
 - 9 Easy as ABC
 - 14 Edmonton Elks org.
 - 15 Olympian and mental health advocate Hughes
 - 16 "The two-I ___, he's a beast" (Nash bit)
 - 17 "I've heard enough!"
 - 18 German stew made with beef?
 - 20 Service akin to PayPal
 - 22 The emperor's new clothing, perhaps?
 - 23 ___ Helens (volcano south of B.C.)
 - 24 Montreal's Schwartz's is a famous one
 - 26 "Take ___" (Eagles hit)
 - 28 Like a cow that's just given birth?
 - 33 River through Stratford, Ont.
 - 34 Privy to the prank
 - 35 Spaniel's "smile"
 - 38 Error, as in judgement
 - 40 Lead-in to X, Y or Z
 - 41 Each other?
 - 43 Needing salt, maybe
 - 44 Letter-shaped collisions
 - 47 "___ to please!"
 - 48 Using terms a milkmaid would understand?
 - 50 Clamato/vodka cocktail, in Canada
 - 53 T.V. actress Ward
 - 54 "Should I, ___ you want to?"
 - 55 Swimming pool meas.
 - 59 Does a pressing task at Starbucks?
 - 62 "Arthur" actor in a bovine role?
 - 65 "Tickety-boo!"
 - 66 Where to find record hits?
 - 67 Cell "hairs"
 - 68 Le Carré figure
 - 69 Lacquered-up look
 - 70 Urban Dictionary entries
 - 71 "Crabucket" rapper from Toronto

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
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62				63					64			65		
66						67						68		
69						70						71		

- Down**
- 1 Sketch show with Bob and Doug McKenzie
 - 2 Martin/Tomlin film "All ___"
 - 3 Email to a hidden recipient
 - 4 Foot doctor?
 - 5 Ending with pay or Cray
 - 6 Cheetah-like
 - 7 Old iPhone rival
 - 8 A Taoist swirl
 - 9 The "A" of I.P.A.
 - 10 Sprayed with "Ghostbusters" goo
 - 11 Pact now called CUSMA in Canada
 - 12 "... rebel, your face is ___" (Bowie lyric)
 - 13 Pooper preceder
 - 19 Port-au-Prince's country
 - 21 Financial wherewithal
 - 25 "Not ___ can help it"
 - 27 Setting for a French beret
 - 28 Surrealist with an iconic moustache
 - 29 MASH unit fly-out, for short
 - 30 "___ We Trust"
 - 31 Defining quality of infinity
 - 32 Span "de janvier à décembre"
 - 35 Obey a COVID-19 safety rule
 - 36 Very parched, as land
 - 37 Workout places
 - 39 Bunsen burner cousin
 - 42 Desmond on the 10-dollar bill
 - 45 Hurly-___ (uproar)
 - 46 Some menu discount recipients: Abbr.
 - 48 Wagner's "Tristan und ___"
 - 49 Table-wiping cloth, or a total bore
 - 50 Closing bars
 - 51 "Can't chat, I'm in ___"
 - 52 Bauer of sports attire
 - 56 Yukon and Denali
 - 57 Trouble mate, to "Macbeth" hags
 - 58 Guadalajara greeting
 - 60 Police, in 70-Across
 - 61 "The ___ the limit!"
 - 63 Poetic opposite of morn
 - 64 Un : France :: ___ : Germany

Can you eat with your dentures? ~ The answer should be yes, call us!

 **Steve Kerr**
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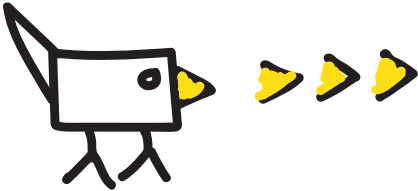
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		3			1	9		
1	7		9		4			
		9	3		6		5	4
						4		1
	4			9			8	
6		1						
9	5		2		3	6		
			5		9		4	8
		4	6			5		



SNUBSTA

The trouble with
wanting more,
said Bird,
is it leaves you
wanting more.

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2.48 ACRES
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MLS# 40416739

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