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The Highlander

Thursday **November 30 2023** | Issue 618

INSIDE: SANTA CLAUS COMES TO HALIBURTON PAGE 16

FREE



Smitten with the Shindig

Victoria Bingham and Amy Brohm were back as popular hosts, Marple Syrup and Patsy Pine, entertaining guests at the 10th annual Highlands Christmas Shindig. See page 13 for more coverage. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

County says 'no' to side-by-sides on rail trail

By Lisa Gervais

Side-by-sides will not be allowed on the Haliburton County Rail Trail - after council denied a request for a two-year pilot project during a County meeting Nov. 23. The decision followed a June 14 delegation from Carolyn Richards of the Kawartha and Haliburton ATV associations, seeking the trial. Council deferred a decision pending a staff report. Friends of the Rail Trail also voiced its concerns with the idea during the summer meeting.

Public works deputy director, Sylvin Cloutier, delivered information pertaining to both sides of the debate at last Wednesday's meeting. He did not make a recommendation either way.

During deliberations, coun. Bob Carter expressed concerns with the ATV associations' request.

"This trail is intended to be a multi-use trail and I don't see how I could take my family, children, grandchildren or dogs along a trail where there are vehicles travelling at 50 km/hr. I just don't think that would be responsible of me to do that," he said.

He added he believes the trail is too narrow to add vehicles, which Cloutier said would be 64 inches across (5.3 feet). Carter said that would no longer render it a multi-use trail, but just a vehicle trail.

The Minden Hills mayor said it seems there are a lot of trails in the County dedicated to, or used, for ATVs and other motorized vehicles. And while understanding the rail trail is considered somewhat of a spine to access other trails, he was not convinced.

Warden Liz Danielsen agreed. While she complimented the associations on their work, she said the rail trail and its usage has been one of the biggest and most controversial files to cross the County table over the past decade.

Continued 'True' on page 2

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ForT chair Pamela Marsales and Leona Carter, who often cycles the path, sit next to the Haliburton County Rail Trail. *File.*

‘True multi-purpose trail’

Continued from page 1

She said what is supposed to be a multi-use trail is leaning far more towards motorized use. She added the argument is it benefits the economy, however, “we might be failing in looking at the benefits to our economy from cycling as well. I just see that the more motorized vehicles we put on the trail, the more challenges there will be for walkers, hikers and cyclists... Naturalists enjoy the condition the trail is in now.” She also expressed concern with the County’s ability to enforce bylaws, and extra trail surface maintenance costs, including the possibility of having to widen the trail. She said with side-by-sides being able to travel on roads, “I’d rather see us not do this at all... and for it to remain a

true multi-purpose trail for all users.” Coun. Murray Fearrey also felt it best not to proceed at this time, sharing enforcement concerns. He also thinks it would be hard on the trail surface, causing ruts. Coun. Jennifer Dailloux said the County has “a wonderful series” of trails for ATVs and side-by-sides. “What we don’t have in the County are any dedicated, maintained pathways for cyclists. We don’t have one apart from the rail trail. She added, “given the number of kilometres we have for ATVs and snowmobiles already, we might preserve just this one stretch for non-motorized vehicle use, such as bicycles.” Danielsen said, “I’m generally hearing that we want to retain the status quo.” Council then voted to deny the request.

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Dysart opts to keep Sam Slick name

By Mike Baker

Dysart et al council ignored the advice of the township's cultural resource committee this week, reversing a decision made during the previous term to consider renaming Sam Slick Park.

The local landmark, located on the southern shore of Head Lake across from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, is named after the fictional character Sam Slick – created by renowned author, Thomas Chandler Haliburton, and a featured character in the book *The Clockmaker*. The name was chosen by the Haliburton Rotary Club in 1961 as a way of honouring Haliburton for his role in the early settling of the region.

In April 2021, Dysart's previous council directed the cultural resources committee to come up with alternate names for the site due to alleged misogynistic and racist views projected in the book and embraced by the Sam Slick character.

Addressing this current council Nov. 28, committee chair, Erin Lynch, and co-chair, Jim Blake, felt it was imperative to move forward with renaming the park.

"Traditionally, when communities choose to name a park or facility after a person, they do it to honour that person for contributions made to the community or society as a whole... in this case, we have a park named after a fictional character – Sam Slick, depicted as an American salesman in a story based in Nova Scotia," Lynch said. "The only connection to the village of Haliburton is he was created by the person for whom our town and region is named."

Blake felt the language used in *The Clockmaker*, published in the early 1830s, had no place being celebrated and honoured today.

He told council how the township of Windsor, Nova Scotia opted, in 2020, to remove any reference to the Sam Slick character from public settings and renamed an annual parade that had, for years, bore the name. Windsor, NS was the setting for *The Clockmaker*.

"There are many works of literature from previous generations that use language we now consider antiquated or not acceptable. That is the case for *The Clockmaker*," Blake said. "Although our understanding is the book is intended for satire, there is absolutely nothing satirical about slavery, or the promotion of violence against women. These are definitely not values that represent our community."

Lynch noted the committee had engaged with HHSS students on the potential renaming, with a consensus being it should be rededicated to recognize the region's Indigenous settlers. The committee's recommendation was to maintain a plaque installed by the Ontario Heritage Trust recognizing Haliburton, remove the plaque dedicated to Sam Slick, and install a new one. She suggested the Sam Slick plaque be displayed at the Haliburton Highlands Museum.

Blake noted the committee had already reached out to Indigenous "knowledge keepers" to help come up with a new name for the park.



Dysart et al council opted to maintain the Sam Slick Park name Nov. 28. *File.*

Speaking to the issue later in Tuesday's meeting, mayor Murray Fearrey said he wanted to maintain the Sam Slick Park name.

"You don't learn from history if you keep repeating it. We've learned and moved on," Fearrey said.

Coun. Pat Casey was worried if council opted to rename the park, there may be calls to rename the village too.

"Sam Slick was fictional. If the action [we're condemning] is Mr. Haliburton in writing the fiction in this story, are we going to rename the town of Haliburton then because of this connection?" Casey said.

Council agreed that an additional plaque can be installed at the park in recognition of Indigenous settlers, but that the Sam Slick name be maintained.

Speaking to *The Highlander* following the meeting, Blake noted between the committee and HHSS students, considerable time had been spent on the issue.

"Our job is to provide information and advice to council. It's their job to make the decisions. It's obvious what advice we were giving, but they had their own ideas and they chose to follow that," Blake said. "I thought the idea the students came up with was brilliant and elegant... this council did not."

He noted it was "a very positive thing" for council to allow for the placing of a second plaque recognizing Indigenous history, saying the committee will discuss options at its next meeting.

New customer-first health team platform unveiled

By Lisa Gervais

The Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Ontario Health Team (KLH-OHT) has announced the launch of a new online health and wellbeing service navigation platform.

The platform has been designed with communities in mind and allows users to easily search for local programs and services offered by providers in Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County, the KLH-OHT said.

When users visit the website, they can find available services close to home and in some

cases can self-refer or book an appointment directly through the platform.

They've also launched a function that allows residents to speak directly with a representative about their health service questions at 705-934-1439.

The platform focuses on enhancing access to programs and services for older adults, as well as mental health and addictions services, and child and youth services. It also supports referrals between service providers to work together to ensure residents have access to available supports

and services.

Stephanie MacLaren, KLH-OHT executive director said, "the launch of this platform continues the KLH-OHT's work towards increasing navigation support. Our goal for our communities is to ensure everyone has access to supportive community resources. The platform provides better access to those points of care and furthers a 'no wrong door' approach in accessing supports and services."

KLH-OHT navigation representative, Christine Keenan added, "sometimes finding

and accessing the right health programs can be a challenge and you just want a voice on the phone to help you find what you are looking for. The KLH-OHT is here to support our community by helping residents connect to local supportive programs. Help is just a phone call away."

Visit klhoht.ca/find-services to view the new service navigation platform and explore health and wellbeing programs available for self-referral.



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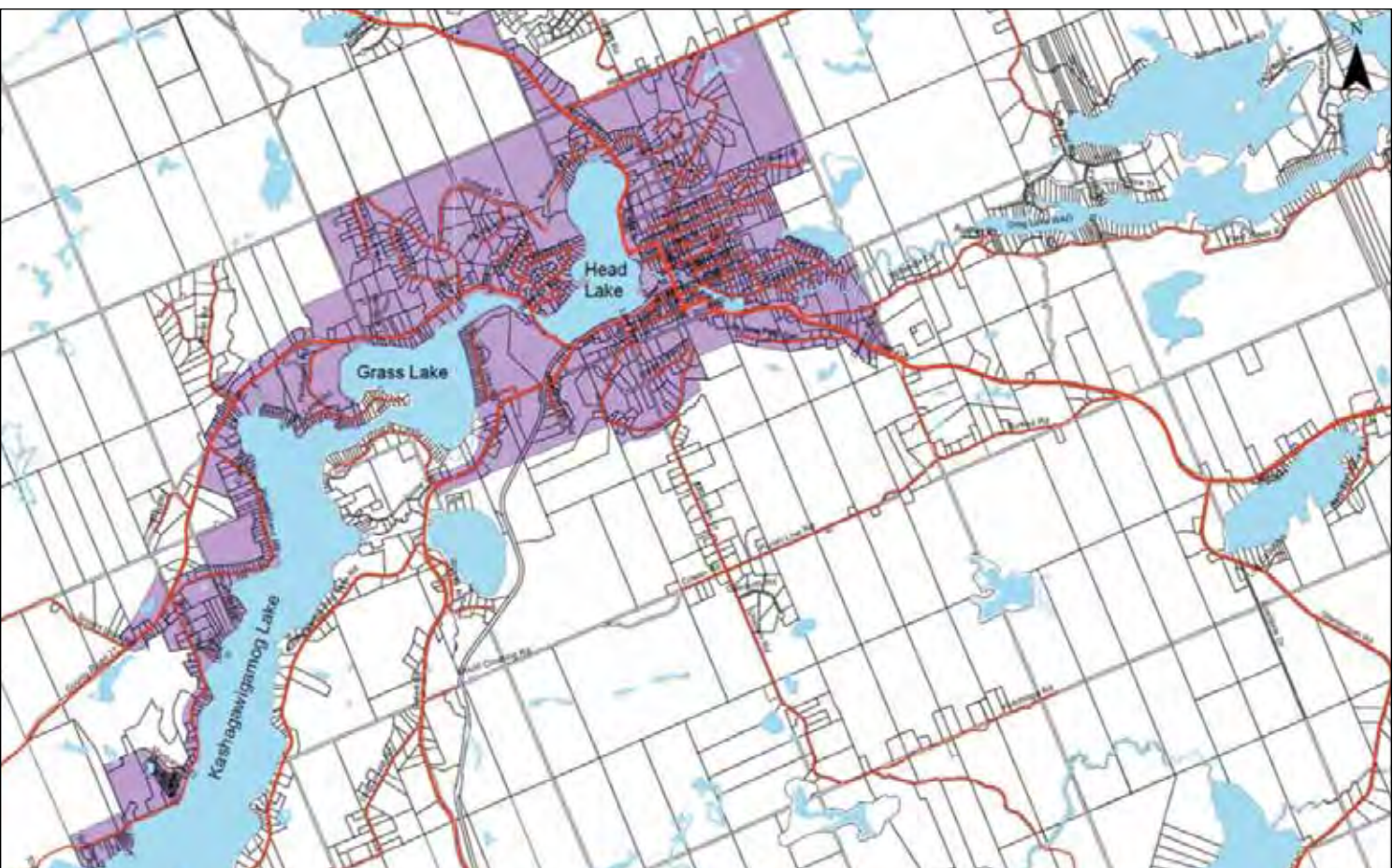
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DYSART ET AL NEWS

Deer feeding a no-go

Dysart et al council has signed off on updates to its bylaw outlawing the feeding of deer in Haliburton village and some outlying areas. The file has been discussed extensively by council for much of this year. The issue was initially raised by Haliburton residents Mike and Debra Landry in December 2020, who felt deer were becoming a nuisance in the downtown area because people were feeding them. They said the increased presence had led to a significant increase in collisions between vehicles and deer. Other residents have expressed concern about deer destroying gardens, while those on the other side of the fence opine it's inhumane to allow the deer to starve, especially in the winter. Council received correspondence from two more residents – Caryl Marcellus and Derek Beachli, Nov. 28, who both opposed the bylaw. Marcellus believes the legislation is flawed and infringes on her property rights, while Beachli took exception to the proposed map, which extends out of town on Hwy. 118 and includes his family acreage. “The bylaw is clearly targeting specific people and properties... I feel like one of them,” Beachli wrote. The new map, presented to council last month, covers all of Haliburton village and extends to waterfront areas along Lake Kashagawigamog.



A map outlining areas, shaded in purple, where deer feeding is prohibited in Dysart et al. *Map courtesy of Dysart et al.*

Coun. Pat Casey felt it was time for council to make a decision, noting what's passed likely won't be perfect, but that it could be revisited in the future. “We have to do something, because we're not getting anywhere” bringing this back to every meeting, Casey said. Effective Nov. 29, anyone found to be intentionally feeding deer within the highlighted zone faces a \$150 fine per occurrence.

Support for tower

Council has voiced its support for the installation of a 90-metre cell tower on Indian Point Road. The structure is part of the Eastern Ontario

Regional Network's cell gap project, aiming to improve coverage, connectivity, and capacity for 99 per cent of residents in the region by 2025. It will serve residents around Drag Lake. Jeff Iles noted the applicant, Rogers, had provided site selection and justification reports to the township, and conducted public consultation, per Innovation, Space, and Economic Develop Canada policies. Concerns raised centred on the tower being visible to people with property on the lake. Aesthetic concerns are not to be considered in tower applications, per ISED protocols. Iles noted the tower is setback 1.2 kilometres from Drag Lake.

Downtown parking

While drivers will no longer have to pay for parking in Haliburton village, council has opted to maintain a two-hour stay limit along Highland Street and Maple Avenue. Last month, council directed staff to remove meters from the downtown and come up with alternatives to monitor parking habits. Bylaw officer, Hailey Cole, presented six possibilities: install stationary cameras in the downtown; implement a paid parking system using a smartphone app; have staff chalk tires while patrolling; purchase smartphone software that automatically reads and tracks a vehicle's license plate for movement;

purchase a vehicle-mounted camera that also tracks license plates for movement; or go to a complaint-based system. Deputy mayor Walt McKechnie said his preference would be to do nothing for six months. “Instead of going out and spending a lot of money... let's find out what's happening here first,” he said. Fearrey believes there will be people who abuse the two-hour limit if no measures are implemented. Council opted to do nothing, though directed Cole to bring back cost estimates for all options should problems arise. *(Dysart et al council news compiled by Mike Baker).*

INFORMATION PAGE

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<p>CULTURAL CENTRE</p> <p>The Minden Hills Cultural Centre, including the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, will be closed from November 27 to December 4 as we prepare the gallery and install an exhibit featuring artwork from our permanent collection. We will re-open to the public on Tuesday, December 5 from 10 am – 4 pm with an exhibit featuring artwork from our permanent collection. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca</p>	<p>FIRE DEPARTMENT Chimney Fire Safety:</p> <p>Make sure a professional chimney sweep inspects your solid fuel venting system annually and sweeps and repairs it whenever needed.</p> <p>It's the law to have a working Smoke alarm on all levels of your home, if you have fuel burning appliances it's the law to have working Carbon Monoxide alarms in the home.</p> <p>Minden Fire will be collecting non-perishable food and toy donations at the Huskies Game on Sunday December 3 @ 2:00, join us for a great game of hockey and some fun games and raffles!!!</p>	<p>VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON COUNCIL MEETINGS</p> <p>Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipality Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:</p> <p>November 30 – Regular Council Meeting December 14 – Regular Council Meeting</p> <p>Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or 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.</p>
<p>MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE FOUNDATION</p> <p>The Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation Annual General Meeting is scheduled to take place at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Wednesday, December 13 at 4 pm. All members of the MHCCF are welcome to attend. Please email mindenhillscfoundation@gmail.com for more information.</p>	<p>WASTE DISPOSAL Confidential Paper Shredding Event</p> <p>The Township is hosting its first Confidential Paper Shredding Event.</p> <p>Date: December 9, 2023 Time: 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Location: Scotch Line Landfill</p> <p>At this event, staff will be collecting donations that will be donated to the Minden Community Food Centre. Please bring a non-perishable food item (not expired) or a toiletry item. Hunger is real in our community. Your donations will help us give back to the community to ensure everyone has a great holiday season.</p>	
<p>EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>We are currently seeking energetic and highly motivated individuals for the following positions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Works, Seasonal Labourer• Student Arena Attendants• Student Recreation Attendants <p>Please visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca/careers/ for a complete list of available positions and how to apply.</p>		

Short-term rental bylaw nearing completion

By Lisa Gervais

County councillors have signed off on the final draft of a short-term rental bylaw that is now headed to the townships for licensing and regulating. Meanwhile, a request for proposals for a third-party administrator of the program is expected to come back to the next County council meeting, scheduled for Dec. 13.

Director of planning, Steve Stone, had presented the draft of the bylaw to Algonquin Highlands, Dysart et al, Highlands East and Minden Hills. He was accompanied by director of economic development and tourism, Scott Ovell, who updated the lower-tier municipalities on a municipal accommodation tax, or MAT.

Stone said Dysart et al's building department suggested a couple of changes in the definitions section, for accessory building or structure, putting the size at 10 sq. metres, or 107.64 sq. ft., in line with the Ontario Building Code.

He said a member of the public also raised the issue of short-term rental use of municipally-owned shore road allowances. He said he added a clause prohibiting such use.

Stone said when it came to the question of commercial short-term rentals operating in residential zones, it was a municipal zoning bylaw issue.

"What we're trying to do here is really regulate the rental of homes very specific to the tenure of 28 days or less. It is the responsibility of municipal staff to look at their bylaws to see if they need some changes," he said.

With regards to bunkies or sleeping cabins, Stone said each township could put its own spin on what is allowed but the intent of the County bylaw is that bunkies can only be rented out as part of a rental of the whole property, not just the bunkies themselves.

The bylaw now goes back to lower-tier municipalities for final adoption.

Coun. Bob Carter did express some "real concern" about telling short-term rental property owners they cannot do temporary leases if they do not own their shore road allowance.

He said there could be hundreds affected by the rule. Right now, he said the Township of



The short-term rental file is progressing in the County. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

Minden Hills processes between eight and 10 shore road allowance purchases at every council meeting, and he is concerned about staff being inundated with requests. "We are not going to be able to react," he said.

Warden Liz Danielsen countered people should not be operating short-term rentals on municipally-owned shore road allowances.

However, Carter said he thinks the council will be challenged, possibly in front of the Ontario Land Tribunal. He said they risk

losing appeals or winning but it costing a lot of money.

However, Stone said property owners cannot take municipalities to the OLT over shore road allowances, as it is not a land-use planning matter. He noted under the STR bylaw, a property owner can appeal to the County if it doesn't like a lower-tier township decision with regards to short-term rentals. CAO Gary Dyke said the ultimate authority would come via a court challenge.

Coun. Cec Ryall suggested that, similar to the self-attestation short-term property owners will fill out for licensing, for example that their properties comply with the Ontario Building Code, the townships can ask that people swear they will purchase the shore road allowance in front of their property to get licensed as a short-term rental. Stone said that could be done.

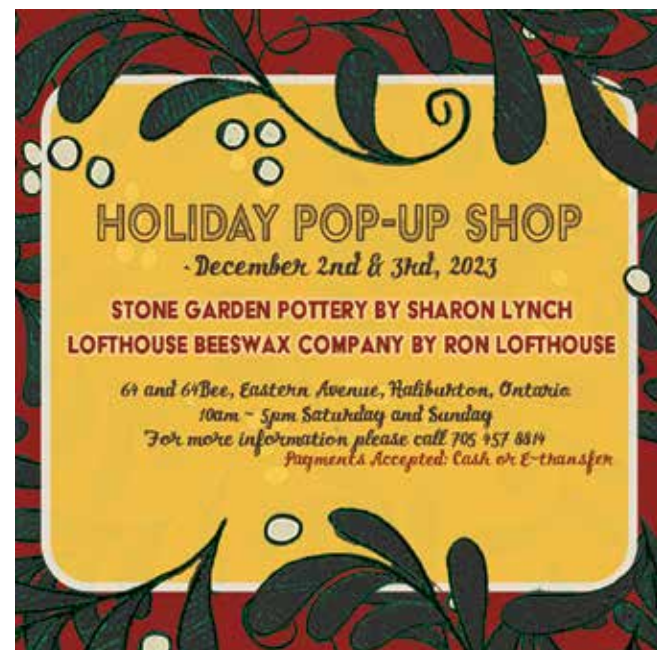


PHOTO CONTEST

The Highlander is looking for your best photos for inclusion in this year's The Highlander Handbook.

We are looking for pictures that show the best the Highlands has to offer in all of its seasons. The best submissions will be printed on this year's cover and others inside. We are looking for good quality, high resolution photos (JPEG, 300 dpi).

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Health boards talk voluntary merger

By Lisa Gervais

A joint HKPR and Peterborough Public Health working group met Nov. 16 to begin talks about a possible voluntary merger of the two health units.

HKPR chief medical officer of health, Dr. Natalie Bocking, said voluntary mergers have been put forward by the province of Ontario.

The Ford government is offering funding to units that want to merge as it works on a longer-term approach to public health that clarifies roles and responsibilities, health minister Syliva Jones said in August.

The PCs proposed consolidating units in 2019, but COVID-19 put the plans on hold.

In a speech to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference, Jones suggested the government is again looking at the structure of the public health system.

“We are also going to work with the sector to clarify public health roles and responsibilities to reduce overlap and ensure public health care is aligned with provincial priorities as outlined by the chief medical officer of health,” Jones said.

She added, “we will be providing one-time funding and support to public health units that voluntarily merge, to increase their ability to provide care to more people.”

The health minister also said the province will increase base funding for public health units by one per cent a year over the next three years and will reverse cuts to a public health funding formula.



The health unit office in Haliburton. *File.*

The Progressive Conservative government in 2019 moved from funding 75 per cent of public health costs, with municipalities paying for 25 per cent, to a 70-30 cost-sharing formula.

Bocking said they had already shared publicly, as well as with employees of both boards, about the ongoing conversation.

She said the next step is a feasibility assessment “to determine the positive and

negative impacts of what a voluntary merger could look like as well as any of the risks and liabilities associated with it.”

She said the working group will bring the feasibility study back to the two boards for discussion.

Highlands East deputy mayor Cec Ryall sits on the HKPR board on behalf of the County of Haliburton and updated that council at its Nov. 22 meeting.

He told council the boards had hired a company to do the feasibility study.

“They will assist both boards of health on a go-or-no-go decision on whether we do or do not merge. And if we choose to proceed, will put together a business case of one-time, and ongoing funding, with a draft report mid-January, and a final report with a recommendation at the end of January,” he said.

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New CAO wants to bring value

By Lisa Gervais

Spending part of his youth in North Bay, new County of Haliburton CAO Gary Dyke said he was partially drawn to the top Highlands municipal job by the lure of returning to rural Ontario.

In recent years, he's worked for some big municipalities, including North Grenville, the City of Kingston, the City of Cambridge, and Quinte West.

But what he has never done is work for an upper-tier government. The County of Haliburton is an upper-tier government to the lower-tier governments of Algonquin Highlands, Dysart et al, Highlands East and Minden Hills.

"I'm a rural person at heart. I grew up in northern Ontario. I like the rural side of things," Dyke told *The Highlander*. "I've done rural. I've done large urban, and this seemed like a natural progression. The big draw was working at the upper-tier, which I hadn't done before. So, let's try something different."

He said the contrast between being a city manager in a place such as Cambridge, with 145,000 people, versus a County with 20,000 permanent residents is it is more hands-on.

"I would spend 95 per cent of my day going from meeting to meeting to meeting to meeting and when you get into the smaller municipalities it's much more tangible. You can physically say 'I've done something'; you're working on a specific thing versus just oversight."

He's also gone from a city of 113 sq. kilometres in Cambridge to a County of more than 4,000 sq. kilometres. He's wrapping his head around that but it is not completely new.

"It's what I remember of northern Ontario, or the near north, growing up as a kid. A lot of small communities. It's about identifying how that positive actually leads to the challenges in today's organizational piece, with the finances and operational needs and stuff like that, and expectations," he said.

While he is still getting a handle on some of the challenges facing Haliburton County, he said from a 30,000-foot level, they're similar to what other regional and rural Ontario towns are facing, namely resources, finances, and attracting and keeping employees.



New County CAO Gary Dyke has a coffee at a restaurant in Minden. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

He said one strength he brings to the job is organizational management. That's allowed him to form contacts in the public and private sectors. He's been a Rotarian. He's always connected with BIAs, the building and development community. He said he has successfully used those contacts' knowledge and skillset and implemented them in the municipalities he has worked at.

"Which was unheard of when I was starting out. They say the two can't marry but I think smart ideas are smart ideas. You have to work together to be successful."

He has been an economic development officer and has a planning background.

"Everything you do has an economic impact, from policies you pass, to your taxes, to your finances. I don't partial it off as this is economic development. This is my mindset, when you are putting things together, give thought to who are our customers, what are their needs, how do our regulatory responses mesh with their needs so you're creating a package that makes sense."

He added he is a collaborative manager,

involving everybody in an organization.

"Use that knowledge and that information to leverage the strength around you to hopefully create policies and operational things that make sense."

He is already rolling up his sleeves, reviewing the services delivery review.

"The next step is really going through and quantifying and monetizing those implementations... you have to prioritize them. It would be nice to do everything today but one, you don't really have the capacity to do it and, two, people are still doing their core job. You throw change on top of it, it's more work. You have to balance that piece out."

Dyke said this is likely his last municipal job. "I'm a five-year guy in a sense. I believe people in my position; five years is a pretty good number. You can go beyond but you have to evaluate if you are still making positive movement in the organization. A friend and I say we never want to become custodial CAOs where all you're doing is keeping the lights on. As long as I'm bringing value, that's my goal."

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NOTICE Fees and Charges

NOTICE is hereby provided that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands intends to consider amending Comprehensive Fees and Charges By-Law 2023-68 at its regular meeting to be held on Thursday, December 14, 2023.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers located at 1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands. Members of the Public may also observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link. The live-stream link can be found on the meeting Agenda at <https://algonquinhighlands.civicweb.net/portal>

Dated: November 29th, 2023

Dawn Newhook
Clerk/Deputy CAO
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TheHighlander

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OUR MISSION

To tell the story of Haliburton County each week.

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

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

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

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

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A trail for all

I've been a cyclist my whole life. Until I moved to Haliburton County.

In the early days, I tried to ride along Hwy. 35 and Hwy. 118 but found it a white-knuckle experience as the shoulders of the road were a terrible surface and much too narrow. The vehicles whizzed by way too close.

I occasionally get the mountain bike out, with the thicker tires, and have a ride on the rail trail. However, I find the surface to be much too sandy and it's an exhausting slog. And while I find the ATV drivers on the trail friendly; many wave and slow down so they do not leave me in a cloud of dust, the experience is less than exhilarating and my bikes, both the hybrid and mountain, spend far too much time on a hook in the garage.

So, full disclosure, I had a vested interest in the County council discussion on possibly allowing side-by-sides on the Haliburton County Rail Trail.

The Kawartha and Haliburton ATV Associations had pitched a two-year trial, and it was a good pitch. They noted side-by-side sales had grown exponentially over the years, and seniors, families and people with disabilities were opting for them over ATVs and motorbikes.

Further, they were looking for a way to

connect to other trail systems, with the rail trail acting as somewhat of a spine.

The associations were offering trail patrol, signage, education and possible future bylaw enforcement. They came with insurance. They were willing to help with the cost of trail maintenance. They said they were good sharers and virtually accident-free. They said speed limits would be 20 km/hr. coming into town and 50 km/hr. on trails. They were all for hefty fines for violators.

Not surprisingly, the Friends of the Rail Trail countered with the fact side-by-sides are larger and more powerful than ATVs. They also said the County had a Rail Trail Master Plan it should be following. They said 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.

Going into the Nov. 22 meeting, I was not sure where council would land on this one.

At the previous, June meeting, coun. Lisa Schell said she'd be comfortable with a two-year pilot. Coun. Dave Burton was not opposed, but did want more information. Coun. Cec Ryall was leaning towards giving the associations a 'go.'



By Lisa Gervais

However, coun. Bob Carter set the tone last week. He said it would be downright irresponsible for parents, grandparents and dog walkers to be on a trail with wide side-by-sides going by at 50 km/hr.

Warden Liz Danielsen said she felt what started out as a multi-use trail had now tipped too far over to motorized use. ATVs are allowed on the trail as are snowmobiles.

Coun. Murray Fearrey waded in with concerns about enforcement and side-by-sides creating ruts on the trail, and coun. Jennifer Dailloux commented on the wonderful trail system across the County for motorized vehicles.

The same can't be said for cycling routes.

It was four votes of eight as council headed towards defeating the two-year pilot ask.

I'm not going to lie. I was pleased with the result. Now, I only hope the public works department can figure out a better surface for the rail trail so cyclists such as myself are not out of the saddle trying to get through inches of sand.

NATURE'S CALLING

Hunt camp traditions continue

To many people, November marks the deer gun hunting season, and many head to hunting camps. I am no different. For the past three years, three other ladies and I have packed up and headed to camp for four days.

We were fortunate to be allowed to use a hunting camp in Apsley, as many hunting camps are 'men only'. It's been like this for years but has been slowly changing with the number of women now hunting.

Hunt camps have been 'men only' for as long as I can remember. Most hunt camps have traditions, including cutting your shirt tail if you miss a deer, and others have to cut their ties if they miss, as well as poker, or other card game nights, and many camps would venture to surrounding camps for a friendly visit. Our tradition at camp is to write about our adventures in a journal and leave it for the next group to read.

Our four days at camp went like this: we arrived on Thursday mid-day, unpacked, hugged each other, and checked up a little as we dressed for the afternoon hunt. Tom,

our amazing camp owner, comes and gets us and drops us off at our spots. We settle in for the three to four-hour sit. First sit, no deer. However, the squirrels and birds kept us entertained. We head back to camp and get dinner ready. After dinner, it's time for cards. By 9 p.m., we are in bed, prepared for the following day. Most mornings, I wake before everyone and sneak out to get the woodstove stoked and the kettle on to make morning coffee. I wake the others about 40 minutes before we are heading out. We usually stay out for four hours and head back for brunch. That is our routine.

We had no deer this year but had a great time. It isn't all about hunting and providing food for the families. It is the time together, sharing the adventure, spending time outdoors. This year, we added something different to our routine; we headed to the owner's place and took a knitting course. Yes, you heard right, a knitting course. Shirley taught us to knit and crochet. So far, I have made a dishcloth and am now working



By Toni Cooper

on a scarf. When the opportunity is there to learn something new, grab the chance.

With the hunting season over, it is time for Santa Claus parades and to prepare for Christmas. As a grandmother, I accompany the grandkids to the parades and parties. Last week, we headed to the Lindsay parade, and wow. Being from a small town, we had some great parades; however, this parade seemed to go on forever. The floats were excellent, and the kids had a blast. Seeing the kids' faces light up as they watch the marching bands play, and the floats go by, hoping that the next float Santa makes his appearance, makes a grandmother smile, and I never get tired of that.

I hope everyone had a terrific November, and I hope you all get out and support your small-town parades.

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

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

LETTERS

Illegal STR's

Dear editor,

Are short-term rentals (STRs) a legal use in residential zones under the current zoning bylaw, or are they a commercial business? Is there a legal opinion?

It has been confirmed that STRs are classified as a business, the draft STR licensing bylaw requires commercial insurance, and zoning bylaw amendments will be required. If zoning bylaw amendments are required, are STR businesses currently operating in residential zones doing so illegally? If so, why would the County/municipalities license and legitimize something illegal instead of taking steps to stop this use. These are the questions that are not being addressed.

The courts have already determined STRs are a commercial use and are not compatible in residential areas. Two legal cases are provided below.

Many areas including Oro Medonte, Carling, McDougall, etc. have stated that STR accommodations are a commercial use, and STRs are only allowed in specific zoning.

The County wants municipal councils to endorse this STR licensing bylaw as drafted “as soon as possible.” They appear to be moving quickly over the holiday season when seasonal residents are away and fewer people are paying attention.

There is a lack of transparency with this licensing bylaw and it should be paused, as Seguin Township has. A legal opinion should be obtained and shared with the public, and the existing zoning bylaws enforced.

Please speak up.

- 1. Ontario Municipal Board case (Sheldon Rosen and The Lodges at Blue Mountain Corporation v. Town of Blue Mountains (2011) PL080455.
- 2. Menzies case (Ottawa-Carleton Standard Condominium Corporation No. 961 v Menzies, 2016 ONSC 7699 CanLII.

Christine and Jim Legge
Toronto/Redstone Lake

Bus service and cell towers

Dear editor,

I am very sad to see this bus (TOK Coachlines) discontinued.

My family, friends and I have been faithful users of this service from as early as the 1950s.

When attending college, and later working in Toronto, I regularly took this bus to Haliburton to visit family in Wilberforce.

After retiring, I continued to bus to Toronto for medical appointments and to visit friends.

This will severely impact seasonal visitors, seniors and others who rely on this service.

If travelers can get to Peterborough, there is a GO service to Toronto, and it is half price for seniors.

On another note, I was astonished to read the comment that people in rural and remote areas should be prepared to accept a somewhat lower standard of service (Boshkung cell tower story), especially as

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Greg Pichnej sent this photo of the snow making operation at Sir Sam's Ski/Ride on Nov. 23.

this was to allow for others to continue to enjoy more scenic views.

Many in Haliburton County are here to earn a living and/or operate businesses. Others may have to live here because of the lower cost of some expenses, such as housing.

We were thrilled and thankful when a tower was put up near Wilberforce. Despite living in the centre of town we did not have any cell phone service at our house. This new tower means we can use our cell phone at home as well as when we travel.

While living here and enjoying the naturally scenic beauty, we must not forget the business owners and customers, elderly, disabled and others who benefit from reliable cell phone service. New cell phone towers put in under the EORN project should be welcomed.

Barb Schofield
Wilberforce

County must have seat at table

Dear editor,

County taxpayers giving HHHS \$1 million towards a CT scanner and mammography, as reported in the Nov. 16 *Highlander*, left me feeling in the lurch.

I agree with coun. Lisa Schelll pertaining to the lack of public discussion or input into taxpayers funding. Perhaps such discussion should have been initiated prior to the closure of the Minden emergency, where a full complement of doctors and staff were available.

Although money was given to Minden and Haliburton hospitals in the past, the closure of Minden emergency has put an entirely different perspective on operatives

and nothing is as it used to be. From “almost painless” we do not have the staff on board who can operate such intricate equipment and in every aspect is absolutely the County’s mandate, especially seeing it involves County tax dollars.

It is imperative for public participation and accountability at the HHHS board, which can only be accomplished with County council representation at the board table.

The fault for all the fiasco rests at the hands of the HHHS board and being too autonomous in the decision process. This is not a democracy when carried out as the board did in complete absence of the public, so let fault fall where it belongs.

If County council members cannot be appointed to the HHHS board until next year’s annual general meeting then the \$1 million funding should never have been approved by County council until such time. Until then, one can only hope when next year’s meeting happens County council will appoint representatives who will work for the taxpayers and the County and not be coerced by the HHHS board in any decision-making.

Beverly MacDuff
Gooderham

Lions Oct. 6 fundraiser

Dear editor,

On behalf of the Haliburton and District Lions, we would like to thank all the sponsors, donors, volunteers and the community for making the Oct. 6 fundraiser a very successful event.

Funds that were raised have been designated for Lions community projects and the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation for diagnostic imaging.

This is just another example of the

outstanding support that our community continues to provide.

Rosemary Blight and Andy Chvedukas
Lions Club

Great job by hospital staff

Dear editor,

There have been major concerns about the wait times at the Haliburton Hospital. On the afternoon of Sunday, Nov. 19, I went to the ER with a minor ailment. The waiting room was empty and I was triaged immediately. I was admitted within five minutes and saw a doctor within another five minutes. They treated me immediately and I was sent home with a prescription in 10 minutes. I realize this is off season but I was very impressed. Great job to all the staff.

David Atkins
Dysart

Why can't towers look like trees?

Dear editor,

I don’t know why this has not been brought up. I have been going to Algonquin Park for minimum 50 years. Approximately 20 years ago, they came with a tower idea in the park. Point, still don’t know where they are. They are made to look like trees. Who cares if it costs more? Telecommunication companies will not go broke.

George Birch
Minden

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Dan Manley, chair of the Haliburton Highlands Arts Centre Foundation, pictured with consultants at last year's arts centre feasibility study unveiling. *File.*

New arts centre 'still years away'

By Mike Baker

It's going to be a minimum of four to five years before a new performing arts centre is constructed in Haliburton County, says Dan Manley, board chair of the Haliburton Highlands Arts Centre Foundation (HHACF).

Speaking at the organization's AGM Nov. 16, Manley said his volunteer team has yet to secure a location – the main requirement needed to move forward with grant applications and other funding requests.

"I hate to use the word pause. From the outside it looks like we're not doing much, but from the inside we're really busy with talks, emails, calls and presentations. Not having the location puts a lot of the other work we need to do in the future," Manley said.

Last November, HHACF released details of an arts centre feasibility study, completed by consulting firm Janis A. Barlow and Associates, which determined the Highlands could support a facility with a capacity of between 300 and 400 people.

A follow-up survey with the community found there was a demand for a centre that could accommodate a variety of performing arts mediums, including acoustic music, opera, film, musical theatre, and dance. A proscenium lyric theatre with a pit was proposed, with a 300-seat main level orchestra and a 100-seat balcony.

On top of the performance venue, Manley said the public wanted to see a rehearsal hall, professional backstage facilities, front of house lobby with concessions, music studios and educational space included in any build.

At the time, though not releasing this number to the public, Manley said the project carried an estimated cost of just over \$40 million. He told *The Highlander* last week that number had likely increased again due to inflation.

"It's hard to say what it would cost us now," he said, acknowledging any build would be dependent on securing major funding from the federal and provincial governments, as

well as local contributions.

At last year's unveiling, it was noted a new facility could generate approximately \$1.14 million annually for the local economy.

HHACF has been working with Peterborough-based The Dennis Group for much of this year trying to find a path forward. Between October and December 2022, the firm interviewed and surveyed Highlands residents for a community assessment and planning study, which Manley said was designed to determine local "affinity" for the project and gauge fundraising potential.

Some concerns were raised during that process, notably the lack of a site and concerns over the project's feasibility. There was also a call for HHACF to collaborate and develop partnerships with other organizations.

Since then, Manley said they have met with Places for People to discuss potential housing options that could be tied into any build, Point in Time for possible social service and youth supports, and Haliburton School of Art + Design.

With Dysart et al recently purchasing a 90-acre plot of land along County Road 21, and mayor Murray Fearrey indicating a portion could be used for recreational purposes, Manley said HHACF has sent a letter to the township outlining their interest in building an arts centre there.

"Finding and securing a location is our top goal... without one, a purpose-built performing arts centre exists only as a concept in a feasibility study, and a vision in our dreams," Manley said.

"We just have to keep pressing forward and putting ourselves in the best position possible, keeping our eyes on what's going on, so that we can be ready at a moment's notice if some funding, or land, comes up. We have a study, we have almost all the pre-work done," Manley added. "But we recognize, even if a piece of land showed up on our door next week... we're still years away."

Book takes fictitious historical spin

By Mike Baker

Haliburton author Janet Trull said her latest book, *End of the Line*, provides an interesting look at what life was like for early Highlands settlers when the first trains carrying new immigrants arrived in the late 1800s.

After spending the better part of three years working on the 252-page historical fiction piece, Trull is excited to share it with the community. It's her first novel, following earlier releases *Hot Town* and *Something's Burning*, two collections of short stories, and *Once a Storm*, a memorial book focused on oxycontin addiction.

"I started writing it during COVID. Originally, this was going to be a collection of short stories as well, focused on Haliburton and the many quirky characters that have called this place home, with a fictitious spin. I knew I wanted to set it historically in the late 1800s, and that was the time when the Victoria rail line came in," Trull said. "Haliburton was a busy, quickly changing place then."

"I had fun creating characters based on what we know about the history of the Highlands. I was especially interested in the tension between those who established the village in 1865, and those who arrived by the trainload, lured by land grants, in the late 1870s," she added.

The story is told from the perspective of Ona, a local entrepreneur who operates a booming comfort business for loggers and railway workers. She also runs a nunnery for women and orphans.

With Ona's grandfather being an early Scottish settler and her grandmother Ojibwe, she has an understanding and knowledge of two cultures that give her a unique perspective on the community's

issues, Trull said.

The story kicks into high gear when a corrupt politician, Alex Smith, is murdered, leading readers on a thrilling 'whodunit' adventure.

"He was somebody in a position of power who took advantage of many, many people. So, when he gets murdered, almost everyone in town has a reason to kill him," Trull said. "It was fun, because even I didn't know who the actual murderer was until very late in the writing process."

While some of the issues outlined were prevalent in early day Haliburton, Trull said the bulk of the story is complete fiction and shouldn't be considered historically accurate. There are some connections people can make, though – a character resembling Haliburton's first reeve, John Lucas, is included, so too a doctor based on a real-life physician.

End of the Line is available at Master's Book Store in Haliburton, can be ordered online through Indigo and Amazon, and is downloadable on Kindle. A launch event was held Nov. 18 at Rails End Gallery. Trull was in attendance, alongside Shane Joseph, head of the book's publisher Blue Denim Press, to discuss the book.

"I feel like I've created my own little library now – I don't have a favourite, but *End of the Line* was a lot of fun to put together. I hope people enjoy reading as much as I did writing it," Trull said.

She has already started on her fifth book – more personal, focusing on real-life memories she has growing up with her brother, who has schizophrenia, and the things, both positive and negative, families go through when dealing with a severe mental health issue. There's no timeline for release.



Janet Trull has recently had her fourth book, *End of the Line*, published. Submitted.



NOTICE SPECIAL MEETING

TAKE NOTICE that there will be a Special Meeting of Council on Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to:

- Provide for a second strategic planning session to assist in the creation of a Corporate Strategic Plan for the Township of Algonquin Highlands and;
- To proceed into closed session in accordance with Section 239(2) (c), of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O., 2001, amended, for a proposed acquisition of land (Dorset Pavilion Park)

Due to the interactive meeting format required by Council and staff members, the viewing of the strategic planning session will be in person only, and the meeting will not be livestreamed.

The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers located at 1123 North Shore Road, Algonquin Highlands.

Dated this 29th day of November 2023.

Dawn Newhook, Clerk
Township of Algonquin Highlands
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Happy birthday Mary

Stanhope resident Mary Stiver celebrated her 90th birthday Nov. 25 with a full house of family and friends at the Stanhope Firefighters’ Community Hall. Throughout her life, Mary has supported the community in countless ways, not the least of which has been the fire service. Her son, Danny, served with Stanhope Station 80 for 20-plus years, and her grandson, Kevin Alcock, is on the squad today. Whatever needed doing, from fundraising to food to events, Mary was always there. Mary’s long standing support was recognized at her party with a gift from Station 80 members firefighter Tiffany English (left), district chief Robert Sargent (centre) and firefighter Tony Aymong (right). *Submitted by Carol Moffatt.*

Legion helps Community Kitchen

SIRCH Community Services was grateful to receive \$2,000 from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129 Haliburton Nov. 20. President Mike Waller presented SIRCH executive director Gena Robertson with the donation, which will go towards the organization’s Community Kitchen program. It’s making 1,400 meals a month, distributed free throughout Haliburton County and North Hastings. “These funds will go directly to ensuring we tackle food insecurity in our own community and we are thankful for the Legion’s support in meeting this need head on,” Robertson said. SIRCH is raising funds for its annual Gifts from the Heart campaign. Go to sirch.on.ca/donate. *Submitted.*



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PUBLIC NOTICE

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

- File No. PLSRA2022048:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Horseshoe Lake, lying in front of 1018 Out of the Way Trail located within Lot 12, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Minden
- File No. PLSRA2023003:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Bat Lake, lying in front of 1092 Touchwood Trail located within Lot 5, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Minden

The Council meeting to consider a by-law to stop up, close and convey the parcel listed above will be scheduled for **December 14th, 2023.**

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

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

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons)
Manager of Planning
705-286-1260 Ext. 506
adougherty@mindenhills.ca



Successful Shindig

The 10th annual Highlands Shindig took over the Haliburton Legion Nov. 24, with the festive fundraiser bringing in \$33,360 for Fuel for Warmth. The non-profit provides propane, oil, wood pellets, and firewood to people struggling with heating-related bills through the winter. Shindig organizer, Drew Allen, said he was happy with this year’s refresh, which did away with the traditional variety show format in favour of live music provided by local band, Adverse Conditions. About 125 people attended, with dozens more watching at home, thanks to Tammy Rea’s livestream. “People had a great time... we’ll definitely be back next year,” Allen said, noting preparations will begin in summer 2024.

Above and right: The 13-piece piece band, Adverse Conditions, were a big hit at this year’s Shindig. Cutout: Craig Thompson, lead singer and one of the founders of local soul band Adverse Conditions, belts out a tune. *Photos by Mike Baker.*



Looking for an opportunity to serve your community or know someone who is?

The Township of Minden Hills is currently seeking residents to serve on the Committee of Adjustment for the 2024-2026 term. Members will receive \$100.00 for each regular meeting attended, plus an additional \$10.00 per application, and are reimbursed for mileage associated with conducting site visits. Meetings are held at 9:30 AM on the last Monday of each month.

THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT

The Committee of Adjustment considers applications for minor variances from the Township’s Zoning By-law as set out in the Planning Act. A minor variance may allow property owners to use their land in a way which does not comply exactly with the requirements of the Zoning By-Law. The Committee of Adjustment is a quasi-judicial body made up of citizen representatives appointed by Council. Decisions made by the Committee of Adjustment may be appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT).

Interested individuals are encouraged to apply by submitting a copy of their resume and a cover letter to:

Clerk’s Department
Committee of Adjustment Member
Township of Minden Hills
P.O. Box 359 - 7 Milne Street
Minden, ON., K0M 2K0
or by e-mail to:
sprentice@mindenhills.ca

Applications must be received by **Friday, December 8, 2023.**

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for candidate selection purposes only. Questions about the collection and use of this information should be directed to the Clerk, Vicki Bull, Township of Minden Hills, 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario, K0M 2K0 (705) 286-1260 ext. 515.

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A jolly ho, ho, ho

Highlands residents embraced the spirit of the season Nov. 26, dressing up in their favourite festive garb for the 10th annual Jolly Jog. Organized by Dysart et al staff, residents were encouraged to dress up and enjoy a stroll around Glebe Park Sunday morning, with circuits ranging from 1.5 km to 5 km. Prizes were awarded to participants with the most festive hat, best sweater or top, and most jolly outfit. There were 43 people taking part this year. Donations were collected, with \$287 raised in support of the Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank. (Mike Baker).

Above: Brayden and Morgan Roberts attended the Jolly Jog with four-legged companion, Darla. Inset: Joe Iles is all smiles as he frolics through Glebe Park dressed as a reindeer. Right: The Judson family – Kathy, Andrew, Hadley, and June – dressed up as Santa and a pair of elves. Photos by Jennifer Button.



Auditions

**Agatha Christie's
A Murder is Announced**
Directed by Jack Brezina

Thursday, November 30th at 7pm
Sunday, December 3rd at 2pm
at
Haliburton Highlands Museum

Performances: April 3rd – 6th
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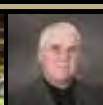
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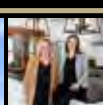
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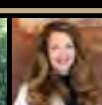
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Haliburton gets festive

Highland Street was a sea of people Nov. 24 as the public came out in droves to watch this year's Haliburton Santa Claus parade. There were more than 40 floats featured, with MP Jamie Schmale, MPP Laurie Scott, Dysart et al mayor Murray Fearrey and dozens of others on hand to spread the Christmas cheer.

Top left: These kids wished Haliburton residents a Merry Christmas. Top right: Dysart et al staffers John Watson and Gage Tofflemire rode a Zamboni down Highland Street during the parade. Left: Santa Claus was the featured attraction, backstopping the parade in his sleigh. Above: The Haliburton County Huskies made an appearance, with players like Izayah Luddington and Isaac Larmand in high spirits. *Photos by Mike Baker.*

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Christmas crafts

The Haliburton Legion was transformed into a treasure trove of festive delights Nov. 25 for the fourth annual Haliburton Christmas Market. There were a dozen vendors set up inside the main hall, selling everything from winter clothing to candles, mugs, and Christmas ornaments.

Above: Ritchie Lyddiatt was selling an array of wooden tree ornaments, some of which were fitted with lights, or included candle holders. Top right: Tracey Kerr, who lives in Eagle Lake, keeps busy over winter adding a festive spin to everyday items like lamps, dog bowls, tissue holders and more. Right: Debbie and Ed Lee have been busy selling their light-up shadow box display cases, filled with Christmas-themed decorations, this winter. Photos by Mike Baker.



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Huskies win big in Pink in the Rink tilt

By Mike Baker

An emotional night inside S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena Nov. 25 helped inspire the Haliburton County Huskies to one of their biggest wins of the season.

It was a full house Saturday as the organization held its second Pink in the Rink Huskies Conquer Cancer event. Hockey took a back seat pre-game as team president, Paul Wilson, welcomed Julie MacInnes onto the ice for a ceremonial puck drop. Julie's husband, Wade, passed away in August following a battle with lung cancer.

Buoyed by an exuberant home crowd, the Huskies dominated the toothless Aurora Tigers 7-1, with a hat-trick from team captain Patrick Saini and further tallies from Nicholas Lamont, Adam Smeeton, Lucas Vacca, and Lucas Stevenson cementing the win.

"It was nice to see the guys playing with some confidence and putting up a big win. Smeeton getting his first of the season was a nice moment for him – we haven't really had any secondary scoring all year, so that's a nice thing to get, especially coming into a busy stretch," said head coach, Ryan Ramsay.

The Huskies enjoyed lots of time on the puck in the first, regularly testing Yianni Karkoulas in the Tigers' goal. Ian Phillips went close to establishing a lead halfway through the period, picking up speed coming out of his own zone and beating two Tigers players before flashing a wrister off the post.

With time ticking down, it appeared the Huskies would have to wait for their opening, but Saini had other ideas. After Phillips had found Charlie Fink in the slot, the 20-year-old saw his shot padded away by Karkoulas, but Saini was in the perfect position to slam home the rebound at 19:03.

The home crowd was back on its feet seconds later as Lamont notched his 10th goal of the season. After Stevenson skied the puck out of his own zone, Lamont expertly brought it out of the air while in full stride, went eye-to-eye with Karkoulas and beat him glove side at 19:40 to give the Huskies a

two-goal lead.

Smeeton made it a three-goal game 1:25 into the middle frame, assisted by Raine Nadeau and Izayah Luddington, with Vacca adding a fourth five minutes later, finishing off a nice move that also involved Alex Bradshaw.

Luke Hampel netted a consolation for the Tigers at 7:49, but that's as good as it got for the visitors. Stevenson got in on the action at 16:10, assisted by Saini and Phillips, before the Huskies captain potted an unassisted shorthanded tally at 19:52. He completed his hat-trick three minutes into the final frame, assisted by Stevenson and Phillips.

Ramsay said he was pleased to see his team get back to winning ways following a disappointing 4-3 loss on the road against the Lindsay Muskies Nov. 22. He noted this would be a big month for the Huskies as they look to improve on their ninth-place league standing and solidify themselves as championship contenders.

"We're coming into a busy stretch here leading up to Christmas. These games are really going to make or break our season. Either we climb the ladder and start to put some pressure on those teams near the top, or we stay where we are [which is outside playoff contention]," Ramsay said. "It's going to be a good challenge for the boys."

The team lost 6-3 to rival Cobourg Cougars Nov. 27, and travel to Brantford Nov. 30 for a tilt with the 99ers. They play six more times in 17 days before Christmas, with three home match-ups – Dec. 3 against the Stouffville Spirit, Dec. 9 against the Pickering Panthers, and Dec. 16 against the North York Rangers.

Huskies in the community

Ramsay said Christmas is also the time of year his team likes to give back to the community. After participating in the Minden and Haliburton Santa Claus parades the past two weekends, the Huskies assisted the Minden Hills Fire Department with its annual toy drive Nov. 26.



Charlie Fink was a continued presence in front of the net. Photo by Mike Baker.

The organization also partnered with the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation earlier this month for a 50/50 fundraiser to help bring in money for a CT scanner and mammography unit at the Haliburton hospital.

"This community has been great with us

since we arrived... it's Paul's and my vision to not only have a great hockey program in the County, but to work with our community and rally behind great causes to show you can bring good things to small towns through sport," Ramsay said.

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Top: Aurora Tigers captain Keegan Decaluwe joined Huskies counterpart Patrick Saini at centre for a ceremonial Pink in the Rink puck drop, carried by Julie MacInnes, and Huskies president Paul Wilson. Above: Nicholas Lamont is rushed by celebrating teammates after scoring a highlight reel goal in Saturday's 7-1 win over the Aurora Tigers.
Photos by Mike Baker.



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Matthew Mueller was a brick wall in the Storm goal. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

Storm make semis in Silver Stick

The U13LL Up Right Roofing Highland Storm participated in the 24th annual regional Silver Stick in Haliburton this past weekend.

Heading into their second game of the tournament, the Storm knew they needed a win over the Ennismore Eagles White team to give themselves a chance of advancing.

Kicking off the must-win effort was defenceman Callum Merritt, picking off a pass through the neutral zone and beating the Eagles defence on his way to open the scoring late in the first period. Duncan Evans-Fockler quickly added to the lead seconds later from a nice feed from defenceman Liam Milburn.

Jacob Manning's two-way play and hard work was a constant throughout the game.

More offence was on the menu for the Storm. Claire Hamilton gave the Ennismore defence little time to control

the puck and helped her team keep the puck in the offensive zone. Aiden Innes and Gibson Pockett battled hard on the boards, helping their team gain possession of the puck. Katie Lavalley's aggressive play in front of the net caused trouble for the Eagles goalie.

Ennismore scored twice in the middle frame, however captain Lucas Upton's first of the tournament would later prove to be the game-winner.

Defencemen Lucas Vale and Patrick Valentini, working both ends of the ice, added to the tally, scoring their firsts of the tournament either side of the buzzer.

Overall, the Highland Storm Up Right Roofing team had a great tournament. Goaltenders Matthew Meuller and Corbin Elliot took turns in net this weekend and were a big reason the Storm was able to advance to the semi-finals, breaking a three-way tie with least goals against. *(Submitted).*

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Nov. 22 U15 REP Haliburton Timbermart VS Kawartha • 3-6 L	Nov. 25 U11 Car Quest VS South Muskoka • 6-2 W	U15 LL The Pepper Mill VS Parry Sound 5-2 W
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	U18 LL Sharp Electric VS South Muskoka 3-2 W	

STARS of the WEEK



Corbin Elliot

Corbin played his heart out this weekend. He deflected to the corners, controlled his rebounds, and made some big saves in key moments.



Duncan Evans-Fockler

Duncan's speed and grit were on full display. With five points in the first two games of the tournament, Duncan had a big impact on the team's performance and overall finish.



Patrick Valentini

Patrick's work ethic was top notch all weekend. He used his speed and agility well to shut down offensive threats.



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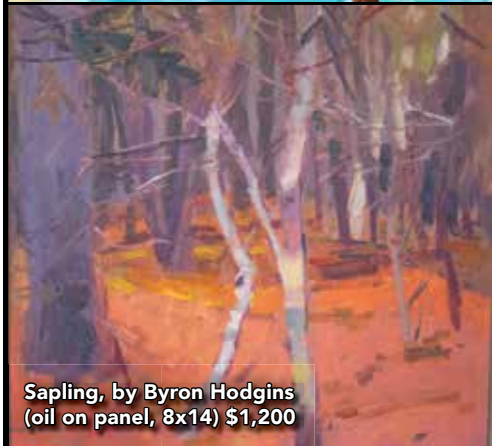
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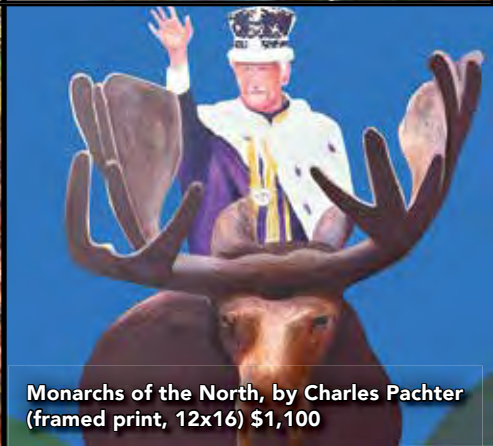
Sapling, by Byron Hodgins
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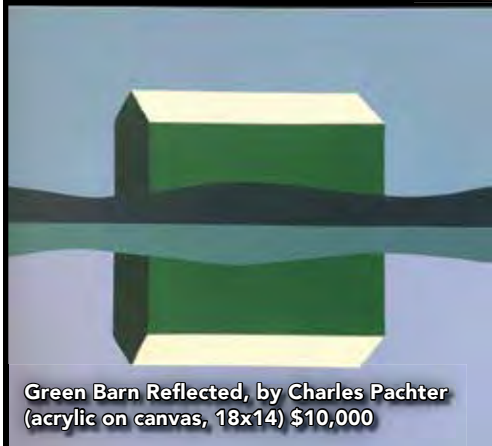
Minden Rapids, by Byron Hodgins
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Textile repairs are one of the repair café offerings. *Submitted.*

Repair Café bringing December cheer

By Lisa Gervais

With Christmas just around the corner - and many feeling the need to tighten their budget this year – SIRCH is bringing back its repair café Dec. 3.

The event takes place at the SIRCH Bistro this Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

“This event is free and welcomes young and old to enjoy a day of tinkering, fun and an opportunity to learn new skills,” said Repair Café coordinator, Dianne Woodcock.

Repair Café helps people repair broken items, such as small household appliances, toys, electronics, pottery and more. A team of volunteers with expertise in making things work will be on hand to assess items and get them working again.

This will mark the fourth Repair Café SIRCH has held this year. All have contributed to keeping reusable items out of landfills and helping the environment, Woodcock said. It also benefits the community by connecting individuals with

their neighbours, teaching them new skills and saving people money.

“SIRCH Repair Café wants to help reduce the mountains of waste that our landfills experience. We have gotten used to saying ‘oh, it’s broken, I’ll have to buy a new one’ when what we’d like is for people to say ‘oh it’s broken – I hope it can be repaired’,” said Woodcock. “Many of us have forgotten that so many things can be repaired and SIRCH Repair Café wants to change that”

If you have children, Woodcock said you won’t want to miss out on the tinker table. In partnership with the Haliburton County Public Library, the tinker table allows kids to use their imaginations and try their hand at fixing things. This week, the tinker table will feature maker toys including Snap Circuits and 3D pens.

The SIRCH Bistro is located at 49 Maple Ave., Haliburton, next to Emmerson Lumber. For more information call 705-457-1742 or email info@sirch.on.ca.

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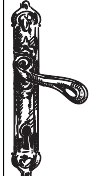
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A clear Vulnerable Sector Check, Standard First Aid CPR Level C and a Health Check form filled out by your family doctor must all be obtained upon hire.

Please forward Cover Letter and Resume to:
haliburtonweecare@hotmail.com

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INSULATION AND VAPOUR BARRIER services. Residential, Cottage and Reno. Call 705-457-8784

INVITATION – An introduction of the Bahai Faith “A pathway to World Peace” Your home or mine. Call Gord 705-754-0939 or e-mail to 5050guitarhero@gmail.com. Thank You, Gord Kidd

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SOLUTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 30

1	M	2	R	3	P	4	I	5	B	6	B		7	O	8	J	9	S		10	G	11	I	12	G	13	I
14	A	T	O	N	A	L		15	N	O	T		16	S	O	B	A	D									
17	S	E	E	T	H	E		18	S	E	Y	E	T	O	E	Y	E										
19	K	I	T	H			20	W	E	I	R		21	E	G	G	E	D									
						22	E	23	D	I	T		24	I	T	N	O										
26	B	27	I	G	B	A	T	H		29	E	D	W	O	L		30	F									
31	A	L	I	A	S					32	C	E	O	S			33	I		34	L		35	L			
36	B	E	R	G			37	G	38	R	O	S	S			39	G	L	U	E							
40	A	S	T			41	O	W	E	N				42	R	E	C	C	E								
				43	H	44	A	V	E	N	O	45	F	46	E	A	T	H	E	R							
						47	L	I	N	E			48	E	X	E	S										
49	A	50	L	51	O	N			52	G	53	E	L	T			54	R	55	H	56	A	57	P			
58	B	O	T	H	E	59	R	E	D	T	O	60	T	E	A	R	S										
61	A	B	R	A	S	I	O	N				62	R	E	A	C	T	S									
63	B	O	Y	S			64	D	N	A		65	T	A	L	K	A	T									

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

1	B	2	I	3	B	4	P	5	A	6	R	7	M	8	A	9	L	10	I	11	M	12	A	13	S
14	I	G	A			15	S	C	O	U	R					16	I	N	A	R	T				
17	G	U	N	18	B	A	T	T	L	E						19	S	C	R	I	M				
20	M	A	G	E	S					21	T	A	22	C	T		23	L	G	A					
24	A	N	U	N		25	W	H	I	S	K	E	27	Y	B	A	R								
28	C	A	P	T	29	C	H	A				30	S	N	O	O	T	Y							
					31	L	E	V	32	I	S		34	E	U	R	O	S							
				35	P	36	H	O	T	O	S	T	37	U	D	I	O								
38	S	39	P	L	I	T			40	C	H	E	R	I											
41	C	H	A	C	H	A			42				43	A	G	N	44	E	T	45	H	46	A		
48	H	O	C	K	E	Y	49	50	A	M	E			51	R	E	E	L							
52	O	N	A			53	S	E	A	L				54	S	A	C	R	E						
55	L	E	T	U	P				57	T	A	K	E	58	59	E	A	S	H	O	T				
60	A	M	E	R	E				61	E	R	I	E	S		62	I	N	A						
63	R	E	D	U	G				64	S	M	A	C	K		65	E	S	P						

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

HELP WANTED



HALIBURTON COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

**Haliburton County Public Library
Requires
CEO/County Librarian**

The selected applicant will be responsible for the success of the library through implementation of the mission, vision, values and strategic priorities as identified by the Library Board; developing, resourcing, and evaluating operational plans; managing and leading library staff, and representing the library in the broader community. Minimum qualifications; Master of Library and Information Studies from and ALA accredited institution. Five years' related experience in a library environment, including a minimum of three years of supervisory experience.

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

Please forward your resume to lbacik-zanetti@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than 4:30pm on December 8, 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.



The Municipality of Highlands East
Is Currently Seeking A

**Part-Time, Labourer
Property/Parks & Recreation Department**

Rate of Pay- \$23.49
Up to 30 hours per week, varied days of the week
Afternoon and weekend work required

A copy of the detailed job posting, and description are available upon request or on the Highlands East website at www.highlandseast.ca

If you are interested in joining our dedicated team of municipal professionals, applications **clearly marked "Application - Part-Time, Property/Parks & Recreation Labourer"** may be submitted on or before 12:00 p.m, Friday, December 1st, 2023, via mail, in person, fax or email. Interested applicants may submit their resume, including references, in confidence to:

Brittany McCaw, Deputy CAO/Treasurer
Municipality of Highlands East
P.O. Box 295, 2249 Loop Road
Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0
E-Mail: bmccaw@highlandseast.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Municipality of Highlands East is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants requiring accommodation are asked to contact the Deputy CAO/Treasurer.

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for candidate selection purposes only. Questions about this collection should be directed to Shannon Hunter, CAO/ Treasurer.



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Haliburton Community Housing Corporation is currently seeking a Permanent Part-time Maintenance Person to join our team. Applicant must have valid driver's license and be available for on call and weekends in a rotating schedule. You should be organized, have some knowledge of plumbing, electrical, patching/painting of drywall, and computers. Full job description available upon request. Please email your resume no later than **Dec 22, 2023** to: manager@haliburtonhousing.com

FOR RENT

FOR RENT – 1 bedroom shared accommodations. 4 kms from Minden. Mature working individual. Must have own vehicle. Available now. Call 705-457-7913

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

FOR RENT – Clean 1 bedroom apt across from Shoppers Drug Mart, Haliburton. Available Dec 1st Call 705-341-1710

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What the ?!

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

Across

- 1 Onetime Dr Pepper rival
7 Breakfast bevs
10 "Thank Heaven for Little Girls" movie, 1958
14 Unkeyed, musically
15 Okay, all things considered
17 Stares down angrily?
19 Close acquaintances
20 Golf's Mike __, member of the Order of Canada
21 Goaded, with "on"
22 Make deles?
24 "I Can't Take __ More" (John Fogerty song)
26 Grimm huffer-and-puffer who's all washed up?
31 Something to go by
32 HQ honchos
33 Hot-headed, perhaps?
36 Sinker of the "unsinkable" ship
37 Canadian actor Paul of "Due South"
39 Scrapbooker's sticker
40 Halifax hrs.
41 Ontario's __ Sound
42 Military look-see
43 Look like a plucked peacock?
47 Word with "party" or "picket"
48 Splitsville residents?
49 Whitehorse song "Out Like __"
52 Yiddish moola
54 Queen sang a Bohemian one: Abbr.
58 Weeping in frustration?
61 Road rash, e.g.
62 Shows a chemical response
63 "For the __" (Midler movie)
64 Gene material
65 Run the conversation
- Down
- 1 Covid-19 coverup?
2 Maine-Florida hwy.
3 Slam participant
4 Pretty much a done deal

- 5 "Pshaw!"
6 Dropped the ball
7 R.E.M.'s "The __ Love"
8 Reckless outings in Dad's car
9 Title for Jeanne d'Arc: Abbr.
10 Tech giant's name before a spelling error
11 "__ to differ"
12 "Mercy Mercy Me" man Marvin
13 Put a name to a face
16 Trial scribes
18 Talk host Meyers
23 Putin agreements
25 Ark groupings
26 Radner's SNL parody role __ Wawa
27 __-de-la-Madeleine (Gaspé chain)
28 Belly measurement
29 Cut-rate, as in motels
30 Swipe, but not right?
34 Women's name meaning "light"
- 35 It's not a good look
37 Stefani of song
38 Fail to fulfill, as a promise
39 Quits being a dreamer
41 Woolly flock members
42 Nunavut strait named for an explorer
44 Hellos on the Road to Hana
45 Fedora fabric, often
46 Obtain through blackmail
49 Rhyme scheme of "Invictus"
50 "Timber" canine of Mexico
51 "No matter how hard __ ..."
53 Bart and Lisa's teacher
55 Modern break-and-enter
56 "Thou __ scholar" (Marcellus' words to Horatio
57 Hissed "hey!"
59 Free (of)
60 Red Rose product

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61									62					
63					64				65					

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

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- Perfect for large family or entertaining



BURNT RIVER • \$899,900

- 4+1 bedroom, 3 bath, 2500 sq ft home on 18 acres
- Expansive river view from glass panel viewing deck
- Full basement with high ceilings, rec room area
- Detached insulated 24' x 28" garage with 2 garage doors
- 1900 sq ft heated insulated shop, phase 3, separate hydro meter



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GULL LAKE • \$755,000

- 3 bedroom open concept cottage with bunkie
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- Build your dream home on this 43 acres lot
- Paved year round municipal access
- Close to prime lakes and recreational trails
- Minutes to Haliburton village and all amenities
- Abundance of mature maples for syrup production



DRAG RIVER • \$215,000

- 1.62 acre building lot on year round private road
- 16' X 12' shed, firepit, outhouse, 100 amp hydro
- Situated on nice swimming hole, walk to public access
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- Level area to build your dream home or cottage



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