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The Highlander

Thursday **January 18 2024** | Issue 623

INSIDE: HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS BREWING ON THE MOVE PAGE 15

FREE

Skiing into winter

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School held a regional high school Nordic skiing event at Glebe Park Jan. 17. There were 94 registered skiers, which was the community's first since 2015 said teacher, Karen Gervais. Hannah Sharp, pictured, competed in the senior girls' event, won by teammate Erika Hoare.

Photo by Mike Baker.



County health in 'crisis' due to staffing

By Lisa Gervais

Staffing challenges continue for both the Haliburton emergency department and Minden's urgent care clinic, with the clinic forced to close its doors Jan. 15, for the first time since going full-time.

The Kawartha North Family Health Team, which operates the clinic at the former Minder ER site, posted to its Facebook page Jan. 12 that this past Monday's shuttering was "due to staffing issues" and apologized for the inconvenience.

The move coincides with comments by County councillor and Minden Hills mayor Bob Carter, claiming people are being turned away at the clinic because current staff cannot handle patient volumes.

Carter told a Jan. 10 County council meeting he's heard stories of people showing up at the clinic at 11 a.m. and not being seen as "they've got enough people already in the waiting room for the rest of the day."

He further claimed the Haliburton ER is being overrun with patients with insufficient staff.

Carter was addressing an upcoming Haliburton County delegation to the Ministry of Health that has been approved for the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference Jan. 21-23 in Toronto.

Speaking to Carter's claims, Marina Hodson, executive director of KNFHT told *The Highlander* on Jan. 11, "I don't know that that's (11 a.m.) ever happened. In fact, I would say it's never happened. That seems unlikely that we maxed out in an hour (the clinic opens at 10 a.m.)."

However, she conceded, "there are days, absolutely, we have had to turn people away. It's not the norm by any means. Most days we do seem to be able to accommodate everybody."

Hodson said they recently added some second nurse practitioner staffing during the week, "which I think will help."

Continued 'County' on page 3

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STRs: ‘it’s time we moved on’

By Lisa Gervais

Despite a last-minute groundswell of opposition to a short-term rental bylaw, County councillors have pledged to continue on the path of ensuring rules and regulations are in place for the spring.

Jacqueline Baptist, a STR operator in Algonquin Highlands, made a delegation to County council Jan. 10 and warden Liz Danielsen said councillors had received a number of recent emails calling on them to revisit plans.

Baptist said she believed council would agree with her that STRs contribute to the local economy and employment. She added, “STRs have become an essential part of the accommodator landscape in Haliburton County, [with an] estimated 77 per cent of accommodation units.”

She said while they should be regulated and safe, problem renters should be fined under existing bylaws, and, “a successful bylaw will be the one that is complied with.”

Baptist said her research indicates the average Haliburton County host is “not an investor or fat cat,” earning \$9,000 in annual rental income, renting less than 50 nights a year, and paying income tax via GST.

She further estimated that hosting contributes \$50-million-plus to the economy annually, with an estimate based on 1,350 STRs, with four guests over 50 nights. She added renters spend money on groceries, restaurants and attractions and there are jobs for cleaners, maintenance and groundskeeping.

She said hosts were asking the County to pause approval and implantation until a Tiny township case is heard to avoid potential legal action. They then want a phased-in approach; in year one registering all STRs, monitoring problem properties and enforcing existing noise, fire, fireworks and septic bylaws. In year two, they want consideration of “cumbersome, expensive, discriminatory” aspects of the bylaw, “namely shoreline road allowance purchase, a municipal accommodation tax on STRs only, providing older and seasonal buildings meet all building code, fire code, electricity act, planning and municipal bylaws and WETT and septic inspections within three years.”

Claims no consultation ‘laughable’

Danielsen said after receiving correspondence on the file the past month or so, she wanted to ensure all councillors were on the same page in proceeding with a bylaw. Council also received a legal opinion in closed session.

Coun. Bob Carter said, “we have over 20,000 people in Haliburton County and we’ve got about 100 pieces of correspondence, most of which seems to have been centrally orchestrated because they use the same turn of phrase. You see the same paragraphs in many of them.”

He added, “we’ve been working at this for six years or more. It’s laughable when people think there hasn’t been enough public consultation. People are saying ‘we never had a chance to talk to you about it,’ well, yeah, you did. I think



People who rent using platforms such as Airbnb may see new rules in the spring. *File.*

we need to be going at this to get this in place by this spring.”

Coun. Cec Ryall agreed, noting council has pledged to review the bylaw in a reasonable timeframe and make any changes deemed necessary. “As long as we’re going to do that, we have that safety hitch in place for anything not working the way we thought it would. We’re doing this the right way, with a fair amount of due diligence, as much as we can, to put some safety in there. This is very dynamic and important to the people we represent.”

Coun. Murray Fearrey wasn’t convinced by Baptist’s math. He said he knows some renters making \$25,000-a-month and others \$10,000-a-week. He also said the argument that it is going to be too onerous – meeting fire, safety and septic rules – doesn’t fly for him. He also said the townships do not have the staff to be going to STR call-outs in the middle of the night to enforce existing bylaws.

“I think our approach was right. It was well orchestrated and organized.”

He conceded Baptist made some good points but, “we’re way past going back and starting over, it’s time we moved on.”

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County to speak to Ministry of Health

Continued from page 1

I think overall, we seem to be managing quite well. In December, we had well over 300 patients that we were able to see.”

Hodson said since opening full-time Oct. 3, the clinic is averaging around 25 people a day. Hodson added the figure does not include people they have to send to Haliburton emergency, but there are “very few” of those.

The executive director said they’re technically supposed to have two full-time nurse practitioners and they only have one, as well as part-timers.

“That’s always the challenge, is getting nurse practitioners, it’s the same as getting physicians... we’re getting there but we’re not quite there yet, but pretty close. So, we definitely need one and I just reposted it again. But it’s not easy.”

Hodson said they had not had to close or reduce hours as a result, until Dec. 15.

“It’s going to become an issue. When you only have one NP... first of all, we can’t see as many patients in a day. But the second thing is what happens when that NP wants to take vacation because they don’t want to work 52 weeks a year, and we don’t want them to either because then they burn out and we have no care. So, when she needs time off, how are we going to accommodate that? Because our part-timers work weekends. Most of them have other jobs.”

She said they may be able to plug in a day here or there but cannot commit to a full week, for example.

Haliburton ER numbers

Lauren Ernst, communications for Haliburton Highlands Health Services, said on Jan. 15 they’d experienced “periodic staffing pressures due to illnesses.”

She added the emergency department and inpatient unit nursing staff had become more stable, and their reliance on agency staff has reduced from 151 12-hour shifts in June to 59 12-hour shifts in December. “Unfortunately, HHHS is not alone in this – many rural hospitals in Ontario are feeling similar pressures,” she said.

Ernst said that during peak seasons, such as the summer, HHHS upstuffs nursing and physician coverage. “Now that we are in regular season, we are at our regular staffing

complement.” However, she added, “we continue to rely heavily on locum physicians to cover ED shifts as we continue to recruit for permanent ED physicians. We encourage everyone to welcome potential staff and physicians as they try out our community.”

As for patient volume, Ernst said the department saw 1,112 people in December; 1,085 in November, 1,330 in October, 1,395 in September, 1,831 in August, 1,966 in July and 1,495 in June.

Asked for context she said, emergency department (ED) volumes are based on all patients who were triaged, seen by a physician, and then discharged (sent home), transferred to another facility for further care, admitted into the inpatient unit, or passed away.

County council and Minden Matters

Carter said the County, province and country are in a health care “crisis.” He would like the provincial government to reconsider funding medical students in exchange for them practising in underserved areas.

He said he had spoken with visiting locums and, “they’re not interested in coming here.” He added the province is opening the door to doctors from the U.S., Australia, UK and Ireland, but they want to practice in the city, not rural and regional Ontario.

Warden Liz Danielsen, who now sits on the Haliburton Highlands Health Services board, said HHHS had given her a one-page document for the ROMA delegation. She said she’s been asked to stress things such as transportation, housing, and the need locally for a community centre and swimming pool.

“I get it that the doctors would like to have a pool but that’s far beyond our capabilities, given the other priorities that we’ve got in place right now,” Danielsen said.

Coun. Murray Fearrey also raised the issue of agency nurses making \$100-an-hour, working alongside staff nurses at \$40-an-hour, saying the province has to address that inequity.

Minden Hills coun. Pam Sayne sits on the board of ROMA and said they would be releasing a fact-based paper on the rural health crisis at the conference.

Meanwhile, responding to the Canadian Medical Association again emphasizing it



is in crisis due to staffing, Minden Matters issued a press release Jan. 11.

They are calling on the Ontario government to take immediate action to reopen the Minden emergency department and invest in rural healthcare facilities.

They say rural Ontarians are experiencing significant difficulties in accessing timely and high-quality healthcare services.

“The closure of rural hospitals, coupled with a shortage of healthcare professionals, has left these communities vulnerable and underserved. The strain on the remaining healthcare facilities, including emergency rooms, has reached critical levels.”



Top: Marina Hodson, executive-director of the Kawartha North Family Health Team, at the Minden urgent care clinic. Above: County councillor and Minden Hills mayor, Bob Carter. *File.*

They are calling, in part, for increased funding to attract and retain nurses and doctors in rural areas.

“Scholarships, loan forgiveness initiatives, and financial incentives should be implemented to encourage healthcare professionals to practice in rural communities. By promoting rural healthcare as an attractive career path, we can ensure a sustainable workforce in these areas.”

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HKPR: unvaccinated students face suspension

By Mike Baker

More than 100 Highlands students are facing a school suspension after the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge (HKPR) district health unit last week issued a final warning for parents to update their child’s immunization records.

The Immunization of School Pupils Act requires all students in Ontario to be vaccinated, or have a valid exemption, against tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, meningococcal disease, and varicella.

HKPR is mandated by the Ontario government to maintain and review vaccine records for every student attending school in Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland and Haliburton County, said health unit spokesperson Ashley Beaulac. Anyone with an incomplete record is at risk of being suspended from school for up to 20 days, or until health records are updated, she noted.

The unit mailed out 1,374 suspension notices to parents of students in Grade 3 and Grades 9 to 12, who do not meet the current requirements – including 103 in the County.

“Most students who receive notices do have their immunizations and just need to update their records with the health unit, as we do not receive updates from health care providers,” said Marianne Rock, manager of communicable disease prevention and control with HKPR. “We are here to support families by helping parents complete their child’s immunization record, whether that be updating the incomplete file or booking an appointment at a clinic to receive a missing vaccination.”

Records can be checked online via the



The HKPR district health unit is calling on parents to update their child’s immunization records. *File.*

Immunization Connect Ontario portal (hkpr.on.ca), or by contacting HKPR at 866-888-4577 ext. 1507, or immunization@hkpr.on.ca.

An immunization clinic has been scheduled in Haliburton Jan. 26, running from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the HKPR office on Highland Street. There are clinics in Lindsay Jan. 22, 24 and 29. Appointments can be booked online via the HKPR website, or by

calling 1-866-888-4577 ext. 1507.

Dr. Natalie Bocking, HKPR medical officer of health, said the unit is still playing catch-up after the immunization program was paused during the COVID-19 pandemic. It resumed in fall 2022, after a two-plus year hiatus, with over 2,700 immunization records being updated since then.

She said the health unit would work with parents to ensure children are appropriately

vaccinated and don’t miss out on class time.

“As part of our continued work to prevent the spread of vaccine-preventable diseases, our teams have been working diligently with local school boards to support parents through the process... I am proud of the progress we’ve made,” Bocking said.

Any student who is still missing a vaccination by Feb. 5 could face a suspension, she said.

OPP NEWS

Police investigating Mountain Street incident

Haliburton Highlands OPP is investigating what they’re calling a disturbance that occurred in Haliburton Jan. 10. Shortly before 1 p.m. officers responded

to an incident on Mountain Street in Haliburton, with several people taken into custody. Cst. Michael Melnychuk of the local detachment said there were no threats to public safety and no injuries reported to police. *The Highlander* was told by sources the

incident involved the discharging of a gun near Mountainview Apartments, though police have not revealed any additional details. Melnychuk did not confirm whether any charges had been laid, or if there are people still in custody. Anyone who may have witnessed the

incident, or has information that may assist with the investigation, is asked to contact Haliburton Highlands OPP at 705-286-1431. Information can also be provided anonymously by contacting Kawartha Haliburton Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477. *(OPP news compiled by Mike Baker).*

INFORMATION PAGE

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CULTURAL CENTRE

The Agnes Jamieson Gallery is now displaying selections from the permanent collection including new acquisitions by André Lapine ARCA (1866-1952). The Gallery is open to the public Tuesday – Sunday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca.

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The Township of Minden Hills is seeking interest from local service organizations who wish to enter into a Partnership Agreement with the Township for the collection of alcohol containers at a waste disposal site. View the complete notice on www.mindenhills.ca under the News section. When submitting a notice of interest, organizations must provide a brief summary of their organization, where funds will be utilized in the community, and preference of Waste Disposal Site for the collection location. For more information, please contact the Manager of Waste Facilities at 705-286-1260 ext. 572 or email ccosh@mindenhills.ca. All notices of interest are to be emailed to ccosh@mindenhills.ca.

WINTER PARKING

From November 1st to April 30th 2024 overnight parking is illegal from midnight to 8:00 AM on township roadways and parking lots. Parking in the turning circle of a cul-de-sac is prohibited during all hours. Vehicles parked in areas that interfere with snow removal operation will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner's expense.

VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

January 18 - Special Meeting of Council

January 25 - Regular Council Meeting

February 8 - Regular Council Meeting

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. Visit our website for more information.

SNOW REMOVAL

Pushing snow across roads and streets is a safety hazard and against the law. The *Highway Traffic Act* states no person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing from the road authority responsible for maintenance of the road.



An aerial view of Minden during a major flooding event. *File.*

County to host floodplain mapping open house

By Lisa Gervais

The public will get a look Jan. 29 at the work the County has been doing on floodplain mapping of the Gull and Burnt rivers.

County director of planning, Steve Stone, said on Jan. 10 the “long-awaited” public gathering for the project is scheduled for 3-8 p.m. at the Minden Recreation Centre.

He said the County’s partners, the Gananaraska Conservation Authority, will be on hand for the meeting.

“Cory Harris and his team will be presenting to the public in a very tactile environment over the course of the evening, where people can come in and actually look at the mapping, and request to see how it affects their property,” Stone said.

“All are welcome and it should be an exciting time to see the finished product.”

Stone has said in the past the main purpose

of the project “is to prevent loss of lives, property and land caused by flooding.”

Following 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019 floods, the County partnered with the Gananaraska and Kawartha Region conservation authorities on the work that began in 2017.

It started with phase one, when the County got money under the National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP) for LiDAR, an acronym for light detection and ranging, which is laser imaging used to get elevation data. It was done in 2018-19, with data delivered in 2020.

It was also in 2020 that the province launched its flooding strategy in Minden. It called for understanding flood risks, strengthening governance of flood risks, enhancing flood preparedness, response and recovery, and investing in flood risk reduction.

Phase two of the local project involved bathymetric data, which the partners also got NDMP money for. It’s the measurement of the depth of water in rivers or lakes. Bathymetric maps look like topographic maps, with lines to show the shape and elevation of land features. Work on that was done in 2021-2022.

Phases three and four involved technical work, developing hydrologic and hydraulic models, and the flood mapping itself.

The study area is more than 2,800-square-kilometres of drainage; 400-plus kilometres of channels; 23 lakes, 42 dams and key areas within the Parks Canada-TSW system.

Stone noted in the province’s flooding strategy, flooding is the most significant natural hazard in Ontario in terms of death, damage and civil disruption and the costliest natural disaster in Canada in terms of property damage.

He said this project will address the number one priority of understanding flood

risks and how they can be mitigated and risk-managed.

“The deliverables of this project will include updated, and where applicable, the creation of new floodplain mapping for the reservoir lakes and the connecting rivers that are frequently impacted by flooding,” he said.

“Updated floodplain mapping will be used to reduce the impact of flooding by directing new development to safer locations and regulating legacy development within the floodplain and flood fringe areas.

“Enhanced knowledge of the location of the flood susceptible areas will allow the County and local municipalities to plan the most efficient emergency response efforts, reducing the impact of flooding on the population and making our communities more resilient”.

COUNTY OF HALIBURTON NEWS

Rail Trail greenspace program a ‘go’

The County, on Jan. 10, gave the green light to a community greenspace project for the Haliburton County Rail Trail.

Oliver Zielke, Pamela Marsales and Cara Steele pitched the idea at a Dec. 13 council meeting. They want to showcase thriving native plant species along the rail trail.

Deputy director of public works, Sylvain Cloutier, said, “staff believe the proposed project will benefit the County rail trail and the surrounding environment.

“Increasing native plants on the rail trail would help to support biodiversity and store carbon. If mowing is reduced as a result of this initiative, then this will help to decrease greenhouse gas emissions as well.”

Staff will now submit a grant application for the project to TD Friends of the

Environment. They will also work on an agreement with the project partners outlining responsibilities, implementation and maintenance.

Two nominated for deputy warden

Councillors Dave Burton and Bob Carter have put up their hands to be deputy warden for 2024.

A vote will be held when all members of council are able to attend an in-person council meeting.

Burton, who is the incumbent, said he would “work hard and assist in any which way if called upon.”

Carter added, he thought “it’s important we progress as much as possible over this next term.” (*County of Haliburton news compiled by Lisa Gervais*).

ARC receives \$100,000 for retreat upgrades

By Mike Baker

After receiving more than \$100,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) over the past two years to improve facilities at Abbey Retreat Centre (ARC), executive director Barb Smith-Morrison said the non-profit is excited to offer improved supports to visitors in 2024.

Speaking at a Dec. 15 funding announcement, Smith-Morrison said ARC received \$103,200 in two grants from OTF in 2022 and 2023.

The \$65,500 received in 2022 enabled Smith-Morrison to sign off on several “needed” capital upgrades, such as purchasing new kitchen appliances, constructing a new screened porch, and renovating the downstairs meeting room. The organization received another \$37,000 in 2023 for the installation of a new geothermal heating system and in-floor heating.

“These capital renovations have already made a wonderfully positive impact on our cancer support programming,” Smith-Morrison said. “It’s been gratifying to watch the new screened porch and renovated cabin allow our participants to experience the added benefits of being close to nature without needing to walk far, especially if mobility is challenging.”

Since opening its doors in 2017, ARC has assisted hundreds of cancer patients and their caregivers through their cancer journeys, offering free in-person programming to



Staff and volunteers from Abbey Retreat Centre with Klara Oyler, OTF Foundation representative (second right), and Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott. *Photo by Mike Baker.*

support people on their path to healing, recovery, and acceptance.

The main offering is in-person retreats, which are provided for free. Smith-Morrison said ARC ran seven retreats last year, serving over 200 people between those and a host of online programs. The organization fundraised approximately \$360,000 last year for its operations, which is used to offset the cost of the retreats. Smith-Morrison noted it costs around \$6,800 for one person to attend a four-day retreat.

“We offer a sanctuary experience based on a whole-person approach to healing and

wellness. The purpose... is to transport people living with cancer out of their day-to-day lives to rest, create, connect with others living similar experiences, and explore life enhancing practices and tools for their mental, emotional, physical and spiritual well-being,” Smith-Morrison said.

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott attended the funding announcement, saying Abbey Retreat Centre is one of the true gems of Haliburton County.

“You can feel the mood and the calming force that stems from all the great work

that’s been done here for many years now. This money is to ensure you can continue to have a vibrant and up-to-date place for cancer survivors and their families to have that lovely tranquil experience, to revitalize their lives and continue on,” Scott said.

“Abbey Retreat Centre is a source of magic in Haliburton.”

Highlands resident Klara Oyler, representing OTF, said she was delighted to see the grant money being used on a cause that “offers hope to hundreds of people.”

For more information, visit abbeyretreatcentre.ca.



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Mayor Dave Burton chairs a past Highlands East council meeting. *File.*

HE staff table capital requests

By Lisa Gervais

Highlands East council met Jan. 9 to look at what it will ask taxpayers to fund in 2024.

The departmental overview and capital forecasting session was led by CAO and treasurer, Brittany McCaw.

She told council, “the projects and initiatives that are being put forth were derived from needs that were identified through various corporate plans and documents, including our asset management plan, roads needs study, building condition assessments, organizational reviews, along with departmental needs and priorities and council-driven priorities.”

Speaking to administration, she said the biggest project is the design and engineering of a new municipal office. She said staff plan to earmark \$250,000 for the preliminary building work.

Coun. Cec Ryall was in favour of putting the \$250,000 into the budget, saying, “we’ve got to have this thing built in 2025.” He further encouraged council to discuss the design and engineering project with colleges and universities.

Other planned administration works are insurance in the event of a cyber-attack; asset management and corporate strategic planning; records management; energy conservation and demand management; and looking into electric vehicle charging stations.

The building department asked for \$30,000 for work on its Gooderham facility; and money for vehicle replacement.

Under bylaw, McCaw is seeking a transfer to reserves for a future vehicle. She said two staff are now sharing a vehicle.

With short-term rental monitoring and compliance, she is estimating they’ll need \$25,000 to put towards the program if adopted by council. McCaw said the money is for a third-party software program.

“This is a self-monitoring solution... it would allow the property owner to be able to go in, update their licence, upload documents to self-attest that they comply with the rules in the bylaw. It’s also a monitoring program, so we have the 24/7 hotline people can call.” She noted revenue from licensing should cover all council costs.

Fire chief Chris Baughman is asking for \$40,000 for a fire master plan; hydrant maintenance of \$10,000; future replacement of jaws of life and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA); annual bunker gear expenses; and a bunker gear extractor to clean gear in-house versus sending out. There is money for repairs and upgrades to halls pending the fire master plan. There is a capital request for future vehicle replacement.

Under parks, recreation and planning, property supervisor Jim Alden is seeking

more than \$280,000 to complete Herlihey Park. He added they need roof replacements at the Lloyd Watson centre (\$40,000); \$10,000 for arena works; \$16,000 for a columbarium at Gooderham Cemetery; \$9,000 for monument replacement at Pioneer Cemetery; \$31,000 for dog parks in Cardiff and Gooderham; \$90,000 for work on the Essonville Church and \$50,000 for a trails master plan.

The planning department capital needs forecast a transfer to reserves (\$10,000) for a future comprehensive zoning bylaw update; and an official plan update.

There is \$1,373,809 in net capital roadwork (minus reserves and government grants), including for works garages, and new vehicles and equipment. The big-ticket items are the McColl’s Road bridge replacement, at nearly \$1.2 million, and \$355,000 for Irondale Road.

Public works manager, Perry Kelly, said he wants work on the landfill attendants’ buildings; as well as some gating and fencing and security cameras. As for water and wastewater, the gross capital cost of projects is estimated at \$117,000 for a series of smaller jobs.

McCaw said the requested money – about a \$239,759 or 10 per cent increase from last year – would go into a preliminary budget to be presented to council in February.

A MESSAGE FROM



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NOTICE: SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL & PUBLIC MEETING – 2024 BUDGET PROCESS

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, January 18, 2024, at 9:00 am during its Special Council Meeting regarding the 2024 Budget Process. To view the full notice and for more information visit www.mindenhills.ca or contact our office at 705-286-1260.

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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Stop the bleeding

Minden’s urgent care clinic was forced to close its doors Jan. 15 – the first time since going full-time Oct. 3.

They are operating with one full-time nurse practitioner and they need two. The Kawartha North Family Health Team is continuing to attempt to recruit another. In the meantime, they are doing their best to juggle their part-timers’ schedules.

HHHS, meanwhile, is still not where it wants to be with staffing. It is spending a lot of time scheduling, and a lot of money, on locum physicians for the ER. These are people who come to cover shifts but don’t stick around.

And while HHHS has reduced its dependency on agency nursing – they still recruited and paid for 59, 12-hour shifts in December.

It’s time-consuming and costly – but more importantly – it means patients are not being seen or not being seen as timely as they could be.

The KNFHT runs a pretty tight ship and there is no doubt new management at HHHS is cleaning up dodge.

So, it’s time the provincial government stepped up to the plate. Past time.

While Doug Ford’s Conservatives are busy fiddling - moving Service Ontario outlets into Staples’ stores and planning the closures of others (we don’t have Staples and Service

Ontario has been targeted here in the past) - the health care system is burning.

They have been presented with numerous solutions from various fronts.

Part of the reason a family doctor might not want to move to Haliburton County is the workload. If we are telling candidates about a work-life balance in the beautiful Highlands, then we have to offer it. So, how about getting two doctors for the price of one and allowing part-time work. In the case of older physicians perhaps seeking a lifestyle change, this could work in the County. Put in your three days and then spend four at the cottage. The province can change this with a stroke of a pen.

The government could get rid of the line it has drawn between southern and northern Ontario, and treat regional and rural communities in the near north – places like us – as underserved areas. Bump up our numbers of required physicians.

Increase the number of medical students in the province. Ontario has announced it is adding 160 undergrad seats and 295 postgrad positions to medical schools over the next five years, 71 for up north. That number could increase.

Physicians and chiefs of staff have plenty of ideas if the Ontario government would only listen.

I can understand how a new physician

might be overwhelmed when faced with a patient suffering from a condition they have no experience with, and no specialist on-site. Why not provide rural and remote ER doctors with real-time virtual access to specialists?

How about funding for travel and accommodations for medical residents to take elective rotations in rural communities such as ours. It should not be the County that is responsible for housing these folks.

Some have suggested that when a locum travels to regions, they should be required to bring a resident physician from their home institution.

Another suggestion, this one for the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, is that they need to make it easier to license international medical school grads who want to work in rural and remote areas.

And there should absolutely be more incentives and return-of-service obligations to bring physicians to places such as Haliburton County.

The crisis is not going away. It is time for the Ford government to stop the bleeding.

By Lisa Gervais

LETTERS

Farmers market an asset

Dear editor,

When is Dysart et al council going to start treating the Haliburton farmers market as the asset it is and not a nuisance.

We’ve heard from the BIA that sales at Haliburton businesses were down last year when the market was moved away from the downtown.

You only have to look at how busy the Abbey Gardens store and the Haliburton Highlands Brewery were on Fridays last summer when the market moved there, to see that the market benefits local businesses.

Council should put the money into fixing the drainage problems at Head Lake Park once and for all instead of blaming the problem on the market.

The problem exists every time it rains, whether the market is there or not. It really seems that supporting local business is not a priority of council.

*Lee Donely
Kennisis Lake*

Land deal and farmers market

Dear editor,

Mayor Fearrey’s Dysart paid about \$15,000 more per acre for land than comparable land would cost (according to *The Highlander’s* anonymous real estate consultant), and \$19,000 per acre more than the free land that a citizen offered earlier as a gift. Moreover, there was no shopping around, no appraisal,

no information or seeking feedback from the community.

Mr. Fearrey also decided that the farmers market should pay \$1,000 per month for using Head Lake Park, which the market cannot afford; if they accept, the increase will affect how much locals will have to pay for market goods, including food stuff.

Mr. Fearrey is not shy to spend taxpayer money on odd land deals, and quite willing to impose new fees on selling farmers goods to the taxpayers. Perhaps Mr. Fearrey thinks this is an appropriate way to guard the public purse?

Moreover, according to his remarks to *The Highlander*, Mr Fearrey has a vision on how Haliburton village and the newly-purchased land should be developed. There is no indication so far that an official plan would need to be developed or any public consultation.

*Emese Kis
Haliburton*

Dysart lacking leadership

Dear editor,

Grounded in six years of personal experience as HCFMA vendors, we find Dysart et al’s position on the Haliburton farmers market embarrassingly archaic and acutely misguided.

Farmers markets are special, community events that bring people together to share the fruits of their labours, and their unique creations. It’s a creative outlet, a mere four-hour window where the consumer reaps the benefits of days and days of preparation.

We witness young mothers eagerly looking forward to their weekly market excursion, downtown business folk grabbing lunch, cottagers spending a day in town, spreading their dollars to downtown. We, and many of the vendors we work alongside, could not afford to participate if our table fees were increased. Farmers markets are a labour of love - we don’t know of any vendor who is paying their mortgage via sales.

Dysart council’s capitalistic point of view of ensuring it receives a piece of the pie from your average farmer, artisan, baker, etc. is shameful and prohibitive to community development. If the FM is priced out, it’s not only the vendors who lose. It would be a loss to everyone who lives, works and plays in and around Haliburton.

Vendors already feel unwelcome in Haliburton after last season’s rude banishment to Rotary Beach. An increase in fees is the ultimate nail in the coffin. We would like to ask council what damage to Head Lake Park has occurred? To our knowledge, the FM has never damaged the property.

We wonder, why build a new bathroom facility if not to offer its services to locals and seasonal guests while they enjoy a community event?

Additionally, this “logjam” of traffic that so offends coun. Casey has been occurring since we attended HHSS - decades before a FM took place. Welcome to the lack of infrastructure that is the village of Haliburton.

The views and comments in last week’s *Highlander* are short-sighted, and apathetic towards the very people who help make Haliburton the creative and artistic

Continued from page 8

community so many have grown to love. These views reflect leadership that is out of touch with the financial circumstances of their constituents, and devoid of a sincere connection with the community.

Sadly, we feel that Dysart et al council exudes privilege and appears to lack the compassion and community solidarity required to successfully lead a town as special as Haliburton.

Alexis Macnab and Matthew Thompson
Raisin the Root

Housing has to be the focus

Dear editor,

I want to thank Mike Baker for his column ‘Housing has to be the focus’ in last week’s Highlander.

It seems the land acquisition is a “done deal.” The Highlander gave us a complete explanation of how it was accomplished.

Like it or not, we own the land, now let’s hope the developers step forward soon and start the much-needed housing development.

Haliburton is growing in leaps and bounds, workers and students who would like to settle here cannot find a place to live.

I agree with you, Mike, housing has to be the number one focus.

Joan Cameron
Haliburton

‘No’ to a snitch line

Dear editor,

I am responding to the Jan. 11 opinion written by Chris Bishop about the deer bylaw.

So, Chris thinks it is a good idea to have neighbours spying on neighbours and turning them into his snitch line.

Seriously?

What a great way to turn the lovely town of Haliburton into a miserable place where neighbours mind the business of others and turn them into big brother on behalf of the so-called Stop Deer Feeding Properties Owners Coalition.

I don’t think it matters if you are for or against deer feeding, I don’t think calling for a snitch line can be a good thing for the moral or the social fabric of a town.

Albert Saxby
Haliburton

Coalition to save the deer

Dear editor,

I read the letter regarding the stop feeding the deer coalition and that we should call out our neighbours if we see them feeding the deer.

Wow! As if COVID-19 didn’t separate our community enough, now these people want to pit neighbours against each other, what have we become?

In such a small, tight-knit community, I

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Guenter Horst sent this photo of a recent sunrise in the County.

don’t think it will bode well.

Some communities in Canada have embraced the local wildlife and live together with them. These town deer have been here long before this stop feeding deer coalition. Leave them be. I think we should start our own coalition to save our precious, and beautiful wild friends.

Kerrie Marks
Haliburton

Pick up after your dog

Dear editor,

After a recent walk in Haliburton, I was disgusted by the amount of dog poop carelessly left by dog owners.

Don’t get me wrong. I love dogs. I have my own furry friend. Part of dog ownership is taking responsibility for your pet’s mess. If picking up poop grosses you out, then don’t have a dog.

By leaving it on the road, sidewalks, people’s private property, in parks, snowbanks, etc., you expose others to the harmful health effects of dog poop. The mess on their shoes goes without saying. Some people may think poop is natural and disintegrates, however, it takes up to one year for it to decompose. It is estimated that one dog excretes 274 pounds of poop per year. People mistake dog poop for fertilizer, thinking it might help grass and plants. Dog poop is toxic and is more acidic than the fertilizer you use for your garden or lawn. It contains bacteria and parasites that can infect humans (and other dogs) and get into our water system, causing contamination. Haliburton is such a beautiful town. We should take pride in it. Please make an effort to keep it that way.

Kim Kelly
Tory Hill

There is no winner

Dear editor,

Starting Jan. 1, 2024 middle income earners will start paying more CPP contributions on their paycheck.

This according to media coverage for those earners who make more than \$68,500 per year.

Those at this ceiling will not notice any changes to their current CPP contributions. For all those who fought for higher wages and better job security, they may now be hit with higher CPP payroll contributions if they will be making above the \$68,500 threshold.

There is no winner here for these Canadians and if pensioners think it will mean a substantial benefit to them, I would not hold my breath. We better keep our eyes open wide to see what else the Liberals and NDP cohort will pass on to Canadians.

What happened to the so-called interest received on CPP investment(s) by the federal government as reported some time ago?

Beverly MacDuff
Gooderham

Worried about growth and transportation

Dear editor,

I recently read that the County population is going to grow by 10,000 people by 2051.

My first thought was about the existing transportation infrastructure, and how radically different it is from large urban centres, in terms of terrain and possible dangers on, or near, the road surface, such as rock faces, ditches, waterways, forests and very little night-lighting. Plus, we have wildlife that is unpredictable, and a serious problem with alcohol and/or, drug-impaired drivers.

The predicted population boom is most probably coming from urban centres, rather than communities more remote than ours, resulting in many of the drivers having little or no experience dealing with the road dangers outlined above. Adding to the danger factor of the terrain is the lack of awareness of the need for heavy-duty winter tires, having more probably used “all-season” tires which do not cut the mustard in Haliburton County. Perhaps my concerns have already been considered, and taken to those who make the decisions regarding existing and planned transportation infrastructure.

My consciousness was raised in November when coming home from an event at the fish hatchery,

I realized there was no night-lighting whatsoever on Harburn Road, or my end of it. I have subsequently bought a high-powered flashlight and other emergency equipment.

Anne-Marie Borthwick
Haliburton

Bottles for firefighters

Dear editor,

In regards to Minden Hills’ proposed liquor bottle return at township landfills, I have a suggestion.

The Minden Fire Dept. had an informal bottle drop in the past but it’s currently unavailable. Given that our E.R. dept closed, it’s vital to make sure the firefighters are equipped with upgraded equipment to hasten rescue times and keep our volunteers as safe as possible. This benefits all residents and visitors equally and I’m sure it’s something we could all get behind.

Paul Clement
Minden Hills



HHSS letter winners Ava Allaire, Avery Horner, Sophie Longo, Colleen Petric, Matthew Wilson and Emmerson Wilson.

JULY

Starting their next chapter

Graduating students from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School celebrated in style June 29, crossing the stage in front of friends and family as they prepare for the next chapter of their lives. The class of 2023 included 105 graduating students.

County approved for CT scanner

Haliburton Highlands Health Services CEO Veronica Nelson announced July 7 the Ontario government had accepted an application for a CT scanner and mammography unit to be installed at the Haliburton hospital. Nelson said CT scanning has become the standard of care for the diagnosis of many life-threatening conditions. The Haliburton Highlands is the only county in Ontario without a CT scanner. Nelson estimated the cost at north of \$4 million.

Sports hall expanded

The Haliburton Highlands Sports Hall of Fame will now be featured in two locations, with athletes to be recognized at S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. The Hall of Fame debuted in 2022, with 17 inductees immortalized with plaques at A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton. Signs were erected at the Minden rink in late summer.

Minden CAO leaves

It was announced July 13 that Minden Hills CAO Trisha McKibbin would be leaving the township. She spent three years in the role and helped lead the municipality through COVID, while also navigating a major transition within council chambers, said mayor Bob Carter. She moved to Strathroy-Caradoc in southwestern Ontario, starting as CAO of that township in August. Cynthia Fletcher assumed the CAO position in Minden in November.

Celebrating 150 years

Gooderham celebrated its sesquicentennial in style July 28, welcoming people to the community bandstand for the fourth annual Gooderham Music Festival. Music was provided by the B&B Blues Band, Rockin' Bob's, the Salt Cellars, and Ed's Garage. Valerie Dugale, chair of the Gooderham Community Action Group, said the event was the perfect way to honour such a momentous birthday.

AUGUST

Action needed

A group of residents with homes overlooking the Wigamog Inn took aim at site owners, Aurora Group, and Dysart et al township, calling for the immediate demolition of derelict buildings on the property. Fred Nurnberger, Jerry Stokes and Mike Bernard, who live in the nearby Silver Beach subdivision, told *The Highlander* they were worried about safety risks the Wigamog site poses. Demolition began in April 2023. The demolition is delayed due to an ongoing Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks investigation, with Dysart bylaw officer, Hailey Cole, anticipating a late spring 2024 completion. Aurora Group has declined to comment.



Silver Beach residents Jerry Stokes, Mike Bernard and Fred Nurnberger want to see work completed to demolish the Wigamog Inn property.

Grace found

The remains of Grace, a 125-year-old snapping turtle who regularly frequented the Haliburton village area, were found at Koshlong Lake – approximately 15 kilometres away. Leora Berman, founder of The Land Between conservation group and Turtle Guardians charity, said a pair of swimmers found and collected the bones in mid-July. Grace had been missing for over a year, last spotted emerging from a wetland near Hal High in spring 2021. Berman believes Grace was purposely relocated, which she said was a death sentence. A memorial walk was held in Haliburton in September.

Leading the pack

Patrick Saini was the standout choice to lead the Haliburton County Huskies into the 2023/24 season as team captain, said head coach and general manager Ryan Ramsay. The 20-year-old has played his entire junior career with the franchise, dating back to its

days as the Whitby Fury, and follows in the footsteps of previous teammates Nathan Porter and Christian Stevens in wearing the 'C'.

End of an era

It was announced Haliburton's Ethel Curry Gallery would be shuttering in October. Owner Wayne Hooks said he could no longer financially sustain the business, which had been a local institution for 28 years. Hooks noted painting sales were way down in recent years. "It has been a wonderful voyage. I don't regret a minute of it," said Hooks, who launched the gallery with Ethel's nephew, Peter Curry, and his wife, Jody.

Bylaw adopted

Following months of deliberation, Dysart et al council formally adopted a new site alteration bylaw in August. The document works in tandem with the County's tree preservation bylaw to establish clear restrictions on what property owners can and cannot do on land fronting water and in environmentally protected areas. The bylaw calls for a 30-metre buffer zone for new development on the water and authorizes clearing of a five-metre-wide path to provide access to water on privately-owned land.

Flying the flag

Minden Pride chair Allan Guinan said this year's Pride Week theme of 'love is love is love' was chosen as a positive message to help counter negativity and vitriol that still exists towards LGBTQ+ people. The group organized events throughout Haliburton County between Aug. 21 and 27.

Sticking together

It was confirmed Highlands East will remain with neighbouring County municipalities in revised federal riding boundaries. In the summer, the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Ontario proposed parts of Highlands East be split from the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock riding to join a new Hastings-Lennox and Addington-Tyendinaga riding. Boundaries must be reviewed every 10 years to balance shifting populations. Local MP Jamie Schmale and Highlands East council opposed the move, which was repealed in August.

SEPTEMBER

A golden anniversary

Volunteers from the Algonquin Highlands Fire Department celebrated 50 years of firefighting with a community open house at the Stanhope Firefighters Hall Sept. 2. John Hogg, a volunteer for 45 years, was one of many firefighters on hand offering tours of the station and sharing stories from his time with the department. The Stanhope service was launched in January 1973, amalgamating with outposts in Dorset and Oxtongue Lake in 2000 under the umbrella of the Algonquin Highlands Fire Services.

Population overload

Haliburton County's population is going to grow by around 10,000 people over the next 30 years, Peterborough-based consulting firm Watson and Associates is predicting. In a report to County council Sept. 13, firm partner Jamie Cook, said migration is the key driver of local growth. He said the County had seen an approximate three per cent annual growth rate between 2016 and

2021 – about double the provincial average and way up from the one per cent increase seen in the Highlands from 2001 to 2015. To accommodate this growth, Cook predicts 5,200 new homes will be built by 2051, and around 3,000 new jobs brought online.

Liberals make promise

Four of the five candidates vying for leadership of the Ontario Liberal Party visited Minden Sept. 16, with each promising to reopen the Minden ER should the province vote red in the next general election. Nate Erskine-Smith, Ted Hsu, Yasir Naqvi and Adil Shamji said investing in health care was their number one focus. Eventual winner, Bonnie Crombie, wasn't in attendance, though a representative – sitting Don Valley West MPP Stephanie Bowman – indicated Crombie was on board with the reopening.

Clinic going full-time

The urgent care clinic at the site of the former emergency department in Minden is going full-time effective Oct. 3. Kawartha North Family Health Team executive director, Marina Hodson, said they were able to make the leap after hiring a full-time registered practical nurse and nurse practitioner. The clinic averages about 25 patients per day, dealing with things such as minor sprains, bruises, and people needing stitches.

New park opened

Long before the ribbon was cut, the kids christened the new Head Lake Park playground Sept. 23. The town had been without a dedicated play area for kids since June 2022. The new 9,000 sq. ft. accessible park cost just shy of \$600,000 and includes a new jungle gym, zip line and log climbing structure.



Rhys Foster climbs at the new Head Lake Park playground that opened Sept. 23.

OCTOBER

Art attack

Art was on display across the County in early October as The Studio Tour – Haliburton Highlands celebrated its 36th year. In 2023, 38 artisans took part at 23 locations, with mediums such as painting, jewelry making, pottery, metalworking and photography featured.

Land purchase

Dysart et al mayor Murray Fearrey labelled a 90-acre property fronting County Road 21 as "prime, developable land" after the township bought it for \$1.725 million. The municipality closed with the listed owner, Ontario Vantage Consulting – owned by Andrew Hodgson, in late July. Fearrey said the deal is one of the most significant in Dysart's history. He said the land would be used for residential development, while saying it could also serve as the perfect home

for a new arena and curling rink. Coun. Pat Casey said the site could be an ideal location for a swimming pool down the line.

Doors open

Haliburton County Development Corporation welcomed around 50 guests to the grand opening of The Link Oct. 4. The facility, located beside Haliburton Timber Mart, houses all HCDC operations, including its business incubator, the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, the Arts Council, services from the Business Development Bank of Canada, and provides office space for the County's economic development staff. Space inside is also available to the public for rent.

Two decades on the air

CanoeFM, Haliburton County's non-profit community radio station, turned 20 recently, with volunteers spanning two decades visiting the station to mark the occasion. Among those was Joan Cameron – widow of Don, whose idea it was to bring radio to life in the Highlands. Station manager Roxanne Casey said Canoe has grown a lot over the years, going from around 10 volunteers at its inception to 125 in 2023, with 40 of those frequently appearing on-air. Looking back at Canoe's biggest success stories, Casey said radio bingo, which has raised more than \$1 million since 20212, with half of that being donated back into the community, is the biggest.

Night of celebration

Fourteen County businesses and entrepreneurs were recognized at the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce awards Oct. 20. David Zilstra, publisher of the *Haliburton Echo* and *Minden Times*, was named Highlander of the Year, with businesses such as Sweat Social Health & Fitness, Haliburton County Chiropractic and Rehabilitation, Boshkung Brewing, Kennisis Lake Marina and Chaulk also honoured. Housing advocacy group Places for People received the annual Warden's award and Abbey Retreat Centre was named 'not for profit of the year'. Rebecca Neave, Sarah Dollo, Brandi Hewson, Jenn Emmerson and Sylvia Holland also received individual awards.



Haliburton Echo and Minden Times publisher David Zilstra accepts his Highlander of the Year award from *Highlander* publisher, Heather Kennedy Oct. 20 at Sir Sam's Ski & Ride/Eagle View Event Centre.

NOVEMBER

Businesses unite

Boshkung Brewing Co. and Truss Foodworks announced a merger in early November, with owners Mathew Renda and Mike Rae saying they want to make the Boshkung brand a household name not just in Haliburton County, but nationwide. The

businesses boast three locations - Boshkung Social and Taphouse in Minden, Boshkung Smokehouse at Haliburton Forest, and the Smoke on the Water patio and bar, which operates seasonally on Kennisis Lake. The Boshkung Lakeside retail location in Carnarvon closed at the end of 2023.

Burn it

Haliburton County council is investigating the feasibility of bringing a garbage incinerator to the Highlands. Coun. Walt McKechnie pitched burning garbage as an alternative to shipping to out-of-County landfills, which he said is very expensive and flies in the face of the upper-tier's environmental commitments. The issue has been referred to the County's waste management working group to determine if the County can afford to bring an incinerator online, and how the operation would work.



County coun. Walt McKechnie has wanted an incinerator for some time now.

Happy retirement

After more than eight years at the helm at the County of Haliburton, Mike Rutter is retiring as CAO. After growing up in the Highlands, Rutter was passionate about tackling some of the community's biggest problems. Housing was a major focus, with Rutter endorsing an Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus 7 in 7 housing initiative, designed to bring 7,000 new affordable units online in 14 communities by 2031. He was also an advocate of communal servicing, which he feels would open the door for more housing in rural areas. Gary Dyke was announced as Rutter's replacement, joining the County after more than 30 years working in the municipal field.

County buys in

County council agreed to give Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) and its foundation \$1 million towards the purchase and installation of a new CT scanner and mammography unit. The donation is conditional upon the County being granted a seat on the HHHS board. The total cost of the units is estimated at north of \$4 million, with HHHS president and CEO Veronica Nelson hoping to have the service online by summer 2024.

End of the line

TOK Coachlines announced in November that after 34 years serving the Haliburton, Kawartha and Durham regions, it will be discontinuing its Haliburton to Toronto bus line. The service ran three times weekly, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, but will cease Jan. 31, 2024. The company's CEO, Ajay Mehra, said TOK has been losing money on the route for the past four years. Each trip costs a minimum \$1,000, Mehra said, with TOK typically collecting around \$500 on fares.

Deer feeding a no-go

Dysart et al council signed off on updates to its bylaw outlawing the feeding of deer in Haliburton village and on waterfront areas along Lake Kashagawigamog Nov. 28. The issue was debated for much of 2023, with council landing on issuing a \$150 fine to anyone found to be intentionally feeding deer within the prohibited area.

DECEMBER

Nelson admits misstep

Haliburton Highlands Health Services president and CEO Veronica Nelson acknowledged the closure of the Minden ER "wasn't handled the best way" by the organization's volunteer board. The facility was shuttered June 1, with the board giving the Highlands community six weeks notice. Nelson said her main priority after being appointed full-time president and CEO is to rebuild the community's trust in HHHS.

County breach

Ontario's Ombudsman has rapped the County of Haliburton's knuckles over an April 27 closed door meeting that Paul Dube said should not have been held in-camera. He said the meeting, which dealt with the pending closure of the Minden emergency room, "did not fit within the closed meeting exceptions in the Municipal Act." Warden Liz Danielsen said council would use this as a "learning opportunity" and have directed staff to update the County's procedural bylaw and provide training to ensure this situation will not be repeated.

Making history

Haliburton County Huskies netminder Brett Fullerton made provincial headlines after scoring a goal from his own end in a Dec. 1 match-up over the Wellington Dukes - the inaugural goalie goal in Huskies franchise history, and first league-wide in 11 years. The 19-year-old Ancaster, ON native said the goal is the highlight of his hockey career to date. "Not something you ever think you're going to experience as a goalie," he said. "This is something that will stick with me forever."



Haliburton County Huskies goaltender Brett Fullerton shows off the puck he used to score his goalie goal, in a 3-1 win over the Wellington Dukes Dec. 1.

Back again

Algonquin Highlands mayor Liz Danielsen was chosen to be the warden of Haliburton County for 2024 during a Dec. 12 council meeting, beating out Minden Hills mayor Bob Carter. This marks Danielsen's sixth term as warden.

Student housing

Dysart et al mayor Murray Fearrey hopes the addition of a new student residence at the Haliburton School of Art + Design will lead to expanded programming at the college. Fearrey was one of several invited guests at a groundbreaking ceremony for the residence Dec. 15. The \$16 million project was described as game-changing by the mayor, with two, three-storey buildings containing 47 units to be added to HSAD's footprint within Glebe Park. Fleming College executive vice president of corporate services and marketing, Drew Van Parys, said things are on track for a 2024 completion, with student intake beginning in January 2025.



Ground was broken at the new Haliburton student residence Dec. 15.

Local bus line

County council endorsed the idea of a dedicated bus route between Haliburton and Minden, with an RFP going out to would-be service providers. Minden mayor, Bob Carter, raised the idea at a Dec. 13 meeting. He envisioned a line starting at the Minden arena, stopping at Hyland Crest long-term care home and the downtown, hitting stores along Hwy. 35 and then travelling up County Road 21 to Haliburton and stopping at key service points there.



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P.O. Box 92, 617 Mountain St.
Haliburton, Ontario KOM 1S0
Phone (705) 457-2074
Tuesday - Thursday 9am - noon
E-mail: office@haliburtonanglican.ca



The Borgdorff family – Gideon, Annabelle, Isaac, Rebeka and Graham – are travelling to Guatemala and Colombia next month for a "life changing" mission trip. *Submitted.*

Concert supporting Haliburton family mission trip

By Mike Baker

Haliburton's Graham Borgdorff said his family is starting to get excited as they make the final preparations for a two-week mission trip to Colombia and Guatemala.

Graham and wife, Rebeka – a teacher at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School – are taking their children Annabelle, 16, Isaac, 14, and Gideon, 13, to South and Central America next month.

"Knowing that other cultures do not have the same educational opportunities and government support as we have here in Canada... [we] desire to teach [our] children more about how others live, and about how to become more empathetic and generous as global citizens," Graham said.

In Colombia, they will work with impoverished children in daycares and orphanages – teaching ESL, bringing school supplies, assisting with a local food program, and participating in some building and repair projects, Graham noted.

In Guatemala they are partnering with Water Ambassadors Canada – the brainchild of Highlands residents Barry Hart and Heather Alloway – to drill a well for a small community outside San Antonio Palopo in need of clean, safe drinking

water. Money for the \$14,000 build was raised at an event in Haliburton last October.

Graham pegged the Borgdorff family's costs for the trip at about \$19,000. To date, they've fundraised approximately \$13,000. A benefit concert is being held Saturday (Jan. 20) at Lakeside Church in Haliburton to help the Borgdorffs reach their goal.

Local musicians Drew Allen, Benton Brown, and Laren Main are performing, along with Highlands-based band Upriver Draw. The performance begins at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$40 per person, \$60 per family, and \$25 for students and can be purchased through the Water Ambassadors Canada website. There will be baked goods and snacks for sale, alongside a raffle.

The Borgdorffs leave Feb. 10, returning to Haliburton Feb. 24. Rebeka said it's a trip she and her family will remember for the rest of their lives.

"Helping people who perhaps are not as fortunate as we are is a remarkable, life changing experience," she said. "We want to show our kids how others live in the world, what their needs are, and how they can help. We want to do what we can to spread some love around the world."



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Wayne and Mia Nguyen with baby, Lucas, and cousin, Louis, at Saigon Pho, which has opened in the Pizza on Earth building in Dorset. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

Bringing the tastes of Vietnam to Dorset

By Lisa Gervais

As temperatures plummet, the recently-opened Saigon Pho restaurant in Dorset is turning up the heat for those who love, or are willing to try, Vietnamese food. The pop-up restaurant is operating out of the Pizza on Earth building in the village. The venture came about because Mia Nguyen used to work for Pizza on Earth co-owner Elizabeth Johnson three years ago. The two stayed in touch and have become good friends. Mia said Elizabeth asked if she and husband, Wayne, would be interested in running their own restaurant over the winter months while Pizza on Earth is closed. Mia, who studied culinary management at college in Barrie, and loves to cook, jumped

at the chance. Now, she and Wayne and their one-year-old son, Lucas, as well as cousin, Louis, are the Saigon Pho team offering traditional Vietnamese food Friday, Saturday and Sunday. They held their grand opening Dec. 15 and were surprised by a great turn-out. It's the first restaurant venture for the couple, and Mia has been getting advice, and recipes, from her mother, who lives in Vietnam and ran a restaurant 20 years ago. Mia said, "everything is going well. It's not very busy but everyone tells us when we have more snow, the snowmobilers will come and the business is going to be busier. For us, there is nothing to lose as we are gaining experience."

Wayne chimes in that, "Mia has a passion for cooking. She has been an amazing cook at home. We've been great friends with Elizabeth since Mia worked here and we bring food for people up here all the time." Mia said Elizabeth and her family are her Canadian family, since her own, with the exception of Wayne, Lucas and Louis, are all in Vietnam. Wayne said he worked in a kitchen about 10 years ago while in university so it's a bigger learning curve for him. "We've been doing better than what we expected," he said. "It's been great and our customers, everyone, has been really great supporting us. The whole town kind of came when we first opened up." Mia added, "everyone welcomed us here."

During a tour, Louis is busy in the kitchen stirring items in a wok. The menu for now comprises crispy spring rolls; pho noodle soup, stir fry noodles, and a traditional Vietnamese pork sandwich (Banh Mi). Mia said that following the grand opening, she was worried because people left food on their plates. She couldn't sleep. "What's wrong with my food?" she asked as she tossed and turned. The next day she was told the food was delicious but the portions too big. It was a good problem. She said the experience thus far is making her think of a long-term career in the restaurant industry. Saigon Pho is at 1009 Clan Mackay Rd. Dorset. Call 249-877-1359.



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Highlands Brewery gets home of its own

By Lisa Gervais

After nearly 10 years at Abbey Gardens, Haliburton Highlands Brewing is making a move to what co-owner Jewelle Schiedel-Webb describes as “the busiest intersection in Haliburton County.”

She and co-owner, Michael Schiedel-Webb, recently announced the move to Carnarvon on social media. They have closed the operation in West Guilford and plan to re-open in the spring, just down the road from the intersection of Hwy. 35 and 118.

They have purchased the building that now houses Highland Leisure at 15543 Hwy. 35 in Algonquin Highlands and received rezoning approval from that council in December.

Jewelle said, “we are approaching our 10th anniversary this year. As one does, thinking about the future, because we lease our space at Abbey Gardens, if we could ever have a home of our own, where would we want it to be? What would we want it to look like? Having the opportunity to have our own space in Carnarvon, which is the busiest intersection in the County, was something when it came on the market at the very end of September, we just couldn't pass up.”

With the rezoning, allowing them to operate in the location, approved Dec. 14, Jewelle said, “we were pretty excited to be able to go forward with our plan.”

The brewer said they have a multi-part strategy to transition from West Guilford to Carnarvon.

They are planning to renovate the front of the existing building for their retail component, and ultimately install a kitchen and bathrooms to be able to serve beer and food.

“We expect that we will have significantly more indoor seating than we currently have. We won't have as much outdoor seating as in our current location. But I think from a seasonal perspective, being able to have more indoor seating for rainy days, and also through the winter, will be a significant improvement.”

Phase two, likely in fall 2024, will see structural renovations to enlarge the space and raise the roof. “That will allow us to get our production operation in the back portion of the building,” Jewelle said.

In the meantime, Jewelle said they will do small system brewing until the big tanks are installed. They are also working with another brewery to augment production during the transition. Their beer is available at outlets across the Highlands.

Jewelle said it is huge undertaking requiring a coordinated effort.

“We're excited about it. I think there's a lot of opportunity. It will be a more visible and higher traffic area with more indoor seating. The snowmobile trail is right there and I think it will really augment our winter business as well.”

Jewelle said they will keep the public up to date via social media but, “from a customer experience perspective, we are hoping to be up and running, and they can find all the things they expect from Haliburton Highlands Brewing, by the spring. May 24 at the latest.”

Jewelle also thanked their former landlords at Abbey Gardens and said their move now leaves space for someone else to occupy.

“We were part of the initial incubator model at Abbey Gardens, which has been a great experience for us and got us on our feet, which we very much appreciate. I think as we transition to a new space, hopefully that provides an opportunity for another business or maybe a couple of different businesses to utilize the space and have the same opportunity to bring another new, fresh, business opportunity into the County through that incubator model.”

Michael and Jewelle Schiedel-Webb of Haliburton Highlands Brewing are looking forward to moving the business to Carnarvon. *File.*



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- **The Miracle Worker** by William Gibson
- **The Birds & the Bees** by Mark Crawford

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Sunday, January 28, from 12:30 p.m.
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Character descriptions and other important details, including how to register, can be found in the audition package, linked from the HSF home page at
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Huskies strengthen blueline for playoff push

By Mike Baker

The Haliburton County Huskies stretched their undefeated streak to six games after a hard-fought come-from-behind 4-4 tie with the Toronto Junior Canadiens Jan. 14.

The blue and white travelled to the big city for Sunday's road tilt fresh off the OJHL's All-Star festivities, which saw captain Patrick Saini, rookie netminder Logan Kennedy and coaches Ryan Ramsay and Owen Flood fly the Huskies flag in Collingwood Jan. 12 and 13.

Ramsay was left to rue a slow start against the Canadiens, with the home side racing to an early 2-0 lead thanks to goals from former Husky Nicholas Athanasakos and Nolan Connolly, who was teed up by another former Haliburton product, Will Gourgouvelis. Connor Van Weelie made it a three-goal game 29 seconds into the second frame, giving the Huskies a mountain to climb.

"The opening period was one of our worst 20 minutes of the season. We only had four shots and just couldn't get going. We didn't start well at all," Ramsay said.

Despite battling back and creating some openings in the second half of the middle frame, the Huskies went into the second intermission down 3-0.

Canadiens forward Evan Malkhassian then handed the visitors a lifeline 12 seconds into the third, taking a minor hooking penalty. Saini duly obliged on the man advantage, scoring 14 seconds into the powerplay – assisted by Jack Staniland and Ty Petrou – to bring the Huskies back into the game.

Alex Bradshaw added a second for the blue and white at 13:44, assisted by Staniland and Ian Phillips.

As the Huskies pushed, they started to leave gaps at the back. Nathan Phillips took full advantage, scoring unassisted at 17:46 to re-establish the home side's two goal advantage.

Saini immediately muted the celebrations, scoring his 30th goal of the season at 18:07,



Huskies netminder Brett Fullerton sprawls to keep the puck out of his net. Photo courtesy of Paul Mauceri/OJHL Images.

assisted by Staniland. With the seconds trickling away, Ramsay called Fullerton to the bench, sending Lucas Stevenson on as the extra man. The veteran power forward tied the game with 13 seconds remaining on the clock to send the Huskies bench into a frenzy.

While both teams pushed for a winner, they couldn't be separated through two overtime periods – giving the Huskies their third tie of the season.

"My message was 'good job responding in the last period, but if we hadn't started so badly, we wouldn't have needed to do that'," Ramsay said. "But all credit to the boys, they didn't stop working. They got better as the game went along, and I always say good teams find ways to get points. The stakes are so tight right now, that point could be crucial come the end of the season."

The Huskies added three blueliners to their ranks last week, bringing in 20-year-old defenceman Matthew Milic from the

Burlington Cougars and teenage talents Tyson Rismond, 17, and Zach Wilson, 16, from the Ontario Hockey League's North Bay Battalion.

Milic figures to see big minutes as a top four option in Haliburton, with Ramsay saying he had been chasing the six-foot defenceman's signature for most of the season.

"Matt is a guy we've liked for a long time. He's a veteran of this league, a good puck-moving defenceman who is more than capable on the powerplay. I think he can help us in a big way down the stretch," Ramsay said.

Wilson and Rismond, who both featured against the Canadiens, bolster the Huskies depth on the blueline. Their move to Haliburton County came about due to Ramsay's ties to the Battalion, where he's served in a player development role since the summer.

"For them to play meaningful hockey and

intense games, it's only going to help their hockey development. We didn't have much depth on defence and we didn't want to be in a position like last year, where we had a couple of injuries in the playoffs and could only dress four defenders," Ramsay said. "Now we're feeling more confident heading into the last months of the season, and, hopefully, looking to playoffs."

There has been one departure, with forward Nicholas Lamont leaving the team for personal reasons. Ramsay said he hopes to welcome the 18-year-old, acquired from the Collingwood Blues in November, back before the end of the season, but isn't sure on a return.

The team is back in action Jan. 19 for a road tilt against the table-topping Trenton Golden Hawks before welcoming the Burlington Cougars to S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena Jan. 20. Puck drop is set for 4 p.m.

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Top: Lucas Stevenson celebrates after scoring a late equalizer in the Huskies 4-4 tie with the Toronto Junior Canadiens Jan. 14. Above: Huskies captain Patrick Saini handles the puck. Photos courtesy of Paul Mauceri/OJHL Images.





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Haliburton brings the storm indoors

On Saturday, Jan. 13, the Lindsay Muskies travelled through a snowstorm to play our U7 G.J. Burtch Construction home team.

Haliburton brought the storm indoors for some fun exhibition play.

The Muskies started the game strong but Hudson Lynch, Haliburton's goalie, was able to temper their offence with save after save. Hudson made it very difficult for the Muskies to hit the net with his acrobatic movements.

Ashton delivered at the other end of the ice with some fierce play, firing shot after shot. One shot was so hard that when it hit the goalie's stick, the stick fell to the ice from the sheer power behind it. Ashton was quick to get back on defense and even blocked a potential goal with his skate.

Gryphon, Blake and Maddox put continuous pressure on their defense, frustrating the fish in their attempts to get the puck down the ice.

The Storm trio combined for a few goals by playing together as a team.

Annabelle, Jase, Clark and Nathan made some great passes to assist their team in their victory.

The coaches were proud of their team's effort and commended the group about their strong back checking (Submitted).



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STARS of the WEEK



Hudson Lynch

Hudson was able to shut down numerous breakaways, one in particular when he dove across the net to take away the Muskies opportunity to take the lead.



Ashton Emmerson

Ashton could not be contained on this day and provided many goals for the Storm. He worked incredibly hard and his teammates were proud of his success.



Annabelle Hutson

Annabelle was sound defensively. She wasn't afraid to go to the corners, and when pressured, made crisp backhand passes to her teammates, providing many opportunities for her team to score.

Photos by Tim Tofflemire.

SCOREBOARD										
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Jan. 11	U13 Walker's Heating & Cooling VS Lindsay • 5-1 W
Jan. 14	U11 Car Quest VS South Muskoka • 4-3 W
	U13 Cheryl Smith RE/MAX VS Almaguin • 21-0 W
Jan. 8	U13 Walker's Heating & Cooling VS Mariposa • 9-1 W
	U9 Haliburton Hockey Haven VS Almaguin • 11-6 L
	U15 Haliburton TimberMart VS Newcastle • 8-1 W

EVENTS

Jan. 18, 6:30 p.m.
The Canadian Federation of University Women have interest groups in hiking, cuisine, wellness, cards and many more - just join your favourites. This women's advocacy group is open to all, with speakers at the monthly meetings. This month, hear an update on the Volunteer Dental Outreach program in Haliburton County. Available via Zoom. To register, visit cfuwvh.ca, or contact Gail Gotter at g_gotter@hotmail.com.

Jan. 19, 5:30 p.m.
Flannel Frolic dinner, dance and concert at the Haliburton Legion, with all money raised supporting the Highlands Summer Festival. Live music by Adverse Conditions. Tickets are \$50, or \$90 for two. There will be an auction, with items listed at highlandsummerfestival.on.ca. Tickets can be purchased online or by calling 705-457-9933.

Jan. 20, noon to 4 p.m.
Winter Magic Skate on Lake Kashagawigamog, hosted by Bonnie View Inn. Bring your own skates or cozy up to one of many outdoor fire pits for an afternoon of community fun.

Jan. 20, 7 p.m.
Enjoy a wee taste of the Highlands as the Haliburton Legion hosts Robbie Burns Night. Come out for an evening of dancing, Scottish food and live music.

Jan. 22, 7 p.m.
The Wilberforce Heritage Guild invites you to attend its 2024 annual meeting at the Wilberforce Red Cross Outpost, 2314 Loop Road. Everyone welcome. For more information, contact Barb Schofield at 705-448-2598 or wilberforcebarb@yahoo.ca.

Jan. 24, 1 p.m.
Travel for Seniors presentation, with Linda Coneybeare. Learn about new travel rules, post-COVID travel, insurance needs, types of travel, mobility issues and more. This event is free and takes place at St. George's Anglican Church.

Jan. 25, 7 p.m.
Environment Haliburton! and Seniors for Climate Action Now! present Rick Hill, an Indigenous historian, artist and educator who will speak about how to embrace the values necessary to ensure a sustainable world for future generations. Available via Zoom. To register, visit environmenthaliburton.org.

Jan. 27, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Aging Together as Community Haliburton Highlands conference 'Inspiring Creativity, Empowering Change' at Pinestone Resort. All ages are welcome. There is no charge. Register by Jan. 13 by emailing agingtogetherhc@gmail.com, or visit our Facebook page.

Jan. 31, 7:30 p.m.
The Lake Kashagawigamog Organization is hosting Ken Cox, southern region fire advisor to Ontario Aviation and Forest Emergency Services (a branch of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry) for a Zoom seminar 'The forest is on fire'. To register, visit lko.ca or call Kate's Burger Counter at 705-286-4554.

Feb. 2, 1 to 2:30 p.m.
The Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Public Library welcome you to join in a series of PA Day movies during the school year. There will be a free, family-friendly movie screening in the Welch Room at the cultural centre. No registration required. Snacks will be provided. Movies will be decided via vote at the Minden library, or online at haliburtonlibrary.ca.

Feb. 3, noon.
Minden & District Horticultural Society invites you to its annual pot luck event at Our Lady of Fatima Church in Minden (7 Bobcaygeon Rd.). Please bring your own mug, plate and utensils. Lunch will be followed by a presentation from guest speaker Marilyn Bodogh, 'Hearts and Flowers'.

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 129 Haliburton weekly activities
Mondays: Bridge at 1 p.m. in the Schofield Rm.
Tuesdays: League darts 7 p.m. Haliburton Army Cadets practice 6:30-9 p.m.
Wednesdays: Bid euchre 1 p.m., main hall. Bingo is on a break, hoping to return in March.
Thursdays: General meeting third Thursday of the month at 6:30 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, for rental information call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com/facility-rentals. Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129... everyone is welcome!

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 624 Wilberforce
Jan. 18: HHHS Social from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Open 2 to 6 p.m.
Jan. 19: Open 2 to 9 p.m. Wings and jam session from 5 to 8 p.m.
Jan. 20: Pat and Phyllis Gallen Fish Derby. Open 2 to 6 p.m. Meat draw at 3 p.m.
Jan. 21 - 23: Closed
Jan. 24: Open 2 to 6 p.m. Darts at 2 p.m.

Pat and Phyllis Gallen Fish Derby Jan. 20 (weather and ice permitting). Register by Jan. 19 at 9 p.m. at the legion, or Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. at the Wilberforce Service Centre. Weigh in between 3 and 6 p.m. Hot chili for sale during the weigh-in.

If you are planning an event, our Ladies Auxiliary would be pleased to cater. Please call the branch at 705-448-2221 to arrange your event.

Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 519 Cobocank
Second Monday of the month: General meeting - 7:30 p.m. No meetings in January or February.
Tuesdays: Soup and sandwich lunch, 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Euchre - 1 p.m. Open Darts - 7 p.m.
First Wednesday of the month: Big Buck Bid Euchre from 11 a.m. \$15 per person.
Saturdays: Meat Roll at 3 p.m.

For more information call 705-454-8127

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 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541

Weekly activities:
Karaoke: call for dates
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.



PUBLIC NOTICE

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

- File No. PLSRA2023017:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull Lake, lying in front of 1053 Bud's Lane located within Lot 21, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Lutterworth.
- File No. PLSRA2022063:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Canning Lake, lying in front of 1126 Dugan Road located within Lot 17, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Minden.
- File No. PLSRA2023012:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull Lake, lying in front of 1032 Pacific Road located within Lot 22, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Lutterworth
- File No. PLSRA2023013:** Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Gull Lake, lying in front of 1031 Hoffman Road located within Lot 22, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Lutterworth

The Council meeting to consider a by-law to stop up, close and convey the parcels listed above will be scheduled for **January 25, 2024**.

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

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

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons)
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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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1	C	A	H	N		5	T	S	A	R		9	A	C	U	R	A	
14	C	L	E	A	15	R	A	N	C	E		16	C	A	N	A	M	
17	C	O	N	G	E	R	E	E	L		18	A	N	I	T	A		
19	P	O	R		20	A	G	E	R		21	S	P	A	T	E	S	
	22	F	I	N	D	E	R	S	24	K	E	E	P	E	R	S		
			25	O	A	T			26	R	E	L	E	D				
27	N	A	P	A			30	A	M	I	E	L		32	W	I	E	
35	F	A	R	M	E	R	S	A	L	M	A	38	N	A	C	S		
39	S	H	E		40	Y	O	K	E	L		41	A	Y	E	S		
		42	S	P	E	L	T			44	H	T	S					
46	F	E	E	L	G	O	O	48	D	M	O	V	I	50	E	51	S	
52	A	V	A	I	L	S		53	O	T	T	S		54	L	I	55	U
56	T	E	S	S	A		57	W	H	I	T	E	R	A	T	S		
59	O	R	O	S	S		60	M	E	D	I	T	A	T	E	D		
61	F	I	N	E	S		62	D	R	A	P		63	P	E	S	O	

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

1	A	L	F	A		5	T	P		8	A	S	C	A	P			
14	L	A	I	D	15	B	A	R	E		16	M	O	T	H	R	A	
17	G	I	R	D	L	E	O	N	E	S	L	O	I	N	S			
		19	S	N	A	R	L	A	T		20	O	R	E	S			
21	U	T		23	K	I	L	L	E	24	A	P	P	L	E			
26	A	S	P	R	E	E				28	U	N	S					
29	M	E	A	N				30	P	A	B	S	T		33	D	A	M
36	B	I	G	B	37	A	N	G	L	E	T	H	39	E	O	R	Y	
40	A	T	E		41	T	E	S	T	Y		42	E	G	G	O		
			43	A	U	X				44	S	L	O	W	U	P		
46	T	H	U	M	B	T	49	A	C	K	L	E		52	A	S	E	
53	I	O	N	E			54	G	E	R	I	T	55	O	L			
56	N	U	M	B	57	E	R	O	N	E	P	I	C	K	59	L	E	
61	G	R	E	A	S	E		62	S	M	I	T	H	E	R	S		
63	S	I	T	S	O	N		64	E	E	N		65	O	R	T	S	

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

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OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of
Dorothy Wilson
(nee Playford)
(Resident of Haliburton)

Passed peacefully at Highland Wood on Wednesday, December 27, 2023 at age 94. Wife of 70 years and best friend of the late Ken Wilson. Loving mother of Paul (Kim), Debbie (Ed McCallum), John (Marilou Mizzan) and Tracey. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Lauren (Chris), Adam (Ashley), Jeff (Jessica), Hilary (Ryan), Michael, Ryan (Joanne), Shawn (Alex), Lyndsey (Jonathan), Andrea (Melanie), Courtney (Monte), Brett (Lauren), Holly (Pablo), Andy, Carter and by her twenty-nine great grandchildren. Survived by sister Norma and brother Bill. Predeceased by siblings Stuart, Ethel, Muriel, Russ and Ken. Dorothy was a long time resident of Haliburton. She was a stay-at-home mom until 1969, when she began working as a bookkeeper at Haliburton Lumber with her husband until they retired in 1989. She enjoyed being with her family, sewing, gardening and travelling with their many friends.

Private Celebration of Life

The family will hold a private Celebration of Dorothy's life. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation or a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.



www.communityfuneralhomes.com



In Loving Memory of
Douglas "Doug" Glen McElwain
(Resident of Fenelon Falls)

Peacefully at Ross Memorial Hospital in Lindsay on Saturday January 6, 2024 in his 86th year. Beloved husband and best friend of Darlene McElwain (nee Gill). Loving father of Nancy (Randy Martin) and Janet (Tim Sargent). Fondly remembered by his grandchildren Shannon (Mike), Corey, Kevin (Genevieve), Adam (Jordan) and by his great grandchildren Issac, Zackary, Kase, Kielle and Everett. Dear brother of William and Linda (Len Thompson) and Donna. Predeceased by his great grandson Cameron, his sisters Florence, Bonnie, Diane, Patricia and by his brothers Wilson, Wallace, Harry, Donald and Gerald. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Doug worked for Holland Lumber in Oshawa for many years as a truck driver. He enjoyed country music and most of all his family.

Visitation & Funeral Service

Friends called at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Monday morning, January 15, 2024 from 11 a.m. until time of the Funeral Service in the Chapel at 12 o'clock (Noon). Interment later South Wilberforce Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.



www.communityfuneralhomes.com



In Loving Memory of
William Douglas
"Doug" Eastman

Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Monday, January 8, 2024, at the age of 89. Dear father of Kathy (Myles) Gartshore, Cindy (Jack) Saunders, Paul (Lee-Ann), Angie (John), Karen (Bill) Harford, Tim (Adri). Loving grandpa of Dawn (Joel), Michelle (Lerone), Amanda, Blayne (Kerri), Benji (Jessie), Brooke (Justin), Luke (Heather), Selena (Jeff), Rachel (Guy), Paige, Jesse (Danie), Christopher (Fiona), Robin (Ritchie), Jeff (Jasmine), Brandon (Kim), Tanya, Joshua, Julia and 33 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren. Fondly remembered by his family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Road, P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 on Monday, January 15, 2024 from 11:00 am until the time of the Service to Celebrate Doug's Life at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow in the Monk-Cray Family Centre at the funeral home. Spring Interment at Ingoldsby Pioneer Cemetery.

Memorial Donations to the Share the World Global Canada (Gideon International in Canada) would be appreciated by the family.



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



Walsh, Roberta

Passed away, surrounded with the love of her daughters, at The Peterborough Regional Health Centre, Peterborough, on Sunday, December 31, 2023.

Roberta Walsh, age 77 of Wilberforce, was the beloved wife of the late Max Walsh (2007). Loved mother of Kathy (Stephen) Rogers of Wilberforce, Rhonda Walsh of Wilberforce, Julie Walsh of Colborne and Predeceased by Robert Walsh. Cherished grandmother of Michael and Stephanie. Sister of Jackie (Wayne Campbell). Predeceased by Sylvia Bidgood. Sister-in-law of the late Blanche and the late Bob Aston, Joan (the late Fred) Meharrie, Judy (Vince) Coburn, the late Jackie (Emile) Bouchard and the late Stan (Norma) & Bernard (Lois).

Roberta was a lover of both family and community. She enjoyed bringing people together and sharing good fortune. Roberta with Max operated the Bostonian Motel – welcoming many folks into our community – lots of fun was always happening; bonfires, swimming, good food and good times.

Roberta is well known to many as "Brown Owl" a title she was very proud of. Roberta held the position of Curling Club President for many years enjoying the sport tremendously and still an avid watcher as she whammied the teams she did not like. Her most treasured accomplishment was her family with a special place in her heart for her grandchildren.

Roberta's family received friends and relatives at St. Margaret's Anglican Church, 2323 Loop Rd., Wilberforce on Thursday, January 4, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. A Funeral Service followed at 1:00 p.m. with Dave Burton presiding. Reception followed at the Lloyd Watson Community Centre, Wilberforce. Interment Essonville Cemetery, Essonville. As expressions of sympathy, donations to Essonville Historic Church would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements entrusted to M.G. Daly Funeral Home, Maynooth. (613) 338-3259 (Condolence messages may be e-mailed to dalyfuneralhome@bellnet.ca or visit www.mgdalyfuneralhome.com).



In Loving Memory of
Margaret Yvonne MacDuff

Peacefully at the Pembroke Regional Hospital, with her family at her side on Saturday January 6, 2024 at the age of 84 years. Yvonne MacDuff (nee Sisson), beloved wife of Elgin MacDuff. Loved mother of Mark MacDuff (late Sandra), Dundas ON, and Diane Evans (Mark), Pembroke. Loving grandmother to Brendan and Malcolm MacDuff, Carla Neilly (Ryan), Mt. Albert, Elisa Noseworthy (Steve), Bethany Evans (Jesse) both of Pembroke and great grandchildren Damian, Skyler, Brody and Mya. Dear sister of Marilyn Hadley (late Ivan), Lindsay ON. Daughter of the late Carl and Eva (nee Pritchard) Sisson. Survived by her nieces and nephews.

Cremation has taken place. A Service of Remembrance will be held in Gooderham Cemetery, Gooderham ON in the Spring.

Arrangements entrusted to the Murphy Funeral Home, Pembroke.



www.murphyfuneralhome.ca

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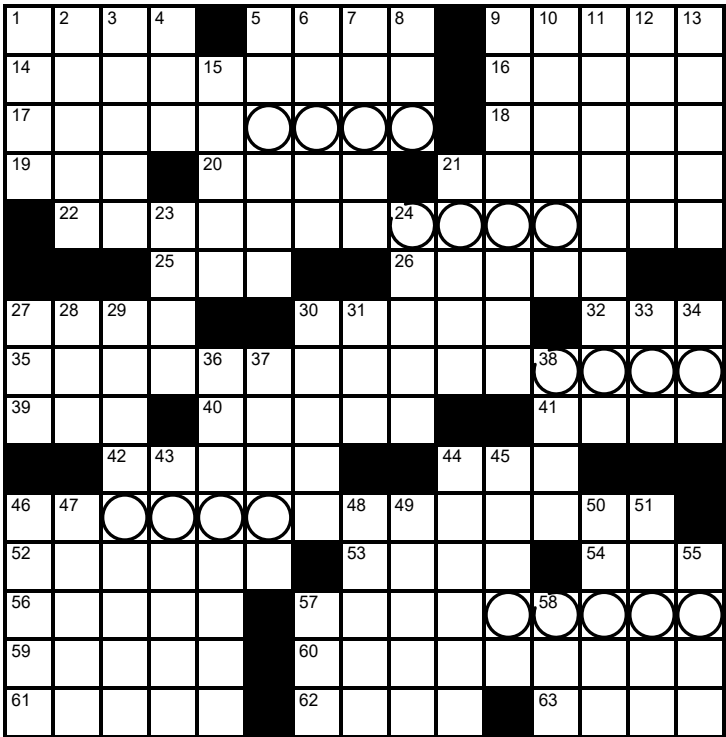
Looking Back

Across

- 1 "Let it Snow" lyricist Sammy
- 5 St. Petersburg bigwig
- 9 Honda luxury auto
- 14 Sign of selling out
- 16 Dirt bike maker from Montreal
- 17 Snaky fish used in bisque
- 18 ___ Anand, Minister of Defense
- 19 For, for Fernando
- 20 Golden ___ (boomer, today)
- 21 Sudden, intense surges
- 22 "Your loss is my gain," in essence
- 25 Rolled breakfast bit
- 26 Ran over?
- 27 Auto parts franchise
- 30 Writer Barbara, wife of Conrad Black
- 32 ___ geht's? (German greeting)
- 35 Weather references for growers
- 39 "___ Walks in Beauty" (Lord Byron poem)
- 40 Hayseed
- 41 Aberdeen assents
- 42 Type of high-protein flour
- 44 Driver's lic. stats
- 46 Happy-ever-after films, e.g.
- 52 Uses to one's advantage
- 53 Hockey's Steve and baseball's Mel
- 54 Lucy of "Charlie's Angels"
- 56 Virtue of ice dancing
- 57 Certain lab assistants
- 59 Actor Ed in "Dick Tracy"
- 60 Contemplated spiritually
- 61 Gives a ticket
- 62 Bedsheet: Fr.
- 63 Thing to buy in Mexico?

Down

- 1 USSR, in the USSR
- 2 Standoffish
- 3 NHL's ___ "Pocket Rocket" Richard
- 4 Old grey mare, for one
- 5 Gear toward, as ads
- 6 Visibly scoff
- 7 Premium servers
- 8 Father's field: Abbr.
- 9 Barbershop style: Var.
- 10 Soirée hors d'oeuvre
- 11 Aid group akin to Unicef
- 12 Submitter to Rotten Tomatoes
- 13 Build up
- 15 ___ book (enjoy fiction)
- 21 "Now you ___, now you don't"
- 23 Linguist/philosopher Chomsky
- 24 Whale's chow
- 27 Unavailable to buyers: Abbr.
- 28 Something to say to an ENT
- 29 When exhibition games are played
- 30 Request one's attendance at
- 31 West of Hollywood
- 33 Finish the cake
- 34 Three before vee
- 36 Visual aid
- 37 Hershey caramel treats
- 38 ___ lamak (national dish of Malaysia)
- 43 Delicate, crimped fabric
- 44 Great lead on a story
- 45 One of many in a sports bar
- 46 Live off the ___ the land (afford luxury)
- 47 "The First Time ___ Saw Your Face"
- 48 "It'll ___ good" ("She needs it")
- 49 Peak of central Crete
- 50 Thrill
- 51 Areas to build on, say
- 55 "Till death ___ part"
- 57 Bush Jr.'s pursuit in Iraq
- 58 Don't use the doorbell, say



by Barbara Olson
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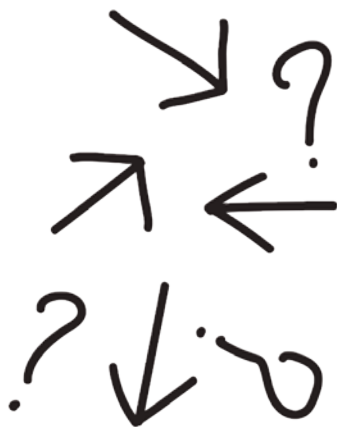


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				7				6
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		2		9	1	8	3	4
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	7		8		2			
6		9	7			5	2	
	4				9	3		



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