





## TheHighlander

Thursday July 9 2020 | Issue 447

**INSIDE: BUILDING & RENOS PAGE 18** 

**FREE** 



Roofer Gunter Franke claims he warned Haliburton Highlands Health Services about the need to replace the Highland Wood roof for years. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

## Highland Wood broke regulations, inspector says

### HIGHLANDER INVESTIGATES

By Joseph Quigley

Families of residents of Highland Wood in Haliburton are criticizing management of the long-term care home after an inspection found they failed to comply with maintenance regulations for the facility's roof.

The Ontario Ministry of Long-Term Care completed an inspection Feb. 27, finding

five regulatory infractions.

The issues relate to the roof severely leaking in February 2019, forcing the evacuation of residents. The report said Highland Wood was not complying with protocols for emergency planning, cleaning, and routine and preventative maintenance.

Family council chair Trina West said the report helps illustrate the families' belief that the roof collapse was preventable, contrary to assertions of Haliburton

Highlands Health Services (HHHS). She added HHHS should have repaired the roof in 2017, at the same time the attached hospital roof was fixed.

"The result of this negligence was the traumatic and unnecessary experience of the displacement of residents in the home due to the extensive roof leak in February 2019, causing severe distress to residents, families and staff," West said in a June 17 letter from the family council

to HHHS administration. "There must be accountability."

HHHS president and CEO Carolyn Plummer said the organization had already identified some of the issues raised by the inspection and was addressing them through its action plan on Highland Wood released Feb. 21.

"The February inspection report will be helpful to identify strategies for continued improvement," she said.

Continued 'HHHS' on page 10



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### Fire ban in effect

The County's four lower-tier municipalities, on July 7, announced a county-wide total fire ban.

They said that due to high temperatures and an extreme fire hazard, the ban is effective immediately.

It applies to all outdoor burning and fireworks, including agricultural burns, flying lanterns, brush piles, container fires, open flames and charcoal burning appliances.

It further means:

- •All burn permits are suspended until further notice.
- All fires must be extinguished.
- Fireworks are prohibited.
- Portable charcoal equipment (e.g., BBQs, Hibachis, etc.) cannot be used.
- CSA-approved propane or gasoperated appliances (propane BBQs) may be used, following the manufactures guidelines.
- Outdoor fireplaces, fire rings and other outdoor fires shall not be lit at any time.
- There are no exceptions, including using fire for cooking or warmth.
- Burn barrels and incinerators shall not be used.

Violation of the fire ban may result in a fine and fees for the fire department for responding.

## Highlands East suspects get bail

Two suspects charged with possession of stolen property from Highlands East have been released on bail.

A 35-year-old-man, appeared in Belleville Court June 26 for a hearing

on charges of possession of property obtained by crime, two counts of careless storage of a firearm, two counts of unauthorized possession of a firearm, four counts of failing to comply with a release order, four counts of breach of recognizance and possession of a controlled substance.

The court released the man with conditions to live with a family member providing surety for him in Victoria, British Columbia, with a no-deposit bail of \$5,000.

He is next scheduled to appear at court in Bancroft Aug. 25.

A 69-year-old-woman, was also charged with possession of property obtained by crime, two counts of careless storage of a firearm and two counts of unauthorized possession of a firearm.

She was released on bail June 25 and is scheduled to appear Aug. 11.

## Police charge three for drug trafficking

Police arrested and charged three Haliburton residents with drug trafficking June 30.

In a press release, OPP said the Haliburton Highlands and City of Kawartha Lakes Community Street Crime Unit conducted a vehicle stop as part of a drug investigation. Police said they found the suspects in the vehicle had cocaine and fentanyl.

All three suspects face charges of possession for trafficking and possession of property obtained by crime. Two of the suspects are also charged with failing to comply with a probation order.

All were released on undertakings and are scheduled to appear in Minden court Sept. 2.



Two people have been charged after a February investigation into a Minden property with chained dogs. *File photo*.

## Two charged for animal offences

Two suspects have been charged with permitting animals to be in distress and failing to comply with standards of care.

A Minister of the Solicitor General spokesperson said the charges under the Provincial Animal Welfare Services Act were served July 2.

The ministry said on Feb. 7 in Minden Hills, the individuals failed to protect two hound-type dogs and five puppies from harmful temperatures and the elements.

Also, on Feb. 13 in Minden Hills, the spokesperson said the suspects failed to provide adequate and appropriate water. The suspects also face a charge for failing to comply with an order.

Two City of Kawartha Lakes residents are scheduled to appear at court in Minden Oct. 13.

(News briefs compiled by Joseph Quigley and Lisa Gervais)

inter Green

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The township office has reopened. File.

## Algonquin Highlands wades into short-term rental waters

**By Lisa Gervais** 

Short-term rentals are on the agenda when Algonquin Highlands staff and council meet for a special council meeting July 10.

Mayor Carol Moffat said during the mayor's report on CanoeFM July 2 that it will be an E-meeting as they have been doing for several weeks.

She emphasized it's not a public input session.

"This is simply a meeting where council will get our feet wet. We'll receive a staff report. We'll find out what other folks are doing."

Moffatt conceded it is a contentious topic. "Short-term rentals are a really important aspect of our community and our economy. They're problematic as well. So, we need to

Moffatt added, "we'll make sure there's plenty of notice for the public input process going forward."

She encouraged anyone who wants to watch the proceedings to check out the township website or the mayor's Facebook page for a link.

### Office reopening

find a balance there."

As of last week, the Algonquin Township office is open.

Moffatt said as staff transition back, there are protocols in place for the public.

"It's to keep public and staff safe, of course," she said.

Moffatt reiterated they're doing visits by

appointment only for now. People have to call ahead and book an appointment with the staff person they want to see. It's also "BYOM," or bring your own mask.

Moffatt said staff are eager to get back to work but also have trepidation as it's still "a worrisome time."

"There is no such thing as business as usual, which I think we all know. But we are encouraging folks to continue doing their business with staff by phone and slowly getting back to an 8:30-4:30 routine with staff in the office. So, we'll see how that goes."

## Square at landfills working well

Moffatt said the new digital payment system installed at the Maple Lake landfill is working out well.

The township put the touchless pay system in place a couple of weeks ago, which is allowing them to collect construction and demolition waste, and things such as tires and electronics after a long COIVD-19 related ban.

Those items can be taken Friday, Saturday and Sunday of each week.

"The first couple of weeks went really, really well so we're really glad about that," the mayor said.

(Algonquin Highlands news compiled by Lisa Gervais)













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## Minden Hills landfills opening doors wider

By Lisa Gervais

Minden Hills taxpayers are now able to take other materials to two waste disposal sites, after being restricted to just household garbage and recyclables for months.

Council voted July 2 to allow exact change payments of cash immediately and a digital payment system in the very near future.

Just two weeks earlier, they voted against going entirely cashless with a Square system at Scotch Line and Ingoldsby.

Director of public works, Travis Wilson, thanked staff for bringing the item back to a special meeting.

"Staff were eager to get a form of payment for Scotch Line and Ingoldsby sites and hope the changes proposed in this report can receive the support of a majority of council," he said.

Wilson explained, "if you come in with \$5 for garbage (if you are over the bag limit) and only have a \$10 bill, we have to accept a \$10 bill, or perhaps a digital payment."

The system, designed to limit contact between the public and landfill staff during COVID-19 would be in place to Oct. 31, and then reviewed.

Coun. Bob Carter asked when the changes could be implemented. Wilson said the cash option could be done almost immediately but it could take two to three weeks from July 2 to get the digital payment system up and running.

Coun. Jean Neville wanted cash payments

to be accepted as soon as possible.

"There is going to be a lineup at (Highway 35) with just the people I know who have been after me about this construction waste," she said. "I've had people that have taken pickup trucks there twice and had to go home and unload them because they've been turned away. There're people that have drywall disintegrating into their yards that they're trying to get rid of, trailers that are full to overflowing and we have to start this like today. I have people constantly, every day, at me about this. I'm losing sleep over it so we can't wait any longer."

Wilson said no other municipality is accepting cash payments, and "in terms of getting things started, staff would have liked to have this in place two weeks ago, however we're back at this again today,"

CAO Lorrie Blanchard expressed some reservations.

For example, she said council had to consider scenarios such as, "someone comes up and they say 'I've got a \$20 bill and I wanted to bring an extra bag of garbage with me', which is \$2 and we're not going to give them \$18 back and the person says, 'you know what? I was going to buy a bag of milk with that." She said she was also seeking a legal opinion as the township could also be dealing with its fees and charges bylaw. She noted the discussion also was cross-organizational, such as the handling of money at the administration office when reopened.



The Township of Minden Hills is expanding what materials it is taking at Scotch Line and Ingoldsby landfill sites. *Photo by Lisa Gervais*.

Mayor Brent Devolin asked if they couldn't just proceed unless a reason came up that they could not.

Coun. Ron Nesbitt agreed, saying he'd had numerous calls from people about when the township will accept other items. He said he'd also had calls about illegal dumping.

Coun. Neville added, "We're infracting ourselves on the clean and clear bylaw with people's yards."

Coun. Carter said the township shouldn't "confound" the issue but just stick to

landfills for now. "As long as you put it out there ... (that people) need correct change, then so be it. Just do it and get this going. The decision we make today is not necessarily the decision six weeks from now. See what the issues are, refine as we go along. Be logical about this and get it going."

Coun. Pam Sayne said there would be lineups and proper staffing must be in place to manage traffic so people can get in and out as quickly as possible.



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### Crews knock down fire at Scotch Line landfill

### By Lisa Gervais

It's believed an oily rag may have ignited some wood at the Scotch Line landfill, resulting in a July 2 fire that spread to 3,000-square-feet.

Minden Hills fire chief Nelson Johnson said the fire was reported to them about 7 p.m. and they left the scene about 9:30 p.m. last Thursday.

Johnson said the fire was in the construction and demolition, or C&D, pile, mostly containing wood.

Johnson said they initially responded with one fire truck and three members of the department. However, they were unable to get through the gate. Although they had a key, the lock would not open. They had to remove the gate. He said once they got in, they quickly established their water supply with another 11 firefighters arriving on scene. He said the Dysart fire department was called in to help. He said in addition to water, they used some foam.

Johnson said they utilized a portable monitor so they could throw a lot of water at the fire fast, from a distance. They then used an excavator to check for hot spots. While he didn't specifically know the cause, he suspects a chemical reaction of some sort in the heat.

Director of public works, Travis Wilson said C&D waste can sometimes cause a fire, especially with the very hot and dry conditions the township has experienced.

"Typically, what happens is somehow



A fire broke out at the Scotch Line landfill July 2. File photo.

an oily rag finds its way into somebody's load of C&D. They tip it at the landfill into another large pile of C&D. It is near impossible to spot one oily rag in hundreds of cubic meters of C&D," Wilson said.

"With the rag buried in the pile, they can spontaneously combust, which can go on for days or weeks. Once it has burnt off enough product for ample amounts of oxygen, it will then turn into a fire," he said.

He said, luckily they had their excavator

on site and the operator was able to assist the fire department by moving the materials

"Our fire chief determined that the fire had started near the center of the pile, so the above theory matches what was seen on the ground through his investigation," Wilson said.

Wilson added that to give the public a further idea of how long it had likely been smouldering within the pile, the landfill was closed July 1 and they only had three

visitors who hauled in C&D on July 2, so it could have been smouldering for at least two full days.

Wilson said approximately 345 cubic metres of C&D waste was burnt.

He said as per their Environmental Compliance Approval, they notified the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Wilson credited Johnson and his team for doing "a great job getting on site and extinguishing the fire."



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## Editorial opinion

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### The Highlander's 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

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.

## Time to fix long-term care

In March, a Ministry of Long-Term Care inspection report was released concerning the Highland Wood roof failure, and the subsequent evacuation of residents in 2019.

At the time, *The Highlander* wrote a story that was quickly overshadowed by the onset of COVID-19.

Not only was the Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) preoccupied with the pandemic, but so was *The Highlander* and its readers. It wasn't time to expand on the story and publish a more in-depth piece.

However, with the report, and other investigations, including interviewing two roofers who alleged a history of known problems with the roof, the paper continued to work on the story knowing that one day the timing would be better.

With HHHS having a solid handle on COVID and Highland Wood families wanting a comprehensive story told, we decided this was a better time.

After all, there is much to be learned from - and improved upon - from the Highland Wood roof failure, just as there is much to be learned about, and fixed, with the plight of long-term care homes during COVID-19. We have learned that the roof saga was littered with errors. The report cited a lack of emergency planning, communication, staff support, maintenance and funding. Some families, staff and management of

HHHS have now all attested to how ruinous it was and how many problems the system

With the onset of COVID-19, LTC homes across the province have gone through unexpected, bizarre emergencies. HHHS has passed the COVID test in its two LTC homes with flying colours. It has done a much better job of crisis management. We think part of the reason is they have learned from the roof shortcomings.

Other homes have faltered during COVID, unequipped to handle such an emergency, and thereby exposing more horrific underlying problems with LTC.

We can no longer accept the status quo. HHHS and the province must draw from Highland Wood and all other examples to fix what is broken.

We picked up the roof story again in late May, taking the necessary time to put everything together.

Much of the information in today's *Highlander*, such as the inspection report and the accounts of the roofers, is new.

We wanted to ensure all the information we had was presented in one central story that can easily be referred to as the province prepares an independent commission to review LTC. We need to highlight stories like these - not to criticize HHHS during a pandemic - but to help ensure nothing gets

missed when the province hopefully overhauls LTC.

To some readers, Highland Wood's roof situation may pale in comparison to what the military found in



By Joseph Quigley

other Ontario LTC homes. But we can't ignore it. It's part of a bigger picture. The commission must consider and learn from

Nor can we let the province off the hook. It is ridiculous that HHHS could only get grant funding to repair its Haliburton hospital roof in 2017, but not the attached LTC home, when they were the same building. Not only would this likely have prevented the tragedy two years later, but it seems inefficient not to get it all done at once. The province was non-committal when we asked about it, but we hope to see it addressed after the commission gets underway.

As our population ages, we need a robust LTC home system to handle it. It will be difficult and costly, but necessary. Sometimes, it takes a crisis to make us realize change is needed. We must ensure our leaders see this so the system can be

### **Environment Haliburton!**

### Submitted by EH! president Susan Hay

A famous economist once said, "only a crisis can produce real change." Well, we've certainly got the crisis. More than one, actually. Unfortunately, the bigger crisis of climate change isn't getting the attention it deserves.

A just recovery from this COVID crisis depends on acting not only to recover from the current pandemic, but also acting on climate change, preserving biodiversity and confronting social and racial injustice. We can't have one without the others.

One of the major factors in the cause of the current pandemic is ongoing devastation of natural ecosystems, especially of forested lands. We've also seen that when we fail to provide adequate housing and safe working conditions for our temporary and low wage workers, we risk not only their health, but everyone's, while simultaneously compromising our food supply.

So, how is it then that governments around the world are rolling back environmental protection, bailing out fossil fuel companies and passing new trade agreements that support industry that will further damage

On July 1, a trade agreement between the United States, Mexico and Canada known as the USMCA replaced the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). According to author Martha Pskowski of desmogblog.com, "this new trade agreement provides loopholes for oil, gas and mining companies to operate across borders and paves the way for U.S. companies to export even more fracked gas into Mexico.

"The deal won't lead to measures that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions," said Gustavo Ampugnani, the executive director of Greenpeace, Mexico. "On the contrary, it will accelerate the burning of fossil fuels."

These are examples of what is known as "disaster capitalism," a phrase made popular by author, Naomi Klein. Other examples of disaster capitalism are privatization of public property, (think longterm care homes), arbitrary elimination of laws (think environmental protection) and slashing democratically-chosen programs that help ordinary citizens (think slashing funding of public health units).

In our own country, at the beginning of the COVID crisis, both Premier Kenney and Premier Ford introduced sweeping measures to weaken environmental reporting, more far-reaching and potentially riskier than what is unfolding in the United States. Fortunately, due in part to public outcry, these protective measures have recently been reinstated.

In order to meet the Paris Climate Accord, urgent action needs to be taken, yet our emissions continue to rise. Our COVID crisis could be the portal through which our world can re-emerge as a safer, kinder, cleaner place.

We have chosen Haliburton as our home, surely wanting to protect our natural environment. We need a strong economy, but one that doesn't negatively impact what drew us here in the first place.

Economist Kate Raworth has developed an economic model that makes sense for our turbulent times. It's called "Doughnut Economics." It is an economic system that meets the needs of all within the means of the planet. This model is a visual framework for sustainable development that combines the concept of planetary boundaries with the concept of social boundaries

In this model, an economy is considered prosperous when all social foundations are met without overshooting any of the ecological ceilings. Amsterdam and Costa Rica are currently using this model to recreate their economic paradigms.

We also have to think about resilience, as we become increasingly aware of our weakened food supply chain. As Pierre Ducasse, communications officer, author and consultant said in a recent Trent University virtual presentation, "there can be no sovereignty without food autonomy." In other words, we need to be producing more of our own food.

Mike Perry, Lindsay lawyer and social justice advocate says, "historically, pandemics are a time to reimagine, and I am inspired by all the people who've been saying they don't want to go back to the old market system. Some say there is no alternative. I say, nonsense. There are lots of ways we can do better."

Do we have the courage and imagination to create the change that our world so badly

Correction: The photo accompanying the story "New vantage point for Minden business" (July 2, page 15) was incorrectly captioned. The correct caption from left to right: Tara O'Sullivan, RMT; Jacqueline Ziorjen, owner, RMT, certified reflexologist; Alana Coty, osteopathic manual practitioner; Sue Bowe, hypnotherapist, leadership alchemist (life coach). Absent is Howie Owens, naturopath, acupuncturist." *The Highlander* regrets the error.

## Editorial opinion

### **LETTERS**

## Questioning health unit statistics

Dear editor,

I am writing this letter regarding the posted rate of COVID-19 on the HKPR district health unit website in the Haliburton area versus the true rate locally.

The posted rate is obtained from Health Card data (address), so no cottagers that have/have had COVID-19 are included in the stats.

Those that test positive are recorded in their home town area only as the Health Card states.

As such, our friends and neighbours and local businesses have no idea how many people really have or have had the virus in our area.

I believe it is definitely more than the number noted on the HKPR health unit website.

Also, although our businesses are doing a good job (I go into a minimal number of stores), I do notice more people not social distancing, with no masks, not using sanitizer, many people from one family/group per store, etc.

I would like to see all employees (instructed by the owners) using gentle verbal reminders to those not following protocol.

I realize the businesses need summer revenue, but residents can't afford it if it means local health suffers.

Lynda Williams Haliburton

### The right data

Dear editor,

Detailed information is critical in order to effectively deal with this coronavirus pandemic. But, what is it that makes one person asymptomatic, another have mild or severe reaction and someone else a fatality?

What should we know about the medical history and biological aspects of those who have encountered this disease? For good contact tracing are we gathering enough information from those who have been infected with the coronavirus? What privacy concerns will be raised about gathering needed information?

When someone tests positive for COVID-19, the name and contact information is needed in order to conduct proper contact tracing. Postal code data regarding the residence and workplace of an infected person are required in order to identify any hot spots.

Information on means of travel (public, private or hired) will also help to identify contagion situations. But name, phone number and email address are not needed after contact tracing on that individual is concluded. While retaining some location information, any personal information must be deleted and destroyed when the initial contact tracing of an infected person has been completed.

However, contact tracing is very different from understanding and combating the disease. Serious consideration could be given to gathering biological information (including DNA) from those who have succumbed to COVID-19 and those who were hospitalized (including what level of medical care received). That information need not contain any personal markers. Any medical/biological/demographic information must be stored in a separate database – to be destroyed after the pandemic is over.

Information is vital when understanding and fighting this disease. As long as necessary data is strictly stored and destroyed (when no longer needed) then privacy concerns can and should be properly handled and we will be better equipped to deal with the pandemic - now and until an effective vaccine is developed.

Dennis Choptiany Markham/Koshlong Lake

### Speaking out on gun ban

Dear editor,

What I did on Canada Day was different this year. I sent an email to Liberal PM Justin Trudeau's parliamentary address. It read as follows:

Dear Sir.

I am a polite and good Canadian.

I respect the law and people.

Yet, you have demonized and scapegoated me with a gun ban that is contrary to the facts of safe and responsible Canadian gun ownership.

I have served in capacities that you would probably cower from, while you hypocritically go around paradoxically protected with an armed escort.

You have lied saying words to the effect that the guns you have banned are designed to kill the most people in the shortest period of time. This is factually and technically a blatant lie in the case of many of the firearms.

You have conflated a rapid fire military M16 with a light duty civilian AR 15 that many wouldn't even use to hunt a deer due to its limited lethality.

You did it undemocratically ... no real opportunity for debate; ignoring petitions, based on falsehoods, and during a pandemic.

It is Canada Day and you have made me ashamed to be Canadian.

Sean J Muldoon Haliburton County

## Bring back the port-o-potties

Dear editor,

This is a letter to the editor which shouldn't have had to be written, but it seems some of the human population is so disgusting and revolting that it needs to be said.

When the COVID-19 outbreak started a few long months ago, the port-o-potties, johnny-on-the-spot, or whatever you prefer

to call them, were removed from some parks. The one I am referring to in this letter is/was in the Tory Hill Park, which is at the intersection of Hwy118 and 503.

Since its removal, people have been using the parking lot, the area around where the port-o-potty used to be and part of the rail trail to relieve themselves which is completely inexcusable. These areas are littered with human feces, toilet paper, wipes etc. and in case there is any doubt that it is human waste soiling the park, I know of no other species who uses toilet paper to wipe their backside.

Even before all this heat and humidity the stench hung in the air and you had to watch where you walked to avoid the toilet paper and piles of you know what. Now with the extremely hot and humid conditions, this park is no longer an enjoyable place to go walking along the trail, nor is it a safe place.

I contacted the Municipality of Highlands East July 6, and informed them of this situation. They quickly returned my call, sent someone to the park to investigate and have assured me that a port-o-potty will be re-installed. Thank you, Highlands East for your prompt attention.

Deborah Wisniewski Tory Hill

### Allergic to fireworks

Dear editor,

Like many of my fellow citizens, I have been preoccupied with trying to avoid a COVID-19 infection. My age dictates that I am in a high-risk category and underlying medical conditions move me up a notch or two on the risk scale.

For a number of years, I have known that I had a very bad allergy problem. As an example, if I was near any fireworks, I would feel unwell. I had no idea why this happened.

In 2018, I was experiencing real problems and a decision was made to do more detailed testing of me to see if the problem could be identified. This testing produced three bad results and two as likely being indicators of a problem. I was stunned at the findings.

In discussion with the specialist, I was told that there were no magic pills or creams that would make the problems go away. In January 2019, I suffered a massive allergic reaction from medication that was administered to me following major surgery. The reaction triggered swelling that crushed my intestines. It took 10 days for that to subside.

The element Cobalt I now know is one of my biggest problems. Your body requires it to live and it is used extensively in everyday life. Beer drinkers may be interested to know that it was found to be great at removing foam from beer. It is now banned as a de-foaming agent as beer drinkers in Quebec suffered severe cardiac problems when cobalt was used for this purpose

Cobalt is used in fireworks. It is what

### PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Wendy Bolt captured this image of a goose with her trail cam on Mountain Lake.

provides the vivid colours that so fascinate us all. It is also what makes me unwell.

In Eagle Lake, there is extensive use of fireworks. I would like people to take note of what I have said and voluntarily abstain from igniting fireworks within one-kilometre of the intersection of Haliburton Lake Road and Eagle Lake Road. This would mean no more launching from Eagle Lake Beach and the Municipality of Dysart controlling what transpire on their property.

As I grapple with the reality of my problems, there have been moments of humour. It has been suggested that with my allergy problems living in a nudist colony in a desert might be better for my health than staying in Eagle Lake.

Peter McLuskey Eagle Lake

## Let's hope girls benefit from arena, too

Dear editor,

New arena. I'm from Toronto and have no say in your local issues, but I was wondering how much time will be allotted to women and girls for their sporting activities.

Being a grandmother of a sporty 11-yearold granddaughter makes me aware of these concerns. It has also meant that I watch sports pages to see if girls' teams are well represented and photographed, especially for high schools.

Since everyone is working so hard to get this arena built, let's hope everyone benefits.

Also, I'm really enjoying the cottage mystery. What a great idea. I'm keeping them so that others may enjoy them too. The cottage politics is very amusing. Enough said.

Beverley Lane Toronto

## Jays' taste for signs leaves County feeling blue

### By Joseph Quigley

The County of Haliburton is once again dealing with an unexpected flock of vandals damaging municipal address signs.

Director of Public Works Craig Douglas reported about the problem of Blue Jays defacing 911 signs at the June 24 council meeting. The issue spiked around 2014, when the birds damaged hundreds of signs, prompting the County to install plastic coverings to prevent further damage. Douglas said the issue is being felt hard again this year, with about 400-500 signs being defaced. The expected replacement cost is \$7,500.

To address it, Douglas proposed replacing the signs in bulk at the County's expense, with plastic coverings added once again. Council approved the expenditure.

"We were hoping it was a one-time issue," Douglas said. "It's a health and safety issue and we want to get on it right away."

Douglas said the plastic coverings cost about \$15 per sign. Staff had tried to chase individual homeowners to help cover replacements in the past, Douglas said, but found it not worthwhile.

"We were chasing money, going on a long time and making these single trips out to who knows where to replace one sign," Douglas said.

Douglas said the issue has persisted over the years, with up to 35 signs annually replaced, but this year has been the worst one since 2014. *CTV Barrie* reported the County replaced 16,000 signs in 2014, costing about \$23,000.

### Ornithologist offers answers

Emeritus professor of Wildlife Biology at McGill University David Bird said this is not a situation he has heard of before, but he is "almost 100 per cent certain" the birds are attacking the signs for calcium carbonate, used in paint and coatings. He said it is a nutrient Blue Jays use to produce eggs.

He said there are accounts of them pecking at the paint on the sides of houses or railings for the same reason.

"The birds are deriving a nutritional benefit from eating the calcium carbonate in the paint," Bird said, adding they may ingest it immediately or stow it away.

He said other possible explanations for birds pecking at artificial surfaces – such as defending territory or even reminding humans of empty feeders – do not make sense in this scenario.

Bird said the behaviour may have spread within the County because of how Jays observe each other.

"Birds are very visual creatures and they watch each other all the time," he said. "These kinds of behaviours get copied by other birds. Because they say 'hey, that guy must be getting something good off that



The County of Haliburton is once again grappling with Blue Jays damaging municipal address signs. *Photo via Flikr.* 

sign,' and next thing you know, it's part of the population."

"Douglas said in smaller numbers, they have found other road signs damaged as well. He said they have found reports of similar issues in the Parry Sound area and Cook County in Minnesota, but not amongst Haliburton's neighbours.

Bird said the spike this year may have something to do with changes in natural conditions, causing jays to have a harder time finding egg-making nutrients in the environment. Those conditions may be local-specific, which may be also be why other places do not experience the problem, Bird said. The remote landscape of Haliburton may also mean the jays do not spread the behaviour farther out to neighbouring areas, he said."





SIRCH food security coordinator Emma Wood (left) and connectivity project coordinator Rebecca Anderson hold devices being gathered for a new community service initiative.

## **Gathering devices to** show they care

By Joseph Quigley

SIRCH, Rotaract and Big Brothers and Big Sisters are partnering to put technology in the hands of people in need to help connect the community.

The three groups began "A Caring Connection" July 5, an eight-week program to collect used technology, clear them of data and update them, then provide them to people. A Rotaract member will be paired up with each person receiving a device to ensure they know how to use it.

Rotaract Haliburton Highlands president and project coordinator Rebecca Anderson said providing this technology is important given the separations caused by COVID-19. She cited some of the vulnerable populations being hit hardest by the pandemic – isolated seniors, women in dangerous living situations without phone access and children in families without enough devices.

"There is a lack of connection in our community and it's felt by the most vulnerable in our community," Anderson said. "How are you expected to do schoolwork without a computer? How are you going to call 911 without a phone? How are you going to feel included in the

community when you can't even connect with your community?"

The groups will collect the devices, including phones, laptops and desktop computers that can still work. They aim to gather 500.

SIRCH executive director Gena Robertson said it is great to see a youth-led organization such as Rotaract partnering and taking this on.

"I haven't witnessed a great deal of youth volunteerism, so to me this is really exciting," Robertson said. "Stay in Haliburton County ... and participate in the social services in the County."

Anderson said it is valuable for Rotaract, which launched in February but was curtailed by the pandemic.

"It shows how serious we are when it comes to serving our community," Anderson said. "It's a really great opportunity for us to get out there."

Anyone looking to donate devices can call SIRCH at 705-457-1742 to arrange drop-off or pick-up. Anyone interested in being part of this program or learning more about it can contact Rebecca\_anderson@sirch.on.ca.

"I can't wait to see the generosity of our community," Anderson said. "I'm really excited to see this project go."



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Walt McKechnie is the Councillor for Ward 5 in the



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### HHHS: failure 'occurred suddenly without warning'

The February 2020 inspection was critical of several of Highland Wood's policies. For one, it found HHHS "failed to ensure there were schedules and procedures in place for routine and preventative maintenance related to the roofing system and flooring material." There were also no schedules for preventive inspection and there was no documentation of any spot checks, inspections and follow-up by maintenance staff in 2018.

"HHHS was conducting maintenance work and procedures regularly," Plummer said in reply. "But is taking steps to improve documentation measures."

The report also noted "three minor and short-lived ceiling leaks identified in June, July and October 2018." The report said no contractor had inspected or made repairs to the roof in 2018, other than to provide quotes.

An inspection conducted by an engineering firm in May 2017 for the Haliburton hospital and Highland Wood roof identified several issues and suggested replacement between 2018 and 2021.

The report also found cleaning issues stemming from the roof leaks. A de-icing agent began leaking during the roof's failure, causing white stains on carpets and baseboards. The stains are recurring but should diminish over time, the report said. However, the inspector found the HHHS manager of environmental services was not aware of persisting stains and had not developed a schedule to continually remove them.

The report also found HHHS failed to ensure its emergency plans were reviewed and tested as much as regulated. The plans in place during the roof's failure did not properly address communications and specific staff responsibilities. HHHS also failed in conducting a planned evacuation at least once in three years, as required.

### Families press HHHS on preventability

HHHS has been under fire for the roof's failure for more than a year. Residents were evacuated to other long-term care homes until an already-planned roof replacement for the spring could be finished. But there were difficulties, with some residents

getting moved as far as Lindsay and Peterborough.

HHHS has relied on the word of a preliminary report from its insurer's roof inspector, Michael Flynn of Michael Flynn and Associates Ltd., a Barrie-based forensic-engineering company specializing in disaster mitigation. Flynn said the "failure of the roof occurred suddenly without warning."

"There were no ongoing signs of water infiltration or roof leaks, there are no signs of early failure," Flynn wrote. "I want to assure you, this event occurred very early on within the service life of the roof and occurred without the normal signs of early failure. No one within your facility is at fault and certainly should not be blamed for this unfortunate incident."

Flynn's office declined a request for comment.

Plummer said the extreme weather fluctuations and freeze-thaw cycles created a gap in the roof flashing and a frost crack, allowing more water to leak. The weather created a problem beyond the surface of the roof HHHS had planned to address, she said. The incident also prompted HHHS to adjust the specs of its spring roof work to address the flashing. Plummer said they also retrofitted the flashing at Hyland Crest, a long-term care home in Minden, because of the incident.

Extreme weather damaging roofs was a documented issue in 2019. CBC News reported about a spike in insurance claims about roof damage that winter due to the

In an email to HHHS, Flynn also said he would "attempt to determine the cause (of the failure) once I can substantiate the conditions in which the former and current roof were installed."

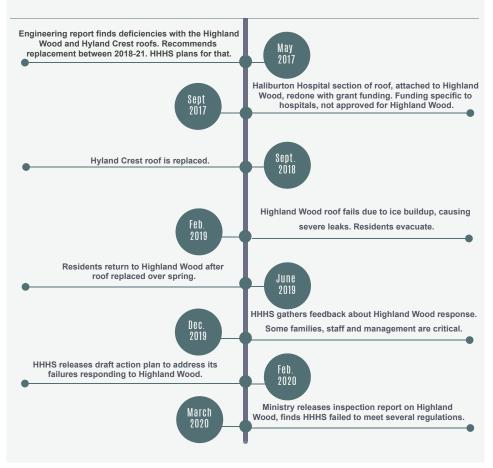
But Plummer said no further details or information about causes were ever provided to HHHS by its insurer or Flynn.

Families said they'd raised alarm about the roof not getting repaired in September 2017, the same time the Haliburton Hospital roof was replaced. HHHS received provincial grant funding to repair the hospital roof, but that did not extend to long-term care homes. However, HHHS made plans that year to replace roofs at both Hyland Crest and Highland Wood.

But West said splitting the hospital and Highland Wood roofs was nonsensical.

"It is the same building, so you cannot

### HIGHLAND WOOD TIMELINE



Timeline by Joseph Quigley.

acknowledge the need to replace one side, then deny having knowledge of any problems with the roof and neglect to replace the other," West said.

Plummer said it was unfortunate HHHS could not secure the funding for the Highland Wood roof to address it ahead of the planned timeframe. But she maintained the early failure of the roof occurred suddenly and without warning.

The ministry did not directly address a question posed by The Highlander about criticism regarding the lack of infrastructure funding for long-term care.

HHHS also conducted an internal investigation in the wake of the roof failure and found no "evidence of any earlier reports of problematic leaks or challenges," according to HHHS vice president of

support service and chief financial officer Kathy Newton in June 2019.

HHHS has acknowledged errors in its communication and emergency planning, through the release of a lessons learned and draft action plan Feb. 21. The report describes scathing feedback HHHS received from families in the wake of the roof failure. It also highlighted how there were members of staff and management who believed HHHS should have addressed the roof sooner and its failure was avoidable.

"It was preventable and it's disgusting it was allowed to happen," the general staff feedback section said. "Played Russian roulette and lost."

"(Surprised) that the roof was not dealt with sooner," the report said about general management feedback. "The previous

Continued to page 11

### COVID-19 puts long-term care homes under scrutiny

The province is placing long-term care homes under independent commission's work." scrutiny after COVID-19 outbreaks, deaths, and military reports of neglect at several privately-run homes. They are launching an independent commission to identify systematic issues.

There have been no such reports for HHHS homes and no COVID-19 cases in them.

Plummer said HHHS welcomes the commission. "As has been seen through the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a need for more investments in the Long-Term Care sector in terms of infrastructure, staffing, equipment and training," Plummer said. "HHHS hopes to see these issues raised through the course of the

Plummer said the pandemic has resulted in hospitals assisting long-term care homes across the province. It is a model HHHS has used for years, with its integrated buildings and programs. Plummer said it would be good if the province could provide funding in a way that reflected that integration.

"It would be of great value for integrated organizations such as ourselves if we were able to operate from a seamless or single funding pool so that resources could be unified across all programs and facilities," Plummer said. "We will actively seek opportunities to share our experiences and provide input to support positive change

Blazina said the forthcoming commission will address issues and uncover how COVID-19 impacted long-term

"This independent, transparent commission will get to the bottom of this crisis and enable us to take quick and decisive action to address the pressing issues facing our long-term care homes. Ontarians deserve answers, and they will get them," she said. "Details including terms of reference, membership, leadership of the commission and reporting timelines, will be announced in the coming weeks." (Joseph Quigley)

Continued from page 10

director of maintenance publicly said the roof was a 'ticking time bomb.' Surprised that there was no funding supplied."

Plummer told *The Highlander* in February, after the report's release, she had never heard those words from the previous director of maintenance and could not tell if it was accurate. The Highlander was unable to find any other record of the comment being

The action plan lays out actions HHHS would take in the short, mid and long-term to address the feedback, including improving emergency plans, a communication strategy and implementing an infrastructure renewal plan.

But Plummer said increased workloads due to COVID-19 had delayed progress.

However, she added that the Highland Wood incident has informed efforts to improve communications about COVID-19 with staff, families, residents and the public. That has included regular messages, a hotline for staff and long-term care families, question and answer documents for staff and a community-based website with resources.

"We will continue to maintain and improve upon this more robust communication approach, and remain open to feedback," Plummer said.

### **History of issues**

Haliburton Roofing Ltd. owner Gunter Franke had done maintenance on the roofs of Highland Wood and Hyland Crest since they opened in 2000, up until HHHS discontinued use of his services in April 2018. Franke alleged his dismissal was over a dispute with a new maintenance director after

he refused to do work in inclement weather. Plummer said Franke did refuse to work, but added it did not impact future consideration of him as a contractor.

Franke alleged the roofs had issues

*As the years got on, the* worse the roof got, the harder it was to find the leaks. Every time it got harder, I told ... the maintenance guys it's time. The roofs are shot

Gunter Franke

for years and should have been redone well before scheduled. Franke said he was regularly called to repair leaks at Highland Wood. As the years went by, Franke said he grew concerned about the state of the roof. He alleged he informed the former director of facilities and projects Peter Fearrey about the need to replace it, giving warnings since 2014/15.

"As the years got on, the worse the roof got, the harder it was to find the leaks," Franke said. "Every time it got harder, I told ... the maintenance guys it's time. The roofs are shot.'

Mike Wilson owns Northland Coverings, another Haliburton roofing company. He said he was called to examine the roof for issues twice with Fearrey at least two years ago. After checking, he said he did not want to do any quotes on it.

"They just wanted patch work and it needed a full replacement like the hospital roof," Wilson said. "All I can say is that it was years before the (Highland Wood) evacuation that they knew of the problems."

He added he was called specifically to address leaks.

"They showed me where it was leaking on the inside," Wilson said. "I just said the roof is past its life."

HHHS picked Hyland Crest for roof work first in 2018 due to leak problems there, according to Newton. They planned to work on Highland Wood subsequently.

As far as HHHS knew, there was no need to push the schedule up or have work at the two facilities done at the same time, Newton said.

"There wasn't an active leak in Highland Wood. It wasn't in failure. We were still a year ahead of the proactive plan," she said. "There was nothing telling us, giving us any reason to be concerned.

In response to the roofers' accounts, Plummer again quoted from Flynn's report about the roof and that the incident was unpredictable and occurred suddenly and without warning.

"HHHS does not believe there is reasonable basis to question the inspector's conclusions," she said.

Cindy Franke, Gunter's partner, said the situation reflects poorly on them as they maintained the roof for years. She further said she disagrees with how HHHS has portrayed the situation.

"They're making it sound like this was all of a sudden," she said. "That's not how it happens.'

West said ultimately, the Highland Wood roof evacuation caused a great deal of hardship and damage for the people involved.

"The mental damage, psychological damage is the biggie here in this. The psychological damage done to the residents and the families," she said. "Nothing like this should ever happen to vulnerable people like this."



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### TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2020, 4:30 P.M.

### **Meeting Agenda to include**

Auditor's Report, Election of Directors, Appointment of Auditor, Election of Directors

Due to the limitations on public gatherings mandated by the government of Ontario as a result of the COVID-19 global pandemic, this meeting will be held as a virtual meeting via ZOOM. In order to participate, members of the public who wish to attend will require an invitation which will provide information on how to participate.

For further information or to request an invitation, please contact:

Linda Kay Office Coordinator, SIRCH Community Services Phone: 705-457-1742 Email: info@sirch.on.ca



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### PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Send your photos to editor@thehighlander.ca

## Highlander health

## Health unit COVID reporting comes under scrutiny

By Lisa Gervais

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit will not confirm whether there have been more than 10 positive cases of COVID-19 - among nonpermanent residents - in Haliburton County.

The Highlander asked the health unit if it was possible there had been more cases of COVID-19 in the community, and more positive tests at the assessment centre in Haliburton, but that those testing positive are being statistically attributed to the health unit of their permanent residence.

Dr. Lynn Noseworthy said the health unit maintains that based on the information they have received to date, the health unit can confirm 10 people who live in Haliburton County have tested positive for COVID-19.

She confirmed, however, that when a positive COVID-19 test result comes back, the findings are reported to health authorities in the region where the individual lives.

She said people can get tested for COVID-19 anywhere in Ontario, regardless of where they live in the province.

"The appropriate health unit/health department will then do follow-up contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19. This includes directing the person to self-isolate, not go out, monitor symptoms and take further precautions to limit the spread of coronavirus," Dr. Noseworthy said.

She added that details are also



Positive COVID-19 tests are being assigned to home health units. File photo.

obtained about every place that individual visited or persons they were in contact with during their infectious period. She said health units are in daily contact with these individuals to monitor and ensure they are following directions for the required period of time.

In these situations, Dr. Noseworthy said health unit/health department staff will also reach out to other people who may have been in close contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19.

She said these 'close contacts' will be given direction by health unit staff on what to do, including self-monitoring for symptoms, self-isolating or taking other preventive actions. If the contacts develop symptoms, arrangements are made for them to be tested for COVID-19 as well.

"The bottom line is that regardless of where a person lives or is tested for COVID-19 in Ontario, the provincial case and contact management system is very methodical, comprehensive and thorough," Dr. Noseworthy said.

Members of the public reached out to *The Highlander* last week. They alleged there had been more than 10 positive COVID test results in the County but they had been attributed to other areas. They felt it resulted in misleading information and a reduction in the perceived risk and gravity of COVID-19 locally.



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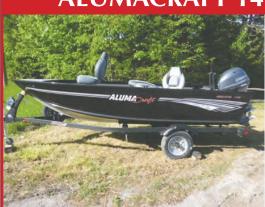
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## Highlander health

## HHHS ups mental health services during pandemic

### By Lisa Gervais

More Haliburton County residents will be able to access virtual mental health support during COVID-19 after the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation secured some outside funding.

In her bi-weekly update on local response to the pandemic, HHHS CEO and president, Carolyn Plummer said the Foundation is the recipient of first-round funding from the United Way City of Kawartha Lakes - Emergency Community Support Fund.

"This funding will be used by HHHS and community partners to enhance access to virtual mental health services for vulnerable members of our community, so that more people can benefit from these important supports," Plummer said.

Plummer said she wanted to remind the public about services available to support mental health during the pandemic.

"As news of COVID-19 continues to circulate, it is natural to experience periods of stress, anxiety, fear, sadness, frustration, helplessness, isolation, difficulty sleeping or concentration, or physical symptoms such as increased heart rate, upset stomach, or low energy," Plummer said.

She said many service providers have introduced virtual access to mental health supports, including counselling and treatment.

For a list of local service providers and their contact information, visit

haliburtoncares.ca or call the HHHS – Community Support Services Response Team by phone 705-457-2941 or by text at 705-457-0016 (Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.), or by email at infocc@hhhs.ca anytime.

Other online mental health supports include the Wellness Together Canada portal from the Government of Canada, which provides tools and resources for mental health and substance use supports (wellnesstogether.ca), and Big White Wall, an online peer-to-peer support community for mental health (bigwhitewall.ca).

Plummer said health care workers can also access a set of mental health supports and resources from CAMH (camh.ca/covid19HCW), as well as the Health Care Worker Assist service from Ontario Shores to provide virtual care for those workers who may be at risk of developing increased symptoms of anxiety and depression. Health care workers can access this service by visiting ontarioshores.ca/hcwassist.

## Masks to be compulsory at businesses

Area businesses will have to have a policy in place that requires people to wear a non-medical mask or face covering before entering their commercial establishment.

The Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit said on July 7 that the



The focus is on mental healthduring the pandemic this week. File photo.

requirement will come into effect at 12:01 a.m. July 13, 2020.

The use of masks will be required while

the provincial Emergency Order remains in force or until such time that the Ministry of Health lifts the requirement.





## Highlander sports



Doug Campbell fishes his golf ball out of the hole after a hole-in-one at Blairhampton. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

## Golf gods said 'today was his day'

### By Lisa Gervais

Golfers are lucky to get one hole-in-one in their lifetimes, but Doug Campbell recorded his fourth at the Blairhampton Golf Course recently.

"It was very satisfying to get one at Blairhampton, because I have been playing that course for 47 of its 50-year existence," Campbell said.

Campbell said his family had a cottage in the Highlands for approximately 30 years and he's always enjoyed playing there. He said owner Sandy Prozak and her staff have always treated him very well.

As for the unlikely number of hole-inones, Campbell, 70, said he's been playing since he was 13 years old. For 40 of those years, he's been a single-digit handicap. He said he didn't get his first hole-in-one until he was 65.

"I got my first one in Florida at Martin Downs Country Club, my second one three months later at Dunsford Golf and Country Club near Bobcaygeon and my third nine months later at my home course in Florida, PGA Golf Club, Dye Course," he said.

This one he got on June 23 at

Blairhampton, his fourth since turning 65. It came on the 173-yard, par 3, 17th hole, using an eight-iron.

"So, for those that haven't got a holein-one yet, let me say, 'keep playing. You never know when the Golf gods might just say, 'today is your day'."

Meanwhile, Norm Barry shot a rare albatross on June 4. That means he had just two strokes on the par five 13th hole. "I hit a monster drive," Barry said. He said he left the ball 187 feet from the pin and dropped it with a five-iron hybrid. It's his first-ever albatross.

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## Highlander business



Ron, pictured, and Irene Murphy have taken over Buckslide Dog Treats. File.

## For the love of dogs

### Murphys take over Buckslide Dog Treats

By Lisa Gervais

There're some familiar faces at the Buckslide Dog Treats booth, after Ron and Irene Botter-Murphy recently took over the business from Patrick Monaghan.

Ron Murphy said it came about as Monaghan has had some health issues and wanted to slow down.

"I spoke to Pat last year and mentioned to him that when he was ready to step back from the business, to reach out to Irene and I, as we would like the opportunity to carry the business on," Murphy said.

He said that put the wheels in motion, and, just before Christmas, Irene unexpectedly lost her job so they revisited the discussion with Monaghan in February. Talks were favourable and then COVID-19 hit and the farmers market were thrown into doubt.

However, Murphy said with Monaghan's help getting stores supplied, and getting stock for the upcoming season, they've been carrying on the business as of June 1.

He said he and Irene are dog lovers so it's a natural fit.

"My wife has grown up with dogs as part of the family, and worked with a veterinarian as a teenager. As a couple, we have owned three dogs in the past, two Rottweilers, one male named Maverick one female named Shiela and a husky/lab cross named Snow that we rescued," Murphy said.

The couple is currently pet free with the exception of their grand dog Hank, a male Rottweiler, that they dog sit on occasion and a friend's golden retriever, Casey, that they periodically look after when needed.

With a full-time production job at CanoeFM and a disc jockey sideline, Murphy admits he's a busy guy, however, he said the business is more Irene's at the

moment. It's also a semi-retirement plan.

"It's the type of business that you can carry on into your aging years and is currently only taking two days a week at the farmers market. Pat Monaghan is still maintaining some of the business for the balance of the year and has another person, Deb Barnhart, covering the Stanhope farmers market on Fridays. After this year, we will be on our own with the business," Murphy said.

He said he and Irene like that it allows them to get out to meet people in the community, keep their brains engaged and tie up their Saturdays. But he said it's only two days per week for markets for now. The hours are longer for Irene, "but it is different when you are working for yourself."

He said Irene does all the ordering, scheduling, preparing, dehydrating and organizing of what is needed at the markets and the stores that they supply, but he helps.

"She tells me when and what needs to be done to help out," he said with a chuckle.

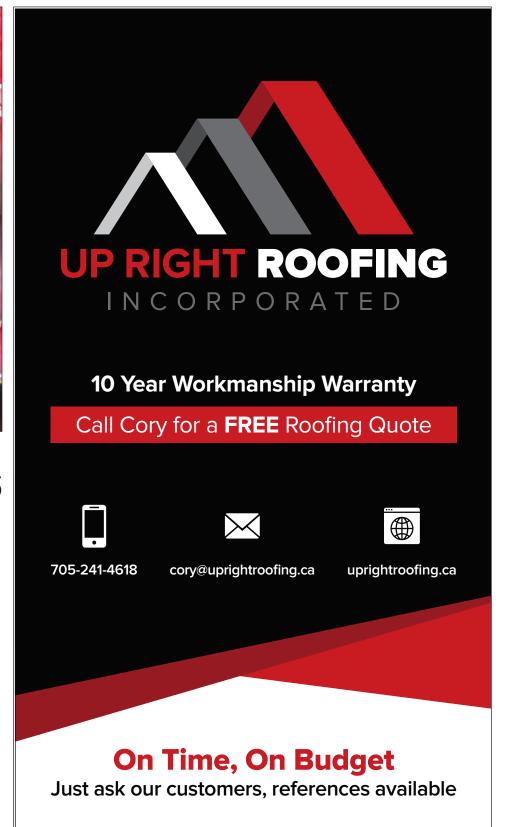
Another dog lover, Monaghan said he started the business six years ago "with an idea and a credit card." He put some of the sales acumen he learned from his father into practice.

He said it was tough at first, just breaking even, but he felt "you gotta' stick your neck out, take a chance."

In the last couple of years, he said it has been quite profitable.

He feels he is putting the business in good hands.

"Very much so. They're very personable and have a lot of experience dealing with people. It's a pretty lucrative little business that's all about the health of the dogs because the products are all natural with nothing added."



We continue to operate and adhere to all safety policies and procedures during the COVID-19

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Construction businesses in the Highlands are extremely busy. File photo.

## Covid-19 doesn't stop builders

### By Lisa Harrison

Those wishing to renovate or build in the Highlands during the COVID-19 pandemic will find construction businesses well prepared, but there may be delays.

Declared essential services, construction businesses have been among the least affected by the pandemic in terms of lost hours, according to Aggie Tose, executive officer for the Haliburton County Home Builders Association.

"In the beginning, some companies shut down briefly to prepare for health and safety changes [but] most members had permits in place and were able to continue working," said Tose in a recent interview by email and phone.

"Everyone is extremely busy and there's more work than we can manage this year ... I think people just are seeing that they could do something different around their house or their cottage, and right now everyone's got time to sit and think about it. People are having much more family time, so they're trying to make spaces for those people."

When pandemic precautions were announced, the Ontario Home Builders' Association (OHBA) quickly developed and distributed guideline documents to their members, said Tose. The guidelines include personal protective equipment (PPE) and personal hand sanitation for persons on all sites, and a limit of one person per vehicle.

Tose expressed thanks to Foodland owner Brad Park and the Glecoffs at Glecoff's Family Store for helping to bring in sufficient PPE.

The OHBA also supplied each member with required documents for employees to track persons on sites and their health conditions. The documents would be used to track all contacts if someone tested positive for COVID-19.

Each company has created their own policies and procedures on how to keep their staff safe, added Tose, who is also office manager for G.J. Burtch Construction Enterprises Ltd.

"Once the government opened up the building permit process, all work can proceed as long as you abide by the health and safety requirements," said Tose "Timelines will be delayed if the construction or renovation has a homeowner present ... [and] the supply of materials can be delayed but generally it is available. However, COVID has created longer lineups in stores, thus slowing production."

Tose advised property owners to be patient.

"Everyone is doing their best. If you want renovation work done, plan to be out of your place so companies can send their staff safely to do the work. New building is different as the owner is [absent]. Since many permits were delayed, we are now seeing many projects at the same stage and we are desperately short of some key trades like foundation.

"The building departments in all four municipalities have done everything they can to keep construction moving ahead in the county," added Tose.

"The construction industry is one of the highest employers, if not the highest, when you count the number of employees on the construction sites to the supply stores, designers and engineers and the trades [such as] electrician, plumber and heating."





### PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Send your photos to editor@thehighlander.ca







## W Renos

## Keeping a good lid on it

### **By Lisa Harrison**

When considering renovations to your home or cottage, it's wise to start at the top and ensure you have a well-constructed

Cory and Melissa Valentini, owners of Up Right Roofing, say the roof is not always the first item on a renovation list but typically it hasn't been overlooked consciously.

"Many homeowners do not inspect the condition of their roof until it presents a problem or there are obvious issues," said Cory in an email interview. "This can often be too late to avoid interior damage.'

"Your roof protects the people and possessions in your home from the elements," said Melissa. "A 'healthy' roof can also add curb appeal and value to your

When you request a quote or an onsite roof consultation, you can expect the contractor to ask about the roof's history and any previous or current issues. The contractor will check under the shingles to determine if there is any underlayment and if so, what type.

The inspection should also include walking the roof to check for multiple concerns such as soft spots, broken or curling shingles and/or missing shingles, and the condition of any valleys. The contractor will present the findings and discuss next steps with you.

Property owners don't need to be concerned about having roof work done during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the Valentinis.

"We have advised our customers to move forward with planned roofing projects," said Cory. "We can do all planning and contract finalization via computer and telephone. Once on site, there is no reason for the homeowner to have direct contact with the crew.'

To ensure the crew is also protected, Up Right provides access to hand sanitizer and wash stations on all job sites. Each employee has dedicated tools and the employees practise social distancing whenever possible.

The Valentinis have three recommendations for property owners considering roof repair or replacement.

"Do not wait until the last minute to get a quote, your roofer of choice may not be available this season," said Melissa. Also, "make sure you have a roofing contract detailing the scope of work prior to the first work day on site."

Finally, "ask for proof of current WSIB [Workplace Safety and Insurance Board] coverage and an insurance certificate," said Cory.

"If the roofer does not have current insurance, you as the homeowner can be held responsible for any accidents or injuries during the project."



Insure you have a well constructed roof. Photo via Unsplash.

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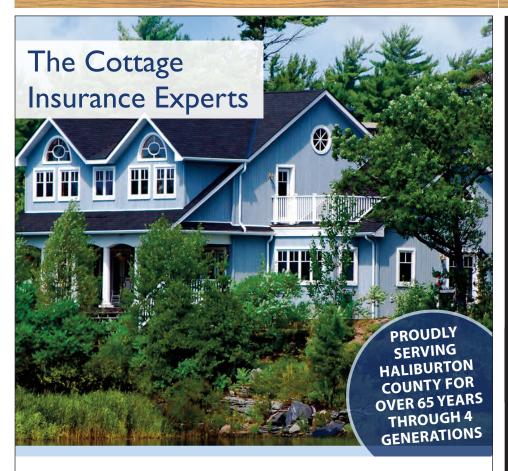


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## Renos

## Local businesses design generous windfall

### By Lisa Harrison

Tourism accommodators are among those taking the hardest financial hit from the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in seasonal economies such as that of the Highlands.

Six local businesses decided to do something about it.

The result: Haliburton's Big Lobby Makeover, a contest in which one Haliburton Highlands accommodator can win a lobby or reception area makeover valued at up to \$25,000.

The winner will ultimately be chosen by Highlands residents.

Spearheaded by ACM Designs, the contest is supported by partners ACM, Cordell Carpet, Emmerson Lumber, Hodgkinson Enterprises Ltd., Up River Trading Co. and Yours Outdoors, which will provide a teambuilding experience.

"One of the first touchpoints of the county is our tourism accommodators," said Andria Cowan Molyneaux, owner of ACM Designs, in a phone interview.

Molyneaux said her industry (construction-related) has had an "unbelievable" season of success as an essential service, but "when one business suffers, we all suffer," so ACM reached out to compassionate businesses they work with often to set up the makeover.

Contest partner Up River Trading has experience with pandemic-related economic loss.

"Up River was closed for nine weeks due to COVID," said Paul Roy, co-owner and co-founder, in the joint interview.

"So when an opportunity came up to support the accommodation group that does bring in the tourists that are vital for our business, it was a no-brainer for us too."

As of July 6, seven accommodators had submitted entries and another was expected, and Roy said accommodators' comments about the contest opportunity have been "incredibly positive."

One accommodator reported that, while regular bookings were solid, they had lost 14 spring weddings and nine large summer events, along with the additional revenue from food and other peripheral services.

"Those businesses, whether they submit or not, have to know that this whole community cares about them and their success," said Molyneaux.

There's a side benefit to the contest for all entrants, Molyneaux added. Simply by participating, accommodators can build their brands and increase bookings through a greater social media presence as they reach out for votes.

The contest partners are contacting suppliers for items such as granite countertops. The Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC) and the County have provided general support and encouragement. The county tourism department's help in reaching out to the local accommodators and the community



Haliburton's Big Lobby Makeover contest was created by local businesses to help support Highlands accommodators in the face of pandemic-related economic losses.

was especially appreciated.

Amanda Virtanen, the county's tourism director, called the pandemic's effect on the tourism sector "a major blow to the Haliburton Highlands."

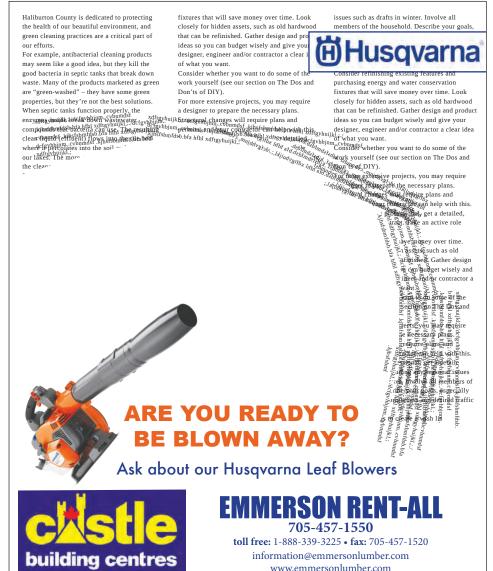
"It's amazing to see the generosity of local businesses and the contest is a wonderful opportunity for an accommodator to get that extra boost needed during an extremely difficult time," said Virtanen via email.

The deadline for entries is July 12 at

midnight. Three finalists will be announced on July 15 at noon on Facebook and Instagram. Voting is online and closes Aug. 16 at 8 p.m.

ACM will announce the winner Aug. 17 at noon on Facebook and Instagram. The makeover will begin in September and be unveiled when completed.

For eligibility details and to enter, visit the contest website at acm-designs.com/lobbymakeover





## Highlander events

## **NFORMATION PAGE**

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### Important Property Tax Information

The 2020 property tax installments are due on:

- May 29th
- June 26th
- July 24th
- September 18th

**HOWEVER** late payment charges shall be suspended on all tax installments that are unpaid by the due dates. Interest at the rate of one and one quarter percent (1 1/4%) per month shall be charged on the first (1st) day following December 4, 2020, on all due and unpaid 2020 taxes.

Interest at the rate of one and one quarter percent (1 1/4%) per month will continue to be levied against taxes owing for previous years (2019 and older).

Preauthorized payment plan withdrawals will continue as originally scheduled. Ten (10) month plan and Arrears plan payments will be deducted on the last business day of each month. The installment plan payments will be withdrawn on July 24th and September 18th, 2020. Post-dated cheques on file will also be deposited on the dates as indicated

If you have any questions regarding your preauthorized payment plan or post-dated cheques, please call (705) 286-1260, extension 201.

We encourage account holders to utilize the payment methods available, and to submit payments as soon as reasonably possible.

### **Payment Methods:**

- Cash and debit payments are currently suspended.
  On-line or telephone banking.
- · Payment at financial institutions.
- · Cheque-by mail or deposit in the drop box. The secure (locked) drop box is labelled and located on the north wall of the Administration building facing Pritchard Lane and the Municipal parking lot. It is accessed from the wheelchair entrance and is at the top of the first ramp.

Absolutely no cash is to be deposited in the drop box.

### **Council Meetings**

As a result of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak, all Council and Committee of the Whole meetings will be conducted virtually via web conference; and Closed Session meetings via teleconference, until further notice.

Meetings are held virtually, starting at 9:00 AM in the Minden Council office, 7 Milne Street. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

> July 30 - Regular Council Meeting August 27 – Regular Council Meeting

Please note Council Meetings are reduced to one meeting a month in July, August and December.

During this unprecedented time, the health and safety of our community is of paramount importance. Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process. Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/.

Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

### **Extreme Heat/Heat Warnings**

Impacts to Health: Extreme temperatures and high humidity puts everyone at risk however, the risks are greater for young children, older adults, and people with chronic illnesses and/or on certain types of medications, people working or exercising outdoors and/or in places where heat is emitted through industrial processes and those without proper shelter. Adverse health effects can occur as a direct result of exposure to too much heat such as heat cramps, heat edema, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

### Signs/Symptoms

### **Heat Stroke**

Headache, dizziness, confusion or other altered mental state and fainting. Skin may be hot and dry, or the individual may be sweating due to high body temperature. This is a medical emergency that can prove fatal.

Heat Exhaustion Heavy sweating, weakness, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, fainting Heat Edema Swelling of hands, feet and ankles **Heat Cramps** Painful muscular cramps (usually in the legs or abdomen)

The following protective measures and best practices will aid you in reducing the risk:

- If you must go outside, find or bring shade to avoid being exposed to the sun, stay hydrated, dress in cool/loose-fitting clothing, and take several breaks.
- · Check on older family, friends and neighbors and be vigilant for heat related illnesses.
- Bring pets inside and avoid leaving them in parked vehicles. Move livestock to sheltered areas with plenty of drinking water.

Extreme heat can alter road surface conditions. Heat can result in the expansion or buckling of roads, which can cause accidents or delays. Utilities are also susceptible to damage as the demand for electricity and water increases during periods with high temperatures and may exceed the supply. Rolling blackouts and restrictions on water usage may be implemented.

Everyone has the responsibility to be prepared:

- Carry an emergency car kit and a mobile phone.
- Prepare a 72-hour emergency kit in the event that there is a power outage or other impacts to critical infrastructure.
- Continue to monitor local forecasts for public weather alerts and exercise appropriate caution if you must go outside and/or travel.

This weather also has an effect on outdoor fire hazards, monitor postings for fire bans or restrictions at www.mindenhills.ca



### Have an opinion?

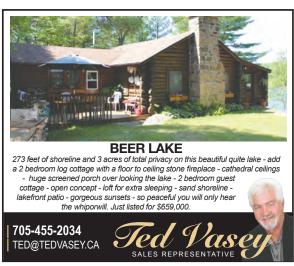
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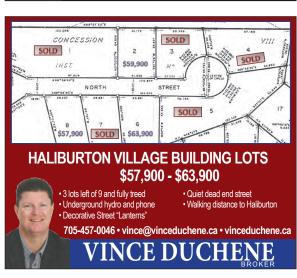




















Based on 2019 residential transactions sides. Source: CREA, RE/MAX





As more businesses and services reopen, and with social gatherings increased to 10 people, we all must continue our efforts to protect each other.



**Practice physical** distancing, stay two metres apart.



Wear a face covering when physical distancing is a challenge.

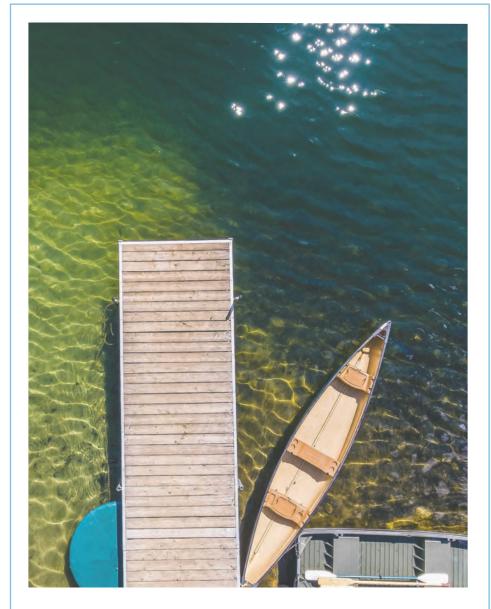


Continue to wash hands frequently.



Get tested if you are worried you may have COVID-19, or have been exposed to the virus.

Inside or out, stay safe. Save lives.





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**NEXT ISSUE: JULY 30. AD BOOKING DEADLINE: JULY 23.** 



TheHighlander

## Highlander events







### Canada Day photos

Top: One of the few annual Canada Day traditions took place July 1. The Paudash Lake boat parade was a go last Wednesday since participants could easily social distance. There was a great turnout of 60 decorated boats for the 20th annual parade, which is held in partnership with the Paudash Lake Conservation Association. Association president Mike Thomas said the only thing they couldn't do was the barbecue at the end. Middle: Jim and Kathy McLeod posted this photo of them celebrating Canada Day in Mexico. Bottom: Brent Graham responded to our call for Canada Day photos with pictures of Canadian flags flying patriotically a licence plate. *Photos submitted*.



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## Highlander arts









Top left: Artist Carole Finn sits with her laptop, which she has used to conduct online art classes throughout the pandemic. Top right: Janice Bishop stands next to a painting she made of her cat. She tried painting for the first time during the pandemic. Bottom left: Beth Cook paints at Finn's gallery. Bottom right: Joanne O'Keefe stands next to a painting she made during the course. *Photo by Joseph Quigley*.

## Art becomes 'yoga for the mind' in pandemic

### By Joseph Quigley

When COVID-19 hit, Janice Bishop said she needed an outlet.

With her business, All-Season Cottage Rentals, sidelined, she said she wanted to find something to do. Despite never having painted, she took a shot at a new online class with renowned local artist Carole Finn.

"I needed something to keep my mind active and distracted from what was happening," Bishop said, adding her creations shocked her. "(Painting) gave me peace – like doing yoga for the mind."

Like many, Finn had to adapt her art classes to the realities of the pandemic. She began offering a workshop online using tools such as Photoshop to help guide painters. She said the results were strong and she began exhibiting works the class produced at her home gallery July 1.

Finn said she kept teaching a small number of five or six students, including one from British Columbia. Though social interaction is limited compared to in-person classes, Finn said the format makes for a more focused experience.

"You have to be willing to take the time to work and get it done instead of talking,"

Finn said.

Professional potter Barbara Joy-Peel also took the course and said she enjoyed what it taught her.

"It's worked out well," she said. "It gave a social outlet too because we were communicating with the rest of the class."

Student Joanne O'Keefe has been painting for 10 years. She said the online classes were more flexible than in-person, which allowed her to attend.

"The only reason it happened was because of Zoom," O'Keefe said. "It was a great experience and I've become a better artist because of it." The student art exhibition will continue running until July 12 at Finn's artist's centre at 15 Newcastle St. in Minden, with masks and sanitizing required. The online classes are available by messaging Finn at finn@halinet.ca.

"I have to go back to work but I will definitely continue to paint as a hobby because I continue to amaze myself with what I'm doing," Bishop said. "It was just a really positive experience."

"I believe creativity is in everybody," Finn said. "It's so much fun to be able to help people discover that they really can do it."

## Highlander reads

*Editor's note:* This is the eighth and final installment of a series entitled Harp on the Water. It's written by Hope Thompson, who lives in Algonquin Highlands.

### Harp on the Water

## Chapter 8: Night and Day

The sun had settled behind the tree line and the inky lake shimmered under a pink-orange sunset. Two officers escorted Heather Mackenzie-Wilson up from the dock to the driveway behind her cottage, where a Spruce County cruiser was parked. Bob accompanied her, holding her hand like he would never let it go. His wife's glassyeyed serenity had turned to shuddering tears as the realization of what had happenedand what was about to happen—set in.

Ariel and Mimi Froome agreed to stay with the two boys for the night and Marie Maladee offered to come by in the morning with fresh muffins and to take over babysitting duties. Even Sally and Nibbles had offered to help. Harp could see a sense of community forming, naturally, among the inhabitants of the lake.

After giving their statements to Constable Terry Becker, they had all hugged each other, exchanged a few hushed words then departed into the night. Well, not all.

Grace Calvert rowed away from the scene of the reenactment without a word and Detective Harry Harp noted that a minute later, Gill followed her. His boat disappeared around the Calvert point and Harp wondered what the old man would do, now that the woman who had shaped—no controlled—his life was dead. Would Gill be able to move on from that summer day

After the remaining boats had left, Becker walked over to Harp.

"Frank Gill and Grace Calvert both took off before I could get their statements," he complained. "Should we go after them?" Harp shook his head. "Tomorrow. Enough upheaval for one night."

They nodded at each other then walked down to the Mackenzie-Wilson dock. It was then that they realized the lake lay between them and their car. Across the glowing expanse of water was the boat launch where they had parked in the morning. Harp looked at his watch. After being on the lake for twelve, hot hours, he and Becker were about to leave the small community with a grim tally; one murder, one life destroyed and multiple lives changed forever. There's a price for everything, he thought, even the truth.

Harp said, "Let's take Bob's boat." The Mackenzie-Wilson speedboat was parked next to the Froome's outboard, which they would need in the morning to get home after a night of babysitting.

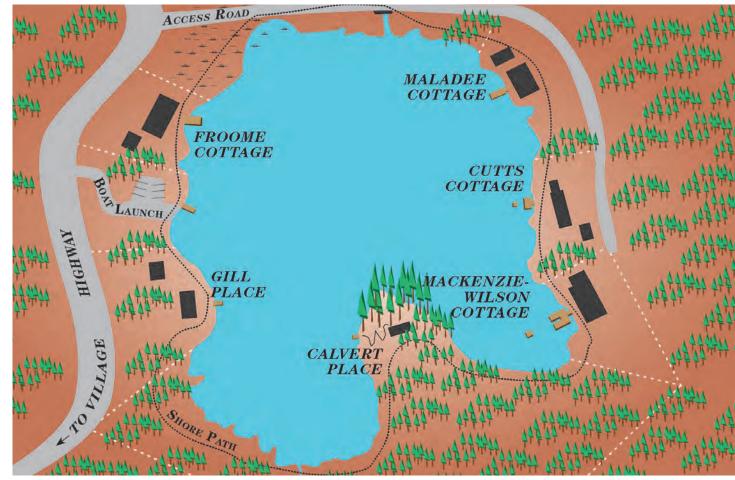
Becker said, "Or we could take the shore path? I'm up for a walk."

Harp looked appalled—and dead tired. "Just joking," Becker said, grinning.

A moment later, the two men motored through the cool night air. Harp pulled on his suit jacket.

"Getting some use out of that business suit, after all," the constable said, his mouth slanting into a smile.

"Yeah, probably not the best choice of



attire. Didn't realize we'd be in a boat all day," Harp said then thought, I am never wearing this suit again.

"What you need is a Spruce County dinner jacket." As they neared the boat launch Becker explained the features of the comfortable, red and black checked garment. Harp smiled, not sure if the constable was joking or serious. But he was sure that he liked him. After twelve hours, the young man had proven himself a reliable, smart detective.

Becker cut the engine and let the boat glide up to the launch where it gently thudded against the dock.

Harp turned back and looked out over the silent lake. A wavering yellow light caught his eye. It glowed through the pines on the Calvert point. Staring at it for a moment, he thought about Ida Calvert and the violent murder that ended her life—a life sequestered, cut off from the world and from the man who loved her.

Five months later, on a snowy December evening Detective Harry Harp stood in the Spruce County grocery store's Vegetables' section. He was pondering the difference between broccolini and broccoli-smaller, sure, but what else? Scratching the side of his face, he wondered which to put into the green plastic shopping basket he was carrying—or none at all.

Harp turned and saw Grace Calvert standing a few feet away from him, also carrying a shopping basket.

"Grace? I mean—Ms. Calvert?" Harp said

quickly. "Doing well, I hope?"

She smiled and cast her eyes down for a moment. "Yes, she said. Much better." Then she looked up again. "Thankfully, there was no trial.

Harp had also greeted the news of Heather Mackenzie-Wilson's guilty plea with relief. "Are you still living on the point?," he asked then inwardly admonished himself for inserting the word 'still'—a judgment.

"No," she said and smiled again like she noticed. "I sold to Marc Maladee."

"He will have his retirement community, then?"

Grace nodded. Her hair was parted and pulled back behind her ears and she was wearing jeans and a fleece jacket.

No more pine needles, Harp thought. "No more business suit," she said as if reading his mind.

After almost half a year in Spruce County, Harp had adopted a more comfortable look and was bundled in jeans and a down-filled jacket. No Spruce County dinner jacket vet but he expected that would come in time.

She said, "The Froomes still have their place, last I heard. But of course, Bob sold." I'll see you around," she said then waved

For a moment, Harp was transported back to that hot day in July and to all the troubled people on that lake whose lives were knotted together tighter than a noose.

Harry Harp and Grace Calvert stepped to the side of the aisle to let a woman pass. She was pushing a shopping cart full of groceries, a baby and a small child, who clung to the front of the cart, catching a free ride. Harp was reminded of Heather

Mackenzie-Wilson and felt a sudden sadness.

Grace exchanged a smile with the woman then she and Harp stepped back into the aisle.

"So—how's Frank Gill getting on?" Harp asked.

Grace's forehead creased and she said, "He passed away a couple of months after my mother's death." She shook her head and sighed. "I think he died of a broken heart.'

The secret that Gill was Grace's father went to the grave, Harp thought, wishing he could strike it from his own memory, too.

"After my mother, he's the person I've known the longest," she said, then added brightly. "But I'm meeting new people. I'm working at the bookstore." Her eyes lingered on Harp then she looked away.

He asked where she was living now that the cottage was sold and she told him she had an apartment in town, above the gift shop. Harp said that he rented a little house—also in town.

She smiled at the news and walked away.

The detective watched her move past other shoppers until she disappeared around a corner. Returning his gaze to the modest array of vegetables, he pulled his mind back to food shopping. Broccoli versus broccolini? He swiftly grabbed a bunch of both and walked on, firmly convinced that relocating to Spruce County had been the right move, after all.

## Highlander classifieds

### **HOME & COTTAGE**



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FAMILY CAS MATTERS

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### **SOLUTIONS FOR JULY 9**

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## Norm Barry Cottage Check & Maintenance

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### **FUNERAL SERVICES**

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(705) 454 3913 kawarthamonuments.com

2520 Chemong Rd. Peterborough



### **BIRTHDAY**



### **FOR SALE**

Men's X-Ctry. 26" CCM Bike (21 speed, dual suspension, aluminum frame) with helmet - \$150; Automotive 3-ton floor jack - \$25; Electric Leaf Blower - \$50; Electric Pressure Washer - \$50; Pruning Pole - \$10; Drill Press - \$10; Step Ladder (3 step) - \$20. Call 705-457-5315

Harley Davidson Sportster 1200 '97 MODEL XL 1 EUC beautiful with lots of shiny chrome! Wizard paint with matching helmet, custom made rims, dream weaver air, new HD saddle, new 1 up seat, new 2 up seat, battery tender, stroker kit, cover, 40,000 km \$7,495 Walt 705-286-2900

## Highlander classifieds

### **HELP WANTED**

### HIRING IMMEDIATELY! GARDEN LABOURER

- Full time position from May to November
- Must be able to work outdoors in all weather conditions.
- Attention to detail.
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- No experience necessary, will train.
- Business is Expanding! **Huge opportunity** to grow!



PLEASE CONTACT SAFONDA AT 705-455-SOIL (7645) OR EMAIL: SOFONDOFLANDSCAPING@GMAIL.COM

### **DEREK** BEACHL CONSTRUCTION

We are looking for responsible, hardworking, dedicated employees for general construction work. Must have own transportation to Haliburton.

Full-time (44 hours/week) or summer labour available. Wages dependent on experience. Benefits available.

> Please send application to derek@beachli.ca



**Primary Care Nurse Practitioner - 1.0 FTE** (37.5 hours per week)

The Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team is a primary health care corporation dedicated to improving the health of the residents of Haliburton County. We are looking for an innovative, skilled, client-centered, team player to fulfil the role of 1.0 FTE Nurse Practitioner.

The 1.0 FTE Nurse Practitioner will provide care to rostered patients of the Haliburton Highlands Family Health Organization, including, but not limited to; acute/episodic, periodic health exams, procedures, preventive (cancer screening). The 1.0 FTE Nurse Practitioner will also provide geriatric care of our senior population through treatment of physical, emotional, cognitive, and social needs (certification in gerontology not required, but interest and proven skills in the field would be considered an asset). Salary will commensurate with qualifications and experience. We also offer a comprehensive benefits

Submit an application and a detailed resume before 5:00 pm on July 17, 2020 to:

Kimberley Robinson Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team Box 459, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 admin@hhfht.com. Fax: 705-457-3955

> We thank all who apply, but only those granted an interview will be contacted.

DRIVERS - part time or full time needed for Hyland Taxi. G License for taxi is required. B, C or F License required for 11 passenger van and bus. Call 705-457-9898.





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### **OBITUARIES**

In Loving Memory of Craig Saunders



It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Godfrey Craig Saunders on July 1, 2020 in his 57th year. Best friend and husband of Melissa Stephens, loving son of Marie and Godfrey (deceased) Saunders and dear brother of Sean (Helen) and Lori (Jason Martin). Lovingly remembered by his sister-inlaw Janie Ward Sampson, nieces and nephews Emily, Patrick, Hannah, Emma, Jacob and Todd.

Also, he is fondly remembered by many aunts, uncles and cousins. Craig will be remembered for his love of music, art, theatre and of course sports. He was an avid reader and enjoyed the occasional "discussion" about politics.

Special thanks to Dr. Michael Armstrong and the staff of the Haliburton Family Medical Clinic, the Peterborough Regional Health Centre and Toronto Western Hospital. You have all played a special role in Craig's care over the last 15 years.

A Celebration of Craig's Life and reception will be held when we can all gather

As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation (online only) or to the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Craig Saunders Memorial Bursary and can be done through e-transfer at hhssscholarship@gmail.com or by cheque mailed to the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



### **NOTICE**



Township of Algonquin Highlands

### **CALL FOR TENDER**

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is seeking sealed bids from qualified, experienced trades to renovate the Stanhope Library as per the design, to achieve accessibility to the building entrance, basement and upper floor.

Closing date: July 28, 2020 at 2:00pm

Tender and submission documents can be found at www.algonquinhighlands.ca

> For further information contact: Adam Thorn, Operations Manager Township of Algonquin Highlands 705-489-2379

### **FOR RENT**

1 bedroom apartment located in downtown Haliburton. \$800 utilities included. 705-457-8473.

House for rent 1,350 sq ft open concept, pine cathedral ceilings, loads of windows, 2 bedrooms 2 bathrooms with walk-in showers, laundry suite, superb kitchen, private and within town of Minden, \$1,875/mth plus eco-friendly utilities rentalsminden@gmail.com

**CONVENIENT & AFFORDABLE** storage container rentals located just outside of town. Self serve units are 8' x 20' are accessible 24/7. Rental fees start at \$150/month. Limited quantity available Call 705-457-9558

**SELF-CONTAINED STORAGE UNITS** FOR RENT 12' X 20' LOCATED ON INDUSTRIAL PARK ROAD, CALL 705-457-1224

### **COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT**

Ideal for real estate/mortgage office or business seeking excellent street exposure. Parking available. Call 705-457-2900 to view.

## Highlander advisories

### **COVID-19 LOCAL BUSINESS ADJUSTMENTS & CLOSURES**

**Lacey's Hair Design** Open Monday and Tuesday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Thursday and Friday 2 p.m. - 8 p.m. By Appointment Only 705-457-

**Daisy's Dockside Patio at Bonnieview Inn** Open daily 12 p.m. – 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. – 7 p.m. bonnieviewinn.com. 705-457-2350.

**Shepherd Environmental Services** Open 705-454-3744.

**The Minden Experience** Open 7 days a week 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. 705-306-9936.

**Hyland Taxi Sunday**-Thursday 7 a.m. – 10 p.m. and Friday - Saturday 7 a.m. – 12 a.m. If transportation is needed outside these hours, arrangements must be made the day before by calling 705-457-1777.

Bernstein's General Store Open Monday to Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.. Call FedEx drop offs and FedEx pickups – during Bernstein's hours listed here.

**John Lennard Studio** Open by appointment. 705-286-3037. johnlennardart.com

Joe's Custom Signs Open. joescustomsigns. com

Gord Ryckman Heating Open. 705-286-6216. Daniel E. Electrical Contracting Open. 705-754-5698.

**Lakeview Motel** Open with restrictions. 705-457-1027. lakeviewhaliburton.ca.

Transat Travel Open Monday-Friday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Call 705-457-3290 for an appointment. Linda.coneybeare@transat.com or pcc22ha@transat.com or 705-457-3290.

Century 21 Granite Realty Group Open. Call 705-457-2147 (Haliburton) or 705-286-2138 (Minden) or email info@century21granite.com Molly's Bistro Bakery Open 7 a.m. - 3 p.m., Wednesday - Sunday. Call ahead for order. 705-268-6988.

Pet Valu Open Monday – Wednesday 9 a.m. - 6 p,m, Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Lockside Trading Company Open Monday-Saturday 10 a.m. -5 p.m and Sunday 11a.m.- 4 p.m. Online shopping, curbside pick-up, shipping, deliveries, or appointments. lockside. com. shop@lockside.com. 1-888-714-0484.

Country Magic Open Tuesday – Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. 705-286-1567.

Aprons & Soaps Open at 2064 County Rd 21 Tues – Fri 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Sat by chance or appointment. 705-457-1333. apronsandsoaps. com.

Dr. Benoit Open. Call 705-457-1400. Lebo Law Open. Remote videoconferencing available. Call or email for appointments. 705-455-6355. office@lebolaw.ca.

Subway Minden/Haliburton. Open 7 a.m. - 10

Maple Avenue Tap & Grill Open for take-out Wednesday and Thursday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. – 8 p.m., Sunday 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. 705-457-1100.

**Soyers Lake Plumbing** Open 705-306-9480. soyerslakeplumbing@gmail.com.

Re/Max Professionals North Open. All precautions being met through strict Covid-19 guidelines. 705-457-1011.

Into the Blue Bakery Open at Eagle Lake Country Market. Thurs, Sat, Sun 12 p.m. – 6 p.m. Friday 12 p.m. – 9 p.m. 705-854-2662. intothebluebakery.square.site.

**Abbey Gardens** Open Tues-Sat 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

The Cookhouse Restaurant – Haliburton Forest Open for takeout and some groceries. Order by calling 705-754-1729. Menu at haliburtonforest.com/amenities.

Haliburton Forest Open for gas and propane Friday, Saturday and Sunday 8 a m. – 5 p.m. Trails open for day use hiking, biking, running. Buy pass at haliburtonforest.com.

Master's Book Store Open. Continuing with curbside pickup. 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. 705-457-2223, mastersbook@bellnet.ca, mastersbookstore.ca.

**South Algonquin Dinner** Open for take-out daily from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. 705-448-1168.

Walkers Heating & Cooling Systems Open 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. for phone and email inquiries. No walk-in appointments. walkershvac.com. For emergency service, call 705-457-2375

Russell Red Records Open for curbside pickup and free Haliburton delivery Thursday – Sunday. russellredrecords.ca.

Hilary's Trim'n Floor Open Monday-Friday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. – 2 p.m., curb-side pickup and delivery available 705-448-3394

Minden 50s Diner Open for patio and takeout 7 days a week. 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. 705-286-2626. Louie's Car Care & Detail Centre Open. 705-455-3691.

Rebel Elixir Coffee Roastery oliver@web.net to order and arrange curbside pick-up.

Canadian Tire Open.

Buckley Electric Open. buckleyelectric.com Kegel Heating & Cooling Fully operational. 705-341-9170. kegelheatingandcooling.ca. Castle Antiques and Cafe Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. for curb-side pick-up. 705-457-1155.

Emmerson Castle Building Centre Open Monday – Friday 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**The Country Bakery** Open Friday – Sunday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Minden Electric Open 705-286-2946. 8 a.m. – 5 n.m.

Baked and Battered Open for takeout. bakedandbattered.com. 705-457-BAKE. W. Everitt's Enterprises Limited Open by appointment only Monday – Friday 9 a.m – 4 p.m. Call 705-754-9074. Norley Pit Open by appointment only Monday – Friday 9 a.m – 4 p.m. Call 705-854-1648.

Total Site Services Open 705-457-9558. totalsiteservices.ca.

Casey's Water Well & Geothermal, Inc. Open. 705-457-9558. caseyswaterwell.ca. Rodco Enterprise Open. 705-457-1224. rodcoen.com

**Minden Haliburton Hearing Service** Open by appointment only. 705-286-6001.

Highlands Storage Open. Limited onsite office hours. Call 705-489-3925, or email info@ highlands-storage.com or highlands-storage.com

**The Hot Shop** Open for bike repairs. Call 705-448-9522.

Mill Pond Restaurant Open for take-out from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

The Pepper Mill Steak & Pasta House Open for take-out Wed – Sun 4 p.m. – 8 p.m. Call 705-489-1939. Menu at thepeppermill.ca. Stoughton Electric Open. 705-447-2211 jason@stoughtonseptic.ca

McFadden's Meat Market Open.
Soloway's Outlet Delivers to homes with
Purolator. 705-448-1007. streetmeattoronto.

Glecoff's Family Store Open Monday -Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Curb-side pick-up, delivery, or in-store with social distancing. 705-457-2715.

Wintergreen Maple Syrup and Pancake Barn Maple syrup and preserves available by appointment. 705-286-3202. wintergreenmapleproducts.com.

Highland Timber Mart Open Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sunday closed. Gooderham 705-457-2012, Harcourt 705-448-2268

**Garbutt Disposal** Still accepting construction waste. 705-286-1843.

Minden Animal Hospital Open Monday – Friday 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Call 705-286-2919 to pre-book your appointment.

Cordell Carpet In-store traffic by appointment only. Open for curb side pick-up with 24 hour notice. Monday – Friday 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. 705-457-2022. cordellcarpet@bellnet.ca.

Paws at Killara Station Open for doggy day care and care with conditions. Call 705-854-0055 or email info@killarastation.com.

Fresh at Killara Station Pre-order your eggs and chicks. Call 705-854-0055 and pay online or honesty box.

John Fountain Electronics Open by appointment only. Call 705-286-2536. County Automotive Open for repair only. Drop off only. Call 705-457-1411 or email countyautomotive@hotmail.com.

Generator Solutions Temporarily closed to public but staff still available at monica@ generatorsolutions.ca or telephone 705-286-1003 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Monday - Friday.

Sunny Rock Bed and Breakfast Taking reservations. 705-286-4922, sunnyrockbb.ca.

Edilicious Teamed up with Nourished to offer a falafel meal deal on Saturdays. Delivery available. Contact Nourished at 705-775-0525 to order.

Step of Grace Conditioning Studio Open with on-line training. Call 705-457-6749 or 416-707-1966.

McKee Security Open. Call 705-457-2156. Northern HVAC. Open. northernhvacco.ca. 705-489-2001.

Royal Lepage Trillium Team Working from home and checking phone messages and emails regularly. trilliumteam.ca.

Haliburton Dance Academy Livestream classes. info@haliburtondanceacademy.com.
Minden Subaru Open by appointment only.
Service: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday.
Sales: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 705-286-6126.
County Sign & Display Closed to walk-in traffic. countysign@interhop.net. 705-286-6650.
Haliburton Legion Closed. Contact office
Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 705-457-2571

**Up River Trading Co.** Open from 8:30 a.m. **Tails and Trails** Open with regular hours. Call 705- 935-8245.

Highlands Medical Supplies Available to take your orders by phone or email. Pre-paid orders can be delivered or via "Pick-Up Box". Call 705-457-9355 (Mon - Fri 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.), info@ highlandsmedicalsupplies.com. Weekend/after hours: 705-455-2705 (urgent only.)

Hawk River Construction Open for business but closed to public.

The Pregnancy Care & Family Support Centre Open by appointment. 705-457-4673 West G Pizza & Grill Open for take-out and delivery after 4 p.m. 705-754-9141. Abbey Gardens Food Hub Open for retail shopping and take-out food only. Pre-

orders welcome by calling 705-754-4769 or abbeygardens.ca/shop-online.

AM/PM Outdoor Gourmet Special takeout menu. Open 6 days a week. Call 613-876-4639

menu. Open 6 days a week. Call 613-876-4639 or email amanda@ampmoutdoorgourmet.com. ampmoutdoorgourmet.square.site.

John E. Francis Fuels Office closed but

John E. Francis Fuels Office closed but operating business as usual by phone or email. Invoices will be mailed or emailed, not delivered by drivers.

McKeck's Open. Mon-Sat from 12-7 p.m. Menu

at mckecks.ca/menu. Call 705-457-3443. Hudson Henderson Insurance Brokers
Open for appointments not walk-ins from Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
WRD Cottage Rental Agency Open as usual but working remotely. Call 705-457-9434 or email to fran@ontariocottagerental.com.
Pine Grove Point 4445 Elephant Lake Road, Harcourt. Open Sun - Thurs 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Fri - Sat 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. Variety Store open for essential needs and the Pizza & Snack Shack open for take-out orders.

Riverview Furniture Open. Monday – Saturday 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. 705-286-3167. riverview-furniture.com Nourished Offers healthy, delicious, fresh and frozen food options. Wed - Sat 11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. for takeout/delivery. 705-306-0526. The Beer Store Closing at 7 on Fridays. Stamp Carpet & Duct Cleaning Open. 705-457-4715. 705-306-0704.

### WHAT'S ON

### **JULY 14-17**

9 a.m. – 12 p.m Lil' Buds Discovery Program for children ages 5-6 years. Contact Irene Heaven Irene@ abbeygardens.ca or call 705-754-4769

#### JULY 20

1 p.m. Social Media Overview: Arts Council Members Zoom Webinar presented by Thom Lambert, Tourism Coordinator and Amanda Virtanen, Director of Tourism. Learn some basic tips and tricks specific to Facebook and Instagram. Register in advance for this webinar: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_ignzOiTRSvKcWyTBTOOkBg

### **JULY 28-31**

12 p.m. – 4 p.m. Outdoor Kids Discovery Program for children ages 7 – 10 years. Contact Irene Heaven Irene@ abbeygardens.ca or call 705-754-4769

### AUGUST 4-7

12 p.m. – 4 p.m. Outdoor Kids Discovery Program for children ages 7 – 10 years. Contact Irene Heaven Irene@ abbeygardens.ca or call 705-754-4769

### **AUGUST 11-14**

Taking the Reins Program 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. daily for children ages 11-14 years. Contact Irene Heaven Irene@ abbeygardens.ca or call 705-754-4769

### **AUGUST 17**

2nd Annual Abbey Gardens Golf Tournament. The Organizing Committee will modify our tournament to be sure that our participants are able to follow all current government regulations and social distancing rules. Contact janis@parkerpad. com or heather@abbeygardens.ca

### **AUGUST 18–21**

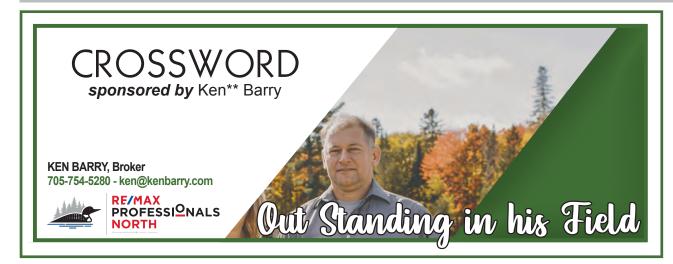
Lil' Buds Discovery Program – ages 5-6 years old from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m., Contact Irene Heaven Irene@abbeygardens.ca or call 705-754-4769

### **AUGUST 22**

Dinner and Concert at Abbey Gardens
Featuring John McDermott, Jason Fowler
and Mark Lalama. The Organizing
Committee will provide an environment
that allows participants to enjoy the concert
while following all current government
regulations and social distancing rules.
Contact Janis Parker (janis@parkerpad.
com), Brenda Smith (b59smith@yahoo.
ca), Barb Bolin (bolin.barb@gmail.
com), Marianne Fenninger (marianne.
fenninger@gmail.com)

HAVE AN UPCOMING EVENT? Contact admin@thehighlander.ca

## Highlander puzzles



### **Exploring the Back Country**

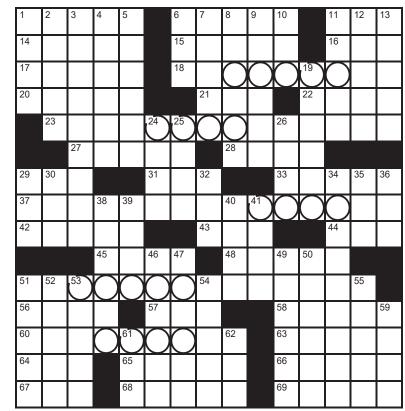
### **Across**

- **1** "... the \_\_\_ side of a barn"
- 6 Woody Allen-type worry
- \_\_\_-Magnon Man
- 14 Meet with the old class, say
- **15** Canadian poet Crozier
- 16 Chick chicken?
- 17 Follow, as advice
- 18 Broadway booklets
- 20 Took care of
- 21 Chatted on Facebook, for short
- 22 Paté de \_\_\_ gras
- 23 Ideal for a postcard
- 27 "Finally finished!"
- **28** "Whose woods these \_\_\_ think ...": Frost
- 29 Water, chemically
- **31** Strands in a lab?
- 33 Suit, deservedly
- **37** Big word for a 50-something
- 42 Pull a chair up to
- 43 Brown who played Molly on "The Beachcombers"
- 44 I.C.U. workers
- 45 Chills in the air
- 48 Russian, in French
- **51** Green morsel in salsa
- **56** Part of a fairy tale beginning
- **57** U.K.'s Luftwaffe foe
- **58** \_\_\_ Good Feelings (1820s period)
- **60** What a moneybags has
- **63** \_\_\_ hole in (erodes)
- **64** Kung \_\_\_ chicken (stir-fry dish)
- **65** Be hospitable at the door
- **66** Losing propositions?
- **67** Nos. in an obit
- **68** Hard type of question for a
- 69 "Blame It \_\_\_" (Michael Caine film)

### Down

- 1 "Training" lingerie, maybe
- 2 Headlines wrap-up
- 3 "Quit hemming and hawing!"
- 4 Amount to "kick it up"

by Barbara Olson © ClassiCanadian Crosswords



- **5** Signify
- 6 Hurdle for Hannibal
- 7 "Scout's honour!"
- 8 Pop's pop, to a tot
- **9** "Justice League" director Zack
- **10** Indenting key
- **11** Allison Mack's "Smallville" role
- **12** Dig find
- 13 Get-go
- **19** Less locked-in
- 24 Language of Pakistan
- 25 Sofer of "Melrose Place
- **26** Sitcom starring a country singer
- **29** Main office: Abbr.
- 30 "You got it, Yves"
- **32** Growing industry?: Abbr.
- **34** Sword swallower's cohort, maybe
- 35 Country singer Tyson
- 36 Communities: Abbr.

38 Part of a "Hey Jude" refrain

- 39 Narrow canal cleaner
- **40** Wyatt of the old West
- 41 Nuremberg "new"
- 46 Leaf through, as a contract
- 47 Lunchbox items for recess
- 49 Sporty swimwear brand
- **50** Not quite fracture
- **51** Jacked up on joe, maybe
- 52 "... partridge in \_\_\_ tree"
- 53 Symbols on hockey boards, say
- 54 Next
- **55** Swiss hash browns
- 59 Africa's Burkina \_
- **61** Canadian retailer, with "the"
- 62 Prefix with Cat or Cone

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### **SUDOKU** 2 7 3 8 5 1 3 4 8 1 2 4 5 2 9 4 5 8 7 3 8 2 9

L												
LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS												
8	1	7	6	5	4	3	2	9				
4	9	5	3	2	8	7	6	1				
6	2	3	9	1	7	4	5	8				
1	3	2	5	8	9	6	7	4				
9	7	4	1	6	2	8	3	5				
5	8	6	4	7	3	9	1	2				
3	6	1	8	4	5	2	9	7				
2	4	9	7	3	1	5	8	6				

	<sup>1</sup> H	<sup>2</sup> A	<sup>3</sup> V	<sup>4</sup> O	<sup>5</sup> C		<sup>6</sup> A	<sup>7</sup> P	<sup>8</sup> T	<sup>9</sup> E	<sup>10</sup> R		<sup>11</sup> P	<sup>12</sup> A	13 W
,	<sup>14</sup> A	Р	0	0	R		<sup>15</sup> C	Н	R	0	Ν		<sup>16</sup> A	Р	Р
,	<sup>17</sup> C	0	U	Р	0	18 N	Н	0	U	N	D		<sup>19</sup> P	0	М
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,				<sup>23</sup> S	U	Р	Р	0	R	<sup>24</sup> T	<sup>25</sup> S	В	R	Α	<sup>26</sup> S
,		<sup>27</sup> P	<sup>28</sup> U	L	S	Е				<sup>29</sup> W	Н	Ι	R	L	Υ
,		<sup>30</sup> A	Ν	Α			<sup>31</sup> N	<sup>32</sup> U	<sup>33</sup> D	ı	Е		<sup>34</sup> O	Υ	L
,		<sup>35</sup> S	Α	Υ	<sup>36</sup>	<sup>37</sup> T	Α	I	Ν	Т	S	<sup>38</sup> O	U	Р	
,	<sup>39</sup> P	S	Т		<sup>40</sup> C	Н	Е	Е	R			<sup>41</sup> K	Т	S	
,	<sup>42</sup> A	Т	Т	43 L	Е	Е				<sup>44</sup> S	<sup>45</sup> P	R	Е	Е	
,	<sup>46</sup> C	Н	Е	R	R	Υ	<sup>47</sup> C	<sup>48</sup> U	<sup>49</sup> P	0	L	Α			
•		<sup>50</sup> E	Ν	Т			51 	Ν	U	S	Е		<sup>52</sup>	<sup>53</sup> S	<sup>54</sup> O
,	<sup>55</sup> P	Н	D		<sup>56</sup>	<sup>57</sup> T	Α	L	L	Α	D	<sup>58</sup> D	S	U	Р
•	<sup>59</sup> R	Α	Е		<sup>60</sup> B	R	0	I	L		<sup>61</sup> G	Ι	М	М	Е
•	<sup>62</sup> Y	Т	D		63 M	Ι	S	Т	S		<sup>64</sup> E	Υ	Е	0	N

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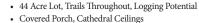
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