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The Highlander

Thursday **August 13 2020** | Issue 452

INSIDE: MATT DUCHENE'S SEASON OVER PAGE 18

FREE



Filmmakers Mike Mildon and Jackson Rowe dig up a site on Heaven family property. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

Cold case continues

By Joseph Quigley

Hands coated in muck, Mike Mildon kept on digging into a six-foot hole, seven hours into a search for his long-missing relative Harold Heaven.

"Just a little more," he said as he reached in for another handful of mud.

The lead in Mildon's search for answers on the Minden man who disappeared 86-years-ago ended in disappointment Aug. 12. He and fellow documentary filmmaker Jackson Rowe - surrounded by their crew and dozens of Heaven family members - did not uncover the body they expected to find in a spot on family property.

The duo have been working on a documentary titled "For Heaven's Sake," about their search for Heaven. Mildon said they used ground-penetrating radar in February on a spot long-rumoured to be Heaven's resting place in family stories. The results found it looked similar to a cemetery site and could contain a body.

After delays due to winter and the pandemic, they went to work digging. But all they uncovered was dirt

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The Heaven family gathers around the dig site. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

Search goes on for Harold Heaven

Continued from page 1

and rocks.

"We had a lot of confidence going into that. It hurts, it really sucks," Mildon said. "The whole family was around – we wanted to give them something."

Heaven went missing in 1934, his case going unsolved by police, though their reports indicated they suspected suicide. Mildon and Rowe have said they think there is more to it, including the possibility of manslaughter, and they are not discounting any theory.

"There's always rumours people talk about," Rowe said. "It's just difficult

for us to sift through and take them all seriously as we'd like to. We're going to regroup."

But the Heaven family who came remained in high spirits even after the disappointing end as they cheered the documentarians on.

"Now, we can tell our kids and grandkids the story," family member Emma Cornfield said. "Of how we dug the holes. We now have new campfire stories."

"My whole goal was to give them an answer today," Mildon said. "It sucks on that front, but there was so much love and support around, that I think

everyone saw it. Very thankful."

Rowe said Minden has been an excellent community to work with throughout their months-long search.

"Almost everyone we came into contact with was supportive and was happy to talk," Rowe said. "Really paints Minden in a lovely light."

The filmmakers said they did not have any specific strong leads after this, but they'll keep going.

"It's not done yet," Mildon said. "We learned about perseverance and what it takes to solve something like this. It's not as easy as some people make it seem."



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Local parents had to decide this week whether to send their kids back to school or have them do remote learning starting in September. *File photo.*

Students: should they stay or should they go?

By Joseph Quigley

Parents are deciding whether to send their children for in-person learning this September, as Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) asked them to pick a method of education this week.

TLDSB sent out emails to its families Aug. 7, asking them to re-register their children for either in-person or remote learning by Aug. 13. The board's schools are set to reopen fully in September despite the pandemic, but remote learning is still an option.

Haliburton parent Dulce Acero has a daughter attending Grade 8 this year. She said she has conflicting feelings, but will send her daughter back out of concern for mental health and issues with remote learning.

"I'm obviously worried about what could possibly happen with that many kids all in one place," Acero said. "I don't feel good about it, but I really don't feel like I have any other options at this point."

The TLDSB has published information on its plans over the past week. There will be many differences at schools, such as staggered lunches and recesses, mandatory masks for Grades 4 and up, limiting school visitors and high school students taking a reduced number of credits at one time.

Remote students will get a mix of at-home live instruction and independent learning through primarily online platforms. But the board has said exact details will depend on the makeup of students who sign up. Students will also be unable to switch after making a choice until at late October.

Parent Breann Nicole said she is unsure about sending her child into school for Grade 7 and intends to choose remote learning if enough parents opt for it.

"I believe the government is trying to restart the economy on the backs of our children," she said. "There is not enough known about COVID for this to be safe."

Unions have criticized the provincial return to school plan, calling for smaller class sizes and significantly more funding than the \$309 million the province has allotted for safety equipment and additional staffing.

Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation TLDSB local president Colin Matthew said TLDSB is working hard and there are many logistical hurdles to be worked out. He added the provincial plan details are thin and there is significant latitude for local boards.

"We're still waiting to hear what their plans look like," he said. "What we've put to the board is our primary concern ... is the safety of everyone involved."

Matthew added they want public health authorities to have a huge role in the process and be listened to.

As far as remote learning, Matthew said their hope is teachers can be dedicated to it without splitting their time, but that will depend on the numbers.

"I hope they (parents) make the decision that's best for their family so that we can accurately assess what our staffing needs are," he said.

"I really hope nothing bad happens," Acero said. "I hope everything can go as well as it possibly can."

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Algonquin Highlands tweaks e-meeting rules

By Lisa Gervais

Algonquin Highlands council has tweaked its procedural bylaw for electronic meetings after provincial changes to Bill 197 July 21.

Council met Aug. 11 to discuss the alterations so members of councils, local boards, or committees could participate in electronic meetings on an ongoing basis, no longer tied to an emergency declaration.

In her report to council, clerk Dawn Newhook said, “the proposed amendments ... will provide for the flexibility for council to continue to meet and conduct business, and ensure the public can participate and view council meetings in a safe and responsible manner until such time that social gatherings are permitted and social distancing is no longer required.”

Her draft said while councillors should attend meetings in-person, they could attend electronically in the event of a state of emergency; a natural weather event; or for health and safety restrictions, such as a pandemic. The draft also listed medical reasons, illness or municipal business.

Also, in future, council can vote by show of hands versus calling for a yes or no vote.

Mayor Carol Moffatt said when it came to medical reasons, the intent was, “if you were unable to attend because you, as happened to me once, broke your leg or you have symptoms of COVID or are waiting for a test or if you had surgery or something of that nature.”

She said it is not, “you’re going to Zoom

in from your holidays or from your balcony in Florida. It’s meant to be medical reasons, illness, or something that’s declared by the province or some other important reason that has been deemed in everyone’s best interest.”

She said with weather, it means northern Coun. Jennifer Dailloux could Zoom in if there was a pending blizzard.

“It’s not because you don’t feel like it, or you have a headache or a sore toe. We’re trying to accommodate serious, extraordinary reasons,” the mayor said.

Deputy mayor Liz Danielsen said councillors needed to keep in mind there is quite a bit of staff involvement to conduct Zoom meetings so “our reasons need to be solid as to why we might not attend.”

Coun. Dailloux asked about COVID. She said people have varying tolerance levels about the risk of contracting the virus. She wanted to know if “a personal high-risk feeling was sufficient to say ‘I’m not coming in once council has agreed it is now safe to come in’ and it is expected that that individual will come in.”

Moffatt said it towed a fine line of respecting people’s personal feelings without undue fear mongering.

She added if public health recommendations are in place to provide a safe work place, councillors could not refuse attendance, just as employees cannot refuse work.

“I’d like to think that we are mature and



Algonquin Highlands council met via Zoom Aug. 11. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

collegial enough for people to agree that it’s time to come back and we’re all going to conduct ourselves accordingly to make it safe for ourselves,” she said.

Coun. Lisa Barry said another consideration is council members who have children who cannot attend a meeting due to an emergent COVID situation at their children’s school. But the mayor said that seemed to be covered under the pandemic section of the bylaw.

Coun. Dailloux queried zooming in from a holiday or a one-off situation such as being out of province for elder care.

Moffatt said the preference is attending in-person. For example, she said people should not call in from holidays,” because a

holiday is a holiday and people should have time off.” As for one-time elder care, she said it becomes a “slippery slope” because everyone can have legitimate reasons for missing meetings.

“I think the thing that’s most important is that whether it is for the five or us, or the next five, or when it’s five after, that it doesn’t become so loosie goosy that everyone just Zooms in from home in their pajamas because they just couldn’t be bothered to drive that day,” she said.

Newhook added council will have to make a future decision about whether to continue to livestream meetings to the general public once pandemic limitations are lifted.



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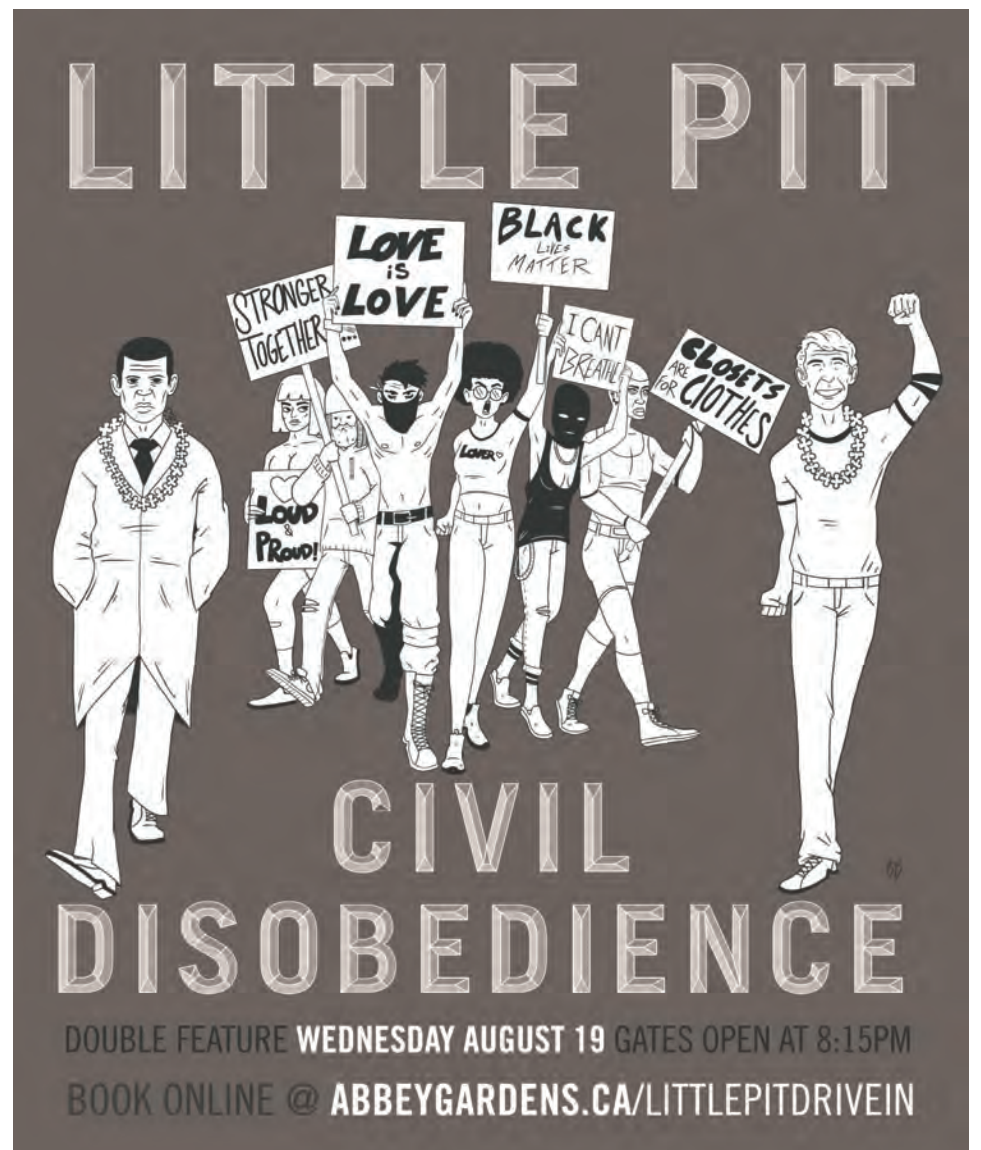


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Septic systems challenging Highlands East

By Joseph Quigley

Highlands East is pushing to address unresolved high-risk septic systems in its inspection program, but staff reported difficulties accomplishing that.

Septic inspector Arlene Quinn presented an update to council Aug. 11 on how many properties still need to be addressed. There are 187 outstanding high-risk properties, after staff previously resolved 88 found since the program began in 2017.

Quinn said the properties have a variety of circumstances. The pandemic has also slowed progress and prevented the municipality from hiring summer students to help this year.

"Each property of concern is unique, and each person's situation is different, therefore making resolution, compliance and statistical information rather challenging," Quinn said. "Our approach has been to address highest priorities first, regardless of what year inspection transpired."

Quinn reported there are those facing financial hurdles to replacing septic systems and she has been unable to find financial assistance for non-primary residences. Others are also on waitlists for qualified septic installers, who have been busy with other inspection programs running in the County.

However, Quinn said many are refusing to acknowledge correspondence, often because they do not want to revert changes to their

properties done without required building permits, such as adding bedrooms, which can make septic systems undersized.

"These are the properties that we have the hardest time getting into compliance and court orders may be necessary," Quinn said.

Deputy mayor Cec Ryall said he has no issue with helping property owners who are willing to work with the municipality.

"It is definitely something that shows our municipality is not just out there trying to enforce a bylaw. We're trying to be compassionate," Ryall said. "We're trying to do the job the best we can, but at the end of the day, we have to protect what needs to be protected."

Ryall said the concern is more with those not working with Quinn.

"If we're going to take litigation, let's do it," Ryall said. "Because at the end of the day, if we're going to be crying wolf, then nothing is going to happen. I understand there are costs associated with anything we do. There are also costs associated with (doing) nothing."

Ryall said the municipality needs to establish timelines for each of the cases, as well as how many are working and not working with staff.

"We need to come up with some timelines for closing off these various phases, otherwise this is going to drag on beyond my lifetime."

Council voted to accept Quinn's report as information.



Highlands East council received a report about septic inspection progress at its Aug. 11 meeting. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

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Editorial opinion

TheHighlander

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To tell the story of Haliburton County each week

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

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

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

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

Continue livestreaming meetings



By Lisa Gervais

While it is a bit early for research data on how electronic council meetings are impacting Haliburton County there are some interesting discussions currently underway in terms of the use of technology, not just now but going forward.

Algonquin Highlands councillors kicked around the topic Aug. 11 when they held a special council meeting to discuss amendments to their procedural bylaw for electronic participation in meetings.

You may remember that on March 17, Ontario declared a state of emergency over COVID. A couple of days later, they made some changes to the Municipal Act so townships could meet electronically since they weren't allowed to meet in person.

For months now, the County and its four lower-tier municipalities have been meeting on Zoom and livestreaming to YouTube.

Overall, these meetings have been successful.

On July 21, the province shuffled the cards again, opening the door to meetings of council, local boards and committees, on an ongoing basis - no longer tied to an emergency declaration.

Many townships here still have to decide about advisory committees - when and how they can resume their work. Some have

been stalled for months. Could they be held electronically in this current state of emergency?

Some of the talk includes a hybrid model, in which council could meet in person in the future and the meeting still be livestreamed to the general public if it's not deemed safe for the public to be in council chambers.

There are also discussions about continuing livestreaming council meetings once councils are able to meet in the chambers and be open for public attendance.

In Haliburton County, the majority of elected officials have put their hands up knowing that they are expected to attend council meetings in person. It means they are not wintering in Florida and Zooming in, gin and tonic just out of the laptop frame.

What councils are trying to do now is figure out under which unusual circumstances they may be allowed to Zoom in: such as if they've broken a leg, or just had surgery, or there's a pending three-day blizzard. From what I'm hearing, the exceptions have to be pretty exceptional. And, they should be.

I'd like to see meetings resume in-person

when safe to do so. However, I'd also like them to continue on YouTube and be available to the general public for a week after each meeting is held.

We live in a County where all five governments meet during the day. This makes it very hard for working people to attend council meetings. In other jurisdictions, municipal council meetings are held in the evening to allow the general public better access.

One alternative to that would be a continuation of livestreaming.

I've attended my fair share of Zoom/YouTube council meetings since the spring. Sometimes the numbers of people watching are in the 20s and 30s. Rarely, if ever, do 20 to 30 people attend a council meeting in person unless there is a decidedly controversial topic on the agenda and word has gotten out.

Having the meetings livestreamed and available for seven days would allow for greater transparency and greater public input.

Good for you

Reduce emergency department overcrowding

By Dr. Diane Duff, PhD, RN, Minden

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) operates fully staffed Emergency Departments (EDs) 24 hours a day, 365 days a year in both Minden and Haliburton.

On average, 27,000 patients per year visit the EDs. While the fall and spring can be quite quiet, there is a significant spike in visits during the summer and other holiday periods during the year. Like many Ontario hospitals in communities with negligible COVID-19 spread, our EDs have been very quiet since March. But visits have been steadily increasing since we reached Stage 3 of the provincial reopening and cottagers, campers and other recreational visitors have returned and people have resumed more normal activities.

The Canadian Triage and Acuity Scale (CTAS) is a tool health care workers use for determining patient acuity or the severity of the patient's illness in the ED. Unlike the grocery store where "first come, first served" applies, EDs see the sickest patients first. Only 30 per cent or 8,000 of those visiting our EDs are CTAS 1-3 (highest acuity). The remaining 70 per cent are classified as CTAS 4 or 5. CTAS 4 typically have conditions such as earaches, constipation, urinary tract infections, sprains, and mild depression. CTAS 5 patients have sore throats, colds, pink eye, bug bites, rashes, and similar mild illnesses or injuries. Typically, CTAS 4-5 patients should be seen by a nurse practitioner or a family physician. While hallway medicine in many Ontario hospitals is blamed on

long-term care home waiting lists it has not been a concern for our municipal hospitals. Instead, insufficient access to primary care is the reason our EDs become over-crowded especially during weekends, holidays and the summer season.

Fortunately, there is relief at hand. Individuals experiencing symptoms of mild illness (CTAS 4-5s) can now use videolinks or phone visits with primary care physicians or nurse practitioners.

Like online shopping, virtual primary care options have expanded rapidly over the past few months. There are many choices for care and they are transforming primary care health access, especially for those of us in rural and remote areas of the province. Now all we need is to have great connectivity and make sure that people are educated as to how to use virtual health care services.

Still not convinced? My son visited us recently in Minden for a couple of weeks on vacation. He lives with psoriasis, a chronic condition that is usually fairly well controlled by prescription skin creams. Psoriasis is characterized by red, itchy, scaly patches of skin over bony areas like the scalp, knees, and elbows. Psoriasis is often made worse by stress. It can be extremely uncomfortable making sleep difficult, which exacerbates the condition.

In 2013, my son lived and worked in Minden and helped care for his grandfather who was dying of end stage heart disease. I returned home from another province when it was clear my father was palliative, so that he could die at home, which was his preference. During my dad's last few

weeks, I insisted my son go to the ED in Minden to get a prescription and a referral to a dermatologist in Toronto. He did not have access to primary care in Minden. The ED physician at first questioned his visit to the ED, stating that in over 20 years of being an ED physician, he had never seen a patient with psoriasis. However, he changed his tone when he realized that it involved more than 80 per cent of his body. He was referred and later seen at Sunnybrook Health Sciences' dermatology clinic and prescribed a short course of methotrexate, a medication more commonly used as a cancer medication or for treatment of severe rheumatoid arthritis, as well as prescriptions for corticosteroid lotions and ointments.

Fortunately, on his recent visit to Minden, my son only had a few psoriasis lesions. I advocated for a virtual primary care service. The phone visit was thorough but efficient and he had a prescription waiting at the drug store for pick up the next day. No need for an unnecessary ED visit.

And in case you think that the trend towards virtual care will not be sustained after the pandemic: "Follow the money"! SunLife announced last week that they have strategically partnered with Dialogue, a leading Canadian telemedicine provider to the tune of \$32.7 million.

So before you head to the ED with the "runs" or a headache, try a virtual primary care provider visit by phone or videolink. There are many good services available. I have used tuliphealth, tiahealth, and teladoc. It will save the health system money and it's good for you!

Editorial opinion

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Greg Pichnej, of Bushwolf Lake, has captioned this photograph: "Dance like nobody is watching even when you know they are."

LETTERS

A courtesy to let the artists know

Dear editor,

Re: "Cancelled artisans market 'heartbreaking'" article.

Having read this article, I was perplexed by comments from Mayor Brent Devolin regarding artists wanting to participate in an artisan market in Minden this year. Mr. Devolin states the fact artists were interested only appeared on the township's radar the week prior to the article.

Here is my experience in dealing with the township. I have been a participant in the artisan market for the past several years. In the early spring, I received an email from the Minden staffperson who has organized these markets since I've been involved. The email was brief, saying she had just learned she would be laid off at the end of the week and wanted us to know. She couldn't say more about the future markets as she did not know.

I phoned the township office and was told they didn't know if the markets would be happening. Several weeks later, I again phoned, leaving a message asking if the markets would be happening. I never received a call back.

I'm sure the township has been extremely busy trying to deal with the pandemic. We can all understand that. But to now say it was up to artists to draw up a proposal, appear before council and take that plan to the Health Unit seems odd. It has always been the township who took the leadership

role. If that changed, it would have been at least courteous to let the artists know. Unfortunately, it's too late now.

Sharon Lynch, Stone Garden Pottery
Haliburton

Position has religious foundation

Dear editor,

My letter published in the August 6 edition of *The Highlander* regarding COVID-19 face masks had to be pared down to meet space limitations. This cut out the religious foundation on which my position rested. It would be helpful for the readers to have this information which is as follows.

The Bible calls on mankind to be subject to the governing authorities because those that exist have been instituted by God and those who resist will incur judgment. Such rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad, and those who do what is good will receive God's approval.

Those who do wrong should be afraid because duly constituted authorities are required to carry out God's wrath on wrongdoers. Therefore, the Christian must be in subjection for the sake of conscience (Romans 13:1-5).

The Christian also prays for those human authorities. Observations: a) Unless the governing authority is demanding disobedience to a law of God, the Christian citizen is to obey that authority. b) The governing authorities will answer to God

and they will face his wrath if they govern unjustly. c) It is assumed that governing authorities will rule under God for the welfare of the people to the best of their knowledge and power.

It would be good to listen to Jesus' assertion: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets" (Matthew 22:37-40).

Don Wood
Irish Line Road

Appreciating a clean village

Dear editor,

We would like to thank the Parks and Recreation Department for keeping Haliburton Village so debris free and clean this spring and summer.

Everywhere we walk, be it along the river path, around the lake and using the park washrooms, we have never been concerned with cleanliness or litter.

We see Mick several times on the weekends cleaning everywhere from the beach, the park and washrooms more than once in a day.

We have been in several other towns and villages in June and July and did not find the same availability of washrooms and

cleanliness that we have here in Haliburton.

We appreciate all the work everyone is doing to keep us COVID clean and safe.

Lillian and Larry Hall
Haliburton

Head Lake dump

Dear editor,

While on our daily walk with our canine cohort, my husband and I were surprised to find a garbage dump right in town.

Yes, apparently we are free to just discard our sandwich wrappers, baggies, drink cups, cans, etc. right on the ground wherever our mood suits us. Oh, and don't forget ... Fido seems free to poop wherever he wants and we can just leave it.

Seriously, though, we have a beautiful park that our municipal workers keep beautiful for us. They are there every morning emptying the garbage bins (Yes They are there), cleaning washrooms, mowing the grass and tending to the gardens.

Surely we could contribute to keeping our park clean by taking our garbage with us and putting it into the easily accessible (and plentiful) garbage bins. The municipality even supplies free poop bags for our dogs and a special can in which to put their business. C'mon, people. If we're spending our time closer to home, maybe we could keep our home clean for everyone to enjoy.

Kim Kelly
Haliburton

Highlander news

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— News briefs

Preparing for online university

New and returning post-secondary students - preparing to take their university classes online this fall - can now take a free online course from Athabasca University through Contact North starting Aug. 10,

Contact North said that during the five-week, self-paced course, new and experienced students learn essential concepts and practices for successful online learning.

In a media release, Contact North said students explore the fundamentals of online learning, determine their learning preferences and address common misconceptions. They learn how to deal with their frustrations and how to overcome their fears about online learning and gain confidence.

"We are thrilled to partner with Contact North | Contact Nord and their expansive reach to help ensure as many post-secondary students have free access to this unique course to be successful online learners," said Dr. Marti Cleveland-Innes, who's the course instructor.

Sarah Gauvreau, course facilitator and research associate for Contact North | Contact Nord added, "students have the opportunity to learn about how online education differs from the traditional classroom and build strategies for student success. We guide participants through an interactive self-reflection process to determine their learning preferences and to create their own personal strategy for successful online learning."

For more information or to register for Learning to Learn Online visit: contactnorth.itlo.ca/

VDO auction goes online

Volunteer Dental Outreach (VDO) has launched its first-ever online auction in support of its upcoming golf tournament.

Spokesman Mark Arike said it runs until 1 p.m. on Aug. 20, which is the same day as the golf tournament.

"We are doing this instead of an in-person silent auction due to COVID-19 social distancing measures," Arike said.

The link is: 32auctions.com/VDOauction2020

(News briefs compiled by Lisa Gervais)



SIRCH is still preparing hundreds of free meals per week to meet demand, despite the province reopening. *Photo submitted*

SIRCH seeks answers on food insecurity

By Joseph Quigley

SIRCH is researching to get a better understanding of food insecurity in Haliburton as demand for its free meals remains high.

The community service organization announced the initiative July 29. It is surveying people facing food insecurity to find out more about their experiences. SIRCH said the effort was prompted by the demand remaining high enough for 500 meals per week, well beyond the 70 a week it was cooking before COVID-19 hit.

Project co-ordinator Emma Wood said they are connecting with food banks and other organizations to learn more about how COVID has impacted people's ability to purchase nutritious food.

"We hope to get a better picture of who

is receiving our meals, who we could be missing and the overall picture of food insecurity in Haliburton," Wood said. "And if COVID has had any impact."

The organization originally upped its meal production to respond to the crisis, as the pandemic slowed down business, leading to layoffs. SIRCH executive director Gena Robertson said they expected demand to drop once the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) and other supports kicked in. But the decline never happened.

"We thought we had our hand on the pulse of the community when it came to food and needing food," Robertson said. "Conversations and stories made us realize that for many, the needs had been there all along, but they just hadn't been aware of the meals. We wanted to dig a bit deeper."

The Central Food Network in Highlands East has previously said it is bracing itself for a possible spike in demand come winter, with rising food prices and people struggling with depleted savings and summer employment decline.

Wood said SIRCH hopes to use the data collected to prepare for the fall.

"We can get a better idea on what the current need is, and is that need expected to go up, so that way we can secure funding and prepare our team to weather that," she said. "We just want to make sure come the colder months, we're ready to go."

The confidential survey is available through sirch.on.ca under the COVID-19 tab, by emailing emma_wood@sirch.on.ca or by calling 705-457-1742 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday.

Minden Hills announces Stage 3 reopening plans

By Lisa Gervais

Taxpayers and residents of Minden Hills will now be able to physically access some municipal sites as the township works on Stage 3 of COVID-19 reopenings.

The municipality announced Aug. 7 that people can now make in-person appointments to meet with staff at 7 Milne St.

The township said people can contact building/bylaw/planning at 705-286-1260 ext. 209; the finance and tax department at 705-286-1260; and the clerks department at

705-286-1260 ext. 212.

However, they emphasized that they would still prefer that people conduct township business either online or by phone as much as possible, at mindenhills.ca and 705-286-1260.

Meanwhile, effective Aug. 4, the Agnes Jamieson Gallery and Minden Hills Cultural Centre, at 176 Bobcaygeon Rd., are open to the public from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Bowron House is also open to the public, while the remaining museum buildings will be accessible through a virtual tour. For Minden Hills Cultural Centre inquiries,

email gallery@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3154.

The S.G. Nesbitt Arena and Community Centre, at 55 Parkside St., will remain closed to the public until further notice while construction upgrades are being completed. For inquiries, call 705-286-1936.

The Public Works Department office, at 11445 Highway 35, will remain closed to the public at this time. It can be reached at 705-286-3144.

The public is reminded that Minden Hills now has a mask policy in place as well.

Highlander news



Pine Lake is one of many in Haliburton County that experienced low levels throughout early summer due to dry conditions. *Photo submitted by Sharon Brinkos.*

Dry start to summer crashes lake levels

By Joseph Quigley

Drought conditions throughout the region caused abnormally low water levels at many Haliburton lakes and beyond, according to the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow (CEWF).

The Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW), which manages water flow throughout the region, reported rainfall amounts for May and June have been 25 to 50 per cent below normal for the area. That left lakes below long-term levels throughout the early summer, causing them to be impacted more by the TSW's annual system drawdown. It has continued to reduce water levels in lakes throughout Haliburton, with decreases projected until at least Aug. 9, as of its July 26 update.

CEWF chair Ted Spence said they are also reducing water flows in the Otonabee River at the south end of the system, to match the reduction in flow elsewhere.

"Our group is very happy they're looking very basin-wide in terms of water management," Spence said. "If they hadn't done that, we'd be much lower."

The drawdown is done based on factors such as lake storage capacity, fish spawning, flood mitigation precipitation and maintaining flows downstream, according to the TSW. Spence said the drawdown helps the TSW fill its reservoirs and bring them to a normal level come fall. The lower water levels caused by the drought and drawdown impacted boating and docks throughout the system. However, recent rainfall has reduced the drawdown rate, according to the CEWF.

Spence said climate change is creating more seasons with extreme weather and people will have to adjust expectations accordingly.

"What we are seeing is more periods of extended droughts and more extreme

rainfall events," he said. "Everybody needs to adjust their own shoreline to adapt more to changing circumstances."

That includes flow-through lakes accustomed to consistent water levels, such as the Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes and Area Property Owners' Association (MBC), which Spence said he has heard concerns from.

"We're trying to manage for everybody's benefit and it's unfortunate. If you're on a river or a flow-through lake, you are susceptible to significant change," he said.

But MBC vice-president Charlie O'Connor said people in the area are frustrated by how the water flow is being managed, to the point of hosting a meeting Aug. 5 to make a "plan of attack" on addressing their grievances with upper levels of government. He said periodic low lake levels have hit the area hard this year – his own beach receded about 25-30 feet earlier in July – and there is confusion about the reasoning behind the drawdown.

He said the TSW needs to communicate better and give people more forewarning to address their boats and docks.

"Common courtesy of letting us know they're doing something that does affect us," O'Connor said.

Still, Spence said the TSW's approach is sound. He noted the success of TSW's system-wide approach to help prevent extreme floods – as Minden experienced in 2013 and 2017 – by leaving more room for rain in its reservoirs during spring.

It is a complex system to manage, Spence said, and people should consider it as a whole.

"We do understand the approach they're trying to take. If it doesn't rain for three-and-a-half months, I don't think anybody has the right answers," he said. "The right answer is we would have liked to have our normal climate and rainfall, but we don't."



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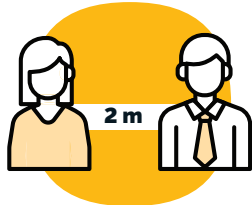


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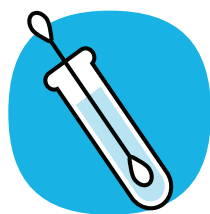
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Highlander news

Health unit reclassifies COVID hospitalization

By Joseph Quigley

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge (HKPR) District Health Unit revised its COVID-19 stats after discovering a hospitalization reported Aug. 5 was wrongly classified.

The health unit removed Haliburton's second reported COVID-19 hospitalization in an update Aug. 7. The health unit said on its website the change happened because the patient was not hospitalized for COVID-19 treatment.

"The Health Unit was notified of a positive lab result for an individual in hospital in Haliburton County," communications officer Bill Eekhof said. "However, upon further investigation and follow-up, the confirmed case no longer meets the criteria for a 'hospitalized case of COVID-19.'"

A source reached out to *The Highlander* after it reported on the hospitalization listing Aug. 5. The source said they were a close relative of the person hospitalized but asked to remain anonymous due to concerns about privacy and identifying their relative.

The source said their relative went to hospital for a non-life-threatening, long-term condition unrelated to COVID-19. But the relative had a positive COVID test during the screening process, though

tested negative twice shortly afterward. The source said their relative was asymptomatic and COVID was not impacting their condition.

The source opposed the case being listed as a COVID hospitalization and said they experienced an influx of concerned messages because of it.

"It adds to the hysteria of everybody," the source said. "It's making worry for people that know who it is."

Eekhof said the health unit could not address specific COVID-19 cases for privacy reasons. But he specified that if someone goes to a hospital for an unrelated medical problem, but is tested and found to have the virus, they are not counted among hospitalized cases. He added a person is counted as a hospitalized case if they go specifically for COVID-19 symptoms.

The source appreciated the health unit's reclassification. They said their relative is doing well, and returned home, going into isolation.

When asked about whether Haliburton has had any false positive COVID cases recently, health unit manager of corporate services, communications and IT services Chandra Tremblay said they could not provide any additional information about confirmed cases due to privacy legislation,



Haliburton's second reported COVID hospitalization has been reclassified by the health unit after it was found to "no longer meet the criteria." *File photo.*

beyond their regular epidemiological reports. The reports do not include any false positives.

With the reclassification, Haliburton has still only had one COVID hospitalization, which occurred in April, and no deaths. The County has had 15 cases in total, three of which are active as of Aug. 10. There are also currently eight high-risk contacts.

The source said many people who contacted them were worried about possibly

being infected. She said people should be wary of rumours and keep in mind public health will contact them directly if they were exposed to someone with COVID-19.

"People should maybe not speak before they know actual facts," the source said. "Go to a source of information that's reliable, not just the rumour mill ... There's a lot of misinformation in general about COVID."

Highlands East news

Online meetings continuing

Highlands East council is preparing for online meetings on an ongoing basis with amendments to procedural bylaws Aug. 11.

Council passed a resolution during a special meeting to allow electronic participation to count for a quorum at council and committee meetings, without being tied to a state of emergency. The move follows provincial Bill 197, which amended the Municipal Act to allow for that.

Clerk Robyn Rogers reported there will be further discussion to come regarding resuming committee meetings - which have been suspended for months due to the pandemic - and continuing live streaming

council meetings after the removal of public restrictions.

Deputy mayor Cec Ryall said online meetings have not been holding up the municipality and he has no problem with continuing them.

"They've been running very well. We've accomplished just about everything that we need to," Ryall said. "We should continue until we have a more definitive decision about where the province is going with open meetings."

Centre Lake developments stalled

Highlands East council made clear the municipality expects developers proposing

to build along Centre Lake to obtain the Crown lands they need before more planning discussions take place.

Council passed a resolution at the behest of planner Chris Jones, which stated pre-consultation is on hold until developers obtain that land. Jones said there are two major landowners on the east and west side of the lake trying to build on the shoreline, which is owned as part of a 200-foot Crown reserve.

Jones said staff have received requests on several occasions to comment on planning issues. But Jones said that is inappropriate when developers do not have the Crown land they plan to build on.

"To sort of look past that, or to assume that's going to happen and therefore, we should be considering other things related to this development - I'm not very supportive

of that. I don't think that's a prudent way to proceed," he said.

Developers previously approached council in December about a bid to free up the Crown reserve for a multimillion dollar condominium development proposal along the east end of the lake. Jones said another major landowner on the west side of the lake is also looking to acquire the reserve and develop.

Jones said both have made applications to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry about the reserve, but the ministry has yet to contact the municipality about that. He added typically, there is public consultation with the transfer of Crown land.

(Highlands East news compiled by Joseph Quigley).



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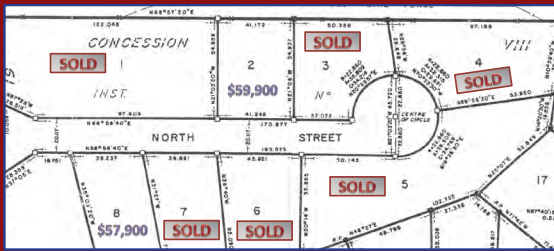
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Highlander news

EORN proposes \$1.6 billion internet project

By Joseph Quigley

The Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) is proposing a new \$1.6 billion project to deliver faster internet across eastern Ontario, including Haliburton County.

The organization under the Eastern Ontario Wardens' Caucus (EOWC) announced Aug. 11 it would seek a public-private partnership to bring one gigabit-per-second internet speeds throughout its 13 municipalities.

"This would be a game-changer for eastern Ontario to attract and retain businesses and residents, and to compete globally over the long term," EOWC chair Andy Letham, who is the mayor of the City of Kawartha Lakes, said.

EORN said it would seek to fund the project with help from upper levels of government, the private sector and loans from the Canada Infrastructure Bank.

Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin, who is on the EORN board, said the pandemic has highlighted the need for better connectivity. He added the crisis has sped up timelines for new projects by years and there is high public demand for improvements.

"This is now more important than ever," Devolin said. "It's a lot of money, but in COVID times, we're throwing a lot of money around for a lot of things and I think the likelihood for success is relatively high."

The Canada Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) has declared 50 Mbps download and 10 Mbps upload internet speeds as a minimum basic service level, setting a goal of 90 per cent of Canadians having that by December 2021.

EORN estimates delivering that minimum in the region would cost between \$500 million and \$700 million. But it is



The Eastern Ontario Regional Network is proposing a new \$1.6 billion project to bring gig-speed internet to the region. Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin is on the EORN board. File photo

proposing to go for speeds 20 times that to anticipate future needs.

"Demand for broadband is growing exponentially. Half-measures and baby steps won't get us there. We need a long-term solution," EORN chair J. Murray Jones said. "The EORN Gig Project is a lasting investment in our prosperity."

EORN is also working on a project to improve mobile broadband coverage in the region, a \$213 million public-private partnership that is funded and has a request for proposals process underway.

Meanwhile, the County of Haliburton is

also looking for opportunities for better connectivity. County council voted July 22 to do a solo application for a provincial grant to build new broadband infrastructure. CAO Mike Rutter reported there are already private telecommunications providers interested in partnering for that, though exact specifications for a proposal are to be determined.

Devolin said how the County's project might fit into the bigger picture under EORN will depend on those specifications.

"There's multiple packets and streams of funding and grants as we go forward,"

Devolin said. "I'm a selfish kind of guy; I'd like them all."

Devolin said there will be some battles ahead to advance this forward, but he is optimistic connectivity can take a big step in the next few years.

"It won't be done in any one magic waving of the wand, it's going to take a whole bunch of initiatives, all done in conjunction with each other," Devolin said. "I'm hoping within five years or less, connectivity in this part of Ontario has moved a generational scale ahead. I think it's possible."

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Beefing it up for Rotary

The Rotary Club of Haliburton held a beef on a bun fundraiser Aug. 6, attracting long lineups and plenty of support. The fundraiser was held in lieu of Rotary's usual carnival, cancelled due to the pandemic (Joseph Quigley).

Top: Steve Roberts works the grill for the fundraiser. Bottom left: Phil Carroll cooks. Bottom right: Mark Dennys and Ursula Devolin prepare a bun. Photos by Joseph Quigley.

Service club carries on car draw

By Joseph Quigley

The Rotary Club of Haliburton capped off its successful annual car draw campaign Aug. 5, pulling this year's winner - Haliburton's Judy Neimann - via Facebook live stream.

Club president Ted Brandon and treasurer Maureen O'Hara were on hand for the draw, which sold all its 7,000 tickets. On the line was a 2020 Chevrolet Camaro Lt Coupe or \$30,000 cash, winner's choice.

Brandon said it was the club's most successful draw in terms of sales, with tickets running out two weeks in advance.

"We debated long and hard about where we thought this draw could be successful in this COVID environment," Brandon said. "Credit to you, our supporters, it was unbelievable. People responded to our direct mail campaign like never before ... It's our major fundraiser for the year and it would have been a long

Rotary year had we not proceeded. And thanks to you, it was a huge, huge success."

The draw would normally be held after the fireworks at the Rotary Carnival at Head Lake Park, but that was cancelled this year due to COVID-19. Still, the Rotary Club had an eventful day, with a ground-breaking ceremony for its welcome centre project and a beef-on-a-bun fundraiser.

Neimann said she has put \$100 into tickets for the draw for years and it was exciting to win. She added she is opting to go for the cash award over the car.

"I'm going to pay off some of my bills. Probably, hopefully when things get better, we're going to take a cruise. But that will be at least next year."

Neimann said she is glad the Rotary Club is around.

"I'm really happy that we have a Rotary Club in Haliburton," she said. "They're a real benefit to the community."

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Karen and Rowan Pettinella interact with pony Sweet Pea. Photo Submitted.

Paving the way for accessible therapy

By Joseph Quigley

Rowan Pettinella's recent trip to Walkabout Farm Therapeutic Riding Association went more smoothly than usual.

The nine-year-old has limited mobility, often relying on a walker or a wheelchair. Although trips for the non-profit's horse therapy program have been great for him, according to his mother Karen Pettinella, they required a lot of effort by both him and his supporters.

But that changed with a new accessible pathway and shelter finished July 30.

"He was just able to be up close and hands-on and feeling that sense of independence," she said. "The farm, in particular, provides such a therapeutic and calming environment."

Walkabout owner and operator Jennifer Semach said the project was completed with a \$10,000 federal

grant, with the youth innovation component of the Enabling Accessibility Fund. The project includes a paved walkway going up to the horse enclosures, as well as a shelter and safe grooming station, enabling more access compared to the rough terrain that was previously there.

"Being in a farm setting with uneven ground and unpredictable terrain, between ice and mud, it wasn't suitable all-year round for participants to access our services," Semach said. "It was incredibly important to myself to make sure we had a fully-accessible farm."

Other donations included \$3,334 through the Youth Philanthropy Initiative at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School and in-kind donations headed by Wilbee Construction to stretch the dollars, Semach said.

Brittany Gautreau partnered to write the grant for the project as a youth accessibility leader. She said she connected with the farm in late 2019 and felt it was a worthy cause.

"I decided this would be a great idea, so they can be more accessible for wheelchair users and the walker users," Gautreau said. "We got the paperwork to actually fill out ... It became a bit of a challenge. I wanted to give up, but my determination kept me going."

Pettinella said her son had a particularly special day using the new path, forming a connection to the farm's new pony Sweet Pea, whose shorter stature made her easier to access.

"It's removing barriers and allowing more accessibility," she said.

"Allowing us to experience the farm to the fullest without thinking about what obstacles might be around."



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Highlander outdoors

Fun on four wheels as ATVs return to trails

By Joseph Quigley

The Haliburton ATV Association returned to the trails Aug. 8 to ride together for the first time since the pandemic began.

The association missed out on its usual start of the riding season in May, delaying for three months due to COVID restrictions. But eight members came out for the first ride in the Partridge Lake area, with rides planned to continue until the end of November.

Association president Joel Bocknek said they waited until social gatherings could expand, introducing a 30-person cap on participants to ensure distancing could be maintained.

"It's great because it's something I think our members and participants really enjoy and really benefit from," Bocknek said. "It's a good mechanism, in a way, to get into the sport and meet other people that ride."

The rides are not completely back to normal. They usually attract between 20-30 people according to Bocknek, attributing the difference this time to awareness about the event. The club's fundraising efforts for community causes are likely to stay on hold this year, he added.

Still, Bocknek said the rides can help boost the local economy.

"It does bring in some business for local merchants, people either staying over in motels, fuel, food. So, we try to spread the wealth as well as give people a good idea and understanding of how diverse the trails



The Haliburton ATV Association held its first group ride of the season Aug. 8. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

are within our region," he said.

Association member Eddy Timm said it felt good to be riding with a group again.

"Been waiting for it for quite some time. It's fun going out with this group. The trails are in pretty good shape, a little bit challenging here and there, but if you go with a group, things are fine," Timm said.

John Price said the best way to learn the trails is to join a club.

"It's never good to ride alone," Price said. "They got a lot of trails in Haliburton ... There's so much to see."

Bocknek said although larger group rides were halted for months, he knows many people have been out driving ATVs and

business is booming for retailers.

"People aren't able to go on the family vacation, out of province, out of town, out of country. So, they're spending more time and all the outdoor activities seem to have been increased significantly this year," he said. "Which isn't a bad thing."

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Highlander sports



The Central Ontario Peewee AAA Wolves were semi-finalists in a Quebec tournament. *Photo submitted.*

Wolves semi-finalists in Quebec tournament

Submitted

Prior to COVID-19, the Central Ontario Wolves AAA Peewee team (players born in 2007) participated in the renowned 61st Quebec International Peewee Hockey Tournament from February 12-23.

The tournament is the most prestigious minor hockey tournament in the world, with 120 teams participating in five categories.

After settling in at base camp in Stoneham, the team got off to a great start in an exhibition game on Feb. 12 versus the Quebec Cyclones with a 7-0 win.

The Wolves faced the Lac-St-Louis Grenadiers in their first official tournament game on Feb. 13 at the 18,000 seat Videotron Center, which resulted in a tough overtime loss for the Wolves.

With pressure mounting, as the Wolves would have to win all their remaining

tournament games to continue in the competition, they took on the Pittsburgh Penguins Elite in an exhibition game on Feb. 14, where they landed on the wrong side of a 4-0 score.

The Wolves persevered and were victorious in their next scheduled tournament game on Feb. 16, earning them a spot in the top 16 with their score of 3-1 over the Slovakia Stars.

With no tournament games scheduled until Feb. 21, the Wolves took on three more opponents in exhibition play, and won with scores of 2-0 over New York State's Adirondack Jr. Stars, 5-0 over Switzerland's Zurich Lions, and 4-1 over Detroit Compuware.

On Feb. 21, the Wolves sealed their spot in the top eight with an exciting 3-on-3 overtime win over the Burnaby Winter Club Bruins.

The next morning, the Wolves earned a well-deserved semi-final berth with an exciting 3-2 overtime quarter-final finish over the Philadelphia Flyers.

Unfortunately for the Wolves, the team's journey came to end in their semi-final game with a 5-0 loss to the high-flying Czech Knights.

On their off days, the players enjoyed trading pins with players from all over the world, visited the Quebec Winter Carnival, went skiing and snowboarding, and had a special backstage tour of the "Hometown Hockey" trailer where they met Ron MacLean.

Over 11 days, the team played a total of 10 games, including five exhibition games, finished fourth out of 32 teams in their division, and came home with memories to last a lifetime.

Congratulations to this very talented team

and coaching staff on a very successful journey and tournament.

We, the Central Ontario Wolves executive, as well as all lovers of this great game look forward to seeing each other very soon at the local rink.

Congratulations to players Christopher Stathopoulos, George Lewis Brocklehurst, Addison St Cyr, Zachary Wilson, Graeme Armstrong, Reese Walker, William McFadden, Van Pereira, Nathan McHattie, Carson Cameron, Joshua Bonneyman, Caleb Mitchell, Austin Punched, Nole Faulkner, Kaydn Farrugia, Julian Simone, Joshua Avery, and team staff Michael Farrugia (head coach), Al Avery (coach), Ryan Foster (coach), Mark McFadden (coach), Daryl Cameron (trainer), and Shelley Wilson (manager).

Duchene reflects on season after Preds eliminated

By Lisa Gervais

Haliburton's Matt Duchene said it had been an "up and down" first season for him with the Nashville Predators.

Speaking to Preds TV after being knocked out of the Stanley Cup qualifiers by the Arizona Coyotes Aug. 7, Duchene was asked to assess his first season with Nashville overall.

"Up and down. Obviously, we went through a lot of adversity this year, myself included. I think every adverse situation

you get put in is a chance to grow and a chance to learn and move forward," he said.

Like all players and all teams, the Predators season ended in mid-March with the outbreak of COVID-19 and only resumed in the bubble in early August.

Duchene added that he had a lot of years left to play in Nashville.

"I'm proud and so happy to be here. I love this team. I love this group. And I believe in this group. Better days are ahead for sure."

Duchene was traded from the Columbus Blue Jackets, on the heels of another short

stint in Ottawa. For years he had been a stalwart with the Colorado Avalanche.

He scored his first playoff goal in the Aug. 7 game four of the series when he tipped in a point shot on the power play. Despite the Predators scoring late to tie the game and take it into overtime, the Coyotes prevailed 4-3 in the game and 3-1 in the series.

"Going forward, I think we just build on the process of what we did this series," Duchene said of a series the Predators statistically led, and at times dominated, yet fell short. "I think sometimes you have to

take a step back before you move forward," Duchene said. "And I think this year we had to make some changes in how we played and I think this is some of the best hockey we played."

"So, obviously, It would be nice to be sitting here, series over 3-1 for us, unfortunately, we're on the losing end but

I think ... this sting that we feel right now, we've gotta' keep that in the back of our minds."

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Highlander arts



Hitting up the docks for artists in the schools

Boaters and drivers attended 15 docks, decks, cottages and garages around Kennisis Lake Aug. 8 -9 for the sixth annual Art on the Dock studio tour. Visitors viewed and purchased items displayed by artists who live on Kennisis and their invited guest artists. A wide variety of fine arts and crafts were displayed at locations all around the lake. Locations and artists are selected through a registration and review process each winter. The Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners' Association has organized the event each summer since 2015 and through it raised thousands of dollars in support of the local Artists in the Schools program. (Lisa Gervais)

Top: Art on the Dock organizer Janis Parker and artist Marleen Campbell. Bottom left: Joe and Nancy Foster of Little Kennisis paddle up to Marleen Campbell's studio. Bottom right: Boaters visit artist Kristen Davey's dock. Photos by Lisa Gervais.

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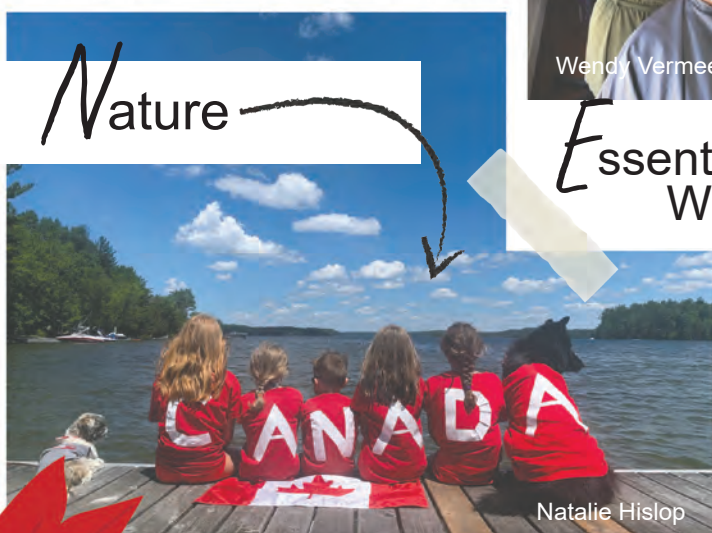
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What's on

Minden Pride needed in difficult times

By Joseph Quigley

Minden Pride chair David Rankin said forging ahead with the event was important despite the pandemic.

Rankin said a recent incident in Harcourt exemplifies the need for Pride, where gay teen Evan Natale was harassed while walking and the community responded with an ad hoc Pride march. Before that, Rankin said the family was not aware Minden Pride existed.

"It is important that youth who are younger, may not have the same social supports, may even be questioning at this point, understand that it's safe for them to come out within this community," Rankin said. "This is a way they can be made aware, and that we have a very strong, vibrant and supportive community for people of all ages."

The weeklong celebration is going ahead Aug. 24-30, with primarily virtual events. But some events will be held in-person, such as a drive-in movie night at Abbey Gardens.

The planning committee had to change plans due to the pandemic, Rankin said. But he added they wanted to continue and provide something to celebrate in a difficult year.

"Things took a drastic change. We were uncertain what to do," Rankin said. "We put together a plan that we thought we might be able to convert into real life, but looked at planning most of it virtually ... We thought we could add a little bit of festivity to people's lives."



Evan and Debbie Natale stand together at the end of an ad hoc Pride march in Harcourt July 22. Minden Pride organizer David Rankin said Evan Natale's experience – being harassed for his sexuality while walking – shows why Pride is still needed. *File photo.*

This will be the first Minden Pride without one of its co-founders and pillars, Sinclair Russell, who died in May. The organization is preparing a rainbow bench in Minden dedicated to him.

Rankin said although Russell had stepped away from a primary organizing role, he

left a big impact and still offered plenty of help for this year's event.

"His big persona and his big ideas, he always shared those," Rankin said. "He was still really a big part of the planning process."

A full listing of events is available

at mindenpride.ca. Rankin said it is a significant year, with the event's fifth anniversary.

"We're hoping it really solidifies our presence here within the community," Rankin said. "That people really understand we are here, through thick and thin."

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Highlander veterans



Part 5 – Hitler's biggest military blunder

By Mabel Brannigan

Hitler was Germany's Fuhrer for 12 years, loved by some, hated by most. He and the Gestapo were monstrous, evil men without conscience. But he was also a genius. In three years, he had cured Germany of unemployment and inflation. It was how he did it. Hitler's goal was to wipe every Jew from the face of the earth. In the span of the war years, approximately six million of the Jewish people were slaughtered. The unheeded shocking beginning of such cruelty began with small signs on park benches, 'Jews unwanted'.

"Thou shan't not kill." The most sacred commandment to many Jews as well as to other faiths meant nothing to Hitler and his Gestapo as they euthanized more than

100,000 of his own German people who had disabilities or were terminally ill. In Hitler's view, these people contaminated his Master Race. In 1942, public outcry stopped the practice.

But, the ultimate of the Nazis unforgiveable sin was reserved for the Jews. To the Nazis, the Jews were non-people. They worked first until dying of starvation. At the concentration camp of Majdanek, shoes were moved from Jewish feet before extermination in the gas chamber. The shoes were then distributed to German people.

We must conclude then that the unforgiveable sin lies in the denying of another person's humanity. It is not the techniques used to complete the denial. When the decision is made to commit the

unforgiveable sin, what does it matter if it is extermination in the gas chamber, Canada's shame of residential schools, genocide in Rwanda, or the horrible things we have heard from Syria? No matter how cruel and evil the technique is, the unforgivable sin has already been committed.

It is not surprising then that in 1941 Hitler and his Gestapo broke a non-aggression pact with Joseph Stalin by stabbing Russia in the back and attacking Russia. This had to be Hitler's most regrettable military error. I will never understand why he didn't first invade Canada. We had no equipment. Our men were all in Europe. We could get no help from the Americans. They were busy with the Japanese who ruthlessly attacked Pearl Harbour on December 7, 1941.

But, Hitler was used to terrorizing and

capturing European countries. He thought Russia would surrender. He underestimated the power of the Loyal Russian Bear. He underestimated the devotion to their country as the Russian people continued to pour out tanks and war equipment for their endless armies.

The Nazis reached Leningrad on September 8, captured Kiev on September 19 and continued on to Moscow. At Stalingrad, an entire Nazi army was wiped out. This was the first time that Nazi Germany ever faced defeat. On December 12, the Nazis began to retreat.

Nevertheless, by the end of the Second World War, 20 million Russians had died, the largest human sacrifice of any of the allied nations during the war.

INFORMATION PAGE

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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:

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.

Re-Opening Plans

The Township of Minden Hills is sharing preliminary re-opening plans for select municipal facilities as it prepares to move into **Stage 3 of the Province's COVID-19 recovery framework**.

Most municipal services have continued to be available through the pandemic, and have been offered online and by phone. To support physical distancing, residents and customers are encouraged to continue to access Township services online at mindenhills.ca and by phone at 705-286-1260 as much as possible.

For the health and well-being of residents, customers, and staff, facilities will be operating under modified conditions based on the specific situation at each site. Many Township services will be available by appointment only. Details on modified conditions for Township facilities are available by calling 705-286-1260.

Administration Building – 7 Milne Street

To support physical distancing, residents and customers will be encouraged to continue to access Township services online at mindenhills.ca and by phone at 705-286-1260 as much as possible. Moving into Stage 3 of the Province's COVID-19 recovery framework some Township services will now be available by appointment. For inquiries or to book an appointment please call:

Building/Bylaw/Planning – 705-286-1260 ext. 209

Finance and Tax Department – 705-286-1260

Clerks Department – 705-286-1260 ext. 212

Agnes Jamieson Gallery & Minden Hills Cultural Centre

Starting Tuesday, August 4 the Agnes Jamieson Gallery and Minden Hills Cultural Centre at 176 Bobcaygeon Road will be open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Bowron House will be open to the public while the remaining Museum buildings will be accessible through a virtual tour. For Minden Hills Cultural Centre inquiries, please email gallery@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3154.

S.G. Nesbitt Arena and Community Centre

The S.G. Nesbitt Arena and Community Centre at 55 Parkside Street will remain closed to the public until further notice while construction upgrades are being completed. For S.G. Nesbitt Arena and Minden Hills Community Centre inquiries, please call 705-286-1936.

Public Works Department

The Public Works Department office at 11445 Highway 35 will remain closed to the public at this time. The Public Works Department can be reached at 705-286-3144.

Updates and Information

All dates and details mentioned in this release are subject to change. Updates will be posted to the Township website (mindenhills.ca/covid-19-information), Facebook page (facebook.com/Township.Minden.Hills) and Twitter account (twitter.com/twprmindenhills). Questions about the Township's re-opening plans can be directed to admin@mindenhills.ca or 705-286-1260.

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Please ensure you deposit your used disposable masks and gloves in the garbage. These are not recyclable.

Camping Fuel Canisters

Please bring empty camping fuel canisters to a hazardous waste event. **Do not put camping fuel canisters in the Blue Box.**

Highlander events



Time travellers back after pandemic layover

The Haliburton Highlands Time Travellers returned to gatherings after a pandemic hiatus, holding their first cruise nights of the season in Minden July 23 and Haliburton July 30. “Still trying to be safe out here. Everybody’s distancing. It’s nice to get out,” president Larry Parsons said. “Usually by now, we’ve been out 10 times already. Now this year, it’s been pretty rough.” (Joseph Quigley).

Top: Allan Bagg and Ellenor Bagg sit down next to their old-time vehicle. Bottom: John Jackson and Louise Jackson pull up to the time travellers event. Photos by Joseph Quigley

WHAT'S ON

Every Monday via Zoom, online art classes by Carole Finn. Must register one week in advance 705-457-2404 finn@halhinet.on.ca

Every Wednesday evening on Zoom – As We Find It play reading group for anyone with a love of theatre. For more information email kbutter@haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com.

Every Wednesday evening at dusk - The Little Pit Drive-In at Abbey Gardens. Book online at abbeygardens.ca/littlepitdrivein

Haliburton School of Art and Design for digital versions of some of the art talks and entertainment originally planned for summer school. See facebook.com/flemingHSAD

AUGUST 13

Environment Haliburton! summer speaker via Zoom at 7 p.m. Russ Christianson, author, activist, and economic developer will speak on a just and green economic pandemic recovery. Terry Moore at 705-306-9254

AUGUST 17

2nd Annual Abbey Gardens golf tournament. The organizing committee will modify the tournament to be sure that 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. to noon. Contact Irene Heaven Irene@abbeygardens.ca or call 705-754-4769

AUGUST 19

Wisdom Wednesdays: Creative gatherings for women offered online. From 10 a.m. – noon. Email imagenthyme@gmail.com

AUGUST 21

The Occurrence is launching their Canadian Artist Series. There will be a puzzle signing with Canadian artist Wendy Wood from 3 – 5 p.m. at 130 Industrial Park Rd – Unit 2.

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)

AUGUST 24-30

Minden Pride is happening. Help celebrate diversity and inclusiveness in the Haliburton Highlands. Join them online or in person for their week of events. Check out their website for details and times: mindenpride.ca

AUGUST 26

Wisdom Wednesdays: Creative gatherings for women offered online. From 10 a.m. – noon. Email imagenthyme@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 5

Maple Lake United Church bake sale via drive through, corner of Airport Rd and HWY 118. Pre-orders welcome. Shirley Johnston 705-754-3865 or Beverly Upton 705-286-2130

UNTIL SEPT. 7

The Haliburton Lions Club's virtual toll bridge fundraiser. Go to haliburtonlions.com

HAVE AN UPCOMING EVENT?
Contact admin@thehighlander.ca

Highlander reads

Editor's note: This is the fourth instalment of a fictional series entitled Harp in the Dark. It's written by Hope Thompson, who lives in Algonquin Highlands.

Chapter 4: Whatnot Harp in the Dark

Detective Harry Harp and Constable Terry Becker sat in front of a computer looking at a bearded, ruddy-faced man named Brett Penzler. Penzler had contacted the Spruce County Police Hotline and stated that he had been at Pines End on the weekend of Rand Carlyle's disappearance. He lived on a farm near Airdrie, Alberta and was speaking to the detectives through a video link.

"Mr. Penzler—," Harp said.

"Call me, Brett." The man interrupted.

"Even the cows do."

Harp forced a smile. "Brett, what do you remember about the night of August 1, 1970?"

"I remember getting wasted." Penzler grinned widely. "These twin brothers were staying at the lodge and they'd scored some booze and well, we were all partying hard."

Becker cut in, "Who's we?"

"Let's see, the twins—I think their last name was Moort—me and my brother, Cat and her sister. Actually Cat Wilson and I had a little fling that summer." Penzler smirked. "Some sweet memories there!"

Becker said, "What about Carlyle's daughters? Were they with you?"

The man shook his head. "Don't think so."

"What about Rand Carlyle? Do you remember him from that night, or at any time?" Harp said.

After stretching each of his elbows behind his head and producing two clearly audible cracking sounds, Penzler said, "I remember him being taken out fishing. It was funny because he wore a lot of white. He always looked clean, you know? Not like he'd be interested in fishing."

After discussing Penzler's memories of Pines End for a few more minutes, Becker severed the video link and the two detectives sat in silence.

Finally, Harp stood up.

"Let's go back to Pines End," he said with more enthusiasm than he felt. "That's where the murder happened. Hopefully, that's where the answers are, too."

Half an hour later, the two men walked across the terrace and stepped inside the abandoned lodge. Sunlight slanted across the empty great room and Harp could see dust hanging in the air. Climbing the stairs, they inspected the five guest rooms on the south side of the building and on the north side they found moldy bathrooms and closets filled with mice droppings—but no clues to Rand Carlyle's murder.

Maybe the answers aren't here, Harp thought as he felt the case slipping from his grasp. He looked around for Becker and found him in an alcove off the great room.

"Right there ..." The constable said wistfully, pointing at the floor.

"What's right there?" Harp said, confused.

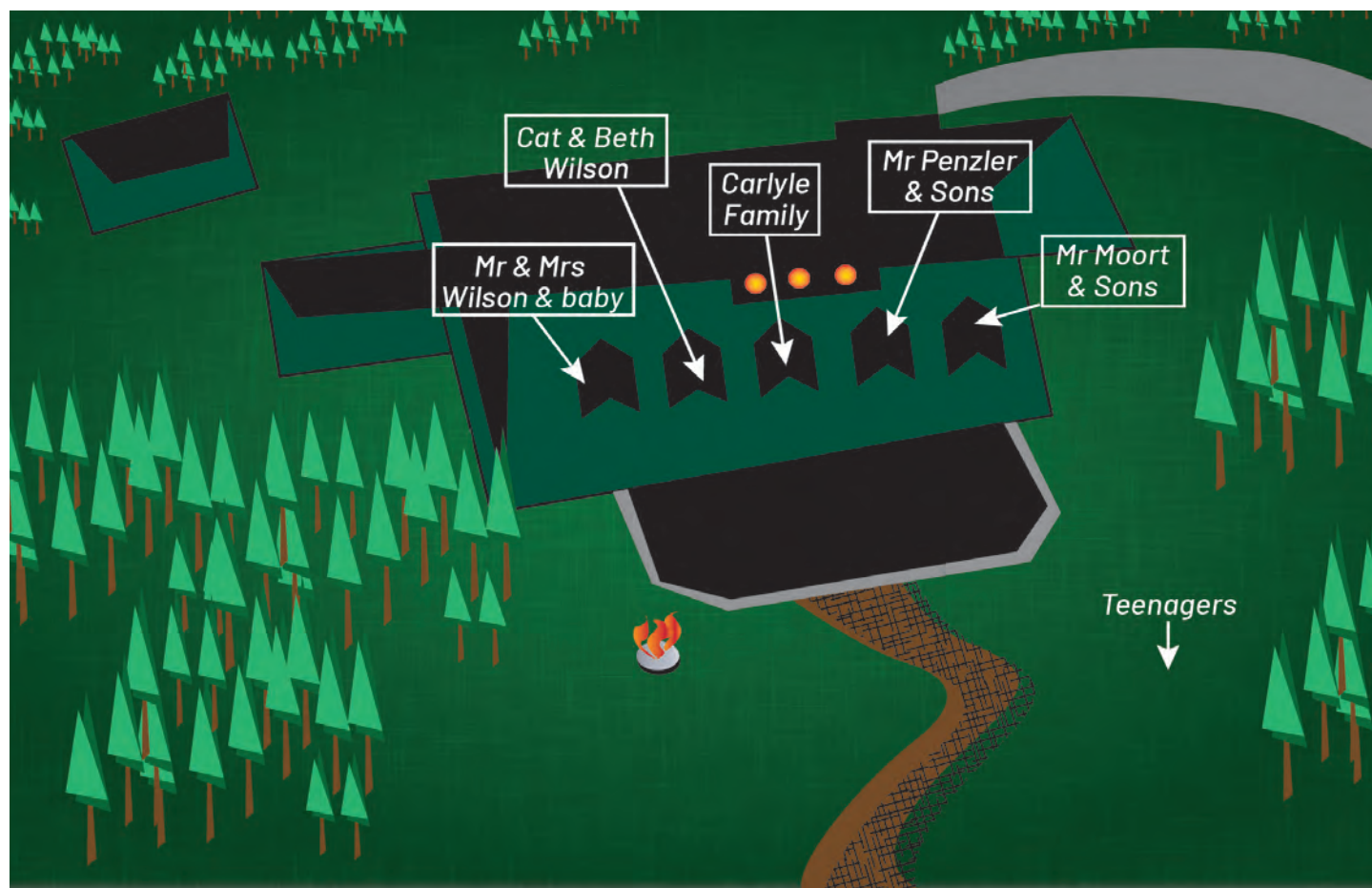
"Me and Jeanine Kluggen. Right there."

He turned to Harp. "My first time—and sorry if that's too personal."

"You're starting to sound like Penzler,"

Harp said.

"Hey?" The constable pressed his hand



against his heart. "For Kluggs and I, it was love!"

Harp smiled. "So where's Kluggs now?"

"Working at Food World in town. I see her all the time. She's married and has a couple of kids."

"What is it about this place?" Harp said shaking his head.

"Before it got so wrecked we used to have a lot of fun here. Drinking and whatnot."

Harp looked around the damaged interior and the lines in his forehead deepened. "There's something more. There's something about people's desires or maybe—holiday desires ..."

The detective let the half-formed thought hang in the air then he turned and walked outside. Becker stared after him, puzzled.

A few minutes later, the two men pushed their way through the undergrowth to a small building with boarded-up windows. Its double doors were padlocked.

"Shall I?" Becker asked, his face lighting up. Harp nodded then watched the young constable pick up a rock and smash it against the lock. On impact, the ancient security device broke in two and fell to the ground. Becker swung open the doors and the two men looked inside. Like the lodge, the building had been stripped of most of its contents except for a heavy wood workbench, some rusted bed frames and a couple of tires.

"According to the old case files, this was the caretaker's workshop," Becker said.

Harp was silent for a moment then he said, "Kluggs works in town, eh?"

Becker turned to the detective, eyebrows

raised. "Like I said, she's married."

Harp disregarded the comment. "You grew up in Spruce County and you stayed in Spruce County. She grew up here and stayed here ..." Harp spoke slowly teasing out a thread.

But Becker was already rolling it into a ball. "Lots of people born here stay if they can find work. It's beautiful here! Why wouldn't you stay? But work's the problem. Lack of it drives people away."

Harp raised a finger in the air. "We've only been hearing from the guests. What about the staff?"

Becker's eyes brightened. "I see what you mean. If they're alive, they could be right here under our noses. And they were probably all locals!"

Harp's phone played the distinctive sound that indicated a text had arrived. This time, the missive was from Brigitte Cave, the librarian. It read: I have something for you, Harry.

Reading the sentence, the hammers in the detective's heart could not help but knock together and he told Becker they had to get to the library—immediately.

Half an hour later, Brigitte Cave greeted them at the front desk and handed Harp a 9x13 envelope.

"All the local newspaper articles I could find on the Rand Carlyle case," she said.

"So, I guess he didn't drown after all."

"No," Harp said. "This was definitely murder." He thanked her then hovered for a moment.

"Er—Brigitte?" He said and felt some heat in his face. "What do you look for in a

vacation? R and R? Rest and relaxation?"

Brigitte Cave's mouth curved into an inviting smile. "Add another R, Harry."

"Huh?" Harp resisted the desire to pull at his collar.

"Rest, relaxation—and romance," she said. "A change of scene can be, well, stimulating, don't you think?"

August 1, 1970 – 11PM

On the lodge's sprawling lawn, Cat Wilson lay curled up beside Brett Penzler. Across from them sat Brett's brother Brock, Beth Wilson and the Moort twins. The twins were surreptitiously pouring out shots of rye and a couple of empty bottles lay nearby.

Cat said, "I need more ginger ale. I will barf if I drink this straight." She looked around for someone to solve her problem.

Through the lodge windows, she saw people with drinks in their hands. But she decided against walking inside and requesting ginger ale at the bar. For Cat, being a guest and demanding service was an exquisite thrill—especially from the local boy called 'Dogsbody'.

Where is that hick? She thought, her head filling with malice like a glass under a tape.

"Dogsbody! I want ginger ale!" She screamed and her eyes sparkled with hate. "Let's all whistle for him—like a dog!"

The drunken teens whistled crazily—then stopped suddenly when they noticed a woman standing on the terrace wrapped in an orange silk dressing gown. It was Trudy Carlyle and tears glistened in her eyes.

"Have you seen my husband?" She said.

"I—I can't seem to find him."

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BIRTHDAY



Happy Birthday!

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with a honk or socially distant visit
at Rotary Beach Park on
Saturday, August 22 from 1 - 3 p.m.
Best Wishes Only

OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of Bernard John Arbour

Passed away peacefully at the Orillia Soldiers Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness. Bernard was reunited with the love of his life Mae on Tuesday, August 4, 2020, at the age of 87.

Dear father of Robin and her husband Ed, Dan and his wife Cathy, John and his wife Diane. Loving Poppy to Trisha, Peter, Denis (predeceased), Daryl, Bradley, Keagan and to 6 great grandchildren. Dear brother of Joyce and predeceased by Frank and Cecil. Fondly remembered by his family and friends.

A Private Family Service will be held at the Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery, Carnarvon.

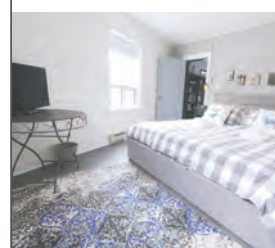
Memorial Donations to the Orillia Soldiers Memorial Hospital, Canadian Cancer Society or to the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



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SOLUTIONS FOR AUG 13

1	W	2	I	3	L	4	B	5	U	6	R	7	N	8	A	9	E	10	S	11	D	12	I	13	N
14	A	R	I	A	N	A		15	A	M	A	L		16	O	K	A								
17	W	A	S	H	I	N	18	G	P	O	T	A	19	T	O	E	S								
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56	S	H	I	P	M	E	R	C		57	H	A	N	D	58	I	S	E							
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Highlander puzzles

Body Double

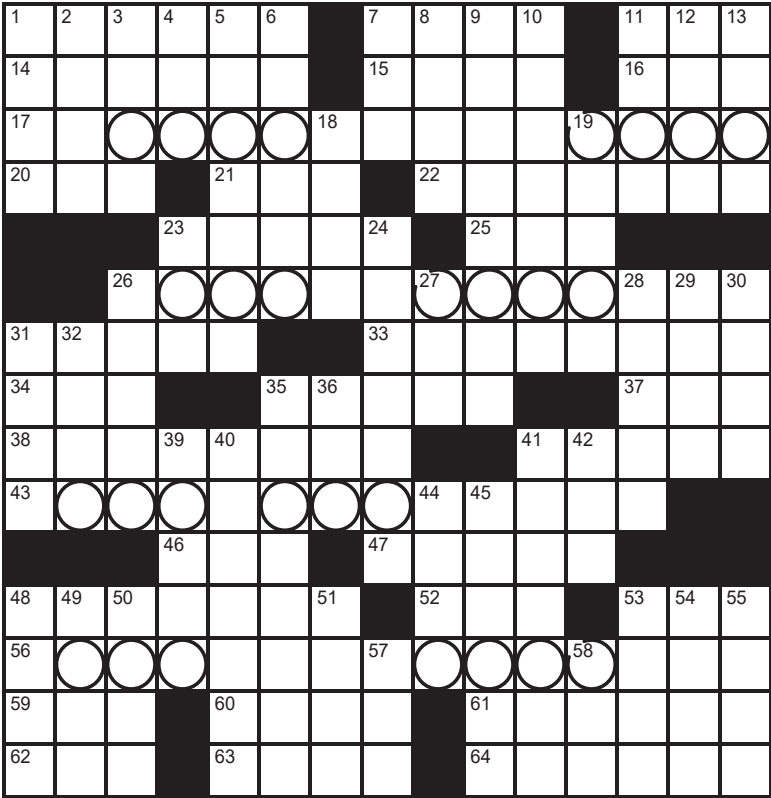
by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

Across

- 1 Pig pal of Charlotte
- 7 Dundee dissents
- 11 Bunch of racket
- 14 Pop singer Grande
- 15 Julian Assange's lawyer Clooney
- 16 Quebec town or a cheese made there
- 17 Using a spud scrubber
- 20 Carpenter that destroys wood
- 21 3, 4 and 5 of 26
- 22 Unethical
- 23 Molson merger partner
- 25 Sumac with a 5-octave range
- 26 Much John Deere equipment
- 31 "Strikeout King" pitcher Ryan
- 33 Suddenly go kaput
- 34 Blood-typing syst.
- 35 "___ omen" (Latin phrase for "touch wood," loosely)
- 37 Chicken-King link
- 38 "Little cake" to a Cancun cook
- 41 More adoptable at the pound, maybe
- 43 Study up on courtroom lingo
- 46 ___-Glo (dog eye care brand)
- 47 Get the lead out?
- 48 Noted Toronto law school
- 52 Truckers' radios
- 53 Word with Tuesday or City
- 56 Transport retail goods
- 59 Spanish "the"
- 60 Raison d'___
- 61 Teases to no end
- 62 Choose A, B or C, say
- 63 Lukewarm assessment
- 64 Souvenir shop buy

Down

- 1 Ontario home of a 28-ft. tall Canada goose
- 2 Country with a Supreme Leader
- 3 Rattle off
- 4 Scrooge's utterance
- 5 Mythical beast in an Irish Rovers tune
- 6 Setting for mixed music?
- 7 Go out briefly?
- 8 Mine in Mascouche
- 9 What "I'll" do "if I'm wrong"
- 10 ___ Sammy Sosa
- 11 House part with many openings?
- 12 Chain with a play area called Småland
- 13 Old org. of the Ottawa Fury FC
- 18 Genesis of an idea
- 19 ___ fro
- 23 Roadside assistance grp.
- 24 It's the wurst
- 26 Botanist's concern
- 27 Inflation rate meas.
- 28 Computer connection?
- 29 Get one's dander up
- 30 Part of M/D/Y
- 31 Coast-to-coast-to-coast: Abbr.
- 32 Duck instrument in "Peter and the Wolf"
- 35 Make mention of
- 36 Wheat: Fr.
- 39 Marching mob
- 40 T4 slip figures
- 41 Some private jets
- 42 Be a lousy lover, in a way
- 44 Part of the back or the foot
- 45 Blue brewer
- 48 Home of Norway's A-ha
- 49 Home addition for a tinkerer
- 50 Basic idea
- 51 Writes wrong
- 53 "Done!"
- 54 Study of stars: Abbr.
- 55 A proctor oversees it
- 57 Top-rung businessperson
- 58 Dumb comment?



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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

4	2	3	5	6	9	7	1	8
5	8	7	1	3	2	4	6	9
1	6	9	4	8	7	5	3	2
2	7	5	3	4	6	9	8	1
9	1	4	2	5	8	3	7	6
8	3	6	9	7	1	2	5	4
3	9	2	6	1	5	8	4	7
7	5	1	8	2	4	6	9	3
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1	F	L	A	B		5	G	I	B	B		9	I	S	F	O	R				
14	I	A	N	S		15	A	L	O	U		16	M	A	L	T	A				
17	F	R	O	M		18	B	L	O	O	M	19	T	O	B	U	S	T			
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22	H	S	E			23	N	O		24	F	A	T			26	T	A	U		
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32	M	A	G	E		35	S	T	U			36	S	O	I	R	E	E			
37	O	F	A	R	T		39	O	E	D		40			41	S	T	E	N	O	
42	P	A	L	I	S		43	H			44	N	O		45		46	U	D	O	N
47	S	T	A	L	K	I		48	S	C	H	E		49	A	P					
50	Y	E	P				51	N	A	Y	S	A	Y				52	S	K	I	
						55	A	S	O	D	D			58	D	E	C	K	E	D	
60	H	I	G	H	B	U	D		62	P	R	E	S	S	U	R	E				
64	M	O	O	S	E			65	L	O	I	N			66	I	N	R	E		
67	M	U	S	H	Y			68	E	G	A	D			69	S	K	Y	S		



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Percy Lake



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This 3-bdrm, 1 bath cottage plus neighboring vacant waterfront lot are being sold TOGETHER. With a combined total frontage of 306 ft. Double detached insulated garage with studio loft. Level to sloping yard. Bright open concept living Stunning lake views. Bunkie located on the additional vacant waterfront lot. Negaunee is a no motor lake. This package won't last long. \$529,000

Long Lake



Choose to build your dream cottage on this stunning property overlooking Long Lake or renovate the existing building which includes 2 BR and 1 full bath. Extensive 650' of water frontage. Private seasonal access and beautifully wooded 54+/- acres provides ample privacy. Endless possibilities. \$445,000

Blairhampton Road



Enjoy privacy and relaxation on this 47+ acre parcel. Sweet and simple 2-bdrm, 1 bath "A" frame cabin. Pretty pond right at your back door. Open concept living with pine ceilings throughout. Fully insulated 3 season cottage, with potential to use 4 season. This serene setting and privacy is a must to see! \$269,000

Summerville Road



Affordable retreat. 2-bdrm, 1 bath cottage situated on a 1.02-acre lot. Just minutes from the town of Gooderham, public beach and boat launch. Cute and cozy living space. Full basement awaits your finishing touch. Level to sloping lot surrounded by mature trees and beautiful views of pond. Being sold "as is". \$199,000

Hand Drive



This property is the perfect handyman special. This unfinished cottage sits on a 1.78-acre parcel. Large windows allowing ample natural lighting. Interior awaits your finishing touch. 100 amp service installed. Very private with municipal access to Salerno Lake right across the road. This property is being sold "as is". \$99,000

Vacant Lots

- DRAG LAKE \$469,000 7.24 AC
- ~~SOLD~~ • WEST LAKE 369,000 0.94AC
- DRAG LAKE \$349,900 3.51 AC
- WEST LAKE \$349,000 0.60 AC
- COLBORNE LAKE \$289,000 4.83AC
- PADDYS BAY \$259,000 45.72AC
- ~~SOLD~~ • ARBURN ROAD \$89,888 44AC
- BASSHAUNT LAKE ROAD \$47,000 2.36AC
- CATTAIL \$45,000 0.86AC
- ~~SOLD~~ • ED JONES ROAD \$34,500 6.59AC
- SOUTH DRIVE \$29,500 2.22AC
- WEST COURT \$29,000 2.43 AC

THINKING OF SELLING?

Call Linda at 705-457-6508
for your free property evaluation