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The Highlander

Thursday **September 3 2020** | Issue 455

INSIDE: HOME IN THE HIGHLANDS WITH COLIN AND JUSTIN

FREE



County of Haliburton Director of IT, Mike March, at the Aug. 25 Dysart et al council meeting. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Who's zooming who at council meetings

By Lisa Gervais

It's early on a Tuesday morning and the Dysart et al council chambers are unnaturally quiet for a regular meeting day.

With COVID-19, only mayor Andrea Roberts is in attendance, seated behind a conference camera and two computers. One screen is for the Zoom meeting she will chair starting at 9 a.m. The other is so

she can have a copy of the agenda and its accompanying reports.

At a safe social distance are staff members Alyssa Sisson and Laurie Salvatore. Down the back of the room is IT technician Marc Jones.

While the meeting is still an hour away, it takes time to set up.

Jones is getting ready to start YouTube

livestreaming. Sisson and Salvatore are ensuring councillors and staff are online and messaging delegates to make sure they are available to join the Zoom meeting for their part of the agenda.

County IT manager Mike March is lending support, telling Salvatore, "I disinfected my hands before I touched your keyboard."

The County of Haliburton and its four lower-tier municipalities have been conducting Zoom meetings that are livestreamed to YouTube for months now because of COVID-19.

"We've adapted very well," says Roberts as she removes her mask and takes a sip of coffee.

She said it had been a case of having to

Continued 'Format' on page 13

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Format could continue post-COVID

Continued from page 1

adapt on the fly, “or sink or swim.” And for the most part, she said it had been a success.

Jones said there have been the occasional technical problems. For example, the Aug. 27 Minden Hills meeting had to be rescheduled to Aug. 31. During an Algonquin Highlands meeting Aug. 24, Zoom was out for awhile. Jones had to find a “back door” to get in.

He said when the signal looks “wonky” to those watching, it’s usually on the Zoom end of things, not County internet. However, Roberts said some councillors have better internet than others.

As if on cue, Coun. Walt McKechnie enters the building to use a vacant meeting room since his home internet isn’t always reliable.

As for bloopers, Jones and March said there haven’t been many other than the odd dog barking or children running around in the background. Often councillors have to be reminded to unmute their microphones.

Roberts said the County gave councillors some tips, including that lighting and camera angles are important. Backgrounds matter. They were also advised to look professional, treating it as any other meeting.

March said running a Zoom meeting is a partnership between IT staff and the municipal clerk’s department. He said the clerk’s department will typically set up the Zoom meeting, ensure invitations are sent out to the appropriate parties, and will control the Zoom meeting once it begins.

The IT staff person is in charge of the camera equipment setup, ensuring the livestream is functioning properly for



Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts, and staff Alyssa Sisson and Laurie Salvatore. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

people at home, and providing general troubleshooting and technical support to council and staff.

In terms of equipment, March said very little is required. IT staff will usually bring a conference camera as well as their laptop for support, and municipal staff will use a computer that IT has set up for hosting Zoom meetings.

“Behind the scenes, before each meeting, IT will work with council and staff to ensure everyone’s video and audio are working optimally, and that the livestream is functioning properly,” he said. “After assisting with 25-30 virtual meetings, the process runs smoothly now. However, we still have the occasional last-minute scramble. Two minutes before going live seems to be when cameras want to stop working, or computer issues will disconnect council and staff,” he added.

The IT costs to run the meetings have been minimal, the County’s IT

director said. The only new hardware that has been purchased were two conference cameras that, along with a third they had in stock already, they circulate among the County and four municipalities. The cost for those two cameras was about \$900. Subscription costs for a primary and secondary host to run a Zoom webinar is about \$140 per month.

“The municipalities have been wonderful to work with through this process,” March said. “Before the pandemic, very few in the clerk’s department had used a teleconferencing platform such as Zoom. Now those same staff are setting up public meetings, configuring YouTube livestreams, and working with IT to ensure the meetings run smoothly.

“If live-streaming becomes a permanent fixture then it’s likely IT and the clerk’s department will continue to work together to deliver virtual council meetings to the public.”



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Algonquin Highlands council met about short-term rentals Aug. 31. *File photo.*

AH to survey public on short-term rentals

Considers bylaw changes, licencing

By Joseph Quigley

Algonquin Highlands council agreed to go forward with a public survey process to figure out how it will address short-term rentals.

Council held a special meeting Aug. 31 to discuss options for addressing short-term rentals and the community comments received so far. They directed staff to work on a public engagement process and bring back questions that could be posed to the community about how the municipality should proceed.

“We’ve heard what the concerns are, now we need to address the concerns,” Mayor Carol Moffatt said. “I would really like to get quite a fulsome amount of feedback. We’re trying to make a decision that affects the whole community and has passionate positions on both sides.”

Greg Corbett of Bracebridge’s Planscape Inc. provided a report about options council could pursue, including status quo, addressing them in a zoning bylaw, or implementing a licencing system. The report found 216 active listings in the township, the vast majority on Airbnb.

Council also discussed the public submissions received, which they requested be sent anonymously to a specific township email address ahead of the meeting.

Councillors said there were a lot of concerns, with strong opinions for and against municipal action. Coun. Lisa Barry said some do not want short-term rentals in the community at all, while deputy

Mayor Liz Danielsen said others insist the municipality has no place addressing them – and have said so with expletives.

“There are still a certain amount of people that are probably even more adamant that ‘I bought this property and there’s no blank way that you’re going to blankity blank tell me what to do with it,’” Danielsen said.

Corbett’s report also cites the experience of the Town of Blue Mountains, as the first municipality to tackle the matter. They found a program requires significant municipal investment and staff time. Corbett said implementing a licencing system would have a substantial cost and create a minimum of two new full-time positions.

Barry said it is clear people want them to go into some kind of registration system, though Moffatt noted the tax base will have to cover that.

“There might be a whole bunch of people who don’t want to pay to govern the behaviour of others,” she said. “It’s important to hear as much from the public as we can.”

Moffatt also said there are differences between people renting to help afford a cottage they use and those who own a cottage solely to rent it out. Coun. Julia Shortreed said although there may only be around 200 rentals now, rental-only owners will rise.

“This is going to keep growing when people realize the return on their investment is really lucrative,” she said. “The commercial aspect is going to grow.”

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Organic waste the biggest polluter: Neville

By Lisa Gervais

Minden Hills Coun. Jean Neville said she wants the County's climate change coordinator to look into the possibility of getting a biodigester.

She made the comment after County climate change coordinator Korey McKay outlined her plan for the township to reduce its Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions.

McKay's report outlined a number of mitigation measures, including electric vehicles, reducing the garbage bag limit, and installing scales at the Scotch Line landfill.

She also revisited how 81 per cent of the municipality's emissions come from landfills. She spoke of exploring the potential for food and yard waste diversion; completing a waste composition study at the landfill sites and implementing a backyard composting program.

Neville replied, "You said that you're going to determine how much organic waste was at the landfill? You already know that 81 per cent of our emissions is coming from the landfill and so I'm thinking that is organic waste. I think that time and money and effort should be put into investigating a biodigester of some sort ... even if it was County-owned or purchased, I think that would be a lot more value."

A biodigester is like a mechanical stomach. It is fed with organic material, which is broken down by micro-organisms

in an oxygen-free environment to produce a renewable energy called biogas and other material that is mainly used as fertilizer.

McKay said she had noted Neville's suggestion for the implementation stage of the project.

Coun. Pam Sayne, who is on the Minden Hills climate change committee, thanked the County for hiring McKay. She also thanked the many community volunteers who have been, and will continue to, work on the portfolio.

"We know that our targets that we need to meet are certainly not where we want them to be in this report but I think it's open to improving," she said. However, "I'm excited about this direction. I think there's options to even do better. But it's on the table and we're moving in the right direction."

McKay said the township's corporate emissions come largely from its landfills (81 per cent), followed by fleet (12 per cent) and buildings (seven per cent).

The GHG reduction targets are to cut corporate emissions by 20 per cent; 10 per cent for fleet and 10 per cent for waste from the 2018 baseline by 2030.

Coun. Bob Carter said he'd like to see more of a focus on diversion and public education.

"From my perspective, you're not going to change the output without changing the input. So, reducing garbage bags to two per week is going to probably lead



Scotch Line and other waste disposal sites and transfer stations in Minden Hills are the biggest polluters. *File.*

to more garbage on our roads and streets. Without doing something to help the public to reduce, educate them and reduce the amount of garbage, it doesn't help just to do it at the end," he said.

McKay said she will support each municipality to implement the suggested actions. She said a joint municipal climate change working group should be created for county-wide collaboration and ongoing

input and support for the adoption of practices and policies designed to reduce GHG emissions.

As for monitoring, she said she will complete corporate GHG inventories annually and report to councils to track progress.

"The plan is a living document that should be updated when major changes occur or at a minimum of every three years," she said.



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OPP NEWS

SIU identifies man shot by police

The Special Investigations Unit (SIU) has identified the man shot by police in Haliburton County July 15 as 73-year-old Leslie Hegedus.

The agency released the information Aug. 27 after submitting a DNA sample to the Centre for Forensic Sciences to establish next of kin, it said. Hegedus died after an altercation with OPP at an Indian Point Road residence.

The SIU said the investigation is ongoing. "So far, five civilian witnesses and four witness officers were interviewed," the SIU said, adding it has the post-mortem results.

The SIU previously reported Hegedus was struck when two police officers discharged their firearms. Hegedus was transported to the Haliburton hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

In its latest report, it said a firearm collected at the scene and the firearm of the two subject officers were sent to the Centre of Forensic Science for analysis. Investigators are awaiting those results.

Police bust cannabis grow-op

The Haliburton Highlands OPP detachment helped lead an investigation that led to the seizure of 15,300 cannabis plants at a City



A vehicle involved in a collision at County Road 21 and Peninsula Road Aug. 31. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

of Kawartha Lakes property Aug. 27.

The Community Street Crime Unit from the City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton Highlands detachments executed a Cannabis Act warrant, with help from Peterborough and Northumberland detachments, along with the Central Region Emergency Response Team.

They detained nine people and seized the plants, as well as cannabis buds, motor vehicles, industrial-sized dehumidifiers, generators and a riding lawnmower.

"The property featured a very structured growing site that was being operated

outside of the Health Canada regulations," OPP said in a press release.

City of Kawartha Lakes media relations officer Carrie Lanning said the investigation is ongoing and no charges have been laid, meaning police could not yet provide more information on the people arrested.

Collision blocks traffic

Police charged a driver with following too closely after that led to a three-vehicle collision at County Road 21 and Peninsula

Road Aug. 31.

Haliburton Highlands OPP said a motor vehicle was making a left turn onto Peninsula Road when it was struck from behind by a second vehicle, causing the first car to cross the center line and strike a third vehicle.

The incident slowed traffic on County Road 21 for approximately one hour while emergency responders addressed the scene. Haliburton Highlands OPP said there were minor injuries and the driver of the second vehicle was charged (OPP news compiled by Joseph Quigley).

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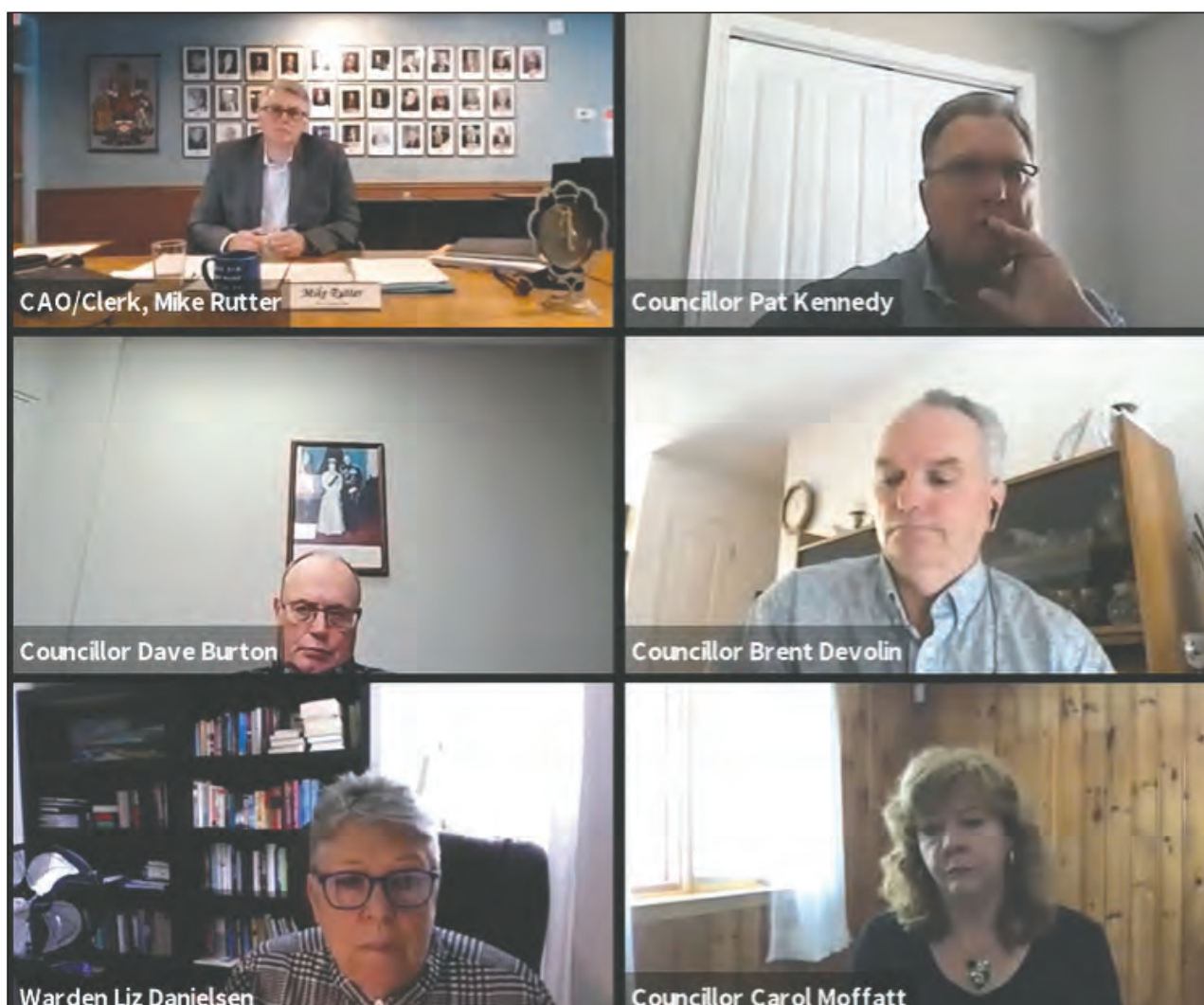
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County councillors opted to keep pay for cancelled committee of the whole meetings. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

County councillors opt to keep pay for cancelled meetings

By Joseph Quigley

County of Haliburton councillors have opted to receive pay for cancelled meetings during the pandemic due to additional workloads.

At the Aug. 26 meeting, council discussed how staff kept up their per diem payments for the monthly committee of the whole meetings during the pandemic, even though the meetings were cancelled from April to July.

CAO Mike Rutter said council directed that pay continue as normal for staff and he applied that to council as well. He said he understood even though those meetings were not happening, councillors were working.

Warden Liz Daniels said although there have not been committee of the whole meetings, the past few months

have required more work than normal. "I'm not complaining because it's all been good work," she said. "An awful lot more work in the last few months than I've ever done before. That probably stands for all of us."

Although Coun. Carol Moffatt said she had discomfort getting paid for a meeting she did not attend, she decided she did not feel bad about taking the \$80 per meeting.

"It's important for us to acknowledge that, put that out there in the public forum," Moffatt said. "We'll keep the money in our bank accounts because of the amount of work we did, but acknowledge we're not trying to rip off the taxpayer ... We worked way harder than the \$80 we get for a meeting we didn't attend."

Moffatt said no councillor is in the job for the money and it may be worth

it to change pay.

"Just because we didn't go to a meeting doesn't mean we weren't working," Moffatt said. "It's an opportunity to once again think about how much the positions are paid because they're pretty darn poorly paid."

Coun. Lisa Schell said Minden Hills councillors are paid on a salaried system which she said could be worth considering.

"It's kind of just flat across the board, with the acknowledgement the job is technically – I don't want to say 24/7 but it pretty much is," Schell said. "My home is my office and my house phone rings constantly."

Danielsen said councillors could individually work with staff to return part of their paycheques if they felt uncomfortable.

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Highlander news

AH rezones to allow farm, store and cabins

By Lisa Gervais

The family behind a plan to build a farm and market, tourist cabins and a store, is one step closer to achieving its dream in Algonquin Highlands.

The township, on Aug. 13, passed a bylaw to allow rezoning of the property to highway commercial-exemption from rural zone.

The Cleroux family wants to establish the businesses at 9734 Highway 118, between Carnarvon and West Guilford.

During a public meeting, spokesperson Sylvie Cleroux said they would like a market to serve the general public but the convenience store would be for people using their cabins. She said the cabins would be stage two of the development, and not likely for another two years.

Planner Sean O'Callaghan said it appeared the land was big enough to accommodate the proposed development within the requirements of the zoning bylaw, including compliance with things such as minimum setbacks and parking requirements.

He said there also appeared to be sufficient frontage and area to maintain a natural buffer between neighbours to minimize any potential impacts.

The Ministry of Transportation said it had no objections in a July 16 letter to the township tabled at the meeting.

MTO spokesperson Laurel Muldoon said the Cleroux' will need to ask for a formal pre-consultation for their site plan prior to the MTO issuing a commercial entrance



The site of the development. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

permit and building and land use permit. It said it would only issue a building and land use permit for the general store at this time.

Three of Cleroux' neighbours wrote to object to the development.

Dorothy Robb said she'd been living next door for 25 years, and "I enjoy the peace and quiet, and the very last thing I want is having up to 10 cabins with tourists running around right next door."

She said she is also worried about traffic on an already busy Highway 118, saying "it's an accident waiting to happen."

Resident Doug Olliffe also objected due to traffic concerns.

Muriel Jeffrey said she's also troubled

about disruption of her peace and quiet and traffic but is concerned about hemp production on the farm. While legal, she's worried it will "encourage an undesirable element that the long-term residents in this area do not want."

Deputy mayor Liz Danielsen said "overall, I'm not in objection to the application." She said she's hearing traffic is an issue, but the MTO has no problem with traffic to a store, and had not yet commented on cabins.

Coun. Lisa Barry wanted to know what the site plan would contain, and O'Callaghan said drawings of parking, septic, well and natural buffering. He said council would have to approve the site plan.

Mayor Carol Moffatt said she understands the traffic concerns.

O'Callaghan said the MTO part of the process will likely entail a traffic impact study and discussion about a turning lane. However, he said the township won't know until the proponents apply to the MTO.

Moffatt asked O'Callaghan, "Notwithstanding any of the concerns, of which there are a number, it meets the criteria of our planning documents?"

"Yes, that is correct. There are a number of policies in our official plan that do support such a development," he said.

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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.

Getting on with it

Resilience.

When I think about Haliburton County, its capacity to recover quickly from difficulties and toughness really stand out for me.

And while COVID-19 is still a clear and present danger, there are examples of Haliburtonians overcoming challenges throughout this week's *Highlander*.

Let's start with Sally Moore. The Sunny Rock bed and breakfast owner courageously sent out a mass email informing people she is battling breast cancer. However, she is organizing a fundraiser for Minden Rotary and, well, to lift her spirits. How about that?

The folks on Black Lake, as well as the family of Anna Andrews, certainly proved their mettle this past weekend. With Anna turning 100, family and friends weren't going to let a little pandemic get in the way of celebrating her century. Instead, they jumped in their watercraft, grabbed their noisemakers and cruised by Anna's dock to wish her a happy birthday. Minden Hills Coun. Pam Sayne showed up with a plaque from the township to mark the accomplishment.

Word came in from Doug Norris at the Abbey Retreat Centre. They are the folks tucked up the back of the Abbey Gardens site who offer free retreats for

cancer patients and their carers. Earlier this summer, they launched the Haliburton Highlands Challenge. On Aug. 27, they wrapped it up, raising an incredible \$50,000. It will ensure the continuation of virtual retreats for now, and many in-person in the future.

The Highlands Hills United Church outreach committee gave me a call. They wanted to share that they are gathering masks for school children. They were purchasing some but also looking for materials and sewers.

The folks at Volunteer Dental Outreach were delighted to announce that their annual golf tournament had raised \$40,000. That is going to lead to a lot of smiles at the free-of-charge dental clinic.

Art on the Dock announced its return for its annual art exhibition on Kennisis Lake and they brought in a tidy \$5,000.

The Rotary Club handed its prize-winning cheque of \$30,000 to Judy Neimann. The fundraiser this year was highly successful.

The Land Between charity has reached the hatching stage of its new turtle incubation program, with the first of its 1,000 eggs hatching Aug. 7. The program has started releasing turtles, which will continue for another few weeks.

We're starting to see the arts scene return with a vengeance. We have pop-up art taking place this weekend, workshops and exhibitions being advertised for September and October.

In sports, kids are being registered for Highland Storm minor hockey.

Many other families are preparing to return to school.

And, of course, Minden Pride celebrated its fifth annual event in the County. Like many, it had to hold the bulk of its activities online. However, it staged an inclusive flag-raising, a drive-in movie night and a show your Pride colours day. The iconic Pride flag was flown from houses, businesses and vehicles as people did not allow COVID-19 to dampen their week-long celebration.

While the experts are telling us this bug is going to be around until the end of 2020 and into the beginning of 2021, it would seem Haliburton County residents are starting to well and truly get on with it. After all, we are known for our resiliency.



By Lisa Gervais

Salute our courageous educators

It is not an easy time to be working in the education sector.

With a return to school, we are asking these people to safely plan to take care of our children in a fundamentally unsafe scenario. We are asking our educators to risk their health and safety to take this on, much like we did our health care workers when the pandemic began. The difference is, this is not something educators signed up for when they started their careers.

With that in mind, we need to be kind and celebrate our education workers in the months to come, just as much as we did our health care professionals when the pandemic began.

The provincial government's back-to-school planning is facing a lot of justified criticism about class sizes. Education unions have filed a labour board complaint that the province is violating workplace safety laws. Labour Minister Monte McNaughton compared school openings to the successful ones at retailers, grocery stores, construction sites and more, but none of those spaces equate to having 20-plus children in a room for hours on end.

But our local teachers and boards can only deal with the hand they have been dealt in

this case. They cannot necessarily openly criticize the provincial plan if they want to, though Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) trustees have made their umbrage with parts of it known.

Online learning is an option for students, but not necessarily for educators, with only so many online spots to go around. Getting online schools running well will also certainly be a challenge and it remains to be seen how well they will work over a full year.

So, our local educators must make the best of what is frankly a bad situation. In many respects, they have done that, with clear plans and regular updates across the board. Mandating masks for younger grades was also a strong step for safety. Teachers and administrators are hard at work planning, regardless of any anxieties they have.

There have undoubtedly been hiccups. It would have been nice for the expanded mask mandate to come before parents made their decisions on online versus in-person learning. A switch from taking two credits at once to one at secondary schools in late August was positive for safety but probably led to some confusion. Details on plans are coming much later than ideal given

how close we are to opening, though the provincial rollout is more at fault for that.

But I am willing to give administrators and teachers a lot of leeway given this difficult situation, especially considering the risks we are asking them to take. To get parents back to work, we are asking educators to take greater risks to their health than most other occupations. We are tasking elementary educators to figure out how to teach while enforcing social distancing with young children and asking secondary educators to navigate radically different scheduling.

So, let us cheer our educators on as they face these challenges for our sake. We may not agree about the quality of the back-to-school plans, but regardless, educators deserve a lot of credit for the courage they are showing.

Kudos to them and let us all hope back-to-school unfolds as well as it possibly can.



By Joseph Quigley

HAVE AN OPINION?

Send your letters to
editor@thehighlander.ca

(300 words max)



Editorial opinion

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Brenda-Lee Cunningham sent this photo, entitled 'our buddy,' taken at Welch Lake.

LETTERS

School reopening

Dear editor,

The efficacy of wearing masks to minimize the transmission and contraction of COVID-19 is not in question. For optimum health, a person's oxygen levels should be maintained between 96-100 per cent.

The real question, still unanswered, remains: What is the effect of prolonged, daily CO2 inhalation on brain development, neural pathways, learning and memory on young students from JK to Grade 8? With students in classrooms 6.5 hours daily, and on buses for up to two hours a day, the answer to this question is fundamental to both the principles and practices of education. Which pediatric specialists, respirologists, and studies have been consulted on this vital issue?

No learning will occur, regardless of other safety measures implemented, if a child is

hungry, tired, afraid or asleep.

This primary health issue must be addressed, before our kids are packed onto buses, or returned to a classroom setting. Every aspect of back-to-school needs to be safe, and that includes breathing.

Cheryl Cohoon
Haliburton

Plea for total fireworks ban

Dear editor,

Back in 2016, Minden Hills council passed a bylaw that limited fireworks use to a select number of days in the year. New Year's Eve, the weeks preceding and following Canada Day, and the weekends of Victoria Day and Labour Day. It doesn't work. The bylaw is a failure.

Are we really concerned about climate change and how we treat this planet? If that was the case, we would eliminate the use of personal fireworks. I don't want to stifle a good celebration, so if townships or municipalities like Minden want to have Canada Day fireworks, I am fine with this, if people want to see fireworks come to those specific celebrations.

Fireworks are a huge source of pollution. Noise pollution which terrifies wildlife, not to mention a lot of domestic dogs. Air pollution from the combustibles in these fireworks as well as the heavy metals from the fireworks that end up in our water. Lastly, litter from the ceramic separators, and packing that typically is left behind even if the overall package is cleaned up. I have heard that a region in the Muskoka's is considering an outright ban for these reasons.

People might ask how big of a concern is this really? If you are on a cottage on a well

populated lake you can expect fireworks every weekend and even some random days during the week. On Horseshoe Lake, there were lots of fireworks on Canada Day which is fine under the current bylaw. Then on July 10, there was a large fireworks display on the lake and then again July 21 and again just this past August week night. Clearly these are outside of the timeline of the bylaw.

Only a complete ban is going to work. I'm not sure local businesses could be forced to stop selling them but if they had to make customers aware of the total ban I think that problem would fix itself. The original bylaw was a good start but it is time to take the next step if we are really concerned about our planet.

Carol Jamieson Hewitt
Minden

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Highlander news

COUNTY OF HALIBURTON NEWS

Long-term care coalition

A new coalition of people from Haliburton and the City of Kawartha Lakes is pushing to bring all nursing homes into public control.

Council reviewed a letter from the Haliburton-CKL Long-Term Care Coalition, outlining its campaign to end for-profit long-term care homes by amending the Canada Health Act. The campaign is responding to deaths at long-term care home during the pandemic, as well as military reports of terrible conditions at several for-profit homes.

Council discussed the possibility of formal support but instead voted to receive the letter as information and monitor the campaign's progress. Moffatt and Danielsen questioned the long-term financial implications of support.

"There is a bigger plan in place around this anyway in the wake of the deaths that have occurred," Moffatt said. "It's an important conversation to be having in the public realm."

Shoreline complaints

The County is seeing more complaints about violations to its shoreline tree preservation bylaw.

Director of planning Charley White reported on Aug. 26 that staff responded to a higher-than-average number of complaints about violators to the bylaw, which prevents

tree cutting within 30 metres of shoreline with exceptions.

White said they have had good conversations with lake associations on the issue. She added they try to work with offending property owners.

"We don't just go out and set fines, we work with people and try to alleviate certain situations where that's available," she said.

Meanwhile, the pandemic has stalled the County's efforts to make a more expansive shoreline preservation bylaw, which they initially planned to put through a consultation process this summer.

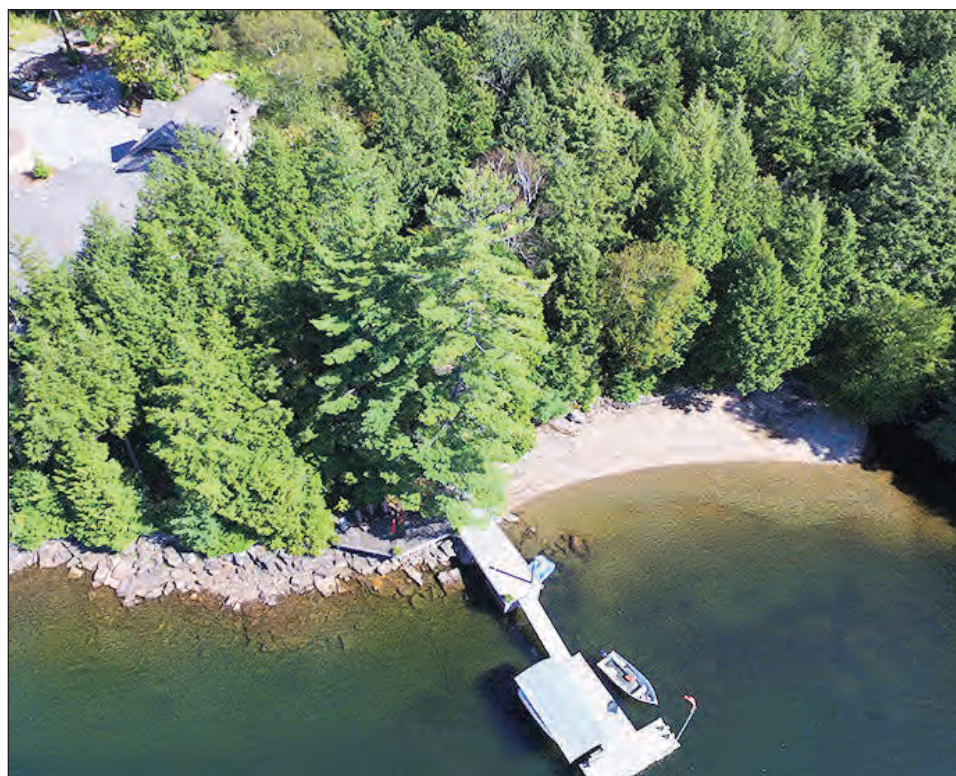
Warden Liz Danielsen said White would bring forward alternative consultation plans in the fall.

"I've been hearing quite a few concerns raised about the delay," she said. "It's a real concern to me that we do not wait until next summer to do our consultation because that's just setting it back too far."

Zoning bylaw amendments

The County is preparing several amendments to bring its official plan in line with changes to the provincial Planning Act.

White presented to council about proposed amendments. They included allowing more dwelling units on lots in certain zones, inclusionary zoning to require some affordable housing in developments of 10 or more units and climate change



The County has had an increase in complaints about its shoreline tree preservation bylaw. *File photo.*

considerations.

One possible change could be including new forms of housing in the plan, such as tiny homes. White said there could be clusters of tiny homes permitted with municipal servicing.

Coun. Carol Moffatt said she is not

a fan of tiny homes unless in specific circumstances and spoke against individualized ones on lots.

"A tiny home on a waterfront lot is not a housing solution, it's just a lifestyle choice," she said. (*County news compiled by Joseph Quigley*)

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Highlander news

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MINDEN HILLS NEWS

Pondering shopping local

Coun. Pam Sayne was successful in getting her council colleagues to vote in favour of a review of the township's procurement policy, to give greater consideration to local vendors.

Sayne said there are "social securement policies and strategies" elsewhere and the City of Peterborough is now working on one.

She said the intent is to support local businesses, the economy and the community.

In a motion tabled to the Aug. 29 meeting, Sayne said, "social procurement is when an organization uses its buying of goods and services to also achieve social value in addition to the purchase of those goods and services. As part of its buying of goods and services, an organization could aim to encourage economic development, provide local employment opportunities, or reduce poverty. It blends financial and social considerations."

She received unanimous support from council.

People return to cultural centre

Since reopening, the Minden Hills Cultural Centre has seen 60 people visit the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, 40 Nature's Place, 117 on the museum grounds and 60-plus

people using WiFi or the open space, Emily Stonehouse, economic development, destination and marketing officer said.

The numbers will have increased since they were compiled for a report to the Aug. 31 council meeting.

"Visitors have been polite, patient, and courteous with our opening, and have actively been engaged with the online property tour, virtual contests, and digital activities," Stonehouse said.

The centre reopened Aug. 4 with health and safety protocols in place, including: sanitizer stations at every entrance and exit; a limited number of visitors allowed to enter at once (10 in the gallery, four in Bowron House, six in Nature's Place); masks mandatory onsite; plexiglass installed at every space where engagement is required; cleaning schedule in place to ensure high-touch spaces are cleaned every 30 minutes; health unit-mandated signage around property, at every entrance and exit as well as regularly throughout the site; arrows around property and floors to guide visitors on a linear tour in order to mitigate any paths-crossed and staff trained and educated on policies and municipal practices.

New HVAC for gallery

Council awarded the contract for a new HVAC unit for the Agnes Jamieson Gallery to Northern HVAC for \$46,542.61 including HST.

Stonehouse said the current unit was installed in 2003. She added the heating and cooling requirements of the gallery are very specific, based on the preservation and protection of the extensive art collection the gallery houses.

In July, she brought forward a report highlighting concerns regarding the current HVAC unit causing regular flooding and damage to the property.

Northern HVAC won out over two other bidders.

Stonehouse leaving

Emily Stonehouse, Minden Hills' economic development, destination and marketing officer, is leaving the township.

Clerk/CAO Trisha McKibbin said on Aug. 31 that it would be Stonehouse's last council meeting.

Stonehouse is leaving her job to pursue a new opportunity. Her last day of work is Friday, Sept. 4.

Surveillance cameras for arena

Council has directed staff to proceed with installing security cameras at seven locations at the new Minden arena.

The video surveillance system will go: on the exterior of the arena pointing towards the generator and propane tanks; on the exterior of the arena pointing towards the

secondary entrance; inside the Scout Hall pointing towards the entrance door; in the first floor lobby pointing towards the main entrance; at the main reception desk; in the Community Centre kitchen/bar and in the Community Centre small bar, the last three with the purpose of recording visitors. Signs will also have to be ordered to inform the general public.

The overall estimated cost of the project is about \$8,000.

Tackling discrimination

Sayne also tabled a proposed bylaw to establish guidelines to address matters of discrimination and to identify strategies and actions to combat discrimination and harassment.

It received unanimous support.

Arena fundraising group

Council appointed a fundraising committee for the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena and Community Centre.

The public members on the committee are Eric Casper, Emma Hamilton and Betty Mark.

The council representative will be Jennifer Hughey and the staff representative will be CAO/clerk Trisha McKibbin.

(Minden Hills news compiled by Lisa Gervais)



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Highlander news

Finding a new use for an old church

By Lisa Gervais

If the conditional sale goes ahead, the former Zion United Church in Carnarvon will give way to a bakery and cafe, antique store and community meeting space come this fall.

The final piece of the planning puzzle fell into place for Highlands Hills United Church Aug. 13 when the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) gave their blessing to a proposed zoning bylaw amendment.

Algonquin Highlands planner Sean O'Callaghan's report said, "The MTO is aware of the parking situation and have expressed no concern with the new owners continuing to use the parking area." There are 15 parking spaces for the building on East Road.

Following a public meeting, the township rezoned the land from community facility exception three to general commercial exception five.

At the meeting, no objections were tabled.

Deputy mayor Liz Danielsen said, "I'm really pleased to see the proposal for this building. I just hate to see churches being sold and then just sitting unused."

Coun. Jennifer Dailloux said she breathed a sigh of relief at the planned usage.

"I know that in our planning documents, we stress the importance of maintaining the rural nature of our township and keeping that character. And, when I think about little villages across rural Ontario, this is the kind of thing that a lot of rural villages



The former Zion United Church in Carnarvon will be converted to a restaurant, antique shop and community meeting space if the conditional sale goes through in the fall. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

are finding to do with their previous spaces of worship. It's the little antiques place, it's the little café, it isn't become something else. It's very much in keeping with how Ontario seems to be evolving in its rural

spaces where places of worship are coming to an end. And I honestly couldn't be more delighted. I think that does keep very much in tune with our rural nature and I'm looking forward to visiting the space."

Mayor Carol Moffatt also paid tribute to the Zion church community.

"I'm glad for the church folks that this portion of their lives is being tidied up. It's been a long haul for them."

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DORSET'S NEW COMMUNITY PHARMACY

Highlander news



Council will contribute \$5,000 to a study and legal costs. *File.*

Bob Lake boaters back before council

By Lisa Gervais

Minden Hills council, at its Aug. 31 meeting, approved spending up to \$5,000 to assist the Bob Lake Association fund a professional design for its proposed boat launch on Claude Brown Road. The money would also help offset legal consultation costs.

The association's chair, Laurent Joncas, made a request in writing for the township to fund the entire amount, estimated at \$10,000.

Coun. Bob Carter suggested the compromise in a show of "good will" to move the file to the next level.

He said it was a difficult situation. "The location that they have chosen has not only some technical difficulties but also has some difficulties concerning the people who live in that immediate area. I'm a bit concerned that this group does not represent the majority of people on Bob Lake and they certainly do not have agreement from the neighbours who would be most affected by this situation," Carter said. He added the legal opinion has to do with people launching boats

crossing private land.

Coun. Jean Neville noted the township already spent \$10,000 to assist stranded boats off of the lake when the historic launch was closed and only 10 boats were removed.

She said she wasn't in support of the municipality spending money on a future launch "to serve a few boaters on Bob Lake." She said boats are a luxury and the money could go towards a more deserving project. However, she was okay with the \$5,000 spend for now.

Deputy mayor Lisa Schell said council had to consider people living on Claude Brown Road who will be affected to appease the people on Bob Lake.

Coun. Pam Sayne supported the full spend.

She said boaters had used the former launch for generations when it was assumed by all, including the township, that it was on municipal land. It was not until a real estate transaction in 2015-16 that it was discovered the launch was on private

land.

Sayne said the municipality had "dropped the ball" and the association had been doing the heavy lifting ever since.

"They've emptied their coffers in trying to get this report, hiring consultants," she said.

She added the location they are proposing is the only feasible site and said access would also be for the OPP and fire department. She said the association had letters of support from anglers and local businesses as well.

"We owe this to the community to follow through with it."

In reference to Neville's comment about boats being a luxury item, Sayne said the township supports snowmobiles for tourism and the economy, which is the same thing.

However, a majority of council voted for the \$5,000 spend.

Mayor Brent Devolin said, "A file that's been on my desk for five years. I would like to know whether it's doable or not. I'm willing to split the cost with them to take it to the next level."

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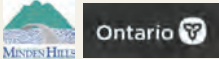
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NEWS BRIEFS

Cash for Care is back

The Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation says tickets are now available for the 9th annual Cash for Care Lottery.

Executive director Lisa Tompkins said there are new draw dates, and new early bird draws.

Lottery sales have begun, with final draws taking place on Feb. 15, 2021.

Tompkins said there are five chances to win, including two early bird draws: \$500 (Oct. 15, 2020), and \$1,000 (Jan. 15, 2021). Final draws of \$1,500, \$2,000 and \$20,000 will take place on Feb. 15, 2021.

Funds raised from this year's Cash for Care Lottery will support the purchase of new vital signs monitors for Haliburton and Minden emergency departments and acute care.

For more information, and to purchase tickets, call the lottery hotline at 705-457-1580/705-286-1580; or visit the HHHSF online for information on where to purchase tickets through their authorized local merchant sellers.

Church helping schools with masks

The Highland Hills Pastoral Charge wants to help supply masks for school children as they return to in-classroom learning.

The outreach committee has committed to purchasing 40 reusable cloth face masks for the beginning of school.

However, going forward, they are looking for people who would like to sew masks, or have materials to donate, such as elastic, fabric, thread and plastic baggies. They can get materials to sewers.

"With roughly 400 students attending Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden alone, and each student needing a mask for the morning and a different one for the afternoon, that adds up to hundreds of masks," Rev. Max Ward said in a church bulletin.

Contacts are Barbara Walford-Davis



Members of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation gather around the drum for a past Cash for Care lottery draw. *File.*

at 705-489-1715 or Pat Thorne at 705-286-3026.

VDO tournament raises \$40K

The Aug. 20 Volunteer Dental Outreach (VDO) golf tournament raised more than \$40,000.

VDO spokeswoman Lisa Kerr said the proceeds will fund the operating costs of the VDO clinic, which provides free dental care to those with financial barriers to seeing a dentist, denturist or dental hygienist.

Kerr said the 10th annual tournament's new COVID modified format "turned out to work quite well and we were able to finish our rounds in record time."

Kerr also announced the winning teams and special prize winners.

The winning team/winning mixed team was: Karen Heise, Landon Kelly, Nyah Kelly and Matt Kelly. The winning ladies team comprised Lynn Bartlett, Dianne Whitmarsh, Lois Maxwell and Marilou Mizzan. The winning men's team was the foursome of Steve Kerr, Ryan Kerr, J.J. Kerr and

Justin Cusato. The most honest team was Howard and Charmaine Clarke, Mark Arike and Michael Proctor. The putting champions were Tim and Lynda Wood and Brad and Heather Laviolette.

Ladies closest to the hole was Linda Bradley; ladies longest drive Cathy Young; men's closest to the hole Kevin Golding; men's longest drive Justin Cusato and closest to the keg Roger Trull.

Art on the Dock generates \$5K

This year's Art on the Dock has raised more than \$5,000 for the Haliburton Arts Council's Artists in the Schools and Community program.

Organizer Janis Parker said in an email that they raised \$5,075.55, "due to our sponsors, visitors and especially our artists' voluntary donations of a portion of the sales."

"I am so proud of this event, it is good for our artists, our lake community and the Haliburton Community," Parker said. *(News briefs compiled by Lisa Gervais)*

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Highlander business



That's puzzling

Artist Wendy Wood signs a puzzle for Norris Turner and Beth Johns at The Occurrence puzzle factory in Haliburton Aug. 21 as the local business launched its Canadian Artists Series. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

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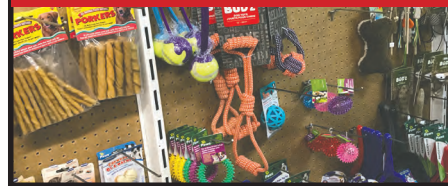
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Highlander business

JoAnne Sharpley's Source for Sports closing

By Joseph Quigley

JoAnne Sharpley said customers are sad and disbelieving as she prepares to close the shop for good.

JoAnne Sharpley's Source for Sports is closing after 29 years. With no buyer coming forward, Sharpley is working to sell off remaining stock before retiring, targeting Nov. 1 as an end date.

Sharpley said when long-time employees left two years ago, it felt like the right time to call it a career.

"I was tired, and I wanted to spend more time with my grandchildren," Sharpley said. "That's when it went on the market."

Sharpley said she and ex-partner, former NHLer Glen Sharpley, bought an existing sporting goods store in 1991. They moved it around downtown Haliburton over the years, going from a 600-square-foot space to 6,000-square-foot today.

"We just grew it and grew it," Sharpley said. "We offered always really great customer service. Our selection was always amazing ... It was like a city store in a little, little town."

The Haliburton Village BIA presented flowers to Sharpley Sept. 1 to recognize her forthcoming retirement. President Luke Schell said the store filled an important niche in the community, supplying hockey players.

"We've always been quite well-known as a hockey town," Schell said. "Might quite possibly have been the top supporter of



Haliburton hockey players will have to find a new place for equipment with the closure. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

hockey in Haliburton. I think when it comes to the people who are going to miss the business, it's going to be minor hockey."

"You can buy clothes online, but you can't buy a pair of hockey skates online," assistant manager Cindy-Jo Nesbitt said. "It's a terrible loss for Haliburton."

Sharpley has tried to sell the store for two years but has only received two offers, neither of which has worked out. She added she does not know why there is not more interest.

"I wish I could answer that question,"

Sharpley said. "Everybody wonders the same thing."

The life of the store is winding down and though November 1 is the target, Sharpley said it may stay partially open past that to clear inventory.

"I still have that little glimpse of hope that somebody's going to say 'this can't happen'," Sharpley said. "We still hope there's a buyer out there."

Schell said Sharpley has made a huge contribution to the community over the years.

"All the members of the BIA certainly wish her the best in the future. It's a sad farewell but we want to part showing our appreciation, not our regret," Schell said.

Sharpley said she has made many great relationships through the store and is appreciative of all the support she has received.

"Thank you for 30 really great years," Sharpley said. "To all the people that I've met that care for me."



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Highlander arts

Artist hosts pop-up in Haliburton village

By Lisa Harrison

Landscape painter Byron Hodgins will host pop-up shows in September and October at *The Highlander* and Lebo Law office on Maple Avenue in Haliburton, beginning Sept. 4.

Hodgins will also hold private viewing appointments in September and spend some time painting at the Minden Wild Water Preserve (visitors are welcome to stop and chat).

Born in 1975, Hodgins grew up in London and Toronto and studied at the Nova Scotia School of Art and Design. He currently lives in Ottawa with his wife Erin and their daughter Georgia, now five-and-a-half months old.

The artist's Highlands connection was forged about eight years ago when his family took on a timeshare cottage in Ingoldsby. Hodgins chose to propose to his wife at Head Lake Park, and says the area has had a significant effect on his work.

"The cabin in Ingoldsby was ... where [I did] my first sketches to paint outside directly from nature with a critical epiphany," said Hodgins in an email interview.

"I knew that painting from nature was the antidote to a theoretical puzzle that I had been carrying around for years. By looking to nature to inspire my artwork, I recognized that it could act as a motif allowing my interest in abstraction to grow

yet [rooting] it in realism."

Hodgins said he always wanted to be an artist. His chosen medium is oil, applied in a style he describes as loose and energetic with bold brushwork.

"I do not spend a lot of time looking to depict trees and rocks and water [the way] someone with a classical experience would. I'm much more interested in having an emotional response to the place and then adding smaller representational details that correspond to the forms and shapes that I'm seeing in nature."

The artist's favourite subjects to paint include backlit trees and branches, the forest floor, winter light on snow, and water, especially the powerful flow at the Preserve.

"It's an incredible sound when you're there that can knock out all thought, and it's a place you can walk and meditate. I find it's a fantastic place to paint because the water is always moving so quickly you have to look, then lock a visual notion in your mind about what you saw and then try to represent it."

The painter's showings include "15 Hot Painters to Watch" and "From Yesterday to Tomorrow: Canadian Masters + Emerging Talents," both at the Canadian Fine Arts Gallery in Toronto. Collectors include the Ontario Government Archive, Boy Scouts Canada, the Ottawa Art Gallery, and private and corporate collections across Canada.

The pop-up shows will run from 11 a.m.



The artist is holding a pop-up show Sept. 4-6 at *The Highlander* office in Haliburton. Photo submitted

to 4 p.m. Sept. 4-6 and again on Oct. 3 and 4 at 123 Maple Ave. in Haliburton.

Hodgins will be painting at the Minden Wild Water Preserve from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Sept. 5 and 6 and welcomes visitors.

The preserve is located off Horseshoe Lake Road just north of Minden.

To arrange a private viewing in September, contact Hodgins at 647-607-2937 or byronhodgins@gmail.com.

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The Haliburton Curling Club is planning to start back up in October with new health protocols. *File photo*

Curling Club sweeps through pandemic

By Joseph Quigley

The Haliburton Curling Club is planning to carry on its season even with the pandemic taking its toll on how many people are willing to play.

The club is working with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPR) to start its season in October with new safety precautions, according to president Kent Milford.

Milford said after putting a vote to members, 54 per cent said they were willing to curl even with the additional necessary restrictions. With just over 100 members confirmed, the club's board decided they had enough to go forward.

"The board has really been put in a difficult position," Milford said. "We'll do whatever it takes. We want those people who feel they still wanted to curl to have an opportunity to curl, but not at the expense of safety."

Across the province, curling will be different. Health units are advising limits on cross-club play, with the Haliburton club not allowing any of its members to play elsewhere this

season. The pandemic will impact gameplay as well, with the Ontario Curling Association recommending only one sweeper on all delivered stones.

Milford said masks will be mandatory for the most part and curling equipment cannot be shared. Their lounge area will also require social distancing.

The club has an average age of 65, a more vulnerable population for the virus, Milford said. But despite the hurdles and risks, many members are willing to keep curling.

"People have told me 'I have nothing else I can do this winter, I want to curl, I want to make sure you do it. I'm willing to live with the risk'," Milford said.

But not everyone is comfortable with that. Minden Curling Club president Robert Peacock said they put out a similar vote and only 40 of their 205 members – about 20 per cent – were willing to curl. As such, they are delaying their season until at least Christmas.

"Just trying to be safe and not cause any problems," Peacock said.

"Average age of our curling club is 67, so I think they're just being very cautious."

Meanwhile, Wilberforce Curling Club secretary Kathy McQuigge said they are meeting Sept. 3 to decide about their season, which did not occur before press time.

Clubs are also facing financial losses, unable to run usual fundraisers or tournaments. Peacock said they expect to lose \$20,000 in building expenses, though that would have run up to \$50,000 if they ran the season without enough numbers.

Milford said his club is also facing a loss, but it should be small enough to manage.

"It's difficult," Milford said. "Thankfully, the balance sheet of our curling club is in reasonable shape and saved for a rainy day."

Milford said he is confident members will follow the health protocols needed to carry on playing.

"We're going to have to rely on the community spirit of our curlers to make sure they abide by these protocols," he said. "I believe all of our curlers will."

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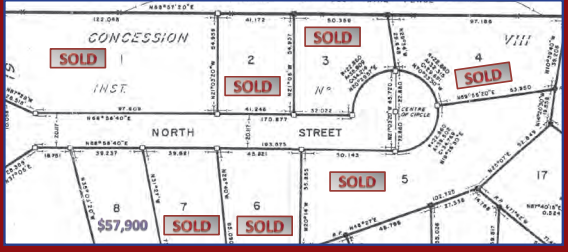
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Highlander people



Sunny Rock Bed and Breakfast owner Sally Moore is holding a "humour, cutting-edge, spirit-lifting extravaganza" fundraiser after receiving a breast cancer diagnosis. Photo by Joseph Quigley

Nothing silly about Sally Moore's cause

By Joseph Quigley

Sunny Rock Bed and Breakfast owner Sally Moore said being secretive about her Her2+ invasive breast cancer diagnosis played against her psyche.

Faced with chemotherapy, Moore said rumours and misinformation spread about her condition. So, she decided to be open, sending a mass email about her condition and the "humorous, cutting-edge, spirit-lifting extravaganza" fundraising event she wanted to host Sept. 3 to support the Minden Rotary Club.

"I'm enjoying having my fingers into the throws of a fundraiser and I think it should be a really fun event," Moore said. "I decided I needed to turn this around. I figured just be upfront with the community, let the community know, become a voice maybe for people with breast cancer."

Moore is asking people to come with their loose change and is planning a positivity-focused event to accomplish that. She is asking people to wear funny hats to give her inspiration for what to wear as she loses her hair. She

has also developed a social-distancing friendly hug, encouraging people to instead cut a lock of their hair and let it blow away.

Moore said she has spent four decades as a community fundraiser, including organizing a Loonie Extravaganza at her business for the past 25 years, towards a variety of charities.

"It's the fun of it. There really is an energy that comes from within for me towards the preparation of a fundraiser," Moore said. "I want people to just be able to say hi and know I'm good."

She said she will also match any donations. A Rotarian, she said she is a big believer in what Minden Rotary does and wanted to help them given the difficulties of fundraising in a pandemic.

"We want to do the best we possibly can for the community, and we can't do it unless we have some resources to do it with," Moore said.

Minden Rotary president Dave Bonham said the club is supportive of the event.

"We applaud her for both her initiative and her creativity in the planning for a truly unique undertaking," Bonham said.

Before running her bed and breakfast, Moore worked as a camp director, a job she said has helped her with her fundraising.

"Instead of playing with children, young adults, I'm playing with adults," Moore said. "I like having people around, the energy of it all."

Moore said she survived breast cancer seven years ago, but this time the treatment will not be as easy. But she wants people to come away feeling positively after her fundraiser.

"We can beat this," Moore said. "I want to create an environment that's open and people can ask how things are going and to give the positive stuff. I'm just silly, I'm a silly Sally and I think people know to expect that from me."

The event takes place at Sunny Rock - 1144 Scott's Dam Rd., Minden, - Sept. 3 from 1 - 5 p.m., with donations accepted after that up until noon Sept. 7.



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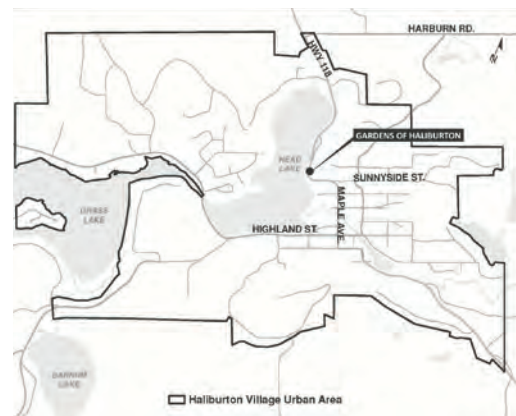
Let's stay connected. Let's continue to laugh, cry, and chat about it all.

Take care and stay well,

Tammy, Lisa, Carol, Peggy, Cathy, Midori, Marci

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

Class Environmental Assessment Water System for the Gardens of Haliburton



The Gardens of Haliburton retirement lifestyle residences are being constructed within the Haliburton Village Urban Area at 1 Sunnyside Street on the former site of Fleming College. Municipal water supply is not available therefore a private water supply system is required.

Final approval by the municipality for the water system requires that the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) process be completed.

The Water Supply EA for the Gardens of Haliburton is following Schedule C of the Municipal Class EA process.

The EA is currently in Phase 3; the issues have been defined, feasible alternatives have been identified, technical, natural, social/cultural and economic impacts of the alternatives have been evaluated, and a preferred solution has been recommended as follows:

A groundwater supply using a drilled well with treatment for hardness, particle filtration and disinfection is the recommended alternative for the Gardens of Haliburton water supply. The alternative is consistent with local requirements for communal water supplies identified in the Municipality's Official Plan, and it will provide a secure quantity of high-quality potable water meeting the requirements of the Ministry of the Environment under Ontario Regulation 170/03 Drinking Water Systems.

This recommended solution is being put forward for public comment. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Public Information Centre will be conducted exclusively in a virtual format; there will not be any in-person consultation. The relevant documents are available on the project website for public review and comment. All comments received by the proponent prior to September 24, 2020 will be appropriately addressed and documented for the public record. At the conclusion of the study, a Notice of Completion will be published advising the public that an Environmental Study Report (ESR) will be filed for 30-day public review.

Comments may be submitted to the proponent Gardens of Haliburton Inc. via their website at <https://gardensofhaliburton.ca/class-environmental-assessment/> or by email: ea@gardensofhaliburton.ca or via mail to 12 Kensington Drive, Richmond Hill, ON L4E 3M9.

All correspondence will be maintained for reference throughout the project and will become part of the project record. Under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and the Environmental Assessment Act, unless otherwise stated in a submission, any personal information such as name, address, telephone number and property location included in a submission will become part of the public record files for this project and will be released, if requested, to any person.

This notice was first issued on 27 August, 2020.

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Highlander community

Abbey Retreat challenge raises \$50K

By Lisa Gervais

Twenty-two people gathered on the grounds of the Abbey Retreat Centre Aug. 27, walking the last few hundred metres with drums and umbrellas to mark the windup of a summer-long program to generate funds for the cancer support programs of the centre.

The Haliburton Highlands Challenge was a choose-your-own-adventure program inviting participants to walk, cycle, paddle, practice yoga or move in any way they wanted to reflect the importance of physical exercise in maintaining health and especially in recovery from cancer or cancer treatment symptoms.

Executive-director Doug Norris said 26 participants took part through July and August, locally and as far away as Montreal and Vancouver. As of the last day of the program, he said the goal of raising \$50,000 had been met with more than 350 donors involved.

"These funds will underwrite the costs of cancer support programs through the next year, both once on-site programming can begin again and in the meantime through a growing curriculum of online programs with some 50 people in recent



Participants in the Haliburton Highlands Challenge. Photo submitted.

months served by five of the retreat centre personnel and further sessions beginning in September," Norris said.

The Abbey Retreat Centre is a registered charitable organization located on the grounds of the Abbey Gardens Community Trust and exists to support people with

a cancer diagnosis and their caregivers in finding life-enhancing choices on the cancer journey as well as offering meaningful program and a facility for the use of the Haliburton community. Programs are offered free of charge. For more information see abbeyretreatcentre.ca.



SHOW ME THE MONEY: The Rotary Club of Haliburton gave a \$30,000 cash prize to the winner of its annual car draw, Judy Neimann Aug. 27. Neimann opted for cash over the car, a 2020 Chevrolet Camaro Lt Coupe. Left to right: Rotary president Ted Brandon, treasurer Maureen O'Hara, Neimann and her granddaughter Freyja Neimann-Rowe. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

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Highlander cottagers



Happy century Anna

Anna Andrews turns 100 on Sept. 6 and her fellow Black Lake residents and cottagers were not about to let the milestone pass without some social distancing celebrations. On Aug. 29, they did a 'boat drive by' of Anna's dock to help her celebrate the milestone. They then stopped in front of Anna's cottage and sang their best version of Happy Birthday. There were noisemakers and decorated boats. Anna has been on the lake since 1957. (Photo submitted)



Boats surround the Bouwmeister cottage for rock on the dock Aug. 22. Photos submitted.

Rocking the dock for SIRCH

The Bouwmeister's didn't let a little COVID-19 get in the way of a great day out while fundraising for SIRCH. They hosted 'rock on the dock' Aug. 22, with live entertainment from their dock in front of their cottage on Kennis Lake. "We counted over 115 boats floating in the bay," Bouwmeister said. He added that after counting the donations made at the concert, money from the marina drop box and contributions made online, they raised more than \$3,300. He thanked everyone with a shout out to Jim Dale, his family and the Tantrums for donating their time and talent. (Lisa Gervais)

INFORMATION PAGE

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IN CASE OF EMERGENCY PLEASE DIAL 9-1-1. FOR ALL OTHER MUNICIPAL EMERGENCIES PLEASE CALL 1-866-856-3247.

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:

September 10 – Committee of the Whole Meeting
September 24 – 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.

Hazardous Waste Collection Event

The next Household Hazardous Waste collection event is this Saturday, September 5, 2020 at the Scotch Line Landfill from 8am to 11:30am. Please visit mindenhills.ca/landfill for a list of accepted items.



DID YOU KNOW?

Property owners are responsible to provide the Municipal Office written notification of any address change.

Minden Hills Cultural Centre

re-opened in a safe and welcoming environment

Nature's Place

Enjoy a visual tour about local ecology with take away information. Take the field journaling page and visit the natural wetlands and boardwalk adjacent to the Centre. Learn about beavers, butterflies, songbirds, species at risk, habitats and solutions to environmental concerns.

H: Wednesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm

Minden Hills Museum & Heritage Village

Visit the Bowron House, Cookhouse, Bailey Barn and Sterling Bank which are open for a self-guided tour. Download the virtual tour at www.mindenhillsculturalcentre.blog to experience all of the heritage buildings. Information is available about the history of the area and a walking self-guided tour of downtown Minden.

H: Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm

Agnes Jamieson Gallery

Visual art exhibitions offered year-round, and home to the work of André Lapine ARCA 1866-1952, the gallery is currently showing work by local artist Gary Blundell in Navigations of Iron. This exhibit blends information from the Minden Hills Museum with Blundell's interpretations of the history of the local mines from this area. Items from our André Lapine collection are also on display.

H: Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 4pm

ADMISSION BY DONATION

176 BOBCAYGEON ROAD in the town of Minden
<https://mindenhills.ca/minden-hills-cultural-centre-home/>



Labour Day Holiday Weekend

Council and Staff would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Labour Day Holiday Weekend. THANK YOU for your continued efforts and actions to help keep our communities, and each other safe, by maintaining social distancing, wearing a mask and following safety protocols. Please note that our administration phone system will not be monitored on Monday September 7th. If calling on this date, leave your name, phone number and reason for your call and services will resume on Tuesday September 8th.



Highlander events



Parading Pride colours

Minden Pride wrapped up its weeklong celebration by parading its colours around town Aug. 29, inviting people and businesses to display Pride flags and symbols. That was followed by a multi-faith service the next day to conclude the event. “Actually quite pleased with how Minden Pride’s gone this year,” chair David Rankin said. “It’s been very difficult because it’s virtual and lots of work, but we’d had good attendance.”

Top: Minden Pride chair David Rankin (left) and treasurer Norma Goodger work at a Pride booth set up in downtown Minden Aug. 29. Bottom: Ommh Beauty Boutique owner Shawn Smandych and employee Betty James had Pride flags set up at their business for the occasion. *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 kbutler@haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com.

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.

SEPTEMBER 4 AND 5

Blackbird Pottery presents Schoolhouse/5 Fine-Craft & Vintage Pop-up Market from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Donald Schoolhouse, 5843 Gelert Rd. Fine art, print, pottery, gourmet foods, jewelry and more.

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.

SEPTEMBER 5

Gooderham's 503 Street Sale 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. All spaces are free and bring your own table and chairs. Set up your table anywhere on the main street. Rain date is Sunday, September 6. For more information: Denise Wooder 705-447-2953 or Marilyn Wooder 705-447-2906. Masks and social distancing in effect.

SEPTEMBER 6

Lakeside Concert on the shores of Kennis Lake, 2718 Wilkenson Rd. 2 – 4 p.m. Performance by Thomas Kovacs “Great music, Engaging Performer, Bring Your Singing Voices.” Come by land or water, two large docks to tie up to, and parking for 40 or more cars. Bring lawn chairs. This event will be held inside if weather is inclement. Snacks and refreshments will be available. For more information, call 705-754-2500.

UNTIL SEPT. 7

The Haliburton Lions Club's virtual toll bridge fundraiser.

Go to haliburtonlions.com

SEPTEMBER 8 – 22

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust Rock Our World online auction. Bidding details are on their Facebook page, e-newsletter, or on their website haliburtonlandtrust.ca

SEPTEMBER 9

ShopCloseBy information session from 11 a.m. – noon. Learn more about this shared E-commerce and marketing platform created with rural communities in mind. The goal is to support small businesses, artists, entrepreneurs, farmers, and non-profit organizations to promote and sell their goods and services online. Go to shopcloseby.ca to register.

SEPTEMBER 11

Earth Dance Studio presents “From the Profane to the Sacred: A Journey through Time and the Collective Unconscious” at 7 p.m. Artist Darlene Dove will host a talk and discussion from 7:30 – 9 p.m. Call 705-448-9808, earthdancestudio.ca, earthdance@teksavvy.com

Minden Hills Cultural Centre presents outdoor movie night “Jurassic Park” at 8 p.m. Bring a blanket or chair and snacks. Admission by donation. Pre-registration is required for this event at eweiss@mindenhills.ca

HAVE AN UPCOMING EVENT?
Contact admin@thehighlander.ca



Wow! Log Home Living, the largest most widely read log home magazine in the world recently chose our Green Woods model as one of the Best Homes of the year.

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or go to www.confederationloghomes.com.



Highlander veterans



Part 8: Closer to home

By Mabel Brannigan

At home in Haliburton County, the Saturday night thrill was hockey by radio with Foster Hewitt, telling the whole country 'he shoots, he scores.' Well, the Toronto Exhibition Park had become a military camp, the Royal Winter Fair had closed, and many hockey players had enlisted, including the famous Boston Kraut line of Bobby Bauer, Woody Dumart and Milt Schmidt. But national hockey continued, and transcripts were sent to the troops overseas.

Hardly anyone locked their doors in Haliburton County at night.

While war ravaged towns and cities on one side of the ocean, we were not immune to fire at home as the east side of Minden's main street was tragically destroyed by fire in the spring of 1942.

Earl Hewitt and Pat McKay, reaching main street, saw Percy Brintnell, the baker, coming down a ladder in his underwear.

"Where is Ina and Barb?" asked Earl. Ina is getting her purse and Barb has gone to Hartles, he told Earl. Earl brought Percy a

pair of pants and everyone started a bucket brigade from the river. Minden had no fire protection. A few had pumpers, the kind that could be laid in the river.

As the flames raced towards the telephone office, threatening to cut off all communications, Earl phoned a friend, Charlie Lamb, mayor of Lindsay. And in 55 minutes the fire department was here. Without this help, all of Minden may have burned.

Mark Snell is also credited with hanging sheets of 12-foot steel roofing from the eaves of Moss Kellett's Dominion Hotel for saving the west side. Brintnells were the first to rebuild and the *Haliburton County Echo* relocated in the village of Haliburton.

Most people concluded that the fire was caused by an explosion in the bakers shop, but Earl had his own theory. At 4 a.m., on May 15, 1942, the day of the fire, Earl was awakened by a dog barking at the transport building. A car drove away from the building followed by a loud bang on main street.

Just prior to this tragedy, fires had been set in Gelert and Donald. Needless to say, Earl was convinced for the rest of his life that Minden's fire was deliberately set.

Hardly anyone locked their doors in Haliburton County at night.

Mabel Brannigan
Writer



Foster Hewitt. Flickr.

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Highlander reads

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

Chapter 7: Heartbeat

Harp in the Dark

"You cannot see him," the nurse said to Detective Harry Harp and Constable Terry Becker. "He's having tests."

After driving to the Golden Villa Retirement Centre to see Stanley Barley, they had discovered that the old man had been admitted to hospital earlier in the day. Harp asked the nurse how long they would have to wait.

"Take a seat," she said wearily.

The two men sat down in the waiting area and Becker flipped open a fishing magazine. Harp leaned back and let his thoughts drift to Brigitte Cave, the librarian he'd met two days earlier. He couldn't get her out of his mind. And then he wondered if that was how Rand felt about Irene Barley.

But did it happen that way? Did Stanley Barley catch Rand Carlyle with his wife and then murder him in a jealous rage?

Goofy music interrupted his thoughts. Across from him, a boy played an electronic device, thumbs jabbing frantically. Next to the boy sat a white-haired man whose leg was in a cast, and in the corner, two men sat close together, both looking at their phones and talking quietly. Harp considered their neat hair and fitted clothes and the lines in his forehead deepened. Then he remembered the numerology project—began by the original detective on the case, George Maclem. The gender tally for the night of the murder was 12 men and 10 women. If everyone paired up, two men would be left out. Suddenly, an unmistakable feeling of clarity filled Harp's mind.

"I have it!" he said.

"Listen," Becker whispered.

The hospital's public address system crackled through the air: "Repeat: Adam Barley to reception."

Harp and Becker rushed to the nurse's station and she looked up at them suspiciously. "So, which one of you officers is Adam Barley?"

Harp said, "Neither. We just want to talk to him."

"First the father, now, the son." The nurse rolled her eyes. "Make up your minds."

Suddenly, Harp remembered his revelation and turned to Becker. But at the same moment, a door opened behind where the constable was standing. It was the door to the men's room and a man stepped out. He was tall and thin with white-blond hair. He walked around the two detectives.

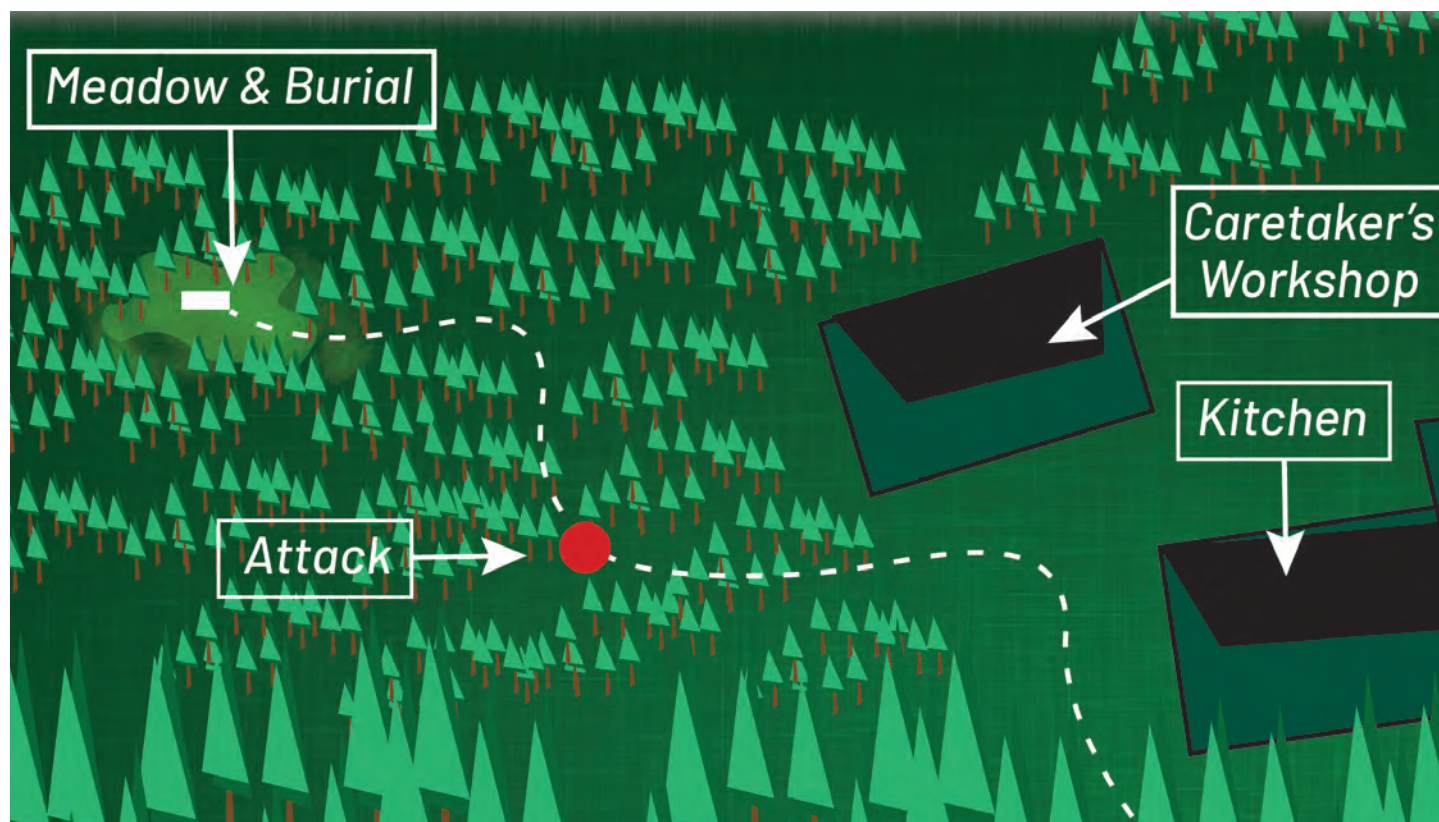
"I'm Adam Barley," he said to the nurse.

She looked up. "Doctor wants to see you but he's just this minute been called into Emergency." She nodded over his shoulder. "And these gentlemen here...."

Adam turned to find Harp holding out his police ID card.

"Mr. Barley?" The detective introduced himself and Becker. "Could we have a word?"

Harp directed him to a private alcove away from the main waiting area.



"What's this about?" Adam Barley said with undisguised nervousness.

Harp said, "We're investigating the murder of Rand Carlyle."

Barley nodded, eyes on the floor, fingers twitching.

"When did you last see your father?" Harp said.

Barley looked surprised. "Years ago. We're not that close."

"Why? What happened?" Becker said.

Barley shrugged, "Life, I don't know."

The constable frowned.

"Mr. Barley, tell us about August 1970," Harp said.

"I worked at Pines End. My parents got me the job. And I hated it."

"What was so bad about it?" Becker said.

"I was 16 and I had to wait on guests my own age. It was humiliating."

"What about Rand Carlyle?" Harp said.

"What about him?"

Becker said, "We know you took him fishing. You must have been friendly with him."

"My job was to do what people asked—get towels, drinks, take them fishing, whatever."

Harp was silent for a moment. "What do you do for a living, Mr. Barley?"

"I'm an accountant. Why?"

"You're married?" Harp said.

"No," Barley said. "I live alone. Now, if you'll excuse me, I have just driven six hours and I'd like to see my father."

"And we have a murder to solve." Harp faced him. "What were you doing on the night of August 1, 1970?"

Barley scowled. "I don't remember. Probably fetching drinks for people! It was Simcoe Day. There was a bonfire, I remember that."

"Did you see Rand?"

"No!" Barley cried then took a breath and spoke calmly. "I don't remember."

To Harp, the man was somehow incomplete as if something had stunted his growth. The detective wondered if it was the truth. "Mr. Barley," Harp said. "I believe you knew Rand Carlyle extremely well. In fact, I believe you knew him—intimately."

Becker's eyes shot open.

Barley launched from his seat. "I am not going to sit here being accused of—indecent!" He turned to leave but Becker was on his feet blocking his exit.

"We just want the truth, Mr. Barley." Becker gently touched Barley's elbow. "Please?"

Barley stared at the young constable's hand then sat down.

"Look, I knew Mr. Carlyle. And I liked him—though certainly not as you suggested." He ran his hand over his face. "He was a lot nicer to me than those kids. He was kind." The man looked up. His face was filled with confused emotion. "He didn't deserve to die!"

Harp's eyes glinted. "But his killer thought differently. His killer was filled with so much ferocious hate that he drove an ice pick into Randolph Carlyle's back."

Barley winced.

"Then buried his body in an old fridge in a little meadow in the woods."

Adam Barley's face softened as if remembering something long forgotten.

"I believe your father saw you and Rand together and that drove him to kill—"

Barley leapt to his feet. "NO!"

Just then, the nurse rushed towards them.

"Mr. Barley? Come with me." She waved at him. "Your father's taken a turn."

A few minutes later, Adam Barley stood beside his father's hospital bed. A breathing mask covered Stanley Barley's face and tubes and wires crisscrossed his body. Adam looked down at him and thought about what the detective had said.

Tears stinging his eyes, Adam squeezed his father's hand as the heartbeat monitor pulsed erratically.

August 1, 1970 – 4 PM

Adam Barley was well aware that guests would be asking for drinks and that the hateful Cat Wilson would be whistling for him and that he had to collect wood for the bonfire and do a million other things. But he didn't care because, he, Adam Barley, was in love.

Turn at the boulder then over the fallen tree and up the slope. He knew the way to the little meadow by heart. He also knew that Rand was already there because he could smell his cologne.

Pushing aside bushes, he stepped into the sunlit meadow where Rand lay waiting.

Adam joined him and they stared up at the sky. Except for the sounds of insects and rustling leaves the forest was silent. Then a twig snapped.

"What was that?" Adam whispered, eyes wide.

Rand pulled him close. "That's the sound of my heart beating crazily for you."

At the edge of the meadow, a woman peered through the bushes. Her face was twisted by horror at the sight of what Randolph Carlyle was doing to her boy—her dear sweet boy.

Irene Barley's eyes narrowed as she realized what she had to do.

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If you've got news reporting experience and are interested in dipping your toe in the Highlander waters, **please email** **Lisa Gervais, editor, at** editor@thehighlander.ca.



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The Municipality of Highlands East is currently seeking a **Full-Time, General Equipment Operator (40 hours per week) in the Roads Department**

Reporting to the **Roads Superintendent**, the successful candidate will be responsible for operating trucks and other heavy equipment in the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges in the Municipality's road system as well as providing a variety of construction, snow/ice removal, maintenance and repair services to municipal roads and equipment.

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Applications clearly marked "**Application -General Equipment Operator**" may be submitted on or before 12:00 p.m, Monday, September 14th, 2020 via mail, in person, fax or email. Interested applicants may submit their resume, including references, in confidence to:

Shannon Hunter, CAO/Treasurer
Municipality of Highlands East
P.O. Box 295, 2249 Loop Road
Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0

Fax: 705-448-2532 E-Mail: shunter@highlandseast.ca

A copy of the detailed job description is available upon request.

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

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

Applicant information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to determine qualifications for employment with the Municipality of Highlands East. Questions about this collection should be directed to Shannon Hunter, C.A.O.

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A Few Final Words

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

Across

- 1 *Court order?
- 8 Noncommercial commercial: Abbr.
- 11 Critter that bit King's Cujo
- 14 Full of jest and joviality
- 15 Evidence of a car keying
- 17 Quirky quality
- 18 *How the ill-advised learn, with "the"
- 19 "How could I ___ stupid!"
- 20 Name with Tia or Santa
- 21 *Forehead feature of the befuddled
- 28 Kingly Shiite title, with 53-Down
- 31 Polished "piggy" parts
- 32 Dual identity abbr.
- 33 *Apron-string clinger, to bullies
- 35 Containing steamier scenes
- 38 "This is awesome!"
- 39 Ousted, as a dictator
- 40 Hosed at the gas station, say
- 41 *Comment to an antisocial layabout, maybe
- 42 Where scrubs are worn: Abbr.
- 43 Attended
- 44 Short form of Benedict
- 45 *Finally gets it
- 50 The ___ "we"
- 51 "Mighty" trees
- 55 *Beatles-style hairdos
- 58 To the left, to the French
- 61 ___-de-Beaupré (town near Quebec City)
- 62 Word game with a gallows drawing
- 63 Levy not charged on most food
- 64 It rises in "el este"
- 65 Deluxe ... or what the last words of the answers to the starred clues can be

Down

- 1 "This looks like ___ for Superman"
- 2 Rich mineral deposit
- 3 Screen types after CRTs
- 4 ___ the mill (average)
- 5 "Terre" in "la mer"

1	2	3	4	5	6	7		8	9	10		11	12	13
14								15			16			
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			21	22	23	24						25	26	27
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42						43						44		
45			46	47	48						49			
			50							51	52	53	54	
55	56	57						58	59	60				
61								62						
63				64				65						

- 6 Airline for ABBA
- 7 Excuse-making utterances
- 8 Pooh-poohing sounds
- 9 Rid of the hiccups, in a way
- 10 Dry-sounding deodorant brand
- 11 "Just a heads up," in a text
- 12 Obama's health plan inits.
- 13 Your, of yore
- 16 Just one tiny blob
- 20 "Holy ___!"
- 22 Lose sight of, in a way
- 23 Like King's Cujo
- 24 Violent protest
- 25 Sun-dried grape
- 26 Toronto's ___ Centre (theatre bought by Sony)
- 27 Fended (off)
- 28 Baja boy friends
- 29 In great abundance
- 30 "... stirring, not even ___"
- 34 Middle-of-the-road: Abbr.
- 35 Touch base again?
- 36 Beat ___ to one's door
- 37 Mustard's title in Clue: Abbr.
- 39 Arnaz of "I Love Lucy"
- 41 Audacity
- 43 Sneakily avoid, with "out"
- 46 Mlle. in Madrid
- 47 Preschooler's TV heros, often
- 48 "Sleep" prefix with therapy
- 49 "Too bad for you!"
- 52 Highest point
- 53 See 28-Across
- 54 "Mail" an email
- 55 Brief email?
- 56 "Sudden death" periods
- 57 Household pointer, maybe
- 58 Hot tubber's sigh
- 59 Moo goo ___ pan
- 60 "The Ice Storm" director Lee

SUDOKU

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

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

1	L	A	I	D		5	I	M	P	E	N	D		11	P	O	I		
14	A	C	T	I		15	C	R	E	D	O	S		16	Y	U	M		
17	T	H	E	G	U	18	E	S	S	W	H	O		19	R	T	S		
20	H	E	M	I	N			21	C	I	I		22	S	O	B	A		
		23	S	T	I	24	K	I	N	T	26	H	E	M	U	D			
		27	S	E	E	A			28	S	E	G	A	R					
29	R	E	P			32	D	R	O	P		35	S	E	N	S	36	E	
37	I	S	L	A	D	E	M	A	R	G	A	R	I	T	A				
41	A	P	O	L	O		42	A	F	A	T			43	A	S	T		
		44	I	W	A	S	45	A			46	D	O	H	48				
49	M	O	U	N	T	P	50	L	E	A	S	A	N	52	T				
53	I	N	N	S		54	P	E	R			55	B	I	E	56	B	57	S
58	D	A	D			59	L	E	N	N	I	E	S	M	A	L	L		
62	A	G	E			63	L	A	T	I	S	H		64	A	S	T	O	
65	S	E	R			66	B	L	E	E	P	S		67	L	E	S	T	

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-Albert Einstein

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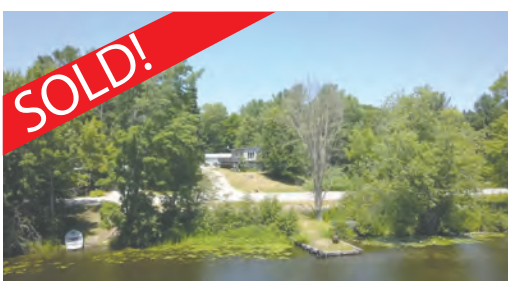


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