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The Highlander

Thursday **March 25 2021** | Issue 483

INSIDE: LEOPOLDINA DOBRZENSKY LEAVES LEGACY PAGE 15

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Firefighters carry a raft onto Head Lake for an ice rescue training course March 20. See more on page 14. *Photo by Joseph Quigley.*

Vaccine rollout creates controversy

By Joseph Quigley
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Little Redstone Lake resident David Baker is trying hard to get a COVID-19 vaccination for his wife Linda Guest, a chronic home care patient.

Guest is 76 years old, though cannot attend a clinic in person. Several health

units have prioritized home care patients for the first wave of vaccines, but Baker said the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPR) has not and he has been unable to arrange an appointment.

Baker has pushed to get his wife a vaccine sooner, to no avail. With HKPR holding a clinic for emergency responders at the Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre

March 17-18, he is questioning how vaccines are being distributed locally.

"I see no reason why patients like her aren't included in a prioritized vaccination rollout," Baker said. "Let's face it, there's been a lot of confusion in how this vaccine has been rolled out province-wide."

The province has opened vaccinations to the public for people aged 75 and older,

though health units manage the process. The provincial rollout is in three stages, with phase one underway and phase two due to start in April.

According to the provincial website, phase one is supposed to include long-term care homes, health care workers identified as high-priority, adults age 80 and over, Indigenous adults and chronic home care

Continued 'Gemmill' on page 2

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Vaccinations are underway in the County. *File photo.*

Gemmill: everyone will get a vaccine

Continued from page 1
patients. The second phase, due to start in April, includes other seniors and frontline workers ranging from school staff to social agencies to grocery stores.

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) president and CEO Carolyn Plummer said clinics for health care workers were held March 6 at the Haliburton Family Medical Centre and March 17-18 at Pinestone. She said after a concerted effort to reach high-priority workers like first responders, some vaccines were offered to the next groups on the list. That included workers at places like grocery stores and banks.

But Plummer said HHHS was asked to hold off on this approach, as not all communities in the health unit district had completed phase one vaccinations.

"All parties are learning and improving processes as we proceed in order to ensure that all priority

populations have access, in priority sequence, as directed by the Ministry of Health," Plummer said.

The health unit said the vaccine priority list is decided by the province, with medical first responders on a high priority within phase one. Chronic homecare patients are the last group on the phase one list and the health unit said it is working to reach them.

"As the HKPRDHU covers a large geographic region, there may need to be a variety of options provided to meet the needs of residents," the health unit said in an email.

Acting medical officer of health, Dr. Ian Gemmill, said the Pinestone clinic giving doses to people further down the list was a minor error. But he added no one will be left behind in getting a vaccine.

"People are kind of overly sensitive about what might be called queue-jumping, but I can honestly tell you that I am not aware of any situation

in which this would have been done intentionally," Gemmill said. "I am completely willing to forgive people and to say let's just get on with more immunization rather than fuss or worry about it ... Everybody is headed to get vaccine if they want it and it will only be a matter of a few weeks."

With respect to homecare patients, Gemmill said they will be able to contact the health unit for a link to book with the provincial system. A step-by-step guide is being added to the health unit's website.

But Baker said his wife should not have to wait.

"She should be getting it now," Baker said. "She should be prioritized."

Vaccination appointments are currently available for people born in 1946 or earlier using the provincial booking system. The system is available at [Ontario.ca/bookvaccine](https://ontario.ca/bookvaccine) or call 1-888-999-6488.



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Highlander news



Haliburton Highlands Health Services had 25 employees on the list, including 15 registered nurses. *File.*

Sunshine list sees bumps in health and education

By Lisa Gervais

The province said hospitals, boards of health and school boards contributed to almost three-quarters of the growth in 2020 public sector salaries.

In releasing the so-called sunshine list March 19 - of employees making \$100,000 or more - the Ontario government said registered nurses contributed to approximately 60 per cent of the jump in the hospital and public health sectors while teachers accounted for 97 per cent of the increase in the school board sector.

"We know that Ontarians are relying on their government now, more than ever, during this pandemic to keep them safe and deliver the critical services they rely on, like health care and education," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, president of the Treasury Board and Minister of Finance.

Hospitals and public health are up 59 per cent from 2019 and school boards 55 per cent. The average reported salary decreased slightly to \$125,871 in 2020 from \$127,396 in 2019.

Locally, it isn't always easy to break out Haliburton County figures from regional organizations, such as the Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB). It had 181 employees on the list.

The Highlander asked TLDSB spokesperson, Catherine Shedden, to provide information on Haliburton County schools but she declined, saying "we do not provide a breakdown of schools and area."

However, the majority of school principals in Haliburton County made the list, including the high school's Chris Boulay, J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School's David Waito, Archie Stouffer's Jane Austin and Wilberforce and Cardiff's Elaine Fournier.

Fleming College president Maureen Adamson was marked as having made \$292,367.34

As for the Haliburton-based health unit

office, spokesperson Chandra Tremblay confirmed there is no one working in that office included on the list. The biggest salary regionally was former HKPR medical officer of health, Dr. Lynn Noseworthy, at \$406,153.75.

Haliburton Highlands Health Services has 25 people on the list. President and CEO Carolyn Plummer topped it with a salary of \$207,191.57. There are also 15 registered nurses.

Plummer said there are six new individuals on the list this year, all related to COVID-19.

The Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team also had a nurse practitioner named.

In the municipal sector, there were 20 employees paid more than \$100,000.

The County of Haliburton accounted for 11 with Mike Rutter the top earner at \$169,972.73. Other directors on the list are: Andrea Bull, Craig Douglas, Mike March, Elaine Taylor, Tim Waite, Amanda Virtanen and Charley White. There are also three paramedics.

Dysart et al has three: CAO Tamara Wilbee, treasurer Barbara Swannell and director of public works, Rob Camelon. Algonquin Highlands has three: CAO Angie Bird, treasurer Jean Hughes and director of parks, recreation and trails, Chris Card. Minden Hills has two: director of finance, Lorrie Blanchard and director of public works, Travis Wilson. Highlands East has just CAO Shannon Hunter.

The Haliburton Highlands detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police, meanwhile, had 19 uniform members on the list.

The Highlander may have missed others on the list.

The Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act 1996 requires organizations that receive public funding from the province to make public the names, positions, salaries and taxable benefits of employees paid \$100,000 or more in the previous calendar year by March 31 of the following year.



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DYSART ET AL NEWS

Landfill hours finalized

Dysart et al council finalized an overhaul of its landfill hours March 23.

The municipality is implementing a range of changes to hours in a bid to save more than \$17,000 and respond to traffic counts. Alterations include Kennisis Lake losing Saturday openings in the winter, Harcourt losing Thursday winter hours and West Bay losing Tuesday hours, in addition to other shifts.

Council is also keeping all landfills open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sundays in a bid to allow cottagers to dispose of waste later in the day before they depart.

Council also voted to continue collecting yard waste but with added fees, as opposed to banning its collection. Bagged yard waste in paper bags will be \$2 per bag, loose waste under one cubic yard will be \$15 and over that will be \$30 per cubic yard. Yard waste in plastic bags will not be accepted.



Three lake associations seek to implement 50km/h speed limits in their communities. *File photo*

Council voted to receive the report and have staff return with more information on the costs and work associated with the initiative.

"It's long overdue," Coun. Walt McKechnie said.

Milfoil," DSLPOA vice-president Jim Miners said. "They don't want it on their waterfront so they're helping get rid of it." Council voted to direct staff to work with the DSLPOA and report back.

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Lake associations seek speed limits

Three lake associations are banding together to create 50 km/hr speed limits throughout their communities.

The Haliburton Lake Cottagers Association (HLCA), the Percy Lake Ratepayers Association and the Fort Irwin Residents Association presented to council about the proposal. They seek to have their respective areas become 50 km/hr via bylaw. The limit proposed is based on the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, which suggests a 50 km/hr speed limit on any highway within a local municipality "or within a built-up area."

HLCA representative Dave Freeman said with more people moving into the area year-round, there has been a noticeable impact on traffic and speed.

War against invasive species continues

The Drag and Spruce Lake Property Owners' Association (DSLPOA) sought support for a municipal-wide battle against Eurasian Milfoil.

The organization has worked to combat Eurasian Milfoil - an underwater plant that can harm fish and other lake life - over the past couple of years in its lake. It has raised more than \$40,000 to continue its efforts combatting it this summer.

DSLPOA asked the municipality to add signage about it at Dysart's 30 boat launches. They also asked for a possible unspecified donation, which they said could be needed to sustain the battle on an ongoing basis.

"We have an army of people who understand how to find Eurasian

Septic reinspection changes complete

Council finalized a new septic reinspection program utilizing the private company WSP to oversee it.

Ratepayers will have to pay WSP \$228 for inspections, \$243 for a priority inspection, plus taxes. Property owners may have a third-party firm to do the inspection instead, though must pay WSP \$130 plus taxes to review the inspection report and ensure compliance.

The new bylaw removes the mandatory pump-out provision previously included. Instead, pump-outs will only be mandated in specific cases based on the inspection. (*Dysart et al news compiled by Joseph Quigley, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*).

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Highlander news

Rogers wins contract to bridge regional cellular gap

By Joseph Quigley
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Rogers Communications will deliver a more than \$300 million project to improve cellular connectivity throughout the region. The Eastern Ontario Regional Network (EORN) announced March 19 that Rogers was the successful bidder for its Cell Gap project. The initiative aims to provide better service in Eastern Ontario, especially in dead zones, over the next five years, with goals of 99 per cent having cellular calling, 95 per cent having coverage for video and applications, and 85 per cent having high-definition video streaming.

Minden Hills mayor and EORN board member, Brent Devolin, said it is a big win for the area.

“I’m a techie. This is like winning the Super Bowl, the Stanley Cup playoffs, the Indy 500 all in one,” Devolin said. “It is a game-changer.”

Rogers announced it was investing more than \$150 million, greater than the \$61 million minimum EORN originally proposed for private investment. That is on top of a \$71 million contributions from both the federal and provincial governments, and \$10 million from municipalities.

“We understand this is no longer nice to have, it’s a need,” Rogers for Business and Connected Home president, Dean Prevost, said. “Our focus is to build true local partnerships as we bring this project to

life over the next five years and beyond. I couldn’t be more excited to get started.”

Prevost said the initiative includes improved capacity on existing towers and adding 300 new towers to expand coverage. EORN expects construction to start this spring. But Devolin said the timeline for what areas would get towers first, and when, is still being finalized.

Prevost said besides addressing dead zones, there should also be improved service to urban areas such as small towns.

“A larger capacity in terms of the data we can carry, and also it creates a lower-latency environment,” Prevost said. “It’s as much for business, municipalities and towns as it is for its incredible reach.”

Devolin said there should be a complete timeline provided before the end of the year, with improvements happening within 2021. He said board members in the poorest-served areas will push to have those spots addressed sooner.

“We’d love to know all the answers today, but it’s just not possible yet,” Devolin said. “It’s never going to be fast enough for all concerned.”

EORN also has a separate, \$1.2-\$1.6 billion proposal to bring one gigabit-per-second internet speed throughout the region, which it submitted March 1. It has asked for both provincial and federal funding for that. Provincial Minister of Infrastructure, Laurie Scott, and federal Minister of Rural Economic Development, Maryam Monsef,



Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott, next to Highlands East Mayor Dave Burton and County Warden Liz Danielsen, speaks about a regional cell gap project. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

both said there would be news to come.

“We’re taking their proposal very seriously,” Monsef said. “Our communities are counting on us and there’s immense economic potential to be unleashed.”

“From businesses to our economy to schools, it just means everything to all of us,” County Warden Liz Danielsen said about the cell gap project. “It’s truly a good day for Haliburton County.”



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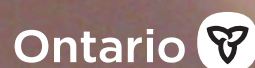
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Trillium Lakelands District School Board seeks Audit Committee Members

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) is currently seeking community members with financial expertise and business knowledge to serve on the Audit Committee for a three-year term, effective September 2021.

The Audit Committee is comprised of three trustees and two independent members selected from the community at large. The role of the committee is to assist the Board of Trustees in fulfilling its duties related to governance and oversight in the following key areas: financial reporting process, internal control framework, risk management practices, performance and function of the Board's internal and external auditors, and the Board's compliance. The Audit Committee meets at least three times a year.

Candidate eligibility:

- Sufficient accounting, senior financial management, or other relevant business experience to understand public sector accounting and auditing standards.
- Not an employee of TLDSB or any other school board or school authority.
- Not have a parent, child, or spouse currently employed by TLDSB.

Interested candidates are asked to submit a cover letter, resume, and three professional references by **4 p.m. on May 14, 2021** to:

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Highlander news

Community outcry alters arena vaccine plan

By Joseph Quigley

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Dysart et al is shortening the amount of time its A.J. LaRue Arena will be used as a COVID-19 vaccination centre in response to public outcry.

The municipality announced the clinic March 18 and said it would close all bookings from March 20 to the end of September. The next day, the municipality changed course and said it would only run from April 5 to June 12 before a new location is found.

The initial announcement prompted community outrage, with people concerned about summer ice and the start of the next minor hockey season.

Mayor Andrea Roberts said the initial proposal was accepted at the request of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPR).

"We are all trying to do the right thing and get everyone vaccinated, so Dysart's EOC (emergency operation centre) group said yes. Thankfully, the decision was re-evaluated," Roberts said.

The health unit is preparing the A.J. LaRue Arena and the S.G. Nesbitt Arena in Minden as the County vaccination centres, with both expected to be ready in early April. The health unit is also working on pop-up clinics, including one for first responders at the Pinestone Resort March 18, which Roberts said could be part of a viable alternative.



Local youth gathered outside the A.J. LaRue Arena for a demonstration March 22. Left to right: Chase Winder, Lexie Tait, Autumn Winder, Tyler McGovern, Darian Maddock, Nick Phippen, Colin Glecoff, Tyler Martin, Braedyn Robinson, Benjamin Robinson.

Photo by Joseph Quigley.

"Everyone is working so hard to ensure we have places so we can all get our vaccine. With more temperature-stable vaccines, the possibility of pharmacies administering, and the S.G. Nesbitt centre booked, there are other options this summer," Roberts said.

Local youth held a demonstration outside the Haliburton arena March 22, initially intended as a protest but shifted to a celebration after the municipality's decision.

Organizer and camp owner Greg Sadlier said people mobilized quickly to respond, with a petition garnering 75 signatures. He added the municipality needs to consider

and consult youth more in the future.

"The youth came to me, and they said, 'what can we do about this? How can we change this?'" Sadlier said. "For the youth to see something work so effectively, to see a way that they could make their voices heard in a substantial way, is really amazing to see."

Highland Storm president, Jason Morissette, said the next season would be delayed under the previous timeline, which might have meant the Storm would not play against other teams in the region if that becomes allowed.

"Our community, it's not like we have

tons and tons of organized activities that are here for youth," Morissette said. "We wanted an arena available for everybody, not just for hockey ... We really appreciate their (Dysart's) understanding."

The initial proposal would have also meant the end of summer ice, utilized in summer camp programming by Hockey Haven. Owner Troy Binnie welcomed the municipality changing course.

"It would have been a tough situation to try to run a hockey camp without hockey," Binnie said. "We are thankful for all the community support and town council support to have the decision reversed."

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Editorial opinion

TheHighlander

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Don't confuse Facebook with fact

When it comes to vaccinating Haliburton County residents against COVID-19, public health must not only follow all provincially-mandated guidelines but must also be transparent so there is no opportunity for members of the public to cast aspersions on the rollout.

There have been grumbles among the masses about a perceived clandestine clinic operating out of the Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre. We received one letter from a reader complaining it was done under the radar with no public announcements.

He was not wrong as we have only had official word this week about so-called pop-up clinics, including at places such as the Pinestone.

This led the letter writer and others to speculate. While surely for frontline workers, they heard of non-frontline workers being vaccinated, including two retirees and two in their 40s who weren't even residents.

Others grumbled upon hearing bank workers were getting the jab and employees of some social service agencies.

Unfortunately, it is the type of speculation that will occur when health officials are not completely transparent about what is going on locally. There are accusations of queue jumping, and questioning local officials.

Other stories of some local seniors being offered appointments in Peterborough, Lindsay and Bracebridge are concerning.

It's a tough one. Local health officials are in a flux position. They are making plans that are literally changing all of the time. Informed about a batch of expiring vaccines, they have made quick calls to volunteer firefighters for example. Some get a call about availability and are vaccinated within a few hours. Publicly advertising what they are doing isn't always front and centre in their minds.

In a similar vein, likely no one predicted the backlash that would occur over the announcement that the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton would be used as a vaccination clinic from March to September. However, youth proponents quickly said this was not a good idea. With ice out it meant a delayed start to the Highland Storm Minor Hockey Association season and threatened Hockey Haven's summer camp. Why not use the Haliburton Legion they asked. In the end, Dysart et al listened to the concerns, spoke with the health unit, and scaled back the clinic dates so as not to be so disruptive of the summer ice season. They will find an alternate location.

While we implore public health to do its best to anticipate public reaction and factor that into its decision-making, we also

appeal to the public to be patient.

Public health officials are making decisions day-by-day based on circumstances largely out of their control. They are doing their best to get needles in arms in hopes of having all of us vaccinated by the end of summer. They are not sitting about scheming how they can get their friends and family vaccinated before everyone else.

Under the leadership of acting medical officer of health, Dr. Ian Gemmill, the health unit has done a very good job of getting its message across. Gemmill has hosted public forms and holds a media briefing once a week. It's the best press access we have had in my time with *The Highlander*.

We encourage the public to go to him and other trusted sources to get their information, including mainstream media locally, rather than riding the rumour train and confusing fact with Facebook.

It's been a very long year for all of us and once again we have to pull together for the betterment of the community.



By Lisa Gervais

COVID CORNER

Trusting the science

I'm looking around the world and see vaccination rates vary from country to country. More than 448 million vaccine doses have been administered worldwide, equal to 5.8 doses for every 100 people, globally.

But there is a large discrepancy among countries. Israel continues to be vaccinating faster than any other country, with 109 vaccines delivered per 100 citizens as of March 22 (58 per cent have received one shot and 50 per cent have had both shots and are fully vaccinated). Canada has given 11.74 shots per 100 people (9.9 per cent have received first dose, and 1.9 per cent have received second dose). While some countries have not yet given even a single dose.

Most countries seem to be prioritizing fully vaccinating people. For example, the US has given 38 shots per 100 people, with 25 per cent having one shot and 13 per cent having had two shots. Britain has had a different approach, focused on broadly vaccinating the population with one shot. They have completed 41 doses per 100 people, with 38 per cent having had one shot and only 2.6 per cent of the population fully vaccinated. By maximizing the number of people with one vaccine, and delaying the second shot by three months, they have broader mass protection.

What our science tells us so far is the

second vaccine will increase your immunity by only about 10 per cent in the first few months. The purpose of the second shot is to provide longer immunity. How long, we don't know. But we do know that a single shot provides strong protection now, and for at least a few months. Experts are in agreement that delaying the second shot will diminish the ultimate effectiveness by only a negligible amount.

Is Britain's approach working? Since early January, the daily number of new cases in Britain has fallen by more than 90 per cent. This is a larger drop than in almost all countries. Especially impressive given that the B.1.1.7 variant is their dominant strain and is more contagious than the original strain. Deaths continue to plummet in Britain. And they are using the Astra Zeneca vaccine, with no increase in diagnosed blood clots, and despite its slightly less effectiveness than Moderna and Pfizer, the British population is clearly reaping the benefit.

In contrast, worldwide, the number of confirmed COVID cases has increased 21 per cent in the past month.

People who study disease transmission use a term called the "R nought" (R0) to describe how contagious a disease is. It refers to the reproduction number of a disease. The number placed behind the R indicates how many people are likely to

be infected by one individual with the disease.

For measles, the R0 is 12-18, meaning it is very contagious, as one individual can infect 18 others. If the R0 is greater than one, then each person is infecting more than one other individual and the disease will continue to increase in the population.

In Britain now, the R0 for COVID-19 is less than one, meaning the infection is no longer spreading. (Annual influenza has an R0 of 0.9-2.1).

In Ontario, as of March 18, the reproduction number (R0) for the new COVID variants of concern (the more contagious strains with the N501Y mutation) is 1.25, and the R0 for other variants without this concerning mutation is 1.07. Anything above one indicates exponential increase in growth, and the higher the number, the faster the infection will transmit. We are in a race to get as many people vaccinated as possible before these more contagious variants are widely circulating.

Stay tuned to all the fact-based resources for how to get swabbed (tested) and how to get vaccinated.



By Dr. Nell Thomas

HAVE AN OPINION? Send your letters to editor@thehighlander.ca (300 words max)

Editorial opinion

LETTERS

Emergencies are where rights are won and lost

Dear editor,

By creating a local environmental fake emergency - pushing fear, panic and suspect conclusions - we are all being led down the proverbial garden path by our local political leaders who seem handcuffed and hostages by local enviro alarmist infiltrators.

The resulting pending loss of our shoreline property rights of use will be a watershed moment that could easily end up as just the first domino to fall once government has increased its control of your shoreline paradise.

You have to wonder and ask yourself, why our local authorities are so hell bent on making the shoreline bylaw into a noose around your cottage necks? Council and staff have seen and felt huge resistance building and they had their chance recently after seeing this writing on the wall to totally pull the plug on this unfolding costly disaster.

Surely council and their highly-paid staff must know that their enviro case is weak on the merits and would not stand in the courts when challenged by top litigators and their expert enviro witnesses. When the enviro merits are debunked in court, the rationale for such an historic land grab will crash and burn.

Why in their supposed pending doom emergency, are the Ontario and Federal governments not leading on this?

In fact, the higher governments are conspicuously publicly absent as far as we know. So curious, since these upper governments have teams of scientists and staffers compiling mountains of enviro data covering all Ontario and Canada - including right here in Haliburton.

If those full-time career enviro experts had seen real danger here, they would be duty bound to identify and share the risks and be part of the solution, should a dramatic enviro change of course here (or anywhere

else) be required.

As the saying goes, when you turn the lights on, you see who is swimming naked.

*David Hopkins Howe
Minden Hills*

Well done, team

Dear editor,

A big well done to all those who worked on Monday's COVID vaccine roll-out at the Family Medical Centre in Haliburton.

Everyone - from the greeter in the parking lot, to the staff registering, to the nurse giving the shot, to those directing us to Shannon in the 20-minute waiting station - led us through this unique event, all the while smiling through their masks.

Well done team. You made Haliburton proud.

*Ruth and Doug Mitchell
Haliburton*

COVID-19 clinic kudos

Dear editor,

May we express our sincere congratulations to the organizers of the COVID-19 clinic for over 80s held in the Haliburton Family Medical Centre.

We were in attendance on Monday, the first day, and were thoroughly impressed by the efficiency and pleasant attitudes of all staff during the visit.

After seeing on TV so many line-ups and long waits people have endured further south, our treatment in Haliburton was exemplary, a most enjoyable experience from start to finish.

Kudos to everyone for a job well done. Thank you all.

*Susan and Bill Beers
Minden*

A shot in the arm

By the time you read this, and if everything goes according to plan, I should be basking in the afterglow of my first COVID-19 vaccination.

Just having the Wednesday appointment confirmed has lifted a cloud from our lives. Not that we were challenging the virus to a wrestling match or that we found ourselves on the frontlines as so many have over the past year and continue to do.

No, our routine has become fairly subdued since last March. All meetings are online and the few face-to-face encounters with friends and family have been carefully choreographed masked balls full of excessive caution with the pungent odour of hand sanitizer lingering in the air.

I can report the online registration experience was smooth and without a hitch. Being the eager type, I attempted to

log in around 8:30 on Monday morning. The 75-80 cohort was not listed as an option, but shortly thereafter it was offered and I was in. The form requested some preliminary information and presto I was in a queue. It seems I wasn't the only one chomping at the bit as I was registrant number 206,494.

The good news, the system reported there was an approximate 36-minute wait time. We have all heard that before, "your call is important to us, blah, blah", but in this case, the line moved at a brisk pace and within less than 30 minutes I had secured the vaccination appointments for my wife and I. The confirmation numbers and QR codes arrived in my email inbox and we were done, including the appointments for the second shot in July.

A tip of the hat to those people responsible

for the reservation system. I found it user-friendly, especially for someone of a certain age. Presumably they were able to work out all the kinks registering the over 80 crowd.

I am reminded however, even with the jab, I likely won't be running off to Florida to join the March break parties happening there, despite the numerous invitations flooding my inbox. It will still be a time for masks and distancing and hand washing while the serum kicks in. It usually takes a couple of weeks for the benefits to take hold. As well, the vaccination does not make one immune; it just reduces the severity of the complications if in fact I contract the virus.

The experts also say, despite the vaccination, a person could acquire the disease immediately after the vaccination and transmit it to others. All the more

reasons for continued caution as we all wait for herd immunity to be reached ... a delightfully descriptive term that firmly marks our place amongst the fauna of the world.

So, while we seem to be turning a corner in this long road back from lockdowns, seeing relatives and grandkids online and confusing business restrictions, we still have a way to go before approaching something close to what we think as normal. But I think, we have indeed started down that road.



By Jack Brezina

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Tammy Nash sent this photo a barred owl on their satellite dish in Algonquin Highlands.

Highlander news

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ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS NEWS

Septic re-inspection plan approved

In consultation with contractor WSP Canada, the Township of Algonquin Highlands has its plan for this year's septic re-inspection program.

The strategy calls for doing Zone C properties not completed in 2020 due to COVID. They will also do a Zone D voluntary program for the Kawagama Lake region.

Interim chief building official, Greg Moore, said "In consideration of council's request, WSP, has provided a hybrid option in an effort to facilitate council's intent while keeping the program on track for a timely completion."

Next year he said the balance of Zone D will be finished with the properties that don't volunteer this year.

Deputy Mayor Liz Danielsen said, "I think it sounds reasonable. We did put a bit of a hybrid to them and they've responded telling us what they think they can manage."

Dorset ice palace picked for possible grant

Councillors picked the Dorset ice palace for a Canada Healthy Communities Initiative funding opportunity.

Director of parks, recreation and trails, Chris Card, said eligible projects can receive between \$5,000 and \$250,000. Council must apply by June 25 with completion by June 30, 2022.

The other possibility was the Oxtongue Lake Community Centre swing set installation and property improvements. However, CAO Angie Bird said they could pursue accessibility funding for that project.

Card said it wouldn't just be for the outdoor rink, but a multipurpose court for tennis, basketball and pickleball.

Danielsen said the Dorset project "seemed to offer more for the broader community, both kids and adults."

Card said they would work with Lake of Bays and the Dorset Lions Club on the application.

People like online offerings

Card said online events and workshops had been proving popular at the township.

He said some, such as the recent carve your own amulet, had sold out, and the township is getting positive feedback on others, such as a beginner's quilters workshop. There is also chair yoga, regular yoga, Zumba and a ladies' toning class, he said.

Mayor Carol Moffatt queried what might happen when COVID ends, as she said online programming provides access to those who might otherwise not participate in-person.

Card said COVID had presented opportunities though necessity, and online programming was one example. He said



Algonquin Highlands council met on March 18. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

he would be curious to see post-COVID attendance numbers.

Coun. Jennifer Dailloux said while thrilled to hear numbers are up for online workshops and classes, the township has "great" buildings and community centres costing taxpayers money, which makes her fear the online success somewhat.

No issues with landfills, lagoon

Environmental co-ordinator, Melissa Murray, presented annual monitoring reports for the Maple Lake, Hawk Lake, Pine Springs, and Oxtongue Lake waste disposal sites, the McClintock Septage lagoon, and a biennial report for the Dorset waste disposal site.

Murray said there was nothing to worry about at any of the sites.

Moffatt noted a leachate seep at Maple Lake "seems to be percolating and travelling in a different way." While falling within guidelines, she asked if it was of concern.

Murray said no, since it is contained within attenuation zones and having no impact.

Murray noted that Hawk Lake is working towards final closure for March 2023.

Moffatt said she would be interested to see the impact on other landfills with Dorset closed and Hawk Lake soon closing.

It was noted that Pine Springs has a site life of more than 100 years.

Murray said use of the lagoon was down in 2020 and they did some sledge sampling last year.

Moffatt said she was "glad that our landfills are consistently in such great shape" attributing that to staff, consultants and council.

Waste Wizard to be hand held

Council approved an amendment to an existing agreement with ReCollect for provision of a multi-community Waste Wizard subscription to include a mobile

application.

"We've had our website up now for almost two years and this will be the addition of a mobile app that people can download on their mobile devices and have instant access," Murray said.

Moffatt said she'll be curious to see how much usage increases.

Council also approved the township entering into a partnership agreement with the Municipality of Dysart et al to share the costs.

Money for fire department

Fire chief Michael French learned on March 11 that the fire department is getting \$5,100 from the Office of the Fire Marshall to assist in addressing challenges associated with training and virtual inspections due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

French said they will use the money to purchase computer systems for the three fire stations, on North Shore Road, in Dorset and at Oxtongue Lake.

He said the systems would be used by firefighters for online training now that the Ontario Fire College in Gravenhurst is closing.

The department was also approved for \$89,000 to purchase a compressor fill station to fill its self-contained breathing apparatus.

Modernization restart update

Treasurer Jean Hughes said the township has a balance of \$172,345 in modernization funding.

She said it would go towards other projects "as council so wishes."

She added COVID is "costing us but at least we are doing what we can and we have seen some increases in revenues as well because of activities, such as trails, which has helped our case immensely." (Algonquin Highlands news compiled by Lisa Gervais)

Highlander news

HIGHLANDS EAST NEWS

Bell tower proposed for Wilberforce

Bell is proposing a 100m telecommunications tower for the Wilberforce area.

The site is located at the top of the hill between Clark Hill Road and Loop Road.

Highlands East CAO Shannon Hunter said Bell approached them seeking any concerns from the township before public communication.

"If council is okay with what you've been presented with, they will put advertisements in the local papers. They're also do a mail out to the individuals around the area. Hopefully this is just the first step to meeting many of our challenges in this area," she said.

She predicted there would be multiple towers soon coming the township's way.

Mayor Dave Burton said he had heard talk of a possible snowmobile trail in the proposed area. Hunter said she would have Bell look into that and report back to council.

Deputy Mayor Cec Ryall noted the tower was different than the EORN cell gap project with Rogers announced March 19.

"This is nothing but great news for Highlands East. We're being definitely

considered in the one (cell gap with Rogers) ... and we're also going to be mentioned in the other one (for broadband) if and when that comes to play which is supposed to be later in 2021. So, this is awesome news especially with the challenges we have had with COVID. We certainly need broadband."

Pool work postponed

Council has deferred work on the Cardiff pool change rooms.

They elected to postpone for a season and to reissue the tender.

It came about after successful bidder, Royalty General Construction Ltd., submitted substantial changes to the already \$130,788 budgeted for the project. The hike included a concrete slab foundation.

Hunter said it was beyond the scope of the original tender. Council repealed the awarding of the tender.

"We think we will be able to get another season out of our current changerooms"

Hunter said. "So, the plan is that we are currently going to have drawings prepared and a material list prepared and go out for a tender again as soon as those two things are done," she said. *(Highlands East news compiled by Lisa Gervais)*

OPP NEWS

Collision leads to injury

OPP attended a single-vehicle collision March 18 which caused one man to be sent to hospital.

Haliburton Highlands OPP said they responded at 9:15 a.m. to the collision near Billings Lake Road, with the lone vehicle striking a tree. The incident occurred on County Road 503 east of Gooderham.

The driver of the 4-door blue 2014 Lincoln MKH was airlifted to a Toronto-area hospital with serious injuries.

County Road 503 between County Road 507 and Tory Hill was closed by road crews while the OPP Technical Traffic Collision Investigators investigated at the scene. The cause of the crash is still under investigation.

Police are looking for additional witnesses and encourage people to

contact Haliburton Highlands OPP at 705-286-1431 or 1-888-310-1122. You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or online at stopcrimehere.ca.

Successful search

OPP were called to Glebe Park to search for a missing person March 17.

Haliburton Highlands detachment acting staff Sgt. Dan Collings said officers, the OPP Emergency Response Team and canine were involved in the search, which also included parts of the Head Lake area.

He said the concurrent investigation resulted in the missing male being located safe elsewhere in Haliburton County.



(OPP news compiled by Joseph Quigley, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter).

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Highlander news

Firefighters get training in frozen lake rescue

By Joseph Quigley

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

After years of delay, Highlands East and Dysart et al fire departments received ice and water rescue training at Head Lake March 20.

The Algonquin Highlands Fire Department taught the course. A handful of firefighters – four from Highlands East and six from Dysart et al – were instructed on how to conduct rescues on frozen lakes. The course is required for the departments to perform such rescues should someone get in trouble on the ice.

Instructor and Algonquin Highlands firefighter George Sharp said it is an important skill for County departments given the number of lakes in the area.

“We’ve got people, ratepayers and visitors spending time out on the ice,” Sharp said. “Need to be able to support the visitors and the locals when they get into trouble.”

The training comes after the Office of the Fire Marshall announced Jan. 13 it was closing the physical Ontario Fire College building to push a locally-based model. The college had also stalled for years putting out an approved ice-and-water rescue course over a 2017 inquest into two Ontario firefighters who died in that type of training. Departments such as Highlands East waited for an approved course before proceeding to train.

That college course was set to go in

spring 2020 – the first since 2014 – but was sidelined by the pandemic. But the course became deliverable this year and firefighters organized an in-house course, using instructors from Algonquin Highlands who had maintained training, Highlands East fire chief Christ Baughman said.

Highlands East is covering ice rescue costs using a community GoFundMe from 2017, which raised more than \$20,000 after the death of cottager Bob Bell, who fell through the ice on Dark Lake.

Baughman said they plan to train four more personnel in the fall so that each station would have one or two capable of starting a rescue before more backup arrives. After that, he plans to have the municipality modify its bylaws to include ice and water rescue by next winter.

“It’s a great success for us to be able to add this service, not only for the safety of our firefighters but the community,” Baughman said. “Something we weren’t able to do in the past. Now with the proper training, a firefighter won’t have to make a difficult decision or do something uninformed and ill-equipped.”

Dysart et al fire chief Mike Iles said his department has maintained ice rescue in its service, but it had been many years since it had been able to get new training while it waited an approved course.

“It was great to be working with several departments. The training itself was very informative and very worthwhile,” Iles said.



Firefighters walk on Head Lake during training March 20. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

Sharp said the course included classroom time for theory, as well as practical time on the ice. Participants wore wetsuits and entered the icy waters of Head Lake, performing different techniques.

Algonquin Highlands has maintained the rescue training for years, Sharp said. But

he added it is more cost-effective to study with other departments, which is happening more often.

“The municipalities in the last two or three years are working more cooperatively than they have in the last decade. Things are going in the right direction,” Sharp said.

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Highlander health

Health Unit multi-tasking during pandemic

By Kirk Winter

Despite priority being given to battling the COVID-19 pandemic, the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit is meeting its other mandates of providing essential Ontario public health programming.

Acting medical officer of health, Dr. Ian Gemmill, told the March 18 board meeting that, "Although approximately 80 per cent of the staff at the HKPRDHU are fully engaged in pandemic response, there are essential services that local public health agencies provide that must continue regardless. Many programs continue to operate."

These programs include:

- Providing support to the harm reduction response, including naloxone distribution, needle exchange and opioid surveillance.
- Working on mental health promotion as well as supports related to infection protection and control needs and assessments within schools, in addition to COVID-19 related case and contact management.
- Providing support to parents and guardians through the Healthy Babies program.
- Monitoring for influenza activity.
- Conducting routine inspection of food premises and personal services settings.
- Preparing for flood season, for an increase

in the establishment of outdoor patios, and the opening of seasonal facilities including trailer parks, marinas, golf courses and beaches.

- Planning for tick surveillance activities.
- Conducting case and contact management for sexually transmitted infections.
- Providing emergency services to sexual health clinics.
- Following up on adverse events following immunizations.

Dr. Gemmill also shared that the initial phase of the launch of a new collaborative health record (CHR) system, Click and Connect, for the HKPRDHU went live March 8.

"The new system focuses on improving the exchange of information between local residents and COVID-19 Call Centre staff during this pandemic. People can visit the HKPRDHU website to submit their COVID-19 questions to staff. Anyone with a commonly-asked question will be provided information and links to additional resources, while those submitting other questions will receive responses directly from other health unit staff. Click and Connect is a safe, secure way for people to reach the health unit ... and helps streamline inquiries so staff can respond quickly," Gemmill said.

He added that after the pandemic, the system will be expanded to improve access to other programs and services.

Health board hears immunization plan

COVID-19 immunization rates at Haliburton County facilities are universally high with 100 per cent of residents at Extencicare Haliburton, 96.6 per cent at Highland Wood and 91.1 per cent at Hyland Crest having received at least their first dose of vaccine, health unit manager of health promotion, Lorna McCleary, told the board.

McCleary and Marianne Rock, manager of health protection, said in phase one the priority has been vaccinating the most vulnerable. Those groups included residents, staff and essential caregivers at long-term care homes and retirement homes, health care workers including paramedics, Indigenous adults living on-reserve and individuals receiving home care.

The next phase, adults 80 and older, staff, residents and caregivers in other congregate settings for seniors such as assisted living, is underway.

To ensure the vaccination program is as widespread as possible, HKPRDHU is partnering with area hospitals, primary care medical doctors, pharmacists and municipalities to host mass immunization clinics.

In Haliburton County, they'll use the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden and the



The Haliburton office of the HKPR district health unit. *File.*

A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton.

"Supply of vaccine will remain limited over the next few weeks," McCleary and Rock said, "We are looking at about 5,000 doses a week being available. We will follow the provincial direction for eligibility over time. The provincial goal is to have all adults immunized with the first dose by the end of June with the second dose coming in the summer of 2021."

In phase two, running from April to July, priority will be given to older adults 65-79, people who live and work in high-risk congregate settings, essential frontline workers who cannot work from home, individuals with high-risk chronic conditions, and communities at risk.

INFORMATION PAGE

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(Virtual) Council Meetings

Council and Committee of the Whole meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference and Closed Session meetings via teleconference, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted.

The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

March 25 – Regular Council Meeting
March 25 – Adoption of 2021 Budget
April 8 – Committee of the Whole Meeting
April 8 – Fees and Charges Public Meeting

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.

Budget Approval Notice: Adoption of 2021 Budget

TAKE NOTICE that Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills during its Regular Council meeting held on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 9:00 AM via web conference will consider adopting the following By-laws related to the 2021 Municipal Budget:

- 2021 Budget for the Minden Cemetery Board;
- 2021 Minden Water Rates By-law;
- 2021 Minden Sewer Rates By-law;
- 2021 Lutterworth Water Rates By-law; and
- 2021 Estimates By-law

Dated this 22nd day of March, 2021.

Trisha McKibbin, CAO/Clerk
705-286-1260 ext. 505 tmckibbin@mindenhills.ca

Notice: Public Meeting Fees and Charges

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, April 8, 2021 during its Committee of the Whole Meeting via web conference regarding its Fees and Charges By-law. More information will be provided on the Township's website at a later date.

Dated this 22nd day of March, 2021.

Trisha McKibbin, CAO/Clerk
705-286-1260 ext. 505 tmckibbin@mindenhills.ca

Request for Tenders

Request For Rates RFR #RDS 21-03

for the Supply, Delivery and Spreading of Liquid Calcium Chloride for Minden Hills, Algonquin Highlands, Dysart et al and County of Haliburton.

Submission deadline is March 30, 2021 by 12:00 noon.

Request For Proposal #RDS 21-04

for the provision of One 4x4 Crew Cab, Chassis with Dual Rear Wheels and Aluminum Dump Box with Snow Plow.

Submission Deadline is April 6, 2021 by 12:00 noon.

Visit www.mindenhills.ca/tenders/ for more information and to download the tender documents.

Waste Reduction Tip

Buy and sell items in good condition using online classified services. Be sure to meet your seller or buyer in a public place.

Employment Opportunity

Community Services Clerical Assistant

Reporting to the Director of Community Services, this position provides clerical and administrative support and is responsible for Cemetery sales, bookings, records management and client services; and general administration functions related to departmental operations including facility bookings, accounts payable and accounts receivable. This is a full time, union position, based on a thirty-five (35) hour work week being Monday to Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. The current rate of pay is \$23.69/hour as per LOCAL 4286 Collective Agreement. Earnings will be subject to Union dues.

Deadline to apply is March 31, 2021 by 12:00 noon.

Please visit www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/ for details on how to apply and to download the complete posting and job description.

Employment Opportunity

Casual Operators

The Community Services Department is looking for Casual Operators to join their team. Casual Operators are responsible for the operation and maintenance of facilities, parks and cemeteries. Non-union. Hours are based on a maximum of 24 hours/week to a maximum of 48 hours every 2 weeks as well as for occasional special projects with hours being variable shifts. Rate of Pay is \$18.22/hour.

Please visit www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/ for details on how to apply and to download the complete posting and job description.

How to Apply: Email cover letter and resume to: sprentice@mindenhills.ca by April 9, 2021.

Highlander people

‘Leo’ remembered for dignity and grace

By Lisa Gervais

At the end of a video for Connected: Our Land Our Stories, Leopoldina Dobrzensky says, “people come and go but the land is forever.”

The woman affectionately known as “Leo” passed away March 18. She leaves a legacy that includes the Barnum Creek Nature Reserve; two works of historical non-fiction; a municipal impact as well as contributions to the local arts and literature scenes.

In an obituary on the Haliburton Community Funeral Home website, the family said they were mourning “this exceptional woman who overcame tremendous upheavals throughout her life and always with dignity and courage. Her generous and warm-hearted spirit found enjoyment in countless areas - but especially, in gardening, painting and in classical music.

“She loved and embraced the Haliburton Highlands - whose natural beauty and people inspired her to write two books on its history: *Fragments of a Dream* - *Pioneering in Dysart Township and Haliburton Village* and *They Worked and Prayed Together* - *Italians in Haliburton County*.

Leo and her husband, Jenda Dobrzensky, came to Canada with three children as refugees from the former Czechoslovakia in 1951. Initially they settled in Richmond Hills but after a visit to the Haliburton Highlands found scenery and people that reminded them of home. They purchased farmland just outside of Haliburton village.

In the Don Smith video that was produced by Sticks and Stones, Leo recalls the original farmhouse being inhabited by

racoons and snowmobilers driving through it. Surrounded by moose, bear, wolves, turtles, owls and frogs, she and Jenda set about making it a home and “they were the 10 happiest years of our married life.”

In the video she talks about being angry that not enough had been written about some of Haliburton County’s pioneering history so set about to correct that.

The Haliburton County Historical Society’s Larry Giles paid tribute, saying

they had lost a valuable supporter. “As a founding member, Leo was a guiding light in the early days of the Society. She willingly shared her stories and memories on numerous occasions. She will be greatly missed.”

Leo was also known for organizing and heading the Haliburton

Information Centre, while her love of literature and the arts led her in many directions: as a board member for outreach literacy at the John Howard Society and as a board member for the Guild of Fine Arts.

Perhaps the greatest gift of all was Leo and her daughter Margaret’s decision in 2018 to donate 600 acres to the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust.

The Land Trust’s Sheila Ziman said, “Margaret and Leo wanted to create a nature reserve for all to enjoy. They wished to name it Barnum Creek Nature Reserve. During the opening ceremonies on Oct. 15, 2020 Leo extolled people to come out and walk the property to get a dose of Vitamin N (nature).”

Ziman added, “Leo’s life wasn’t always easy and she suffered many hardships, from the death of a son and daughter to the

“People come and go but the land is forever.”

Leopoldina Dobrzensky



Leopoldina Dobrzensky during an interview with *The Highlander* in 2017. File photo.

upheaval of leaving Czechoslovakia after the war when she and her young family came to Canada as refugees.

“But Leo was resilient and had a dignity and grace that I will always remember. At 94, she still lived in her home and never left it without being impeccably dressed, greeting the world with curiosity, compassion, and a keen intelligence. She

was a wonderful woman and a fantastic role model for all who knew her. I will miss her.”

During her funeral March 24, Rev. Casmir Muobike of St. Anthony of Padua Church in Haliburton said she was also a woman of faith.

“She spent her life in humble service to God.”

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What's on

Fridays for Future makes a stop in Minden

By Lisa Gervais

Members of Concerned Citizens of Haliburton County (CCHC) gathered in Minden March 19 for a Fridays for Future (FFF) global day of climate action.

Brandishing signs, they stood on the town's main bridge over the Gull River and also walked into town.

Spokeswoman Bonnie Roe said it was part of worldwide activities with the theme of 'no more empty promises' from governments.

"All we hear is what will be done in 10, 15 and 25 years from now but that is too late. To quote the founding young activist of FFF Greta Thunberg, 'listen to the science, act on the science'."

Roe said they chose Minden to bring awareness to a different community in the County. They usually stage their events in Haliburton near the high school.

"The support was amazing with horns honking, street traffic thanking us and stopping to chat and some staff at Pharmasave coming out on the street to applaud us," Roe said.

She said that this year, due to COVID-19, many individuals and groups are also demonstrating virtually online.

She said people can place a sign on Facebook, in front of their home or at the end of their driveway.

"CCHC decided to be more visible but also follow current protocols for our yellow zone, which meant having only 25



Concerned Citizens of Haliburton County member Judy Paul and Dianne Hagerman, holding the globe, took part in the Fridays for Future global day of climate action March 19 in Minden. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

participants, wearing masks and standing six-feet apart.

"We notified the municipality of Minden Hills and detachment commander of the OPP, Liane Spong-Hooyenga.

"We had 12 participants, Douglas the dog, and 15 regrets so the interest is there. Previously we have had 25-40 attend so COVID-19 has definitely affected our turn out."

If anyone is interested in further demonstrations or CCHC they can email info@concernedcitizenshc.ca.

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Highlander sports



The Highland Storm ended its season March 18 after the municipality announced A.J. LaRue Arena was becoming a vaccination centre. *File photo.*

Storm’s ‘most challenging’ season ends early

By Joseph Quigley
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The Highland Storm announced March 18 its season would be ending prematurely with the A.J. LaRue arena due to become a COVID-19 vaccination centre.

The Storm announced that with the arena becoming a clinic at the start of April and bookings closing, the second part of the season would close more than a month early. This came after the organization had already put hockey on a two-week pause March 15 due to rising COVID-19 cases in the area.

Storm president Jason Morissette said it was bittersweet.

“You have to look at the positives. You

can’t be entirely negative about it,” he said, adding local hockey players got to be on the ice far more than any others in their region. “We really were kind of looking out for each other and making sure we tried to do the best job we could to keep kids on the ice as much as we could.”

The Storm faced plenty of hurdles operating amidst COVID-19. Only inter-league play was possible, with the pandemic disallowing travel. The pandemic forced reductions in the number of players on the ice. A December-February lockdown shortened the season. Finally, the second session ended well short of its April 17 end date.

But Morissette said it was worth it to give

youth something to do in a difficult year.

“Just the mental health side of our youth, our community. It’s been a real, real struggle. We heard time and time again from parents, a lot of thanks for providing something for the kids to go to each week, a distraction that was good for their physical and mental wellbeing,” he said.

Storm player Darian Maddock said it was a choppy year with the stoppages due to lockdown, but added it meant a lot to get to play.

“I would have just been sitting at home, doing nothing really,” Maddock said. “It was nice to have something to look forward to after school.”

Morissette said there is planning to come.

Besides the pandemic, the league faces challenges such as a shortage of referees. But he said after weathering the past year, the executive will have the experience to draw from for whatever restrictions could remain.

“It has been the most challenging of seasons in the history of Highland Storm, without a doubt. But we have strong numbers, we have strong volunteer numbers, we have strong parents that are supportive and our executive is very united.

“We did it because the truth is, we really, really are passionate about the Highland Storm,” he added. “But we’re also really caring about the health and wellness of our kids.”



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Township of Algonquin Highlands requires a **Public Works Supervisor** (Stanhope Yard)

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is seeking applications from experienced, qualified persons for the Public Works Supervisor position. Reporting to the Operations Manager, the Public Works Supervisor is responsible for the daily planning, supervising and coordinating of staff, operations and projects as assigned.

Visit our website at: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for the full job description.

Please submit your resume and cover letter by
3:00 p.m. on Friday, April 9, 2021 to:

Dawn Mugford-Guay
Human Resources Coordinator
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road,
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1
Email: dmugfordguay@algonquinhighlands.ca



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or ryan@cottagecbs.com

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Employment Opportunities @ Abbey Gardens

LUNCH COUNTER

Working at the Lunch Counter in the Food Hub, this role will include working at the lunch counter, preparing food, providing customer service, and promoting local food. It may also include the occasional Hub retail shift.

Full time May - September.
Weekend availability required.

Resumes can be submitted to
ashley@abbeygardens.ca

RETAIL CLERK

Working on site in the Food Hub, the Retail Clerk will be responsible for creating and maintaining retail displays, serving retail clients, managing inventory, and some kitchen prep. The retail clerk will be mindful of quality assurance as well as assisting in reaching sales targets.

Full time May - October.
Weekend availability required.

Resumes can be submitted to
susan@abbeygardens.ca

Full job descriptions can be viewed at
abbeygardens.ca/get-involved/#jobs

2 FUNERAL DIRECTOR ASSISTANTS POSITIONS Haliburton & Coboconk Community Funeral Homes

We are looking for two part time Funeral Director Assistants to join our team of dedicated professionals.

The successful applicants will assist the Funeral Director in transfers, setting up for funerals and memorial services, working visitation and services and general maintenance in both our locations.

The successful applicant should possess:

- A Valid Class "G" License with a clean record and in good standing.
- Professional Demeanor & Appearance
- Be Personable, Reliable, Dedicated.
- On Call as Required by the Funeral Director.
- Possess a willingness to work odd hours. There is some night driving & weekend work involved.
- Strong maintenance & general repair background is helpful – assisting with Funeral Home Maintenance & Vehicles.
- Be able to lift more than 50 pounds.
- Possess a strong desire to help people.
- Assist on Funeral Services and Visitations currently as per Covid-19 Restrictions.
- Conduct Transfers of a Deceased person from the place of death.
- Strong Team Player who is friendly, professional, and compassionate.
- The successful applicant will be required to complete a Police check.

Please note:

We would like to thank all applicants for their interest. Only those applicants who are selected for an interview will be contacted.

Please reply in confidence to:
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- Please do not drop off resumes
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Please send resumes to
natalie@totalsiteservices.ca

Highlander classifieds

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We are looking for a part-time **Children's Activities Aide**. Must be able to plan interesting and engaging activities for children ages 2-6. You will work as part of a team for two, half days each week plus planning time.

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The Corporation of the County of Haliburton Requires a SEASONAL FLAGPERSON/LABOURER

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The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$17.65.

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

Please forward your resume to abull@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than March 31, 2021.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.



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Maple Avenue Tap & Grill is looking for an experienced waitress with experience in prep work. Morning & Lunch shifts. Drop off resume Wednesday to Sunday after 11 a.m. or call Bonnie / Andy at 705-457-1100

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Highlander classifieds

OBITUARIES



Leopoldina "Leo" Dobrzensky

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully with her daughter by her side on Thursday evening, March 18, 2021 at Haliburton Hospital in her 95th year. Beloved wife of the late Jenda Dobrzensky. Loving mother of John, Zdislava and Margaret. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Anna, Jan, Leopoldine and Sophie and by her great grandchildren Jan, Paul, Eugenie, Zitha, Sarah, Alice, Mathilde, Astrid, Alexandre and Gabriel. Predeceased by her daughter Helen, her son Charles, and by sisters Maria, Amalie, Rosa and by her grandson Edward.

Our family mourns this exceptional woman who overcame tremendous upheavals throughout her life and always with dignity and courage. Her generous & warm hearted spirit found enjoyment in countless areas - but especially, in gardening, painting and in classical music. She loved & embraced the Haliburton Highlands - whose natural beauty & people inspired her to write two books on its history *Fragments Of A Dream* - *Pioneering In Dysart Township and Haliburton Village* and *They Worked and Prayed Together* - *Italians In Haliburton County*. Her legacy also lives on in the donation of *Barnum Creek Nature Reserve* and in the many lives that she so gently touched.

Visitation & Mass of Christian Burial

Friends were invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario on Tuesday afternoon, March 23, 2021 from 1 - 3 p.m. by appointment only. Please reserve your place below. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at **ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH** 27 Victoria St. Haliburton, Ontario on Wednesday morning, March 24, 2021 at 11 o'clock. Masks must be worn. To join the service virtually, click the following link ten minutes prior to service time <https://join.skype.com/t3NDIC9SzAmh> As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Pregnancy Care Center, Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation or the Volunteer Dental Outreach for Haliburton County would be appreciated by the family.



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FOR SALE

Antique (70 yrs) solid walnut drop-leaf DINING TABLE. Hidden leaf in centre. Perfect condition. \$500.00. Also, TEAK DRESSER. 5 drawers and side cupboard with 2 shelves. Perfect condition - \$200.00. Pictures of both available by e-mail. Call 705-286-6856

1 Karcher-Honda pressure washer 5.5 (2500 PSI) as new \$300.00 / 1 10" Kobolt Table Saw as new, complete, \$250.00 / 1 Frigidaire apt size chest freezer, works perfect (white) \$60.00 Call Doug at 416-419-3332

Real Estate Investor selling portfolio of properties, Minden & Bracebridge area. Call Joe at 705-306-097

Moving / downsizing sale -2 large corner cupboards, 1 large wardrobe, 1 bedside table, all Mennonite solid pine wood. 1 small vintage solid wood dressing style table w/drawers, 1 wash stand, 1 small dresser w/drawers. Call Sharon 705-286-0917

RENTAL WANTED

Senior couple looking for house or apt long-term rental. \$700 to \$1,000. Range. Pets acceptable, smoking outside. Haliburton, Minden or Bancroft area Need available for May 1st Call Nancy 705-731-7691 and leave message

FOR RENT

Room for rent in shared house. Walking distance to Minden, all inclusive Call Joe at 705-306-0979

IN MEMORY



BURK, Andrew "Newfer"

In loving memory of a beloved husband and father, Andrew "Newfer" Burk March 23, 2019

I think of things you used to say and all that you would do.

At some point every single day, my thoughts turn to you.

To lose you was a bitter wrench, the pain cut to my core.

I cried until my tears ran out and then I cried some more.

This wouldn't be your wish for me, that I'd be forever sad.

So I try to remind myself of the happy times we had.

I know I can't be with you now and you can't be with me.

But safe inside my heart you'll stay
That's where you'll always be.

Love and miss you beyond forever,
Tracy, Jaxon and Maddox

THANK YOU

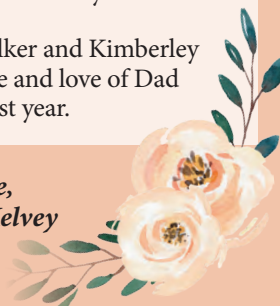
*With Sincere
Thanks*

The family of the late William (Bill) Prentice would like to express their thanks to family and friends for the donations, letters, cards and phone messages we received, following the passing of our Dearest Dad.

Special thanks to the staff at Hyland Crest for your care and compassion over the years.

Special recognition to Walker and Kimberley for your exceptional care and love of Dad during the past year.

Bonnie Berry, Paul Prentice,
Bev Kinsman, Tammy McKelvey
and families



Thank you

RANDY GRANT

The family of the late Randy Grant, would like to thank everyone who offered condolences in our time of need. Also, a thank you to everyone who has donated to the "Canadian Institute for the Blind" or the "Kidney Foundation" in Randy's name.

Family & Friends

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- Stephanie Field (Friends of Ecological & Environmental
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You Can Say That Again!

by Barbara Olson
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

Across

- 1 Take__view of (frown on)
- 5 Like a three-alarm fire
- 11 Anthropology deg.
- 14 Cloverleaf product
- 15 Pound with one's fists
- 16 Muesli morsel
- 17 Utter exhaustion in Switzerland's capital
- 19 Jagmeet Singh's pol. grp.
- 20 Hilo hello
- 21 Sprinkled arsenic on the eggs, say
- 23 Sorry feeling
- 25 Stirs up the pot
- 27 Lunch counter request in India's second largest city
- 31 Years and years and years
- 32 Umbrella part
- 33 Belonging to "cet homme"
- 34 Medium ability?
- 37 Boutique section for little ladies
- 40 Four-song discs, briefly
- 41 Off base?
- 43 One with a smart comeback
- 44 __ loss for words
- 46 Bosom buddies in an Olympic city of South Korea
- 51 __ blue streak (babble at length)
- 52 Narrow strip of land
- 54 Pudding ingredient, it is said
- 58 " __ tell" ("My lips are sealed")
- 59 Product testing org.
- 60 "No problem," in a French film festival city
- 62 Be down with something
- 63 Look up to
- 64 Legit
- 65 "The pond": Abbr.
- 66 Flying threat in Africa
- 67 "The __" (B.C. e-magazine named for a salmon)

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14					15							16		
17					18							19		
20						21					22			
23					24					25				26
	27						28	29	30					
				31			32				33			
34	35	36		37		38				39		40		
41			42		43				44		45			
46				47				48				49	50	
51								52						53
	54				55	56	57			58				
59				60					61					
62				63							64			
65				66							67			

Down

- 1 Before the court, to a lawyer
- 2 Faced off at dawn, perhaps
- 3 Where to do as the locals do, per a saying
- 4 Access to a city's sewer
- 5 Manjula's spouse on "The Simpsons"
- 6 Gave a pat on the back, maybe
- 7 K-P line
- 8 Mine, in Mascouche
- 9 Big cheese on Mount Olympus
- 10 Sevilla snorter
- 11 Lazy, and then some
- 12 Prepare for a trail ride, say
- 13 Sponsor at the Indy 500
- 18 Go on a pub crawl
- 22 CBC Radio's "Spark" host Young
- 24 Tendons
- 26 Mumbai monsieurs
- 28 Verdi aria that means "it was you"
- 29 Course with Lamb or Bacon, for short
- 30 Letter-shaped steel supports
- 34 "Down __" (Maritime provinces)
- 35 Frets over something
- 36 Where one might wait for a cue?
- 38 Mañuel's uncle
- 39 Dryer electricity
- 42 Mark's "Star Wars" role
- 45 At a right angle to, as a ship
- 47 Leg-warming feline
- 48 They're on a long-term cell plan?
- 49 Bitcoin, e.g.
- 50 Dairy Queen treat
- 53 Was a pickpocket
- 55 X-ray dosages
- 56 Withers hit "Lean __"
- 57 "Don't bet __"
- 59 Grp. whose members get free towing
- 61 Match, in a poker match

SUDOKU

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

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

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

1	S	P	I	F	F		6	R	M	S		9	C	U	F	F	S		
14	T	I	M	E	I		15	H	A	T		16	O	N	L	O	W		
17	E	X	P	E	N	S	18	I	V	E		19	H	E	A	R	A		
20	W	E	L	L	D	O	N	E		21	F	O	A	M					
22	S	L	Y	S		23	C	O	N	24	V	E	R	S	I	25	26	N	
					27	I	R	K		29	A	N	T	E	N	N	A		
30	D	I	S	C	U	S	33	S	I	N	G				35	G	E	M	
36	I	T	A	K	E		37	T	M	C		38	I	C	O	M	E		
40	N	I	L				41	S	U	P	E	42	R	V	I	S	O	R	
43	A	V	I	44	45	F	A	N				46	I	S	R				
47	R	E	V	I	S	I	T		48	I	N	G		50	C	P	A	S	
				54	A	G	T	S		55	N	O	U	T	U	R	N	S	
57	F	A	T	S	O				59	P	R	O	P	O	S	I	N	G	
60	A	H	E	A	P				61	D	E	N		62	R	E	S	E	T
63	M	A	S	T	S				64	A	D	S		65	E	S	S	E	S



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SOLD!

Redstone River



Peace and tranquility are the perfect way to describe this stunning riverfront property. Beautiful 11+ acres with fields, forest, trails, and ample wildlife throughout. 3-bedroom, 3 bath year-round home features a bright eat-in kitchen finished with oak cabinetry and walk out to back deck. Open concept living space, large windows throughout providing ample natural lighting. Gorgeous views from sunken living room. Fully finished walkout basement. Attached double garage. **\$699,000**

SOLD!

Inglisby Road



This 4-bedroom, 4 bath year-round home is perfectly situated amongst mature trees on 43+ acres. Enjoy beautiful sunsets. Bright kitchen finished with white cabinetry and large island. Living room has cedar cathedral ceilings and stone wood burning fireplace. Partially finished lower level with family room, and walkout to pretty back yard. This multi-level home features a double attached garage, storage sheds and ample space for the family to enjoy the outdoors. **\$699,900**

SOLD!

Halbiem Cres



Stunning 4 bedroom, 3 bath home perfectly situated in the prestigious and sought after Haliburton By The Lake subdivision. Bright open concept living on the main level with large living room with wood burning fireplace. Located on the second level is a spacious primary bedroom and ensuite with heated tile floor, 3 additional bedrooms, main bathroom and family room with propane fireplace. Close to Haliburton village. Only a short walk to Head Lake. Access to HBTL Members-Only park. Level yard, double attached garage, peace and tranquility. **\$699,000**

SOLD!

Kashagawigamog Lake Road



This stunning year-round home/cottage is conveniently located between the town of Minden and Haliburton village. Main floor features a bright open concept living space, wood cabinetry, powder room and in-floor radiant heat. The second floor offers 3 bdrms, 1 bath, 19-foot vaulted ceilings and stunning maple hardwood flooring. This beautiful home was built in 2016 on a 113+ acre parcel of land. **\$699,000**

SOLD!

Minden Lake



Stunning year-round 2-bdrm home or cottage. 104 ft of frontage on Minden Lake. Fully renovated home now provides a calm and comforting cottage atmosphere. Bright open concept and pretty lake front views. Drink your morning coffee while enjoying the views across the lake of the white-water rapids from your large deck. Partially finished lower level. **\$665,000**

SOLD!

Archie Street



Conveniently located in a quiet neighborhood. Bright and spacious 4 bdrm, 2 bath home with many recent improvements. Large kitchen and open concept dining and living area. Four-season sunroom that leads to a large deck. 20 x 28 garage. Large family room with a propane stone fireplace. A short 3 minute walk to all of Minden's attractions and amenities. **\$439,900**

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KASHAGAWIGAMOG LAKE
ROAD 6.68 AC **\$139,500**
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BASSHAUNT LAKE ROAD
1.88 AC **\$126,900**
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HIGHWAY 35 0.59 AC
\$79,900 NEW LISTING

HIGHWAY 35 0.83 AC
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