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The Highlander

Thursday **April 22 2021** | Issue 487

INSIDE: WATCH OUT FOR TURTLES PAGE 15

FREE



Sherry Mulholland and granddaughter, Lily Neville, stand on Mulholland's property overlooking the Gull River. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Residents concerned about low water levels

By **Lisa Gervais**

Sherry Mulholland says the Gull River has never been so low at her Pine Lake home. Overlooking the river from her property, there's as much shoreline and muddy banks as there is water.

Mulholland says they draw their household water from the river that runs between the Eagle Lake dam and Pine Lake. They don't drink it but are concerned

about the source of the filtered water they use for washing dishes and doing laundry.

They're also worried about recreational impacts with the water so low. Right now, it couldn't sustain inner tubes or the rope jump from their tree. It wouldn't be deep enough to swim or for the aluminium boats.

"It is so low. I have never seen it like this. There are more sand banks than water. Unbelievable," Mulholland said April 17.

Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt discussed the low water level situation on her mayoral Facebook page April 13.

She said there's been a 50 per cent shortfall in spring rains as of mid-April with temperatures above normal.

"The freshet was almost non-existent, certainly in comparison with recent years,"

Continued 'Seasonal' on page 2

COVID closes outdoor play

By **Joseph Quigley**

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton Highlands Golf Course president and general manager Randal Wood said he is confused by the latest health restrictions that have shuttered his operation.

The province targeted recreation in its latest efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19 April 17, closing facilities as cases continue to spike across the province. The closures included golf courses, basketball courts and soccer fields, with limited exceptions.

But golf courses are pushing back on the decision. Wood said the open spaces make golf a safe activity and they were able to operate without trouble in the past year.

"Golf was one of the first things they opened during the pandemic last season and has a proven track record in 2020," Wood said. "Our protocols are established, and they've proven to be safe."

The restrictions closed many recreational facilities throughout the County, including tennis and pickleball courts, skate parks and picnic tables. The province has said more restrictions are needed as COVID-19 reaches a new peak in Ontario and intensive care units become full.

Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking said the restrictions are about being precautionary to avoid gatherings at this time.

"The policy direction was taken to be extremely cautious and making sure there was going to be no opportunities for gatherings in such spaces," Bocking said. "I agree it's a challenge. We want to encourage people to be physically active and be outside."

Continued 'Operators' on page 2



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Seasonal levels expected for summer

Continued from page 1
she added.

Moffatt said some inconsistencies in usual runoff patterns, or how lakes usually fill up, is happening.

As a result, she said the Upper Gull was only 70 per cent full; Kennisis, Hawk and Kushog needed water and dams were closed off but operations at Red Pine and Nunakani were expected to see those lakes come up; the Maple chain is very low and one example of the inconsistent runoff patterns.

Moffatt noted it is still more than four weeks to the May 24 weekend “when it’s expected that the whole system will be full.”

Ted Spence is chair of the Coalition of Equitable Water Flow (CEWF).

He said on April 19 that “The most important point right now is that with the prolonged period without significant rain on top of a relatively dry early winter and spring, the local inflows to most lakes are very low and the levels are now dipping below normal levels for this date.”

Like Moffatt, he said the snowmelt was early and we have had very little rain.

“We clearly need significant rain to bring us to normal levels by the end of May.”

Spence said the Trent Severn Waterway (TSW) has added logs to all dams throughout the spring and stands ready to store water when it is available.

“The relatively low flows on the Gull River in Minden which have persisted for most of the last several weeks are evidence that the available flows have been managed to fill reservoirs where possible,” Spence said.

“But at this point the whole system including the Kawartha lakes are in need of significant inflows. We need some significant rainfall events.”

The TSWs Karen Feeley said water levels and flows fluctuate for several reasons. She said typically, watersheds rise or refill in the spring depending upon the rate and volume of snowmelt and spring rainfall.

“The total precipitation for this past winter was 25 per cent less than normal values, followed by 25-50 per cent less than normal amounts of precipitation in March. The watersheds experienced an earlier than normal

freshet, which, combined with sustained warmer air temperatures, has resulted in the aggressive loss of winter snowpack during late March and melt runoff recession in early April,” she said.

Feeley added that since early March, higher temperatures and moderate winds have contributed to further losses of local inflows, and much of the runoff was absorbed by the soil.

However, she said on April 21 that water levels across the watershed are currently rising and, presuming a normal amount of precipitation throughout the month of April, the public can expect the current lake levels to continue to rise during May, achieving seasonal averages heading into summer.

Maple Lake seasonal resident, Char Booth Vitez, said she hopes conditions improve.

“We have many concerns about the water levels in our lake,” she said. “Docks are sitting in sand and there’s no chance of moving them without water levels rising. Unlikely we will get boats launched as the river will be too low to navigate,” she added.

Operators hope ban lifted for May 24 weekend

Continued from page 1

The government targeted other outdoor recreation sites earlier in the shutdown. Overnight seasonal campsites were closed April 3.

Haliburton Forest general manager Tegan Legge said although she understands encouraging people not to travel, the restriction seems silly.

“Our campsites are very private, very well-spaced,” Legge said. “If I could open to the local community so they could get out of their houses and camp

lakeside, that would be great.”

Still, Legge said given the time of the year, the business impact is limited. But she said that could change if the restrictions extend to the May long weekend. They are currently set to end just before then.

“It would definitely really hurt. Our bottom line is the May long weekend is our first big weekend of the season,” Legge said. “It definitely would affect our bottom line.”

Legge said there are still trails

and activities such as canoeing to enjoy. She added it is important to have opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation in the pandemic.

“Being able to touch trees and the ground and the soil are more important than it ever has been before,” Legge said. “We know everybody coming out hiking, biking, paddling, it gives them that sense of getting out of the pandemic for a minute ... It doesn’t feel like the pandemic is happening up here.”



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Highlander news

Campaign seeks to spotlight shoreline bylaw

By Joseph Quigley

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The public debate on the County's shoreline bylaw is picking up again with a new campaign advocating for naturalized shorelines.

Beshore Haliburton kicked off an advertising blitz April 15 with a website and information about the issue. The aim is to educate about the importance of shorelines to protect lake health and prevent toxic algae blooms, as well as amassing names for a petition.

It comes as the County has delayed a bylaw to limit development on shorelines, sending out a request for proposals March 24 to have a third-party consultant take over the work.

Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Association (CHA) president Paul MacInnes – one of the people behind Beshore Haliburton – said advocates wanted to address the situation.

"When the County decided to pause work on the shoreline preservation bylaw, after almost three years of working on it, a number of us became very concerned," MacInnes said. "We're losing the little bit of natural shoreline that we have left very quickly."

The draft bylaw attracted pushback from

the Haliburton County Home Builders Association, local landscapers and some property owners who felt it was too far-reaching. Other organizations such as the CHA and Environment Haliburton! advocated for the tougher rules as something needed to preserve lakes and ensure that property values do not crash from algae blooms.

MacInnes said the dialogue got personal, with uninformed members of his own family getting targeted by individuals opposing the bylaw. He said the tactics prompted the campaign to keep most of its members – which he said is more than 100 people – anonymous.

"I'm not worried about the CHA and myself being targeted," he said. "I'm worried about the people and organizations that are part of the campaign that have not already been targeted."

The Beshore Haliburton website includes links to government and scientific sources around buffer zones in a bid to highlight why the proposed setback for most development in the bylaw – 30 metres from high-water marks – is the correct figure.

But the campaign has raised questions about timing. Michele Bromley of Boshkung Lake Tree Service, part of a group of six landscaping companies that



The County shoreline bylaw discussion is resuming with a new campaign aimed at advocating for the policy document. Photo via Beshore Haliburton.

opposed the bylaw as initially drafted in 2020, said Beshore Haliburton seems premature given the County's RFP process.

"We should just be waiting for the council to do their job and get this RFP done," Bromley said. "Why are the waters being muddied?"

"We feel like we've been dragged back into this fight again," she added. "It's just totally inappropriate."

County council has signalled it does not expect to have the bylaw in place for this year's summer building season as they

originally planned. But MacInnes said he hopes it can get into place sooner to prevent further destruction.

He added the campaign is trying to take a positive approach and also encourage landowners to renaturalize their lakefront.

"We're taking, very much, the high road," he said. "This is not about personalities or individuals, this is about protecting the health of our community, which depends on healthy lakes."

COUNTY OF HALIBURTON NEWS

Township input sought on housing

The Kawartha Lakes-Haliburton Housing Corporation is refining its affordable housing targets program by seeking policy directions from the County's four townships.

CEO Hope Lee presented to County council April 14. The program aims to help the County and City of Kawartha Lakes achieve affordable housing goals, with the County aiming for 750 new units by 2029. The initiative has contributed to several new projects coming forward, including a new build on Wallings Road in Haliburton from Places for People.

The program helps guide developers toward incentives to develop affordable housing. Lee said the first quarterly intake

was successful, but there is a need to establish policy at the township level rather than just the County.

"The four local municipalities should adapt their own policy with the incentives that they're willing or able to provide," Lee said. "That will really help us as we're going through the process."

Coun. Andrea Roberts said it is an important step. She cited controversy at Dysart's council table over an affordable housing proposal using the Lakeview Motel. It led to confusion over the municipality's authority, as some councillors opposed the idea.

"We need these policies in place so it's non-political," Roberts said. "It isn't we like this project, or we don't like this project, it's it qualifies, or it doesn't qualify."

The committee voted to recommend Lee's proposed changes to the program.

Hike Haliburton carries on

County council agreed to start planning for a more limited Hike Haliburton festival in the fall.

Council committee of the whole voted April 14 to recommend proceeding with a "light" version of the event tentatively scheduled for Sept. 16-19. The event would mimic the festival's smaller-scale winter edition, with no printed program and fewer hike spaces available.

Hike Haliburton was cancelled in 2020. Deputy warden Patrick Kennedy said he first thought the County should cancel it again, but he felt it was important to maintain.

"We're going to lose the momentum of what's been built here," Kennedy said.

"This is a national treasure that people within your (tourism) department and in the County have been able to create."

Director of tourism Amanda Virtanen also presented options to attempt a full-scale festival or cancel the event. She reported a light version of the festival would be easier to cancel later given the lack of printed material. She said hike leader training would be managed carefully within COVID-19 protocols.

Virtanen also said the decision needed to be made early to give time for planning.

"I'm hoping we're not in that position of lockdown," Coun. Lisa Schell said. "If that is the case at the time, we can pull it back." (County of Haliburton News compiled by Joseph Quigley, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter).



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Highlander news

County hesitant over basic income strategy

By Joseph Quigley
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

County of Haliburton council opted against supporting a federal bill April 14 to establish a national basic income strategy over concern about a lack of information.

The Haliburton County - City of Kawartha Lakes Roundtable for Ending Poverty wrote to ask the County to support Bill C-273. The private member's bill would develop a national strategy for a guaranteed basic income and establish pilot projects. The proposal is expected to come before the House of Commons later this month.

Council members expressed support of the broad concept, but several were concerned about the bill's ramifications. Only councillors Andrea Roberts, Lisa Schell and deputy warden Patrick Kennedy voted in favour.

Coun. Brent Devolin said he was uncomfortable supporting something that could implement basic income without seeing more information first.

"Affordability becomes a question," Devolin said. "There's a whole other part of the analysis of the labour market that I would like to see before I'm prepared to have a position on this."

Bill C-273 would see a report return in two years about implementing a strategy. The poverty roundtable - made up of local social services, health care, and

governments - said the bill is important to address poverty.

"A national basic income in Canada could grow our economy more than it costs, creating hundreds of thousands of jobs, and supporting Canadian businesses while ending poverty and growing the middle class," the letter said.

Lindsay was the site of a basic income pilot from the Ontario government in 2017. The pilot was supposed to last three years but was cut short in 2018 by a new Progressive Conservative government.

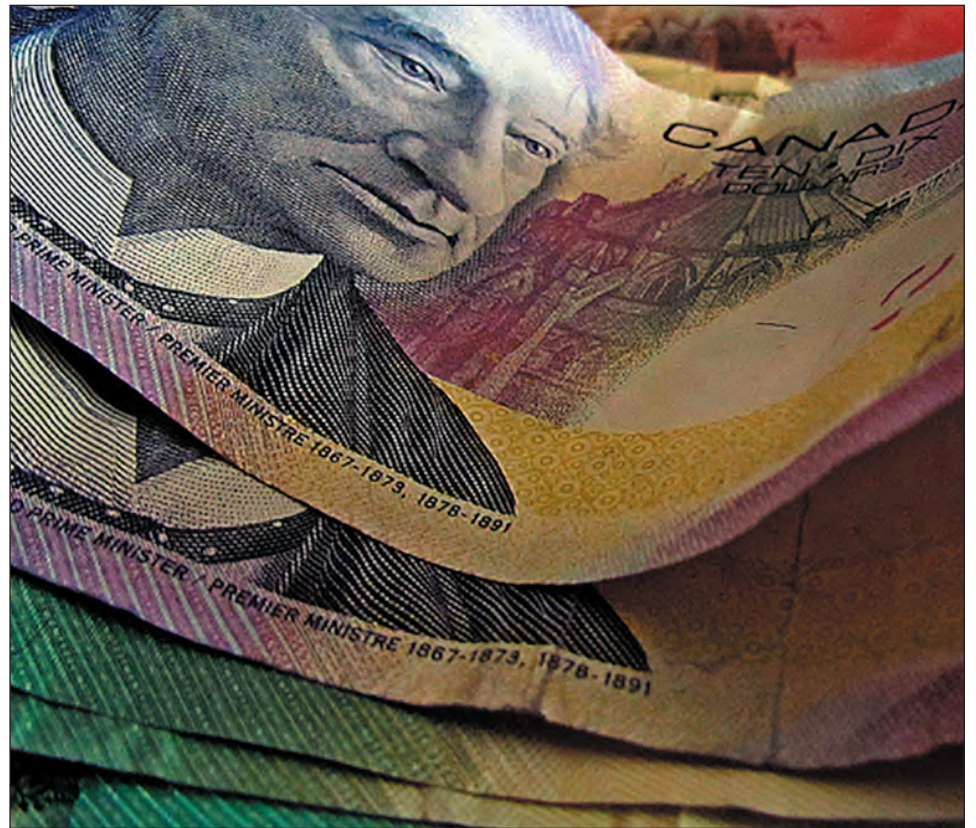
Coun. Carol Moffatt said it is a "chicken and egg" problem where more information is needed before she felt comfortable supporting it. She added she has concern about what municipalities might have to pay.

"There's no question a basic income program is a great idea," Moffatt said. "I just feel I don't know enough about the question in the letter."

Devolin said supporting the bill would be seen as supporting a basic income before more information such as finances are brought to light.

But Kennedy noted the bill does not necessarily mean basic income would go forward. He said it seems designed to get the answers councillors sought.

Roberts said the resolution might not make much difference for the federal decision but would send a message.



County council opted against supporting a bill that would introduce a national basic income strategy. *File photo.*

"Shows our local people, our constituents here in Haliburton that we care. That we believe in this," Roberts said.

Councillors did not pass a motion but agreed to have the poverty roundtable present on the issue at a future date.

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Kick-off to community safety plan

By Joseph Quigley
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The County of Haliburton and OPP kicked off the formal process to create a community safety and wellbeing plan April 12.

A steering committee made up of councillors and Haliburton Highlands OPP acting commander Sgt. Dan Collings held a kickoff meeting for the plan. The provincially-mandated document would outline how different sectors - including municipalities, policing, social, education and health - can collaborate to address community risks and service gaps.

Coun. Brent Devolin said this could help break down some of the barriers that exist between different sectors.

"This has the potential, both from policing and mental health and a bunch of other things, to remove a bunch of these silos," Devolin said. "The players are at the table collectively, which I think is a huge advantage."

The County has hired Toronto-based consultant StrategyCorp to help develop the plan. An advisory table made up of the different sectors will guide the process.

The consultant said the process should leave a legacy of greater collaboration between different organizations. A new OPP detachment board that will help oversee local policing will also be formed once the plan is in place.

Members discussed the jurisdictional hurdles, such as neighbouring detachments in Bancroft and Huntsville that also operate in Haliburton. They also discussed the lower-tier townships shifting responsibility onto the County for a unified plan.

Warden Liz Danielsen said the County



Planning for a new community safety and wellbeing plan began April 12. *File photo.*

should have a role and the question of the plan's financing will have to be addressed.

"We all have the same goal, that being the health and safety of all our residents," Danielsen said. "I'm hoping this is a really solid collaborative effort."

The committee also debated whether to include an open public consultation in the process. Chair Carol Moffatt expressed concern with the unfocused feedback it might create.

But StrategyCorp principal John Matheson said public consultation has proven valuable elsewhere, using guided specific questions, such as what makes people feel safe or unsafe. He noted how ethnicity could vary responses.

"Very valuable for the report to be able to say, while the fact everybody knows everybody makes some people feel really

safe, it actually makes some people feel like they're not allowed to go there," Matheson said. "That was maybe something that they needed to hear."

"Almost nobody said stuff along the lines of structurally, we don't trust our police force," he further said, adding the feedback was distinct from stories of policing in the United States. "It gave us a much more nuanced, made-in-Ontario version of what the diversity issues are."

Committee members ultimately agreed on a public consultation, with StrategyCorp proposing one meeting in each of the four townships.

StrategyCorp said the next steps would include the steering committee identifying contacts for an advisory table. The consultant will also develop a detailed work plan and stakeholder engagement plan.

ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS NEWS

Council debates shoreline access

Council began a preliminary discussion on shoreline use across township roads after planner Sean O'Callaghan tabled a requested report April 15.

O'Callaghan noted shoreline lands across a township road are under the jurisdiction of the township. He said building structures on township lands without approval from the township is not permitted.

He added that private property where a township road runs between the property and the waterbody are generally thought to be waterfront properties and are in most cases designated waterfront in the Township Official Plan and Zoned Shoreline Residential One or Two.

"There is significant liability exposure to the township should there be an injury to occur while members of the public use these docks and/or other structures present," O'Callaghan said.

He said the purpose of his report was not to restrict the use of the shore lands but to discuss options and seek direction from council on how to properly permit the use of the lands while protecting the interests of the township.

He presented four options:

- Option 1 would require the users of the docks/infrastructure to enter into a license of occupation with the township.
- Option 2 is to sell a portion of the shore road/road allowance lands to the property owner directly across the street.
- Option 3 would be to allow existing structures to remain and be repaired or replaced as needed provided the structure remains the same size and in the same location as it currently exists. No new buildings and/or structures would be permitted.
- Option 4 would be for the township to take action and have the shore lands cleared of any existing buildings and/or structures.

O'Callaghan was recommending option 1. Council discussed the report at length - did not make any decisions - and the item will come back to council at a later date.

New fire truck for Oxtongue Lake station

The township is purchasing a new mini-pumper for Station 70 in Oxtongue Lake.

Fire chief Michael French said the purchase will allow the department to relocate the Station 70 rescue vehicle to

Station 80.

He said the township diverted from its fleet replacement plan in 2019, when, based on the needs of the day, the apparatus for Station 70 was delayed and a new tanker for station 80 purchased. However, the Station 80 vehicle was in an accident on Dec. 14, 2019.

Council, on Feb. 6, 2020, authorized a replacement vehicle for nearly \$225,000 with about \$105,000 coming from insurance but delayed purchase until the new fire chief was in place.

French suggested the alternative plan of buying a mini-pumper, which he said would allow better access to the smaller cottage roads, along with the unit requiring a G license, giving more opportunity for potential pump operators. He added having the mini-pumper at Station 70 will allow Station 70's rescue vehicle to be relocated to Station 80. Further, relocating Station 70's rescue to station 80 will upgrade the 1999 rescue with a 2016 rescue, he said.

He added that Station 60's pumper replacement will be deferred until 2022.

He recommended buying from Dependable Truck, which should be able to supply the mini-pumper in June. (Algonquin Highlands news compiled by Lisa Gervais)

Highlander news



Algonquin Highlands staff and council discussed docks and landings at their April 15 meeting. Flickr.

AH planning the future of docks and landings

By Lisa Gervais

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is continuing to discuss docks and landings in the municipality.

Director of parks, recreation and trails, Chris Card, tabled a docks and landings draft assessment framework and check list to the April 15 meeting.

“The attached check list is intended to be used as a starting mechanism to gather information to inform a go-forward approach for landings as listed in the township’s asset management plan,” Card said.

Council had previously chosen a phased approach with landings to be addressed individually in the order recommended in the asset management plan. They requested a project and decision-making framework so that as each project is approached, the

information that is required to complete that project would be identified within the framework and utilized to make recommendations to council for approval, Card said.

Next steps would be an information gathering process with stakeholders. He said that will include identifying lake associations or main contact persons.

Some of the information they will be seeking is property surveys and lot limits, listing and identifying current features such as launches, docks, gangways, parking areas, access points, toilets, loading and unloading zones, mooring space, signs and message boards, retaining walls, drainage and fire hydrants.

Card added it would be helpful to know things such as water level trends, number of water access properties, whether or not lakes are at capacity and opportunities for

shoreline naturalization.

“All above information would be gathered to inform a recommendation for each landing that would be brought to council for review and approval prior to being tendered,” Card said.

Deputy mayor Liz Danielsen said the process is “going to put us in a position to be able to make good decisions about each one of our docks and landings.”

She encouraged that potential projects be examined a couple of years prior to their inclusion in draft budgets so the township can plan ahead for the economic impact.

Mayor Carol Moffatt added another reason around the conversation is “so we can prepare ourselves for the growth of the community.”

She said it is also about managing expectations since the township does not have the resources to provide full-time

and seasonal residents with everything on their wish lists. She added there will be opportunities for private partnerships.

Card said one challenge is people are buying bigger boats than the original infrastructure was designed for.

Coun. Jennifer Dailloux raised the issue of parking, saying in ward 3, “some are beautifully self-managed by users, others are free for all, it’s a mess.”

Moffatt said it is also identifying issues such as a location being used for fishing and day-use but not having public toilets, and perhaps having a privy program.

“What we’re embarking on has the potential to be incredibly costly. There are a lot of needs. The township can’t be expected to provide everything, for everyone, tomorrow,” she said.



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I'm languishing ... how about you?

Over the weekend, a buddy of mine from the States sent a link to a *New York Times* column written by Adam Grant about a collective state of mental health during COVID-19.

I'm sure I'm not the only one in Haliburton County who read the piece.

For those who haven't seen it, Grant borrowed the phrase "languishing" to describe how many of us are feeling.

It resonated with me as I have had many of the symptoms. For example, I'm not depressed. I get out of bed every morning and go to work. I function around the house and in my leisure time. However, I have to admit that I am not my best self. I struggle with motivation and have trouble concentrating. I sometimes lack excitement or joy about the future. I feel a bit directionless.

Grant further said languishing is a sense of stagnation and emptiness, in his words, muddling through our days and looking at our life through a foggy windshield.

Camille Quenneville, CEO of the Canadian Mental Health Association Ontario, joined BNN Bloomberg in the past week to discuss the state of people's mental health during another round of restrictions.

She said the plight of our collective mental health is getting missed in the broader conversation about this pandemic.

And yet CMHA polling has revealed some

worrisome statistics.

They point to the fact that Canadians - and indeed Highlanders - are really struggling at this point in the pandemic.

At the start of COVID, 54 per cent of people said their mental health was very good. That had dropped dramatically to 35 per cent before the third wave.

Polling also found about 80 per cent of people believe a serious mental health crisis is ahead.

And perhaps most telling, 57 per cent admitted they are lonelier since the start of the pandemic, due to lockdowns and stay-at-home orders.

Quenneville said the situation is getting worse, not better. She added that demand for their services is up 50 and in some cases 100 per cent. They are seeing uptakes in substance abuse, including alcohol and opioids.

She also said employers have a responsibility to ensure workers are managing well, especially if they are working from home.

And while it might seem like a cliché now, some of the advice that's been out there since day one still holds true.

We should all be trying to get enough sleep and exercise, tracking our eating habits, taking breaks during the day and staying in contact with nature.

Back to the *Times* article and Grant

suggests having a name for what we are collectively feeling actually helps.

The term was coined by sociologist Corey Keyes, who was struck by the fact that many people who weren't depressed also weren't thriving.

Grant offered some tips as well. He suggested becoming absorbed in a meaningful project to get your mind off things. He's occasionally binged on Netflix, finding a story where he can attach to characters.

What he and Quenneville don't mention by name is practicing mindfulness. Whatever you're doing, give it your full attention. Being constantly distracted by every alert on your phone isn't helping. And some days it's perfectly fine not knowing how many COVID cases there were in Ontario that day or how many people died.

It also means giving yourself, and those around you, a break. After all, it's become apparent that many of us are languishing. Once again, we're all in this together and protecting our mental health is just as important as our physical health.



By Lisa Gervais

COVID CORNER

Thoughtful caution builds trust

Dr. Mike Ryan from the World Health Organization was quoted as saying, "Everything about COVID-19 pandemic is about trust. Innovation is needed in behavioural science on how we, as communities and [as] individuals, understand epidemics and behave during them, process information and advice, build trust. That is as scientific as building vaccines."

I started writing COVID Corner because I sought to provide a trusted resource that was fact-based, up-to-date, reliable and evidence-based. I was disappointed with some of the journalists' and media's presentation of provocative and inflammatory stories that were emotionally exhausting and contributing to news fatigue.

This week I have seen a number of articles suggesting that the CDC's decision to pause and reconsider the Johnson and Johnson vaccine (Janssen) because of safety concerns might be harmful, as this pause could deliver a message to the public that vaccines in general are to be avoided. They suggest that announcing to the public when a medical intervention needs further safety review might invite mistrust in the medical community.

Really?

I would hope that thoughtful caution, pausing and reviewing safety data, builds trust and instills confidence rather that

feeds mistrust and skepticism. We know that vaccines are reducing infection, hospitalizations and death from COVID-19. That is not for one moment in question; the data abound to demonstrate this. But we have discovered that two viral vector vaccines, AstraZeneca and Janssen, have an associated very serious risk in certain populations (specifically, premenopausal women who test positive for platelet factor 4 (PF4)-heparin antibodies and have low platelets).

All six patients in the USA who developed clots with Janssen's vaccine were women between the ages 18-48. One has died. There were more than 6.8 million Janssen vaccine doses given in the United States as of April 12. A review of 11 patients (nine women) in Austria and Germany who received AstraZeneca and developed clots shows they are between ages 22-49 and developed symptoms five to 16 days from their vaccination. Of these patients, six died. This is from a pool of roughly 20 million individuals who received the vaccine.

Does benefit outweigh risk? What factors do you consider? No end of articles cite mathematical "odds" and statistical fun facts. For example, a "risk" of a blood clot is four in one million if you get the AstraZeneca vaccine. According to one resource, clot risk is 500 to 1,200 in one million if you are on the birth control pill.

It is 1,793 in one million if you smoke. It is 165,000 in one million if you get COVID.

Does the fact that another activity has a higher risk associated make this risk acceptable? Only you know what "risk" you are prepared to take.

We are being asked by our public health officials to weigh personal risk into our decisions for vaccine choice. Reasonable. Are you a premenopausal female? Can you stay home and isolate? Are you in a "hot spot," a zone with high case numbers of COVID infections? Is there an adequate supply of vaccines? Are you housebound? Are you unable to travel to receive an mRNA vaccine that is not stable enough to be transported to you the way AstraZeneca can?

We cannot afford to lose confidence in our guides who are using the best data we have at any given moment to make the best decision possible. Guidelines will change when more information is known, or when circumstances change. If one treatment (or vaccine) is in short supply but is known to be safe, and an alternative is available with some risk, then we may change our risk assessment. Circumstances and factors are personal.



By Dr. Nell Thomas

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

Editorial opinion

LETTERS

Enough with the garbage

Dear editor,

I have great empathy for the municipal workers and elected officials in my area. They are in a constant battle to uphold the bylaws that prevent visual pollution caused by property owners who leave excessive garbage on their properties.

You cannot imagine my anger while on a nature outing on the IB&O trail west from Tory Hill.

While stopped by the bridge where a creek crosses the trail, I could not help but notice someone had left a trashed camper trailer on the edge of the trail. We continued our journey west to visit the cascading waterfalls on the left of the trail only to see immediately to our right that some crude and rude individual had left a trashed Bissell carpet cleaner.

I know for certain the provincial lockdown does not include the local landfills which would gladly accept your trash.

Doug Peddle
Tory Hill

Bubble of invincibility

Dear editor,

I am confused. Could someone please explain because I don't get it?

Since the onset of the pandemic, we have been daily reminded that COVID-19 (and now the even more deadly variants-of-concern) are airborne, highly transmissible, life-altering, deadly diseases.

If one sneezes or coughs, the miniscule water droplets can travel a distance of up to 16 feet ... a range of 10 feet more than the current six feet (two metres), recommended for social distancing.

The efficacy of mask-wearing should no longer be in doubt. This past winters' cold and flu season was, to all intents and purposes, non-existent. A first.

Our professional health care workers, at every level, have worked tirelessly for over a year to save lives in untenable situations and conditions. They educate and inform us at every turn of the necessity to remain vigilant, to take all precautions necessary to stay safe, and to prevent further transmission of these deadly viruses.

And yet ... since the onset of the warmer weather ... I constantly see people not wearing masks, moving about the community in groups in close proximity, and whipping off their masks upon exiting local stores and businesses.

As a former teacher, I have observed that certain age groups continue to believe that they live in a bubble of invincibility ... others in a state of denial, disbelief or derision.

I have undergone two major life-saving, life-altering surgeries. We do not know what the strangers next to us in the lines or parking lots at the local grocery stores, businesses, post office or the dump may be experiencing. They may be at-risk.

Haliburton is an exceptionally caring community. It is morally incumbent on each of us to continue to be aware, to be

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



A male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker near Carnarvon. Photo by Mike Young.

responsible and vigilant, and to maintain all safety protocols necessary for everyone's benefit, well-being and life.

Cheryl Cohoon
Haliburton

COVID shot in Minden amazingly organized

Dear editor,

My husband and I just got back from receiving our vaccines at the S.G. Nesbitt Arena in Minden (April 14).

I have to tell you ... I have never, ever seen such organization and such courtesy in a very long time and thought they should be commended for all of their hard work.

I thanked everyone I was in contact with there. The line-up was extremely quick and once inside you had people guiding you where to go. Everything was explained in layman terms.

Congratulations to all of the volunteers and all health and medical professionals. Job well done.

Jeri-Lyn Cuda
Minden

Breathtaking hypocrisy

Dear editor,

Let me see if I have this straight. The spill has been known about since the 1980s. The cause has been known since 2012 and the fix will take five years.

Yet Kelly Andreoli, the MoE district engineer, states that the "Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks takes

all spills and threats to the environment very seriously."

Such blatant and stunning hypocrisy is breathtaking.

Jim Bertram
Minden Hills

Annual trash run

Dear editor,

Every year, my friend Kelly Pool and I clean up along Haliburton Lake Road from the marina at Fort Irwin to Boyce Bradley Road. This is a 4km stretch. We have been doing this for the last three years.

We live at Haliburton Lake which is a beautiful piece of God's country and every year all we can do is shake our heads at the amount of trash that litters this roadway in such a short span.

Today (April 18), we got three large bags of garbage. When we first started doing this, the average ATV trailer was overflowing after just a kilometre or two.

On April 18, I am glad to say we got three large bags and you have no idea how many beer cans we picked up. I lost count at over 50 Tim Hortons cups alone. If everybody went out of their house and went for a walk up and down the road with a garbage bag you would be surprised as to how much garbage you collect.

At the end of the day, we just shake her heads and pat ourselves on the back and say job well done.

So, please think twice before you throw that Tim Hortons cup out the window or that water bottle or that glass beer bottle that shatters on the ground that some animal could hurt themselves on and cause a lot of suffering. We live in such a beautiful

area and are truly blessed, so please keep it clean.

Maggie Lawrence
Dysart et al

Vandalism not acceptable

Dear editor,

Responding to the letter in last week's *Highlander*.

Skateboarding, BMX, scooters, rollerblades etc. are forms of artistic expression. The custom sculptured skatepark is a perfect place for these (sports) forms to be expressed. Skateparks are certainly not christened in this manner. At first glance perhaps that can be assumed.

Illegally defacing public property, no matter how 'kind' the message may be, is not initiation for the park. They are (the parks) christened by the users who are there daily, dropping in, slashing the coping, tossin' an early grab. The ones who pick up the litter, sweep the surfaces and come back the next day to start all over. Those are the ones we want to encourage to build an identity so the park can last for decades.

If this is the way your message can be heard, please take the appropriate steps the skate park committee did, over four plus years, and ask permission first. You might be surprised at the answer.

Sincerely, two members of the skatepark committee who care deeply for our skatepark that can serve the youth and youthful at heart for years to come.

Matt Richardson and Nick Swift
Dysart et al

Highlander health

Health unit struggling with third wave of COVID

By Kirk Winter

The third wave of COVID-19 “has stretched the capacity of the health unit to its limits,” new HKPR medical officer of health, Dr. Natalie Bocking, told a board meeting April 15.

Bocking said the health unit is having to prioritize tracking of new cases and immunization, while juggling other public health roles.

“We are doing a bit of a dance right now as we continue to work through new cases while also rolling out our vaccination clinics as we know that, in the long run, the vaccinations will play a major role in changing the trajectory of the pandemic,” Bocking said.

In the 14 days as of the meeting, the health unit had been notified of 282 confirmed cases and more than 500 high-risk contacts. In addition, it is staffing six mass immunization clinics in Lindsay, Cobourg, Trent Hills, Fenelon Falls, Minden and Haliburton. It was further investigating eight community outbreaks, responding to 200 to 300 phone calls and emails daily, working with health care partners to set up programs to immunize homebound residents, and working with primary health care providers to implement vaccination of patients.

A high-risk contact is anyone who has come in close contact with someone who has a confirmed case of COVID-19. These individuals will be emailed a letter outlining

quarantine and testing requirements. Health unit staff will continue to work closely with individuals who are confirmed cases.

Bocking also addressed the growing public frustration with perceived poor response times from the health unit’s call centre.

“In order to address the hundreds of phone calls and emails coming into the health unit each day, staff have had to prioritize their response. Only urgent or emergency emails and contacts will be responded to quickly. Individuals who call or email to check on when they might be eligible to be vaccinated will not receive a response from the health unit,” she said.

On vaccines, Bocking added the health unit is “experiencing challenges” due to a decrease in vaccine deliveries and an increase in who is now eligible.

“Our goal is to vaccinate as many people as possible, but with expanded eligibility provincially and no additional vaccine to provide locally, we are challenged to offer more clinics for our residents,” she said.

“HKPRDHU does not book appointments without having a vaccine delivery confirmed. Residents who have an appointment will not see those cancelled. Instead, it means the health unit will not be able to offer as many new appointments as first planned.”

Bocking reported about the enforcement of isolation and quarantine orders.

She said 44 warning letters and two tickets



The board of health had its monthly meeting April 15. *File.*

had been issued by the health unit between Jan. 1 and April 9, 2021 to cases and contacts of COVID-19.

“Cases and contacts are obligated to participate in contact phone calls with the health unit so their progress can be monitored and ensure they are maintaining isolation or quarantine ... cases are required to isolate and contacts who are required to quarantine and who do not do so can be

charged with fines up to \$5,000 a day,” she said.

The medical officer of health added that in more than half of the latest cases, there is no one point of exposure so that tells the health unit “we are clearly seeing the virus circulating in our communities. We need to stay vigilant, follow the directions and do our part to stop any further spread.”

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Highlander health

Outbreak over at Highlands East churches

By Joseph Quigley
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Two Highlands East churches are recovering after COVID-19 outbreaks resulted in nine confirmed cases.

In a letter dated April 16, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit shared information about the outbreak at the St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Highland Grove and the Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Cardiff.

HKPR corporate communications manager Chandra Tremblay said there are six cases associated with St. John and three with Our Lady of Lourdes.

The outbreaks were declared over April 19 as 14 days had passed since the last exposure.

Pastor Vic Valles said the churches had been closed since April 4 due to the outbreak, but he only knew of one person who experienced any symptoms.

"I'm really concerned, but at the same time, we are trying to do the best that we can," Valles said. "We try not to congregate, so each individual family has been very careful in isolating themselves."

The province has allowed religious services to carry on, with the district churches previously allowing 30 per cent capacity indoors before the April 1 shutdown. The rules shifted to 15 per cent capacity with the shutdown and is now down to 10 persons indoors or outdoors as of April 17.

Tremblay said the church notified parishioners and anyone who was a high-risk contact received a letter outlining testing and quarantine requirements. The health unit said there was a confirmed case at St. John March 27 and April 4. There was also a confirmed case at Our Lady of Lourdes April 1, April 2 and April 4.

Valles said it is hard to determine exactly how the transmission occurred. For now, the buildings are remaining closed given the lockdown.

"Holding off right now until the Ministry of Health says something," Valles said.

"Ten people is a really small crowd for a community that gathers for worship, but what do you do? The government is also looking after the health of the community. Whatever instructions they give, we try to follow."

"In the meantime, we just have to kind of bite the bullet here."

Valles said he does not have the tools to do virtual, online services that other churches are doing. But he said there are other options for locals to visit online services, such as through Peterborough churches.

School bus riders in quarantine

The health unit also notified riders of a specific Haliburton Highlands Secondary School bus about a COVID-19 case.



The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit said April 16 that there were two COVID-19 outbreaks at Highlands East churches. Photo via DoorsOpen.

The health unit sent a letter April 18 for people on Bus 57. It said that there was a confirmed case on the bus and that people who were on it April 8 have been identified as close contacts.

As a result, staff and youth on the bus are

required to quarantine at home until April 22. It said essential activities could resume on April 23 if there are no symptoms.

Schools are closed this week after the spring break due to the provincial stay-at-home order.

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Public health a passion for top doc

By Lisa Gervais

Dr. Natalie Bocking has begun her role as the new medical officer of health for the Haliburton, Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

Prior to her official start date of April 6, Dr. Bocking has been sitting in on meetings during the past few weeks, meeting with her staff, and learning more about the area and the health unit's pandemic response," a spokesperson said in a media release.

Dr. Bocking said she is eager to meet more of the community partners who work with the health unit to protect the health of area residents.

"I am looking forward to building relationships with our partners, our stakeholders and our board so that we can work together and continue to make a difference in the communities that we serve," Dr. Bocking said.

"Community partners are vital to the work that we do. This is a team effort. A lot of the problems that public health is tackling are huge and it would be impossible without our community partners."

Dr. Bocking is a public health and preventive medicine specialist and was certified by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada in 2015 following the completion of her specialty training at the University of Toronto. Dr. Bocking's academic training also includes a Medical Doctorate from McMaster University and Master's in International Public Health from the University of Sydney, Australia.

She spent four years working as a public health physician with Thunder Bay District Health Unit and Sioux Lookout First Nations Health Authority. In her role, she supported



Dr. Natalie Bocking in the new medical officer of health for HKPR.
Photo submitted.

the development of a community based First Nations-governed public health system for 31 rural and remote First Nations. This included overseeing tuberculosis and hepatitis C programming, population health assessment, and maternal and child health support.

In addition to her work in public health, Dr. Bocking has worked as a locum family physician in northwestern Ontario. She has published in peer-reviewed scientific journals and presented at provincial and national conferences.

"I went into public health because I thought that some of the issues or health problems I was seeing in family medicine really could have been

addressed so much more effectively at a population level and that was really where public health fit for me," she said.

Dr. Bocking is assuming her new role after former medical officer of health Dr. Lynn Noseworthy retired in December. Dr. Ian Gemmill had been serving as acting medical officer of health in the interim before Dr. Bocking assumed the role.

Born in London, Ontario, Dr. Bocking, her husband and two children moved to the City of Kawartha Lakes in 2019 to her husband's family farm, which he now operates.

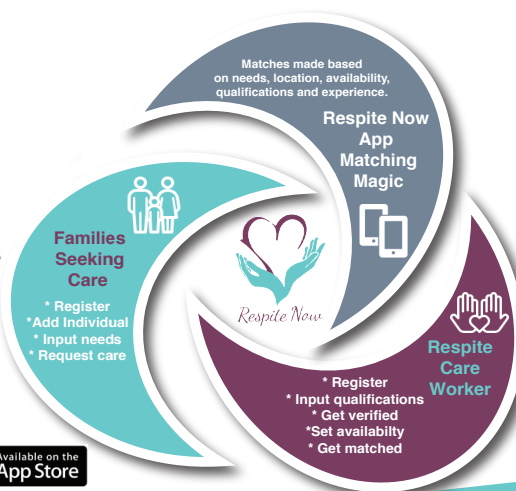
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We have made the decision at this time to not open the indoor restaurant to keep our customers, staff and family safe during this pandemic.

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Highlander people



Michael French is the new fire chief in Algonquin Highlands. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

New AH fire chief wants to make the diamonds shine

By Lisa Gervais

Completing his 30th year in the fire service, new Algonquin Highlands fire chief, Michael French, said it was always a goal to return to his roots and lead a volunteer fire department.

"When this opportunity came up, my wife and I talked it over and never looked back," he said in a recent interview.

French added that after serving 12 years as the fire chief of Rama Fire & Rescue Services, he knew in his heart that it was time for a change. He said the most rewarding part of his decision was the current deputy fire chief could take the reins without a hiccup.

French started as a volunteer firefighter in 1991 for the Bracebridge Volunteer Fire Department. The fire chief of the day, Peter Mitchell, gave him every opportunity to succeed as a firefighter and allowed him to take courses at the Ontario Fire College. That resulted in him becoming the only volunteer firefighter in Ontario to graduate from both the Advanced Fire Protection Technology and Advanced Fire Prevention Technology programs.

In 1996, he started as part-time instructor with the college, teaching new volunteer firefighters as they started serving their communities.

"My role as a part-time instructor led to the ultimate opportunity being hired as a first-class firefighter for the Chippewas of Rama First Nation in 2001," he said.

Under the leadership of then fire chief, Mark Pankhurst, who served as a mentor and an inspiration to succeed, French graduated from the Ryerson University Administration and Governance program and in 2009 was given the opportunity to be the fire chief of the number one First Nation

Fire Service in Canada.

He said throughout his career, "I have lived every firefighter's dream."

French said his early impressions of the Algonquin Highlands volunteer fire department is that it is very well established.

"I am so impressed to see the dedication of our volunteer firefighters and I really look forward to working with our team going forward."

He's not new to the Highlands, either.

"Joining the team at Algonquin Highlands does have a sentimental value as we have had a family cottage at Troutspaw Lake since 1967 and prior to becoming a full-time firefighter, I had a refrigeration and air conditioning company and worked for many of the establishments in the Algonquin Highlands area," he said. "The township is a very scenic area. I enjoy the travel throughout the area."

As for the township itself, he added staff have been welcoming and it already feels like a family.

French said he comes from an emergency services family. His father served as a volunteer firefighter for more than 40 years. His daughter, Kaitlin, is a paramedic for the County of Haliburton and his son, Kyle, is a volunteer firefighter for the Township of Muskoka Lakes.

"My wife for over 30 years, Heather, is the rock of the family. After a very successful career as the owner of Heather's Floral Designs, she has retired to help look after our two grandchildren, Lincoln and Laurel."

When it comes to making his mark, French said, "I live by the statement 'my role is to make the diamonds shine, not to outshine them'. Here in Algonquin Highlands there are a lot of diamonds."



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COUNTY OF HALIBURTON LAND DIVISION COMMITTEE NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CONSENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 53(5)(a) of the Planning Act and Section 3, O.Reg. 197/96, as amended, that the following Applications for Consent have been submitted to the Haliburton County Land Division Committee, the consent granting authority in these matters.

AND FURTHER THAT An electronic meeting will be held **Monday, May 10, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.** to consider these applications.

AND FURTHER THAT this meeting will be held through remote electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act, 2001, as amended.

The media and the general public can view the Land Division Committee meeting webcast via the County of Haliburton YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/tiAaPUv6tX4>

AND FURTHER THAT these Applications for Consent will be heard by the Land Division Committee:

1. File No. H-016/21
Applicant: Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve
Location of the Property: Lot 30 and Parts of Lots 26-29, Concession 13, Registered Plan C95A and H221783, Geographic Township of Guilford
Nature of the Application: Lot Addition
2. File No. H-017/21
Applicant: Andrew and Evonne Jack
Location of the Property: Part of Lot 18, Concession 3, Geographic Township of Minden.
Nature of the Application: New Lot, Together with Easement for right-of-way
3. File No. H-018/21
Applicant: Gerald Rowland
Location of the Property: Plan 343 WLY 200' Lot 7, and Plan 343 E Pt Lot 6 Geographic Township of McClintock
Nature of the Application: New Lot

Additional information regarding the above applications is available for public inspection electronically by request during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

If a person or public body that files an appeal of a decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent does not make written submissions to the Land Division Committee before it gives or refuses to give a provisional consent, the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal may dismiss the appeal.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent, you must make a written request to the undersigned.

Dated at the Township of Minden Hills this 22 day of April, 2021.

Lisa Gillan
Secretary-Treasurer
Haliburton County Land Division Committee
11 Newcastle Street
P. O. Box 399, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0
Telephone: (705) 286-1333 or 1-866-886-8815, Ext. 248
Fax: (705) 286-4829
E-mail: lgillan@haliburtoncounty.ca

HAVE AN OPINION?

Send your letters to editor@thehighlander.ca
(300 words max)

Highlander environment



The Land Between charity founder Leora Berman said turtle populations need help as they start activity three weeks earlier this year. Photo by Joseph Quigley.

Guardians warn drivers that turtles are on the move early

By Joseph Quigley
Local Journalism Initiative
Reporter

The turtle guardians are warning drivers to be on the lookout for their shelled friends as warm weather is making them unusually active this month.

The Land Between charity founder Leora Berman said the turtle population is moving out of hibernation about three weeks early this year, with old and hatchling turtles leaving nests. She said with roadkill a persistent problem, turtles need all the help they can get.

With the rare early movement, Berman said the charity is mobilizing its turtle guardian programming to help.

"We're pretty concerned. Last year, we thought COVID would be a good thing for turtles because people aren't driving as much. What we found was actually the opposite," she said. "I'm concerned about emotional driving ... Turtles are one of the most endangered

species in the world."

The non-profit environmental organization is moving to address the situation, launching a GoFundMe April 16 to install temporary silt fencing to help turtles at dangerous road crossings. It had raised more than \$1,110 of a \$4,000 goal as of April 19.

Berman said although pandemic lockdown restrictions are challenging, the province considers wildlife research an essential service. She said the early awakening has compressed the Land Between's schedules and forced them to move to fieldwork more quickly.

"We are organizing road occupancy permits," Berman said. "Trying to mobilize people in really high mortality zones."

But the organization can draw in volunteers. A viral Facebook post about the County's oldest turtle, Grace, garnered more than 870 shares April 14. It helped prompt Gaye Botticella, who witnessed The Land Between rescuing Grace last year, to join the volunteer base April 17.

"It always upsets me when I see turtles on the road," she said. "I just feel like I'm going to be part of the solution as opposed to part of the problem of saving our local turtles, because I love wildlife."

Berman said she should be able to mobilize about 60 road researchers. But she added the organization needs more hands to handle all the different crossings – probably more than 100 people in the summer.

"The numbers are through the roof in turtle kills. That means we're going to have local extinctions," Berman said. "We've got about six (high-kill) sites we need people rotating throughout the day."

Berman said the creatures are a vital part of the ecosystem. She said they are often misunderstood, and people need to know the importance of protecting them.

"We cannot survive without nature," Berman said. "Their populations right now are very fragile. If we lose these species, our aquatic ecosystems will collapse."

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What's on

Friends' fundraiser to feature local author

By Lisa Gervais

Local children's author Marie Gage spent 10 years researching and writing her debut novel, *A Ring of Promises*.

She'll be sharing her journey on Wednesday, April 28 during a Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library fundraiser.

The organization is presenting its first virtual Friends Café.

"Marie, a noted children's author, will be discussing her first major novel *A Ring of Promises*," the Friends said.

"This novel is an intriguing work of fiction inspired by the real-life events of the author's paternal grandparents. It is a captivating story of love and adventure set in Canada, England and Scotland during the 1910s," the Friends added.

The event is at 1 p.m. Register at <http://bit.ly/Friends-Café-with-Marie-Gage>.

There will be a 20 to 30-minute author presentation followed by a short question and answer session.

While a free event, donations in support of the library system will be gratefully accepted during the program.

For event questions, contact Rozanne Hynard at 705-286-1071. For registration assistance, contact Jennifer Hughey at 705-854-1205.



Local author, Marie Gage, is the guest for an April 28 Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library fundraiser. *File.*

INFORMATION PAGE

7 Milne Street, PO Box 359 Minden ON K0M 2K0 Phone: 705-286-1260
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Notice of Public Meetings

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding Public Meetings on Thursday, May 13, 2021 during its Meeting of Council via web conference regarding its Fees and Charges By-law and Procedural By-law. More information will be provided on the Township's website at a later date.

Dated this 21st day of April, 2021.

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

Summer Hours at Waste Sites

Minden Hills Waste Sites switch to summer hours on May 1st. Go to mindenhills.ca/landfill or ask a waste site attendant for more details.

A Message from the Fire Department

Where to install smoke detectors

The NFPA recommends installing a smoke alarm on every floor, including the basement, and inside every sleeping room. Smoke alarms should be mounted high on a wall not more than a foot from the ceiling or on the ceiling. Remember, smoke rises.

• **Kitchen:** It is critical to mount smoke alarms in the kitchen at least 10 feet from any cooking appliance to minimize false alarms when cooking.

• **Basement:** Smoke alarms in the basement should be installed on the ceiling near the bottom step of the stairs up to the first floor.

How to use a fire extinguisher

Fire extinguishers are helpful for putting out small fires. You can contact your local fire department for fire extinguisher training.

Or, follow the PASS to operate a fire extinguisher, remember the word "PASS:"

• Pull the pin. Hold the fire extinguisher with the nozzle pointing away from you and remove the pin to unlock it.

• Aim low. Point the nozzle at the base of the fire.

• Squeeze the lever slowly and evenly.

• Sweep the nozzle from side-to-side.

Fire extinguishers should be checked regularly and tested by a professional every few years.

(Virtual) Council Meetings

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

The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

April 29 – Regular Council Meeting

May 13 – Committee of the Whole Meeting

May 13 – Public Meeting Fees and Charges By-law

May 13 – Public Meeting Procedural By-law

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.minden hills.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.minden hills.ca/council/. Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.

Household Hazardous Waste Events

Based on your feedback, we have enhanced household hazardous waste events for 2021 to include events with extended hours, alternate locations and a weekday event to accommodate retirees and those who may not work during the week.

Please visit mindenhills.ca/landfill for event dates and hours and accepted materials.

Riverwalk and Wetlands Boardwalk Update

The Boardwalk is currently closed until further notice. The Riverwalk remains open and ready for your walking enjoyment.

Earth Week

April 19 to 24 is Earth Week! Head over to our Facebook page where we've partnered with other local municipalities and the County to share tips and hints to help you restore the earth. Plus Haliburton Library has been recommending environmental books and offering online eco-programming!

Employment Opportunity

Accounts Receivable/Accounting Clerk

We are currently accepting resumes for an Accounts Receivable/Accounting Clerk.

This position provides assistance to the Director of Finance/Treasurer in the development and implementation of financial goals and objectives relative to the processing and payment of accounts receivable, utility billing and general accounting requirements.

This position oversees the day-to-day financial functions relating to accounts receivable, utility billing and general accounting requirements.

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 \$24.60/hour as per LOCAL 4286 Collective Agreement. Earnings will be subject to Union dues.

Please visit: www.minden hills.ca/employment-opportunities/ for full posting details and job description.

How to Apply:

Email cover letter and resume to: sprentice@minden hills.ca by April 30, 2021.

Highlander classifieds

HELP WANTED

WATSON GENERAL CONTRACTING

Jobs available for Landfill Site Attendants, Full or P/T, for Minden Hills, Haliburton & Algonquin Highlands.

PLEASE SEND RESUME TO
watsongeneralcontracting@sympatico.ca
 or drop off at Haliburton Landfill or Scotch Line
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- Office located near Tory Hill.

Send resume to
info@blackrocklandscapes.ca



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Head Chef wanted at Haliburton Hockey Haven Sports Camp, position runs early June to Labour day weekend.

Please contact mitchell@camphockeyhaven.com
 for details or call 905-717-1000



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The position will be for 40 hours per week and with some on call emergency response when needed. The salary will be based on the successful applicant's skills and experience.

Please submit a resume by email to:
manager@marcusbeachcottages.ca
 by Thursday, April 29th.



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CHEF and FOOD SERVICES TRAINER WANTED

SIRCH Community Services, a charitable organization in Haliburton, has a year-round food services training program, a Community Kitchen that prepares and gives out free, nutritious meals, and a Bistro that is open to the public to give trainees practice in cooking and serving exemplary food. We are looking for a Chef with experience creating nutritious food who would love to mentor others and provide practical training to adult students. You would be working with our Kitchen Coordinator and other cooks, bakers, and trainees on site in Haliburton.

It is a full time permanent position.

Send a cover letter and resume to Gena Robertson, Executive Director, SIRCH Community Services.
info@sirch.on.ca. For further information call 705-457-1742 or go to www.sirch.on.ca



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The Haliburton Family Medical Centre and Minden Medical Centre are seeking a temporary part-time Registered Practical Nurse. The term of the contract will be six (6) months.

The successful candidate must have excellent organizational skills and be able to work in a fast paced environment. Active membership with RPNAO is mandatory. Previous experience working in a primary care medical clinic will be considered an asset.

Please forward a cover letter and resume to the address below, or email kim.robinson@hhfht.com;

Haliburton Family Medical Centre
7217 Gelert Road
P.O. Box 870
Haliburton, ON
K0M 1S0

Attention: Kim Robinson

Deadline for applications is April 30, 2021. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



The Haliburton Family Medical Centre and Minden Medical Centre are seeking a temporary full-time Team Support (receptionist). The term of the contract will be six (6) months.

The successful candidate must have excellent organizational skills and be able to work in a fast paced environment. Previous experience in the Health or Business Administration field will be considered an asset.

Please forward a cover letter and resume to the address below, or email kim.robinson@hhfht.com;

Haliburton Family Medical Centre
7217 Gelert Road
P.O. Box 870
Haliburton, ON
K0M 1S0

Attention: Kim Robinson

Deadline for applications is April 30, 2021. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



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Township of Algonquin Highlands Fees and Charges By-law Amendment

NOTE: As a result of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak, as well as the requirements for social distancing, Council Meetings will be conducted electronically via web conference until further notice.

NOTICE is hereby provided that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands intends to consider amending its Comprehensive Fees and Charges By-Law 2021-22 at its regular meeting to be held on Thursday, May 6, 2021.

The proposed amendment will include a 25% reduction in fees related to the Dorset Tower Property during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link. The live-stream link can be found in the Regular Meeting Notice posted on the Township's website under the News and Notices at www.algonquinhighlands.ca

Dated: April 21, 2021.

Dawn Newhook
Municipal Clerk
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Rd.
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1
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THANK YOU

With Sincere Thanks...



The family of the late Leopoldina "Leo" Dobrzensky-Dobrzencz wish to express their appreciation to family, friends, neighbours and the many others for their kindness and support during this difficult time. Many thanks to Dr. Scott Coles, Dr. Judy Suke and the nursing & support staff at the Haliburton Hospital for their compassionate and excellent care of mom

during her last days. We are deeply grateful for the countless messages of sympathy, cards of condolence, tributes, flowers, prayers, Mass offerings and the generous donations made in mom's name to the Pregnancy Care & Family Support Centre, Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation and to the Volunteer Dental Outreach for Haliburton County. A special thank you to all who attended the visitation and participated in mom's funeral Mass at St. Anthony of Padua Mission Church. This wonderful celebration of life was offered by Father Casmir who provided a very moving eulogy - capturing the spirit of mom's deep faith. Lastly, the attention and professionalism provided by Dwaine Lloyd and Kate Lovett of the Haliburton Community Funeral Home was a comfort and relief to our family in our time of sorrow.

Ever curious, giving and productive - mom drew her spiritual and cultural existence from her connection with the people of the Haliburton Highlands. She took great pride in sharing her friendship and knowledge with her beloved community. Thank you for supporting and encouraging mom throughout the years to make a difference in the community where she felt at peace. Sadly, she has left this world but her legacy continues.

John, Zdislava, Margaret Dobrzensky-Dobrzencz and family

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Thank you so much for your help facilitating the ad request for this year's plant sale. The placement is excellent in this week's paper! We have had a ton of traffic to the website and many plant orders as a result. Cannot thank you and The Highlander team enough for the opportunity to advertise in such a wonderful local paper that people obviously know and trust to read each week.

- Stephanie Field (Friends of Ecological & Environmental Learning (F.E.E.L))

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SOLUTIONS FOR APRIL 23

1	R	E	G	A	L	E		7	C	A	R	A	M	B	A
14	A	P	O	L	L	O		15	E	D	O	U	A	R	D
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37	A		38	F	R	O		39	E	T	S		40	D	A
41	P	R	O	O	F	E	D		43	P	S	T		44	I
47	P	I	N	T	A			48	N	O	T	A		49	C
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	59	T	U	R	E	E	N	S		60	F	L	E	E	C
	61	S	T	Y	R	E	N	E		62	O	L	D	S	O

Highlander classifieds

FOR SALE

2014 Polaris Camo ATV 850 CC HD EFI EPS, 381 original miles. \$8,000. Or best offer. Call Guy at 416-737-5098

Real Estate Investor selling portfolio of properties, 2 Booth St, Minden, 1057 Colonial Rd, Minden, Bldg lot Hwy 503, Highlands East & 100 acres with house & barn, Bracebridge. Call Joseph at 705-306-0979

OBITUARIES




Fred Brome

April 14, 2021 (Resident of Harcourt, Ontario)

Fred passed peacefully on April 14, 2021 in his 79th year. He is survived by his loving wife Andrea, his son Steven and his grandsons Cole & Couper. He is also survived by his step-children Jonathon, Natasha, Amanda, their spouses Lindsay, Brendan, Wes, as well as his grandchildren Adele, Theodore, Alaia, Deliah and Josephine.

Fred formed many friendships through work and recreation. He will be missed in Harcourt Park; his home for the past 20+ years. He will be fondly remembered by his friends Don & Connie, Mike & Barb, Clarence & Roberta, Eckhart & Molly.

Private Funeral Arrangements

Funeral arrangements are private. As an expression of sympathy, donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209. 



In Loving Memory of


Peter John Maybury

Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at the age of 73.

Beloved husband of Barbara for 49 years. Dear father of Brianne and her husband Matthew of Orangeville, Lauren and her husband Zachary of Chicago. Loving grandpa "Dumpy" to Evan, Paige, Parker and twins Luka and Zoe. Brother-in-law to Robert and his wife Jennifer.

Pete will always be remembered for his love of hockey, he played Jr. A for many years and Maple Leafs owned his rights which led to a scholarship at the Ohio University where he met Barb. Pete graduated with a Bachelor of Education, that same year he married Barb and was drafted by the World Hockey Association but he chose to continue with his education and achieved his Master's Degree from Kent State University. In 1974 he began working at Humber College North Campus as the Athletic Director and was also the hockey coach for the Humber Hawks, he later transferred to the Lakeshore Campus as Director of Student and Community Affairs and retired after 33 years at Humber to Minden.

A Celebration of Peter's Life will take place at a later date and time to be announced.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) or to AMICI Camping Charity would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0. 

IN MEMORY



In Memory of

KENNETH S. KRELLER

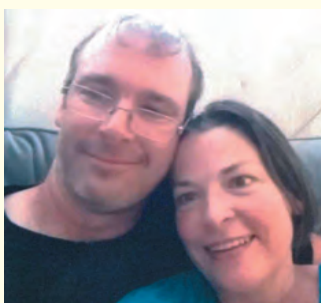
WHEN I LOST YOU

I wish I could see you one more time,
Come walking through the door
But I know that is impossible
I will hear your voice no more

I know you can feel my tears
And you don't want me to cry,
Yet my heart is broken because
I can't understand why someone
So precious had to die

I pray that God will give me strength
And somehow get me through
As I struggle with the heartache
That came when I lost you

- Love Sylvia and Family



It's with great sadness that we announce the passing of LYNN JUDITH DORGAN, on April 11, 2021, after a very courageous battle.

Beloved life partner of Ken Wilson, loving Mother of Caera, Sean and Patricia. Loving Aunt of Mark, Benjamin, Roni and Ian.

Lynn will be greatly missed by all of her family and many, many friends in Canada and the United States.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations to Gilchrist Hospice Care, 6336 Cedar Lane, Columbia, Maryland, USA 21044

Lynn will always be in our hearts.

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NOTICES



FAMILY-LED DEATH CARE? END OF LIFE DOULAS? NATURAL BURIAL?

Adriane Weller speaks at a free Zoom event organized by the Haliburton Green Burial Society **WED. APRIL 28, 7:30 P.M.** to be followed by a short AGM

Register via website <https://www.haliburtongreenburial.ca/>



WANT TO BE PART OF A GREEN PROJECT?

The Haliburton County Green Burial Society seeks new Board members to help bring green burial to Haliburton County. Do you have skills with photography, social media, education, administration, finance, or municipal government?

To discuss, please contact hgreenburialsociety@gmail.com
New members welcome.



In Loving Memory of

Scott "Scotty" Gordon Charity

April 27, 1965 – April 13, 2021


It is with heavy hearts and great sadness that we announce the passing of Scott Gordon Charity on April 13, 2021, at the age of 55 with the love of his life Karen by his side. Scotty is survived by his parents Gord and Dawn and his brothers Stuart (Teresa) and Stephen (Stacey). He will be greatly missed by his niece, nephews, family, friends & neighbours.

Scotty was the third generation of his family to live and work on Crystal Lake. One of his proudest life moments was building the beautiful home on the Lake that he and Karen shared together. After hanging up his butcher's apron, Scotty started his own business, "Knot for Charity Carpentry". He provided skilled carpentry work to homeowners and cottagers as well as building and installing decks, docks, painting and staining. Scotty was known for his attention to detail and perfection in every job that he did, regardless of the size of the job.

Scotty was an avid outdoorsman, who loved to snowmobile, fish, swim and cruise Crystal Lake in his boat "Scott Free". He was easily recognized wherever he went wearing his trademark bandanna and dark sunglasses. Scotty enjoyed to cook and experiment with new recipes and couldn't go to bed without a bowl of ice cream. He loved listening to music, especially his favourite band Lynyrd Skynyrd, and watching wrestling matches, outdoor related or nature type shows on TV. Scotty was also a huge fan of the Leafs and the Blue Jays.

In keeping with Scotty's wishes, cremation has taken place and due to the Covid-19 restrictions, a celebration of his life will be held at a later date.

We wish to thank the Doctors, Nurses and staff at both, the Sunnybrook Odette Cancer Centre and the Peterborough Hospice as well as the many friends and family members who provided support, care and comfort to both Scotty and Karen over the past several years.

For those who wish, memorial donations in Scotty's name can be made to the Gord Downie Fund for Brain Cancer Research at the Sunnybrook Hospital. www.donate.sunnybrook.ca/tribute or the Peterborough Hospice www.hospicepeterborough.org/donate/ or can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0. 

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O My!

- Across**
- 1 Schmooze (with)
 - 7 Pre-P string
 - 11 Un ___ (French for "a little bit")
 - 14 Test taker's setbacks
 - 15 "I've got ___ of homework!"
 - 16 Twitter shares: Abbr.
 - 17 Blueish-purple hues
 - 18 U2 singer's remarks "en français"?
 - 20 Amateur athlete's body: Abbr.
 - 21 Offspring, as on a fam. tree
 - 22 Uber, in English
 - 23 Spanish resort area for singles?
 - 27 Elvis, notably, on posters
 - 28 Actress Plummer, daughter of Christopher
 - 31 ___ Talk (presentation)
 - 32 Mlle., post-wedding
 - 34 To whom Pierre prays, perhaps
 - 35 Greeting aboard a train?
 - 40 S-shaped molding
 - 41 Thai's neighbour
 - 42 Bladder problem that may be treated with cranberry juice: Abbr.
 - 44 Big resource in Saskatchewan
 - 47 Approaches, as a target, with "on"
 - 50 Matchmaking event for the swimsuit crowd?
 - 52 Tire on "la voiture"
 - 55 Prefix meaning "high"
 - 56 HBO alternative
 - 57 Sexy leftist?
 - 59 "Full" or "half" dive
 - 62 Zeta follower
 - 63 Caesar's 1151
 - 64 "L'il Abner" cartoonist
 - 65 Quipster's gift
 - 66 Field goal kickers?
 - 67 Illuminated, before electricity

- 4 Thumbs-down ballot
- 5 Tram in a mine
- 6 Stretches the truth, for short
- 7 Where ingredients are listed
- 8 Greek peak
- 9 RCMP cpl., but not insp., for short
- 10 Lennon's middle name
- 11 Premier's concern: Abbr.
- 12 Major finale?
- 13 "Back in the ___" (Beatles hit)
- 19 Unification Church member, slangily
- 21 Prefix meaning "skin"
- 23 Flin Flon's hrs.
- 24 Single bounce hit, in baseball
- 25 Program tire kicker's download
- 26 Load, as cargo
- 29 Needing a reality check
- 30 Dr. Evil's nemesis ___ Powers
- 33 The big picture?: Abbr.
- 36 Goes from a deluge to a drizzle
- 37 High jump
- 38 "Yippee!"
- 39 Fringed part of a parka
- 43 Having one sharp, musically
- 45 Spirit-raising session
- 46 Harass a comedian
- 48 Spice blend in Indian cuisine
- 49 Issues of morality
- 51 Right way to go, in Québec?
- 52 "That was close!"
- 53 "Don't look at me!"
- 54 Coup d'___
- 58 Global financial lender: Abbr.
- 59 [Ew, gross!]
- 60 Beginning to cure?
- 61 Lit student's handin: Abbr.

- Down**
- 1 Tailor's bottom line?
 - 2 "... boy ___ girl?"
 - 3 Jilted narcissist's wound

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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS														
2	4	5	3	6	9	8	1	7						
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57	H	O	T	P				58	I	N	K	O		59	G
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SOLD

Halls Lake



Well maintained 3 bedroom, 2 bath cottage or home with gorgeous lake views. Lovely landscaped terraced lot with two cabins at water's edge. Main cottage features a large kitchen, dining room & fantastic screened porch overlooking the lake, cozy living room and main floor laundry. **\$689,000**

SOLD

Beech Lake



Get that "Lodge Like" feeling at this 3-bdrm, 1 bath, four season cottage. Octagon shaped open concept great room with exposed Douglas fir beams creates warmth and charm. Woodburning fireplace is the main focal point. The full-sized kitchen with island is great for entertaining. Western exposure provides fabulous sunset views. 131 feet of frontage with a mixture of sand and rock shoreline. Cantilever dock or in your shaded picnic area with hammock. Great waterfront privacy. **\$659,000**

SOLD

Little Glamor Lake



It has the best view on the lake! Traditional 3-bdrm, 1 bath cottage. Large windows, compact kitchen with great layout for cooking. Walk-out to wrap around deck with glass railings. Large sunroom. Pretty lake views. Detached single garage. Nice level sunny lot with a gentle slope to the lake with lawn area and firepit. **\$529,000**

SOLD

Drag River



Bright and spacious 2-bdrm, 2 bath Viceroy home/ cottage. Pretty view with 155 feet of frontage on Drag River. Open concept kitchen and dining area and vaulted pine ceilings in the living room. Large river front deck. Spacious master bedroom with his and her closets. Unfinished walk-out lower level. Private riverside setting, great for canoeing, kayaking and swimming. **\$449,000**

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