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The Highlander

Thursday **May 6 2021** | Issue 489

INSIDE: HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY PAGE 18

FREE



Oliver Tarr, number 92, of the Whitby Fury in action last year. The team is moving to Haliburton County. Amy Deroche/OJHL Images.

Huskies make Minden arena home

By Lisa Gervais

Minden's newly-refurbished arena is now home to a Junior A Hockey Club.

The former Whitby Fury are on the move and will begin their training camp as the Haliburton County Huskies in mid-August, if allowed by the Province of Ontario

during the pandemic.

Minden Hills director of community services, Craig Belfry, shared details during the April 29 council meeting when he brought a tenancy agreement before council.

He and staff have been negotiating for months to bring the club to Minden. It's

owned by local businessman Paul Wilson.

Belfry said it was an "exciting development" for the township.

He said the team sought formal approval from the Ontario Junior Hockey League with the relocation approved Feb. 15.

Huskies head coach and general manager,

Continued 'Junior' on page 4

Up to 40 cell towers coming to Highlands

By Joseph Quigley

Rogers Communications is preparing to bring 30-40 new fifth-generation (5G) cell towers and upgrade 21 existing ones to improve coverage throughout Haliburton County.

The company presented to a special County council meeting April 28 with information on the Eastern Ontario Regional Network's (EORN) cellular project, which aims to provide 99 per cent coverage throughout the region, with 95 per cent of areas supporting cellular web browsing and 85 per cent supporting video streaming. Rogers was selected for the public-private partnership, which has a more than \$300 million combined investment.

The company plans to start upgrading existing towers this spring, with some finished by the summer. It expects to complete all upgrades by the end of 2022, with new tower construction to finish by 2025.

"It's a very aggressive schedule," EORN CEO David Fell said. "We are confident we will meet or exceed those coverage goals for the project."

The County is contributing \$441,765 towards the initiative. The process is underway, with Rogers indicating it is scouting new tower locations, which will require municipal approval.

Council members expressed excitement about the initiative but also discussed the hurdles it could bring.

Algonquin Highlands Coun. Lisa

Continued 'County' on page 2

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Rogers Communications is planning to build 30-40 new cell towers in Haliburton. *Photo via Flickr.*

County wary of 'nimby' concerns

Continued from page 1

Barry asked about long-term studies on exposure to radiofrequency, alluding to health concerns about 5G.

Rogers senior director of 5G product management and customer readiness Sameer Sheth said the company follows the highest safety regulations from the Canadian government. Health Canada has stated there are no health risks from exposure to cellphones, towers and 5G devices.

Dysart et al mayor Andrea Roberts said residents could protest the towers as they go up - despite how necessary they are to improve coverage.

"Like a lot of things ... the old nimby (not in my backyard) comes around," Roberts said. "They want service, they don't want the cell towers."

Highlands East deputy mayor Cec Ryall said pushback may prove less than anticipated, adding the pandemic has changed some mindsets.

"I don't think we're going to have as much resistance as we had in the past, although I'm sure there will be," Ryall said.

Internet not included

The project stands to improve data capabilities but does not necessarily improve internet coverage. EORN staff also presented about the Big Gig initiative, a \$1.2-\$1.6 billion proposal to bring gigabyte download speeds throughout the region that has yet to receive funding.

Minden Coun. Bob Carter asked

about using wireless technology from the new towers for internet improvements, adding data plans can be cost-prohibitive as a substitute.

Fell said the government funding for the project is limited to cellular coverage. But he added Rogers is interested in providing fixed wireless internet from the new infrastructure.

"It's absolutely something we have supported," Fell said. "Any broadband is good broadband."

Warden Liz Danielsen said the project has come with a tremendous amount of work - and frustration.

"It's going to take some time for us to get connected - and probably longer than most people want," Danielsen said. "But we're really pleased to see this going forward."



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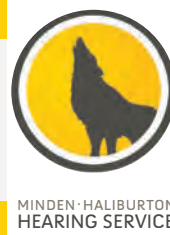
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County gets \$3 million for outdoor infrastructure

By Joseph Quigley

The federal and provincial governments will spend approximately \$3 million towards municipal infrastructure improvements, including the Rail Trail, Rotary Beach and the Kinark Outdoor Centre (KOC).

Officials announced the funding April 29, which will be used to rehabilitate and add to the facilities. The upper government dollars include approximately \$1.1 million for the Kinark Outdoor Centre, \$657,700 for better accessibility at four other Minden facilities, \$219,990 to rehabilitate Rotary Beach Park and \$196,616 towards the County Rail Trail.

KOC program director Jane Isbister said the organization had waited since 2018 for the grant funding to come through. The centre provides recreational and therapeutic programs for children with an Autism Spectrum Disorder.

"This is fantastic news for the kids. It's a great investment in our program," Isbister said. "We're thrilled about it."

The projects came due to applications through the Community, Culture and Recreation stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP).

Mayor Andrea Roberts said Dysart made its applications more than a year ago and MPP Laurie Scott said the province decided on what it would fund last fall, before awaiting approval for federal dollars.

"These projects will enhance our communities by so much," MP Jamie Schmale said. "It was a slog, but we got there."

Warden Liz Danielsen thanked Scott and Schmale for championing the proposals.

"The residents of Haliburton County have had, and continue to experience some difficult times," Danielsen said. "It's really heartening to get some welcome and good news about projects being approved for all of our residents to enjoy in the future."

The initiatives will also require municipal contributions. Minden will spend \$396,930 on the Kinark Outdoor Centre, with improvements including increased accessibility, extending the service life of the dining hall and creating a new dorm. The municipality will also provide \$239,230 towards improvements at other facilities, including the Minden Library and Cultural Centre, the Lochlin Community Centre, the Irondale Community Centre and the Minden Curling Club building.



The Kinark Outdoor Centre is receiving more than \$1 million in grant funding for infrastructure improvements. *Photo via Facebook.*

Meanwhile, Dysart will contribute \$80,010 towards Rotary Beach Park, including repairs on sports courts, a new play structure, a bike rack and an off-leash dog park. The project will also add a Wi-Fi network.

"The upgrades to this area of Head lake park will be appreciated by so many residents and visitors alike," Roberts said. "Our parks and outdoor facilities are more important than ever."

The County will spend \$71,509 towards the Rail Trail, which will add a granular overlay to 30 kilometres, 15 benches, 500

metres of barrier and informational signage.

Isbister said KOC hopes to complete construction over a three-year term. She said it is difficult for the organization to make infrastructure improvements and this funding will go a long way.

"The needs of our families and our visitors are changing," she said. "To be able to build a new dorm is super exciting to be able to meet the needs of our target audience."

Projects in Kawartha Lakes and Brock also received funding, with a combined cost of \$12 million for eight different initiatives across all three jurisdictions.

MINDEN HILLS NEWS

Township won't scrap paper ballots

Minden voters will be able to cast their ballots using the internet, phone or by paper ballot when the township goes to the polls in 2022.

It's the exact same voting method that was employed in 2018.

CAO/clerk Trisha McKibbin tabled a report to the April 29 meeting, saying clerks from all four townships were recommending e-voting only.

She said last time, there were 3,847 ballots cast with 71.8 per cent of voters using internet and phone and 28.2 per cent paper ballot.

She added that in light of the pandemic, just using e-voting would mean no gathering of people for counting of ballots

or handling of hundreds or thousands of mail-in ballots.

"The implementation of internet/telephone voting would have its benefits in planning for any future public health emergency where social distancing may be required during an election year," McKibbin said.

She did not recommend a combination of voting methods, as it is "very labour intensive, expensive and may be confusing for the public." She further encouraged consistency in all four townships.

McKibbin said they will have about \$60,000 in the bank for the 2022 election.

Dysart et al voted for internet and phone banking only at their April 27 meeting.

However, Coun. Bob Carter said while he has no issues with e-voting, he said he "had a real problem with us abandoning the paper ballots." He noted almost 30 per cent

used paper ballots, probably older people. He said they've been using it all of their lives and "I don't see why we should be taking that away from them at this point."

He said it's more money but he didn't want to disenfranchise or disincentivize voters.

Coun. Jean Neville agreed, arguing it was an accessibility right.

Coun. Pam Sayne did ask how it would work during COVID.

Minden makes charging station decision

Council have directed staff to pursue a turn-key approach for one dual port level 2 electric vehicle charging station at the township office in Minden.

They also approved that the estimated \$5,000 in service fees be paid from the 2021 property operating budget.

The turn-key approach means Ontario Power Generation and Hydro One will install, maintain and own the stations.

Mayor Brent Devolin said, "I think this is coming so hard and fast that people don't have any idea. We're going to have to do a lot more. It's a good start. And it gets our toe in the water." He anticipates a tidal wave of private and public assets in future.

Coun. Pam Sayne asked about the infrastructure having future expandability.

Coun. Bob Carter agreed, "this is going to expand much quicker than anybody anticipates and I agree with Coun. Sayne that hopefully everything that is done is quickly expandable." (*Minden Hills news compiled by Lisa Gervais*)

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Junior A hockey club moving from Whitby

Continued from page 1

Ryan Ramsay, told *The Highlander*, "We're ecstatic to say the least."

He said the group that bought the Whitby Fury a couple of years ago knew they were going to have to relocate as they weren't getting the fans and there was no atmosphere in the arena.

Then, last year, they heard about Minden's new rink nearing completion. He said he and Wilson came to tour the rink and facilities.

"A great centre up in cottage country. From an operations point of view, it was a no-brainer for us. With the County being a hockey town and a sports town, we think it could really be something special for fans, the community and our players."

Belfry said the benefits of having the team move to the facility are "enormous."

"It fills gaps in our scheduling of ice time. It brings a new element to the community which will help foster and develop the minor hockey and minor skating programs in the community. It provides an entertainment value to the community as a whole of a new product in the facility."

He said the agreement is for seven years, with review at the three-year mark. Belfry said the township is offering a reduced rate for ice time to help the team establish a foothold in the community. It will rise incrementally.

He noted the Huskies will be spending about \$100,000 to renovate the area known as the Scout Hall for use specifically by the team. This includes the creation of a dressing room, lounge, training rooms, office and showers.

In addition to renting ice time, the team will use other areas of the facility, including the viewing area and adjoining community hall and gym.

Further, the team will be running the canteen. "That's a great deal for us, that we have somebody already agreeing to work with us to run that snack bar," Belfry said.

The team would also like fans to be able to have an alcoholic beverage when watching the games and the township is open to an arrangement.

Belfry noted the Huskies will be responsible as they will require insurance,

Smart Servers and security at games.

He tabled a report from Hockey Canada showing the overall impact "of how minor hockey, and hockey in general, generates revenue in small communities like ours and it's a very positive report." He said the Huskies are also committed to developing youth in the community.

"We felt very confident that we could accommodate this team and work with them over the next few years."

Councillors ask questions

Coun. Jennifer Hughey asked questions to address some community concerns.

She said some organizations, such as figure skating and Girl Guides and Scouts, want to ensure they are not unduly impacted. She asked Belfry what he meant by filling gaps in the scheduling of ice time.

Belfry said he looked at the arena schedule prior to closure and there were a lot of gaps. He noted the Highland Storm use both Minden and Haliburton arenas. However, he said there were openings alternating Friday and Saturday nights. He said minor hockey traditionally finishes by 5 p.m. Saturday.

"You're wide open on a Saturday night with nothing going on in the facility."

He said the Huskies plan to play Friday and Saturdays. He said they are already in discussions with minor hockey and there will be a full user group meeting in about a month to examine scheduling. He said they will practice during the day when the arena is underutilized.

Hughey and Coun. Ron Nesbitt also expressed concerns about serving alcohol. Belfry reiterated the clause about volunteer security for events. He added if there are issues, the township has the right to ask the club to employ police.

Coun. Bob Carter and Coun. Pam Sayne also asked if the team could hold off on alcohol sales in the stands until the township sees how it goes.

Meanwhile, the Haliburton County Huskies went live with their website May 5 at huskieshockey.ca.



The Fury celebrate a goal in a 2020 game in Whitby. Shawn Muir/OJHL Images.

Highlander news

Chamber pushes for more paid sick days

By Joseph Quigley

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce is advocating for governments to put more support into sick day initiatives.

The province unveiled a sick days' program April 28, providing employers up to \$200 for up to three days per employee. It aims to help keep ill workers home during the pandemic but falls short of the two weeks of sick days Ontario's COVID-19 Science Advisory Table has highlighted as key.

Chamber president Andrea Strano said it is a step in the right direction and a lot of local small businesses will take advantage of it. However, she said the days do not run long enough.

"I am not certain that three days will deter people from staying home if they are right on the edge, from paycheque to paycheque," Strano said. "There needs to be longer support in place."

The province will reimburse employers through the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), running retroactively from April 19 to Sept. 25. The province is also pushing to add funding to the federal Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit program (CRSB), which supports people not working due to self-isolation.

"It is a tremendously positive step that the federal government has signaled their willingness to continue discussions on the CRSB. Now, we can fix the outstanding gap," Minister of Labour, Training and



The Chamber said governments should fund more than three additional paid sick days during the pandemic. *File photo.*

Skills Development Monte McNaughton said in a press release.

Strano said that proposal is encouraging but does not address other shortcomings, such as processing delays. She also said there is some confusion about who qualifies for reimbursement under WSIB.

"The process should be easy and seamless," Strano said.

Businesses cannot bear the brunt of paying for more sick days, Strano said. She said her organization supports a program paid for by the government during the pandemic.

"Most small business owners are challenged enough," she said. "They need all the help they can get to ensure their staff can take the time off they need."

In a joint statement, Strano and Ontario

Chamber of Commerce CEO Rocco Rossi said more changes are needed.

"We would like to see all levels of governments open to further adjustments of their programs - as they have been with other programs rolled out in the pandemic - to ensure programs meet the needs of workers and the market in the Haliburton Highlands," they said.

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Highlander news

Commission calls out long-term care failures

By Joseph Quigley

The Haliburton-City of Kawartha Lakes Long-Term Care Coalition praised a report from a provincial commission highlighting systematic failure in the sector.

Ontario's Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission released its final report April 30. The province tasked it July 2020 with investigating the state of the province's long-term care (LTC) homes after hundreds of COVID-19-related deaths in the early days of the pandemic.

The report highlights the province as ill-prepared for the crisis and that the sector was an easy target for outbreaks after decades of neglect.

For coalition member Bonnie Roe, the information is not surprising.

"The neglect of our elderly has been systemic for probably 30 years," Roe said.

The commission said there were numerous warnings LTC needed a significant overhaul and much of the infrastructure was outdated. It makes 85 recommendations for addressing LTC and pandemic preparedness, including a comprehensive inspection regime, increased funding, improving the level of care and licensees making counselling available for residents and staff.

Although the commission notes many of the issues were longstanding, it also lays blame at the current government for a slow response to the first wave of the pandemic

and a lack of preparation for the second wave.

In a press release, Minister of Long-Term Care Dr. Merrilee Fullerton said the province is already making improvements and vaccinations have decreased outbreaks at homes.

"There's no question that residents and staff at long-term care homes and their families were disproportionately impacted by COVID-19," Fullerton said. "We cannot let their experience be in vain - and we won't."

Advocates such as Roe and the Ontario Health Coalition have been calling for reform and the end of for-profit care. But the commission fell short of recommending that, stating that although COVID-19 has undermined their reputation, private "mission-driven" enterprises have a part to play going forward.

"The commission accepts that there are owners of 'for-profit' homes, mostly those that are mission-driven, who provide good care to their residents," the report said.

"To me, that's a step backwards considering how progressive the rest of the report is," Roe said. "I don't think profit should be involved in any way."

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) president and CEO Carolyn Plummer said the report is a "critical step in the right direction." She said many of the report's recommendations are already happening at their homes, but more work - and funding - will be needed for others.

"I am hopeful that this report will help form the basis for meaningful change," Plummer said.

Roe said she is unsure of whether this report will bring about change.

"It could happen, I think, if the political will was there, and that's what we need to see," Roe said. "There's a true lack of respect and I truly hope that maybe, with more public pressure, that the government will listen."

LTC petition gains traction

The coalition is mounting that pressure, garnering more than 2,400 signatures for a petition after three weeks of circulation.

The petition is in support of ensuring four hours of direct care per resident per day; increasing infection prevention and health care expertise; improving working conditions; reinstating thorough inspections with consistent enforcement; changing nursing home culture to being more resident-centred, family/caregiver-centred, and rights-based; and taking the profit motive out of long-term care.

The petition is online and at Minden Pharmasave.

"We are very encouraged with this incredible level of support for fixing long-term care," said Haliburton resident and coalition member Lyn Ritchie, who was key



Haliburton-City of Kawartha Lakes Long-Term Care Coalition member Bonnie Roe welcomed a new report highlighting the failures of the sector. Photo via Facebook

in drafting the petition.

Kawartha Lakes representative, Mike Perry, added "fixing long-term care is top-of-mind for local residents. The survey numbers demonstrate the level of concern."

The coalition, formed last May, has received support from Concerned Citizens of Haliburton County, the Canadian Federation of University Women and Haliburton County Council.

The group said it is awaiting a motion of support from Haliburton Highlands Health Services. (With files from Lisa Gervais.)

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Highlander news



Local builders remain busy during the pandemic. *File photo.*

Residents feeling sting of high material prices

By Joseph Quigley

Local builders and residents are feeling the pinch of high material costs, but housing demand is keeping business steady.

The cost of lumber and construction materials have skyrocketed in recent months, part of an upward trend throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. A common 2 x 4 western spruce-pine-fir is at \$1,330 (USD) per thousand board feet as of April 23 – nearly twice the 52-week average of \$773.

Haliburton County Home Builders Association (HCHBA) vice-president Glenn Evans said those costs can hurt contractors when they lock in project prices months in advance.

“These volatile price increases, it’s

difficult to maneuver that when you’re already locked into a price,” Evans said. “It’s impacted the construction industry, I would say right across the board. Doesn’t matter who you are, how you operate. It’s having a negative impact.”

But builders remain busy thanks to a booming real estate market, which Evans said often goes together with the construction sector. Real estate company Royal LePage said March 23 after a 16 per cent increase in home prices in Canada’s recreational property regions in 2020, it projects another 15 per cent increase in 2021.

“Life during the pandemic has made cottage country and country living more

desirable than ever,” Royal LePage president and CEO Phil Soper said. “Canadians young and old [are looking for] properties with more space, easy access to nature, and the ability to achieve that ever-elusive work-life balance.”

“It’s a little bewildering that the price of materials hasn’t seemed to slow down the demand yet, but that’s the reality,” Evans said. “People are still seeking to leave the city.”

That has made it a “very positive market” for builders, Evans said. With properties up for sale drying up, he said people are turning to vacant lots or teardowns to build the new home they are looking for.

Although the pandemic’s end could be

coming, Evans said he does not foresee prices falling anytime soon. He said there are other factors to the price increases, such as large forest fires.

“I’m not convinced you’re going to go back to a pre-pandemic kind of price,” he said. “They will recede to a degree, but I’m not convinced you’re going to see prices plummet.”

Although companies might be able to bear the increases, he said the “do-it-yourself” projects are the ones that will take a hit.

“To build a little deck that used to be \$700 or \$800 for materials pre-pandemic is now \$2,000,” Evans said. “That really takes you back when you experience that.”

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Editorial opinion

TheHighlander

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Huskies may assist economy

With Minden Hills taxpayers paying off the loan for the Minden recreation complex, news the town is getting a junior hockey team helps somewhat with that financial burden.

The former Whitby Fury - now renamed the Haliburton County Huskies - have made the Minden arena their new home under a draft tenancy agreement discussed at council's April 29 meeting.

Director of community services, Craig Belfry, said the team is investing in the township. That includes renovating the Scout Hall area to create their own dressing room, lounge, training rooms, offices and showers. He estimated they'll spend \$105,000 plus HST.

They'll also run the concession stand. While the township will derive no revenue from snack bar sales, it means they don't have to run it, find someone to operate it, or spend any money.

And, of course, the Huskies will be buying ice time.

The township has been generous with taxpayers' money on this front, offering heavy discounts for the seven-year term of the agreement. It begins with 30 per cent of the applicable hourly rate in the first year, climbing incrementally to 65 per cent in year seven.

Belfry said the discount is to give the team a chance to become established.

The latest ice rental fees I could find on the township website include a ticket ice rental rate of \$80 per hour plus HST or a prime-time rate of \$112 an hour. If the team is using ice in both categories, it averages out to about \$96 an hour. At their former rink, the Iroquois Arena in Whitby, they paid \$99.75.

The discounted rates here will see them pay, according to my math, a little under \$30 an hour in their first year, climbing to about \$62 in their seventh year. That's a pretty hefty discount.

However, Belfry said it's still nearly \$87,000 over seven years, and since the team will fill scheduling gaps, it's money the township wouldn't have made otherwise. They'll also spend \$6,500-a-year using a room at the community centre, he pointed out.

One also has to look at the economic impact for the community at large.

When the squad rolls in for training camp in August, it is going to bring a bunch of team personnel, players, and their families. These people may commute but are likely going to be looking for somewhere to stay and eat. The team will need goods and services and we would hope they would source those locally. On a Friday or Saturday night, a home game could attract 300 spectators, all of whom may want to grab a bite before the game, or a drink after.



By Lisa Gervais

Belfry shared bits of a Hockey Canada report from 2015 on economic, community and sport benefits. Hockey Canada found that the impact of hockey on Canadian communities directly relates to the generation of \$2.6 billion annually across the nation. In particular, hockey-related tourism in small towns acts as a key driver of direct impact. More than \$1 billion of that \$2.6 billion flowed into communities of less than 100,000 people.

Looking at the Neepawa Natives, a junior team in small-town Manitoba, it's estimated they have spent \$6.2 million from the time they started operating in 1989 to 2016. That money has gone to billets, for equipment, ice rental, salaries and team expenses.

Economic studies show money spent in a local economy has a 1:7 ratio, that every dollar gets circulated seven times. That means the Natives have generated an economic impact of more than \$42 million in Neepawa since 1989.

We look forward to seeing the numbers when the Huskies complete their seventh season, in 2028.

COVID CORNER

The variants revisited

What is scarier than the fear of losing the global race to vaccinate enough persons before we are overwhelmed by escape mutations?

Every time the virus is transmitted to a new human host it copies (replicates) itself and inevitably makes mistakes (mutations) in this copying process. From some of these mutations a new variant is born. Some of these become variants of concern, meaning they spread faster and cause more severe disease.

The E484K mutation is found in all three global variants of concern (P.1 Brazil, B.1.351 S. Africa, and B.1.1.7 UK). This mutation contains changes to the part of the coronavirus spike protein that our antibodies target when fighting the virus. Thus, it can slip past our immune system defences - natural antibodies acquired from previous infections. It could change its genetic code enough to slip past vaccinations and the antibody treatments we use for patients with COVID-19.

Another mutation in the UK variant, N501Y, has made the virus more contagious, causing a surge in cases when it first appeared. That mutation helps the virus bind to doors on our cells called ACE2 receptors and enter our cells to start their business of replicating.

After you are vaccinated, or after an infection of COVID-19, your body makes

antibodies to the virus (an army of soldiers with memory of the virus). Your immune system is smart and has a good memory so if it is exposed to the virus down the road it will mount a defense using these soldiers. E484K is called an escape mutation because it helps the virus escape this standing army. With this mutation, the virus may slip past our immune defenses, making us sick.

Data about the three variants of concern (VOC) are accumulating. People infected with VOC are more likely to be hospitalized, require ICU, and die. As well, patients are younger.

The variant most prevalent in India right now is B.1.617. Reported in late March 2021 (identified in December, 2020) it contains an E484K mutation as well as another mutation called L425R, earning it the title, double mutant. Unlike the three variants of concern, the WHO considers India's double mutant only a variant of interest, acknowledging that it appears to have higher transmissibility with potential to cause more severe illness and evade vaccine immunity. B.1.617 is reported in 17-plus countries. (GISAID, Global Initiative on Sharing Avian Influenza Data).

But India's lack of swabbing and therefore gene sequencing data has left scientists and public health officials guessing just how virulent B.1.617 really is. Political rallies and religious festivals and failure to social

distance and wear masks have all contributed to the devastating rapid increase in India's cases.

As nightmarish as the spectre of virus mutations may be, we still have a powerful toolbox to defend and protect ourselves. Vaccines, social distancing, handwashing, masks. Lab studies suggest Covaxin, a vaccine developed in India, appears capable of neutralizing the variant. Public Health England, working with international partners, stated so far there is no evidence that the Indian variant causes more severe disease or renders the current vaccines less effective.

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced that the leveling of new cases and the re-opening of the UK is not a result of their successful vaccinating endeavors so much as it is attributable to the success of lockdown.

Which is where we started. Viruses cannot mutate if they don't replicate, and they can't replicate if you socially vaccinate by staying apart, and medically vaccinate widely and quickly, putting brakes on mutations.



By Dr. Nell Thomas

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

Editorial opinion

■ PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Maggie Lawrence captured this sunset over Haliburton Lake.

■ LETTERS

Cuban vaccines

Dear editor,

Cuba ranks fourth in the world for the number of doctors that it has per capita. Cuba also has one of the highest literacy rates in the world. More than 30,000 Cuban physicians have served in 67 countries.

Presently, Cuba has three Covid-19 vaccines in clinical trials - two of which are already in the third stage of trials. If they are successful, I think that it would be mutually beneficial if Canada was to make an agreement with Cuba to purchase some of the approved vaccines.

Fred and Judy Phipps
Haliburton

Lockdowns hurt Minden

Dear editor,

We need to take a serious look at the cost-benefit of continued lockdowns in Minden.

While lockdowns may be the answer in large urban centres with higher populations, a heavier load of COVID cases, and year-round, non-seasonal economies, they can be absolutely devastating to small towns where making a living is hard enough as it is.

We're coming in to what's supposed to be our busy time of year, and the lockdowns (created by far-off leaders who are out of

touch with the struggles of rural life) are showing no sign of abating.

Many businesses and individuals here rely on this busy summer season to carry them through the rest of the year. Many businesses have already suffered terribly. Some (for example, the Dominion Hotel) have even gone to great expense, doing renovations to attempt to accommodate the new way of doing business with extended outdoor areas, which will only be usable during our short summer months.

If we don't start opening up soon, more and more businesses will go under, and ultimately our town will die. If the local economy collapses around us, we will all be in a very vulnerable position.

Lockdowns are not necessary to keep the community safe. Businesses can open with all the safety measures in place and continue to do the things that have worked to keep us safe so far: masking, social distancing, reducing customer capacity, keeping stores sanitized.

The argument will be made that the lockdowns prevent cottagers from coming up from the city and spreading infection. But as any of the essential workers can tell you, that is not happening - no roads are closed, there are no checkpoints, nothing to stop people from coming up to Minden. All the lockdowns have done is created economic instability in our town.

I am part of a small but growing group of concerned citizens who are marching down

Main Street Minden every Sunday. We are not anti-maskers or anti-vaxxers (many of us have had our AstraZeneca shots already); our focus is to stand up and say enough is enough to the lockdowns, encourage all businesses to reopen safely, encourage people to support local businesses, and save our beautiful town of Minden before there isn't a town left to save.

Concerned citizens and politicians all across Canada are starting to stand up to these devastating lockdown orders, and for the sake of our town, we feel we must do the same.

Janet Fielding
Minden

Centre Lake Crown land

Dear editor,

One can well imagine the horror of those in the Centre Lake vicinity at the prospect of developers acquiring Crown land to turn their community into a resort.

What a short-sighted, disgusting abuse of land that was set aside, in theory, for all time.

In something of a parallel, logging concerns have over the past few months transformed once-pristine Telephone Bay Road into a devastated quagmire of stripped forest.

Yes, the loggers undoubtedly have licenses

and, yes, the forest will grow back in time.

But these indignities are emblematic of a provincial government that pretends to be "for the people" while it dances to the tune of Doug Ford's corporate buddies and funders.

Please stay alert to these patterns, *Highlander*. Systematically exposing these robber barons and despoilers is our only defence.

Kirk Makin
Koshlong Lake

Sam Slick Park

Dear editor,

I do support the idea of a second plaque at Sam Slick Park to explain that the language and images of Sam Slick are outdated and no longer supported by our modern view of humanity.

The explanation would do more to change minds than just removing the plaque and renaming the park.

We need to celebrate our past and the successes of the founding generations while adding lessons of current thoughts on humanity and race.

Let's strive to make Haliburton an inclusive and welcoming community.

Merla Russell
Haliburton



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Highlander news

School board awaits guidance for fall

By Kirk Winter

The local school board expects to have more information in late May about what the 2021-2022 school year is going to look like.

Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) director of education, Wes Hahn, told the April 27 board meeting that planning for the fall “is tough right now.”

He said one missing link was the Ministry of Education setting a funding model.

“We would like to be discussing budget and staffing but we have not received our GSNs (grant for student needs that specify how much money the board will get per pupil) and we really can’t do one without the other,” Hahn said.

The GSNs were announced May 4. The announcement includes a year-over-year increase of approximately \$561 million, to a total of \$25.6 billion, with per-pupil funding increasing from \$12,525 to \$12,686.

The first step of enrolling students in their online schools is underway, Hahn said. However, the board doesn’t know how much money there’ll be for virtual learning. They anticipate fewer students learning from home but need more information to plan. Hahn said they are also garnering parent feedback.

The province also announced May 4 that students can opt to take all their classes online when the new school year begins in September.

The province says the option will be available for the entire 2021-2022 school year and it will be providing more information to parents in the coming months.

Hahn said, “If cohorting is necessary next year, we want to create a model that causes minimal disruption for students, likely something similar to this year. We are waiting for vaccines to help bring back some kind of normalcy in the system.”

He said the back-and-forth has been challenging.

“Students, staff and parents have found this hard. We have to take our lead from the ministry and public health. We are having to react to what they recommend. It is not a great situation but this is the course we must follow.”

He also recognized staff in schools during the stay-at-home order, working with



Haliburton trustee, Gary Brohman. *File.*

special education students. He said the board has 74 elementary and 85 secondary students in its programs.

He added some staff have been vaccinated but the pace is not what they might have liked, due to supply issues.

Haliburton trustee Gary Brohman said “the hardest thing to do is planning. But if planning isn’t done well nothing else happens.”

Trustee John Byrne wanted more information on the board’s plan for virtual learning. He said Durham Region asked its parents to commit to one option or the other by May 4.

“When will we be making decisions with

or without knowing what our GSNs will be?” he asked.

Hahn said most boards are in the same boat as they are.

“We are looking at all sorts of situations.

It would be very nice to know what the ministry was thinking. Some boards like Durham have been forced to staff early for next year based on dates contained in their collective agreements. We would like to avoid that, because it might force last-minute timetabling and staffing changes in the fall. We want to create the best learning we can which will begin by registering all students at their home schools and then we may need to pivot from there.”

operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus).

The accused was released from custody and will appear in the Ontario Court of Justice in Minden, on June 2.

The vehicle was towed and impounded for seven days and the accused’s driver’s licence has been further suspended for 90 days.

Police said, “educating the public about safe driving practices with our community safety partners is a priority. If you see a possible impaired driver or operator please ‘make the call’ and dial 911 and help prevent a crash.” (OPP news compiled by Lisa Gervais)

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OPP NEWS

Vehicle stolen from Haliburton

Haliburton OPP say they are looking for a vehicle stolen in Dysart et al April 29.

They said they received a report of the stolen car from the parking lot of a business on Gelert Road.

It’s described as a 2020 blue Honda Civic bearing Ontario licence plate CEWJ228.

If you have information about this incident or any suspected unlawful activity, contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-222-8477 or kh.crimestoppersweb.com.

Driver arrested after crash

Haliburton Highlands OPP have arrested and charged a Highlands East woman after she allegedly drove her vehicle into a ditch in Haliburton May 2.

OPP said, while in the area of Mountain Street on an unrelated investigation about 8 p.m., a citizen told them about the ditched vehicle.

Police said they attended the scene and spoke with the driver. As a result of the investigation they said they arrested and charged a 46-year-old female with



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Highlander health



The Haliburton County Paramedic Service helped deliver vaccines to homebound patients April 27. *File photo.*

Homebound seniors get vaccines

By Joseph Quigley

Little Redstone Lake resident David Baker said the vaccine he had eagerly awaited for his homebound wife finally arrived April 27.

Baker had tried for weeks to secure a vaccine for Linda Guest, a senior chronic homecare patient who could not attend a mass immunization clinic.

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit prioritized mobile clinics at the end of April and the Haliburton County Paramedic Service delivered the Moderna vaccine to homebound patients last week.

"I'm happy she got it," Baker said. "But in my opinion, she should have got hers a lot sooner. But most Canadians should be angry that getting a vaccine out has been much slower than it should have been."

Medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking said the health unit focused

on getting vaccines to congregate care settings through mobile clinics. They also reached homebound populations through EMS partnerships in the district last week. She said supply has been an issue, adding they specifically use the Moderna vaccine due to ease of transportation.

"We know the Moderna shipments that are coming into the County were delayed," Bocking said. "I appreciate that it's been frustrating for some facilities and residents ... We're trying to work as quickly as we can, based on our supply."

Haliburton County Paramedic Service chief and director Tim Waite reported to County council April 28. He said they worked with the health unit to produce a list of patients based on community paramedicine clients. They were able to secure Moderna vaccines and deliver them.

"It's good news," Warden Liz

Danielsen said. "I know that will alleviate concerns of a number of seniors and their family members."

Baker said he has no complaints about the frontline workers and faults supply chain issues.

"The people that are actually on the front lines doing it, they're all great," he said. "They were just as frustrated as people like me that they didn't have the product to be able to give vaccines to people in a more timely manner."

Waite said EMS has a process in place now and they would collaborate with the health unit to ensure patients get their second doses within the time required.

Baker said he hopes that happens as soon as possible.

"Like so many things, we're somewhat in the dark," Baker said. "I'm sure they're every bit as hopeful that they can get second doses to people like Linda more quickly."

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Highlander business

Nick's new location strikes the right chord

By Joseph Quigley

Haliburton Guitar Studio owner Nick Russell is not hatching his business in ideal circumstances but said it feels great to find a new home.

A product of the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC) business incubator the past three years, the studio moved into its own office April 1.

The music lesson and repair studio has moved into Halco Plaza at 83 Maple Ave.

Russell has to keep his doors closed for now due to COVID-19 health restrictions but said he is happy with the space.

"While I think it needs to be a little bit cozier and funkier, it's a suitable spot in a great downtown location and it checks a lot of boxes," he said. "Very happy with it."

The local guitarist has seen the success of his studio highlighted by HCDC. The business was also featured nationally by the Community Futures Network of Canada in its annual report last year.

Russell said having multiple sources of revenue has helped him succeed, with both teaching and post-production work part of his operation. He added he receives plenty of support as a local.

"Moving back to home for me, a more rural area, I was kind of overwhelmed with the support my business received," Russell said. "It's been really great so far."

HCDC business incubator coordinator Jim Blake said Russell was eager to learn how to run a business and successfully leveraged the connections he had to the community.

"Nick is really skilled at what he does, so he's built a reputation," Blake said. "He is also a known quantity."

Russell cannot meet students face-to-face amidst the lockdown and has had to grapple with the impacts of the pandemic. He said he has gotten by with remote lessons and post-production work, though he noted challenges in expanding his client base and connecting with students who have poor internet.

"It's almost like the year's a write-off," Russell said. "But luckily, I'm not going anywhere. My clients aren't going anywhere. We're just kind of waiting for things to equalize a little bit."

Russell has kept himself plenty busy, including releasing a self-produced album entitled Archtop March 1. It was produced remotely, with its bass recordings done by a friend in Spain.

"I'm really happy with the end result," Russell said. "It was a true COVID project."

Despite the difficult circumstances, Russell said it is important for people to continue producing art and he hopes it can help his students.

"You look at challenging times in history, often some of the best art is created," Russell said. "Practicing music – although there's no outlet for performance – can provide kind of like a stabilized, healing effect. Because it's something that's wholesome, something that's progressive and something that is ultimately enjoyable."



Haliburton Guitar Studio owner Nick Russell has moved into his own location after three years of development in a business incubator. *Photo by Joseph Quigley.*

Cottager revamps FYI Haliburton marketing site

By Lisa Gervais

Tristan Rose has been a Haliburton County cottager for years and says he's found a way to give back during COVID - by relaunching FYI Haliburton.

Rose's family has owned a cottage on Stormy Lake since 1986 and he's spent his summers growing up by the lake and enjoying the local community, restaurants, events and other businesses.

He said he also spends time in the winters enjoying snowmobiling and ice fishing so he's spent a lot of time in the area.

He added he's always supported the local economy.

"I spent a few years living in small town Ontario myself and I understand the importance of supporting local owners and workers in order to ensure the local economy thrives," he said.

"There are so many amazing businesses and people who work for them that rely solely on being successful to put food on their tables, raise their children, and achieve their goals."

He said while FYI Haliburton is not his only business interest, it is a project he has become heavily involved in after purchasing the site and he'd like to continue improving upon it for the foreseeable future.

The new website was launched on April 11 after about two months of hard work,

Rose said.

"The old site was outdated and was not even mobile friendly but had approximately 400 businesses. So far, he said he's received very positive feedback from people who knew the old site as well as new businesses looking for exposure.

"The website was built to be simple to find information and most importantly be an affordable advertising platform. People have been saying that they are happy to see an affordable option, that supports local businesses especially in these difficult times."

Rose said COVID has hit small businesses hard as many have been forced to either shut their doors or rely on curbside pickup options. However, there are many businesses that are still able to operate but with limited capacities.

"The goal of FYI Haliburton is to direct customers to businesses through online avenues to draw attention to them and increase revenue instead of just directing them to big box stores," he said.

He added that FYI Haliburton has a history of advertising for local businesses and has the highest ranking on a Google search.

"What this means is the highest possible exposure for those businesses who have signed up."

On a listing page with FYI, businesses



Tristan Rose works on the FYI Haliburton site. *Photo submitted.*

have their own full page with interactive and customizable features such as a photo gallery, maps with directions, contact information, and a simple contact form that goes directly to them.

"All of the information is in one place

making it easy for residents and tourists alike to shop local. Registration only takes minutes with the easy to fill out form and built-in secure checkout system," he said.

See fyihaliburton.com for more information.

Highlander arts



A student rehearses during a past Highlands Opera Studio season. *File.*

Opera in the living room

By Lisa Gervais

Starting May 2, Highlands Opera Studio (HOS) began releasing 13 newly-recorded concerts that will run over 13 weeks, until July 31.

In an April 27 press release, the HOS said the concerts will feature past and current professional artists, who will share music that is important to them and why.

The mini concerts of 30-40 minutes will span a range of styles and themes and will be available online until the following Saturday of each week.

The cost to purchase a link to a single concert is \$10; all 13 concerts are available for \$100.

The first concert in the series featured Catherine Daniel, mezzo soprano and Roger Admiral, piano, with music from opera, musical theatre, and traditional spirituals.

HOS general and co-artistic director, Valerie Kuinka said professional fees for the series are supported in part by a bequest from Madame la Juge, Anne-Marie Trahan and private donors.

“During this past year of turmoil, the performing arts have come to a standstill. While we are yet unable to clearly see the end of this pause on collaborative live performance, we want to give these talented young professional artists a chance to reflect and express through their chosen medium, as well as give our loyal audience

a taste of what we have all been missing: the beauty of the human voice,” Kuinka said.

Founded in 2007, HOS is an advanced training and professional development performing arts organization which, in a non-pandemic year, presents 17-19 live public events/performances in Haliburton County during its five-to-six-week season in August.

Kuinka said that as well as being a sought-after organization and destination for Canadian and international emerging opera professionals, HOS is also an important source of community engagement and education for the region.

They provide vocal training through the Highlands Opera Community School, with participation in performances, community outreach, social events, and cultural interaction and enrichment.

They also work with Dysart et al and community organizations, such as the Rotary Club of Haliburton and Abbey Gardens, to offer the Highlands Opera Theatre (Studio) to support and build on collaborative community engagement and foster community participation and enrichment through singing and the artform of opera.

For more information, visit highlandsoperastudio.com and follow them on Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube at HighlandsOpera.

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

TheHighlander

... It's what everyone's reading

Highlander outdoors



County council narrowly opted to open the rail trail for ATVs starting May 3. *File photo*

County split over reopening rail trail to ATVs

By Joseph Quigley

County council narrowly opted to open its Rail Trail to ATVs May 3 after a split vote, instead of delaying until the scheduled end of the lockdown May 20.

Two concerned citizens, Ray Isaacs and Max Kalinowski, presented to council April 28. They sought a moratorium on vehicle traffic on the trail during the pandemic over concerns about safety and accidents potentially adding to the burden of a strained health care system.

Council did not agree to a moratorium but did take a vote to delay the usual opening of the Rail Trail to ATV traffic. Warden Liz Danielsen and councillors Dave Burton, Andrea Roberts and Brent Devolin voted in favour, while deputy warden Patrick Kennedy, Cec Ryall, Lisa Schell and Carol

Moffatt voted against. On a tie vote, the motion was defeated.

"This is indicative of the level of disagreement about the use of this trail we've experienced for many years," Danielsen said.

Isaacs and Kalinowski argued that people will want to use the Rail Trail to enjoy nature during the pandemic. But Isaacs, a retired physician, said mixing pedestrian and ATV traffic can be dangerous. He said any severe accidents could take up health care resources.

"Allowing motorized vehicles on the trails during these circumstances adds a completely unnecessary risk of severe trauma injury at this time," Isaacs said.

Devolin said he agreed with the importance of the location as a place for

people to enjoy nature and the greater number of people can create challenges. But he added the Rail Trail is a vital route and noted that there are many other pedestrian-only trails.

"We need to preserve the one interregional artery for motorized recreation," he said.

Danielsen said the County emergency operations centre (EOC) was also divided on the topic and there are limited reports of major incidents on the route. But she said the EOC discussed how delaying the vehicle opening could help discourage travel during the stay-at-home order.

"It sounds to me like right now it is the best that we could do," Danielsen said.

Haliburton ATV Association president Joel Bocknek told *The Highlander* the Rail Trail is not a point of destination for riders, but a

way to get between places.

"It's an opportunity for riders, particularly local to be able to get outside and enjoy the Spring weather," he said. "Certainly lends itself to social distancing and the other public health advice."

Schell said some people may not be able to walk on the trails but could sit on an ATV because of a disability.

"I don't want to exclude those people," Schell said. "Provided that there is a mutual respect of all of the users."

The Rail Trail will open May 3 to ATVs that have obtained a permit from the Haliburton or Kawartha ATV associations. In a statement, the County asked all users to respect each other and comply with public health recommendations.

NEWS BRIEFS

Dorset Tower remains closed

The Township of Algonquin Highlands says it's anticipated the Dorset Tower will remain closed for the 2021 season.

"However, all efforts will be made to open the property if the township feels it can meet all the expectations of the HKPR Public Health Unit and can adequately and appropriately provide a safe experience for staff and the public," the township said in a press release issued April 30.

It added that public access to water including all township boat launches and Haliburton Highlands Water Trails access points remain open for permitted uses.

"It is up to the user to ensure that they are following all provincially mandated COVID-19 regulations, which change frequently."

Outdoor recreation popular

Staff highlighted how outdoor recreation has increased in Highlands East despite the pandemic.

Economic development co-ordinator Joanne Vanier presented to the trails and outdoor tourism committee Apr. 21 about trail and geocaching usage last year.

The homesteader trail had 2,656 people counted, compared to 1,753 in 2019. The school trail also had 1,966 visitors, more than the 1,337 in 2019.

Geocaching also continued its upward trend despite the municipality pausing it for several weeks at the start of the pandemic. There were 14,306 finds in 2020, compared to 13,073 in 2019. (*News briefs compiled by Lisa Gervais and Joseph Quigley*)



The Dorset Tower is remaining closed for now. *File.*

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Val Jarvis with the puzzles made from her mother's image. Photo submitted.

A puzzling Mother's Day for Jarvis family

By Lisa Gervais

With Mother's Day coming up, as well as the anniversary of her mom's passing, Val Jarvis wanted to come up with a tribute that she could share with her family all across the country.

She said she's had a photograph of her mom, Mary Jarvis, on her fridge since she passed in 2015.

"As you can tell by my fridge, I love pictures," she said.

Holding the one of her mom, Jarvis added, "I've had it smiling at me since her funeral."

After discovering The Occurrence, a puzzle factory on Industrial Road in Haliburton, Jarvis began to hatch her idea.

"I couldn't think of a better gift for my nine siblings than for them all to have the same picture," she said.

"Thanks to COVID, they all have time to do a 504-piece puzzle."

The Occurrence makes custom puzzles.

Jarvis said the first step was getting some work done on the photo.

"I wanted to thank Luke Schell of The Photo Shop who was able to put the colour back in my mom's cheeks that the

original photographer washed it out with his flash and for scanning and sending her image to the amazing couple who run The Occurrence, Michael Bainbridge and Brigitte Gall."

Jarvis said she can't wait to surprise her siblings with the personalized keepsake puzzles.

It was an ordeal just to mail them as she has brothers and sisters in British Columbia, Alberta and Ontario.

"We are so fortunate to have this new and innovative business set up shop in our little town," she said.

Jarvis joked that her only regret is not getting a puzzle made up for herself.

She shared that the other thing the family has been doing is circulating a family letter since 1991, when her father was killed in a motor vehicle accident.

"Mom would add letter number 11. We kept it up after her death and it makes it around the group every six to eight months. My oldest siblings don't own computers. We throw in updated photos of children, grandchildren and great grandchildren as well as DVDs of favourite movies or historical articles of interest."

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Highlander environment

Abbey Gardens compost facility not in the cards

By Lisa Gervais

While a U-Links project suggests there is community interest in a centralized composting facility at Abbey Gardens, it remains a “theoretical” prospect for now, director of operations, Ashley McAllister said.

Trent University sustainable studies student Samuel Duah collaborated with Abbey Gardens on a community survey and recently presented his findings at the U-Links Celebration of Research and to the Abbey Gardens board of directors.

Duah said they wanted to assess the factors that enable or hinder food waste reduction and diversion at the household level. His study also examined factors that would encourage residents’ participation in a community-based composting facility.

He conducted an online survey, via the Abbey Gardens website, between Sept. 3-30, 2020.

“A total of 220 respondents took part in this research,” Duah said. He added they had to be all-year or seasonal residents of Haliburton County.

In the conclusion to his study, Duah said, “the results ... indicate that households are more inclined to use a centralized composting facility with multiple drop-off centers and flexible pick-up hours.”

He added that a facility “located at, and championed by, Abbey Gardens has the potential to encourage participation as some community members regard such an initiative as means of supporting the development and sustainability of a ‘community asset.’”



Compositing of household waste is becoming a hot topic in the Highlands. *Oregon StateUniversity/flickr.*

“Further, giving back prepared compost to community members can also incentivize community participation if compost meets high quality standards,” he wrote. “Together these findings suggest that there is community interest in Abbey Gardens’ proposed initiative and willingness to make use of a suitably designed centralized composting facility.”

McAllister said it’s an idea they’ve discussed.

However, she said Abbey Gardens was only a small piece of Duah’s final thesis. But she said it was an intriguing perspective on the community’s interest in a central composting location at Abbey Gardens.

“Composting is something we feel very strongly about, and we do have our own composting on site and a composting demonstration area to help educate our

visitors about how they can compost at home,” McAllister said.

“I think right now that seems like the right direction given some of Samuel’s results, and the municipality’s perspective on waste hauling and the logistics involved in becoming licensed to be a larger partner in that process,” she added.

It’s something they’ll continue to keep in mind as the County’s needs evolve and they have a better understanding of how they could play a role in a larger composting strategy.

“But right now, it’s still just theoretical.”

Food Cycler

The Township of Algonquin Highlands, meanwhile, is planning to launch an

organic waste diversion pilot project this year to encourage more people to compost at home, instead of bringing household waste to landfills, which also contributes to greenhouse gas emissions.

It’s also intended to convince those afraid to compost because of the fear of wildlife to rethink their household food waste practices.

Algonquin Highlands’ environmental coordinator, Melissa Murray, has made contact with producers of a product known as the Food Cycler, which is an indoor, countertop, waste composting machine. The plan is to subsidize the cost for AH ratepayers.

Interest in the Food Cycler has also spread to other municipalities. They’ve all been looking into the issue of household waste going into landfills over the past year or so.

Seniors join youth to fight climate ‘empty promises’

By Joseph Quigley

Inspired by youth efforts, the new environmental advocacy group Seniors for Climate Action Now (SCAN) is rallying the elderly to fight against climate change.

The Haliburton-born organization made its first foray into the public sphere with a presentation on federal environmental policy March 19 in solidarity with the Global Day on Climate Action. But Terry Moore, who helped start SCAN, said it has met for the past year and has aspirations to start chapters across the province.

He said the recent efforts of youth-led movements inspired SCAN. He added the group wanted to aid those youth.

“An active, intergenerational solidarity,” Moore said. “We wanted to support, in whatever way we could, young folks who are trying to move the yardsticks on climate.”

SCAN has yet to launch any formal campaigns. But it has made statements of support for the climate strikes of Fridays of the Future and done critical analysis of federal and provincial policy.

“As seniors, we have borne witness to those empty promises for longer than most,” SCAN said in a March 19 statement. “We are committed to facing the climate emergency and to fight for climate justice.”

Although Moore said they have been



Environmental activist Terry Moore has helped start a new organization rallying seniors to fight against climate change. *File photo*

meeting for a year, they are cautious about ensuring manageable growth. He said members have focused their efforts on internal development, but they are now looking to expand to become a province-wide organization.

“We’re going to try to approach and ask seniors to get more active in calling for serious climate action,” Moore said.

He said they opted for a senior focus given the ecological footprint that his generation has been part of creating.

“We have a responsibility here as seniors

to leave the planet in as good as possible shape as we can,” Moore said. “We have to help leave an environment that’s conducive to young people and having a future like we had.”

The activist also has a prominent role as vice-president of Environment Haliburton!, which co-hosted SCAN’s first public presentation. But he said he wanted an organization that could expand beyond the local scope.

“We can help each other out,” Moore said. “Share resources, share networks and help

build a climate change group which has the capacity to actually push for things.”

Moore said they are eyeing opportunities such as the federal election to advocate for policy. He said the membership comes from a variety of different social movements and groups banding together.

“We’re learning from each other and trying to figure out what the best way is to build an organization that encourages seniors to get more active.”



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Highlander community



Highland Wood, Hyland Crest and Extendicare Haliburton residents have received their first batch of new Robotcats. *Photos submitted.*

Robotic cats find furever homes in long-term care facilities

Haliburton County resident Lynda Williams dropped off her first batch of Robocats to residents of three long-term care homes April 29.

The 13 mechanical felines will now find human companions at Highland Wood, Hyland Crest and Extendicare Haliburton.

Williams was able to purchase the first companion animals through a GoFundMe campaign that started about four months ago and is continuing.

Due to COVID restrictions, residents have had fewer visitors and more in-home restrictions so the mechanical pets have

been well-researched and are being used in many homes as part of a strategy to provide comfort and calming for residents who may experience agitation or loneliness, particularly during these challenging times.

The cats have fur-like hair, move, purr, bat their eyes and like tummy rubs.

Williams hopes to purchase another 12 soon.

See gofundme.com/f/life-like-Cuddly-cat-Companions-for-LTC-residents . (Lisa Gervais)

INFORMATION PAGE

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<p>A Message from the Fire Department Emergency Preparedness week May 2nd – 8th</p> <p>Get Prepared Emergencies can happen at any time and without warning. Be ready. With a little preparation, you can respond quickly to help yourself and others. Understand the risks in your area, create a household emergency plan and build an emergency kit.</p> <p>Emergency Kits In an emergency, you will need some basic supplies. You may need to get by without power or tap water. Be prepared to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours.</p> <p>You may have some of the items already, such as food, water and a battery-operated or wind-up flashlight. The key is to make sure they are organized and easy to find. Would you be able to find your flashlight in the dark? Make sure your kit is easy to carry and everyone in the household knows where it is. Keep it in a backpack, duffle bag or suitcase with wheels, in an easy-to-reach, accessible place, such as your front-hall closet. If you have many people in your household, your emergency kit could get heavy. It's a good idea to separate some of these supplies in backpacks. That way, your kit will be more portable and each person can personalize his or her own grab-and-go emergency kit.</p> <p>Link to video to help in building an emergency kit getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/rsrscs/vds/prprng-kt-eng.mp4</p>	<p>(Virtual) Council Meetings</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The schedule of upcoming meetings are:</p> <p>May 13 – Committee of the Whole Meeting May 13 – Public Meeting Fees and Charges By-law May 13 – Public Meeting Procedural By-law May 27 – Council Meeting</p> <p>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.</p> <p>We encourage those wishing to view the meeting to also download the agenda, as it will not be displayed during the streaming process.</p> <p>Meeting agendas can be downloaded by visiting our website at mindenhills.ca/council.</p> <p>Please note the live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while Council is in session.</p>	<p>Notice of Public Meetings</p> <p>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.</p> <p>More information will be provided on the Township's website at a later date.</p> <p>Dated this 21st day of April, 2021.</p> <p>Trisha McKibbin, CAO/Clerk 705-286-1260 ext. 505 tmckibbin@mindenhills.ca</p>	<p>Riverwalk and Wetlands Boardwalk Update</p> <p>The Boardwalk is currently closed until further notice. The Riverwalk remains open and ready for your walking enjoyment.</p>	<p>Summer Hours at Waste Sites</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Daytime Burning & Fireworks Reminder</p> <p>Reminder that you will need a burn permit for daytime burning and a fireworks permit for the ignition of fireworks from April 1st to October 31st.</p>
		<p>Household Hazardous Waste Events</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Please visit mindenhills.ca/landfill for event dates and hours and accepted materials.</p>			



COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING APPLICATION FOR MINOR VARIANCE

THIS MEETING WILL BE HEARD AS AN ELECTRONIC HEARING BY WAY OF A TELECONFERENCE CALL

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Committee of Adjustment of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a Public Hearing on:

DATE: MONDAY, May 17, 2021

TIME: 10:30 AM

LOCATION: Due to the physical distancing requirements imposed as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be held as an electronic hearing by way of a teleconference call.

To participate:

Join the meeting by telephone by dialing either:
1-647-374-4685 OR 1-647-558-0588

Enter Meeting ID 960 5422 0524

Join the meeting using a **computer** or **smart phone** at: **www.zoom.us/j/96054220524**

to consider minor variance applications **PLMV2020068, PLMV2021001, PLMV2021006, PLMV2021019, PLMV2021020, PLMV2021021, PLMV2021022 PLMV2021023 PLMV2021024 and PLMV2021025**. The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to consider the proposed Minor Variances to the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law pursuant to Section 45. The minor variance applications being considered are listed below:



PLMV2020068 - Part of Lot 12, Concession 13, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1035 Sage Drive; and located on Little Boshkung Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new 13m² (140sq. ft.) sunroom and a new 13 m² (140sq.ft.) addition to the existing, non-complying, dwelling which is situated 12.8m. (42') from the High Water Mark (HWM) whereas a new sunroom would not otherwise be permitted within the required 23m. (75'6") setback and no increase in size is otherwise permitted for a dwelling situated within 15m. (49'3") of the HWM. As a result of the development the sunroom, and dwelling addition would project to either side of the existing dwelling maintaining the existing setback along the width of the lot.



PLMV2021001 - Part of Lot 17, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1189 Loucks Lane; and located on Canning Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new two-storey garage with an oversized sleeping cabin on the 2nd storey to be located within the required rear yard setback. The variance sought would allow for a rear yard setback of 3m. (10') whereas 12m. (39'4") is otherwise required for a two storey garage; and, to permit a sleeping cabin measuring 40 m² (430.6sq.ft.) in size whereas 35 m² (377sq. ft.) is otherwise the maximum; and, to permit 5.7% lot coverage for accessory structures whereas 5% is otherwise the Maximum.



PLMV2021006 - Part of Lot 10, Concession 5, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1026 Nectarine Lane; and located on Horseshoe Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the reconstruction of the existing 128.5 m² (1,383sq.ft.), non-complying, dwelling which measures 4.3m. (14') in height with a new taller dwelling measuring 10.1m. (33') in height (measured to top of roof) to be located 2.2m. (7'3") from the east side lot line with a new deck encroaching to a distance of 1.2m. (3'11") from the east side lot line. The variance sought would allow for the dwelling and deck, which currently encroaches onto the neighbouring property, to be rebuilt within the required 4.5m. (14'9") side yard setback greater than 1.2m. (3'11") taller than existing.



PLMV2021019 - Part of Lot 6, Concession 14, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; being vacant land on Manor Lane; and located on the Gull River (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new dwelling and sleeping cabin proposed to occupy 352.2 m² (3,791sq.ft.) representing 19.5% of the lot area. The variance sought would allow for a total lot coverage greater than the 15% otherwise permitted within the Shoreline Residential (SR) zone and within the Flood Risk (FR) overlay zone.



PLMV2021020 - Part of Lot 24, Concession 6, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; municipally known as 1052 Beverley Lane; and located on Gull Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the replacement of the existing 44.6 m² (480sq.ft.) dwelling measuring 3.7m. (12') in height and is situated 12.8m. (42') from the High Water Mark (HWM) with a new larger and taller dwelling measuring 80.9 m² (871sq. ft.) and 5.2m. (17') in height and to project to a distance of 12.8m. (42') from the HWM together with the replacement of the existing 36.7 m² (395sq.ft.) sleeping cabin with a new 44.6 m² (480sq.ft.) garage. The variance sought would allow for a larger and taller building projecting further towards the HWM and a new garage within the required setback.



PLMV2021021 - Part of Lot 28, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1066 Reflection Circle; and located on Soyers Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the replacement of the existing 32.5 m² (350sq.ft.) detached garage with a new 87 m² (936sq.ft.) detached garage measuring an additional 2.4m. (8') in height and projecting further within the required setback of a private right-of-way. The variance sought would allow for a garage measuring 6.1m. (20') in height whereas 3.5m. (11'6") is otherwise the maximum within 40m. (131'3") of the High Water Mark (HWM); and, to permit a setback of 1.2m. (4') from a private right-of-way whereas 3m. (9'10") is otherwise required.



PLMV2021022 - Part of Lot 27, Concession 5, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; municipally known as 8700 Highway 35; and located on Moore Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of an addition measuring 53.5 m² (576sq.ft.) to the existing 80.3 m² (864sq.ft.), non-complying, dwelling. The variance sought would allow for a 67% increase in size whereas 25% is otherwise the maximum permitted for a non-complying dwelling located 19.8m. (65') from the High Water Mark.



PLMV2021023 - Part of Lot 10, Concession 14, Geographic Township of Snowdon; municipally known as 1186 Macklin Trail; and located on Canning Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the conversion of a 26.8 m² (288sq. ft.) section of the existing open deck which is situated 14.9m. (49') from the High Water Mark (HWM) into an enclosed sunroom. The variance sought would allow for the construction of a new sunroom addition within the required 23m. (75'6") setback from the HWM.



PLMV2021024 - Part of Lot 1, Concession 5, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; being vacant land on Wessell Road; and located on East Moore Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new 86.2 m² (928sq.ft.) dwelling to be located within the required side yard setback and setback from the High Water Mark (HWM). The variance sought would allow for the new dwelling to be situated 2.7m. (8'10") from the side lot line whereas 4.5m. (14'9") is otherwise required; and 16.7m. (54'9") from the HWM whereas 23m. (75'6") is otherwise required.



PLMV2021025 - Part of Lot 28, Concession 7, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1055 Grandview Lane; and located on Kashagawigamog Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the replacement of the existing 173.4 m² (1,866.6sq.ft.) dwelling and attached open deck which are situated 19.3m. (63'4") and 13.6m. (44'7") from the High Water Mark (HWM) with a new 194.4 m² (2,092.6sq.ft.) dwelling and attached deck both projecting closer to the HWM with the open deck also projecting into the required side yard. The variance sought would allow for a total lot coverage of 22% and permit the proposed larger and taller dwelling to be situated 16.4m. (53'10") from the HWM and the open deck to be 14.7m. (48'3") from the HWM and 3.4m. (11'3") from the side lot line.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION regarding these applications are available online at www.mindenhill.ca/newsroom. Copies of the complete applications will be available for public inspection at the Township of Minden Hills Building and Planning Department by appointment only.

HAVE YOUR SAY: Input on the above noted applications is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Township. If you do not attend the public meeting, it may proceed in your absence and, except as otherwise provided in The Planning Act, you will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceedings.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS: To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision, please contact the undersigned or e-mail adougherty@mindenhill.ca.

ANY PERSON OR AGENCY WHO IS OF THE OPINION THAT HOLDING THE HEARING AS AN ELECTRONIC HEARING IS LIKELY TO CAUSE THEM SIGNIFICANT PREJUDICE, may make a submission to the undersigned, and if the Committee is satisfied that holding the hearing as an electronic hearing is likely to cause the party significant prejudice then the hearing will be re-scheduled as an oral hearing.

Interested parties are encouraged to join 15 minutes ahead of the scheduled start time.
For additional information on participating in an electronic hearing visit: www.tinyurl.com/yyctaqaq

If you are interested in participating in the hearing you are encouraged to contact the undersigned prior to the meeting date with any questions you may have and/or to provide any material for the Committee's consideration at the hearing.

ACCESSIBILITY: The Township of Minden Hills is committed to providing services as set out in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. If you have accessibility needs and require alternative formats or other accommodations, please contact the undersigned.

PRIVACY DISCLOSURE: As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and may be disclosed/made available by the Township as deemed appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Township with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

PLEASE NOTE: Paper submitted to the Township is being held for three (3) days before opening. If providing comment, please consider making an electronic submission to the e-mail address below, or make specific reference to the Application Number.

Highlander classifieds

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(300 words max)

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Happy Mother's Day!

Thank you for always being there.



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SEEKING NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Are you committed to community arts programming for everyone? Do you have leadership, financial, organizational development or fundraising skills to offer?

Explore the possibilities of serving the community as a member of the Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre's Board of Directors in 2021.

Please contact Executive Director, Laurie Jones at info@railsendgallery.com or 705-854-0993. Let's talk.

FOR SALE

"Ashley Furniture" Glass Coffee Table (Oval) 46" L 27" W 20 3/4" H \$100 & 2 End Tables (Round) 26" x 25 1/4" H - \$150. Pick up in Haliburton. Call 705-457-5433.

Screened top soil for sale. Pick up or delivery. Call 705-286-2122.

HELP WANTED

Assistant Gardener needed. Assist Head Gardener in the maintenance of private organic grounds and garden. Flowers, shrubs, trees, fruit and vegetables. 32 hours per week. Must have own transportation. Gardening and physical experience an asset. Training provided to the right applicant. Please send resume to cathy@candidoconsulting-group.com.

WANTED TO RENT

Recently retired geologist seeks apartment or small house for long-term rent, to start June 1 or ASAP. Moving soon to Haliburton from Lindsay. Not a COVID refugee, just want to relocate. Mature, handy, good at maintenance. Will treat your place like it was my own. Call Ted 647-528-5511.

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WANTED - Restoring 1947 & 1948 Ford Half Ton plus 1967 Chevy Impala 2 dr Hard Top & Convertible. Looking to buy any parts or complete vehicle. Call Ron 705-286-3823.

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Camp White Pine is seeking Cleaning and Laundry Staff. Up to 5 months of work available, May – September. Earn up to \$23/hour. Email info@campwhitepine.com or call 416-322-6250

Trading Bay Dining in Dorset is **HIRING!** Looking for Bartenders, Servers, Food Preparation workers, Line Cook / Prep Cook. F/T & P/T positions available. Send resume to krista@tradingbaydining.com

C-FIX SOLUTIONS

Local contractor looking for help. Wages based on experience call 905-259-7324

NOW HIRING: Subway Minden & Haliburton - F/T & P/T position. Please send resume to pcshah_138@yahoo.com or call 705-455-2393

Are you a Highlander?

SALES COORDINATOR

The Highlander is looking for a **Sales Coordinator** to join its team.

You'll be the oil that keeps our machine running smoothly, working with our sales team and our production manager to make sure clients are given tip-top service.

We're looking for someone with first-rate organization skills, who's not afraid to nudge and nag to keep things operating smoothly. You'll have a customer-first attitude – you'll love making sure our clients are delighted by their interactions with us. Indeed, you'll enjoy making sales too, and you'll learn from the best in the business.

Ideally, you will be happy with technology – you'll be living inside our customer relationship manager system. You'll be equally happy sending emails and jumping on the phone with clients and members of our team.

We're open to a variety of working arrangements, from part time through to full time. We have an office in downtown Haliburton, but currently we're working from home, so remote work is an option for the right candidate.

For more information or to apply, contact the publisher, Simon Payn, at simon@thehighlander.ca or at 705-457-2900. If you're applying, please send a resume and cover letter.

REPORTER

Looking for an escape from the city? Or perhaps you've already made the move to Haliburton County and are seeking a great full-time or part-time job? Whatever your circumstances, The Highlander is looking for a reporter to join our team.

You'll have journalism experience, the ability to write accurately to meet deadlines, and be handy with a camera. Ideally, you'll have multi-media expertise too.

This is a wonderful opportunity to get involved in the community with an award-winning newspaper. This could be a full-time or part-time position.



TheHighlander

... It's what everyone's reading

NOW HIRING!

Highlander classifieds

ANNOUNCEMENT



Moderna Vaccination Clinics at the Haliburton Family Medical Centre

When: May 14, 17, 18, 19

Who: Phase 2 - patients and permanent residents with highest to at risk health conditions (including pregnancy), people who live or work in high risk congregate settings, caregivers in select congregate settings, essential front line workers who cannot work from home

See link for details:
covid-19.ontario.ca/ontarios-covid-19-vaccination-plan

Where: 7217 Gelert Road, 2nd floor, Haliburton ON

How: Please call 705-457-1212 and select option 5 or 6 to book an appointment (no walk-ins)

HELP WANTED



Do you have an interest in research and community development and have a passion for Haliburton County? This could be the job for you!

We are hiring a Director to provide leadership for U-Links and to work with a team of experienced staff and volunteers.

Since 1999, U-Links has been bringing together faculty and students from Trent University and Fleming College to explore important research questions identified by the community. U-Links is a unique rural community-based research centre, contributing to the social, cultural, environmental and economic

well-being of Haliburton County.

The ideal candidate will have experience in both qualitative and quantitative research, community development, human resources and not-for-profit leadership. We are looking for someone with vision who loves to work in a collaborative team environment.

A good knowledge of Haliburton County is an asset. This is a 3 day/week, permanent position with flexible hours.

**For a full job description and details go to www.ulinks.ca
Email a cover letter and resume to admin@ulinks.ca.**

Applications must be received by 5 pm on May 18th, 2021

U-Links is a project of the Haliburton County Community Co-operative

HELP WANTED



Township of Algonquin Highlands Public Works Department

We are currently accepting resumes for the following position;

Two (2) Seasonal Operators

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

Please submit your resume by
3:00 p.m. on Friday, May 14, 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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watsongeneralcontracting@sympatico.ca

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or call 705-457-2754**



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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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LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS								
3	1	2	8	5	4	6	9	7
7	6	8	2	9	1	3	5	4
5	9	4	6	3	7	1	8	2
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65	I	T	W	A	S	I				66	L	E	M	O	N	T	E							

Class Act

- Across**
- 1 &, written out
 - 4 Like a school skipper
 - 10 " ___ Kapital"
 - 13 The ___ (Sault Ste. Marie, for short)
 - 14 Act opener, in a play
 - 15 Dry-erase marker
 - 16 Winemaker's barrel
 - 17 Break in the action
 - 18 In the blink ___ eye
 - 19 Hustlers on the job
 - 21 Say "okay," say
 - 22 ___ Jones's locker (watery grave)
 - 23 Same old things
 - 26 With 54-Across, what a bad student may be told to do, as suggested by this puzzle's circled letters
 - 30 Hits the backspace key
 - 31 ISP with a butterfly logo
 - 32 Collect over time
 - 35 F.B.I. worker, say
 - 36 Be a bad student, in a way
 - 38 Sought cover amongst
 - 41 Deli counter fixture
 - 42 Start of the 12th century, to Caesar
 - 45 Yanks (from)
 - 47 Kind of strike
 - 49 "I heard ya the first time"
 - 52 Cajun cook's vegetable
 - 53 Smooching on the subway, say.: Abbr.
 - 54 See 26-Across
 - 58 Adele's "Rolling in The ___"
 - 59 As an example
 - 60 Little louse
 - 62 Moms' moms, to some
 - 63 Fled to wed
 - 64 Start to drop off
 - 65 @ symbols
 - 66 Ford flops of the '50s

- Down**
- 1 P.E.I. clock setting
 - 2 Mars bar fillings
 - 3 Canadian sprinter Bailey
 - 4 Tennis great Arthur
 - 5 Van. trade school
 - 6 Riding winner's reward
 - 7 Come on stage
 - 8 Brain surgeon's field, for short
 - 9 Funeral-goer's need, maybe
 - 10 P.K. Subban's hockey position
 - 11 AA branch for adolescent family members
 - 12 R.R. stop
 - 15 Leafy greenery
 - 20 Lady doc?
 - 22 Psychiatrist's manual: Abbr.
 - 24 See the world
 - 25 Retired Air France jet: Abbr.
 - 27 Pretty and petite
 - 28 Chats online, briefly
 - 29 Catches, as a crook
 - 33 Short time?
 - 34 Calgary-based cable company
 - 36 Bits of bad luck
 - 37 Muhammad or daughter Laila
 - 38 Paved rd.
 - 39 "Once again, ..."
 - 40 Numbs, as pain
 - 42 Ex-premier of New Brunswick Frank
 - 43 Vulture's entrée
 - 44 "Give ___ rest!"
 - 46 Non-negotiable rate
 - 48 Cherry called Grapes
 - 50 Get ___ of (contact)
 - 51 Courageous rescuers, to some
 - 55 Manage, despite all
 - 56 Feature of "lama," but not "llama"
 - 57 Wine list heading
 - 58 Cheek swab material
 - 61 Tiger-Cats' coups

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- 180 Ft Golden Sand Frontage, Newer Dock System, Hot Tub
- Sunset Views, Year Round Cul De Sac, Firepit Area
- Nestled Between Sir Sams Ski & Bike and Sir Sams Inn & Spa
- Turn Key Ready to Enjoy, Visit 1479sirsams.com



\$749,900 KUSHOG LAKE RD

- "WhistleWing" Private 14 Acres, 2400+ Grass Strip Runway
- "Viceroy" 4 Season, 1216 Sq Ft, 3 Bedroom Home
- Cathedral Ceiling, Open Concept, Walkout to Large Deck
- 40' x 40' Hangar with Hydro, Cement Stone Floors
- Close to Kushog Lake Marina and Amenities, Turn Key Ready



\$329,000 NEILBURG DRIVE

- 3 Bedroom, 4 Season Open Concept Home
- 4 Season Sunroom Overlooking Spacious Yard
- Short Walk to Public Access on a 2 Lake Chain
- Lower Level Rec Room, Sitting Room, Laundry and Storage
- 1.5 Car Garage, Central Air, Back-up Generator

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\$1,199,000 GULL RIVER

- Renovated, Open Concept, 4 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath Home
- 4.72 Acres, Landscaped, Waterfall, Tot Tub, Riverside Bunkie
- Heated and Finished Attached Oversized Double Garage
- 4 Car Detached Garage, Interlocking Stone Walkways
- Must be Seen to Be Appreciated.



\$719,000 TWELVE MILE LAKE

- 4 Bedroom, 4 Season, 1560 Sq Ft Cottage on Level Lot
- 117 Ft Golden Hard Rippled Sand Shoreline
- Stone Fireplace, Screen Porch, Loft Area, Lakeside Deck
- Sunset Views, Firepit, Houston Dock System
- 3 Sheds, Bunkie, Guesthouse with Sitting Room



\$189,900 FOURTH LANE

- Retirement Community just Outside Minden Village
- Meticulously Maintained 1000 Sq Ft, 2 Bedroom Unit
- Large Entry with Sitting Deck, Walkout off Kitchen
- Detached Garage, Shed, Paved Driveway
- Upgraded Thermal Windows, Recently Shingled Roof

MEET THE TEAM



Chris Smolarz*

Chris James*

Marcia Bell*

Anthony vanLieshout**

Erin Nicholls*

"5 Stars does not do Anthony and his team the justice they deserve. Excellent service. Impeccable performance. Exceeded expectations (by far) Thank you so very much Anthony and team."

Thomas Cleve

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