





HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

TheHighlander

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INSIDE: HHHS NURSE DIES SUDDENLY FROM STROKE - SEE PAGE 2 FOR STORY



Photo by Diane Doiron

The Highlands East Fire Department responded to a sled accident that occured in Harcourt Park on Sunday morning. One female passenger was taken to hospital by air ambulance, while the male driver was pronounced dead at the scene. The Ontario Provincial Police are investigating the accident. See page 3 for story.

OMB last option for Armatec test site

By Mark Arike Staff writer

Armatec Survivability will need an Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) ruling if they want to build a military testing facility on a 2,300acre property in the Harcourt area.

In a unanimous decision at their March 25 meeting, Dysart councillors passed a

resolution denying the company's requests for informed his colleagues that he has an interest council. She asked they defer their decision amendments to the zoning bylaw and Official Plan that would allow them to move forward. Following a public meeting at the Haliburton Legion on March 3, the municipality's planning and development committee recommended that council deny both requests.

Prior to the discussions and decision, Dysart Reeve Murray Fearrey left the room after declaring a conflict of interest. Fearrey in a property located on Benoir Lake.

"I have a perceived conflict," he said. "I checked with two lawyers, got two different opinions, and because this is so much about perception, I think it's fair that I step out of this discussion."

Although the company's president and CEO, Karl Pfister, wasn't in attendance, his planning consultant Heather Sadler appeared before

so that Armatec could prepare and submit additional information to prove that the development meets "the tests of the Official

"The decision before you today with the respect to the application by Armatec is about good planning and making choices for the future of the communities you serve,"

See "Objectors" on page 2





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Objectors sway Dysart council

Continued from page 1

said Sadler. "It's about your vision for the community. It isn't so much about pure opinion as it is about how your Official Plan should guide you in weighing public comment alongside technical facts and public planning policy."

Sadler said she took exception to the fact that the planning committee – which consists of three councillors – and the neighbours "have determined that the Armatec project is contrary to the principles of the Official Plan."

"Planning is supposed to be about critical thought, research and policy review. Unfortunately to date, that has not been the case here."

The proposed military testing site would be located on a property south of Elephant Lake Road and east of Benoir Lake Road in Dysart et al. The facility would include an administration centre, two storage facilities, a primary research and testing area and mobility test area for vehicles.

Ever since Armatec hosted its first public meeting at the Harcourt Community Centre on Feb. 22, many residents-bothseasonalandpermanent – have expressed their concerns about the potential harmful effects the project could have on the community. These concerns have included the impact to tourism and the environment, noise and a decline in property values, among others.

According to Dysart planner Pat Martin, 204 people have written in to the municipality about the project. Of those, 195 are opposed to the facility while nine are in favour. At the March 3 meeting, only two people spoke in favour of the proposal while 22 spoke against. An online petition included over 1,000 signatures, not all of which were original signatures, said Martin.

"In view of the fact that this is a proposal to change a high-level, or a policy document, and there is widespreadpublicopposition, the public meeting committee recommends refusal of these applications," said Martin.

Steve Pogue, Ward 3 councillor and chair of the planning committee, said he still stood by the recommendation made earlier this month.

"The opposition to this application has been unprecedented in the 10 years that I've been in this municipality," said Poque.

Ward 1 councillor Andrea Roberts expressed frustration with the public's perception of the process. She said there seemed to be a misunderstanding of how applications arrive at the municipality and go through the planning process.

"It's a little unfortunate there were some misconceptions regarding that as well," said Roberts.

Ward 2 councillor Dennis Casey agreed with Sadler's statements, saying "one thing Google has done is turn us all into experts." "The perceptions that are out there, to me are off the wall a little bit," said Casey, who pointed out that since he has a "reasonable knowledge" of explosives, the technical points in Armatec's application seemed to make sense. "Everything you have presented... with what I know, is correct."

Casey said he was concerned with the fact that there likely isn't an Official Plan anywhere in Ontario or Canada that has a special provision in it for this type of development.

"I give Armatec a lot of credit for trying to move ahead with their projects, trying to be ahead of the curve... and I think that's commendable."

After council passed their resolution, Sadler told The Highlander that she wasn't sure about the next steps her client would be taking.

"We're looking at options," she said.
"He [Pfister] needs a facility and he needs it sooner rather than later. So we're going to look and see what the best decision is."

As someone who is aware of the proceedings of an OMB hearing, Sadler said it is an expensive process where the decision could go either way.

"It's just really unfortunate that it's gone this way," she said.

At the March 3 public meeting, Pfister told The Highlander that he would be taking the matter to the OMB if council were to turn down his requests.



Nurse's sudden death shocks colleagues

By Sue Tiffin Staff writer

Robin Anthony was planning on celebrating her sixth wedding anniversary in October, was ready to acknowledge 40 years as a nurse later this year and her best friend had recently told her that her 60s were going to be the best decade yet.

But last week on March 19 at 59 years old, Anthony suffered a massive stroke and, to the shock of her colleagues at Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS), she passed away on March 21.

"Staff was really pulling together in both Minden and Haliburton to talk about how great she was and how much she will be missed," said Amanda-Jo Thomas, who worked as a PSW alongside Anthony for more than a decade. "It's nice to share it together even though we don't all work together regularly."

Thomas said that besides being a registered nurse and nursing teacher at Trent University, Anthony was also hospital infection control nurse for many years at both the Haliburton and Minden sites.

"Her career was everything to her," she said. Registered nurse Beth Archibald was Anthony's supervisor and said she exemplified nursing.

"She was a fantastic nurse with a lot of integrity," said Archibald. "She was always teaching others and building knowledge in subtle ways."

Archibald said Anthony was a very professional nurse and was dedicated to excellent patient-centred care. As a co-worker, she was encouraging and helpful. Both Thomas and Archibald noted that Anthony was known for wearing a white nurse's uniform, compared to more

modern or colourful scrubs that have become the norm. "She was an old-school nurse and was very proud of her

job," said Anthony's husband, Ron Morse. "The residents would see her in that uniform and say, 'I can tell you're a nurse."

Morse said his wife loved the outdoors and was often

found snowmobiling, riding ATVs or fishing. He said she was better at fishing than him, and better at cooking.

"She was a great cook," he said. "When she was in there cooking, she had sort of a Les Nessman [from WKRP in Cincinati] line that she wouldn't let anyone cross."

Besides being outdoors and cooking indoors, Morse said Anthony had recently begun volunteering with the Garden Buddies program at SIRCH, and that she had learned how to knit

"She learned how to knit and knit everyone a scarf at Christmas," he said. "Those scarves will be cherished now."

Morse said Anthony's family had a history of heart problems and some members had suffered strokes as a result.

"She knew that it was going to affect her too, but she thought it would be maybe at 69 or 79... not at 59," he said.

Anthony's family will fly into town for the funeral, which will be held in early-April.

Fellow HHHS colleague Katherine Jarvis was long-time friends with Anthony, having met her in Grade 3.

"It is too hard to sum up a friendship that lasted over 50 years, so I will just say I am going to try hard not to be sad about the years we are not going to have and be grateful for the years that I did have her as my friend," said Jarvis. "I think she would like that."

Highlander news





Photo by Mark Arike

This cottage was burned down in a suspicious fire on Sugar Island.

Sugar Island victims speak out

By Mark Arike Staff writer

Seasonal resident Charles Flaherty recently had one of his cottages on Sugar Island broken into and vandalized.

And two years ago, he was the victim of a similar crime.

"They did a fair amount of damage that time," said Flaherty, referring to the first incident. "They broke into our garage on the [property on the] landing and stole a motorcycle and tons of stuff."

Flaherty owns two properties in the area on Gull Lake and has a share in a third. His cottage on the island was one of seven that had been broken into and vandalized sometime in the past month.

A friend phoned Flaherty last week and notified him of the damage. He made a trip to the island on March 19 to check on his property.

"I just noticed there was a lot of broken glass and things lying around," said Flaherty.

Several of the cottage's doors were badly damaged and a flat screen television had been stolen, he said.

The Hamilton-area lawyer, who has been cottaging in the Highlands for the past 10 years, is frustrated that his personal space has been invaded this way.

"It's very unnerving," he said. "Those houses are your private space and it's upsetting that people would go into your space and take your stuff."

At this time, Flaherty wasn't sure if he would be filing an insurance claim.

"The deductibles are high. I'm not sure if I'll make a claim or not."

The island is a tight-knit community, said Flaherty. He knows each of the property

owners who fell victim to the property damage and thefts.

"There's a group of 10 of us who share a mainland. It's a lot with garages on it and all of the cottages, except for two that were vandalized, are members of our group."

An eighth cottage on the island burned to the ground in what police are calling a "suspicious fire." The property belongs to the Douglas family.

"As a family we're heartbroken, I, particularly for my brother and sister and the generations of family affected, who are all devastated at the loss of the homestead," said David Douglas, a permanent resident on Redstone Lake, in an e-mail. "It was a gem of a place built by my father, literally from the ground up, including solid cherry cabinetry, furniture and fireplace. And all that other stuff you don't miss, figure it's in the way and then one day it's all gone. Everything."

Douglas' brother and sister confirmed they plan to rebuild.

"It's devastating that it's gone," said Susan Montgomery née Douglas, while Robert Douglas added, "but we're determined to rebuild the legacy our dad built for us. The family is really pulling together."

The Ontario Fire Marshal was called in to conduct an investigation into the fire. Police are still investigating the crimes and are encouraging the public to come forward with any information they may have to help solve the case.

Anyone with information is asked to call Haliburton Highlands OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Calls to Crime Stoppers are anonymous and cash rewards of up to \$2,000 are offered for tips that lead to an arrest.

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Sled crash leaves one dead

By Matthew Desrosiers Editor

One man is dead and a woman seriously injured after a snowmobile collision on Allen Lake over the weekend.

According to the Ontario Provincial Police, shortly after midnight on March 23, Kevin Ferguson, 35, of Blackstock Ontario, crashed his snowmobile into a tree near the lake's shoreline. His passenger, Tamara Mothersill, 40, from Peterborough, was seriously injured in the crash. Ferguson was pronounced dead at the scene.

Mothersill was transported by air ambulance to Toronto.

OPP Const. Paul Potter confirmed Ferguson's post-mortem has been completed in Kingston. Police are now waiting on the toxicology report to determine if Ferguson had been consuming alcohol that night.

Potter said speed was a factor in the crash.

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Editorial opinion

Learning lessons

I'm a stubborn person, which means sometimes it takes a harsh lesson to get through to me.

Up until this week, I drove a 2001 Cavalier. She (yes, it was a she) was called the Blue Bomber and I owned her for 12 years. That car gave me a lot of hard miles. No matter the weather or temperature, she started every time I turned the key. She always looked out

I remember one drive along Highway 144, from Timmins to Sudbury, in a snowstorm. The highway was closed behind me, but as a young twentysomething I was too stubborn to pull over. About an hour into the trip, driving a lot faster than I should in those conditions, I nearly lost control going around a corner, with a transport in the oncoming lane. Somehow, the Blue Bomber grabbed traction at the last second and kept me from hitting the ditch. That near-miss scared some sense into me, I slowed down and the car saw me through the rest of the trip in what were, to this day, the worst conditions I've ever driven in.

That's just one example.

Finally, after all those good years, I sold the car this week. The Blue Bomber just wasn't safe to drive anymore. She was old, run-down, and struggled to stay on the road. But you couldn't convince me to let her go.

the car when I had to, but would never let my fiancée in it with me. Ashley was forbidden from driving the car because I just didn't know if the brakes it could be lights out, and it's just not were going to hold out for another trip worth that risk. or if the steering might let go on the

highway.

And yet, I did everything in my power to avoid replacing the car. I was too stubbornandkept saying she would hold together.



By Matthew **Desrosiers**

It was the accident on Allen Lake over the weekend that finally opened my

Sledders know better than to gun the throttle coming off a lake in the middle of the night. You just can't see well enough to take those chances, so instead, you take it easy and play it safe.

The driver of that sled was going too fast and probably knew better, but maybe he'd done it before and thought this time around wouldn't be any different. Instead he's dead, and he nearly killed his passenger, too.

It made me realize that 12 years of safe driving in my car doesn't quarantee my next trip will be safe, and that if my stubbornness were to lead to someone getting hurt, I could never live with myself. So I sold her the next day.

What other things are we stubborn about? Drinking and driving? Speeding in poor conditions? Unsafe boating or hunting habits?

Driving a car that's unfit for the road is no different than those other things. It got to the point where I would drive Sure, you get a rush or save a buck, and you may even get home safely a hundred times before it finally catches up to you or someone else. But then

Home cooking

Justin and I visited home in Canada twice during our eight years abroad. We would have loved to visit every year - if only to satiate our family's need to see our faces in 3D – but the cost of the 14-hour flight combined with the turmoil caused by jet lag over a short time was not feasible for many of us North Americans living in Korea.

On both occasions we visited our homeland, and our hometowns, the highlight of our trip was not the chance to see our family again or be immersed once more in western culture - however cherished both of those experiences werebut to stuff our faces with every food item or reasonable facsimile of a food item in

Visits to Canadian grocery stores - or superstores - required hours. Just as we had seen our family visiting in Asia wonder over foreign packages and fresh delicacies, so did we drop our jaws after seeing a produce section with so much imported fruit, or a cereal aisle with so many sugary choices. You can imagine our surprise after three years away when we discovered that gluten-free had become mainstream, or to find that the rice aisle – which seemed miles long in Asia – was barely even an arm's length in Canada.

Returning to Korea after our vacations, we brought with us two suitcases full of delicacies that couldn't be obtained in Seoul. Whole wheat macaroni and taco seasonings, soy cheese and dill weed, Swiss Chalet gravy packets to share with American friends who had never had it, and tins of Timmy's coffee to share with Canadian friends that solidified our friendships. We ate the salt and vinegar chips when our Korean friends hated them, and promised to bring more maple crème cookies for them after our next trip. We stockpiled Canadian gum with its fullflavour and lack of xylitol, and literally hoarded ketchup chips.

And of course, for our young students, we introduced Kool-Aid and Cadbury crème eggs, red licorice (they hated it), Kinder surprise toys, Jello, and Pop Rocks fizz candy, just so that we could laugh at their amazement when they realized the candy they were eating was seemingly coming alive in their mouths. We gave them Thrills gum as a joke and introduced them to candy necklaces. We answered questions about why Canadian packaging promised peanut-free treats - to a population with very few food allergies, this was an astounding premise.

In Korea, we dreamed of our western diets and imagined pizza without corn niblets and sweet potato paste. We longed to be able to order a vegetarian meal without using thirty directions to ensure that the meal was free of all animal products, and to not be exasperated when, even after lengthy instruction, it came covered in ham. On more than one occasion, we purchased a box of Kraft Dinner from a dusty shelf in an import store down an alley for the equivalent

of \$5 and we didn't even feel guilty about such an extravagant purchase because it tasted like heaven.



By Sue Tiffin

Then one day, Justin – a self-proclaimed chip connoisseur - wasn't so keen on the bag of Doritos his mother had sent us from Windsor. There was too much flavour, he complained, and the amount of coating on the chip was kind of gross. It started to make sense to eat soup for breakfast – or soup instead of a greasy meal as a hangover cure. Slowly we began to crave Korean spice, so much so that we suddenly understood why our Korean friends brought tubes of hot pepperpaste on the plane with them and the food in Australia tasted bland to us – at no fault of the food itself.

So being back in Canada again after years of having easy access to fresh, cheap and local produce has been a bit of a shock. We try to buy locally-grown food and find that difficult with most selections of fruits and vegetables available to us imported from places outside of the province. In Korea, eating homemade meals in restaurants is more common than eating at home because of long work hours and socializing that doesn't take place in small apartments. It's also significantly cheaper to help residents be able to do that. So we eat at home more often, again.

And I miss the guy in our neighbourhood who sold fruit - some that we recognized, some that we didn't - from the back of his truck just steps from our apartment.

As you'll notice from me waddling around town though, I'm not starving. When I left this tiny town in the '90s, the only vegetarian option on Main Street was the spicy fries (which thankfully and deliciously still exist) at Village Chalet.

Now there are so many options for veget a rian food at local establishments thatI actually have to choose where to go, and then choose from a menu. I'm proud of the residents here who grow their own food and sell it at farmers markets, share it with neighbours or use it in their home cooking, and I hope to green my own thumb this spring if my dad will let me in on his glorious garden. I appreciate being able to easily read ingredient lists and have access to nutritional information on packages to ensure I'm providing my body with the best fuel possible.

Although Dairy Queen might not be the best option for a vegan (or many people depending on your doctor's advice), I'm excited to see options growing in our community. And I didn't hesitate at the \$9 price tag on the small jar of kimchi I recently found at the health food store, because I understand the value of a food that brings good memories.

It's priceless, it's delicious and it's worth

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Look for Bram's column next week.

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Letters to the editor

Doctor 'had a heart like no other'

In his death as in his life, the passing of our beloved Dr. David Fiddler has brought the staff of the Minden ER together. We find ourselves drawn together to share memories and reminisce. Through tears and laughter we reflect on the life of a truly unique man whom we all loved and adored.

It has been 24 hours since his passing, and

while we each have our own experiences with Dave, we are reminded about the many contributions he has made to our hospital, community and individually.

It takes us back to the beginning when Dave and his identical twin brother, Dr. Doug Fiddler, cottaged in the area. The twins had become familiar with Minden Hospital as children.

With the threat of Minden ER closing in 1995, sentimental attachments drew Dave and Doug back. Physicians from Lindsay and Barrie followed their lead on a mission to save the hospital of their youth.

Dr. David Fiddler

What started off as a three-month mission has continued to the present hospital almost 20 years later. Through all the early trials and tribulations, the reduced hours and threats of closure, we stand strong today with 24-hour service, thanks in large part to Dr. David Fiddler. Physicians from Lindsay, Barrie and Peterborough make up our current coalition.

First and foremost, none of this would have been possible without the unyielding strengthand support of Dave's wife Linda. Were it not for the love of his life's willingness to share

Dave with our community, Minden ER would never have survived. Dave spent so many days in our ER each month, Linda jokingly referred to us as "his second wives". This wonderful family man's children, Rachael, Dennis, Graham, Gavin and Kate shared their dad willingly, allowing him to accomplish so

Sitting together as a family, remembering our Dave, we found common ground on so

> many things. Mostly, we recalled his character or that he was a character. Yes, he was most certainly a gifted physician, of this there was no question. He was a brilliant, consummate professional and a wise mentor. Always teaching, encouraging and inspiring; his tenacity and passionate work ethic preceded him, and when you worked with Dave you went home knowing

that as a team you had done your best. Being such a positive person, he made you feel good when you were down. When the craziness of the ER almost got the better of us, his sense of humour pushed the limits, making us better and stronger. When sadness, loss and grief encapsulated the department, Dave's kind support shone through the darkness for patients and their families.

That said, no one was safe from his passion for a prank. If you weren't the subject of it you were enlisted as a co-conspirator. His gags could go as far as hitting three hospitals on April Fool's Day at the same time, involving EMS and OPP; or they could be as simple as a prescription for no dishes or house work for a week. Even when giving a



Photo by Joe Carriere

This fox was spotted out for a walk on a sunny afternoon.

youngster a lesson, his good-hearted nature managed to get them wondering in earnest when he asked "what five things did you do

These are the moments we will remember from a man we will never forget. Dave had a heart like no other, and it has been an honour and privilege to have worked with him, know him, and love him.

for your mom today?"

As the news spreads through our community we are invariably asked "was it the one who had cows or the one who liked cars?""Was he Lindsay or Barrie?"These are the questions that remind us that the Fiddlers didn't just care for our community, they shared with our

community and now together we are left to share this loss. Sadly the cows in Lindsay have lost their farmer.

As much as we are saddened by his leaving, and as hard as we find these days, we will carry on. Not only will we survive, we will flourish, we will work together, support each other and our community because that is what

Dave you will be forever in our hearts. All our love,

Your Minden Family Minden ER staff

TheOutsider Technology that will drive you to drink, or not

OK, so first off I must apologize profusely. It seems that by mentioning spring in this column a couple of weeks back I could of - and indeed have - jinxed its onset, so inflicting upon you, the good folks of Haliburton County, another sharp blast of

All I can say is I'm very, very sorry. I had no idea the power of my prose. I couldn't have imagined the spell that my words would cast on those first tentative droplets of spring, nor the wrath with which winter would storm back, shrouding us once again in white and nipping at our ears with bone-chilling cold. I can assure you that I'll be more careful

next time when tempting fate with Mother Nature.

That said, I'll not be shying away from the most withering and contentious issues that abound in our neighbourhood, oh no. I can assure you that the Outsider will continue to seek out the best and worst of the world that surrounds us and poke mild fun at it for all that I'm worth. With that in mind, I have a serious complaint to make about one local establishment and the changes that are afoot there.

When I walked into the Beer Store in

Haliburton the other day I was in for a surprise. The store interior was in the process of being redecorated. A fresh coat of paint and a new open fridge for single tallboys (cans of beer, not lanky fellows looking for love), it all looked rather good, but I was at a loss as to what beer to buy amidst this renovation because the wall of beer bottles that display all of the available brews had been taken down.

I winced and shuffled my feet, panic beginning to set in. The kind lady behind the counter sensed my pain and smiled, offering advice on the best beverage to both stem my fears and quench my thirst. I calmed down somewhat and asked when the bottle wall, with its wondrous array of beer choices, would be put back up? To my horror, the sales $assistant informed \, methat \, the \, beer \, bottle \, wall \,$ was not being reinstated. Instead we are to get a bank of touch screen computers on which we'll be able to peruse the different beers via different digital options such as those on sale, by manufacturer, by style, taste sensation and

Oh dear God, what are they thinking? I'm sure you've heard the old saying, 'if it ain't broke don't fix it'. Well, I'm a big believer in that adage and so the news of the

demise of the beer bottle wall hit me hard. What method of choosing your beer could be more simple or efficient?

Walk into the store. Look at wall of beer. Choose beer from wall. Ask staff to get you said beer. Perfect.

But the Beer Store is not happy with perfection, it seems. No. Instead, we are to be subjected to an entirely inappropriate technological upgrade for no other reason than, well, for no reason whatsoever.

What is the Beer Store thinking? How will its many elderly clientele, including me, fare with the new digital wizardry of touch screens, scrolling lists and multiple drop down now I shall be doomed to stumble through options: what's going to happen when they can't simply walk in, take a glance at the wall, and pick a beer of choice? There's going to be trouble and picking a fight with a disgruntled beer drinker is not something you want to do, I'll tell you.

For my part, I was upset at simply hearing the news of the impending changes. I came away annoyed and the touch screens weren't even installed yet. Just think of the mayhem when other senior citizens drop by and find out what's happened!

And how will foreign visitors to Haliburton,

like me, cope? Not only are they puzzled as to why you can't buy beer at the grocery store like in any other normal place, but now, after they've finally

By Will Jones

found the only store in town that actually sells the damn stuff, the Beer Store turns the choosing of a beer into a digital nightmare!

I loved the wall of beer bottles. It showed me instantly what was on offer. It tempted me to try new and quirky brands rather than stick to the big names. It educated me, for Pete's sake, on the beers of North America. But some digital nightmare as I flail ineffectually around a screen of multiple options, trying to find something I actually know that I want to

As you can probably tell, I'm upset, and upsetting the Outsider can have dire consequences. Just look at what I did to spring with a mention in this column! So, if by writing about these new 'technological advances' at the Beer Store I am in any way jinxing them then so be it. I put a stop to spring and so you never know, like winter the wall of beer bottles may yet be back.



Highlander opinion

Eye on the street: Are you concerned about flooding this year?



David Lindle Cardiff

worried.

Yes I am concerned because this is a lot of snow and ice. I moved here just after the flood so I am aware of how bad it could be.
As a new homeowner I am very

Doreen Francis Minden

Yes! With all the snow we have it will be a miracle if we don't flood. Last year we did not have as much snow and look what happened.





John Nowak Duck Lake

Yes I am with all this snow. Hopefully they are looking after this problem as there will be a lot of snow melting. A friend by the water is very concerned. Mary Muir Koshlong Lake

Yes. I live in an area that we do not have to worry about flooding. It is the other people that I worry about in Minden and other low-lying areas. I worry about them a lot.





Ronald Chillman Minden

A little bit worried but I think it is going to happen. It has been a long winter and it has been cold and snowy. It is a huge concern for flooding this year.

Photos and interviews by Walt Griffin

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Housing development in Harcourt gets go ahead

By Mark Arike

Staff writer

The owner of White Pine Shores in Harcourt will be allowed to build five homes overlooking the first hole of the resort's golf course.

In a unanimous decision at their March 24 meeting, Dysart councillors passed a resolution to approve a zoning bylaw amendment that will allow John Lally to go forward with the development. Despite hearing some concerns from local residents at a March 3 public meeting, the municipality's planning and development committee recommended that council approve the zone change.

"These lots are not associated with the lake, they are associated with the golf course," said Dysart planner Pat

The municipality received some written comments from

nearby residents opposed to the project.

"The respondents seem to be concerned about the use of Benoir Lake, particular by watercraft, and trespass issues," said Martin.

At the public meeting, Lally said the development would be geared towards retirees or those who plan on retiring in the near future.

"They're [the homes] going to help me pay to keep improving White Pine Shores, to put money into the hotel, to help me pay for the golf course," he said. "It's not easy – I'll tell you that right now. I need these five residential lots to help me."

White Pine Shores, formerly Martinwood Resort, is located on Elephant Lake Road.

The County of Haliburton land division committee has provided conditional consent to sever the five lots for rural residential purposes.

Fuel for Warmth receives township's support

By Mark Arike

Staff writer

Algonquin Highlands roads crews will deliver wood to the Fuel for Warmth program whenever possible.

That decision was made at a March 20 regular council meeting after councillors and staff reviewed a request for support from Joanne Barnes, administrator of the program.

In her letter, Barnes asked if the township would be willing to donate any or all of the wood that is cut down by staff to the program.

"We have obtained a site for dropping and storing the firewood," she wrote. "This had been a challenge in earlier years."

The drop-off site is located at 1099 Locust Hill Lane, which is one kilometre south of Carnarvon.

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Mike Thomas, public works operation manager, told council that staff often remove dangerous trees from the side of the road.

"This would put it [the wood] to good use," said Thomas. "It [the drop off site] is not that far out of our way." Reeve Carol Moffatt said she would be happy to support

a good cause, but was concerned about the township going out of its way to deliver the wood.

"If we can be of assistance, I think it's important to halp out. But I want to be careful not to create just an

help out. But I want to be careful not to create just an expectation that 'the township will deliver wood to us,' because we need to ensure that township employees are doing township work," she said.

"I don't think they're expecting that," said Thomas. Council voted in favour of donating any suitable wood from the Stanhope area to the program when deemed appropriate.

Formed in 2009, Fuel for Warmth provides firewood, propane and other forms of heat to local residents in need. This year, 36 per cent of those who required assistance from the program were employed families, 29 per cent were senior citizens, 21 per cent were receiving disability pensions, and 14 per cent were on welfare, according to Barnes.



Call Matthew at 705-457-2900

Highlander news







Photos by Sue Tiffin

Top: Firefighters from three departments battled the blaze at Holden Truss. Above: Two Holden Truss employees assess the damage after the fire.

Electrics suspected in Holden Truss fire

By Sue Tiffin Staff writer

Kirk Holden said he couldn't be sure what started the fire at Holden Truss Ltd. on March 20, but he suspected it was electrical.

The building is located at 207 Industrial Park Road in Haliburton.

The owner of the truss company said his computermonitorflickered mid-afternoon. He left for the day around 5 p.m.

Neighbours at the Great Haliburton Feed Company heard an explosion and contacted the fire department at about 5:30 p.m. Twenty-four firefighters from Dysart, and crews from Minden Hills and Algonquin Highlands attended to the fire, which was out by 8:10 p.m.

Holden said he felt "not good" as he surveyed the smoking building with employees. The men moved some of the heavy machinery before it could be ruined by fire, water or the roof, which collapsed.

"I think most of the damage is contained," he said.

In a press release, Dysart et al fire chief Miles Maughan said the fire was contained to a third of the building. The damage was estimated at \$600,000.

Maughan said he is waiting on further information from the insurance company's investigator, which could take two or three weeks.

Holden's family has owned the building since 1987.

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Meetings and Events

April 7

1:00 – 5:00 pm, Youth Softball Registration, Minden Community Centre, Room #3

April 8

6:00 – 8:00 pm, Youth Softball Registration, Minden Community Centre, Room #3

April 10

9:00 am, CoTW meeting Minden Council Chambers (public session 10:00 am)

6:00 – 8:00 pm, Youth Softball Registration, Minden Community Centre, Room #3

April 11

1:00 – 5:00 pm, Youth Softball Registration, Minden Community Centre, Room #3

April 24

9:00 am, Regular meeting of Council, Minden Council Chambers (public session 10:00 am)

Spring Load Restrictions

The 2014 Spring Load Restrictions are in effect as of March 24, 2014 until further notice. Please obey the load limit signs posted on municipal roadways. For more information please visit www.mindenhills.ca

Request for Tenders

We are requesting tenders from qualified contractors or individuals for the Construction and Installation of a Privacy Fence for the Minden Hills Museum & Pioneer Village.

There is a mandatory site visit scheduled for Monday April 7, 2014 at 11:00 am at the Minden Hills Museum, 174-176 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden, ON.

Tenders are to be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked

"Tender No. CSD 14-001 Minden Hills Museum & Pioneer Village Privacy Fence"

No later than Thursday April 17, 2014 12:00:00 noon local time to:

Clerk's Office, 2nd floor Township of Minden Hills 7 Milne Street, PO Box 359 Minden ON K0M 2K0

Attention: Darren Levstek, Interim Director of Community Services

Tender documents can be obtained from www.mindenhills.ca or by visiting the Clerk's Office, 2nd floor.



MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE
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Village ~ Nature's Place
705-286-3763 · 176 Bobcaygeon Road
www.mindenculturalcentre.com
Agnes Jamieson Gallery
Workshops

Upcycled T-Shirting

Date: April 23, 2014 Time: 6:30pm – 8:30pm Cost: \$10/person

This workshop will introduce fun and innovative ways to recycle old t-shirt fabrics into new and reusable items. Making T-shirt yarn is a fun way to upcycle T-shirts you no longer wear because of stains, sizing, or because you no longer like them. We will be knitting and/or crocheting using strips of t-shirt therefore, a working knowledge of these skills is essential.

Please Bring to Class: old t-shirts that can be cut up; a cutting mat and rotary cutter or fabric scissors; knitting needles and/or crochet hooks (sizes 5mm to 8mm)

For more information and to register please call the Agnes Jamieson Gallery at 705-286-3763.

Continuing Exhibitions

Function vs Expression

March 4 to May 17, 2014 Curated by Laurie Carmount Artists: Terry and Jenn Craig, April Gates and Sandra Dunn

This is an exhibition inviting dialogue about craft and fine art. "Function" connotes craft and "Expression" suggests fine art, and is leading and opens the door to preconceived notions some may have about the two aspects. Terminology and classification is meant to clarify and distinguish. Though fine art has had a steady course of understanding, craft has been pushed and pulled about in attempts to describe handmade items.

Artists who work in a traditional craft sometimes begrudge the word 'craft'- sensitive to potential inferiority to fine art for instance.

Why, is the question - something explored in the artists' statements.

NATURES PLACE

More with Less: Creative Use In a World of Excess Now Showing

This is an exhibit dedicated to exploring what it means to reduce, reuse, and recycle by highlighting some of the boundary pushing philosophies, lifestyles, and projects from around the globe that are finding creative uses for our cast off goods. It asks us to rethink how we interact with our environment and hopes to inspire us to find new ways to do more with less.

Important Tax Information

The 2014 Interim tax bills were mailed on Feb 28, 2014. This bill represents 50% of the total annualized taxes for 2013. The due dates are Mar 21 and May 16. If you have not received your bill(s) prior to the March due date, please contact our office.

The final residential tax bill will be payable in two installments; July 18 and Sept 19, 2014. This bill will be calculated using the 2014 assessment multiplied by the 2014 applicable tax rate(s), less the interim billing amount.

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

Failure to receive your tax bill does not exempt penalty charges from being applied to a tax account.

For information on payment options and procedures, please visit www.mindenhills.ca.

Important Information for Internet/Telephone Banking Customers

Please note that if you use telephone or internet banking to pay your taxes, a separate account is required for each roll number. Your account is the 19 digit roll number found on your tax bill that starts with 4616. As we move forward with automatic uploading of payment information, it is even more important that you use the correct account information.

The Township will not be held responsible for any penalty or interest charges resulting from inaccurate account information. Please ensure that you are using the correct 19 digit number, and that each account is paid separately.

Spring Conditions

Water levels continue to be monitored on a regular basis. Please visit

www.mindenhills.ca/spring-thaw-details for up to date information.

VIVA MINDEN HILLS

We are currently accepting applications for appointment of three (3) positions on the Minden Hills Planning Committee for the Pan Am Games. Applicants should submit a letter of interest outlining any relevant qualifications and experience. Applications must be received by the Township of Minden Hills on or before April 11, 2014 12:00:00 noon local time.

For more information, please visit www.mindenhills.ca/panam

TheHighlander Thursday Mar 27 2014 | Issue 127

Highlander arts

Who's an artist?

At the recent 'Function vs Expression' panel discussion that took place at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre, one topic was of particular interest to me. The question was put to the panel, comprised of glassblowers Jenn and Terry Craig, sculptor Sandra Dunn and potter April Gates, as to whether they considered themselves an artist or a craftsperson.

The discussion got me to thinking at what point a person could call him or herself an artist? I also asked myself whether you had to work at art full-time or could you do it on a part-time basis and still consider yourself an artist?

Later, after the discussion was over, I realized that the panel and moderator Laurie Carmount had stimulated the little grey cells. I've been mulling it over ever since, and on a brisk walk along the rail trail the mulling eventually coalesced into some hazy self-analysis and fairly random thoughts about artists and art, and my place in that firmament.

There are times when I do consider myself an artist and there are other times when, due to a long creative dry spell, I don't. Some might argue that if you have to ask yourself the question then no, you're not an artist. Fair enough, but what about those occasions when, after a

dry spell, I've had that euphoric elation of creativity that totally belies that line of

An artist at one time meant a person who put paint to canvas, but now you can be called an artist in a broad spectrum of creative fields. But how much do you have to produce to be called an artist? Some people cannot be prolific simply because they spend so much of their time trying to come up with an original idea, or at least what they conceive as such.

I've come to the conclusion that to call yourself an artist you do have to create original pieces, at least once in a while. It's that eureka idea and the methodology involved in transforming the idea into a finite form that are the defining factors to art, whereas a craftsperson basically relies on technique or skill, developed through repetition. But when innovation and creativity are also involved the lines between art and craft become blurred, and somewhat meaningless.

My walk along the rail trail continued and I changed tack a bit to contemplate my own methodology and the final forms my work takes upon completion.

For me, after the initial conception of the idea, the real enjoyment of art commences at the development, or embryonic stage,

when the project is growing in the womb, the way. Good for so to speak. The embryo can gestate for quite a while. I know this because for the past couple of years I've been working on an abstract/realist series of images devoted to the rusting of man-made objects.

The metallic Mecca I'm seeking contains shapes, colour combinations, and designs that are usually, but not always, derived from the oxidization of painted surfaces. I see things in inanimate objects, and when I find a situation where rusting metal has combined with fading paintwork to create an evocative visual, I digitally capture the visual with a lens that most closely approximates what the eye sees. Then later I fiddle with the image in Photoshop to maximize what it was about the initial sighting that was appealing and meaningful. For this rust series I'm sourcing out the images which are printed on canvas. I chose canvas because it has a texture that is complementary to a rusted

Eventually each rusty 'baby' is born. It's followed by a relatively short period of assessment and satisfaction. Then it's back to foreplay with the next image, and the passionate process starts anew.

The reason that my rust series has taken so long is due in part to life getting in

those who have found the means to dedicatethemselves

What's Up

full time to their

By George Farrell art, though truth be told, there are only a handful of artists in the county who rely

Most artists who do sell well have a 'bread and butter' component to their art. They can use their skills to replicate or approximate certain pieces that have proved successful. Repetition hones technique and various skills, so I think that these people are both an artist and a craftsperson. For the record, all four panel members said that they considered themselves artists.

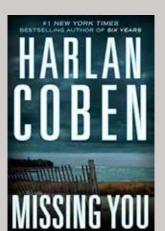
solely on their art for their livelihood.

But sales are not the sole measure of success. Each artist has to determine what success is to his/her own satisfaction. To be an artist, whether you sell well or not requires a certain amount of creative production and a focused commitment. So, are you an artist or a craftsperson, or does it matter?

I've decided that on the day when I have an exhibition of my work I will be an artist. On that day I might dress in black and even look like one.



The following are popular new additions to the Haliburton County Public Library's collection this week.



HCPL'S TOP FICTION

- 1. Missing You by Harlan Coben
- 2. The Cairo Affair by Olen Steinhauer
- 3. At the River's Edge by Mariah Stewart

HCPL'S TOP NON-FICTION

- 1. What's So Funny? by Tim Conway
- 2. You Must Remember This by Robert J. Wagner
- 3. How to Meditate by Pema Chodron

HCPL'S TOP JUNIOR TITLES

- 1. Side Effects May Vary by Julie Murphy (YA)
- 2. Show Time with Sophia Grace and Rosie by Sophia Grace Brownlee and Rosie McClelland (Picture



AUDIO AND VIDEO AT HCPL

- 1. Saving Mr. Banks (DVD)

LIBRARY NEWS

Outreach Literacy will be offering an eight-week Computer Connections program at the Dysart Branch starting April 17. The program will cover everything from parts of the computer to spreadsheets to using the Internet and everything in between. Adults 19-64 may be assessed for eligibility. To register contact Debbie Hamilton at

705-328-0472 or 1-888-665-6615 x 925. Space is



Highlander business



UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, April 3 Chamber AM Breakfast 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.



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Drop in and say hello!





Photo by Mark Arike

Michael Schiedel-Webb, co-owner of Haliburton Highlands Brewing, pours the first beer samples for guests at a private taste-testing event held at Abbey Gardens.

Taste-testers critique craft beers

By Mark Arike Staff writer

Beer has started to flow from Abbey Gardens and Haliburton Highlands Brewing.

About 30 lucky individuals had the chance to whet their palate at a private beer tasting event hosted by Haliburton Highlands Brewing. Abbey Gardens staff, board members and their guests were invited to Abbey Gardens on March 20 to give three different selections a try.

"This is a very important event in the life

of Haliburton County and Abbey Gardens," said John Patterson, president of Abbey Gardens. "I've got to admit that when the thought of Abbey Gardens first emerged four or five years ago, on that list was not a brewery. However, as we got used to the idea, we said 'why not?""

Throughout the evening, guests tasted three different craft beers including a blonde, pale ale and Belgian style blonde. After sampling each brew, they were asked to provide their feedback by filling out short evaluation forms.

Haliburton Highlands Brewing is a new venture started by local residents Michael and Jewelle Schiedel-Webb. When looking for a location to start their microbrewery, they found Abbey Gardens and formed a partnership. This winter, a 900-square-foot production facility was constructed on the Abbey Gardens property.

The Schiedel-Webbs are currently going through the licensing process – which is expected to take a few months – but should they receive approval, they expect to launch into the market sometime this summer.

Gooderham can finally say fill'er-up

By Matthew Desrosiers Editor

The gas pumps are on in Gooderham.

Deb Murphy, owner of Gooderham's
newest gas station, Not. Just. Gas, took
over the former D&L Service Centre on
March 1 from previous owners Diane and
Larry Lichty. She said doing business with
the couple was an easy decision.

"Larry was one of those people, when we traded favours he would actually pursue us to deliver, and it made it feasible for us to consider trying to do something different by taking over the gas station."

Murphy said her first priority was getting gas in the station.

"We didn't have gas consistently, which is a necessary thing considering the fire department is right across the road," she said. "We didn't have gas in Irondale consistently, either. People who used to get their gas in Kinmount, [that station] closed. It became a hassle for [businesses] to figure out what to tell clients when they're coming to Gooderham about gas."

She has worked out a plan with her supplier where they monitor fuel levels in the tanks and ensure the station is well-stocked for weekends.

Feedback to the takeover has been positive so far, she said, particularly about having gas in the winter to accommodate snowmobilers.

and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

True to its name, the station offers mothan just gas. Services include 24-hour CAA towing, auto and small engine

"We've got a warm reception for [sledding]," she said. "One of my neighbours went so far as to make a gift of helping us get the logo together just because it was good for her business."

Murphy said the town is excited about having the gas station up and running.

"If there was no gas here, many people figure that Gooderham would be on the downturn because if you don't have gas,

and you have ATV trails and ski-doo trails, you can understand that people will go someplace else."

Also new to the gas station will be the use of Interac. Previously, anyone filling up would have to pay in cash.

The station is open seven days a week, Monday to Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

True to its name, the station offers more than just gas. Services include 24-hour CAA towing, auto and small engine repair, body work and restoration, tire repair and replacement, metal fabrication, sandblasting and more.

"It's really neat," Murphy said. "We were petrified, but we had a lot of people come to the door who were really excited about us opening."

Not. Just. Gas is located in the heart of Gooderham at 1014 Mill Street, just off Highway 503, or call 705-447-2113.

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Highlander life

Highlands inspires young author's success



Photo submitted by Andrea Cavicchi Andrea Cavicchi and daughter Claire read through the illustrated children's book, The Good Luck Drangonfly.

By Sue Tiffin Staff writer

Andrea Cavicchi was at a wedding at the Bonnie View Inn when she became inspired to write and illustrate a children's

The former Minden resident, known as Andrea Hughes prior to her marriage, had plenty of experience writing. She knew by Grade 7 that she wanted to be an author.

At Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS), she worked on two yearbooks, wrote for the school paper, wrote poetry for the school coffeehouse and was the high school correspondent for the Minden Times. She has written for some publications in Halifax, where she

But despite wanting to write a children's book, she didn't get her inspiration until a

"The wedding was on the lakefront and there were so many dragonflies flying all around [the bride and groom] while they it was a sign of good luck," said Cavicchi.

When that bride became pregnant, Cavicchi gave her son a painting of dragonflies in a meadow. And while she was on her own maternity leave, she wrote a story about dragonflies bringing luck to a family by a lake.

Cavicchi's in-laws babysat her daughter on Friday afternoons so she could create illustrations for the story.

She created the pages of The Good Luck Dragonfly: A Journey Through the Northern Wetlands in less than three months.

"I really think that growing up in Haliburton County inspires a lot of creativity and imagination," said Cavicchi. "I grew up with wetlands and forests all around me. My parents had a farm on 100 acres and so did my best friend's family, so I spent a huge amount of time outside in nature, and when I wasn't outside, I was reading."

Cavicchi also credits her upbringing in

said their vows, I remember thinking that the county for helping her to build the skills necessary to open a business she co-owns, the Atlantic Montessori School.

"I think people from the county are very creative and I also think people have a self-reliant, independent spirit," she said. "Growing up around people who do their own thing, whether it's creating or opening a business, makes you realize that you can do that too."

Cavicchi said it feels amazing to have accomplished another long-time goal.

"I saw the box [of proofs] sitting on my doorstep and could not wait to open it and see what it looked like," she said. "I still take it out and stare at it, because I can't quite believe it."

The Good Luck Dragonfly: A Journey Through the Northern Wetlands is available online at Amazon.com or Etsy (search for MyOwnLittleIsland). Local businesses currently carrying the book include Masters Bookstore in Haliburton, Little Duds in Minden and Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve.

New home joins Places for People's inventory

By Sue Tiffin Staff writer

Four months, 750 on-site volunteer hours, 29 volunteers and the generosity of the community are what it takes to prepare a house for a family in need through Places for People.

The local non-profit corporation rebuilds or refurbishes a property and then rents it to a tenantto help offer long-term affordable rental housing. The group held an open house at 5 Newcastle Street on March 21 for their fifth refurbished unit, which will be available for a local Minden family in April. The two-storey house underwent a major transformation afterPaul Heffer replaced the roof and windows and then sold it to the group for a very low price.

"It's so different than it was three months ago," said local builder and contractor Doug Aldworth, who helped create the draft for the house. "It's like a silk purse compared to a sow's ear."

Volunteers have been working since

December to ready the house for the spring. "All I know is that I painted a lot," said volunteer Beth Johns. "It feels really good to have helped."

Johns said she liked the support model created by Places for People that enabled tenants to avoid a cycle of poverty. Besides creating a trust fund that former tenants have used to put a down payment on a new house or go to school, the program offers a social worker that Johns said "helps people stay on top of things."

Johns said working with Terry Twine, the chairman of the Places for People property committee, was great and that he was helpful, welcoming and organized.

Twine was overwhelmed by the support the project had been given by volunteers, local businesses and the community. He said that he has met the young couple with two children who will be using the house, and that they are very excited to move in. Twine said he was happy that their family will now be part of the Places for People family; a group that he said is very supportive and encouraging.



Photo by Sue Tiffin

The house that Places for People built. From left are board members Fay Martin, Fred Phipps, Steven Kauffeldt, Adele Espina, Gord Forbes, Max Ward, Terry Twine, Norris Turner and previous homeowner Paul Heffer.

"The cooperation and participation has been fantastic," said Twine. "When we see what this place looks like and see all these people here – I'd do it again in a heartbeat."

He was applauded by Places for People president Max Ward, who said Twine stayed underbudgetandputmorethan 200 volunteer on-site hours into the property.

"They really are an amazing group of

people, and they've made it happen," said supporter Judy Phipps.

Local church groups provided an assortment of snacks for the open house. Visitors included Minden Hills councillor Lisa Schell, Minden Hills deputy-reeve Cheryl Murdoch and MPP Laurie Scott.

Visit HighlanderOnline.ca for behind-thescenes photos of the Open House event.





HOURS:

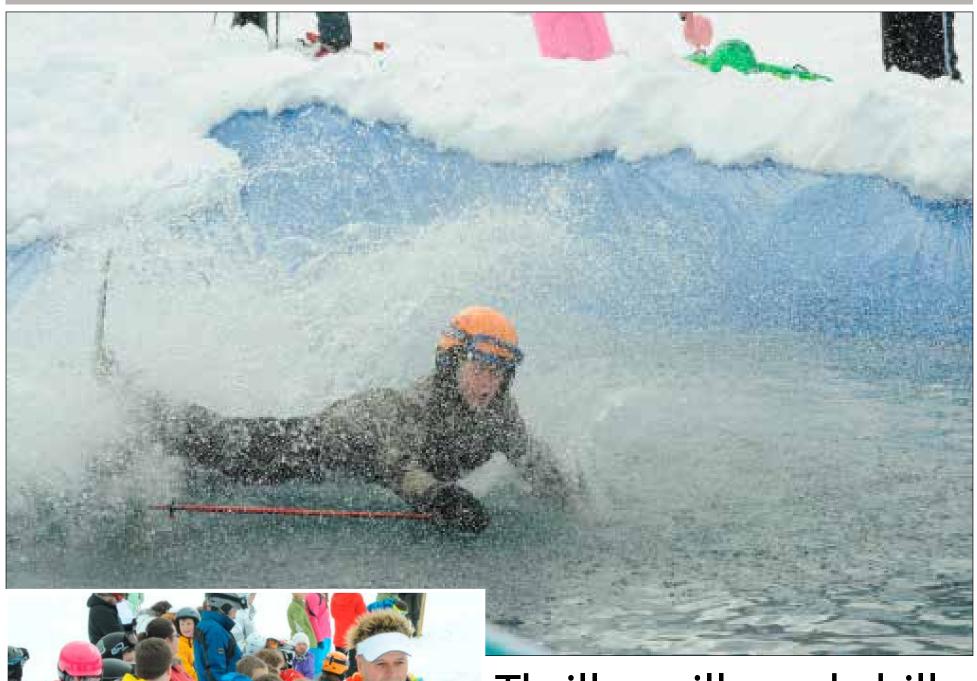
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Spring Splash 2014



Photos by Mark Arike

Top: A young skier creates a major splash after taking this fall. Above: Chris Bishop, co-owner and general manager of Sir Sam's Ski & Bike, right, ensures the crowd stays out of the way of skiers and boarders.

Thrills, spills and chills

By Mark Arike Staff writer

Skiers and boarders braved the icy cold water at Sir Sam's Ski & Bike on March 22 during the annual Spring Splash event.

Children and adults, some of whom sported colourful and funky costumes, headed down the main hill by the chalet in an attempt to cross a 70-foot, man-made pool. A large

audience gathered to cheer participants on and take part in other festivities, including a costume contest and rubber duck race which raised funds for the ski patrol.

There were 49 participants in the event. A dinner and dance was held in the evening with live entertainment provided by the Stephanie Gregg Band.

Although the event usually ends the season, the hill will be open (weather permitting) this weekend and possibly next.

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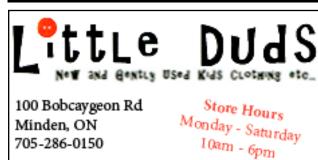


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Thursday Mar 27 2014 | Issue 127 The Highlander 15

Highlander sports



Photo by Heather McGann

The HHSS hockey team finished third at OFSAA, the school's best finish in its hockey history.

Red Hawks score hockey bronze

By Matthew Desrosiers Editor

The Red Hawks hockey team has soared into their school's record books.

On March 21, the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) boys hockey team defeated Robert F. Hall Secondary School to win bronze at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) tournament in Oakville.

It is the best finish the HHSS hockey

team has ever had in OFSAA. Their previous best was fourth place in 2004.

Red Hawks centre Devon Upton said the game – a 5-4 overtime victory – was intense.

"It was crazy," he said. "They tied it with 1:11 left [in the third] on the power play to send it to overtime. One of our captains won it for us with two-and-a-half minutes left in overtime."

Nathan Feir scored the game-winning

"We were nervous [going into overtime] just because the momentum really shifted," Upton said. "They scored and had all the momentum, and we were down on the bench."

"Somehow we found some energy to come out with the win."

The Red Hawks lost in the semi-finals to Appleby College, pushing them into the third-place game.

"It was [a] really tough [tournament]," Upton said. "There were a lot of great teams there."

Ranked fourth headed into the tournament, the Red Hawks actually lost in the Round Robin to the 17th seed.

"That just shows that the rankings don't necessarily matter. Even the lower ranked teams were still really great."

Upton gave credit to fellow centreman Curtis Ballantyne who scored eight goals over six games in the tournament, saying that his effort helped carry the team to their third-place finish.

Izac Reid races into third

By Matthew Desrosiers Editor

Izac Reid is sitting in third overall headed to the final race of his snowcross season.

"Everyone's really fast this year, so it's been really hard to place," he said. "But I've been doing good."

"I've never been in third in the final event."
The final race – the Dayco National
Snowcross Championship – is happening at
the Horseshoe Valley Resort in Barrie from
March 28-30. The track is built on the ski hill,
making for long lap times and lots of room to

Reid said it's his favourite type of track.

"It's a really fun track because it's on the ski hill," he said. "You race up and down the hill. It's really different, longer races, more time to pass people and race. It's fun."

He said during last year's race at Horseshoe Valley Resort, the huge track made for almost three-minute lap times. On regular tracks, lap times average around 54 seconds.

Reid – a resident of Minden – is six points back from second place and seven points ahead of fourth in the Junior 2 division.

"Since we race them every weekend, we know what their riding style is and how they corner and jump. If you get behind them, you know what to do, what's coming up."

Reid's confidence is high after his last weekend on the track. On March 22-23, he raced in the Rockstar Energy Snowcross Championship in Kitchener, finishing third overall in his division.

"During the racing, I crashed in practice on Sunday afternoon but that was the only setback," he said. "We were trying to set the sled up because it was soft snow, so we had one moto where we changed the settings and it didn't work for us, so we changed them back."

After finishing third in the day's final race, Reid earned a spot on the podium.

"The podium was really cool," he said. Although first place in the overall standings is out of reach, Reid said he wants to win this weekend and jump into second place, which would be his best career finish.

"I want to win," he said. "Top three would be good, but I'm always trying to win."

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Highlander sports

Minden youth curlers prepare for bonspiel

By Sue Tiffin Staff writer

The Minden Youth Curlers ended their season before March Break and are looking forward to an upcoming provincial bonspiel.

The Timbit Provincial Elementary School Bonspiel will be held in Gravenhurst from April 2-6. Minden Youth Curling will be sending two teams from Archie Stouffer Elementary School (ASES) and one team from J.D. Hodgson Elementary School (JDH).

Lynda Litwin, youth director of the Minden Curling Club, said she saw 20 kids ranging from Grade 3 to Grade 8 students grow throughout the four-month season that began last November.

"It's amazing to watch how some of the kids come along in four months," she said. "They gain the skill of understanding the game, focusing on the game, and improving their skills. It's wonderful to see them develop."

Litwin said she hopes to see even more students sign up for the 2014-15 season at the end of the year. She said that for \$65, students can have a healthy snack and an activity to do that's within walking distance from their school.

"It really helps the kids' social skills, and it helps for kids who have focusing issues," she said. "It's calm and not an aggressive sport, and they can play for the rest of their lives."



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Photo by Sue Tiffin

The Storm are one win away from the championship after bouncing back from a Game 1 loss to Mount Brydges.

Highland Storm leading Ontario finals 2-1

Submitted by Craig Smith

The Highland Storm Smolen Dentistry Bantam As travelled to Mount Brydges on the weekend to play two games in the All-Ontario

It didn't take long for the Storm to get going in Saturday's game as Matt Wilbee scored two minutes into the first period, assisted by Owen Smitty Smith. Mount Brydges came right back and tied it up moments later. Then, with 4:17 left in the first, Ethan Keefer scored on a shot from the point assisted by Paydon Miscio. Wilbee scored his second of the game making several big saves.

only 42 seconds later, assisted by Nolan Flood and Jake Bishop, to end the first period 3-1.

Mount Brydges scored the only goal in the second to make it 3-2. Then, with 7:13 left, Owen Patterson Smith put it top shelf to make it 4-2 assisted by Kyle Cooper and Miscio. Miscio finished the game off with an emptynet goal with 30 seconds left unassisted.

Game 2 Sunday afternoon saw the Cougars take the lead early in the game, which was the only goal of the first two periods. Both teams had lots of shots on net but the goaltenders seemed to be on fire with Josh Bellefleur

One minute into the third, Cooper took some of the stress off for the Storm fans as he tied the game at one, assisted by Owen Patterson Smith. Miscio scored the game winner with six minutes left, assisted by Cooper, to give the Storm the win and a 2-1 lead in the bestof-five series.

The Highland Storm play this Saturday, March 29 at 6 p.m., and again March 30 at 1:30 p.m. if need be. Both games will be at the AJ LaRue Arena in Haliburton.

Come out and cheer on your local boys as they are en route to being the All-Ontario Champions!

Fast Lane Bowling Scores

March 17 High average: Ken Thompson – 208 High single: Ken Thompson – 249 High single handicap: Ken Thompson - 263 High triple: Ken Thompson - 621 High triple handicap: John Whitty - 670 High average: Chris Cote Nancy Charlton – 266 High single: Anne Lampman – 195 High single handicap: Anne Lampman – 264 High triple: Anne Lampman – 480

Monday afternoon,

Monday night, March 17 High average: Rick West

High triple handicap:

Anne Lampman – 687

High single: Ron Cummings - 222 High single handicap: Ron Cummings - 271 High triple: Jim Therrien High triple handicap: Jim Therrien - 750

Women High average: Cathy Snell - 219 High single: Nancy Hughes - 223 High single handicap: High triple: Gail Goldenberg - 539 High triple handicap: Linda Therrien - 697

Tuesday afternoon, March 18 High average: Claude Cote - 203 High single: Dennis Middlehurst - 231 High single handicap: Dennis Middlehurst – 292 March 19 High triple: Dennis

Middlehurst – 573 High triple handicap: Dennis Middlehurst – 756 Women Women High average: Chris Cote Thursday afternoon,

High single: Rae Shepheard - 201 High single handicap: Rae Shepheard – 255 High triple: Anna Lampman - 453 High triple handicap: Anne Lampman – 651

Olympics, March 12 Robert Boccitto - 132 rrevor Brauer – 135 Jason Holloway – 127

Wednesday Special

Women Buddy Plouffe – 156 Skylar Pratt – 149 Lisa Burk – 118

Wednesday night,

High triple: Connor - 698 Friday afternoon,

High triple: Sandra – 526

March 20 High average: Gerry

Wagg - 175 High single: Jim Routcliffe - 251 High single handicap: Jim Marshall – 751 Routcliffe - 302

High triple: Don Chapman - 597 High triple handicap: Jim

Routcliffe - 746

Women High average: Gloria Wagg – 178 High single: Lynn Bartlett − 513

High single handicap: Lynn Bartlett - 308

High triple handicap: Lynn Bartlett - 759

March 21

High average: Claude

Cote - 208 High single: Tom Marshall - 226 High single handicap: Tom Marshall - 266 High triple: Tom Marshall

High triple handicap: Tom

Women

High average: Chris Cote

High single: Netty Alexander - 207

High single handicap: Netty Alexander – 283 High triple: Ren Higgins

High triple handicap: Netty Alenxander – 735

High triple: Lynn Bartlett Saturday youth league,

Three games Kadin Card - 259 Erynn Card – 282

Junior highlanders

McGillion's movies

Homefront

Who doesn't love Jason Statham?

By Austin McGillion

Homefront is a great movie starring Statham, James Franco, Winona Ryder and Kate Bosworth. This movie will keep you on the edge of your seat and will have you cringing with every bone-breaking punch and kick. It showcases martial arts hand-to-hand combatcombined with intense firefights. It is based on the book Homefront by Chuck Logan, and was adapted to a screenplay by Sylvester Stallone. The music was composed by Mark Isham and the production cost was a cool \$22

This R-rated action movie is about a widowed ex-DEA agent who retires to a small town to give his 10-year-old daughter a simple, quiet life. The only problem is he chose the wrong town. You will be riveted to the screen as Phil Broker (Statham) crosses paths with a band of drug traffickers, led by Gator (Franco), a meth kingpin.

Watch this movie with a spouse or partner as it has quite a few "keep me close" moments. This action-packed thriller never has a dull moment so you won't be falling asleep during this movie.

The actors outdo themselves and are true to character in each of their respective roles, giving you a glimpse into the emotional faces of each personality. There are some pivotal moments that you won't see coming.

The cinematic photography contrasts the not-so-civilized and backwater town to the lush and picturesque countryside of southern Louisiana.

I invite all of you martial arts and shooter enthusiasts to find a comfortableplace on the couch and settle in for some high-octane exploits.

Pass the popcorn, please! I give this movie two out of three chickens.









Photo by Mark Arike

Larissa Stephenson, left, and Ariel Weiss practice their routine at the Minden arena on March 20.

Figure skaters finish strong at eastern Ontario invitational

By Mark Arike Staff writer

In their only competition of the year, the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) figure skating team has captured a few first place finishes and placed sixth out of 24 schools from eastern Ontario.

"We had a great day," said head coach Jackie Mayhew. "All of our skaters had good results during the course of the day and Jane [Symons] and I are very proud of their accomplishments both individually and as a team."

The close group of seven skaters, who are in Grades 9-12, travelled to Belleville on March 25 to compete in the Eastern Ontario High School Figure Skating Invitational at the Quinte Sports & Wellness Centre. The skaters earned points throughout the day by competing in the following events: team elements, shadow dance, individual freeskate solos, pairs and triathlon.

Callie Dick and Bethany Little came first in dance (the Tenfox) and Shae MacNaull and Ariel Weiss also finished first in the triathlon. Larissa Stephenson, Vivian Collings and Ainsley Little achieved personal bests in very competitive fields,

Since there isn't a Kawartha league for figure skating like there is for most other team sports, there's only one annual competition hosted by Eastern Ontario Skate Canada.

"There was and still is only one high school competition that we can take skaters to," said Mayhew, who has been involved with the program for six years.

In order to join the high school team, skaters must be members of an existing local club. All of this year's participants are part of the Minden Skating

Club. "Our team is small but mighty," she said. "They all skate together in Minden and have for years. The camaraderie is awesome."

Symons worked closely with the students as their coach on the ice in the weeks leading up to the event. She's also been a coach with the Minden club for the past 33 years.

"They're pretty good listeners, so we work well together," said Symons during a March 20 practice at the Minden arena. "They keep me young."

Symons is a level three coach through the National Coaching Certification Program.

Mayhew said Symons has been "an integral part" of the team by volunteering her "tremendous technical expertise."

She also thanked current HHSS principal Dan Marsden for his ongoing support of the

The students will be recognized for their achievements at the athletic banquet in June.

EVENTS

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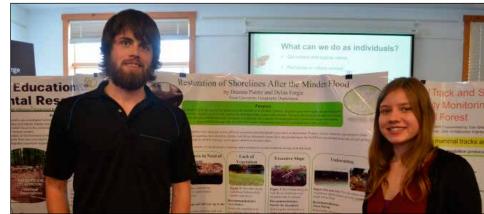
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Deadline is April 18, 2013

Highlander environment





Photos by Sue Tiffin

Left: Environmental science student Anthony Burke (right) entertained many visitors to his project, which explored strategies for reusing brewery waste and how to apply the strategies at Abbey Gardens. Right: Geography students Dylan Forgie (left) and Deanna Panitz (right) were excited to get their first choice of assigned topics back in January.

Community research project highlights sustainability

By Sue Tiffin Staff writer

There was research about the restoration of Minden's shorelines after the 2013 flood, a recommendation to plan sustainable trail networks behind Abbey Gardens, and bread created from brewery waste.

The Celebration of Research hosted by the U-Links Centre for Community Based Research on March 22 had it all.

The event was held at the Haliburton Campus of Fleming College and was attended by students, environmentalists, educators and community members interested in developing a sustainable Haliburton County.

were earning course credit for completing research that might assist community development. Some students focused on research projects about the environment, some on social services or health and some on agriculture. All had support from local businesses and organizations including the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust, **Environment Haliburton and Community** Care Haliburton.

The organizations recommended topics, and the students have been researching issues, designing solutions and preparing recommendations that might help the organizations evolve.

"This project gives me practical experience

gathering information from their peers who being really dry and really static like some projects," said environmental science student biodiversity sustainability. Mike Stefanuk, who researched a plan for sustainable trail networks with opportunities for interpretation of local ecology at Abbey Gardens. "Knowing they might build something that might get used, that's really fulfilling."

James McBride, an ecological restoration student, studied the nesting and foraging habit of bank swallows and recommended creating identification signs along trails to help build public awareness of the birds.

"I enjoyed doing it knowing something is going to come out of it," he said.

Steve Hounsell, the chair of the Ontario Biodiversity Council, opened up the afternoon activities with a discussion about what Canadian citizens can do to promote

"We need to start learning to live within the regenerate capacity of our ecosystems," said Hounsell.

He encouraged audience members to get engaged with nature and to put pressure on the federal government to develop what he said were critical programs to promote biodiversity in Canada.

"The Ontario Biodversity Strategy 2011 is our new call to action and our road map to safeguard Ontario's genetic species and ecosystem diversity for this generation and for all generations that follow," said Hounsell. "We ask that you folks read it, that you internalize the message and that you too become a participant in its implementation."



Highlander classifieds

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DORSET:

Robert McCausland Comm. Centre, 1043 Community Centre Rd, Gooderham

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The Executive Director and the Board of the Highlands Community Pregnancy Care Centre are deeply grateful for the vital contribution of our volunteers.

Thank you for your commitment, and for giving of yourselves in order to make a difference in the lives of others in our community. The gift of time is priceless; thank you for sharing yours.

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Interested candidates should fax their application to 705 457 4907 or e-mail their application for employment to: manager@marcusbeachcottages.ca; to the attention of Lori Roberts, Property Manager.

EVENTS



Haliburton Highlands Chapter 54

benefit returns.* Dates and locations are as follows:

April 9 - 12:30 to 4:00 pm Dorset Recreation Centre, 1051 Main St., Dorset

KINMOUNT: April 15 - 12:30 to 4:00 pm Kinmount Legion, 11 County Road 503, Kinmount

GOODERHAM: April 23 - 12:30 to 4:00 pm

*PLEASE NOTE: Volunteers do not complete returns for deceased persons or

physical journeys fitness.

Highlander classifieds

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WANTED

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EVENTS

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EVENTS

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705-286-2489

EVENTS

FLEMING COLLEGE: Container Gardening Workshop - March 29, Beekeeping Workshop -March 29, Fun with Moss - Topiary & Terrarium, Workshop – April 5, Natural Gardening, Workshop - April 12, Chainsaw safety – April 21, First Aid/ CPR - May 30. Call 705-457-1680 to register. (MR27)

OBITUARIES

Capel, Rick

Retired Police Sergeant, Peel Regional Police Retired Volunteer Fire Captain, Station 306, Palgrave

Suddenly at Owen Sound Hospital, on Thursday, March 20, 2014, Rick Capel, Eagle Lake, formerly of Palgrave, beloved husband of Laila Capel. Proud father of Carlye and her husband Craig Reid, Mike Capel and his girlfriend Michelle Cliche. Loving grandfather of Colton and Rosalie Reid. Dear brother of Rob Capel and Sue Woodworth. Fondly remembered by Murray Osborne and Trish Boehler, Jim and Diane Cook, Mike and Diane Short. The family received their friends at the Egan. Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street S., Bolton, Sunday afternoon 2 6 o'clock. Memorial service was held in the chapel on Monday morning, March 24 at 11 o'clock. If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Ontario or Chesley and District Memorial Hospital, 39 - 2™ Street S. E., Chesley NOG 1L0. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

NOTICES



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE

The seventeenth Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation (HHHS) will be held on Thursday, June 26, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the HHHS Minden Hospital / Hyland Crest.

2014-15 Membership in the HHHS Corporation is available to any individual who is a resident" of, or who is employed or operates a business in, the County of Haliburton or in the Townships formerly known as Laxton, Digby and Longford, or Bexley or Somerville of Victoria county, or Cavendish and Galway of Peterborough County for a period of at least 12 months immediately prior to the payment of an annual membership fee of ten dollars (\$10).

Membership in the Corporation entitles an individual to vote at any general meeting of the Corporation. New members must register at least 60 days prior to the date of the meeting. Therefore, to be eligible to vote at the June 26, 2014 AGM, new memberships must be obtained by April 1, 2014. Members of the Corporation are also entitled to nominate Directors for election to the Board.

The fee may be paid and proof of membership obtained at HHHS, Haliburton or Minden Business Offices, during regular business hours, or by contacting:

> Marlene Vieira HHHS Administration Office Box 115, Haliburton, ON K0M1S0 Phone: 705-457-2527 mvieira@hhhs.on.ca Email:

this includes seasonal residents, i.e., aummer cottagers / landowners

Website: www.hhhs.ca

OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

Virginia "Jean" May Fairfield Passed away peacefully at the South Muskoka Memorial Hospital, Bracebridge on

Monday, March 24, 2014, in her 88th year.

Beloved wife of the late James "Jim" Fairfield (2011). Dear mother of the late David (2010), and Linell. Loving grandmother of of Alyssa (Scott) Elstone, Meghan (Sean) Wellsbury, great grandmother of Diamond and Seth. Survived by her brother Weston.

"Bub" McLearn. Lovingly remembered by her family and friends. Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O.

Box 427, Minden on Saturday, March 29, 2014 from 11:00 am until the time of the Service to Celebrate Jean's Life at 12:00 o'clock noon. Cremation will follow A Reception will be held in the Monk-Cray Family Centre at the Funeral Home. Memorial Donations to the Charity of your choice would be appreciated by the





Wallace Tait (Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Passed away peacefully with his family by his side on Thursday morning, March 20, 2014 in his 90th year. Beloved husband of Joyce (nee Lawrence). Loving father of Gary, Chris, Laurie and Jamie. Lovingly remembered by his three grandchildren. Dear brother of Barbara and Chloe. Fondly remembered by his nieces, nephews, other family and friends. He was predeceased by his son John and brothers Bob and Bill. Wallace graduated from Queen's University with his BSc in Chemical Engineering in 1947

following which he entered the Federal Public Service where he worked until his retirement in 1979. Dad was an avid golfer, bridge player and enjoyed various other sporting activities. Upon retirement, Dad travelled the globe with Mom.

Private Memorial Service

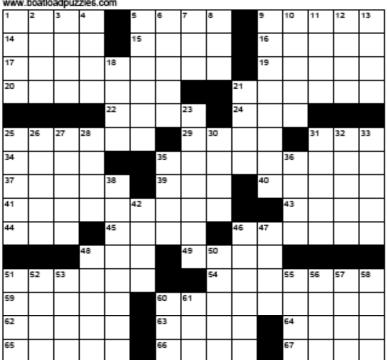
A Private Memorial service will take place at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy #118, Haliburton, Ontario 705-457-9209. As expressions of sympathy, donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.



www.communityfuneralhomes.com

Highlander events

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ACROSS

- 1. African lily
- 5. Western state
- Handed out cards
- Knox
- 15. Dress for Caesar
- Banks of baseball
- 17. Amusing stories
- TV Host
- 20. Form again
- Commands
- 22. Peru's capital
- Goose formation
- Saudi
- 29. Hopping insect
- No longer is
- Marco
- Convey
- 37. Kind of acid
- 39. Ambition
- 40. Scary
- 41. Deep respect
- Office acronym
- 44. Sock front
- 45. Space org.
- 46. Evaluate
- 48. "Leaving Vegas"
- 49. Bare
- 51. Blazing
- 54. Musical compositions
- 59. Nearby
- 60. Baseball position
- 62. Black bird
- 63. Sharpen
- 64. Famed canal
- 65. ____ & Roeper
- Nest contents
- 67. Reach

DOWN

- 1. Not nearby
- Unaccompanied
- Mine finds
- Engrave
- Perfect place
- pole
- 7. Become old
- 8. Possesses
- 9. Lessen
- Wash away
- Green Gables girl
- Pinocchio, e.g.
- Perfect gymnastics scores
- Surrealist painter Salvador
- Toaster
- Kenya native, e.g.
- Not together
- 26. Juliet's beloved
- 27. Breathing
- Skeleton part
- Gold fabric
- Inferior
- Diva's offerings
- 33. Short distances
- Sunbathes
- Pod dwellers
- 38. Decoration
- 42. Comfort
- 46. Cherishes
- 47. Broadcast
- 48. Intense beam
- 50. Utilizing
- 51. Land parcel
- 52. Loose flesh
- 53. Deep affection
- 55. Fortas and Lincoln
- Field cover
- 57. China's locale
- 58. Observed
- 60. "Gone with _ Wind"
- 61. Pig

MARCH/APRIL 2014 EVENTS

THURSDAY

Seniors Standing Balance Exercise Class Minden Hospital, every

Thursday, 2 p.m.



SATURDAY

Ham Dinner - Maple Lake United Church, 5 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. \$12. 705-754-0427.

Dig In Workshop - plan your veggie garden 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., \$10, Lloyd Watson Centre. Wilberforce



MONDAY

Baby Massage - Minden OEYC, 10 a.m.

BERRY EDIBLE LANDSCAPES with quest speaker Sonia Wilson - Minden Community Centre, 1 p.m. 'Luscious Lemon' theme.

Volunteer income tax program - Haliburton Legion, 9:30-2 p.m. Every Tuesday until

WEDNESDAY Volunteer income tax

program - Wilberforce Legion, 2-3:30 p.m. Every Wednesday until April 23.

Seniors Standing

Balance Exercise Class Minden Hospital, every Thursday, 2 p.m.

FRIDAY

Liver health awareness open house - Haliburton Curling Club, 11-1 p.m.



SUNDAY

MONDAY

Baby massage, Minden OEYC 10 a.m., 705-286-1770

WHAT'S GOING ON AT YOUR LEGION MAR 27 - APR 2, 2014

Haliburton Branch (705-457-2571) General meeting, 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Ladies Auxiliary, last Thursday, 1 p.m.

Meat draw, Friday, 4:30-6:30 p.m. \$2/draw. 50/50 draw, Saturday, 4 p.m.

Breakfast, 2nd and 4th Sunday, 9:30-1

Bid Euchre, Wednesday, 1 p.m. Bingo, Wednesday, 7 p.m.

Minden Branch (705-296-4541) Lunch menu, Monday - Friday, 12-2 p.m. Cribbage, Saturday, 1-3 p.m. Seniors "B-d" Euchre, Tuesday, 1 p.m.

Meat Draw, Wednesday, lunchtime. Ladies darts, Thursday, 1 p.m. Euchre, Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Fish/Wings & Chips, Friday, 5-7 p.m. Mixed darts, Friday, 7:30 p.m.

Wilberforce Branch (705-448-2221) Community care 55+ lunch, Friday.

Jam session, Friday, 7 p.m. Everyone welcome!

Meat draw, Saturday, 2 p.m.

Pool, Friday, 1:30 p.m.

Pancake & sausage breakfast, Sunday, 8-11 a.m. Bid euchre, Monday, 7 p.m. Executive meeting, Tuesday, 7 p.m. Fun darts, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

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Highlander events



Photo by Mark Arike

Mike Turner, second from left, joins in on the fun during a recent Monday evening class.

Get in the swing of Scottish country dancing at JDH

By Mark Arike Staff writer

You don't have to leave the country to get a feel for Scottish country dancing.

In fact, you only need to go as far as J.D. Hodgson Elementary School to give this form of movement a try.

Every Monday evening between 7 and 9 p.m., Haliburton resident Mike Turner leads a class for those of all ages and abilities. It's a fun, recreational activity that not only

allows participants to learn some traditional dances, but also socialize while doing so.

"We're not really serious," laughed Turner, who has been teaching the classes since 1989. "We all make mistakes."

Participants don't need to bring a partner and no one is expected to wear a kilt.

"It's actually lots of fun," he said.

When the school is closed, classes are held at the Stanhope Fire Hall.

Classes are \$3 per night. For more information contact Turner at 705-457-



Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion, Haliburton

April 3, 4 & 5, 2014 - 8PM Highlands Little April 5 Matinee - 2PM Theatre Tickets \$20 Tickets available at:

CRANBERRY COTTAGE

PHARMASAVE*

162 Highland St Haliburton 110 Bobcaygeon Rd Minden



The Highlands Trio entertained for hours on March 22.

Highlands Trio warms up the Minden legion

By Sue Tiffin Staff writer

Fans of Highlands Trio were in for a music-filled Saturday afternoon on March 22 when the group played to the crowd for

The band, consisting of Dave Piercey on guitar, Mike Clewlow on keyboard, and

Ed McDowell on bass, played at the Royal Canadian Legion in Minden to a crowd of about 30 people.

The band members joked about their new bassist, their lack of practice and affectionately mocked audience members.

See video on HighlanderOnline.ca

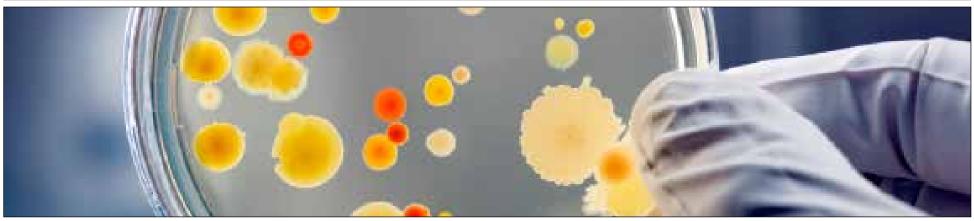


Spaghetti and Meatballs Spicy Beef Rigatoni Chicken Penne Fresca Wild Mushroom Fusilli

Pasta Package: choice of the above pasta, green salad, garlic bread and a glass of house wine for \$19.99 per person.

5pm-9pm, dine-in only. This offer can not be combined with any other promotions or offers. Gluten Free Pasta Available. 4252 COUNTY ROAD 21, HALIBURTON ON KOM 180 · 705-457-1800 · PINESTONE-RESORT.COM

What's on



Stock photo

Join in the experiment

By Mark Arike Staff writer

In the first event of its kind, designers, developers, scientists and others will gather at the Haliburton School of the Arts between March 28 and 30 to put technology to good use.

"It's the first biotech focused event that we're holding in Haliburton," said Connor Dickie, co-founder and CEO of the Toronto-based company Synbiota Inc.

Known as #sciencehack, the two-day event will encourage collaboration amongst those from all walks of life to conduct a scientific experiment in biotechnology. Participants who can't attend in-person will be able to tune in via the web.

"Everyone's going to be working together and sharing resources and costs to do a large project rapidly in parallel, rather than individually," said Dickie, who hopes to have 100 or so people participate. "A number of things that are new make this possible."

During the live experiment, the group will be using a "wetware" kit – literally "liquids in tubes," said Dickie – and the online Synbiota platform in an attempt to engineer a safe strain of E. coli to make violacein on demand.

"Violacein is expensive and it's hard to get. It comes from a fungus from the Amazon."

According to the Synbiota website, violacein is a natural purple compound made by soil-dwelling bacteria that live in the tropics. Violacein is the bacteria's built-in defense, killing any amoebic creatures, like protozoans, that try to eat it.

As a result, it has been hailed as a possible treatment against parasites. It has also shown promise as a treatment for cancer, particularly leukemia.

The biggest problem with violacein is its cost. One gram currently goes for \$356,000.

"It's already been figured out how to get another To learn more about the exmicroorganism to produce violacein much easier, but what sciencehack.synbiota.com/.

we're working on together is to optimize that – to make it work really well."

Dickie wants to show the world that it's now possible to design and manufacture medicine in a much cheaper, faster way. He said that this type of technology will also be utilized in the creation of materials, food, fuel and "anything that is biological."

"Many of our materials that we use are biological in nature, like wood, paper, cotton and all that stuff."

Synbiota will be celebrating its one-year anniversary this spring. Dickie, a computer science and media science graduate, started the company with Justin Pahara. The two met at Singularity University at NASA Research Park in Mountain View, California.

"They brought together young people from around the world who were working on cutting-edge, high-tech things. Justin, at the time, was a phD student at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom."

While there, Dickie learned about synthetic biology and the type of biotech work he is involved with.

"I thought that DNA is like the software code of living things."

Together, they figured it would be possible to program DNA like a computer. That turned out to be true.

Since forming the company, Dickie and Pahara set out to make this technology more accessible. Earlier this month, Synbiota won the South by Southwest (SXSW) Accelerator Award in the Innovative World Technologies category in Austin, Texas. The event wasn't full of science geeks, but rather people in the entertainment industry, Dickie pointed

"They were able to understand what we were doing and [were] able to say, 'Gee whiz, this is important. Let's give these guys a prize.""

The company has received support from the Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC).

To learn more about the event or to sign up visit https://sciencehack.synbiota.com/.

WINTERGREEN MAPLE SYRUP & PANCAKE BARN

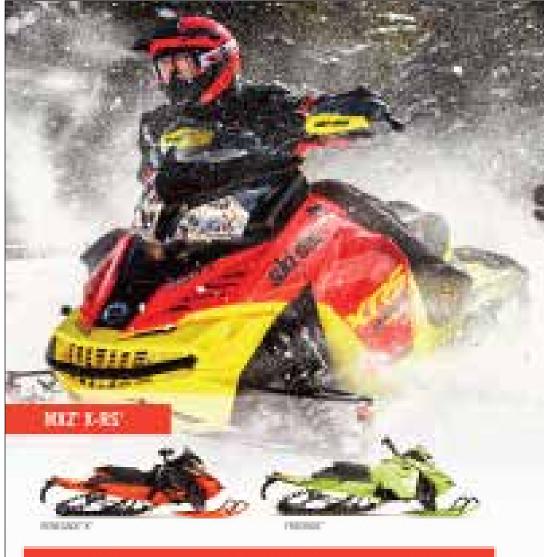
Open all weekends (Sat. And Sun) from March 1 to April 27 @ 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Early spring heralds the annual "Sugaring off" in the sugar bushes of Haliburton County. Come and view the evaporation process through the glass wall in our restaurant while savouring freshly made maple syrup on pancakes, French toast, baked beans and complimented by our specially prepared farmer's sausages. A wide variety of maple products are available in our retail area along with our BBQ sauces, jams, jellies, preserves, mustards, fruit syrups, hot sauces and preserves. Join us at 2 p.m. for a visit to Sourdough Sam's cabin and a sugary taste of sugar-on-snow.

Call the Dawsons anytime at 705-286-3202 for more information. Cash or cheque only. We are taking orders for maple syrup for this season.







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