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# The Highlander

Thursday **December 17 2015** | Issue 216

**INSIDE: CAROL MOFFATT NAMED NEW WARDEN - SEE PAGE 9**

**FREE**



Photo by Jennifer Hughey

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA:** Baby Madeline Duguay sits on Santa's knee at the YMCA Camp Wanakita event on Dec. 12. For more photos, see page 33.

## Redstone fire causes \$1 million in damages

**By Mark Arike**  
Staff writer

Despite their best efforts, 19 firefighters couldn't save a cottage on Redstone Lake from burning to the ground on the night of Dec. 13. According to a press release from Dysart fire chief Miles Maughan, crews battled the blaze at 2210 Redkenn Dr. for

nine hours.

No one was injured, but damages are estimated at \$1 million.

"There was nobody there at the time," said Maughan in a phone interview.

The cause is unknown at this time and Maughan doesn't believe it will ever be determined.

"There's not much left there," he said.

The Office of the Ontario Fire Marshal was contacted but will not be investigating the fire. Maughan explained this decision was made because there weren't any injuries or deaths. It also wasn't suspicious.

"There were no gas cans laying out or something like that."

Maughan confirmed the owner had insurance.

The building was already collapsing when firefighters arrived, states the press release. They concentrated their efforts "on a garage and keeping the fire from spreading into the bush."

The cottage was built in 1979. James Ciancone is listed as the owner.

See photo on page 2

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# Highlander news

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Photo submitted by Miles Maughan

**FIRE RIPS THROUGH COTTAGE ON REDSTONE LAKE:** The fire, at a cottage owned by the Ciancone family, took nine hours to put out.

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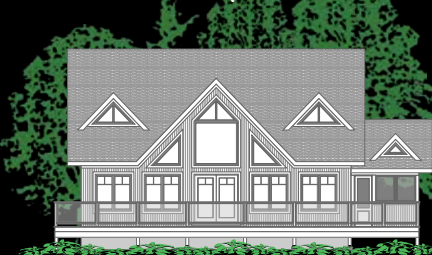
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## Merry Christmas

from James, Tammy, Kevin, John & Nathan

Have a safe & Happy New Year!

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# Highlander news

## Hospital CEO fired by board

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

Varouj Eskedjian, former president and CEO of Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS), was fired by the corporation's board of directors.

"There was a process we went through and his position has been terminated," said Dave Bonham, vice-chair and acting board chair, in a phone interview Dec. 10.

Bonham said HHHS is in the midst of a legal process and he couldn't elaborate more on the details surrounding the termination. However, he promised to provide more information once that process is finished.

The Highlander first learned Eskedjian was no longer CEO in an email from his former executive assistant Marlene Vieira on Dec. 8. Carolyn Plummer, chief nursing officer and director of hospital services, assumed the position of interim CEO.

More information was released Dec. 10, titled "Organizational Changes," which gave a general overview of the current challenges the organization is facing, including financial pressures.

"The health care environment in which we operate is very challenging. It is extremely difficult to manage the ever present financial and other challenges, much less keep up with

the pace of change as we strive to achieve our vision," states the release.

Their goal is to find a leader who will "inspire our people to bring the organization to the next level and to lead the important process of building one team and shaping a shared culture at HHHS."

Eskedjian was praised for his leadership over the past three years and thanked for his contributions.

"Mr. Varouj Eskedjian has been instrumental in developing a vision for our future and the delivery of health services generally in Haliburton County."

Bonham said he wanted to dispel rumours and innuendo about Eskedjian's termination. "This decision by the board ... was not incident-based at all," he said.

He also denied that "a disgruntled employees assessment" had anything to do with the decisions made.

Bonham added the decision was reached following in-camera meetings and after a strategic organizational review, undertaken jointly between Eskedjian and the board. The review began in November and took about two weeks to complete, he said.

Eskedjian's employment agreement was for a five-year term which began Jan. 3 of 2013 and was scheduled to end Dec. 31, 2017.

Under the termination section, the agreement states "HHHS may terminate this agreement

at any time for cause and without payment of any compensation, upon provision of written notification to the employee."

As defined by common law, cause includes but is not limited to: theft by the employee, incompetence, conviction of a criminal offence, and a material breach of a provision in the agreement. Other reasons listed in the contract include "failure to enroll or complete the long-term care home administration or management program within two years of the end of his term" and any "attempt to ... obtain any personal advantage from any transaction in which he has an interest which is adverse to the interest of HHHS" without written consent from the board.

The board will soon begin the search for its next CEO and president, but Bonham couldn't provide many details on how that process will unfold.

"There will be a search, obviously, and the process will be transparent and we'll be open about it—but we don't have it in place yet."

When reached on Dec. 14, Eskedjian said he didn't wish to comment at this time. As for his future plans, he said, "At this point in time I'm just looking at my options."

HHHS oversees two hospitals and two long-term care facilities located in Haliburton and Minden, as well as community based services.

## Minden's Pritchard House demolished

By Jennifer Hughey  
Editor

It took two days to tear down the Pritchard House in Minden.

On Dec. 14 and 15, plans to demolish the building at 2 Prince St., along with the neighbouring Pritchard House, were executed. Environmental and property operations department manager Ivan Ingram said council hasn't decided yet what they will do with the property. The plan was to get the buildings down first and then see what they had to work with.

"The building was in really rough shape," Ingram said in a phone interview.

Ingram informed council in mid-November that Pritchard House had "a severe mold issue, open fibre asbestos on the boiler and heating pipes and did not meet accessibility standards."

Reeve Brent Devolin said analysis was done by the previous term of council to determine what could be done to bring it up to code.

"At that time, it was \$185,000 to remediate

some of the problems," Devolin said. "To redo the building was cost prohibitive and just wasn't doable."

Ingram expects council will look to him and other members of the township, to work with them to brainstorm ideas for the future use of the space.

Devolin confirmed the township is saving the stone and some of the other physical part of the house. "We may be able to reuse them and if we can, we will make note of the Pritchard House when we repurpose it," he said.

Tim Pritchard, who now lives in London, Ont., has requested some stone be saved for the family in memory of their childhood



Photo by Jennifer Hughey  
Halfway through demolition on Dec. 15.

home. He also hopes that council doesn't turn the space into a parking lot.

"Turn it into green space and honour all of the people that have served municipal politics in Minden, during and after its formative years," he said. "Or use the stone to reface part of the municipal building."

Devolin confirmed council would not start

from scratch, but look at the whole block to see what they can do.

"It doesn't mean you forget about the history and lineage of the community," Devolin said, "you need to be respectful of that."

Council will begin the process of brainstorming what to do with the space in 2016.

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# Editorial opinion

## Accessing change

To change our community's future, we need to move on from our past.

Minden Hills demolished the Pritchard House in the heart of downtown this week. The building was torn down with an excavator, loaded into trucks and disposed of over the course of two days. A few pieces were stowed away for safekeeping for the Pritchard family.

It was difficult to watch a piece of history being destroyed. But as I returned to the site each day, I thought about what the place meant for Minden. The building was old – built over half a century ago. It was a home to a prominent family and a former reeve. Right next door stood Pritchard Electric, once a thriving business.

As people passed by the construction site, they mentioned how sad it was to see the building go. Many were concerned we would be losing a big part of our heritage. But it was the state of the building that made the decision for council.

In November, a report by Minden Hills environmental and property operations manager Ivan Ingram confirmed the building had a severe mold issue, the heating pipes and boiler had open fibre asbestos and it did not meet standards for accessibility.

Residents who felt strongly about the building's future started a petition in 2009. Many who live in the community remember the family and felt the impending loss. But ultimately, when a number like \$185,000 is put in front of council, whether for rehabilitation or not, money talks. Instead, the township decided to spend nearly \$13,000 and that was just to rid the house of the asbestos.

Despite how people feel about a building and what it stands for, would tax payers prefer paying more every year to make sure the structure stands? Or would they prefer money is spent to

create jobs, inspire youth or promote positive change?

Because, let's face it. It's not just the Pritchard House. There's Gelert Hall (which was also torn down in November), the Beaver Theatre, and the Molou Theatre in the village of Haliburton. There are countless other buildings with sentimental value not being used as they once were. No matter how old and run down, the memories still remain.

In watching the building come down, one could see the lack of insulation, the water damage and brittle structure. It was definitely time for the Pritchard House.

The Pritchard family – Stephanie, Louise and Tim – accepted that the house they grew up in was coming down since council made its decision. Tim knows he doesn't live there anymore, yet it's bittersweet. He says progress is progress, even though there seems to be no plan for the use of the space.

Progress needs a plan.

Let's not squander this opportunity. Let's do something with the space. In order for change to occur, we have to let go of how things once were. We need to make room to grow. Council will eventually get together to come up with ideas, so make yours known.

What buildings will you want your children to remember most about where they grew up? Whatever becomes of that space, will certainly be remembered for future generations. Just ask the Pritchard's.

The Pritchard House has made way for our future. It will always be a part of our cultural past.



By Jennifer Hughey

## Best Christmas present ever

Quietly, on July 1 of this year, Nicholas Winton died at Wexham Park Hospital, Slough in Berkshire, England. Nicholas Winton was 106 years of age.

In an intriguing way, this modest man was the 'father' of 669 children.

A native of England, Winton found himself in Europe just prior to the start of World War Two. A stockbroker, he was on his way to Switzerland when an acquaintance asked him to divert his travels to Prague. There he met with local people who were concerned about the coming war and the number of displaced families already fleeing from the Nazis.

He toured refugee camps near Prague, and realizing most were Jews and would likely be persecuted or murdered by the invaders, he arranged for the transport of children, from Czechoslovakia to Britain.

After setting up a process in Czechoslovakia, he established an agency back in London and began badgering the British government to allow the children into the country. When the bureaucracy was slow to respond, he even forged documents to speed the process. To find foster homes, he circulated photos of the children as a way of encouraging families to take them under their wings. He set about finding homes for the children and donors willing to give 50 pounds, the amount required to cover the transport of the children, their paperwork and to cover their initial expenses. Winton had little experience in rescuing people, let alone children. All he knew was unless the children were removed from the looming arrival of the Nazi forces, most would surely die.

The first group of children left Prague on March 14, 1939, just a day before the Nazis marched into the capital. While the authorities sorted out the new reality, rail coaches filled with children were allowed to depart for England. On Sept. 1 of that year war was declared and all such movements were halted. When the rescue route was cut off, Winton ceased his activity, closed his books and put all the paperwork into storage.

His wife discovered a suitcase full of material 50 years later in their attic and slowly

the story emerged. While he had spoken modestly of his pre-war activities, no one, including his wife, seemed to be aware of the breadth of his undertaking. After the full story emerged, numerous news reports, films and documentaries were made about his actions. Winton was honoured for his efforts in organizing the rescue of the children and subsequently, he was knighted by the Queen and received the Order of the White Lion in Czechoslovakia.

An effort was made to track down the children he was instrumental in saving and many were located. They knew nothing of the man who had engineered their life-changing migration in 1939. They gathered in London, just shy of his 100th birthday, to be reunited with the man who had most assuredly saved their lives. Among those 669 is a television journalist well-known to Canadians, Joe Schlesinger.

I can't help but compare the efforts of Nicholas Winton back in 1939, to those currently taking place in this country as we rescue individuals displaced by the conflict in Syria and other Middle Eastern countries. The setting may be different, but the cause is nonetheless equally worthy. Canadians have risen to the challenge and, while they won't resolve the needs of all those displaced by this conflict in the Middle East, it is important that we, as a nation, do our part. I am impressed with the welcome being provided to these refugees and the committees, including one in our community, that have sprung up to offer food, clothing, shelter and upon their arrival.

Christmas, a time of sharing, is a glorious backdrop against which to start welcoming these people to Canada. Nicolas Altawil, who is taking in his brother-in-law from Syria said, "It's a Christmas present that Canada is giving us." Another family waiting for their nephew last weekend, at the Montreal airport, described it as the "Best Christmas present ever!"



By Jack Brezina

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## HIGHLANDER HOLIDAY HOURS

The Highlander's office will be closed on Thursday, December 24 and will open again on Monday, January 4.

### Publication Schedule

First Issue of 2015 - Thursday, January 7, 2015  
(ad deadline January 4 at 5 p.m.)

Please note there will not be a paper for the week of December 28.

Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy New Year!

# Editorial opinion

## Through my eyes

### Home for the Holidays

Christmas Greetings to my faithful readers, may the season find you well.

I am home for the holidays and it feels good to be back around the community I left several months ago. My first trip downtown, I was met with familiar faces and words of encouragement.

It has been very stressful the past few weeks of college. From complex assignments, to roommates who were excessively loud while I was trying to complete tasks and when requested silence, just ignored me. I was at the point where I never wanted to return.

Science says stress causes completely erratic effects from victim to victim and for me it was the combination of cabin fever and stress that led to severe depression followed by an incredibly strong desire to head home to the people I know and love. To my safe zone where I don't worry about every little thing.

Loyalist College's radio program has wonderful instructors and I did well in most of my courses, however, I was concerned about two classes, The Evolution of Radio Business and Radio Technologies. I brought my grade up from 56.73% to 88.57% in Radio Technologies, but I am still awaiting the final grade on Radio Business.

I am looking forward to spending time in familiar surroundings and I hope to get around to see all my old

friends while I am home. I have nothing special planned for the holidays except sleeping in, relaxing and taking Sophie for long walks.

I do plan to return to college in January, although it was a difficult decision based on my experiences of the last few weeks. However, the college found me a new room with more mature students who are there to get an education, not party. I also decided, in an attempt to minimize stress I will take half a course load this next semester, which means a little longer to complete my degree, but at least I will complete it with my sanity intact. If anyone is interested and would like to follow my radio show next semester, they can contact me at [austin615@outlook.com](mailto:austin615@outlook.com) and I will forward the link. Now you are up to speed on what has been happening with me over the last few months.

I have missed your comments and emails since I stopped writing my column and I feel like I have left you all behind, which made me very sad. In closing, I will share with you an Irish Blessing from one of my on-air talk breaks. "May joy and peace surround you, contentment latch your door, and happiness be with you now and bless you evermore."



By Austin McGillion

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Photo by Sue Tiffin

The festive result of a creative wood splitting session at the Lyddiatt home in Minden.

## Light green fingered

Now, firstly I must stress that I'd never knowingly condone any kind of illegal carrying on in this most upstanding of newspaper columns. And, you must understand that being the kind of one in a million, salt of the earth fellow that I am I'd do my uppermost to stay on the right side of the law, rather than the left, so to speak...

Unfortunately, you can see where I'm going with this, can't you? Hmm.

Well, I'm not positive that what I, or should I say we, did was against the law but by the way that my lovely wife acted I'm pretty sure that she thinks it was. You see, it is finally that time of year. The time, when, about three weeks after everyone else has their Christmas tree up and decorated, I feel it is time to do the same. And, while living back in Blighty this simply meant popping down to the local super market and purchasing a tree, now that we live in the Canadian wilderness I feel it my outdoorsy obligation to stride out into the bush and fell a prime fir or spruce for our Christmas pleasure. This in itself is no crime, I'm almost absolutely sure. Unlike in England, where almost every sapling has a preservation order slapped upon it as soon as it pokes

two leaves above the soil, here in Haliburton County you may have noticed that we are surrounded by trees and a fair chunk of them are of the Christmassy variety. As such, my lovely wife, Little Z and I set out on a walk of our property to find a tree. We only have three acres. It was a short and fruitless walk.

So, we ventured further.

After doing a recce of the neighbour's land with no great results – all either 30 feet high or Charlie Brown style spindly – we wandered down the Rail Trail. It was here that we began to see possibilities but they were so close to the road, the trail or other people's houses. We went home.

And we returned at night.

Yes, we sneaked back under cover of darkness. The three of us in the truck, driving slowly down Gelert Road, trying to spot the trees that had looked promising in the daylight. Now, shining the truck lights into the roadside ditch was bound to attract attention so we used a single small flashlight instead. We parked up and then fumbled and stumbled about in the ditch, blundering into trees, shining the dim little light at them and whispering loudly, disagreeing as to whether

we were in the right spot to find 'that nice little fir tree... you know, the green triangle-shaped one!'

Our nighttime mission was a failure.

We went back the following morning, and you know what, the trees were much easier to see, even without the flashlight, which Little Z had insisted we bring along again. That said, we still could not agree on a suitable tree, that is, until my lovely wife spied one sitting proudly on a knob of rock at the roadside. We clambered upwards, hoisting Little Z up first and passing him the bow saw. Being the gentleman, I assisted my wife up with a very gentlemanly shove to the rear end and I followed thereafter to survey 'our' tree.

As I half crouched, half lay at the tree's base wondering where to place the first saw cut I heard my lovely wife shriek and dive into the ditch.

"There's a car coming!" she screeched, cowering low so as not to be seen.

It wasn't until I looked around for my six year old son that I realized just why the folks in the car had such horrified expressions on their faces as they drove by. There was Little Z standing high on the rocky knob, the bow

saw brandished above his head, a maniacal grin on his face that read, 'This tree's MINE!'

As soon as the car rounded the next bend my lovely wife sprang into action, leaping out of the ditch and running to the car.

"CUT IT DOWN!" she screamed, already in the driver's seat and gunning the engine, "And let's get the hell out of here."

We dutifully rubbed frantically at the tree's trunk with our antique (read very blunt) saw and eventually resorted to leaning on the tree until it broke off at its base. I threw it down onto the road and we high-tailed it from the crime scene.

The tree's now decorated and looking lovely in our living room. But, just in case anyone comes around asking awkward questions, my lovely wife has made me sneak into the grocery store parking lot and steal the green string wrapping off of one of the trees that they have for sale.

Evidence of purchase, she says, in case the law comes a-knocking!



By Will Jones

## The Outsider

# Highlander opinion

## Eye on the street: What are your plans for the holidays?



**Carol Toye**

Minden

Get together with my family. The girls are here in Minden. We are fortunate that we all live close to each other, but a Christmas get together is always special.



**Karley Gazley**

Minden

I will be spending Christmas with my Mom and my boyfriend's family. I will be making a big Christmas meal with all the fixings. Yum, yum.



**Lisa Farrow**

Crystal Lake

I will be spending it with family. We always have a big family get together and we are all looking forward to a big meal and a great time.



**Cathy McLean**

Moore Falls

My plans for Christmas are to be with my wonderful sister in-law across the lake and to enjoy the peace and quiet of the Christmas season.



**Lorraine McNeil**

Minden

We are going to McKeck's to help serve the food for the Christmas dinner. To help those that are lonely and have no family or maybe someone that finds themselves alone for the first time.

*Photos and interviews by Walt Griffin*

## Hydro One a fiasco

Dear editor,

I cannot get excited about Hydro One's new service as every time Hydro introduces any new initiative, it costs the users money.

Households of one or two, with income \$28,000 or less, will receive a credit of \$30 on each bill effective January 2016. Debt retirement charges will be removed January 2016 with an average savings of \$5 per month per user of electricity. However, the Clean Energy Credit (also received monthly, averaging \$15) will end effective Dec. 31, thereby reducing the low-income credit to \$20.

Households with a combined income of \$50,000 or more will see their hydro bill increase by an anticipated \$120 per year to help fund the hydro-electricity rebate for low income households. Within the next five years, the average monthly residential bill will increase by 42 per cent. Energy Minister Bob Chiarelli said the Liberals were faced with an "energy deficit" left behind by the Conservatives in 2003.

The Liberals elected after that added to the problem with the gas plant scandals, which squandered over \$1 billion dollars. To add insult to injury, Premier Kathleen Wynne wants to sell off portions of Hydro One to private enterprises which could cause skyrocketing hydro rates for users.

There is no need for this or hydro rate

increases. Ontario exported more than 1,000 megawatts of electricity last year, enough to power a million homes. Sometimes Ontario Power Authority even pays Hydro-Quebec to take the excess electricity. Quebec then sells at a profit in New England. Independent Electricity System Operators produced more megawatts than were needed and had a surplus of power. Consumers paid these contracted suppliers to sit idle.

In October, the glut of megawatts produced created a surplus, however

Wynne's Liberals, through contract initiatives, paid \$81 million and an additional \$11 million for megawatts of power that could have been sold but were told to sit idle. Ontario sold power to neighbouring jurisdictions at an average of \$4.31 cents per Mwh or \$2.6 million, meaning a loss of almost \$90 million for Ontario electricity users. This was made public via news broadcasts.

Realizing this is a lot to consume, however what is this Liberal Government thinking? They preach green

energy savings but are flushing it down the drain. If the Liberal government can squander our hard earned money without reprisal for stupidity, Ontario is in big trouble. Perhaps if Wynne had campaigned on the selling of Hydro One and the fiasco that has ensued, the election results would have been different. It's time to get rid of the fat cats and the ineptness that exists and become more "conservative".

**Beverly MacDuff**  
**Gooderham**

## Crosswalk location a matter of opinion

Re: Scratching our Heads...  
From The Highlander, December 10th

Dear editor,

I would surmise from this letter Baked and Battered is disappointed with the decision by the engineer hired to do the study and council's decision as to the best place for a second crosswalk in town.

Baked and Battered has suggested it should be placed opposite the traffic entrance and exit for the municipal lot and opposite their business. When this entrance and exit was originally constructed, it was made extra wide for the use of vehicles towing trailers

and the like when launching their boats – and not for pedestrian traffic.

The "throng of people" exiting the park have always exited at the wide, well-constructed stairs leading to Highland Street and the main businesses of Haliburton Village. If I am not mistaken there is a flashing caution light located at that corner? I believe the sign outside of their establishment points to parking in the rear. Did they not just increase the seating at their business, while believing that crossing the road was a problem? Does this not make them responsible for their customers crossing the road when they cannot find parking in the rear?

I surmise that businesses are normally required to provide parking on site or pay in lieu based upon occupancy. Looking at the Baked and Battered parking lot and the increased seating, I wonder how the required spaces provided or paid in lieu by Baked and Battered meet these requirements. They hint that the "municipality (that would be the people) may be liable" and the engineers hired to make the appropriate decision are not looking after the best interests of all of our community.

I beg to differ.

**Bill Beatty**  
**Drag Lake**



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# Highlander news

## Frost Centre off the list for Syrian refugees

By Alex Coop  
Staff writer

Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt said the chances of the Frost Centre turning into an interim lodging site for Syrian refugees are slim.

Moffatt spoke with *The Highlander* shortly after posting an update on her Facebook page regarding the “repairs and cleaning at the Frost Centre in response to the federal government’s request to seek interim lodging sites.”

The work being done was confirmed by

council’s sources within the provincial government, which Moffatt said Algonquin Highlands has due to the heavy presence of trail systems and airports.

She said an assessment had taken place, but beyond that, there isn’t anything to get excited about.

“It’s not a case of it being a secret, it’s a case of it not happening,” Moffatt said.

She added she understands the public’s curiosity.

“The centre remains a bit of a hot button for a lot of people in the community,” she said. “Its closure still stings for some.

Anything that happens there, people are naturally interested in what’s going on.”

The Ministry of Natural Resources announced the facility’s closure in 2004.

Although the Frost Centre is likely to remain the way it is, Haliburton will be able to welcome sponsored refugees in the near future.

The recently formed Haliburton Refugee Sponsorship Committee will support families who are looking for a fresh start. The program operates under the Anglican United Refugee Alliance (AURA).

David Barker, spokesperson for the

Haliburton Refugee Sponsorship Committee, told *The Highlander* the committee is still in organizational and fundraising stages.

Jamie Schmale, Kawartha Lakes-Brocks’ MP, noted privately sponsored refugees, like the ones coming to Haliburton through the sponsorship committee, are entirely separate from the 25,000 government-sponsored refugees that will be relocating across Canada between now and February 2016.

“The private sponsors are responsible for picking them up at the airport, finding them housing and food, and getting their paperwork all in order,” he said.

## Retaining wall collapse delays condo project

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

A mishap that occurred at a new condo development on Newcastle Street in Minden has pushed back the project’s completion date.

“Expect us to complete in early fall,” Pat Dube, owner of Greystone Project Management Inc., told guests during an open house for The Newcastle on Dec. 9 at The Grill on the Gull. “We were hoping for summer, but I have to delay a little bit.”

A temporary shoring wall fell at the site of the development Nov. 1, resulting in a temporary closure of the county’s

administration building as well as the street from Milne to St. Germaine. The wall wasn’t fully completed by the contractor at the time of the incident and several days of rain “caused the soil to become quite fluid,” said Dube, recalling what happened.

The good news, he said, is this wouldn’t affect the project’s budget or the prices of available units.

“It’s an unfortunate delay to the project and I’m sorry, but I’m here to reassure you that we’re moving forward.”

Future residents and prospective buyers were told they would be able to move in late September or early October of 2016.

For the past month Dube has been

communicating with his insurance company and the contractor’s insurance to resolve the issue.

“That’s been the last month of my life—trying to get this thing resolved. They are behind this and they’re going to honour the policies that we pay for,” he said.

Peter Brady, owner of Trophy Property and realtor for the development, commended Dube for his determination and commitment to the project.

“I’ve seen bigger companies and lesser men pack up and walk away from a project this challenging, but that’s not Pat,” said Brady.

“As an engineer, I know he knows how to

make it right.”

Brady reported more than half of the building’s 15 units have been sold.

In addition to Dube’s update, those in attendance were provided an overview of the development and told about the options available to them. Buyers were also offered a free gift in the form of a complimentary consultation with local designer Andria Cowan Molyneaux.

Based in Huntsville, Greystone has built two condos in Haliburton—Granite View and Granite Cove.

In the spring they completed the EMS base in Minden off Highway 35.

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# Highlander news

## County in brief

By Alex Coop Staff writer

### AH Council presented with extension bridge options

A company specializing in aerial structures presented Algonquin Highlands Council with options which could reconnect a major loop on Beetle Lake Trail.

Scott Ewart of Elevation Aerial Design said if council were interested in proceeding with the construction of an extension bridge on the trail, Aerial Design is more than qualified for the job.

"You wouldn't be the first township with a suspension bridge," he said, adding the bridge could also become a tourist attraction.

The presentation came months after the previous bridge on the trail was decommissioned back in May 2015. Councillors decided to close the bridge after an assessment phase showed deficiencies in the structure.

Ewart said the engineering company would work closely with the township to ensure all of its specifications were met. Minor details like the width of the bridge, to more significant factors like the type of metal used, would be taken into consideration and discussed in detail.

The bridge would be approximately 40-metres in length.

Reeve Carol Moffatt said the presentation showed a lot of promise, but council will not be able to make any decisions about a possible partnership with Aerial Design until the budget is finalized for 2016.

### Chris Card sworn in as new PRT manager

Chris Card was officially appointed as the municipality's new parks recreation and trails manager during council Dec. 10.

Card was formerly the township's trail supervisor.

Councillors praised his hard work over the

years and noted they were pleased to hire someone from within the township who is highly familiar with the area.

### Dysart enters agreement with Bell

The increasing need for improved network capacity in the Municipality of Dysart et al was discussed during a presentation by Bell Mobility.

Adam Fulford, director of field services for CanACRE, and field specialist Amir Mozaffari, made a presentation to Dysart councillors Dec. 14 about the possibility of installing several Small Cell systems across the municipality.

Rather than installing cell towers, which Fulford noted don't make the best business case for township, the much smaller Small Cell systems would be scattered around communities and would have a shorter range of about 200-metres. They can be installed on the side of buildings, street lamps and rooftops.

"[Small Cell] is a concentrated solution," Fulford explained.

Fulford and Mozaffari confirmed that if they were to proceed with Small Cell, it would roll out in Haliburton first.

In addition, if a partnership were to form, Fulford suggested it be over a 20-year period in order for both short and long-term solutions to be properly analyzed.

An agreement was signed and councillors passed a bylaw Dec. 15 to enter into small cell licence with Bell Mobility.

### Students ask Dysart to commit to Blue Dot

A group of concerned students from J. D. Hodgson Elementary School asked Dysart council to pass a resolution supporting a constitutional amendment to assure basic rights like the right to clean air and water, are implemented for the municipality.

Ms. Philips' Grade 5 and 6 class packed

the council chambers on Dec. 11 to read their letters about why council should support Blue Dot.

After learning about Blue Dot from the news, the class delved deeper into the issue and were surprised to learn Canadians do not already have the right to clean air, clean water and healthy food as many other countries already have.

Councillor Derek Knowles praised the students for their hard work and dedication, but had some concerns about the Blue Dot movement itself.

"I'm grappling with the constitutional aspect of this," Knowles said. "Anytime we mess with the constitution, the country almost falls apart. I feel as a citizen, I have all of those rights today."

Caroyn Coburn of Environment Haliburton said the movement is more of an aspirational goal to ensure that not a single person in Canada lives without clean water or air.

Dysart council said they would review the amendment and make a decision in the near future.

Highlands East Council was the first municipality in the county to throw their support behind the movement Nov. 9.

The students have also collected more than 300 signatures in support of the movement from parents and teachers across the county.

### OPP warns public about phone scams

Members from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have received complaints from residents who received fraudulent phone calls.

The scam involves fraudsters posing as an agent of the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and telling homeowners a criminal investigation had been conducted and arrest warrants were being prepared due to overdue taxes owed to the government. The scammers then ask residents to send them

money and additional personal information.

On Dec. 10 police received a complaint from a resident who reported they had received a phone call from someone claiming to be calling from the CRA. The resident told police he had forwarded the fake CRA agent a large quantity of money after he was told he owed money and that he had to pay immediately.

Later the same day, police received a second complaint from another resident reporting they had received a similar phone call from someone claiming to be a CRA inspector. She was told that she owed the CRA over \$3,700 and had to pay immediately or she would be arrested. The resident recognized it was a scam and did not provide any information or send any money.

The OPP is reminding all residents to be extremely careful when receiving phone calls from someone claiming to be from the CRA or a police service inquiring about personal information and demanding payment on behalf of the CRA.

### OPP investigate five break and enters

Five break and enters to seasonal residences in the areas of Wilson Heights Trail and Hodgson Road in the Municipality of Dysart et al are being investigated by the Haliburton Highlands Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP).

The break-ins happened between Dec. 1 and Dec. 2. Some of the stolen items include a wakeboard, a compound bow, a BB gun and a BB rifle.

The OPP would like anyone with information regarding the person(s) responsible for these crimes or any others, to contact the Haliburton Highlands OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Anonymous information can also be reported to Crime Stoppers by calling 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or online at [www.khcs.ca](http://www.khcs.ca). Anyone who submits a tip is eligible to receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000.

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#### Meetings & Events

##### Dec 31

6:00-8:00 pm, Family Fun New Year's Eve  
at the S.G Nesbitt Arena  
Skating, tobogganing and hot chocolate all for free!  
Please Note: skates and toboggans not provided

##### January 28

9:00 am, COTW/Regular Council Meeting, Minden Council Chambers  
\*Please note that Council has reduced its meeting schedule to one meeting in January to be held on Thursday, January 28, 2015.

#### Available Employment Opportunities

Building Inspector/MLEO  
Summer Students – PARKS  
Community Services Seasonal Operator  
Roads Seasonal Labourer

Visit [www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/](http://www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/) for more information

#### Municipal Administration Office Holiday Hours

After hours emergency number  
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Hours of Operation:  
Monday December 21st to  
Wednesday December 23rd:  
8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Thursday December 24th:  
8:30 am – 11:30 am



Please note the office is closed:  
Friday December 25, 2015 to  
Sunday, January 3rd, 2016

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For more information, please contact Elisha Weiss at 705-286-2298 or [eweiss@mindenhills.ca](mailto:eweiss@mindenhills.ca)

#### Closure of Skate Board Park

Located at the rear of the S.G Nesbitt Arena, the park has been closed for the winter season and will be relocated in 2016 to accommodate the Pine Grove Affordable Housing Project. Location yet to be determined.

# Highlander news

## Moffatt new Warden in town

By Jennifer Hughey  
Editor

At a public ceremony Dec. 15, Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt became the new Warden for Haliburton County.

Moffatt was nominated by former Warden Murray Fearrey and seconded by councillor Brent Devolin. She accepted the position for a second time, the first being in 2013.

Moffatt told *The Highlander* after being named Warden she would like to remain creative in the face of continued provincial cutbacks.

"We need to continue to partner with community organizations, groups and small businesses to create a collaborative and unified voice," Moffatt said in her speech.

Fearrey said he chose Moffatt for many reasons.

"Her knowledge of the issues and the County, a proven commitment to

responsibility, and experience," he said. He also attributed her time in council as an asset and the fact she has done the job before.

Moffatt's speech also stressed the importance of tourism, revisiting the OPP billing structure, poverty reduction, green energy and high speed Internet as her first priorities for 2016.

County CAO and clerk Mike Rutter said Moffatt's contributions to Haliburton County are immense.

"She was a founding board member of Highlands

Media Arts (now Sticks and Stones Productions), Canoe FM and The Friends of St. Stephen's Church – and a member of a variety of other committees and boards across the County of Haliburton," Rutter wrote in a press release.

Moffatt sat as Warden for the first time Dec. 16.



Photo by Jennifer Hughey  
Carol Moffatt on her first day as Warden.



Photo submitted by Valerie Kuinka  
Richard Margison and Valerie Kuinka meet Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

## Opera tenor meets Trudeau

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

Not only were Richard Margison and his wife Valerie Kuinka invited to the Prime Minister's inaugural Caucus Holiday Party in Ottawa on Dec. 9, but they also had the opportunity to rub shoulders with Justin Trudeau himself.

"This is a sweet invitation because this is a new regime, a new government," said Kuinka in a phone interview. "It's a great honour to be included in this Christmas dinner."

Margison and Kuinka are known locally as the founders of Highlands Opera Studio. For the past nine years they have been bringing young and emerging professional singers from across Canada to the area for training and performances.

In the world of opera, Margison is a well-known Canadian tenor who has received

many awards and recognition. In 2001 he was named an Officer of the Order of Canada for his contributions to music in Canada and his presence on the international stage.

The recent party, which was held in the Shaw Centre, was attended by 4,700 people.


"We were at a table that was very close to the Prime Minister," recalled Kuinka.

Margison offered to sing at the event and Trudeau accepted. He performed the national anthem.

Before posing for a photo the couple had a brief conversation with Trudeau about the future of the arts in Canada and what they've been doing to support young performers.

"He thanked Richard for his important work in Canada and that he feels Richard is a great ambassador for the level of arts in Canada," she said.

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a happy healthy new year  
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Photo by Mark Arike

Danielle and Heather Barton draw names for free lip balm.

# Start-up BeBe Bartoons goes viral on social media

By Mark Arike

Staff writer

It's a Sunday afternoon and the Barton family is busy entering hundreds, if not thousands, of names into a weekly contest for free lip balm.

Notifications are popping up constantly on Michelle Barton's phone from Instagram fans eager to find out if they are one of the lucky winners of Free Bartoons Saturday.

"I posted something 23 minutes ago and it already has 652 likes," she pointed out.

"It's grown fast and the activity is crazy." Michelle's daughters, Danielle, 10, and Heather, 9, have been crazy for lip balm for quite some time. Earlier this year, they turned that obsession into a business with the help of their parents.

Known as BeBe Bartoons—a mix of their last name and the word cartoons—the family first released two lip balm characters with interchangeable heads. They now are up to six collectible characters with more in the works.

The family earned a spot on the Dragons' Den, a popular CBC television series that gives aspiring entrepreneurs the opportunity to pitch their ideas to business heavyweights in the hopes they will invest in their venture. The episode is yet to air and the Bartoons cannot reveal how they fared until it does.

In the meantime, they've been busy getting their products into stores across Canada and the U.S. (The lip balms first made their debut in stores across Haliburton County.) They're also available online through Amazon and the company's website, where sales are doubling every month.

Harnessing the power of social media and the Internet has been key to their growth. By getting tween girls to review their products on YouTube and hosting contests and challenges through Instagram, their brand has spread far and wide.

On Dec. 16, they had 34,500 followers from around the world on Instagram. Some weeks they gain as many as 2,000 new

followers.

"As it grows, more people see," she said.

It's been a learning experience for Michelle, a graphic designer who owns a custom awards and corporate gifts business with her husband.

"We never did anything, in fact we weren't even on Facebook at all. We didn't believe in it," she said.

Danielle and Heather, who are the face of the brand and help create the characters, enjoy doing the weekly draws and interacting with their followers.

"It's fun to watch the activity on the screen," said Michelle.

The family's ultimate goal is global expansion.

They would like to thank their local supporters as well as the Haliburton County Development Corporation and the Spark Centre in Oshawa.

To learn more about BeBe Bartoons visit [bebebartoons.com](http://bebebartoons.com). To follow them on Instagram go to [instagram.com/bebe\\_bartoons](https://www.instagram.com/bebe_bartoons).



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Correct answer to mathematical skill-testing question required. \*\*U.S. government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the U.S. Department of Transportation's New Car Safety Program ([www.safercar.gov](#)). Visit [onstar.ca](#) for coverage maps, details and system limitations. Services and connectivity may vary by model and conditions. OnStar with LTE connectivity is available on select vehicle models and in select markets. Customers will be able to access OnStar User Terms and Privacy Statement. OnStar acts as a leading emergency service providers. After the trial period (if applicable), an active OnStar service plan is required. †\$19,877.49 month lease for 2015 GMC Terrain SLT 4WD. Annual excess kilometers: 10,000. Monthly Buick Financial: \$116 per \$1,000 financed. Down payment: \$1,500. Total obligation: \$15,000. Cash rebate: \$1,500. Total obligation is \$18,167.49. ‡Monthly payments may vary depending on down payment. §Total obligation is \$18,167.49. ¶Purchase at lease end is \$12,886/\$19,295. Excess wear and tear and km charges not included. Other lease options available. \*\*\*\*Weighted B1 [\$/100/\$1700/(\$1,695)] registration, air and tire levies and DMV/Ces fees included. Insurance: license, PPSA, dealer fees and applicable taxes not included. Offers apply as indicated to 2015 or 2016 new or demonstrator models of the vehicle equipped as described. Offers apply to qualified retail customers in the Ontario Buick GMC Dealer Marketing Association area only (including Outaouais). Dealers are free to set individual prices. Quantities limited; dealer order or trade may be required. Limited time offers which may not be combined with other offers. GM Canada may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. 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# Highlander business

## Brewery set to expand after successful pilot

By Mark Arike

Staff writer

Once the necessary permits and approvals are obtained, construction on Haliburton Highlands Brewing's new and improved facility can begin.

At 3,200 sq. ft. in size the building will make it possible to produce and keep more beer in stock.

"We're pushing really hard to get the foundation in the ground before the weather turns," said Heather Reid, operations director at Abbey Gardens.

The microbrewery is owned and operated by cottagers-turned-residents Michael and Jewelle Schiedel-Webb but is located on the grounds of Abbey Gardens, located off Highway 118 near West Guilford.

The couple started the business in February of last year and with the help of Abbey Gardens set up a 900-square-foot production facility.

"They will be operating there until the transition happens," said Reid, pointing out the goal is to get the new space up and running by late spring of 2016.

Once again Abbey Gardens is building the new structure to house the brewery. It will be located just past the property's large parking area.

Schiedel-Webb told *The Highlander* the facility will allow them to expand their production capacity by 15 barrels—somewhere between 50-100 per cent more than they anticipated—and increase the size of their retail space.

"We'll have more space to do sampling and guided tastings," she said. "We're going to be evaluating whether we're going to be adding a 'by the glass' license."

Schiedel-Webb explained this license would enable them to do more in terms of sampling.

"If people wanted to purchase beer by the glass rather than just doing tasting samples, we would have a license to be able to do that."

She pointed out the current operation was



File photo

Jewelle and Michael Schiedel-Webb in front of their current facility.

intended to be part of a pilot phase. Since it was successful they decided to proceed with the expansion.

"We did know that we were using the small size to specifically evaluate how big our production system should be. The pilot was an overwhelming success."

They expect to add more staff in the future, especially seasonally, and will be

pursuing distribution through the LCBO and The Beer Store in the fall.

"That will help to balance our seasonality," she said.

She said the partnership with Abbey Gardens has worked out well. In fact, they have been part of the organization's business incubation program.

"It's just great to be able to leverage that

support and networking as well."

Haliburton Highlands Brewing currently has more than a dozen beers in their lineup and they continue to add seasonal offerings. In April they won the gold award for their honey brown beer at the Ontario Brewing Awards Gala.

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# Highlander arts

## What's Up The case for kiosks



By George Farrell

Chances are when tourists and day trippers come to our communities they'll drive away without any inkling as to what our communities are really about.

Oh sure, a few of them might pick up a brochure or two and several more will have come for a specific reason, be it an event or just to see the natural beauty of the Highlands. But other than the beauty and memories, what real knowledge about our communities are those visitors taking away with them?

That was the question that stayed with me ever since I completed my duties as co-ordinator of the recently erected historic kiosk in Kinmount. My duties included research, data gathering and photography, as well as overseeing layout, design and printing of the panels which comprise the kiosk.

Throughout the process I learned a great deal about the history of Kinmount and its ties to Haliburton County. Those ties stretch back to the building of the Bobcaygeon Road and the logging and mining booms of the 1800s and early 1900s. Ties also bound the rails of the Victoria railway which in 1876 was advanced to Kinmount from Lindsay, on its way to its final destination of Haliburton, in 1878.

As I gathered data for the project I found the information fascinating, and enlightening. Now that the Kinmount kiosk has been completed I think visitors will feel the finished product is also entertaining. What they will take away with them from the text and colourful visuals will be a much greater understanding of the history of Kinmount and the surrounding area, as well as some idea of the topography, geology, and cultural events like the Kinmount Fair, which still takes place to this day. It's knowledge that will make their visits more meaningful and possibly interest them in finding out more on subsequent trips to the area.

The Kinmount kiosk, like the town itself, has definite ties to the Highlands. The design, an open but roofed construction, housing four double-sided panels arranged in an X, was fashioned after the one at the Hawk Lake log chute, which Carole Moffatt and Tony Aymong were responsible for. Other Highlands contributors were the Haliburton Highlands Museum, Crystal Image Studios, and County Sign.

It occurred to me during the project the villages of Minden and Haliburton specifically could use a similar kiosk, centrally located, to quickly and easily inform people about such things as the

history of the communities, trails, events and points of interest. I realize

there are specific kiosks already located at some trail heads, but what is missing is a centrally located information kiosk which can give visitors a one-stop overview not even the Internet can provide.

Information can be presently obtained at the information caboose at the edge of Head Lake Park in Haliburton village and at the Information Centre on Highway 35 in Minden, and there are also other locations such as art galleries where brochures can be obtained. But let's face it, most visitors and many cottagers come to our downtowns to buy groceries, be seen, eat ice cream, go to restaurants and walk the streets window-shopping. The majority of them will not venture to our wonderful, but under-visited museums and galleries for instance, mainly because they don't know that they're there.

Location is so important and though my client, the Kinmount Committee for Planning, had good reasons for locating the kiosk right next to the restored Austin Saw Mill, (where it certainly looks good), most people who visit the village will not see it, unless they are interested in checking out the mill. A main street kiosk would be seen by many more people.

If information kiosks were located somewhere on the main streets, in areas of high pedestrian traffic, people could stop and find out about our communities while they consider how best to consume their cones or lap their lattes. Reading the text and looking at the graphics would also take their minds off pondering their futures while they wait for their significant others to finish shopping. It might even take their eyes away from their cell phones when they realize the answer to what they can do on a rainy day in the Highlands is right in front of them.

A Minden kiosk for instance could direct people towards the Minden Hills Museum for additional historic information and it could also inform them about the Riverwalk, the Boardwalk, the Agnes Jamieson Gallery and the rest of the Cultural Centre. In Haliburton a kiosk could inform visitors about the museum, the caboose, the art galleries, parks, School of the Arts, the Sculpture Forest and the wonderful trails in that area.

I think the case for kiosks is compelling and if erected on our main streets I believe visits to our events, exhibitions, and points of interest would increase substantially.







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# Highlander arts

## Haliburton County's Hot Reads

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



### HCPL's TOP FICTION

1. *The Mistletoe Inn* by Richard Paul Evans
2. *The Mulberry Bush* by Charles McCarry
3. *A Fool For A Client* by Parnell Hall

### HCPL's TOP NON-FICTION

1. *Over The Top And Back: the autobiography* by Tom Jones
2. *Wheat Belly 10-Day Grain Detox* by William Davis
3. *Inside The Now: meditations on time* by Thich Nhat Hanh

### HCPL's TOP JUNIOR TITLES

1. *Hooray For Reading!* by Patricia Hall and Kathryn Mitter (JF)
2. *The Amazing Book Is Not On Fire: the world of Dan and Phil* by Dan Howell (YA)

### AUDIO and VIDEO at HCPL

1. *The Man From U.N.C.L.E.* (DVD)
2. *Tricky Twenty-Two* by Janet Evanovich (Book on CD)

### LIBRARY NEWS

Holiday hours are here! All branches will be closed Dec. 24-26, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. Our Dorset branch will also be closed Dec. 29-30. Our Administration Centre will be closed Dec. 24 to Jan. 3. For our complete hours – including new hours for 2016 – please visit our website at [haliburtonlibrary.ca](http://haliburtonlibrary.ca)

## Artist going outside the box

By Jennifer Hughey  
Editor

Meghan Gale admits that it can be somewhat difficult for artists in Haliburton County.

Gale moved to the Highlands from Timmins in 2011 and quickly enrolled in the Visual Creative Arts Diploma (VCAD) program at Fleming College to meet other artists.

"I had a hard time networking and getting myself out there when I moved to Haliburton," she said. "I took the course to get to know people in the arts community, but I really enjoyed the school itself."

Since she was 10-years-old, she would sit and watch her mother draw.

"I would trace her sketchbook and learned to train my eye," Gale said, now 28-years-old, with over 10 years under her belt freelancing her art and graphic design projects.

Gale would have people approach her to create murals and stained glass window art while still in high school and has been selling her art from a very young age.

"I found myself expanding my artistic box of creations and took a journey of bringing my drawing to life by merging 3D figures with my love of line, texture, excessive amounts of paint and colour," Gale states about her preferred style on her website.

She tends to focus on graphic arts, drawing and painting, and fibre arts. Suzi Dwor teaches fibre arts at Fleming College and remembers teaching Gale.

"I had her from the beginning, the first week of her very first semester," Dwor said. "She just kind of came out of her shell and excelled."

Dwor said Gale knew that she was working in a small town with a very craft-oriented population, but understands how it might be



Photo submitted by Meghan Gale

Gale's painting of the bridge in Head Lake park.

hard to establish a following.

"Pretty much anything anyone can imagine of, I can recreate in any form of medium," Gale said.

"I am always interested in exploring and experimenting with various media and concepts."

Since graduating and receiving her VCAD, Gale tries to get herself out to shows. She admits the lack of transportation and funds makes it difficult. She was told by the Arts Council Haliburton Highlands her work was "too out there" and has been focusing on developing a portfolio of portraits and scenery.

"People ask me why I am not out there more," Gale said, "but it costs money to have tables at art shows. Some are inexpensive but others in the summer, like Art in the Park, are over \$100 per table to showcase and try and

sell your art."

Gale said she and other local artists have discussed creating an alternative arts council for "all the underdogs" whose art could be considered too different to be accepted by the standards of the Arts Council. Until then, Gale continues to be inspired from her many years of playing and experimenting with various materials.

"I have found creative inspiration from emotions, mother earth, symbolism, curiosity, and life itself. Art is how I communicate and relate," she said. "Similar to Life and each and every one of us, art is a forever evolving experience of learning, problem solving, creative thinking and just having fun."

To view Gale's website, visit [meghangaleart.com](http://meghangaleart.com) or at [facebook.com/MeghanGaleArt/info](https://www.facebook.com/MeghanGaleArt/info)

## SPARC-ing up conversations

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

An eclectic gathering of actors, animators, writers, musicians and other members of the performing arts community made new connections at the first-ever Spotlight on the Performing Arts.

The social event, which was held at The Dominion Hotel in Minden on Dec. 10, also

saw participants play improv games and brainstorm ideas.

"We just wanted to bring people together to meet and greet," said Chris Lynd, chair of the Supporting Performing Arts in Rural Communities (SPARC) steering committee.

Lynd added a lot is happening in the performing arts, "but often we work in isolation."

Those in attendance were also encouraged to answer questions about challenges facing the performing arts community as well as their own needs.

If well received, the plan is to hold similar events in the future.

"I'm thinking three a year," she said.

The event was hosted by the Arts Council Haliburton Highlands and SPARC.

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# Highlander health

## Course makes suicide a safe topic

**By Mark Arike**  
Staff writer

According to Statistics Canada, suicide claimed the lives of 3,890 people in the country in 2009.

In *Suicide rates: An overview* by Tanya Navaneelan, it is noted about 100,000 years of potential life were lost that year alone.

Is there anything the average citizen can do to recognize the signs and potentially save a life?

On Dec. 9, I discovered the answer to that question is most definitely yes.

That evening, I, along with about a dozen other members of the community, spent three hours at the Minden community centre to become a suicide alert helper. Known as safeTALK, the course was led by Jack Veitch, health promoter and educator with the Canadian Mental Health Association, and his video co-trainer Khari Jones (a former

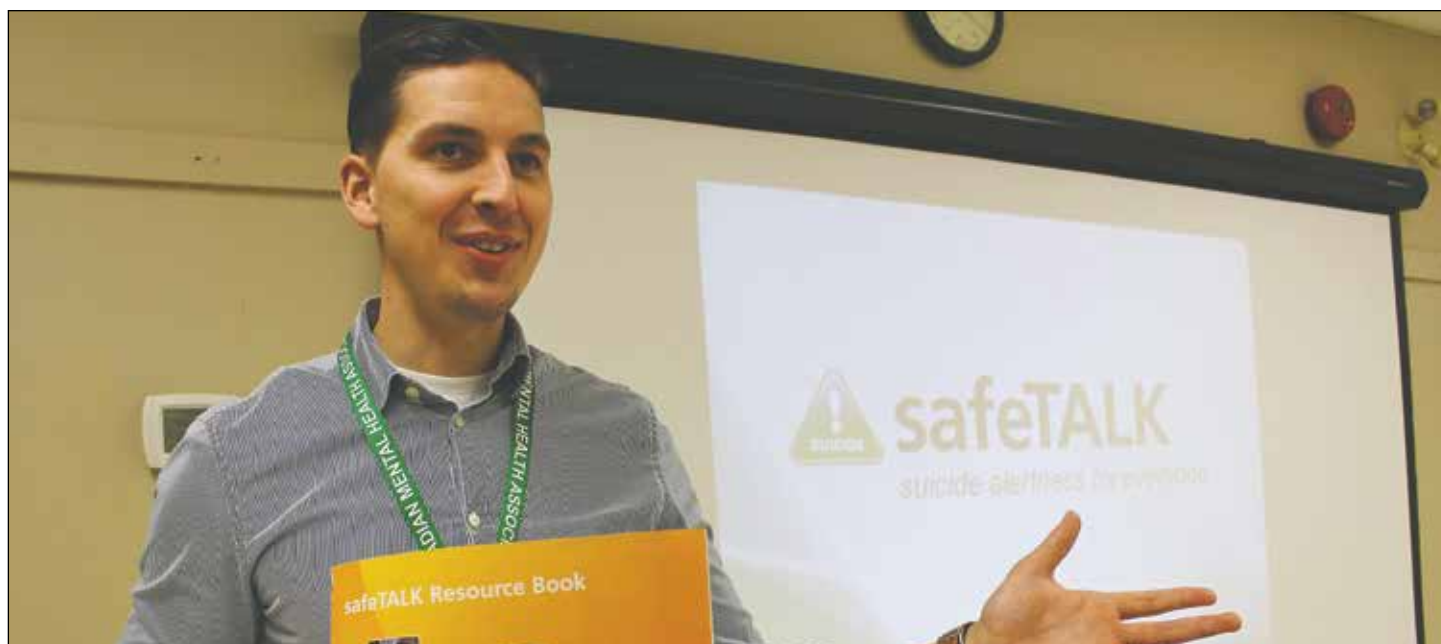


Photo by Mark Arike

Jack Veitch, health promoter and educator with the Canadian Mental Health Association, led a safeTALK training session at the Minden Hills community centre on Dec. 9.

CFL player and aspiring actor).

Veitch explained the desired outcome of the training is to "create a suicide-safer community."

"The purpose of tonight is really two things: identify a person with possible thoughts of suicide and then learn how to connect that person with thoughts of suicide to someone who can help," he told us.

The common misconception is that a person must have a lot of experience and credentials to intervene.

"These skills, the things we're going to go over tonight, can be done by anybody," he said.

The world safe in this case stands for Suicide Alertness For Everyone and TALK is an acronym for Tell Ask Listen Keep Safe.

The course normally costs \$30 per person, but was offered for \$20 thanks to a donation from Team 55, a suicide awareness initiative based out of Peterborough. The fundraising program was started by two parents who lost their son to suicide.

During the evening, Veitch and Jones provided us different scenarios in which people were expressing suicidal thoughts and feelings—some more noticeable than others. The information we gathered armed us with the ability to pick up on subtle remarks and changes in behaviour.

If your gut tells you something is wrong, always listen to it. Veitch told us to "ask directly, openly and without judgment" when it comes to suicide. This approach will result in a more direct response.

We then had the chance to partner up with someone to act out a scenario the class came up with. Each person was able to play the role of someone at risk and the person equipped to point them in the right direction for help.

Is it possible to save everyone from putting their thoughts into action? No, unfortunately.

"The sad truth is that the decision lies with that person," said Veitch, who delivered his presentation in a clear, concise and sometimes humorous manner. "But if they take their life you haven't failed."

Everyone received a safeTALK certificate for successfully completing the program. We were also given two stickers to place on a visible location, such as our vehicle, wallet or clothing. This way, if someone going through a difficult time sees it, the hope is they will feel comfortable reaching out for help.

Leigh Ann Kightley travelled from Peterborough to become safeTALK certified. She was required to complete the program as a volunteer with the Kawartha Sexual Assault Centre.

"I work on their crisis support line ... because I've already done a shift on the phone they were encouraging me to take the training as quickly as I could," explained Kightley. "This was the first one that came up in the area that was remotely close."

She felt that what she learned will be "extremely helpful" in her volunteer position.

"I think it helps to remove some of the stigma that surrounds suicide when you can be more open and direct when you're talking to people."

Kightley described Veitch as "really high energy" and was happy with how he delivered the course's content.

Local hospice volunteer and registered message therapist Marie Pentesco felt it was important to enroll in the training in case she encounters someone in trouble.

"I think if more people were aware of how to talk, and be direct and open about suicide that more people would possibly get help," said Pentesco, who did reach out to someone once before.

She was also impressed with how the information was delivered.

"The steps ... are simple, straightforward and user-friendly."

If there is enough interest, Veitch intends on bringing safeTALK back to the county next summer. He can accommodate up to 30 students.

To learn more about the program visit [livingworks.net/programs/safetalk](http://livingworks.net/programs/safetalk) or contact Veitch at [jveitch@cmhahkpr.ca](mailto:jveitch@cmhahkpr.ca) or call 705-748-6687 ext. 1015.

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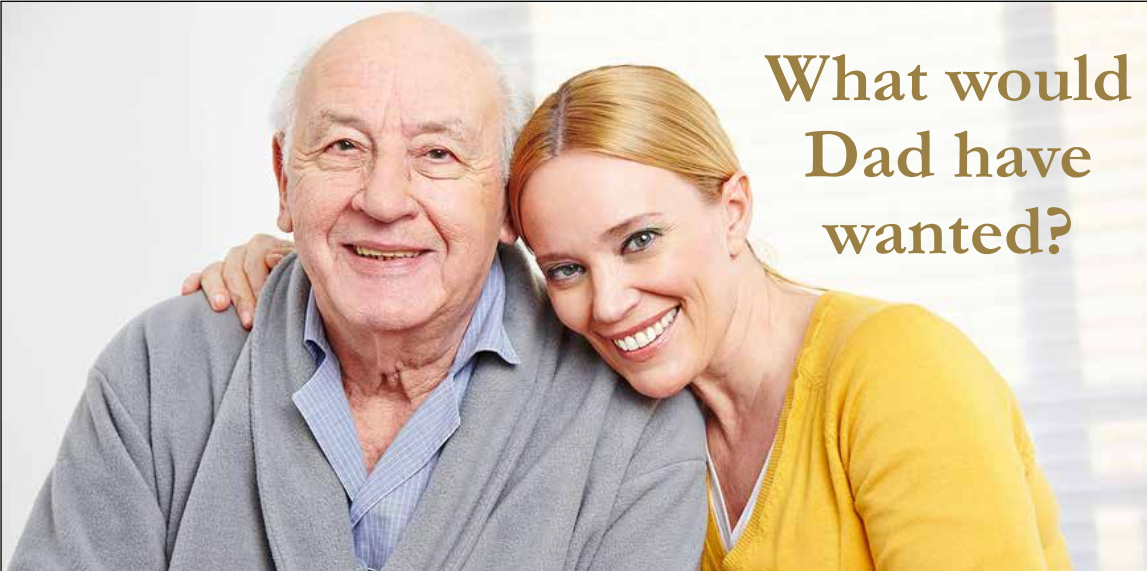
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## Athletes and volunteers wanted for Summer Games

By Mark Arike  
 Staff writer

The local Ontario Senior Games Association's (OSGA) Summer Games are months away, but organizers are already looking for athletes and volunteers to sign up.

"Last year we had 250 participants," said Mary Johnson, who is assisting her husband Mike, the district coordinator.

During the games, athletes 55 and older will participate in a variety of athletic and non-athletic events such as golf, bowling, tennis, pickleball and cribbage. Johnson received confirmation that Bracebridge and Huntsville will compete in the local district.

There is a process the district must go through with OSGA to determine which activities will be part of the upcoming games.

"New activities can be added and eliminated from the games," she said. "This request is sent to OSGA. The OSGA board then takes the request through a screening process and decides if the new activity should be added. It is quite a process as the board looks at many different aspects."

A number of community centres and public locations host the events.

The District 11 games began 20 years ago after Bruce Henry and Bruce Armstrong first discussed the idea.

"The gentlemen took the idea back to Haliburton. They received a good response from the seniors. Thus a committee was formed and in 1995 District 11 held their first Senior Games," wrote Johnson in an email.

Armstrong, who is now 94, continues to participate as a

bridge player.

While the level of competition is "quite good," Johnson points out the emphasis isn't on winning.

"The whole idea is not to win but to get out and exercise and have fun," she said.

New faces are appearing each year, but Johnson would like to see even more.

Convenors take on the task of organizing each activity. Other volunteer opportunities are available on the executive committee.

"We're always looking for more people to go on the executive," she said, adding that volunteers can be of any age.

Those who don't plan on participating or volunteering can cheer on the athletes from the sidelines at no cost. Many of the events are open to the public.

"It is so rewarding to see how fit some seniors are. It certainly opens up your eyes to the value of exercise. I feel that some of the younger generation should take the time to watch."

Participants who earn gold move on to the Ontario 55+ Summer Games, taking place Aug. 9-11 in Midland. If they can't attend the runner-up will be sent in their place. If they are also unavailable the third place athlete will be given the opportunity.

The Canada 55+ Games will be held in Brampton from Aug. 16-19. The winners in the winter, regional and district level will take part in the event.

The cost to sign up for the local event as an athlete is \$15. Participants must sign a waiver.

Anyone interested in entering or volunteering should email Johnson at [maryjohnson42@gmail.com](mailto:maryjohnson42@gmail.com).

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# Living well

## Christmas gifts that get you moving

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

Christmas gifts don't have to be shiny or expensive to bring joy to a friend or loved one.

According to the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit, some of the best presents are ones that get people moving.

"We want to obviously promote healthy, active living," said health promoter Sue Shikaze. "Gift giving is a great way to do that. Not only do you give someone a gift, you give them what we call the gift of health."

The first of five suggestions on the Health Unit's list is to stock up on reasonably priced stocking stuffers such as skipping ropes, basketballs, weights and walking poles. Other recommendations include going snowshoeing, purchasing protective headgear for outdoor sports and activities, making time for active time, and donating money to a local organization

that provides free or low cost recreation programs in Haliburton County.

A more personalized way to encourage someone to be active is give them a certificate with a commitment to going for a walk with them.

"That benefits you as the giver and when you do something with someone it helps with the motivation of getting out and making sure that you show up," said Shikaze.

With winter, some people are more likely to avoid the outdoors because of the cold

and slippery conditions.

"I think winter is challenging for people for a whole different variety of reasons," she said.

In addition to walking poles and footwear traction accessories, other gift ideas include warm clothing, and headlamps and reflectors for being outdoors at night.

Exercise DVDs can be the ideal present for those who prefer to stay inside, she said.

*We want to obviously promote healthy, active living.*

**Sue Shikaze**  
health promoter





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# Highlander life

## Familiar voice welcomed at Chamber

By Mark Arike

Staff writer

Autumn Smith learned a lot about the community and what makes it tick during her time with Moose FM. Now, the former news reporter and afternoon drive host plans on bringing those experiences and knowledge to her new position as member services representative at the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

Her first day on the job was Dec. 16.

"I'm at the point now where I'm comfortable in the community and I want to be part of the incredible things that are happening here," wrote Smith in an email Dec. 14.

Since joining the radio station in March of 2014, the 25-year-old Mono, Ont. native says she has been able to report on "some pretty amazing things," from economic development to new businesses to community projects. However, it was hard for her to contribute due to a conflict of interest or lack of time.

"I saw the job at the Chamber as the perfect opportunity to work in a position where I could be a part of that development and change," said Smith.

Before coming to Haliburton, she graduated from the communications program at Wilfred Laurier University. She then did her post-graduate studies in journalism — new media at Sheridan College.

Smith needed to complete an internship in order to graduate from the program at Sheridan. As a cottager near Parry Sound, she was aware of the Moose FM brand and offered to intern at their station in Bracebridge during the summer of 2014.

She "got the job on the spot" but was told about a paid position that became available at the Haliburton station. After two interviews and only three days, Smith received an offer.

"Five days later, I moved!" she recalled, adding although the station pulled her out of school early she was still able to complete the program.

Soon after Smith arrived, she quickly became involved with the Haliburton Highlands Young Professionals Network (YPN)—an initiative of the chamber. She is currently co-chair of the group.



Photo by Mark Arike

Autumn Smith gets to work on her first day at the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

"I love being part of the YPN," she said. "I think it's so important to have that link between the business community and young professionals. There's so much people can pass on, both from the older generations to young professionals, and the other way around."

This past fall she also took on the position of coordinator for Haliburton's ColourFest.

Smith is grateful for the opportunity she was given—her "first real job" as she calls it—at Moose FM.

"Working at Moose FM has been incredible. Part of the reason I took the job was because I knew the experience would be invaluable."

The hardest part of leaving, she said, would be saying goodbye to the listeners.

"It will be hard doing my last sign off, but it is easier knowing I'm not leaving the

county," she said.

Smith has prior administrative experience, having worked summer jobs where those skills were required. Her interest in business is partly due to the fact her father and grandfather are both entrepreneurs.

"I also feel like I bring a lot of personal skills to the table, in that my personality will be a great fit for the business community. My journalism background also provides a good asset, along with the relationships I've established," she added.

When the chamber announced Smith would be taking the position, general manager Rosemarie Jung noted her previous involvement with the organization.

"Autumn is no stranger to the Chamber of Commerce—volunteering her time and expertise to support the work of the

Young Professionals Network and the Awards Gala Committee, she has a sound understanding and commitment to the work of the Chamber and most importantly, its membership," she said.

Through her new job Smith hopes to have the time to be able to volunteer for more community organizations. She plans on staying in the Highlands for the long-term.

"I mean, you never know where life will take you but I am definitely in a place where I feel comfortable and somewhere I already call home. I couldn't have imagined a better place to settle down," she said.

Lauren Hunter held the position for two years but left in October to become the executive assistant to Maryam Monsef, MP for Peterborough-Kawartha and Canada's Minister for Democratic Institutions.

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# Highlander outdoors

## HATVA brings new bridges to Highlands East

**By Mark Arike**  
Staff writer

It's been two years in the making, but the Haliburton ATV Association (HATVA) has now completed the construction of two steel bridges in Highlands East. The bridges, which lead to Haliburton Village from Gooderham, cost \$80,000 to build.

According to an article by Pauline Johnson, The National Trails Council provided almost \$34,000 in grant money for the project. Other financial contributions included \$7,500 from the municipality, \$5,000 from the Ontario Federation of 4 Wheel Drive Vehicles and \$3,500 from the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association (HCSA). HATVA donated the remaining \$28,000 to the project and took responsibility for its completion.

"Haliburton ATV's mandate is to spend the membership money on maintaining and fixing the trails," wrote HATVA president Bob Johnson in an email. "This is an ongoing job every year."

Johnson explained three years ago the organization spent \$80,000 on South Lake Trail from The Rail Trail into Minden. The purpose of that project was to ensure an "easy, level ride" for ATVers travelling along The Rail Trail from Kinmount.

"Supporting Haliburton County and its businesses is a big consideration for the club. The latest bridge replacements will keep ATV traffic flowing smoothly into Gooderham," he said.

Highlands East Reeve Dave Burton said it made sense for the municipality to support the

project as it aligns with their strategic plan and the trails committee's mandate.

"In my opinion, they will lead to Highlands East or lead over to Donald or up to The Rail Trail," said Burton in a phone interview.

"That, to me, is putting [money] towards the trails we've been promoting."

He commended HATVA for investing in the project and taking the lead role.

"I'm just extremely pleased that this has happened in Highlands East," he said.

The bridges measures 40 and 60 feet in length and are 12 feet wide to accommodate a trail groomer. They are located on HATVA Trails #37 and HCSA Trail #9 in the winter.

The building of the bridges was carried out by HATVA and the Ontario Four Wheel Drive Association. Local company Hawk

River Construction was hired to install the foundation and steel base and volunteers decked the structures and added the railings.

Although it only took a month to finish the job, there were many other tasks that needed to be done in advance, including grant applications, obtaining permits from the Ministry of Natural Resources and getting the bridges manufactured and delivered.

Johnson said partnering with other organizations was a good move for HATVA.

"In the future we would like to see more collaboration with trail partners," he said.

Future projects "will depend on the need for repairs to the trail infrastructure." Finances and grants play a role in major projects.

HATVA is a volunteer-run, not-profit organization.

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# Highland Storm



Photo submitted by Cindy Nesbitt

**STORM TOY DONATION:** The Highland Storm Atom team used proceeds from the Silver Stick Tournament to help other children this Christmas. On Dec. 12, players presented toys to Kim Emmerson purchased with the \$255 raised. Toys will go to the Haliburton Home Builders Association Christmas Toy Drive, as it benefits all of Haliburton County.

## Hockey players learning how take a hit

Hitting clinics teach Storm players how to perfect the check

By Alex Coop  
Staff writer

A broken collarbone can be the result of a body check gone wrong, Richard Smith explained during a hockey practice in Minden.

The Highland Storm's fundraising rep demonstrated this by lowering his shoulder and slowly colliding with a Bantam A player. Smith looked like a football player about to level his opponent.

"Not every hit has to be bone-crushing," he said.

Smith then quizzed the team shortly after. He asked, "What part of the body is never on the glass when you take a check?"

In unison, the team responded, "the head!"

The Highland Storm executive committee has organized a series of Hockey Hitting Clinics for its teams that are allowed to perform body checks in games. Players in Bantam and Midget have participated in several in-class sessions which covered basic hockey rules, how to compete without going overboard and, of course, how to give and take a hit. These classes were followed by on-ice training.

"When [hitting] is introduced, it changes the playing field dramatically," Smith said. "It can make formerly weak players, who are maybe slower or don't have great stick handling, more dominant."

On the other end of the spectrum, it can also make previously dominant players less impactful, to the point where they might quit the game if they're fearful, he added.

Travis Walker, head coach of the Bantam Storm, said body checking is introduced much later in hockey nowadays than in previous years. He said during his early playing days, he was introduced to body contact in the Atom division.

"Now we're learning how to hit at a Grade 8, Grade 9 level," he said. "A lot of players don't know how to properly receive or deliver a proper hit to an opponent at that point."

Walker said the clinics have been well received by both players and parents.

"I think it needs to start earlier," he noted. "You could get hurt even if you know these things, but it's all about minimizing the

possibility of an injury."

Shannon Walker, who watched the Bantam's hitting clinic on Thursday evening, said the team's hitting has visibly improved since the clinics began.

"It also gives them confidence to not be scared of getting hit," Walker explained.

Smith said it's the Highland Storm executive team's responsibility to ensure players are given the proper training when it comes to the more physical parts of the game.

"It's all part of player development," he said.

In addition to the knowledge players are receiving about body checking, Smith said their equipment plays a big part in injury prevention.

Clinics are held every other Thursday at the S.G. Nesbitt memorial arena

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# Highland Storm



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## TheHighlander 3-Stars of the Week

1



### Paydon Miscio MIDGET

Being a late addition to the Highland Storm Midgets, it would be understandable if Paydon needed a few games to get his legs. That hasn't been the case so far, as Paydon has been a factor since his first game of the season with the Storm. This weekend was no different, as Paydon recorded one goal and two assists against the rival Huntsville Otters in a game which resulted in a 5-5 tie.

Stats	G	A	GP
	1	2	1

2



### Addison Carr NOVICE

It was a busy weekend for the Highland Storm Novice, as they had five games over three days. Addison had the hot hand in Saturday's second game against the Powassan Hawks, recording an impressive four goals in what ended in a 6-2 victory for the Storm.

Stats	G	A	GP
	5	0	5

3



### Cheyenne Degeer NOVICE

Cheyenne has been racking up the points this year, factoring in on the score nearly every game. She recorded four points over the weekend, with each coming in different games. The Novice are back in action Saturday when they face-off against the South Muskoka Bears in a double header, with the first game starting at 11:00 a.m. in Haliburton.

Stats	G	A	GP
	1	3	5

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# Highland Storm

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## GAME OF THE WEEK

**Saturday December 19,  
11:00AM  
at A.J. LaRue Arena  
Haliburton**

Highland Storm Novice  
vs. South Muskoka Bears



VS.



## HIGHLAND STORM COUNTY LEAGUE SCHEDULE

*2015-2016 Seniors – you have the ice every  
Monday at 7:30 in Minden (please let James Baldry  
know if you intend to use it this season)*

**Sat. Dec. 19 in MINDEN**

Initiation 1: 9am-10am

Initiation 2: 10am-11am

Juniors: 11am-12pm

Intermediates: 12pm-1pm

\*\*\*\*\*

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS...  
ALL THE BEST IN 2016!**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Wed. Jan. 6 in Haliburton**

Initiation 1: 5:30pm-6:30 pm

Initiation 2: 6:30pm-7:30pm

**Thurs. Jan. 7 in Minden**

Juniors: 7pm-8 pm

Intermediates: 8pm-9pm

**Fri. Jan. 8 in Minden**

Seniors: 8pm

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# Highland Storm



## Bantam As win two, tie one

Submitted by Suzanne Haedicke

It was hockey night in Haliburton Dec. 11 when the The Pepper Mill Highland Storm Bantam A team faced the South Muskoka Bears. The Storm team was well prepared for a tough battle against the Bears, who are currently tied for first place in the division. It was clear the practices and hitting clinics are paying off, as it was a brilliantly played game by the Storm team.

The first period was full of action at both ends. The Storm attacked the Bears during a power play and Owen Gilbert snapped in the first goal. Assists went to Nik Dollo and Isaac Little. Early in the second, Owen Gilbert intercepted a pass and took off on a breakaway and capitalized on it making it 2-0 Storm. The momentum continued to build in the game as the Bears came on strong, but the Storm held them back.

The third period was a nail biter, both teams playing aggressively and hitting hard. The last two minutes of the game saw the Bears with a two man advantage and relentlessly dominated. Carson Sisson played an outstanding game, kept the Bears off the score board, achieving a shut-out win and player of the game.

The team travelled to Port Carling to meet the Muskoka Rock Dec. 12. The first period offered end to end action with some nice puck movement, good saves and ended scoreless. The Rock took the lead in the second period, but it didn't take long for the Storm to answer back. The Storm won a tough battle along the boards that resulted in a goal by Owen Gilbert, help from Noah Black and Shawn Walker. The Storm continued to wear down the Rock in the third period with another goal by Lucas Haedicke, fed by Nigel Smith. Later, the Rock took off on a three on one, the shot was saved but they pounded in the rebound, 2-2 tie. Late in the third, Shawn Walker caught the Rock on a change and stuffed the puck under the bar, making it 3-2 Storm. Action continued during the last minutes of the game and the Storm earned the win.

The team met with the Penetang Flames in their final match of the weekend Dec. 13. The entire game offered constant back and forth action, both teams working hard but ended in a scoreless tie.

## PeeWee As 2-0 for the weekend

Submitted by Trevor Maddock

The Joanne Sharpley's Source for Sports PeeWee A team ventured up to Parry

Sound Dec. 13 to face the Shamrocks in two quick back to back games. Real goal scorers shoot at the five-hole and at six minutes in, hockey talent Tyson Clements showed just that when he sent a laser beam between the goalies pads before he could even react. If the goalie got there in time, it surely would have produced a juicy rebound and an opportunity for teammate, team Capitan Alex Little (1G2A) with the helper. That was all the scoring in the first, Storm up 1-0 and outshooting the Shamrocks 8-6.

Parry Sound seemingly motivated and recognizing the challenge facing the Storm, brought their best and kept pressure on the visitors, tying the game while short-handed, consequently breathing life into their game. Four minutes later and after killing off a penalty the boys found themselves on a power play. Just as it expired, and the offender still out of the play, hard-nosed forward Dylan Keefer put a clever shot towards the goalie from behind the net and in, Cole Prentice with the dish. After taking back the lead and momentum, the Storm exerted their will and resided in the offensive zone for much for the period, winning face offs, moving the puck, and repetitively making the home goalie eat the puck. Alex Little added to the lead as did Keefer for his second of the game. The Shamrocks were able to cut the lead in half and ended it 4-2. The Storm outshot the home team 26-16. All around defensive talent Ty Mills received Player of the game.

In the second matchup of the double header, the Joanne Sharpley's Source for Sports PeeWee A team again triumphed, winning this time 7-3. Scoring was evenly spread out throughout the line-up, and totally carried and dictated the play for nearly the entire game. Joe Boice received player of the game honours for creating opportunities for his teammates with unselfish play.

## Busy weekend for Novice team

Submitted by Amber Card

The Timber Mart Novice Highland Storm had a very busy weekend with three games in Huntsville and two games in Parry Sound. The first game was Dec. 11 against the Tillsonburg Tornados. The Storm played very well their first game, however they lost 3-0.

The first game Dec. 12 was versus the Prince Edward County Kings. This was a well-earned win. The Storm played very hard and came out with an awesome win of 4-2. Goals were scored by Graeme Armstrong, Cheyenne Degeer, and Kadin

Card. The second game that day was versus Powasson. The Timber Mart Novice Highland Storm were on fire with a beautiful 6-2 win. Addison Carr scored an amazing four goals and Kadin Card scored two. What a great Saturday doubleheader by the Timber Mart Novice Highland Storm.

On Dec. 13, the Novice team headed to Parry Sound for their second doubleheader of the weekend. The first game the two teams fought back and forth on the score board but unfortunately the Storm fell short with a loss of 3-2. Goals scored by Graeme Armstrong and Colby Coumbs.

The second game against the Parry Sound Shamrocks was a battle. Parry Sound scored the first goal and the Storm answered. After that it was a fight to keep the puck out of the Storm's net and get it into the Shamrock net. Storm goalie Aaron Neave made an amazing glove save with two minutes of the third left to keep this game at 1-1 which was the final.

The Timber Mart Novice Highland Storm host the Bracebridge Bears for a doubleheader in Haliburton on Dec. 19. First game is at 11 a.m. and the second is at 1 p.m.

## Midget A game ends in tie

Submitted by Katie and Dave Howe

The Dollo's Foodland and Smolen's Dentistry Highland Storm Midget A team hosted the Huntsville Otters on home ice Dec. 11 in Haliburton. The game began at a frantic pace with good chances being registered by both teams. The Otters opened the scoring six minutes in but the home side tallied back 17 seconds later on a feed from Jon Morrison to Chris Thompson, who rushed in alone and slipped it by the goaltender.

A flurry of goals ensued with the initial segment ending in a 4-3 lead for the visitors with tallies by Highlanders Paydon Miscio and another by Thompson. The scoring somewhat subsided in the second, as a myriad of penalties on both sides had each team focusing on keeping the puck out of the net. The Storm managed to rack up two more to their opponents one to finish the period knotted at five, the markers by Trevor Turner and Nolan Flood.

The third opened with the Otters on a two-man power play which the Highlanders valiantly killed and then found themselves on a six-minute power play, which the Otters fended off and with good scoring chances being registered by each squad the goaltenders held their ground and the game expired in a 5-5 tie.

The Midget A Storm next play Dec. 18 at 9:30 p.m. and Dec. 19 at 3 p.m. in Minden.

## Storm reports

### PeeWee AEs lose in Huntsville

Submitted by Gord Hoenow

The Walker's Heating and Haliburton Highlands Health Team PeeWee AEs travelled to Huntsville Dec. 12 to take on the Otters. The team was very excited to be playing on a full sized rink and played a very competitive first period trailing 1-0. The Storm also did an excellent job short-handed late in the first period and a couple of other times throughout the game using penalty killing strategies the coaches had them work on at practice the previous Wednesday.

The Otters got their second goal midway through the middle period and opened it up to a 3-0 lead a minute later. Excellent Otter goaltending kept the score at 3-0 going into the final period.

The Storm certainly had their opportunities in the final period but the Otter goalie remained solid stopping everything our team threw at him. The Otters added one more on an empty net for a 4-0 win and a well-deserved shutout for the home team. Player of the game for the Storm was Ben Robinson, who continues to play an excellent defensive game.

The Storm's last scheduled game before the Christmas break is Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. versus the South Muskoka Bears. As this is the last game before the holidays, the team is expecting a large fan turnout as friends and family start to gather for the festive season. Merry Christmas from the PeeWee AEs!

### Shut-out for Tykes

Submitted by Janice Scheffee

On Dec. 12, the Tom Prentice and Sons / RM Carpentry Highland Storm Tyke team travelled to Port Carling to take on the Muskoka Rock for their second meeting of the season.

The Storm worked well as a team, focusing on passing and positioning. They outshot their opponents and dominated play, keeping possession of the puck in the Rocks end for most of the game.

The Storm went on to defeat the Rock 7-0. Goals were scored by Brady Burtch, Connor Byrne, Brechin Johnston, Jace Mills, MacLean Rowden, and Josh Scheffee. Brady Burtch was named the player of the game for his strong offensive performance. Strong goaltending by Chase Winder led to another shutout for the Storm goalie. Way to go, Storm. The team is in action Dec. 19 at the Centre Hastings tournament in Marmora.



ALREADY PLAYED			
December 3	December 10	December 12	December 17
7:30PM in Haliburton vs. Bobcaygeon Storm	7:30PM in Haliburton vs. Parry Sound Islanders	7:00PM in Bracebridge vs. Bracebridge Blues	7:30PM in Haliburton vs. Bobcaygeon Storm
15-7 Win	7-4 Loss	11-4 Loss	

## Haliburton Wolves

# Highlander sports

## Invitational wrestling tournament draws large crowd

By Alex Coop

Staff writer

The Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Red Hawks' wrestling team is off to another promising start for their 2015-2016 season.

On the heels of the 15th annual Kenner High School Wrestling Tournament, where Keagan Gillam and Sonya Flatman went undefeated and returned home as champions, the Red Hawks hosted their Wrestling Invitational Dec. 10.

Nineteen Red Hawks competed in the tournament. Fifteen wrestlers finished in the top four.

There were 110 wrestlers from the following schools: Quinte Secondary School, Port Hope, Kenner Collegiate Vocational Institute, I.E. Weldon Secondary School, Lindsay Collegiate Vocational Institute, Norwood District High School and North Hastings High School.

Wrestling head coach Paul Klose said the team is strong this year, with junior wrestlers already getting a good grasp of the basics and senior wrestlers developing advanced techniques.

"We have a very young team, but they're really picking the sport up quickly," Klose said. "They're very coachable and a close-knit team."

He added conditioning will be a big part of every wrestlers routine until their season comes to an end in March 2016.



### HHSS Wrestling Invitational results (Red Hawks only)

**First place:** Shane O'Reilly and Sonora Plumb

**Second place:** AJ Gillam, Keagan Gillam, Matt Manning, Sonya Flatman and Rebecca Hamilton

**Third place:** Lucas Bortolussi, Aidan Coles, Jackson Gartshore, Cassidy Glecoff, Claire Karaguesian, Emily Klose and Maya Meraw

**Fourth place:** Zanna Zondervan

Photo by Alex Coop

Red Hawks wrestler Emily Klose (red shirt) tries to pin her opponent in an U-64 kg weight class match.

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# Highlander sports



Photo by Jennifer Hughey

## Shamrocks vs. Storm

The Highland Storm Atom team faced the Parry Sound Shamrocks on Dec. 12. The Storm were up at the start, but in the end lost 3-2.

### Fast Lane Bowling Scores

<b>Monday afternoon, Dec. 7</b>	Clement – 776	– 265
<b>MEN</b>	<b>Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 8</b>	High triple: Ron Cummings – 551
High avg: Claude Cote – 225	<b>MEN</b>	High triple handi: Ray St. Pierre – 671
High single: Ken Thompson – 273	High avg: Claude Cote – 223	<b>WOMEN</b>
High single handi: Ken Thompson – 302	High single: Dennis Middlehurst – 254	High avg: Barb Ballantyne – 184
High triple: Claude Cote – 713	High single handi: Dennis Middlehurst – 254	High single: Barb Ballantyne – 230
High triple handi: Claude Cote – 716	High triple: Claude Cote – 590	High single handi: Barb Ballantyne – 264
<b>WOMEN</b>	High triple handi: Dennis Middlehurst – 751	High triple: Barb Ballantyne – 634
High avg: Chris Cote – 181	<b>WOMEN</b>	High triple handi: Barb Ballantyne – 736
High single: Chris Cote – 206	High avg: Chris Cote – 177	
High single handi: Anna Shuster – 245	High single: Chris Cote – 197	
High triple: Chris Cote – 551	High single handi: Gala Newell – 247	
High triple handi: Chris Cote – 659	High triple: Chris Cote – 514	<b>Friday afternoon, Dec. 11</b>
<b>Monday night, Dec. 7</b>	High triple handi: Chris Cote – 628	<b>MEN</b>
<b>MEN</b>	<b>Wednesday Special Olympics, Nov. 25</b>	High avg: Claude Cote – 213
High avg: Rick West – 225	<b>MEN</b>	High single: Ken Thompson – 250
High single: Rick West – 388	Robert Boccitto – 227	High single handi: Ken Thompson – 273
High single handi: Rick West – 393	Casey Heley – 194	High triple: Claude Cote – 681
High triple: Rick West – 798	Jason Hollowell – 163	High triple handi: Ken Thompson – 734
High triple handi: Joey Cox – 890	Ross Anderson – 163	<b>WOMEN</b>
<b>WOMEN</b>	<b>WOMEN</b>	High avg: Chris Cote – 175
High avg: Cathy Snell – 244	Skylar Pratt – 153	High single: Maureen Hudson – 207
High single: Cathy Snell – 326	Sarah Hudson – 140	High single handi: Maureen Hudson – 278
High single handi: Cathy Snell – 326	Alyssa Whitaker – 135	High triple: Ren Higgins – 583
High triple: Cathy Snell – 766	<b>Thurs. afternoon, Dec. 10</b>	High triple handi: Ren Higgins – 724
High triple handi: Teresa	<b>MEN</b>	
	High avg: Gerry Wagg – 195	
	High single: John Bell – 227	
	High single handi: John Bell	

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**CLOSING DATE:** Monday, December 21, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

Sealed bids plainly marked: "Demolition and Removal of Vacant House, Foundation, and Decommissioning of Septic System – Tender AP-2015-001" should be submitted to the name and address noted below.

Electronic or fax submissions will not be accepted. Complete tender documents can be found at [www.algonquinhighlands.ca](http://www.algonquinhighlands.ca).

For further information, please call 705-489-2379.

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# Highlander classifieds

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## EVENTS

**HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS Stroke Support Group** meets the third Thursday of each month at the Fireside Lounge, Highland Crest, Minden 10:00am-noon.

**CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** open to anyone who has been diagnosed with or survived cancer. We meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month in the Ruth Parkes Room at the Haliburton Hospital from 1:00–3:00pm. Please contact Lynn Higgs Thompson 705-457-2941 for more information.

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## EVENTS

**PARKINSON'S DISEASE SUPPORT GROUP** Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month. 1:30-3:30 pm. Haliburton Highlands Family Health Team education room. (TFN)

**Alcoholics Anonymous** - we care Meetings: Thursdays 12:00–1:00 pm, Sundays 10:30–11:30am. St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton. All welcome. 705-324-9900. (TFN)

## EVENTS

**AL-ANON** - we care, are you troubled by someone's drinking? Meetings: Tuesday 7:00–8:00 pm, St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton. All welcome. (TFN)

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## THANK YOU

### Thank You

Many thanks for those who were a part of the successful 2015 Festival of Trees at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre!

#### TREE DESIGNERS & DECORATORS

Agnes Jamieson Gallery, County Sign & Display, Dollo's Foodland, Eagle Lake Women's Society, Festive Sisters (Sue & Kim), The Highlander Newspaper, Haliburton County Historical Society, Haliburton Hand Weavers & Spinners, Haliburton Highlands Quilt Guild, Haliburton Highlands Rug Hookers, Hunter Creek Ranch, Joe's Custom Signs, May Mortgage Services, Minden Subaru, Ommmh Beauty Boutique, Pine Reflections Gift & Garden Centre, Point In Time Centre For Children, Youth & Parents, Sassy Digs, St. Paul's Anglican Church, TD Canada Trust, Two Friends (Cheryl & Joan)

#### DONATIONS OF GIFT BASKETS & GIFT CERTIFICATES

Abbey Gardens, Cordell Carpets, Lynn's Hairstyling, Mark's Restaurant, Minden Home Hardware & Building Centre, Molly's Bistro Bakery, Reunion Island Coffee, Riverside Inn, Soy Good Candles, Stedman's V&S Minden, Tim Horton's Minden, Township of Minden Hills, Up River Trading, Wall Flower Studio, Valumart, Water Depot

#### SPONSORS & GIFTS IN KIND

Major Sponsors - Canadian Tire, Highlands Storage

Bill Kulas - RE/MAX, Minden, Chaulk Woodworking, CIBC Minden, Dentistry in the Highlands, Dollo's Foodland, Floyd Hall Ltd., Generator Solutions, Haliburton Bulk Food Store, Harper Powersports & Marine Ltd., Head Inn Hairstyling, Mary & Brian Hamilton, The Mill Pond Restaurant, Minden Electric, Minden Lions Club, Minden Mercantile & Feed Co. Inc., Moon Shadows Estate Winery, Ridgewood Ford, Royal Homes Minden, Subway Minden

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Season's Greetings from Emma Grace Lynn Brown

Born August 11, 2015 at RVH in Barrie, ON to **Gina (Brohm) & Craig Brown.**

Thrilled grandparents are **Jack & Lynda Brohm** of Haliburton and **Doug & Gayle Brown** of Wasaga Beach. Proud uncles and aunts are **Mike & Ruthann, Darren & Leslie** and cousins **Ben & Kassie.**

*Thank you to everyone for all of the best wishes, gifts and love shown to our long-awaited angel!*



## OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of

### Michael "Mike" John Jackson

Passed away suddenly on Wednesday, December 9, 2015. In his 70th year.

Loving father of Jessica Jackson and devoted son of Jean and the late J.O. Jackson. Lovingly remembered by his family Bev Jackson, Estella Burch, Kim and Robert Prescott, Shane Burch and by his close companion Wanda Reynolds and her family. Brother of William "Bill" Jackson, Judy and Joe Findeis. Fondly remembered by his many nieces, nephews, 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 K0M 2K0 on Monday from 2-4 and 7-9 pm. Then to St. Paul's Anglican Church, 19 Invergordon Ave., Minden on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 for a Service to Celebrate Mike's Life at 11:00 am. Cremation to follow.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Minden Health Care Auxiliary or to the Charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



In Loving Memory of

### Carol Patricia Jarvis

Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Saturday, December 12, 2015 with her daughter Alice and niece Debbie by her side.

Loving wife of Greg Dunn who passed away on November 23, 2015. Dear mother of Alice (John) and predeceased by her son Luke, loving grandmother of Richard, Allan and Mark. Dear sister of Wilf, Larry (Marlene), Audrey, Doug (Karen), predeceased by Evelyn and Ron.

Lovingly remembered by the Dunn Family and her many nieces, nephews 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 K0M 2K0 on Saturday, December 19, 2015 from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm. Cremation to follow.

Memorial Donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

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# Highlander events



Photo by Jennifer Hughey  
From left, Auxiliary Constables John Fountain, Michael Nelson, and Ryan Hogg, Const. Matt Leach and Auxiliary Const. Billy Cooper collect for local food banks at Dollo's Foodland in Minden.

## Filled to the brim

**By Jennifer Hughey**  
Editor

Members from the Haliburton Highlands OPP and the Auxiliary Unit were parked at Dollo's Foodland in Minden this past weekend, collecting donations for local food banks.

More than 400 bags of food were collected across the county, along with cash donations and toys for the Fill-a-Cruiser event. Cruisers were parked at Dollo's and Easton's Valu-Mart in Minden and at Todd's

Independent Grocer and Park's Foodland in Haliburton.

Acting detachment commander Brian Crisp said the caring nature of this community is reflected in the support they receive from the event.

"It is vital to remember those people who need a little extra support this holiday season," Crisp said.

Provincial Const. Dianna Dauphinee confirmed in a press release sent Dec. 14 the event was a success.



Photo by Jennifer Hughey  
Cole and Jady Hamilton make sure Santa knows they both have been very good this year.

## Breakfast with Santa serves up good cheer

**By Jennifer Hughey**  
Editor

It was a full house in YMCA Camp Wanakita's mess hall Dec. 12, as staff volunteered their time to host Breakfast with Santa.

More than 500 people came out to celebrate the season as a community, while kids had the opportunity to sit on Santa's knee and tell him what they wanted this Christmas.

General manager Tony Gruppe said it's

the camp's fifth year running the breakfast and noted that in 2014 they served about 275, so were thankful for contributions from Sysco Strano, Kellogg's, Curry Motors Chevrolet and Haliburton Timber Mart this year.

Staff organized activities for the kids and brought in a Zoo To You animal display with over 25 animals, including a tortoise and hare and many different reptiles.

Parents could take home the photo with Santa free of charge and staff had a treat for each kid as they left.

### Wishing You a Warm & Cozy Christmas

May a pattern of peace, joy and prosperity repeat itself for you all year!

We're grateful to be part of such a close-knit community. The kindness and support of good friends and customers like you make doing business here a pleasure for us. Many thanks!

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## EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT AT 6PM

You can buy your bingo sheets at:

Haliburton Jug City;  
Haliburton Foodland; Todd's Independent; Minden Jug City; On the Spot Variety; Dollo's Foodland; Easton's Valu Mart; West Guilford Store; Lucky Dollar; Eagle Lake Country Market; Agnew's General Store

# Highlander events

**Christmas Season 2015**

**Solemnity of Christmas**  
**Christmas Eve**  
 Haliburton - Thursday, December 24th - 6:00 pm  
 Bancroft - Thursday, December 24th - 7:30 pm

**Christmas Day**  
 Bancroft - Friday, December 25th - 9:00 am

**Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**  
 Haliburton - Saturday, December 26th - 4:30 pm  
 Bancroft - Sunday, December 27th - 9:00 am

**Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God**  
**New Year's Eve**  
 Thursday, December 31st  
 Haliburton - 4:30 pm  
 Bancroft - 4:30 pm

**Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**  
 Haliburton - Saturday, January 2nd - 4:30 pm  
 Bancroft - Sunday, January 3rd - 9:00 am

**A Warm Welcome Awaits!**

St. Anthony of Padua Mission  
 27 Victoria Street  
 Haliburton

Our Lady of Mercy Church  
 196 Bridge Street West  
 Bancroft



Photos by Jennifer Hughey

**SANTA COMES TO WILBERFORCE:** Kids' spirits were not dampened by the weather Dec. 13, as the promise of Santa kept things merry and bright. The rain held off as floats passed by, one by one, until the big guy showed up riding on the back of Old Number One, a 1942 fire truck the department is trying to raise funds to restore. Bottom: There were many candy canes and chocolates to be had by kids... and adults.

**The Municipality of Dysart et al**  
 Wishes you a Safe and Happy Holiday Season!

**NOTICE:**  
 Christmas Hours & Closures

**Dysart et al Municipal Office**  
 will be OPEN on Thursday, December 24 from 8:30 a.m. - noon  
 and will be CLOSED from  
 Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015  
 To  
 Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016  
 The office will re-open on Monday, January 4 @ 8:30 a.m.

**Christmas Break Shiny and Public Skating Hours at the A.J. LaRue Arena**  
 Shiny: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. (Full equipment required)  
 Public Skating: 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
 December 20, 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31  
 January 3

**Public Skating Admission is Free**  
 Thank you to all our local sponsors!

For further information please contact the A.J. LaRue Arena at (705) 457-2083.

**All Landfills will be CLOSED on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.**

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 downtown mindon  
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# Highlander events



Photo by Jennifer Hughey

WILBERFORCE SANTA CLAUS PARADE: A junior chief rides along with the Highlands East Fire Department in the Wilberforce Santa Claus parade.



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Here's hoping your holiday season is packed with good times, good friends and happy surprises. We wish you all the best at Christmas time and all year.



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*Happy Holidays From  
Our Entire Team!*

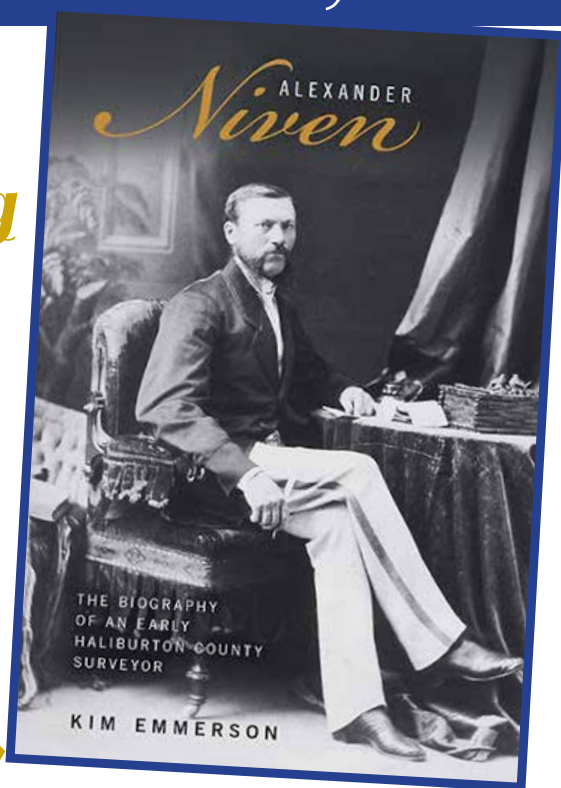
# Highlander events

## A great Christmas Gift!

### Men's Shopping Night

Tuesday, Dec. 22  
Downtown store  
open until 7 p.m.

Nominated for the Donald Creighton Award Honouring the best book of biography or autobiography highlighting life in Ontario, past or present, published within the past three years.



Available at Master's Book Store  
195 Highland Street, Village Barn, Haliburton  
Cranberry Cottage, Highland Street, Haliburton

## Downtown Haliburton MEN'S SHOPPING NIGHT

Tuesday December 22, 2015 Stores open until 7 p.m.



**Sales at each store!**  
**Specials at the Restaurants!**

Come to the hallway at the V&S for:

- Free Gift Wrapping
- Gift Card Station
- A chat with our Super Shopper for gift ideas & suggestions



**Support Local shops! Shop Local this Christmas**

## MEN'S SHOPPING NIGHT Tuesday, December 22

# 30% OFF

**ENTIRE STORE FROM 5PM - 7PM**

(some exceptions apply, see store for details)



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Ring in the New Year at the Heatherwood with friends or just the two of you  
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Late night snack buffet included  
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tickets at Front Desk

### New Years Eve Dinner Buffet

#### Starter

Chefs choice amuse-bouche

#### Appetizers

Fresh baked rolls and flat breads with assorted dips and whipped butters, Antipasto table with cured meats, iced shrimp, marinated vegetables, olives, pickles and crudites, Assorted Canadian cheeses

#### Salads

Broccoli salad with red wine, shallot and mustard dressing - Tomato bocconcini salad with balsamic olive oil cracked pepper dressing Morsels of the sea pasta salad with citrus olive oil and fresh herbs - Pinestone greens with choice of house dressings

#### Mains

Carved Baron of beef with pan jus, mustards and horseradish - Oven roasted mini red potatoes with parsley butter - Pan seared brussel sprouts with smoked bacon and sundried tomatoes - Roasted root vegetables - Spanish paella with saffron rice, jumbo shrimp, mussels, clams and lobster - Chicken chasseur with rice pilaf Baked ziti with sweet sausage, ricotta cheese, spinach, roasted plum tomatoes and mozzarella

#### Dessert

Flambe station with crêpes, cherry orange compote, dark chocolate sauce and Baileys whipped cream Assorted seasonal fruit platter - Cookies, tarts and squares

# Highlander events



Photos by Alex Coop

## Highlands Wind Symphony

The Highlands Wind Symphony performs their Annual Christmas Concert at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion on Dec. 13.

**What's On will be back next week**

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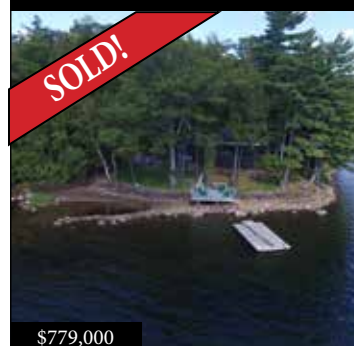
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4 bedroom Viceroy. Gentle sloping lot. Western exposure. Great shoreline.

### KENNISIS LAKE



\$779,000

Renovated, winterized, 3 bedroom cottage on a spectacular point lot with a sand beach, deep water off the dock and south western exposure. Adjoining land with dry boathouse is also for sale.

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