





HOME OF THE HIGHLAND STORM

TheHighlander

Thursday January 28 2016 | Issue 221

INSIDE: COUNTY BUDGET 2016 - SEE PAGES 8 AND 9

FREE



Photo by Backcountry Photography

Minden teenage snowcross racer Izac Reid gets some air during round one of the Canadian Snow Racing Association's snowcross series in Quebec. The first tournament of the season began Jan. 16. Reid finished first overall in the Sport 600-1 final, third in the Sport Motos final, and reached the finals for the first time in the Pro-Lite Stock, where he finished sixth. Read next week's issue of *The Highlander* to learn more about the snowcross racer's path to success. Reid's next tournament will be in Barrie on Jan. 30-31.

Art Hive closes its red doors for good

By Alex Coop

Staff writer

The memories made at the interesting house just outside Carnarvon on Highway 118 will never be forgotten.

After nine years, the art collective known as The Art Hive will be closing its red doors for the last time this weekend.

It started with 13 artists, a number that fluctuated over the years, but not by much, which put huge stress on members as their

lives evolved.

A six-month push for grant support for a full-time employee was unsuccessful, and the group announced its closing on Facebook last weekend.

It was a sense of exhaustion for the collective, said Erin Lynch, a founding member, who also works at The Haliburton School of Arts.

But The Art Hive's impact on the county's community has been huge, she said.

"Everything we do, we have to do on our own, and we were able to accomplish a lot of great things," Lynch said.

The Art Hive occupied a building that served the region as a general store for many years. It displayed the work of local artists, while hosting workshops and events. The art-themed fashion shows were among Lynch's favourite

"It was nothing like Haliburton had ever seen before," she said.

"People wore metal-forged wings and cabbage leaves ... we pushed the boundaries." But members' lives changed, which contributed to some of the difficulties the centre was facing. Some started a family, others realized balancing their priorities within The Art Hive and at work was too difficult. The economic landscape didn't help either. Last fall the group decided it needed a full-time worker. But a series of unsuccessful

See "Arts" on page 2





Highlander news

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Tiny house doesn't make the cut

By Alex Coop

Staff writer

Falling asleep at the wheel was almost a daily occurrence for Kerri Dentinger, a registered nurse, on her commute from Lakefield to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Hospital.

"I'm usually on nights, which ends at 7 a.m., so I was getting home at 8:30, and that's if I can drive all the way through without stopping," said Dentinger, who occasionally works at the health services hospital in Minden as well.

"I found myself having to pull over and sleep on the way home."

Last year she found an answer to her three-hour commute by purchasing 6.28 acres of land on North Shore Road, not far from the Stanhope Airport, and with the help of family and friends, built a tiny 80-square foot home. Construction began last spring and took about 22 weeks to complete.

It contained a small bed, a wood stove and a shingled roof. An outhouse was also in the works.

Now it's almost all gone.

In October, Dentinger was notified by the Township of Algonquin Highlands her new home didn't meet the township's zoning bylaws.

According to the municipality, a principal use had not been established prior to the construction of an accessory use, which in this case, is the bunkie.

Her \$22,000 property was categorized as residential.

"In a residential zone, a dwelling would be a principal use and something like a detached garage would be an accessory," explained Sean O'Callaghan, the township's planner.

A dwelling is at least 800 square feet of liveable space that has a septic system. An outhouse was not acceptable on its own, but Dentinger said it could have worked.

"In today's day and age, you can absolutely do it, you just put charcoal on top which neutralizes everything. Then you bury it ... people now use it as compost," Dentinger said. She added her idea would have been given the green light if a septic system was also in place. She said the costs associated with a septic system were too high. Installing one on a brand new property can cost more than \$10,000.

Dentinger's tiny home didn't meet the municipality's requirements.

She approached the township and asked if she could keep the 80-square-foot home while paying taxes associated with an official dwelling. The answer was no.

Dentinger said she thought once the property was hers she would be able to build the bunkie without any problems because it was less than 108 sq. ft. and would not require a permit.

This is a common misconception among residents, said David Rogers, the municipality's chief building official.

"One of the most common questions we get is 'can I put a trailer on it,' or 'can I build a garage,' and the answer is no," Rogers said. "It still has to comply with the zoning bylaws." Prior to buying the land, Dentinger did some research online



Photo submitted by Kerri Dentinger

The tiny home on North Shore Road stands in the middle of the forest on Jan. 6.

about zoning bylaws and building permits.

"[The township's website] uses a lot of lingo that makes it a little hard to decipher what exactly they want you to do," she said.

The complete list of zoning bylaws can be downloaded from the municipality's website.

Rogers said there's not a lot of wiggle room when it comes to zoning, which he admitted can be confusing. He encourages anyone with questions to contact the municipality office.

The devastation is still fresh in Dentinger's mind. The project was supposed to help her save money on gas, a financial burden that has returned since she uses nearly a tank of gas each week. The money saved would have been used to minimize her \$30,000 student debt. The extra sleep was also much appreciated.

She said she never wanted to expand the bunkie and only wanted to cut her travel time.

"I'm a first-time land owner and I just assumed that when you bought land, it was your land to do what you want within reason," she said.

"What I want is within reason, just not to them."

Dentinger has gone back to driving from Lakefield. She said she is looking to sell the property she purchased on North Shore Road.

Carol Moffatt, reeve for Algonquin Highlands, said the provincial and municipal rules around zoning and construction are clear. However, if there is confusion surrounding the rules, people should approach the township before purchasing property.

"There's no question that it's disappointing if an outcome is different than someone anticipates, but building department staff are there to help folks navigate the process, so it's vital that people ensure they understand the rules" Moffatt said.

The bunkie's walls are all that remain. Dentinger said she has until Jan. 31 to have everything dismantled.

Arts community still thriving: Fleming dean

Continued from page 1

grant applications squashed the plan for a full-time worker, who would have focused on a lot of the marketing and day-to-day tasks.

"Eventually, we simply burnt out," said Lynch, adding she is looking to sell the building in the spring.

The opportunity to showcase local art will be missed, but the arts community is still thriving, said Sandra Dupret, dean of the Fleming campus in Haliburton.

"I don't think the closure of an art collective like that is going to be detrimental to the arts community," Dupret said. "Yes it's a loss, but there are so many individuals who are so creative and active, that someone will fill the gap that's been created."

Christmas at The Art Hive was a moment that resonated

strongly with Dupret.

"The combination of decorations, hot cappuccino and art, was just so beautiful."

The artist-driven centre was also near and dear to Carol Moffatt, county warden and reeve of Algonquin Highlands.

"My family cottage, where my parents now live, is down the road from that store, that was Welch's store, and I have a lifetime of memories from that place," Moffatt said.

"It became a destination for so many people because of the variety and quality of the items that were offered there."

The Art Hive will be hosting a goodbye event on Jan. 31 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Highlander news

Hydro One yields on smart meters

By Sue Tiffin

Staff writer

Electricity smart meters will stay at homes in Haliburton County, but those that aren't transmitting data properly will be manually read.

Local residents are among 36,000 Hydro One customers in rural areas across Ontario who got a letter from the utility explaining the wireless technology used by smart meters is

It says accounts will revert to the former two-tier billing system rather than the timeof-use (TOU) prices that were implemented to promote energy conservation. Meters will be manually read quarterly, and bills will be estimated based on historical usage, unless the homeowner opts to read the meters and submit information to Hydro One themselves. The smart meters will not be removed.

On the two-tier billing system, customers will pay 9.9 cents per kilowatt hour up to 1,000 kilowatts, and 11.6 cents beyond that from Nov. 1 to April 30. Summer rates have not been released yet. Rates were 8.3 cents per kilowatt during the off-peak hours from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., 12.8 cents during the midpeak hours from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and 17.5 cents for the on-peak hours from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m., and 5 - 7 p.m. on the winter TOU billing

"Over the last few years, we've learned that it isn't possible to economically connect all meters to the smart meter network," reads the letter. "Nor is it possible to make all meters communicate reliably enough to issue regular time-of-use bills based on actual meter readings."

The news is not surprising to those who received the letter. Smart meters have been controversial ever since they were mandated

by the provincial government. The meters and Harrison. TOU prices were intended to "help customers manage their electricity use and costs, reduce the need for additional power generation during peak periods, and create real supply and environmental benefits," according to the Hydro One website.

But the 4.8 million meters cost almost \$2 billion to implement across the province, according to an auditor general report last month and billing complaints due to the meters' communication problems were widespread across the province.

"It's been a nightmare for a lot of people," said Bonnie Harrison, office manager for Laurie Scott, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes- Brock riding. "It was not thought out for the rural area.'

Scott called the smart meter program "flawed" and urged constituents to contact her office with billing inquiries. Dealing with Hydro One billing complaints from constituents has been like a full-time job, according to Harrison, who said she has been making inquiries for residents 40 hours a week for more than two years.

"The smart meter is supposed to communicate usage daily into the meter reading department," said Harrison. "But when you get into rural Ontario, in areas where there's lots of foliage or trees or rock cuts — something interferes with the signal."

Hydro One has been helpful in giving people the option for instalment plans on those large bills, according to Harrison. They also sent employees to check on meters that were consistently not reporting, at which point repeaters would be added to the devices in an attempt to draw a stronger signal, and have developed a good working relationship with

About 15 people have already called Scott's office this month regarding the letter and the switch to manual reading and the two-tier system. Harrison expects farmers, businesses and restaurant owners as well as small store or grocery store owners will be greatly affected by the billing system, because they can't control how much energy they use.

"It's just starting to get out," she said. "A lot of people haven't received their letters yet. They've heard the rumour mill and they're phoning in."

The precise number of Haliburton residents who will no longer be using the smart meter system was not known by Hydro One spokesperson Tiziana Baccega Rosa.

"The majority of people in [Haliburton County] won't be affected," said Baccega Rosa. "If you're looking at 36,000 over 1.2 million [customers], I wouldn't use the word majority...there may be some customers affected.'

It's neither cost-effective nor feasible to build the infrastructure required for the smart meters to carry the signal, according to Baccega Rosa, though she said Hydro One had been working on fine-tuning the network since it came into service.

"When it comes down to it being mandated and having to execute, you're given a directive and we rolled it out," she said.

"The customers who may have been expecting their meter to be read regularly, there's now a finite answer that it won't and this is our permanent solution to that.'

Harrison recommended customers keep track of meter readings once a week to compare bills with usage and be able to report discrepancies. She can be reached at 705-324-6654 or 1-800-424-2490.





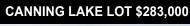
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Photo submitted by Jan Briggs-McGowan

Remembrance Day poster competition winners

Winners of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 636 Remembrance Poster and Literary Competitions received certificates and a monetary award on Jan. 14. Presentations were made at an assembly at Archie Stouffer Elementary School (ASES) by second vice-president Rick Wilson and Jan Briggs-McGowan, public relations officer from the Minden Legion. There were a total of 49 entries from ASES students and home-schooled students for the local competition. Briggs-McGowan said this is the first year homeschooled children from Minden had entered the competition. Seven first place entries went on to compete at the District F Level against 50 other branches from the shores of Lake Ontario to Haliburton. Last year one student from Minden placed second and two students were awarded a third place at the district level.

Pictured above: Students pose with their certificates awarded for the Remembrance Day poster and literary competitions at ASES.

Editorial opinion

The end of an era

The first time I encountered The Art Hive, I was entranced.

Colourful paintings, sculptures and other unique pieces fill the space. Friendly artists greet you upon entry, eager to answer questions about their work and upcoming events.

And over the eight years I've been a reporter in the county, it has remained a must-visit locale any time I'm on Highway

So the news that this weekend is the end struck hard.

Nine years ago, a brave group of artists known as the Maple Lake Artisans Collective took a chance in Algonquin Highlands.

On June 29, 2007 The Art Hive first opened its doors to the public. Located in a small building off Highway 118, just minutes from Carnarvon, it would go on to become a hub for up-and-coming artists and craftspeople, local residents and cottagers.

Over the years, this busy place was recognized by many organizations and individuals for its contributions to the arts community. In 2008, they were the recipients of the New Business of the Year Award from the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce. The Arts Council Haliburton Highlands gave them two awards, including the 2010 Founders Honours Award for being "a prime example of strength in collaboration—people working together to create something both beautiful and successful."

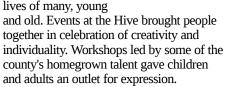
Erin Lynch, founding member and owner of the property, announced the Hive would be closing its red door for good Jan. 30. Lynch cited "personal challenges and commitments of several existing members" as the reasons for the decision (see pages 1 and 2 for a story about the closure).

Several supporters expressed shock and sadness, but wished Lynch and the dozen or so other members all the best.

The Hive wasn't just a place to buy art—it was one of the few signature destinations lining that long, windy stretch of highway between Carnarvon and Haliburton. It gave visitors from the city a reason to stop on

their commute to the cottage, whether it was to peruse the latest creations or just grab a coffee and strike up a conversation.

It enriched the



I look back fondly on Fashion Fallies, an annual event for several years that gave local models (in many cases, the artists themselves) a chance to strut down the catwalk with wearable art. It was a visually stunning surprise year after year.

Another highlight was the organization's fifth anniversary, held on a summer day in June 2012. Live music, demonstrations and art activities filled the day. Politicians stopped by to congratulate the members on the milestone.

Although this thriving centre will be no more, the memories won't soon fade. They are strong as the fabric of the collective that came together and developed an ambitious plan to open a volunteer, artist-run gallery and store.

What also won't disappear is its rich history. The main building dates back to the late 1930s and was home to Welch's General Store. Just ask around the community and people will tell you about its historical significance. Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt used to walk to the store almost daily when her family cottaged on Beech Lake.

Lynch plans on putting the property up for sale this spring. Hopefully, the future owner will do their best to preserve the main structure and incorporate it in their plans.

The Art Hive was one of the county's rarest treasures. Let's not forget the time and energy its founders invested into enhancing the arts community.

They made a difference.



By Mark Arike

Did you hear the latest?

Each time I get the chance to meet newcomers (among a lot of things) to the area I always share this valuable insight which is simultaneously both heartwarming and also darkly foreboding. The insight is this: As a new resident you can count on two things. First off, everyone in town will know your personal business (regardless of your feeling towards it) and secondly, if you ever veer off the road unexpectedly there will be 12 pickups there within minutes to help pull you out.

I usually present this in that exact order although, if you look at it in reverse, it can be quite perplexing and downright troublesome. Most people, you see, come from relatively safe havens of anonymity, areas so large it becomes virtually impossible for everyone to know your name, and subsequently, to know your business. Such is the sacrifice you're forced to make when you move into an area like this. When you live in a town beyond 10,000 people the logistics of efficient gossip are simply insurmountable.

Rest assured there is a method to their creative madness. If your name has come up in these machinations it brands you (perversely) as a somewhat interesting person. If you're prominent enough, people will talk and if you're seemingly anonymous, people will also talk. Only those in the middle ground - the dull and the uninteresting – don't have gossip spread around about them.

Now before you consider this an utter damnation of the area, realize I'm not saying it as a detriment but rather as a compromise you have to make to live here. It's not my theory, it's an utter truth. Anyone who has immigrated to the area knows of what I speak but know you are not alone.

For some (like me) this matters very little. I rationalize that, as long as those closest to you know your real truth, damn the others who make up their own story and who possess way too much idle time and imagination. I mean that.

None of us are immune to it. While you may not have heard the juiciest rumour about you, rest assured that there's one out there. Such is the nature of an area where a lot of nothing happens quite regularly. When a person (or persons) move to the area it's big news. Like a solar-powered gossip machine, newcomers

kickstart the rumour mill.

Of course it's not just newcomers who are subject to the local cosmic laws of hearsay.



By Charlie Teljeur

Anyone of any prominence in this community has been squarely in the crosshairs of a gabbing public. Ask any politician about the rumour mill in his or her life and be prepared to set aside an hour or two. No one escapes the awesome power of small town idle chatter.

So what's gotten my beehive into a bundle you might be thinking? Nothing in particular although I recently noticed an individual on the Internet who has been complaining about how some damning and "untrue" information about her has been spreading locally and has gotten her into a kerfuffle (I do realize the futility of looking to the Internet for a moral compass although part of me admires(?) how tech savvy our gossip system has gotten). Of course, being a cyber bystander, I have no idea what she's talking about although I kind of wonder why she wastes so much energy worrying about something she has no control over. She's sweating way too much over the proverbial small stuff.

There is this assumption gossip is inherently 100 per cent untrue which is a notion I challenge. Sure it may be rampantly irresponsible but something in there (I contend) must be somewhat factual. Even conspiracy theories begin with a relatively workable premise. The key is in separating the occasional fact from the all-too-common artistic license. We need a system to vet these rumours properly, so here's what I'm proposing. We set up a gossip chart at the local post office. On it anyone is free to post anything they've heard which will then be either corroborated or dispelled by parties in the know. If something ugly about you is out there you now have the means to shoot it down immediately. And if something juicy has some traction, feel free to add your input. Only then we will be able to precisely determine not only who was pulled out of the ditch and how she got there, but ultimately what make of pickup did the dirty work.

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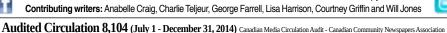
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Clarification

In "Tourist centre in limbo" (*The Highlander* issue 220, page 1), we reported that costs for online marketing are \$0.003 per digital impression. According to tourism director Amanda Virtanen, \$0.003 is the average cost per impression in all media, including digital. The Highlander regrets this error.

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To tell the story of Haliburton County each week

To be a source of information and inspiration through stories and ideas

To report on issues, people and events important to the community

To reflect and promote pride in the culture, people and landscape of The Highlands

To encourage Highlanders to believe in themselves, in our community, and in their power to make our place in the world better every day.

Editorial opinion

Thank you, Jack

Dear editor,

Jack Brezina's recent column on galoshes was priceless.

How well I remember donning them every winter in snowy Buffalo, back in the 30s and 40s, when still attending school. My mother also insisted they be done up, and I, like Jack, undid them as I turned the corner so I wouldn't seem quite so "dorky".

Fast forward 80 years. I have a drop foot that requires me to wear a brace, which only fits in a size 14 running shoe. I have never been able to find a boot that would fit over this brace and shoe, so have always had to carry an extra pair of "indoor shoes" whenever I go visiting. We have been snowbirds for several years, but alas no more, so this "no boot" problem has intensified.

After reading Jack's piece, I started my own quest to return to old times and find a pair of galoshes which would solve my problem. I visited several local stores, received some advice from Jack Cox, and was finally directed to Bernstein's in Haliburton, where low and behold, a pair of size 14 galoshes was resurrected from the basement. With the help of two plastic bags, they easily fit over my huge shoes!

Thank you to both Jacks and Bernstein's for bringing back long forgotten memories and making my winter life in Haliburton much easier.

Sincerely,

Jim Hicks Algonquin Highlands

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Photo by Mark Arike

Up close and personal with some white tailed deer.

Experimenting with luxury

'Tis the time of year when I report upon one of the great outdoors events in Haliburtonian folklore; one of the pivotal happenings by which certain members of local society set their seasonal clocks by; and, one of the highlights of my Canadian calendar. The winter fishing weekend with the barber and his chums.

Regular readers will know that the barber took me under his wing many moons ago, when I first set foot in Haliburton. His guiding role, to show me the ways of the wild and allow me to experience all things hunting and fishing, from the glory of the chase, the setting of the hook, and the joys of the bush to the tomfoolery of the hunt camp, the age old tradition of storytelling and the proper way to mix a rum and coke. Now, he's been doing quite well in all of these quests and I'm beginning to feel that the rest of the regular fishing party are now warming to me a little, too. Although, I do wonder sometimes when I catch Hawkeye glaring at me as I enter the kitchen space without permission!

And so, with only minor trepidation, I ventured out on this, my fifth winter fishing weekend, looking forward to renewing old acquaintances and having new adventures.

And this year it was to be quite different in several ways. Instead of being in the hunt camp, a rough and ready set up where the bathroom is first left past the second maple and it's unsanitary to take your boots off inside the cabin, we were housed in a luxury cottage. A sixty-inch flat screen took the place of a moth eaten whitetail wall mount; mouse-chewed bunk mattresses were foregone in preference for king sized beds with plumped pillows (albeit mine shared with the barber); and, we experienced the joy of eating with real metal cutlery, as opposed to that bendy plastic stuff with which no amount of fighting will win out against a pork chop.

With these luxuries came new rules though, plus some rather amusingly new behaviours. The big gruff Canadian outdoors-men that I fish with (and quite a few of them are rather large and rather surly at times) seemed to turn into giant pussycats. Off came giant boots and on went house slippers. Raucous shouting across the room was all but drowned out by pleasant conversation and the fart count was down to almost nil, at least until the snoring started. The upgrading of our surroundings had brought out the gentlemen in everyone, and, while there was still a fair amount of rum and coke drank, there was a lot less stumbling about in the darkness and late night falling in snow banks, which is no bad thing.

One part of the weekend that didn't change however was the fishing. Last year had been terrible. A total of seven fish caught over three days by 15 guys. Not record breaking stuff by a long shot. And, this year started off the same way. By the first evening everyone had frozen fingers and icicles hanging from their mustaches but only a handful of fish had been caught.

Never mind though. Have a drink, tell a story and plan for tomorrow.

Saturday was no better. Same beautiful weather. Same dismal outcome. A total of 10 fish between the lot of us, an abysmal number when you tally up our fishing time at over 120 man hours so far! More importantly, not even enough for a good feed. Thankfully, the barber's lovely wife knows just how good we are at this ice fishing lark and she'd made us a large pot of stew.

Sunday dawned overcast, with a hint of snow in the air. The temperature was milder and spirits were lifted (read hangovers quelled) with a hearty fried breakfast. Out on the ice the action was immediate. "Fish ON!"

I yelled, almost falling over with excitement as I struck into my first trout of the weekend.

The**Outsider**

And so it continued. A tug on a line from the

depths below, a frantic sprint to a bucking rod and another shout of "Fish On!" By lunchtime we'd almost made our limit and tripled the number of fish caught.

The weekend had turned out a success all round. Was it down to our new, rather luxurious location, I wondered? Perhaps the fish sensed our new-found genteel nature and hung themselves up out of courtesy. Had a comfortable night's sleep in a nice bed put us in better shape for the Sunday bite? These are questions that can only be answered by repeating the experience. It looks like we'll have to go back to the luxury cottage again and see how we fare. And then, we'll have to go back to the hunt camp again to check that it wasn't just a fluke. And then, we'll have to, yep you've guessed it, we'll have to do it all over again, all in the pursuit of science and the truth. This is going to be a long term experiment I guess and one only the bravest rum and coke drinkers will see through to the end. Count me in for next year!



By Will Jones

Highlander news

A weekly run from Dorset to Huntsville

By Sue Tiffin

Staff writer

The lives of some Haliburton County residents will improve thanks to the work of a committee in Muskoka, which has expanded its bus service with a weekly run from Dorset to Huntsville.

The Muskoka Extended Transit (MET) pilot rural transit system subcontracts school buses to let rural residents travel to larger communities, according to Kim Rinaldo, program information manager, community services for the district municipality of Muskoka.

MET was launched after a rural transportation steering committee conducted a needs-analysis study, and won a \$100,000 grant from the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) for a year-long pilot project, which began Jan. 11.

Seven routes are running throughout Muskoka and neighbouring regions, including a route from Vankoughnet

Community Centre to the park, Sportsplex and grocery store in Bracebridge, and a route from the Honey Harbour LCBO to the Georgian Bay General Hospital in

The buses are owned and operated by Hammond Transportation Services, but the program is managed by MET. After dropping kids at school, drivers begin their MET shift by driving to the stop nearest the school. In the case of Route 1, the bus comes on Tuesday from a school in Dwight to the Dorset Community Health Hub at 9:15 a.m. It stops at popular destinations including Huntsville Hospital and the Minerva Street Library. The route finishes at the Walmart Huntsville Supercentre at 10:36 a.m., and gives passengers about three hours to shop or run errands before returning to Dorset before picking up children after school.

"When the school buses are cancelled due to weather, the MET buses are also cancelled," said Rinaldo. She also said bus drivers cannot wait for late passengers because scheduling occurs between the hours the buses are needed for school routes. The program offers bus drivers extra pay, and makes use of buses during school hours.

The cost of a one-way adult ticket costs \$3, and \$5 return. Youth aged 13 to 18 pay \$2 for a return trip, and children five to 12 pay \$1 for a return trip. Younger kids ride for free.

The program is being monitored by the rural transportation committee, to determine usage.

"By the end of the program, we'll be able to tell how many people got on the bus, and what the demographic was of users," said Rinaldo. The program is in place until March 2017, and offers \$2 million in funding to Ontario municipalities for the development and implementation of community transportation initiatives.

Rinaldo said she wasn't sure what might happen to the program after the grant ends, but measuring usage would help determine if it was successful.

Carol Moffatt, Algonquin Highlands reeve and county warden, called the MET a "very interesting" model and said there was "no question" Haliburton County also needed rural transportation services.

"It's exciting," she said. "Given the challenges we have and continue to have, we all need to be watching to see what the wins and challenges are."

Haliburton was also one of the 22 municipalities to receive a grant. \$77,540 was awarded through the MTO CT program to create a web site and provide one contact to refer trip requests to nine organizations and coordinate ride-share.

For more information about the MET system, email TheMET@muskoka.on.ca or call the toll-free line at 1-844-440-6387 (GGOMETS).

Radio and library partner to win

By Sue Tiffin

Staff writer

Community radio station 100.9 Canoe FM has won the 2015 Ontario Library Association (OLA) Media and Communications Award.

The station was recognized for supporting the Haliburton County Public Library (HCPL) with programming that includes literary show Haliburton County Reads, author interviews and open mic sessions with local writers. The station also promotes HCPL programs and events.

"Canoe FM has made it possible for HCPL to reach everyone in every corner of Haliburton County, whether they are a commuter in their car, an artisan creating in their studio, a construction worker on the job, a consumer visiting our local businesses or a cottager on the dock," wrote Erin Kernohan-Berning, HCPL branch services librarian, in her nomination of the radio station.

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Canoe FM manager Roxanne Casey said the win was "very exciting" for both the radio station, and the library.

"We would certainly encourage any community radio station to seek out their local libraries and develop this incredible partnership," wrote Casey about the station and library's relationship. "It truly is a win-win situation for any community." The award was presented at the OLA Super Conference held from Jan. 27 to 30

Fire chief Maughan to retire

By Alex Coop

Staff writer

After working for the municipality of Dysart for 39 years, fire Chief Miles Maughan has announced his retirement.

During Monday morning's council meeting, Maughan told councillors that he plans to retire by June.

705-457-1011

A round of applause filled council chambers after the announcement was made, and reeve Murray Fearrey said Maughan's contribution to the municipality is significant.

"You've been a huge value for the township," Fearrey said.

Maughan is born and raised in Haliburton, and served as a volunteer firefighter before moving on to becoming the township's first paid fire chief in 2009.

County Fair has new president

By Jennifer Hughey Editor

MINDEN

705-286-2911

The Minden Agricultural Society voted in a new president on Jan. 23 at their Annual General Meeting. The event was held at the United Church on Newcastle Street in

Local farmer and past president Casey Cox, along with 12 directors, was officially welcomed onto the 2016 Haliburton County Fair board. Nominations and voting took place after

County in brief

a fundraising dinner and discussion of the previous two year's financial statements.

Volunteers and the community were able to voice their concerns over the change in date for the 2016 event, changing from the traditional third weekend in August timeframe to June 11 this year.

Some people said the time of year could be a potential deterrent for those interested in submitting exhibits for judging, like roots and vegetables and flowers.

Anne Cox, secretary for the Fair Board, said directors and board executives would have to see how the planning went when it comes to children's events, the Beef BBQ event held in June traditionally as a fundraising event and a rodeo or demolition derby.

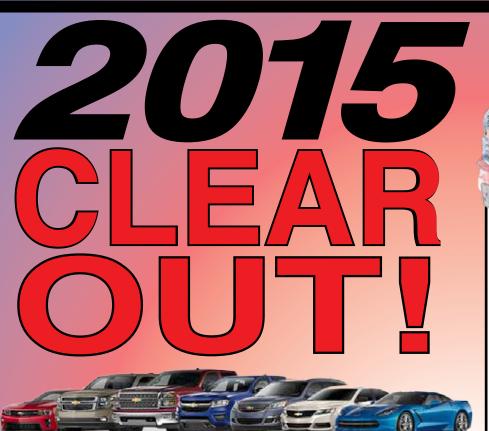
The Fair Board suggested those in the county who are interested in providing ideas for this year's fair, or volunteering with fundraising or the fair itself, send an email to info@haliburtoncountyfair.ca or to visit haliburtoncountyfair.ca to learn more.

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Silver Ice Metallic, Heated Leather Seats, Navigation, 55 MPG, Splash Guards, 2.0L Diesel Engine, Rear Vision Camera, Remote Start, Block Heater, Rear Spoiler, Stock # 15288



2015 CHEVROLET CRUZE DIESEL

Tungsten Metallic, Heated Leather Seats, Navigation, Sunroof, Upgrade Pioneer Stereo, 55 MPG, Splash Guards, 2.0L Diesel Engine, Rear Vision Camera, Remote Start, Block Heater, Rear Spoiler Stock#15334



2015 GMC TERRAIN AWD SLE1

Cypress Green Metallic, Climate Control, Rear Vision Camera, Splash Guards, 4 Cylinder 2.4L, Block Heater, Fog Lights, Bluetooth, Alloys, Stock#15125



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Butte Red Metallic, Rear Vision Camera, Remote Vehicle Start. Sunroof, 17" Alloys, 8-way Power Driver Seat, 7" Colour Touch Screen, Bluetooth, 6 Speaker System with CD, 4 Cyl 2.5L, Stock# 15393



2015 CHEVROLET MALIBU 1LT

Ashen Grey Metallic, Rear Vision Camera, Remote Vehicle Start, 17" Alloys, 8-way Power Driver Seat, 7" Colour Touch Screen, Bluetooth, 6 Speaker System with CD, 4 Cyl 2.5L, Stock#15089



2015 CHEVROLET MALIBU 1LT

Black Granite Metallic, Rear Vision Camera, Remote Vehicle Start, Sunroof 17" Alloys, 8-way Power Driver Seat, 7" Colour Touch Screen, Bluetooth, 6 Speaker System with CD, 4 Cyl 2.5L, Stock# 15087



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CURRY CHEVROLET



5065 COUNTY ROAD 21, HALIBURTON 705-457-2100



County budget 2016

Eye on the street: What do you think should be included in the 2016 county budget?



Joe Bertin

Minden

Right now I'm very satisfied with the way everything's going. The new council, they're doing okay. I've lived here for 10 years and I'm very well satisfied with the area.





Something for kids to do, like maybe a movie theatre or bigger skate park.





Blair Beetlestone

Minder

I honestly don't know. Not at



Ashley Leahy

Haliburton

I have no idea. I've been reading a lot of newspapers lately, but honestly I have no idea. We need more after school programs for the kids...and easy accessible ways to then get home [to each municipality].





Anabel Briseno

Minden

Oh boy. I don't keep track of that stuff. If [taxes are] going up, I hope they go to a good use for our own county.



Sandra Osmond

Haliburton

I think there should be money spent towards services that would assist elderly with regards to maintaining their home life. They've worked hard their whole lives, they deserve assistance from the county.

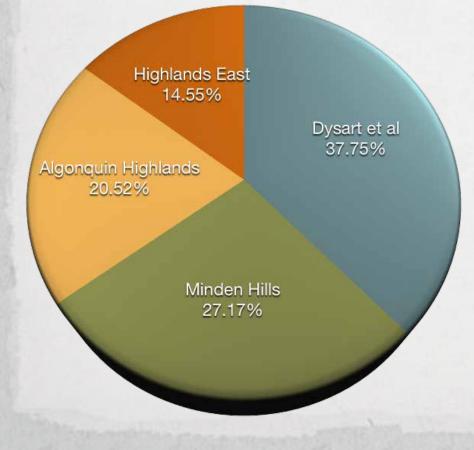
Photos and interviews by Sue Tiffin & Jennifer Hughey

2016 MUNICIPAL LEVY PERCENTAGES

The 2016 county levy is \$14,625,000.

The 2016 tax rate will be \$184.68 on \$100,000 of residential property assessment.

Estimated reserve balance at the end of 2015 = \$2,910,789



New county budget includes 3.85% tax hike

By Sue Tiffin

Staff writer

Haliburton County's 2016 \$21 million budget has been approved, and it includes a 3.85 per cent tax hike, funding for the fish hatchery and repayments for debt incurred in 2015.

The county also plans to make major repairs to Howland Junction bridge, purchase two ambulances, renovate the county building in Minden and explore extending fibre optic Internet service in 2016.

The tax increase will mean a rate of \$184.68 on every \$100,000 of assessed residential value, roughly \$7 more than last year.

This will add \$280,000 to reserves, which currently sit at just over \$3

million. The county gets about \$14 million from the townships; reserves should be at about \$7 million, according to county treasurer Laura Lanke

"They're still low," Janke told *The Highlander* prior to the meeting. "The province says our reserves are low. Would we like to have them higher? Yes. Can we afford more tax increases? The politicians say no right now. So it's very dependent on the political will to put more increases into tax to put some more money into reserves."

"Reserves keep us out of a borrowing position and enable us to fund our share of special projects or one-time opportunities," said Janke.

Continued on page 9

County budget 2016

DEBT OUTSTANDING FROM 2015

Minden EMS base = \$1,725,000 Roads = \$1,900,000

Roads and health dominate spending

Continued from page 8

"Future years' projects and stability depend on healthy reserves, combined with low debt."

Council also approved a commercial tax rate of \$263.70 per \$100,000 of assessment, which Dysart et al reeve Murray Fearrey said should be discussed in the future.

"It's going up at a rate that's faster than the residential one, and it doesn't take much of a shift to lower that," said Fearrey. "Business is what creates the jobs here, and we can't continue to put that rate up and drive people farther."

Haliburton County has one of the lowest tax rates in the province.

The treasurer, who plans to retire this week after 14 years with the county, acknowledged the importance of low taxes in the area.

"I think low taxes do more than just help the people that are here," said Janke. "I think [they] attract new growth, which we desperately need. I think if you're looking to buy a cottage here and you look at the tax rates, I think that's big ... I also think it keeps people in check ... This community needs the low taxes that we're able to provide, but we have to be careful to keep our eye on those reserves and those borrowing positions."

The county took out two big loans last year: \$1.7 million for the Minden EMS base on Hwy. 35, and \$1.9 million for road projects, including the Head Lake Bridge scheduled to be completed this June.

PARAMEDIC SERVICES & EMERGENCY **MANAGEMENT**

Seven ambulances in three stations in the county

24 full-time and 26 part-time paramedic positions

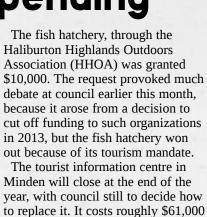
2016 capital requirements:

- two ambulances (\$270,000 total)
- replace vehicle laptop (\$6,500)
- equipment replacement (stretchers, scoops, backboards, stairchair (\$20,000)

DEPARTMENT Other

Library 4%

MPAC



to operate the centre, excluding fulltime staff costs. "It's not about getting rid of information," said Brent Devolin, Minden

Hills reeve. "We're going to change it, but we're going to do a better job.'

Some councillors were initially on the fence about passing the budget including Liz Danielsen, Algonquin Highlands deputy-reeve.

"I believe there are still too many unknowns," she said. "There has been no opportunity for council as a whole to really discuss the budget."

Danielsen cited a need for more discussions about long time commitment to professional doctor recruitment and the possibility of selling or acquiring capital assets. Though individual committees had discussed parts of the budget since November, Danielsen said she only received the preliminary budget in its entirety late last week.

"That's four days to consider \$14.5 million and for me, it's not enough,"

> Councillors acknowledged those concerns and then approved the budget with Danielsen being the sole opposing party.

"I'm satisfied that council was happy to pass the budget today ... I err more on the side of caution," she told The Highlander. "I

WATCH VIDEO AT THEHIGHLANDER.CA

ROADS

Completion of Head Lake Bridge rehabilitation = June 2016

Roads 43% Health **26**% Planning Tourism 2% 3%

EXPENDITURES BY

Admin 6%

3%

Social Services & Housing

9%

LIBRARY

6,087 cardholders in 2015

51,408 items on shelves across eight branches

> recognize we'll have time to have our questions answered and there is some flexibility within the budget's bottom line that we can deal with any of those unknowns."

Janke said information about the county's finances is readily accessible, and the incoming treasurer will be available to answer questions from the public all year. More information about county business can be found at haliburton.civicweb.net.

TOURISM

#MyHaliburtonHighlands brand = total of 34,565,000 consumer impressions as of Nov. 30, 2015

2016 total net expenditure = \$517,200

2016 net tourism expenses = \$405,000

Total cost to run tourist information centre = \$61,200

Walk-ins to centre in first ten months of 2015 = 3,705

SOCIAL SERVICES & HOUSING

Capital projects for 2016 = **\$108,600** (directly from taxation)

Future capital projects reserve = \$77,932

Minden housing project reserve = \$100,000

Highlander business



Haliburton Highlands CHAMBER of COMMERCE

CONGRATULATIONS **LISA GREGORINI**

on your appointment to the **HHCC Board of Directors** (appointed by the Board on January 19th)

UPCOMING EVENTS

LAST CALL! February Breakfast

Tuesday, February 2, 2016 Host: McKeck's Tap & Grill Topic:

Putting Social Media to Work for your Business Speaker:

Pasi Posti, Positive Media

RSVP TODAY!

autumn@haliburtonchamber.com or call (705) 457-4700

CONGRATULATIONS AWARD NOMINEES

For a full list of award nominees, go to haliburtonchamber.com

OUR ROLE IN THE **OFFICIAL PLAN**

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce is in the middle of conversations with the County Planner to give input on the Official Plan amendments.

We recently submitted another document outlining some of the land use issues brought forward by local business leaders at the Manufacturing Round Table.

Once the next draft is complete, the Chamber will be providing local businesses with a summary of the changes and will ask for input to put forward more recommendations. For more information on this process, go to haliburtonchamber.com.

Haliburton Highlands CHAMBER of COMMERCE

Interior designer earns online award

Former police officer earns recognition on Houzz

By Mark Arike

Staff writer

A former Toronto police officer has been recognized by a remodelling and design website for her commitment to customer service.

Andria Cowan Molyneaux, a Highlands East resident and owner of ACM Designs, received the "Best of Houzz 2016 - Client Satisfaction" badge from Houzz Jan. 11.

"I'm ecstatic to be recognized by Houzz for service to my clients," said Cowan. "I'm grateful to my clients for taking the time to review my work."

On her profile, four clients gave Cowan fivestar reviews for her services last year. She has been a member of the website since 2014.

"My clients review me and it is vetted through the Houzz team," she said.

Each year, The Best of Houzz awards include three categories: design, customer service and photography.

Houzz is "the leading platform for home remodelling and design." The website is made up of a community of more than 35 million homeowners, home design enthusiasts and home improvement professionals.

Other local businesses are on the website and can be found by doing a search.

"It's a great way for people to find local trades, local designers, builders, suppliers ..." she said.

Cowan is an accredited interior decorator, designer and certified aging in place specialist. She offers her services to clients in Haliburton, Peterborough, Hastings County and Toronto. One of the projects she is currently involved in is the Newcastle condominium development in Minden.

A graduate of Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, Cowan is on her second career. In 2013, she took an early retirement from her job as a sergeant with the Toronto Police Service. She was a frontline officer for 22 years.



Photo by Gail Kenney, www.nightingailphotography.com

Local interior designer Andria Cowan Molyneaux has been recognized by Houzz for providing excellent customer service.

Although it's a rather significant career change, Cowan has been interested in design for a long time.

"I was fortunate enough that I could choose something in the next stage of my life that I was passionate about. I've always really enjoyed renovating, learning, and the design and decoration part of the industry."

In her spare time, she volunteers as a director for Haliburton Highlands Health Services and is vice-president of the Canadian Decorators' Association.

"I'm very committed to this county," she

To learn more about Houzz visit houzz.com.

INFORMATION PAGE

Milne Street, PO Box 359 Minden ON K0M 2K0 Phone: 705-286-1260 Toll Free 1-844-277-1260 Fax: 705-286-4917 • www.mindenhills.ca

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Meetings & Events

January 28, 2016

9:00 am, COTW/Regular Council Meeting, Minden Council Chambers

Please Note: Council will commence its 2016 Budget Deliberations during the January 28, 2016 Council Meeting

February 11, 2016 9:00 am, COTW, Minden Council Chambers

February 16, 2016

9:00 am, Special Council Meeting, **Council Chambers**

Please Note: Council will continue its 2016 Budget Deliberations during the February 16, 2016 Council Meeting

Available Employment Opportunities

We are currently seeking the following

Community Services Seasonal Operator

Summer Students - PARKS Casual Clerical Assistant

Municipal Law Enforcement Officer/

Building Inspector

Visit www.mindenhills.ca/employmentopportunities/ for detailed information and submission deadlines.

Notice of Special **Council Meeting**

Take Notice there will be a Special Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, ON.

The purpose of the Special Meeting is to continue with the 2016 Draft **Budget deliberations**

If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Newhook Clerk at 705-286-1260 ext 205 or email: dnewhook@mindenhills.ca

Highlander business



Photos by Mark Arike

Above: Chris Watson helps lower a truss into place. Right: from left, James Park and Hazel Hong, owners of HP Super Store; Greg Saville, general manager; and Wayne MacDowall, owner of Windy Ridge Homes.

Plaza under construction after long wait

By Mark Arike

Staff writer

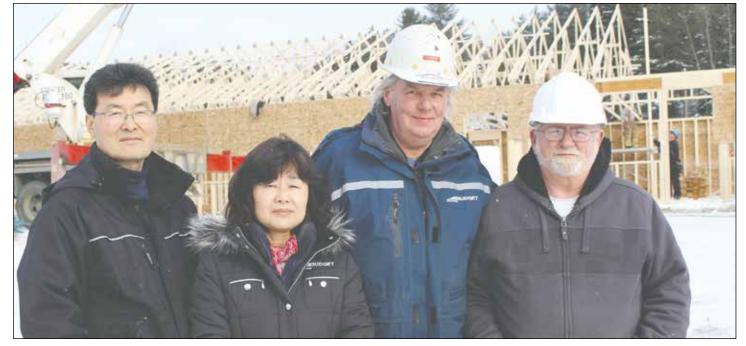
After running their propane business out of a trailer for 18 months, Greg Saville and Hazel Hong can finally breathe a sigh of relief.

"It's been brutal," said Saville, general manager of HP Super Store in Minden.

"So much stress I have ulcer problems," laughed Hong, who owns the business with her husband James Park.

Construction of their new building began mid-January. The 4,400 sq. ft. plaza will include five units, four of which will be leased to other businesses.

For the past four years they've been planning on tearing down the aging buildings on the property, located at the corner of Highway 35 and County Road 21, and erecting a plaza. But it wasn't until



last September they were granted approval to remove those buildings, one of which was home to Gramma's Fish and Chips restaurant.

"It's taken a hell of a lot longer than we anticipated," said Saville.

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) conducted a traffic impact study and the Ministry of Environment completed soil tests. The township issued a temporary building permit in October, which enabled them to install footings, foundation walls, underground utilities and build a slab-on-

grade. Hong got building permits from the MTO and the township to erect the structure on Dec. 23.

"We finally got that two days before Christmas. It was a nice Christmas present," said Saville.

For the past 13 years, the business has specialized in propane sales, service and installation. It has always operated from the same location.

Wayne MacDowall of Windy Ridge Homes is the builder and other local contractors are being used.

"We've used all locals—and it's working out great."

Saville would like to see the building completed by May 1, but believes it will be closer to June 1.

Hong says the plaza will be a nice addition to the area.

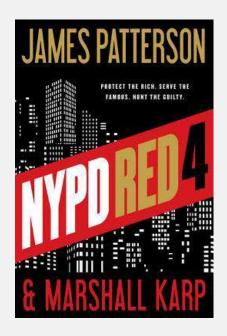
"The neighbours say ... we raised the value for this area," she said, "When it's all said and done, it will look pretty good."

HP Super Store is currently open six days a week, Monday to Saturday. To inquire about leasing call 705-286-2421.

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. NYPD Red 4 by James Patterson
- 2. *Moonlight over Paris* by Jennifer Robson
- 3. *The Forgotten Room* by Karen White, Beatriz Williams, Lauren Willig

HCPL's TOP NON-FICTION

- 1. *Trash: A True Story* by Laurie Anne Hoover
- 2. *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi
- 3. *The Power of Broke* by John Daymond

HCPL's TOP JUNIOR TITLES

- 1. *The Dead Man's Boot* by Eric Murphy (JF)
- 2. *Thief of Lies* by Brenda Drake (YA)

AUDIO and VIDEO at HCPL

- 1. Ant-Man (DVD)
- The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend by Katarina Bivald (Book on CD)

LIBRARY NEWS

Help is just a click away! Check out our new online research tools at www.haliburtonlibrary.ca. Whether you are a student trying to ace that homework assignment, looking for specialized information, or just curious about the world around you, we link you to the answers you are looking for. Just go to www.haliburtonlibrary. ca and click on "Online Research". Databases are available from anywhere you are — just have your library card ready.

Journey theme stretches artistic boundaries

I attended the opening of the 9th Annual Members' Show at the Rails End Gallery on the afternoon of Jan. 23 in Haliburton. I love member shows, and while all the previous shows I'd seen were good, I believe this year's version tops them all.

The reason, in part, for my saying that was explained in my phone conversation with curator Laurie Jones.

"This year there was a very interesting response to the theme of *Journey* and people seemed to have pushed their artistic boundaries more," she said.

And it's true, they did. Whether the medium was clay, oils, acrylics, watercolours, wood, fabric or photography, the majority of the 75 works from the 48 artists was imbued with that extra something that comes from inspirational artistic interpretation. The theme was represented through visual trips, pilgrimages and spiritual renderings.

But in addition to the interpretation factor, this year's show just seems more eclectically and colourfully vibrant. Clever design factors, more polished presentations of individual pieces and works from eight new artist members all helped. What also helped was the fine job of mounting the show, which Jones accomplished with assistance from new member Jennifer Mykolyshyn.

As is usual for such openings, the gallery was packed on Saturday afternoon as artists and visitors mingled and ate from the bountiful offerings on the food and drinks table. Volunteer and artist Andrea Bunt-Percy made sure the goodies kept coming.

It was a delightful party atmosphere which effectively highlighted the importance of members' shows. These shows, in addition to being the only exhibitions which display the works of most of the full-time area artists, also give those artists who are less prolific or who don't often exhibit their pieces, a chance to measure themselves against their colleagues. These shows give the artists an opportunity to talk to other artists and give members of the public the chance to speak directly to the artists and ask them specific questions about their work.

So, which pieces impressed me? First, let me say that, unlike some previous years, there were very few really weak pieces. I liked the ceramic nudes by Mykolyshyn and Lynn Roberge's colourfully glazed concrete bowl, which was created in the shape of a rhubarb leaf, complete with dragonfly.

Nygel Saxby's wicked walking sticks were wonderfully conceived and Pat Reynolds's textile piece of a spring woodland scene was incredibly detailed. Huw Morgan's wintertime

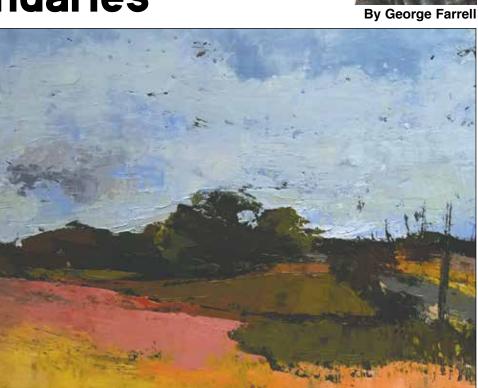


Photo submitted by George Farrell

Artist Rossana Dewey's piece *On My Way* is part of the Rail's End Gallery show, Journey.

photo of a *Tractor Near Gelert* caught my eye, as did the functional pottery offerings from Rene Woltz, Charlene McConnell and Susanne James.

But my favourite piece was a small, 8 by 10 inch oil painting by new member Rossana Dewey. Called On My Way, it's an impressionistic landscape of fields, trees and sky with what appears to be a road in one corner fading away into the unknown. That's the journey. It's not so much the subject matter, but Dewey's wonderfully creative application of untypical landscape colours, like salmon pink and muted yellow, set against a backdrop of cloudy sky which is so appealing. And while the piece looked like a quick study, I loved her technique and design sense. She's a great new artistic addition to our community, as are all the other new artists in the show.

Suzanne James, who also happens to be the president of the gallery's board of directors, gave a brief talk to the full house. She thanked the volunteers, supporters, artists and visitors in the crowd. She mentioned to me previously she thought this was the best members' show she has seen and how lucky we all were to be in a community so rich in artistic talent. She also urged people to cast their ballot for the People's Choice Award. The winning artist will be revealed online March 20 at www.

railsendgallery.com. They will receive a \$150 gift certificate from the Rails End boutique.

Speaking of the boutique, it was very busy and gallery administrative assistant Michelle St. Pierre was busy with sales of merchandise and renewing memberships.

"Having Michelle backing me with her admin skills and calmness has been great," Jones said. Jones also wanted me to express her appreciation to the people at Vista Signs. But, back to the show — and Dewey's piece, which I couldn't get out of my mind. I saw several other people eyeing it, and another piece by her had already been sold.

"I can't afford any new art work," I told myself as I prepared to leave the exhibition. But on my way out I stopped and asked St. Pierre, who also happens to be my significant other, the price. It was very reasonable. "I know I can't afford it but I want us to have it," I said to Michelle. "But only if you like it too."

"I love it," she responded. And that was that. I made sure *On My Way* was affixed with a red 'sold' sticker before I left, exhilarated.

Be sure to see the *Members' Show* – on until March 19. Admission is by donation. It's just so much fun and you'll emerge with a smile on your face. The Rails End Gallery is located at 23 York Street in the village of Haliburton.

Get the news as it happens

f /TheHighlanderOnline

Thursday Jan 28 2016 | Issue 221 The Highlander 13

Highlander arts



Photo by Alex Coop

International students Nick Dawson, left, and Jonathan Wilson are enjoying the artist blacksmith program and their time in Haliburton.

Blacksmithing course attracts international students

By Alex Coop

Staff Writer

A student from Los Angeles and an Australian soldier nearing retirement are bringing some international flavour to this semester's artist blacksmith course at the Haliburton School of the Arts.

Nick Dawson, 49, has been a serving soldier in Australia for 20 years. He's taking a long break to expand his raw talent with the forge. One day, he'd even like to open a small shop.

Jonathon Wilson, 28, a graduate from Santa Monica College, has previous experience with blacksmithing, but is looking to improve his skills. He said he wants to go to England and get his Bachelor of Arts in blacksmithing after the 15-week Haliburton course is over.

The two are enjoying the experience. Dawson said the 26-hour flight was the only inconvenience so far.

"Everyone is really friendly, but a lot of them have weird accents," Dawson joked.

This is his first exposure to Canada. It's not as cold as he expected it to be.

"When I looked Haliburton up on Google

Maps, the first thing I noticed was that it's a small dot surrounded by a thousand lakes," he said. "I didn't know what to expect."

Wilson said he was happy about moving to a place where he could learn more about blacksmithing, an opportunity hard to come by in California.

"There's not much industry left in Los Angeles," he said. "I only know of two blacksmiths within two hours from me."

Their teacher Rene Petitjean said he's had several students from California take his classes.

He's impressed with the level of dedication the two newcomers bring to class each day.

"They come from very different backgrounds, but they're both very focused,"

"[Nick] is a perfectionist and he's hard on himself."

Wilson's technique with the hammer is strong, but the next step for him is to develop his drawing skills, Petitjean said.

Mature students like Dawson and Wilson often bring a strong work ethic to the course, he said.

They also bring a variety of life experience, said Wendy Ladurantaye, a member of the school's student support services.

"They're an important part of the school's overall makeup," she said.

"They also provide students an opportunity to learn life skills beyond the classroom environment."

A lot is covered in 15 weeks of classes. In-class discussions followed by some hands-on training cover basics about the shop and the tools. The tempo picks up quickly, as the class works its way to the final exam, which is an opportunity for students to forge nearly whatever they want. Classes are from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and students are required to attend evening classes at least three times a week

"It can be very intensive," Petitjean said. His favourite exam project belonged to a young woman who created a high-heel shoe. "The detail was incredible," he said.

The course has consistently drawn international attention since its inception in

Ladurantaye said their artist blacksmithing

course is still one of a kind.

"Our students tell me all the time ... there is nothing like it in North America," she said. Wilson found out about the course online. He was quick to register.

"It's a small place, but the course is good, and puts in perspective how much is really going on here," he said.

The class is also diverse when it comes to the variety of backgrounds the students have. Members of the Royal Canadian Air Force have completed his course, alongside a number of people with little to no previous experience with blacksmithing. The gender split, however, is very one-sided.

"It's almost always been like that," Petitjean said, referring to the overwhelming higher number of males who take his course. "I have had a few classes where the split was 50-50."

While classes remain top priority for Dawson and Wilson, they are looking forward to exploring the county to the best of their ability. Neither of them have a car.

Dawson is also looking forward to putting his new winter jacket to good use. He hasn't had to wear one before.

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Photo submitted by Mary Johnson

The winners in horseshoes from last summer's District 11 games.

Convenors passionate about 55+ games

By Mark Arike

Staff writer

Residents Jack Virgin and Ron Barr are veterans of the Haliburton 55+ Summer

Not only have they entered the games as athletes, but both also take an active role behind the scenes.

Now 79-years-old, Virgin has been convenor of tennis for the past six years. He was also the curling convenor two years ago.

In 2003, Robert McIvor, the coordinator of the games at the time, was looking for help. Virgin responded and signed on as treasurer and registrar for the district, known as District 11. It is one of 39 districts part of the Ontario Senior Games Association.

"He asked for help and I was available at the time because I moved to the area,' said Virgin, who lives in Haliburton.

He has been physically active over the years, playing squash, racquetball, tennis and golf. When he was younger, Virgin

coached hockey.

"I've always been active in doing physical activities," he said.

Virgin entered men's doubles in last year's summer district games with Terry Fahlenbach. The pair finished second place and won silver.

"We did very well," he said, adding they wound up in a tiebreaker match.

Nineteen athletes participated in men's doubles, women's doubles and and mixed doubles. Virgin estimates on average about 80 per cent are returning players while 20 per cent are first-timers.

This year, the action will take place June 28 at the tennis courts located at the Stanhope Community Centre. The rain date is June 30.

Spectators are encouraged to attend. Barr, a longtime organizer of Horseshoe Days in Gooderham, became the horseshoes convenor at the age of 55. He is now 77.

"It's easy because they register ahead of time and they have their own partner,"

said Barr, who has been playing for more than 50 years. "I just get the names and set up a schedule and make sure they come."

The late Bob Hunter got him interested in the sport.

Two years ago, he and his horseshoes partner Dave Stokes won a gold medal at the provincial level. Winners at the provincial games advance to the Canada 55+ Games.

Barr enjoys the physical aspect as well as the camaraderie.

"It's a lot of fun and it's a nice social get-together," he said. "A lot of the players come back year after year. We sure welcome more players and people to join us.'

Virgin agrees it's all about staying active and meeting like-minded people.

"First of all, tennis is a very good physical activity. It's also a social outlet and that's what seniors really need," he

The horseshoe tournament will be held

May 30 at the Gooderham Community Centre.

The cost to sign up for any sport is \$15 per person. Participants must sign a waiver.

To learn more about participating or volunteering email Mary Johnson at maryejohnson42@gmail.

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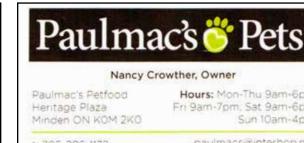
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TheHighlander Thursday Jan 28 2016 | Issue 221

Highlander life

Winterdance to represent Ontario at Yukon Quest

By Sue Tiffin

Staff writer

Hank DeBruin and his dogs have been out, traveling miles upon miles, before they even get to the start line of the 2016 Yukon Quest

"You work your way up in races from 50 miles to 100 miles to 200 miles," said the Haliburton-based musher, who operates Winterdance, a dog-sledding tourist business on Haliburton Lake. "Even then, the jump from 300 miles to 1,000 is incredibly daunting, but you get more comfortable with it the more times you run."

DeBruin began training his team of purebred Siberian Huskies for the 1,000-mile race last September, which means they'll have trained 2,000 miles by the time they leave for Alaska at the end of January. Ideally, they would have done another 500 miles and competed in a local race, but the mild winter interfered. DeBruin and his dogs train during storms, through water, in wind and at night, in an attempt to prepare for any possible race conditions.

The Winterdance team is the only Ontario team to have finished the race, which runs from Fairbanks, Alaska, to Whitehorse, Yukon beginning Feb. 6. They were one of only 13 teams of 25 to finish a particularly challenging year of the race in 2011, and placed eighth when they ran the course again in 2014.

This time around, DeBruin said he will try to eat and sleep more and stay more hydrated. He also hopes to spend less time at each checkpoint. But he's also aware that during the Yukon Quest, anything can happen.

"Everything is dog and weather dependent, so while I can make a race plan before we even leave, it could go out the window in the first day of the race if we get real mild weather or storms," he said. "It is, after all, an adventure race. You have to go with what is handed to you."

The 12-day, 1,000-mile race is one of the



File photo

Hank DeBruin and Tanya McCready with pet Maverick, one of their lead dogs.

longest in the world. DeBruin trains 24 dogs to be part of the team, eventually choosing 14 to be part of the final cut. During the race, the team tries to run more than rest, with five to seven hours of running and four to five hours of resting. Every one or two hours, the dogs eat at least a quick snack, and DeBruin sleeps on average about two hours a day. He avoids calling home to keep his mind in the race.

"You watch and think about your dogs most of the time," he said. "You see the slightest change in them, their mood or pace. Other than that, you live in the moment, only what you can see and need to deal with them."

DeBruin said focus during the course is one of the most amazing aspects of the race.

"Your mind isn't in 20 places thinking of everything you need to get done or things you are worried about," he said. "Life is truly just about the moment you are in."

DeBruin has had help organizing for the race, including the packing of what he'll need for the trip. Among the supplies include dog booties that only last about 50 miles, dog coats for minus 30 temperatures, a first aid kit, a sleeping bag, an axe and a stove to make hot meals for the dogs and melt snow for their

"The extremes are insane in every way, from the weather to the landscapes to the emotions the musher and team experience," said DeBruin. "But the magic of the race is the dogs that make it happen, and the beauty, harshness and solitude that is the north."

Winterdance Dogsled Tours will still be in operation while DeBruin is taking part in the

A fundraising campaign has been set up to help Team Winterdance cover the costs of the trip: www.gofundme.com/winterdancequest. The public can follow the progress of the team along the race at YukonQuest.com.

Snowshoeing hikes offer time with expert guides

By Sue Tiffin

Staff writer

Snowshoers who followed the trail of retired wildlife biologist Mike Buss Jan. 21 are now more able to identify and distinguish tracks of deer, squirrels and hares.

They're also aware – for better or for worse – fishers can jump from tree to tree and telling the difference between a dog and wolf track isn't always so easy.

The group of about a dozen hikers was taking part in guided snowshoe hikes being offered in Algonquin Highlands through a grant from the Ontario Sport and Recreation Communities Fund. The second hike, on Jan. 28, will be led by naturalist Sheila Ziman, and a hike on Feb. 21 showcases winter survival with recreation specialist Corina Mansfield.

Guides were chosen based on knowledge, experience and interest of subjects, and will lead small groups

of snowshoers on short trails after a discussion. The hikes cost \$5 and snowshoes are provided for those without.

"The hikes are a lot of fun," said Melissa Alfano, recreation programming supervisor for the Township of Algonquin Highlands.

"They're a great and affordable way to get out and try a new activity without breaking the bank, and a way to meet other people."

The goal is to offer quality, affordable programming to get older adults and seniors active, but on the Jan. 21 hike, the group of hikers on the trails behind the Frost Centre also included one school-age child. Hiker Pat Bradley said she was participating in the program to get the most out of this year's short snowshoeing season.

Alqonquin Highlands is a jewel with well-marked and maintained trails that are considered to be some of the most



Submitted by Melissa Alfano

Snowshoers joined Mike Buss (far left) on a trek through the trails behind the old Frost Centre on Jan. 21. Another hike takes place on Jan. 28, and on Feb. 21.

beautiful trails in the world, said Alfano. Seven stacked loops offer 11 km of snowshoeing trails across from the Trails Department office just south of Dorset.

"It's nature at its best," she said.

Spots are still open for the Feb. 21 hike from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Nordic Inn. Visit algonguinhighlands. ca for more information or call 705-766-9968 to register.



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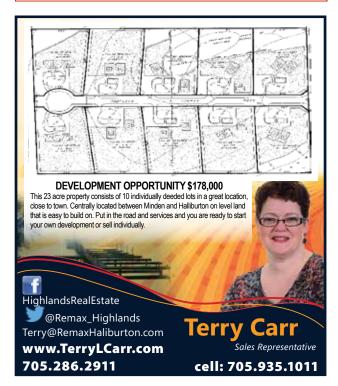
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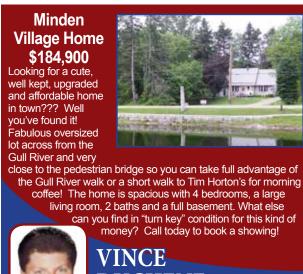


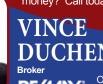






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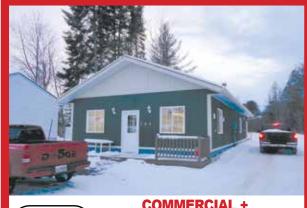
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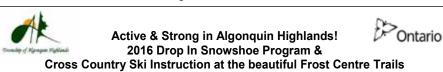




Race days at Sir Sam's

Fenninger racing won several medals during Alpine Ontario/Snowboard Ontario's SX and SBX events at Sir Sam's Ski & Bike. The races took place on Jan. 16-17, and the ski hill was filled with racers who competed in six categories.

Pictured above: Above: Team member Jaimie Figuria races down the hill before winning a bronze medal in the U-18 category. Above right: Team member David Willerding won two silver medals on the weekend. Photos submitted by the Ralph family









Drop In Snowshoe Program Tuesdays, February 2 to March 22, 2016

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10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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Call 705-766-9968, email recreation@algonquinhighlands.ca to register or visit Contact: www.algonquinhighlands.ca for more detailed information. Funding provided by the Government of Ontario.

For great cross-country skiing and snowshoeing visit the Frost Centre Ski & Snowshoe Trails. Eight stacked loops of ski trail provide access to a winter wonderland that features rugged terrain, mixed hardwood forests, majestic stands of white pine and hemlock, cliff top lookouts and frozen waterfalls. For snowshoeing there are 7 stacked loops offering 11 km of similar terrain.

The Trails are located across from the Trails Department Frost Centre Office at 20130 Hwy 35N, 12 km south of the town of Dorset. You will find 26 km of trails groomed for classic skiing and three warm-up cabins www.algonquinhighlands.ca//?cat=trails&page=snowshoe For current conditions and maps go to www.algonquinhighlands.ca//?cat=trails&page=rentals

Monday afternoon, Jan. 4

MEN: High avg: Claude Cote – 222 High single: Claude Cote – 268 High single handi: Claude Cote – 269 High triple: Ken Thompson – 624 High triple handi: Ken Thompson – 705

WOMEN: High avg: Chris Cote – 181 High single: Chris Cote – 225 High single handi: Chris Cote – 262 High triple: Chris Cote – 559 High triple handi: Gloria Taylor – 671

Monday evening, Jan. 4

MEN: High avg: Rick West – 225 High single: Gary Carter – 316 High single handi: Gary Carter – 352 High triple: Joey Cox – 851 High triple handi: Joey Cox – 917

WOMEN: High avg: Cathy Snell – 224 High single: Cathy Snell – 274 High single handi: Cathy Snell - 274 High triple: Cathy Snell – 801 нıgn triple handi: Cathy Snell – 801

Tuesday afternoon, Jan. 5

MEN: High avg: Claude Cote - 224 High single: Ken Thompson – 267 High single handi: Ken Thompson – 289 High triple: Claude Cote – 654 High triple handi: Harry Hunter – 704

WOMEN: High avg: Chris Cote – 178 High single: Chris Cote – 200 High single handi: Karen Baird – 242 High triple: Chris Cote – 577

Bowling Scores

Reece Ralph - 2 Gold medals (Sat. & Sun.)

Brandon Armstrong - 1 Gold medal (Sat.)

Jaimie Figueira - 1 Bronze medal (Sun.)

U18 CATEGORY - SKI CROSS

Open Category - Snowboard Cross

High triple handi: Chris Cote – 691

Wednesday Special Olympics, Dec. 16 **MEN:** Brent Leffering – 154 Casey Heley - 141 Ross Anderson - 141

WOMEN: Alyssa Whittaker – 129 Sarah Hudson – 125 Skylar Pratt – 116

Thursday afternoon, Jan. 7

MEN: High avg: Gerry Wagg – 195 High single: Jim Cummings – 253 High single handi: Jim Cummings – 268 High triple: Gerry Wagg – 555 High triple handi: Jim Cummings – 675

WOMEN: High avg: Barb Ballantyne – 183 High single: Barb Ballantyne – 253 High single handi: Barb Ballantyne – 287 High triple: Barb Ballantyne – 599 High triple handi: Gloria Wagg and Barb Ballantyne – 701

Friday afternoon, Jan. 8

MEN: High avg: Claude Cote – 216 High single: Claude Cote – 248 High single handi: Bob Seymour – 278 High triple: Claude Cote − 712 High triple handi: Claude Cote – 736

WOMEN: High avg: Chris Cote – 174 High single: Maureen Hudson – 217 High single handi: Maureen Hudson – 287 High triple: Ren Higgins – 539 High triple handi: Maureen Hudson – 734





Photo from Ridgebacks flickr account

Jesse Stoughton walks on to the ice during a game against the Concordia Stingers on Jan 16.

From 'wicked little skater' to Ridgeback MVP

By Alex Coop

Staff writer

Twenty years ago, Jesse Stoughton skated laps around all the other three-year-olds.

It got to the point where other teams refused to play against the Tyke Haliburton Huskies, Stoughton's first hockey team.

"I remember we were enrolled in a tournament in Bobcaygeon, and we were playing a team we were scheduled to play in that tournament, and one of the coaches came up to us and said 'if you want to come to our tournament you can't bring Jesse," said Stoughton's former Tyke head coach, Bruce Griffith. "Jesse could easily score 10 goals a game, even then."

Stoughton grew up in Gooderham and played a year of Atom hockey with the Huskies before moving on to Lindsay in 1998

"He was a wicked skater," Griffith said. "It's exciting when you see something like that."

Stoughton, 24, knew he had talent, too. After playing a year with the Port Hope Predators in 2007, he was drafted by the Ontario Hockey League's Sarnia Sting. Four years later, the 5'9 first-line centre joined the University of Ontario Institute of Technology's (UOIT) Ridgebacks, where he's an assistant captain. The Ridgebacks are a member of the Canadian Interuniversity Sports league.

"After playing in the OHL, you learn a lot from elite players," Stoughton said.

"Then you have to make the decision, go pro or go to school."

He decided to try to do both.

Stoughton is on his way to a degree in criminology and justice studies at UOIT. He's in his fifth and final year, which means he's playing his last season of hockey with the

Ridgebacks.

As of Jan. 26, the team is 14-7-1, fourth in their division. The playoff picture is bright and it will be the first time UOIT has made it that far. The Ridgebacks also set a franchise record for wins this season.

"I'm kind of killing two birds with one stone here," Stoughton said.

He has an MVP trophy and a scoring title under his belt.

New Ridgebacks coach Curtis Hodgson quickly noticed Stoughton's skating abilities and maturity off the ice when he took over three months ago.

"Jesse is not the biggest guy, but he's really tough for his size and is a really skilled player," Hodgson said.

"He's a kid that comes every day and works, and he's the type of person who might be a coach when he's a little bit older."

Stoughton isn't sure what the future will

bring, but he said he would like to continue playing hockey. If he can't, he will put his

degree to good use. Until that time comes, however, the tricky balancing act with hockey and school is his top priority.

"First year is pretty tricky, especially when you try to balance the two," he said.

Stoughton has been at the rink every day since his first year at university and has discovered hotels and buses are excellent places to study.

"You just try and find time anywhere you

When he has time to return to Haliburton County, there's no hesitation.

"There are some great people there. Any chance I get to come home I'm taking it," he

"You just get comfortable with a small town. It had a big impact on who I am today."

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The **Highlander** 3-Stars of the Week

Aaron Neave NOVICE



Stats W SO GP

It was an excellent weekend of hockey for the Novice Highland Storm. Game one of the playoffs began Saturday in Gravenhurst against the South Muskoka Bears. The high-flying Bears offence was throwing everything they could at goalie Aaron Neave, but were unable to solve him until late in the third, giving the Storm a 2-1 win. Impressively, Neave saved his best play for Sunday's game, where he took total control, thwarting every chance the Bears could muster. The Storm cruised to a 3-0 win on the strong play of Neave, who was rewarded with the shutout.

Carson Sisson BANTAM



Stats W T SO GP

The Highland Storm Bantam A team started the playoffs against the Ennismore Eagles Saturday afternoon, in Ennismore. The Storm had a bit of a slow start, allowing the Eagles the first goal, early in the first period. In a back-and-forth affair, the Storm tied the game 3-3 while on a power play. The game went into a scoreless 10-minute overtime and both teams left with a point. Game two was back in Haliburton on Sunday afternoon. It was an intense, action-packed game that the Storm won 1-0 on the back of Carson's cool demeanour and excellent play, taking the lead in the first round of playoffs. A much deserved shutout for the game's most valuable player.

Walker Nesbitt ATOM



Walker Nesbitt of the Highland Storm Atom gets one of our Star's this week for his stand-out contributions on the defensive side of the puck this season. On a team full of snipers, Nesbitt took it upon himself to hone his skills not just as a play-maker, as he contributed with multiple assists all season, but also as an effective penalty killer. A valuable asset to have on any team.

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Look for weekly game coverage, 3-Stars and league stats in the paper and at TheHighlander.ca.

Listen to Moose FM 93.5 Monday mornings for weekend game reports.





Photo by Alex Coop

The puck drops

Lucas Haedicke of the Bantam Highland Storm patiently waits for the puck to drop against the Ennismore Eagles on Jan 24.

GAME OF THE WEEK

Sunday, Jan. 31 2:00 pm at the A.J. LaRue Arena

Highland Storm Novice



VS.



South Muskoka Bears



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)

Fri. Jan. 29 in Haliburton

Juniors: 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Intermediates: 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm Seniors: 8:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Sat. Jan. 30 in Minden

Initiation 2: 9 am - 10 am Initiation 1: 10 am - 11 am Juniors: 11 am - 12 pm Intermediates: 12 pm - 1 pm

Wed. Feb. 3 in Haliburton

Initiation 1: 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Initiation 2: 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Thurs. Feb. 4 in Minden

Juniors: 7 pm – 8 pm Intermediates: 8 pm – 9 pm

Fri. Feb. 5 - Seniors NO ICE

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Bantam As tie one, win one

Submitted by Suzanne Haedicke

The Pepper Mill Highland Storm Bantam A team started the playoffs against the Ennismore Eagles Jan. 23 in Ennismore. The Storm team had a slow start, allowing the Eagles the first goal early in the first period. They came out strong in the second, but were deflated when a bouncing puck deflected in, making it 2-0. The momentum continued to build as the Storm stepped up to the Eagles, but luck wasn't on their side just yet.

During a Storm power play, the Eagles chipped the puck and scored on a breakaway. That ended the second period with the Storm down 3-0. The Storm turned things around in the third period. It began with a rush by Owen Gilbert, a pass to Zach Morissette who found the low opening. The Storm dominated while on a power play and Gilbert got a wraparound goal and then another to tie the game 3-3. Facing off in the Eagles end, Lucas Haedicke passed it to Ben Macnaull and he flicked it by the goalie. The game went into a scoreless 10-minutes of overtime and both teams left with a point.

They played game two in Haliburton Jan. 24 against the Ennismore Eagles. It was an intense, action-packed game the Storm won 1-0, taking the lead in the first round of playoffs. The Storm set things up nicely during a power play with perfect passes and positioning, halfway through the first period and got the only goal of the game. Owen Gilbert scored, assisted by Haedicke and Macnaull. Both teams offered lots of end to end action, but the periods remained scoreless and Carson Sisson earned a shutout.

Tykes win 14-0

Submitted by Janice Rickard

The Tom Prentice and Sons / RM Carpentry Highland Storm Tyke team were back on the ice Jan. 23, squaring off against Parry Sound. The Storm scored early and were relentless in their offensive pressure. Excellent skating, strategic passing and solid defensive play were all instrumental to the Storm win. Every Storm player got a goal or assist in the game and our fearless goaltender stood strong to earn another shut out for the season. Way to go Storm on another big win! The team is back in action next weekend when they travel to Parry Sound.

PeeWee As win two straight

Submitted by Trevor Maddock

The Joanne Sharpley's Source for Sports Highland Storm PeeWee A team hosted the Parry Sound Shamrocks Jan. 23 in game one of their playoff series.

The Storm had the only two goals in the opening frame – scored by offensive menace Joe Boice and the versatile Cole Prentice. They had helpers on each goal, giving Colin Glecoff and Aaron Bellefleur each a point. A team not ready to roll over, the Shamrocks kept the pace up and made the Storm earn everything they got. Dylan Keefer had the lone goal of the period, with Ty Mills earning a point on play, and Bellefleur his second of the game.

The Shamrocks had some luck when they got on the board early in the third period with a fluke goal. The puck hit a player, then another, and arched up and over the goalie to cut the lead 3-1. Later, Boice completed the hat trick and put the Shamrocks to bed in the process, making it 4-1 with Glecoff earning his second point of the game.

The following day – and second game of the series – had the Storm in the Shamrocks barn facing the premise of going up two games to nothing or going home with the series tied at one.

Balanced scoring is a key component of any teams' success and first year forward Nick Phippen displayed that by asserting himself on the forecheck, and getting the Storm on the board with Brenden Newhook and Aiden Neave getting the helpers.

The effort persisted and thus the Storm kept the puck deep in the Shamrock's zone. Newhook was the recipient this time, as Phippen returned the favour with the assist. The period ended with the visitors up 2-0. Parry Sound started to take over the game applying efficient force and pressure, causing the Storm to turn over the puck. The period concluded with the Shamrocks registering the only goal and kept it a contest cutting the lead in half. The Storm were lucky to get out of the period only giving up the one goal and not the lead. The third period started with the Shamrocks still exerting their will, as they had the Storm on their heels. Twoand-a-half minutes in the final frame, they tied it up 2-2. Three minutes later, Boice decided to take back the lead which was expunged by the same Shamrock player, who had scored two straight. Now with the game tied at three and eight minutes remaining, the Storm's captain, Alex Little, took over the game and scored three straight unassisted, coast-to-coast, unanswered goals to seal the deal and left the Shamrocks wondering what could have

Game three is this Sunday, Jan. 31 so please come out and support your local minor hockey association and PeeWee A team as they battle through some exhilarating playoff hockey.

Novice team ahead in series

Submitted by Amber Card

It was an excellent weekend of hockey for the Timber Mart Highland Storm Novice team. The first playoff game was in Gravenhurst vs. the Bracebridge Bears. It was an amazing win for the Highland Storm. Addison Carr scored the first goal in the first period and Graeme Armstrong scored a beauty goal in the second. The Bears scored in the third, however the Storm held on for a 2-1 win.

The second game saw the Storm hosting the Bears at A.J LaRue Arena. This was an awesome game, with Kadin Card getting

Storm reports

things started with a great rebound goal at the front of the net.

In the second period, Isaac Lee scored the Storm's second goal making it 2-0 going into the third. It was only 30 seconds into the third period when Kadin Card fired a wicked goal, making it 3-0 for the final score giving Aaron Neave his second shutout.

Midget As lose first game in series against Shamrocks

Submitted by Katie and Dave Howe

The Dollo's Foodland and Smolen's Dentistry Highland Storm Midget A team visited the Parry Sound Shamrocks Jan. 22 for the opening salvo in the best of five playoff series. It started out as a tentative affair, as both teams were finding their playoff legs. Haliburton's Jaydon Wood found the back of the net first on a Storm power play midway through the first on a flawless feed from Owen Patterson-Smith, who had an outstanding game. The first ended with the locals still ahead 1-0 with both teams having a few chances but neither able to sustain pressure in the offensive zone.

The second found Parry Sound taking the play more to the Storm and were able to put one past goaltender Parker Smolen a minute into the period and again with five minutes left to take a 2-1 lead into the final segment. With the "luck of the Irish" behind them, the Shamrocks came out flying and scored a quick one to take a 3-1 lead. The defensive style of the Storm proved their nemesis as they could not maintain any presence in the offensive zone and Parry Sound tallied their final marker, on the power play, with four minutes left. This seemed to energize the Storm but alas – too little too late – as Matt Manning scored in the final minute to end the game as a 4-2 loss.

Parry Sound visits Minden Jan. 29 at 9:30 p.m. and we repay the favour Jan. 30 in the birthplace of Bobby Orr.



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Haliburton Wolves

January 21

7:30 p.m. in Haliburton vs. Bracebridge Blues 5-4 LOSS

January 28

7:30 p.m. in Haliburton vs. Coldwater Falcons

January 29

8:00 p.m. in Gravenhurst vs. South Muskoka Shield

January 30

6:30 p.m. in Haliburton vs. Bobcaygeon Storm

Highlander events

Fetting Robbie Burns in true Highlander style

By Alex Coop

Staff writer

The annual salute to Robert Burns, the Scottish poet and song-writer, was hosted by the Royal Canadian Legion in Haliburton on Jan. 23.

Dozens of residents were provided with food and entertainment. Jim Milne was tasked with MC duties for the night, and encouraged everyone to get involved with the various dances.

The Haliburton Highlands Bagpipe and Drum Band celebrated its 45th anniversary, and performed several pieces for everyone in attendance.

Performances also came from the Highland Dancers and the Haliburton Highland Scottish Country Dancers.

Burns, who carried the family name Burness until the midway point of his life, was an accomplished linguist, learning French and Latin even though he was born into a poor farming family. He died at the age of 37.

His first book of poetry was published in 1786, when he had just turned 27. Burns's follow-up book, *Tom O'Shanter*, came shortly after. Other works of poetry and songs include the classical Auld Lang Syne.



Bram Locknick played for a packed legion hall on Jan. 23. Right: Guests at last weekend's Robbie Burns night celebration at the Royal Canadian Legion in Haliburton dance the night away.

Minden Community Food Centre a 'jewel'

By Jennifer Hughey

Editor

Marilynne Lesperance uses everything she is given.

Lesperance is the chairperson of the Minden Community Food Centre and was the guest speaker for the Canadian Federation of University Women's (CFUW) Haliburton Highlands chapter meeting on Jan. 21.

The event was held in the Great Hall at Fleming College's Haliburton School of the Arts.

The CFUW recruited Lesperance to discuss the food bank's role in the community and how it not only supplies food to an increasing number of families, but how they are also committed to providing education in the growing of food and in food preparation.

The new food centre is located at 24 Newcastle St. in Minden. Lesperance said during the last six months of 2015, each nine-inch pan designed to feed two people cost around \$1. Now, they are able to do that for 39 cents. It continues to grow with the needs of their community, part of one of the poorest counties in the province.

"Everyone wants to stop and talk to me about the food bank," Lesperance said.

Lesperance was introduced by the CFUW as a graduate of Windsor Business College as well as the Labour College of Canada, University of Toronto. She retired from the Canadian Auto Workers in 2005 after 30 years as a national contract negotiator, but still

lectures at the University of Toronto.

After retiring to Minden, Lesperance served on the board of the YWCA Women's Centre and served for six years on the committee of adjustment for Minden. She volunteered at Archie Stouffer Elementary School in the food program for five years and was a team leader with Victim Services Kawartha Lakes for three.

Lesperance recounted moving the food centre from a small location to an even smaller one over the years.

"I remember having to cook out of the arena," she said. "We used to have to drag everything out of my garage to the arena every single week. And then we would have to drag all the meals over to the food bank."

She said the 17 volunteers she worked with then are still with her today, but it hasn't been easy. They experienced times where they had to scrounge for pots and pans and other supplies. But they have always had sources for food, as Lesperance is known for her dedication to her clients. Sometimes, she receives phone calls late in the evening to pick up leftovers from an event and will drive wherever it was to pick them up.

"When the Masonic Lodge came along, the food bank partnered with the Arcadian Masonic Lodge to rent their building ... initially it was just going to be a food bank and a food hub," she said, adding as the foundation was old and crumbling, the idea was to build a new kitchen and dining space on top.



Photo by Jennifer Hughey

Joan Stoner, left, member of the Canadian Federation of University Women, thanks Marilynne Lesperance for speaking at their meeting on Jan. 21.

In November 2014, the food centre moved in and in June 2015 the kitchen started to come to shape.

"It's a jewel," Lesperance said. "If you ever get the opportunity to come and see it, please do. It's second to none in the county."

Lesperance ended by saying she does what she does for the community because her job for 30 years was to help people to get a better life, and she still believes strongly in giving "I think it's ingrained in me now," she said. The food centre is hosting a Stretch Your Budget Dinner at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 29. Donations are encouraged but not required. Call Joanne at 705-286-2990 to inform them you're coming.

For more information about the Minden Community Food Centre or to learn about how you can volunteer for the food bank or community kitchen, call Lesperance.

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Highlander events



Photo by Alex Coop

Country with a little flare

Artist Adam Karch, of Montreal, plays some country music for The Hair Lounge on Jan. 23.



Submitted by Michael Stinson

Sliding into place

Racers were neck and neck Jan. 23 at the Canadian Automobile Sport Clubs-Ontario Region Minden Subaru Ice Racing Championships. It was a crisp start for the event at the Minden Fairgrounds, which featured racers from all over the province. Spectators are encouraged by the Minden Kin Club to come out to this free event, every weekend this winter.



Remembering our dear brother Michael who passed away on January 31, 2011. You are forever in our hearts. All our love, Barbara & Anne

Thank You

The family of Ruth Bain would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to all those who supported us during our time of bereavement. To all those at Extendicare who helped and cared for our dear Mom and to the West Guilford Community Centre for the lovely lunch that was served. We feel so blessed to live in such a caring community. God Bless you all.



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is looking for trainers to teach 3 – 15 days each (amount of time negotiable) between March and June on various aspects of upcycling furniture.

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The detailed job description is available online at www.haliburtoncounty.ca.

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We thank you for your application, but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal opportunity employer. In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.

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OBITUARIES



appreciated by the family.

In Loving Memory of

Christopher "Chris" John Hill

Passed away suddenly at the Ross Memorial Hospital, Lindsay on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at the age of 64.

Beloved son of Shirley and the late Jack Hill (2005). Loving brother of Peter (Darlene) of Belleville, Alison of Minden. Dear uncle of Alannah and J.D., nephew of Mildred Hill. Fondly remembered by his cousins Pat Thomson, Jon Hill, Kathy Sweeney (Hill), Steve Hill, Scott Harrison, Terry Harrison, Sean

Harrison, Francis Mens, Neil Mens, Lawrence Mens and Fred Mens. Fondly remembered by his 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, January 25, 2016 from 11:00 am until the time of the Service to Celebrate Chris' Life at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow in the Monk-Cray Family Centre at the funeral home. Cremation to follow. Memorial Donations to the Lochlin United Church would be



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory of

Henriette "Henny" van Essen (nee de Blaauw)

Passed away peacefully at the Hyland Crest Long Term Care Facility in Minden, on Saturday, January 23, 2016, in her 90th year.

Beloved spouse of Herb Turner of 45 years. Dear mother of Henriette "Hetty" Gruener and her husband Gunter, Winfriede "Winny" Walsh, Eleonore "Elly

Vettese and her husband Tony, and William "Bill". Loving Oma to Monica, John, Paul and his spouse Daria, Michael and his wife Jasmine, and Angie and her spouse Holly. Proud Great Grandmother to William, Vanessa, Jesica, Xavier, Theodore, and Lucas; and Great-Great Grandmother to Bentley. Survived by her sisters Annie "Ies" Bresser and Catherine "Rinie" Hoppe, and brother Hendrik "Henk". Lovingly remembered by her extended family and friends.

A very special THANK YOU to the Doctors and Nurses of Haliburton Highlands Health Services and to the staff and volunteers at Hyland Crest Long Term Care Facility.

As an expression of sympathy, memorial donations made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be greatly appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0.



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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.

ST GEORGES ANGLICAN CHURCH invites you to a PANCAKE SUPPER at the Legion in Haliburton on Tuesday, February 9, 5:00pm - 7:00pm. There will be no charge and gluten free pancakes will be available. Proceeds from any donations will go to local community outreach or The Haliburton Refugee Sponsorship. All are welcome!

EVENTS

CANCER SUPPORT 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.

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

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.

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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EVENTS

MAPLE LAKE UNITED CHURCH Musical evening. Saturday, February 13, 2016 7:30 pm. Refreshments provided. Interested in performing? Call Kathleen 705-754-3558.

HALIBURTON HOSPITAL AUXILARY meeting February 4, 1:00pm. Ruth Parkes room Haliburton Hospital Lower floor. We will be discussing 'next steps' for 2016. Fundraising activities, membership drive. For more info contact Tracey Lear tdlear@sympatico.ca

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HIGHLANDS FESTIVAL SINGERS – rehearsals have begun – Call Beth 705-457-4916 - New members are always welcome.

HALIBURTON DRAGON BOAT CLUB information open house. Feb. 7 1:30 pm, Fish Hatchery 6712 Gelert Rd., Haliburton. The Haliburton Highlands Paddlers, are recruiting new members, men and women, from 14 to 80 plus No experience necessary, paddles are provided. For more information, including cost, call Joannie Ransberry at 705-754-1194

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

18 20 28 34 26 27 33 35 37 38 42 43 50 52 56 63 64 66 67 68 69 70

ACROSS

- 1. Sail supports
- 6. Significant times
- 10. Send forth
- 14. D-Day beach
- 15. Frolic
- 16. Aromatic spice
- 17. Go downhill
- 19. Brainstorm
- 20. Glossy paint
- 21. Bureaus
- 23. A Great Lake
- 25. Citrus drinks
- 26. Joan of
- 29. Chore
- 31. Risked
- 35. Actor Gibson
- 36. Faction
- 37. Perfume
- 38. Separate

40. Fiery

- 42. Heavyweight Mike
- 43. More angry
- 44. Craze
- 46. List abbr.
- 47. Like old bread
- 48. Peddle
- 49. Observe
- 50. James ____ Jones
- 52. For fear that
- 55. Talking pet
- 59. Military command (2 wds.)
- 63. Top pilots
- 64. Ritual
- 66. Biblical "you"
- 67. Profess
- 68. Hazard
- 69. Clasped
- 70. ____ Sampras of tennis
- 71. Fashion

DOWN

- 1. Method
- 2. Church word
- 3. Heroic narrative
- 4. Motif
- 5. More sensible
- 6. Do the wrong thing
- 7. Address word
- 8. US rail service
- 9. Velocity 10. Ambassador
- 11. Produced
- 12. Bakery worker
- 13. English beverages
- 18. Upper class
- 22. Calm
- 24. Apiece
- 26. Pile up
- 27. Plant again
- 28. Heidi's cousin
- 30. Supermarket
- 32. Fragrant flowers
- 33. Ham it up
- 34. Waltz, e.g.
- 36. Winning
- 39. Set free
- 41. High
- 45. Shine
- 48. Garment part
- 51. Brief review
- 53. Quits
- 54. Doctrine
- 55. Trail
- 56. Soreness
- 57. Rod's partner
- 58. Horse's gait
- 60. Breezy
- 61. Go by ship
- 62. She, in Toulouse
- 65. Sheep mom

What's on

RADIO CANOE FM BINGO

EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT AT 6PM



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

You can buy your bingo



S.G. NESBITT MEMORIAL ARENA, MINDEN

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

\$3 PER SESSION **Running Shoes Required Any Age Welcome!**

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JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2016 EVENTS

SNOWSHOEING - 10:00am - 11:00am - Guided walk - Haliburton Museum - snowshoes available - everyone welcome

TAOIST TAI CHI - Haliburton United Church - 10:00am - 12:00pm -THURS 28 Call 705-457-5829

> **SQUASH HOUSE LEAGUE** - 7:30pm Highlands Squash Club – beside A.J. LaRue Arena – all welcome info@mysquash.ca

FRI 29 PICKLE BALL – Dorset Rec Centre – 9:00am – 12:00pm

LIBRARY - Dorset Rec Centre - 10:00am - 12:00pm **SAT 30**

FLYING - Dorset Rec Centre - 10:00am - 12:00pm

FREE PUBLIC SKATING - Keith Tallman Arena - 12:30pm - 2pm **SUN 31**

PUBLIC SKATING – A.J. LaRue Arena – 11:00am – 12:30pm - \$2

TAI CHI - Dorset Rec Centre - 10:30am - 12:00pm

PICKLE BALL – Lloyd Watson Centre – 3:30pm – 6:00pm **FEBRUARY**

TAOIST TAI CHI - Galway Community Centre Kinmount - 10:00am -12:00pm - Call 705-457-5829

PICKLE BALL - Dorset Rec Centre - 6:45pm - 8:45pm

LIBRARY - Dorset Rec Centre - 10:00am - 12:00pm

TAOIST TAI CHI - Zion United Church Carnarvon - 10:00am -**FEBRUARY**

12:00pm Call 705-457-5829 **TUES 2**

> SQUASH HOUSE LEAGUE - 7:30pm Highlands Squash Club beside A.J. LaRue Arena – all welcome info@mysguash.ca

BINGO – Harcourt Community Centre – 7:30pm – 9:30pm

WALKING WEDNESDAYS - 9:30am - 11:00am - Rails End Gallery -

FEBRUARY Everyone Welcome

MON 1

WED 3 LIBRARY - Dorset Rec Centre - 2:00pm - 6:00pm

TAOIST TAI CHI – Lloyd Watson Centre Wilberforce – 2:00pm –

4:00pm Call 705-457-5829

HALIBURTON HOSPITAL AUXILIARY MEETING - 1:00pm - Ruth Parkes room Haliburton Hospital Lower floor contact Tracey Lear

tdlear@sympatico.ca

FEBRUARY YOGA TRY IT FOR FREE! 6:30pm – 8:00pm - Kinmount Community **THURS 4** Centre. Please bring your own yoga mat if you have one. Contact Lori

SNOWSHOEING – 10:00am – 11:00am – Guided walk – Haliburton Museum – snowshoes available – everyone welcome

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

HALIBURTON BRANCH

General meeting, 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Ladies Auxiliary, last Thursday, 1 p.m. Meat draw, Fridays, 4:30-6:30 p.m. \$2/ draw, five draws/five prizes, Chester Howse, MC

Cribbage, Friday, 1 p.m. Friday fun darts, 4:30 p.m. 50/50 draw. Saturday. 4 p.m. Breakfast, 2nd and 4th Sunday, 9:30-1 p.m., \$6/person. Occasional volunteers

Bridge, Monday 1 p.m. Dart Night League, Tuesday, 7 p.m. Bid Euchre, Wednesday, 1 p.m. Bingo, Wednesday, doors 6 p.m., \$500 jackpot, \$1,000 jackpot last Wednesday

Live entertainment featuring The Country Hot Flashes, Saturday, Jan. 30 from 4-7 p.m. in the Club Room. Enjoy homemade chili for only \$6 prepared by

the Ladies Auxiliary. \$5 cover charge for

MINDEN BRANCH

Ladies Darts, Wednesday, 1-4 p.m. Euchre, Thursday, 7 p.m. Fish/Wings & Chips, Friday, 12-2 p.m. and 5-7 p.m. Mixed darts, Friday 7:30 p.m.

Big Euchre, first Sunday of the month (except holidays), noon, \$12 Sports Fan Day, Sunday, 12-5p.m. Lunch menu, Monday - Friday, 12-2 p.m. Liver lover's special, Tuesday 12-2 p.m. (full menu also)

. Meat Draws, Wednesday lunch time. Thursday take-out meals, pick-up after 6 p.m. Call between 2-6 p.m. for menu and to place your order

Monthly restaurant certificate draw date, Friday, Jan. 29 Initiation Day, open to the public with a

light lunch to follow, February 6, 1:00 p.m. Highlands Trio, February 6, 4-7 p.m. No cover charge, donation for band, Food will be available

WILBERFORCE BRANCH

Community Care 55+ Lunch, 12:00 p.m., Friday (Please call Gwen Otto to reserve, 705-448-2106) Pool, 1:30 p.m., Friday

Jam session, 7:30 p.m., Friday Meat Draw, Saturday, 2 p.m. Early Bird 3 p.m. sharp

Bid Euchre, Monday, 7 p.m. Fun Darts, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Robbie Burns Dinner, Saturday, Jan. 23, refreshments 6 p.m., dinner 6:30 p.m. \$15.00/person, tickets available at the bar - Entertainment following dinner. Pat & Phyllis Gallen Ice Fishing Derby, Saturday, Jan. 30, weigh in 3-6 p.m. at

JAN 14 ANSWERS

of the month

(Jan 21 answers were printed on Jan 21)

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What's on





Photos submitted by Teggan Legge

Haliburton Forest has 150 Siberian Huskies to offer for dog sledding, along with 300 km of groomed trails ready for Fun Race Day.

Prepping for the World Championships

By Jennifer Hughey

Editor

Haliburton Forest and Wild Life Reserve is gearing up for a major event in 2017.

It has organized a free dogsled and skijor race on Jan. 31 dubbed Fun Race Day, in preparation for the International Federation of Sleddog Sports World Championships in 2017 at the Forest early next year.

The preview event is an opportunity to engage racers – at all competitive levels – to come out and test the trails.

Tegan Legge, Haliburton Forest's office manager, has been working on the coordination for Fun Race Day and the World Championships. The Jan. 31 event is largely intended as an operational test for the Forest and to allow a sneak peek of what dogsledders and skijorers (cross-country skiing combined with dogsledding) can expect next January, said Legge.

"We put the bid in, we got it and then we went 'okay, we've never ran a race like this at the Forest.' We're familiar with events, we're familiar with dogsledding. Now, we are combining those two things together."

The World Championships are held every two years around the world and Legge said Haliburton Forest was up against a few other locations, but according to local racer Karen Koehler it was Canada's turn to host.

"It's a beautiful site that can host all of the events in one venue," said Koehler, a teacher at Archie Stouffer Elementary School in Minden. Koehler first approached the Forest to host a fun race to create some hype, adding it's the only site that can host all of the races in one spot. Other cities had two and three venues.

Koehler is an experienced and accomplished skijoring racer.

She represented Canada at the International Federation of Sleddog Sports (IFSS) World Championships in North Pole, Alaska in 2013 and at the Black Forest in Germany in 2015.

The Fun Race is a one-day event, whereas the World Championships are nine days. Legge said she and Haliburton Forest manager Peter Schleifenbaum see Jan. 31 as way to get a feel for the bigger event a year from now.

"It's kind of a practice for the world's, but also allowing those competitors that can make it here to check out our trails, to know what they might be in store for next year," she said.

The Fun Race is designed to cater to all levels of racer, from intermediate to expert to world class so even the Canadian Olympic dogsledding and skijoring team could come to get onto the trails ahead of time.

There are three races scheduled this weekend. A mid-distance class dogsled race (39.5 km) using eight or six dogs that could take competitors between two and five hours to complete, a one or two dog skijor race (10.7 km), and a one and two dog skijor followed directly by a six dog sled (13.8 km).

Legge anticipates at least 40 racers will take part, but depending on weather could double to 80.

Early registration for Fun Race Day is Jan. 30 from 2 - 5 p.m. The event starts at 7:45 a.m. on Jan. 31 and wraps up just after 4:30 p.m. The race is free to enter upon signing a waver and is all for fun.

Spectators are more than welcome and Koehler says the best spot to watch is from the starting line.

For information email Legge in advance at tlegge@haliburtonforest.com.





Lisa Kerr, Board Member

Volunteer Dental Outreach for Haliburton County

My Town: **Minden** My Paper: **The Highlander**

'The ad we placed in the Highlander has helped us recruit a new dentist to volunteer at the Volunteer Dental Outreach.
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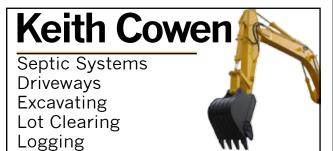
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1,920 square foot, 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom home on 2.1 acres in a private setting on a year round road 15 minutes from Haliburton and 5 minutes from Eagle Lake.

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AIRPORT HANGAR



44' X 72' zero maintenance building with second floor kitchen, 2 offices and a 4 piece bathroom. Year round access, municipally maintained road, new septic, 200 amp. service, high speed internet and much more.

KASHAGAWIGAMOG LAKE



Spacious 5 bedroom, 4 bathroom home, a detached 26' X 12' garage with an in-law suite above it and deeded access to a sandy beach with south west exposure

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Your own private getaway! This nature lovers 'off the grid' retreat is located on a totally private, absolutely pristine lake that has never had a gas powered motor on it. This package has 2 waterfront cottages - and - a hunt camp, chalet style cottage, a barn and a workshop/woodshed off the water, all conveniently located 20 minutes from Haliburton. Great swimming, hunting and fishing (rainbow and brook trout). Don't miss out on this rare opportunity to purchase a property that has been in the same family for over 50 years.

MINDEN HOME



2 bedroom, 2 bathroom home with a detached garage, nice gardens and 30' of private frontage on Beaver Creek (which flows into Gull River and from there to Gull Lake) within walking distance of downtown Minden

HIGHWAY 118

3 bedroom, 2 bathroom family home on 10 acres of land. Really private location, large 24' X 30' garage (workshop), recently finished basement, and easy

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



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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