

HOME OF THE HIGHLAND STORM

TheHighlander

Thursday December 22 2016 | Issue 268

INSIDE: 2016/2017 REAL ESTATE REPORT

HOLIDAY ISSUE - NEXT EDITION, JAN. 5, 2017

FREE



Spencer Bevan, 4, of Haliburton, poses for a picture with Santa after asking for snowshoes for Christmas. St. Nick paid a visit to Haliburton Foodland last Saturday. Photo by Mark Arike.

Winter gives businesses a boost

By Mark Arike

Wednesday was the first official day of winter, but the season felt like it was already here a couple of weeks ago following heavy snowfall and temperatures in the negative double digits.

And many local business owners are thrilled with the change in seasons.

Sir Sam's Ski & Bike in Eagle Lake was able to open three of its 14 runs on the weekend of Dec. 10.

"It was great," said Chris Bishop,

manager and co-owner. "It was probably the best in about five years."

Close to 500 people hit the slopes over two days.

The conditions have been ideal for snowmaking. Staff were able to finish before Christmas, which only happens every five years, said Bishop.

All runs should be open by Monday. There has been a "drastic" increase in sales at Algonquin Outfitters on Haliburton's Highland Street because of the weather, according to regional

manager Chris Varga.

"We're doing well," said Varga.
Sales are up from where they were the same time last year.

"Because it was such a banner summer, we were able to start this season with a cushion," he said.

Though "everything winter" is in demand, the store has made some unusual sales, such as whitewater kayaking lessons. Varga believes this is because customers are looking for unique Christmas gifts.

The store sells a variety of outdoor gear for all seasons. Two of the company's 12 stores are in the county, with the other location in Minden. That store is closed during the winter months.

For Clay Glecoff, manager of V&S Department Store in Haliburton, winter has its ups and downs.

"When we get snow, there is a fine line between enough and too much," said Glecoff.

Customers tend to stay indoors during

See 'Winter' on page 2



HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS!

May the true spirit of Christmas reside in your heart, and may glad tidings follow wherever you go this holiday season. Thank you for visiting us this year.



SUNDAY Merry

Christmas!

Closed, we need a day off too.

Highlander news

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44.8						

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
CLOSED!	Spicy chorizo mac & cheese \$10.95	Craig's famous hamburgers! with fries or salad \$11.95	Meatloaf with green peppercorn sauce. Served with fries or salad \$11.95	Shepherds pie! \$11.95	Eggs Benny Served till noon - closed at 4pm 7	Eggs Benny Served till noon - closed at 4pm 8

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Winter comes with ups and downs

Continued from page 1

heavy snowfall and then they are busy shovelling out.

"You lose a day because people won't come out ..." he said.

Winter triggers spending, not just because of Christmas but because people need to stock up on boots, mitts and gloves, said Glecoff.

Just a few doors down, Transat Travel is experiencing its best winter yet.

"We've never been busier," said branch manager Linda Coneybeare.

It was as if the snow reminded travellers now is the time to book, she said.

"That polar vortex will have us working overtime."

In the month of November, the travel

agency doubled its sales over last year.

Most trips are being booked for the winter, but they are also finding clients deals for the new year and 2018.

The county's tourism director, Amanda Virtanen, expects the phone will start ringing with inquiries from visitors. A solid winter season is important for tourism in the Highlands.

"If we can have temps to keep the snow on the ground and lots and lots of snow – we will have a great season," said Virtanen.

With a fairly mild winter last year and a lack of snow, she admits it wasn't good for winter-focused operators.

Environment Canada's forecast is calling for a chance of flurries on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

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Amy and Clay Glecoff, store managers of V&S Department Store in Haliburton, show off some of their winter products. Photo by Mark Arike.



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Laura Fideau, back, and her son Isaiah Donaldson, sit by the Taylor Donaldson Cozy Corner Memorial. *Photo by Alex Coop*.

Cowabunga for Christmas Library revamp includes memorial

By Alex Coop

Taylor Donaldson loved the Ninja Turtles, and he loved to read.

Anyone entering the revamped library at Wilberforce Elementary School will immediately notice a colourful corner dedicated to Donaldson and the items he was most passionate about.

Donaldson's mother, Laura Fideau, couldn't hold back tears as she performed the official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Taylor Donaldson Cozy Corner Memorial Dec. 16.

"Thank you everyone for coming, Taylor would have loved this," Fideau told everyone who gathered at the unveiling. "Everyone here is helping keep his memory alive ... thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts."

Donaldson was a Grade 6 student at Wilberforce Elementary when he died April 19, 2015 in a car accident on Loop Road in Highlands East, just outside of Wilberforce.

Taylor's father, Ken Donaldson, was driving the car. His younger son, nine-year-old Isaiah, was also in the vehicle. Both Ken and Isaiah were transported to hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

Isaiah, who donated a number of books to the school's library during its renovation process, was present at the memorial's opening.

"This is very cool," he said.

In addition to Taylor's memorial, the library, which is located in a portable beside the school, received new floor tiles and book shelves.

"I think it's suffice to say, it [the library] wasn't exactly the most inviting space," said the school's principal Elaine Fournier.

A plaque next to the memorial reads, "This cozy corner is dedicated to Taylor Donaldson. Cowabunga Dude!"





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Editorial opinion

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The Highlander's **Mission**

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.

The time to act is now

The fact the only life-saving shelter for women and children in our county was closed for five months seems to have gone largely under the radar locally.

It wasn't until a planned presentation to Minden Hills council appeared on an agenda that it was discovered that YWCA Haliburton Emergency rural SafeSpace (HERS) in Minden was forced to close its doors between November 2015 and March 2016 due to a lack of funding.

The YWCA Peterborough-Haliburton didn't actually make its presentation as its Peterborough-based spokeswoman couldn't make it to Minden because of bad weather.

She is scheduled to return in January and said she will visit the County of Haliburton and the other municipalities — asking for \$5,000 from Minden Hills, and, presumably the same from the other governments.

Reeve Brent Devolin told us the closure was news to him. The YWCA said it didn't announce the closure publicly because it didn't want people to get the wrong impression that all of their services were closed in Haliburton. They didn't want to stop women from reaching out.

Regardless, now that it is known, immediate action must be taken.

The YWCA needs \$120,000 to continue operating over the next two years while it meets with partners to come up with a longterm sustainability plan. So far, they have \$88,636. That leaves a shortfall of \$31,364.

If the county and the four lower-tier municipalities were to kick in \$5,000 each it leaves just a little over \$6,000, which we would hope the community would kick in.

We know the municipalities don't like setting spending precedents. The province of Ontario should be doing more to fully fund shelters for abused women and children. Last year, the government only funded 62 per cent of the Y's work. The fact it doesn't give 100 per cent is shameful.

But municipal support doesn't have to be a perpetual payment, just a one-time emergency donation. Minden Hills has in its draft budget plenty of \$5,000 items, things such as ball diamond backstop replacements, new toilet blocks, upgrades of boat ramps and internal telephone system improvements.

Sure, these are important, but what about women fleeing violence in the home? Aren't they more important? This is the only violence against women service in Haliburton County. Sadly, last year was their busiest.

They provided support and life-saving resources to 149 women in Haliburton County – whatever these women needed to break free from the abuse they were living with at home.

Trying to get a handle on what they do isn't easy. Women are protected by confidentiality. But we do know that a counsellor once spent 18 consecutive



By Lisa Gervais

hours travelling with a client, counselling while driving white-knuckled through a bad snowstorm. One counsellor drove 382 kilometers to meet a client. YWCA Outreach counsellors had 671 sessions with women outside of their offices last year.

We can say with certainty that a woman has probably been abused in Haliburton County in the time that it has taken you to read this.

The fact the shelter was closed for five months is unacceptable.

County council, Minden Hills, Algonquin Highlands, Dysart et al and Highlands East need to donate \$5,000 each in emergency funds as soon as possible.

In turn, the YWCA will have a cushion to now seriously come up with a long-term sustainability plan – in talks with county partners – in hopes they do not have to return to councils cap-in-hand in future.

And the province needs to fund more than 62 per cent of local YWCA needs.

A year-round need

There are many ways the Christmas spirit can touch you at this time of year. I encountered it last week at the Minden Hills Community Centre when the hall was awash in food, toys and clothing gathered by the Minden Food Bank for distribution to the needy.

The room was a whirl of busy elves shifting, sorting and filling the 186 boxes lined up on tables. Each box was marked with an identity number and the size of the recipient family, from singles up to families of nine. Hard-working volunteers, pushing carts laden with canned goods, breakfast cereal, pasta or other foodstuffs, scooted up and down the rows lovingly placing items in the boxes in the hope that someone's Christmas season would be a little more happy and secure with the additional food in the house.

In another section, toys, sorted by age and gender, were laid out on tables for parents to select, ensuring that every youngster will open a surprise or two Christmas morning.

A group of students from nearby Archie Stouffer Elementary School joined the volunteers helping with the sorting and bagging and distributing of vegetables: bags of carrots and potatoes, a cabbage, a box of mandarin oranges, onions and more ... all in a heavy duty grocery bag lined up neatly with the boxes ready for distribution. But the much-anticipated deliveries could not take place before the addition of the last items: a frozen turkey, ham and a dessert completed the package.

Then, Friday afternoon, just ahead of a snowstorm bearing down on the Highlands, volunteer drivers fanned out though the area delivering Christmas hampers filled with food and treats for the Christmas season. It was heartening to witness this generous community act unfold. Much of the food had been donated or purchased at a deep discount from local retailers. All of those helping, up to 150 over the three days, were volunteers. It was an act of giving and sharing in the true spirit of the Christmas

However, despite the warm glow, I of so much? Why haven't we solved this problem yet? I'm not sure what the answer is, but perhaps there is no solution and the

needy will always be with us. History tells us there have always been those with less and a place for Samaritans to reach out and help.



The need does not disappear with the arrival of a Christmas hamper stuffed with good food. It continues year-round. Marilynne Lesperance, the chair of the Minden Food Bank, noted that cash donations fell short of the target this season, by \$45,000. While food donations are appreciated, cash allows the food bank to meet emergency needs or quickly fill gaps in its inventory.

So, even though the Christmas season will soon be a fading memory, I hope people will keep the food banks in Minden, Haliburton, Wilberforce and Cardiff and the needs of their clients in mind as we move into the new year. The Christmas season may only last a few short weeks, but for some in our community, hunger is a daily

couldn't help but think, as I looked over the sea of 186 overflowing boxes and bags, how can there be so much need in a land

OFFICE HOURS



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Editorial opinion

Stories from Stuart Baker Elementary School

Editor's note: Stuart Baker Elementary School sent us a package of stories, Christmas wish lists and pictures for Christmas. We are printing a few of them today.

Rudolph - By Ivy

Once upon a time there was a little reindeer named Rudolph. Rudolph had a glowing red nose.

All of the reindeer were mean to him. Rudolph was a cute little guy. Rudolph's dream was to fly with the other reindeer. Rudolph finally got up his courage and he talked to Santa. But all Santa said was don't mind them. Rudolph was told to ignore all the other reindeer. Rudolph practiced every day until he learned how to fly. All of the reindeer adored Rudolph and he got to be the head of the sleigh. On Christmas Rudolph's nose was not bright enough and Santa said there was not enough time to get to Haliburton. Rudolph had an idea. He was going to make his nose brighter by putting a red lightbulb on his nose. That way he could still see in the fog and take Santa to Haliburton to give presents to all the children at Stuart Baker School.

Rudolph - By Hudson

Once upon a time there was a reindeer named Rudolph.

He was not like the other reindeer because he had a red nose. When it was Christmas, Rudolph was lost in the storm because it

was so windy he couldn't see where he was going. Santa could not find Rudolph. Santa looked everywhere, even inside the house. Then Rudolph remembered he had a bright, red nose. Rudolph used his red nose so he could find his way back. Then Rudolph could see Santa and Santa could see Rudolph. When it was time to go bring presents to grown-ups, children and teenagers around the world Christmas Santa used his sleigh and Rudolph's nose so they could see where they were going. When they were done the reindeer all had a snack of candy canes, water and carrots.

A wish list to Santa

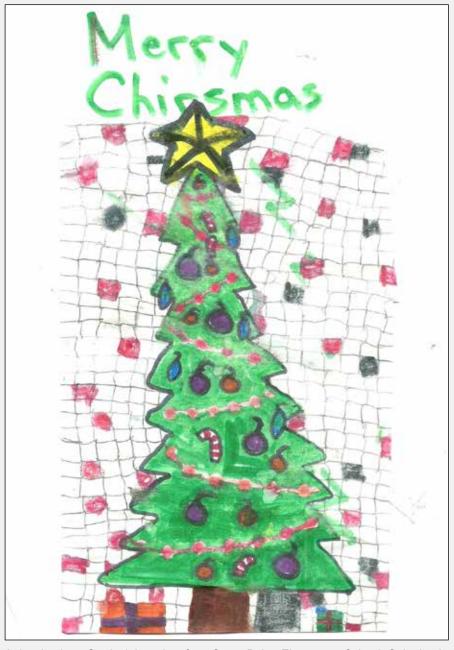
Dear Santa Claus,

My wish list (Eric)

- lego for me
- lego scooby doo a big one for me
- goalie stick for me
- pokemon for me
- hockey nets for me
- Dog house for Sammy
- tokens for me and my brother
- A black Cat for me.

Send your letters to editor@thehighlander.ca (Word Count: 300 max)

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



A drawing by a Grade 1-3 student from Stuart Baker Elementary School. Submitted.

Shovelling roofs lessons one, two and three

As the sweat poured off of me and my legs buckled for the fifth time, I caught my breath and thought 'what have I done? I can't carry on like this, I'll have a heart attack and they'll not find me until the snow melts in spring!'

And the trouble was I hadn't even started. Leaning on my snow shovel to regain my composure, I was only half way in, walking through almost thigh deep snow drifts to get to the cottages that I had been charged with looking after this winter. The track, plowed only for the first 50 yards, was uphill and virtually impassable to anything other than the fleetest of footed rabbit or critters with wings. And yet there I was struggling up it, just to go shovel snow off cottage roofs! I was learning the science of snow shovelling the hard way and this was the result of not heeding lesson one: that being, always ensure the road to your destination is plowed regularly.

I had thought of this but not until too late, the previous afternoon in fact, when after getting my boss' plow mired deep in the snow, I realized that even the light fluffy stuff is a bugger to move when there's three feet of it blown across your path. After an hour of, yes you guessed it, shovelling, I dug the truck out and went home exhausted.

Today, I was back and I was to learn my second and third lessons, that was if I didn't collapse of exhaustion before even reaching the roofs.

Once there, I saw the cottages, each topped with a giant white poof of snow that looked like the mass of foam that erupts from the glass when you pour a beer into it too quickly.

'Ah, beer,' I thought, momentarily transported to a better place.

Reality hit back as I clambered up onto the roof and struggled to the ridge. Now, my employer had impressed upon me not

to shovel the roofs too frequently and I had heeded his word, probably too well. Lesson two, it seemed, was to be working out just how often is frequent enough; not too much and not too little. The light, soft snow should have been easy to move but three feet of it on the windward side of the roof had packed into a solid mass and each scoopful felt like trying to push an unwilling elephant up a laundry shoot.

The second roof was not quite as large in area as the first but it had the added fun factor of being steel, rather than shingles. Here, I learned my third lesson very quickly. Too quickly in fact, as I slid, with my scoop load of snow towards the edge of the roof. Stopping just short of the pillowlike pile of snow beneath me, I once again caught my breath, this time lying spread eagled at the roof's edge.

"Don't shovel to the tin," I groaned out loud as I stood up and brushed myself

The Outsider

In truth, I should

given this pearl of

as my method of schooling.

down.



By Will Jones

wisdom previously but, I was never one of the quickest learners, often choosing 'I told you so experiences' over carefully heeded advice

Wearily, I teetered across the slippery green ridges of the steel roof until I reached the snowy safety of the un-cleared roof. "If ever there was a Catch 22," I said to the forest that surrounded me. "Clear the roof and you fall off, don't clear and it collapses in with you on it ... bugger."

Tentatively, I set about scooping off the top two feet of snow to leave a good six inches to walk on. Lessons one, two and three learned the hard way, I guess. Just two more roofs to shovel and undoubtedly a whole lot more schooling to go.

Highlander opinions

Eye on the street: If you could have anything for Christmas, what would it be?



Alyssa Stiver

Grade 12

A Tassimo machine.



Brittany Bull

Grade 12

More time with my family.



Maggie Broersma

Algonquin Highlands Just time with my grandkids.



Robbie Hall

Grade 12

A keyboard or guitar.



Rowan Tofflemire

Grade 12

A unicorn.

Photos and interviews by Mark Arike

Garbutt gets contract extension in HE

With no increases in the new year, Highlands East has extended its annual garbage contract with J. Garbutt Enterprises for \$38,000 before

Council approved the contract, which includes service in Cardiff, Bicroft Heights and two homes on Highway 118, at a recent meeting.

"We did not go out to tender this year because there was no increase," said environmental supervisor Glen Covert.

When issuing the tender last year, it included an optional second year. Covert said he contacted the company and confirmed the cost would remain the same.

In addition, the company will take recycling to the Monmouth landfill at no extra cost once compacters are there, he said.

The monthly cost for garbage pickup, recycling and compaction is almost \$3,200.

The agreement is in effect Jan. 1.

The company introduced a one per cent increase to the municipality in 2014, but the price has remained the same since then. (Mark Arike).

Minden hospital wants high speed Internet

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) wrote council, concerned the Minden A group of volunteers representing several hospital site is not part of the Eastern Ontario Regional Network's (EORN) high speed Internet plan.

"We would like to correct this situation by being included as a primary participant," HHHS board of directors chairman, David Bonham, said.

"The need for high speed internet service in the era of E-Health is intuitively obvious for things like timely patient information exchange, Telemedicine, and on-line physician to physician consultation. Less obvious, but exceedingly important is staff training and education. There are a growing number of excellent on-line courses available from organizations such as Ontario Hospital Association (OHA). At the current connection speeds, these courses are impractical. HHHS staff must have the best training possible to maintain a quality service and yet we don't have the resources to send staff away for courses. The best alternative is to bring the courses to our staff. "

The letter said any support the township can provide HHHS would be repaid many times over with a better health care system.

Reeve Brent Devolin said if the hospital had been within 200 metres of Bobcaygeon Road, where fibre is being laid by Bell to reach municipal buildings, it could have been connected. However, it is further. Consequently, the hospital would have to pay the total capital costs. But he said lower cost options should come forward in 2017. "We'll have a solution in 2017 for this."

Haliburton Highlands Help Directory

church communities and various organizations known as the Working Together Group have produced the Haliburton Highlands Help Directory.

Minden Hills council financially supported

the project. It contains contacts for clothing and household items, employment services, food, furniture, government, health, housing, legal services, public libraries, safety, service clubs and community organizations, councils, service providers, special needs, spiritual - churches and venues, transportation and warmth.

Spokesman Jim Fox attended the Dec. 8 meeting to thank council for its financial backing. He said KPMG office managing partner, Oscar Poloni, had also donated some money. They were able to produce 1,000 copies. There is also an online edition for easy editing purposes.

"We're looking at this as a working document," Fox said.

Details of distribution are still to be determined.

Live streaming too expensive for Minden

Minden Hills council has shelved the idea of livestreaming videos, at least for now.

In a report to the Dec. 8 council meeting, environmental and property operations manager Ivan Ingram said staff visited the Bracebridge council chambers in the summer to look at their set-up.

He said they have audio, video, overhead projectors, camera and screens, with the deputy clerk running the system from her

He said one problem with Minden Hills council is it can't be set up all the time since it is also used a courthouse.

He said the cost of equipment and upgrades has been \$143,000. Further, they use an off-site firm to manage the operation at an

County in brief

additional cost of \$6000 to \$7,500 per year. He noted that staff had allocated \$30,000 toward live streaming in the 2016 budget.

"It's a lot of money and we have a lot of needs," Reeve Brent Devolin said. He said the timing was not right but the idea may come back in future.

Minden Hills applies for Celebrate Canada Grant

Minden Hills council is crossing its fingers in hopes of getting a 2017 Celebrate Canada Grant for an expanded Canada Day and Canada 150 activities.

The township has applied for just over \$9000.

Director of community services, Mark Coleman said in a report to council that "with it being Canada's 150th anniversary, we are planning on a few new attractions, including an historic interpreter dressed in voyageur costume, a canoe paddle maker, a 150km family marathon, a Canada Day photo and art challenge: What makes Canada a special place to live?, a dance performance from our local dance academy, historic displays at our Cultural Centre based on the last 150 years in Minden, as well as living history tours showcasing how people would have lived in the past."

The department has also applied for \$5,000 from the Ontario 150 Events program to stage an outdoor concert on Canada Day at the fairgrounds, leading up to the fireworks.

Coleman will be bringing his request for council's share to 2017 budget talks. (Minden Hills briefs by Lisa Gervais)



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YWCA seeking municipal support in new year

By Lisa Gervais

Minden Hills Reeve and County Warden, Brent Devolin, said he didn't know the YWCA Peterborough Haliburton was having money trouble that forced it to close its women and children's shelter in Minden for five months over 2015-2016.

"Until this was raised, it had not been brought to my attention," Reeve Devolin told *The Highlander* last Friday.

The shelter was temporarily closed for five months but counselling services remained available.

Spokeswoman, Jen Cureton, told *The Highlander* on Wednesday, "We didn't announce the closure publically because we didn't want people to get the wrong impression that all of our services were closed in Haliburton and most importantly, we didn't want it to stop women from reaching out."

She said they did 671 counselling sessions outside of their office last year, and they were available 24/7 to help women on their crisis and support line. They made arrangements for women to access shelters outside the county.

"It's important however that we have the emergency safe space available in the community so that we don't have to uproot women and children from their lives, work, school and support systems."

The YWCA will be back on the Minden Hills' council agenda in January.

"I look forward to their presentation," Devolin said. "I was saddened that I didn't hear it in December. It's kind of given a month's pause ... or a little more than a month's pause. I have more questions than answers."

He said donating to an organization that has been largely funded by the province can be precedent-setting and did not know how the request would be received by council. However, he said that based on the state of finances in the



Daisy Downs and Paula Pepping review some literature at the YWCA HERS (Haliburton Emergency Rural SafeSpace) in Minden. *Photo by Lisa Gervais*.

province, "do I think we will see more of that? Yes, I do..."

"We will be speaking with all municipalities and the county in the new year ... we are also working with our provincial funders, our current donor base and trying to secure new donors in the Haliburton region," Cureton said.

They need to raise \$120,000 over the next year to sustain their Haliburton operations for the next two years. So far, they have \$88,636. It means a shortfall of \$31,364.

They are about to embark upon a long-term sustainability study. They hope to complete the research by the end of 2017 and work on implementing recommended changes in 2018.

"We help save women's lives. From the woman who walked several kilometers in the winter without shoes to reach a pay phone and call our 24/7 crisis line, to women who are facing situations so dangerous that they were eventually murdered by their abuser.

"We help women 16-80+ who are facing unspeakable abuse at the hands of those who are supposed to love and care for them the most. We help women understand the level of risk they are living with, help them develop plans for escape, help them attend and navigate the family court system and provide an emergency safe-space to those that need to flee their homes."

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Hospital corporation bounces back from deficit

New revenue sources sought

By Mark Arike

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) has balanced its budget.

Despite ending the past fiscal year with a deficit of \$420,000, the organization had a surplus of \$73,000 at the end of September.

"We've managed to turn the deficit that

We are continuing to focus on fostering a healthy work environment to support continued improvement in this area.

Carolyn **Plummer**

was there July 31 into a slight positive number," said David Gray, board treasurer and finance committee chair, during a recent board meeting.

The main contributor to that was "a change in non-cash items," said Gray.

"It's going in the right direction," he said, adding "we need to continue to monitor all of our costs and search for new sources of revenue."

Staff sick time and overtime played a

big role in last year's deficit, and were more than 100 per cent higher than the budgeted amount.

"HHHS faced several one-time situations and pressures in the 2015/16 fiscal year which were considered to be outside of normal operations," HHHS CEO Carolyn Plummer told The Highlander.

To cover the deficit, the corporation used "existing net assets which do not include any foundation or donor provided dollars, and do not impact future operations," she said.

HHHS has achieved a balanced position because of different strategies that were implemented at the end of the last fiscal year as well as recent months, added Plummer.

Sick time is now starting to "level off." "We are continuing to focus on fostering a healthy work environment to support continued improvement in this area."

HHHS receives annual funding from the Central East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) through the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.

Health care providers that receive funding are expected to "plan for and achieve an annual balanced budget," according to an accountability agreement.

A draft budget for 2017/18 has been submitted to the LHIN.

The fiscal year goes from April 1 to March 31.

INFORMATION PAGE

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Meetings & Events

PUBLIC WELCOME

Dec 31st - FREE Family Fun New Year's Eve, S.G Nesbitt Arena, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Jan 12th - Budget Standing Committee meeting, 9:00 am Minden Council Chambers

Jan 26th - COTW/Regular meeting of Council, 9:00 am, Minden Council Chambers

Please note: Council meetings are reduced to one in January

For Council, Boards & Advisory Committee meetings, visit www.mindenhills.ca

NOTICE - Special Meeting - Budget **Standing** Committee Meeting

Take Notice that the Council of the Township of Minden Hills, will meet as the Budget Standing Committee on Thursday January 12, 2017 at 9:00 am in the Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, ON to review the second draft of the 2017 Budget.

the meeting please contact Dawn Newhook Clerk at 705-286-1260 ext. 205

For further information regarding

or dnewhook@mindenhills.ca.

Regular hours resume

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE Hours of Operation: Dec 19th to Dec 23rd 8:30 am - 4:30 pm CLOSED Dec 26th to Dec 30th, 2016

> LANDFILLS All Sites are CLOSED Dec 25th & Jan 1st

Jan 2nd, 2017

Seasons Greetings

From the Township of Minden Hills Council and staff would like to wish everyone in Minden Hills a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

MUNICIPAL HOLIDAY HOURS CULTURAL CENTRE/AGNES

JAMIESON GALLERY CLOSED Dec 22nd & 23rd Regular hours resume Jan 3rd, 2017

Ongoing Exhibition: From the Permanent Collection

S.G. NESBITT MEMORIAL ARENA

Dec 24th 8:30 am - 12:00 pm CLOSED Dec 25th & 26th Dec 27th - Regular hours resume CLOSED Jan 1st

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Administration Office Hours of Operation: Dec 19th to Dec 23rd 8:30 am – 4:30 pm CLOSED Dec 26th to Dec 30th, 2016 Regular hours resume Jan 2nd, 2017

Notice of Load Restriction

As per By-Law No. 16-144, being a by-law to enact load restrictions on Municipal Bridges, the Township of Minden Hills have placed load restrictions on the following structures:

- 1) Ritchie Falls Road Bridge (A) 5 tonnes max
- 2) Ritchie Falls Road Bridge (B) 3 tonnes max
- 3) Soyers Lake Road Bridge 10 tonnes max

Load Restrictions signs have been placed at each structure and are strictly enforced.

For inquiries or more information on the above, please contact the Road Superintendent at twilson@mindenhills.ca

Overnight Parking

Pursuant to By-Law 09-01, A By-Law to Regulate Parking, Overnight Parking on municipal roadways and parking lots, between the hours of midnight and 8:00 am, is prohibited from November 1st to April 30th of each year.

Vehicles parked in these areas that prohibit the removal of snow will be towed away and/or ticketed at the owner's expense.

Winter Sand Is available at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, lower parking lot, 55 Parkside Street for residential use. Individual Use Only – No Commercial Users Please.

FREE Public Skating at the S.G Nesbitt Arena is being offered during the holidays. Visit www.mindenhills.ca for dates and times.

Riverwalk & Wetlands Boardwalk - Winter Usage

The Boardwalk & Logger's Crossing Bridge are cleared of snow regularly but are not sanded or salted. Residents are advised to "Exercise Caution" when using these pathways as they could develop slippery conditions.



Tabitha Henry, left, and Jacqueline Brimley with one of the fire trucks at Station 4 in Wilberforce last February. File photo.

Highlands East to decide fate of fire halls

By Mark Arike

Highlands East Fire chief Bill Wingrove has several items on his wish list for the next five years, but that list could look very different if council takes his advice and consolidates.

By reducing the number of fire halls to three from five, he estimates saving about \$1 million in repair bills over 10 years.

"Is council ready to hear this again?" he joked during a council meeting on Dec. 12.

Wingrove said he has proposed these changes on more than one occasion.

"We'll save money on inefficient buildings," he told The Highlander. "Our biggest savings will be the lack of trucks we have to replace and the major repairs to the old fire halls."

It costs a lot of money to replace pumper trucks. For example, Wingrove is looking at spending \$400,000 for a new truck in January.

The chief told council there are currently 10-11 volunteer firefighters at each hall when there should be 20 or 25. By consolidating, he will hit that target and "that might help response times." There are 65 firefighters with the department at this time.

The five halls are located in Cardiff, Highland Grove, Gooderham, Wilberforce and Paudash (Highway 28 and Lagoon Road). There is also a substation on Sprucedale Street in Cardiff.

Wingrove recommends closing Station 1 in Cardiff, the substation and the building

at Highway 28 and consolidating to a new hall. He also suggests closing the Highland Grove and Wilberforce halls, and relocating those operations to a new hall. The hall in Gooderham would remain as is.

A master fire plan, prepared in 2010 by Peter Corfield & Associates, highlights the growing pressure facing the fire department. The municipality spent \$10,000 on the plan.

Is council ready to hear this again?



"The present six fire stations have proven quite costly, in dollars and human resources, to maintain," reads one of five key points.

It goes on to say that several of the fire stations "would not meet Ontario Fire Code regulations."

However, it also mentioned the positive steps being taken by the municipality to tackle these challenges, such as "purchasing a number of modern fire apparatus in the past few years."

At the time, the consultant recommended consolidating operations in Cardiff to the Highway 28 location, and replacing Station 4 in Wilberforce and the municipal

building "with a new structure located on municipally-owned property to the north/ east of the present Wilberforce location."

Council received the plan as information only and didn't adopt it, according to Wingrove.

During last week's meeting, Councillor Joan Barton said council would need to know what it would cost to build new stations.

Wingrove said he could include the information in his projections.

Councillor Cecil Ryall, who agreed with the move, asked if it would be possible to phase in new halls over time.

That would be doable, said Wingrove. Using a hypothetical example, if council chose to close halls in Cardiff and Paudash and build a new one, the municipality would save a quarter of a million dollars "right off the bat" on hall upgrades.

If all of the halls remain as are, Wingrove expects to spend close to \$1.6 million on capital expenses in the next five years. And \$300,000 in building improvements have been identified for the next couple of years.

Since there are budget implications for 2017, CAO Shannon Hunter recommended Wingrove prepare an interim report while developing a final budget.

"There's no sense of us putting money into buildings and equipment in 2017 if the recommendation is going to be to sell them or dispose of them," she said.

Wingrove said he would have the information ready for a budget meeting during the second week of January.



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Find nomination forms at www.haliburtonchamber.com or call 705-457-4700
Nominations close on January 27th, 2017.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chamber Breakfast
Tuesday, January 10th
7:30 am
Molly's Bistro Bakery
Topic: Community Mobilization
Speaker: Richard Riopelle,
Detachment Commander
Haliburton Highlands OPP
RSVP by Friday, January 6th to
autumn@haliburtonchamber.com
or 705-457-4700











Heather Inwood-Montrose, the new chief executive officer of Community Care North Hastings (CCNH) talks to Highlands East coucillors during a regular council meeting Dec. 12. *Photo by Mark Arike*.

TROUT bus in Cardiff floundering

By Mark Arike

Between 20 and 25 people in Highlands
East rely on the TROUT bus every Friday.
But it's a financial challenge to maintain
the service, says Heather Inwood-Montrose,
the new chief executive officer of
Community Care North Hastings (CCNH).

"I think there is room to consider some other options that might be more cost-effective for a community transportation solution," said Inwood-Montrose during a

solution," said Inwood-Montrose during a
Highlands East council meeting on Dec. 12.
Her vision is to use buses for
in-town routes and offer other types of

transportation, such as ridesharing or school buses, to transport people to urban centres.

But she admits it will take some time to

But she admits it will take some time to figure that out.

TROUT, otherwise known as The Rural Overland Utility Transit, is currently

available in North Hastings Tuesdays and Fridays for appointments and shopping. CCNH subsidizes the service with an annual contribution of more than \$50,000.

But it is in trouble because of the reduction of funding from other municipalities, said Inwood-Montrose.

Highlands East has invested \$10,000 annually, and she requested the municipality continue that tradition in the new year. It costs about \$37,000, or \$7.69 per rider per week, for one day of service in the municipality.

The bus goes to the Cardiff community centre and picks up riders directly from their homes. The majority of the municipality's riders are disabled, she said. The funding request will arise during budget deliberations in January.





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ASES students, part of the school's Me to We initiative, pose with the 12 Days of Christmas Food Drive items. *Photo by Jennifer Hughey.*

ASES students celebrate spirit of giving

By Jennifer Hughey

Good things happen when everyone works toward the same goal.

And the teachers and students at Archie Stouffer Elementary School (ASES) agreed that collecting food or donations for the local food bank was something everyone could support.

With help from ASES educational assistant Tamara Bain and teachers Michelle Kernohan, Teressa Bird and Jenn Mills, the more than 20 students in the Me to We club worked with the Minden Community Food Bank to come up with the 12 Days of Christmas Food Drive.

The student-led club works to create a school culture that fosters positivity and inclusivity and is part of the safe and caring school initiative. It helps students create connections at school but also within their communities.

ASES principal Jane Austin said items, including staples like pancake mix, maple syrup, cereal, drinking boxes and apple juice, were collected to meet the food bank's immediate needs.

Bain and Kernohan said students helped plan the list of food items that students could donate to support local families and on Dec. 19, when the food drive ended, helped deliver to the food bank at 24 Newcastle St. Minden.

Bain also solicited community businesses for donations and said Haliburton Foodland, Easton's Valu-Mart and Minden Foodland all contributed to the final delivery to the food bank.

In addition, ASES also organized a raffle for the students where an additional \$1,200 was raised and donated in addition to the 12 Days of Christmas items.

To show their appreciation, volunteers from the food bank donated the turkey for the ASES Christmas Feast on Dec. 20. The turkey was cooked and stored in the food bank's community kitchen, Austin said.

"Parent and OPP volunteers [supported] the feast ... [and] we also had generous [financial] donations, goods and expertise from Kawartha Dairy, Boshkung Tree Service, Coneybeare Butcher Shop, Minden Foodland, The ASES Parent Council, Dale Toye and [tables from] the Municipality of Minden Hills."

Austin said some donated spontaneously without any solicitation because they had heard about the feast, which just goes to show the generous nature of the community.

For more information about the Minden Community Food Bank, contact Marilynn Lesperance at 705-286-2990 or email mindencommunityfoodbank@bellnet.ca. For more information on the Me to We Programs, visit metowe.com.



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Thursday December 22 2016 | Issue 268 The Highlander 13

Highlander business



Coming in to announce the champions from head office, from left, Mike Grube and Karen Yousef. Five-time champion, Wilma Turkstra (financial advisor); Erin Fearrey (manager of customer service); Stephanie Crowe (customer service representative); Kirk Poirier (financial advisor); Tanya MacDuff (customer service representative). Front Row, branch manager, Carol Patrick; Ann Harrop (customer service representative) and Audrey Little (customer service representative). Absent was Gail Kent (customer service representative); Marianne Fenninger (customer service representative) and Heike Roome (customer relations coordinator). *Photo submitted*.

Staff at TD in Minden win all-inclusive vacations

By Alex Coop

Carol Patrick, TD branch manager in Minden, has to replace 10 employees, including herself, for six days early next year.

Thanks to strong work performances, each of them won all-expenses paid trips

to popular, and mild, destinations near the equator.

Good customer service helped them earn high marks in their respective Champions Club, the bank's incentive and rewards program.

Winners from both clubs across the country were announced in early

November.

It wasn't a huge shock for Patrick.

"I think we have such a caring group," she said about the branch's employees. "They really care about their customers and treat everyone with respect."

Patrick's trip includes a three-night stay in Miami from Jan. 30 – Feb 1. Her

co-workers will be in Mexico Jan. 8 - 11.

It's rare for a branch Minden's size to have multiple winners in both the Regional and National Champions Club, Patrick adds.

"Sometimes a big branch in Toronto or Barrie will pull it off, but not a branch this





Highlander business



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Ann Gordon, co-owner of the Kosy Korner, says the restaurant is going up for sale this

Kosy Korner goes up for sale

By Alex Coop

After five-and-a-half years under the ownership of Ann Gordon and her husband Alan, the Kosy Korner is going up for sale.

The Gordons, who bought the Kosy Korner in July 2011 from Jim and Janet Tice, said they had planned to run the business for about five years since day one.

"We've done the renovations, like the kitchen and the new PO system, hired the perfect staff, and we just think it's time to pass on the gauntlet," she told *The* Highlander Monday.

As of press time, the restaurant wasn't listed and a price had not been set, but Gordon said she has spoken to a few interested buyers.

"A couple of customers have come forward," she said. "We haven't been quiet about it or secret about it. Our style is if something is happening, we'll be honest

Some customers have expressed their sadness over the sale, much like when the Tices handed the keys over to Ann and

But Gordon said the transition will be smooth, and that she and her husband will help in whatever way they can.

"The Tices were involved with us for years ... it will depend on the buyer and whatever works best for them."

Gordon was quick to say the restaurant's staff was a big reason why she enjoyed running the business, in addition to the customers she met every day.

She described both as extremely friendly. "The two are what make the place successful," she said.

Originally located where McKecks is now, Kosy Korner was founded by George Price Woods.

The restaurant celebrated its 80th birthday last October.

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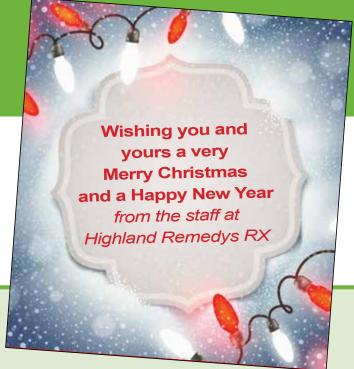
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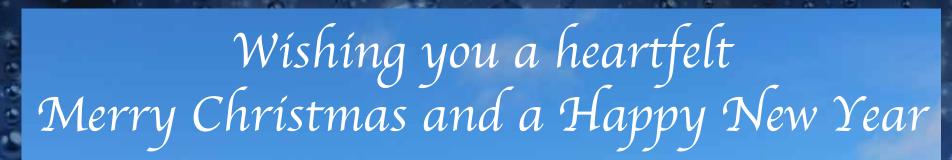


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TheHighlander Thursday December 22 2016 | Issue 268

Highlander arts

HOS to commission opera for 15oth

If you like

American Idol

or The Voice,

you'll love the

masterclasses.

Valerie **Kuinka**

Highlands Opera Studio

By Lisa Gervais

The Highlands Opera Studio (HOS) is embracing Canada's Sesquicentennial with two of next summer's events honouring Canada's 150th anniversary in 2017.

General director Valerie Kuinka said HOS has commissioned a new interactive opera about the environment entitled Wiikondiwin. It will be created in the coming months and make its world premiere in Haliburton in August.

"It is an incredibly big thing to be commissioning an opera," Kuinka said. "This opera does not already exist and will be important for Haliburton County. The commission fee to the composer for this is \$10K, and we are currently looking for funds to help support this new opera creation."

Kuinka said that Wiikondiwin will combine operatic and First Nations singers and musicians. It has been composed in English, Odawa (Ojibwa), and Métis

Kuinka describes the story.

"All the creatures of the forest have

been summoned by Ma'ingan (Wolf) to a special feast. Putting their differences aside, they come together to discuss what to do about the people who are disrespecting the land, and come up with a plan involving

transformation and trickery to teach the inconsiderate and dimwitted two-legged beings once and for all who is really in charge 'Omaa Aking' (Here on Earth). However, something unexpected happens and their plans are almost foiled.'

Kuinka said the opera will be rehearsed during

the first three weeks of HOS, July 31 to Aug. 19, 2017, culminating in the first ever public workshop performance at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion on Aug. 19.

Meanwhile, Kuinka said this upcoming 2017 HOS season, the eleventh, is a particularly exciting one.

She said the masterclasses, in particular,

are a chance to meet and hear some talented from opera, musical theatre, and one young people visiting the region from across the country and beyond.

"If you like American Idol or The Voice, you'll love the masterclasses," she said.

> She said Masterclass is a fancy word for mini concert followed by a few words of advice from a mentor. At HOS, that's Richard Margison.

"They take place at the beginning of August, are a great introduction to our art form, and a way to feel connected to

our activities. There is definitely no dress code, you do not need to be a singer to enjoy yourself, and the environment is very casual. If anything is sung in a foreign language, an explanation of the story and context will be provided beforehand by the performer."

After the masterclasses, the HOS is presenting four concerts featuring music devoted to Canada's Sesquicentennial, showcasing a variety of songs and music by, and about, Canadians.

"Our main fully-staged production is one of the funniest and most popular Mozart operas, 'Cosi fan tutte!', or, as Mozart himself dubbed it, 'School for Lovers'. It's a story of two young couples set up in a challenge of fidelity by an older colleague, who is skeptical about love."

Although the opera will be presented in Italian (accompanied by piano), there will be an English translation projected above the stage throughout the opera.

"For those of you new to opera or put off by previous experience, forget all that and take a chance. Opera and operatic singing is simply story-telling with music, when words alone are not enough. Our presentations and environment are all intimate, 'user-friendly', and welcoming. The performances are spell-binding, and moving. We welcome you to feel the passion and get involved."

See more at highlandsoperastudio.com

Highlands East pulls support for plein air festival

By Mark Arike

Due to a lack of participation and interest, Highlands East has withdrawn its financial support of the annual plein air arts festival.

Although the artists who participated this year sold most of their work, CAO Shannon Hunter had a hard time justifying another \$4,000 contribution.

"We told organizers it's really hard supporting this in future years," Hunter told council on Dec. 12.

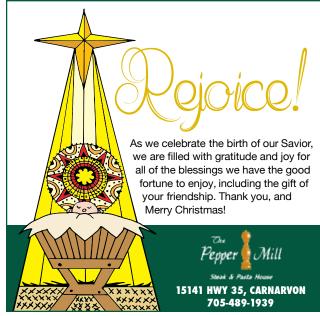
"We need more data."

The organizers said they would do a survey but there was minimal response, she added.

"It is my recommendation, even though I support it, that we're unable to sustain it any longer."

Councillors agreed and therefore no funds will be allocated toward the festival in the 2017 budget.

The festival was held Sept. 8-11, with an exhibition and sale on the final day at the Lloyd Watson Centre in Wilberforce.





Highlander community

Curling club hosts food and clothing drive

By Mark Arike

In the spirit of giving, the Haliburton Curling Club is helping local families in need. For the second year in a row. league members are donating non-perishable food items and clothing to the Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank. Mittens, scarves, gloves and hats currently adorn a Christmas tree in the club. The drive ended last week and all items will be donated this week.

Right: A Tuesday ladies league shows off the club's donations on Dec. 6. Photo by Mark Arike.



Smile Cookie campaign exceeds \$5,000 for VDO

For the third year in a row, local Tim Hortons restaurants have gotten behind the Volunteer Dental Outreach operating costs of the clinic, which (VDO) for Haliburton County.

And the results are astounding. On Dec. 15, VDO members received a cheque for \$5,320 from Nancy Bishop, franchise owner of Tim Hortons locations in Haliburton and Minden. The money was raised through the annual Smile Cookie campaign, held in September. This brings the campaign's total

contribution to \$12,400.

The funds will be used for provides free urgent dental care for low-income residents of Haliburton County.

The Smile Cookie campaign started in 1996 to help raise funds for the Hamilton Children's Hospital and has grown to become a major fundraising event at Tim Hortons restaurants. The cookies are sold for \$1, with all proceeds going to a chosen charity.

Volunteer Dental Outreach for Haliburton County is a registered charity which operates to provide free urgent dental care for lowincome residents of Haliburton County. It is has provided close to \$1.9 million in treatments for 693 patients since 2011. The clinic is located at 739 Mountain St. in Haliburton.

For more information visit dentaloutreach.com.



Nancy Bishop, left, of Tim Hortons, presents a cheque to VDO founder Bill Kerr and fellow VDO board members. Submitted.







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REAL ESTATE REPORT The Highlander December 22 2016





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It's good for cottage country

By Lisa Gervais

Local realtors, Jeff and Andrea Strano, have had their best year to date as they begin their fourth full year with Bowes & Cocks in Haliburton in 2017.

They weren't alone.

It was one of the best years on record for the local real estate industry in terms of the number of sales, quick turn-arounds and higher prices.

The only real challenge in 2016 – and a predicted obstacle for 2017 – is a lack of

"It was our best year to date," Jeff Strano told *The Highlander* in an interview this week. "In August, we had already sold what we did last year."

Anthony vanLieshout of Royal LePage Haliburton is arguably the best real estate number cruncher in the area. He can isolate Haliburton County figures that are grouped with other areas.

If you look at his improved residential waterfront figures, 422 units were sold up to November of this year. That compares to 373 in 2015, 303 in 2014, and 285 in 2013. With December not yet counted, that represents a large increase in sales.

The average sales price has also climbed to \$374,950 so far this year, in contrast to \$344,900 in 2015, \$325,000 in 2014 and \$330,000 in 2013.

Continued on page 21



Local real estate agent Jeff Strano uses a boat to access a property last August. Submitted.



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DEEP BAY ROAD - \$222,900

- 3 Bedroom home with a white picket fence! Finished family room. Windows replaced in 2010
- · Flooring and Roof have also been replaced. Renovated bathroom, including a Whirlpool tub. House is also wired for a generator.

KINMOUNT - \$209,000

- 3 Bedroom/2 Bathroom
- · Storage Garage and Bunkie
- Loads of upgrades Just move in



Continued from page 20

Median days on market this year has been 50, versus 52, 51 and 55.

While non-waterfront residential properties are also trending higher across the board, it is not as drastic.

Strano was looking at his own stats on Monday morning.

In 2015, he said there were 925 waterfront listings. In the first 11 months of 2016, there have been just 742, a 24.7 per cent decrease.

Low inventory Ontario-wide

"That's a pretty glaring difference and trend," Strano said.

Asked why, he said he didn't know but suspects it has something to do with demographics at the moment, adding that low inventory is an Ontario-wide trend.

Buyer demand is outstripping supply but unlike Toronto, where there are bidding wars, people here are finding their listings are selling fast and for what they are asking for or a bit above listing price.

"Sellers were getting what they wanted but there was less choice for buyers," Stano said.

His waterfront sold stats point to 436 sales so far in 2016, compared to 363 in 2015, a 20.1 per cent jump.

"So, the listings were down 25 per cent and the number sold was up by 20 per cent so you

can see why some real estate agents are freaking out. But it made for a really dynamic year."

He said average days on the market had gone to under 20 from above 40 last year. The average sale price climbed to about \$427,000 from \$390,000, a 9.4 per cent climb.

As for non-waterfront, he found there were fewer listings in 2016 (370) versus 2015 (405), a drop of 9.5 per cent. He said some 216 had sold in 2016, versus 205 last year, so a small increase of 5.4 per cent. And, the average sales price rose to \$216,000 from \$197,000, an increase of 9.5 per cent.

Strano said people living in the GTA, looking to use equity from their houses there, are driving waterfront demand in the county.

"I'm not worried about the inventory situation." He said some real estate agents like to carry a lot of listings, and there is a perception that they are good if they have the numbers. However, he said a smaller client base is less time-consuming, less

expensive to manage and real estate agents can service clients better.

Still a long way off Muskoka

Despite the increase in sales of milliondollar properties and rising prices, Strano said "we're still a long way off of Muskoka."

Local realtor Blake O'Byrne, of Re/Max North Country Realty Inc., said that this time of year the number of listings is very low.

"People are still looking but there is nothing to look at," he said. "There are eager, willing and able buyers but there is a small inventory."

He is hopeful there will be more listings coming forward.

"Come January, things should begin to pick up again. People will be ready to put houses on the market in the new year and we have the big cottage life show at the end of April.

"I think it will come up or I will have to go back to selling newspaper advertising," he said with a chuckle. "You just have to

People are still looking

but there is nothing to

eager, willing and able

Blake O'Byrne

look at ... There are

buyers but there is a

small inventory.

keep in contact with customers. There is a constant turnaround with our elderly population ... turning over cottages. Maybe the kids don't want it or there are tax consequences."

O'Byrne said that, naturally, increased demand means properties are driving up sales costs.

Re/Max up sales costs.
For example, he listed a Minden property at \$229,000 that he says should have been worth about \$180,000 and the seller got \$212,000.

Linda Baumgartner, of Re/Max, said, "Right now, we're definitely suffering for properties to sell. There isn't a lot of supply. There are buyers sitting in the wings just waiting for properties to come on the market. When properties do become available we'll see multiple offers. A lot of sellers say they'll wait until the spring. My advice is to go on the market now because of the demand."

Baumgartner said every category is attractive for buyers.

She has also looked at the numbers from the Lakeland Association of Realtors, which covers Muskoka, Haliburton and Orillia and done some localizing.

Her stats, while slightly different than others, point to the same trends.

Listings are down but the numbers of sales and higher prices are the norm – a trend expected to continue into 2017.

Back to Strano, he said they are very optimistic about 2017 and the real estate trends are "good for cottage country."

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High demand for cottages will continue

By Mark Arike

Now that 2016 is coming to an end, realtors in Haliburton County are looking to the year ahead.

And they have a good idea of what potential buyers are looking for.

Linda Baumgartner of The Haliburton Real Estate Team expects a high demand for waterfront cottages, especially on medium to large-sized lakes.

"I think it's going to be a hot market," said Baumgartner in a phone interview.

Larger lakes are better suited to boating and other water-based activities. Baumgartner made several sales on Haliburton Lake, Redstone, Kennisis, Drag and the Kashagawigamog chain, among others. In the fall, there was a demand for properties on Glamor Lake and Stormy Lake, both of which are in Highlands East.

Many retirees are seeking properties in town or close to town, she said. This could be for a combination of reasons, such as health concerns or the loss of a spouse.

"Many years ago, people who had retired to Haliburton generally retired to their cottage and have had many happy, healthy years there," said Baumgartner, who has served the Highlands for close to 29 years.

Many of these retirees continue to be actively involved in the community and want to be close to all the action, as well as their friends. Another selling feature is the close proximity of local health care



An aerial view of a property on Spruce Lake. Pasi Posti/Positive Media

acilities.

Some are selling their cottages in exchange for this lifestyle.

One of the big dilemmas facing the market is the lack of available properties.

"There isn't a lot of supply," she said.
"There are buyers just waiting in the wings for new listings to come on the market."
Shirley Rule, a broker and member of

cottagehill@sympatico.ca

cottagehill.ca

Chestnut Park Cottage Country team, echoes many of Baumgartner's sentiments. But what she has noticed is that many cottagers are looking for turnkey properties.

"I think most people want something ... they're not going to have to do a lot of work on," said Rule. "After working all week at busy jobs, they would like to be able to enjoy their time."

However, some are on the hunt for fixer uppers because the aforementioned properties are out of their price range.

While properties on large lakes are popular, Rule said there are many buyers willing to pay top dollar to be on a small, quiet lake.

For market statistics, visit thelakelands.ca.



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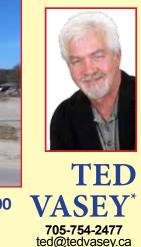
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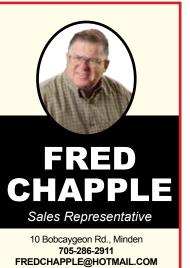


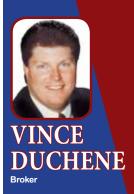
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First impressions count with buyers Homeowners need to be flexible with pricing

By Alex Coop

Replacing worn-out plumbing, staining the deck and touching up chipped paint can increase a home's value, but buyers will appreciate other details first when looking for a new home.

Trimming the shrubs and keeping the walkways clutter-free make for a strong first impression, says Bill Kulas of Minden Re/Max, and first impressions can go a long way, even if you haven't put a lot of money into your home.

"Each property is different, but those first impressions are very important no matter where you live," Kulas said.

Jeff Wilson of Team Haliburton Highlands ReMax agrees, and suggested anyone about to list their property to walk through their house as if seeing it for the first time from the buyer's eyes.

"Curb appeal is huge. If a buyer rolls up to a home and it doesn't look good from the outside, chances are they're thinking it's not going to look great on the inside."

Pricing a home can be tricky, and many sellers, specifically those who have upgraded their home, set the bar too high.

"I see so many people overpricing their homes, and then they just end up sitting on the market," he said. "You have to realize when you put your home on the market you have to be comparable to other sales happening around you."

Listing a property at the right time can also make big difference.

Kulas says many parents don't feel comfortable pulling their kids out of



First impressions and curb appeal can go a long way to adding value, and interest, to your home when it's on the market. File photo.

school in the winter, which is why waiting until the spring to put a for sale sign up isn't a bad idea.

But times have also changed, he adds, and while the spring used to be known as the prime time for buying a home, more homes are being put on the market in the dead of winter.

Take care of uour basement

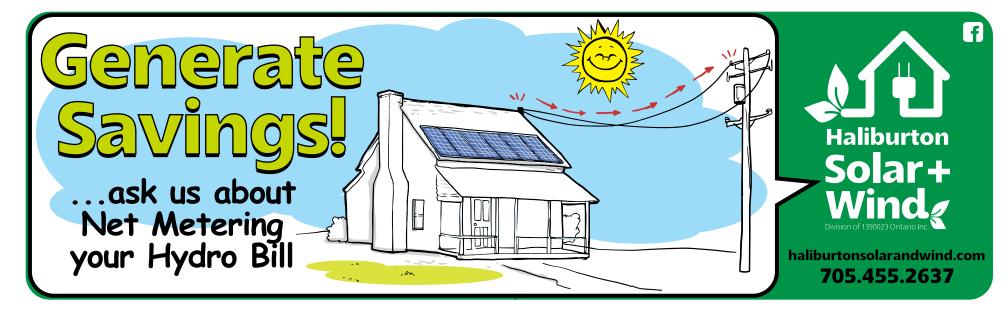
Wet basements, often the result of melting snow and heavy rain, can deter buyers as well, Wilson says.

Make sure gutters are clear of debris, and eliminate pockets of standing water near the foundation.

Due to the heavy snowfall in the county,

buyers in the area are well aware of wet basements, Wilson says, but if they notice extra effort put into minimizing the problem, it can help with the sale.

Property insurance can cover water damage from sudden or accidental discharge of water into one's home from a broken water line, while additional coverage can be purchased for sewer backup, which covers rain or melting snow overwhelming sewer systems.





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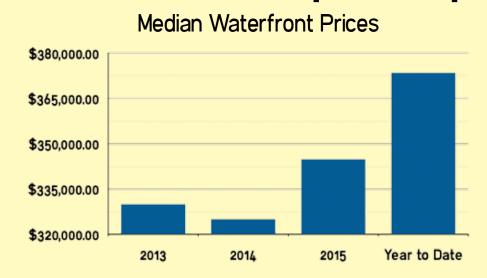


Waterfront update

brought to you by MarketStats.ca



Are prices up, or down?



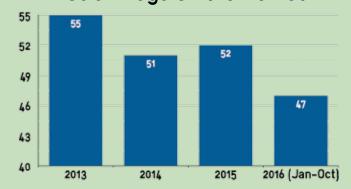
The Haliburton County real estate market is finally on the rise. After taking a hit in 2008, the region is starting to see an increase in property values for both waterfront and non-waterfront homes. On average, prices for waterfront homes and cottages are up by 8.3 per cent over 2015.

Waterfront Median Price by Municipality



Despite irregularities in the median prices, which are easily skewed based on higher end sales, the average sale price of improved properties has risen throughout the county.

Median Days on the Market



A good indicator of demand for properties is the number of days a new listing stays on the market. This year saw a dramatic reduction in days on the market. Buyers are interested in Haliburton County which means homes and cottages are selling faster.

For more information visit MarketStats.ca



2017 forecast

A strong 2016 property market resulted from increased demand, leaving fewer homes and cottages on the market than usual. Spring of 2017 is shaping up nicely and we expect continued strong demand combined with lower inventory levels. Under these conditions, we foresee a continued increase in property values for Haliburton County.

- Anthony vanLieshout



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Protecting your home a four-season priority

It's essential to prepare your home or cottage to weather the winter, and to avoid theft and vandalism if you're away for extended periods.

Following is a handy checklist compiled from information available from the Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations and the Canada Mortgage and Housing.

Water intake and outflow

- Have the well water tested for quality.
- Clean drains in the dishwasher, sinks, tubs and showers and close the shut-off valves.
- Ensure the sump pump is operating properly with no blockages or leaks.
- Ensure there is water in the trap for each plumbing fixture and the basement floor drain.
- Ensure hot water pipes are insulated.
- Determine whether the septic tank needs to be emptied before spring.

Heating and air conditioning

- Have your heating system serviced by a qualified technician (every year for oil, every two years for gas).
- Replace the filter monthly when the furnace is in use.
- Vacuum electric baseboard heaters.
- Close the flues on wood stoves, furnaces and fireplaces.
- Cover the air conditioner.

Insulation and ventilation

- Replace window screens with storm windows.
- Seal any air leaks around doors and windows.
- Clear indoor and outdoor air vents and close flapper dampers.
- In the attic, repair any roof leaks and gaps in the underside decking.

Interior maintenance

- Unplug small appliances.
- Ensure all propane appliances are properly shut down.

- Clean, defrost and unplug the refrigerator and place open soda boxes in the fridge and freezer.
- Scatter mothballs in the attic and any spot where bugs or small animals might turn
 up
- Drain non-frost-proof faucets and close the valve to the outdoor hose.

Fire, Carbon monoxide, theft

- Install fresh batteries in all smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and ensure they work properly.
- Cover windows with shades and/or shutters.

- Remove all valuables and engrave stored sporting goods with identification information in case of theft.
- Establish a local contact person to monitor your property.
- Organize snow removal, including for the roof.
- Ensure your insurance coverage is updated.

Exterior maintenance

- Clean eavestroughs and downspouts.
- Clear chimneys.
- Drain and close the outdoor hose valve.

Cleaning green

Haliburton County is dedicated to protecting the health of our spectacular environment, and green cleaning practices are a critical part of our efforts.

For example, antibacterial cleaning products may seem like a good idea but they kill the good bacteria in septic tanks that break down waste. Even many of the products marketed as green are "green-washed" – they have some green properties, but they're still not the best solutions to our cleaning needs.

The Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners' Associations (CHA) is dedicated to promoting proper septic system installation and use, and offers the following tips for green cleaning. These include several water-saving measures, since proper water management contributes to a healthy septic system.

Green cleaning tips:

- Ban ALL antibacterial products.
- Use phosphate-free cleaning products and dish detergent.
- Replace dishwasher rinse aids with lemon iuice.
- Avoid pouring fats, oils and grease down the drain.
- Avoid regular drain cleaners.

- Use peroxide stain removers instead of chlorine bleach.
- Use biodegradable and peroxide bathroom cleaners.
- Avoid using automatic toilet bowl cleaners.
- Wash only one load of laundry per day.
- Shorten showering time and use a low-flow shower head.

More tips and information are available on the CHA website at cohpoa.org. Find more information like this in the Highlander Handbook. New edition coming May 17.

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Save energy, save money

About 20 per cent of Canada's energy use can be attributed to homes, according to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

Shifting energy use to off-peak or midpeak hours is a good start. Here are several more ways in which we can reduce energy consumption:

Appliances

- Choose energy-efficient refrigerator, freezer, dishwasher, washer and dryer models to cut your energy consumption (by almost 50 per cent with some models).
- Clean the refrigerator coils (back) and air intake grill (below the door) every three months.
- Choose a front-loading washer to remove more water.
- Wash laundry in cold or warm water.
- Use clotheslines and/or drying racks to reduce dryer use.

Mechanical/heating systems

If using a furnace:

- Choose a high-efficiency model that includes a higher-efficiency fan motor.
- Clean the air filter monthly.
- Use a programmable thermostat with a built-in timer.
- Ensure your fireplace is sealed properly.
- For your hot water tank, choose a gas-

fired, direct vent, fan-assisted or sealed

Plumbing fixtures

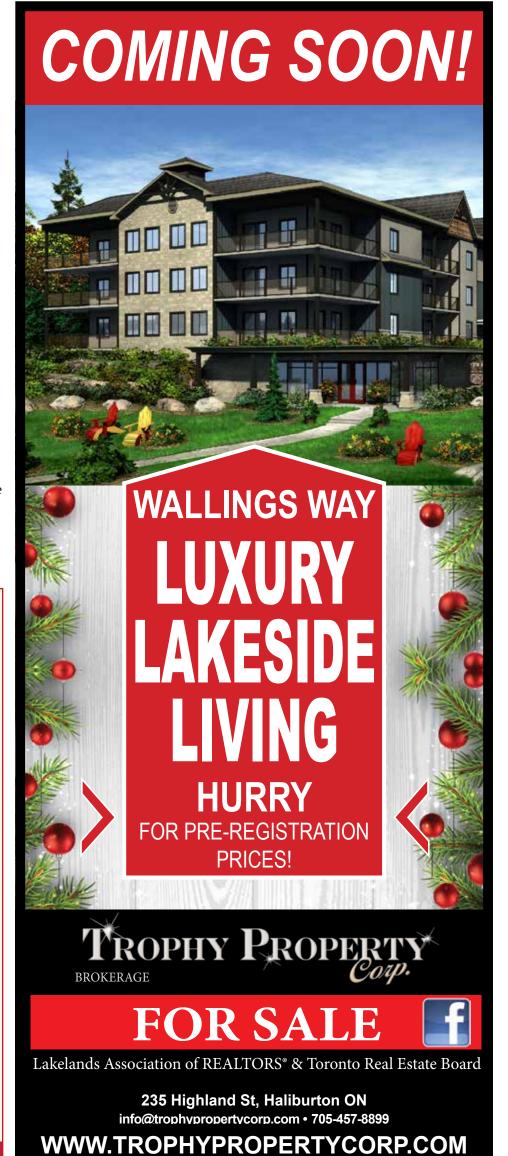
- Fix any leaking hot water taps one constant drip can waste up to 75 litres of water per week.
- Use aerator taps, which can reduce water use by more than 60 per cent.
- Install a water-efficient toilet (6 litres or less), which uses up to 80 per cent less water than a regular toilet. A dual flush model is even better.

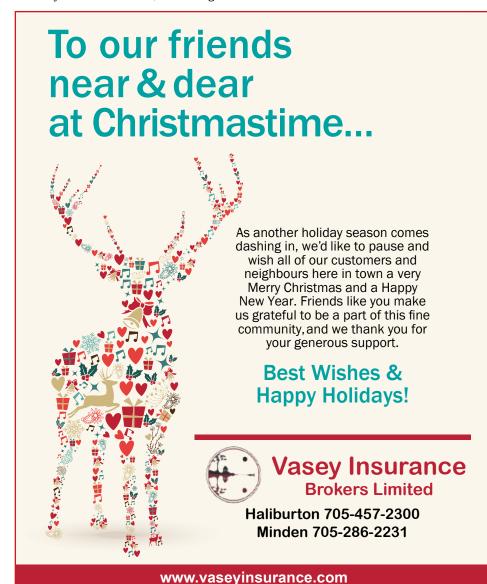
Lighting

- Use compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs, which consume 75 per cent less energy than traditional incandescent bulbs, or halogen lights, both of which last longer than traditional bulbs. If using CFL bulbs, be sure to dispose of them properly since they contain mercury.
- Wire each room for individual light control and install dimmers.
- Install outdoor motion sensor lights to reduce lighting use.

Windows and doors

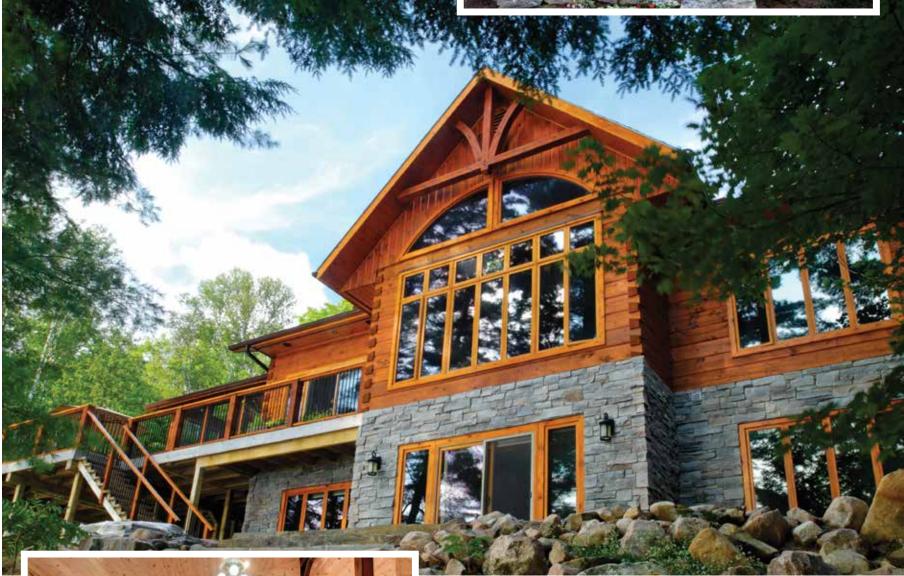
- · Seal any air leaks.
- Replace older windows with newer, more energy-efficient designs.
- Install large windows, especially on a south wall. Larger windows will reduce energy use for heating in cold weather and for artificial lighting year-round.





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The "C" finalist, Highland Storm Tykes, celebrate in the dressing room. Submitted.

Tom Prentice & Sons and Walker's Heating & **Cooling Tykes**

The Highland Storm Tyke team travelled to Marmora to compete in the Centre Hastings Senior Tyke Tournament. The team ended on a high note, coming out as winners of the "C" finals.

The Tykes faced off against the Campbellford Blacks first. Vanek Logan scored with an assist from Deagan Davison in the first period, but the Storm

Hudson Horsley was voted MVP for this game.

The second game was a 1-1 tie, with Davison scoring, assisted by Taylor Mullock. Logan was voted MVP for this

Everyone was ready for action for the third game where the Storm became the winners of the "C" finals with a score of 6-1. Logan racked up four goals, Evan Perrot scored one goal and Leighton Nesbitt scored his first goal of the season. Henry Neilson had two assists, Davison had two assists, and Jaxen Casey had an assist. Lyla Degeer was voted MVP for this game. Awesome job everyone!

Between games, a shootout occurred.

Storm reports

Logan was chosen to shoot for his team and had five amazing shots go in. Way to go Vanek. Horsley went out for goalie for the Highland Storm team in the shootout. Horsley ended up winning the top goalie award and coming home with the trophy for the tournament. What an amazing accomplishment for his first year of goalie. The Tykes are back in action on Dec. 29 in Bobcaygeon at 6 p.m. Go Storm Go! (Submitted by Tamara Bain).

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The Highlander's 3-Stars of the Week





Stats G A GP 1 2 1

Owen Gilbert MIDGET

The Highland Storm had only one game on the docket this past week, but what a game it was for the Midget team. The Storm played host to the Mariposa Lightning at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, stalking the Lightning's tender early. Owen was omnipresent throughout the game, racking up three points to go with his sound defence, as the Lightning were held to a single goal.



Stats G A GP

Owen Patterson-Smith MIDGET

The Highland Storm Midgets gave our timekeeper quite the workout when they hosted the Mariposa Lightning last week, recording an impressive seven goals for. Owen, who has continued his stellar play since his initial first star of the week nomination in the middle of October, had another multi-point performance, picking up two goals and one assist.



C Champion, Top Goalie

Hudson Horsley TYKE

Centre Hastings was the location of the tournament that our Highland Storm Tykes took part in over the weekend, returning to Haliburton as "C" champions. Not only did Hudson bring home the "C" trophy, but some individual accolades as well, receiving Top Goalie honours, as well as MVP of game one.

Local League Weekly Schedule

Thursday, December 22

Team TD Canada Trust- Practice- Haliburton @ 5PM-6PM
Team Rotary- Practice- Minden @ 5PM-6PM
Team Pharmasave- Practice- Haliburton @ 6PM-7PM
Team Canadian Tire- Practice- Haliburton @ 7PM-8PM
Team Home Hardware- Practice- Minden @ 7:30PM-8:30PM
Team McKecks- Practice- Haliburton @ 8PM-9PM

Thursday December 29

Team TD Canada Trust- Practice- Minden @ 5PM-6PM
Team Rotary- Practice- Haliburton @ 5PM-6PM
Team Pharmasave- Practice- Minden @ 6PM-7PM
Team Canadian Tire- Practice- Minden @ 7PM-8PM
Team Home Hardware- Practice- Haliburton @ 7:30PM-8:30PM
Team McKecks- Practice- Minden @ 8PM-9P



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Jets reports

The Bancroft I.D.A./ Red Eagle Family Campground Midget B

The midget team travelled to Keene on Saturday in the first game of their homeand-home weekend matchup with the Wolverines

The Jets were flying as they pressured Keene in the first period, trying to gain momentum against the always tough Wolverines. Jamie Little gave Bancroft a 1-0 lead midway through the first finishing off a beauty rush with a snap shot from the high slot that beat the Keene tender through the five-hole.

The Jets continued their attack throughout the game and after a scoreless second period, capitalized early in the third to take a 2-0 lead. Drew Rupnow forced a turnover in the Wolverine end that Katie Funk picked up and then fired a wrister at the Keene net-minder. Danielle Sunstrum slid the loose puck that eluded the Keene goalie into the back of the net for the eventual game-deciding goal.

The Wolverines never gave up and with their net empty stuffed a bouncing puck off the end boards in the Bancroft end to capitalize on the 5-on-6 attack late in the third period. The Jets fought back and secured the 2-1 win taking away any further scoring chances by the Wolverines. On Sunday, the Jets hosted Keene in

Bancroft. The Wolverines challenged the Jets early in the game, pressuring Bancroft in their defensive end. Midway through the first, Keene capitalized on their pressure attack, forcing a turnover and gaining a 1-0 lead after stuffing home a loose puck. The Jets used this Keene attack as a wake-up call and stepped up their level of play. Late in the second period, Sunstrum scored the equalizing goal with a shot from behind the net that ricocheted off the Wolverine tender into the back of the net. The Jets continued their attack and less than a minute later, Rupnow forced a turnover in the Keene end that Sunstrum picked up, making a sweet pass to Funk who put home a beauty, game-deciding, wrister, giving the Jets a 2-1 second period lead.

The Wolverines continued to try and find their equalizing goal throughout the third period. As the game clock wound down, Keene pulled their net-minder to try and force a tie game. Kenndal Marsden secured the win with less than a minute left in the game after picking up a loose puck in the neutral zone and snapping home a 3-1 empty netter from the high slot.

The Jets' next take on the Lindsay Lynx in another weekend home-and-home new year match-up on Jan. 7 in Bancroft at 5 p.m. and then travel to Lindsay on Sunday night for the second game of the weekend challenge. (Submitted by Dan Marsden)

The Leveque Brothers/ Rock Breakers Peewee Girls Jets

The peewees played on home Haliburton ice Saturday night, weathering the storm against the Ennismore Eagles.

After a scoreless first period, the girls turned on their "jets" and stepped it up a notch to score three goals in the second. Goals scored by Peyton Armstrong (2) and Emma Tidey with assists going to Elyse Ives (2), Avery Coens, Emily Alexander and Chloe "Fireball" Billings.

Ennismore was not giving up and challenged the Jets on every play but with a short bench to work with they could not hold the girls back. The Jets scored

another goal in the third to finish off the hat trick for Armstrong, assisted by Megan Jenkins for a final score of 4-0.

The girls were excited to get their Christmas party underway after the game as they celebrated the holiday season as a team.

Sunday was a new day as they travelled to Lindsay to take on their arch rivals. This was the first meeting between these two teams this season and a lot more than just a win was on the line.

The Jets wanted to send a quick message to Lindsay and came out flying in the first period.

With some great passing and awesome pressure, the Jets scored three times in the first period to give them the quick lead.

Goals scored by Ava Smith, Hailey Hudder and Tidey with assists going to Alexander, Ives, Jenkins and her first assist of the year, the Jets netminder, Bella Smolen

As in regular Lindsay fashion, they were not ready to throw in the towel just yet. The game picked up a level with some fast skating, quick passes and amazing saves from both ends as Lindsay squeaked one in to close the gap to a two goal lead for the Jets.

The third period saw some more great hockey and the Jets got a dribbler past the Lindsay goalie to seal the 4-1 win. Goal scored by Armstrong unassisted.

The bench staff, players and parents would like to wish all their fans a very Merry Christmas and safe Happy New Year. See everyone in 2017. (Submitted by Melissa Armstrong)



Coach Rich, a.k.a Ricko Suave, proudly displays the present the girls bought him. *Submitted*.

The Parkview Dental/ Canadian Tire Bantam Girls Jets

The bantams travelled to Keene on Saturday for an early afternoon game against the Otonabee Wolverines.

The first period was scoreless with both teams competing hard for that first goal.

The Wolverines were successful in putting two in the net in the second. Despite the Jets efforts, and the team's only goal in the third period, scored by Paige Billings, and assisted by Hannah McMann, they came up short with the final score in favour of Otonabee 2-1.

Late Sunday afternoon, the girls played the Peterborough Ice Kats in Peterborough. The Jets won 4-0. The first goal of the game was scored by McMann, assisted by Kennedy Croskery. The second period saw goals by Olivia Martin, assisted by McMann. Martin again with her second of the game, assisted by Billings. The final goal of the period and

the game was by Marissa Cannon, assisted by Mackala O'Connor.

The coaching, bench staff, players and parents would like to thank the sponsors for their continued support and wish everyone all the best throughout the holiday season.

(Submitted by Linda Goulet)



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JANUARY HOCKEY SCHEDULE







Derek Beachli

705-457-7341 derek@beachli.ca

January 3, 2017 ATOM- Practice- Minden @ 6PM-7:30PM

PEEWEE- Practice-Haliburton @ 7PM-8:30PM **MIDGET- Practice- Minden @** 7:30PM-9PM

January 4, 2017 **BANTAM- Practice-**Haliburton

January 5, 2017 ATOM vs. Kawartha- OPS @ NOVICE- Practice- Minden @ 6PM-7:30PM

January 6, 2017 **BANTAM vs. Mariposa-**Minden @ 7PM MIDGET vs. Woodville-Haliburton @ 8:30PM

January 7, 2017 **TYKE** vs. Muskoka- Minden @ 10AM **NOVICE** vs. Brock- Minden

@ 11AM ATOM vs. Sturgeon Lake-Minden @ 12:30PM

PEEWEE vs. South Muskoka-Minden @ 2PM **BANTAM vs. Brock-**Sunderland @ 6:30PM

January 8, 2017 ATOM vs. South Muskoka-Haliburton @ 2PM MIDGET vs. South Muskoka- Wilberforce @ 2PM-3:30PM

Gravenhurst @ 2PM

NOVICE vs. Elmvale- Elmvale January 15, 2017 @ 2:25PM

PEEWEE vs. Elmvale-Elmvale @ 3:30PM

January 10, 2017

January 9, 2017 BANTAM vs. Mariposa- Little January 16, 2017 Britain @ 7PM

TYKE- Practice- Haliburton @ 5PM-6PM **ATOM-** Practice- Haliburton @ 6PM-7:30PM

PEEWEE vs. Sturgeon Lake-Minden @ 7PM

January 11, 2017 **BANTAM- Practice-**Haliburton @ 7:30PM-9PM

January 12, 2017 **NOVICE- Practice-**Haliburton @ 6PM-7:30PM

January 13, 2017 **BANTAM- Practice-**Haliburton @ 7PM-8:30PM **MIDGET- Practice-**Haliburton @ 8:30PM-10PM

January 14, 2017 **TYKE-** Practice- Wilberforce @ 10AM-11AM **NOVICE- Practice-**Wilberforce @ 11AM-

12:30AM **ATOM- Practice- Wilberforce** @ 12:30PM-2PM **PEEWEE- Practice-** **NOVICE vs. Muskoka-**Haliburton @ 12:30PM PEEWEE vs. Muskoka-Minden @ 3PM

BANTAM- Practice- Minden @ 7PM-8:30PM

January 17, 2017 **TYKE- Practice- Minden @** 5PM-6PM **ATOM- Practice- Minden @**

6PM-7:30PM **PEEWEE- Practice-**Haliburton @ 7PM-8:30PM **MIDGET- Practice- Minden @** 7:30PM-9PM

January 18, 2017 **BANTAM- Practice-**Haliburton @ 7:30PM-9PM

January 19, 2017 ATOM- Practice- Minden @ 6PM-7:30PM

January 20, 2017 **BANTAM- Practice- Minden** @ 7PM-8:30PM **MIDGET- Practice- Minden @** 8:30PM-10PM

January 21, 2017 **TYKE-** Practice- Haliburton @ 10AM-11AM

January 23, 2017 **BANTAM- Practice- Minden** @ 7PM-8:30PM

January 24, 2017 **TYKE-** Practice- Haliburton @ 5PM-6PM **ATOM- Practice- Haliburton** @ 6PM-7:30PM **PEEWEE- Practice- Minden**

@ 7PM-8:30PM **MIDGET- Practice-**

Haliburton @ 7:30PM-9PM

January 25, 2017 **BANTAM- Practice-**Haliburton @ 7:30PM-9PM

January 26, 2017 **NOVICE-** Practice-Haliburton @ 6PM-7:30PM

January 27, 2017 **BANTAM- Practice- Minden** @ 8PM-9:30PM

January 28, 2017 **TYKE-** Practice- Haliburton @ 10AM-11AM **NOVICE- Practice-**Haliburton @ 11AM-12:30AM **ATOM- Practice- Haliburton** @ 12:30PM-2PM **PEEWEE- Practice-**Haliburton @ 2PM-3:30PM

TYKE- Practice- Minden @ 5PM-6PM **ATOM- Practice- Minden @** 6PM-7:30PM **PEEWEE- Practice-**Haliburton @ 7PM-8:30PM **MIDGET- Practice- Minden @**

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Highlander sports



Private school hits the slopes

Twenty-seven private school students from Port Hope took over the hills at Sir Sam's Ski and Ride for race training last week. A total of 27 skiers who attend Trinity College School were at the Eagle Lake ski hill from Dec. 15-16. It was their first time training at Sir Sam's, said general manager Chris Bishop. *Photo submitted by Chris Bishop.*



Special Olympics Haliburton County Red Wolves Bowling Scores

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Josh Grant - 115
Caitlin Peacock - 112
Marianne Stammers - 93
Donna May Lee - 92





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Highlander sports

Red Hawks lose home openers

By Alex Coop

After a series of cancelled games due to weather — and a school board-wide hold and secure Dec. 9 — the Halibuton Highlands Secondary School basketball teams finally played their home openers against Fenelon Falls Monday afternoon, but were edged out due to costly

The junior Red Hawks team played first, and thanks to some strong team defense and solid three-point shooting by Austin



Gordon Cochrane

Junior team head coach

French, the home team entered halftime with a 16-14 lead.

But 19 turnovers in the second half cost the Red Hawks the lead, and the Falcons

sealed the deal with a 35-30 victory.

French and forward Steven Dudgeon led the Red Hawks with eight points.

Head coach Gordon Cochrane was concerned about the turnovers, but was pleased about his team's overall effort.

"They're applying what they're learning at practice," he said. "Caden [Little] tried some hook shots in the game, which was great, and even if guys aren't making those shots, the fact that they're trying to make those good plays means they want to improve."

Fatigue may have played a role in the high turnover count in the second half, Cochrane said, which was likely due to the fact that the team was short two

Guards Tevin Sullivan and Phoenix Accero were out with the flu.

The senior team shared a similar fate and lost 46-39.

Point guard Sam Longo led the way with 11 points.

Both Red Hawks teams played games yesterday. The juniors played Port Hope and Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School, while the seniors took on Campbellford, Norwood and Port Hope.

As of press time, the final results of those games were unavailable.



Austin French brings the ball up the court. Photo by Alex Coop.



The Municipality of Highlands East Is Currently Seeking A

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The Municipality of Highlands East Building Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Building Inspector/Deputy Chief Building Official.

Preference will be given to candidates who have the following experience:

- 5 years experience in a related trade with a minimum of 2 years performing municipal building inspections and reviewing permit applications for Part 3 & Part 9 Buildings and Part 8 Sewage.
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- Qualified in or be willing to obtain qualification through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing examinations in House, Small Buildings, HVAC-House, Plumbing-House, Septic and Building Structural.
- Have a thorough working knowledge of the Ontario Building Code and associated legislation, with a demonstrated ability in plans examination, issuing permits, performing site inspections to ensure compliance with the Ontario Building Code and knowledge of construction techniques and systems.
- Have a valid G driver's license.
- Have experience with various computer programs including MS Office Suite and good oral and written communication skills.

If you are interested in joining our dedicated team of municipal professionals, applications early marked "Application -Building Inspector/Deputy Chief Building Official" may be submitted on or before 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 3^{rd} , 2017 via mail, in person, fax or email. Interested applicants may submit their resume, including references, in confidence to:

> Shannon Hunter, CAO/Treasurer Municipality of Highlands East P.O. Box 295, 2249 Loop Road Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0 Fax: 705-448-2532 E-Mail: shunter@highlandseast.ca

The Municipality of Highlands East is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants requiring accommodation are asked to contact the CAO/Treasurer. Applicant information is collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to determine qualifications for employment with the Municipality of Highlands East. Questions about this collection should be directed to Shannon Hunter, C.A.O.

A copy of the detailed job description is available upon request or on the Highlands East website at www.highlandseast. ca. We thank all applicants for their interest but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



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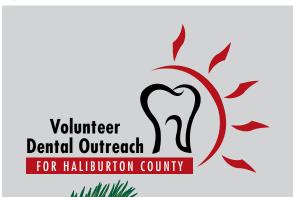
Highlander sports







Top: Sam Longo looks to make a move against a Falcon defender. *Photo by Mark Arike*. Left: Cade Bain (centre, Red Hawks player) battles for the rebound. *Photo by Alex Coop*. Above: Caden Little, right, tries to stop a Falcon fast break. *Photo by Alex Coop*.



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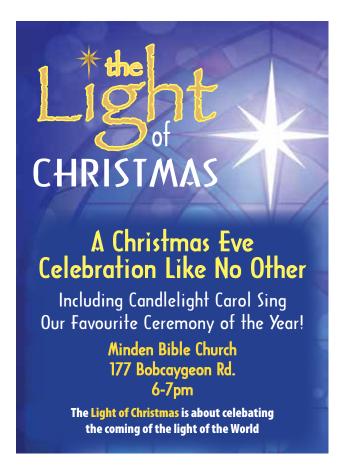
Highlander events



Books for children and youth

Recently, Haliburton & District Lions, Elizabeth Matthews, Betty Mills and Gary Matthews, delivered 44 new books to Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents. It is part of the Lions' International Reading Action Program, a 10-year commitment to increasing reading and literacy rates. For the Haliburton Lions, it is all about putting new books in the hands of children and youth. A partnership with Scholastic Books provides discounted prices and enables the club to plan and implement several local projects. Point in Time manager Lisa Hamilton was delighted to receive the books, especially at this time of year, and looks forward to giving them to children and youth at upcoming Point in Time events.

Haliburton Lions, Elizabeth Matthews (seated left), Betty Mills (standing) and Gary Matthews (seated right) with Point in Time manager Lisa Hamilton (seated centre). Submitted by Lion Gail Stelter.





A community following Jesus

Saturday December 24, 2016

Christmas Eve at St. George's Haliburton

Chaotic Family Service 4:30 pm Carol Singing 8:00 pm Service begins at 8:30 pm

Christmas Morning Services

St. Margaret's, Wilberforce 10:00 am St. George's, Haliburton 10:30 am

Regular service times

St. George's, Haliburton - Sunday at 9:30 am St. Margaret's, Wilberforce -Sunday at 11:15

All are welcome







Highlander events



Jason "Wook" Wickware talks about his endeavours in blacksmithing. Photos by Mark



Visitors admire some ceramic creations.



Ceramic artist Selena Newns holds her handmade dragon tea light holder.

Fleming students wrap up semester

By Mark Arike

Heavy snowfall the previous night didn't deter visitors from heading out to browse the work of students at the Haliburton School of Art and Design.

In fact, the college's Great Hall was teeming with people on Saturday during the end-of-semester show and sale dubbed Wrap It Up.

"We were originally worried, and the

students were a bit anxious about it," said organizer Erin Lynch, referring to the weather.

"There's lots of traffic. People seem happy," she said around noon.

More than 50 full-time diploma and certificate students showed off their creations at the annual show, which has become a hit with locals and visitors alike. They are graded as it is part of their



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If you feel you meet the qualifications and are energetic and enthusiastic please submit a covering letter and resume by January 6th, 2017.

Visit: www.haliburtoncdc.ca for a position description.

E-mail: ptallman@haliburtoncdc.ca

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We thank all applicants, however only chosen applicants will be contacted.



For more information contact Elisha at 705-286-2298

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EVENTS

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Saturday, January 7th, 2017

A.J. LaRue Arena - both indoors and out

Check out all the fun we have planned!

4:00-8:00 pm: Outdoor venue consisting of local food vendors (including Into the Blue Pizza, Los Abuelos Mexican Food and Abbey Gardens amongst others), games, activities, a fire pit and more! Make sure to stop by the beer tent to taste the signature "Trapper's Ale" created by Haliburton Highlands Brewing specifically for the sesquicentennial!

4:00-5:00pm: Free Public Skating

5:30 pm: Official Opening Ceremony inside the arena, including speeches from local dignitaries and the debut of Kim Emmerson's film "Dysart 150 – The Movie"

6:15 pm: The Fire Guy takes the stage – watch a fire and light show on ice, then follow the show outside!

6:45 pm: Make sure to grab a piece of Dysart's special birthday cake!

8:00-10:00 pm: Stay for a Trivia Night at the Haliburton Curling Club. Come with a team or as an individual and test your knowledge!



For More information, visit our website: www.dysartetal.ca

Follow us on Facebook: @Dysartetal

TRANSPORTATION

Haliburton County Community Transportation Hub

Need to get somewhere? Don't have a ride? **We can help.**

To find transportation options:

www.transportationhaliburtoncounty.ca 705-455-2665 or 1-844-771-RIDE (7433) toll-free

EVENTS

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE and Communion Celebration, with guest singers Kate Campbell, John Miller and Deniella Rivard. Sat., Dec. 24, 7 p.m. at Haliburton United Church, 10 George St.

FREE LUNCH FOR SENIORS, Sat., Dec. 24th at Oakview Lodge, 12 – 2:30 p.m., RSVP by Dec 10th. Space is limited. Donations to the food banks gratefully accepted. 705-489-2463

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE, Sun. Dec. 25, 10:30 a.m. Lochlin United Church, 1050 Lochlin Rd.

FREE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER at Lloyd Watson Community Centre in Wilberforce. Dec 25th, 2 – 6 p.m. All are welcome! Sponsored by Kawartha Bikers Church. For more info contact Lynn Binskin 705-448-9893 or Hazel & Digger Lanois 705-448-9692.

NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE 10:30 a.m. at Ingoldsby United Church, 1741 Ingoldsby Rd.

Every Monday Pickle Ball – Lloyd Watson Centre – 3:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. LUNCH FOR THE BEREAVED, an informal get-together for those who are experiencing bereavement. Light lunch, no registration required. Fridays 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Haliburton: 1st and 3rd Friday at SIRCH, 2 Victoria St. Minden: 2nd and 4th Friday at Minden Legion on Hwy 35. For more info: 705-457-2941 ext. 2932

VON SMART exercise program for balance, strength, and flexibility. Minden on Wed. at 11 a.m. in the Hyland Crest Auditorium, and in Haliburton on Thurs. at 1 p.m. at Echo Hills. For more information contact Judy Webb at 705-286-5098 or Carol Browne at 705-457-4551.

Every Monday Pickleball at Haliburton High School, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Cost \$2, equipment supplied. Bring clean indoor running shoes.

EVERY TUESDAY. Royal Canadian Legion Branch 519, Coboconk Progressive euchre at 1:00 pm. Cost is \$2 per person

EVERY TUESDAY. Euchre at West Guilford Community Centre 7 p.m. For information, call 705-754-2464

Haliburton United Church Pastoral Charge Christmas Services

Christmas Eve Dec 24 at 7:00 pm Haliburton United Church, 10 George Street at Pine

Christmas Day Dec 25 at 10:30 am Lochlin United Church 1050 Lochlin Road off Gelert Rd.



PREVIOUS WEEK'S ANSWERS



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

In the spirit of giving this holiday season, how about giving someone a lift?



www.haliburtonrideshare.ca

Share the ride – so no one gets left behind.

IN MEMORY

The Municipality of Dysart et al

PO Box 389 135 Maple Ave Haliburton, ON KOM 1SO www.dysartetal.ca

REQUEST FOR TENDER

REQUEST FOR TENDER

LANDFILL COVER AND COMPACTION MAINTENANCE SERVICES April 1st, 2017 to March 31st, 2018

The Municipality of Dysart et al is inviting tenders for Landfill Cover, Compaction & Maintenance Services.

Specifications and Tender Forms can be obtained online via http://www.dysartetal.ca or can be picked up in person at the Dysart et al Municipal Office on 135 Maple Avenue in Haliburton. Alternatively, you can contact Mallory Bishop, Environmental Coordinator at mbishop@dysartetal.ca to obtain the tender documents via email.

Tenders must be received on or before 3:00 p.m. on Friday, January 6th, 2017.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Rob Camelon, Interim Director of Public Works

HELP WANTED



Cook It Up Training Opportunity!

Are you interested in a job in food services? SIRCH is running Cook It Up again in 2017 – a fun 15 week training program (2 days per week) starting early February and continuing until mid-May. You will gain practical experience learning to prepare, cook and serve nutritious food, and will have actual restaurant experience in food preparation and serving. Training will include a Food Handler Training Certificate and employment-ready skills.

Applicants must be able to stand on their feet for up to 7 hours, lift 20-30 pounds and be able to operate in a fast paced environment.

Send an email with background information and/or resume to info@sirch.on.ca. Call 705-457-1742 for more information. This is free, but there are limited spaces so apply now!

In Memory **Shirley Howse (R.N.)**

Days of sadness
still come o'er us,
Tears in silence
often flow,
For memory keeps you
ever near us
Though you died
two years ago.

Chester, Heather, Bill & Adam



The Haliburton County Public Library wants to say

Thanky

to the Haliburton County Development Corporation, all of our community partners, and the exhibitors who participated in our first ever Try It Fair.

With your help, over 200 people in our community tried something new!

Wrapping paper can be recycled, with the exception of coloured foil wrap.

Bows, ribbons, bubble wrap & plastic packaging from toys are **NOT** recyclable & should be placed with household waste.

ALL our Landfill sites accept your used household batteries and unwanted e-waste for recycling FREE of charge.



for more landfill information and updates Recycling and transparent bags are mandatory Landfill cards must be shown at the gate Subject to change without notice

LANDFILL **HOLIDAY HOURS**

ALL Landfills will be CLOSED on Christmas Day and New Year's Day Regular winter hours are in effect for all other days.

Municipality of Dysart et al 705-457-1740 www.dysartetal.ca

Space provided through a partnership between industry and Ontario municipalities to support waste diversion programs.

EVENTS

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

FUNERAL SERVICES



Funerals and Memorial Services

127 Bobcaygeon Rd Minden, ON 705-286-2181 www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

OBITURAIRES



In Loving Memory of Lynda Mae LaPorte (nee Whittaker)

Passed away peacefully at home in Haliburton on Friday, December 16, 2016, at the age of 77.

Beloved wife of Edward LaPorte. Dear mother of Junior (Jean) LaPorte, Dale (Cindy) LaPorte, Phillip (Darlene) Sibley, Mike Sibley, Marilyn (Dave) Espie, Sandra (John) Cooper, Dianne (Stewart) MacDonald, Charlie (Cavelle) Sibley, Chris (Lisa) LaPorte, Susan (deceased) (Phillip)

Greenwell. Loving grandmother of many grandchildren and great grandchildren. Dear sister of Shirley, Roberta, Marion and predeceased by Doug and Harold. Fondly remembered by her family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127

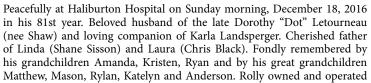
Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 on Tuesday, December 20, 2016 from 11:00 am until the time of the Service to Celebrate Lynda's Life at 1:00 pm. Cremation has taken place.

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



Roland 'Rolly' Letourneau

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)



Skyline Automotive in Haliburton for many years. He enjoyed traveling, hunting, woodworking and most of all his family.

Private Graveside Service

At Rolly's request, cremation has taken place. A private graveside service will take place at a later date. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services - Palliative Care Unit would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209





Judith 'Judy' Mitchell (nee Brown)

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at home on Sunday morning, December 18, 2016 in her 71st year Loving mother of Melissa (Gerry) and Jessica (Jon). Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Noah and Henry. Dear sister of Edward Brown. Judy was a wonderful Mom, friend and teacher. She will be greatly missed by her many friends and students whose lives she had a great influence on.

Private Family Gathering

A private family gathering will take place. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation - Palliative Care Unit would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted ommunity to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. FUNERAL HOME #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com

EVENTS

AL ANON- WE CARE, are you troubled by someone's drinking? Meetings: Tuesday 7 – 8 p.m., St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton. All welcome.

HELP WANTED



Budget Propane Corporation is currently seeking applicants for experienced **licensed DZ bulk drivers** with a minimum of three years driving experience.

Must be familiar with the Haliburton-Minden area and will be based out of Minden.

This is a seasonal part-time positions for Saturday and Sunday shifts and we offer an excellent salary and benefits package.

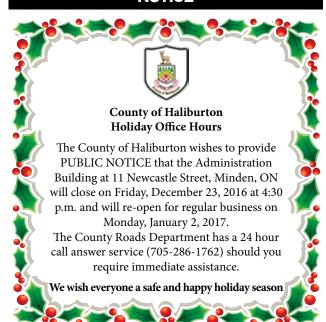
Please no phone calls.

Mail, e-mail or fax covering letter and resume to:

1011 Beiers Road Gravenhurst, ON P1P 1R1 Fax: 705-687- 1305a E-Mail: lisa@budgetpropane.net

We thank all applicants, however, only chosen applicants will be contacted.

NOTICE



SUDOKU

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

VON SMART exercise program for balance, strength and flexibility. Minden on Tuesdays at 11 a.m. in the Hyland Crest auditorium and in Haliburton on Thursdays at 1 p.m. at Echo Hills. For more info contact Judy Webb at 705-286-5098 or Carol Browne at 705-457-4551.

EVERY THURSDAY
7 – 9 p.m. Shout Sister
Choir is welcoming
new members at the
Haliburton United Church
shoutsisterchoir.ca

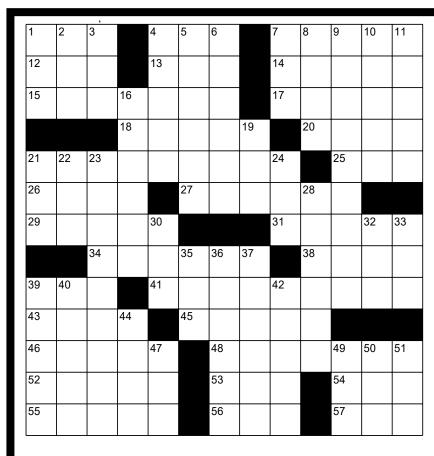
HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS Stroke Support Group meets the third Thursday of each month at the Fireside Lounge, Highland Crest, Minden 10 a.m. - noon. Contact Lois Rigney 705-286-1765 ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS - WE CARE Meetings: Thursdays noon -1 p.m., Sundays 10:30 -11:30 a.m. St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton. All welcome. 705-324-9900.

Every Tuesday and Thursday Squash House League - 7:30 p.m. Highlands Squash Club – beside A.J. LaRue Arena – all welcome info@ mysquash.ca

CAREERS

· NEW YEAR · NEW CAREER ·

Consider a career in Real Estate. We will train you to make an above-average income in this exciting business. Contact us now for details. Kate Archer, Broker / V.P. 705-457-2220 Direct Line: 705-930-4040 Careers@ BowesAndCocks.com RealEstateCareerInfo.



ACROSS

- 1. Before, to Browning
- 4. Snaky shape
- 7. Plant again
- 12. Tractor-trailer
- 13. Set ablaze
- 14. Boxing locale
- 15. Hen's mate
- 17. Become narrower
- 18. Defeated one
- 20. Squabble
- 21. No-shows
- 25. Overhead railways
- 26. Escort
- 27. Come into sight
- 29. Moves quickly
- 31. Exact copy

- 34. Chinese, e.g.
- 38. Burden
- 39. Poisonous snake
- 41. Loafer polish
- 43. Lids
- 45. Main artery
- 46. Assumed name
- 48. Beach
- 52. Jargon
- 53. Part of the UK
- 54. Public notices
- 55. Advanced gradually
- 56. Visit
- 57. Tennis divider

DOWN

1. Make a boo-boo

- 2. ____ de Janeiro
 3. Freudian term
- 4. Singer John
- 5. Midday nap
- 6. Actress Meryl
- 7. Informer
- 8. Historic times
- 9. Pizza meat
- 10. Basketball's Shaquille
- 11. Small pastries
- 16. Rains ice
- 19. GOP member
- 21. Append
- 22. Lamb's lament
- 23. Burly
- 24. Dry, as wine
- 28. Honolulu greetings
- 30. Family mem.
- 32. Convent resident
- 33. Opposite of WNW
- 35. Cry of surprise
- 36. Rope loops
- 37. Tranquil
- 39. Dickens title beginning (2 wds.)
- 40. Not liquid
- 42. Phase
 - Z. 1 11a3C
- 44. Wise man
- 47. Instant lawn
- 49. Bond creator _____ Fleming
- 50. Ike's inits.
- 51. NJ time zone

What's on

7 - 9 p.m. Shout Sister Choir is welcoming new members

Table Tennis, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Minden Community

Centre. \$3/person. Contact Elisha Weiss for more info 705-

Drop in to the Dorset Recreation Centre for a pick-up volley

ball game from 5 – 6 p.m. Equipment provided. \$5/adults,

\$2.50/youth or senior, or free with membership.

at the Haliburton United Church shoutsisterchoir.ca



DECEMBER & JANUARY 2016 EVENTS

EVERY THURSDAY

SUNDAY

286-2298 or eweiss@mindenhills.ca

MONDAY

TUESDAY

1546 for more info.

Zumba classes at the Dorset Recreation Centre with

Joanne MacLeod, 7 – 8 p.m. All are welcome, \$5/person/

class. Contact Joanne at jomac6058@gmail.com or 705-766-

African Hand Drumming at the Dorset Recreation Centre

10 – 11 a.m. with Gillian Thomas. No experience required,

Adult Only Shinny 11 a.m. - Noon at AJ LaRue Arena in Haliburton, \$5/person. Bring your own equipment. Contact

com or 705-571-2539. \$10/adults, \$5/kids.

Andrew Wilbee for details 705-457-2083.

instruments provided. For more info contact gilliant07@gmail.

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY Adult Only Skate, A.J.

LaRue Arena, Haliburton. Noon - 2:00 p.m. \$2/person

Adult Senior Skating, S.G. Nesbitt Arena, Minden. Noon – 2 p.m. \$2/person

Café Yoga, 7:15 – 8:15 a.m. at Baked & Battered. Get your happy on! Free with donation to Food For Kids program, Call Lynda 705-457-3121 for more

FRIDAY

Public Skating, A.J. LaRue Arena, Haliburton. 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$2/person

22

23

SATURDAY

Free Lunch for Seniors at Oakview Lodge, 12 - 2:30 p.m., RSVP by Dec 10th. Space is limited. 705-489-2463

Christmas Eve Service and Communion Celebration, with guest singers Kate Campbell, John Miller and Deniella Rivard. 7:00 p.m. at Haliburton United Church, 10 George St. at Pine St.

Minden Hills Family New Years'

Memorial Arena. Grab your skates,

toboggans and family, and join us for Public Skating, Toboggan Rides,

Eve - 6 - 8 p.m at SG Nesbitt

24

Christmas Day Service,10:30 a.m. at Lochlin United Church, 1050

Lochlin Rd. (off Gelert Rd.)

FREE Community Christmas Dinner, at Lloyd Watson Centre Wilberforce. 2 – 6 p.m. For more info call Lvnn 705-448-9893 Sponsored by Kawartha Bikers Church.

New Year's Day Service, 10:30 a.m., Ingoldsby United Church, 1741 Ingoldsby Rd. off Kashagawigamog Lake Rd.



Senior Adult Skating, S.G. Nesbitt Arena, Minden. Noon – 2 p.m. \$2/person

Sleigh Bells Ring, sleigh ride in Tory Hill, \$20/person 1.5 hours. yoursoutdoors. ca/packages/sleigh-bells-

Public Skating, A.J. LaRue Arena, Haliburton. 11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. \$2/person • Dec 27 - Dec 30



and Hot Chocolate. FREE! New Years' Eve at Red Get your tickets from Mark at

Umbrella Inn with the Ya Babys! thehairlounge9@gmail.com or at the Red Umbrella at info@redumbrellainn.com

Celebration, Head Lake Park, Haliburton 4 – 7 p.m.

Dysart et al 150th



Visit thehighlander.ca for more events and activities in the Haliburton Highlands

Ski Like a Canadian, with the Haliburton Highlands Nordic Trails Association. \$40 /half-day session, per person. \$70 per person with equipment rental. http:// www.yoursoutdoors.ca/ packages/ski-canadian

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

HALIBURTON BRANCH

Monday bridge 1p.m. Tuesday dart league starting at 7 p.m. Wednesday bid euchre 1 p.m. start, bingo doors open at 6 p.m, bingo starts at 7 p.m. - \$500 jackpot, \$1000 jackpot - last Wednesday of the month.

Thursday general meeting second Thursday of the month starting at 7:30 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m. Friday meat draw - five draws, five prizes each draw, first draw at 4:30 p.m., last draw at 6:30 p.m., tickets \$2 per draw ... Chester Howse, MC.

Friday fun darts - 4:30 p.m. onwards

Saturday 50/50 4 p.m. draw, tickets \$1 each from noon onwards

Sunday breakfast second and fourth Sunday of the month - 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. \$6 per person. Occasional volunteers are needed. Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, for more information call the Legion today at (705) 457- 2571, email rcl129@ bellnet.ca or visit haliburtonlegion.com Come on out and support Haliburton Legion Branch 129 ... everyone is welcome.

MINDEN BRANCH

General meeting, first Wednesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. start Ladies darts, Wednesday, 1-4 p.m.

Euchre, Thursday, 7 p.m. Fish/wings & chips, Friday, noon-2 p.m. and

Mixed darts, Friday 7:30 p.m. Bid euchre, first Sunday of the month (except holidays), noon, \$12

Sports fan day, Sunday, 12-5 p.m. Lunch menu, Monday – Friday, noon-2 p.m. Liver lovers' special, Tuesday noon-2 p.m. (full menu also)

Meat draws, Wednesday lunch time. Watch for local posters and listen to Canoe FM, and Moose FM, for special events on Saturdays.

WILBERFORCE BRANCH

Friday Pool 1:30 p.m. Saturday Meat draw 2 p.m. – early bird 3 p.m. sharp, early close 5 p.m. Sunday Merry Christmas - closed Monday Bid euchre 7 p.m. beginners welcome.

Wednesday closed Upcoming Events: Saturday, Dec. 31 – New Year's Eve party 9 p.m. to close - \$20/person includes buffet, spot dances, door prize - DJ Pat Casselman

 tickets available at the branch. President's Levee – Sunday, Jan. 1 – 1-5 p.m. - open house - light lunch.



1020 Kernohan Farm Trail

This home is a rare find: quality construction with easy year-round access to everything Haliburton County has to offer. Perfect for a family or empty-nesters. Lots of space inside and out, with a flexible floor plan you can customize exactly as you like. Get the full story at YOURHOMEINMINDEN.CA.



Thursday December 22 2016 | Issue 268 The Highlander 47

What's on





Left, One of the participants from a previous Minden New Year's Eve celebration. Right, a band performs at this year's Light Up Minden event. File photos.

New Year's Eve for families in Minden Hills

By Lisa Gervais

About 200 people are expected to attend the Township of Minden Hills' Family Fun New Year's Eve this year.

For families with young children, or adults who struggle to stay awake until midnight, it is a nice alternative to traditional New Year's Eve celebrations with festivities beginning at 6 p.m. and running until 8 p.m. at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena.

Lynda Litwin, who sits on the Minden Hills Municipal Events Committee, said it's the event's seventh year.

"We started the Sesquicentennial year and have kept the tradition going since then," she said.

It has definitely become a tradition in Minden Hills, Litwin added, with many looking forward to it because it is so family-oriented. It is entirely free and features skating and tobogganing, hot chocolate, a fire to warm up and a chance to roast marshmallows. Families are reminded to bring their own skates and toboggans.

The snack bar will also be open, which is nice for those that want to grab a fast supper, or snack bar treat.

"Many families in the community enjoy getting together to celebrate on New Year's Eve ... skating to the tunes played while they enjoy a hot chocolate during a break. There is always the hill in the back of the arena for a toboggan ride as well," Litwin said.

A lot goes into the planning of this Dec. 31 event.

Along with Elisha Weiss, the community development coordinator, there is a committee that organizes and plans events over a number of months. The facility arena staff help pull it all together, assisting with set up and maintenance.

"Elisha has everything so well organized," Litwin said. "The most popular attractions are the music and mood lighting in the ice surface, with warm-up time in the lobby with a cup of hot chocolate."

Litwin said it is one of her favourite

"The mix of the crowd is wonderful. There are couples that are on their own and enjoy being part of a larger group. There are families that enjoy an evening together to celebrate the year. There are friends that gather and enjoy an activity together to celebrate their continued friendship.

"And, with the timeframe of 6-8 p.m., it is a great after-dinner activity and you're snuggled home for the midnight countdown."

Other New Year's Eve events:

The Dominion Hotel in downtown Minden is hosting a Kitchen Party Music Jam between 2 and 5 p.m. All are welcome. Bring your guitar, drums, keyboard, mouth harp or just go to watch. No cover.

The Wilberforce Legion is having a New Year's Eve party 9 p.m. to close - \$20/person includes buffet, spot dances, door prize — DJ Pat Casselman — Tickets available at the branch.

Christmas Eve service and Communion celebration at the Haliburton United Church with guest singers Kate Campbell, John Miller and Deniella Rivard starting at 7 p.m. at 10 George St. at Pine Street.

(Editor's note: This is not a complete list of things happening on New Year's Eve, just a snapshot of items we were able to find online).





LAKES

Haliburton Office 705-457-2414

Minden Office 705-286-1234 197 Highland Street | 12621 Highway 35

Kinmount Office 705-488-3060 4072 Cty Road 121



*Sales Representative(s) ** Broker

www.royallepagelakesofhaliburton.ca



Wishing everyone peace, good health, and happiness throughout the New Year!

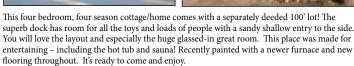




Lindsay Elder** 705-286-1234 Ext 223

BRADY LAKE COTTAGE \$399,900







For his proven knowledge of the Haliburton Highlands area and years of experience, please call Wes for a free evaluation and get your property SOLD.



- Smaller 0.34 acre parcel on cul-de-sac
- · Neighbourhood of similar homes
- Corner posts have been marked





Wes Lytle* 705-286-1234 Ext 237



Larry Hussey* 705-457-2414

NEED NEW LISTINGS!



This is an excellent time to sell, with a shortage of properties for sale and attractive low interest rates. For a free evaluation on your property, please call Larry for fast and efficient service.

KINMOUNT/BURNT RIVER \$399,900



- 183 acres and 250' on Burnt River
- · Large livingroom, country kitchen, stone fireplace • Many upgrades incl. flooring & windows
- 24' x 36' garage, approx. 15 fenced acres
- · Only two hours from the GTA.

• 4,000 sq. ft. retail, 2,000 sq. ft stock room

MOTIVATED SELLERS \$399,900

- Price includes bldg., land, & fixtures
- Includes 1,000 sq. ft. 2 bedroom apartment. For a free opinion of value on your property, or to automatically receive listings



Steve Brand* 705-488-3060 cell/text 416-271-6844 steve@stevebrand.ca



Anthony vanLieshout, CRA, Broker of Record Marcia Bell* Lorri Roberts* Chris James* Chris Smolarz*

that meet your criteria via e-mail, please contact Steve anytime.

800 705) 457-2414 ext 27

Graed on recaded grant closed & collected commissions. Royal LaPage, 2009-2001

For your trust in our company, your faith in our expertise. and for the relationship we enjoy with you.

we thank you and sincerely wish you

a world of peace and a

Happy and Prosperous New Year



trilliumteam.ca