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The Highlander

Thursday **February 15 2018** | Issue 326

INSIDE: FIRST REAL ESTATE GUIDE OF 2018

FREE



Louis York, with his pup Bella, prepares for the Kid & Mutt race at the Haliburton Highlands Dogsled Derby, held at the Pinestone this past weekend. *Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

Time for ice and water rescue fees?

By Lisa Gervais

With a dozen people going through the ice over the past two weeks, Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt has asked whether her municipality should bill for ice

and water rescues.

Her question came during a budget meeting Feb. 13. The mayor asked fire Chief Mike Cavanagh whether any consideration had been given to fees.

Moffatt said she was “floating that little balloon up there” and it could be a more detailed discussion at a later date.

Last Friday (Feb. 9), four fishermen went through the ice on Grass Lake,

requiring Haliburton Highlands OPP, Dysart volunteer firefighters and Haliburton County Paramedic Service to all respond. On Feb. 2, there were two separate incidents that

See “**Sometimes**” on page 2

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'Sometimes it does create a bit of public outcry': AH fire chief

Continued from page 1

required ice rescues. Four people went through on Twelve Mile Lake in Minden Hills in the afternoon, necessitating a call-out to emergency services (EMS) personnel. And, later that evening, EMS was called out again after four people went through on Boshkung Lake in Algonquin Highlands. Dysart fire Chief Mike Iles pegged the cost of the Grass Lake rescue at \$3,000 for the fire department.

Asked by *The Highlander* for a ballpark figure on what that AH rescue cost, Cavanagh estimated about \$460-an-hour for his department. That would not include other volunteer firefighters, OPP or paramedic costs.

Cavanagh told Moffatt and AH council that ice and water rescue fees hadn't been on his radar, adding, "sometimes it does create a bit of public outcry."

He termed this an "abnormal" year to date in terms of

the number of ice rescues, citing "a lot in a short period of time."

Cavanagh said some councils do have non-resident ice and water rescue fees.

The Town of Georgina passed a bylaw in April 2016. If the fire department attends the scene of a water or ice rescue on Lake Simcoe, when warnings have been issued by law enforcement, the conservation authority or other agencies, "or where it would be reasonably known that ice conditions are unsafe ... a fee shall be charged to person(s) rescued."

The bylaw also stipulates that "should the [department] attend the scene of a reported motor vehicle incident on Lake Simcoe involving a snowmobile, automobile, ATV or any other motorized vehicle, the driver shall be charged a fee."

The fee is based on what the Ministry of Transportation

(MTO) gives municipalities for fire response services on provincial highways. It pays \$460 per hour, or parts thereof, for each fire department vehicle sent to an incident.

The MTO has also said that fire departments may also opt out of the ministry payment process and bill the liable party directly at rates determined by the municipality.

But Cavanagh said it can be hard to recover costs, since no one wants to admit to being the driver, they may or may not have insurance and it can be difficult to get contact information to send a bill to.

However, he said if it's something council wants to explore, he will further look into it.

Moffatt conceded, "quite often, they're just accidents."

In two of the three recent mishaps, however, alcohol was deemed a contributing factor for two drivers.

**See editorial p. 6*

Firefighters save fishermen on Grass Lake

By Mark Arike

Four fishermen are lucky to be alive after going through the ice on Grass Lake in the wee hours of Feb. 9.

Haliburton Highlands OPP, Dysart volunteer firefighters and Haliburton County Paramedic Service responded around 3:30 a.m. after receiving a report of an ATV going through the ice at Birch Narrows, a stretch between Grass Lake and Lake Kashagawigamog. A police investigation revealed the group of ice fishers were travelling on two snowmobiles and an ATV when the ATV broke through the ice, according to OPP Const. Dianna Dauphinee. Two of the men were able to get out of the water, while the other two had to be pulled out by firefighters. Fire Chief Mike Iles said the rescued men spent at least half an hour in the water.

"Two people would probably be dead if not for intervention/rescue by the fire department," said Iles.

Three of the four men were transported to hospital with hypothermia.

Police determined the 32-year-old driver of the ATV had been drinking alcohol. He was issued a three-day license suspension after a roadside test produced a "warn range" result.

Twelve people have gone through ice in three separate incidents in the county this month. None of them were wearing a floater suit or carrying ice picks, said Dauphinee. All were fortunate to escape with their lives.

The OPP would like to remind the public that "no ice is safe ice" and to avoid driving on frozen lakes and rivers. Areas that may typically be open could appear to be frozen due to a drop in temperature. If it can't be avoided, check ice conditions beforehand, wear a floater suit and carry ice picks and make sure they are accessible. Always be prepared and travel with safety equipment in the event of an emergency.

Iles said the four men weren't familiar with the area.



A helmet on the ice after a fatal snowmobile accident last February. *File photo.*

Rescue money on its way for Highlands East

By Mark Arike

Next month, Highlands East's acting fire chief will advise council on how it should spend money raised through an online GoFundMe campaign last year.

On Feb. 8, Chris Baughman confirmed he has met with district chiefs and received several quotes for equipment for the fire department, which he will present at a March 8 meeting. The items will be included in the budget, said CAO/treasurer Shannon Hunter.

In February 2017, former Highlands East volunteer firefighter Kris Guyton launched the fundraiser for life-saving equipment. The death of cottager Bob Bell, who went through the ice while snowmobiling on Dark Lake in Wilberforce, prompted Guyton to take it on.

"Every dollar we are able to raise, small or large, will go directly into the hands of the Highlands East fire department, which will go directly into purchasing desperately needed rescue equipment and training, focusing on ice and water rescue," he said in a post.

Last summer, Hunter confirmed the fire department currently provides shore-based rescue but not ice water rescue. In November, Baughman said he, along with the district chiefs, was investigating training and equipment options that would "best suit the fire department and community."

The campaign raised more than \$20,000, exceeding its original goal by \$16,730. The municipality received \$18,562 of that after GoFundMe fees.

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Highlander news



The Wigamog Inn has sat vacant for the last seven years. Photo by Mark Arike.

Plans for Wigamog go online

By Mark Arike

It's been two years since the Aurora Hotel Group bought the historic Wigamog Inn property. It was their second local purchase after acquiring the Pinestone Resort the previous summer. Despite announcing plans to reopen part of the Wigamog in the summer of 2016, it remains closed to the public.

The Highlander has recently learned the family-owned company intends on building a residential development on the property. An AutoCAD drawing can be found in the "future projects" section of their website. The proposed development covers 172,527

sq. m and includes a commercial area, townhouses, semi-detached units, single houses and "VIP" houses.

But when contacted, the company declined to comment at this time.

"We do not have anything to share at this point," said Matthew Phillips, executive director of operations.

Jeff Iles, Dysart's director of planning and land information, said the municipality hasn't received an application or proposal for the property.

Located across from Lake Kashagawigamog, the resort sits on 41 acres. It was listed for \$800,000 when the Auroras bought it.

AH budget now at 3.79 per cent

By Lisa Gervais

Algonquin Highlands ratepayers are so far looking at a 3.79 per cent tax rate increase following round one of budget talks Feb. 13.

Council will resume budget talks following today's (Feb. 15) council meeting, but much of that increase is a result of the final year of the OPP phase-in, which accounts for 2.2 per cent of the hike.

OPP costs are going up \$106,448. According to the draft budget, the bill is expected to be \$1,068,204, up 11.18 per cent from 2017.

Mayor Carol Moffatt said AH can't do much about OPP costs but council seemed pleased staff had tabled a draft budget that would take less than a one per cent increase from people and businesses for other 2018 needs.

"Our taxable assessment growth is .63 per cent. Our policing costs increase is 2.23 per cent and the increase in the levy, that

is, the new money we are taking from the public besides OPP is .92 per cent – the draft levy is an increase of 3.79 per cent – the actual taxes people pay depend on the value of their property," Moffatt told The Highlander.

While the final costings are variable from home to home and business to business, an average would see an extra \$2.14 per \$100,000 of assessment for residential and \$3.17 for commercial.

Council had asked staff to target 1.5 per cent.

Treasurer Tammy McKelvey, in their staff report to council, said Ontario Municipal

Partnership Funding (OMPF) "certainly provided the much-needed revenue increase that was required to protect the taxpayers from a substantial tax increase."

The municipality got an additional \$300,000 in OMPF this year.

That .92 per cent equates to an additional \$43,952 for the township to work with.

County and school board tax rates are not included.

The new money we are taking from the public besides OPP is .92 per cent.

Carol Moffatt
Mayor, Algonquin Highlands

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Highlander news

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Second World War vet Pickard dies at 97

By Jennifer Hughey

Billy Pickard was a decorated veteran, a grand storyteller and, one could argue, witnessed more in her lifetime than many of us ever will.

Pickard, 97, passed away peacefully Monday, Feb. 5 surrounded by her family. She will be missed dearly by her husband and best friend, Ed, her children Pat, John, Wendy (Werner) and Rick (Marisa), grandchildren Lauren, George, Cameron, Tim and Mark and, her great grandchildren Jessica and Trent.

The Highlander was fortunate enough to sit down with Pickard a few years ago for the Veterans of Haliburton County series. She said the world was very different 95 years ago (at that time), and the world would continue to change daily for her after the Great Depression in 1929.

Pickard was born in 1921 in Radville, Sask., which was then a small valley town with a population of about 1,000. She was only eight when farmers in the Prairies were hit hard by falling wheat prices and her small town began to struggle.

She eloquently described what life was like when the war began and about her time in the Second World War.

"I couldn't understand why there needed to be a war to settle differences," Pickard said. "War to me is over money and

allegiance, which is unfortunate for all of us, and I hope it never comes here."

After Pickard finished high school, she decided to move to Wells, B.C. to be with her sister, where she got a job at the post office. Pickard was eventually recruited to the army, being transferred to Esquimalt, B.C. and then to England.

The Depression ended in 1939 as the Second World War began and Pickard remembered how quickly it all happened. She recounted travelling to England with a few thousand other soldiers and members of the Canadian Women's Army Corps (CWAC). After docking in Liverpool, she and 20 other women were sent to Normandy as postal workers, where she sorted mail and kept detailed identification records of soldiers.

"People don't think too much about the post office," she said, "but that's the only way the boys had any communications with their loved ones back home."

She told us about a time when two weeks before Christmas in 1944, the bombing increased where she was stationed. Pickard and the other workers gathered in a circle on the floor of the post office and exchanged gifts. They pooled their money so they could celebrate together, not knowing if they would make it through the night.

Pickard recounted being with a friend



Billy Pickard File photo.

when people started celebrating in the streets of London because the war had ended. She told us she had a hard time believing it was finally over.

Her advice to young people is to try to get along with each other, and that we're so lucky we live in a free country - advice that will live on through her family and fellow members of the (CWAC).

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch #129 in Haliburton is holding a Celebration of Billy's Life on Feb. 24 at 1 p.m. with interment later at Evergreen Cemetery. They ask you to wear something red in honour of Billy and that expressions of sympathy and donations to the branch would be appreciated.



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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.

When you go through ice, everyone pays

Another day – another snowmobile or ATV going through the ice on a Haliburton County lake.

Since Feb. 2, there have been three incidents involving 12 people.

Thankfully, no one has been killed this year. Yet.

In two of the three mishaps, a couple of drivers were found to have been drinking alcohol. A three-day licence suspension was served following a warn range result at the roadside.

And, in all three, none of the riders were wearing floater suits or carrying ice picks.

As a result, local OPP, paramedics, firefighters – and in some cases bystanders and witnesses – have had to come to the rescue – at great expense to taxpayers, and their own personal safety.

There's something wrong with this picture.

I know we live here – or visit here – because we love the outdoors and that means sledding or using snowmobiles or ATVs to get to our favourite ice fishing holes.

I know the weather has been a bit topsy turvy. We've had extreme freeze, followed by extreme thaw, and ice conditions have

been tricky.

However, we do have control over whether or not we decide to knock back a drink before jumping onto our snow machine or ATV and opening it up on the lake. Some people still think it's acceptable to drink and drive on recreational vehicles. This attitude must change. It's one thing if you kill or injure yourself, but what about other innocent users of lakes and trails?

We also have control over checking ice conditions. With climate change, our weather patterns are not the same. What your lake has always done in the past isn't necessarily what it will do in the future. At the very least, if you're new to a lake, check with the locals about what areas are historically safe and what ones are so-so.

And, above all, we have a choice about what we equip our toys with. In other words, we can wear a floater suit and carry ice picks and make sure they are accessible.

Maybe it's time for our local OPP, paramedics and various municipal fire departments to start tallying up the cost of ice rescues and sending bills to the individuals involved. Other fire departments charge non-resident ice and water rescue fees. They tell me they chose

non-resident since there'd be a hue and cry from locals who are already paying taxes.

In a Jan. 14, 2018 CBC Sudbury news story, the assistant deputy fire chief with the Sudbury fire department said that for them, a minimum of six to 10 firefighters are needed for ice rescues, along with three to five different types of apparatus. Chief Jesse Oshell said a normal rescue costs about \$1,000, and can increase depending on the situation. That cost is paid by the city.

Because we don't have full-time firefighters, the cost is less here but it's still substantial. It can be calculated on MTO rates of \$460-an-hour per vehicle.

Perhaps another disincentive for going on the lake when conditions are iffy is the cost of fishing your snowmachine or ATV out of the drink. That can run you in the thousands of dollars and you're paying that bill. And, if a snow machine is found to be leaking fuel into the waterway, provincial fines could also be added.



By Lisa Gervais

Winter blues

Winter. That dreaded six letter word. When it blows in, it is absolutely beautiful. The trees are covered in snow and icicles are hanging from every rooftop. The magical white powder covers everything in sight and the woods are finally quiet except for the odd chickadee or "whoop!" of a skier.

We pray for a white Christmas but then curse its existence by Dec. 27. What is with this time of year? It is like the most beautiful black and white photograph with hints of purple snow and incredible golden sunsets. Yet, somehow we are left feeling like the warm weather will never come. The long nights and shortened days, coupled with extreme cold, windchill and the missing sun makes this time of year feel like it will last forever. It is breathtaking but this winter wonderland isn't for everyone and those February blues are a real thing.

By this time of the season, folks are short on sunlight and patience. The endless shovelling, stacking firewood, unfashionable parkas and the subzero temperatures leave everyone wishing they had a summer home in Florida. But there

are ways to beat this gloom.

1. Sunlight. It is hard to find the real source this time of year but an artificial daylight bulb and daily drops of Vitamin D will help keep the emotional vampires away.

2. Although it may seem like fake news, chocolate can help with your mood and counter effects of SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder). It has been proven that this delicious treat releases endorphins into the brain and decrease stress and pain.

3. Warm up on a chilly day while dancing to your favourite tunes. Music has the power to turn a frown upside down.

4. Exercise. Yep, its true. You need to get outside and get moving. Be it skiing, snowshoeing, skating, snowboarding, sledding or snowmobiling, winter will fly by if you spend it outside (albeit bundled up in a layer of clothing) enjoying what makes us true Canadians. That frigid northern air that blows right through you is sure to put hair on your chest. Or at least that is what my great grandfather would say.

5. If all else fails, hug a bunny or go on

vacation.

Daydreaming of warmer times when you can get outside without an extra layer of clothing. Or the longing looks at the calendar hoping that the groundhog was wrong. The winter blues can really get you down. But don't let them steal your smile, this town is stuffed to the brim with winter activities. From Frost Fest to fundraising events like Catch the Cure, adventure days of ski races, ice climbing, snowmobile runs and ice fishing derbies. Snowshoeing or sleigh rides with the family and those polar bear dips will get the blood flowing. Concerts aplenty will warm your soul and Winterlicious will warm your tummy. It will soon be maple syrup season, the days will get longer and we will be wishing for some cool weather all over again. So get outside and make a snow angel.



By Anabelle Craig



The Highlander is looking for your best photos for inclusion in this year's The Highlander Handbook.

We are looking for pictures that show the best the Highlands has to offer in all of its seasons. The best submission will be printed on this year's cover and others inside. We are looking for good quality, high resolution photos (JPEG, 300 dpi).

Please limit 3 entries per person.

Deadline Feb. 23, 2018 – by 5 p.m.

Please ensure the photographer's name and contact details are in the email. Send entries to editor@thehighlander.ca

Editorial opinion

Eye on the street: What are your plans for Family Day weekend?



Charleen Daville

Haliburton

My family is coming up to ski at Sir Sam's.



Cody Miscio

Camarvon

I think I'm going to go sledding and ice fishing. Just take it easy.



Kathy Adams

West Guilford

Dog-sitting for a friend and possibly going to a bonfire with chili.



Keagan Gillam

Minden

Just a laid-back day. I might go for dinner with the family.



Sophocles Loizides

Peach Lake

I'm going to sit in front of the fireplace and relax.

Photos and interviews by Mark Arike

Reader would sorely miss local papers

Dear editor,

This is in response to the Paperless Society column written by Jack Brezina.

My family live in Minden and I in the GTA. I receive The Highlander via email each week.

I look forward to reading this paper and it is a sad truth that local newspapers may eventually be a memory. When you look at the local papers in the GTA, they certainly do not hold a candle to The Highlander, Minden Times and the Echo. They are full of advertisements and certainly do not give anyone a sense of community. I would not miss our paper if it was no longer published. I look forward to reading The Highlander and seeing the grinning photo with the oversized cheque, new store openings, graduates posing with their diplomas, residents helping and celebrating each other, fundraising events and the local news.

As Jack Brezina said "reflecting the significant events in its day-to-day life." It is terrible whenever a business closes and people lose their livelihoods and if the production of your local papers in the Haliburtons was to cease I know it would surely be missed by many people.

Dawn McDonald
Brampton

Release deer into protected sanctuary

Dear editor,

(Re: Haliburton's injured deer on road to recovery, Feb. 1 edition) After everything this poor deer has been through, it seems senseless to me to have it released back into Haliburton County where it will only be wounded again or killed this coming hunting season. Could it not be released into a protected animal sanctuary?

Tracy Salvatori
Haliburton

What about innocent 'til proven guilty?

Dear editor,

One cannot open a newspaper or turn on the T.V. without being bombarded with news of more sexual assault charges. Yes, sexual assault is serious and should not be tolerated but should the accusers not be named and come forth to the media as those accused are pictured. Why should accusers keep their anonymity while destroying lives of those they accuse? When did our justice system change to guilty until proven innocent?

The latest bombshell is the accusation of sexual misconduct by a provincial leader about to possibly become our next premier by two anonymous accusers mere months before the election. Does the timing not seem suspicious? Why not when the supposed misconduct happened? The accused proclaims he is innocent and wants it settled in court. No time for that during an election campaign so another career is ruined forcing a resignation at the pinnacle of his political life spanning municipal, federal, and provincial politics. The resignation was forced by the party to prevent scandal during an election campaign.

Why can't our justice system be based on innocent until proven guilty so good lives are not ruined forever.

Lois Rigney
Canning Lake

Reader responds to Minden tax increase

Dear editor,

This is an open letter to Minden Hills councillors, and especially Mayor Brent Devolin, who appear to be operating with age-old tactics of just kicking the can down the road for someone else to deal with.

I am appalled, embarrassed and ashamed of the lack of empathy for your elder community who don't have the ability to pay for your brilliant solution of fixing the rundown infrastructure by raising taxes.

We worked hard, sacrificing everything to

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



All tuckered out ... Tammy Nash captured this image of two dogs with their tongues out at the Haliburton Highlands Dogsled Derby. Submitted photo.

build up this beautiful community, passing on that legacy to you folks (and your predecessors) to only bring it into the mere shell of what it once was in only a couple of decades.

How sad for them [elders] and how utterly ignorant and arrogant of you to preach from a position of actually having a paying job to assume that these folks will not be in dire straits because of your decision.

You, are in dire need of a strong reminder that we are your employers, you work for us and we tell you whether we like what we see or not. If we do not like what we see, we have every right as your employers

to question just what the heck you have been doing with your time and our taxpayer dollars. You do not get to spit any words of disrespect back in our faces and tell us what you are going to do or what you will tolerate.

I want these people removed and a forensic audit done immediately. That way, we are no longer throwing good money after bad in order to get the job done properly.

Sharon Pearson
Minden Hills

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

Highlander news



2018 PROVINCIAL ELECTION



As an advocacy organization, we are dedicated to being the voice of business in the Haliburton Highlands. To make sure we are doing that effectively, we need to hear from you!

We have put together some recommendations for the upcoming provincial election. To make sure we are accurately representing your business needs, please let us know if you agree with our recommendations. A survey was emailed to our members last week. Please take a few moments to fill it out.

If you did not receive it, call Autumn at 705-457-4700 or email

autumn@haliburtonchamber.com

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JOIN OUR ONLINE BUSINESS FORUM

We have created a confidential, online space designed for businesses to share information, best practices, advice, knowledge, etc. to help build each other up and contribute to the overall wellbeing of our business community. Please engage with one another, share your knowledge and ask questions. Participate and have fun! Search on Facebook: Haliburton Highlands Business Forum. If you can't find us, call 705-457-4700 for a link.

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Roads supervisor 'throws hand grenade'

By Lisa Gervais

A draft bylaw, regulating the maintenance of nearly 20 kilometres of seasonally-maintained roads throughout the Township of Minden Hills, was described "as a hand grenade being thrown in the room" by Mayor Brent Devolin.

The draft bylaw did come at council's request, from a July 27, 2017 meeting.

In it, roads supervisor Travis Wilson said he had spoken with the township's solicitor.

The proposed bylaw states that limited maintenance will only be performed by the township between June 1 and Oct. 11. However, Wilson said the roads advisory committee is recommending that council allow winter maintenance, with a licensed agreement between the township and private contractors, whom they feel will be out-of-pocket if they can no longer clear roads in winter.

Wilson's report expressed some concern with going in that direction and his report

asked council to choose between: not allowing winter maintenance on seasonally-maintained roads, allowing winter maintenance on seasonally-maintained roads with a license agreement for each road and applicable service provider, or continuing to allow winter maintenance and assume the associated risk and liability.

Seasonally maintained roads are Class 6 under the Minimum Maintenance Standards, meaning there is no set standard for the township to adhere to. It is the responsibility of the township to determine the level of service these roads receive.

Wilson's report explained the costs associated with these roads if they were placed on the same plan proposed for year-round loose top roads; If the township was to perform gravel resurfacing (apply 4" or 100mm) on all 20km in one year of Granular A, that would cost \$510,000. Taking that figure and putting it into a 10-year cycle would mean the township

would be spending \$51,000 a year on gravel for seasonally-maintained roads. The third draft roads budget contains \$80,000 which in a previous report to council in December indicates a \$260,000 gap in funding required to maintain the 112 km loose top road which includes the 20km of seasonally maintained roads.

"Certainly it's food for thought," Devolin said of the report, adding as soon as Wilson used the words lawyer and insurance it gave him a headache, and the township would have to "tiptoe through the legal minefield we're in."

The mayor asked for more information, including what is happening with these roads now, and what other municipalities are doing.

"I know it's a grenade," said Wilson, who added, "there are a pile of these roads. It's a big, big problem, that needs to be addressed."

Household hazardous waste days announced

The household hazardous waste days have been announced for 2018.

The proposed dates are: May 19 long weekend, June 23, Aug. 11, Sept. 1 long weekend and Oct. 6 long weekend.

These events would be held at the Scotchline Landfill from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Minden gets \$41k for downtown fixups

The township has received \$41,200 to put towards enhancing and revitalizing its downtown.

CAO and treasurer Lorrie Blanchard said the money was announced Jan. 23 by the ministers of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and

Small Business.

In all, \$26 million is going to Ontario towns and Blanchard said the Association of Municipalities of Ontario will administer the program.

"Any time they're handing out money, I'm always willing to take it," Blanchard said.

Members named to arena building task force

As planning for a major arena upgrade continues in Minden Hills, council on Feb. 8 appointed members of the public to its new arena building task force.

They include: Diane Peacock, Gary Stoner, Bill Obee, Brian Kernohan, Doug O'Dell and Jane Symons. They'll be joined by Mayor Brent Devolin and Coun. Ron Nesbitt.

During the meeting, Coun. Lisa Schell said they endeavoured to include every stakeholder group but in the end it also

Minden Hills briefs

came down to who was interested in taking part. Devolin added they tried to be as inclusive as possible.

"I am looking forward to an exciting year, or two, with this group of people," he said.

This council has committed \$6.5 million to an S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena and Community Centre upgrade.

Town interviewing for new fire chief

Mayor Brent Devolin said the township is now interviewing for its new fire chief.

He said the job opening had netted "a bunch of very good, credible candidates."

The township is expected to make a final decision next month.

Former fire Chief Doug Schell resigned last year to take a job with the Haliburton Highlands Health Services. Interim fire Chief Mike Bekking has been his replacement.

Meanwhile, Devolin said construction of the new fire hall on Highway 35 is "principally on time" and it's anticipated it will be completed by early spring.

Township to expropriate land

On Feb. 8, the township initiated proceedings to expropriate a piece of land on Prince Street, next to the current fire hall.

In a staff report, the motive given was "for the purpose of enlarging the property upon which the township's municipal offices and other township property and facilities are located."

Mayor Brent Devolin said the township does not take the matter lightly but had made many overtures to the property owner. He said it was the "last choice on a very long road towards an important and significant development of the town site."

(Minden Hills briefs compiled by editor Lisa Gervais)

Congratulations to Gary and Romana Owens from Wood Lake
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Highlander news

School survey finds high anxiety levels

By Mark Arike

The Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) recently released the results of its biennial climate survey, conducted online for elementary and high schools across the board. It was open to students, parents and the community for 12 days, between Nov. 20 and Dec. 1.

It focused on four key areas: student engagement, bullying, emotional and physical well-being.

During a recent board meeting, Katherine MacIver, superintendent of learning, provided a summary of the overall results. But when *The Highlander* attempted to get a breakdown of the results for Haliburton County's six schools, the board wasn't able to provide that information.

"We do not have the board results by area so cannot provide you with data specifically for Haliburton," said Catherine Shedden, the TLDSB's manager of corporate communications. "Our focus in our schools is response to the survey results."

Fifty-five schools were included in the survey, which was conducted by an online survey company. Responses were submitted by 4,241 students in Grade 4-8, 3,307 students in Grade 9-12 and 1,315 parents, guardians and community members.

"When the dust settled, we were thrilled with the number of people that responded to the survey," MacIver told the board. However, she said the number of students was "startling low" considering the entire population. For example, 69 per cent of secondary students participated.

Results show a quarter of students have anxiety and/or depression; not all students feel safe and some feel they have experienced moderate to severe bullying; and some parents felt bullying issues should have been dealt with quicker.

"We are concerned about the level of anxiety students are reporting," said MacIver.

Schools are taking suggestions from students regarding possible changes that could lead to improvements. MacIver said Haliburton Highlands Secondary School has hosted forums to gather this information.

"The students have been very forthcoming with ideas and suggestions," she said.

According to MacIver's report, the findings will help the board and schools "continue to support safe and accepting school climates in TLDSB."

The Ministry of Education requires every school board in Ontario to complete a climate survey every two years.

A staff survey will be conducted in the spring.

Health briefs



Participants in the 2014 Hike for Hospice. *File photo.*

Palliative project under budget

The Haliburton Highlands Palliative Centre came in about \$14,000 under budget. The total cost is about \$1.25 million compared to the initial budget of \$1.265 million. The hospital foundation raised the funds to pay for it. Hospital finance chair David Gray delivered the good news at a recent board meeting. The centre is a 1,600-square-foot addition at the back of the Haliburton hospital. It features two suites, a kitchen/lounge area, quiet room and central washroom. It opened eight months ago.

HHHS seeks feedback on compensation plan

Haliburton Highlands Health Services now has an executive compensation plan—a document that outlines how much its top executives earn and information about new performance pay caps. It was recently posted to the

organization's website for public feedback. The board of directors worked with a consultant to develop the plan to meet new provincial requirements in the public sector. The consultant was paid \$15,000.

Foundation brings back Hike for Hospice

After a 12-year hiatus, Hike for Hospice is returning to the Haliburton Highlands.

The Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) recently announced it will be teaming up with Community Support Services to relaunch the fundraiser on May 6 at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School and Head Lake Park. SIRCH Community Services organized the event for 11 years, between 2004 and 2015. The event will help support "future needs of hospice and palliative programs in the community," said Lisa Tompkins, HHHSF executive director.

(Health briefs compiled by Mark Arike)

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Highlander business

Wilberforce landmark changes hands

By Mark Arike

Agnew's General Store in Wilberforce has been a family-run business for nearly a century.

But recently, Mary Barker and her siblings, Cathy and Wynne, decided it was time to put the business up for sale. On Feb. 6, Frank Meurer, a long-time visitor to the area, officially purchased the store.

"We didn't know how long it would take to sell the store so we decided we had better start the process while we were semi-sort-of capable of mentally and physically doing so," said Mary in an interview. "Our parents were still working 60-hour weeks in the store when they died. We didn't want to go out that way and leave the chore of selling the store to our children."

The siblings are experiencing a wave of emotions with the sale.

"Sad, happy, relieved, anxious and a little guilty," she said. "We wonder if our grandfather F.G. [Fred] Agnew would have approved of the sale and we know that our grandchildren have expressed their disappointment. There'll be no more after-hours forays into the darkened store to raid the ice cream freezer."

In 1921, their grandfather took over the general store from his employer, S.W. Reynolds. The original store burned in 1938. Later that year the business reopened at its current location on Loop Road. Mary and her siblings' father, Murray, his wife and brother Gary also operated the store.

Frank will be at the store on weekends and will eventually move to the area so he can



Frank Meurer, the new owner of Agnew's General Store. *Facebook.*

be involved in the business full-time, said Mary.

"He has a great job elsewhere and plans to keep it for a while," she said.

Cathy has agreed to stay on and manage the store. Mary will continue to look after the post office. Her husband, John, has decided to retire.

In a post on Facebook, Frank said it was rock hounding that first attracted him to Wilberforce.

"Right from those first days I was in love with both the community and this store so I want to thank the people that have made Agnew's General Store what it is today," he said.

Frank also said he's looking forward to learning from "the Agnew family, our friends and customers."

Frank has "lots of great ideas" for the store, according to Mary. One is to expand the ice cream shop.

Agnew's employs 10-15 people, depending on the season.

INFORMATION PAGE

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Employment Opportunities

The Community Services Department is seeking the following positions:

- Summer Students – Parks Position
- Summer Students (Heritage Interpreters) for the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

Submission deadline is Mar 5, 2018 by 12:00 noon. Visit www.mindenhills.ca for more information.

BROOMBALL at the SG Nesbitt Arena

NEW!! ADU LTS ONLY
Friday nights, 8:00pm-9:00pm
January 26th to March 23
(with the exception of February 2nd and February 16th)
PLEASE NOTE: Cost is \$2.00 per person. Sticks will be provided.
This is a drop in program.
HELMETS AND CLEAN BOOTS /SHOES ARE REQUIRED

NEW

LOCAL COMMUNITY INSURANCE SERVICES (LCIS)

The Township is now offering the LCIS program in order to provide an insurance option to cover third party renters/users of municipal facilities and properties.

The LCIS program can provide a cost effective option for insurance coverage of an individual or community group renting a municipal facility or property for low risk activities and/or events. Please visit the Township website or contact the Community Services Department Office for more information about the LCIS program.

C.S.D. Office - 705-286-1936 ext. 200 communityservicesbookings@mindenhills.ca

Shinny at the SG Nesbitt Arena

ADULT ONLY

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Sunday mornings, ongoing to April 1st
10:00am-11:00am Ages 8-12
11:00am-12:00pm Ages 13-17

COST IS \$2.00

Every player MUST wear protective gear on the ice. Every player MUST have a waiver signed (by a parent/guardian if under 18 years of age) (Staff reserves the right to deny participation). For more information please contact Elisha at 705-286-2298

Request for Interested Parties For Property Clean-up

The Township of Minden Hills is looking for individuals and/or companies for the clean-up of properties as per Property Standards By-Law 11-61. Interested Parties would be required to perform any or all of the following duties:

Clean up or Removal of:

- Household garbage.
- Miscellaneous debris.
- Building materials.
- Rubbish.
- Brush/long grass/growth and noxious weeds (as defined by the Weed Controlled Act).
- Unlicensed/dismantled/wrecked/discarded vehicles/trailers/boats/machinery.
- Dilapidated/collapsed or partially constructed structures.

Proof of Liability Insurance and WSIB are mandatory. Please submit letters of interest, in writing, to: Colin McKnight, CBO/MLEO/Planning Supervisor Township of Minden Hills, Box 359, 7 Milne Street Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0

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UFO – unfinished objects group
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Common Room

EnviroCafe - Are You Prepared?
Tuesday February 13 at 7:30pm
Common Room

Meeting and Events

Meetings are held in the Minden Council Chambers, 7 Milne Street

Feb 22 – 9:00 am, Regular Council Meeting
Feb 26 – 9:30 am, Committee of Adjustment Meeting
Mar 8 – 9:00 am, Special Meeting of Council
Mar 8 – 9:30 am, Committee of the Whole Meeting

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




DID YOU KNOW?

Amendments to the Municipal Act now allow tax sale proceedings to start one year earlier. Properties are eligible for tax sale if they are two years in arrears plus the current year. So if you owe property taxes from 2016, you are at risk for tax sale.

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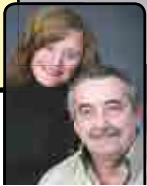
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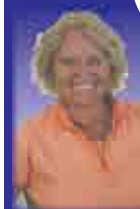


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Highland Storm



Lucas Haedicke takes the draw from a Wolves player during a midget playoff game in Minden Feb. 11. Photos by Lisa Gervais

Storm reports

The Highlander/Smolen Family Dentistry Midgets

The Highland Storm began the second round of the playoffs Feb. 11 in Minden against the Shelburne Wolves and captured a 6-3 win. It was a fast-paced, action-packed game from the start. Both teams energetically came out with an aggressive attitude to win.

It was the Wolves that got on the scoreboard early in the first. A couple of minutes later, the Storm answered back. Jacob Haedicke started the rush, Zach Morissette then chipped the puck to Lucas Haedicke, who maneuvered nicely past the defence and snapped in the first Storm goal. With that, the Storm turned it up a notch, kept it clean and scored another three goals before the first period buzzer.

First, Carter O'Neill and Owen Patterson-Smith fed Owen Smith and he flipped it over the goalie making it a 2-1 game. Next, Nolan Flood rushed in from the neutral zone and nailed it through the five-hole. Then, it was give-and-go action around the net that found Josh Boice open and he widened the gap to 4-1.

The Wolves took advantage of the power play at the start of the second period with a goal. Shortly after, the Wolves got lucky with a rolling puck that found the Storm's net, cutting their lead to 4-3.

The pushing and shoving began to escalate to the Storm's benefit and they captured two power plays goals. The Storm momentum grew and they attacked the net. Shots from Boice and Smith bulged the twine to make it a 6-3 game. (Submitted by Suzanne Haedicke)

Pepper Mill Steak and Pasta House/Dollo's Foodland Bantams

The Storm began round two of the playoffs Feb. 10. They travelled to Wasaga Beach to take on the Stars in a best-of-five quarterfinal series. Nate Miscio, in net for the Storm, made some splendid saves early, including a sweet left pad save during a scramble just outside of his crease. Down a couple of their regular players, the Storm showed confidence from their opening series win against the Durham Crusaders, strong positional play killing off penalties and effective forechecking, particularly by Mathias Lee, Zach Davis, Tyson Clements and Cody Switzer in the first period.

Desi Davies put the Storm on the scoresheet first when the puck came out from behind the Stars net and he put a rocket over the shoulder of the Stars netminder. Davies added an assist in the second period, setting up Hunter Arnott on an almost identical pass from behind the net to give the Storm a 2-0 lead. The Stars, winners of their opening series against the Shelburne Wolves, certainly were not going to give up without a fight and made it 2-1 just after Storm captain Jackson Gill made a highlight reel diving save to thwart a Stars player from putting the puck into an empty net.

The Stars tied the game near the end of the second period, however the 2-2 tie heading into the third was definitely not an indication of the Storm's game dominance over the opening two periods; that point

Continued on page 15

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Highland Storm



Continued from page 14

came to light as the boys came out of the dressing room and scored seven unanswered goals in the third period for a solid 9-2 win. Third period goal scorers were: two each by Brenden Coumbs, Tyson Clements and Gill, and singles by Switzer and Davies, giving him the hat trick and a multi-point night. *(Submitted by Gord Hoenow)*

Cottage Country Building Supplies/ Ridgewood Ford Atom A's

The Storm hosted the Shelburne Wolves for game two of round two of the playoffs Feb. 11 at the S.G. Nesbitt Arena.

The first period started with the Storm going in the penalty box and Shelburne utilized the power play to score. However, a minute later, Beckham Reynolds scored to tie the game. Shortly after, it was four-on-four and Addison Carr scored, and 30 seconds after that, he scored again. Then with 20 seconds left, Colby Coumbs scored a beauty rocket shot and it was 4-1 going into the second.

Storm reports cont'd

The second started with another goal by Carr. Then, it was penalty after penalty, but soon it was a five-on-three for Shelburne and they scored. But, the Storm answered back with another goal by Carr. The game was 6-2 going into the third period.

The third started with a goal by Brechin Johnston and then it was just a penalty battle with no more pucks going into the net until the last four minutes of play. Shelburne got the first goal and then it was all Storm. Cheyenne Degeer took a beauty shot and scored. A minute later, Carr tic tac toed one in, and finally, with only a minute left, Johnston shot one in the mesh and it was a 10-3 final. That puts the team up 2-0 going into game three in Shelburne. *(Submitted by Amber Card)*

GJ Burth Construction Atom AE

The Storm took on the Almaguin Ice Devils Feb. 10, taking the game by a score of 5-3 with four goals scored by Jace Mills and one by Isaac Lee. Taylor Muclock had an outstanding game with three assists. They're headed to Bracebridge to take on South Muskoka Feb. 17. *(Submitted by Amanda Rowden)*



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Bantams

On Feb. 10, the Total Site Services Bantams travelled to South River to take on the Almaguin Ice Devils.

In the first minute of the game, Hunter Winder opened the scoring with a beauty from the blue line.

Then, with six minutes to go in the first, Jackson Wilson scored on a nice pass from Reese Casey, and then Kolby McGovern finished out the period with a goal, making it 3-0 for the Storm.

The second period saw a lot of back-and-forth play and Wilson managed another on a shot from Nick Phippen.

Almaguin quickly retaliated and got on the board late in the second. Winder got his second goal unassisted as he skated through the crowd.

The Storm was without its regular goalie and Carson Simms played great taking on that role.

Almaguin got one back early in the third. But, Phippen had another awesome opportunity on another nice pass from Kiera Casey and Cash Fowler.

Then, Winder got his hat trick on a lovely play from Phippen and Wilson. Final score: 7-2 Storm.

Next week, the bantams take on the Parry Sound Shamrocks at 2 p.m. in Minden.

On Saturday and Sunday, they're off to Coburg for a small tournament.

Local league

Atoms

On Feb. 10, the Storm's TD Atom 2 team hosted the South Muskoka Fitzmaurice atoms at the A.J LaRue Arena in Haliburton. Fitzmaurice was up 2-0 by the time Ethan Thomas broke away and scored the Storm's first goal of the game, unassisted with five minutes left in the first. But, the Storm found themselves down 3-1 to start the second period. The Storm got to work and started chipping away at Muskoka's lead. Owen Sisson's effort on the forecheck led to Eric Mueller streaking in on the Muskoka goalie and scoring his first goal of the season. Sisson was at it again, early in the third, when he set up Thomas for his second of the game, tying it up at three.

The Storm stuck to their game plan, working hard to maintain pressure on the atoms from Muskoka. Mid-way through the third, defencman Toby Posti spotted Maxime Little open up the middle. Making no mistakes Posti put the puck on Little's stick, who scored his first goal of the season to give the Storm its first lead of the game with eight minutes still to play.

The final minutes saw chances traded at both ends. The solid team play by the Storm in both ends of the rink, combined with goalie Jacob Lloyd closing the door, gave the Storm its second win in a row, 4-3. Next, the Storm hosts Parry Sound Feb. 17 at the S.G. Nesbitt Arena in Minden.

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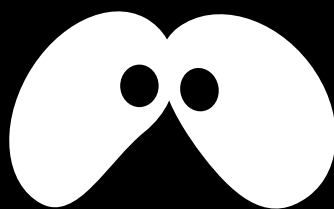
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Highland Storm



The Highlander 3-Stars of the Week



1

Owen Smith



Smith returned with a vengeance from injury. He delivered four points (2G, 2A) making the power play dominant. His size and speed were a force.

2

Nolan Flood



Floody is a key spark plug to the Storm engine. (1G, 1A). His energy spreads through the team. Demonstrated veteran calm when the game got heated.

3

Lucas Haedicke



Haedicke skated to one of his best performances of the year. (1G) He is a consistent competitor. Excellent defensive zone play.

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This week's playoff schedule

Atom vs Shelburne Wolves

Game 3: Saturday, Feb. 17 @ 12:40 p.m. in Shelburne

Game 4: Sunday, Feb. 18 @ 2 p.m. in Haliburton (if required)

Bantam vs Wasaga Beach Stars

Game 2: Saturday, Feb. 17 @ 12:40 p.m. in Wasaga Beach
Game 3: Sunday, Feb. 18 @ 5 p.m. in Haliburton

Midget vs Shelburne Wolves

Game 2: Saturday, Feb. 17 @ 1:50 p.m. in Shelburne
Game 3: Sunday, Feb. 18 @ 3:30 p.m. in Haliburton



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The Corporation of the Township of Algonquin Highlands requires a Tower Coordinator

The Township of Algonquin Highlands is seeking applications from experienced, qualified persons for the seasonal position of Tower Coordinator. Under the direction of the Manager of Parks, Recreation and Trails the Tower Coordinator is responsible for the daily operations of all facets of the Dorset Scenic Lookout Tower. This includes the supervision of multiple staff, daily administration of the gift shop and multiple facilities as well oversight of customer service delivery.

The Dorset Scenic Lookout Tower is an internationally recognized tourism destination. Thousands of visitors come from May to November to enjoy the scenic property with hiking trails, picnic area and superb panoramic view from the top of the 100 foot tall lookout tower, 465 feet above Lake of Bays. This position will ensure that visitors have a safe, engaging and positive experience. <https://www.algonquinhighlands.ca/dorset-lookout-tower.php>

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Reporting To: Chris Card, Parks, Recreation & Trails Manager

Hours of Work: This is a seasonal recurring position. 40 hours per week, May 1 to Approximately November 18. Typically 9am-6pm Monday to Friday with a 1 hour unpaid lunch and two fifteen minute breaks. Hours will occasionally include weekends, statutory holidays and evenings as required. After October 21, 2018 hours will be 9am-6pm Friday- Sunday dependent upon weather/fall colours up to and including November 18, 2018.

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Detailed Job Descriptions: May be obtained by visiting www.algonquinhighlands.ca, or by contacting the undersigned.

Applications: Please quote the job title 'Tower Coordinator' in the subject line and submit your cover letter and resume no later than March 2nd 2018 by email to:

Chris Card, Manager

Parks, Recreation and Trails Department Township of Algonquin Highlands
Telephone: 705-854-0101
E-mail: ccard@algonquinhighlands.ca
Web: www.algonquinhighlands.ca

We appreciate the interest of all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



Township of Algonquin Highlands

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Parks, Recreation and Trails Department has the following seasonal and part-time positions available for 2018 and is seeking applications from qualified individuals.

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(1) Student Parks Maintenance Technician (Funding dependent)	Stanhope	40	May 7 to Aug 31	\$14.04
(1) Head Swim Instructor (Funding dependent)	Elvin Johnson Park	35	July 9 to Aug 17	\$15.67
(1) Swim Instructor (Funding dependent)	Elvin Johnson Park	42	July 9 to Aug 17	\$14.00
(1) Day Camp Leader (Funding dependent)	Dorset Rec Centre	42	June 25 to Aug 24	\$15.67
(1) Day Camp Assistant (Funding dependent)	Dorset Rec Centre	42	June 25 to Aug 24	\$14.00
(5) Dorset Tower Attendants	Dorset Scenic Lookout Tower	16-24	May 18 to Oct 28	\$14.00

Hours of Work: May include weekdays, weekends, evenings and Holidays per specific position schedule.

Applications: Persons are invited to inquire and apply in confidence no later than **Friday March 2, 2018** at 4:00 pm. Please quote position title and submit your brief covering letter and resume to:

Chris Card, Manager

Parks, Recreation and Trails Department
Township of Algonquin Highlands

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ACROSS

1. Bridge coup

5. Active person

9. Highway exits

14. Horseback game

15. Jealousy

16. Make jubilant

17. Spoken of earlier

19. Auto

20. Emits vapor

21. Fasting time

23. Boston time zone (abbr.)

24. Debtor's burden

26. Chamber

28. Coniferous evergreen (2 wds.)

32. Serious plays

36. Keats' "before"

37. Wild attempt

38. Madrid matron

39. Chore

41. Batter's stat

43. Endorse

44. Storage spots

47. Actor ____ Idle

50. Prosecute

51. School assignment

52. Calamity

54. Coin opening

56. Narrow cut

57. Curvy letter

60. Follow orders

62. Amphitheaters

66. Astonishing

68. Pacifist Christian branch

70. Falcon's claw

71. Begged

72. Thicken

73. Range

74. Bullring cheers

75. Skirt edges

DOWN

1. Health clubs

2. Hay place

3. Sunburn soother

4. Group's mood

5. Sweet course

6. "____ Clear Day..." (2 wds.)

7. Immoral

8. Actress Winona ____

9. Renovate

10. Pub drink

11. Concocted

12. Sch. groups

13. Dispatched

18. Gives forth

22. Head gestures

25. Close

27. Supplies workers

28. Flower part

29. Incensed

30. Robins' homes

31. Receded

33. Slightly wet

34. Debate

35. More rational

40. Smooch

42. Purple flower

45. Fragrant liquid

46. Uppity person

48. Oahu and Maui

49. Nile city

53. Foul smell

55. Musical pace

57. Chows down

58. Hit

59. Farm tower

61. Holler

63. African river

64. Energy source

65. Movie backdrops

67. Election mo.

69. Born

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PREVIOUS WEEK'S ANSWERS

H	A	S	T	E		S	A	G	A		A	R
A	G	A	I	N		E	M	I	T		F	E
R	U	L	E	R		D	I	V	E		L	A
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Highlander classifieds

OBITUARIES



Billy Pickard

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully in the presence of her family on Monday evening, February 5, 2018 in her 97th year. Beloved wife and best friend of Ed. Loving mother of Pat (Frank), John, Wendy (Werner) and Rick (Marisa). Fondly remembered by her grandchildren

Lauren, George, Cameron, Tim, Mark, her great grandchildren Matthew, Jessica, Trent and her great great granddaughter Hailey. Predeceased by her sisters Violet and Ethel. Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews. Billy served in the Canadian Army as a Postal Clerk during World War II. She served in England, France, Belgium and Holland.

Celebration of Life & Reception

Friends are invited to call at the **ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH #129** Haliburton, Ontario on Saturday February 24, 2018 for a Celebration of Billy's Life at 1 o'clock. Please wear something red in honour of Billy. Interment later at Evergreen Cemetery, Haliburton. As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #129 Haliburton 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.



www.communityfuneralhomes.com



In Loving Memory of John C. Clarke

Passed away peacefully at the Haliburton Hospital on Saturday, February 10, 2018 with his family at his side, at the age of 92.

Beloved husband of Jean for 69 years. Dear father of Philip (Princess), Susan (deceased), Lynda (Robert), Ric, James (Colette), Trish (Tim), Paul, and Tim (Margaret). Loving Papa to Jesse, Talia, Adam, Sarah, Molly, Lucas, Ben, Tara, Elizabeth, Naomi, Rachel, Jason, Jackson, Mackenzie and Great Papa to seven great grandchildren and one great great grandchild. Dear brother of Charles and predeceased by Doug. Fondly remembered by his family and friends.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the West Guilford Baptist Church, 1063 Nila Rd., West Guilford on Monday, February 19, 2018 from 11:00 am until the time of the Service to Celebrate John's Life at 12:00 o'clock noon. Cremation has taken place.

Memorial Donations to the Joe's Place Youth Centre - Generation Hope Youth Inc. or to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation Palliative Care Room (HHHSF-PCR) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



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CALL TO HALIBURTON COUNTY ARTISTS

Your support is needed for an important fundraiser for YWCA Peterborough Haliburton.

A group of local citizens has formed a committee to create a **2019 HERS Calendar**, raising funds for HERS and promoting awareness about local YWCA services for women and children fleeing abuse.

We are seeking local artists whose work reflects the beauty and diversity of Haliburton County and who would like their art to be featured in our calendar.

A total of 1,000 copies will be sold at various locations throughout the County and at community events beginning in June 2018.

If you would like to donate your art work as one of our 12 monthly images, or as a draw prize item, we would be delighted. Please let us know of your interest by Friday March 9, 2018.

Your generous support makes a powerful statement that resonates throughout the County. **We can't protect women and their children from violence and abuse without you!** Every dollar donated in Haliburton stays in Haliburton County.

We will be in touch soon after we receive your request to discuss our proposal. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 705-286-2414 or bonnieroe08@gmail.com.

YWCA is aware of this fundraising event. Should you wish to speak with the YWCA directly, please contact Tina MacFarlane at 705-743-3526 ext 123 or tmacfarlane@ywcapeterborough.org.

YWCA Peterborough Haliburton

In Haliburton County, YWCA operates HERS (Haliburton Emergency Rural SafeSpace) the County's only safe space for abused women and children, provides outreach support at safe locations throughout the County, teaches youth about healthy relationships through GirlSpace programs and provides education awards to survivors of abuse who are seeking to better their lives through higher education.

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What's on



FEBRUARY 2018 • EVENT LISTINGS

Thursday February 15

Noon – 2 p.m. – Public Skating at A.J. LaRue arena, Haliburton.

Noon – 2 p.m. – Adult-only Public Skating at S.G. Nesbitt arena, Minden. \$2/person.

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. – Canadian Federation of University Women present guest speakers Chris Lynd and Sean Pennylegion to speak about their experiences bringing a Syrian refugee family to Canada. Takes place at Haliburton School of Art & Design, Great Hall. All are welcome, free admission, however donations to the CFUW Bursary Fund would be welcome.

February 16 & 17

Dorset Snowball Winter Carnival – Join the fun for the 28th annual Dorset Snowball, hosting a variety of winter activities and events. See dorsetsnowball.com for a full event schedule and all the events.

Saturday February 17

Frost Festival 2018, Head Lake Park, Haliburton – A free, fun-filled day of outdoor activities for the whole family. Horse-drawn wagon rides, pony rides, snowman building, snowshoeing, sled dog rides and a Polar Bear Challenge! For more info see frostfestival.ca

1 p.m. – Polar Bear Challenge, sponsored by the Haliburton & District Lions Club. At Head Lake Park. Registration 10 a.m. – Noon, Event starts at 1 p.m. For pledge forms and more information available at e-clubhouse.org/sites/haliburton/index.php for more info.

The Coby-Norland Frostival! – Join us family day weekend and bring the family in the afternoon to Legion Park and the train station in Coboconk

for some old fashioned winter fun.

Home-made toboggan parade, chili cook-off, cupcake café, and winter obstacle course! For more info, contact Jennifer at 705-454-1110 or jwilson@coboconknorland.ca.

1 – 3 p.m. – Poets' Society poetry, short story, and theatrical play group @ 37 Larch St., Cardiff. All writers are invited to share and discuss their work. Call: 613-332-1619; flowertopia.studio@gmail.com

1 – 3 p.m. – Coboconk Lions annual sleigh ride, at Balsam Lake Provincial Park. Free hot dogs, donations to the food bank would be appreciated.

1 – 8 p.m. – Catch the Cure, at S.G. Nesbitt Arena & Community Centre, Minden. This is the fifth annual event held to celebrate International Angelman Day, and three local kids living with Angelman Syndrome. Join us for a fun family event to raise awareness and raise funds for research.

4 – 7 p.m. – Stockdale Central in the Haliburton Legion's Clubroom. \$5 cover charge to non-members. 50/50 draw at 6 p.m. Enjoy a delicious meal for \$6 by the Ladies Auxiliary.

7 p.m. – A Musical Evening at Maple Lake United Church, admission by donation. Come enjoy performances by gifted local residents. Call Kathleen 705-754-3558 for more info.

Sunday February 18

11 a.m. – Noon – Public Skating at A.J. LaRue arena, Haliburton.

Noon – 2 p.m. – Public Skating at S.G. Nesbitt arena, Minden. \$2/person. Children under 10 must wear a CSA approved helmet and be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Tuesday February 20

10 – 11 a.m. – Coffee & Colouring, at the Dysart branch of the library, Roberts Room. 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. Adult colouring is good for your health! Presented by Haliburton Highlands Community Support Services. Sign up with Nancy 705-457-2941 ext 2922 or nbrownsberger@hhhs.ca

Noon – 2 p.m. – Adult-only Public Skating at S.G. Nesbitt arena, Minden. \$2/person.

Wednesday February 21

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Public Skating at A.J. LaRue arena, Haliburton.

Thursday February 22

Noon – 2 p.m. – Public Skating at A.J. LaRue arena, Haliburton.

Noon – 2 p.m. – Adult-only Public Skating at S.G. Nesbitt arena, Minden. \$2/person.

1:30 p.m. – Haliburton County Historical Society presents a film on Railway Days in Haliburton County (part 1), at the Haliburton Museum

Friday February 23

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. – Coboconk Legion Lunch, Shepherds Pie or Liver & Onions, \$9.

1 – 4 p.m. – Coboconk Legion Country Music Jam, open mic & local talent. Food bank donations would be appreciated.

8 – 9 p.m. – Adult Broomball at the S.G. Nesbitt arena, Minden. \$2/person, sticks to be provided, drop-in program. Helmets and clean boots/shoes required.

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 third Thursday of the month starting at 7 p.m. All members urged to attend. Ladies auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.

Friday meat draw - fi ve draws, fi ve 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 cribbage 1 p.m. start and 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.

Upcoming Events: Live entertainment featuring Stockdale, Central Saturday, Feb. 17, 4-7 p.m. in the Club Room. Enjoy a delicious meal for only \$6 prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary. \$5 cover charge for non members.

MINDEN BRANCH

Feb. 16 – Karaoke with Fred & Linda 7:30 – 11p.m.

Feb. 17 – Open Mic, 2-5 p.m., lunch available until 2 p.m.

Ladies darts have resumed, Wednesday afternoon at 1 p.m. Monday-every second week rug hooking; Tuesday, seniors art classes 10 a.m., bid euchre 1 p.m.; Wednesday, meat draw noon; Thursday, mixed darts and euchre 7 p.m.; Friday 7 p.m. mixed darts; Saturday, meat draw 1 p.m.; Sunday, sports day noon. Lunches every Mon.-Fri, with Friday featuring fi sh and chips and chicken wings also served 5-7 p.m. Take-out available. Everyone welcome.

WILBERFORCE BRANCH

Feb. 16 Pool 1:30 p.m. Everyone welcome. Spaghetti dinner 5 - 7 p.m.

Feb. 17 Ken McFarlane Lake Trout Derby. \$15/ person. One fish per entry. Weigh in 3-6 p.m. Must be in attendance to win prize. Meat draw 2 p.m. - Early bird 3 p.m. sharp

Feb. 18 Youth league tea 1 - 4 p.m.

Feb. 19 Bid euchre 7 p.m. Beginners welcome

Feb. 21 Fun darts 7:30 p.m.

We would like to look into getting a grant to rebuild the kitchen. Need people who would like to be a part of the process. Contact the legion if interested 705-448-2221. Traveling this winter? Get your travel insurance through your membership.



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What's on



Above: Wesicali rocked the stage as they performed classic tracks such as Rage Against the Machine's *Killing in the Name*. They shared an anti-bullying message before their set. Inset: Ali Abdelbadie, bassist for Wrong Jeremy. Photos by Mark Arike.

Young talent raises the roof at Battle of the Bands

More than 100 people packed the upstairs of A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton Feb. 10 for the third annual Battle of the Bands. The event, hosted by Dysart et al, raised more than \$2,500 for the construction of the Haliburton Junction Skate Park. The winning band, Wesicali, received custom skate decks at the end of the night. Other performers included Wrong Jeremy, Cassidy Glecoff and Northbourne, Bannister and the Boys, and Whippz and Frost-E. (Mark Arike)

Family Day weekend fun

By Mark Arike

Family Day weekend in the Haliburton Highlands will be full of family-friendly events and activities, most of which will embrace the outdoors.

On Saturday, Haliburton's Head Lake Park will host the annual *Frost Festival*. The free, full-day event will feature horse-drawn wagon rides, pony rides, sled dog rides and food provided by the Lions Club. Once again, brave participants will go for an icy dip in Head Lake during the popular *Polar Bear Challenge*. The sixth annual event will raise money for the Garron Family Cancer Centre at SickKids Hospital and the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation. Prizes and awards will be given out. Registration goes from 10 a.m. to noon; the event starts at 1 p.m.

The 28th annual Dorset Snowball Winter Carnival kicks off on Friday at 6 p.m. with a family skating party at "The Dorset

Ice Palace." There will be hot chocolate, hot dogs and a DJ. But that's not all. The festivities continue on Saturday with an all-you-can-eat breakfast, the Dorset Snowball parade and numerous activities. For more details, visit dorsetsnowball.com.

The Coby-Norland Frostival is another winter extravaganza. It takes place on Saturday from 1-3:30 p.m. at the Coboconk train station and Legion park. It will include a homemade toboggan parade, snow obstacle course, hot chocolate, chili cookoff and cupcake café.

And if you're in Highlands East, get those taste buds ready for a flavourful adventure on Family Day at the fifth annual *Chili Fest* in Cardiff. The event starts at 4 p.m. with dinner at 5 p.m. (break and drinks provided) and prizes at 6 p.m. For more information or registration details, call Linda at 613-339-1462 or Nancy at 613-339-2742.

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"WETLANDS IN WINTER" ~ 3km
Tuesday March 13, 4:00pm-6:00pm

"SNOWSHOE SNOWDON" ~ 3km
Saturday March 17, 10:00am -12:00pm

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For more information on these hikes visit www.mindenhills.ca/recreation

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Our sincere appreciation to our valued clients for putting your faith and trust in our team. Your support and dedication made 2017 our most successful year EVER in Real Estate. To our prospective customers and clients, we look forward to the opportunity to serve you in the future. Our team continues to grow allowing us the capability of providing personal and extraordinary service to you.

Haliburton County Average Sale Price			
	2016	2017	% Change
Residential (Off Water)	\$219,091	\$238,040	+8.64%
Waterfront (Homes/Cottages)	\$431,640	\$515,309	+19.38%
Number Of Sales			
Residential (Off Water)	227	194	-14.5%
Waterfront (Homes/Cottages)	446	392	-12.1%

Statistics Obtained From The Lakelands Real Estate Board For 2016 -2017 Data.

Market Outlook

The Canadian Real Estate Association predicts that with the new mortgage rules and further interest rate increases, sales will fall nationally by 5.3% and average sales prices will drop by 2.2% in Ontario over the course of 2018. With tightened mortgage rules, reduced sales activity in all markets is forecast.

If you'd like to take advantage of today's high prices and if you are thinking of selling, this is definitely the time to put your property on the market before values start to decline.

By listing your property now you can take advantage of the busy spring market and The Cottage Life Show in Toronto in March. This show is an excellent way to showcase your property to thousands of potential buyers.

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