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# TheHighlander

Thursday **Nov 13 2025** | Issue 715

**INSIDE: TALE OF TWO TAIL GUNNERS PAGE 7** **FREE**



**We remembered**

RCMP Staff Sgt. Al Collins lays a Remembrance Day wreath at a ceremony in Wilberforce this past Tuesday. The day was marked with events across the County. See more on pages 7 and 10-11.  
*Photo by Lisa Gervais.*

## Realtor floats idea of starting Minden BIA

**By Mike Baker**

After investing in Minden’s main shopping hub this summer, purchasing a three-unit building on Bobcaygeon Road, realtor Brandon Nimigon is leading the charge for a downtown business improvement area (BIA) – though some longtime merchants aren’t convinced.

Nimigon purchased 105-107 Bobcaygeon

Rd. in July, wanting to move Century 21’s Minden operation closer to the community’s beating heart along the Gull River.

He’s in the process of renovating the 130-year-old building and has had talks about renting out two units – one for retail and the other a sit-down restaurant.

Nimigon feels Minden’s main street is a sleeping giant and wants to help transform

the downtown into a shopping destination, akin to Haliburton village.

“I want to help reinvigorate this downtown core... there’s so much potential here. We have the Gull running through the downtown, there’s a beautiful river walk, all the tools are there,” Nimigon said. “We just need more people to invest – that can then bring more businesses, which brings more

shoppers and tourists and just improves the whole feel and mood of the downtown.

“Haliburton has got a really cute cottage-town vibe, where people want to go shopping. Minden is getting there, but I think it needs more of a focus, more attention put on developing the downtown,” he added.

Continued ‘Nimigon’ on page 2

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# Highlander news



After recently buying a three-unit building on Bobcaygeon Road, Brandon Nimigon is floating the idea of starting a BIA in Minden. Photo by Mike Baker.

## Nimigon says 'no-brainer' to start Minden BIA

As president of the Haliburton BIA and serving on the board of the Bancroft BIA, Nimigon said he's seen firsthand the benefits an overarching organization can have on local merchants, believing it's a "no-brainer" to start one in Minden.

He said a BIA can help beautify the downtown, organize public events, and provide a direct line of communication between council and the local business community.

Nimigon said he's been a member of the Haliburton BIA since 2016, serving as president since February 2024. The BIA has been in place since 1988.

"I grew up in Haliburton and know what it was like before the BIA – there were so many empty storefronts. The mindset was 'I need to get out of this town because there's nothing to do here,' but now every storefront is packed with successful businesses. Minden, I think, is in a similar spot to where Haliburton was," Nimigon said.

### No interest in BIA

Minden Hills mayor Bob Carter said he's not sure there's enough appetite among existing business owners to launch a BIA,

saying it's been almost a decade since the idea was last floated.

"There was the start of a BIA conversation when we had an economic development staff person [around 2016], but it fell off once economic development got turned over to the County," Carter said. "There are a couple of interesting things about a BIA – it's a formally-governed process where a municipality is involved with businesses, which some people don't like, and it involves the businesses paying extra taxes to run the BIA, which a lot of people don't like."

"At the time, there wasn't enough interest among business owners to be a part of this," Carter added.

He said the money is typically spent improving the downtown through marketing, event planning and physical improvements.

While he isn't interested in forcing a BIA on a business community that might not want it, Carter said he and councillors Ivan Ingram and Shirley Johannessen have recently launched a new working group to help improve the downtown.

They have invited business owners to participate and have held one meeting so far, with another scheduled this winter.

### 'We need something'

Shawn Chamberlin, owner of the Dominion Hotel, said it's been about 50 years since Minden merchants had an overarching business group, which he said was strong through the 1970s – though it was never run under the banner of a BIA.

"A BIA and business association are two desperately different things that people talk about as if they're the same – they're not," Chamberlin said. "A BIA comes under the control of council, whereas a business association is run by the owners."

Through a BIA, Chamberlin said the municipality communicates with commercial property owners, and not the tenanted businesses, which he believes would lead to a disconnect.

"Business owners don't get a vote in a BIA – the landlord does... meanwhile, the costs all get passed down," Chamberlin said. "So many of our businesses are just hanging on, I'm not sure this is something every business would or could take on."

As well as the financial challenges, Chamberlin said he doesn't think many downtown merchants have the capacity to give another five or six hours a week to a business association.

"It's a lot of work, a lot of meeting and planning and figuring things out. Most of our businesses here are owner-operated, they're working all day, all week long. They just don't have anything else to give once their day is done," Chamberlin said.

Shawn Smandych, owner of Ommmh Beauty Boutique, has been a part of the downtown core for 14 years.

"I want to see this town succeed and for it to succeed things need to actually start happening," Smandych said. "Do we need something, maybe a business association? Absolutely. Do I think a BIA is the best option? I don't know."

He feels there's very little driving people downtown, especially in the mornings, and thinks a new restaurant could go a long way to increasing traffic.

Smandych is also concerned about the growing trend of vacant buildings along the main strip.

"It's not a good look seeing places sit empty – we have three or four vacant units at one of the most important points in town. That concerns me, because it gives the downtown a bit of an icky feeling. We need to fill the spaces we do have to give people a reason to visit, that's got to be a priority," Smandych said.



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# Wanakita invests in leaders of tomorrow

By Mike Baker

YWCA Wanakita is paying homage to a key figure from its history, recently announcing a \$2.6 million investment in a new leadership centre that camp figureheads say will open next summer.

The building has been branded the Wayne Perkins Leadership Centre, in honour of the man who spearheaded Wanakita's popular student counsellor program half a century ago. The two-year initiative teaches campers essential life and leadership skills via outdoor education, teamwork and mentorship – helping to create the next generation of leaders, says Andy Gruppe, vice president of overnight camp and outdoor education at Wanakita.

Gruppe said Perkins was Wanakita's camp director in the mid-to-late 1970s and would go on to serve as CEO of YWCA Canada from 2008-2010. Perkins passed away in January.

"He was pretty instrumental in making this place everything it is today," Gruppe said. "He was a special person, he helped turn Wanakita into a four-season facility, was a leader in the camp and the community and obviously left a significant mark in terms of establishing a more formalized leadership program for campers before they become staff."

The 4,080 sq. ft. space will replace nine



A rendering of the new Wayne Perkins Leadership Centre that will open at YWCA Wanakita next summer. *Submitted.*

already-demolished buildings that housed Wanakita's leadership operations. There will be a main meeting space, dorms for summer camp goers, and an Indigenous learning library. In the winter, the space will be used

for snowshoeing lessons. It will be able to accommodate up to 58 people.

Gruppe said the leadership program has become one of Wanakita's most popular. The first year is open to youth as soon as

they turn 15 and is focused on improving multiple outdoors skillsets, particularly water-based such as lifeguarding and paddling. The second year is about building communication and leadership skills that youth can utilize in later life.

Most of Wanakita's summer staff are graduates of the program, Gruppe said.

County-based Rodco Enterprises is handling the build, with footings for the foundation now installed. Gruppe said the facility has to be finished by June, in time for Wanakita's busy summer season.

Gruppe said Wanakita sees approximately 10,000 visitors per year. In the shoulder seasons, the camp operates as an outdoors centre, opening its grounds for school groups and private bookings.

Gruppe said Wanakita's administration is committed to the camp's long-term success, investing close to \$10 million in camp upgrades since 2013. This latest addition is the largest spend since the COVID-19 pandemic, Gruppe confirmed.

"We're a big place – we have 143 buildings and two separate camps on the property. It takes a lot of ongoing investment and upgrades to keep the place going," he said.

Wanakita is seeking donors to assist with future investments. For more information, visit [ymcaahbb.ca/wayne-perkins-leadership-centre](http://ymcaahbb.ca/wayne-perkins-leadership-centre).

## Land Trust strengthening wetland conservation

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust says that over the last year it has been working to strengthen wetland conservation in Haliburton County - thanks to receiving a \$97,600 seed grant from the provincial government's Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) in 2024.

Land Trust chair Todd Hall said the funds have enabled HHLT to improve its local wetland mapping data and engage with members of the community through different events, training and hands-on conservation work. Hall added the updated mapping will help HHLT, and municipal and local governments, with future conservation planning, mapping, climate

change adaptation and infrastructure.

The HHLT chair said wetlands are under-appreciated natural infrastructure that deliver numerous economic and cultural benefits, including flood mitigation, water filtration, carbon capture, and habitat for game species and species-at-risk.

"Outdated and inaccurate mapping limits the municipal government's ability to consider wetlands in land use planning and risks leading to unauthorized infill. With 72 per cent of all wetlands in Southern Ontario being lost since the 1800's, we can't afford to lose more," he said.

Since 2019, the Land Trust has been helping the County of Haliburton improve

wetland mapping accuracy through a data sharing agreement. This year, they said they improved mapping for an additional 3,993 hectares of wetland in the Sherborne and McClintock areas in Algonquin Highlands. This work builds upon previous wetland mapping projects in the southern end of Haliburton County.

Hall said, "thanks to this OTF grant, nearly 200 youth, community members, and HHLT volunteers were also able to build new skills and knowledge to contribute to nature conservation."

HHLT hosted their second ever Bioblitz at Barnum Creek Nature Reserve. More than 40 locals joined 20 experts from

across Ontario to identify in excess of 500 different species within 24 hours.

HHLT also provided nearly 20 educational workshops, events and field days throughout the year with topics ranging from wetland benthic monitoring, invasive species management, wildlife identification and digital mapping.

"The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust is truly grateful to the Ontario government for funding this important work, and to our community for their enthusiasm for protecting the natural beauty that makes this area so special," Hall said. "Together, if we take care of the land, it will take care of us." (Lisa Gervais)

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# Highlander news

## MINDEN HILLS NEWS

### Municipality wants to hear from you

Minden Hills is again calling on the public for help in drafting its strategic plan.

People provided feedback when they did a community engagement program, which was the first phase of the work.

They are now moving to the next phase - to develop a five-year strategic plan.

They said input is needed as the township looks at priorities, and identifying opportunities for growth and collaboration.

The township is working with Karen Jones Consulting Inc., to conduct the strategic plan sessions.

There is a virtual community consultation – Nov. 19 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom (contact lfitton@mindenhills.ca to register; a community consultation (in-person) – Nov. 27 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the community centre and a business consultation (in-person) Nov. 28 from 9-11 a.m. at the community centre.

### Mayor questions sustainability

Council, at an Oct. 30 meeting, was presented with an asset management plan - to ensure the township's roads, bridges, culverts, buildings, vehicles and equipment,

and water and wastewater - is maintained.

CAO Cynthia Fletcher said the plan "will be the basis for a lot of decision-making around maintaining and investing in our tangible capital assets. It's also a requirement of the many funding opportunities the municipality may go after."

Peter Simcisko, of Consultant Watson and Associates, presented the final report to council.

He noted when it comes to replacement costs, transportation assets make up the biggest chunk, at 66 per cent, or \$206.8 million of an estimated \$314.9 million asset valuation. Next are facilities (16 per cent), waste water (nine per cent), water (six per cent), and vehicles and equipment (three per cent).

They estimated the municipality would need \$6,624,000 from taxpayers annually to maintain the assets. They also gave 10-year lifecycle forecasts, of taxpayer support of \$41.4 million for transportation, facilities and fleet and equipment.

Simcisko said "we need to ensure there is a plan for how to fund the specific expenditures that are expected to come up after the next 10 years." They suggested an annual tax levy increase of 5.47 per cent, and an annual tax rate increase of 4.38 per cent – growing capital reserves to \$16.6 million. Waste and wastewater would be



Minden Hills council is working on asset management and strategic development plans. Photo by Lisa Gervais.

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Mayor Bob Carter said they are facing other costs outside of their control, such as suppliers charging more; possibly 11 per cent extra a year for OPP; and growing social services costs. He said he is not confident in increased funding from the provincial government. "Then we have this here," Carter said high single digit, and double-digit tax percentage increases are not sustainable "for the common folk and

people who live here. How do we make all this work? What are other people doing?"

Simcisko said it was 'a really good question' and he was unsure he had answers. However, he said they had tried to bring impacts down, such as a 15-year phase-in, versus 10 years.

Council received and approved the plan, which will be published on its website.

(Minden Hills news compiled by Lisa Gervais)



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Staff cut the ribbon for the official opening of the Coming Full Circle drop-in centre at 83 Maple Ave. Unit 7A in Haliburton. Submitted.

# Mental health and addiction support come full circle

By Mike Baker

The lead of a new peer support drop-in service covering Haliburton County says personalized programming is intended to meet people where they're at, offering hope to those in the Highlands dealing with mental health and substance use challenges.

The Coming Full Circle program has been running out of the Halco Plaza at 83 Maple Ave. Unit 7A since early September. A grand opening event was held Nov. 4.

David Barkley, program supervisor, said the two-year pilot is a partnership between Point in Time, the Canadian Mental Health Association Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge (CMHA-HKPR) and the Haliburton County Connections Committee. It was announced last spring, as part of an \$800,000 investment from Canada's Substance Use and Addictions Program.

Barkley, who has 22 years of experience working in peer support, said uptake has been slow. He said two-to-three people are utilizing the space when it's open, on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Services are also offered at the Minden Community Food Centre at 24 Newcastle St., Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Tuesdays will soon be added to the schedule in Haliburton, likely in late November, Barkley said. There are also plans to expand to Wilberforce and offer programs in the evening.

"The goal is to be doing something somewhere at least once per week," Barkley said. "Drop-ins are meant to be low barrier. There are no expectations. This is a person-centred space. We want to get to know people, what their goals are, what they're passionate about,

and how we can help them on their path.

"If all people are looking for right now is a warm place to go for a cup of coffee, we can be that place. If you're not quite ready to talk, but want to be around other people, this is somewhere you can do that... we want to be a spot people can feel welcome, even if they feel like they have nowhere to go," he added.

The service boasts six staff members, trained in things like crisis intervention and conflict management. All of them draw from their education when helping to get people back on track, with some also boasting lived experience – a key component to truly connecting with people suffering, Barkley said.

Alongside counselling-type peer supports, the drop-in can also be a fun space. There are games, arts and crafts and musical instruments available most days.

Coming Full Circle doesn't have any quotas, Barkley said, saying they will measure success on the differences they are able to make.

"Helping one person is success to me... though, we do have broader goals. We're funded for two years, so we want to showcase what a successful peer support model can look like. I want the community to see the benefits of peer support, so that if time is eventually up for us in terms of being here, there is a lasting legacy," Barkley said.

"At the end of the day, it's just community activism. People helping others through difficult circumstances and experiences."

For more information about the program, email [dbarkley@cmhahkpr.ca](mailto:dbarkley@cmhahkpr.ca).

## Eat a cookie, help a community

From Nov. 17-23, Tim Hortons customers in Haliburton and Minden can help make the season brighter for local families by purchasing a Holiday Smile Cookie.

During the week-long campaign, 100 per cent of proceeds from each cookie sold will be shared between the Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank, the Minden Community Food Centre, and Tim Hortons Foundation Camps.

The campaign is an annual tradition that invites Canadians to give back to their communities while enjoying a festive treat. Each hand-decorated cookie sold at participating Tim Hortons restaurants helps support local charities and youth development programs. Many of the cookies are decorated by local leaders in the community, including builders and contractors, healthcare, government, media, non-profit organizations, real estate, sports, and more.

"We're proud to once again be part of a campaign that brings our communities together for such meaningful causes," said

Mike Garland, owner of Tim Hortons Haliburton and Minden. "Every Holiday Smile Cookie purchased makes a real difference, helping local families put food on the table. It's one small act that creates a big impact."

For the Haliburton 4Cs Food Bank, community support is vital year-round, especially as the holiday season approaches, said board chair, Louise Ewing. "We're so grateful to be included in this campaign. Money raised during the Holiday Smile Cookie campaign helps local families facing food insecurity. It's heartwarming to see neighbours supporting neighbours."

The Minden Community Food Centre agreed. "The need in our community continues to grow, and partnerships like this help us meet it head-on," said board chair, Jim Wilson. "We're thankful to Tim Hortons and to every customer who buys a Holiday Smile Cookie this November; you're making a real difference."

If you'd like to place a bulk order for Holiday Smile Cookies, visit [tinyurl.com/TimsHolidaySmile](http://tinyurl.com/TimsHolidaySmile) (Lisa Gervais)

A MESSAGE FROM



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# Tail gunners tell of luck and courage

By Mike Baker

Haliburton's Barry Hart told a theatre full of high school students on Remembrance Day that he still shudders when considering how fortunate his father, William Hart, was to survive a plane crash that killed the rest of his crew during the final months of the Second World War.

A tail gunner with the Royal Air Force's (RAF) 582 Squadron, Hart and the rest of his seven-man crew took a Lancaster bomber on an 18-hour round trip from London, England to Chemnitz, Germany on March 5, 1945. Their mission was to be a pathfinder, marking enemy targets with magnesium markers. They had just returned to British airspace when disaster struck on March 6.

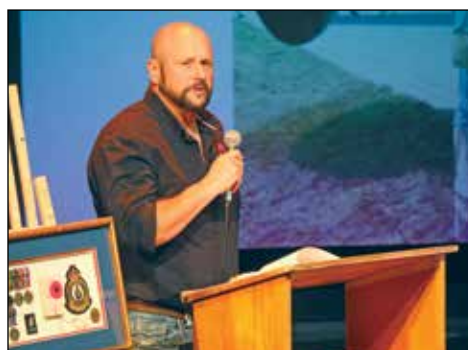
"They're coming down to land, and the plane just blows up," Hart said, noting that some of the leftover magnesium markers hadn't been set properly and, upon the plane descending to 3,000 feet, inadvertently went off.

One of the soldiers called out the fire right away, with the pilot saying he would try to hold the plane steady and directed the rest of the crew to bail. Hart said his grandfather was in the tail gunner turret while this was happening and, with the plane jolting, fell out. He managed to recover and quickly pull his parachute, Hart said.

"Miraculously, he survived the parachute drop. The plane nosedived and the other guys, unfortunately, didn't make it out. They were all incinerated in the crash," Hart said.

He told how his father only became a tail gunner after losing a coin toss with his comrades – the position was widely considered to be the most dangerous on the Lancaster, as it's the first target for enemies.

In September, he visited the crash site near Oxford, saying there's a memorial stone and



Top: Sophie Lee performed a monologue from the viewpoint of victims of a hospital bombing in Europe during the Second World War. Bottom left: Barry Hart shared the story of his grandfather, William Hart – a veteran of the Second World War – with students at Hal High Nov. 11. Bottom right: Pat Casey said his grandfather, Earl Casey, spent time as a prisoner of war during the Second World War. Photos by Mike Baker.

plaque there to honour the crew. His dad wasn't named though, being a survivor, so Hart had another plaque made and installed. William died in 1992.

While not quite as death-defying, Pat Casey said his grandfather, Earl Casey had many horror stories from his time fighting

in the war. He was also a tail gunner, serving with the Royal Canadian Air Force's 428 Ghost Squadron, which flew nighttime bombing missions.

"Flying at 20,000 feet, the glass cover that protected tail gunners from the elements would get frosted over on lengthy flights.

The soldiers couldn't see, so nine-times-out-of-ten they would kick the panel out and fly in the breeze at the back of the aircraft," Casey said.

His grandfather was 17 when he enlisted, one year younger than the minimum requirement. Casey said he must have lied on his application. Earl was the youngest in his flight crew, with the oldest being 23.

After a successful bombing mission over mainland Europe, Casey's Lancaster was struck by shrapnel over the English Channel on the return flight home. The crew ditched the plane in the water and spent 14 days with limited supplies on a rubber dinghy.

"They ran out of food and water pretty quickly. They got to the point where, to survive, they had to drink their own urine," Casey said. "They didn't think they could go on much longer – then they got picked up by a German patrol boat and became prisoners of war (PoW)."

Earl sustained a broken shoulder and leg in the crash, which didn't heal properly given the poor living conditions PoWs were exposed to. He wasn't sure how long his grandpa spent in captivity, but knows exactly when his time as a prisoner came to an end.

"He told me the Germans lined him and his crew up in front of a firing squad. The Germans loaded their guns, my grandpa and the other boys all said a teary goodbye to one another – they were pretty worn out and beat down by this point," Casey said. "But as they waited for the trigger, a German captain stopped everything. The war was over."

The soldiers were all transported back to England and returned home to Canada within weeks.

"If you want to talk about luck – that's how close my grandfather came. His luck was in at the most critical time," Casey said.

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## MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

- Don't miss the final week to see *Haycock: One Family's Canvas of Canada*, on display in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery until Saturday, November 15.

- Celebrate the holiday season by visiting the Minden Hills Cultural Centre for Christmas in the Village on Saturday, November 15 from 11 am – 3 pm! Enjoy a visit with Santa, live music by Gord Kidd, facepainting by Pockets the Clown, and the Local Vendor Christmas Market featuring handmade goods and seasonal crafts.

- The Agnes Jamieson Gallery will be closed November 18 – 21, 2025 as well prepare for our next exhibit.

For information on all the programs and exhibits offered at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre: [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca) or call 705-286-3763.

## PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The Township of Minden Hills is seeking interest from local service organizations who wish to enter into a Partnership Agreement with the Township for the collection of alcohol containers at a Waste Disposal Site, starting May 1, 2026.

The deadline to submit notice of interest is December 22, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. Follow our social media for more details or email [waste@mindenhills.ca](mailto:waste@mindenhills.ca) for more information and to submit your notice.

## COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and with electronic participation. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- November 13 – Regular Council Meeting
- November 27 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link.

## SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN

- Come and join us for the Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Minden Village Green along Bobcaygeon Road on Friday November 14th from 6:00pm - 8:00pm.

- Santa Claus Parade is on Saturday November 15th at 11:00am.

For more information on either event please visit the Minden hills online events calendar at [www.mindenhills.ca/events](http://www.mindenhills.ca/events).

## STRATEGIC PLAN – HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF MINDEN HILLS

The Township of Minden Hills is working with Karen Jones Consulting Inc. to develop a Strategic Plan. We will be hosting sessions to gather information regarding priorities, opportunities for growth, collaboration, and more.

- Virtual Community Session – Wednesday, November 19, 2025 5:30 to 7:30 pm via Zoom to register email [lfritton@mindenhills.ca](mailto:lfritton@mindenhills.ca)

- Community Session – Thursday, November 27, 2025 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena Community Room 1

- Business Session – Friday, November 28, 2025 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena Community Room 1

The sessions are open to everyone. Kindly register to assist with session logistics. For information visit [www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom](http://www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom) or email [admin@mindenhills.ca](mailto:admin@mindenhills.ca).

## A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- Cemetery Clean Up is scheduled for November 18 – 30. Cemeteries will close December 1, 2025.

- Register today for youth programming! Floor hockey, creative minds, basketball or multisport runs weekly from November 10th until December 17th. Register online at [www.mindenhills.ca/recreation](http://www.mindenhills.ca/recreation) or in person at the SG Nesbitt Memorial Arena.



# Editorial opinion

**TheHighlander**

Published by The Highlander Newspaper Limited

## OUR 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.

## OUR STAFF

### PUBLISHER

Laurie Johnson  
laurie@thehighlander.ca

### EDITORIAL

Lisa Gervais, Editor  
editor@thehighlander.ca

Mike Baker, Asst. Editor  
mike@thehighlander.ca

### SALES

Dawn Poissant  
dawn@thehighlander.ca

### BUSINESS MANAGER

Glenda Mumford  
admin@thehighlander.ca

### AD DESIGN | LAYOUT

David Partridge, Designer  
production@thehighlander.ca

### DISTRIBUTION

Walt Griffin

## CONTACT

**705-457-2900**

123 Maple Avenue, Box 1024  
Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0

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# Time to consider BIA

Is it time for Minden to finally have a business association, or a full-blown BIA? Realtor Brandon Nimigon thinks it is.

Since purchasing a Bobcaygeon Road business he is in the process of renovating – he has called the downtown a “sleeping giant” – with loads of untapped potential.

I agree with his analogy.

I applaud Nimigon for fixing up the downtown storefront that briefly housed Fork + Flour and B. Ironside Art tattooists, among other enterprises. He says another restaurant and another retailer will be moving in.

I also acknowledge long-time cottager, Jim Ecclestone, for making the former Rockcliffe look better, however it remains unused.

I am still sending LinkedIn messages to Rahim Lakhani, the developer who last owned the former Beaver Theatre and talked of building condos with shops underneath. I’m still waiting for a reply. Maybe he doesn’t even own it anymore. I don’t know. However, it is beyond an eyesore; much like the Wigamog Inn in Haliburton.

Some businesses have done a great job of making their storefronts look wonderful; however, their efforts are derailed by the abandoned ones; including the former

fire hall by the administration offices that is doing nothing to make the town look welcoming.

Minden Hills has tried to tackle this problem in the past. Remember when they briefly had an economic development person who came up with a ‘Mind on Minden’ campaign? There were some great T-shirts, but the position was shelved when the County hired its own economic development director.

For years, Minden has relied on committees of volunteers to work with council on various events – all to some degree of success. This Saturday’s Santa Claus parade and Christmas in the Village is a great example. So, too, is the recent Haunting in Minden Hills.

But – events are a very different thing than what a business improvement association could bring.

Nimigon talks about how a BIA could help beautify the downtown, help organize those public events, and provide a direct line of communication between council and the local business community. They can help market the area, make it safer and cleaner.

Mayor Bob Carter and councillors Ivan Ingram and Shirley Johannessen have recently launched a new working group to help improve the downtown. They have

invited business owners to participate and have held one meeting so far, with another scheduled this winter. While they are well intentioned, it’s been months since this group was first talked about. I don’t want to burst their bubble, but progress is clearly slow.

It’s time the business community had a long, hard look in the mirror. Rather than finding all the reasons why they should not explore options such as a BIA, why not find some reasons to at least consider it. Nimigon would be a good resource for all of their questions.

The Township of Minden Hills has an opportunity to canvass its residents and businesses about a BIA during upcoming strategic plan development consultations. There is one on Zoom Nov. 19, one in-person Nov. 27 and importantly – one specifically for the business community – Nov. 28. We’d encourage them to add one more item to the business consultation agenda; maybe ask for a show of hands about whether they want to investigate a business association or BIA further.



By Lisa Gervais

## SAWDUST STORIES

# Are you good?

Words hold a power that’s often underestimated.

They can sting. They can lift a mood. Sometimes, a word feels like an orphan — left hanging at the edge of a sentence, like we say in journalism.

In construction, there’s the off-cut: a piece left behind after the framing is done. Easy to disregard. But those discarded parts, whether in writing or on a job site, still carry value. A stray word can reframe a thought; an off-cut can fill a gap others missed. Given care, these forgotten pieces can help complete something bigger. When words — like studs or blocks — are placed with intention, they form structure. Something solid. Something that holds. And when stacked right, they don’t just carry weight — they give rise to vision. A tower, steady and square, from which you see further than before.

Each trade has its own language — a glossary that reflects how people see the world and one another. In journalism, phrases like ‘don’t bury the lede’ or ‘off the record’ speak to clarity and trust. In construction, words like ‘plumb’ or ‘square’ reflect care and precision. This shared vocabulary isn’t exclusive — it’s a kind of family language, one that helps us frame not just houses or stories, but our mindset, and

sometimes, each other.

I listen for warmth, engagement, and the subtext of truth that can slip by unnoticed when we’re not fully present. Words have always been a kind of magnifying glass — bringing important details into focus and drawing attention to the quiet moments that matter most. There is strength behind words. Every weighted exchange — whether built on phrase, term, or tone — serves a purpose. Not everything lands immediately. But with time and care, these small moments build toward something lasting. Something solid. Something great.

I’ve noticed that when people are given the space to acknowledge small wins — not to chase false positivity, but to remind themselves that progress exists, even on the hardest days — something shifts. They begin to show up differently, not just in the work they do, but in how they carry themselves and engage with others. It’s in the little moments: calling someone by name with care, pausing to check in, offering genuine recognition. These acts may seem small, but they ripple outward like a pebble dropped in a pond, creating trust and connection.

Words, like the details of a house, carry more than shape — they carry feeling and intention. Just as a curved banister or a

carefully crafted window frame can transform a space from mere shelter to home, the way we choose and use words shapes how people feel seen and valued.

These details in language reflect the care we put into our work and into each other. In both construction and storytelling, it’s those small touches — the thoughtful gesture or measured phrase — that build trust and connection, turning a collection of parts into something meaningful and lasting.

A name is like a stud in a wall — simple, hidden, but essential. Use it with care, and everything holds.

In construction, before pulling the chalk line to mark a large expanse, one of us will ask, “are you good?” On the surface, it’s about accuracy — confirming the line will be true. But it carries something deeper: a wordless trust, a moment of care. A simple phrase, loaded with meaning. A small signal that reminds us: we’re not just building walls. We’re holding each other up.



By Darren Lum

**THEHIGHLANDER.CA**

# Editorial opinion

## LETTERS

### Kudos to Scotch Line landfill

Dear editor,

It is an amazing thing and worth celebrating when various folks regularly comment passionately and positively about going to the Scotch Line landfill site in Minden Hills.

It has become a destination, not just of necessity, but also of choice. The staff are enthusiastic and go beyond one's expectations to be helpful and informative. Their passion for making 'the landfill dump' creatively interesting helps build the public's pride in their municipality — something that is unfortunately desperately needed in many other aspects of the township.

Staff appear to love their job. At a dump! This is exemplary. Let's celebrate.

Bernie Davis  
Minden Hills

### Timely response

Dear editor,

We received two tax reminder notices from Highlands East, to our dismay, especially seeing they were paid on Sept. 26, four days before the due date.

The notice stated we have property taxes past due. On Monday, I called the municipal tax department and left a message for someone to call me.

I called again and left yet another message. Seeing as I did not receive a return call, I

went on Highlands East's website and sent an email with reference to the tax reminder notices - again requesting a phone call with an explanation pertaining to this issue.

All I got was a return email stating the municipality received my email. I then called the municipal tax department, to no avail. I then called the general administration department, municipal clerk and CAO unsuccessfully. Apparently, they were all away from their desks or on a call.

It astounds me that every person I tried to call was not available, especially seeing there is an abundance of staff working in the offices for Highlands East. As taxpayers, we deserve a timely response for a resolution as this matter is the error of the township's tax department.

Beverly MacDuff  
Gooderham

**We want to hear from you**

Send us your opinion on any and all things related to living here in the County

**Contact:**  
[editor@thehighlander.ca](mailto:editor@thehighlander.ca)

## PHOTO OF THE WEEK



Ash Sky captured this image of a red squirrel enjoying a sunset.

## HUMANS OF HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS

# City girl embracing County living

By Susan Tromanhauser

A visit to her new boyfriend's family cottage on Winona Lake was where Beth Bagnato fell in love; with her boyfriend and cottage life.

Born and bred a city girl from Mississauga, Bagnato had the occasional taste of country life at her grandparents' farm near Cayuga, so in 2019, at the age of 25, when an opportunity arose to become home owners in Haliburton, she knew it was the right move.

Once permanently relocated to the Highlands, Bagnato needed a job to pay the bills. She recognized she would thrive in a position where she could stay busy and interact with people. McKeck's Tap and Grill became ideal employment. Her boyfriend joined the staff in the kitchen as a cook while Bagnato served on the floor; they formed a team working well together. Customers now recognize them as they do maintenance work together outside on their Highland Street home.

Bagnato views McKeck's as a close family restaurant where the patrons are friendly and her co-workers are friends. Restaurants can be a high stress environment and there are times "feelings get heightened," but at the end of the day "we take a break and say 'together, we got through this'."

One advantage Bagnato has working as a server is being bilingual. Her parents are deaf which enabled Bagnato to become fluent in English and ASL (American Sign Language). The skill of reading lips assists Bagnato taking diners' orders in a loud environment.

McKeck's is a busy establishment; seasonal residents in the summer and local patrons and snowmobilers in the winter. Bagnato acknowledges there is a slow period during hunting season, but does not mind taking off a few shifts at this time of year because she discovered the thrill of tracking turkeys through the bush.

Shocked when told of her new hobby, Bagnato's father needed to be assured his daughter was compliant with safety and

legal requirements. Bagnato took a hunting course online to be qualified and also obtained her firearms acquisition licence. She educated herself with the wide range of economy to luxury makes of rifles and shotguns, equating them to the variety of "brands of cars" available. Bagnato enjoys hiking Crown land, going for a scope to see if anything is going on. Turkeys are early birds, so it is necessary to explore the woods early in the morning when "still pitch-black dark." This provides an opportunity to enjoy the colours of the sun as it rises for the day. The biggest challenge is ensuring the birds don't notice you, or "you might as well just go home." Bagnato has yet to bag her first bird, but she imagines it will be an "I did that" moment she will savour.

The city girl in Bagnato has adapted well to Haliburton. She still returns to urban life to visit family and enjoy concerts and shows, but after a day or two away, she is called back to Haliburton where she is building her own home.



Beth Bagnato at McKeck's Tap and Grill. Submitted.

# Remembrance day



Top left: Brenda Gallant about to lay a wreath in Highlands East. Sergeant At Arms Tom Coghlan with Connie Rees at the Wilberforce service. *Photos by Lisa Gervais.* Middle: The colour parade led by Sergeant At Arms, Comrade Allan Folliott in Minden. Bottom left: Padre, Rev. Canon Joan Cavanaugh-Clark with the Prayer of Remembrance. Bottom middle: Folliott and Comrade Terry Taylor saluting after the laying of a wreath. Bottom right: Linda Evans, president of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch - Mabel Branigan Branch #636 - addresses the crowd. *Photos by Steven Sherwood.*

# Remembrance day



Top: Haliburton Legion president Mike Waller salutes during the Dysart et al service. Middle left: Haliburton Legion member and military veteran Nick Bryant lays a wreath on behalf of the United Nations Peacekeepers. Middle right: The Legion's chaplain Garry Swagerman and Corina Hall helped lead the ceremony. Bottom, left to right: Dysart et al coun. Nancy Wood-Roberts lays a wreath at the Cenotaph on behalf of the township, pictured with Haliburton Cadet Thomas Ward; Michelle Perrone pays her respects at the Haliburton ceremony; some of the Highlands' military veterans standing at attention and Legion colour party members Joan McAusland and Michelle Anton pin their poppies on a wreath. *Photos by Mike Baker.*



# Thank You



Highland Storm’s 2025/2026 hockey season is underway. We are looking forward to another successful year involving teamwork, skill development and fun! The Highland Storm Minor Hockey Association would like to thank its sponsors for their support; our success is only possible with your generosity!

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# Highlander environment



Long-serving “groundwater” volunteers, with over a decade of service, were recognized, including Norm Thomas, Rick Whitteker, Irene Heaven, Cammy Smith, Carolynn Coburn, Heather Reid, Eric Lilius, Joan Grant, and Joleen Thomas. *Submitted.*

## Water festival thanks volunteers

By Lisa Gervais

Volunteers and community partners gathered Nov. 1 to celebrate 20 years of inspiring local students to become water stewards through the Haliburton-Muskoka-Kawartha Children’s Water Festival (HMKCWF).

Since 2005, the festival has welcomed more than 17,000 elementary school students from across the Trillium Lakelands District School Board to hands-on learning activities about water science, conservation, and protection.

The 20th anniversary event recognized “groundwater” volunteers — who have supported the festival for more than a decade — and celebrated the growth of the unique environmental education initiative, hosted annually in Haliburton County.

Norm Thomas, past chair and current director of the Friends of Ecological and Environmental Learning (FEEL), was

honoured for his leadership in securing resources and guiding the festival since its beginnings.

Rick Whitteker, one of the festival’s founders and long-serving steering committee chair, reflected on milestones such as the move from the Frost Centre to Kinark Outdoor Centre and growth from 200 to nearly 1,000 students annually. Festival coordinator Kara Mitchell said Whitteker’s ongoing role as an educator and advisor continues to strengthen community partnerships and programming.

Irene Heaven, the festival’s longest-serving coordinator until 2022, was also recognized. “The HMKCWF really creates everlasting ripples of good stewardship,” she said, describing her years of work as “beyond fulfilling as an educator.”

Other long-serving “groundwater” volunteers honoured included: Cammy Smith, Carolynn Coburn, Heather Reid, Eric Lilius, Joan Grant, and Joleen Thomas.

### ONCE AGAIN, WE'RE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE HALIBURTON FOODBANK!

This year, your generosity will reach all **Food Banks in Haliburton County** - and we're thrilled to be partnering with **Canoe FM's Toy & Gift Card Drive** to make spirits bright across the region!



### HALIBURTON VILLAGE SANTA CLAUS PARADE

**Friday, November 21, 2025**  
**6:30pm**

Join the **Lana Harvey Real Estate Group** along the parade route as we collect **non-perishable food items, new, unwrapped toys, and gift cards** to support families in need this holiday season.

**Together, we can bring hope, warmth, and joy to homes across our community!**

Donations can also be dropped off at the  
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York Street, Haliburton  
**OPEN MONDAY-SATURDAY FROM 10 AM-2 PM**

Cash donations are always welcome and help purchase turkeys for local families.  
\*\*Don't forget to let Judy know to be entered into the draw for Husky Hockey tickets!\*\*

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# Highlander arts

## Community Breakfast Event

Everyone's Welcome!

### Community Breakfast – Join Us!

This is your invitation to a warm and friendly morning filled with good food and great company!

**Date:** Saturday, November 22  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
**Place:** Haliburton United Church  
 10 George Street (Fellowship Room)

Hosted by: North Entrance Masonic Lodge & Haliburton United Church

Donations are heartily welcomed and will be put to good use. Best of all, part of the proceeds help support the elementary school breakfast program—so every meal you enjoy helps a child start their day right!

Questions? Please email [nelbrekky@victoriadistrict.com](mailto:nelbrekky@victoriadistrict.com)



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## That's a wrap

The Haliburton International Film Festival (HIFF) wowed audiences with Nov. 7 screenings of Hollywood blockbuster *Frankenstein* at Highlands Cinemas. Spokesperson Tammy Rea said nearly 500 people attended the afternoon and evening showings of the Guillermo del Toro film. Also in attendance were Hank DeBruin and Tanya McCready DeBruin, since their Winterdance Dogsled Tour dogs are in the film, as is Hank as a stunt double. They brought one of the dogsleds from the movie to Kinmount. The event then shifted back to its home at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion for six other films. Rea said, “the films in this year’s lineup told epic tales and small stories about overcoming adversity and persevering against all odds, with jazz scores flowing through many of our films. Many of the films find ways to make us laugh even while portraying challenges.” (Lisa Gervais)

Top: HIFF committee members, left to right, Leslie Haller, Midori Nagai, Tammy Rea, Isabel Buttler, Kip Kelly, Donna McCallum, Lori Roberts, Bob Haller, Trish Hewitt, Lesley Marshall, Myra Stephen and Joleen Thomas. *Submitted*. Bottom left: Lions’ Betty Mills and Pat Howlett at the snacks table. Bottom centre: Bob Haller and Nagai in the booth. *Photos by Lisa Gervais*. Bottom right: Stephen and Rea with a *Frankenstein* poster at Highlands Cinemas. *Submitted*.

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The annual craft sale of the Wilberforce Heritage Guild

## HOLIDAY CRAFT SALE

Lloyd Watson Centre, 2249 Loop Rd, Wilberforce

**Saturday November 29, 2025**  
 9 am to 2 pm

## THE Studio TOUR

HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS

Scan for application

### Call to New Artists

to apply, visit our website at [thestudiotour.ca](http://thestudiotour.ca)  
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**Deadline to apply is Nov 21, 2025**

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# Highlander community



## The Municipality of Highlands East is accepting Tenders for the Sale of Surplus Trucks

### 1. RFT-07-2025 - 2010, International Tandem Plow Truck

- Includes plow and hydraulic wing
- Cummins engine
- 396,000 kms
- Minimum bid \$15,000

### 2. RFT-08-2025 - 2014, International Tandem Plow Truck

- Includes plow and cable wing
- Maxforce engine
- 335,530 kms
- Minimum bid \$15,000

Sealed tenders are to be clearly marked "Tender RFT-07-2025 2010, International Tandem Plow Truck or RFT-08-2025 - 2014, International Tandem Plow Truck" and submitted to the attention of the contact provided below:

Municipality of Highlands East  
2249 Loop Road, Box 295  
Wilberforce, ON K0L 3C0  
**Attn: Brittany McCaw, CAO/Treasurer**

**Deadline for Tender Submissions:** Friday, November 28th, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

For further details and to download the appropriate tender document, please visit the municipal website at [www.highlandseast.ca](http://www.highlandseast.ca)



## Bringing the heat

This year's Heat Bank dinner and auction entered a new chapter - with a new venue, The Bonnie View Inn, and chefs joining forces from the County's top restaurants: Rhubarb, Juna, The Post House, and Dimensions Retreats. Moving from Rhubarb, the event nearly doubled in size, hosting more than 100 dinner guests. Tina Jackson, of Central Food Network and Heat Bank's executive director, said they raised more than \$43,000. She said, "Sunday night was grand. It was a beautiful showcase of the collaborative spirit of the Haliburton Highlands community ... with chefs, musicians, staff volunteering, businesses and community members all coming together in generosity and spirit to support Heat Bank and ensure that no neighbour is left cold. Our hearts are so filled with gratitude." (Lisa Gervais)

Top: Executive director of Central Food Network, Tina Jackson, addresses the crowd.

Bottom: Patrons mingle at the Bonnie View Inn prior to dinner.

Photos by Steven Sherwood.

# The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Highlands Christmas Shindig

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*Live Band*

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# Junior highlanders



Left: Red Hawk OFSAA qualifiers Erika Hoare, Violet Humphries, Annika Gervais, Quinn Hamilton and Alex Lee. Right: Spot Red Hawk, Alex Lee, among the crowd. Submitted.

## Three Red Hawks crack 100 at OFSAA

By Lisa Gervais

Red Hawk runners raced at the OFSAA cross country championships at Heart Lake Conservation Park in Brampton Nov. 1.

The race includes the two best teams, and top five individual runners, from the 18 associations from across Ontario.

Coach Karen Gervais said, “HHSS runners demonstrated grit and resilience facing challenges like the stampede; starts with 275 runners exploding off the line at once; jostling and elbowing for position;

getting boxed in on narrow trails and a good helping of slippery mud after Friday’s rains.”

The top finisher for the Hawks was Junior Girl Annika Gervais in 64th. Gervais shaved a minute and a half off her time on the course earlier in the season, reeling in several runners over the last two kilometres.

Novice Girl Quinn Hamilton used her speed to get ahead of the mob in the mass start, hanging on to finish a strong 76th. Hamilton also improved her time on the 4 km course by a minute and a half

despite the cold and muddy conditions.

Novice Boy Alex Lee cracked the top 100 in his debut OFSAA race, finishing 99th. Lee ran consistently throughout the season, but Gervais said he found the OFSAA race challenging with the many runners on narrow trails making it difficult to pass.

Senior Girls and longtime teammates Violet Humphries and Erika Hoare crossed the finish line together in 174th and 176th in the very competitive field of senior runners. The senior category includes

athletes in Grade 11, 12 and sometimes fifth-year runners, like Hoare. The senior 6 km course featured not just extra distance, but a very hilly loop near the beginning of the race, Gervais said.

She added, “the team will miss the leadership of Humphries, Hoare and senior girls Grace Allder, Ella Gervais and Olivia Gruppe, who will all graduate this year and have been pillars of the distance running program at HHSS.”

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Tickets: \$40 adults | \$20 students | Free under 18  
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Doors open at 6:30pm!

The Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association (HHOA) is pleased to invite members and the public to our **Annual General Meeting** to be held on **November 23, 2025** at the Haliburton Fish Hatchery Meeting Hall (6712 Gelert Rd.) between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.

This year’s guest speaker is Mitch Klatt from Rapala Canada with information on Rapala fishing products and knowledge to improve your fishing experience on our many inland lakes in Haliburton County.

A summary of the HHOA’s activities for the past year will be shared as well as the last fiscal year’s financial report. The opportunity for invitations of prospective HHOA Board directors will take place as well. This commitment leads to becoming involved in the workings of the HHOA and assisting in maintaining Haliburton County as a premier Outdoor Activity destination in the Province of Ontario and beyond.

**Light refreshments will be available.**

# Highlander events



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## Say cheese!

Snowflake Meadows kicked off the Christmas festivities Nov. 8 – offering photos with Santa Claus. Families and their pets posed as part of the festive fundraiser, raising just over \$2,000, including one person donating \$1,000. It marked the fifth time Morgan Fisher has captured images on behalf of Snowflake Meadows, while Lindsay Bull of Bluebird Cakes brought cupcakes. (Lisa Gervais)

Top: Zeus the shepherd, and Zoey the Bully with St. Nick. Bottom: A.J., Killian, Santa, Aerys, and Kristyn Begbie. Photos by Steven Sherwood.



## NOVEMBER EVENTS

### LIVE MUSIC ALL MONTH LONG:

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**November 22** - Bill Black

**November 29** - Albert Saxby

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**Fish Fryday** Join us Fridays and enjoy Halibut and Chips for \$28.95 OR Pan Seared Pickerel or Salmon with your choice of potato \$38, both include salad and are plus tax.

**Holiday Party Time is Here!** Planning a festive luncheon/dinner or full evening of celebration? The Inn has lunch and dinner reservation options as well as full evening events up to 55 people. For lunch or dinner reservations give us a call at (705) 754-2188 or for larger events email events@sirsamsinn.com

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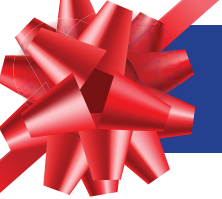
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Alternate captain, Isaac Larmand, is excited about the roster. *File.*

## Character building week for new-look Huskies

By Lisa Gervais

It's been quite a week for the Haliburton County Huskies – back-to-back double overtime games Nov. 5 and 8, followed by a huge come-from-behind win on the road Nov. 9.

The team was also sporting three new players after a major trade with the Cobourg Cougars.

This past Sunday, the Markham Royals stunned the Huskies with three first-period goals: at 12:35, 15 seconds later at 12:50, then at 15:32 to take a 3-0 advantage.

Alternate captain Isaac Larmand said, "we went into the dressing room after the first period and just regrouped. We all agreed we had to be better and went out for the second and that's when we came back and it was 5-4."

The Royals had made it a 4-0 scoresheet at 7:16 of the second, but it was all Huskies after that.

Declan Bowmaster got the first one back at 8:56 on the powerplay, assisted by newcomer, Jack Cook, and Kieran Raynor. Chase Del Colombo notched the second Husky goal at 10:37 from newbies, Liam Oravsky and Carson Durnin. Ronen Macfarlane bulged the twine at 12:10 on the man advantage, from Del Colombo and Durnin. Then, at 13:26, Oravsky tied the game, from Easton Poe. Durnin potted the game-winner at 18:16, assisted by Oravsky and Del Colombo.

The third was scoreless in the improbable 5-4 Huskies win.

Larmand said, "coming back from 4-0 is pretty hard to do."

### Huskies 1 Dukes 1

The night before, Nov. 8 at home, the Huskies played the Wellington Dukes to a 1-1 tie when no one could score after double overtime.

Wellington got on the board first, at 11:04 of the second

period. But Oravsky tied things up at 9:39 of the third, with an assist to Daniel Vasic.

That was it for the scoring as the teams recorded a rare tie.

Larmand said, "we had lots of chances to win that game; hit some posts, it was very back-and-forth. Taking the tie and not letting Wellington get the extra point helps us in the standings."

### Buffalo 3 Huskies 2

In this one, Julius Da Silva got the blue and white on the board first, at just 54 seconds, from Vasic and Mike Mardula. Then, at 10:10, Carter Petrie gave the Huskies a 2-0 lead on the PP, with assists to Larmand and Macfarlane.

However, the team squandered two late goals, at 16:24 and 18:09 to let the Junior Sabres back into the contest. There was no scoring again until the Sabres broke the Huskies' backs at 1:05 of the second OT to take a 3-2 win.

Larmand said, "that game was a very winnable game for us. We took the positives away from it," including the good start. However, he said they should not have given up two late first period goals. "Obviously, it didn't finish the way we wanted it to."

Larmand said the three games were "pretty nuts. We just stuck to our system, stayed together as a team." He felt they were character building games, especially coming back from a 4-0 deficit.

### Trade

The Huskies traded Curtis Allen, Connor Hollebek, and Alex Rossi to Cobourg, picking up 20-year-olds Durnan and Cook, and 19-year-old Oravsky.

"Just bringing in a couple of older guys to add some age to our team and add some experience and hopefully help us get some wins," Larmand said.

Next up: Pickering on the road Nov. 14 and St. Michael's at home Nov. 15. Puck drop 4 p.m.

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# Home of the Highland Storm



The Highland Storm tied the powerful Durham Blue 3-3 in a Nov. 8 tilt in Minden. Photo by Steven Sherwood

## Heart, teamwork and growth in 3-3 tie

The U13 LL Casey’s Water Well & Geothermal Inc. team put forward a huge effort in their game against a top opponent, Durham Blue, showing grit, skill, and teamwork from start to finish. The Nov. 8 game finished in a 3-3 tie.

Olivia Emmerson ran the power play with poise, quarterbacking the unit and creating scoring chances every shift. Beau Gilmour was relentless on the penalty kill, reading plays perfectly and keeping the other team off balance. Brody Alton nearly lit the lamp with a blast from the point, only to be robbed by an incredible save. Bobby Walker held the blue line with authority, keeping opponents out of his goalie’s crease and maintaining control in the defensive zone. Blair Fisher had a couple of quality chances from the point but couldn’t quite get the bounces to go his way. Parker Fessey once again proved to be the team’s Swiss Army knife, seamlessly moving between forward, defence, power play, and penalty kill roles.

Grayson Pelley’s calm breakout control and elite playmaking made him a key factor in the flow of the game. Jase Jones’ hard work paid off with two goals, both products of his determination and skill. Miller Brown battled all game and was unlucky not to score multiple

times, denied by a standout performance from the opposing goalie. Raelyn Adlam used her speed to pressure defences down the wing and stayed active in front of the opposing net. Aliyah Cox continued to shine as one of the team’s best playmakers, turning broken plays into chances and setting up her teammates with accurate passing. Nolan Frybort buried one in the net with his trademark powerful wrist shot. The three rookies Charlie Mainprize, Mason Mihlik, and Jack Guyatt are developing quickly, making strong contributions on both sides of the puck.

In net, Gavin Suke delivered one of the most memorable sequences of the season with a diving save spree in the first period stopping three straight shots across the crease, stretching out the trapper to deny the final rebound. Facing a barrage from an undefeated team, he stood tall and only allowed three goals.

The team missed Kylie Simms’ strong playmaking and Nathan Hill’s steady defensive presence, but everyone stepped up to fill the gaps. All in all, it was a game full of heart, teamwork, and signs of real growth across the lineup. (Submitted)

### STARS of the WEEK



**GAVIN SUKE**  
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**OLIVIA EMMERSON**  
Don't let her size fool you. Every opportunity Olivia gets with the puck, no one can stop her.



**MILLER BROWN**  
Miller never gives up. His determination and ability is unmatched.

Photos by Tim Tofflemire.

SCORE

BOARD

**Nov. 4** U15 The Pepper Mill Steak and Pasta House vs Lindsay 5-1 W

**Nov. 6** U13 Casey’s Water Well & Geothermal vs Manvers 4-1 W

**Nov. 7** U13 REP Curry Chevrolet vs Millbrook 9-2 W

U15 Minden Pharmasave vs Brock 5-2 W

**Nov. 8** U9 MD Haliburton Hockey Haven vs Ennismore 16-1 L

U11 REP Tom Prentice & Sons vs Oshawa 9-4 W

U13 Casey’s Water Well & Geothermal vs Durham 3-3 T

U15 Minden Pharmasave vs Manvers 2-1 W

U11 Carquest Minden vs Manvers 6-4 W

U13 REP Curry Chevrolet vs Ennismore 4-3 W

U18 A&W Haliburton vs Millbrook 4-0 W

**Nov. 9** U13 Casey’s Water Well & Geothermal vs Durham 2-2 T

U11 REP Tom Prentice & Sons vs Douro 4-1 W

U15 The Pepper Mill Steak & Pasta House vs Millbrook 7-4 W

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# What's on

## ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION EVENTS

**Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 129 Haliburton**

**Mondays:** Office open 9 a.m. to noon, clubroom closed. Bridge at 1 p.m.

**Tuesdays:** Games and cards night starting at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome. Fun darts at 7 p.m.

**Wednesdays:** Bid euchre 1 p.m. start, Remembrance Hall. Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. with a 7 p.m. start time, Remembrance Hall. Snack bar available from 5:30 p.m. – French fries and hot dogs available while supplies last.

**Thursdays:** General meeting third Thursday of the month, ladies auxiliary meeting last Thursday of the month.

**Fridays:** 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. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts 4:30 p.m. onwards. 50/50 draw at 5 p.m., tickets are \$1 and available in the clubroom. Beginning July 4, board games for seniors from 10 a.m. to noon.

**Saturdays:** Open only for special events  
Clubroom hours: Monday 3-9 p.m., Tues 5-9 p.m., Wed/Thurs 3-6 p.m., Fri 3-7 p.m., Saturday and Sunday closed.

**Upcoming events:** Drum circle Nov. 16, Dec. 7, Jan. 4, with a 1 p.m. start time.

**Royal Canadian Legion - Mabel D. Brannigan Branch 636 Minden**

Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday to Thursday with regular menu and daily special including Liver Lovers' Tuesday.  
Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner 4-7 p.m.

Saturday all day breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with meat draws at 11 a.m.  
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541

Weekly activities:  
Karaoke: call for dates  
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week.  
Monday: Euchre 1-3 p.m.  
Thursday: Cribbage 1-3 p.m., Darts 7-9 p.m. and euchre 7-9 p.m.

**Royal Canadian Legion - Branch 624 Wilberforce**

**Monday:** open 7 to 10 p.m. Nov. 17 and 24 is darts at 7 p.m. \$5/player  
**Tuesday:** closed, special events only  
**Wednesday:** open 2 to 10 p.m. Nov. 19 and 26 is darts at 2 p.m. \$5/player. There's also quick supper from 5 to 6:30 p.m., with the menu changing weekly. Cost is \$10 per person. And Cribbage League starts at 6:30 p.m.  
**Thursday:** open 2 to 10 p.m. Nov. 13, 20 and 27 cornhole at 7 p.m. Nov. 13 and 27 HHHS Social Rec 10 a.m.  
**Friday:** open 2 to 11 p.m.  
Nov. 14 and 28 Community Care 55+ Lunch \$17, at noon; Fish and chips, one piece \$15, two piece \$20 . Nov. 21 is wings and jam session from 5 to 8 p.m. \$15 per pound.  
**Saturday:** open 2 to 9 p.m. Nov. 15, 29 is open mic from 2 to 6 p.m. Nov. 15 is the fall dance from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., free admission. Nov. 29 is trivia night at 7 p.m. \$5/player.  
**Sunday:** closed, special events only. Nov. 16 open house with local artist Luann Coghlan from 1 to 4 p.m.

## EVENTS

**Nov. 13,** 5:30 p.m. Haliburton Rotary is hosting a membership information open house at the Haliburton Legion. Learn more about Rotary and meet club members. This is a great way to help your community in a fun and supportive environment. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

**Nov. 13,** 7:30 p.m. CASC Ice Race Division is hosting two webinars teaching people all about ice racing. Taking place Nov. 13 and Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m. Learn how to get started, what cars make the cut, and why this winter sport is unlike anything else. There are also opportunities to volunteer. For more information, visit [www.casc.on.ca/ice-racing](http://www.casc.on.ca/ice-racing).

**Nov. 14,** 11 a.m. to noon. Mini gingerbread person felting workshop at the Wilberforce library. No experience needed, all materials and instructions provided. This is a program for adults. Registration required. Call 705-457-2241 or email [programs@haliburtonlibrary.ca](mailto:programs@haliburtonlibrary.ca). Also happening at the Minden library Nov. 19 from 2-3 p.m.

**Nov. 15,** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library is hosting a Christmas book sale at the Minden Hills branch. Choose from a variety of gently-read books, including thrillers, mysteries, romance, biographies, and children's books. Payment is by cash or cheque donation. Proceeds support library programming across the County.

**Nov. 15,** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Haliburton Legion Auxiliary is holding its annual craft sale, with more than 40 talented artists selling an array of homemade goods. This is a great opportunity to start your Christmas shopping. Admission is by a food or monetary donation

to the 4Cs Food Bank.

**Nov. 15,** 4 to 8 p.m. Abbey Gardens is hosting a holiday night market at 1012 Garden Gate Dr. Local artisans will be gathered in the event tent, offering handmade gifts, seasonal treats and holiday treasures. There will be hot chocolate, apple cider and other seasonal treats available. Get your tickets at [abbeygardens.ca](http://abbeygardens.ca).

**Nov. 20,** 1 to 3 p.m. Haliburton Highlands Writers and Editors Network meeting at the Minden branch of the Haliburton County Public Library. Gather and meet members, read stories, general news. For more information contact Kay Millard at 705-286-6635. Meetings run the third Thursday of each month.

**Nov. 21,** 1 to 3 p.m. A special PA Day screening of Mr. Bean's Holiday at the Minden Hills library. Popcorn will be provided, no registration necessary. All ages are welcome – children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult.

**Nov. 21,** 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Help to kick off the festive season in the Highlands with the Haliburton Santa Claus Parade. There will be carolling at the town tree to start, with a tree lighting ceremony at 5:30 and the parade beginning at 6:30.

**Nov. 22,** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Haliburton Christmas Market at A.J. LaRue Arena. Come out and find the perfect gift for that special someone this festive period.

**Nov. 22,** 6:30 p.m. The 12th annual Highlands Christmas Shindig takes over the Haliburton Legion. Tickets are \$35 in advance, with all proceeds supporting Fuel for Warmth.

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# Abbey Gardens' holiday market returns

By Lisa Gervais

After a brief hiatus, Abbey Gardens has announced the return of its holiday night market.

This year's event will be on Saturday, Nov. 15, from 4-8 p.m.

Executive director Angela Kruger said the festive community offering transforms the Abbey Gardens property into a winter wonderland, where visitors can shop, sip, and celebrate the magic of the season.

"Following record-breaking attendance in past years, the market is back and better than ever. Guests are invited to stroll along illuminated pathways, explore a cozy, heated vendor tent filled with local artisan creations, and enjoy festive food and drink from the Abbey Gardens Food Hub and local partners," Kruger said.

She added there will be holiday-themed cocktails and warm beverages, from cider to hot chocolate, and other seasonal sips on offer. So, too, will be wood-fired pizza, sweet treats, and café favourites.

Some 20 local artisan vendors are offering handmade gifts, jewellery, décor, and seasonal treasures.

Kruger added there would be "exclusive Food Hub finds and festive surprises. Ambient lights, fire pits, and cheerful music filling the air with warmth and joy.

"The holiday night market truly captures the spirit of Abbey Gardens. It's where our community comes together to celebrate creativity, connection, and



Eighteen vendors and organizations set up shop around Abbey Gardens during the first ever market in 2021. *File.*

local craftsmanship — all against the backdrop of our twinkle-lit gardens.

The response this event has received in previous years reminds us how much people value gathering in nature and supporting something that gives back."

Admission is by donation, with priority entry for online ticket reservations (walk-ins welcome as space allows). All proceeds support Abbey Gardens' environmental education and restoration projects that help connect people with nature and sustainability year-round.

For more information, visit [abbeygardens.ca/event-details/abbey-gardens-holiday-night-market](http://abbeygardens.ca/event-details/abbey-gardens-holiday-night-market).

ca/event-details/abbey-gardens-holiday-night-market.

Abbey Gardens is a charitable organization in the Haliburton Highlands created with a mission to transform a spent gravel pit into a green space dedicated to developing economic, ecological, educational, and recreational growth within the community.

Kruger said they are proud to be FEASTON certified for carrying Ontario products in their Food Hub. It is a social enterprise that produces, promotes, and sells sustainable, local food to engage the community and support Abbey Gardens.

## Other big events:

- Santa Claus parade in Minden Nov. 15, starting at 11 a.m. followed by Christmas in the Village at the cultural centre until 3 p.m.
- Diwali in Haliburton, Nov. 15, 6:30 p.m. at the Haliburton Legion. The event is suitable for adults, youth and children. Tickets are \$40 for adults, \$20 for students and children under 18 are free. Tickets are available online at [www.dancehappenshere.com](http://www.dancehappenshere.com) or at Redmans Records. For more information see [www.dancehappenshere.com](http://www.dancehappenshere.com)

THE TOWNSHIP OF  
**MINDEN HILLS**  
IN SEASON, EVERY SEASON

## Tree Lighting Ceremony

**November 14th, 2025**

**6:00pm-8:00pm at the Village Green**

**Santa Claus**



**Parade**

Come and help decorate the tree, sing some carols and kick off this festive season at the Village Green located along Bobcaygeon Road between Water and Newcastle St.

**November 15th, 2025**

**Parade Start at 11am!**

The parade will begin at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena, continue along Parkside Street and head south on Bobcaygeon Road, before finishing at the Township municipal parking lot off Milne Street.

Non-perishable food items will be collected during the parade.

For more information visit <https://www.mindenhill.ca/events/>

# Highlander classifieds

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|                                                                    |                                                                   |                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

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# Highlanderclassifieds

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>M.A.H. UPHOLSTERY – Boat Covers &amp; Repairs. Boat Interiors &amp; Repairs. ATV, Sea-Doo, Snowmobile and Motorcycle seats. Over 40 years of experience. Call 705-457-0726 (</p> <p>HANDYMAN – Carpentry, General Repairs. Call or Text Doug at 416-889-8534</p> <p>GENERAL CARPENTRY – 40 years of experience. Small jobs welcome. Free quote. Call Bill at 705-372-3778</p> <p>KITCHEN AID STAND MIXER - Is your Kitchen Aid Stand Alone Mixer leaking oil, doesn't run as it should, or making noises? SOUNDS LIKE IT NEEDS SERVICING - I SERVICE AND REPAIR - all work is guaranteed CALL CLIFF 705-887-0770</p> | <p>PAINTER - Professional, experienced, clean and dependable painter for Residential/Commercial projects. From 1 room to entire home/office. No charge for minor repairs. DECKS! Power-washed and stained, Call or text 647-213-2875, or call 705-447-2213 for a free estimate.</p> | <p>FOR SALE - Jellies, Stocking stuffers, garlic and garlic powder and seed garlic. 1434 Kashagawigamog Lake Road, 2.2k from County Road 21. 705-286-2627 or 705-457-0090. Highland Garlic will now be Open until November 23. To all of our customers, Have a safe and Happy Holiday Season and we will see you next year.</p> <p>FOR SALE – ATV Arctic Cat 550, with 240 hrs. \$6,000. ATV Blade, 5 ft \$300. Please call 613-630-0247</p> <p>FOR SALE - Massey 202 workbull tractor with loader and ice chains. In good running condition. \$5500 or best offer. Text 705-935-1105 or email dusty2348@gmail.com</p> | <p>FOR SALE - Steel wheels 18” for 2015 to 2024 Ford Edge or Lincoln MKX / Nautilus, hub-centric 5x108 bolt pattern, one season left on tires Continental Winter Contact SI, does not have TPMS. Pickup in Minden area. Call Brian 416-531-3227</p> <p>WANTED</p> <p>J &amp; D TOWING &amp; SERVICE STATION - will pay top dollar for scrap cars. We also provide towing services as well as flat bed. Call Jim 705-447-2113</p> <p>WANTED – Scrap metal, fridges, stoves, any metal. We will pick up. Please call 519-820-5701 this is a Gooderham phone number.</p> | <p>EVENT - HALIBURTON LEGION CRAFT SALE, SATURDAY NOVEMBER 15th 10:00-3:00. Start your Christmas shopping with crafts created by 40 vendors. The Auxiliary ladies will be serving soup, sandwiches and sweets in the Schofield Room Cafe.</p> <p>NOTICE</p> <p>ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS - Sundays - 10:30 am at St. Anthony's, 27 Victoria Street Haliburton. Wednesdays - 7:00 PM at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle St. in Minden - rear door. Thinking about alcohol. Thinking about stopping. We've been there. We can help!</p> | <p>AL ANON- WE CARE, are you troubled by someone's drinking? Meetings: Thursdays 7 p.m., St. Anthony's 27 Victoria Street, Haliburton, and Mondays 7 p.m. at Highland Hills United Church, 21 Newcastle, Rear Entrance, Minden. 1-888-4AL-ANON (1-888-425-2666) al-anon.org All are welcome.</p> <p>NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS Admission is free and the only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using. This meeting is for addicts only. New meeting in Haliburton that meets every Thursday from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at 83 Maple Ave. Unit 7A in Haliburton Halco Plaza, behind Castle Antiques. For more information and an online version visit www.cloana.org or call 1-888-811-3887</p> |

## HELP WANTED



**The Corporation of the County of Haliburton  
Requires an  
Engineering Technologist, Capital Works**

Reporting to the Director of Public Works, the Engineering Technologist is responsible for the completion of all pre-engineering surveys, including design drawings and specifications, cost estimates, and tender preparation for construction and maintenance projects. This position will assist with budgeting and the updating of the Asset Management Plan for road, bridge and building needs. This position also performs construction inspection as required on capital road projects.

The successful candidate will have 2-3 years municipal work experience in road construction/maintenance and knowledge of relevant legislation. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills to work effectively with staff, contractors and the public. College diploma in Civil or Survey Technology or equivalent work experience. Proficient in Civil 3D-AUTOCAD, Arc Map and Microsoft Office Suite along with Total Station survey and GPS technology experience. The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$34.86.

Visit our website at [www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers](http://www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers) for a more detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to [shume@haliburtoncounty.ca](mailto:shume@haliburtoncounty.ca) no later than November 27, 2025, at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.



**The Corporation of the County of Haliburton  
Requires an  
Engineering Technologist, Highway/911**

Reporting to the Director of Public Works, the Engineering Technologist – Highway/911 has primary responsibility for 911 data and civic address signage. This position is also responsible for coordinating new road processes, managing county road access, undertaking research and providing field reports as required.

The successful candidate will have 2-3 years municipal work experience in road construction/maintenance and knowledge of relevant legislation. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills to work effectively with staff, contractors and the public. College diploma in Civil or Survey Technology or equivalent work experience. Proficient in Civil 3D-AUTOCAD, Arc Map and Microsoft Office Suite along with Total Station survey and GPS technology experience. The hourly rate for this unionized CUPE position is \$34.86.

Visit our website at [www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers](http://www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers) for a more detailed posting and job description.

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# Highlander classifieds

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## LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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## THIS WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

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## OBITUARIES

*In Loving Memory of*  
**Sheldon Stevenson**  
June 6, 1971 – November 7, 2025



Sheldon passed away suddenly yet peacefully on the morning of Friday, November 7th, at his favourite place — camp.

Anyone who knew Sheldon knew that camp was where he truly shined. He could often be found in his outdoor kitchen, cooking up a storm for anyone who stopped by — whether it was a hearty breakfast or late-night eats. Some of the best memories were made around the fire, singing songs, playing music, and sharing laughter. His kids loved teaching him new drinking games, which usually ended with his classic remark about how “dumb” they were — though he’d always join in anyway.

Sheldon was especially proud to be “Papa” to his grandson, Luken. The two shared a special bond — singing songs together, learning how to keep a beat, and even tackling lessons on how to handle a partridge.

Sheldon shared over 34 wonderful years with his beloved wife, Kelly — 28 of them married. Together, they created a lifetime of memories, from their very first movie date to countless road trips, hockey games, and cozy nights at camp. He was a devoted husband who always put his family first.

Though Sheldon often said he had a “small circle” of people he loved, in truth, his circle was wide. So many friends and family members were touched by his kindness, loyalty, and willingness to help anyone in need. If you called Sheldon, he’d be there faster than you could imagine.

An avid food prepper, Sheldon took pride in canning and cooking, making sure that life was a little easier — and that nobody ever went without.

Sheldon will be deeply missed by his loving wife, Kelly, and their children Brooke (James Michaud) and Bo (Allyson Jefferies). He was the proud “Papa” of Luken, and “fur papa” to Loki and Ares.

He is survived by his mother May Stevenson and was predeceased by his father, Basil Stevenson. Cherished son-in-law of Pat Cowen and the late Bruce Cowen, brother of Jamie and Laura Cowen, and loving uncle of James Cowen and the late Summer Cowen.

Sheldon will be remembered for his warmth, his sense of humour, his music, his food, and his heart — all of which he shared freely with everyone fortunate enough to know him.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 on Wednesday, November 12, 2025 from 5:00 pm until 8:00 pm and on Thursday, November 13, 2025 from 12:00 o'clock noon until the time of the service to Celebrate Sheldon's Life at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow in the Monk-Cray Family Centre.

Memorial Donations to the Charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

*In Loving Memory of*  
**Gregory William Wiebe**



Passed away peacefully at home in Wilberforce on Thursday, November 6, 2025 at the age of 50.

Loving spouse and best friend of Sara Elizabeth Clark and loving father of Conner Clark Wiebe. Dear son of Ed and Rita Wiebe. Survived by his brother Travis “Trapper” Wiebe and by his sister Jennifer Wiebe. Fondly remembered by his niece, nephews, many aunts, uncles, and cousins from Wiebe, Wyszynski and Clark families.

In keeping with Greg's wishes, cremation has taken place and details for a Celebration of his Life will be announced.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made towards Conner's future education and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com

*In Loving Memory of*  
**Michael "Mike" Rowell**  
Resident of Eagle Lake



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Michael Rowell, who left us peacefully on November 3rd, 2025, in his 79th year. Born on July 24, 1946, in East York to his parents, Herbert and Kathleen. Mike was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather whose kindness and laughter left a mark on all who knew him.

Mike is survived by his loving wife, Susan, with whom he shared almost 60 years of a beautiful marriage. Mike is also remembered by his children, Sheila (Larry – predeceased), Steven (Sue), and Melissa (Eric). He was a proud and cherished grandfather to Glenn, Steve, Juniper, and Christopher, and he was a beloved great-grandfather to Mason. Mike was predeceased by his sister, Mavourneen, and his closest friend and confidant, Dave.

Mike and Susan moved to Eagle Lake in 1978 and never looked back. He was overjoyed to be able to raise his three children here. No stranger to the outdoors, Mike and Susan took many camping trips together in their boiler trailer. A proud and active member of the West Guilford Baptist Church, Mike enjoyed being a part of the church group. Mike could often be found engaging in his favourite activity, grocery shopping at Todd's Independent, especially when it meant being able to drive around on the motorized shopping carts. Most of all, Mike lived for his family. His children, grandchildren, and great-grandchild were some of the most important people in his life.

Mike's warmth, love for life, and ability to bring joy to those around him will never be forgotten. He will be fondly remembered by all who had the privilege to know him.

**Private Funeral Arrangements**

Funeral arrangements are private. As an expression of sympathy, donations in Mike's honour to the Haliburton 4C's would be greatly appreciated. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME**, 13523 Hwy #118, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0 (705) 457-9209.

## HELP WANTED



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*We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.*

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[@skycorlocksmithing](mailto:@skycorlocksmithing)

# Highlander puzzles

## Prisoner Escape

by Barbara Olson  
© ClassiCanadian Crosswords

- Across**
- 1 Riddle-me-\_\_\_ (old kids' rhyme)
  - 4 Watchdog's warning
  - 7 Stir-fry veggie
  - 14 Place for K-I-S-S-I-N-G
  - 16 Prime minister on a \$5 bill
  - 17 "You've Got \_\_\_" (James Taylor tune)
  - 18 Like a newbie's first level
  - 19 Camping store display?
  - 21 Teach \_\_\_ dog new tricks
  - 22 Pouter's protrusion
  - 23 Book used as a bookend, maybe
  - 27 Dot on a subway map: Abbr.
  - 28 Like Kierkegaard
  - 31 Violent-sounding cereal
  - 32 Diplomacy for an unexpected event?
  - 36 "\_\_\_ takers?"
  - 37 Photo-\_\_\_ (celeb shoots)
  - 38 Do an editor's dele?
  - 45 Brazilian "river"
  - 46 Coffee urn turn-on?
  - 47 Silent translator's skill: Abbr.
  - 50 Dilating eye part
  - 52 Canon shooter, briefly
  - 53 River flowing to the Rhone
  - 55 Combines atomic nuclei?
  - 59 Part of colour or neighbour
  - 62 Impels to keep going
  - 63 Ludicrous
  - 64 Get hives from, say
  - 65 Squeals
  - 66 Without end, to poets
  - 67 Thesaurus word: Abbr.

- Down**
- 1 Gaucho's cattle catchers
  - 2 Chicoutimi child
  - 3 Anvil or hammer
  - 4 Mr. Burns' characteristic
  - 5 "Facelift" done at home
  - 6 Clear sign of danger
  - 7 Stay out late?
  - 8 Palindromic bread
  - 9 Turf from office
  - 10 Perfume target
  - 11 Baked prop in slapstick
  - 12 Wide shoe sizes
  - 13 Works at a gallery
  - 15 Cash drawer
  - 20 Tuning fork part
  - 24 Quebec town known for its cheese
  - 25 What a singer stands behind
  - 26 Phone no. add-on
  - 28 Cease to flow
  - 29 Former hockey sportscaster Oake
  - 30 Result of an ad blitz
  - 33 "Maggie \_\_\_" (Beatles song)
  - 34 Chimp in space, 1961
  - 35 Trading place on Bay St.
  - 38 Three in front?
  - 39 Lungful
  - 40 Carp from Kyoto
  - 41 Funeral parlour freebies
  - 42 It's not a good look
  - 43 "No doubt!"
  - 44 Ones seeking the Way
  - 48 Having a better attitude?
  - 49 Bespectacled Beatle
  - 51 Hint for a bloodhound
  - 53 Coffee bar item near spoons
  - 54 "Hold on \_\_\_, be right there!"
  - 56 "\_\_\_'s Ghost" (Ondaatje novel)
  - 57 "The \_\_\_ Reader" (eclectic emag)
  - 58 Bingo card centre square word
  - 59 Didn't just stand there, maybe
  - 60 Words in a metaphor
  - 61 Feeling no pain, so to speak

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 14 |    |    | 15 |    |    |    |    | 16 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 17 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 18 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 19 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 20 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 21 |    |    |    |    |    | 22 |    |    |    | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |    |
| 27 |    |    |    |    | 28 |    |    |    | 29 | 30 |    | 31 |    |    |
|    |    | 32 | 33 | 34 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 35 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 36 |    |    |    |    |    | 37 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 38 | 39 | 40 |    |    |    | 41 | 42 | 43 |    |    |    | 44 |    |    |
| 45 |    |    |    | 46 |    |    |    |    |    |    | 47 | 48 | 49 |    |
| 50 |    |    | 51 |    |    | 52 |    |    |    | 53 | 54 |    |    |    |
|    |    |    | 55 | 56 | 57 |    |    |    | 58 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 59 | 60 | 61 |    |    |    |    |    | 62 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 63 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 64 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
| 65 |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 66 |    |    |    | 67 |    |    |

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



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