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NORTH RENFREW TIMES

DEEP RIVER, ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2024

\$2.00 (HST INCL.)



IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE... WINTER: With less than a month to go to Christmas, the weather finally played its part to add to the seasonal cheer, coating the area in a few centimetres of snow Tuesday morning. The good news/ bad news (depending on how you feel about that) is it's not likely to last, as temperatures are expected to be above zero both Wednesday and Thursday. More snow, and colder temperatures, are in the forecast for the beginning of December.

Photo: Terry Myers

INSIDE:



**RESIDENTS SPEAK
OUT ON REZONING**



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NORTH RENFREW
TIMES

VOL. 71, No. 47

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PLEASE RECYCLE

Residents speak out against proposed development

BY VANCE GUTZMAN

An apartment building planned for development on Avon Road in Deep River is facing stiff opposition from nearby residents.

The town held a public meeting last week, in accordance with the Planning Act, to garner input on a zoning bylaw amendment which would rezone the property from “Residential 2” to “Residential 3 - Exception 3.”

The rezoning would allow for construction of a three-storey, nine-unit “row-stacked dwelling” with underground parking.

The proposed amendment would also reduce the width of the town’s interior side yard requirement from three metres to 1.2 metres and would further reduce the number of required parking spaces from 14 to 10.

The property in question is a green space formerly owned by Faith Lutheran Church.

The town identified it for development during a review of surplus properties and sold it to a private developer last year.

Council chambers were packed with people voicing a number of reasons why they don’t want the apartment building in their neighbourhood.

Among them was Richard Birchall, who cited his Indigenous ancestry from the west coast, and said the building would block his view of the sun from his backyard.

“I treasure my backyard,” Birchall told council.

“I treasure that I can look out and see the setting sun and remember my mother. This proposed zoning amendment changes all that. Instead of looking into the west I will be looking at a three-storey apartment building that’s disproportionate to the size of the lot.”

Birchall went on to tell council that, due to the height of the building, it would serve as a “surveillance platform” negating his privacy.

“If this is approved, you will have lost trust and respect among many,” he told council.

“If this is approved, you’re creating a traffic nightmare and a community eyesore.”



Deep River council is considering a rezoning application that would allow a nine-unit “row-stacked dwelling” on Avon Road. They will receive a planning report and recommendation at their next meeting December 4.

Brooke Garnet also cited privacy concerns, both during construction of the building and afterward.

“Can you imagine nine windows looking into your backyard?” she asked.

Concerns over privacy and the height of the building were sentiments echoed throughout the course of the public meeting.

“I’m going to be losing an hour or two of good sunlight for my gardens, for my health and for the value of my property, which will surely be diminished if something goes up there,” said Brian McInall.

OUT OF CHARACTER

Some of the people at the meeting said they weren’t opposed to new development in town, but argued the proposed building be out of character with the surrounding neighbourhood.

“People need places to live,” said Sandra Celovsky.

“But I would suggest this development has not met the standard of care with its impact on neighbours.”

The meeting took an unusual twist when William Turner urged all assembled in council chambers, including members of council, to hold up one of their hands in an attempt to correlate the relationship between fingers and thumbs to the relationship between the apartment

building and surrounding neighbourhood.

“It’s the relationships that are critical,” Turner maintained.

“It’s establishing the relationships amongst the trees, the shrubs, the gardens, the birds, the bees and the residents.”

Parking concerns were raised at the meeting by Robert Graham.

“I think it’s eminently reasonable to assume some of the renters will have more than one vehicle. Plus there will be visitors. Plus there will be deliveries,” he said, suggesting neighbouring streets will have to deal with an overflow of parked vehicles from the apartment building.

The proposed development even drew criticism from people living outside of Deep River, including Caroline Lee who lives on Josie Lane in Laurentian Hills, but purchased a lot on Avon Road across from the proposed development to build on in future years.

“I chose a place that was nice and quiet. I had no thoughts of a huge apartment block in front of me,” Lee said, citing noise concerns.

“Large buildings are noisy. There’s the HVAC system. There’s the garbage pickup and there’s various other things that will make noise.”

> CONTINUED ON PAGE X

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Laurentian Hills defers decision on pool

DEEP RIVER REQUESTS \$319K SUPPORT

BY TERRY MYERS

The town of Deep River should not hold its breath in hopes that its municipal neighbours will agree to pay a significant portion of the cost of this year's pool repairs.

Officially, Laurentian Hills council agreed last week to defer the issue to budget time.

Unofficially?

"Well that's not going to happen," said Deputy Mayor Brenda Blimkie.

Deep River Mayor Sue D'Eon recently wrote to both Laurentian Hills and Head, Clara, Maria to ask that the two municipalities contribute to the town's pool repairs.

Deep River council agreed in August to award contracts worth \$804,395 for repairs to the pool roof and replacement of the sound baffles inside.

Work on the project has been underway this fall. The pool is now closed

for about a month to complete the work.

In a letter to Mayor Anne Giardini and council, D'Eon asked Laurentian Hills to provide a "proportional contribution" to the pool project, "based on population and (the) number of households in the North Renfrew community."

Using those numbers, D'Eon requested that Laurentian Hills pay 39.7 per cent of the project cost, or \$319,345, while Head, Clara, Maria would contribute 3.8 per cent, or \$30,567.

"This important recreation facility has played a key role in our communities for over 40 years," D'Eon said in her letter.

QUALITY OF LIFE

"The majority of youth raised in Deep River, Laurentian Hills and Head Clara Maria have all learned to swim in this facility which has clearly made all of us safer around the water while providing access to a significant variety of

sport and employment opportunities for our youth."

D'Eon noted that the pool is currently providing swimming lessons for Grade 1 to 8 students at Mackenzie Community School "and typically also provides lessons for St. Mary's School during the year."

"The facility also plays a key role in adult and senior fitness and rehabilitation in our communities," she said.

"This has contributed to better health outcomes and an improved quality of life for all of the residents in our area."

Many local residents have also been trained in first aid and CPR through programs offered at the pool, she added.

D'Eon also included information from the province showing that while Deep River spends \$724 per household on recreation, Laurentian Hills and Head, Clara, Maria spend just \$148 and \$150 per household respectively.

D'Eon said that "usage data" from the pool over the past seven years also shows that 42 per cent of users are "non-resident" to Deep River.

"This is consistent with the proportional request."

"We are working on a better way to track users of both our recreation facilities and fees to provide further evidence to support shared services programs," she added.

"The preliminary user data that we have collected for other recreation facilities and programs ranges between 42-50% non-resident use."

D'Eon concluded by asking that her letter be presented to the next meeting of council for consideration, "and that if agreeable, transfer of funds be planned for 2024 or 2025."

"The information provided highlights that residents of Laurentian Hills enjoy the social, physical, health and safety benefits that come with our good fortune to have a community pool in the upper Ottawa Valley and we sincerely encourage Laurentian Hills to contribute to the capital repair of this facility in a proportional way."

10 PER CENT OF TAXES

At Laurentian Hills council last week, treasurer Tammy Whalen noted that Deep River's request for \$319,345 represents roughly 10 per cent of Laurentian Hills' total tax levy.

Councillor John Hoyle said if council raised taxes 10 per cent, "we're all going to be moving."

"Are we even in favour of supporting them with this amount of money?" he asked.

Mayor Giardini suggested the issue be held over until the town gets into its budget discussions next year.

"That's all we can do (at this point)," she said.

Meanwhile, council in Head, Clara, Maria also discussed the issue last week, but did not agree to defer the matter to budget.

Mayor Debbi Grills said she was in favour of looking at the request at budget time, but the remaining members of council decided against the move.

Grills said that personally, "I do feel I would really like to have a discussion" about Deep River's request.

"But where it stands now, we're kind of in limbo."



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Base troops training for mission to Latvia

BY HAZEL ATKINS,
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE
REPORTER

Invited to update Petawawa town council on ongoing and upcoming operations, Colonel JC Guiney, Base Commander of Garrison Petawawa, began by saying, “It warms my heart to see not only democracy at work but also transparency.”

“I’ve seen many places in the world where this form of government doesn’t exist and meetings are behind closed doors. Thanks for the opportunity to be here.”

He went on to speak about the base and what’s upcoming.

“The talk of the town is the deployments coming up,” he said. “This is our busiest operational time since the war in Afghanistan.”

He noted that many people in the town of Petawawa and

beyond have noticed a recent increase in the noise of training, and it is only going to continue to increase, he said.

The base will see a big influx of soldiers following Christmas – upwards of 700 reserve soldiers will be arriving from across the Canadian Armed Forces.

Why? The reason for the high intensity at the base right now is two-fold: Operation Reassurance and Operation Union/Unifier, both of which will be ongoing for the foreseeable future.

Operation Reassurance began in 2015 in Poland with about 100 Canadian soldiers sent to Poland to reassure our NATO allies.

Operation Reassurance is a multinational brigade incorporating troops from NATO allies Spain, Slovakia, Latvia, Sweden, and Finland.

Canada is currently the lead nation in that brigade.

“It’s quite a significant undertaking,” said Guiney.

“Since the war in Ukraine began in 2022 we have doubled our contribution.”

The multinational brigade, stationed in Latvia, is about 2,500 strong, and 1,400 of them are Canadian soldiers.

DETERRENCE MISSION

“It’s a deterrence mission aimed at deterring further Russian aggression,” he explained.

“The situation has escalated there significantly over the past couple of months and weeks. It’s a mission we take very very seriously. While it’s not a combat mission, the soldiers are nevertheless training for a worst case scenario.”

In June 2024 a year-long de-

ployment began, with 1,200 soldiers from Base Petawawa deployed.

The first six-month stretch will come to an end in December, and the next deployment will be from January-July with another 1,200 troops.

On base, training will continue for the next deployment in rotation.

“We will be sustaining this mission for the foreseeable future,” said Guiney.

The second ongoing mission for the base is Operation Union/Unifier, which is a much smaller mission focused on providing training for the Ukrainian army in such areas as engineering skills for donated equipment like tanks and basic training.

“It’s very dear to my heart,” said Guiney, “because I started the mission there in 2015.”

“I’m very proud of the 6,000

people who work on the base,” Guiney said.

He observed that the current deployments place great strain on military families, and “as base commander my main focus right now is making sure our soldiers have the support they need and their families as well.”

He noted that the three biggest challenges facing soldiers and their families are no different from any other Canadian: affordable housing, access to family health care, and affordable daycare.

After thanking him for his presentation, Mayor Gary Serviss added, “There’s a big deployment coming up – there will be spouses left here.”

“The best thing we can do as neighbours is to snowblow their driveway or rake the leaves – help in any way you can.”

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Zoning By-law 07-2024

3.22.1 Parking Requirements

(k) Storage of Recreational Vehicles, Snowmobiles and Off-Road Vehicles (ORV)

No person shall, in any Residential Zone, use any lot for the parking or storage of any recreational vehicle except in accordance with the following provisions:

(a) No recreational vehicle may be stored on any lot that does not contain at least one (1) dwelling unit.

(b) The owner or occupant of any lot, building or structure, in any Residential Zone containing a dwelling may store or park on the lot, not more than one recreational vehicle of any type (except a snowmobile or ORV) and not more than two snowmobiles or ORVs, of which he/she is the owner.

(c) The recreational vehicle shall be stored within a private garage or carport or located within the rear yard or interior side yard provided that such recreational vehicle is located no closer than 1.0 metre to the rear lot line or interior side lot line, nor within any front yard, nor on a corner lot, closer to any street than the main wall of the main building.

(d) Notwithstanding the above, there shall be no limitations imposed which will restrict the number of such recreational vehicles that are fully enclosed within a garage provided that such recreational vehicles are owned by the occupant of such lot or dwelling.

The full Zoning By-law can be viewed by visiting www.deepriver.ca under the Development & Planning tab.

December 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14

container - blue fibre - yellow

Santa Claus Parade of Lights

Saturday December 7 at 5:30 pm.
Register Your Float Now

This year's theme is "Togetherness"

The Town of Deep River Recreation Department would like to encourage its community businesses, schools, churches, local groups and clubs to participate in our annual Christmas parade and support this community event.

If you, your business or club would like to enter a float, walking group or marching unit in this year's annual evening parade, please contact the Recreation Department at 584-2000 ext. 103.



Entry forms are available for pick up at the Town Hall or can be accessed on the Town's website

Notice - Temporary Pool Closure

As part of the ongoing pool roof rehabilitation project, the pool will temporarily close starting Saturday, November 23, at 6:00 PM to allow essential work to progress efficiently.

We understand this may cause inconvenience and appreciate your patience during this time. Efforts are being made to ensure the pool can reopen before the Christmas break.

Updates will be shared regularly through email, our website, and social media to keep you informed.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Deep River Police Service

FESTIVE R.I.D.E.

The Deep River Police Service has begun its annual festive RIDE program for 2024. During the holiday season you will see Deep River officers conducting RIDE checks randomly checking drivers for impairment by alcohol, drug or a combination of both.

If you plan to drink alcohol and/or consume drugs, do not drive. Consider making other arrangements such as using a designated driver, taxi/public transit or staying over.

Never let anyone drive if you know or suspect that they may be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Deep River Public Library

Mon & Sat: 10am – 3pm Tues & Thurs: 10am – 8pm
Wed & Fri: 10am – 5:30pm
info@deepriverlibrary.ca 613-584-4244

Community Memory Vault question of the week: Modernity.

What thoughts, memories, and/or family stories come to mind when you think of the theme "modernity" in the context of Deep River & Area's history? (e.g., in 1946, the *Prince Albert Daily Herald* called Deep River "Canada's most modern village"). What local knowledge should be recorded for future generations, regarding "modernity" in our local context, historically?

Upcoming Programs:

- NEW: Babytime, Wednesdays at 1pm! Geared to infants – 18 months, but all welcome. Join Robin for an interactive storytime with songs, stories and rhymes. Stay for some playtime and conversation between caregivers.

- NEW: English Chat Group, Mondays from 10-11:30am. Join us upstairs in the library for language practice and cultural exchange. Enhance conversation skills in a relaxed environment with weekly themed discussions.

- Writers' Unite meets on Thursday, November 28th at 6pm. All welcome for peer support on your writing journey. Email writers@deepriverlibrary.ca to submit or review submissions.

- Seminar Series for Inquiring Minds: Janet Nelson will present on "Online Music Collaboration". Friday, November 29th at 7pm.

- Coffee & Crafts Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:30pm. Join us for the Christmas edition and make felt ornaments / gift tags. Free, drop-in program. All supplies provided, all welcome!

Updated Notice

UPDATED NOTICE
NOTICE OF APPLICATION AND PUBLIC MEETING

In the matter of Sections 17 and 22 of the Planning Act, the Town of Deep River hereby gives NOTICE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- i) Application to amend the Official Plan of the Town of Deep River
- ii) A public meeting regarding an application for an amendment to the Official Plan of the Town of Deep River

Subject Lands Part of Lot 42, Range B, geographic Township of Buchanan, in the Town of Deep River, as shown on the attached Key Map.

Public Meeting A public meeting to inform the public of the proposed official plan amendment will be held at the Town of Deep River Municipal Office on December 4th at 6pm.

Proposed Official Plan Amendment

The purpose and effect of the proposed Official Plan amendment is to redesignate the subject lands from Rural to Rural – Exception Three in order to permit the severance of new residential lots with frontage on a private road.

Additional information regarding the Official Plan amendment is available for inspection at the Town of Deep River Municipal Office during regular office hours.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Deep River before the proposed Official Plan amendment is adopted by the Town, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the County of Renfrew (approval authority), to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or make written submissions to the Town of Deep River before the proposed Official Plan amendment is adopted by the Town, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or the public body as a party.

Please note that third parties (anyone who is not a specified person or public body) do not have the right to appeal a decision for an official plan amendment to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed Official Plan amendment, or of the refusal of a request to amend the Official Plan, or for further information, you must make a written request to:

Jackie Melon, Clerk
Town of Deep River
Deep River, ON K0J 1P0
(613) 584-2000



Town of Deep River Parking By-law 33-2021

2.09 NO OVERNIGHT PARKING IN WINTER:

(a) Despite Sections 2.08 no person shall park a vehicle on Champlain Street from Deep River Road to Ridge Road, from November 1st of one year to April 30th of the following year at any time between 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., or during such shorter period as identified by authorized signs and no person shall park a vehicle on any other highway from November 1st of one year to April 30th of the following year at any time between 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., or during such shorter period as identified by authorized signs.

Residents speak out

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Carolyn Chidley, who lives nearby on Highland Crescent, argued the lot in question is too small to house the apartment building.

"It seems like a very small parcel of land to put such a big building," she said.

"There's plenty of other plots of land around town more suitable. It's too small to support a building that size."

John Turner, meanwhile, said the town's stable population growth over the last 30 years doesn't warrant the development in its proposed location.

"I don't understand what the urgency is to develop a high-density building in a low-density area, particularly given that the town purchased the former Keys School, which would seem to be a much better project for this type of apartment structure, given that we've seen similar developments at the former Morison School," Turner told council.

Sean Sylvester raised the concerns of water runoff from the apartment building, citing its large roof area.

"That water's got to go somewhere," he said.

"It's going to be diverted to the neighbouring properties."

Sylvester also said the building will be out of keeping with the aesthetics of the surrounding neighbourhood.

"It's going to stick out like a sore thumb," he said.

Council will take all the comments made at the public meeting, as well as the many written submissions from members of the public, into consideration when it deliberates the proposed rezoning at a future meeting.

Council also had some trouble attempting to adjourn the public meeting, with some in attendance grumbling about the process.

ASK FOR TRUST

"We're not your opponents in this," Councillor Terry Myers told them.

"This is a privately owned piece of property. We're legally required to give that person consideration under the Planning Act, and there's a whole process laid out."

If the town doesn't follow that process, he added, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing can override any decision council makes, plus the developer has the right of appeal.

"I have no skin in this game," Myers went on to say, referencing a remark made earlier in the meeting.

"I ask for your trust that we're listening and we're hearing what people are saying."

Remember, longer stopping distances may be required.

- Be able to see and be seen. Clean frost and snow off all windows, mirrors, and lights.
- Consider installing four winter tires on your vehicle, install good wiper blades and keep an ample supply of windshield washer fluid in your vehicle.
- Give yourself extra time to reach your destination. Consider postponing or cancelling your trip if the weather does not improve.

ROAD CONDITIONS

To check on road conditions before your trip you can call 5-1-1.

The Ministry of Transportation's Traveller Information Services provides road information for provincial highways in Ontario by telephone at 5-1-1 or online at www.ontario.ca/511.

DRIVING LIKE IT'S WINTER

Winter weather conditions are forecasted, and the Upper Ottawa Valley detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) would like to remind motorists that adverse weather conditions put extra demands on you as a driver and on your vehicle's performance.

Stay alert, slow down, stay in control. These are three key elements to safe winter driving.

Motorists are advised of the following safety tips to help everyone arrive at their destination safely:

- Drive according to current road and weather conditions. Reduce your speed when adverse weather conditions arise.
- Keep a safe distance between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you.

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OPINION

NORTH RENFREW TIMES

Published by
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NRT Editorial Board:
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K. Lapping (KL), T. Myers (TM)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

“Skin in the game”

This letter addresses the public meeting held as part of the November 20 council meeting at which I gave a presentation along with 15 others.

If you are interested in viewing the meeting, it can be found on the town’s YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/watch?v=XNfYkP7gtos).

However, be warned. The public meeting begins at about the 14-minute mark, and ends about the 1-hour 40-minute mark. Moreover, at times the sound is difficult to understand.

Consider this bit of background: It is my understanding that Ontario’s Planning Act mandates that each municipality develop an Official Plan.

Perhaps I am mistaken, but I interpret this as a strategy, documenting the municipality’s long-term vision for physical development, such as new buildings and structures, and land management.

In other words, it defines the “what” required to address the town’s long-term goal.

To address its Official Plan, the act requires each municipality to develop a zoning bylaw. This bylaw essentially defines “how” these buildings, structures and land management activities execute the strategy.

Since each municipality is unique, each zoning bylaw is also unique.

On November 6, I received an email from the County of Renfrew that included “Notice of Application and Public Meeting in the Matter of an Application to amend the Zoning Bylaw 07-2024 of the Town of Deep River.”

It is my understanding that all property owners within a 120-metre radius of the location of the subject land received that notice. The November 6 edition of the NRT also included a copy of the notice.

As stated in that notice, the public meeting was scheduled for the November 20 meeting of council.

Now to address the purpose of this letter. I suggest that all residents of Deep River, members of council, and town staff have “skin in the game.”

Regarding the meeting, one observation that caught my attention was that several presenters qualified their statements along the lines that, since they were not within that 120-metre radius, they had “no skin in the game.”

At least two presenters along with one councillor explicitly used this phrase.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



What's better than an impromptu student-led archaeological dig on “Pink Day”? St Anthony’s School students took curiosity to the next level last Friday, combining teamwork, friendship, creativity, and a splash of pink for a fun-filled lunch recess adventure. From discovering “ancient artifacts” to digging “halfway to the other side of the Earth,” there excitement was all around.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Public trails threatened

It was with shock and disappointment that on enquiring, we discovered that the notice on page 7 of last week’s NRT was to “inform the public of a proposed Official Plan amendment” to permit six residential lots where current rules permit only the original ONE.

The original owner of this land, along with all neighbouring owners, agreed as a condition of sale by AECL (and endorsed by the town council of the day) that:

“...we shall grant free non-motorized public access to each of our parts of this property that are between (Wintergreen Lane) and Balmers

Bay Road...”

This was because they strongly supported the historical recreational usage of this ex-AECL land, which has increased many-fold since 1995.

Today’s proposed Official Plan amendment has been submitted by a subsequent owner.

It threatens complete blockage of public access and trails across this land, trails such as the C and P loop that are enjoyed by hundreds year-round.

Our letter is to alert all who care, as we do, for the amazing trail system and forest preserve derived from this ex-AECL land - town council and planners want to hear from you.

The hearing date is Wednesday, December 4 at 6 pm.

Ray and Claire Metcalfe

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Woefully insufficient

Re: “Local daycare forced to close,” NRT November 20.

My heart goes out to the staff and families affected by what Deep Roots Nature & Nursery School is facing.

Our experience is that daycare availability in our area is woefully insufficient. Our children (1 and 3) are hundreds of spots along on multiple daycare waiting lists.

We live in Deep River but are required to commute two hours every weekday to take my eldest to unlicensed daycare in Petawawa (there and back again twice a day) and we are lucky to have this spot open to him.

Even then, options are limited and costly there too. We make this journey together despite my work being based at home because as any parent can relate, I will do whatever I must for my children.

What a shame for young families seeking daycare here, especially for newcomers who will find a fundamental lack of support for their kids in their earliest years.

The lack of daycare availability is at odds with the long-term prosperity of our community and is truly a missed opportunity for our neck of the woods to flourish.

Alex Stephens

Heartbroken and proud

Last Wednesday, as I do every Wednesday, I sat down for lunch and opened up the morning’s digital edition of the NRT.

However, on this particular Wednesday, I happened to be sitting in a small restaurant in downtown Toronto, having just come from the gallery of Question Period at Queen’s Park.

As I made my way through the pages, I felt both heartbroken and proud.

It’s one thing to watch as MPPs of the opposition call on the Ministry of Education to address the funding issues of childcare, but it’s a whole new ball game to read about how it’s affecting my home.

Despite the sadness I felt in learning about the foreseeable closure of Deep

Roots, it made me incredibly happy to see the initiatives already being put into action by the community, and the number of letters being sent to the people at Queen’s Park who we hope can make a difference.

Surrounded by a small group of post-secondary student leaders, as I shared what was going on back in my hometown, there was one thing we could all agree was evident after that hour in the chamber and walking past the protests on the front lawn: there are people who are listening, caring, and taking action.

Though one letter being sent from small-town Chalk River might seem negligible, it adds one more unique voice, perspective, and story that can make all the difference.

Keep writing those letters, sharing your stories, and supporting our incredible community.

Our childcare workers and young families deserve more.

Jamie Hopkins

Density at what cost?

Copy of a letter to the town of Deep River dated November 18. It has been edited for length and clarity.

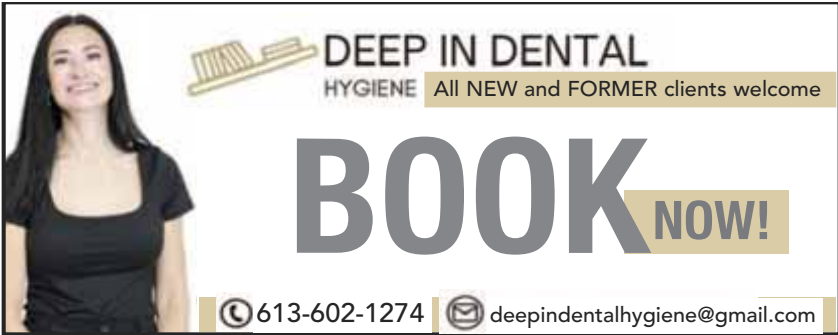
Re: A Bylaw to amend Bylaw Number 07-2024, being the Comprehensive Zoning Bylaw of the Corporation of the Town of Deep River, as amended.

As the public meeting will be proceeding (November 20) in spite of the insufficient notice of same, I have decided to write my concerns to be presented to council and added to the official record with the rest of the public’s concerns, whereby protecting my right to appeal the decision(s) to the Land Tribunal.

The town has very recently adopted the new official town plan and before the ink has dried on the bylaw to adopt it, the town is entering into a process to significantly change said official plan.

Deep River boasts about being the first professionally planned, purpose-built community and this proposed monstrosity both flies in the face of the existing community and in the face of the historical planning ethos.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



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THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

11:30 am - 12:30 pm, Soup & Sandwich Luncheon, hosted by St. Andrew’s United Church, weekly at CR Lions Hall
1:15 pm, Wednesday Social Bridge, DR Library
1:30-3:30 pm, “GriefShare” grief support group meets, everyone welcome, Real Hope Christian Assembly, Hwy 17 (continues until December 4)
4 pm, Toddler storytime, Chalk River Library

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28

10 am, Seniors Friendship Club: Coffee, Tea and Conversation, Deep River Library
12:45 pm, Duplicate Bridge Club meets, Deep River Library
7 pm, Fun Euchre, Deep River Legion

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

7 pm, Fun Darts, all welcome, Chalk River Legion
7 pm, Seminar Series for Inquiring Minds: Online Music Collaboration, with Janet Nelson, Deep River Library

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

10:30 am - 2:30 pm, STEAM/Lego Clubs, Deep River Library
1 pm, Laurentian Hills Library children’s storytime, Point Alexander branch
1:30-4 pm, Holly Tea & Bazaar, St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Deep River
8:30 pm - 1 am, Christmas Dance with the Ghost Town Cryers, hosted by the Chalk River & Area Lions and School House Museum, CR Lions Hall

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

10:30 am, “The M Factor: Shredding the Silence on Menopause,” screening at Baila Studio, Deep River (to register, email lesley@bailastudio.ca)
11 am - 3 pm, Shuffleboard, all welcome, Chalk River Legion
1 pm, Children’s Christmas Dance, Chalk River Lions Hall
2-5 pm, Acoustic open mic, Deep River Legion

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

10 am - 1 pm, Deep River and Area Food Bank open (weekly except holidays), at the Deep River and District Hospital (for more information, phone 584-3333 ext 7910)
12 pm, Senior Cards, Chalk River Legion
7 pm, Fun Darts, Deep River Legion
7 pm, Al-Anon, group support for families & friends having alcohol addiction, CE Centre (behind DR Community Church)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

9 am, Seniors Friendship Club: Stained Glass Art with Trish Juby, DR Library
10:30 am, LH Library children’s storytime, Pt Alexander branch

Letter: skin in the game

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Consider this: As a result of the council’s passing of Zoning ByLaw 07-2024 in February, virtually all residential locations in Deep River are now zoned R2 (Residential Two).

According to bylaw section 6.1, the permitted uses for R2 are:

- Single Detached Dwelling
- Semi-Detached Dwelling
- Duplex
- Two-Unit Dwelling
- Group Home, Type A
- Boarding House

Since the subject property on Avon Road (located across from the former Lutheran Church) is currently zoned R2, and the amendment is to rezone it to R3, then approval of this amendment sets a precedent for all the other R2-zoned properties in Deep River.

Perhaps I am mistaken, but with this precedent in hand, means that any developer will not be required to proceed through the full zoning amendment process if they wish to rezone a R2-zoned to R3-zoned property.

According to by-law Section 7.1, in addition to the R2 permitted uses, those for R3 include:

- Three-Unit Dwelling
- Triplex Dwelling
- Four-Unit Dwelling
- Multiple Attached Dwelling.

Section 7.3 defines “Exception Zones” for R3. Only two exception zones are included under this heading, R3-E1 and R3-E2. Each address a specific property in the Official Plan.

The current zoning amendment request will result in a third, R3-E3 that specifically addresses the Avon Road property.

Some of the changes included the proposed amendment will allow for include:

- a three-storey, nine-unit town house (or apartment, depending on which document provided by the applicant you read). In other words, a nine unit dwelling.
- accommodation for 14 residents (six two-bedroom and three

- one-bedroom units),
- underground parking for nine vehicles,
- a reduction in the setback between the building and the two adjacent property lines from 3 to 1.2 metres (or from 10 to 4 feet).

In addition to those listed above, all of the presenters identified substantial issues that were not even addressed in the proposed amendment.

Furthermore, several suggested that some of the proposed changes do not comply with the Official Plan.

Thus, my question: Do you “have skin in the game”?

As a resident of Deep River living in a property zoned R2, it becomes much easier for your R2 neighbour to apply to amend their property to R3. In other words, we all have “skin in the game.”

Members of the town staff have “skin in the game,” in that their responsibility is to ensure that amendment request is complete before they send it to council.

Members of council have “skin in the game,” in that their responsibility is to verify that the town staff have discharged their duty by providing them a complete application.

W. Turner

Simple solution

Re: Avon Road densification.

The town made a mistake selling the lot in question and now has a difficult issue to deal with.

A simple solution would be to repurchase the property. The mystery speculator and the town could then work together on finding more suitable properties, saving all parties including taxpayers time and money.

Many examples of well thought out infill builds can be seen in Pembroke.

All on conventional rectangular lots. Not on a small triangle of land that was and should still be a parkette as the Lutheran church intended when the lot was gifted to the town for \$1 in 1957.

Ken Robins

Letter: density at what cost

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

While I applaud the desire and effort to grow the community, the proposed nine-unit, three-level, stacked townhouse on what amounts to the size of a single lot within a well-developed neighbourhood, is in direct opposition to the recently changed subdivision in the Pine Point area which has seen an approved 120 plus lot subdivision downgraded, reconfigured and approved at 20 plus estate lots.

Within about the last 20 years, roughly 800 acres of Deep River’s land was given to the Four Seasons Conservancy. Eight hundred acres!

Now we’re looking at disrupting a neighbourhood to erect a three-storey oversized building on a single home lot. Density is important; but at what cost to the community?

Beyond the planning process, I have concerns with the actual building itself with the proposed change in set-backs. Three floors greatly increases the sightline from the top floor which will absolutely impact the neighbours on both Highland and Cabot.

People tend to “live” in their backyards while the front yard is for show. This would be an invasion of privacy.

In addition the shadows cast will impact the neighbouring properties and reduced set-backs aggravates this shadowing.

While the application addresses the front (Avon) facing neighbours, it fails to address the impacts to the side and rear properties.

There are mature trees lining the properties along Cabot and Highland, including at least one white pine.

With the reduced set-back and proposed driveway in addition to excavation for an underground parking structure, the root systems of these trees will be impacted negatively, potentially fatally.

If they were to survive, snow removal

and snow/salt runoff would kill the pines, the removal of which would rest with the homeowners.

As the back corners of the building would prevent access to the rear of the property, snow banks would spill over into the backyards of the adjacent properties, impacting gardens and drainage.

I understand the concept of ROI and the developer’s desire to maximize ROI, however this should not come at the expense of adjacent property values. To give more consideration to the developer is in effect giving them a bonus paid for by current adjacent property owners.

The proposed reduction in parking both in size and number is also an issue. With only one handicapped space and only parking enough for one space per unit, there will be tendency to park on the street impacting the safety of both road and sidewalk traffic.

Avon is a busy main route. On-street parking will impact the traffic flow.

I acknowledge the existence of R3 zoned properties along Avon; it’s important to note both properties have maintained their original footprints and the zoning reflects the internal reconfiguration. There is also ample parking for residents and visitors for both properties.

Planning is for the future and reacting is for the present and past. If we plan properly we should not be having such detrimental impacts on the existing community structure.

I trust that council will fully engage in a dialogue with community members who have taken their time and effort to come to you with their concerns.

Please ask them questions; acknowledge the time and energy they’ve spent to appear before you in written format or in person.

I’ve sat in on too many meetings and have represented the concerns of many residents without so much as a single question asked to show that council was in fact listening.

That’s not engagement, that’s just being present to say that you “listened.”

Merrill Gasmann

DR POLICE Charges laid

On Wednesday, November 20 at 11:30 am, Deep River Police arrested a 50-year-old male for impaired operation of a

motor vehicle.

The same day, at 4 pm, Deep River Police arrested a 32-year-old male for theft under \$5,000 and impaired operation of a motor vehicle.

No further details have been released. Both accused are scheduled to appear in court at a later date.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY: DEEP RIVER HIRES NEW ARENA MANAGER

70 YEARS AGO

NOVEMBER 24, 1954: On Thursday, December 2 at 8:30 pm in the high school auditorium, Dr SR Laycock will address an open meeting co-sponsored by the Home and School Association and the Women's Club. His topic will be "Promoting the Wholesome Development of Children and Adolescents." Dr Laycock served for 20 years as Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Saskatchewan and was Dean of Education from 1947 to 1953 when he retired.

NOVEMBER 24, 1954: A number of inquiries have been received recently concerning the Red Cross loan cupboard in Deep River. Red Cross loan cupboards were first started about 15 years ago in a number of centres in Canada. However, the Deep River loan cupboard is still in its infancy, not being quite a year old yet. Its aim is to provide sick room equipment for patients who are being cared for in their homes.

60 YEARS AGO

NOVEMBER 25, 1964: Now that the Upper Ottawa Valley has been carpeted with its first good blanket of snow, thoughts turn naturally to winter sports and activities. Of course in this area the big activity of the season is the annual "Carnival" and now is the time for everyone, both men and women, to come to the aid of the 1965 Winter Carnival. It has been conservatively estimated that 400 people are necessary to work for the carnival to make it a success.

NOVEMBER 25, 1964: In the first game of the Algonquin Senior Hockey League schedule last Tuesday, the Runge Flyers of Pembroke claimed a 4-3 win over the Deep River Merchants at the Pembroke Memorial Centre. Charles Slade, filling in for coach Gib James, said he felt the Deep River boys had an overall advantage in the game but the Pembroke goalie was sensational.

50 YEARS AGO

NOVEMBER 27, 1974: A bitter dispute erupted last Thursday night be-



New Deep River Arena manager Rico Giardini with recreation director Jim Evraire. (NRT November 28, 1984)

tween the mayor, Deputy Reeve Walker and Councillor Seddon. It occurred at a meeting which was held to acquaint the public with the candidates for the coming municipal elections. The question was raised by Mr Earl Dunn, who asked if it is true that a cold war exists between the deputy reeve and the mayor and Councillor Seddon, as he had gathered from the report in last week's NRT.

NOVEMBER 27, 1974: The 1974 Canadian National cross country running championships took place November 16 at Brock University and, at the conclusion of the day's events, Deep River competitors had good reason to be well satisfied with their performances. Alastair Baird led Deep Riverites with a 38th placing in a total entry of 141 in the 4000m boys event. Mel Ladouceur was next in 50th.

40 YEARS AGO

NOVEMBER 28, 1984: Deep River council appointed a new arena manager last week, but not before considerable

debate about what he should be paid. Americo (Rico) Giardini was selected out of 18 applicants. He is due to start work by mid-December. The arena committee was anxious to make sure that it got Giardini, and was concerned that, because the salary it was offering was close to the one he was already getting, he might not be willing to make the move to Deep River.

NOVEMBER 28, 1984: Work on the Deep River Marina will begin in the next few weeks and continue through the winter. The recent approval by the federal Minister of Oceans and Fisheries means that all of the key approvals for work to start on the arena are now in place. The proposed method of construction is to complete the breakwater first, but to temporarily fill in the openings at both ends, and then pump out most of the water in the enclosed area.

30 YEARS AGO

NOVEMBER 30, 1994: A lot of people in North Renfrew received a jolt when

they received their revised property assessment notices recently. But trying to figure out how much of a tax bite reassessment means is proving difficult to do. The bottom line seems to be that most residents of North Renfrew will pay a larger share of county and school taxes over the next four years. Deep River Councillor Denise Walker said preliminary estimates show an average increase of about \$100 a year.

NOVEMBER 30, 1994: It may be just a dream now, but a group of enthusiastic local artisans would love to see an arts centre in town. Ligita Gulens, a local potter and one of those spearheading the idea, says an arts centre or school offers many

possibilities. "It fits in with the area, there are plenty of qualified people, and we also have a supportive community that is responsive to the arts."

20 YEARS AGO

DECEMBER 1, 2004: Residents of Deep River are very well served by the town's police force, says Vic Thompson, a long-time local businessman and a member of the Deep River Police Services Board. Thompson recently went on a "ride along" with Constable John Dorsch and said he was "very impressed" with what he saw.

DECEMBER 1, 2004: The Grade 8 girls volleyball team from Keys School clinched the county championships recently in Pembroke. The girls won five straight games in the tournament and defeated Champlain 25-17 in the final to take home the trophy. Team members were Chrissy Westall, Melanie Pratt, Emma Myers, Roopa Suppiah, Meghan Beale, Lisa Campagna, Emily Hartwig, Tara Katamay-Smith, and coach Barb Shreeve.

DRDH briefs: Province wants to reduce ALC patients

The Deep River and District Health board of directors received a presentation from DRDH's new chief nursing executive, Meagen Boisvenue, in October on the "Home First" approach to patient discharge planning and challenges in Ontario hospitals today.

Highlights from the session included:

- Recent direction was received from Ontario Health to implement a "Home First" approach to patient discharge planning and flow.

This approach focuses on supporting patients to return home as soon as possible from hospital, and to ensure collaborative and early discharge planning occurs when patients come to hospital.

- Under this direction, major decisions about care and placement, such the decision to apply for long-term care, should be made from home.

Often this decision is made in hospital, with patients being designated as Alternative Level of Care (ALC). An ALC designation means a patient does not need a hospital bed but is waiting on another place to receive care (often long-term care).

- Boisvenue highlighted that there are over 5,000 people with an ALC designation currently waiting in hospital beds across Ontario, and 46% of those patients are waiting for long-term care (LTC).

- The goal received from Ontario Health is to work towards an immediate decrease by 10% in ALC population in hospital.

Operational direction and actions have been provided to all hospitals across Ontario, and monitoring of progress towards these targets will continue provincially.

- DRDH will be working closely with partners and Ontario Health, to put in processes to achieve this goal and support system capacity.

CAPITAL UPDATES

- The board received an update on the DRDH primary care development project. Highlights of the project status report were provided and included:

- Construction activities continue, with the project being overall on track and on schedule. Construction continues to progress well, and the building is now water-tight to allow work to continue throughout the winter.

Interior walls are now framed, plumbing is underway, and the building service units are onsite.

Adjustments to site drainage and flow with the parking lot adjustments are underway.

Work over the coming weeks will continue to focus on finishing exterior work, such as sideways, pathways and paving, before winter.

- The board received an update on the long-term care development, through the long-term care development committee on October 15:

- Overall, the project remains on track for scope, budget, and schedule, including the additional costs incurred within the contingency budget related to bedrock removal.

Alternate techniques were explored to expedite the bedrock removal, however were determined not to be feasible. As such, it remains necessary to continue with rock-breaking activities to prepare the ground to ensure a safe home for our future 96 residents.

It was confirmed that the construction work continues to remain in compliance with bylaws and Ministry approvals.

- Throughout the site, construction continues with several concrete footings for the building being completed, as well as tie-ins to services.

The construction team continues to work towards completion of concrete pours before winter, as well as finalization of site preparation measures.

FAMILY HEALTH TEAM

- The Family Health Team is very busy given the increasing respiratory illnesses this time of year, with some currently prolonged wait times for access to practitioners.

- The organization sent a delegation of staff and physicians to the Association of Family Health Teams of Ontario (AFHTO) annual conference, which is an opportunity for team members to engage with other family health teams across the province and bring back new knowledge and best practices.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Implementation of a fully electronic scheduling and workforce management software organizational is underway. The centralized electronic system will replace the current combination of electronic and paper systems, creating an interactive, real-time experience of scheduling, shift offering, and tracking for both staff and management.

The project has kicked off, with go-live anticipated in January 2025.

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL

- The organization recognized Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Week October 14-18.

The week saw a number of educational activities focused on infection control throughout the organization, as well as an all-staff lunch in recognition of the work IPAC professionals, and all health care team members do towards keeping staff, patients, and residents safe.

- The IPAC team is preparing for the annual fall vaccination campaigns, with influenza vaccines anticipated to arrive over the coming weeks.

LONG-TERM CARE

- RSV and influenza vaccines have been completed for residents, with COVID vaccines to be provided in the near future as per their regular vaccine schedule.

A review of fall preparedness and preparations for respiratory season have been completed.

- Four Seasons Lodge has welcomed a Social Worker student from Laurentian University for the fall semester. The student, in collaboration with leadership, will focus on supporting the Resident and Family Council to redevelop structures and systems based on leading practices, as well as to support individualized programming development in the lodge.

MEDICAL RECRUITMENT

- DRDH representatives attended the University of Ottawa's Department of Family Medicine Job Fair on October 25.

This is the first time DRDH has been able to successfully secure a spot to attend the job fair, and the team co-ordinated with other Renfrew County recruitment presentations along with the Ottawa Valley Ontario Health Team to showcase potential practice options in the area.

MEDICAL UNIT

- The medical floor census temporarily decreased to below 100% this fall, offering staff a welcome respite from the overcapacity challenges that was experienced over the summer.

Alternative Level of Care (ALC) numbers continue to range from 50-80% of inpatient numbers.

QUALITY

- Elite Transfer Services, who were contracted earlier in 2024 through central procurement to secure non-urgent transport service, has provided notice that they have now ceased operations in Renfrew County.

Despite exploring alternative pricing arrangements, no solution could be found to continue operations. No alternative transportation options have been found.

- Organizationally, hand hygiene rates continue to be under the targeted goal of 80%.

It was noted that although rates above 90% are extremely difficult to achieve, we continue to strive towards increasing hand-hygiene.

It is anticipated rates will improve as a result of education provided during Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) week.



Children's SHOPPING DAY for ages 12 & under only

Wrapping paper & cards supplied for each gift. Helpers will be available to guide the children - parents are asked to wait in the hall.

10am - noon
Sat, Dec 7

THE Whistle Stop
Community Centre



Holly
TEA
Bazaar

1:30 - 4pm,
Saturday, Nov. 30

TEA TICKETS \$15
Bake Table, Deli & Gift Table

St. Barnabas Anglican Church, 80 Glendale Ave

County pays tribute to Yakabuski

Following the announcement from MPP John Yakabuski that he will not seek re-election when Ontario next goes to the polls, the County of Renfrew is expressing its gratitude for Yakabuski's support during his two decades serving at the provincial legislature.

This past June, Yakabuski was honoured by Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon and county council for his more than 20 years of dedicated service representing the riding.

He was joined by members of his family, current and former staff members, and former wardens who recognized his numerous achievements and contributions over the years.

HIGHWAY 17

During his remarks, Warden Emon highlighted some of the projects Yakabuski has advocated for, including permanent funding for the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre (RC-VTAC), funding for the community paramedicine pilot program, updates to the county's Official Plan, the Renfrew County 2023 Ontario Winter Games, and the expansion of Highway 17 through Renfrew County.

Emon said Yakabuski was also instrumental in two successful Renfrew County days at Queen's Park; the first of which allowed the County to highlight local busi-

nesses and industries and the second which allowed senior staff to advocate for funding for county programs and initiatives, including Mesa, increased housing, mental health and addictions supports, and infrastructure improvements.

He attended both days advocating alongside elected officials and staff.

"In all instances he spoke long, eloquently and with authority for all of us on a great many topics."

In his statement announcing his decision not to run in the next provincial election, Yakabuski called his time in public life rewarding and gratifying but indicated it is time to move onto the next phase of life.

Warden Emon, members of county council and staff wish Yakabuski well as he continues to carry out his duties during the current term before he embarks on his retirement.

"John was very representative of our community in the legislature and out of it," Emon said.

"From his first day he demonstrated his ability to talk across the legislature to those in the other parties and that is such a valuable skill.

"People liked him and wanted to stay in touch and work with him even if they came from opposite sides of the issues of the day."

"We wish Vicki and John a smooth transition into this next chapter," the warden concluded.



John Yakabuski receives a certifidate of appreciation for his 20 years as MPP for Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke during a session of county council earlier this year.

INCREASED POLICING COSTS ARE UNACCEPTABLE, MPP SAYS

BY DEBBI CHRISTINCK

Realizing the shock Ontario municipalities received recently when they were informed of the new policing costs for 2025, Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke MPP John Yakabuski agrees something has to be done at the provincial level to soften the blow.

Municipalities were recently notified that costs for services provided by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are increasing anywhere from 17 to 27 percent in Renfrew County with increases being in the same range for all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

An advertisement for "REPLANTED Farm to Floral" featuring a woman holding a large bouquet of colorful flowers. The text "REPLANTED Farm to Floral" is at the top. A QR code is on the right with the text "Scan with your phone". At the bottom, it says "GIVE A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING 2025 BOUQUET SUBSCRIPTION" and "www.replantedfarm.ca/flower-subscription".



Deep River and District Health has launched a new translation service throughout the organization allowing patients and residents to connect with interpreters through the Voyce app.

Submitted photo

DRDH launches new translation service

As a key step towards advancing patient and resident care, Deep River and District Health (DRDH) has launched an innovative translation service.

This technology allows patients and residents to easily connect with interpreters through the Voyce app, enabling communication in the language of their choice.

This initiative underscores DRDH’s commitment to reducing barriers and promoting equitable access to care across our diverse communities.

The Voyce app provides access to professional interpreters in over 200 languages, including American Sign Language (ASL).

This service is now available across the North Renfrew Family Health Team, the Four Seasons Lodge long-term care home, and throughout the Deep River and District Hospital’s emergency department, medical inpatient unit, and outpatient clinics.

“By making this resource available across our entire health campus, DRDH is ensuring that every patient and resident can communicate effectively with their care providers, regardless of the setting,” the announcement said.

“By breaking down language barriers, this new service enhances quality of our services and strengthens our ability to deliver person-centred care.”

USER-FRIENDLY

“We strive to ensure that every patient and resident feels understood and supported,” said Janna Hotson, president and CEO of DRDH.

“With the Voyce app, we are taking a significant step forward in delivering culturally competent care. This platform not only provides language interpretation but also allows patients to select interpreters based on cultural preferences, further personalizing their care experience.”

The new service is designed to be inclusive and user-friendly. Patients and residents can invite loved ones to join conversations with interpreters, offering additional support as needed.

“This new translation service marks a significant step forward in enhancing our communication with patients and residents,” said Dr. Michael Sage, chief of staff at DRDH.

“By offering language support across our entire campus, we are fostering a more inclusive healthcare environment and better supporting those we care for.”

“The implementation of translation services marks a significant advancement in how DRDH delivers care, and highlights our dedication to using technology to improve the health of our community,” the announcement concluded.

“By ensuring clear communication, DRDH is enhancing the overall patient and resident experience to provide excellent, compassionate care, every time.”

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\$69 | Postage outside of
Chalk River
to Deux-Rivières

DRSO offers sleigh ride of great Christmas music

Christmas and music go together and the Deep River Symphony Orchestra will perform a great variety of season favourites spanning the decades at its next concert Saturday, December 14.

Led by guest conductor, Megan Jones Reeves, the orchestra will take you from Corelli's 1714 Christmas Concerto to Menotti's 1951 Amahl and the Night Visitors and lots more in between.

No Christmas season is complete without a little dose of Handel's Messiah and the orchestra will perform two popular selections - "For unto us a Child is Born" and Hallelujah Chorus - with special guests the Deep River Choral Group.

The concert will also include selections from Tchaikovsky's ballet Swan Lake and the Overture from Handel's Music for the Royal Fireworks.

The concert will close with Leroy Anderson's joyful Sleigh Ride, first performed by the Boston Pops Orchestra in 1948 and which consistently ranks as one of the top 10 most popular and most performed Christmas music.

We are excited by feature Megan as our first guest conductor as the orchestra embarks on the process to select a new music director to replace Peter Morris who is retiring.

The concert starts at 7:30 pm on Saturday, December 14 in Childs Auditorium, Mackenzie Community School.

Tickets are available now by calling 613-584-3737 or email drsoemail@gmail.com.

For more information about our full season, visit www.drso.ca.



Garrison Petawawa welcomed Indigenous veterans, soldiers, sailors and aviators, as well as Algonquin First Nation elders from Pikwakanagan and members of the defence team to recognize Indigenous Veterans Day earlier this month. The ceremony was held to honour the service, struggle, courage, and sacrifice of all Indigenous veterans who serve at home, around the world and across generations.



Early Bird SPECIAL
until Nov 30, 2024
\$18.95 ea.
(reg \$22.95)

PERSONALIZED Photo CALENDARS for Christmas!

Provide 13 photos (cover & 12 months)

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THEOP PRESENTS:

Durham County Poets



TICKETS: THEOP.CA
OR CASH AT THE DOOR
ADULTS: \$40 | STUDENTS: \$20

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 @ 7:30PM
BERNARD CHILDS AUDITORIUM
87 BROCKHOUSE WAY, DEEP RIVER



The Children’s Junction Daycare centre is once again thanking their families and local businesses for supporting their annual participation in the Terry Fox Run to raise money for cancer research and treatment. Led by Rebecca Shaddick, the centre’s efforts in 2024 raised \$7,633.75.

Submitted photo



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weddings.
anniversaries.

Special rates for personal announcements
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NORTH RENFREW TIMES
NRT@NorthRenfrewTimes.ca
613-584-4161

College to host guest speaker from TRC commission

Marie Wilson was one of three commissioners to lead Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission. She was also the only woman and non-Indigenous person on the commission. She has recently released a book on her experiences presiding over the commission with Murray Sinclair and Wilton Littlechild and will be at Algonquin College’s Pembroke campus this week as part of the college’s speaker series. Beyond her presentation, Wilson will take questions from the audience.

NORTH OF NOWHERE

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established to record the previously hidden history of more than a century of forced residential schooling for Indigenous children. Marie Wilson helped lead that work as one of just three commissioners. With the skills of a journalist, the heart of

a mother and grandmother, and the insights of a life as the spouse of a residential school survivor, Wilson guides readers through her years witnessing survivor testimony across the country, providing her unique perspective on the personal toll and enduring public value of the commission. In her unparalleled account, she honours the voices of survivors who have called Canada to attention, determined to heal, reclaim, and thrive. Part vital public documentary, part probing memoir, “North of Nowhere” breathes fresh air into the possibilities of reconciliation amid the persistent legacy of residential schools. Wilson will speak tomorrow, Thursday, November 28 at 7 pm at Algonquin College’s Pembroke Waterfront Campus, 1 College Way in downtown Pembroke, or online via Zoom. For more information or to register, visit eventbrite.ca and search for “Marie Wilson.”

AECL receives additional funding for fusion research

It may be just a “drop in the bucket,” but it will be enough to go over the \$1.6 billion mark.

Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd will receive an additional \$10 million in funding this year under “supplementary estimates” tabled by the federal government last week.

Overall, “these supplementary estimates are seeking parliamentary approval of \$21.6 billion in proposed spending across 79 federal organizations that will support priorities for Canadians,” the federal Treasury Board said in the announcement.

AECL will receive an additional \$10 million under the estimates from the Department of Natural Resources “to promote the advancement of fusion technologies by General Fusion.”

AECL will also receive \$739,680 from the Department of National Defence “to support the Canadian Safety

and Security Program.”

Together, the additional dollars will push total funding for AECL to just over \$1.602 billion in 2024-25.

The Crown corporation was approved for \$1.591 billion in the government’s main spending estimates tabled last February.

MILESTONES

That funding was broken down into two components: \$1.196 billion for “nuclear decommissioning and radioactive waste management” and \$394.8 million for “nuclear laboratories.”

The money allocated to the laboratories includes \$235.8 million in operating funding and \$159 million for capital projects.

The \$10 million to support investment in General Fusion was announced

earlier this summer and was matched by the Business Development Bank of Canada’s investment arm, BDC Capital.

The financing will enable General Fusion to continue advancing its Magnetized Target Fusion (MTF) technology to provide fusion energy to the grid by the early to mid-2030s, the announcement said.

General Fusion is a “Canadian-based, international leader” in the development of commercial fusion energy working to advance its Lawson Machine 26 (LM26) demonstration program in Richmond, BC.

The LM26 is designed to achieve two transformational milestones for fusion energy, temperatures of over 100 million degrees Celsius (10 keV) and scientific breakeven equivalent by 2026.


As a new lead investor in the financ-

ing, CNL will be represented on General Fusion’s board of directors by Doug McIntyre, vice-president of legal and insurance.

“Canada is a global leader in nuclear energy and this investment in General Fusion reinforces our status as a powerful innovator in nuclear science and technology,” Jonathan Wilkinson, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, said at the time.

“Backed by almost 80 years of experience and contributions, Canada’s nuclear industry is poised to seize the global economic opportunities before us.”

Jack Craig, president and CEO of CNL, said CNL and General Fusion “share the same vision – to unlock fusion’s tremendous potential as a transformative, clean energy future in Canada in order to fight climate change and maintain our energy security.”



COFFEE BREAK

sudoku

HOW TO PLAY:

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 only once.

Each 3x3 box is outlined with a darker line. You already have a few numbers to get you started. Remember: You must not repeat the numbers 1 through 9 in the same line, column, or 3x3 box.

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

cross word

answers use American spelling

ACROSS

- Adult nits
- Custom
- Desk light
- Type of surgeon
- Lamb's mom
- A woodwind
- Adhere
- Height
- Make beloved
- More adorable
- Annoy
- "_____ Gotta Have It"
- Young chap
- "_____ the Night"
- Not on
- Pipe joint
- Loop of rope
- Busy as a _____
- Catch sight of
- Parallel
- Darn
- Player's part
- Former GI
- Threaded nail
- Energetic person
- Buzzing pest
- Passed with flying colours
- Fix up copy
- Deli bread
- Covered
- Bear caves
- Word of approval
- Wallet items

DOWN

- Earring's place
- Curling device
- Frankly
- Older person
- Corrode
- Cobbler's tool
- Until now
- Yoga position
- Border on
- Method
- Gaze
- Skater's surface
- Related
- Heat source
- Fireman's need
- "_____ Girls"
- French peak
- Mr. Coward
- Stumbling block
- Toll
- Handful
- Green with _____
- Naps
- Have creditors
- Pass laws
- Tool hut
- Morse _____
- Destruction
- Fabric pigments
- Unkind
- Track numbers
- Saute
- Soap ingredient

Seniors
Friendship
Club



STAINED GLASS

- “When one door closes, another one opens. Other than that, it’s a pretty good car.”
 - The Thursday morning Coffee and Conversation will be at the Deep River Library program room at the usual time of 10 am on November 28.
 - For the Walk in the Woods this Wednesday, November 27 meet at the Mount Martin Ski club parking lot ready to walk at 1:30 pm, and John will take us on a tour to make our way down to Burke’s Beach.
- We can then return along McAnulty Rd which allows a straight walk back and room for conversations.
- Tuesday mornings in the Deep

River Library program room:

- December 3: Stained glass art with Trish Juby of Juby’s Jewels will run from 9 am to noon. Participants will be making a stained glass ornament. The maximum number of participants is limited to 15. Registration deadline was Monday, November 25.
 - December 10: Natural Christmas Craft at 11 am with John and Kathryn Torok. Using natural items from the woodsy walk last week, participants will create a Christmas table centre-piece. Registration fee covers all materials provided. Maximum class size is 12.
- Please make note of the workshop and if you were unable to do the collecting walk, in the comment section of your e-transfer to 23uovsfc55@gmail.com or with a note in the SFC dropbox in the Deep River town hall.
- December 10: 9-10:30 am, old fashioned gaming (start earlier as we

- have to finish before the Christmas Craft).
- December 17: 9:30 am - 12 noon, old fashioned gaming. Bring a game to play with friends.

COMING UP

- Christmas Concert by the Military Wives Choir: Tuesday December 10 at 7 pm in the Deep River Legion. Pay at the door. As well, we will be accepting donations to the Deep River and Area Food Bank at this event (wholesome foods that can be stored in a pantry, eg. crackers, pasta, tins of tuna, coffee, real juice boxes, or low-sugar cereal).
 - Thursday, December 12 at noon: Christmas Luncheon at the Bear’s Den. Meal, tax and gratuity are included in the price.
- Pre-registration at 23uovsfc55@gmail.com is necessary so we can ensure we have a space for you. Registration payment is due by December 5.

- As well, we will be accepting donations to the Deep River and Area Food Bank at this event.
- Monday Pool, Snooker, Darts and Shuffleboard at the Deep River Legion will resume again December 2, 9 and 16 before stopping for a Christmas break.
 - For all of our events that have a cost, unless stated, e-transfer to 23uovsfc55@gmail.com is encouraged with a note to say which event it is for and who it is from.
- Alternatively, payment can be made using the SFC dropbox in the Deep River town hall. Please also include a note as to who it is from and for what event you are paying.
- (All of our events with a cost associated, are non-refundable.)

SURVEY

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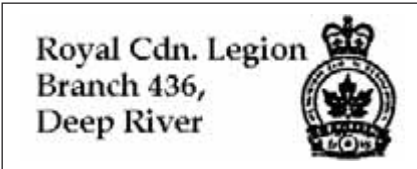
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survey will be coming out this week.
We want to plan events that are of interest to our membership with no cost or at a reasonable cost. Feel free to suggest events or to volunteer to help with an event.

- We are looking for someone who knows how to play Mahjong to lead a session in the winter/spring.
- If you know someone who plays and would be willing and interested in teaching others to play please let us know by a note in the SFC dropbox in the Deep River town office or by emailing 23uovsfc55@gmail.com.
- The Upper Ottawa Valley Seniors Friendship Club is open to all adults living in the area from Chalk River to Deux Rivieres.
- Our website is seniorsfriendship-club.ca and Facebook page is www.facebook.com/sfc.uov.



MEAT ROLL

Another busy week; Friday night had a great time at the cabaret, 80's and 90's music, well attended.
Saturday was the draw then Jamie and Jen cooking up a storm of fries and egg rolls, with supervision from their granddaughter Lyla to make sure they got it right. The band started at 8 pm and went long into the night - good time had by all.
Sunday was open mic and the cooks still going strong on fries and egg rolls - the aroma was heavenly and the food was great.

- Rumour is there will soon be another Meat Roll - stay tuned, we will let you know when it is coming.
- We had a few birthdays last week: Dave, Larry and Marion. Congrats on making it one more time around the sun.
- The team of Mike, Pierre, Darrell and Frank qualified this Saturday to move on to District Darts. Well done gents!
- The other members did not fare so well in Renfrew, close but no cigar (or bullseye would be more appropriate).
- Friday is the end of the month pool tournament - the action starts at 7 pm and this is open to anyone.
- There will be a paint tutorial on Friday, November 29 at 7 pm.
- The Zone cribbage sign-up sheet is on the board, the Zone pool sign-up sheet comes down on Wednesday.

- Buddy Check (formerly known as Veterans Café) is coming. We just have to finalize some paperwork.
- The next cabaret, "Twisted Christmas" will be on Friday, December 13. Darts, Euchre and open mic are still running.
- For the second time this year we have a two-time winner in the same Rusty Dillabough Memorial draw. Week 6 draw winners were: 391 Marion Walsh, 309 Ben Drinkwater, 481 Carolyn Arnold, 218 Leah Sullivan, 402 Helmut Froehlich, 425 Kim McDonald, 291 Ken Wright, 359 Joan Doubt, 376 Chad Boyer, 344 Hugh Macdonald, 270 Ben Steedman, 350 Kerry Mooder, 494 Gord Stewart, 402 Helmut Froehlich, 187 Ken McKee.
- The attendance draw winner was 244 Mason Richardson who was not there, so it grows.

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The Grade 5/6 class at Mackenzie Community School showcased their entrepreneurial spirit and compassion for animals by presenting a cheque for over \$1,000 to the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA). Last year, the class participated in a youth entrepreneurship program, learning how to develop business plans, market products, and manage finances. The students put their skills into action by creating and selling handmade crafts including comic books, dog bandanas and jewellery, at local events and school fundraisers. The project not only taught students valuable business skills but also emphasized the importance of giving back. Representatives from the OSPCA attended the cheque presentation, thanking the students for their hard work and generosity that will go towards helping over 30 new puppies they just received.

Submitted photo

NPD closure project finally moving forward

It's been a long time coming, but Canadian Nuclear Laboratories has finally entered the "next stage" in the proposed decommissioning of the Nuclear Power Demonstration reactor near Rolphton.

CNL announced last week that the project's draft environmental impact statement (EIS) has passed the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission's "completeness check."

The EIS has now entered a technical review by the CNSC's federal, provincial, and Indigenous review team. Results of the review are expected no later than February 10, 2025.

CNL said that since the draft EIS was last submitted in 2021, the project team has been working on responding to information requests from the CNSC, "engaging with Indigenous Nations,

communities and organizations, and updating the EIS to ensure a complete submission."

"Over the course of the Environmental Assessment (EA), CNL has learned the key areas of interest and concern from the public, Indigenous Peoples, and federal and provincial agencies... and incorporated this feedback into the revised draft EIS."

Among other changes, CNL says it has expanded the list of "valued components, integrating results of Indigenous studies for a more fulsome description of Indigenous land and resource use in the study area, and updating our long-term safety assessment to include additional traditional use pathways."

CNL said it anticipates it will be able to submit the final EIS in the spring or

summer of 2026.

"The final decision on the project will be determined by the CNSC following a public hearing process."

"The team has worked hard to make significant improvements to the EIS and supporting documents over the past few years," said Katie Shorter, director of the NPD Closure Project.

"This revised EIS is the result of CNL's work to respond to hundreds of technical questions from Indigenous Nations, communities and organizations, members of the public, regulators, government officials, and other interested parties about the NPD Closure Project, integrating this feedback into the project.

"We are very proud of the work we've done, and the relationships we're continuing to build with Indige-

nous Nations, communities, and organizations."

CNL last announced a delay in the NPD project back in January 2022, after the CNSC requested "further information" on the draft EIS.

"CNL is closely examining the regulatory feedback and reassessing the EIS submission," the company said, noting the CNSC response was "specific to Indigenous content."

In a letter dated January 19, 2022, the CNSC said it acknowledged that CNL had "put effort into engagement with identified Indigenous Nations and communities as well as addressing the comments received from a number of the identified Indigenous Nations and communities."

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

HOLLY TEA & BAZAAR

St. Barnabas' well-loved Holly Tea and Bazaar is back and only three days away on Saturday, November 30 from 1:30 to 4 pm.

St. Barnabas Church is at 80 Glendale Ave in Deep River. (Please note this event is cash only.)

• Gift Table: The gift table is packed with so many beautiful items. You'll be able to find something here for everyone on your list!

• Bake Table: The bake table holds a

St. Barnabas Anglican Church



variety of squares, cakes, pies, cookies, bread and buns as well as jams, jellies, and other delicious offerings.

• Deli Table: Our deli table is filled with many wonderful choices of baked beans, meatballs, scalloped potatoes, lasagna and salads

that you can take home for a dinner.

• Tea Room: Come and have a relaxing and enjoyable time in our Tea Room as well. A variety of dainty sandwiches, squares, cookies, pickles etc will be served along with your choice of coffee or tea.

Tickets will be available at the door. All are welcome to this festive event!

NERVES OF STEEL

• There were four and a half tables out for at the regular duplicate game last Thursday afternoon and the game was played as a Howell movement.

The top three finishers were: 1st - Ian and Sandy Towner, 2nd - Candace Bishop and Anne Wills, and 3rd - Kerry Burns and Michael Atfield.

• Alphonse "Sonny" Moyses was a prolific bridge writer and columnist in the golden age of bridge (from the 1930s through the 1960s), writes director Geoffrey Edwards.

Back in that era, opening a four-card major suit was common practice. Especially with a weaker hand worth only one bid, responder often raised with three card support (a risky practice Moyses supported) and hoped that the trump suit was sufficiently robust (eg. eight cards or more).

When the gamble failed, a 4-3 fit was the result and this became known as a "Moysian fit."

Nowadays, with five-card length being required to open in a major suit, Moysians are much less common.

On board 8, West opens the bidding with 1D and East responds 1H. This gives opener a tough second call. With 17 HCP and a ruffing value in clubs they would like to make a bid stronger than 2H, but an eight card fit has not been established.

Still, even if they manage to

Duplicate Bridge



show this approximate hand, perhaps with a nerves-of-steel jump to 3H, East will likely reject the invitation to game since they have a

bare minimum for their initial bid.

In a contract of 3H, as in many Moysian fits, declarer must take care not to give up control in the trump suit too early. Correct technique is to win the likely trump lead in dummy, then lead a club.

North goes up with the Ac and returns a trump to the Kh, but declarer can win, finesse in spades, then coast to 10 tricks when a cross-ruff scores all three of their little hearts to go with their seven top tricks.

If declarer instead tries to draw the defensive trumps with an early AK and a third heart then South will win and draw the last trump. Now eight tricks is now the limit of the hand.

This afternoon E/W were the declaring side on board 8 each time it was played. The lowest E/W score was -50 (down one in 2H). Next best was +120 (2NT making two) and then +130 (3D making four).

The top score went to the E/W partnership who scored up +170 for 3H making four. As the cards lie, of course, 3NT probably should not be beaten (+400) but +420 for 4H making four outscored it. Moyses would have been pleased.

Dir: W
Vul: None

♠ J 9 7 4
♥ 7 3
♦ Q 10 2
♣ A Q 6 5

♠ A Q 10 3
♥ A 6 4
♦ A K 9 5 3
♣ 2

♠ 6 2
♥ K 9 5 2
♦ 8 4
♣ K 10 9 4 3

♠ K 8 5
♥ Q J 10 8
♦ J 7 6
♣ J 8 7

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MATCH UP

To put a free notice in Match-Up, phone the NRT office at 613-584-4161, or email <NRT@northrenfrewtimes.ca>.

COOKBOOK: The Laurentian Hills Library is looking for a copy of the Point Alexander Library Cookbook from the 1980s. It has a yellow cover with a picture of a woodstove. If you have a spare copy, please bring it to the Point Alexander branch of the library or give them a call at 613-584-2714.

SPIDERMAN: A lonely Spiderman Lego figure was found recently near Grouse Park. If you have lost your friendly web-slinger, please call 613-584-2821.

DVD CHANGER: Looking for a new home are a 26-inch flat screen Vizio TV, a 14-inch small box style Panasonic TV, and a large DVD changer. All are in working order and available to anyone who might be able to use them. If interested, please call 613-584-3881.

WATER HEATER: Free for the taking, a 40-gallon Moffat electric water heater. It came with a nine-year warranty and has been used six years. Still in working condition. If interested, please call 613-586-2228.

SAW: Here's something that probably didn't just drop out of someone's backpack. A bow saw was found recently near Sullivan Lake. To claim it, please call 613-584-3171.

BOWL: Did a candy bowl go wandering? A stainless steel bowl was found the day after Halloween on the front lawn of 16 Faraday Cres. If you are missing one and think it may be yours, please call 613-584-2366.

SPORTS



Senior girls at EOSSAA with silver medals. Back (left to right): Coach Nick Hallett, Callie Baltazar, Faye Surette, Jana Nabawy, Maeve Ogilvie, Piper Stephenson, Kelly Hogue, Alexia Berthiaume, coach Candice Stephenson, coach Jon Baltazar. Front: Addie Belleau, Macy Meilleur, Wynn Chapman, Ad-dyson Clouthier, Logan Hallett, Melina Doncaster, Sarah Causey.

Submitted photo

MUSTANGS ROUNDUP

Senior girls win silver at EOSSAA basketball

November is coming to a close, and seasons are finally wrapping up for some of the Mustangs.

The senior girls basketball team travelled to Prescott to compete at EOSSAA on November 13 and 14.

The Mackenzie Mustangs entered the EOSSAA tournament as the number two seed, and they delivered an unforgettable performance, showcasing grit, determination, and team spirit every step of the way.

In the opening game of round robin action, the Mustangs faced a tall Russell Timberwolves squad. Despite a characteristically slow start, the team found their rhythm and pulled ahead for a solid 40-28 victory.

The second game against Char-Lan was nothing short of a nail-biter. Trail-ing for most of the game, the Mustangs mounted a thrilling comeback.

A clutch three-pointer gave them a one-point lead in the final seconds, and Jana Nabawy iced the game with two pressure-packed free throws to secure a dramatic 37-34 win.

These two victories earned the Mustangs the top spot in their pool and a berth in the semifinals the next day.

The Mustangs faced Notre Dame in the semifinal round. With strong team-work and relentless effort, the girls played a fantastic game, coming away with a 49-39 win and punching their ticket to the championship final.

The Mustangs battled Ange-Gabriel in the final. Ange-Gabriel, last year's OFSAA silver medalists, presented a formidable challenge.

The Mustangs came out strong, leading by one point at halftime, but Ange-Gabriel's shooters found their mark in the third quarter, pulling ahead and ultimately handing the Mustangs a hard-fought 33-20 loss.

While the championship game didn't end as hoped, the Mustangs can hold their heads high. They proved themselves as a force to be reckoned with - playing with heart, hustle, and resilience throughout the tournament.

Congratulations to the Mackenzie Mustangs senior girls, the little team

that could, and thanks to coaches Nick Hallett, Jon Baltazar, and Candice Stephenson.

GRADE 8 VOLLEYBALL

On the elementary side, the Grade 8 volleyball tournaments took place last week. The Grade 8 boys went four wins, two losses in pool play, to place third in Pool A at the RCEIAA West tournament.

In a close match with a lot of great rallies, they lost to Jeanne Lajoie in the quarter finals, 25-23 set 1, 25-21 set 2.

Overall the boys played great as a team and represented the Mustangs very well.



The Deep River U11 Knights were serving up a delicious feast of spaghetti, Caesar salad and garlic bread at the Chalk River Lions Hall Saturday night as a fundraiser for their 2024-25 hockey season. The U11 Knights are back on home ice this Friday, November 29 to face off against the Muskrat Voyageurs. Game time is 6 pm.

Right: Christine Desrochers was on hand to pick up some gear for the upcoming cross country ski season at the Deep River Cross Country Ski Club's annual ski rental day Saturday at the DR Curling and Squash Club. Volunteer Anna Katsaras checks out Desrochers' skis and poles. For more on the club's activities, visit drxc.ca.

Photos: Terry Myers

OUTDOORS

Double moose hunt bust

BY WAYNE THOMPSON

As I have mentioned a few times in previous columns, just because you seldom meet up with a game warden these days doesn't mean they're not around.

The folks who run a luxury fishing and hunting resort in Red Lake, in northwestern Ontario, will tell you that after being raided by conservation officers last fall.

Following convictions on a string of poaching and careless hunting violations, the operator and 20 hunters paid a split total of more than a quarter million dollars in fines. The violations included shooting moose from boats, careless use of firearms, hunting without valid tags and a host of other infractions.

Although MNR enforcement staff did not release too much info as to how the investigation was triggered and carried out, it is quite likely that this was not just a quick visit, discovery and subsequent arrest thing.

It is thought that game wardens responded following a complaint from someone, kept a watch on the resort and its guests over a period of time, even more than one season.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



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IN MEMORIAM

"In Memoriam Cards" for donations to the North Renfrew Long-Term Care Centre are a thoughtful memoriam that continues to give. These donations are very much appreciated by the Long-Term Care Centre. They are available at the North Renfrew Long-Term Care Centre, Northern Credit Union, Bank of Montreal, ScotiaBank or call 584-1900 for more information.

DEATHS



In Loving Memory of Soo Young Lee

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Soo Young Lee, who left this world on the evening of November 24, 2024 after a four month battle of cancer, surrounded by her loving family at the age of 70.

Soo is survived by her devoted husband, Kevin, and her cherished children, Robert and Sonya.

She was a beloved wife, mother, and friend who brought light and warmth to all who knew her.

Soo had a deep love for nature and found joy in

picking mushrooms and berries while on her walks through the forest. Her passion for classical music resonated throughout her life and was a gift she passed on to her children.

For 24 years, Soo was a pillar of the Deep River community, sharing her kindness and radiant smile with customers and friends at Plaza Confectionery. Her sense of humor and playful complaints about Kevin's golf outings were a constant source of laughter for those who knew her well.

Soo will be profoundly missed but forever remembered for her kindness, her love of life's simple pleasures, and the joy she brought to those around her.

A celebration of her life will be held at Kelly Funeral Home at Barrhaven Chapel (3000 Woodroffe Ave, Nepean, ON K2J 4G3) on Saturday, November 30th at 2 pm, where family and friends are invited to honor her memory.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Marie Schankula

1948 - 2023



Marie, it's been one year since you passed. I am not the same without you by my side and battle daily in silence to keep going. Not a day goes by that I don't think about you. We all miss you terribly.

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Auction Sale

11am, Saturday, Nov. 30

for Andrew Hill, 644 Rice Line, Douglas, ON

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Check PrestonCull.com

for complete listing and pictures.

**Auctioneer: Preston Cull, R.R.#1 Douglas, ON
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The North Renfrew Times office will be open extended hours during the Canada Post strike to allow local subscribers to pick up their copy of the paper. Subscribers may also request a copy of the newspaper in digital format by emailing NRT@northrenfrewtimes.ca.



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32552 Hwy 17 3 bed, eat-in kitchen, gas heat, drilled well, fin bbsmt, lg det gar, large lot
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23 Hunters Run Lane Beautiful mod. home built in 2022. Open concept, mn flr ldr, 9' kit atrium.
MLS 1415260 \$275,000



351 Wylie Rd 2 bed, custom kit, cathedral ceil, pwr blinds, dbl gar, workshop, lg lot w/ priv fence
MLS 1416880 \$469,900



294 Lau-Ren Rd Custom built, 4 bed, 5 bath, 4 seat kit island, wd stove cath ceiling, dbl det gar
MLS 1384000 \$1,499,000

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32779 Hwy 17,
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MLS 1416208 \$599,900



1 Brockhouse Way #100 1 bed, oak kit, 4 appl incl, in-unit laundry, large storage rm, priv parking
MLS 1413227 \$229,900



419 Devlin Ln 3 bed home w/ attached 2 bed residence, 2-3pc & 2-2 pc baths. Dbl insul gar
MLS 1385788 \$799,900



89 - 119 Meilleurs Rd 3 log homes, 6 cottages (2 log), 1 frame bung, dining hall, priv lake
MLS 1408345 \$2,000,000



1 Brockhouse Way #111 1 bed, oak kit, 4 appl incl, laundry room, gas ht/ca, large storage rm
MLS 1402947 \$185,500



33 Hammond Ct 2 + 2 bed, all new open concept, 9ft ceil, mn fl laundry, bsmt family rm
MLS 1417837 \$669,900



628 Goldfinch Way 2 bed, 2 bath bungalow, open concept, 3 seas room, elec/wd furn, det gar
MLS 1415407 \$649,900



507 Edgewater Way Deluxe kit, vaulted ceilings, gas fp, hot tub, dble heated gar, beach
MLS 1380642 \$899,999



46 Thomson Cr 3 bed semi-det, hwdw floors, sun room, updated elec panel, lg partly fenced yard
MLS 1414620 \$231,000



33020 Hwy 17 4 bed, 2 new baths, new kit, den, office, mn fl laundry, lg back d, ht gar, carport
MLS 1410649 \$399,900



1 Darwin Cr 3 bed, 2 bath updated kit, liv rm gas fp, hwdw fl, fin bsmt, updated ac & windows
MLS 1416888 \$429,900



26 Rutherford Ave 3 bed, lg liv rm w/fp, hwdw floors, 4 season rm w/fp, fin bsmt, lg priv bk yard
MLS 1418885 \$349,900



103 Monck Sq 3 bed, refinished hwdw fl, updated bath/roof/win, huge priv yard, gar w/att carport
MLS 1406357 \$379,900



33016 Hwy 17 2 bed, 1.4ac, gas fp, 3 appl incl, main fl laundry, 23' x 25' det ht gar + large bay
MLS 1410656 \$359,900



119 Frontenac, Cr 3+1 bed, cust kit, 4 season rm, priv fenced back yd w/deck, gas ht & CA
MLS 1409539 \$499,900



581 Rocky Point Ln 245ft river frontage, vaulted ceil, fin lower level, deck & scren room, bunkie
MLS 1398341 \$1,300,000



11 Wolfe Ave 3 bed, eat-in kit, oak cupboards, gas ht, rec room, rear lane w/1 1/2 car gar, shed
MLS 1407339 \$299,900



91 Bilsborrow Trail 1+1 bed, 100ft Petawawa River frontage, airtight wd stove, metal roof
MLS 1353959 \$379,900



32750 Hwy 17 3 bed, 4 bath, updated kit, appl incl, wood stove, new septic, roof & siding, shed
MLS 1392619 \$589,000



18 Claremount Rd 2 bed, 2 bath designer kitchen, fireplace, many updates, sunroom, lg fenced yd
MLS 1412842 \$399,900



4 Albert St Triplex - 3 two bed units just completed, 9 ft ceilings, deck/balcony, heat pumps
MLS 1369841 \$769,000



35 Champlain St 2040 sq ft, Prime commercial property for retail or office, high traffic area
MLS 1403348



36 Thomson Cr 3 bed, 2 bath, airtight wd stove, rear deck w/hot tub, priv yard, deep det gar
MLS 1408910 \$349,900



116 Lau-Ren Rd 6.8ac, 3 bed, 2 baths, wood fp & gas fp, bunkie sunroom, workshop, det gar
MLS 1371537 \$849,900



16 Ridge Rd Approx 900sqft, new roof/heating/electrical/lighting/hot water tank/siding
MLS 1381943 \$200,000

WATERFRONT LOT FOR SALE

LOTS FOR SALE

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Hwy 17, 7.98ac	\$449,900	MLS 1416443
Bronson Rd, 5.4ac	\$169,900	MLS 1368154

Ezylyfe Lane, 15.26ac \$339,000 MLS 1398424

Hwy 17 Bissett Cr, 18.82ac	\$124,900	MLS 1407937
Hwy 17 Mackey, 2.99ac	\$64,900	MLS 1376261
Hwy 17 Deep River 0.42ac	\$59,900	MLS 1401897
Pt Lt 49, Old Moore Lake Rd 0.3 ac	\$49,900	MLS 1410939
Hwy 17 Laurentian Hills 201.8 ac	\$499,900	MLS 1406698



Constable Anne Pitre made history recently by becoming Deep River's first female police sergeant. Pitre has 19 years of policing experience, beginning her career with Toronto Police and joining the Deep River Police in 2014. Above, she receives her sergeant's badge from Chief Dean Duchrow.

Outdoors: double bust

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

The operator is said to have been in the business of catering mainly to fishing parties and hunters for several years, with a seaplane operation as a sideline.

Normally, once convicted, the fine is supplemented by seizure of any gear associated with the offences and subsequent conviction. In view of this it would be most interesting if the seizures included the aircraft. If so, it would be a most interesting addition to the Ministry fleet.

The northwestern Ontario bust was not the only one that made headlines last year. A similar investigation and raid at a resort in the northeastern part of the province just after that in Red Lake has resulted in court convictions and fines of a similar nature, although the MNR did not release much info as to who the operator was in this case,

nor the numbers of people and exact name or location of the particular outfitter involved.

The above goes to show that poaching and other violations are not going to be tolerated.

Ministry enforcement staff are out here keeping watch, and the fines associated with being nailed and convicted in court are no longer just a few bucks and being told "don't do it again."

BRIEFLY

I appreciate the letter from Bob Christie on my tribute to Ron Bowes. I had quite a time putting together this write-up in view of privacy laws.

I could not find any kind of documentation concerning number of hours flown by Ron. Transport Canada keeps tab on time flown by pilots, but will not release any info regarding this since it is classed as private.

And, as to the history of the Beaver plane, I have written several columns on this over the years, especially in respect of its role in opening the northern regions of our province and country and anniversary celebrations.

Police costs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

The reason for the huge increases is the result of the province and the Ontario Provincial Police Association ratifying a four-year collective agreements for uniform and civilian employees.

“We certainly heard about it from municipalities and how it is going to affect their own budgets and what the increase will mean to taxes in their municipalities,” he said.

Members of the PC party, particularly those whose ridings are policed by the OPP, have had discussions about the increases and they all agree the increases will be hard for municipalities to absorb.

“There is no question about it that something is going to have to be done at the provincial level to alleviate some of that burden,” he said.

“How that works out at this point or what measures are actually going to be taken, I can’t speak to that now, but we are quite aware of the impact this is going to have on

the budgets of municipalities.” Yakabuski said all but one of the 19 municipalities in his riding is affected by the increased costing. The only exception is the town of Deep River which has its own police service.

“I have certainly raised the issue among my colleagues, including the Solicitor General and the Minister of Finance and I know that many of my other rural colleagues are doing the same,” he said.

Yakabuski said his colleagues agree that this kind of increase municipalities are facing is difficult if not impossible for municipalities to absorb on their own.

“Municipalities have far less flexibility in how they raise revenue and we are definitely going to have to look at how we are working with them,” he said.

Bonnechere Valley Mayor Jennifer Murphy, who was the first municipal politician in the county to raise the alarm about the pending increases, told her council that her “foot is firmly on the gas pedal” and she has no plans to let up on the issue.

Debbi Christinck is a Local Journalism Initiative reporter for the Eganville Leader.

NPD project

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

However, it said applicants must also engage on “how to specifically address or mitigate the identified issues and concerns” raised by Indigenous communities, and “document how engagement activities resulted in meaningful changes to the EIS and EA (environmental assessment) process, where applicable.”

“Upon performing the completeness verification, CNSC staff determined that CNL’s submission is incomplete in the areas identified above and therefore there is insufficient information to proceed to the technical review,” said the letter signed by Dr. Nana-Owusua Kwamena, director of the CNSC’s environmental assessment division.

CNL submitted the first draft of its environmental impact statement for the NPD project in the fall of 2017.

Overall, the “NPD Closure Project” would see the NPD reactor finally decommissioned and much of the property returned to public use.

The proposal is to “grout” the remaining reactor components in place with concrete below ground level.

The entombed reactor would then be capped and covered over with a protective mound and monitored for the next 100-plus years.

NPD was opened in 1962 as a

demonstration of Candu reactor technology and has been shut down since 1987.

In its previous draft EIS, CNL said it looked at other alternatives for the site, from leaving the reactor where it is and continuing to monitor it, to full dismantling and removal.

“Although each of the four alternative means were determined to be technically feasible based on the use of reliable technology, regulatory compliance, and cost, the in-situ decommissioning offers a lower risk option than all other alternatives,” the company said.

“This is because differences between the other alternative means are more pronounced during future time periods where disruptive events and long-term environmental processes occur.

“These alternative options have greater risks of effects from these events or processes since the waste would be stored above ground.

“In-situ decommissioning involves emplacement and grouting of waste below ground, thereby limiting the risks.”

Critics, however, say CNL’s plan for the site violates international standards and that the company has not backed up its claims that the proposal is safe in the long term.

“The Egyptian pyramids are only 5,000 years old,” said Gordon Edwards, president of the Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility, in his submission to the CNSC.

“How does CNL presume to know the fate of buried and abandoned radionuclides for the next 100,000 to one million years?”



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• FROM PAGE 17

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CROSSWORD

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The Seniors Friendship Club had a special guest speaker at its weekly meeting last Tuesday morning. Deep River Police Constable Marek Brela was on hand to speak to club members about a number of issues. Among the topics he covered were the driver renewal process for seniors, information about e-bikes and their requirements, suggestions as to how to navigate some of the intersections in town, and preventative tips to avoid becoming victims of frauds and scams.

Photo: Vance Gutzman

Council questions proposed capital budget

BY VANCE GUTZMAN

Deep River will be tweaking its proposed 2025 capital budget somewhat, based on some of the comments made at last week's council meeting.

As previously reported, the draft budget contains just over \$3.2 million in expenditures, excluding those for water and wastewater projects, with 57 percent of that funded by grants and the remainder from reserves, debt-financing and tax revenues.

The water and wastewater capital budget, meanwhile, calls for \$3.9 million in expenditures, with 53 percent of that funded by grants and the remainder from reserves, debt-financing and user-fees.

Topping the list for the municipal budget is \$1.56 million for upgrades to the arena.

The bulk of that will go towards the replacement of that facility's refrigerant piping system, which is in poor condition.

Council has already taken the first step towards that project, having agreed last month to submit an application to Ontario's Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF) for up to 50 percent of total project costs.

The capital budget also calls for cosmetic upgrades to the arena's exterior,

as its original tin siding will be repainted in-house and sections that are in need of repair will be replaced.

Councillor Kathy Hughes suggested at last week's meeting that it may be best to hold off on the exterior upgrades until access issues to the upper mezzanine for people with limited mobility have been addressed.

"We still haven't addressed the accessibility issues," Hughes said.

"We talked about elevators and stairlifts. We don't really have another plan on the horizon."

ROAD PROJECTS

A couple of major road improvement projects are also contained in the draft capital budget, including \$400,000 for the repaving of Banting Drive, with the town hoping to secure \$140,000 in grant funding for that project.

The work would bring it up to the County of Renfrew's condition criteria for inclusion in the county's road network, and see the county maintain it in future years.

"If it doesn't meet that criteria, there are other avenues that I can take at county council," said Reeve Glenn Doncaster, the town's representative at the upper-tier level of government.

"There's lots of county roads that don't meet the current criteria," he

went on to say.

"There are avenues for this to be classified as a county road, and (county) staff are going down that road at the moment. If that doesn't work, there will be other avenues."

The budget also calls for outlay of \$250,000 for engineering and design work on portions of Deep River Road and Ridge Road to allow the county to continue with the second phase of rehabilitation of those two county roads.

The entire length of Champlain Street, which is not a county road, is also being thrown into that engineering and design work for good measure, along with \$125,000 in proposed grant funding, in conjunction with plans related to the town's downtown streetscape plan.

That plan, presented by Fotenn Planning + Design consultants in May 2023, would see most of the angle parking on Ridge and Champlain removed and replaced by parallel parking spots and wider sidewalk spaces.

Council received assurances that public input will be sought before any design work is completed.

"I'm glad to hear there's considerable consultation planned upfront," Councillor Terry Myers said.

"We haven't endorsed this (downtown) plan. I'm glad to hear the consultation part comes first."

The draft budget also includes upgrades at town hall, including \$210,000 for the installation of a gas generator in that building.

The municipality has applied for two grants which it hopes will offset \$115,000 of that cost.

Mayor Sue D'Eon asked town staff to seek other options for the generator.

"Especially for a nuclear community that's very reliant on having a strong electrical grid," she said.

"I'd hate to see us spending \$200,000 on gas if there was a different way of providing that energy."

MARINA DOCKS

The mayor also questioned the merit of the capital budget's inclusion of \$195,000 for the replacement of two sections of docks at the marina, saying the outlay of that money for 24 boats works out to \$8,125 per boat.

"I have a problem spending general taxation on docks for private boats," D'Eon said. "If it was a condo there would be a special assessment."

The town has applied to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans for a grant to help offset nearly \$157,000 of the cost of the marina dock project but has not yet received any confirmation from that federal agency as to whether the funds will be forthcoming.

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