

THE NORTH RENFREW TIMES

DEEP RIVER, ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2026

\$2.00 (HST INCL.)



Deep River firefighters responded within minutes Monday afternoon to calls of a houseboat fire at the back of the property at 33382 Highway 17 in Deep River. Two houseboats stored on the property were fully engulfed in flames when firefighters arrived just after 2:30 pm. Firefighters were able to knock down the blaze before it spread to other boats and trailers also stored on the lot, or to the backyards of neighbouring properties on Frontenac. There was no word on the cause of the fire as of the NRT presstime. Losses are estimated at more than \$100,000.

Photo: Terry Myers

QUOTEWORTHY:

“Jeremy and Trevor really clicked.”

- Carole Judd, on her son Trevor and astronaut Jeremy Hansen, page 9

INSIDE:



RIVER REACHES FLOOD LEVELS



SKATING CLUB WRAPS UP SEASON

Town to review rec master plan

BY VANCE GUTZMAN

It's been a long time coming, but Deep River council is finally in receipt of the

town's recreation and culture master plan.

The municipality hired KA Community Consulting back in 2024 to prepare

the plan, with an expectation that it would be prepared and presented to council in April of last year.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

STILL NO TARIFFS!!!

&

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NORTH RENFREW TIMES

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Rec plan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Several months went by with no sign of the plan until last October when council was presented with a “background report” and a recommendation that town staff be directed to work with the consultants to prepare a recreation and culture master plan based on that report.

The final draft of the plan on the agenda of this week’s council meeting contains 28 recommendations, categorized into five “strategic goals.”

The first of those goals is “regional partners, sustainable finances.”

Among the recommendations in that regard is one calling on the town “to work with neighbouring municipalities to establish fair, transparent cost-sharing agreements which reflect Deep River’s broader service role, and support equitable regional access to recreation and culture facilities and programming.”

Deep River has already been attempting to do just that.

When the background report was presented to council last fall, it came with a recommendation from town staff calling for a meeting with both Laurentian Hills and Head, Clara, Maria (HCM) to discuss a potential shared services agreement for recreation costs.

That came after both municipalities turned down a request to help fund just over \$804,000 of refurbishments at the pool in 2024.

Deep River asked Laurentian Hills and HCM to contribute \$319,345 and \$30,567 respectively, based on figures showing that roughly 40 percent of the people using the pool hail from the two neighbouring municipalities.

In terms of other recreational funding, meanwhile, the master plan also recommends the town conduct annual recreational fee reviews, seek partnerships and sponsorships, undertake community fundraising campaigns and establish a stand-alone recreation capital reserve.

“This fund can be used to leverage matching grants related to facility investment,” the plan states.

NATURE CONNECTION

The second strategic goal of the master plan is called “outdoors for generations” and recommends the town expand and connect its trail systems and “promote nature connection and health.”

It also, in terms of the outdoors, recommends the town create an integrated waterfront approach, “adapt to a changing climate” and take a lead in environmental stewardship.

The third goal of the plan, “service delivery excellence,” calls on the town to position its recreation and culture department “as the community’s leader and change-maker by streamlining policies and processes, modernizing recreation technology and working collaboratively with community organizations and non-municipal partners to deliver seamless

high-quality services, programs and spaces.”

The fourth goal is called “culture at the heart,” and comes with recommendations including strengthening cultural partnerships and programming.

It also recommends the expansion and optimization of cultural spaces, while supporting “a diverse range of community-driven arts, culture and heritage events throughout the year.”

The fifth goal, “renew the places we rely on,” recommends the town “establish clear maintenance standards, inspection routines and service levels for all major recreational facilities and parks,” as well as the development of “an integrated long-term facilities strategy.”

In regard to that goal, the plan also recommends the improvement of operational efficiencies, and the pursuit of grants and other forms of external funding for shovel-ready projects.

“This process has provided an opportunity to on how residents, regional users and partners experience recreation and culture today, and to establish a clear vision and roadmap for the next decade,” the master plan states by way of summary.

“The plan focuses on the key priorities identified through a rigorous, two-phase planning and engagement process, and provides practical actionable recommendations to sustain and strengthen quality of life in Deep River.”

The master plan will be presented to council tonight by consultants Kim Goodman and Kevin Lee.

Council awards contract for arena work

BY VANCE GUTZMAN

Deep River council has awarded a contract to undertake major rehabilitation work at the arena, though the cost of that work has come in almost \$200,000 more than originally anticipated.

The time-sensitive issue, a last-minute addition to the April 8 council agenda, saw Frecon Construction awarded a contract for \$1,722,796 to replace the refrigerant piping under the floor of the arena, replace the concrete slab after that’s been done, and then replace the boards and glass around it.

Frecon submitted the lowest of three bids for the job, for which the town had originally budgeted \$1,526,000.

Despite coming in over budget, council gave the project the green-light so that the extensive work can start immediately, and be completed by September,

ahead of ice programs resuming at the arena, according to a report to council from Dave McCarthy, the town’s director of operations.

“They’ve committed to a very time-sensitive schedule,” he told council.

Town staff will come back to council in June with a report on how to address the \$196,796 shortfall.

The municipality was successful last year in securing a \$750,000 grant from the Ontario’s Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund for the job, with the town committed to matching that figure.

The town budgeted for the project through a combination of \$294,000 in debt financing, \$126,000 from reserves, and the balance of \$356,000 proposed as contributions from neighbouring municipalities.

Deep River’s chief administrative offi-

cer, Sean Patterson, told council last week the report to council in June will take into consideration a number of factors, including the surplus disposition which will be coming out of the annual audit for 2025.

“That may have a significant impact on reserve balances, and the ability to fund capital projects in 2026 from reserves,” Patterson said.

The delay in the Ridge Road rehabilitation work by the county from this year to next may also play a role, he added.

“We also had some money in there to do the town’s portion.”

The town issued tenders for the job last month.

Bids for the project were due Monday, April 6 and work was expected to begin by the end of the week, with “substantial completion” of the project due Saturday, August 29.

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County to vow “strong support” for HS train?

From opposition to hesitation to full-on support in a span of two weeks?

Renfrew County council will consider a motion this week expressing its “strong support” for the federal government’s high-speed rail project.

The motion, drafted by Deep River Reeve Glenn Doncaster, calls on county council to throw its support behind “the economic and environmentally responsible development and implementation of Canadian nation-building projects, such as Alto,” the Crown corporation created to build a high-speed rail connection between Toronto and Quebec City.

The motion says such projects “create employment for thousands of Canadians, prioritize the use of Canadian materials, and strengthen our country’s capacity to extract, process, manufacture, and

transport resources, goods, services, and people more efficiently to provincial, national, and international markets.”

Doncaster’s motion suggests that “creating an efficient, reliable, and sustainable transportation infrastructure is essential to economic growth, environmental responsibility, and national connectivity,” and that Alto will “significantly reduce travel times between major urban centres, improving mobility for residents, workers, and businesses.”

CLEANER ALTERNATIVE

“High-speed rail offers a cleaner alternative to car and air travel, contributing to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and supporting climate goals,” the motion states.

“Investment in modern rail systems strengthens national



competitiveness and aligns with global advancements in transportation innovation.”

The motion calls on “all relevant levels of government to prioritize funding, planning, and timely implementation of the project,” while also calling for “continued community engagement and transparent decision-making to ensure the project reflects public needs and concerns.”

“The County of Renfrew strongly encourage(s) the federal government and Alto project leaders to evaluate very carefully, consider and minimize the impact of this project

to the greatest extent possible on existing Canadian residents and landowners and on wildlife and the environment while still achieving greatly enhanced transportation services for all Canadians.”

If passed copies of the motion would be sent to Prime Minister Mark Carney, Premier Doug Ford, the federal Minister of Transportation, MPPs, municipal organizations like the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), all Eastern Ontario municipalities, “and Eastern Ontario First Nations partners and relevant stakeholders to demonstrate broad support for the Alto high-speed rail initiative.”

UNCLEAR IMPACTS

The motion represents a 180-degree turn from the position the county was asked to take two weeks ago.

On April 8, county council rejected a motion from the Eastern Ontario Wardens Caucus (EOWC) calling on the federal government and Alto to “fully explore train route options along existing infrastructure corridors, such as VIA Rail and/or Highway 401.”

The motion noted that EOWC “formally opposes the Alto project in its current form.”

Through its counties, the EOWC represents 103 small urban and rural municipalities across eastern Ontario, stretching from Kawartha Lakes to Cornwall and from Renfrew County in the north to Prince Edward County on Lake Ontario.

EOWC said its opposition to Alto was “based on concerns

related to insufficient municipal consultation, unclear rural and small-urban impacts, potential environmental effects, and alignments with existing eastern Ontario planning and infrastructure priorities.”

But in a surprise move, council voted unanimously to reject the motion.

Renfrew Reeve Peter Emon said he felt the motion was “premature.”

Emon said he would have liked to have seen a “more nuanced motion,” suggesting “limited acceptance of the idea, with the understanding that a bunch of questions” still need to be answered.

Admaston Bromley Mayor Michael Donohue agreed.

Donohue said that if the motion had said EOWC could not support high-speed rail without further consultation, “that might perhaps have gotten close enough for me.”

“But (this motion) is suggesting that it is actively opposing this, and that is what presents the challenge,” he said.

Doncaster also spoke against the EOWC motion.

Doncaster agreed that without more information, “it’s very difficult” to support a motion against the high-speed rail project.

He said that like the nuclear industry, “people protest against that without having any information on a daily basis.”

“We know that people really don’t like change,” he said.

Former prime minister Justin Trudeau announced in February 2025 that the federal government will invest \$3.9 billion over the next six years to help develop a high-speed rail service under Alto.

The full cost of the project is expected to hit \$60-90 billion.

The proposed route will connect Toronto to Quebec City with stops in Peterborough, Ottawa, Montreal, Laval, and Trois Rivieres.

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It may be a while before boaters take to the water at the Deep River marina, for the simple fact there's too much water at the marina for them to launch their boats, brought on by snowmelt in the Ottawa River basin, coupled with high rainfall volumes this region has experienced so far this spring. The latest update from the Ottawa River Regulation Board on Monday suggested that the river has hit "minor flood levels" from Pembroke south, but levels are expected to stabilize by midweek and then plateau or slowly decline. At Pembroke, river levels are forecast to reach 113.2 m above sea level, 10 cm below the peak levels set in 2023. The board warns that while the short-term outlook is hopeful, the risk of "further increase in levels" remains over the coming weeks "given the the high snowpack remaining in the northern part of the basin."

Photo: Vance Gutzman

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Town Hall:

Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Council Meetings

Council meetings can be live streamed, or viewed later on the "Corporation of the Town of Deep River" YouTube channel. Archived Council Meeting videos <https://www.deepriver.ca/council/council-meeting-videos/> Council Meeting Agendas and Minutes <https://deepriver.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx>

Homeowners: Public Utility Locates

Get the dirt on small digs.

If you are planting a tree, building a fence or a deck, digging a new garden, or doing any project that requires you to dig, you must contact Ontario One Call at least 5 business days before. It's free, it's easy, it's the law.

Steps to Request Locates:

- Contact:** At least 5 business days before you dig, submit a locate request. We will notify buried infrastructure owners that you plan to dig.
- Locate:** Each utility company will send locators to mark the location of buried lines and cables.
- Dig:** Dig safely. Respect the marks and follow the instructions that are provided.

ontarioonecall.ca/about-us/contact-us/

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

fiber container

Deep River Community Pool

National Lifeguard Course:

Sundays from May 3rd to June 14th 9:00 AM -5:00 PM
A 40-hour course comprised of lifeguarding skills and techniques, as well as an introduction to first aid in a water setting. This certificate is required to lifeguard at any pool facility.
Prerequisites: Bronze Cross and Current Standard First Aid. Must be 15 yrs of age by the exam date. Instructor will need to see proof of Bronze Cross and Standard First Aid level "C" certificates.

National Lifeguard Recert:

Sunday June 14th – 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Register through the Town of Deep River website under the Recreation tab.

Recreation Department

Triathlon Early Bird Registration Reminder - Don't miss out!

Event Date: Sunday, August 2nd
Early Bird registration for the Deep River Triathlon ends May 29th at 12:00 PM!

Secure your spot and save by registering early. Athletes of all levels are welcome whether you're experienced or trying your first race.

Register online at deepriver.ca under the recreation tab.
Sign up today and get ready for an amazing race day!

Spring Clean-up

May 4th – May 15th

YARD WASTE

- Leaf & yard waste (biodegradable bags)
- Branches & brush (biodegradable bags or bundled & tied, under 4" in diameter)

METAL

- Pipes, ductwork, metal appliances (No propane tanks)

ELECTRONIC WASTE

- Electronics for safe disposal e.g.: TVs, computers, keyboards, monitors, laptops, radios.

Set out ALL waste by 7:00 AM on May 4th – only one collection pass per stream per street! Items may be placed curbside one week in advance. Place materials on the shoulder of the road or back lane next to your driveway.

Items NOT Accepted:

Household garbage, recyclables, construction materials, furniture, mattresses, large tree limbs, plastic toys, tires, hazardous waste (e.g., oil, paint, batteries), propane tanks and more.

Public Notice: Flood Risk



The Ottawa River Regulating Committee has issued a press release warning of an increasing flood risk along the Ottawa River from Mattawa to the Montreal Region.

According to the release, water levels and flows along the main stem of the Ottawa River are expected to increase and may exceed flood levels in some flood prone areas depending on weather. Residents are advised to monitor the river conditions forecast at www.ottawariver.ca

For links to more online resources please visit deepriver.ca – under residents – emergency preparedness

Deep River Public Library

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

Community Memory Vault: Signs of spring – As the snow melts and the river rises, is there a time of seasonal change that you particularly remember? Tell us about rising rivers or sap running, or other signs that stand out.

Spring Storytime & Babytime Join Ms. Robin for storytime at a new time – Tuesdays at 11:30am - (after Toddler Swim at the pool)! Aimed at toddlers and their caregivers. Babytime will be Wednesdays at 2pm. All welcome to drop in for stories, songs, and connection.

Youth Poetry Contest: Are you a budding poet (who knows it) ages 6 – 19? Do you want to share your poetry with the people of Deep River? Submit your poems between April 1st – 26th to rdennis@deepriverlibrary.ca or in person to become a published poet. The winner will be featured in our spring newsletter and will receive a gift from a local establishment. Good luck, young poets! We can't wait to read what you have to write.

Sewcial Club: Tuesday, April 21st at 6:30pm. Bring your mending project or make an embroidered flower pin with us. All welcome!

Writers' Unite will meet at Saturday Morning going forward! Join the group Thursday, April 30th at 6pm. Thanks to Mike and Salina for all of your work in supporting our local writing community.



The Library wants to hear from you! Our community survey is open until May 3rd and online (link via the QR code or on our website). Paper copies available in-library. Help us write our next chapter, whether you use the library or not!

Hydrant Flushing

Hydrant flushing will take place from **May 1st to May 30th, starting in the West end of Town and moving to the East end.**

Residents throughout Town may experience a drop in water pressure and discolouration. If you have discoloured water, please run your **COLD-WATER TAPS ONLY** (suggested taps: outside hose, bathtub or laundry tub) until the water runs clear. Please **DO NOT use your hot water** until you have clear running water again.

If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at 613-584-2000, ext. 127.

Seniors Corner



Upcoming FREE 55+ Senior Programs

Check out our "Seniors Corner" page on the Town of Deep River website. Visit www.deepriver.ca click "Residents" and select "Seniors Corner" from the drop-down list.

Men's Shed- Join us in the Deep River Public Library program room on Monday April 13 for a cup of coffee and to learn more about the Men's Shed! For more information contact larrywiegand1@gmail.com or cthorpe@deepriver.ca. This session is drop-in and registration is not required.

Painting: Studio Time- Wednesdays at 9:30am, Deep River Library Program Room.

How to Register for Programs

To register please visit deepriver.ca/departments/recreation/, choose "Register Now" under Course Registration or contact Christina at cthorpe@deepriver.ca or 613-584-2000 ext. 133.



Town to extend ATVs-on-roads bylaw?

BY VANCE GUTZMAN

Deep River’s pilot project allowing all-terrain vehicles and off-road vehicles to drive on municipal roadways has been such a success, the town is considering making it permanent.

That’s the recommendation on the table at this week’s meeting of town council, which approved the pilot project three years ago.

The pilot project saw ATVs and OVRs permitted on certain roads and trails approved by the municipality, while restricting access to other areas such as parks, playgrounds, beaches and trails.

The freedom to roam ran from May 1 to November 30 each year, with speeds limited to 20 km/hour, and not at night.

The report on this week’s agenda notes that, since the pilot project’s implementation, the town has received 11 formal complaints related to ATVs and OVRs, as well as several anecdotal complaints related to matters such as excessive speed and riding in prohibited areas.

The report also points out, however, that all formal complaints were investigated and resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned, and that town staff have spent an estimate of just 27 hours each year investigating and resolving complaints related to ATVs and OVRs.

The report notes that the purpose of the pilot project was to evaluate the potential impacts of allowing ATVs and OVRs on municipal roadways, particularly in residential areas.

“Based on operational experience since 2023, the pilot demonstrated limited negative impacts

and a generally high level of compliance with the established regulations,” the report states.

“The relatively low number of occurrences, combined with the limited staff time required to investigate and resolve complaints, suggests the program has been manageable from both an enforcement and operational perspective.

“It is also important to note that through ongoing education and effective enforcement, both the number of complaints along with the staff resources is expected to diminish over time.”

The report also notes the pilot project demonstrated that a regulated approach can provide broader community benefits.

TOURISM

“In particular, regulated OVR access supports tourism and recreational opportunities by allowing users to travel between accommodations, trail systems and local businesses in a safe and controlled manner,” the report states.

“This will become more critical as full connectivity is established with the Algonquin Trail.”

The report recommends replacing the pilot project with a permanent bylaw regulating ATVs and OVRs on municipal roadways, and combining that with regulations regarding snowmobiles.

“Historically these vehicle types were governed under separate by-laws, which created potential confusion for users and enforcement staff,” the report states.

“A single, consolidated framework improves clarity, simplifies enforcement and ensures consistent rules across similar vehicle

types.”

The bylaw would include set fines of \$150 for infractions like riding without the

required equipment, driving on a sidewalk, or operating outside the permitted hours (6 am to 11 pm).



Municipal Elections 2026 NOTICE OF NOMINATION FOR OFFICE

Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (s. 32)

NOTICE is hereby given that the next Regular Municipal and School Board Elections in the Town of Deep River is on October 26, 2026.

Corporation of The Town of Deep River		
Mayor	1 to be elected at large	\$200.00
Reeve	1 to be elected at large	\$100.00
Councillor(s)	5 to be elected at large	\$100.00
School Board Trustee		
Trustee, Renfrew County Catholic District School Board	1 to be elected for the area of Deep River, Laurentian Hills, and Head, Clara and Maria <i>Nomination Papers filed with the Town of Deep River Clerk.</i>	\$100.00
Trustee, Renfrew County Catholic District School Board	1 to be elected for the combined area of Petawawa, Deep River, Laurentian Hills, and Head, Clara and Maria. <i>Nomination Papers filed with Town of Petawawa Clerk.</i>	\$100.00
Conseiller (ère), Conseil des écoles publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario	Un (1) élu pour le secteur 1 qui comprend les comtés de Lanark et de Renfrew et le canton de South Algonquin. <i>Nomination Papers filed with Town of Petawawa Clerk.</i>	\$100.00
Conseiller (ère), Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-Est	Un (1) élu pour le secteur 3 qui comprend le comté de Renfrew et le canton de South Algonquin. <i>Nomination Papers filed with Town of Petawawa Clerk.</i>	\$100.00

Candidate Nominations:

Candidate Nominations for the offices shown above may be made by completing the prescribed Nomination Form (FORM 1), and filing the same in person in the office of the Town of Deep River Municipal Clerk, accompanied by the filing fee payable by cash, debit, certified cheque or money order, and proof of identity. The Nomination period for Candidates is:

Friday, May 1 through Thursday, August 20, 2026 - 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, and on Friday, August 21, 2026 (Nomination Day) between 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM.

The new term of Council will begin on November 15, 2026, with the Inaugural Meeting of Council taking place on November 25, 2026. This new term of Council will end on November 14, 2030.

Eligibility Criteria to Run for Municipal Office:

- A Canadian Citizen.
- At least 18 years of age at the time of filing nomination papers.
- Someone who resides in, or is the owner or tenant of land in the Town of Deep River, or the spouse of such owner or tenant.
- Not prohibited from voting under any law or legislation.

Interested Candidates may pick up Candidate Information Packages during regular business hours, at the Clerk’s Office, beginning May 1, 2026.

Campaigning:

Before incurring any expenses or collecting any money, Candidates must file a Nomination Form along with the prescribed filing fee. Nominations must be signed / filed in person or by an agent with the Town Clerk.

This is outlined in Section 88.20(1)-(2) of the [Municipal Elections Act](#), which states that no campaign expenses may be incurred until a person is officially nominated. More regulations on Municipal Elections can also be found in [O. Reg 101 / 97](#).

Jackie Mellon, Clerk / Returning Officer, Town of Deep River

IMPAIRED DRIVING

On Monday, April 12, members of the Deep River Police Service conducted a RIDE (Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere) program within the town of Deep River as part of ongoing efforts to ensure road safety and reduce impaired driving.

Police say that as a result of this initiative, one Deep River resident has been charged with: Adult operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus).

The accused was released on an undertaking and is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice at a later date.

The name of the accused was not released.

OPINION

NORTH RENFREW TIMES

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High-speed rail just an expensive fairy tale

BY GAGE HAUBRICH

Seven stops. Not complete until 2043. And a bill of up to \$90 billion. That's Ottawa's plan for high-speed rail between Toronto and Quebec City.

Former prime minister Justin Trudeau announced in early 2025 that "Canada is getting high-speed rail." But the government's numbers aren't adding up.

The government claims the project will create up to 51,000 jobs during its construction and boost Canadian GDP by up to \$35 billion annually. The project will only become profitable after \$53 billion in subsidies and 44 years of operation, according to research from McGill University. That \$53 billion is close to how much Ottawa takes from taxpayers through the GST in a year. That's a money pit, not an investment.

And those jobs come with a massive price tag. Each of the 51,000 jobs costs about \$1.7 million and many of them won't be around after construction ends.

A \$35-billion annual increase in GDP amounts to about a two per cent GDP increase in Ontario and Quebec. That's about those province's projected combined GDP growth this year.

That means the government is saying that this train would essentially double the GDP growth of Ontario and Quebec this year if it was completed. From seven stops.

If anyone in Ottawa seriously believes that, there's ocean front property in Regina they might want to take a look at.

Only one out of three people surveyed in the area said they would take the train more than once per year. That's not enough riders to justify the cost.

And then there's the land issue. High-speed trains need straight tracks. That means the government is going to cut roads in half and take land from people who don't want to sell. "If people are reluctant, there is of course some recourse with the expropriation process that could happen," said Martin Imbleau, CEO of Alto, the crown corporation in charge of the project. "A train that runs at 320 km/h cannot have curves. It has to be very, very straight, so of course we'll need to buy a significant portion of land, and compensation will be a big issue."

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



High water on Kennedy Creek (ladder bridge on the main loop of the Four Seasons snowshoe trails)

Photo: Susan Butler

WATERSHED WAYS

A hopeful message for Earth Day

BY LYNN JONES

On Earth Day 2026, lest we all get depressed by the overabundance of bad news swamping the airwaves lately, here is a hopeful message to consider:

A stable climate on Planet Earth is largely maintained by living beings. Healthy soils, mature forests, diverse plants, animals, fungi and microbes, all work together to cycle water and heat around the planet in ways that support life.

If we nurture these lifeforms, they can and will repair the Earth's climate for us.

There are many ways that living beings maintain a stable climate on Earth. Here are just a few examples:

- Plants and trees are natural air conditioners. Using solar energy they pull water from deep soil and release it through their leaves as water vapour, cooling the land surface in the process.

In this way they send a lot of the incoming heat from the sun back up into the atmosphere where some of it escapes to outer space.

- Mature forests and plants bring rain and maintain small water cycles. The water vapour sent skyward by forests and wetlands condenses and falls as rain, nurturing life and replenishing soil moisture and underground aquifers.

Large, natural forests suck in moist air from the ocean, effectively watering the interior of continents and regulating Earth's climate.

- Healthy soils hold water in the landscape longer and provide it to growing plants during dry periods, enabling them to grow and transpire water vapour.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



Roommates to the moon and back

BY HAZEL ATKINS,
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The four astronauts who flew in the recent Artemis II mission around the moon each invited a number of special guests to attend the launch.

Two of them, Reid Wiseman (mission commander) and Ontario-raised Jeremy Hansen, invited their old college roommates, plus a guest of their choice, to the event.

Jeremy Hansen's roommate, long-time friend, co-conspirator in mischief, and special guest at the launch, hails from Deep River. His plus-one still lives here.

Trevor Judd (former roommate of Hansen at the Royal Military College of Canada), and his dad Ross were avid and amazed observers of the launch from a special viewing area on that beautiful, clear day.

In 1995, Trevor Judd met Jeremy Hansen at RMC. They graduated together.

Prior to starting at RMC, Trevor had passed a week-long assessment program for pilot training. Hansen was not actually originally slated for pilot training when he entered RMC.

At age five, Hansen had been taken to an air show and he fell in love with it, but until he met Trevor he somehow did not have the

confidence to apply for pilot training.

Since Trevor had so recently passed pilot training assessment, he recognized a similar set of characteristics and skills in his new roommate, so he encouraged Hansen to try for it too.

"Trevor recognized in Jeremy his smarts – he had studied physics. He had done training as an air cadet and he knew that he loved flying, but somehow at that stage of his life he didn't have the confidence to fulfill his dream," explained Carole Judd, Ross's wife and Trevor's mom.

"Jeremy and Trevor really clicked," said Carole. "In the rookie phase at RMC, you're not allowed to have phones. Trevor and Jeremy managed to get hold of a cell phone and hide it, thereby allowing them to keep in touch with their off-campus girlfriends."

This was probably only one of the ways the two friends got into mischief together.

Talked into it by Trevor, Hansen switched from army training to pilot training. In 2009, Hansen first entered the astronaut training program.

Also in 2009, when Trevor was attached to the US Marines, he was in charge of the group responsible for air security for one of the shuttle launches to the International Space Station.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

8-10:30 am, Coffee Club, Chalk River Lions Hall

11:30 - 12:30 pm, St Andrew's United Church Soup & Sandwich luncheon, Chalk River Lions Hall

1 pm, GriefShare support group meets, Real Hope Christian Assembly, Hwy 17 Deep River (until June 17)

1:15 pm, Social Bridge, Deep River Library

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

10 am, Seniors Friendship Club: Coffee, Tea and Conversation, Deep River Library

12:45 pm, Duplicate Bridge Club meets, Deep River Library program room

5-8 pm, Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale, Deep River Library program room

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

10 am - 5:30 pm, Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale, Deep River Library program room

4:30 & 6 pm, Chalk River Lions Quarter Chicken Dinner, two sittings, CR Lions Hall (call 613-401-4546)

6 pm, Fun Darts, all welcome, Chalk River Legion

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

10 am - 12 pm, Friends of the Library Spring Book Sale, Deep River Library program room

7:30 pm, THEOP presents "Oktopus" Klezmer band, Childs Auditorium, Mackenzie Community School

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

10 am, Community Cleanup, sponsored by the Rotary Club and Kristin Hawley Exit Realty, Deep River town hall

11 am - 3 pm, Shuffleboard, all welcome, Chalk River Legion

1 pm, Chalk River Lions Bingo, \$400 jackpot, doors open at 12 pm, CR Lions Hall

2-5 pm, Acoustic open mic, DR Legion

MONDAY, APRIL 27

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)

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, APRIL 28

10:30 am, Storytime, Deep River Library

1 pm, 49ers meet, Deep River Legion

4 pm, After School Chess (ages 8+), Deep River Library

To submit your event, email nrt@northrenfrewtimes.ca

Roommates to the moon

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

In 2019, Hansen was selected to be part of the Artemis program, and two years ago he was chosen to be one of the four astronauts to fly the mission.

Ross, who prior to being invited as Trevor's plus-one, knew only generally about the Artemis (mostly because Trevor kept him informed) is now able to talk about it not only with enthusiasm but also with deeper insight due to his recent experience in Florida.

"The first day was just getting oriented, being given our badges and information packages," he said.

"The second day was the wave-off," Ross said. "The astronauts had come directly from Houston 48 hours before the launch, and they were in quarantine with their families.

"For the wave-off, all the invited guests stood on one side of a line, and all the astronauts and their families stood on the other."

After that, the invited guests were given a detailed tour of the NASA facility as well as a close up of the launch area. In the afternoon, they attended a reception hosted by the Canadian Space Agency.

"A number of different dignitaries were there: the head of the Canadian Space Agency, and former astronauts," he said.

"That was particularly interesting because it gave a sense that this was a very special collection of people."

Ross was particularly interested in speaking to someone about the psychological and physical ramifications of being in space.

PERFECT VIEW

The next day was the launch.

"We went to a viewing area about 3 km from the launch site. We had a perfect view," said Ross.

"The rocket took off. It's amazing — the rocket is about 320 feet long, and once it was airborne the flame out the back was twice as long as the rocket.

"We were positioned right opposite the launch site, so when the rocket turned to go into space, the engines were blasting right back at us and we

could feel the thrust. I thought, 'Wow!'"

"I experienced it from here (in Deep River) with all the texts flowing back and forth, and all the pictures!" said Carole.

"We could see the separation of the booster rockets," Ross went on.

"Once we knew they were in orbit, that's step one. The next thing was 24 hours later: the separation and the direction of the Orion space capsule and the service module towards the moon.

"That's a critical time because they have the opportunity if things are not working properly to return to earth. If everything's fine, they head off."

At the last minute, one day prior, the Judds' second son Kevin, who had also known Hansen at RMC, decided suddenly to fly himself and his three kids to Florida to attend the launch.

SPECIAL PERSON

Ross and Trevor were surprised, therefore, to receive news that they were also there, watching from a different vantage point.

"It was quite the reunion for our family!" Ross said.

The next day, the families of the astronauts held a reception.

"We had an opportunity to speak to Hansen's parents and wife," Ross said.

"I can't tell you how many people down there, talking about him, recognize that he's a very special person," said Ross.

"He has some special interpersonal skills. He's very humble."

"He's very spiritually grounded," added Carole. "He was raised in a Christian family in Southern Ontario."

Each astronaut commissioned a special patch to represent who they are and what space travel means to them. Hansen, who had spent time with the Indigenous people of Canada, realized that their values align with his own.

He therefore commissioned an Anishinaabe artist to design his patch with seven animals representing the seven sacred laws around the edges.

The closest Ross got to meeting Hansen was the wave-off and the family reception, but through Trevor's stories and talking with others Ross is convinced that Hansen possesses a set of special and unusual characteristics and aptitudes, ones which Trevor clearly recognized all those years ago as his roommate.



"Deep River boys" at the Artemis launch: Steven Champ, Kevin, Trevor and Ross Judd

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY: SCHOOL BOARD TO CUT MORE STAFF

75 YEARS AGO

APRIL 20, 1951: Gardening season is fast approaching. It is quite evident from past experience that considerable damage to garden plots can be avoided with the cooperation from the dog owners of the village. For this reason you are requested to tie up or by some means confine your dogs to your home areas during daylight hours. It has also been observed that bicycles are being operated in Deep River without lights. All owners are reminded that this practice is unlawful and the condition must be corrected forthwith.

APRIL 20, 1951: Bring your dollar and come to the "Spring Frolic" this Friday night at the Deep River Legion Hall. Just one dollar cash admits a couple to this big party. Postage stamps and rubber checks cannot be accepted. Members of the Legion, the Women's Auxiliary and their escorts are welcome. Nothing has been overlooked to make this the dance of the season.

60 YEARS AGO

APRIL 20, 1966: More than 300 Deep Riverites attended a reception at the Curling Club on Saturday afternoon to commemorate the 50th wedding anniversary of two of the town's most popular citizens. Mr and Mrs WJ Greenway, "Bill and Lil" to their many friends, were married on April 17, 1916 in Ottawa and have lived in Deep River since 1947 when he came to serve as Treasury Officer at Atomic Energy of Canada Limited. A letter was also received from Dr and Mrs David A Keys extending their congratulations and good wishes on the golden anniversary.

APRIL 20, 1966: Eight fire wardens have been appointed for the current year in Head, Clara, Maria: Percy Clouthier, Art Yates, Elmer Donnelly, Ernie Boudreau, SM Wilson, Walter Kums, George Pichette and Garnet Bole. The municipal hand fire fighting equipment will be stored in Deux Rivières and Bissett. None will be stored in Stonecliffe since the Lands and Forests station there will continue to invoice the townships for fire fighting as in the past.



MARATHON MAN: Mike Beale of Deep River fulfilled a longtime dream by taking part in the prestigious Boston Marathon. (NRT April 26, 2006)

nounced last week that it is seeking a partnership agreement to maintain operations at the park located between Mackey and Stonecliffe. The regional superintendent of parks in the Mattawa-Pembroke corridor said Driftwood will open this season even if a partner is not found. But John Dreschler also told the NRT there are no assurances that would be the case next year.

APRIL 24, 1996: Mackenzie High School's "Team Chatoorgoon" was triumphant again at the Eastern Ontario badminton championships last Wednesday. Kavi Chatoorgoon, after coming second in his pool, lost in the semifinals to Barry Bennet, the eventual winner. Rani Chatoorgoon, who had placed second in the championship in previous years, finished first in her pool before continuing on to win the title.

20 YEARS AGO

50 YEARS AGO

APRIL 21, 1976: Continuing its efforts to reduce operating costs, the Renfrew County Board of Education approved motions at a meeting last Wednesday to reduce more staff for the 1976-77 school year. Affected employees include caretaking personnel and zone supervisors. A total of 16.5 positions will be made vacant through layoffs of members of Canadian Union of Public Employees 1321.

APRIL 21, 1976: Bob Cox, a teacher at Mackenzie High School, will once again represent the New Democrats in the next provincial election. His nomination was unopposed at last week's NDP convention. The move makes it highly probable that the next election will be a rerun of the last, with Bob Cotnam representing the PCs, Cox the New Democrats, and incumbent Sean Conway the Liberals.

40 YEARS AGO

APRIL 23, 1986: Deep River students

had a highly successful weekend of science, taking 10 first place finishes in 16 categories at the sixth annual Renfrew County Regional Science Fair at the Pembroke Armoury. Three projects were selected to go to the Canada Wide Science Fair at the University of Calgary, May 10-18. The winners were all from Deep River: Sarah Ahmad, Carl Svensson, and Chris Gallagher.

APRIL 23, 1986: There were two new faces at the table with council of Rolph, Buchanan, Wylie & McKay sat down to do business last week. Reeve Clare Dagg welcomed new Councillors Jenny Forster and Robert Wiley, who were appointed after the resignation of two members elected last November - Deputy Reeve Riley Bird and Councillor Russell Bonora. Veteran Councillor Paul Bertrand now holds the deputy reeve position.

30 YEARS AGO

APRIL 24, 1996: The future of Driftwood Park is once again in doubt. The Ministry of Natural Resources an-

APRIL 26, 2006: Finishing a race in 7,865th spot normally garners few accolades. But when there's 22,500 people in the field, all of a sudden that doesn't seem like such a bad way to finish up after all. Add in the fact that the event is the prestigious Boston Marathon, and the achievement begins to take on a whole new meaning entirely. Mike Beale, a Deep River resident, accomplished just that feat when he took part in this year's staging of the 110th running of the annual Boston Marathon on Easter Monday, April 17. He managed to complete the entire 42 km race and finished with a time of 3:36:57.

APRIL 26, 2006: A young soldier based at CFB Petawawa was one of four Canadian troops killed Saturday in Afghanistan. Corporal Matthew Dinning, 23, a member of the 2 Canadian Mechanized Brigade Group at Petawawa, and three other soldiers were killed when their vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device near Gumbad, approximately 75 km north of Kandahar.

Water, sewer systems meet standards

BY VANCE GUTZMAN

Deep River's water and wastewater treatment plants remain in compliance with provincial standards.

That was the good news delivered to town council recently by the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA), which operate those two facilities and related infrastructure on behalf of the municipality.

Jimmie Mohns, OCWA's senior operations manager, presented annual reports on both, beginning with the water treatment plant.

Although no non-compliance issues were found by the Ministry of Environment, an external quality and environmental management audit found nine "opportunities for improvement" of "minor things," according to Mohns.

"They always pick something," he said.

The annual reports also shows there were just two incidents where trihalomethane (THMs) levels exceeded provincial standards just twice in 2025, compared to three times the year before.

THMs occur when chlorine reacts with organic

matter in water. At elevated levels they have been associated with negative health effects, including posing a risk in the development of cancer.

The town has been working to secure a remedy for the THM problem for some time and, four years ago, secured a grant through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), with total project funding of \$3.5 million.

"We're seeing changes, and with even more changes this summer it will get even better," Mohns told council.

WATER COMPLAINTS

Some not so good news contained in the report shows there were 12 watermain breaks throughout town in 2025, with council learning there have already been pretty well the same amount already here in 2026.

The better news is there were just two community complaints last year dealing with discoloured water.

The town in recent years launched an ambitious watermain relining project aimed at dealing with dis-

coloured water issues.

"I'm very glad to see that, because I'm pretty sure that, several years ago, that was in double digits," remarked Councillor Terry Myers.

"That's pretty amazing, there were only two complaints."

CAPACITY

Mayor Sue D'Eon, meanwhile, was happy to see the report showing that average daily flows at the water treatment plant were at just 21 percent of what it was designed to handle, while the maximum flow clocked in at 37 percent of what it's rated for.

"So in Deep River we have a huge water capacity available," the mayor said.

The mayor said much the same about the report on the town's wastewater treatment plant, showing average daily flows last year at 64 percent of its rated capacity.

"To have that capacity is a good thing," D'Eon said, noting it wasn't that long ago the plant was operating close to its limit.

High-speed rail

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

And other similar projects are known for coming in severely over budget and behind schedule. The California High Speed Rail project was projected to cost \$46 billion in 2008. Now almost two decades later the cost has ballooned to \$174 billion and not a single piece of track has been laid.

The United Kingdom's high-speed rail line called HS2 was projected to cost \$59 billion in 2011. The latest numbers show the budget is more than \$148 billion. And it won't open for almost another 10 years.

The same story has played out here at home. The Ontario government announced it would build a light rail line across Toronto, the Ontario Line, for \$10.9 billion. But costs ballooned to \$27.2 billion before a single track was laid.

Expecting the federal government to buck the trend and build the Alto line within budget is laughable.

The federal government has a bad track record when it comes to managing projects. It wasted \$60 million on a broken ArriveCan app that was supposed to cost \$80,000. Now it wants to manage a \$90-billion rail project?

It's a project that taxpayers can't afford. The federal government is borrowing about \$78 billion this year. The federal debt will reach \$1.35 trillion by the end of the 2025-26 fiscal year. Debt interest payments are costing taxpayers \$55.6 billion this year. That's more than the government collects through the GST. The government doesn't have enough spare cash to buy a model train set.

This high-speed rail project is going to be another boondoggle for taxpayers. Ottawa needs to cancel it before it leaves the station and save taxpayers billions of dollars.

(Gage Haubrich is the Prairie director of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation.)

Earth Day

By holding water in the landscape healthy soils reduce both flooding and droughts, and reduce the likelihood of forest fires.

- Fungi and fungal networks act like a hidden "sponge and plumbing" system beneath the soil surface. They help soil drink in rain, and store moisture.

The stored moisture can then be transpired by plants to cool the local area and contribute to clouds and precipitation locally.

- Bacteria, sent skyward from forests, and from the ocean, serve as cloud condensation nuclei. They enable clouds to form and rain to fall down and cycle around more locally.

When condensation nuclei are in short supply, huge quantities of moisture accumulate in the atmosphere leading to extreme rainfall events and flooding.

- Animals such as groundhogs and beavers increase water in the landscape by digging holes for water infiltration and expanding wetlands thereby contributing to water holding, local water cycles and cooling from evapotranspiration.

Other animals fertilize the soil and increase its capacity to hold water.

Unfortunately humans have been rapidly replacing living surfaces with inert, man made objects like concrete, asphalt, bricks,

metal and plastic, also known as "antropogenic mass."

According to a paper in the scientific journal, Nature, antropogenic mass has recently outstripped the mass of all living things on Earth and is continuing to grow rapidly.

This replacement of climate-regulating lifeforms with inert, human-made objects, is destabilizing our climate.

Experts say water cycles are broken, soil moisture is declining rapidly, cloud cover is shrinking and groundwater is depleted. Burning of fossil fuels adds insult to injury by injecting large quantities of heat-trapping gases like CO2 into our atmosphere.

These are serious problems but they can be reversed using strategies that are known and in use currently.

We can take inspiration from the many people around the world who are demonstrating that water cycles can be restored, rain can be brought back to dry watersheds, the soil carbon sponge can be regenerated, groundwater can be recharged, and mature forests can be protected and expanded.

On Earth Day this year, let's affirm the wonderful ways that Earth's life forms take care of us, if we let them.

Let's commit to protecting and enhancing the climate-stabilizing roles of plants, animals, forests, wetlands, and healthy soils.

Lynn Jones is a founding member of the Ottawa River Institute, a non-profit, charitable organization based in the Ottawa Valley.



Deep River's new book store, Saturday Morning Books & Analog, held a busy opening weekend last Friday to Sunday. Among the many titles owner Salina Vanderhorn (left) is keeping on her shelves is a selection of books by local authors like Tracy Kasaboski (right). Kasaboski recently held a book launch for her latest work, "The Birdman of Wylie Road." The opening weekend was so successful, Vanderhorn closed Tuesday until the shelves could be restocked. Regular hours begin Wednesday.

Photo: Terry Myers

WANTED INDIVIDUAL

Officers with the Upper Ottawa Valley (UOV) Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Offender Management and Apprehension Program (OMAP) recently arrested an individual wanted for breach of probation offences since October 2025.

The individual was on probation in relation to a prior Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) incident.

Police say on Wednesday, April 15, UOV OPP OMAP officers, with assistance from the Emergency Response

Team (ERT), Canine Unit, and the Renfrew County Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) executed an arrest warrant at a residence in Laurentian Valley township.

A 32-year-old was taken into custody without incident and charged with five counts of failure to comply with a probation order.

The accused was released and will appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Pembroke on a future date.

Due to the IPV component of this investigation, the name of the accused is being withheld to protect the identity of the victim.

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New Rotary partner for Sunday cleanup

At the last Rotary meeting at the Bear's Den, members were joined by Kristin Hawley to hear about her plan for a joint partnership for this year's Community Cleanup, on Sunday, April 26.

Kristin had reached out to Rotary with her partnership offer because the local Rotary group has traditionally organized the annual event, scheduled shortly after the snow has gone.

As a draw to residents and families participating, Kristin is providing free hot dogs and various prizes and giveaways for kids.

Club members were pleased that Kristin, a busy local real-estate agent, offered to provide most of the things needed for the cleanup.

These include gloves and bags, advertising, agreement from the town to remove all the collected bags of garbage and recyclables, and have the town hall foyer and toilets open.

Anyone can join in to pick up litter from their own streets, as well as the downtown area, around schools, green spaces and waterways, and particularly along the highway.

The community cleanup starts at 10 am Sunday morning in the town hall parking lot, where bags and gloves will be available. The food and giveaways will be offered at 12 noon.

The weather for picking up litter this Sunday promises to be good but, if needed, a rain date is the following Sunday, May 3.

Bright yellow safety vests will be available for anyone picking up litter from the edges of the busy highway, to alert drivers who are not used to seeing people along there.

Last year, 40 bags of litter and recyclables were collected. Let's see how many we can get this year!

Community Foundation celebrates lasting legacy of Bob French

Robert (Bob) French, one of the good ones, is gone. And he will be missed.

Bob was a community supporter and his sense of community was both local and global.

His global work with Rotary International will be immortalized elsewhere. But this note looks at his many contributions to the Deep River and District Community Foundation (the Foundation).

Bob joined the Foundation as a director in 2005 and served on the board until 2013, as board chair for three of those years.

By his second meeting he was already involved in growing the funds under management.

Starting from almost nothing, Bob worked hard for the Foundation to grow both the assets and the granting.

By the time his term had expired the Foundation had grown from 14 funds (holding \$214,000) to 25 funds holding \$720,000.

Even with those modest beginnings, the Foundation was still able to disburse over

\$83,000 to local charities.

The firm footing created by Bob and the other early directors and founders set the Foundation up for its continued success.

The Foundation now holds 28 funds with over \$2 million and total disbursements to date of over \$900,000.

Bob continued his interest in the Foundation and was a constant presence at the AGMs. We are sure that he took some well deserved pride in what the Foundation had become and the good that it did for the community.

Bob was a visionary, always looking for the big, or bigger, picture. He was a man of boundless enthusiasm and had a knack for infecting his fellow directors with much of it.

But recently the whispers of mortality grew louder so Bob looked to see what else he could leave to his community.

And this was about the time that there was a growing movement among the community foundations for something called the "Resilient Community."

With climate change has come the increasing threat from wind, fire and rain. And communities across this country have been affected.

So the idea has grown that communities should prepare to look after themselves, at least in the immediate aftermath of such emergencies.

So Bob and his like minded friends, John Hilborn and Elisabeth Van Wagner, approached their community foundation and started to talk.

It started with a chat on a front porch. And then the idea grew. Before long it had a name, the Community Emergency Fund. Several long meetings were held with the potential donors. Their wishes were incorporated into an agreement.

Money began to flow and the Community Emergency Fund now holds more than \$165,000 in capital. This was Bob's final contribution to his local community.

To repeat - he will be missed but also dearly remembered.



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DRSO to feature Classical, Romantic masterpieces

Masterpieces from the Classical and Romantic period close out the DRSO season at their Saturday, May 9 final concert. The program includes Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Symphony No. 40 in G minor, written in 1788 when he was 32 years old.

It is one of his most celebrated and widely performed works from the Classical period and been described as dramatic, stormy and passionate.

Violinist Adam Nelson will be featured as guest soloist in Felix Mendelssohn's Romantic period Violin Concerto in E minor, one of the most highly regarded and frequently performed concertos in the repertoire.

Completed in 1844 after working on it off and on for over six years, it was an

immediate success.

It is described as lyrical and vibrant with elements of dazzling virtuosity, and unusual for a concerto, the three movements are linked without pause.

Adam, based in Ottawa, was previously featured as guest soloist with the DRSO in a 2022 performance of Saint-Saëns Violin Concerto No. 3.

The orchestra will also perform Schubert's Rosamunde Overture.

The May 9 concert starts at 7:30 pm in Childs Auditorium at Mackenzie Community School. Advance tickets are available by calling Anne at 613-584-3737 or email drsoemail@gmail.com.

Tickets are also available at the door, cash only.

Visit drso.ca for more information.



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Students from St. Anthony's School kindergarten class were showing their entrepreneurial spirit at the Chalk River & Area Lions Spring Vendor and Craft Show recently. The students were selling sheep and bunny crafts and brightly coloured chicken pictures, all made by the students themselves, to raise funds to be put back into their classroom. In the photo are Crystal Pitre and Joanne Pellerin, in front students Olivia Davila Sullivan and Lucas Surette.

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Board welcomes student trustees

The Renfrew County District School Board (RCDSB) has announced the election of Grade 10 student Jack Couper as student trustee.

He joins returning student trustee Bronwynn Dick and Indigenous trustee Emma Grant (right) to represent the student voice on the board.

Jack, a Grade 10 student at Arnprior District High School, was elected by representatives of the student senate from seven high schools during the senate's April 9 meeting at the board office.

"We are excited to welcome these exceptional young leaders to the board table," said Leo Boland, chairperson.

"Their diverse experiences, ranging from community service to academic advocacy, ensure that our decision-making process remains rooted in the needs and aspirations of the students we serve."



Emma Grant joins the board as Indigenous student trustee, bringing a strong perspective on representation and academic excellence.

A Grade 9 student at Mackenzie Community School, Emma is an accomplished student athlete and

community volunteer who completed over 100 volunteer hours before entering Grade 10.

A recipient of the Staff Award for her dedication and positive attitude, Emma is committed to promoting Indigenous voices and serves as a motivated role model for her peers across the district.

Bronwynn Dick, a Grade 11 student entering Grade 12 next year at Opeongo High School, has been a staple of student leadership since Grade 9. She recently worked with school board staff on improving the promotion of

RCDSB's Student Support Fund.

The RCDSB also extended its gratitude to outgoing student trustee Sydney Dougherty, a graduating student planning to pursue Political Science (Major) and Media & Cinema (Minor) at the University of Guelph.

Seniors Friendship Club



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

- No Walk in the Woods: The trails in the woods are too messy now so we thought we could do a walk at the waterfront but the river is so high the pathways are flooded in places.
- Thursday morning Coffee and Conversation will be at the Deep River Library at 10 am on April 23.
- Community Kitchens Free Breakfast at the CEC on Saturday, April 25 from 8 to 10 am. Donations accepted. Please check attached poster which also lists future dates.
- The Chicken Pottery workshop second session is on Tuesday, April 28.
- Roast Beef Dinner & DJ Dance

Saturday, May 2, Deep River Legion. Registration closed April 15. Limited capacity. Doors open at 5 pm, dinner at 6 pm. Spot dance prizes.

GUIDED BREATHING

- Guided Functional Breathing: Tuesday, May 5 at 10 am.
Join us at the Deep River Library in the program room. This one-hour guided session led by Priscilla offers experiential practices and techniques that aim to enhance your overall well-being, with practical applications that you can implement in your daily activities to strengthen independence and reduce stress.
You will learn tools that help slow your breath, support jaw and tongue positioning, and guided breath sequences that help restore functional rhythm to the respiratory and pelvic diaphragms.

Experience the many benefits of functional diaphragmatic breathing with practices that help expand lung capacity and improve breath control; boost immunity and aid digestion; strengthen heart rate variability and stamina; encourage circulation and pelvic floor health; and promote vitality, deep relaxation and sleep quality.
Welcoming and inviting. No experience necessary. Practiced from seated on a chair. All are welcome, there is no cost to attend. Please register by contacting 23uovsfc55@gmail.com.

STAINED GLASS

- May 12 at 9 am, Framed Stained Glass Picture Workshop. Join us in the Deep River Library program room for a stained glass workshop led by Patricia Juby. There is space for 12 people. There is a charge to cover cost of supplies and a choice of three patterns.

Please pay by etransfer to 23uovsfc55@gmail.com or by cash or cheque in the drop box in the Deep River town hall before May 5.

BALLROOM DANCING

- Ballroom Dancing with Mac and Elizabeth: More ballroom dancing with Mac and Elizabeth on May 19 and 26 at 9 am at the DR Library program room. Please register with 23uovsfc55@gmail.com if you wish to join in the fun. No cost.
- Sing-along with Gordon and friends Saturday, May 23 at 7 pm at the Deep River Legion. Everyone welcome. Pay at the door.
- The Upper Ottawa Valley Seniors Friendship Club is open to all adults living in the area from Chalk River to Deux Rivieres.
Website seniorsfriendshipclub.ca, Facebook www.facebook.com/sfc.uov.



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.

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

cross word

answers use American spelling

ACROSS

- Boat personnel
- Treaty
- Move back and forth
- Volcano output
- Like suntan lotion
- Age of note
- Again
- Sprinkles
- Seed
- Mermaid's home
- Word before park or song
- Radiance
- Auto repairman
- Fizz water
- Skating-rink surface
- Discard
- Obtained
- Females
- Chopper field
- Just fair: hyph.
- Lazy person
- "_____ the King's Men"
- Fiend
- Begs
- BLT spread
- Title for Galahad
- Make corrections to
- Agenda
- Watch secretly
- Spicy
- Decade numbers


1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11		
12					13					14				
15					16					17				
18								19						
				20	21	22	23			24	25	26	27	
28	29	30								31				
32					33				34		35			
36				37						38				
40							41							
					42	43					44	45	46	47
48	49	50					51	52			53			
54						55					56			
57							58					59		

DOWN

- Obstruct
- Rant
- Eternally
- Affection
- School of whales
- Diver's necessity
- Narrow escape: 2 wds.
- Variety
- Itty-bitty
- Painter's work
- Pump purchase
- Falls behind
- Owns
- Tortilla dish
- Bogged down
- NBC's peacock, e.g.
- Skunk feature
- Light-bulb word
- Fail to hit
- Mountain feedback
- Third letters
- Dessert item
- Skyrocket
- Punctual
- Evil look
- Storm wind
- Baseball's Nolan _____
- Vast time periods
- Dangerous curve
- Small bite
- Take a stab at
- Muscle spasm
- Boar's home

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FIVE FULL TABLES

Five full Duplicate Bridge tables played a Howell Movement last Thursday with the following teams earning Masterpoints:

1. Geoff Edwards and Rosemary Nishimura, 65.63%
2. Ian Towner and Sandy Towner, 60.42%
3. Pravin Shah and Bruce Walker, 58.33%
4. Doug Barnard and Candy Bishop, 53.65%
5. Mark Selander and Margaret MacPherson, 53.13%

UNBLOCKING

Defence in bridge is harder than declarer play, because each defender cannot see half of their assets, writes



director Geoff Edwards.

Defenders have to visualize declarer's hand from the bidding and play, signal their holdings to their partner by their choice of cards played, and come up with a strategy to beat the contract - often in the first one or two cards played.

Board 2 is an example of the concept of "unblocking". After East passes and South opens 1NT, North should probably just raise directly to three. They are a bit short of the high card requirement, but Aces and long suits are worth a lot.

Against 3NT, West will do well if they follow the usual advice (fourth highest of the longest and strongest suit) and lead the 9s. East puts up the Ks, which wins, and by defensive convention returns their original fourth best card, in this

case the 4s.

The spotlight now shifts to West. After declarer follows to the first two tricks with the 5s and 7s, West notes that the 3s has not yet appeared. If East has it (and why would declarer conceal it?) they may have a five card spade suit.

If declarer has only three spades, it cannot cost West to win the 2nd and 3rd tricks with the As and Qs, "unblocking" the suit.

In this hand, this plan reaps a maximum reward, when East can capture the fourth round of spades with the Js and cash their fifth spade for the setting trick.

If West wins the 2nd spade with a 'thrifty' 10s, or if East plays back the 'helpful' Js at trick 2, the spade suit becomes "blocked," the fifth spade is never cashed, and declarer scampers home with nine tricks.

This afternoon, only two out of five pairs played in NT. The results were

Dir: E	2
Vul: N-S	
♠ 2	
♥ A92	
♦ A108742	
♣ J108	
♠ AQ109	♣ KJ643
♥ J875	♥ 643
♦ 3	♦ Q6
♣ 9652	♣ K73
9	♠ 875
7 9	♥ KQ10
15	♦ KJ95
	♣ AQ4

(N/S score, N/S matchpoints):

- 3NT S = (+600, 4)
- 2D S +4 (+170, 3)
- 3D N +2 (+150, 1)
- 2N S +1 (+150, 1)
- 3S E -3 (+150, 1)

MORNING HOURS

• Don't want to go out in the evening? Don't want to hang with the after-school crowd? The Chalk River branch now has additional open hours on Mondays at 10 am -1 pm for those who want some quiet browsing time earlier in the day!

• 2026 Knitting Group at Point Alexander branch will continue through May: every other Thursday afternoon at 1:30 pm (April 30, May 14 & 28) to make dish cloths, baby hats, small baby blankets or work on your project of choice. Beginners and experienced knitters welcome!

• Preschool Playtime at Point Alexander Library – toys, games, stories and crafts for 2-4 year olds is happening Tuesdays at 10:30 am, April 7 to May 26.

BOOK CLUB

• The next Book Club meeting at Point Alexander branch will be Monday, May 4 at 5 pm. We will be discussing our current books and picking new ones. New members welcome.

• The first Ladies' Night at Point Alexander branch on April 15 was a success! See photos on the Facebook page of the lovely ladies who worked hard to build two lego flower bouquets to decorate the library.

• Note: Afternoon Games at Point Alexander will take a break for the spring/summer and resume in the fall.

• Look for Laurentian Hills Library on Facebook and follow library.laurentianhills.ca on Instagram.

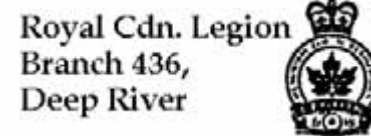
LAURENTIAN HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

YOUTH THEATRE

We must be getting close to summer. Fairly quiet week this week.

• River Run youth theatre is starting their practices this week; the show ("The Dream Master") is on Friday, May 8, doors open at 6:30 show starts at 7 pm.

• The next karaoke is on the April 30. May 12 we have buddy check. May 29 is the cabaret comedy



lot and of the grounds. There is a chance we will be having an auction this spring - keep watching for more information coming to the NRT.

• Fun Darts, Cornhole, Euchre and Open Mic are still ongoing.

show - must be 18 to attend.

• Cheese order form is starting to fill up - just a few more and we can send it off.

• We are starting to do spring cleaning of the parking



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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>.

GRASS CUTTING: A local resident is looking for someone who might be willing to lend a helping hand and cut their grass (small yard) this year. Perhaps an opportunity for some student volunteer hours? If you can help, please call 613-584-2973.

CANOE: A local resident is looking for a lightweight (less than 45 lbs) canoe, 15-16 ft long, presumably to borrow. If you can help, please call 343-548-3200.

DOILY: Does anyone have a round lace doily and some white linen material to lend or give? These would be for a spiritual event. For more information, or to help, please call 613-633-9988.

BINDERS: The same resident is looking for binders and desktop file sorters (trays). If you have some you don't need, they would be happy to have them. Please call 613-633-9988.



Highway 17 was closed following a two-vehicle collision just west of Thomas Street in Deep River Sunday morning. Police reported that all individuals involved in the crash were taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. Deep River and Ontario Provincial Police, Deep River firefighters and Renfrew County paramedics all responded to the scene. The highway was reopened shortly after 1:30 pm.

Photo: Vance Gutzman

DRDH BRIEFS

Board approves quality improvement plan

- The Deep River and District Health board received an education session in March from the organization’s Chief of Staff, Dr. Ben Amor, regarding physician privileging practices, processes and requirements.

The presentation highlighted governance responsibilities under the Public Hospitals Act, including oversight of the credentialing process, granting of privileges, and ongoing performance review of professional staff.

- The board approved the appointment of community members to the nominating committee for the 2025-26 board year, supporting recruitment efforts for upcoming board vacancies.

- Following committee approval, the board approved the organization’s 2026-27 Quality Improvement Plan, supporting ongoing focus on quality, safety, and patient experience.

Areas of focus in the plan include sector specific initiatives in long-term care, primary care and acute care, as well as organizational initiatives aimed to improve the patient and resident experience, as well as staff safety and experience across the organization.

- The board approved the extension and execution of the Hospital and

Long-Term Care Service Accountability Agreements (LSAA) with Ontario Health to March 31, 2027, and additionally approved the annual LSAA declaration of compliance confirming adherence to legislative and reporting requirements in long-term care home operations.

These agreements outline expectation of the organization in providing services as expected by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Long-Term Care and the direct oversight body, Ontario Health.

CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

- The board received updates on the primary care and long-term care capital development projects:

Final reconciliation of the primary care project costs is underway, with work continuing with external partners to complete Ministry reporting requirements.

- Construction of the long-term care development continues to progress on track, with interior framing and exterior siding underway. Utility coordination is ongoing, with Enbridge permit submissions in progress and pending municipi-

pal approval.

Planning for operational readiness and occupancy continue with an interdisciplinary internal team including leadership, subject matter experts.

Work underway and planned shortly includes furniture and equipment selection, development of move-in plans for future residents.

Engagement sessions with team members, residents, resident family members and patient representatives were held throughout March, focused on informing the LTC staffing plan.

Additional engagement sessions with staff, residents and families are being planned to inform recruitment planning over the coming year.

The first major milestone for the operations team will be development of the long-term care occupancy plan, required for submission to the Ministry of Long-Term Care by July 31, 2026.

HEALTH CAMPUS

- Phase one of the emergency department renovations continues, encompassing re-design of registration, expansion of the waiting room and flooring replacement for the waiting

room and hallways.

Temporary adjustments to patient flow, signage and location of registration are in place to maintain operations during construction. These are expected to be adjusted as the project moves towards the start of flooring replacement over the coming weeks.

- Planning is underway for a joint “Code White – Violent Person” mock exercise, in collaboration with the Deep River Police in early April. Education is planned as part of this exercise to build joint capabilities, communication and collaboration.

FAMILY HEALTH TEAM

- In partnership with ConnectWell, the launch of the Lung Health program has been successful, providing care for 18 new clients, with follow up closer to home for 13 since its launch in January. Currently wait times to see the respiratory therapist are less than four weeks.

- Ongoing challenges with plumbing continue within the new Family Health Team building as the existing line the building was tied to has a blockage.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE X

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SPORTS

Skating Club celebrates successful season

The Deep River Skating Club (DRSC) is proud to announce the conclusion of another exceptional season.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our skaters, families, and the wider community for their unwavering support, which was on full display during our recent year-end showcase.

Throughout the season, our athletes demonstrated remarkable perseverance and growth.

Beyond their local achievements, DRSC skaters represented our community with distinction at competitions in Kingston, Brockville, Renfrew and Kemptville.

Their hard work continues to be an inspiration to our coaching staff and volunteers alike.

Our programming is made possible through the tireless efforts of our volunteers and the generosity of the Deep River community.

In the spirit of mutual support, the club is pleased to announce a recent donation to North Renfrew Family Services (photo, right). It is an honour to give back to an organization that provides such vital support to our neighbours.

COMMUNITYVOTES RENFREW COUNTY

We are thrilled to share that the Deep River Skating Club has received its first-ever nomination in the CommunityVotes Renfrew County 2026 awards.

This nomination is a testament to the collective effort of our skaters, parents, and supporters.

We invite you to help us celebrate this milestone by casting your vote at the website renfrewcounty.com-communityvotes.com under the category: "Best Skating Clubs in Renfrew County."

GET INVOLVED

The strength of our club lies in its members. We encourage anyone interested in the future of local skating to attend our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on May 4 at 7 pm at the Deep River Curling Club.

Whether you are looking to volunteer or simply learn more about our programs, we welcome your voice and participation.

The Deep River Skating Club remains committed to fostering a love for skating and community spirit. We look forward to seeing you at the AGM!



OUTDOORS Bush travel bans questioned

BY WAYNE THOMPSON

For years, government forestry authorities have had the powers to post Crown land forest against public travel in times of extreme fire danger ratings. Now, the whole process has come under fire by hikers, anglers, hunters, campers, berry pickers and others who travel our back country.

Last summer, most provinces and territories experi-

enced one of the worst wildfire seasons in history. The province of Nova Scotia was no exception.

Citing the fact that over 50 percent of fires are caused by human carelessness, together with the extreme conditions expected to persist well into the fall, the province acted to close 80 percent of the province's back country to all public travel.

Public lands include all territory owned by the Crown in the right of the particular province. Such lands are open to most outdoor pursuits at any time of year.

Restrictions and associated travel bans are imposed to reduce the threat of wildfire in most cases, but can be initiated by request of authorities for such things as crime scene investigation, searches for fugitives or missing persons, and national security threats.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



The Pembroke Regional Hospital Foundation is gearing up for its annual “Heroes Run for Healthcare” Sunday, May 3. Sponsored by Canadian Nuclear Laboratories, the event includes a 2km superhero-themed kids run (for ages 12 & under) and a 5 km timed run through downtown Pembroke. Costumes are welcome. For more information or to register, visit www.heroesrun.ca.

Answer the call.

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LANDFILL SITE HOURS

Baggs Road: Open Tuesday 9am to 6pm, Wednesday to Saturday, 9am to 4pm, all waste except Construction & Demolition (C&D).

Millers Road: Tues-Sat 9am-12noon, C&D waste only. Info 613-401-0434 www.northrenfrew-landfill.com

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CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Celebration of Life for

Joanne Evraire

Saturday, May 9th
 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

The Hexagon, Deep River

To honour Joanne's vibrant spirit, guests are encouraged to wear colour in keeping with the celebratory tone.

DEATHS

BUCHANAN,

Janet Patricia "Tricia"

91, of Mequon, Wisconsin,

Beloved mother and grandmother, died on April 11, 2026. She was born on August 9, 1934, in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, to Dr. George Craig and Elfreda Elizabeth "Freda" Laurence.

Tricia grew up in Canada, living in Ottawa, Montreal, Deep River, Kingston, and Toronto before immigrating to Mequon, Wisconsin, with her husband, Stuart, and their children in 1966 due to Stuart's job. She was predeceased by her loving husband and lifelong sweetheart, Stuart Buchanan, who coincidentally also died on



April 11, in 2023. She was also predeceased by her parents, George and Freda; her sister Judith Laurence Jost; her son-in-law Don Wisdorf; her daughter-in-law, Zoë Buchanan; and her

grandson, Truman Pins.

She is survived by her daughters, J. Tara Wisdorf and Ali Buchanan; and her sons Craig (Cindy) Buchanan and Steven Buchanan. She is also survived by granddaughters, Lindsay Duzan (Joe), Andrea Pins (Justin), Beatrice Evans (Joe Boelsche), and Fiona Buchanan, and her grandson, Angus Buchanan.

She leaves behind four great-grandchildren: Mabel, Cedar, Everly, and Theodore. In addition, she is survived by nephews, George Jost (Feng) and Will Jost (Mary), and grand-nephews Peter and Alis-tair.

Tricia was a voracious reader, quilter, gardener and bridge player. She was very active in the St. Boniface Episcopal church where her memorial service is being held. She was an avid golfer, bowler, and downhill skier. Tricia lived in her Mequon home for most of her life, except for three years spent living in Tokyo.

Tricia and Stu summered in their Deep River, Ontario home on the Ottawa River, the town where they first met and fell in love.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Barnabas Anglican Church, Deep River, Ontario.

WALKER, Andrew Brian

12 JULY, 1944

– 10 APRIL, 2026

It is with great sadness, to report Brian Walker passed away peacefully at home on April 10, 2026. The oldest of eight, Brian was born on July 12, 1944 in Deep River, Ontario to his incredible parents Leo and Aletha Walker. Then came Garry, Debbie, Lloyd, Kevin, Glenn, Melanie and Sean.

Brian had many mentors in his early life. The first was his mother's brother Jerry. Then Roy Clark hired Brian at one of his two sporting goods stores. A few years later he was hired at Paul Ferrigan's small engine shop, where he learned his skills as his mentor taught him. These were



all in Deep River, ON where he grew up.

Then in 1976, looking for a new adventure, Brian packed his bags and found himself in Prince Rupert. Shortly after he arrived, he met his soul-mate Lorna in August. In 1978, after two years in Prince Rupert they wanted a change. After

several months on the road looking for our new home, we found it in Courtenay. This was June 12th, 1978.

Brian met another mentor, Pat Brown, owner of B+M Supply; a chain saw shop, plus boats and motors, lawn & garden equipment and more. Pat was a fine man and treated Brian as a friend as well as an employee.

Brian worked there until 1982, when it closed. That's when he decided to try a home based shop. He worked from the basement of the 'old house' for a year, and decided to take a chance building a shop. The Easter of 1983 was the beginning of "Walker Saws."

As well as reliable repairs, it was a great place

to hear many stories around the woodstove. Brian may be gone but his stories will be repeated for years.

There will be a celebration of life this summer, in the Courtenay area, date to follow. We would welcome notes and short stories to put in an album for Brians family.

Heartfelt thanks to the multitudes of visitors and phone calls Brian received in his last weeks. He will be truly missed by all.

In lieu of flowers, maybe a donation to the Victoria Cancer Centre or Victoria Cancer Lodge. Many thanks to Dr Bakshi and the other incredible team of doctors. The care they provided was to be commended.

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Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

TAYLOR,

Doreen Frances
(née Trevoy)

Of Deep River passed away at the age of 99 on April 14, 2026, at the Pembroke Regional Hospital, following hip surgery.

Predeceased by her husband, John, her brothers Lloyd (Dorothy) Trevoy and Don (Roberta) Trevoy, and her sister Ruth (Norman) Taylor. Survived by many nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews.

Doreen was born in Saskatoon on January 27, 1927 and grew up there, graduating from the College of Home Economics and the College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan.

After marrying John, she moved to Deep River when his career took him to the AECL Chalk River Nuclear Lab.



Respecting her wishes, cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will take place on Saturday, May 9 at 11:00 a.m. at the Deep River Community Church.

In memoriam donations to the Deep River Community Church or the charity of your choice would be greatly appreciated. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Valley Funeral Home, Deep River.

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info@schoolhousemuseum.ca

Rolph, Buchanan, Wylie and McKay Historical Society

Trespassing and related illegal entry are punished in the same way as trespassing on privately owned property, except that penalties can be much more severe.

Just after Nova Scotia closed most of its forest to travel last August, Provincial Offences Officers (POO) were notified of a hiker entering a trail on posted land. He was subsequently arrested and charged.

The hiker had become well accustomed to walking the trail system, and claimed that he was suffering to PTSD, following a career in the military. He found that walks in the forest provided much more relief than conventional medications and treatments. Nevertheless he was summoned to court.

Together, it has been no so-called "parking ticket" type offence in several hearings, with the fines and legal counsel amounting to just under \$30,000 thus far, with further court hearings on tap, two lawyers by his side.

The result has been a tremendous outcry by outdoors buffs and society in general, saying the current land closure process is in violation of the Canadian constitutional rights and other infraction.

As a result, with the wildfire season coming into perspective, and expected actions by provinces experiencing the need to take extra measures to prevent fires from spreading, several jurisdictions are said to be reviewing the whole public land closure process.

It's something that may take time, as the charged individual is still before the courts, and any review will likely be contingent on the judge's ruling.

Meanwhile, if the land you are thinking of entering is posted against travel, stay clear!

Postscript: The Supreme Court of Nova Scotia has struck down the sweeping ban on Crown land travel, ruling that government acted unreasonably, failing to consider the Charter rights and values affected by the ban.

While government may act in response to emergencies, authorities must consider any impact of their decision on Charter rights.

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kristin@kristinhawley.ca
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COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

Join us Sunday, April 26, 10am-1pm
Meet at the top of Hill Park.
Garbage bags/gloves to be provided and prizes to be won! Rain date: May 3rd

NEW LISTING

23 Hunters Run Ln
2-bed, 1-bath modular home. Bright kitchen with large island and oversized pantry. Spacious, quiet lot surrounded by nature.

\$249,900

MLS* X12977702

NEW LISTING

10 Ryans Camp Ln
Beautiful waterfront retreat complete with 3-bed, 3-bath main home and features a walk out 2-bed, 1-bath walk out suite.

WATERFRONT \$825,000

MLS* X12990382

NEW LISTING

22 Cabot Place
4-bedroom family home, situated on a quiet cul-de-sac. Mudroom, sunroom, eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, fin bsmt w/gas fireplace.

\$419,900

MLS* X12976266

SPACIOUS

32848 Hwy 17
3-bedroom, 2-bath (incl ensuite), eat-in kitchen, woodstove, partially finished bsmt, lg shed, backing onto forest with no rear neighbours.

\$334,900

MLS* X12943134

VACANT LOTS FOR SALE

WATERFRONT 274 McNulty Rd • \$129,900
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MLS* X12685996

Lot 1 Brouse Rd • \$65,000
1.3-acre vacant lot offering endless possibilities.
MLS* X12855080

Lot 2 Brouse Rd • \$75,000
1.3-acre vacant lot with driveway already partially cleared for a future build, offering endless possibilities. MLS* X12855074

DRDH briefs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

The project team is investigating a solution to the current issue, with the goal of developing a plan to prevent future problems.

MEDICAL RECRUITMENT

• The organization continues to host medical learners alongside local medical staff in primary and acute care, including two long-term (three month) medical residents from Queen’s, as well as a visiting medical student from RCSI School of Medicine in Dublin, Ireland.

REGIONAL PARTNERS

• A letter of support was provided to Pembroke Regional Hospital for submission the Ministry of Health as part of PRH’s ongoing application to create a secured psychiatric facility.

• A letter of support was provided to the Four Seasons Conservancy in support of a Trillium Grant application for development of an accessible trail around the health campus, linked to the expanded Four Seasons Lodge LTCH.

QUALITY

• Preparations have begun for the organization’s next Accreditation Canada survey, scheduled for early 2027.

With approximately 12 months remaining before the survey process begins, preparation activities are underway to create a structured approach.

During the survey, Accreditation Canada surveyors will visit DRDH to observe care, review processes, and engage with staff, physicians, patients, residents, and community partners.

Preparatory education and engagement activities for staff and leaders are underway and will continue as we count down to the sur-

vey dates to support readiness and ensure the organization is well positioned to showcase its commitment to safe, high-quality care.

CRITICAL EVENTS: CODE RED - FIRE

• In the early morning of February 21, the organization experienced a “Code Red – Fire” scenario on the medical inpatient unit requiring the fire department and “admin on call” response.

A patient on the medical floor had lit a fire of bedding in their room.

Staff responded by activating fire response and extinguishing the fire, prior to fire department arrival. Staff, patients and responders were safe, and minimal damage to the patient room was experienced.

The “admin on call” manager that day responded onsite, supporting liaison with the fire department and directing incident response.

Following the incident, debriefing occurred with the team to ensure that opportunities for improvement were identified and acted on.

The following note was received following the incident from the Deep River Fire Chief:

“On behalf of the Deep River Fire Department, I am writing to express our deepest gratitude and admiration for the exceptional response of your staff during the fire incident on Saturday, February 21.

Specifically, we would like to acknowledge charge nurse Sarah and the nursing and clinical staff for her/their quick response to extinguish the fire.

“It is clear that DRDH prioritizes emergency preparedness. The professionalism displayed by your staff undoubtedly prevented a difficult situation from becoming a tragedy.

“We are proud to serve alongside such a dedicated group of professionals. Please extend our thanks to your entire team for their bravery and cooperation. We look forward to our continued partnership in keeping our community safe.”



The Stonecliffe CWL recently donated \$1,097 to the Deep River and Area Food Bank. The funds were raised through the CWL’s March Bingo.

OSPCA welcomes new volunteers

National Volunteer Week takes place April 19-25, and the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society is celebrating more than 1,000 dedicated volunteers across Ontario who generously give their time to help animals in need.

This year is especially meaningful for the charity, which welcomed its 1,000th volunteer in 2026.

At the Ontario SPCA, volunteers support a wide range of roles, including animal care, dog walking, enrichment, humane education, transportation, events, and administrative support.

“National Volunteer Week is an opportunity to recognize the incredible individuals who are the heart of our organization,” says Kim Dooley, provincial manager of volun-

teer development.

“Through their time, skills, and compassion, volunteers strengthen every part of our work, helping animals, communities, and the people who love them.”

The Ontario SPCA and Humane Society Renfrew County Animal Centre is currently in need of foster volunteers who can provide temporary care for dogs, families of kittens and puppies, as well as orphaned animals who need bottle feeding.

The centre is also recruiting volunteers to assist with dog walking and enrichment, local and long-distance driving, and support at the animal centre.

Interested in becoming a volunteer with the Ontario SPCA? Visit ontariospca.ca/volunteer to learn more and apply.

SUDOKU SOLUTION

• FROM PAGE 17

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CROSSWORD

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Work has been underway for several weeks on clearing the lot between Tim Hortons and Canadian Tire along Highway 17 in Deep River, and the town has confirmed what will be built there once work is done. Municipal staff have told the NRT that the development will contain two fast food franchises, one of which will be a McDonalds, along with a gas station, car wash and convenience store, and several retail spaces, one of which will be a Dollarama. The targeted completion date is sometime later this year.



BINGO

• Bingo takes place on Sunday, April 26 at the Chalk River & Area Lions Hall. Doors open at 12 pm, bingo starts at 1 pm with a \$400 jackpot!

• A Quarter Chicken Dinner will be served at the Chalk River & Area Lions Hall on Friday, April 24. Meal comes with stuffing, mashed potatoes, salads, roll, desert, and coffee/tea. There will be two sittings: 4:30 and 6 pm. Call Eileen at 613-401-4546.

**Chalk River
Lions Club**

www.chalkriverlions.org



BASE TO CONDUCT PRESCRIBED BURNING

Garrison Petawawa is advising the public that prescribed burning operations will start in select areas of the Garrison range and training area this spring.

The prescribed burning is being conducted by the Garrison Petawawa Fire Department

and is necessary to reduce fire hazards in advance of the hot summer months.

The public may see or smell smoke over the next three months coming from the range and training area. Air quality could be affected for short periods of time.

“There should be no cause for alarm as fully trained fire fighters will be in the area controlling the situation,” the Garrison said in the announcement.



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