

# THE NORTH RENFREW TIMES

DEEP RIVER, ONTARIO

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3, 2026

\$2.00 (HST INCL.)

## Winds hammer area

BY VANCE GUTZMAN

Mother Nature wreaked havoc on the local region over the weekend.

Thousands of people were without power for upwards of 24 hours or more after strong winds toppled trees onto hydro wires, sending local fire departments into a flurry of action.

The lights went out around 3:30 pm Friday afternoon.

Deep River firefighters were initially dispatched to the report of downed power lines near the marina, and attended the scene along with police and public works.

That's when the firefighters and police started receiving numerous other calls from dispatch, to reports of downed lines on Alder Cres, Algonquin and McDonald.

They were also dispatched to two calls where the downed lines had sparked fires, on Chadwick Drive in the west end of town and Banting Drive, just off the golf course, and were able to quickly suppress the fires.

That's about when the Laurentian Hills fire department started receiving numerous calls from dispatch, and firefighters raced up to Moore Lake Road at Rolphton to suppress a fire which had been sparked by a downed line there.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



Among the many calls for help over the weekend following heavy winds that blew through the area late Friday, this fire four kilometres into the ZEC on Saturday destroyed a number of structures in its path, but things could've been much worse were it not for the efforts of locals who worked to contain the blaze. Photo: Roger Lafond

### QUOTEWORTHY:

With all due respect, stating personal thoughts is not the role of someone reporting on a council meeting.

- Letter, page 8

### INSIDE:



### COURT REJECTS NSDF APPEAL



### DRDCF AWARDS SPRING GRANTS



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# NORTH RENFREW TIMES

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# Windstorm

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While there, they were also dispatched to similar incidents along Bass Lake Road and Kean Road, off Wylie Road.

Stretched as thinly as they were by that point, the fire department somehow managed to send a crew to help locals in Rapides des Joachims put out a fire at Madore and Souliere.

Things didn't improve much on Saturday.

The Laurentian Hills fire department was again dispatched to the same two spots they had been the day before at Bass Lake Road and in Swisha, after those fires reignited when power was restored to the lines.

With their trucks running on fumes by that point, firefighters were also dispatched on Saturday to reports downed lines at locations on Wylie Road and Lau-Ren Road.

And, just to top things off, they were also dispatched to a structure fire on Wilson Street in Chalk River, and called on the fire department at Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) for mutual aid.

Firefighters from both Laurentian Hills and CNL responded to the scene, where the fire had started in the garage of the Wilson Street home, but by the time they arrived the homeowners, fortunately, had managed to extinguish the fire themselves.

## BUSIEST DAY

Long-time Laurentian Hills Fire Chief Kevin Waito says it was the busiest couple days of action he can recall in all of his years of service.

"That's the most calls we ever received in two days," Waito told the NRT, noting the department got called out six times on Saturday alone, and the last time the department got close to that number was way back in 1984, when they were called out five times in the same day.

Waito also said the fire department was called out to the report of a carbon monoxide alarm going off at a residence on Moores Road, and it was determined the cause was the generator powering the home had been placed too close to the residence, sparking a warning from the fire chief about the proper placement of generators when the power goes off.

Rapides des Joachims Mayor Roger Lafond gave a tip of his hat to the Laurentian Hills firefighters for their quick responses to his municipality over the



Laurentian Hills firefighters responded to a fire off Kean Road Friday, while Deep River firefighters douse a blaze off Banting Drive.



weekend, as well as the men and women from community who pitched in to help fight the flames, noting the mill in Swisha supplied a lot of extinguishers to aid in those efforts.

There was also a separate fire at kilometre 4 in the ZEC on Saturday, across from the old Bonanza, in which at least five structures were destroyed by the

flames and one property owner taken to hospital with burn injuries.

Unconfirmed reports have it that Quebec firefighters initially responded to the scene and contained the fire, but it reignited after their departure.

Further damage was limited thanks to the efforts of locals, who were able to use a backhoe to build a firebreak.

# Court rejects NSDF appeal

BY TERRY MYERS

Another setback for the proposed Near Surface Disposal Facility at the Chalk River Laboratories.

The Federal Court of Appeal has dismissed an application by Canadian Nuclear Laboratories to overturn a previous decision by Justice Russel Zinn that CNL failed to consider “all reasonable alternatives” in siting the NSDF.

In doing so, he said, it failed to prove that the NSDF is the “best solution” to protect bats and turtles listed under the Species At Risk Act (SARA).

As a result, Justice Zinn overturned a decision by the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) to issue a permit for the NSDF project, and sent the issue back for reconsideration.

In a ruling released last Thursday and written by Justice Monica Biringier, the Federal Court of Appeal agreed with Zinn’s ruling, but on different grounds.

Justice Zinn said the Ministry’s decision was unreasonable “due to fatal flaws in the interpretation and application of key elements” of SARA.

In particular, “the record shows that CNL restricted its site selection to AECL-owned properties, artificially narrowing the scope of ‘reasonable alternatives’ as required by the Act,” Zinn wrote in his decision.

But in her ruling, Justice Biringier said she would not agree with Zinn’s “proposed interpretation” of SARA, focusing instead on ECCC’s reasons for issuing its permit.

“While the Chalk River site may well be a defensible location for the disposal facility, the Minister’s reasons for issuing the permit failed to meet the applicable standards of transparency, intelligibility and justification,” she wrote.

## NO EXPLANATION

“There is no interpretation of the operative provisions of the SARA in the Minister’s reasons, and there is no explanation as to how the selection process for the Chalk River site aligned with the statutory requirements.”

In that case, she said, “I would dismiss the appeal and remit the matter to the Minister for redetermination in accordance with these reasons.”

The case was first brought to court by the Ke-kaowek First Nation, Concerned Citizens of Renfrew County and Area, the Canadian Coalition for Nuclear Responsibility, and the Sierra Club Canada Foundation.

Kebaowek Chief Lance Haymond welcomed last week’s ruling as “another important legal milestone in the ongoing efforts to protect species at risk, uphold environmental laws, and ensure accountability in decision-making surrounding the proposed NSDF.”

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 22



## PRE-FATHER'S DAY & Spring EVENT

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# Town to consider exceptions for compost bins

BY VANCE GUTZMAN

Deep River may make exceptions for the placement of compost bins.

That was the message coming out of town council, in response to concerns raised by local resident Lesley Barry.

Barry had written the town, questioning provisions of the town's new "Clean and Clear Yards" bylaw.

The bylaw regulates the keeping of private property, exclusive of buildings, "in a safe, tidy and visually-pleasing manner" and, among other things, narrowed down the definition of naturalized gardens in order to distinguish them from neglected gardens.

The bylaw was also updated last year with the addition of a

regulation preventing noxious weeds, as well as restrictions on the placement of compost bins, which the new bylaw prohibits in front, side and exterior side yards.

In her letter to council, Barry questioned the new bylaw's logic of restricting the placement of compost bins exclusively to back yards.

"Neither of the two staff reports (from last year) mention considering the potential effect of the new restriction on residents with disabilities.

"Depending on the location of entrances and stairs, the back yard may not be as safe or easy to access as the side yard, especially during the snow and ice of the winter months," Barry stated in her letter.

"For residents who have had a compost container set in a legal and easy-to-access place for many years (ours has been in the same place for over 30 years), and discovered that overnight it became illegal, the staff reports provide no reason for the change."

Barry went on to question why compost bins are being singled out in the new bylaw.

"The overall effect is of a new restriction on residential composting for no clear reason, when arguably council should be supporting it, given its benefits: reducing landfill waste; reducing methane emissions; improving soil quality; and saving residents money on fertilizers."

Barry also asked why, when the bylaw was passed in June of last year, the town failed to repeal the bylaw it replaced, which originally came

into effect 10 years ago.

"I'd like to thank her for pointing out an error. Good catch," Mayor Sue D'Eon said of that oversight by the town.

In regard to Barry's specific concerns about the placement of compost bins, however, the mayor said it's a common practice in many municipalities to restrict them to backyards.

## MINOR VARIANCE

"As a general practice I think, absolutely, we don't want them in the front yard," she said.

The mayor went on to suggest, however, the town could make exceptions by setting up a process where people could apply for minor variances with regard to the location of their compost bins.

"My first reaction is it's certainly possible to do that," said

Christian Kaiser, the town's director of growth and sustainability.

He suggested council could expand the terms of reference for its committee of adjustment in that regard, and possibly establish a permitting process for compost bins.

It was noted at the meeting that residents have the option of taking their case to court should they be found to be in contravention of the bylaw, or make appeal directly to council, but Councillor Terry Myers thought those extreme measures.

"I think asking people to go to court over a compost bin or something like that is, if that's the appeal mechanism, that's quite a leap," he said.

"To me, there should be some sort of local solution first, and I'm not sure coming to council is the appropriate solution."

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# Union warns of job cuts

The Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) says the Renfrew County District School Board is moving ahead with "significant" staffing cuts "despite a crisis in understaffing and growing student needs across the board."

In a statement released Friday, CUPE and the Ontario School Board Council of Unions (OSBCU) say the board recently notified Locals 1247 and 1321 that it plans to eliminate about 11 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions, including custodial and secretarial positions.

## STRETCHED BEYOND LIMITS

CUPE 1247 represents custodians and trade workers, while CUPE 1321 represents office, clerical and IT staff at the Renfrew County District School Board.

There was no word on whether the cuts would affect jobs at Mackenzie Community School.

"These cuts will seriously undermine the learning and working conditions in our schools," said Ashley Farrell, president of CUPE 1247.

"Custodians and trades workers are al-

ready stretched beyond their limits trying to keep schools safe, clean and operational everyday. Cutting these positions while schools are already understaffed will only make conditions worse for workers and students alike."

"Office, clerical and IT staff are essential to the day-to-day functioning of our schools, and these cuts will be deeply felt across the system," said Kathy Prescott, president of CUPE 1321.

"Members are already dealing with overwhelming workloads and staffing shortages. Instead of addressing those concerns, the board is moving ahead with layoffs that will directly affect the support students and school communities rely on every day."

In response, the board said that over the past three budget cycles, it has had to make "reductions" across several areas to maintain a balanced budget.

"We value all staff and positions, and these decisions are challenging," the board said in a statement emailed to the NRT.

"Due to declining enrolment, the RCDSB needed to realign staffing levels with current and projected enrolment."

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# No work on Hwy 17 until 2035?

BY TERRY MYERS

MPP Billy Denault says Highway 17 “remains one of my top priorities,” even as concerns are raised that construction work expanding the highway to four lanes as far as Renfrew may not begin until 2035.

Denault issued a “media advisory” in the form of an open letter to the residents of Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke Monday morning.

The letter comes after discussion of the latest updates on Highway 17 at Renfrew County council last week.

In a report to council, county staff noted that in a meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) earlier this spring, MTO “advised” that the planned “design-build-finance” model for the four-lane project is “no longer being pursued.”

“The current approach is focused on obtaining a detailed design assignment only, with associated third-party crossings, permits, and approvals... remain-

ing outstanding.

“Indigenous consultation is planned to commence following completion of the detailed design, rather than during the preliminary phase.”

Staff noted that the design contract is “anticipated to be awarded in fall 2026, at which point formal public engagement activities are expected to begin.”

“Conceptually, the Highway 17/417 work remains structured as five individual projects for future bidding, with a long-term horizon extending to approximately 2038.”

## BUDGETED AND APPROVED?

Lee Perkins, the county’s director of public works and engineering, clarified at last week’s meeting that date should be 2034, not 2038.

What all that means is: at best, confusion - at worst, no shovels in the ground until 2035.

Members of county council said that was a far cry from the promises made

at a press conference at the end of February, when Denault said the project was “budgeted, approved, and moving forward.”

“A safe Highway 17 matters for our families and economy, and we’re getting it done,” Denault said at the time.

Renfrew Reeve Peter Emon, the former county warden said it was “quite shocking” to see the update in staff’s report.

Emon said in previous meetings with the MTO, the county has been given the impression that “we’re making very significant progress, and everything was ready to go - shovels would be in the ground in the fall of 2028 at the earliest.”

Bonnechere Valley Mayor Jennifer Murphy, the current county warden, agreed, saying the apparent delay is “unacceptable.”

“We sat in good faith during those (previous meetings) and all came away with the same information,” that the project was making progress, she said.

“This again is unacceptable, not only to the people of Renfrew County, but to everybody who travels through here. It’s just gone on too long.”

County council endorsed a resolution saying it “remains disappointed” with the “limited progress achieved to date on the Highway 17 expansion and four-laning project.”

The motion also called for “accelerated action and greater accountability from the province of Ontario and the Ministry of Transportation,” including “defined timelines, milestones, performance metrics, and regular public reporting for all remaining phases of the Highway 17 expansion and four-laning project to Deep River.”

Petawawa Mayor thanked all of the county representatives who have lobbied on behalf of Highway 17 in the past, but suggested that instead of saying the county “remains disappointed,” the proposed resolution should say “extremely disappointed.”

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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#### Town Hall:

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### 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:

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[ontarioonecall.ca/about-us/contact-us/](http://ontarioonecall.ca/about-us/contact-us/)

### June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20

fiber container

## Deep River Community Pool

**Cross River Swim:** Saturday, August 1st, 2026; Water and Dirt Festival event; 1.5 KM interprovincial race. Adult Race 16+ / Youth Race 12-15 yrs (with parental consent).

#### Prerequisites:

- Must be a comfortable swimmer and capable of finishing race with a maximum time of 1 hour.

- Must provide a spotter and a boat; Canoe, kayak, SUP (no motorboats as personal safety craft) Boat must be equipped with safety essentials

Online registration is open and will close at NOON on Wednesday, July 29th. Late registrations can be made by contacting the Deep River Community Pool at 613-584-2000 ext. 182. Please note late registrants will not be eligible to receive "race swag" or brunch ticket. Register online by visiting [deepriver.ca](http://deepriver.ca) under the Recreation tab

**Kids Fun Triathlon:** Saturday, August 1st, 2026 – Short Course & Long Course. This fun challenge is designed for ages 5-9, but we encourage participants to register for the distance best suited to their abilities.

This is NOT a timed event. Race starts at 2:00 PM. Participants arrive at 1:30 PM to sign in and get ready.

Kids Triathlon Short Course distances are: Swim 25m, Bike 1km, Run 500m.

Kids Triathlon Long Course distances are: Swim 75m Bike 3km Run 1km

This fun challenge is designed for ages 10-14, but we encourage participants to register for the distance best suited to their abilities. Registration will open on Wednesday June 17th at 7:00 AM. Register online by visiting [deepriver.ca](http://deepriver.ca) under the Recreation tab.

## 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: Cottagers & "summer people"** – Tell us your family stories and local knowledge of cottagers and "summer people" in Deep River & Area, in the early days! Our stretch of the Ottawa River was attractive to summer cottagers (especially Americans) starting in the 1920s & 1930s. What can you tell us about these seasonal visitors?

**Family Art Club:** Thursday, June 11th at 5pm. Geared towards kiddos 3+ and their grownup of choice, but open to all. Free, drop-in to craft with us while supplies last!

**Knit Together:** Friday, June 12th and 26th at 1:30pm. All welcome to bring your project and visit with neighbours in the lounge area. We'll put on the kettle.

**Homeschool Open House:** June 10th at 3pm. Join us for a tour and chat while we get to know you and your homeschooling needs in the Deep River community.

**Culture Connect Movie Night:** June 16th at 6:30pm. We'll be showing 'Monsieur Lazhar', a movie about a recent immigrant from Algeria who takes over a Canadian classroom after a teacher's tragic death. Content warning: mentions of suicide. This free event is brought to you with Local Immigration Partnership: Renfrew & Lanark as part of Culture Connect. Celebrate stories from around the world!

**Pop-up: Francesca from Immigrant Settlement Services:** Wednesday, June 17th from 10am – 2:30pm. New to Canada? Looking for support as you settle into Deep River and area? Drop in to chat with Francesca, Settlement Services Worker, and learn more.

**Hey Teens!** We want to hear what you think about the library. What services would you like to see in future? Join us for pizza and a discussion, Wednesday June 3rd at 2:30pm.

**Register to receive our email newsletter** Our quarterly newsletter is out. Pick up your paper copy today. An email version will follow shortly. Make sure you "opt in" to receive it!



## June is Recreation & Parks Month!

Please see our Recreational Swim Schedule for all scheduled swims. For further information, full June calendar and for location details please visit our website at [www.deepriver.ca/departments/recreation/](http://www.deepriver.ca/departments/recreation/) or contact [cThorpe@deepriver.ca](mailto:cThorpe@deepriver.ca)

Wed, June 3	10:45 - 11:45 Rhythm Fit for 55+ (Free) *Registration Required* 2:00pm Spring Baby Time E-bikes and E-trikes available for rent at Town Hall for 55+ (Free)
Thurs, June 4	*NEW* 6:30-7:30pm Toonie Swim 7:35- 8:35pm Lane Swim (Free) Evening Learn to Bowl at DR Lawn Bowling Club- Contact <a href="mailto:Arthurt4162@gmail.com">Arthurt4162@gmail.com</a>
Fri, June 5	1:00-2:00pm PA Day Public Swim (Free) 7:30pm Social Lawn Bowling-DR Lawn Bowling Club  \$10
Sat, June 6	Strive for a 30 minute walk outside today!
Sun, June 7	Why not explore Deep River's many trails today?
Mon, June 8	Playgrounds Scavenger Hunt Begins! Pick up your scavenger hunt at Town Hall and complete it by June 30.
Thurs, June 9	*NEW* 10- 11am Toddler + Leisure Swim (Free) 11:30am Spring Story Time- Library 7:35- 8:35pm Lane Swim (Free)
Wed, June 10	9:30-10:15am Aqua Fit (Free) 10:45- 11:45am Rhythm Fit for 55+ (Free) *Registration Required* 2:00pm Spring Baby Time

## Deep River Police Service

### SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD APPRECIATION WEEK JUNE 1 to 5, 2026

Please join us in thanking Marion, Sean and Valerie, for the work they do – rain or shine – to keep our children safe on their way to and from school every day.

Crossing guards play an important role in keeping our communities safe, but the work they do is equally as rewarding to them. Get to know our crossing guards and say hi next time you see them!

As a driver, you can help keep students and crossing guards safe by:

- paying special attention to pedestrians, especially when turning
- watching for children and driving slowly and cautiously through school zones, residential areas, or any other area where children could be walking or playing.
- watching for Community Safety Zone signs that indicate areas of special concern to the public.

## Deep River Fire Department



The risk of wildfires increases significantly with rising seasonal temperatures and dry conditions.

Know the rules:

- Recreational burn permits require
- Burn clean wood only
- Watch for fire bans
- Never leave any fire unattended
- Completely extinguish any outdoor fire
- Never toss a lit cigarette, other smoking materials, or matches on the ground or out of vehicle windows
- Be mindful when operating equipment outdoors that can create heat or sparks
- Speak up and alert authorities if you suspect a wildfire! If you see an active brush fire, smoke column, or unattended fire out of control in the area, do not wait, call emergency services immediately! **If you suspect a wildfire, call 911!**

Most wildfires are preventable. Practice wildfire safety and follow local open-air burning by-laws.

# No work until 2035?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

“I think it’s clear right now that we can’t take our foot off the gas (on this),” he said.

Whitewater Mayor Neil Nicholson noted that, while most of the discussion was about four-laning Highway 17 to Renfrew, the staff report also referred to the section of 17 from Greenwood

Road just east of Pembroke through to Deep River.

The county agreed earlier this spring to lobby the federal government to consider expanding 17 to four lanes in this area under Transport Canada’s “Trade Diversification Corridors Fund” (TDCF).

But county staff reported that MTO rejected that idea.

“MTO staff indicated that, at this time, there is no appetite within the Ministry to pursue TDCF opportunities related to Highway 17, citing the absence of completed studies to support an expression of interest or funding ap-

plication.”

“They’re basically saying, no, this doesn’t even register,” Nicholson noted.

Perkins agreed that county staff were also “sort of taken aback by that as well,” and offered to do traffic counts for them, “just to have some supporting data that they would require.”

Nicholson said that if the county is going to express its concerns to MTO, that “that’s an important piece as well, that they haven’t even done the studies, nor is there any initiative to even undergo these studies up at the further reaches of Highway 17.”

Indigenous consultation, and obtaining required approvals and permits, including third-party crossings, utility coordination, and other requirements.”

Meanwhile, “the ministry and I recognize Highway 17 as a critical link in the Trans-Canada Highway system and a vital trade corridor, connecting communities across Eastern Ontario and supporting the movement of people and goods throughout our region,” he added.

“As your voice at Queen’s Park, I remain committed to raising this issue at every opportunity and advocating for the timely advancement of this critical project.

“Highway 17 is more than a roadway, it is a lifeline for our communities, businesses, and families.

“Because this project matters to the people of Renfrew-Nipissing-Pembroke, you can be rest assured it matters deeply to me as well.”

A public information session with MTO staff will be held on June 18 at the Murray Yantha Community Centre in McNab Braeside from 4-7 pm.

“I encourage residents to attend, speak directly with ministry staff, and learn more about the project and the next steps ahead,” Denault said.

## NO CHANGES

Despite the county’s concerns, Denault says in his open letter that there have been “no changes” to plans for 17 since the announcement in February.

“The plan shows contract delivery dates starting in 2028, with the final contract identified for delivery in 2032, and the design assignment concluding in 2034.

“However, the actual phasing and construction schedule will be determined as detailed design progresses.

“This will depend on factors such as

## Notice of Public Meeting

**In the matter of Sections 17, 22, and 28 of the Planning Act, the Town of Deep River hereby gives NOTICE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

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

**Subject Lands** All lands within the Town of Deep River’s municipal boundaries.

**Public Meeting** A public meeting to gather public feedback to the proposed official plan amendment will be held at the Town of Deep River Municipal Office on June 10th, 2026 at 6:00 pm..

### Proposed Official Plan Amendment

The purpose and effect of the proposed Official Plan amendment is to expand the Community Improvement Plan Area (CIPA) to include all lands within the Town of Deep River’s municipal boundary, as part of a comprehensive amendment to the Town of Deep River Community Improvement Plan.

Additional information regarding the Official Plan amendment and the proposed Community Improvement Plan amendment is available for inspection at the Town of Deep River Municipal Office during regular office hours or on the Town’s website at [deeperiver.ca/departments/planning-development](http://deeperiver.ca/departments/planning-development)

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

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

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

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

**Jackie Mellon, Clerk**  
Town of Deep River  
Tel. 613-584-2000 ext 128  
Email [jmellon@deeperiver.ca](mailto:jmellon@deeperiver.ca)

**DEEP RIVER & DISTRICT HEALTH** FOUNDATION

**Get On Board** Connecting Community

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**OPG** | Canadian Nuclear Laboratories | Laboratoires Nucléaires Canadiens | **BMO**

# OPINION

## NORTH RENFREW TIMES

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### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## It's the process that matters

This letter responds to the article “Town moves forward on new apartments,” NRT May 27.

As pointed out in the article, I tendered a written submission to the public meeting on the proposed apartment complex located behind the JL Gray building, along with a short oral comment requesting that I be provided a written response to the questions raised in my submission.

For those who are interested, my written submission can be downloaded from the latest version of the May 20 council agenda.

While most of the article reflects what was said at the meeting, consider this quote:

“Bill Turner, a vocal opponent of pretty much every council decision, also spoke at the meeting... referencing a four-page written submission he had submitted for the meeting, containing nine questions with regard to the proposed development.”

I have two issues with this statement.

First, the author offers an opinion suggesting that I oppose “pretty much every council decision.”

As a result, he has framed any discussion of the issues contained in my submission as opposing this proposed development. With all due respect, stating personal thoughts is not the role of someone reporting on a council meeting.

Second, my submission contains 10 questions, not nine. Moreover, all relate to questioning the town's approval process including several that raise concerns beyond this particular undertaking.

Since these questions are about process, all answers must be provided by council, not the owners or the owners' agent.

Compare this quote from the article:

“One of the questions in his written submission was whether Jp2g Consultants, the planners acting on behalf of the developer, have a conflict of interest in the matter...”

- to this one from my submission:

“According to the ‘Application For Consent,’ Jp2g Consultants Inc. is identified as the ‘Owner’s Authorized Agent’.”

While planning is part of an agent's role, the most important aspect of that role is advocating on behalf of the owners.

This leads me to wonder whether he even read my submission.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



Morning rowers near Pine Point Beach

Photo: Anne Murphy

## Moving forward with hope

Message from the Governor General on National Indigenous History Month:

As we celebrate National Indigenous History Month, we honour the rich cultures, languages and identities of First Nations, Inuit and Métis.

Since I became governor general, I have seen progress and a growing commitment among Canadians through national and regional efforts toward reconciliation.

This comes from acknowledging historical injustices, understanding our true history, and

recognizing Indigenous knowledge and leadership in the choices we make as a country.

It has been a privilege for me to be a champion for so many important moments on Canada's reconciliation journey: Indigenous leadership meetings with His Majesty King Charles III; artifacts repatriated from the Vatican and returned to their home communities; Elders and youth reviving Indigenous languages; and artists, innovators and leaders being honoured for their countless contributions.

This journey is not finished. There is still much work to be done.

I encourage everyone to renew their commitment to learning, to understanding and to moving forward on this path with hope.

Mary Simon

## NUCLEAR HERITAGE

# The Rolphton Nuclear Training Centre

BY JIM UNGRIN

The startup of the Nuclear Power Demonstration (NPD) reactor at Rolphton in 1962 was quickly followed by the establishment of a training centre for a wide range of professions and trades that would be needed to operate future Canadian nuclear power stations.

Started in 1963, the training centre first operated in a converted construction warehouse near the NPD reactor.

In 1965 a new, dedicated building was in operation at the site and, with an expansion in 1970, the centre, which contained classroom, laboratory and workshop facilities, was able to accommodate an enrolment of up to 180 students.

The training centre operated five days a week, year-round, with most trainees finding accommodation in the nearby town of Deep River. Others commuted from as far away as Petawawa and Pembroke.

The staff at the NPD site consisted of 14 professionals, eight non-professionals and various administrative staff.

There were five different levels of training and the student categories included: operators, mechanical maintainers, control

technicians, chemical technicians, radiation control technicians, planning analysts and professional staff.

Topics covered in the curriculum included: mathematics, electricity, electronics, skills specific to nuclear power plant operation, science fundamentals, power plant equipment, systems principles, trades' skills and radiation protection training.

A June 1971 issue of the AECL Review reported that in its first eight years of operation, the centre had trained over 1,000 Ontario Hydro employees.

Students would spend the first six months on course work and then would be stationed at one of the operating Ontario Hydro reactors.

Initially this was at NPD but, as time went on, some students moved on to both the Douglas Point reactor and the Pickering units. The total training period might extend to four years.

In addition to training students destined for Ontario Hydro sites, staff who would work on the KANUPP reactor (built by Canadian General Electric) were trained as well as staff for Hydro- Quebec, who were destined to work at Gentilly.

&gt; CONTINUED ON PAGE 10



## Delicious, High Quality Cuisine with Fabulous River Views

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Fri: 9am - late (Kitchen closes 9pm)  
Sat: 9am - 8pm ..... Sunday: closed



## THIS WEEK

## WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

8-10:30 am, Coffee Club, Chalk River Lions Hall  
1 pm, GriefShare support group meets, Real Hope Christian Assembly, Hwy 17 Deep River (until June 17)  
1-6 pm, North Renfrew Family Services Free Counselling Clinic (every Wednesday), call ahead for appointment (for information, call 613-584-3358)  
1:15 pm, Social Bridge, Deep River Library  
2 pm, Babytime, songs, stories, rhymes, Deep River Library

## THURSDAY, JUNE 4

10 am, Seniors Friendship Club: Coffee, Tea and Conversation, at the Hexagon, DR Shoreline Sports Club  
**5-8 pm, St. Mary's Family Fun Night, St. Mary's School**  
**6:30 pm, MCS Movie Night: "Goat," Childs Auditorium, Mackenzie Community School**

## FRIDAY, JUNE 5

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

## SATURDAY, JUNE 6

**8 am - 2 pm, Lions Bottle Drive, drop empties at Chalk River Lions Hall (every Saturday May to September)**  
**10 am - 4 pm, "Doors Open Day," Canadian Clock Museum, 60 James St, Deep River**  
**11 am, Cornhole Tournament, Deep River Legion**

## SUNDAY, JUNE 7

11 am - 3 pm, Shuffleboard, all welcome, Chalk River Legion  
2-5 pm, Acoustic open mic, DR Legion  
**2-4 pm, Summermusic Open House, at the Hexagon, Deep River Shoreline Sports Club**

## MONDAY, JUNE 8

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)  
10:30 am, Baby & Toddler Storytime, Chalk River Legion  
7 pm, Fun Darts, Deep River Legion  
7 pm, Al-Anon, group support for families & friends having alcohol addiction, CE Centre (behind DR Community Church)

## TUESDAY, JUNE 9

**9 am, Seniors Friendship Club speakers: Nina Shah on how skin changes with age, and (11 am) Makyla Gendron on the Community Connector program, Deep River Library program room**  
10:30 am, Preschool Playtime, Pt. Alexander Library  
11:30 am, Storytime, Deep River Library  
4 pm, After School Chess (ages 8+), Deep River Library

**Work is moving quickly on the new commercial development between Tim Hortons and Canadian Tire on Highway 17 in Deep River. The site will feature a McDonald's restaurant, Dollarama retail store, gas station and drive-thru car wash, with space for a second fast food outlet and more retail. Work is expected to be complete and businesses open, tentatively by October 1.**



## Letter: process

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

With respect to my question 3, regarding an apparent conflict of interest, I quote from the article:

“But Janine Cik, a planner with Jp2G [sic], said at the meeting the firm she works for absolutely does not have a conflict of interest in the matter.

“We are not currently engaged in any planning work for the town,” she said.”

Whether or not Jp2g is “currently engaged in... work for the town” is not the point.

In the recent past, it has worked for the town (eg. the Official Plan), and will do so in the future. I suggest that this work gives them unique knowledge of the town’s planning process that the town staff lacks.

This expertise is reflected in the following quote from the article:

“A previous planning report prepared by Jp2g suggested the zoning application is consistent with the provincial planning statement as it supports the development of ‘complete communities’ and is an ‘efficient use’ of land fully serviced by municipal water and sewer.”

“Overall, the proposed development represents the intensification of an existing, undeveloped portion of a property within an existing residential area that is within walking distance to many community facilities and businesses,” the report says.”

Note: This report, entitled “Planning Justification Report Final - Zoning Bylaw Amendment 30 Montcalm Street, Deep River,” March 30, 2026, can be downloaded from the town’s website. It is signed by both Ms. Cik (as the author) and Mr. Hommik (as the reviewer).

Consider this: The person with detailed knowledge of the town’s zoning bylaws, authors a report justifying the amendments to those bylaws specifically for this development, then asserts that Jp2g is not in a conflict of interest.

Really? I leave that to the reader to decide.

To summarize, a flawed process results in a flawed decision. Now I wait for council’s written answers to my 10 questions.

**W. Turner**

## Nuclear heritage: RNTC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

The Rolphton centre operated until 1978 when the large increase in the staff required to man the Bruce and Pickering nuclear generating stations exceeded its capacity and training centres were set up closer to the new generating stations in southern Ontario.

After shutdown of the training centre, questions arose regarding how best to continue to use the facility and several proposals were floated but no solution arose over the next decade.

After NPD itself was shut down in 1987, several new proposals came forward for the entire NPD site.

The May 25, 1988, issue of the North Renfrew Times carried an extended article on the effort, spearheaded at the time by CRNL employee, Paul Unrau, to have the NPD site declared a national monument and that it become a “museum of power and energy.”

An ad-hoc museum committee was formed, led by the town of Deep River, and Sociotech Inc. was awarded a contract to study the economic feasibility of such a museum.

Unfortunately, there was insufficient interest forthcoming from private industry as well as government to support the museum effort and the issue quietly died.

The training centre eventually was completely dismantled and only a somewhat-overgrown concrete footprint of it remains at the Rolphton site.

**Photo (previous page): NPD site with reactor (near chimney) and training centre**

## Job cuts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

The board said it also strives to ensure that spending aligns with funding for the various staffing envelopes.

“The RCDSB continues to prioritize student achievement and well-being. Specifically, special education and mental health services for students are being prioritized for this budget cycle.

“RCDSB is committed to fiscal responsibility and responsible stewardship of resources.”

But the OSBCU says the cuts reflect a broader pattern driven by chronic underfunding of education in Ontario since 2018.

“What we’re seeing at Renfrew County District School Board is part of a broader pattern, where education workers are being asked to pay the price for underfunding,” said Joe Tigani, president of the OSBCU.

### SAFE, SUPPORTED ENVIRONMENT

“These are the people who support students with special needs, maintain safe schools and ensure schools function every day. Cutting these workers hurts everyone.”

CUPE Locals 1247 and 1321 and the OSBCU are calling on the province to properly fund education and on the Renfrew County District School Board to immediately reverse these job cuts.

“Students deserve safe, supported learning environments,” Tigani said.

“That starts with investing in the workers who make that possible. The OSBCU stands behind CUPE Locals 1247 and 1321 members as they fight back.

“We are united in defending good jobs, protecting vital services, and pushing back against a system that continues to undervalue education workers and the students they serve.”

Have your say - with a letter to the editor in the North Renfrew Times

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

### 75 YEARS AGO

JUNE 1, 1951: To date this year, we have experienced two brush fires in and near the village. Both fires were started by children from the village. In both cases, we were extremely fortunate in having the fire brought to our attention before it spread. Parents, please please please lecture your children in this connection, and see that matches and cigarette lighters are kept out of reach. - Village management

JUNE 1, 1951: The Rod and Gun Club reminds members regarding fishing in the plant area: The boat on Chalk (Sturgeon) Lake is now available and its rental may be arranged with Don Medd. As in past years, the boats on Maskinonge Lake will not be made available before the opening of the bass season, July 1. Boat rental is at the rate of \$1 per day or part thereof.

### 60 YEARS AGO

JUNE 1, 1966: The Deep River branch of the Royal Canadian Legion is in full swing with its Centennial planning. At a meeting called in the Cipriani Memorial Hall on May 26, the chairman Bob Beckett announced those appointed to head various sub-committees which he will coordinate assisted by vice-chairman Owen Scher. Mayor Peter McConnachie complimented the Legion on its efforts and said, "You have a record of success in projects undertaken, and I am sure this will be no exception."

JUNE 1, 1966: Rev AT Harrington presented awards at a highly successful Field Day at Stonecliffe on Friday. Students from the separate schools of Deux Rivieres, Stonecliffe and Mackey took part and the events were under the guidance of the teachers, Mrs E Donnelly, Mackey, Mrs Joseph Tait and Mr D Sammon, Stonecliffe, and Mrs Richards, Deux Rivieres.

### 50 YEARS AGO

JUNE 2, 1976: As of last Sunday, 1,278 residents of Deep River had signed a petition supporting the firemen in their efforts to prevent a reduction in the fire department. George Laronde, secretary of the local fire-fighters association, told the NRT that only those with voting privileges were



**Ron Chafe shares a laugh with old friend Johnny Barks on Saturday, while Ed Cochrane, Jim Hickey and Lou O'Connor play some old-time music behind them. Chafe was being honoured for the outstanding role he has played in this community for 51 years. (NRT June 5, 1996)**

eligible to sign the petition. "The petition has shown that this town wants a full-time fire department."

JUNE 2, 1976: After his rocket ship launcher took the prize in the Regional Science Fair at Ottawa in April, Clinton Yourth, a second year Mackenzie student, went on to Brandon, Manitoba to clean up there too, in Canada-wide competition. He won a first in the category of overall engineering excellence, another first from the Aeronautical and Space Institute, and a second place in intermediate engineering.

### 40 YEARS AGO

JUNE 4, 1986: All five doctors in Deep River closed their offices Thursday and Friday as part of a province-wide protest against Bill 94. OMA secretary-treasurer Dr Henry Gasmann was in Toronto for an OMA meeting, Dr John Heathcote was at an Ottawa seminar scheduled before the OMA protest, Dr Art Wiebe was on call for emergencies, and Drs Fred Goad and Don Park were

in the hospital doing rounds.

JUNE 4, 1986: The town of Deep River won the 1986 Participation Challenge on May 28, sponsored by the National Participation Agency in support of Physical Activity Week. Deep River defeated challengers New Liskeard and Haileybury with a total of 60.1 per cent of its population registered as participating in at least 15 minutes of continuous physical exercise.

### 30 YEARS AGO

JUNE 5, 1996: The Renfrew District Health Council wants the Deep River and District Hospital to proceed with a plan to close four of its 28 beds. Technically the hospital's allocation is 24 acute care and four chronic care beds. Deep River used to have 35 beds, but the number has decreased because of service changes and budget constraints.

JUNE 5, 1996: The Mackenzie High School girls soccer team has won its way into the all-Ontario finals to be

held in Pembroke later this week. The girls clinched a berth in the provincial playdowns by winning their division last Wednesday at the Eastern Ontario secondary school championships. Team members are Julie Moon, Tarra McGandy, Janet Ungrin, Katie MacDonald, Amy Mark, Tammy Champ, Kelly English, Candice Blimkie, Julie Ward, Megan Lance, Julie Blimkie, Julia Chisholm, Heidi Marcon, Martina Hawrysh, Julie Lukus, Meaghan Linuskas and Miranda Dakin.

### 20 YEARS AGO

JUNE 7, 2006: It looks like the NHL's Edmonton Oilers and the Carolina Hurricanes can at least agree on one thing: Deep River is an ideal place for grandfathers to live. Oilers player Ethan Moreau and Justin Williams of the Hurricanes both have grandfathers (Abbie Moreau and Camille Bonneau) who reside in Deep River. The two men are cheering on their respective grandsons in the Stanley Cup finals, which began Monday in Carolina.



# Blinds on Sale

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# Church to hold Community Carnival

The Deep River Community Church is celebrating its 80th anniversary with a Carnival on Saturday, June 13, and the whole town is invited!

This will be fun-filled day with activities, games, music, a craft fair, a silent auction, and displays to interest all ages.

There will be a petting zoo, a bake sale, a BBQ, and participation by many local groups and organizations.

Eighty years is a long time, and the Community Church has played a vital role in the growth and daily life of Deep River during all these years.

We will have a photo display in the church Sanctuary at the Carnival, highlighting people and events of the last 80 years of the church's history.

The Carnival will take place at the Community Church's buildings at 115 Deep River Road.

These facilities provide space for many local groups and clubs, and likely you have attended an event or a meeting in the church's CEC building at some time.

Most of the church's user groups will be taking part in the Carnival on June 13, with displays, participatory activities, games, and information.

Here are just a few: the Girl Guides will be collecting donations of food items for the Deep River and Area Food Bank.

- The Potter's Guild will have a quick-dry clay activity where children can make a piece of pottery.

- The Deep River Karate Club, who recently won third place in the Sr. Kata Team division at the National Tournament, will be giving karate demonstrations.

- The Deep River Players will have a display of stage make-up and costumes.

- The Weavers Guild will have a loom set up for anyone to try their hand at weaving.

- "Let's Talk Science" will have hands-on science and STEM-related activities.

- The Sewing Circle will have knitting kits available.

In addition there will be displays from the public library, the School House Museum, Deep River Queer Connection, and others.

Keep an eye out for an imposing figure in costume who might be circulating through the crowd!

Deep River Community Church serves our town in many ways that go beyond providing a place of worship. For example, you may not know that it was the Community Church who founded the Whistle Stop.

It was started as a place for people to donate their gently-used items which would be sold to raise funds for the local hospital, and it continues to this day as part of the work of the DRDH Hospital Auxiliary.

The Whistle Stop will have a table at the Carnival, selling jewelry and other small goods.

Did you know that North Renfrew Family Services was also started by the Community Church?

The church identified a need within our community and established NRFS to provide a service where people could seek assistance.

### 10,000 VILLAGES

The church has a strong commitment to Missions, raising funds for those in need both locally, within Canada, and world-wide.

Every fall, the Missions group of DRCC hosts a "Ten Thousand Villages Sale" which gives support to artisans and farmers in third-world countries.

The Missions group will have a display in the church at the Carnival, including examples of Ten Thousand Villages goods.

Of course, you can't have a Carnival without games and food, and there will be plenty of both at the Community Carnival on June 13!

There will be many traditional Carnival games such as a duck pond, bean bag toss, guess jars, ring toss and a "Pie the Minister" contest.

The Community Kitchen is hosting a hotdog BBQ and there will be a bake sale, always a favourite at any church event!

There will be a silent auction with a variety of goods and services which have been donated in support of the work DRCC does within our town.

> CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

# County students shine at Canada Wide Science Fair

Four Renfrew County students, winners of the Canadian Nuclear Laboratories grand prize from the Renfrew County Regional Science and Technology Fair in April, participated at the 2026 Canada Wide Science Fair at the University of Alberta in Edmonton from May 23-30.

Abigail Baker from Valour School in Petawawa won a Shad Canada special award with her project "Practical Polymers 2."

Henry Hocking from Mackenzie Community School in Deep River won a bronze medal with "Salmon & Sediment Science: How Floods Affect River Sediment and Pink Salmon Spawning Success," and Jiya Savsani from West Ferris Secondary School in North Bay won a senior bronze medal with her project "Highway Harvest 2.0: Optimizing Ways to Harness Renewable Energy on Highways."

Stella Ziegler from Fellowes High School in Pembroke also participated in the weeklong event with her project "Kombucha leather... what if?"

Beyond having their projects judged by scientists, engineers, doctors and other experts, the students also participated in university lab experiences, networking opportunities with other science fair finalists from across Canada, toured the University of Alberta and Edmonton, and met many top scientists and researchers in a wide variety of fields.


"I'm very proud of our team. Not only did they demonstrate the bright future for our local youth with their incredible projects, they also represented Renfrew County with utmost class and positive attitudes," said Aidan Leach, chairperson of the Renfrew County Regional Science and Technology Fair, who accompanied the students to the fair.

The CWSF is Canada's only national science fair, showcasing the projects of 393 young finalists from all Canadian provinces and territories.

It is the culminating event of 98 regional science fairs and over 16,000 participating schools across the country.



Renfrew County students Stella Ziegler, Henry Hocking, Jiya Savsani and Abigail Baker at the Canada Wide Science Fair in Edmonton, Alberta.

**North Renfrew Long-Term Care Services Inc.** 

**33<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting**

7pm, June 17, 2026  
at 47 Ridge Rd, Deep River

Highlights:

- Guest Speakers – Anne-Marie Bouthillette and Erin Bignell from the Ontario Caregiver Organization
- 2025 Audited Financial Statements
- Approval of Amended Bylaws
- Approval of 2026-2031 Strategic Plan
- Election of Board Members
- Confirmation of Appointed Board Members

**Everyone Welcome!**  
Refreshments will be served.  
For more information, call 613-584-1900.

 1930s	 <b>The Canadian Clock Museum</b> 60 James Street Deep River, Ontario - for all ages - <b>DOORS OPEN DAY</b> <i>free admission on</i> <b>Saturday June 6</b> 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. See two centuries of Canadian clocks and many period artifacts, including working old record players. Take our Virtual Tour online at <a href="http://www.canclockmuseum.ca">www.canclockmuseum.ca</a> Check our visitor hours at 613-584-9687	 1950s
 1830s		 1960s
 1910s		 1880s

# Community Foundation awards spring grants

The Deep River and District Community Foundation (DRDCF) has announced that seven Grants totalling over \$41,000 were awarded in its 2026 Spring Grant Cycle. The projects are:

1 - The Deep River and Area Horticultural Society and the town of Deep River - street trees 2026 - \$8,460.

(Made possible by earnings from the Environmental Legacy Fund and the Milton Family Fund.)

2 - Rolph, Buchanan, Wylie and McKay Historical Society (School House Museum) - museum church HVAC upgrade - \$5,000.

(Made possible by earnings from the Mary Moore Ecological Fund.)

3 - Deep River Public Library and THEOP - performances for children - \$3,000.

(Made possible by earnings from the Milton Family Fund.)

4 - Renfrew County District School Board - performing arts

in school - \$5,000.

(Made possible by earnings from the Arts & Education Fund and the Hinds Family Fund.)

5 - North Renfrew Family Services and the Upper Ottawa Valley Seniors Friendship Club - CPR/AED training - \$1,730.

(Made possible by earnings from the Community Fund, the NRFS Fund and the Hinds Family Fund.)

6 - Les Maisons des Jeunes du Pontiac - food bank refurbishment - \$2,935.

(Made possible by earnings from the Cuthbert Family Fund, the Mary-Jane & Bob Brown Memorial Fund and the Laura Alice Cooper Memorial Fund.)

7 - The town of Deep River - Summerfest Pavilion - \$15,000.

(Made possible by earnings from the Community Fund.)

The first two grants are featured in the attached photos.

## STREET TREES

The first photo shows the cheque presentation to the DRAHS and the town of Deep River in front of a newly planted sugar maple tree on Beatty Cres.

The Deep River street tree planting program, begun in 2023, is continuing this year with 75 additional trees being planted along town-owned road allowances.

The tree varieties have been selected by the Horticultural Society tree committee. These additional trees will provide further improvements to the town's ecosystems and increase street tree canopies providing shade for town streets.

## HVAC UPGRADE

The second photo shows the cheque presentation to the School House Museum.

The Rolphton Hydro Colony Church Improvement Project will replace the aging HVAC system in the historic church at the School House Museum.

Built in 1952 for the Des Joachims dam community, the church now houses artifacts, maps, photographs, and archives documenting Upper Ottawa Valley history.

An energy-efficient heat pump will extend the operating season and provide reliable heating, cooling, and humidity control, protecting the collection and creating a healthier, more comfortable space for visitors and volunteers.

There are four types of funds held by the DRDCF: named funds, field of interest funds, designated funds and scholarship funds. You can see them all described at [www.drdcf.ca/funds](http://www.drdcf.ca/funds).

Named funds are often founded by a person or family to support an area of philanthropy that is meaningful to them.

In this spring grant cycle, the Milton Family Fund, the Mary Moore Ecological Fund, the Hinds Family Fund, the Cuthbert Family Fund, the Mary-Jane & Bob Brown Memorial Fund and the Laura Alice Cooper Memorial Fund all contributed to six projects receiving grants.

Although named funds can be initiated via a significant endowment from the family, ongoing donations to that fund can be made by any member of the community.

It is a thoughtful way to honour or remember loved ones and contribute to a common cause.

Watch for articles and photos in the NRT over the next weeks for details on the other five 2026 spring grant recipients.

The DRDCF is very grateful to the many generous donors that contribute to the 28 endowment funds managed by the Foundation. Our invested capital now stands at over \$2.2 million.

During the 24 years the Foundation has been in existence, over \$900,000 has flowed into our communities in the form of grants.

To learn more about the DRDCF and how you can become an important part of our legacy, visit [www.drdcf.ca](http://www.drdcf.ca) and follow us on social media #drdcommunityfoundation.

Support your community now and for the future at [www.drdcf.ca/donate](http://www.drdcf.ca/donate).



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Above, left to right: DRDCF director Caroline Waddington, Leslie Moore (daughter of Mary Moore), DRDCF director Brian Cheadle, Historical Society member Greg Brisson, Historical Society president Dianne Lemire and Historical Society member Gwen Brisson. Photo, previous page: DRDCF director Chris MacCready, Horticultural Society co-president Susan Miller, Deep River Mayor Sue D'Eon and DRDCF grants chair Teresa Selander.

## Community carnival

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

We greatly appreciate the support of local businesses and individuals who have contributed to this event.

Be sure to stop at the craft fair where you can buy items made by talented local artisans, and check out the face painting booth.

And of course, you won't want to miss the petting zoo!

This is a big hit at the Community Church's Easter Egg hunt in the spring, and we're happy to include some cute and interesting animals at the Carnival.

The Deep River Community Church supports several local music organiza-

tions, and the Carnival's music tent, with covered seating for a small audience, will be offering live performances.

The Church Choir will open the stage with a set of favourite songs at 11 am, followed by the Cedar Park Quartet.

The Deep River Youth Orchestra, Deep River Symphony, and Summer-music camp will be represented in various performances during the afternoon, with other musicians yet to be confirmed.

Come to the Community Carnival on Saturday, June 13 – it promises to be a fun event for all!

It's open from 11 am to 3 pm, so you can do your shopping at the Farmer's Market before you come.

We're still looking for a few helpers: contact Susan Butler at [susan.oboe59@gmail.com](mailto:susan.oboe59@gmail.com) if you'd like to earn some volunteer hours.

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## Seniors Friendship Club



### COMMUNITY CONNECTOR

In June we celebrate Seniors Month in the province of Ontario.

“Seniors Month is important because it honours lifelong contributions of older adults while actively fighting social isolation. It promotes healthy aging by highlighting community wellness, lifelong learning, and active lifestyles.”

- Wednesday, June 3: No Walk planned – bugs are annoying now.
- Thursday, June 4, 10 am Coffee and Conversation will be in the Hexagon (Deep River Shoreline Sports Club).
- Tuesday, June 9 - Two speakers at the Deep River Library program room: First at 9 am, Nina Shah, pharmacist with Deep River’s Pharmacy, will discuss how skin changes with age, com-

mon skin conditions, how to care for our skin, and much more.

Next at 11 am - Makyla Gendron speaking about the Community Connector program - helping older adults connect to local services.

Have you recently needed support services at home and wondered how or where you might find them or even if they’re available?

The Community Connector program aims to improve awareness, understanding, and utilization of community support services across the OVOHT (Ottawa Valley Ontario Health Team) region.

This work is especially important given the current system pressures we are all experiencing, including a shortage of primary care providers, increased reliance on emergency departments for non-urgent needs, and the growing complexity of an aging population.

These challenges contribute to service inefficiencies and highlight the

need for stronger connections between healthcare and community based supports.

There is no cost to attend these talks; all are welcome to attend.

### ANNUAL MEETING

• Thursday, June 11, noon - 2 pm, AGM and BBQ at the Deep River Legion. Please join us for our Annual General Meeting. BBQ will consist of hot dogs and hamburgers, fruit and veggies trays, dessert, tea/coffee.

Our vice president, Bev Byrnes, has completed her second two-year term and will be stepping down as vice president of the SFC. A detailed description of the vice president role was already sent to members.

Thank you, Bev, for a great job! We look forward to continuing to work with you on the Activities Committee. Members are always welcome to join our Activities planning committee!

For anyone interested in this SFC ex-

ecutive opportunity, we will be accepting nominations until Tuesday, June 9, to allow time for executive review prior to membership voting at our upcoming AGM on Thursday, June 11. Please note that we will not be accepting further nominations during the AGM.

To submit a nomination for vice president or to enquire about joining our Activities Committee, please respond to the following email: 23uovsfc55@gmail.com.

• Registration for the Valvular Heart Disease Screening Clinics on October 20 and November 5 is now closed. If you have registered and have any questions about your appointment, please call 613-696-7412 or email: heart-valve@ottawaheart.ca.

• 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.

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

## cross word

answers use American spelling

### ACROSS

- Mast or boom
- Tease
- Highway vehicle
- \_\_\_\_\_ and hearty
- Have being
- Equal
- Skyscraper feature
- Glance
- Cone-bearing tree
- Abilities
- Sort of resort
- Billboard
- French dance
- Growls
- Church platform
- Fat
- Mixes up
- Zuni village
- Smart
- Eat late
- Couch
- Good-natured
- Eager
- Scholastic
- Brisk wind
- Number of bowling frames
- Delicate fabric
- Shade sources
- Racetrack feature
- At no cost

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	
39	40	41				42							
43						44				45	46	47	48
49						50				51			
52						53				54			

### DOWN

- Not he
- "\_\_\_\_\_ Joey"
- Bar order
- Gun, as an engine
- Mete out
- Golf clubs
- French caps
- Apart
- Always
- Get together
- Signs
- Attire
- Swindle
- Faintly colored
- Picnic pests
- Guaranteed
- Waterfalls
- Plunders
- Humdinger
- Halt!
- House of Congress
- Pie nuts
- Bad habits
- Wise seasoning?
- President's office shape
- Flick
- Sprite
- Blemish
- Rink surface
- So-so grade

**CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Six full Duplicate Bridge tables competed last Thursday in the Club Championships with Masterpoints awarded to the following teams:

1. Geoff Edwards and Rosemary Nishimura, 65.83%
2. Rosemary McGuire and Patricia Mellors, 59.58%
3. Lois Fitzpatrick and Erik Hagberg, 56.25%
4. Kerry Burns and Mike Atfield, 55.42%
5. Ian Towner and Sandy Towner, 51.67%
6. Ellen Sills and Tony Hinds, 50.00%

Our closing dinner will be held this Wednesday, June 3 at the Hexagon. Arrive at 5:30 for 6 pm dinner. There will be a short AGM afterwards, followed by a Duplicate Bridge game.

Duplicate play will resume



Thursday, September 3 at the Deep River Library, starting at 12:45 pm.

**BEER CARD SIDE BET**

A good declarer is alert to everything about the hand. Is there an extra chance to make the contract? Did an opponent hesitate during the auction, maybe thinking about doubling? Can we get partner to buy the beer during the post-game analysis session down at the pub?

On board 2, every E/W in the room found their way to the good game in 4H. Four out of six times 4H was played by East, after an opening of 1NT (by East) and a transfer se-

quence, and two out six times the hand was played by West.

When East was declarer, a club lead would hold declarer to 10 tricks, but in every case this day a diamond or a spade was led and which compass point played the hand became moot.

After a spade lead by North, for example, declarer wins in hand with the As, in order to make an immediate diamond play. North will likely take the Ad and lead another spade to dummy.

Declarer now turns to trumps, starting with the Ah and playing a low heart towards the Qjh.

This is the proper way to play the suit, when you have no intermediates and protects against losing two tricks to K109h in the South hand.

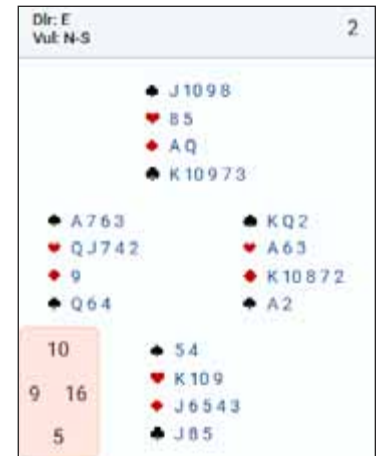
After winning the second heart, South will now try to build a club trick for the de-

fence (Jc, Qc, Kc, Ac), but it is too late. Declarer cashes the Kd (discarding a club while dropping North's Qd), then puts the 10d on the table, intending to discard another club.

Say South covers with the Jd. Declarer ruffs, plays two more rounds of trump (throwing the low club in the East hand), then crosses back to dummy with the Qs to triumphantly cash the 7d for his last trick.

The 7d is, of course, the famous "beer card," and the partner of a declarer who wins the last trick with it (while making his contract) is obliged to buy declarer a beer after the round.

In some versions of the beer card side bet, it is the opponents who have to buy the beer. In this case, South may want to take out insurance against any declarer dipsoma-



nia by refusing to cover any of the first four diamonds and clinging to the Jd right to the end.

This afternoon, the results in 4H were varied (N/S results and matchpoints in brackets):  
 4H E -2 (+100, 5 MPs)  
 4H W -1 (+50, 3.5 MP)  
 4H E -1 (+50, 3.5 MP)  
 4H E = (-420, 1.5 MP)  
 4H W = (-420, 1.5 MP)  
 4H E +1 (-450, 0 MP)

**SEED LIBRARY**

• Gardeners – check out our Seed Library (available at both branches) before you buy. We have seeds available to "borrow" - when the plants mature, allow some to go to seed and "return" them to the library – or bring some of your extras to share with others.

• Bring your little ones to Baby and Toddler Storytime at Chalk River library, Mondays

**LAURENTIAN HILLS PUBLIC LIBRARY**

at 10:30 am.

• Learn to Crochet: Beginner Basics – Join us as we informally teach the basics of how to crochet, including making a foundation chain, working single crochet rows and trying other stitches and combinations. Point Alexander library

on Monday at 5-6 pm (June 22), Wednesdays at 1:30 pm (June 3 and June 24) and Wednesday, June 10 at 6:30 pm. Please contact the library to register for one or more sessions.

• Our early evening Book Club (Mondays at 5 pm – next meeting June 15) is going great! We are currently reading some classics. At the next meeting we will be choosing from a variety of books by Canadian authors.

If anyone is interested, we can also offer a Wednesday afternoon Book Club. Please contact the library to sign up for either time.

• Father's Day is coming soon – Bring the kids to make homemade cards and crafts for Dad on Saturday, June 20, 1-3 pm at Point Alexander.

• Borrow an Explorer Backpack for some fun in your backyard or on your next hike in the woods. Two available at each branch, one containing

child-oriented items and one for adults.

• We are excited to have two new outdoor signs at the Point Alexander Library, thanks to the generous grant received last fall from the Deep River and District Community Foundation and the hard work of Maureen Bakewell with the Point Alexander Library Friends to get everything organized and completed.

See photos on our Facebook page.

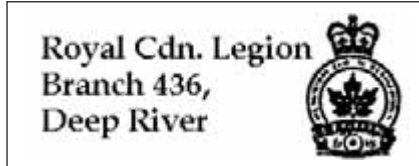
**CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT**

Hello everyone, good to have the power back on. The power outage caused a few issues; the Comedy Cabaret went on Friday night without too much disturbance.

Tony had to bring in a battery pack to power the lights and other equipment. There was a decent crowd considering the conditions - a great show, lots of laughs.

• The birthday party and Music for the 30th had to be relocated but it went off without too much trouble.

• Busy month of June coming up. We start with the cornhole tournament on June 6



starting at 11 am, Buddy check on June 9, General Meeting on June 10 at 4 pm, June 11 Karaoke, June 13 grand opening of the

patio - tickets can be purchased at the bar or from Donna, rain date June 20.

• June 27 is the "Run For Home" on the patio, start 7 am till 2 pm. Anyone wishing to book the patio check with the bartender for availability and rates.

• Ian had his good bye party during open Mic due to the power outage - good luck in your move and future endeavours.

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

**MATCH UP**

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

**TREADMILL:** A local family has a treadmill looking for a new home. It's a Pro-Form Sport, no longer used as the owners are aging. "You pick up." If interested, please call 613-585-0806.

**BIKE HELMET:** A small black Raleigh adult bike helmet was found last week in a hedge at the corner of Thomas and Tamarack Streets in Deep River. Not sure why it wasn't on someone's head, but it has now been turned in to the North Renfrew Times and can be claimed at the NRT office, 8 Glendale Ave, or by calling 613-584-4161.

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## DRDH FOUNDATION

# “Run for Home” adds mobility accessible route

The Deep River & District Health Foundation is ensuring everyone has the opportunity to take part in “Run For Home” this year with a special new addition called “Mobility in Motion.”

Generously sponsored by Cahoon’s Pharmasave, this accessible portion of the event is designed for individuals with mobility challenges and offers a shorter paved route that can be enjoyed alongside caregivers, family members, and friends.

Registration for participants with ambulatory challenges is completely free, while community members who simply wish to participate in this portion of the event are welcome to join by donation.

The remaining distances; 2km, 5km, 10km, and half marathon have a mini-

mum registration fee of \$30.

“This is an opportunity for everyone to experience and participate in Run For Home, inspired by the residents of the Four Seasons Lodge at Deep River & District Health,” said Janna Hotson, president and chief executive officer of DRDH.

“They are at the heart of the ‘Get On Board: Connecting Community’ campaign, and their involvement helped inspire a broader vision.

“Mobility in Motion reflects our belief that community events should be accessible to everyone.”

You can support their team, the Four Seasons Flyers, by pledging your support at [drdhfoundation.com](http://drdhfoundation.com) or by calling the foundation office at 613-584-3333 ext 7140.

Taking place on Saturday, June 27, Run For Home continues to grow as one of the region’s major community fundraising events, featuring routes throughout the Four Seasons Conservancy trails, family activities, entertainment, and opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to participate.

### TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

All proceeds raised will support the “Get On Board: Connecting Community” campaign, an initiative focused on purchasing accessible vehicles for the new FSL long-term care home.

Accessible transportation is becoming increasingly vital as DRDH prepares to expand the current Four Seasons Lodge into a new 96-bed resi-

dence.

The expansion will bring more residents into care, but also increases the need for safe, reliable transportation that allows residents to attend medical appointments, participate in outings, and remain connected to the community they call home.

“Maintaining connections within the community is essential for residents living in long-term care,” said Hotson.

“Access to reliable transportation allows residents to attend appointments, participate in community activities, and maintain meaningful connections outside of the home.”

For more information about Run For Home, registration details, or sponsorship opportunities, visit [drdhfoundation.com/RunForHome](http://drdhfoundation.com/RunForHome).



### SENIOR GAMES

This week the Deep River Lawn Bowling Club was pleased to host the lawn bowling event for the 2026 Renfrew County Senior 55+ Games.

The games went very well and everyone was thrilled to play on our natural

grass green (some clubs play on artificial turf).

We had a great day, and are pleased to report that all

medal winners are from the DRLBC.

In the photo, DRLBC president An-



drew White is congratulating the gold medal winners, Terry Arthur and Don Leckie.

Beside them are the silver medal winners, Tony Hinds and Bob Boulton. Winning the

bronze medal were John and Pat Playford.

In the final game determining gold vs silver winners, the score was tied going into the final end, and came down to the very last bowl rolled.

Congratulations to all participants!

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## NOTICE

**PHOTO REPRINTS!** Colour prints are available of most photos appearing in the NRT. Drop by the North Renfrew Times office, 8 Glendale Ave. or call 613-584-4161.

Al-Anon is a support group for friends and relatives of those affected by alcohol addition. The program is rooted in the principle of anonymity. The Point Hope and Strength Group meets every Monday from 7-8pm. at the Christian Education Centre behind the Deep River Community Church.

## 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](http://www.northrenfrew-landfill.com)

## HELP WANTED

**Needed: An experienced reliable house-cleaner** to clean a cottage most Saturdays of the Summer season (early June to end of September) 10am to 2pm. Phone 613-584-2013.

## DEATHS



### GIBSON, Wilfred Leo

In his 92nd year, our dear Father, Wilfred Leo Gibson passed away on May 6, 2026, peacefully surrounded by his family.

Wilfred was born in the small community of Gibson Woods in Kings Co., Nova Scotia.

He was the middle child of sixteen children born to the late Lucy Viner and the late Leander Gibson.

Wilfred grew up on a farm and at the age of 8 years old, he had his first job spraying the apple Orchards for the neighbouring farms using a single horse cart.

Wilfred had a love of horses and by the age of 17, he had his own team of chestnut heavy horses named Chubb and Peg. He spent a season in the lumber woods with his team, hauling logs amongst the other teamsters.

Wilfred, at the age of 21 joined the 4 RCHA Royal Canadian Army in Utopia, New Brunswick.

At the age of 25, he was an elite amateur boxer and one of the best middleweights in Canada at this time with a record of 15 knockouts and 2 losses.

Wilfred won two championship titles in his boxing

### NOPPE, Roger

April 10, 1933  
- May 2, 2026

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Roger on Saturday May 2, 2026 in his 94th year at Cedarwood Village.

Loving husband of Dolores Noppe for 63 wonderful years. Beloved father of Richard (Patty), David (Via), and Derek (Rachel). Proud grandpa of Dan (Nicole), Braun (Amber), Kayla, Brittany (Henry), Elizabeth (Cody), and proud great grandpa of Danika, Aria, Rosalie, Brayson, Damien, Hayden and Sebastian.

He will be fondly missed by his brother Robert Noppe (Lynda), nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Online condolences may be shared at [www.smith-funeralchapel.ca](http://www.smith-funeralchapel.ca)

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gardener and card player. Known to all as Gib or Gibby, he was a leader and pillar of his community.

Wilfred was widowed by his beloved Wife Alice Pearl Marguerite (Jones) whom he spent thirty-six wonderful years raising their blended families.

He is survived by his Children Pennie (deceased), Karen (Les), Jocelyn, Wendy (Alister), Sherry, Gloria, Wilfred Jr., Gary (Sue), Kimberlee (David), Fawn (Barry) and Paige (Carmelo). His children have given him thirty-three Grandchildren, thirty-six Great Grandchildren and 4 Great-Great-Grandchildren.

He is survived by Sisters Leah, Bernice, Sylvia, Judy and his youngest Brother Carl. Predeceased by his siblings Maude, Eugene, Shirley, Isabelle, Geraldine, Murielle, Avon, Johnny, Wayne and Douglas.

Wilfred's funeral service will be held on Thursday, June 18, 2026, at 11 a.m. at St. Andrew's United Church, 40 St. Joseph Street, Chalk River, Ontario, followed by a luncheon at the Lions Hall in Chalk River.

Condolence messages may be sent to: [www.cfo.coop](http://www.cfo.coop)

career; the Canadian Army Light Middleweight Championship in 1957 and the Eastern Command Middleweight Championship in 1958.

By the end of his Army career, he was posted to Petawawa, Ontario, and it was there that he left the service and started his career in the grocery business. He worked at Maple Leaf Services in Petawawa and then moved to Chalk River and took over as Assistant Manager, then Manager of the A&P Grocery Store in Deep River, Ontario. His career lasted thirty-three years before retiring.

Wilfred had a strong love for his large family; he always made time for his cherished grandchildren, passing down stories of his memorable life experiences and positive words of wisdom.

He was an avid golfer,

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## SHOP LOCAL. SAVE LOCAL

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**McCAULEY, Jean**

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of, Jeannie (Jean) Heather Agnes McCauley (nee Vincent) on May 28, 2026, in her 84th year, surrounded by her loved ones.

Jean was predeceased by her parents Norman and Jean Vincent; husband Vince, and great grandchildren Logan and Delaney.

Survived by her children, Wendy (Paul Brear), Valerie (Ivory Ball) and Allen (Valerie) and her treasured grandchildren, Tyson, Justin (Christina), Spencer (McKenzie) and Jackson (Abby) Brear; Olivia McCauley; Austin McCauley and Emma (Eric) McCauley-Giroux and great grandchildren Addison, Ella and Henry.

She will be missed by her sisters, Brenda Stewart, Betty Wesanko and brother Rod (Nancy) Vin-



cent. Jean leaves behind many nieces and nephews and her cherished friend Rick Johnston.

Vince and Jean moved from Deep River in 1962, living 64 years on Premier Road. Family was very important to Jean and if asked what she was most proud of she would say her children and grandchildren.

She was active with West Ferris Ladies Recreation and ringette. Coaching house league and rep

teams, volunteering many hours supporting the sport. Jean also worked many years at Zellers until its closure in the early 1990's.

Once the grandkids arrived, she could be found in the stands supporting them in their sport, be it hockey, football, soccer, basketball, volleyball, baseball, swimming or in the theatre applauding their acting performance or art exhibition. Their happiness was her happiness.

During Jean's final days, many friends and family visited her, some travelling long distances for an opportunity to chat with Jean, which brought her

much comfort.

A special thanks to the nurses, doctors and caregivers at the North Bay Regional Health Centre, for their exceptional care of Jean during her final days. Their compassion was immeasurable.

Friends may call at the Martyn Funeral Home, North Bay, on Friday June 12 for a Celebration of Jean's life, beginning at 3 pm, followed by a reception. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated (cheques only please). Condolences may be offered online at [www.martynfh.com](http://www.martynfh.com).

**LOST RIDER FOUND**

The Upper Ottawa Valley (UOV) detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), with assistance from Renfrew County Paramedic Services, located a person stranded after their ATV became immobilized in Laurentian Hills.

On Tuesday, June 2, just after 1 am, OPP located a party that had become lost while travelling on an Ottawa Valley recreational trail.

The party contacted police in the evening of June 1, stating he was lost. The party had been travelling the trails when their ATV became immobile.

The male was located by the OPP helicopter, and once retrieved, was assessed by paramedics at the scene and released. More details on the location where he was stranded were not provided.

**TENNANT**, late Boyd Sr, and his late daughter Cheryl

A Memorial Service will be held in the chapel at 1:00 pm.

Friends may call at the Valley Funeral Home, Deep River on Saturday, June 13 from 11:00 am to 12:45 pm.

Interment of cremated remains will be in the Forest View Cemetery, Chalk River.



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**Saturday June 6 at 10:00 am**  
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**Tuesday June 9**  
at Renfrew-Pontiac Livestock, Cobden  
**Bred Heifer Sale for P&T Farms of Douglas**  
25 Charolais X-Bred Heifers, Whites & Tans  
Due July – Sept, bred Charolais  
All vaccinated & vet checked  
Great opportunity to expand your herd.

**Saturday June 13, at 10:30 am**  
for **J. Dobson, 327 Ch River, Bristol, Que**  
Truck, cars, motorcycles, snowblowers, tools, & some household.

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**SIP 'n SING**  
Sat, June 6,  
7:30pm - 1am  
**The Hexagon**  
34 Pier Rd.  
All proceeds to support the Women's Sexual Assault Centre  
Tickets:  
[maven-catering.square.site](http://maven-catering.square.site)

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**22 Cabot Place**  
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**NEW PRICE**



**16 Heritage Dr**  
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**10 Ryans Camp Ln**  
Beautiful waterfront retreat complete with 3-bed, 3-bath main home and features a walk out 2-bed, 1-bath.  
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# NSDF appeal

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

“The Federal Court of Appeal has confirmed that Environment Canada must go back and do its job properly,” he said in a statement.

“This decision reinforces what we have been saying from the beginning: decisions that threaten endangered species, sensitive ecosystems, and our sacred river must be based on a transparent, rigorous, and lawful process.”

Haymond said Kebaowek “remains committed to protecting the Kichi Sibi, defending our responsibilities to future generations, the drinking water of millions of citizens of Quebec and Ontario, and ensuring that Indigenous rights and environmental protections are respected every step of the way.”

Ole Hendrickson, spokesperson for Concerned Citizens of Renfrew County and Area, said the appeal court’s decision is “an important victory for science, transparency, and common sense.”

“The court recognized that the public deserves meaningful explanations when decisions are made that could result in the destruction of endangered species and their habitats.

“The ecological value of this site is extraordinary, and it deserves careful consideration before irreversible damage is permitted.”

Meanwhile, CNL says it “respects the decision of

the court and is now taking time to evaluate (the court’s) decision and determine next steps.”

“CNL remains committed to protecting the environment and species at-risk – restoration and protection of the environment is at the core of our work,” the company said in a statement to media.

In her ruling, Justice Biringier notes that construction of the NSDF would require “clearing of grasslands and forested habitats, grubbing (removing roots, stumps and other debris) of the cleared area, rock blasting and construction of the facility.”

“Construction would also increase vehicle traffic at the site.”

All of that activity would affect “species listed for protection under the SARA, particularly, the Blanding’s Turtle, the Little Brown Myotis (bat) and the Northern Myotis (bat) and their habitats.”

## REVIEW TEAM

Biringier also notes that as part of its planning, CNL looked at four potential sites for the NSDF, two at Chalk River, plus sites at the Whiteshell labs in Manitoba and the site of NPD at Rolphton.

“The Chalk River options were favoured based on a review of economic feasibility, technical feasibility and environmental effects.”

The final site, known as the East Mattawa Road site, was selected “after a weighted ranking of cost, health and safety, environmental protection, site functionality and constructability considerations.”

The site selection was assessed by a “science review team” at ECCC, which found that “all reasonable alternatives” had been adequately assessed, “both on-site at Chalk River as well as off-site.”

“Regarding site selection at Chalk River, the science review concluded that the East Mattawa Road

site was the ‘best’ alternative, to be preferred over the alternate site, and recommended approving the disposal facility.”

Justice Biringier says the problem with the case arises with the way ECCC issued its permit to CNL.

“The permit and accompanying decision letter provide no insight. The same goes for the decision memorandum,” she says.

“The science review confirms that all reasonable alternatives have been adequately assessed and the best solution adopted but provides no analytical framework for how that decision is to be made and little on how it was made.”

## NO DOTS TO CONNECT

Justice Biringier says that while the court “must show deference” to administrative bodies like ECCC by “seeking to understand the reasoning process followed by the decision maker,” those decisions “must be justified by transparent and intelligible reasons.”

“On judicial review, reviewing courts may ‘connect the dots on the page where the lines, and the direction they are headed, may be readily drawn.’

“But where there are no dots to connect, the court may not supply the reasons that might have been given or make findings of fact that were not made,” she says.

“While one could surmise why the East Mattawa Road site might have been a defensible choice as the ‘best solution’ out of ‘all reasonable alternatives for the activity that would reduce the impact on the species’,” Biringier says in her conclusion, “it is not the court’s job to craft coherent reasons for administrative decisions. That is the Minister’s job, and the reasons here fall below the standard of justification required on reasonableness review.”

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## CHARGES LAID

The Upper Ottawa Valley (UOV) detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have arrested one person in connection to a robbery at a gas station in the

city of Pembroke.

Police say that on May 13, at approximately 2:10 am, officers responded to a robbery at a gas station in the 1200 block of Pembroke Street West.

A female entered the store, bran-

dished a knife, and demanded cash from an employee. The employee was not injured, and the person fled the scene with a quantity of cash.

OPP’s Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) investigated the robbery with the assistance of the UOV OPP Crime Unit.

A suspect was identified and arrested on May 28, 2026, by the OPP West Region bail support team.

Miranda Tobias, 32 years old, from Brantford, Ontario was charged with the following offences:

- Robbery with a weapon
- Wearing a disguise with intent to commit an offence
- Fail to comply with a probation order (two counts).

The accused was held in custody and was scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Pembroke on May 29.

## SUDOKU SOLUTION

• FROM PAGE 16

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## CROSSWORD

• FROM PAGE 16

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