



# HAVELOCK RAIL

SERVING THE GREATER HAVELOCK AREA

January 2026

Edition 79

## HAVELOCK HAWKS HEADLINER

By Keri-lyn Toms

After a short Christmas break and as we head into the new year, our Hawks continue to work their way through their Winter Season schedules. The season is flying right by! Check out our website for all of our team's game schedules. We'd love to see you at the rink! [havelockminorchockey.com](http://havelockminorchockey.com).

Also, a big shout out to our U18 team for making it all the way to the semi finals at the Haliburton/Minden Regional Silver Stick Tournament back in December. They had a very solid start, winning 3 tough games against Barrie, Tweed and then Durham on the first day. Sadly, they came up a bit short on the score board in a rough battle in the semi finals on the second morning. This group of boys played hard all weekend long and should be proud, as they strongly represented Havelock Minor Hockey.

HERE IS A LOOK AT ALL OF OUR AWESOME 2025-2026 TEAMS.



U5 Hatchlings



U7



U9



U11



U13



U18

### WHAT'S INSIDE

Check out what's happening in your community

Look for news and updates from local community groups

H-B-M Happenings on page 19

Check out local businesses



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## SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Havelock Rail is distributed free of charge to all K0L 1Z0 postal codes. Distribution outside of our postal district is significantly more expensive so we must charge a subscription fee. If you would like to receive the Havelock Rail in your mailbox, contact us and we can arrange delivery. There will be an annual fee of \$40.00 for 12 monthly editions.

## GUEST EDITORIAL By Harmen Boersma

A notable date is January 1 this year. We are starting the second quarter of the century.

All the youth under twenty-five years old are the first generation of the 2000 or 21st century. Much can happen in a community in twenty-five years. Just read the couple of dozen history books about Peterborough and county. Havelock adds its own two or three books to that. We should laud the members of the Belmont-Methuen and Havelock Historical Society that have an interest in recording stories and collecting artifacts.

Is it possible to go beyond some flighty New Year resolutions made today and forgotten tomorrow? I remember working with a manager who was very determined to have his staff write down New Year goals. Yes, write down! Make a detailed list of all the ways that you will enrich your social connections and commitments to your family, your work, your business, your faith practices and as a neighbour of your community. Without checking them of course, he made us seal the resolutions in an envelope and advised us to put them in a safe place to open next year. Naturally, he could not guarantee the outcome, but I have always been amazed how close these resolutions had become reality throughout the year.

This quiet time of the New Year, much of the time spent indoors, gives us more time to reflect on the well-being and the future of our community. With unrest in other parts of the world, we can give support and be thankful for a year of promise guaranteed by the Christ we celebrated at Christmas.



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# BREAKING BARRIERS: PETERBOROUGH HOSTS FLAGSHIP PROGRAM FOR INCLUSION

By Laurie Deshane

The City of Peterborough is leading the way and is thrilled to have been chosen to host the 1st "Project SEARCH" in the area! This internationally-recognized internship program is designed to provide students with special needs, both academic and workplace skills and experience; in conjunction with each other. Put simply, the program breaks down barriers to employment by giving students the chance to work in a supportive workplace setting, while at the same time strengthening their academic learning.

Peterborough is proud to be implementing this program for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, confirming their ongoing commitment to inclusion. This initiative also fulfills the priorities outlined in the 2025–2028 Accessibility Plan; representing a win-win for Peterborough.

They will be working with community partners throughout Peterborough and the Kawarthas. They are partnering with Peterborough Victoria Northumberland and Clarington (PVNC) Catholic District School Board, the City of Peterborough and Fleming College's Muskoka-Kawarthas Employment Services. Fleming College is proud to support this worthwhile project and will be working closely with all partners to ensure its success.

Project SEARCH provides students with special education needs, an essential

connection from the classroom to competitive employment. Students will be fully immersed in a real business environment whereby they gain marketable job skills, professional confidence, and real-world experience.

Project SEARCH offers individuals a unique, business-led employment preparation program that takes place entirely at the workplace for one academic year. This facilitates a seamless stream of classroom instruction, career exploration, and hands-on training through worksite rotations. The program concludes with an individualized job search and placement.

As the host organization, Peterborough is offering workplace immersion opportunities for six interns through three rotating placements during the 2025-26 school year. The Ministry of Education has provided funding for this program. Project SEARCH staff are providing ongoing support.

Interns will be working in several City departments, including People and Culture, Children's Services, Environmental Services, Cultural Services, Recreation Services, Peterborough Public Library, Art Gallery of Peterborough, and the Riverview Park and Zoo. And there is more good news: Peterborough Transit will be providing interns with free public transportation during their internship.

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## HBPS FOOD DRIVE FOR LOCAL FAMILIES



At Havelock Belmont Public School, we organized a holiday food drive to support the Havelock Center and assist local families in need during this season of giving. Each year, our school community comes together to help ensure that every family has access to the essentials that make the holidays a little brighter. This reflects our ongoing commitment to caring for one another and strengthening the bonds within our community.

Building these connections is an important part of who we are as a school. When students, staff, families, and community partners work together, we create a stronger, more supportive environment for everyone. We are grateful for the generosity shown by our school community and proud to contribute to the meaningful work being done at the Havelock Center.

## HONOURING MIZ AT HBPS'S FESTIVE FEAST



December 12 was our annual festive event, students and staff at HBPS dressed in their brightest colours to remember and celebrate our good friend and long-time volunteer, Miz. Her presence was deeply felt throughout the school, as we took time to reflect on the many ways she contributed to our community. Miz was known for her generosity, warmth, and the genuine joy she brought to every interaction. Whether she was helping at events, supporting classrooms, or greeting families with

her trademark smile, she played an important role in shaping the caring culture we value so much.

Each year, our School Council, along with dedicated community members, provides a special holiday meal for our students. This cherished tradition gives students an opportunity to sit together, share a warm meal, and enjoy a sense of connection and celebration. It is an event that requires many hands and countless hours of preparation, and we are deeply grateful for everyone who continues to give their time, energy, and heart to make it possible.

Miz was always an integral part of this celebration, just as she was with so many school initiatives. Her commitment to our students and her unwavering kindness have left a lasting impact. As we gathered today, we honoured her memory in the most fitting way—by coming together as a community, supporting one another, and celebrating the joy she so freely shared.

## HOLIDAY CONCERT AT HBPS

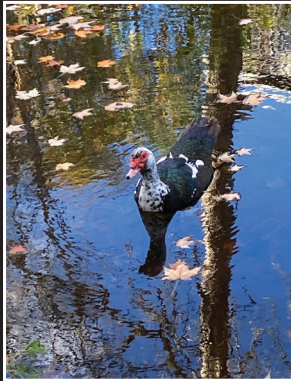


At HBPS, every class took to the stage for our annual holiday concert. Featured here is Mrs. Hare's class performing "Up on the Rooftop" with rhythm sticks, bringing energy and excitement to the audience. This concert is a joyful tradition that allows students to come together, share their talents, and celebrate one another.



# PHOTOGRAPHER'S CORNER

The Rail invites photographers to submit photos from the Greater Havelock Area for publication to [havelockgail@gmail.com](mailto:havelockgail@gmail.com).



Anne Olscher



Monica de Savoye



Monica de Savoye

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## DAVE MILLWARD

*By Kathy Clement*

Since beginning my writing career with The Rail in early 2022, there have been some stories that have touched my heart and made me happy to tell their story. This is one of those stories.

Dave Millward was one of the first residents at Station Place and at the grand opening he read a poem that he wrote for the occasion. I decided that I really wanted to talk to Dave and find out his story.

So, we sat down in the afternoon of Remembrance Day and talked and talked.

Dave and his late wife Jean were born and raised in Hamilton. They were married at the young age of 18 and that love lasted for 63 years. At the age of 20 or 21 while Dave was in the Navy and on a training session outside of Bermuda on a mine sweeper an accident happened that changed his life forever. The person who was supposed to be attending the boiler room that day was ill and so Dave replaced him. That is a day that he will never forget. The boiler exploded and Dave had burns to both his legs and lost all of his hearing in his left year. The Navy flew him to Florida and from there an Air Defense plane took him to Toronto to the veteran's hospital known as Sunnybrook. Dave spent around a year there before going home. He said that the love of his wife, child and his faith is what got him through this incredibly hard episode. He was offered another job but this time it was with Air Force where he remained for another seventeen years as an instructor.

After 22 years of serving our country Dave felt it was time to make some decisions so he applied at GM in Oshawa and was hired almost immediately. His wife Jean really didn't like living in Oshawa so after looking around they settled in Peterborough with their teenage son Jim. She said it reminded her of when they lived in eastern Canada. Dave continued to work at GM until his retirement in 1996 to become a full-time caregiver to his wife for the next twenty-five years.

Dave continued to live in Peterborough but because of his hearing loss his mobility was affected. As a veteran he was asked if he wanted to go to the LTC in Sunnybrook and he said NO. His family was here and it just wouldn't work. So, thus begins the next part of his journey. His move to Station Place.

Dave was a lay minister for the Baptist Church and so it was a natural for him to help his new family adjust to their new home. His poem tells it all.

My last words on Dave. What a kind and caring person. It was such a joy to sit and talk with him and as I continue to volunteer there, I hope that we have many more conversations. Perhaps more poems to read. Thank you Dave.

### Station Place L.T.C. Home — A New Place to Call Home

*By Resident Dave Millward*

The doors have opened; it's a fresh new start.  
The walls may be new, but love is old;  
It's a place of kindness, with warmth and heart,  
many stories waiting to be shared and told.  
The Residents approach, stepping inside  
with cautious grace, uncertain eyes, a slower pace.  
Some in strength, some feeling weak,  
All longing for the peace we seek.  
New neighbours greet with smiling eyes.  
A sense of home begins to rise.  
The days may change, the seasons flow;  
But friendships here will surely grow.  
Within these halls, a life renewed,  
Comfort found in all that's true.  
Laughter echoes, hands extend,  
A home, a haven, hearts to mend.  
Though journeys now begin to slow,  
The light will always glow.  
A safe embrace, a space to rest,  
Where every soul is truly blessed.  
A lifestyle transition, a significant moment,  
Bringing peace, comfort, and new friendships —  
filled with hope, reflection, and reassurance  
for a safe and caring place.

## ON THE MOVE

*By Brooke Wrightly*

In the first quarter of 2025, approximately 7,342 people moved from Ontario to Alberta. Over the last full year (2023), it is estimated that around 40,000 people made the move from Ontario to Alberta. These figures represent a consistent trend of interprovincial migration from Ontario to Alberta, driven by factors like affordability and economic opportunities.

In the first quarter of 2025, Nova Scotia had a net interprovincial

population gain of 424 people from Ontario. While the exact number for the full year is not yet available, data from previous quarters shows continued migration from Ontario, with the net inflow being 570 people in the final quarter of 2024.

First Quarter 2025: 424 net inflows from Ontario • Last Quarter of 2024: 570 net inflows from Ontario.



## CORDOVA CORNER NEWS

*By Laurie Deshane*

Some wonderful news for Cordova; the Cordova Mines outdoor rink is getting a major upgrade thanks to a \$145,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation! The hope is to see this pad become a year round space for recreation. In the summer months, it could be transformed into a lively spot for basketball and pickleball, giving Cordova even more opportunities to come together, stay active, and enjoy the outdoors.

Think your chili has what it takes? Here's your chance to earn CMRA bragging rights! **The 4th Annual Cordova Mines Recreation Association Chili Cook-off** will be on **Saturday, January 24** at the **Cordova Mines Community Centre** from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Register your pot with Shelley at 705-778-1602. Not ready to compete? No problem! Come sample some incredible chilis and treat yourself to a hearty bowl. Don't miss out on this delicious community event!

Santa came early to the Havelock Rail this year with a generous donation from the **Cordova Mines Recreation Association (CMRA)**. The CMRA has been an integral part of the Cordova Community over the past few years. Through their local fundraising events, they have raised support and nurtured a "spirit of belonging" to the tiny Hamlet of Cordova. They also support several worthwhile organizations in the community other than Cordova.

In the spirit of the New Year, I want to give a HUGE shout out to some of the unsung heroes I met last year; those who work quietly in the background, doing good and making a difference in our community.

Firstly, I want to recognize **Rhonda Dobranic** for her humble dedication to our furry friends. She has nursed, fed, delivered, nurtured, and comforted cats that many overlook. From travelling to the Peterborough Humane Society and kennels, to opening her own warm garage for a cat recovering after surgery, Rhonda has shown extraordinary care. She is, in every sense, a true hero. Thank you, Rhonda, for caring for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Secondly, I would like to recognize **Sue Cushing** for her tireless dedication to our community. Whether volunteering with the Women's Belmont Institute, collecting goods for seniors, lending a hand at seniors' homes, centres and residences, or supporting her lake, Sue is always out there helping. Thank you, Sue, for all that you do!

**Happy New Year to all of you and remember to always be kind!**

## CMRA THANK YOU

The Cordova Mines Recreation Association would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to every individual and business who participated, volunteered, or donated throughout 2025. Our hamlet may be small, but our community spirit is enormous! That spirit stretches far beyond Cordova — reaching into Havelock, Marmora, Norwood, and surrounding areas.

Our volunteer team couldn't make our events possible without the generous support of local businesses and community members. Your contributions truly make a difference. Thank you! As we look ahead to 2026, we're always grateful for new volunteers who'd like to join us and help keep our community events thriving. Please contact our president, Lisa at 613-472-3650, for any details about volunteering.

From all of us at CMRA, we wish everyone all the best and the happiest 2026!

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## MENTAL HEALTH TIP

*By Hannah Lewis, Creative & Playful Counselling*

Do you like research and studies? Some people find it fascinating to see what “research says”. Some people are very interested in hearing the “evidence”.

Here’s an interesting topic for you to look into... animals and mental health.

Some studies suggest having animals improves your mental health.

Some suggest they can make it worse.

I wonder if it depends on you. Do you enjoy your pet? Do you cuddle and play and go for walks together? Do they make you smile and keep you company? Or do they chew your favourite shoes and pee on your floor? Are they only in the house because a spouse or housemate insisted they get a pet?

If you have a pet that brings you joy, you can tap into that joy during the long winter months. Invite Fido to snuggle up with you while you sip tea or catch the game. Take him for a walk or tell him about your day.

Together create a comfortable routine for the day. These simple acts can help you to feel happier, calmer and more productive. Some say this can reduce your anxiety and depression.

If you have a pet that gets under your skin, this can increase your anxiety and depression. So start exploring boundaries to avoid this. If they are trying to steal your shoe when you just want to relax, give them a safe space where they can’t get to your shoe. If the smell of the cat litter from the cat that isn’t even yours is getting to you, sit down with the cat’s person and come to an agreement on a reasonable schedule for having the litter cleaned up.

So many of us are drawn to having pets around us. The classic question “are you a cat person or a dog person” comes up so often, if you are neither you may find that rather awkward!

This mental health tip is: Let your animals bring you comfort and love; find ways to manage animal behaviours so that they don’t bring you unnecessary stress.



## KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FINAL SERVICE

*By Elmer Buchanan*



On October 25, members, former members and Havelock citizens packed Knox Presbyterian Church to celebrate 140 years of activity. Popular former minister Rev. Roger Millar, clerk of session Lamoine Hodge. Music director Kelly Gaebel and several other Presbytery dignitaries were on hand to participate in the service and oversee the final act of closure on the church steps.

On a personal level, it was a sad day for me to reflect on the fact that my ancestors, the Buchanans, were one of a handful of families that worked tirelessly to make Knox Church a reality 140 years ago. In my youth, I spent most Sunday mornings in that building which now awaits the next chapter in its future. Let’s hope there is a community group or person who will step up to find a useful purpose for this wonderful building.

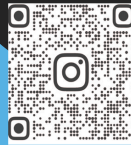


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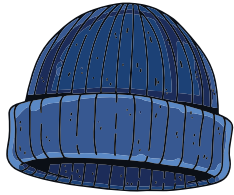
# FOOTE ON FILM

By John H. Foote

## FIVE BEST FILMS OF 2025

1. **ONE BATTLE AFTER ANOTHER** - Paul Thomas Anderson's masterpiece has dominated the critics awards and will bring home a slew of Oscars. Leonardo di Caprio and Sean Penn are electrifying, Penn terrifying, the entire cast is perfection including newcomer Chase Infiniti. Great on a level of the great films of all time. Revolutionaries past and present go to war with Trumps America.
2. **SINNERS** - This vampire film is far better than was expected. Vampires come calling one night at a jazz joint owned by two gangster black brothers both played by Michael B. Jordan. The scares come fast and furious and the entire cast is superb with a special shout out to Hailee Steinfeld. Directed by Ryan Coogler who superbly reimagines the vampire film.
3. **FRANKENSTEIN** -- Benicio Del Toro's remake from the original tale by Mary Shelley is a handsome remounting of the films of the thirties. Beautifully designed and acted with sensitivity by Jacob DeGord as the creature, who at first is a monster but who educates himself to discover from where he came. The scenes in the frozen north, stunning were shot in Toronto. Breathtaking.
4. **HAMNET** -- Outstanding adaptation of the best selling novel which explores the writing of Hamlet, Shakespeare's greatest tragedy at a time when he lost his son, which gutted his wife, brilliantly portrayed by Jessie Buckley who seems Oscar bound for her profoundly moving performance. Been many years since I was moved to tears by a film but this one did it.
5. **SENTIMENTAL VALUE** -- A chamber piece of a film about a father who was a famous stage director trying to re-connect with his daughters who are interested in no such thing. Elle Fanning is a standout as one of the daughters but the film belongs to veteran actor Stellan Skarsgård as the neglectful director.
6. **TRAIN DREAMS** -- An outstanding Netflix film about a man of the west in the 20th century, who falls into cutting timber for the ever expanding railroad as men conquered the west. Joel Edgerton an underrated actor is superb as the man working at hard labour to feed his wife and young daughter. Beautifully filmed but it is the acting that makes the film and Edgerton and Felicity Jones are Oscar worthy. Haunting and ghostly.
7. **BUGONIA** -- Strange little film in which Emma Stone again proves why she is among the greatest actresses working in film today. Stone is the curt, cold CEO of a major corporation who is kidnapped by two of her employees who think she is an alien with hostile plans for the earth. Jesse Plemons is the paranoid kidnapper who is convinced she is an alien, The last twenty minutes are original and strange, yet oddly beautiful.
8. **JAY KELLY** -- In stand out performances, George Clooney is excellent as a major movie star questioning his life and even better is Adam Sandler as his loyal agent and friend who spends more time with the star than his own family, which he is regretting. Directed and written by Noah Baumbach, Clooney is terrific among the other stars but it is Sandler's film.
9. **MARTY SURPREME** -- It seems Timothée Chalamet will make a return to the Oscar stage after nearly winning last year for his work as Bob Dylan in A Complete Unknown (2024) for which he should have won. He might just win for his commanding work here as a man who believes himself to be the greatest ping pong player in the world. Wildly entertaining with Chalamet superb.
10. **DIE MY LOVE** -- Jennifer Lawrence gives her finest performance here as a woman in the throes of post-partum depression, maybe, loneliness, maybe or utter madness. Living with her partner portrayed by Robert Pattinson they dance, drink, have wild and very franks sex, have a child, grow bored with each other, come back together, all a very wild ride. Lawrence is astounding. Oscar awaits.

John Foote, a local resident, a world renowned author and film critic will be contributing a monthly article on films to the Rail. We thank John for helping bring film news to our readers.



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## FEATURED GUEST SPEAKERS 2026

*By Kathy Reid, Norwood and District Horticultural Society*

I have had the pleasure of meeting several readers of The Havelock Rail who, over the past year, have shared their interest in gardening and other horticultural interests. So, I thought I would share with you the line-up of guest speakers that will be featured at the meetings of the Norwood and District Horticultural Society for the first half of 2026. As I have mentioned, we meet at the Royal Canadian Legion in Norwood on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. Not a member? Plan to join us as a guest!

Given that the weather can make it difficult to join a meeting in person, the January and February meetings will be a hybrid, meaning you can join by Zoom instead of attending at the Legion. All other meetings will be held in person.

January 13th: "Climate Change and the Garden" with Lorraine Johnson – Cultivation Activist and Author

February 10th: "The Power of Plants – For Health" with Frank Ferragine (aka Frankie Flowers) – Gardening and Weather Media Personality and Author

March 10th: "Success with Growing Vegetables" with Chris Freeburn, Master Gardener

April 14th: "Local Hardy Perennials by Colour" with Garry Edwards, Horticulturalist and Owner of Meadow View Nursery

May 12th: "Creating a Beautiful Cut-flower Garden with Modest Amounts of Space" with Jennifer McKelvie, Owner of Old Farm House Flowers

June 9th: "Native Trees and Shrubs for Every Season" with Silvia Strobl, Master Gardener

Be sure to follow us Facebook for further details about each meeting and how to join by Zoom. All the best for 2026!



## OBITUARY



**WATSON, ROBERT JAMES "GIZ"** — July 31, 1947 – December 9, 2025

It is with deep sadness we announce the passing of our dear brother, Robbie/Robby/Rob/Giz (depending upon what age he was when you met him) Watson.

Rob was born in Peterborough and raised in Havelock where he lived his entire life. He chose to continue to live in Havelock after his parents and sisters moved to Toronto when he was in Grade 13. After graduating from Norwood District High School, he began working at Unimin Mine for 2 weeks which turned into 40 plus years.

Over the years, Rob's passions have included hanging out and working at our grandfather's service station; playing and watching hockey; curling; driving trips that took him coast to coast; watching ball games at the park; visiting horse pulls at fairs both local and Stateside; and walking the streets of Havelock and trails around

town, socializing as he went. Rob always enjoyed being in, on or near the water – swimming, water-skiing, boating, and fishing. Trapping was a hobby at one time too. During the summers, he continued the tradition of our parents and grandfather of providing an open invitation to family and friends to enjoy all that the cottage at Round Lake had to offer.

Due to a heart attack, Robby/Rob/Giz died at his home as he would have wanted. He was predeceased by his parents, Jean and Jim Watson. He is survived by his sisters, Carol, and Lois (Don Dwight) and many cousins.

Rob has been cremated. A celebration of his life will take place in the spring. Once a date and details have been decided, they will be announced. Online condolences may be made at [www.brettfuneralchapels.com](http://www.brettfuneralchapels.com).

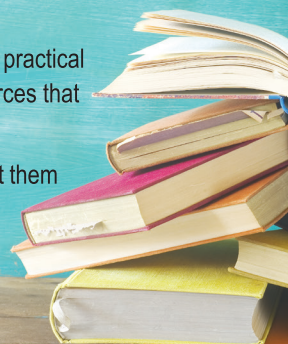
## LIBRARY NEWS By Nancy Law, Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Public Library

The holiday season is over, so now it's time to relax and catch up on your reading. New books that have recently been added to our shelves are Lee Child Exit Strategy, David Baldacci Nash Falls, Janet Evanovich King's Ransom and Nora Roberts' book 3 in the Lost Bride Trilogy the Seven Rings. We also have the latest Dog Man by Dav Pilkey and Robbie Robertson's *Insomnia*.

We are adding a new e-resource to our database Mango Languages. It is a fun and encouraging way to learn practical conversations in over 70 languages. There is also a free mobile app. Also don't forget to check out the other e-resources that are located on our webpage under online resources/databases.

Do you need to print out a return label for something that you received over the holiday? Don't forget that you can print them off at the library.

As always please check out our webpage at [www.hbmlibrary.on.ca](http://www.hbmlibrary.on.ca) and our Havelock Cordova Libraries Facebook page for upcoming events etc.



## ENVIRONMENTAL TIP OF THE MONTH

*By Lorraine Roulston*

**COMMITTEE ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP:** Every community has groups of like-minded individuals. Whether they are known as a committee, society, club, team, association, or network—some members should be appointed as environmental advocates. These 'Eco Avengers' would—Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Revamp, Refill, Recover, Repair, Rethink, and suggest Composting alternatives to creating trash. The concept benefits both the treasurer's budget and lightens the load of the clean-up crew.



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## SPORTS



### BEAVER CUBS *By Brooke Wrightly*

In the Canadian Scouting program the Beavers are the youngest group. They range in age from 5 to 7. Each level of Scouting has a top section award the youth can work towards over 3 years.

The beaver top award is The North Star Award. In order to achieve this award the Beaver exemplify in their Outdoor Adventure Skills, Community Service and then complete a community oriented project. Although the youth will often work together on many Skills, the individual beaver needs to come up with their own idea for the community project.

Beaver Scout Jude Thompson asked his mother to attend a township meeting with him to get counsel approval for his project, a Community Book Lending Library. After receiving approval Jude asked his grandfather for assistance in constructing the book box. HBM installed the box in the Rotary Park. On Tuesday November 25th 2025, Beaver Scout Jude Thompson cut the ribbon to open his Community Book Lending Library installed at the Rotary Park in Havelock. Jude's fellow Beaver Scouts brought books to fill the Library which is now open for the whole community to borrow, donate and swap books from for their reading enjoyment.

"Congratulations Jude on a job-well-done in which you can take pride for years to come!" stated Beaver Leader Phil Higgins.

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE!

*By Larry Pick*

Or, in the case of Havelock Community Care, a Community effort. The 2025 Toonie Auction was held on Thursday, December 4. One hundred and thirty ticket holders descended upon the Havelock Legion to take part in the 20th annual Toonie Auction. The total amount at the end of the day totaled \$9,700.00 raised in support of the programs offered by Community Care staff and volunteers.

Anyone who has attended the Auction in past years will know that the event does not just happen. Dozens of volunteers work with Centre Staff to plan the day including approaching the auction item donors (listed below), organizing the hall location, lunch menu and catering as well as coordinating volunteers working at the event to make sure everything happens without major hitch.

A huge Thank You to all Donors, Volunteers, and Auction Bidders. Before too many months Havelock Community Care will begin planning the 2026 version of this Community Favorite event.

Please support the following businesses and community individuals and groups without whom the auction would not exist.

Belmont Farmstead	High Spring Trading Post & Saddlery	Pup's Tree Service
Belmont Women's Institute	Highland Timbre Mart, Havelock	Quinn's Horse Wraps
Blakey's	Home Hardware, Havelock	Station Place
Circle K, Havelock	K.C. Treats	Terrie Wensley, Kosh Lake
Covia	Ken Tompkins, Kosh Lake	The Cottage, Havelock
Crossroads Restaurant	King's Reliable Used Cars	The Handley Family, Havelock
Deb Follett, Kosh Lake	Maloney Metal Works	The Mad Hatter's, Kosh Lake
Dr. Crane, Station Place	Marilyn Davison, Kosh Lake	The North Bay of Oak Lake
East End Market, Havelock	Martin Partridge	The Ranch, Havelock
Finlay Heating	Mary Garron	Westben Theatre
Foodland Havelock	Matthew Davison, Kosh Lake	Wildflower Bakery
Harold Ellis	Mutt Mix	Woody Burger and Pizzeria
Havelock Truck & Auto Repair	Perfection Plus	
HBM Township Office	Pharmasave, Havelock	



## Royal Canadian Legion

**Havelock Belmont Br 389**  
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UPCOMING EVENT:  
**HOLIDAY THEME NIGHT**  
 DECEMBER 15th 2025  
 PRIZES FOR BEST HOLIDAY WEAR  
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Stay tuned for more event nights coming soon

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## RECIPE

### FRITTATA

By Kathy Clement

Frittata is just quiche's crustless cousin! Time to clean out the fridge after Christmas and use up some of those leftovers. This is great for lunch or dinner. Just add a salad or some coleslaw. I love it because you don't have to worry about a soggy crust.

#### Tips:

It is best to stir fry any raw veggies first on top of the stove. Eg: onions  
Mix everything together and put in a greased deep dish pie plate.

#### Ingredients:

- 6 eggs beaten
- ¼ cup heavy cream or milk
- 1 cup of cheese
- 2 cups of vegetables or a mix of vegetables and leftover meat
- Herbs of your choice. I like basil or rosemary and of course salt & pepper



Bake in a 350 oven until set and slightly brown around the edges.

Note: I like mine with a small dollop of sour cream on top.

## LOCAL FARMER ELECTED PRESIDENT OF PCFA



At a recent Annual General Meeting of the Peterborough County Federation of Agriculture, Tracey Dafoe was elected President. Tracey along with husband Jim and son Jesse operate a dairy and beef farm in Belmont Township. Tracey has been very active in 4H clubs and dairy organizations for many years. She and Jim have been local farmers for over thirty years.

## 30 YEARS OF SERVICE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

Mark Finlay receives a 30 year service pin as a volunteer firefighter.

Left to right: Ray Haines, Mark Finlay, Kevin Holt, Jim Martin



## BELMONT-METHUEN AND HAVELOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY



This photograph is of the Steenburgh family in Cordova Mines: Parents are Christy and Ethel with daughters Reta and Stella.

As the new year begins, we are hoping that the ceiling project is finished and we can now get back on track. We would love it if you would share your family histories and pictures with us, so that future generations will know how our community came to be. If it is difficult for you to visit us, please call 705-768-4895 or 705-778-7896 and one of us will come to you. If you are interested in becoming a member, the fee for 2026 is only \$10 and our first meeting will be Wednesday, January 14th at 10:30.

## COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY - TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025

- Council received the delegation from Sabrina Chang and Shalin Patel from CIMA regarding the Havelock Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Phase 1 Upgrades and the status of funding opportunities for information.
- Council approved the recommendation from the Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) for Minerals Canada Exploration Inc. to proceed with the Geophysical/Geologic Analysis and Assessment.
- Council approved the contract with Waste Connections of Canada for waste collection services. .
- Council approved the repairs to the accessible entrance and accessible ramp be awarded to Rivett Architectural Hardware and SRP Electric at a cost of \$18,236.96 and the option for the ceiling repair in the Old Town Hall to be tongue and groove at a cost of \$28,698.19.
- Council directed staff to research the process for how Community Safety Zones are implemented and bring forward a report to a future open session council meeting that details this process.

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2025

- Delegations from Joel Wiebe of Alto regarding the High Speed Train and Shawn Morey of the Peterborough Humane Society regarding Services Overview and Proposal were received for information.
- Council requested that further details from Peterborough Humane Society on the additional fees for intake, medical costs, staff response and mileage be provided for review.
- Council received the report regarding Indexation of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen's Development Charges for 2026 for information.
- Special Council Meetings for the 2026 budget deliberations are scheduled for January 7, 2026 and January 8, 2026 commencing at 9:30 am.
- Council approved the application to the Community Grant Program from the Belmont Methuen and Havelock Historical Society.
- Council received the Thank-You letter from the Cordova Mines Recreation Association regarding the Community Grant for information.
- Council ratified the nominees (Sandra Vaughan, Dave Taillefer, Sarah Frank) to the Peterborough County OPP Detachment Board.

## TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS

*By Paul Stevens*

Economic growth has been stagnating in the current Ontario and Quebec Transportation Corridor and falling behind productivity levels in our fellow G7 countries and the rest of Canada. Increasing transportation costs due to increasing demand and the need for ongoing maintenance are hurting the economy. The current corridor is not equipped to handle increasing congestion due to increased demand and population increases. The existing rail infrastructure does not have the required direct links between communities.

On Tuesday morning the local council received a presentation from ALTO, the crown corporation that is leading a major infrastructure project for a high speed passenger rail system that connects Toronto, Peterborough, Ottawa, Montreal, Trois-Rivieres and Quebec City with dedicated electrified tracks. Related to Speeds of up to 300km/hod more are predicted. The tracks will be dedicated to this high speed rail system and avoid delays related to yielding right of ways to freight trains. Travel times from major points are expected to halve when the system is in full use.

Benefits of the system will come from more cooperation from companies in different cities having easier personnel access to each other, more effective workforces because of the ease of travel from home to most beneficial employment opportunities, and improved tourism opportunities.

Some examples of projected time savings include Toronto to Ottawa =2 hours 17 minutes, Toronto to Montreal, =2 hours 23 minutes, Toronto to Peterborough = 47 minutes.

Needless to say, there hasn't been universal agreement in the plan. Smaller communities would be happy with less speed and more destinations. Of course that would mean additional rails or delayed travel time.

Only time will tell what we wind up with. High speed rail systems do not have a universal record of achieving projected promises, however the number of systems built over the last decades provide hopes for a successful end result.





# H-B-M HAPPENINGS



**Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen**

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Phone: 705-778-2308 Fax: 705-778-5248

*Please note this was sent to publication as of December 22nd, 2025*

## HOLIDAY HOURS:

### MUNICIPAL OFFICE

The Township Office will be closed from Wednesday, December 24th, 2025, at 12:00pm (noon) and will reopen Friday, January 2nd, 2026, at 8:30am.

### VILLAGE CURBSIDE GARBAGE & RECYCLING

#### Garbage Pickup

- Thursday, January 1st – collection moves to Friday, January 2nd

#### Recycling

- Thursday, January 1st collection moves to Saturday, January 3rd

## COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE:

Please note all meetings are hybrid, which means they are open to the public within Council Chamber and virtually via zoom. Zoom link can be found on the first page of the Meeting Agenda. All meetings will begin at 9:30am.

- Wednesday, January 7, 2025 – Special Budget Meeting
- Thursday, January 8, 2025 – Special Budget Meeting
- Tuesday, January 13, 2025 – Regular Council Meeting

Meeting dates are subject to change, please visit the Township website <https://events.hbmtwp.ca/council> for more information.

## WINTER MAINTENANCE - NOTICE:

As per By-law 2024-33, no overnight parking is permitted on Village streets from November 1st to April 15th between the hours of 10:00pm – 7:00am. Vehicles in violation will be ticketed, and/or towed.

### REMINDER: DO NOT PLACE SNOW OR ICE ON ROADWAYS OR SIDEWALKS

It is a violation of the Highway Traffic Act to place snow or ice on the roadway. R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8, s. 181. Shoveling or plowing snow and ice onto roadways and sidewalks is a pedestrian and motorist safety issue, as well it impedes Township roadway and sidewalk clean-up work.

Often frozen snow/ice on roadways will require Public Works crews to return to previously cleared areas, which adds to the time it takes to clear roadways.

## CAREERS:

Please see our website for current job postings.

<https://www.hbmtwp.ca/township-services/careers-and-volunteering/>

## NEW CARBON MONOXIDE LAWS IN ONTARIO:

The new carbon monoxide laws in Ontario, effective January 1, 2026, will significantly expand the installation of carbon monoxide alarms in residential buildings. Here are the key changes:

• **Every Storey:** CO alarms must be installed on every storey of a home, including basements and floors without bedrooms.

• **Adjacent to Sleeping Areas:** Alarms are still required adjacent to every sleeping area, but the obligation now extends to all levels of the home.

Install CO alarms in your home if you have a fuel-burning appliance, a fireplace or an attached garage. Fuel-burning appliances can include furnaces, hot water heaters, gas or wood fireplaces, It's The Law

Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Fire Department 705-778-3183.

## ARENA ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES:

Support your local community and gain great business exposure by advertising in the H-B-M Community Centre on an Wall Board, On-Ice Board, or sponsor a Public Skating.

### ADVERTISING & SPONSORSHIP FEES:

Wall Board (4' x 7') – \$124.30/year (HST Included)

On-Ice Board (36' x 94 3/4") – \$237.30/year (HST Included) – Limited Space Available!

Sponsor Public Skating (2 Hours) – \$200.00 (HST Included)

To book your advertising or sponsor contact: Josh Storey, Supervisor of Parks, Recreation & Facilities 705-778-2891, [jstorey@hbmtwp.ca](mailto:jstorey@hbmtwp.ca).

## ANIMAL CONTROL:

As of January 1st, 2026 Peterborough Humane Society will no longer be providing enforcement for dogs and cats. Complaints/concerns can be submitted via Cloudpermit at <https://www.hbmtwp.ca/township-services/by-laws/> or by calling in to our office at 705-778-2308.

## PUBLIC SKATING SCHEDULE:

Havelock Community Centre - 39 George Street East, Havelock

• **Sundays from 1pm – 3pm** • **Tuesdays from 5pm – 6pm**

Please bring your own skates and we strongly recommend skaters wear a CSA certified helmet. All children under 12-years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## A List of Local Events in Your Community

### MONDAY

**Community Care:** **Seated Yoga** every Monday at noon (17 Smith Dr.).

**Community Care:** **Blood Pressure Clinic** TBD from 9:30-10:30am.

**Community Care:** **Zoom Exercises** please contact CC at [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) or call the office.

**Havelock Seniors:** **Shuffleboard** at 1pm.

### TUESDAY

**The Legion:** **Zumba** exercises for seniors, 9:30-10:30am.

**The Legion:** **Cardio & Weights** 10:45-11:45am (bring your own weights).

**The Legion:** **Bingo** from 6:30pm-10pm. Doors open at 6pm.

**Community Care:** **Zoom Exercises** please contact CC at [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) or call the office.

**Havelock Seniors:** **Yoga Fit** at 11am.

**Havelock Seniors:** **Regular Euchre** from 7-9pm (bring a snack to share).

### WEDNESDAY

**The Legion:** **Line Dancing** from 9:30-10:30am.

**The Legion:** **Cardio & Weights** from 10:45-11:30am (bring your own weights).

**The Legion:** **Body Balance** from 11:40am-12:15pm.

**Havelock Centre:** **TOPS (Take off pounds sensibly)** 6:30-8pm.

**Community Care:** **Zoom Exercises** please contact CC at [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) or call the office.

**Havelock Seniors:** **Mid-Week Jammers** at 1pm.

**Havelock Seniors:** **Monthly Luncheon** January 14th at 11am. \$10. Please call 705-778-2386 to sign up.

**Community Care:** **Luncheon** at the United Church January 7th.

**Historical Society:** **Meeting** 10:30am lower level of the library January 14th.

### THURSDAY

**Havelock Seniors:** **Chair Yoga** at 11am. \$2.

**Havelock Seniors:** **Bid Euchre** every Thursday at 1pm. (doors open at 12:30pm) \$5.

**Community Care:** **Zoom Exercises** please contact CC at [www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us) or call the office.

**The Legion:** **Opens** at 1pm.

**The Legion:** **Ladies Dart League** doors open at 1pm-darts start at 1:30pm.

### FRIDAY

**The Legion:** **Mixed Fun Darts** from 7-10pm. All welcome.

**Cordova Community Centre:** **Yoga** every Friday 10:30-11:30am. \$18. Please contact 705-760-1296 for more information.

**Havelock Centre:** **Second Harvest Food Program** 2nd & 4th Friday from 10-11am.

**Havelock Seniors:** **Cribbage** at 1pm.

**The Legion:** **Shuffleboard** doors open at 1pm starts at 1:30pm.

### SATURDAY

**Havelock Seniors:** **Bid Euchre Tournament** January 3rd, doors open at 11:30am and food is available \$.

**The Legion:** opens at 1pm. **Meat Draw** at 3pm (8 Ottawa St.). (for rentals contact Michelle 416-605-5822 or 705-778-3728).

**The Legion:** **Wild Game Dinner** doors open at 5pm.

**The Legion:** **For Rentals** contact Michelle 416-605-5822 or 705-778-3728.

**Cordova Mines:** **Chili Cook-off** from 1-3pm.

### SUNDAY

**Havelock Stone Hall Sessions Concert Series:** 4th Sunday of every month at 2pm (Highway 7 and 6th Line.).

**Havelock Seniors:** **Bingo** at 6pm, doors open at 4:30pm, light lunch available.

### SUNDAY - CHURCH SERVICES

**St. Johns Anglican Church** 1st and 3rd Sunday Communion.

**Havelock Fellowship Baptist Church** 10:30am.

**Havelock & Trent River United Church** 10am.

**Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church** Mass at 9am.

**Cordova United Church** 9:30am every Sunday.