



HAVELOCK RAIL

SERVING THE GREATER HAVELOCK AREA

December 2025

Edition 78

Santa Comes To Town

By Martin Edge



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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If you have news stories, advertisements, announcements, classified ads or coming events, contact the appropriate email address above or mail to PO Box 660, Havelock, K0L 1Z0

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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.

ELMER'S EDITORIAL

The Christmas season is almost upon us and it means many different things to people. For some it is a religious experience to celebrate a rebirth of faith in a spiritual being. Many folks see Christmas as a time to visit with family and friends to enjoy traditional foods like turkey and plumb pudding. Others see Christmas as a time of giving. Frequently this means spending money on presents for friends, family and fellow workers.

Rather than buy more stuff for people who likely have a lot of stuff, Debbie in her letter to the editor has some good alternatives for those who wish to enjoy the spirit of giving without contributing to people's need for more storage. Other good local community groups in need are the Havelock Foodbank, Box 635, and Meals for Community Care Havelock. Every ten dollars you donate provides a subsidized meal for a Community Care person in Havelock. Be sure to designate your donation to a Havelock resident. And of course don't forget the Havelock Rail, Box 660.

It is easy to put a message in an envelope to a relative or friend that you have donated XXdollars in their name to a local community group of your choice. If you enjoy the gift of giving, this is a wonderful way to support others during the Christmas season.

On a separate note, Havelock enjoyed an excellent Santa Claus parade on a rainy evening on November 15th. The float entrants, as you can see on the front page, provided an excellent parade. All the volunteers from the Lion's Club and numerous others are to be thanked and congratulated for providing a wonderful experience for the Greater Havelock area community.



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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Christmas is fast approaching and I wonder what everyone will be doing for Christmas gifting. If you are like me, I don't want to buy my friends another trinket that they don't really need. Instead of a gift card, what about a donation to a worthwhile cause.

In keeping with that... What about keeping it LOCAL too.

Have you considered donating to one of our local churches like the United Church which opens its doors to help many groups in this Community. Or perhaps you could donate to the Havelock Belmont Public School so they can fulfill some of the items on their wish list. The Havelock Rail which is a free publication. And what about donating to the new Campbellford Hospital. The fundraising campaign has already started.

I think people think they need to donate huge amounts but you really don't have to. Every cent counts. Consider even \$5 or \$10 a month. Or even just \$10. When we all support our local places we see the benefits.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season.

Debbie

To the editor:

Last month I may have been identified accidentally as the author of "Desiderata". As much as I love the words, I certainly am not the author. Desiderata (which means "things to be desired") has an interesting history. Many believe that it originated at Old St. Paul's Church, Baltimore A.C. 1692.

This is a misunderstanding which arose in the late 1950s. At that time, the head of an historic old church in Baltimore printed up the established prose poem for his congregation. He added the name of his church, Old St. Paul's, at the bottom along with the year 1692. But that was merely the year of the founding of the church itself.

Instead, the accepted origin is that Desiderata was penned prior to World War II by Indiana poet/lawyer Max Ehrmann. He sent it out as a Christmas card. Later, hundreds of copies were circulated by a wartime doctor to patients and soldiers. The poem was eventually popularized by writers, performers, activists, politicians, and especially poster-makers. Its beautiful sentiments have touched many people. A copy hangs on a wall in our home.

Carolyn Knowles

Your Family Matters

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SIP OUTSIDE OF THE BOX: 5 FESTIVE WINES THAT REDEFINE HOLIDAY CHEER

Special Feature Writer: Leah Spooner

This holiday season we are venturing beyond the popular Cabernet Sauvignon and Pinot Grigio go-tos to sip outside of the box. Look for these affordable and expert-approved bottles to elevate your festive food pairings and family gatherings.

SPARKLING REDS

Sparkling red wines are making a comeback, and for good reason! This isn't your grandmother's Lambrusco - the sparkling reds we see on shelves today aren't overpowered by sugar, they are well-balanced and are much higher in quality. These bubbles are trending because they're unique, food-friendly, and most importantly - fun!

Try: *Riunite Lambrusco Reggiano 1950 Amabile*, LCBO #43952, \$14.40

CHENIN BLANC

Stop bringing the same boring white wine to dinner, instead, open a bottle of Chenin Blanc. This is a medium-bodied white wine that exudes freshness and style and can easily punch above its' price point. Chenin is so versatile and can be made dry or sweet, still or bubbles. Although it's known as South Africa's signature white grape, bottles can also be found from Ontario, Argentina and the Loire Valley in France (e.g. Vouvray).

Try: *Roberston Winery Chenin Blanc*, LCBO #495507, \$11.95

FRIENDLY RED BLENDS

Red blends are a road to harmony and intrigue in the glass. They offer an honest insight into the winemaker's vision for expressing their region and terroir thru their craft. Friendly red blends can be more approachable to a wider crowd, and easier to pair with festive dishes on the table. Forego

a classic cab/merlot blend and look for wines with a livelier profile, like a Sangiovese and Syrah mash-up.

Try: *SASYR*, LCBO #43948, \$15.95

TEMPRANILLO

Ready for a red that's sure to be a crowd-pleaser? No need to tell the meat-lovers, but this specific bottle is an organic, vegan-friendly, unoaked Tempranillo that boasts bright red cherry and licorice aromas from the glass. It exudes fresh, red fruit notes on the forefront of a medium-bodied palate that quickly evolves with a complex oomph of savoury dried herbs and subtle woody flavours. This wine guarantees to appease both light and heavy red drinkers and will accompany turkey, dressing, and root veggies nicely.

Try: *Mesta Organic Tempranillo*, LCBO # 44591, \$10.80

WHITE PORT COCKTAILS

If you think you know Port, think again. Another wine style that's making a comeback and especially as a cocktail base. White Port makes a smart, lower-alcohol substitute ringing in at only 20%abv. A chameleon for cocktails, it adds a subtle and tasty component for easy-to-make drinks this season. All you need is 1.5oz of White Port, ice, and your favourite soda water. Amp up the festiveness by throwing in some frozen cranberries and a sprig of thyme.

Try: *Fonseca White Port*, LCBO #276816, \$19.45

Follow along on my wine journey – Instagram/Fcbk @leahspooner_wine www.leahspooner-wine.com



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REMEMBRANCE DAY RECOGNITION HAVELOCK BELMONT PUBLIC SCHOOL

By Paul Stevens

I had the pleasure of observing the assembly held at the Havelock Belmont Public School on Friday November 14th. While not actually happening on Remembrance day I found the assembly was spot on in the points raised, the respectful acknowledgement of it's importance and the engagement of the students. Recalling remembrance days from my personal experience of these assemblies in the past there was typically one or two designated speakers who discussed the point of the day of remembrance. There was little actual connection for the students. What I found refreshing about the HB PS assembly was the breaking up of the assembly into multiple parts with each part managed and presented by different classes. This directly involved each classroom in a way that gave them ownership of a portion of the assembly. They were able to on focus in on a particular aspect of the remembrance. The young students seemed to me to be taking their effort and role in a more personal way than might otherwise have been the case. Congratulations to the teachers, staff and students for what I thought was a very well done assembly.



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INNOVATING FOR TOMORROW AT PETERBOROUGH REGIONAL HEALTH CENTRE

By Sandra Caswell

Peterborough Regional Health Centre has a bold vision for the future of healthcare in our region, including investing in state-of-the-art technology, fueling innovation and bringing lifesaving new services to our region.

Looking to the future needs of our growing regional community and aging population, PRHC plans to:

- expand cardiac care, including treatments never before offered in the region;
- make cancer care investments to ensure fewer patients need to travel for treatment;
- invest in mental health care to help address the surge in demand;
- build a state-of-the-art hybrid operating room so surgeons can perform multiple operations on the same patients, on the same day, in the same room.

Here's the catch ... the government doesn't fund hospital equipment and technology. PRHC relies on community donations to the Peterborough Regional Health Centre Foundation to fund the tools needed to save and

change lives. You've likely seen the highway billboards for the PRHC Foundation's \$70 million Campaign for PRHC. This fundraising campaign, now at 84% of its goal, will help usher in world-class healthcare, fueled by innovation, supported by cutting-edge technology and the best and brightest healthcare professionals. This is possible with community support and every donation counts.

Just ask Don Radnor, a long-time Havelock Lion who knows that when the community rallies together, amazing things happen. The Havelock Lions support local causes so that donation dollars go back into our region. They've been part of the excitement of the Campaign for PRHC by supporting PRHC's Pediatric Cancer Care expansion.

PRHC needs the support of our community to confront healthcare challenges head-on and reimagine care at PRHC to create a healthier, stronger region for all. If you can, please donate at prhcfoundation.ca or 705-876-5000. As Don says, "Success is everybody doing what they can to help. If you are doing what you can, you are doing enough."



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HAVELOCK SENIORS CLUB



CORDOVA CORNER NEWS

By Laurie Deshane



They did it again, another successful Halloween event for the children hosted by the **Cordova Mines Recreation Association**. There were smiling kids lined up to get their pumpkin so they could create some spooky designs for Halloween! There were snacks and drinks for all; and, of course, treats! The **Halloween dance** was well attended, with Lily Danielis spinning the tunes as DJ. Best Couple went to *Nick Haines* and *Olivia Downie*, while Best Female Costume was so spectacular, we still don't know who she was! As always, none of it would have been possible without our incredible volunteers: Meaghan Danielis, Irene Gough, Heather Shields, Nancy Grozelle, Lily Danielis, and Robert Stewart.

The **Cordova United Church** will be having their "Christmas Festival of Readings and Carols" on Wednesday, December 17th, at 7:00 pm. Refreshments and free will offering. Everyone is welcome!

Joy Simpson of *Joy Esthetics* and **Maeghan Ireland Danielis** of *Lotus Flower Wellness* have joined forces to create **Serenity Delivered Wild Wellness Mobile Spa**; a travelling spa experience that brings relaxation right to your door. Maeghan offers luxurious facials that leave your skin glowing, while Joy, a talented nail technician, specializes in intricate and artistic nail designs. Why not host a nail and spa party with your friends and family, treat yourself to a self-care day, or book a pampering session ahead of a special trip or celebration? *Serenity* is now just a doorstep away. Call Joy at 705-927-5584 or Maeghan at 705-977-6697 to book your session! What a wonderful Christmas gift this would be!

The **Cordova Mines Recreation Association** are selling tickets for a "Christmas Basket of Cheer" draw. All proceeds go directly towards supporting community events and programs. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. Draw Date December 18th. To get your tickets and a chance to win a festive Basket of Cheer, contact Nancy at getclancy@xplornet.com or call 613-472-2225.

Christmas time is here and everyone knows there's no better reason for a party! You're invited to the **2nd Annual Cordova Ugly Sweater Party**, hosted by BJ Hay on December 5, 2025 at the Cordova Mines Community Centre, 9:00 pm! Advance tickets are \$10.00. Dig out your ugliest Christmas sweater and join them for an evening of fun laughter, and dancing! Prizes for "ugliest" Men and Ladies Sweaters. All profits benefit the **Cordova Mines Recreation Association**. Reach out to *Candice Pollock*, *Leeanne Stephenson*, *Stephanie Downer*, or *BJ Hay* for tickets.



MENTAL HEALTH TIP

By Hannah Lewis, Creative & Playful Counselling

"It's the most wonderful time of the year." Or... It's the worst time of the year.

Some of us start celebrating Christmas mid-November. Some people prefer not to celebrate at all. This tip is for those who have a case of the "bah humbugs". It's okay if that's you this year.

The holidays can bring up stress, anxiety and sadness. They have a way of shining a light on money problems, loneliness, or family conflicts. This year, I want to challenge you to name what it is that steals your holiday spirit. And I don't mean that you should name your mother-in-law or wife. I mean name the feeling that those tough moments bring up. Maybe your wife causes stress because she is shopping more and it creates anxiety around money. So your wife isn't what is stealing your spirit - the anxiety is.

Once you have named that feeling, you can create a plan for dealing with it.

What can YOU change to alleviate that uncomfortable feeling? Can you try setting a budget? A no spend Christmas? Maybe you can work on stress management techniques. Try out mindfulness, meditation or exercise.

Maybe it's more than that. Maybe you are grieving a loved one. The holiday time brings up that heartache. Remember it is okay to take care of you. Maybe you will find spending time with others helps you to heal. Or maybe this year you need to spend more time alone. More time reading and sipping tea.

Whatever it is that is getting to you, try to name it and create a plan to help yourself. The important thing is that you don't just ignore it, shove it down and let it make you miserable. If you do this, you will continue to be miserable and you run the risk of making those around you miserable too. Taking care of yourself doesn't make you a scrooge, allowing yourself to spread misery does!



Construction on County Road 48 (George Street E) is underway and continuing until December 2025.

Completed Work:

George St E (Victoria St to Oak St) - Replacement of buried infrastructure has been completed, including a new water main, stormwater network, and sanitary system. Most recently, the paving has been completed.

Underway and Next Steps:

Quebec Street (Highway 7 to George Street W) - A full road reconstruction is currently underway along this section. The new sanitary system has been completed, and work is ongoing to install the new water main and stormwater infrastructure. Please note that a full road closure will remain in effect throughout the duration of construction. For the latest updates, please visit Municipal 511.

COUNTY ROAD 48 PROJECT UPDATE



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- Businesses remain open throughout construction.
- Alternative parking arrangements will be available.



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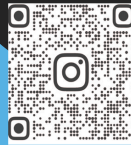


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OSCAR PREDICTIONS 3 -- BEST ACTOR

In my opinion the Oscar for Best Actor last year should have gone to Timothee Chalamet for his stunning performance as folk legend Bob Dylan in *A Complete Unknown* (2024). The young actor embodied Dylan in every way, doing his own singing, guitar playing and the playing of the harmonica. He brought to the screen Dylan's rumpled genius, his songs the poetry of a generation in rapid changing times. His songs became the anthem for the youth of America and Chalamet brought the soul of the artist to the screen. He will be back again this year, and likely many more with his performance as the hyperactive Marty Supreme. It is being called the performance of his career, and might be, which will see him nominated again for Best Actor.

Alongside him will be previous winners Leonardo Di Caprio as the revolutionary in *One Battle After Another*, George Clooney in *Jay Kelly*, and three time Best Actor winner Daniel Day-Lewis is a long shot for his son's directed film *Anemone*, which has earned acclaim in film festivals.

Emmy winner Jeremy Allen White is a potential nominee for his performance as Bruce Springsteen in *Springsteen -- Deliver Me From Nowhere* and has earned rave reviews in the early screenings. The Boss himself had great praise for the young actor in the film, a study of how he came to create his acclaimed acoustic album *Nebraska*.

Jesse Plemons is a potential nominee for his fine performance in *Bulgaria*, making him a potential nominee. Oscar Isaac could nab a nomination for his powerful work in *Del Toro's Frankenstein*, a marvelous looking remake and in the other major horror film *Michael B. Jordan* could be a nominee for his work as twins in *Sinners*. I expect multiple nominations for *Sinners*, a hugely successful film that puts clever spin on the vampire film.

In all it has been a fine year for performance and the four acting categories will be filled with outstanding, for the ages work.

In the supporting category Jacob Elordi is a revelation as the monster in *Frankenstein*. but he goes against Sean Penn as the dangerously, surly cop in *One Battle After Another*, and Adam Sandler as the agent in *Jay Kelly*.

Looking for his first ever nomination at 72 is Stellan Skarsgard in *Sentimental Voices* a huge critical hit with critics. Watch for *Sinners* to grab a nod for Delroy Lindo as well. Going to be a fun ride.

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.

MASON'S DONATION TO NORWOOD HOSPICE

By David Russell



In September a Masonic project car show became a community effort. With help from the Havelock Town Hall, the Patterson family, Rolf Joss and several others helped to raise a \$1000 for the Norwood Hospice.

TERRY FOX DAY AT HBPS

By Paul Stevens

The Havelock Belmont Public School celebrated their successful Terry Fox Campaign on Thursday October 23rd. The entire school was assembled in the auditorium to celebrate individual and class efforts. As part of the process the school thanked Foodland for their donations that made possible the Treats for terry initiative. In particular Janice York and John McGuire.

Recognition was given to classes that raised notable amounts of funds.

1st place went to Room 110, McKellar/Weatherup's class with \$915.00

2nd place went to Room 112, McCredie's class with \$558.30

3rd place went to Room 103, Racine /Villa's class with \$510.25

The list of outstanding individuals includes:

Charlee Baldock - \$100.00

Mitchell Hamilton - \$100.00

Josh Baldock - \$100.00

Luna Fulford - \$120.00

Maddie Budie - \$175.00

The final result is that the school comfortably beat their target for the year .

Congratulations to HBPS for making a significant contribution to the fight against cancer and for helping to move Terry's dream toward reality. "One Man can Dream of a World Without Cancer"



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IT'S TIME TO HANG THE CHRISTMAS WREATH By

Kathy Reid, Norwood and District Horticultural Society

For many people, placing a wreath on the front door of the home at Christmas time is part of the annual festive decoration. It's a tradition that predates Christmas itself—a symbol that has evolved from ancient rituals to modern celebration.

Wreaths were worn to signify honor and victory, rejuvenation, renewal. The wreath became a part of the celebrations of the winter solstice symbolising life and resilience during the harsh winter months. The circular shape of the wreath symbolises immortality and the idea of everlasting life.

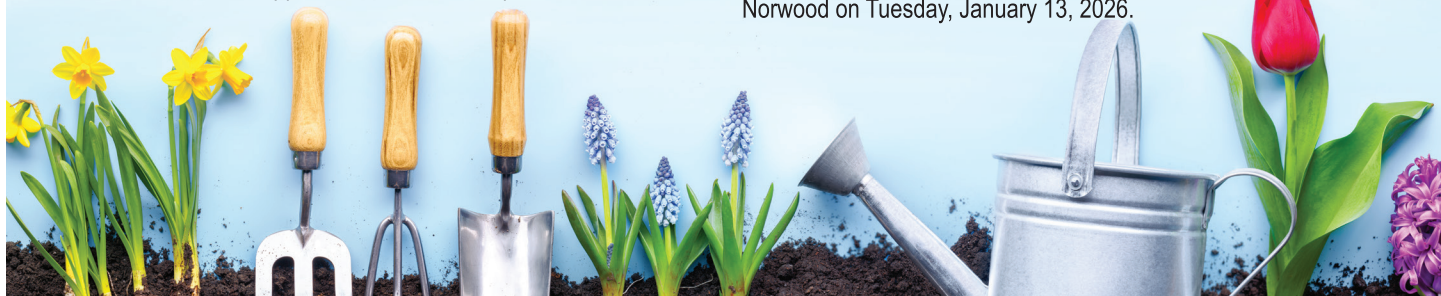
Today, the Christmas wreath has become one of the most recognisable symbols of the season, adorning doors, mantels, and city streets and continues to reflect its original symbolism.

Every wreath starts with a circular base made of wire, straw, grapevine, or floral foam and is wrapped with bunches of plant material. Fresh

evergreens, like pine, cedar and spruce represent resilience and eternal life; holly and ivy symbolise protection and faith; and pinecones and berries evoke renewal. The plant materials (a mix of different types) are wrapped together in small bunches and attached to the base with floral wire. The bunches should be about six inches in length. Overlapping the bunches will hide the stems as more bunches are added to the wreath. To add more interest, include herbs like rosemary and summer savory, cones, and dried flowers. Don't forget the bow which expresses unity and generosity!

Hanging a wreath is both an act of decoration and a gesture of hospitality—a quiet invitation to share in the joy of the season.

The Norwood and District Horticultural Society wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season. You are invited to be our guest at our first meeting of the new year taking place at the Royal Canadian Legion in Norwood on Tuesday, January 13, 2026.



BELMONT WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Kathy Clement

On October 24, members of the Belmont Women's Institute met with the team at TD Canada Trust's Havelock Branch to receive a generous \$1,000 donation from the bank's "Green Team," who fittingly appeared as the "Blue Team" — cheering on the Blue Jays.



The funds will support local youth through winter essentials, gym and outdoor equipment for Havelock Belmont Public School, and free, inclusive community skating during the Christmas break. A portion will also assist the HBM Youth Committee with their events.

After receiving the donation, members and Councillor Kathy Clement attended the grand opening of Station Place Long-Term Care Home to show their support.

Recently named Volunteer Group of the Year, the Belmont W.I. extends heartfelt thanks to TD Canada Trust, council, and community members across HBM and surrounding areas. Members are now preparing for the Heart of Hastings Christmas Tour at The Stone House Christmas Shoppe (6713 Hwy 7) on Nov. 7–9 and Nov. 14–16, from 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

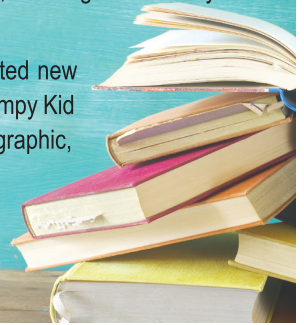
LIBRARY NEWS

By Nancy Law, Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Public Library

We at the libraries would like to give a huge shout out to our wonderful HBM Twisted Stitchers who raised \$480.00 for the Havelock Food Bank with their craft sale at the end of October. This fantastic group which meets at the Havelock Library are always going beyond in helping the community and beyond with their knitting and crocheting. We would like to extend a special thank you, to Diane W, who organized this year's sale. If you knit/crochet or would like to learn come to the library the last Monday of the month at 1:30.

New books on the shelf are John Grisham The Widow, Steve Burrows A Deceit of Lapwings and the eagerly awaited new Louise Penny The Black Wolf. We also have Christmas books. For the younger readers there is the new Diary of a Wimpy Kid and Gozzle a charming picture book by Julia Donaldson. The libraries also have magazines. We have Canadian Geographic, Consumer Reports, and Canadian Woodworking & Home Improvement just to name a few.

You will need to check with the libraries for our holiday hours, or any of our services etc. As always please check our webpage at www.hbmlibrary.on.ca our Havelock Cordova Libraries Facebook page for upcoming events, hours, services, and our databases. We would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season!



ENVIRONMENTAL TIP OF THE MONTH

By Lorraine Roulston

This month, more resources are wasted. 'Trashing' food is one of them! Instead, embrace 'leftovers' or utilize our transfer station's composting system. Backyard composting or vermicomposting with red wigglers is another option. Red wigglers reside in an opaque bin with holes for air and drainage. In their 'sea' of damp cellulose bedding that covers the worms and food, they transform both bedding and veggie/fruit peelings into nitrogen-rich castings.

Red wigglers can be obtained from Cathy's Crawly Composters.



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SPORTS

HAVELOCK HAWKS HEADLINER By Keri-lyn Toms

We would like to start by wishing all of our Havelock Minor Hockey families and their loved ones a very happy holiday season!

We hope that everyone is able to find the time to enjoy all that this special season has to offer.

We have been quite busy with the first half of the hockey season soaring by. Here's a little update on our teams this far into it.

OUR HATCHLINGS have been working hard, all the while having fun. They continue to do it with smiles on their little faces. Our first official Hatchling "skater of the week" is Prudence Cagliostro. Way to go Prudence!

THE U7 team has been putting in the practice time, working hard on sharpening those early hockey skills. They were able to put some of their skills to the test with an exhibition game or two, to kick start their season off. Their game MVPs went to Holbrook Sterling and Addie Mahoney.

OUR U9 Hawks have taken on The Bolts, The Colts as well as The Hawks in their season start. Their GOAT (Greatest of All Time) for those games was awarded to Raelyn Illingsworth, Wyatt Middleton and it was the team that received it for an awesome whole team effort! Special mention goes out to U9 goalie Vimy Ferguson for playing strong between the pipes.

U11'S have had a solid start to their season with 2 big wins against the Fire Hawks and Bolts (4-2 & 9-1), 2 tight ties vs the Flames and Grizzlies, and 3 close losses. This team has been putting in the effort and it's been paying off. Another goalie shout out to Lincoln Haney, who has been

pulling out the stops to keep those pucks out of his net. U11 Hawks players of the game has been handed out to Lincoln Haney, Greyson Barnum, Josh Baldock, Freya Hebor, Adeline Hudson, Evelyn DeMille and Cooper Brunette. Way to go Hawks!

THE HAWKS U13 team has had a bit of a tough start to the season this far, with them having played some of the stronger LEO teams right off the hop. Although there have been some losses, it was not without so much effort and lots of perseverance. They dug deep and successfully snagged a beauty 5-3 win over the Bolts. The U13 "Player on Fire" has been earned by Dylan Toms, Blake Bump, Marlee Cox, Autumn Illingsworth and net minders Dylan Frater and Wyatt Vineham. The Hawks look forward to competing in an upcoming Flames Fall Classic tournament in Apsley, as well as the BMHA Christmas Classic tournament happening in Belleville in between Christmas and New Years. Good luck!

Lastly our **U18** team news. These boys continue to stay undefeated this far into their season, skating away with 5 wins and 1 tie. It has been so awesome to watch this team work hard for those wins. They have been filling the stands of our hometown rink, bringing spectators out to catch some fast paced, competitive hockey. These Hawks look to keep their streak going on into their season. Specifically, when they make the trip to the Haliburton/Minden Regional River Stick tournament on December 13-14. Wishing them all the best!

As always, for a full Havelock Hawks game schedule please go to: Havelockminorhockey.com.

HONOURING MEMORIES PLANTING DREAMS

By Paul Stevens



Honouring memories, Planting dreams, is an initiative that invites individuals and organizations to join in reconciliation by planting Heart Gardens in their communities. Heart Gardens honour Residential School survivors and their families. Each heart represents the memory of a child lost to the residential school system. The act of planting represents an individual's commitment to finding their place in reconciliation.

Hearts are made by anyone of all ages and backgrounds. Before getting hands dirty, students take the opportunity to learn about the history of residential schools and their ongoing impacts. There are currently 10 schools within the Kawartha Pine Ridge Board that have participated in the Honouring memories Planting Dreams Heart Garden project. Each school year, the KPR Indigenous Education Department selects a few schools to receive Heart Gardens.

Once schools have been selected, a member from the Indigenous Education Department Works in partnership with the school teams to plan learning opportunities leading up to the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation on September 30th. The Indigenous Education Department member also works in partnership with Alderville Black Oak Savannah to prepare for planting day, which takes place every school year in the fall.

This year, Havelock Belmont Public School was chosen based on their ongoing commitment to Truth and Reconciliation. 20 Native species were planted in honor and memory of the children.



Royal Canadian Legion

Havelock Belmont Br 389
8 Ottawa St E. Havelock

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RECIPE

EASY HAMBURGERS

By Kathy Clement

I just made it and served it on hamburger buns. Another friend made it and served it with spaghetti squash. My next choice would be to serve it with mashed potatoes!!

Ingredients:

- 2 large white or yellow onions, sliced
- 6 beef patties
- 1 can of cream of mushroom soup
- Onion soup mix
- Mushrooms
- Pepper
- Swiss cheese



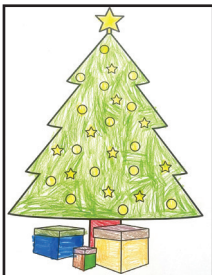
Preheat oven to 350. In a 9x13 pan layer the sliced onions. Top them with the raw beef patties. Top each patty with 1 scoop of the mushroom soup and then spread it around. Sprinkle the onion soup mix on, followed by sliced mushrooms, a dash of pepper and top it all off with either Swiss cheese slices or shredded Swiss cheese. Bake at 350 for 45 minutes to an hour. Make sure the cheese is browned on top. Serve on top of hamburger buns or one of the above suggestions. This was moist, easy and really good.

**do not grease the dish or cover when baking.

COLOURING CONTEST

Children age 2-6 and 7-12 are welcomed to enter. Colouring pages and deadlines can be found at the Havelock Rail Colouring Contest Page on Facebook. Winners will be posted in the Havelock Rail. We have decided to limit to 6 contests per year.

THESE HOLIDAYS: EASTER, MOTHER'S DAY, FATHER'S DAY, HALLOWEEN, CHRISTMAS, AND VALENTINE'S DAY.



Colton McGee, age 5



Logan McGee, age 9

CORDOVA GRANT

By Brooke Wrightly

Community wins! The Cordova Mines outdoor rink is getting a major upgrade thanks to a \$145,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation! This popular spot is transforming into a year-round hub for skating, hockey, basketball, pickleball & more!



BELMONT-METHUEN AND HAVELOCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The members of the Belmont Methuen and Havelock Historical Society invite the community to join us on Wednesday, December 9th at 10am for our regular monthly meeting. We expect the ceiling renovation project to be completed during the

first week of December, so hopefully we will be opening up our space again by meeting day.

We are also looking forward to decorating it for the holidays. They will soon be upon us and we want to wish readers a very Merry Christmas. We hope that we will have many opportunities in the new year to open our doors again and share this wonderful collection with you.



Best Christmas Wishes

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025

- Council deferred the Zoning By-law Amendment for Venema (524 FR 54).
- Council approved Zoning By-law Amendments for Sampson (431 FR 93) and Rye (65 FR 94) and Minor Variance Applications for Lobbezoo (196 FR 87A) and Crook (417 Blairton Road).
- The Township endorsed the application for consent to sever lands for a lot addition as referenced as Application B-77-25 (Deshane).
- Council approved the Community Grant Application from the Cordova Mines Recreation Association.
- Council approved the 2025-2026 Winter Maintenance Agreement with Emcom Services Inc. in the amount of \$31,765.58.
- Council members provided their budget priorities to be discussed during the 2026 budget deliberations.
- The request from Jude Thompson for the placement of a little book library on Township property was approved.
- Council approved immediate repairs to the Old Town Hall for attic abatement and insulation and repairs to the mezzanine railing system.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING SUMMARY - TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025

- The presentation from Marina Sheridan from Harbr Human Resources regarding the Council Compensation Review was received for information.
- Council received the staff reports for information: 2025 Q3 Update on Capital Projects and Economic Development & Tourism Strategic Plan Status Review.
- Council approved staff to proceed with the submission of a grant application for the Connecting Links for the installation of battery back up traffic light power, CCTV of existing sanitary and storm infrastructure, identifying and repairing deficiencies and remove and replacement of surface asphalt within the Highway #7 Connecting Link.
- Mayor Martin indicated that he would like to have a location for the Medical Centre determined by the end of 2025.



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H-B-M HAPPENINGS



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Please note this was sent to publication as of November 21st, 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, December 25th – collection moves to Friday, December 26th
- Thursday, January 1st – collection moves to Friday, January 2nd

Recycling

- Thursday, December 25th – collection moves to Saturday, December 27th
- Thursday, January 1st collection moves to Saturday, January 3rd

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

6th Line - Open Standard 'Winter Hours'

West Kosh, Oak Lake, Jack Lake

- Open Sunday, December 21st, 28th - standard 'Winter Hours'
- Open Wednesday, December 24th, 31st - standard 'Winter Hours'

All Transfer Stations Closed

- Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day

FIRE SAFETY:

KEEP FIRE SAFETY IN MIND AS TEMPERATURES DROP!

Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Fire & Emergency Services is urging everyone to keep fire safety in mind as the temperatures turn colder.

We often see more home fires during the winter months due to heating equipment and appliances, pay close attention to potential fire hazards such as fireplaces, furnaces, chimneys and vents, and space heaters.

There are some simple things people can do to stay fire safe during the colder months:

- Have all fuel-burning appliances inspected annually by a registered fuel contractor.
- Keep chimneys and intake/exhaust vents for furnaces and heating appliances free of debris, ice and snow accumulations to reduce the risk of carbon monoxide (CO) build-up from inefficient combustion.
- Burn dry, well-seasoned wood in fireplaces and woodstoves to reduce the risk of excessive creosote build-up in chimneys.
- Allow ashes from your fireplace or woodstove to cool before emptying them into a metal container with a tight-fitting lid. Keep the container outside.
- Keep space heaters at least one meter (3 feet) away from anything that can burn, including curtains, upholstery and clothing.
- Replace worn or damaged electrical wires and connections on vehicles and extension cords and use the proper gauge extension cord for vehicle block heaters.
- Consider using approved timers for vehicle block heaters rather than leaving heaters on all night.
- Ensure that vehicles are not left running inside any garage or building.
- Ensure there is a working smoke alarm on every storey and outside all sleeping areas of your home.
- Install CO alarms outside all sleeping areas to alert you to the presence of this deadly gas.

The Members of The Havelock-Belmont-Methuen Fire Department wishes everyone a Safe and Merry Christmas!

COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE:

Please note all meetings are hybrid, which means they are open to the public within Council Chamber and virtually via zoom. All regular meetings will begin at 9:30am.

- Tuesday, December 2, 2025 – Regular Council Meeting
 - Tuesday, December 16, 2025 – Regular Council Meeting
- Meeting dates are subject to change, please visit the Township website <https://events.hbmtwp.ca/council> for more information.

PARKS, RECREATION, & FACILITIES:

Skate Sharpening \$5.00, Hockey Tape: \$3.00 (Black, White & Clear)

Public Skating Schedule • Sundays from 1 – 3pm • Tuesdays from 5 – 6pm

Holiday Skating Sponsorship Opportunity

Support your local community and gain great business exposure by sponsoring one or more scheduled Holiday Family Skating sessions. To sponsor contact Josh Storey, Supervisor, Parks, Recreation, and Facilities at jstorey@hbmtwp.ca or call 705-778-2891.

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 10pm – 7am. Vehicles in violation will be ticketed, and/or towed.

BUILDING AND PLANNING:

Have questions about zoning, building proposals, or septic systems? You can easily submit inquiries to HBM Township's Building and Planning Department through the Property Information Inquiry Form at www.hbmtwp.ca. Find it on the homepage or under Building/By-law Enforcement and Planning.

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 December 1st, 15th & 29th from 9:30-10:30am.

Community Care: Zoom Exercises please contact CC at 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.

Community Care: Zoom Exercises please contact CC at 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 or call the office.

Havelock Seniors: Mid-Week Jammers at 1pm.

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

Community Care: Luncheon at the United Church December 17th.

Historical Society: Meeting 10:30am lower level of the library December 10th.

Cordova United Church: Carol service December 17th at 7pm with light refreshments after.

Havelock United: Church Christmas Eve December 24th service 7pm.

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 or call the office.

The Legion: Opens at 1pm.

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

Cordova Mines: Basket of Cheer Draw at 6pm.

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 December 6th, 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).

Havelock Legion: P.J. Hill Memorial Darts December 6th open at 9am.

Havelock Legion: Live Music with Doug Horner December 13th doors open at 8pm.

Havelock Seniors: HBM Youth Dance December 13th from 7-9pm.

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.

ATTENTION ALL SERVICE CLUBS, ORGANIZATIONS, CHURCHES AND COMMUNITY EVENT PLANNERS.
Please submit your events to havelockrail.cevents@gmail.com prior to the 10th of each month.