

Gravenhurst Mayor John Klinck announced in his inaugural speech that staff will be directed to look into ward reform and improving the voting experience. Good start.

How will the public have input? Klinck says that when eight out of nine councillors are re-elected they must be on the right track.

Klinck named himself council rep for the BIA after Robb White, who ran for the office of mayor, was chosen president of the BIA. That will be interesting.

The Wharf office is set to close. The staff will be redundant. Are they being terminated? Not likely. Why not?

Will the Wharf office be sold? Could the Town recoup the \$300,000 it paid for the office? Not likely.

The doctors were unable to sell either of their offices on the main street of Gravenhurst. The taxpayers had to buy one to keep the doctors happy.

Watch for the Town to buy the other one this year.

The mayor's sister Robyn Scott, had her bed and breakfast "Inn on Bay" up for sale, it is immaculate and it did not sell.

Klinck made no mention of finding efficiencies, redundancies, or asking the staff to work on a 3% decrease in their budgets.

Sounds like business as usual in Gravenhurst.

Lola Bratty is now setting up meetings with chairs of Town committees.

Bratty gives the appearance of representing the Lake Associations and the Ratepayers - but has not been authorized by anyone to do so.

The Ratepayers have 65 paid

Muskoka Centre - disease control centre?



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memberships.

Some Lake Associations question who she is and what she is doing.

One might ask who put the white hard hat on her head?

Will Bratty harm the democratic process by claiming to represent one and all?

To which the answer is yes.

Books, books, books. The great pleasure of my life- that is after newspapers.

Muskoka Cross & Double Cross by Liam D. Dwyer of Bracebridge and published by Muskoka Docksider is Liam's third mystery novel in a series set in Muskoka.

Liam certainly can weave a story and never give away the ending. I have enjoyed all three of his books, but this one is the best yet.

Put it on your Christmas list. I suggest you toddle off to the Gravenhurst Book Store and put one under your tree in the guise of a gift. You will enjoy it as much as the person you give it to.

I only read two novels this year and the second one was as good as the first. *The Roads of Go*



Jim Brown has been busy lighting up his Muskoka Bay Gallery out 169 running competition to neighbour Jack Loucks.

Home Lake by Christina Kilbourne held great surprises for me.

Kilbourne is the only writer other than James Bartleman to write with authority on native life in Ontario.

Since I grew up in North-Western Ontario, I am quite familiar with the ups and downs of reserves.

Kilbourne keeps up the suspense throughout the book and I read as fast as I could (and I am a good speed reader) to get to the end.

The book is published by Bookland Press and the publishers share of the proceeds from sales will be donated to Canadian Aid Charity to support victims of family violence and promote lit-

eracy in First Nations communities across Canada.

Get a copy for another gift under the tree. It is a good read and true to life at the same time.

Call me if you can't find it at the bookstore.

And James Bartleman is kicking off another book drive for First Nations after Christmas, so over the holidays you might sort through your books and be prepared to give them away in aid of literacy in the First Nations communities.

The Canadian Press has learned that Ontario is set to get a disease control centre.

Do you hear Muskoka Centre in that phrase?

We have the Emergency Centre for the province at the Fire College, so what makes more sense than to put the disease control centre out at the Muskoka Centre?

The politicians had better jump on this as the report says details of the centre including location and budget have yet to be determined. Let's get on it.

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