

New sport finds seniors in a pickle



By Tony Pearson

Pickleball: it's a name that suggests a game at Oktoberfest, or a frat party. The combination of tennis and badminton is catching on with active seniors all over North America. It's played with a whiffle-ball and an oversized ping-pong paddle. Thanks to a grant from Town of Bancroft council, the Curling Club now has a court and equipment. It will be running in a few weeks. The courts will be open every Tuesday from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. every Tuesday. The club put on a demonstration last week, with Randy and Marlene Elliott, Ontario pickleball mixed doubles champions. The rules and the style of play were demonstrated before an enthusiastic crowd. Club chairman John Vanderpast said that about 70 people have already indicated their interest in writing. Play starts June 21, at a cost of \$5 a session. The equipment has already been purchased, potential players just need to bring running shoes. Vanderpast said the game was a social and physical experience. It's guaranteed to produce laughter and memorable moments.