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WEEKENDER

THE SPEAKER'S WEEKEND EDITION



Vol. 18 – No. 28

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2019

Visit us on 

# Sparking concerns

## High number of fire callouts in Cobalt

**Darlene Wroe**  
Speaker Reporter

COBALT - The Cobalt Fire Department has already attended 18 fire calls this year, Fire Chief Sean Hearn told Cobalt council committee-of-the-whole.

That compares to last year's total fire calls of 33. Open-air burning situations, where residents don't have permits, is one of the main concerns of the fire department.

Hearn said June 4 that it is becoming tedious to attend open-air burning situations to check if residents have permits.

He said a better system is needed to advise the fire department whether residents have permits.

He also suggested that the town's fire by-law might have to be looked at, and possibly amended.

*Continued on 3a*



## GOOD CLEANING FUN

Rosie Audette, 7, of Cobalt, is among the many area children who enjoy the Splash Pad Park area at the Teck Park in Cobalt. Rosie was at the park recently with her family during a clean-up effort which brought friends and neighbours together to help maintain the area so people can enjoy it. Another clean-up day is being planned for Sunday, July 28. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)

DID YOU GET The Speaker THIS WEEK?

Here are some of the stories in our June 12 edition...

- The Mino M'ishki-ki Indigenous Health Team now has an office located at the Temiskaming Hospital.
- The Medical Officer of Health, Monica Dutt, has resigned from the Temiskaming Health Unit and Dr. Glenn Corneil has stepped in to assume the Acting Medical Officer of Health position.
- Loraine Gervais is trash talking about garbage she sees along roadways in the region.
- Vehicles won't have to reduce their speeds when travelling past Ecole catholique St-Michel because the Minister of Transportation doesn't see a speed hazard at that location.
- The City of Temiskaming Shores approved the idea to consolidate the Haileybury and New Liskeard libraries into one location in New Liskeard.

- Liskeard Cubs Midget hockey team.
- They came, they saw and they competed at the first ever TLC Fun Meet.
- Our C-front this week takes readers to new heights featuring the 355 Polaris Squadron Royal Canadian Air Cadets of Englehart annual review.

Assante Capital Management Ltd.



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- What group of curlers won and lost as a team and were rewarded for it? Read about it in our Sports section.
- It's Claude Denomme's year. He's received multiple awards for his hockey involvement with the New







# CITY BULLETIN



**NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS**

**2019 Final Tax Bills** have been mailed out.

The installments for the 2019 final tax bill are due:  
**Monday, July 15<sup>th</sup> and Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

Taxes can be paid in person at: 325 Farr Drive in Haileybury  
or mailed to:  
P.O. Box 2050 Haileybury ON P0J 1K0

Drop Boxes are located at:  
325 Farr Drive, Haileybury (City Hall)

77 Wellington, New Liskeard (Pool Fitness Centre)

Please contact the Taxation Department for alternative payment options

For inquiries regarding your tax bill, please contact Corporate Services department at 672-3363 or email to [finance@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:finance@temiskamingshores.ca)

**NOTICE**

**WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM MAINTENANCE**

Please be notified that the Environmental Crews of the Public Works Department will be carrying out maintenance programs, flushing and testing of fire hydrants throughout the municipal water distribution systems. The work may cause some discoloration in the water; however the effect should be minimal. If a coloured water problem is encountered in your water service line, flushing the service by letting the water run for a period of time should cure the problem. If the coloured water persists, please contact the Public Works Department for assistance at 705-647-6220.

**This program will commence the week of May 21, 2019 and will continue throughout the City for approximately 6 weeks.**

Thank you for your co-operation as Environmental Crews of the Public Works Department carry out this important maintenance activity.

Public Works Department

**Proclamation**

Council for the City of Temiskaming Shores has proclaimed June 15, 2019 as **“World Elder Abuse Awareness Day”** in the City of Temiskaming Shores.

**Age Friendly Events**

**Aquafit - Wednesday June 12<sup>th</sup>**

Pool Fitness Centre 9:00am to 9:45am for \$6.50

**Pickleball – Wednesday June 12<sup>th</sup>**

New Liskeard Community Hall 12:30pm to 2:30pm Free

**Shuffleboard – Thursday June 13<sup>th</sup>**

430 Morissette Drive, Haileybury 1:30pm to 3:00pm Free

**Bowling – Thursday June 13<sup>th</sup>**

Tri-Town Bowling Lanes, Haileybury 1:30pm \$3.00

**Aquafit - Friday June 14<sup>th</sup>**

Pool Fitness Centre 9:00am to 9:45am for \$6.50

**Aquafit – Monday June 17<sup>th</sup>**

Pool Fitness Centre 9:00am to 9:45am for \$6.50

**Shuffleboard – Thursday June 18<sup>th</sup>**

430 Morissette Drive, Haileybury 1:30pm to 3:00pm Free

**JUNE IS BIKE MONTH IN TEMISKAMING SHORES!**

**Join in on some great community rides...**

**Wheelie Lunch Hour Ride Weekly on Wednesdays**

Meet at the Giant Tiger Parking Lot at 12:25 pm  
(30 to 40 minute ride through Town, Easy)

**Paved Ride to Lorraine Valley Thursday June 13**

Meet at Farr Park at 8:45 am (40 km, Intermediate)

**Paved Ride Dawson Point, Saturday June 15**  
**STATO to Dymond, Golf Course Road, Hwy 65**

Meet at Roosters at 5:45 pm (40 km, Intermediate)

**Father's Day Ride**

**STATO Trail to City Hall or Farr Park Sunday June 16**

Meet at the Pool Fitness Centre at 9:45 am  
(20 – 25 km, Easy to Intermediate)

**Hwy 11 through Cobalt Tuesday June 18**

Meet at Farr Park at 5:45 pm (40 km, Intermediate)

**Check out “Bike Temiskaming Shores” on Facebook for daily updates!**

## SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Tuesday, June 18, 2019 – 6:00 P.M.**  
City Hall, 325 Farr Drive, Haileybury

**LIBRARY BOARD**

**Wednesday, June 19, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.**  
545 Lakeshore Road, Haileybury

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, June 25, 2019 – 8:30 A.M.**  
City Hall, 325 Farr Drive, Haileybury

**BUILDING MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, June 25, 2019 – 10:30 A.M.**  
City Hall, 325 Farr Drive, Haileybury

**PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND  
PROPERTY COMMITTEE**

**Thursday, June 25, 2019 – 1:30 P.M.**  
City Hall, 325 Farr Drive, Haileybury

**Application for a Minor Variance  
Notice of Complete Application**

**And Notice of Statutory Public Hearing**

**Committee of Adjustment**

Under Section 45 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990 c.P.13

The City of Temiskaming Shores has received the following Minor Variance application:

**File #:** A-2019-03  
**Owner:** Brad Sauve  
**Property:** 155 Cross Lake Road

**A public meeting** will be held to consider the minor variance application:

**Date:** Wednesday, June 26, 2019  
**Time:** 1:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Haileybury Boardroom at City Hall, 325 Farr Drive, Haileybury

**The owner is requesting relief** from the provisions of the City of Temiskaming Shores Zoning By-law to permit the construction of an addition to the rear of the existing dwelling that will further encroach into the required rear setback. The following relief is requested:

Provision	Zoning By-law	Subject Property
Section 6.4 – Residential Zone Requirements – Minimum Rear Yard	6m	3.6m

The property is designated Residential Neighbourhood in the City of Temiskaming Shores Official Plan and is zoned Medium Density Residential (R3) in the City of Temiskaming Shores Zoning By-law 2017-154.



**Additional information** about the minor variance application is available for inspection between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at City Hall or by contacting the undersigned.

**For more information** about this matter, contact the undersigned.

**Dated** this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

Jennifer Pye, MCIP, RPP  
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment  
City of Temiskaming Shores  
325 Farr Drive  
PO Box 2050  
Haileybury, ON P0J 1K0  
Tel: 705-672-3363 ext. 4105  
Fax: 705-672-2911  
[jpye@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:jpye@temiskamingshores.ca)

**Help us clean up the New Liskeard Waterfront Beach**

Join us for the Temiskaming Shores Beach Clean Up on June 14, 15 and 16.

The community is invited to come out any time throughout the day and lend a helping hand, City staff will have wood pile sites designated with pylons. City staff will haul it away the following week.

Turn the lumberyard into a mile long sandy beach.

**Application for Consent  
Notice of Complete Application**

**And Notice of Statutory Public Hearing**

**Committee of Adjustment**

Under Section 53 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990 c.P.13

The City of Temiskaming Shores has received the following application for consent to sever:

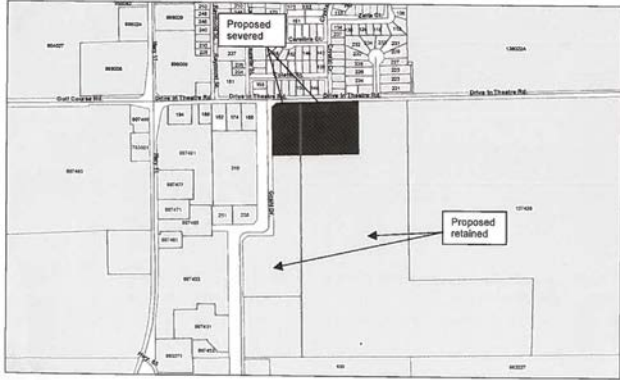
**File #:** B-2018-04 & B-2018-05  
**Owner:** Pedersen Materials Ltd.  
**Agent:** Jarlette Ltd.  
**Property:** South east corner of Drive In Theatre Road and Grant Drive (Dymond Concession 3 North Part of Lots 9 and 10; RP 54R-3676 Part 3, RP 54R-5247 Part 1, 3, 4, RP 54R-5289 Part 1; Parcels 903NND and 23075SST)

**A public meeting** will be held to consider the Consent application:

**Date:** Wednesday, June 26, 2019  
**Time:** 1:30 p.m.  
**Place:** Haileybury Boardroom at City Hall, 325 Farr Drive, Haileybury

**The applicant is proposing to sever** the northwest corner of the property to create a new 4.6 hectare (11.36 acre) lot for the purpose of constructing a 128-bed long term care facility within a two storey building. Future phases of the development could include up to an additional 128 long term care beds, or a mix of long term care beds and apartment or retirement suites in an addition on the rear of the building. Approval of a Zoning By-law amendment application (to be submitted) will be required for the development.

The subject property is designated Mixed Use Areas in the City of Temiskaming Shores Official Plan and is currently zoned Development (D) in the City of Temiskaming Shores Zoning By-law.



**For more information** about this matter, contact the undersigned.

**Dated** this 12<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2019.

Jennifer Pye, MCIP, RPP  
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment  
City of Temiskaming Shores  
325 Farr Drive  
PO Box 2050  
Haileybury, ON P0J 1K0  
Tel: 705-672-3363 ext. 4105  
Fax: 705-672-2911  
[jpye@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:jpye@temiskamingshores.ca)

**Temiskaming Shores Public Library**

**Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban Trivia at the New Liskeard Branch**

Are you a Potterhead who wants to test their knowledge on The Prisoner of Azkaban? Join us for Harry Potter Trivia based on the third book, as well as other fun Harry Potter activities!

**Saturday, June 15** at the New Liskeard Branch

11:00 am for Children

2:00 pm for Adults

For more information, call the library at 705-647-4215 or 705-672-3707

**TD Summer Reading Club Family Story & Fun Time at Both Branches**

Wednesdays in July and August the Temiskaming Shores Public Library will be having TDSRC Family Story & Fun Time from 11:00 a.m. until noon. Children accompanied by an adult are welcome to come and enjoy stories being read aloud followed by a play time. We look forward to seeing you at the library!

**Haileybury** on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup> and August 14<sup>th</sup>.

**New Liskeard** on July 10<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, August 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

For more information call 705-647-4215.

**The Firebird--a show by the Little Red Theatre**

The Temiskaming Shores Library presents a famous Russian fable telling the story of a Tsar who promises his kingdom as a reward to the son who can capture the wild and precious Firebird. Prince Ivan struggles with the weight of his quest but successfully walks a difficult path full of adventure and the help of a magical fox. Done in the round, with dance, lots of audience participation and great storytelling, your children will be amused, engaged, entertained and well educated!

When: July 11, 2019 at 10:30 a.m.

Where: Riverside Place

Admission: FREE! For more information, call the library at 705-647-4215 or 705-672-3707

**For More Information Call (705) 672-3363**

**Write to The City of Temiskaming Shores, P.O. Box 2050, Haileybury, ON P0J 1K0 or**

**Visit our Website: [www.temiskamingshores.ca](http://www.temiskamingshores.ca)**





## RIDING ALONG

On June 4, a few members of Temiskaming Shores council and staff joined cycling proponents on a short ride to Hughes Lookout to celebrate Bike Month. This year is the third that the city has joined communities across Canada in the campaign. The city’s Bicycle Friendly Communities Committee has spearheaded activities that included a bike festival June 1 and community rides. The committee also acts as a liaison between council and the community, most recently drafting plans to expand the cycling trail network in the municipality. For further information, see the Bike Temiskaming Shores Facebook page. (Supplied Photo)

# Charlton-Dack conducting second municipal survey

**Darlene Wroe**  
Speaker Reporter

CHARLTON-DACK - The Municipality of Charlton and Dack will once again be asking area ratepayers questions which will help council steer a course for the future.

A municipal survey is being sent out and has a deadline of June 30 for ratepayers to respond.

The municipality conducted

a municipal survey in 2016 and received a 50 per cent response rate, which the council used to make decisions about services to the community.

The 2019 survey, which is for residents only, asks them about their views about the importance of services which the municipality provides or funds, such as the Earlton airport which provides a landing site for air ambulances, and the Temiskaming Building Associ-

ation which provides building inspection.

Residents are also asked their views on the importance of services such as bylaw enforcement, cemetery maintenance, the Charlton beach, the Charlton outdoor rink, dust control, fire coverage, Health Unit services, the Charlton Heritage Centre, the landfill site, library services, park maintenance, police coverage, the Municipal Property Assessment Corpora-

tion which provides property tax assessments, quality drinking water, recycling, road maintenance, roadside brushing, snow removal, social services, support for community associations, the municipal website and Facebook page.

The survey also asks people to relate their level of satisfaction with these services.

The survey includes questions to gauge the knowledge of area residents relating to municipal revenues and expenses, and also explores whether residents would be willing to have increased taxes for increased or maintained services, or see services cut to some degree if it meant maintaining the current tax level or lowering taxes.

### SEA CONTAINERS

The issue of sea containers in the yards of some properties

has been a topic of discussion at past meetings and the survey asks about that.

Paper copies of the 2019 survey are being mailed to all households in the municipality. The survey can also be filled out online.

In a statement with the online version of the survey, Reeve Merrill Bond commented, “With a new government we have seen big changes in how municipalities are funded. With our last survey in 2016 over 50 per cent of households responded and Council used this feedback to help guide our decisions. With a new term, Council has once again decided the best way to allocate our limited tax dollars is to determine what is most important to the residents of our community.”

# High number of fire callouts in Cobalt

*Continued from A Front*

Councillor Angela Adshead commented that she has read the bylaw, and based on the restrictions, “nobody in Cobalt would be entitled to a burning permit.”

Mayor George Othmer said he wants residents to be able to have a small fire which they can enjoy.

Hearn said the goal is to minimize the size of the fire.

Councillor Matthew Johnson commented the bylaw “is rather lengthy and it contradicts itself all the way through.”

### FIRE APPLIANCES

Johnson pointed to the description of permitted fire appliances which are to be located on a non-combustible surface, such as concrete, regardless of the burning apparatus which is used.

He noted the fire bylaw also makes reference to any appliance with a CSA designation.

Hearn later commented that such appliances are difficult to obtain.

Hearn said that is the reason that emphasis is placed on the need for a non-combustible surface over which the fire appliance should be placed. The bottom can quickly burn out on other units, he said.

He recommended that the town post pictures for the public illustrating the acceptable

units and settings if open-air burning is taking place.

Councillor Bill Gabbani questioned whether there are any municipalities where burning is simply not allowed.

Chief administrative officer Brian Walker said that some municipalities do completely ban open-air burning but “it’s a small percentage.”

Othmer noted that much of the reason the town is seeking to minimize permitted fires is because of the smoke and annoyance it creates for others.

Adshead suggested that the town should implement a restriction that if people burn without a permit, they should be banned permanently from

being able to obtain a burning permit.

It was noted that the dispatch of one fire vehicle to a scene costs the town at least \$300.

“We’re going to need to look at recapturing these kinds of costs,” said chief administrative officer Brian Walker.

Adshead expressed support for setting a fine of \$300 for residents who have an open-air fire without a permit.

Hearn noted that in fact, more than one vehicle usually attends a call out, but he added that \$300 seems to be the usual amount for a fine set in other municipalities.

**Mervin Kincaid Neill**



September 16, 1943  
December 25, 2018

On June 15, 2019 at 1 pm the family of the Mervin Neill would like family and friends to join them in a remembrance get together for Mervin, who passed away Dec. 25, 2018.

**Gathering will be held at his home @ 115247 Quarry Road, North Cobalt.**

*Please come join the family in remembrance.*



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### Information Meeting

Meeting place: Chat Noir Books  
Meeting Time: 7PM  
Meeting Date: June 20th, 2019



RSVP for the meeting at:  
[rsvp.eftours.ca/y3m3kvx](https://rsvp.eftours.ca/y3m3kvx)

Questions? Contact EF Educational Tours at 1-800-263-2806  
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or (705)648-4928  
Res. (705) 563-2320



**Merci aux aînés**  
pour votre contribution à la société

**Thank you seniors**  
for your contribution to society

**Pro-Vie Tri-Town Right to Life**  
Box 842, New Liskeard, ON P0J1P0



# SPEAKER

## WEEKENDER



ocna  
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newspapers association

**General Manager - Lois Perry**  
**Editor - Steven Larocque**



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# Day trip

Can you believe it, we are halfway through June?

The loons are calling, the bugs are biting and the sun is setting in pastel colours of pink, orange and blue.



Sue Nielsen

These moments are special.

In my canoe I watch as the last of the day's light fades with a symphony of spring peepers ringing out.

This seems to be a record year for beavers, the little builders are busy creating their high-rise condos on area waterways.

We love those eager builders, the symbol of our Canadian wilderness.

And so summer begins - the lake, the blackfly bites, and all that glorious nature.

The forest is sexy and alive with greenery and with this week's rain we will see even more lushness.

It was a banner week for me in terms of wildlife sightings as I saw moose, otter, a great blue heron, osprey, loons, eagles, black bears, snakes, flocks of Canada geese, sand hill cranes and more.

To celebrate National Paddling Week I took a day trip over to Temagami Island with my friend Janet, who also enjoys canoeing.

It is an easy day canoe trip with a visit to an art gallery, a hike on old growth trails and lunch on the lake. We drove down the Temagami Access Road and put the canoe in at the Manitou Landing.

Early morning is the best time to head over to Temagami Island as the landing isn't quite as busy.

We take a quick jaunt over to Reina's Gallery 212 to view her display of flowers, paintings and local artisan work.

She currently has a display of Martin Foley and Lynda Shaw paintings on the walls of the gallery.

Martin's work is amazing, but I am not sure many locals know much about Lynda Shaw's work.

Lynda depicts scenes around Lake Temagami and elsewhere and as far as I am concerned, she captures the indelible spirit of the north in her paintings. Her big, bold art bursts off the walls with vivid colour and energy.

Next we paddled across the open water hugging the shoreline to land at the north dock on Temagami Island.

The old growth trail hike is an experience everyone should have in a nature lover's resume.

Before I travel anywhere in the Temagami region I offer respect and gratitude to the Tema-gama Anishnaabe people over whose territory we are traversing.

After the hike we headed over to Loon Lake Lodge for lunch and then a short paddle back to the landing.

The people, air, the water, the tall pines jutting out from the ragged outcrops all combine to make Temagami a magnificent experience.

It's a beautiful world out there.



## EDITORIAL

### Finding loved ones

The trauma of having a family member or friend go missing is something few of us can relate to.

Certainly, in our region, Celine Ethier comes to mind as someone who has faced the trauma of having a child go missing.

Melanie Ethier went missing on September 26, 1996.

She has not been seen or heard from ever since that fateful day over 20 years ago.

New legislation will now make it easier for law enforcement officials to search for missing persons.

The Missing Persons Act will come into effect on July 1 in Ontario.

This important legislation was brought forth by Waterloo MPP Catherine Fife, with the help of Maureen Trask, the mother of Daniel Trask.

Daniel Trask went missing in 2011 and was eventually located deceased in 2015 in the backcountry of the Temagami region.

Fife was approached in 2015 by Trask asking her to do something to remove roadblocks she says she faced when searching for her missing son Daniel.

Those roadblocks included checking to see if her son's bank accounts had been accessed or if he was in the hospital.

All this information was denied to Maureen Trask and police because of legal wrangling involving privacy concerns.

Trask said without having that information it is more difficult to track missing persons.

Police will now have the authority to access bank and hospital records in order to help find missing persons.

Trask turned tragedy into triumph with the Missing Persons Act and hopefully it will help solve missing person cases where family, friends and entire communities deal with the heartache of not knowing what happened to their loved ones.

A thank you must be given to the members of Queen's Park, Maureen Trask and MPP Catherine Fife for helping to create this legislation.

The Melanie Ethier missing person case is still open and ongoing. If anyone has any information on what happened to Melanie Ethier, contact the Temiskaming Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police at 705-647-8400 or by anonymously contacting Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS).

No tip is ever turned away, say police.

## Happy Father's Day

This coming Sunday, June 16, is Father's Day.

Don't forget to show your appreciation to your dad or someone who has stepped in to fill that important role in your life.

Give dad a hug and kiss and tell him how much you love and appreciate what he does for you and family members.

Remember, everyone can be a father, but it takes a lot to be a dad.

Happy Father's Day!

**18 Wellington St., South,  
New Liskeard**  
**705-647-6791 Toll Free:  
1-800-461-8751**  
**Fax 705-647-9669**  
**Email: speaker@  
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**Darlene Wroe**  
Reporter  
ext. 240



# Cobalt CAO tidying up and setting goals

**Darlene Wroe**  
Speaker Reporter

COBALT - Cobalt has an extra \$50,000 in its coffers because some long outstanding paperwork has been completed.

Cobalt chief administrative officer Brian Walker said he was pleased to tell council that the town staff, along with interim CAO David King, and FedNor representative Denise Deschamps, “have worked very hard on closing up a FedNor program from a few years ago.”

He was speaking to the Cobalt committee-of-the-whole Tuesday, June 4.

“We’ll have a little over \$50,000 coming in from FedNor that could have been in our coffers years ago,” he commented. “I was quite proud of that because it was the second or third day here.”

He later told The Speaker that the FedNor funding related to a joint project with Coleman Township through the shared economic development officer. Deschamps raised the matter to Walker when she dropped in to the office to introduce herself to the new CAO. A team of people then spent a couple of hours

finalizing the paperwork that was needed to get the rest of the funding for the town, Walker explained.

At the time of the June 4 meeting, Walker had been in his position three weeks.

He told the committee-of-the-whole that the town staff “have a lot already accomplished.”

He told council he was expecting the auditor to attend Monday, June 10, to finalize the 2018 audit for the town.

Walker expressed concern about the lateness of the audit because the 2019 calendar year is half over.

He said the town staff is hoping to have a town budget by the end of June or mid-July at the outside.

“I am feeling we have made good progress,” he said.

“You have our promise this will not happen again,” he said of the lateness of the 2019 budget.

He expressed determination to have the 2020 budget ready by December 2019.

**ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN**

The other objective is the creation of “a good asset management plan” by June 30, he

continued. The provincial government has set a July 1 deadline for the plan, which is required to access funding from both levels of government for town projects.

A focus will be required over the next few weeks to get the plan up to date, he pointed out.

Cobalt Mayor George Othmer commended the work of Walker, saying “the last three weeks have been extremely good.” He said Walker has “performed extremely well and given us extremely good guidance.”

Walker noted that an opportunity arose on June 1 when Nipissing-Timiskaming MP Anthony Rota and Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP John Vanthof were in Cobalt for an Order of the North ceremony.

“We took the opportunity to petition them on some matters,” Walker said. The politicians were asked for their assistance to obtain a compliance certificate for the town’s wetlands which are used to manage the town’s sewage.

Story Environmental president Maria Story also attended the meeting on her own time, Walker noted.

Walker said a one-page docu-

ment has already been produced and provided to Vanthof who will be delivering it to the office of the Minister of the Environment.

Councillor Bill Gabbani extended thanks to Othmer, Walker and deputy clerk-treasurer Dale Taylor for their effort in securing the support of the politicians to resolve the matter.

The Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks has concerns that at times in the winter there have been some slight exceedances of phosphorous or biological oxygen demand (BOD) being discharged from the wetlands. The amounts are “marginal,” Story said earlier this year in a report to council, adding that the exceedance did not occur this winter. At the time, she also stated that an overall reading of the year’s data would show that the wetland is performing well in its purpose.



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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# A summer to mull it over

Dear editor,

Warning to all residents in the federal electoral districts of Timmins-James Bay and Nipissing-Timiskaming.

This is our time to shine as we have been suffering from a lack of political prowess here in our very own backyard. Since 1957 our district has suffered intellectual property loss and political genocide due to leaderless representation in/of our area in Ottawa.

Provincially, Temiskaming-Cochrane NDP MPP David Ramsey crossed the floor at Queen’s Park to David Peterson’s Liberals because he knew full well after he was elected that under a leaderless party this district would never positively benefit us.

Timmins-James Bay NDP MP Charlie Angus’s representation has produced nothing – zilcho, zero, notta - other than the regular services his constituents need, never having the power to access any kind of great monetary funds to improve our north in any big way.

I cannot think of any other way to put this out there to the voting public of these beautiful electoral districts.

However our chance as a people will be here this fall soon enough and I ask on our behalf and my personal behalf to come out of the woodwork and vote all out Liberal. If you waste your vote go for the Green Party.

Something to think about during the summer months.

Michel Dupuis  
South Porcupine

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## Temagami Family Health Team

*Submitted by Ellen Ibey*  
**What You Should Know About Lyme Disease**

If you work outdoors or participate in outdoor activities such as golfing, hunting, camping, fishing, hiking and walking in fields, you may be at greater risk for tick bites. The risk of getting a tick bite starts when the weather warms up in the spring, through until the fall.

**Know the Risk**

Ticks attach themselves to the skin. Removing them within 24 to 36 hours usually prevents infection. Using clean tweezers, grasp the head as close to the skin as possible and slowly pull straight out. Afterwards, wash the site of the bite with soap and water or disinfect with alcohol or hand sanitizer. If possible, save the tick in a zip-lock bag and record the date of the bite. If you develop fever, headache, muscle and joint pains, fatigue and a skin rash, especially one that looks like a red bull’s eye in the weeks after being bitten, promptly contact your primary care provider. Bring the tick with you to your medical appointment as it may help your provider assess your illness.

**How to avoid ticks?**

- Wear light-coloured clothing. It makes ticks easier to see and remove before they can attach to feed
- Wear long pants and a long-sleeved shirt
- Wear closed footwear and socks
- Tuck your pants into your socks
- Use a tick repellent that has “DEET”. Apply it to your skin and outer clothing. Avoid your eyes and mouth, as well as cuts and scrapes.
- Put a tick and flea collar on your pet and check them for ticks periodically
- If you are going to areas where ticks are present, examine yourself thoroughly - pay special attention to the groin, scalp and armpits. Use a mirror to check the back of your body or have someone else check.

With the beautiful spring/summer weather upon us, it’s time to heighten your awareness. By taking the right precautions and spreading the word, you can protect yourself and your family from Lyme disease.

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### SKATEBOARD SEASON

When the weather's good, the Carter Antila Memorial Skatepark is a beehive of activity. New Liskeard's Graham Ross ran up a ramp with his skateboard earlier this season. The City of Temiskaming Shores opened the park on the Victoria Day holiday long weekend. (Staff photo by Sue Nielsen)



### STILL MORE BIKING DAYS

Le Centre de santé communautaire du Temiskaming plans to have three-wheel bicycles for adults available at the New Liskeard Pool Fitness Centre by the end of June, says seniors coordinator Julie Laplante, pictured here on one of the bikes. Two of the bikes are already available to the public at the Earlton centre de santé and two more will be made available in Haileybury, she added. The location for the Haileybury site has not yet been finalized, however. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)

# IT'S TIME TO PAY IT FORWARD

## KINDNESS AND COMMUNITY SPIRIT GOES A LONG WAY!

Last year we rallied together to help a local family in a difficult position, find just a little peace and joy from their financial burdens. After such a huge success, we are calling out for nominees for this year's recipients.

If you or someone you know is going through a crisis in health and can benefit by the kindness of neighbours, send in your nominations today.



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Shout out to last year's pals!  
team *tonkin* Still holding strong!



# The melting pot of Temiskaming

**Darlene Wroe**  
Speaker Reporter

DISTRICT - For thousands of years First Nations people have lived in the area.

But in the late 1800s and early 1900s, Europeans began to move into what is now known as Temiskaming, mainly coming to farm. Some came for lumbering, and after 1903 when silver was discovered in Cobalt, others came to mine.

In the past 40 years or more, people have become increasingly interested in finding their connections to the history of this region, and other parts of the world. They are also interested in how they connect to each other, perhaps as distant cousins.

Research into genealogy had enough local followers that the Temiskaming Genealogy Group was established in 1991.

Local historian Bruce Taylor was among a group of five or six people, including Clair Shepherdson, who were the first to begin working together to find the pieces of the genealogical puzzle which is Temiskaming.

Linda Nelson and Kathy Shepherdson began to help others who were searching for more information about their family's history.

The group has grown over the years, says Clair Shepherdson

"When it started, we were doing everything manually," he said. This included visits to places like Ottawa or Toronto to access archives.

Latter Day Saints centres also contained many records, said Shepherdson.

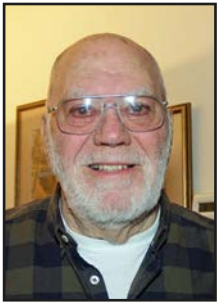
The Temiskaming Genealogy Group worked together to bring to light names and dates of people who were connected to present-day generations who wanted information about their parents, grandparents, their siblings, their children, and on and on.

The pleasure and gratification of the hunt for local history enthusiasts encouraged them to advertise their group, and at its height, the group had grown to 50 or 60 members. Even people from outside the area joined the group, and paid their memberships, in order to have access to the trove of names, dates and stories which were emerging about the roots of area people.

The arrival of computers helped ease the search for genealogical information.

## ACCESSING INFORMATION

In earlier days one had to be a member of the Latter Day Saints to access their information, noted Shepherdson. Footwork - going to centres to access files



**Clair Shepherdson**

- was also required.

The Temiskaming Genealogy Group attempted to help people access whatever information they could.

"Ten or 15 years ago much of the information was made public," said Shepherdson.

"People who got onto the internet and were members of some of these groups had access to millions of records."

As time went on, people were increasingly able to do their genealogical research at home.

Shepherdson said the Temiskaming Genealogy Group found they had no real reason to meet any longer, since they weren't able to help the public much more than what they could find themselves on the internet.

In mid-May, the group closed.

But over the 28-year study of area genealogy, and helping others find the stories relating to their families, Shepherdson, who until recently also served as president of the board of the Little Claybelt Homesteaders Museum, has developed an overview of the roots of the area settlers.

Shepherdson said more information about settlers came to light through the gathering of stories for the Claybelt Chronicle books. There are now nine volumes with about 40 stories about area pioneer families in each one, he said.

The children or grandchildren of pioneers are interviewed in each to convey the tales they were told about what life was like in Temiskaming in its early settlement days around the turn of the 20th century.

"Mostly they came as farmers," Shepherdson said. Timbering and lumbering drew people to Temiskaming and initiated the establishment of small towns.

When silver was discovered in Cobalt then many more people started to arrive, said Shepherdson.

The original land registrar, John Armstrong, was very impressed with the area, and promoted it, saying anything could be grown in the region, Shepherdson continued.

## OTTAWA VALLEY

"Many people came from the Ottawa Valley. Fifty or 60 people came up on the Meteor (steamboat) and were most impressed with what they saw, and many of them stayed, or came back later and purchased property, and it just started to blossom."

Shepherdson said his family came from the Wellington Valley in Southwestern Ontario.

"They had run out of timber down there and they had heard

## POWER FOR THE FUTURE



JPL Storage set up a site at the Wellington Street municipal parking lot in New Liskeard recently where people could drop off their unwanted electronics. Electronics were being collected as part of the Orange Day event. Ecole Ste-Croix children are pictured here participating by bringing in discarded items. From left to right they are Penelope Chisholm, 3, Felix Chenier, 8, and Genevieve Chisholm, 5, all of Haileybury. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)

of New Toronto."

Shepherdson's grandfather came north looking for timber for his barn construction business. But instead, "he went back home and in 1910 he moved his entire family up here."

Most of the settlers who came to Temiskaming around the turn of the century had roots in England, Ireland or Scotland, and there were others from Europe. Swedish and Norwegian people and Germans also were among those who came to Temiskaming.

"When the mining opened up in Noranda and Kirkland and Timmins, there were a lot of Yugoslavians and Finnish

people, and other nationalities, who were guaranteed a job in the mines," he added.

"There were some from the United Empire Loyalists," he added.

"We found that there was a kind of continual slow migration of people from Quebec, particularly Northwestern Quebec. They gradually just came over and settled. Earleton became primarily a francophone village in the early days. They were all integrated and there was very little animosity between the English and French in those early days."

There were also a few Chinese and a few black people and

eastern Europeans, but that became less evident as years went on in Temiskaming.

Religion also shaped the lives of the people who lived in Temiskaming.

"Originally it was predominantly Presbyterians, Methodists, and Baptists in the early days. There were a few Catholics but they were a minority in the early days."

Shepherdson noted, "The only thing that I found was that life was hard for everybody and everybody worked together. There was quite a mingling of various nationalities," he said.

"It was really a melting pot of many people."



Money donations are also accepted.



## THANK YOU

In honor of Sonya, we have decided to proceed with the Sluggin' for Sonya Fundraiser. In her memory, all funds will be donated to the family in hopes of assisting them with expenses as they progress through this difficult time.

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# Charitable contributions on ice

**Diane Johnston**  
Speaker Reporter

TEMISKAMING SHORES – Going in circles can pay off. Each year, Club Richelieu Timiskaming invites French-language elementary schools to take part in an indoor skateathon.

As students get physically active, they’re also raising pledges for their own schools and the service club’s work in the community.

This year, the event raised more than \$10,000, said Gilbert Breault, chair of the event’s organizing committee.

The skateathon has been held for many years. While it now takes place in the arena, Breault recalls a time when students circled an outdoor skating oval cleared on the Wabi River.

Each of the participating schools – École catholique St-Michel, École publique des Navigateurs, and École catholique St-Croix – keeps half the money raised by its students.

The other half goes to the



École catholique St-Michel scored the highest pledge per student among the three schools taking part in this year’s Club Richelieu Timiskaming skateathon. Holding the trophy are Grade 2 students Jemma Baril and Griffin Juurlink, and, standing at back from left, are school principal Jonathan Blier and club members Gilbert Breault, Roland Lachapelle and Dominique Nackers. (Staff photo by Diane Johnston)

club. In recent years, Club Richelieu Timiskaming has supported the Care Close to Home campaign at Temiskaming Hospital and a shelter at the Algonquin Regiment Memorial Beach Park.

The club routinely supports local schools, including graduation ceremonies, as well as individuals and families in need, Breault said.

Club president Dominique Nackers said the skateathon has another benefit – grandparents often come out to cheer on their grandkids.

The school that records the highest pledges on a per-student basis wins bragging rights for the year and its name is inscribed on a trophy.

As for the club, Nackers said new members are welcome to join.

Members gather on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at Gilli’s Truck Stop Family Restaurant for a meal and meeting.

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# New ECCS playground nears construction start

**Diane Johnston**  
Speaker Reporter

TEMISKAMING SHORES – A lot of work has gone into play at English Catholic Central.

Construction of a new playground at the New Liskeard school is expected to begin this summer. But planning and fundraising began several years ago.

A final fundraising push at Grant Home Hardware Building Centre late last month raised the final \$7,000 that enables work to start.

The total cost of the playground will be in the range of \$33,000.

Funds have come from a variety of sources, including charity barbecues, hot dog sales, and activities within the school.

“I cannot believe we actually raised that much money,” said teacher and project coordinator Eileen Aitchison.

A centrepiece of the new playground will be a double three-on-three basketball court.

But there will also be an outdoor play “mud kitchen,” sandboxes, and a walking path.

The final fundraising installment surpassed expectations.

Students at Grant Home Hardware collected \$2,500 in donations from customers, and the sum was matched by the store.



After more than three years of fundraising, construction of a new playground at English Catholic Central is expected to begin this summer. A final push in late May resulted in a donation of \$7,000 from Grant Home Hardware Building Centre and its customers. Pictured above are, front from left, students Seth Cooke, Symphony Stoneman and Rowan Teskey; back, from left, students Elijah Duncan, Brett Ruddy, Dexton Grant, Andrew Little, Trisha Walker, Isaac Saint, Kyra Larocque, principal Matt Turner and Amber Blair, with Grant store manager Stephane Giroux, team leader Aime Hetherington and owner Julie Pouliot. (Staff photo by Diane Johnston)

“Our customers were really generous,” said store owner and school parent Julie Pouliot. It also match some additional funds raised by the school. “I think these kids have been waiting a long time for a nice playground,” she said.

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