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VEEKENDER SPEAKER'S WEEKEND EDITION

THE



Vol. 18 - No. 46

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2019

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Nature's filter

Study to support unique sewage system

Darlene Wroe

Speaker Reporter

COBALT - Cobalt council is preparing to have an assimilative capacity study done on its constructed wetland.

The town's wetland features a large area of cattails which are naturally managing and neutralizing the town's waste. There are small windmills which assist in keeping the wetland aerated. There are also geotubes, which help deal with the waste solids as they enter the site.

The assimilative capacity study will be conducted to determine what, if any, impact the wetland is having on nearby waterbodies including Sasaginaga Creek and Mill Creek.

Cobalt's Tuesday, October 15, council meeting opened with a trip to the wetland where council, media and interested members of the

Continued on 3a



MAKEOVER

Anything can be a canvas. Earlier this week, Andrea Burton, foreground, and Felicity Buckell were working on a mural on the sewage pumping station on Lakeshore Road in Haileybury. The public art work is part of the Voices in View murals project, which has involved the Temiskaming Art Gallery, schools and business. It's drawn financial support from the Ontario Arts Council and participating organizations, said Buckell, the project coordinator. In Haileybury, people were invited to drop by in the late afternoons, pick up a paintbrush, and add their mark. (Staff photo by Diane Johnston)

DID YOU GET The Speaker THIS WEEK?

Here are some of the stories in our October 16 edition...

- The five candidates vying for Nipissing-Timiskaming votes outlined their platforms at an all-candidates' meeting last week.
- A crowd of close to 200 well-wishers and supporters, friends and family took part in a special ceremony at the Shelley Herbert-Shea Memorial Arena on Thanksgiving weekend.
- The Chamberlain grower of giant vegetables carefully nurtured a pumpkin this year that reached 1,687 pounds.
- The next decade will determine if enough action has been taken to avert runaway global warming, says Green Party candidate Max Kennedy.
- A minority government may be elected on October 21, says Timmins-James Bay NDP MP Charlie Angus.
- Michelle Boileau, a councillor in Timmins since 2018, is running for the Liberals in the riding of Timmins-James Bay.
- The New Liskeard Cubs of the Great North Midget League (GNML) visited the North Bay Major Midget Trappers in Powassan on October 13 and came away with a 4-3 win.
- It's been ten years since the Temagami Family Health Team moved into its new home.
- There were close to 1,000 students at the annual Timiskaming District Secondary School crosscountry races at Temiskaming Nordic Ski Club on October 10.
- Cobalt Council has received an expression of interest from Shannie Christo in reopening and managing the Cobalt Northern Ontario Fire-Fighters Museum.







Keeping track in Cobalt

Darlene Wroe Speaker Reporter

COBALT - Cobalt council wants to have a better system for keeping its eye on issues.

Council discussed having an ongoing list, either on a whiteboard, or some other form, for reminders of the issues that have been brought forward, and not yet completely dealt with, as well as decisions and actions.

At the town's regular meeting of council September 17, chief administrative officer Brian Walker noted that the need for an ongoing list has been raised.

Councillor Angela Adshead said she had suggested a whiteboard where a list could be kept of "things we mentioned in the past and said we had to revisit."

Such a list would be good for both the council and the public,

"It gives the public an opportunity to see we are working on a lot of things."

Councillor Matthew Johnson agreed that a list would probably be good, but noted there would be a need to be "cognizant of privacy matters" if the list were going to be available to the public.

Councillor Doug Wilcox suggested that making a list available to the public would be beneficial because the public might have ideas they would like to contribute.

Mayor George Othmer explained that some items are being set aside because "the administrative staff is trying to play catch-up." He noted that he also is spending large amounts of time in the town office as the town attempts to get caught up with its workload.

"I agree with the list 100 per cent," he said.

Councillor Bill Gabbani, who was participating in the meeting by teleconference, stated that he also would be in definite support of the creation of a list.

He noted that all council members placed the need for transparency at the top of their list during the municipal elec-

Adshead noted that while items may be on the list, that does not mean that will be the order of priority in which they get addressed.

"Some things are time sensitive and they need to be dealt with first."



FORGING AHEAD

The Riverside Farmers Market in New Liskeard will continue for the next two Saturdays remaining in the month of October. Making a special appearance October 12 was David Pinn from Big Forge Blacksmithing. (Staff photo by Steven Larocque)

CORRECTION

In the story "Goals and priorities – Timmins-James Bay candidates showcased in Englehart" in the October 11 Weekender, Green Party candidate Max Kennedy was misquoted. He in fact said the Ecole Polytechnique shooting was committed with legal firearms. The Weekender apologizes for the error.

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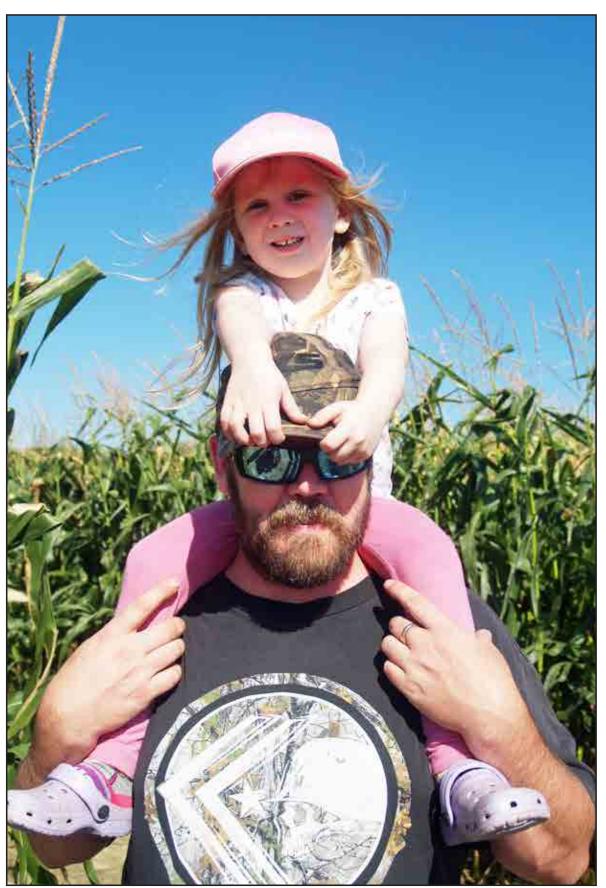
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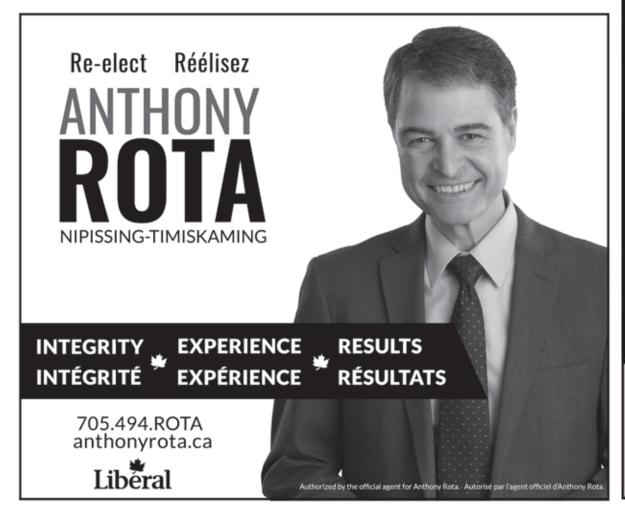
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AN EAR-Y PLACE

Sierra Jack, 4, of Kirkland Lake, had an added advantage in the three-and-a-half acre corn maze at Aidie Creek Gardens. Lifted onto the shoulders of her father Neil, she was among many who took a very meandering walk through the maze. Jeffrey Warner, who created the maze, said it was designed in January and planted in June. The Aidie Creek Gardens Fall Fun Days will be open on the weekends until the end of October. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)



Nature's filter Study to support unique sewage system

Continued from A Front

public were welcomed in to see and hear what the needs and plans are for the wetland.

The unique system uses nature to handle Cobalt's sewage. The town is under orders from the Ontario Ministry of Environment and some actions are required, Cobalt chief administrative officer Brian Walker stated later when council reconvened in the council chamber.

The constructed wetland has been a topic of discussion for the past several weeks after the ministry provided a draft outline of its requirements for the wetland.

Those requirements are to be finalized Friday, October 18.

Walker said the town has two choices going forward. It can either undertake the assimilative capacity study, or it can build a new completely mechanized waste treatment plant, and take steps to get an engineering study on the project.

The tour was conducted so that people can see what the town is trying to do, Walker stated.

The town was successful in convincing the ministry to reduce its requirements for effluent flow. The town had been under a highly stringent requirement of five per cent, while other sewage systems in the region are under a requirement of 15 per cent. The discrepancy was pointed out to the ministry, and resulted in a more lenient order. This means the town will not have to replace its flow metre, said Walker. "That will save the town a couple of million dollars, so that's good news," he commented.

The town will now be looking for quotes for the assimilative capacity study.

Temagami Family Health Team

Submitted by Ellen Ibey
Protect Against the Flu

The symptoms of the flu and the common cold are very similar. Both often come with a runny, stuffy nose and sore throat. However, unlike the common cold, the flu can lead to serious health problems like pneumonia. Use this chart to help determine if you have a cold or the flu.

Flu vs. common cold The symptoms of the flu and the common cold are very similar, Both illnesses often come with a runny, stuffy nose and sore throat. Unlike a case of the common cold, the flu can lead to serious health problems like Use this chart to help determine if you have a cold or the flu Symptom Often High (102°F - 104°F or 39°C - 40°C). Starts suddenly, lasts 3 to 4 days Headathe Offiers can be severe Muscle aches Often, can be severe Feeling tired and wev Office, can be severe, may last 2 to 3 weeks Fatigue (extreme Offers can be severe Offen, can become severé

Tips to Avoid Getting and Spreading the Virus:

- · Wash your hands often
- · Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze
- . Don't touch your face
- · Stay at home when you're sick
- · Clean (and disinfect) surfaces and shared items

Flu shot clinic dates will be held in various locations throughout the District of Temiskaming. In Temagami, the health unit will be holding a flu clinic on November $4^{\rm o}$ from 4-6 p.m. Flu shots will also be available from the Temagami Family Health Team for all rostered patients. Watch the team's Facebook Page for details as to when the vaccine will be available.

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Family Health Team

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Let the adventure begin

I paddled last week on a warm, sunny but blustery day.

The wind was wild and it blew me quickly to the end of the lake despite my efforts to steer the canoe to shore.

The lake had whitecaps on it and I decided why fight it, I'll just coast to wherever the wind

There's something freeing about letting go to enjoy whatever adventure life brings.

That's what I am doing this week as I travel to Scotland.

My long awaited trip has now become reality.

My daughter will meet me at the Glasgow airport and from there the adventures begin.

She has taken a day off from work and we will take the train to Edinburgh for a tour of that

On the weekend we are travelling up the west coast of Scotland to the nature spots.

This is the question they asked me via Skype last week: "Mom, what are you most interested in and where do you want to go?"

I said one word back: nature.

I want to get out of the city to the highlands, the beaches, the mountains and to the wildlife.

Apparently, in October, the grey seal pups are born between September and November and are found in great abundance along the coast.

There are also bottlenose dolphins, whales, red deer and golden eagles to be seen.

It is all so exciting.

They are also taking me to a falconry place just outside of Glasgow. Maybe I will spot the elusive Scottish wildcat also?



Sue Nielsen

One online site described Scotland as the last bastion of wildness left in the United Kingdom and Europe.

And the Scots firmly believe wild places are needed for wellbeing and survival.

Sir David Attenborough, chair of the Scottish Trusts Wilder Future Campaign, is acting to save the wilds of Scotland by asking the government to set up an ecological network based in Scottish law.

That means that each town, city and village would have a legally binding land management framework based on environmental protection laws.

He cites climate change and biodiversity as the two challenges facing Scotland.

I'd like to see a Northern Ontario Environmental Principles campaign created whereby municipalities must consult each other before undertaking development projects.

Let us not forget, natural ecosystems absorb roughly half the C02 generated by human activity. Nature is our life support places is not an option.

We must find a way to balance resource extraction with protecting nature.



TABLES 'O PLENTY

The Riverside Farmers Market at Riverside Place in New Liskeard has two more Saturdays worth of goods to offer before shutting down for the season October 26. (Staff photo by Steven Larocque)

EDITORIAL

Protecting our history

People don't come to a region to look for time capsules or books about the glory days of a community.

They visit because they look for history around every corner in that old school, that head frame, an older home with interesting architecture or other interesting venues showcasing a region's valuable history.

When it comes to the district of Temiskaming, several communities might not understand the relevance of historical buildings when budgets need to be balanced and taxes justified.

There are many people who do not see value in historical buildings and artifacts.

But people from all over the world seek out places with historical backgrounds and in terms of the history of the north.

buildings that have been maintained and

Just look at Europe and places like Italy, France and Germany.

Take away their historical buildings and illustrious history and what have you got?

So before you throw out that family heirloom in the landfill or yard sale, think about passing it down the line to a local museum.

And if there is a historical building set for demolition, think about if from a visitor's eye.

We are our worst enemy when it comes to promoting the Temiskaming region to Canada and the world.

It's time we realized what is at our fingertips

Gender information

Provincial Police said they would no longer be and other agencies trying to deal with the ex-

The police say this new policy will bring them in line with a modern no-gender approach to individuals.

But how will we know how many women system therefore protecting wild and children are being raped, beaten and murdered if no statistical data is released?

> Gender-based violence resulted in 65 Ontario women losing their lives last year.

We are aware of this because that informa-Have a wee bonnie week ev- tion was released to the public.

What this gender-neutral policy might do

Recently, a spokesperson for the Ontario is result in less funding for women's shelters releasing the gender of victims and criminals. treme level of domestic intimate partner violence taking place in our communities.

Statistically, women are battered at a far higher rate by men than men are battered by women.

It is costing billions of dollars to deal with violence against women in Canada and the problem of intimate partner violence is not gender neutral.

We need to know the statistics surrounding intimate partner violence in order to prevent it from happening.

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Charlton Sustainability Hub nearing charitable status

CHARLTON (Staff) - A notfor-profit cooperative is still working on developing a centre in Temiskaming where sustainable living practices can be developed.

Green Timiskaming Development Co-operative anticipates it will soon have charitable status for the Charlton Sustainability Hub as an educational charity with Revenue Canada.

The vision for the cooperative is to develop a facility where people can experience a low-carbon way of living and learn skills by which they can adapt their lives to continue that ideal, and also to teach it to others.

The development will create a model by which the future can be changed for rural communities, says Ambrose Raftis who,

on developing the concept.

The educational/tourism and research centre will promote the growing and sharing of healthy local food, community-owned renewable energy, low-carbon community housing, and sustainable transportation.

The concept has been inspired by the Sustainability Centre in Britain and the Folke Center in Britain.

"The Hub will act as instigators for change both locally and regionally, by connecting communities of interest with new ideas, information and support," Raftis stated in a document outlining the project.

"This will remove the 'rural sense of isolation' and help new ecopreneurs to overcome the barriers of development by connecting with others to build development and service sec- ity Hub will be mainly self-sustors," he continued.

Partnerships are also envisioned with First Nations, Francophones, Mennonites, Amish, Anglophones, musicians and others who will assist by sharing their "knowledge, experience and motivation to develop and adapt in their homes and communities," Raftis contin-

"CHALLENGES OF THE **FUTURE"**

"This improved understanding will enable rural communities to work together effectively to take on the economic, social and environmental challenges of the future."

"The low cost of operation will ensure its long-term viabil-

The outline for the plan includes client accommodations, community support, volunteerism, and incomes from training, and a year-round farmers' mar-

There will be an internet-connected electronic classroom with social media.

The activities at the Hub will include development and use of renewable energy technology and local four-season food production, processing and storage technology.

to the 22,000 square-foot, former Charlton-Savard Public School.

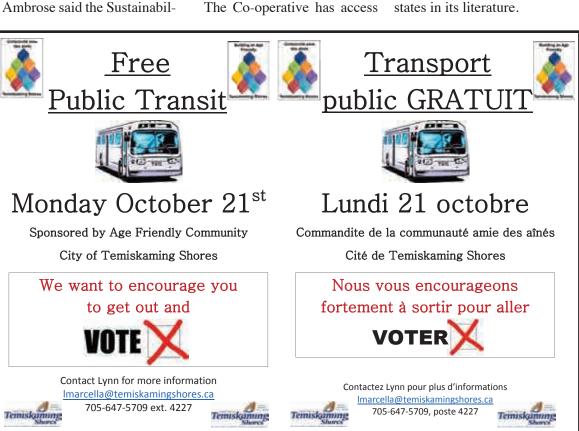
Members of the public have been invited to be part of the initiative, and to contact the Co-operative if they feel they can help in any way.

The Co-operative is currently developing an information website and Facebook page to further communicate its activities.

The group has been working on the development of a Sustainability Hub for over a year.

"Rural communities are heavily dependent on carbon fuels and need a model that will help them transition to a renewable economy," the Co-operative











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Breast

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women in Canada are expected to develop breast cancer in their lifetime.

26%

of cancers diagnosed are breast cancer in Canadian women.

51%

of breast cancers will be diagnosed in women aged 50 to 69.

Since 1987 the mortality rate of breast cancer has decreased by 44%.

Source: http://www.cbcf.org/ontario/ AboutBreastCancerMain/FactsStats





PUMPED UP FOR FALL

Mya Rohrer, 2, of Englehart was sitting pretty with her haul of pumpkins from Aidie Creek Gardens during the first day of the Fall Fun Days which continue until the end of October. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)



FALL FUN AT AIDIE CREEK

Ivie Goulet, 2, of Porcupine, with her mother Kelsey Moreau, was among the many people who came from across the region to enjoy the first of the Fall Fun Days at the Aidie Creek Gardens in Chamberlain Township. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)





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No **Christmas Train in 2019**

NORTH BAY (Staff) - There will be no Christmas Train this year throughout Northeastern Ontario.

But Ontario Northland is working with communities to explore new ways to celebrate the Christmas season.

In a press release, Ontario Northland stated it is "embracing a new community-based approach to celebrating the holiday season in the communities that it serves across Northeastern Ontario this year.

"Ontario Northland is currently facing a skilled trade labour shortage in its rail division, primarily due to retirements, and as such is making the operational decision to forego its Christmas Train program in 2019. The priority is to maintain safe and reliable rail service for customers, ensuring goods continue to move in and out of Northern Ontario.

"In its place, Ontario Northland is working with the 13 locations traditionally visited by the train so that Ontario Northland employees can interact with and give back to members of the communities we serve during the upcoming season of giving.

"For the past seven years, the Christmas Train events have allowed Ontario Northland to engage with the public and expose rail equipment to youth. By pausing the train this year, Ontario Northland will have an opportunity to engage with communities and corporate partners to seek out ideas on how best to proceed in coming years and be more inclusive and reach a larger part of our service territory."

Ontario Northland director of marketing and communications Rebecca McGlynn stated, "We look forward to enabling even more of our employees to get out and take part in community-based events to celebrate the holiday season with their friends, families and neighbours."





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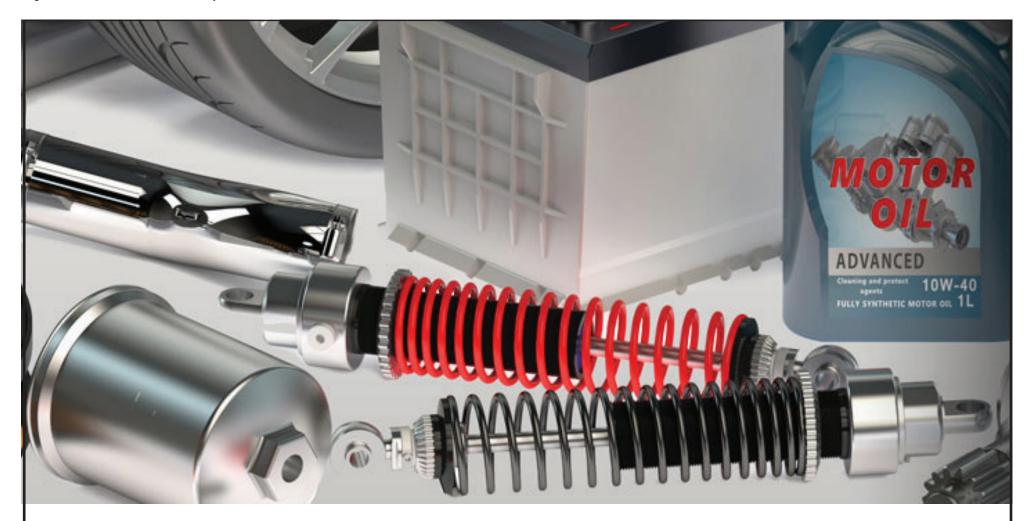
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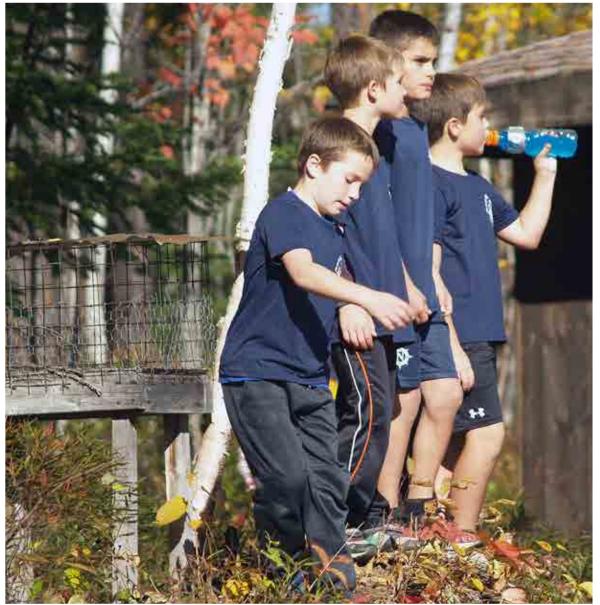


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WATCHING OUT

Ecole Publique des Navigateurs runners Justin Mignault, Trystan Lachapelle (both Grade 3), Rock Larocque and Aiden Gervais (both Grade 4, from the left) scouted the field on October 10. They were among the more than 900 students from elementary and secondary schools across the Northeast who took part in the Timiskaming District Secondary School cross-country meet on Thursday. It was held at the Temiskaming Nordic Ski Club in Coleman Township. (Staff photo by Steven Larocque)

Spend a bit of Pink In The Rink Day with the Lions

TEMISKAMING SHORES (Staff) - October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the New Liskeard Lions are taking a shot at raising awareness.

The Midget hockey team invites the public to join them on Saturday, October 26, when they host Lasarre at the Don Shepherdson Memorial Arena.

Everyone wearing pink will have a chance to win free prizes, plus all proceeds from the team's 50/50 draw will be donated to Team Shan.

Game time is 6:35 p.m. and admission is free.



Sports Digest

LIONS

The New Liskeard Lions of the Abitibi-Témiscamingue Hyundai Midget BB League are in Timmins October 18-20 for the Porcupine Ice Breaker Tournament. They play the Kapuskasing Icehawks Friday at 2:55 p.m.; the Schumacher Cubs at 9 p.m.; and the Porcupine Gold Kings Saturday at 12:30 p.m. Standings will determine when and where the fourth game will be played. The Lions are back in Abitibi-Témiscamingue Hyundai Midget BB League action Saturday, October 26, to play the LaSarre Conquérants at the Don Shepherdson Memorial Arena at 6:35 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27, New Liskeard visits the Amos Comètes at 4:30 p.m.

CUBS

The New Liskeard Cubs of the Great North Midget League host the Sudbury Minor Midget Wolves Friday, Oct. 18, at The Shep. Sunday, Oct. 20, New Liskeard visits the North Bay Minor Midget Trappers at the Témiscaming arena.

GET ACTIVE

The next Get Active in Temiskaming fun run/walk in the 2019 series is the fifth and final of the year. The hunt-and-harvest-themed event will see participants dress in orange and camo and take to the streets of New Liskeard Sunday, October 20. It begins at 9 a.m. with the five- and 10-kilometre (km) walking distances. The 100-metre toddler dash is at 9:15 followed by the 1km and 2km run/walk at 9:30 and then the 1km and 10km distance runs at 10 a.m. This year's beneficiaries are the Temiskaming Northern Loons Swim Club, Horne Granite Youth Curling, the Hilliardton Marsh Research and Education Centre as well as local schools and community groups.

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SPEEDING BY

Emma Browne, a Grade 11 student at Timiskaming District Secondary School, speeds by a trail sign at the Nordic Ski Club October 10. She was one of 970 registered runners competing in the annual cross-country meet in Coleman Township. (Staff photo by Steven Larocque)

Timber contingencies planned for burnt forest areas

Darlene Wroe

Speaker Reporter

DISTRICT - A contingency plan is being prepared to replace timber that was lost in the 2018 fire which burned a large swath of the Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park and the Timiskaming Forest.

"In the summer of 2018, the North Bay Fire 72 fire, which started within the Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park and moved north to the Timiskaming Forest, burned approximately 12,500 hectares of the southern portion of the forest," said Jolanta Kowalski, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry senior media relations officer.

"Within this area, there were eight harvest allocations for the 2011-2021 Timiskaming plan, totalling just under 1,400 hectares," she said in an email interview.

"A requirement of the forest management planning process is to develop a contingency area to be used for circumstances that make regularly planned harvest allocations unavailable, such as a forest fire," she explained.

"During the development of the 2011-2021 Timiskaming Forest Management Plan, and again through the subsequent 2016-2021 confirmation of the Phase II allocations, contingency areas were planned for, consulted on, and approved.

"An amendment (not a contingency plan) to the Forest Management Plan has been proposed by the sustainable forest licence holder to bring in just over 650 hectares of this approved contingency harvest area to compensate for some of the area lost to the fire.

"The Sustainable Forest Licence holder has advised that with the remaining blocks in the Forest Management Plan, combined with this contingency area, they do not anticipate negative impacts to their wood supply or mills," she continued.



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