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WEEKENDER THE SPEAKER'S WEEKEND EDITION



Vol. 23 – No. 44

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2024

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City adopts '25 budget in principle

Diane Johnston
Speaker Reporter

TEMISKAMING SHORES – The city has officially adopted in principle a budget of just under \$24 million for 2025.

Temiskaming Shores council reviewed the second and final draft of the financial spending plan December 17.

The city will increase the overall tax levy by 1.5 per cent. Council also approved a two per cent increase in water and sewer rates and a \$10 increase in the solid waste fee.

For a residential property assessed at \$193,000, the budget is expected to mean an overall increase of about \$76, taking into account education taxes as well as property taxes, water and sewer fees, and the solid waste fee.

That property's tax bill is projected to rise to \$3,825 from \$3,749 in 2024.

For a commercial property assessed at \$339,018, the tax bill is anticipated to increase \$86, to \$12,760 from \$12,674 in 2024.

Net operating costs for the city are budgeted at \$14.5 million, and for water and treatment, at just under \$5 million.

About \$4.4 million has been budgeted for capital projects, including equipment and vehicle purchases and work on roads, bridges and water and sewer systems.

Capital spending represents about one-fifth of the municipality's overall spending.

But that's down more than 37 per cent from last

Continued on page 8



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Santa Claus was at the Temagami arena upstairs hall for breakfast with the residents of Temagami on December 15. The annual event, which has become a tradition, was hosted by the Temagami Firefighters Association, the Temagami Fire Department, and the Temagami Lions Club. Pictured here from left to right with Santa Claus are: Frankie Legacy, Willow Douglas, Lilia Fontaine and Hudson Douglas. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)

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DID YOU GET The Speaker THIS WEEK?
Here are some of the stories in our December 18 edition...

- A fire destroyed a home in Beauchamp Township leaving a family homeless.
- The New Year's Eve Fireworks on the Lake event is a go this year, raising funds for the Community Cancer Care program.
- Tory Delaurier has put his name forward as the Progressive Conservative candidate for the riding of Timiskaming-Cochrane.
- The Town of Temagami is waiting for a response from Temagami's Indigenous representatives on its official plan.
- Latchford has passed a resolution endorsing the Communities of the Montreal River power project.
- The Charlton Fish Hatchery will receive funding to upgrade its facility.
- A grand opening was held for the new gymnasium at Ecole secondaire catholique Sainte-Marie.
- A Little Rocks Curling program is taking place at the Horne Granite Club in New Liskeard.
- The New Liskeard Cubs defeated the U16 and U18 Sudbury Wolves last weekend to break out of a winless slump.
- The Temiskaming Shores Pickleball Club held a fun yet competitive tournament last weekend.



ANGELS AROUND

The annual North Eastern Ontario Family and Children's Services (NEOFACS) toy drive was held in New Liskeard on November 30. The toy drive supports the Angel Program which in turn supports needy families in our region at Christmas. A truckload of toys was collected outside locations at Walmart, Canadian Tire and Giant Tiger by Emergency Medical Services workers, Ontario Provincial Police and local firefighters. It resulted in \$2,660 in cash donated, with \$1,050 coming from the Canadian Tire location alone. From the left in the back row are Temiskaming Shores Station 1 fire fighters district chief Kyle Brown, Chris Lauzon, Chuck Amyot, Chris Lachapelle, Brad Hearn, Lawrence Pye and NEOFACS toy drive organizer Deanna Davey. In front, from the left, are helpers Scott Brown, Eli Lachapelle, Logan Lachapelle and Isaac Amyot. (Staff photo by Sue Nielsen)

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One Light illuminating plans for year three

Diane Johnston
Speaker Reporter

TEMISKAMING SHORES – An organization that welcomes newcomers and helps them settle in Temiskaming Shores is looking to the future.

As it heads into its third year, One Light Diversity Centre plans to broaden its programs, said Rammy Bining, founder and executive lead.

"We have a lot of tricks up our sleeve," said Bining at a recent event in New Liskeard celebrating the non-profit's progress.

In 2023, she said One Light helped 725 newcomers settle in Temiskaming Shores and area. As of late November, she said the number this year stands at about 400.

"We've seen newcomers come from almost every single continent," she said.

When it talks about "newcomers," she said it uses the federal government definition. They may be permanent residents, including those who have received approval-in-principle to stay in Canada; refugees; or temporary residents, including students, workers and holders of temporary resident permits.

It's a complex field, and One Light tries to answer "a broad range" of questions, she said.

They range from queries about enrolling children in school, accessing public transit, and finding local services, to complex questions about immigration status.

It has helped raise money for people in financial need, such as medical expenses for newcomers who are not yet eligible for Ontario Health Insur-

ance Plan coverage.

It has also spread the word about specific requests for winter clothing, furniture and accommodations.

"The word 'settlement,' to me, means anything that will help a newcomer settle into our community," Bining said.

In the broader community, it may be best known for the multicultural and social gatherings it hosts on a regular basis.

OUTREACH

In 2024, it signed a five-year memorandum of understanding with the City of Temiska-

ming Shores to provide settlement support, welcoming events and community integration services for newcomers.

One of the initiative's goals is to increase both the recruitment of newcomers to the area and their retention, because not all the new arrivals stay.

A leading reason that people leave, Bining said, is the relatively easier acquisition of permanent resident status in Southern Ontario, which offers the jobs that the government is focused on.

Continued on page 5

Temagami Family Health Team

Submitted by Ellen Ibey

Season of Kindness

Kindness can mean different things to different people. The meaning is in how YOU choose to show it. Whether it's through empathy, acceptance, kind gestures, thoughtfulness, the possibilities are entirely up to you. Kindness might look like being helpful or showing empathy. It may mean doing nice things without expecting nice things in return. Being kind is doing intentional, voluntary acts of kindness. Not only when it's easy to be kind, but also when it's hard.

Has someone ever done something kind for you and all you wanted to do after was pay it forward? That's because kindness is a chain reaction. It's a wave that keeps rolling, and all it needs is one person to start it. One small kind act can cause a ripple effect that impacts an entire community. If we are all focused on being kind, we are creating a movement of change. You know that famous "be the change you wish to see in the world" quote? That quote isn't just about change, and it isn't only about one person being able to change their world. It's bigger; it's about a movement that can be started from one person acting with intention.

We're going to come in contact with a lot of people who are at their absolute breaking point this month. Friends, family, neighbours, co-workers, teachers, strangers in the grocery store, retail workers. While it may be the merriest time of year for some, it may be the saddest, most stressful, loneliest, most heartbreaking for others.

We're all busy, but we're not too busy to be kind, caring and patient. Remember the best thing you can give someone this season is your kindness. Even the smallest act of kindness can make a big impact!

**The Temagami Medical Centre and Family Health Team...
committed to keeping you as healthy as possible!**

References: <https://www.psychologytoday.com/ca/blog/pieces-of-mind/201712/the-importance-kindness>; <https://inspirekindness.com/blog/kindness-101>

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Family Health Team

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EDITORIAL

A disaster

The Trudeau federal government and the Ford provincial government have both announced they are giving taxpayers back some money in 2025. Premier Doug Ford says he will give eligible Ontar-

ians (all those who filed an income tax return in 2023) \$200 in the spring of 2025.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau wants to give out a Working Canadians Rebate of \$250.

In addition, the government is providing a GST holiday on a wide variety of goods aimed at saving low-income people money during the holiday season.

However, earlier this week the Liberal finance minister, Chrystia Freeland, resigned her post and called the tax breaks and cheques “political gimmicks.”

What are average Canadians supposed to think

when the finance minister puts down her own government’s policies?

It means the Liberal government under Justin Trudeau is falling apart in front of Canadians when we need solid governance in the face of an affordability crisis we are experiencing.

Something that the political elites don’t quite understand is how needed those tax breaks and cheques are to the average Canadian and especially low-income Canadians.

Yes, we can critique Doug Ford for his failure on hallway medicine and Trudeau for racking up a sizeable federal deficit and both for

their myopic views on long-term financial planning.

And yes, this could be a ploy for votes if elections are on the horizon.

But while we are doing that, someone in our neighbourhood has to make a decision about whether they will pay the heating bill or buy food this month.

And there’s a person who has no winter coat, boots and mitts and who does not know where their next meal is coming from.

Amidst the resignations and governmental chaos, Canadians want to be able to afford to live in this country.

SPEAKER WEEKENDER

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Consumed by Christmas



Sue Nielsen

Are you running around like a chicken with your head cut off trying to buy gifts for those on your Christmas gift giving list?

We all do it.

We live in a world where the idea of success has us pushing our physical, mental and spiritual health to the brink in order to score that perfect gift.

I don't purchase gifts for my daughter, who lives in Scotland. The multiple packages I have sent to her never arrive. We have both deduced it is Scottish customs that are the culprits.

But when I see her early in 2025, I will gift her something of her liking when we are out and about taking in the sights in that beautiful country.

Maybe it will be a restaurant meal at her favourite Indian restaurant as she loves curry dishes.

Perhaps it will be a new scarf when we visit the "royal mile" in Edinburgh or then again maybe it will be educational as we could take a trip to the Outer Hebrides to visit some castles.

In any event, the best gift I can give her is my time and attention.

It is my belief that the true Christmas spirit cannot be bought in a mall or ordered online from the big Zon.

It is found in how we treat people.

I was standing behind a man in a lineup the other day. He was berating a teenaged cashier for some-

thing silly.

That type of casual cruelty is found far too often in our world.

If you love someone and they've been wronged or hurt or treated unfairly: please, defend them.

We must stand up for people in our communities, we must have the backs of folks who are being treated unfairly.

I often think of my mother in terms of defending others. Whenever someone in our town passed away, mom would prepare a casserole or bake a pie to bring to the grieving family.

We didn't have much ourselves in the way of extra food but that didn't matter to mom, as she was more than willing to share.

I will never forget the year my sister and I got a pair of white go-go boots from Santa.

The boots were all the rage back then and all our friends had them so we wanted them too.

Years later, I understood the personal sacrifice my parents made to ensure their four children had a happy Christmas.

The Grinch wisely said, "How can this be, it came without ribbons, it came without tags. It came without packages, boxes or bags. What if Christmas he thought, doesn't come from a store? What if Christmas means a little bit more?"

Hug your loved ones, check in on seniors living alone, thank the bus driver and extend your giving to the needy and the suffering.

Merry Christmas, Joyeux Noel to all!

One Light illuminating plans for year three

Continued from page 3

But she has noticed that, after obtaining permanent resident status, people tend to come back to the North.

To support One Light's work, the city provided \$30,000 in funding in 2024. The Centre de santé communautaire du Témiskaming also provided \$30,000.

The recent event came almost two years after One Light's first. On December 25,

2022, about 80 people gathered to share a potluck meal at Riverside Place in New Liskeard.

This year, One Light is hosting what's dubbed a Winter ONE-derland Celebration on December 27 at Riverside Place, beginning at 6 p.m.

The cost is \$5 and the evening will feature music, food and dancing.

Visitors are encouraged to wear ethnic clothes to be eligible to win a prize.



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COMMUNITY
NEWS

Council Meetings

Monday, January 13, 2025

All meetings start at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

FOODCYCLER PILOT PROGRAM

The Township of Coleman is seeking interest in a "Food Waste Recycling Program" that reduces food waste to nutrient rich soil that can be added to plants or gardens. The goal is to reduce the amount of food waste that is deposited in the landfill.

You can sign up for a FoodCycler unit by contacting the Township Office. There are two sizes available; a 2.5 litre model for \$150 and a 5 litre model for \$300 plus applicable taxes.

Participants will be asked to track their weekly usage for a period of 12 weeks. At the end of the pilot program there will be a survey to assist the Township with the collection of waste management data.

GARBAGE COLLECTION

We collect regular household waste through weekly curbside collection every Tuesday. Please ensure your waste is out by 7am and is easily and safely accessible for collectors at a maximum distance of one meter from the curb. Maximum of three (3) bags per week.

RECYCLING SCHEDULE

December 24, 2024

January 7, 2025



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SEASONAL HORSEPOWER

While most of the floats in the Santa Claus parade relied on fossil fuels, Angelica Brisson opted for traditional horsepower - and not from a reindeer. Horses, canines and even dinosaurs - of the inflatable kind - appeared in this year's Lions Club Santa Claus parade November 23. (Staff photo by Diane Johnston)

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HORNE GRANITE REPORT

Curling league results for the week of December 8 to 14 at the Horne Granite Curling Club:

Monday Afternoon – Dec. 9

Temagami Marine over Beaner's Windows & Doors, B&T Parts and Supplies over SLE Contracting, and a tie between Chevaliers de Colomb #8619 and Fabrihane Industrial Products Inc.

Tuesday Parolink Mixed and Doubles – Dec. 10

Sutton Bay Park over City of Temiskaming Shores, Algonquin Variety over Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Brownlee Equipment over Carpet One and Lions Club over Temiskaming Speaker.

Wednesday Afternoon – Dec. 11

NAPA Auto Parts over Northern Signs, North Cobalt Flea Market over Interfor and a tie between Agnico Eagle and Brokerlink.

Thursday Open League – Dec. 12

The Brick over The Miller Group Miller Paving Ltd., Fountain Tire over 28 on The Lake, Wilson's Chevrolet, Buick GMC over 5th Wheel Training Institute, Algonquin Variety over Co-Operators, Nor Arc Steel Fabricators over Desjardins.

Friday Afternoon – Dec. 13

Desjardins over Anthony Rota Member of Parliament, and a tie between Grant Home Hardware Building Centre and Rivard Bros. Building Contractors.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Davy's Your Independent Grocer Annual Turkey Shoot – Saturday, Dec. 21.

Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., show up at 9:30 a.m.

All are welcome.

Cost is \$20/member, \$30/non-member.

Includes two four-end games and lunch and a chance to win your turkey!

Saturday afternoon Music Jam as entertainment.

Sign-up in advance as an individual (some exceptions), teams will be formed by draw from the hat.

Registration deadline: Thursday, Dec. 19, end of day.

Contact info@hornegrانيتe.com.

BOXING DAY

The Jim Garahan Memorial Family Fun

Spiel is Boxing Day – Thursday, Dec. 26.

Registration is 9:30 a.m., cost is \$10 per person.

First 12 family teams will be accepted – members and non-members welcome.

Two six-end games and cash prizes, bring your lunch.

Can pre-register families by either emailing info@hornegrانيتe.com, calling Dr. Allan Mathieu at 705-676-

5451, or via the sign-up sheet in the Horne Granite Lounge.

It's a great way to spend Boxing Day and introduce people to curling.

Come out and have fun!

LADIES' NIGHT

Ladies' Night at The Horne Granite, sponsored by W. Jack Birtch, is Wednesday, January 8.

The first 12 teams will be accepted so get your teams together if you want a spot!

Please register in advance by emailing Patti at secretary@hornegrانيتe.com (provide the four names – first and last).

If you don't have a team, but are interested in playing, please let Patti know. Often there are teams looking for players.

Deadline for registration is Monday, Jan. 6 – end of day.

Bring (carry in) clean shoes with a good grip, and wear warm stretchy clothing.

Brooms, sliders, delivery sticks and stabilizers are available.

Register at 5 p.m., orientation/practice to follow.

Six ends of curling to start at 5:30 p.m. Dinner by 28 on the lake and prizes to follow.

Members \$25, non-members \$35.

Hope to see you on the ice!

Reserve the following dates in your calendar and come curl for fun at our Ladies' Nights:

- January 22
- February 5 and 19
- March 5 and 19

AGE FRIENDLY CURLING

All Age Friendly Community Curling on

Friday, January 17.

Time: 1 to 2 p.m.

Come out to learn more about curling, then play when you are ready!

Sliders, regular brooms, delivery sticks and stabilizers are available.

Contact Lynn for more information or to register:

Phone: 705-647-5709

Email: ljulien@temiskamingshores.ca

Other dates:

January 31; February 14 and 28; March 14.

JAM SESSIONS

Jam sessions are back this year at the Horne Granite. The jam

sessions will take place on some selected Saturdays with the odd Friday mixed in. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and the Horne Granite Report for dates.

FOR RENT

Anyone interested in renting the Horne Granite Centre lounge, curling surface or the arena surface (off-season) is welcome to call the club at (705) 647-4422 or email rentals@hornegrانيتe.com for more information. Bar services are available.

Visit the Horne Granite Curling Club's Facebook page for up-to-date information on club news and upcoming events. While you're there, don't forget to like our page.



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to
Pat, Jay & Mitch Desmarais
on this amazing achievement.

City adopts '25 budget

Continued from page 1

year, and for the second year in a row the city will borrow no money.

"It's always nice to get the budget approved before the end of the year so that we can get moving," said Mayor Jeff Laferriere as council prepared to approve the budget in principle December 17.

This year's budget includes a new item, a working reserve allocation of \$156,000.

The mayor said the city needs to do some planning with respect to its reserves.

But in its budget discussions, he said it did get a brief look at what its capital spending

could be in 2026.

It speaks to "the overwhelming challenge" that all municipalities face in replacing some of their assets, he said.

The numbers also point to the importance of lobbying the province and federal government for support, he said.

When the city looks at its own asset management plan and the age of some of its infrastructure, he said the work is not something that can be done on just the backs of its small tax base.



NO ROOM AT THE INN

The innkeeper, played by Gord Edwards, was advising everyone who approached that there was no room left in the inn, as Charlie Doyon peered from within, and Keegan MacLeod slept on the bench outside. They were part of the Thornloe Crossroads Baptist Church's December 13 and December 14 re-enactment of the moments surrounding the birth of Jesus. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)

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Cobalt (9 Miller Ave.)

Christmas Eve: 5:00 P.M.

The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see - I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you:

you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!" Luke 2:10-14



May you have a blessed and holy Christmas.

Fr. Wayne Mills, Pastor

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STOP on the Net is an initiative of the Smoking Treatment for Ontario Patients (STOP) Program, and is funded by the Ontario Ministry of Health

ACROSS

- 1. Lawn tree
- 4. Mastered
- 8. Chip in chips
- 12. Feathered stole
- 13. ___ shirt
- 14. Poet Keats
- 15. Cereal container
- 16. Gardening tool
- 17. Eager
- 18. Faucet
- 20. Lawn
- 21. Hazardous
- 24. Stare blankly
- 27. Screening
- 32. 24th letters
- 33. Lad
- 34. Estate unit
- 35. Deerskin
- 37. Ancient harp
- 38. Clothes
- 41. Planet's path
- 45. Perceive
- 49. Give notice
- 50. Land amid water
- 52. Hops beverage
- 53. Fifty-fifty
- 54. Gentle
- 55. Bring to court
- 56. Attaches a button
- 57. Writing tablets
- 58. Five plus five

DOWN

- 1. Fades
- 2. Part of a bow
- 3. Long skirt
- 4. Smock
- 5. Paint layers
- 6. Forest creature
- 7. Fawn's mother
- 8. Not totally closed
- 9. PBS science show
- 10. Not that
- 11. Last bits
- 19. Invited person
- 20. ___ whiz!
- 22. Helm direction
- 23. Saute
- 24. Hair preparation
- 25. Bunyan's tool
- 26. Pod inhabitant
- 28. Manservant
- 29. Wintry
- 30. Miscalculate
- 31. Very small
- 33. Risk cash
- 36. Lid
- 39. Ran a motor
- 40. Stinks
- 41. Has loans
- 42. Rant
- 43. Make beer
- 44. Rustic hotels
- 46. Bridge seat
- 47. Piece of evidence
- 48. MTV watcher
- 50. Little demon
- 51. Yellow or Red, e.g.

CROSSWORD

Answers
on
page 11

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18			19						20			
			21			22	23					
24	25	26				27			28	29	30	31
32						33			34			
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HOROSCOPE

WEEK OF
DECEMBER 22 TO 28, 2024

THE LUCKIEST SIGNS THIS WEEK:
SAGITTARIUS, CAPRICORN AND AQUARIUS



ARIES

In romantic matters, you may receive a marriage proposal, either from someone you don't know or during a trip with your partner. This week holds surprises that will be good for you.



TAURUS

You'll have a lot to do at work to finalize files before the holidays. However, everything will go according to plan. You'll finish off the year with a sense of accomplishment and leave with peace of mind.



GEMINI

You'll put the finishing touches on your holiday decorations after finding out last minute that you'll be hosting an important gathering. Your desire to outdo yourself will push you to do everything in your power to stand out.



CANCER

You'll find time to manage the household, take care of the children and serve as host for the get-togethers. You'll be involved in a community activity that will make you feel an extra burst of gratitude.



LEO

You won't mince your words this week! You'll openly express what others are thinking. You may also need to dispel some nasty gossip to prevent it from complicating your relationships.



VIRGO

You'll need to make more purchases, which will cause you to spend beyond your budget. However, the presents will be greatly appreciated, earning you warm thanks.



LIBRA

You'll need to make last-minute arrangements at work or at home. At the office, you'll be the first to arrive and the last to leave. For this, you'll earn the trust of management for an upcoming promotion.



SCORPIO

Be careful not to wear yourself out before the start of the holiday season. You'll have to take time to rest to get over a cold that's causing fatigue. There's nothing like an inspiring read at a time like this.



SAGITTARIUS

Stress at work may make you feel like you're in turmoil. Fortunately, you'll regain your self-confidence just in time for Christmas. You won't leave your good friends alone for the holidays.



CAPRICORN

You'll excel at work and in preparing for the holidays. You'll complete all your tasks on time. This will give you peace of mind during your time off.



AQUARIUS

Your friends may invite you to travel with them. You'll accept the offer without hesitation. If not, you may take part in a multicultural celebration with your loved ones during the holidays.



PISCES

You may feel a mix of emotions as the holidays approach. This year's celebrations will be different, evoking a sense of nostalgia that may bring out your sensitive side.

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CHURCH SERVICES & MORE...

SERVICES AT ST. PAUL'S EMMANUEL COMMUNITY CHURCH (formerly Emmanuel United Church, Englehart) at 10am, every Sunday. Minister: Rev. Elaine Lush. All are welcome.

PAROISSE ST-JEAN BAPTISTE D'EARLTON Nous sommes heureux de vous accueillir pour la messe dominical les dimanche à 11h. L'Église et notre bureau sont situés au 31 - 10ième rue ouest, Earlton. Pour autres informations composez le 705-563-2220 ou par courriel à pstjeanbaptiste@gmail.com.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH wishes to extend an invitation to join weekly services held every Sunday at 51 Wellington St. North, New Liskeard at 10:30 a.m. with Pastor George Paraskevopoulos officiating. The church is now fully accessible with an outside ramp & inside hydraulic lift elevator. We are also pleased to have completed our improvements to air quality in the building with the addition of air exchangers and Hepa air cleaners. For more information about the church and our ministries, call 705-647-8401 or visit our website www.presbyterianneuwiliskeard.ca

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH COMING EVENTS - December 2024

SUNDAY MASS is celebrated at Our Mother of Perpetual Help on Sundays at 10:00 A.M. and is live-streamed on our Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/OMPH.NL>.

SUNDAY MASS is celebrated at Saint Patrick's Parish in Cobalt on Saturdays at 5:00 P.M..

Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish has weekday Masses on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 11:00 A.M.

Saint Patrick's Parish has a weekday Mass on Wednesdays at 11:00 A.M.

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP'S FREE CHILLI DINNER AND LIGHTING OF OUR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS: On **Sunday, December 8th at 5:00 P.M. in the OMPH Parish hall**, we will host a free chilli dinner. We will turn on the Christmas lights at **5:00 P.M.** and then have a chilli dinner. A Christmas Sing-A-Long will follow.

DAY OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish will be hosting days of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Friday of Advent. **Friday, December 6th and Friday, December 13th and Friday, December 20th from 11:30 A.M to 12:30 P.M.**

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP ADVENT PENITENTIAL MASS will take place on **Tuesday, December 10th at 7:00 P.M.** There will be a Mass for Reconciliation followed by individual confession. Two priests will be available. Come and be reconciled with God this Advent!

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP'S CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK: To reach out to our sick and elderly parishioners we have introduced a monthly celebration of the Sacrament of the Sick for those in need of God's healing grace. Our next communal celebration will be on **Tuesday, December 17th at 7:00 P.M..**

TIME FOR YOU AND ME: Is a group from Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish that is open to everyone wanting to make a difference helping others in our Church, our community and our world! Join us from **1:30 P.M. to 2:30P.M. on Wednesday, December 18th.**

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE: *Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish* will have two Masses celebrating the birth of our Lord. They will take place on **December 24th at 8:00 P.M. as well as on December 25th at 11:00 A.M.. Saint Patrick's Parish in Cobalt will have a Mass on December 24th at 5:00 P.M..**

NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE: *Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish* will celebrate the New Year with Mass on **January 1st at 11:00 A.M.. Saint Patrick's Parish in Cobalt will celebrate the New Year with Mass on December 31st at 5:00 P.M..**

OMPH IS NOW ON FACEBOOK: Check our facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/OMPH.NL> and stay up to date on the latest happenings in theparish.

WEEKLY OMPH E-BULLETIN: If you would like to receive the weekly e-bulletin from Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish, please email omphoffice@gmail.com

PARISH WEBSITE: Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish has updated its parish website. It contains information about the Parish, the weekly bulletin and a host of other useful information and links. Check out the website at www.ourmotherofperpetualhelp.ca.

CHURCH SERVICES & MORE...

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH welcomes you to Sunday services at 70 Wellington St. in New Liskeard, beginning at 10:30 AM. **This Sunday, please join us when our worship leader will be Aaron Palmer. On Tuesday December 24th, please join us for a Family Christmas Eve Service at 7 o'clock with worship leader Jennifer Moorlag.** There will be no Service on Sunday December 29th. For more information on our services and outreach programs, please contact the Church Office at 705 647 4171 and check out our Facebook page at facebook.com/stpaulsnewliskeard

THE SALVATION ARMY TIMISKAMING COMMUNITY CHURCH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES. 260 Whitewood Ave. New Liskeard. Tel: 647-4115 Sunday worship 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour Thursday 10 a.m. Bible Study 11 a.m. Women's ministry every second Wednesday 1 p.m. Men's breakfast every third Saturday 8:30 a.m. **Food Bank by appointment call 705-647-3740.**

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH in Englehart invites everyone to Sunday Mass at 9am.

ST. PAUL & ST. JOHN ANGLICAN CHURCH, HAILEYBURY is open for services every Sunday at 11 a.m.

ENGLEHART BAPTIST CHURCH - Corner of Second St., and 7th Ave. Family worship & bible based teachings every Sunday beginning at 10:30am. Stay for lunch! Bible study & prayer every Wednesday at 7:30pm. Everyone welcome. To reach the Pastor Rudy Kaufmann please call 705-544-0065 or 705-647-7697

ST. JAMES, COBALT - corner of Nickel and Prospect St. Sunday 9am

TOMSTOWN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - worship is every 3rd Sunday of the month at 10:00am.

ÉGLISE CATHOLIQUE SAINTE CROIX est ouverte pour célébrer la messe du mardi au samedi matin à 9:30, le samedi soir à 19h et le dimanche matin à 10h. L'église Sainte-Croix est située à 341 Sutherland Way, Haileybury - 705-672-3296. Bienvenue à tous.

THORNLOE CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH - corner of Hwys 11 & 562, 15 minutes north of New Liskeard. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. for all ages. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome. Pastor Curtis Greenwood 705-622-4860. For more information www.thornloecrossroads.ca

LA PAROISSE CATHOLIQUE SAINTE-CROIX nous invite à prendre conscience et réfléchir sur notre relation personnelle avec Jésus Christ par les 7 sacrements offert par l'église catholique : le Baptême, la Confirmation, l'Eucharistie, la Confession, l'Onction des malades, l'Ordination et le Mariage. Par ses sacrements, une alliance est établie entre Dieu et nous dans nos cœurs, comme l'annonçait le prophète Jérémie (31, 31-34) : « Je mettrai ma loi, au fond de leur être, je l'écrirai sur leur cœur. Ils seront mon peuple, je serai leur Dieu ». Tél : 705-672-3296 / Adresse : 341 Sutherland Way, Haileybury, ON

PAROISSE SAINTE-CROIX SUR FACEBOOK: Consultez notre page Facebook sur facebook.com/Paroisse-Ste-Croix et restez au courant des derniers événements de notre paroisse catholique.

PAROISSE SACRÉ-COEUR CATHOLIQUE DE NEW LISKEARD – Nous sommes heureux de vous accueillir pour les messes dominicales les samedis à 16 h et les dimanches à 10 h 30. Nous offrons aussi la messe le mardi, mercredi, jeudi et vendredi de chaque semaine à 9 h à l'exception du 4emardi de chaque mois. Cette messe a lieu à 19 h. L'église et notre bureau sont situés au 116 Dymond Cres. Certaines adaptations et modifications ont été mises en place pour la protection de toutes et tous. Pour autres informations composez le 705 647-5045 ou par courriel apsacrecoeur@personainternet.com. Pour le bulletin de la semaine consultez notre page Facebook (facebook.com/Paroisse-Sacre-Coeur).

FR. WAYNE MILLS is available to hear confessions and give out Communion by appointment. Please call the office at 705-647-5035 to make an appointment.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Wellington St., New Liskeard. Worship Service 11:00 am Sunday Morning. All are welcome. Pastor Amos Bohoussou officiating. For more information, call 705-647-5026.

CHURCH SERVICES & MORE...

GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH OF ENGLEHART meets every Sunday morning at 10:30am. We invite you to our worship services or our weekly Bible study and prayer meeting on Wednesday at 7 pm. We offer ministries for children, Jr. and Sr. High groups and monthly fellowships. Please contact Pastor Steve Crosby at 705-544-8339 or visit goodshepherdenglehart.org

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH invites all to come & worship Saturday morning at 453 Marcella St in Haileybury. 705-242-4848. Officiating Pastor Ivan Urie-gas. Study time is 10am and divine service at 11am. Prayer meeting Tuesday at 5:30 pm. Everyone is Welcome.

HAILEYBURY & DISTRICT BAPTIST CHURCH extends a warm welcome to all. Worship Sunday at 1:30 pm with pastor Adam Kubias. Accessibility ramp. Call the church (705) 672-5855. www.haileyburybaptist.ca

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT TEMISKAMING CHURCH - Feel free to attend any Sunday at 10:30 a.m. The church is located at 583472 West Rd. in Haileybury. For information about other things that are happening at the church visit the website at temiskaming.church or call 705-672-2020.

EARLTON GOSPEL HALL WELCOMES YOU TO OUR WEEKLY SERVICES Sunday at 10 a.m. Breaking of Bread Communion, 11:30 Gospel, 12:15 Sunday School. Wednesday, 7 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer meeting. 3 miles west of Earlton on Church Road.

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SERVICES

AA Meetings held in Englehart. 62 Fifth Ave. (St.Pauls Church) every Tuesday night at 8 p.m. Everyone welcome! If you would like additional information please call 705-544-0286.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS: To be held at various dates, times & locations. For more information, please call Shelby at 705-648-5315.

PRENATAL CLASSES - Offered by the Timiskaming Health Unit. Call 705-647-4305 as soon as you confirm your pregnancy. For more info. visit www.timiskaminghu.com.

INTERIOR PAINTING and drywall repairs, free estimates. Call Jack 705-679-5363.

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ALANON Group for adults, children of/with alcoholics meet every Thursday at 7pm at the Good Shepherd Church, 139 Second Ave., Englehart. Sandra 705-288-2992.

Answers for Crossword Puzzle from page 9

E	L	M	A	C	E	D	A	N	T	E	
B	O	A	P	O	L	O	J	O	H	N	
B	O	X	R	A	K	E	A	V	I	D	
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S	E	W	S		P	A	D	S	T	E	N

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*To be a part of our
directory contact:
The Speaker office at
705-647-6791
ext. 227 or ext. 228*

NOTICES / COMING EVENTS

TAOIST TAI CHI OPEN HOUSE Monday January 13 from 10-11am at 33 Niven St in New Liskeard. Come out and try a free class! Wear comfy clothing and bring indoor shoes.

Lactation Support-La Leche League Canada, Temiskaming Shores is offering peer support for lactating families during pregnancy, postpartum, and beyond. We can provide free breastfeeding/chestfeeding support by email, text, and at 5 in-person meetings per month. For more information, visit <https://www.lllc.ca/temiskaming-shores>

BREAKFAST IS BEING SERVED at the Haileybury Legion Saturdays and Sundays from 8am until noon. Eggs done your way or pancakes. Bacon or sausage, home fries, toast, coffee or tea and juice for only \$12. Come join our friendly dining atmosphere with your friends and family. Vendors also on site. 373 Broadway St in Haileybury.

EUCHRE at the Hudson Hall every **Thursday at 1:15 pm**. Everyone Welcome!

EUCHRE STARTING SEPT 9TH HAILEYBURY LEGION 1pm Don't need a partner, Everyone welcome. For more info call 705 647 6684.

CRIB STARTING SEPT 8TH HAILEYBURY LEGION 1pm Need a partner. Everyone welcome. For more info call 705 647 6684.

BID EUCHRE EVERY TUESDAY AT 1:15 at the Hudson Hall. For more info call 705-647-6684.

BID EUCHRE is played at **1 p.m. every Saturday** at the Northdale Manor. Players are welcome. Please use the parking lot entrance.

ATTENTION KNITTERS: If you would like to knit for children in the third world, we could use your help. Join us on **TUESDAYS AT 1:30PM** at the Community of Christ Church on Niven St., New Liskeard. Just bring knitting needles size 4 or 4 1/2 mm. Yarn and needles are available. All are welcome! For more information, call D. Caldwell at 705-647-6056.

LE GRAND JAM - We will be starting our weekly jam session again. Starting Wednesday September 11th at 1 pm til 4 pm. At Le Coeur Du Village in Earleton. Join us to play, dance and meet up with friends.

THE COFFEE HOUSE SUPPORTING & PROMOTING LOCAL MUSICIANS AND THEIR MUSIC. On behalf of all the musicians and entertainers who have shared their music with us in 2024 at The Coffee House we want to wish you & yours, A Very Merry Christmas and A Happy, Healthy & Peaceful 2025. On **Tuesday January 14th, 2025** please join us once again to start off another year of enjoying the Musical Stylings of many of your favourite local musicians and entertainers at **The Coffee House**. Please join us the second Tuesday of every month at St. Paul's United Church auditorium, 7 - 10PM at 70 Wellington St. in New Liskeard. **Please consider donating to The Coffee House Fund.** For further information contact Brian Matheson at 705-647-5671 or email: coffeeshouse2tues@outlook.com **Follow us on Facebook, Instagram & YouTube at: the coffee house new liskeard www.coffeeshousenewliskeard**

Temiskaming Art Gallery's exhibit **Phenomenologie Liminale** by **Julie Rene de Cotret** runs **Nov 25-Jan 5**. The gallery is open Mon-Fri 9-4 at 325 Farr Dr in Haileybury with later hours on December 20th. The gallery will be closed Dec 24 12pm - Jan 1.

Open Studio Libre - (400 Ferguson Ave) Drop in hours are Tuesdays 10-7, Wed 9:30-12:30, Thursdays 10-7. Thursdays we have both upstairs and downstairs art rooms available. Everything is free or by donation. The studio will be closed Dec 20 - Jan 1

ON VOUS INVITE A DEVENIR MEMBRE DU CLUB DU SOURIRE (AGE D'OR DE NEW LISKEARD, ON). Achez votre carte de membre 2024 le plus tot possible. Cette carte vous donnera la chance du profiter des activites et des soupers communautaires a prix reduit. **Vous pouvez contacter Gilbert Breault au 705-648-5913 pour plus d'informations.**

TEMISKAMING TREASURES QUILT GUILD meet the **last Thursday of every month at 1:30 pm** at the St. Pauls & St. Johns Hall (506 Rorke Ave., Haileybury). Welcome to all interested in quilting. For more information please contact Linda at 705-647-5812.

MUSIC JAM EVERY 2ND AND 4TH FRIDAY OF THE MONTH at the **Sacred Heart Church** in the basement from 1pm until 4pm. This is to replace the one we used to hold at the legion. Always good entertainment. Come to play, sing or dance to country music. Bring your friends!

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Clerk-Treasurer

Town of Latchford

The Town of Latchford is a vibrant and growing community dedicated to providing high quality public services and fiscal responsibility.

We are located approximately an hour and a half north of the City of North Bay and twenty minutes south of the City of Temiskaming Shores and are currently seeking a skilled and motivated individual for the position of Town Clerk-Treasurer.

This senior management role reports directly to Council and is responsible for the overall delivery of services within the municipality. The successful candidate will assume statutory responsibilities of Clerk-Treasurer under the Municipal Act, 2001 and provide leadership to staff as well as sound advice to Council. Located in Northern Ontario, the Town of Latchford offers unique natural beauty and rural living. With abundant outdoor recreational opportunities, including hiking, fishing, hunting and outdoor sports, Latchford is the perfect place to enjoy a balanced lifestyle. Our community provides a welcoming environment for families, professionals, and retirees alike, with access to essential services and amenities in the region.

Reporting to Council, the Clerk-Treasurer has the following key duties and responsibilities: Act as the principal advisor to Council and perform any duties associated with authorities delegated by Council ensuring that decisions made align with the will of Council;

Oversee the development and administration of the municipality's operating and capital budgets; Review any reports by staff members to Council; Ensure compliance with the statutory duties of the Clerk-Treasurer as set out in the Municipal Act, 2001 and act as the Head for Municipal Freedom of Information requests, Returning Officer during elections, and other statutory roles as may be required;

Oversee the workflow of all municipal departments, ensuring optimal performance and efficiency; Liaise with provincial ministries and agencies;

Maintain up-to-date knowledge of municipal, provincial and federal legislation applicable to the municipal sector.

Qualifications: College diploma in a related field, or hold AMCT, CMO or other designation and five (5) years municipal experience or a combination of education and experience. Exceptional communication skills and political acumen to interact with diverse interest holders. Fully proficient in information technology including Microsoft Office, Quick Books, TMM Municipal Tax, and word press.

Advanced understanding of policies and legislative requirements related to Ontario municipalities, municipal by-laws, government administration, Council process and procedural activities, including but not limited to the following: Municipal Act, Municipal Elections Act, Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Lottery Licensing.

Demonstrated interpersonal and public relation skills. Ability to ensure integrity, impartiality and professionalism in the conduct of duties. This position is a full-time, regular 40-hour work week from Monday to Friday, days with required after hours work for Council meetings, critical periods or situations. The 2025 salary will be per Town of Latchford pay scale. Qualified candidates are invited to submit a cover letter and résumé (by email) to jallen@latchford.ca no later than **4 p.m. on January 10th, 2025**, quoting "Clerk-Treasurer" in the subject line. Only those granted an interview will be contacted.



WEEKENDER CARRIERS NEEDED

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Cobalt thanks Vanthof for help with police costs

Darlene Wroe
Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

COBALT - The Town of Cobalt is thanking Timiskaming-Cochrane MPP John Vanthof for his help in reducing their policing costs for 2025.

At the town's December 20 meeting, town manager Steven Dalley expressed his gratitude to Vanthof for his work in bringing the message to the legislature.

Dalley outlined that the municipality had 2024 policing costs of \$409,761 and had received notice that Cobalt's 2025 policing cost was going to go up to \$520,465.

Vanthof took Cobalt's num-

bers to the legislature and presented them in front of Ontario Finance Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, and questioned which of the municipality's services it should cut in order to pay the increased policing costs.

Solicitor General Michael Kerzner stepped in, and his office contacted the Town of Cobalt.

The municipality has now been advised that its 2025 policing costs have been changed to \$445,901, "so we went from a difference of \$110,704, to an increase of \$36,140," said Dalley.

Other municipalities across the province have also seen proposed reductions in their

2025 policing costs as a result of the review and a funding package of \$77 million from the province to make it possible.

Cobalt has also been advised that its funding package from the province is being increased by \$16,600 "so that will help decrease that margin as well," said Dalley.

Mayor Angela Adshead commented that the earlier notice of the increased policing costs for the OPP raised an outcry from many municipalities across the province. But she said Vanthof "raised the question on the floor in such a way that it had a big impact."

The municipality is sending a letter of thanks to Vanthof for his assistance.w



SHELTER FROM THE STORM

Santa and Mrs. Claus, close friends of Nick and Erin Little, have been out and about at several events this season. On this occasion, they traded scarves for an umbrella as they prepared to greet crowds at New Liskeard's festival of lights. More than 200 people turned out in spite of the rain for the event, which was staged November 21 by the Downtown New Liskeard Business Improvement Area group. (Staff photo by Diane Johnston)



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