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WEEKENDER THE SPEAKER'S WEEKEND EDITION



Vol. 25 - No. 7

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026

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Councillor proposes minimum tax on Coleman vacant land

Sue Nielsen

Local Journalism
Initiative Reporter

COLEMAN TOWNSHIP — While ways to increase municipal revenues may be rare these days, those ideas often generate a positive response.

Such was the case when Coleman Township Deputy Mayor Lois Perry proposed to her council at its regularly scheduled meeting Febraury 2 that an increase in a tax rate for vacant lots be adopted. The idea was met with favour.

Perry spoke about an issue that had come up at the January 29 Temiskaming Municipal Association (TMA) meeting relating to one municipality in the South Temiskaming region that brought in a \$500 tax on vacant lands.

Perry is also the chairperson of the TMA.

Chamberlain Township did this because large farming corporations were buying up huge parcels of land, stripping them of buildings and paying very low taxes on those properties.

Municipal representative Kerry Stewart, reeve of Chamberlain Township, spoke at the TMA meeting under the agenda heading of Minimum Assessment of Farmland Property. He explained that bringing in a \$500 minimum tax on vacant lots in Chamberlain had an economic spinoff where revenues last year rose by \$30,000.

"This income helped us replace machinery and equipment we needed," said Stewart to the TMA.

When speaking in a telephone interview,

Coleman Mayor Dan Cleroux said he had some reservations about the vacant land tax as it applies to the mining properties in the township.

"We will have discussion on it and we will follow up. We have mining properties and those lots are vacant lots."

COLEMAN INTEREST

Coleman council was interested in this vacant lot tax increase proposal and CAO Chris Oslund said he would look into how many vacant lots the township has.

Oslund said the vacant land tax could actually bring in revenue but possibly spur on development in the township also.

Perry said in an email interview after the meeting that "this minimum tax levy could substantially increase the municipal revenues

and possibly also encourage development in the township. This could also assist us in balancing the municipal budget as even vacant lots have municipal costs associated with them such as administration, roads, planning, emergency services and more."

In Ontario, annual property tax for vacant land is determined by municipal rates based on the assessed value, often classed as residential or commercial.

Municipalities charge property tax as a way to cover the costs of servicing properties with things like utilities, road service, garbage disposal, policing, fire services, and more. Because of this, different property types are deemed to be more or less costly to the municipalities' services and will be charged different tax rates.



DID YOU GET The Speaker THIS WEEK?
 Here are some of the stories in our February 11 edition...

- Coleman Township continues to assess upgrades to its Bass Lake Park.
- Cobalt council approves repairs to the Classic Theatre to the tune of \$49,000.
- Temiskaming Shores council is excited over news it will receive \$4.9 million towards its aerations system upgrades.
- A book of French poetry created locally involves two local creators.
- Clean it and they will come. Englehart unveiled its new propane-powered Olympia ice resurfer, in partnership with Georgia-Pacific.
- For those seeking some fishing fun: the Elk Lake Fish On Derby held on February 14 might sink its hooks into area anglers.
- The New Liskeard Cubs downed the U16 North Bay Trappers, extending their winning streak.
- Anglers in the Temagami region can hope for tight lines during the 2026 Daki Menan Family Fun Fishing Derby being held February 14-15.



WORLD WETLANDS DAY

Bright sunshine greeted a group of eager snowshoe enthusiasts at the Hilliardton Marsh Research and Education Centre on January 31 during an event to mark World Wetlands Day, which was February 2. The marsh is one of the largest wetlands in the region and has been recognized as one of the best wetland visitor centres in the world by Wetland Link International. From the left in the back row are Marijke Vervoort, her daughter Kianna Pouliot, marsh research and education coordinator Bruce Murphy and Kyle St. Michel. In the front are children Landon and Brooklyn St. Michel. (Staff photo by Sue Nielsen)

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Horne Granite Report



Curling league results for the week of February 1 to 7 at the Horne Granite Curling Club (HGCC).

Monday Afternoon – Feb. 2

Davy's Your Independent Grocer defeating 3H Furniture 12-3, Campsall Plumbing

over Northern Signs 6-4, Riverfront Chiropractic taking on NAPA Auto Parts 7-6.

Tuesday Parolink Mixed League – Feb. 3

NorArc over The Brick, North Cobalt Flea Market over Yves Prime Cut Meats, 28 on the Lake over Fountain Tire, Interfor over Algonquin Variety.

Wednesday Afternoon – Feb. 4

Wilson's Chevrolet Buick

GMC over Temiskaming Speaker 5-3, Phippen Waste Management taking on Pedersen Construction 8-4.

Thursday Open League – Feb. 5

Shoppers Drug Mart over Parolink, Riverfront Chiropractic Health & Orthotics over Lions Club, NAPA Auto Parts over The Miller Group, Fabrithane Industrial over Algonquin Variety, Northern Signs over Waterfront Inn, Agnico

Eagle over SLE Contracting.

Friday Afternoon – Feb. 6

North Cobalt Flea Market defeating Waterfront Inn 9-4, Algonquin Variety over Interfor 6-3.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the dates! Next Ladies' Nights are February 25, March 11 and 25.

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@hornegr granite.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. New members are always welcome.

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Online kindergarten registration is taking place during the entire month of February.

Please contact the school principal for more information.



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It is now time to register your children for this coming September.



EDITORIAL

Risky business

Three incidents on Highway 11 happened earlier this week due to a snowstorm that hit Northern Ontario. Highway 11 was closed at

South River due to a multi-car pile up, Highway 65 West was closed due to an incident and Highway 11 near Temiskaming Shores was closed due to

an accident that had fireballs and smoke.

And yet, the school buses were allowed to travel on the highway during that snowstorm on Tuesday, February 10, that turned roads into ice rinks and visibility to nil.

A cross-country ski race start time in Coleman Township had to be pushed back to noon hour because of kids travelling on Highway 11 from the Timmins area.

And yet, in the past, a snowflake or two falling on area roads would have buses cancelled in the Temiskaming

region.

Why take a chance and put kids and citizens on those roads in those winter conditions?

The police close highways immediately for a standoff with a guy with a gun (understandable), but yet when children and citizens are on the highways this week the roads were not immediately closed.

Only when three crashes occurred did the highways become closed that day.

In the event of winter weather like we had earlier this week, we would hope

that the people making decisions about the safety of children and citizens actually make those important decisions to protect lives.

And if people are late for work, races are cancelled and medical appointments missed, they should call Ontario Premier Doug Ford's office and/or the Minister of Transportation Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria.

No one should have to risk life and limb to travel on Highway 11 during a snowstorm.

SPEAKER WEEKENDER

General Manager - Alan Roy
Editor - Steven Larocque

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TEMISKAMING PRINTING COMPANY LIMITED
18 Wellington Street, P.O. Box 580, New Liskeard, Ont. P0J 1P0
Phone: 705-647-6791 Fax: 705-647-9669
speaker@northernontario.ca
www.northernontario.ca

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OUTCAST



THE TEMISKAMING SPEAKER

GENERAL MANAGER
ALAN ROY
705-647-6791 Ext. 248
speaker.al@northernontario.ca

EDITOR
STEVEN LAROCQUE
705-647-6791 Ext. 239
speaker.steve@northernontario.ca

705-647-6791

EDITORIAL
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
SUE NIELSEN
Ext. 246 speaker.sue@northernontario.ca

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
JOE O'GRADY
Ext. 241 speaker.jogrady@northernontario.ca

CO-PRODUCTION/PRINT
ARIANNA HALPIN Ext. 229
speaker.arianna@northernontario.ca

PRODUCTION/DESIGN
MIKE TONKIN Ext. 245
speaker.miket@northernontario.ca

JASON CAMPSALL Ext. 236
speaker.jason@northernontario.ca

Toll Free: 1-800-461-8751

SALES
CHRISTINE BENN Ext. 226
speaker.christine@northernontario.ca

LISA LEBRASSEUR Ext. 224
speaker.lisa@northernontario.ca

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Bad Bunny rocked



Sue
Nielsen

Being a long-time football fan, I watched the Super Bowl played between the New England Patriots and the Seattle Seahawks, held in Santa Clara, California, last weekend.

By now you know the Seahawks won the Vince Lombardi Trophy, dominating the game 29-13.

The Patriots had a terrific season but their offence tanked in the big game while the Seahawks defence rose to the occasion.

Patriots defensive player, Christian Gonzalez's play stood out to me as he broke up three critical passing plays.

Congratulations to the Seattle Seahawks, and owner Jody Allen.

I believe it was the first time a woman lifted the Lombardi Trophy as a team owner. And she doesn't see eye to eye with the orange-faced president, so I like her even more.

But aside from the commercials, the halftime show stole the headlines from a record setting 136 million views

worldwide with Bad Bunny leading the way.

I myself took a shot at Bad Bunny in my Sport Shorts column saying I would not be watching his show.

But I was wrong. I watched the show and I liked seeing Bad Bunny hopping around the stage like he owned the world. Maybe a little less crotch grabbing would do.

Bad Bunny is a Puerto Rican record producer and singer whose performance more than made up for the bad football game we saw.

I loved it when Lady Gaga appeared in the halftime show.

I didn't care that most of his singing was in Spanish. When

he climbed up on the out-of-service hydro pole I got the message that Puerto Rico had been hung out to dry by the United States when they had a devastating hurricane

in 2017. The hurricane killed some 3,000 residents and caused power outages lasting months and months.

Remember when Trump threw paper towels into a crowd of hurricane survivors?

Right wing pundits claim Bad Bunny is not American enough and he is certainly not white enough, that's for sure.

What Bad Bunny showed us was children, LGBTQ+, white, brown, black, old, young, we all matter.

We have felons, sociopaths and pedophiles in charge of the most influential country in the world.

For a few hours Bad Bunny changed the narrative of how culture, love, respect and freedom of speech are to be valued and held up as the best of humanity.

Bad Bunny is America, the best of America.

On a different note, I'd like to thank the people at DK's Taxi Service for the good deed of helping an older woman stranded in the freezing cold and snow last Friday.

You put the U in humanity.

Temagami Family Health Team

Submitted by Ellen Ibey

Scents and Environmental Sensitivities

One million people in Canada have a medical diagnosis of environmental sensitivity. Chances are you know someone affected.

What is meant by scent-free?

When we talk about scents, we usually mean the smells or odours from ingredients and chemicals in cosmetics (perfume, make-up, shampoo, deodorant, etc.) or from other products such as air fresheners, cleaners, etc. Unfortunately, there is no exact definition for scent-free, fragrance-free or unscented. Products labelled as unscented may actually contain ingredients that are used to mask or hide the smell of other ingredients.

Can Scents Cause Health Problems?

Some or all of the following symptoms are typically reported by people that are sensitive to scents (have environmental sensitivities):

- headaches
- dizziness, light-headedness
- nausea
- fatigue
- weakness
- insomnia
- numbness
- upper respiratory symptoms
- shortness of breath
- skin irritation
- malaise
- confusion
- difficulty with concentration

Exposure to the ingredients and chemicals in scented products, even in the smallest amounts, can also trigger other conditions, including patients with allergies and asthma. In these situations, the health effects can be severe.

Living with environmental sensitivity often requires significant lifestyle changes. Simple activities like shopping, dining out or visiting others can become challenging.

If you have a friend or family member with scent sensitivity, get to know what might trigger them and avoid using or wearing those products around them. Help demystify the illness, reduce isolation and support those affected.

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



Temagami

Family Health Team

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Tel: 705.569.3244 Fax: 705.569.2610

United Way Northeast Ontario gets Agnico infusion

DISTRICT (Special) - United Way has announced a significant gift in the amount of \$190,000 from Agnico Eagle Mines Limited to help strengthen community support across Northeast Ontario.

As United Way Centraide North East Ontario/Nord-est de l'Ontario (UWCNEO) works toward closing a remaining funding gap across the region, Agnico Eagle stepped forward with a \$190,000 contribution to support local programs and services. This investment helps ensure that critical community programs can continue to meet growing needs across Northeast Ontario.

"This generous contribution reflects Agnico Eagle's long-standing commitment to the communities where its employees live and work," said Cory Roslyn, executive director of UWCNEO. "Their leadership gift helps strengthen the network of supports that so many individuals and families rely on, and builds on the collective generosity of donors across our region." "Our employees live, raise families, and build their lives in Northeast Ontario, and that makes supporting our communities a shared responsibility," said Andre Leite, vice-president, Ontario for Agnico Eagle Mines. "United Way plays a critical role in ensuring people can access essential services close to home. We are proud to support this work because strong communities directly support the well-being of our workforce and the region we call home." United Way continues to re-

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ceive strong support from individuals, workplaces, unions, businesses, and community partners. These contributions fund local programs focused on helping people access basic needs, build financial stability, access mental health support and much more. "A gift of this magnitude sends a powerful message about the importance of community investment," added Roslyn. "At the same time, it is the combined impact of all our supporters - large and small - that makes this work possible." United Way Centraide North East Ontario continues its campaign efforts across the regions, with funds staying local to support vital programs in each district. For more information about United Way's work or to learn how to support local programs, visit www.uwcneo.com.

Hog Line Report

With Angus McStone

The 82nd Annual Blarney Open Bonspiel is set to go March 20-21 at the Haileybury Curling Club (HCC).

Entry fee is \$360 per team, with an early bird registration before March 1 of \$320. Guarantee of three games, pizza Friday night, dinner Saturday night and Blarney Cream.

Theme for this year is "Made in Canada." Get your best red and white out for Canada's rockin' game.

Email entry to info@haileyburycurlingclub.ca or call Shawn at 705-288-7823.

Here and There

Enjoyed a great Curling Day in Canada with Temagami Curls at HCC on January 31. A couple of great games and pizza before parting ways. Pleased they could join us.

The Olympics are in high gear. By this writing, the mixed doubles is complete (Canada was eliminated from the medal round), and men's and women's events will be starting.

Team Canada Rocks!

AFTERNOON OPEN DRAW

Scotties' wannabes took their newfound knowledge to the sheets to find out how hard some shots really are....

Results for February 3:

Blair showed off his prowess with a draw through a port just wide enough for a stone to fit through on his way to sidelining J. McLean, P. Robitaille played a back and forth with R. Caldwell, then ran him out of rocks for a win, and up two coming home with, P. Gordon has three in the four foot inviting a Saskatchewan haymaker from L. Olsen who almost clears the house leaving Gordon a long raise that he flashes giving Olsen the win.

An curlálaí an lae: R. Caldwell.

Thursday Afternoon Open Curling results for February 5:

Bit of a bug going around and keeping folks at home. Hope those who are ill make a full recovery soon. As a result, only two sheets in action today, but it was great action just the same.

Continued on Page 9.



Afternoon Open Curling members collected donations for the Haileybury Food Bank through the January draws. Long-time Afternoon Curler Charlie Camsell (left) was pleased to present Don Sauve of the Haileybury Food Bank with a variety of collected canned goods along with over \$450 in cash donations. (Supplied photo)

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ACROSS

1. Back talk
5. Wise bird
8. Land amid water
12. Cattle
13. Feather scarf
14. Approve
15. Dog's bane
16. Lawn material
17. Measure with a stopwatch
18. Shrine
20. Temporary replacement
22. Did wrong
24. Merry
28. Fools
33. Elaborate solo
34. Lamb's mom
36. Seven days
37. Synagogue official
39. Aged
41. Advocate Ralph

DOWN

1. Not hard
2. Pivot
3. Look like
4. Clothing fastener
5. Examine
6. Romance
7. Scoop
8. Small bit
9. Body covering
10. Weak, as an excuse
11. Goggler
19. Waikiki wreath
21. Kooky
23. Marry again
24. Not near
25. Distinct span
26. Bro or sis
27. Check
29. Be in arrears
30. Miles ___ hour
31. Electric fish
32. Earth's upper atmosphere
35. Put into office
38. Printing fluid
40. Parched
42. Out of bed
43. Blemish
44. Advertising symbol
45. Adept
46. Destitution
48. Members-only group
49. Folk tales
50. Brink
51. Caught sight of
54. Mine deposit

CROSSWORD

Answers on page 14

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
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HOROSCOPE

Week of February 15 to 21, 2026

- ARIES**
You'll feel bogged down by months of accumulated fatigue. Treat yourself to some pampering or a treatment to restore your energy. In love, don't waste your time on people who lack tact or respect.
- TAURUS**
Stress may get to you this week. However, a few adjustments to your habits could be enough to restore your well-being. Make room in your life for boldness. Clarify your goals to help turn your ambitions into simple, achievable steps.
- GEMINI**
Your circle of friends may invite you on an exciting adventure. If you're in a relationship, tenderness will strengthen your bond. If you're single, an admirer may reveal their feelings to you with a card or date for Valentine's Day.
- CANCER**
Prepare to feel all kinds of emotions this week. If you're concerned about your finances, act methodically. Practical solutions *do* exist. Once you regain control, you'll invite happiness and lightness back into your daily life.
- LEO**
A friend may declare their love for you. At work, the number of people who attend the event you're planning will exceed your expectations. Your ideas for change will be received with enthusiasm and openness.
- VIRGO**
You'll finally accomplish something you've been putting off for a long time and gain peace of mind. A positive treatment or solution will improve your well-being. In love, simple and thoughtful gestures will strengthen your bond and improve your relationship.
- LIBRA**
You'll feel under a lot of pressure at work this week. You must persevere and remain disciplined to finalize all your contracts or bring those projects to completion. At the same time, regular physical activity will boost your energy and help you achieve your fitness goals.
- SCORPIO**
Your hard work will pay off, and you'll earn a promotion. Your leisure or sporting activities will give you a boost of energy and enrich your social life, helping you strike the right balance between work and play.
- SAGITTARIUS**
Your frankness may spark criticism. Remember to be a little more diplomatic in conversation. In love, a spontaneous act could lead to a spirit of collaboration and a playful activity that brings you closer together.
- CAPRICORN**
If you're considering buying property, an opportunity may soon arise that perfectly suits your needs and budget. Keep a close eye on your finances to ease your worries and rebuild your confidence.
- AQUARIUS**
Your week will be filled with trips and outings, sometimes to assist loved ones. Renewing your phone or internet contracts will challenge your patience, but you'll secure a better rate in the end.
- PISCES**
You could be feeling the effects of seasonal depression, but physical activity will be your best friend. You'll quickly regain your energy and may even discover a winter sport that you're passionate about.

Hog Line Report

Continued from Page 7.

In a battle of the lassies, B. Gordon and P. Robitaille went head-to-head, trading ones and twos with Gordon up one coming home without, Robitaille has a hit and roll for two but it tracks and she gets one to tie. All are very happy.

In the other contest, T. Blair couldn't decide if he was playing for his own team or L. Olsen, and after three steals figured it out in the fourth and put up a show but only had an angle run double to

tie on his last and it was sadly a tad outside. L. Olsen for the win.

And an appreciation shout out to R. Speck for being the sign guy today.

An curlálaí an lae: M. Birtch.

MEN'S DRAW

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEN'S DRAW RESULTS FOR FEBRUARY 4:

Great action on all sheets tonight. P. Gordon can't stop stealing on B. Culp and the game is over in six, L. Fleury puts on a show taking

T. Eckensviller in six, S. Burnett comes out firing pistols thrashing S. McLean in a shorty and gave up the big bag of barbecue chips, B. McMullan carried the momentum from the first draw and lays a whipping on a somewhat sun-drenched S. Hearn, and in a feature match that came down to a last rock attempt, F. Chenier and K. Hearn are tied up coming home and Chenier with hammer has an angle double top four to back four for the win

but the Chenier stone tracks and stuffs on the back four and K. Hearn steals the win. A great effort from Team Chenier.

THURSDAY OPEN DRAW

THURSDAY NIGHT OPEN DRAW RESULTS FOR FEBRUARY 5:

Three full games despite the ne'er ending call from sunshine and fair climes.

In the battle of the ice guys, S. McLean gets away with misdemeanour theft stealing a rash of ends from an-

other night where P. Gordon couldn't hit the ocean off the end of the dock at high tide, S. Hearn's L. Fleury brigade are down one coming home and tie it up only to have C. Camsell draw the four-foot to take the win in resounding fashion, and B. Culp takes advantage of a few weeks of sun enjoyed by C. Martin to put a win in the Culp Column.

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COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday, February 23, 2026

Monday, March 16, 2026

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

MUNICIPAL BUDGET – PUBLIC MEETING

Section 290 (1) of the Municipal Act, 2001 states that a local municipality shall prepare and adopt a budget including estimates of all sums required during the year for municipal operations.

Notice is hereby given of Council's intention to adopt the 2026 Municipal Budget for the Township of Coleman. A Public Meeting to consider the adoption of the Budget will be held on **Monday, February 23, 2026 at 6 p.m.** in the Township Council Chambers at 937907 Marsh Bay Road.

2026 DOG TAGS

Do you have your 2026 Dog Tag yet?

Costs for a Dog Tag are as follows:

Spayed/Neutered Dog	\$10.00	Non-Spayed/
Non-Neutered Dog	\$20.00	

Tags and renewal can be obtained by contacting the Township Office.

* NEW * RECYCLING SCHEDULE

PLEASE NOTE: GFL Recycling has made changes to the recycling schedule for Coleman Township. Recycling will be picked up starting at 7 a.m. Please have your recycling bins at the roadside/curb by 6:30 a.m. on collection day.

February 26, 2026

March 12, 2026

March 26, 2026

WEEKENDER CLASSIFIEDS

24 hours a day... 7 days a week

Place your classified ad online at speaker@northernontario.ca

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT RATES

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DISPLAY ADS

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2 inches wide x 3 inches deep – \$52.80 + Tax.

2 inches wide x 3 1/2 inches deep – \$64.68 + Tax.

Customers must pay before insertion.

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 Birthday Announcements / Anniversary Announcements

In Memoriam / Cards of Thanks

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CLASSIFIED WORD ADS

must be placed
 before 9 a.m.

Monday to appear in the
 Wednesday edition.

Display (Classified) Ads
 must be placed before
 5 p.m. Friday.

Office Hours

Monday to Friday
 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

<http://www.facebook.com/OMPH.NLParish>.

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

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. Stay in touch with all the latest news and events on a weekly basis.

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.

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 Jennifer Moorlag. Next Sunday, February 22nd, please join us when our worship leader will be Aaron Palmer. 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

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT TEMISKAMING PENTECOSTAL 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.

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

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH wishes to extend an invitation to join weekly services held every Sunday. 51 Wellington St. North New Liskeard, 10:30am, Pastor George Paraskevopoulos officiating. Now fully accessible with an outside ramp & inside hydraulic lift elevator. For more information, call 705-647-8401 or visit our website www.presbyteriannewliskeard.ca

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

CHURCH SERVICES & MORE...

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, 65 Wellington St New Liskeard welcomes you to their worship service at 11:00 am Sunday mornings. Rev. Bob McCarty officiating. For more information please see our facebook page or visit our website at firstbaptistnl.ca

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, new liskeard, invites all to our neighbourhood friends and fun gathering. February 14th, 2026, 1pm – 3pm. There will be games, snacks and a chance to win a door prize. So bring your family and your friends for a free fun filled afternoon and enjoy!

OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH'S CHILDREN'S PROGRAM takes place at the 10:00 AM Sunday Mass, the first and second Sundays of the month. Children from JK to Grade 4 are invited to go to the parish boardroom at the start of Mass, where they will hear the Gospel in a way they can understand and take part in a craft connected to the message. They will return to the church after the offertory collection.

KNOW OF SOMEONE WHO IS UNABLE TO ATTEND MASS AND WOULD LIKE COMMU-

NION? The Visitation Committee of Our Mother of Perpetual Help is a group of men and women who commit themselves to comfort and care for the sick and lonely of our Parish by making regular visits to them. Members of the Visitation Committee bring Holy Communion to those who are unable to attend Mass on a regular basis. If you know of someone who would like a visit or Holy Communion contact Judy Walsh at 705-679-3349 or the office.

SUNDAY MASS is celebrated at Our Mother of Perpetual Help on Sundays at 10:00 A.M. Sunday

Mass at 10AM 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..

LIVE-STREAMED MASS: Our Mother of Perpetual Help Parish live-streams their Sunday Mass on 10AM. On their Facebook page:

CHURCH SERVICES & MORE...

COMMUNITY OF CHRIST

invites you to attend Sunday morning family worship services at 33 Niven Street in New Liskeard at 10:30-11:30 each week. All are welcome. Enduring principles of our church include the worth of all persons, unity in diversity and the pursuit of peace. Weekly themes are posted on our Facebook page "Community of Christ - New Liskeard Branch". Communion service is the first Sunday of each month. There is a volunteer knitting group for third world Tuesday afternoons.

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

services begin at 11am focusing on the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ. The Chapel is located on Beautiful Lake Temiskaming at the junction of Hwy 11-B, Lakeshore and 980 Edward Street, North of Haileybury. All are welcome.

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC CHURCH

in Englehart invites everyone to Sunday Mass at 9am.

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.

GOOD SHEPHERD CHURCH OF ENGLEHART

will be meeting every Sunday morning at 10:30am. We invite you to our worship services or our weekly bible studies and prayer meetings. 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.yolasite.com

HAILEYBURY & DISTRICT BAPTIST CHURCH

extends a warm welcome to all. Worship Sunday at 1:30pm with Pastor Adam Kubias. Accessibility ramp. Call the church (705) 672-5855. Montly potluck on the last Sunday. www.haileyburybaptist.ca

ÉGLISE CATHOLIQUE STE-CROIX

- La communauté chrétienne Ste-Croix est une paroisse francophone accueillante qui rassemble les catholiques de Haileybury, North Cobalt, Cobalt et des environs. Elle est engagée à prolonger la mission de Jésus dans tous les aspects de sa vie. Les paroissiens et notre pasteur, Père Ghislain Ndongji, o.f.m. sont heureux de vous accueillir pour les messes

dominicales le samedi soir à 19h et le dimanche matin à 10h. Également, la paroisse offre la messe sur semaine, le mardi à 16h30 et le mercredi, jeudi et vendredi à 9h30. L'église est située au 341 Sutherland Way, Haileybury - 705-672-3296. Bienvenue à tous!

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.

MARRIAGE COUNSELING - Love for a Lifetime a free service of the church of Christ online at www.bibletalk.tv with Mike Mazzalongo. If you do not have access to internet and want to check it out call Mike or Judy Tinney at 705-648-3893.

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Fax: (705) 647-3611

To be a part of our directory contact:

**The Speaker office
705-647-6791
ext. 226, 227 or 228**

NOTICES / COMING EVENTS

"COUNTRY NIGHT FOR 4-H" a special benefit concert in support of our local 4-H Club will be held at The Classic Theatre in Cobalt Saturday February 21st. starting at 7 o'clock featuring a lineup of local entertainers including Steve Benoit, Alex wight, Myriam Bedard Lafontaine, Glenn Scott, Dan & Friends, Sally Potter, Ian & Martin, Teresa Wight & Adrian Faulkner. "Country Night for 4-H again this year includes their fundraising "Bake Sale". Country Night for 4-H Saturday February 21st., 7:00pm at The Classic Theatre in Cobalt. Tickets for this concert available: Online at: classictheatre.net, using the (QR Code) or The Classic Theatre.

JOIN US AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH New Liskeard on Tuesday February 17th at 5:30 pm for Shrove Tuesday celebrations. Pancakes and sausages will be served. A Free Will offering will be taken.

ZUMBA CLASSES in New Liskeard. I'm Fabienne Blain Zumba Instructor. Come and join me in the New Year starting January 6th at Ecole Catholique St-Michel and January 8th at the New Liskeard Public School West Wing both at 6h30 pm First class is free. For more information join my Facebook Page : Zumba with Fabienne or my Facebook Group : ZUMBA WITH FABIENNE

TAI CHI IS GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH. Come on out and give it a try anytime. Sessions are held Tuesdays and Fridays from 10-11 am at 33 Niven St in New Liskeard. Check out www.taoisttai-chi.org for more information. Email us at Newliskeard@taoist.org if you have any questions.

FUN NIGHT AT THE HAILEYBURY LEGION EVERY SUNDAY starting at 1-4 p.m. Bring a partner and play some crib. Covid protocols will be followed.

For Haileybury: THE HAILEYBURY ANGLICAN CHURCH located at the corner of Rorke and Browning is offering Soup's On (free soup and a bun) the second Monday of every month from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. All are welcome.

For Cobalt: ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH located on Prospect Ave. in Cobalt is offering Soup's On (free soup and a bun) the fourth Saturday of every Month from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. All are welcome.

FUNDRAISER LASAGNA DINNER at the Golden Age Club on Saturday, February 21st at 5:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$25.00 each. Contact Marianne 705-650-2926 or Liz 705-262-1378.

THE COFFEE HOUSE SUPPORTING & PROMOTING LOCAL CANADIAN MUSICIANS AND THEIR MUSIC.

On Tuesday March 10th, please join us for our Special St. Patrick's Day Edition at The Coffee House and enjoy the Musical Stylings of many of your favourite local musicians and entertainers. 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 to keep the musical legacy of our musicians alive for years to come. For further information contact Brian Matheson at 705-647-5671 or email: coffeehouse2tues@outlook.com Follow us on Facebook, Instagram & YouTube at: the coffee house newliskeard web site: coffeehousenewliskeard.ca

MUSIC JAM EVERY 2ND AND 4TH FRIDAY OF THE MONTH STARTING SEPTEMBER 12TH at the Sacred Heart Church in the basement from 1:30pm until 4pm. Come to play, sing or dance to country music. Bring your friends.

Are you interested in creating art? THE TEMISKAMING PALETTE AND BRUSH CLUB is welcoming new members. Visit the club at the Haileybury Arena from 1:00pm to 4:00pm on Tuesdays.

DUPLICATE BRIDGE will be played every Monday

at 7:00 PM at the Northdale Manor. New players are welcome and partners will be available. Please use the parking lot entrance. Call 705-647-7198 for information.

RUBBER BRIDGE will be played on the second and fourth Wednesday at 1:00 PM, at St. John and St. Paul Anglican Church hall in Haileybury. Partners are not required, and call 705-672-3700 for information.

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.llc.ca/temiskaming-shores>

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

NEW BID EUCHRE Legion Hall, Haileybury, Wednesdays, 1:00pm

EUCHRE EVERY MONDAY AT HAILEYBURY LEGION 1pm Don't need a partner, Everyone welcome. 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. 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. **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 1/2mm. Yarn and needles are available. All are welcome! For more information, call D. Caldwell at 705-647-6056.

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.

ON VOUS INVITE A DEVENIR MEMBRE DU CLUB DU SOURIRE (AGE D'OR DE NEW LISKEARD, ON). Achetez votre carte de membre 2026 le plus tôt possible. Cette carte vous donnera la chance de profiter des activités et des soupers communautaires a prix réduit. Vous pouvez contacter Gilbert Breault au 705- 648-5913 pour plus d'informations.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS

Puzzle on page 6

S	A	S	S	O	W	L	I	S	L	E	
O	X	E	N	B	O	A	O	K	A	Y	
F	L	E	A	S	O	D	T	I	M	E	
T	E	M	P	L	E	L	O	A	N	E	R
			E	R	R	E					
F	E	S	T	I	V	E	D	O	P	E	S
A	R	I	A	E	W	E	W	E	E	K	
R	A	B	B	I	E	L	D	E	R	L	Y
			N	A	D	E	R				
B	L	A	N	K	S	C	Y	C	L	E	S
L	O	B	E	T	O	T	L	O	D	E	
O	G	L	E	I	R	E	U	R	G	E	
T	O	E	D	R	E	D	B	E	E	N	

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LOOKING FOR OLD SNOWMOBILES RUNNING OR NOT FOR PARTS, old camper trailers, propane tanks & scrap metal. Please call 705-679-3395.

WANTED TO BUY FARM OR LAND - in New Liskeard or Earleton area. Call or text 705-961-5501.

DION THRASHING MACHINE WANTED - 22 x 32 or 22 x 38. Phone in the evenings 905-983-9331.

LOOKING FOR OLDER WOOD STOVE for shop. Call 519-292-6671

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



Temagami

Family Health Team

Seeking a full-time

Regional Decision Support Professional

The Temagami Family Health Team is seeking an enthusiastic, energetic Regional Decision Support Professional to be shared among four family health teams (Temagami, Great Northern, Haileybury and Englehart). This individual will support teams to develop and implement their Quality Improvement Plans, lead site-specific quality improvement initiatives and manage EMR data.

Who We Are:

Family Health Teams (FHTs) use a patient-centered approach to primary health care that brings together doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners and other health care professionals to coordinate the highest possible quality of care for patients -- when they need it and as close to home as possible. FHTs are a key component of Ontario's health care plan to reduce wait times, improve access to primary care, and keep Ontarians healthy.

As a key member of our team, the Regional Decision Support Professional's responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Developing and implementing annual Quality Improvement Plans (QIP);
- Providing support in the development of annual operating plans, particularly as it relates to program planning, indicators, measures, and evaluation;
- Leading and/or supporting specific quality improvement initiatives at each organization;
- Providing consultative and analytical support regarding the collection, interpretation, analysis and presentation of data to help teams ensure that clinical information management practices support best practice standards;
- Reviewing data quality, support teams in the implementation of data quality initiatives, improve the flow and use of information, develop queries and analytical products to support EDs and boards in their quality improvement goals.
- Extracting health information from one or more electronic medical record (EMRs) including Telus PS Suite, OSCAR Pro and Avaros;
- Supporting quality improvement decision support capacity building;
- Improving data integrity, comparability, data access and use;
- Identifying gaps in data availability and define/implement solutions to close the gaps;
- Developing effective working relationships and manages work independently

Qualifications:

- University degree in a related discipline (Health care administration, statistics, health information management or clinical informatics);
- Demonstrated expertise in data quality and clinical information management best practices;
- Knowledge of primary care and demonstrated interest in the use of data for quality improvement;
- Sound knowledge of performance improvement techniques and practices used in healthcare settings, process redesign and system implementation experience;
- High effective communication, presentation and interpersonal skills and a proven ability to develop and maintain strong relationships with partners;
- Demonstrated proficiency in quantitative analysis and report writing skills;
- Ability to handle a variety of concurrent assignments and to work independently.

Job Specifications:

- Permanent, full-time
- 40 paid hours per week
- Membership in Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan (HOOPP)
- Employee Health Benefits Package (currently 100% employer-paid with the exception of the Critical Illness premium).
- Our office is closed on all statutory holidays and we encourage our team to take full advantage of their paid vacation and paid sick time/personal days.
- Professional Development Opportunities
- Travel between clinic locations
- Hourly Wage Rate: \$36.61 per hour (\$76,150 annually)

Interested applicants are invited to send a resume to:

Ellen Ibey, Executive Director
Temagami Family Health Team
17 O'Connor Drive, P.O. Box 98
Temagami, ON P0H 2H0
Fax: (705) 569-2610
Email: eibey@temagamifht.com

Closing date is Friday, February 20, 2026.

In accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code, and the AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005), the Temagami Family Health Team is committed to providing an inclusive and accessible process of recruitment, selection, and assessment. Accommodations are available upon request at any point in the selection process.

We thank you for your interest in becoming part of our team; however, only applicants under consideration will be contacted.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

NorthernSigns

MANUFACTURING CORP.

is looking for an **OCCASIONAL WORKER**
to help out with outdoor installations.

Email admin@northernsign.net
or stop by at the shop located at
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Embroidery Technician

Promotional Marketing Company seeking technician with basic computer skills and textile experience to perform garment decoration tasks such as embroidery, heat transfer and vinyl cutting.

Should be able to work in a dynamic and energetic environment, willing to learn and take on different activities during the day.

- Candidate should have great attitude, commitment to customer service, excellent communication and organization skills, punctual and dependable.
- Should be comfortable using a computer and learning new programs
- Detail oriented

Please email resume to **Arianna Halpin** -

promo@northernontario.ca

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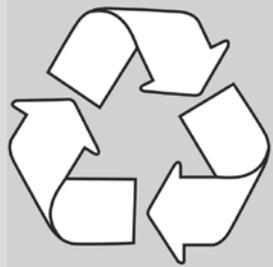
INTERIOR PAINTING and dry-wall repairs, free estimates. call Jack 705-679-5363.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS: To be held at various dates, times & locations. For more information, please

call 705-647-7611.

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.

DRYWALL, PLASTER, framing, decks, flooring, tiling etc. for both residential and commercial buildings. Over 16 years experience. Free estimates. Call 705-648-4884. Please leave a message.



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For more information: Call Matt 705-650-2595

or email: rays@northernontario.ca

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4 - 10 INCH WIDE WHITE PINE BOARDS. 15ft awning for trailer. Hardware for 20ft awning (no tarp). Call 705-647-2840 for more information.

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HELP WANTED

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - The Temiskaming Hospital Gift Shop is looking for volunteers. If interested contact Diane at 705-676-5671.

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14 - 18 months old
Ready for spring - summer service
For more Information please call

Chris Aitchison 705-650-1563

TEMISKAMING COMMUNITY PASTURE ANNUAL MEETING - February 10, 2026 at 7pm at Kerns Hall. Contact Carol at 705-647-6161 for more info.

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