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### Markham family passed as Dunchurch royalty

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# Rose Point Road construction now underway

BY PAIGE PHILLIPS

SEGUN TWP. — Construction on Rose Point Road is ahead of schedule, according to Clayton Hall of Hall Construction.

The reconstruction project for Rose Point Road was awarded to Hall Construction earlier in June, while the paving contract was awarded to Fowler Construction.

The approved \$1.2 million dollar project will include a 1.5 metre-wide paved lane for pedestrian and trail purposes.

Friday morning marked four weeks on the job for Hall Construction and Clayton Hall said that the team is approximately one-third of the way through the project, decidedly ahead of schedule.

#### Combination project

“The project is a combination of road reconstruction, so all new culverts, granulars, guide rails, that kind of thing, but the main component is widening the road and providing a paved lane,” said Hall. In a deputiation addressed to Seguin council earlier in June, Howard Oldham made note that Rose Point Road is the second highest traveled road within Seguin Township, with an average of 2,000 vehicles traveling the road daily. Oldham noted that the installment of a paved lane for pedestrians and cyclists alike would greatly increase the safety of the many individuals who walk the road. Prior to construction, there had been minimal space for travel of this nature.

“Rose Point Road reconstruction has been

in the Seguin capital plan for a number of years. It is one of the most heavily travelled roads in the township and services many business, residents and Parry Island,” said Peter Koppisch, director of public works for Seguin Township.

Rose Point Road is the only road that leads to Wasauksing First Nation, located on Parry Island, and services a number of large marina businesses.

Hall said that the reconstruction project has yet to experience any unanticipated incidents, but did say that the ongoing challenge of the project is the amount of traffic along the roadway. Additionally, Hall said that the biggest challenge of the project will be the part-removal of a rock outcrop next to Holiday Cove Marina. A portion of the rock outcrop will need to be removed in the coming weeks to make way for the paved lane.

“From the time the first council report was presented to award the contracts to Hall Construction and Fowler paving, we had good input from residents and Seguin staff,” said Koppisch. “All were well aware of the budget constraints, but also felt that now was the time to do that job right and create a wider, safer road and a paved shoulder. A strong delegation of supporting residents and solid support by council resulted in a unanimous approval of the project by council. We are now looking forward to the finished road.”

See ‘Emily’ page 2



## Shawanaga’s 18th annual powwow celebration

Shawanaga First Nation held its 18th powwow this weekend much to the delight of the more than 700 people who attended. Emcee Les Benson said the turnout was great, especially considering there are about five other Powwows going on in Ontario at the same time. Dancers, singers and drummers came together to celebrate unity, love and family. There were shade canopies set up for the elders and water bottle fill up stations for everyone to beat the heat. Top photo, Desire McQuabbie with 18-month-old son Lucas, of Shawanaga First Nation. Above, Breahana Buttineau, 6, of Shawanaga, takes a break to blow some bubbles in the grass.



Lee Bushey photos

See more photos from the powwow on page 9



Jack Tynan/North star

Lake Joseph Road was closed in both directions late Friday afternoon due to a house fire.

# Lightning strike the cause of Lake Joseph house fire

BY PAIGE PHILLIPS

SEGUN TWP. — Severe storms lead to a house fire for one local couple. Though no tornadoes touched down in the West Parry Sound District Friday evening, lightning did.

On Friday afternoon, Environment Canada issued a severe thunderstorm watch for the West Parry Sound District and surrounding area shortly before 2:30 p.m. only to be upgraded to a warning in an hour and a half. The warning reminded citizens that severe thunderstorms can cause extensive damage due to strong wind gusts, large hail, and heavy rain and advised residents to seek shelter indoors.

One Seguin Township couple’s home, at 1581 A Lake Joseph Road, became engulfed in flames Friday afternoon. Seguin fire chief Don Hood said the initial investigation found lightning struck the home.

Hood said that the Seguin Fire Department responded to the house call, late Friday

afternoon at approximately 5:20 p.m. where they found the home completely engulfed in flames.

The Seguin Fire Department took approximately an hour to get the situation under control, during which time Lake Joseph Road was closed to traffic in both directions. Once the situation was under control, the northbound lane was opened and West Parry Sound Ontario Provincial Police directed traffic.

The road was completely reopened to traffic shortly after 9:30 p.m. Hood said that at the time of the fire nobody was home and no injuries were sustained. Though the fire did not spread to the neighbour’s home, the adjacent property was affected by electrical issues said Hood.

Seguin Township’s fire rating is currently set as moderate. Under this rating, no daytime burning is allowed unless authorized by a permit. Approved incinerators and camp fires are allowed.

BY STEPHANIE JOHNSON

PARRY SOUND — A local man wants a pair of historical anchors moved from Belvedere Heights Home for the Aged’s property to a more prominent location.

Last month, Eric MacIntyre approached town council, saying he wanted to make them aware of the inappropriate display of the historically significant anchors from the Atlantic and Seattle on display outside the home.

“The current display of these anchors imparts absolutely no historical significance. They’re essentially being utilized as lawn ornaments,” MacIntyre said during his July 7 deputiation to council.

MacIntyre said he spoke with Lynn Middaugh, town director of development and leisure services who advised him that matter has been pursued by the town with the Belvedere board who had set conditions for the anchors’ removal.

MacIntyre went on to say that he was told once the anchors were removed, the town would have to bear the cost of landscaping — in the “many thousands of dollars.”

“I’m not a landscaping architect nor an engineer, but common sense belies the utter absurdity of Belvedere’s position. Namely, the anchors are largely invisible. So finding a landscaping alternative should not be a big deal, nor expensive. Removing the anchors requires a backhoe, operator,

chain and a dump truck — all items readily available at the town’s disposal; so there’s minimal cost associated with their removal. Furthermore, this equipment would operate on hard concrete and paved surfaces so there will be negligible disruption to the current landscaping display at Belvedere. I wish to express a measure of indignation at the fact it is Belvedere that is stipulating the conditions for their relocation. Rhetorically speaking, I would like ask the following question. Who owns these anchors?”

Moreover, MacIntyre said he believed that the anchors actually belonged to the town.

“These anchors do not belong to the Town of Parry Sound per-se, they belong to the people of the Town of Parry Sound and all Ontarians interested in their history. They are part of our history; they are part of our heritage. I respectfully implore you, do not let them be lost or treated as gratuitous lawn decorations,” said MacIntyre. “I lent something to my neighbour and wanted it back and he didn’t want to give it to me, I think I would pursue the matter.”

As the council representative on the board, Coun. Jim Marshall agreed that the anchors aren’t visible from where they sit and asked MacIntyre where he thought they would be best displayed for public viewing.

See ‘Belvedere’ page 3

# Move those anchors, local resident insists

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# SPORTS ★

## Pilling and Romaniuk take Wayfarer Ontario title

PARRY SOUND - In the midst of a torrential downpour last Friday, the first of twenty-six Wayfarer Class sailers and their families arrived at Sail Parry Sound.

It was a welcome surprise to be met on Waubuno Road by cheerful volunteers who directed them to the sailing club, two more drenched volunteers at the Trail Bridge to help them find their way, and several smiling faces at the top of the hill offering assistance with parking. On the beach and at the dolly ramp, an ATV driver stood by to launch their boats.

"We've never been greeted like this before," said one racer with appreciation.

They were arriving for the Wayfarer Class Ontario Championships, two days of racing on the Big Sound to decide the Ontario leader for the next year.

By Saturday morning, all the Wayfarers and eight Laser sailors had arrived on site, the



Sail Parry Sound President Bob Griffiths is flanked by Wayfarer Ontario Championship winners Sue Pilling, left, and Steph Romaniuk, right.

Redwood 1890 Photography photos



Laser sailor Scott Avery, 2015 Big Sound Challenge winner, accepts his trophy from Sail Parry Sound President Bob Griffiths.



Laser sailors for the Big Sound Challenge, Sail Parry Sound's home event. This regatta had a larger contingent of local racers than ever before. Some are graduates, students, or instructors, at the Sail Parry Sound Sailing School; others are local permanent or seasonal residents who have joined Sail Parry Sound.

Among the residents are Sue Pilling and Steph Romaniuk, who moved to Parry Sound five years ago, and with work, home projects and all their activities on the Wayfarer racing circuit, had never found the time to race together on the Big Sound. Sue and Steph finished third at the last Wayfarer Worlds, earned the Ontario and the Canadian Championships last year, and just a few weeks ago won the Wayfarer North American Championship.

Of the eight Laser sailors, two have grown up in the Sail Parry Sound Sailing School: Grant Kavanaugh, now a sailing instructor, and Lukas Trapp.

Another student of the school, Isaac Daleman, crewed with a visiting Wayfarer, in the worldwide tradition of accomplished sailors

mentoring youth.

Competitors arrived from southern and southwestern Ontario and also from north-Sudbury and North Bay were well represented. One crew came all the way from Florida! They brought family members, stayed in area B&Bs and hotels and enjoyed Parry Sound restaurants.

Saturday dawned foggy and calm. By 10 a.m. however, the flags were snapping in the breeze and the sailors headed out to the first race in the winds of the Sound.

As scheduled, four races were completed in light to medium winds, unlike the winds earlier in the week.

The competition in the two flights was tight among the small fleet of Lasers and the 14 Wayfarers. From the Fitness Trail, their relatives and friends were able to watch the races, still unusual in the sailing world, but a Sail Parry Sound tradition since 1998. Battles were very tight within the top half-dozen boats; there was stiff competition mid-fleet as well, and even the last two boats were jockeying back and forth.

Sunny skies spoiled the sailors all day and the racers were heading back to Sail Parry Sound and the old beach by 4 p.m., where many enjoyed a swim to cool off.

"Our hosts spoiled us, too," said one sailor, who enjoyed the Rotary Club barbecue of steak and local trout at Sail Parry Sound. "And then the cellist Brenda Margaret Muller started to play - it can't get any better than that!"

Another echoed the sentiments heard from many guests: "We've never been to Sail Parry Sound before - what a great sailing venue."

Sunday was a shorter day, with a request from the fleet that no race be started after 1:30 p.m. This time, the sailors' wind took until 11 a.m. to start showing itself, and the racecourse marks could be placed closer to shore.

Spectators were delighted to have an even better view.

The first race was well set, but Mother Nature started playing games, and the last two races made for some exciting reaches.

Even going into the last race, the winner remained undecided. As luck would have it, the wind really

started to pick up towards the end of Race 3, so the greatest wind of the weekend was after the early finish to the day, bringing the sailors back to shore.

A cooling swim awaited the sailors as they reached shore.

While packing their cars and awaiting results, they enjoyed a hot snack with crunchy veggies.

The winners, and new Ontario Wayfarer Champions, are Sail Parry Sound's own Sue Pilling and Steph Romaniuk. That makes them Ontario, Canadian, and North American Champions. Sue said, "It was our wind, good for our weight." However, it could have something to do with experience.

"My Dad built a Mirror Dinghy when I was 11 and taught my sister and me to sail and race. I have taught junior sailing through high school and then Disabled Sailing in BC, then Cruise and Learns in Georgian Bay. Now just Wayfarer racing keeps us busy."

Steph Romaniuk was racing keelboats from 2002 to 2005 in Callander Bay where he met Sue, who certified him and his father, in basic and intermediate cruising standards.

"Since meeting Sue in 2002, North Bay was re-installing the Wayfarer Weekend in 2005. The Club there owned a couple of old Wayfarers. Sue's Dad overhauled our current 1960s wooden Wayfarer, Chich in 2010 and we started doing very well."

The Laser winner of the 2015 Big Sound Challenge was Scott Avery, of Sudbury.

Sail Parry Sound regatta winners take home a piece of Parry Sound's famous pink granite from Hall's Quarry, with an acrylic nameplate. The club's presentation trophy is the elegant stainless steel and green granite sail-shaped trophy donated in 1998 by the William Beauty Lands and Timber Company.

Guests made a point of thanking the volunteers repeatedly as they departed: "Thank you for having us; you really made us feel welcome."

An Oakville sailor said, "It was a great event and the support from all the volunteers was truly amazing - it would be great if we can get another event at Sail Parry Sound."

- Submitted article

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Paige Phillips/North Star

## Golf Fore the Cure

On Saturday, August 8, Seguin Valley Golf Club hosted its first annual Golf Fore the Cure Tournament. Pictured above from left, Betty Hursko from Hamilton and club owner, Mike Feldman, tee off on hole one. Pictured above right, event attendees pose for a photo before hitting the green. Golf Fore the Cure was created by Golf Canada to drive women's participation in the game of golf. By partnering with the Canadian Cancer Society, Golf Canada has also added awareness and fundraising components to support the fight against breast cancer. In the past eight years, the program has exposed more than 76,000 women to the game of golf and has raised over \$5.1 million dollars towards the cause.



Lee Bushay photos

## Regatta day, on Georgian Bay

Above, left, The "Sjajumst" (Icelandic meaning: "see you later") and the "Aotearoa" (Maori for "land of the white cloud") were the last to set sail from the Old Town Beach and join the other boats ready to race in the Sail Parry Sound Regatta on opening day on Saturday Aug. 15. Above, right, Ben Woitzik, 13, of Parry Sound, has been sailing since he was 3 years old, but on Saturday was keeping an eye on his mom who is manning a motor boat with the race photographer, Jo Bossart. His sister Alex, 10, and Grandma Johnson wait for their turn with the binoculars to get a closer look.

# Website to expose extent of bear problems

BY LAUREL J. CAMPBELL

**NIPISSING** – With reports of bear interaction with humans at a high point this summer, MPP John Vanthof says Northern Ontario is becoming the new wild west.

"This has been a really bad bear year, and they seem to be especially prevalent in towns," said Vanthof. "A lot of them are showing signs of aggression, and they are getting pretty brave."

But while bear encounters rise, he says the provincial government's level of intervention has fallen.

"People are really getting frustrated with

the Bear Wise program and the lack of attention by the government," he said.

One family told him that after repeatedly calling the Bear Wise number about daily visits from a bear that meant children couldn't even go outside, they were advised to shoot the intruder.

"When they said they weren't equipped to do that, they were told by Bear Wise to find someone to shoot the bear for them," said Vanthof.

That type of government interaction has resulted in people taking nuisance bear issues into their own hands.

"Many people don't even bother calling

the Bear Wise line anymore, since no direct action is taken," he said. "There's an awful lot of bears shot and never reported. With everyone looking the other way it's like the Wild West out there."

In order to more accurately track the numbers of bears and the locations of bear interactions with people Vanthof has launched NorthernBearReport.com.

"The new website is being used as a reporting service so we can build our own database of documented bear encounters in an effort to convince the Government of Ontario that more has to be done to control nuisance black bears," he said.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has the responsibility to manage wildlife in Ontario, but Vanthof says "in recent years successive governments have chosen to pull back the resources used to manage these bears."

"Right now the Bear Wise program offers people advice on how to deal with a bear, and if it's a life threatening situation people are asked to call 911 for police response. With no other action being taken by Bear Wise, people just aren't calling them anymore."

Vanthof is still encouraging people to call Bear Wise so there is at least a record of calls that hopefully "will force the government to take on the job they're responsible for," he said.

In addition he wants people to photograph or video bear encounters and report them and file them on the NorthernBearReport site.

Vanthof is also waiting for the numbers to be released from the pilot spring bear hunt this year. Although he's skeptical about the stats coming from the project as only certain areas in Northern Ontario were included, the majority of the Timiskaming-Cochrane riding having been excluded, he also admits to being skeptical that a full return of the hunt will solve the problem.

"I'm not sure the spring hunt is the answer once the bears get used to coming into town," he said. "More and more of these encounters are in built up areas. Black bears are in backyards, on main streets and in playgrounds. I wonder if we aren't slowly evolving a whole new family of bears that prefer towns."

These are also statistics he's hoping the new website can compile.

When you have an encounter with a bear, call Bear Wise (1-866-514-2327) and send a message and a picture to northernbearreport.com

"We will use the information to show the government and the public what people are facing regarding bears in the North," said Vanthof.



Submitted photo

Pictured from left, Illustrious Sir James T. Rennie Potentate Rameses Shriner, recipient Gerry March, recipient Nancy Adams, Noble Gene Dromisky, and chairman of 100 Million Dollar Club and Noble Roger Beagan.

## Waubuno Shrine Club news

First of all, on behalf of the 100 Million Dollar Club, close to \$25,000 to date has been donated to the Shriners Hospital for Children in Montreal by the Waubuno Shrine Club over the years.

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For more information visit [www.shrinershq.org](http://www.shrinershq.org)

## Drug charges for Sudbury men

HENVEY TWP. – Members of the West Parry Sound OPP have charged two men with drug, liquor violations. The charges stem from a vehicle stop involving a Black Pontiac G5 on Highway 69 in Henvey Township.

The vehicle was stopped at about 9:20 p.m. on August 17 for speeding and the subsequent investigation led to the search of the vehicle.

Seized as a result of the search was crack cocaine and drug paraphernalia.

Two Sudbury men, aged 43 and 40, were charged with trafficking a controlled substance and possession. They are currently held in custody and will make an appearance in Parry Sound court on Wednesday, Aug. 19.



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