

## What a Whopper!



The annual Reg McHale Big Pike Family Fishing Derby began at 7:00 AM on Saturday, June 28, 2025, with 170 anglers participating. Families enjoyed a fun-filled day of fishing, outdoor activities, and community bonding. Winners: Grand Prize: Dakota Leclair – 39.5" Pike Adult Division: 1st Runner-Up: Dani MacKenzie, 2nd Runner-Up: Brad King, 3rd Runner-Up: Nancy Witty. Youth Division: 1st Place: Olivia Lesyshen, 2nd Runner-Up: Ryan Mercer, 3rd Runner-Up: Mayson Moore.

A heartfelt thank you to the volunteers, the Johnson Township Volunteer Fire Department and support staff for making this event a success.

Please take a moment to stop by and support all the amazing local sponsors who helped make this tournament such a success, with a special thanks to our Gold Level Sponsors:

USW Local 9548 | Pioneer Construction Inc.

Total Precision Surveying | Northern Skies Resort | Hilton Beach General Store | Kent's Corner Rental

Texas Barbecue of Canada | Stobie Mechanical & Welding  
Algoma Vet Clinic | BAC Canada Local 29 | Kern's Maple Products | Gardiner Marine | Great Lakes Outfitters

**See you out on the water next year, Saturday, June 27, 2026!**

### IMPORTANT INFO:

**The Share Shed is NOW OPEN on Wednesdays.**

**Pick-Up Floor Hockey  
Wednesdays at 12pm.**

**August 4th: Civic Holiday  
Municipal Buildings are Closed**

**August 9th: Fibre to Fabric  
Festival**

**August 12th & 26th: Roller Rink  
6pm-8:30pm**

**August 13th: Movie Night:  
Paddington 2**

**August 16<sup>th</sup>: Gordon Lake Social  
Club Pie Social**

**August 21st: Bingo 6pm-8pm**

**August 22nd: Summer Fun-Day  
10am-2pm**

**September 1-30: Big Buck  
Contest Registration**

**September 3rd: First Day of  
School ADSB**

**September 16<sup>th</sup>: Healthy Aging &  
Wellness Fair (RCLegion)**

**September 20th: Sylvan Circle  
Tour**

**September 26th: PD Day ADSB**

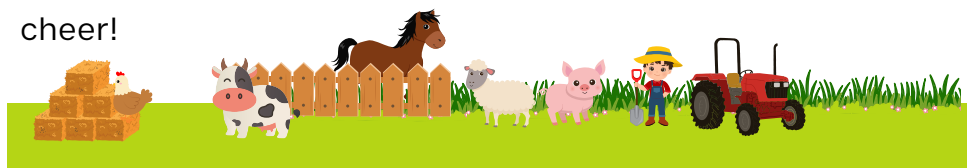
**September 27th: ATV Poker Run**

## Desbarats Community Days

Community Days on July 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> was a big hit with this year's community-voted theme: Down on the Farm!

Festivities began Friday night with The Big Roll Out on Lake Huron Drive and a Fireworks show on Margaret Street. The fun didn't stop there, with the always-popular parade on Saturday, bringing out tractors, floats, and lots of community spirit. Inside the Community Centre, kids enjoyed a wide variety of classic games, including Plinko, Ball Throw, Fish Pond, Feed the Pigs, and Hockey Shuffle. Along with a few new games like Duck Races and the Duck Pond. The food vendors kept everyone well-fed with tasty options, such as Beef on a Bun and the always-busy Gordon Lake Social Club Pie Booth. The night ended with Northern HonkeyTonk leading a line dancing lesson.

A heartfelt thank-you goes out to all the amazing volunteers who gave their time and energy to help make the day such a success. Whether you were running games, setting up, cleaning up, baking pies, or keeping everything organized, your efforts made it all possible. We hope everyone had a great time and enjoyed a day full of fun, food, and farmyard cheer!



## Events & Recreation



### Summer Fun-Day!

Get ready for a splash-tastic time! We are so excited to welcome the community to our Summer Fun-Day. A water-filled day featuring different outdoor games for the kids. It's the perfect way to cool off on a hot summer day. Don't forget your bathing suits, towels, sunscreen, and a change of clothes.

Games will start at 10 am at the Johnson Township Community Centre. Drop in anytime between 10am-2pm. Some icy snacks will be available towards the end of the day. We can't wait to see you there!





**MOVIE**  
*Night*

MOVIE: PADDINGTON 2  
**PADDINGTON 2**

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup> 2025**  
**7PM**  
1 CAMERON DRIVE, DESBARATS ARENA

**FREE ENTRY**



**JOHNSON**  
**BINGO**  
**AUGUST 21 2025**  
**6 PM - 8 PM**  
**BANQUET HALL AT THE JOHNSON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER**  
**BRING A WRAPPED GIFT TO SWAP FOR A PRIZE.**  
**ALL AGES WELCOME**



**JOHNSON**  
**ROLLER DISCO**  
• **TUESDAY, AUGUST 12<sup>TH</sup> 2025**  
• **TUESDAY AUGUST 26<sup>TH</sup> 2025**  
**JOHNSON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTRE**  
**6PM - 8:30PM**

## Roller Disco Night

Roller Rink Nights are back at the arena! Join us on Tuesday, August 12th and Tuesday, August 26th 6pm-8:30pm, for an evening of skating fun for all ages. Whether you're gliding with ease or just finding your balance, everyone is welcome to join in on the fun.

Enjoy great music, a lively atmosphere, and plenty of room to roll with friends, family, and neighbours. Bring your skates and come make some memories—see you at the rink!

Don't have your own skates? We have lots available to rent. It is strongly recommended that you wear a helmet. Entry is by donation, and light snacks will be available.

## 2025 ATV Poker Run Alert!

Rev up your engines and polish those wheels—our ATV poker run is zooming in fast for September 27th! Registration kicks off in August, so check out all the deets on our website at [www.johnsontownship.ca](http://www.johnsontownship.ca) or roll on over to sign up in person on the big day at Gordon Lake Hall. Keep an eye on our Facebook page @johnsontownshiprecreation for all the latest updates! Food options and additional details will be coming soon.



**JOHNSON**  
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**2025 ATV POKER RUN**  
**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2025**  
**\$25 a Hand | \$5 Extra Card**  
**\$2 Mystery Card | \$2 Door Prize**  
**Ride Starts at the Gordon Lake Hall on Gordon Lake Road in Desbarats, Ontario.**  
**Johnson Township | 705-782-6601 | [people@johnsontownship.ca](mailto:people@johnsontownship.ca)**

# Community Centre Bulletin

Summer upgrades to the Facility are moving along. The Banquet Hall is now fully equipped with Air Conditioning, thanks to a grant from NOHFC, to make all your bookings and events more enjoyable. The Banquet Hall Kitchen will be equipped with Air Conditioning later this summer.

The Multi-Sport Court fence will also be installed later this summer. Along with posted rules and tools to help identify each court. Want to have the net height changed? Or looking to borrow equipment for Pickleball? Ask the Community Centre Staff for a hand. Someone is on site Mon-Sat 8am-5pm.

## SUMMER DUMP HOURS

**SATURDAY 9AM-5PM | WEDNESDAY 12PM-7PM**

HAZARDOUS WASTE DEPOT LOCATED AT 402 FIFTH LINE EAST SAULT STE. MARIE  
HOURS OF OPERATION: TUESDAY TO SATURDAY - 8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.

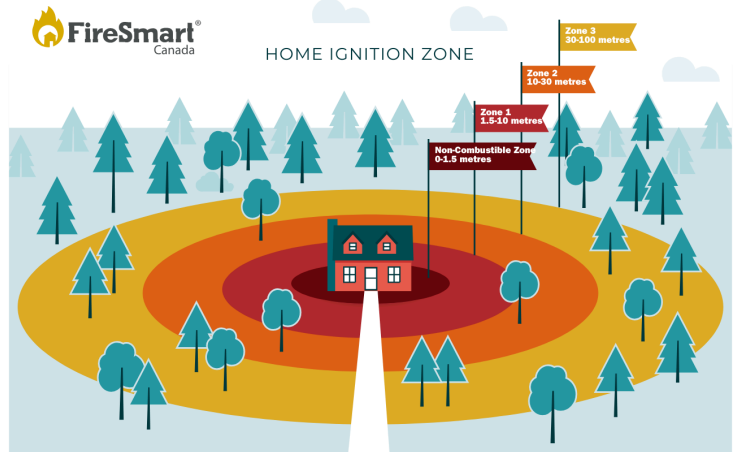
## The Public Works Garage

Welcome, Clint Goertzen, to the Public Works Team! Clint is returning to the area and brings with him years of experience in Road Work. The rest of the crew has been working diligently all summer, focusing on tasks such as roadside brushing and patching throughout the township. Coming up soon will be the Surface Treatment for Gordon Lake Road. Signage for exact dates will be posted on the road and on the township website. We apologize for the inconvenience this causes residents and appreciate the support as we strive to maintain and enhance our roads! If the road can be avoided during treatment dates, that would be very appreciated by the work crews.

## Getting Social at Gordon Lake Hall

The Gordon Lake Social Club is wrapping up their summer activities with the **Pie Social: August 16th, 2025.**

## Notes from the Fire Chief



Work with your neighbours in any overlapping priority zones!

### Protect Your Home from Wildfires:

**Zone 0 (0–1.5 m):** Keep this area non-combustible. No firewood or flammable items next to your home.

**Zone 1 (1.5–10 m):** Use fire-resistant plants. Space trees apart, trim lower branches, and keep grass short.

**Zone 2 (10–30 m):** Thin trees, prune branches, and clear dry debris.

Make sure to follow the **Desbarats Volunteer Fire Department on Facebook** for more fire-related tips, tricks, and updates.



# FROM THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

**June, 18, 2025**

**Regular Council Meeting June 18, 2025:** Council received a delegation from a local business owner on the topic of Economic Development. The delegation provided ideas to improve Economic Development in the Hamlet and the Township of Johnson. Starting with the creation of an Economic Development Plan and an Economic Development Committee. Council agreed to address the concerns and is scheduling future meetings to form an ED Committee.

Council was presented with an alternative plan for the Margaret Street Property to help alleviate Parking lot issues at the Community Centre. The report was accepted for consideration.

Council reviewed the By-Laws for Water and Sewer to discuss the increase in rates and determine the new fee structure.

**July, 22, 2025**

**Regular Council Meeting July 22, 2025:** Council reviewed the Margaret Street Property alternative plan and determined not to allocate the property to recreational purposes at this time. Exploring other options for parking lot expansion with the current Property instead.

Council reviewed the By-Law to set the fees for Gordon Lake Cemetery and Desbarats Cemetery for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time.

Council discussed an increase in the Tipping Fees at the Landfill and how tipping fees would be paid.

Council discussed issues with long-term permanent trailer parking that went against local zoning by-laws.

Council agreed to the request for support to the Matthews Memorial 2025 Golf Tournament by providing a gift certificate for 1 hour of ice time to use in the 2025-2026 season.

**Next Council Meeting:** Wednesday, August 20, 2025

6pm In-person at the Council Chambers: 1 Johnson Drive, Desbarats, ON (Municipal Office)

## News from Johnson Municipal Office

- We kindly ask that you keep your dog on a leash while taking them for a walk or letting them outside. Additionally, dog tags can be obtained at the township office.
- The Municipal office will be closed on August 4th for the Civic Holiday.
- Final tax bills have been sent out, with payments due on August 30th and October 30th.

## Echo Bay to St. Joseph Community Tree Giveaway

Algoma Power Inc. and the townships of MacDonald, Meredith and Aberdeen Additional, Tarbutt! Laird, Johnson and St. Joseph are holding a free distribution of trees and a native/pollinator plant seed mix giveaway to residents. Increased tree canopy cover in our communities will provide environmental and aesthetic benefits. A limited number of trees are available (150 trees total, 30 per township). Tree recipients will be chosen through a random draw. In order to receive a free tree, residents must meet the following criteria:

- There is a limit of one free tree per household
- You must be a resident of one of the townships
- The tree must be planted on your property

Residents are responsible for planting, watering and maintaining the tree. Register by completing this form

(<https://forms.gle/Rkx7xVgpZ6UYbjUNA>) by the deadline date of Wednesday, September 24, 2025. Those that are successful in the random tree draw will receive an email prior to tree pickup day on Saturday, October 4, 2025 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Johnson Township Farmers Market in Desbarats. Anyone coming to the tree pickup day will receive a free package of native/pollinator plant seeds.



# Around the Community

 **Early ON**  
Child and Family Centre  
Drop-in Playgroup

Central Algoma Childcare Centre  
Wednesdays 9:30am - 12:30pm

Come and go as needed! We have free play, crafts and fine motor activities, as well as coffee for the grown ups.

A snack will be provided, and we'll finish up with circle time!

**JOHNSON**  
**FARMERS' MARKET**  
**DESBARATS**

**EVERY SATURDAY**  
June to Thanksgiving  
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

ALGOMAFIBRETOFABRICFESTIVAL.CA

**Saturday August 9<sup>th</sup> 2025 9AM-2PM**

 **ALGO MA**  
**Fibre**  
**to**  
**Fabric**  
**FESTIVAL**

Vendors  
Workshops  
Demonstrations  
Crafting Circle  
Live Animals  
Kids' Zone  
Prizes

 **Johnson TWP Community Centre Desbarats, ON**

Brought to you by our organizing partners

visit us online!  
MORE INFO  
  

**LAIRD RACEWAY** **2025 SCHEDULE**

 **THURSDAY NIGHT THUNDER, JULY 31**

 **TEST 'N' TUNE, AUG 5**

 **THURSDAY NIGHT THUNDER, AUG 7**

 **TEST 'N' TUNE, AUG 12**

 **THURSDAY NIGHT THUNDER, AUG 14**

 **MIKE PARSONS MEMORIAL, AUG 22**

 **MIKE PARSONS MEMORIAL, AUG 23**

**Watch For Nesting Turtles!**


**A message from Central Algoma Land Trust**

Turtle nesting season is here, and we need your help to protect these creatures

What you can do:

- Slow Down & Stay Alert – Turtles are often seen crossing roads or nesting near roadways.
- Help Them Cross Safely – If safe to do so, assist the turtle in the direction it was heading.
- Give Nesting Turtles Space – If you see a turtle laying eggs, keep a respectful distance.
- Report Nest Sites – Once the turtle leaves, mark the spot and report it to The Kensington Conservancy.





**Central DANCE**

**2025-2026 SEASON**  
**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN ONLINE!**

Start Date: Monday September 15th, 2025  
18-week program

Classes offered out of Central Algoma Secondary School (CASS)  
Classes available for all ages in: Jazz, Ballet, Hip Hop and more!

Rehearsal & Season End Recital @ Sault Community Theatre, White Pines

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
<https://centraldancecass.wixsite.com/dance>  
 centraldance.cass@gmail.com  705-987-1228  Central Dance



**Healthy Aging & Wellness Fair**

September 16, 2025  
RC Legion (Richards Landing)  
11 am-3pm  
Free Admission



**Please join us at our Healthy Aging & Wellness Fair!**

Learn about health services, social groups, and local clubs.

**Caregivers, please bring friend, shut-in, or older relative out for a fun afternoon.**

**the you are new to community, this is a perfect way to learn about the available services and talk face-to-face with providers.**

All ages are welcome.

**PROUDLY HOSTED BY:**

**CHECK OUT**

-  Local Services
-  Caregiver Resources
-  Safety Tips
-  Local Activities
-  Light Lunch Provided
-  Resources & Support

**Trefry Centre**  
**Diner's Club**

**Chicken Kebabs**  
with  
**Roasted Potatoes**  
**Salad, Dessert,**  
**coffee & tea**

**Tuesday August 26**  
**RC Legion Richards Landing**  
**Doors open 11am**  
**\$16/person**  
tickets online @ [www.trefrycentre.ca](http://www.trefrycentre.ca)  
or at Trefry Centre office

**1 Johnson Drive, Box 160, Desbarats, ON P0R 1E0 | 705-782-6601**  
**www.johnsontownship.ca | @JohnsonTownshipRecreation on Facebook**  
**people@johnsontownship.ca | Mon-Fri 8:30am - 4:30pm**