



The Johnson Chronicle

ISSUE 136 | OCTOBER 2025



Too Hot To Handle

The 2025 ATV Poker Run Heats Up with Record Numbers!



Beautiful fall colours and fun mud-covered trails brought out a record number of ATV Riders for the 2025 Johnson Township ATV Poker Run. 123 Riders took to the trails on Saturday, September 27, 2025. With a take-home prize of \$1,400, a lot was riding on who would get the best Poker Hand at the end of the day. Starting off at Gordon Lake Hall, ATV Riders were treated to 90km's of trail. From extreme mud spots to beautiful sand dunes, there was a trail that all riders could enjoy. Trail Scouts, Terry Barber & Glenn Heubner, spent many hours marking and checking trail conditions to have a successful ride.

When riders returned mid-afternoon, they lined up for Poker Dealer Gwen Barber to lay out their 5-card draw. After the chance to purchase an extra card or two, their hand was recorded, and the best hand of the day would take home the pot! As the afternoon came to a close and riders enjoyed a hot-beef sandwich, thanks to the volunteers of the Gordon Lake Hall Social Club, led by Zahida Croskery & Lois Charron. Jordon Lanktree with "4 of a kind," was announced as the lucky winner of the day. Thank you to Sponsors: Service Rentals & Sales, Desbarats Cottage Care, Rivercity Motorsports & Marine, McClelland's Hardware & Feed, Bud Robinson Motorsport, Northshore Sports & Auto, & Kensington Point Marina for providing donations towards door prizes and mystery card prizes.

Mark your Calendars for the 2026 Ride: Saturday, September 26.

IMPORTANT INFO:

The Share Shed is OPEN on Wednesdays.

**50+ Club Wednesdays 1pm-3pm
Starting October 15th**

**October 11th: Final Johnson Farmers' Market of the year
10am-1pm**

**October 13th: Thanksgiving
Municipal Office Closed**

October 14th: Ice Rentals Start

October 15th: Regular Council Meeting 6pm

October 16th : Fun Bingo 6pm-8pm

October 17th: First Public Skate 6:30pm-8pm

October 23rd: Pomegran/Rock Network Fibre Internet Open House 7pm

October 24th: Halloween Public Skate Party 6:30pm-8pm

October 30: Final Tax Bills Due

October 31: HALLOWEEN

**Banners for
Veteran's Tribute.**

**Have someone you want to see
on a banner?**

**Applications are open until
October 17th 2025.**

Details on Pages 5-6



Events & Recreation



18th Annual Big Buck Contest

Registration is now closed, and preparations are underway for the Awards Dinner on Saturday, November 22, 2025. Dinner Tickets are still available for \$20/adult and \$10/kids under 12. Bar service, provided by the Bruce Mines Royal Canadian Legion Branch 211, will start at 4pm with dinner from the Copper Bean Cafe at 6pm. Dinner Tickets can be purchased at the door on the night of or ahead of time by emailing recreation@johnsontownship.ca or visiting the Municipal Office Monday-Friday from 8:30am-4:30pm.

Friday Night Public Skating Parties

Public Skating is back at the Johnson Township Community Centre Rink on Friday Nights from 6:30pm-8pm. Entry is by donation, and each week will include a fun theme and a family-friendly game out on the ice at 7pm. Don't have skates at home? We have lots available for you to borrow in a variety of sizes. Along with skate helpers and helmets. We strongly encourage that all skaters wear a helmet, and remember that using the ice is at your own risk and ability.

**PUBLIC SKATING IS CANCELLED ON
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2025**



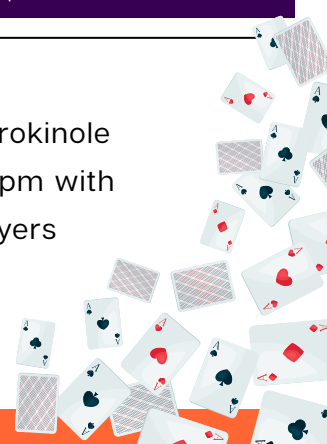
Fun Bingo!

Join in on Thursday, October 16th, 2025 for Fun Bingo at 6pm-8pm at the Johnson Township Community Centre Banquet Hall. All are welcome to attend, just bring a wrapped gift for the prize table and enjoy a fun evening out.

Getting Social at Gordon Lake Hall

The Gordon Lake Social Club is happy to announce the return of the monthly Cards & Crokinole Parties on the first Friday of the month from October 2025 - May 2026. Doors open at 7pm with play starting at 7:30pm. Light refreshments are provided, and all ages are welcome; players must be aged 18+. Admission is \$10. Mark your calendars for this year's party dates:

**November 7, 2025 | December 5, 2025 | January 2, 2026 | February 6, 2026
March 6, 2026 | April 10, 2026 | May 1, 2026**



Community Centre (JTCC) Bulletin

The ice is in, and almost ready for skating! The Rink Team has been busy flooding and adding lines, getting the ice ready for Hockey, Figure Skating, Ringette, and more! Opening day is Tuesday, October 14th. The team is excited and ready to see you out on the ice.

Please remember to keep your kiddos nearby. We love tiny explorers, but keep them within arm's reach for their safety and everyone else's.

Booking the Ice

Ice time is still available for \$120/hr +HST or \$110/hr +HST for a contract rate of 5 or more recurring bookings.

1hr of ice time can make a great Birthday Party or just the chance for some extra practice. Want to start a pick-up hockey night or schedule extra time for your team?

Email recreation@johnsontownship.ca for all booking inquiries.



Johnson Township Community Centre

ICE AND HALL RENTALS AVAILABLE FOR

- TEAM PRACTICES
- FAMILY GATHERINGS
- STAG & DOES
- WEDDINGS
- BIRTHDAY PARTIES
- RETIREMENT PARTIES
- AND MORE!

Contact Patti to Book Today:
 Cell: 705-257-6827
 Office: 705-782-6601 x205
 Email: ptrotter@johnsontownship.ca

\$120/HOUR – ICE BOOKING
\$25/HOUR – HALL ACCOMPANYING AN ICE BOOKING
 *ALL PRICING IS +HST

Advertise with the JTCC

There are advertising options available to fit all budgets for big business or small business. Interested in advertising with us? Email recreation@johnsontownship.ca for the Advertising package. Have an idea about where you want to see your logo? Let us know and we would be happy to work with you to see it happen!




Advertise at the Johnson Township Community Centre

The Sport Court will close for the season on October 31, 2025.

The Public Works Garage

Crews are out on the roads making final repairs to potholes, and grading before turning to snow plowing and sanding. You will see equipment out in the township finishing up fall projects around the Sport Court, Ball Diamond, Ditches, Boat Launches and Green Spaces. Please remember to be aware of workers and give them space when you pass by.

The Docks at the Municipal Boat Launch off Highway 17 are scheduled to be removed by the end of October for the winter months.

Notes from the Fire Chief

Fire Prevention Week Oct 5 - 11



“Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home” is a 3-step process to protect your home and your family from the danger of Lithium-Ion batteries. With so many products now relying on Lithium-Ion batteries, it is important to understand how to BUY, CHARGE, AND RECYCLE these batteries safely. With so much energy stored in such tiny places, these batteries can overheat, start a fire, or explode if not handled properly. Remember to:

- **BUY:** Only buy products with a safety certification, such as UL, ETL, or CSA, meaning they meet important safety standards.
- **CHARGE:** Always use the cables that came with the products to charge, or purchase new chargers approved by the manufacturer. Always charge your devices on a hard surface and **DON'T OVERCHARGE** the device.
- **RECYCLE:** Don't put lithium-ion batteries in the garbage or recycling bins. Visit call2recycle.org to find out how and where to safely recycle batteries. Local locations include:
 - Canada Post Desbarats, Bruce Mines, Hilton Beach, Richards Landing, Echo Bay
 - Northshore Tractor
 - Echo Bay Home Hardware

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

WINTER DUMP HOURS NOW IN EFFECT

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

HAZARDOUS WASTE DEPOT SAULT STE. MARIE **CLOSES OCTOBER 18, 2025**

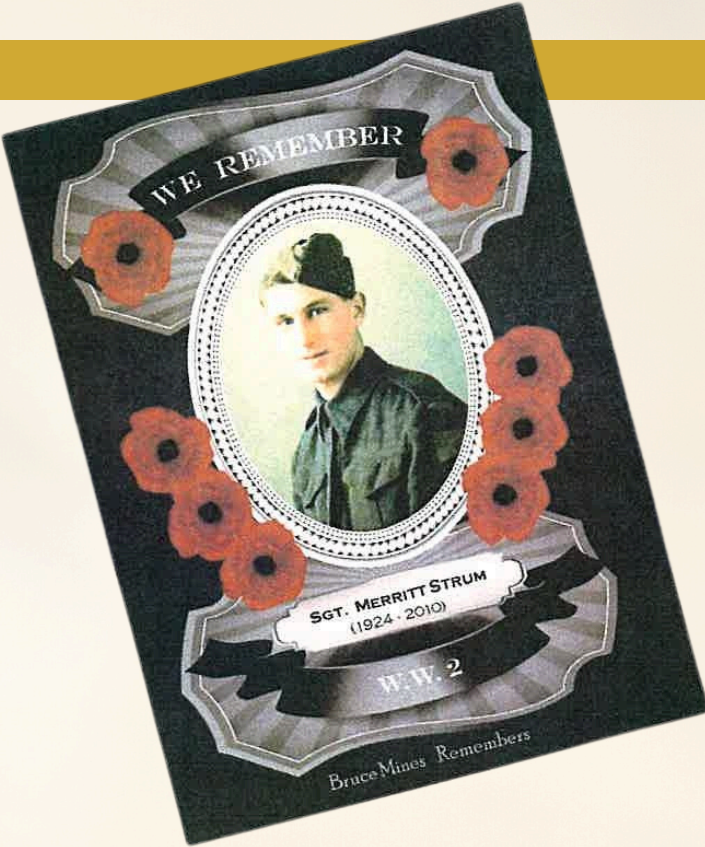
Municipal Office Notices

As mail disruptions continue, water, sewer, and tax bills are still being sent out via email or in Postal Boxes (P.O. Boxes) at the Desbarats Post Office. No bills will be mailed until service resumes, but payment deadlines remain in place. Payments can be made online through your financial institution, allowing 2-3 days for processing. In person at the Municipal Office Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm. Or in the drop box at the Municipal Office after hours. If you need to confirm a bill or payment, please reach out to people@johnsontownship.ca or phone 705-782-6601.

The final Tax installment is due on Thursday, October 30th. Water & Sewer billing is due on Friday, October 31, 2025.

Did You know, as a resident of Johnson Township, you have access to all services provided by the Bruce Mines and Plummer Additional Union Public Library? The library is located at 33 Desbarats Street, Bruce Mines, Ontario P0R 1C0 and is open Tuesday - Friday 11am-5pm and Saturday 10:30am-3:30pm. As a resident, you get access to all the wonderful reading and fun programming like the Family History Collection, Peer Tutoring Programs, Drop-In Thinking Rock Community Arts Programs and more.

The Municipal Office will be Closed: Monday, October 13, 2025 for Thanksgiving & Tuesday, November 11, 2025 for Remembrance Day



BANNERS FOR VETERAN'S TRIBUTE

**Do you have a Family Member
you would like to honour with a
Commemorative Banner?**

Double-sided and printed in full colour, these banners will be displayed along Lake Huron Drive in the weeks leading up to Remembrance Day.

We invite you to complete an application for a loved one, family member, or friend by Friday, October 17, 2025.

Johnson Township | 705-782-6601
people@johnsontownship.ca | www.johnsontownship.ca



BANNERS FOR VETERAN'S TRIBUTE APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name of Veteran: _____

Date of Birth and Death of Veteran: _____

Which War did they serve in: _____

Donation Amount: _____

PDF Photo: Please attach a high-resolution photo for printing.

If you would like to support a veteran tribute banner,
Donations would be greatly appreciated. Banners cost upwards of \$200. A
charitable receipt is available for any donations over \$25.
Submit applications to people@johnsontownship.ca or to the Municipal Office
at 1 Johnson Drive, Desbarats ON P0R 1E0.

Applications will be accepted until Friday, October 17th, 2025.

Banners displayed may be limited on a first-come, first-served basis

Johnson Township | 705-782-6601

people@johnsontownship.ca | www.johnsontownship.ca

FROM THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

September, 17, 2025

Regular Council Meeting

Council received a delegation presentation from Robert Peace for RockNetwork with an update regarding the Fibre Optic internet project. Approximately 450 homes in Johnson Township will be eligible for the fibre optic infrastructure installation. A Public meeting will be held on Thursday, October 23, for community members to learn more, hear about internet service options and sign up for the installation of fibre optic cable to their homes.

Council accepted the reports presented by staff. The report presented by the Fire Chief highlighted the cost of the newly imposed firefighter training at \$6000-\$7000 per firefighter. Indicating that consideration be taken for compensation, time off work, travel and accommodations required to take these mandatory courses. As the deadline for certification requirements comes closer, various Municipalities are seeking support to extend and review these mandatory firefighter certification requirements, including Johnson Township.

Council revisited the staffing concerns during bookings at the Johnson Township Community Centre. After receiving an update from the Insurance Company in regards to necessary measures for Public Buildings, the council asked staff to prepare recommendations for the next meeting in regards to staffing needs during various booking situations.

Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, October 15, 2025

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

Algoma Public Health urges residents to get vaccinated against respiratory illnesses this fall

Algoma Public Health (APH) is encouraging all residents to protect themselves and their loved ones this fall by getting vaccinated against flu, COVID-19 and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV).

This fall, Ontario has expanded RSV protection:

- Adults aged 75 and older are now eligible for the RSV vaccine.
- Infants under eight months and high-risk children up to 24 months can receive Beyfortus®, a monoclonal antibody.
- Pregnant individuals may receive Abrysvo®, which helps protect infants at birth.

How to book a vaccine appointment

Appointments for APH community clinics open on Thursday, October 9 at 9:00am.

By phone: 705-541-7370 or toll-free 1-888-440-3730

(Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

Online: Book an [appointment at a clinic](#) near you

Vaccines will first be offered first to high-risk and priority populations followed by the general public.

Around the Community



School Sports in Full Swing

School athletics wasted no time starting tryouts and forming teams for the CASS Boys Hockey, CASS Dance Squad, CASS Boys Volleyball, CASS Girls Basketball, and CASS XC teams. Congratulations to the CASS Boys Volleyball team for winning the Gold Division at the W.C. Eaket Secondary School Tournament. Don't forget to show your support for CASS Onstage and join the Haunted Trail later this month. Not to be outdone, the CAIS hosted its annual Cross-Country meet last month, with many students competing in various races.

Kung Fu Classes



Youth Class	Adult Class
13-18y.o.	16+
Fridays, 6:30-8	Saturdays, 5:30-7
Dance Studio	Old Town Hall,
@ CASS	Richard's Landing

Limited Enrolment!
canshield.kfa@gmail.com
 705-562-3606

SHAMROCK FIGURE SKATING CLUB



2025/26 Registration Open

Programs available:

☐ StarSkate1 ☐ StarSkate2-Gold ☐ CanSkate

Fall & Winter Programs offered in Desbarats at the Johnson Township Arena and Winter Programs in Echo Bay at the Echo Bay Sportsplex.
 Questions can be directed to: shamrockfsc@gmail.com



SHAMROCK FIGURE SKATING CLUB



North Channel Minor Hockey

Practices start Wednesday, October 15th, 2025 | The Practice Schedule is as Follows
U7 Mon & Weds 6pm | U9 Blue Mon & Wed 7pm | U13 Mon & Weds 8pm | U9 White Tues & Thurs 7pm | U11 Tues & Thurs 8pm
 Managers will reach out to the email provided at registration



OCT 21

Guided Hike at the Foster Parkland and Walking Trails

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 Google Calendar · ICS

Come check out the beautiful views from our Foster Parkland and Walking Trails. This 3.5km hiking trail traverses two adjacent nature preserves featuring mixed forest, protected shoreline and portions of a provincially significant wetland known as the Kensington Complex.



Diner's menu

MAIN COURSE

Hearty beef stew
Cheesy herb biscuits
Root vegetable salad

DESSERT

Gen's pumpkin cheesecake
coffee or tea

Tuesday October 28th
Doors open 11am
\$16 per person

Tickets available at trefrycentre.ca



JOHNSON FARMERS' MARKET
DESBARATS

JOHNSON FARMERS' MARKET

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Saturday Oct. 11



MEET & GREET

Tuesday, October 14th, 2025
7:00 pm

Lighthouse Lounge
At the Bruce Bay Cottages and Lighthouse
82 French Island Rd, Bruce Mines

Join us for light refreshments, talk about Simpson Mine Shaft and new high-speed fibre internet network coming to Bruce Mines!



Brucemineschamber.com

It's time

Make an appointment for your flu, COVID-19, or RSV immunization.

Bookings start
Thursday, October 9 at 9 a.m.

Protect yourself and your loved ones,
schedule your appointment!

By Phone: 705-541-7370




FALL OPEN HOUSE
AT MEADOWVIEW
ALPACA FARM!

Oct 5, 12, 19, 26th 11:30-3:30

🎃 Pumpkins, wagon rides, games, and of course... alpacas! 🐫 Admission is by cash donation, and wagon rides are just \$5 per person.

📍 908 Cater Side Rd., Bruce Mines, ON
Come celebrate fall fun on the farm! 🍁



POMEGRAN **ROCK NETWORKS**

Fibre Internet is here

We NEED Your CONSENT to connect to your home

7:00pm, Thursday October 23
Johnson Township Community Center
1 Cameron Avenue, Desbarats, Ont

ISP Announced Free Refreshment

LET'S GET THE COMMUNITY CONNECTED!

fibreinfo@pomegran.com



2nd Annual PUMPKINS & POTIONS FESTIVAL

Bruce Mines & Plummer
Additional Union Public Library

OCTOBER 24 & 25
Friday 24th - 5pm-9pm
Saturday 25th - 1pm-4pm

Presented in collaboration by
Town of Bruce Mines & Plummer Additional Township, BMPA Library, Central Algoma EarlyON & The Bruce Mines Witches and Warlocks



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