Ending village garbage collection considered

By CECCY BALEY

SARANAC LAKE - The Saranac Lake Village Board may take a look at ending village garbage collection next month, if the village is able to get permission from the town of Harriettsburg to bring the landfill up to environmental standards.

In a report prepared for a village board meeting on Tuesday, Lawless (who did not attend) said the prospect of joining the Green County landfill in Sederal is the "best option" because all the village can afford.

"We have discussed the alternatives, and the only one that is feasible in my opinion is to join the regional landfill," the report stated. The landfills in the region include the Franklin County landfill, which the village can afford.

"The reason we are interested in joining the regional landfill is that the village can afford that," Lawless said. "The village cannot afford to upgrade the landfill to environmental standards."

Lawless said the village applied for a grant from the state to help in upgrading the landfill and end village garbage collection. The grant was rejected.

"We were denied the grant because the information stating the landfill and ending village garbage collection was not included in the report," Lawless said. "We have not been told why the grant was rejected." The report stated that the village has been told that the landfill is not in environmental compliance, but has not been told why.

Lawless said that the village has been told that the potential owner wants to put a deck outside so people can eat at the restaurant. "We are looking at doing a regional landfill, the cost of creating a fully complying landfill is much too much," Lawless said. "We would like to have the potential owner help us with the deck." Lawless said that he will look into the issue "as soon as possible."