

# WEEKENDER

# THE SPEAKER'S WEEKEND EDITION



Vol. 19 - No. 26

FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2020

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## WAR ON WEEDS

New Liskeard resident Kim Campbell was hoping to win the war on the weeds as she pulled out dandelions in her yard on a recent beautiful, sunny Saturday at her May Street home. (Staff photo by Sue Nielsen)

## Weather, disease, pests impact white spruce

Darlene Wroe  
Speaker Reporter

DISTRICT - Now that the snow has gone, the condition of area trees and how they survived the winter, or did not, is becoming evident.

The good news is that, according to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), "the northeast region should have a summer season free of forest tent caterpillar as the natural cycle has ended."

However, area residents might notice some windbreaks or small stands of white spruce trees have not come through the winter successfully.

The Speaker contacted Tony Juurlink of Lynx Tree Care about factors that could have recently impacted white spruce trees.

"There are a few insects and diseases that are having an impact on our conifer trees," commented Juurlink in an email.

"Most windbreak trees which are spruce could be struggling with some fungal diseases and/or insects such as spruce budworms and spruce beetles," he continued.

However, he reassured that "many of these problems are common to our region and throughout Canada. They are an important part of our forest ecosystems."

He noted that "in 2015 the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry warned that spruce budworm was nearing the peak of its 30- to 40-year outbreak cycle in our region."

Juurlink commented that he has observed a significant increase this year in the number of spruce-

Continued on 2a

# DID YOU GET The Speaker THIS WEEK?

Here are some of the stories in our May 27 edition...

- There is now a wider swath of COVID-19 testing happening in the Temiskaming region.
- Three libraries to rule them all, but two would have to go as the City transforms its library services into a central location.
- Free rides are over for Temiskaming Transit passengers as of June 1.
- A group is digging up interest in the Carnegie Library in New Liskeard.
- Human remains have been found in Harris Township.
- A Charlie Angus-led virtual town hall meeting discussed the COVID-19 pandemic and solutions to problems encountered during the pandemic.
- The Temagami Canoe Festival has beached itself on dry land so to speak as the July event is cancelled because of COVID-19 concerns.
- Fifty-dollar grocery gift cards have been offered to needy seniors in Temiskaming Shores.
- Bruins are out and about in the Temiskaming region and caution is advised.
- The Englehart and Area Historical Museum won't open this summer because of COVID-19 concerns.
- A singular day of awareness highlights the multiple rewards and challenges of parents with multiple birth children.
- Our B Front features a story on the tourism industry in Temiskaming and across the north being hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic.



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# Weather, disease, pests impact white spruce

Continued from A Front

related assessments on residential properties.

Some trees are just at the end of their life cycle, he said, but in other cases there is evidence of insects and disease.

"Once spruce trees start to show signs that they are suffering they usually decline quickly," he said.

In Dymond and Armstrong Townships, the problems possible with white spruce can be observed along Highway 11 where white spruce windbreaks

are showing a significant percentage have died.

The MNRF commented that these trees may have died because of their location along the edge of a ditch. White spruce "don't like to get their feet wet," the MNRF said.

Growing along a road or highway is also a stressful location for trees, making them more susceptible to disease such as spruce budworm, which causes defoliation, the MNRF continued.

"Spruce budworm continues to have a significant

presence in the northeast region of the province," the MNRF commented. "The current infestation is approximately 342,000 hectares, with the majority of the damage delineated north of Timmins."

The MNRF added that "an ice storm passed through the region in late December 2019, damaging conifer trees. Broken tops and whole tree snaps were reported. The storm damage tracked mainly across the southwest part of the region (from Sault Ste. Marie to Sudbury)."

## CITY BULLETIN

### NOTICE TO PUBLIC

#### Provincial Offences Court will be closed to the public effective

March 23, 2020.

Should you require assistance call our office at 705-672-3221, or email [poa@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:poa@temiskamingshores.ca). Our staff is working and available to assist you.

If you wish to pay your fines, you can email your payment information to [poa@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:poa@temiskamingshores.ca) indicating your credit card information and expiry date and a note giving us authorization to process your payment.

Payments can also be faxed to 705-672-3200. To further assist there is a drop box at the building's front entrance at City Hall, 325 Farr Drive, Haileybury, Ontario. At this time we are not accepting cash payments.

If you currently have a suspended driver's license, your fine can be paid at Service Ontario located at 280 Armstrong Street, New Liskeard, Ontario or 10 Government Road East, Kirkland Lake, Ontario or pay online at [serviceontario.ca](http://serviceontario.ca)

If you are dropping off Extension of Time to Pay forms or Reopening documents, these can be left in our drop box located at city hall. There is an Order made by the Chief Justice pursuant to s. 85 extending timelines for applying for reopenings (s.11), when a fine is due (s. 66) and when a fine goes into default (s. 69). Unless your matters went into default prior to March 16, 2020, the applications are not considered urgent. Courts are cancelled until July 6, 2020. Please do not attend city hall or Northern College in Kirkland Lake for your court dates. You will be advised of your next court date in writing.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### OPEN AIR BURNING PERMITS

May 22, 2020 - In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, City and fire department officials have faced difficult decisions about how to adjust day-to-day operations in order to both protect their employees while continuing to serve their communities.



As a result of the closure of municipal buildings and facilities the City of Temiskaming Shores and the Temiskaming Shores Fire Department wants to advise all residents that all residents who obtained a Burning Permit in 2019 may continue to burn in accordance with the conditions as outlined on the open air-burning permit.

Please note, any resident requiring a new burning permit are asked to contact the fire department by calling (705) 672-3363 ext. 4701 or 4702 and leave a detailed message and someone will contact you to arrange an inspection. For tenants requesting a burning permit, you will require written permission from the property owner to have a fire. Also, there is no cost to obtain a burning as Municipal Council has waived all fees for burning permits for 2020.

Residents are reminded that you may only burn if conditions allow the fire to burn safely and all necessary steps are taken to control and extinguish the fire. All other conditions as outlined on the burning permit must be followed. Please ensure you adhere to the following burning safety tips so you can enjoy your fire and help reduce the risks to our Firefighters:

- No Day Burning - You may only burn from 6pm – 8am.
- Only Burn Dry, Woody Type Materials - Household trash, plastic or tires are illegal to burn. You may not burn grass or leaves or anything that may cause excessive smoke.
- Always Stay with Your Fire - A responsible person of 18 years of age or older must be present to supervise the fire at all times.
- Respect Your Neighbour - Don't burn where smoke will bother your neighbour or blow across roadways or hamper visibility.
- Control Your Fire - Only burn what you can effectively control. Don't even consider burning when it is windy.

When a Municipal Fire Ban or Restricted Fire Zone is in effect, no open-air burning is permitted and all burning permits are suspended.

For more information please email: [tuttley@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:tuttley@temiskamingshores.ca) or [slangford@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:slangford@temiskamingshores.ca)

### Full Time Arena/Parks Attendant Competition No. 2020-005

The City of Temiskaming Shores is currently seeking a Full Time Arena/Parks Attendant within the Recreation Department. The Arena Parks Attendant is part of a team responsible for the operation and maintenance of municipal recreation facilities and parks. Duties will also include minor construction, grounds keeping and ice maintenance.

The successful candidate will possess the following qualifications and education:

- Minimum Grade 12 or equivalent;
- Experience in grounds keeping and minor construction;
- Ability to meet the needs of customers, communicate effectively with facility users and maintain accurate records;
- Province of Ontario Class DZ drivers license considered an asset;
- Basic Refrigeration knowledge considered an asset.

Applicants are encouraged to submit their resumes quoting **Job Competition No. 2020-005** no later than **May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020** by regular mail or email to:

Shelly Zubyck  
Director of Corporate Services  
P.O. Box 2050  
Haileybury, Ontario POJ IKO  
[szubyck@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:szubyck@temiskamingshores.ca)

The City of Temiskaming Shores appreciates the interest of all applicants however, only those selected for interviews will be contacted. The City of Temiskaming Shores is an equal opportunity employer that provides equality of opportunity for employment without discrimination, consistent with The Ontario Human Rights Code. The City of Temiskaming Shores is committed to providing accommodations in all parts of the hiring process. If you require accommodations, we will work with you to meet your needs.

### NOTICE OF ROAD CLOSURE

Whereas Council for the City of Temiskaming Shores through By-law No. 2019-117 has authorized the Temporary Road Closure of Golf Course Road for the purpose of the completion of the rehabilitation of Chester Creek Bridge.

Therefore, the following road shall be temporarily closed on the dates specified below:

1. **Golf Course Road - Chester Creek Bridge Rehabilitation Closure – Commencing on or about Monday May 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 until Monday June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020**

- (a) Golf Course Road, from River Road easterly to include Chester Creek Bridge (most westerly Bridge on Golf Course Road), to Highway 11North.

Signage will be installed to notify the Public of the road closure and Detour Routes will be established and maintained throughout the construction period.

The Public are advised that there will be no access through the construction area and to refrain from vehicular use during the road closure. Local residents will have access to their property from either end of the Road Closure.

Issued this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020.

"Original Signed by"

Director of Public Works – G. Douglas Walsh

The roadway **will not** be open to through traffic, or emergency traffic, between the River Road – Golf Course Road intersection and the first property on the east side of Chester Creek Bridge. **There are no dwellings or structures located within the road closure area.**

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### SENIORS NUTRITION SUPPORT IN TEMISKAMING SHORES

#### Temiskaming Shores Seniors Nutrition Support

Are you 55 or older and live in the City of Temiskaming Shores? You are eligible for a \$50 gift card to help support the purchase of healthy nutritious groceries! The City of Temiskaming Shores has received a \$10,000 grant from the United Way Centraide North East Ontario, with financial support from the Government of Canada to help support seniors in our community.

Sign up by filling out the form at [www.temiskamingshores.ca/unitedway/](http://www.temiskamingshores.ca/unitedway/) and receive your gift card in the mail during the week of June 1st. Applications will be accepted until 4pm on May 29, 2020 or as supplies last. You can also sign up by contacting the Temiskaming Connections Support line at 1-866-747-4305 ext 2278

#### Programme de soutien alimentaire pour personnes âgées de Temiskaming Shores

Êtes-vous un résident de la Ville de Temiskaming Shores âgé de 55 ans ou plus? Si oui, vous pouvez présenter une demande de carte-cadeau d'une valeur de 50 \$ pour vous aider à acheter des aliments santé nutritifs! La Ville de Temiskaming Shores a reçu une subvention de 10 000 \$ de United Way Centraide North East Ontario/Nord-Est de l'Ontario avec le soutien financier du gouvernement du Canada pour aider les personnes âgées dans notre communauté.

Présentez votre demande en remplissant le formulaire à [www.temiskamingshores.ca/unitedway/](http://www.temiskamingshores.ca/unitedway/) et vous recevrez votre carte-cadeau par la poste au cours de la semaine du 1<sup>er</sup> juin. Les demandes seront acceptées jusqu'à 16 h le 29 mai 2020 ou jusqu'à ce qu'il ne reste plus de cartes-cadeaux. Vous pouvez également présenter votre demande en appelant la ligne de bénévolat Connexions Temiskaming au 1 866 747-4305, poste 2278.

May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Re: **Public Bulletin**  
**NWL-01901030 – Dymond Watermain Infrastructure Upgrades**



The City of Temiskaming Shores is performing upgrades to the watermain system within Dymond. The project location includes parts of Drive In Theatre Road, Raymond Street and Crystal Crescent, as shown in the figure on the right.

Construction is slated to start immediately and is anticipated to last approximately two months. Residents may experience brief periods of water shutdowns and may experience temporary road detours as a result of the construction. Access to the right turn ramp off of Highway 11 onto Drive In Theatre Road will be limited.

Should you have any concerns or questions regarding the construction works, please contact the City or EXP at the addresses below.



Amy Kwaka, P.Eng.  
[Amy.kwaka@exp.com](mailto:Amy.kwaka@exp.com)  
705-647-4311 extn. 240  
EXP Services Inc.

Hayden Fiset, P.Eng.  
[Hayden.fiset@exp.com](mailto:Hayden.fiset@exp.com)  
705-647-4311 extn. 238  
EXP Services Inc.

Steve Burnett  
[sburnett@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:sburnett@temiskamingshores.ca)  
705-672-3363  
City of Temiskaming Shores



# CITY BULLETIN

Pickleball is being played at the New Liskeard Tennis courts! Check out the public Facebook page 'Ladies Pickleball' for when the game is being played. Please note there are no washrooms available due to COVID19.

### Use Temiskaming Shores Public Library from home!

The Library is still closed but that doesn't mean you have to go without reading materials or resources. We have a variety of online resources for all ages that can be used with your library card (and some without a card). We can make sure that your card is up to date and help you navigate our digital collection—just call and leave a message at 705-647-4215 or email [newliskeard@temisklibrary.com](mailto:newliskeard@temisklibrary.com). Access our e-resources or find out more on our website at [www.temisklibrary.com](http://www.temisklibrary.com).

### Relax with an eBook or Audiobook!

With your library card, access thousands of ebooks and audiobooks on **Overdrive**. Download titles to borrow for 14 days. Items are automatically returned so there are no late fees!

You can also read ebooks online through **Romance eBook Cloud** or listen to audiobooks online through **Audiobook Cloud** without a library card.

### Interactive Fun for Children!

Designed for children K-3, **PebbleGo Animals, Science and Dinosaurs** has fun information, videos, and pictures for children. The easy to navigate site allows children to learn about a variety of topics. Login with your library card.

If your children want to read, **TumbleBookLibrary Online** is a great place to go! The online collection of ebooks are suited for children in grades K-6. Existing children's books are animated and have audio narration. The collection includes favorites such as The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch, Diary of a Worm, How I Became a Pirate, Miss Malarkey Doesn't Live in Room 10, One Duck Stuck, as well as fairy tales such as Jack and the Beanstalk and Old Mother Hubbard. Use your library card to log in.

### Learn Something New!

The **Hobbies and Crafts Reference Centre** offers detailed "how-to" instructions and creative ideas to meet the interests of virtually every hobby enthusiast with articles, videos, and more! Subjects include: Arts and crafts, Collecting, Home and garden, Indoor recreation, and Kids' crafts. Have your 14 digit library card number ready to log in and start crafting!

Want to brush up on a language or learn a new one? **Mango Languages Online** teaches actual conversation skills for over 50 languages. With helpful feedback, you can learn at your pace, wherever you are. Create an account with your library card. Find these resources and more at [www.temisklibrary.com/en/eresources](http://www.temisklibrary.com/en/eresources).

### ATTENTION TRANSIT RIDERS:

Effective **JUNE 1, 2020** a \$2 transit fare will be required for all passengers with the exception of pre-school age children. Boarding through the front door will also resume at this time. The regular 2020 fares will be in effect as of **JULY 1, 2020**. Stay tuned for further information regarding online purchase of monthly passes.

Based on Provincial health guidelines, the Temiskaming Transit Committee is recommending the use of face coverings when physical distancing is not feasible. Please continue to use the transit for essential trips only.

### MARINAS

City of Temiskaming Shores Marinas are open for the season! Marinas will staffed from 11am to 7pm on the following days: New Liskeard - Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Haileybury - Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Rates for 2020 have been frozen from last year! Pay the same rate in 2020 as you did in 2019. Slip registration forms are available online at [www.temiskamingshores.ca/en/resident/marinas.asp](http://www.temiskamingshores.ca/en/resident/marinas.asp).

### BUCKE PARK CAMPGROUND

Bucke Pake Campground will open for SEASONAL SITES ONLY on Friday May 29<sup>th</sup>. Rates for 2020 have been frozen from last year! Pay the same rate in 2020 as you did in 2019. Campsite registration forms are available online at [www.temiskamingshores.ca/en/resident/parks-recreation-sport.asp](http://www.temiskamingshores.ca/en/resident/parks-recreation-sport.asp).

### TENNIS/BASKETBALL COURTS

Tennis and basketball courts are open. Nets for both tennis and pickleball have been installed at both New Liskeard and Haileybury courts. Please remember to follow physical distancing guidelines and remember that gatherings of more than 5 people are still banned.

### TRAILS AND PARK AMENITIES NOW OPEN

New Liskeard Boardwalk, all sections of the STATO trail and trails at Pete's Dam and Devil's Rock. Also open are all baseball diamonds, soccer fields, tennis courts, basketball courts, and the Carter Antila Memorial Skate Park. Also open are outdoor picnic sites, benches and park shelters.

Playgrounds and indoor recreation facilities remain closed. Physical Distancing while using outdoor recreation facilities is still required and there are still restrictions on gatherings of more than 5 people.

### MUNICIPAL BOAT LAUNCHES OPEN

Boat Launches within the City of Temiskaming Shores are open to the public. The boat launch at Bucke Park Campground will remain closed until May 29<sup>th</sup>. All boat launch users MUST follow physical distancing requirements and all other public health recommendations.

## Council and Committee MEETINGS

### Public Works Committee

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 @ 9:00 a.m. – Virtual meeting

### Building Maintenance Committee

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 @ 10:30 a.m. – Virtual meeting

### Corporate Services Committee

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m. – Virtual meeting  
For further information contact Kelly Conlin  
705-672-3363 Ext. 4116 or [kconlin@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:kconlin@temiskamingshores.ca)

### Regular Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 2, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m. – Virtual meeting

### Regular Council Meeting

Tuesday, June 16, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m. – Virtual meeting  
For further information contact Logan Belanger  
705-672-3363 Ext. 4136 or [lbelanger@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:lbelanger@temiskamingshores.ca)

### NEED TO MAKE A PAYMENT?

Payments by cheque for taxes and other items can be dropped off in the drop box located to the left of the front doors at City Hall (325 Farr Drive) or at the Pool & Fitness Centre (77 Wellington Street).

### Tax Payments:

Tax Payments can be made utilizing interac banking. Your property tax roll number is your account number. The account number will be 15 digits starting with 010, 020 or 030 depending on where your property is located, example 010009123450000, do not include any spaces or decimals.

Pre-authorized payment plans, monthly or installment, are also available. Please email [finance@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:finance@temiskamingshores.ca) for more information.

### Other (Marina Boat Slips and Bucke Park):

To make arrangements for payments for a seasonal Marina boat slip or Bucke Park campsite, please contact [finance@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:finance@temiskamingshores.ca). Payment includes 3 items: seasonal rental agreement, proof of insurance and payment in full of any applicable rates. Failure to provide all required documents will result in not being able to utilize the facility.

If you have any other questions regarding payments, please email [finance@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:finance@temiskamingshores.ca).

### HAILEYBURY LANDFILL OPERATIONS

#### Attention: Residents of Temiskaming Shores and Cobalt

Effective Wednesday May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Haileybury Landfill will be open to the public with normal hours of operations (Tuesday – Saturday, 8:30am – 4:30pm).

The City requests that all residents that utilize the landfill practice physical distancing and attempt to bring the appropriate payment to mitigate the exchange of cash. To assist in calculating payment please visit the City's website for the most up to date Tipping Fee Schedule. Note: 1 half ton truck load is approximately equal to 2 cubic yards.

### ADOPTION OF THE 2020 BUDGET

In accordance to the City's Notice By-law, notice is hereby given that Council for the City of Temiskaming Shores will be considering a By-law to adopt the 2020 Budget at the June 2, 2020 Regular Council meeting scheduled to commence at 6:00 p.m. – Virtual Meeting.

### CANCELLATION OF ORANGE DROP EVENT

Due to the current situation and gathering restrictions put in place, this year's Orange Drop Event scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled. We ask that residents hold on to their Household Hazardous Waste until next year's event tentatively scheduled for the first Saturday in June, 2021.

### WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

Please be notified that the Environmental Crews of the Public Works Department will be carrying out maintenance programs, flushing and testing of fire hydrants throughout the municipal water distribution systems. The work may cause some discoloration in the water; however, the effect should be minimal. If a coloured water problem is encountered in your water service line, flushing the service by letting the water run for a period of time should cure the problem. If the coloured water persists, please contact the Public Works Department for assistance at 705.647.6220.

**This program will commence in Haileybury on May 11, New Liskeard on June 1 and Dymond on June 15, 2020.**

Thank you for your co-operation as Environmental Crews carry out this important maintenance activity.

### Notice of Public Meeting Potential Disposition of Municipal Land: Haileybury Public Library

Notice is hereby given in accordance with By-law No. 2015-160 in respect to the City considering the disposition of the Haileybury Public Library.

This public notice is being given to advise the public that Council is considering the disposition of the subject land as described below.

#### The Public Meeting will be held:

**Date:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Virtual Meeting

#### Further information or written submissions:

Logan Belanger, Municipal Clerk  
Email: [clerk@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:clerk@temiskamingshores.ca)  
Phone: 705-672-3363 x 4136

The public can provide input on the proposed disposition, as follows:

- **Submit Comments in Writing:** Persons wishing to provide written comments may submit in writing, using the email address above, prior to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2, 2020; or may submit comments during the live-streamed Council meeting, viewed on the City of Temiskaming Shores Facebook page.

- **Register to Speak at the Virtual Meeting:** Persons wishing to speak to Council must register with the Clerk prior to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 2, 2020, using the above-noted email or telephone number. Following registration, a confirmation email containing meeting details and a toll-free number will be provided. Please note that neither a computer, nor a video sharing device is required.

**Description of Land:** Haileybury Public Library,  
545 Lakeshore Road  
**Legal Text:** PLAN M37NB PT LOTS 1,59 RP TER709  
PART 2 PCL 11350,12171,11247SST  
LIBRARY & ART GALLERY

### Notice of Public Meeting Potential Disposition of Municipal Land: New Liskeard Public Library

Notice is hereby given in accordance with By-law No. 2015-160 in respect to the City considering the disposition of the New Liskeard Public Library;

This public notice is being given to advise the public that Council is considering the disposition of the subject land as described below.

#### The Public Meeting will be held:

**Date:** Tuesday, June 2, 2020  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Virtual Meeting

#### Further information or written submissions:

Logan Belanger, Municipal Clerk  
Email: [clerk@temiskamingshores.ca](mailto:clerk@temiskamingshores.ca)  
Phone: 705-672-3363 x 4136

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**Description of Land:** New Liskeard Public Library,  
50 Whitewood Avenue  
**Legal Text:** PLAN M22NB PT LOT 29 TO  
32 PCL 1487NND PUBLIC  
LIBRARY

**For More Information Call 705 672-3363 Write to The City of Temiskaming Shores,  
P.O. Box 2050, Haileybury, ON P0J 1K0 or  
Visit our Website: [www.temiskamingshores.ca](http://www.temiskamingshores.ca)**

**SPEAKER WEEKENDER**

ocna  
ontario community newspapers association

General Manager - Lois Perry  
Editor - Steven Larocque

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www.northernontario.ca

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**CUTENESS ALERT**

Young foxes are called kits and this little kit was one of four living in a drainage pipe-type burrow in Latchford. (Photo contribution by Sue Nielsen)

**Pandemics are hard**

“If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten we belong to each other.”



Sue Nielsen

Mother Teresa

We all know the COVID-19 pandemic has been hard on everyone.

None more so than the thousands of families across the country who have lost loved ones due to the virus.

There are people who didn't get to say goodbye to loved ones, families who can't mourn together and people who didn't visit sick relatives because they followed government pandemic guidelines.

The exhausted doctors, nurses, PSWs, office staff, public health officials and others working 24/7 on the frontlines of the pandemic, often at great risk to themselves and their families, deserve our respect.

And yet we saw hundreds of people gathered in Trinity Bellwoods Park in Toronto last weekend?

I used to visit a dear friend who lived a block away from Trinity Bellwoods Park. I can vouch for the beauty of the park in the middle of a concrete jungle.

The provincial death toll from the virus stands at just over 2,000 as of the time this column was written.

Some people suggested young people have needs above and beyond the rest of us.

Those young people in the park took the liberty of defecating and urinating on the lawns

of people living in the area believing this was acceptable behaviour on any given day, let alone during a public health crisis?

Are those the special needs that people are talking about?

The respected Globe and Mail health reporter, André Picard, had an interesting take on the mass gathering saying it was the city's fault.

He said Toronto doesn't have enough public spaces and the city hasn't managed their public spaces properly to free up more space to meet the needs of city dwellers.

Aw, those poor city dwellers.

Here's what I know - people have cancelled their weddings, businesses are closing and or going under, thousands of people are unemployed, resorts and camp owners are struggling, mega fundraising events are cancelled, restaurants are challenged to make ends meet and people haven't hugged loved ones in over 60 days.

Excuse me while I pull up a blanket and sit right next to my friends with a brew in hand in the middle of the city because I have special needs.

Pandemic restrictions work on the honour system.

When are people going to realize this pandemic is real, things could get a lot worse if there is a second wave, be scared, take precautions, ride out the storm but don't negate the risk.

**EDITORIAL**

**There is no "away"**

The landfill sites in the Temiskaming region were extremely busy during the various amnesty weeks sponsored by local municipalities.

The Haileybury landfill site had over 200 visitors on the opening day of the City of Temiskaming Shores' amnesty week whereby tipping fees were being waived for residents.

The amount of refuse being brought to the local landfills is staggering and speaks to the need for

enhanced recycling programs.

When municipalities are outgrowing their landfill sites at a record pace and have to spend millions of taxpayer dollars to expand or create new ones, then maybe, just maybe, people will be more attentive to reducing, reusing and recycling.

Because when people supposedly throw away items, there really is no "away." It all goes into the landfill and that costs big money to maintain and operate.

**Paramedic Services Week**

Paramedic Services Week 2020 (May 24 to May 30) has the theme Pandemic: Paramedics on the Front Line, reminding us of the important role that paramedics play during a pandemic.

Paramedics are on the job 24/7 as health emergency personnel and are often the first point of contact when we need medical emergency help.

The emergency medical services workers are on the frontlines in the Temiskaming region helping to protect the well being of citizens in our

region.

Their jobs are stressful and traumatic and it takes a special type of individual to cope with the pressures placed on them during their acts of service towards the public.

We offer our gratitude and thanks to all the paramedics in our region on the frontlines of healthcare during the COVID-19 pandemic and each and every day.

Your professionalism, your skills and your kindness and compassion in some very difficult situations is very much appreciated.

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editorial@northernontario.ca

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Paramedics making a difference in different times

Dear editor,  
 Across Canada, the week of May 24-30 is recognized as Paramedic Services Week.

This year's theme has been Pandemic: Paramedics on the Front Line.

This year more than any other year before in our past has it been seen first hand that the Timiskaming Paramedics place themselves in true harm and

threat each day in order to serve the people of Timiskaming and make this a safer place to live.

Timiskaming EMS has continued to provide constant 24-hour frontline emergency medical services during all times of this COVID-19 crisis. The public should be reassured that despite all the COVID-19 precautions necessary for receiving emergency response, all citi-

zens should feel safe and secure and know that should you have a medical emergency, our paramedics are ready to respond.

All people in need of an ambulance for emergency reasons should not be sitting at home suffering in any way, wondering if they can seek medical attention due to COVID-19. Our Timiskaming Paramedics are working on the frontline to

keep you safe and supported in your time of need whether it is COVID related or as a result of some other serious illness or injury. Please be rest assured and know that the paramedics will be there for you if needed under all circumstances.

Their presence at the scene of the emergency may look a little different due to the personal protective equipment they must wear but underneath all of the gowns, gloves, masks and face shields, you will find the most compassionate and caring paramedics at your side to help you in any way needed.

As the Chief of the Timiskaming Paramedics, and on behalf of our Board of Directors I want to thank our paramedics for their consistent dedication in making a marked difference to control

the spread of COVID-19 within our communities. Along with all healthcare workers in this district, any and all frontline workers and with the diligence of our citizens following the recommended guidelines surrounding COVID-19, we have all successfully made Timiskaming one of the safest places in Ontario to call home during this pandemic. We all should take great pride in this but also just as important to note, the battle is not over, and it is imperative we all continue to do our part to stay safe.

Stay safe and take time this week to give a friendly wave in our community to our local paramedics as we celebrate National Paramedic Week together.

Timiskaming Paramedic Chief John McCarthy



Paramedics Kayla Wilson (left) and Annette McCarthy are seen here decontaminating an ambulance and stretcher, wearing the personal protective equipment required to respond to COVID-19 patients. (Supplied photo)



### CORRECTION

The lure of open water on the first day of walleye season May 15 on Lake Temiskaming had local anglers Erik Laplante, left, and his father Mike Laplante taking to the waters. This photo ran in The Weekender May 22 with the fishermen incorrectly identified. The Speaker/Weekender sincerely apologizes for the error. (Staff photo)



### Become a BOARD Member

Timiskaming Home Support is a charitable organization committed to providing home and community support to seniors and physically disabled individuals living in the district of Timiskaming. Like our vision *Living at home – your choice, our goal*, we want to enable individuals to remain in their home environment of choice by providing them with services that are accessible, innovative and quality driven.

Our Board of Directors comprises leaders from non-profit and for-profit sectors who are dedicated to the organization's mission and vision.

Serving on the Timiskaming Home Support **Board of Directors** is an extraordinary opportunity for an individual who is passionate about strengthening leadership and governance in the non-profit **to make a difference.**

Timiskaming Home Support seeks experienced and well-connected individuals who are passionate about seniors and physically disabled individuals. The ideal candidate is committed to supporting and positively impacting the policy environment in which Timiskaming Home Support does its work. **Prior non-profit board member experience is a welcomed asset.**



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### Faites partie de notre CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION

Soutien à domicile de Timiskaming est un organisme de bienfaisance qui offre du soutien à domicile et en milieu communautaire aux aînés et aux personnes ayant un handicap physique qui vivent dans le district de Timiskaming. Comme notre vision *Vivre à la maison – votre choix, notre but*, nous voulons permettre aux personnes de demeurer dans leur milieu familial de choix en leur offrant des services accessibles, novateurs et axés sur la qualité.

Notre conseil d'administration est composé de dirigeants des secteurs sans but lucratif et à but lucratif qui se consacrent à la mission et à la vision de l'organisme.

**Siéger au conseil d'administration** de Soutien à domicile de Timiskaming est une occasion extraordinaire pour une personne passionnée par le renforcement du leadership et de la gouvernance dans un organisme sans but lucratif **de faire une différence.**

Soutien à domicile de Timiskaming est à la recherche de personnes expérimentées et bien branchées qui ont à cœur les aînés et les personnes ayant une incapacité physique. Le candidat idéal est déterminé à soutenir et à avoir une incidence positive sur l'environnement stratégique dans lequel Soutien à domicile de Timiskaming œuvre.

**L'expérience antérieure à siéger à un conseil d'administration d'un organisme sans but lucratif serait un atout.**



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# Community Champions Wall



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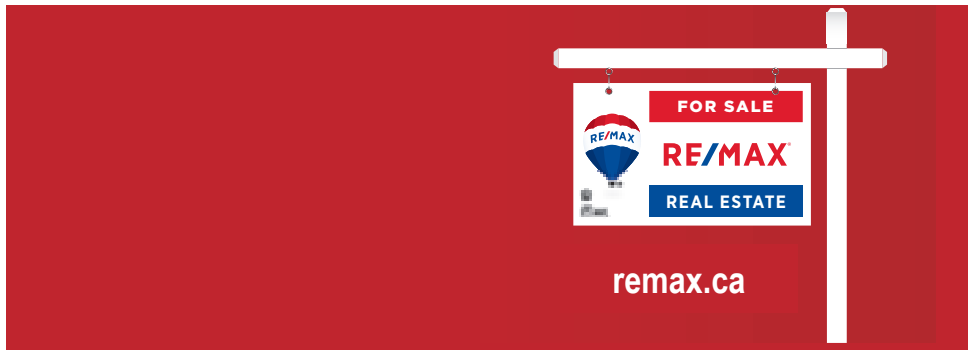
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## QUEEN OF HEARTS FOR MOTHER'S DAY

Huguette Rivard dressed as the Queen of Hearts for her mother who is a resident at Extendicare Tri-Town Nursing Home in Haileybury. She and her sister, including the family's 50-year-old Canada Day doll, drove by the nursing home and the nearby Temiskaming Lodge nursing home in a show of love on Mother's Day Sunday, May 10. Extendicare activities manager Denise Roberts organized the event which saw 41 vehicles of family members and others drive by to cheer the elderly residents of the home. (Staff photo by Darlene Wroe)

# Earlton discusses new municipal welcome signs

By **Jamie Mountain**  
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

EARLTON – The municipal welcome signs in Earlton are faded, worn and need to be replaced.

Armstrong Township council discussed how best to proceed with making improvements to the signs, located at the entrances to Earlton, at its regular meeting on May 13, which was held online.

It was decided that having an accurate population total on the updated signs would be appropriate as Armstrong Township celebrates its centennial next year.

“No, it's not Earlton's population. It's much lower,” clerk-treasurer Amy Menard said of the current signs.

“I think that's the challenge is the population. It depends, you can probably go back to the latest census and it was 1,196 or something.”

“Google says 1,166,” chimed in Councillor Theo Cull.

“That's probably more accurate than your sign,” said Menard.

“I agree, they look terrible. It would be nice to have something, especially if we're doing centennials,” Councillor Michèle Rivard said of the wel-

come signs.

“But I think we should have the population thing as well as changing the signs.”

Mayor Jean Marc Boileau noted that he had heard from some residents in the township that they would like the design to be kept the same on the new signs.

“Keep the same logo and everything like that that's on the (signs) right now. Just get a new, modern sign and get rid of the flower pots,” he remarked.

“I'm not really big on changing it,” Cull said of the signs.

“Like, I have no problem with what's on there right now. The logo's fine, all of the info is fine. I just want a new, big sign that looks like it's not about to fall over. For me it's just as simple as that. What is the sign now? Get us a bigger one that looks new with all the same information.”

Mayor Boileau suggested that the township also leave some room at the bottom of the new signs so they could put a “board or another sign advertising the centennial that wouldn't be screwed anywhere, it would just be hanging there.”

He also noted that the township could get a reasonable price with the government for

the new signs.

Menard then brought to council's attention the issue that nowhere on the current welcome signs does it say anything about the Township of Armstrong, except for on the logo at the very top of the sign.

“It has a big ‘Bienvenue, Welcome to Earlton.’ I don't know the history of when your logo was created or when it was updated,” she said.

“Above the sign it looks like a tree, a dairy cow, a lightning bolt, an airplane, and a silo and then on the updated one it looks very similar. I think some people are confused about where the Township of Armstrong is because everyone knows it as Earlton. But maybe there's a way to kind of combine the two so that they're clear that there is another township here.”

Council then agreed to seek some input from residents on what colours they would like to see on the new signs and they discussed some other design improvements and next steps with the project.

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## Kind Through COVID project aims to help others

**Sue Nielsen**  
Speaker Reporter

**TEMISKAMING SHORES** — The COVID-19 pandemic restrictions have brought out the best and the worst in people.

The former is seen in one New Liskeard woman's actions to organize a Kind Through COVID movement to help others.

"As I sat and thought one day about life and now how the world is through COVID-19, I said, 'what we do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make,'" said Kathie Peters in an email interview.

She decided about eight weeks ago near the start of the pandemic that she wanted to help others in the community.

"So I went and purchased some groceries on my own and delivered them to someone I knew that was in need. I posted it on my Facebook page that I had done my good deed for the day and how it felt so good and rewarding to help."

She continued to put money aside each week to help local families in need.

Peters took it upon herself to contact the Temiskaming Health Unit and local schools to ask for help in screening for needy families in the region.

She then approached local businesses seeking donations.

"There were positive responses and I got them on board with my project-Kind Through COVID. Subway, Liv 'N Gracies, Food Basics, Lioness Club, Gem Sewing, 100 Women Who Care Temiskaming Shores and Area and Beatrice (milk products) have all graciously made donations."

She also picks up food items from the Canadian Red Cross Nutrition Program and Northern

Fruits and Vegetable program.

She said her efforts began to catch on and word spread quickly about her project.

"Before you know it, I had people calling and messaging

*Continued on 12a*



## LINKED IN

The sound of the driver hitting the golf ball at the start of the season never gets old. Hunter Champagne, 12, tees off on the first hole at the Haileybury Golf Club on opening day, Saturday, May 16. He was golfing with his father Lee Champagne, not pictured. The HGC has implemented a few rules surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic for golfers including staggered tee times, bookings by phone, no lockers available, one person at a time in the clubhouse washrooms, there is no club storage available and take home whatever you bring with you in terms of trash, plus the club is not accepting cash transactions.

*(Staff photo by Sue Nielsen)*



## BUCKE-ROO CAMPING

By Robert Ritchie

Spring, camping season, time to check your camper. One of the first things to check is "Was winter kind to your camper trailer?" North Eastern Ontario winters can do much damage to a trailer or RV, especially if there were lots of thaws and freezes, or another concern, is a winter with heavier than normal snow, falls. So, here are a few things to check:

- Your roof seams around your air conditioner, air plumbing vents, air vents, roof to wall seams, the walls of your trailer and pull-outs, tires and under belly of your unit, the seams of your outside storage.
- Did your unit have little visitors? If so, you should check the wiring, they like chewing on them, also any hoses in and around the area they travelled.
- Now with those checks done, we can turn the hydro on and check to see if everything works as it should.
- Now the water, it's always a good idea to have someone inside looking and listening for leaks while someone turns the water on. If all is good, we're ready for camping.

*Next week we'll explore camping in 2020, the year of covid-19*

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## Temagami Family Health Team

Submitted by Ellen Ibey

### Caregiver Stress

The increased focus on helping people age well at home requires friends and family members to play a more active role in helping their loved ones. It is estimated that approximately eight million Canadians act as caregivers to someone living with mental and/or physical disabilities, chronic diseases, or age-related challenges.

While being a caregiver can be a rewarding experience, it can also be challenging. Caregivers often struggle with constantly changing roles, understanding medical information, emotional stress, financial strains, and changing family dynamics; they need greater support and validation of their roles. The COVID-19 global pandemic has added a layer of complexity for caregivers who have had to practice physical distancing, while potentially taking on more responsibilities such as grocery shopping for their loved ones.

Common signs of caregiver stress include:

- feeling tired
- having difficulty sleeping
- anxiety and depression

There are a number of resources and support groups that can help by providing tools, education and mental support. While in-person services may currently be limited, there are alternative internet-based strategies that can help improve the mental well-being of caregivers. The evidence suggests that these strategies can be effective, especially in the absence of in-person services.

Caring for a loved one strains even the most resilient people. If you are a caregiver, take steps to preserve your health and well-being. The following resources might be helpful:

- [www.bouncebackontario.ca](http://www.bouncebackontario.ca)
- [www.bigwhitewall.com](http://www.bigwhitewall.com)
- Seniors Centre Without Walls: 1-800-361-5820

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



**Temagami**

Family Health Team

17 O'Connor Drive, P.O. Box 98, Temagami, ON P0H 2H0  
Tel: 705.569.3244 Fax: 705.569.2610

# Kind Through COVID project aims to help others

Continued from 11a

me to see how they could help. With social distancing it made it difficult to have people together, so I have two great friends who came on board with me to share the shopping list, and my son for the muscle to carry everything.”

She credits the community for helping to make her project so successful and rewarding.

“Thank you everyone who has contributed. I now deliver to four families per week. I shop for all needs and deliver every Wednesday from Latchford to Earlington. This is something very dear to my heart.”

Peters admitted there was a time in her own life when she needed help and she found it, which made her much more sensitive and caring to the needs of others.

“There was a time when I was in need and there was someone there for me at my door with groceries. I was so, so grateful



## SOCIAL DISTANCING WALKERS

Earlton residents Rhea Rivard and Jeanne Gauthier took a walk in the bright sunshine on April 25 to take in the Social Distancing Smiles event. The parade was intended to brighten spirits for the people of Earlton during the COVID-19 restrictions. (Staff photo by Sue Nielsen)

that I had food for my kids and I will never forget that day as long as I live. I am more fortunate now and want to give back and ensure that our children in our community are not go-

ing hungry, especially through COVID-19.”

Anyone wishing to help Peters with Kind Through COVID donations of food or cash can contact her by email at kathi-

epeters95@gmail.com or call her at 705-650-2529 for more information.

“There are so many amazing programs out there and I am just one of many. Thanks to all

the volunteers. We are making a difference. You can always do something even if it is only kindness. Kindness is the mark we leave on the world and my goal is that,” explained Peters.



**“WE BELIEVE IN KEEPING COMMUNITIES STRONG AND HELPING THEM GROW.”**

Angela V. – forestry team member

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