

THE BEST LITTLE TOWN
BY A DAM SITE!

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PUBLIC NOTICE

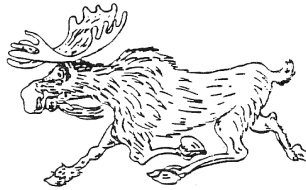
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THE LATCHFORD AND AREA

MOOSE CALL



July

*Be safe and
Enjoy the summer
Happy Canada Day*

COUNCIL MEETING FOR JULY TO BE HELD ON THE 16th @ 6:30PM THIS WILL BE AN ELECTRONIC MEETING AND WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE TOWN WEBSITE.

LEGION MEETINGS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO COVID-19 CONCERNS.

LATCHFORD FIRE DEPT. MEETINGS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO COVID-19 CONCERNS.

Just Passin Through Again

Council passed the 2020 budget for the Town of Latchford at our June 18 virtual meeting. The tax ratios for municipal tax remain the same as 2019 and any changes in your taxes will be as a result of changes in your assessment as the school tax ratios remain constant as well. We were compelled to raise the rates for water and sewage by 5% this year as operating costs such as chemicals and hydro continue to rise.

The grace period for exempting interest from unpaid 2020 municipal taxes was extended until August 31 by Council. It should be pointed out that Council is very appreciative of the fact that very few ratepayers are taking advantage of this and the vast majority have continued to pay their taxes in a timely manner. The reality is that the second billing will only reflect 40% of your total taxes and water for the year so that should lessen the financial burden over the final period.

An application has been submitted for 75% of the funding required to install the legislated upgrades to our Water Pollution Control Plant Disinfection System. We remain confident that we will receive this funding so as to allow Latchford to proceed with this project in a timely manner. All of the needed engineering/design work has been completed so funding is all that is required to move forward.

Council has authorized the production of a short YouTube video by Good Gauley Productions of New Liskeard as a lobbying tool to promote natural gas for Latchford. This method was used successfully by Red Lake and we were encouraged by staff from Enbridge Gas to replicate this effort. Not a process that Council nor I are familiar with but if it will assist in securing natural gas for Latchford it is certainly worth the effort. The process involves the circulation of the video within the offices of the decision makers at Queens Park and the fact that other applicant municipalities may also be using this method warrants Latchford doing it as well. Discussion with Public Service and Procurement Canada (PSPC) in June has resulted in their agreeing to accept a proposal from the Town of Latchford to provide back-up dam operator service for the Latchford Control Dam utilizing our Public Works and Environmental operations staff. They presently have a non-resident contractor that provides this service to them but the argument has been made that when you have competent local personnel who can provide this service at a much higher level skill wise and benefit the Town's bottom line, the work should be handled by Latchford.

Take care and stay safe.

George L.



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RATES BY DAY/WEEK/MONTH

From the kitchen of Diana

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I found this recipe on Caks Country Kitchen's Web site from 2014 and thought it looked like a good one. It is very similar to a recipe I had for years (probably from the late 1970's or early 1980's), from the people who made Eagle Brand condensed milk. Unfortunately, somewhere along the way I managed to lose it. The recipe below looks very close to it except the original said to add chunks of ham and called for tri-coloured rotini pasta instead of elbow macaroni. It is important to note that for this recipe to have the right consistency, you need to use Hellman's brand mayonnaise and it needs to be their original mayonnaise, not Hellman's light mayonnaise.

ABSOLUTE BEST MACARONI SALAD

Ahhh, macaroni salad! Who doesn't love pasta and veggies dressed with a special "sauce"? This salad keeps well in the fridge without losing its flavour or texture. Cutting the vegetables for this dish by hand does take longer, an exercise in determined effort more than anything else, but the moisture the veggies release using a food chopper detract from the flavour of this dish and you will have better results taking the time to slice-and-dice them yourself.

The secret to the salad's great taste is found in the sweetened condensed milk in the dressing. Use just enough mayonnaise to prevent the dressing being runny as this keeps the pasta from being overwhelmed. I already adjusted the mayonnaise amount; you should start with the smaller amount then adjust to your taste. This yields a large bowl of salad so it is a perfect choice for a "next day" menu as well. Don't overcook the macaroni and it's all "duck soup!"

1 (16 oz.) pkg. elbow macaroni, cooked, drained

well

1 large onion, chopped, small dice

1 large green pepper, seeded, cut into strips, then cut, small dice

2-3 stalks celery, cut into thin strips then diced

3 carrots, shaved into strips then snipped small

For the dressing

1 can Eagle Brand sweetened condensed milk

1-1/2 to 2 cups Hellman's original mayonnaise, to taste

1/4 cup cider vinegar

Salt & pepper to taste

Celery seed, to taste

Prepare the vegetables. Cook macaroni according to package directions; drain well in a colander. Prepare the dressing by combining the milk, mayonnaise, and vinegar in small mixing bowl, whisking thoroughly to blend. Season dressing to taste with salt, pepper, and celery seed if using. Place well-drained macaroni in large bowl, add the vegetables and the dressing; stir well, folding the dressing in thoroughly to coat the macaroni. Scrape into large covered container and chill completely before serving. Store leftovers in fridge.



It finally happened! We now have our patio open on Friday nights and Saturdays! We received authorization to re-open on June 12 which was an extremely cold Friday in June! As the Branch already had a licensed patio area, it was just a matter of organizing our patio tables and chairs in a socially acceptable manner and we were good to go. While we are licensed to accommodate 69 patrons on the patio, with social distancing requirements we can seat at least 24 on the concrete pad.

After all the difficulties that all Branches have been incurring because of Covid19, what should have been a welcome opportunity to re-establish a good revenue stream into most Branches, only worked in Latchford. There are 18 Legion Branches in Zone K, which starts in Temagami and ends in Hornepayne, but only Latchford was able to open. Kirkland Lake which also has a licensed patio stated it wasn't worthwhile to open as they pay their staff and they wouldn't have realized any profits. Our Branch is very fortunate in that we have a dedicated core of volunteers. On the downside, all activity has to take place outside and at socially accepted distancing so our card players are still obstructed from playing. A limited number of horseshoe players will be acceptable.

The general public are welcome at the Legion and do not have to be a member to enjoy the facility.

SGT AUBREY COSENS VC BR 629, Royal Canadian Legion

Comrade Sheila Belanger

1st ViceLadies Auxiliary

President George Lefebvre

Branch 629

Fun Facts

It seems that bats never turn right when they leave a cave. They seem to prefer the left way out. Who knows why?

The animal with the most taste buds is the catfish. It's thought to have well over 27,000 taste receptors.

Stamps offer around one tenth of a calorie when you lick them. Go sparingly!

It's thought it'll take you up to seven minutes to fall asleep, on average.

The darkest shade of black imaginable has a trademark, and it's called vantablack. It's owned by Anish Kapoor, who has full rights to the shade.

It's thought that appalling doctor handwriting is responsible for killing around 7,000 people per year.

A snail has a lifespan of up to three years – if it's lucky enough not to get squashed in the meantime!

A golf ball, built to full regulation, boasts 336 different dimples.

Around 25% of your body's bones can be found in your feet alone.

Carrots used to be purple – they started mutating into orange around the 1800s.

BUGS? DON'T BUG ME!

I first met the Blackfly when I was planting some butternut saplings on our bush property. I fancied owning my very own nut farm, except hoards of blackfly had other ideas. I was swarmed. Luckily, they were claustrophobic and when I fled to my car, all they wanted was to get out and leave me alone.

Now I reasoned they were there before me and it was me that had to change, not them. I checked "Insect Repellent Herbs" in my herb books and came up with a cream that would help. My recipe is as follows. A handful of dried goldenrod leaves, half a handful of thyme, half a handful of rosemary in two cups of olive oil, double-boiled for an hour, strained then thickened with beeswax, put into jars and labled. There are likely other herbs that would work better, but that's the one we settled on.

This was our famous Bush Cream, helping with Bugs, Bad Skin and Burns. It didn't repel mosquitoes or the more determined Blackfly mothers, who would hold their little noses while getting the blood they needed for healthy babies, but it kept the rest down to a dull roar and made outdoors tolerable for me.

After many vain attempts to swat mosquitoes directly, I discovered that they had poor rear-view vision, and I could stalk them from behind to make a usually fatal 'dash and squish' from the rear. Just the other morning, I tallied up a dozen smears of ex-mozzies on my hands as I waited for the dogs to do their thing.

My first major interaction with mosquitoes occurred when I was a teenager, visiting my aunt in Cambridge, England. Those near where I lived in the North were about the same size as here, maybe a quarter inch long or so, but the ones flying around my head at my aunt's were twice that. When I asked my mom about this, she told me that Cambridge was near "The Fens," a very large marshy area, and those moz-

zies were a different breed.

After trying unsuccessfully to swat a particularly annoying one, I did something else. Bear in mind I was an adolescent boy at the time, therefore basically a hellion as I tell you this. I allowed the unfortunate insect to bite my arm, but before it took off with its load of blood, I clenched my arm muscles and trapped it. I don't remember how long I tortured it before I almost certainly let it go, as my little victory would have been satisfying enough for me without my needing the coup de grace.

I thought the Cambridge mozzies were large, but they were nothing to the ones at Turkey's border with Greece. My buddy and I were on a hitch-hiking trip to Turkey and were caught between rides, so had to sleep where-ever we could. We were invited to join some workers in a half-finished building who were also sleeping there, "on the job."

I remember two things about that night. The mosquitoes buzzing about us seemed to be an inch and a half long and the workers laughed their heads off at us, these foreigners swatting uselessly away until we finally fell asleep.

We couldn't have made that journey much later, as the whole area became a war zone, but it was interesting at the time. I learned that folk are just folk all over the world and even language differences were no barrier. One driver successfully found out his worst fear was groundless, as in "No. We don't have a gun." This despite his complete lack of English and ours of Turkish.

Now-a-days, I wear a bug-net hat outside for simplicity's sake and enjoy life the more for it. So buzz off, bugs!

**All the best from
Charlie by the lake.**

Rhonda's Garden Tip

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Interesting Plant Facts

Bananas contain a natural chemical which makes people feel happy.

A cluster of bananas is called a hand that consists of 10 to 12 bananas known as fingers.

Banana is an Arabic word for fingers.

Apple is 25% air. This is why it floats on water.

Peaches, pears, apricots, quinces, strawberries, and apples are members of the rose family.

Apple, potatoes, and onions have the same taste, to test this eat them with your nose closed.

Onions release sulfuric acid when cut, causing people to have tears.

Eating lots of onions will make you sleepy, acts as a sedative.

Caffeine serves as a pesticide to protect a coffee plant.

The first potatoes were cultivated in Peru about 7,000 years ago.

Strawberry is the only fruit that bears its seeds on the outside. The average strawberry has 200 seeds.

Ginkgo (Ginkgo biloba) is one of the oldest living tree species, and dates back to about 250 million years ago. It has therapeutic properties to treat blood disorders and memory problems, enhance cardiovascular function and improve eye health.

Cucumber is a fruit and not a vegetable since it has seeds in the centre.

Avocados and pumpkins are fruits, not vegetables, Rhubarb is a vegetable.

Carrots were originally purple in colour.

Vanilla flavouring comes from the pod of an orchid, called Vanilla Planifolia.

Saffron used as flavouring in cooking is harvested from the stigmas of a blooming crocus, a fall-blooming *Crocus Sativus*.

All teas (black, green, white) come from the same plant, called *Camellia Sinensis*. The only thing that is different is the processing methods.

Bye for now

Rhonda

Subscribers News


It is always nice to start a column with some good news and good news, as well as some bad, for me came in the form of a visit from a lad who grew up here in Latchford and that I hadn't seen for nigh on 50 years. Roger Schryer dropped in for a short, but very welcome, visit on June 28. Roger had enlisted in the Royal Canadian Regiment in London in 1959 and served in our army for 34 years before retiring in 1993. He lost his wife, the former Sandra Osterberg of Cobalt, a few years ago and presently lives in New Lowell, ON. We caught up on old times and I toured him around town and showed him the many changes that have occurred since he lived here. Roger was on his way to visit his sister Annette in North Bay and advised me that his sister Paulette who was married to Melvin Johnston, also formerly of Latchford, had passed away earlier this spring which wasn't good news.

Renewals were light this past month with only two coming in. My former classmate, Carole (Inglis) Innes of Brussels (Ontario, that is) renewed for 2 more years and then another former resident, Stewart Parliament of Orangeville opted for additional year. Pleasant reading to all with the hopes that you can read your Moose Call in air conditioned comfort if you are enduring the heat that we are experiencing this summer in Latchford. Thanks as well for the extra included in your renewals.

On the health and fitness front, I am unaware of any illnesses or ailments impacting anyone here but I am sure there are. But, if there are, Councillor Francine Blowe and the Recreation Committee organized a Canada Day Parade which went over really well and brought a lot of smiles to a lot of faces. Starting at the Veteran's Park and the Town Office, it wound its way through the

streets and lanes of Latchford and concluded at the Murphy Mill launching ramp turnaround. The parade even managed to attract three horses which are a rare site around Latchford these days. The Latchford Volunteer Fire Department handled traffic control which allowed the decorated ATV's as well as classic and collector cars to navigate freely despite the intense heat of the day. It was great fun for both participants and spectators alike and provided a great opportunity to meet new residents of Latchford. Thank you Francine and the Rec Committee, the relief from stressful times we are living in was very welcome!

George L.



**I try
to take
one day
at a time,
but sometimes
several days
attack me
at once.**

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Circulation

Sharon Lefebvre 676-2129 or write to Circulation Manager at P.O. Box 10, Latchford, ON POJ 1N0.

Subscriptions

1 year - Large Print \$10.00
1 year - Regular Print 8.00
U.S Subscriptions \$15.00

The Latchford & Area Moose Call is published monthly by the Town of Latchford.

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Editorial Policy

: We will not print any news, items, letters, or otherwise containing slanderous, defamatory, or injurious information in reference to the character of any person or entity. The writer of all articles must be identified when items are submitted but may request to remain anonymous in print. All such requests will be honoured.



The Latchford Volunteer Fire dept. would like to thank everyone who has donated pop cans and aluminum products over the years. We will no longer be accepting any more of these donations. Please put your pop cans out with your regular recycling. Thank you again for your support.

PUBLIC NOTICE

STORAGE AVAILABLE

Winter Storage available for boats, cars, trailers, ATVs etc.
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Hello to Everyone

I visited Rita McDermid the day before Canada Day. Her retirement home has the full set of safety protocols in place for visitors, and they are strictly enforced, which may explain why the home has had no COVID-19 cases.

Many hundreds of seniors in group homes in the Ottawa area have been infected by the virus, so we should all be happy that Rita is being kept safe.

Rita has some aches and pains, which comes with the territory of being 94, but she boots around with her rollator, her mind is sharp, she is very witty, and still has a great sense of humour. She really misses her friends in Latchford, so thanks to the Moose Call for keeping us informed about what's happening.

I watched the TDSS graduation ceremony on YouTube. It was very well done, and if this becomes a practice then I look forward to seeing Latchford students taking their graduation bows.

Barry Wellar, C.M.

Corny and funny

What do you call a pig that does karate?
A pork chop.

Why did the bike fall over?
It was two tired.

Why did the golfer bring two pairs of pants?
In case he got a hole in one.

What did the policeman say to his belly button?
You're under a vest.

Why did the man get hit by a bike every day?
He was stuck in a vicious cycle.

Why do seagulls fly over the sea?
If they flew over the bay, they would be bagels.

Why do people say "break a leg" when you go on stage?
Because every play has a cast.

What kind of ghost has the best hearing?
The eeriest.

How did the dead brother and his dead brother resemble each other?
They were dead ringers.

Why are there gates around cemeteries?
Because people are dying to get in.

Why shouldn't you write with a broken pen?
Because it's pointless.

Why did the scarecrow win an award?
Because he was outstanding in his field.

If athletes get athlete's foot, what do elves get?
Mistle-toes.

What's brown and sticky?
A stick.

NOTICE

The Latchford Recreation Committee would invite residents to consider joining their group, as several members have resigned and some are moving away, so very few members will remain. Should they not be able to recruit more people, this organization could very easily fold and this would be very detrimental to the children and adults of Latchford as they provide many activities for all ages throughout the year. Call Sharon @ 705-676-1115 Town Office @705-676-2416 to join up!

Over the Hill by Diane Belanger Armstrong

The scorching days of this past week made me reflect on the days of many summers past. Those were days when adults fanned their faces with anything at hand, while declaring that this was the hottest summer they could remember. No one had air conditioning, and most households only had one electric fan. Curtains were closed during the day; windows opened at night.

But when I remember the lazy days of my childhood summers, it was a time of creating things out of nothing, of making new friends and learning about the world around us.

A pickle jar was used to capture honeybees or pine beetles. We learned that no matter how much grass we put in the jar, the insect would die soon if we didn't punch air holes in the lid. The bugs eventually died anyway, but the carcasses were examined, as carefully as any scientist would check a valuable lab specimen. We turned over rocks to see what bugs or grubs were seeking their own respite from the heat.

We cleaned out a two-pound jam or honey pail (remember those?), punched a hole in each side and attached a piece of a wire clothes hanger or a strong string and made pails for picking berries.

We would lie on our bellies on lawns, looking for four-leafed clovers. Clover was a part of most lawns, just as dandelions were. We learned to make daisy chains, and hold a buttercup under a friend's chin. If the yellow pollen came off, it meant the person liked butter. Blowing the seeds from a dandelion and counting those left would indicate how many boyfriends the girl had. The smell of grass lingered on our clothes.

While our mothers were making jams and jellies to satisfy our sweet tooth over the winter, we would collect the red berries from the mountain ash trees or from the honeysuckle bushes, mix them with water and pretend to make our own jams. Pods from caragana hedges became peas in our imaginative kitchens.

Girls played ball, had tea parties with lemonade, cut out paper dolls, made gardens with moss and daisies around a sheltered area that became a

playhouse. Simply by putting a sheet or blanket over a clothesline stand would make a girl's playhouse or a boy's clubhouse. It didn't matter that the location often reeked of cat urine.

Boys followed their own pursuits: building cabins in the bush, playing baseball, turning their bicycles into imaginary motorcycles by poking empty cigarette packages in the spokes, collecting pop caps to adorn dad's old felt hat, or nailed to a board to make a boot scraper. Strips cut from an old rubber tube were used to make slingshots. Of course, it took practice to learn accuracy with a sling shot, so objects were placed on fence posts and with pebbles found on the road, hours were spent aiming and shooting.

Both boys and girls traded comic books over and over. We also traded gum cards and saved Popsicle bags and the lids from Dixie cups with the intent of ordering fabulous prizes when 100 or more were saved. I don't recall anyone ever succeeding.

When the workers from the town replaced the rotten boards on all the wooden sidewalks on every street, they were followed by the neighbourhood children, for it was like a scavenger hunt. Coins, watches, rings and other treasures were there for the lucky discoverer.

Kids of all ages formed clubs. There was always a squabble as to who would be president, but it was usually the person who first thought of the idea and hosted the gathering. Clubs were mostly a rainy-day thing. As soon as the sun came out, interests changed and someone's mom would say, "Go outside and play." The club would dissolve until the next rainy day, to be held at another house, with another president.

It was only after supper that both boys and girls played together. We played Hide & Seek and Red Rover. With oilcans scrounged from a neighbourhood service station, we played Kick the Can. The town or village curfew rang at 8:45 p.m. This brought a sudden end to the games and everyone was back at their home by nine o'clock.

Continued on page 11.....

Over the Hill continued.....

Page 11

Those days of my childhood began to fade with ready-made toys from Fisher Price and Mattel, followed by hand-held devices such as phones and games. Imagination was lost. To-day's children might have their own memories, but I wouldn't trade mine for the world.

That's my view from Over the Hill..

More funny

What's a pirate's favorite letter?
You think it's R, but it be the C.

Which bird has the worst manners?
Mocking birds.

Sometimes I tuck my knees into my chest and lean forward.
That's just how I roll.

When does a joke become a "dad" joke?
When the punchline is a parent.

I can't take my dog to the park because the ducks keep trying to bite him.
I guess that's what I get for buying a pure bread dog.

What did the big flower say to the little flower?
Hi, bud!

How does NASA organize a party?
They planet.

How many tickles does it take to get an octopus to laugh?
Ten tickles.

What's the difference between a poorly dressed man on a unicycle and a well-dressed man on a bicycle?
Attire

What did one toilet say to the other?
You look flushed.

My teachers told me I'd never amount to much because I procrastinate so much.
I told them, "Just you wait!"

What happens to a frog's car when it breaks down?
It gets toad away.

My boss just texted me: "Send me one of your funny jokes!"
I texted him back: "I'm busy working. I'll send one later."
"That's hilarious," he said. "Send another one!"

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Funny

The Dead Duck

A woman brings a very limp duck into a veterinary surgeon.

As she lays her beloved pet duck on the table, the vet puts his stethoscope to the bird's chest and listens carefully.

A moment later the vet shakes his head and says sadly, "I'm really sorry mam, but your duck, Cuddles, has passed away."

The woman becomes quite distressed and begins to cry.

"Are you sure?" she says with tears flooding from her eyes.

"Yes mam, I am sure" the vet responds. "Your duck is definitely dead."

"But how can you be so sure?" the woman protests. "I mean, you haven't done any testing on him or anything have you? Perhaps he's just stunned or in a coma or something."

The vet rolls his eyes, then turns around and leaves the room.

A few minutes later he returns with a black Labrador retriever.

As the duck's owner looks on in amazement, the Labrador stands on his hind legs, puts his front paws on the examination table and sniffs around the duck from top to bottom. He then looks up at the vet with sad eyes and shakes his head.

The vet pats the dog on the head and takes it out of the room.

A few minutes later the vet returns with a cat. The cat jumps on the table and delicately sniffs at the bird from its head to its feet. After a moment the cat looks up, shakes its head, meows softly and strolls out of the room.

The vet looks at the woman and says, "Look mam I'm really sorry, but as I said before, this is most definitely a duck that is no longer of this world. Your duck is dead."

The vet then turns to his computer terminal, hits a few keys and produces a bill, which he hands to the woman.

The duck's owner, still in shock, looks at the bill and sees it is \$150.

"\$150 just to tell me my duck is dead!" she shrieks with incredulity

The vet shrugs his shoulders and says, "I'm sorry mam. If you'd taken my word for it, the bill would have been \$20. However with the Lab Report and the Cat Scan, it's now \$150."

**Did you hear the
one about the
Easter Bunny who
sat on a bee?**

It's a tender tail!



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