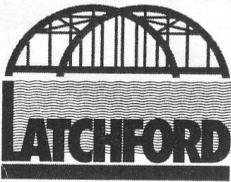


**33 YEARS!!!**

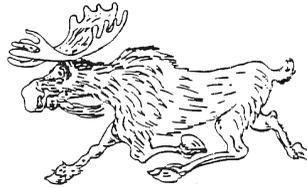
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**THE LATCHFORD AND AREA**

**MOOSE CALL**



# February 2022

*Happy Valentine's Day*



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

~ **ALL** dogs must have current year tags per By-law 639/04. The cost per dog is: \$20.00

~ **Remember to Poop & Scoop** ~

Animal complaints can be reported to the Town Office @ 676-2416

**COUNCIL MEETING FOR FEBRUARY TO BE HELD ON THE 17th AT THE RECREATION CENTRE @ 7:00 PM . ALL ARE MOST WELCOME TO ATTEND.**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT MEETINGS ARE HELD THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.**

**LEGION MEETING TO BE DETERMINED LATER THIS MONTH.**

# Just Passin Through Again

Included in the interim tax bills is a survey requesting that property owners in Latchford complete as a means of assisting Council to obtain natural gas services. This survey is intended to support our claim that Enbridge is incorrect when they state that only 65% of Latchford buildings would be connected to natural gas services after a period of 10 years. By indicating such a low connection rate undermines the economics of running the gas into Latchford and Council is confident that the connection rate would be much higher which makes the completion of this survey very important to acquiring natural gas for Latchford. Should you have any questions or concerns about completing the survey please feel free to reach out to a member of Council or I (705-676-2129) and we will do the best to respond to your questions in the hopes of getting as many as possible surveys completed.

The Province of Ontario recently directed Ontario Power Generation to identify possible sites for development as a hydro generating site. I immediately reached out to OPG to remind them that we had such a site here in Latchford and we even had a completed pre-feasibility study conducted by Hydrosys that was done on it in 2016. At that time we were working with the Township of Coleman and the Temagami and Timiskaming First Nations as the "Communities of the Montreal River". Council has authorized continuing to pursue this and it will be followed up by reaching out to the other three communities. The plant itself is designed to be a two sluice operations built around the south end of the present dam and would be, hopefully, constructed by OPG.

Council has authorized the rental of the former Library to a local resident, Trish Anderson, for use as an office for her business. The area has been rented and used a number of times since the Library closed but this is the first time it will not be used for retail purposes.

I advised Council at our January 20th Council meeting that I will not be seeking re-election in this fall's municipal election. By the end of this term I will be a few months shy of having the privilege of serving the good people and property owners of Latchford for a total of 50 years. I launched my Latchford political career in 1965, started as Councillor, after 6 months switched to Town Clerk for 3 years, had another two year stint on Council and the balance has been as Mayor. During that time I did take a couple of breaks but when all is said and done the total is very close to 50 years. I like to think that during that time I have, working with various members of Councils, contributed positively to the betterment of Latchford and I still have 10 more months to continue that work. **George L.**

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# From the kitchen of Diana

Page 3

## ULTIMATE CHICKEN POT PIE

Turn leftover chicken into the ultimate comfort food. Campbell's Cream of Chicken soup adds perfect flavor and the creamiest texture. Just stir in chicken, veggies and some cheese of course! Using a double crust (for the top and bottom) is what makes this the Ultimate Pot Pie, giving you extra crust to soak up the luscious sauce. You may just want to make two of these and freeze one for the days that you just don't want to cook. See Recipe Tips" below for complete instructions.

1 package (about 14 ounces) refrigerated pie crust (2 crusts), at room temperature

1 can (10 1/2 ounces) Campbell's® Condensed Cream of Chicken Soup or 98% Fat Free Cream of Chicken Soup

1/2 cup milk

2 cups cubed cooked chicken

1 package (12 ounces) frozen mixed vegetables (carrots, green beans, corn, peas), thawed (about 2 2/3 cups)

1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese (about 4 ounces)

Step 1

Heat the oven to 400°F. Line the bottom of a 9-inch pie plate with 1 pie crust. Trim any excess.

## Step 2

Stir the soup, milk, chicken and vegetables in a medium bowl. Spoon the chicken mixture into the pie plate. Sprinkle with 3/4 cup cheese. Place the remaining pie crust over the filling. Trim any excess. Crimp the edges of the top and bottom crusts together. Using a sharp knife, cut several slits in the top crust.

Step 3

Bake for 35 minutes or until the crust is golden brown. Sprinkle the crust with the remaining cheese. SERVES 6

## Recipe Tips

Make Ahead Freezer Meal: Omit or reserve 1/4 cup cheese as an optional topping. Assemble as directed, wrap tightly and freeze. From frozen, bake, covered, at 400°F. for 1 hour. Uncover. Bake, uncovered, for 45 minutes more or until golden brown. Or, thaw in the refrigerator and bake, covered, for 50 minutes, then uncover and bake for 35 minutes more or until golden brown. Sprinkle with the optional cheese, if desired.

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It looks like we will be able to re-open the Branch on January 31 which will be a welcome occasion. Much like any small business the fixed costs such as heat, hydro, insurance and water continue despite no revenue flowing into the Branch. And, one thing that I am noticing is that habits broken are not easily re-established. Until we can re-start activities such as cards and suppers, the primary source of revenue for the Branch will be through the bar and we could see the decline in the number of patrons to that venue during the previous interruptions due to Covid shutdowns.

Provincial Command has directed that we are to hold elections as soon as we are allowed to have members attend the Branch in numbers for such an event and presently it looks like that should be possible in late February. After more than two years lapsing since our last election, it is definitely time and we hope the membership steps up to fill vacant offices.

Hope that many of you can drop in to the Branch for a visit in the near future.

**Comrade Sheila Belanger**

**1st Vice**

**Ladies Auxiliary**

**President George Lefebvre**

**Branch 629**

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Sabin Metal Worldwide Companies

Early in February, my brother who lives in Up-State New York sent me a photo of them tapping maples. He said it was a poor run this year as there was no snow. I told him we'd be starting in April here, and'd be keen to do so.

Although there may be earlier signs, the running of the maple sap is the first sign of Spring for me. Not the end of Winter – that's when the Red Winged Blackbirds and the Grackles return, but sugaring off is definitely the first sign of Spring.

When I lived in Hamilton, every year I would drag the kids off to the maple tapping exhibit at the Royal Botanical Gardens. This involved walking across a wind-swept field to the the Niagara Escarpment and the sugar shack where they boiled down the sap they'd collected (from 9 to 5 anyway).

It wasn't a serious operation as the buckets were always full and they were more interested in selling maple products than producing syrup, but we (read Charlie) always enjoyed it. The walk back across that cold, cold field was definitely not fun for the others and the only way I could bribe them to get to the car was the promise of lumps of maple candy when they got there.

One year, my eldest, who was always curious, filled an empty pop can with sap and boiled it down on our kitchen stove. Inevitably, once the initial thrill of watching it boil wore off, she walked away at just the wrong time and Poof! The syrup turned into charcoal and she had a serious chore of cleaning the saucepan.

When the marriage had dissolved and I was settled into my own little house, I discovered I had a maple tree in the backyard that was about nine inches in diameter, big enough for one bucket. So I would tap it in the Spring.

Two incidents from those days come to mind. I would keep the maple syrup in an old ginger ale bottle in the fridge as I was allergic to sugar, but too cheap to ignore Nature's Plenty. I

threw a party with my drinking friends and later discovered that half my maple syrup had gone. Rye and what? Not quite the rye and ginger my guests had been expecting.

I should have learned from my daughter's experience for the second incident, but I forgot it when I was visiting with my neighbour outside. I only remembered the boiling sap when I smelled the delicious odour of maple syrup wafting across the street. When I rushed into the kitchen, the sap had burned beyond charcoal, all the way to pale brown ash. And this was not the only time this happened to me. Am I dense, or forgetful or just a slow learner? You can take your pick. I just know I've a long way to go when listening to those quiet nudges that prevent disasters like this.

When we lived in the bush, there were a couple of dozen small maple trees scattered about and I optimistically tapped some of them, hoping it did not do them too much harm. Although I collected the sap every couple of days and boiled it down faithfully, we only got maybe half a cup of drinkable syrup that season. At least a gallon of blackened syrup that tasted of wood-smoke was deemed to be useless, as for a third time, I'd forgotten what I was doing and had left it alone too long.

The main lesson I learned from all this? No matter what they charge for a quart of the stuff, it's delicious, and a bargain as well. **All the best from Charlie by the lake.**

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**Dave: 705-679-3001**

# Rhonda's Garden Tip

Page 6

## Succulent Garden

Succulents are quite unique little plants that hold water in their leaves, stems, and or roots so they can adapt to very dry conditions, much like a cactus plant. Most people can remember seeing a aloe plant in their home growing up, or maybe a cactus plant like my mom had sitting on the kitchen window sill that I was never quite sure if it was alive or not. Succulents can thrive in cracks and crevasses, rockeries and sandy or gritty soils. Sempervivums (also known as hens and chicks) and stonecrop sedrums are the two main kinds of succulents that can tolerate colder temperatures like minus 20 degrees, more suitable for our area. Other varieties such as kalanchoe, aloe, echeveria and aeonium are best left in containers and then brought indoors for the winter.

The cutest succulent I've seen so far is called a "Dolphin Necklace" – a rare plant that I've only seen in pictures. The leaves look just like a dolphin jumping off of the vine shoots, so cute. The dolphin succulent won my attention, and inspired me to learn the basics of how to take care of succulents. They say that 90% of the care of these wonderful plants is the watering. The golden rule for succulents indoors is "Water me when my soil is dry, and don't water me when my soil is wet". If it takes 2 weeks for the soil to dry, then water in 2 weeks. If it takes 2 days to dry out then water in 2 days. Succulents need well drained soil, a more gritty soil, allowing it to dry between thorough watering. They tend to dry out much quicker in smaller containers than in large containers. Water when soil is dry to the touch, or if the leaves have wilted. Water until you can see water run out of base of the container.

Start with a good quality potting soil. These are usually lighter in weight than topsoil, or a potting soil designed for cacti and succulents. You can add perlite to a normal mix to increase aeration and drainage. Succulents prefer bright light, like a south-facing window. Watch the leaves for indication that the light level is correct. The leaves will burn if too much sun.

If you have seen terrariums for succulents, they are quite beautiful, but are not always functional. Succulents and cactus need drainage and air circulation. If your terrarium is enclose and gets condensation/water on the glass, it will rot your succulents. Make sure there is an open side at all times. If there is no drainage, use rocks/gravel on the bottom to hold excess water. Just don't let them sit in water. Succulents are adorable and fun little plants to care for, also resilient and a perfect gift idea for Valentine's Day. **Happy Valentine's Day!**

**Bye for now Rhonda**



Well, January delivered a winter reality check in so far as temperatures at least here in Latchford but as the end of the month approaches we are still a little light on snow depth. I doubt there is much more than a foot of snow on the ground which seems a little light for this time of year but the area snowmobile trails are open so that indicates a degree of winter normalcy. I watched as five sledders gathered under the “World’s Shortest Covered Bridge” for a group shot last week. Based on my observations, I would have to say that spot remains the most photographed location in Latchford!

Renewals during the month of January were extremely light, to put it mildly with only one coming in. Barbara (Keenan) Hamilton of Kakabeka Falls sent in the lone renewal for another year which is always welcome. The low renewal rate can be attributed to the fact that the circulation manager was removed from her traditional role of inserting renewal notices in the mail outs which were considerably handled by Laurel at the Town Office who has no access to subscriber status.

Sharon’s removal from her traditional role falls under the health and fitness front! Sharon has been dealing with her own health issues, as has been reported, and in addition with her sister Jeannie is providing care for their mother, Sheila Belanger. Jeannie had to be admitted to Temiskaming Hospital with a visit to ICU and then a flight to Sudbury with a serious issue. At least they are now all back under the same roof and doing some care sharing. Meanwhile, Councillor Jo Anne Cartner, accompanied by husband Ken, has been making her own weekly trips to Sudbury for specialized care that is only available there. At last report, Charmaine L’Heureux is home and healing well. To the aforementioned and all others who may be ailing or infirm, I am confident that all readers join me in wishing them a speedy return to good health!

On a much more sombre note, I was saddened to hear of the passing of Doris (Lafleur) Herbert who grew up here in Latchford and all from my era remember her fondly. Doris’s father Ed was the last Deputy-Chief Ranger for the Lands and Forests and her family was the last to live in the home that became the House of Memories Museum in 1967. Doris was always smiling so it seemed and was always up to a friendly chat whenever she would meet up with me, encounters I thoroughly enjoyed. I am sure that all who knew her join me in extending our sincere condolences to her sister, Lynn Etmanski and other family members.

**George L.**

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**Submission Deadline**

All ads must be in by the 23rd of each month to be published in the following month's newsletter. Articles may be edited for space

**C i r c u l a t i o n**

Sharon Lefebvre 676-2129 or write to Circulation Manager at P.O. Box 10, Latchford, ON P0J 1N0.

**S u b s c r i p t i o n s**

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

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**CONTRIBUTURS:** Sharon Lefebvre, George Lefebvre, Monique O'Shaughnessy, Edith Rabillard, Sheila Belanger, Bill Vandenhoogen, Laurel Gadoury, Jaime Allen, Frances Lefebvre, Rhonda

**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.

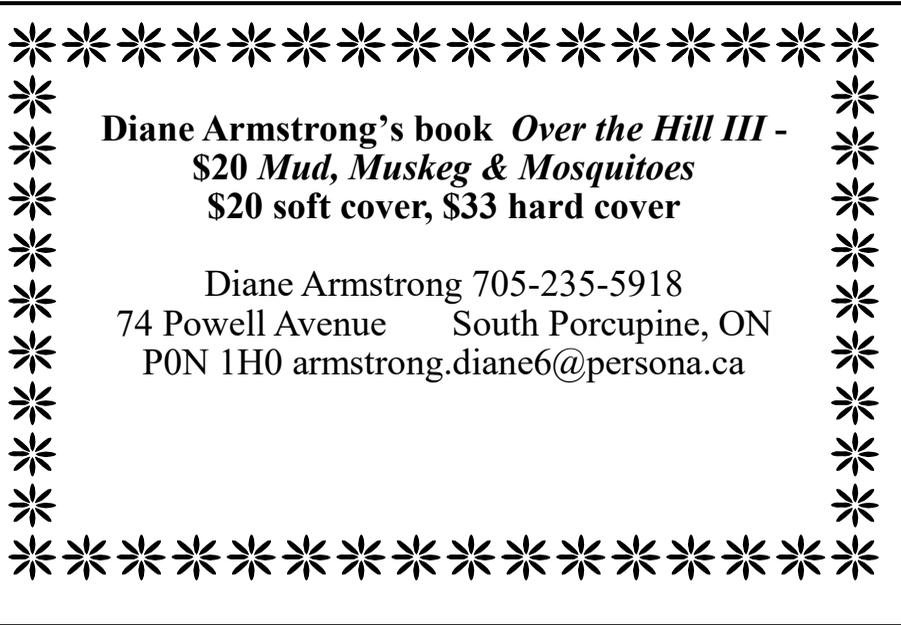


**The Latchford Volunteer Fire dept. would like to thank everyone who has donated pop cans and aluminum products over the years. We will no longer be accepting any more of these donations. Please put your pop cans out with your regular recycling. Thank you again for your support.**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

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**Funny**

A man walks into a library and asks the librarian for books about paranoia. She whispers, "They're right behind you!"

Want to hear a roof joke? The first one's on the house.

What should you do if you're attacked by a group of clowns? Go straight for the juggler.

Why don't koalas count as bears? They don't have the right koalafications.

A cement mixer and a prison bus crashed on the highway. Police advise citizens to look out for a group of hardened criminals.

I saw a movie about how ships are put together. It was riveting.

A man walks into a library and orders a hamburger. The librarian says, "This is a library." The man apologizes and whispers, "I'd like a hamburger, please."

Why did the taxi driver get fired? Passengers didn't like it when she went the extra mile.

What do you get when you pour root beer into a square cup? Beer.

Which rock group has four guys who can't sing or play instruments? Mount Rushmore.

Why does Humpty Dumpty love autumn? Because he always has a great fall.

Where do hamburgers take their sweethearts on Valentine's Day to dance? The Meat Ball!

What time does a duck wake up? The quack of dawn.

Some people eat snails. They must not like fast food.

It's always windy in a sports arena. All those fans.

How do mountains stay warm in the winter? Snowcaps.

What do you call a pile of kittens? A meowntain.

Is this pool safe for diving? It deep ends.

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## Latchford Memories

*I have been gifted with the following memories as related by Fred Keenan and given to me by his daughter, Sheila Godby of Peterborough, and I hope to serialize them over the required number of issues. It will give readers, whether they knew the Keenans or not, a look at Latchford from 90 plus years ago. Hope you enjoy!*

Latchford Memories of Fred and Ida Keenan-1928 to 30

Cars were scarce. In fact the first year at Latchford I can only remember about 4 cars, Dinny Harrison (the Maternity Special), Andy Pelkie, Harry Davis. There may have been a few trucks around the mills. The reason for this is that there was no road south of Latchford and the road to Cobalt was a narrow one-track lane most of the way with no plowed road in the winter at all. Transportation was by rail and on the river and lakes by canoe and boat. There were three passenger trains per day north and south plus a mixed train that ran two or three times a week. Imagine (as a contrast to 1981) we had two mails a day, each way, for six days every week. It was quite common to write to Toronto say on Monday at 6 p.m. and get an answer by Wednesday by 11 a.m.! So much superior to the present that it does not seem possible. Then at the station you could send express or freight or telegrams so no wonder you never missed transport trucks. Progress? Maybe but certainly not on communication or transportation. Wish I could live long enough to see all those trains running on coal to make steam when the oil finally runs out.

Latchford was a very self-sufficient town perhaps to the point of being parochial. People made their own amusements. One of the highlights of the year was the school concert, a real big do that everybody including Santa Claus attended. The Catholic Church had no Sunday School picnic so everyone joined in for the United Church picnic

which generally took place at Indian Point up at Pork Rapids. There was a dance at the Town Hall nearly every Saturday night. When strange young men from Temagami or Cobalt turned up there was often a free-for-all fight if one of them dared to dance with a local girl. A good few bottles were concealed around the hall which added to the gaiety. But actually there was extremely little crime in Latchford. The odd fight did not count!

All the girls at school were extremely interested in the new baby (son Jim had been born) as Ida was extremely popular with school kids. They begged to be allowed to see him and so there was no lack of company.

We had lots of good wood that winter and the house was warm and comfortable. Of course, as in our first year there, we moved the cook stove into the dining room for the winter and did not use the kitchen. I can't think of much to say except that it was a happy time. That winter we moved the rink down to the swamp to be closer to water for flooding. We had gas lanterns lighting and had good turn-outs for pleasure skating. The kids played hockey after school and on Saturday mornings and we began to develop some pretty good players. Then the big fellows played on Saturday and Sunday afternoons and even got a few games with Temagami and Bear Island.

These were generally pretty rough affairs. Our star player was Cec Inglis who had come north from Bracebridge to play for one of the Cobalt Mine League teams and for us on occasion. He was a real classy player. Once again, and looking back, I suspect I spent too much time on this but Ida never complained. She was real true blue.

**To be continued next issue**

## Obituary

### Herbert, Doris [nee Lafleur]

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Doris on January 7th, 2022 at 87 years of age. Predeceased by her husband Lorne Herbert, her parents Bertha and Edward Lafleur, her brothers, Maurice Lafleur, Albert Lafleur, Robert Lafleur, and her son Sandy. CarsSurvived by her sister Lynn Etmanski (Ken).

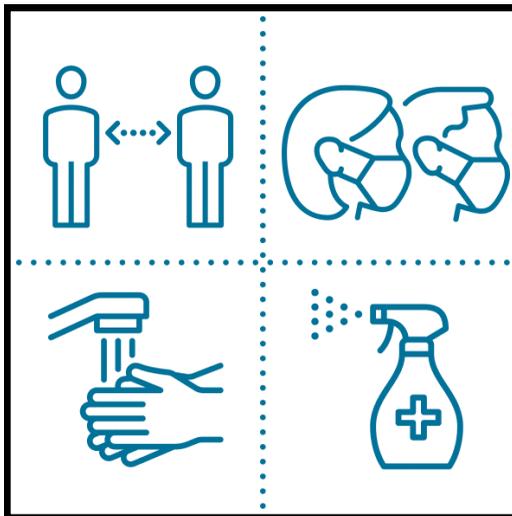
Cherished mother to Mike Herbert (Belinda). Loving Nan to Samantha (Jeff), Katie, Jacqui (Alex), Nessie Maille (Justin), and Becca (Shane). Proud Great-Nan to Cole Maille. She will be missed by many of her nieces, nephews and cousins, with whom she had strong relationships. Her loss will also will be felt by many close friends and neighbours, whom she regarded as family.

Doris spent the majority of her working career in the accounting department at Boart Long-year. After retiring in 1993, she spent her time volunteering at various organizations, curling and playing summer shuffleboard with friends, knitting pieces for her loved ones and working at the Sunday crossword.

Doris will be remembered for her sense of humour, her commitment to her faith, her fierce

independence, her softness and maybe a little of her stubbornness. Her relentless optimism and enormous strength will be an enduring model for her family. In Doris's dictionary, her picture would be found under "Unconditional Love". Her greatest joy came from the times that she was surrounded by all of her family and dear friends.

At Doris's request, cremation has taken place. A memorial service will be planned at a later date in Haileybury, her home, where she spent the majority of her years. Condolences and contributions may be left at [www.buffamleveille.com](http://www.buffamleveille.com).



## 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!**

## Latchford Volunteer Fire Department News!

February celebrates Valentine's Day and Family Day, and as such, the Latchford Volunteer Fire Department would like to share with the residents of Latchford some family fire prevention and safety tips.

It is a good idea to teach your family how to respond in the event of a fire. It is important to make sure young children know how to dial 911. Establish, discuss and practice a fire escape plan with your family that includes a designated meeting area outside the home. Practice stop, drop and roll with your family, and teach them how to escape beneath a fire. It is a good idea that everyone in your family know multiple ways to escape from every room in the event of a fire.

Making sure that there is a sufficient quantity of carbon monoxide and smoke detectors in your home is very important. Check each month that the carbon monoxide and smoke detectors are in working order.

Ensure all flammable substances are properly stored in safe containers and out of reach of young children.

If there are smokers who smoke inside the house, they should regularly check their furniture and bed for fallen cigarettes or embers, which can smoulder for hours before bursting into flames. It is very important make sure to

properly extinguish cigarettes. Please be mindful to never leave lit cigarettes unattended.

Bundling up in extra layers of clothing to enjoy (or maybe endure) the cold winter activities may mean an increase in the use of laundry dryers. Proper dryer use and regular dryer maintenance can help prevent dryer fires. It is very important to clean the lint filter before and after each use, wiping away any lint that has built up around the drum. You should occasionally check to ensure that the air exhaust vent pipe is free of lint build up. You should also check that the outdoor vent flap opens readily. Do not run the dryer without a lint filter. It is a good idea not to leave the dryer running when you leave the home, in case it malfunctions.

If using wood stoves, outdoor open fires or various types of space heaters to dry wet winter clothing, please ensure that the articles of clothing are not placed directly on the stove or heaters. Make sure that all materials are a safe distance away from the heat source. When using various indoor and outdoor heating sources, it is important to teach young children the basic fire safety rules and keep a close watch over children when near wood stoves, space heaters and bonfires to ensure their safety.

The LVFD would like to wish the Latchford Residents a safe, happy and healthy Valentine's Day and Family Day this February.

**Chantal Paquin**



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