



# MUNICIPAL UPDATE

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## OFFICIAL PLAN TO GO FOR APPROVAL

Following a very lengthy process and considerable public consultation, Council has now made decisions on all matters to be revised in the municipality's Official Plan. Council has asked that all of the changes decided upon by Council be adopted by By-law at the October 13, 2011 regular council meeting.

Once adopted, the plan will be forwarded to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, who is the Approval Authority for the plan. Under provincial law, the Ministry then has 180 days (approximately 6 months) to make their decision on the plan. The Ministry may approve, or refuse to approve the plan in its entirety. It may also decide to amend the plan to correct any matters that do not meet with its approval.

Within 15 days of the Ministry making its decision, it will send written notice to our Municipal Council, who will then advise the public. The Ministry will also directly notify any persons or groups that have requested in writing to be notified of the decision. The Planning Act also provides for a 20-day appeal period, which begins on the date the Ministry gives notice of the decision.

## MUNICIPAL BUDGET & PROPERTY TAXES

The 2011 combined operating and capital budget was passed in late June, with a reduction of just over four percent (4%) in total tax revenue. The Municipality achieved the goal of Council to budget for less total dollars in property tax revenue in 2011 than in 2010, even despite the continued increase in the total assessed value of properties in the Municipality.

Due to the disparity of assessment increases, especially in the case of waterfront properties, not all property owners saw a decrease on their tax bills. However for those who did receive an increase, it was minimized.

The Municipality is already starting on the budget process for 2012. Once again, in this budget the Municipality will attempt to control

costs and seek new sources of revenues, however, a similar cut in total property tax revenues is not projected at this point. Council will be reviewing and refining the 10-year capital plan, prior to deciding on guidelines for capital projects in the upcoming year.

## SOLID WASTE MASTER PLAN

The Municipality has three landfill sites, four sets of recycling bins, two transfer stations (mine landing wagons and waterfront garbage shed), and curbside garbage collection in urban areas. That's a lot to manage, particularly when considering the vast area and topography of Temagami.

With much of our solid waste system being acquired through amalgamation or instituted as the need arose, the question arises are we delivering the right level of service to our residents and at the same time managing our solid waste in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.

To achieve the answers to these questions, the Municipality has sought proposals for a Solid Waste Management Master Plan. The Municipality put out a Request for Proposals and the contract has been awarded to AECOM. The project will involve public consultation through various means, and we will be encouraging all residents to participate in this process.

## WATERFRONT GARBAGE SHED

One issue of particular concern in the solid waste management master plan will be the transfer stations. The garbage shed at the waterfront by the Welcome Centre was closed for several days in late September due to a bear problem. Following the live trapping of the bear by the MNR, the shed has been re-opened, at least for now. By a divided vote, Council decided to re-open the shed with increased signage intended to reduce the abuse of this facility.

Originally intended for the convenience of island residents in the northeast arm who do not have the opportunity for curbside pickup, it

is to be used for BAGGED, DOMESTIC garbage ONLY. All other types of waste must be taken to the landfill. The shed is not to be used to dump old furniture, windows, or other bulky items, nor should these be left beside the shed.

We remind permanent residents and seasonal property owners, that there is no charge to you to take up to a pickup truck load of this type of garbage, or your bagged domestic garbage, to the landfill sites. We urge all those with curbside garbage pick-up to use that service, not the shed.

While the current intent of Council is to address this issue in the long term through the Solid Waste Management Master Plan, continued abuse of this facility could result in an order to close it coming from the Ministry of the Environment.

## COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

The council meeting schedule has been changed and regular council meetings are now held every third Thursday, commencing at 6:30 p.m. Electronic copies of documents to be considered at each meeting are posted for the public to view on the municipal website by 4:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the meeting (or the Tuesday if the Monday is a holiday).

The council meetings for the remainder of 2011 shall be held on November 3rd and 24th and December 15th. In subsequent years, the first regular council meeting of the year shall be on the third Thursday of January, with regular council meetings scheduled every third Thursday thereafter for the remainder of that year.

Each year the schedule of regular council meetings shall be posted for that whole calendar year no later than the last working day of the previous year and it will be posted both on the municipal website and on the bulletin board at the Municipal Office. Should circumstances necessitate the rescheduling of a regular council meeting for any reason, the schedule for the remaining regular council meetings for that year shall not change.



### DRAFT MOTIONS FOR COUNCIL MEETINGS

Since April of this year, the regular council meeting agenda packages that are posted on our website have included a list of proposed motions to be considered at the upcoming meeting. For some residents, this has created some confusion. We would like to make it clear that these are only proposed, DRAFT motions that have been prepared in advance by staff, based on the reports, by-laws and correspondence on the prepared agenda. They are simply intended for the convenience of Council and to expedite the transaction of Council business. Councillors review these draft, proposed resolutions in their council packages in exactly the same manner that they are provided to the public.

If Councillors so choose, immediately prior to the commencement of the meeting, they sign pre-printed sheets to move or second the motion. If a proposed draft motion is not moved and seconded, it will not be considered. It is important for the public to be aware of the process and that they understand that these matters are not debated or decided prior to the actual council meeting. Furthermore, Council regularly chooses to change or defeat motions during the course of the council meeting. Additional motions are also made during the course of the meeting where no draft motion was anticipated in advance.

### COMMERCIAL PERMIT FEES REDUCED

Finding new ways to stimulate business growth and development in Temagami is important because growth in the commercial and industrial sectors generally creates an increase in jobs as well as economic spin offs for the community. Additionally, expansion in these sectors is one way of taking financial pressure off residential taxpayers.

As important as it is to stimulate economic growth, it can be a difficult thing to accomplish. Our Municipal Council recently reduced by half the building permit fees for commercial and industrial for the remainder of this Council term. This, in conjunction with the fact that our Municipality does not charge business licence fees, should be an incentive for businesses wishing to locate or grow in our community.

### PAC MEMBERS NEEDED

The Municipality is seeking individuals who are interested in sitting on the Planning Advisory Committee (PAC). We are hoping to fill the full complement of nine members on the committee as set out in our official plan and committee by-law, with the specified numbers of representatives from the various neighbourhoods. Please note that all residents and

property owners, permanent or seasonal are eligible to be appointed to this advisory committee; one does not need to be an eligible elector. Remote participation by phone or Internet is also possible. Members of the PAC, if eligible electors, may also be appointed to the Committee of Adjustment. For more information, please contact Municipal Planner, Jennifer Sandham at the Municipal Office or by email at [planning@temagami.ca](mailto:planning@temagami.ca).

### MICROFIT

In the search for new sources of revenue, the Municipality investigated the feasibility of a MicroFit contract for the production of solar energy. The Ontario Power Authority (OPA) developed incentive programs for solar energy projects, namely the Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) or "microFIT" for small roof-mounted solar projects. Under such a contract we would be paid for the solar energy we produce at a set, guaranteed rate for 20 years.

When the Municipality investigated this opportunity, the assessment indicated that although a capital outlay of close to \$100,000 would be required, it should be paid back within 6 years and in subsequent years would produce additional revenue for the Municipality.

The Municipality applied and was granted an OPA contract and Hydro One offer to connect at 5 Stevens Rd, (Temagami Fire Hall). Council has approved a Request for Proposals for the equipment and installation required. Once they have been received Council will determine whether or not it would be feasible to proceed with this project.

### VISIONING SESSION

What will Temagami be like in 5, 10 or 20 years? Without a vision of where we want to be we cannot know if we are on the right track to get there. Of course we have just completed reviewing our Official Plan that deals with land use planning matters, and have recently completed an Economic Development Strategy that deals with stimulating economic growth, and soon we will be developing a Solid Waste Management Master Plan, but all these are just several parts of the big whole. The big, global questions can only be addressed through proper strategic planning.

We need to confirm the overall mission of the Municipality. We also need to confirm what our core services are and address how we can best focus our limited resources to deliver them. These are the types of things Council will address in a visioning session to commence the formation of a strategic plan for our Municipality. This session will be held in early November. Although the Municipality has

previously sought public opinion on a variety of topics, written comments from residents and property owners on strategic priorities are encouraged in advance of the meeting for Council's consideration. Comments should be confined to strategic issues and priorities in order to be considered. We would prefer that comments be submitted by email to [visit@temagami.ca](mailto:visit@temagami.ca) with the subject line "Visioning Session", but they may also be sent by fax or mail or dropped off at the Municipal Office.

### LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH

During the month of October, people will be working across Canada to raise awareness of a disease that strikes over 1 in 1000 Canadians. At the request of the Lupus Foundation of Ontario to assist in this public education campaign, Council has declared October as Lupus Awareness Month in Temagami, in conjunction with similar declarations of many municipalities across the province. Lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease that causes inflammation of various parts of the body. It is quite common, but not infectious. The Lupus Foundation of Ontario promotes public awareness as well as providing support and assistance to lupus patients. For more information, please visit their website at [www.vaxxine.com/lupus](http://www.vaxxine.com/lupus) or pick up an information brochure at the Municipal Office.

### ONGOING PROJECTS

Municipal Council and Staff continue to press forward on a number of ongoing matters of concerns to residents. We are pleased to report that work to date on promoting the zip lining business case has garnered serious interest. We are working toward making this opportunity a reality in the near future.

We have been advised that improvements in cell phone service are also coming closer to fruition. The Province of Ontario announced in June a commitment to two new cell phone towers in Temagami as part of a large communications project to be completed by the end of 2013. The Province has not yet confirmed the schedule for the Temagami portion of the project and the Municipality continues to push for this to occur as soon as possible.

Winter will be here again soon and winter maintenance on Highway 11 remains a priority. The Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) has finished the report on their findings and Mayor Hodgson and CAO Patrick Cormier are scheduled to meet with MTO officials in October to discuss this matter.

***Working for Temagami's future...Together!***

## Did You Miss Them This Summer?

By Chip Kittredge, Island 1158

Did you miss their silent, acrobatic flight over the still lake at dusk this summer? Did you not have as many tell-tale droppings on the porch or cottage floor revealing the presence of visitors the night before? Was there something different about your Temagami experience this summer with fewer or no bats at the cottage?

Eight different species of bats live in Ontario. The most common is the little brown bat. We all know some of the biology of bats: they hunt at night, flying generally near or over water catching insects.

They can catch 600 to 1,000 mosquitoes per hour, and can keep insect populations under control. Bats can consume between 50 and over 100 percent of their body weight in insects each night during the summer. When nursing her young, a little brown bat needs to consume her body weight every day (equivalent to about 5,000 mosquitoes).

Bats also prey on moths, mayflies, cad-

dis flies, midges, lacewings and gnats. It's pretty impressive, really, that they can catch bugs at night, while flying, and they do so using high frequency sounds as a way to find prey and dodge obstacles.

In the summer, big and little brown bats roost in groups and raise their young in cavities of trees or snags, often using the same tree year after year. Hibernacula, such as caves provide hibernating areas during the winter. There are no insects available in the winter, so it is important for bats to have a place to hibernate and be dormant until the following summer. These sites are critically important to the long-term survival of regional bat populations.

But these caves and other places to hibernate during the winter are now proving to be a serious problem for bats. In the winter of 2006, bats hibernating in a cave near Albany, New York were discovered to be dying from a disease known as White Nose Syndrome, named for the ring of white fungus (which appears as a

powdery substance) often found around the bats' nostrils and muzzle.

The fungus itself doesn't kill bats, but it disturbs their hibernation patterns, causing them to wake earlier than they should. Once up, the bats can't find the moths and mosquitoes they usually eat. After expending their limited stored energy in the cold winter weather, they starve.

White Nose Syndrome is proving lethal, typically killing between 80 and 99 per cent of bats within a single hibernacula. Since caves aren't all that common, thousands of bats typically congregate in these special habitats every winter exposing most bats to the fungus. Researchers are working on ways to inoculate bats, but so far there is no treatment or cure.

Since first recognized in 2006, White Nose Syndrome has spread to 11 states, from New Hampshire to Tennessee. It was first discovered in Ontario in 2010 at an abandoned mine in the Bancroft-Minden area, west of Ottawa. Since then the fungus has been discovered in Peterbor-

ough, Hastings, Grey and Renfrew counties, and in Kirkland Lake. In 2011, the syndrome was confirmed in bats from the Timmins, Wawa, Mattawa, Simcoe, Peel, and Halton areas.

Ontario's natural resources ministry is monitoring the disease with the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre and trying to reduce its spread by asking people not to go into caves that could be inhabited by bats. Nobody's sure how the fungus spreads, but there's some concern humans may play a part, so the ministry has asked for a moratorium on recreational caving.

Given the way the Syndrome has spread, and the high mortality associated with it once it reaches caves, some biologists are even discussing the possible extinction of some species of bat. This would be ecologically devastating, since bats play an important role in the food chain preying on insects, and they are an important part of the complex web of the

*continued on page 18*



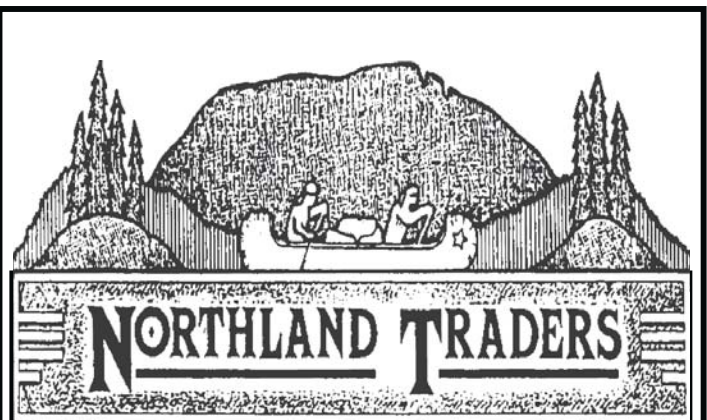
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## The Art of Jigging For Lake Temagami Trout

by Linda Cain

If you want to catch lake trout in Temagami, give vertical jigging a try. Down rigging and "pulling" wire produce results, but both are a bit boring and time consuming. I have caught 6-inch to 41-inch trout while jigging.

Lake trout live in the depths of Lake Temagami, 80 feet to 120 feet deep. They are feeding on herring. So, if you can find clouds of yellow bait on your fish finder you can bet that lake trout are feeding in their midst.

To be successful at jigging, you need the proper equipment and set-up. I use a medium action 6-foot, 6-inch rod and a Daiwa Accudepth Plus 17 LC reel loaded with 8-pound test.

The proper lure is key to catching trout. I use a handmade lure that looks like a small herring. It weighs about 1 ½ ounces. You can buy similar lures at Bass Pro Shops. They are called Lazer Eye Minnow Spoon - 1 oz. If you ever find the lure in a 1 ½ oz. size - buy it!! The heavier lure falls faster in the water toward the trout. My favorite colors to fish with are silver and light green.

To set up your line you will need a double barrel swivel. Cut off 12 inches of line and tie the swivel to one end. I use a knot called a Eugene Bend knot; it does not come undone. Tie the other end of the swivel to the end of the line on your reel. Tie the lure to the bottom of the line. You should have your reel line, swivel, 12 inches of line and lure.

A good fish finder is a must. I use a Lawrence X510C. The detail I get on the fish finder is amazing. After several summers of use, I can tell the herring from the trout on the screen. It is a thrill to drop your line into the water and watch a trout go after your lure. I use a counter reel for more accuracy as I drop my line. I look at the fish finder, spot the fish and know exactly what depth I should go to.

Try to jig in calm waters. Your line must fall straight down and stay straight down. Make sure the stern of the boat is into the current or wind. With your fish finder on, slowly troll an area of the lake that is at least 80 feet deep. As soon as you spot the cloud of bait or a single fish mark, stop the boat, back up, and then drop your line.

Jigging involves bringing your rod up about 3 feet and slowly dropping the rod and line down. You want the line to float down, so the trout think the lure looks like a wounded fish. Quickly up, slowly down. Stay in one area for no more than 10-15 minutes, if the fish are not biting, move on. Many of the lake trout are in the mud at the bottom; drop your lure down to the bottom to draw the fish up.

I do catch a lot of herring using this method of fishing. I have kept the larger ones and, properly filleted and pan-fried, the fillets are delicious.

Give jigging a try. Constantly watching the fish finder, keeping the boat steady and watching a 5-pound trout hit your line are thrilling and the end results are very tasty.



Linda Cain with her catch, a 5-pound lake trout. Photo: Dave Cain.

### A FAVORITE TROUT RECIPE:

#### *Baked Trout with Tomatoes, Spinach & Mushrooms*

- 4 trout fillets with skin on
- 2 cups chopped fresh spinach
- 1 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1 medium tomato - chopped
- 1 cup Kraft Collection Sun Dried Tomato Vinaigrette Dressing

Place trout skin side down in a 13 x 9" baking dish that has been sprayed with no-stick cooking spray.

Mix remaining ingredients until well blended, spoon over trout.

Bake at 375 degrees for 20-25 minutes or until trout flakes easily with fork.

About 200 calories per serving.

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## Who Knew?

By Diane Taylor

It was a perfect golden orb of a pear. Just at the peak of ripeness, it sat on the kitchen table in all its glory: a gift from Mamoo, fresh fruit at the lake, waiting to share its sweetness at tomorrow's breakfast. Since it was a lovely lake evening, just this once we decided to leave the front porch windows open overnight. We'd recently put in all new screening, so we had no worries that anything could get in during the next few hours. Silly us.

As I came down the path just before daylight I heard a thud from the kitchen cabin, scurrying and another thud. That couldn't be good. I was coming up the steps just as a shape flew through a front porch screen. At a full run as I entered the cabin, I flew out the back door as the shape started up a tall pine. I was pretty impressed with how fast the mystery critter got so high in the tree so quickly.

Since it didn't look like it was going anywhere for a minute I ran back in the cabin to check the damages. What I found sent me right out to the base of the tree to shatter the peacefulness of a beautiful morning. "That was NOT your pear! Mamoo gave that to US! Shame on you! You'd better never come down from that tree or you're STEW, you rotten raccoon!"

Returning to the crime scene I again saw the pear still on the kitchen table, or rather half the pear. Rotten had feasted. But how had Rotten gotten in?!

Checking the screen it had gone out showed no rips or tears. It did show spline



Photo: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

hanging loosely on the lower corner of the screen. Huh? Raccoons can't remove spline? No way. That would be crazy!

Not so much, as we discovered the next morning. We'd replaced the screening, snuggled in the spline and reinstalled the screen then made sure to slide and lock all the windows for the night.

But once again spline was hanging loosely from the screen corner and screening was loose. Indeed Rotten had worked the spline ends loose where they met. Very handy, those opposable thumbs, eh? We finally solved the problem of illegal entry by rotating the spline ends up high. But we needed to find Rotten a new home.

Fortunately raccoons like barbecue even more than pears, even if it's in a cage trap. We relocated Rotten to a lovely site on the McLean Peninsula. Who knew raccoons growled when they were annoyed?

## Did You Miss Them This Summer?

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nature of Temagami.

At this point, what we can hope for is that some bats prove to be somehow genetically resistant, that they can weather this disease, and spread that

resistance to future generations. In the meantime, we can appreciate the diversity that bats add to Temagami, and hope we see them again on still nights in the summer of 2012.

For the update on White Nose Syndrome in Ontario, see:

[www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/FW/2ColumnSubPage/289678.html](http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/FW/2ColumnSubPage/289678.html)

For a map of the distribution of White Nose Syndrome in North America, see: [www.ccwhc.ca/wns\\_north\\_america.php](http://www.ccwhc.ca/wns_north_america.php)

And for more information, see:

[www.thestar.com/news/gta/article/792484--bat-killer-moves-into-ontario](http://www.thestar.com/news/gta/article/792484--bat-killer-moves-into-ontario)

[www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/FW/2ColumnSubPage/289678.html](http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/FW/2ColumnSubPage/289678.html)

from [www.ontariospca.ca/4-wildlife-livewith-5.shtml](http://www.ontariospca.ca/4-wildlife-livewith-5.shtml)

## Need a Duplicate Operator's Card?

By Angus Scully

Chair, Marine Committee

When you are out in your powerboat you must have with you the original of your Pleasure Craft Operator's Card (PCOC). The fine for not having it is \$250.00. This past summer this requirement was enforced by police and TLA members were fined!

Many members have expressed frustration with keeping track of where their PCOC is when they have several boats. Thanks to Dora Young for passing on the information that you can get duplicate cards.

Just look on the back of your card for the phone number of the card-issuing agency. Call and order up to 5 duplicate cards. The Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons (1 888 277 2628) will issue the first replacement for \$25.00 – with price dropping for each additional card up to 5.

At the same time, remember that your PCOC is an official form of licensing and you should keep it secure. Report loss or theft to the issuing agency. Keep a separate record of your PCOC card number and the name and phone number of the issuing agency.



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## Loon Report 2011

by Jim Hasler, Island 817

Loons seemed to be holding their own this year on Lake Temagami. A number of people reported at the end of June that there were no nests in their usual locations due to high water levels, but the birds seemed to have found other suitable locations, because reports of babies started trickling in by the end of July.

By the end of August, I had heard of 12 baby loons at locations scattered across the whole lake. There were some sighted that were a good size and diving early in August, as well as a few newly hatched. The late hatches would still have a fairly good chance of survival this year with the continuing mild weather in September.

We haven't had a baby loon in Cross Bay for several years since one-half of the dominant pair, who regularly fledged twins for a decade, didn't reappear in the spring. A new pair was around this year and nested, but something happened to the chick. I found half an eggshell in late August but there was no sign of the chick.



The pair of adults is swimming together and we hope they will be here next year.

The Canadian Lakes Loon Survey is now gathering reports from across the country. The final tabulation won't be available until January, but the early checking seems to indicate a good year overall. There have been no reports of West Nile cases or any other widespread infections in loons.

If any readers have news about loons that I didn't get by phone, please phone me at 237-8665 or email jhasler@ontera.net.

## Temagami Lions Club Reaches Goal for "Jaws of Life" Funds

Thanks to the hard work of the Temagami Lions Club and the generosity of the Temagami community as a whole, the "Jaws of Life" target of \$18,000 was raised in one third of the time anticipated.

In the fall of 2009, the Temagami Lions Club had discussed the need for updated auto extrication equipment for the Temagami Fire Department with Temagami Fire Chief Jim Sanderson. The heavy equipment needed to tackle the material used in some newer vehicles would be a great benefit to the department, which previously had to wait for the Marten River or Haileybury fire department's equipment for some highway accidents.

Chief Sanderson had an opportunity to obtain \$30,000 worth of new, stronger equipment at a special dealer's price of \$18,000, so the Lions Club decided to take on the project. The Lions arranged for the Municipality to purchase the equipment, with the Lions Club committing to reimbursing them at \$3,000 per year for six years.

Now, thanks to the community's great response to the Lion's "Jaws of Life" fundraising efforts, the Lion's Club has paid the full amount to the Municipality in only two years. Lion's President, Wayne Adair, presented the final cheque to Council at the September 1, 2011 council meeting.



Peter R. Ramsay



William R. (Bill) Ramsay



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## Redwater – Temagami's Ghost Town

By *Dustin Roy*

Redwater was a small, remote village along the Ontario Northland Railway between the town of Temagami and the hamlet of Marten River. Like many other communities built along the Ontario Northland Railway in the early 1900s, it was short-lived. In 1903, the railway arrived on the shores of Lower and Upper Redwater Lake. During the same year, a section village containing a small train station, telegraph key, a siding and water tower was created. The train station or bunkhouse was reserved by railway men who were posted at Redwater. Two section homes were also created, one of which was reserved for the foreman.

In 1909, Redwater was the site of a horrific murder. It occurred when two railway employees named Morin and Cornish assaulted W.J. Dyston, who served as the telegraph operator. He collapsed and died while trying to telegraph for help. A few years later, the Redwater Lumber Company created a

small sawmill on the shores of Upper Redwater Lake. To export the wood cut at the sawmill, the lumberyards were situated within close proximity to the train station. Another bunkhouse was established and at least 10 homes were created along the railway.

In 1916, resident T.J. Baker opened a store and post office. The Redwater Lumber Company sawmill stopped operations around 1928 but the village still had a steady population. To provide education for the children, a school railway car visited the village from the 1940s up until the 1950s. By this time there were about 5 section homes left, as well as the section village. However, without the sawmill it was only a matter of time before Redwater's residents left forever. In 1942, the post office was closed. The homes were demolished and the last remaining home burned in the 1950s, with the water tower burning down in 1957.

To this day, not much remains of


the village of Redwater. Cement foundations, a few cellar holes and some evidence of early land disturbances are the main remnants of the village, now hidden in thick overgrowth. A standard aluminum shed for railway workers sits on the original site of the train station. Observant ghost towners may find a toilet sitting in the forest, most likely the site of a section house. The mill yard was located opposite of the train station. Here, holes from where the original support beams once stood can be found. Cottages built in the 1960s are still used seasonally. Redwater is now an unincorporated area in the municipality of Temagami.

Redwater can be accessed by taking Rabbit Creek Road north of Marten River. Drive across the railway crossing. Beyond the crossing, about 3 kilometers is a gated road on the right, which leads to the Rabbit Creek ballast pit. Follow this road to the railway where you will walk 3 miles south to the abandoned

townsite. Redwater can also be accessed by taking a canoe down Upper Redwater Lake, which is about half a kilometer down the railway from near the Rabbit Creek ballast pit.

**CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES**

On November 6, you set your clocks back one hour. When you change your clocks, change the batteries in your smoke alarms too!



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## Art Camp is a Rewarding Experience for Volunteers Too

by Elaine Gunnell

The July morning was sunny, if a little cool, as my eight-year-old grandson, Kurtis, and I gathered with the small, yet growing, group of children and councillors at the Mine Landing docks. We were both excited and a little bit nervous as we eagerly watched for the promised boat to arrive. It would take us to the summer art camp sponsored by the Temagami Community Foundation and Bear Island. For some of us, it was our first time at camp.

The nervousness quickly melted however, upon our arrival at Bear Island. The beautiful setting was serene and friendly. For the rest of the week, we would get to know more of Bear Island; its beauty, its people and their customs.

We soon joined in with the others in the recreation centre, where for the next week we would meet each morning as a group. We were introduced to Camp Director, Bettina Schuler who,

after emphatically spelling out the camp rules (to ensure everyone stays safe), soon had the children participating in fun activities. We learned a song about a bear named Claire and a moose named Bruce, and some other camp songs, and then divided into groups for the art projects.

Our group, worked with a variety of media throughout the week. Collages on a variety of themes; pigs made out of paper mache; paper plate rattles; pompom and pipe-cleaner creatures; and goose decoys made of Styrofoam, wire, yarn and feathers were the creations that emerged as the week progressed.

It continued to amaze me each day, how the dozen children in our group could be provided with the exact same supply of art materials and project guidelines and yet come up with such vastly different and unique results. But it isn't just the art projects that emerge and grow at art camp; it is also the peo-

ple themselves.

The kids were provided with opportunities to have fun, play, sing, interact informally, and learn. I could truly see the wisdom in Bettina's concept of the children learning together about their cultural differences and their common humanity in a positive environment. It's not just the children who benefit though. As I spent many hours that week on Bear Island interacting not only with the children, but the other councillors, leaders, elders, guests and volunteers, I also came to have a greater appreciation of these things.

By the end of the week that went by all too quickly, children who had never even met before were acting like lifelong friends. First time campers had gained the confidence of seasoned veterans. Youth councillors had gained valuable leadership experience. Even the adult volunteers, seasoned or new to art camp, had enjoyed a truly rewarding week.

Those people and organizations who make this annual Summer Art Camp happen – Camp Director Bettina Schuler, the Temagami Community Foundation, the Bear Island Councils, the guest presenters, and of course the art camp councillors and volunteers – deserve great thanks for making this wonderful experience available to the children each year at no cost.

If you have ever thought about volunteering at art camp, I would definitely encourage you to do so. You don't need to be an artist; you just need to enjoy working with children,

As the yellow school bus rattled along the Lake Temagami Access road at the end of the last day, Kurtis, with his folder brimming with art projects was suddenly quiet. A quick enquiry informed me that he was just sad that Art Camp was over so soon. I was a little sad too, but I was also already busily thinking about volunteering again next year.





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## Dream Catcher Express 2011

Temagami hosted the 7th annual Dream Catcher Express on Sept. 23, 24, 25, 30 and Oct. 1 and 2. This year over 550 riders took in the fall colour excursion train from North Bay to Temagami.

The Dream Catcher Express features a dome car, professional entertainment, and a licensed snack bar. The captivating train excursion allowed passengers to view brilliant fall colours through large viewing windows in comfortable passenger coaches.

"The Dream Catcher offered a tremendous opportunity to showcase Temagami and visitors experienced local culture, dining, and guided tours," says Mayor John Hodgson. "Residents and local

business came together to roll out the welcome mat – for example, Leisure Island Houseboats provided tours on the lake and other visitors took in a traditional Aboriginal experience and lunch at the Chalet".

Economic Development Officer John Santarossa said, "it was a great opportunity to showcase Temagami. In fact, the train was sold out on both Saturday October 1st and Sunday October 2nd with 150 riders each day".

The train proved popular to both young and old and passengers commented on the beautiful scenery in Temagami, in addition to the train's popular dome car and the on-board entertainment.



The Dream Catcher Express Train. Photo: E. Gunnell

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## Barry Phippen Recognized for Outstanding Achievement for Volunteerism

On Friday April 15, 2011 as part of National Volunteer Week, the Province of Ontario recognized Barry Phippen with the prestigious June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award for Volunteerism. The award recognizes leadership, innovation and creativity in volunteerism and community service.

The late June Callwood was a journalist and author who devoted countless hours to issues facing children and women. She was one of Canada's most well known social activists founding or co-founding more than 50 Canadian social action organizations.

Five million Ontarians volunteer more than 800 million hours annually – equivalent to 420,000 full-time jobs. Of these volunteers, the Province honoured the commitment and

community service of 12 individuals and 8 groups. Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Dr. Eric Hoskins addressed the recipients at the formal ceremony "Ontario's five million volunteers truly are the heart of our communities. Their vital contributions help maintain our quality of life in Ontario. This award recognizes their commitment to building vibrant communities and a stronger province for all of us."

The desire, drive, determination and vision of Barry Phippen is the catalyst in making the New Liskeard Bikers Reunion the premier Motorcycle Event in Northern Ontario.

*Press release submitted by James Franks, Economic Development & Funding Coordinator, City of Temiskaming Shores*

## Yellow Signs Show Temagami Supports Cancer Care

Once again this summer the town of Temagami was decked out with bright yellow signs. More and more seem to appear each year in support of the ever-growing New Liskeard Bikers Reunion. Each sign is displayed in recognition of a donation of support to the Bikers Reunion fundraising for cancer.

Did you ever wonder how this event got started? Initially it was a one day event in 1999 as a fundraiser for cancer and as a community event celebrating the thrill of riding motorcycles.

In 2004, the reunion became an annual event. It was moved to a bigger venue, the New Liskeard Fair grounds and after several additions and expansions become what is known as the Bikers Reunion. This year 2011, the Bikers Reunion donated \$102,000.00 to the Cancer Care Unit at Temiskaming Hospital, making the total donated to date \$587,000.00.

Thousands of bikers and non-bikers come to this family oriented event from all over North America, Europe and beyond. In 2011 there were over 6,000 bikes, and 25,000 spectators.

The Event has two main goals. The first is to be a fun, family oriented weekend celebrating the sport of riding motorcycles. The second, and equally important goal, is to be a fundraiser to help people who are battling cancer through the Temiskaming Hospital Community Cancer Care Unit.

The committee, chaired by Barry Phippen, is a group of dedicated volunteers who give a great deal of time and effort to the cause. They share the vision of what this event can be, and give tirelessly to make the Bikers Reunion a success.

*History information courtesy of Bikers Reunion website at [www.bikersreunion.ca](http://www.bikersreunion.ca)*

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## Temiskaming Health Unit Celebrates 60 Years of Service

Congratulations to the Temiskaming Health Unit (THU) as they celebrate 60 years of public health service this year. From testing tap water to septic system inspections, from flu shots to food handling certification courses, the THU puts a lot of effort into looking after the health of the community and its residents.

The mandate of the Temiskaming Health Unit is to promote good health, prevent illness, and to protect against health problems. The THU is a non-profit organization funded by municipalities, with each municipality contributing based on its population (per capita).

Board of Health Chair, Carman Kidd says of the anniversary, "This is a chance for us to share our milestone with the public and show them how much we appreciate their support over the years."

It is also a chance to look back at the Health Unit's history.

A Health Service was first started in the Kirkland Lake District in 1928. The local Board of Health brought on Dr. Armstrong as part-time Medical Officer of Health and hired the first nurse. As the population increased, two additional nurses were hired.

The first plans for a Health Unit were adopted in January 1945. The plan for staff included a full-time Medical Officer of Health, a Nurse Supervisor, four Public Health Nurses, and one full-time and one part-time Sanitary Inspectors.

Services provided by The Kirkland-Larder Lake Health Unit, in 1945, were prevention of acute communicable disease; provisions for the prevention and control of chronic communicable disease; environmental sanitation including water supply, sewerage, and refuse disposal; pre-and-post natal services; supervision during infant and pre-school stages; elementary and secondary school health supervision; food control; and supervision of old age pensioners.

On July 1, 1951, the Kirkland-Larder Lake Health Unit expanded to cover Ramore to Cobalt and Elk Lake to the Quebec boarder. The name was changed to the Temiskaming Health Unit from there it grew to incorporate all municipalities and unorganized townships in the Temiskaming district, including Temagami.

When the Temiskaming Health Unit started in 1951, staff included a full-time Medical Officer of Health, a Nurse Supervisor, six Public Health Nurses, two part-time Victorian Order of Nurses, one Public Health Veterinarian, two part-time and two full-time Sanitary Inspectors, and three

secretaries.

Some important milestones in the THU's history include:

- The Mental Health Program began in 1968 with the hiring of a mental health worker in Kirkland Lake as part of a pilot project. The program soon extended to the Tri-Towns with regular psychiatric clinics.
- An Addictions Assessment Program was added to the Mental Health Program in 1986.
- The Temiskaming Health Unit website ([www.timiskaminghu.com](http://www.timiskaminghu.com)) was developed in 1999.
- In May 2005, the New Liskeard office relocated to the Temiskaming Hospital.

A comprehensive list of the services provided by the Temiskaming Health Unit, including classes and clinics, and additional information is available from their website.



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Stinking Island. Photo: Trish Healy

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## ATTENTION

### Future Journalists/Lake Community Archivists

The Temagami Times needs reporters/columnists from all corners of the lake to share their experiences, events and/or lake history. We will print submissions, subject to the usual editorial review. Students may want to contribute items as part of courses or to obtain community volunteer credits.





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### Ethanol Free, Premium Grade

As you know, TM served "Ethanol Free, Premium Grade" gas this year. One hundred percent of our customers, both resident and transient, have congratulated us on that move.

Engines ran better and people were confident in our approach. Similarly, many followed our suggestions with respect to installing water separators and frankly, they noticed how our customers had no water related problems. For those who did not pay attention to fuel supply and Ethanol in the gas we helped them with quick repairs.



### FIXED RIGHT FIRST TIME

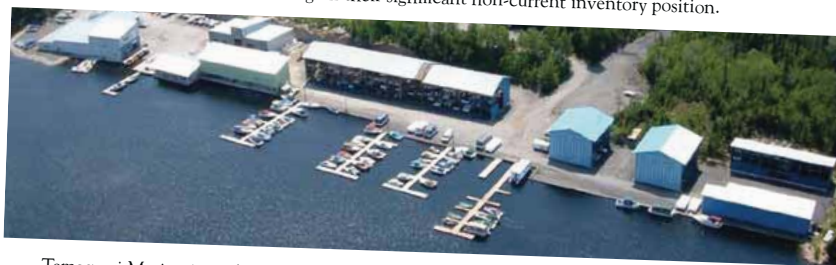
"Fixed Right First Time" and "Quickly" are two maxims that are very important in this industry. The boating season is short and people want to be on the water versus waiting for repairs. I am extremely pleased to report that a greater percentage of people in our trading area (we actively service customers on ten lakes) were back out on the water faster this year than in the previous four years of my tenure and that they enjoyed the great 2011 summer weather.

The reason for the above is simple. TM invested in improving its service team both in personnel and training of same. We also followed up with informal surveys (certainly our first!) by telephone. Scheduling was improved. As a result, we were able to get people in and out, often on the same day.

One of the tasks I enjoy is passing on the accolades to the team members directly responsible for the effective and efficient service. It builds strong relationships with you our supporters.

## MOVING FORWARD

Thank you for all your support and concern during the last four months. The management driven initiatives undertaken during last year have paid off. In any business, inventory management is one Key Success Factor (KSF). Many have noticed how our showrooms are virtually empty. We were assertive in both our marketing and our pricing and it has delivered the desired outcome. Despite the 4th consecutive year of low industry wide boat and motor sales, we at Temagami Marine (TM) have managed to essentially clear out our new units. Others in the industry around us have not focused on this aspect and have now closed their doors forever, on a voluntary basis or otherwise. This positions TM well to begin the year 2012 with fresh inventory while others will be working off their significant non-current inventory position.



Temagami Marine is evolving both its business and sales model as previously outlined in the Summer 2011 edition of the Temagami Times. I mentioned that this "may even include new product lines that are more appropriate for this and future markets". TM is negotiating with manufacturers to place different models on our showroom floors (utilities, side consoles, dual windshields and pontoon boats) that we will sell from. These units will be fully rigged and available for water tests. As you and I agree on a specific model and with the options you desire, we will then place the order with these manufacturers and be able to deliver the boat within weeks. Now that's exciting! The exact unit you want, at a price that is acceptable to us both (without the inventory risks and costs for TM) will be a win-win situation. Watch for further announcements on that front.

Do we have more work to do? Absolutely! I feel we need to reinforce the Value Proposition (not necessarily the lowest cost but the best value- what you get for what you pay). This includes greeting our friends with a smile, listening to you with interest as well as introducing our service team to you so the members are increasingly invested in completing their tasks with pride. There will be further training for service writers, technicians as well as leadership training. We will reinvest in software and hardware to be able to track service histories and to be able to respond to your ongoing needs, again, better and faster.

Our team will be contacting you this fall to offer suggestions with respect to bellows, impellers and preventative maintenance. The goal is to have you enjoy even more time on the water through scheduled maintenance.

Finally, it has been my responsibility as steward of Temagami Marine to re-set the foundation. I inherited 50 years of successful history but the world has changed, we all know that. The Business Model that I see appropriate for this organization is one that has both retail and manufacturing components; manufacturing of a product that is accessory to its present business and is also a continuance of what we are already doing on a repair side. I am now in the process of acquiring assets in order to produce a line of 12' to 16', aluminum, riveted boats. TM has excess infrastructure that is suited for this project. We will be able to add seven (7) new jobs and convert four (4) seasonal ones to year round ones. This will permit us to commit to tier one talent because of the permanent nature of the employment. It is absolutely essential for the community and its fabric...there will be a sense of revival in the area, one that's been missing for a long time. For TM, it will diversify its income stream between sectors, across regions (the plan is to have a dealer network from coast to coast and in some Northern States) and across various periods of the years compared to the status quo. We will then hire the best people we can find and invest in their training. The strategy is to have a well balanced enterprise, one that you can be proud to be associated with. Stay tuned for more news on this front. For those not on our e-mail list please request to be added by contacting us at 705-569-3221 or info@temagamimarine.com.

I want to close this edition by thanking each and every one of you who have listened to us, encouraged us, believed in us and trusted us to do the right thing.

The future is brighter!

*Andre*