



Merry Christmas

The Neebing News

Volume Eighteen, Number Twelve

DECEMBER 2023

Show your civic pride by sporting our Neebing branded merchandise!

Items include hoodies, adult and youth t-shirts, baseball caps, water bottles, coffee mugs, reusable tote bags, and flags. You can purchase these items during regular office hours at the Municipal Office, Monday thru Friday, 9 am - 5 pm. We accept cash, debit, and cheque as payment. Please note that we do not accept credit cards.



- Adult Hoodie Dark Grey S-XXL \$40**
- Adult Crew Neck T-Shirt Black or Light Blue S-XXL \$20**
- Adult Women's V Neck T Shirt S-XL \$20**
- Youth Crew Neck T-Shirt S-L Light Blue \$20**
- Baseball Cap Black \$20**
- 25 Oz. Stainless Steel Water Bottle White \$20**
- 15 Oz. Ceramic Coffee Mug Blue \$20**
- Reuseable Tote Bag \$5**
- Neebing Flag 36"x72" White \$65**

HOLIDAY LANDFILL HOURS

SCOBLE & SAND HILL LANDFILLS

SATURDAY DECEMBER 23rd - OPEN 9-5
 SUNDAY DECEMBER 24th - OPEN 12-4

SATURDAY DECEMBER 30th - OPEN 9-5
 SUNDAY DECEMBER 31st - OPEN 12-4

Merry Christmas

Municipality of Neebing Christmas Season Office and Garage Closures

The Municipal Office and the Municipal Garage will be open regular hours on Friday, December 22, 2023, and will then close to re-open on January 2nd, 2024.

Landfill site hours remain unchanged.

The Roads Crew will be monitoring weather and will respond accordingly. Voicemail left on the Municipal Office telephone line will be checked.

BEST OF THE SEASON TO EVERYONE!

New Landfill Punch Cards are coming in January! See page 2 for info

Breakfast with Santa
 Hosted by the Neebing Recreation Committee

Saturday December 2nd
 at 71 Blake Hall Rd
 Doors open at 9:30am
 10-11am breakfast
 11-12:30pm crafts, games, face painting, cookie decorating and pictures
PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN CAMERA*
 Adults \$10 Kids (10 & under) \$8
 For more information please call the Municipal Office
 807-474-5331

SOLD OUT!

Neebing Recreation Committee Upcoming Events...see page 2!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS
 December 9th - Noon til 6 pm
 At the Odena, Kakabeka Village
 Fill the OPP Cruiser
 All goods and financial donations go to the Rural Cupboard Food Bank

Upcoming Events for Neebing Recreation Committee!

DON'T FORGET **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** on December 2.

A meeting to discuss **plans for the 100th Anniversary celebration for Blake Hall** will be held on **December 11, 2023 at 7 p.m.** at Blake Hall. Everyone is welcome to come and share their ideas.

Crafternoons will be returning in January - with a different theme. The Recreation Committee is going to offer classes of different crafts. There will be a nominal fee for some of the sessions. We are asking any local crafters if they would like to share their knowledge with others and volunteer to teach/demonstrate their craft for an afternoon. For more information please call Penny at 807:964-2270.

January 20th, 2024 - noon to 3 - chocolate making for Valentines. The fee for this will be \$20 (payable on the day of) and you will go home with an assortment of chocolate symbolic of Valentine's Day. This class will be limited to 10 people. Please call Edith to register at 807:628-6660 by January 15, 2024. Please bring a container.

February 10th, 2024 - noon to 3 - learn to cross stitch. The fee for this will be \$5 (payable on the day of). Please call Penny at 807:964-2270 to register.

March 9th, 2024 - noon to 3 - project TBA



New Landfill Punch Cards 2024

The new punch card system for the landfill site will come into effect in January 2024. Watch for your punch cards to arrive in the mail early in the new year. The transition period will run until March 1, 2024, during which time residents can use their bag tags if they have not received their punch cards. Please contact the municipal office if you have not received your punch cards by the end of February. Permanent residents will still be allowed 100 bags and seasonal residents will be allowed 50 bags. Free bag tags with recycling will no longer be issued after January 1, 2024.

VOLLEYBALL DROP-IN CO-ED 18+ FUN LEAGUE

Start date: Thursday October 5, 2023 – May 30, 2024

When: Thursday nights from 7-9pm (except during school holidays)

Where: Valley Central School gym

Please send email to Joel at

vman814@gmail.com

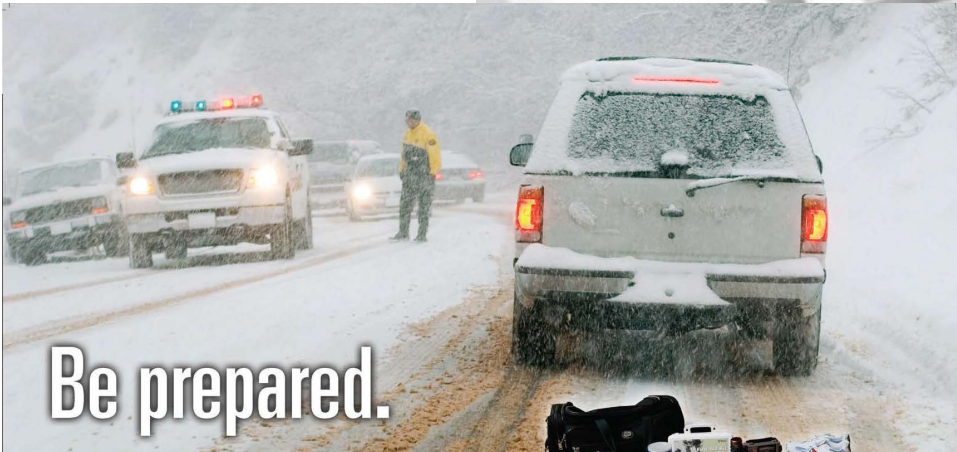
to be added to the reminder list

There is no cost.

Have company coming and not enough room??

Mink Mountain Resort has rooms in the Lodge available by the night!

Call Cathy for more info
807-622-5009



Be prepared.

Prepare your Family Emergency Survival Kit today!
Find out how.

www.ontario.ca/emo



EMERGENCY TEXT ALERT SERVICE for Neebing Residents



Sign up for Neebing's Emergency Text Alert Service. This text alert service is used to notify our residents **via text message** of immediate dangers or emergencies occurring in our community such as evacuations, road closures, forest fires and other hazards.

Sign up is free but you must have a smart-phone equipped to receive text messages to use this service as it does not work on land lines.

Sign up at neebing.org/textalerts or send us your name, Neebing address, and your text-enabled cell phone number including area code to neebing@neebing.org or call us at 474-5331. Your personal information is kept strictly confidential.

RURAL CUPBOARD FOOD BANK

Neighbours Helping Neighbours

Conmee Municipal Complex

19 Holland Rd, Kakabeka Falls P0T1W0

807-285-0836

We sincerely thank all those that continue to support us.

Your donations enable the food bank to remain open

Next Food Bank

Wednesday, December 13th

Registration 9 am to 11 am

Drive-Thru Pick-up



What's Been Happening at Council Meetings?

Since the November edition, there have been two regular meeting of Council on November 1 and 15, 2023.

At the regular Council meeting on November 1st, the following matters were considered:

- Council approved a severance application for a property on Oliver Creek Road.
- Council approved a policy for the use of the corporate logo.
- Council scheduled a meeting to review the 2024 budget for January 24, 2024.
- Council passed a by-law to appoint Roger Van Ballegoie as Acting Fire Chief and to appoint other officers.
- Council passed an updated by-law that establishes the civic addressing system.

At the regular Council meeting November 15th, the following matters were considered:

- Council approved a recommendation from the Waste Management Committee to participate in an applied research project with Fleming College related to waste management in Neebing.
- Council passed a fit for duty policy.
- Council approved reserve fund transfers related to 2023 construction projects.
- Council passed an updated by-

law to prohibit smoking on municipal property which now includes vaping.

- Council passed a by-law to renew the agreement with Ministry of Health for emergency dispatch services.

The next Council meetings will be held on December 6 and 20, 2023. Regular Council meetings are normally scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.

This article contains only highlights from Council meetings – visit the website to see the approved minutes from each of the meetings. The minutes of each meeting are approved at the following meeting and are posted on the website once they have been approved and signed. If you don't have internet capabilities, you can always contact the office for copies of approved minutes.

Meeting agendas are always posted online on the Friday prior to the Wednesday meeting. Come out and see what your Council is doing on your behalf. Feel free to contact the Municipal Office for further information or with input into any of the items that Council is considering. **The meetings are now being held at the Municipal Office, but there is the option to attend virtually as well. The links to login to the meetings are posted on our website in the calendar details.**

Ice Rinks in Neebing

Neebing has two Outdoor Ice Rinks that are free to use and open from late December to early March.

Ice can be difficult to establish on top of the existing sod surface, and weather plays an important roll in determining when the rinks open and how long the skating season lasts.

The rinks are created and maintained by a few dedicated volunteers. If you would like to volunteer to help with the rinks this year, please contact the Neebing Office or speak to Councillor Coulson or Councillor Gardner.

In 2023 Neebing was the recipient of a grant from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation (NOHFC) for significant improvements to both of our rinks. Alf Olsen Memorial Park Rink, located on Highway 597, will receive a new hard surface and lighting. Blake Hall Rink, located behind the Blake Community Hall on Blake Hall Road, will receive a new hard surface and an open-air roof. Both these improvements will extend the skating season and provide a hard surface for other sports when it is

too warm to skate. The NOHFC grant was awarded at the beginning of the summer and work began to develop the purchasing documentation. A tender was issued in late August, and one bid was received for the work, but it was over budget and Council sadly rejected the bid. It was too late in the construction season to re-work the tender documents and get bids before winter closed in so we are going to have one more year with our current rinks. The tender is being reworked and reissued for a 2024 construction date.

Prior to all this good news, Neebing received a donation from SWOOP Airlines for Alf Olsen Rink to build rink boards (SWOOP gave this donation to Neebing in recognition of some light-hearted advertising confusing Pearson Township with Pearson Airport in Toronto). The rink boards have been constructed but will remain in storage for this season as we don't want to put them up and then risk damaging them when they have be removed and re-installed when the new rink surface is constructed. They will be installed on top of the new rink surface.

Highway 61 Improvements

Construction along Highway 61 between Jarvis Bay Road and Highway 130 is continuing over the winter months. The work includes addressing drainage deficiency, culvert replacement or rehabilitation, guiderail replacement/adjustments, platform widening, shoulder correction, utility relocations, entrance rehabilitation and paving.

Delays and lane closures will be ongoing until the project is complete in 2024. Please be patient and help keep all the workers safe. If you have any questions or comments regarding this project Norm MacKinnon from Civil ArSa Engineering Inc. is the contact the Contract Administrator. His cell number is 1-647-627-0037.



Neebing Landfill News Winter Landfill Hours

Saturdays: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sundays: 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Garbage Every bag of regular household garbage requires a Municipal Garbage Bag Tag. We issue a set amount of tags to residents on an annual basis. You can collect your tags at the municipal landfill sites during regular hours of operation. You **MUST** present photo ID to the attendant in order to receive your tags.

Recycling Yes we have a recycling program! We accept #1 through #7 plastics as well as cardboard. View our recycling sorting guide to determine if your items are acceptable recycling materials. Please remember to **BAG** your cans and plastics and **FLATTEN** your cardboard. We do not accept plastic grocery bags.

Contact Us - Municipality of Neebing

Complaints, Concerns, or Questions: Want action on a problem? Want answers to your Municipal questions? Get accurate information right from the source: www.neebing.org or call the office at 807-474-5331. Report your concern, voice your complaint, or get answers to your Municipal questions with the click of a mouse or a phone call.

Emergency Road Condition Reporting: If you encounter an emergency road condition such as a washout, a sinkhole, etc., please call the Municipal Office direct 474-5331 even if you are calling outside of regular office hours (Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm). Leave us a detailed voice message as the municipal voicemail is monitored to help us act quickly when such emergency issues occur.

Municipal complaints or concerns posted on social media forums or website pages not maintained by the Municipality are not monitored or recorded. Please, contact the Municipal Office direct - we are here to help!

Free exercise class for all ages and abilities.



Every Tuesday: Bands and Balls } At Rosslyn Hall from
Every Thursday Weights } 11:30 to 12:00

No Registration necessary.

We still have room for anyone wishing to keep active and join others in fun, laughter and conversation.

These activities are open to anyone interested in getting out of the house and meeting new people.

Call Rosslyn Library for more information 807-939-2312

RURAL CUPBOARD FOOD BANK shouts

Thank You!... To:

Kakabeka Falls Public School,
Crestview Public School
Evergreen Pharmacy

For all of your fund raising and donations

For the financial donation raised at the Neebing
Fall Harvest Dinner

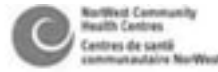
To Kimm White for donating her winnings from
the Taco Tim contest.

To everyone that has taken the time to volunteer, donate
and raise funds for the food bank. Your support enables
us to continue providing food to those in need.

Radon detectors available to borrow at
Oliver Paipoozge Library!



It is recommended that you test for
radon during furnace season.
For more information regarding Radon
visit Eco Superior |
<https://www.ecosuperior.org/homeenergy>



DECEMBER 2023



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
				1
4 Mobile Clinic - Armstrong 2pm-6pm Virtual Yoga 10:30am	5 Fly the C.O.O.P Social Group Mobile Clinic - Armstrong 8:30am-1:30pm Dietitian	6 Virtual Yoga 2pm	7 LifeLabs	8
11 Virtual Yoga 10:30am	12 Fly the C.O.O.P Social Group Diabetes Educator	13 Walk-In Clinic 8:30am-4:30pm Virtual Yoga 2pm	14 LifeLabs	15
18 Virtual Yoga 10:30am	19 Fly the C.O.O.P Social Group Dietitian Mobile Clinic - Uppesle 10am-3:30pm	20 Walk-In Clinic 8:30am-4:30pm Virtual Yoga 2pm	21 LifeLabs	22
25 CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS	26 CLOSED FOR BOXING DAY	27 Virtual Yoga 2pm	28 LifeLabs	29

Kakabeka Site
4785 ON-11 Unit B,
Kakabeka Falls,
ON P0T 1W0
(807) 473-9528

Thunder Bay Site
525 Simpson Street
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 3J6
(807) 622-8235

PROGRAM INFO.
Call Shaun at (807) 473-9528
ext.1 to register for all programs

Fly the C.O.O.P Social Group
Starts at 10:30am

Virtual Yoga
Held at O'Connell Community
Centre

Please call to book an
appointment for:
- LifeLabs
- Dietitian
- Diabetes Educator

Follow us!
New West Community
Health Centres -
Kakabeka Falls Clinic
www.norwestchc.org

12 Days of Christmas Fire Safety from N.F.R.A

Day 1 Water fresh trees daily	Day 2 Check all sets of lights before decorating
Day 3 Make sure you have working smoke alarms	Day 4 Make sure you have working carbon monoxide alarms
Day 5 Make sure everyone knows how to get out safely if a fire occurs!	Day 6 Use extension cords wisely
Day 7 Give space heaters space	Day 8 When you go out, blow out!
Day 9 Keep matches and lighters out of the sight and reach of children	Day 10 Watch what you heat!
Day 11 Encourage smokers to smoke outside	Day 12 There's more to responsible drinking than taking a cab home

More details on Tips for a Fire Safe Holiday Season can be viewed at: <https://www.oafc.on.ca/holiday-fire-safety> or on the Neebing website: www.neebing.org

Grandma's Restaurant

Take Out 939-1551

Home Cooking 7 Days a Week 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

BREAKFAST All Day Every Day! | **FRESH HOMEMADE SOUP Daily!**

Fresh Subs, Sandwiches, Wraps!
Coffee Bar available 24hours

Santorelli's

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Free Wi-Fi!

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- +15% on Asphalt
- +10% Traction in Snow

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3129 W. Arthur by Santorelli's Husky Truck Stop
Fast, Friendly Service by Knowledgeable Staff



Tree Services (Year Round):

- * Tree Pruning * Tree Removal
- * Hydro Line Pruning & Clearing (Private Lines)
- * Hazardous Limbs/Trees
- * Storm Cleanup
- * Tree Support Systems
- * Tree Planting & Transplanting (Seasonal)

Winter Services Also Include:

- * Snow Clearing & Removal * Rooftop Snow Clearing

***EXPERIENCED & INSURED SERVICES**

For a free estimate please call, text or email:

Grant Miller: (807)-630-5359

Email: woodsmillertreeworks@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook @ WOODS MILLER TREE WORKS

Website: woodsmillertreeworks.ca



Lakehead Region Conservation Authority

submitted by LRCA Staff

With the holiday shopping season upon us, it is a great time to purchase an Explore Card Parking Pass. The 2024 Explore Card Parking Pass is now on-sale. Explore Card Parking Passes permit day-use/parking at our ten Conservation Areas for one calendar year. Visit as often as you like. Enjoy one calendar year of recreation activities! For the low price of \$40.00 +HST, it's convenient for frequent users, and a great stocking stuffer for the outdoor enthusiasts in your life! All Explore Card revenue goes directly towards the upkeep and maintenance of our Conservation Areas.

The LRCA and Lakehead Conservation Foundation (LCF) is pleased to once again be hosting our annual Conservation Dinner & Auction on Friday, February 9, 2024. Tickets are on sale now and are \$75.00 each. Available on our web store at www.store.lakeheadca.com.

Our extremely popular Explore cal-

endars have arrived, and best of all, they are free! We will have a limited number of calendars available at our office, otherwise, they can be picked up at select local businesses including Safeway, 55+ Centres in Thunder Bay, local Municipal offices and more. Very limited quantities available.

This is a reminder that dogs must always remain on-leash when in a Conservation Area; dogs must also be picked up after. Conservation Areas are not off-leash dog parks, and visitors are expected to abide by the Regulations under the Conservation Authorities Act, including keeping pets leashed, when visiting our properties. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please be advised that the LRCA Administrative Office will be closed from December 25, 2022, until January 2, 2024.

Get out and Explore!

**We sell
EVERYTHING YOU NEED
to work on your own
pump, waterline, and filters!**

- filters → jet pumps
 - softeners → sump pumps
 - UV sterilizers → effluent pumps
 - media → fittings
 - uv bulbs → pipe
 - cartridges → wire
 - salt
 - submersible pumps
- ...and more!*



8am-5pm Weekdays
707-7000

176 Clavet Street
www.mjws.ca

OUR RECYCLING PROGRAM HAS GROWN!



Community Music Night

Slate River Baptist Church
Sunday December 10th @ 6:30pm
80 McClusley Drive 807-475-5140

Sing-along, Hand-bells, Musicians & Guests, Love Offering, Refreshments and Fellowship, All are Welcome!

RBC Royal Bank

Jessica Coley
Mortgage Specialist
(807) 476-4867
jessica.coley@rbc.com

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loadqueenservices.ca 807-766-9776

FOR SALE

Green leather recliner, 6 foot Christmas tree with attached lights. Snow blower attachment - fits Craftsman riding mower, Sewing machine cabinet, Nordic Track Circuit Trainer, Model 4000, water pump, outdoor wood burning furnace.

Call 807-964-2393

LAKEHEAD REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

www.lakeheadca.com

@lakeheadregion /

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JESSE ASUNMAA 807.355.4409
JARIASUNMAA 807.631.4709

780 Silverfalls Rd., Kamistiquia, ON P0T 1X0 kamcrush@gmail.com

NFRA invites you to fill your cookie jars with delicious seasonal treats.

Saturday December 9th

1pm-3pm @ Blake Hall

Our local bakers will supply a scrumptious variety of your favorites.

Holiday Cookie & Treat Sale

Both pre-packaged and select-your-own boxes will be available.

Also planned:

- ❖ 50/50 Draw
- ❖ Local Vendors
- ❖ Penny Auction
- ❖ Door Prize
- ❖ Coffee/Tea/Hot



Neebing Fire/Rescue Association



50/50

 \$\$\$

FUNDRAISER

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN CASH!

50% OF THE PROCEEDS TO YOU, 50% TO SUPPORT NEEBING EMERGENCY SERVICES

1 TICKET = \$10 3 TICKETS = \$20 10 TICKETS = \$50 25 TICKETS = \$100

FOR DETAILS AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS GO TO:

neebingfirerescueassociation.com/events/draw

Solitary License NRP1291114

Evergreen

PHARMACY

TWO CONVENIENT LOCATIONS:

Rosslyn 202 Highway 130 (807) 939-2007 Mon-Fri 9am-6pm Sat 10am-2pm	Kakabeka Falls B-4785 Hwy 11/17 (807) 577-2435 Mon-Fri 9am-6pm Sat 10am-4pm
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New Location in Kakabeka
NOW OPEN

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**6 YEAR
POWERTRAIN
WARRANTY**

MODEL:
BX2380

KUBOTA THUNDER BAY

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807-344-8901 | WWW.KUBOTATHUNDERBAY.COM

We'd like to recognize and thank all of the donors who chose NFRA this year.

- Thank you to the **Anonymous donors** who quietly give to support us.
- Thank you to the **families** who chose NFRA for **In Memorium** donations to honor their loved ones.
- Thank you to our **Monthly donors** who enable us to better plan our support of NES.
- Thank you to our **One-Time donors** who think of NES and are moved to support them through us.



December 9th is our **Holiday Cookie & Treat Sale** at the Blake Hall, from 1pm to 3pm!

If you can donate baking or penny auction items to this festive fundraising event, please contact Karen @ 807-475-0269.



'What's Cooking in Neebing' cookbooks will be available for purchase (\$15) as well as the opportunity to pay cash for our Online **50/50 Raffle tickets!**

Come out December 9th to Blake Hall and see what we have to offer! **Vendors, Penny Auction, & Treats!** What a marvelous way to begin the holiday season.

All proceeds from NFRA fundraisers like these go right back into our community through our purchases for Neebing Emergency Services!



Neebing Fire/Rescue Association
NFRA News
Respectfully submitted: Joy Harris, President NFRA

DECEMBER



TAX

Did you know that all donations to NFRA help to keep your taxes lower?

The Municipality funds Neebing Emergency Services for all basic needs but it's the **contributions from you** and purchases made by NFRA that buy extra equipment and training aids that are required for a well-run service. Thus minimizing any need for a tax increase.

Another great reason to support NFRA!

On that note: A Big **THANK YOU** to all of you who place your sorted bags of pop, beer and metal cans into our collection bins at our landfill sites! The sorting crew is most appreciative of the helping hand that gives us. Liquor and wine bottles and bags brought to the collection sheds also make a huge impact on what we can do for Neebing Emergency Services. These donations really add up! Our annual total is well over \$6000 from returnables and metal recycling.

NFRA held, what we think is, our last sorting morning of 2023 last Friday. Thank you to all who came out!

We went from this huge pile:



To this, in just over 2 hours:



From all of us at 5 Star Electric

**Wishing our
great customers
and ~ of course
~ everyone else
a Merry
Christmas,
Happy Holiday
& Happy New
Year!!**

**Enjoy it
& Stay Safe!**



807-475-7827
Email: inquiries@fivestarelectric.ca

Isn't that a great looking shed Kris and Steve built? We were happy to 'break it in'. Our thanks to Steve McKinnon for also donating the used metal for the walls and roof, it will keep us dry next Spring ☺

FARMERS or **OTHERS**: if you have extra used **Mini Bulk Bags** you can donate for our use, **please contact Kris @ 807-621-3456**. The ones we are using for our can collections are getting tattered and full of holes. Thank you!



 Tickets for our last 50/50 draw of 2023 are selling well! That means the take-home pot is really growing. Will we be calling you on December 27th???

Scan this QR Code to purchase your tickets today or buy them right from our website:
neebingfirerescueassociation.com/events/draw

You will have a chance to win while helping us support Neebing Emergency Services.



 2023 is already the highest year ever of donations to NFRA through CanadaHelps, Thank you!

The Rural Pharmacist: Expansion in Rosslyn

by Devon Myers, Pharmacist/Owner of Evergreen Pharmacies

If you've driven down Highway 130 over the past few weeks, you may have noticed a very exciting development. Perhaps you saw an excavator moving earth around. Maybe it was the dump trucks that brought load after load of soil that caught your eye. That's it! The cat is out of the bag! Although we're in the preliminary stages, construction of a new building for Evergreen Pharmacy – Rosslyn is now officially underway! Picture this: December 2017, a 200 square foot basement suite in a rural commercial building. Going to work in the dark, coming home in the dark. No foot traffic; a few people popping their heads in after they've finished their dental appointments upstairs. Some people are considering our services but don't want to commit until they've seen stability and growth. That's where we started. It's hard to believe that it has been six years since we opened our small pharmacy in Rosslyn. And now, we can proudly say that it is time to expand. But let's be honest, I'm sure our staff would have liked some extra space 2 or 3 years ago. Our project

will relocate our pharmacy to an adjacent lot to where we currently operate. We will still be neighbours with Rosslyn Dentistry. It goes without saying that there is a lot of work to be done between now and when we move. However, if things go according to plan, we will be opening our doors in the summer of 2024.

The Evergreen Pharmacy team wants to take this opportunity to thank all the patients that have trusted us with their healthcare over the past several years. We recognize that it can be a difficult decision to leave a pharmacy that you're already familiar with. For those of you who have transitioned to our pharmacies, both in Rosslyn and Kakabeka Falls, we hope that you have appreciated our services. As we look to the future, we aim to expand the services available in your communities.

Sticking with available services, after several busy weeks, the initial demand for flu shots and Covid-19 vaccines has begun to slow. However, flu season can last well into the new year, and it is not too late to get your shot. Booking online is still a great

way to lock-in an appointment slot and to fill out the necessary screening questionnaire ahead of time. With that said, by this time of the season, it's much easier to accommodate walk-in appointments. So, if you're considering a vaccine, stop by either location and our pharmacists will be happy to help you.

And just like that, it's another year in the books. Despite the lack of snow, it felt as though December quickly came this year. Wishing everyone a merry Christmas and happy holidays. See you in the New Year. From all of those at Evergreen Pharmacy.


Slate River Dog Grooming
a caring hands family
HWY 61, Neeting 475-9629 Find us on Facebook


The Junction
A ministry of Slate River Baptist Church
Providing emergency food & clothing to rural individuals or families in need.
Clothing - Hygiene Products - Pantry
If you or someone you know is in need of food or clothing please contact us. Core pkgs. available. All items are free. Find us on Facebook or call 475-5140.
NEW MOMS-We can help with diapers, wipes etc.


Please come out and join us at Pinegrove United Church
100 - Hwy 130 Admission is free and all are welcome!
December 7 - coffee and fellowship 10 AM
December 21 - turkey lunch 11:30 - hope to see you there!
Volunteers are also welcome (and needed)
For more information about Cafe del Soul, please visit www.pinegroveuc.org/cafe-del-soul/


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RURAL 60 PLUS IS OPEN!
5 Pineview Road, Kakabeka Falls 475-5779,
email rural60@tbaytel.net Website: www.rural60plus.ca

Monday	- Carving - 10 to 3 - Disking - 1 to 3
Tuesday	- Weaving- 10 to 3 - Knitting- 10 to 3 - Good Company Choir- 1 to 3
Wednesday	- Beginner Carving - 10 to 3 - Quilting- 10 to 3 - Cribbage - 10 to 3
Thursday	- Weaving- 10 to 3 - Knitting - 10 to 3 - Yoga - 10 to 11

Craft Room open Monday to Friday- 10 to 3
Good Company Choir ends Dec. 12 until next year
Yoga ends Dec. 7 until next year

The Annual Rural 60 Plus Christmas Dinner will be Friday December 15 at 1:00pm at the Kakabeka Legion not Friday December 8 as stated in the last newsletter.

Rural 60 Plus will be closed from end of day Friday December 22 reopening on Monday January 8, 2024.


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NEEBING NEWS DELIVERED TO YOUR MAILBOX (unless you have NO FLYERS posted)

Deadline for the JANUARY issue of The Neebing News is Tuesday, Jan. 2! GOT INFO FOR JANUARY?

Get it off your desk and onto MINE! :) (BUT early submissions are always very welcome!)

Submissions and photos of community events and articles of interest are welcome, and can be sent to Chris Vaclav at designhouse@tbaytel.net 628-7271

Kakabeka Legion Events



- Saturday December 2nd Exec/Gen mtg 2:30/3
- Saturday December 2nd Dance with Quest 7-10
- Saturday December 9th Christmas Concert 2-4
- All donations to the Rural Cupboard Food Bank
- Sunday December 10th Breakfast with Santa 8:30-noon
- Friday December 15th Rural 60+ Christmas lunch 1-2
- Saturday December 16th Christmas Dinner/Dance with Quest
- Dinner 5:30-7 Dance 7-10 Dance open to all
- Dinner reservations by December 9th. Call Gary 708-0411
- Sunday December 17th RCFB Christmas Supper 4-6
- For Tickets Call Gary 708-0411

On behalf of the Kakabeka Legion thank you for your support.
Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
We look forward to seeing you in 2024!

Book Your Next Event with Us!

Blake Hall is available for rent by the hour, day or weekend. Blake Hall has a fully equipped kitchen for self-catered events and comfortable chairs and tables for your guests. We are also fully accessible with a ramp entrance and accessible washroom.
Contact Us Phone: 807-474-5331
Email Us neebing@neebing.org

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY

TOPS can help you reach your weight-loss goals by providing you the support, tools, and accountability needed to be successful.
First meeting is FREE.

TUESDAY 5 10:00 AM Baptist Community Church Corner Mudlake & Oliver Rds. Murillo 330 Hwy 595	TUESDAY 5 5:30 PM Blake Community Hall 71 Blake Hall Road Neebing CONTACT 807-577-5924
WEDNESDAY 5 6:30 PM O'Connor Community Center 344 Hwy 595 O'Connor CONTACT 807-577-5924	TUESDAY 5 10:15 AM Hope Christian Reform Church 1315 Crawford Ave. Thunder Bay CONTACT 807-577-5924

Rural Family Centre



"Learning Through Play, Exploration & Inquiry"
Connect with other Families!
(for children 0-6 years)

Our Calendar of events can be viewed at: <https://www.keyon.ca/en/Events/ViewEvents>
* EarlyON Child and Family Centre - Murillo
(Pre-registration on KeyON is required)

For more info. please:
Email: ruralfrc@tbaytel.net or
Private FB message us or
Call: 935-3009

Play, sing, laugh and we will SEE YOU SOON!

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor	Mark Thibert	474-1362	mayor@neebing.org
Councillor for Blake	Katherine Hill	631-1869	blake@neebing.org
Councillor for Crooks/Deputy Mayor	Brian Wright	964-2365	crooks@neebing.org
Councillor for Pardee	Curtis Coulson	577-2475	pardee@neebing.org
Councillor for Pearson	Gary Gardner	577-1963	pearson@neebing.org
Councillor for Scoble	Brian Kurikka	633-3735	scoble@neebing.org
Councillor At-Large	Gordon Cuthbertson	708-7548	councilatlarge@neebing.org

Women die every year from violence.
First mourn.
Then work for change.

National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women
December 6

Ontario Nurses' Association

SOMA FREE DANCE
WITH *Wormwood House*
7:30-9:30 PM
EVERY 3RD FRIDAY/MONTH
MURILLO HALL
ecstaticdance.org/dance/soma-free-dance
\$20 SUGGESTED

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December Events
gillescommunitycentre@gmail.com
#7835 HWY 595 South Gilles

MONDAY EVENINGS GENTLE FLOW YOGA Dec 4 & 11 7:00pm - 8:00pm \$5 drop-in	THURSDAY EVENINGS CORNHOLE Weekly cornhole tournament with prizes for the winners Thursdays 7pm-9pm per team Jan-Gilles Community Centre Cornhole League on Facebook for more information
FREE PLAY GROUP Dec 8th 10am - 12pm Kids 0-4 accompanied by caregiver	
DEC 3 Christmas Tea 10:00am - 12:00pm \$10 per person. Kids under 5 FREE! Admission includes beverage, tea, appetizers & dessert. Auction, games & lucky draw! Cash Only!	
DEC 17 Milk & Cookies with Santa 10:00am - 12:00pm \$10 per family (kids under 2 years FREE) Admission includes milk & cookies, photo with Santa & craft! Parents free accompanying a child!	
DEC 29 Waldorf Parent & Child Gathering 10:00am - 12:00pm Join us for a Waldorf inspired program! Please bring a Fall to share for snack! Email: helpdesk@neebing.org for more details.	

LIKE US & FOLLOW ALONG ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
THE GILLES COMMUNITY CENTRE IS SEEKING A VOLUNTEER TREASURER AND A POOL OF VOLUNTEERS FOR VARIOUS EVENTS
THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR YOUR DEDICATION IN 2023!



Chix in the Stix Fake Fir

I blinked and it was December. I love Christmas but I'm barely ready compared to some people. I did manage to get our tree up. It's a fake one. There are just times in your life when simple and easy makes the most sense. And I don't know who needs to hear this. Maybe me. But let me be clear. Not only is it okay to have a fake tree. It's also okay to buy stove top stuffing! And store-bought pie. And cans of whipped cream. And a pre-cooked turkey roll. And instant gravy. And instant mashed potatoes. And salad from a bag. And not bake cookies. In fact if you feel like having pizza as your main course on Christmas Day and ice-cream for dessert - IT'S OKAY! There are no laws about this. You can do all your shopping on-line and even give gift cards if it makes life easier and skip Christmas cards completely. You're an adult and can do what you want. Christmas can still be special and the memories divine! I promise!

My Christmas memories are a mixed bag of big and small, good and bad. I remember these HUGE dinners in my grandparents 'rumpus room' with so many relatives they had to set up saw-horses and sheets of plywood to have enough tables to fit everyone. I remember Christmas Eve sitting on the floor in front of my mother as she put 'pin-curls' in my hair before bed so I'd have the perfect curls for Christmas morning. I remember my Grandfather's collection of nut-crackers which I could never master, and the bowls of tiny sweet 'Christmas' oranges. I remember the year we had no money but still, hanging on the back of my door on Christmas morning was the yellow dress my mom knew I had been longing for. Later as a parent I spoiled my kids, loading them up with more presents than they needed. I was always so exhausted on Christmas morning because I had been up all night wrapping and making things 'just right' for everyone and could barely keep my eyes open to enjoy it.

Today our kids are grown and the interest in getting presents has faded. The decorations are sparse. There is less fanfare. There are fewer people and it's often just us and our kids or a few close friends. We have a few simple traditions that have evolved over time. Sipping tea or cider while playing Scrabble or Boggle. Watching a Christmas movie. Driving around town listening to Christmas music and looking at lights. But everything is laid back and flexible. Everyone goes with the flow and honestly if I announced that this Christmas would be spent at a hotel eating take-out and laying by the pool everyone would be on board. Because we know the important things aren't things. And they definitely aren't about stress or extra work or debt or exhaustion or meet-

ing unrealistic expectations that I maybe saw in a magazine or on a reality show. It's about being together.

Don't get me wrong, those childhood memories are grand. And the years of Christmases when my own kids were young are cherished memories. When almost everything was homegrown and homemade. When the tree was real. When the decorations were crafted from tiny hands. It was definitely a magical time. But there were also some very dark Christmases in my past. The Christmas my mom died. The year a loved one left. When money was scarce. When I was unwell. One year I lived alone and skipped Christmas all together. And the lessons of the dark Christmases have stuck with me. A reminder that Christmas isn't always a happy shiny time for everyone. There are individuals and families struggling with so many things right now - finances, health, grief - and when this big commercially driven holiday comes along it's hard to handle sometimes. So I am trying to scale back myself, and hope that others will see that it's okay too and that there might be less pressure all around to achieve perfection. Because it's never going to be perfect. Life isn't a Hallmark movie. It's usually much harder and much messier and sometimes downright painful. I'm determined to be extra kind, extra patient, extra compassionate this Christmas no matter where I am or who I'm interacting with. Because you don't know what

<p>Murillo Library Monday 10 – 8:00 pm Wednesday 10 – 8:00 pm Saturday 9 – 12 pm 935-2729</p>	<p>Email: oplibrary@tbaytel.net Website: http://oliverpaipoonge.olsn.ca</p>	<p>Rosslin Library Tuesday 10 – 8:00 pm Thursday 10 to 8:00 pm Friday 10 – 3:00 pm Saturday 1 – 4:00 pm 939-2312</p>
	<p>Christmas Hours Both Library branches will be closed between Christmas Day and the new year. Rosslin Library will reopen on Tuesday January 2nd. <i>Have a safe and happy holiday!</i></p>	
<p>New Active Play program for preschoolers! Join Ashley and Myra on Monday, December 4th at Murillo Hall from 1 to 1:45 for some fun fitness and creative movement</p>	<p>Early ON Child and Family Centre <i>No registration required for both these events!</i></p>	<p>Join us for Storytime with Ashley from Murillo EarlyOn Center! She will be visiting Rosslin Library on Tuesday, December 19th from 1:00 to 2:00</p>

people are going through or what they are going home to. Things may look fine on the surface but I don't know a single person who isn't dealing with SOMETHING these days and I think the best present we could give one another is peace, space, slack and understanding. No judgment. No expectations. And hey, if you ARE one of those people who are having a good year, and are top of your game with all your planning, baking etc...well pay it forward! Maybe a plate of homemade cookies would make all the difference to your neighbours. Or even an invite to dinner. Or just a hug, a smile and a kind word. And while I do not have the energy to put up Christmas lights at my house, trust me, those of you who do are my heroes and we enjoy every twinkling light we see more than you will know. Let's be extra kind to each other this holiday season, and especially to ourselves. Nothing fake about it. We have a long cold winter ahead and can use all the warm fuzzies we can get.



Oliver Paipoonge
ONTARIO PARK PASSES

Planning a day trip to one of our local provincial parks? Use your library card to borrow a free day pass!



Story Time with Kelsea
Every Thursday at 11:00 am
at Rosslin Library

After school 'Reading with Rena'
Calling students in grades 4 to 6...
Do you enjoy being read to in a quiet relaxing space?
Why not join us at the Murillo Library and see what it's all about.
Every Monday at 3:00 p.m.
(except Oct. 9th)
Snacks will be provided.



'Get Creative' craft gathering
Every Thursday from 1 to 4:00
at Rosslin Hall



Bring in your current craft project to work on alongside other 'crafty-minded' people. Games of Canasta, dominoes or other card games can be arranged if you wish to play. This is a great time to meet new people, socialize and share tips and ideas.
Call 939-2312 for more information.

CRIBBAGE

BEGINNERS WELCOME!
EVERY TUESDAY 1 P.M.
ROSSLYN COMMUNITY CENTER
3405 ROSSLYN ROAD



Thank you!

Rosslin Cribbage Club just celebrated their 1st anniversary on Oct. 17th. Over the year we grew from 9 to 34 players with room for many more. So come and join the fun and friendship!

Staying Fire Safe During the Holiday Season

by Dale Ashbee, Fire Chief



Locally, as I look out my window, the sight of bare ground as we near the end of November is certainly a significant departure from late November of 2022. The absence of snow cover, as well as a limited amount of rain over the fall period this year, dictate that the potential for a grass or brush fire start has continued to exist well past normal periods of concern. This is not the first time that we have experienced such weather conditions, with unusual late grass and brush fire starts that have necessitated extinguishment by Neebing Emergency Services (NES). While these unusual conditions continue to exist (and either more rainfall or significant snowfall fails to occur), residents are advised to be extra diligent when/if burning off

debris piles, especially if their site conditions involve dry grasses, fine fuels or an up-slope. Although at this time of year most fire spreads are quickly and successfully brought under control by NES fire services, the potential for unanticipated fire travel from a debris pile to nearby outbuildings (and even a personal residence) can, and have, happened. Hopefully by the time you read this piece, Mother Nature will have blessed us with some fresh snow cover, and outdoor fire concerns will be behind us. While knowing that earlier Neebing News (NN) articles have covered such topics, here are a couple of fire safety tips that are worth repeating to ensure you have taken appropriate actions:

- **Heating System Servicing:** Regardless of the fuel source used in your home, you need to ensure that your heating system is ready to go for winter, with filters changed,

chimneys cleaned, and fuel topped-up, ready to go.

- **CO and Smoke Alarms:** Each unit should be checked, tested, cleaned and new batteries installed as required.

As we come to the end of 2023, NES members would like to extend our appreciation to all our Neebing residents for the support and assistance provided to our team throughout the year. Whether directly 'giving a hand' as needed, offering helpful advice or information to responders, adopting community fire safety initiatives, supporting fund raising activities or simply being careful and diligent regarding any fire hazards, each contribution is appreciated by NES volunteers.

A special Thank You is directed to the Neebing Fire and Rescue Association (NFRA) and the many community volunteers and local businesses who support and assist them in carrying out their fund-raising activities throughout the year – from the traditional metal can and beverage bottle recycling efforts and the Christmas Cookie Treat Sale, to the new 50/50 Ticket draw and other special fund raisers, such as the Firewood Raffle. The monetary funds raised through these many efforts allow NES to contribute to the core Municipal budget, thereby helping the team to acquire additional equipment such as emergency fire gear

and other products necessary to meet the changing needs of our community.

With the Christmas and New Year's holiday season soon upon us, NES would like to remind everyone to be aware and careful regarding any/all fire safety concerns over the holiday season. In order to assist you to experience a fire-safe festive season, Neebing will be posting (on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/Neebing, the twelve (12) fire safety tips, one for each day of the seasonal "12 Days of Christmas". If you prefer, the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC) has a wide selection of fire safety tips for all occasions which are viewable at <https://www.oafc.on.ca/public-safety>.

In closing, NES sends Sincere Good Wishes from all of us - to each of you, and to all your Family and Friends, for a

Safe and Happy Holiday Season!



"Considerations for Safe Open Fire Burning in Late Fall".

In late Fall, conditions are generally considered to be safe enough to allow for outdoor burning, even during the daytime. Many residents take advantage of that expected sense of 'safe-time' to clean up their properties, and then to get rid of the natural debris through the ignition of a live fire. Residents are reminded to be extra alert in setting any fires when/if ground conditions are still **dry**, especially if fine fuels such as tall dead grasses are present. As well, residents should be particularly aware of building fires on south-facing slopes on sunny days. South-facing slopes are 'heat sinks' that can be much warmer and drier than other close by flat areas. If the decision is made to burn in such areas, extra caution and diligence is essential. Fires in these areas can start relatively easily - spreading quickly up the slope, or through available dried grass - and rapidly become difficult to contain or get out of control.

**If your Fire Gets Away from you,
CALL 911 immediately!**

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Blake Community Hall -
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Tire Shop: 939-2581 Office: 939-2572
Fax 939-1171

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'Controlled Burn' Fire Training Exercises

As Neebing Emergency Services (NES) is without ready access to such elaborate fire training props such as 'fire training towers', our team has many times benefited from the generosity of Neebing residents who have decided to donate personal structures to be used as training sites for our volunteer fire fighters. These structures, which are safely ignited to create 'real' fire situations, allow our fire team members to become familiar with the actions necessary to rescue potential 'victims', as well as use proper fire suppression techniques to manage live fire while under real heat and smoke conditions.

Depending on the condition of the potential structure, it is often possible to conduct training sessions over a period of several weeks by focusing first on cold-condition training (using generated 'smoke' for search and rescue), then moving on to dealing with a simulated fire attack or 2nd story victim rescue (using accessible windows and/or a variety of ladder arrangements).

The final training exercise usually involves the setting and extinguishing of a variety of fires strategically situated within the structure, which allow the FF's present to practice suppression techniques meant to safely put out the fire and thereby 'save the structure'! Ultimately a final fire is set so that the building can be burned completely, with FF's engaged in controlling the fire and protecting nearby exposures until the donated building is safely on the ground or in the basement.

These controlled-burn training evolutions are invaluable in helping NES Fire-Fighters to recognize 'safe' (as well as dangerous) fire conditions, and to identify and practice appropriate suppression techniques while responding to those various fire conditions as presented by the building structure. To date, NES has been fortunate to be able to conduct, on average, one (1) live burn training exercise each year, thereby exposing its FFs to real structure fire conditions within the community.

If you have a structure on your property that you would like to offer for possible use by NES for a controlled burn training exercise, kindly send an email to neebing@neebing.org, indicate that you are interested in making a structure you own available for controlled burn training and provide contact information to reach you for follow up. NES will carry out a pre-plan property review to determine whether (or not) your structure/site is suitable for the purpose of an NES controlled burn training exercise and advise accordingly.

Happy Holidays

from



THUNDER BAY CO-OP



Looking forward to serve you in 2024!

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Beginners welcome!!



Rosslyn Hall
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1 - 3 pm

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power outages

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