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Hoito Finnish?

Drowning in \$1 million in debt, the Finlandia Association votes to liquidate, but there may be a saviour /3



END OF AN ERA?: The 110-year-old Finnish Temple houses the world-famous Hoito Restaurant, which was forced to close during the COVID-19 pandemic.

LEITH DUNICK

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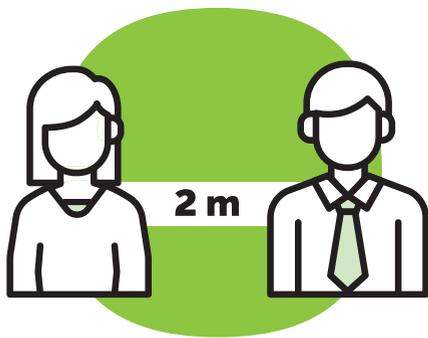
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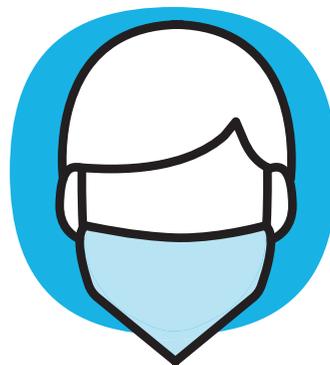
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LOCAL NEWS

Finlandia to liquidate

Languishing \$1 million in debt, board of directors say bankruptcy threat left them little other choice

THUNDER BAY
By Doug Dlaczuk – TB Source

The 110-year-old Finnish Labour Temple and the Hoito Restaurant have an important place in the city’s story and even though its future remains uncertain after the Finlandia Association voted to liquidate the corporation, members say its story is not finished yet.

“It was a lesser of two evils we had to vote on,” said Anneli Tolvanen, Finlandia Association member. “It became pretty obvious what the choices were and where we had to go at the end of it. I don’t think we have seen this place go belly up yet. This is not the end of the story for this building.”

Following a special meeting held Wednesday evening via Zoom, 42 association members voted in favour of a motion to liquidate the corporation, with four voting against and five abstaining.

It was revealed that the Finlandia Association is more than \$1 million in debt and with the COVID-19 pandemic forcing the closure of the Hoito Restaurant and RBC denying a deferral of a biweekly \$2,000 mortgage payment, the only option was to liquidate.

“I think it’s fair to say there was significant debt,” said Derek Parks, a Finlandia Board member who was also appointed as an inspector for the liquidation.

“The situation arises that we were unable to generate revenue. With the Hoito being shut down, which has been the lifeblood and pulse of keeping this building going for years, because the money raised by the Hoito was used to pay for the building, the taps were turned off. That’s why we find ourselves in this situation. We were unable to find any financing to bridge us until times get better.”

Heavy borrowing

The Finlandia Association took out a \$900,000 loan in 2010 for renovation projects on the Finnish Labour Temple and in 10 years, \$600,000 of that loan was paid back, but Parks said RBC has called in the remaining \$295,000 and wanted the board to come up with a plan to repay the debt by April 27.

“The ability is there its just in the new world we are entering with COVID, summer tourism is going to be down, there is talk of a second wave, we just don’t know what business is going to look like and we are just unable as a board of directors to put together a plan that is going to satisfy a bank,” Parks said.

Had the corporation not voted to liquidate, RBC could have forced the association into bankruptcy.

“We got dealt cards that were beyond our control that got us into this situation,” Parks said.

Parks said choosing to liquidate the corporation allows the association to be part of the process and retain as many assets as possible rather than handing it over to RBC bankruptcy where they would have no say at all.

What this will mean for the historical Finnish Labour Temple and the Hoito Restaurant remains unclear at this time.

“I don’t think we are going to see it open as we knew and understand,” Parks said.

“With community support and whoever comes out, there



CLOSED: Finlandia Association board member Derek Parks.

might be a white knight out there who wants to invest because they had positive times when they were kids. We don’t know. But this way, going into liquidation, we buy more time for the community to organize and structure to come up with a business plan to satisfy banks and maybe even take it over.”

For Tolvanen, who said it is an emotional time to see the Finlandia Association in the situation it now finds itself, this could be a new start for the historic site.

“As we speak people are probably meeting and exchanging ideas and thinking creatively and gathering their resources and considering their contacts,” she said. “I think the community should stay tuned, stay interested, and stay concerned and stay prepared to participate and contribute and help this place stay alive.”

Trying to save temple

A group called the Finlandia Co-operative Thunder Bay has stepped up to save the Finnish Labour Temple.

“To that end, we are fundraising with the goal of buying the Finnish Labour Temple and its properties, including Tapiola, and then restructuring them into a multi-stakeholder cooperative - one that is transparent, democratic and run by you, its members,” the group of seven said in a statement emailed to local media on Tuesday morning.

“The co-operative will open the space for more diverse cultural, artistic, historical and educational activities that better reflect the fabric of the community without losing its Finnish roots. It will also encourage collaboration across stakeholder groups in a sustainable and modern way.”

The plan is to fundraise as much money as possible, through a Go Fund Me effort and localized donations through Bay Credit Union. – *With files from Leith Dunick*

“We got dealt cards that were beyond our control that got us into this situation.”
DEREK PARKS

Weather Forecast

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p>Chance of Shower Probability of Precipitation: 80% HIGH 24 LOW 11</p>	<p>A mix of sun and cloud Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH 26 LOW 8</p>	<p>A mix of sun and cloud Probability of Precipitation: 30% HIGH 15 LOW 5</p>
SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
<p>Mainly sunny Probability of Precipitation: 20% HIGH 17 LOW 1</p>	<p>Mainly sunny Probability of Precipitation: 0% HIGH 20 LOW 6</p>	<p>Rain Probability of Precipitation: 80% HIGH 12 LOW 9</p>

HEALTHCARE HERO OF THE WEEK

May 21st - May 28th



KRISTINA VISSER

SN/NE, RN, Clinical Nurse Specialist

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I was re-allocated to support the dedicated COVID unit at Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre as the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS). This experience has allowed me to grow and has proven to be incredibly rewarding. The incredible staff on the COVID unit (3A) are on the frontline and have been nothing short of remarkable. Being a CNS provides me with a beautiful opportunity to engage with patients while supporting staff at the bedside, provide leadership during an overwhelming time in health care, be a change agent during a time where change is happening at a rapid rate and evaluate new processes to ensure we keep all staff and patients safe.



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LOCAL NEWS

A lengthy border closure unrealistic

Health minister says testing tracing needed

THUNDER BAY
By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Canada's Health Minister says keeping the border with the United States closed until a vaccine is developed is not realistic.

Earlier this week, Dr. Stewart Kennedy, Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre's COVID-19 lead, told CBC News he'd like to see the country extend its border closure until a vaccine was found. The border closure has been extended 30 days to June 21, with no promise that it will reopen at that point to non-essential travellers.

It's been closed since mid-March. "I've spoken to Dr. Kennedy today and although I fully understand his concerns, I would say we have to take it a step at a time," Hajdu said.

"The vaccine solution is one that may not be in our near or immediate future and I think that travel is increasing regardless of whether the border is open or not as businesses resume their activities."

The United States, under President Donald Trump, has been encouraged to take a much faster approach to reopening than has been seen in Canada, at either the provincial or federal level.

Hajdu said it's her job to figure out how to reduce the importation of cases into the country, while acknowledging Canadians have the right to leave their country and come back to their homes.

"I think the real answer is what kinds of protections do we need at the border and elsewhere to prevent the importation of new cases and the ability to more closely monitor and track any kinds of infections so we can quickly tamp out any potential new outbreaks," Hajdu said.

What that looks like remains up in the

air, she added.

At the moment, anyone who crosses the border faces a mandatory 14-day quarantine period, unless they've been deemed an essential service worker who additionally isn't displaying any signs of COVID-19.

The concern among Canadians is the high rate of spread south of the border, where more than 1.6 million cases have been diagnosed and nearly 100,000 people have died.

Hajdu said when the border does open, there will be additional health screening procedures, something she and her colleagues are working on at the moment.

That could also include domestic flights as well, Hajdu added.

It won't be easy, she admitted. "But there are some signs and symptoms we can check for and there is also a better way to gather people's data about where they're traveling to, so if they do become ill, we can actually do a

much better job of contact tracing," Hajdu said.

"And that's going to be a very important component of this and I think as we start to see more rapid point-of-care testing, there will be other options available to governments and communities as well."

Thunder Bay Mayor Bill Mauro said while he understands the economic importance of an open border, he's not ready to start pushing for it to reopen any faster than the federal government's timeline.

"There is so much economic activity related to cross-border travel, in both directions," Mauro said. "Obviously our tourism sector is suffering significantly and a cross-border piece would go a long way to address that ... While it would be easy to say yes, open it up and help the economy, that is one that probably people would have to work really hard to convince me that it would be an appropriate thing to do at this time."



TEST CASE: Health Minister Patty Hajdu says waiting for a vaccine to reopen the border is not likely to happen.

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LOCAL NEWS

Overpass getting a \$1.3M facelift

CITY HALL

By Ian Kaufman – TB Source

The pedestrian overpass at Marina Park will close for much of the summer for repairs. City council gave the go-ahead to an estimated \$1.3 million repair job Monday night, while noting public concerns about the structure.

The work will see the pedestrian bridge removed for about 12 weeks beginning in July for badly-needed structural repairs. A report from city administration indicated the structure was experiencing significant corrosion and section loss in its steel supports, and could not be kept open past this year.

The contract for the repairs was awarded to the Tom Jones Corporation, which originally built the overpass in 1994. The company submitted the lowest bid for the work, coming in nearly \$500,000 below the city's pre-tender estimate.

While councillors unanimously approved the repairs, several

expressed concerns that the structure had become a magnet for loitering and drug use.

"In my dealings with the public, the general consensus is that people don't feel safe going through that overpass," said Coun. Albert Aiello. "Are there any safeguards that are planned, any type of security [or] maintenance that's going to prevent people from urinating and doing drugs in there?"

City administration acknowledged receiving such concerns from the public, but said those had declined since implementing measures like more frequent cleaning and an increased security presence in the past two years.

Coun. Brian Hamilton said the city should consider beautification work on the structure, but none is currently planned.

Several councillors wanted to see a

longer-term plan to replace the overpass with a street-level crossing at Red River Road. It's an option that would need to be negotiated with railways, said director of engineering Kayla Dixon, who added the city would pursue the possibility "as we move forward with some future plans for the reconstruction of Red River Road."

Dixon has previously said railway companies were open to the prospect, but would likely require the closure of the nearby level crossing at Camelot Street as a precondition.

"Let's not let that [idea] die," requested Coun. Brian McKinnon, saying a

level crossing at Red River could be critical to future waterfront development.

Work on the overpass is expected to be completed in October. The city expects the repairs to extend the life of the structure for around 20 years.

"...the general consensus is that people don't feel safe going through that overpass."

ALBERT AIELLO



QUARTER CENTURY: The Marina Park pedestrian overpass was originally built in 1994.

Country market reopening

BUSINESS

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The Thunder Bay Country market is reopening to the public on Saturday.

But in keeping with COVID-19 restrictions, customers will be encouraged to make their purchases and keep moving, in what the market is calling its Shop, Don't Stop strategy.

Booths will be further apart and only two customers will be allowed to shop at a booth at any given time. There will be a reduction of vendors on site and the number of customers allowed inside will be strictly controlled.

New market marshals will also be decked out in bright vests to answer questions and help move traffic along.

The moves come months after the market attempted to reopen after the initial COVID-19 restrictions were put in place, only to draw complaints because of a perceived lack of crowd control inside the usually jammed market, housed in the Canadian Lakehead Exhibition's Dove Building.

"We know the market has really evolved into a community gathering place over the years and a spot to catch up with friends—we can't wait to get back to a time that it will be safe to do so. But in the meantime, similar to a grocery or retail store, Thunder Bay Country Market is following provincial regulations to ensure the health and safety of our vendors, shoppers and the community," said Kelly Fettes, president of the Thunder Bay Country Market board.

It'll be a slow and steady reopening, she continued.

"Limited vendors onsite will now only be offering produce, baked goods and groceries for the time being, as we implement the first phase of reopening Thunder Bay Country Market to the public."

The goal is to make shoppers feel safe and at ease when they visit.

"So, with a little creative thinking, we have developed extra safety measures for all those in attendance. It will still be the local experience you love, but at a distance."

Annet Maurer, manager of the market, said customers have been clamoring to come back, but they wanted to make sure they got things right before reopening their doors.

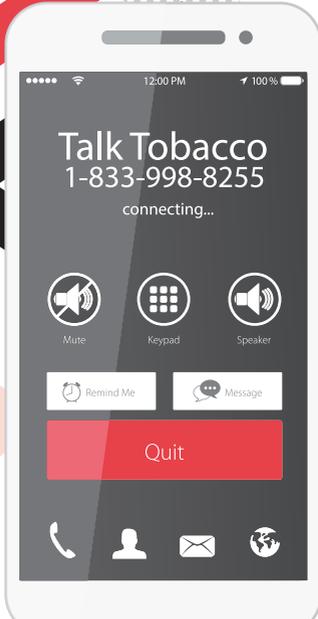
Buying local is important to Thunder Bay consumers, she added.

"We know people are eager to get back to market shopping—the community wants to be able to access local producers and farmers. Many people rely on the market, and the farmers and producers rely on them," Maurer said.

"Customers make an effort to buy locally grown and produced food because they trust it. They appreciate where their food is coming from and feel reassured knowing local food and products travel less and is safely handled, coming right from the farm to your shopping bag. Our vendors are resilient, hardworking individuals and they are committed to serving Thunder Bay."

About 20 vendors are expected on Saturday. The Market Kitchen will also be open, but only for takeout.

The Country Market will be open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the facility.





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Editorial

EDITORIAL

Finlandia has few options

The Finlandia Association faced a difficult decision last week.

Unable to meet biweekly mortgage payments, each about \$2,000, they were given two options by RBC – liquidate the association in order to pay off their \$290,000 mortgage or be faced with the start of bankruptcy proceedings.

After a lengthy meeting, the board of directors and its membership chose the liquidation route, giving themselves some say in the future of the Finnish Labour Temple.

Alas, it may mean the end of the world-renowned Hoito Restaurant.

Closed by the pandemic, the restaurant brought in the bucks that kept the Association able to continue to pay down nearly \$1 million in debt.

Faced with ongoing repairs it can't afford to make in order to reopen, and no money in the bank, they were left with little choice.

There's a chance someone will come along and save The Hoito. A group, the Finlandia Co-operative, has stepped up.

But as board member Derek Parks said, the Hoito is just the first. There are plenty of other restaurants, some as equally iconic, they may not survive the economic shutdown.

And that's precisely why the city cannot step in to help.

As sad as it would be to see the Hoito go, what about the next restaurant or group to come along?

Standing up for Emo

To the editor:

I live in Emo. As a resident and concerned citizen, I want to give a shout out to our municipal leader, Harold McQuaker.

Contrary to the cacophony of criticism, Mayor McQuaker is a man of integrity and grit.

He, along with Couns. Boven and Toles, are to be publicly commended for boldly representing Emo's fine population and for standing true to their convictions.

Emo is a bustling community, small, yet centre stage for Rainy River District services and commutes.

Well represented by all generations with a spectrum of backgrounds, people in Emo value mutual respect, honesty, and hard work.

There is nothing out-of-date about these qualities. Speaking for many in Emo, we are proud to live and serve here.

Thank you, Mayor McQuaker and noted council members who lead, and vote, with dedication and conviction, taking the interests of all constituents into consideration.

And, if you find yourself out this way and stopping in our town, take advantage of the friendly, full-service offerings.

H. Gerber,
Emo, Ont.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



New normal not easy for all

OPINION

By J.R. Shermack – TB Source

Human beings can be full of surprises but in many ways our behavior is highly predictable and follows an established pattern.

As we navigate our way through this health crisis, what are we thinking and how will we adjust to a so-called “new normal”, whatever that is?

Each of us has free will and we value our individualism but when you look at the big picture our overall actions and attitudes are anticipated and expected.

For example, even as social and economic restrictions are relaxed many Canadians are wearing face masks and continue to observe social distancing.

However, around the world, across Canada, in our own community and often within our own families there are many examples of irresponsible behavior.

Canadians consider themselves kind and polite and yet wearing a mask to protect vulnerable people is not yet a widespread practice.

It is discouraging to see crowds shopping and throngs in public parks ignoring social distancing and shunning face masks while congregating in large groups.

What are they thinking?

Disregard for safety measures threatens to overtake public health concerns – this troubling sentiment emerges as shoppers return to the marketplace.

Consumer behavior is very predictable and the effects are not surprising.

We have already seen the results in other parts of the world where COVID-19 was poised to take advantage of any busy, crowded, re-opened marketplace.

And it did – some countries have ignored the warnings at their peril and are seeing something akin to a second wave of infection.

Here at home we are torn between the need to minimize a second wave and the burning desire to reinvigorate our devastated economy.

It will be very challenging to accomplish these two goals together, at the same time.

Consumer sentiment has shifted in response to the virus but it remains to be seen if this leads to a lasting change in behavior.

A survey of Canadian consumers done in early May reveals some of the emerging trends in attitude and behavior after two months of isolation.

Overall, Canadians are uncertain about their future and unsure about the timeline for economic recovery.

For those who have it, personal savings are up as families try to put something away for a rainy (or viral) day.

But for the average household in Canada family income is down and spending is way down, except for groceries and home entertainment.

This is understandable as Canadians spend more time hanging around the house cooking and baking and watching movies and shows while eating warm cookies.

Actually, that doesn't sound so bad although it's hard not to feel guilty while eating home-made cookies by yourself, alone in isolation.

The lockdown has led Canadians to some new services in their everyday routine including grocery delivery, curb-side pickup, videoconferencing and remote learning.

The demand for contact-free personal services has been strong but when asked, most consumers have no intention of continuing once the economy opens up.

When it comes to retail products and services, if you open the door consumers will rush in and they may not wear a mask or observe social distancing.

Last week, huddled in my vehicle waiting for a curbside pickup, I saw wild-eyed Canadian consumers marching right in, giddy with the prospect of in-person shopping.

I saw a crowd of thousands rejoicing together in a Toronto park over the weekend with little or no regard for public safety.

Sadly, irrational human behavior is very predictable but just this once I would like to be surprised by the power of human kindness, good sense and compassion.

I'm tired of asking myself, “What were they thinking?”

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<p>Canada Games Complex's Retail Price\$1,000 Opening bid\$500</p>	

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Item #7	Gift Certificate
GRANITE TOPS BY DURACON	
	
<p>Sleek, artsy or simple... but always stunning. Granite Tops by DuraCon is legendary in the region. Decades of expertise and highly skilled craftsmen are part of every project. Granite Tops is happy to fabricate your custom kitchen counter top, bathroom vanity, fireplace, granite stairs or entryway project. Invest in an everlasting design that's right for your home. Granite Tops by DuraCon – Not Just Countertops. Gift Certificate may be used towards granite, quartz or tile.</p>	
<p>Granite Tops by Duracon's Retail Price\$3,000 Opening bid\$1,500</p>	

Item #8	Gift Certificate for Unilock Paving Stones
LANDALE GARDENS	
	
<p>Upgrade the look of your walkway, driveway, patio, pool deck or other outdoor surface with Unilock Paving stones. With a variety of shapes, sizes, textures, patterns and colours, we're certain to have a selection of products to meet your design needs. Gift Certificate can be used towards Unilock Paving Stones.</p>	
<p>Landale Gardens' Retail Price\$1,000 Opening bid\$500</p>	

Item #9	Gift Certificate
Carvalho Custom Granite Inc	
	
<p>Have you been putting off renovating your kitchen or bathroom counters? Well now's the perfect time! This Granite Gift Certificate provides the optimal opportunity for you to use towards your Custom Granite order! Your order will be custom from start to finish regardless if it is ordered or in stock! This amazing gift certificate comes with consultation, fabricating and installation. www.CarvalhoCustomGranite.ca</p>	
<p>Carvalho Custom Granite Inc's Retail Price ..\$3,000 Opening bid\$1,500</p>	

Item #10	Installation of New Doors/Windows
Northern Window & Door	
	
<p>Looking to upgrade those old, drafty windows? Well, this gift certificate is the perfect opportunity! This \$2000 gift certificate can be used for new windows or doors with installation. Visit them on-line at www.northernwindow.ca</p>	
<p>Northern Window & Doors' Retail Price.....\$2,000 Opening bid\$1,000</p>	

Item #11 Gift Certificate for Parts or Service

Wayne Toyota



Gift certificate towards genuine parts or service.

Wayne Toyota's Retail Price\$1,200
Opening bid\$600

Item #12 Gift Certificate

Unveiled & Bridal BOUTIQUE




Gift certificate can be used towards wedding, bridesmaids or mother of the bride dresses. No cash surrender value.

Unveiled Bridal Boutique's Retail Price.....\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #13 Gift Certificate towards a set of Sport Utility Passenger Tires

AUTO-ONE




Gift Certificate can be used towards set of Sport Utility Passenger Tires.

Auto One's Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #14 Gift Certificate

CHIMO BUILDING CENTRE



Updating a bathroom? Building a cottage? Deck or fence? Chimo has top quality materials, supplies and tools, windows and doors, roofing, plumbing and siding. Chimo Building Centre is your one stop shop! Gift Certificate good towards any item. Cannot be applied to existing account balances.

Chimo Building Centre's Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #15 Toro Titan HD 2000 Series MyRide Zero Turn Mower

NORTHERN TURF EQUIPMENT




Enhanced Comfort-The new MyRide isolates bumps and vibrations. For a more personalized ride the operator can easily and quickly adjust rear shock ride setting, without the use of tools, resulting in a superior ride. Turbo Force Cutting Decks- for outstanding quality of cut and durability. Nothing cuts as well as Turbo Force. Commercial Grade Durability and Turbo Force cutting deck, a rugged 3" x 2" durable frame and commercial-grade engine with heavy duty Donaldson air canister, the Titan HD with MyRide is built to last. Innovative Tool Carrying- Titan HD provides you the unique ability to easily attach your tools and accessories directly to the mower with the innovative tool-mounting brackets.

Northern Turf's Retail Price\$11,999
Opening bid\$6,000

Item #16 Gift Certificate

C&M Tile & Granites



Experience the luxurious look and feel of granite. With its high compressive strength and durability, granite is the hardest structural stone and makes an excellent choice for countertops, vanities and much more. To use towards granite & quartz countertops. One Gift Certificate per project.

C&M Tile & Granites' Retail Price.....\$2,000
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #17 Suzuki DR-Z50

J & J Sports




THE 2019 SUZUKI DR-Z50 Suzuki-Built mini-bike brings ease and convenience to riders just getting started. With an automatic clutch, three-speed transmission, electric starting, and a low 22-inch seat height. The 49CC Engine delivers a smooth, controllable power band. This motorcycle can be in the family for years, thanks to its rugged construction. The SUZUKI DR-Z50 combines a reliable engine with quality running gear that's built to last.

J & J Sports' Retail Price.....\$2,599
Opening bid\$1,300

Item #18 Prado Spa

HOT TUB EXPRESS

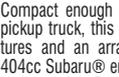


Seats 4-5 people. The Prado spa offers a classic hydrotherapy experience with a plug and play option that is also easy to install with a standard household outlet. Perfect for small spaces or patios, the Prado spa offers seats with varying massage combinations that will surely leave you feeling renewed. Cover included. Delivery in city limits included.

Hot Tub Express' Retail Price\$10,670
Opening bid\$5,335

Item #19 2019 Cub Cadet Challenger 400 4x4

ROSSLYN SERVICE

Compact enough to fit in the bed of a standard-sized pickup truck, this machine comes with heavy-duty features and an array of rugged attachments. Powerful 404cc Subaru® engine and 1,200-pound towing capacity for any job. Four-wheel-drive system and speeds up to 25 mph for easy access to ATV trails. Dent-resistant cargo bed with 400-pound capacity. Loaded with standard accessories, including a hard roof, LED headlights, aluminum alloy wheels with off-road tires. Yellow in color.

Rosslyn Service & Home Hardware's Retail Price ..\$12,000
Opening bid\$6,000

Item #20 Chillin Out Package

Marnics Mobile



Chill out with this Marnics Chillin Out Package including a 65" 4K Philips TV, TechTV mount, Rock Space Bluetooth wireless headphones and a SP260 Bluetooth wireless speaker.

Marnics Mobile's Retail Price.....\$1,100
Opening bid\$550

Item #21 Paving Package

Seal & Save Black Topping



Is your driveway looking outdated? Now's the time to upgrade! Get this amazing paving package gift certificate which includes the removal of the existing driveway, regrading driveway with "A" gravel and paved with hot asphalt! Visit www.sealandsave.com

Seal & Save Black Topping's Retail Price\$5,650
Opening bid\$2,825

Item #22 Laminate Counter Top Gift Certificate

Rizzo's Cabinet



Belanger has been making countertops since 1965 and has grown to become the leader in the post-formed decorative laminate countertop industry. Countertops are also perfect for uses that you may not have previously considered. Supply and install. Your choice of colour and design, choose from over 200 colours. Two year warranty. Visit www.belanger-laminates.com - No return Cash Value. One time use per item.

Rizzo's Cabinet's Retail Price\$1,500
Opening bid\$750

Item #23 Fantom Hot Tub

CRAIG PLUMBING CENTRE



2019 Fantom Hot Tub is the most accurate spa on the market with unique ergonomics that will meet all your needs. 78"X74"x32", 4 seats and one lounger. Dark Charcoal in color, 20 jets, Step and cover lifter included, Installation and Delivery within city limits is included.

Craig Plumbing Centre's Retail Price\$8,000
Opening bid\$4,000

Item #24 Gift Certificate

LANGEN GLASS



Gift Certificate to be used towards, installed windows, doors, glass showers and sealed units.

Langen Glass LTD's Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #25 Stressless Mayfair Chair

Reid's furniture



Built to support the body to provide maximum comfort. Steel frames with foam molded directly over the frame and top grain leather covers the entire chair. The Stressless Plus system automatically adjusts the headrest as you recline-supporting your neck continuously. Available in 3 sizes with different base options.

Reid's Furniture's Retail Price\$6,079
Opening bid\$3,040

Item #26 Gift Certificate

Verticals N Visions



Gift Certificate can be used towards goods or services.

Verticals N Visions' Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #27 Metal Roof Gift Certificate

Thunder Bay Co-op Farm Supplies



Ideal roofing-Wakefield bridge brand. Wakefield Bridge steel shingles are designed as an alternative to common asphalt shingles, but with the toughness and long-lasting qualities of high-strength steel roofing panels. With their 50 year limited warranty, these new steel shingles may very well be the last roof you install on your house for as long as you live.

Thunder Bay Co-op Farm Supplies' Retail Price ..\$2,500
Opening bid\$1,250

Item #28 Gift Certificate

C&M Tile & Granites



Experience the luxurious look and feel of granite. With its high compressive strength and durability, granite is the hardest structural stone and makes an excellent choice for countertops, vanities and much more. To use towards granite & quartz countertops. One Gift Certificate per project.

C&M Tile & Granites' Retail Price.....\$2,000
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #29 Pacific Energy Alderlea T5 Classic Wood Stove

THUNDER BAY FIREPLACES



The timeless beauty of cast iron with the added grace of porcelain enamel - the Alderlea T5 Classic LE is full of old-world charm and elegance, and boasts an outstanding list of standard features. Red in color. Includes stove pipe and blower kit. Venting, delivery, and installation extra.

Thunder Bay Fireplaces' Retail Price\$4,014
Opening bid\$2,007

Item #30 Gift Certificate

Carvalho Custom Granite Inc



Have you been putting off renovating your kitchen or bathroom counters? Well now's the perfect time! This Granite Gift Certificate provides the optimal opportunity for you to use towards your Custom Granite order! Your order will be custom from start to finish regardless if it is ordered or in stock! This amazing gift certificate comes with consultation, fabricating and installation. www.CarvalhoCustomGranite.ca

Carvalho Custom Granite Inc's Retail Price ..\$3,000
Opening bid\$1,500

Item #31 Paradise Trail Patio Furniture Set

Ashley HOMESTORE



Pretty enough for trendy interiors, yet durable enough to weather the elements. Handwoven resin wicker over rust-proof aluminum merges high style with low maintenance. Plush seat cushions and throw pillows wrapped in high-performing Nuvela fabric aim to please. Set includes: sofa, loveseat, cocktail table and 2 end tables. Delivery included within city limits.

Ashley Homestores Retail Price\$4,549
Opening bid\$2,275

Item #32 Gift Certificate

SRS Windows & Doors



Gift Certificate can be used towards product specific to Vinyl window designs and Everlast.

SRS Windows & Doors' Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #33 Gift Certificate for Green Goods

Landale Gardens



For use towards all green goods, mulch, top soil, sod, plants and trees. Except precast concrete (i.e. Patio stones and statuary).

Landale Gardens' Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #34 Osburn 3000 Pellet Stove with Vent Kit

Prestige Home Comfort



If you love the look and feel of a wood stove, but are attracted to the convenience offered by pellets, then the OSBURN 3000 PELLET STOVE is for you. The Osburn 3000 displays a classic wood stove appearance, and is aesthetically consistent with other members of the Osburn product family. However, within this classic wood stove design exists state-of-the-art components for achieving the unparalleled performance and convenience of a pellet stove. The new Osburn 3000, a must for eco-friendly heating!

Prestige Home Comfort's Retail Price\$6,999
Opening bid\$3,499

Item #35 Altimax Winter Wheel Package

PERFORMANCEKIA.CA



Altimax Winter Wheel Package includes set of 4 235/60 R 18 winter tires and Black alloy rims. Comes mounted and balanced can be used on Kia Sorentos, Sportages, Tellurides and much More.

Performance Kia's Retail Price\$2,500
Opening bid\$1,250

Item #36 Gift Certificate

Petersen's Building Supplies



Gift certificate can be used towards any merchandise you purchase for your next project. Enjoy your next building or renovating project with Petersen's Building Supplies. Petersen's Building Supplies, building the future of our community together.

Petersen's Building Supply's Retail Price\$3,000
Opening bid\$1,500

Item #37 Suzuki Quad Sport 90



J&J Sports

The QuadSport Z90 is designed for adult-supervised riders age 12 and older, and includes many safety features. Value, aggressive R450-like styling, ease of use and reliability, these are traits of the QuadSport Z90. The Z90 is the ideal ATV for young riders to learn on. Convenient features like the automatic transmission and electric starter help make this ATV suitable for supervised riders ages 12 and up. Get your little ones started on the QuadSport Z90 so your whole family can experience Suzuki's Way of Life!

J & J Sports' Retail Price.....\$3,999
Opening bid\$2,000

Item #38 Gift Certificate

Ming Car Care & 3M Window Film



Gift Certificate can be used for any product or service at Ming Car Care.

Ming Car Care's Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #39 Gift Certificate



Sleek, artsy or simple... but always stunning. Granite Tops by DuraCon is legendary in the region. Decades of expertise and highly skilled craftsmen are part of every project. Granite Tops is happy to fabricate your custom kitchen counter top, bathroom vanity, fireplace, granite stairs or entryway project. Invest in an everlasting design that's right for your home. Granite Tops by DuraCon - Not Just Countertops. Gift Certificate may be used towards granite, quartz or tile.

Granite Tops by Duracon's Retail Price\$3,000
Opening bid\$1,500

Item #40 Installation of New Doors/Windows

Northern Window & Door



Looking to upgrade those old, drafty windows? Well, this gift certificate is the perfect opportunity! This \$2000 gift certificate can be used for new windows or doors with installation. Visit them on-line at www.northernwindow.ca

Northern Window & Doors' Retail Price.....\$2,000
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #41 Hydropool 5000 Gold Serenity hot tub



Hydropool 5000 Gold Serenity hot tub. Interior- colour midnight canyon, Exterior - colour driftwood. It comes with Stairs, Cover lifter, G.C.F.I., Premium water care kit.

Landale Pools' Retail Price.....\$10,200
Opening bid\$5,100

Item #42 Gift Certificate

C&M Tile & Granites



Experience the luxurious look and feel of granite. With its high compressive strength and durability, granite is the hardest structural stone and makes an excellent choice for countertops, vanities and much more. To use towards granite & quartz countertops. One Gift Certificate per project.

C&M Tile & Granites' Retail Price.....\$2,000
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #43 Metal Roof Gift Certificate

Thunder Bay Co-op Farm Supplies



Ideal roofing-Wakefield bridge brand. Wakefield Bridge steel shingles are designed as an alternative to common asphalt shingles, but with the toughness and long-lasting qualities of high-strength steel roofing panels. With their 50 year limited warranty, these new steel shingles may very well be the last roof you install on your house for as long as you live.

Thunder Bay Co-op Farm Supplies' Retail Price..\$2,500
Opening bid\$1,250

Item #44 Gift Certificate for Parts or Service

Wayne Toyota



Gift certificate towards genuine parts or service.

Wayne Toyota's Retail Price\$1,200
Opening bid\$600

Item #45 Laminate Counter Top Gift Certificate

Rizzo's Cabinet



Belanger has been making countertops since 1965 and has grown to become the leader in the post-formed decorative laminate countertop industry. Countertops are also perfect for uses that you may not have previously considered. Supply and install. Your choice of colour and design, choose from over 200 colours. Two year warranty. Visit www.belanger-laminates.com - No return Cash Value. One time use per item.

Rizzo's Cabinet's Retail Price.....\$1,500
Opening bid\$750

Item #46 Daymak Sunshine RC Solar E Bike



The Sunshine RC is a great way to get around the city and is completely environmentally friendly. The Daymak Sunshine RC comes with LED strip lighting that is completely configurable by your Android or IOS Smart device. Change from an array of colours and styles to customize your ebike to how you like. Easily remove your battery and charge it in your home or office. The Sunshine also comes with a solar powered rear carrying case that is configurable with LED lights.

Auto One's Retail Price\$1,712
Opening bid\$856

Item #47 Sis Covers 12 Piece Duvet Package



What makes Sis covers the best-made bedding manufacturer in the industry? Our duvet cover has eight hidden buttons inside to keep the down alternative comforter securely in place. Our duvet covers and pillow shams stay neat and tidy at all times with zipper closures. Available in hundreds of fabrics for customization. The 12pc set includes: Duvet, Duvet cover, Footer, 7 decorative pillows and 2 sleeping pillows.

Reid's Furniture's Retail Price\$1,999
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #48 Smart Home Package

Marnics Mobile



Take comfort in your smart home with a Philips Hue Smart Hub, 2 Google Nest Mini Assistants, Lenovo Smart Display with Google Assistant, Phillips Hue Bulb Starter Kit, 2 iHome Control SmartPlugs, 2 Philips Hue Lightstrips plus and a google Daydream View. Installation included.

Marnics Mobile's Retail Price.....\$1,002
Opening bid\$501

Item #49 Gift Certificate for Green Goods

Landale Gardens



For use towards all green goods, mulch, top soil, sod, plants and trees. Except precast concrete (i.e. Patio stones and statues).

Landale Gardens' Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #50 Gift Certificate

Wally's Thunder Country Diving



Have you ever wanted to have new adventures and explore the underwater world? There are plenty of adventures to be had and your first stop is Wally's Thunder Country Diving! Whether you want to swim with the fish in a tropical location or explore the wrecks off the shores of Lake Superior, Wally's is your one stop shop. Wally's is a full service dive center and can assist you with all your diving needs and water accessories.

Complete Open-water Course and Equipment Package for two Retail Price\$1,600
Opening bid\$800

Item #51 Gift Certificate

C&M Tile & Granites



Experience the luxurious look and feel of granite. With its high compressive strength and durability, granite is the hardest structural stone and makes an excellent choice for countertops, vanities and much more. To use towards granite & quartz countertops. One Gift Certificate per project.

C&M Tile & Granites' Retail Price.....\$2,000
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #52 Gift Certificate towards set of 4 Light Truck Tires



Gift Certificate can be used towards set of 4 Light Truck Tires.

Auto One's Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #53 Gift Certificate

Direct Cabinets



Direct Cabinets, your local Canadian owned Thunder Bay all wood cabinet supplier. We offer a full line of kitchen cabinets for your new home builds or updating renovation needs. Direct cabinets stocks bathroom vanities, linen towers and mirrors in a variety of colors. Come visit our New Showroom at 941 Simpson St.

Direct Cabinets' Retail Price\$1,500
Opening bid\$750

Item #54 Gift Certificate

LANGEN GLASS



Gift Certificate to be used towards, installed windows, doors, glass showers and sealed units.

Langen Glass LTD's Retail Price.....\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #55 Gift Certificate

Lockstone Yard & Patio Centre



Have you been putting off your yard and patio renovations? Well, wait no longer! Purchase this \$2000 Gift Certificate and you can be upgrading your yard and patio today! Use this gift certificate towards any product at lockstone.

Lockstone Yard & Patio Centre's Retail Price \$2,000
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #56 Toro Power Clear 821 QZE Snow Blower



Take on Old Man Winter's biggest punches with the Toro Power Clear 821 QZE Single-Stage 21 inch Gas Snow Blower. This machine is built to blast through the deep snow, with a 252cc 4-Cycle OHV engine that launches the white stuff up to 35 ft. or more. Putting snow where you want it is a snap with a quick trigger and fast-action quick shoot. Starts easily with electric start. Shred snow fast with the patented Power Curve system, while the Power Propel self-propel system gets you moving on quickly. And also peace of mind with Toro's full warranty, not just limited coverage. With Toro's 2-year Guaranteed to Start Promise and warranty, you're ready for whatever winter has in store.

Northern Turf's Retail Price\$1,199
Opening bid\$600

Item #57 Gift Certificate



Gift Certificate can be used towards goods or services.

Verticals N Visions' Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #58 Gift Certificate

Carvalho Custom Granite Inc



Have you been putting off renovating your kitchen or bathroom counters? Well now's the perfect time! This Granite Gift Certificate provides the optimal opportunity for you to use towards your Custom Granite order! Your order will be custom from start to finish regardless if it is ordered or in stock! This amazing gift certificate comes with consultation, fabricating and installation. www.CarvalhoCustomGranite.ca

Carvalho Custom Granite Inc's Retail Price..\$3,000
Opening bid\$1,500

Item #59 Armstrong 96 Gas Furnace



Armstrong High Efficiency Direct Vent 2 stage furnace with 70,000 BTUs, Heavy duty 2 speed induced draft motor matches power vented to heating output. Fully insulated cabinet and blower compartment provides enhanced efficiency and quieter operation. Basic Installation included.

Adduono's Sheet Metal & Heating Ltd's Retail Price\$4,900
Opening bid\$2,450

Item #60 Gift Certificate

Lockstone Yard & Patio Centre



Have you been putting off your yard and patio renovations? Well, wait no longer! Purchase this \$2000 Gift Certificate and you can be upgrading your yard and patio today! Use this gift certificate towards any product at lockstone.

Lockstone Yard & Patio Centre's Retail Price \$2,000
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #61 Gift Certificate

Canada Games Complex



Use towards the purchase of any membership or program, including locker service and babysitting. No cash surrender value. More than an aquatic facility – its total fitness and recreation center providing access for all ages. The complex offers the opportunity to participate in a variety of social, recreational, competitive, instructional and therapeutic activities in a unique, accessible, multipurpose community facility. Visit us on-line at www.gamescomplex.com

Canada Games Complex's Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #62 Gift Certificate

Direct Cabinets



Direct Cabinets, your local Canadian owned Thunder Bay all wood cabinet supplier. We offer a full line of kitchen cabinets for your new home builds or updating renovation needs. Direct cabinets stock bathroom vanities, linen towers and mirrors in a variety of colors. Come visit our New Showroom at 941 Simpson St.

Direct Cabinets' Retail Price\$1,500
Opening bid\$750

Item #63 Garmin Echomap UHD 95 SV

KBM Outdoors



The sunlight-readable 9" touchscreen chartplotter features a quick-release ball mount, and the transducer bundle adds Ultra High-Definition scanning sonar and CHIRP traditional sonar. See below and around your boat in incredible detail with included transducer. Navigate any waters with preloaded LakeVü g3 inland maps. Manage your marine experience from nearly anywhere. Control the most powerful trolling motor available. Create your own maps on the fly and tailor them to fit your needs.

KBM Outdoors' Retail Price\$1,570
Opening bid\$785

Item #64 Gift Certificate

SRS Windows & Doors



Gift Certificate can be used towards product specific to Vinyl window designs and Everlast.

SRS Windows & Doors' Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #65 Gift Certificate for Unilock Paving Stones

LANDALE GARDENS



Upgrade the look of your walkway, driveway, patio, pool deck or other outdoor surface with Unilock Paving stones. With a variety of shapes, sizes, textures, patterns and colours, we're certain to have a selection of products to meet your design needs. Gift Certificate can be used towards Unilock Paving Stones.

Landale Gardens' Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #66 Gift Certificate

Lockstone Yard & Patio Centre

LockStone



Have you been putting off your yard and patio renovations? Well, wait no longer! Purchase this \$2000 Gift Certificate and you can be upgrading your yard and patio today! Use this gift certificate towards any product at lockstone.

Lockstone Yard & Patio Centre's Retail Price \$2,000
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #67 Gift Certificate

CHIMO BUILDING CENTRE



Updating a bathroom? Building a cottage? Deck or fence? Chimo has top quality materials, supplies and tools, windows and doors, roofing, plumbing and siding. Chimo Building Centre is your one stop shop! Gift Certificate good towards any item. Cannot be applied to existing account balances.

Chimo Building Centre's Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #68 Gift Certificate for Green Goods

Landale Gardens



For use towards all green goods, mulch, top soil, sod, plants and trees. Except precast concrete (i.e. Patio stones and statuary).

Landale Gardens' Retail Price\$1,000
Opening bid\$500

Item #69 Gift Certificate

C&M Tile & Granites



Experience the luxurious look and feel of granite. With its high compressive strength and durability, granite is the hardest structural stone and makes an excellent choice for countertops, vanities and much more. To use towards granite & quartz countertops. One Gift Certificate per project.

C&M Tile & Granites' Retail Price.....\$2,000
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #70 Annual Membership

THE BODYMIND CENTRE



Feel stressed? Reconnect your body and mind. Relax, recharge and renew with 100s of classes of yoga and Pilates a week to choose from. Purchasing this certificate entitles you to a full year membership to tone, strengthen, lengthen and unwind. Become your best you ever! Visit bodymindcentre.com

The Bodymind Centre's Retail Price\$1,068
Opening bid\$534

Item #71 2020 Adult Unlimited Full Golf Membership Season Pass

City of Thunder Bay Golf Services



This one person golf membership is for two courses comprising of 36 holes for golfing enthusiasts to enjoy. Chapples & Strathcona Golf Courses are structured to offer enjoyment for all levels of golfers. Both courses provide full pro shop services including club & cart rentals. All clubhouses are licensed and offer light lunch & snack bar services. Must be used in 2020!

City of Thunder Bay Golf Services' Retail Price ..\$1,350
Opening bid\$675

Item #72 Installation of New Doors/Windows

Northern Window & Door



Looking to upgrade those old, drafty windows? Well, this gift certificate is the perfect opportunity! This \$2000 gift certificate can be used for new windows or doors with installation. Visit them on-line at www.northernwindow.ca

Northern Window & Doors' Retail Price\$2,000
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #73 Gift Certificate for Roofing

Triad Contracting



This gift certificate can be used at Triad roofing for all your roofing needs.

Triad Contractings Retail Price.....\$2,000
Opening bid\$1,000

Item #74 Item #75 Gift Certificate

Canada Games Complex



Gift Certificate can be used towards anything at the Canada Game Complex.

Canada Games Complex Retail Price\$400
Opening bid\$200

Items #76 - #85 Gift Certificate

Boston Pizza



Gift Certificate can be used at any Boston Pizza location in Thunder Bay and can be used towards various menu items/products. Dine in only. Alcohol is excluded.

Boston Pizza Retail Price\$100
Opening bid\$50

Item #86 Membership Pass

2020 Junior (ages 14-18 years) Full Golf Membership Season Pass

golf Thunder Bay



Junior (ages 14-18) Golf Membership to be used in 2020 at Chapples & Strathcona. Chapples is an 18 hole, 6207 yard, par 71 course located in Chapples Park. Suitable for all ages and skill levels and offers a practice range. Strathcona is a challenging 18 hole, 6509 yard, par 72 course built on rolling wooded terrain on the northwest part of the city. Strathcona's design and setting makes it ideal for the more serious golfer. Includes locker. Must be used in 2020.

City Golf Retail Price\$266
Opening bid\$133

Items #87- #88 Gift Certificate

Wally's Thunder Country Diving



Gift Certificate can be used towards certification, equipment, swimwear or aqua toys at Wally's Thunder Country Diving

Wally's Thunder Country Diving Retail Price....\$500
Opening bid\$250

Items #89- #108 Gift Certificate

FRANKI'S PIZZERIA



The smell of a fresh, piping hot pizza is hard to beat, so are our mouthwatering wings & massive football sized panzerotti's. Pick & Choose anything off our menu you'd like!

Franki's Pizzeria Retail Price.....\$100
Opening bid\$50

Items #109- #123 Gift Certificate

Everything Mobile



Smartphones - Tablets - Laptops
Repairs - Sales - Accessories

Use this gift certificate towards pre-owned devices, smartphone and tablet cases, charge cables, battery packs, signal boosters, Bluetooth speakers. Smartphone, tablet & laptop repairs, headphones and pop sockets.

Everything Mobile Retail Price.....\$100
Opening bid\$50

Items #124-#131 #258 & #259 Gift Certificate

AFLOAT



Gift Certificate for a Float. Floatation therapy involves lying in a floatation tank with 10 inches of water, containing 1000 lbs of Epsom salts. The density of the salt solution allows anyone. There are many physical benefits such as pain management, increased blood circulation as well as cognitive benefits such as stress reduction and improved creativity. During your float, the outside world is gone and amazing things happen!

Afloat Retail Price\$200
Opening bid\$100

Items #132- #141 Gift Certificate

THE BODYMIND CENTRE



Looking for something great to wear for all of your sweaty pursuits? Enjoy spending this certificate on lululemon, inner fire, baroni, Bum Warmers and Bare Organics skin care and more. Have a massage to erase your stress or drop into some great yoga and pilates classes. Visit bodymindcentre.com. This gift certificate can be used in the boutique, or a massage or any of the classes that Bodymind Centre offers.

Body Mind Centre Retail Price.....\$100
Opening bid\$50

Items #142- #151 Gift Certificate

Superior Coatings



Can be used towards automotive/house paint & supplies. Our premium house paint lines include Para, Pittsburg & Cloverdale paints. SiKkens & U-Tech automotive finishes. Not valid for in house accounts or combined with any other promotions or discounts.

Superior Coatings Retail Price.....\$100
Opening bid\$50

Items #152- #161 Gift Certificate

AUTO TRENZZ



Gift Certificate can be used for any purchase of service or product at Auto Trenzz.

Auto Trenzz Retail Price\$200
Opening bid\$100

Items #162- #181 Gift Certificate

MATTCARR REPAIR



Gift Certificate can be used towards product or service at Matt Carr Repairs.

Matt Car Repairs Retail Price\$100
Opening bid\$50

Items #182- #185 Gift Certificate

C&M TILE & GRANITE



Gift Certificate can be used towards In Stock granite and quartz for smaller projects. One Gift Certificate per project.

C & M Tile & Granite Retail Price\$250
Opening bid\$125

Items #186- #195 Gift Certificate

Perfect Fit
Lingerie & Fashion

Beautiful bras from A to K cup. Gift Certificate can be used towards anything in store.

Perfect Fit Retail Price\$100
Opening bid\$50

Items #196- #199 Gift Certificate

Unveiled Bridal
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TB Life

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Biking increasingly popular these days



**KEITH
AILEY**

THE GOOD LIFE

"You can't buy happiness, but you can buy a bike and that is pretty close." – Anonymous

The day mom or dad let go of that back seat and you pedaled away on your own did indeed change your life. Suddenly, your world opened up with the new-found freedom and independence a bicycle provided. At first it was a way to go further, but then you discovered speed, and maybe a few tricks. For a long time, that bike was your trusty steed, an extension of your body, maybe even a best friend.

Then, for most of us, some ruinous event threw a wrench in the spokes: the bike was stolen, we got a job or acquired a driver's license, and the thrill of riding a bicycle was forgotten.

Luckily, you never forget how to ride a bicycle and many people re-discover the pure joy of riding at some point during adulthood.

This time however, we re-mount the bicycle for a different reason: for the environment, for our health, or to spend some quality time with a partner or our children.

Over the past few months, while we have all been staying home and isolating to prevent the spread of COVID-19, there has been an extraordinary increase in the number of bicycles on the roads and trails. While this has been noticeable in the Thunder Bay region, the same

phenomenon is happening all over the world and many cities are supporting the good habits of their citizens.

An article in *The Guardian* last month detailed how progressive cities like Minneapolis, Denver and Oakland temporarily turned roadways into bike lanes. Vancouver, Winnipeg and Calgary were among the Canadian cities that reallocated traffic lanes to cyclists during the pandemic. It is clear that people are finding a way to take something positive out of our current situation by getting outside for some fresh air, sunshine and exercise on their bikes.

If you are hoping to join the two wheel revolution and in the market for a new bike, the place to start is your local bike shop. In Thunder Bay we are fortunate to have three: Fresh Air, Petrie's and Rollin' Thunder. Start by telling the staff where you are planning to ride. Do you like rural roads, gravel, paved paths or singletrack?

Are you planning to commute, explore, tour or race? The shop will get you on the right bike and help you determine the most important factors including frame and wheel sizes. Once you have an idea of the kind of bike you want, throw on a helmet and take it for a real test ride of at least fifteen minutes to make sure it feels fantastic.

Plenty of opportunities exist to keep on pedaling as we ride out this pandemic. Commuting to work is a great way to stay active during the work week, weekend rides along our rural roadways enhance our physical and mental health, and those with a need for speed will be happy to hear the Blacksheep Mountain Bike Club is easing back into competition with some virtual races in the Trowbridge Forest area.



BIKING IN THE SUN: The author, Keith Ailey enjoys a ride with his daughter.

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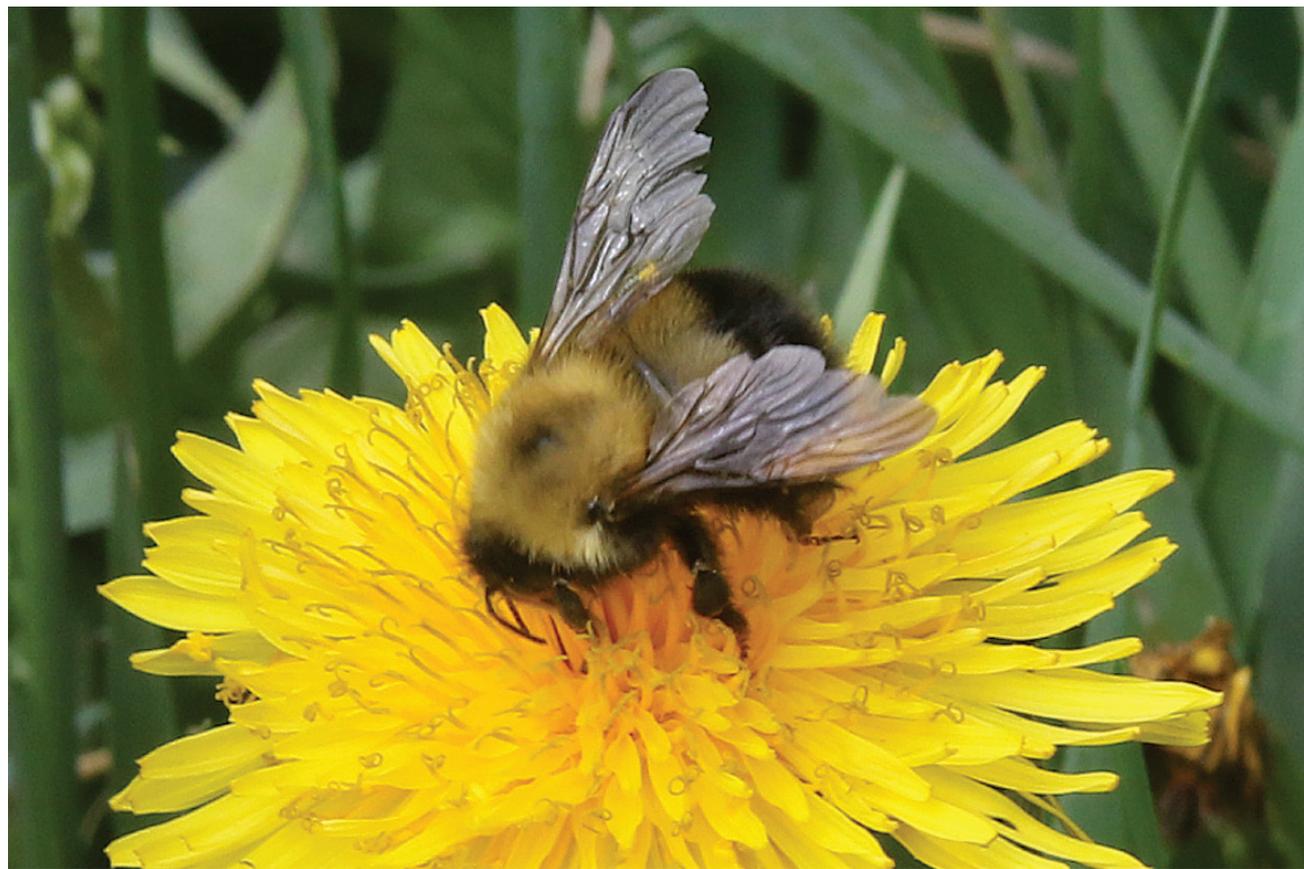
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LEIGH DUNNICK

BEE SMART: Leaving the lawns unmowed for a couple of weeks allows the bee population to collect pollen and help Mother Nature along her way.

Dandelions and black flies



FRED JONES

RURAL ROOTS

I look out my kitchen window and I behold a scene of yellow and green both of which have come on suddenly.

The green is the growing grass and the leaves on the poplar trees. The yellow is the flowers of the dandelions.

It seemed that the trees were slow to bloom. Then, almost overnight, the branches burst with green leaves. Where I could look out a window or stand on the front porch and see the raven nest, now it has been camouflaged. I can't recall in which tree it resides.

I didn't really first notice the greening of our township until driving down what we call 'Mile Hill', where the highway arches over a large lip and curves its way down to the valley below. It was while descending to go to our local store that I saw that the bare branches had suddenly donned green. Bare one day, green the next.

As to the 'yellow', I mentioned the dandelions.

I have left the lawns alone for two reasons: first, being encouraged by wise souls to hold off mowing the lawns to allow the pollinators, the bees of various denominations, to collect the necessary pollen.

No argument.

Last year both daughter and spouse earned an award for growing a 'pollinator' flower

garden. Actually, three. There is especially one plant (don't recall its name) that is usually buzzing with bees, more so than the other flowering plants. I love it. "Go forth wee creatures and pollinate like crazy," I heartily endorse. Second: I haven't got around to changing the oil in my riding lawn mower. It is on my perpetual "to do" list of course.

The bursting forth of the green and the dandelions is the 'good news'. But along with these seasonal changes is another that for humans and horses constitutes the 'bad news': black flies.

Returning from town again after a grocery shop with daughter, Beth, she drew my attention to the side of the road where spring runoff moves under the road through a new culvert, and proceeds to wind its way eventually into our beaver pond.

"Look Dad, mush miglons!" "Mush miglons" is our code word for marsh marigolds. Why? I think that when she was a child we used to (and still do) play with the language. Marsh marigolds means black flies. Again, one day nothing, the next, green pants bursting with yellow flowers. "Oh-oh," I quipped, "that means the black flies are out."

And, boy, are they ever! The consequence of their sudden and voracious appearance is the need to shift schedules.

For the horses, that means they must now come into the barn during the day and be turfed outside at night after the blood-suckers have one to bed. None (fortunately) of the biting things like the dark. That is why you see horse shelters with drop cloths in front. The horses get to escape being savaged by retreating into the shelter where it is dark. The flies don't follow them inside.

The Gardener, my wife, Laura, soon realized that any gardening to be done must be done early in the morning before the black flies wake up. The alternative is to wear a bug jacket but they are annoying or cover the exposed parts in deet, the most effective insect repellent. She likes doing neither.

Although Saturday son, Doug, girlfriend, Ivy, Laura, me, and our two pooches went for a long walk to a spot we discovered years ago, a very swampy spot perfect for fiddleheads. Knowing that the black flies would surround us in dark clouds, we opted for spraying our exposed flesh and our clothes with lots of deet. And off we strode.

It is a long walk for the swampy area is to the north at the end of a logging road. Laura had wondered if we were too late but no, we hit a bonanza of fiddleheads in the spot we had discovered 26 years ago.

There had been a couple of springs when we didn't make the trek. Laura reminded me that we did try but either the one spring was too dry or too cold or we mistimed when the ferns would pop out of the ground. This spring venture was perfect.

Yum. fried in butter.

The black flies are only the first scourge of spring to torment horses and humans. Next will come the deer and horse flies and a fly that resembles the harmless house fly but can chomp with the worst of them and is very fast. I call them ankle-biters.

Black flies do play a role: they pollinate blueberries.

Given the incredible and seeming sudden flush of black flies, I expect we will have a good crop of blueberries this year "in north Ontar-eye-o."

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IN THE bay

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Rootstock rocks community

Event helps local musicians during pandemic, while also raising cash for Roots to Harvest programs to continue

MUSIC

By Leith Dunlick – TB Source

An intimate evening of local music is coming your way on Thursday.

The online concert, featuring the music of some of the city's most beloved artists, is a benefit in support of Roots to Harvest.

Among those who recorded songs for the show are Clay Breiland, Jean-Paul De Roover, Ian Gill, Elle Kay, Luke Warm and the Cold Ones, Morning Light Acoustic, Jamie Smith and Anna Torontow with Mood Indigo.

It was a no-brainer, De Roover said.

"It was really lovely to be asked to participate in this project, not only because I get to be in good company with so many talented musicians, but also because Roots to Harvest has been doing so much good work in our community, now more than ever," he said.

Tickets are \$10, with proceeds going to musicians and to Algoma House, a local live-music venue. Donations during the online show will go to Roots to Harvest.

De Roover said it's a great chance for musicians, who have been sidelined during the COVID-19 pandemic, to reach fans and possibly even a new audience.

He said he's been doing live-streaming events already, but many local musicians don't have that luxury. Having the help and the talent of Algoma



ON THE BILL: Jean-Paul De Roover is one of several local artists taking part in Thursday's Rootstock concert.

House's Chad Kirvan has really helped pull the event – which was prerecorded – off.

It's a great idea, he said.

"Having a curated event like this is even more special because people that come to watch the show can see a sampling of what Thunder Bay offers musically," De Roover said.

"It helps to satisfy the needs of those that miss live music, while also informing those that may not have

had the means, ability or time to make their way downtown late on a Friday night to where our scene was thriving until recently."

The event was hatched by Nancy Saunders, a long-time Roots to Harvest volunteer.

It was a chance for the music community to come together and provide a place where the entire community can feel like everyone is in it together.

"Thunder Bay is an incredible community and while we are isolating and feeling disconnected right now, we can all participate in this concert and know that we are experiencing something together while separated in our own homes. Many local artists have lost the opportunity to bring their talents to their fans, and this will support them and let a broad audience enjoy their music," Saunders said.

"Donations to Roots to Harvest throughout the live event will help them continue supporting members of our community who have been impacted by COVID-19. It was a natural fit to work with Chad Kirvan from Algoma House to host the online event, and we're happy he jumped right in."

Roots to Harvest has had to suspend much of its community programming during the pandemic, but has since shifted to help distribute weekly food packages to families that relied on school food programs.

Kirvan said it's win-win for everyone.

"The recent pandemic had left us heartbroken over many cancelled shows, so when Roots to Harvest asked us to participate in this amazing fund raiser, we were more than thrilled. For us Rootstock is so much more than an outstanding event for a great cause, it's our chance to reconnect and give back to the community that we love and miss," he said.

Visit [Roots to Harvest Eventbrite](https://www.rootstoharvest.com) to purchase tickets.

The two-hour show begins at 8 p.m. on May 28.

Coogan and Brydon have hit the road again

MOVIE REVIEW

By Marty Mascarin – Special to TB Source

Given our prolonged internment, *Trip to Greece* (Shaw video on demand) appears as an ideal candidate for some vicarious escapism.

For the uninitiated, this is the fourth installment of the popular "Trip" films starring comedians Steve Coogan and Rob Brydon, whereupon Coogan gets an all-expense paid newspaper assignment to embark upon restaurant tours in exotic locales, which have resulted in comical jaunts with Brydon to England's Lake District (2010), Italy (2014) and Spain (2017).

Essentially, the films provide a pretext for Coogan and Brydon to play exaggerated versions of themselves with fictionalized back stories, nattering in deadpan fashion about the food, or each other's careers, or more deliciously, doing impressions of celebrities like Michael Caine in hilarious 'can-you-top-this' duels at the dining table.

In this outing, *The Observer* newspaper has suggested Coogan visit Greece to sample cuisine on a

route dubiously recalling Odysseus' 10-year journey home, whereupon Brydon points out that with only six days, they have a challenge on their hands.

The outing starts off promisingly as the two amusingly interpret or, more accurately, misinterpret classical Greek mythology and literature, puncturing various shrines and historic sites, reducing them to mirthful fodder.

Pity the Greeks, muses Brydon, referencing their mythological 10-year siege of Troy. "That's too long for camping," he says authoritatively, "A week tops. With a pillow. I'd have to have a pillow."

Brydon's no slouch with literature either. "I have here, an Ari Stotle," he declares, brandishing a Penguin book. "I know all the Stotles."

Foregoing any real narrative arc, the Trip installments trade heavily on the chemistry between the two, as they incessantly joust with amusing wordplay or goofy challenges as to who can best mimic the theme to *Chariots of Fire*.

Admittedly, the format is getting a bit shopworn. Here, the impressions are more hit and miss, including

a muffle-mouthed Tom-Hardy-meets-Stan-Laurel, British character actor Ray Whinstone, Laurence Olivier and Dustin Hoffman in *Marathon Man*, Marlon Brando, Al Pacino and Sean Connery. There's some unevenness in comedic invention and execution.

It's not quite all fun and games as Coogan frets over updates from home about his ailing father and his agent's disappointing news that Coogan has failed to land a role in the latest Damien (*La La Land*) Chazzelle project. There's also a drive-by of a refugee camp. Some of this lends an emotional weight to the ending that is touching and bittersweet.

Nonetheless, this go 'round waxes nostalgic for simpler pre-pandemic times where jetting off somewhere wasn't as complicated, especially when director Michael Winterbottom serves up such sumptuous sun-baked vistas of Greece.

Quibbles aside, there are still bits to relish in this fantasy excursion of wining and dining at lovely locales enlivened by a couple of wise guy pals who turn good-natured ribbing into an art form, having fun on someone else's tab.

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Sports

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NHL return plan tough for Staal

NHL

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

For a family man like Eric Staal, the idea of being away from home for possibly weeks or months does not sit well.

The payoff, of course, could be a second Stanley Cup championship.

More and more, it's beginning to look like if the National Hockey League does resume its season at some point this summer, Staal's Minnesota Wild will be invited to the pre-playoff dance.

Multiple reports suggest the league is considering a 24-team return, with the top four teams in each conference earning byes and the next eight teams playing a best-of-five play-in series for the right to advance to the first round of the post-season.

When the NHL abruptly halted its 2019-20 campaign in March when the COVID-19 pandemic struck, the wild were 10th in the Western Conference, but only one point out of a playoff spot.

Should the league decide to restart the season at some point, it's believed the Wild would face off against the No. 7 Vancouver Canucks, a team they've beaten twice this season.

However, unless Minnesota is chosen as one of the hub cities the NHL is considering to host fan-less playoff games, it could mean Staal and the Wild would be sequestered away from home for the duration of their summertime run.

The further Minnesota goes, the longer the 35-year-old would be in hockey isolation.

It's not ideal, he told the team's beat reporters on Friday during a Zoom interview session, but he'll do it.

"It's hard right now to envision, me personally, coming back and playing in a city away from your family for a couple months and in front of no fans," said Staal, who had 19 goals and 47 points in 66 games this season.

"I feel like that's a little bit difficult to envision, but there's been a lot of things that have been difficult to envision getting to this point. I think it's just hard to



FAMILY MAN: Eric Staal (right) tells reporters being away from family for weeks on end will not be easy to do.

really see where this is going to finish. But I know they're still trying to gameplan it and figure it out."

Staal said he's not worried about the on-ice competition level, but did say it won't be the same playoff atmosphere playing in empty arenas.

It's going to be different, that's for sure, he said.

"Sure, it would still be intense. Sure, it would still be guys competing at their highest level and their hardest because that's what we do and that's what players do, and that's what guys do. There would definitely be that still, but as far as comparing it to a full building in a Game 7, there's no comparison," said the 16-year veteran, who helped lead the Carolina Hurricanes to a 2006 Stanley Cup win.

"The whole thing is still difficult for me to kind of fathom and understand. I think as any kid, you dream of winning a Stanley Cup and that energy

and that momentum and those moments of memory are with fans and with people and with excitement. To go through the playoff run with nobody in the building is going to be really weird and different."

Looking ahead, Staal, who grew a full beard, shaved it down to a goatee and then finally a fu manchu moustache during the shutdown, said a match-up against the Canucks would make for an entertaining series. Vancouver is an up-and-coming team, with rookie-of-the-year candidate Quinn Hughes on defence and sniper Elias Pettersson up front leading the attack.

"They've had a good year and they've got a lot of good young players ... So good balance and it would be a good matchup, a very good team. If that was the case, we would have our work cut out for us."



**LEITH
DUNICK**
SPORTS SHOTS

The Match II entertaining

Like many of you, I spent much of Sunday afternoon on the couch, watching Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson attempt to help turn Tom Brady and Peyton Manning into passable golfers.

It turns out it was pretty entertaining, after all.

Watching Brady, who I'd argue is the best quarterback of all time, and Manning, who's No. 2 on my list, struggle was a breath of fresh air.

They're two of the most well-known athletes in North America and Brady couldn't even find the fairway for most of the opening nine.

Then he jarred a 100-yard pitch for a birdie on the par 5 seventh hole, splitting his pants as he bent down to pull the ball out of the cup.

The shot came seconds after Charles Barkley chirped him, and cost Brooks Koepka \$100,000.

Koepka, a four-time major winner, offered up \$100,000 to charity if Brady managed a par on the back nine, clearly feeling his money was safe after the GOAT's awful start.

Manning, teamed with Woods, nearly holed out an ace later in the match, helping his side to a 1-up win.

Woods looked sharp, hitting fairway after fairway, and it was a chance to see Mickelson clearly in his element.

Lefty joked to Tiger about turning 50 next month and qualifying for the Champions Tour and it was a chance to gain a little insight into their thought processes on the course, all four athletes mic'd up for the viewing audience at home.

I have to admit, I ducked out after 10 holes to get in my first round of the year.

I joined a couple of my colleagues for an evening nine, and after a shaky start, managed to shoot a round of bogey golf, which I'll take for my first round of the year – and I only played five rounds all of last year. I beat the young bucks, too.

The putter was my saviour, that's for sure. I had three or four one-putts, which helped my score.

The course was in pretty good shape and everyone looked to be physically distancing out there.

It felt great to be back on the course.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Mid-Canada Open cancelled by COVID-19

The region's premiere tennis event is the latest victim of COVID-19.

Organizers on Friday announced the 2020 Mascarin Mid-Canada Open has been cancelled, following a lengthy decision-making process involving the community, fans, volunteers and executives at the Thunder Bay Tennis Centre.

It's only the second cancellation in the 50-year history of the tournament, which was scheduled to take place from July 23 to July 26.

"We are disappointed that the premier event of our tennis season will not be happening this year. But we believe that due to the COVID-19 pandemic it is the right thing to do for the safety of those involved and of our community," said David McCallum, president of the Thunder Bay Tennis Centre, in a release.

The event is expected to return in 2021. There is good news for local tennis enthusiasts.

LU wins ACHA awards

Lakehead University's women's hockey team has picked up a pair of prestigious awards.

Earlier this month the Thunderwolves were recognized as the winners of the ACHA Women's Division 2's Community Service Award as well as the ACHA Overall Community Service Award.

Both awards are given in recognition of their contributions to local community and charitable organizations.

When not training or playing their way into the ACHA championship tournament, the Wolves were busy in the community.

The team helped out a number of organizations including PRO Kids to help raise money for youngsters who might otherwise not be able to afford to take part in recreational activities.

They also took part in the Tim Hortons Smile Cookie campaign and the Learn to Skate program with the George Jeffrey Children's Centre.

The Wolves partnered with country music stars Chad Brownlee, Dean Brody and Dallas Smith to raise money with a VIP meet-and-greet draw and participated in Beanies for Brain Cancer in support of the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre.

If that's not enough, the team was involved with the Special Olympics Canada Winter Games and hosted an event called togetHER, supporting women in sports. They also helped sell 50/50 tickets, chuck-a-pucks and programs at LU men's hockey games.

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EMPLOYMENT

57. Help Wanted
58. Careers
59. Child Care
60. Health Care
61. Employment Wanted
62. Students For Hire

ANNOUNCEMENTS

63. Coming Events
64. Craft & Flea Markets
65. Happy Ads
66. Cards of Thanks
67. In Memoriam
68. Death/Funerals

Thunder Bay's Source reserves the right to classify ads under appropriate headings and to set rates therefore and to determine page locations.

Thunder Bay's Source reserves the right to revise, edit, classify or reject any advertisement and to retain any answers directed to the Box Reply Service, and to repay the Customer the sum paid for the advertisement and box rental.

Box replies on "Hold" instructions not picked up within 10 days of expiry of an advertisement will be destroyed unless mailing instructions are received. Those answering Box Numbers are requested not to send originals of documents to avoid loss.

All claims of errors in advertisements must be received by the Publisher within 3 days after the first publication. No refund if ad is cancelled before expiry date.

Thunder Bay's Source reserves the right to increase prices with 30 days written notice.

12. APARTMENTS FOR RENT



Inquires
Mon.-Fri. 8:30am - 5pm
call **346-9222** or visit
www.dawsonprop.com

23. MISC. FOR SALE

1. L G fridge/freezer, 334.13 litre, excellent condition, used only seasonally, 26x26x63.5, \$400 2. Frigidaire electrical range, 25x35x26, seasonal use only, excellent condition, \$300 3. Convection/microwave, seasonal use only, good condition \$40 4. Kitchen table, 4 swivel padded chairs, light brown \$ 75 5. Majestic DUH Vac 36 heating/cooling gas fireplace, ideal for new homes or renovations, seasonal use only, max input 40,000 BTU's, min input 25,000 BTU's, for both natural gas and propane. Price to be discussed Call 623-1529

30. MISC. WANTED

WANTED

\$ TOP DOLLAR PAID \$
For Scrap Vehicles
DAN'S EMERGENCY ROAD SERVICE
767-3818

\$CASH\$

On the spot for your scrap cars, trucks, vans and SUV's. Same day pick-up with CASH.

Call Marcel
624-7242 or 626-0161

31. CARS

1995 Mazda Miata, convertible, only 54,000 miles, never winter driven, cruise, 5speed, leather, fun machine, Asking \$10,900 or OBO, call 577-9515

REMINDER:
Source classifieds
are always 1/2 price
after the first week
Call: 346-2600

51. LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

In the Estate of Kaz Mazur

All Persons having claims against the Estate of Kaz Mazur, late of Thunder Bay, ON, deceased, who died on or about May 9, 2020, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before June 18, 2020, after which date the estate will be distributed, with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice and the undersigned will not then be liable to any person of whose claims they shall not then have notice.

Dated at Thunder Bay, Ontario on the 20th day of May, 2020.

ERICKSONS LLP
ATTN RYAN VENN
Barristers and Solicitors
291 South Court Street
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2Y1



53. GENERAL SERVICES

Looking for Tree Removal?



Fast, Safe & Efficient

With Our Unique 34" wide 100ft reach man-lift, we cut higher than anybody in town.

626 3542

53. GENERAL SERVICES

#1 AFFORDABLE TREE REMOVAL, CEDARS, SHRUBS, etc. Dump runs. Low rates. Senior discounts. Call Brian at 622-7888.

#1 INCOME TAX LADY. Open 7 days a week 10am-9pm. CALL LORRAINE 767-5161

#1 YARD CLEAN-UPS Grass cutting, garbage dump runs. Have riding lawnmower. Phone Brian 768-9849 or 474-8870.

#1-A, Dump Runs, Yard Work, lawn cutting, cut and remove small trees, hedge trimming removal, tear down old fences, shed or repair; odd jobs. All kinds of general services. Frank 628-5919 or 767-0995

Call Rob for Spring yard & garden clean-up, rototilling, lawn care, pruning, weeding, hedge/tree trimming, dump runs Eaves trough cleaning/repair. Clean exterior surfaces siding deck etc. Residential and commercial window cleaning up to 4 storeys, and high interior windows. Insured! RJC WINDOW CLEANING & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE 632-2161

CHRISTINA'S HOME AND GARDEN. Residential & Commercial! Landscaping, grass cutting, lawn maintenance, planting, dividing, weeding, edging, container gardening, patio stone/interlocking stone pathways, hedge/tree/shrub trimming and shaping. Call 621-1505

SPRING CLEAN-UP, Lawn Cutting & Odd Jobs, with low rates! For more info call James 623-8829

Sunshine Lawn Maintenance, all lawn, yard, garden work, also eaves-trough/window cleaning, old shed removal, many odd jobs, Seasonal Specials for mow and trim, great rates for Seniors, references, 631-6967

68. DEATH/FUNERALS



A Gift In Remembrance
www.sjftb.net/memorial
768-4411



small ads can
CATCH ATTENTION
call the tbSOURCE
at 346-2600

72. INFORMATION

Want to Sell? **CLICK ON US.**

The tbSOURCE Classifieds are online, so it's easier than ever to sell those unwanted items.

www.tbnewswatch.com

73. HERE'S MY CARD



\$20 OFF GALLONS
of our Best Paint &
25% OFF our Best Stain!
May 4 - May 31

784 Memorial Ave. (Next to McDonalds) 344-0784

Go to Dulux.ca to choose your colour

NOW OPEN

- CARPET - BLINDS - FLOORING
- WALLPAPER - PAINT - DECOR
Locally owned & operated to serve you better!

THE ROOF GURU
ROOF & GUTTERS

Shingles
Metal Roofing
Gutters

We welcome Repairs

FREE ESTIMATES
CALL 1-807-355-1784

BERTALL CONSTRUCTION

• leaky basement
• foundation repairs • weeping tile
• water proofing • concrete
• roofing • decks • garages

Call 474-6899