

2023

A YEAR IN REVIEW

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Thursday, January 4, 2024

Local family wins big

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Sam Maki, his sons Cash and Jack, and wife Tracey were the lucky winners of the record-setting \$3.98-million Thunder Bay 50/50 jackpot, and picked up their prize last Friday.



Sam Maki, his children Cash and Jack, and wife Tracey celebrate their historic Thunder Bay 50/50 win. (Leith Dunick)

Jackpot bonanza

Maki family takes home \$3.98-million 50/50 prize

By Leith Dunick -TB Source

Cash and Jack Maki won't have to share a bedroom for very much longer.

Their father, Sam Maki, said the first thing he and his wife, Tracey, plan to do after winning the record-setting \$3.98-million Thunder Bay 50/50 jackpot, is to buy a larger house, to give the kids a little more space.

A family trip is also on the horizon and for Tracey, so is something as simple as a new pair of boots.

It was a life-changing Friday morning for the Thunder Bay family, who took the coveted phone call from Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation CEO and president Glenn Craig at precisely 11 a.m.

Sam Maki said he saw the number come up on his phone, and couldn't believe he was the lucky winner, of what's believed to be the largest hospital 50/50 draw to date in Canada.

"It's definitely life-changing. I'm in utter shock and disbelief," he said, taking enough time to hop in the shower before rounding up the family and heading out to Intercity Shopping Centre and the foundation's 50/50 store next to the food court.

"Nothing like this has ever happened to me or anyone in my family. I think it's going to be very life-changing. I just need to take a step back and really think about it, really just enjoy it."

The new house is first and foremost on his mind, though the peace of mind knowing they can afford the kids' hockey and other extra curricular activities, and that they'll have

money socked away for their future post-secondary education, comes a close second.

"We have a pretty small house. Our kids are sharing a bedroom, so that was our first thought, let's get more room and get the kids their own bedrooms and get the wife a bigger closet. Maybe just a house for now and maybe (we'll) take the kids on a nice trip. We haven't really been anywhere, so yeah, maybe just that for now," Sam Maki said.





Tracey Maki said she was listening to her husband's reaction while he was on the phone with Craig, adding she was waiting for someone to reveal it was a prank call.

She realized quickly it was all too real. "My legitimate first thought was, oh, I can buy new boots now. I don't even know what this means. It's amazing, really, exciting. I'm just happy we can save for the kids' future. We can take them on trips, we can put them in hockey and theatre and all the things they love to do without worrying about how we're going to pay for it," she said.

"It's a pretty amazing gift." Craig, who makes a call each month giving away jackpot after jackpot, said it was overwhelming seeing the Maki family accept their prize.

It's a win-win for everyone, he added. "The work we do helps people and changes their lives, but they're often faces we don't see. The people we help, whether they come through the cancer centre, the cardiac program, the emergency department, a lot of the people are faceless. But we know we're helping people," Craig said.

WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 Partly Cloudy Precipitation: 30% HIGH -6 LOW -9	 Partly Cloudy Precipitation: 40% HIGH -4 LOW -7	 Snow Precipitation: 70% HIGH -3 LOW -6	 Snow Precipitation: 40% HIGH -5 LOW -10

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New year, second Christmas

So, here we are at the beginning of a brand-new year - 2024 with the fervent hope that it will be a *lot* better than the previous one.

And we have snow!
 Finally!

Well, not much snow but at least the ground out here on the farm is white and the coniferous tree branches are covered.

Hope it will stay and that we will get a lot more.

The snow commenced on the weekend.

If it had not come, I would have welcomed you to a new year and the continuation of November because that is what it looked like outside, and the thermometer reflected November temperatures too.

I was looking at some photos from last winter that we took (my wife, Laura, and I) on one of our snowshoe treks.

What a difference!

We celebrated two Christmases - the first one on Christmas day with a wonderful meal that included the turkey

with all the trimmings, prepared by Laura and daughter Beth.

We invited two friends to help celebrate - waifs and strays - for the supper. But we opened no presents.

Why?

Because our son, Doug, was celebrating Christmas with his girlfriend at her parents' farm in southern Ontario.

So, we decided to celebrate a second Christmas on New Years' Day with another sumptuous meal (no turkey this time) but in the morning we opened the prezzies.

On Saturday after barn chores and a brunch, Laura and I headed onto the trails. I drove the quad with a chainsaw in the cart while Laura walked with our three pooches.

The destination was a giant downed spruce tree that had been waiting for me to buck and cart back to Casa Jones for over a year.

Why so long?

I couldn't do any chain sawing for

almost two years due to two serious operations one year apart and was told not to lift anything heavy or do any arduous physical chores like using a chainsaw.

Unfortunately, after operation no. one, I didn't wait long enough and was center-flipping our canoe on a canoe trip with Doug in Quetico.

Apparently, that started a hernia. So, operation two was a hernia fix. I wear a hernia belt hoping to prevent a recurrence since the surgeon told me it would take a full year to heal.

But by Saturday I thought that I might be able to get back in the groove of retrieving standing-dead trees and those lying on the ground that hopefully the wood of which had not rotted.

This downed spruce is quite thick and the wood is perfect, even dry enough to split and burn immediately in our fireplace that I have been doing.

The pieces I cut are large and heavy such that both Laura and I had to roll them to the edge of the trail.

To get them to the splitter by our woodpile I fired up my ancient tractor, Big Red, and trundled it to the site where

I could roll the heavy pieces into the bucket without lifting them.

Sunday, New Year's Eve Day, Laura was hoping that we'd go back into the bush and this time, collect the bucked pieces that we had stacked in various places along the trail.

But I still had presents to wrap (as did Laura), and I had to do some last-minute grocery shopping.

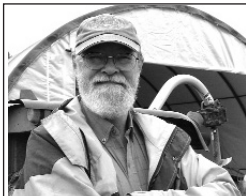
We elected to stay in the house until it was time for me to head to town.

Doug was supposed to fly back into Thunder Bay on New Years Eve Day, but his flight was canceled (no idea why) and Doug and girlfriend had to stay overnight in a hotel in Toronto (the Royal York, no less, paid for by the airline), so it was on New Years Day that I again drove to town to pick up son and girlfriend. Second Christmas was wonderful.

Very happy to see snow on the ground even if it is only a couple of inches and not enough for snowshoeing.

Snow means we don't have to wipe pooches' paws when they re-enter Casa Jones.

Anyway, Happy New Year!



Fred Jones
 RURAL ROOTS




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JOHN MELLENCAMP

LISTEN TO WIN TICKETS TO SEE JOHN MELLENCAMP IN DULUTH ON APRIL 4, OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS AND \$100 CASH!




Water safety imperative now

It has been a wild winter so far. In addition to a green Christmas, we also observed spring-like conditions in late December that had grass growing, trees budding and rivers re-opening as the ice melted away.

While this gave us some amazing opportunities like enjoying a prolonged season of autumn recreational activities as well as skating on snow-free lakes, we need to be cautious around any water right now.

This is especially true when we are on rivers, large lakes, or around any area where there might be springs or current hidden under a thin layer of ice.

Personally, I love to traverse remote trails and frozen waterways in the winter. Recently I had a chance to enjoy an epic day exploring the Nor'Wester Mountains by fat bike with my friend Mike.

This amazing group of mountains is located on the southern limits of the City of Thunder Bay, south of the Kaministiquia River, and it includes a large drainage area

with plenty of small lakes and seasonal flows that primarily drain into Loch Lomond.

We both still had our summer (non-studded) tires on the bikes, so we were somewhat limited in the surfaces we could actually ride, but we had a blast exploring several beaver ponds and small lakes along our 20km route.

Because our adventure was a couple days before the big Christmas melt, we found plenty of safe ice to enjoy.

The Canadian Red Cross says it takes 15cm (5.9 inches) of solid ice to be safe for walking or skating.

Other authorities suggest that slightly less will be fine, but it never hurts to follow the more conservative guidelines.

Not all ice is created equal however, and the quality is just as important as quantity. Clear blue or black ice is ideal.

Grey or white ice can be slushy or crumbly and should be avoided.

Now that we are starting to get a bit of

snow, dangerous areas can be disguised with a thin layer of brittle ice and a dusting of snow.

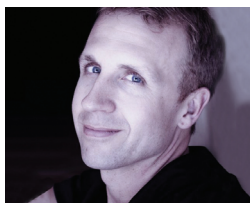
Enjoying our outdoor experiences with a friend or two and wearing a floater coat or PFD will provide some extra assurance on the early ice.

However, stashing a pair of ice claws or safety picks in your jacket or slinging them over your shoulders is the best way to help you get back up on top of the ice if you do happen to break through.

After a long period of oddly warm temperatures, it appears that winter weather is finally returning to North-western Ontario.

For those of us who have been patiently waiting for some of that gorgeous snow to play in, it is fantastic to see that the long-term weather forecast indicates that the white stuff is not about to melt away anytime soon.

I am still pretty leery that we just might see another meltdown in January or February though, so I plan to make the most of the new snow, and all the recreational opportunities it brings, as long as it is here.



Keith Ailey
the GOOD LIFE



Unseasonably warm weather in December has left many waterways with thinner ice depths than usual.



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EDITORIAL

Deadly crashes

Northwestern Ontario highways are deadlier than ever.

Last month, over a span of just 16 days, five people lost their lives in separate collisions on highways 11, 11/17 and 527.

NDP MPP Lise Vaugeois has called for stricter measures surrounding the training of transport drivers, and implored the province to take the responsibility back out of the hands of the trucking companies themselves.

She claims it's a case of the fox guarding the henhouse, and with the struggles most companies are having finding competent workers, one has to wonder if the proper amount of training is happening, or if drivers are being rushed onto the highways to meet consumer demand.

The province also needs to speed up the full twinning of Highway 11/17 between Thunder Bay and Nipigon, and at some point, how to four-lane the TransCanada from start to finish in Northern Ontario.

Crashes have shut down area highways for hours and hours, which is not only a frustration for motorists, but potentially dangerous when winter weather finally arrives.

Enact a curfew To the editor:

Given the extreme amount of crime and distress at night in this city I suggest imposition of a nightly curfew from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. every night of the week.

Essential activities would be exempt. I suggest shutting down taxis and ride shares during this period, with the exception of essential travel to connections to intercity/out of town buses, ships, trains or planes.

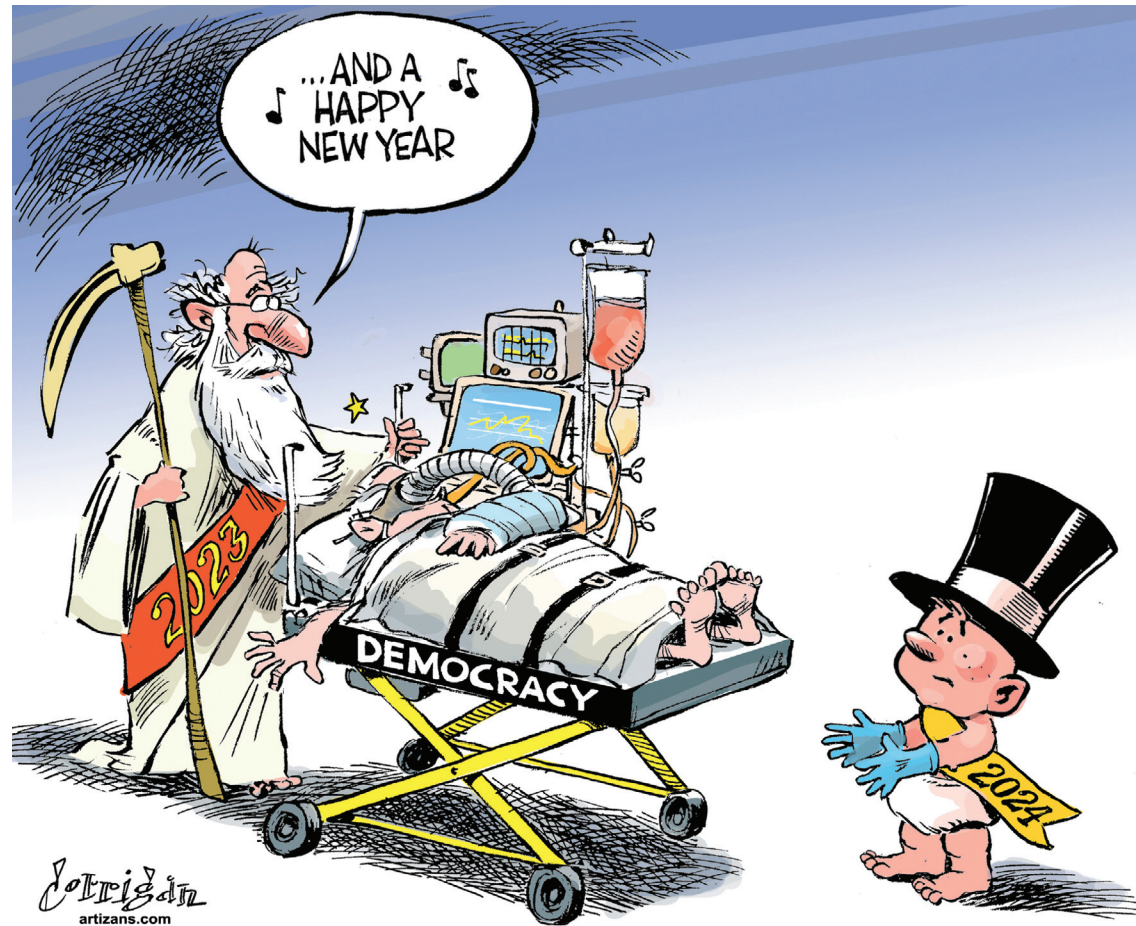
If you want to see what I mean, drive a night shift in a taxi - It is a full-blown nightmare regardless of the day of the week and regardless of the time of year. Many parts of Thunder Bay are now as violent as Detroit.

It is bad enough that between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. nightly, all I hear is yelling and screaming from either distress or fighting.

For those who like to drink or do drugs late at night, you're better off in a private dwelling instead of a bar or nightclub. Going out at night is just not safe anymore in Thunder Bay and across much of Canada.

Richard Kannegiesser,
Thunder Bay

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



John Corrigan
artizans.com

Yellowface: stolen novel leads to sudden fame

Yellowface by Rebecca F Kuang is an intriguing thriller set in the world of publishing that tells the tale of two young novelists in Washington DC.

There's Athena Liu, a critical and commercial darling who has just signed a deal with Netflix, and green-eyed 'friend' Juniper Hayward, whose debut has already been forgotten, the paperback publication axed owing to poor sales.

The novel starts with the pair toasting Athena's success in her ritzy apartment after a night on the town; Juniper is choking down her resentment when, suddenly, Athena is literally - and fatally - choking on a homemade pancake.

It's a freak accident whose sheer unbelievability sounds the keynote

for a novel circling the slipperiness of truth, but most of all it gets the motor running on the novel's plot, a brazen literary heist. Athena had just shown Juniper her secret new manuscript - an epic novel about the Chinese workers recruited by the British army in the first world war, drafted on a type-writer.

In the subsequent blur of events, from 911 call to tear-stained Uber ride home, Juniper spirits away the stack of pages then just can't help publishing it under her own name, rebranded as the Chinese-sounding June Song.

All of Juniper's dreams come true: the hefty advance, the critical kudos, a spot on the *New York Times* best-seller list. She basks in the glow of success until Twitter raises its collective eyebrow and she's mired in an ever-widening plagiarism scandal.

Sustaining the fraud in the eye of the storm requires ever more manic deception - and self-deception. After all, didn't Juniper simply midwife a far-from-ready draft that might otherwise never have seen daylight?

As the excuses pile up, Kuang convincingly keeps the ground

shifting as to whether Juniper's confession is just another con trick, as well as concealing the scale of her misdemeanours. *Yellowface* keeps us agog, narrowing its eyes all the while at an industry's attitudes towards racial diversity.

It's a thriller about the book trade - the appeal is niche - and you can sense Kuang's uncertainty about what does and doesn't need explaining. That said, it's an easy read and often wickedly funny; Juniper stakes her entire sense of self on the fallacy that she wrote Athena's novel, yet also privately exults when critics find fault with it (she always knew Athena was a hack).

But there's deeper comedy, too.

Juniper's ill-gotten gains mean she can give up ghost-writing college application essays; and in one scene, she discovers that her agent is showing his 'expertise' over the phone about Chinese politics and then realises that she's reading the same Wikipedia entry as him at exactly the same time.

Everyone's bluffing, Kuang seems to say, and in its deepest implications *Yellowface* ultimately posits any creative act as a pilfering of one sort or another. It challenges the whole concept of cultural appropriation and who has the 'right' to write about other people's lived experiences. This is the knife edge on which this clever and entertaining send-up leaves you poised.



John Pateman
BOOK BANTER

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Things looking good for 2024

By JR Shermack - For TB Source

I don't make resolutions at New Year's because I know from experience how that turns out but I am still curious about how the coming year will unfold.

While breaking resolutions is somewhat predictable, the future is not ours to see and I'm sure 2024 will hold many surprises and unexpected events, some good and some bad.

Right now at the beginning of this year it is easy to be positive after overcoming the challenges we faced in our recent past - the future is always full of possibilities.

Based on international polling, there is a global rise in optimism for the coming year - looking forward to 2024, 70 per cent think it will be better than 2023 (63 per cent in Canada).

Canadians are a little more skeptical, eh?

The Ipsos poll revealed the widely held expectation of a stronger world economy and there are signs of global recovery to justify that confidence amid a growing positive outlook.

At the same time, the same percentage (70 per cent) predicts that inflation and interest rates will be persistently higher in 2024 - I guess somebody has to pay for all that prosperity.

The 25,292 adults who were surveyed across 34 countries also revealed a number of other personal observations and predictions.

Some expect their personal data will be leaked on the internet (55 per cent) but only 41 per cent plan to use social media less often, while robots will look, think and speak just like humans (50 per cent).

In 2024 global temperatures will increase (81 per cent), there will be more extreme weather events (71 per cent) and out of the cosmos, an asteroid will hit the Earth (22 per cent).

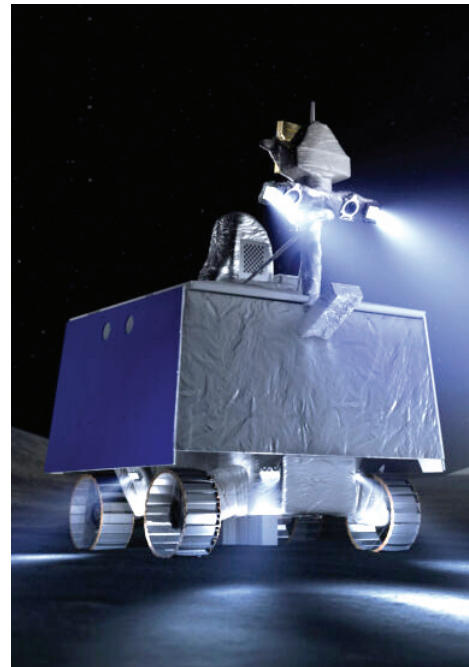
Of course these are all subjective predictions made by amateur prognosticators - I wonder what future trends and events are being divined by expert professional predictors.

This one should come as no surprise - El Nino continues to percolate the Pacific and many North American locations will receive below average snowfall as a result.

Renewable energy will surpass coal as a major global energy source, solar panel manufacturing will double and electric vehicles will take off, electrically.

NASA will launch its Artemis spacecraft with a two-person crew to the moon including Canadian astronaut Jeremy Hansen, on board for the journey around the moon and back.

Experts predict that Covid 19 (remember



The Viper robotic moon rover is part of Artemis. (NASA) that?) will become endemic in 2024 much like the flu or the common cold.

And sure enough, the volcanic comet,

12P/Pons-Brooks, will make a close approach to Earth and may be visible to the naked eye (vaguely predicted by 22 per cent in the Ipsos poll).

Nostradamus is the most famous predictor of all time with a respectable 70 per cent of his predictions coming true in the last 500 years - what he had to say about 2024 is alarming.

He predicted dire climate events - "The dry earth will grow more parched and there will be great floods" and he also warned of, "a very great famine."

He hints that "the King of the Isles" will be driven out and 2024 will see a new, younger Pope - he correctly foresaw the death of Queen Elizabeth II in 2022 so, who knows?

But even if he was 70 per cent accurate, that ancient French astrologer was not a positive thinker - what a bum for the 70 per cent who are hopeful about the future.

As for me, I leave forecasting to the professionals and ponder more practical predictions like tomorrow's weather forecast or the price of groceries or the good health of family and friends.

We will always face challenges and hardship but right here, right now, 2024 is looking good for hopeful people all over the world.

I'm pulling for them.

what's happening
in and around...

The Bay

To submit an event, email ldunick@dougallmedia.com.
Please include details about the event, including any cost

January 5-6

Thunderwolves Athletics

The Lakehead Thunderwolves are back in action at the C.J. Sanders Fieldhouse and Fort William Gardens this weekend.

The men's and women's basketball teams welcome the Laurentian Voyageurs and Nipissing Lakers to Thunder Bay on Friday and Saturday night, with tip-off at 6 p.m. for the women and 8 p.m. for the men.

Across town at the Gardens, the T-Wolves men's hockey team will tangle with Queen's and RMC, looking to turn things around in the second half.

The puck drops at 7 p.m. both nights.

January 6

CWE Wrestling

CWE Live returns to Thunder Bay with a card featuring WWF and WCW legend 2 Cold Scorpio.

The action takes place at the Moose

Hall and there's a VIP meet-and-greet at 6 p.m.

Doors open at 7 p.m. and the bell rings at 7:30 p.m.

VIP tickets are \$29 and general admission are \$24 in advance and \$27 at the door.

Tickets: www.cwetickets.com.

January 21

Sheepdogs in concert

Breaking away from the well-trodden path of major cities and bustling music hubs, The Sheepdogs are gearing up for a Canadian tour that will bring their electrifying live show to the heart of communities often overlooked by touring musicians.

They'll be at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium on Jan. 21, touring behind their latest studio release, *Outta Sight*.

The concert takes place at the Community Auditorium and tickets are available through Ticketmaster.



Marcus Powlowski, MP
Working For You
In Thunder Bay-Rainy River
Marcus.Powlowski@parl.gc.ca
(807) 625-1160



January

A Year In Review

Hauth resigns as police chief

1 Embattled Thunder Bay Police Chief Sylvie Hauth submitted her resignation and walked away from her post on Jan. 27. Hauth was suspended at the time of her resignation, but won't face a Police Act hearing for allegations of misconduct, announced the same day of her resignation.

2 The proposed city budget was announced by city officials and called for an initial 6.2 per cent tax-levy hike, deemed historically high and more than double the increase ultimately approved a year earlier.

3 Twenty-three-year-old Dallas Bannon was identified as the victim of a fatal shooting that took place on Jan. 22 in the John Street area. An unnamed youth was later arrested and charged with second-degree murder. Less than a week later, Cody Young, 33, became the second murder victim of the year. Matthew Scavarelli, 24, was charged with second-

degree murder in the McKenzie Street death.

4 Property owners in the Kaministiquia area began to speak up about their opposition to the Waasigan Transmission Line, concerned about impacts to their property and quality of life.

5 Three people were arrested and charged in the city's record 15th confirmed homicide of 2022, after Ivan Achneepineskum was found dead at a southside hotel. Taliyah Wabasse, 18, Draydin Bluecoat, 20 and Jayven Spence, 19 were all charged with second-degree murder.

6 Lakehead University announced the hiring of Gillian Siddall as the school's next president. Siddall had a long-time history at Lakehead, joining the university in 1998. She succeeded outgoing president Moira McPherson.

7 A Thunder Bay-born Jeopardy champion stretched his remarkable run to 13 wins before finally tasting defeat. Ray Lalonde won nearly US\$390,000 and earned a spot in the Tournament of Champions.

8 City council voted unanimously in favour of calling for a decriminalization of simple drug possession, declaring the opioid crisis a provincial emergency and expanding funding for harm reduction services.

9 A contractor was hired to begin work on the new Thunder Bay Art Gallery. Tom Jones Corporation will build the facility, which has been in the works for more than 14 years.

10 The first baby of the year, Bowtig Beardy, needed only 64 minutes to arrive after the new year's bell sounded. Bowtig weighed in at eight pounds and he and mother Kaya Beardy were doing just fine.



Sylvie Hauth avoided Police Act hearings by retiring.

Make Great Entertainment Your New Year's Resolution!

THE SHEEPDOGS
BACKROAD BOOGIE
THUNDER BAY COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM
JANUARY 21, 2024
TICKETS: WWW.TBCA.COM OR WWW.TICKETMASTER.CA

January 21, 2024

BANFF
MOUNTAIN FILM FESTIVAL WORLD TOUR
The World's Best Mountain Films
THE COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM
SUNDAY JANUARY 28
7:00 PM
TICKETS: WWW.TBCA.COM OR WWW.TICKETMASTER.CA
IN-PERSON: WEDNESDAYS 12:30 PM - 5:30 PM

January 28, 2024

The Guess Who Alumni
Featuring the vocals of
CARL DIXON
AND OTHER GUESS WHO ALUMNI
Five piece band
2 HOUR SPECIAL SHOW
EMERSON LUCHINI
NO THESE EYES
SHARE THE LOAD
CLIP FOR THE WOODMAN
LEONARD
STAN BERRY
& PERRY MOORE
THE COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM
SATURDAY
FEBRUARY 3 - 7:30 PM
TICKETS: WWW.TBCA.COM OR WWW.TICKETMASTER.CA
IN-PERSON: WEDNESDAYS 12:30 PM - 5:30 PM

February 3, 2024

BRETT KISSEL
THE COMPASS TOUR
NATIONWIDE
Thunder Bay, ON
Thunder Bay Community Auditorium
February 5, 2024
ORDER TICKETS ONLINE AT WWW.TBCA.COM
OR IN-PERSON AT 1 PAUL SHAFFER DRIVE - WEDNESDAYS 12:30PM - 5:30 PM

February 5, 2024

SNOWED IN
COMEDY TOUR
PAUL MYERBAUM
DAN QUINN
PAUL ZIEGLER
LIZ GILGIBSON
THE COMMUNITY AUDITORIUM
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 14 - 7:30 PM
ORDER TICKETS ONLINE AT WWW.TBCA.COM
OR IN-PERSON AT 1 PAUL SHAFFER DRIVE - WEDNESDAYS 12:30PM - 5:30 PM

February 14, 2024

CORB LUND
49 WINCHESTER
I EL VIEJO RELEASE TOUR!
MARCH 14th
Thunder Bay Community Auditorium
Thunder Bay, ON, Canada
www.corb.com

March 14, 2024

A Year
In Review

February

Hughes reinstated as deputy police chief

1 After a year-long suspension, Deputy Police Chief Ryan Hughes was reinstated. A statement from the Thunder Bay Police Services board said all but two of the allegations against Hughes were unsubstantiated, adding that appropriate corrective action had been taken.

2 The officer involved in the 2015 investigation of the death of Stacy DeBungee was given an 18-month demotion, from staff sergeant to sergeant, after he was found guilty of discreditable conduct and neglect of duty for his alleged mishandling of the case. Shawn Harrison said he planned to appeal the decision.

3 The Thunder Bay Public Library's facilities plan put everything on the table, including building new facilities, closing downtown locations, which CEO Richard Togman said will need millions in maintenance costs.

4 Thunder Bay Police Services Const. Peter Haase pleaded guilty to Police Service Act charges of discreditable conduct, insubordination and unlawful or unnecessary use of force, the result of a 2022 interaction with an Indigenous person. He later lost an appeal of his temporary demotion.

5 Thunder Bay Police investigated an attempted homicide after a man was sent to hospital in critical condition following a serious assault in the 300 block of Fassina Street. A 29-year-old Thunder Bay man was later charged.

6 Nishnawbe Aski Nation acknowledged Crave's new Thunder Bay documentary could be triggering for many Indigenous people, depicting a 'painful and traumatic truth about the reality for many Indigenous people living in the City of Thunder Bay.'

7 Early construction on the new Thunder Bay Art Gallery on the city's waterfront began, with the closure of trails near the Pool 6 site. The \$57-million, 39,000 square-foot facility is tentatively scheduled to open in late 2025.

8 The proposed closure of the Jumbo Gardens Recreation Centre was put on hold for the time being after council voted to temporarily set aside a planned closure.

9 Denise Baxter, vice-provost of Indigenous initiatives at Lakehead University, was appointed to the Thunder Bay Police Services Board. Board members currently hold no decision-making power, which will remain with administrator Malcolm Mercer into 2024.

10 WestJet announced it would introduce direct flights between Thunder Bay and Calgary, a first for the airline in seven years.



Deputy Police Chief Ryan Hughes had most allegations dropped.

NEW YEAR GOALS

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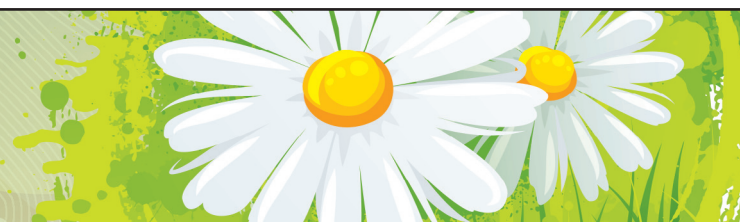
FOR YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION, COMMIT TO REDUCING WASTE.

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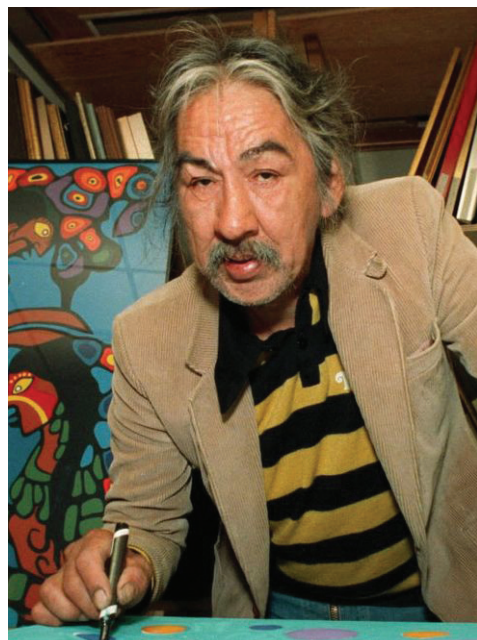
- 1** Rethink | Think about waste before you buy. Avoid 'disposable' products.
- 2** Refuse | Say no to plastic bags in stores – bring your own instead.
- 3** Reduce | Take reusable containers and bags for lunches.
- 4** Reuse | Charitable organizations and thrift shops are happy to take reusable items you no longer need.
- 5** Repair | Be handy! Fix those items instead of replacing them.
- 6** Recycle | Recycle everything you can.

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March

A Year
In Review

Morrisseau art fraud detected



The late Norval Morrisseau's artwork has been forged.

1An investigation into forged Norval Morrisseau paintings revealed a sprawling fraud scheme believed to be the largest in art history. More than 1,000 paintings were seized and police said the fraud could have totaled up to \$100 million.

2Johnathan McKay pleaded guilty to manslaughter in the 2019 beating death of 41-year-old Nazareth Kwaindebens. McKay was sentenced in November to eight years for the killing, which occurred at a residence in the 300 block of Arundel Street.

3The Ontario government paved the way for a new university veterinary program at Lakehead University, which would see 20 students enrolled in the program, starting in 2024-25. The program will be in collaboration with the University of Guelph and is aimed at addressing a critical shortage of vets in the north.

4St. Joseph's Care Group CEO Kelli O'Brien announced she would resign from the post, the decision coming just 17 months after she began the role. In September the board of directors announced the hiring of Janine Black as O'Brien's replacement.

5Thunder Bay Public Library named Ruth Hamlin-Douglas as its new head librarian. Hamlin-Douglas brought 17 years of experience at the library, most recently as programming librarian, taking over for former CEO and chief librarian John Pateman.

6Thunder Bay's Eric and Marc Staal made international headlines when they became the latest NHLers to decline to wear a Pride jersey during warm-ups. The brothers, who were playing for Florida, released a statement saying it went against their religious beliefs.

7Thunder Bay-Atikokan MPP Kevin Holland was named parliamentary assis-

tant for both Indigenous Affairs and northern development in Conservative Premier Doug Ford's government.

8The City of Thunder Bay announced Chinese-owned social media outlet TikTok would be banned from city owned electronic devices, following in the footsteps of the federal and provincial governments concerned about cyber security issues.

9WestJet announced major changes for Thunder Bay, halting all flights to Toronto while expanding flights to Winnipeg. The move left the city with one less option for travel by air to southern Ontario. Also in March, Flair cancelled its Thunder Bay-Ottawa route before service began.

10Thunder Bay's Ann Carlson collected her \$1-million prize from the Feb. 1 Lotto 6/49 Gold Ball Draw.

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Transformational police change needed

1An expert panel determined policing in Thunder Bay is in need of transformational change and put forth 10 calls to action, related to racism, labour relations, workplace mental health and the implementation of past recommendations made in previous reports.

2Newly installed Thunder Bay Police Chief Darcy Fleury officially took over the role on April 17, the first outside hire since 1995. He planned to spend the first month or so on the job getting to know the lay of the land. He took over from Sylvie Hauth, who was suspended before announcing her retirement.

3City council OKed a \$13.2-million spend for a rebuild of a portion of the north downtown core, a project designed to expand pedestrian and event space, focused on upgrades along the Red River Road corridor.

4A Thunder Bay Police officer was charged with assault causing bodily harm after a November 2022 altercation that sent a senior to hospital with serious injuries.

5Northern Ontario School of Medicine president and CEO Serita Verma said whether or not the medical school operates its Thunder Bay campus at Lakehead University, which operated the school, along with Laurentian University, until it was granted independent university status by the province in 2022, would be up to Lakehead officials.

6A cyber attack led to the closure of Thunder Bay's Gateway Casino being closed for nearly three weeks. The local casino wasn't alone, as casinos across Ontario were shuttered temporarily as a result of the attack.

7Jeffrey Miller was sentenced to six years in prison after pleading guilty to manslaughter in the death of Robensen Saint Jean. Miller was accused of facilitating a meeting between the victim and another drug dealer, which subsequently turned violent.

8Jonathan Yellowhead was given 64 months in custody for his involvement in the 2018 manslaughter death of Braiden Jacob, whose body was found in the Chapples Park area on Dec. 9, 2018.

9Members of the Public Service Alliance of Canada took to the picket line outside MP Patty Hajdu's constituency office, joining 155,000 fellow union members across the province, after union leadership failed to reach a deal with the federal government.

10More than 400 people took part in the annual Polar Plunge, helping raise \$400,000 for several local charities.



An expert panel on policing meet in 2022. (FILE)

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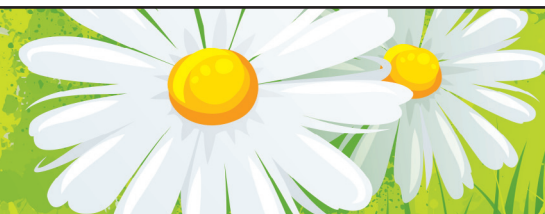
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May

A Year
In Review



Cyclist killed on way to school

1Ten-year-old Riker Mckelvey was killed on his way to school in a collision with a school bus at the intersection of Clarkson Street and Red River Road. A memorial quickly grew at the intersection to honour the youngster.

2A brazen daytime shooting incident rocked a section of Westfort. Police, who later released jarring video of the shootout, called it a targeted incident and resulted in the arrest of four suspects, all charged with attempted murder.

3Nishnawbe Aski Nation removed Derek Fox as grand chief, following a vote by chiefs-in-assembly. Fox is alleged to have breached NAN's code of conduct. Fox had earlier said he believed the suspension was the result of him being accused of being a woman abuser, a claim he staunchly denied.

4Courtney Labelle was sentenced to life in prison, with no parole eligibility for 15

years, after being convicted of second-degree murder in the 2020 stabbing of her 11-year-old son.

5Michelle Solomon was elected as the new chief of Fort William First Nation, edging her opponent, former chief Georjann Morriseau by 12 votes. Solomon said her priority was to formulate a long-term plan for the community.

6A coroner's inquest jury handed down 63 recommendations after looking into the death of Indigenous artist Moses Beaver. The recommendations were related to health care, corrections and policing. Beaver died in hospital in 2017 after being found unresponsive in his Thunder Bay District Jail cell.

7About 300 evacuees from Kashechewan First Nation arrived in Thunder Bay after fears of flooding in their community

continued to grow. The city was one of several host communities across Ontario.

8A rally and counter-protest were held outside of Movati on Arthur Street, both for and against the gym's inclusive changeroom policy. The organizer claimed the policy allowed men into the women's changeroom.

9Library officials sought public feedback on their draft facilities plan that included a new central branch at the Intercity Shopping Centre. The plan also includes the possible closure of both the Brodie Street and County Fair branches.

10The always popular Folklore Festival returned as an in-person event for the first time since 2019 and drew thousands of people to Fort William Gardens to celebrate cultures from around the world.



Riker Mckelvey died after colliding with a school bus.



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THINK RECYCLE

A Year
In Review

June

Dog rescue leads to Middle Falls plunge

1 A 21-year-old Thunder Bay man survived a plunge down Middle Falls while trying to help his girlfriend's family's dog, who entered the water and started to struggle against the current. Dillyan Dubray later said he was lucky to be alive.

2 Thunder Bay was left off the initial list of communities who would be eligible for the provincially provided strong mayors powers. The city was told they could get the designation, which allows the mayor to cut red tape and hire and fire certain administrative positions, if they signed a housing pledge.

3 City council announced cuts that, if enacted, would cancel bus routes and close the Neebing Arena, a decision that did not sit well with the hockey community and to Michele Solomon, the newly elected Fort William First Nation chief. The proposal

was part of a \$1.5-million service reduction target.

4 A 41-year-old man and a 56-year-old woman were arrested and charged with second-degree murder in the death of 67-year-old Darlene Giba. Cameron Gary-James Adomko and Johnna Sonogo were remanded into custody following the arrests.

5 The man, behind the Finnish Labour reconstruction project confirmed the rebuild had stalled. It was later learned a lawsuit against one of the contractors hired to work on the original structure, which burned to the ground in December 2021, is the reason for the halt in construction.

6 The annual Pride March drew hundreds to Waverley Park, as members of the LGBTQIATS+ community and their allies pushed back against a growing sentiment of

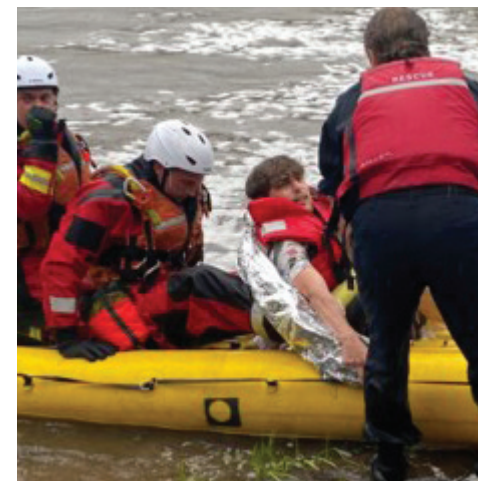
hate toward their community.

7 More than 1,000 people turned out for a celebration of National Indigenous People's Day, for a pow wow hosted by Fort William First Nation atop Mount McKay.

8 City council gave the thumbs up to a \$17-million plan to demolish Victoriaville Mall and replace it with new public spaces around a reconstructed Victoria Avenue. The move could require a \$15-million debenture

9 Thousands turned out to watch the return of the Royal Canadian Air Force's Snowbirds aerial team perform a pair of shows in Thunder Bay.

10 The provincial labour board rejected a claim by a Thunder Bay Transit operator who was sent home for 10 months for refusing to abide by the city's COVID-19 vaccination disclosure.



Dillyan Dubray went over Middle Falls saving a dog.

Marcus Powlowski, MP

Thunder Bay–Rainy River

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MP Patty Hajdu
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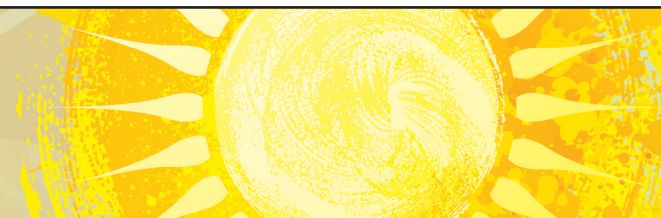
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July

A Year
In Review

Hit-and-run claims man's life

1 A fatal hit-and-run collision took the life of 42-year-old Carson Johnson and seriously injured his partner. After a short search, police identified the driver and made an arrest. Jonathan Paypomee pleaded guilty in December to a charge of dangerous operation of a motor vehicle causing death.

2 Nishnawbe Aski Nation turned to a familiar face to fill its vacant grand chief role, electing former Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler to head the governing body. The vacancy arose when former chief Derek Fox was voted out after being accused of misconduct.

3 Thunder Bay's Katherine Henderson was given a tough task, hired to take over the top job at scandal-plagued Hockey Canada, after seven years at the helm of Curling Canada.

4 Thunder Bay correctional workers expressed concern that the lavish new

\$1.2-billion correctional facility being built on Highway 61 might be too small. The 345-bed prison complex is scheduled to open in late 2026.

5 Canada Day celebrations returned in full force, though permanently without fireworks, with activities scheduled throughout the day at Marina Park and at Fort William Historical Park.

6 Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre paid a visit to the city, holding an evening rally as he sought to build support ahead of a looming federal election. The populist leader appealed to local voters with a plan to repeal gun control legislation and cutting the carbon tax.

7 The second annual Country on the Bay Music Festival was once again a huge success, with the likes of Doc Walker, Brothers Osborne, Dean Brody and the James Barker Band taking to the Fort

William Historical Park stage. The 2024 event will be headlined by Blake Shelton.

8 The City of Thunder Bay released its latest strategic plan for the 2022 to 2026 council, including curbing urban sprawl, seeking more funding to recognize Thunder Bay's role as a regional hub and the decriminalization of people who use drugs.

9 City council voted to end the sometime controversial Sister Cities program, ending formal ties with communities in Minnesota, Finland, Japan and China. The move brought with it \$25,000 in annual savings.

10 Former Lakehead Thunderwolves star forward Mike Hammond was killed in a motor vehicle crash in British Columbia. Hammond, 33, spent four seasons at LU and had been playing hockey professionally overseas, most recently in Great Britain.



Nishnawbe Aski Nation chose Alvin Fiddler as chief.

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*A Year
In Review*

August

City gets an ambitious housing target

1The province assigned the city an ambitious 2,200 new homes target by 2031, the key to Thunder Bay being able to access new housing funds through Ontario's \$1.2-billion Building Faster Fund - and to be awarded strong mayor powers

2Thunder Bay MPP Kevin Holland, a Conservative, denied charges he 'ghosted' request for meetings from a local LGBTQ+ organizations and his absence from this year's Pride Month events, saying he was never invited while adding he had four other commitments the day of the annual Pride parade.

3The Thunder Bay tennis community was disappointed to learn a planned six-court indoor facility would not open in 2023, though the organization announced it was hopeful it would be able to secure approvals and complete substantial work this year, which did not happen.

4The work continued on the plan to revitalize a section of the downtown north core, with construction on Court Street closing the intersection at Red River Road for several months. In addition to new sidewalks and public spaces, the work also included renewal of underground infrastructure.

5A transitional housing facility, slated for Junot Avenue got the go-ahead with an \$8.7-million spending announcement from the province. The three-story building will provide programming for Indigenous youth.

6A former boxing coach was charged with sexual assault. Tony Pimental was also charged with sexual exploitation for incidents involving two people, though police at the time said there could potentially be more victims.

7Queen of the Hurricanes, Elsie MacGill, was honoured with her image appearing

on a \$1 coin. MacGill, who has an elementary school named after her in Thunder Bay, was a pioneer, breaking barriers as an engineer and for advocating for women's rights.

8The Canadian Lakehead Exhibition weathered a little rain on Day 3 of the five-day event, but came close to meeting its average 55,000 to 60,000 attendance goal, crowds coming out to enjoy the rides, food and entertainment.

9NDP MPP Lise Vaugeios issued concerns for highway safety and pushed for more driver training and for inspection stations to carry more regular hours. Her request came in the shadows of a pair of fatalities on Northwestern Ontario highways.

10RibFest was once again a huge hit, with thousands hitting up the CLE grounds to sample the wares of some of the country's finest ribbers, along with plenty of music.



Premier Doug Ford wants to build 1.5 million housing units, including 2,200 in Thunder Bay, by 2031. (FILE)

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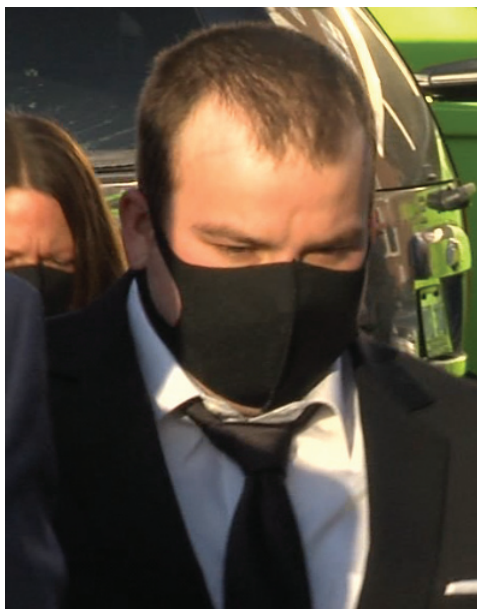
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September

A Year
In Review

Brayden Bushby was convicted in the killing of Barbara Kentner, after throwing a trailer hitch at her.

Bushby granted day parole

1 Brayden Bushby, who was convicted in the 2017 death of Barbara Kentner, after hurling a trailer hitch at the Indigenous woman from a moving car, was granted day parole, deemed a low risk to reoffend. Full parole was denied. Bushby is serving a seven-year, 11-month manslaughter sentence.

2 City council shifted gears and endorsed a new site for a proposed indoor turf facility, voting in favour of a Hangar-style facility on lands next to the Community Auditorium, rejecting administration's preferred Chapple's Park location.

3 Ontario Liberal leadership candidates travelled to Thunder Bay for their first debate. Bonnie Crombie was eventually elected leader.

4 After being closed for nearly 17 months, River Street fully reopened to vehicular traffic, the repairs to a damaged culvert

finally finished. The street was closed between Algoma and Peter streets after a sinkhole appeared in May 2022. Initial repair costs were pegged at \$2.5 million.

5 Sixty-three-year-old Richard Jung was named as the victim in the city's latest homicide. Police arrested 24-year-old Randy Andrews and charged him with second degree murder in the incident, which took place in the 200 block of Robertson Street.

6 Council rejected Mayor Ken Boshcoff's request for support for giving Thunder Bay strong mayor powers, but Boshcoff vowed to go ahead and seek them anyway – though later said he only planned to use the added authority sparingly.

7 The Wake the Giant Music Festival proved to be a huge hit once again, welcoming Indigenous students to

Thunder Bay with the likes of Deadmau5 and X Ambassadors headlining the one-day event.

8 Conservative MPP Kevin Holland defended the government's Greenbelt response in the aftermath of the resignation of then housing minister Steve Clark. The Ford government was accused of irregularities in its plan to remove from the Greenbelt lands for private development.

9 Former longtime Liberal MP Stan Dromisky died at 92. He represented Thunder Bay-Atikokan for 11 years in the House of Commons, retiring in 2004.

10 A residential school survivor said the horrors of the era must never be forgotten. Fred Thomas spent more than 10 years in the system and spoke out on National Truth and Reconciliation Day at a ceremony held at Hillcrest Park.

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A Year
In Review

October

Tournament of Hearts back in city in 2025

1 Officials from Curling Canada were on hand to announce the 2025 Scotties Tournament of Hearts will be contested at Fort William Gardens, a make-up of sorts for the 2022 event that was held in the city, mostly without fans in the stands.

2 Premier Doug Ford paid a brief visit to Thunder Bay, where he highlighted provincial investments in Indigenous training programs and stopped by local paper and saw mills and the Matawa Training Centre.

3 The death of Abdullahi Mohamed Ali was deemed a homicide, the city's sixth of 2023, and resulted in the arrest of 25-year-old Russel Brayden Moonias, who was charged with first-degree murder in the killing. Police later confirmed a firearm was involved.

4 Members of the city's 2SLGBTQIA+ community told the Thunder Bay Police

Services Board they felt unsafe in the city, while detailing increased hate-related incidents and asking for more reporting to police and better data collection.

5 City council approved an ambitious housing pledge, vowing to see 2,200 new housing units built by 2031, despite being told it wasn't necessary for the municipality to access its share of the province's \$1.2-billion Building Faster Fund. The province is looking to have 1.5 billion new housing units built over the next eight years as a way to address the housing crisis.

6 After months of renovations and improvements, the Canada Games Complex reopened to the public. The work included upgrades to the washrooms and changerooms.

7 Lyrina Jacob was sentenced to five years in the 2020 stabbing death of her mother, Lydia Jacob. The 25-year-old was charged

with manslaughter in the killing, which took place at a Dawson Street apartment.

8 The city announced a multi-million-dollar plan to revamp the Waterfront bus terminal, work that will include an addition, heated enclosures and increased visibility. The work is tentatively scheduled for 2025.

9 The Lakehead School Board filed a court order demanding social media site, Reddit, release user identity information after the board accused the users in question of making defamatory remarks about board employees.

10 A Thunder Bay actress, Presley Allard, starred in a new TV movie, alongside Melissa Joan Hart, that depicted the horrific real-life events about a young girl encouraged to kill her stepfather. *Would You Kill For Me? The Mary Bailey Story* aired on Lifetime.



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November

A Year
In Review

Turnbull's remains recovered



Alyssa Turnbull's family outside the courthouse.

1 More than three-and-a-half years after she went missing, the remains of Alyssa Turnbull were finally discovered after two men accused of being involved led police to the burial site in a remote area of Kaministiquia. Nick Soos, 29, and Brian Soos, 61, were charged with committing indignity to a body and obstructing justice.

2 At-large Coun. Rajni Agarwal drew the ire of the city's integrity commissioner, who slammed her conduct for recent behaviour, that included giving the middle finger to city residents and breaching council's code of conduct. Council later docked her pay.

3 A series of threats against several Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board schools resulted in hold-and-secure and outright closures of several schools, most notably St. Patrick High School.

4 City council reversed a previous vote on a proposed indoor turf facility plan, and

approved a \$38-million financing plan to move forward with a planned structure adjacent to the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium. A week earlier council delayed approving a \$44-million proposal.

5 Lakehead District School Board said they hoped a four-month suspension of former director of education Ian MacRae, and a written reprimand would bring closure to those affected by comments MacRae is alleged to have said, including derogatory comments about Indigenous people and board staff members.

6 The Northern Ontario School of Medicine and its unionized workers reached an 11th-hour deal to avert a possible strike at its Thunder Bay and Sudbury campuses.

7 The Thunder Bay Police Services Board announced its 2024 operating budget that included a \$2.4-million spending

increase, prompting at least one board member to suggest looking at ways to save police resources spent on mental health and addiction calls.

8 Dr. Sarita Verma announced she will leave her post as head of the Northern Ontario School of Medicine when her contract expires next year. Verma led the school's move to independent university status.

9 The annual Santa Claus parade was a huge hit once again, drawing thousands of spectators, who lined the route to kick off the holiday season in Thunder Bay and for a chance to catch a glimpse of Jolly Old St. Nick himself.

10 MPP Patty Hajdu declared the federal government's deal with Google, which will ensure Canadian news sites don't get dropped from the world's largest search engine, was a win for local journalism.

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A Year
In Review

December

Lamont guilty of fraud and sexual assault

1 Gary Lamont pleaded guilty to a pair of charges related to his role in a Norval Morrisseau art fraud ring. Lamont was charged with forgery and defrauding the public over \$5,000. Later in the month Lamont pleaded guilty to three more counts of sexual assault, for incidents that took place in 2021 and 2022. Lamont got five years on the forgery charges.

2 Tragedy struck when the body of missing 14-year-old Neskantaga First Nation Mackenzie Moonias was located by police at Marina Park.

3 Northwestern Ontario highways proved to be deadly, with fatal collisions in the area taking place on three consecutive days.

4 Warm weather was the topic of conversation for much of the month, with temperatures soaring to 13 C and more on at least one occasion. A white Christmas

never materialized, as rainy weather continued throughout the area.

5 Dustin Moffatt pleaded not guilty to a second-degree murder and aggravated assault in the 2021 death of 16-year-old Cody Furioso. Furioso was stabbed near the James Street Swing Bridge after he and a friend got into an altercation with a man.

6 Two children were rushed to hospital with what police called serious injuries after a driver struck them in a hit-and-run at the Northwood Park Plaza parking lot. A 25-year-old man was later arrested and charged in the incident.

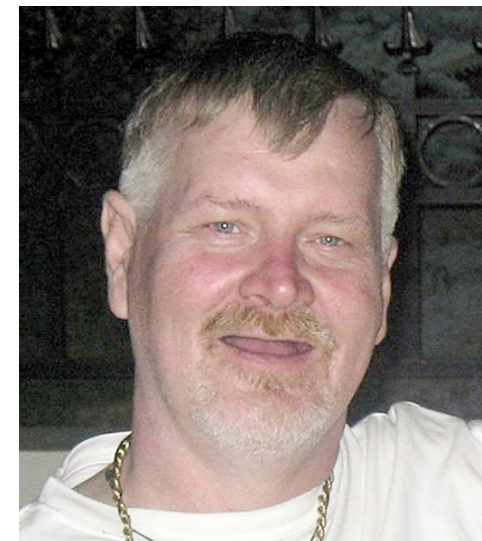
7 Indigenous Services Minister Patty Hajdu introduced the First Nations Clean Water Act. Bill C-61 commits to providing safe drinking water and wastewater management, collaboration and self-governance in First Nations commu-

nities.

8 Matawa First Nation spoke up in support of Wequedong Lodge, citing a lack of confidence in the federal government to help fund the facility, which is facing millions in deficits.

9 City workers approved a possible strike mandate, but did not set a strike date. Members of CUPE Local 87, a union representing 550 workers in garbage collection, park maintenance, roads and sewer and wastewater, voted 98 per cent of a walkout.

10 Neebing residents were up in arms after a property owner, who said he had permission to do so, burned garbage for nearly a week in an effort to clean up the land. Residents complained about thick black smoke and an intense smell from the fire, which included the burning of a run-down house on the property.



Gary Lamont faced two court cases in December.

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Support Local Shops that offer delivery or curbside pick up services.

3

Order Pick Up or Delivery from your favourite local Thunder Bay restaurants.

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Buy Branded Merchandise (a mug, cozy hoodie, etc.) from your favourite local businesses.

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Shop at Neighbourhood Stores instead of ordering from large online retailers.

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Ferrari gets the checkered flag

Ferrari (SilverCity) tells the story of celebrated race car manufacturer Enzo Ferrari (Adam Driver) during a specific three-month period in 1957 that would ultimately have profound effect upon his professional and personal life.

Ferrari is a passion project for director Michael Mann who became fascinated spotting his first Ferrari as a student in London. His attempts to bring the story to the big screen hit numerous speed bumps until now.

The film opens with Enzo in a vortex of challenges, several years before the showdown of "Ford v Ferrari." His company is on the verge of bankruptcy, since he's been concentrating more on high performance race cars than vehicles for domestic consumption. Rival Maserati is chomping at his heels.

His factory is feverishly prepping their cars for the upcoming Mille Miglia, a grueling thousand mile, ten-hour race. Victory would restore the company's prestige. Enzo assembles a team of elite international drivers. He

also plants rumours that his company is being courted by buyers, thereby arousing the interest of Ford and Fiat.

Domestically, he's spinning his wheels dealing with his business-savvy, embittered wife Laura (Penelope Cruz) still mourning the recent death of their young adult son to illness and mistress Lina (Shailene Woodley) who's looking to 'legitimize' her young son Piero, sired by Enzo. Given that divorce is illegal in Italy at this time, Enzo is stuck in neutral.

Director Mann and the late screenwriter Troy Kennedy Martin draw from Brock Yates' biography, juxtaposing the contradictions in Enzo's life with wee bits of humour. An ex-driver himself, Ferrari's meticulous, philosophical approach to racing strategy and engineering is contrasted against his romantic entanglements that are anything but orderly. He's obsessive, typical of a Mann protagonist.

His personal affairs spill over into business, as Laura and Enzo dicker over financial leverage that could have dramatic implications for the company. Angered by Enzo's



Adam Driver stars as Enzo Ferreari in the film *Ferrari*.
philandering, Laura plays her cards hard.
Driver's commanding, stoic persona (embellished by shielding sunglasses and

cropped grey hair) and fiery, cagey Cruz give the film emotional gravitas, conveying the complex mix of passion, pain and disappointments of a tattered long-standing relationship.

The narrative is speckled with other races, well orchestrated, showing the harrowing approach to racing of the time. Drivers don't have seatbelts, just goggles and helmets, situated behind a small windscreen.

Enzo's a hands-on boss, imparting individual tactical (perhaps manipulative?) pep talks while launching his five drivers during Mille Miglia (including silver-haired Patrick Dempsey, a racer in real life, doing his own driving.) Triumph and tragedy await.

There's a jolting sequence magnified by a sudden stab of silence on the audio track resulting in gut-wrenching horror. This moment is catastrophic, reflective of "the terrible joy" Enzo describes earlier, acknowledging racing's dire pitfalls. The pursuit of racing glory has its costs.

The conclusion is abrupt, the pay-off a bit wanting.

Still, *Ferrari* provides an engrossing glimpse into the life of a complicated racing legend.

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Wolves sweep Bisons

Dylan Massie scored twice in 6-4 triumph

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The Lakehead Thunderwolves men's hockey team will ring in the new year with a pair of non-conference wins under their belt.

Dylan Massie scored twice and Josh Van Unen had a goal and an assist, adding to his three-goal effort the night before, leading LU to a 6-4 win over the University of Manitoba Bisons in front of 2,655 fans at Fort William Gardens.

Massie, second on the team with five regular-season goals, said the goal coming into the weekend was a pair of victories, and while the games weren't always pretty, they got the job done.

"I think having nine days off over the break, it doesn't seem like much, but it can be a lot, especially when you're eating all that food. It was just good to get our legs under us again and get ready for next weekend," Massie said.

After blanking the Bisons 6-0 on Friday night, it appeared the T-Wolves were well on their way to another shellacking in Saturday's rematch.

They jumped in front 3-1 after 20 minutes, but Manitoba had other ideas, at least coming out of the first-period intermission.

Cody Behun and Tony Apetagon scored goals 76 seconds apart in the first four minutes of the second period to tie it up, just missing a third goal as the puck bounced dangerously at the feet of Brock Aiken, making a rare start between the pipes for LU.

The T-Wolves didn't bat an eye.

Tyler Ho responded with a power play goal of his own, left alone to pounce on a Josh Van Unen rebound, firing it home from the right circle to give Lakehead back the lead for good. Nicholas



Dylan Massie helped lead Lakehead to a second straight non-conference win this past Saturday night.

DeGrazia needed just 38 seconds to restore the Thunderwolves two-goal lead, taking a pass from Colin Van Den Hurk and beating Bisons goaltender Kolby Thornton, who took over to start the second after Ross Hawryluk gave up three goals on 13 shots.

One of those goals belonged to defenceman Brendon Borbely, his first in an LU uniform. Van Unen opened the scoring two minutes into the contest and Massie made it 3-1 with 1:02 to go in the first, wiping out Owen Warehem's power-play goal that cut the LU lead to 2-1 at the 11:41 mark.

Massie and Manitoba's Hayden Ostir

traded third-period goals, the Bisons unable to gain ground over the final four minutes of the game with Thornton on the bench for an extra attacker.

Lakehead coach Andrew Wilkins said the non-conference wins are a good jumping off point as the Thunderwolves get set to welcome Queen's and RMC to the Gardens next weekend.

"Getting the wins are very important to our group," Wilkins said. "I thought we responded better tonight in the third period. I didn't love our second or parts of our first, but it happens in hockey where you're dealing with momentum swings.

ENIGMA™ CRYPTOGRAM

Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. Hint: "E" = "D"

"KSH EW SYX DLKS UZ WFH VFHME
 EXZUJX SYX ZHSHPX."

— BFJZHBUEHK

		1							
	9				3	5			
6			1			4			9
			2			8			5
	8	5		4					2
		4		3		9			6
		9				6			
2			3		8				
			5	9	6	2			

ACROSS

- 1 National (abbr.)
- 5 Decorated wall part
- 9 Fen
- 12 Wild ox
- 13 Grandson of Esau
- 14 Amer. Dental Assn. (abbr.)
- 15 Visible juncture
- 16 Musical instrument (percussion)
- 17 Jewish Defense League (abbr.)
- 18 Loop trains
- 20 White lead
- 22 Soldier (Fr.)
- 25 Water (Fr.)
- 26 Presidential nickname
- 27 Adjective-forming (suf.)
- 29 Essay
- 33 Outer portion of Earth
- 35 Receipt (abbr.)

- 37 Electric catfish
- 38 Antiseptic
- 40 Drop
- 42 Droop
- 43 E. Indian timber tree
- 45 Shrine (Fr.)
- 47 Spotted eagle ray
- 50 Military assistant
- 51 Berne's river
- 52 Elbe tributary
- 54 Served perfectly in tennis
- 58 As written in music
- 59 53 (Rom. numeral)
- 60 Forfeit
- 61 Decade
- 62 Yemen capital
- 63 Handle (Fr.)

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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T S K   B F A   B I S
T A P A   I E R   R O I L
I K O N   V E R B A L L Y
A E R   S O L A R   E K E
   E S A U   N A S
N O S E G A Y   D A C I A
S A I R   C A P   F O L D
A S C A P   M A H A R A J
   C A L   R U R U
P E A   P E E V E   N N E
A L I C A N T E   E D O M
C A D E   I A N   D U S E
H A E   S H U   E M E
    
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DOWN

- 1 Nose (pref.)
- 2 Donkey (Fr.)
- 3 Poly. beefwood
- 4 Hebrew letter
- 5 Sirius (2 words)
- 6 Love (Lat.)
- 7 Hop
- 8 Almond-flavored drink
- 9 Malay jacket
- 10 Allowance
- 11 Windstorm
- 19 Indo-Chin. language
- 21 Ger. industrial valley
- 22 Impudence
- 23 Felish
- 24 Loyal
- 28 Liquid crystal display (abbr.)
- 30 Orient
- 31 Volcano crater
- 32 Hem
- 34 Waste
- 36 Mercury's winged shoe
- 39 Revers
- 41 Fellow
- 44 Religious sayings
- 46 Ear canal
- 47 Kiln
- 48 Tanning solution
- 49 Persia today
- 53 One (Ger.)
- 55 Study
- 56 Noun-forming (suf.)
- 57 River into the North Sea

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Cats return, Thunderwolves shine

It was a fantastic year on the local sports scene, and really tough to pick just 10 stories for the year's best.

The Hammarskjold Vikings deserve special mention for winning their first senior title in 15 years, and it's tough to ignore the large crowds at the Thunder City Speedway this past summer.

Without further ado, here's my top 10 local sports stories of 2023.

1 After three years on the sidelines, the Thunder Bay Border Cats returned to action and found themselves in the first-half playoff hunt that wasn't decided until a day or two before the second half began. The team slipped a little in the second half, after an exodus of players only signed to first-half contracts, but the team averaged 1,092 fans a night, an increase over 2019. Local favourites Jack Pineau and Will Droll were both named to the Great Lakes Division all-star team.

2 The Lakehead Thunderwolves surprised the OUA hockey world, returning to the top 10 in the national rankings and were twice a win away from a berth at the national championship. Under the guidance of

coach Andrew Wilkins, the T-Wolves won the OUA West for the first time in 15 years.

3 Eric and Marc Staal (and Thunder Bay assistant coach Jamie Kompon) helped lead the surprising Florida Panthers to the Stanley Cup final, but the Vegas Golden Knights were too tough a test for the team from South Beach, winning their first NHL championship in five games. Marc Staal later signed with the Philadelphia Flyers in free agency.

4 Krista McCarville's rink was the No. 1 seed heading into the Page Playoffs at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in Kamloops, B.C., but lost to Manitoba in the 1-2 playoff, then fell 7-5 to Kerri Einarson's Team Canada in the semifinal, settling for bronze. The team later in the year added New Brunswick's Andrea Kelly, a former Scotties skip, to the mix.

5 The Superior International Junior Hockey League final pitted the Kam River Fighting Walleye against the upstart Thunder Bay North Stars and the two teams did not disappoint, the best-of-seven Bill Salonen Cup final going the distance. The Walleye came out on top with a 5-4 win,



Leith Dunick
SPORTS SHORTS



Thunder Bay's Will Droll was an all-star last season.

capturing their first SIJHL championship and a spot at the Centennial Cup.

6 Team Canada welcomed the world in a Qualifier for the 2024 Women's Baseball World Cup. Canada, which finished second at 4-1, earned its way into next year's championship, though they had already locked up a spot as host. The 2024 event will kick off on July 28 at Port Arthur Stadium.

7 Curling Canada announced the Scotties Tournament of Hearts will return to Fort William Gardens in 2025, a make-up for the 2022 event that was mostly fan-free due to pandemic restrictions.

8 The Thunder Bay Chill returned to playoff form, capturing the Deep North Division with a 9-1-2 record, returning to the USL League 2 postseason for the first time in six years. The Chill defeated AFC Ann Arbor in the conference quarterfinals, but a late goal by the Des Moines Menace sent their conference semifinal to extra time, where they succumbed to the host team, losing 3-2. The Chill's renewed success came with former coach Tony Colistro at the helm once again.

9 The Firefighters Ten Mile Road Race returned as an in-person event over the Victoria Day weekend, drawing hundreds of participants. Lakehead's Andre Lehman took the men's race, while Emma Vaillancourt was tops in the women's division.

10 Lakehead University's women's basketball program hired Hugo Boisvert to take over the head coaching position, left open when long-time coach Jon Kreiner parted ways with the university before the start of the 2022-23 season.



LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY THUNDERWOLVES

2023-2024 SEASON

SEASON SCHEDULE

HOCKEY

OCT 13 & 14TH

WATERLOO WARRIORS

OCT 21ST

ONTARIO TECH RIDGEBACKS

NOV 3 & 4TH

WESTERN MUSTANGS

NOV 24TH

UQTR PATRIOTES

NOV 25TH

MCGILL RED BIRDS

JAN 5TH

QUEEN'S GAELS

JAN 6TH

RMC PALADINS

JAN 12 & 13TH

WILFRED LAURIER

GOLDEN HAWKS

FEB 2 & 3RD

WINDSOR LANCERS

FEB 9TH

NIPISSING LAKERS



LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY THUNDERWOLVES

2023-2024 SEASON

SEASON SCHEDULE

BASKETBALL & VOLLEYBALL

MEN AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

NOV 10 & 11TH VS. YORK LIONS

NOV 24TH VS. WESTERN MUSTANGS

NOV 25TH VS. WINDSOR LANCERS

JAN 5TH VS. LAURENTIAN VOYAGEURS

JAN 6TH VS. NIPISSING LAKERS

JAN 26 & 27TH VS. BROCK BADGERS

FEB 9TH VS. QUEEN'S GAELS

FEB 10TH VS. ONTARIO TECH RIDGEBACKS

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

NOV 17 & 18TH VS. TORONTO VARSITY BLUES

JAN 12 & 13TH VS. TMU BOLD

JAN 19 & 20TH VS. NIPISSING LAKERS

FEB 2 & 3RD VS. QUEEN'S GAELS

FEB 16 & 17TH VS. RMC PALADINS

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 10. Real Estate Wanted

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 39. Parts & Repairs
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 40. Current River
 41. Northward
 42. South
 43. Westfort
 44. Rural
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 47. Travel
 48. Financial
 49. Lost & Found
 50. Personal
 51. Notices
 52. Tenders

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS & OTHERS In the Estate of ANGELA IWASA

All Persons having claims against the Estate of Angela Iwasa, late of Thunder Bay, ON, deceased, who died on or about August 10, 2023, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before January 25, 2024, 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 December, 2023.

ALLAN DAVID IWASA, BRUCE DANIEL IWASA and GLENN STEPHEN IWASA, ESTATE TRUSTEES
 c/o ERICKSONS LLP
 ATTN: RYAN VENN
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Dated at Thunder Bay, Ontario on the 4th day of January, 2024.

LINDA GAY POTTER, ESTATE TRUSTEE
 c/o ERICKSONS LLP
 ATTN: RYAN VENN
 Barristers and Solicitors
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9	6	3	2	7	1	8	4	5
7	8	5	6	4	9	1	3	2
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3	1	9	7	2	4	6	5	8
2	5	6	3	1	8	7	9	4
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