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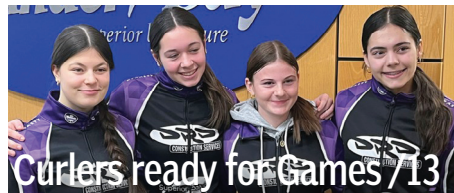
New play set to open /12



Popular eatery closing /12



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THUNDER BAY SOURCE



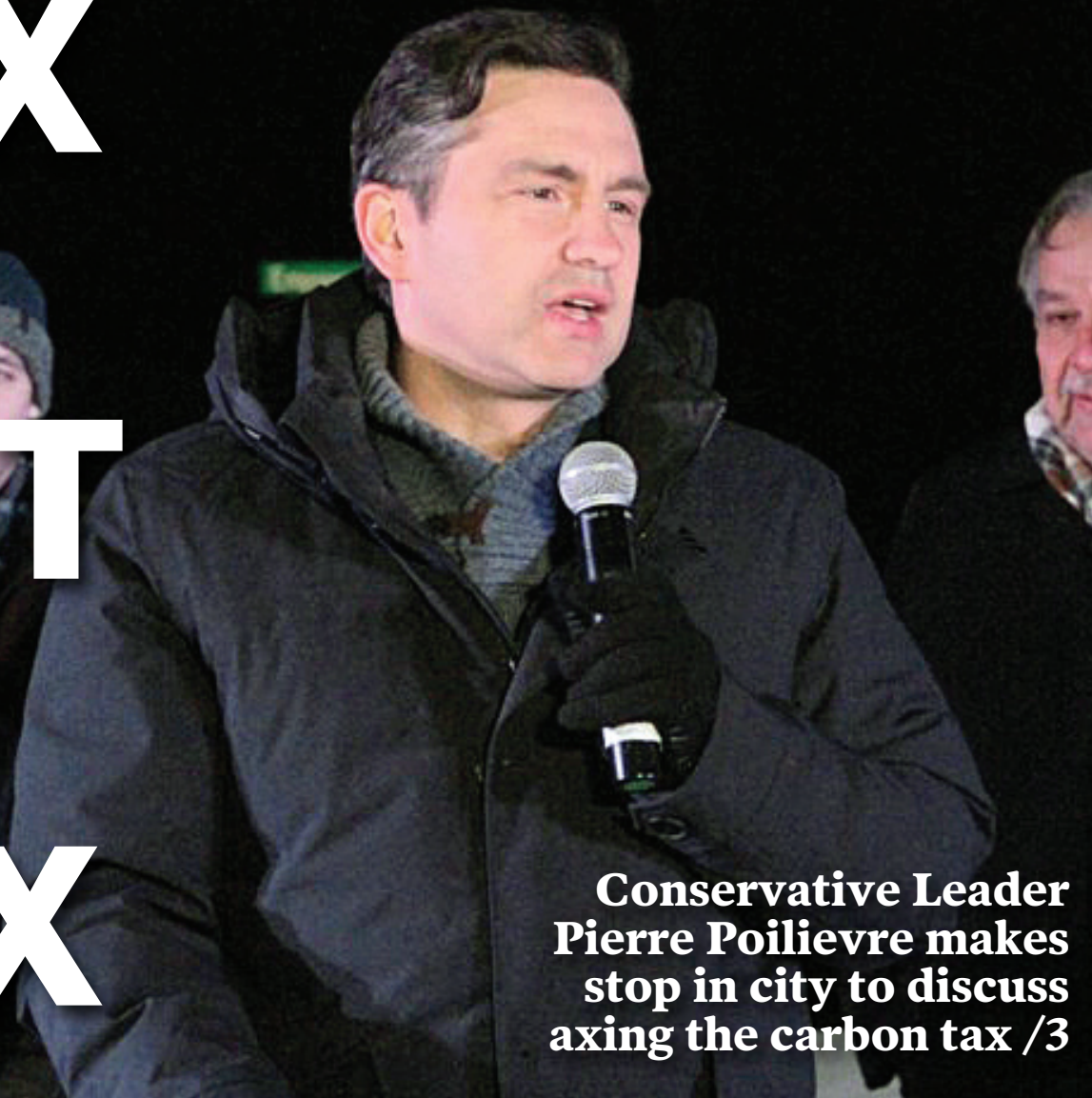

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Thursday, January 18, 2024

TAX OR NOT TO TAX



Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre makes stop in city to discuss axing the carbon tax /3

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Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre has promised to cut the Liberal government's carbon tax, which he says has been a major factor in rising prices in Canada. (Justin Hardy)



Conservative Leader Pierre Poilievre was back in Thunder Bay last Friday, arguing against the carbon tax. (Justin Hardy)

Poilievre returns

By Justin Hardy - TB Source

The leader of the official opposition of Canada made a stop in Thunder Bay Friday evening.

Pierre Poilievre, leader of the Conservative Party of Canada, made an appearance at the site of his new billboard.

It is located just outside of the constituency office of Patty Hajdu, the Liberal Minister of Indigenous Services and Minister responsible for the Federal Economic Development Agency for Northern Ontario.

The new billboard criticized the Liberal's carbon tax, with Poilievre once again promising to eliminate the carbon tax implemented by the Liberal government.

"I'm here today to redouble my campaign to axe the tax and there, you see the sign right over there. That's the choice, that's the choice in the carbon tax election," he said.

"Either it will be Pierre Poilievre and the common-sense Conservatives who will axe the tax or Justin Trudeau, Patty Hajdu and (Marcus) Powlowski who will hike the tax on your heat, your gas and your groceries."

Hajdu stood by her party's commitment to the carbon tax, saying that she believes it to be a crucial part of supporting generations to come.

"The billboard is patently dishonest. First of all, I mean, actually Monday, the quarterly instalment of the climate rebate will be deposited to people's bank accounts, \$244 for the average household," she said.

"The billboard also doesn't at all address what the leader of the opposition would propose to do about climate change.

Hajdu also criticized the federal

Conservatives for both the historical and current ways the party dealt with hot-button issues like reconciliation.

"I think the Conservative Party is bankrupt in the area of reconciliation - and I'll tell you a few reasons why," she said.

"First of all, when we took office in 2015, Stephen Harper, of which Pierre Poilievre, as you know, served as a cabinet minister, refused to meet with national Indigenous leaders, not even one time to talk about what their priorities were and how we could move forward on reconciliation."

She added that the issues around reconciliation are not something that can be airbrushed away and that these are long-standing relationships with long-standing challenges and it requires an ongoing commitment.

Poilievre contradicted the Indigenous Services Minister, stating that his party is going to ensure that First Nations communities have the opportunity to earn powerful paycheques that fund local infrastructure, schools, and other necessities.

"One of the ways we're going to do that is to give First Nations communities more control over their money, their decisions, and their lands," he said.

"We'll allow First Nations to collect some of their own corporate tax so that businesses will not have to send it all to Ottawa. They'll be able to pay it to the local First Nation that will generate their own source of revenue and more financial autonomy."

Poilievre stressed his confidence that Thunder Bay's ridings will elect a Conservative in the next election, something that hasn't happened in nearly 90 years.

WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Mostly Cloudy
Precipitation: 20% HIGH -16 LOW -24	Precipitation: 20% HIGH -16 LOW -22	Precipitation: 20% HIGH -12 LOW -19	Precipitation: 30% HIGH -8 LOW -10

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Games will have fewer sports

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Organizers are putting the finishing touches on a scaled-back Ontario Winter Games that will see 14 fewer sports and 1,500 fewer athletes, coaches and officials than initially planned.

Citing the reduced air travel capacity to and from Thunder Bay, and the increased costs for those seats that do remain, Games organizers last Wednesday said while it's disappointing for athletes and fans alike, they'd prefer to focus on the events that will take place, rather than dwelling on those that won't.

"I am feeling positive about who we do have coming to these Games, and that's the important thing," said Games co-chair Barry Streib.

"The athletes are 12 to 18-years old. They're young individuals. This is their future career in sports that they're looking forward to and this is one event they can accomplish that next level to get to. There's 1,350 in total coming with coaches and officials. That's what we're focused on.

"We're going to make sure that these athletes, coaches, officials, guests, family



Paul Burke is the city's event services coordinator.

and friends that are coming here, are going to have the best time they've ever had, here

in Thunder Bay."

A total of 13 different sports, at 11 different venues, will be included in the Games, which kick off on Feb. 16 and run for two consecutive weekends.

Sports that will take place include badminton, cross-country skiing, diving, futsal, ringette and wrestling, on the first weekend, and five-pin bowling, archery, artistic swimming, biathlon, curling, hockey and fencing.

Events that pulled out include downhill skiing, karate, squash, weightlifting and wheelchair curling. The decision not to come to Thunder Bay was made by each sport's provincial governing body.

"I think it's always disappointing. For a community like Thunder Bay, we travel so often down to southern Ontario to compete, so it's a big deal for us when sports come up here and let us compete on our home turf," said Games coordinator Matthew Lawrence.

"It's great for the kids and it really helps build sports in the community. I think it's really disappointing we won't get the opportunity to share those pieces with the kids who might be interested in seeing what's that next level in my sport and can I get out

and participate locally without having to travel and put forth those expenses to go down to southern Ontario."

Lawrence said putting on 13 sports, with more than 1,350 athletes coming to the city, is still a pretty big deal.

"(It's) the largest multi-sport Games that we've been able to host since 1981 with the Canada Games. So, it's still an extremely large event for us. We're excited and we think it's going to have a very positive impact on the community."

The Ontario Winter Games were last held in Thunder Bay in 1974, and have faced plenty of issues in recent years. The 2022 Games, originally scheduled for 2020, were cancelled because of the pandemic.

No community stepped forward to host the 2016 Games and they were subsequently cancelled, with a new bidding process introduced to make it easier for

Since the Games were first awarded to Thunder Bay, WestJet cancelled its Thunder Bay to Toronto route, and another airline, Flair, is only running seasonally to and from the Ontario capital during summer months.



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Committee weighs council size

By Kevin Jeffrey – Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Your first chance to weigh in on the future of Thunder Bay city council launches early next week.

The council composition committee gathered last week and agreed to launch the public engagement survey on Jan. 15, available through the Get Involved Thunder Bay page for three weeks.

Committee member Heather McLeod feels the survey is a good start.

“We as a committee have talked a few times about how do we get to everybody and how we convince them to see themselves as part of this decision. How it will impact how we support and are supported by our elected members. You have some sense of who does and who doesn't answer surveys typically, and there are some specific groups we're concerned about making sure we engage,” McLeod said.

When talking further about potential barriers to the survey, McLeod said: “One could be access, like if you don't have a computer or you don't have wi-fi.

“If you're a younger person, like my kids, this



A working committee is looking into council's composition and the possibility of reducing the numbers. (Kevin Jeffrey)

is a really important decision for you right? It's been quite a while since the last time we made changes. Whatever changes we might make you're going to be living with. And right now, where do you go for information? TikTok five second videos, probably not a 10-question survey.”

Committee Chair Rebecca Johnson said that hard copies of the survey will also be available

beginning on January 15th.

“We are also going to have various locations in the city, like the libraries and maybe some other locations in the community, where you will be able to pick up a hard copy of the survey,” Johnson said.

“But it's not just going to be the survey results that we're going on because the conversations we have around this subject are

important. The more we can spark those conversations and broaden who we have them with, the better the information we'll bring to our decisions.”

The committee is also tasked with looking at the composition of the ward system and potential changes to ward boundaries.

When the municipality of Thunder Bay was created in 1970, it began with a mayor and 12 councillors elected evenly across four wards.

That expanded to seven wards in 1976 until 1985 when the city adopted its current hybrid system that elects a mayor, seven ward councillors, and five at-large councillors.

A push for a plebiscite back in October 2021 by former at-large Coun. Peng You that would have asked citizens if they support cutting council from 13 to 9 seats and ditching the ward system never proceeded.

A final report from the committee on the composition of council is slated for completion in advance of the 2026 municipal election.

The committee has six members, including McLeod and Johnson, Vice-Chair Cody Fraser, Riley Burton, Wayne Bahlieda, and Carlos Santander-Maturana.

The committee will next meet on Tuesday, Feb. 6.



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EDITORIAL

SIU falls short

The tragic case of Jenna Ostberg shows just how ready we are to jump down the throats of the Thunder Bay Police Service.

While the investigation remains ongoing into the circumstances surrounding her death, the province's Special Investigations Unit did police no favours in announcing it was looking into the 911 calls made before the young woman died.

In its initial release, the SIU stated a call for a domestic disturbance was received by 911 dispatchers, and almost immediately a second call was made refuting the need for police to attend the scene.

What the SIU left out was the fact the call was to remove an unwanted person, related to an order that Jenna and a male in the residence weren't allowed to be together.

This led media and politicians to jump to the conclusion that police didn't do their due diligence and chose to ignore a call, and accusations of racism were levelled at a police service that's done itself no favours in recent years, officially found to have systemic racism issues.

Had the SIU been clearer, or responded to media inquiries, the narrative might have been different.

Fix the police now To the editor:

The current state of Thunder Bay's police services and 911 are a total and complete joke. It is unacceptable and we as the citizens of Thunder Bay deserve better

Now I am not putting the blame on our current Street patrol officers. Quite the opposite, to be honest.

The job these men and women do is thankless, trying to keep the people of Thunder Bay safe.

The issue is they are so understaffed that they couldn't possibly keep up - between service calls, street patrol, babysitting the criminal element at the regional, along with everything else they do in a shift they couldn't possibly keep up.

Drugs, gangs and violent crime are at an all time high.

We have people calling 911 and being told no officers available, or it takes hours for police to respond if you're lucky, if not the next day.

People in a health crisis and being told "no officers available."

Now we even are losing our babies because there was no officers available to follow up on an unwanted persons call.

All 911 calls should be followed up on in a timely manner no matter if the person called back to cancel the call or not, like in Jenna Ostberg's story.

The unwanted person returned (not that she was a threat), but in obvious distress and a single unit talking to her could have meant life or death

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



or made a difference for her.

We have recently made the headlines due to inappropriate action of officers on more than one occasion, along with racial tensions within our force,

Many of the homicide investigations (including the deaths of the seven students who died while here for schooling, and the Stacy Debungee case) are looked at as a joke and resulted in broken trust.

My question to Thunder Bay city council and Police Chief Fleury and the Thunder Bay Police

Services Board is when will this be fixed?

I think everyone's safety far trumps playing soccer on indoor grass, a new art gallery or any other white elephant legacy council project.

Our police service has been sub-par far too long and the people of Thunder Bay shouldn't be forced to accept this sub-par service. This is something that can't wait and needs to be fixed now, not five to 10 years from now.

Bill Woods,
Thunder Bay

Lawrence fascinated by Indigenous cultures

The Woman Who Rode Away is a fascinating short story by D.H. Lawrence about a white woman who wants to connect with Indigenous culture. Lawrence was interested by Indigenous people, whether it be the Romany Gypsies of England, the Aborigines of Australia, the Native Americans of New Mexico or the Indian Pueblos of Mexico. He explored these cultures in works such as *St Mawr*, *The Princess*, and *The Woman Who Rode Away*.

Lawrence's interest in Indigenous culture predated the invitation he received in November 1921 from Mabel Dodge Sterne to live on her estate in Taos, New Mexico, and to contribute by his writing to the

preservation of American Indian culture. His immediate reaction was 'I want to go. The Indian, the Aztec, old Mexico - all that fascinates me and has fascinated me for years.'

Lawrence found a different version of America, an antidote to its industrialism and commercialism, in the Pueblo Indians of the American southwest.

Whereas the writings of his Australian sojourn either mostly ignore the Indigenous population (*Kangaroo*) or refer sparingly to it (*The Boy in the Bush*) his writings of the American period foreground native

peoples.

During his second time in New Mexico, Lawrence moved up to the ranch on Lobo Mountain that Sterne had given to Frieda (in exchange for the manuscript of *Sons and Lovers*). It was here that he wrote two long short stories - *The Woman Who Rode Away*, *The Princess* - and a novella, *St Mawr*.

In these narratives modern men and women are brought into stark contrast within the impersonal, ageless landscape of the American continent and its inhabitants. They mirror the animistic

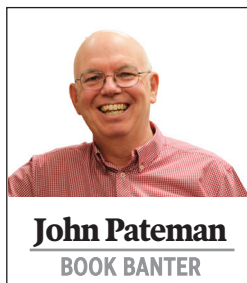
vision which Lawrence discerned in the American Indians and which he embodied in the figure of Pan.

These stories all have female protagonists - Mrs Lederman in *The Woman Who Rode Away*, Lou Witt in *St Mawr* and Dollie Urquhart in *The Princess* - they are all escape stories about women who want to run away from the confines of male dominated white bourgeois society.

The Woman Who Rode Away, and *The Princess* are also captivity tales. The abduction of Whites by Indians was a common theme in popular novels such as James Fennimore Cooper's *The Pioneers*, *The Last of the Mohicans*, and *The Prairie* which explored issues of culture and identity: could someone lose their

identity and assimilate themselves fundamentally into a new culture?; was the distinction between 'civilized' and 'primitive' real or constructed? These questions were of great interest to Lawrence, who was always testing and challenging his own identity against the other.

Lawrence was unusual in that, unlike many white travelers to New Mexico at this time, he did not adopt a racist and colonialist attitude. However, In 1936, the Marxist writer and editor of the communist weekly *New Masses*, Michael Gold, excoriated both Lawrence and Sterne for romanticizing and exploiting the Indian. Gold, as a communist, appreciated the contrast offered by the Indian to the capitalist economy.



John Pateman
BOOK BANTER

CONTACT INFORMATION
87 North Hill Street
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7A 5V6
Tel: 807-346-2600

Editor: Leith Dunick 346-2650 | ldunick@dougallmedia.com
Reporter: Doug Diaczuk 346-2622 | ddiaczuk@dougallmedia.com
Reporter: Ian Kaufman 346-3558 | ikaufman@dougallmedia.com
Reporter: Justin Hardy 346-2591 | jhardy@dougallmedia.com
Sales Manager: Kathy Harris 346-2510 | kharris@dougallmedia.com

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Embracing new technologies

By JR Shermack - Special to TB Source

During their lifetimes, recent generations (some young, some old) have witnessed the advent of such innovations as radio, television, comic books, rock'n roll, electric cars and the internet.

When they were first introduced to the public these new forms of technology and entertainment had one thing in common - they were viewed suspiciously and used warily.

These and many other ideas whose time had come very often gained a negative public reaction and were believed to be dangerous, possibly evil and a threat to the community.

That refrain was repeated often by critics of any new invention and even though that fear was often unfounded, it was always emphasized that this time it was different.

Nevertheless, the concerns were often groundless and there was no real need for anxiety or fear but that didn't prevent people from getting twitchy about new technology.

The printing press and book publishing in the 16th century were disparaged because of information overload caused by the "confusing and harmful abundance of books". The accessibility of electricity in the 19th



The iPhone has been around for 16 years and counting.

century was so shocking and new that potential customers were afraid to use it - electric doorbells were feared when first introduced.

Radio was lamented in the 1930s as a scourge to reading and writing and a dangerous distraction for school-age children.

Skeptics have always been blindly suspicious of new technology even when it is beneficial - that apprehension continues to this day.

One modern device that is the focus of such scrutiny was introduced in 2007 when Steve

Jobs first presented the iPhone to the general public.

It seems like they've been around forever but in the 16 years since Mr. Job's announcement, smartphones have recruited almost seven billion users.

And why not - one hand-held device combines a telephone with a music and video player complete with full internet access.

As smartphones evolved and became more sophisticated, users gained access to powerful applications, often well beyond the original intention and design.

With such a powerful technology in the hands of so many billions, smartphones are subject to wide-ranging analysis resulting in both praise and criticism.

The primary function of a smartphone is to facilitate communication and for that function it is very successful.

Whether for business or personal reasons we can now connect almost instantly over great distances with family, friends and business associates.

It can be a life-saver in the case of emergencies or imminent danger.

But because it is such an essential component in billions of lives worldwide, the smartphone is widely investigated for adverse

effects.

Psychologists and communication professionals, smartphone users themselves, cite serious side-effects from over-use and misuse that negatively affect health and well-being.

Is this just another over-reaction or maybe this time it really is something different - who knows?

Back when the telephone was first introduced it provoked anger and comments like, "The telephone is the instrument of the devil."

Those detractors would be happy to know that landlines have largely been replaced by smartphones, which are also facing much the same reaction.

Only this time around, even the users themselves are getting a little twitchy.

As for me, I am skeptical of such a pervasive technology but I am aware of the need for smartphones in many routine daily functions, especially communication.

I have never been a user and I have openly mocked those who do but now, after sixteen years of whining and complaining, I was recently gifted a used iPhone to fiddle with.

Once I overcome my fear and nervousness I will see for myself whether this time, the alarms and anxiety over this ubiquitous device really are justified.

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 21 The Sheepdogs

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.

As a testament to their commitment to music lovers who've grown accustomed to traveling long distances to catch a live concert, the band's tour spotlights many towns and places that rarely grace the tour schedules of renowned artists.

The show takes place Sunday at the Community Auditorium, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets at Ticketmaster.ca.

January 19-20 SIJHL Hockey

The Thunder Bay North Stars are back on home ice, hosting the Wisconsin Lumberjacks at Fort

William Gardens on Friday and Saturday night.

The Stars are alone in third place in the SIJHL standings and looking to gain ground on both Kam River and Sioux Lookout. Game time both nights is 7:30 p.m. Tickets are available at the door, cash only.

January 20 Beerlympics Night

Register your team of two for \$10 to test your luck at classic bar games like Giant Jenga, darts, water-pong, crokinole, cornhole and more.

The event takes place at the Red Lion Smokehouse on Saturday night, from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. Tickets are available at Eventbrite.ca.

January 19 Dance for Memories

Come out for a night of rhythm, joy, and unforgettable moments at the Dance for Memories event in support of the Alzheimer Society of Thunder

Bay.

Dance to the "caliente" playlist of salsa, bachata, merengue, kizomba, afrobeats and reggaeton by our very own DJ Eddie at Norteños Taqueria, creating memories that will last a lifetime. The event begins at 9 p.m. and tickets are available at Eventbrite.ca.

January 20 Lisa Baker Comedy Tour

Born and raised in St. John's, Newfoundland, Lisa developed a sharp wit and sense of humor that Newfoundlanders are known for. After starting a professional stand-up career on the island, she moved to Alberta, while maintaining her Newfie Princess status.

Lisa won The Comic Strip's Funniest Person with a Day Job competition in 2016, and hasn't looked back. The early show is sold out, but a late show has been added. Takes place at the Prospector Brew Pub. Tickets at Eventbrite.ca.



Marcus Powlowski, MP
Working For You
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Labour violations grow

When my son was born, I laughingly joked that he was only 10 years away from his first shift. Small businesses are almost always family driven and sometimes its just the nature of the beast that those kids, or nieces and nephews will find their way into a business they legitimately grew up around.

Fast forward almost three years and its not uncommon to see him at either one of the restaurants hanging out and eating popcorn or charming all of the employees and patrons with his laugh and smile.

One thing I don't want is for my son to feel chained to it or obligated in any way to be a part of it.

I chose this life, and I don't think its right to make that decision for him, however feeling like he should know how the bills are paid at his home is another story.

I bring this up from my perspective because news broke recently that the United States has hit a 20 year high of child labour violations.

Children as young as 10 are among a record number of minors illegally employed in fast food restaurants, with some of America's biggest brands among the worst offenders, according to these reports.

U.S. bosses were discovered with nearly 6,000 children on their books last year, according to Department of Labor statistics, up from little over 1,000 in 2015, despite a collapse in the number of inspectors in the DOL.

In one case, a McDonalds franchise in Kentucky was found with two 10-year-olds in the kitchen at 2 a.m., with the company racking up a total of 2,300 violations since 2013. In the Louisville case, despite the fine, officials claimed they were the children of a night manager and their work was not approved by franchisee management.

These laws are not simply arbitrary. They're built around the fact that, as a society, we want children first and foremost to get educated so that they can live a life where they have the skills and training to

have good jobs.

In Canada, labour laws are often determined province by province.

When I was working in Saskatchewan and Alberta, the labour laws were often more geared toward being better for the worker. The oil and gas industry in the prairies helped with that fact.

In most provinces, youth workers are constrained to a limited number of hours, curfew and have their length of shifts curtailed.

In Ontario however, youth workers have none of these protections.

Most provinces will even prohibit teenagers who are to be in school from being at work, again, not in Ontario if they have the approval of a school attendee counsellor.

Children under 14 can be employed in this province except for industrial undertaking of any kind (which includes kitchens). Interesting to say the least.

Derek Lankinen is an award-winning chef, author, and restaurateur. He is the Owner/Operator of Beefcake's Burger Factory with two locations in Westfort and Current River and Co-Owner of Elite Beef.



Derek Lankinen

Here's Cooking at You Kid



Kids in the kitchen are becoming more commonplace.

Wine helps raise \$34K

By Lucas Punkari - TB Source

One of the biggest evenings of the year for Our Kids Count has turned into a major boost to their overall operations.

The Half-Way Motors Winederful holiday event celebrated its ninth year last month and raised \$34,110 for the local charity.

Since it was first held, nearly \$130,000 has been raised for Our Kids Count through Winederful.

"We couldn't offer all the free programming to families without the support of the community," Our Kids Count executive director Jackie Knough said. "It was wonderful to see so many people come out to support this event."

Our Kids Count is a grassroots organization that works with families, youth and children in the community and supports them through food security, parenting support, pre- and post-natal support, counselling and various workshops.

"We base our programs on the needs of the community," Knough said. "We actually have a planning team of participants who really steer and guide our programming, so just depending on what's going on, we can adapt and change as needed."



Winederful helped raise \$34,110 for Our Kids Count.

"For example, during COVID we had to sort of pivot and be flexible to change some of our programming to be more virtual and more home visits.

"Now that we are back to normal, our enrollment is busy and we don't have a lot of spaces in our programs, but we continue to add things as needed and hire people based on the money we raise so that we can continue to offer more services."

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Learn how to stay warm

December 2023 was the warmest on record for the city of Thunder Bay. Now that we are into January however, we are finding that more seasonable temperatures have returned.

After the warmth we had last month, including a Christmas Eve where the temperature reached +8C, these normal lows now seem downright frigid.

Despite the cold, many people are still enjoying time spent outside. Having a few good clothing strategies to stay warm can be the difference between enjoying winter and simply tolerating it.

Starting at the top, a toque and Buff neck wrap will keep the head and face warm.

For those who don't like breathing through a wet Buff, a layer of Dermatone skin protection on exposed cheeks and the nose can work wonders.

Moving down to the torso, a layering system of a breathable base, an insulating mid-layer and a thick wind-proof shell is an unbeatable combination.

When the core is warm, bundled under these layers, there will be a constant supply of warm blood pumping throughout the body. As soon as the core begins to chill, more blood will be directed here and extremities like the hands and feet will receive less blood, quickly becoming painfully cold.

Speaking of cold hands, mitts are the best option, but gloves will provide more dexterity for winter sports.

Either way, make sure they are not too tight and feature a quality insulating layer.

If your fingers do get cold, try swinging your arms around like windmills.

Twenty rotations per arm will send warm blood rushing to your fingertips and, like magic, they will warm up again.

For me, the toes are a constant concern, so I rely on a pair of rechargeable heated insoles for activities like ice fishing and fat biking. Sliding these into the bottom of my boots extends my time outdoors on even the coldest days. Using the lowest setting

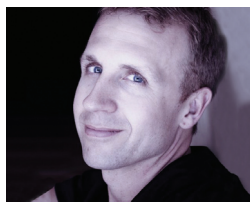
will keep the feet from sweating and extend the run time. For those prone to sweaty feet, putting on a fresh pair of dry merino wool socks just before heading outside also works well.

A less expensive option than battery-powered insoles are the air-activated "hot pocket" style hand and toe warmer packs. We always used these for our young children because they are cheap, effective, and one-size-fits-all.

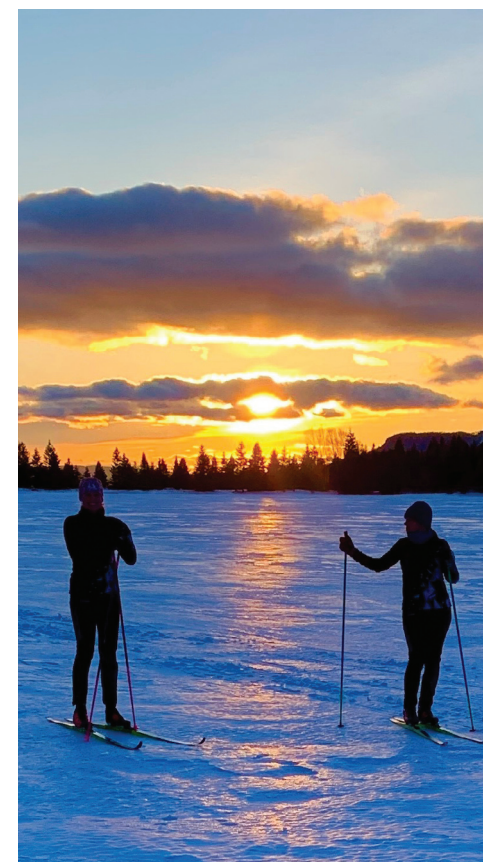
The key to using these is to open the package and leave them exposed to the air for five minutes before jamming them into gloves or boots. If the heat diminishes, pull out the pack and give it some fresh air to fire it back up. Afterwards, sealing them in an air-tight freezer baggie will allow you to reuse them a second time within a week or so.

For those with a desire to get outside for some exercise and fresh air on the cold days of winter, these simple clothing tricks can help make any activity enjoyable.

Whether you are skiing, jigging for walleye through a hole in the ice, playing shinny, or snowshoeing, never let the cold ruin your day.



Keith Ailey
the GOOD LIFE



January skiing is cold, but can still be enjoyable.

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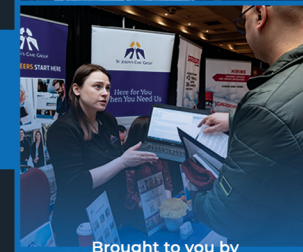
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Frigid temperatures arrive

Well, it came at last – freezing cold, Jack Frost in abundance. These temperatures are more like the traditional, mid-January freeze we recall not long ago.

I stumped up to bed at midnight last week and glanced at the thermometer – Minus 25! Wow, what a dramatic change! Of course, we used to get the minus 30, minus 35 freeze for a two-week period mid-January but that hasn't happened for a number of years. Has this tradition returned?

Certainly, the extreme cold is good for making ice on lakes where ice anglers like to fish. There should be little risk, if any, of crashing through the ice.

The other beneficiaries would be the northern roads upon which remote northern communities rely to get the trucks there with replenishing supplies.

There had been great concern that the temperatures would reach the required deep-freeze to form a proper thickness of ice that would hold up the trucks. But if this freeze continues, then the transports will be able to get through.

Although listening to the CBC News Sunday evening I felt for those folk living in Edmonton. One witness said that Edmonton

knows cold winters but not like this one with minus 50 to 55 degrees Celsius! Brrr! Those are high arctic temperatures. So minus 25 here at home doesn't seem as bad in comparison.

Rural dwellers tend to learn quickly about how to deal with power outages. We have a propane stove and a fireplace in the living room. Unfortunately, the circulation pumps that send the heated water around the pipes to the radiators in the various rooms require electricity, so neither the wood nor the electric boiler would work if the power shut off.

We also have candles, a couple of kerosene lamps, and a Coleman lamp, so we can have light. So far, we have managed any loss of electricity, stayed warm, and been able to feed ourselves.

The cold means that our wood boiler is making larger demands. We have two boilers in the basement: one wood, and one electric. We tend to use the electric most of the time especially when we are not home or at night.

Sure, when in residence I tend to troop downstairs or down the hall from my library and throw in a couple of pieces of well-

seasoned birch. Before the drop in temperature, I would stoke the wood boiler and then check on it every so often only to see that the temperature gage would be reading above the red mark.

Reading above the 'red mark' means that the draft door has closed and then I have to wait for the heated water being sent around Casa Jones in the copper pipes to lose some of its heat. Then the needle dips and I can add more wood.

Driving our truck to our local dump Saturday morning brought back an almost forgotten memory: square tires and concrete seats. Our truck is a pre-heated seat vintage but I'm sure that driving any vehicle after a night of minus 25 temperatures would feel like the tires were square which makes for a bumpy ride on our dirt roads for the first mile or so.

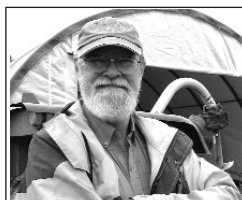
And while we did get snow in a sufficient amount to hopefully prevent the septic field from freezing, I wish that we had more. It seems to me that everywhere else big snowstorms have occurred recently but that we are in a bubble wherein we're lucky if we get

flurries.

Our son, Doug, works for a mining company as an electrical engineer. While that office is located in Thunder Bay, occasionally he has to fly to Sudbury for a two-week period or so. The mine site is 80 kms west of Sudbury. Saturday night he reported that they got a huge dump of snow – about 30 cms with fierce winds. That storm stretched across from Sault Ste. Marie on through Sudbury and points east. Perhaps not 30 centimetres all at once but certainly a couple of good dumps would be beneficial for us rural rooters as anti-freeze up insurance.

After all, I now have the farm snow blower attached to the rear of my tractor. I have had occasion to use it too, especially clearing paths to Mt. Crumpet where I dump the horse manure, from the barn door to the Winter Paddock where the horses spend the day, and the driveway of course.

And speaking of horses, we bring them into their stalls earlier when the thermometer gets below minus 20. I know that many horse owners would expect their horses to tough it out but not us. Yes, it means more work for Farmer Fred but I'm a softy and want all our animals safe and warm.



Fred Jones
RURAL ROOTS

Superior North EMS to start prioritizing calls

By Katie Nicholls – TB Source

Superior North EMS will be flipping the switch on a new dispatch system next week.

Effective Jan. 24th, a new priority system called Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS) will be implemented that will allow emergency responses to be tiered based on call/case severity.

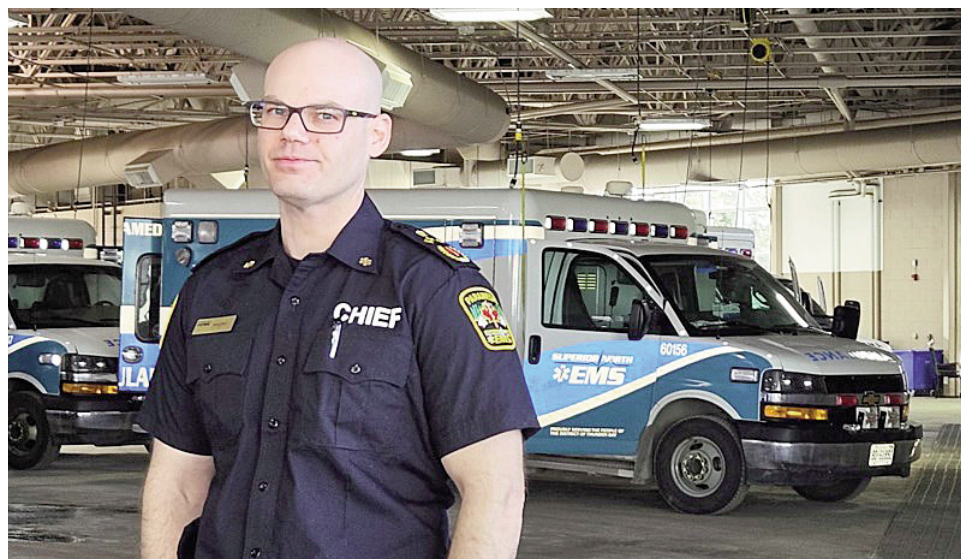
The chief at SNS, Shane Muir, said emergency medical dispatchers will be able to get more information during a call for service.

"This is really going to help us going forward to disperse our resources more appropriately and have the best unit respond to the most appropriate calls."

Muir stated that in the current system, 70 per cent of current calls are listed as high priority, with a full lights and sirens response. However, when paramedics return, only four percent of the total call volume warrants a top-tier response.

When the changes go into effect, dispatchers will be coding the calls for which response level it best fits.

In having priority guidelines, paramedics will also see benefits during their shifts, like getting their designated breaks and easing the



Superior North EMS Chief Shane Muir says a new priority dispatch system will place emergency calls into tiers.

risk of employee burnout.

"So they're rested, recouped and ready to respond to that next call. Oftentimes, they're not getting that break, and it's leading to more burnout and issues down the road. If they're not getting their time off, then just

like everybody else, they're humans, and they get burnt out.

"Now that we have actual coding for low priority responses, we can better manage our resources," Muir said.

As calls are getting prioritized, Muir noted

that dispatchers will have the ability to follow up and provide check-ins on less severe calls.

This will also alleviate wait times for paramedics and patients when it comes to offloading at the hospital.

The new system has been tested in other regions, including Toronto, Peel, Halton Niagara and Kenora.

Muir said it's been years of preparation for the software and training upgrades.

"It's a lot of infrastructure changes as well – so that technology has to be upgraded. We need whole new computer systems and radio technologies in order to implement the system.

"There's also a lot of paramedic training and dispatcher training that goes in. They're creating whole new certification levels that go hand in hand with the MPDS. So we're really excited to see that dispatchers and paramedics are both getting augmented training for this program," Muir said.

The response system that's in place now has been around since the early nineties, Muir said, noting that a lot has changed in the field since then.

Superior North EMS services Thunder Bay and the District of Thunder Bay, from Upsala to Manitowadge and north to Armstrong.

Film a racial literary satire

American Fiction (SilverCity) is based on the 2001 novel, "Erasure", by Percival Everett, which lampoons the commercial literary establishment, specifically the white publishing elites, critics, and their weakness for stereotypes in contemporary Black literature.

Geoffrey Wright (Felix Leiter in *No Time to Die*) plays Thelonius "Monk" Ellison, an author and college professor frustrated by poor sales of his scholarly books and touchy students. He winds up on sabbatical visiting his estranged family which is a generation of successful doctors.

Monk is further rankled by the commercial success of Black author Sintara Golden (Issa Rae) with her book, *We's Lives In Da Ghetto*, a rendering of the contemporary female Black experience. Monk is aghast that Sintara is getting praised for authenticity while reverting to outright stereotypes. (Or is he just plain jealous?)

Monk would like to challenge the pandering to the white point of view. However, he's under financial pressure to

look after his mother suffering from dementia (Leslie Uggams). His tepid book sales puts him in a bind.

Monk loses his physician sister, Lisa (Tracee Ellis Ross) who has been looking after their mother. No help is coming from his cash-strapped divorcée brother Clifford, (Sterling K. Brown) a plastic surgeon embracing his new-found gay lifestyle and use of recreational drugs.

As a means to cover his mother's health expenses and to show up the industry, he writes a parody, "My Pafology" under the pseudonym Stagg R. Leigh (a name with baggage), replete with Gangsta street patois. His pseudonym's profile suggests he's a criminal on the run, thus requiring anonymity.

To Monk's chagrin, instead of everyone getting the joke, the book is awash with acclaim, commercial windfall and a movie deal. He tries to push the envelope by renaming the book with the F-word as a title. He's further taken aback when he and Sintara wind up on the same literary jury.

On top of that, the jury gives the book first prize.

Rookie director Cord Jefferson co-writing with the author lands his points about trivializing the Black literary experience but loses steam when the focus shifts to Monk's personal life, shortchanging the juicier satirical material. A good ol' fashioned, sharp-tongued rant would well serve the ending but Jefferson elects to go into another direction.

Greater usage of the two Black fantasy caricatures hovering over Monk playing out his words as a drug dealing son and his alcoholic father while Monk is typing his faux story could've served as an ongoing counterpoint to the increasingly absurd situation.

Carping aside, "American Fiction" provides an amusing illustration of the quandary faced by artists of any colour in America, having to navigate a different set of criteria. Despite being a stuffed shirt, Wright wrings out some empathy for exasperated Monk.

It is a surprise to see "American Fiction" in Thunder Bay. Catch it before it gets elbowed aside by the next fantasy juggernaut.



Marty Mascarin
MOVIE TALK



Jeffrey Wright, star of *American Fiction*.

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TONY ROMA'S PANTAGES
HOTEL DOWNTOWN TORONTO



Naxos has been open for the past 17 years, but will shut its doors later this year. (Cathy Metcalf)

Naxos closing in March

By Brandon Walker – TB Source

A well-known Greek restaurant on Arthur Street will soon close its doors.

Owner Penny Kahramanos made the announcement on Facebook last night.

“This has been the most difficult decision I have ever had to make, but after a lot of consideration, I am announcing that Naxos Grille & Bar will be closing, effective March 2024,” Kahramanos wrote.

“Naxos has been my family and life for the past 17 years, but I know it’s time to let go and start a new chapter.”

In the Facebook message, Kahramanos expressed gratitude to the customers and employees who have supported Naxos, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“To our valued employees, customers, suppliers, and community, I thank you, sincerely,” she wrote.

“This journey has been the most amazing, nerve-wracking, emotional, and yet rewarding experience of my life.”

Kahramanos encouraged customers to redeem any unused gift certificates before March.



Danelle Charette and Cheyenne Scott star in Magnus Theatre’s adaptation of *Two Indians*, opening on Jan. 25.

Two Indians an award winner

By Linda Maehans – Special to TB Source

Change of scenery, wilderness to glittering city, might be a big draw for some.

How ‘bout vice versa? Leaving all the bustle-and-traffic; choosing instead serene sunrises, night skies filled with stars. Which? Can you have both? More to the point, can places or different landscapes change who we truly are?

Magnus’ first curtain of 2024 rises to a drama-with-teeth.

“Two Indians” by Falen Johnson was nominated for the Governor General’s Literary Award for Drama (2021); described as darkly comedic, well I don’t know about that. The drama takes place in an alley. In a city seething with noise; not the nicest place-come-to-mind for me. You?

Yet I’m intrigued to encounter a pair of young Indians, Mohawk, in just such a spot. I’d met Win (played by Danelle Charette) at the bus station, backpack in hand and a big smile that effortlessly travelled up into her eyes.

“Um, feeling pretty nervous,” admits Win. “And excited. Mostly excited. I haven’t seen Roe in a long time.” She turns in a full circle. “Wow. I’ll be interested to see what we can get up to here.” There’s that beautiful smile again.

“The rez? Yeah, it’s mostly quiet. And yeah, I agree a city can be scary, but there’s also excitement in not knowing what you are going to come across. Roe and I used to be really close, like sisters. I’m sure we can find that place again for ourselves.”

Roe is not what I was expecting. I don’t want

to ask why she has chosen to greet her cousin in this dark laneway between tall, decrepit-looking buildings. Actor Cheyenne Scott, as Roe, her demeanour confident, almost defiant, reminds me of a taut spring.

“Yeah, I came for school but now,” Roe offers a small smile, “I work at a burger & t-shirt shop. With lots of idiots. Who don’t know what it’s like to be an indigenous person. Me? I like living in a city because it allows me to be the activist I want to be. I want to vote on things. Sure, there’s lots of issues. Serious issues. Don’t even get me started!” Roe’s laughter is strong, heart-felt. “And no. I won’t be returning to the rez anytime soon.” Once again, she is serious. “I don’t know what to expect, seeing Win again. I plan to take her to this special place I have here in the city. Dangerous? Hmph. We can handle ourselves. We grew up on the rez. You just treat them like bears, make lots of noise.”

Hmm, that’s a cryptic remark. “The audience will be able to relate, I’m sure,” states guest director Natalie Robitaille. “Yes, difficult issues get aired. Yet, at its core this drama is about family. Can we reconnect, find each other again after something awful that has happened?”

Universal question, I would guess. I don’t know.

“There can be humour, too. At the end a beautiful moment shows us it is possible.”

Two Indians opens in a fabulously renovated Magnus Theatre structure on January 25; plays until February 10. See you there!

Two Indians
Magnus Theatre

By Falen Johnson
Directed by Natalie Robitaille
Featuring Cheyenne Scott and Danelle Charette

Jan 25 to Feb 10, 2024
Magnus Theatre Mainstage

For tickets: magnustheatre.com | 807.345.5552

Going to the Games

By Leith Dunick -TB Source

Krista McCarville probably doesn't have to start worrying yet, but she might want to keep an eye over her shoulder.

Team Dubinsky, who earlier this month captured the Northern Ontario U18 championship and will represent the region at next month's nationals in Ottawa, one day plans to compete head-to-head with the 10-time provincial champion.

First and foremost, however, the team plans to focus first on nationals and then on the Ontario Winter Games, where Dubinsky, lead Lily Ariganello, second Bella McCarville and third Rylie Paul will compete in front of a friendly, hometown crowd at Fort William Curling Club.

It's a prospect that excites Dubinsky and her teammates to no end.

"I think our team really feeds off energy, so having our fans and family and friends in the stands, it definitely will take our game to a whole new level and it will push us to the maximum, to do our best," Dubinsky said, helping city officials kick off an introductory news conference ahead of the Games, scheduled to begin in Thunder Bay on Feb. 16.

Good friends

The team feeds off each other, she added.

Best friends on and off the ice, the quartet has been curling together for much of the past five years.

McCarville, the daughter of Krista and Mike McCarville, comes by her talent naturally, as does Dubinsky, whose brother Jackson skips a Tbaytel Major League of Curling team and curled at last year's national U18 championship in Timmins, Ont.

Chemistry is a big thing, Dubinsky said.

"We work well as a team. We commu-



From left: Lead Lily Ariganello, second Bella McCarville, third Rylie Paul and skip Claire Dubinsky.

nicate well, and that ultimately wins us games in the long run."

Experience is another key to any potential success the foursome will have at the upcoming Games. In addition to this month's provincial title, Team Dubinsky also went to nationals last year, losing in the consolation round.

"We have played in a lot of big events and games, so the stress and the pressure has come down. Other teams have played in big games too, but I think we do have an edge shooting that last shot to win the game. All of us do handle pressure really well and I think at the Ontario Winter Games, that will win us games, as well," Dubinsky said.

McCarville said she's happy to start following in her mother's footsteps.

The teen spared for Team McCarville in Major League play earlier this year

and she's grown up watching her mom make three podium trips at the Scotties in the past eight years.

She's not a bad role model, McCarville said.

"My mom went to her first national when she was my age, so I'm following right behind her. I just think, because I've seen how much she's done in her life through curling, if I can follow that, that would be super cool," she said.

Big plans

Down the road, Dubinsky said they'd love to meet up with the elder McCarville in a Northern Ontario playdown final.

"Eventually, I think we can get there," she said. "Krista might have a little edge on us now, but in a couple of years, I think we will be right with Krista and following Bella's mom in her footsteps."

ENIGMA™ CRYPTOGRAM

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

"PTI QPNIUPT DW L KLAA RQ YIRPTIN
UNILPIN YDN AIQQ PTLY PTI HDZNLUI
DW PTI VIY KTD MIWIYM RP."

- UIYUTRQ GTLY

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ACROSS

- 1 Textile fiber
- 5 Zoroastrian
- 10 Joint part
- 11 Last of the Mohicans
- 12 Log
- 13 Lozenge
- 15 Fetter
- 16 Zone
- 18 Public vehicle
- 19 Spread (out)
- 20 Dagger
- 21 General (abbr.)
- 22 Restive
- 24 Host
- 25 Malt liquor
- 26 Talk
- 27 Reel
- 30 Connubial
- 34 Male noble
- 35 Jester
- 36 Slugger's stat
- 37 Ohio college town
- 38 Silent
- 39 Earth personified

DOWN

- 40 Knight
- 42 Tilt hammer
- 44 Bellini opera
- 45 Mallet
- 46 Servant of Prospero
- 47 Noble (Ger.)
- 1 Aide
- 2 After awhile
- 3 Polish general
- 4 Slow: music
- 5 Thick soup
- 6 Wild ox
- 7 Receipt (abbr.)
- 8 Tableware
- 9 Ait
- 10 Sun hat
- 12 Moroccan Berber
- 14 Adept
- 17 King (Sp.)
- 20 Market
- 21 Asian desert
- 23 Prison: Brit.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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- 24 Rodent
- 26 Yellow pigment
- 27 Caulerize
- 28 Fan shaped algae
- 29 Rhétor
- 30 Arabic letter
- 31 Roam
- 32 Grandfather of Saul
- 33 Ananias
- 35 Of a wall
- 38 Gr. township
- 39 Provide
- 41 Three (pref.)
- 43 Male person

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Buffalo snow a tradition

The snowfall that landed in Buffalo reminded me of my first NFL game, the 1994 AFC Championship between Buffalo and Kansas City.

There was plenty of snow in the stands in Buffalo that day too, and the NBC broadcast crew was set up at one end of the stadium, facing the end zone seats.

Earlier that month, Ditka complained, on air, about the prospect of another 'boring' AFC Championship involving the Bills.

Fans took exception, and with plenty of snow available, started throwing snowballs at Ditka.

He needed a police escort out of Rich Stadium, and my crew and I happened to bump into him as he was leaving.

Somewhere buried in a box is a grainy black-and-white photo of me and Da Bears coach, security none-too-pleased about how close were were to the hall-of-famer.



Don't look now, but the Lakehead Thunderwolves are creeping back into playoff contention, and they're doing it without arguably their best player.

Laoui Msambya chose not to return to the

team after the Christmas break, for personal reasons.

It's opened up some playing time for others, and they've made the most of it, led offensively by import Harold Santacruz.

The T-Wolves have won four straight to climb back to 6-8, and while the playoffs are no sure thing, they're at least a possibility at this point.



How about Thunder Bay's Carter George being named Central Scouting's No. 1 North American goaltending prospect heading into this summer's NHL Entry Draft?

The former Thunder Bay Kings prospect is having a stellar season with the Ontario Hockey League's Owen Sound Attack.

The 17-year-old, who will suit up in next week's CHL top prospect game, has made 33 appearances this season with Owen Sound, putting up a 3.21 goals against average and a .910 save percentage, on a last-place team.

A third-round pick in 2022, my best guess is that George may find himself taken in a similar range in this year's NHL draft, based on a few of the mock drafts I've seen. Our goaltending factory continues to produce.



Leith Dunick
SPORTS SHORTS



Rookie defenceman Ed McNeill has scored a pair of goals this season for the Thunderwolves. (Leith Dunick)

T-Wolves swept

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Andrew Wilkins says it's not yet time to start pounding on the panic button.

But after three straight home-ice losses and no room for error in the standings, the Lakehead Thunderwolves coach has to at least be hovering over it.

Like Friday night, the T-Wolves jumped in front of the Wilfred Laurier Golden Hawks in Saturday's rematch, but gave up a trio of unanswered tallies and dropped a 3-1 decision, disappointing more than 3,300 on hand to watch the game on Indigenous Night at Fort William Gardens.

The night before they gave up four straight to the Golden Hawks (8-11-2), who climbed to within a point of Lakehead in the OUA West, the Thunderwolves just barely hanging onto a shot at the playoffs.

The top five teams in each conference get automatic berths and the sixth- and seventh-place teams will tangle in a play-in game for the final postseason spot.

"I think we're far away from that," Wilkins said, asked if the word panic is being discussed.

"I liked the way we played tonight. I thought we did a lot of good things with controlled emotion, which is when we get the most out of our group.

"We fell a little bit short, obviously, but we'll move onto the next game. One game at a time."

It's not the outcome they were looking for or expecting, said defenceman Troy Williams, his team struggling to score, with just four goals in their last three outings, all of them home-ice losses.

"It's frustrating, but I think the second and third period tonight shows us what games are

going to be coming down the stretch, especially battling for those final playoff spot. Every game is going to be a battle. Props to them, they were blocking shots and whatever it took to win those two points," said Williams, who wore his spirit name, Wasbishi Gaibo, on his nameplate, the Wolves wearing specially designed jerseys for Indigenous Night.

Lakehead outshot Wilfred Laurier 34-16 over the final two periods, but couldn't put the puck past Golden Hawks goaltender Ventsislav Shingarov, their lone goal coming on the power play in the opening period, courtesy of Nicholas DeGrazia.

Laurier evened the score with a power-play goal of their own, Declan Graham notching his first of the season and the two teams hit the break deadlocked at a goal apiece.

Isaac Sooklal and Patrick Brown, who had a pair in Friday's win, scored 79 seconds apart on LU goaltender Max Wright, midway through the second, giving them all the offence the Golden Hawks would need.

Spencer Blackwell had a pair of breakaway chances minutes apart in the latter half of the period, but Shingarov stopped both backhand attempts to maintain his team's two-goal lead.

Blackwell hit the outside of the post in the third.

Wilkins pulled Wright with two minutes to go, but the puck stayed out.

"I think we have a lot of guys who can produce. We've done it in the past. I have tons of confidence in our group. We're generating a lot of high-quality chances. Once we burst the bubble a little bit, I think it will come."

Lakehead takes to the road next weekend for a pair in Guelph and don't return home until Feb. 2 when Windsor arrives in town for the first of two. They'll wrap against Nipissing at home on Feb. 9.



**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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41. Northward
42. South
43. Westfort
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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
Barristers and Solicitors
291 South Court Street
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2Y1



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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
291 South Court Street
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2Y1



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Dated at Thunder Bay, Ontario on the 18th day of January, 2024.

KIMBERLY NORTON, ESTATE TRUSTEE
c/o ERICKSONS LLP
ATTN: EVAN JUURAKKO
Barristers and Solicitors
291 South Court Street
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 2Y1



PUZZLE ANSWERS

1	2	6	3	5	7	8	4	9
4	7	8	9	6	2	1	5	3
5	9	3	4	8	1	6	2	7
8	5	9	2	1	4	3	7	6
6	3	7	8	9	5	4	1	2
2	4	1	6	7	3	9	8	5
3	1	4	5	2	9	7	6	8
7	8	2	1	3	6	5	9	4
9	6	5	7	4	8	2	3	1

S	A	B	A	P	A	R	S				
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R	I	T	T	E	R	O	L	I	V	E	R
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R	I	E	L	E	D	E	L				

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