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INVESTIGATION ONGOING: Police on the scene of a Mary Street residence where a 67-year-old woman was found deceased.

## **Homicide arrests**

Police have arrested two suspects in connection to the death of a 67-year-old Thunder Bay woman on June 27

#### THUNDER BAY

By Justin Hardy - TB Source

A Thunder Bay man was arrested last Wednesday in connection to a recent homicide that occurred on the city's southside last Tuesday.

Thunder Bay Police Service said in a release that officers with the Primary Response Branch were originally dispatched to a residential address in the 200 block of Mary Street East just before 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday where they learned that an adult female, who appeared to have sustained serious injuries consistent with a recent assault, had died. The woman was later identified as 67-year-old Darlene Giba.

A scene was established, and members of the major crimes and forensic identification units are now involved in the ongoing investigation, where as a result of continued investigative efforts, police were able to identify a male suspect. Cameron Gary-James Adomko, 41, of Thunder Bay has been charged with seconddegree murder and two counts of breach of probation.

Police said that Adomko was already in police custody for an unrelated matter, and he was re-arrested and charged on Wednesday.

City police also arrested a woman on a second-degree murder charge.

The Thunder Bay Police Service said a tip was received from a civilian on Friday that 56-yearold Johnna Sonego was at a south-side business after spotting her picture in a press release issued in the morning.

Investigators from the major crimes unit went to the location and subsequently arrested the woman without any incident during the lunch hour on Friday afternoon

The accused is expected to be arraigned in court on July l.

Thunder Bay Police Det.-Insp. Jeremy Pearson indicated that the scene is still being processed, and a murder weapon is still being sought.







#### 4 NEWS

Visit **TBnewswatch.com** Thursday, July 6, 2023

## **Castaways rescued for fundraiser**

#### **THUNDER BAY** By Justin Hardy - TB Source

Thirteen rescue operations were successfully completed on Wednesday as part of the Great Lighthouse Rescue.

The Great Lighthouse Rescue replaces the old billboard rescue fundraisers for the United Way of Thunder Bay, which CEO Albert Brulé said was an incredible opportunity to bring together community partners, donors, volunteers, and friends of various United Way funded agencies.

"We've got teams coming together as mermaids, we have a group called Leeks in the Boat, we have the United Castaways of Thunder Bay, so we're having a lot of fun," he said.

"We're raising a lot of money, we had a matching grant challenge



RESCUED AT LAST: The Great Lighthouse Rescue raised over \$75,000 by the end of Wednesday's events and the donation portal will stay open for a while longer.

from our honorary commander for this operation, Cliff Friesen, he put up \$25,000. Our goal is to try and triple that over the course of the day, so we're getting close probably by the time we're done, we'll have surpassed our goal."

Brulé said that the idea for the

Great Lighthouse Rescue came just nine weeks ago, when HMCS Griffon Lt.-Cdr. Nathanael Moulson and the crew of the HMCS Griffon were looking for ways to help out in the community.

"They reached out to the United Way back in February to say something along the lines of we're fit, we're able, and we want to help," said Brulé.

"So we met with them to say, well, what kind of a project or what kind of a fundraiser or community event could you get involved in and we told them about the Billboard Rescue, and we weren't sure if we were going to bring it back this year or not and Commander Moulson was like a beacon of light, went off in his head and he went, what if?"

While it may not seem an easy feat to put together and set up an event like the Great Lighthouse Rescue in such a short amount of time, Moulson said that with his crew and the United Way team working to get things done together, it all worked out well.

"To be honest, for us this is kind

of like status quo, right? So, nine weeks is quite a long time for, you know, a bunch of military people to plan an event like this and to be fair, we just focused on the logistics of the water portion really," he said.

"We're moving people from this location here out to the lighthouse and so we took responsibility for all of that and then Albert and his team did all the promotion and organizing the food and all that, so yeah, we broke down the tasks and we were able to pull it off without too much stress."

The fundraiser raised over \$75,000 by the end of Wednesday's events, and Brulé said that the donation portal will stay open for a while longer for those who wish to help but weren't able to by the start of the event.





SEARCH CONTINUES: A search is still underway for a permanent city treasurer.

## **New treasurer**

#### Andrea Morrison to step in as city treasurer as the search for a permanent candidate continues THUNDER BAY

#### Bv TB Source Staff

The City of Thunder Bay has appointed a new acting treasurer, as the months-long search for a candidate to permanently fill the role continues.

Andrea Morrison, manager of central support in the city's community services department, was tapped to step in as acting treasurer earlier this week.

City council passed a bylaw making Morrison's appointment official on Monday.

Morrison replaces Emma Westover, who has served as acting treasurer since February and will now return to her regular duties as director of financial services.

Morrison, a chartered professional accountant, has overseen financial affairs for the community services department as manager, central support since 2015.

She previously worked as a financial analyst with the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board, and before that as an auditor at BDO Canada.

In the coming months as treasurer, she will provide financial oversight, review reports to council, support the city's audit process, and help guide early development work on the 2024 city budget.

"It's an exciting opportunity to work in a different capacity for the city," she said in an interview. "I'm happy to be able to contribute in that role."

Westover had taken over the role on an acting basis after the retirement of treasurer Linda Evans in late February.

Evans held the dual titles of city treasurer and general manager of corporate services and long-term care during her stint from 2017 to 2023.

After a corporate reorganization earlier this year that consolidated city departments, the treasurer will now be a standalone position reporting to Karen Lewis, the new general manager of corporate services.

At Monday's council meeting, city manager Norm Gale thanked Westover for taking on the role over what he called an unusually tough few months.

That included helping to lead the process to identify \$1.5 million in service cuts at the direction of city council, he said.

"I have great appreciation for the work Emma Westover did in working with and steering the executive management team in finding the budget cuts over the past few months," Gale said. "She stepped in as an acting treasurer, she did so ably ... and she did great work."

In an interview, Gale offered no comment on the reason for the handoff to a new acting treasurer.

He said a hiring process for the position remains ongoing.



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### Police shooting inquest set

A coroner's inquest will consider the circumstances of the 2016 shooting death of Nipigon man Daniel Legarde by OPP officer

#### NIPIGON

By TB Source Staff

An inquest into the 2016 death of a Nipigon man who was fatally shot by an OPP officer following a confrontation is set to proceed later this summer.

Daniel Legarde was 45 when he was shot after brandishing a knife during a confrontation with OPP officers in Nipigon on Nov. 26, 2016. He died in hospital a short time later.

Under the Coroners Act, an inquest is mandatory when a death occurs while a person is in custody or being detained.

On Friday, the office of regional supervising coroner Harry Voogjarv announced the inquest into his death will take place starting on July 31.

The inquest was first announced in 2020.

In 2018, Ontario's Special Investigations Unit cleared the officer who shot Legarde of criminal wrongdoing.

The inquest will examine the circumstances surrounding Legarde's death more broadly, with a jury able to make recommendations aimed at preventing further deaths in similar circumstances.

The inquest is expected to last ten days and

hear from approximately 18 witnesses.

It is set to begin on Monday, July 31, at the Nipigon Legion Hall.

Etienne Esquega will be the presiding officer, while Christina Varrette and Karen Srodulski will be inquest counsel.

The shooting took place at a Nipigon home on Nov. 26, 2016 at approximately 7:30 p.m., after officers with the OPP's Nipigon detachment received a complaint of a man refusing to leave a residence.

According to the 2018 SIU report, Legarde had received a letter informing him he owed more than \$100,000 in child support earlier that day, which upset him. He then visited the complainant and the two started arguing.

When officers arrived, Legarde exited the home and was observed carrying a knife. He was ordered to drop the knife, and when he refused, officers used a tazer, which had no effect.

Legarde retreated back into the home and when he exited a second time, reportedly approached officers with the knife raised, and was shot once in the abdomen by one of the officers on scene.

Legarde was pronounced dead at the Nipigon District Memorial Hospital a short time later.

Thunder

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## **Arena funding**

The Blake Hall Community Centre outdoor rink in Neebing will get a roof and other improvements

#### **NEEBING**

By TB Source Staff

Outdoor rinks in Neebing will receive significant upgrades with assistance from the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation.

Thunder Bay-Atikokan MPP Kevin Holland, the parliamentary assistant to Northern Development Minister Greg Rickford, announced \$650,000 on Wednesday for improvements to the Blake Hall Community Centre arena near Highway 61 and the Alf Olsen Memorial Park outdoor arena on Highway 597.

The Blake Hall rink will get a metal roof, new boards, a concrete surface, an accessible entrance and lighting.

These improvements will extend the outdoor skating season by six weeks and facilitate the holding of community events during the summer such as vendor fairs, dances and sporting events.

At the Alf Olsen arena, a concrete

surface and lighting will be added, thereby extending the skating season by three weeks and creating new recreational opportunities during the summer.

"\$650,000 for a community of 2,300 people is just super. We can do wonders with that, and we intend to," said Neebing councillor and deputy mayor Brian Wright. "We're going to engage the public and get people more interested in the community, hopefully, and go from there."

Wright said he expects the two projects will help bring community members together.

Holland described the improvements coming to the Blake Hall rink "a game-changer."

Neebing will celebrate the hall's 100th anniversary next year, and Holland said he has already been talking to municipal officials about potential funding opportunities for additional improvements at the site.

#### **EDITORIAL** Inquests

In the last year there have been two coroner's inquests examining the circumstances surrounding the deaths of three individuals while in custody in Thunder Bay. This month, two more inquests are scheduled to take place.

A coroner's inquest is called anytime a person dies while in custody. Inquests are a long, in-depth process and an argument can be made that they are even invasive, with personal details of the deceased being made public just because he or she happened to die while in contact with the criminal justice system.

But they also serve a very important purpose that impacts each and every one of us. The inquest into the death of Roland McKay, Don Mamakwa, and Moses Beaver revealed systemic failures with numerous agencies including paramedics, police, and addiction and mental health services.

While recommendations are meant to prevent similar deaths in the future, the current inquests involve incidents that are four, five, even nine years old. Change takes time, but the unfortunate aspect is that people had to die before the need for change was even recognized.

#### **Public libraries** To the editor:

Togman (Source 29 June) is correct in many of the assertions he makes about the public library. But there are some important pieces missing from his analysis. Public libraries were created as agencies of social control. Their membership excluded the undeserving poor. This trend continues today. The active membership of TBPL is less than one third of the city's population. The dominant reader is white, middle class, female, educated. Library users do not reflect the blue collar and indigenous demographics of the city. Research in the UK (Open to All?) and Canada (Working Together) reveals that the traditional public library does not meet the needs of all sections of the community. This problem will not be solved by better buildings but by developing community led and needs based services. To that end I'm surprised that Togman did not mention TBPLs commitment to anti racism and mitigating poverty and homelessness, which are key objectives in the current strategic plan.

- John Pateman

**Travellers Through Time: A Gypsy History** 

I am proud to be an English Romany Gypsy. The Rom are the Indigenous people of Britain. Like our brothers and sisters in North America we have suffered from hundreds of years of racism and hatred by the settled community. Our land was stolen from us and our traditional ways of life were curtailed or criminalized.

The cultural and actual genocide committed against my people has created generations of trauma that continues today. We have an oral culture and so much of our history has been lost because it wasn't written down.

Travelers Through Time: A Gypsy History fills in some of these gaps. Although not a Gypsy himself, Jeremy Harte writes from a Gypsy perspective.

Progressing chronologically from

Tudor times to the present day, he gives an in-depth description of how Romani life, culture and language have developed and adapted through the centuries.

What comes across strongly from this history is not only the relentless efforts of the state to harass and expel

Gypsies, but also the resilience and determination with which Gypsies have stood their ground.

Gypsies have suffered marginalization and discrimination from various agencies. A nomadic

and gave them 16 days to leave or face prison and deportation. An Act of 1554 magnanimously stated that Gypsies could remain if they abandoned their 'naughty, idle and

ungodly life' and settled down. However if they refused to assimilate, the punishment was death by

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hanging. This law was not repealed

Despite this climate of persecution, Gypsy numbers grew and later laws sought to protect the commons, village greens and grass from Gypsy encampments. The Enclosure Acts too made many historical stopping places, such as common land. Police mounted raids on Gypsies at dead of night, destroying their tents and throwing them in jail in order to force them to move on. The 1824 Vagrancy Act for the punishment of 'idle and disorderly persons, rogues and vagabonds' criminalized acts such as making a hole in the ground, having no water and neglecting your children (ie bringing them up as Gypsies).

In 2019 the Tories promised to 'protect our communities' by giving the police power to arrest travellers on unauthorized sites and seize their homes and possessions without compensation, thus bringing up to date an unremitting history of harassment and discrimination.

Schools were established for Gypsy children, supposedly to teach them literacy and other skills, but whose true aim was to distance them from their community. They were taught skills for an assimilated life that would make them useful subordinates in the settled world.

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John Pateman

**BOOK BANTER** 





#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



#### 8 PERSPECTIVE

## **Another birthday get-together**

Whenever a family member has a birthday we usually celebrate together and our family is large enough that there is always an occasion to make merry.

Counting birthdays and holidays like Christmas, Thanksgiving and Canada Day there are plenty of opportunities to get together with loved ones.

One of the freedoms we enjoy in Canada is freedom to have people over any time we want and if we decide to party there is nothing stopping us.

Whether a backyard barbecue, a patio potluck or just some people dropping by to say hello, these social encounters are a big part of our Canadian identity.

Nothing could be more typically Canadian than getting together with family and friends to enjoy the weather, shoot the breeze and maybe have something to eat.

That's exactly what we did last weekend with a small group of our favorite Canadians in celebration of yet another milestone, the 156th birthday of Canada. Fortunately we had a big back yard for horsing around, a shaded deck for more leisurely pursuits and the aroma of barbecue making everybody hungry.

There was water play, horse play and an afternoon of fun and merriment, all in the comfort of our own home – what a boon for Canadian families.

Canada Day in Thunder Bay was also celebrated by thousands at Marina Park which is where we spent many a Canada Day in past years, oohing and ahhing at the fireworks.

The city's online promo for the 2023 celebration at the park contained an unofficial credo, "Walk together. Learn together. Grow together."

For those who were at Marina Park there were opportunities to accomplish all three, not to mention a sunrise ceremony, a sound stage and various parkwide programming.

There was dancing, theatre and live music on stage and lots of activities for kids including the



CELEBRATING TOGETHER: Many people in Thunder Bay celebrate Canada Day together at Marina Park.

always refreshing splash pad. But no fireworks.

First of all, tinder dry conditions mean there is a province-wide

and city-wide fire ban in effect, although rumors of a local fireworks ban was taken under advisement only.

But the fire risk is not why there were no fireworks on Canada Day at Marina Park.

The decision to cancel the Canada Day fireworks was made in 2021 during the pandemic but that's not the real reason either.

It was a symbolic gesture in response to troubling discoveries about the mistreatment of Canada's native people in Canadian residential schools.

Many communities across Canada took the same action as an expression of acknowledgement, respect and reconciliation for our country's First Nations.

The silent, starlit skies over Marina Park on Canada Day are a reminder that our extended community has been devastated and needs spiritual guidance.

However, the rockets I heard after dark on July 1st showed that some residents chose to light up the sky in celebration and hopefully meaning no disrespect.

Visit **TBnewswatch.com** Thursday, July 6, 2023

Notwithstanding Canada's troubled past, fireworks are part of a tradition that celebrates freedom and opportunity for all Canadians.

Canada Day means different things to different people.

Our modest back yard celebrations used to be larger and more elaborate but now we feel the need to pause and reflect about current and past events.

That still leaves time for singing, dancing, splashing and barbecuing whether you gather with a few friends at home or walk with thousands of fellow citizens at Marina Park.

The last word goes to Mayor Ken Boshcoff who issued a challenge to Canadians – of the over two hundred countries worldwide, name three where you would rather be.

Canada Day and every day is a good time to re-envision the possibilities for our community and the country.

what's *Happening* in and around. . .

## The Bay <sup>P</sup>

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

#### July 5-6

2023 NOSH CEO Challenge The North of Superior Healthcare Group (NOSH) is excited to announce that CEO, Adam Brown, will be completing his annual CEO Challenge on July 5 & 6, 2023. This year's challenge will be the longest yet as he walks approx. 120km in 24 hours to raise money for the Families Closer to Home campaign in support of the Marathon Long-Term Care (LTC) project. Help us reach our goal of raising \$24,000! Donations will be collected in-person at the event or can be completed online between April 21 - July 6, 2023 at www.nosh.ca/ceo-challenge.

Please join us in celebration on July 6, 2023 from 11-2 at the Wilson Memorial General Hospital where we will be having a community-wide BBQ as we cheer on and meet Adam across the finish line!

Starting on July 5, 2023, Adam will begin his journey at the Mouth of the Pic River at the second lookout on the Sand

Dune trail at 12:00pm. Proceeding from his starting point, Adam will complete all roads in Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and travel highway 627 and highway 17 to Marathon. At such time, Adam and guests will complete half of Marathon's streets and continue to walk the Marathon High School track throughout the night. Starting July 6, 2023, Adam will proceed with his journey through Day 2 completing the remaining streets of Marathon and ending at Wilson Memorial General Hospital at 12:00pm!

More information will be available on our Facebook and Instagram Page (@northofsuperiorhealthcare) and on our website (www.nosh.ca/ceo-challenge) as we lead up to the 2023 NOSH CEO Challenge.

#### July 8

**Classic Day** 

Oliver Paipoonge Heritage Park is excited to present CLASSIC DAY-July 8. Classic Cars, Classic Rock Band 'Strait Up', vendors, Tired Iron Club, food. Noon to 4:30pm. Admission \$5, 12 & under free. 3190 Hwy 61 at Gillespie Rd, 10 minutes South of Thunder Bay. opmuse2@tbaytel.net. 807 4757424.

#### July 8-10

Thunder Bay Carvers display

The Thunder Bay Carvers will have a display, sale and carving demos in the Artisans Alley at Fort William Historical Park during Rendezvous Days. July 8 and Jul 9 10am-5pm.

#### July 11

#### Trivia Night

Get your team together for General Knowledge Trivia at the Social on Tuesday, July 11th at 7pm and prepare to go 7 rounds in the ring against the competition! Questions can include such areas as movies, television, sports, pop-culture, history, current events, literature, fads, geography, music and total randomness. Eight people per team and prizes for winning team.



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

### **Housing builds** The Thunder Bay DSSAB will dedicate roughly 80 per cent of a historic increase in homelessness funds to building new supportive housing units in the city

#### THUNDER BAY By TB Source Staff

A historic increase in homelessness funding for the Thunder Bay district will largely be dedicated to building new supportive housing units.

Roughly 80 per cent of the additional \$11 million in homelessness funding the district will receive this year is set to fund those builds, the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) has announced.

The remainder will fund smaller increases for services like emergency shelters, outreach, and rent subsidy programs, according to a spending plan released by the DSSAB on Thursday.

The province announced a near-tripling of Homelessness Prevention Program funds for the agency, which allocates provincial homelessness dollars across the Thunder Bay District, back in May.

That means the DSSAB had over \$16.5 million to divvy up for programs meant to address homelessness and housing insecurity in its 2023/24 budget, compared to just \$5.6 million last year.

Nearly \$9 million of that has been dedicated to supportive and transitional housing capital projects, which could include retrofits of existing spaces or new builds.

The agency did not previously receive funds dedicated for capital builds, relying instead on one-time announcements.

Non-profits had until Friday to submit proposals to build housing projects with those dollars through an expression of interest process.

CAO Bill Bradica said he's hopeful, though not certain, that the expressions of interest will include proposed housing projects in the wider district, where he said the need is acute, if not always as visible.

"We want to start focusing more on the other communities in our district," he said. "Most of the attention seems to be focused on the city of Thunder Bay, but there are people who are unhoused or precariously housed in the other 14 communities in our district as well. In some cases, it's a little more difficult – it's much more hidden typically in smaller communities. It's important to also focus on that."

DSSAB leaders have expressed hope the first units could be under construction before the end of 2023 and available as soon as late 2024. With over 750 people on the DSSAB's "byname" homelessness list across the district, the agency has estimated at least 250 new supportive housing units are needed to meet demand.

Speaking at an announcement of the funding plan at the agency's May Street headquarters on Thursday, Mayor Ken Boshcoff, a DSSAB board member, said the new dollars will move the needle on a key community priority.

"This announcement recognizes, in concert with the municipal government, the need for providing that real basic necessity of a roof over someone's head," he said.

The DSSAB – one of 47 "service managers" across the province – can spend Homelessness Prevention Program funds across four broad service categories: emergency shelter, supportive housing, housing assistance, and – an option added during the pandemic – community outreach and support services.

For the first time, the DSSAB is now also permitted to use HPP funds towards capital projects to support the creation and renewal of housing and shelters.

While the DSSAB directed most of its new HPP funds toward those capital builds, it will also support smaller expansions in other areas.

That includes additional rent supplement funding, hiring another DSSAB outreach worker, and other outreach supports.

"We'll be able to connect with more people, and make sure we then have a better sense of who does need housing," said Bradica.

"It's going to take time for those spaces to be in operation. In the meantime, we're excited we can increase the operational funding to continue to help people until more spaces are available."

The Homelessness Prevention Program funds will also backstop food security programs across the district with around \$500,000 that will be open to applications from community groups later this year.

The HPP funding expansion will remain in place for at least three years. While there are no guarantees after that point, Bradica believes the additional support is likely here to stay.

"It's hard to predict the future, but having a three-year planning allocation is quite significant," he said. "Much of our funding from various ministries is basically year-to-year."

"Based on what I know of the new funding formula, I'm relatively confident we'll continue to receive a pretty high level beyond three years, but of course, it is always subject to annual provincial budget approval."



NEW SUPPORTIVE HOUSING: The Thunder Bay DSSAB will allocate most of its new homelessness dollars towards supportive housing builds.



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CELEBRATING AT THE PARK: Thousands attended Canada Day festivities at the waterfront.



# Canada's day

Thousands of people came to Thunder Bay's Marina Park on Saturday to join in all the Canada Day festivities

#### THUNDER BAY By TB Source Staff

Thousands of people came to Thunder Bay's Marina Park on Saturday to join in Canada Day festivities, taking advantage of a beautiful summer day to enjoy free entertainment and activities.

On the main stage, that included music from the likes of Orville Councillor, Miranda Currie, the JB Band, Tennyson King, and Tim Albertson.

The second stage featured a culturally dizzying array of dance and theatrical performances from groups including the Thunder Bay World Dance Collective, Thai Healing Centre Dance Troupe, Italian Touch Latin Dance, and the Cambrian Players Improv Troupe.

Mayor Ken Boshcoff said he was pleased to see the event again approaching its pre-COVID popularity, and called the local entertainment acts a highlight.

"People are just having such an astonishingly good time – it's really the best Thunder Bay can show," he said.

Niny Martinez, who came to Canada from Columbia 26 years ago, attended the celebrations with friends who had more recently moved here from the country.

"Canada to me is like freedom, because we escaped from very hard times back in our country," she said.

"For me, [Canada Day] is just to enjoy all the amenities we have today, the music, see [friends] - to have fun and get together with other people."

Another attendee, Veronica, said she makes a point of attending celebrations at the waterfront each year.

"I get to be with Thunder Bay people and be who I am," she said.

She added that she appreciates that Canadians can coexist peacefully while expressing themselves freely.

"Canada can face its problems and agree respectfully to disagree, but always go forward in a positive way."

She called attending pow wows her favourite Canada Day activity.

This year's event proceeded without fireworks, a step the city said was meant to respect the Indigenous community and based on advice from its elders council.

The city also incorporated Indigenous cultural traditions, like a sunrise ceremony, sacred fire, and drum groups.

Informational displays from Nishnawbe Aski Nation at the Tai Chi park highlighted the devastating impacts of Canada's colonial history on Indigenous peoples and the need to move forward on a better path.

Those efforts are part of a retooling of the celebration after the discovery of hundreds of unmarked graves at former residential school sites in 2021 prompted calls to "cancel Canada Day."

At the sacred fire, Shkaabe, whose name translates as firekeeper, said he'd agreed to take on the role at the city's Canada Day event in hopes of opening up conversation.

"I said I'm all for it, because we don't want that ill-feeling against each other anymore – we want to bridge those gaps, have regular conversations and share," he said. "Because there is an awareness right now, especially with residential schools."

Some, including new Canadians, still aren't aware of that history, he added.

"I've seen people come to this fire literally crying – they had no idea," he said. "Some of them cry because their family or their people went through the same thing – holocausts, wars, torture. They tell me all kinds of stories I can relate to."

Chief Michele Solomon of Fort William First Nation said while many Indigenous people may still choose not to mark the day, she was encouraged by the city's efforts.

"Growing up, there was no acknowledgement of Indigenous people or Indigenous ways of knowing and being," she said. "But when I look at the agenda for today, I see an effort towards reconciliation – I see that there's a lot of Indigenous involvement being brought to this."

"We can't go forward without acknowledging the history. I think a lot of non-Indigenous people probably have trouble understanding some of the feelings and reactions from Indigenous people around not wanting to celebrate this day."

"But I think by including these Indigenous aspects in this day, it helps to bring us together, and that can lend towards mending relationships."

Superior–North MP and Minister of Indigenous Services Patty Hajdu said there's plenty to celebrate about being Canadian, including the quality of life and public health care.

"We are a G7 country," she said. "So as much as... lots of people are having a hard time post-COVID with inflation rates and challenges around affordability, Canada is still one of the best places in the world to live... We've got a lot to celebrate too."

However, she said it's clear the day must also include a recognition of hard truths.

"Today's also a day to reflect on the journey of this country, a colonial country created out of the dispossession of land from generations of Indigenous peoples, oppression, inequity," she said.

#### Visit **TBnewswatch.com** Thursday, July 6, 2023

## New champion named

The three-time winner and reigning champion in Thunder Bay's annual persian-eating contest has been toppled by a new competitor

#### THUNDER BAY By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

There's a new persian-eating champ on the block in Thunder Bay, disrupting years of dominance by two local kings of the competition.

Nelson Lindstone bested reigning champion Thomas Currie in a contest that came down to a matter of crumbs on Saturday.

Currie was a favourite to defend his title in the sixth annual Canada Day persian-eating contest put on by the Red Lion Smokehouse, after winning three straight.

Competitors are tasked with devouring 10 of the iconic confections in 10 minutes – a feat that's not yet been achieved, though some have come achingly close.

That was the case on Saturday, when Lindstone and Currie each finished nine persians and change – something Lindstone managed to do with no previous competitive eating experience.

Like any hard-fought victory, his wasn't without moments of selfdoubt. Late in the competition, it appeared Currie had the win in his grasp as Lindstone was losing steam.

"When I got to eight, I thought, I don't know if I can do it," he said. "Then I took a couple of sips of water and was like, 'I'm okay.""

When the 10 minutes was up, the margin was so close Red Lion staff brought out a kitchen scale to determine the winner, with Lindstone edging the defending champ by just a few grams.

Underlining the deceptive difficulty



NEW CHAMPION: Nelson Lindstone (left) won the contest, finishing all but a few bites of 10 persians over the course of 10 minutes.

of the contest, most of their competitors finished with several persians left untouched.

After all was said and done, Currie wasn't lamenting the loss of his crown; On the contrary, he said he was "quite pleased" at the challenge from a new and worthy competitor, after trading wins with former champion Stan Alto since the contest originated.

He said "the atmosphere, the people, and the confection itself" keep him coming back.

The sweet fried buns topped with pink icing were invented in the 1940s by local Bennett's Bakery, and have since become a widely-recognized symbol of Thunder Bay.

Win or lose, Currie said he's content to know he's left his mark on the contest with a tough-to-match run of victories and his patented "sandwich technique," which has been widely emulated by other competitors.

"I've started a movement," he joked. Lindstone reported finishing his first contest remarkably intact.

"I'm actually okay, I was surprised," he said. "I thought I'd feel more sick."

"I just paced myself, one at a time. The sandwich technique seemed a little much – I thought about it, but I was like, nah."

Lindstone called the intense crowd reaction one of the highlights of the experience, with his grandchildren present to cheer him on, and his sonin-law one of several competitors he left in the proverbial dust.

And in perhaps the clearest sign of his persian-eating prowess, Lindstone said he was still enjoying the confections until around the sixth one.

He added the experience hasn't put him off persians, saying he's confident he'll continue eating and enjoying them.

Asked how the competition has changed his relationship to the treat, Currie agreed.

"Not even in the slightest," he said. "Nothing in this world could ruin me for persians."

Lindstone vowed to return to defend his title next year. That's unlikely to be a cakewalk, with Currie also likely to return.

"I've got to try to get my title back," he said.



#### **GAMES/NEWS** 13

ENIGORAM Enigma cryptograms are created from quotations and proverbs from around the world. Each letter stands for another letter. *Hint: "J" = "S"* 

"WSL BTE RY T YRRX HJ FHCSW HM SHJ RBM LELJ, IVW SL BSR SLLZJ ARVMJLX HJ BHJL."

- IRRP RY GFROLFIJ

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## I4 LIFE Visit TBnewswatch.com The month of July means start of haying season

Welcome to July, the "Hooray! School is out!" month. Also, a lot of folks begin their summer holidays. At home intense gardening is on the menu and in the farmers' fields intense haymaking.

I picked up two, round, hay bales, new this summer and just off the field, from my supplier on Saturday. Wow! What a contrast in colour and weight as compared to last year's ones. Rich green with that new-mown hay aroma. My wife, Laura,

the horse person in the family (as well as being The Gardener) fed the new hay to two of our resident equines. There was no hesitation on their part for scarfing the stuff. The third horse, though, has a hoof condition and must have her hay soaked for now. And since we still have some of last year's hay that is what Laura is feeding this mare.

I wrote before of how we let the grass grow on our lawns because of how dry the conditions were. I had read that if you cut the



white and yellow. Absolutely gorgeous! But the downside of leaving the grass long is that now biting bugs, including wood ticks, have a place to 'hang out'. Our new-pup-on-the-scene, Sophie, got spayed last week. The instructions were to only allow her outside on a leash and not to allow any romping for a week. That meant that one of us had to walk her when we thought that she had to poop or pee. For variety's sake, I would vary our walks, sometimes circling the house, sometimes going further afield into a horse paddock. At night we let the horses out of the barn where they spend the day in their stalls since where we live, the deer and horse flies that appear during the day would drive the horses crazy. When I walk Sophie into the paddock, the grass is much shorter due to the grazing of the equines. But around the house the grass is long and several times when reentering our 'hoosie' I've detected ticks on my clothing. We bought a repellent from the vet for the pooches so that even if the ticks attach to their fur, they die. So, no harm done.

But, alas, this past Saturday, Canada Day ( I prefer the old term 'Dominion Day' since Canada

is still referred to as 'The

Dominion of Canada'), Laura decided that enough was enough and she fired up the riding lawn mower and mowed all the lawns. As a result of leaving the grass to grow so tall, there are now long lines of mown grass artfully snaking in parallel lines all over the place, reminding me of carefully raked sand in Japanese Zen Buddhist gardens. Laura tells me that over time she will gather up the grass and use it as mulch in the veggie garden.

The vegetable garden is bursting forth, growing very quickly, soon to be a veritable jungle of green. Good! Already we are feasting from Laura's hard labour.We hope that we will be going a-haying soon as a friend has fields that he bales into small, square bales. We still need to buy the round bales from our regular supplier but having an extra two or three hundred small square bales is handy for feeding in the barn. Unfurling hay from round bales with the hay fork makes a mess in the part of the barn where we store them.. Small squares don't. So, the crew will consist of me, Laura, daughter Beth, son Doug, and possibly Doug's girlfriend, Eve, who grew up on a major farm in southern Ontario.

What one sees on the side of the backroads where there are or were dwellings, are beautiful lupins, in some places lots of lupins sporting purple, pink, and sometimes white. We have them too along the front of our property but I noticed that some are now losing their colour. Much like our lilac bushes that have bloomed and now turned brown, it seems the wild blooming plants have a short flowering period. But there is stlll lots of yellow by the side of the roads - trefoil and soon there will be the pale blue of chicory and the tall bushes of white clover.

And when all that necessary activity is done, we can think about getting out in our motorboat for a day of fishing on our favourite lake. Ah summer.





TEMPORARY CLOSURE: The popular hiking destination will be closed for three weeks for repairs to trail and parking lot.

### **Cascades closing for 3 weeks**

THUNDER BAY By TB Source Staff

A popular conservation area on the outskirts of the city will be closed to the public for about three weeks, starting Tuesday.

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority says the closure is necessary to accommodate work being done in the parking lot and on the paved loop trail.

"We're going to be completely regrading and repaving the parking lot. It has been a bit of an issue over the past few years, with some pooling in the middle, especially in the springtime," said Ryan Mackett, the conservation authority's communications manager. He noted that in periods of cold weather, the centre of the parking lot rink sometimes turns into a virtual skating rink.

Mackett said that due to frost heaves and exposed tree roots, the paved loop trail requires reconstruction to bring it up to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act compliance.

"That's going to be really great for people with mobility concerns and enabling them to come out, enjoy nature, and explore the area."

He said the conservation authority had hoped to have the work done last fall, but couldn't secure a contractor at the time.

"We understand that some people may be a bit inconvenienced by the timing, but it's important to remember that we don't dictate to the contractors when we want the work done. The contractors let us know when they are available."

During the shutdown, the conservation authority is encouraging people who like visiting the Cascades to consider going to one or more of its other conservation areas.

"Your Explore Card parking pass is good for all 10 conservation areas that the LRCA owns and maintains, so that's a good incentive to maybe visit Hazelwood Lake, Silver Harbour and Little Trout Bay. Both [the latter] have boat launches and access to Lake Superior. Hurkett Cove is another fantastic spot to check out," Mackett said.

## Mastering the art of cooking ribs

Ribs. Ribs are one of those items that's extremely easy to learn, but mastering ribs is an art form all its own. Cooking methods, seasonings, cooking appliances, and

types of ribs are all things that can be personally chosen according to the chef. The good thing about it, is there is no real wrong way to do them, however there are plenty that are just more right. Choosing the right ribs to cook is a task in itself. with

pork you have side or spareribs, which are a larger meatier rib, than its cousin the babyback ribs. With beef you can have short ribs, whole rack, or English cut ribs. Short ribs are meaty and well marbled, and require low and slow cooking to break down and tenderize. The whole rack has seven bones and most meat is located between the ribs. English

cut are single ribs with a chunk of meat at the top. Other forms ofprotein ribs available are bison and lamb but for today we are going to focus on pork and beef, the BFF's of the animal food kingdom.

Derek Lankinen Here's Cooking at You Kid

covered (then sauced and uncovered) for a few hours until fork tender, then you can finish them on a grill or in a higher heat oven. Grilling oven roasted ribs seems to be the preferred method of many home cooks as



SUMMER FAVOURITE: Ribs are a popular choice for the summer grill.

the grill adds a bit of char and smoke to the ribs but the oven will preserve a lot of the juices and flavours while tenderizing and breaking down connective tissues.

In the dog days of a Thunder Bay summer, we would probably not want to turn our stoves on. If you plan to strictly grill your ribs, indirect heat is where you wanna live. Your meat on one side of the grill, your burners on the opposite cranked right up to the seventh layer of hell. (Not really, but it sounded cool). Get that BBQ chamber at around 260-270 degrees Fahrenheit and let it go. Then once you're all tenderized, sauce em liberally with your favourite sauce and get some char on them to finish.

Sauce is a really important part of the finish of a rib, but you always want to remember to build seasonings and flavours from the bottom up. Season and salt your proteins with complimentary spices to your sauce and your flavours will have dimension and you will get a well rounded developed rib flavour that will always make sure you're the king.

LIFE 15

Another important part of the rib experience is the beer. With a rich protein in the summer especially, you're going to want to go with a light beer with a fresh finish. Locally, Sleeping Giant Brewing Co's White Out is a solid choice for such a day. Happy Grilling!!

Derek Lankinen is an awardwinning chef, author, and restauranteur. He is the Owner/Operator of Beefcake's Burger Factory with two locations in Westfort and Current River and Co-Owner of Elite Beef, Brick and Mortar Food Co. and Eat Loco Tacos.

### **FWFN holds annual powwow**

THUNDER BAY By Justin Hardy - TB Source

Hundreds of people from across the region made their way to Anemki Wajiw, also known as Mount Mckay, this weekend to attend Fort William First Nation's annual summer Powwow.

The annual event honours Indigenous culture and invites people from all over to enjoy the drumming, dancing, singing, and food on the mountain.

Along with the colourful regalia and music, the event also saw dozens of booths with local crafters, food vendors, and community organizations.

Organizers said this year's powwow has attracted more dancers than usual, with over 300 registered dancers taking part including Woodland Dance Special winner Keenan Sanden who said he was really looking forward to dancing in this weekend's powwow.

"It's one of the few powwows that I like going to around Ontario," he said. "I just like the community of how, like how it's all organized and the amount of people that it's here and all the traditions and stuff and the people."

The powwow featured various dance specials with the top prize of both the Men's and Women's special being 800 dollars.

Desiree Paypompee from Whitefish Bay was the General Women's Special winner, and she said that participating in dance contests doesn't just require stamina and physical strength, but mental strength as well.



ANNUAL CELEBRATION: Desiree Paypompee won the General Women's Special.

"For most people, to pull through for that amount of songs, is, you know, where you resort to your mental strength and my mental strength is my son who is going to be thirteen years old this year," she said. "And I miss him very much, he's away for the year and that's why I come to dance."

Paypompee says this is her second time participating in the summer powwow atop Anemki Wajiw, claiming the beauty and community were what brought her back.



### 16 LIFE Thursday, July 6, 2023 The many ways to enjoy fishing

There are many ways to enjoy a day of fishing. Some like to hike into a secluded lake or explore a winding river on foot. Others enjoy the serenity of paddling and angling from a canoe. Fishing from a motorized boat is undoubtedly the most comfortable and popular way to spend a day on the water. Yet, there is another extremely effective method that is often overlooked: kayak fishing. Fishing by kayak is both affordable and extremely efficient. The portability of a kayak can provide easy access to a remote lake, while the stealthy

glide allows an angler to quickly and quietly cover the shorelines and shallow bays without spooking the fish.

Whichever type of kayak you currently own will certainly work for fishing. However, if you are in the market to purchase a new one, there are a few key



OUT ON THE WATER: There are many different ways to get out for a day of fishing.

things to look for. For an adult angler, a 10 to 14 foot-long vessel is going to be the most practical.

Shorter boats in that range are light and nimble, while boats on the longer side are faster, roomier, and can handle bigger water. Wider boats in either style will be the most stable.

the GOOD LIFE Perhaps the most important decision in purchasing a new kayak is whether you prefer a sit-in model or a sit-on design. Sitin kayaks ensure water is kept out of the hull unless you tip over or are caught in a downpour. This makes them a better choice for comfort in cold weather and cold water. The downside is that these can be difficult to climb back into if tipped, and tough to get the water out if you do. If you plan to use the kayak for paddling and exploration as well as fishing, the

sit-in design is much preferred.

Meanwhile, sit-on-top kayaks are completely sealed so that, if you ever flip it, all you need to do is turn it over and climb back on. The biggest downside of these kayaks is the fact that the angler is more exposed to rain, wind and cold weather. Yet, these vessels tend to be easier to use and more effective if you are only interested in fishing and not paddling longer distances.

Whichever style you choose, do not underestimate the importance of a comfortable seat. Look for a seat that is both adjustable and padded. The height of the seat will have a big impact on stability, with fishing-specific kayaks having seats mounted higher to allow for better casting. This means these boats must be wider to make up for the lost stability.

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Other fishing-related things to look for include multiple rod holders, accessory racks, anchor channels, covered storage compartments and bungees to tie down frequently-used items that need to be within arm's reach.

For both seasoned anglers and beginners, the ability to easily access our favourite lakes, paired with unparalleled affordability, makes kayak fishing very appealing. While the initial learning curve and the fear of tipping can be a bit daunting at first, once you hop in and start catching fish, kayak angling is nothing but joy.



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EASY LISTENING: Tommy Milestone Horricks kicked off the concert series in Chippewa Park.

## **Music in the park**

### Chippewa Park kicks off the Summer in the Park series

#### By Justin Hardy - TB Source

The Friends of Chippewa Park kicked off the 2023 Summer in the Park concert series on Sunday with a performance by Tommy Milestone Horricks.

The Summers in the Park concert series was announced after the remarkable success of the rainy-day Children's Festival and is part of the organization's new Summer in the City program.

Linda Lafonatine, board member, the Friends of Chippewa Park, said that she was very pleased with the turnout despite Sunday's show being the first of the year.

"They weren't quite sure how many people were going to come because they're still just hearing about it, you know," she said.

"And even though they know every, every year we have Sunday in the parks, you know, still people, that's the younger people don't quite know what we're doing here."

The presenting sponsor of the Summer in

the Park series is the City of Thunder Bay's Recreation and Culture Division.

Friends of Chippewa Park President, Lorraine Lortie, said in a release that without the city's ongoing sponsorship, the Friends of Chippewa Park would not be able to operate the concert series.

"We are also thankful to the Port of Thunder Bay and Northern Credit Union for their sponsorship of two of the individual performances this summer," she said. "Their contribution has allowed us to enhance our normal range of entertainers this summer."

This year's lineup includes many local performers like the Southern Comfort Duo, Burt's Garage Band, the Campbell Family Band and many more. Closing out the season will be Thunder Bay's favourite singer/songwriter and activist, Rodney Brown.

The concerts will be held at 2 p.m. every Sunday until September 3. To view the full lineup, visit the Friends of Chippewa Park website.

### **Rotary house winner**

#### THUNDER BAY By TB Source Staff

One lucky Thunder Bay resident has plenty to celebrate this Canada Day after winning a new home valued at \$750,000 in the Fort William Rotary house lottery.

Liana Frenette was announced as the winner of the 37th annual charity raffle on stage during Canada Day festivities at Marina Park on Saturday.

Rotarians had plenty to smile about, too, as they reported a record fundraising haul of over \$600,000, which will be distributed to over a dozen nonprofits serving the community.

"Our president Irene got to give her a call and give her the great news, and she was totally excited," said Fort William Rotary past-president Stephen Margarit. "She thought it was a joke, but obviously not. Pretty soon, she'll be getting the keys to a brand new house."

"It'll be up to the winner, she can

decide to either keep it or sell it. Regardless, we're just happy that we're able to give away a house and change someone's life while also raising significant funds to give back to the community."

The Parkdale subdivision home, custom-built by Triad Contracting, is one of the most expensive lottery houses to date.

The home is a bi-level with an attached single-vehicle garage, featuring ninefoot-high ceilings throughout, four bedrooms, a partially covered backyard deck, and a recreation room on the lower level with a built-in fireplace.

The full details on the amount of money raised through the lottery will be shared at an announcement in the coming weeks.

Margarit said Fort William Rotary is already working on securing a house for next year, and ticket sales will open up in late February or early March.



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**ON THE SCENE** 

## Indiana Jones' Uneven Swan Song

"Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny" (SilverCity) bears the cachet of being the series' swan song. We soon find that the title is more intriguing than the actual plot.

"Dial" isn't all bad. Trademark chases and hair-raising escapes

are present but minus wit, surprise, and heart that occasionally sparkled under Steven Spielberg's guidance in the previous films. Here, director Iames Mangold ("Ford vs Ferrari") is big on whizz-bang action but short on visual

character empathy.

a flashback to WW II where a de-aged Indy (Harrison Ford) is tussling with his familiar nemesis, the Nazis, specifically, Mads Mikkelsen's embittered SS officer, Jürgen Voller. Indy and



academic buddy, Basil Shaw (Tobey Jones) fight with Voller over a rare artifact created by Archimedes. Much breakneck death-defying action ensues.

Flash forward to 1969. Professor Henry Jones is retiring, done with lecturing

indifferent students. Indv's long-lost goddaughter Helena, (Phoebe Waller-Bridge) turns up, having waded through her dad's detailed notes curious about a strange device possessing special powers.

Problem is that it

clarity, plot delineation and was divided into two pieces. Indv still has one in the The first act sets it all up with archives. Helena theorizes where to find the other, in a typically faraway place, just like that.

Having tailed Helena, Voller shows up with a CIA agent and requisite thugs. More chases



FINAL ADVENTURE: The latest Indiana Jones adventure is the fifth in the series.

ensue, one involving Indy on a horse dodging subway trains. The quest goes from New York to Morocco. The clues are dense and cluttered. Characters are pretty much under-written. Antonio Banderas and John Rhys-Davies make perfunctory fan-service appearances as Indv's old allies.

The extended chases have little meaning until the four screenwriters finally get around to revealing what is really at stake. Voller's determined that the device will enable him to do Hitler one better, Nazi-wise.

At age 79 during filming, crusty Ford still commands the screen. The script shortchanges his growly wisecracks but he wields authority. He does have a touching moment revealing why his marriage to Marion (Karen Allen) deteriorated, involving the absence of his long-lost son Matt (Shia LaBeouf).

Waller-Bridge's Phoebe Helena is smart, crafty and plucky but her mercenary inclinations diminish her appeal as a heroine, departing from Indy's ideals that history must be preserved in a museum.

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Mikkelsen's best moment involves challenging a Black hotel waiter, sinuously twisting the racist knife for his own subtle, sadistic amusement. This scene exemplifies the script inconsistencies: a nicely wrought moment, like Indy's remorse, then much ho-hum stuff.

The very last scene manages to achieve an emotional resonance otherwise lacking in the movie, compensating for the real whopper of a climax. Sentimental it may be but it's a nostalgic, fan-satisfying moment that is almost uplifting enough to forgive what has transpired beforehand.

Despite "Dial's" shortcomings, it's heartening to see our hero again armed with a fedora, whip, quip, and snarl one last time. Just wish he could've gone out on a higher note.



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