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Thursday, July 20, 2023

ROUTES RESTORED

Council decides not to cut pair of bus routes, delays closure of Neebing Arena for a year /3



The No. 4 Neebing and No. 6 Mission routes were on the city council chopping block, but councillors on Monday voted not to move ahead with the cost-saving plan. (FILE)

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Tikinagan

Child & Family Services



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Cuts overturned

Bus routes restored, arena closure delayed a year

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

Proposals to cut an arena and two city bus routes in 2024 have been put on ice.

The Neebing Memorial Arena and the interlined 4-Neebing and 6-Mission transit routes were among the most controversial on a list of proposed cuts to city services.

On Monday, however, administration withdrew those recommended cuts, at least in the immediate term.

The closure of the arena will still be contemplated following the winter season.

The city is also pursuing possible plans to replace the two bus routes, which serve the Neebing area and Fort William First Nation, with on-demand service using smaller vehicles.

Memos advising council against carrying out the cuts this year were accepted with little discussion at Monday's meeting.

The moves leave questions over how — or whether — the city will achieve council's goal of finding \$1.5 million in annual service cuts by 2024.

Together, cancelling the bus routes and closing the Neebing arena would have brought roughly \$475,000 in yearly savings.

Looking elsewhere

That means council will need to find alternate spending reductions totalling nearly half a million dollars.

Eliminating the two transit routes would have brought an estimated \$293,800 in yearly savings.

The routes had been identified as the "lowest-performing" in the Thunder Bay Transit system, with average ridership of roughly five to six people per hour in operation.

The recommendation to cut the routes had prompted concern from Fort William First Nation leadership, with Chief Michele Solomon expressing disappointment it was made without warning or consultation.

City staff had suggested that was central to their reversal on the issue, promising to discuss the future of the service with First Nation leadership going forward.

The Neebing Memorial Arena's closure was estimated to bring \$180,400 in yearly savings.

In a memo released last week, administration advised council that closing the arena before the 2023/2024 winter season would not be feasible, since it would come well after the city launches its winter ice allocation process.

"The allocation of indoor ice for the upcoming fall/winter season requires knowledge of the inventory of ice available," wrote general manager of community services Kelly Robertson. "Administration needs to initiate the ice allocation process no later than July 24 in order to issue



Neebing Arena won't close this year, but may close in 2024.

contracts... in time for the regular start of the [season]."

"Therefore, administration will be proceeding with the ice allocation process... assuming that the Neebing Arena remains open."

Delayed a year





Robertson advised the closure could instead take place at the end of the upcoming winter season, producing partial savings in 2024.

The recommended closure prompted vocal opposition from local hockey groups, who have pointed to the arena's significant role in supporting minor hockey.

Closing the Neebing arena would wipe out 14 per cent of the city's total bookable ice, staff report.

A survey launched as part of that process and obtained by TBnewswatch asks ice users if they would be willing to pay up to 20 per cent more for ice time in order to keep the Neebing arena open.

WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			
Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Rain
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Sister Cities canned

By Ian Kauman - TB Source

The City of Thunder Bay will end its formal ties with five communities around the globe after city council voted on Monday to dissolve the sister cities program.

The program was one of two dozen items included on a list of proposed cuts as city council looks to find \$1.5 million in yearly spending reductions, on top of another \$700,000 a year in staffing cuts.

Cutting the sister cities committee, with its \$25,000 annual budget, will make little headway toward that goal, but has for years been identified as a potential "low-impact" cost-saving step for the city.

The sister cities program was one of five cuts on the list that council declined to approve in June in the face of public pushback, ordering more consultation before making a decision.

However, the sister cities advisory committee recommended council

dissolve it, rather than proceed with that consultation.

Speaking to council Monday, committee chair Matthew Villella said members had little stomach for publicly defending the value of their work while cuts to core city services were being approved.

"Things are getting cut that affect our community, that affect people's lives," he told council Monday. "Cutting essential services, things like movies in the park, maintenance of parkettes, bus routes, EMS stations - how do we compete with that?"

Villella had argued that, while the sister cities program was a "nice-to-have" and not a necessity for the city, it nevertheless brought significant cultural and economic value by fostering visits and building cross-cultural understanding.

He called severing decades-long relationships with sister cities communities "a bad look" for Thunder Bay.

A vote to dissolve the committee

as of Aug. 31 appeared to pass 7-4 on Monday, with Couns. Aiello, Ch'ng, Foulds, and Giertuga opposed.

"I think this committee does good work, but like [Villella] said, they're having trouble competing with [cuts to services like] movies in the park, and being constantly on the cut list by council for \$25,000," said Giertuga.

The vote brings to an end a program the city first established in 1974, when it signed its first twinning agreement with Seinäjoki, Finland.

Thunder Bay later inked agreements with Duluth and Little Canada, both in Minnesota, Jiaozuo in China, and Gifu City in Japan.

Those relationships had been celebrated with periodic visits by delegations between communities, gifts like statues received from Jiaozuo and displayed at the waterfront Tai Chi Park, and events like the annual peace bell ceremony held in conjunction with Gifu City.



Sister Cities committee chair Matthew Villella rings the Peace Bell in 2019. (FILE)




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Bubble facing delay

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

The group behind a new indoor tennis facility at Chapples Park remains optimistic it could serve up an opening in 2023, but faces looming deadlines in achieving that goal.

City council gave its blessing to the Thunder Bay Community Tennis Centre's concept for a six-court bubble in May 2022.

Over a year later, the group is still finalizing key agreements with the city that must be in place before construction begins.

Those include a ground lease and a funding agreement necessary to release the \$1.5 million the city committed to the project, making up nearly half its budget.

The tennis centre says it remains hopeful it can open the bubble in 2023, but acknowledged that's a best-case scenario.

"We have still a really good shot at getting things completed this year — probably a little bit later start for the indoor season, as it's turning out,"

said project lead Pasi Pinta. "There have been challenges along the way that we've been working through."

The organization recently released a call for tenders on a construction package that includes site preparation, construction of the courts, underground services, and drainage.

Bids for that work, which will prepare the site for installation of a pre-engineered air-supported structure, are due in the next week.

The tennis centre has put a down payment on the bubble structure using FedNor funding received in 2022 that had to be spent by this year.

The club is aiming to begin construction in September, Pinta said, with work expected to take roughly a month-and-a-half.

Before any of that can happen, however, city council must ratify a ground lease and funding agreement for the facility.

The tennis centre is aiming for an Aug. 28 meeting to receive that approval.

Kelly Robertson, the city's general

manager of community services, agreed the two parties are working toward that target, but said hitting it remains uncertain.

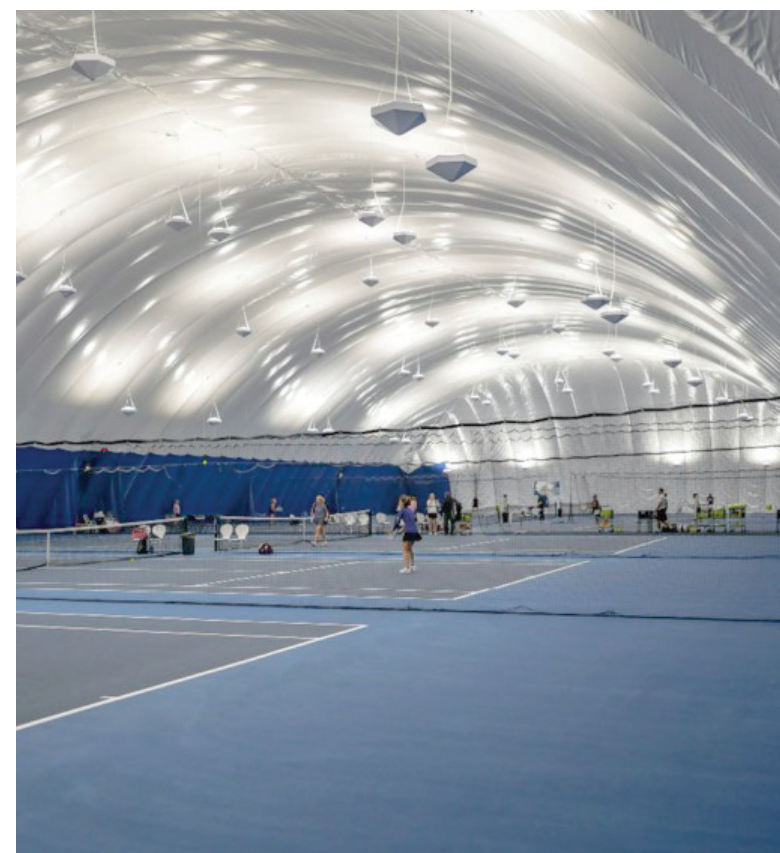
"That's a best-case scenario that's contingent on the city receiving information, issues being resolved on the site, outstanding site servicing," she said.

If the timeline slips from Aug. 28, it could push the project back to the 2024 construction season, she suggested.

"For the air-supported structure to be installed for this fall and have enough lead time to do the requisite construction, that's kind of a date of no return. If we don't make that date, it's possible based on what I understand that installation will not proceed this fall."

"Everyone's working hard to see what we can do, but still quite a bit of work to do."

Robertson said city staff are awaiting updated documentation from the tennis centre before they can bring a recommendation to council.



An artist's rendering of the new indoor tennis facility, which has yet to begin construction.



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Cause of death undetermined

By Doug Diaczuk – TB Source

The lawyer representing the family of Emmanuel Oruitemeka says the inquest jury's finding that the 25-year-old's manner of death is undetermined sends a loud and clear message to the Thunder Bay Police Service that will require deep introspection and reflection, and hopefully lead to changes that prevent a similar tragedy from happening again.

The jury in the coroner's inquest examining the circumstances surrounding Oruitemeka's death in February 2014 returned with a verdict and recommendations at 1:30 p.m. on Friday after starting deliberations late last Thursday afternoon.

In addition to ruling Oruitemeka's manner of death was undetermined, the jury also handed down more

than a dozen recommendations directed at the Thunder Bay Police Service focusing on training for first-aid, internal policies and responsibilities, and anti-racism.

"I think frankly it is extraordinary because the message is loud and clear from the jury," said Rick Frank, counsel for the Oruitemeka family. "It is unusual where the cause of death is drug toxicity for there to be a finding other than accident. What the jury's verdict shows is that they felt the police conduct may well have played a part in the death of Emmanuel and they wanted to send that message."

The verdict follows eight days of evidence and testimony, which revealed that Oruitemeka became unresponsive while inside the Thunder Bay Police Service Balmoral Street headquarters after

being taken into custody in relation to a potential weapons call in the Trillium Way area on Feb. 12, 2014.

Oruitemeka died four days later in hospital as a result of a lack of oxygen and blood reaching his brain due to a cardiac collapse likely caused by the ingestion of cocaine.

Surveillance footage from inside the police headquarters showed Oruitemeka unresponsive after being taken out of the police cruiser and being placed face down in the booking area. A period of five minutes passed before it was determined by officers that Oruitemeka was in medical distress and an ambulance was called.

When paramedics arrived, Oruitemeka had no vital signs, which came as a shock to the police officers who testified that they observed him to be breathing and

his eyes fluttering. No first-aid was administered by the officers, who said they are trained not to perform CPR on a person who is breathing.

The Special Investigations Unit found no grounds to criminally charge the involved officers and an internal report found the officers did not engage in misconduct or negligence.

Frank called on the jury to find the manner of death as homicide, arguing the police officer's inaction to recognize Oruitemeka's medical distress in a timely manner or administer first-aid resulted in his foreseeable death.

Other counsel for the parties with standing, including the police officers, the Thunder Bay Police Service, and Police Services Board argued the manner of death should be determined as accidental.

"Five members of the Thunder Bay community, who represent the conscience of the Thunder Bay community, found the police conduct to be not acceptable," Frank said.

The jury also handed down 14 recommendations, many of which were part of a slate of joint recommendations agreed upon by the inquest counsel members. Of the 14 recommendations, 13 were directed at the Thunder Bay Police Service.

Most of the recommendations relate to training, including scheduling joint training between police, EMS, and fire so all agencies are more familiar with their respective roles and responsibilities, better training relating to internal policies, training on how to recognize signs of medical distress, and obtaining relevant medical information.

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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1 1:35 WIL
2 1:35 WIL	3 6:35 WIL	4 5:05 @EC	5 6:35 @EC	6 6:35 ROC	7 7:35 ROC	8 6:35 ROC
9 1:35 ROC	10 6:35 @DUL	11 6:35 @DUL	12 6:35 @WAT	13 12:05 6:35 @WAT	14 6:35 @WAT	15 6:35 @MAN
16 1:35 @MAN	17	18 6:35 MIN	19 6:35 MIN	20 6:35 @ROC	21 6:35 @ROC	22 7:05 @WIL
23 5:05 @WIL	24 6:35 LAC	25	26 6:35 LAC	27 6:35 @DUL	28 6:35 @DUL	29 6:35 @DUL
30 1:35 DUL	31 ALL STAR					

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 ALL STAR	2 ALL STAR	3 6:35 MIN	4 7:35 MIN	5 6:35 WAT
6 1:35 WAT	7 6:35 LAC	8 6:35 LAC	9 7:05 @WIL	10 7:05 @WIL	11 6:35 @DUL	12 3:05 @DUL

EDITORIAL

Rinky-dink cuts

Was it really that surprising that city council decided not to cancel a pair of bus routes and have delayed the closure of Neebing Arena by at least a year?

It was inevitable they wouldn't go through.

While the rink closure could still come next year, we're betting council will see the light and bow to public pressure, killing the plan altogether.

The No. 4 Neebing route and the No. 6 Mission route will continue to run, despite low ridership numbers.

Administration was asked to come up with an additional \$1.5 million in savings. Now they're back to the drawing table, looking for other areas to make cuts.

One solution the municipality might consider is selling its arenas, with the possible exception of Fort William Gardens, to a private-sector group.

Thunder Bay's arenas lose hundreds of thousands of dollars a year. User groups simply aren't being charged enough to bring them to a break-even position.

If successful, the rinks stay open and the city doesn't have to worry about the losses. At least it's worth a shot.

Bike safety meeting To the editor:

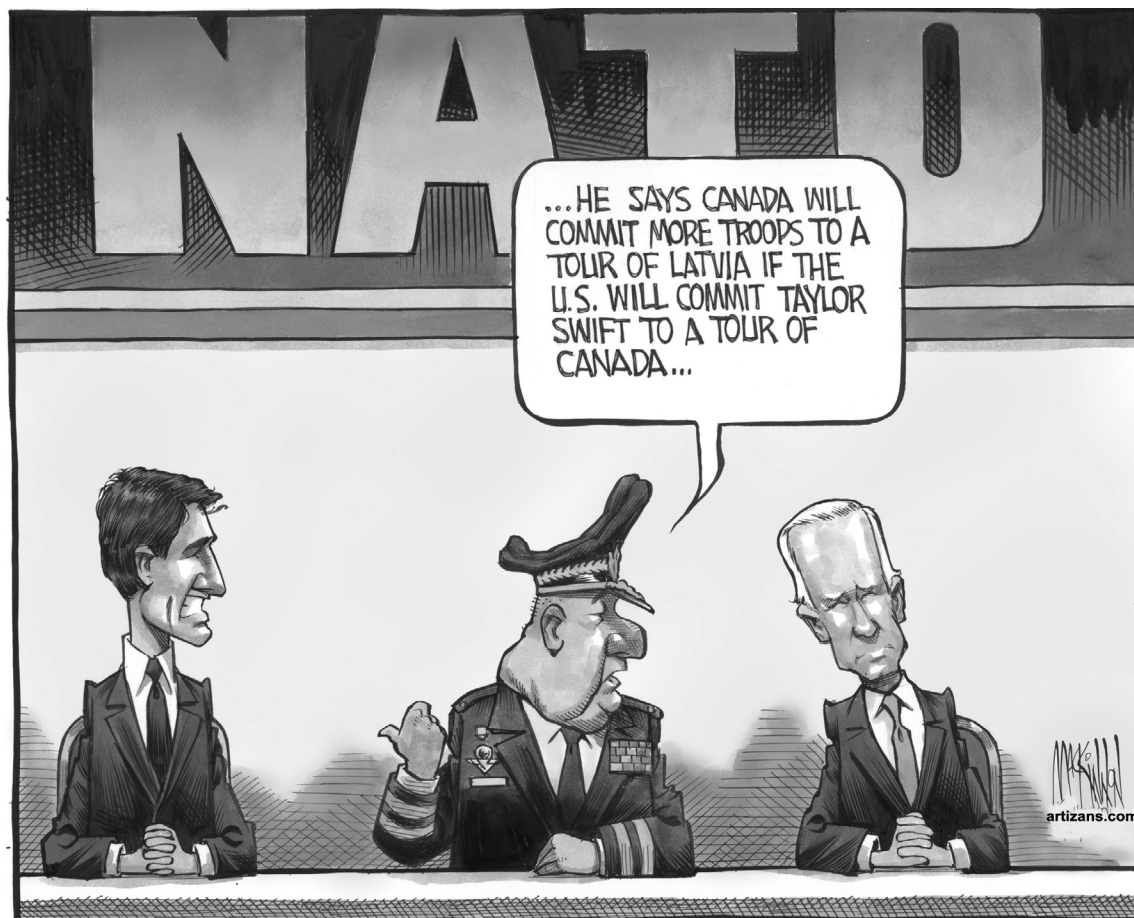
Essentially, a bike owner was beaten while trying to rescue his bicycle and then died a short time later. The two assailants were given what appears to be light sentences of six years and three years for taking a life. Tragically, this has occurred before the recent death of the young cyclist, Riker McKelvey.

Surely, the time has come for the city to facilitate a meeting with cycle groups, bicycle shops, individuals, the police and those interested in bicycle safety. Citizens, especially in times when we are trying to reduce greenhouse gas emissions should be encouraged to commute and recreate with pedestrian and pedal power. Unfortunately, the opposite is happening and there is a growing fear of walking and pedalling in Thunder Bay. Theft of bicycles is rampant.

It's time the city met with citizens and improve the safety of cyclists and in Thunder Bay. A copy of this letter has been sent to the attention of mayor and council.

Paul Filteau,
Thunder Bay

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Roots and Flowers a bio of library activist

Roots and Flowers by Abdul Alkalimat and Kate Williams is a comprehensive account of the life and work of the Afro-Cuban Librarian Marta Terry Gonzalez.

I first met Marta in 2002 at the National Library in Havana when I was presented with the Cuban Culture Award by Culture Minister Abel Prieto on behalf of the Communist Party of Cuba. The award was in recognition of my support of Cuban public libraries.

I also met Marta in 2003 at the Third International Congress of Culture and Development where I shared a platform with President Fidel Castro at the Karl Marx Theatre in Havana. She was a

cultural ambassador who showcased to the world library community the achievements of the Cuban library system, which was one of the fruits of the 1959 Cuban Revolution.

This study is grounded in Marta's family history and the wider context of Cuban society. Her roots can be traced to the enslaved African and colonial Spanish legacies.

Marta the Afro-Cuban Woman provides background information about Marta's nationality, family and education. She enthusiastically embraced the

Revolution as she saw it as an opportunity to advance her race and gender.

Marta the Librarian gives an overview of libraries and information technology in the Cuban context: 'The world's first libraries were for the elites, because literacy was for the few and powerful.'

Information is power and libraries have always served the interests of the ruling class; they continue to do so today in capitalist societies. It is only in socialist societies that they can fully meet the



John Pateman
BOOK BANTER

needing provincial and municipal public libraries.

Marta taught Library and Information Science at the University of Havana and was active in the International Federation of Library Associations, where she led the campaign to counter attempts by the USA to use so-called 'independent' libraries to undermine the Cuban regime. I was also active in this campaign and founded the Cuban Library Solidarity Group in the UK.

This book should be read by public library CEOs in capitalist countries as it will help them understand how they can develop community led and needs based library services.

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Mosquito numbers seem high

By JR Shermack

I was standing in the driveway a few days ago when some neighbors stopped to chat and I think they were curious about the outfit I was wearing.

I wore high-top boots, sweat-pants, a loose long-sleeved white shirt and my head was enveloped with a fine mesh net topped by a wide-brimmed hat with a neck flap.

I looked marvelous (even if I do say so myself) and my two neighbors knew right away why I was dressed that way.

I raised my net and what ensued was a lively conversation about our common nemesis, the wee beasties we call mosquitoes, blackflies and other more descriptive epithets.

And as if we didn't already have enough of the tiny critters to swat, the neighbours were suspicious that some new exotic species were invading the neighborhood.

I didn't like the sounds of that,

but that might explain the huge numbers of mosquitoes I've noticed so far this year right in my own back yard.

But then again, my back yard has always been swarming with wee beasties and although some years seem better than others, I never counted them so I don't really know.

But as we all know, even a single mosquito buzzing around in the dark while you are trying to sleep can drive you crazy enough to turn on the lights for a seek and destroy mission.

That distinct and memorable high-pitched buzz is not meant to intentionally annoy you - mosquito wings beat 500 to 1,000 times per second.

The highly irritating buzz is said to be similar to the musical note A, one that drones incessantly and vibrates every nerve.

I lowered my net and returned to the buzz-fest in my back yard, on the lookout for anything unusual but everything was quiet, maybe a little too quiet.

What are the mosquitoes up to and how much do we really know about these annoying pests?

There are 82 different species of mosquito in Canada and over 2,500 other species buzzing in different locations around the world.

Of all the Canadian mosquitoes only a few carry bacteria or viruses that cause disease in humans and only two, West Nile and St. Louis encephalitis (SLE) are present in Canada.

Be forewarned but there is no need for panic - in 2022 there were just 22 human cases of West Nile virus detected in Canada and SLE is only occasionally seen north of the U.S. border.

But do mosquitoes have any redeeming qualities?

It turns out that the biggest benefit of mosquitoes is derived by eating them and even though one mosquito isn't much of a meal, there are a trillion more buzzing around.

A bat can devour 12,000 in a single night - that's 4.3 million

per year and some bats live for forty years which means a single bat can eat 175 million mosquitoes in its lifetime.

Mosquitoes are a plentiful and easy-to-catch food source for birds, lizards, frogs, spiders and dragonflies which eat the nymphs in the water and ambush the adults in the air.

Since nectar is their favorite food they are important pollinators for thousands of plant species although unlike bees, mosquitoes rarely pollinate food crops and don't make honey.

Mosquito populations adapt to climate change but who knows if my neighbors' are right - with a biomass that huge how would you even notice a few million intruders.

As for me, I still like the idea once proposed by the Rhinoceros Party of Canada - genetically altered mosquitoes that hatch in the middle of January and then immediately freeze to death.

Let's see if they can adapt to that climate change.



There are 82 species of mosquitoes in Canada.

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The Bay

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Please include details about the event, including any cost

July 22

Psychic Readings

Jared of Strictly Tarot will be doing psychic readings on Saturday at The Hub Bazaar.

Curious about the future? Call Jared at 683-6472.

It's \$50 per session paid with exact cash or e-transfer.

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July 21-23

Country on the Bay

The summer's biggest music festival is back and runs Friday to Sunday with some of the top names in country music.

Headliners include Brothers Osborne, Walker Hayes and Dean Brody, with Tenille Townes, the James Barker Band, Tim Hicks, Cory Marks and local favourite Tim Albertson.

The event once again takes place at Fort William Historical Park.

Tickets are available online at www.countryonthebay.ca.

Doors open at 1 p.m. each day.

July 22

Festival of India

Brace yourselves for the grandest spectacle at the Festival of India - the mesmerizing Chariot Parade steals the spotlight!

Watch in awe as vibrant colors and a rhythmic procession bring alive the very essence of Indian culture, leaving an indelible mark in the hearts of all who witness its magnificence.

Immerse yourself in the enchanting world of Indian culture as the Chariot Parade takes center stage. Let the captivating visuals and rhythmic beats transport you to a realm of wonder and excitement.

Experience the grandeur firsthand and become a part of this extraordinary celebration.

Visit www.indianfestival.ca for all the details.

The event runs from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday at Marina Park.

July 23

Festival of Colours

Celebrate the traditions and cultures of India with a fun-filled afternoon of colour throws and plenty of music, dancing and entertainment. And don't forget the delicious food.

The event takes place at Marina Park at 4 p.m. on Sunday. Colour packets will be on sale and ticket information is available at www.festivalofcolours.ca.

July 22

Cambrian Improv Players

The Cambrian Improv Players will hit the stage on Saturday night, starting at 7:30 p.m., at the Cambrian Players Theatre on Spring Street. Enjoy a night of on-the-spot comedy. Tickets are \$5 at the door.



Marcus Powlowski, MP
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Hillcrest road work nearing completion

Should be done by the end of month

By Justin Hardy - TB Source

The work being done on the parking lot and roadway at Hillcrest Park should be completed by the end of July, according to city staff.

Matthew Miedema, a city project engineer, said that while the project took a little longer than they would have liked, work is progressing.

"They're still working hard every day," he said. "They're finished up some of the concrete pours.

They're doing the remaining concrete sidewalk. This is the last of the concrete to be poured. Once that's poured there, they can start restoring the road, regrading it, and getting it paved, so tentatively, we're looking at some actual pavement going down next week."

Miedema said residents should avoid the area where work is being done but that doesn't mean that the park is completely closed.

"We do have the grass area open where people can kind of use the park green space here," he said. "But please be patient and during this time the park is closed so we get the work done quickly as possible here, and once we get it

done, it'll be fully open and enjoyed."

Part of the changes being made to the park is changing the way traffic will flow, according to Miedema, who said that the roadway will become a one-way street.

"People will enter Hillcrest Park through the Bay Street side with one way travel northbound," he said. "So just people be mindful when the park is reopened, it is going to be a one-way street moving forward.

There were a few extra items that added to the scope of work being done, but Miedema said that the project remains within budget.



Hillcrest Park is getting a roadway makeover this summer. (Matt Vis)

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Rendezvous a hit with crowds

By Justin Hardy – TB Source

Hundreds made their way to Fort William Historical Park last Saturday for the Great Rendezvous.

The reenactment featured a canoe flotilla of over 10 canoes and 200 reenactors from across North America who were brought together this week to recreate the annual summer gathering held at Fort William over 200 years ago.

Saturday's activities featured the much-anticipated grand rendezvous arrival and visitors were able to catch a glimpse of what Fort William would have looked like back in the 1800s and learn all about what the great rendezvous was.

Re-enactor Mitchell Seguin said that their new motto, "bringing



Re-enactors thrilled visitors to Fort William Historical Park last Saturday. (Jessah Clement)

life to history" is an important message for them.

"Not only do we want to show

and prove what life in 1815 would have been like, we pride ourselves on giving a very authentic, immer-

sive hands-on experience that you really can't get at a lot of other places."

"But at the same time, we want to teach, educate, enlighten people, doing what we can for truth and reconciliation, creating and preserving bonds."

The event had a number of dignitaries participate who all spoke about the impact including Elizabeth Dowdeswell, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, who said the story of the Fort is an important one.

"It's a story of identity, a story of resilience, a story about the great things we can do when we work together. Most importantly, it's a story that is emblematic of the Great Northern Ontario spirit," she said.

"This place has always been

significant to the history of Ontario as a province, and indeed Canada as it bridged the East and the West."

Thousands of people have made their way out to the park over the week-long Rendezvous celebrations according to general manager Patrick Morash who said that it's been exciting being able to host the great rendezvous celebration again after 12 years.

"The place is full of life," he said. "There are re-enactors throughout the park, there are people who have been here multiple times, there are people who have never been here before, there are lots and lots of kids running around and playing and doing all sorts of fun things, it's just really, really encouraging to see the response."

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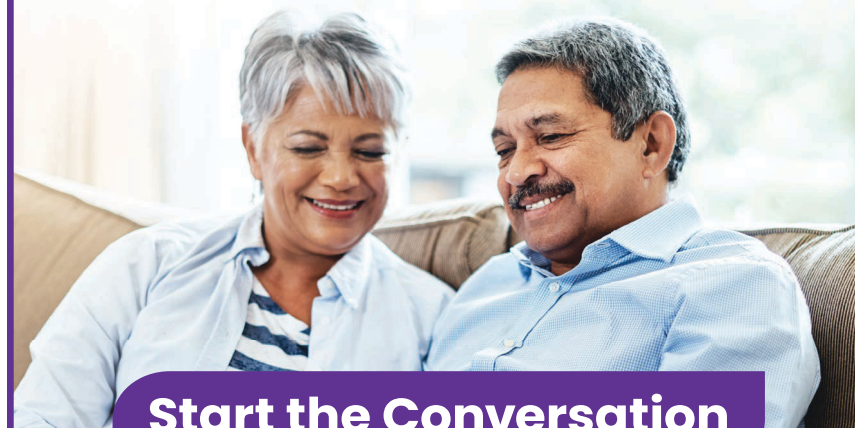


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Early risers in Northwestern Ontario are often treated to spectacular views while out in the wilderness.

Wake-up call

It's mid-summer, but the alarm is buzzing at 3:30 a.m. I resist the urge to hit snooze because I only have thirty minutes until my fishing partner picks me up. Two espressos later and I'm ready to roll. As I throw my rods and gear bag into the truck, I can't help but notice how cold it is on this particular July morning. A sly grin appears on my face because I know fishing is always good as the day starts to warm after an unusually cool night like this.

The streets are dark and empty as we head out of Thunder Bay. It is early, but we have a long drive ahead of us and we want to be on the water at first light.

What is it about fishing and early morning wake up calls? I simply cannot count how many times I've left my house in the dark with a fishing rod in my hand. This is because the morning hours can be the very best time to catch fish, especially during summer. Factors such as light intensity, water temperature and lack of angling pressure each play an important role in increasing fish activity during the early hours of the day.

Light intensity- With the morning sun being low on the horizon, the negative impact of direct sunlight on fish isn't a problem for early rising anglers.

While the mid-day sun will have most fish seeking deep water or at least shadows and dark hiding places, mornings provide the perfect opportunity for them to feed actively. With the low-angle light of a rising sun, gamefish

feel more secure and confident to move freely and feed aggressively.

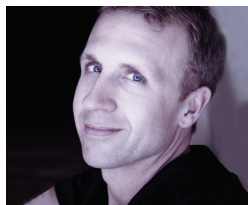
Water temperature- After air temperatures cool through the hours of the night, the water temperature will follow suit. This is especially true for water near the surface, in small bays and on smaller lakes. Even a slight drop in the temperature can make a big difference. In a small window of time each morning, between the colder night temperature and the warming trend of the new day, anglers are likely to encounter some of their best fishing.

Fishing pressure- On popular lakes, boat traffic and increased angling pressure will impact fish activity in a negative way. The detriment of human activity on fishing success is amplified at certain times of the year, and especially on waterbodies close to urban areas. Usually, on any season opener or long weekend, you will find "hot spots" on popular lakes getting a lot more people out trying to fill

their stringers.

Getting on the water early, before heavy boat traffic and a rising sun shuts the fish down, is usually worth forgoing some sleep for.

When it comes to summertime fishing, there is a lot of truth to the old saying about the early bird getting the worm. It is not easy getting out of bed and hitting the road when it is cold and dark outside, but the chances of having a memorable morning on the water will make it well worth the sacrifice.



Keith Ailey
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PEPSI

Team-building helps staffing

The age-old adage of "good help is hard to find" has never been truer than it is in 2023. Across most industries there is currently a labour shortage. We have discussed this before on HCAYK. Today we are gonna talk about that good help though. In cooking you can often make do if you have two or three stars that can help you carry the load of the business and then fill in the cracks with entry level help.

If you're lucky enough to get a solid core group of workers, you can really make a run of it. The issue is, like any machine, those workers are gears, and gears get worn out, or leave and fall off and all need to be replaced.

The point of team building is hopefully you have some people in your employ ready to step up into those lead roles. I have experienced more turnover this year

than I have in all other years combined. Our team remained relatively whole for quite a while until I would say around this time last year, people began to move on. In some cases, they have educated themselves and are stepping up into their chosen professions.

This is when turnover is a good thing.

They take some of the skills they have learned within your business and applied them to get into a better situation.

This type of turnover is welcome and honestly fills me with pride to be a step on someone's journey where they can better themselves and helping themselves while helping my business and assisting

them in achieving their goals.

There is the other side of that however. Where people typically are in transient mindset and just



Derek Lankinen

Here's Cooking at You Kid



Turnover happens in the restaurant industry, and owners have to realize it is inevitable.

need a job, any job.

Sometimes that is beneficial for everyone involved and it all works out, they work hard and help to

elevate your team.

As is with most things the dichotomy is also true. These people are far more concerned with

their lives outside of work to do a good job while at work. Any human with feelings can fall into that situation easily. It's a trap that is just part of the ebbs and flows of life.

Someone who falls into that trap and stays there though, can be a huge detriment to the team as a whole. Lately, I have been a fan of the term "addition by subtraction" meaning that, if you cut out a piece of the team you can elevate the brigade.

It shouldn't be done willy nilly but if someone proves to consistently be a impairment to the team and business while they are on the schedule it becomes clear what the move is. "Some people bring light when they come, some people when they leave."

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, Brick and Mortar Food Co. and Eat Loco Tacos.

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Saskatoon berries a summer delight

So, one of my morning routines after mug no.1 of coffee is to head to the end of the driveway to retrieve the daily newspaper.

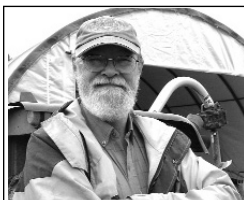
There are two, large Saskatoon bushes near the newspaper box and on this past Saturday I chanced to walk through the long grass to the nearest bush and behold!

The branches were festooned with berries -- lots of ripe berries.

I had expected as in the past couple of summers for the berries to be shrivelled due to the heat and lack of rain.

But no, there were fat, juicy berries (I plucked a few and that distinct 'Sasky' flavour exploded in my mouth).

We also planted five Saskatoon bushes along the driveway and while still growing, they, too, have produced a crop.



Fred Jones
RURAL ROOTS

Sweet find

And if I walk down to the beaver pond along the laneway that borders what we call "Pond Paddock", I have discovered two such bushes also having sprouted delicious berries.

Even along the riding trail as it traverses the open field to the south of Casa Jones, what I call "the back 40", I've detected a couple of Saskatoon bushes that seem to have popped up lo, these past 20 years that we've occupied this property.

I will have to get out there with a small pail and grab the sweet things.

There are blueberries on the property in three small patches scat-

tered about. The largest area is up on what we call "Mountain Trail" at the back of the land.

There are two meadows through which our riding trail passes.

Last summer there were precious few berries and what there were, were very small. Don't yet know about this year's crop since the berries are just appearing.

I'm not keen on grabbing them all since I want the bears to have access as well.

The only critters I've seen eating Saskatoons are birds, but 'Bruno' likes the 'bloobs' and if there are enough of them then the chances of a bear coming for garbage are greatly reduced.

The next crop in the wild is the raspberries.

I've noted in my travels over the land about four areas where the raspberries thrive. Again, last year the crop was not good and again, I would think the amount of moisture (rain) plus heat from Ol' Sol, contribute to a bountiful crop. We've been in a drought. On my walk with the pooches down to the beaver pond and then alongside the swampy section there are raspberry bushes.

I saw that the fruit was just beginning to form. Here's hoping.

The largest patch where raspberries grow is on the western edge of 'the back 40'.

Years ago, I mentioned these patches to my next-door neighbour,

Harold Hakala (alas, no longer with us) who told me that those areas were where they stacked the wood they had cut. For some reason letting wood age in a spot and then hauling the logs away allowed the raspberry canes to prosper.

One summer we were out walking on the trail and when we arrived at the second patch, we saw lots of ripe raspberries just waiting to be plucked.

While we were stuffing our maws I happened to notice that my beloved Cedric (pooch alas no longer with us) was also snacking on the berries.

Not enough rain

The drought we've been experiencing caused our dirt road to become a dust bowl when vehicles drove by. Big dump trucks have been traversing the road getting loads of gravel from a pit further along the road.

Each time they passed huge clouds of dust rose to cover all the vegetation on each side of the road. But then, Sunday, we finally received some rain, enough to dampen the road surface.

Our son, Doug, told me how nice it was not to have to drive at 40 kms or less so not to raise the dust while passing by neighbours' properties.

And although the recent rain did dampen the growing veggies in the garden, t'was not enough.

My wife, Laura, showed me that but a mere inch below the surface the soil is still very dry.

We need lots more. Pray for rain.

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

"WM AKL SHJB H GHPWZ KM PLAWID
 ZGWIDC AKL UK IKZ IBBU, AKL XWTT
 CKKI PB CBTTWID ZGWIDC AKL UK."

- RGWTRRRWIB RNBKBNP

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

ACROSS

- 1 Blood (pref.)
- 4 He (Lat.)
- 8 Lope
- 12 "Fables in Slang" author
- 13 This one (Lat.)
- 14 Wool (Lat.)
- 15 Able to
- 16 Mantis
- 18 Gaelic
- 20 Finger
- 21 Eur. Economic Community (abbr.)
- 23 Islamic month
- 27 Siris (2 words)
- 32 New sugarcane shoot
- 33 Diminutive (suf.)
- 34 Snuffed candle wick
- 36 Fast jet
- 37 Headland
- 39 Tasteful
- 41 Skull bone
- 43 Air-to-air missile

- (abbr.)
- 44 Pope's triple crown
- 48 Concentrated (abbr.)
- 51 Food
- 55 Nat'l Endowment for the Arts (abbr.)
- 56 Fetish
- 57 Florida tree
- 58 Tennessee Valley Authority (abbr.)
- 59 Simpleton
- 60 Grandson of Esau
- 61 Enclose

DOWN

- 1 Flower holder
- 2 Jewish month
- 3 Inane
- 4 You (Ger.)
- 5 Freedman in

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

C	A	B	B	A	C	K	J	A	C	A
A	L	I	A	B	B	E	U	A	N	G
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				C	R	U	S	O	S	C
J	A	C	K	R	C	M	P	L	A	O
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59				60						61

- Kentish law
- 6 Daughter of Laban
- 7 Beige shade
- 8 Universal
- 9 Rhine tributary
- 10 Office holders
- 11 To (Scot.)
- 17 Her Majesty's
- 19 Mouse-spatter's cry
- 22 Cents (abbr.)
- 24 Ramadan (2 words)
- 25 Russ. range
- 26 Reserve Officer's Training Corps (abbr.)
- 27 E. Indian fiber plant
- 28 Lower intestine
- 29 Genetic letters
- 30 Fruiting spike
- 31 Superlative (suf.)
- 35 Aunt (Sp.)
- 38 Petty prince
- 40 Skin vesicle
- 42 52 (Rom. numeral)
- 45 Ammunition
- 46 Twenty quires
- 47 Coptic clergyman
- 49 Firm
- 50 Heddles of a loom
- 51 Disease (pref.)
- 52 Where (Lat.)
- 53 Dickens character
- 54 Shooting match

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Cruise's thrill-a-minute ride

With *Mission Impossible: Dead Reckoning Pt 1*, (SilverCity) Tom Cruise emerges as the unquestioned king of the summer blockbuster.

The hype surrounding the seventh *MI* is through the roof, setting impossibly lofty expectations.

Working again with director Christopher McQuarrie, Cruise has fashioned a full throttle thrill-a-minute ride that manages to integrate the human element with pulse-pounding action and grinding fight sequences, adding a filigree of humour.

Cruise's Ethan Hunt is dealing with a sinister AI cyber threat known as the "Entity" which can infiltrate government security systems thereby threatening world order. He's also battling a murderous old adversary, Gabriel, (Esai Morales) for possession of two keys that control the Entity. Gabriel

is the only one who knows how to work the keys. Simply knocking him off is not an option.

Ethan calls upon Impossible Mission Force allies Luther (Ving Rhames) and Benji (Simon Pegg). Also returning is ex-MI-6 operative Ilsa (Rebecca Ferguson), arms dealer The White Widow (Vanessa Kirby) and slippery CIA head Kittredge (Henry Czerny.)

New to the mix is elusive super-pickpocket Grace (Hayley Atwell) who gives Ethan an able new foil. Gabriel's henchwoman Paris (Pom Klementieff) is the requisite martial-arts psycho. CIA pursuers Briggs (Shea Whigham) and Dega (Greg Tarzan Davis) doggedly hunt Ethan.

After an impactful opening scene where a Russian sub is destroyed, the cyber threat is explained in

group-speak by serious high level security types, where everyone annoyingly shares in the same sentence.

It seems mundane that such a powerful menace can be controlled by two little keys but so much for the MacGuffin---Hitchcock's nickname for the plot motivator.

The Entity is menacing in how it messes with anything viral in real time including Luther's sophisticated hacking surveillance system. Suddenly who/what is real or unreal? This amusingly ties into the age-old IMF facial mask ploy as characters begin tugging at each other's face.

Gabriel and Ethan have a deadly history, providing an emotional through line underscoring the plot, feeding some fight sequences. Friendship is a liability. Twisty higher-ups are untrustworthy. The stakes are high. There is loss. There's emotional investment in the characters. There are echoes from

previous missions.

The jaw-dropping action sequences are brilliantly choreographed with humour and fallibility. In Rome, there's a wild car chase with Ethan and Grace handcuffed in a comically miniscule Fiat with maniac Paris in hot pursuit wiping out cars with an armored truck, the cops and CIA close behind. There's close quarter fighting in a too narrow alleyway and a knife fight atop a speeding locomotive.

Then there's Ethan's celebrated motor bike jump, parachuting off a Norwegian cliff. Preparations for the stunt were exhaustive. Cruise astoundingly does it. His landing is a bit of a cheat but it's played for humorous surprise.

The script properly gives characters their due, though the villains are under-written. Tom Clancy-like spy density is MIA.

Bottom line: Mr. Cruise delivers the goods. Mission accomplished. Bring on Part Two.



Marty Mascarín

MOVIE TALK



Mission Impossible star Tom Cruise.

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Walker leaves Fighting Walleye

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The Kam River Fighting Walleye are on the hunt for their third coach in less than a year.

Geoff Walker, who guided the Superior International Junior Hockey League team in 2022-23 to its first championship, informed team officials on Sunday he was leaving for Drayton Valley of the Alberta Junior Hockey League.

Fighting Walleye general manager Kevin McCallum says the search has already begun for a new coach, with training camp not too far over the horizon.

He added it's not surprising teams started coming after Walker, who also won an SIJHL title behind the bench of the Red Lake Miners in 2021-22, before leaving for a job in Europe. Walker took over the



Geoff Walker won SIJHL championships with Red Lake in 2022 and Kam River in 2023.

Fighting Walleye reins midway through last season, after the team parted ways with former coach Matt Valley, saying they wanted a full-time bench boss to guide the

program. "Geoff won two championships in a row and he's going to get a lot of attention. That's what we do. We move guys on, whether it's players

or staff," McCallum said.

Walker will be a great fit in Drayton Valley, he added, someone who can help the team rebuild toward winning its first championship since 2002.

"They won 15 games last year and obviously have some work to do there," McCallum said.

"They got the right guy in place. I spent a year there in my career as well. It's a good community and I think he'll be successful."

Walker's decision, coming when it did in mid-July, does leave the Fighting Walleye scrambling a bit to find a replacement, the players and staff wanting to know who will be leading the ship when the SIJHL season kicks off in September.

"Right away we've had many candidates come out of the woodwork and it's not even 24 hours

old. Obviously the contacts I have, I've been all over North America talking with guys. Our recruits are excited. They don't know anything different and our leadership group, most of them have come to me or texted me that next man up, they're ready to go and win another championship."

McCallum is talking with at least one out-of-town candidate and expects plenty of local interest will unveil itself as well.

Walker, who spent 11 seasons playing pro hockey, including four seasons in the American Hockey League and two in Europe, went 29-7-1 behind the Fighting Walleye bench last season.

He was 28-6-3 with the Miners in 2021-22, leading them to an upset win over Kam River in the SIJHL final that season.

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Ontario

Henderson takes on top job with Hockey Canada

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

A former Thunder Bay resident has been named to lead Hockey Canada.

Katherine Henderson, the former Curling Canada chief executive officer, was named to the post on Tuesday, the organization's response to a number of scandals that plagued previous leadership, including sexual assault allegations and undisclosed settlement payouts.

Henderson, who spent seven years at Curling Canada, will be tasked with ensuring hockey is a safe and inclusive sport, while giving Hockey Canada 'best-in-class governance.'

"The future of hockey is limitless," said Henderson. "As a winter sport

nation, with a long tradition in our ice and snow sports, playing and watching hockey is undeniably a part of who we are as Canadians," Henderson said in a release.

"I am looking forward to working with our board and staff, our athletes, our members and local associations, our corporate and hockey partners, and our fans and participants to ensure that all Canadians have a personal hockey experience that is right for them."

Henderson has plenty of background in amateur sports in Canada, including being named senior vice-president of marketing and revenue for the Toronto 2015 Pan/Parapan American Games organizing committee.



KATHLEEN HENDERSON



The Chill's Jamie Wynn (right) attempts to kick the ball out of the air in Thunder Bay's 4-1, division-clinching win over Bavarian United.

Chill clinch division title

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

The Thunder Bay Chill are headed to the USL League 2 playoffs as Deep North Division champions.

Brian Ananias came off the bench on Wednesday night and scored a pair of goals, helping the Chill break open a 1-0 game as they went on to defeat Bavarian United 4-1 at Chapples Field, delivering Thunder Bay's first division crown since they captured the Heartland Division in 2017 en route to an appearance in the league final.

Ananias said he knew his team needed a boost, as it struggled to put the ball past Bavarian keeper Alex Groy, knowing they'd given up a two-goal lead last Friday against Minneapolis City and had to settle for a tie.

A tie on Wednesday would have been enough to secure the Deep North title, but Ananias and the Chill didn't want to take any chances.

"My instructions coming into the game were just to make an impact. We were up 1-0 at the time and we needed help," he said. "I was able to come in and help the team and thank God for that."

Despite last week's tie, the Chill hit the postseason on a 10-game undefeated streaking, winning nine to go with the Minneapolis City draw.

"Everyone came in and we all made sacrifices to be here for the summer. No one went on vacation. The guys, as a collective, were all strong throughout these two-and-a-half months. Hard work pays off. We showed it. Now we have 10 days to prepare for the playoffs and Des Moines better be ready for us."

The Chill will head to Des Moines to take on Ann Arbor, the second-place team in the Valley Division, in one Round of 32 match on Friday after-

noon. Des Moines will host RKC Third Coast in the other.

Coach Tony Colistro called the regular season a great journey, one that might have started slow in the early going, but finished strong.

"We had a lot of confidence in this team. But it's just a journey and we've got a big game coming up next week and hopefully that journey will continue," Colistro said.

"It kind of got stale there for a bit (tonight). That's why we thought we might have to insert some players just to change it up a bit. Bringing in Sully (Silva) and Brian, those are weapons we have sitting on the sidelines and we knew they were going to make a difference in the game."

The Chill were without striker Brandon Bermingham, who was recalled by his college and won't return this season.

Thunder Bay mounted plenty of pressure on the Bavarian II in the opening minutes, and caught a good bounce in the 10th minute when Federico Tempestilli's shot from just outside the box bounced off the shin of a BU defender and into the net.

That's when the offence dried up.

Thunder Bay struggled to create good chances, while their opponent had a pair of great ones in the second half. Heriberto Soto had his hot punched away by Chill keeper Nathanael Sallah in the 58th and it took a sliding tackle by Pierre Lurot to prevent Mitchell Dryden's shot from finding the mesh.

Ananias then put the game out of reach with back-to-back tallies in the 78th and 82nd and Jamie Wynn added one more in extra time. Jerome Jolly had the lone Bavarian goal, coming in the 87th, lifting over Sallah's outstretched reach.

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CFL remains a mystery league

I'm kind of curious how many of you out there still watch the Canadian Football League?

I don't. Haven't for decades. When I was younger, and Warren Moon, Brian Kelly and Dave Cutler were leading the way in Edmonton, I loved the CFL.

The NFL games we got in Halifax were mostly centred around the New England Patriots, our limited cable coming out of Bangor, Me.



Leith Dunick

SPORTS SHORTS

The Pats were awful in those days and, being originally from Edmonton, I loved the CFL team, then known as the Eskimos.

Somewhere along the way my friends and I started a weekly pick league, then fantasy football came along and, just like that, I stopped watching.

I'm not sure I could name a single player in the league anymore.

Anthony Calvillo is probably the last guy I really remember.

Well, him and Lui Passaglia. He might still be playing for all I know.

It's a different game than the NFL, and I think the perception is the players are not nearly as good as their counterparts south of the border.

I do appreciate knowing a lot of Canadians get a chance to continue playing the sport because the league exists.

But I'm not sure that's enough to spark my interest. Maybe if a local kid made it big, I might change my mind and start watching again.

I'm not sure.

By the way, are the Baltimore Stallions still playing?

□□□

I should have a piece next week on Border Cats speedster Travis Chestnut.

After stealing six bases in two games over the weekend, the Texas native had a league-leading 31 stolen bases.

As near as we can tell, the Border Cats record in a single season is 33, set by Quinn Ciccarelli in 2003, the team's inaugural season.

Chestnut's step-uncle also

happens to be Jose Trevino, the New York Yankees catcher.

□□□

I have a feeling the Toronto Maple Leafs are going to send William Nylander packing, and fairly soon.

The team seems to have some interest in San Jose defenceman Erik Karlsson, the current Norris Trophy holder, and there's no way to make that deal without shedding significant salary.

Nylander is scheduled to make \$6.9-million next season and wants a hefty raise. Karlsson will make \$11.5 million in 2023-24.

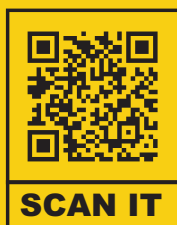


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Track founder to be honoured on July 26

On July 26 Thunder City Speedway will pay tribute to the track founder Richard Schutte. Lynn Schutte-Martin is Richard's daughter and Linda Schutte is his wife.

They loved their father and husband and they loved his passion for the sport of dirt track racing. Richard was a championship driver in the Riverview Raceway days, when racing ended in Thunder Bay he was determined to bring it back.

He was ridiculed for developing the current Thunder City Speedway property.

They said you can't build a race track in a swamp. Well he part-

nered with Louis and Norm Nadin. They did put a lot of work into this project and proper drainage was installed.

Today it is the track voted Wisconsin Best Track of the year for 2022.

They have made more improvements for 2023. It is the number one spectator sport in our city thanks to all the individuals mentioned.

Double Deuce night will honour his number 22. Many people have contributed to an enhanced purse for the drivers. The purse has been boosted to over \$11,000 at this point. Children are welcomed to the tribute night

and every race night. There will be draws for children's bicycles and push cart races with members of the Thunder Bay North Stars acting as human push motors. There will be a lot of race swag available for race fans.

Richard Schutte passed away but with the expertise of Nadin Contracting he has left a legacy for all to enjoy.

Weekly 50/50 draws at the track have surpassed the \$6,000. Fans pack the venue every Wednesday night. For more information see Thunder City Speedway Facebook page.

Races begin at 6:30 p.m. and gates open at 4:30 p.m.



Richard Schutte was a championship driver and helped found the Thunder City Speedway.

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 07. Commercial
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38. Snowmobiles
 39. Parts & Repairs
YARD SALES
 40. Current River
 41. Northward
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 11. Houses
 12. Apartments
 13. Rooms
 14. Room & Board
 15. Shared
 Accommodations
 16. Cottages
 17. Commercial
 18. Storage/Space
 19. Wanted
 20. Condos
 21. Miscellaneous

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 45. Auctions
 46. Health
 47. Travel
 48. Financial
 49. Lost & Found
 50. Personal
 51. Notices
 52. Tenders

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE
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 23. Misc.
 24. Antiques
 25. Music
 26. Office Equip.
 27. Machinery
 28. Pets & Livestock
 29. Food
 30. Misc. Wanted

BUSINESS & SERVICES
 53. General Services
 54. Home Improvements
 55. Bus. Opportunities
 56. Training Courses

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 33. Vans
 34. Motorcycles/ATV's
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 36. Motor Homes
 37. Marine Equip.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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51. NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS & OTHERS
 In the Estate of FINN ANDERSEN

All Persons having claims against the Estate of FINN ANDERSEN, late of Thunder Bay, ON, deceased, who died on or about May 23, 2023, are hereby notified to send particulars of the same to the undersigned on or before August 3, 2023, 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 6th day of July, 2023.

JOHN ANDERSEN, ESTATE TRUSTEE
 c/o ERICKSONS LLP
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 Barristers and Solicitors
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6	9	1	5	8	3	7	4	2

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