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JUSTIN HARDY

FESTIVAL OF COLOURS: The Festival of Colours was held at Marina Park last weekend and saw hundreds of participants tossing up clouds of colour.

Director resigns

City's strategic director steps down, citing disrespect by council

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

One of the City of Thunder Bay's top staffers made a dramatic exit from her role on Monday, suggesting city council's disrespect for her work was behind her departure.

Tracie Smith, the city's director of strategic initiatives and engagement, announced she would leave the position at a city council meeting on Monday after making brief comments in which she objected to her treatment by council the week before.

The announcement appeared to catch councillors by surprise.

Smith has overseen the municipal government's communications and public relations work since 2021, with a portfolio that also encompassed the city's Indigenous relations office and projects like the bi-annual citizen satisfaction survey.

Her director position had made her one of the city's most senior staff.

Smith's work on the city's new strategic plan appeared to be one cause of tensions.

Last week, several councillors had criticized the plan in relatively harsh terms over its lack of focus on economic development and housing. Some, like Mayor Ken Boshcoff, questioned whether it accurately reflected the priorities of council, or staff.

In comments Monday, Smith suggested council's criticism in public had come without warning after approval in earlier private meetings.

"As part of the process taken to develop the strategic plan, council... chose to remove goals related to the economic development mandate of the CEDC, and you chose and endorsed goals that focused on addressing the root causes of barriers to growth," she said.

"I encouraged this, and as a public servant, I followed your direction. Despite that, last week, some members of council were quite critical of the plan.

"Council certainly has the right to change its collective mind... I respect that right. I do not respect or accept the insinuation the plan was prepared without council's involvement or guidance. I will not tolerate disparaging and disrespectful comments towards me from members of council, particularly when those comments were inaccurate."

Smith went on to announce she would step down from her position and tender her resignation, thanking city staff before walking out of council chambers.

Members of council did not address Smith's departure in the remaining minutes of the meeting.

Smith previously served as senior director of communications and engagement at the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre, including during the COVID-19 pandemic.

She began her role with the city in September of 2021.



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MATT VIS

RALLYING SUPPORT: Federal Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre speaks during a rally in Thunder Bay on Monday.

Poilievre visits city

Federal Conservative leader started the day with an event in Kenora, before travelling to Thunder Bay for an evening rally

By Matt Vis - TB Source

With rumours circulating that Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is set to announce a cabinet shuffle later this week, Conservative leader Pierre Poilievre decided to use that as an opportunity to suggest some changes.

Poilievre wrapped up his Monday visit to Northwestern Ontario with an evening rally at the Da Vinci Centre, after starting the day in Kenora where he held a lunchtime event.

The Official Opposition leader started off his Thunder Bay event by listing off a number of Liberal cabinet ministers in his crosshairs, including finance minister Chrystia Freeland, public safety minister Marco Mendicino and minister of addictions and mental health Carolyn Bennett, who, in Poilievre's words, needed to be "shuffled out."

Poilievre brought up a number of issues likely to get a favourable response in Northern Ontario, most notably a promise to repeal the Liberals' controversial gun control legislation as part of his "common sense" plan to address crime.

"Let's stop wasting money going after law abiding firearms owners," he said.

He proceeded to touch on a number of topics that often received a rousing response from the crowd of a couple hundred people, whether it's a pledge to cut the carbon tax, the emergence of "tent cities," or vowing to boycott the World Economic Forum.

Attempting to position himself as the country's next prime minister, many of Poilievre's central themes during his nearly 40-minute speech revolved around what he described as a government position of minding its own business, listing

Bill C-47 and Bill C-11 as other pieces of legislation that he would repeal.

"I believe you have the wisdom to decide for yourselves," he said. "Some ask me if I can take power in the next election. My purpose is not to take power — it's to give it back.

Poilievre promised tighter spending, including a federal approach that any dollar of new spending in Ottawa would have to be offset by a dollar of savings. He also pledged to make federal infrastructure funding to municipalities contingent upon reaching housing development targets, and that post-secondary institutions must have freedom of expression and academic freedom provisions to be eligible for federal grants.

He also outlined plans to spur employment, pledging to build more housing, pipelines and resource development.





"We're going to remove all the restrictions that are unnecessary so we can harvest more timber and create more jobs for our forestry sector," he said. "We should be able to approve a mine in 18 months, rather than in 25 years, to unleash the production of the Ring of Fire."

Citing a shortage of workers across the country, Poilievre said all federal education and training grant programs would give "fair and equal treatment to the building trades," and referenced a Conservative private members' bill that would allow trades workers to write off costs of travelling to work elsewhere in the country.

"We don't have enough of the people who build stuff, fix stuff, and move stuff," he said.

Poilievre did not take questions from reporters, instead holding a meet-and-greet with supporters following his speech.

WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			
Thundershower	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Showers
Precipitation: 80% HIGH 26 LOW 16	Precipitation: 0% HIGH 22 LOW 13	Precipitation: 0% HIGH 24 LOW 14	Precipitation: 40% HIGH 24 LOW 14

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A day on the boat

The warm July weather offers the perfect opportunity to get the boat out on the water

Here we are with July whipping by, and August looming large. Roadside attractions are also changing.

Gone are the lupins; now we see fireweed, tall and sporting a dark pink bloom. I recall a natural foods store near where I worked. One day I discovered a large tin of fireweed honey. Where it came from I neglected to find out but it was the best honey I've ever tasted. Haven't seen it since.

The veggie garden is going great guns. Lots of peas, early potatoes, cabbages, onions, kale, lettuce, and on, and on. The garden is the province

of my very hard working wife, Laura. Saturday evening Laura walked into the house carrying four mature carrots. Wow! I was about to grab one and chomp down for the sweet taste of a fresh carrot but my lunge was brought up short as Laura snatched the carrots away and announced that they would be included in the salad. Okay, I guess.

So, the veggie garden is turning into a green jungle (as it should) and the flower garden is decked out in beautiful colours. As I have mentioned, we haven't been religious in the mowing of the lawns as we didn't want the grass too short such that it would turn brown lacking rain. While the dandelions had been and gone, now we had clover. Walking out of the barn I chanced to look down to see busy honey bees crawling on the clover flowers and then buzzing to the next one. There were several such creatures at the clover flowers and I decided that cutting that particular patch of grass could wait.

When I looked out our living room window instead of the green of grass and the yellow of buttercup flowers, I now saw a contrasting blue. "What is that?" I asked Laura. "Probably vetch, a weed." Okay, a weed, but en masse as presented in the field, really beautiful. Soon the tops of grasses will be clothed in a rust colour, all as the season flows on.

Sunday Laura packed a lunch and four of us headed off to Northern

Lights Lake for the day towing our boat behind us. The four of us consisted of yours truly, Laura, son, Doug, and his girlfriend, Eve. I watched the tops of trees as we drove hoping that the surf would be relatively calm when we arrived at the lake. It was. Laura loves to fish but this time she forwent buying worms, saying that perhaps this trip would just be a pleasure one of boating to a beautiful sand beach and sitting, swimming, and chowing down on the wonderful lunch she provided. So, no fishing.

Well, not quite. After lunch we decided to head off to Moose Bay. I wanted to visit a campsite on a western point near the end of the bay. We arrived to see that some enterprising boaters had been there and erected two tables and a pole between two trees over which one could stretch a tarp. But we kept heading to the top of the bay as now Laura wanted to cast a line in "just to see". Upon the first cast she caught a decent-sized pike. On her second cast after releasing the pike, she caught a bass but the critter managed to shake itself free. Laura's third cast resulted in another pike that she released as well. Then she wanted us to stop at the campsite which we did.

On closer look at the construction projects on the campsite I marveled that people actually hauled plywood and tools to the site. They had also remade the fireplace that looked as if it had been constructed by a stonemason. The first time Laura and I ventured into the bay and visited the campsite, all we saw was a small fireplace and a few pieces of firewood. Now we learned that this site is well used. And there were blueberries! After picking a handful and stuffing them into our mouths, we thought it better, as the day was waning, to head back to the landing and then home.

And ice cream cones! We stopped at our local variety store and each got a large cone. Well deserved, we thought.



Fred Jones
RURAL ROOTS

Great hike a stone's throw away

One of the great things about living in Northwestern Ontario is our proximity to unspoiled wilderness and endless outdoor adventure opportunities. Popular recreational activities like fishing, camping, mountain biking and paddling are always easily accessible and often just a stone's throw away. More extreme activities like surfing, rock climbing and white-water kayaking are also there for thrill-seekers.



Keith Ailey
 the GOOD LIFE

Then, for many residents living in Thunder Bay and the communities along the north shore of Lake Superior, summer fun will include sailing, wind surfing, sea kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding and canoeing.

While all these activities provide excitement and a sublime experience, they also require a certain amount of time, freedom, and investment. There is one activity, however, that almost everyone can participate in without making too much of a commitment. That activity is hiking. Because every community in our region offers something special and unique, one of the best ways to experience all of

nature's wonders is to discover the landscape on foot.

Inside the city, the trails of our conservation areas, including Cascades, Mills Block, Mission Marsh and Hazelwood are popular spots. Once we venture outside the



MAKING A SPLASH: Young hikers explore the rugged shoreline of the Sibley Peninsula at Sleeping Giant Park.

city, some really unique destination-style hikes become available.

Kakabeka Falls is just a short drive from Thunder Bay. Beyond the viewing platforms and the boardwalk, a series of trails accompany the incredible sight of the Kaministiquia River as it plunges

over the cliffs and down forty vertical metres to crash on the rocks below.

Sleeping Giant Provincial Park, on the southern tip of the rugged Sibley peninsula, is less than an hour from the city. Here lies the legendary giant known as Nanabijou, as well as plentiful trail hiking options. The most popular is the Kabiyun Trail and the many routes that branch off it. These will lead you to places like the Sea Lion, Tee Harbour, Sawyer Bay and to the top of the Giant. A new parking area at Pass Lake allows for easy access to the Bays End Lookout Trail, which links up with the Thunder Bay Lookout Road. For those looking for something shorter, Joe Creek Trail and Sibley Creek Trail are just long enough to stretch the legs at about 1.5km each, while the Plantain Lane trail is an easy 500

metres of abandoned original Silver Islet roadway.

Ouimet Canyon, near Dorion, is a bit further but well-worth the drive. Here, a pair of observation platforms and a boardwalk complement the walking trails along the edge of this impressive, sheer-walled canyon. Hikers are rewarded with spectacular views of this deep gorge which shelters rare arctic-alpine plants.

Further up the north shore, popular hikes include the Kama Cliffs and Mazukama Falls trails by Nipigon, and the Rainbow Falls/Voyageur Trail section by Terrace Bay.

Whether you choose to stay close to home or to venture off to a further destination, the hiking opportunities in our region simply cannot be beaten for their variety and exceptional views.

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EDITORIAL

So much anger

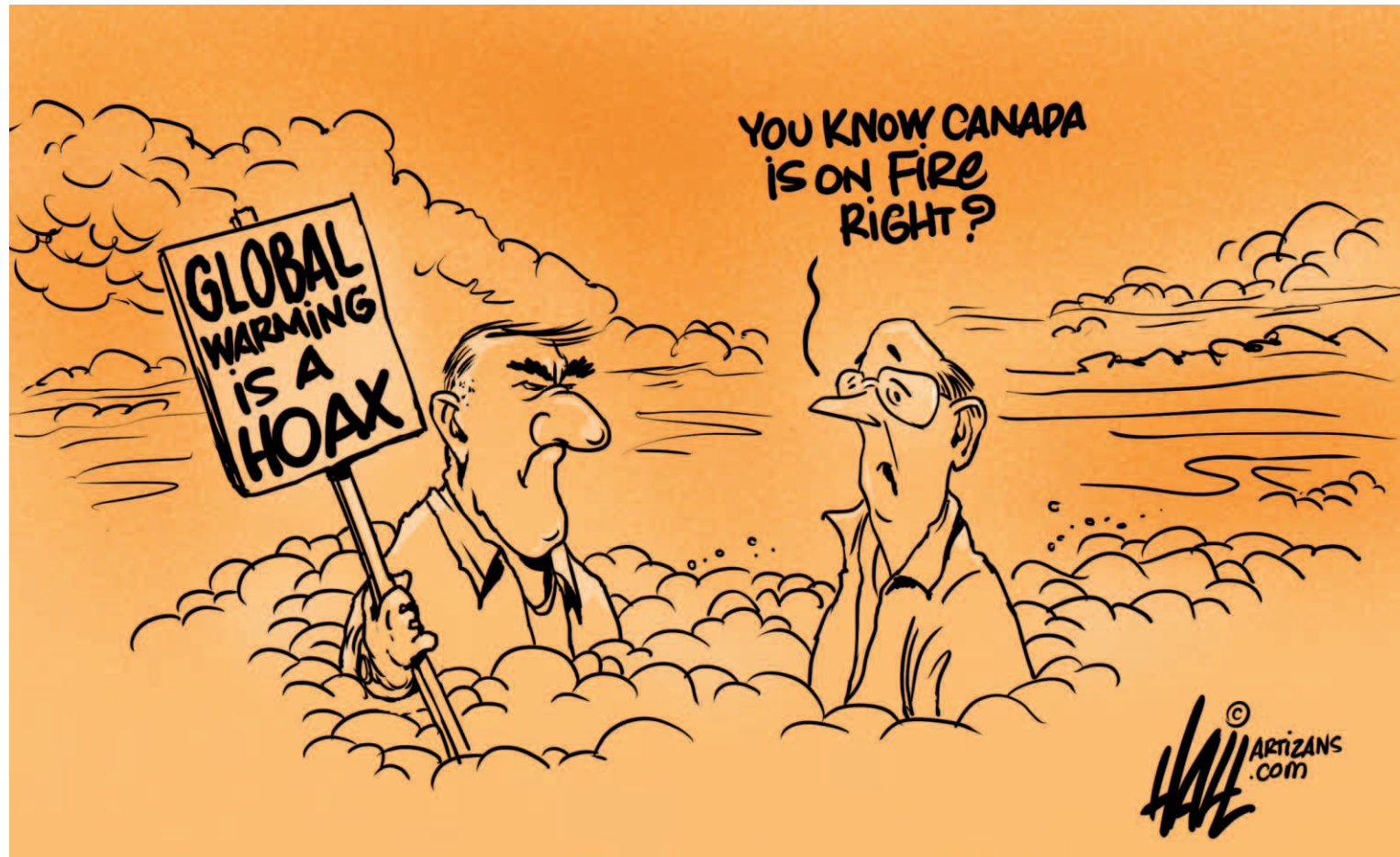
There's a lot of anger floating around today. This kind of anger was on full display last week in Belleville, Ontario where Prime Minister Justin Trudeau had to cancel an event after being swarmed by froth-mouthed protestors screaming wild accusations with no basis in reality.

There's a lot to be angry about. Prices at the grocery store continue to soar, young people are priced out of homeownership and even rent, and Twitter changed its logo. More and more people are having to make difficult decisions they never would have imagined in a modern G7 nation.

Meanwhile, the earth continues to burn with record-setting wildfire seasons, temperature records are being shattered daily, Indigenous peoples have to fight to have a landfill searched to find the bodies of murdered women.

There is a lot to be angry about. But maybe the price of Oeros isn't something to spit out Starbucks coffee all over a \$1,500 smartphone in the cab of an SUV parked outside of the air-conditioned gym where TV screens show more things to get angry about and others to ignore.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Wandering Souls a powerful debut novel

By John Pateman

Wandering Souls by Cecile Pin is a powerful debut novel that was longlisted for the Women's prize. It is a heartfelt portrayal of the Vietnamese refugee experience and the tolls of assimilation.

'After I learned about Koh Kra I couldn't sleep for three days,' declares the narrator of Pin's moving and meticulously researched narrative. The Koh Kra tragedy occurred in 1979 on a 100-acre swatch of land off the coast of southern Thailand. There, a gang of fishermen intercepted a boat of Vietnamese refugees. Over the course of 22 nightmarish days the women and girls were repeatedly

raped, while the men and boys were robbed, murdered or left to die at sea. The Koh Kra massacre is one of the real-life ordeals foregrounded in Pin's heartfelt and informative portrayal of the Vietnamese migration experience and the psychological and emotional tolls of survival and fitting into a new culture.

The book opens three years after the American troops have withdrawn, with Vietnam in a state of political and economic turmoil. The mass exodus following the Vietnam war resulted in an estimated 200,000 to 400,000 dying at sea, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for

Refugees.

Wandering Souls examines the human cost of large-scale tragedy through the story of 16-year-old Anh, her 13-year-old brother Minh and their 10-year-old brother Thanh, who are separated from their parents and four younger siblings when the family attempts to make the perilous journey to Hong Kong on two separate boats. Tragically, only Anh, Minh and Thanh arrive at their destination.

What follows is a piercing saga of innocence being rapidly replaced by hard-won experience. The siblings are shunted around refugee camps and detention centers before their application to

emigrate to the United States is rejected. They find themselves in the United Kingdom, which 'wasn't part of the plan. It wasn't in the life [their] parents mapped out for them.' Thatcherite Britain, with its hostility to immigrants, is far more complex and discordant than its cultural image abroad as 'the land of The Beatles and The Stones, of Bowie and Queen'.

They struggle to assimilate in 80s southeast London, idealizing the America they never got a chance to experience: 'In America there were more of them, a real community of Vietnamese and Asians instead of just a few clusters scattered across London.' Anh, the eldest, takes on

the role of caregiver, forgoing her education to work in a garment factory. Minh struggles to find employment and turns to petty crime; it is the youngest and thus the most socially malleable, Thanh, who finds it easiest to adapt.

Wandering Souls excels at articulating the culturally and generationally specific sting of the immigrant experience, and interrogating the myth of the model minority, with its resulting effects of soul-searching and alienation. Yet the novel is not all misery and trauma; there are warm, wonderful scenes of camaraderie and affection, the quotidian peace of shared meals and amicable silences.

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Socializing with other humans

By JR Shermack

Of all the species on Earth, I prefer to interact and socialize with humans the best.

I often try to informally connect with people in my daily life and when I am successful I always walk away smiling.

Nobody has ever called me a social butterfly but the truth is, I enjoy human interaction and whenever I spend too much time by myself I get a little twitchy.

It doesn't take a lot to satisfy my social needs but I've noticed that my days are more pleasant if I have a chance to say hello or exchange pleasantries with someone, often a stranger.

Just to clarify, I'm not talking about mean and nasty strangers but rather, the people that you meet when you're walking down the street, you know, the people in your neighborhood.

There were a lot of restrictions during covid and one of the things I missed most was

the casual social encounters at the grocery store or the coffee shop or anywhere people meet.

There is nothing like a little, "How's it goin', eh?" or a quick cliché about the weather or even just a friendly nod and a smile to elevate the mood, both yours and theirs.

I'm no psychologist (not a professional one, anyway) but it seems to me that casual socializing and frequent smiling are creating a lot of genuine good will in Canadian communities.

Canadians are footloose and fancy-free this summer and are quite comfortable mixing with crowds again at community social events, family celebrations and banquets.

It is encouraging to be among friends and family but there is something up close and personal about the other anonymous encounters, one-on-one and face to face.

Now that restrictions to movement and behavior have been removed, Canadians are



HUMAN INTERACTION: Regular interactions with new people can be healthy.

eager to make up for lost time after being robbed of their random, social interactions for so long.

Canadian researcher Gillian Sandstrom, a lecturer on the psychology of kindness at the University of Sussex, noted a

strong human need for feelings of connection and trust.

Ten years of research has shown that short, friendly conversations with strangers often satisfy that need and put us in a good mood for the rest of our day.

In one experiment involving 1,300 conversations between strangers, Sandstrom found that a friendly gesture is returned 90% of the time.

From what I've observed of Canadians so far, we usually respond positively to a friendly greeting and the next time we see that person we may even exchange nods.

The Genwell Project is a Canadian led organization whose mission is to "generate a stronger and healthier society by igniting greater social interaction."

Genwell promotes education and empowerment of people to realize the potential of casual, proactive social connections in the well-being of the commu-

nity.

Another study by Sundstrom showed that 50% of social interactions occur randomly by happenstance, further emphasizing the importance of chance encounters.

It amounts to creating good will and well-being through a thousand individual acts of kindness.

I had no idea what a difference it makes when I talk to strangers - I thought I was just being friendly and saying hello.

It makes a difference to the barista you thank for your morning coffee, it cheers up the shopper you chat with while waiting in line and it makes you feel pretty good too.

Try it yourself and socialize pleasantly with a human.

Keep in mind that the next person you chose to smile at or nod to will likely return the gesture and you will both have a better day because of it.

Who will be your lucky stranger?

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

The Bay

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Taco Tuesday and every day

If there is one (very) painful lesson that opening (and subsequently) closing a taco restaurant has taught me it is that people's views on tacos aren't incredibly varied. While you can be incredibly proud of a taco with a bunch of zany ingredients that work well together, if no one is bold enough to try it (and pay for it) things will not go well. There's no way to hurt a chef more than to create a special that you love and work on it and build your flavours and then have to throw out the prep a few days later because no one ordered it and it spoiled. Now, if you're clever you can transform those ingredients and use them else-



Derek Lankinen

Here's Cooking at You Kid

where before they "go in the bin" To start playing with a tacos' ingredients, you first gotta know what the standard fare of a taco is! Typically, a taco is flour or corn tortilla baked or fried as your base, a protein source, vegetables, cheese and sauce. Now that is a basic framework to work from. In recent years you will have found multiple people deciding to put raw thinly sliced, unmarinated, unseasoned cabbage on a taco. Let me be frank, that's disgusting. One time in my early 20s, I was at a heavy metal show and a sweaty, long-haired guy was headbanging in front of me and a sizable lock of



TACO TUESDAY: Tacos can come in a variety of recipes.

his sweat soaked hair landed in my mouth. Your thinly sliced cabbage is reminiscent of that regrettable moment in time in my life.

Protein in a taco should always

be front and center, its your star, so searing and seasoning your meat products well will always pay dividends in your final product. Play the long game, searing and braising tough cuts of beef and pork for long periods of time is building flavours for the future. With that being said, a nice seared or grilled sirloin steak can always be a crowd pleaser as well. When you're building your flavours, it is always a good idea to consider all parts of the tastebuds while planning your work. Sweet, salt, sour and bitter usually should mostly be represented in a fully formed dish. Acidic content will fulfill your bitter quotient, everything else is self explanatory. A sometimes-overlooked part of the taco can be mouth feel. You

don't want everything on your taco to ne a similar consistency, then its just a mushy mess. Something crunchy helps to break up the monotony. A nice fresh lettuce, onion or tomato can help. One type of lettuce you would want to avoid is Frisee, it's the awkward lettuce, like chewing on someone's afro. You probably weren't expecting two hair eating references in this article, but hey that's rock and roll guys.

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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Gripping drama

Christopher Nolan's feature *Oppenheimer* is a gripping historical drama on the enigmatic man

Director/screenwriter Christopher Nolan's cinematic bravado is on full display in "Oppenheimer" (SilverCity) doing a deep dive profiling J. Robert Oppenheimer, the 'Father of the Atomic Bomb.' The director of "Dunkirk," "Memento," and the "Dark Knight" trilogy takes us on an engrossing three-hour ride, occasional speed bumps here and there.

The script is based on the 2005 Pulitzer Prize winning book, "American Prometheus" written by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin.

This isn't a standard bio-pic. Nolan foregoes childhood details, jumping ahead to Oppenheimer's (Cillian Murphy) mercurial academic ascension in physics, including terms at Cambridge, University of Göttingen and Berkeley, also encountering anti-Semitism. There's his messy personal life, marrying steely alcoholic biologist Kitty (Emily Blunt), dallying with ill-fated psychiatrist Jean Tatlock (Florence Pugh.)

The story is told in a non-linear fashion, jumping around and sometimes mixing various timeframes in both black and white and colour.

The plot traces Oppenheimer's recruitment by Lieut. General Leslie Groves (Matt Damon) to head the Manhattan Project, building a lab and ramshackle town at Los Alamos during WW II, attracting a vast team of international scientists to develop the Bomb before the Nazis, leading to the infamous test, the subsequent action against Hiroshima and Nagasaki, hastening the end of WW II.

Another plot component involves McCarthy-esque hearings in 1954 where Oppenheimer's security clearance is questioned stemming from his alleged communist affiliations and his public concerns about nuclear proliferation.

The security scrutiny is sparked by Louis Strauss (Robert Downey Jr) Oppenheimer's boss at Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). Nursing

a grudge against Oppenheimer, Strauss uses nefarious means to discredit him.

Strauss himself frets over a potential cabinet posting by Eisenhower, dependent upon a public hearing of his own.

The cross-cutting between the two hearings buoys the melodramatic last act, the end result serving as parallels to the men's respective fates professionally, although the hearings were actually separated by four years.

Nolan imbues many scenes with urgency and intensity. Ludwig Goransson's percolating soundtrack heightens tension, although occasionally overwhelming dialogue. The test blast is harrowing as anticipated, authentically rendered. The sound design and cinematography are impactful.

Nolan's bumpy script has some sharply rendered scenes (President Truman patronizing Oppenheimer) while Strauss' unlikely meltdown is a little too crowd-pleasingly melodramatic.

The impressive cast (Tom Conti as Albert Einstein, Kenneth Branagh as Danish physicist Niels Bohl, Rami Malek as whistleblower David Hill, Alden Ehrenreich as Strauss' aide, Gary Oldman as Truman, among many) is able to stand out within the sprawling story.

As the film's centrepiece, Murphy is excellent as Oppenheimer, a stoic presence, his inscrutable aura embellished by the cool vibe suggested by his wide-brimmed hat. Close-ups etch glimpses of Oppenheimer's inner conflicts—the ambition and awareness in creating a massive destructive weapon and the torment over the ramifications.

But by film's end though, Oppenheimer still remains a mystery.

Ultimately, "Oppenheimer" is a compelling historical yarn and a remarkable visual/auditory experience, an absolute must-see on the big screen.



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Thirty-five and going strong

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

There isn't a better moniker for this creative leader and leading-edge artists' collective centered here in the Lakehead.

As Definitely Superior celebrates its 35th anniversary, the high-ceiling airy gallery spaces on North Cumberland boast a visual banquet of amazing surprises for the eyes; not to mention for the mind, and the imagination tweaked by ears. Spend a bit of time taking it all in.

Over 80 artists from this city and region are showing some 125 works in their annual Members Show: pieces in every genre, material, design, construction, hue and style. It's not crowded or cluttered, yet hard to decide where to look first.

This viewer inevitably is drawn to colour, and big traditional landscapes. Standing before an oil-on-canvas titled "Silver Springs", the rush of inner joy is pure pleasure. Sometimes, with just the right light in the sky, I swear our northern rocks, trees and water are equally alive with such energy.

Or, be soothed and smoothed by "Cast in A Golden Light": reminiscent of the Group of Seven and Lawren Harris. Again, how fortunate are we who live beside Superior, or Gichi-Gami as it's called in the Ojibwe language.

Mysterious? Perhaps whisper-soft spooky, and of goose-bump quality, are a pair of small black-and-white photographs titled "Dodge" and "Sedan". Go find them. Old relics, forgotten in the



ANNIVERSARY: Definitely Superior Art gallery is celebrating 35 years.

shoulder-high grasses of a sunny meadow who knows where. Easily this viewer imagines the resting spots...of vampires...when they can't yet come out because it is still daylight. Great camera-work, and shots that scary movies might contain before the action

starts.

Still on the spooky side, in DefSup's front foyer an acrylic-on-board seems to defy what an artist's hand-eye skill can achieve, keeping use of light in mind. "Wolf Study" is an enlarged three-dimensional skull of this apex predator. Contours of bone, perfect swells and dips, hard slopes, edges of jawline; we don't need to run our fingers over these attributes, we can feel them.

Back to the main gallery and another switch, to a most exquisite piece called "Family Song". It's a small stain glass violin. The artist-note says "fiddle", but this is a beautiful and delicate violin. Marvel at the craft of soldering together its hues of sapphire, amber, first-dawn-pink, and summertime-green to form the

body of this miniature instrument. What music do you hear?

The director of Definitely Superior David Karasiewicz presents some statistics on the gallery's history.

"We're still here; 35 years is a pretty long time, for the arts. We've gone through many phases and waves. 37-thousand-500 artists; and all the programming which engages them. And, close to one-million in audience. This, our new space, is still being developed. All very promising. As well, we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Ontario Premier's Award for Excellence in the Arts; which no one has attained," big grin, "except Definitely Superior."

The 35th Annual Members Exhibit is up until August 5.

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BACK ON STAGE: Caps and Gowns productions with the Marvelous Wonderettes coming August 1.

They're back

The Wonderettes are returning to the stage

By Linda Maehans - TB Source

Really. Truly.
Yes, it's the return of those marvelous Wonderettes, on graduation day no less. And...crystal ball swirling...in the not-too-distant future they'll also be attending a wedding reception. Hot damn!

But first, let's skip back-in-time to 1958, when that delightfully sassy and supremely talented quartet of chicks from Springfield High are about to don caps-and-gowns.

Tap, tap. Is this mic on? No? Ritchie! Lighting's good; can we get a move-on with the sound? And pronto...this stage goes live in 17 minutes. We got us some grads to applaud!

Meanwhile, in a dressing room with only one full-length mirror and way too much giggling, cologne and hair spray, the Source meets with Suzy, Betty Jean, Missy, and Cindy Lou. The Wonderettes. Their group-mascot, a tch-tch-tch-tch chipmunk, is misleading. These girls are outta-sight-tight. It's what makes them so marvelous. Well, that, and ahem, at times the opposite sex. Ahem.

For Missy (Amanda Commisso), peach-lipstick freshly applied, graduation day is only one beginning. "A little bittersweet," she confides, "because I love school so much. I've been Mr. Lee's Chippy-TA assistant and...yes, well, that's what I've been." A demure smile. "Yes, I'm looking forward to spending this day with my three best friends, Suzy, Betty Jean and Cindy Lou." Suddenly her eyes are glistening. "A very emotional day."

Cindy Lou (Tegin Menei) swishes a sexy ponytail, bright eyes brimming with confidence and her personal credo: rules are made to be broken.

"Yeah, I'm dating Bobby, he's quarterback at Fairview High; maybe you've

heard of him?" She casually admires perfectly manicured fuchsia fingernails. "Kind of a big deal, for now. What? Oh, I'm over Billie Ray, the preacher-man's son." She blinks rapidly. "How did I meet the star-Muskrat? Well, not through cheerleading. I mean, well I haven't told these losers yet, but after this I'm moving to Hollywood. Where a talent scout will spot me, immediately hire me; then, as a movie star and with my director-husband, I'll get to have an in-ground swimming pool."

Betty Jean (Katherine Nemeč) still wears Springfield vibrant-green. And never mind; when it comes to Johnny, water under a bridge. "A rough patch, that's all. He assured me it would never happen again. Knowing another girl (Cindy Lou) liked him enough to make out with him behind the bleachers, well, it just makes Johnny all that much more attractive to me now, and Cindy Lou uglier." She shrugs. "My plans? I've been hired at Harper's Hardware, front office; and guess what, Johnny also works there, in the lumber department!"

Lovely Suzy (Jaime Morrison) offers up her bravest smile. "I'm excited because I get to walk on stage with the rest of the girls today; but I'm not actually graduating. I flunked." Her voice quavers. "So, I have to go to summer school; don't get to spend all my time with Ritchie at music-camp. But, hey! I'm with my girlfriends today. And some day maybe I'll even get married. To Ritchie! I just love him so much."

The Wonderettes: Caps and Gowns sparkles at the Paramount-on-Court on August 1,2,3 and 8.9.10; all shows at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: Badanai Theatre on Eventbrite. Choreography by Candi Badanai; directed by Spencer Hari; produced by Lawrence Badanai. Party On!

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LEITH DUNICK

NO STOPPING TRAVIS CHESTNUT: The Border Cats' Travis Chestnut is racing up the league's stolen base charts.

No stopping Chestnut

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

There's no stopping Travis Chestnut on the basepaths.

The Border Cats speedster is rapidly racing up the league's single-season stolen base charts, the odds better than good that anytime an opposing pitcher allows the Pflugerville, Texas native to reach first, it won't be long before he's standing on third.

Chestnut, a 5-foot-7 outfielder heading into his senior season at Texas A&M, didn't take long to smash the Border Cats 20-year-old stolen base record, last week blowing past the 33 set by Quinn Ciccarelli in Thunder Bay's inaugural 2003 campaign.

His 36 stolen bases, through 31 games as of last Thursday, puts him on pace for 188 over a 162-game schedule, which to compare, is 58 more than Rickey Henderson stole in 1982, when he set the major league record.

Chestnut says he views his speed as just one more weapon in the team's arsenal, a chance to make the opposition pitcher think twice before throwing to the plate. The failure to keep him in check often means he's standing on second before the catcher can get the ball out of his glove.

"To be honest, my speed has helped me a lot," said Chestnut, hitting .257 with 29 walks through Thursday's contest.

"It makes up for a lot of the bad jumps I get. I pretty much get to first base and I wait for a high leg kick or a slow time to the plate and just take off."

In the big leagues, the art of the stolen was lost, analytics saying the risk simply wasn't worth the reward. In the 1980s, Henderson's heyday, the

stolen base was kind, with the likes of Ron LeFlore, Vince Coleman, Tim Lincecum and Willie Wilson tearing up the basepath, a steal perhaps the most exciting play in baseball, with the possible exception of the home run.

But with bigger bases and pitchers limited to the number of times they can throw over to first, thievery is back and giving players like Chestnut, who wasn't drafted out of high school but will be eligible again in 2024, hope.

Speed is a game-changer, he said.

"Outside of just stolen bases, what the biggest key is that guys who hit behind me, they have to pound them fastballs, because if you throw anything slow, you're giving the chance to throw it in the dirt and give the pitch away," Chestnut said.

"It helps out our hitters, for one, because they're getting fastballs in the zone. And just getting a runner at second with no outs, and even third base with no outs, is almost guaranteeing you a run. Just putting the ball in play should score a run."

His teammates love it, though one in particular is probably happiest Chestnut signed with the Border Cats and not another division rival - catcher Cole Ketner.

"Being a catcher, I'm glad he's on our team and not the other team. Chestnut, he's electric, that's what he is. As a catcher, when he's hitting, you don't want to just let him get on base. But he can swing it too. You've got to attack him and hope he gets out. But when he ends up on first base, he ends up on third."

The Cats are home this weekend against Duluth on Saturday and Sunday and wrap up their home schedule on Aug. 8 against La Crosse.



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JULY

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 @WAT 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

Chill out of the playoffs

Thunder Bay carried a one-goal lead into the 90th minute but gave up the equalizer, leading to Des Moines pulling out a 3-2 win in extra time

By Matt Vis - TB Source

For a second straight playoff game, the Thunder Bay Chill were unable to keep hold of a late lead, but this time it ends their season.

The Chill gave up three goals after the 90th minute mark, falling 3-2 to the Des Moines Menace in their USL League Two second round showdown at Valley Stadium in the Iowa city on Sunday night.

Facing their long-time former Heartland Division rivals, with a spot in the Central Conference final at stake, Thunder Bay found a strong start in their quest to continue their playoff journey but weren't able to see it out.

After having a 23rd minute penalty kick from Hugo Tavares denied by Menace keeper Ryan Troutman, Thunder Bay went ahead just before the halftime break. Veteran striker Sullivan Silva played a beautiful ball through to fellow forward Elliot Cutts, who eluded Troutman to easily find the goal.

Perhaps mindful of the late lapse that allowed AFC Ann Arbor to storm to a three-goal comeback in their last time out, the Chill maintained solid defensive structure for most of the second half, with Menace chances few and far between.

But just after the clock ticked past 90 and into stoppage time, Des Moines found the one goal needed to extend the contest when Lagos Kunga unleashed a left-footed shot past Chill goalkeeper Nathanael Sallah.

Again forced to extra time after their gruelling win two days ago, the Thunder Bay side struggled to keep



LATE LEAD LOST: Chill keeper Nathanael Sallah holds onto the ball, fending off Des Moines Menace forward Cyrus Harmon during their USL League Two playoff match on Sunday, July 23, 2023.

up with the Menace during the ensuing 30 minutes.

Des Moines notched the go-ahead goal in the 108th minute through substitute Leroy Enzugusi, who celebrated with an emphatic backflip, before finding insurance with a second from Kunga in the 115th minute.

Forward Jamie Wynne pulled Thunder Bay to within one, netting a penalty kick late in injury time, but that was as close as the visitors would get to an equalizer.

The Chill only conceded more than two goals twice in their entire campaign, but both occasions came in the playoff stage.

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"VPJ RWBXWDV KO PGRRDUIJXX DX G
FKXV BDCDMWIKWX RPBGXJ; DO NKW
RWBXWJ PGRRDUIJXX NKW'II UJZJB
ODUC DV." — M. R. XUKE

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ACROSS

- Academy (abbr.)
- Buffet
- Food and Drug Admin. (abbr.)
- Colorado (abbr.)
- Maori seagoing canoe
- Stool pigeon
- Critical (abbr.)
- Seaweed
- Cyprinoid fish
- Field (Ital.)
- Woman's work basket
- Slow music
- Verily
- Spirits of the dead
- Talk
- Leftover table scrap
- Exclamation
- Dutch commune
- Patella
- Possessed
- Top
- Obi
- Glacial ice block
- Brain tissue
- No middle initial (abbr.)
- Whit
- Portico
- Amer. Indian Movement (abbr.)
- S.A. rodent
- Knife
- British thermal unit (abbr.)
- Bedouin's cord
- Orient

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NESSARTISTIC
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TIARA CONC
NUTRIMENT NEA
OBIA MABI TVA
SIMPOMARHEM

DOWN

- Atl. Coast Conference (abbr.)
- Corinthians (abbr.)
- Sweet red wine
- Senility
- South-West African People's Organization (abbr.)
- Lake (Sp.)
- Also known as (abbr.)
- Tract
- Dirty lock of wool
- Art movement
- Sweetsop
- Wrong (pref.)
- Amer. Automobile Assn. (abbr.)
- Frenzied
- Repair
- Defiant shout
- Father
- Feud
- Noble (Ger.)
- Counsel
- Tread softly
- Guido's note (2 words)
- Insect
- Fuel
- Peacock fish
- S.A. deer
- Brow of a hill (Scot.)
- Send out
- Red pine
- Rom. garment
- Two-year-old sheep
- Org. of Amer. States (abbr.)
- Dance company (abbr.)

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What dirt track racing means to me

By Johan Vass

It has been said to me more than once, I do not know what you see in dirt track racing. It is just a bunch of cars going in a circle, how boring.

I will try to explain what Thunder City Speedway means to me.

Dirt Track racing coming back to our city brought new business. Nadin Contracting has spent millions of dollars to build a first class facility for families to gather and make special memories. They are leaving a legacy for our family and their own families. They have family members working at that track as well as employing members of this community.

It is a track that many across Canada and the U.S. have visited to compete in that circle of dirt. This track is of economic value to Thunder Bay not just the Nadin family.

Drivers from the U.S. and



RACING AROUND THE DIRT: Collin Chaschuk (621) and John Topozini at Thunder City Speedway.

Canada have said how lucky we are to have such an award winning track. The facility is packed for every race.

Over 100 cars grace that track every race day, each of those cars has a team. There are racing families out there that have raced

over generations.

There are five classes of cars, each class has a different horse power.

The real story is about the completion on the track. Every one of those 100 drivers would love to win a feature race. It is the

challenge of each driver to another driver I watch, not cars going in a circle to me.

If a car breaks down, competitor or not, they help each other to get the car back on that track. They will even give another driver their own car parts to make it

happen.

The food is fantastic at this track. That can be another attraction for me.

What I love most is meeting new people and seeing old friends. In today's age of technology it is so nice to see people coming together, having a good time and sharing memories.

These drivers promote their own sport. They get stick on tattoos for the children and maybe some adults. They make t-shirts, hats and decals for fans. They invite all fans to the pit area to visit after the race. The pit area is where the race cars park.

Many companies have sponsored cars, drivers, race nights and more. This is a dirt track racing family. Everyone is welcome. Please don't knock it until you have tried it. Thunder City Speedway has regular racing every Wednesday gates open at 4:30. The green flag drops at 6:30pm.

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 29. Food
 30. Misc. Wanted

VEHICLES FOR SALE
 31. Cars | 32. Trucks
 33. Vans
 34. Motorcycles/ATV's
 35. Campers/Trailers
 36. Motor Homes
 37. Marine Equip.

Thunder Bay's Source reserves the right to classify ads under appropriate headings and to set rates therefore and to determine page locations.
 Thunder Bay's Source reserves the right to revise, edit, classify or reject any advertisement and to retain any answers directed to the Box Reply Service, and to repay the Customer the sum paid for the advertisement and box rental.
 Box replies on "Hold" instructions not picked up within 10 days of expiry of an advertisement will be destroyed unless mailing instructions are received. Those answering Box Numbers are requested not to send originals of documents to avoid loss.
 All claims of errors in advertisements must be received by the Publisher within 3 days after the first publication. No refund if ad is cancelled before expiry date.
 Thunder Bay's Source reserves the right to increase prices with 30 days written notice.

21. MISC. FOR RENT
 28-foot trailer on Hicks Lake, 45 mins from Thunder Bay, \$100 per day, 5 day minimum. Call 807-977-1559

23. MISC. FOR SALE
 Firepit wood \$50/truckload. Seasoned mixed firewood ready to burn. \$100 per Cord - pick up Intercity. Call 345-4363

SEWING BEE - alterations like hemming, new zippers, dresses, or any kind of project. Reasonable rate and quick service 807-631-5101.

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

#1 dump runs. Trash/yard clean-up, inside/outside. Tear down/remove sheds, fences, decks. Cut/remove small trees, trim hedges, lawn cutting plus general odd jobs/services. Call Frank 628-5919.

#1 YARD CLEAN-UPS: Grass cutting, garbage dump runs, yard clean up and trees trimmed. Phone Brian 474-8870 or 768-9849

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

EXTERIOR HOUSE PAINTING! Fast friendly service, best prices in town! FREE ESTIMATE! Call Fred at 285-7994

HOUSE CLEANING, YARD CLEAN UPS - grass cutting, hedge trimming, weeding gardens. Seniors' rates available. Call Donna 1-780-850-1716

SUNSHINE LAWN MAINTENANCE - yard, garden, odd jobs including eavestrough cleaning, window-washing, experienced, great seniors' rates, references. Call Mark 807-631-6967.

TREE REMOVAL SERVICES. In town/rural, ++experience, Man-lift, backhoe services, insured, and seniors' discounts! Very reasonable rates, free estimates. Call Jacques (Jack) 345-4363

PUZZLE ANSWERS

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

ACAD	SLAP	FDA
COLO	WAKA	RAT
CRIT	AGAR	IDE
CAMPO	CABAS	
ADAGIO	YEA	
MANES	PALAVIER	
ORT	PAH	EDE
KNEECAP	OWNED	
LID	GIRDLE	
SERAC	TELAE	
NMI	ATOM	STOA
ATM	DEGU	STAB
BTU	AGAL	EAST

ENIGMA SOLUTION: "The pursuit of happiness is a most ridiculous phrase; if you pursue happiness you'll never find it."
 — C.P. Snow

Looking for Tree Removal?



Fast, Safe & Efficient
 With Our Unique 34" wide 100ft reach man-lift, we cut higher than anybody in town.
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Clean Out Your Old Items and Find Them a New Home. (and some money for you!)
TBSource Classifieds
807.346.2600

HERE'S MY CARD

Dulux Paints DECORATING CENTRE
 784 MEMORIAL AVE.
 807.344.0784

25% OFF PAINT & STAIN ALL THE TIME
 WITH YOUR DULUX CLUB OR CAA MEMBERSHIP

HERE'S MY CARD

IN-STOCK FLOORING SALE
 5MM LVT REG. NOW JUST
\$4.79 \$2.99
 WHILE QUANTITIES LAST!
MOHAWK

JOEY'S RESTAURANTS
 595 ARTHUR ST. WEST
807-577-4334
 For Franchise Opportunities call 1-800-661-2123

FREE FISH & CHIPS

Buy a 2 piece Alaska Pollock & Chips plus 2 beverages, get the 2nd 2 piece pollock FREE!
 No substitute. 1 coupon per visit. Must present coupon before ordering. Not valid on Tuesday or Good Friday. Cannot be combined with any other offer.

THE ROOF GURU
 DON'T LET THE GOOFS ON YOUR ROOF



807-355-1784 OR FIND OUT MORE AT WWW.THEROOFGURU.NET

ADVERTISE WITH US
 SHARE YOUR BUSINESS CARD, SALES, DISCOUNTS, COUPONS AND MORE!



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Worrying is a waste of time.

Good & bad things will happen in life. You just have to keep living, and not stress over what you can't control.



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