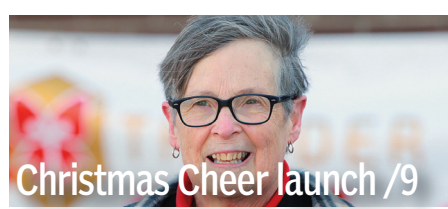




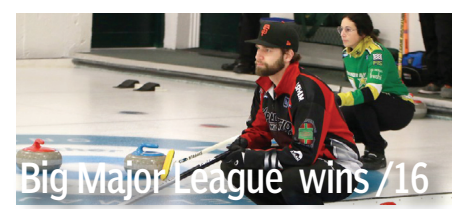
We have a winner /4



Christmas Cheer launch /9



Ice fishing season /11



Big Major League wins /16

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Thursday, November 30, 2023

# KICK START

**City council green lights up to \$38 million for indoor turf facility, could seek private partnerships as early as this spring /3**

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A week after turning down a \$44-million plan for an indoor turf facility, council reversed course a bit on Monday night and approved up to \$38 million in funding for the proposed project.

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# Turf facility gets council approval

## City OKs up to \$38 million for soccer project

By Ian Kaufman - TB Source

Thunder Bay's city council has adjusted course in its pursuit of an indoor turf facility, overturning a vote held just a week ago and approving a \$38-million financing plan for a proposed build adjacent to the Community Auditorium.

That move could clear the way for the city to launch a competitive bidding process in the spring, seeking proposals from the private sector to design, build, and potentially operate a complex hosting soccer, cricket, Ultimate Frisbee, and other turf sports.

The move represented a reversal after a vote last week to delay approving a \$44-million financing plan and instead explore possible cuts to the project's scope in an effort to bring base building costs down to \$30 million.

The facility's largest potential user group, Soccer Northwest Ontario, slammed that approach, warning it would result in a smaller field size - something they call a deal-breaker - and highlighting estimates from city staff that the vote would cause months of delays.

On Monday, council instead approved a motion from Coun. Trevor Giertuga to green-light a reduced \$38-million financing plan, lowering the number by loosening the minimum design standards for the build.

That financing is estimated to cover a facility that is simply Ontario Building Code-compliant, meaning it would not have to meet the city's usual design standards or the LEED Silver environmental certification council had previously endorsed.

Giertuga's motion will, however, see staff report back on the possibility of meeting those higher standards, estimating the costs and potential energy savings involved.

Coun. Andrew Foulds called that a compromise that won him over to Giertuga's proposal, but warned he likely wouldn't approve a build that didn't achieve higher environmental standards.

"I'm not sure I can see myself supporting something that isn't net zero or close to net zero, but I could see myself supporting perhaps delaying the planting of the trees [by] a couple of years, some of the Clean, Green and Beautiful [requirements being] carved out," he said.

City staff are directed to report back by March 25 of next year with information required to launch a bidding process for the project.



At-large Coun. Trevor Giertuga backed the new plan.

That will include the results of full geotechnical studies (initial drilling has revealed no red flags) and preliminary design requirements, as well as renewed public engagement.

Giertuga also called a new requirement for administration to review an operating business plan for the facility crucial.

Several councillors had warned relying on an earlier \$44.5-million estimate for the facility presented by administration would leave the turf project dead in the water, with many on council saying they can't support a price tag much above \$30 million.

The \$44.5-million figure came from a Class C estimate prepared by consultant Hanscomb Ltd. and considered accurate within 15 to 20 per cent.





It was based on the hangar-like steel-sided design proposed by Soccer Northwest Ontario a year ago, upgraded to meet city building standards and the LEED Silver environmental standard at council's direction - a standard that still falls short of the city's net-zero climate goals.

Giertuga's motion passed on a 9-4 vote.

Coun. Mark Bentz warned approving the financing plan of \$38 million would set a course for a project that is once again too expensive to gain support around the council table.

"I just do not want to have a repeat of last term - that was the idea behind the price cap," he said. "If this doesn't move forward, we're kind of in no-man's land."

## WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			
<b>Mostly Cloudy</b>	<b>Partly Cloudy</b>	<b>Mostly Cloudy</b>	<b>Snow</b>
Precipitation: <b>30%</b> HIGH <b>1</b> LOW <b>-9</b>	Precipitation: <b>20%</b> HIGH <b>0</b> LOW <b>-7</b>	Precipitation: <b>40%</b> HIGH <b>2</b> LOW <b>-1</b>	Precipitation: <b>40%</b> HIGH <b>3</b> LOW <b>-1</b>

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# Valente wins \$1.1M 50/50

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Joe Valente is Thunder Bay's latest millionaire.

The retired teacher got the call on Friday morning from Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Foundation president and CEO Glenn Craig, learning he was the lucky winner of November's \$1.1-million jackpot, the sixth largest in the draw's 34-month history.

"I have supported the hospital (through the 50/50) since day one," said Valente, in a release issued by the foundation.

"They were always so good to my wife during her cancer treatment."

This year alone the 50/50 draw has awarded more than \$11 million in grand prizes, \$4.48 million more than it had given out through 11 months in 2022.

"It has been a phenomenal year of support for the Thunder Bay 50/50 which has allowed us to do more, faster for the hospital and better local healthcare now," Craig said.

"To show our thanks, we have lots of really big things happening for the Christmas draw and the reopening of our Christmas 50/50 Pop-up store for people to buy their tickets while in the Intercity Shopping Centre. We're hoping to end the year with our biggest jackpot ever."

The December jackpot, announced on Thursday, is guaranteed to be at least \$2 million. Last year's December jackpot grew to more than \$2.5 million.

"We need to go big," Craig said.

"The last few months, we've crossed the million dollar mark. We did the million-dollar guarantee [last year]. So, a \$2-million guarantee plus \$100,000 in early bird and holiday bonus prizes."

Tickets are available at the Foundation's Intercity Shopping Centre pop-up location near the food court, or online at [www.thunderbay5050.ca](http://www.thunderbay5050.ca).

Ticket buyers must be in Ontario at the time of purchase. The draw date is Dec. 28.



Joe Valente says a family vacation is in the works after he won this month's \$1.1-million Thunder Bay 50/50 draw.

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# A food plan for emergencies

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

When COVID-19 landed in Thunder Bay, food security specialists in the city scrambled to ensure students in schools that were closed didn't go hungry.

As the pandemic grew, they realized the issue went beyond the classroom and that the city was without an emergency food strategy.

More than three years later, the plan has been made public.

The 38-page document, put together by the Thunder Bay and Area Food Strategy with input from organizations around the city, including the Regional Food Distribution Association, the Dew Drop Inn, Roots Community Food Centre and the city's community safety and well-being council, was created to increase collaboration and coordination during emergencies to ensure vulnerable populations don't suffer further food insecurities.

Sarah Siska, the Thunder Bay and Area Food Strategy coordinator, on Monday said food access is one of the seven pillars of her organization, an area that's struggled more and more over the past decade, noting the pressure continues to grow on local food banks and on low-income residents and the housing challenged.

## Identified in 2020

The pandemic brought it all to the forefront.

"We saw there wasn't a coordinated plan in place, either here or across the country or across the world to get food to people in need," Siska said.

"This is really trying to fill some of those food access gaps and it's really just a first step."

Courtney Strutt, the emergency food plan coordinator, said emergency food response relies on the existing infrastructure — physical, human and financial — of non-profit organizations, with limited resources, adding municipalities count on these entities during times of crisis.

"In order to have an efficient, effective response, that's not repetitive, while trying to make sure no one falls through the cracks and that resources are being best used within our community, collaboration is key to that and independent organizations need to be brought to a shared table that have high points of decision-making



Thunder Bay and Area Food Strategy's Courtney Strutt.

that are connected to the city, so that a response can be effective, strong and make sure that everybody in our community is taken care of," Strutt said.

Partners plan to meet regularly to run through scenarios of a variety of different scenarios. On Monday they played out an extreme heat wave. And while a pandemic isn't likely so soon after COVID-19, wildfires and floods that displace entire communities, or something like a highway closure do happen and can impact food security.

## Comprehensive plan

Erin Beagle, executive director at Roots Community Centre, said the plan touches on everything from travel procurement, decision-making, emergency preparedness and potential back-up power sites to prepare food to funding and whether or not there is a collaborative approach that can be taken when seeking funds from agencies and other levels of government.

"It walks us through all the different roles that we can coordinate in a way that gives the response the priority to the populations that are going to feel it first, no matter what the emergency is that comes up, all the way to deactivation and recovery," Beagle said.

The full plan can be found on the Thunder Bay and Area Food Strategy website.

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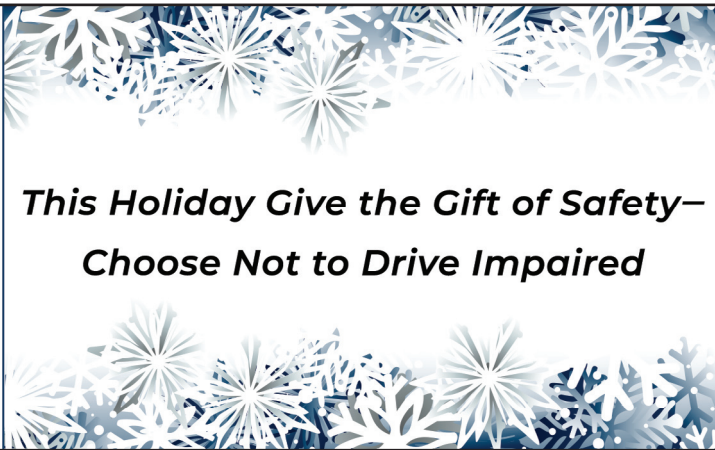
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Paul Penna is the chair of the Thunder Bay Professional Firefighters annual Toys for Tots campaign. (Leith Dunick)

# Toys for Tots helps fill gaps

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Christmas is a magical time of year for most children, but far too many are still in danger of going without under the tree.

Toys for Tots, which has been operated for decades by the Thunder Bay Professional Firefighters Association, was created to help fill that gap, providing toys to ensure every child wakes up on Christmas morning with a present under the tree.

Campaign chair Paul Penna said this year's campaign, which launched on Friday, is aiming to match last year's total of \$159,602, a number that will be a little easier to reach thanks to a \$59,000 donation through Tim Hortons spring Smile Cookie campaign.

Penna said it's been something the firefighters have been doing for a long time, something that's part and parcel with the nature of their jobs.

"Firefighters, when they go somewhere, they're always helping. We kind of work for this community. This is just something over and above that we can do at this special time of the year, to help the children that are suffering in one way or another," Penna said.

"It means a lot and you can tell when the

guys show up. We need hundreds and hundreds of volunteer hours over this next month and our schedule is almost full."

More than 175 off-duty firefighters volunteer to take part each year, Penna added, noting they are all aware of just how much of an impact Toys for Tots has in the city.

"You think back to how you were when you were a kid, and Christmas was always near and dear to our family and to me, when I was a child," he said. "The thought of being a child and not having something under the tree at Christmastime is a terrible thought and so it's our chance to affect up to 4,500 children in a really, really positive way."

As always, firefighters will be set up just outside the food court area at Intercity Shopping Centre during mall hours, collecting donations. Those wishing to donate can also do so at [www.tbaytoysfortots.ca](http://www.tbaytoysfortots.ca) or at any TD Bank location in Thunder Bay.

One hundred per cent of the proceeds are used to buy presents for children.

"We know there are people that need help. Every year we are told stories about the kids and families that really pull at the heart strings. Knowing that you're actually helping someone — it's awesome and that's why we do it."

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EDITORIAL

## Compromise

Thunder Bay needs an indoor turf facility.

Taxpayers don't need a hefty expense.

Hopefully city council's latest plan will help Thunder Bay get a new facility, while at the same time minimizing the amount of public dollars being spent on the project.

Soccer organizations have long said the city's proposed facility, which last week checked in at \$44 million and counting, came with an unnecessarily high price tag.

They've vowed the private sector will be able to come up with a plan that doesn't come anywhere near the \$38 million that council has green-lit for the project.

A turf facility can be used for a lot more than just soccer, and will improve the quality of life for thousands of users.

While some might complain about the city having any involvement, the reality is an indoor turf facility isn't likely to be built entirely by the private sector — no more than hockey rinks are going to be built by anyone but the municipality.

Due diligence is still required, but Monday's move is a positive step.

## Turf taxpayer-funded facility

To the editor:

Senior managers at Thunder Bay city hall have bungled yet another misguided effort to get taxpayers alone to foot the bill for an indoor turf facility.

Now, squeamish city councillors have ordered their staff to turn back the clock two-and-a-half years to see if there's another way of getting this done.

That after the bureaucrats estimated the bill for a city-owned facility would come in at \$55 million including interest.

We didn't have to have this mess. We could already have kids playing in a facility if it wasn't for obstructive bureaucrats.

It was in July 2021 that councillor Mark Bentz pushed through a motion to have administration invite the private sector to submit proposals to partner with the city on the project.

The proposals for a potential partnership have been sitting idle since then. No member of the public has seen the actual proposals. All we've ever seen were dismissive summaries prepared by a self-serving administration.

Of note, those private sector proposals have never even been debated during this term of council after the last council put a final decision off to the current one. Nor has either council had a report from city hall staff on who or how an indoor turf facility would be run.

It is clear the bureaucrats have always wanted it to be a city-paid build with city staff running it.

Perhaps now after wasting everyone's time,

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



senior managers have gotten the memo: bring the private sector onboard; don't be hung up on who's going to operate the thing.

The best option? A private company gets access to prime city property to build the facility

at its cost and to run it at its expense while keeping all the profits.

Shane Judge,  
Thunder Bay

# Coetzee stories make a masterful collection

*The Pole* and other stories by J.M. Coetzee is a masterful new collection of short stories from one of our very finest writers.

The middle-aged protagonist is a banker's wife who occupies her days in good works', is the resurrection of Coetzee's character, Elizabeth Costello, so that when we come to the following stories and re-encounter Costello herself, the transition is so smooth as to be nonexistent.

The plot of the novella is simple, and as strange as simple things always are.

A famous Polish pianist, Witold Wladykiewicz, visits Barcelona at the invitation of a cultural circle of which Beatriz is a member. He will give a concert of Chopin's music, in which he specialises, though his interpretation of the Polish master's delicate pieces is not to everyone's taste.

He is 72, tall and still vigorous, with a shock of white hair and a striking profile.

Often he is mistaken for the Swedish actor Max von Sydow, 'my bad brother', as he says, showing 'the ghost of a smile'.

Witold falls in love, or something like it, with Beatriz. At first she resists, but eventually gives in, and the two end up in bed together.

Given Witold's years, the result is less than earth-shaking.

Nevertheless, the poor chap falls in love, totally, and, as it will turn out, for the last time. He even writes a book of poems, endearingly inept, for which Beatriz is the inspiration.

And Beatriz, what is her feeling for her elderly swain? If she had to pin it down, she would call it pity. He fell in love with her

and she took pity on him and out of pity gave him his desire.' Yet it's not all one-sided; afterwards she remembers the master pianist's 'fingers playing on her skin, drawing music out of her'.

And at the end we find her writing fond and melancholy letters to him. Is their affair an exercise in control or a dream of love forced into life?

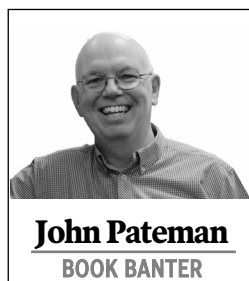
The five stories appended to the novella were written over the past two decades.

A couple of them - *The Dog in particular* - are superficial, and if not, they hide their profundity with cunning and skill. The strongest piece is *The Glass Abattoir*, in which Elizabeth Costello returns to a

proposition she previously put forward, 'that people tolerate the slaughter of animals only because they get to see none of it'.

Elizabeth, and her creator, will not relent in her insistence on the seriousness of this matter. They know, as Nietzsche knew, that we are the animal that has gone mad, slaughtering our fellow creatures without a thought or a care.

The lives of animals, Elizabeth tells her son, are 'so brief, so easily forgotten ... That is why I wrote about them, and why I wanted you to read about them.' And, by extension, about us, too, the butchers, lost in our arrogance, ignorance and uninterrupted self-regard.



**John Pateman**  
BOOK BANTER

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# Preparing for parenthood?

By JR Shermack - For TB Source

Planned parenthood is on the minds of many Canadians these days because unfortunately for some, becoming a parent may not be in their immediate plans.

After the Second World War young Canadians chased their dream of settling down, buying a house and raising a few kids.

These goals were pursued vigorously, resulting in the post war baby boom - Canadian homes were filled with the pitter-patter of two, four, six and often more little feet.

The baby boom peaked in 1959 when Canada's birth rate climbed to 3.9 children - between 1946 and 1965 more than 8.2 million baby boomers were born in our country.

Canadians embraced the good life in the post war years, enjoying economic prosperity and sharing widespread optimism as their families grew and thrived.

After living through The Great Depression and a World War it was a dream come true for growing Canadian boomer families.

In 2023 it is still a dream worth pursuing, but disappointed Canadians are putting their families on hold in the hope that one day their dreams will also come true.

Until then many prospective parents are

delaying parenthood, some by choice and some by circumstance, for a variety of social and economic reasons.

The 21st century has created barriers for wannabe moms and dads - Canada's birthrate in 2022 was a record low of 1.33 and only 351,679 babies were born that year.

It is a bad time to put reproduction on the back burner.

Global fertility rates have been dropping in developed countries for decades, but if our downward trend continues Canada could join the 'lowest-low' club.

Membership includes all countries with a birthrate less than 1.3, a group that now includes Japan, Italy, North Korea and China.

These countries face a future with a rapidly aging population, labor market stress, public health challenges and dwindling pension funds.

Does that sound like any place you know?

For Canadian families deciding to remain childless it is often because they feel the increasing costs of raising kids, housing in particular, are unaffordable.

In 2022, according to StatsCan, 38 per cent of young adults ages 20 to 29 didn't think they could afford to raise and properly house a child in the next three years.

One psychologist noted, "The financial costs



Canada's baby rate dropped to 1.33 in 2022.

are higher. The perceived rewards may be fewer. Parenting itself has changed, become more intensive and all consuming."

In a Canadian survey one-third of respondents didn't want any kids, ever, after doing a

cost-benefit analysis and concluding that parenthood was too expensive.

For them, deciding whether or not to procreate is strictly a matter of financial planning.

There are other rationale convincing young Canadians to remain childless and free to work on personal growth, self-development and just having some fun.

A growing number are anxious about bringing a child into the uncertainty and challenges of the modern world, including the unknown perils of climate change.

They may be cutting off their nose to spite their face because no species can survive for long without having babies.

No kids, no future - no amount of doom and gloom about the near or even distant future is dire enough to make reproduction a questionable option.

Bringing children into the world has always been an act of hope and regardless of horrors in the past or trepidation about the future, the next generation is still our only hope.

Many families think the birth of a child is a gift more precious than winning the lottery - for others, winning a lottery is the only way they will ever afford to have kids.

For some prospective moms and dads planned parenthood is just wishful thinking.

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### December 2

#### Parade of Lights

More than 100 floats have already entered for this year's Parade of Lights, which arrives a little more than three weeks before Christmas.

The traditional parade route will see the festivities begin at Manitoulin Transport and travel up Main Street to Memorial Avenue.

The Parade of Lights is free to attend, though donations will be collected throughout the evening and donated to several local charities.

The fun begins at 7 p.m.

### December 4

#### Hunter Brothers Concert

Prairie favourites, Hunter Brothers are Burning Down The Barn at the Community Auditorium on Monday in support of their brand new EP. With over 73 million global streams to date, three gold singles, along with nine Top 30 and three Top 10 singles

at Canadian country radio.

It's no surprise that these real life brothers have quickly made an impact in Canadian country, garnering a variety of CCMA and JUNO Award nominations and multiple SCMA Award wins.

Tickets are available through Ticketmaster.ca.

The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

### December 5

#### Forever Seger

Forever Seger creates a dynamic journey through the timeless music of Bob Seger and The Silver Bullet Band.

With authentic vocals, commanding performances and that unmistakable Seger sound, Forever Seger's fast growing reputation as *the* Bob Seger tribute experience, has propelled them onto the top-ranking concert stages and festivals across North America.

Tickets are available through

Ticketmaster.ca.

The show starts at 7:30 p.m.

### December 3

#### Aviation Christmas Gifts

The Northwestern Ontario Aviation Heritage Centre has aviation-themed Christmas gifts for the airplane enthusiast among your friends and family.

This includes T-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, books, mugs, caps, puzzles, etc. of many different types of aircraft.

They are located at 905 E. Victoria Ave and open this Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Can't make it that day?

Contact them at [noahc@tbaytel.net](mailto:noahc@tbaytel.net) or phone 807-623-3522 and leave a message.

Alternate arrangements can be made for you to come in and see what we have.

All forms of payment accepted.

For more information, check out their Facebook page and website [www.noahc.org](http://www.noahc.org).

Please  
Drop in  
to My  
Holiday  
Open  
House!



FRIDAY DECEMBER 8TH

4PM-6PM

Thunder Bay Museum

25 Donald St E

Marcus Powlowski, MP

Thunder Bay - Rainy River

(807) 625-1160

[Marcus.Powlowski@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Marcus.Powlowski@parl.gc.ca)





Christmas Cheer chair Joleene Kemp says demand for the program continues to grow. (Leith Dunick)

# Spread a bit of Christmas Cheer

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

Joleene Kemp, the outgoing chair of the annual Christmas Cheer campaign, says as much as she doesn't want to look at the statistics, they're hard to ignore.

Last year the program served up hampers for about 8,000 people, a number that could increase in 2023. Add in the astronomical increase in food prices, and Kemp said Christmas Cheer needs all the help it can get.

"The stats are horrendous. Statistically, 18 per cent of the people in Canada are not able to properly take care of themselves in terms of food security – feeding themselves and their family. And at least six per cent of those are children," Kemp said on Friday, launching this year's campaign, which is collecting money for next year's hamper program.

"That really hits home to us. Those numbers don't capture the faces of the people. That's what Christmas Cheer is about. We see the people who come and in say they are really courageous to have stepped forward and registered to receive a hamper, because that's the hardest thing they have to do."

The program provides a hamper full of groceries for each participating family, meant to ensure food is one less thing parents have to worry about as Christmas approaches. Christmas Cheer also partners with Toys for Tots, run by the Thunder Bay Professional

Firefighters Association, to provide a gift for each child in the hamper program.

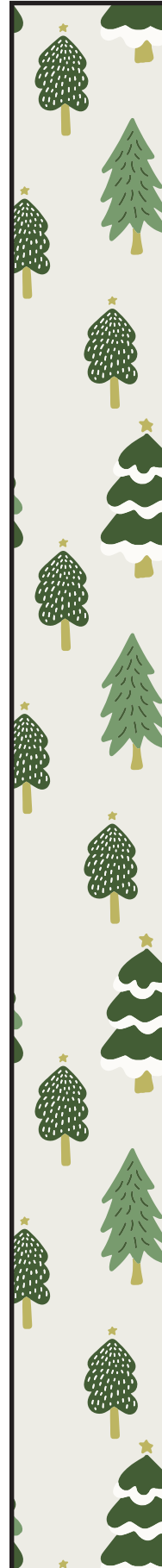
"It's not easy to say I'm not able to make ends meet, I can't do Christmas. Help me please," Kemp said. "We're excited to be able to do everything we can to make things pleasant and happy and they can feel that it's OK."

"There have been many people who volunteer for us who at one time were recipients. There was a problem and they needed it."

To donate to or for information on how to register for Christmas Cheer, the public can visit their website, [www.thunderbaychristmascheer.com](http://www.thunderbaychristmascheer.com) and make an online gift, or visit any Scotiabank branch in Thunder Bay. Those with cellphones can text CHEER to 344-1053 or 344-8229 to make a donation. Schools are also being invited to have students collect change to help fill the Christmas Cheer coffers.

Once again, Acadia Broadcasting will hold its 36 Hours of Cheer event, broadcasting on 99.9 The Bay and Country 105 from 6 a.m. on Dec. 7 through 5 p.m. on Dec. 8, with a monetary pop-up donation booth in place outside the radio station's Park Avenue offices from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

South ward hampers can be picked up at the Canadian Lakehead Exhibition's Coliseum building on Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. North ward recipients can pick up their hampers on Dec. 13.



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2023

Celebrating 15 years of making  
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Join Dilico Anishinabek Family Care and help fill over 800 Wish bags for children in need this holiday season.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- 1 Pickup your Christmas Wish bag or sign up online.
- 2 Fill it with toys, learning supplies, or essential items based on your child profile tag.
- 3 Return your filled Wish bag by MONDAY, DECEMBER 4th.

For further details visit:  
[dilico.com/christmaswish](http://dilico.com/christmaswish)

# “A building is just a building, it takes the people inside to make it a home. He thought of this as his home.”

Cheryl Family of Past Client



“You don’t really appreciate what they can do for you until you’re there.”

Cheryl Delorenzi became part of St. Joseph’s Care Group when her parents moved into Sister Leila Greco Apartments. It didn’t take long for her to appreciate the surroundings, and especially the staff.

“The apartments are really nice. When my parents moved in, we took their furniture and personal belongings and set it into their new home. It felt just like their home of many years.”

Cheryl’s mom’s Alzheimer’s soon progressed and she was moved (next door) to Hogarth Riverview Manor.

“This worked out really good for my Dad because he was able to see her every day. They were together, just like they had always been. Whenever we couldn’t be there, he was there. He would feed her breakfast or supper and just go lie down with her at night.”

“I think it’s really special that you can have assisted living and long term care homes together. This helps couples stay together and receive the care that each needs as individuals. It’s important.”

Cheryl’s dad stayed in the apartment at the Sister Leila Greco until he passed, “and that was his extended family. They would just sit and visit with him and he loved it. They were really good to him. And he was good to them. They called him the Mayor. They miss him. I know they miss the mayor.”

Cheryl admires the camaraderie among staff. “They all seemed to work and respect each other’s position on the floor. Whether it’s a nurse, the one giving the meds or the personal support worker, it seemed like they could rely on whoever was around.”

Cheryl says that no matter a resident’s situation or illness, “you don’t really appreciate what they can do for you until you’re there. Not everybody’s meant to be a PSW or work in a long term care home or hospital. It takes special people.”

The more she saw of the efforts staff put in, the more she was impressed – so much so that she decided to become a volunteer to help wherever she could. Cheryl and her siblings also donate to support activities for the clients at Sister Leila Greco, and she is a part of the Family Council. When each parent passed away, the family directed memorial donations to St. Joseph’s Foundation so that their legacy of support to the Care Group and specifically to Sister Leila Greco would continue.

When her mom passed away, Cheryl’s family wanted to give something back in appreciation for all that had done for her. They settled on a pill crusher, an essential senior health-care tool.

The family also donated an angel figurine, which is proudly displayed in the home.

Cheryl has so many wonderful memories of the staff. “What I really appreciated was the PSWs that had the responsibility of caring for her each day. They would tell you stories: ‘last night your mom just needed a hug, and I was there to give her one.’”

Staff would often just sit with residents in the evening. “I’m not supposed to be here too much longer, but everybody else is okay tonight so I’m going to stay with you’ That’s what I really appreciated. Those moments. If they’re doing it for one, they’re doing it for all.”

Cheryl urges people wondering how their parents will be cared for later in life to consider the long term care homes available at the Care Group.

“I just want to tell people, look into it. It’s a great place to live. You will hear the stories of how well cared for your parents or loved ones will be.”

“We are always afraid and concerned when our parents have to move somewhere new at this stage in their life. Just let them try it, because like my parents, they had a wonderful life and loved living at Hogarth. We’re giving them a good quality of life, activities to enjoy and amazing care by amazing people. Our family is grateful and think it’s wonderful.”

St. Joseph’s Foundation is honoured to share the “Caring Moments” stories from our clients and their families. Each story tells their personal experience with the care and compassion provided by the staff of St. Joseph’s Care Group. Become a part of the Caring Moments program and share your gift of gratitude through your personal story or by making a donation in appreciation of the care your family received.

Donate today [www.sjftb.net/caringmoments](http://www.sjftb.net/caringmoments)



ST. JOSEPH’S FOUNDATION  
OF THUNDER BAY

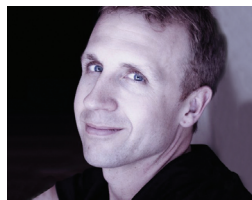
Funded by the  
Government of Canada’s  
Community Services Recovery Fund



# Ice fishing season set to begin

Ever notice how the best ice fishing action happens at first and last ice each winter? We are now entering one of those key time periods. Lakes are starting to freeze up, but the ice is not yet thick enough to head out ice fishing. Once it is safe to walk out on that ice, we will usually find fish are more eager than ever to bite, if we can locate them.

For several weeks after the ice solidifies, eager anglers will often be rewarded with fish that have settled down, grown hungry and grouped up in certain specific locations.



**Keith Ailey**  
the GOOD LIFE

We are now coming to the peak of the fall consolidation period that has been ongoing since September. This is a time when most species will move away from shallow shoreline locations and relocate near main-lake structure. What we are talking about here are prominent features like underwater points and reefs.



Trudging out to your favourite ice fishing spot is part of the fun of the sport.

To the fish, the fact that ice has formed on the surface is not really all that important. What matters more is the falling water temperature that prompts the continued migration of walleye, pike, perch and other species to relocate to their preferred winter hang-outs.

Predicting the best locations to start ice fishing is relatively easy. Simply go to the same spots where you last caught the fish

in September and October, before you put the boat away for the winter.

If you missed out on the fall fishing frenzy, you can just as easily use a contour map to identify the classic structural features that draw in the fish every autumn. Look for large underwater points that extend from either the shoreline or an island. Equally productive areas include any reef, shoal, bar or hump with a feeding flat

on top. These features will attract minnows, crayfish and aquatic insects, which in turn attract the gamefish we are looking for.

If you are fishing on a lake with infinite amounts of structure, narrow down your search and look for features that sit close to deep water. Conversely, if you are on a relatively shallow and featureless lake, finding the hotspot is even easier. Just look for the deepest pockets or holes in the lake. Often there will only be a couple of these deep depressions, and that is where you will typically find the fish.

Once you locate the spot where fish are likely to be holding, all you have to do is punch a few holes and drop a line or two. Since we are allowed two rods when ice fishing, I will usually rig up one with a flash lure to jig and "call" the fish over.

The aggressive fish do not need much enticing and they will often strike this bait quickly. Then, on the second rod, I like to set a still line with a live bait rig and a lively minnow to persuade the shy ones to bite too.

If you are in the right spot, you will usually get confirmation from the fish pretty quick.

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Applications are accepted from now until December 16th, 2023  
The recipient must have an aidable hearing loss, to be determined by complimentary hearing test. No purchase necessary. See clinic for further details.

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Thunder Bay, ON 807-935-8785

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Draw Date December 11<sup>th</sup>

Watch Weeknights for the Charm Diamond

Visit [GlobalThunderBay.com](http://GlobalThunderBay.com) or [CKPRThunderBay.com](http://CKPRThunderBay.com) for Complete Details.

# Santa's got a new crew

Thunder Bay firefighters are teaming up with Santa to deliver toys to children in need this holiday season.

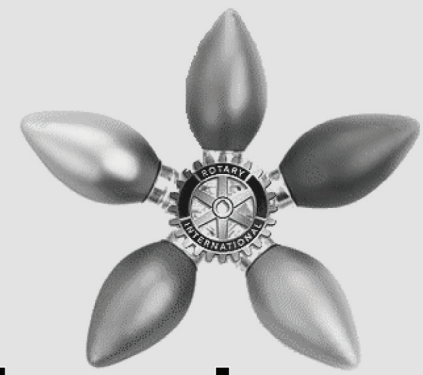


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TOYS FOR TOTS



*Donate today!*

- 1 Online at [tbaytoysfortots.ca](http://tbaytoysfortots.ca)
- 2 Visit the Toy Fire Station at Intercity Shopping Centre (Near Food Court)
- 3 Go to any TD Bank Location



## december dreams

Presented by Rotarians of Thunder Bay

Sponsored by



Saturday, December 2  
9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 3  
11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

C.L.E. Coliseum Building  
425 Northern Avenue, Thunder Bay  
\$ 2 Admission – no charge for children under 12

An exhibition and sale of fine arts, crafts and festive treats made by artists, artisans and specialty food vendors of Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario  
[Proceeds support local charitable organizations]

For more on the show and the participants, visit [www.lakeheadrotary.com](http://www.lakeheadrotary.com)

# Snow for December

So, here I was, seated at my desk in my library, Sunday afternoon, about to lament that we were rapidly approaching December, the Christmas Month (in my books), and no snow. Then I looked up and out the window. Hah! Ol' Man Winter has such a sense of humour. Snow!

Last week I was going about some errands and two of the people with whom I was dealing, wondered if we were going to get snow this winter since it was near the end of November and no snow yet.

I chuckled because I can recall a green Christmas one year in the early '80's after I had become a rural roofer having moved to the country.

We also had near misses when it didn't snow until just before Christmas but at least we had a white one. During the previous two years we received a lot of snow in mid-December and then nothing or, at least mere dustings until a couple of big dumps in the month when we were sick of snow - March.

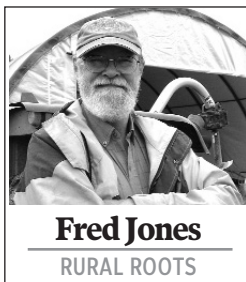
It is wonderful to have lots of snow over which we can snowshoe or ski (we don't own any motorized snow-mobiles) and, especially, when hopefully a nice, slow melt takes place in spring, it replenishes the groundwater and for us boaters, it raises lake levels for easy launching and pullouts. This past summer the lake levels were very low.

With the past couple of weeks busily bucking, splitting, and stacking firewood that we finished Sunday afternoon while it was snowing, there was a dash to get the seasoned wood covered.

Since half of the is pile comprised of



Winter is finally starting to show itself. (iStock)



**Fred Jones**  
RURAL ROOTS

newly slit wood, we didn't bother since we can't use it this winter anyway.

'Twas a bit awkward trying to spread the large tarp and rock it down with whatever we could find to keep the tarps from being blown off by winter winds.

I had to climb up onto the pile and gingerly move to the edge of the tarp to spread it out, then secure it

with large pieces of wood.

There are small spaces between the rows, so I had to be careful not to slip into those. My wife, Laura, was on the ground helping me spread and secure the tarps.

Then she wanted to do more

cleanup, removing a couple of very large pieces of birch, one of which I had deemed to become a splitting stump.

The idea was to finally clear the area where we could again park the truck instead of parking it well away from Casa Jones as we had to do until all of the wood was removed.

And now since the firewood for the basement boiler is done, I can venture onto our trails where there are lots of standing dead trees and those toppled by the northern winds, ripe for felling, bucking, and hauling back to the house.

I call this 'fun wood' because it is a lot easier to cut, bring back to the splitter by the house, and use in the upstairs fireplace. And when I'm outside I love the smell of burning balsam and spruce.

Sunday night I ventured to the barn to bring in the three horses since the wind had picked up, blowing snow horizontally.

Want them warm and dry. This blowing snow is soft with large flakes, not heavy and wet like the snowfall we received two weeks ago that eventually disappeared. As I walk back to our 'hoosie', I wonder if the snow will stay.

Six a.m. Monday morning: the land was now white; the full moon shining brightly in the western sky; and Jack Frost had decided to join in with minus 15 outside but feeling like -23 C due to some strong winds.

Brrr!

Decreasing December "the Christmas month" was originally done by our daughter, Beth.

I liked that appellation and adopted it too.

Beth also wanted serious snow by Dec. 1. I think she got her wish.

## ENIGMA™ CRYPTOGRAM

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

"QV MQBM NMDRTVMQ HVUVIUVV  
 ZVVLVMQ QTN AGI GADIRN WHVVI,  
 GQTEQ AMQVHGTNV GADXR QVBX BIR  
 RA GVXX." — OAQI FTXMAI

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		5	8					4	9
								7	
4					7	5	2	3	

### ACROSS

- 1 Query
- 4 As written in music
- 7 Pounds (abbr.)
- 10 Lower intestine
- 11 Make edging
- 12 Waste allowance
- 14 Onager
- 16 Portion out
- 17 At the age of (Lat.)
- 18 Utopian
- 20 Suggestion
- 21 Barely get by
- 22 Small armadillo
- 24 Reject
- 28 Your (Fr.)
- 31 Venezuelan copper center
- 32 Pigeon pea
- 34 Outfit
- 35 Actor
- 37 Parry
- 39 Bargain
- 41 Sp. article
- 42 Fluidity unit

- 44 Eucharist plate
- 46 Row
- 49 Cartoon chipmunk
- 51 Ern (2 words)
- 53 East
- 54 Loop trains
- 55 Prison: Brit.
- 56 Yangtze tributary
- 57 Caddoan Indian
- 58 Soul or spirit (Fr.)

### DOWN

- 1 Wings
- 2 Paving stone
- 3 "The Jungle Book" python
- 4 Scholar
- 5 Yarn
- 6 Nipa palm
- 7 Limited (abbr.)
- 8 Upholstery fabric
- 9 Peddle

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

T	O	D	A	A	B	M	F	A	C	E
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B	E	M	A	O	C	A	O	S	H	A
A	R	A	L	N	E	A	P	O	O	R

- 10 Amazon tributary
- 13 Part of golf course
- 15 Maize bread
- 19 Leftside (pref.)
- 21 Make happy
- 24 Fish with bait
- 25 Time period
- 26 Daughter of Lear
- 27 Europe (abbr.)
- 29 Eth. title
- 30 Poetic contraction
- 33 Emit
- 36 Chatter
- 38 Cornbread
- 40 Light
- 42 Recommended daily allowance (abbr.)
- 43 Botch
- 45 Distant (pref.)
- 46 Irish writing
- 47 Medicinal plant
- 48 Electric reluctance unit
- 50 Belonging to (suf.)
- 52 Turk. title

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						57			58			



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# Chippewa cabins more accessible

By Justin Hardy – TB Source

Chippewa Park Campground has taken an essential step towards improving accessibility for wheelchair users.

Starting from the 2024 camping season, visitors with mobility challenges will be better able to enjoy the great outdoors, with the added convenience and safety of new lift tracks in two of its accessible cabins.

Both cabins have been equipped with a ceiling track system over one of the beds, which ensures that indi-

viduals who require a lift to transfer from their wheelchairs to the bed can do so with ease and safety.

The ceiling tracks aim to make the transfers smoother and eliminate the need for manual lifting, reducing the risk of injury to both the camper and the caregiver.

Alongside the ceiling tracks, a lift is also available for campers who bring their own compatible slings.

This initiative was made possible through collaboration between the City of Thunder Bay and the Friends of Chippewa Park.

Legislative  
Assembly  
of Ontario



Assemblée  
législative  
de l'Ontario

## 2024 PRE-BUDGET CONSULTATIONS

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS WILL MEET TO CONDUCT **Pre-Budget Consultations.**

THE COMMITTEE INTENDS TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS IN OSHAWA ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023, IN MARKHAM ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2023, IN MISSISSAUGA ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023, IN OAKVILLE ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024, IN HAMILTON ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024, IN WELLAND ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024, IN CHATHAM ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024, IN LONDON ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024, IN CAMBRIDGE ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024, IN BROCKVILLE ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024, IN DOWNTOWN OTTAWA ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024, IN CORNWALL ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024, IN MOOSONEE ON MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2024, IN SUDBURY ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024, IN THUNDER BAY ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2024, AND IN DRYDEN ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024.

INTERESTED PEOPLE WHO WISH TO BE CONSIDERED TO MAKE AN ORAL PRESENTATION TO THE COMMITTEE ARE REQUIRED TO REGISTER BY:

- **12:00 p.m. (EST) on Monday, December 4, 2023** FOR OSHAWA, MARKHAM AND MISSISSAUGA;
- **12:00 p.m. (EST) on Wednesday, January 3, 2024** FOR OAKVILLE, HAMILTON AND WELLAND;
- **12:00 p.m. (EST) on Monday, January 8, 2024** FOR CHATHAM, LONDON AND CAMBRIDGE;
- **12:00 p.m. (EST) on Monday, January 15, 2024** FOR BROCKVILLE, DOWNTOWN OTTAWA AND CORNWALL;
- **12:00 p.m. (EST) on Monday, January 22, 2024** FOR MOOSONEE, SUDBURY, THUNDER BAY AND DRYDEN;

THOSE WHO DO NOT WISH TO MAKE AN ORAL PRESENTATION BUT WISH TO COMMENT ON THE ISSUE MAY SEND A WRITTEN SUBMISSION BY **7:00 p.m. (EST) on Thursday, February 1, 2024.**

TO REGISTER OR SEND A WRITTEN SUBMISSION, PLEASE VISIT THE FOLLOWING LINK: [OLA.ORG/EN/APPLY-COMMITTEES](http://OLA.ORG/EN/APPLY-COMMITTEES).

THE COMMITTEE WILL STREAM LIVE FROM LOCATION WHEN AVAILABLE. FOR THE LINK TO THE WEBCAST, AND TO FIND TIMES AND AVAILABILITY, PLEASE VISIT THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY WEBSITE AT [OLA.ORG](http://OLA.ORG).

Ernie Hardeman, MPP, Chair  
Vanessa Kattar, Clerk

Whitney Block, Room 1405  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A2

Telephone: 416-325-3509  
Facsimile: 416-325-3505

TTY: 416-325-3538  
E-mail: [scfea@ola.org](mailto:scfea@ola.org)

Collect calls will be accepted.  
Ces renseignements sont disponibles en français sur demande.

# Finding food security can be tough task

As we get into the holiday season, donation bins for the food bank and RFDA are starting to ramp up. Food security is becoming a larger issue for many families all over Canada.

A Statistics Canada study released earlier this month says nearly seven million Canadians struggled with hunger last year. Food insecurity is defined as the lack of an adequate quality of diet or sufficient quantity of food.

The lack of fresh produce or meats, and reliance on canned or boxed convenience meals can also fall under this banner.

The study, released on Nov. 14 says that in 2022, 18 per cent of families reported experiencing food insecurity within the previous 12 months, up from 16 per cent in 2021.

It says food insecurity was the lowest in Quebec at 14 per cent and highest in Newfoundland and Labrador at 23 per cent, followed by New Brunswick and Alberta, which both sat at 22 per cent. The rate shot up to 41 per cent for single parent homes.

The most surprising statistic is that on average, one in three food bank users are children.

In Toronto, one in 10 people in Toronto are now relying on food banks, twice as many as the year prior, a new report finds.

Food bank usage has smashed another record this year, with more than 2.5 million visits between April 2022 and March 2023 — a 51 per cent increase from the year before — and there are no signs of slowing down, according to this year's Who's Hungry report from Daily Bread and North York Harvest food banks.

While exact numbers for the Thunder Bay area are hard to come by, it doesn't take a scientist to know these services are being pushed beyond where they were designed to be.

Food Banks Canada is reporting the highest numbers of users they have seen since the data started being recorded in 1989.

A few years ago, unemployment was a major factor in the number of people seeking support, as the early months of the pandemic brought the economy to a halt.

The report said food insecurity is now being driven by inflation and the high cost of living — with more Canadians struggling to afford basics like housing and food.

The study said demand for food banks started exploding around the same time inflation saw a sharp increase, doing so at its fastest rate in the last 40 years.

Food Banks rely heavily on donations.

Armed with this information I hope those that are able this year will help these organizations out with a donation to help ease the pressure on some local families and on these food bank workers who are trying their best to help. I hope that at the very least we see that the families who need the food bank's services are able to get it.



**Derek Lankinen**  
Here's Cooking at You Kid

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.

# Napoleon not up to code

In a historical epic, it's not unreasonable to expect a credible, insightful interpretation of what forces define the central protagonist, especially when it's one of history's most notable figures like Napoleon Bonaparte.

But with *Napoleon*, (SilverCity) director Ridley Scott, an able hand at historical drama (*The Last Duel*) and screenwriter David Scarpa go heavy on action and light on narrative and characterization.

Perhaps Mr. Scott thought bullet-point highlights would serve the sprawling story. But as in *House of Gucci*, the results are muddled, disjointed. Title cards with places, names and dates haphazardly pop up, giving only a vague idea of temporal context. Impactful events, individuals and moments exist in isolation from each other or go unidentified.

The film begins with Bonaparte (Joaquin Phoenix), dismissed as a common Corsican, distinguishing himself despite overcoming nerves during the Siege of Toulon, prompting his promotion to brigadier

general. Soon he's conquering the world, leaving millions of dead soldiers in his wake.

The battle sequences are bloody, brilliantly staged spectacles, primarily the Battle of Austerlitz, where deadly musket shot and cannon balls whiz at Russian and Austrian soldiers in the style of *Saving Private Ryan*. Bonaparte uses cunning strategy to sink the retreating cavalry (though not entirely accurate.). There are stunning views of soldiers and horses submerged in freezing waters. (Dummies were used apparently.)

During the fateful Battle of Waterloo, the Duke of Wellington (Rupert Everett) employs the vaunted British squares, unleashing steady volleys of deadly musket fire on the battlefield, buying time for the Prussian advance. The coordination and editing of these mammoth scenes are masterful.

The film features superb cinematography, set design, costuming. Period firearms are discharged authentically for a change.



**Marty Mascarín**  
MOVIE TALK



Joaquin Phoenix plays the title role in *Napoleon*.

There is much to appreciate.

However, much is under-written, particularly Napoleon and Josephine (Vanessa Kirby.). Their relationship is characterized by gamesmanship and fitful humour. Josephine exudes glacial self-possession, seducing Napoleon with an undergarment reveal reminiscent of "Basic Instinct."

However, the supposed passion between them is reflected only in Phoenix's narrating Napoleon's letters to Josephine,

not through interaction on-screen. How she fires his ambitions and confidence is unclear.

Napoleon remains a cipher. His impact upon France, the continent, the world, the Napoleonic Code etc go wanting. Other than Austerlitz, there is no insight into his strategic brilliance. What made Napoleon tick? His foibles and ambition do not coalesce into a psychological whole. Phoenix's stoicism has gravitas but doesn't resonate.

Returning from Elba, he wins over troops sent to intercept him with one of the film's few speeches, but this scene is simplistically rendered like the bit in *Young Frankenstein* where everybody's going back to the burgomaster's house for some strudel.

Then Napoleon falls victim to hubris, the Russian winter and Waterloo delivering a one-two punch.

Scott has publicly dismissed his historical critics with "Get a life." Historical accuracy aside, let's hope for better storytelling instead. Perhaps the four-hour version planned for Apple TV will do justice to *Napoleon*.

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# Silver, Weiss cruise to victory

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

Chris Silver's squad might be relatively new to Tbaytel Major League of Curling, but they haven't looked out of place at all this season.

Silver, whose team includes Owen Riches, Connor Mangoff and Travis Showalter, opened up a 5-0 lead with a steal of three in the second round and shook hands after adding three more without the hammer in the fifth, blanking Andrew Sinclair's foursome 9-0 in Wednesday night action at the Port Arthur Curling Club.

The win placed Silver's team in the thick of the playoff hunt with 11 points, tied with defending champion Brian Adams Jr. for fifth place in the 16-team circuit.

Despite the lopsided score, it was tougher than it looked, Silver said.

"I wouldn't say it was an easy end. They played pretty well," he said. "They had us on the ropes, especially at the start. The first and second ends were shaping up not the greatest, but after that we really pulled it together."

"I was really happy with the way we played, especially after last night, when we didn't really have the best game."

Silver said communication was the key to picking up the win, the team's third in regulation this season.

"And it was just kind of getting back to what we've been doing all season long," he said. "It's been a pretty good year. The communication



Skip Chris Silver watches a shot last Wednesday at the Tbaytel Major League of Curling at Port Arthur Curling Club.

and just having the same releases. I think we're really good at talking and being really open with each other, if something goes right or wrong, what we need to change or what we need to keep doing well."

Three sheets over, Gary Weiss was having almost as easy a time against Jodi Judd, stealing a pair in the second and a single in the

third to jump out in front 4-0, on their way to an 8-2 win that gives the team 10 points, tied with Al Hackner and Krista McCarville for seventh place - in a league that sees eight teams advance to the championship round when playoffs begin.

"We made a lot of really good shots early on and got a bit of a lead," Weiss said. "Then we

kind of settled in a little bit and Jodi's team made a lot of good shots to come back. They gave us a lot of challenge at the end of the game."

Still, Judd could only manage singles in the fourth and sixth ends and trailed 5-2 heading into the seventh, when Weiss put a stamp on the match, putting up three with the hammer to end the game.

"We started off a little slower than we anticipated, than we hoped to, but we're starting to get more games and get a little more comfortable with each other, as well. So, I think we're going to have a really good second half of the season," Weiss said.

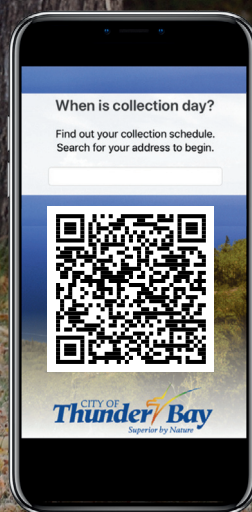
In other action, Ron Rosengren took over first place with a 7-0 whitewashing of Denis Malette's team, and are the only remaining unbeaten team at 5-0-0-0. Robyn Despins rink, skipped by Nicole Westlund-Stewart, grabbed a share of second with an 8-4 win over Trevor Bonot's team, which iced a replacement foursome, Bonot's team out of town for an event. Team Bonot is tied with Despins at 13 points.

Adams Jr. downed Zach Warkentin 6-1, Dylan Johnston edged Jackson Dubinsky 6-4 and Hackner's rink, skipped by Frank Morissette in Hackner's absence, won a shot to the button tiebreaker against Bryan Burgess to earn a 6-5 triumph.

Last, but not least, McCarville scored one in the eighth to edge Ben Mikkelsen 4-3.

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## Walleye win again

By Leith Dunick - TB Source

The Fort Frances Lakers gave the Kam River Fighting Walleye a run, but ran out of steam in the end.

The Fighting Walleye scored four straight in the fourth to blow open a 2-2 contest at the Norwest Arena and went on to down the Lakers 6-2, Kam River's Braeden Duchesne leading the charge with three goals and an assist on the night.

Jeremy Dunmore, Easton Debray and Sam Sargent also scored for the Fighting Walleye (16-3-0), winners of two straight Superior International Junior Hockey League contests.

Brady Krentz, who scored the lone goal of the second, and Josh Greene, who tied the game 2-2 just 40 seconds into the third, had the Lakers goals.

Travis VanderZwaag made 30 saves to earn the win between the pipes for Kam River, while former Fighting Walleye netminder Jack Orchard was victimized six times on 54 shots and was tagged with the loss. Orchard was a member of last season's Bill Salonen Cup champion Fighting Walleye squad.

**Dryden 5, Thunder Bay 4:** Ryland Maier scored midway through the third period to lift the Ice Dogs (13-8-1) past the North Stars, who had scored twice in the first seven minutes of the final stanza to turn what had been a 4-0 game into a 4-4 tie. It was Maier's second goal of the night. McLaren Paulsen also had a pair for Dryden.



# T-Wolves fight back after loss

I wasn't sure what to expect last weekend when the No. 2 UQTR Patriotes and the McGill Redbirds rolled into town.

The third period of Friday night's game aside, I was impressed with the results.

The Thunderwolves looked good for 40 minutes on Friday night, holding a 3-1 lead until the dying minutes of the period. The Patriotes, the defending national champions, found another gear in the second intermission and rolled off four straight goals in the final frame to pull out a 6-3 win.

But with starter Christian Cicigoi sidelined until the new year, Max Wright did an admirable job in nets for the T-Wolves, who were maybe guilty of sitting back and trying to nurse a one-goal lead against one of the most powerful offences in the OUA.

Saturday night, the Wolves took on McGill, ranked No. 11 in the nation (Lakehead checked in last week at No. 20) and once again built a 3-1 lead. This time it held, the T-Wolves going on to defeat the Redbirds 5-3 and hit the final weekend of the first-half in fourth place in the OUA West, at 8-6-1.

They'll take on No. 14 Toronto on the road this weekend.

The Varsity Blues have done most of their damage on the road this season, with six wins in seven games, and are just 5-4-0 at home, so they are vulnerable.

□□□

I got a note over the weekend about the upcoming Ontario Winter Games and a local curling team that has qualified to take part in the event, being staged in Thunder Bay. Skip Josh Hari, who is just 12 years old, and his foursome will be in the field. The team includes lead Hudson Kelly (13), second Kyle Haynen (13) and third Jacob Curtis (15). The Games take place from Feb. 16 to Feb. 26, 2024. The curling will take place at the Fort William Curling Club.

□□□

Rookie Kelly-Ann Coulombe is making a name for herself with the Lakehead Thunderwolves women's basketball team. The Quebec native had back-to-back 16-rebound games over the weekend, and posted double-digit points on both nights. She's starting to look like a surefire OUA all-rookie selection, and should draw some all-OUA attention too.



Lakehead's Kelly-Ann Coulombe is staking a claim for an all-OUA rookie spot, with back-to-back 16-rebound games this past weekend against Western and Windsor.

Coulombe leads the league in rebounds per game, at 11.7 and is 12th in assists, with 23. She's also hit half her shots from the field. The Wolves may be 2-6, but they've got a pretty good building block in their rookie centre.

□□□

The St. Ignatius Falcons girls' basketball team made the quarterfinal round at the AA OFSAA championship, but lost a heart-breaker to Sir Winston Churchill, falling 45-43 in overtime. In boys volleyball, the Hammarskjold Vikings lost out in the consolation semifinal, dropping a 3-1 decision to North Park. They went 1-3 in the round

robin.

□□□

The Hammarskjold Vikings were in it late, but just couldn't produce the offence they needed at the Northern Bowl in Windsor, falling 21-4 to Brantford's Assumption College. A late prick-six sealed the deal for the winning side.



**Leith Dunick**  
SPORTS SHORTS



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2023-2024 SEASON

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**NOV 24TH** VS. WESTERN MUSTANGS

**NOV 25TH** VS. WINDSOR LANCERS

**JAN 5TH** VS. LAURENTIAN VOYAGEURS

**JAN 6TH** VS. NIPISSING LAKERS

**JAN 26 & 27TH** VS. BROCK BADGERS

**FEB 9TH** VS. QUEEN'S GAELS

**FEB 10TH** VS. ONTARIO TECH RIDGEBACKS

#### WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

**NOV 17 & 18TH** VS. TORONTO VARSITY BLUES

**JAN 12 & 13TH** VS. TMU BOLD

**JAN 19 & 20TH** VS. NIPISSING LAKERS

**FEB 2 & 3RD** VS. QUEEN'S GAELS

**FEB 16 & 17TH** VS. RMC PALADINS

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— John Milton

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS & OTHERS**  
Anyone having a claim against the Estate of GRANT WILLIAM SIMMONS, late of the City of Thunder Bay, District of Thunder Bay who died on the 16th day of October, 2023, is required on or before the 18th day of December, 2023, to file with the undersigned solicitors particulars of their claim duly verified, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to those claims of which Notice shall then have been given.

DATED: November 16, 2023

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