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Thursday, February 2, 2023

CHAMPS



Team McCarville wins Northern Ontario title, will head to Scotties later this month in Kamloops, B.C. /14

Team McCarville (from left): Skip Krista McCarville, third Kendra Lilly, second Ashley Sippala, lead Sarah Potts and coach Rick Lang. (Leith Dunick)



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Fight results in murder charge

Cody Young identified as the city's second murder victim of 2023

By Doug Diaczuk - TB Source

A record number of homicides in the city of Thunder Bay reported last year and two homicides already in 2023 is requiring an immense amount of police resources, but a Thunder Bay Police Service investigator says it can manage the case load.

"We don't have a breaking point. We can't have a breaking point," said Det. Sgt. Jason Rybak with the Thunder Bay Police Service. "We are the end for everything. We have dedicated people in this organization who just are not going to break."

The latest homicide in the city occurred on Saturday, Jan. 28 in the McKenzie Street area. Officers responded to reports of an altercation at approximately 4 p.m. and located an injured male on the side of the street.

The male, later identified as 33-year-old Cody Young, was transported to hospital where he died as a result of his injuries.

The investigation revealed an altercation had taken place at a residence on Prince Arthur Boulevard. With the help of witnesses, 24-year-old Matthew James Scavarelli was identified as a suspect and located inside the residence where he was arrested.

"We had tremendous help from the community," Rybak said. "There were witnesses so we knew exactly where he was and our emergency task unit attended the residence and he was arrested without incident."

Behind bars

Scavarelli was charged with second-degree murder. He has since made his first court appearance and was remanded into custody.

According to Rybak, Young's injuries were consistent with a stabbing and it does not appear this incident was related to the illicit drug trade.

"This was two individuals known to each other," he said. "There was an interaction between them at a residence. For all intents and purposes, a fight ensued and spilled out into the street and resulted in Mr. Young's ultimate death."

This is the second homicide in 2023, the first occurring on Jan. 22 in the 700 block of John Street where 23-year-old Dallas Bannon of Thunder Bay was found injured and later died in hospital.

A 17-year-old Hamilton male was arrested and charged with second-degree murder.

Investigators indicated that Bannon's death was



Police were called to the East End on Saturday afternoon.

also not related to the illicit drug trade.

"Every homicide or death is problematic for us," Rybak said. "Regardless of the motive at the end of the day, it is still a homicide. It takes a tremendous amount of resources. The public doesn't see the officers working around the clock, the little sleep."

Manpower required

The early stages of homicide investigations are often the most resource intensive, as officers work to contain the scenes, collect evidence, pursue leads, all in an effort of identifying and arresting the individual or individuals responsible.

But the number of homicides in the city, including the record-setting 15 in 2022, is a growing concern for investigators because of the impact on public safety and the amount of resources required.

"Regardless of it being a drug or GTA related homicide, it is concerning the sheer number," Rybak said. "We have to do something as a community to solve this problem because it is very taxing."

WEATHER FORECAST

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
			
Partly Cloudy	Sunny	Snow	Partly Cloudy
Precipitation: 30% HIGH -17 LOW -28	Precipitation: 60% HIGH -20 LOW -22	Precipitation: 60% HIGH -9 LOW -10	Precipitation: 30% HIGH -9 LOW -15

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Drones used to catch cell scofflaws

Police have charged three drivers to date

By Gary Rinne - TB Source

City police are taking advantage of a new tool in their efforts to crack down on distracted driving.

Police have successfully tested the use of a camera-equipped drone to spot motorists texting or dialing on their cell phones while they're behind the wheel.

During a recent two-hour trial, three drivers were ticketed after being observed while stopped at intersections.

A conviction carries a \$615 fine, three demerit points, and a three-day suspension of driving privileges which requires payment of an additional fee for reinstatement.

Acting traffic Sgt. Sal Carchidi said

some motorists have become quite creative at concealing their phones while they're using them, such as by holding them under the steering column.

Carchidi said it can also be difficult for an officer to see a phone from outside a vehicle that has a higher ground clearance.

"One of our officers had the idea to utilize our drone. We'll launch it in a public area, either from the sidewalk or a lot near an intersection, and from an elevation we're able to monitor if a person may be using their cell phone."

He said it takes two officers to work with the drone, one to operate it and the other to serve as the observer.

"They would make an observation of a person holding a hand-held communication device. They would then relay the details of that to other

officers who are parked close by, including a description of the vehicle or its license plate. Then they would be stopped and issued an offence notice."

Carchidi said he hopes the drone serves as a further deterrent to motorists because distracted driving is a well-known cause of collisions.

"There's definitely a lot of collisions in the city where officers suspect cell phones contributed, but it's difficult to prove short of someone seeing that person on their phone. We take the stand that cell phone use is a major cause of collisions. We take it seriously with enforcement, as does the province with the fines and suspensions that they've applied to it."

It is illegal to use a phone or other hand-held wireless device to text or dial while driving, including when stopped in traffic or at a red light.



Thunder Bay Police are employing a drone to catch people driving and texting.

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Food a dynamic part of travel

A huge part of travelling for most people is getting to have a new food experience.

Finding new restaurants or new local cuisine was always a great part about being in a new city or country. A new food journey that you can't have at home.

Obviously travel hasn't been as easily accessible or feasible for some, but in 2022 travel began to find its way again.

The World Tourism Organization is reporting that travel has reached 60 per cent of pre pandemic levels.

This is great news considering where we were even just 18 months ago.

With the increase post-pandemic of AirBnB and other types of private accommodations popping up, hotels have yet to see a correlation between their sales and increases in

other tourist properties.

Internationally many upper echelon properties have leaned into their food and restaurant programs for help attracting new clientele. This has unwittingly created some new dynamic food trends.

You are seeing way more vegetable centric menu items popping up on many menus everywhere however in hotels it is very prevalent.

Even going so far with many hotels in rural areas such as Wildflower Farms in the Hudson Valley of New York, having fully functional vegetable gardens available to their chefs to use to create.

Thunder Bay took outdoor dining to a new level during the pandemic,

however this wasn't a uniquely Thunder Bay situation. Many people began to more explore outdoor dining all over the world and patios and decks began a roaring comeback.

Restaurants are expected to continue to expand outdoor dining in the coming year, going through the sizable expense of creating screened in porches, bubble dome decks and mother nature inspired dining experiences.

One of the most important and popular trends in food travel this year is explorers seeking out sustainable food offerings on menus.

Guests are demanding a higher quality of product in many high end



Derek Lankinen

Here's Cooking at You Kid



Outdoor dining exploded in Thunder Bay.

hotels and hotels are eager to offer them to them (and charge accordingly). In various hotels in Las Vegas they are opting in to choosing cage

free eggs, and relating to the cost of such, gone are the days of the complimentary breakfast because of that.

In 2022 the low- and zero-alcohol cocktail made a resurgent comeback on many drink lists. Gone are the days where the only mocktail available on most menus was the Shirley Temple.

Many are wanting to see the bartenders flair for creating fun drinks without the alcohol and many mixologists have been all too keen to provide these fun drinks without worrying about getting home safely. 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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EDITORIAL

Over board

The man chosen to oversee the Thunder Bay Police Services board has a lot of gall to seek a 68 per cent increase to the board's annual budget.

Yet that's exactly what unelected provincial appointee Malcolm Mercer has chosen to do, asking the city to raise the board's spending allowance to \$763,200.

What's even more troubling is his singlehanded call to up the salaries of board members by \$7,000 annually, about a 50 per cent increase.

While the current board members, including Mayor Ken Boshcoff and Coun. Shelby Ch'ng, were not board members when allegations of racism and other improprieties were levelled at the board, what exactly has the board done to warrant such an exorbitant increase? It's already a plumb assignment.

Throughout the years, the board has also proven to be little more than a rubber stamp for the police services leadership, rather than the sober school of second thought it should be.

It's time to go back to the drawing board, Mr. Mercer. And you can start with the honorarium increase. Taxpayers in the city are facing a big enough increase as it is.

Stop the spending To the editor:

As we continue to hear from more city taxpayers there is one thing they all agree with.

This year, the city tax increase should be lowered or eliminated completely by using funds from either the stabilization fund (13.1 million surplus) or the proposed indoor turf facility fund (\$17 million dollars) as city taxpayers were over charged by close to \$11 million dollars in 2021.

They agree with what councillor Kristen Oliver stated in June of 2022 when she stated that the \$10.9 million dollar surplus from 2021 should be used to offset future tax increases in 2023.

Coun. Trevor Giertuga stated the city's habit of multi-million dollar surplus amounts to overcharging residents for services in order to "pad" its reserves.

Many taxpayers are strapped and are living on less than what you make being a councillor.

They are living on fixed or declining incomes. Many are widowed or single and have serious health issues. Many are

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



now switching to dollar stores to buy their groceries and they don't sell fruit or fresh vegetables there. They will also be faced with higher water bills this year and Thunder Bay already has the 6th highest water rates in the province as well as the second highest taxes

and tax rates in the province. In 2021 there was a \$4.9 million dollar surplus on the rate supported side for water, wastewater and landfill.

If seniors live to 75 years of age they will get a \$50 a month increase on their old age pension.

A far cry from what the adminis-

tration got. Many on the city's sunshine list earning an average of \$127,000 dollars a year will see raises of over \$5,000 dollars. City manager Norm Gale will see an increase of over \$10,000.00 with a 4% increase. If he receives this increase his salary will rise from about \$261,000 dollars to approximately \$271,000 thousand dollars.

City council had no problem ratifying these increases.

Most of the people we talked to want a zero per cent tax increase.

Just for a moment think of yourselves as one of these seniors and how these high tax increases impact them.

City taxpayers are hoping this new council will be the one that will bring positive change to city hall.

All we can do is hope.

On Thursday Feb. 2, I will be doing a deputation at City Hall to council during the post budget meeting.

This meeting will be televised on Shaw Cable 10 and also on TBaytel.

I am the first speaker at 6:30 p.m.

Ray Smith,
Thunder Bay

Ted Hughes' poetry always makes you think

The Thought Fox by Ted Hughes is a collection of animal poems from one of the greatest poets of his generation and indeed one of the greatest writers of the twentieth century.

Hughes was born in Yorkshire in 1930 and was Poet Laureate from 1984 until his death in 1998. He is most well known for his animal poems which are red in tooth and claw.

The Thought Fox, taken from *The Hawk in the Rain* (1957), describes that most iconic of British mammals which, at one time, was almost hunted out of extinction to quench the blood lust of the English ruling class.

The first direct action political

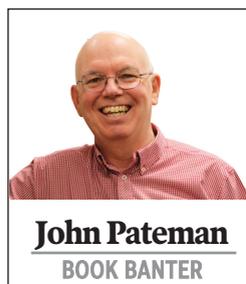
group that I joined as a revolutionary youth was the Hunt Saboteurs Association. At weekends we would disrupt fox hunts by blowing whistles and laying false trails. In return we were whipped and beaten by the heavies who guarded the landed gentry. But it was worth it.

'Cold, delicately as the dark snow / A fox's nose touches twig, leaf / Two eyes serve a movement, that now / And again now, and now / Sets neat prints into the snow'

The wily fox is the trickster of English folklore. He can get himself

out of most situations and into most hen houses.

Hughes' poems remind us that animals are so much more honest than humans. They do not stab each other in the back or make false promises or shady deals. They are straight forward and look their victims directly in the eye when they go in for the kill.



And the Falcon Came, taken from *Moortown* (1979), describes the moment when this majestic bird hits its prey like a guided missile:

'With the bullet brow / Of burying himself head first and ahead / Of his

delicate bones, into the target / Collision / The talons / Of a first, last, single blow / Of grasping complete the crux of rays / With the tooled bill / Of plucking out the ghost / And feeding it to his eye-flame'

I saw something similar happen down at Marina Park one misty afternoon.

The gulls were screaming and wheeling wildly in the air. Something had spooked them. And then, as if from nowhere, the hawk struck like a silent assassin.

While most of these poems describe British wildlife there are some that are set in North America. *The Howling of Wolves* is taken from *Wodwo* (1967):

'The howling of wolves / Is without world / What are they dragging up and out on their long leashes of sound / That dissolve in the mid-air silence? / The wind sweeps through and the hunched wolf shivers / It howls you cannot say whether out of agony or joy'

In *The Gulkana*, taken from *River* (1983), Hughes describes the Gulkana River which is a 60 mile tributary of the Copper River in Alaska:

'Jumbled iceberg hills, away to the north / And a long wreath of fire-haze / The Gulkana, where it meets the Copper / Swung, jade, out of the black spruce forest / And disappeared into it'.

Hughes nails it everytime.

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

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

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Dissecting the current council

By JR Shermack

With so much going on over the past couple years it was easy to overlook important community events such as last year's municipal election.

I researched the candidates before I cast my ballot but once the election was over I didn't pay much attention to the results.

Some of my picks didn't win a seat on council but I was satisfied with the results and left it at that - until I picked up a city newspaper last week.

Suddenly I was faced with the smiling faces of Thunder Bay's 54th city council in a portrait taken in council chambers and displayed on the front page.

It struck me that other than our revitalized mayor I am not that familiar with some of the other councillors, especially the newly-elected ones.

Still, as they posed for the camera they looked hopeful and prepared to guide the city for the next four years.

This is as good a time as any to



Mayor Ken Boshcoff was elected for a third time last October, the first time since 2000.

pause and reflect on the 2022 municipal election now that the results are final and our new

council has been sworn in.

I am not a political pundit but as a city resident I have a vested interest in the success of our community, as does the new council and everybody who calls Thunder Bay home.

So let's see ... who will be the decision makers at City Hall for the next four years.

Mayor Ken Boshcoff returns to the Mayor's seat, riding on his experience and his public service record, not mention his good name in the community.

It wasn't a runaway victory for our returning mayor - he was closely challenged by Gary Mack who gained enough support in the community to consider his future plans.

But Ken Boshcoff prevailed, perhaps in recognition of past performance, his years of political experience and the comfort of electing a well-known, lifelong local resident.

Name recognition and incumbent candidates always appeal to Thunder Bay voters.

Mayor Boshcoff paid his political dues serving on city council with former mayors David Hamilton, Jack Masters and the inimitable Walter Aseff.

After "Jolly Wally" Mr. Boshcoff should be well-prepared to deal with the antics of vocal naysayers and critics or irate constituents with personal agendas.

I think we can expect him to use more diplomacy and less confrontation than his colorful, but cantankerous former colleague, Mayor Aseff.

The mayor will be joined in council chambers by seven seasoned incumbents and five first-time councillors, gathered around the table with the city's future in their hands.

They are facing many challenges and will need to display effective leadership to manage the issues identified by the candidates themselves during the campaign.

It is a daunting list that includes attracting investment, city growth, homelessness, crime,

racism, infrastructure, public health, rejuvenating the south core, for starters.

All this while repairing the streets in the summer, clearing them in the winter, organizing city-wide recreation, dealing with citizen complaints, attending regular meetings and so on.

Of course what the candidates said while campaigning isn't nearly as important as what they do once they are elected.

There is yet another challenge. It would make things much easier if the new council could count on widespread support but the low voter turnout (43%) indicates a lack of interest in community involvement.

We all have a vested interest in the success of Thunder Bay and the future of the city but Council will need more support from the community at large.

Congratulations to our new (and old) councillors for taking on such a challenging task.

This is as good a time as any to get started.

what's happening
in and around...

The Bay

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Please include details about the event, including any cost

February 3/4

Thunderwolves Basketball

Lakehead University's men's and women's basketball teams will be in action at the C.J. Sanders Fieldhouse on Friday and Saturday night for games against Toronto Metropolitan.

The men's team is ranked 10th in the nation and the women are looking to pick up their second win of 2022-23.

Tip-offs are 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. each night.

February 2,3, 8-11

Something Rotten

Welcome to the Renaissance and the outrageous, crowd-pleasing musical farce, Something Rotten.

Created by Grammy Award-winning songwriter Wayne Kirkpatrick, and successful screenwriters Karey Kirkpatrick and John O'Farrell, Something Rotten was lauded by audience members and critics alike, receiving several Best Musical nominations and hailed by

Time Out New York as "the funniest musical comedy in at least 400 years."

The show is being put on by the Paramount Theatre.

Tickets are \$27.54 and are available at eventbrite.ca.

February 9

Thunderwolves Hockey

The LU Thunderwolves hockey team will welcome the Windsor Lancers to Fort William Gardens, for a contest originally scheduled in November.

The Lancers and Thunderwolves are battling it out for top spot in the OUA West, separated by just two points in the standings heading into this weekend's action.

February 6

Going to the Dogs

Kamview Nordic Centre is opening up the Northern Lights Trail (from the Stadium, around the Northern Lights, and back to the Stadium only)

so that you can ski with your pooch!

The lights will be on and skiers and their puppers are welcome to ski this portion of the Night Loop, but keep in mind all the rules that apply on the Dudley's dog-friendly ski trail will also apply here.

Dogs must be off-leash when skiing. Dogs must be under the skiers control at all times. The skiing takes place from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

February 4

Live at Loch Lomond

This weekend Loch Lomond Ski Area is adding a Saturday show from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. with the return of one of their faves, Just Me.

He'll be performing classic songs and rock hits from the 80's, 90's and 2000's.

This acoustic solo act will bring you a great show featuring some of your favourite musical memories. It will be an amazing night with unforgettable sing-alongs.

HOW TO WRITE TO US:

Letters to the editor are most welcome. Those kept to 350 words or less have priority.

The Thunder Bay Source reserves the right to edit submissions for content and clarity. All attempts will be made to preserve the core argument of the author.

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WEEKLY POLL QUESTION.

THIS WEEK'S POLL QUESTION:

Is this the year Krista McCarville wins the
Scotties Tournament of Hearts?

TOTAL VOTES: X,XXX

YES 44.67% **NO** 37% **DON'T KNOW** 18.33%

Real winter has finally arrived

I may have written about visiting our local dump and hearing one of the attendants pipe up that we hadn't got a real winter.

"Whaddya mean we haven't received a real winter?" I queried, "Look at the amount of snow we have on the ground." "A real winter should be cold. This isn't," he complained.

OK, it has been one of the warmest Januarys on record. January should boast minus 30, minus 35 temperatures for two weeks usually in the middle of the month.

"Hasn't happened," he replied.

Oh, so it isn't a 'real winter' unless the thermometer registers very cold. OK.

Well, it has registered now. This past weekend minus 30's at night, and in the morning, of late, even the dogs have been reluctant to go outside to do their thing. I open the door; they poke their noses out and then turn around to

head back into the warmth. But when we eventually bundle up and step outside, it really isn't that bad. Why? Dry cold.

Ah yes. Sneaky this dry cold because it can fool you into thinking it is not as cold as you expected. Beware! Frostbite lurks around the corner.

Friday was a day of fierce winds. Quite the show watching out our living room window as the snow is blown off of the spruce branches and sent sailing across the field.

And, of course, the winds picking up snow off of said field and causing it to dance in a swirl as it is are moved eastward.

Driving to town and back on Friday there are specific places on the highway where there are open fields and that is where the winds grab the snow to drop it across

the road. Sizable drifts appear through which one must forge. Not too bad as I drove since the highway snow ploughs had already been out clearing. Not like what Frederick Philip Grove faced in 1917-18 Manitoba.

Frederick Philip Grove had a job teaching in a small country town while his wife and young daughter were living forty miles north where she, too, was teaching school. It was not possible for the both of them to teach at the same school.

So, come heck or high snow drifts, F. P. Grove saddled a horse Saturday morning to make the trip north to be with his wife and daughter for one night only because he had to do it in reverse on the Sunday in order to be back in time for school on Monday. Not too many adventures during

the late spring, summer, and autumn, at least until the snow came.

But in the winter he would hitch up his horse to a sleigh and make the journey north sometimes encountering formidable obstacles such as almost impassible snow drifts over which or through which his horse had to negotiate. There were a couple of near disasters but he managed to get through.

I was thinking of Mr. Grove's adventures while driving Friday as three times I had to pass through drifts on the highway.

They weren't big because the snow ploughs had been through but when I approached open fields, the winds were whipping up the snow and sending it racing across the field to cover the road.

Back in our warm, cozy Casa Jones, I stood by the window to again watch the action of wind causing snow to fly across the open ground. The other action of

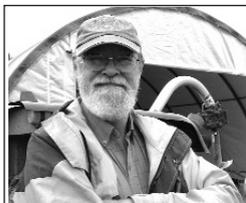
the wind was the scalloping of the snow near the house forming beautifully edged patterns.

We had been leaving the horses outside in their paddock at night since the temperatures were ridiculously mild for this time of year.

But Friday night we brought them into their stalls in the barn. Though the winds were blowing from the west and their paddock has protection from both the bush and from a shelter, it was cold and we wanted them to be warm and be able to get dry.

But since the night time temperatures on the weekend dropped to the minus 30 mark, it took the sun a while to warm up the outside, so the horses stayed in their stalls until mid-morning when the sun, now high in the sky, would help keep our equines warm during the day.

So, I hope our dump attendant is now happy since the missing part of winter hath arrived.



Fred Jones
RURAL ROOTS

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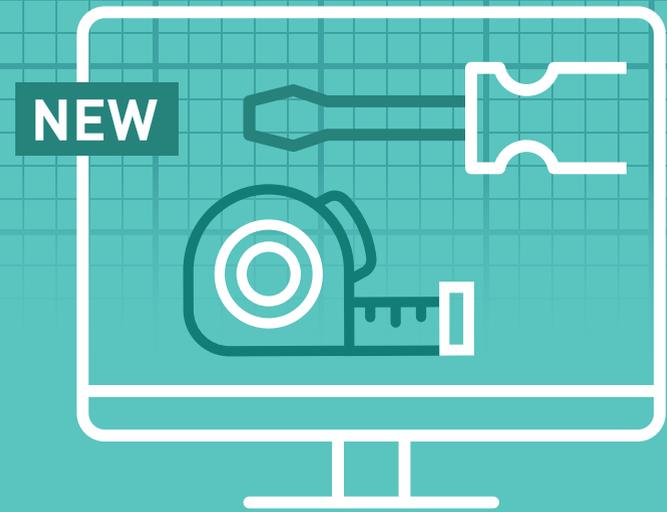
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Trail grooming key to fat-biking

Thunder Bay has an extensive trail system in place

Anyone who has been to Centennial Park or Trowbridge Forrest recently has undoubtedly noticed how the singletrack trails that weave through the area are meticulously groomed for fat biking this winter.

Building and maintaining these trails has now become a year-round operation for the Blacksheep Mountain Bike Club, so I asked the group's vice president, Ben Urbanski, to help us understand what is involved in the winter maintenance of the singletrack network.

A tireless volunteer who is universally loved by the huge mountain biking community in Thunder Bay, Urbanski has added the duties of Head of Winter Trail Maintenance and Programming to his list of

responsibilities this winter.

The result is that we now have what is very likely the largest network of groomed winter single-track trails in Canada!

Within the Trowbridge Forest System, the Blacksheep volunteers maintain around 30 kilometres of trails in the winter.

To create the smooth riding surface, the club uses a SnowDog track sled. Urbanski says it is based off the design of the Bolens Hus-ski machines of the 1970s.

They are very popular in Russia and are now being assembled in Canada and the USA and are sold for hunting, fishing, hauling supplies, and of course, grooming trails.

The Snowdog operator stands on top of a trailing platform and Urbanski says the club tows one of two different devices depending on the conditions.

An acrylic tub is used after large snowfalls to reset tracks and pack the snow, while a metal grooming plate is used to fully pack the trails and create a hard smooth surface.

The club has been grooming trails with the SnowDog for the past five winters.

Before that, the trails had to be packed by snowshoe, which was nearly impossible many winters due to heavy snow accumulation.

The grooming schedule is dependent on the weather and each new snowfall means more work for the volunteers.

"After a large snowstorm we might groom for seven days straight to get things packed hard, but we usually groom two or three days a week to touch up the trails, pack blown-in snow, and smooth out damage caused from both bike and foot traffic" Urbanski notes.



Keith Ailey

the GOOD LIFE

Grooming is best done in the evenings to allow the trails to firm up when the temperature drops overnight, though daytime grooming is utilized when evening temperatures are too cold to safely operate the machine.

I asked Urbanski what the biggest challenges are to grooming such a large trail system. He listed three big obstacles: finding volunteers, equipment malfunctions and, of course, the weather.

Urbanski notes "because the Snowdog doesn't have skis to turn, it is tough to keep the machine on the trail after a big snowfall and it is also very susceptible to flipping over on snow drifts. Cold weather also results in lower moisture content in the snow, making it tougher to pack."

To make matters worse, most of the parts for the Snowdog are from Russia, which can result in months of waiting if you need a specific part after a breakdown.

For those of us excited to try the

trails out, it is important to practice patience.

Freshly groomed trails can take anywhere from a single night to a couple days before they are firm enough for snowshoes or fat bikes, and even longer for foot traffic. Urbanski recommends low tire pressure for fat bikes, or wearing small snowshoes when walking on the groomed trails.

"It can make all the difference. When soft trails get damaged and then they harden in the cold overnight weather, they can be very hard to fix, which is taxing on the volunteers and grooming budget," he says.

Ben Urbanski and the Blacksheep continue to work hard to help promote and grow the sport of mountain biking in our region. The club is a non-profit, volunteer-run organization that relies on donations to build and maintain the trails.

To support winter grooming and trail maintenance efforts, visit www.Blacksheepmtb.com/donate.

For the past 56 years 91.5 CKPR and the Port Arthur Rotary Club of Thunder Bay have joined forces in a fundraising effort to make our community a better place to live.

This year is no different and on Monday, February 20, 91.5 CKPR will donate all of its commercial time to raise money to allow the Rotarians to continue to make significant contributions to many worthwhile projects right here in our own community.

Tall fishing tale

By Linda Maehans – TB Source

Anglers who bait hooks have been known to exaggerate what they land with their rod. They inflate, oh just a tad, the true size of the catch. Seems success as outdoorsmen, or whatever type (of men) they are, lies more in the telling than what actually gets snagged on the line.

But! No exaggeration this time; no sir-ree Nellie.

Dock Spider, currently playing at Magnus, is the most amazing, utterly hilarious, and yes, shocking tale that ever was. Is.

If I hadn't witnessed it with my own eyes I wouldn't believe it. And neither will you, unless you experience it for yourself. This isn't merely a gentle suggestion.

A world premiere as remarkable as this one belongs to one place: the Lakehead. I mean, c'mon. Playwright Bonnie Green reveals her version-of-events as happening on a secluded island, on one of the Great Lakes. Where else could that be but Superior? I'm imagining a smooth skip-and-anchor's throw off the far side of The Giant. On a calm day when it's safe to venture into deeper waters. Or pockets.

Oh, did you think I was still talking 'bout fishing? Try and keep up. Green's snappy-sharp dialogue reveals a deliciously layered account: of a sport in which only the rarest of élites participate. Trust me, us common-folk can hazard only wild guesses about it; and there sure ain't nothing calm about this baby once she starts rock-'n-rolling. Yup, those huge dock spiders spin some intricate webs. Keep any lake water out of your ears, and your feet firmly planted on that dock.

Relax, will 'ya? I'm only trying to prepare you for the thrilling parts. Cross my heart, some of it borders on the mystical. That's all I can say; these lips are sealed.

Much like the lips of one half of a perfect Whole. Well, okay. Really that Whole involves two guys: one a savvy outdoorsman; the other, ahem, clearly isn't.

Chuck (Cliff Saunders) and Ken (Michael Spencer-Davis) are as oil-to-water; you can decide, later, which is more agile; has the best sea-legs; or might be slippery. These guys' credentials read like the cream-of-live-theatre they are: consult your program for the



Dock Spider is playing at Magnus Theatre through Feb. 11.

lowdown. For audiences old enough to recall that winning combination of comedic talent, Felix Unger and Oscar Madison of *The Odd Couple*, well nowadays such kudos are easily re-assigned to Ken and Chuck.

Now. To the real truth of the matter, and the stuff we witness with our own eyes and ears. The choreography of *Dock Spider* is simply outstanding. Water, waves, and wildlife (and I mean wild! Sorry, can't say more) will take your breath away.

So, just get comfy in your camp-chair, or in the boat; soak up some rays, maybe take a dip to cool off - but beware - danger may lurk where least expected.

Another huge spate of kudos goes to: Set & Light Designers Teresa Przybylski & Rebecca Miller; Sound by Tim Stephenson; Head Carpenter David A. Brown; Props by Nadia Cheechoo; Fight Director Jacquie Loewen; Costume Designer Lisa Macchione; Stage Manager Gillian Jones; and Guest Director Krista Jackson.

Dock Spider dazzles until Feb. 11. Catch this absolute Sparkler of a show.

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All Quiet gut-wrenching must-see

All Quiet on the Western Front arrived at SilverCity courtesy of Netflix, in theatres just long enough to qualify for Oscar consideration. It's definitely an advantage seeing it on the big screen, rendered in German with English subtitles, a rarity here.

By publishing time, however, *All Quiet* is likely gone. Various language versions including a dubbed version are available on Netflix. It's worthwhile in whatever format. It's one of the best of the year.

Director Edward Berger's visceral, gut-wrenching film is inspired by the 1929 anti-war novel by German war veteran Eric Maria Remarque, detailing

German soldiers' physical and psychological trauma, and the 1930 Best Picture version directed by Lewis Milestone.

The story centers on Paul Bäumer (Felix Kammerer), an idealistic teen who joins the German army along with his classmates shortly after the start of war, filled with patriotic fervor. Little do they know what awaits them.



Marty Mascarini
MOVIE TALK

Under attack

Barely arrived in the trenches, they are soon cringing from numbing barrages. Then they're forced into chaotic, terror-filled battlefield charges and retreats. Paul slogs through mud and water, evading bullets, shrapnel, and spewed dirt. Dead

soldiers collapse alongside him. Berger plunges us in the middle of deadly madness.

Paul sees his buddies fall. The hopelessness of it all becomes apparent. Upon his deathly hand-to-hand struggle with a French soldier in a crater, he's aghast to finally see the human side of his adversary.

Kammerer is quite good, going from naïve patriot to a gaunt, disillusioned shell. Albrecht Schuch is also fine as an older vet who looks after Paul.

There are horrific sequences involving tanks and flamethrowers unleashing their lethal force.

Evidently, flamethrowers weren't used for open field attacks as shown here but Berger is effectively pushing the devastation buttons. This gritty approach

recalls "1917" and "Saving Private Ryan."

Then there are the political negotiations reminiscent of Kubrick's "Paths of Glory." The callous French general steadfastly demands signed armistice without ceasefire. Soldiers are cannon fodder.

Looks fantastic

James Friend's Oscar nominated cinematography captures contrasting images of beautiful, moody landscapes giving way to numbing, smoky bombardments and gunfire.

Soldiers are encased in grime, wallowing in water and muck. No Man's Land is a bombed-out, death-ridden plain.

Other sobering scenes depict the grim recycling of uniforms routinely stripped from the war dead, illustrating great loss of

lives and Germany's depleted resources. Soldiers scavenge to sustain themselves.

The troops are roused for one last charge minutes before armistice is declared, so they can go home with honour, a climax used for dramatic effect versus historical accuracy.

Evidently, the Allies were the aggressors here. No matter. Historical stumbles seem few. The final silent shot of Paul's face is impactful.

The staggering casualty figures quoted in the epilogue hammers home the film's theme of the sheer waste and pointlessness of war. The movie has several other nominations, including Best Picture and Best International Film.

All Quiet on the Western Front is a must-see.



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LICENCE NO. M835740

Jets look to fly again

I had a chance to take in the Winnipeg Jets and Philadelphia Flyers game last weekend at Canada Life Centre.

Admittedly, it wasn't the best performance by the home team, a 4-0 shutout loss at the hands of Carter Hart and the visiting Flyers.

For the longest time this season, Winnipeg looked like they might be serious challengers for the first championship in Jets history since the World Hockey Association Days.

After Saturday's loss, the team had dropped three in a row and five of 10.

Coach Rick Bowness, after the loss, called out the team's stars, saying they were nowhere to be found.

"As soon as there is a little adversity - we handled it well early in the year - we're not handling it well right now," Bowness said.

"We're a good hockey team. You have to work and you have to compete. As soon as it gets tough, you can't change from that."

Into any season, a little adversity is going to fall.

Even with five losses in seven games, the Jets were still 31-19-1, good for 63 points and second place in the NHL Central Division.

They're locked into a playoff spot, but there's still a third of the season to go and the team doesn't want to spiral down the stretch.

Forward Adam Lowry told reporters after the game that it's frustrating and it feels like the sky is falling, but the team is still in a pretty good spot.

The plan is to use the all-star break as a chance to reset and right the ship.

"Obviously we're disappointed with the effort, disappointed with the outcome, three games in a row that we kind of let slip away. We're going to want to stop



The view from the media box at Winnipeg's Canada Life Centre last Saturday night. (Leith Dunick)

this slide as soon as we can."

Lowry and Bowness, who incidentally used to play ground hockey with friends of mine in Halifax in the offseason during his playing days, shouldn't have too much to worry about.

There's too much talent, front to back. With Nikolaj Ehlers back and healthy, the team has as many as five point-a-game guys in the lineup, assuming Mark Scheifele picks things up a bit down the stretch.

The D is solid, if not unspectacular, and the goaltending of Connor Hellebuyck and David Rittich has been mostly outstanding.

Hellebuyck leads the league in goal point shares, at 9.1, he's top 10 in goals against average at 2.46, ahead of Monday's game against St. Louis, and

fourth in save percentage, at .923. The rest will do them good.



Was sad to hear Monday morning about the passing of Jets legend Bobby Hull. I had the chance to interview him in Thunder Bay several years ago when he coached an oldtimers' team.

It was a great chat with one of the best goal scorers to ever play the game.

Hull helped revolutionize the sport, introducing the curved stick along with teammate Stan Mikita, and also gave the aforementioned WHA credibility, signing the first \$1-million contract in professional hockey history.

The Pointe Anne, Ont. native scored 913 goals in 1,474 NHL and WHA games, adding 105 more in the playoffs between the two leagues.

He scored 50 goals five times in the NHL, in an era when it was a rarity. Another legend has been lost.



Leith Dunick
SPORTS SHORTS

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

CRYPTOGRAM

"AEGZIJ YOS METF EIC SIM YSIJWM
 QMEIF OM FASWPC PZFYMI YOZNM EF
 QWNA EF OM FVMEU."
 — YWTUZFA VTSGMTR

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

ACROSS

- 1 Mineral spring
- 4 Central standard time (abbr.)
- 7 All points bulletin (abbr.)
- 10 Complain
- 11 Cheer
- 12 Son of Shem
- 14 Saracen
- 15 Turco
- 17 Television channel
- 18 Hammer
- 19 Goddess (Lat.)
- 20 Your (Ger.)
- 22 Guido's note (2 words)
- 24 Abstain
- 27 Happen
- 31 Aoudad
- 32 Ice (Ger.)
- 34 River through Florence and Pisa
- 35 Mex. medicinal plant
- 37 Thick-lipped
- 39 Swed. county
- 41 Madam
- 42 Tumor (suf.)
- 45 Spartan serf
- 47 Freedom, briefly
- 50 Erode (2 words)
- 52 Equal
- Employment Opportunity Commission (abbr.)
- 53 Byron poem
- 54 Dutch commune
- 55 Ironwood
- 56 Cotillion attendee
- 57 Went first
- 58 Fluidity unit

DOWN

- 1 Yugoslavian
- 2 Placid
- 3 Air Force Base (abbr.)
- 4 Cabal
- 5 Aryan
- 6 Wigwag
- 7 Atomic Energy Commission (abbr.)
- 8 Walk heavily
- 9 Bundle
- 10 Romanian
- 13 Extinct bird
- 16 Variation (pref.)
- 18 Parrot
- 21 Indian wild sheep
- 23 Nest-building fish
- 24 King in India
- 25 Time period
- 26 Nothing
- 28 Monument stone
- 29 Us (Ger.)
- 30 Eggs
- 33 Arctic dog
- 36 Hill formed by a glacier
- 38 Baseball equipment
- 40 Stair post
- 42 Bird
- 43 Fermented honey drink
- 44 Berne's river
- 46 Dip
- 48 Princess in Gr. myth
- 49 Before common era (abbr.)
- 51 Jewish scholar
- 52 Sound perception

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T	N	T	H	A	A	B	C	A	P	T		
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C	A	R	L	U	C	A	N	C	A	B		
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Scotties secured

By Leith Dunick – TB Source

There aren't many skips who have curled their way to 10 Scotties Tournament of Hearts.

Add Thunder Bay's Krista McCarville to the list.

The 40-year-old on Sunday took an early hold on her Northern Ontario women's provincial curling playdown against Sudbury's Krysta Burns, and went on to capture the championship and chance to improve on last year's runner-up performance at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts next month in Kamloops, B.C.

McCarville, Sarah Potts, Ashley Sippala and Kendra Lilly scored two in the second, held Burns to one in the third, then made a hit and stick in the eighth to score three, restoring a four-point lead two ends after Burns battled back with three of her own to cut the lead to 5-4. McCarville went on to win 9-4, stealing a single in the 10th after forcing Burns to a tough draw for one that wound up just a little short.

"I don't feel like I've been to 10 Scotties, but to think I've been to 10 Scotties is exciting. I want to win one though," McCarville said.

"But you know, I just feel grateful to go to them, because I know not everyone has that chance. We work really hard, and I feel this could be the year."

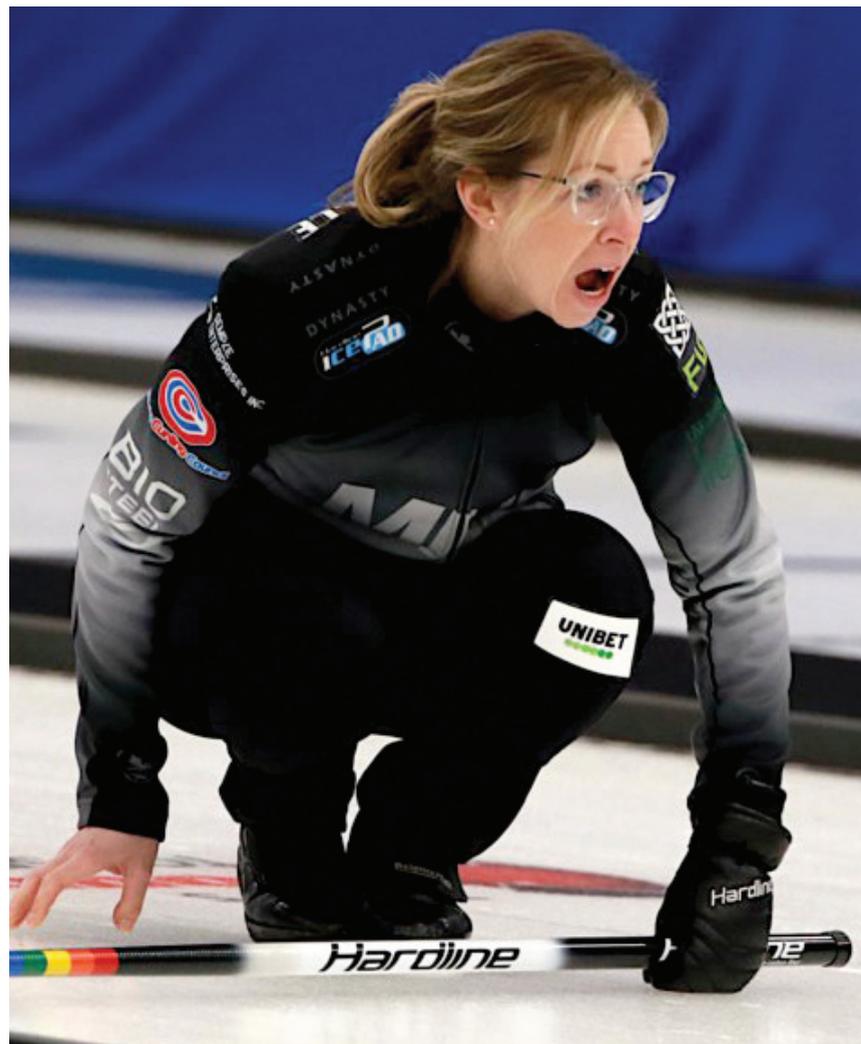
Felt good

Lilly, who will be making her sixth Scotties appearance, said it was nice to win their way in again. The team in 2021 declined the opportunity to compete at the national women's curling championship in Calgary due to the pandemic, and were awarded last year's Northern Ontario berth when playdowns were cancelled.

"We were so excited and nervous coming here because that's what our whole season was for. It was big to come back and win again and play like we know that we have and that we know that we can," Lilly said.

Last year's championship loss at the Scotties is still pretty fresh in their minds, she said.

"We know that there's no doubt that we deserved to be in that final last year and we know that we want to get back there and be on the other side of it. We know we show what



Thunder Bay's Krista McCarville calls out to her sweepers in Sunday's provincial final. (Leith Dunick)

we can every time at the Scotties, so we just want to put ourselves in that position again," Lilly said.

Up 4-1 after four, Team McCarville hit the break with a 5-1 advantage after Burns tried to hit and stick for a single, but rolled out for the steal of one for the team from Thunder Bay.

It turned out to be advantageous. Coming out of the break, on her final shot of the sixth, Burns, who did represent Northern Ontario at the 2021 Scotties, needed a nose hit to score three and made it, the McCarville lead cut to one.

The two sides blanked the seventh, thanks in part to a great double takeout by Sippala that cleared the front of the house, and McCarville retained hammer into the eighth.

-Burns was wide on both of her final shots and this time it was McCarville who had the hit-and-stick for three.

In the driver's seat

"Having the hammer in eight was huge, because we were up one and we said going into it that even if we get one in eight, we're happy with that," McCarville said.

"Anything more than one is a bonus. Getting three is bonus, so going into the ninth end it's nice having a bit of a lead there."

The 2023 Scotties Tournament of Hearts is scheduled to begin on Feb. 17.

Thunder Bay's Trevor Bonot fell 7-5 to eventual men's champion Tanner Horgan in Sunday's semi-final.

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Online auto auction. Opens February 11th 9:06 am. Closing February 16th, 7:06pm. Selling Dodge 5-2011-2012 Crew cab 4x4 Long box with 70-150K, Chevy half tons and International with dump, used 8x20 storage container, coins/paper money, other miscellaneous. Preview Saturday Feb 11th, 10-3pm @ 294 North Cumberland St. Further Info call Alex 627-4533. To bid go to ontariorealestateauction.hibid.com. Usual auction terms.

50. PERSONAL

Couple 50's seeks female playmate for him. Any age, any size or couple. He is not bad looking, great personality. Box 182 Chronicle Journal, 75 S. Cumberland Street, P7B 1A3

53. GENERAL SERVICES

#1 dump runs. Snowblowing services. Junk clean ups, inside/outside. General maintenance repairs. Handyman services. Frank 628-5919 or 767-0995.

Book Now - RustBlock vehicle corrosion protection, dripless. 127 Algoma St. S, 344-2886. Call for an appointment and drop-ins welcome

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Revenue Canada Certified - Income Tax Prep/E-file Service, personal and small business. Pick-up, delivery and Senior's discount available. Call 344-2886 or 623-7467

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



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57. HELP WANTED



Power System Solutions Ltd. of Rossllyn, Ontario has an immediate opening for an Electrical Engineer, Technologist, or Technician with the title of "Field Service Representative".

The position would consist of industrial commissioning and maintenance of power distribution and transmission equipment.

This is an excellent opportunity for a recent university or college graduate.

This opportunity is proudly supported by Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation and is funded through the Workforce Development Program. Eligibility requirements of the program can be found here: <https://nohfc.ca/en/pages/programs/people-talent-program/workforce-development-stream>

- Are new entrants into the work force, are transitioning to a new career, or the unemployed or underemployed who are entering a new field.

- Have not previously participated in a NOHFC-funded internship.

- Are at least 18 years of age; and

- Reside, and be legally entitled to work, in Canada.

A working knowledge of the following would be considered an asset:

- Testing of multifunction protective relays and power systems protection and control

- Testing of transformers, circuit breakers and low, medium and high voltage switchgear

- Energization of new substation equipment

- Site project or construction management

- Mechanical inclination and the ability to utilize hand tools

- Establish and maintain effective, communicative relationships with customers, managers, support functions and suppliers.

- Communicate activities to customers related to scheduling preventative maintenance and estimated time of arrival for unscheduled work.

- Pro-actively respond to and resolve customer problems/issues.

- Utilize provided product and industry knowledge to assure customer's expectations of service are exceeded.

- Actively seek continuing education opportunities.

- Troubleshoot, repair, modify, overhaul, or refurbish standard and special purpose equipment and power system components.

Candidates: You are a proven achiever, a team worker with excellent communication, organizational and computer skills. You accept responsibility and strive to succeed. We are willing to train suitable applicants. Please forward your cover letter and resume to: pss@powersystemsolutions.ca

POWER SYSTEM SOLUTIONS LTD.
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9	6	7	1	8	3	4	5	2
5	3	4	2	9	6	8	1	7
2	8	1	4	5	7	9	3	6
4	7	3	8	6	2	5	9	1
6	5	2	9	1	4	7	8	3
1	9	8	7	3	5	6	2	4
8	2	6	3	4	9	1	7	5
3	1	5	6	7	8	2	4	9
7	4	9	5	2	1	3	6	8

S	P	A	C	S	T	A	P	B			
B	E	E	F	O	L	E	E	L	A	M	
A	R	A	B	T	A	P	A	C	O	L	O
N	B	C	K	E	V	E	L	D	E	A	
			E	U	E	R	E	L	A		
R	E	F	R	A	I	N	O	C	C	U	R
A	R	U	I	E	I	S	A	R	N	O	
J	A	L	A	P	L	A	B	R	O	S	E
			L	A	N	M	A	A	M		
O	M	A	H	E	L	O	T	L	I	B	
W	E	A	R	A	W	A	Y	E	E	O	C
L	A	R	A	E	D	E	A	C	L	E	
D	E	B	L	I	E	D	R	H	E		

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